

**LT Governance Discussion Topics
July 16, 2021**

Discuss and confirm timing for finalizing JPA (10-15 minutes)

- What are the factors that need to drive the timing?

Review and Revise Updated JPA (30 minutes)

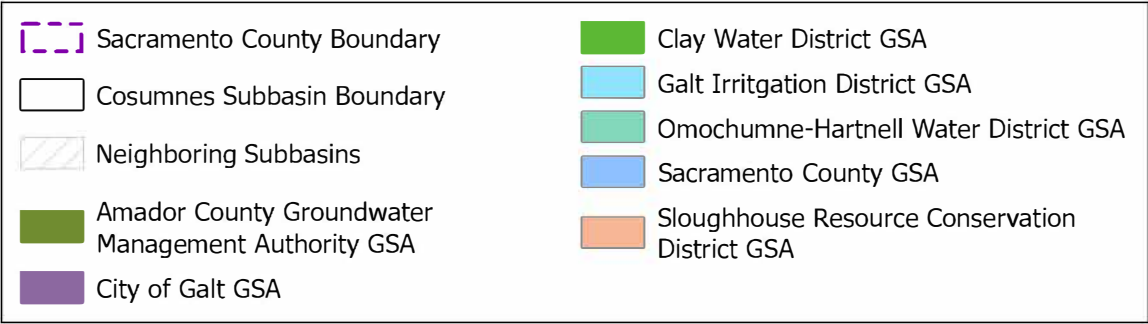
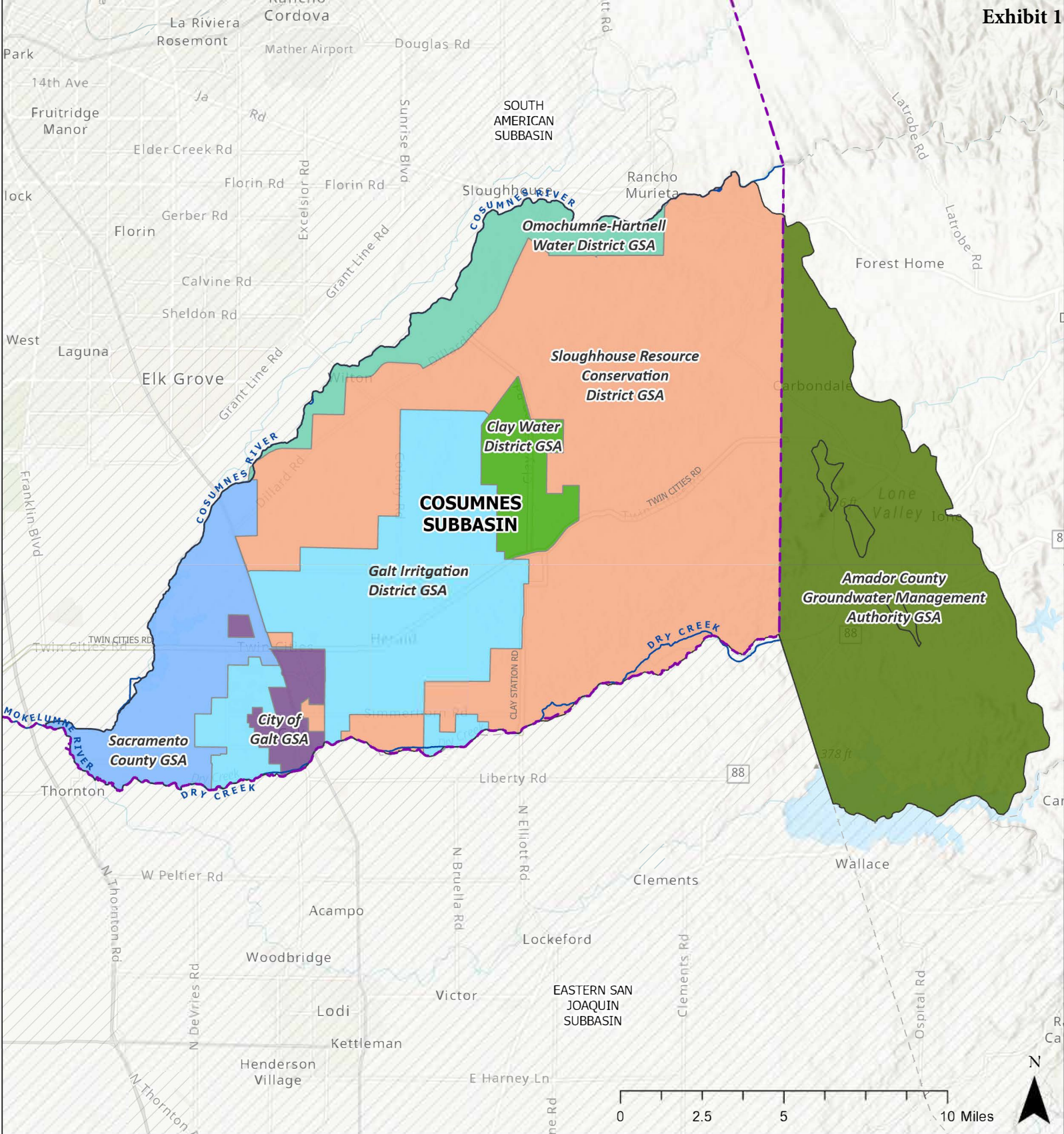
- Are there any significant issues left to resolve? If so, what's needed to bring these issues to closure?
 - Possible topics: outstanding funding questions; possible Citizens Advisory Committee; other?

