

## Demand Management Working Group Meeting #4

December 2, 2024



### Demand Management Programs | Ad Hoc and Working Group Meeting Framework / Timeline

## 1. Form Groups & Prepare

- Formation & Planning
- Defining Goals, Objectives, and Priorities

2. Gather Info and Generate Ideas

 Information Collection and Analyses/ Assessments

 Identify Management Strategies 3. Explore and Package Ideas

- Build Out Specific Elements and Strategies
- Outreach Coordination

#### 4. Refine

- Vet and refine program elements and strategies
- 5. 'Finalize" and Implement
- Finalize elements for Ad Hoc recommendations
- Identify considerations and opportunities to improve implementation feasibility

GSA Boards Review/Cons ider for Approval

Jan 2026: RB, Ant, LM Jan 2027: Corning

Mtg 1: Above items plus criteria and info requests Mtg 2: Program Outline and WG Input Mtg 3: WG Outputs Mtg 2: Info Requests Follow-Up, Assessing Sustainable Yield Mtg 3 & 4: Revising polygon approach Mtg 4: DM examples

- 8:30 Welcome and round-robin introductions
- 8:35 Agenda review and participation
- 8:40 Updates
- 8:45 Revising the polygon approach for assessing sustainable yield
- 9:50 Optional break
- 10:00 Other Demand Management Program Examples
- 10:25 Future Working Group Activities and Next Steps
- 10:30 Adjourn

## Agenda

## Participation Procedures

- Contribute
- Make room for others
- All thoughts have value
- Ask questions of one another
- Not consensus-seeking
- Consider those listening in (state name, one voice at a time)

- Previous Meeting Follow-Up and Updates
- Today's Meeting Objectives

Working Group Updates

## Meeting 3 Recap and Updates

- Mtg 3 Topics Covered:
  - Revised polygon approaches for estimating sustainable yield
  - Data viewer map tool walk through; additional layers requested
  - Anticipated specific activities and outputs of the Ad Hoc and Working Group
  - Process requests (meeting design, tracking topics and

Reminder: meeting materials on website <u>tehamacountywater.org/demand-management-ad-hoc-working-group/</u>

### Revising Polygon Approach for Assessing Sustainable Yield

- Overview reminder
  - Purpose, Criteria, and Options
  - Today's goal: Decide on recommended approach
- Intro presentation and discussion on calculating sustainable yield
- Review and discuss approaches; affirm recommendation

## **Revising Polygons | Recap**

**Purpose:** Wells used in a polygon used to calculate SY for that polygon; SMC-specific polygon; decide on P/MAs appropriate to that polygon

#### **Potential Criteria**

- Equidistant from RMS wells
- Decent spread of wells for adequate coverage
- Minimized quirks and outliers
- Balance of using up-to-date data and ability to keep updated

#### Potential Approaches

- 1. True-Thiessen: Auto-generated
- **2. Groundwater Conditions-Based**: Where experiencing or predicting groundwater issues
- **3. Land Use-Based**: Where water is being used
- **4. Evapotranspiration-Based:** How much water is leaving the system

#### Slide from a previous meeting

# Question 2 – Potential Tools To Utilize

- Groundwater Level Changes (RMS Wells)
- Estimate Groundwater Pumping (Annual Reports/Open ET/Cropscape)
- Change in Groundwater Storage
  (ΔS)
  - $\Delta S = Q_{in} Q_{out}$
  - $\Delta S = A \times Sy \times \Delta WL$
- Estimate Safe Yield
  - Safe Yield = Average Pumping +/- Average  $\Delta S$

**LSCE to Screen Share** 



## **Revising Polygons | Discussion**

#### **Potential Criteria**

- Equidistant from RMS wells
- Decent spread of wells for adequate coverage
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- Balance of using up-to-date data and ability to keep updated

#### **Potential Approaches**

- 1. True-Thiessen: Auto-generated
- **2. Groundwater Conditions-Based**: Where experiencing or predicting groundwater issues
- **3. Land Use-Based**: Where water is being used
- **4. Evapotranspiration-Based:** How much water is leaving the system
- 5. Hybrid as warranted?

