



Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority Board of Directors Regular Meeting

**October 15, 2026, 9:00 AM
American River South Meeting Room
2729 Prospect Park Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670**

Members of the public may attend in person, remotely via Zoom, or by phone.

Please click the link below to join the meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/94633335353>

Or Telephone: US: +1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 940 1722 3677

Passcode: 059579

Remote public participation is for convenience only and not required by law. If the remote connection offered via Zoom link or by phone fails for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted, and the meeting may continue at the discretion of the Board chairperson.

1. Convene

- 1.1.** Call to Order and Roll Call
- 1.2.** Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.3.** Closed Session Report (None)
- 1.4.** Additions or Deletions to the Agenda
- 1.5.** Public Comments

2. Presentations (None)

Items either originate from outside parties or are informative in nature.

3. Administrative

Items are informational in nature and do not include an agenda report.

3.1. Acknowledgment of Board Member(s) Appointment for August 2026 – July 2030 term:

- Jeff Werner, Board Member appointed by City of Elk Grove (effective 08/12/2026)
- Shoaib Ahrary, Alternate Board Member appointed by City of Elk Grove (effective 08/12/2026)
- Brett Ewart Board Member appointed by City of Sacramento (effective 08/18/2026)
- Dalia Fadl, Alternate Board Member appointed by City of Sacramento (effective 08/18/2026)
- Bruce Kamilos (Elk Grove Water District), Board Member appointed by City of Elk Grove (effective 08/12/2026)
- Tom Nelson (Elk Grove Water District), Alternate Board Member appointed by City of Elk Grove (effective 08/12/2026)
- Travis Franklin (Elk Grove Water District), Alternate Board Member appointed by City of Elk Grove (effective 08/12/2026)

3.2. Election of Chair/Vice Chair

4. Consent

Items are routine in nature, may include agenda reports, and be approved in one motion.

4.1. Minutes of August 2026 Regular Board Meeting

[Minutes included in packet](#)

Recommendation: Approve minutes of the August 20, 2026 Board meeting.

5. Public Hearing (None)

Items include an agenda report with recommendations, an oral staff report or presentation.

6. Business

Items are complex in nature, considered individually, and each item includes an agenda report with recommendations and an oral staff report or presentation.

6.1. Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) 2027 Periodic Evaluation and GSP 2027 Update

[Agenda report included in packet](#)

[GSP 2027 Information Sheet](#)

[GSP 2027 Periodic Evaluation Final Draft \(link\)](#)

[GSP 2027 Update Final Draft \(link\)](#)

[Comment Log and Summary of Responses](#)

Recommendation: Approve and direct staff to submit the South American Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) 2027 Periodic Evaluation and GSP 2027 Update to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).

6.2. Financial Report August 2026

[Agenda report included in packet](#)

[SCGA Financial Report August 31, 2026](#)

Recommendation: Receive and file financial report for the period ending August 31, 2026.

6.3. Fee Study Update

[Agenda report included in packet](#)

Recommendation: Receive an update on the progress of the Comprehensive Fee Study.

6.4. Strategic Planning Update

[Agenda report included in packet](#)

Recommendation: Receive an update on the progress of the Board Strategic Planning and Governance Assessment.

7. Staff Reports

7.1. Executive Director Update (Oral)

7.2. Sacramento Regional Water Bank Water Accounting System Update

[Staff report included in packet](#)

8. Directors' Reports

Opportunity for members of the Board of Directors to provide oral reports on matters related to the agency.

9. Written Correspondence (None)

Letters, Emails

9.1. Letter Pecci 2026-08-19

9.2. Letter DWR Annual Report WY 2025 2026-08-26

10. Closed Session (None)

11. Report on Closed Session (None)

12. Future Items

- Financial Audit FY 2026
- Harvest Water Project Update
- Groundwater Recharge Overview
- Board Travel Policy

13. Meetings and Event Calendar

14. Adjournment

The next regular meeting of the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority Board of Directors is scheduled for December 17, 2026.

Accommodations under the ADA

Pursuant to the Americans with Disability Act (ADA), any person in need of any type of special equipment, assistance or accommodations in order to effectively participate at this meeting is asked to make a request to email or phone no later than 5 p.m. two business days prior to the meeting.

Agenda Posting

The agenda was posted in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and AB 2647, and the agenda packet is made available at the meeting.



Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority Board of Directors Regular Meeting

**August 20, 2026, 9:00 AM
Rancho Cordova City Council Chambers
2729 Prospect Park Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670**

1. CONVENE

1.1 Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Kamilos called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. The meeting was held in person and streamed live via Zoom.

Directors present: Shoaib Ahrary (City of Elk Grove); Marcus Yasutake (City of Folsom); Kristine Courdy (City of Rancho Cordova); Brett Ewart (City of Sacramento); Chris Hunley (County of Sacramento); Bruce Kamilos (Elk Grove Water District); Ken Oneto (Agricultural Interests); Tim Mullins (Agricultural Residential); Barbara Evoy (Conservation Landowners); Janet Grisanti (Public Agency Self-Supplied); Jose Ramirez (Sacramento Area Sewer District); Sean Twilla (Golden State Water Company). Evan Jacobs (California-American Water Company) joined the meeting following roll call.

Directors absent: Commercial/Industrial Self-Supplied.

Staff Present: Piret Harmon (Executive Director), Valerie Kincaid (Counsel), Denise Silva (RGS), Tim Jones (TTJ Consulting).

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Kamilos led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3 Closed Session Report (None)

1.4 Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

1.5 Public Comments

Suzanne Pecci requested support for the Rural Community Assistance Corporation's domestic well assessment and water quality testing program and raised concerns

regarding domestic wells excluded from CV-SALTS program coverage. Chair Kamilos asked staff to review the matter and report back.

2. PRESENTATIONS (NONE)

3. ADMINISTRATIVE

3.1 Acknowledgment of Board Member(s) Appointment for August 2026 – July 2030 Term

The Board acknowledged the following appointments for the August 2026 – July 2030 term: Albert Stricker, Board Member, and Kristine Courdy and Margarita Dronov, Alternate Board Members, appointed by the City of Rancho Cordova, effective August 3, 2026; Sean Twilla, Board Member, and Mark Insko, Alternate Board Member, Golden State Water Company, effective August 3, 2026; and Marcus Yasutake, Board Member, and Barbara Leary, Alternate Board Member, appointed by the City of Folsom, effective August 11, 2026. █

Staff noted that the appointment list in the packet was partial and that all appointment confirmations had been received. Chair Kamilos and Director Ahrary noted their reappointments, and staff confirmed receipt of the City of Sacramento's appointment confirmation in response to Director Ewart's inquiry. The acknowledgment list will be updated at the next meeting.

No public comment was received.

Item was informational only; no action taken.

4. CONSENT

4.1 Minutes of the June 2026 Regular Board Meeting
Recommendation: Approve minutes of the June 18, 2026, Board of Directors meeting.

No public comment was received.

MOTION: Ahrary/Hunley to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2026, Board of Directors meeting.

AYES: Shoaib Ahrary; Marcus Yasutake; Kristine Courdy; Brett Ewart; Chris Hunley; Ken Oneto; Tim Mullins; Barbara Evoy; Sean Twilla.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Bruce Kamilos; Jose Ramirez.

ABSENT: Commercial/Industrial Self-Supplied.

MOTION PASSED.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS (NONE)

6. BUSINESS

6.1 Financial Report June 2026

Recommendation: Receive and file financial report for the period ending June 30, 2026.

