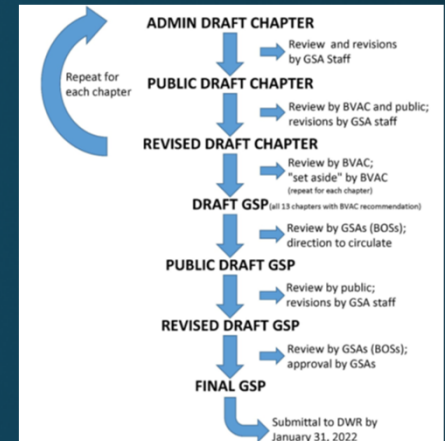



Groundwater Sustainability Plan for Big Valley Groundwater Basin Lassen and Modoc Counties

Advisory Committee Meeting 14

October 6, 2021





Big Valley Groundwater Basin
Groundwater Sustainability Plan

REVISED DRAFT

September 30, 2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION OF THE BIG VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MAKING RECOMMENDATION TO THE LASSEN AND MODOC COUNTY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCIES REGARDING A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN.

WHEREAS, in September 2014, the Governor signed into law a legislative package (three bills), collectively known as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), which requires local agencies with land use and/or water management or water supply authority to do certain things to reach sustainability of medium and high priority groundwater basins as designated by the State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR). SGMA became effective on January 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Big Valley Groundwater Basin (BVGB) has been designated a medium priority basin by the DWR; and

WHEREAS, the Lassen and Modoc County Board of Supervisors adopted resolutions (17-013 and 2017-09 respectively) declaring themselves to be the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the portion of the BVGB within their respective jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, GSAs are required to develop Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSP) for all medium and high priority basins, and said GSP for the BVGB is to be submitted to the DWR by January 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Big Valley Groundwater Basin Advisory Committee (BVAC) was formed through a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to advise both the Lassen and Modoc County GSAs on the preparation of a GSP for the basin; and

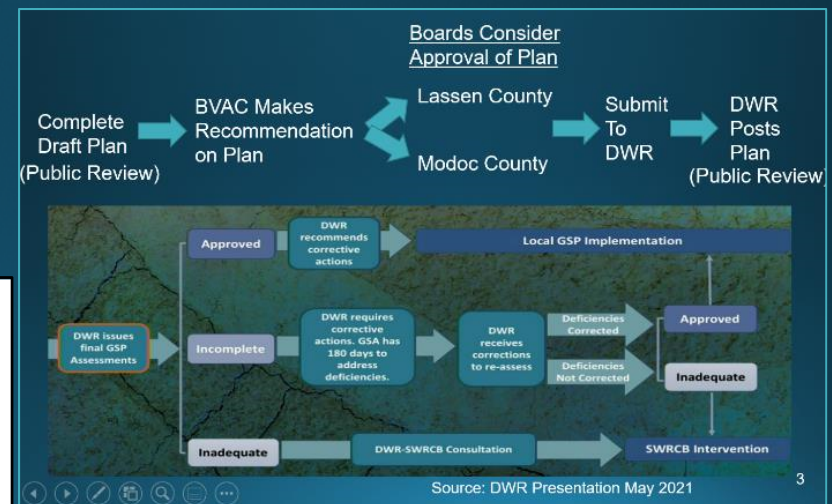
WHEREAS, the BVAC has held approximately fifteen public meetings to review and propose draft text for a GSP and to receive and consider public comment from local stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, a revised draft GSP has been assembled with BVAC guidance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The BVAC hereby recommends that the GSAs receive the Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan, including incorporation of all edits and corrections identified at the October 6, 2021, meeting of the BVAC.
2. The BVAC hereby recommends that the GSAs (or GSA staff) initiate a 45-day public comment period for the Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

Prepared for:
Lassen County Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Modoc County Groundwater Sustainability Agency



