Projects and Management Actions

TAKING ACTION TO REACH SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

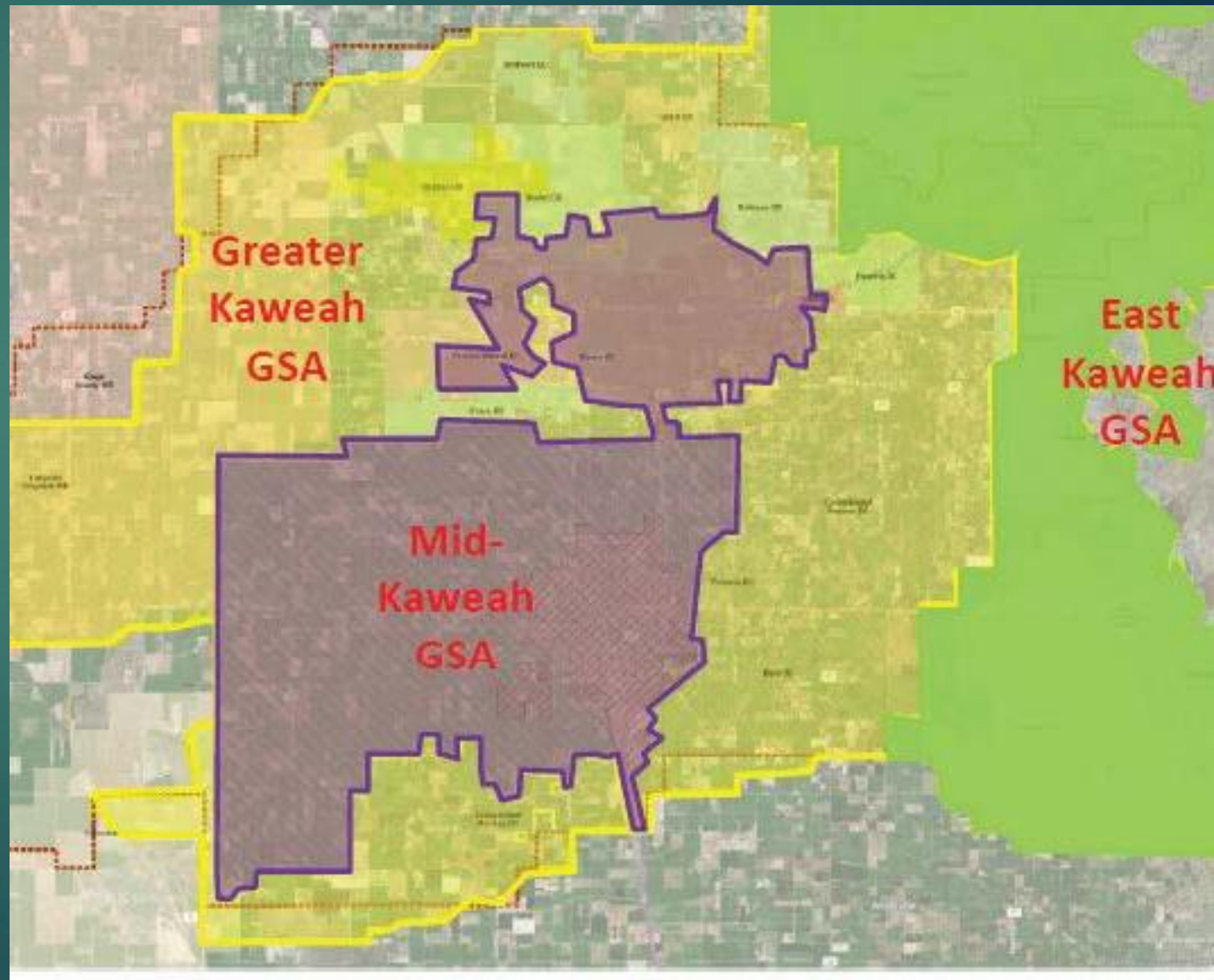
LEADERSHIP COUNSEL FOR JUSTICE & ACCOUNTABILITY

Agenda:

- **Presentation: Projects and Management Actions** (30 minutes)
- **Small Group Exercise** (20 minutes)
- **Full Group Review and Discussion** (10 minutes)

