



Meeting Brief

- The Vina Subbasin Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SHAC) approved their draft Charter by consensus and conveyed it to the Vina GSA Board for consideration and approval.
- The SHAC discussed Brown Act compliance within the context of SHAC members’ role to represent constituent interests. SHAC members emphasized the importance of robust engagement with individual constituents. Additionally, they identified the need for the SHAC to use its meeting venue and public workshops for subbasin-wide community discussions.
- The SHAC received an introductory presentation on water budgets and groundwater data to lay the foundation for the presentation of basin setting results which will commence at the March 17th SHAC meeting.
- The SHAC reviewed and provided feedback on the draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) chapter on Monitoring Protocols for Data Collection & Monitoring and determined the importance of revisiting the protocols when developing the monitoring networks and representative monitoring chapters of the GSP. This will help to ensure that monitoring protocols are in place for all components of the monitoring network.
- The SHAC reviewed and provided feedback on a process developed by staff to assist the Vina GSA Board in the development of an out-of-basin groundwater transfer rule that the GSA Board decided to develop in October of 2019. Butte County staff will revise the document based on to SHAC input.

Action Items

Item	Lead	Completion
Vina GSA website action items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post final 12/17/19 meeting summary. • Post presentations from the 2/18/20 SHAC meeting. • Place the Stakeholder Communications & Engagement Plan in a prominent, easily accessible area of the website. • Add Management Committee Staff to the website • Add Brown Act compliance links to the website 	Durham Irrigation District Staff	As soon as possible
Transmit the consensus-approved Vina SHAC Charter to the Vina GSA Board of Directors for approval.	Butte County staff	Before the March 11 th Vina GSA Board meeting
Provide SHAC members with information about the number of domestic wells in the Vina subbasin.	Butte County staff	By March 17 SHAC meeting



Item	Lead	Completion
Provide SHAC members with an overall GSP outline.	Butte County staff	By March 17 SHAC meeting
Incorporate SHAC comment into the Out-of-Basin Transfer Rule process document.	Butte County staff	Upon Completion

Summary

Introductions & Approval of 12/17/19 SHAC Meeting Summary

The SHAC members, facilitator, staff and the public introduced themselves. All SHAC members approved the 12/17/20 meeting summary without changes.

Public Comment

There was no business from the floor.

Advisory Committee Roles & Responsibilities & Charter Review

The SHAC considered edits to the draft Charter which included recommended changes from the 12/17/19 SHAC meeting. SHAC members made no additional changes and approved the draft charter by consensus. It will be considered for approval by the Vina GSA Board of Directors at the March 11th meeting.

Ralph M. Brown Act Compliance Discussion

The SHAC received an [overview of relevant Brown Act provisions](#). SHAC members discussed the importance of engaging a broad base of constituents in their role as representatives of various interest groups within the subbasin. SHAC members sought clarification for how to robustly engage constituents in a way that honors their representative role while complying with the Brown Act. All agreed that it is important for individual SHAC members to meet with members of the community to bring a diversity of perspectives from the community into SHAC deliberations. The group concluded that when more than one SHAC member sees value in meeting together with constituents, using SHAC meetings and public workshops as venues for engagement would be most appropriate and in accordance with the Brown Act. The SHAC and GSA Member Agency staff reinforced other standards for SHAC communications, such as ensuring that information directed to all SHAC members is communicated through the facilitator.

Stakeholder Communications & Engagement Plan

SHAC members received an overview of the [Stakeholder Communications and Engagement Plan](#) adopted by the Vina GSA Board of Directors in October 2019. SHAC members requested that the Plan be posted on the Vina GSA website in an easily accessible location.



Background on Basin Setting Components of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)

Butte County staff gave a [presentation](#) to introduce high level concepts regarding the Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model (HCM), water budgets, numerical models, and groundwater conditions. The presentation was intended to provide context to prepare for more in-depth discussions about basin setting results which will begin at the March 17th SHAC meeting.

SHAC members asked several clarifying questions including how the Vina subbasin will coordinate with adjacent subbasins to share data and tools to understand and engage in coordinated analysis about how groundwater interacts across subbasin boundaries. Inter-basin coordination among all adjacent basins will occur at several levels, including the possibility of having joint committee meetings, when warranted. Coordination is also occurring through the 6-county area North Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management group.

