

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-01

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE SOUTH AMERICAN SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

WHEREAS, in August 2014, the California Legislature passed, and in September 2014 the Governor signed, legislation creating the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”) “to provide local groundwater sustainability agencies with the authority and technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater” (Wat. Code, § 10720, (d)); and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires sustainable management through the development of groundwater sustainability plans (“GSPs”), which can be a single plan developed by one or more groundwater sustainability agency (“GSA”) or multiple coordinate plans within a basin or subbasin (Wat. Code, § 10727); and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires a GSA be formed to manage groundwater in all basins designated by the Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) as a medium or high priority, including the Solano Subbasin; and

WHEREAS, Reclamation District No. 551 (“District”) is the exclusive GSA for those portions of its jurisdiction situated in the Sacramento Valley South American Subbasin for the purposes of SGMA; and

WHEREAS, the District has the authority to draft, adopt, and implement a GSP (Wat. Code, § 10725 *et seq.*); and

WHEREAS, the District, together with the Northern Delta Groundwater Sustainability Agency and other GSAs within the South American Subbasin, formed a Working Group for the purpose of jointly developing a single GSP for the South American Subbasin and coordinating sustainable groundwater management in the subbasin (Wat. Code, §10727(a)(2)); and

WHEREAS, the Working Group, through its designated representative, submitted an Initial Notification to DWR on behalf of its members to jointly develop a GSP for the Subbasin; and

WHEREAS, through the Working Group, the District and its fellow GSAs developed a single draft GSP for the basin; released that GSP for public and local agency comment, and subsequently reviewed and responded to those comments; and

WHEREAS, the Final Draft GSP prepared by the Working Group and circulated for public comment is available at <http://www.sasbgroundwater.org/resources.html>, and is incorporated into this resolution as if fully set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, on the Final Draft GSP for the South American Subbasin is now before the Board of Trustees of the District, in their role as the governing body of the GSA, for their consideration and approval; and

WHEREAS, the preparation and adoption of a GSP is subject to a statutory exemption from CEQA, pursuant Water Code § 10728.6.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Reclamation District No. 551 finds as follows:

1. Reclamation District No. 551 hereby approves and adopts the final GSP, as circulated for public comment and incorporated by reference herein, for those portions of the South American Subbasin over which the District holds jurisdiction as GSA.
2. The District delegates to the Working Group, its consultants, and District staff the responsibility and the authority to take such other actions on its behalf as may be reasonably necessary to submit the GSP to DWR by January 31, 2022, and implement the purpose of this Resolution.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 24th day of January 2022 by the following vote:

AYES: Johnson; Chan; Van Loben Sels

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:


Chairman

Attest:

Secretary