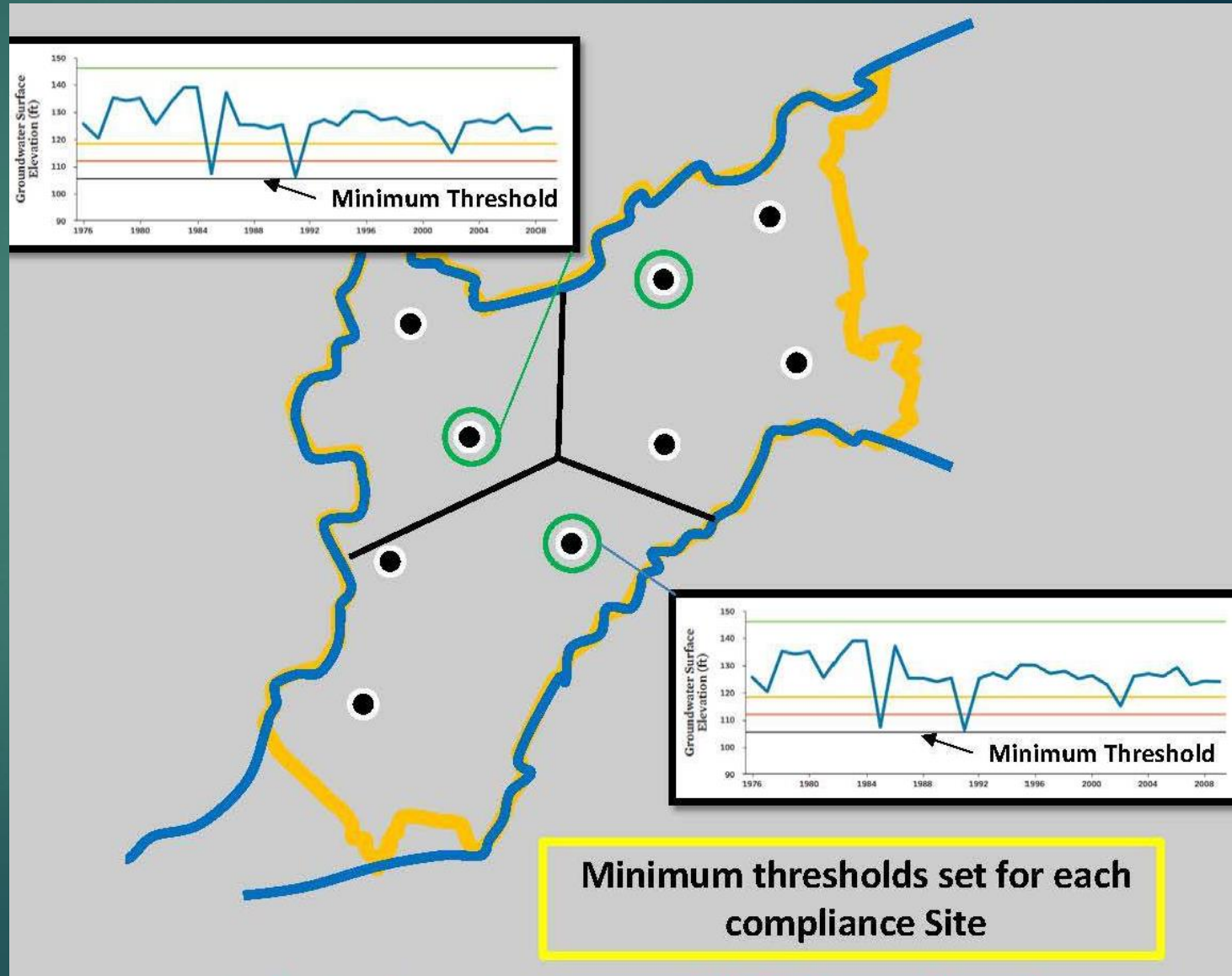
Management Areas

- Separate areas that will be managed differently because of differences in water use and hydrogeological characteristics
- Must contribute to achieving sustainability, and must not cause undesirable results in other areas of the sub-basin



