

**San Pasqual Valley (SPV) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)
Stakeholder Workshop
Meeting Summary**

The following is a summary of the Stakeholder Workshop, comments, and questions. This summary reflects the general content and spirit of each discussion point, but is not a verbatim recording.

Date: Thursday May 30, 2024, from 1:00 pm to 1:25 pm
Location: GoToMeeting
Purpose: Stakeholder Workshop

Attendees:	Public	Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alicia Ruplinger, DWR Daniel Silver Frank Konyyn Lani Lutar Matt (no last name provided) Rikki Schroeder, Ranch Guejito Robyn Badger Samuel Johnson – Best Best and Kieger 	<u>City of San Diego (City)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Andrew Funk Christopher Berkoben Megan Hickey Quinton Grounds Sergio Angulo Sandra Carlson <u>County of San Diego (County)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jim Bennett Leanne Crow
		Consultant Team
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sally Johnson, Woodard & Curran Christy Kennedy, Woodard & Curran Micah Eggleton, Woodard & Curran

Welcome and Introductions

Christy Kennedy (Consultant Team) greeted participants as they signed on to GoToMeeting. Christy then introduced the major topics for today’s presentation.

Andrew Funk then introduced himself and the rest of the City of San Diego Team. Leanne Crow and Jim Bennett from the County introduced themselves.

Christy then reviewed the agenda.

2023 Annual Report Outcomes

Christy stated that the 2023 Annual Report (AR) was submitted in April of 2024. The AR includes data collected over the last water year (WY) including groundwater levels and groundwater quality data. The report also includes information on the status of implementation including projects and management actions. It was also mentioned that DWR provided feedback on the AR on May 24, 2024 and that DWR determined “that no further information or action is required at this time.”

Christy provided information about how the Basin is evaluated in the AR. This is done through Planning Thresholds (PTs) which are meant to provide an “early warning” to the GSA, Minimum Thresholds (MTs), and Measurable Objectives (MOs). Thresholds for groundwater levels and Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) vary by well, with the exception for nitrate which is 10 milligrams/liter (mg/L) for the MT and 5mg/L for the MO.

A review of groundwater levels (which are also used as a proxy for interconnected surface waters and storage sustainable management criteria) was then provided. The Basin experienced higher than average precipitation in WY 2023 and was considered “wet”, with groundwater storage increasing approximately 1,855 acre feet. Two wells were unable to record measurements in Spring of 2023 while one was unable to record a measurement in Fall 2023. Overall, groundwater levels increased from the previous year and no undesirable results were triggered for groundwater levels.

The presentation then moved on to groundwater quality, which saw exceedances in WY 2023. Findings for wells that could either not be sampled or experienced exceedances included:

- One well (SP036) was dry and unable to be sampled in WY 2023
- One well (SP001) could not be sampled for TDS in spring or fall, or Nitrate in fall, but was assumed to not exceed MT based on historical data and spring results for Nitrate
- One well (SP043) was unable to be sampled for Nitrate in spring, but was assumed to exceed the MT based on historical data and results for fall
- Two additional wells (SP006 & SP065) exceeded nitrate MTs in both spring and fall
- One well (SP065) exceeded TDS in spring and fall, but these were the only TDS exceedances

Christy then described how the undesirable results are determined. She provided the definition for groundwater quality undesirable results (URs) which is 30% of the Representative Monitoring Well network (RMWs) for two consecutive years. However, groundwater quality issues must be associated with groundwater pumping and other groundwater-related activities. Additionally, water quality impacts prior to 2015 and future water quality impacts caused by land use practices, surface water quality issues, or other issues not associated with groundwater management may be undesirable results for degraded water quality that are not the responsibility of the GSA because they are outside of the GSA authorities.

Christy then provided context for the water quality findings. First, there were three wells that exceeded the nitrate MT for two consecutive years. Second, per the 2014 Salt and Nutrient Management Plan, 70% of nitrogen in the Basin is derived from commercial fertilizer use

which is outside the GSA's authority to regulate. Third, historical data for two of the three wells indicate consistent concentrations above the MT prior to 2015.

Christy then showed a chemograph of nitrate levels for three of the wells with exceedances for nitrate (SP065, SP043, and SP006). She described how the historical data show high nitrate levels both long-term and before 2015. Based on these conditions, the AR does not consider undesirable results to have been triggered for groundwater quality.

Christy then described the next steps regarding the nitrate concentrations. The GSA is considering approaches for addressing nitrate levels including projects and management actions and additional communication with the public (including using the Nitrate and TDS Fact Sheet (from 2022)). There will also be a Periodic Evaluation of the GSP due in 2027 and the GSA is seeking input from stakeholders.

Christy then provided a list of existing resources that may be helpful for stakeholders regarding nitrate:

- Nitrate and TDS Fact Sheet (from 2022)
- SWRCB domestic well owner resources
- SWRCB Nitrate Project webpage

Christy then provided takeaways from the AR. There may be monitoring network refinements in the future for groundwater levels and groundwater quality that take into consideration trends and MT exceedances. Additionally, DWR will begin posting response letters to ARs, which has not historically occurred. As previously noted, the GSA received a letter from DWR regarding the WY 2023 AR earlier this month. CASGEM may also increase monitoring frequency moving forward.

Christy then provided GSP resources, including links to the GSA's website, the GSP, Annual Reports, and data management system.

Basin contacts were then provided from both the City and County. Christy then ended the slide presentation for the meeting and asked for public comments.

Public Comment

- Rikki Schroder – We have begun our review and will submit questions in writing.

No additional comments were provided

Next Steps and Closing Remarks

Christy reminded participants that the slides will be posted on the website shortly. Andrew provided closing remarks and invited any additional comments or questions to be forwarded to contacts listed in the presentation.

Stakeholder Workshop ended at 1:25pm.

Chat Log:

- *Samuel Johnson - Best Best & Krieger*
sent: 2:23 PM
where can we find these slides?
- *Woodard Curran*
sent: 2:23 PM
Slides will be posted to the county website
- *Samuel Johnson - Best Best & Krieger*
sent: 2:24 PM
thank you!