Vina
Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Agenda Transmittal

Agenda Item: 2.2

Subject: Consideration of Appointments to the Stakeholder Advisory Committee

Contact: Dillon Raney **Phone:** (530) 552-3589 **Meeting Date:** June 26, 2024 **Consent Agenda**

Department Summary:

The Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) receives input and recommendations on groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) development and implementation from the Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SHAC). As memorialized in the SHAC Charter (modified and approved October 11, 2023), the intent for the SHAC is to provide community perspective and participation in Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) implementation. The Vina GSA SHAC is comprised of ten (10) members representing the beneficial uses and users of groundwater within the Vina Subbasin. Members must live or work in or represent an organization with a presence in the Subbasin. Interested individuals apply to the GSA and the GSA Board appoints at-large members to fill the SHAC seats.

Beginning on September 6, 2023, the Vina GSA initiated a call for applications to fill six (6) SHAC vacancies, adopting a rolling application process, which is explicitly stated on the Vina GSA website. As of April 10, 2024, the Board appointed four (4) members to the committee. However, two (2) positions remain vacant: the Environmental Representative and the Non-Irrigated/Rangeland Representative.

The Vina GSA has received one application from Ms. Holly Swan, who has applied for the Environmental Representative position. Upon review of Ms. Swan's application, she is eligible to serve on the SHAC. This position will expire in December 2027, to accommodate the recently adopted staggered terms, in which half the SHAC would be appointed every two years.

Currently, the GSA has not received applications for the Non-Irrigated/Rangeland Representative position.

Fiscal Impact: None

Staff Recommendation: Make one appointment to the Environmental Representative seat with term ending in December 2027.

Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Stakeholder Advisory Committee
VinaGSA@gmail.com

Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Stakeholder Advisory Committee Application

Updated 11/7/2023

Date submitted: *5/20/24*

First and last name: Holly Swan

Address, phone number and email address:
[redacted]

Describe how you meet eligibility (circle one): *to verify that you are a resident or are employed in the Vina GSA boundaries search the GSA Map View:* **https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/index.jsp?appid=gasmaster&rz=true**

- Resident living within the jurisdiction of the Vina GSA
- Employed at an organization with a presence within the jurisdiction of the Vina GSA

Which at-large seat(s) are you applying for: ☐ Environmental

2. **Current Occupation(s):**
   Project Manager for the Mt. Lassen Region of California Trout, a 501(c)3.

3. **Current License(s) and / or Certifications:**
   NA

4. **Relevant Education / Experience:**
   See attached resume.

5. **Other Relevant Board(s) / Commission(s) / Committee(s) on which you serve / have served (paid or volunteer):**
   Currently on the Board for Chico Area Flyfishers as the Conservation Chair.

6. **Letters of Support:**

7. **References:**
   Cheri Chastain, Brailsford and Dunlavey, Senior Associate, 530-624-9982, cchastain@bdconnect.com
   Marvin Pratt, California State University, Director of Environmental Health and Safety, 530-624-2287, mpratt@csuchico.edu

8. **Please explain your reasons for wishing to serve and, in your opinion, how you feel you can contribute to the Vina GSA Advisory Committee:**
   I'm thrilled at the opportunity to serve on the Vina CGA SHAC. My interest in serving stems from a deep concern for environmental sustainability and a belief in the importance of proactive, informed decision-making to ensure the long-term health of our water resources. I advocate for an integrated approach to water management that considers the interconnectedness of groundwater and surface water systems. By managing groundwater sustainably, we can maintain base flows in rivers and streams, which are essential for supporting healthy aquatic habitats and fish populations. I believe I can contribute in two key ways:

   1. ***Expertise****: Addressing groundwater sustainability also directly benefits surface water ecosystems and fish populations. I bring a strong background in natural resource management, with a focus on fish species.*
   2. ***Collaboration****: Effective groundwater management requires collaboration among diverse stakeholders, including government agencies, community groups, and industry representatives. I have a track record of fostering collaboration and consensus-building, which will be invaluable in facilitating productive discussions and finding common ground among stakeholders.*

NOTE: The Agency will keep all applications on file for one year from the date of receipt of the application.

