Sustainable Groundwater Management Program

Informational Update
ACWA Groundwater Committee | February 21, 2019
Presentation Overview

• SGMP Update
  • Alternative Assessments
  • Basin Boundary Modifications
  • Basin Prioritization
  • Technical Assistance
  • Planning and Financial Assistance
SGMP Update
Alternative Evaluation and Assessment Update
Alternative Submittals

Three types (24 total submittals)

1. Existing groundwater management plan (9)
2. 10-year analysis of operation within the sustainable yield (11; 2 withdrawn early 2019)
3. Adjudication (4 submitted by Mojave Water Agency and withdrawn in late 2017)

- Submitted by January 1, 2017
- Annual Reports for Water Year 2017 received by April 1, 2018
Alternative Evaluation and Assessment
Next Steps

• **Early 2019** – Public Release of Alternative Assessments

• **Alternative Annual Reports** – Due every April 1 for the preceding water year

• **Alternative 5-Year Update** – Local agencies will update and DWR will review Alternative Submittals every 5 years
Basin Boundary Modifications
Introduction

- Background
- 2018 Basin Boundary Modifications Information
- 2018 Final Basin Boundaries
- Impact to GSA Boundaries
Background

- Groundwater Basins and Subbasins are defined in Bulletin 118
- SGMA – Applicable to all basins, as defined in B118
  - 10722.2 – Established process for local agency to request modifications
  - Basin Boundary Emergency Regulations (October 2015)
- All 2018 Modifications were at the request of local agencies
- Boundary Modifications require re-prioritization
  - Draft re-prioritization of 2016 Boundary modifications released during 2018 period
2018 Basin Boundary Modifications
Basin Boundary Modification Request System (BBMRS)

https://sgma.water.ca.gov/basinmod/
Basin Boundary Modifications

- **2018 Boundary Modifications**
  
  Initial Notification - July 2017

  Submission Period - January 1 to September 28, 2018

  43 Requests
  - 23 Jurisdictional
  - 15 Scientific
  - 5 Jurisdictional/Scientific
Final 2018 Basin Boundaries

Summary of Final Decisions
(Posted February 11, 2019)

- 35 Approve
- 4 Deny
- 4 Approve with Deny Portion

- Summary table, interactive map, and static map

https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Basin-Boundary-Modifications
Addressing GSA Boundaries

GSA Updates

• Developing a list of affected GSAs
• Will communicate with and assist GSAs
• Maps for immediate use for comparison available on:
  • GSA Portal Map – https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/#gsa
  • SGMA Data Viewer - https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/?appid=SGMADataViewer
• GSA Portal is being updated to accommodate modifications, but currently not ready
Basin Prioritization
Basin Prioritization - *Legislative Directive*

- Basin prioritization triggered by boundary modifications – 2016 & 2018

- Prioritization based on:
  1. The *population* overlying the basin.
  2. The rate of current and *projected growth* of the population in basin.
  3. The number of *public supply wells* that draw from the basin.
  4. The *total* number of *wells* that draw from the basin.
  5. The *irrigated acreage* overlying the basin.
  6. The degree to which persons overlying the basin *rely on groundwater*.
  7. Any *documented impacts* on the groundwater within the basin, including overdraft, subsidence, saline intrusion, and water quality.
  8. Any *other information* determined to be relevant by the department, including adverse impacts on local habitat and local streamflows.
2018 – Basin Prioritization

• **Jan 2018** – Released Final Priorities for Unmodified Basins (458)

• **Spring 2019** – Draft Priorities for Modified Basins (57), Public Comments & Public Meeting

• **Late Spring 2019** – Final Priorities for Modified Basins (57)
Basin Prioritization Resources

https://www.water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Basin-Prioritization

Basin Prioritization Webpage

Basin Prioritization Dashboard

Basin prioritization classifies California’s 517 groundwater basins (basins) into priorities based on components identified in the California Water Code Section 13953(b). The priority of basins determine the provisions that apply for the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASMEM) and Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) programs in a basin. The prioritization process consists of applying datasets and information in a consistent, statewide manner in accordance to the provisions in the California Water Code.

DWR was first directed to prioritize basins as part of the Groundwater Monitoring legislation enacted in California’s 2009 Comprehensive Water package. DWR prioritized groundwater basins through the CASMEM Program and released the results in 2014.

In 2015, SGMA went into effect and required DWR to prioritize basins for purposes of SGMA and to reassess the basin priority when DWR updates Bulletin 118 basin boundaries. In 2015, DWR implemented the 2014 CASMEM Basin Prioritization as the initial SGMA basin prioritization. In 2016, DWR received 54 requests for basin boundary modifications. DWR released the final groundwater basin boundaries, which incorporated numerous statewide, jurisdictional and scientific modifications. On December 22, 2016, DWR published Bulletin 118 Interim
Update on Assistance Programs
Technical Assistance
SGMP Technical Assistance

1. **Guidance and Education**
   - Best Management Practices
   - Guidance Documents
   - Fact Sheets and Reports (B-118)

2. **Technical Support Services**
   - Available to GSAs
   - Can help fill data gaps
     - Field Activities
     - Modeling and Tools

3. **Statewide Datasets and Tools**
Guidance and Education

• Statewide & Regional References
  • DWR’s SGMP Webpages
  • Bulletin 118 – 2020 *In Development*
  • Bulletin 160 – Groundwater Content

