

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

DWR's Sustainable Groundwater Management Program

Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee
 and the Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife

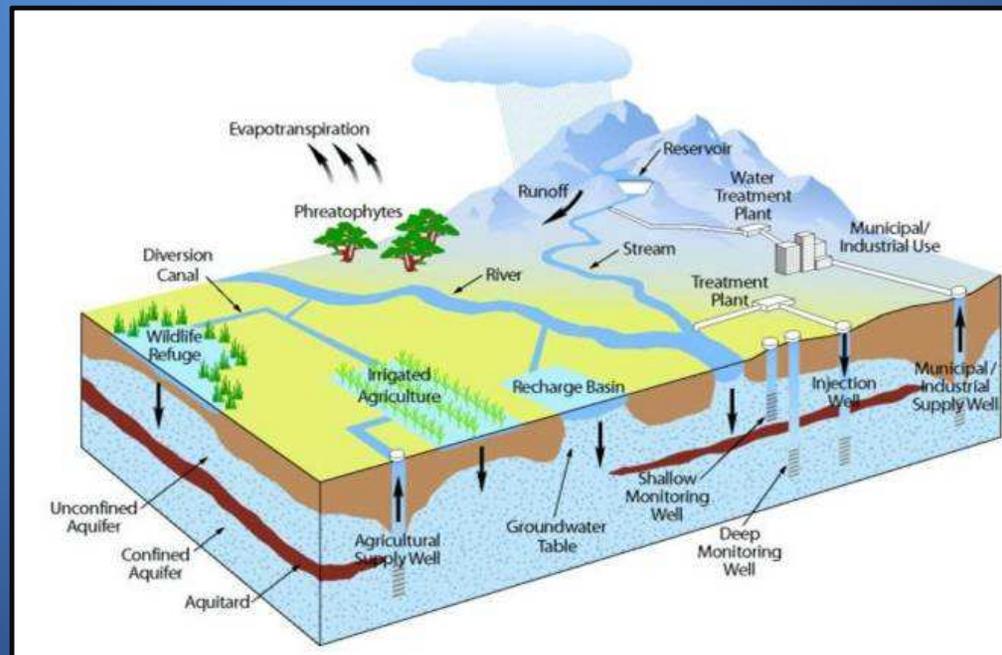
February 23, 2016

CA Department of Water Resources

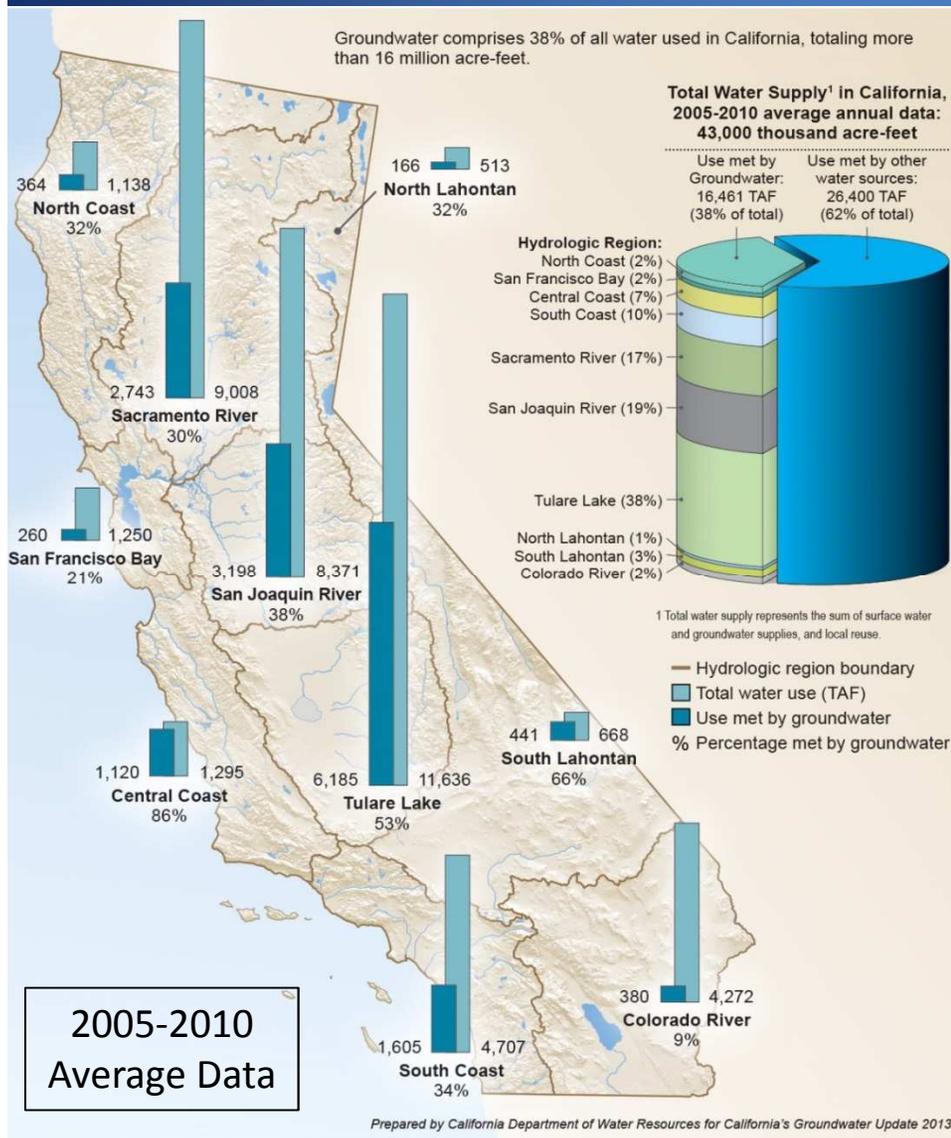


Presentation Overview:

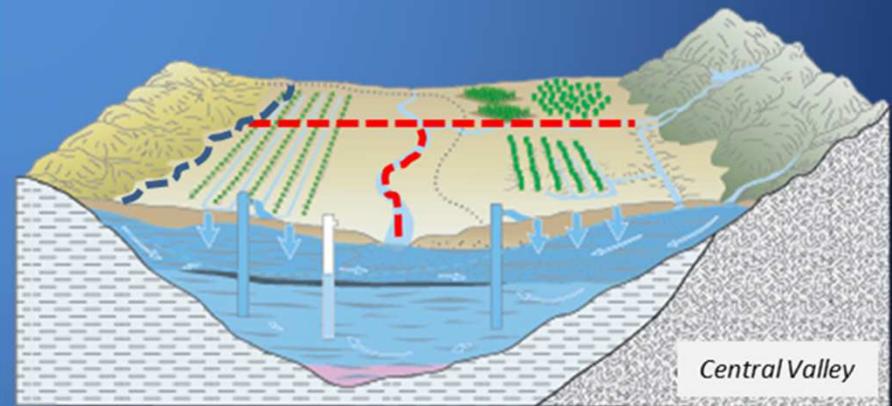
- *2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act*
- *DWR Groundwater Sustainability Program*
- *DWR's Near Term Actions...*
- *Future Plans and Success Factors*

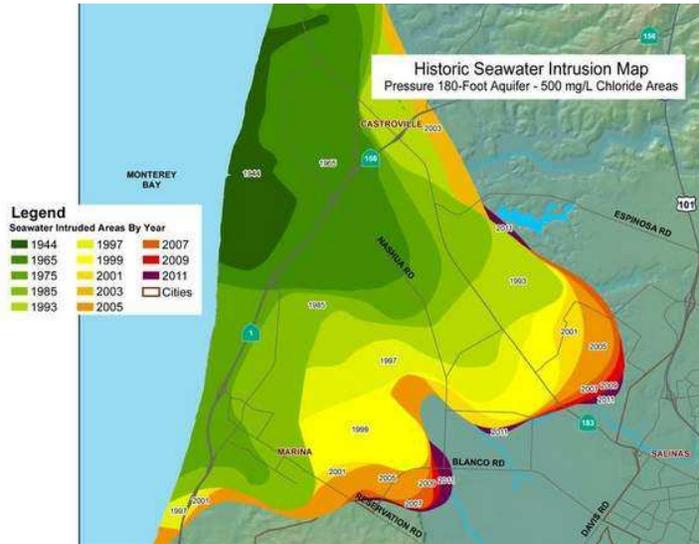


What is Groundwater and why is it important?



- 38% of total water supply (statewide average)
- 60% during drought years
- Many communities are 100% reliant upon GW