AGENDA

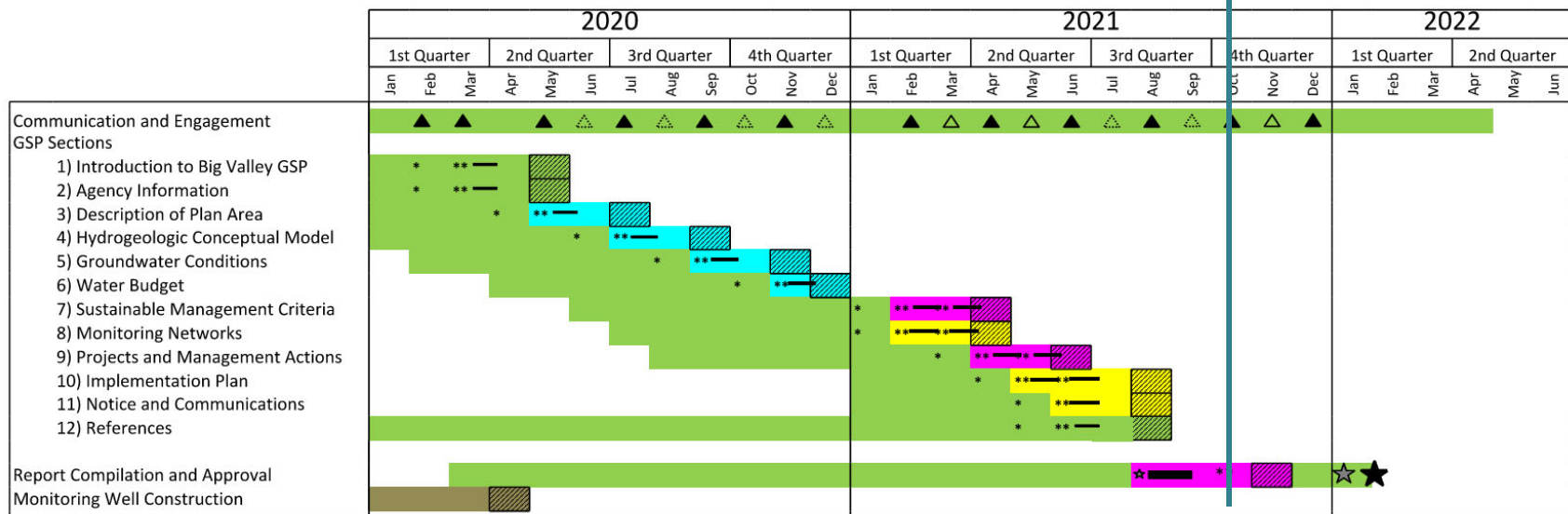
- Subject #1: Introduction of Revised Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan – *all chapters*
 - Actions Requested
 - Receive reports from the pertinent ad hoc committees, BVAC Secretary, Staff and/or Consultant
 - Receive public comment
 - Adopt a resolution recommending that the Big Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) each conduct a public hearing to consider adoption of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Big Valley Groundwater Basin.

