



SANTA ROSA PLAIN  
**GROUNDWATER**  
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

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# Advisory Committee Meeting

JULY 8, 2019

# Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Review

Time	Agenda Item	Materials
3:00	<b>Welcome, Introductions and Agenda Review</b> <i>Committee Chairman Bob Anderson and Rich Wilson, Sacramento State University – Consensus and Collaboration Program</i>	Agenda; March meeting summary; meeting calendar
3:05	<b>General Public Comment</b> Public comment on matters not on the agenda and within committee jurisdictions.	
3:15	<b>GSA Staff and Advisory Committee Updates</b> <i>Administrator, Plan Manager, and other Staff</i> <i>Advisory Committee Members</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ June GSA Board meeting activity</li> <li>▪ Sebastopol joining the GSA Board</li> <li>▪ Two-year terms of Members appointed by Member Agencies up for renewal</li> <li>▪ Future meeting schedule/topics</li> </ul> <i>Objective: Provide relevant updates that inform Advisory Committee discussions.</i>	(Handout)
3:45	<b>Update and Future Direction of Rate and Fee Study</b> <i>Andy Rodgers, GSA Administrator</i> Presentation – Direction and updates of rate and fee study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ordinance updates</li> <li>▪ Groundwater user registration program update</li> <li>▪ Phased Implementation plan (three-year calendar; last being rural residential)</li> <li>▪ Q&amp;A/Open group discussion</li> </ul> <i>Objective: Learn about the rate and fees adopted at June 13 Board meeting, provide input on ordinance and groundwater user registration program, and discuss implementation plan.</i>	PPT presentation (Handout)
4:15	<b>Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Development</b> <i>Marcus Trotta, Sonoma Water</i> <i>Advisory Committee Members</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Current and historical groundwater conditions</li> <li>▪ Overview of GSP water budget and models</li> <li>▪ Open group discussion</li> </ul> <i>Objective: Present and solicit initial committee input on draft materials from the current and historical groundwater conditions section of the Santa Rosa Plain GSP.</i>	PPT presentation (Handouts)
5:30	<b>Meeting Adjourns</b> <i>Next Advisory Committee meeting: Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 3:00 – 5:30 pm</i> <i>Next GSA Board meeting: Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 1:00 – 4:00 pm</i>	

# General Public Comment

**Public comment on matters not on  
the agenda and within committee  
jurisdiction.**

# GSA Staff and Advisory Committee Updates

*Objective: Provide relevant updates  
that inform Advisory Committee  
discussions.*

- June GSA Board meeting activity
- Sebastopol joining the GSA Board
- Two-year terms of Members appointed by Member Agencies up for renewal
- Future meeting schedule/topics

# June GSA Board meeting activity

## ○ GSA Board Action Items

- Adopted "An Ordinance Requiring Registration of Groundwater Use Facilities, Water User Reporting and Authorizing the Adoption of Groundwater Sustainability Fee."
- Accepted Raftelis "Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency Rate Study Report" to be used to as a basis to establish a groundwater sustainability fee.
- Adopted Resolution Establishing a Groundwater Sustainability Fee pursuant Agency Ordinance No. 19-01.
- Approved Reserve Policy for Agency financial reserves.

# June GSA Board meeting activity

- GSA Board Informational Items
  - Sonoma Water and Sonoma County's plan to offset proposed groundwater fee
  - Groundwater Sustainability Plan
  - Draft process for considering new GSA membership

# Annual Cost to Fund GSA

- Operating expenses include GSA administration and technical services for GSP
- Years 1 & 2 funded by member agency contributions, totaling \$992,000
- Agency received \$1 million in grant funding

	<b>Funding Amount Calculation</b>
5 Years Operating Expenses (GSA & GSP)	\$3,000,305
Member Agency contributions	-\$992,000
Grant funding	-\$1,000,000
<b>Total to be recovered</b>	<b>\$1,008,305</b>
Years to recover expenses	3
<b>Total annual amount to be recovered (rounded)</b>	<b>\$337,000</b>

# Per Acre Foot Rate

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The average annual costs of running the GSA  $\div$  Acre feet of groundwater used annually in the basin = Per acre foot rate

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\$337,000  $\div$  16,934 = \$19.90



