

MEMORANDUM

TO: Eastern San Joaquin GSAs
FROM: Matt Zidar/San Joaquin County & Leslie Dumas/Woodard & Curran
DATE: July 29, 2022
RE: Proposed Methodology for GSP Call for Projects

The following is the two-phased methodology that will be used for conducting a Call for Projects for the Eastern San Joaquin (ESJ) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). This proposed methodology builds off the most recent Call for Projects conducted for the Eastern San Joaquin Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP), with a focus on projects that can help the ESJ Subbasin achieve and maintain groundwater sustainability, and is intended to promote an open and transparent process for the solicitation and review of projects for inclusion in the ESJ GSP and any related grant programs.

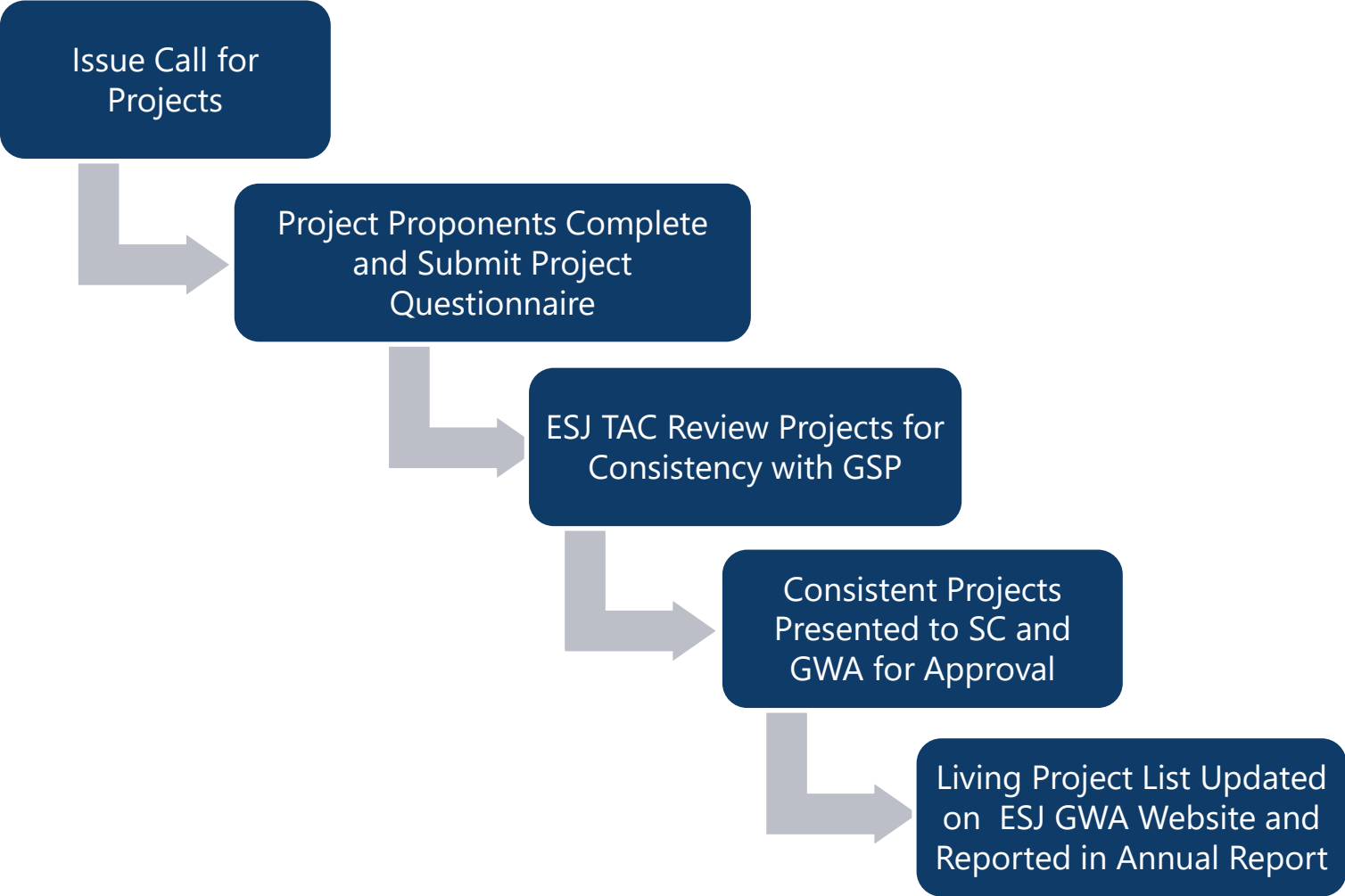
The ESJ Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will be the Subbasin entity charged with conducting the Call for Projects and for screening and ranking projects for inclusion in the GSP. The TAC will provide recommendations to the Subbasin Steering Committee (SC) and Groundwater Authority (GWA) who will approve updates to the 'living list' of GSP projects on the ESJ website, located at www.esjgroundwater.org.

Phase 1 – Call for Projects for Inclusion in ESJ GSP

The following flowchart outlines the process for soliciting and reviewing projects for inclusion in the ESJ GSP. Please note that this process is for projects only; management actions will be updated as part of the 5-year GSP review and update process.

The revised list of GSP projects will be compiled into an EXCEL file representing the 'living project list' for the ESJ GSP that will be located on the GWA website and ultimately included in the GSP Annual Report. It is recommended, however, that, as part of the long term sustainability of this program, the GSAs determine a regular interval for holding calls for projects (and project updates), and that the ESJ GSP DMS public portal be revised to allow for the direct input of project information to the DMS (rather than rely solely on completion of a 'paper' form).

METHODOLOGY FOR CALL FOR PROJECTS FOR INCLUSION IN THE ESJ GSP



Phase 2 – Review of GSP Projects for Inclusion in SGM and other related grant applications

Grant funding is, and may be in the future, available under the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) grant program and under other Federal and State grant programs. At the State level, grant solicitation guidelines and program solicitation packages (PSPs) are typically issued that outline the eligibility requirements for the grant funding (for both the projects and project proponents), the funding available, timing for grant funding (both start of eligible costs and the time by which all grant funding must be used), requirements for local funding matches, scoring criteria and other relevant information. It is recommended that all GSAs and project proponents should review any grant solicitation guidelines and PSPs as it relates to their projects before deciding whether or not to pursue grant funding. Additionally, it is important to recognize that GSAs/project proponents are typically expected to contribute to the cost of preparing the grant application if their project is selected for inclusion in the grant application.

The process for determining if a project from the ESJ GSP 'living project list' is to be included in a grant application is as follows:

