

Sutter County Groundwater Management Plan

Basin Management Objectives Workshop

**Plan Advisory Group Meeting No. 4
December 9, 2008**



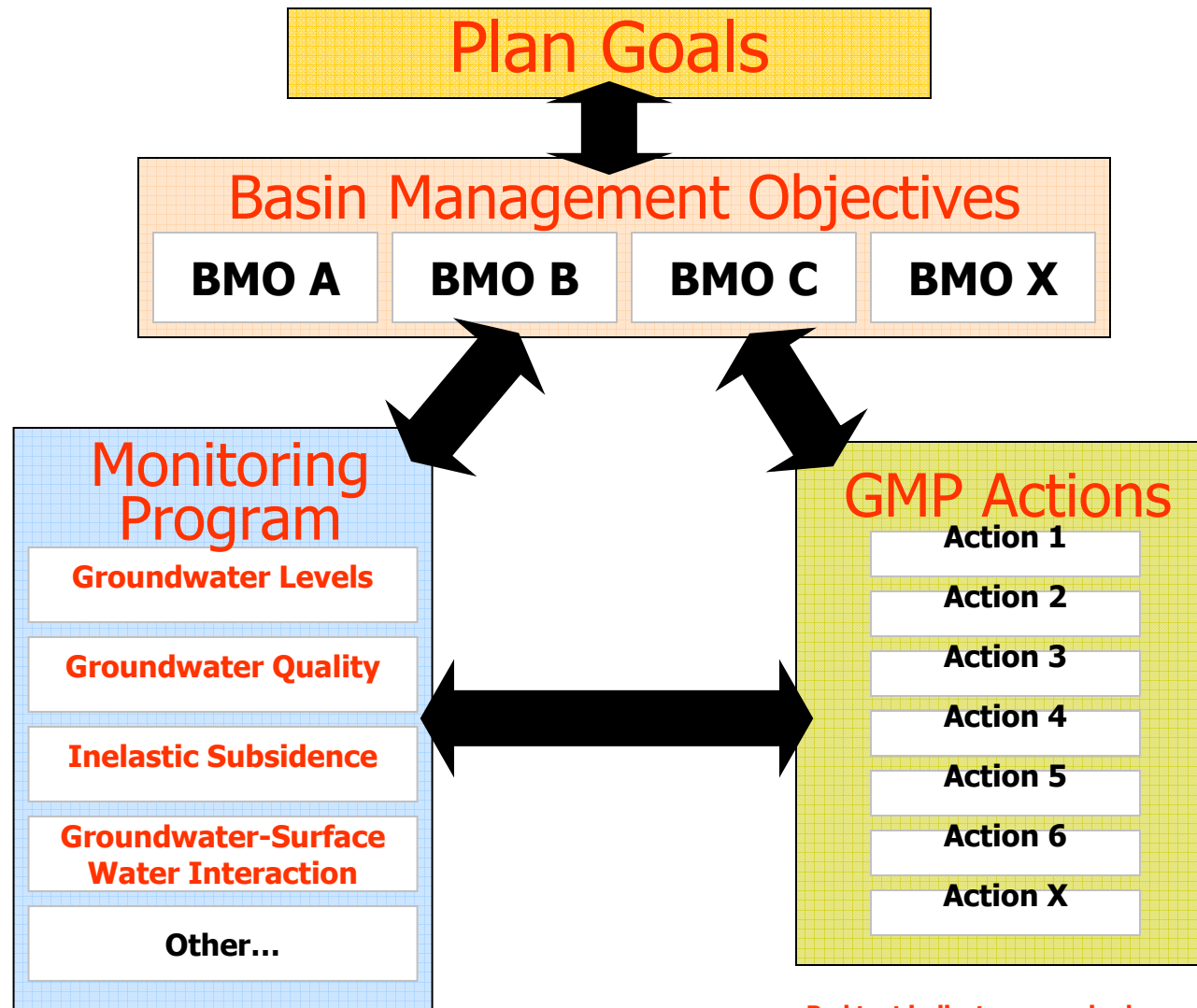
BMO Workshop

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Groundwater Management Plan Components (and how they relate to each other)



Red text indicates a required or recommended component

Refer to DWR Bulletin 118 Update 2003, Chapter 3 for more details

Sutter County GMP Organization



Sutter County GMP Goals



**The County’s broad goals for managing groundwater.
In other words, “What are we trying to achieve?”**

Sutter County GMP Goals



Goal #1: To provide groundwater users with information and guidance to help them be responsible stewards of the groundwater resources in Sutter County.

