



**Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) & GSA Interactive Map.** The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) established a new structure for managing California's groundwater resources at a local level.

- The SGMA requires, by June 30, 2017, the formation of locally-controlled groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) in the State's priority groundwater basins and subbasins.
- DWR is required to post all notices it receives on its website within 15 days of receipt.
- DWR has an interactive map showing the location of local agencies that have elected to be a GSA.
- DWR is evaluating new requirements for GSAs contained in SB13.
- See <http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/gsa.cfm>

**Basin Boundary Emergency Regulations Released.** By January 1, 2016, DWR is required to adopt emergency regulations that outline the process which local agencies shall follow when requesting modifications to existing boundaries of groundwater basins and subbasins. The basin boundary regulations also identify the methodology and criteria that will be applied by DWR when reviewing and approving the modification requests.

- **10/8/2015 – Public release of proposed final Basin Boundary emergency regulations.**
- 10/21/2015 – Present final emergency regulations for adoption by the California Water Commission.
- October-November, 2015 – submit adopted regulations to Office of Administrative Law.
- January 1, 2016 – DWR starts accepting requests for basin boundary revisions for 90 day period.
- The public comment period began July 17, 2015 and closed on September 4, 2015.
- DWR held over 40 advisory group meetings and three required public meetings in August and September.
- See [http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/basin\\_boundaries.cfm](http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/basin_boundaries.cfm)

**Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Draft Regulations.** By June 1, 2016, DWR is required to adopt emergency regulations for evaluating and implementing GSPs. There are many complex issues associated with the development and implementation of GSPs. DWR has divided the issues into ten topics, established a comprehensive, multi-phased outreach approach to better understand issues and collect information associated with the development of GSP regulations.

- DWR held over 40 advisory group meetings and three public webinars on 10 GSP topic papers in July, August, and September.
- December – January 2015 – Draft GSP regulations to be presented to the California Water Commission.
- January – February 2015 – Three required public meetings and public comment period.
- See <http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/gsp.cfm>

**Basins in Critical Conditions of Overdraft.** Pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, DWR is required to identify basins subject to critical conditions of overdraft [Water Code 12924]. There are several reasons influencing consideration of a basin as being critically overdrafted, including: sea water intrusion, subsidence, reduction of groundwater storage, chronic lowering of groundwater levels, degradation of water quality and/or depletions of interconnected surface water.

- By January 31, 2020, all Bulletin 118 basins designated at high- or medium-priority and subject to critical conditions of overdraft shall be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan or plans.
- On August 19, DWR released the draft list of basins identified to be in conditions of critical overdraft, and presented the information to the California Water Commission.
- August 19 initiated 30 day public comment period.
- After DWR review of comments and data received, list will be finalized and posted online in October 2015.
- Publication of final list and information in Bulletin 118 Update (as required in the Water Code) in late 2016.
- See <http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/cod.cfm>

**Well Completion Reports.** In June 2015, Senate Bill 83 amended California Water Code §13752 to allow public access to Well Completion Reports. However, the law requires the Department of Water Resources to comply with The Information Practices Act of 1977, redacting personal information from the Well Completion Reports before making them public. There are approximately 800,000 reports on file with the Department that must be digitized and redacted in order to make them available online at no charge. DWR is working with a vendor to assist in redacting the personal data from all reports, with a goal of making all Well Completion Reports available before the end of the year. If a member of the public requests a copy of Well Completion Reports prior to online availability, requests are to be made with the relevant Regional Office. As provided for by law, there may be a fee involved, and the Regional Office representative will provide an estimate of both the charges and the time required to fulfill the request. More information on requesting Well Completion Reports may be found at: [http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/wells/well\\_completion\\_reports.cfm](http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/wells/well_completion_reports.cfm)

**Facilitation Support Services.** Early engagement and collaboration is essential to the success of implementing sustainable groundwater management. DWR is offering in-kind facilitation services to public agencies to support local efforts including forming groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) and developing groundwater sustainability plans (GSPs) to meet the requirements of the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGMA). Facilitation support services from contracted professionals include strategic planning, stakeholder assessments, meeting facilitation, mediation, governance assessment, and public outreach services. Requests for facilitation support services will be evaluated on a regular basis, and support will vary based on need and funding availability. For information on program eligibility and submittal requirements please visit the facilitation services webpage at [http://water.ca.gov/irwm/partnership/facilitation\\_services.cfm](http://water.ca.gov/irwm/partnership/facilitation_services.cfm).