

LandFlex Grant Program GSA Applicant Workshop

January 19, 2023



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BRANCH
DIVISION OF REGIONAL ASSISTANCE

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER
MANAGEMENT (SGM)
GRANT PROGRAM



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Agenda



- Welcome/Opening Remarks
- LandFlex Program Overview
- Funding Summary
- Program Schedule
- Eligibility Criteria
- Review of Final Guidelines
- GSA Application – Req'd docs
- GSA Resources for Dry Well Info
- Technical Assistance Providers
- Questions/Answers



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LandFlex Program Overview

LandFlex was developed in response to the Governor's - California's Water Supply Strategy, Adapting to a Hotter, Drier Future.

Objectives of LandFlex:

- To protect vulnerable drinking water wells in drought-stricken communities.
- To limit groundwater pumping in areas near communities reliant on vulnerable drinking water wells before they go dry.
- Eliminate long-term unsustainable groundwater pumping.

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Funding Summary

Available Funding = ~ \$25 million

- DWR Administrative Costs = 5% (\$1.25M)
 - Technical Assistance Providers (4 NGOs) = \$460,000
 - **Remaining Available Funding for Applicants = ~\$23.3M**
- Anticipate a total of 2 to 3 awards maximum for this solicitation.
 - Applicant grant awards are estimated to range from approximately \$7.7M to \$11.6M.



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Program Schedule

Milestone or Activity	Tentative Schedule
Grant Solicitation Begins	January 17, 2023
Applicant Workshop (Eligible GSAs)	January 19, 2023
Grant Solicitation Closes	February 3, 2023
Final Awards Announced	February 20, 2023
Execute Grant Agreements	March/April 2023

Post Final award Announcement and concurrently with GSA agreement development, GSAs/TAPs can start outreach and engagement with growers/landowners.

Eligible Costs: December 9, 2022 – September 30, 2023 (fallowing work)

- Note Guideline language states (self-cert form): Only eligible costs incurred after the December 9, 2022 and *on or before April 30, 2024 will be eligible for reimbursement.*



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Eligibility Criteria

Eligible Applicants

- GSAs, Member agencies of a GSA, or agencies with an approved Alternative to a GSP.

