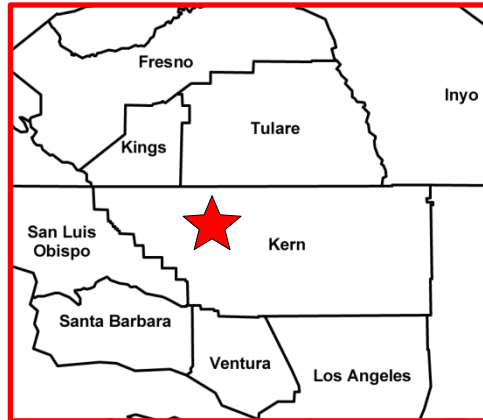


# Developing and implementing Groundwater Sustainability Plans

Kern and surrounding Counties – Kings, Tulare, Inyo, San Bernardino,  
Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Fresno

An educational workshop program from the American Ground Water Trust  
Tuesday, February 21st, 2017 – Bakersfield, CA (9:00am to 4:00pm)

Kern Agricultural Pavilion, 501 South Mt Vernon Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93307



Practical insight and guidance for Districts, Agencies, Organizations, Growers and groundwater end-users. Learn about strategies, procedures and potential pitfalls involved in developing and implementing GSPs to fulfill SGMA requirements

Workshop Sponsors (to date)



## Stay on top of the legal issues of collaboration and compliance

Great information-exchange opportunity among legal and hydrologic experts and the diversity of groundwater interests linked by SGMA sustainability requirements for local control of pumping

Presentations and panel discussions will include:

**Protecting water rights**

**Penalties for non-compliance with SGMA**

**Role of professional facilitators in developing GSPs**

**The basic legal issues related to GSP implementation**

**Data recording, verification and reporting responsibilities**

**Use of computer power to make on-farm pumping decisions**

**Role and responsibilities of growers to measure, record and report**

**How to select a numerical groundwater flow model (do you need one?)**

**Maintaining dependable water supply for homes and residential communities**

**How best to establish stakeholder engagement & public communication plans**

"AND IT NEVER FAILED THAT DURING THE DRY YEARS THE PEOPLE FORGOT ABOUT THE RICH YEARS, AND DURING THE WET YEARS THEY LOST ALL MEMORY OF THE DRY YEARS. IT WAS ALWAYS THAT WAY."

John Steinbeck, "East of Eden" (1952)

**OBJECTIVE:**

Provide water agencies, farmers, growers, water utilities and other California groundwater end-users with practical technical information to assist with SGMA compliance. The workshop program will focus on Groundwater Sustainability Plan compliance.

**FORMAT:**

A one-day information-exchange workshop presented by recognized water agency specialists, water attorneys, software experts, hydrogeologists, professional facilitators, growers and irrigators. The workshop will involve five panels of experts. Each panel will commence with short presentations followed by designated time for Q & A discussion among all participants.

**PARTICIPATION:**

It is anticipated that workshop attendance will be from Water Agencies and Water Districts, landowners, commercial farmers and growers, irrigation specialists, water utility managers and providers of legal and technical consulting services.

**BACKGROUND:**

The motivation for this workshop is the AGWT's mission to provide objective groundwater information to facilitate water management decisions that will maximize the beneficial use of water resources. Drought conditions and California's SGMA response have provided a focus on the vulnerability of groundwater resources and the need to overcome the potential consequences of "tragedy of the commons" inaction. There is an urgency to find consensus solutions while avoiding the risks of mistakes that could result from "more haste-less speed." The workshop will provide transparency in information with free exchange of legal, hydrological and technological expertise. Recent advances in computing software, phone and tablet capabilities and communication technology allow for the precise control of the delivery of water. The challenge is to find the groundwater management formula(s) required by SGMA that protect water rights, maintain economically viable communities, and maximize agricultural productivity.

**PRESENTERS**

The team of experts presenting at the workshop has been asked to provide advice, guidance and insight in an inclusive, generic and non-commercial information-exchange format.

