# General SGMA Webinar on Groundwater Sustainability Planning



Jointly Hosted By the Department of Water Resources and the State Water Board February 18, 2021





#### **Agenda Overview**

• Introduction: California's Groundwater Management

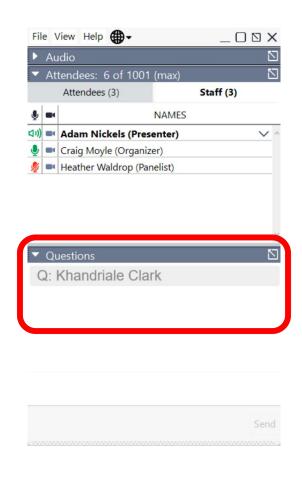
- SGMA Regulatory Framework: GSP Assessments
  - Public Question and Answer

- State Assistance: Implementation
  - Public Question and Answer





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### California's Groundwater Management



Agriculture



**Drinking Water** 



Environment



Effective statewide groundwater management is imperative to ensuring the State's future water supply reliability and system resiliency.

**Businesses** 

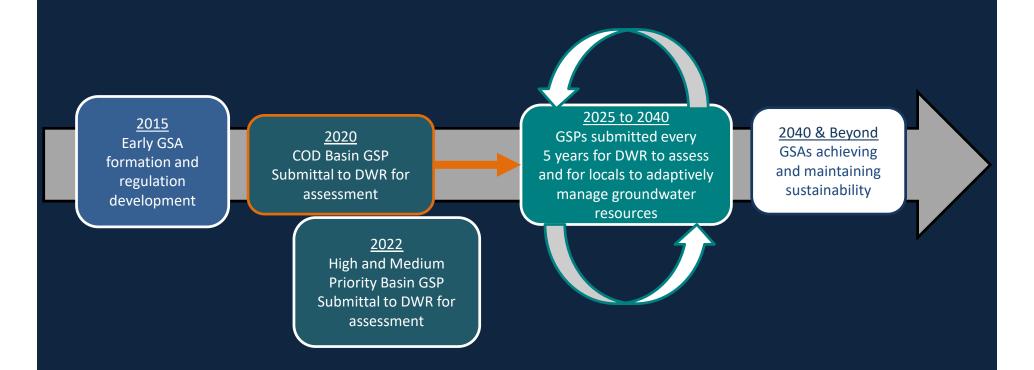
# A Paradigm Shift To Comprehensive Water Management

For over 100 years, surface water has been actively managed in California

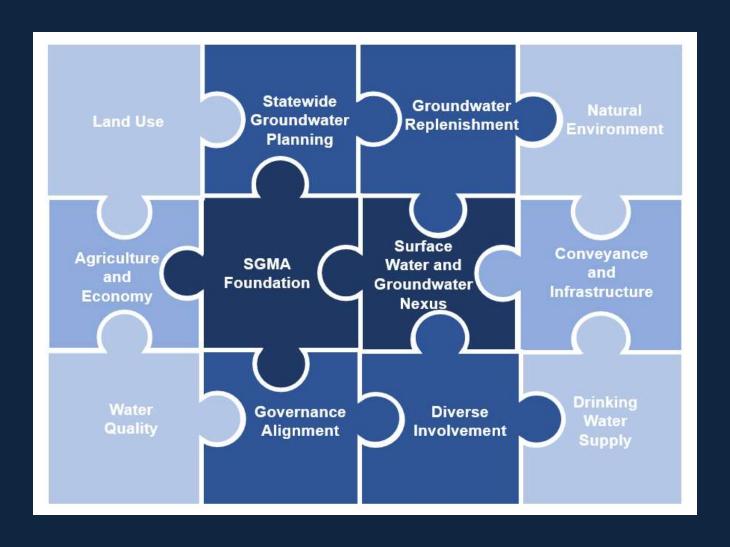
Sustainable groundwater management is a new statewide effort



