Council Agenda Report

From: Dick McKinley, Public Works Director

Subject: Selection of HydrometricsWRI to prepare the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Paso Robles Basin

Date: March 20, 2018

Facts

1. The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires parties overlying high priority basins to form Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA) for the purposes of preparing a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) by January 2020 so that the basin will be sustainable by January 2040. The Paso Robles Basin is a high priority basin.
2. In January 2017, the City of Paso Robles became a GSA. In July 2017, the City of Paso Robles GSA entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with other entities overlying the Basin to prepare a single GSP. The MOA calls for the City of Paso Robles to serve as the contracting agency for the GSP, as well as for the administrator of the grant that will largely fund the GSP process.
3. The City's partners in this MOA for GSAs are: San Luis Obispo County, San Miguel CSD, Heritage Ranch CSD, and the Shandon-San Juan Water District.
4. The MOA Cooperative Committee has been working since October 2017 to create a Request for Proposals (RFP) to select a consultant team to prepare the GSP. Four proposals were received, from:
   HydrometricsWRI
   RMC
   Aquilogic
   Luhdorff & Scalmanini
5. Staff from the GSA partners ranked the proposals, interviewed the top consultant teams, and recommended the top consultant team—the Hydrometrics team (HydrometricsWRI, Montgomery, and Carollo)—to the Cooperative Committee. Councilmember Hamon is the Chair of the Cooperative Committee.
6. At its March 7, 2018 meeting, the Cooperative Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Paso Robles City Council (as the contracting agency) award a contract to Hydrometrics, for $1,363,515. At the same meeting the Cooperative Committee voted unanimously to accept a Prop 1 grant to pay for most of the costs of preparing the GSP, and established a two-year budget for the effort.
7. On February 6, the State Department of Water Resources (DWR) notified the GSA partners that DWR was awarding them a $1.5 million to prepare a GSP. The grant allows for the 1:1 match requirement to be satisfied by in-kind contributions made from January 1, 2015 to date, meaning that virtually all prior costs for working on the Basin count toward preparing the GSP. That means relatively little out-of-pocket costs will be incurred over the next two years. The GSA partners will need to establish a cash flow budget to pay for expenses, with reimbursement out of the grant funds.
8. The City of Paso Robles GSA is responsible for 15% of that amount based on shares defined in the MOA, meaning a two-year cash flow budget of $42,678, to be paid at the beginning of the GSP process. This amount can be funded directly from the Water Fund without an additional appropriation.
9. As the GSP contracting agency, the City of Paso Robles is also the designated contracting agency for the DWR grant. That means that the City of Paso Robles will need to enter into the grant

administration agreement when it becomes available from the DWR. There will be no real opportunity to negotiate the terms of that agreement with the State.

10. On March 6, 2018 the County Board of Supervisor voted 3-2 to not allow the Estrella-El Pomar-Creston Water District (EPC) to become a GSA. The County will remain responsible for 61% of the costs.

Options

1. Do nothing;
2. Approve Resolution 18-XXX awarding the GSP contract to HydrometricsWRI in the two-year amount of $1,363,515; and authorizing the City Manager to enter into the Grant Agreement with DWR for preparation of the GSP,
3. Direct staff to take alternative actions.

Analysis and Conclusions

Preparation of the GSP is the most important action in correcting the overdraft conditions of the Paso Robles Basin over the next twenty years, and into the future. The City and the other GSA partners conducted a full competitive process to select the most highly qualified consultant team with the best approach to completing this task in a manner that will bring all of the parties together for a comprehensive solution to balancing the Basin's water budget. Taking no action now would be a major setback to the effort to complete the GSP by the statutory January 2020 deadline. There is a large amount of work, including a larger public process component that must be completed in a relatively short amount of time.

Accepting the State grant with the local in-kind match is preferable to paying all of the costs out of local ratepayer or property owner funds. The State grant funds are from Proposition 1; if the Paso Robles Basin does not accept the grant, the State will award the funds for another basin.

Fiscal Impact

Acceptance of the DWR grant means that the ratepayers will not pay the vast majority of the costs for preparing the mandatory GSP. The grant's local match requirement is deemed satisfied by the costs already incurred by the City since January 1, 2015 plus a relatively small amount of cash from the GSA partners. The City's share for cash flow for the GSP preparation over the next two years (not including staff time) will be $42,678.

Recommendation

Approve Resolution 18-XXX awarding the GSP contract to Hydrometrics WRI in the two-year amount of $1,363,515, and authorizing the City Manager to enter into the Grant Agreement with DWR for GSP preparation.

Attachments

1. DWR document showing the Paso Robles Basin grant award
2. HydrometricsWRI consultant team proposal
3. Resolution 18-XXX

Draft Funding Recommendations
2017 Groundwater Sustainability Plans and Projects Solicitation
February 2018

Note	Cat 1 Map ID	Applicant Name	Application Title	Application Score (Cat 1/Cat2)	Category 1		Category 2		Total Recommended Funding	Total Cost of Proposal
					Grant Request	Recommended Funding[A]	Grant Request	Recommended Funding		
		Arroyo Santa Rosa Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency	Arroyo Santa Rosa Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan	- / 15	$ -	$ -	$ 177,081	$ 177,081	$ 177,081	$ 354,162
B	20	Asian Business Institute Resource Center	Southeast Asian Groundwater and Sustainability Advocacy and Outreach Program	3 / -	$ 1,000,000	$ 400,000	$ -	$ -	$ 400,000	$ 1,100,000
		Atascadero Mutual Water Co.	2017 Atascadero Basin Sustainable Groundwater Proposal	- / 19	$ -	$ -	$ 809,250	$ 809,250	$ 809,250	$ 1,660,008
		Bear Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency	Bear Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan	- / 16	$ -	$ -	$ 177,000	$ 177,000	$ 177,000	$ 177,000
		Bedford-Coldwater Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency	Bedford-Coldwater Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Proposal	- / 19	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 2,040,000
	18	Big Bear Lake Department of Water and Power	Basin Resiliency Sawmill Well Pumping Plant Project	7 / -	$ 782,298	$ 782,298	$ -	$ -	$ 782,298	$ 782,298
	9	Biola Community Services District	Biola Groundwater Recharge Project	11 / -	$ 705,000	$ 705,000	$ -	$ -	$ 705,000	$ 705,000
		Butte County Department of Water and Resource Conservation	Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development for the Vina, East Butte, West Butte and Wyandotte Creek Subbasins	- / 19	$ -	$ -	$ 1,498,800	$ 1,498,800	$ 1,498,800	$ 1,989,683
		Castaic Lake Water Agency	Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency 2017 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program Category 2 Proposal	- / 18	$ -	$ -	$ 416,106	$ 416,106	$ 416,106	$ 858,075
		City of Brentwood	Tracy Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development Prop 1 Proposal	- / 19	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,598,530
		City of Corona	Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant For the City of Corona Temescal Subbasin	- / 18	$ -	$ -	$ 732,338	$ 732,338	$ 732,338	$ 983,977
		City of Modesto	Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant for the Modesto Groundwater Subbasin	- / 18	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000
C		City of Paso Robles	Paso Robles Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development	- / 16	$ -	$ -	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,500,000	$ 3,068,242
		City of Redding	Elsinore Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Groundwater Sustainability Planning Grant Proposal	- / 16	$ -	$ -	$ 983,230	$ 983,230	$ 983,230	$ 1,161,590
		City of San Diego - Public Utilities Department	Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the San Pasqual Valley Groundwater Basin	- / 18	$ -	$ -	$ 989,550	$ 989,550	$ 989,550	$ 1,979,100
		Colusa Groundwater Authority	Colusa Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development	- / 19	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,497,400
	10	Community Water Center	Facilitate Participation of Severely Disadvantaged Community Stakeholders In The Tulare Lake Basin And Develop A Drinking Water Vulnerability Tool	11 / -	$ 614,353	$ 614,353	$ -	$ -	$ 614,353	$ 614,353
		County of Glenn	Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development in the Corning Subbasin	- / 17	$ -		$ 999,980	$ 999,980	$ 999,980	$ 999,980
C	6	County of San Diego	San Diego County GSP Development	12 / 18	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 2,000,000	$ 2,000,000	$ 3,000,000	$ 4,884,260
		County of San Luis Obispo	2017 County of San Luis Obispo Sustainable Groundwater Proposal	- / 18	$ -	$ -	$ 1,397,125	$ 1,397,125	$ 1,397,125	$ 2,549,375
C	3	Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency	Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability	13 / 18	$ 648,124	$ 648,124	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,500,000	$ 2,148,124	$ 2,148,124
		Del Norte County	Smith River Plain Groundwater Basin GSP	- / 10	$ -	$ -	$ 250,000	$ 250,000	$ 250,000	$ 250,000
		East Bay Municipal Utility District	East Bay Plain Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development	- / 19	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 2,018,000
C		Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority	Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Grant	- / 19	$ -	$ -	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,500,000	$ 2,176,420
		Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District	Elsinore Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Groundwater Sustainability Planning Grant Proposal	- / 17	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 2,524,199
		Fillmore Piru GSA	Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plans	- / 16	$ -	$ -	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,500,000	$ 2,045,430
	7	Freshwater Trust	Engaging Severely Disadvantaged Communities in the Development of the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan	12 / -	$ 490,000	$ 490,000	$ -	$ -	$ 490,000	$ 490,000
C	13	Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority	Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Basin - Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development and SDAC Groundwater Conservation Pilot Project	10 / 18	$ 646,000	$ 646,000	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,500,000	$ 2,146,000	$ 3,748,600
		Inyo-Water Department, County of	Groundwater Sustainability Planning for the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin	- / 19	$ -	$ -	$ 713,155	$ 713,155	$ 713,155	$ 865,915
C		Kern River Groundwater Sustainability Agency	Kern County Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Support - 2017 Grant Application	- / 15	$ -		$ 1,500,000	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,500,000	$ 3,072,604
		Lassen County	Pin Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan	- / 18	$ -	$ -	$ [illegible]	$ [illegible]	$ [illegible]	$ 1,045,544

Attachment 1

PROPOSAL
(Revised)

Paso Robles Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development

February 7, 2018

HydroMetrics WRI

MONTGOMERY & ASSOCIATES
Water Resource Consultants

carollo
Engineers...Working Wonders With Water®

GEI Consultants

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1814 Franklin St., Suite 501
Oakland, CA 94612

Mr. Dick McKinley, Public Works Director
City of Paso Robles – City Hall
1000 Spring Street
Paso Robles, CA 93446

February 7, 2018

Subject: HydroMetrics WRI Proposal for Developing the Paso Robles Sub-Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Mr. McKinley,

HydroMetrics Water Resources Inc. (HydroMetrics WRI) is pleased to present this proposal for developing the Paso Robles Sub-Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). HydroMetrics WRI is one of California's premier hydrogeology firms, specializing in providing basin-wide groundwater management since 2005. HydroMetrics WRI is incorporated in California as an S-Corporation, with the financial and human resources necessary to successfully serve its clients for over 12 years. We have complemented our talents with a team of highly motivated professionals with expertise tailored specifically for the needs of this project; including the Carollo Engineers, Montgomery & Associates (M&A), and GEI Consultants, among others.

