

DRAFT

Preparation Checklist for GSP Submittal Guidance Document

The objective of this Guidance Document is to provide Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and other interested stakeholders a checklist of Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) content requirements for the purposes of verifying a GSP is complete prior to submitting to DWR.

The Preparation Checklist for GSP Submittal is only intended to provide guidance to GSAs and other stakeholders. GSAs and other stakeholders have the option of using this guidance, as the content provided does not create any new requirements or obligations for the GSA or other stakeholders.

Guidance documents do not serve as a substitute for the GSP Emergency Regulations (GSP Regulations) or the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). Those GSAs submitting a GSP are strongly encouraged to read the GSP Regulations and SGMA. In addition, using this Guidance Document to develop a GSP using does not equate to an approval determination by DWR.

Context with GSP Regulations

The Preparation Checklist for GSP Submittal can be used by GSAs in conjunction with the GSP Annotated Outline Guidance Document as a method to develop a GSP consistent with the requirements of the GSP Regulations and SGMA. The detailed requirements of a GSP may be found in the GSP Regulations, primarily in Article 5 – Plan Contents, and in SGMA, primarily in Chapter 6 beginning with California Water Code (CWC) 10727. The checklist includes references to applicable GSP Regulation sections and CWC sections, as well as a brief description of the required GSP information and references to related BMPs. The checklist also contains a column for GSAs to record the page number, or section of the GSP, where the information for that particular requirement is found. The preparation checklist may also be included the GSP.

The following pages contain the **Preparation Checklist for GSP Submittal**.



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Table 1. Preparation Checklist for GSP Submittal

| GSP Regulation Section | Water Code Section | Requirement | Description | Related BMP (to be completed by DWR as BMP as completed) | Section(s) or Page Number(s) in the GSP |
|---|--------------------|---|--|--|---|
| Article 3. Technical and Reporting Standards | | | | | |
| 352.2 | | Monitoring Protocols | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring Protocols adopted by the GSA for data collection and management - Monitoring protocols that are designed to detect changes in groundwater levels, groundwater quality, inelastic surface subsidence for basins for which subsidence has been identified as a potential problem, and flow and quality of surface water that directly affect groundwater levels or quality or are caused by groundwater extraction in the basin | | |
| Article 5. Plan Contents, Subarticle 1. Administrative Information | | | | | |
| 354.4 | | General Information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Executive Summary - List of References and Technical Studies | | |
| 354.6 | | Agency Information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GSA Mailing Address - Organization and Management Structure - Contact Information of Plan Manager - Legal Authority of GSA - Estimate of Implementation Costs | | |
| 354.8.a | 10727.2.(a).4 | Map(s) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Area covered by GSP - Adjudicated areas, other agencies within the basin, and areas covered by an Alternative - Jurisdictional boundaries of federal or State land - Existing Land Use Designations - Density of wells per square mile | | |
| 354.8.b | | Description of the Plan Area | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summary of jurisdictional areas and other features | | |
| 354.8.c, d, e | 10727.2(g) | Water resource monitoring and management programs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Description of water resources monitoring and management programs - Description of how the monitoring networks of those plans will be incorporated into the GSP - Description of how those plans may limit operational flexibility in the basin - Description of conjunctive use programs | | |
| 354.8.f | 10727.2(g) | Land Use Elements or Topic Categories of Applicable General Plans | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summary of general plans and other land use plans - Description of how implementation of the GSP may change water demands or affect achievement of sustainability and how the GSP addresses those effects - Description of how implementation of the GSP may affect the water supply assumptions of relevant land use plans - Summary of the process for permitting new or replacement wells in the basin - Information regarding the implementation of land use plans outside the basin that could affect the ability of the Agency to achieve sustainable groundwater management | | |

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|--|---------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| 354.8.g | 10727.4 | Additional GSP Contents | Description of Actions related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Control of saline water intrusion - Wellhead protection - Migration of contaminated groundwater - Well abandonment and well destruction program - Replenishment of groundwater extractions - Conjunctive use and underground storage - Well construction policies - Addressing groundwater contamination cleanup, recharge, diversions to storage, conservation, water recycling, conveyance, and extraction projects - Efficient water management practices - Relationships with state and federal regulatory agencies - Review of land use plans and efforts to coordinate with land use planning agencies to assess activities that potentially create risks to groundwater quality or quantity - Impacts on groundwater dependent ecosystems | | |
| 354.10 | | Notice and Communication | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Description of beneficial uses and users - List of public meetings - GSP comments and responses - Decision-making process - Public engagement - Encouraging active involvement - Informing the public on GSP implementation progress | | |
| Article 5. Plan Contents, Subarticle 2. Basin Setting | | | | | |
| 354.14 | | Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Description of the Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model - Two Scaled Cross-Sections - Map(s) of Physical Characteristics: topographic information, surficial geology, soil characteristics, surface water bodies, source and point of delivery for imported water supplies | | |
| 354.14.c.4 | 10727.2.(a).5 | Map of Recharge Areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Map delineating existing recharge areas that substantially contribute to the replenishment of the basin, potential recharge areas, and discharge areas | | |
| | 10727.2.(d).4 | Recharge Areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Description of how recharge areas identified in the plan substantially contribute to the replenishment of the basin | | |
| 354.16 | 10727.2.(a).1, 10727.2.(a).2 | Current and historical groundwater conditions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Groundwater elevation data - Estimate of groundwater storage - Seawater intrusion conditions - Groundwater quality issues - Land subsidence conditions - Identification of interconnected surface water systems - Identification of groundwater-dependent ecosystems | | |

