

Supplemental Information for Facilitation Support Services for SGMA Implementation

DWR's Facilitation Support Services (FSS) program helps local agencies work through challenging water management situations together. Professional facilitators are sometimes needed to help foster discussions among diverse water management interests and local agencies as they strive to implement the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The majority of DWR's current FSS resources are reserved for groundwater basin/subbasin-wide efforts associated with the formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and the development of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs). The goal of the FSS program is to assist local agencies in reaching broad agreement on potentially contentious issues associated with revising groundwater boundaries, establishing new governance structures, and planning for water resource sustainability. Regional water management groups will continue to be supported as they work towards achieving other IWM goals.

Services Offered

- Strategic planning
- Stakeholder identification and outreach
- Stakeholder assessment
- Liaison and mediation
- Meeting facilitation
- Governance assessment
- Public outreach

Who is Eligible?

Local agencies and water management groups must meet the following minimum eligibility requirements to qualify for the FSS program:

- Demonstrate a commitment to work collaboratively and openly with others to meet the legislative intent of the SGMA.
- Support IWM goals, such as developing or improving IRWM plans and implementing IWM projects.
- Identify a clear and defined need for professional facilitation or mediation services.
- Demonstrate a commitment to meet regularly and work diligently toward clear, defined goals.
- Commit to providing logistical and administrative support throughout the FSS process.

Applications for FSS will be evaluated on a continuous basis, and levels of support will vary based on funding availability and type of request. Priority will be given to newly-forming groups and groups that have not received FSS previously. Prior to submitting requests for FSS, local agencies are encouraged to seek broad agreement from counties, cities, and stakeholders that overlie the same groundwater basin or subbasin and submit requests jointly. Requests for stakeholder assessments will be considered on a groundwater basin/subbasin-wide or county-wide scale. Requests for FSS that involve contiguous basins/subbasins (inter-basin collaboration) are highly encouraged.

Connect with your [Region Office Contact](#) to find out how to start a FSS application.

For more information about, or to return to, DWR's Sustainable Groundwater Management Program, click [here](#).