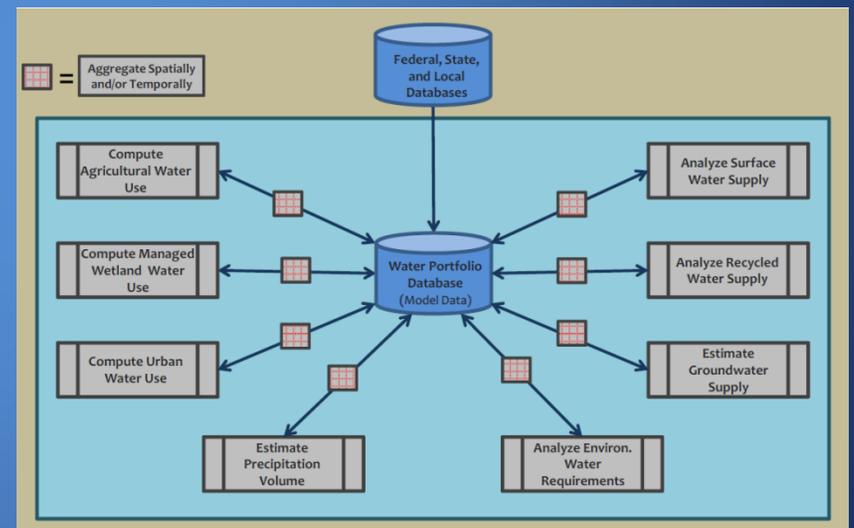




Adverse Impacts



California Water Action Plan & Water Balance



Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014



Framework

- Applicability
- Definitions

Local's Role

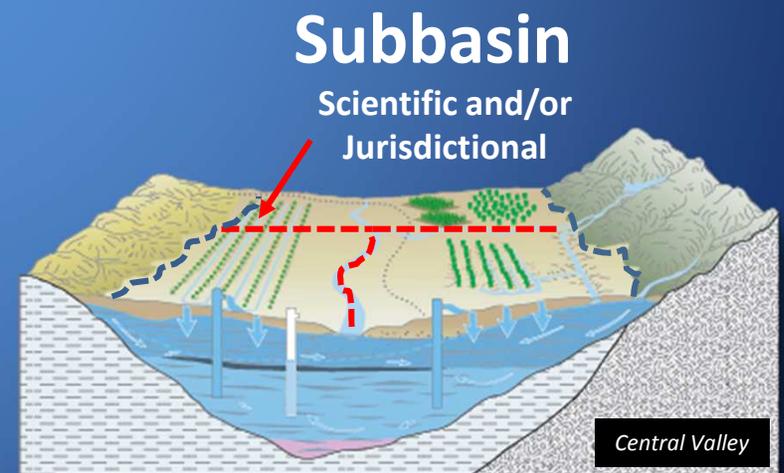
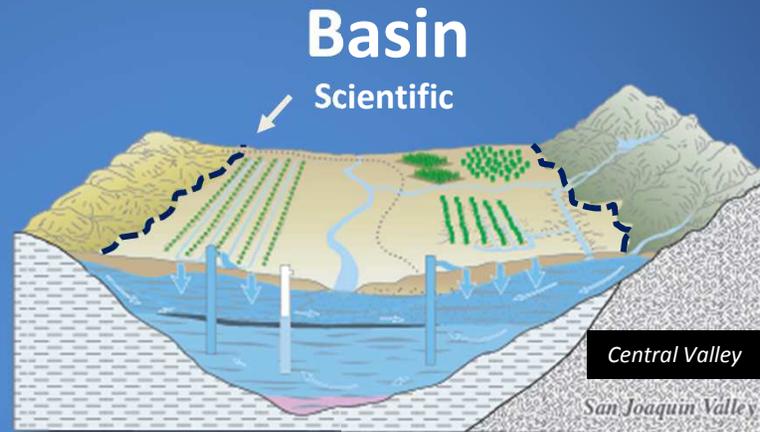
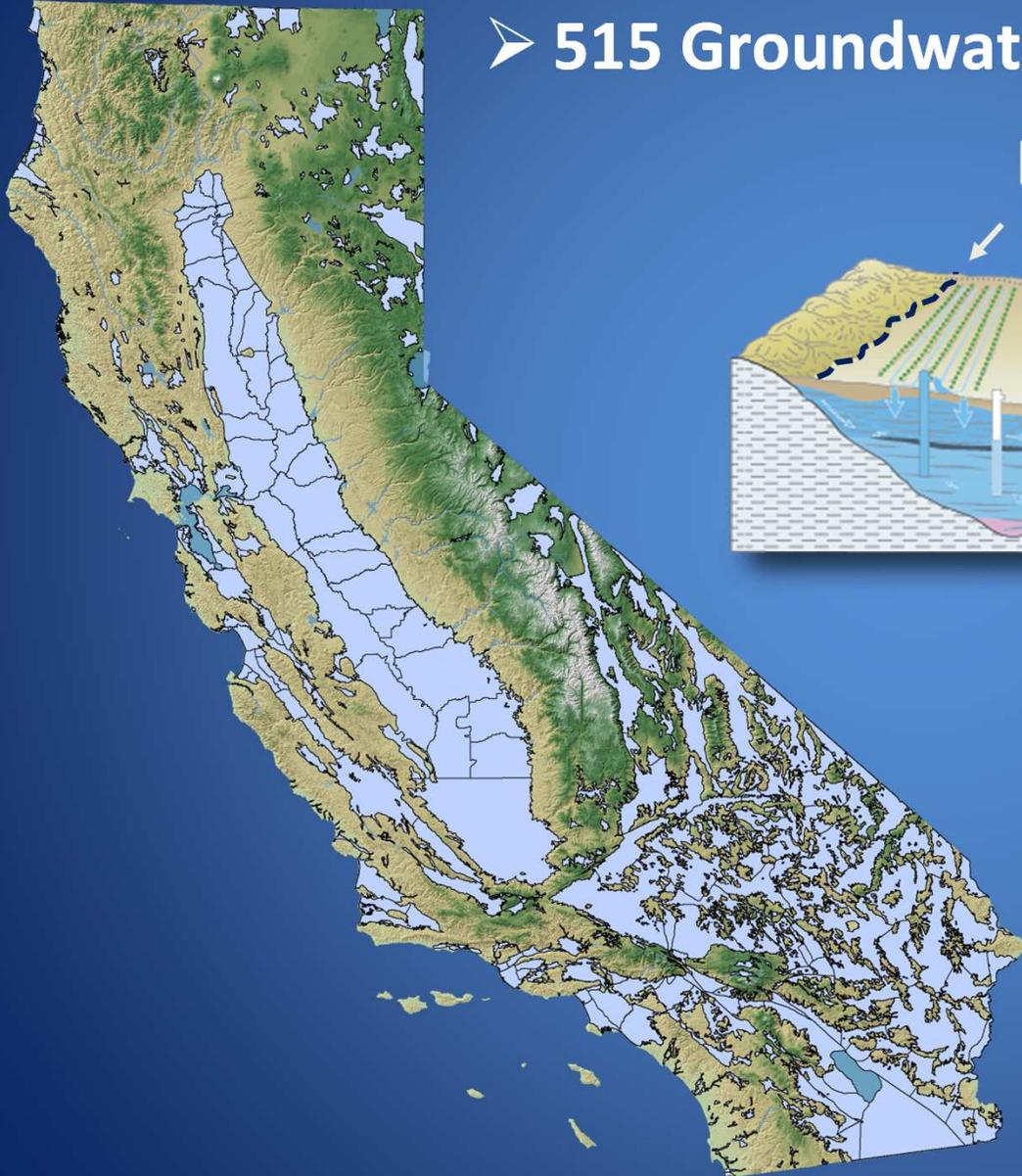
- Establish GSA
- Powers & Authorities
- Sustainability Plans
- Deadlines

State's Role

- Develop guidance or rules
- Provide Technical and Planning Assistance
- State Evaluation and Assessment
- State Intervention

