

NOTICE AND AGENDA OF REGULAR MEETING

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FOR THE EASTERN MANAGEMENT AREA IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER GROUNDWATER BASIN

HELD AT
SANTA YNEZ COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT, BOARD ROOM
1070 FARADAY STREET, SANTA YNEZ, CALIFORNIA
6:30 P.M., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023

Optional remote public participation is available via Telephone or ZOOM

To access the meeting via telephone, please dial: 1-669-900-6833 or 1-669-444-9171
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“Join a Meeting” - **Meeting ID 858 4539 6311 Meeting Passcode: 533526**

*** Please Note ***

The above teleconference option for public participation is being offered as a convenience only and may limit or otherwise prevent your access to and participation in the meeting due to disruption or unavailability of the teleconference line. If any such disruption of unavailability occurs for any reason the meeting will not be suspended, terminated, or continued.

Therefore in-person attendance of the meeting is strongly encouraged.

AGENDA OF REGULAR MEETING

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda
3. Public Comment (Any member of the public may address the Committee relating to any non-agenda matter within the Committee’s jurisdiction. The total time for all public comment shall not exceed fifteen minutes and the time allotted for each individual shall not exceed five minutes. No action will be taken by the Committee at this meeting on any public comment item.)
4. Review and consider approval of meeting minutes of September 28, 2023
5. Review and consider approval of Financial Statements and Warrant List
6. Update on SGMA Governance and Draft Joint Powers Agreement for the EMA
7. Receive summary of EMA CAG meeting of October 18, 2023, from Gay Infanti and Mary Heyden
8. Review of EMA Cost Share Agreement
9. Review and Consider approval of **Resolution No. EMA-2023-003** “*EMA GSA Agreement to Provide Reimbursement to EMA GSA Agencies for Certain Shared Cost Contributions*”.
10. Review scope of work and cost estimate for the EMA’s Third Annual Report and receive update on contracting with GSI.
11. Receive update on Proposition 68 Grant Award
12. Receive Draft Schedule of Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin GSA meetings for 2024 and consider returning to quarterly regular meetings with special meetings as needed.
13. Discuss and set next EMA GSA Regular Meeting, Thursday, December 14 or 21, 2023, at 6:30 PM.
14. EMA GSA Committee reports and requests for future agenda items
15. Adjournment

[This agenda was posted 72 hours prior to the scheduled regular meeting at 3669 Sagunto Street, Suite 101, Santa Ynez, California, and SantaYnezWater.org in accordance with Government Code Section 54954. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to review agenda materials or participate in this meeting, please contact the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District at (805) 693-1156. Advanced notification as far as practicable prior to the meeting will enable the GSA to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.]

MEETING MINUTES

Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Eastern Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin September 28, 2023

A regular meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Eastern Management Area (EMA) in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin was held on Thursday, September 28, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at Santa Ynez Community Services District Community Room, 1070 Faraday Street, Santa Ynez, California.

EMA GSA Committee Members Present: Brad Joos, Brett Marymee, and Elizabeth Orona

EMA GSA Alternate Committee Members Present: Meighan Diethofer (Acting Alternate) and Steve Jordan

Member Agency Staff Present (in-person): Bill Buelow, Paeter Garcia, Amber Thompson, and Matt Young

Others Present (in-person): Doug Circle, Mary Heyden, Gay Infanti, and Kevin Merrill

Others Present (remote): Steve Anderson, Rick Hoffman, Matthew Scrudato, Brett Stroud, Robby Tetelepta, Kristin Worthley, and an unannounced member of the public

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

EMA GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and asked Mr. Buelow to call roll. Three EMA GSA Committee Members and one Acting Alternate Committee Member were present providing a quorum. One Alternate Committee Member was also present.

2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

No additions or deletions were made.

3. Public Comment

Mr. Doug Circle, on behalf of the Santa Ynez Water Group, made public comments. Mr. Buelow announced that a public comment was received by email prior to the meeting and is included in the meeting packet under Agenda Item No. 6.

4. Review and Consider Approval of Meeting Minutes of August 24, 2023

The minutes of the EMA GSA Committee meeting on August 24, 2023, were presented for GSA Committee approval. There was no discussion or public comment.

EMA GSA Committee Member Elizabeth Orona made a MOTION to approve the minutes of August 24, 2023, as presented. GSA Committee Member Brad Joos seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed 3-0-1 by voice vote, with Acting Alternate Committee Member Meighan Diethofer abstaining.

5. Review and Consider Requests for EMA GSA Written Verifications under Executive Order N-7-22 revised under Executive Order N-5-23 in the EMA for the following parcels:

a. APN 141-050-007 - Kelly (Mattei Road)

Mr. Buelow presented the GSI Water Solutions Review of New Well Application in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, Eastern Management Area (EMA) for APN: 141-050-007, Mattei Road (WP EH-LUA-23-000024), dated September 22, 2023. Discussion followed and public comment was received.

EMA GSA Committee Member Brad Joos made a MOTION to issue a well verification letter for APN 141-050-007, Mattei Road (WP EH-LUA-23-000024). GSA Committee Member Elizabeth Orona seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

b. APN 137-450-011 - Palma (Dove Meadow Road)

Mr. Buelow presented the GSI Water Solutions Review of New Well Application in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, Eastern Management Area (EMA) for APN: 141-450-011, Mattei Road (WP 0005484), dated September 25, 2023. Discussion followed and public comment was received.

EMA GSA Committee Member Elizabeth Orona made a MOTION to issue a well verification letter for APN 141-450-011, Mattei Road (WP 0005484). GSA Committee Member Brad Joos seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

6. Receive Update on SGMA Governance

Mr. Matt Young reported that the EMA GSA Member Agencies staff shared a draft JPA with the Santa Ynez Water Group for their review and to provide comments. Discussion followed.

Committee Member Brad Joos questioned if any entity was stalling the process. Committee Member Elizabeth Orona emphasized the need for the JPA to settle all issues in combination including to establish participants, cost sharing, voting, and liability not just participants. Alternate Committee Member Steve Jordan suggested that the GSA Committee may need to give direction to the staff. Committee Member Brett Marymee suggested setting a time limit for staff to return with draft JPA for consideration.