Holly Swan

EDUCATION

M.S. in Environmental Planning & Resource Management, *CSU Chico*, 2022
Thesis: "Understanding Barriers to Beaver Relocation as a Restoration Tool in California"
Relevant Coursework: Environmental & Conservation Planning, Science & Environmental Regulations, Grant Writing & Other Fundraising Strategies, Environmental Impact Analysis
Awards: Outstanding Thesis Award for Academic Year 2022-2023

Master's Certificate in Natural Resources Policy & Administration, *University of Florida*, 2019
Relevant Coursework: Conflict, Collaboration, & Community Engagement in Natural Resources, Policy & Economics of Natural Resources, Conservation Behavior, Managing Public Lands & Waters

B.S. in Biological Sciences, *CSU Chico*, 2007

QUALIFICATIONS

- Regulatory and policy analysis
- Compliance monitoring
- Project management
- Technical reporting and data review
- Training, education, and outreach
- Field sampling and surveying
- Program development and management
- Partnership building

EXPERIENCE

Project Manager, *California Trout*, July 2022 – Present

Primary duty is to manage restoration projects that benefit native wild fish. This includes authoring and securing state, federal, and private foundation grants, creating project teams and technical advisory committees, managing restoration projects from inception to completion to ensure they are completed on time and within budget, tribal engagement, and stakeholder and community outreach. Work directly with Regional Administrator, Staff Attorney, Grants Team, and Finance Department to ensure regulatory compliance objectives are met.

Highlights and special projects:

- First employee of a newly expanded geographic region, the Mt. Lassen Region. Helped build new region from the ground up.
- Authored, secured, and began managing a $10M fish passage improvement grant for new region within the first 6 months of employment. This flagship project is located on Big Chico Creek.
- Worked with other non-governmental organizations to form a dams-out coalition in Battle Creek.
- Assisted with expanding regional impact by hiring additional project manager and became supervisor of new hire.

Environmental Program Manager/Industrial Hygienist, *CSU Chico*, May 2018 – July 2022

Primary duty is to manage fifteen environmental health and safety programs for the University. This includes monitoring regulatory compliance, auditing of existing policies, updating written plans, communicating program requirements to campus community, and creating in-person and online training. Collection of data to compile risk assessments, job hazard analysis, and accident reports. Contact for faculty, staff, and management regarding environmental and human health concerns. Liaison between University and regulatory agencies.

Highlights and special projects:

- Authored five plans for newly adopted environmental health and safety standards, including the University's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan.

- Interfaced with trades personnel, construction project managers, architects, and engineers to bring new Science Building online and demolish existing facility.
- Created inspection plans and forms to monitor compliance with NPDES permit and SPCC Plan.
- Prepared public outreach documents on storm water pollution and spill prevention.
- Worked with Deans and Chairs to implement a recently mandated laboratory safety software.

Industrial Waste Inspector, *City of Chico*, August 2015 – May 2018

Primary duties included interpreting the City's municipal code and Clean Water Act to perform inspections and ensure industrial user compliance. Educated and collaborated with business owners on environmental regulations and compliance timelines. Entered data to track industrial user compliance and prepared written technical reports.

Highlights and special projects:

- Created public education and outreach program including writing and securing a grant for an educational sewer camera van wrap about fats, oils, and grease.
- Assisted Senior Industrial Waste Inspector with Industrial Pretreatment Program development.
- Reviewed permit applications and building plans for sewer discharges from industrial users.
- Produced training for sanitary sewer overflow emergency response for Public Works Department.
- Liaison between City and Audubon Society for use of treatment ponds as bird watching location.

Branch Laboratory Director, *Basic Laboratory, Inc.*, June 2009 - August 2015

Primary duties included managing and directing lab personnel, project management, customer service and retention, and review of data for accuracy and integrity. Managed chemical monitoring schedules for clients, entered data, and created reports for regulatory agencies. Monitored sales, productivity, and supply inventory. Explained policies, procedures, and water results to clientele and operators.

Highlights and special projects:

- Started in entry-level position of Sample Custodian, promoted to Branch Laboratory Director.
- Performed analyses on water and collected water samples following site sampling plans.
- Oversaw merger of Basic Laboratory with outside entity including building rapport with and transitioning all new clients.

Biological Technician, *USDA Forest Service, Mendocino National Forest*, May 2008 - October 2008

Conducted botanical field surveys in the field using topographic maps, aerial photos, and GPS. Project goal was to locate potential habitat of sensitive plant species and assess possible environmental impacts on habitat prior to deforestation. Completed vegetation mapping and site descriptions. Imported GPS coordinates into ArcMap.

Highlights and special projects:

- Used USDA's Plant Database to compile an information pamphlet on sensitive and invasive weeds for the general public to utilize.

COMPUTER SKILLS

- Microsoft Office programs: Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint
- Articulate training software
- Qualtrics survey software
- Various industry-specific databases and software systems