

Exhibit A

WORK PLAN

Project Title: Sierra Valley GSP Implementation and Planning (Project)

Project Description: The Work Plan includes activities associated with implementation and continued planning, development, and updating of the GSP for the Sierra Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin). The resulting updated GSP and implementation projects will incorporate appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) as developed by DWR, and will result in a more complete understanding of the groundwater basin to support long-term sustainable groundwater management. The Work Plan includes five Components:

- Component 1: Grant Agreement Administration
- Component 2: GSP Development
- Component 3: Well Inventory
- Component 4: Irrigation Efficiency and Conjunctive Use
- Component 5: Groundwater Recharge

COMPONENT 1: GRANT ADMINISTRATION

Category (a): Grant Agreement Administration

Prepare reports detailing work completed during reporting period as outlined in Exhibit F, "Report Formats and Requirements" of this Agreement. Progress Reports will include sufficient information for the DWR Grant Manager to understand and review backup documentation submitted with invoices. Quarterly invoices will accompany the Quarterly Progress Reports and should be submitted to the DWR Grant Manager for review to receive reimbursement of Eligible Project Costs. Collect and organize backup documentation by component, budget category, and task and prepare a summary Excel document detailing contents of the backup documentation organized by component, budget category, and task.

Prepare and submit the Environmental Information Form (EIF) within 30 days of the execution date of the Grant Agreement. No invoices will be reviewed or processed until the EIF has been received by the DWR Grant Manager. Submit a deliverable due date schedule within 30 days of the execution date of the Grant Agreement to be reviewed and approved by the DWR Grant Manager. Any edits to the schedule must be approved by the DWR Grant Manager and the revised schedule saved in the appropriate project files.

Prepare the Draft Grant Completion Report and submit to the DWR Grant Manager for comment and review 90 days before the work completion date. DWR's Grant Manager will review the Draft Grant Completion Report and provide comments and edits within 30 days of receipt, when possible. Submit a Final Grant Completion Report addressing the DWR Grant Manager's comments prior to the work completion date. The report shall be prepared and presented in accordance with the provisions of Exhibit F, "Report Formats and Requirements" and approved by the DWR Grant Manager within 30 days after the work completion date. All deliverables listed within the Work Plan shall be submitted with the Final Grant Completion Report unless a new deliverable due date was approved by the DWR Grant Manager.

Deliverables:

- EIF
- Deliverable due date schedule
- Quarterly Progress Reports, Quarterly Invoices, and all required backup documentation
- Draft and Final Grant Completion Reports

COMPONENT 2: GSP UPDATES

This component will update the SVGSP so that it is strategic, current, and relevant to stakeholders throughout the SV Subbasin; it will create the framework needed to achieve the GSP's sustainability goals.

Category (a): Component Administration

Prepare reports detailing component work completed during reporting period as outlined in Exhibit F, "Report Formats and Requirements" of this Agreement, for inclusion in Component 1 Quarterly Progress Reports. Quarterly Progress Reports will include sufficient information for the DWR Grant Manager to understand and review backup documentation submitted with invoices. Quarterly invoices will accompany the Quarterly Progress Reports. Collect and organize backup documentation by the Component 2 budget category and task and prepare a summary Excel document detailing contents of the backup documentation organized by task.

Prepare the Draft Component Completion Report and submit it to the DWR Grant Manager for comment and review 90 days before the work completion date for the component. DWR's Grant Manager will review the Draft Component Completion Report and provide comments and edits within 30 days of receipt, when possible. Submit a Final Component Completion Report addressing the DWR Grant Manager's comments within 30 days before the work completion date. The report shall be prepared and presented in accordance with the provisions of Exhibit F, "Report Formats and Requirements" and approved by the DWR Grant Manager within 30 days after the work completion date. All deliverables listed within the Work Plan shall be submitted with the Final Component Completion Report unless a new deliverable due date was approved by the DWR Grant Manager.

Deliverables:

- Component reporting to be included in Quarterly Progress Reports and Invoices
- Draft and Final Component Completion Reports

Category (b): Environmental / Engineering / Design

Not applicable to this component.

Category (c): Implementation / Construction

Not applicable to this component.

Category (d): Monitoring / Assessment

Task 1: GSP Modifications

Update and provide modifications to the existing GSP per the determination and comments received from DWR.