# Looking Forward to Implementation: SGMA's 20-Year Plan Horizon



#### **Opportunities of Groundwater Management**



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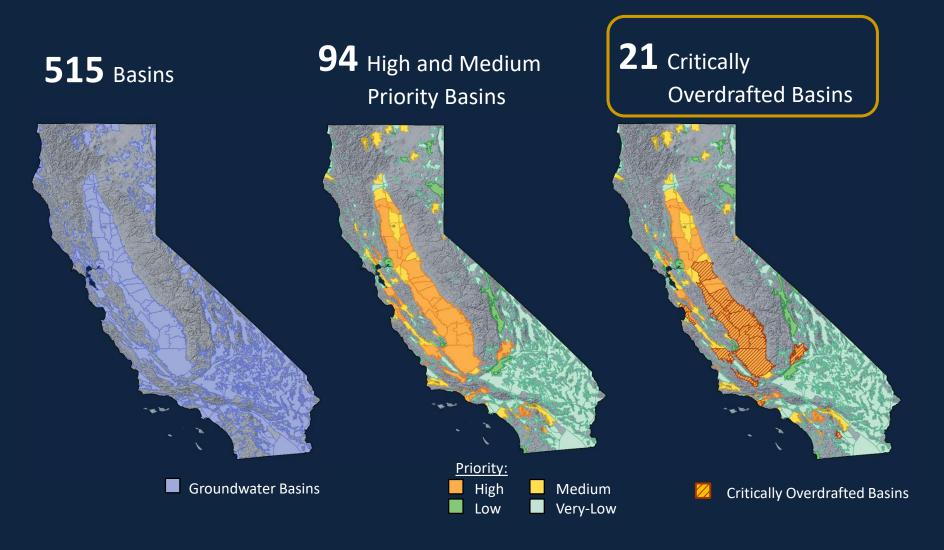
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### Where Are We At?



The high and medium priority basins cover 96% of groundwater use and 88% of California's overlying population.

# Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSP) Regulation

 Local GSAs required to develop and implement GSPs for all high and medium priority basins

- 1. Introductory Provisions
- 2. Definitions
- 3. Technical & Reporting Standards
- 4. Procedures
- 5. Plan Contents
- 6. Department Evaluation & Assessment
- 7. Annual Reports and Periodic Evaluations by the Agency
- 8. Interagency Agreements
- 9. Alternatives

#### **Plan Contents**

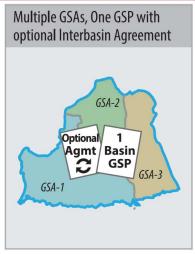
- 1. Administrative Information
- 2. Basin Setting
  - Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model
  - Groundwater Conditions
  - Water Budget
  - Management Areas

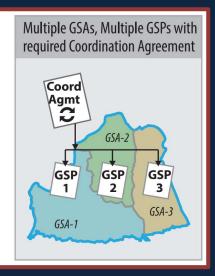
#### 3. Sustainable Management Criteria

- Sustainability Goal
- Undesirable Results
- Minimum Thresholds
- Measurable Objectives
- 4. Monitoring Networks
- **5. Projects and Management Actions**

