



Department of Public Utilities

# **North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

# **Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)**

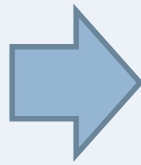
- **Adopted in 2014**
- **Gives local public agencies ability to form Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to comply with SGMA**
  - **Local public agencies mean those with water supply, water management, or land use responsibilities within the groundwater basin – Water Code §10721(n)**
- **Counties are backstop to local agencies**
- **State will intervene if locals and counties fail**

# SGMA Timeline

- GSAs must be formed by June 30, 2017 in medium- and high-priority basins.
- GSAs must submit Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) by January 31, 2020 in critically over drafted basins.
- City of Fresno resides within the Kings Sub-Basin (Sub-Basin Number 5-22.08) of the San Joaquin Valley Basin (Basin Number 5-22).
- The Kings Sub-Basin is a high-priority basin.
- GSAs must provide annual progress reports and achieve measurable objectives in 5-year milestones .
- Basins must achieve sustainability by January 31, 2040

# What is Sustainable Groundwater Management?

“Sustainability Goal” means a groundwater basin operating within its sustainable yield.



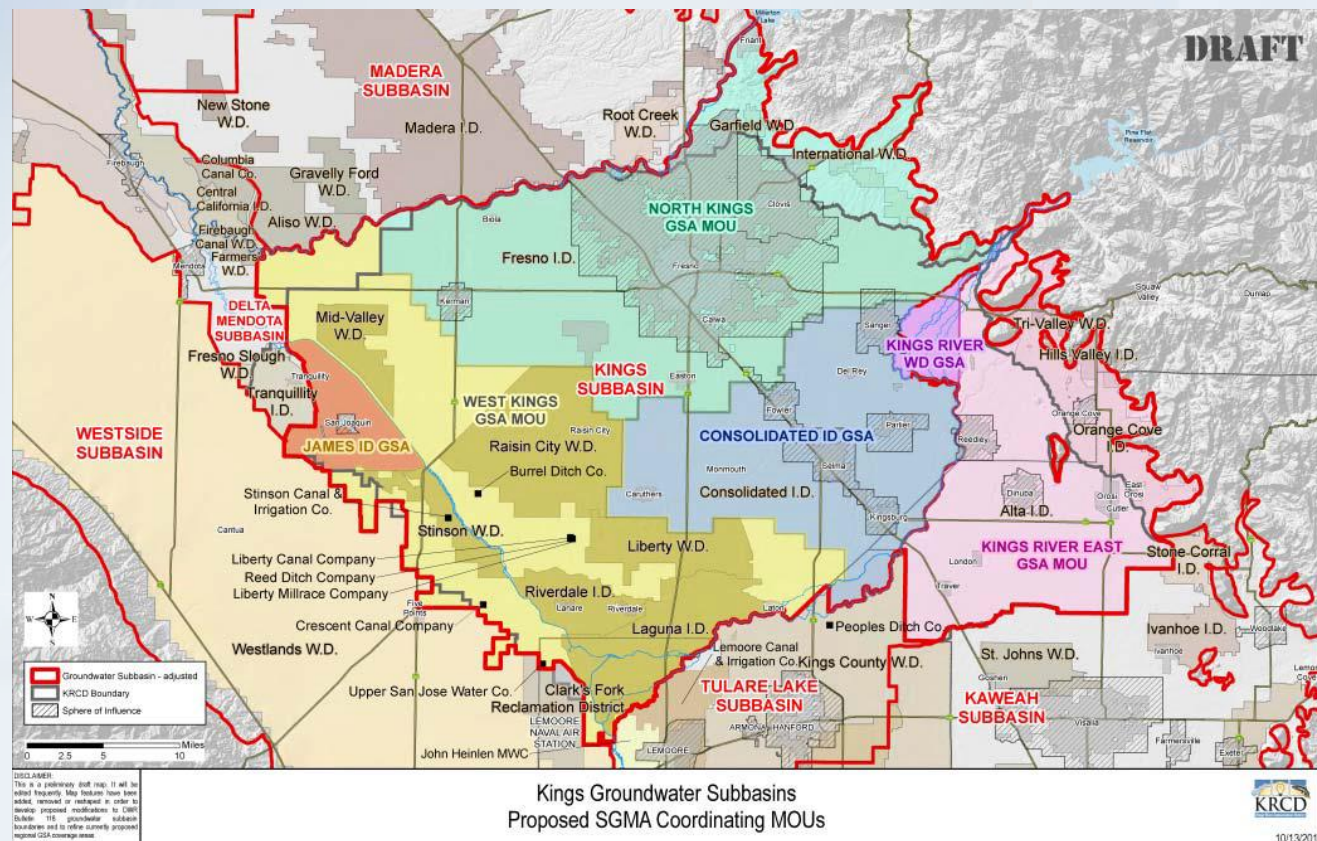
“Sustainable Yield” means the maximum water used over a period of time without causing **“undesirable results”**