Deliverables:

- Revised and updated GSP

Task 2: Annual Reporting and Five-Year GSP Update

Prepare GSP Annual Reports for Water Years (WYs) 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 submitted to DWR. Assess the progress of and update the GSP to reflect progress towards achieving/maintaining sustainability goals. Outline the Five-Year evaluation with consideration to comments received by DWR and others on the GSP.

Deliverables:

- WY 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 Annual Reports submittal to DWR
- 5-Year GSP Evaluation outline

Task 3: Model Updates and Scenario Evaluation

Analyze, calibrate, and validate the Sierra Valley Hydrogeologic System Model (SVHSM). Adjust the Precipitation-Runoff Modeling System (PRMS) sub-model parameter values. Incorporate newly collected geophysical data from a USGS gravity study and a DWR AEM survey into the SVHSM. Evaluate projected impacts and effects of implementing one or more PMAs.

Deliverables:

- Technical Memorandum summarizing model update work and results.

Task 4: Data Gap Analysis and Monitoring Expansion or Modification

Optimize the existing monitoring network which includes: monitoring of groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs), characterization of springs contribution, the understanding of upper watershed contribution and surface water, and the monitoring of groundwater-related data. Gather data to identify recharge sites, and to provide information on surface water availability. Collect periodic water samples.

Refine the water budget for the watershed and update the integrated hydrological model. Perform airborne surveys to gather temperature data and to analyze stream reach locations.

Deliverables:

- Technical memorandum summarizing monitoring network expansion and modification
- Technical memorandum summarizing collected monitoring data, GDE information, and recharge site identification

Task 5: Data Management

Optimize and upgrade the existing Data Management System (DMS).

Deliverables:

- Technical memorandum summarizing enhancements to the DMS

Category (e): Engagement / Outreach

Provide outreach to stakeholders, ensuring all stakeholders are considered and includes public meetings. Host workshops to enhance local understanding of groundwater and projects included in the GSP, and progress achieved on the GSP goals.

Deliverables:

- Meeting agendas and minutes
- All outreach materials

COMPONENT 3: WELL INVENTORY

Component 3 seeks to begin addressing the data gap of unknown, unmapped, and incompletely characterized wells in the subbasin. Data gaps include missing well-log data for wells (including high-capacity wells), number and location of domestic wells, elevation data for shallow wells and overall spatial coverage of the subbasin. To supplement improvements to the monitoring network included in Component 2: GSP Update, this component will enhance and expand the well inventory and monitoring efforts to better understand aquifer geology, groundwater extraction from agricultural and domestic wells and the associated impacts, and to highlight areas where wells may be at risk of becoming dry.

Category (a): Component Administration

Prepare reports detailing component work completed during reporting period as outlined in Exhibit F, "Report Formats and Requirements" of this Agreement, for inclusion in Component 1 Quarterly Progress Reports. Quarterly Progress Reports will include sufficient information for the DWR Grant Manager to understand and review backup documentation submitted with invoices. Quarterly invoices will accompany the Quarterly Progress Reports. Collect and organize backup documentation by the Component 3 budget category and task and prepare a summary Excel document detailing contents of the backup documentation organized by task.

Prepare the Draft Component Completion Report and submit it to the DWR Grant Manager for comment and review 90 days before the work completion date for the component. DWR's Grant Manager will review the Draft Component Completion Report and provide comments and edits within 30 days of receipt, when possible. Submit a Final Component Completion Report addressing the DWR Grant Manager's comments within 30 days before the work completion date. The report shall be prepared and presented in accordance with the provisions of Exhibit F, "Report Formats and Requirements" and approved by the DWR Grant Manager within 30 days after the work completion date. All deliverables listed within the Work Plan shall be

submitted with the Final Component Completion Report unless a new deliverable due date was approved by the DWR Grant Manager.

Deliverables:

- Component reporting to be included in Quarterly Progress Reports and Invoices
- Draft and Final Component Completion Reports

Category (b): Environmental / Engineering / Design

Not applicable to this component.

Category (c): Implementation / Construction

Not applicable to this component.

Category (d) Monitoring / Assessment

Task 1: Compile Existing Information

Compile and map relevant data for SVGSP and provide review and updates as required. Incorporate analyzed data into the DMS. Identify candidates to be added to the well inventory.