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| 354.18 | 10727.2.(a).3 | Water Budget Information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Description of inflows, outflows, and change in storage - Quantification of overdraft - Estimate of sustainable yield - Quantification of current, historical, and projected water budgets | | |
| | 10727.2.(d).5 | Surface Water Supply | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Description of surface water supply used or available for use for groundwater recharge or in-lieu use | | |
| 354.20 | | Management Areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reason for creation of each Management Area - Minimum Thresholds and Measurable Objectives for each Management Area - Level of monitoring and analysis - Explanation of how management of Management Areas won't cause undesirable results outside the Management Area - Description of Management Areas | | |
| Article 5. Plan Contents, Subarticle 3. Sustainable Management Criteria | | | | | |
| 354.24 | | Sustainability Goal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Description of the Sustainability Goal | | |
| 354.26 | | Undesirable Results | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Description of Undesirable Results - Cause of Groundwater Conditions that would lead to Undesirable Results - Criteria used to define Undesirable Results for each sustainability indicator - Potential effects of Undesirable Results on beneficial uses and users of groundwater | | |
| 354.28 | 10727.2.(d).1, 10727.2.(d).2 | Minimum Thresholds | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Description of each minimum threshold and how they were established for each sustainability indicator - Relationship for each sustainability indicator - Description of how selection of the Minimum Threshold may affect beneficial uses and users of groundwater - Standards related to sustainability indicators - How each minimum threshold will be quantitatively measured | | |
| 354.30 | 10727.2.(b).1, 10727.2.(b).2, 10727.2.(d).1 10727.2.(d).2 | Measureable Objectives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Description of establishment of the measureable objectives for each sustainability indicator - Description of how a reasonable margin of safety was established for each measureable objective - Description of a reasonable path to achieve and maintain the sustainability goal, including a description of interim milestones | | |
| Article 5. Plan Contents, Subarticle 4. Monitoring Networks | | | | | |
| 354.34 | 10727.2.(d).1, 10727.2.(d).2, 10727.2.(e), 10727.2.(f) | Monitoring Network | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Description of Monitoring network - Description of Monitoring network objectives - Description of how the monitoring network is designed to: demonstrate groundwater occurrence, flow directions, and hydraulic gradients between principal aquifers and surface water features; estimate the change in annual groundwater in storage; monitor seawater intrusion; determine groundwater quality trends; identify the rate and extent of land subsidence; and calculate depletions of surface water caused by groundwater extractions - Description of how the monitoring network provides adequate coverage of sustainability indicators - Density of monitoring sites and frequency of measurements required to demonstrate short-term, seasonal, and long-term trends | | |

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| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scientific rational (or reason) for site selection - Consistency with data and reporting standards - Corresponding sustainability indicator, minimum threshold, measureable objective, and interim milestone - Location and type of each monitoring site within the basin displayed on a map, and reported in tabular format, including information regarding the monitoring site type, frequency of measurement, and the purposes for which the monitoring site is being used - Description of technical standards, data collection methods, and other procedures or protocols to ensure comparable data and methodologies | | |
| 354.36 | | Representative Monitoring | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Description of representative sites - Demonstration of adequacy of using groundwater elevations as proxy for other sustainability indicators - Adequate evidence demonstrating site reflects general conditions in the area | | |
| 354.38 | | Assessment and Improvement of Monitoring Network | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review and evaluation of the monitoring network - Identification and description of data gaps - Description of steps to fill data gaps - Description of monitoring frequency and density of sites | | |
| Article 5. Plan Contents, Subarticle 5. Projects and Management Actions | | | | | |
| 354.44 | | Projects and management actions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Description of projects and management actions that will help achieve sustainability goal - Measureable objective that is expected to benefit from each project and management actions - Circumstances for implementation - Public noticing - Permitting and regulatory process - Time-table for initiation and completion, and the accrual of expected benefits - Expected benefits and how they will be evaluated - How the project or management action will be accomplished. If the projects or management actions rely on water from outside the jurisdiction of the Agency, an explanation of the source and reliability of that water shall be included. - Legal authority required - Estimated costs and plans to meet those costs - Management of groundwater extractions and recharge | | |
| 354.44.b.2 | 10727.2.(d).3 | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overdraft mitigation projects and management actions | | |