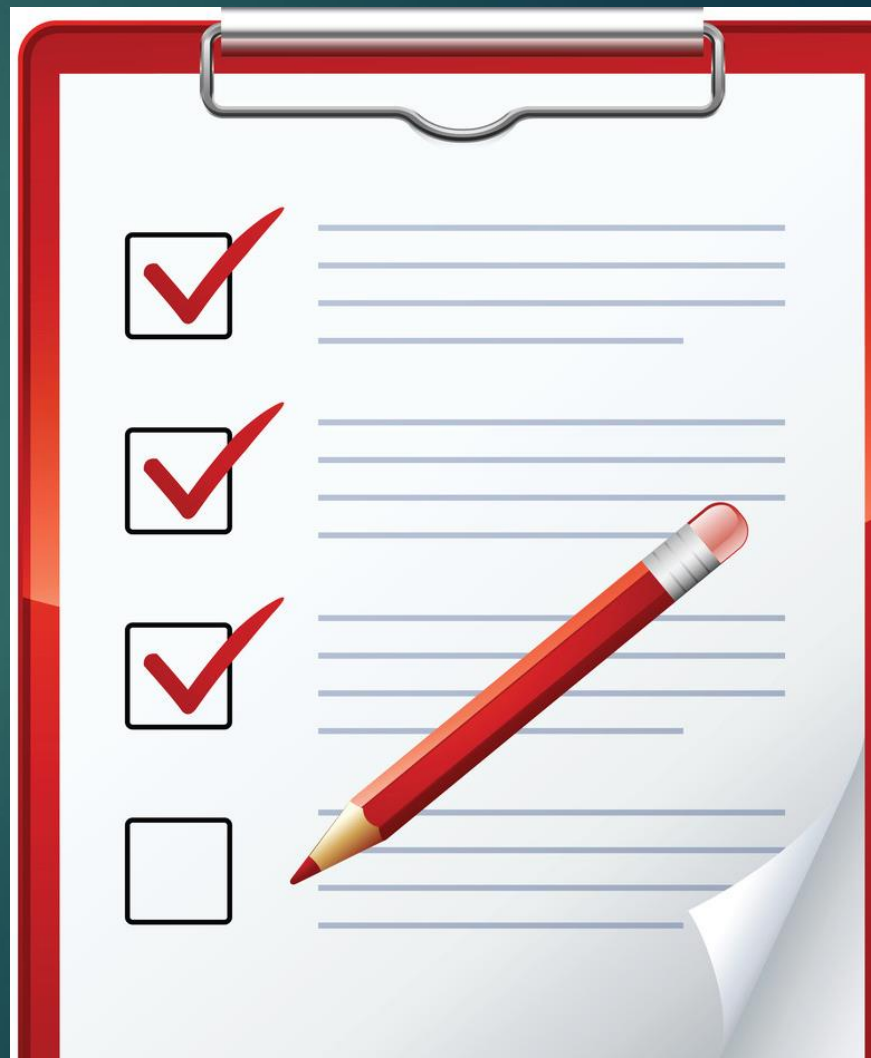
Monitoring Networks

- Monitoring wells and other techniques to measure whether the GSA is reaching its Measurable Objectives, avoiding Minimum Thresholds
- Can use existing monitoring networks and data
- Must be frequent enough and gather enough data to see long-term trends, and control for uncertainties
- Must have representative monitoring sites



Projects: General requirements

- Must contribute to a measurable objective, and must show how much each project will contribute to sustainability goals
- Must set timeline for each project's beginning, completion, and schedule for reaching project goals
- Must provide notice to the public



Projects to conserve water

- Pumping allocation: Put limits on allowed groundwater usage for individuals in the sub-basin
  - For example: allocation per acre, per user, depending on type of use, depending on historical use
- Fees on water use: pay to use groundwater
- Fines for overuse past assigned limits

Projects to increase the amount of groundwater in the sub-basin

- Groundwater recharge projects
- Groundwater banking
- Injection wells

Projects to bring more surface water into the sub-basin

- Using surface water instead of groundwater
- Purchasing more surface water, through state and federal water contracts and allocations
- Cities transitioning to using more surface water for drinking water system

Groundwater markets: trading groundwater extraction allocations

- SGMA does not change groundwater rights so therefore rights cannot be traded. GSAs ARE allowed to limit groundwater pumping by establishing groundwater pumping allocations.
- GSAs can allow groundwater pumpers to trade portions of their groundwater extraction allocation.
- Markets externalities—unintended effects on communities or the environment because of market transactions. Transfers of groundwater extraction allocations change where groundwater is pumped and where and how it is used, potentially changing its social and environmental impacts

- Key components:
  - Foundational considerations:
    - Groundwater allocations
    - Pumping limits--subbasin or management area level
  - Market specific considerations
    - Trading rules and process
    - How to address potential negative impacts
  - General considerations:
    - Monitoring networks
    - Developing platform for trading
    - Transparency and data

Small Group Exercise:

Sun Valley Stakeholder Advisory Committee

Choosing Projects and Management Actions

Group Discussion:

- What did your stakeholder advisory committee decide? Why?
- What were the most important considerations for your group?
- What was the hardest obstacle to overcome in your group?

Thank you!

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