

Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Advisory Committee Meeting
Agenda

Wednesday, September 14, 2016 – 3pm
Tulare City Hall, 2nd Floor Training Room
411 E. Kern Ave, Tulare, CA

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comments
3. Attendee Self-Introductions
4. Approval of Minutes – May 9, 2016*
5. Appointment of Committee Chairperson/Vice Chairperson*
6. GSA Formations within Kaweah Sub-Basin - Status
7. Tulare County Facilitation Process
8. Review and Background – SGMA
9. Presentation by Consultant (GEI)*
 - a. *Presentation slated to be presented at the GSA Board meeting on Sept. 13 is attached.*
10. Interested Parties Listing*
 - a. *Please review the attached list and suggest additional groups or individuals that could be added to this list to provide information.*
11. Review of Board Actions and Committee Next Steps
12. Next Meeting

*Indicates attached

**MID-KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

SUMMARY MINUTES

Monday, May 9, 2016 – 4:00 p.m.
Tulare Irrigation District
6826 Avenue 240 – Tulare, CA 93274

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Boyes, Eric Charles, Richard Garcia, Ed Henry, Soapac Mulholland, James Nichols, Jessi Snyder, Blake Wilbur

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brett Taylor

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: David Bixler, Chair

STAFF PRESENT: Leslie Caviglia, Aaron Fukuda, Paul Hendrix, Ken Richardson, Don Dorman, Kathi Artis, Roxanne Yoder, Ken Richardson (legal counsel), Larry Rodriguez (GEI Consultants)

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: W.P. Anderson, Tom Clark, Malcolm Jones, Bob Ludekens, Michael Tharp, Bill Wallace

1. **CALL TO REGULAR ORDER:**
Chair Bixler opened the meeting at 4:00 p.m.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
Chair Bixler called for public comment. No public comment was presented.
3. **INTRODUCTIONS:**
Introductions were made of the GSA staff, followed by self-introductions of the Committee members and general public.
4. **OVERVIEW OF SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT:**
P. Hendrix presented an overview of the development and importance of groundwater to the Tulare region and San Joaquin Valley in general. He then discussed the circumstances giving rise to the passage of SGMA and its key requirements. Mr. Hendrix next discussed the reasons for the two cities and irrigation district to collectively form a GSA. He concluded with identifying the various types of stakeholders, means through which they will be involved in the process, and objectives of the Mid-Kaweah GSA in achieving stakeholder acceptance of the process. E. Henry asked about the specific timeline for compliance with SGMA, and information in that regard was furnished. J. Snyder sought clarification on the total groundwater pumping of the cities and TID.
5. **OVERVIEW OF JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT:**
K. Richardson reviewed the cardinal sections of the JPA, highlighting the composition of the board, voting, committees and attendance requirements, budgetary decisions, and new member and withdrawal provisions. He and D. Bixler emphasized that cost sharing is to be one-third from each member, unless otherwise determined by the GSA Board.

6. OVERVIEW OF BROWN ACT:

R. Yoder next summarized the salient elements of the Ralph M. Brown Act and handed out guidelines on compliance therewith by elected officials and appointees. She discussed what constitutes a meeting, quorums, posting of agendas, and the meaning of "action taken."

7. REVIEW OF BOARD ACTIONS AND NEXT STEPS:

L. Caviglia gave a summary of the formation and officer composition of the GSA Board. She summarized the appointments and actions taken by the Board during the course of its prior meetings in 2015 and thus far in 2016. Ms. Caviglia then reviewed the next steps to be taken by the Committee, including review of information gathered by GEI, offering suggested means of outreach by the GSA, and election of a chair and vice chair of the Committee. M. Jones commented that the Valley Voice would provide a good way to communicate. She lastly introduced Larry Rodriguez with GEI Consultants, and Mr. Rodriguez proceeded to describe his firm's experience in groundwater management, water supply analyses, and program facilitation in the San Joaquin Valley and elsewhere.

Mr. Dorman thereupon offered comments on the stakeholder process, saying that perceptions will play a major role in defining the problem and that the passage of SGMA mandates that we deal with the groundwater overdraft situation in the Mid-Kaweah area. He added that the GSA seeks input and questions from the stakeholders and general public, and that it needs to be recognized that people's perceptions and issues will be as relevant as the technical issues to be addressed.

Other questions were asked regarding other GSAs and the number that have already formed. J. Nichols observed that we are playing catch up in California, and asked what is known about the groundwater management schemes in Arizona and New Mexico. R. Garcia asked to what degree the Kaweah Delta WCD will be involved, and commented that grant funds would be well-suited for additional data collection. It was explained that the Kaweah Delta WCD will be intimately involved, as they had prepared the water resources analysis for most of the Kaweah sub-basin. D. Bixler concluded the discussion period with a solicitation of any more questions or thoughts at this time from the committee.

8. NEXT MEETING:

Discussion was held regarding the time required for review of available groundwater information and data by the engineering consultant, and that an appropriate committee topic for the next meeting would be a summary and overview of such information. It was then concluded that the next meeting of the committee would be scheduled upon completion of that review.

Chair Bixler adjourned the meeting at about 5:30 p.m. (?)

Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Board Chair

Attest:

Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Board Secretary

Sept. 14, 2016

TO: Mid-Kaweah Advisory Committee
FROM: Leslie B. Caviglia, Visalia Assistant City Manager
SUBJECT: Election of Chair and Vice Chair

The Mid-Kaweah Advisory Committee will be asked to elect a Chair and a Vice Chair from your membership. As you may remember, your first meeting was chaired by David Bixler, the Chair of the Mid-Kaweah GSA, so that the Committee could become acquainted.

After the opening of your meeting on Wednesday, there will be a call for nominations for the Chair position, followed by the Vice Chair. The Chair will then run the remainder of the meeting.