Deliverables:

- Technical memorandum summarizing identified wells and attribute data

Task 2: Identify and Add Wells to The Well Inventory

Identify and add wells to the inventory through data collected from aerial imagery and stakeholder outreach and engagement. Investigate well characteristics and incorporate the information into the DMS and update the existing hydrologic model.

Deliverables:

- Updated DMS and hydrologic model

Task 3: Instrument Wells and Conduct Initial Monitoring

Evaluate a minimum of 10 identified wells for the suitability of either being equipped with continuous pressure transducers or for manual monitoring. Purchase and make available two water level meters (sounders) for stakeholders interested in monitoring their own wells. Incorporate the collected data into the DMS and hydrologic model.

Deliverables:

- Technical memorandum summarizing how information will be incorporated in and accessible through the DMS
- Technical memorandum summarizing updates to the DMS and hydrologic model
- Inventory of equipment and materials purchased

Task 4: Results Reporting

Prepare a technical report summarizing the additional wells, updates to the monitoring network, initial monitoring results, hydrologic model and DMS, and assessment of how the goals and objectives of this component have been achieved.

Deliverables:

- Draft and Final Technical Report

Category (e) Engagement / Outreach

Provide outreach and educational materials to stakeholders and well owners. Conduct a public workshop to provide the community more information on well conditions, where to access information on groundwater conditions, and where and how to report dry wells.

Deliverables:

- Meeting agendas and minutes, as required
- All outreach materials, as required

COMPONENT 4: IRRIGATION EFFICIENCY AND CONJUNCTIVE USE

Component 4 seeks to enhance current efforts to increase the irrigation efficiency of agricultural operations, enhance water conservation and conjunctive use within the SV Subbasin while maximizing farm profitability and the regional economy. It addresses a Tier 1 (Existing or Ongoing Project and Management Action [PMA]). Improved irrigation efficiencies will reduce recoverable losses (e.g., tailwater and deep percolation) and irrecoverable losses (e.g., transpiration, evaporation and wind drift), which will result quantifiable reductions in groundwater pumping. Reduced irrecoverable losses will help sustain groundwater levels and storage.

Category (a): Component Administration

Prepare reports detailing component work completed during reporting period as outlined in Exhibit F, "Report Formats and Requirements" of this Agreement, for inclusion in Component 1 Quarterly Progress Reports. Quarterly Progress Reports will include sufficient information for the DWR Grant Manager to understand and review backup documentation submitted with invoices. Quarterly invoices will accompany the Quarterly Progress Reports. Collect and organize backup documentation by the Component 4 budget category and task and prepare a summary Excel document detailing contents of the backup documentation organized by task.

Prepare the Draft Component Completion Report and submit it to the DWR Grant Manager for comment and review 90 days before the work completion date for the component. DWR's Grant Manager will review the Draft Component Completion Report and provide comments and edits within 30 days of receipt, when possible. Submit a Final Component Completion Report addressing the DWR Grant Manager's comments within 30 days before the work completion date. The report shall be prepared and presented in accordance with the provisions of Exhibit F, "Report Formats and Requirements" and approved by the DWR Grant Manager within 30 days after the work completion date. All deliverables listed within the Work Plan shall be submitted with the Final Component Completion Report unless a new deliverable due date was approved by the DWR Grant Manager.

Deliverables:

- Component reporting to be included in Quarterly Progress Reports and Invoices
- Draft and Final Component Completion Reports

Category (b): Environmental / Engineering / Design

Not applicable to this component.

Category (c): Implementation / Construction

Conduct a preliminary set of projects at two to three identified sites based on the ranch assessments and improve data collection. Install inline totalizing flow meters and soil moisture sensors for two to three sites. Retrofit center pivots at the demonstration sites with low elevation precision application (LEPA) systems.

Summarize construction activity in the quarterly Progress Reports including descriptions of any change orders. Photo-document pre-construction, construction activities log, and post-construction site conditions to include in the associated quarterly Progress Reports. Conduct an inspection of the completed Component by a licensed professional

Deliverables:

- Technical memorandum summarizing participating irrigators, lessons learned, and incorporated strategies
- Inventory of equipment and materials purchased
- Summaries of activities and photo documentation pre-construction, construction and post construction to include in the associated quarterly Progress Reports
- Inspection Reports

Category (d) Monitoring / Assessment

Task 1: Identify Sites for Demonstration Program and Collect Baseline Monitoring Data

Host an irrigator workshop to explain the program and recruit participants. Conduct ranch assessments.