Public comment was received. Ms. Gay Infanti questioned why the EMA CAG was not provided the draft JPA along with the Santa Ynez Water Group. Mr. Young responded that

the Santa Ynez Water Group's request for the JPA draft document was considered a Public Records Request and was properly handled as such. Ms. Infanti requested that the EMA CAG be involved in the JPA creation process to represent all water users in the EMA.

Discussion followed regarding engaging the EMA CAG on this issue. Committee Member Brad Joos directed staff to post the JPA draft document on the website for public review. Committee Member Brett Marymee directed staff to schedule an EMA CAG meeting. Mr. Buelow responded that the EMA CAG has a standing meeting scheduled for October 18, 2023 at 3:00 pm so he will follow up with CAG members to coordinate that meeting.

7. Receive Update on SGMA Implementation Grant Award

Mr. Buelow reported that the Santa Ynez River Valley Basin was awarded \$5,534,000 from Department of Water Resources (DWR) SGM Grant Program's SGMA Implementation, Round 2 and provided the DWR's award list showing the SGMA implementation components and recommended awards. He reported that Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District will receive the DWR Grant Agreement and will execute it on behalf of the three GSAs. He advised that this grant does not have a matching funds requirement but does require the GSAs to spend money on implementation efforts and submit reimbursement requests to receive the grant funds and anticipates a retention of funds held by DWR as was the process for the last grant. The grant period is through July 2026. He thanked the City of Lompoc for their tremendous involvement and help with the grant application to secure funding for 100% of the requested amount to benefit the basin.

Discussion followed and public comment was received.

8. Discuss EMA Future Cost-Sharing Agreement and Funding of Future EMA Projects

Mr. Young reported that member agencies' staff is working to develop a draft Cost Share Agreement for each individual task and is making progress.

Discussion followed. Committee Member Brett Marymee and Committee Member Elizabeth Orona requested staff to develop a rough draft budget, rough draft time-phase budget and a reserve share estimate for discussion during the November EMA GSA Committee meeting. Committee Member Brad Joos responded that a JPA should be in place first and expressed concern with getting distracted with funding and a budget. Steve Anderson, legal counsel for Improvement District No. 1, reported that there could be legal concerns with cost share/loaning funds to the GSA without having a JPA in place. Brett Stroud, legal counsel for the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, agreed with Mr. Anderson but added that the SGMA law does grant the GSA certain powers without it needing to be a JPA.

9. Discuss EMA Well Registration and Groundwater Reporting Program

Mr. Buelow reported that information about many wells located in the EMA is unknown. Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District has information on the wells within their district boundaries. Mr. Young reported that Santa Barbara County issues well

permits and has records of where wells are located but does not update property owner information after the permit is issued. Discussion followed and public comment was received. Mr. Kevin Merrill offered to help member agencies' staff with the well registration effort as he was involved in the same effort for Los Alamos.

10. Next EMA GSA Regular Meeting, Thursday, October 26, 2023, at 6:30 PM, at the Santa Ynez CSD Community Room

EMA GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee announced the next EMA GSA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 26, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at the Santa Ynez Community Services District Community Room, 1070 Faraday Street, Santa Ynez, CA.

11. EMA GSA Committee Reports and Requests for Future Agenda Items

EMA GSA Committee Member Brad Joos requested that the Agenda Items No. 6, 7, 8, and 9 from this meeting remain on future agendas as standing items.

12. Adjournment

GSA Committee Chair Brett Marymee adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Brett Marymee, Chairman

William J. Buelow, Secretary

EMA GSA
Balance Sheet
As of September 30, 2023

	<u>Sep 30, 23</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1150 · Five Star Bank Checking #5951	7,454.70
Total Checking/Savings	<u>7,454.70</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>7,454.70</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>7,454.70</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
2300 · Deposits - Well Verification	5,107.50
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>5,107.50</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>5,107.50</u>
Total Liabilities	5,107.50
Equity	
3000 · Ret Earnings	2,425.67
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	10,121.34
Net Income	-10,199.81
Total Equity	<u>2,347.20</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>7,454.70</u></u>

EMA GSA
Profit & Loss YTD Comparison
July through September 2023

	<u>Jul - Sep 23</u>	<u>Jul - Sep 23</u>
Income		
4000 · Oper Assess fr Member Agencies	2,514.00	2,514.00
4600 · Interest Income	2.65	2.65
Total Income	<u>2,516.65</u>	<u>2,516.65</u>
Expense		
5330 · Outside Staff Support	300.00	300.00
5350 · Public Relations	411.36	411.36
6400 · Annual Report	12,005.10	12,005.10
Total Expense	<u>12,716.46</u>	<u>12,716.46</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-10,199.81</u></u>	<u><u>-10,199.81</u></u>

EMA GSA
Transaction Detail by Account
 July through September 2023

	<u>Type</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Clr</u>	<u>Split</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>
2300 · Deposits - Well Verification							Beginning Balance		1,677.50
	Bill	07/11/2023	02019.001-5	GSI Water Solutions, Inc.			2000 · Accounts Payable	-860.00	817.50
	Bill	07/11/2023	02019.001-6	GSI Water Solutions, Inc.			2000 · Accounts Payable	-430.00	387.50
	Bill	07/13/2023	137-390-025	Osberg	Refund unexpended Deposit		2000 · Accounts Payable	-145.00	242.50
	Bill	07/13/2023	135-300-020	Cohen	Refund unexpended Deposit		2000 · Accounts Payable	-240.00	2.50
	Bill	07/13/2023	135-280-037	Greenberg	Refund unexpended Deposit		2000 · Accounts Payable	-2.50	0.00
	General Journal	07/14/2023	Deposit		Mattei Road		1150 · Five Star Bank Checking #5951	2,200.00	2,200.00
	General Journal	07/27/2023	Deposit		Palma		1150 · Five Star Bank Checking #5951	2,200.00	4,400.00
	Bill	08/10/2023	02019.001-7	GSI Water Solutions, Inc.			2000 · Accounts Payable	-1,492.50	2,907.50
	General Journal	08/25/2023	Deposit		Liebman Deposit		1150 · Five Star Bank Checking #5951	2,200.00	5,107.50
Total 2300 · Deposits - Well Verification								<u>3,430.00</u>	<u>5,107.50</u>
TOTAL								<u>3,430.00</u>	<u>5,107.50</u>