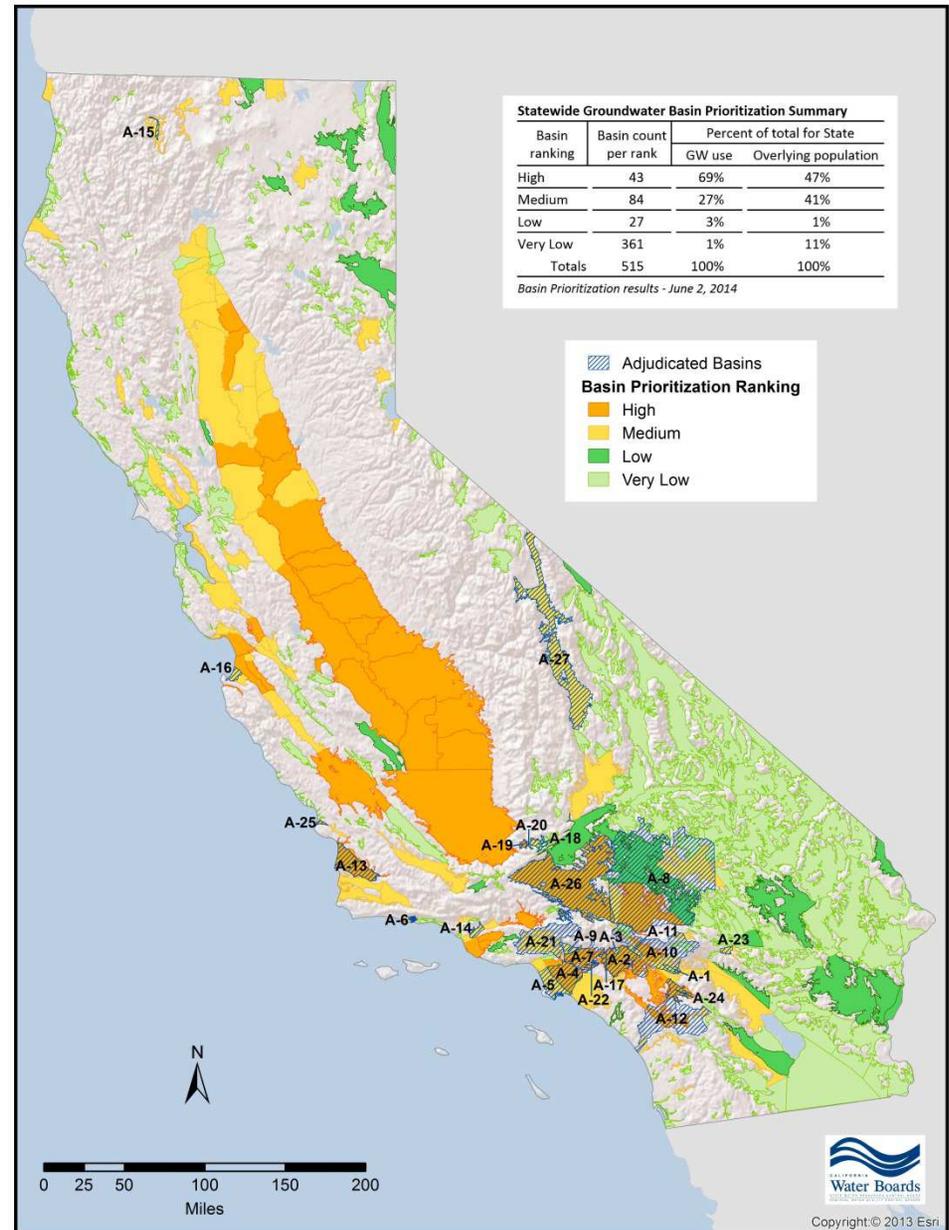
Applicability

➤ 515 Groundwater Basins and Subbasins



Basin Prioritization

- Requires GW sustainability plans in high- and medium-priority basins
- Adjudicated basin supply information



SGMA Milestones for Success

Groundwater Sustainability Agencies

- Formation by June 30, 2017
- Only local agencies can be GSAs

Groundwater Sustainability Plans

- January 31, 2020 for critically overdrafted basins
- January 31, 2022 for all other high and medium priority basins
- Multiple GSPs in a basin must coordinate

Groundwater Sustainability

- 20-year implementation period
- 50-year planning horizon

GSA Interactive Map

This interactive map shows the location of local agencies that have elected to become Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs). The boundaries of the GSAs are based on information submitted to DWR by those local agencies. While DWR makes every effort to provide accurate information, DWR has not reviewed the GSA boundary information contained in this map and makes no warranties as to the suitability of this map for any particular purpose. Where multiple local agencies have claimed the same portion of a groundwater basin, the areas of overlap are indicated by a darker color within the GSA boundaries.

In addition to GSA boundaries, the interactive map application shows the following: (1) Bulletin 118-2003 groundwater basins; (2) CASGEM basin prioritization; (3) adjudicated areas listed in Water Code § 10720.8 (full list available soon); and (4) local agencies listed in Water Code § 10723(c) (available soon).

If you have questions related to GSAs or have comments related to the interactive map please contact Mark Nordberg at Mark.Nordberg@water.ca.gov. The GSA Interactive Map was last updated on August 10th, 2015.



Groundwater Sustainability



*Undesirable Results:
Significant and unreasonable...*

Lowering of
Groundwater
Levels

Reduction of
Groundwater
Storage

Seawater
Intrusion

Water Quality
Degradation

Land
Subsidence

Depletions of
Surface Water

State Water Resources Control Board Intervention “Backstop”