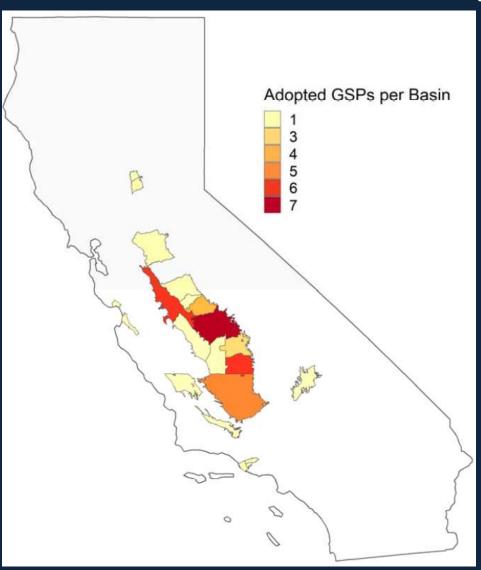




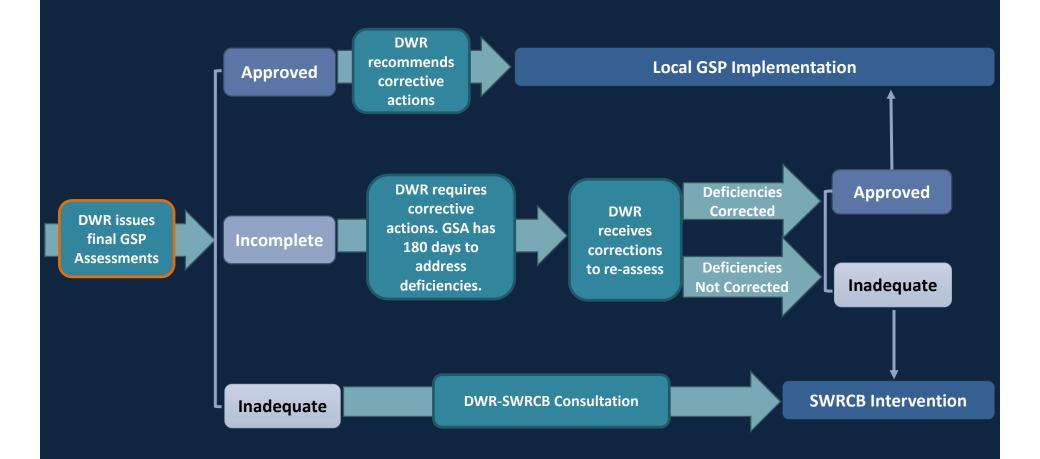




### **Groundwater Sustainability Plans**



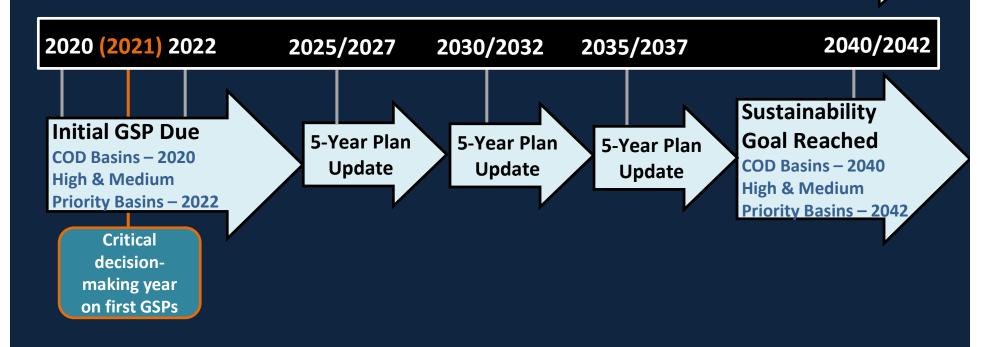
### **SGMA Regulatory Pathways**



### **Assessment Release Approach**

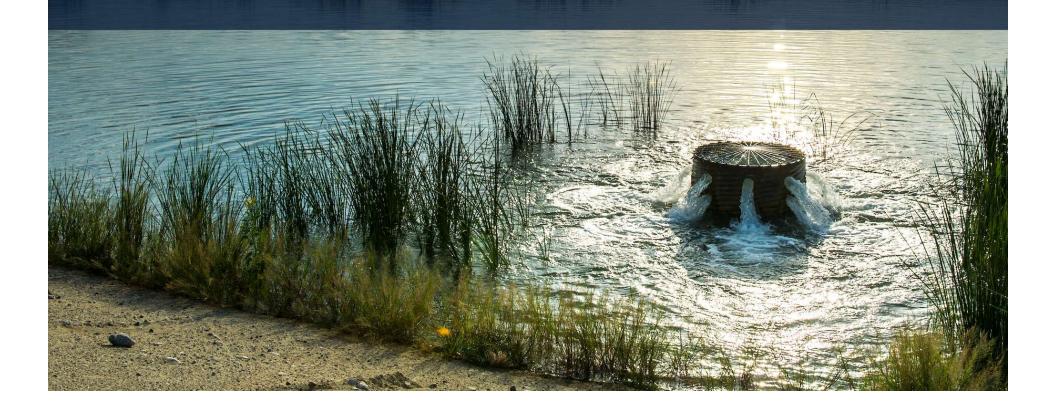
**GSAs Implementing Local Projects & Management Actions** 

**Annual Reporting – Data and Implementation Progress** 

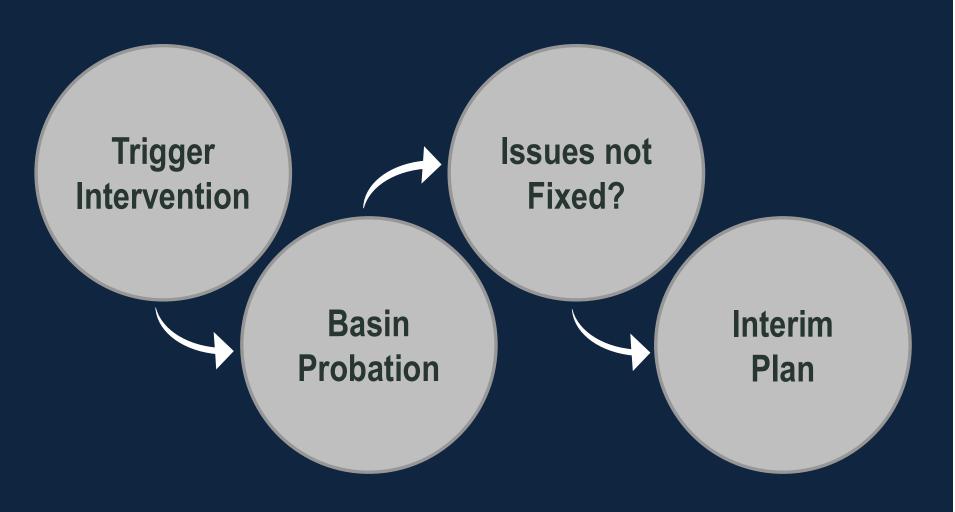


## Board Backstop Basics

- Board only steps in when local efforts fail.
- Temporarily protects the basin until locals come up-to-speed.
- 3 Backstop is triggered by SGMA deadlines.