Tim Jones presented the preliminary, unaudited financial report for the period ending June 30, 2026. Fiscal year revenues totaled approximately \$1.15 million, and expenditures totaled approximately \$1.29 million. The net decrease in fund balance was approximately \$140,000, compared to a budgeted decrease of \$266,000. The ending cash balance was approximately \$1.31 million.

Directors thanked Mr. Jones for the clarity and responsiveness of the financial reporting during the fiscal year.

No public comment was received.

MOTION: Twilla/Ewart to receive and file the financial report for the period ending June 30, 2026.

AYES: All present directors; voice vote.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Commercial/Industrial Self-Supplied.

MOTION PASSED.

6.2 Agreement for Comprehensive Fee Study

Recommendation: Approve and authorize the Executive Director to execute agreement with Confluence Engineering Solutions for Comprehensive Fee Study in the amount not to exceed \$135,599.

Executive Director Harmon presented the proposed agreement with Confluence Engineering Solutions, selected following review of three proposals. Ryan Aston introduced the consultant team and described the study's goals of simplifying the revenue structure, reducing administrative burden, and improving equity and transparency.

Directors discussed the project schedule, stakeholder outreach, conservation landowner assessments, and coordination with anticipated boundary changes.

No public comment was received.

MOTION: Hunley/Jacobs to approve and authorize the Executive Director to execute the agreement with Confluence Engineering Solutions for the Comprehensive Fee Study in an amount not to exceed \$135,599.

AYES: All present directors; voice vote.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Commercial/Industrial Self-Supplied.

MOTION PASSED.

Following the motion and vote:

Chair Kamilos appointed an ad hoc committee consisting of Chair Kamilos, Director Ewart, and Director Trask to support the fee study. Regular updates will be brought to the Board for discussion and input.

6.3 GSP 2027 Update

Recommendation: Receive an informational update on the preparation, review, and anticipated approval and submittal process for the South American Subbasin 2027 Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). No Board action is requested.

Executive Director Harmon provided an update on the draft periodic evaluation and 2027 Groundwater Sustainability Plan update. Both documents are available on the SCGA website, with final approval anticipated in October 2026. Staff will post a comment deadline and contact email address and compile comments and responses for the Board's review.

Directors discussed monitoring network coverage, interconnected surface water, domestic well concerns, and clarification of statements and projections in the draft documents. Director Evoy indicated that she would submit written comments. Bryan Thoreson of GEI Consultants responded to monitoring questions and indicated that the comments would receive further review.

Public comments were received from Suzanne Pecci regarding document access and domestic well owner participation, Lindsey Carter regarding interconnected surface water guidance, and a DWR representative regarding published guidance and monitoring well distribution.

Item was informational only; no action taken.

6.4 Board Strategic Planning and Governance Assessment

Recommendation: Receive information. No Board action is requested.

Executive Director Harmon introduced Dave Ceppos and reported that an agreement for strategic planning and governance assessment had been executed within her signature authority. Mr. Ceppos outlined a process involving confidential interviews, a

consolidated assessment, and three public workshops, with substantial completion anticipated by the end of the calendar year.

Directors discussed the scope of the effort, its relationship to potential JPA amendments, and opportunities for stakeholder participation and public outreach.

Suzanne Pecci commented on the importance of public participation in the visioning process and evaluation of the Board's work.

Item was informational only; no action taken.

7. STAFF REPORTS

7.1 Executive Director Update (Oral)

Executive Director Harmon reported that she will participate as a panelist at the GRA Western Groundwater Conference in September, with expenses covered by another agency. She also reported her appointment to the ACWA Foundation Board of Trustees and described its workforce development efforts.

No public comment was received.

7.2 SASb GSA Update (Oral)

Executive Director Harmon reviewed the anticipated sequence of annexation, boundary changes, JPA amendments, and DWR notification necessary before further updates to the subbasin MOU and related fees. She also reported coordination with the North American Subbasin regarding data management and communication with domestic well owners.

A DWR representative offered education and outreach resources and requested updates regarding boundary changes.

7.3 Fraud Risk Review FY 2026

Tim Jones presented the annual fraud risk review, which evaluated 20 risks across 14 categories. All areas were assessed as low residual risk, with no remediation required or red flags identified. The review will serve as a baseline for future annual assessments and will be shared with the independent auditor.

No public comment was received.

7.4 SCGA Board Onboarding Resources

Denise Silva presented an update on the use of DWR onboarding resources to organize existing SCGA governance and operational information. Staff will inventory

available documents, identify gaps, and develop a concise onboarding guide for board members and alternates that links to authoritative source documents.

Directors expressed support for the initiative.

No public comment was received.

8. DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Director Jacobs congratulated Executive Director Harmon on her ACWA Foundation appointment and highlighted upcoming non-functional turf requirements for local government properties.

Director Evoy requested that General Counsel review a recent court decision concerning local groundwater pumping authority for potential implications for the subbasin.

Director Ahrary encouraged member agencies to share public participation notices and requested a presentation on SCGA to the Elk Grove City Council.

Director Ewart reported that proposed non-functional turf ordinance changes will be considered by the Sacramento City Council in September.

Director Oneto reported a pending change in his alternate designation, provided a Harvest Water construction update, and offered site visits. Staff indicated that Denise Silva would follow up regarding the alternate appointment.

Director Ramirez reported the annexation of the Hood and Franklin communities into Sacramento Area Sewer District's service area.

Director Hunley reported County water efficiency efforts and anticipated consideration of non-functional turf requirements in November. He introduced Rachel Gillis, who will support water conservation, recycled water, and SGMA work.

No public comment was received.

9. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE (NONE)

Ms. Pecci submitted a written letter for the record.

10. CLOSED SESSION (NONE)

11. REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION (NONE)

12. FUTURE ITEMS

A Harvest Water Update and Groundwater Recharge Overview are anticipated for the October meeting.

13. MEETINGS AND EVENT CALENDAR

The Board received the meetings and event calendar, including the GRA Western Groundwater Conference in Palm Springs, September 28–30.

No public comment was received.

14. ADJOURN

Staff announced that future meetings will be held in a different conference room within the same building. The meeting was adjourned at 11:03 A.M.

APPROVED BY:

Bruce Kamilos, Chair

Date

ATTEST:

Denise Silva, Clerk of the Board

Date

Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority

Board of Directors

AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: October 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: 6.1

SUBJECT: Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) 2027 Periodic Evaluation and GSP 2027 Update

RECOMMENDATION: Approve and direct staff to submit the South American Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) 2027 Periodic Evaluation and GSP 2027 Update to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).

BACKGROUND:

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to evaluate an approved GSP at least every five years and submit a Periodic Evaluation to DWR. The first Periodic Evaluation for the South American Subbasin (SASb) is due January 27, 2027. As the Subbasin's Plan Manager, the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority (SCGA) coordinates preparation and submittal in collaboration with the other three GSAs in the Subbasin: Sacramento County, Omochumne-Hartnell Water District (OHWD), and Northern Delta and Reclamation District No. 551.

The SASb GSP was jointly developed by the basin's GSAs, submitted to DWR in January 2022, and approved in July 2023. In its approval, DWR identified four recommended corrective actions related to groundwater quality, interconnected surface water, land subsidence, and monitoring networks. The Periodic Evaluation assesses whether the GSP remains effective in achieving the Subbasin's sustainability goal and evaluates groundwater conditions, implementation of projects and management actions, monitoring networks, new information, and DWR's recommended corrective actions. Relevant information and revisions identified through the evaluation were incorporated into a clean, current version of the GSP referred to as the GSP 2027 Update.

