

FALL 2026

- GAMA Program geologists presented at the Groundwater Protection Council's Annual Forum!
- On October 28 at 10:30 am, an online webinar will present the capstone trends report, "Decadal Trends in the Quality of Groundwater Used for Public Drinking-Water Supply in California." [RSVP here](#).
- New updates to the [GAMA Groundwater Information System](#).
- Do you have groundwater quality data to add to the GAMA GIS?



GAMA program geologists presented at this year's Groundwater Protection Council Annual Forum in September. Talks included the following (links to presentations below):

- [Communicating the Quality of California's Drinking Water Aquifers](#)
- [Aquifer Recharge and Groundwater Quality: A California-Wide Dashboard to Conduct Passive Groundwater Quality Monitoring and Preliminary Site Assessments Near Groundwater Recharge Sites](#)
- [Data Sharing to Advance California Source Water Protection](#)
- [Balancing Groundwater Quality and Aquifer Recharge – Monitoring the Effects of Recharged Water in California's Aquifers](#)

For more information about the Annual Forum and to view other speakers' presentations, visit the [GWPC website](#).



A report examining [decadal scale trends](#) in the GAMA Priority Basin Project public-supply well network is now available and will be presented in an

online webinar October 28, 2026, at 10:30am. This includes 444 wells sampled two or more times between 2004-2023. Trends are evaluated at the scale of eight hydrogeologic provinces for 145 inorganic and organic constituents. Results for select geo-chemical indicators and land-use

metrics and their correlations to water quality constituents are also evaluated to assess broad drivers of water quality changes at statewide and regional scales.



Updates to standardize the modifier columns in the GAMA Groundwater Information System (GIS) were completed. Analytical data modifiers can have various meanings across datasets or may not be readily translated. This new method of standardization uses clear language to indicate if a result value is "less_than," "equal_to," or "greater_than" the value shown, or if the value

GW_WELL_ID	GW_CHEMICAL_VVL	GW_CHEMICAL_NAME	GW_RESULT_MODIFIER	GW_RESULT	GW_CHEMICAL_UNITS	GW_REPORTING_LIMIT	GW_SAMP_COLLECTION_DATE
ST-SAC-SAS7	F	Fluoride	Less_Than		MG/L	0.01	11/16/2022
ST-SAC-SAS7	DCMA	Dichloromethane (Methylene Chloride)	Less_Than		UG/L	0.04	11/16/2022
ST-SAC-SAS7	TCPR123	1,2,3-Trichloropropane (1,2,3 TCP)	Less_Than		UG/L	0.006	11/16/2022
ST-SAC-SAS7	CS	Chloride	Equal_To	642	MG/L	0.02	11/16/2022
ST-SAC-C03	NAPH	Naphthalene	Less_Than		UG/L	0.26	11/15/2022
ST-SAC-NAS3	LI	Lithium	Equal_To	82.2	UG/L	0.15	11/30/2022
ST-SAC-SAS8	4-2F5	4,2-Fluorotelomer sulfonic acid (2H, 1H)	Less_Than		NG/L	7.4	11/16/2022
ST-SAC-SAS7	PFOS	Perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS)	Less_Than		NG/L	1.9	11/16/2022
ST-SAC-NAS3	CL	Chloride	Equal_To	53	MG/L	0.02	11/30/2022
ST-SAC-SAS8	PCATE	Perchlorate	Equal_To	0.39	UG/L	0.1	11/29/2022
SOL-07	OXYFLUOREN	Oxyfluorene	Less_Than		UG/L	0.016	7/21/2020
SOL-07	TCAL12	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	Less_Than		UG/L	0.046	7/21/2020
SSV-QPC-06	PRN	n-Propylbenzene (Isocumene)	Less_Than		UG/L	0.036	7/27/2020
SOL-07	SE	Selenium	Less_Than		UG/L	0.05	7/21/2020
SAM-01	SO4	Sulfate	Equal_To	14.5	MG/L	0.02	7/27/2020
SOL-07	CO	Cobalt	Less_Than		UG/L	0.03	7/21/2020
SAM-10	AL	Aluminum	Less_Than		UG/L	3	6/24/2020
SSV-QPC-09	NOWMAN	Ammonia	Equal_To	0.01	MG/L	0.01	6/24/2020
NAM-05	CD	Cadmium	Less_Than		UG/L	0.03	6/23/2020
SSV-QPC-09	PROPANIL	Propanil	Less_Than		UG/L	0.008	6/24/2020
SAM-10	BE	Beryllium	Less_Than		UG/L	0.01	6/24/2020
NAM-05	DICHLORVOS	Dichlorvos (DDVP)	Less_Than		UG/L	0.04	6/23/2020
NSV-QPC-04	TCAL12	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	Less_Than		UG/L	0.046	3/2/2020
NSV-QPC-04	CTCL	Carbon Tetrachloride	Less_Than		UG/L	0.06	3/2/2020
NSV-QPC-04	CD	Cadmium	Less_Than		UG/L	0.03	3/2/2020
COS-08	H2H1RAT	delta H2H1	Equal_To	-55.1	per mil		3/4/2020