Our team will, in close coordination and cooperation with staff of existing GSAs, develop a complete and compliant GSP that provides a path to sustainability while acknowledging important property rights and retaining the agricultural vitality of the Paso Robles Sub-Basin. Our focus is on developing a GSP that is flexible, fair to all stakeholders, and acknowledges data uncertainty. Our approach emphasizes leveraging existing data and models to develop a path to sustainability that can be verified and modified as new data become available.

We will work closely and cooperatively with the GSAs to develop a GSP that is:

Tailored to Local Concerns. The GSP will address local conditions and community concerns, acknowledge established property rights, and retain the agricultural vitality of the region.

Efficient & Compliant. We will maximize use of existing data, studies, and models to develop a GSP that is compliant with applicable regulations and will receive a "passing grade" from DWR.

A Pathway to Sustainability. We will develop conceptual sustainability management actions and projects that extend existing programs and are basin-specific, workable, fair to all stakeholders, and affordable.

Our team is unique compare to others because:

- ✓ We are impartial and not aligned with any GSAs or preconceived viewpoints.
- ✓ We are experts on SGMA; our team helped develop SGMA policies and SGMA Best Management Practice.
- ✓ Our team is led by licensed hydrogeologists that have been managing groundwater basins for decades.
- ✓ We have local water resource experience; Carollo Engineers recently completed the basin's supplemental supply study.
- ✓ Our team members wrote the Paso Robles Sub-Basin Groundwater Management Plan, developed the Proposition 1 grant application for GSP funding, and have led and worked on numerous water projects in the basin.

In addition to our demonstrated expertise, our team has the staff capacity and resources to work closely with the Paso Robles GSAs to bring stakeholders together and complete the technical requirements for drafting a GSP that meets DWR requirements. The remainder of our proposal follows the required proposal format listed in the RFP. Additionally, we have added both **Project Understanding** and **Project Approach and Schedule** sections to clarify how we will address the basin's issues in a comprehensive and efficient way.

We look forward to an opportunity to work with the GSAs and other stakeholders on this project. Please feel free to contact me by phone at (510) 903-0358 ext. 301, or email at: Derrik@HydroMetricsWRI.com.

I certify that this proposal is valid for 90 days following submission.

Sincerely,

Derrik Williams

Derrik Williams, President
HydroMetrics Water Resources Inc.
1814 Franklin St., Suite 501
Oakland, CA 94612
510-903-0458 extension 301
Derrik@HydroMetricsWRI.com

Project Understanding

The primary objective of this project is to develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) that 1) addresses all of the regulations and requirements, 2) relies on an extensive body of previous work, and 3) does not infringe on existing water rights. This project is not about conducting new studies; this project is about finding solutions to groundwater sustainability.

The GSP must address at least five of the six sustainability indicators identified by the legislation: seawater intrusion can likely be dismissed with a short paragraph in the GSP. The status of the five applicable sustainability indicators in the Paso Robles Sub-Basin is summarized in Figure 1. This figure highlights the areas of concern that must be addressed by *Sustainability Indicators* in the GSP, as identified by previous studies. The areas of groundwater level decline in recent decades may be related to reduction in groundwater storage, land subsidence, surface water depletions (particularly in the Salinas River), and in some areas, groundwater quality degradation.

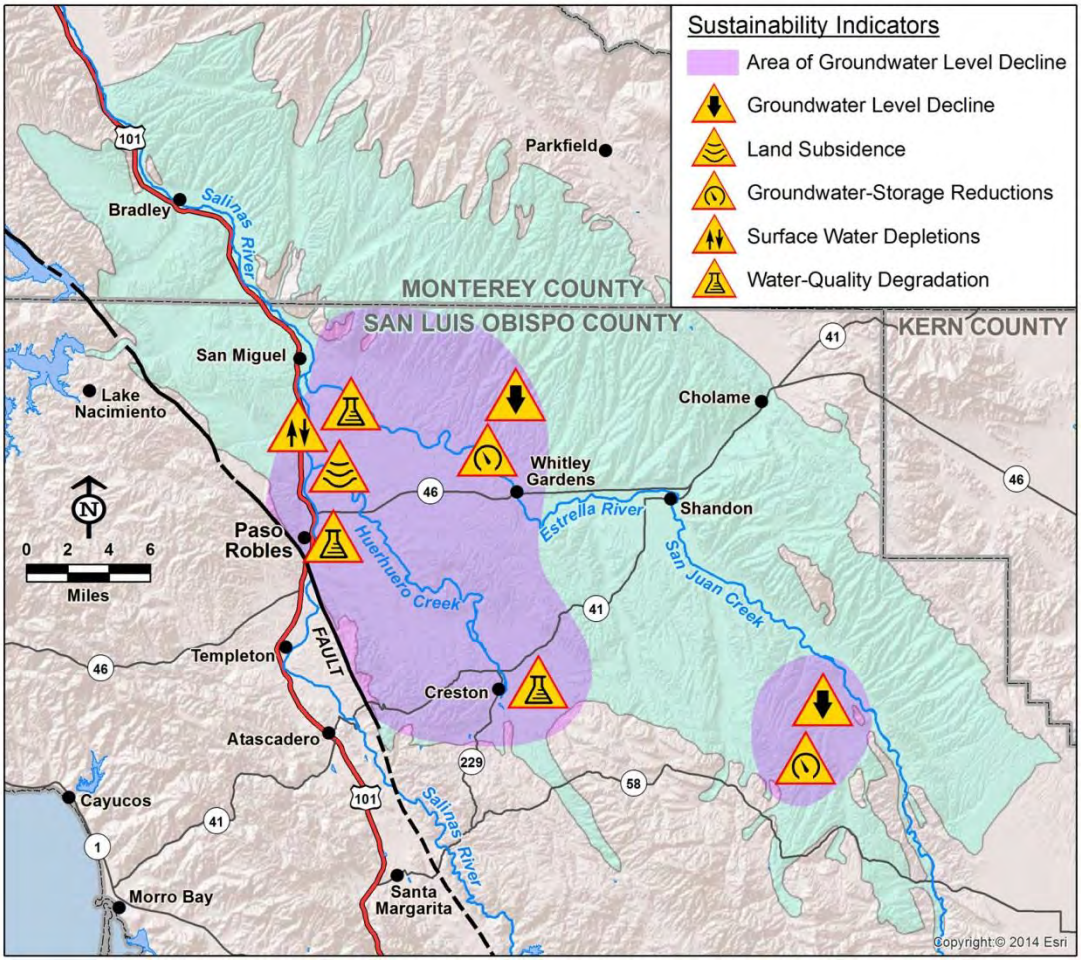


Figure 1: Generalized Locations of Sustainability Indicator Concerns

Groundwater Managers in the Paso Robles Sub-basin have come together to comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) by developing a single, basin-wide GSP. We agree with this approach; however, this approach must address the concerns of various interested parties and groundwater users throughout the sub-basin. In particular, we are aware of local politically sensitive issues that we will carefully manage during GSP development including:

- **Concerns about groundwater exports.** The GSP must protect against groundwater mining and groundwater exports.
- **Avoiding centrally mandated groundwater management.** The GSP cannot be developed or implemented as a top-down regulatory requirement. It must be developed by local agencies, in accordance with existing property rights, and must acknowledge the concerns of individual landowners.
- **GSA independence and cooperation.** The GSAs are independent groups that have agreed to work together to achieve overall basin sustainability. This is a cooperative agreement, and one GSA cannot force another GSA to undertake activities or management actions that it feels are unfair.
- **Limited options for importing new water.** The 2017 Supplemental Supply Options report identified only three options for new water: Nacimiento Water, State Water Project, and Recycled Water. The report concluded that the supplemental supplies were insufficient to address the entire estimated future pumping shortfall.

Our team recognizes that not all GSAs and property owners suffer the same impacts from historical overdraft, and not all GSAs have the same ability or obligation to fund sustainability projects. Historical overdraft is localized in particular areas (shown in purple on Figure 1). Sustainability projects and management actions must be focused in these areas, and adopted by the local interests. Our GSP will address local groundwater issues in the Paso Robles Sub-Basin, while simultaneously presenting integrated basin-wide sustainability plan to DWR.

Goals for Paso Robles GSP

- *Be accepted as fair by all GSAs*
- *Acknowledge current uncertainties, and allow adaptive management*
- *Retain the region's agricultural economic vitality*
- *Equitably distribute implementation costs and benefits*

Developing a GSP requires an integrated process of understanding critical issues, developing insightful and acceptable approaches to sustainability, and implementing the GSP in an equitable and flexible manner. Our team's approach to addressing the critical issues is summarized in Figure 2.

