

# Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Within CCID and the Exchange Contractors



## Points of Contact

<b>Chris White</b>	SJRECWA Executive Director (209) 827-8616
<b>Jarrett Martin</b>	CCID General Manager (209) 826-1421
<b>John Wiersma</b>	SLCC General Manager (209) 826-5112

## Key Acronyms

<b>CCC</b>	Columbia Canal Company
<b>CCID</b>	Central California Irrigation District
<b>DWR</b>	California Department of Water Resources
<b>FCWD</b>	Firebaugh Canal Water District
<b>GSA</b>	Groundwater Sustainability Agency
<b>GSP</b>	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
<b>SGMA</b>	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
<b>SJRECWA</b>	San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority (Exchange Contractors) — comprised of CCID, SLCC, FCWD, and CCC
<b>SLCC</b>	San Luis Canal Company
<b>SWRCB</b>	State Water Resources Control Board (State Board)

## Key Definitions

<b>Coordination Agreement</b>	A legal agreement between two or more groundwater sustainability agencies that provides the basis for coordinating multiple agencies or groundwater sustainability plans within a basin.
<b>De Minimis Extractor</b>	A person who extracts, for domestic purposes, two acre-feet or less per year.
<b>Delta-Mendota Subbasin</b>	Subbasin to the San Joaquin Valley Basin, the SJRECWA is entirely within this subbasin.
<b>GSA</b>	One or more local agencies that implement the provisions of this part. For purposes of imposing fees pursuant to Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 10730) or taking action to enforce a groundwater sustainability plan, “groundwater sustainability agency” also means each local agency comprising the groundwater sustainability agency if the plan authorizes separate agency action.
<b>GSP</b>	A plan of a groundwater sustainability agency proposed or adopted pursuant to this part.

**Sustainability Goal**

The existence and implementation of one or more groundwater sustainability plans that achieve sustainable groundwater management by identifying and causing implementation of measures targeted to ensure that the applicable basin is operated within its sustainable yield.

**Undesirable Result**

One or more of the following effects caused by groundwater conditions throughout the basin: (1) chronic lowering of groundwater levels indicating a significant and unreasonable depletion of supply if continued over the planning and implementation horizon; overdraft during a period of drought is not sufficient to establish a chronic lowering of groundwater levels if extractions and recharge are managed as necessary to ensure that reductions in groundwater levels or storage during a period of drought are offset by increases in groundwater levels or storage during other periods (2) significant and unreasonable reduction of groundwater storage; (3) significant and unreasonable seawater intrusion; (4) significant and unreasonable degraded water quality, including the migration of contaminant plumes that impair water supplies; (5) significant and unreasonable land subsidence that substantially interferes with surface land uses; (6) depletions of interconnected surface water that have significant and unreasonable adverse impacts on beneficial uses of the surface water.

## Current Status

### Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)

The Exchange Contractors were among the first agencies to file as a GSA with DWR and receive approval. The Exchange Contractors GSA also received Special Act Legislation confirming the agency's right to manage groundwater for its service area. One of the main reasons the aquifer has been managed sustainably is the agency's strong surface water rights. With that in mind, the Exchange Contractors set out to implement SGMA and develop a Water Resources Management Plan, giving the agency the ability to establish a water resources plan instead of having the county or State Board plan the future. The Exchange Contractors have also worked with cities, counties, and CVP contractors to ensure full GSA coverage across the Delta-Mendota Subbasin.

### Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)

A draft Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model and Groundwater Conditions Report was prepared as part of the original GSP development effort. Numerous maps were produced covering monitoring efforts, basin bottom, water surface elevation and depth, and depth to the top of the Corcoran Clay. A customized database was developed for groundwater management, and CCID's well monitoring program produced hydrographs through 2016.

In 2023, DWR determined the original Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSP was inadequate. Since then, the 21 Groundwater Sustainability Agencies in the subbasin worked together to develop a new, unified plan — the 2024 GSP — focused on coordinated water management and reducing groundwater overdraft. All 21 GSAs adopted the 2024 GSP and submitted it to the State Water Resources Control Board.

In April 2026, the State Water Resources Control Board determined that a probationary designation for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin was unnecessary and recommended that oversight return to DWR while the revised plan moves through the approval process. The Exchange Contractors are optimistic about getting the revised plan approved and will continue working closely with the state and stakeholders throughout that process.

### Addressing Sustainability Goals

The unified Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSP addresses each of the six undesirable results defined under SGMA:

1. Chronic Lowering of Groundwater
2. Reduction in Groundwater Storage
3. Seawater Intrusion: This does not apply to our subbasin.
4. Degraded Water Quality
5. Land Subsidence
6. Depletions of Interconnected Surface Water

To access the current plan for more information please visit: <https://deltamendota.org>.

## Important Dates

<b>June 30, 2017</b>	GSA coverage deadline
<b>July 1, 2017</b>	SWRCB intervention for areas not managed under a GSA
<b>January 31, 2020</b>	Adopted and approved GSP deadline for critically overdrafted basins
<b>2023</b>	DWR determined the original Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSP was inadequate. The 21 subbasin GSAs began collaborative work on a revised, unified plan
<b>2024</b>	All 21 GSAs adopted the 2024 GSP and submitted it to the State Water Resources Control Board.
<b>April 2026</b>	The State Water Resources Control Board determined a probationary designation was unnecessary and returned oversight to DWR while the revised plan moves through approval. A significant milestone for the subbasin.

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**2040**

Sustainable management goal for basins currently in critical overdraft.

## Other Resources

**SGMA Home**

[water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm](http://water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm)

**GSAs**

[water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/gsa.cfm](http://water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/gsa.cfm)

**GSPs**

[water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/gsp.cfm](http://water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/gsp.cfm)