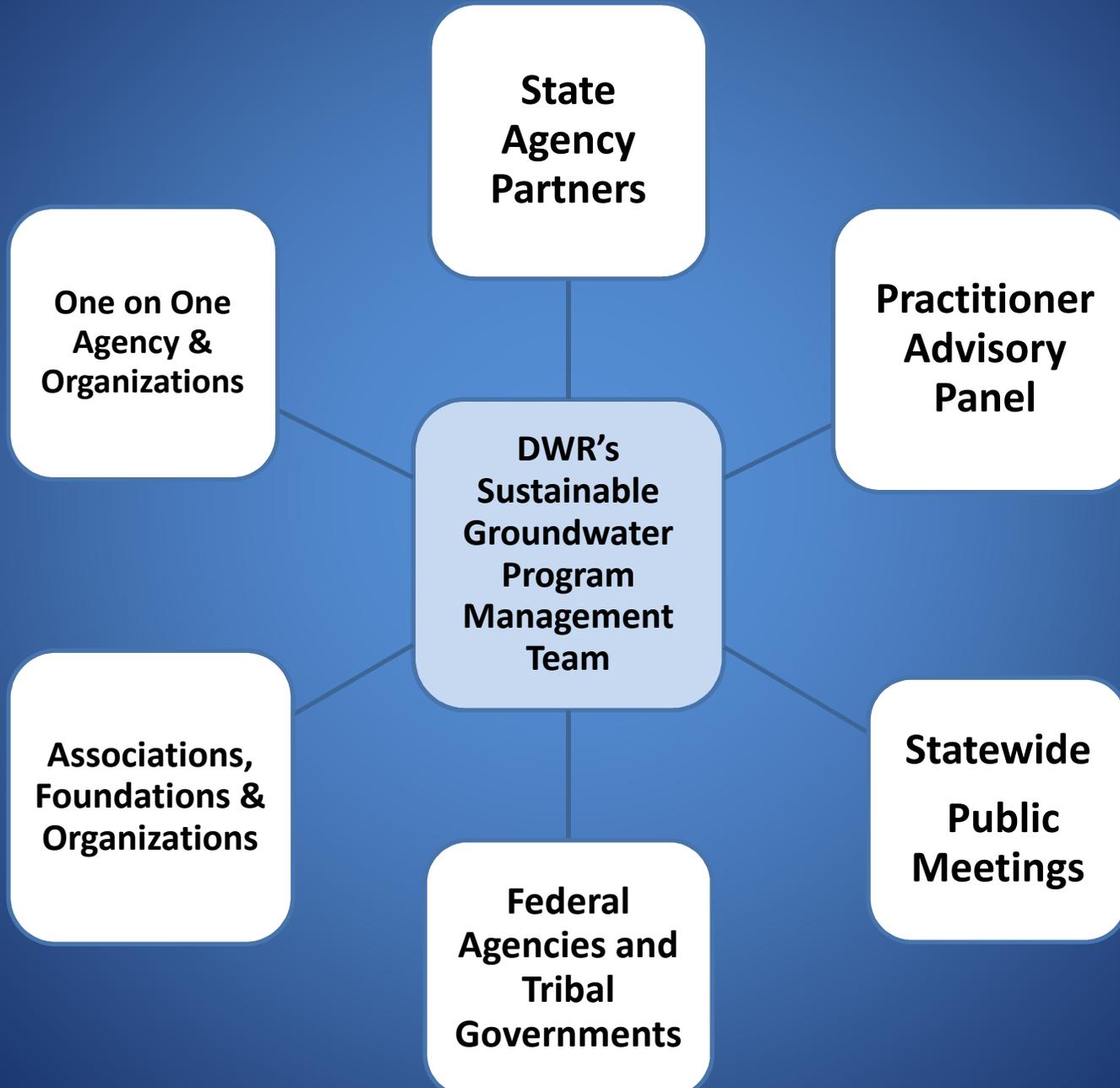
After	Cause of Intervention
June 30, 2017	No GSA
Jan. 31, 2020	In critically overdrafted basins, no GSP or GSP is inadequate
Jan. 31, 2022	In other basins, no GSP or GSP is inadequate and basin is in long-term overdraft
Jan. 31, 2025	GSP is inadequate and significant depletions of interconnected surface waters

In all triggering events, intervention is the result of a failure by the locals to create a GSA, or to adopt and adequately implement a GSP.

DWR's Sustainable Groundwater Management Program



Communication and Outreach



DWR SGM Immediate Actions

Identify Basins Subject to Critical Conditions of Overdraft

Evaluation due 2015-2016
Completed (January 2016)

Develop Emergency Regulations - Basin Boundary Revisions

Regulations due January 1, 2016
Regulations Completed (November 2015)

Develop Emergency Regulations - (Groundwater Sustainability Plans)

Final Regulations due June 2016
Draft expected release in February 2016

Update Basin Prioritization

Used existing - January 2015
Re-prioritization following basin boundary revisions in 2017

Groundwater Sustainability Agency Formation

Complete Notifications and No Overlapping GSAs

Facilitation Services

18 Applications

Basins Subject to Critical Overdraft

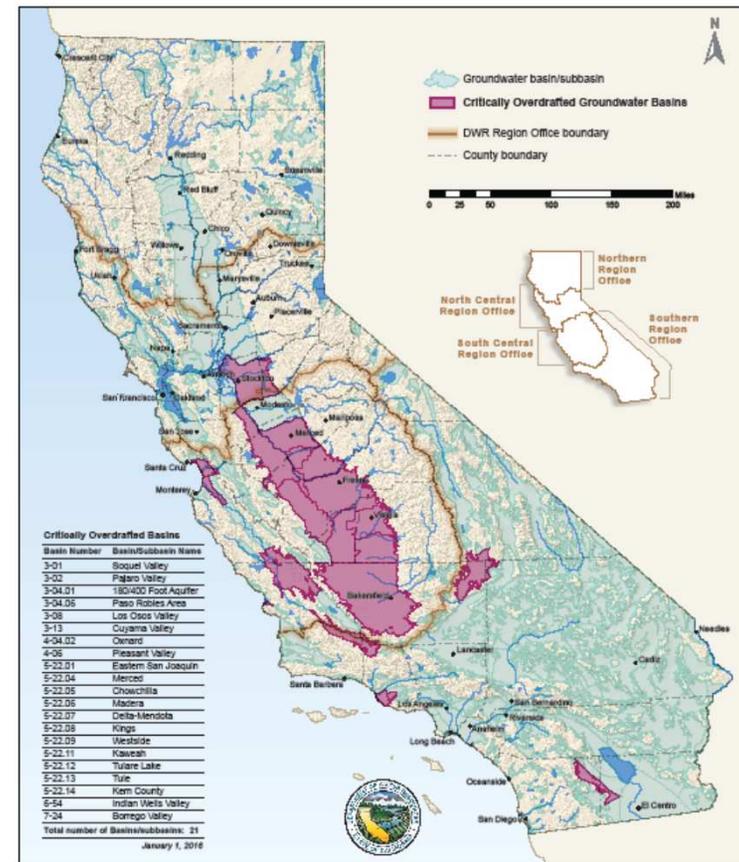
Identify Basins Subject to Critical Conditions of Overdraft