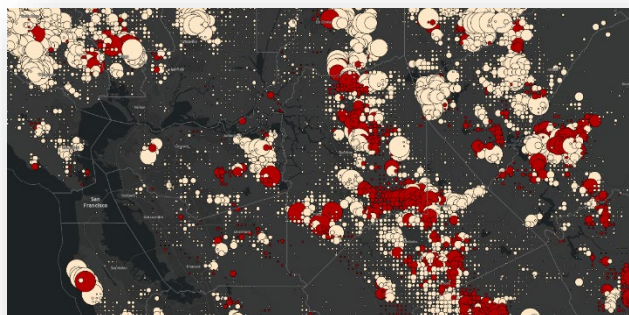
shown is an "estimate." Additional standardization helps inform users whether to use a result value as shown or if it needs to be more carefully handled. Visit the [GAMA Data Download page](#) to access and provide feedback.



The GAMA program is working to incorporate additional groundwater quality data from various state and regional board programs into the GAMA GIS via the [GAMA Data Connection Tool](#). The GAMA program is also developing guidance for a voluntary digital data collection program. If you are a steward of publicly available digital groundwater quality data not currently on the GAMA Groundwater Information System you would like added, please reach out to us via the [GAMA inbox](#) for more details.



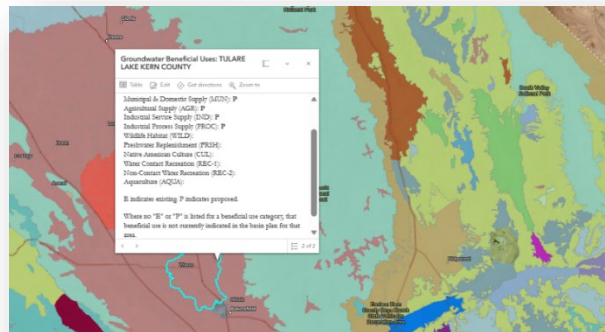
The [2026 State Small and Domestic Well Risk Assessment Dashboard](#) was released in June alongside the [2026 Needs Assessment Report](#). It identifies state small water systems and domestic wells



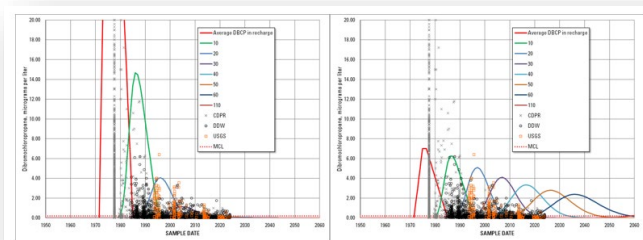
located in areas at risk due to water quality issues, water shortages, or socioeconomic challenges. This dashboard has been updated annually since 2021 and supports the Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) Program by helping prioritize areas for funding and outreach. The tool utilizes data collected by the State Water Board, the Department of Water Resources, and the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment. This fall, the GAMA Unit is working to develop the 2027 Aquifer Risk Map, which will help support next year's Needs Assessment Report.



A new online tool is in development that will provide the beneficial uses for groundwater in basins statewide. Other information provided about groundwater in each region's basin plan will also be included. Watch for further news of its development, expected by the end of 2026.



The [newly published](#) 1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP) paper examines the **distribution, historical trends, and projected future persistence of DBCP** using data from public supply wells, wells sampled by U.S. Geological Survey, and wells sampled by the Department of Pesticide Regulation. The paper focuses on the San Joaquin Valley and the Upper Santa Ana Watershed and uses modelling of groundwater age, observed concentration trends, and DBCP production data to re-construct loading history of DBCP in recharge. The accompanying [data release](#) is also published.





Following the release of the national study on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), the GAMA Program is releasing the **California-specific statistical model for predicting PFAS**, which includes data collected between 2019-2024 from the statewide public supply well trends network and shallow aquifer study units. The paper will include distribution and occurrence, a statewide Random Forest statistical model for analysis of factors predicting PFAS. A more detailed look at select locations of interest will also be included.

Additional Publications

- The [2026 Aquifer Risk Map](#)
- Aquifer Recharge and Groundwater Quality (ARGQ) [Dashboard](#)
- Well Vulnerability Assessment [Tool](#)
- [Gilroy-Hollister](#) and Kern County (shallow study units 15 & 16) domestic well assessments.
- An update to the GAMA [PFAS](#) dataset.
- [Water use information](#) for sites sampled by the GAMA Program Priority Basin Project
- The update to the [attributed well-completion report data for domestic wells and selected other wells for Shallow Aquifer/Domestic Well study units 2 and 4-18](#) was published.
- A [data release](#) containing potential explanatory factor data attributed to the 282,000 sites in SWRCB-GAMA-GIS and to the 515 DWR Bulletin 118 groundwater basins was published. Potential explanatory factors include aquifer lithology, land use, pesticide use, septic tank and underground storage densities, average number of domestic supply users, and climate data are attributed to groundwater sites and to groundwater basins.
- The [paper](#) and [data release](#) of 1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP) distribution, historical trends, and projected future persistence.

The State Water Board's GAMA Program welcomes your feedback and suggestions. Please reach out anytime by emailing gama@waterboards.ca.gov.

