

NOTICE AND AGENDA OF SPECIAL MEETING

CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP
FOR THE EASTERN MANAGEMENT AREA
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER GROUNDWATER BASIN

SPECIAL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT
SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, MEETING ROOM
3669 SAGUNTO STREET, SUITE 101, SANTA YNEZ, CA

AT 3:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025

Optional remote public participation is available via Telephone or TEAMS

To access the meeting via telephone, please dial: <tel:+14699987311>, [197854638#](tel:+197854638) or via the Web at: [Join the Meeting Now](#)

“Join a Meeting” - Meeting ID **258 962 715 472** - Meeting Passcode: **zr3BP9sk**

***** Please Note *****

The above teleconference option for public participation is being offered as a convenience only and may limit or otherwise prevent your access to and participation in the meeting due to disruption or unavailability of the teleconference line. If any such disruption of unavailability occurs for any reason the meeting will not be suspended, terminated, or continued. Therefore in-person attendance of the meeting is strongly encouraged.

AGENDA OF SPECIAL MEETING

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call and Introductions
3. Public Comment
4. Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) Membership Review
5. Prop 68 Grant Implementation Plan, Schedule and Status Update
6. Draft Well Registration and Metering Program Policy Documents and Schedule
7. EMA GSA Rate Study
8. 2024 EMA GSA Annual Report
9. Action Plan for Management of All Well Production Along the Santa Ynez River Above the Lompoc Narrows
10. Future CAG Meeting Dates/Times
11. Future CAG Meeting Agenda Items

12. Upcoming EMA GSA Board Meetings

13. Adjournment

[This agenda was posted 24 hours prior to the scheduled special meeting at 3669 Sagunto Street, Suite 101, Santa Ynez, California, and <https://www.ema-santaynezwater.org/ema-cag> in accordance with Government Code Section 54954. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to review agenda materials or participate in this meeting, please contact the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District at (805) 693-1156. Notification 24 hours prior to the meeting will enable the GSA to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.]

SANTA YNEZ RIVER GROUNDWATER BASIN
EASTERN MANAGEMENT AREA

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 719
Santa Ynez, CA 93460
Phone: (805) 693-1156

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 25, 2019

TO: EMA GSA Committee

FROM: EMA GSA CAG Selection Ad-Hoc
Committee

SUBJECT: EMA Citizen Advisory Group Selection

A meeting of the Eastern Management Area Citizens Advisory Group (EMA CAG) Selection Ad-Hoc Committee met July 3, 2019 from 11AM to 12 PM at Supervisor Joan Hartman's office in Solvang, CA.

In attendance were EMA GSA Committee Members Joan Hartman (Santa Barbara County), and Brad Joos (ID No. 1). Staff present from the member agencies of the EMA GSA included: Meighan Dietenhofer and Matt Young (Santa Barbara County), and Bill Buelow and Kevin Walsh (Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District).

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the applications received for the EMA GSA Citizen Advisory Group (CAG). A total of 10 applications were received by the June 21, 2019 deadline.

The EMA GSA CAG Guidelines dated May 20, 2019 were reviewed and discussed. The Ad-Hoc Committee also reviewed the California Department of Water Resources guidance document regarding uses and users of groundwater to consider the following:

- Holders of overlying groundwater rights, including Agricultural users and Domestic well owners
- Municipal Well Operators
- Public Water Systems
- Local Land Use Planning Agencies
- Environmental Users of Groundwater
- Federal Government
- California Native American Tribes

- Disadvantaged Communities
- California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) reporters

The Ad-Hoc Committee and Staff discussed each applicant in detail and reviewed each person’s application materials (attached). Based on the CAG Guidelines, which requested a total of seven (7) CAG members, the Ad-Hoc Committee recommended the following applicants to the EMA CAG:

NAME	RELATION TO EMA
Mr. Sam Cohen	California Native American Tribe
Ms. Elizabeth Farnum	Domestic Well Owner
Mr. Tim Gorham	Resident, Landowner, Representative of a Landowner
Ms. Mary Heyden	Resident, Landowner, AG Well Owner
Ms. Gay Infanti	Resident
Mr. Charles Jackson	Resident, Landowner, AG Well Owner, Representative of Landowner
Mr. Kevin Merrill	Domestic and AG Well Owner, Representative of Landowner

The “Relation To EMA” was taken from each applicant’s application. The recommended applicants were asked to attend the next EMA GSA meeting scheduled for July 25, 2019 at 6:30 PM at the Solvang City Council Chambers. The applicants who were not selected were thanked and informed by staff via email.

Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin

Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Citizen Advisory Group Guidelines

The Eastern Management Area (EMA) Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Committee, comprised of officials appointed from the member agencies of the EMA GSA (Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District; Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1; City of Solvang; and Santa Barbara County Water Agency) is responsible for implementing the requirements of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) in the EMA of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin) and for coordinating its activities with other agencies and GSAs in the Basin. Among other comprehensive efforts, the EMA GSA Committee (Committee) is overseeing the preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the EMA. Members of the public are strongly encouraged by the Committee to attend all meetings of the EMA GSA and to provide input and information to the Committee throughout the GSP development process. Additionally, the Committee is forming a Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) to provide an additional level of public input to the Committee on various issues related to the preparation of the GSP. The Western Management Area (WMA) GSA and the Central Management Area (CMA) GSA are also considering the designation of a CAG or similar group for their respective portions of the Basin.

Purpose of the Citizens Advisory Group

SGMA requires the Committee to consider the interests of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the EMA during development of the GSP, including the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater. Collaborative and inclusive processes will assist in making the GSP more resilient by increasing public buy-in, promoting compliance, and enhancing the quality of information on which the GSP is based. The Committee has established an open and ongoing list of interested persons to whom notices are and will be sent regarding meetings of the EMA GSA, GSP development, and other SGMA-related activities. The purpose of a CAG is to provide an additional level of public input to the Committee in a way that represents different categories of groundwater uses and users in the EMA as set forth by SGMA. At various points during development of the GSP, the CAG may be asked to provide its perspective on elements or sections of the GSP and on the final draft of the GSP that will be submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).

To ensure an efficient and collaborative process, the Committee will appoint members to the CAG that reflect a diversity of interests and different types of groundwater uses and users in the EMA. As requested by the Committee, the CAG will provide input to the Committee relating to various elements or sections of the GSP, including but not limited to those pertaining to stakeholder engagement, data management, the hydrogeologic conceptual model and numeric groundwater model, water budgets, sustainability goals, monitoring programs, and projects and management actions.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Committee is solely responsible for all matters relating to the CAG, including but not limited to the formation, membership, function, organization, operation, management, and dissolution of the CAG. The Committee may request staff from the member agencies of the EMA GSA to help administer the CAG process.

Staff Role. Responsibility for carrying out administrative aspects of the CAG process may be delegated to staff from the member agencies of the EMA GSA. At the request of the Committee, staff will schedule CAG meetings, prepare and circulate agendas, distribute materials to the CAG members for review, facilitate the meetings, prepare meeting minutes, and undertake other related tasks.

CAG Member Role. At times determined by the Committee, CAG members will be asked to provide input or recommendations on various elements or sections of the GSP and related topics. In addition to providing their individual perspectives, CAG members serve in respective capacities that represent different categories of groundwater uses and users in the EMA. All CAG members are expected to work collaboratively with each other, with other stakeholders and members of the public, with the Committee, with staff of the member agencies of the EMA GSA, and with the other GSAs, related agencies, and agency staff members throughout the Basin. CAG members may be asked to develop consensus opinions, comments, and input on the topics they are asked to address, recognizing however that consensus among the CAG members may not always be practicable and may not occur for a given topic. Input received from the CAG will be considered by the Committee in the process of developing the EMA GSP and in coordinating those efforts with the WMA GSA and the CMA GSA in the development of their respective GSPs. Member of the CAG serve on a strictly voluntary basis and, subject to being dismissed from the CAG at the discretion of the Committee, all CAG members are expected to be available and commit their time and efforts for the entire GSP process through at least January 2022.

Governance. All matters relating to the CAG, including but not limited to the formation, membership, function, organization, operation, management, and dissolution of the CAG shall remain within the sole discretion of the Committee. Certain procedural items relating to the CAG are set forth below.