DWR guidance distinguishes a Periodic Evaluation from a formal GSP Amendment. Because the fundamental sustainability framework remains unchanged and the Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs) have not been modified, the SASb GSAs determined that the revisions incorporated into the GSP 2027 Update do not require a formal amendment or re-adoption under SGMA. Therefore, the statutory notice and public hearing procedures that apply to GSP Amendments are not triggered. SCGA has nevertheless provided a public review opportunity and committed to bringing the final documents to the Board for approval before submittal.

The Board has received updates throughout the process. On April 16, 2026, the Board received a progress update and provided input on the draft evaluation. On June 18, 2026, the Board received the draft Periodic Evaluation and directed staff to release the draft GSP 2027 Update for stakeholder feedback. On August 20, 2026, the Board received an informational update on the review process and the anticipated approval and submittal schedule.

DISCUSSION:

The 2027 Periodic Evaluation determined that the GSP is being implemented in a manner consistent with achieving the Subbasin's sustainability goal. Key findings include:

- No undesirable results have occurred for any applicable sustainability indicator since the GSP was submitted in 2022.
- Groundwater pumping remained below the estimated sustainable yield of approximately 230,000 acre-feet per year (AFY); average extractions have been about 75 percent of the sustainable yield projected in the GSP.
- Groundwater levels and storage remained stable or improved, and basin storage increased during the evaluation cycle.
- Projects and management actions remain on schedule. From Water Year (WY) 2021 through WY 2025, conjunctive use by Golden State Water Company and Sacramento County Water Agency provided 143,605 acre-feet (AF) of in-lieu recharge, OHWD direct recharge totaled 798 AF, and the Flood Diversion for Groundwater Recharge project, initiated in WY 2025, recharged 224 AF.
- Monitoring networks continue to provide sufficient coverage for sustainability evaluation, and DWR's recommended corrective actions have been addressed.
- Annual Reports have been submitted on time, and DWR's reviews of the WY 2023 and WY 2024 Annual Reports found that the GSP continues to be implemented in a manner consistent with achieving the Subbasin's sustainability goal.

Based on these findings, the GSP 2027 Update incorporates the following principal revisions, none of which requires a GSP amendment:

- Governance: updated GSA information and governance structure, including the December 2025 withdrawal of the Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District GSA, and updated stakeholder engagement, outreach, and coordination activities.
- Basin setting and water budget: incorporated new hydrogeologic, groundwater quality, and interconnected surface water information; extended the water budget through WY 2025; and updated domestic well vulnerability information.
- DWR corrective actions: updated the arsenic and interconnected surface water analyses, revised the land subsidence undesirable result definition, and revised the monitoring network.
- Monitoring network: removed two destroyed representative monitoring points (RMPs), added three DWR pilot program wells, reclassified eight RMPs in Superfund areas, and applied the SMC methodology to the full record at eight wells.
- Projects and management actions: updated the status of existing projects, including Harvest Water, OHWD recharge, and regional groundwater banking, and added three

new recharge and drought resilience projects: Flood Diversion for Groundwater Recharge, Wilton Road Floodplain Reconnection, and a conceptual Recharge Basin near the Folsom South Canal.

The process included extensive coordination and public engagement. The SASb Executive Committee received updates on October 27, 2025 and February 23, 2026, and staff coordinated with the North American and Cosumnes Subbasins in February 2026 and the Solano and Yolo Subbasins in April 2026. Public meetings were held on December 18, 2025, April 21, 2026, and June 23, 2026. The draft Periodic Evaluation was published on the SCGA website on June 18, 2026, and the draft GSP 2027 Update was published on July 15, 2026, with stakeholders invited to provide feedback. Staff also presented the Periodic Evaluation and GSP Update to the Domestic Well Advisory Group on July 20, 2026 and to the Water Forum Regional Groundwater Meeting on September 21, 2026. A public information sheet summarizing the GSP 2027 Update, its key findings, and the process timeline is provided as Attachment 1.

Staff logged the comments received during the review period and prepared a summary of the actions taken in response to each comment (Attachment 4). Revisions made in response to comments, together with quality-control edits and cross-checks between the GSP, appendices, and Periodic Evaluation, have been incorporated into revised versions of both documents, which are published on the SCGA website (scgah2o.com). These revisions are intended to produce a consistent final record and do not change the sustainability framework established in the approved GSP.

The other SASb GSAs are coordinating acceptance of the GSP 2027 Update through their respective processes. Upon the Board's approval, SCGA, as Plan Manager, will submit the Periodic Evaluation, the GSP 2027 Update, and related materials to DWR through the SGMA Portal by January 24, 2027, ahead of the January 27, 2027 deadline.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No direct fiscal impact from this action.

CEQA DETERMINATION:

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENT(S):

GSP 2027 Information Sheet

[GSP 2027 Periodic Evaluation](#) (link)

[GSP 2027 Update and Appendices](#) (link)

Comment Log and Summary of Responses

PREPARED BY:

Piret Harmon
Executive Director

Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Update

As required under the California Water Code, Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs), including the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority (SCGA), must evaluate their progress towards groundwater sustainability under the requirements of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) by completing and submitting a Periodic Evaluation at minimum every five years. The four GSAs within the South American Subbasin (SASb or Subbasin) have completed the 2027 Periodic Evaluation and prepared an updated Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) incorporating new information collected since adoption of the 2022 GSP.

The 2027 GSP was prepared for the following primary reasons:

- 1) State of California Recommendations – Following approval of the 2022 SASb GSP, DWR identified four recommended corrective actions related to groundwater quality, interconnected surface water, land subsidence, and monitoring networks. The 2027 GSP incorporates information and revisions that address these recommendations.
- 2) New Data and Information – Five additional years of groundwater monitoring, project implementation, domestic well monitoring, groundwater level measurements, water quality data, and updated analytical tools are now available to improve understanding of Subbasin conditions. Specifically using this data and information to update water budgets and modeling analysis will assist local groundwater managers (i.e. GSAs) make informed decisions in the future.
- 3) Refinement of Monitoring Networks and Basin Understanding – The GSAs evaluated monitoring network performance, addressed data gaps, incorporated new monitoring locations, and refined understanding of groundwater conditions, interconnected surface water systems, domestic well vulnerability, and groundwater recharge opportunities.
- 4) Project and Management Action Updates – Existing projects continue to advance on schedule, and three new recharge and drought resilience projects have been identified and incorporated into the GSP implementation program.

The 2027 Periodic Evaluation determined that the GSP is being implemented in a manner consistent with achieving the Subbasin's sustainability goal. Groundwater pumping remains below the estimated sustainable yield, projects and management actions are progressing as planned, and no undesirable results have occurred for any applicable sustainability indicator.

Because the fundamental sustainability framework remains unchanged and Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs) have not been modified, the GSAs determined that a formal GSP amendment is not required. The 2027 GSP and accompanying Periodic Evaluation represent the current and authoritative planning documents for the Subbasin.

Key Findings from the 2027 Periodic Evaluation

- Groundwater pumping remained below the sustainable yield of approximately 230,000 AFY.
- No undesirable results occurred.

SASb Groundwater Sustainability Plan Update, January 2027

- Groundwater levels and storage remained stable or improved.
- Projects and management actions remain on schedule.
- Basin storage increased during the evaluation cycle.
- Monitoring networks continue to provide sufficient coverage for sustainability evaluation.
- DWR recommended corrective actions have been addressed.

