



# Status Report

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# Stakeholder Outreach on Alternative Submittal



Sacramento Water Forum  
November 2016



# General Overview

- 6 separate meetings & 1 Workshop
  - Sloughhouse RCD, Omochumne-Hartnell WD, Cosumnes Coalition, Farm Bureau, Elk Grove WD/Florin RCD, Sheldon residents
- Important opportunity to better understand Alternative Submittal and concerns
- Mixed reactions to Alternative Submittal approach to SGMA compliance
- Initial brainstorming on possible remedies



# Summary of Comments

## Comments of Concern

- *De facto* baseline
- Governance challenges
- Environmental concerns
- Undesirable results
- Lacks aggressive proactive focus

## Comments of Support

- Builds on existing work
- Fosters collaboration
- Provides for dialogue: Cosumnes Sub-Basin
- Potential standard of good stewardship

### *Common threads:*

*Look-back structure feels constraining; limits looking forward*  
*Alternative Submittal process has been very fast*



# Summary of Comments

## *De facto* Baseline

- Works against desired basin boundary change
- Has implications on the sustainable yield
- Does not address recharge accounting

## *Governance Challenges*

- Jurisdictional overlap: entities already filed as GSAs
- Inadequate local representation & fear of top-down regulations
- Entities split across sub-basins



# Summary of Comments

## *Environmental Concerns*

- Limits ability to
  - Address flow for the Cosumnes River (for fall run Chinook)
  - Protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems
- This is not “Nirvana”

## *Undesirable Results*

- Falling groundwater levels
- Disconnect with Cosumnes River likely expanding (depth and length)



# Summary of Comments

## *Lacks Proactive Focus*

- Reliance on 2006 GMP limits scope for future
- Sidesteps SGMA's more comprehensive approach
- Envision a more proactive SCGA Board
  - In support of groundwater management
  - Involvement / leadership in river restoration projects



# Summary of Comments

## *Other Comments & Questions*

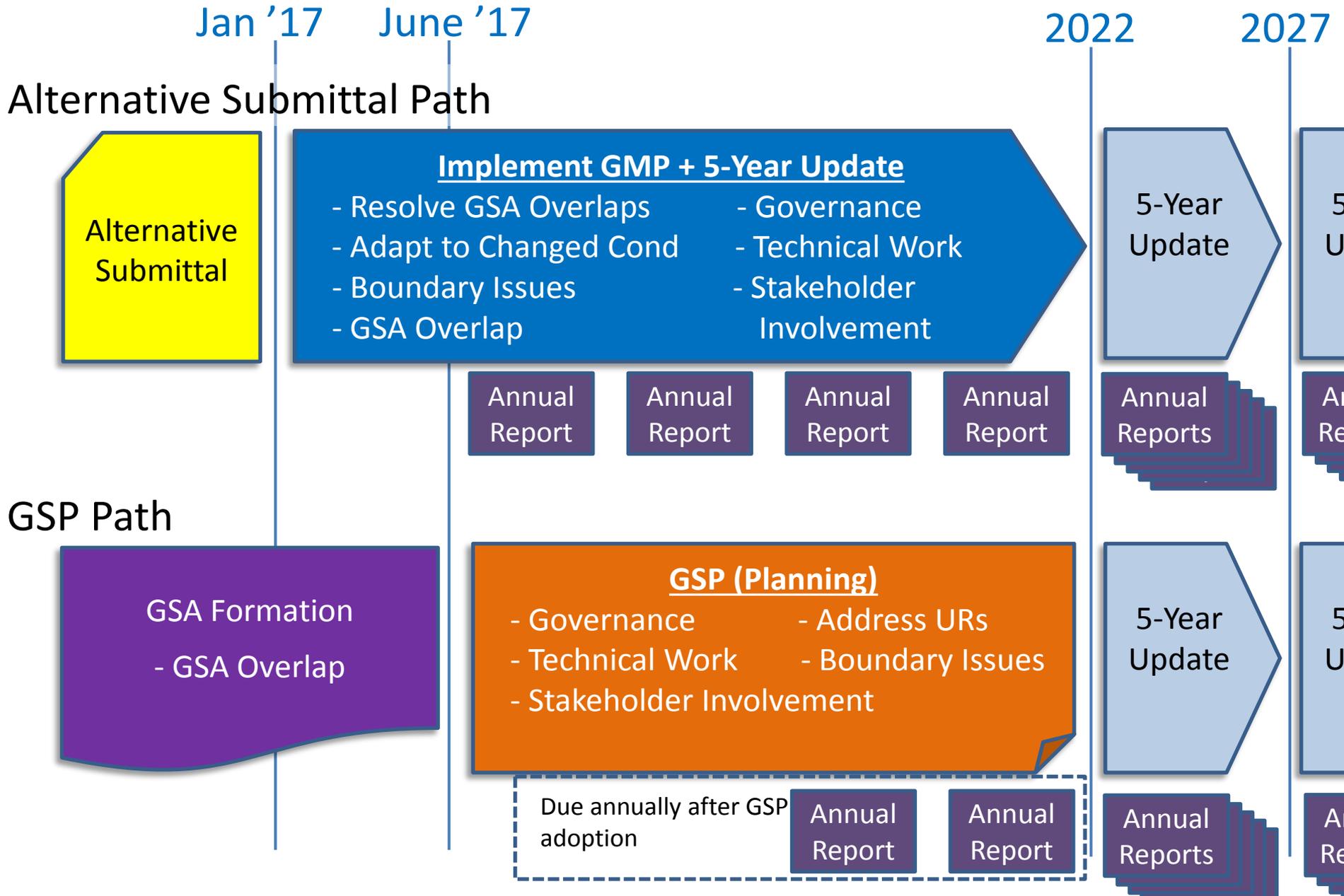
- Process moving too fast
- Inadequate outreach or time to consider
- Past and ongoing trust issues not resolved
- Has the potential to constrain future land use
- Process questions (CEQA, DWR review timeline, GSA track, Board of Supervisors check-in, etc.)
- Broad range of clarifying questions

[Many questions answered in person]

## *Where Go From Here?*

- Varied reactions
  - Need to think about it more
  - Pursue Alternative Submittal but address concerns
  - Withdraw Alternative Submittal; pursue GSP
- Ideas: Address concerns in Alternative Submittal
  - Alternative Submittal text revisions
  - Remind ourselves: 2006 GMP includes broad range of actions
- Ideas: Address concerns **OUTSIDE** of Alt. Submittal
  - Joint commitments to cross-basin coordination agreements
  - Work towards mutual resolution of GSA overlaps
  - Consideration of needed governance changes
  - Support Cosumnes River pre-wetting and recharge
  - A more proactive SCGA
  - Improved outreach in all processes going forward

# Two Paths to SGMA Compliance





# Next Steps

- Report to SCGA Board November 9
- Water Forum report
- SCGA Board decision December 14
- Deadline for Alternative Submittal to DWR  
December 31



# Questions?

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