Draft Completed July 2015

Public Comments September 1015

Completed January 2016

Critically Overdrafted Groundwater Basins – January 2016



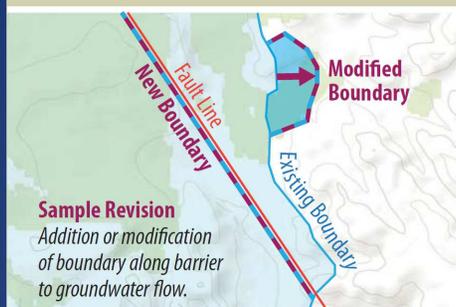
Basin Boundary Regulations

Article 3

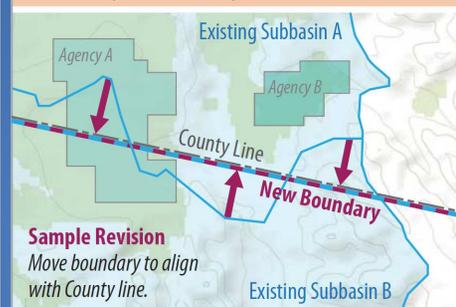
Scientific

Jurisdictional

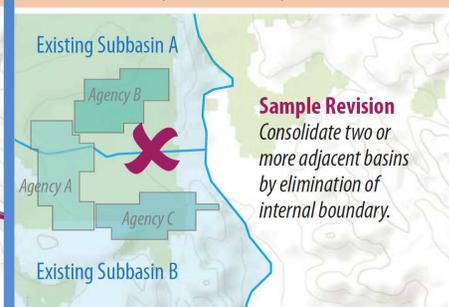
Scientific



Internal (Jurisdictional)



Consolidation (Jurisdictional)



Subdivision (Jurisdictional)



Develop Emergency Regulations - Basin Boundary Revisions

Draft Regulations Posted (July 2015)

Public Comments Closed (Sept 2015)

Regulations Completed (November 2015)

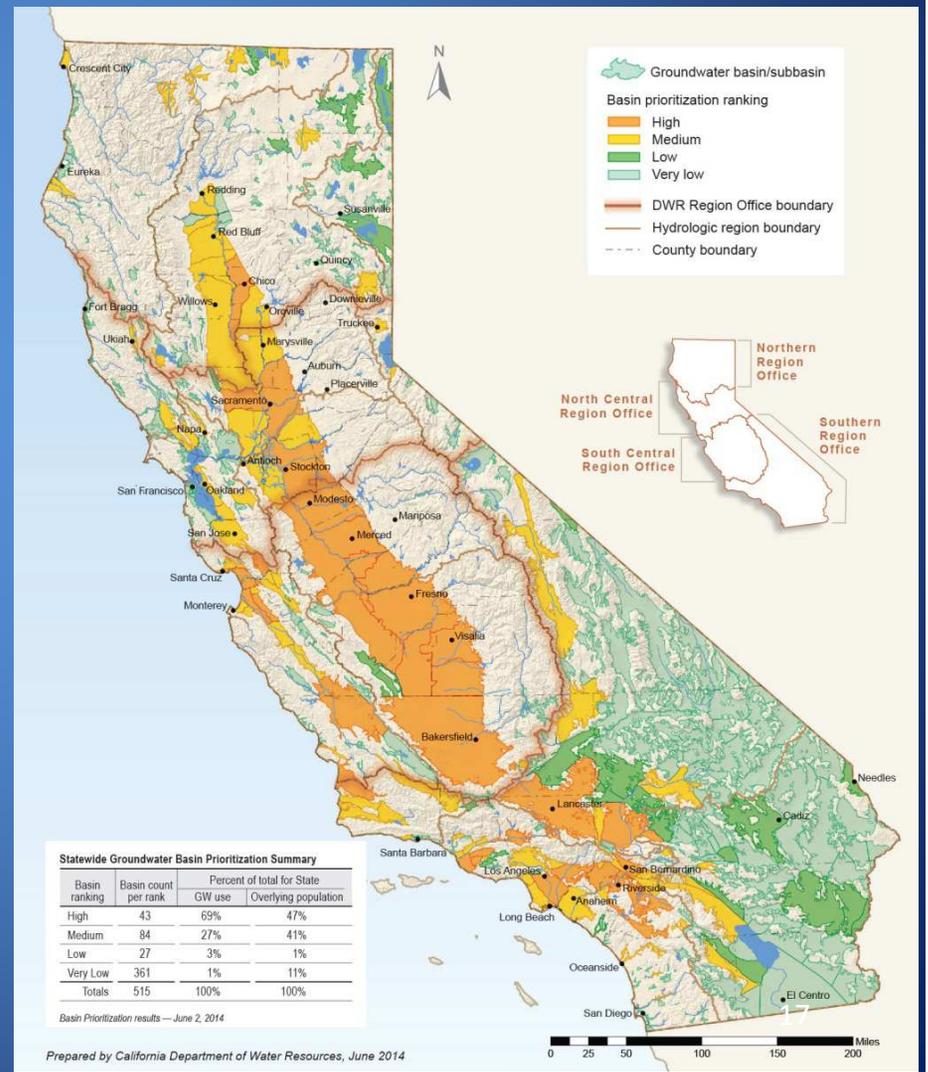
SGMA Basin Prioritization

Update Basin Prioritization

Used existing Prioritization - January 2015

Re-prioritization following basin boundary revisions in 2017

Consider adverse impacts on local habitat and local streamflows.



