



---

**Item 5:** SGMA 101

**Presenter:** Cristel Tufenkjian

Discussion:

Tufenkjian reviewed what the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) is, and the role the North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (NFKGSA) plays in implementing the Act. The NFKGSA Board is working to develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) by the State deadline of January 2020; the GSP is the roadmap to achieve sustainability of groundwater in the NFKGSA.

The GSP elements include a description of the groundwater management area, a water budget, monitoring program, projects for mitigation, measurable objects and minimum thresholds. The elements will work together to reach the GSA's sustainability goals. Tufenkjian emphasized the State mandate that subbasins as a whole must reach sustainability, not just individual GSA's. There are seven GSA's in the Kings Subbasin and all must coordinate their individual GSP's in order to comply with the State and reach sustainability as a subbasin.

Reaching sustainability is defined as management of groundwater during GSP implementation that does not cause significant and unreasonable undesirable results, including chronic lowering of groundwater levels, reductions in groundwater storage, degraded water quality, land subsidence, surface water depletions that have adverse impacts on beneficial uses, and seawater intrusion. Seawater intrusion is not relevant to the Kings Subbasin.

Tufenkjian explained that the Rural Community Advisory Committee has a unique role to play in advising the Board on decisions throughout the GSP process. The Committee is included in the Special Act legislation that formed the North Fork Kings GSA Board.

Actions: None.

---

**Item 6:** NORTH FORK KINGS GSA BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

**Presenter:** Charlotte Gallock

Discussion:

Gallock explained one of the main tasks of the GSA is to coordinate with the other six GSA's in the Kings Subbasin to align GSP's and reach sustainability.

Currently the Board is coordinating with the subbasin to select a methodology to assign groundwater storage change responsibility. The Kings Subbasin as a whole has overall storage change of 206,000 AF, although this number is subject to change due to new surface water information. Storage change is an important metric, as it plays a large role in determining what projects will be included in the GSP that will mitigate loss in groundwater storage. Gallock explained that of the 5 alternative methodologies presented by the technical consultant, the North Fork Kings GSA Board has agreed on methodology 4B. This methodology uses storage change plus historical groundwater boundary flows between GSA's, adjusting for aquifer thickness.

Vicente Hernandez asked how the GSA will achieve sustainability; the Committee discussed the need to deliberate what they believe the best solutions are to mitigate groundwater storage change. It is important for the GSA to meet its sustainability goals to avoid State Intervention.

Zonneveld expressed concern regarding a State mandate to reach groundwater sustainability, yet lack of support for water storage that captures flood water to offset groundwater use and recharge the aquifer. Monaco contributed that it is important remember ecological limits and balance technology with ecology.

Vicente Hernandez asked if possible projects might include groundwater recharge basins. The Committee discussed storm-water drainage needs in the community of Lanare. Zonneveld recapped to the Committee that the GSA is working to reach sustainability as a whole and that projects located outside of a community will still benefit the groundwater of that community, as water flows throughout the aquifer. Solorio expressed support for groundwater recharge basins, as she understands how it benefits the underground aquifer.

