

WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA
CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP
MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 28, 2021

TO: WMA GSA Committee

FROM: WMA Citizen Advisory Group
(Memo by Derek McLeish)

SUBJECT: Review and Discussion Draft Sustainable Management Criteria and Monitoring Network Technical Memorandum

Western Management Area (WMA) Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) Members:

CAG Members in attendance: Charles Witt, Ken Domako and Derek McLeish.

Staff and Consultants in attendance: Mr. Bill Buelow (SYRWCD), Mr. Curtis Lawlor (Stetson), Ms. Kristin Worthley (City of Lompoc), and Mr. Joe Barget (VVCSD).

Purpose

The WMA GSA Committee requested staff for the GSA agencies to coordinate meetings of the WMA CAG. Through a coordinated effort, the CAG held a meeting via teleconference due to the COVID-19 restrictions. The meeting was held on July 27, 2021. The purpose of the meetings was for the WMA CAG (CAG) to review the Draft Sustainable Management Criteria and Monitoring Network Technical Memorandum. The Memorandum was prepared by the Stetson Engineer's team. A copy of the documents was made available to the CAG prior to the meeting at www.SantaYnezWater.org.

CAG Comments on Draft Sustainable Management Criteria and Monitoring Network Technical Memorandum

CAG members discussed some wording changes that they felt were more precise and accurate for the consultants to consider. The CAG also asked how long the rate of overdraft will take to reach the proposed minimum thresholds. There was further discussion between CAG members and consultants about the current rate of aquifer depletion and potential adverse conditions in 20 years or 50 years. Discussion followed.

The CAG discussed the flood of 1969, which dislodged a bridge, which was subsequently demolished and its effect on seawater intrusion. The consultants and CAG discussed the amount

of head required to maintain current conditions and prevent seawater intrusion. Five feet of head equals 200ft of encroachment protection. The CAG asked if maps of the bridge/seawall could be obtained.

The CAG discussed water quality and the issue of water softeners. Consultants reminded the CAG that water quality standards are set to levels in 2015.

There was a discussion of potential interties between the City of Lompoc and the Federal Prison and the availability of state water. Vandenberg is capable of banking state water in off years. There was also discussion of proposed desalination projects at Vandenberg Space Force Base. There was further discussion regarding current research of an offshore buoy desalination plant, which could produce 800-900 acre-feet of water.

The CAG discussed the water use of cannabis and the impacts to the groundwater in storage. There was a discussion of the status of the WMA compared to other coastal groundwater basins and the importance of rainfall.