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILTY AGENCY FOR THE
EASTERN MANAGEMENT AREA (EMA)
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN**

JULY 2023 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1012	07/13/23	GSI Water Solutions	March 2023 EMA Annual Report WY 2021-2022	\$ 9,491.10
1013	07/13/23	Santa Barbara News Press	Legal Notices of June 22, 2023 Meeting to Revise Fee Publication dates: 6/1/2023 and 6/8/2023	\$ 84.36
1014	07/13/23	Santa Ynez CSD	Conference Room Rental (6/22/23 EMA GSA Meeting)	\$ 30.00
1015	07/13/23	GSI Water Solutions	May and June 2023 Review for Well Verifications (paid by Well Owner Deposits)	\$ 1,290.00
1016	07/13/23	Bertrum Cohen	Refund Unexpended Deposit - Well Verification Review	\$ 240.00
1017	07/13/23	Michael Greenberg (South Well)	Refund Unexpended Deposit - Well Verification Review	\$ 2.50
1018	07/13/23	Scott and Diana Osberg	Refund Unexpended Deposit - Well Verification Review	\$ 145.00
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 11,282.96

AUGUST 2023 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1019	08/18/23	GSI Water Solutions	July 2023 Review for Well Verifications (paid by Well Owner Deposits)	\$ 1,492.50
1020	08/18/23	Santa Ynez CSD	Conference Room Rental (8/10/23 EMA GSA Meeting)	\$ 75.00
1021	08/18/23	GSI Water Solutions	April-May 2023 EMA Annual Report WY 2021-2022 Measuring Point & Groundwater Elevation Error Task (Partial Payment of Invoice 515.005-8)	\$ 2,514.00
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 4,081.50

SEPTEMBER 2023 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1022	09/30/23	Onsite Computers	Office 365 Basic License (email) - ema@SantaYnezWater.org	\$ 72.00
1023	09/30/23	Santa Ynez CSD	Conference Room Rental (8/24 & 9/28/23 EMA GSA Meetings)	\$ 150.00
1024	09/30/23	Valley Bookkeeping	2023 3rd Quarter Bookkeeping (July, August, September 2023)	\$ 300.00
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 522.00

TOTAL CHECKS THIS QUARTER: \$ 15,886.46

EASTERN MANAGEMENT AREA
CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP
MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 16, 2023
TO: EMA GSA Committee
FROM: EMA Citizen Advisory Group
Prepared by Gay Infanti
SUBJECT: Review of 9/23 Draft of Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement Santa Ynez River Valley
Basin Eastern Management Area GSA

Eastern Management Area (EMA) Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) Members

Present were CAG members Mary Heyden and Gay Infanti
Also present were EMA Staff Members Bill Buelow, Paeter Garcia and Matt Young

Introduction

The EMA CAG held a meeting on October 18, 2023, in person to discuss the draft Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement Santa Ynez River Valley Basin Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Below is a summary of the CAG’s comments and Discussions with Staff, by JPA section:

RECITALS

There was one clarification requested concerning Recital N, which sought clarification about the “joint or individual public hearing(s) regarding entering into this agreement”. It was confirmed that these referenced meetings were the regular EMA GSA meetings.

ARTICLE 5 POWERS – There was a request for clarification re 5.2, in which Solvang was cited wherein, “in the event of Santa Barbara’s withdrawal as a JPA member under this agreement, the GSA’s powers would be exercised subject to those restrictions imposed on Solvang”. The response means that, similar to Santa Barbara County, Solvang as an incorporated City, is required to hold public meetings using specified parliamentary procedure and subject to the Ralph M. Brown act and therefore, any Member selected to lead the JPA would be obligated to honor those restrictions.

ARTICLE 7, BOARD OF DIRECTORS – A CAG member raised an issue re 7.1(e), concerning the addition of a Non-Member, voting Director representing agricultural interests. At issue was why one stakeholder group would be given special treatment while others, including domestic well owners, mutual water companies, municipal users, and the environment were not granted the same privilege. It was brought up that other GSAs within the state, which also added agricultural members, also included other stakeholder interests, such as a director representing environmental interests.

A CAG member presented an additional perspective for agricultural membership in the JPA. Because the agricultural users produce a large portion of pumped groundwater and therefore expect to pay a significant amount of the GSA's cost associated with the GSP implementation, it may require a communication conduit directly from the JPA to achieve agricultural stakeholders' buy-in to ensure the GSP's objectives for achieving groundwater sustainability in the EMA are accomplished. It was further stated that The Santa Ynez Water Group fully intends to partner in the sustainable management of the EMA Basin. The Santa Ynez Water Group maintains the belief that none of the Agencies solely represents Agricultural interests, which they feel supports the addition of an Agricultural Representative.

Both CAG members advocated that any Non-Member Director selected to represent agricultural interests, must be a resident within the EMA GSA boundaries. GSAs are intended, by SGMA, to be local agencies.

ARTICLE 9, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & STAFF – There is concern about future costs and the need to plan for them at the JPA member agency level. The JPA needs to come up with budgets and associated cost sharing that can be provided in a timely manner, i.e., when member agencies are developing their agency budgets.

ARTICLE 11, VOTING –There was discussion regarding the differences between the proposed one vote, one director versus weighted voting.

ARTICLE 14, BUDGET AND EXPENSES – A request was made by one of the CAG members that each member's governing board be allowed to approve proposed JPA budgets and expenses, before the JPA Directors vote to adopt them. There was discussion concerning future sources of funds and a suggestion that the JPA begin to anticipate the need for funds as soon as possible.

There were no further comments, and the meeting was adjourned.

INTERIM COST SHARING AGREEMENT
Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin - Eastern Management Area

This Interim Cost Sharing Agreement (“Agreement”) is made as of November 15, 2023 by and among the Santa Barbara County Water Agency (“Water Agency”), Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (“SYRWCD”), City of Solvang (“Solvang”), and Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 (“ID No.1”). The entities listed above may be referred to herein individually as a “Party” or jointly as the “Parties.” For purposes of this Agreement, the “Effective Date” shall be the date the last Party executes this Agreement.