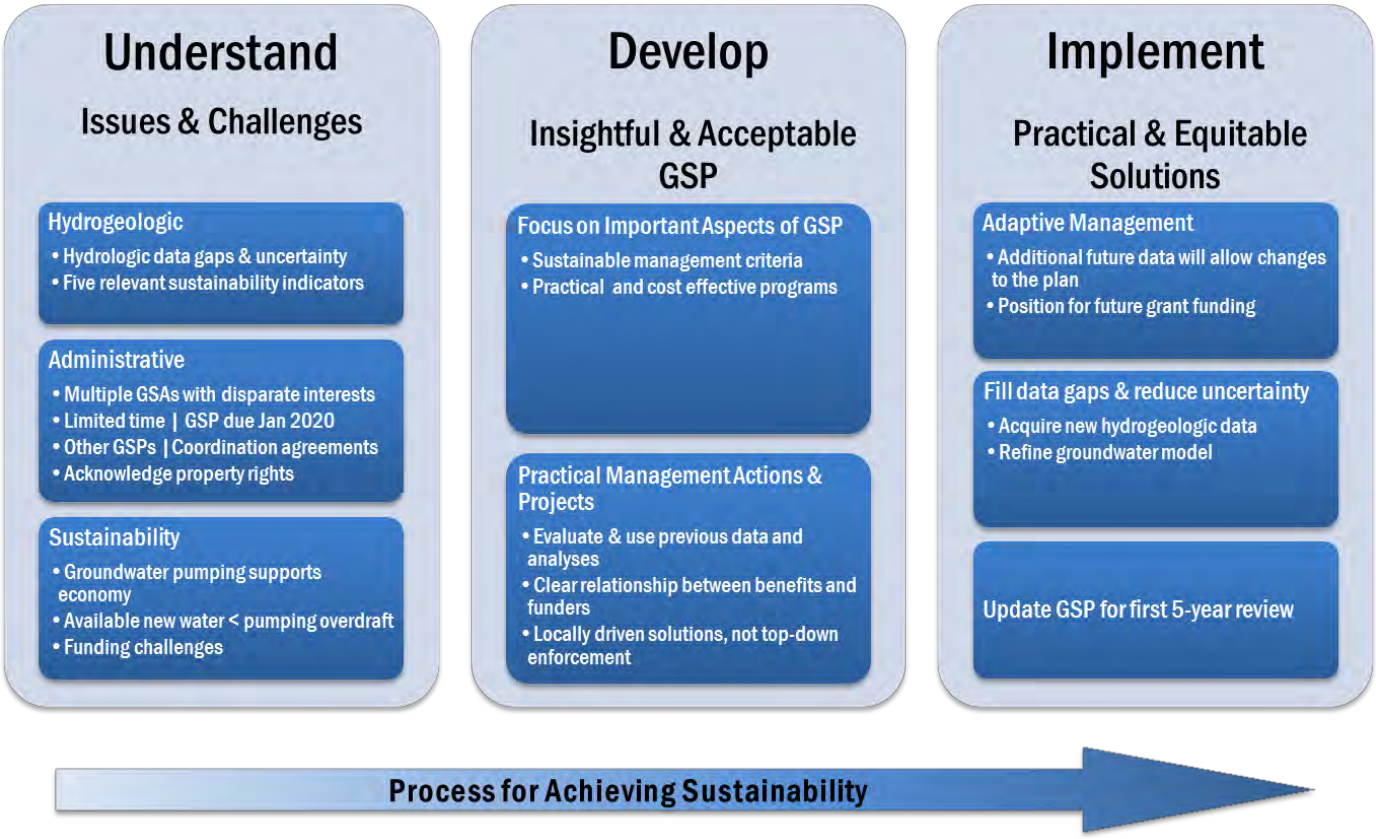


Figure 2: Critical Steps for the Paso Robles Sub-Basin GSP

Team Qualifications

The GSP is a multidimensional policy document that requires specialized expertise in hydrogeology and related water resource planning to prepare. Our Project Manager, Derrik Williams, is committed to leading the development of a widely accepted GSP that puts the GSA on a workable pathway to sustainability that is equitable to all stakeholders. Over the past year, he has met with GSA members to better understand local issues. Based on this knowledge, he complemented the capabilities of his firm with a team of experts that have the necessary range of expertise to develop the Paso Robles Sub-basin GSP.

Our team – tailored specifically for the Paso Robles Sub-basin GSP – comprises experts in hydrogeology, engineering, groundwater modeling, and data management from HydroMetrics Water Resources Inc. (WRI), Montgomery & Associates (M&A), Carollo Engineers (Carollo), and GEI Consultants, Inc. (GEI). In addition, we have complemented our team with specialists in stakeholder outreach and facilitation from Strategy Driver, Inc. and financial analyses and water marketing from WestWater Research LLC. Table 1 outlines the expertise of our team in the required disciplines for developing an effective GSP.

Table 1: Team Expertise

Expertise	Firm	Benefit to GSP
Hydrogeology	Lead: HydroMetrics WRI Support: M&A	Required to understand groundwater conditions and develop effective sustainability solutions
Engineering	Carollo	Sustainability projects and actions require conceptual engineering analysis to assess feasibility and develop planning-level costs. Engineers from Carollo understand local water supply opportunities and constraints, and can effectively develop management actions and projects for the GSP
Groundwater Modeling	Lead: M&A Support: HydroMetrics WRI	Required to develop water budgets, sustainable management criteria, and evaluate management actions and projects
Data Management	GEI	A required aspect of the GSP that should be integrated with existing data management in the sub-basin
Stakeholder Coordination	Strategy Driver, Inc.	Alignment of diverse stakeholder interests will be required for the GSP. We can support the GSA in stakeholder outreach and facilitation, as needed
Financial Analysis	WestWater Research, LLC	A conceptual understanding of the cost of future management actions and projects is required. Our team can estimate these costs and also assist the GSA with evaluation of approaches to fund future projects

Collectively, our team offers the key attributes required for developing an effective GSP, including:

- In-depth understanding of local concerns;
- Broad statewide experience in SGMA policy and groundwater planning and management; and
- Sufficient staff resources to focus on this GSP and complete it on time and under budget.

Our team of experts is at the forefront of developing successful groundwater management strategies in both urban and agricultural basins throughout California and the Western United States. We have developed integrated solutions and implemented successful multi-party groundwater management plans in basins that have competing conjunctive water uses and interests like the Paso Robles Sub-basin. Particular unique attributes of our team that set us apart from other teams and that directly benefit the Paso Robles GSAs include:

We understand local issues and concerns. Our team members have worked in the sub-basin and understand the complicated and conflicting local water resource. Our previous work in area includes:

- Developing the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Supplemental Supply Options
- Providing engineering services to USBR's ongoing Salinas and Carmel River Basins Study
- Drafting SLO County's IRWM Implementation Grant Applications
- Developing SLO County's Master Water Plan
- Developing the 2017 Proposition 1 Grant GSP Application for GSP funding.
- Developing the 2011 Groundwater Management Plan.
- Advising the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin GSA Board of Directors.

We are impartial. We are not affiliated with any one GSA in the Basin, nor do we have any preconceived viewpoints about the pathway to sustainability in the sub-basin. We bring a fresh perspective on sustainability that will enable us to objectively evaluate the complicated local water resource issues and guide the GSAs to a widely accepted GSP.

We understand SGMA. Our Project Manager and other team members helped DWR develop SGMA policies and draft Best Management Practices documents; hence, we understand what constitutes a passing grade for the GSP.

Our team is led by groundwater hydrologists. Effective groundwater management requires a thorough understanding of groundwater hydrology. Our team leaders are licensed geologists and hydrogeologists in California and have managed groundwater basins for decades.

Table 2 lists selected examples of projects our team has completed that demonstrate our experience with each of the key requirements for the Paso Robles GSP project.

Table 2: Representative Project Experience

Project	GW Model	GW Mgmt.	Multi-Party	SGMA Related	Local	Ag. Basin
Kings Basin Groundwater Model	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Kern County Model Review	✓	✓	✓			✓
DWR SGMA Implementation				✓		
San Luis Obispo GSA Guidance		✓		✓	✓	✓
Santa Cruz GSA Support		✓	✓	✓		
Three Successful Basin Boundary Modifications				✓		
Livermore Valley Groundwater Model	✓	✓				✓
Seaside Basin Groundwater Model	✓	✓				
Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Model	✓	✓		✓		
Pajaro Valley Groundwater Model	✓	✓				✓
Sacramento Groundwater Restoration Model	✓	✓				
Groundwater Management Model, El Paso, TX	✓	✓				
AVEK Recharge Model / Grant Funding	✓	✓				✓
Tulare Irrigation District Recharge Study		✓				✓
Santa Clara Zone of Benefit Study		✓	✓			
Ventura County GW Model Improvements	✓	✓				✓
Paso Robles Sub-Basin Groundwater Management Plan		✓			✓	✓
SLO County Water Master Plan		✓	✓		✓	✓
Paso Robles Basin Supplemental Supply Study		✓	✓		✓	✓

INNOVATIVE AND DISTINCT APPROACHES

Having been involved in SGMA related activities since 2014, HydroMetrics WRI brings a number of distinct perspectives and approaches to GSP development. These approaches support our philosophy that GSPs must be locally driven, cooperative, and equitable. Our philosophy and approach include:

We will work cooperatively with GSAs. Local agricultural and urban water managers understand the water resource challenges in the Paso Robles Sub-basin better than anyone. We let local water managers lead and guide the direction of this GSP. Our role is to listen, and implement the solutions that are widely accepted and affordable.

We will streamline the GSP process. From the start, we will ensure that all stakeholders understand the entire GSP process and we will clearly outline how we will focus the GSP process on the most important (and potentially difficult) elements so there are no surprises late in the project. To do this, we will:

- **Host a Kickoff Workshop** – we will host a one-day workshop during the first 30 days to lay out the entire 2-year GSP process. The goal of this workshop is to build shared understanding of the road ahead on the GSP and identify key milestones that will be critical for effective GSP development.
- **Identify Potential Sustainability Actions Early**. We will work with basin stakeholders early in the process to identify potentially workable management actions and projects for reaching sustainability. This step is critical for developing achievable sustainable management criteria, and for completing the GSP on time.
- **Initiate Work on Sustainable Management Criteria Early**. We will begin the difficult process of developing sustainable management criteria early in the project. This is critical for success because development of the sustainable management criteria is a challenging process that requires significant effort to converge potentially contentious policy decisions with the hydrogeologic conditions in the basin.