SASb GSP Proposed Updates by Section

- **Section 1 - Introduction** - Updated GSA information and governance structure; documented the withdrawal of the Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District GSA; and updated stakeholder engagement, outreach, and coordination activities.
- **Section 2 - Plan Area and Basin Setting** - Incorporated new hydrogeologic, groundwater quality, and interconnected surface water information; extended the water budget evaluation through Water Year 2025; and updated domestic well vulnerability information and groundwater recharge project descriptions.
- **Section 3 - Sustainable Management Criteria** - Addressed DWR's four recommended corrective actions; expanded groundwater quality and interconnected surface water analyses; revised the land subsidence undesirable result definition; evaluated five years of groundwater conditions relative to Sustainable Management Criteria; and refined monitoring networks to address identified data gaps and incorporate new monitoring locations.
- **Section 4 - Projects and Management Actions** - Updated the implementation status of existing projects and management actions; added the Flood Diversion for Groundwater Recharge Project, Wilton Road Floodplain Reconnection Project, and conceptual Recharge Basin near the Folsom South Canal; and updated the status of Harvest Water, OHWD Recharge, and regional groundwater banking efforts.
- **Section 5 - Plan Implementation** - Updated implementation progress, coordination activities, and accomplishments achieved during the evaluation cycle; and documented continued progress toward achieving the Subbasin's sustainability goal.

Getting Involved in SGMA Implementation

The GSAs continue to engage interested parties through Board meetings, Domestic Well Advisory Group (DWAG) meetings, SASb Executive Committee meetings, and other outreach activities. Opportunities for public participation are provided through public meetings, website updates, stakeholder coordination efforts, and public review and comment periods associated with SGMA implementation activities.

Information regarding meetings, annual reports, groundwater conditions, and SGMA implementation is available at: <https://scgah2o.com/>

SASb Groundwater Sustainability Plan Update, January 2027

Interested parties may subscribe to receive project updates, meeting notices, and SGMA-related information through the SCGA website. Agendas, presentations, reports, and additional groundwater management information are also available online for public review.

SASb GSP Periodic Evaluation and GSP Update Timeline

Date	Milestone
October 27, 2025	SASb Executive Committee Meeting: information on Periodic Evaluation process
December 18, 2025	Public Meeting: information on Periodic Evaluation process and tasks
February 23, 2026	SASb Executive Committee Meeting: information on Periodic Evaluation progress
February, 2026	Meetings with North American Subbasin and Cosumnes Subbasin: coordination
April 16, 2026	SCGA Board Meeting: receiving information on Periodic Evaluation progress
April 21, 2026	Public Meeting: information on Periodic Evaluation progress
April, 2026	Emails with Solano Subbasin and Yolo Subbasin: coordination
June 18, 2026	SCGA Board Meeting: receiving the Draft Periodic Evaluation; Periodic Evaluation published on scgah2o.com
June 23, 2026	Public Meeting: briefing on Draft Periodic Evaluation and Draft GSP Update
July 15, 2026	Draft GSP Update published on scgah2o.com
July 20, 2026	Domestic Well Advisory Group Meeting: information on Periodic Evaluation and GSP Update
August 20, 2026	SCGA Board Meeting: receiving information on the GSP Update process
October 15, 2026	SCGA Board Meeting: approval of the Periodic Evaluation and GSP Update
January 24, 2027	Submittal of 2027 GSP Periodic Evaluation and 2027 GSP Update to DWR

SASb Points of Contact

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South American Subbasin
2027 GSP Periodic Evaluation and GSP Update Comment Log

#	Date	Meeting/ Source	Reviewer	Organization	Section/ Topic	Comment	GSP Update Revision	GSP PE Revision	Response / Resolution
1	8/20/2026	SCGA Board Meeting and email	Barbara Evoy	SCGA	Page 3-5 / Aerojet & Mather	I don't recall that we've had annual presentations on Aerojet and Mather. I only remember one Aerojet presentation by the RWQCB. I do think it is important for technical staff to integrate their well log and pumping information into our modeling and to discuss what is a true Aerojet capture zone that would impact our monitoring wells. We need to be able to separate their capture zones from any groundwater elevation depressions caused by other pumping within the subbasin. We also need to know where we should consider putting our own monitoring in so as not to have a complete barespot in the upper NE part of the basin (and perhaps one of the wells we are currently using might in truth be fine). The ISW along the Northern NE boundary will need full discussion as to Aerojet vs. other impact.	10/09/26	10/02/26	Presentation was at Feb 2026 SCGA Board meetgin. Added sentence to the Periodic Evaluation 3.1.1.1 that the plan is to have presentations on Aerojet and Mather periodically (annually). The 8 wells in this area remain in the monitoring network as SGMA wells without SMCs. The water levels will continue to be collected semiannually, added to the DMS and included in the annual reports. Figures 3-4 and 3-5 in the GSP will be updated to also include these 8 wells.
2	8/20/2026	SCGA Board Meeting	Barbara Evoy	SCGA	Page 4-10 /Domestic Well Monitoring	The Volunteer Monitoring program apparently brought 29 wells into our model and our analysis, yet I see no graphic that even generally displays where these wells are. We have talked at length about using domestic wells to fill in our gaps but it isn't clear if this is working. Where are the 2 new public wells? Were these evaluated for their impact on our monitoring network before placement? Where are the 53 new domestic wells added to our understanding of the system?	No change	10/02/26	Revised Periodic Evaluation Section 5.2.1.1 to clarify updates to the domestic and public supply well inventory and explain how the additional well information improves understanding of groundwater users and domestic well vulnerability within the Subbasin. A figure is not recommended at this time because well locations are based on private well information and inclusion could raise privacy concerns.
3	8/20/2026	SCGA Board Meeting	Barbara Evoy	SCGA	Page 4-11 / Sacramento County Coordination	Coordination with Sacramento County well permitting is discussed, but Board has only been informed that discussions were occurring. Requests clarification on whether any concrete outcomes have been achieved.	No change	10/02/26	Expanded Periodic Evaluation Section 4.2.2 to document outcomes resulting from coordination between the GSAs and Sacramento County Environmental Management Department. Added a sentence describing that coordination will continue.
4	8/20/2026	SCGA Board Meeting	Barbara Evoy	SCGA	Page 4-11 / Section 4.2.3	Believes document significantly overstates both SCGA's role and the significance of the Executive Committee to date.	No change	10/05/26	Revised Periodic Evaluation Section 4.2.3
5	8/20/2026	SCGA Board Meeting	Barbara Evoy	SCGA	Page 5-4 / Table 5-2	I would like more explanation in the text on how to interpret this chart. It isn't clear what the takeaway is for the impact to wells. Are they additive for each scenario. What are the total number of wells the Board should be considering as needing to be replaced or deepened and over what timeframe - and where.	No change	10/09/26	Revisions to text and table in Periodic Evaluation to improve the description and reporting of this analysis. Higher level description in GSP was not changed.
6	8/20/2026	SCGA Board Meeting	Barbara Evoy	SCGA	Page 6-2	In this document we are proposing changing approximately 20% of our monitoring network. In doing so, we 1) dump wells that have documented levels below minimum thresholds, 2) will no longer be reporting their historical trends and 3) change the distribution and ability/timing to monitor certain areas. This is a significant change from 2022. I would like more explanation both to the Board and in the document as to how the new monitoring wells increase our understanding of the basin and how their depth/location/characteristics were chosen to optimize both geographic distribution and help put us in a better position to monitor for the deadly sins. We should be able to document a thoughtful evaluation rather than "they were there".	No change	10/02/26	Periodic Evaluation Section 6.1 updated to add supporting discussion clarifying that the reclassified eight Superfund-area wells will remain in the monitoring network and continue to be monitored and reported, added to the DMS so historical trends can be viewed and levels reported in the annual report. The three DWR Community Groundwater Level Monitoring Pilot Program wells will be assessed and considered for inclusion in the monitoring network during the next Periodic Evaluation due in 2032. No changes required to GSP.

