

GWPC ASR-MAR Workgroup Charter (02/03/2020)

I. Official Designation

The Aquifer Storage and Recovery–Managed Aquifer Recharge Workgroup was established by the Ground Water Protection Council (GWPC) Board of Directors on September 15, 2019 and will be referred to as the ASR-MAR Workgroup or Workgroup.

II. Purpose, scope, applicability, and functions

A. Purpose

The overall goal of the Workgroup is to examine, discuss, and make recommendations to the GWPC Board of Directors regarding Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) and Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) issues or topics. The Workgroup may also serve as a forum for Federal, State, Tribal, and local government, organizations and public interest, and professional organizations to exchange information, views, and ideas, and to communicate and collaborate on efforts concerning ASR and MAR issues or topics.

B. Functions

- ASR and MAR are established technologies used for the enhanced recharge and recovery of water from aquifers, for storage of water underground to meet water resource needs, aquifer replenishment, and to address aquifer management problems. Because the storage of water resources underground is both practical and beneficial, the technology can be financially attractive to planners and utilities as part of their sustainable water resource toolbox. The Workgroup will provide a forum for discussion of these technologies.
- The workgroup will have the flexibility to examine a range of issues associated with the use of ASR-MAR; including issues that can pose both challenges and opportunities for USEPA, as well as States, Tribes, and Territories with the delegated authority for the Safe Drinking Water Act Underground Injection Control (UIC) program. These issues could include streamlined permitting activities while meeting responsibilities for protecting underground sources of drinking water, recognizing and discussing new technology, and treatment advances.
- The Workgroup will have the flexibility to examine ASR-MAR topics and is not limited in scope to UIC issues. The issues that may be examined are broad

and may include enhanced or managed aquifer recharge practices that are not regulated by the SDWA UIC program.

- The Workgroup will facilitate communication among members and participants through regular virtual meetings, infrequent in-person meetings, and presentations at professional meetings where interested parties may be in attendance, and electronic communication and sharing of materials regarding ASR-MAR activities.
- The Workgroup may establish special focus sub-workgroups to address existing as well as emerging groundwater issues.
- The Workgroup will foster intergovernmental coordination regarding management and policy issues related to groundwater resources.
- The Workgroup will encourage collaboration among government and non-government organizations (NGOs), and foster communication and input to scientific and research organizations with capabilities for addressing research issues related to ASR-MAR, groundwater availability, sustainability, and value.
- The Workgroup will monitor current methods and advances in technology for aquifer storage and recovery, enhanced and managed aquifer recharge, and aquifer replenishment.
- The Workgroup may develop recommendations on issues which will be presented to the GWPC Board of Directors. Information can be presented in the form of an oral report, written summary, or white paper. After approval, written documents will be posted on the GWPC website and can be presented to the membership at regular meetings.

C. Applicability

The ASR-MAR Workgroup will request the GWPC Executive Director's approval for workgroup-developed recommendations, guidelines, and procedures, as appropriate. As resources are available, organizations that participate on the workgroup may voluntarily help to develop the recommendations, guidelines and procedures.

III. Membership

- The workgroup efforts would benefit from the experiences and knowledge of state and federal regulators, local government, and water professionals. As such, the membership is open to all. The Workgroup shall have a membership

from among federal, tribal, state, and/or local government agencies. The membership of Workgroup may include those organizations and water professionals with experience in the practice of ASR-MAR, collection of relevant information, analysis, dissemination, and use of ASR-MAR, as well as those that develop groundwater monitoring technology, guidelines, or standards. Participation on the Workgroup will be on a voluntary basis.

- The GWPC Executive Director or his designee shall enlist three of the Workgroup members to jointly chair the Workgroup. One of the chairs will be a state representative, one will be a federal agency representative, and the third will be a research or ASR-MAR practitioner. GWPC Executive Director shall assign support staff for the Workgroup who will assist the chairs in conducting the meetings, communications, and in organizing and running meetings of the workgroup and sub-workgroups. The GWPC staff will be responsible for coordinating the posting of meetings, meeting notes, and documents of interest on the Workgroup portion of the GWPC website and will also help the chairs communicate with the GWPC Board via the GWPC Executive Director.

IV. Meetings and Procedures

- The ASR-MAR Workgroup shall strive to meet at least quarterly but not less than twice a year (in person and/or by remote access) and at other times as designated by the chairs. The GWPC staff, in consultation with the chairs, will determine the dates, times, and locations of the meetings. The GWPC staff will be responsible for distributing agendas and information about meetings to all members. These meetings may be virtual meetings, using teleconference, video conference, and webinar technologies,
- Members of the ASR-MAR Workgroup will receive no pay, allowances, or benefits from the GWPC. However, while away from their homes or regular places of business, in the performance of services for the GWPC, State, Tribal, and Territorial members may be allowed reimbursement of some travel expenses, if funds are available. Unless otherwise preapproved by the GWPC Executive Director, other members are responsible for their own costs to participate in meetings.
- General meetings of the Workgroup will be open. Meetings of the co-chairs may be done privately if needed. Each general meeting will include a designated time for individuals who are not members to make statements or to have written statements distributed during the meeting.
- At the direction of the ASR-MAR Chairs, the GWPC staff will distribute summaries with action items of the workgroup meetings to members and

participants. Once summaries are agreed to, the GWPC staff will forward the information to the GWPC Executive Director for further distribution and posting on the GWPC web site.

V. Subordinate Groups

For assistance in conducting its business, the ASR-MAR Workgroup may establish sub-workgroups for a specific purpose and/or time. Such work groups may gather information, conduct research, analyze relevant issues and facts, and draft proposed position papers and recommendations for deliberation by the Workgroup. These sub-workgroups will be established by the Workgroup Chairs and will be assisted by GWPC staff based upon GWPC Executive Director approval, budget and GWPC staff availability. The sub-workgroups will have the balanced perspectives and knowledge necessary to perform their designated functions. Individuals that serve on these subordinate work groups may include persons and organizations that are not members or participants of the ASR-MAR Workgroup, but who provide the knowledge and expertise needed to carry out the assigned tasks. All such sub-workgroups will report back to the ASR-MAR Workgroup and will serve for the time necessary to complete the action for which they were formed. Upon completion of its assigned task, each work group will be dissolved unless otherwise directed by the chairs of the ASR-MAR Workgroup.

VI. Date of Approval

Approved by the GWPC Executive Director on February 3, 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michel J. Paque". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and "P".

Michel J. Paque,
Executive Director
Ground Water Protection Council