



Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation

**REDDING GROUNDWATER BASIN GSA Formation
(Anderson and Enterprise *Medium Priority* Subbasins)**
DRAFT Governance Proposal**Introduction**

This draft proposal has been developed by the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Formation Committee in the Anderson and Enterprise Groundwater Subbasins¹ of Shasta County. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has identified these two subbasins as medium priority. As required by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), all medium and high priority basins in the State of California must establish a GSA by June 30, 2017 and develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) to avoid state intervention by the State Water Resources Control Board. Medium priority basin GSPs must be completed by January 30, 2022.

The GSA Formation Committee is comprised of 6 eligible GSA agencies², including: Anderson Cottonwood Irrigation District (ACID), Bella Vista Water District (BVWD), City of Anderson, City of Redding, Clear Creek Community Services District (CSD), and Shasta County.

Table 1. GSA-Eligible Agencies in the Anderson and Enterprise Subbasins

Agency	Anderson Subbasin	Enterprise Subbasin	Comment
Participating Agencies			
ACID	x	x	
Bella Vista Water District		x	
City of Anderson	x	x	
City of Redding	x	x	
Clear Creek CSD	x		
Shasta County	x	x	
Non-participating Agencies			
Cottonwood Water District	x		County attend board meeting regarding the County representing Cottonwood’s district lands and expects to receive a letter of no interest in GSA participation

¹ Basin as defined by SGMA means a groundwater basin or subbasin identified and defined in Bulletin 118 or as modified pursuant to Water Code section 10722.

² GSA eligibility: "Any local agency or combination of local agencies overlying a groundwater basin may decide to become a groundwater sustainability agency for that basin." (Water Code§10721)

"Local agency" means a local public agency that has water supply, water management, or land use responsibilities within a groundwater basin." (Water Code§10721)

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Agency	Anderson Subbasin	Enterprise Subbasin	Comment
Centerville CSD	x		County receive confirmation of no interest in GSA participation
Igo/Ono CSD	x		County received confirmation of no interest in GSA participation

Governance Alternative

3 key elements of the governance alternative are:

- **Overlying Basin Representation** – SGMA only allows parties overlying a basin to have representation in that basin. The intent of the GSA is to create one GSA to manage both basins. However, the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) will specify that only agencies overlying a basin have decision-making authority on issues within their respective subbasins. See Table 2
- **County Representation** – SGMA specifies that in the event that there is an area within a high or medium priority basin that is not within the management area of another agency, the county within which that unmanaged areas lies will be presumed the GSA for that area. These unmanaged areas are referred to as white areas. The County will represent the white area groundwater pumpers and will form a private pumper advisory group to advise the County on white area groundwater related activities (pending Board of Supervisors' approval).
- **GSA Governing Board** – GSA governing board members will be elected representatives from the governing bodies of the participating agencies.

Table 2. Overlying Basin Representation

Agency	Over Basin	
	Anderson Subbasin	Enterprise Subbasin
ACID	x	x
Bella Vista Water District		x
City of Anderson	x	x
City of Redding	x	x
Clear Creek CSD	x	
Shasta County	x	x

GSA Board Representation, Voting and Cost Share Allocations

Each participating agency will appoint one elected official to represent the agency on the GSA Board of Directors and will have equal representation and voting rights. Each agency will share one sixth of the costs for GSA administration and GSP development. Governance will be further refined during GSP development. At that time, the governance structure, including board representation, the voting structure, and cost share allocations will be revisited and further described, as required by the GSP Emergency Regulations.

**Table 3. Illustrates the cost share allocation for each participating agency**

GSA Member Agencies and number of board members	Cost Share
ACID	16.67%
Bella Vista Water District	16.67%
City of Anderson	16.67%
City of Redding	16.67%
Clear Creek CSD	16.67%
Shasta County	16.67%
Total (6 board members)	100%

Decision-Making

The Board aspires to seek consensus. However, the work of the Board must be timely and efficient. Therefore, “consensus-seeking” represents an approach through which the Board will make a robust, reasonable attempt to reach consensus (the duration of which will be decided by the Board). After such attempts are made, if the Board cannot reach consensus, the approach and outcomes are memorialized, and the Board defaults to a majority vote.

- **Majority Definition:**

- Overall/General – 6 total votes –majority: 4 votes (Note: if only 4 members attend a meeting, constituting a quorum available to conduct the meeting, unanimous consent of the quorum is required to pass a vote. See below for detail.)
- Anderson Subbasin – 5 total votes –majority: 3 votes
- Enterprise Subbasin – 5 total votes –majority: 3 votes

- **Quorum Definition:** – 4 of the 6 board members constitute a quorum of the overall board.

- Enterprise – quorum of 3 of the 5 Enterprise members needed to address Enterprise only issues.
- Anderson – quorum of 3 of the 5 Anderson members needed to address Anderson only issues.

GSA (Agency) Purpose

The Agency is created with the purpose and intent of jointly forming a multi-agency GSA through a JPA without creating a separate legal authority to fulfill the role of a GSA as provided in SGMA. The Agency’s purpose and responsibility is to comply with the law (SGMA), to ensure sustainability of the Basin (Anderson and Enterprise Subbasins), and to develop and implement a GSP while keeping the complexity and costs as low as is practicable. It is not the intent of the Agency to assume any authorities impacting local planning and land use.

GSA Powers and Authorities

A GSA may exercise any of the powers described in Chapter 5 of SGMA, in addition to, and not as a limitation on, any existing authority. Chapter 5 stipulates that a GSA “has and may use the powers in this chapter to provide the maximum degree of local control and flexibility consistent with the sustainability goals.”

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- **General Authorities**– General authorities are to be assumed by the Agency with approval of the JPA. These should be those authorities allowed that support meeting the initial purpose of the Agency (GSP development).
- **Conditional Authorities** – Other potential powers and authorities described in Chapter 5 of SGMA may be enacted by the GSA in future and will be addressed during GSP development. As formerly noted, governance will be refined during GSP development and, at that time, may require related revision to the legal agreement. In the initial phase of SGMA implementation (GSP development), the GSA will not assume any conditional authorities. If it becomes necessary to enact conditional authorities, as defined in the GSP, the GSA may elect to form a Joint Powers Authority. The formation of an Authority will require a consensus decision of the GSA Board (100% unanimous vote).

GSA Administration

- **Management Committee:** The proposed Management Committee would be comprised of one appointee from each of the member agencies. The Cities and County will appoint the Public Works Director or their designee and the Districts will appoint the General Manager or their designee. The Management Committee, among other responsibilities, will take direction from the Board, recommend agenda items, and approve staff reports to be presented to the Board.
- **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC):** A TAC may be established by the Management Committee to advise on technical aspects of GSP development and implementation.
- **Consultant Support:** The consultant will function as an Administrative Manager to be hired by the Board and would report to the Management Committee. Related responsibilities would include: 1) preparation of Board staff reports; 2) managing the Management Committee and Board meetings; 3) managing GSA day to day business, among other responsibilities to be determined by the Board.
- **Other Consultants:** GSP development would likely be a separate contract or contracts.
- **Other Key Staff Support** – While it is yet to be determined, member agencies will most likely provide other key staff support to the GSA such as: legal counsel; financial officer; a clerk; etc.
- **Private Pumper Advisory Committee (PPAC):** The County will form a PPAC comprised of groundwater beneficial users in the County represented areas ("white areas"). The PPAC is an advisory body to the County only and does not report to the GSA Board or Management Committee.