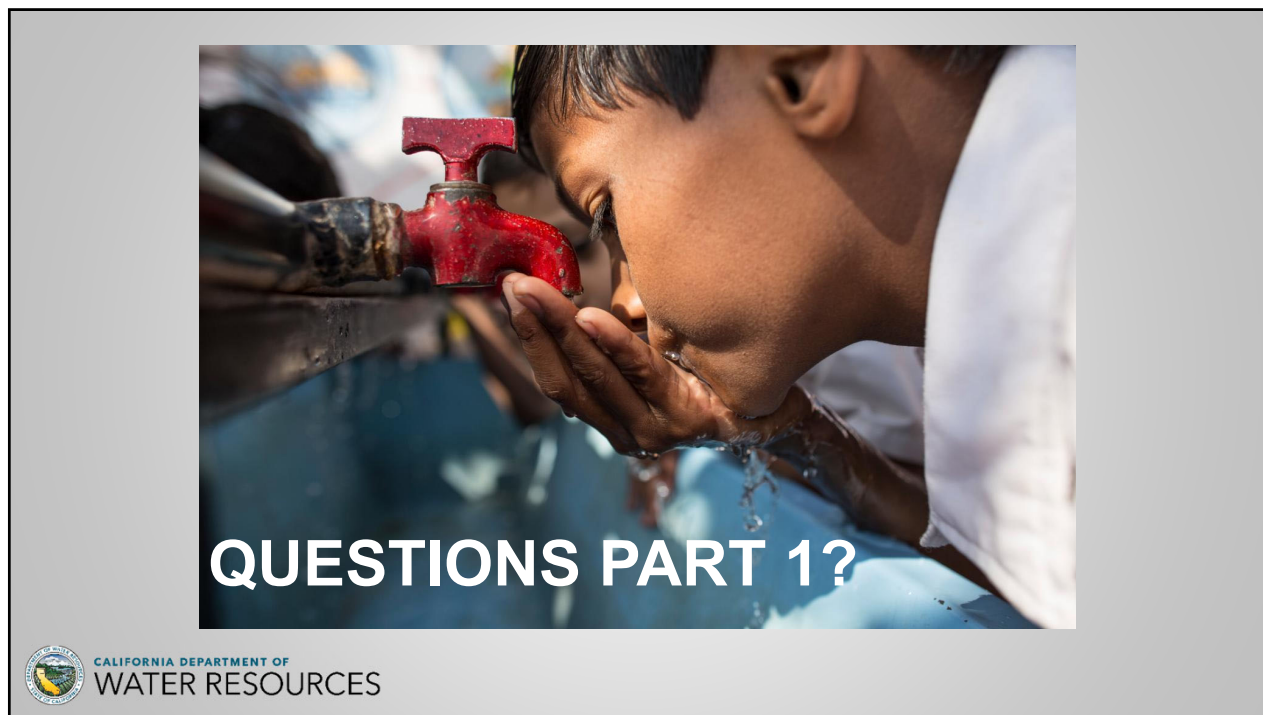
Eligibility Criteria, *applicant must:*

- Be located within a critically overdrafted (COD) basin (per Bulletin 118).
- Have a groundwater allocation plan in place and have implemented it during WY 2022 (October 2021-September 30, 2022).
- Have a quantified volume of allowed annual overdraft pumping available.
- Have implemented a remote sensed evapotranspiration (ET) accounting method (e.g., OpenET, LandIQ, or similar) or demonstrate use of an equivalent alternative accounting method (e.g., groundwater well metering).



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Review of Final Guidelines

Minor/Clarifying Revisions

- Eligible Costs: Start date will date back to December 9, 2022 – in alignment with release of draft guidelines
- Eligibility Change: Included option to use groundwater well metering as a form of accounting methodology
- Scoring Criteria: Modified language to include Fallowing Plan or *equivalent (e.g., land repurposing plan)*
- Clarification: Multiple GSAs under a subbasin can apply for funding under LandFlex
- Clarification: Scope of Work (fallowing) is for activity done in WY 2023, ending September 30, 2023
- Clarification: Language surrounding enrolled acreage - up to a total of 40 acres or 25% of total acreage, whichever is greater
- Clarification: Language surrounding GSA/TAP roles and responsibilities to clarify requirements to perform vulnerable community outreach

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Review of Final Guidelines

Substantive Changes

- Modified Definition of Overdraft Allocation – total overdraft greater than sustainable yield, quantified in a GSA's allocation plan.
- Revisions to Payment Components:
 - Domestic Well Drought Relief – cap up to \$350 per ac-ft. GSAs to determine a locally appropriate payment amount per ac-ft.
 - Sustainable Yield Acceleration – increased to \$1000 per ac-ft.



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Review of Final Guidelines – No Change

No Change to Guidelines

- Eligibility Req'tments: inclusion of non-COD basins.
 - Limited funding and proxy for basins with greatest need and SGMA-related opportunities.
- Eligibility Criteria: removal of the \$2.5M Adjusted Gross Income cap.
 - Cap was put in place to focus on small and mid-sized farms.
- Scoring Criteria: include bonus points for fallowing near critical infrastructure.
 - Primary focus to remain on proximity to vulnerable wells.
- Scoring Criteria: recommend requiring proximity to impacted wells and communities.
 - Appendix E: Grower Criteria includes proximity in scoring; if a grower does not fall within that range they will not receive funding.



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Review of Final Guidelines – No Change