Deliverables:

- UCCE Efficiency Report for participating ranches
- Technical memorandum summarizing identification criteria

Task 2: Monitoring Data Collection

Collect data regarding: irrigation losses, water quality benefits, shallow and deep aquifer effects, maintenance requirements for center pivots with LESA/LEPA systems, crop production impacts, and benefits to GDEs.

Deliverables:

- Technical memorandum summarizing collected data

Task 3: Annual Reporting

Monitor site progress and summarize collected data in Annual Progress Reports. Prepare a final report summarizing results, outreach efforts, installation costs, operating costs, and recommendations for next steps.

Deliverables:

- Annual Demonstration Project Progress Reports
- Demonstration Project Final Report

Task 4: Evaluation of Feasibility and Transferring of Water Rights

Evaluate the potential to transfer water rights from Lake Davis to Frenchman Lake to provide additional surface water for irrigation. Identify the permits and other justifications needed to facilitate the revision.

Deliverables:

- Report summarizing feasibility of water rights transfer
- Technical memorandum summarizing impacts of water rights transfer

Category (e) Engagement / Outreach

Provide outreach to irrigators to convey information on irrigation efficiency methods, assessment opportunities, different Demonstration Programs, and other opportunities to improve irrigation efficiency. Conduct an initial workshop with irrigators to gather volunteers for the UCCE ranch assessments; a workshop after the first year to present preliminary results and identify additional ranches to participate; and a final workshop to present results, discuss benefits, suggest possible future projects.

Deliverables:

- Meeting agendas and minutes
- All outreach materials
- Technical memorandum summarizing lessons learned

COMPONENT 5: GROUNDWATER RECHARGE

Component 5 seeks to identify, develop, and implement enhanced groundwater recharge projects to augment water supply in the Subbasin. The SVGMD is pursuing this project component to transition an enhanced groundwater recharge effort from a broad concept developed during GSP development into a more well-defined process with an emphasis on stakeholder involvement to secure access, evaluation of technical methodologies, consideration of water rights, and navigation of permitting requirements. This project component will use a phased approach involving innovative data collection and feasibility analysis, followed by a pilot project to enhance groundwater recharge using the most promising method and location.

Category (a): Component Administration

Prepare reports detailing component work completed during reporting period as outlined in Exhibit F, "Report Formats and Requirements" of this Agreement, for inclusion in Component 1 Quarterly Progress Reports. Quarterly Progress Reports will include sufficient information for the DWR Grant Manager to understand and review backup documentation submitted with invoices. Quarterly invoices will accompany the Quarterly Progress Reports. Collect and organize backup documentation by the Component 5 budget category and task and prepare a summary Excel document detailing contents of the backup documentation organized by task.

Prepare the Draft Component Completion Report and submit it to the DWR Grant Manager for comment and review 90 days before the work completion date for the component. DWR's Grant Manager will review the Draft Component Completion Report and provide comments and edits within 30 days of receipt, when possible. Submit a Final Component Completion Report addressing the DWR Grant Manager's comments within 30 days before the work completion date. The report shall be prepared and presented in accordance with the provisions of Exhibit F, "Report Formats and Requirements" and approved by the DWR Grant Manager within 30 days after the work completion date. All deliverables listed within the Work Plan shall be submitted with the Final Component Completion Report unless a new deliverable due date was approved by the DWR Grant Manager.

Deliverables:

- Component reporting to be included in Quarterly Progress Reports and Invoices
- Draft and Final Component Completion Reports

Category (b): Environmental / Engineering / Design

Task 1: Pilot Recharge Project Design

Evaluate the potential enhanced groundwater recharge pilot project for technical, regulatory, locational, and logistical feasibility. Evaluate the impact of the proposed projects and planning and design including infrastructure requirements and monitoring plans. Conduct preliminary outreach to landowners regarding access to proposed recharge sites.

Prepare preliminary design plans. Submit design plans and specifications to the DWR Grant Manager for review and concurrence prior to finalizing said design plans and specifications.

Deliverables:

- Technical memorandum summarizing the process for identifying recharge methodology
- Preliminary design plans and specifications

Task 2: Permitting and Environmental Documentation

Prepare an Initial Study with an anticipated Negative Declaration (ND) or Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Pilot Recharge Project. Prepare environmental documentation and file a ND or MND under CEQA with the County Clerk's Office and State Clearinghouse. Submit the CEQA document(s) to the DWR Grant Manager for review and concurrence prior to beginning construction.