# Backstop



# Probationary BASIN groundwater BASIN



State Water Board makes decisions



Opportunity to fix issues



Board gathers data



May require meters



Fees



## FEES beginning in Water Year 2018

Base Filing Fee (per well)

+

Volumetric Rate (per acre-foot)

+

Late Fee (per month)

\$300

Unmanaged

\$**25** 

Probation

\$40°

Interim Plan

\$**55**\*

**25**<sup>%</sup>

\*special studies extra



Reports are submitted annually.

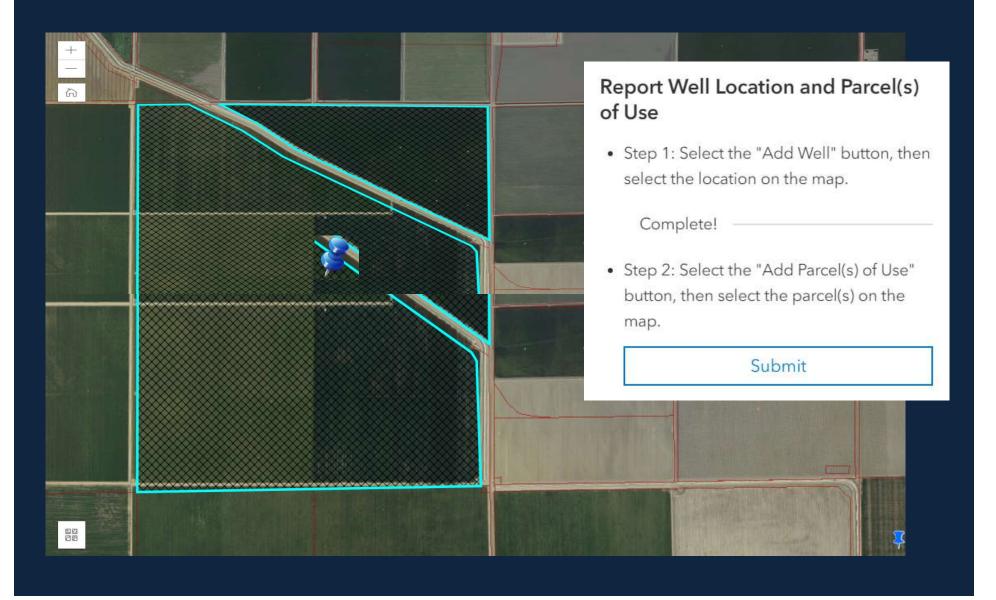
Reports require...

- well location & capacity
- monthly extraction volumes
- place & purpose of use

Reports must be filed electronically.

Information on extraction reports is available at <a href="https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\_issues/programs/gmp/reporting.shtml">www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\_issues/programs/gmp/reporting.shtml</a>.

#### GEARS Groundwater Evaluation, Analysis, and Reporting System

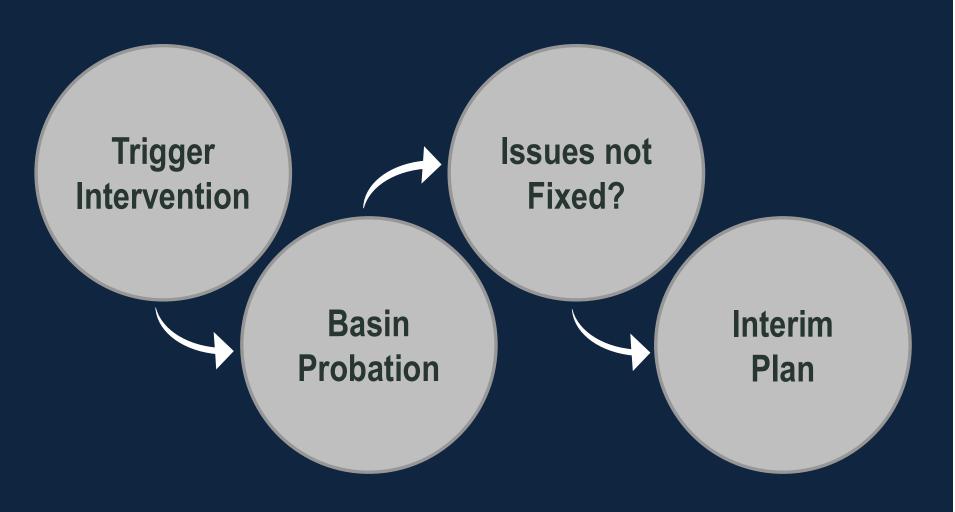


## **Board INVESTIGATIONS**



- Broad authority to conduct investigations
- Informational orders
- Board works with individual pumpers
- Additional fees (beyond reporting fees)

