Ready, Set, Go:
Communicating About
Groundwater Sustainability and
Looking Towards Implementation

Joint Subbasin Committees Workshop March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021









## Workshop Outline

- Introduction to Communications and Public Engagement Chapter
- Receive input on SVBGSA Communication Plan
- Introduction to Implementation Chapter





## Chapter 2:

Communications and Public Engagement

Content and requirements for Chapter according to SGMA Guidelines



## Stakeholder Engagement

SGMA places high value on stakeholder involvement in GSP development - all engagement is through Brown Act bodies

#### SVBGSA has embraced this concept in our planning work –

- Subbasin Committees have had 42 different stakeholders participate in the five committees
- ➤ Joint Subbasin Committee Workshops usually have ~ 50 participants
- ➤ Advisory Committee
- ➤ Board of Directors





#### Response to Stakeholder Comments



- Our assessment includes:
  - ✓ Does it help us achieve sustainability in accordance with SGMA?
  - ✓ Success will require locally-supported and funded projects we have to make progress
  - ✓ We can always "do more" within the context of being a partner more broadly
  - ✓ Role of GSPs in context to other water resource issues (i.e., water quality, environmental)
- Our Tool = GSP Comment Portal and Comment Tracking Tables
  - ✓ Provides publicly accessible record of all comments in real time
  - ✓ Review of each comment and documented response.
  - ✓ If language in the GSP will be changed the Comment table will note that.
  - ✓ Version 2 GSPs will highlight how stakeholder comments have been incorporated.

## **Communications and Noticing for GSPs**

- SGMA requires noticing and review timelines
- Our planning timeline allows for this:
  - September release of plans for 90-day review
  - Comment tabulation
  - Board of Directors deliberate December before submittal to DWR





SVBGSA Communication Plan



#### The Future: SVBGSA Communications Plan

- Promote awareness and education of groundwater
- Engage stakeholders
- Build partnerships

#### Topics including

- ✓ Annual reports and monitoring information
- ✓ Projects and management action implementation
- ✓ Integrated focus for activities across subbasins
- ✓ 5-year plan updates
- ✓ Funding
- ✓ Progress tracking



#### **Marketing & Communications Plan**



#### Examples

- Underrepresented communities strategic outreach
- Partnership development starts with good communications (Watershed Coordinator example)
- State and federal outreach about the GSA and our work broader perspective on uniqueness of Salinas Valley why it is an important place to do this work
- Progress story how we are doing and what are we doing



Chapter 10: Implementation

Content and requirements for Chapter according to SGMA Guidelines

SVBGSA Stakeholder input on implementation

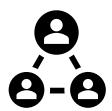


#### Introduction to Implementation Chapter

#### Purpose:

- Organize tasks
- Tell the story of success
- Our roadmap
- Give DWR confidence that the GSA is committed to implementing the GSP and understands the level of effort needed to do so





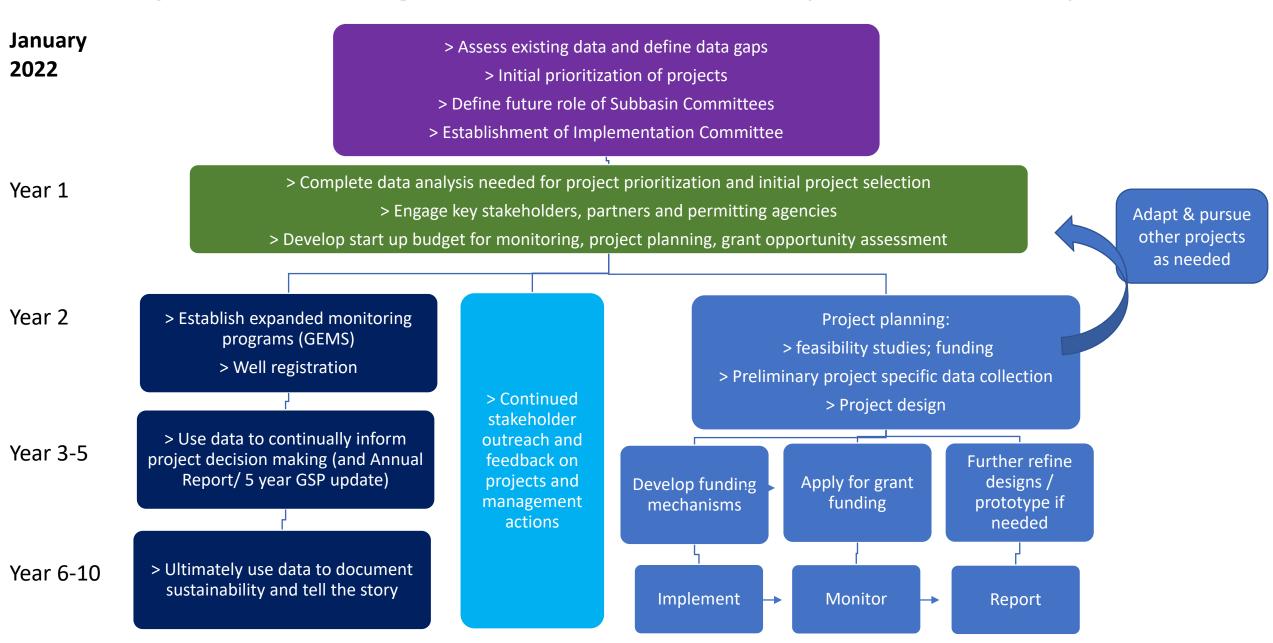




## Items Included in Implementation Chapter

- Data, Monitoring, and Reporting
  - Annual monitoring and reporting
  - Updating the Data Management System and Web Map
  - Improving monitoring networks
  - Addressing identified data gaps in the hydrogeologic conceptual model
- Communication and Stakeholder Engagement
- Refining and Implementing Projects and Management Actions
- Funding Strategy (\*will discuss at May/June subbasin meetings)
- 5-year Update Subbasin Committees engaged again here

#### Projects & Management Actions: Conceptual Road Map



## Implementation Stakeholder Engagement Ideas\*

- ➤ Subbasin Committees:
  - Review annual reports
  - Provide input for 5 year GSP update
  - Review subbasin specific data/modelling results
  - Guide subbasin specific project/management actions and funding mechanisms
  - Propose 180/400 Subbasin Committee with same structure as other subbasin committees
  - Propose long term logistics like open application periods, expected duration of commitment

\* In addition to Advisory Committee and existing Committees of the Board

## Implementation Stakeholder Engagement Ideas\*

- >Implementation Committee (AKA Integrated Plan Committee)
  - Provide input for Integrated Plan (Implementation Plan)
  - Review basin wide data and modelling results
  - Guide basin wide project/management action funding mechanisms
  - Resolve neighboring basin concerns
  - Ensure all subbasins are on a path to sustainability
  - Propose "Planning" Committee becomes "Implementation Committee" with current IPC members
- ➤ Monitoring and Reporting Committee? Communications? Other?
- ➤ Continue workshops?



QUESTIONS



# Integrated Planning Committee (Implementation Committee)

Eastside Subbasin – Christopher Bunn

Forebay Subbasin – Steve McIntyre

Langley Area Subbasin – Caroline Chapin

Upper Valley Subbasin – Grant Cremers

Monterey Subbasin – Janet Brennan

Seawater Intrusion Working Group – Mike McCullough

Advisory Committee – Norm Groot

Advisory Committee – Brian Frus

Advisory Committee – Dennis Lebow

Monterey Water Resources Agency – Elizabeth Krafft

SVBGSA Planning Committee – John Bramers

Proposed 180/400 Foot Subbasin - Representative