Sutter County GMP Goals



Goal #2: To promote responsible groundwater use in Sutter County so groundwater is available to meet present and future demands.

Sutter County GMP Goals



Goal #3: To discourage activities that could reduce the long-term availability of high-quality groundwater in Sutter County.

Sutter County GMP BMOs



Specific objectives that will help achieve the groundwater management goals.

Water Level BMO



- **Avoid ongoing declines in groundwater levels during water year types identified by DWR to be “above normal” or “wet” for the Sacramento Valley.**
- **Avoid problematically high groundwater levels.**
- **Help assess problems and resolve disputes related to groundwater levels.**

Water Quality BMO



- **Improve the understanding of groundwater quality in Sutter County.**
- **Maintain or improve groundwater quality.**

Land Subsidence BMO



- **Avoid inelastic land subsidence that is linked to declines in groundwater.**

Surface Water BMO



- **Improve the understanding of the relationship between surface water and groundwater in Sutter County.**
- **Avoid changes in surface flow and surface water quality that directly affect groundwater quality or levels, or are caused by groundwater pumping.**

Coordination BMO



- **Coordinate County groundwater management efforts with other groundwater management efforts within and surrounding Sutter County.**

Groundwater Ordinance BMO



- **Enact a groundwater ordinance that establishes a process for County review and approval of out-of-county groundwater transfers or transfers based on groundwater substitution.**

Sutter County GMP Actions



All the things the County plans to DO to manage groundwater.

Monitoring Plan



- The monitoring plan will describe the location, frequency, and protocol for groundwater monitoring.
- Includes water levels, water quality, land subsidence, and surface water flow and quality.
- Ensures that data will be adequate to determine if BMOs are being met.

Water Level Actions



- **Compile groundwater level data.**
- **Seek funding to expand and improve the water level monitoring network.**
- **Assess water levels regularly to determine if the water level BMOs are being met.**
- **Provide information and assistance about groundwater levels in the County.**

Water Quality Actions



- **Compile groundwater quality data.**
- **Further characterize vertical and lateral distribution of poor water quality.**
- **Seek funding to develop multi-level monitoring wells.**
- **Improve County Well Standards.**
- **Provide information and assistance about groundwater quality in the County.**

Ideas for New Well Standards



Intent is to protect existing well owners from water quality deterioration, and help new wells obtain good water quality.

- Require deeper well seals.**
- Require geophysical logs for all new rotary-drilled wells, and field water quality checks for cable-tool wells.**
- Prohibit well construction designs that connect fresh water aquifers with brackish aquifers.**

Surface Water



- **Further characterize the groundwater/surface water interaction within Sutter County.**
- **Improve County Well Standards**
 - **Require deeper well seals**
 - **Mandate greater setbacks from surface water features**

Coordination



- **Provide information and assistance regarding groundwater.**
- **Work with water purveyors within Sutter County to meet the BMOs and GMP goals, while helping purveyors meet their goals.**
- **Cooperate with surrounding local and regional groundwater management efforts.**
- **Work in conjunction with efforts conducted by DWR.**

Groundwater Ordinance



Intent is to ensure that transfers are consistent with the groundwater management goals and BMOs – not to prevent transfers or be overly burdensome.

- County review, oversight, and approval for out-of-County groundwater (or groundwater substitution) transfers.**
- Differentiate between short-term transfers and long-term transfers.**

Questions?



Photo obtained at flickr.com - http://farm2.static.flickr.com/1268/542576492_da36b35cb7.jpg?v=0