The members of your committee, in alphabetical order, including their category designation and their community are provided below. As appointed members of the committee, the following could be selected as Chair or Vice Chair:

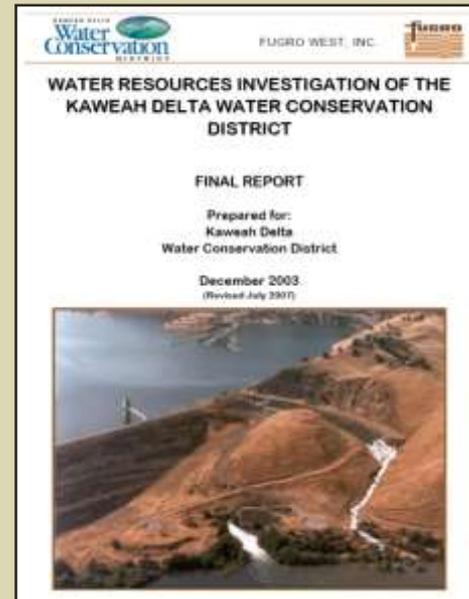
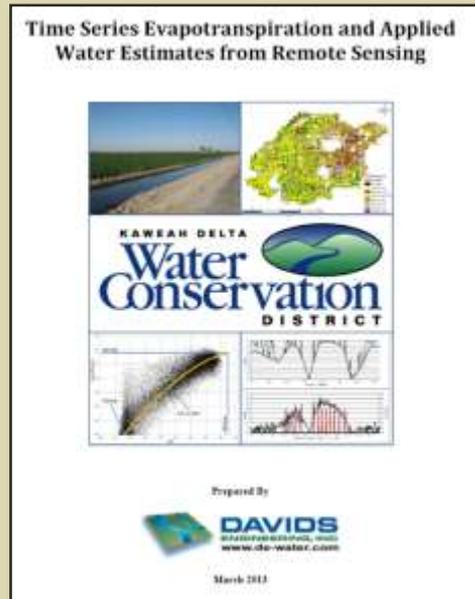
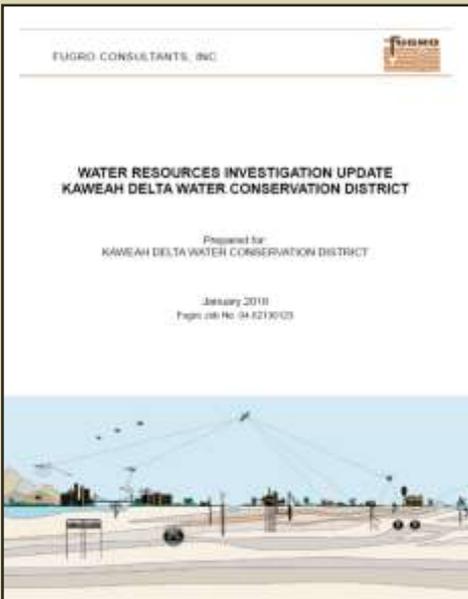
Mark Boyles (at-large, Tulare)
Eric Charles (at-large; Visalia)
Richard Garcia (environmental, Visalia)
Edward Henry (government, Tulare)
Soapy Mulholland (environmental; Visalia)
Jimmy Nichols (ag, Tulare)
Brett Taylor (at-large, Visalia)
Jessi Snyder (disadvantaged communities, Visalia)
Blake Wilbur (ag, Tulare)

Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Board of Directors

September 13, 2016

SGMA and the Kaweah Delta Water Resources Investigation



Presentation Overview

- Introductions
- GEI Team and SGMA
- Mid-Kaweah SGMA Timeline
- WRI Review
- WRI Review Conclusions
- WRI SGMA Applications
- Next Steps

Introductions

MKGSA Board

Craig Vejvoda

Carlton Jones

David Bixler

Dave Martin

Steve Nelson

Greg Collins

MKGSA TAC

Mark Boyes

Eric Charles

Richard Garcia

Edward Henry

Sopac Mulholland

Jim Nichols

Jessi Snyder

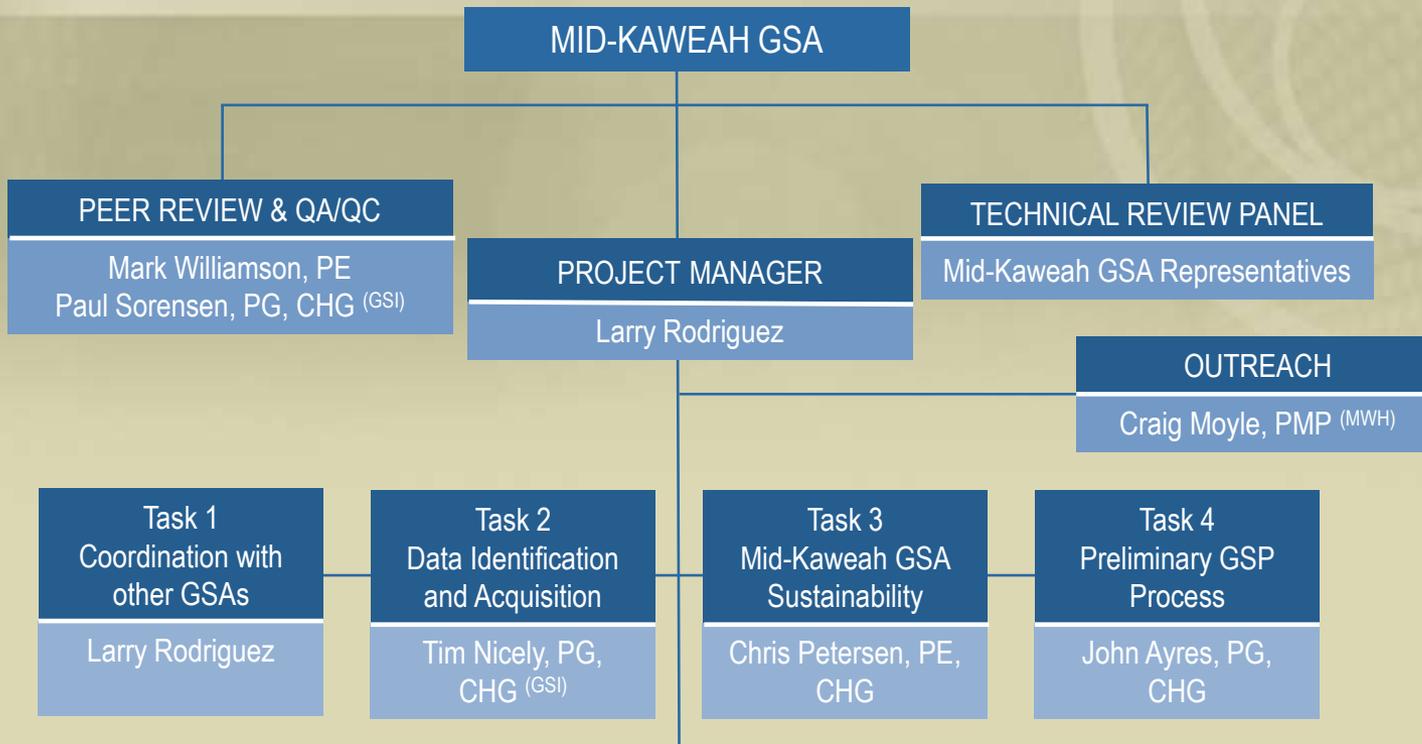
Brett Taylor

Blake Wilbur

Project Consulting Team



Project Consulting Team



Subconsultants:
 MWH MWH Global
 GSI GSI Water Solutions, Inc.