# Backstop





## NO Plan

90 Days

180 Days

**Probation** 

Public notice of hearing and contact cities and counties

**Local Agencies** 

Remedy deficiencies resulting in probation



**Water Board** 

**Develops Interim Plan** 

**Board - DWR coordination** 

## **INCOMPLETE** Plan

180 Days

**Local Agencies** 

Remedy Plan Inadequacies

90 Days

**Probation** 

Public notice of hearing and contact cities and counties

1 Year

**Local Agencies** 

Remedy deficiencies resulting in probation



**Water Board** 

Develops Interim Plan

**Board - DWR coordination** 

## **INADEQUATE** Plan

90 Days

**Probation** 

Public notice of hearing and contact cities and counties

1 Year

**Local Agencies** 

Remedy deficiencies resulting in probation



**Water Board** 

**Develops Interim Plan** 

**Board - DWR coordination** 

## SGMA Coordination



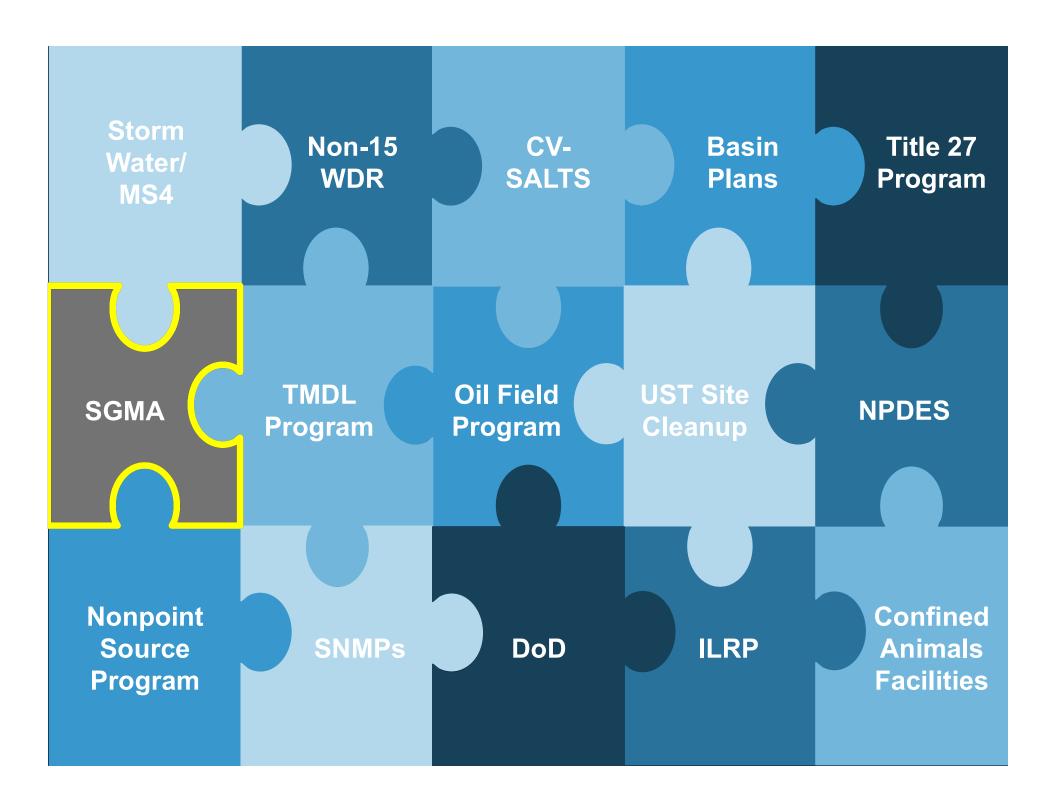
Boards are working to support the Department's GSP review

Drinking Water Water Rights Water Quality

SAFER
ILRP
CV-SALTS

## SGMA Coordination

SGMA fits into a broader framework of water quality and drinking water issues

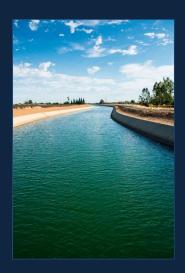


## **SGMAFact Sheets**

- Probationary designation and groundwater regulation
- Stakeholder inclusion
- State and regional boards basics
- Funding opportunities for GSAs
- Purpose of use for underground storage projects
- Water Quality FAQ
- More coming...