# What are Undesirable Results?

- **Sustainability: Manage groundwater to prevent undesirable results (significant & unreasonable):**
  - Chronic Lowering of groundwater levels
  - Reduction of groundwater storage
  - ~~Seawater intrusion~~
  - Degraded water quality/contaminant plume migration
  - Land subsidence
  - Depletions of interconnected surface water

# Kings Groundwater Subbasin Memorandum of Understanding

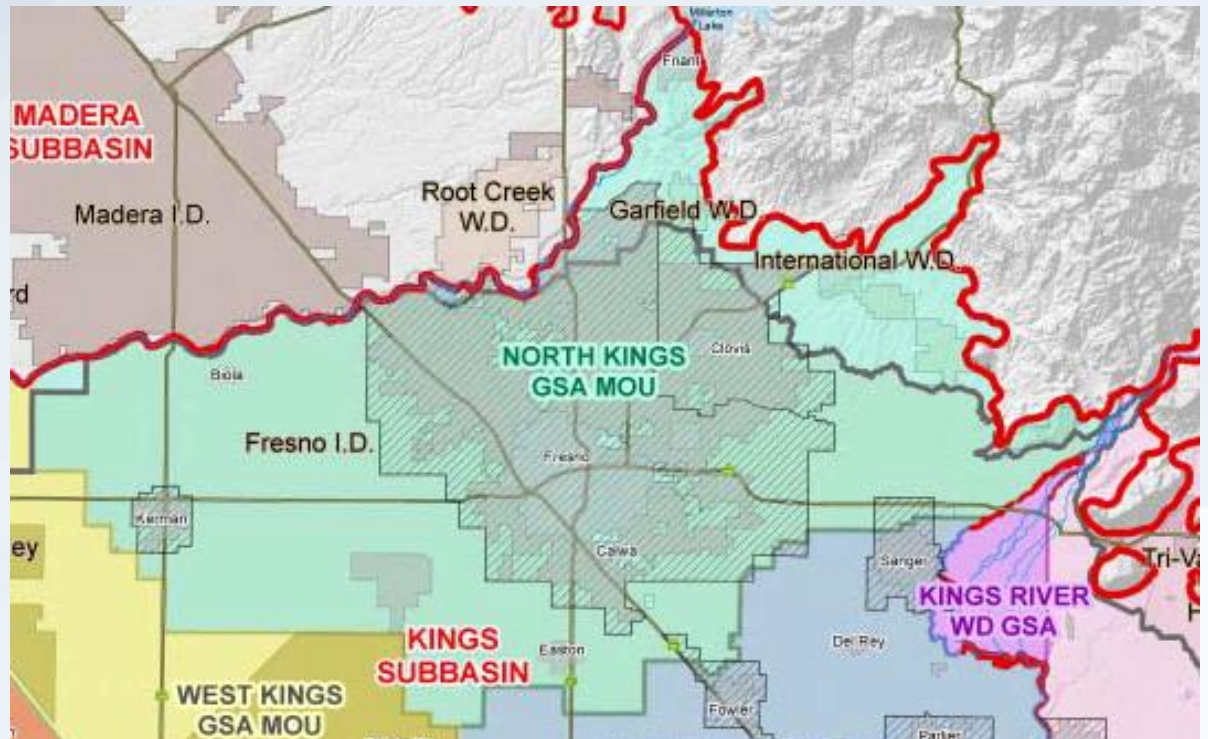
- Approved May 18, 2015
- Approximately 1,000 square miles
- 2 Counties
- Multiple Cities
- Multiple Irrigation and Water Districts
- Wide variability in surface water availability
- Too complex for just 1 GSA → 5 or 6 GSAs



# North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (NKGSA)

## Memorandum of Understanding

- Fresno Irrigation District
- County of Fresno
- City of Fresno
- City of Clovis
- City of Kerman
- Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District
- CSU Fresno\*
- Bakman Water Co.
- Biola CSD
- Pinedale CWD
- Malaga CWD
- Garfield Water District
- International Water District



\*Participant, MOU not executed

# Approach to Develop the NKGSA Governance

- Agency- and stakeholder-led committee
- Committee members include staff of MOU agencies and:
  - Kings River Conservation District
  - Disadvantaged Community Advocates
    - Community Water Center
    - Self-Help Enterprises
  - California State University, Fresno
  - Independent Groundwater Extractors (ag and large business)
- Neutral, third-party facilitation via DWR SGMA Facilitation Support Grant Program