• SGMA References

Best Management Practices
• BMP 1: Monitoring Protocols, Standards, Sites
• BMP 2: Monitoring Networks & Identification of Data Gaps
• BMP 3: Hydrologic Conceptual Model
• BMP 4: Water Budget
• BMP 5: Modeling
• BMP 6: Sustainable Management Criteria (Draft)

Guidance Documents
• Preparation Checklist for GSP submittal
• GSP Annotated Outline
• Engagement with Tribal Governments
• Stakeholder Comm. & Engagement
Water Quality Survey Results

Summary

• Open for three weeks (September – October)
• 15 Questions
• Received 221 participants
• 63% of participants part of a GSA
• Nitrate, Arsenic, and Salts are the top 3 constituents of concern
• Significant number of existing WQ programs being implemented throughout the State

• Main Concerns:
  • Coordination/Coming to an agreement on establishing UR/MTs
  • Lack of WQ data
  • How to leverage existing programs to meet SGMA/Regulations
  • Cost
Services Offered

Field Activities:
- Monitoring well installation
- Groundwater monitoring training
- Downhole camera surveys
- Subsidence monitoring

Modeling Support/Training:
- Groundwater-surface water modeling
Statewide Datasets and Tools

Data, Tools, and Reports Webpage

- Download Data
- Groundwater Tools
  - Interactive Maps
  - Modeling Tools
- Climate Change Data/Tools
- Maps and Reports
Statewide Datasets and Tools

DWR Models

- **IWFM** – Available
- **C2VSim – Fine Grid** (Central Valley)
  - Beta version – Available now
  - Beta 2.0 – Available March 2019
  - Calibrated version – June 2019

Climate Change Guidance

- Resource Guide
- Guidance Document
- Data & Tools – SGMA Data Viewer

Sacramento Valley GPS Subsidence Report
Background

- In 2008, DWR contracted with a private consultant to establish over 300 survey monuments that spans 11 counties.
Background

• In 2008, 25 local, state, and federal agencies assisted with the GPS survey

• In 2017, DWR with the help of 18 local, state, and federal agencies, resurveyed the GPS monument grid in order to determine any change in land surface elevation over 9 yrs.
Key Findings

• Changes in elevation of greater than 0.17 feet (~2”) are statistically significant.

• The majority of the Sacramento Valley showed little to no statistically significant land subsidence.
Key Findings

Colusa County

- The Arbuckle area experienced the most subsidence with a maximum change of -2.14 feet.
Key Findings

Yolo County

• Exhibits the largest spatial extent of subsidence that range from -0.3 to -1.1 feet at 31 monuments.
Key Findings

- The GPS survey results are consistent with the limited InSAR data.
- Further investigation and analysis by local agencies and state are planned.
Financial Assistance
$100 million in grants awarded

Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program

• Feb. 2016 - Round 1
  – $6.7M awarded to counties with stressed basins

• Apr. 2018 - Round 2
  – $85.8M awarded across all 78 applicants
    $16.2 M for projects benefiting Severely DACs
    $69.6 M for developing GSPs

https://www.water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/Sustainable-Groundwater
Proposition 68 – SGMA Funding

• Passed in June 2018

• Authorized **$50M** for extension of

  **Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program**
  – Tentative Schedule: Draft PSP – Spring 2019
  – Fund activities that support the development of a GSP
  – Likely priority to GSAs that did not receive Prop 1 grant

• Authorized **~$100M** for

  **Sustainable Groundwater Implementation Grant Program**
  – Tentative Schedule: Draft PSP – early 2020
  – Fund projects and programs that will assist GSAs implement a GSP
  – Likely priority to GSAs in critically overdrafted basins

*Subject to Change*
Planning Assistance
DWR’s GSA Engagement

- DWR Regional Office staff assigned as Points of Contact (POCs) for each high- and medium-priority basin/subbasin

- POCs and Regional Coordinators engage with GSAs during GSP development

www.water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Assistance-and-Engagement
GSA Forum

• Scheduled for March 21, 2019 (West Sacramento)

• Forum for an exchange of ideas and approaches focused on communication, coordination, engagement, and outreach.

• Participants: GSAs and stakeholders
Facilitation Support Services (FSS)

Services offered to GSAs or groups coordinating with GSAs

Funding Priorities:
- Critically overdrafted basins
- Basins without prior FSS
- Funding decisions made on a continuous basis

Services Offered:
- Stakeholder identification and engagement
- Public outreach facilitation
- GSA meeting facilitation
- Consensus building

Legend
- FSS - GSA Formation
- FSS - GSP Development
SGMP Contacts & Resources

DWR Sacramento Office:

Taryn Ravazzini
Taryn.Ravazzini@water.ca.gov

Steven Springhorn
Steven.Springhorn@water.ca.gov

Keith Wallace
Keith.Wallace@water.ca.gov

DWR Regional Offices:

NRO: Bill Ehorn
Bill.Ehorn@water.ca.gov

NCRO: Bill Brewster
Bill.Brewster@water.ca.gov

SCRO: Dane Mathis
Dane.Mathis@water.ca.gov

SRO: Tim Ross
Timothy.Ross@water.ca.gov

SGMP Resources:

DWR SGMP Webpage
https://www.water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management

Subscribe to DWR SGMP Email List
Thank You