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sgma/

#### **Common Themes and Stakeholder Comments**

















DWR received over 500 public comments on the critically overdrafted groundwater sustainability plans from over 80 organizations, local, state, and federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, and the public

#### **Public Question and Answer**

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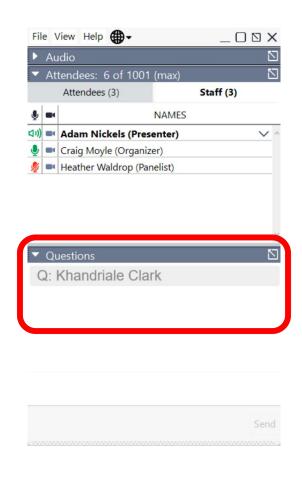
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### Implementation: Toolbox Approach



### State Support for Toolbox Approach for Local Implementation:

- ✓ Funding Assistance for Planning and Implementation
- ✓ SGMA Network: DWR GSA Pointsof-Contact
- ✓ Guidance Materials
- ✓ Best Management Practices
- ✓ Facilitation Support
- ✓ Written Translation
- ✓ Technical Support
- ✓ Statewide Groundwater Planning information (CalGW)
- ✓ Datasets and Models
- ✓ Aerial Electromagnetic Surveys for Recharge Areas

**Local Efforts** 

Governance

Public Engagement Data Gaps/ Modeling

Monitoring

Projects/ Actions

#### **DWR Financial Assistance**

#### **Financial Assistance:**

- Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Planning Grant Program
  - Funded three rounds to date with Prop. 1 and Prop. 68
  - Most recent round in March 2020; Totaling ~\$150M
- SGM Implementation Grant Program
  - Recently closed the grant application submittal period for project implementation in the COD Basins
    - > \$26M available for local projects
    - ➤ More information on the <u>SGM Implementation Grant funding</u> on our website
    - ➤ Round 2 starting in 2022; ~\$70M available

# **DWR Planning Assistance**

#### **Planning Assistance:**

- DWR has developed a number of resources to support GSA outreach and engagement efforts
  - Most recently: <u>Tips and Tactics for Online</u><u>Meetings</u>
  - Guidance documents
  - Points of Contacts, RegionalCoordinators, and Geology Leads
  - Facilitation Support Services
  - Written Translation Services



For more information, visit the Assistance and Engagement webpage

## **DWR Technical Assistance**

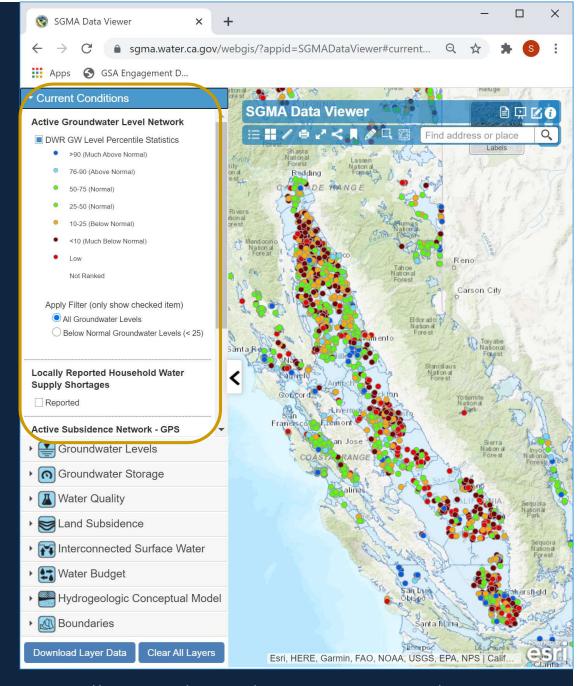
#### **Technical Assistance:**

- Technical Support Services
  - Services include: monitoring well installation, subsidence monitoring, and downhole camera surveys
- Guidance and Education
  - Website
  - BMPs/Guidance Documents
  - CA Groundwater Update 2020
- Statewide Datasets



#### **Statewide Datasets**

- Statewide datasets inform GSP development and implementation
  - SGMA Water Year Type DataJanuary 2021
  - 2018 Statewide Land UseSpring 2021
  - Statewide InSAR datasetSpring 2021
- Interactive Maps SGMA Data Viewer
- SGMA data on CNRA Open Data