RECITALS

- A. Whereas, on or about April 27, 2017, the Parties entered into the “Memorandum of Agreement for Formation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Eastern Management Area in the Santa Ynez Valley Groundwater Basin under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act” (the “2017 MOA”); and
- B. Whereas, among the stated purposes of the 2017 MOA are to form a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“GSA”) for the Eastern Management Area (“EMA”) of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (“Basin”) under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”), and to develop and submit a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“GSP”) for the EMA portion of the Basin; and
- C. Whereas, the EMA is one of three Management Areas in the Basin, and pursuant to separate 2017 Memoranda of Understanding, the local public agencies in the Western Management Area (“WMA”) and Central Management Area (“CMA”), respectively, formed a WMA GSA and a CMA GSA; and
- D. Whereas, in January 2022, the EMA GSA, the WMA GSA, and the CMA GSA each timely adopted and submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) its own GSP for its respective Management Area; and
- E. Whereas, the EMA GSP identifies various Projects and Management Actions (“PMAs”) to be pursued in the EMA, some to be pursued in the initial years following adoption and submittal of the GSP, to help achieve sustainable groundwater management in accordance with SGMA and the GSP, where funding will be needed for the development and implementation of said PMAs; and
- F. Whereas, SGMA and other applicable law authorize the imposition of fees and charges, including, but not limited to, permit fees and fees and charges on groundwater extraction or other regulated activity to fund, without limitation, the costs of a groundwater sustainability program and implementing a GSP in accordance with SGMA; and
- G. Whereas, to date, the EMA GSA has not imposed any fees or charges to generate funding needed for the development and implementation of PMAs identified in the EMA GSP; and
- H. Whereas, the Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) has awarded a grant to the three GSAs for certain PMAs (“DWR Grant Funds”); and

- I. Whereas, the Parties to this Agreement are currently negotiating the formation of a new Joint Powers Agency (“JPA”) to serve as the EMA GSA, with authority under SGMA and other applicable law to adopt and impose fees and charges throughout the EMA to carry out sustainable groundwater management, including, but not limited to, the administration, development, and implementation of PMAs identified in the EMA GSP, the preparation and administration of reports and other documentation required for SGMA compliance, and the carrying out of other administrative functions for the EMA GSA; and
- J. Whereas, the Parties to this Agreement recognize that a source or sources of interim funding is needed to begin administration, development, and implementation of certain PMAs identified in the EMA GSP, to prepare reports and other documentation required for SGMA compliance, and to carry out other administrative functions for the EMA GSA, where such interim funding is needed prior to the receipt of DWR Grant Funds and/or prior to when the EMA JPA has developed its own funding sources; and
- K. Whereas, the purpose of this Agreement is to address interim cost sharing among the Parties as one source of funding to assist with initial efforts to administer, develop, and implement PMAs identified in the EMA GSP, prepare reports and other documentation required for SGMA compliance, and carry out other administrative functions for the EMA GSA prior to the receipt of DWR Grant Funds and/or prior to when the EMA JPA has developed its own funding sources, recognizing that the interim cost sharing arrangement set forth by this Agreement is specifically limited in term, function, and scope as set forth below.

NOW, THEREFORE, based on the Recitals set forth above, and on the terms and conditions set forth below, the Parties agree as follows:

AGREEMENT

- 1. Cost Sharing / Reimbursement. Upon execution of this Agreement, the Parties agree to share in expenses (“Shared Costs”) for certain initial efforts to help implement SGMA in the EMA, as further described in Sections 2 and 3, below. This initial cost sharing arrangement is being agreed to by each Party pursuant to the express understanding and condition that any amounts paid in accordance with this Agreement by any Party on or after the Effective Date, including but not limited to each Party’s proportionate share of Shared Costs, shall be reimbursed, without interest, by the EMA GSA (whether the future EMA JPA or the GSA established under the 2017 MOA and any amendment thereto) through grant funds received by or on behalf of the EMA GSA to the extent allowed by the terms of such grant(s), or through other funds generated, acquired, or otherwise held by or on behalf of the EMA GSA, including but not limited to SGMA-related fees, charges, loans, or other funding, to the extent such reimbursement is authorized by law. Such reimbursement will be made when the EMA GSA determines it has funds available for such reimbursement that may legally be used for that purpose and such reimbursement will be made no later than December 2026, unless such date is extended by written agreement by the Parties hereto.

2. Cost Share Activities. Subject to other terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Parties acknowledge and agree that EMA GSA activities for which Shared Costs may be needed under this Agreement may include, without limitation:

- Consultant/Contractor work to prepare and submit Annual Report(s) required by SGMA;
- Consultant/Contractor work to prepare and submit materials in response to comments or requests from DWR and/or the State Water Resources Control Board;
- Consultant/Contractor work in support of developing, adopting, and implementing fees and/or charges authorized by SGMA and other applicable law to implement the EMA GSP;
- Consultant/Contractor work in support of grant writing or other applications to secure funding to implement the EMA GSP;
- Consultant/Contractor work to assist with the administration of this Agreement and/or other administrative activities on behalf of the EMA GSA to comply with SGMA;
- Consultant/Contractor work in support of Group 1 PMAs set forth in the EMA GSP;
- Securing and maintaining applicable insurance coverage(s) to be held by the EMA GSA.

3. Approval of Shared Costs. Each separate and specific activity to be undertaken by or on behalf of the EMA GSA for which the Parties agree to contribute Shared Costs under this Agreement (individually, a “Cost Share Activity”), such as an activity identified in Section 2 above, shall be expressly described and set forth as a new and separate Task Order, where each Party will have an opportunity to review and determine whether to contribute its portion of Shared Costs for such Cost Share Activity. Each proposed Cost Share Activity set forth as a new Task Order shall include a not-to-exceed dollar amount for the work to be undertaken, plus a ten percent (10%) contingency, the total of which shall constitute the “Total Cost” of said Cost Share Activity. On each occasion where all Parties are presented with a proposed Cost Share Activity and corresponding Total Cost, the Parties collectively shall endeavor in good faith to reach unanimous agreement on whether the Total Cost is acceptable, and upon reaching such unanimity, as applicable, each Party shall endeavor in good faith to notify the other Parties in writing within three (3) business days regarding its agreement to cost share. On any occasion where all Parties are informed that the costs to complete a Cost Share Activity will exceed its corresponding Total Cost as originally approved by the Parties (individually, a “Total Cost Exceedance”), the Parties collectively shall endeavor in good faith to reach unanimous agreement on whether the amount of the Total Cost Exceedance is acceptable, and upon reaching such unanimity, as applicable,

each Party shall endeavor in good faith to notify the other Parties in writing within three (3) business days regarding its agreement to cost share.