Applications and CAG Selection. In order to be considered for selection as a member of the CAG, individuals must complete and submit an Application to the Committee. The Application form, included with these Guidelines as Attachment A, solicits specific information about the applicant, including the applicant's interest in serving on the CAG and the applicant's background and related qualifications. The Committee, and/or ad hoc subcommittee thereof, and/or staff of the member agencies of the EMA GSA, will review and evaluate the applications received. Applicant interviews may be conducted, and all selections to the CAG shall be made by and within the sole discretion of the Committee. The CAG applications will be screened by an ad-hoc committee consisting of one or more EMA GSA Committee members with the assistance of staff from the EMA member agencies. Applications are due June 21, 2019 by 5 PM.

Please send them to: Bill Buelow at bbuelow@SYRWCD.com, or by mail P.O. 719, Santa Ynez, CA 93460.

Composition of the CAG. The Committee shall determine how many members will serve on the CAG, where initially it is anticipated that the CAG will have a total of seven (7) members. Depending on applications received and other factors, and at any time, the Committee may decide to change the size of the CAG, tailor its representative composition, or determine not to form or to dissolve the CAG.

Term of the CAG. Initially it is expected that the CAG will be in place at least through the submittal of the GSP to DWR in January of 2022.

Dismissal of CAG Members. CAG members serve at-will and at the pleasure of the Committee. In its sole discretion, the Committee may dismiss any member or all members of the CAG at any time with or without cause.

Filling a Vacancy on the CAG. In the event a vacancy occurs on the CAG, the Committee may appoint a new member to fill the vacancy without conducting a new application process, or may re-open the application process to fill the vacancy.

Meetings. The need for and frequency of CAG meetings shall be determined by the Committee, where initially it is anticipated that regular CAG meetings will be scheduled approximately two weeks after each regular quarterly meeting of the EMA GSA, provided that the Committee may call for fewer or additional CAG meetings on an as-needed basis.

ATTACHMENT A

Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency Citizen Advisory Group Application

If you are interested in serving on the Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) for the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Eastern Management Area (EMA) Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA), please complete and return the following Application to Bill Buelow (bbuelow@syrwcd.com) by June 21, 2019.

The Eastern Management Area (EMA) Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Committee, comprised of officials appointed from the member agencies of the EMA GSA (Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District; Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1; City of Solvang; and Santa Barbara County Water Agency) is responsible for implementing the requirements of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) in the EMA of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin) and for coordinating its activities with other agencies and GSAs in the Basin. Among other comprehensive efforts, the EMA GSA Committee (Committee) is overseeing the preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the EMA. Members of the public are strongly encouraged by the Committee to attend all meetings of the EMA GSA and to provide input and information to the Committee throughout the GSP development process. The Committee is forming the CAG to provide an additional level of public input to the Committee on various issues related to the preparation of the GSP. The Western Management Area (WMA) GSA and the Central Management Area (CMA) GSA are also considering the designation of a CAG or similar group for their respective portions of the Basin.

SGMA requires the Committee to consider the interests of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the EMA during development of the GSP, including the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater. Collaborative and inclusive processes will assist in making the GSP more resilient by increasing public buy-in, promoting compliance, and enhancing the quality of information on which the GSP is based. The Committee has established an open and ongoing list of interested persons to whom notices are and will be sent regarding meetings of the EMA GSA, GSP development, and other SGMA-related activities. The purpose of a CAG is to provide an additional level of public input to the Committee in a way that represents different categories of groundwater uses and users in the EMA as set forth by SGMA. At various points during development of the GSP, the CAG may be asked to provide its perspective on elements or sections of the GSP and on the final draft of the GSP that will be submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).

As set forth in the CAG Guidelines, members of the CAG are selected by the Committee and serve at the discretion of the Committee for a process that is expected to last at least through completion of the GSP in January 2022. Replacements on the CAG, if needed, would be made by the Committee.

ATTACHMENT A

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Daytime Phone Number: _____

What is your relationship to the Eastern Management Area of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin? (See Attached Map)

Please check all that apply:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resident | <input type="checkbox"/> NGO Representative |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Well Owner/Producer | <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Well Owner/Producer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Agency Representative | <input type="checkbox"/> California Native American Tribe |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landowner | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Owner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of a landowner | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Why are you interested in serving on the CAG? (Please use additional page if more space is needed.)