SUBJECT #1: DRAFT GSP

TODAY

DRAFT BIG VALLEY GSP SCHEDULE

Tentative Schedule

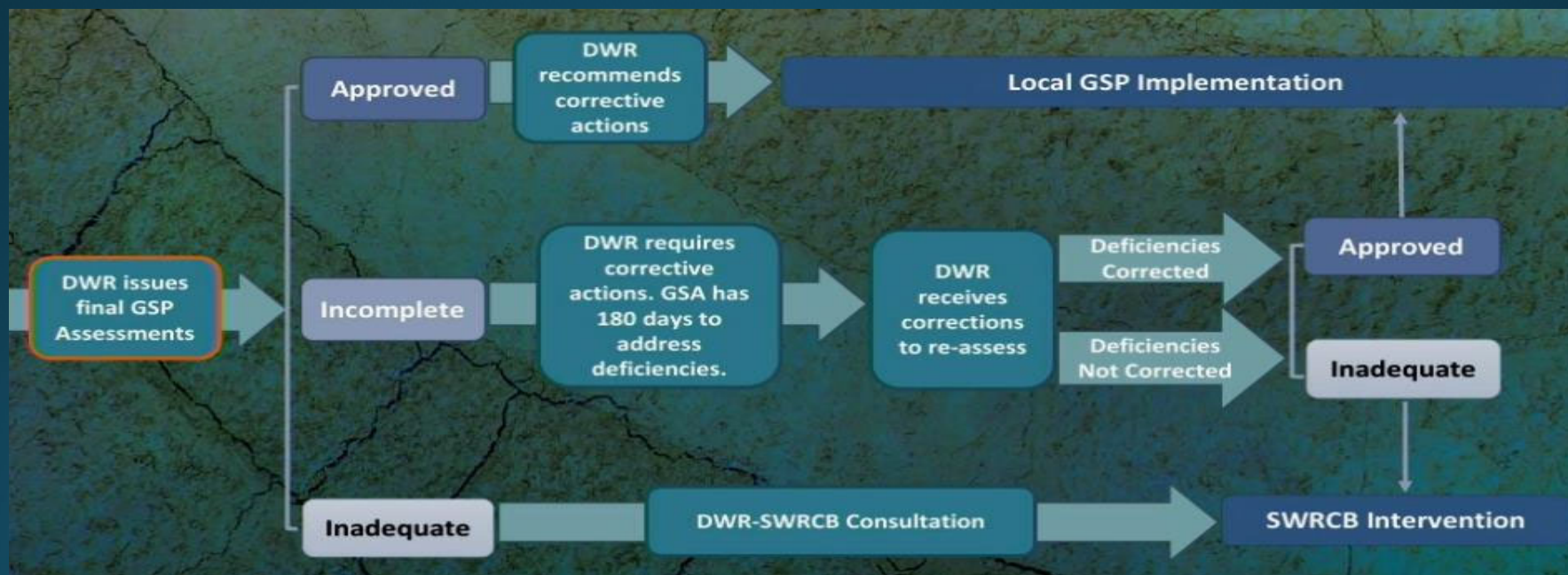
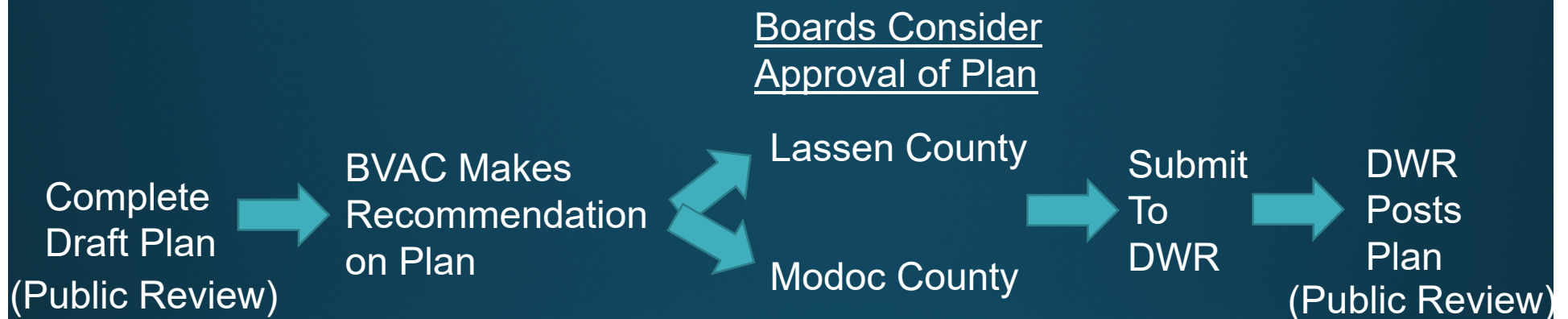


Schedule Key



Updated 9/7/2021

HOW DOES A GSP GET APPROVED?