# Municipal Groundwater Use

City/ Water Service Provider	Projected Usage (Acre Ft)
Cotati	264
Rohnert Park	1,612
Santa Rosa	1,598
Sebastopol	1,004
Windsor	50
Sonoma County Water Agency	<u>592</u>
<b>Total Municipal Groundwater Use</b>	<b>5,120 AF</b>

# Groundwater Sustainability Fees

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- Rural residential (domestic) groundwater users would pay **\$9.95 a year**
- Large groundwater users would pay **\$19.90 per acre foot of water** pumped annually
- Urban well owner would pay **\$1.99 a year**
- A vineyard with 100 acres of irrigated vines (60 AFY) would pay **\$1,194** annually
- Fees would be levied for **three years**, after which time the Board could end, extend, or replace

# SRP GSA Fees Compared to State Intervention Fees

Source of Usage	Proposed Groundwater Sustainability Fee	Annual State Intervention Fees
Charge per Acre Foot (agriculture, municipal, golf courses, etc.)	\$19.90	\$300 base fee, <b>plus \$40 per AF*</b>
Charge for Rural Residential (\$ per parcel/year)	\$9.95	\$100
Charge for Urban Supplemental Irrigation Wells (\$ per parcel/year)	\$1.99	\$100
<p><i>*The \$300 annual base fee is charged to all well owners, except de minimis (rural &amp; urban residential).</i></p> <p><i>** \$100 fee may be charged by State if it deems total de minimis extractions to be significant.</i></p>		

# 'Alternative Plan' Contribution

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May 21, 2019 - County of Sonoma Board of Supervisors and Sonoma Water's Board of Directors approved an 'Alternative Plan' supporting GSA activities for Fiscal Years 2019-2020 through 2021-2022

- Providing a combined contribution up to \$240,000 annually.

Funding from the County of Sonoma (\$200,000 annually) would come from county contingency funds.

Two-thirds of Sonoma Water's annual contribution of up to \$40,000 annually would be from its general fund and one third would come from water transmission funds (these funds were included in Sonoma Water's 2019-2020 budget).

- Note: *The \$40,000 includes the amount Sonoma Water would pay for its annual groundwater sustainability fee due to pumping of its wells within the basin (\$11,772).*

# Groundwater user classes, percentage of total sub-basin extraction, and annual fees

User/Class of User	Total Estimated Extraction	Class % of Estimated Usage	User/Class Annual Impact
City of Cotati	264 AF	2%	\$5,252
City of Rohnert Park	1,612 AF	10%	\$32,089
City of Santa Rosa	1,598 AF	9%	\$31,800
City of Sebastopol	1,004 AF	6%	\$19,977
Town of Windsor	50 AF	0%	\$995
Sonoma Water	592 AF	3%	\$11,772
Sonoma State University	203 AF	1%	\$4,038*
California-American Larkfield	524 AF	3%	\$10,426*
Small Water Service Providers	1,096 AF	6%	\$21,812*
Agriculture	5,345 AF	32%	\$106,374*
Rural Residential Groundwater Users	3,664 AF	22%	\$72,905*
Urban Residential Groundwater Users	189 AF	1%	\$3,759*
Golf Courses	595 AF	4%	\$11,850*
Schools	199 AF	1%	\$3,952*
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,934 AF</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$337,000</b>

\*Groundwater user class fees fully or partially covered by contributions from Sonoma County and Sonoma Water during Fiscal Years 19/20, 20/21 and 21/22.

# Annual Cost to Fund GSA

		Funding Amount Calculation
5 Years Operating Expenses (GSA & GSP)		\$3,000,305
Member Agency contributions		-\$992,000
Grant funding		-\$1,000,000
<b>Total to be recovered</b>		<b>\$1,008,305</b>
Years to recover expenses		3
<b>Total annual amount to be recovered (rounded)</b>		<b>\$337,000/year</b>
Total Annual Fees from Municipal pumping		- \$101,885/year
Total Contribution from Sonoma County & Sonoma Water		- <u>\$228,228/year</u>
Total GSA projected annual operating expenses deficit		\$6,887/year