What type or category of groundwater uses or users in the Eastern Management Area do you propose to represent?

What unique experience or expertise will you contribute if selected to the CAG? Please explain any technical knowledge you have regarding water resource issues in the EMA. (Please use additional page if more space is needed.)

ATTACHMENT A

Are you committed to fully participate in the CAG process through completion of the GSP in January 2022? Do you have particular time or timing limitations that may impact your ability to serve as a member of the CAG?

Please provide the names and contact information for three personal and/or professional references.

1.

Name: _____

Affiliation/Relationship: _____

Daytime Phone Number: _____

2.

Name: _____

Affiliation/Relationship: _____

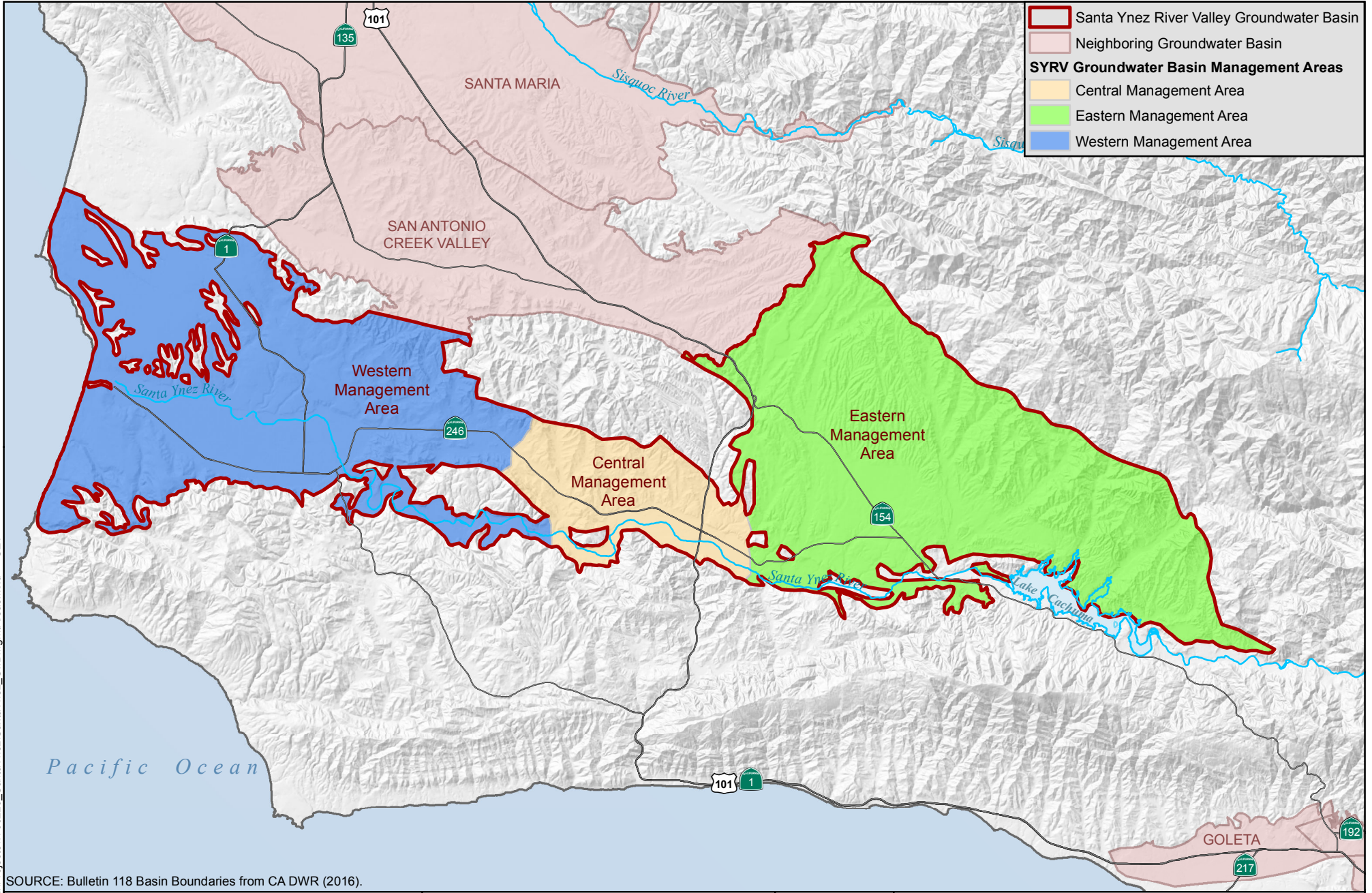
Daytime Phone Number: _____

3.