Key Personnel



Larry Rodriguez
Project Manager
*Task 1 – Coordination
with other GSAs*



**Tim Nicely, PG,
CHG (GSI)**
*Task 2 – Data Identification
and Acquisition*



John Ayres, PG, CHG
*Task 4 – Preliminary GSP
Process*



**Chris Petersen, PG,
CHG**
*Task 3 – Mid-Kaweah
GSA Sustainability*



Craig Moyle, PMP (MWH)
Outreach

Planning Team Support



Paul Sorensen,
PG, CHG (GSI)
Peer Review &
QA/QC



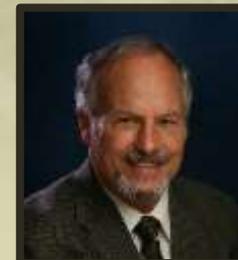
David Fairman,
PG, CHG
Hydrogeology



Joshua Biggs (MWH)
Public Affairs



Sarah
Troedson, GISP
GIS



Jeff Barry, RG,
LHG, CWRE (GSI)
Water Budgeting



Mark
Williamson, PE
Peer Review &
QA/QC



Jon Goetz, PE
Database
Management

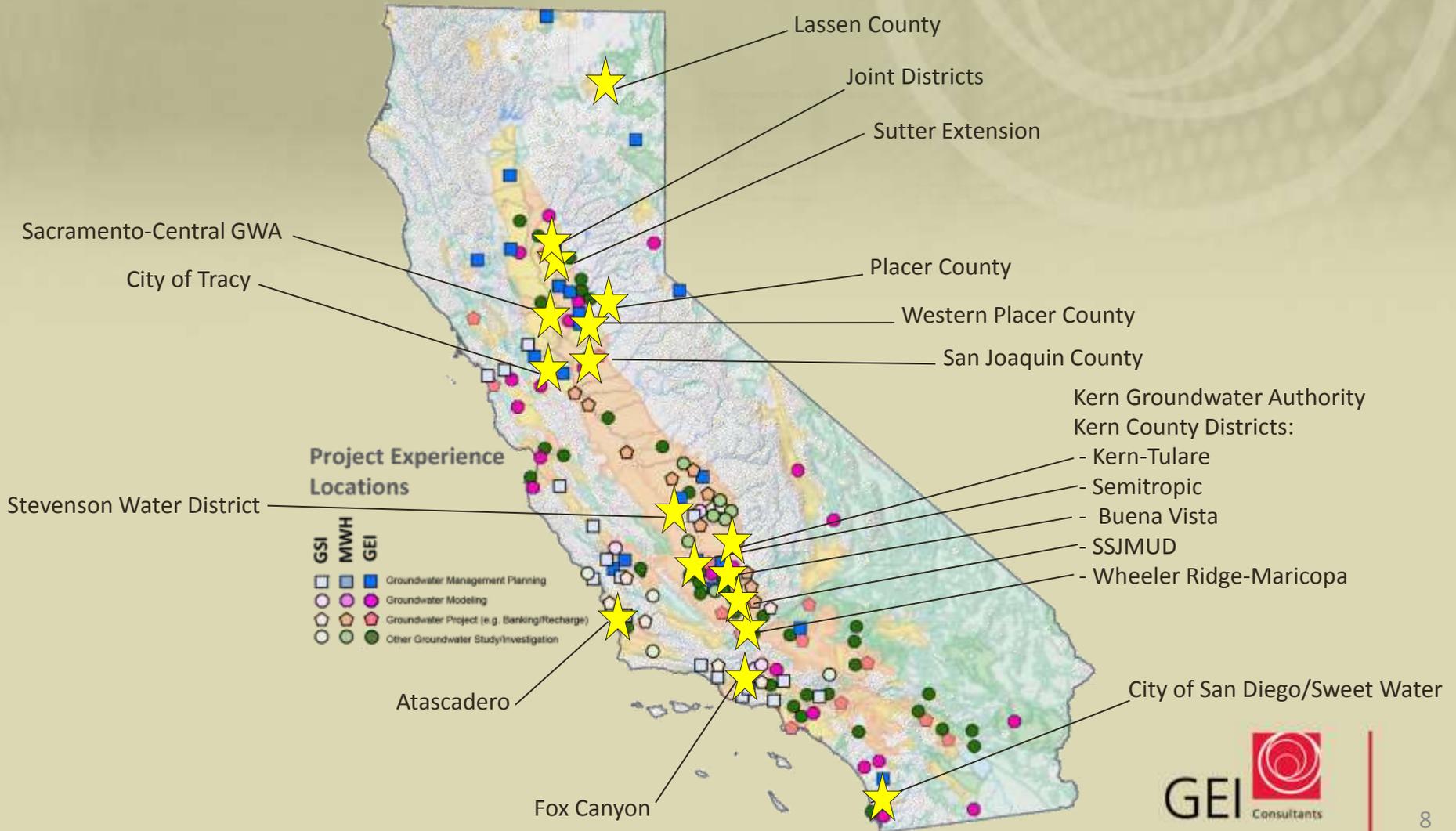


John Roldan (MWH)
Surface Water

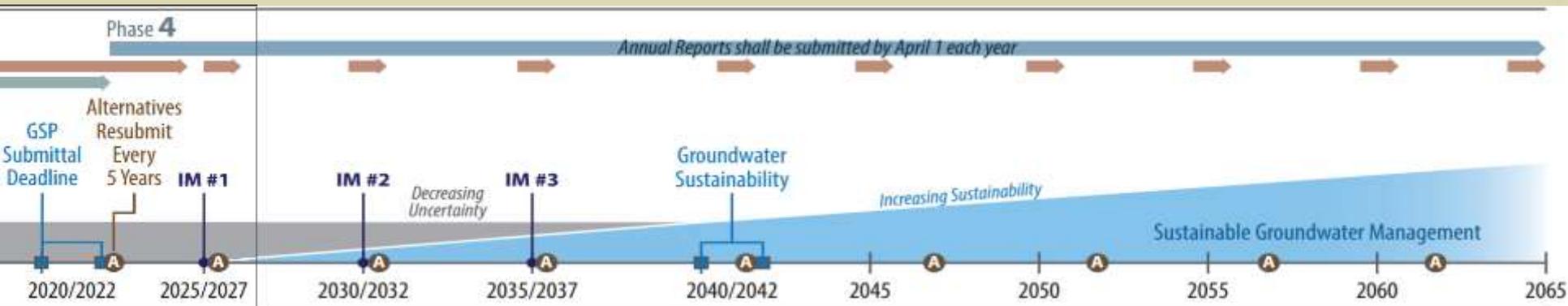
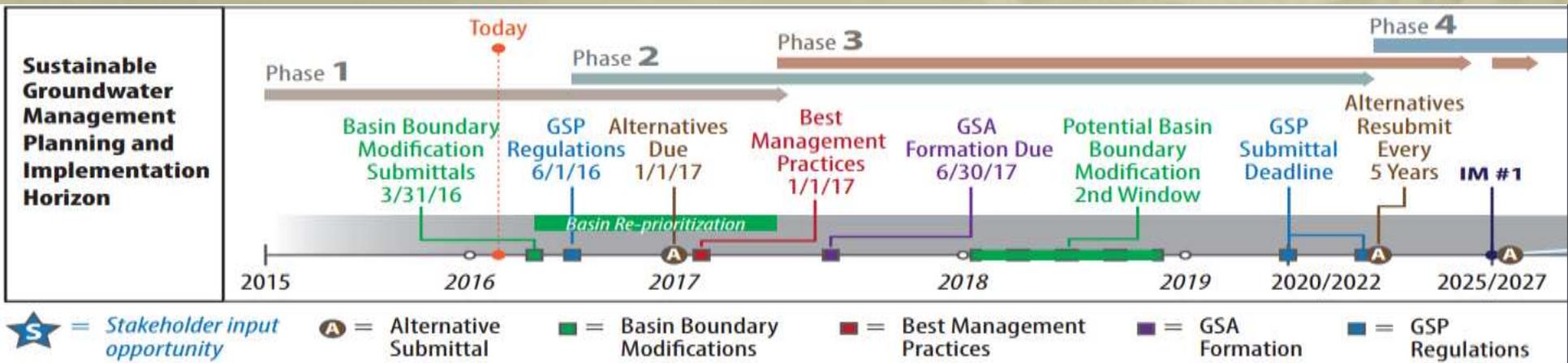