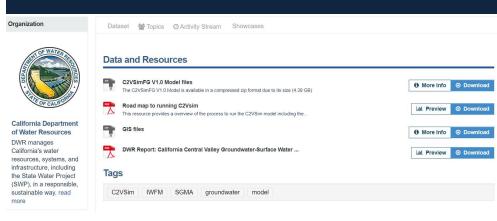
# California's Groundwater (Bulletin 118) Update 2020

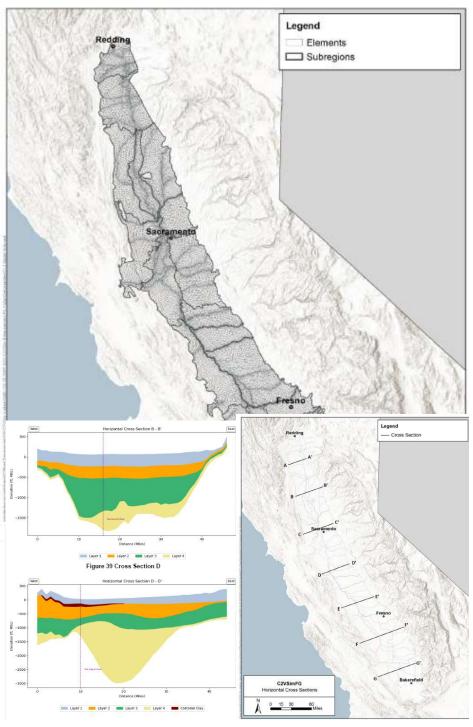
- Statewide compendium report of technical groundwater information updated every 5 years
- CalGW Update 2020 in development
  - ➤ Release Public Review Draft Spring 2021
  - ➤ Initiate 45-day Public Comment Period
  - > Finalize Summer 2021
  - ➤ More information on <u>CalGW</u> available on our website



#### C2VSimFG v1.0 Models

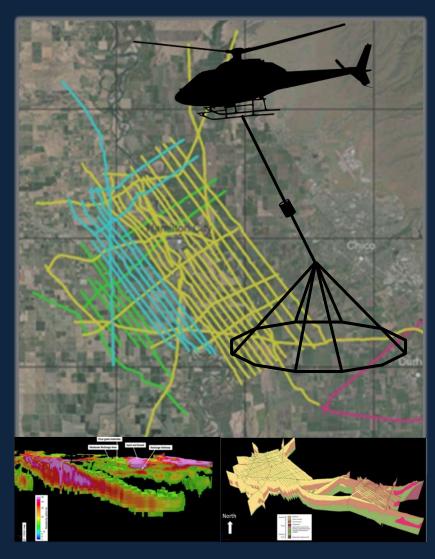
- Provides a digitized model for GSAs and stakeholders to inform groundwater sustainability planning
- Model Uses:
  - Visualizes the aquifer conditions and characteristics
  - > Provides historical water budgets
  - > Identifies data gaps and limitations
  - > Available on the Open Data Platform





#### Statewide Airborne Electromagnetic (AEM) Surveys

- AEM data can improve the understanding of regional and local aquifer structure
  - Surveys to be conducted in all high and medium priority basins
  - Data collected in a coarse grid with flight lines oriented to cover important areas
  - Surveys to begin in summer 2021
  - AEM Webinar to be held this spring
  - Ongoing GSA and public outreach
  - More information from <u>AEM</u><u>webpage</u>