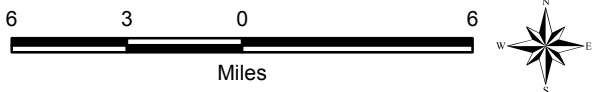
Name: _____

Affiliation/Relationship: _____

Daytime Phone Number: _____



SOURCE: Bulletin 118 Basin Boundaries from CA DWR (2016).



Santa Ynez River Valley
Groundwater Basin GSA Formation
Santa Barbara County, California

**SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER
BASIN MANAGEMENT AREAS**

APRIL 2019

FIGURE 1

25.Jan.2017 Z:\Projects\1700220_Santa Ynez\Santa Ynez_GwBgmt\Areas.mxd SET

PROP 68 GRANT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

12/17/2024

EMA GSA

Red text = Placeholder (proposal needed from consultant/contractor)

Component	Description	EMA Grant Funds	Proposed Consultant/Contractor										\$ Previously Spent	EMA Grant Implementation Total	Notes
			Executive Director (CES)	Stetson/SYRWCD	AgMonitor	GSI	WRE	Driller/Pump Contractor	GeoSystems Analysis	5-yr Update/Eval	GSA Legal				
Component 2	Extraction Measurement & Reporting														
Category (b)	Environmental / Design / Engineering														
Task 1	Environmental Compliance and Permitting	\$5,000	\$1,800								\$3,200		\$5,000		
Task 3	Demonstration Project Development	\$5,000	\$5,000										\$5,000		
Task 4	Basin-Wide Groundwater Extraction Measurement Program	\$5,000	\$50,000	\$10,000									\$60,000	\$55,000 moved from Task 5 to cover well registration in 'white area'	
Category (c)	Implementation / Construction														
Task 5	Demo Projects	\$127,666	\$20,000		\$26,030								\$46,030	\$55,000 moved from here into Task 4 (see note above) and \$26,636 moved into Component 3 (see note below).	
Category (d)	Monitoring / Assessment														
"Task 6"	Compile/analyze data	\$33,334	\$33,334										\$33,334		
Category (e)	Engagement / Outreach														
"Task 7"	Outreach / engagement	\$16,667	\$16,667										\$16,667		
	Component 2 TOTAL	\$192,667	\$126,801	\$10,000	\$26,030	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,200	\$0	\$166,031		
Component 3	Rate Studies														
		\$27,334						\$53,970					\$53,970	\$26,636 moved from Component 2 - Task 5 to cover entire WRE fee.	
	Component 3 TOTAL	\$27,334	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$53,970	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$53,970		
Component 4	Annual Reports and 5-yr Update														
		\$497,333				\$155,000				\$242,333		\$100,000	\$497,333	GSI fee includes Action Plan implementation and Annual Reports for WY24 and WY25 (fee for WY25 estimated). \$ Previously Spent includes fees for WY22 and WY23 Annual Reports and Action Plan development. 5-yr is placeholder.	
	Component 4 TOTAL	\$497,333	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$155,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$242,333	\$0	\$100,000	\$497,333		
Component 5	Monitoring Improvement & Expansion														
Category (b)	Environmental / Design / Engineering														
Task 1	Environmental Compliance and Permitting	\$7,000	\$3,500								\$3,500		\$7,000		
Task 2	Land Purchase / Easements	\$35,000	\$25,000								\$10,000		\$35,000		
Task 3	Monitoring Network Planning and Design														
	Preliminary design plans – Wells	\$7,000	\$1,000		\$6,000								\$7,000		
	Preliminary design plans – Piezometer	\$7,000	\$1,000		\$6,000								\$7,000		
Category (c)	Implementation / Construction														
Task 4	Advertise, Bid, & Award														
	Prepare final designs & specs	\$25,000	\$1,500		\$23,500								\$25,000		
	Complete bid docs & bid process	\$5,000	\$1,000		\$4,000								\$5,000		
Task 5	Monitoring Well and Equipment Installation														
	Install Monitoring Well	\$160,000	\$5,500		\$25,000		\$129,500						\$160,000		
	Install Piezometer	\$100,000	\$5,500		\$25,000		\$69,500						\$100,000		
	Deliverables	\$26,670	\$1,500		\$25,170								\$26,670		
Category (d)	Monitoring / Assessment														
Task 6	Monitoring Network Field Screenings														
	Update Monitoring Networks	\$10,000	\$10,000										\$10,000		
	Survey or video logs	\$70,335					\$70,335						\$70,335	There is likely not enough grant funding to survey all RMS wells with missing well completion information.	
Task 7	Data Collection, Assessment, and DMS Updates														
	Semi-annual groundwater data	\$1,000	\$1,000										\$1,000		
	Semi-annual piezometer data	\$1,000	\$1,000										\$1,000		
	Field surveys re potential GDEs	\$50,500						\$50,500					\$50,500		
	Updates to DMS	\$6,000	\$6,000										\$6,000		
Category (e)	Engagement / Outreach														
	Meetings / workshops	\$33,333	\$33,333										\$33,333		
	Component 5 TOTAL	\$544,838	\$63,500	\$0	\$0	\$114,670	\$0	\$269,335	\$50,500	\$0	\$13,500	\$0	\$544,838		
	GRAND TOTAL	\$1,262,172	\$223,634	\$10,000	\$26,030	\$269,670	\$53,970	\$269,335	\$50,500	\$242,333	\$16,700	\$100,000	\$1,262,172		