Ron Eid, PE
Water
Resources

GEI Team Experience

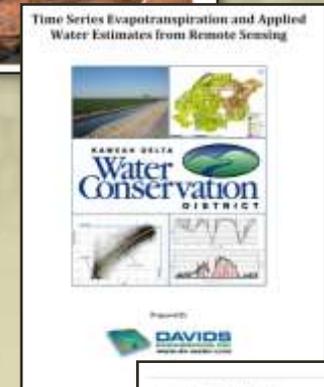
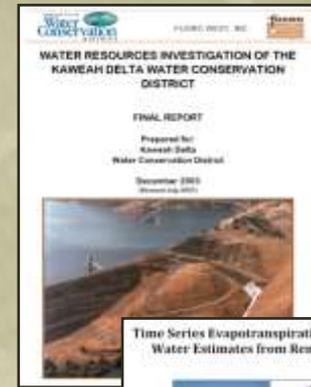


SGMA Timeline Through GSP Development



WRI Review

- Three Reports
 - 2007 WRI (Fugro)
 - Original Inventory
 - Needed improvement on ET estimates
 - Evapotranspiration 2013 (Davids)
 - Improved ET estimates
 - 2016 WRI (Fugro)
 - Recalculated and extended study period

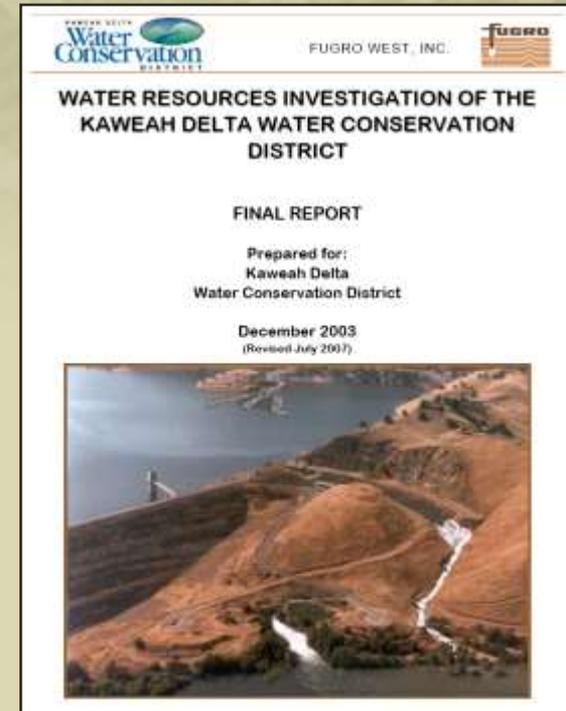


Key Points

- WRI analysis is technically appropriate and generally robust
- WRI content is suitable for use in developing a GSP
- Additional work will be needed for GSP
 - Expanding WRI study area to Kaweah boundary
 - Need to refine analysis to Mid-Kaweah boundary
 - Meeting details of GSP regulations
 - Modifying water budget for water accounting framework (identifying ‘naturally occurring sustainable yield’)

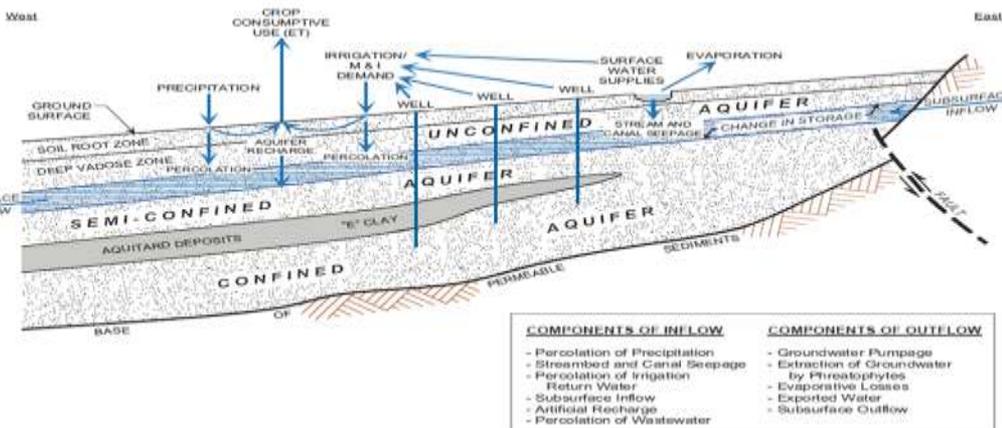
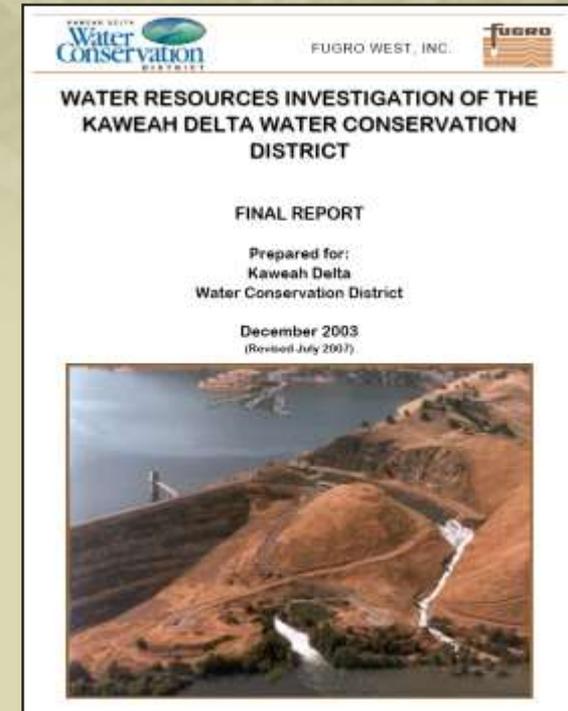
WRI Review