# SGMA Facilitation Support

- **NKGSA Stakeholder Assessment**
  - One-on-one, small group interviews and self-assessment
  - Comments/findings aggregated without attribution
- **Key Findings:**
  - Broad agreement to utilize a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA)
  - JPA board comprised of elected officials preferred
  - Provide voting membership path for PUC and Interested Parties

# JPA Development

- Original draft compiled by a “committee” using text from:
  - Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014
  - Kings Basin Water Authority Joint Powers Agreement
  - Other groundwater management focused JPA’s
- JPA Agreement 2-phase refinement:
  - 4 half day committee workshops to revise/agree on elements of JPA
  - 2 half day legal counsel workshops to review JPA for consistency w/ Joint Exercise of Powers Act, SGMA, and agency policies.

# JPA Powers Reserved

- **Committee agreement to retain all powers of 2014 SGSA Act, including:**
  - **Develop, adopt and implement a Groundwater Sustainability Plan**
  - **Conduct investigations**
  - **Monitor and regulate groundwater extractions**
  - **Assessing fees**
  - **Coordinating with adjacent GSAs within Kings Sub-Basin**
  - **Reporting to State**
  - **Secure new water resources**
- **JPA does not need to use all powers**

# NKGSA GSA Board Members

GSA Board of Director Seat	Member
#1	Fresno Irrigation District
#2	Shared irrigation district: Garfield WD, International WD, FID
#3	City of Clovis
#4	City of Fresno
#5	County of Fresno
#6	Shared "Small Agency": City of Kerman, Biola CSD, CSU Fresno, Bakman Water Company
#7	At-Large Appointed by Directors 1-6, any of the remaining entities sharing "Small Agency" seat not sitting that seat, Contracting Entities via participation agreement, or Interested Parties via MOU

# Board Members

- **Signatories to JPA pursuant to Joint Exercise of Powers Act**
- **JPA provides opportunities for entities not covered by §10721(n) to participate as a Board Director via a separate agreement:**
  - PUC Regulated water companies may participate as a “Contracting Agency” through a “Participation Agreement”
  - “Interested Parties” may participate through a Memorandum of Understanding

## **Contracting Entity and MOU Parties:**

- Bakman Water Company
- California State University, Fresno

# NKGSA Committees

- **Several committees anticipated to support development of GSP and involve the public, stakeholders and other interested parties**
- **Topic-specific and place-based committees anticipated:**
  - Rules and Budget Committee
  - Groundwater Modeling Committee
  - GSP Advisory Committee
  - Public/Interested Party Outreach Committee
  - Interbasin Coordination Committee

# Voting Thresholds

- **Unanimous vote of Directors for critical issues – GSP, Amendments to JPA, Fees**
- **Affirmative vote of 5 Directors for important issues – Debts, Obligations, Policies, Enforcement, Litigation, Budget allocations, Removal of a Member**
- **Simple Majority for remaining issues**

# Funding

- **Member contributions until GSP is adopted**
- **Considered 15 cost sharing alternatives**
- **Member contributions based on amount of groundwater that member pumps and member's seat on Board of Directors**
- **Budget projection through January 2020 – \$1.9 million**
- **JPA Board of Directors to determine on-going funding requirements after GSP is adopted**