Construction may not begin and no costs for Category (c) may be incurred until a exemption from CEQA is granted, or the State has reviewed the CEQA document(s), completed its CEQA responsible agency obligations and given its environmental clearance in accordance with Paragraphs 4 and D.8 of this Agreement.

Any costs incurred for Category (c) prior to an exemption from CEQA is granted, or DWR gives its environmental clearance shall not be reimbursed and any such amounts shall be deducted from the total Grant Amount in Paragraph 3.

Secure a 180-day or streamlined temporary diversion permit. Obtain permits required for water rights, landowner permissions, monitoring well permissions, and any other permits, if any.

Deliverables:

- All completed CEQA and NEPA documents
- No Legal Challenges Letter
- Permits, as required

Category (c): Implementation / Construction

Construct structures for groundwater recharge pilot project needed for stream diversions, conveyance systems, and recharge location infrastructure as identified in Task 1.

Prepare final design plans and specifications. Prepare bid documents, including the invitation to bid, instructions to bidders, bid forms, and descriptions of bid items. Publicly advertise bid in accordance with the requirements for public bidding for construction and prepare an engineer's estimate. Received bids will be reviewed and a recommendation for award made. Send a Notice of Intent to Award to the selected bidder(s). Submit a Notice(s) to Award and Notice(s) to Proceed.

This task must comply with the Standard Condition D.11 – Competitive Bidding and Procurements. Activities necessary (as applicable) to secure a contractor and award the contract, including: develop bid documents, prepare advertisement and contract documents for construction contract bidding, conduct pre-bid meeting, bid opening and evaluation, selection of the contractor, award of contract, and issuance of notice to proceed.

Manage the construction to verify completion is on schedule and consistent with the specifications. Summarize construction activity in the quarterly Progress Reports including descriptions of any change orders. Photo-document pre-construction, construction activities log, and post-construction site conditions to include in the associated quarterly Progress Reports. Conduct an inspection of the completed Component by a licensed professional and submit a Certification of Completion letter from the licensed professional to ensure that the Component was constructed per the 100% design plans and specifications.

Deliverables:

- Final design plans and technical specifications
- Proof of Advertisement
- Bid Documentation
- Notice of Award
- Notice to Proceed
- Summaries of activities and photo documentation pre-construction, construction and post construction to include in the associated quarterly Progress Reports
- Record drawings
- Inventory of equipment and materials purchased
- Inspection Reports
- Certificate of Project Completion

Category (d) Monitoring / Assessment

Task 3: Data Collection

Identify locations for stream gages upstream and downstream of the diversion location. Provide continuous monitoring of groundwater elevation and temperature probes in shallow and deep wells. Deploy isotopes and tracers to clarify flow direction within the Subbasin.

Deliverables:

- Technical memorandum summarizing collected data results and tracer studies

Task 4: Pilot Project Site Characterization

Characterize pilot project site conditions and water conditions on Smithneck and Badenaugh Creeks upstream and downstream of the proposed diversion location. Conduct geotechnical investigations, characterize soil profiles, and perform infiltration testing.

Advance soil borings through the unsaturated soils and down to the water table. Install piezometers in the borings to track depth to groundwater at potential infiltration sites. Collected and log soil samples.

Update the numerical flow model prepared for the GSP, based on data collected during geotechnical investigations and infiltration testing.

Deliverables:

- Technical memorandum describing pilot project site characterization and collected data
- Inventory of piezometers and map of installed piezometers
- Photos of piezometer installations

Task 5: Data Analysis and Reporting

Monitor stream flows, groundwater elevations and other parameters to measure performance and effectiveness of the projects.

Deliverables:

- Technical memorandum summarizing collected data results
- Annual Reports
- Final Report documenting overall results and future operations for each site
- Long-Term Recharge Plan

Category (e) Engagement / Outreach

Compile and store data in an open-source web platform to access and visualize time-series information. Equip sites with telemetry to automatically transfer data from the field to the web platform. Continue outreach with the GSP Technical Advisory Committee as well as to the public. Discuss project results with key stakeholders and agencies and present at a public workshop.

Deliverables:

- Meeting agendas and minutes, as required
- All outreach materials, as required
- Website dashboard with information on recharge site operation