Subbasin Announcements

This installment of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin newsletter covers activities completed across the Subbasin and within each groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) Group during summer (July – September) of 2020.

The Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee continues to meet monthly. This quarter, representatives from each GSP Group discussed implementation efforts, monitoring processes, current and upcoming grant opportunities, and initial discussions of the Water Year 2020 Annual Report.

The Subbasin's groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) collected water quality samples for representative monitoring sites this summer and early fall. GSAs are currently collecting seasonal low groundwater level readings for the representative monitoring network. This window is September 1 – October 31. Once these data are collected, each GSP Group will prepare this information to upload to the Subbasin's data management system and DWR's SGMA Monitoring Network Module. Water quality and water level data will also be incorporated into the Water Year 2020 Annual Report.

The Coordination Committee and Subbasin Technical Working Group members have started to strategize the Subbasin's approach for its well census and inventory project and subsidence characterization study. These projects are supported by the Subbasin's recently awarded Sustainable Groundwater Proposition 68 Management grant. Each GSP Group will proceed with its own effort to complete a well census and inventory, and results will be compiled at the Subbasin-level once complete. The Subbasin is collaborating on its approach for the subsidence study. The Coordination characterization Committee will seek input from state and federal agencies to structure the Subbasin's data access and study approach.

This fall, Subbasin representatives will begin inter-basin coordination meetings with representatives from neighboring subbasins. These inter-basin meetings will be supported through the Subbasin's Facilitation Support Services program with DWR.





Upcoming Meetings and Important Dates

Coordination Committee Meeting Monday, November 9th 9:30 AM-12:00 PM Coordination Committee Meeting Monday, December 14th 9:30 AM- 12:00 PM Coordination Committee Meeting Monday, January 11th 9:30 AM- 12:00 PM

Meeting details for these and other events can be accessed at deltamendota.org



Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Group Updates

These updates provide a summary of activities completed in summer 2020



The Northern & Central GSP Group's recent activities include:

- Performed annual groundwater quality testing for TDS, nitrate as N, and boron (as identified in the GSP) between May and August at all representative monitoring sites for the degraded water quality sustainability indicator
- Seasonal low fall groundwater level monitoring began during September (scheduled to last until the end of October)
- Actively participating in the development of Department of Conservation Watershed Coordinator Program grant application (due October 15)



Farmers Water District GSP Group's recent activities include:

• Fall groundwater level monitoring



Aliso GSP Group's recent activities include:

- Preparing to conduct Fall Water Level Measurements
- Pursuing a Standard Water Right Permit from the SWRCB
- Securing land for recharge as part of implementing the GSP
- Implementing a Groundwater Extraction fee for improvements within the District



The SJREC GSP Group's recent activities include:

- Monthly static water level readings consistently, showing a slow increase in deep well water levels
- Organizing and coordinating data requests to the cities and districts (aiming to send in October) for the next year's annual report, taking into account any changes and data gaps we learned from the previous year. (i.e. water use for cropage, water levels, and water quality).
- During the month of July, the Merced County White Areas were observed for crop identification. These on-site observations served to estimate the consumptive use of the fields.



Fresno County GSP Group's recent activities include:

- Fall groundwater level monitoring
- Stakeholder outreach/continued efforts to fill data gaps



Grassland GSP Group's recent activities include:

- Collection of seasonal low water levels from representative monitoring network sites
- Collection and analysis of annual water quality samples at representative monitoring network sites