Green highlighting = It is anticipated that the GSI fee for Tasks 3, 4, and 5 will be packaged in a single proposal (Drilling contractor fee will be separate).

EMA GSA Well Registration and Metering Program Outline

Program Element	Tentative Schedule
<p>1. Develop Well Registration and Metering policy documents for EMA GSA Board approval consideration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Start with documents prepared for the San Antonio GSA, other GSAs, and EMA Member Agencies. Consider CMA and WMA documents, if available. b. EMA GSA Staff develops draft policies c. EMA GSA Legal Counsel review e. EMA GSA Agency Representative review d. EMA GSA Board review e. Revise based upon comments received f. EMA GSA Board considers adoption of final policies 	<p>1/31/2025 2/24/2025 2/28/2025 3/27/2025 4/24/2025</p>
<p>2. Hold workshop with EMA stakeholders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Purpose of program – identify all groundwater users within the EMA (not Alluvial Action Area pumpers), obtain information about their wells, enroll them in the well metering program so that the GSA may quantify groundwater production. b. Who must Register? All non-Alluvial Action Area Pumpers must register. Who must install meters? All non-Alluvial and non-Deminimus Pumpers. c. Overview of requirements (well registration and/or metering) d. Implementation schedule 	<p>Week of 4/7/25</p>
<p>3. Well Registration Program Elements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Prepare inventory of wells based on existing public information (GSP, County Health, ID-1 and District, DWR well log database). Prepare map (ghost public well locations). b. Prepare data collection form and cover letter to be mailed to well owners. Cross reference owners and addresses with District records, ID-1 records, tax lot records. Identify properties in white area where well records have not been obtained. Make consistent with WMA and CMA efforts. c. Review form, map, and cover letter with EMA Agency Representatives and legal. d. Coordinate with District efforts for data management and storage. e. Mail out form and cover letter and provide review. Cross reference responses with District and ID-1 records. Identify potential well owners who have not responded. Make contact with those possible well owners. 	<p>May - August 2025</p>
<p>4. Well Metering Program Elements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Prepare draft well metering guidance document for well owners (Cuyama has one we can use) and prepare reporting form and cover letter. Make consistent with WMA and CMA efforts. GSA staff and legal review. b. Utilize information gathered from the well registration program and mail guidance document, reporting form, and cover letter to well owners. c. Coordinate with District efforts for data management and storage in the WMA and CMA. 	<p>July - September 2025</p>