We will integrate GSP work with ongoing work. Our team member, GEI, is working with San Luis Obispo County to develop a standard data management system. We will integrate the data management activities required for the GSP with the County system to reduce cost and effort.

We will actively position for additional grant funding. The projects and management actions identified in our GSP will be developed in a manner that positions them for potential grant funding. We will track upcoming planning and implementation grants, and describe our programs and management actions in a way that meets the grant requirements.

Staffing Plan

The HydroMetrics WRI team is assembled to ensure our expertise covers sustainable groundwater management from every aspect including technical groundwater expertise, organizational and institutional understanding, integrated water supply proficiency, funding, and stakeholder familiarity. Our team members have been at the forefront of developing and guiding successful groundwater management strategies in both urban and agricultural basins throughout California and the Western United States. We not only bring the full suite of capabilities needed for developing effective and practical GSPs; we additionally bring decades of experience assisting parties overcome differences, develop integrated solutions, and implement successful multi-party groundwater management plans in basins that, similar to the Paso Robles Sub-Basin, have competing water users and uses. While our team members have first-hand knowledge of the Paso Robles Sub-Basin, we do not represent the interests of any one GSA, and will bring a fresh perspective to all stakeholders.

A Team Built Around Guiding Principles of:

Cost Control
Deep SGMA Understanding
Substantial GSA Member Engagement
Technical Excellence

The following organization chart identifies each member of the team's staff, and demonstrates how the team is structured around the project's functional activities. Each functional activity is led by a senior level manager, and an alternate leader is identified for each of the critical positions. Although our senior level managers are committed to devoting the time and effort necessary for developing this GSP, the GSA's requirement for alternative leaders is commendable; ensuring that adequate resources are committed at all times.

Our project manager, Derrik Williams, will be the primary point of contact for the GSAs. Although our contract is with the City of Paso Robles, Derrik's communication will always be with the full group of GSPs. We are committed to developing a cooperative and equitable GSP, based on a transparent and open GSP process.

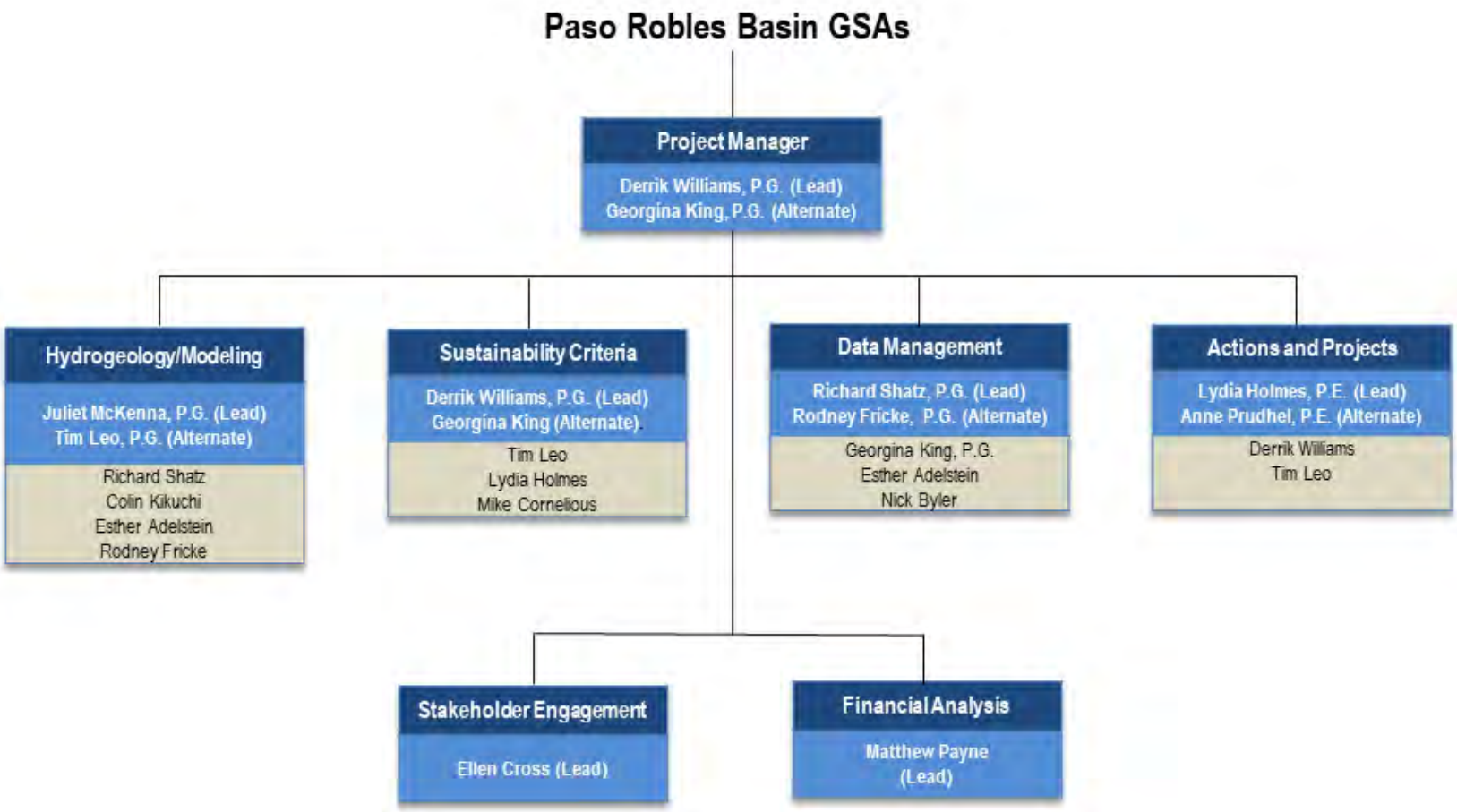


Figure 3: Organizational Chart

Short biographical sketches are included below for each of the senior task leaders and alternates. As requested in the RFP, each biographical sketch identifies the staff member's role as well as tasks for which each person is responsible. These biographical sketches include any subcontractors that are leading tasks. Two project references are provided for all senior leaders.

SENIOR TASK LEADERS AND ALTERNATES

Derrik Williams, P.G., C.Hg.
Role: Project Manager (Lead)
Lead: Task A. Develop GSP Introduction; Task F. Sustainable Management Criteria; Task J. Plan Implementation; Task L. Plan Preparation; Task M. Project Management

References

Soquel Basin Groundwater Management Plan
Mr. Ron Duncan, General Manager
Soquel Creek Water District
(831) 475-8500 RonD@SoquelCreekWater.org

Kings Basin Groundwater Model
Mr. Eric Osterling, Kings River Conservation District
(559)237-5076, eosterling@krcd.org

Derrik Williams, a California Professional Geologist and Certified Hydrogeologist, is President of HydroMetrics WRI. He will be the principal point of contact for the Paso Robles GSAs. Mr. Williams has more than 30 years of experience in applied geology and hydrogeology; managing, reviewing, and assisting on water supply and groundwater recharge projects. He has been retained by clients to develop Basin Management Plans in agricultural areas with contentious water right issues, and has testified in court regarding groundwater-surface water interactions.

Derrik is an established leader in statewide groundwater policy. As a member of the Groundwater Committee of ACWA since 2008, Derrik helped shape the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program (CASGEM) and helped develop ACWA's *Groundwater Framework* document. He also drafted ACWA's *Guidelines for Groundwater Monitoring*. Derrik is currently working with DWR to develop the state's SGMA implementation process. He reviewed and commented on the SGMA legislation while it was being drafted, and currently chairs ACWA's SGMA Best Management Practices subcommittee. He was a contributor to the California Water Foundation's GSP regulations workshops. He has been invited to, and participated in, Stanford's Water in the West meetings on data and modeling in SGMA and the Groundwater Resources Association of California's Contemporary Groundwater Issues Council.

> *"Derrik has done an excellent job of facilitating the meetings, and incorporating GMP requirements and stakeholder concerns into the plan"*
> Chris Bonds/DWR

Georgina King, P.G., C.Hg.
Role: Project Manager (Alternate)

Georgina King is a Professional Geologist and Certified Hydrogeologist, and Principal Hydrogeologist at HydroMetrics WRI. She has 24 years of experience in groundwater resource management and development. She has worked in both Northern and Southern California on numerous hydrogeologic studies, including water budgets, groundwater basin management, monitoring plans, and groundwater modeling.

Ms. King has worked on numerous SGMA projects along California's central coast. She has provided technical support for SGMA related basin modification requests, helped prepare the alternative GSP submittals for the Pajaro Valley Sub-basin, guided the Santa Cruz Mid-County GSP planning process, and has experience as project manager for early GSP development of four groundwater basins in Ventura County.

References

Soquel Aptos Precipitation-Runoff Model
Mr. Taj Dufour
Soquel Creek Water District
(831) 475-8500
TajD@SoquelCreekWater.org

Santa Cruz Mid-County GSP Support
Ms. Rosemary Menard
City of Santa Cruz
(831) 420-5205
RMenard@cityofsantacruz.com

Juliet McKenna, P.G. Role: Hydrogeology/Modeling (Lead)
Lead: Task C. Plan Area, D. Basin Setting

Juliet is a Principal with M&A and has over 20 years of experience. She develops strategies for managing groundwater resources and creating balanced water portfolios for municipal agencies, agricultural districts, and tribal groups. A licensed Professional Geologist in four states, including California, Juliet has experience coordinating the interests of multiple jurisdictions and diverse stakeholders. Juliet was the Director of an intestate groundwater management agency that in the Palouse Region of eastern Washington and northern Idaho. After moving to Arizona, Juliet co-founded M&A's Water Resource Policy & Planning group in 2007, following over a decade of work as a hydrogeologist in California, Washington and other parts of the U.S.