No Change to Guidelines

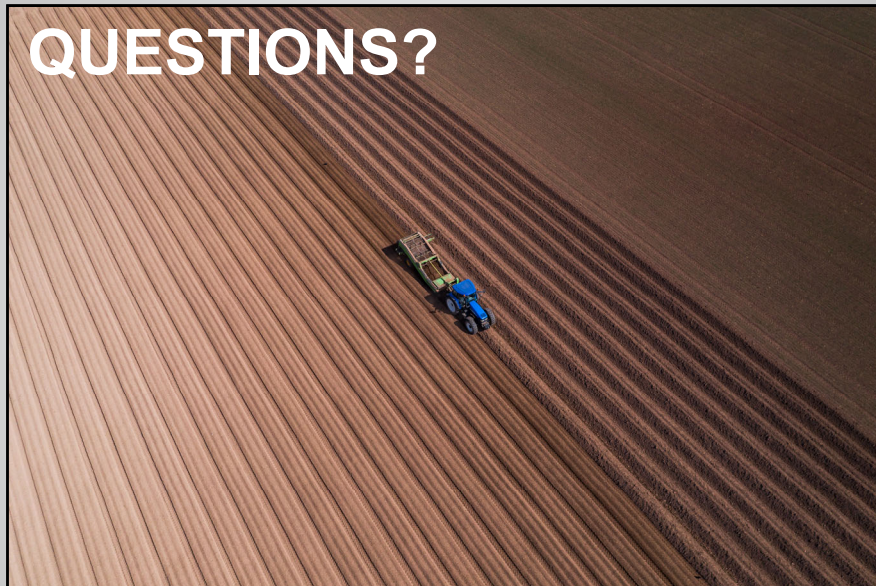
- Program Timing: GSA approval of grower applications in March will limit grower participation for annual vegetable growers.
 - Trying to turnaround awards as quickly as possible.
- Calendar year vs. Water Year.
 - Keeping WY as it aligns better with GSA reporting; note CEQA is not required.
- Allow growers to pick and choose out of the 3 components.
 - The 3 components of LandFlex are what make it unique with a goal of short-term immediate water savings and long-term sustainability.
- Clarity on how water savings is calculated.
 - Based on previous water year data and ET of crop being fallowed.



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QUESTIONS?



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GSA Application

What to Submit?

- **Authorizing Resolution**, if available - see Section VII, 2. Sample Authorizing Resolution in Guidelines
- **Application Form** - located on LandFlex website under Key Documents, also see Table 4 in Guidelines
- **Self-Certification Form** - located on LandFlex website under Key Documents
 - Support letter from GSA, if applicable (for non-GSAs entities)
 - Proof of adoption and implementation of a groundwater pumping allocation plan/schedule, noting quantified volume of available annual overdraft pumping



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GSA Application - LandFlex



LandFlex Grant Application

INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete the following steps by **8:00AM PST, 1/25/23 to 5PM PST** by submitting a Complete Proposal under the California Department of Water Resources LandFlex Program.

1) **Grant Application:** Complete the following Grant Application Form by filling in all of the responses below.

2) **Additional Attachments:** Submit the following attachments to sgwp@water.ca.gov:

1. Authorizing Resolutions
2. Communication & Engagement Plan
3. Following Plan
4. Proof of Adoption and Implementation of a Groundwater Pumping Allocation Plan
5. Self-Certification Form
6. GSA Support Letter, if applicable

Please note: There is no ability to save this application form; the entire application needs to be completed in one sitting. The information required in this application is outlined in the Land Flex Program Guidelines, Table 3.

If you have questions, please contact: sgwp@water.ca.gov.

GSA Application can be found on the LandFlex website under Key Documents, also see Table 4 – *Application Evaluation Criteria* in Guidelines for all required information.

Microsoft Forms – No saving, must complete in one session.



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* Required

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Provide the following application information.

1. **Organization Name:** Provide the name of the Agency/Organization responsible for submitting the application. Should the proposal be successful, this Agency/Organization will be the Grantee. *

Enter your answer

2. **Point of Contact:** Please type the First Name and Last Name of the Point of Contact person. Should the proposal be successful, this person will be the Point of Contact for the Agreement. *

Enter your answer

3. **Point of Contact Position Title:** Provide the title of the Point of Contact person listed above. *

Enter your answer

4. **Contact Information:** Please type the Email Address and Phone Number of the Point of Contact person listed above. *

Enter your answer

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Authorizing Resolution

An example AR is provided in the Guidelines
– Section VII - 2. Sample Authorizing Resolution

Common Questions:

- Final resolution is preferred but may submit draft resolution and include a date for when the final will be expected.
- Applicant should use language in the attached template.
- Cooperating Entities submit different resolution giving applicant authority to apply on their behalf.



