



## DRAFT TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

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**DATE:** August 10, 2021 **PROJECT #:** 9090.1301

**TO:** Ad Hoc Sustainable Groundwater Planning Advisory Committee (GSU22 Committee)

**CC:** Brian Lockwood, P.G., C.Hg. and Casey Meusel, Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PV Water)

**FROM:** Cameron Tana, P.E.

**PROJECT:** Basin Management Plan: Groundwater Sustainability Update 2022 (GSU22)

**SUBJECT:** Proposed GSU22 Committee Statements for Sustainability Status in Pajaro Valley Subbasin: Groundwater in Storage, Seawater Intrusion, and Water Quality

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### INTRODUCTION

The Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PV Water) submitted a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Alternative for the Pajaro Valley Subbasin (Basin) on December 31, 2016, to meet requirements under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) approved the GSP Alternative on July 17, 2019. The Basin Management Plan: Groundwater Sustainability Update 2022 (GSU22) will be submitted as the 5-Year Update to the GSP Alternative that is due January 1, 2022. In order to update DWR on the sustainability status of the Basin, the GSU22 will describe current groundwater conditions for each applicable sustainability indicator relative to sustainable management criteria (SMC).

We have provided 2 draft technical memoranda (TMs) to the GSU22 Committee describing current groundwater conditions for 3 of the 5 applicable sustainability indicators for the Basin:

- The TM describing conditions for groundwater in storage and seawater intrusion is *Sustainability Status in Pajaro Valley Subbasin: Implementation Status of Projects and Management Actions and Progress for Groundwater in Storage and Seawater Intrusion Indicators* dated July 2, 2021 (Storage and SWI TM). We presented the Storage and SWI TM at the July 8 GSU22 Committee meeting.

- The TM describing conditions for water quality is *Sustainability Status in Pajaro Valley Subbasin: Water Quality* dated August 5, 2021 (WQ TM). A summary of the WQ TM will be presented at the upcoming August 12 GSU22 Committee meeting.

Both TMs include proposed language for statements by the GSU22 Committee for the PV Water Board of Directors (Board) to consider approval of including in the GSU22 submittal to DWR. The TMs call these statements “recommendations,” but they should be considered statements for consistency with how previous GSU22 Committee recommendations and statements have been presented to the Board. Feedback from the Committee at the July 8 meeting led to revision of the proposed statement language as described below. The GSU22 Committee will consider these statements for approval at the August 12 meeting. The statements are based on the findings in the TMs and presentations at the GSU22 Committee meetings.

## **STORAGE AND SEAWATER INTRUSION**

### **Revised Statement**

Tracked revisions on the proposed language in the Storage and SWI TM are shown below:

*Based on the analysis of observed data, ~~the GSU22 Committee recommends that the PV Water Board accepts the conclusion that while implementation of the 2014 Basin Management Plan Update (2014) (BMP) projects and management actions are not meeting planned yields, BMP implementation has helped increase groundwater in storage and reduce the rate of seawater intrusion.~~*

The revised proposed statement is therefore:

*Based on the analysis of observed data, implementation of the Basin Management Plan Update (2014) projects and management actions has helped increase groundwater in storage and reduce the rate of seawater intrusion.*

### **Rationale for Revision**

Although the Storage and SWI TM provides updated information on the yields of the 2014 Basin Management Plan Update (BMP 2014) projects and management and actions, BMP 2014 is not planned to be fully implemented until 2025. Based on this, the GSU22 Committee provided feedback that yields of BMP 2014 projects and management actions should not be discussed in the statement for GSU22.

References to the GSU22 Committee and PV Water Board of Directors are removed to be consistent with language used for previous GSU22 Committee statements. Reference to BMP 2014 was updated based on PV Water staff preference.

## **WATER QUALITY**

### **Revised Statement**

Tracked revisions on the proposed language in the WQ TM is shown below:

*Based on the analysis of observed data, ~~the GSU22 Committee recommends that the PV Water Board accepts the conclusion that the current groundwater conditions show a water quality undesirable result for nitrate in the coastal zone as defined by the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP). There is no undesirable result for nitrate in the Basin inland of the SNMP coastal zone nor are there water quality undesirable results for TDS and chloride in the Basin.~~*

The revised proposed statement is therefore:

*Based on the analysis of observed data, current groundwater conditions show a water quality undesirable result for nitrate in the coastal zone as defined by the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP). There is no undesirable result for nitrate in the Basin inland of the SNMP coastal zone nor are there water quality undesirable results for TDS and chloride in the Basin.*

### **Rationale for Revision**

Similar to the revision to the statement from the Storage and SWI memo, references to the GSU22 Committee and PV Water Board are removed to be consistent with language used for previous GSU22 Committee statements.