

# MEETING SUMMARY | June 26, 2013

## Santa Rosa Plain Technical Advisory Committee

### June 26, 2013 TAC Meeting in Brief

#### *Re-visiting the GMP Water Resources Section*

The TAC revisited and began to refine the water resources section of the GMP. The latest iteration incorporates pre-publication USGS information from the characterization report. The TAC took an introductory look at this section leading up to the July 11 USGS presentation to the Basin Advisory Panel and wider public. The section requires additional review, along with the management components, at the July TAC meeting.

### July 11, 2013 Panel Meeting and Public Meeting

#### *USGS presentation*

The USGS presented its approach and findings of the characterization report at the July Basin Advisory Panel meeting and later that day at a public meeting. The report informs the GMP and can be downloaded at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2013/5118/>.

<http://www.scwa.gov/srgroundwater/>

### Next TAC Meeting

Upcoming TAC Meeting Dates: July 24, 2013 at the Sonoma County Water Agency office, 404 Aviation Blvd, Santa Rosa.

### Action Items

Timeframe	Name	Action Item
July 8	TAC Members	Provide feedback on water resources section
July 11	USGS / Project Team	USGS BAP presentation and public meeting
July	Project Team	Ensure all sections are archived showing track changes from previous TAC feedback

### Water Resources Section and Pre-Publication USGS Material

The TAC continued the iterative process of GMP development by reviewing the latest iteration of the water resources section. This section incorporates pre-publication information from the USGS characterization report. Certain additions, based on USGS information, will be included later during the prioritization process. The TAC reviewed changes and conducted a simple, introductory review leading up to the July 11 USGS presentation to the Panel and wider public. The latest version strives to incorporate a significant degree of relevant material from the USGS report while remaining less technical, shorter and understandable to the wider public.

The USGS report is broken into two major components -- a characterization report and a model report. The model report, not yet released, will contain a description of the surface water/groundwater flow model, description of the water budget, and results from several future climate change predictive scenarios. As major sections of the GMP are refined, the TAC will utilize this additional information to begin developing assumptions to project what

the management components and associated activities and projects can possibly achieve (e.g. recharge, conservation) during implementation. The TAC then works to prioritize activities, consider best use of future budget resources and develop an implementation schedule.

The TAC is still charged to identify major issues in each section of the GMP, thoroughly explore these issues, and ensure each is appropriately addressed. As the TAC feels its work advancing, key sections are brought to the Panel for discussion. The Panel may embrace and approve TAC efforts but may also have considerations and suggested revisions that require further TAC discussion and deliberation. Initial review and brief discussion of the water resource section highlighted the following:

#### *Recharge*

- GMP aspires to identify and protect recharge areas; this could be considered as a required study
- Refined understanding of recharge areas could be incorporated into city general plans
- There is an upcoming bill that would require mapping of recharge areas and then sharing of information with city planners
- Consider a map that overlaps urban development with recharge areas

#### *Recycled water*

- Consider approaching Rohnert Park for data on water usage; similar to data received from the Town of Windsor

#### *Subsidence*

- One member voiced approval at the inclusion of a subsidence map

#### *Land use*

- 2.2.4 – Converting grassland to vineyards may not cause as much change in hydrology as suggested (historic land use needs to be clear); may create impression that agricultural use negatively impacts recharge and this may not be true; issue relates to drainage
- GMP generally supports low impact development; water agency collaborates with land use agencies

#### *Outreach*

- TAC has an increasing role to carry purpose and content of GMP to the public, planners and politicians

#### *Appendices*

- Consider inclusion of incentives
- Incorporate lessons learned in groundwater management from other parts of the state

One member confirmed that passages in key sections such as groundwater rights (2.4.9), surface rights (2.5.7), stream flow (2.5.3) and recycled water (2.6) had been removed from the latest iteration of the water resources section. Project Consultant Tim Parker noted that some of this material will be moved into various appendices to shorten the narrative

sections and improve readability. Another member expressed concern that reclaimed water should not be recommended as a form of groundwater replenishment

### **TAC Meeting Attendees**

#### **TAC Members**

Kevin Cullinen  
Rocky Vogler  
Gary Mickelson  
Jane Nielson  
Mark Calhoon  
Joe Gaffney  
Matt O'Conner  
Bob Anderson  
Michael Burns  
Dawna Gallagher

#### **Project Team**

Technical Consultant, Tim Parker  
TAC Facilitator, Rich Wilson