South American Subbasin
2027 GSP Periodic Evaluation and GSP Update Comment Log

#	Date	Meeting/ Source	Reviewer	Organization	Section/ Topic	Comment	GSP Update Revision	GSP PE Revision	Response / Resolution
7	8/20/2026	SCGA Board Meeting	Barbara Evoy	SCGA	Page 6-3 / ISW Graphics	Existing figure is not useful without showing ISW areas and corresponding monitoring well locations. Requests figures showing wells relative to monitored surface water bodies.	Update before submittal to DWR	Update before submittal to DWR	Figure showing ISW reaches and associated monitoring well locations is being prepared and will be included in both the final Periodic Evaluation and GSP that will be provided to DWR in January 2027. Using Periodic Evaluation Figure 6-4 as a basis for revised mapping and supporting text.
8	8/20/2026	SCGA Board Meeting	Barbara Evoy	SCGA	Overall Document	Overall tone of the Periodic Evaluation is perceived as overly positive.	No change	No change	Document data-driven and consistent with monitoring results and technical findings.
9	8/20/2026	SCGA Board Meeting	Suzanne Pecci	Public Comment	Public Engagement	Need to draw the public into the process.	No change	10/02/26	Public meetings, outreach efforts, and opportunities for stakeholder participation conducted during the evaluation cycle. In addition to regular bimonthly Board meetings public meetings focusing the Periodic Evaluation held on 12/18/25, 4/21/26, and 6/23/26. Developed the South American Subbasin 2027 GSP Update Fact Sheet and included as an appendix to the Periodic Evaluation .
10	8/20/2026	SCGA Board Meeting	Suzanne Pecci	Public Comment	Accessibility	Documents are difficult for the public to access.	No change	No change	Documents are posted on the SCGA/SASb website consistent with DWR guidance. https://www.scgah2o.com/
11	8/20/2026	SCGA Board Meeting	Lindsey Carter/ Dominick (DWR)	Cosumnes GSA/ DWR	Periodic Evaluation	DWR anticipates that the three ISW papers should be incorporated into the Periodic Evaluation. DWR stated that the three ISW papers need to be incorporated into the Periodic Evaluation.	No change	10/02/26	Reviewed DWR's three ISW technical papers and incorporated discussion into Sections 3.6 and 3.6.3 of the Periodic Evaluation . Updated the document to describe the relevance of the papers to the Subbasin's current ISW approach and future evaluation of monitoring networks, data gaps, and Sustainable Management Criteria.
12	9/21/2026	Internal	Bryan	GEI	GSP	John Woodling should be changed to Piret Harmon in Section 1.4.1.1 – Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority (SCGA) GSA Section 1.4.2.1 – Plan Management and Administration Piret Harmon Executive Director Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority executivedirector@scgah2o.com 650-868-0209	10/01/26	No change	Updated GSP Sections 1.4.1.1 and 1.4.2.1 .
13	9/20/2026	Email - Fw: GSA Point of Contact - Input Requested	Piret/ Lisa Beutler	SCGA / Stantec	GSP/ PE	RD 551 is an Associate Member represented by North Delta GSA. Remove RD 551 as a separate point of contact. Document representation status in the GSP Update and Periodic Evaluation. FYI - new phone number for RD 551 - 916.776.1223	10/01/26	10/01/26	Updated contact information and removed standalone RD 551 point-of-contact references. Added language to the GSP Update and Periodic Evaluation clarifying that RD 551 is represented by North Delta GSA for SGMA implementation activities. Removed RD 551 from the cover page contact information and deleted the standalone RD 551 agency information section (Section 1.4.1.4) from the GSP.
14	9/21/2026	Email	Piret	SCGA	GSP/ PE	Update Contacts: Chris Hunley Sacramento County GSA (916) 874-1085 hunleyc@sacounty.net Erik Ringelberg Northern Delta and Reclamation District No. 551 GSA (916) 668-7345 NorthernDeltaGSA@gmail.com	10/01/26	No change	Updated GSP 1.4.1.6 and 1.4.1.2 .
15	10/1/2026	Internal	Bryan	GEI	GSP 1.4.2.2	Ask should we add statement that the GSP working group was discontinued after the GSP was adopted.	10/02/26	No change	Added sentence that "Following adoption of the 2022 GSP, the GSPWG was subsequently discontinued."
16	10/9/2026	Internal	Bryan	GEI	GSP 1.4.1.4 and 5.4.1.3	Add statement that SRCD is no longer a GSA.	10/09/26	No change	Added sentence that "The Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District (SRCD) GSA withdrew as a GSA in December 2025, and the other GSAs are working cooperatively with DWR to bring that area under the jurisdiction of one of the other GSAs."
17	10/9/2026	Internal	Bryan	GEI	update website in GSP	update website in GSP	10/09/26	No change	Updated website references to: https://www.scgah2o.com/

Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority
Board of Directors

AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: October 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: 6.2

SUBJECT: Financial Report August 2026

RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file financial report for the period ending August 31, 2026.

BACKGROUND:

Previously, financial services for the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority (SCGA) were conducted by the County of Sacramento. As of July 1, 2025, the Authority has established its own banking and accounting structure, with funds now held at Five Star Bank.

DISCUSSION:

The SCGA prepares regular financial updates comparing the budget to actual revenues and expenditures, as well as account balances. This report covers the period ending August 31, 2026.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No impact from this action.

CEQA DETERMINATION:

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENT(S):

SCGA Financial Report August 31, 2026

PREPARED BY:

Piret Harmon
Executive Director

SCGA Bi-Monthly Financial Report

Period Ending August 31, 2026

Budget to Actuals

(17% of the fiscal year)

FY 2027 Through August 31 (accrual basis)				
Description	Adopted Budget	Actuals	Ratio Actual/Budget	Comment
Revenues				
Member Contributions	\$ 726,739	\$ 726,739	100.00%	\$506,372 receivable
SASb MOU Cost Share	\$ 43,274	\$ -	0.00%	Invoice in December
Assessment	\$ 185,000	\$ -	0.00%	County remits beginning in January
Interest/Other	\$ 50,000	\$ 7,795	15.59%	Good
Total Revenues	\$ 1,005,013	\$ 734,534	73.09%	
Expenditures				
Technical Services	\$ 403,000	\$ 34,984	8.68%	GEI
Administrative Services	\$ 300,000	\$ 46,553	15.52%	RGS
Financial Services	\$ 119,400	\$ 13,120	10.99%	TTJ Consulting
Legal Services	\$ 60,000	\$ 8,064	13.44%	PKW
IT Services	\$ 12,000	\$ 1,840	15.33%	Streamline, Netswift
Communication Services	\$ 50,000	\$ -	0.00%	
Other Professional Services	\$ 30,000	\$ -	0.00%	
Fee Study	\$ 150,000	\$ -	0.00%	
Monitoring Equipment	\$ 22,000	\$ -	0.00%	
Insurance	\$ 5,200	\$ 4,907	94.37%	GSRMA - payment for full fiscal year
Travel and Training	\$ 6,000	\$ -	0.00%	
Miscellaneous	\$ 3,000	\$ 184	6.13%	QB, Microsoft
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,160,600	\$ 109,652	9.45%	
Net Increase (decrease) in Fund Balance	\$ (155,587)	\$ 624,881		
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 1,307,846	\$ 1,307,846		Actual beginning fund balance as of July 1, 2026
Ending Fund Balance	\$ 1,152,259	\$ 1,932,727		
Fund Reserve	\$ 251,253	\$ 251,253		
Ending Fund Balance Less Reserve	\$ 901,006	\$ 1,681,474		

Receivables

Total outstanding accounts receivable (member contributions) is \$506,372:

\$ 245,992 City of Sacramento
 \$ 193,588 County of Sacramento
 \$ 66,792 Golden State Water Company

In September the City of Sacramento remitted \$245,992 leaving an accounts receivable balance of \$260,380 as of October 5, 2026.