- 2007 WRI (Fugro)
 - Descriptive Geology
 - Geohydrology
 - Surface Water
 - Water Quality
 - Water Balance and Safe Yield



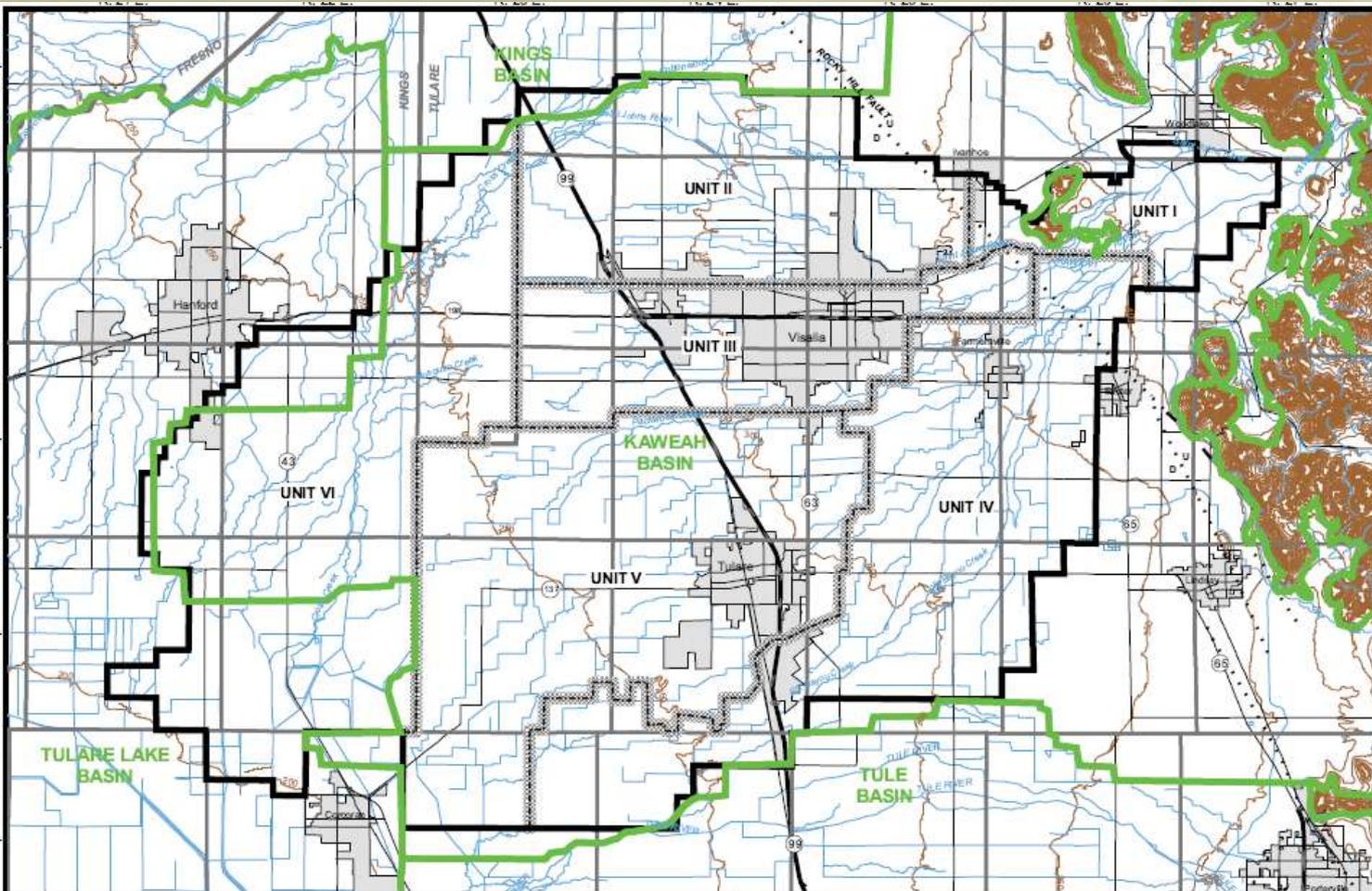
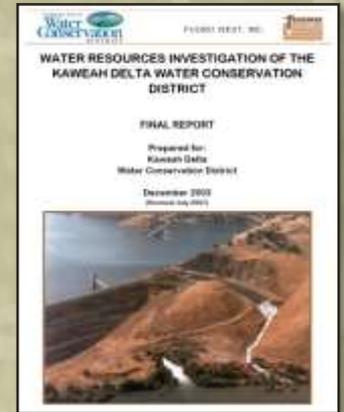
WRI Review

- 2007 WRI (Fugro)
 - Hydrologic Units
 - Strong Starting Point
 - Areas to improve:
 - ET Calculations
 - Water Quality (limited data)