Juliet led a multi-year effort to help one of Arizona's largest irrigation districts prepare for shortages of Colorado River water from the Central Arizona Project. She led a team of engineers and hydrologists to inventory 400+ wells and project water supply reductions. The team developed a phased approach to increase groundwater production while easing the economic impacts of water shortages on irrigation district farmers. Also, Juliet is the facilitator for the Cochise Conservation and Recharge Network — a diverse group of elected officials and city/county administrators coordinated by The Nature Conservancy. The group pursues funding to develop recharge projects with effluent and stormwater that sustain flows in the San Pedro River in southeastern Arizona, while supporting the local economy. She provides the group with technical guidance and helps pursue federal and private funding for projects.

References

Water Resource Planning • San Pedro River Watershed
Pat Call, Cochise County Supervisor, District 1
Bisbee, AZ 85603
(520) 432-9200 pcall@cochise.az.gov

Well Inventory & Capital Improvement Plan
Brian M. Betcher, General Manager
Maricopa Stanfield Irrigation & Drainage District
Maricopa, Arizona 85138
(520) 424-3344 brian@msidd.com

Tim Leo, P.G., C. Hg.
Role: Hydrogeology/Modeling (Alternate)
Lead: Task E. Develop Model

Tim Leo, a California Professional Geologist and Certified Hydrogeologist, is a Principal and Director of California Operations at M&A. Tim splits his time between M&A's Sacramento and Tucson, AZ offices. For nearly 30 years, Tim has managed and participated in numerous multidisciplinary water resources and groundwater modeling projects. Through his work in Arizona, where groundwater use has been regulated for over 35 years, he has worked on a variety of projects related to groundwater resource management.

Tim specializes in analytical hydrogeology, including groundwater modeling, developing conceptual models and water budgets, and groundwater system characterization and testing. He is also conducting project work related to SGMA, including groundwater recharge studies in Tulare County and the Antelope Valley. On both of these projects, he has provided technical support on grant applications.

References

Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency
Dwayne Chisam, General Manager
Palmdale, CA
(661) 943-3201 dchisam@avek.org

Tulare Irrigation District
Aaron Fukuda, Tulare Irrigation District
Tulare, CA 93274
(559) 686-3425 akf@tulareid.org

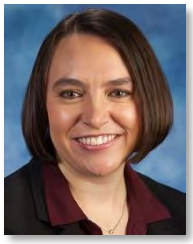
Lydia Holmes, P.E.
Role: Actions and Projects (Lead)
Lead: Task I. Projects and Management Actions

Lydia has 24 years of experience in water, wastewater and recycled water master planning, permitting, and design. Her extensive experience includes applying multi-criteria objectives to evaluate alternatives (including sustainability criteria); developing permitting strategies, obtaining grant funding, and leading stakeholders through decision processes to determine preferred projects. Lydia has specific knowledge and interest in the Paso Basin as she was the project manager for the County's Paso Basin Supply Study that evaluated ways to return to a balanced basin with the help of the groundwater modeling updated and run under a separate contract. Lydia has also worked in the County on a number of other projects including obtaining grant funding for the USBR Salinas and Carmel River Basins Study and now working on that study for USBR; Grant writing for IRWM implementation grants; and the planning and development of the Los Osos Wastewater Treatment Plant and recycled water strategies. Lydia's knowledge of water supplies and potential conveyance concerns from the Supply Options Study will provide a jumping off point for the development of projects and management actions for the GSP development.

References

Paso Basin Supply Option Study
Courtney Howard
County of San Luis Obispo
(805) 781-1016 CHoward@co.slo.ca.us

Regional Recycled Water Feasibility Study
Ms. Melanie Mow-Schumacher
Soquel Creek Water District
(831) 475-8501 ext. 153
MelanieS@soquelcreekwater.org



Anne Prudhel, P.E.
Role: Actions and Projects (Alternate)

Anne is a senior infrastructure engineer with 16 years of experience in planning, design, and construction of water, wastewater, and recycled water infrastructure, including water pipeline and conveyance design and rehabilitation using trenchless technologies. Anne has significant experience with feasibility

References

Carneros Recycled Water Pipeline
John Stewart, President of the Board
Napa Sanitation District
(707) 738-4600 jstewart@rsacivil.com

Urban Water Augmentation – Phase 2
Mike Wegley, District Engineer
Marina Coast Water District
(831) 883-5925 mwegley@mcwd.org

assessments, evaluation of alternative pipeline alignments, and preparation of plans, specifications, and cost estimates. Anne has served as design manager for numerous infrastructure projects including for Central Contra Costa Sanitary District, Delta Diablo, Ukiah, Los Carneros and Marina Coast Water District. Anne will bring this valuable infrastructure experience to use in the development of the projects for realistic estimates of infrastructure needs and costs.

Richard Shatz, P.G., CEG, CHG
Role: Data Management (Lead)
Lead: Task A. Compile and Organize Data

Richard has over three decades of experience in hydrogeology. He is a senior project manager directing projects for the planning, development, and management of groundwater resources throughout California. Richard has evaluated hydrogeologic conditions for development of Groundwater Management Plans and Integrated Water Resources Management Plans (Tracy Sub-basin, Paso Robles Sub-Basin, Upper Santa Ana River Watershed, Merced River Sub-basin, Modesto Sub-basin, Santa Maria Basin) to solve high groundwater, poor quality water and overdraft along with potential projects and management actions. In preparation for SGMA, he has guided his clients through development of groundwater monitoring networks, regional water quality baseline evaluations, identification of where surface water is gaining and is being depleted, and identification of groundwater recharge areas. He has prepared two Alternative Submittals (Sutter Sub-basin and Martis Valley Groundwater Basin) that are substantially equivalent to a Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs). Using this knowledge, he has assisted three clients by reviewing existing technical reports and online information to identify potential data gaps and tools needed to prepare a GSP and prepared grant applications to fund these upcoming activities.

References

Sutter County Groundwater Sustainability Plan Alternative
Guadalupe Rivera
Sutter County Development Services
530.822.7450, grivera@co.sutter.ca.us

Western Placer County Groundwater Program Implementation
Kelye McKinney, City of Roseville
Department of Environmental Utilities
916.774.55552, KMcKinney@roseville.ca.us

Rodney Fricke, P.G., C.E.G, C.H.G.
Role: Data Management (Alternate)
Task Lead: H. Data Management System

Rodney is a California certified Hydrogeologist and Professional Geologist specializing in groundwater remediation. Mr. Fricke has worked on various projects related to SGMA during the last two years, including coauthor for a GSP Alternative for the South American Sub-basin, assistance on DWR's effort to improve the descriptions of basin boundaries, evaluation of available hydrogeologic data for the Big Valley Basin in Lassen/Modoc Counites, assistance to Sacramento County with its GSA notification process for unmanaged areas in four sub-basins, evaluation of a considerable amount of information for the hydrogeologic conceptual model of the Kern County Sub-basin, and technical review of grant applications for the Cosumnes and Solano Sub-basins.

References

Alternative Submittal (GSP) for the South American Sub-basin,
Darrell Eck, Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority,
916.874.6851, eckd@saccounty.net

SGMA On-Call Support,
Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency
916.874.4681, schmitzk@saccounty.net

Optional Activity Task Leaders

Ellen Cross
Role: Facilitator, Outreach Specialist (optional)

Ellen Cross has more than 27 years of experience in the California water and environmental science industry creating successful innovative solutions through forums for vision, collaboration, and achievement. Ellen has a history of creating neutral forums to work on critical topics where communication and leadership are key to moving complex issues forward.

In the area of emerging challenges, Ellen has successfully facilitated public and private entities on Superfund, climate change, restoration in the Delta, water scarcity, sea level rise and flood protection. Ellen has facilitated initiatives that envision the multi stakeholder success goals and operationalizes the tactics to achieve results on policy, governance, stakeholders, funding,

References

Interagency Flood Management Collaborative
Jon Ericson, Chief Flood Maintenance Office
California Dept. of Water Resources
(916) 574-0384 jon.ericson@water.ca.gov

Delta Conservancy Strategic Plan
Campbell Ingraham, Executive Officer
Delta Conservancy
(916) 375-2084 cingram@deltaconservancy.ca.gov

institutional and technical goals to ensure sustained success. Specific to groundwater projects, Ellen has developed strategies to develop holistic integrated scopes for Fox Canyon GSA, Mid Kaweah, Tulare, Irvine Ranch Water District, Kings Canyon, Department of Water Resources, and Cosumnes GSP.

Matt Payne
Role: Financial Assessment (Optional)

Matt Payne is a principal with WestWater Research and leads the firm's Southwest office in Phoenix. He is dedicated to helping public, private, and non-profit sector clients address economic, financial, and strategic challenges relating to water resources and infrastructure. His areas of expertise are water resource economics, water asset transactions, and strategic planning and implementation. In recent years, Matt has been engaged by Arizona's largest water provider to lead planning and implementation of the most extensive renewable water acquisition program in the United States. The program includes plans such as rotational fallowing agreements as well as reclaimed water development. In California, Matt is working with a wholesale water agency to implement a new groundwater banking program, and is leading a water transactions program for a large investor-owned utility.

References

Financial Feasibility Assessment of the High Desert Water Bank
Dwayne Chisam, General Manager
Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency, Palmdale, CA
(661)943-3201 dchisam@avek.org

Water Rights Acquisition Planning and Implementation
California American Water Company
Monica Na, Manager of Operations
(626)614-2518 Monica.na@amwater.com

Project Approach and Schedule

Our project approach is grounded in the philosophy of focusing efforts on the tasks and activities necessary to achieve a defensible and widely accepted GSP. Our approach is outcome oriented - the critical outcome is informed decisions by the GSAs on how to reach sustainability. We believe the Paso Robles Sub-basin GSAs have presented a well-reasoned and complete scope of work in the RFP that generally follows the annotated outline developed by DWR in their *Draft GSP Outline Best Management Practice*.

We will use the GSP outline prepared by DWR for the Paso Robles GSP and complete a draft GSP by September, 2019. From the beginning, we will focus on addressing the critical and challenging activities of developing sustainable management criteria and identifying projects that will lead to sustainability. At the same time, we will complete the other GSP activities that are important and required, but do not directly affect the GSAs ability to prepare a passable GSP and ultimately achieve sustainability. Table 3 outlines our approach to completing the project tasks.