Cash

The agency began July with a cash balance of \$1,307,845 and ended August with a cash balance of \$1,310,512.

All funds are held at Five-Star Bank and receive a LAIF-equivalent interest rate except for \$60,000 in operating funds that earn 1.25 percent interest. Total interest earned during July and August was \$7,795. The current interest rate on investable funds (money market) is 3.863%.

Account Registers

The tables below show the transaction details in the operating and money market accounts during July and August 2026.

The operating and money market accounts work in conjunction with one another to maintain the desired \$60,000 balance in the operating account. The bank automatically sweeps funds between accounts to maximize investment income.

1010 Cash Accounts: Operating - 5422				
Date	Memo	Payment	Deposit	Reconciliation Status
07/16/2026	GEI June technical services	192,631.50		Reconciled
07/16/2026	RGS June management services	2,588.50		Reconciled
07/16/2026	RGS June management services	20,000.00		Reconciled
07/16/2026	TTJ June financial services	7,820.00		Reconciled
07/16/2026	PKW May legal services	3,906.00		Reconciled
07/16/2026	PKW June legal services	4,368.00		Reconciled
07/16/2026	LWA well equipment	3,441.75		Reconciled
07/31/2026	Sweep from MM to DDA		395.00	Reconciled
07/31/2026	Sweep from MM to DDA		525.00	Reconciled
07/31/2026	Sweep from MM to DDA		234,755.75	Reconciled
07/31/2026	Sweep from MM to DDA		4,907.18	Reconciled
07/31/2026	Sweep from MM to DDA		75.00	Reconciled
07/31/2026	Sweep from MM to DDA		12.00	Reconciled
07/31/2026	IT services July	395.00		Reconciled
07/31/2026	Streamline services July	525.00		Reconciled
07/31/2026	QB monthly subscription	75.00		Reconciled
07/31/2026	Microsoft monthly subscription	12.00		Reconciled
07/31/2026	GSRMA insurance annual dues	4,907.18		Reconciled
08/17/2026	LWA June services	144.50		Reconciled
08/17/2026	RGS June out-of-pocket	1,146.51		Reconciled
08/17/2026	GEI July technical services	20,020.00		Reconciled
08/17/2026	PKW July legal services	5,838.00		Reconciled
08/17/2026	RGS July administrative services	21,000.00		Reconciled
08/17/2026	TTJ July financial services	7,020.00		Reconciled
08/17/2026	RGS August administrative services	21,000.00		Reconciled
08/31/2026	Fee assessment		6,361.07	Reconciled
08/31/2026	Q4 2026 interest		58.00	Reconciled
08/31/2026	Sweep to DDA from MM		85.00	Reconciled
08/31/2026	Sweep to DDA from MM		12.00	Reconciled
08/31/2026	QB monthly subscription	85.00		Reconciled
08/31/2026	Microsoft monthly subscription	12.00		Reconciled
08/31/2026	Sweep to MM from DDA	6,419.07		Reconciled
08/31/2026	Sweep to DDA from MM		76,169.01	Reconciled

1020 Cash Accounts: Money Market - 5430				
Date	Memo	Payment	Deposit	Reconciliation Status
07/08/2026	OHWD GSA contribution FY26		85,417.00	Reconciled
07/31/2026	Sweep from MM to DDA	395.00		Reconciled
07/31/2026	Sweep from MM to DDA	525.00		Reconciled
07/31/2026	Sweep from MM to DDA	234,755.75		Reconciled
07/31/2026	Sweep from MM to DDA	4,907.18		Reconciled
07/31/2026	Sweep from MM to DDA	75.00		Reconciled
07/31/2026	Sweep from MM to DDA	12.00		Reconciled
07/31/2026	Interest income July		3,862.00	Reconciled
08/31/2026	IT services August	395.00		Reconciled
08/31/2026	Sweep to DDA from MM	85.00		Reconciled
08/31/2026	Sweep to DDA from MM	12.00		Reconciled
08/31/2026	Florin Resource Conservation District annual dues		47,589.00	Reconciled
08/31/2026	California American Water Co. annual dues		148,468.00	Reconciled
08/31/2026	City of Folsom annual dues		24,309.00	Reconciled
08/31/2026	Interest August		3,932.91	Reconciled
08/31/2026	Sweep to MM from DDA		6,419.07	Reconciled
08/31/2026	Sweep from MM to DDA	76,169.01		Reconciled

Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority
Board of Directors

AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: October 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: 6.3

SUBJECT: Fee Study Update

RECOMMENDATION: Receive an update on the progress of the Comprehensive Fee Study.

BACKGROUND:

The Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority (SCGA) serves as a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for a portion of the South American Subbasin under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). SCGA currently funds its operations through a combination of member contributions, cost-sharing arrangements with other GSAs in the subbasin, and a groundwater assessment fee adopted in 2021 based on the SCGA Groundwater Fee Study. As SGMA implementation has evolved, this revenue structure has become increasingly complex, and the Authority determined that a comprehensive evaluation is needed to develop a funding approach that is simpler, more equitable, more transparent, and less administratively burdensome.

On August 20, 2026, the Board approved and authorized the Executive Director to execute an agreement with Confluence Engineering Solutions (CES), teamed with Larry Walker Associates, to conduct a Comprehensive Fee Study. Following the vote, Chair Kamilos appointed an ad hoc committee for the Fee Study consisting of Chair Kamilos, Director Ewart, and Director Trask. Two to three ad hoc committee meetings are anticipated, and regular updates will be brought to the full Board for input.

At the August 20 meeting, Directors discussed the project schedule, the three existing revenue streams and potential inequities among them, outreach to affected landowners and customers, and coordination with Omochumne-Hartnell Water District in light of its pending annexation and anticipated JPA boundary changes. Directors also requested that conservation landowners be identified as a distinct category in the study.

DISCUSSION:

The Fee Study scope of work includes evaluation of SCGA's existing funding structure; development and evaluation of alternative funding approaches, including parcel-based, volumetric, hybrid, and benefit-based methodologies; stakeholder engagement with member agencies and up to two community meetings; a recommended funding approach; detailed fee design; and implementation support. Key issues to be addressed include the

inter-GSA cost-sharing arrangement with the Sacramento County GSA and whether the new fees should be adopted under Proposition 218 or Proposition 26.

The study is scheduled so that a new fee structure can be adopted and placed on the FY 2028 tax roll, with revenues effective July 1, 2027.

Staff will provide an oral update on the progress of the Fee Study, including the status of work to date, ad hoc committee activities, and upcoming milestones.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No direct fiscal impact from this action.