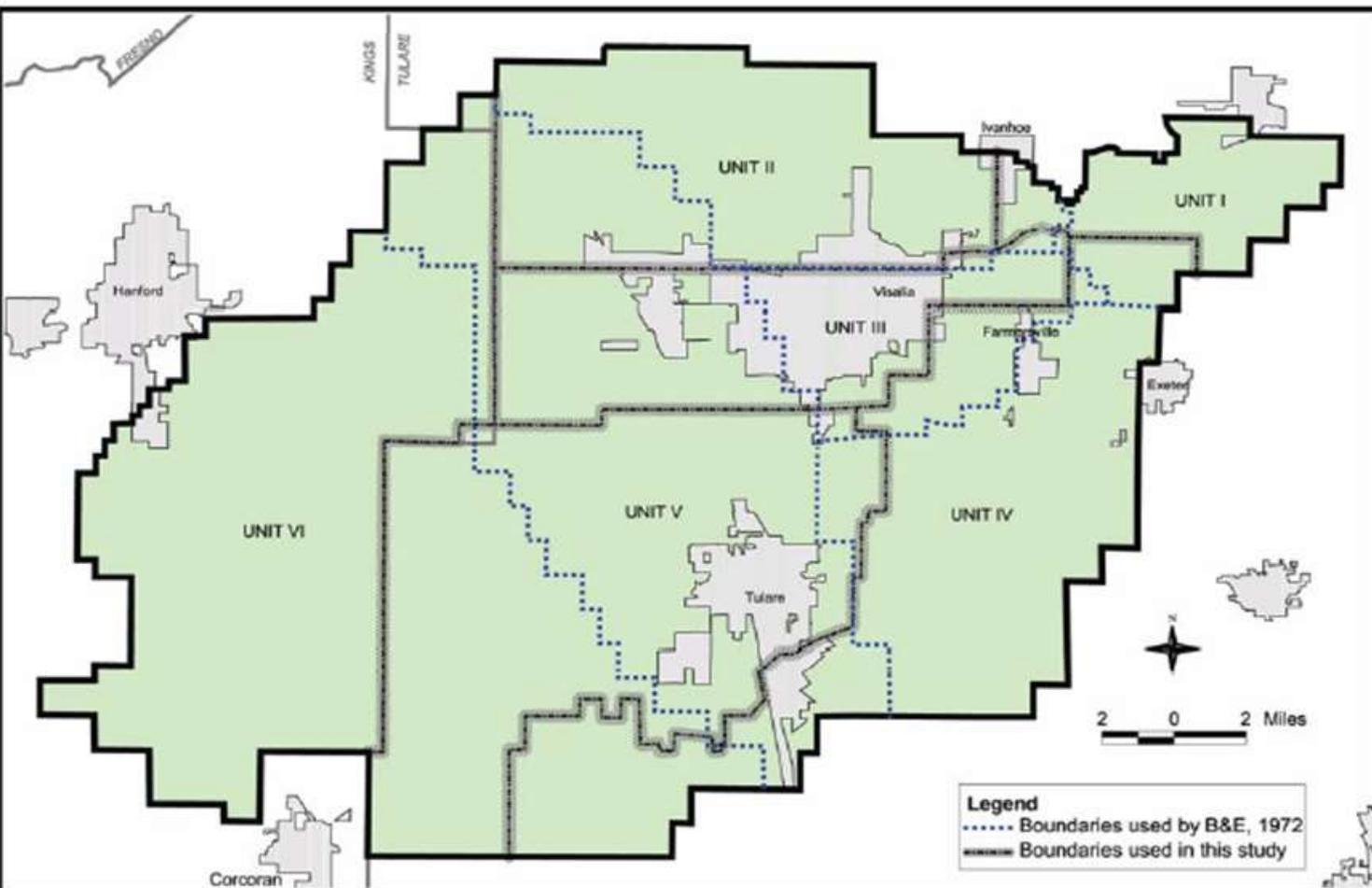
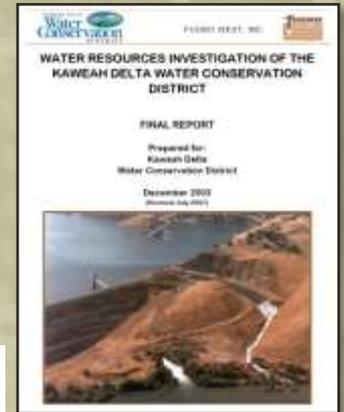
WRI Review

- Study Area and Kaweah Subbasin



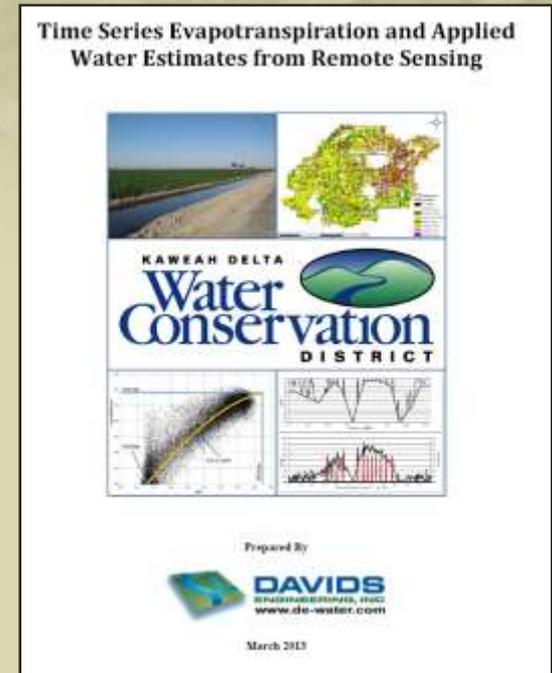
WRI Review

- Hydrologic Units



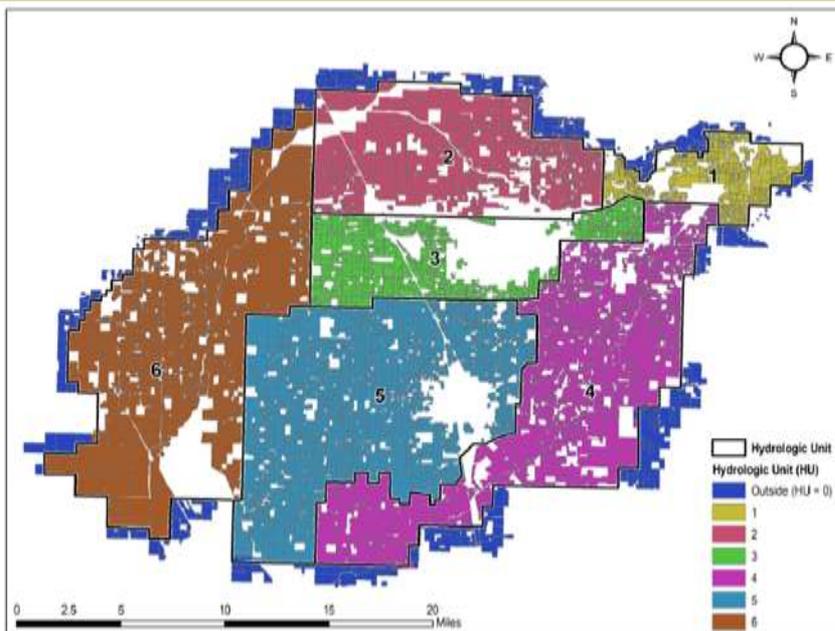
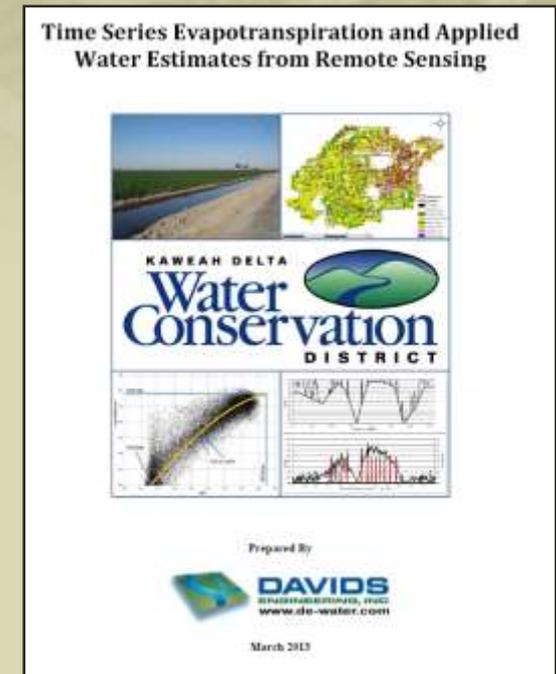
WRI Review