No Party shall be responsible for a proportionate or any other share of Shared Costs in excess of the maximum limits established in this Agreement without the express written agreement of that Party.

4. Allocation of Shared Costs. The Shared Costs shall be allocated among the Parties as follows:

Water Agency:	25%
SYRWCD:	25%
Solvang:	25%
ID No.1:	25%
Total:	100.0%

5. Administrative Coordination. The Parties agree to cooperatively share in the administrative duties related to this Agreement, including but not limited to soliciting, entering into, and coordinating professional services agreement(s) for consultant work contemplated by this Agreement. The Parties agree that any work undertaken by any Party, including its elected officials, officers, managers, employees, consultants, attorneys, experts, or agents, shall be at that Party's sole cost and expense and shall not become part of any Shared Costs incurred by or paid to any Party under this Agreement, except as otherwise expressly agreed upon in writing by all Parties to this Agreement.
6. Payments and Accounting. For each approved Task Order, the Parties agree to designate one Party, which designation must be unanimously agreed to by the Parties, for the purpose of administering payments and refunds of Shared Costs by and to the Parties, and administering expenses of Shared Costs for activities authorized by this Agreement. For each approved Total Cost or Total Cost Exceedance, each Party shall pay its proportionate share of Shared Costs on a lump sum basis. For each approved Task Order, to the extent that final actual costs are less than the corresponding Total Cost or Total Cost Exceedance as approved under this Agreement, the remaining Shared Costs shall be refunded to each contributing Party in proportion to its contribution of Shared Costs; provided, however, a Party may elect to carry forward any refund due under this Section as a credit of Shared Costs.
7. Term. This Agreement shall commence on the Effective Date and shall continue in effect for up to two (2) years unless extended, amended, or terminated by the Parties in accordance with Sections 9 or 10, below.
8. Extension or Amendment. The term of this Agreement may be extended by the Parties at any time prior to its expiration by unanimous written agreement of the Parties. The terms of this Agreement may be amended or modified only by the mutual written agreement of

the Parties. No extension, supplement, amendment, or modification of this Agreement shall be binding unless it is in writing and signed by all Parties.

9. Termination. This Agreement may be terminated, and such termination shall be effective immediately, upon unanimous written consent of all Parties.
10. Withdrawal. Any Party may unilaterally withdraw from this Agreement without causing or requiring termination of this Agreement, where such withdrawal shall be effective immediately upon written notice to the other Parties. Upon withdrawal of a Party, the remaining Parties may agree in writing to a different allocation of Shared Costs in accordance with Section 4.
11. Effect of Termination or Withdrawal. Upon termination of this Agreement or unilateral withdrawal of a Party, each Party, including a withdrawing Party, shall remain obligated to pay its entire share(s) and obligation(s) of Shared Costs pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, but only to the extent that such share(s) and obligation(s) of Shared Costs were approved by the obligated Party prior to the effective date of such termination or withdrawal. No termination of, or withdrawal from, this Agreement shall be construed as affecting any Party's right to reimbursement from the EMA GSA (whether the future EMA JPA or the GSA established under the 2017 MOA and any amendment thereto) of any Shared Costs paid by said Party under this Agreement.
12. Relationship. Nothing in this Agreement creates an attorney-client relationship between any attorney and any Party that is not represented by that attorney as its legal counsel.
13. Written Notice. Whenever notice under this Agreement is required to be in writing, it shall be provided to all Parties by United States Mail with postage prepaid, by overnight delivery service, or via electronic mail, at the following addresses:

To Water Agency:

130 E. Victoria Street, Suite 200
Attn: Matt Young
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
mcyoung@countyofsb.org

To SYRWCD:

P.O. Box 719
Attn: William Buelow
Santa Ynez, CA 93460
bbuelow@syrwcd.com

To Solvang:

1644 Oak Street
Attn: Randy Murphy
Solvang, CA 93463
randym@cityofsolvang.com

To ID No.1:

P.O. Box 157
Attn: General Manager
Santa Ynez, CA 93460
pgarcia@syrwd.org

If sent by United States Mail, notice shall be considered to have been given forty-eight (48) hours after it has been deposited in the United States Mail with postage prepaid, addressed as set forth above. If sent by overnight delivery service, notice shall be considered to have been given twenty-four (24) hours after it has been deposited with the overnight delivery service.

14. Conditional Approval of Shared Cost Contributions. The Parties agree that their contributions of Shared Costs under this Agreement are conditioned upon and subject to approvals by the EMA GSA (including the future EMA JPA and the GSA established under the 2017 MOA and any amendment thereto) to provide reimbursement to the Parties as provided in Section 1 of this Agreement.
15. Law Governing. This Agreement is made in and shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California.
16. Section Headings. All section headings in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and are not to be construed as modifying or governing the operative language of this Agreement or to define or limit the scope of any provision of this Agreement.
17. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
18. Construction of Agreement. Each Party acknowledges and agrees that said Party has had an informed and complete opportunity to participate in the negotiation and drafting of this Agreement and has had access to competent legal counsel to advise said Party concerning the terms and effects of this Agreement, and all Parties agree that no Party shall be deemed to be the drafting Party of this Agreement in any dispute involving construction of the terms of this Agreement.
19. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in multiple counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which, together, shall constitute one and the same instrument.

- 20. No Third Party Beneficiary. This Agreement shall not be construed or deemed to be an agreement for the benefit of any third party or parties and no third party or parties shall have any claim or right of action hereunder for any cause whatsoever.
- 21. Authorized Signature. Each Party represents that the individual signing this Agreement on its behalf is duly authorized to execute this Agreement and will legally bind that Party to the terms of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto agree to the terms and conditions hereof and have executed this Agreement.