CEQA DETERMINATION:

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENT(S):

None

PREPARED BY:

Piret Harmon
Executive Director

Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority
Board of Directors

AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: October 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: 6.4

SUBJECT: Strategic Planning Update

RECOMMENDATION: Receive an update on the progress of the Board Strategic Planning and Governance Assessment.

BACKGROUND:

The Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority (SCGA) was formed in 2006 under a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) among the Cities of Elk Grove, Folsom, Rancho Cordova, and Sacramento and the County of Sacramento. Since then, the organization has changed significantly, including the transition away from County of Sacramento administrative support and the implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), under which SCGA serves as a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) and as Plan Manager for the South American Subbasin. The FY 2027 Work Plan and Budget identify FY 2027 as a transition year focused on redefining SCGA's responsibilities, objectives, and revenue sources. Together with the JPA amendment, the South American Subbasin Memorandum of Understanding revisions, and the Comprehensive Fee Study, the Work Plan includes a Board strategic planning process to set SCGA's vision, priorities, and performance measures for the next three to five years.

On August 20, 2026, the Board received an informational report on the Board Strategic Planning and Governance Assessment. The Executive Director reported that she had executed an agreement with facilitator Dave Ceppos. The scope of work begins with confidential, non-attributed individual interviews of Board members and alternates, the Executive Director, and agency consultants, followed by a consolidated assessment with recommended next steps and three facilitated workshops held in a public setting with opportunity for public comment. The goal is to complete most of the work before the end of the calendar year. Any JPA language will remain with General Counsel.

At the August 20 meeting, Directors discussed the format and logistics of the interviews; whether the interview list should be expanded to include the other subbasin GSAs, Sacramento Groundwater Authority, members of the public, or the chair of the Domestic Well Advisory Group; the need for targeted outreach in advance of any public workshop; and the relationship between the strategic visioning effort and a future JPA amendment. Staff noted that the scope may be amended if the Board so directs.

DISCUSSION:

The FY 2027 Work Plan sets out three steps for the strategic planning effort: define the strategic planning approach, including facilitation, schedule, and pre-read materials; conduct Board workshops and draft a strategic plan with vision, priorities, and decision principles; and approve the strategic plan and performance measures and integrate them into the FY 2028 Work Plan and Budget. The results are also expected to inform the JPA amendment, which is pending completion of the Omochumne-Hartnell Water District annexation, and to be coordinated with the Comprehensive Fee Study.

Staff will provide an oral update on the progress of the strategic planning effort, including the status of interviews and the governance assessment, how the Board's August 20 input is being addressed and next steps.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No direct fiscal impact from this action.

CEQA DETERMINATION:

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENT(S):

None.

PREPARED BY:

Piret Harmon
Executive Director

Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority

Board of Directors

STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: October 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: 7.2

SUBJECT: Water Bank Water Accounting System Update

DISCUSSION:

The Regional Water Authority (RWA) has published an updated Water Accounting System (WAS) for water banking in the North and South American Subbasins. The WAS is the rulebook for measuring water banking: how a deposit into the ground is counted, how a withdrawal is counted, how much water is set aside for the basin, and what gets reported to the agencies responsible for groundwater health.

Version 2 (August 21, 2026) replaces Version 1 (March 17, 2025). It adds substantial new material on how the accounting baseline is derived, quantifies previously banked water for the first time, ties operations more closely to GSP sustainability criteria, and expands GSA coordination and reporting. The core framework is unchanged: a savings account above the GSP water budgets, recharge before recovery, and a 5 percent minimum leave-behind. The full document is available: [Water Bank WAS Version 2](#).

Below is the summary of changes.

ACCOUNTING BASELINE

- Renamed and bounded - “Operational Baseline” becomes “Accounting Benchmark,” which is expressly not a water right, pumping allocation, guarantee of recovery, or CEQA baseline.
- Stricter test for in-lieu credit - Credit requires documented ability to pump, a history of pumping, and a voluntary switch to surface water. Demand reduction alone does not earn credit.
- Long-term use does not reset the benchmark - Agencies that have relied on surface water since the mid-1990s keep their benchmark. Revisions must be documented and are reviewed by RWA.

PREVIOUSLY BANKED WATER

- Starting balances published - About 900,000 AF is documented across six agencies for 1997 through September 2024, of which about 470,000 AF is recoverable after banking losses. This becomes the Bank's opening balance.

SUSTAINABILITY AND GSP CONSISTENCY

- GSP consistency as a core principle - Recharge and recovery must avoid undesirable results as defined in the applicable GSPs, judged against MTs, MOs, and groundwater level trends.
- Recovery limits tied to conditions - Fixed annual caps and drought restrictions are replaced by limits informed by monitoring data and proximity to MTs and MOs.
- Streams and ecosystems - A new Streamflow Accretion Factor will show whether banking adds to or takes from streamflow, and leave-behind water now also supports ecosystem enhancement.

COORDINATION, REPORTING, AND ROLES

- Spring and fall coordination - The single annual meeting becomes two scheduled reviews with GSAs, and the June 1 operations plan has defined contents.
- Data sharing and verification - Participants must share monitoring data and operational reports with RWA and the GSAs, and RWA verifies the accounting.
- GSA role - The WAS assigns GSAs no review or decision-making responsibilities. Any directly affected GSA, including adjacent GSAs, may initiate a dispute, and new pumping in MT-exceedance areas needs approval from all affected GSAs.

DEFINITIONS AND SCOPE

- Updated terms - "Banking participant" replaces "entity," and new terms include Accounting Benchmark, Banked Water, Banking Balance, and Streamflow Accretion Factor.

REFERENCED BUT NOT INCLUDED

- Separate documents and open items - The Monitoring Plan and the 2025 Analysis of Previously Banked Water are separate documents, withdrawal notice requirements are not specified, and groundwater substitution transfers remain outside the Bank.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[Water Accounting System for Water Banking in North and South American Subbasins V2](#)

PREPARED BY:

Piret Harmon
Executive Director



Suzanne Pecci

(916) 893-3139 slpecci@aol.com 10212 Equestrian Drive Elk Grove, CA 95624

Wednesday, August 19, 2026

SCGA@SacCounty.gov

Sacramento Groundwater Authority at
5620 Birdcage Street, Suite 180,
Citrus Heights, CA 95610.

Subject: Public Comment Agenda Item 1.5 SCGA Board Meeting, August 20, 2026
Letter to request SCGA Board support for RCAC (Rural Community Assistance Corp.) offer of comprehensive free well assessments for interested domestic well owners in the SASb and coordination with Sacramento County to request localized jurisdictional mapping correction by the Central Valley Water Board

For Distribution to the Board of Directors for SCGA Board Meeting August 20, 2026-

Dear SCGA Board of Directors,

Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) has offered to perform comprehensive well assessments and water quality testing for interested domestic well owners in the SASb. As a domestic well owner, member of the SASb Advisory Committee and the DWR Drought Resiliency Interagency Task Force (DRIP), it is my opinion the technical assistance RCAC provides is of great benefit to domestic well owners. I am asking for you as Board Members of SCGA and GSAs under the SGMA to support this program in the SASb and direct the SASb Advisory Committee to support and help to facilitate the RCAC Program in the SASb.

Related to this issue of domestic well water quality assessment, the SCGA Board should be aware of the critical mapping loophole that leaves an estimated 2,500 domestic wells in the SASb unprotected by the CV-SALTS Nitrate Control Program and left out of well assessments, testing and financial assistance programs such as RCAC.