Table 3: Approach to Completing Project Tasks

Task	Activities and Approaches to Task Completion
A. **Compile and Organize Data**	• We will use data compiled for the 2011 groundwater management plan and modeling to reduce effort and cost • This task will be integrated with development of the data management system (Task H)
B. **Develop Introductory and Agency Information**	• This task is largely informational. We will keep this section noncontroversial because it has little impact on achieving sustainability
C. **Describe Plan Area (plus Notice and Communication)**	• This task is largely informational. We will keep this section noncontroversial because it has little impact on achieving sustainability • The notice and communication portion will be completed by the GSAs as meetings occur; we can support the GSAs as needed on this activity
D. **Describe Basin Setting: Conceptual Model, Water Budgets**	• We believe this task is largely complete; we will refine as needed to meet requirements of the GSP • We will use the existing hydrogeologic conceptual model underpins the groundwater model • Key subtask will be aligning the reported water budget to the modeled water budget
E. **Update SW-GW Model**	• We will update the model to 2016 to meet GSP requirements - additional model calibration or development is not recommended for the GSP

Task	Activities and Approaches to Task Completion
F. **Identify Sustainable Management Criteria**	• This is a critical task for the GSP • We will outline the process for developing criteria early in the project with all GSAs and stakeholders • We will integrate the criteria with the projects and management actions developed in Task I to ensure that sustainability is achievable and affordable.
G. **Establish Monitoring Networks and Protocols**	• This is a critical task for the GSP • We will use or extend existing monitoring protocols from the county, city of Paso Robles, or others • We will rely on the monitoring network assessment in the 2011 groundwater management plan to the extent possible
H. **Organize Data Management System**	• We will leverage similar work being completed for other basins in San Luis Obispo County • We will review data to ensure questionable data are not being used for important decisions
I. **Develop and Analyze Projects and Management Actions**	• This is a critical task • We will integrate projects and management actions with existing water management activities • We will assure that projects and actions align with property rights • Allow for significant adaptive management
J. **Plan Implementation**	• This task is largely informational; keep non-controversial
K. **Outreach and Stakeholder Involvement**	• We assume that GSAs will lead outreach and facilitate meetings • We will prepare communication plan in Task K • An optional task has been included to assist with facilitation
L. **GSP Document Preparation**	• We will prepare individual GSP chapters in the relevant project tasks listed above • Task L will include compiling the final draft GSP document for final approval and adoption
M. **Project Management**	• We will communicate frequently and effectively with the GSAs on project progress • We will inform the GSAs about changes to DWR's expectations

The project approach outlined in the RFP adheres relatively closely with the preferred approach to developing the GSP. Listed below are a few aspects of our approach that either differ slightly from the RFP or identify recommendations that ensures the GSP is developed efficiently.

Establish Each GSA as a Separate Management Area

The RFP states that the GSP will include individual appendices for the specific plans of each GSA. This was a common approach early in SGMA, but has been replaced in most basins by the approach of establishing each GSA as its own management area. Establishing management areas is the legal methodology incorporated in the SGMA regulations for dividing basins into separately managed zones. We recognize that the areas of each of the two new water districts are not contiguous, and are intertwined with the other GSA properties. We have discussed this with DWR previously, and it is perfectly legal to identify non-contiguous management areas. However, we will take particular care when developing and implementing management area-specific sustainability projects to avoid inequalities in the perceived land value or responsibilities of adjacent land owners.

Develop GSP Chapters Throughout the Process

Rather than write an entire GSP at the end of the process, we will prepare individual chapters and sections throughout the project. This allows stakeholders to review and understand concepts early and throughout the process, and it facilitates the more difficult tasks of developing sustainable management criteria and sustainability projects and management actions.

Integrate the Data Management System with Other County Efforts

Our team member, GEI, is developing the data management system for other basins in the County. We will leverage our work in other basins to provide efficiency and reduce the cost of developing the data management system for this project.

Involve a Water Rights Attorney Early

Water rights are a topic of intense discussion in the Paso Robles Sub-Basin. Our projects and management actions must generally be consistent with people's existing rights, although strict adherence to water rights is impossible under SGMA. We propose using either a local attorney of the GSA's choice, or a water rights attorney we have worked with often, to guide public understanding of groundwater rights.

Analyze Financial Aspects of Sustainability

The project's and management actions needed to achieve sustainability may include the value of water for fallowing or trading. Also, funding actions and projects may require assessing fees on groundwater users. Our team member, WestWater Research LLC, specializes in water valuation and water trading, and will support the financial analyses required for the GSP.

Focus Groundwater Modeling on Necessary Activities

The need for and accuracy of groundwater models is an important element in the RFP. Our team is dedicated to the premise that groundwater sustainability plans are outcome based - sustainability will be demonstrated by data – particularly groundwater elevations – collected in the future not by the groundwater model. Groundwater model results are useful for estimating the **relative** impacts for

groundwater management activities and future groundwater conditions, but uncertainty in groundwater model results is expected. We will use the existing groundwater model as much as possible and account for model uncertainties appropriately when developing projects and management actions.

Optional Services

As requested in the RFP, there a several **optional tasks** that we believe could be considered to enhance GSP development. Many of these services could also be implemented as follow on tasks after the GSP is delivered to DWR.

Optional Task 1 - Outreach/Facilitation Support

We understand that the GSAs plan to lead most of the outreach and facilitation efforts; our base cost proposal is based on this understanding. However, our team includes an expert in stakeholder coordination, Ellen Cross from Strategy Driver, Inc., who will assist the GSAs in developing the required communication and outreach plan. Ms. Cross is an experienced facilitator and mediator. If the GSAs decide that professional facilitation and mediation services are desired, we can readily provide those services. Our cost estimate includes an optional task for providing facilitation services.

Optional Task 2 - Model Enhancement

We propose to conduct groundwater model option three from the RFP: updating the model through 2016. This is an inexpensive approach that will believe is required for the GSP and an approach that will have significant benefits during GSP development. Should the GSAs realize that further model enhancements are necessary before reliable decisions can be made, we have the necessary modeling expertise to provide more extensive groundwater modeling services. Our team of groundwater modelers is one of the largest and most experienced in the western US, with extensive experience using the same model codes used for the Paso Robles groundwater model - MODFLOW and HSPF – as well as other model codes that could be used to improve analysis of sustainability in the sub-basin.

Optional Task 3 - Developing Water Allocation or Trading System

Potential groundwater management activities may include developing water allocations or trading system. If the GSAs decide this is a preferred management action, the GSP would include a conceptual evaluation to identify it as an action that will lead to sustainability over the next 20 years. However, if the GSAs would like to explore the idea of water allocations or groundwater trading further, we have the expertise on our team develop these systems.

Recommended Task 4 - Decision Support Modeling

Our team has the ability to apply decision support modeling (DSM), a structured and flexible planning tool, to improve development of future sustainability management actions and projects. A DSM approach integrates the critical interrelated including social, economic, water availability, and hydrogeologic factors that affect future project development into a structured

framework that enables more thorough and transparent analysis of the benefits and trade-offs of the actions and projects. If this is a preferred approach by the GSAs, our team has the expertise to develop a DSM for the GSP.

Project Schedule

Our proposed schedule for completing the GSP is shown in Figure 4.

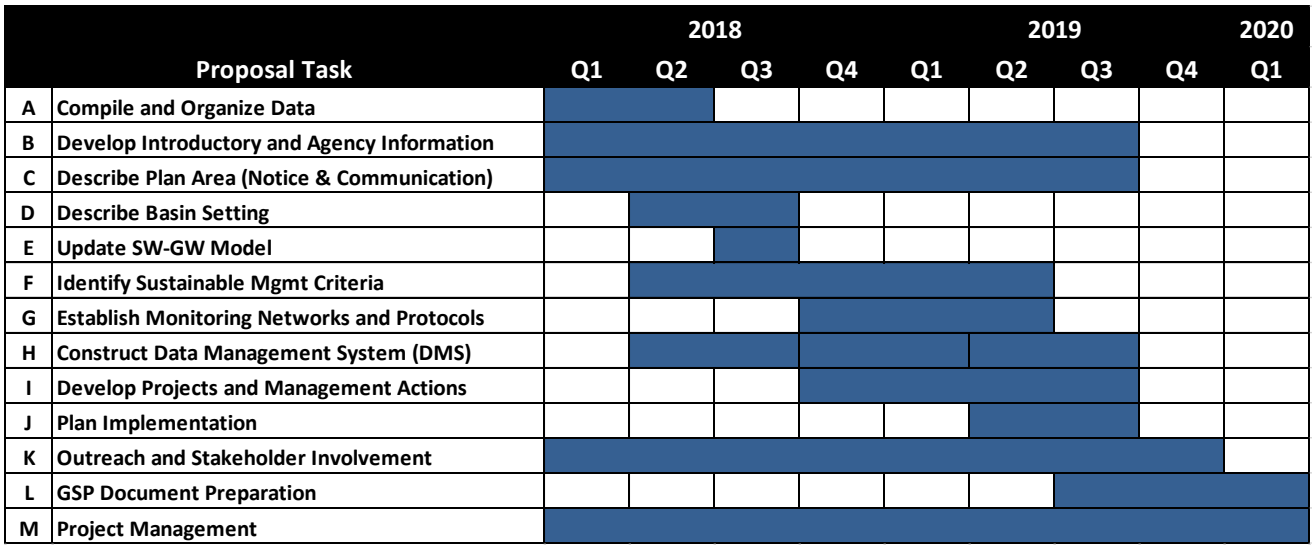


Figure 4: Proposed Schedule

Fee Proposal

HydroMetrics WRI has developed this fee proposal based on our understanding of the effort needed to develop a compliant GSP, while avoiding any efforts needed for more than a passing grade. We understand that significant funds have already been expended, particularly by growers and individual land owners in the Paso Robles Sub-Basin. Our fee proposal leverages State Grant funds, while eliminating any additional out-of-pocket expenses by the GSAs. By developing a GSP for less than the full grant application, we retain grant funds for funding optional tasks or addressing difficulties that may be encountered during the project.

