

DISCUSSION ON THE REQUIREMENTS TO FORM A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (GSA) FOR THE UKIAH VALLEY BASIN

Presented by: Mendocino County Water Agency

Recent SGMA Legislation

- Senate Bill 13 (Pavley), passed in September 2015 and becomes law in January 2016.
- The bill amended and clarified numerous Water Code sections of SGMA.
- Significant changes were made with respect to DWR's role in reviewing GSA formation notices.
 - Notification completeness review
 - Overlapping GSA boundaries
 - Service areas jurisdictions as a GSA

SGMA Legislation Continued

- Bill Highlights
 - Precludes Overlapping Groundwater Sustainability Agencies
 - Clarifies DWR'S role to determine completeness of GSA notices
 - Clarifies timelines when Basin Priority changes
 - Allows participation by Mutual Water Companies and Water Corporations in GSA

DWR SB 13 Guidelines

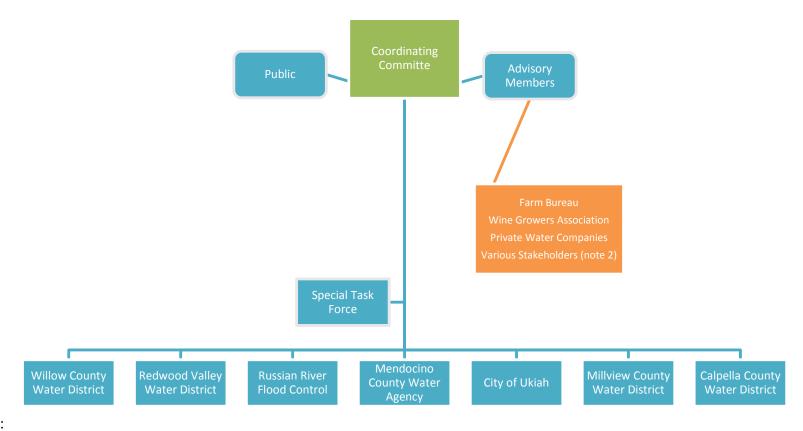
- DWR has developed guidelines for local agencies to use in response to SB 13.
- DWR will be hosting a webinar in November on information related to SB 13.
- SB 13 text is available at <u>www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov</u>

Facilitation Application Update

- The Department of Water Resources (DWR) offers facilitation support services to help local water management groups address pivotal issues regarding the development, improvement, or implementation of an IRWM Plan, GWMP, GSP, GSA formation, or other appropriate integrated water management goal or project.
- The Mendocino County Water Agency submitted an Application to DWR's Northern Region Office in early October for the Ukiah Valley Basin.

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Coordinating Committee Structure



Notes:

- 1. Coordinating Committee is a placeholder only, subject to determination of need by agencies involved. Defined role and decision-making framework will be developed following an assessment of eligible GSA entities and stakeholder groups.
- 2. Advisory Members will be comprised of stakeholder groups to solicit input and advice (key stakeholders including, but not limited to: private landowner, agricultural community, environmental users of groundwater, private water companies, inter-connected water users and tribes).
- 3. Special Task Force refers to any variety of project oriented groups that could be formed to tackle coordinated issues. For example: facilitation, funding opportunities, technical guidance, etc.
- 4. There are many determinations that need to be completed and <u>thus the DRAFT coordinating committee structure above is subject to further revisions and modifications.</u>

Coordinating Committee Assessment

Please provide suggestions and feedback on the following items relating to a Coordinating Committee:

- Structure of the Committee
- Number of representatives per entity
- Input on a decision-making framework
- Criteria to evaluate GSA options

Assessment Continued

- How the committee will consider and move forward with recommendations to their respective boards on a GSA governance structure
- Mediation options if members are unable to reach agreement
- Suggestions for additional outreach efforts
- What type of presentations or information would you like to see regarding governance structure (i.e. MOU, JPA) of GSA?

Next Steps

