



Sierra Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan Outreach and Engagement Activities

Please tell about your experience with Sierra Vally GSP outreach through a short survey at:
<https://bit.ly/SVGSP-outreach-survey>

Background

The Sierra Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan was developed with input from local community members and interests, using approaches identified in the Sierra Valley Groundwater Basin Communications and Engagement Plan. This included the following activities, described in greater detail below;

- Technical Advisory Committee meetings
- Public Workshops: May 2021 and October 2021
- Ad Hoc meetings on Projects & Management Actions, and Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems
- Briefings to the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (Plumas County, Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District)
- Dedicated Website
- Emails to Interested Parties
- Press Releases

Technical Advisory Committee Meetings

A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was convened

- to bring together representatives of different beneficial users and uses of groundwater in the Sierra Valley Groundwater Basin
- to inform the development of a Sierra Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan

TAC meetings were open to the public, with video recordings of the meetings posted to the website. TAC meetings included presentations and discussion on the following topics

1. Background on Sustainable Groundwater Management and related requirements
2. Sustainability Indicators (groundwater elevation/storage, groundwater quality, inter-connected surface water/groundwater dependent ecosystem)
3. Sustainable Management Criteria (e.g., options for tracking Sustainability Indicators) such as Constituents of Concern for groundwater quality, spring and fall groundwater levels for groundwater elevation/storage and inter-connected surface water and groundwater-dependent ecosystems
4. Minimum Thresholds (setting values for groundwater elevations and groundwater quality that will not be exceeded with sustainable groundwater management)

Technical information provided to the TAC and interested parties through:

- presentations,
- summary sheets, and
- an interactive online modeling web-interface (with overview and tutorial handout).



Sierra Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan Outreach and Engagement Activities

Public Workshops

Several in-person public workshops were held in developing the Sierra Valley GSP:

- May 2021: Two dates were available for community members to hear about and discuss local groundwater conditions, defining undesirable results, and possible options for setting Sustainable Management Criteria. One workshop was held on Saturday, May 8, 2021 from 10 am – noon at the Loyalton Community Park Pavilion. The other workshop was held on Monday, May 10, 2021 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm at Sierra Christian Church in Beckwourth. The workshops were designed with guidance from a Planning Committee of community members.
- October 2021: The workshop to present and discuss the Public Review Draft of the Sierra Valley GSP was conducted on Sunday, October 17, 2021 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Held at Sierra Christian Church in Beckwourth, an online option for participation was available.

Ad Hoc Meetings

Ad hoc meetings provided for more in-depth outreach and discussion on two topics:

- Projects and Management Actions – On July 18, 2021, the Technical Team met with agricultural irrigators to discuss options for enhancing groundwater resources through supply augmentation, demand management and optimizing opportunities for conjunctive use of surface water supply.
- Inter-connected Surface Water and Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs) – A smaller working group of the TAC convened to discuss and refine the areas associated with GDEs and to clarify the process and criteria for identifying sensitive species likely to occur in the Sierra Valley Subbasin.

Briefings to Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs)

A monthly briefing memo was prepared and presented each month to the GSAs at the monthly public Board meetings of the Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District (SVGMD).

Other Outreach Resources and Activities

- SVGMD maintained a **dedicated webpage** at www.sierravalleygmd.org/sierra-valley-groundwater-sustainability-plan to announce TAC meetings and public workshops and post related materials, documents and handouts.
- **Email notices** about GSP information and meetings were distributed to a list of interested parties that was established and continues to be maintained for the effort.
- **Press releases** were submitted to local media and social media sources on key events, such as public workshops and release of the GSP.