

**Before the Board of Directors of the  
Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

**Resolution No. 2020-01**

Approving the Groundwater Sustainability )  
Plan for the 180/400-foot aquifer subbasin of )  
the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin, and )  
authorizing and directing its filing with the )  
California Department of Water Resources. )

WHEREAS, in the fall of 2014 the California legislature adopted, and the Governor signed into law, three bills (SB 1168, AB 1739, and SB 1319) collectively referred to as the “Sustainable Groundwater Management Act” (“SGMA”), that initially became effective on January 1, 2015, and that has been amended from time-to-time thereafter; and,

WHEREAS, the stated purpose of SGMA, as set forth in California Water Code section 10720.1, is to provide for the sustainable management of groundwater basins at a local level by providing local groundwater agencies with the authority, and technical and financial assistance necessary, to sustainably manage groundwater; and,

WHEREAS, SGMA requires the designation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (“GSAs”) for the purpose of achieving groundwater sustainability through the adoption and implementation of regulatory programs known as Groundwater Sustainability Plans (“GSPs”) or an alternative plan for all medium and high priority basins as designated by the California Department of Water Resources (“DWR”); and,

WHEREAS, in December of 2016 a joint powers authority, known as the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“SVBGSA”) was formed for the purpose of being a GSA for the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin (“Basin”), and the subbasins therein (with limited exceptions), within Monterey County; and,

WHEREAS, SGMA requires GSAs to adopt GSPs for each basin/subbasin within the GSA’s jurisdiction; and,

WHEREAS, GSPs for basins designated high priority in DWR’s Bulletin 118, and for those basins designated a in a critical condition of overdraft, are due to be filed with DWR no later than January 31, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, the 180/400-foot aquifer subbasin of the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin (“Subbasin”) is designated high priority and in a critical condition of overdraft; and,

WHEREAS, the SVBGSA has undertaken the process to prepare a GSP for the Subbasin as required by SGMA; and,

WHEREAS, the SVBGSA has provided the notices required by Water Code section 10727.8, and previously formed an Advisory Committee, consisting of a diverse group of interested parties and stakeholders, which has reviewed and provided input into the GSP for the Subbasin; and,

WHEREAS, the SVBGSA Board of Directors and the Advisory Committee have held numerous public meetings where elements of the GSP for the Subbasin have been presented and discussed, and where the general public has been provided the opportunity to comment on the various elements of the GSP; and,

WHEREAS, the SVBGSA has received a significant amount of written public comments on the various elements of the GSP, which have been reviewed and commented on, where and as appropriate, as part of the GSP; and,

WHEREAS, the SVBGSA has noticed a public hearing for December 12, 2019, as required by Water Code section 10728.4 for the purpose of consider adopting a GSP for the Subbasin; and,

WHEREAS, at the public hearing, the Board of Directors considered the GSP for the Subbasin and the comments from the public thereon; and,

WHEREAS, the GSP for the Subbasin contains all the elements required by Water Code sections 10727.2 and 10727.4; and,

WHEREAS, after its filing with DWR, the GSP for the Subbasin will be subject to a further public review period, and will undergo review by DWR for a period not exceeding two years; and,

WHEREAS, the GSP for the Subbasin will be subject to further updating during the DWR review period, and periodically thereafter; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors closed the public hearing on December 12, 2019, but continued the matter to the regular Board of Directors meeting of January 9, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Marina previously voted to become a GSA over a small portion of the Subbasin, creating an overlap with the SVBGSA for that area; and,

WHEREAS, attempts to resolve the overlap between the two GSAs have failed, thus creating the possibility of an “unmanaged” area in the Subbasin that would be subject to State intervention; and,

WHEREAS, to avoid State intervention, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors voted to become the GSA (“County GSA”) for the overlap area and filed the appropriate notice with DWR, thus becoming the exclusive GSA for the overlap area pursuant to SGMA; and,

WHEREAS, the GSP prepared by SVBGSA covers the entirety of the Subbasin, including the area that is now exclusively managed by the County GSA; and,

WHEREAS, given DWR's determination that the County GSA is the exclusive GSA for the overlap area, SVBGSA is not adopting the GSP for the area exclusively managed by the County GSA; and, WHEREAS, it is the expectation of SVBGSA that the County GSA will separately consider and adopt the GSP for its exclusive GSA area and that SVBGSA and County GSA will cooperate in the implementation of the GSP under a separate cooperation agreement; and,

WHEREAS, it is now necessary and appropriate for the Board of Directors to consider the approval of the GSP for the balance of the Subbasin, and authorize and direct its filing with DWR no later than the date required by SGMA; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, as follows:

1. The above Recitals are true and correct.
2. The Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the 180/400-foot aquifer subbasin of the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin is approved for the entirety of the Subbasin except for the area exclusively managed by the County GSA.
3. The General Manager is hereby authorized and directed to cause the GSP to be filed with the California Department of Water Resources no later than January 31, 2020, as required by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.
4. The General Manager and Agency Counsel are hereby authorized and directed to take such other and further actions as may be necessary or appropriate to implement the intent and purposes of this resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 9th day of January, 2020, by the following vote, to-wit:

AYES: Directors Adcock, Alejo, Chapin Hodges, Gunter, McHatten, McIntyre, Pereira, Secondo, and Chair Stefani

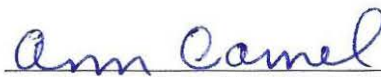
NOES: Directors Brennan and Lipe

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

I, Ann Camel, Clerk of the Board of Directors of the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Directors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof for the meeting on January 9, 2020.

Dated: January 9, 2020



Ann Camel, Clerk of the Board of Directors of the  
Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency,  
County of Monterey, State of California