



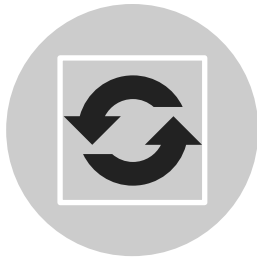
Indian Wells Valley  
Groundwater Authority  
Policy Advisory  
Committee Meeting  
November 30, 2022

# Agenda

- 1. Report on Our Process and What We Learned**
- 2. IWVGA C&E Plan Update**
- 3. Discussion: Conditions for Collaboration**



# Work Plan Overview: Key Tasks



PROCESS  
INITIATION



STAKEHOLDER  
ASSESSMENT



PUBLIC  
MEETINGS

Apr 2022

Dec 2022





# Stakeholder Assessment Process

# What We Did

- June – Sept. 2022
- Evaluate needs and conduct an internal and external environmental scan:
  - Evaluate conditions for collaboration
  - Clarify non-technical risks
  - Determine the best engagement techniques for the circumstances
- Interview participants: 48, Survey responses: 137





# Assessment Findings Workshop

- Hybrid workshop on October 4, 2022
- ~45 participants
- Asked the public to validate, correct, and augment what we heard
- There was general consensus on the key issues the basin is facing related to groundwater management

# Key Themes



Communications



Transparency



Equity issues – Trona and InyoKern CSD



Best available science



Addressing the needs of small mutuals



Other projects and management actions on the table for community discussion

# Suggested Additions



Mitigating impacts to domestic wells

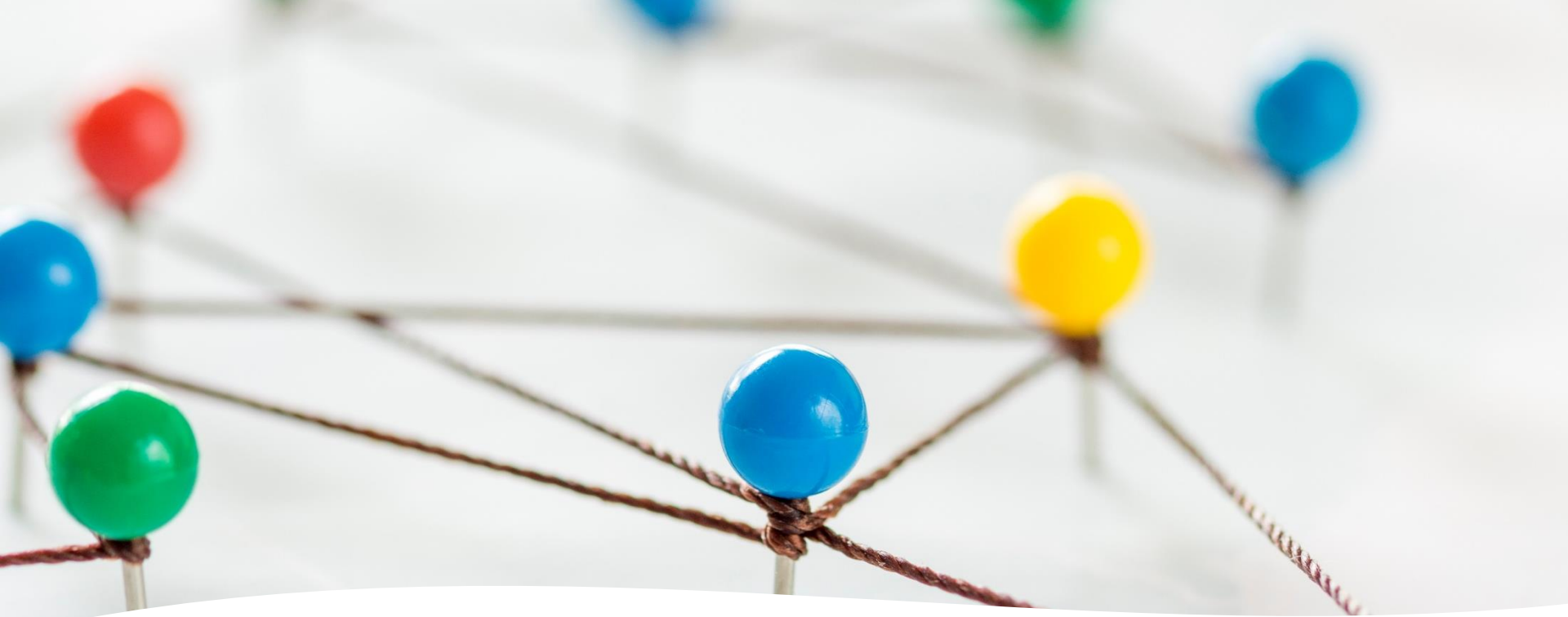


Identifying and addressing the needs of water haulers





# Review of IWVGA C&E Plan Update



## C&E Plan Update Desired Outcomes

1. Maximum **public awareness, understanding,** and **engagement** from all parties in implementing the GSP
2. Increased **credibility** and **public trust** and support for the GSP implementation process
3. Reach full **sustainability** in the basin through GSP implementation





# Concerns & Challenges

- Concerns we also heard:
  - Limited and fragmented communications
  - Use of unfamiliar language and technical terminology
  - Limited access to reference materials
  - Unfavorable meeting times and locations
  - Gaining and retaining public trust
  - Ongoing litigation impacts on public dialogue
  - Difficulties in engaging underrepresented communities
  - Defining the shared problem and potential solutions



A blue megaphone is positioned on the left side of the slide, set against a light pink background. From the megaphone, several colorful streamers in yellow, green, red, and light blue emerge and swirl across the page. The streamers are thick and have a soft, wavy texture.