For example, my property is located at Grant Line Road and Equestrian Drive in Elk Grove. While my parcel is zoned for agricultural /residential use and relies strictly on a private domestic well, State GIS mapping layers categorize my area as being inside a municipal/ public water district boundary shown as a "grey area" on the map. Because of this "paper boundary," the State has completely excluded our entire agricultural /residential area from active CV-SALTS Management Zones, rendering thousands of domestic well owners

invisible to groundwater safety nets put in place to protect safe drinking water for our domestic well communities..

State agencies assume a public entity is providing our drinking water, yet there is zero physical infrastructure planned or funded to connect our agriculture /residential properties to public water infrastructure. This creates a severe regulatory blindspot. Because we are in this " grey area "on the CV-SALTS map, thousands of rural residents cannot access free residential well testing, data tracking, or emergency bottled water programs. Conversely, the public water districts do not test or monitor our water because we are not their customers. Domestic well owners are left entirely isolated, bearing the full financial and health burdens of managing private domestic wells in an agricultural region.

Although agriculture water districts in Sacramento County "grey area" are under the ILRP (Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program) . These Program guidelines and regulations for Commercial Growers, require documenting and tracking irrigation, fertilizer application rates, and nitrogen inputs, as well as nitrate and pesticide monitoring and mandatory sampling of on-farm and irrigation wells to detect levels that exceed safe drinking water thresholds. The program includes surface water third party- monitoring and management plans to protect aquatic life and waterways, The guidelines and regulations and testing requirements apply to parcels enrolled in the ILRP, but they do not apply to domestic well owners on residential zoned parcels not enrolled . Testing of these residential wells is voluntary, and while annual testing is recommended, it is at the expense of the residential domestic well owner.. .

I feel the SCGA Board is uniquely positioned at this particular time when SCGA is reorganizing and performing the 5 year GSP review to help bridge this domestic well water quality assessment and financial assistance gap by working with Sacramento County to coordinate with the CV-SALTS program to formally request a localized jurisdictional mapping correction from the Central Valley Water Board.

SCGA holds the local data on domestic well infrastructure and water quality. SCGA is in a position to advocate for CV-SALTS Management Zone protections to cover all parcels in the SASb using a domestic well as their source of drinking water—regardless of overarching district boundaries. As a long-time owner of a domestic well in the SASb in an agriculture water district , I am calling on your leadership, and dedication to protect all domestic well groundwater users throughout the SASb by supporting and facilitating RCAC's well assessments in the SASb and affecting a mapping correction that creates a CVSalts Management Zone for the SASb in the Sacramento County "grey area". Thank you

Sincerely,
Suzanne Pecci

cc:The Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS) is located at 909 12th Street, Suite 203, Sacramento, CA 95814 (with a mailing address of PO Box 1526, Sacramento, CA

1.



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT OFFICE

715 P Street, 8th Floor | Sacramento, CA 95814 | P.O. Box 942836 | Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

August 26, 2026

Piret Harmon

South American Subbasin – Plan Manager

2443 Fair Oaks Blvd. #1215

Sacramento, CA 95825-7684

executivedirector@scgah2o.com

RE: Review of Annual Report for the South American Subbasin, Water Year 2025

Dear Piret Harmon,

As the basin point of contact for the groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) in the South American Subbasin (Subbasin), this letter is to inform you that the Department of Water Resources (Department) has completed the review of the annual report for the Subbasin for Water Year 2025 and determined that no further information or action is required at this time.

Following the adoption of a GSP and annually thereafter, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires that an annual report be submitted to the Department by April 1 (Wat. Code § 10728). Once an annual report has been submitted, the Department is required to notify the submitting groundwater sustainability agency (GSA) of receipt within 20 days, review the information to determine whether the basin's GSP is being implemented in a manner likely to achieve its established sustainability goal, and notify the GSA in writing if additional information is required (23 CCR § 355.8).

The submitted information appears to satisfy the requirements of the GSP Regulations (23 CCR § 356.2), so the Department does not require additional information at this time. Previously, following a comprehensive evaluation of the GSP for the Subbasin, the Department issued an assessment that the GSP was likely to achieve the sustainability goal for the Subbasin. Following review of the Water Year 2025 annual report, the Department has determined that the GSP continues to be implemented in a manner consistent with achieving the Subbasin's sustainability goal as described in the GSP.

The Department noted that the annual report provided an update on all the applicable sustainable management criteria for the basin, as required by GSP Regulations (23 CCR § 356.2). SGMA requires that the GSAs continue to include this information in the next annual report, including a description of progress towards implementing the GSP for each of the applicable sustainability indicators.

The Department requires that the submitting agency provide implementation updates on the SGMA Portal Projects and Management Actions (PMA) Module during each water year. The Department noted that implementation updates on all the PMAs were

not provided on the SGMA Portal PMA Module, as required by GSP Regulations (23 CCR § 356.2). Implementation updates provide a way to report and track progress such as status, accrued benefits, and funding updates on the implementation of the basin's PMAs. Reporting accurate, detailed, and measurable information in the SGMA Portal PMA Module (such as current status, a time-table for the accrual of benefits, and funding updates on implementation) clearly demonstrates any progress in implementing projects and management actions to the Department since the previous annual report.

The Department's Monitoring Network Module indicates that the GSA did not perform monitoring on one (1) of the representative monitoring site (RMS) locations for the seasonal high period in Water Year 2025, which represents 2% of the total monitoring network. To ensure reliable evaluation of basin conditions, the GSAs should maintain consistent data collection across its monitoring network by collecting groundwater elevation measurements twice per year, as required by the GSP Regulations (23 CCR § 354.34 (c)(1)(B)). Absence of monitoring data from RMS locations may affect a GSA's ability to evaluate whether undesirable results are occurring and could affect a GSA's ability to assess or demonstrate whether implementation is meeting the sustainability goal. Repeated failure to collect monitoring data from RMS locations may warrant the Department to formally request additional information from future annual reports (23 CCR § 355.8).

Based on the information provided in your annual report, Department staff notes that the basin experienced one (1) or more minimum threshold exceedances for chronic lowering of groundwater and depletion of interconnected surface water.

The Department's review of this and other annual reports noted that information contained in the annual report may not precisely match the schedules, projections, or estimates reported in the initial GSP as approved by the Department due to numerous factors over which a GSA has varying levels of knowledge and control (e.g., annual hydrology, actions of other private or public entities, unforeseen delays or events, and unexpected physical or geologic processes, etc.).

It is State policy that sustainable groundwater management is best achieved locally through the development, implementation, and updating of plans and programs (Wat. Code § 113, § 10720.1). Accordingly, for this Subbasin, the Department concluded that any discrepancies between information in the annual report and the GSP as approved by the Department did not, at this time, create an appreciable concern regarding GSP implementation and its continued likelihood of achieving the Subbasin's sustainability goal.

The Department anticipates conducting a review of GSP implementation as part of its periodic review of the GSP, which, in contrast to annual report reviews that consider information about only one year, will look at the periodic evaluation and the collective annual reports that provide the Department with numerous years of reporting data to better assess trends, issues, or conditions of concern in the basin, and whether GSP implementation remains on track to achieve sustainability.

Please contact the assigned Department basin point-of-contact or sgmps@water.ca.gov if you have questions about this notice or the annual reporting process. The Department looks forward to receiving your Water Year 2026 Annual Report by April 1, 2027.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith Wallace". The script is cursive and fluid.

Keith Wallace, P.E.
Assistant Deputy Director
Sustainable Water Management