- Evapotranspiration 2013 (Davids)
 - Development of Field Boundaries
 - Normalized Difference Vegetation Index Analysis
 - Root Zone Water Balance Model
 - Comparison to WRI Estimates



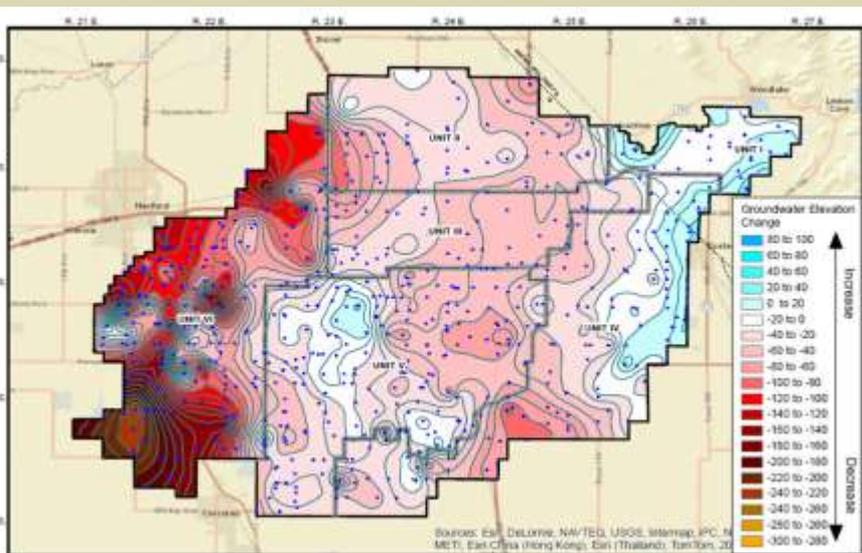
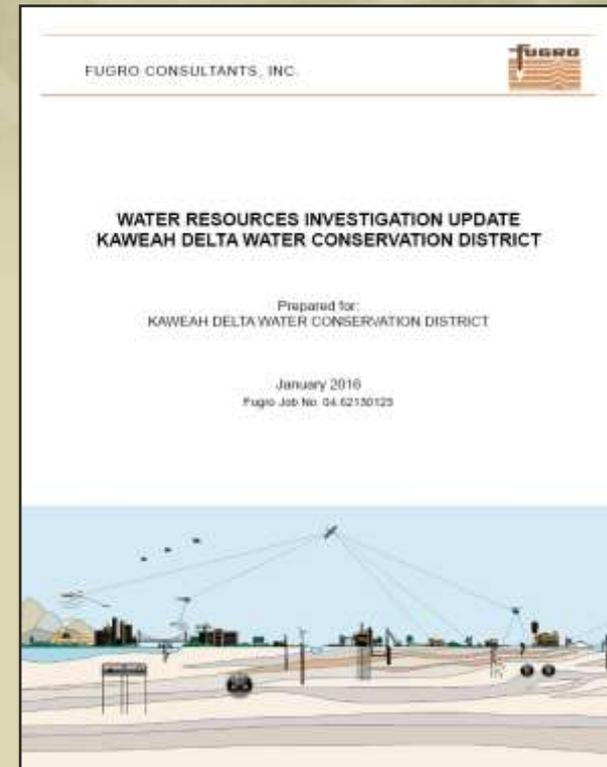
WRI Review

- Evapotranspiration 2013 (Davids)
 - Used remote sensing
 - Dramatic improvement of ET calculation
 - High temporal and spatial detail



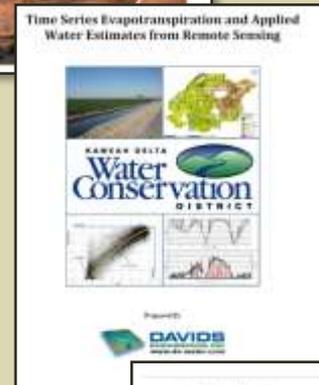
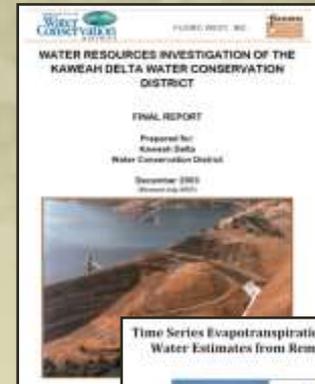
WRI Review

- 2016 WRI (Fugro)
 - Used ET from Davids study
 - Recalculated water budget covered in 2007 study
 - Strong starting point for SGMA



WRI Review Conclusions

- Conclusions
 - Appropriate analytical approach
 - Components useful for SGMA
 - Was developed before SGMA
 - Will need follow-on work to comply with GSP regulations
 - Hydrologic Units do not match GSAs
 - WRI does not cover entire Kaweah Subbasin



WRI SGMA Applications

- GSP Components
 - Basin setting
 - Conceptual model
 - Groundwater conditions
 - Historical water budget
 - Starting point for SGMA monitoring
 - Starting point for identification of Undesirable Results
- Strong basis for establishing coordination agreements

Key Points

- WRI analysis is technically appropriate and generally robust
- WRI content is suitable for use in developing a GSP
- Additional work will be needed for GSP
 - Expanding WRI study area to Kaweah boundary
 - Need to refine analysis to Mid-Kaweah boundary
 - Meeting details of GSP regulations
 - Modifying water budget for water accounting framework (identifying ‘naturally occurring sustainable yield’)

Next Steps

- Refine analysis to Mid-Kaweah boundary
- Work with County and Kaweah Delta to establish basin-wide coordination
 - Encourage buy-in to WRI approach basin-wide
 - Plan to expand WRI study area to Kaweah Subbasin
- Supplemental GSP development per regulation

Questions/Comments



Mid-Kaweah GSA

Interested Parties per SGMA §10723.2; 10723.8(a)(4)

The Mid-Kaweah Joint Powers Authority (JPA) intends to use the following strategies and methods, and any other ways later discovered, for contacting interested parties listed as well as any later discovered interested parties:

- Conducting regular fully noticed public meetings in accordance with California law;
- Use reports, press releases, and coverage of the public meetings in news distribution media to make the public, interested parties, and potentially interested parties aware of the issues and JPA discussions and actions;
- Direct mailings to those requesting special notice and to any known well owners or operators with regard to significant communications;
- Websites on the existing three JPA members sites (Tulare Irrigation District and cities of Visalia and Tulare) and on a JPA website implemented after initial formation formalities;
- Participation and sharing JPA related information in the context of mediations, meetings, and other activities with other agencies and property owners overlying the Kaweah Sub-basin including, but not limited to, such activities with the largest overlying entities such as the County of Tulare and the Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District;
- Participation and sharing JPA information at conferences (both within and outside of the JPA-GSA's jurisdictional boundaries);
- Inclusion of information of GSA significance within billing materials for the City of Tulare and Tulare Irrigation District and within other City of Visalia sponsored mailings to its residents;
- Outreach and communication with known and discovered advocates for disadvantaged communities within the JPA and surrounding areas;
- Communication using each of the above methods with any other water purveyors, retailers, wholesalers, and the like who either pump or distribute water within the jurisdictional boundaries of the JPA;
- Compliance with the California Public Records Act with regard to information requested by any party.

