

MEETING NOTES – Merced GSP

SUBJECT: Merced GSP Coordination Committee Meeting

DATE/TIME: May 22, 2024, 1:30 to 3:30 PM

LOCATION: Hybrid meeting with physical location at UC Cooperative Ext Merced Classroom, 2145 Wardrobe Ave, Merced, CA 95341 and online via Zoom

Coordination Committee Members in Attendance:

	Representative	GSA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hicham ElTal	Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scott McBride	Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Justin Vinson	Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Daniel Chavez	Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ken Elwin (alternate)	Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dave Nervino	Merced Subbasin GSA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eric Swenson (alternate)	Merced Subbasin GSA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike Gallo	Merced Subbasin GSA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nic Marchini	Merced Subbasin GSA
<input type="checkbox"/>	George Park (alternate)	Merced Subbasin GSA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kel Mitchel	Turner Island Water District GSA #1

Meeting Notes

1. Call to Order and Welcome

- a. Jim Blanke (W&C) called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm.

2. Roll Call

- a. Coordination Committee members in attendance are shown in the table above. A quorum was not present.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. Did not have quorum, so approval was tabled for a future meeting.
- b. No comments were made on the draft minutes from 3/20/24.

4. Public Comment

- a. None received.

5. Reports

- a. GSA Reports
 - i. Merced Subbasin GSA (MSGSA) – Ashlee Chan-Gonzalez provided several updates:
 1. Allocation framework values
 2. Groundwater accounting platform update
 3. Update of Stevinson/Merquin Water District New GSA request
 4. Land Repurposing Program Update

5. Multi-benefit Land Repurposing Program Update
- ii. Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA (MIUGSA) - Matt Beaman provided these updates:
 1. Discussed MIUGSA rules and regulations, CIMIS station, and grant administration.
 2. Q (Dave N.): (Question on how to use data network)
 - a. MIUGSA's intention for roll out is to limit functionality and start "softer" to increase functionality as project goes on.
 3. Q (Nic M.) What grant funds have come back to GSAs?
 - a. None were left for other GSAs.
 - b. Discussed grants and allocations for reimbursement.
 4. Q: What minimum thresholds will be used for areas where no pre-2015 data exists?
 - a. Jim Blanke (Woodard & Curran) discussed different evaluation methods to achieve this task; this is currently under development.
- iii. Turner Island Water District GSA-#1 (TIWD GSA-#1): Kel Mitchel was not available to present.
 1. Justin D. is filling in for Kel (recently joined Board). TWID is currently implementing more on-farm water reuse and updating measurement methods.
- b. CIMIS Station Report
 - i. Matt Beaman (MIUGSA) provided update on CIMIS station siting and needs. He shared about why the CIMIS station is important over publicly available weather databases.
 - ii. Q (Nic M.): How encumbering is this device on the landowner's property?
 1. It depends on the site. Someone would have to maintain the conditions around the station to achieve the most accurate results.
- c. Current Groundwater Conditions
 - i. Matt Beaman (MIUGSA) provided an update on groundwater conditions.
 1. Discussed the new wells installed, El Nido trends, and the Cardwell Ranches well – Deep and the anomalies from pressure transducer measurements.
 2. Discussed water levels and groundwater conditions throughout the Subbasin.
 3. Discussed obstruction in well 16, and peculiar trends in well 13
 4. Misc info: 8 wells in rice fields

Comments (Dave N.): Discussed sampling timing and potential updating in sampling program. Potentially measuring quarterly, but TBD.

6. MercedWRM Modeling Scenarios Overview

- a. Jim Blanke (Woodard & Curran) provided a presentation on MercedWRM framework and processes.

7. Draft Historical and Baseline Conditions Model Outputs

- a. Andres Diaz (Woodard & Curran) provided a presentation on MercedWRM components.
- b. Q (Nic M.): Why is the reduction in the model 46 inches but in reality it is 43 inches?
 - i. This is the ITRC reduction factor that is incorporated.
- c. Q (Nic M.): What is the actual precipitation?
 - i. Certain percentage goes to runoff, other to ET, and the rest is infiltration.
- d. Q (Nic M.): What is the USDA soil map for the modeling?
 - i. The model uses four different types of soils identified in the map that have distinct characteristics.

- e. Q (Nic M.): Was the AEM survey a success? Does it show recharge viability?
 - i. Yes, the resistivity logs show a present coarseness where we can then differentiate lithology and ultimately recharge capabilities.
- f. General comment (Hicham ElTal): DWR asked MIUGSA for locations preferred for surveying.
- g. Discussion on groundwater conditions, interactions between basins (i.e., Chowchilla and Merced interaction), and cones of depressions due to extractions occurring in adjacent basins.

8. Next steps

- a. Jim Blanke (Woodard & Curran) discussed the upcoming public workshop (evening of 5/22) and next meeting topics.
- b. Q (Hicham ElTal, MIUGSA) : do we have a table of contents for the periodic evaluation?
 - i. Jim: Yes, we can provide this to the CC to discuss the contents and structure of the evaluation.

9. Adjourn

- a. Meeting adjourned at 3:11 pm.

Next Regular Meeting Proposed for July 17, 2024 at 10am

Meeting to be conducted as an in-person meeting with remote option (subject to change)
Information also available online at mercedsgma.org