

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
JULY 19, 2016**

ITEM 2

SUBJECT

CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO MULTI-YEAR CONTRACTS TO CONTINUE AND ENHANCE THE GROUNDWATER AMBIENT MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

DISCUSSION

The Groundwater Quality Monitoring Act of 2001 (Water Code section 10780 et seq.) resulted in development of a statewide comprehensive groundwater quality monitoring program to establish baseline groundwater quality information and groundwater quality trends, and to increase the availability of groundwater quality information to the public.

The Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment (GAMA) Program includes the priority basin project, domestic well sampling, and groundwater quality studies. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) implements the GAMA Program through contract agreements with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), as well as contract agreements for domestic well laboratory analyses.

The GAMA Program is funded by waste discharge permit fees as authorized by the California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 2200. The authorized expenditure authority for GAMA Program contracts from the WDPF is expected to be \$4,328,837 for fiscal year 2016-2017 upon passage of the fiscal year 2016-2017 budget, and annually not to exceed \$4,500,000, upon passage of the following fiscal years' budgets.

The funding will be used to continue and enhance the GAMA Program by: (1) supporting the Priority Basin Project through multi-year contracts with USGS and LLNL to continue the comprehensive assessment of groundwater quality in deep and shallow aquifers used for drinking water, (2) coordinating with regional water boards to identify and perform essential groundwater quality projects, (3) working with agencies and stakeholder entities to make more groundwater information publicly available, and (4) providing groundwater quality information to groundwater management agencies and dischargers for use in decision making.

POLICY ISSUE

Should the State Water Board adopt a resolution authorizing the Executive Director or designee to enter into multi-year contracts and any amendments thereto, not to exceed \$4,500,000 annually to continue to implement and enhance the GAMA Program?

FISCAL IMPACT

The funds available from the WDPF are expected to be \$4,328,837 upon passage of the fiscal year 2016-2017 budget, and appropriated annually at approximately the same amount (not to exceed \$4.5M) in the following fiscal years of 2017-2018, 2018-2019, and 2019-2020. State Water Board staff work associated with this action can be accomplished within budgeted resources.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the State Water Board adopt a resolution authorizing the Executive Director or designee to enter into multi-year contracts and any amendments thereto, not to exceed \$4,500,000 to continue and enhance the GAMA Program.

<p>State Water Board action on this item will assist the Water Boards in reaching Goal 5 of the Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012 to enhance and improve accessibility of data and information. Approval of this item will assist in fulfilling Objective/Action 5.2.2 to advance the Groundwater Quality Monitoring Act of 2001 and develop online public reports and query tools.</p>
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STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2016-

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO MULTI-YEAR CONTRACTS TO CONTINUE AND ENHANCE THE GROUNDWATER AMBIENT MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

WHEREAS:

1. The Groundwater Quality Monitoring Act of 2001 (Water Code section 10780 et seq.) required the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to develop statewide comprehensive groundwater quality monitoring. The comprehensive groundwater monitoring has been implemented by the State Water Board's Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment (GAMA) Program annually since 2003.
2. Expenditure authority for GAMA Program contracts included in the annual budgets for fiscal years 2016-2020 are expected to total no more than \$4.5 million from the Waste Discharge Permit Fund.
3. These funds are proposed to be used to continue and enhance the GAMA Program for the next four years (fiscal years 2016-2020) by: (1) supporting comprehensive monitoring and assessment of groundwater quality in deep and shallow drinking water aquifers, (2) coordinating with regional water boards to identify and perform essential groundwater quality projects, (3) working with state and local agencies and stakeholder entities to make groundwater information more publicly available, and (4) providing groundwater quality information to groundwater management agencies and dischargers for use in decision making.
4. The State Water Board implements GAMA Program projects through collaboration with the U.S. Geological Survey and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in contract agreements, and with laboratories for domestic well water analyses.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board authorizes the Executive Director or designee to enter into multi-year contracts and any amendments thereto upon passage of the fiscal year budgets, not to exceed \$4,500,000 for each of the 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, and 2019-2020 fiscal years, to continue and enhance the GAMA Program and to address drought related groundwater issues.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on July 19, 2016.

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board