Our proposed fees are informed by the detailed costing analysis that went into the Prop 1 grant application. The detail supporting the grant application allowed us to accurately assess which tasks would take the most effort, and which tasks would take less effort. Figure 5 shows how tasks in our current fee schedule (orange) compares with the grant application (green). While our proposed costs are well within the amount of money the GSAs will receive from the grant funding, they are not so low that the GSAs will border on submitting a GSP that is not acceptable.

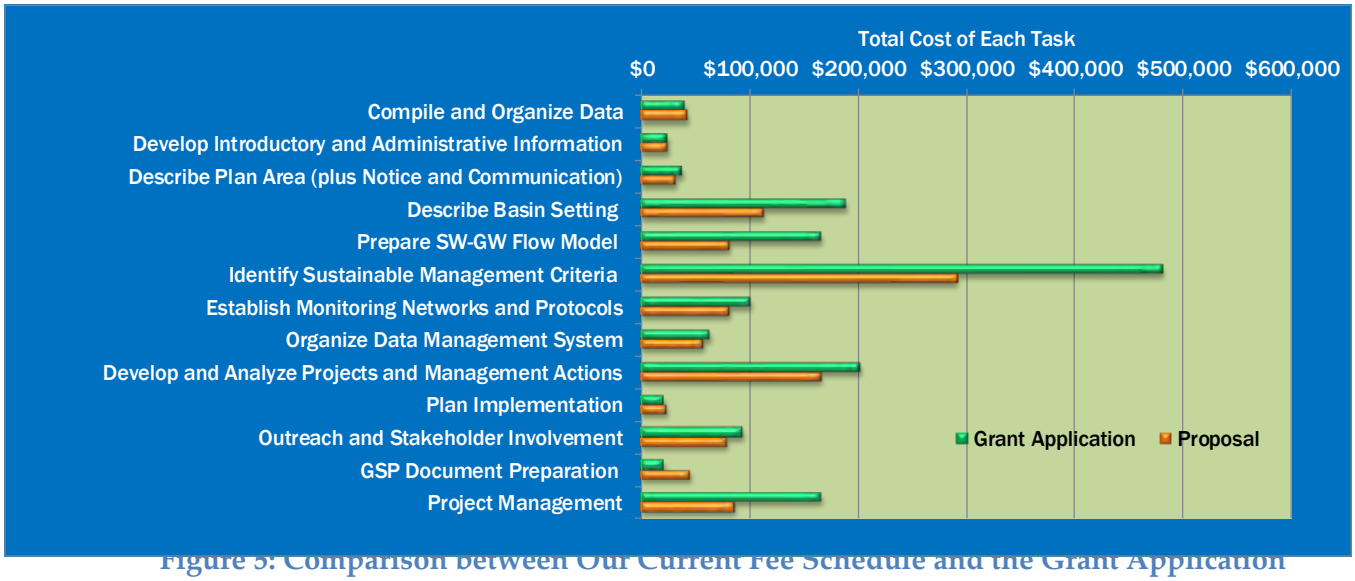


Figure 5: Comparison between Our Current Fee Schedule and the Grant Application

Our fee proposal is shown in Table 4 where the proposed fee is $1,138,975. To present a fee proposal on one page, we have grouped various employees and subconsultants into professional categories rather than show each individual staff member. The hourly rates in Table 4 represent a weighted average of the staff members included in that category. The costs for optional and recommended tasks are estimates, and will be further refined should the GSAs choose them. Based on the hourly rates shown in Table 4, combined with the project schedule shown on Figure 4, we can develop an anticipated rate of monthly expenditures as shown on Figure 6.

Table 4: GSP Development Fee Proposal

TASK	TASK NAME	PROFESSIONAL LEVEL 1	PROFESSIONAL LEVEL 2	PROFESSIONAL LEVEL 3	PROFESSIONAL LEVEL 4	SUPPORT STAFF	TOTAL LABOR HOURS	TOTAL LABOR COST	OTHER DIRECT COSTS	TOTAL PROJECT COSTS
	Hourly Labor Rate:	$280	$215	$160	$125	$80				
A	Compile and Organize Data	6	40	80	160	14	300	$44,224	$0	$44,224
B	Develop Introductory and Administrative Information	6	24	80	40	8	158	$25,240	$875	$26,115
C	Describe Plan Area (plus Notice and Communication)	4	32	120	40	10	206	$32,984	$0	$32,984
D	Describe Basin Setting	0	80	400	240	36	756	$114,080	$0	$114,080
E	Prepare SW-GW Flow Model	4	80	200	240	26	550	$82,416	$0	$82,416
F	Identify Sustainable Management Criteria	16	360	900	400	84	1,760	$282,584	$10,500	$293,084
G	Establish Monitoring Networks and Protocols	4	40	280	200	26	550	$81,616	$875	$82,491
H	Organize Data Management System	24	60	200	40	16	340	$57,916	$875	$58,791
I	Develop and Analyze Projects and Management Actions	16	240	420	300	49	1,025	$164,684	$1,750	$166,434
J	Plan Implementation	0	24	112	8	7	151	$24,656	$0	$24,656
K	Outreach and Stakeholder Involvement	220	24	24	16	24	308	$74,520	$5,000	$79,520
L	Finalize GSP	16	60	80	80	80	316	$46,580	$0	$46,580
M	Project Management	0	400	0	0	20	420	$87,600	$0	$87,600
	TOTAL	316	1,464	2,896	1,764	400	6,840	$1,119,100	$19,875	$1,138,975
OPTIONAL TASKS										
1	Stakeholder Outreach/Facilitation Support (per year)	40	20			8	68	$16,140	$2,000	$18,140
2	Model Enhancement	4	24	240	300	24	592	$84,100		$84,100
3	Developing Water Allocation or Trading System	4	160	40	40	24	268	$48,840	$2,500	$51,340
4	Decision Support Modeling	4	24	240	200	16	484	$70,960		$70,960
		52	228	520	540	72	1,412	$220,040	$4,500	$224,540
	TOTAL WITH OPTIONAL TASKS	368	1,692	3,416	2,304	472	8,252	$1,339,140	$24,375	$1,363,515

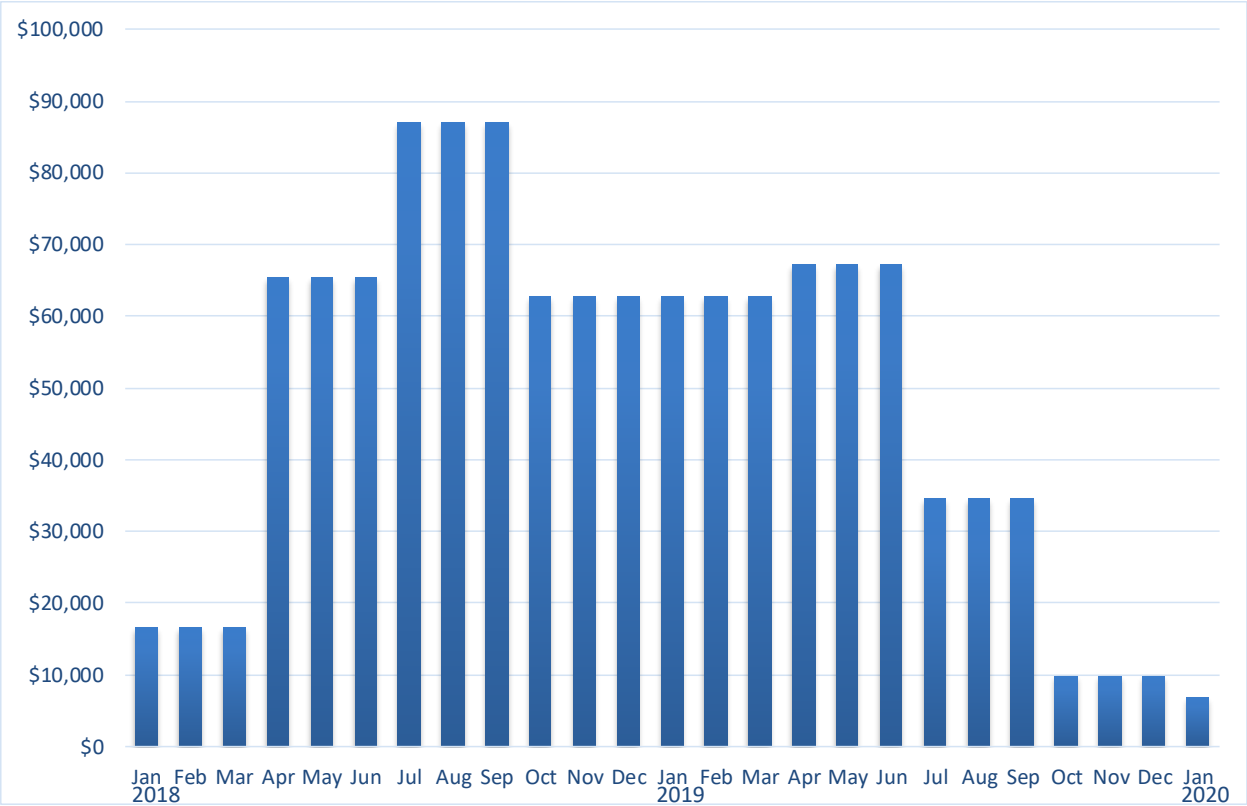


Figure 6: Anticipated Monthly Expenditures

Rate schedules for all consultants are included below. All follow-up consultation and services available after completion of the GSP development will be charged at these rates, with 3% annual increases.