<b>8:00 – 9:00</b>	<b>REGISTRATION (Coffee &amp; donuts)</b>
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<b>9:00 - 9:10</b>	<b>Introduction - Workshop Objectives</b>
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Andrew Stone, Executive Director, American Ground Water Trust, Concord, NH  
 Tony Morgan, Deputy General Manager, United Water Conservation District, Santa Paula, CA

<b>9:10 – 9:30</b>	<b>The Kern County Experience</b>
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KERN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY GSA FORMATION – PROCESS AND PROGRESS with GSP  
 Eric Averett, General Manager, Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, Bakersfield, CA

<b>9:30 – 10:30</b>	<b>Session - Legal/ Water rights</b>
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MAJOR LEGAL HURDLES IN THE FORMATION OF GSAs & GSPs  
 Brad Herrema, Attorney, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, Santa Barbara, CA

HOW TO RESOLVE THE CONUNDRUM OF RESTRICTING PUMPING WHILE PROTECTING WATER RIGHTS

Ernest Conant, Attorney, Young Woolridge, LLP, Bakersfield, CA

HOW TO HARMONIZE PRIMACY AUTHORITY AMONG FEDERAL AND STATE LAW RELATED TO FORMING GSAs

Deborah Wordham, Attorney, Best Best & Krieger, Los Angeles, CA

<b>10:30 – 11:00</b>	<b>BREAK (Refreshments)</b>
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<b>11:00 12:00</b>	<b>Software, tools and techniques to record data, manage pumping &amp; maximize profits</b>
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USING SERVER OR WEB-BASED PLATFORMS TO INTEGRATE EXISTING ON-FARM MEASUREMENT & MONITORING HARDWARE

Ben Daly, IOT (Internet of Things) Specialist, REDtrac, Bakersfield, CA

WATER MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE UTILIZING MODERN WEB STANDARDS AND THE AMAZON CLOUD

Aaron Collier, Vice-President and Hydrogeologist, Collier Consulting, Stephenville, TX

MAXIMIZING DATA BENEFITS FROM ON-FARM MEASUREMENT: END-USER PERSPECTIVE

Greg Wegis, Grower, Wegis Ranch, Bakersfield, CA

MAXIMIZING BENEFITS OF WATER RIGHTS BY ALTERNATIVE USE TRADING

Kevin France, CEO of SWIIM System, Ltd, Denver, CO

**12:00 – 1:00 LUNCH (provided) - opportunity to select lunch table with presenters**

No allocated afternoon break time until 4:00pm, but refreshments available throughout the afternoon

**1:00 – 2:00 Groundwater models for SGMA compliance**

WHAT TO CONSIDER WHEN SELECTING A GW MODEL

Brent Cain, Senior Hydrogeologist, GEI, Rancho Cordova, CA

ADAPTING THE US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY REGIONAL GROUNDWATER MODELS FOR LOCAL GSAs

US Geological Survey (awaiting confirmation)

FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPING GROUNDWATER MODELS UNDER SGMA

Tara Moran, Research Associate, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment, Stanford, CA

**2:00 – 3:00 Stakeholder engagement/communication plans**

THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF SGMA “COMMUNICATION PLANS”

J Michael Harty Principal/Senior Mediator, Kearns & West, Inc., Davis, CA

PROGRESS OF CENTRAY VALLEY GSAs IN COMPLYING WITH GSP STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Dave Ceppos, Associate Director and Managing Senior Mediator, Center for Collaborative Policy, CSU Sacramento, CA

GSA CHALLENGES OF INVOLVING UNDERREPRESENTED PERSONS AND DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES

Julia Golomb, Associate, Consensus Building Institute, Oakland, CA

**3:00 – 4:00 Water & pumping allocation schemes for GSPs**

LEGAL PRECEDENTS FOR WATER ALLOCATIONS IN ADJUDICATED BASINS

Attorney (awaiting confirmation)

CASE STUDY- WATER ALLOCATIONS IN LAS POSAS

Bryan Bondy, Groundwater Manager, Calleguas Municipal Water District, Thousand Oaks, CA,

REAL WORLD EXPERIENCES WITH ALLOCATION SCHEMES

Steve Bachmann, Groundwater Consultant, Santa Barbara, CA

**4:00 WRAP-UP - ADJOURN – opportunity for further conversations with exhibitors**

**5:00 WORKSHOP ENDS**