Cross-GSA Consistency Issues (10 minutes)

- To what extent is it important for various procedures – fee exemption request; request to correct irrigated acreage estimates, etc. – to be consistent across GSAs?

Public Comment

Next Steps (5 minutes)



Note: The Cosumnes Subbasin extends beyond Sacramento County.



Agenda Item #1d

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Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District Groundwater Sustainability Fee Methodology for Verification of Irrigated Acres

Irrigated acres subject to the user fee was determined using a data product developed by the Dept. of Water Resources using aerial imagery collected in 2018. Currently, this is the best data available to identify irrigated acres/groundwater usage. However, this imagery may not accurately reflect current conditions. To address any errors in this data, a process has been established by SRCD to allow landowners to correct the record. Forms were sent to all landowners affected by the fee to provide them with an opportunity to make such corrections. However, requests for corrections must be supported by verifiable information, including, if necessary, a sworn statement by the landowner that the information supporting the requested correction is accurate. The following protocol will be used for such verification.

1. If the correction is related to an incorrect number of irrigated acres:

- a. SRCD will use aerial imagery collected during the summer months to verify that land identified by DWR as irrigated is not green, suggesting that no irrigation is occurring. The most recent publicly available aerial imagery can be obtained through Google Earth and the National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP). Both sources provide imagery collected during the summer of 2020.
- b. If aerial imagery is inconclusive for any reason, a sworn affidavit from the property owners will be requested. This affidavit should state the parcel number and contain a statement declaring that groundwater is not used for irrigation, outside of incidental irrigation of plants, trees, and/or a lawn of less than 1 acre. The affidavit must be properly signed and notarized.
- c. In addition to the above information, SRCD may investigate, obtain, and rely on other relevant information and at its discretion request a site visit.

2. If the correction is related to land that is irrigated with surface water, not groundwater:

- a. SRCD must verify that the landowner has water rights to surface water. Accordingly, the landowner must provide SRCD with documentation of reports submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board associated with riparian rights; pre-1914 water rights; permits or licenses if the landowner has appropriative rights; or a copy of the contract if the landowner obtains surface water from an irrigation district. In a drought/curtailment year, the landowner may need to certify that under drought conditions they can still utilize their surface water permit.



Agenda Item #1d

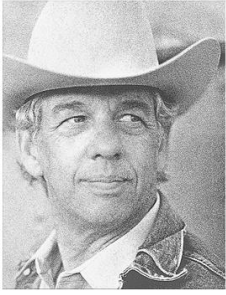
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- b. If none of the above can be provided, then the landowner must provide a properly signed and notarized affidavit stating that they use surface water for irrigation and do not pump groundwater outside of that used for domestic purposes.
- c. In addition to the above information, SRCD may investigate, obtain, and rely on other relevant information and at its discretion request a site visit.

DRAFT



Jay Schneider

July 16, 2021

To: Long Term Governance Committee

I suggest the agenda be modified and the committee step back and consider the shocking new information.

At a recent meeting, Kerry asked me to provide a solid proposal for a central government (presumably a JPA, but other alternatives exist)

When I finally got the facts, **they were jolting and beyond shocking, they are a wake up call for the basin**

Galt Irrigation District constituents make up 37.34% of the fee/taxes based on a Nexus study they had essentially no influence upon.

Sloughhouse RCD constituents make up 36.25% of the Tax

Together they make **up 73.79%** of the Basin being subject to the fees in the Nexus Study

If the proposed fee/tax were put to a vote:

The ratepayers in those GSA's would have 73.79% of the

Propositions 218 and 16 had "exceptions" to ratepayers actually voting themselves, and instead in certain circumstances, the fee could be imposed by **vote of their representatives.**

But, their representatives (GID and SRCD) had only 28% of the vote the same vote that OHWD and CWD had, they represent 11.39% of the ratepayers.

The fee/tax **is TAXATION. WITHOUT REPRESENTATION . AT. IT'S WORST.**

I sincerely hope, the shocking facts regarding relative size of the regulated and taxed constituency

- Lets step back and begin deliberating on a JPA or mou that. Has representation based on relative size of the constituency being regulated.

We should:

** immediately consider, extending the Working Group type system,

** obtain a bid from. EKI to continue for a year to prepare and submit the reports, and then deliberate on how to divide that cost and enter into a cost share agreement for the year

** Make a meaningful outreach to the landowners in the Cone of Depression, the have no idea of how much tax they are paying or the method of establishing it.

I reaching out to the fundamental good nature of most folks, including those on this committee, to see just how horrific the lack of representation is when it come to taxing and representation.

Sincerely Jay Schneider