



County-wide Groundwater Fee Proposal

Department of Water Resources
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County-wide Groundwater Fee Program

Overview of a County-wide groundwater fee program

- Develop a methodology to equitably apportion annual GSP implementation costs to beneficiaries based on a proportional methodology
 - Includes administrative costs, monitoring tasks, regulatory requirements
 - Does not include projects
- Costs are based on, and provided by, individual GSAs
 - GSAs in each basin select an administering entity to work with County
 - County and administering entity administration costs are added to GSA costs
- County would develop a zone(s) of Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA)
- Monies are collected via County tax roll
 - Distributed to subbasin administrative entity (not GSAs) once collected

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Assessment Development

County Role

- Lead the Proposition 218 process on behalf of GSAs
- Create zone(s) of SCWA
- Support GSA led outreach efforts as required
- Board of Supervisors outreach and education on the zone and assessment
- Coordinate with GSAs on the zone and assessment process
- Develop an agreement with administrative entity

GSA Role

- Lead the outreach to constituents in support of the assessment program
- Work with GSP development administrative agency to provide cost information in a timely manner
- Obtain support of assessment program from GSA Boards, GSA Member agency Boards/Councils
- Provide support to the County for the assessment program with the Board of Supervisors as needed
- Develop agreement with administrative entity

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Assessment Implementation

County Role

- Present annual cost information to Board of Supervisors
- Lead the public hearing process
 - Coordinate with subbasin administrative entity to support engineers report for annual assessment
- Administer the assessment process
- Distribute fees to subbasin administrative entity

GSA Role

- Coordinate with subbasin administrative entity to provide annual costs for engineers report to County
- Support the County as needed in Board of Supervisors presentation and public hearing
- Ensure SGMA compliance

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Cost allocation approach

- Based on a per parcel and per acre foot of groundwater use
- SCGA method could be model, but methodology needs to be basin-specific

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Next steps

1. Outreach to GSAs - County
2. Development of cost allocation methodology – HDR
3. Presentation of methodology to GSAs – County/HDR
4. Agreements from GSAs – County
5. Develop report format – HDR
6. GSA/Administrative entity cost information – County/HDR
7. Prepare draft report
8. Financial agreements with administrative entities for Board of Supervisor approval – County

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Next steps

9. Agency outreach – County/HDR
10. Community outreach – GSAs/County
11. Board of Supervisor outreach – County
12. Board of Supervisor Meeting #1 – County
13. Board of Supervisor Meeting #2 - County

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Timeline (Draft)

