Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)
Public Hearing

Kevin Johansen
Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group

Riverdale Community Education Center

October 23, 2019
What is SGMA?
SGMA = Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

- Unfunded CA law signed by governor Brown in 2014

**OBJECTIVE:**
Ensure the long-term reliability of groundwater resources and connected surface water resources by requiring “sustainable” management of groundwater basin

- North Fork Kings GSA is one of over 260 Groundwater Sustainability Agencies formed in California to implement the law through local control to avoid State intervention
Primary reasons for adopting SGMA into law - avoid Undesirable Results:

- Over pumping of groundwater, or overdraft
- Declining groundwater levels
- Drought/volatility in water resources, reduced groundwater storage
- Degradation of water quality
- Impacts to surface water interconnection
- Land subsidence
Kings Subbasin

- Considered “High Priority” and “Critically Overdrafted"
- 7 GSAs within Kings Subbasin
- Each GSA is preparing its own Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)
- Each GSA must coordinate with other GSAs in the Subbasin on their GSP
- Entire Subbasin must be sustainable by 2040
SGMA Process

Form Agencies - COMPLETED
Implement Plan - START 2020
Develop Plan - IN PROGRESS
Achieve Groundwater Sustainability - BY 2040

Annual Reports and 5-year Updates
What does the GSP do?

Identifies data gaps and documents historic and current groundwater conditions using best available information
- Groundwater levels
- Groundwater quality
- Water budgets

Defines an initial path to groundwater sustainability
- Identifies Measurable Objectives and Minimum Thresholds
- Identifies projects to increase water supply
- Identifies management actions to reduce groundwater demands
Comments on Draft GSP

- Written comments were received from various agencies and individuals during the 90-day public comment period that ended October 21, 2019
- Verbal comments will be received during Public Hearing
- Comments will be reviewed by consultants and Technical Advisory Group
- Summary of comments and recommended responses will be provided to Board of Directors at November 27, 2019 Board Meeting
- Recommended changes to GSP will be provided to Board of Directors at December 18, 2019 Special Board Meeting; potentially adopt GSP
- After GSP is submitted to DWR in January 2020, DWR will have a 60-day public review period for all GSPs
North Fork Kings GSA - SGMA Timeline

July 17, 2019
Draft GSP released for 90-day public review

October 21, 2019
Draft GSP public review period closed

October 23, 2019
Public Hearing

November 27, 2019
Board Meeting to consider comments

December 18, 2019
Present changes to GSP & Adopt GSP

January 2020
Submit final GSP to DWR