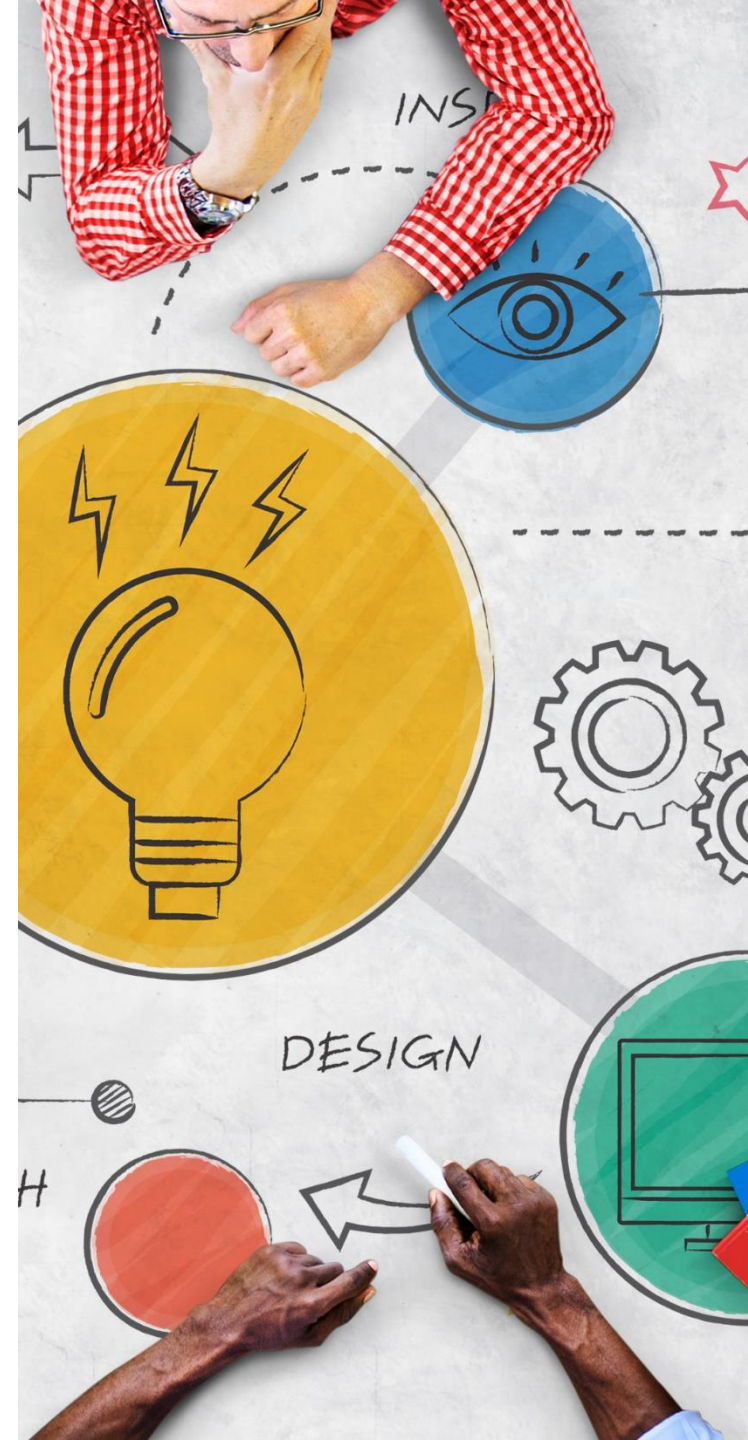
# Concerns & Challenges

Concerns not addressed in the interview process but consistent with the community demographic profile:

- Limited access for non-English language and hearing-impaired individuals
- Temporary employees in the basin who own homes
- Absentee and out of basin landowners

# Proposed PAC Approach

1. Notify and inform the public about the status of IWV groundwater and provide accurate, objective, and timely info through multiple channels
2. Manage a singular repository (i.e., the website) as a central info hub that includes introductory info in layman's terms as well as detailed technical sources
3. Designate a Communications Director whose responsibility it is to implement the C&E Plan
4. Implement a publicly available, integrated schedule that includes info about the implementation of projects and management actions, including budget information.



# Identified Gaps

- Addressing transparency and trust / legitimacy issues
- open, transparent discussion of technical issues
- Engaging all basin GW users in identifying the problem and prioritizing solutions;
- Pooling resources to work together/collaboration
- Direct engagement with communities (meeting them where they're at)







# Gaps

- Best Practices – Communications v. Engagement
- Scale, Tactics, Feedback Process, Continuous Improvement



# Communication Venues and Tools

- Identification of tools already in use and proposed new activities
- Frequency of activities and responsible parties
- Integrating C&E with the implementation of projects and management actions
- Process for incorporation into the GSP Update





Stantec

# Conditions for Collaboration



# Stakeholder Collaborative Conditions for Success

**Sponsors:** Financial, societal, and informational commitment to the process is imperative;

**Assessments:** Situation assessments are conducted to clarify issues, conditions, trends, goals, stakeholders and similar information;

**Stakeholders:** Stakeholders must be identified and categorized (e.g., essential, affected, interested, deal-makers and deal-breakers);

**Process Design:** Stakeholders need to be involved in process design and process evolution;

**Process Approach:** Interest-based and systemic;

**Decision-Making:** Decision-making must be transparent and collaborative;

**Resources:** Technical, policy and programmatic resources must be made available from stakeholders / sponsors; and

**Implementation:** Stakeholders must create a commitment to sustainable implementation of the process (es).



- To what extent are these conditions present?
- How should this be measured?
- What conditions may be missing?

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Next Steps

Questions

Discussion

# Indian Wells Valley Facilitation Process Stakeholder Collaborative Conditions for Success Survey



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3KKTLRR>