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

By: _____ Date: _____
William J. Buelow
Assistant General Manager

CITY OF SOLVANG

By: _____ Date: _____
Randy Murphy
City Manager

**SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT,
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO.1**

By: _____ Date: _____
Paeter Garcia
General Manager

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY WATER AGENCY

ATTEST:

Mona Miyasato
County Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board, Ex Officio Clerk of
the Santa Barbara County Water Agency

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

By: _____
Das Williams, Chair
Board of Directors

Date: _____

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:

Santa Barbara County Water Agency

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Greg Milligan, ARM
Risk Manager

By: _____
Scott D. McGolpin
Public Works Director

By: _____
Risk Management

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Rachel Van Mullem
County Counsel

**APPROVED AS TO ACCOUNTING
FORM:**

Betsy M. Schaffer, CPA
Auditor-Controller

By: _____
Deputy County Counsel

By: _____
Deputy

Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Eastern Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin

RESOLUTION NO. EMA-2023-003

RESOLUTION REGARDING EASTERN MANAGEMENT AREA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE REIMBURSEMENT TO EMA GSA AGENCIES FOR CERTAIN SHARED COST CONTRIBUTIONS

WHEREAS, on or about April 27, 2017, the Santa Barbara County Water Agency (“Water Agency”), Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (“SYRWCD”), City of Solvang (“Solvang”), and Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1 (“ID No.1”) entered into the “Memorandum of Agreement for Formation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Eastern Management Area in the Santa Ynez Valley Groundwater Basin under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act” (the “2017 MOA”); and

WHEREAS, among the stated purposes of the 2017 MOA are to form a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“GSA”) for the Eastern Management Area (“EMA”) of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (“Basin”) under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”), and to develop and submit a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“GSP”) for the EMA portion of the Basin; and

WHEREAS, in January 2022, the EMA GSA timely adopted and submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) its own GSP for the EMA portion of the Basin; and

WHEREAS, the EMA GSP identifies various Projects and Management Actions (“PMAs”) to be pursued in the EMA, some to be pursued in the initial years following adoption and submittal of the GSP, to help achieve sustainable groundwater management in accordance with SGMA and the GSP, where funding will be needed for the development and implementation of said PMAs; and

WHEREAS, SGMA and other applicable law authorize the imposition of fees and charges, including, but not limited to, permit fees and fees and charges on groundwater extraction or other regulated activity to fund, without limitation, the costs of a groundwater sustainability program and implementing a GSP in accordance with SGMA; and

WHEREAS, to date, the EMA GSA has not imposed any fees or charges to generate funding needed for the development and implementation of PMAs identified in the EMA GSP; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) recently has awarded a Proposition 68 grant (“DWR Grant Funds”) for the three GSAs in the Basin to implement SGMA and certain PMAs identified in their respective GSPs; and

WHEREAS, the Water Agency, SYRWCD, Solvang, and ID No.1 (collectively, the “EMA GSA Agencies”) are currently involved in negotiations to form a new Joint Powers Agency (“JPA”) to serve as the EMA GSA, which JPA will have the authority under SGMA and other applicable law to adopt and impose fees and charges throughout the EMA to carry out sustainable groundwater management, including, but not limited to, the administration, development, and implementation of PMAs identified in the EMA GSP, the preparation and administration of reports and other documentation required for SGMA compliance, and the carrying out of other administrative functions for the EMA GSA; and

WHEREAS, the EMA GSA and the EMA GSA Parties recognize that a source or sources of interim funding is needed to begin administration, development, and implementation of certain PMAs identified in the EMA GSP, to prepare reports and other documentation required for SGMA compliance, and to carry out other administrative functions for the EMA GSA, where such interim funding is needed prior to the receipt of DWR Grant Funds and/or prior to when the EMA JPA has developed its own funding sources; and

WHEREAS, the EMA GSA Agencies are preparing to enter an Interim Cost Sharing Agreement that will enable the EMA GSA Agencies to collectively provide one source of funding to assist with initial efforts such as administering, developing, and implementing PMAs identified in the EMA GSP, preparing reports and other documentation required for SGMA compliance, and carrying out other administrative functions for the EMA GSA prior to the receipt of DWR Grant Funds and/or prior to when the EMA JPA has developed its own funding sources, recognizing that the Interim Cost Sharing Agreement is specifically limited in term, function, and scope as set forth in that Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, the EMA GSA resolves as follows:

1. The above Recitals are incorporated herein by reference.
2. The EMA GSA agrees that cost sharing amounts voluntarily paid by the EMA GSA Agencies in accordance with the Interim Cost Sharing Agreement and amendments thereto shall be reimbursed to the EMA GSA Agencies, without interest, by the EMA GSA (whether the future EMA JPA or the GSA established under the 2017 MOA and any amendment thereto) through grant funds received by or on behalf of the EMA GSA to the extent allowed by the terms of such grant(s), or through other funds generated, acquired, or otherwise held by or on behalf of the EMA GSA, including but not limited to SGMA-related fees, charges, loans, or other funding, to the extent such reimbursement is authorized by law.
3. Such reimbursement to the EMA GSA Agencies shall be made when the EMA GSA determines it has funds available for such reimbursement that may legally be used for that purpose, provided that such reimbursement shall be made to the EMA GSA Agencies no later than December 31, 2026, unless such date is extended by written agreement among the EMA GSA Agencies.
4. This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

DRAFT

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the governing body of the Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency on November 16, 2023 by the following roll call vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

ATTEST:

Brett Marymee, Chairman

William J. Buelow, Secretary



November 3, 2023

Matt Young
Santa Barbara County Water Agency
130 E. Victoria St., Suite 200
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Proposal for Annual Report Water Year 2022-2023 for the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, Eastern Management Area

Dear Mr. Young:

GSI Water Solutions (GSI) is pleased to present this proposal to prepare an Annual Report for the 2022 to 2023 Water Year for the Eastern Management Area (EMA) portion of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin). The Annual Report will be prepared to present the current groundwater conditions and progress towards implementing the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (Plan) for the Basin, which is managed by the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the EMA.