Source: DWR Presentation May 2021

SUBJECT #2: DRAFT GSP

1 Introduction

2 Agency Information

3 Description of Plan Area

4 Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model

5 Groundwater Conditions

6 Water Budget

7 Sustainable Management Criteria

8 Monitoring Networks

9 Projects and Management Actions

10 Implementation Plan

11 Notice and Communications

12 Reference List

“Background”

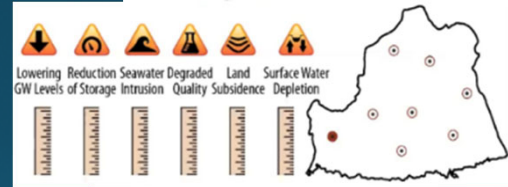
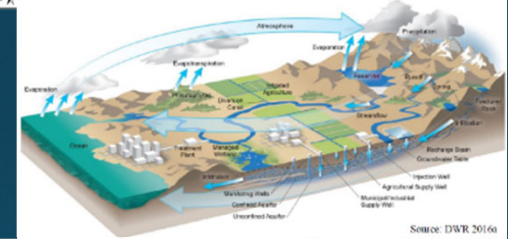
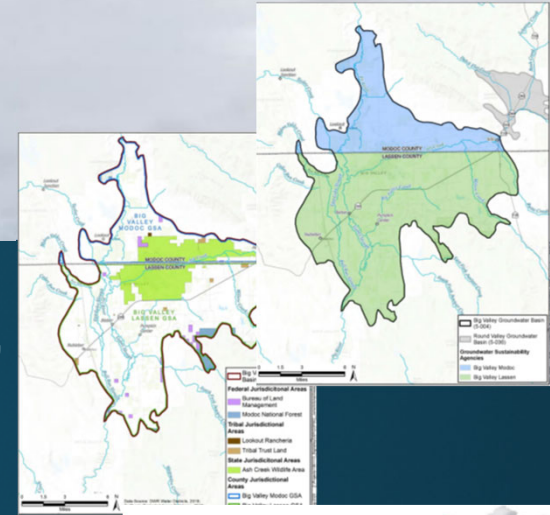
“Science”

“Planning”

– “Implementation”

Source: UCAI

“This plan is based on the best available information and science”