Organizing documents of the JPA require regular noticed public meetings conducted consistently with California public meeting laws within the boundaries of the JPA. Part of the motivation for forming the JPA was to create a readily accessible public forum for discussion and official actions. This is seen as a primary opportunity for regular communication with

interested parties through the notification and open meeting and media reporting cycle. In this way interested parties (who may not yet even be fully known to the JPA) and the public can be fully informed of the activities and discussions of the JPA with regard to Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) formulation and methods to be applied to achieve the goals of SGMA. In addition to the aforementioned strategies and methods, the JPA will remain open to finding new opportunities and techniques for expanding communication avenues with the public and other interested parties.

Specific Interested Parties situated within the Mid-Kaweah GSA and outer Kaweah Sub-Basin as identified per SGMA §10723.2 are identified following. Where appropriate, the listing includes recognition of how such entities may serve within the governance and committee structure of the GSA and means of involvement with GSP implementation. The listing is not intended to be exhaustive and, should additional entities emerge and be identified, they will be contacted and engaged with accordingly.

(a) Groundwater Right Holders

(1) Agricultural Users:

- **Landowners/water users within Tulare ID service area** — Representation on GSA board through TID board appointments thereon; GSP activities/actions to reflect groundwater dependence and well operations of all farmers within TID, within the context of sustainable management.
- **Ag. organizations – Tulare County Farm Bureau**

(2) Domestic Well Owners

- **Homestead owners within Tulare ID** — GSP activities/actions to reflect groundwater dependence and well operations of all property owners with domestic wells within TID, within the context of sustainable management. Many domestic well owners are TID landowners/farmers.

(b) Municipal Well Operators

- **Pratt Mutual Water Co.** — GSP activities/actions to reflect groundwater dependence and well operations of all well operators within GSA boundaries, within the context of sustainable management.
- **Souls Mutual Water Co.** — Same as above
- **Mooney Grove Park** — Same as above
- **Cutler Park** (outside of city limits) — Same as above

- **Saputo Dairy Food USA** — Same as above
- **Visalia Industrial Park** — Same as above
- **Mobile Home Parks (MHP)** – Mooney Grove Manor, Royal Oaks, Westlake Village, Willow Glen, County Manor, Mountain View — Same as above
- **The Lakes** — Same as above

(c) Public Water Systems

- **City of Tulare** — Representation on GSA board through City appointments thereon; appointments of City staff to one or more GSA committees. GSP activities/actions to reflect groundwater dependence and well operations of the City, within the context of sustainable management.
- **City of Waukena** — GSP activities/actions to reflect groundwater dependence and well operations of school districts, within the context of sustainable management. Possible appointments to one or more stakeholder/advisory committees of GSA.
- **Calif. Water Service Co.** — GSP activities/actions to reflect groundwater dependence and well operations of Cal Water, within the context of sustainable management. Appointment to one or more stakeholder/advisory committees of GSA.
- **Tulare Irrigation District** — Representation on GSA board through District appointments thereon; appointments of District staff to one or more GSA committees. GSP activities/actions to reflect groundwater dependence and well operations of TID and District water users, within the context of sustainable management.
- **Rural school districts** – Buena Vista, Liberty, Oak Valley, Palo Verde, Waukena, Sundale and Packwood — GSP activities/actions to reflect groundwater dependence and well operations of school districts, within the context of sustainable management. Possible appointments to one or more stakeholder/advisory committees of GSA.
- **Water districts in adjacent sub-basins** - Kings Co. WD, Corcoran ID, Lakeside WD — Communication and coordination re GSA formation, boundary consistency, and GSP preparation

- (d) Local land Use Planning Agencies
- **City of Tulare** — Member of GSA with representatives on GSA board; to be represented on management, technical and advisory committees.
 - **City of Visalia** — Member of GSA with representatives on GSA board; to be represented on management, technical and advisory committees.
 - **Tulare County** — Signatory to Coordination Agreement among Kaweah Sub-Basin GSAs; appointment to one or more stakeholder/advisory committees of GSA. GSP implementation to incorporate role of County in management of unincorporated areas within existing and future city limits of Visalia and Tulare.
 - **Tulare County LAFCO** — GSP implementation to incorporate role of LAFCO in management of unincorporated areas within existing and future city limits of Visalia and Tulare.
- (e) Environmental Users of Groundwater
- None yet identified
- (f) Surface Water Users
- **Landowners within Tulare ID**
- (g) Federal Government
- No sites identified
- (h) Calif. Native Tribes
- **Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi-Yokut Tribe**
 - **Wuksache Tribe**
- (i) Disadvantaged Communities
- **Soults Tract**
 - **Lone Oak Tract**
 - **Matheny Tract**
 - **E. Tulare Tract**

- City of Waukena
- **Mobile Home Parks** — Those identified as DACs
- **DAC organizations** – Self-Help Enterprises, Community Water Center

(j) §10927 Groundwater Monitoring/Reporting Entities

- **Tulare ID** — Member of GSA with representatives on GSA board; to be represented on management, technical and advisory committees. GSP implementation to incorporate role of TID in surface water deliveries, sub-basin water management, and monitoring and data collection efforts.
- **City of Tulare** — Member of GSA with representatives on GSA board; to be represented on management, technical and advisory committees. GSP implementation to incorporate role of City in surface water deliveries, sub-basin water management, and monitoring and data collection efforts.
- **Kaweah Delta WCD** — Signatory to Coordination Agreement among Kaweah Sub-Basin GSAs; appointment to one or more stakeholder/advisory committees of GSA. GSP implementation to incorporate role of KDWCD in surface water distribution, sub-basin water management, and monitoring and data collection efforts.
- **Calif. Water Service Co.** — Appointment to one or more stakeholder/advisory committees of GSA. GSP implementation to incorporate role of Cal Water in groundwater monitoring and extraction/usage data collection efforts.