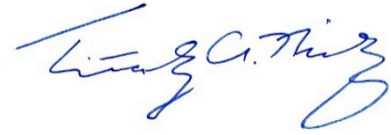
This Annual Report will be prepared by GSI, who prepared the Plan for the EMA. GSI will be able to leverage this familiarity to deliver the single Annual Report on time and in compliance with State regulations. Our team will bring the following as the GSA's partner on this project:

- **A streamlined project delivery.** GSI understands the needs and issues of the stakeholders within the EMA portion of the Basin, which will enable us to work effectively and efficiently to meet the tight deadlines.
- **The ability to foster collaboration and consensus.** GSI will draw evidence-based conclusions about the groundwater conditions to help all parties come together in a collaborative, cooperative manner. Our unbiased approach will allow us to work effectively with the GSA and stakeholders, facilitate timely reviews and decision-making, and help find common ground to build consensus.
- **Experience helping clients comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA):** We have led the development of Plans throughout the State and within the Basin, and we have helped GSAs with the completion and submission of annual reports, including that of the EMA. We understand what the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the stakeholders are looking for in annual reports and will use this experience to set the template for the reporting structure and content for years to come.

The Plan for the EMA portion of the Basin outlined steps for ensuring sustainability in accordance with SGMA. To measure the effectiveness of the Plan and demonstrate to DWR that the GSA is being sustainably managed, the GSA will compile data and prepare annual reports that summarize the results of monitoring efforts, document changes in groundwater supplies, tabulate groundwater use, and track the effectiveness of Plan implementation efforts. To achieve this goal, this proposal presents a scope and costs to prepare an Annual Report for the EMA portion of the Basin for water year 2022 - 2023, which will be approved by the GSA and submitted to DWR for an on-time delivery by March 31, 2024.

Thank you for your consideration of our proposal. We look forward to the opportunity to support this project for the Basin. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Nicely". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "T" and "N".

Tim Nicely, PG, CHg
Supervising Hydrogeologist and Project Manager
GSI Water Solutions, Inc.
805.701.1245
tnicely@gsiws.com

Scope of Work

The following scope of work presents our understanding of the requirements as outlined in the SGMA Emergency Regulations, based on our experience preparing the previous annual report to meet DWR standards, and stakeholder groundwater management needs. This proposal presents tasks focused on the Eastern Management Area (EMA) portion of the Basin, which will be prepared by GSI, culminating in the submittal of an Annual Report for the EMA portion of the Basin.

Task 1 – Data Analysis and Representation

The following sections describe the data types that will be presented as required for DWR annual reports. The datasets will be appended to the DMS data tables that are compiled in compliance with Plan requirements. These data will be uploaded to the DWR website along with the Annual Report.

Several discrete data sets are required to be included in the Data Management System (DMS) and presented in this Annual Report, including the following:

- Groundwater elevation data (for each principal aquifer)
- Groundwater extraction
- Surface water supply
- Total water use
- Change in groundwater in storage

Groundwater Elevation Data

Groundwater elevation data are collected and compiled through the County of Santa Barbara groundwater level monitoring program, operated by the Santa Barbara County (County) Water Agency with data collected twice a year (typically in April and October) and by the City of Solvang monthly. We are familiar with the wells in the County water level monitoring program and the Plan's representative monitoring well network.

Water level contour maps of each of the principal aquifers (Paso Robles Formation Aquifer and the Careaga Sand Aquifer) will be prepared representing groundwater conditions in October 2022, April 2023, and October 2023.

The EMA's representative monitoring well network includes 24 monitoring wells, which is a subset of the County monitoring program. Each of the hydrographs presented in the Plan will be updated to include data through October 2023. Data through October 2023 will be used to represent groundwater conditions present at the end of water year 2022-2023. Recommendations may follow for potential adjustments to the monitoring schedule that could provide data within the current water year.

Groundwater Extraction

Groundwater extraction data were compiled and represented in the *Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin - Eastern Management Area Annual Report Water Year 2022*. These data will be updated, including the estimates of extractions, water use by sector, and methodology of measurement. Updated groundwater extraction information will be estimated using data provided by SYRWCD, extraction data from the mutual water companies in the EMA, as available, crop coverage information derived from satellite imagery, and crop water use factors provided by SYRWCD. Where applicable, the irrigated parcel and field boundaries and crop types will be determined using satellite imagery, including those provided by DWR, and from data prepared by OpenET. GSI will contract with OpenET to obtain available crop mapping data and overlay Open ET data to each field to estimate water use for each field. The crop mapping information will also be overlain with tax lot information provided by Santa Barbara County and the District to correlate estimated water use of the irrigated parcels.

Surface Water Supply

The SGMA regulations require that a description of surface water supplies be incorporated into the report. Use of surface water in the EMA is relatively small but is well documented. These data will be compiled and described and incorporated into the total EMA water use data compilation and descriptions.

Total Water Use

We will compile and present total water use information for the area of the EMA, including water sector, water source type, method of measurement, and a relative representation of accuracy of the measurement methodology (DWR standards in other annual report submittals that we are familiar with require qualitative judgments such as “high,” “medium,” and “low”).

Change in Groundwater in Storage

During development of the Plan, calculations of groundwater-in-storage changes in each of the two principal aquifers (Paso Robles Formation and Careaga Sand aquifers), were performed through use of the groundwater flow model. To perform similar calculations for the Annual Report would require updating the model, which is neither planned nor advised for the annual reporting effort. An alternative method for calculating changes in groundwater in storage from one year to another is to create water level contour maps for each year of interest and calculate the volume changes between years. This method is approved by DWR and was used in the Annual Report Water Year 2022. An ArcGIS® tool will be used to compute the volume difference between the initial groundwater surface elevation and following year’s groundwater surface elevation. By applying hydraulic property values (e.g., storage coefficient) for the principal aquifers we can compute the change in the volume of groundwater present in each aquifer. It is not necessary to know the total volume of groundwater in storage; but instead, the storage change (positive or negative) from year to year. Based on these contours, we will compute the difference in the water surface elevation and the volume of saturated aquifer that has changed for each principal aquifer. This calculation will be conducted to compute the change in storage between the fall and spring periods for 2022 and 2023. These data will be used along with storage coefficients representative of each aquifer.

Task 2 – Report Preparation

The overall purpose of the Annual Report is to update and use the compiled data to assess the progress that the EMA GSA and various stakeholders are making towards successful Plan implementation. The results of the data analysis will be evaluated and compared with the goals of the Plan, then described in the Annual Report to demonstrate to DWR the efforts of the GSA and the effectiveness of Plan implementation. Initial efforts to implement management actions described in the Plan will also be described.