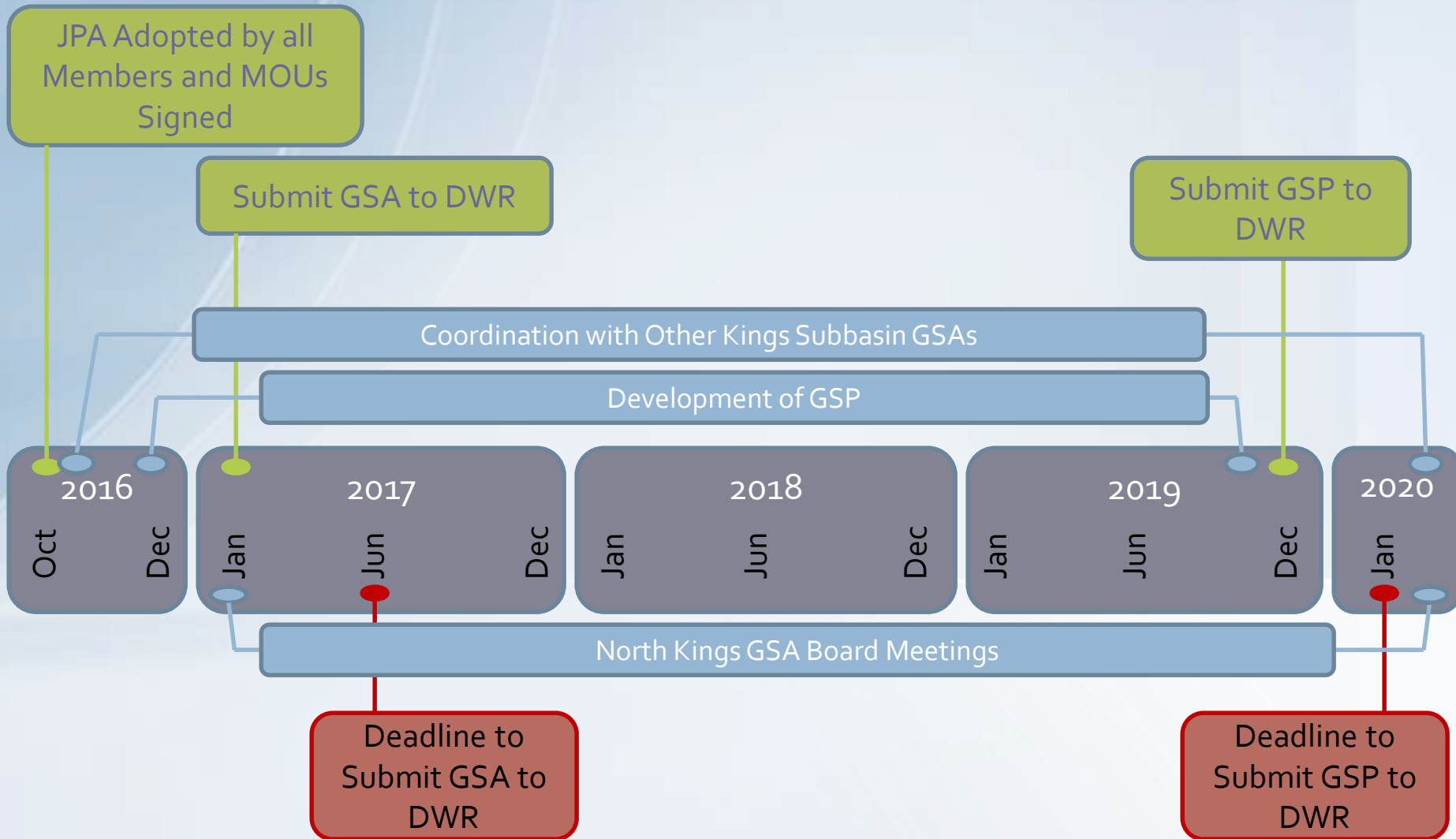
# Budget and Participation

North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency Contribution and Participation Percentage		
Agency	Capped 3- Year Budget*	Participation Percentage
Fresno Irrigation District	\$ 623,880	32.24%
City of Fresno	\$ 416,938	21.54%
City of Clovis	\$ 195,270	10.09%
Bakman Water Company	\$ 67,966	3.51%
City of Kerman	\$ 66,992	3.46%
County of Fresno	\$ 308,582	15.95%
Garfield Water District	\$ 80,884	4.18%
Biola Community Service District	\$ 30,000	1.55%
California State University Fresno	\$ 67,190	3.47%
International Water District	\$ 77,518	4.01%
<b>Total Estimated GW Management Plan Cost</b>	<b>\$ 1,935,220</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
*Budget projected through January 2020; per-agency costs capped at amount displayed.		

# **Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program**

- **Funds to develop and implement sustainable groundwater planning and projects**
- **Total Prop. 1 budget: \$100 million**
- **Early 2017 target for statewide Planning Grant Solicitation**
- **Draft Guidelines not available yet**
- **Anticipated 50% local cost share, with likely reduction for regions with DAC and SDAC needs**
- **Highly competitive process anticipated**
- **Potential for \$500k-1M to offset GSP development costs**

# Anticipated Schedule



# Recommendations and Next Steps

- **Provide feedback on proposed Joint Powers Agreement**
- **Motion to adoption of Joint Powers Agreement**
- **If approved, appoint Council/Board member to serve as Director**
- **Authority will prepare and submit to DWR a notice of intent to serve as GSA**

# Recommendations and Next Steps

- **Provide feedback on proposed Joint Powers Agreement**
- **Staff will bring final Joint Powers Agreement to Council for approval in September after all agencies have held workshops**
- **If approved, appoint Council/Board member to serve as Director**
- **Authority will prepare and submit to DWR a notice of intent to serve as GSA**

Questions, Comments, Discussion