HYDROMETRICS WRI	MONTGOMERY & ASSOCIATES
Staff Rate Classification.....Rate	Scientist VIII.....$195
Principal Hydrogeologist...$195-$230	Scientist VII.....$184
Senior /Hydrogeologist 3.....$185	Scientist VI.....$172
Senior Hydrogeologist 2.....$175	Scientist V.....$157
Senior Hydrogeologist 1.....$165	Scientist IV.....$142
Hydrogeologist 5.....$150	Scientist III.....$124
Hydrogeologist 4.....$140	Scientist II.....$107
Hydrogeologist 3.....$130	Scientist I.....$89
Hydrogeologist 2.....$120	GIS/Database Analyst.....$91
Hydrogeologist 1.....$110	Drafter II.....$73
Office Support.....$75	Technical Editor.....$50
CAROLLO ENGINEERS	**GEI CONSULTANTS**
Senior Professional.....$294.00	Senior Principal – 10.....$330
Lead Project Professional.....$272.00	Senior consultant – 9.....$330
Project Professional.....$252.00	Senior consultant – 8.....$267
Professional.....$213.00	Senior professional – 7.....$238
Assistant Professional.....$174.00	senior professional – 6.....$201
Senior Technicians.....$183.00	senior professional – 5.....$176
Technicians.....$131.00	Project professional – 4.....$149
Clerical.....$115.00	project professional – 3.....$133
	staff professional – 2.....$121
	staff professional – 1.....$110
	CADD Drafter.....$121
	Office Aide.....$77
STRATEGY DRIVER	**WESTWATER**
Ellen Cross.....$250	Director.....$275
	Principals.....$220
	Regional Directors.....$200
	Sr. Associates..... $135 - $150
	Associates..... $100 - $125
	Analysts..... $75 - $95
	Administration.....$65

All outside costs and services, including subcontractors, will be billed at cost +15%.

Contract Terms

We have reviewed the contract and propose that paragraph (a) of the indemnification clause remove the phrase "any alleged acts", and modify the paragraph such that the consultant's indemnification is in proportion to the consultant's legally determined errors, omissions, or negligence. We also propose that paragraph (b) of the indemnification language either be struck, or state that the consultant obligation to pay for defense costs is in proportion to consultant's legally determined errors, omissions, or negligence.

References

We have listed below selected references that demonstrate our groundwater management expertise, our SGMA knowledge, our local experience, and our strong client relationships. We encourage the Paso Robles GSAs to contact any of the clients listed below.

SANTA CRUZ MID-COUNTY GSA/ GSP SUPPORT

Client and Contact:	Ms. Rosemary Menard City of Santa Cruz (831) 420-5205 RMenard@cityofsantacruz.com
Dates:	7/2016 to Ongoing

HydroMetrics WRI currently supplies GSP development technical and policy support to the Santa Cruz Mid-County GSA. HydroMetrics WRI earlier provided technical assistance to the GSA formation committee during the GSA formation process. Based on HydroMetrics WRI's input, all of the signatories to the GSA clearly understood the basins conditions, and each individual GSA members contribution to the basin condition. At the same time, HydroMetrics WRI successfully applied for a basin boundary modification; combining parts of four basins into a single basin and excluding fringe areas of the basin that do not impact groundwater management.

HydroMetrics WRI is currently guiding the newly formed GSA through the GSP process. HydroMetrics has guided both the GSA and interested stakeholders though the state of the basin; and introduced the basics of Sustainable Management Criteria. Hydrometrics WRI is currently working with the GSA to map out the decisions that must be made over the next two years. Included in this ongoing contract is assistance developing the sustainable management criteria, assistance defining the state of the basin, and groundwater modeling to assess the impacts of various groundwater management projects or actions. The result of this project will be a fully compliant GSP for the Santa Cruz mid-County Basin.

DWR SGMA IMPLEMENTATION

Client and Contact:	Mr. Trevor Joseph Department of Water Resources (916) 651-9218 tjoseph@water.ca.gov
Dates:	7/2016 to Ongoing

HydroMetrics WRI is part of the consulting team that is working with and guiding DWR as it implements SGMA legislation and regulations. Team member GEI is the lead consultant on this team. This project gives both GEI and HydroMetrics WRI unequaled access to DWR's thought process, concerns, and insights on GSP development.

Significant activities that have been undertaken as part of this contract include drafting and developing the best management practices for implementing SGMA; developing tools for DWR to accept data and GSPs as they are delivered by various GSAs, strategizing on identifying the most important and critical parts of a GSP, and working with DWR to develop the data sets and information that GSAs can use in their GSPs. As part of this contract, Mr. Williams meets with DWR regularly to formulate statewide SGMA policy and draft policy documents.

PASO BASIN SUPPLY OPTIONS STUDY

Client and Contact:	Ms. Courtney Howard County of SLO 1144 Monterey St., Suite B San Luis Obispo, CA 93408 (805) 781-1016 CHoward@co.slo.ca.us
Dates:	2014 to 2017

The Paso Robles Groundwater Basin (Paso Basin) has experienced dropping groundwater levels over several decades. In an effort to ensure sustainable water supply for the customers the Paso Basin serves while meeting its management objectives, the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District retained Carollo for a Supply Options Study to identify sources of supply that can be obtained to supplement the Paso Basin. The project develops a prioritized list of the most beneficial and viable options for procuring available water from the State Water Project water, Lake Nacimiento, local exchanges, and recycled water to wholly or in part, stabilize groundwater levels and to provide a clear path forward to obtaining these supplies for the Paso Basin.

- The primary goal of the study is to determine the quantity, quality, cost, and points of transfer of supplemental water options, infrastructure needs at transfer points, and the terms and/or conditions under which a Paso Basin entity could procure it (e.g., contractual issues, negotiations, "transfer terms"). The recently completed groundwater model (updated and improved by Geoscience) was used to determine the benefits of different supply options, including evaluation of where benefits can be maximized in the basin through direct use (offsetting pumping) or through recharge. Locations for recharge were also identified using the hydrogeology and the model.

ALTERNATIVE SUBMITTAL TO A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FOR SUTTER SUB-BASIN, SUTTER COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Client and Contact:	Mr. Guadalupe Rivera Sutter County Development Services (530) 822-7450, grivera@co.sutter.ca.us
Dates:	11/2016 to 01/2017

GEI assisted Sutter County to develop an Alternative Submittal (Alternative) for the Sutter Sub-basin in little over a two-month period. The Alternative was developed by preparing an outline from the Groundwater Sustainability Plan Emergency Guidelines to ensure that all components were addressed. During the development period BMPs or Guidance Documents were just starting to be released; therefore, GEI developed the Alternative using our knowledge of available information.

The hydrogeologic conceptual model, groundwater conditions, and water budget were all developed using available information which included Bulletin 118 and locally developed plans. General groundwater quality conditions were developed using the existing Groundwater Management Plan and also the Groundwater Assessment Report developed for the Irrigated Lands Program. Significant time was spent with stakeholders in the development and acceptance of minimum threshold values and measurable objectives.

Disclosures

HydroMetrics WRI is proud that it has never in its 12 years of existence been the subject of any litigation, arbitration or claims proceedings. Additionally, Montgomery & Associates has had no claims or litigation in the past five years.

Carollo's disclosures for the previous five years include the following:

Year	Project	Outcome
2013	Construction damage of underground utilities	Dismissed from lawsuit
2013	Sewage overflow	Mediation, no admission of fault
2013	Civil suit regarding project delays	Mediation, no admission of fault
2015	Lawsuit regarding water rights	Lawsuit dismissed, under appeal
2015	Contaminated water	Dismissed from lawsuit
2015	Client injury during unrelated activity	Dismissed from lawsuit
2015	Errors by a painting subcontractor	Lawsuit in progress
2016	Contractor's claim of changed subsurface conditions	Dismissed from lawsuit

RESOLUTION NO. 18-XXX

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES AWARDING A CONTRACT WITH HYDROMETRICS FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN (GSP), AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR A GRANT TO FUND THE PREPARATION OF THE (GSP)

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires parties overlying high priority basins to form Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA) for the purposes of preparing a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) by January 2020 so that the basin will be sustainable by January 2040. The Paso Robles Basin is a high priority basin; and

WHEREAS, in January 2017 the City of Paso Robles became a GSA, and thereafter joined with other GSAs overlying the Basin to adopt a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the purposes of working together to prepare one shared GSP. The MOA calls for the City of Paso Robles to serve as the contract agency for the GSP as well as for the grant that will largely fund the GSP process; and

WHEREAS, the MOA Cooperative Committee has been working since October 2017 to create a Request For Proposals (RFP) to select a consultant team to prepare the GSP. Four proposals were received, the proposals were ranked, the top consultant teams were interviewed, and the top consultant was selected and recommended by staff from the GSA partners to the Cooperative Committee, which Council Member John Hamon Chairs; and

WHEREAS, the HydrometricsWRI consultant team (HydrometricsWRI, Montgomery and Carollo) was selected, and at the February 14, 2018 Cooperative Committee meeting the Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Paso Robles City Council (as the contracting agency) award a contract to Hydrometrics in the amount of $1,363,515; and

WHEREAS, on March 6th the GSA partners were notified that the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) was awarding a grant in the amount of $1.5 million to prepare the GSP; and

WHEREAS, because the in-kind contributions made from January 1, 2015 will satisfy almost all of the grant's match requirement, there will be relatively little out-of-pocket costs for the local GSAs over the next two years; and

WHEREAS, the MOA requires the establishment of a budget (for cash flow) which grant funds will reimburse; and

WHEREAS, the City's GSA share of the budget is 15%, which equated to $42,678 over two years; and

WHEREAS, the City of Paso Robles, as the GSP contracting agency, is also the designated contracting agency for the DWR grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. All of the above recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. The City Council hereby awards a contract to Hydrometrics for preparation of the GSP in the not-to-exceed amount of $1,363,515, and authorizes the City Manager to execute the contract subject to any minor technical, non-substantive or clarifying changes approved by the City Attorney.

Section 3. The City Council hereby approves the award of the State Department of Water Resources grant in the amount of $1,500,000 and authorizes the City Manager to execute the grant agreement as soon as it is available from the State of California, subject to any minor technical, non-substantive or clarifying changes approved by the City Attorney.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect on the date approved by the City Council.

APPROVED this 20th day of March, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

Steven W. Martin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kristen L. Buxkemper, Deputy City Clerk