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RESOLUTION NO. [xxxx]
A RESOLUTION OF THE [GOVERNING BODY] OF THE [AGENCY NAME]
AUTHORIZING THE GRANT APPLICATION, ACCEPTANCE, AND EXECUTION
FOR THE [PROJECT TITLE]

WHEREAS, [Agency Name] proposes to implement [Project Title];
WHEREAS, [Project Title] is being implemented in response to a drought scenario, as defined by Water Code section 11198(a) and is intended to: (1) address immediate impacts on human health and safety; (2) address immediate impacts on fish and wildlife resources; or, (3) provide water to persons or communities that lose or are threatened with the loss or contamination of water supplies;
WHEREAS, [Agency Name] has the legal authority and is authorized to enter into a grant agreement with the State of California; and
WHEREAS, [Agency Name] intends to apply for grant funding from the California Department of Water Resources for the [Project Title];
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the [Governing Body] of the [Agency Name] as follows:

1. That pursuant and subject to all of the terms and provisions of Budget Act of 2021 (Stats. 2022, ch. 44, § 25), the [Agency Name] [Title of Authorized Representative], or designee, is hereby authorized and directed to prepare and file an application for funding with the Department of Water Resources, and take such other actions necessary or appropriate to obtain grant funding.
2. The [Agency Name] [Title of Authorized Representative], or designee, is hereby authorized and directed to execute the grant agreement with the Department of Water Resources and any amendments thereto.
3. The [Agency Name] [Title of Authorized Representative], or designee, is hereby authorized and directed to submit any required documents, invoices, and reports required to obtain grant funding.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted by the [Governing Body Name] of the [Agency Name] at the meeting held on [date], motion by [member name] and seconded by [member name], motion passed by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Attest: _____ [Printed Name]
[Title], [Governing Body]

_____ [Printed Name]
[Secretary/Clerk]

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Eligibility Criteria Self-Certification Form

Self-Certification Form can be found on the LandFlex website under Key Documents.



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State of California DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES California Natural Resources Agency

Eligibility Criteria Self-Certification

As a Grantee of General Funds grant funds with the Department of Water Resources' (DWRs) Financial Assistance Branch, you must complete this self-certification form to enter into a Grant Agreement with DWR to receive grant funds. Failure to meet and maintain these conditions and requirements may result in DWR revoking the grant award, withholding grant funding, stopping invoice payment, and/or terminating the Grant Agreement. An answer of No to some questions below may make you ineligible to enter a contract with DWR.

1. Grantee Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Member Agencies (if a GSA is applying, list all member agencies of the GSA)

Click or tap here to enter text.
Click or tap here to enter text.
Click or tap here to enter text.
Click or tap here to enter text.
Click or tap here to enter text.
Click or tap here to enter text.

The Grantee is a GSA, a member agency of a GSA, or an agency with an Alternative to a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) located within a critically overdrafted (COD) basin and has implemented an adopted pumping allocation plan/schedule.

☐ Yes ☐ No – If no, DWR cannot enter into a Grant Agreement.

2. **Agricultural Water Management Compliance:** Is the Grantee or any member agency required to submit an Agricultural Water Management Plan (AWMP) to DWR?

☐ Yes ☐ No

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GSA Resources for Dry Wells Information

DWR's SGMA Data Viewer website:
<https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/?appid=SGMADataViewer#currentconditions>
 ns (under Current Conditions).

DWR's California Groundwater Live Dashboard
<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/f2b252d15a0d4e49887ba94ac17cc4bb>.

SGMA Data Viewer

Current Conditions

Density of Domestic Wells that are susceptible to going dry

Statewide Density Percentile Class

- 0th Percentile
- 0 - 10th Percentile (Lowest)
- 10 - 20th Percentile
- 20 - 30th Percentile
- 30 - 40th Percentile
- 40 - 50th Percentile
- 50 - 60th Percentile
- 60 - 70th Percentile
- 70 - 80th Percentile
- 80 - 90th Percentile

Groundwater Levels

Groundwater Storage

Water Quality

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QUESTIONS PART 3?




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Technical Assistance Providers (TAP)






DWR has partnered with TAPs to support GSAs with outreach and engagement of growers.



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Questions?

Daily Program Contact/Questions: SGWP@water.ca.gov

Email Subscription:

https://listservice.cnra.ca.gov/scripts/wa.exe?SUBED1=DWR_SGWP_INFO&A=1

DWR LandFlex Website: www.water.ca.gov/landflex

Grower Portal: www.landflex.org

SGM Website: www.water.ca.gov/sgmgrants



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