



## FINAL

# 2022 Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency Project Eligibility and Prioritization Criteria

*Approved by the YSGA Board of Directors on September 19, 2022*

### Eligibility Criteria

Projects must meet the following eligibility criteria:

1. The project is located in the Yolo Subbasin.
2. The project is included in the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“GSP”) or the project proponent will submit the project for inclusion in the GSP (dependent on YSGA BOD approval).
3. The project proponent has the institutional capacity to implement the project.
4. The project is technologically and economically feasible to be completed within three years of receiving funding.

### Prioritization Criteria

1. The project is urgent, defined as necessary to avoid drinking water supply shortages or significant economic impacts
  1. High: Implementation of the project is urgent.
  2. Medium: Implementation of the project is somewhat urgent.
  3. Low: Implementation of the project is not urgent.
2. The project is grounded in existing policies or listed in adopted plans other than the GSP
  1. High: The project is listed in two or more adopted plans other than the GSP.
  2. Medium: The project is listed in one adopted plan other than the GSP.
  3. Low: The project is not included in an adopted plan other than the GSP.
3. The project addresses the following preferences described in the Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant – Program Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation Guidelines, page 14 (only applicable to SGMA projects):
  - Efficient use and conservation of water supplies
  - Use of recycled water
  - The capture of stormwater to reduce stormwater runoff, reduce water pollution, or recharge groundwater supplies, or a combination thereof
  - Water efficiencies, stormwater capture for infiltration or reuse, or carbon sequestration
  1. High: The project addresses at least two of the four SGM Grant preferences.
  2. Medium: The project addresses at least one of the four SGM Grant preferences.
  3. Low: The project does not address any of the four SGM Grant preferences.



4. The project addresses the GSP's sustainability indicators.
  - Chronic lowering of groundwater elevations
  - Changes in groundwater storage
  - Seawater intrusion
  - Groundwater quality
  - Subsidence
  - Depletion of interconnected surface waters
    1. High: The project addresses at least three sustainability indicators.
    2. Medium: The project addresses at least two sustainability indicators.
    3. Low: The project addresses at least one sustainability indicator.
5. The project has a process to quantify and measure benefits.
  1. High: The project has baseline data and a process in place to measure the described benefits.
  2. Medium: The project has a plan and funding to collect baseline data and measure benefits or is reasonably likely to develop one in the near future.
  3. Low: The project does not have baseline data and does not have the ability to implement a process to measure benefits.
6. The project benefits a disadvantaged/vulnerable/underrepresented community (see the "Underrepresented Community Justification" document on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program website – under 'Key Program Documents') or an Area of Special Concern in the Yolo Subbasin. Community may refer to a census tract or census block group.
  1. High: The project benefits two or more such communities.
  2. Medium: The project benefits one such community.
  3. Low: The project benefits no such community.
7. The project benefits the entire Subbasin.
  1. High: The project provides benefits to the entire Subbasin.
  2. Medium: The project provides benefits to 50 percent or more of the acreage in the Subbasin.
  3. Low: The project provides benefits to less than 50 percent of the acreage in the Subbasin.
8. The project provides co-benefits, or indirect benefits of the project, such as, but not limited to, reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, ecological uplift, mitigation for drought impacts, improvements to water supply reliability, or improvements to groundwater-dependent ecosystems.
  1. High: The project provides three or more co-benefits.
  2. Medium: The project provides 1-2 co-benefits.
  3. Low: The project provides no co-benefits.



9. The project positively impacts issues associated with small water systems or private shallow domestic wells and/or helps address the Human Right to Water (AB 685).
  1. High: The project both a) positively impacts issues associated with small water systems or private shallow domestic wells AND b) helps address the Human Right to Water.
  2. Medium: The project positively impacts issues associated with small water systems or private shallow domestic wells OR helps address the Human Right to Water.
  3. Low: The project does not positively impact issues associated with small water systems or private shallow domestic wells OR help address the Human Right to Water.
  
10. The project proponent has a secure, sustainable funding source for ongoing implementation or operation and maintenance. A secure funding source is defined as a contract or other firm commitment to provide resources for a specified time.
  1. High: The project has a secure, ongoing funding source for 10 years or more.
  2. Medium: The project has a secure funding source for 5-9 years.
  3. Low: The project does not have a secure funding source or only has funding for up to four years.
  
11. The project will help achieve and maintain sustainable groundwater management more than other proposed projects
  1. High: The project increases groundwater levels relative to other projects (4,000- acre feet/annually (AFA) or more).
  2. Medium: The project slows the decline of groundwater levels relative to other projects (1,000- 3,999 AFA).
  3. Low: The project neither increases groundwater levels nor slows the decline of groundwater levels OR no information is provided (less than 900 AFA or no response).