Monitoring Protocols for Data Collection & Monitoring

Butte County staff gave an overview of the [Draft GSP Chapter for Monitoring Protocols for Data Collection and Monitoring](#) and requested comments from the SHAC. Staff formerly presented the draft chapter to GSA management committees in each of the three Butte County subbasins and to the Butte County Water Commission Technical Advisory Committee. Those groups did not have any comments on the draft chapter which is mostly an internal document focused on how, not where, monitoring will occur. Later in the process there will be discussion about the monitoring network and representative monitoring wells. SHAC members raised the issue of possible missing monitoring protocols for things such as ephemeral and underground streams, as well as Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs). Butte County staff highlighted that when developing the monitoring network chapter, it will be important to cross reference the monitoring protocols chapter to ensure that there are protocols in place for all aspects of the monitoring network.

SHAC members requested an overall outline of the GSP to help them better understand the component parts of the GSP and how the parts fit together. They also requested information about the number of domestic wells in the Vina subbasin.

One member asked staff to help SHAC members understand where their feedback is going to be most useful. The group also discussed the overall goal of making information accessible to help SHAC members gather useful input from their constituents.

Out of Basin Transfer Rule Process

Butte County staff referenced the [Out-of-basin Groundwater Transfer Rule](#) process document from the agenda packet. In October of 2019 the Vina GSA board directed the development of a rule to regulate any potential out-of-basin groundwater transfers to help to understand the specific groundwater vulnerabilities the subbasin faces and to identify potential projects to address these vulnerabilities in response to concerns raised by stakeholders about ownership of recharged water and the potential for it to be transferred out of the subbasin. Butte County staff requested feedback from the SHAC on the process document and asked if there are other vulnerabilities or circumstances that the GSA should be looking at?



Discussion

- Without information about the sustainable yield, this process may be premature. How do we know that there is a problem in the subbasin? It appears that the sequence is understanding the water budgets, establishing Sustainable Management Criteria, and then generating projects and actions.
 - There is a likelihood there will be a need for pumping reductions. The Plan will be submitted in the next 2 years and will include potential projects and actions. There is a need to run these activities in parallel. The GSA can set ground rules now for avoidance of certain conditions. It is a Draft rule to be refined over time.
- Issue 2 could be detrimental to landowners’ overlying basins rights to water. It is important to identify scenarios under which overlying landowner’s property rights could be affected.
- Agricultural water users are interested in projects that could bring surface water into the basin to address future challenges. The document should include a revision that the Tuscan Water District does not have current projects in mind but could help facilitate projects in the future.
- A suggested title for the document: Consequences of Artificial Recharge.
- Generalize scenarios and topics in the document that make them less specific but allow for legal analysis of consequences and vulnerabilities.
- Understanding groundwater gradients, both spatial and temporally is important to ensure that recharged water into one subbasin isn’t pumped out by others in adjacent GSAs or subbasins
- Questioning if there is an overall need for an out-of-basin groundwater transfer rule given the fact that protections are in place with Chapter 33 of the Butte County Code and other potential methods of garnering groundwater sustainability i.e. conservation rather than recharge.

Next Steps

The SHAC reviewed the Meeting Framework, highlighting the focus of their next meeting which will be to discuss and comment on current and historical groundwater conditions and water budget information. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, 2020 from 9:00 to noon at the City of Chico Old Municipal Building located at 441 Main Street in Chico CA.

Meeting Participants

Participant	Representation/Affiliation	Present
Vina Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SHAC) Members		
David Kehn	Cal Water	Y
James Brobeck	Environment representative	Y
Cheri Chastain	CSU Chico	Y
Gary Cole	Agriculture well user	Y
Anne Dawson	Domestic well user	Y
Samantha Lewis	Agriculture well user	Y
Christopher Madden	Butte College	Y



Participant	Representation/Affiliation	Present
Joshua Pierce	Domestic well user	Y
Bruce Smith	Business representative	Y
Greg Sohnrey	Agriculture well user	Y
Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Member Agency Staff		
Christina Buck	Butte County	Y
Paul Gosselin	Butte County	Y
Kelly Peterson	Butte County	Y
Linda Herman	City of Chico	Y
Jeff Carter	Durham Irrigation District	Y
Facilitator		
Tania Carlone	Consensus Building Institute	Y
Members of the Public Present		
Jon Lavy		Y
Ken Fleming		Y

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