#### **Discussion Questions:**

- Yes/No to recommend using staff/consultant recommendation?
- If no, discuss pros/cons for the different polygon designation approaches; affirm recommendation to Ad Hoc/Commission

- DWR and sgma-dmad.com
- Select examples

Other Demand Management Program Examples

### Demand Management Actions (from GSPs)

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Combined DWR data with sgma-dmad.com



n Database (DMAD). Available at:

types of demand management actions included in the GSPs that are approved (left) and either incomplete or inadequate (right). The 'trading' bar is shorter than the others to show that only GSPs with allocation plans can include trading as a demand management action.

Figure Source: Friberg, Astrid Borup, Arthur R. Wardle, and Ellen M. Bruno. 2023. "How Is Demand Management Developing in SGMA Groundwater Sustainability Plans?" ARE Update 26(5): 5-8. University of California Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics.

## Example: Merced – allocations and pumping limits

**Merced Subbasin (High Priority, COD)** | DM includes conservation, land repurposing, pumping limits, water markets, surface water use incentives



Merced Irrigation Urban GSA (MIUGSA) | Allocations and pumping limits

**Groundwater Allocation**: Limit of 3.3 acre-feet per acre over three years (2023–2025). **Monitoring & Compliance**: Mandatory well registration and extraction tracking.

#### Flexibility Options:

- Combine allocations across parcels.
- Carry over unused/recharged water.
- Account for supplemental water sources.

#### **Overuse Penalties**:

- Up to 1.1 acre-feet excess: \$200/acre-foot.
- Over 1.1 acre-feet excess: \$500/acre-foot.

### Strategies and Examples

#### **Groundwater Allocations:**

Madera Subbasin: Limit of 3.3 acre-feet per acre over three years (2023–2025).

#### **Usage-Based Fees:**

- Madera Subbasin: \$246/acre annual fee for recharge projects (facing legal challenges).
- Wyandotte Creek Subbasin: Fees range from \$0.71 to \$10.12/acre for monitoring and compliance.

#### **Pumping Restrictions:**

• 180/400-Foot Aquifer, Salinas Valley: Pumping restrictions to combat seawater intrusion, with limits on extraction volumes and mandatory reporting.

#### Other examples:

- Land Repurposing: Merced Subbasin GSA, Salinas Valley, and Tule: Encourages retiring high-wateruse crops to reduce demand. (state-funded via MLRP)
- Incentive Programs: Westlands Water District: Supports on-farm recharge and flood irrigation for aquifer recovery. (state and fed-grant funded and WD investments)

#### **Discussion Questions:**

- Initial reactions to how other subbasins are approaching demand management?
- Are there specific subbasins or strategies you'd like to explore?

### Timeline for developing the Demand Management Program

Item	Milestone Date
Set management polygons	Nov'24
Generate sustainable yield per polygon	Dec 24-Jan 25
Determine expansion protocols	Feb '25
Set yield per acre for each polygon	Mar'25
Determine which (if any) voluntary measures will be requested in each polygon	Apr '25
Set triggers for adaptive measures (same basin wide)	May '25
Set adaptive measures	Jun-Jul '25
Set timeline for implementation of adaptive measures	Aug-Sep '25
Final deliberations buffer and legal review	Oct '25
Take to Commission	Nov '25
Take to BOD	Dec '25
Demand Management Program launch	Jan '26

## Next Steps and Wrap-Up

### **Upcoming meetings**

CSAB | Dec 4

Groundwater Commission | Dec 11

FCWCD Board | Dec 16

Next WG Meeting | Dec 18, 8:30-11:00a (duration subject to change)

**Action Items and Next Steps**