# Options for addressing annual operating deficit

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- Revise GSA operating budget to reflect cost savings realized from phased implementation of registration program
- If new members are added to GSA board, consider applying a portion of a new contribution to cover or reduce deficit
- Work with member agency staff to identify new potential operating cost saving measures
- Identify other potential funding sources

# Sebastopol joining the GSA Board

- April 11 - GSA Board expressed unanimous support for offering the City of Sebastopol a prorated contribution to join the board: \$71,400 for three years.
- June 13 – GSA Board adopted ordinance and approved a 3-year fixed fee, including Sebastopol.
- June 25 – Sebastopol City Council voted to join GSA board and provide prorated contribution over 3 years.
  - Councilmember Michael Carnacchi representing City with Mayor Neysa Hinton as alternate.
- August 8 – GSA Board considers Sebastopol's application for Board membership



# Two-year terms of Members appointed by Member Agencies up for renewal

- **Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency Advisory Committee Charter**

*Amended by consensus – May 7, 2018*

## Terms

“The initial Advisory Committee appointments will include seven seats with three-year terms (interest-based categories) ending in December 2020 and 11 two-year terms (at-large) ending in December 2019. Following initial Committee appointment, all terms will be two years and end in December. Appointees are not term-limited; however, members must apply for each term.”

# Two-year terms of Members appointed by Member Agencies up for renewal

Member Agency	Member
Town of Windsor	Sandi Potter
City of Rohnert Park	Mary Grace Pawson
City of Cotati	Craig Scott
City of Santa Rosa	Jennifer Burke
Sonoma County	Mark Grismer
Sonoma Water	Carolyn Dixon
Sonoma Resource Conservation District	Wayne Haydon
Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District	Matt O'Connor, PhD
Independent Water Suppliers	Chris Bates
City of Sebastopol	Henry Mikus
Graton Rancheria	Maureen Geary

# Future meeting schedule/topics

SRPGSA Board	Advisory Committee
<b>2019</b>	
<b>March 14</b> Rate/fee study Draft budget Reserve policy Audit	<b>January 9</b> Rate/Fee Study Update Revised Plan Area Section Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model Overview Initial Draft Figures and Maps for Current and Historical Groundwater Conditions and Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model Subsections
<b>April 11</b> Rate/fee study Adopt FY 19-20 budget	<b>March 11</b> Rate/Fee Study Update Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model– Draft subsection
<b>May 22</b> <b>All-GSA Workshop: Climate Change &amp; Groundwater Sustainability</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GSP requirements regarding climate change</li> <li>• Local implications of climate change on groundwater and surface water</li> <li>• How this information will be incorporated into GSPs</li> </ul>	
<b>June 13</b> Approve Groundwater Sustainability Fee	<b>May 13</b> Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model– Revised subsection Current and Historical Groundwater Conditions– Draft Materials Rate/Fee Study and Groundwater User Registration Program Update
<b>August 8</b> Groundwater user registration implementation plan	<b>July 8</b> Current and Historical Groundwater Conditions– Draft Subsection Water Budget Requirements and Groundwater Flow Model Rate/Fee Study and Groundwater User Registration Program Update
<b>Fall: Public Workshop on Santa Rosa Plain GSP and Basin Conditions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What defines the Basin?</li> <li>• Communities</li> <li>• Water sources</li> <li>• Areas of concern</li> <li>• SGMAs ‘six deadly sins’ and how they are defined, determined and what other areas are doing about them</li> </ul>	
<b>October 10</b>	<b>September 9</b> Groundwater Flow Model Discussion Water Budget Components Discussion of Surface Water – Groundwater Interactions Management Areas Discussion
<b>December 12</b>	<b>November 4</b> Water Budget and Model Scenarios Discussion Management Areas Recommendation Sustainable Management Criteria Introduction and Considerations for defining Undesirable Results

# Update and Future Direction of Rate and Fee Study

*Objective: Learn about the rate and fees adopted at June 13 Board meeting, provide input on ordinance and groundwater user registration program, and discuss implementation plan.*

- Ordinance updates
- Groundwater user registration program update
- Phased Implementation plan (three-year calendar; last being rural residential)
- Q&A/Open group discussion

# Ordinance updates

# Proposed Ordinance Updates & Clean-up

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• Clarify registration action:

Article 2. Section 1. Paragraph 2: *“The operator of the Extraction Facility will automatically be registered by the Agency and provide at a minimum the following information on a form provided by the Agency. The Agency form may ask for, and the Operator may supply additional information if requested.”*

Modify factor to be consistent with approved fee methodology:

Article 2. Section 2.D: Change AF rate for “additional residences” from 0.5 to 0.25.