# Water Right Permitting Options

for underground storage

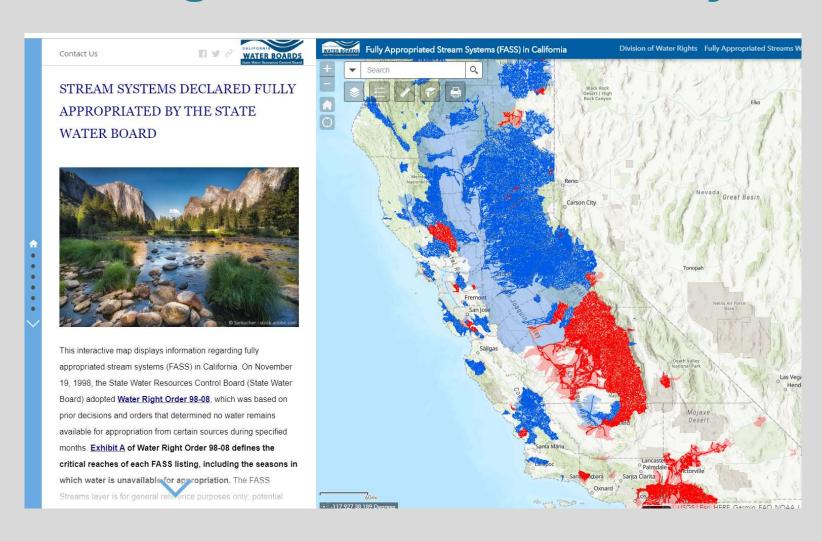
180-day temporary permit

5-year temporary permit

Standard permit

Standard permit: Streamlined pathway

# Water Rights: Water Availability Tool



# **State Water Board Grant Programs**

#### Water Recycling Funding Program

- Limits: \$150,000 (planning grant) to \$5M (construction grant)
- Due date: continuous

#### Small Community Grant Fund

- Limits: \$500,000 (planning grant) to \$6M (construction grant)
- Due date: continuous

# **State Water Board Grant Programs**

#### Drinking Water Grants

- Limits: Maximum grant (\$45-80K/residential connection)
   determined by project type and includes all funding the
   community receives for all DWSRF in a 5-year period
- Due date: continuous

#### Groundwater Grant Program

- Limits: \$2M (planning grant) to \$50M (construction grant)
- Round 3 Solicitation to be released Summer 2021

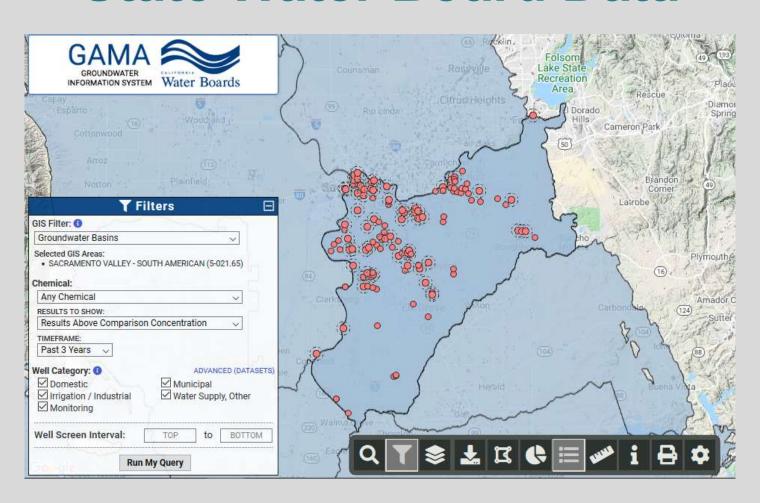
# **State Water Board Data**



#### **Water Quality Tools**

- GAMA Groundwater Information System
- USGS Trend analysis tool
- Domestic Well Water Quality Tool

# **State Water Board Data**



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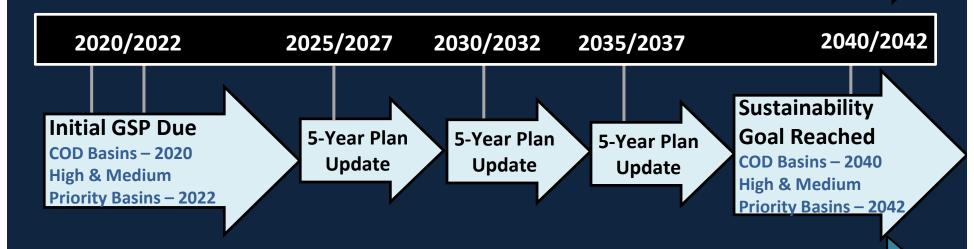
#### **Drinking Water Tools**

- Drinking Water Watch (SDWIS)
- Exceedances/Compliance of Public Water Systems

# **SGMA Implementation**

**GSAs Implementing Local Projects & Management Actions** 

**Annual Reporting – Data and Implementation Progress** 



State Technical, Planning, & Financial Assistance

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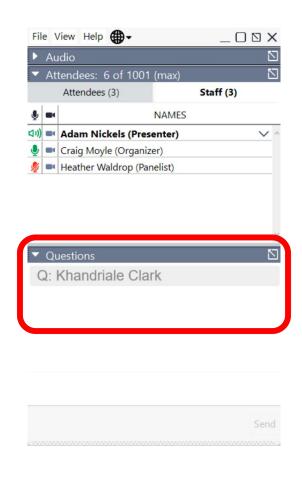
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## Thank You!

General DWR Inquiries: <a href="mailto:sgmps@water.ca.gov">sgmps@water.ca.gov</a>

General State Water Board Inquires: <a href="mailto:sgma@waterboards.ca.gov">sgma@waterboards.ca.gov</a>