Groundwater Sustainability Plan Regulations

Governance

Coordination

Land Use

State of the Basin

Sustainability Goal

Measurable Objectives & Undesirable Results

Monitoring Plan

Implementation & Reporting

Alternative Plans & Frings Areas

Groundwater Sustainability



*Undesirable Results:
Significant and Unreasonable...*



Surface Water Depletion



Reduction of Storage



Degraded Quality



Seawater Intrusion



Land Subsidence

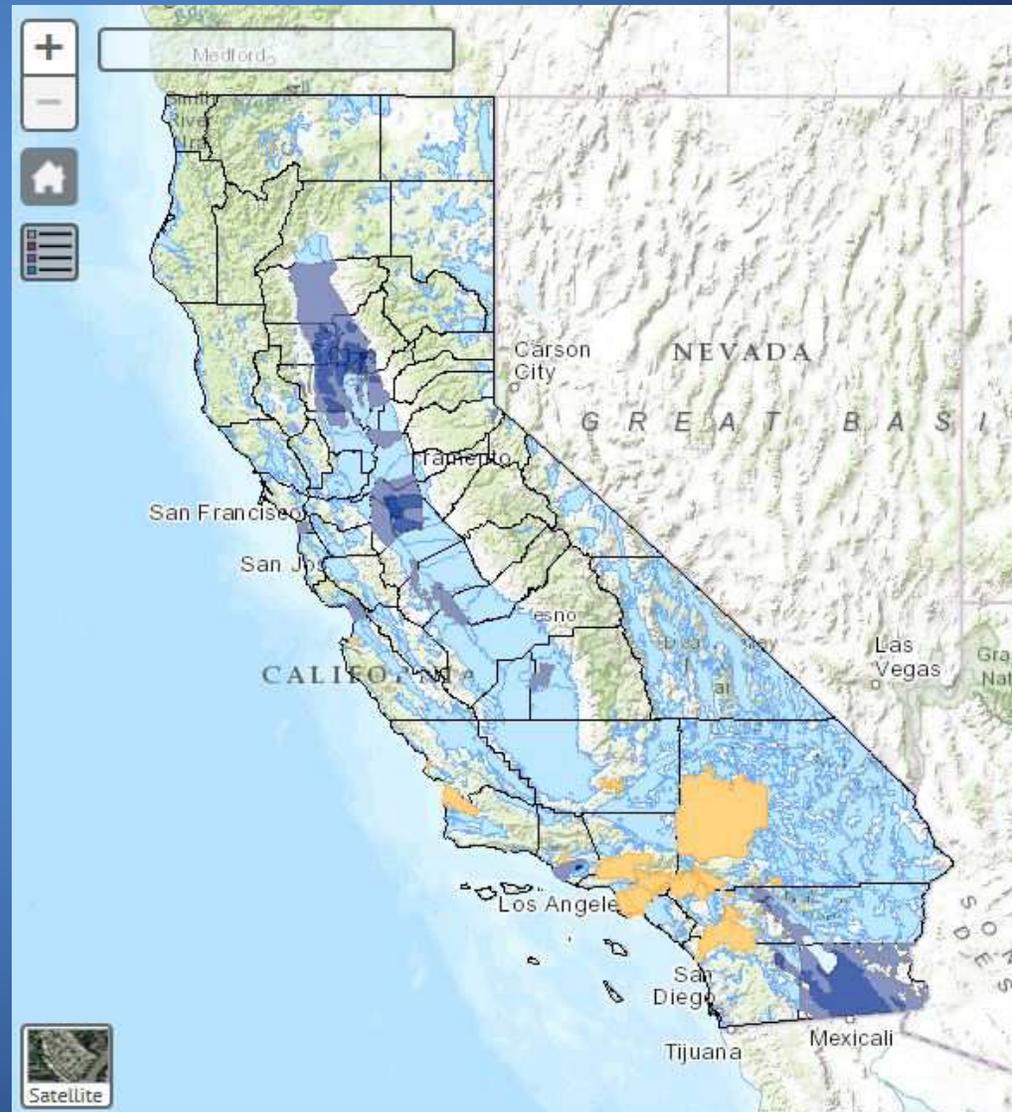


Lowering GW Levels

GSA Formation

New SB 13 Requirements

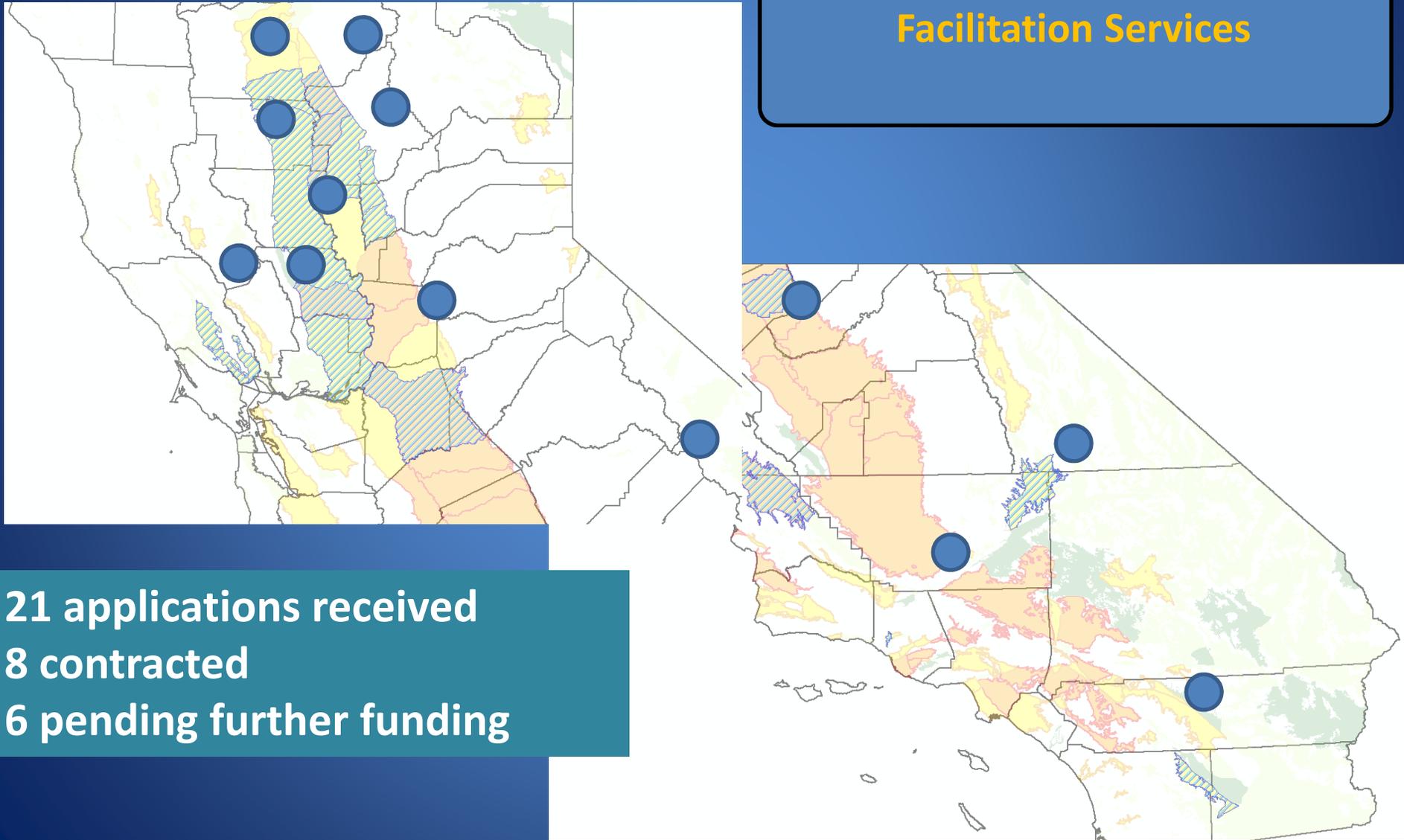
- Complete Notifications
- No Overlapping Jurisdictions
- 134 GSA Notifications (as of January 29, 2016)