Clarify appeals process:

Article 4. Part (3): *“Only after a request for hearing is received within the required period, and the information submitted is determined to be complete by the Administrator, shall the Agency set the date and time for the appeal hearing.”*

Article 4. Part (8): *At the place and time set forth in the notice of hearing, the Board of Directors or a board-appointed committee shall conduct a hearing and consider all written or oral evidence presented at the hearing.”*

# Groundwater user registration program update



# What is the Groundwater User Registration Program?

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A free and convenient registration program that will allow the GSA to verify basic information about groundwater use.

# How does the Groundwater User Registration Program work?

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**Step 1.** People assumed to be groundwater users will receive a letter from the GSA that includes:

- Parcel number, address, parcel size, type of land use

**Step 2.** If information is **correct**, groundwater users can:

- Do nothing OR
- Contact GSA to provide optional additional information (well location, depth, water quality concerns, etc.)

**Step 3.** If information is **incorrect**, groundwater users can:

- Contact GSA to discuss needed corrections

# Direction from AC and Board

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- Make program simple and understandable
- Provide messaging that communicates the values of adding/correcting information
- Provide options for exchanging information
  - On-line
  - Hardcopy
  - Staff support: GSA, Ag Dept, Permit Sonoma
- Make sure wording is relatable and clear
- Improve accuracy and completeness of GSA datasets

# Groundwater User Registration Program

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## ○ Next Steps:

- Develop materials to be sent to SRP groundwater users for Board review
- Develop and complete webpage with GSA staff and partner agencies
- Consider updates to Ordinance at August 8 Board meeting
- Develop groundwater database from Raftelis' fee model to accommodate new information received through registration program

## ○ Comments/feedback?

# Groundwater User Registration Program - Phased Implementation Plan

# Phased Implementation Plan/Schedule

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- FY 19/20
  - Initial Groundwater User Notification
  - Implement website updates and distribute supporting materials
  - Review/update datasets from municipal and large groundwater users
- FY 20/21
  - Review/update datasets from small WSPs and agriculture
- FY 21/22
  - Review/update datasets from rural residential and urban well users

# North Coast Resource Partnership Prop 84

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Available through Aug 2020

- 75% covered by grant funding
- 25% covered by Sonoma Water match contribution

Eligibility:

- SR GSA private well users including mutual water systems, shared wells, community wells, and other non-profit water systems

Programs Include:

- Turf Replacement Rebate – 2,625-ft<sup>2</sup> of turf conversion (\$0.50 per ft<sup>2</sup>)
- High Efficiency Toilet Rebate – 200 rebates (\$100 per toilet)
- High Efficiency Washer Rebate – 120 rebates (\$50 per washer)
- Residential Water Use Consultation – 30 site visits

# North Coast Resource Partnership Prop 84

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What information would be required from participants to confirm eligibility?

<b>Program</b>	<b>Eligible Quantity</b>	<b>Rebate/ Incentive</b>	<b>Required Match</b>	<b>Grant Funds Available</b>
Water-Efficient Landscape Rebate	2,625 sqft	\$0.50	\$328	\$985
High Efficiency Toilet and Urinal Rebate Program	200 rebates	\$100.00	\$5,000	\$15,000
High Efficiency Washer Rebate	120 rebates	\$50.00	\$1,500	\$4,500
Residential Water Use Consultation	30 site visits	\$100.00	\$750	\$2,250
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$7,578</b>	<b>\$22,734</b>



# Q&A/Open group discussion

# Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Development – Basin Setting

**Objective:** Present and solicit initial committee input on draft materials from the basin setting section of the Santa Rosa Plain GSP.

- Current and historical groundwater conditions
- Overview of GSP water budget and models
- Open group discussion

# Meeting Adjourn

- Next Advisory Committee meeting:  
Monday, September 9, 2019, 3:00 – 5:30 pm
- Next GSA Board meeting:  
Thursday, August 8, 2019, 1:00 – 4:00 pm