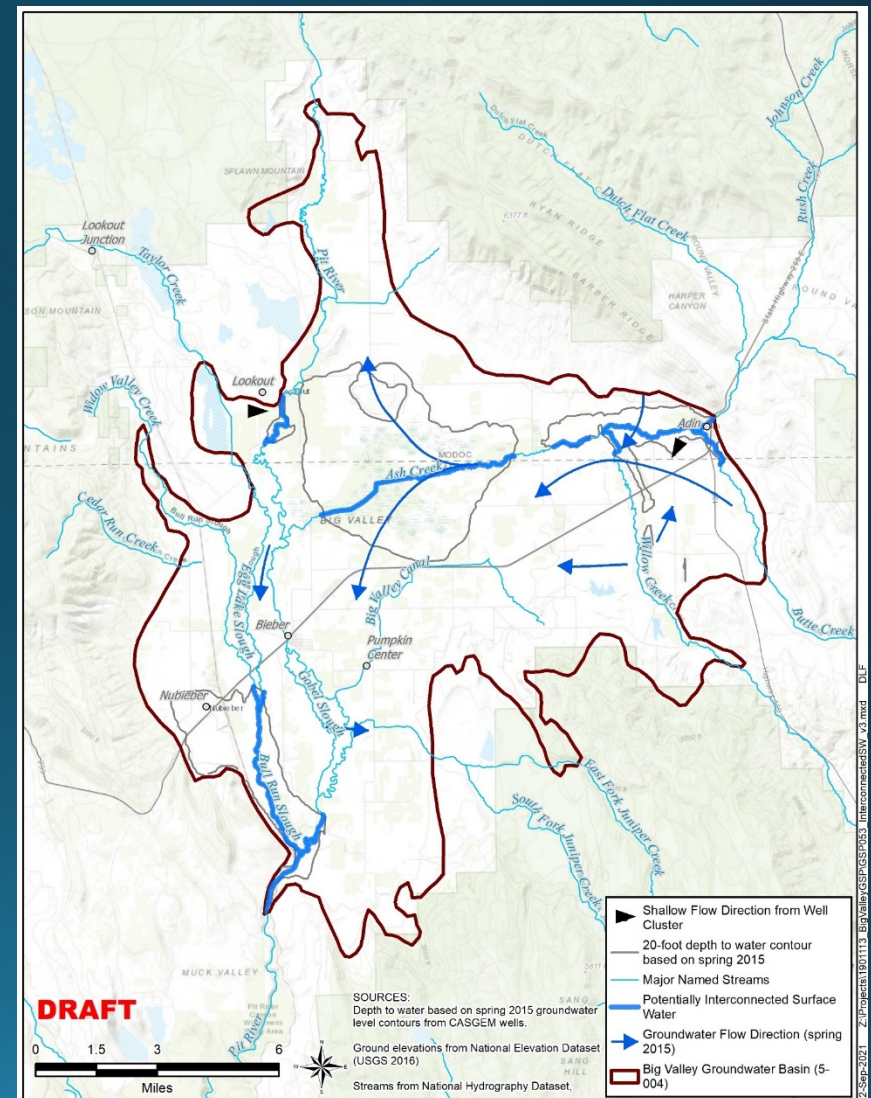
SUBJECT #1: DRAFT GSP

- Summary of changes from last month's version.
 - Chapters 1-2
 - Quote from former landowner of Ash Creek Wildlife Area
 - Added text describing participation in EQUIP program
 - Additional text emphasizing the inadequacy of Basin Boundary

“The government bought the ranch as a refuge for birds and wildlife. When I was running cattle on that ranch it was alive with waterfowl. They fed around and amongst the cattle. It was a natural refuge. The cattle kept the feed down so the birds didn't have to worry about predators, and they could feed on the new growth grass. After the government got their hands on it all the fences were removed, at taxpayer expense. In the years since, the meadows have turned into a jungle -- old dead feed and tules. The birds are gone, moved to other ranches where they get protection from skunks and coyotes and other predators that work on waterfowl and wildlife. Under the management of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife the value of the land has been completely destroyed. All those acres of wonderful grass and the irrigation system that for generations have produced food for the people of this country *now produce nothing.*”

SUBJECT #1: DRAFT GSP

- Summary of changes from last month's version.
- Chapters 3-6
 - Description of illegal, unlicensed marijuana growers
 - Description of CRP and WRP programs and participation
 - Interconnected Surface Water Section (ISW) shortened to identify potentially ISW as area where groundwater is less than 20 ft.
 - Water budget numbers in text changed to match revised figures



SUBJECT #1: DRAFT GSP

- Summary of changes from last month's version.
 - Chapters 7-12
 - Text about illegal, unlicensed marijuana grows
 - Additional text regarding efforts to extend the GSP deadline
 - More description about outreach via social media
 - References updated and now includes GSA staff and BVAC members

SUBJECT #1: DRAFT GSP

Introduction of document changes since packet was developed

- Executive Summary
- Added descriptions of CRP and WRP
- Added text regarding the legal authority of GSAs to implement projects and management actions and modifications to Table 9-3
- Changes to Figure 3-2 and 3-3
- Cover and Title Page
- Comments received on website

SUBJECT #1: DRAFT GSP

What is next?

- Receive Public Comment at this meeting.
- Make recommendation to the GSAs (Boards of Supervisors)

SUBJECT #1: DRAFT GSP

Proposed Text of Resolution

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The BVAC hereby recommends that the GSAs receive the Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan, including incorporation of all edits and corrections identified at the October 6, 2021, meeting of the BVAC.
2. The BVAC hereby recommends that the GSAs (or GSA staff) initiate a 30-day public comment period for the Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan.
3. The BVAC hereby recommends that each GSA conduct at least one public hearing to consider adoption of said Groundwater Sustainability Plan, as is required by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.
4. The BVAC hereby recommends that the GSAs provide direction to staff, consultants or others to make any edits or corrections the GSAs may identify and adopt and submit the final Groundwater Sustainability Plan to the Department of Water Resources by January 31, 2022.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA



- GSA Staff and Consultants will be available after the meeting to talk, answer questions, and hear your concerns.