**DRAFT**

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**Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency Project Eligibility and Prioritization Criteria**

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.
3. The project proponent has the institutional capacity to implement the project.

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:

* 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.

1. 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.

1. The project will help achieve and maintain sustainable groundwater management more than other proposed projects
   1. High: The project will help achieve and maintain sustainable groundwater management significantly more than other projects over time.
   2. Medium: The project will help achieve and maintain sustainable groundwater management more than some proposed projects over time.
   3. Low: The project will not help achieve and maintain sustainable groundwater management over time or will result in less sustainable groundwater management.
2. The project has quantifiable and measurable 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.
3. The project benefits a disadvantaged/vulnerable/underrepresented community 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.

1. 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 Subbasin.
   3. Low: The project provides benefits to less than 50 percent of the Subbasin.
2. The project provides co-benefits, or indirect benefits of the project, such as reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, 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.
3. 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 positively impacts issues associated with small water systems or private shallow domestic wells and helps address the Human Right to Water.
   2. Medium: The project positively impacts issues associated with small water systems or private shallow domestics 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.
4. 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.
5. The project is technically and economically feasible
   1. High: The project proponent has demonstrated the project is technically and economically feasible.
   2. Medium: The project proponent has partially demonstrated the project is technically and economically feasible.
   3. Low: The project has not demonstrated the project is technically and economically feasible.