Building upon our experience with the preparation and submittal of annual reports and the general outline of the necessary components of the report structure described in the SGMA Emergency Regulations, GSI will prepare an initial administrative draft report for GSA staff review. The report will be based on data collected and the analysis performed as described above, on other data that may become available, and on ongoing discussions with the GSA staff. The general organization of the report for the EMA is expected to be the following:

- Executive Summary
- Introduction
- Basin Description (brief recapture of EMA’s Plan description)
- Groundwater Conditions
 - Groundwater Monitoring Network
 - Groundwater Elevations, including water level contour maps and updated hydrographs
 - Change in Groundwater in Storage
- Water Supply and Demand
- Progress Towards Implementing the Plan
- Summary, Conclusions, and Recommendations

- Appendices
 - A. Groundwater Monitoring Program Well Information
 - B. Hydrographs
 - C. Precipitation
 - D. Groundwater in Storage Calculation and Specific Yield/Storage Coefficient Discussion
 - E. Groundwater in Storage Sensitivity Analysis
 - F. Water Budget Data

Deliverables include the following:

- Administrative draft report, for review and approval by the GSA staff
- Draft report, for review by the GSA staff, and the GSA Committee
- Final report to be submitted to the DWR

Task 3 – Report Submittal

Following completion of the Annual Report, GSI staff will upload the report and associated data to the DWR portal. GSI staff are familiar with the SGMA reporting process and template on the DWR portal for annual reporting and have submitted several SGMA annual reports to DWR.

Task 4 – Meetings and Workshop

GSI has budgeted for the following meetings:

- GSA staff meetings (2), including the kickoff meeting
- GSA / public workshop on the draft report

Task 5 – Project Management and Administration

Project management tasks include project setup, monthly invoicing, communications with the GSA staff, GSI team coordination, and project closeout.

Fee Proposal and Schedule

Fee Proposal

The costs to prepare the Annual Report are presented on the table below. No expenses for travel, lodging or meals are included in our cost proposal because we assume they will be unnecessary. The costs presented include a 10 percent markup for outside services for OpenET water use data retrieval. GSI’s 2023-2024 Fee schedule is attached.

	GSI Labor Cost	Outside Services	Total
Task 1 – Data Analysis and Representation	\$21,074	\$550	\$21,624
Task 2 – Report Preparation	\$18,870	\$0	\$18,870
Task 3 – Report Submittal	\$1,803	\$0	\$1,803
Task 4 – Meetings and Workshop	\$7,993	\$0	\$7,993
Task 5 – Project Management and Administration	\$7,380	\$0	\$7,380
Project Totals	\$57,120	\$550	\$57,670

Schedule

Meeting the reporting schedule is a top priority. The schedule is extremely tight; GSI must adhere to project milestones focused on submittal of the final report by March 31, 2024. The tentative key dates for the preparation and submittal of the report include:

- February 2024: Presentation of draft report at GSA staff meeting
 - February 22, 2024
- March 2024: Presentation of final report to GSA staff meeting
 - March 21, 2024
- March 31, 2024: Final report submittal to DWR

We anticipate working with the GSA staff as an initial task to finalize these dates. We will adhere to the schedule developed during that initial task through close management of the team as well as communication and coordination with the GSA staff. Should any schedule deviation occur, the GSI team will address it promptly and propose a solution to the GSA project manager.

Scope and Budget Assumptions

- The GSA will provide timely assistance in providing the following data:
 - Water levels for spring and fall of 2015 through 2023
 - Groundwater production data for 2022 and 2023
 - Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District self-reported pumping data that will enable estimation of irrigation demand for 2022 and 2023
- Our scope includes:
 - GSA staff meetings including GSI staff for the Eastern Management Area including the kickoff meeting for the consultant team and GSA staff, lasting 2 hours each
 - GSA and Public workshop on the draft report
 - One set of revisions to final Annual Report



2023 GSI Fee Schedule

Labor Category	Hourly Rate
Technical Professionals	
Principal	\$275 - \$325
Supervising	\$195 - \$285
Managing	\$165 - \$205
Consulting	\$160 - \$180
Project	\$150 - \$180
Staff	\$120 - \$150
Other Services	
GIS/Graphics/Database	\$140 - \$180
Editor/Documents	\$120 - \$150
Administration	\$80 - \$120

The hourly rate for trial preparation and expert witness testimony is 1.5 times the standard billing rate shown above.

Expenses

- **Mileage:** IRS authorized rate/mile plus 10 percent markup
- **Direct expenses and outside services:** Cost plus 10 percent markup
- **Enterprise GIS:** \$100 per month for the duration of use

Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin
2024 Regular GSA Meetings

CMA GSA Committee

Mondays, 10:00 am
 Buellton City Council Chambers

January 22	Meeting
February 26	Regular Meeting (Quarterly Business)
March 25	Meeting
April 22	Meeting
May 20 *	Regular Meeting (Quarterly Business)
June 24	Meeting
July 22	Meeting
August 26	Regular Meeting (Quarterly Business)
September 23	Meeting
October 28	Meeting
November 18 *	Regular Meeting (Quarterly Business)
December 16 *	Meeting

EMA GSA Committee

Thursday, 6:30 pm
 Santa Ynez CSD Meeting Room

January 25	Meeting
February 22	Regular Meeting (Quarterly Business)
March 28	Meeting
April 25	Meeting
May 23	Regular Meeting (Quarterly Business)
June 27	Meeting
July 25	Meeting
August 22	Regular Meeting (Quarterly Business)
September 26	Meeting
October 24	Meeting
November 21 *	Regular Meeting (Quarterly Business)
December 19 *	Meeting

WMA GSA Committee

Wednesday, 10:00 am
 Vandenberg Village CSD Meeting Room

January 24	Meeting
February 28	Regular Meeting (Quarterly Business)
March 27	Meeting
April 24	Meeting
May 22	Regular Meeting (Quarterly Business)
June 26	Meeting
July 24	Meeting
August 28	Regular Meeting (Quarterly Business)
September 25	Meeting
October 23	Meeting
November 20 *	Regular Meeting (Quarterly Business)
December 18 *	Meeting

* Meeting to be held early due to holidays