

September 2019 DWR Updates

SGMA

Basin Prioritization of Modified Basins

- Public comment period closed May 30, 2019.
- Final Prioritization release expected the end of Summer 2019

Technical Support Services (TSS)

- TSS application period is still open. GSP Initial Notification must be submitted. More information and applications can be found here: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Assistance-and-Engagement>
- Funds can be used for monitoring well installation, geophysical logging, geologic logging, groundwater level monitoring training, borehole video logging, and other field activities.

Facilitation Support Services (FSS)

- GSA's developing GSPs are eligible to receive funding for identification and engagement of interested parties, meeting facilitation, interest-based negotiation/consensus building, and public outreach facilitation
- More information can be found here: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Assistance-and-Engagement>

Data and Tools

- Compilation of maps, modeling, climate change, reports: <https://www.water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Data-and-Tools>
- Natural Communities Commonly Associated with Groundwater map viewer: <https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/NCDatasetViewer/>

Best Management Practices and Guidance Documents

- <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/SGMA-Groundwater-Management/Best-Management-Practices-and-Guidance-Documents>

Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Alternative Plans

- Decisions on alternative plans to groundwater sustainability plans were announced July 17th, 2019.
- The assessments consist of a staff report and either a signed findings document, for approved alternatives, or a letter with a concise summary of the deficiencies that result in the alternative not being approved.
- For basins where an alternative is not approved, the release started a 30-day period for those submitting agencies to notify the department in writing if there is information in their original submittal that addresses the deficiencies. This 30-day period is not an opportunity for the submission of new or supplemental data; only information contained in the original (i.e., as of January 1, 2017) submittal will be considered.
- If a written response is submitted to the Department within those 30 days, DWR will review that response and either (a) confirm the original recommendation from the staff report or (b) modify the staff report if information was missed during review. In either case a signed findings document will then be issued no later than 60 days following the close of the 30-day initial response period.
- Assessments, FAQs, and next steps can be found here: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/SGMA-Groundwater-Management/Alternatives>

Reminder: For basins that have been affected by the recent basin boundary modifications, GSAs need to update their boundaries to ensure the entire basin is covered. If a GSA does not have GIS staff, DWR staff can assist with updating your map's shapefile. A recently updated FAQ can be found here: <https://water.ca.gov/-/media/DWR-Website/Web-Pages/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Sustainable-Groundwater-Management/Groundwater-Sustainability-Agencies/Files/DWR-GSA-FAQ-Final-2019-05-10.pdf>

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Grants

Prop 68 Sustainable Groundwater Management Planning Grants

- The FINAL Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) released 9/9/19. Templates for the Work Plan, Budget and Schedule are posted. These can all be found here: <https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/Sustainable-Groundwater>
- In this round there will be approximately \$47.25 Million available to fund GSP completion with prioritization for basins that did not receive prior GSP planning funding. An implementation round will have at least \$88 million and the PSP is expected to come out in 2020.
- Please see the updated SGM Grant Program schedule here:

SGM Grant Program Solicitation Tentative Schedule*	
Milestones	Tentative Date
Planning Grant	
Round 3 Solicitation Period (Open Date and Close Date)	09/09/19 – 11/01/19
Applicant Assistance Webinar (an email will be sent out with details through the SGWP list serve)	September 18, from 2 PM to 4 PM
Technical Reviews of Grant Applications	Nov – Dec 2019
Release Draft Funding List for Public Review	Jan – Feb 2020
Final Award List Released	March 2020

** Dates are subject to change and will be determined based on number of comments received for the draft documents, number of applications received, amount of funds requested, and number of grant awards given.*

Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Grant

- DWR released the FINAL Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package on April 22, 2019 which provides funding for projects that help meet the long-term water needs of the state and incorporate integrated regional strategies. These documents and application schedules are available here: <https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grant-Programs/Proposition-1/Implementation-Grants>

Other

Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation Summit

A summit designed to inspire cooperation between the water management and climate change technical communities will be held Tuesday, Sept. 17, in Sacramento. The Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation Summit will be hosted by DWR. Registration and agenda can be found here: <https://water.ca.gov/News/Events/2019/September-19/Planning-for-Change>

Governor Newsom has signed an Executive Order for development of a Water Resilience Portfolio

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/4.29.19-EO-N-10-19-Attested.pdf>. This initiative will likely be tied to future funding so if you have suggestions, they can be sent to input@waterresilience.ca.gov. More information including list serve sign up and public engagement calendar can be found here: <http://waterresilience.ca.gov/>

2018 CA Water Plan has been finalized and can be found here along with many supporting documents:

<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/California-Water-Plan/Update-2018>. The team is happy to present their findings to interested groups. If you would like to schedule a presentation, please send your request to: cwpc@water.ca.gov

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Bulletin 118: California's Groundwater

- DWR wants your input on Bulletin 118 as it prepares for the 2020 update. Bulletin 118 is an inventory and assessment of available information on the occurrence and nature of California's groundwater and is used to inform decisions affecting the protection, use, and management of this resource.
- A new Bulletin 118 [fact sheet](#) is available to provide more information.
- [Take the brief survey](#) and let DWR know how you use, and how we can improve, Bulletin 118.
- If you have questions, contact Brett Wyckoff at Brett.Wyckoff@water.ca.gov

Comments/Questions: you can reach me at Chelsea.Spier@water.ca.gov or 916-376-9656