Assistance to Locals

Facilitation Support Service

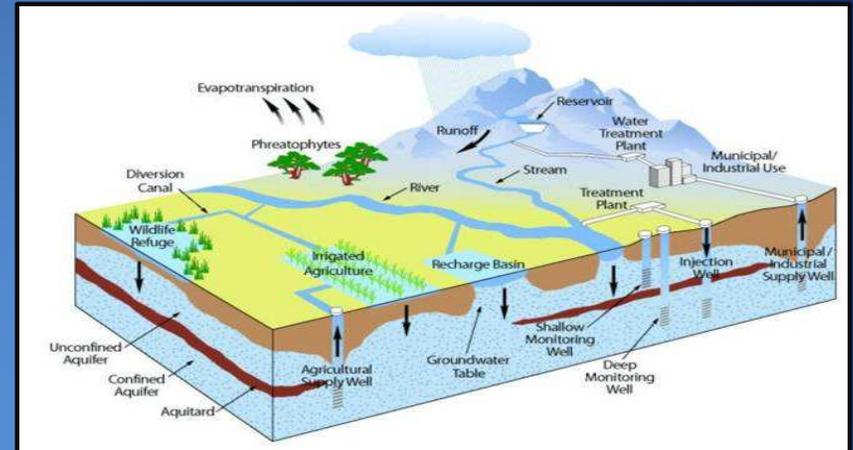
Facilitation Services



21 applications received
8 contracted
6 pending further funding

DWR's upcoming Program Implementation:

- *Develop BMPs*
- *Update Bulletin 118*
- *Provide Funding Proposition 1*
- *Water Available for Recharge*
- *Framework for Data Management*
- *Regional Water Budget Support*
- *Update Well Standards*



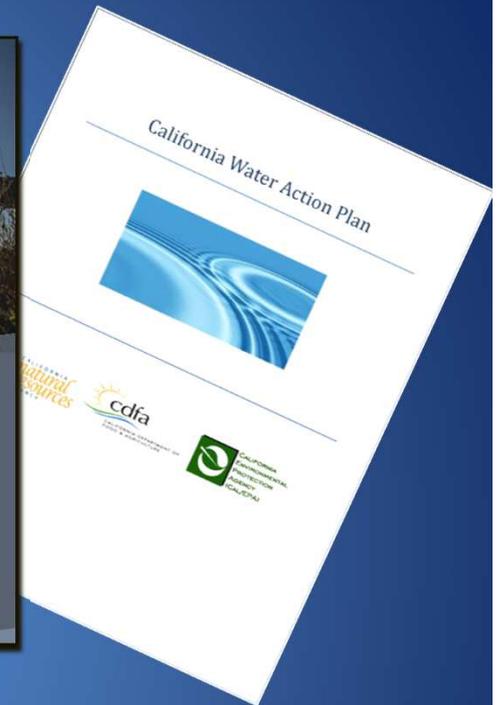
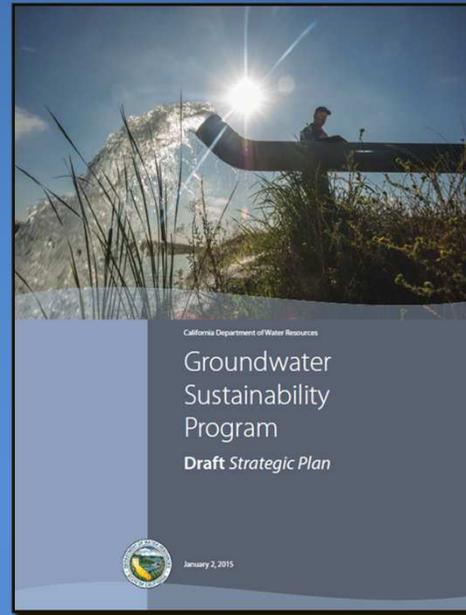
Success Factors

- **GSA formation**
- **Data gaps, acquisition and management**
- **Fact and Fiction** – Communication and Outreach
- **Support and Assistance**
- **Overall Implementation and Decisions** –
Balancing supply and demand

Questions

When properly managed, groundwater resources will help protect communities, farms, and the environment against the impacts of prolonged dry periods and climate change.

California Water Action Plan 2014



State: <http://groundwater.ca.gov>

DWR: <http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/>

SWRCB: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/gmp/

