

## May 2020 DWR Updates

### SGMA

GSPs have been submitted by all Critically Over-drafted basins.

GSPs are being posed on the SGMA portal here: <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/gsp/all>. **The deadline to comment is coming soon May 15<sup>th</sup> and June 3<sup>rd</sup>**. No login is required to post a public comment.

### **NEW** Draft Report on Drought and Water Shortage Vulnerability Released

DWR recently released the draft *Small Water Suppliers and Rural Communities at Risk of Drought and Water Shortage Vulnerability and Recommendations and Guidance to Address the Planning Needs of these Communities* report. The report provides information for GSAs to consider and incorporate into future updates to GSPs and will help inform management decisions as these plans are implemented. Public comment period open through June 19<sup>th</sup>. There will be webinars May 27 and 28th on the report and associated webtool. More information and webinar registration can be found here: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency/Making-Conservation-a-California-Way-of-Life/County-Drought-Planning>

### NEW SVSim Beta Model Released

DWR has released the beta version of the [Sacramento Valley Groundwater-Surface Water Simulation Model \(SVSim\)](#) that can be used during GSP development. Instructions for use are included in the [Roadmap to Running SVSim](#) document. A calibrated version of SVSim is expected in fall 2020.

### Brown Act Modifications to enable Virtual Meetings

Governor Newsom recently issued [Executive Order N-25-20](#) encouraging elected officials to conduct public meetings by teleconference or other electronic venue. The order also temporarily waives requirements in the Bagley-Keene Act and Brown Act as long as specific requirements are met. This order would apply to GSAs and others involved in the implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

### 2019 Groundwater Level Change Reports & Maps Available

The [Groundwater Level Change Report](#) and accompanying Dot Maps for [spring 2019](#) and for [fall 2019](#) are available on the DWR website and present a summary of groundwater level data. The report and Dot Maps include a discussion of groundwater level trends with multi-year comparisons which can assist with the development of GSPs.

### Draft Handbook for Water Budget Development

The handbook has been posted on the SGMA webpage and can be viewed at the following link under the “reports” tab: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Data-and-Tools>. A recent webinar discussing the handbook with a deeper dive on 4 topics can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U1V4V-SG5jY&feature=youtu.be>

DWR is developing eight Proposition 68-funded technical projects including airborne electromagnetic surveys, improving groundwater elevation and quality monitoring networks, Statewide land use data collection, improved subsidence monitoring network, installing and maintaining stream gauges, maintaining and enhancing statewide well completion reports, managing and reporting sustainable groundwater information, and enhancing and maintaining DWR’s modeling tools. Fact sheets on each project can be viewed under the “Prop 68” tab here:

<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Data-and-Tools>

### SGMA Data Viewer Updated with Subsidence Information

New subsidence information covering the period of June 2018 to September 2019 has been added to the [SGMA Data Viewer](#) under land subsidence. This information can help groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs), water managers and the public implement the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

DWR and SWRCB hosted joint workshops in early January. A video of the meeting is available here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u-EYbyJ7-RU&feature=youtu.be> The workshops will focused on:

1. GSP evaluation and assessment process.
2. DWR and SWRCB interaction during GSP evaluation.

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3. Annual reporting requirements and process.
4. DWR and SWRCB assistance programs that will support GSP implementation and future GSP updates.

2016 Statewide Crop Mapping data released by DWR January 3<sup>rd</sup>. This data can be accessed here:

<https://data.cnra.ca.gov/dataset/statewide-crop-mapping>

### Facilitation Support Services (FSS): Funding still available

- 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-Engagement>
- New written translation services available in 10 languages for outreach materials (1500 word maximum).

### Technical Support Services (TSS): Funding still available

- COD basins have priority, but this application is open to all high and medium priority basins including those with an approved alternative plan. 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.

### 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>

DWR has a SGMA listserv. If you are not on the list and would like to be added you can join here:

[https://listserv.cnra.ca.gov/scripts/wa.exe?SUBED1=DWR\\_SGMP&A=1](https://listserv.cnra.ca.gov/scripts/wa.exe?SUBED1=DWR_SGMP&A=1)

## Grants

### Prop 68 Sustainable Groundwater Management Planning Grants.

- Final funding list announced March 13<sup>th</sup>. The full list can be viewed here: <https://water.ca.gov/sgmgrants>.
- The final Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) are available here: <https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/Sustainable-Groundwater>
- An implementation round will have at least \$88 million and the Draft PSP is expected to come out in 2021 and grants to be awarded in early 2022.

### Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Grant

- DWR released the FINAL grant awards for North Coast and Tulare-Kern Funding areas. DRAFT funding recommendations have been made for Central Coast, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Joaquin River, Sacramento River, Mountain Counties, Colorado River, Lahontan, San Francisco, and the Santa Ana funding areas. Details can be found here: <https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grant-Programs/Proposition-1/Implementation-Grants>
- Questions should be directed to Maria Lorenzo-Lee at [Maria.Lorenzo-Lee@water.ca.gov](mailto:Maria.Lorenzo-Lee@water.ca.gov) or (916) 657-4893

### Urban Stream Restoration Final Grant Awards

DWR has released the final awards list for the Urban Streams Restoration Program 2019 solicitation. Eleven projects throughout California were chosen to receive a total of more than \$7 million. The projects will enhance the environment by restoring portions of streams, creeks, and rivers. More info can be found here:

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<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Integrated-Regional-Water-Management/Riverine-Stewardship-Program/Riverine-Stewardship-Grants>

**NEW** The USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is announcing \$5 million for Wetland Mitigation Banks to help conservation partners develop or establish mitigation banks to help agricultural producers maintain eligibility for USDA programs. Proposals are being accepted from eligible Indian Tribes, state and local units of government, for-profit entities and nongovernmental organizations. Application deadline is July 6<sup>th</sup>. More information can be found here: For more information, please go to:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/newsroom/releases/?cid=NRCSEPRD1582222>

### Watershed Coordinator Grant

The CA Department of Conservation has a 2020 Sustainable Groundwater Management Watershed Coordinator Grant Program. The comment period on the draft PSP has closed and the final will be posted around May 15<sup>th</sup>. More information can be found here: <https://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/grant-programs/watershed>

## Other

### Tribal Regional Water Management Webinars

SAVE THE DATE: May 19<sup>th</sup>, May 26, & June 2 (9am-noon). Registration for each date is on a separate link below

May 19<sup>th</sup>: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/578622798757918223>;

May 26: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5451568173109801741>;

June 2: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6460970424943054605>.

For more information or if you have trouble registering contact Anecita Agustinez, Tribal Policy Advisor, 916.216.8637, [TribaPolicyAdvisor@water.ca.gov](mailto:TribaPolicyAdvisor@water.ca.gov). Topics will include funding and technical assistance opportunities, improving regional water funding coordination, identifying regional needs and reviewing needs assessment, and effective tribal guidance of IRWM.

### Flood-MAR (Managed Aquifer Recharge)

A new survey on forming a Flood-MAR network is available: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FloodMAR\\_2020](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FloodMAR_2020). This survey is being conducted on behalf of DWR. There is also a new Lunch-MAR monthly speaker series. If you are interested in attending please email [Jennifer.Marr@water.ca.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Marr@water.ca.gov) (916) 651-9229 to be added to the calendar invite. To join the Flood-MAR listserv follow this link:

[https://listserv.ce.cnr.ca.gov/scripts/wa.exe?SUBED1=DWR\\_FLOODMAR&A=1](https://listserv.ce.cnr.ca.gov/scripts/wa.exe?SUBED1=DWR_FLOODMAR&A=1)

The CA State Library is developing a searchable webpage that will have all State grants in one place (similar to the federal grants.gov). It will be going live July 1<sup>st</sup> this year. Information on the webpage during development and the full version will be available here: <https://grants.ca.gov/>

A DRAFT of Governor Newsom California Water Resilience Portfolio can be viewed here:

<http://waterresilience.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/California-Water-Resilience-Portfolio-2019-Final2.pdf>. More information including list serve sign up and public engagement calendar can be found here: <http://waterresilience.ca.gov/>

The portfolio focuses on four broad areas including:

- **Maintain and diversify water supplies:** State government will continue to help regions reduce reliance on any one water source and diversify supplies to enable flexibility amidst changing conditions. Diversification will look different in each region based on available water resources, but the combined effect will strengthen resilience and reduce pressure on river systems.
- **Protect and enhance natural ecosystems:** State leadership is essential to restore the environmental health of key river systems to sustain fish and wildlife. This requires effective standard-setting, continued investments, and more adaptive, holistic environmental management.
- **Build connections:** State actions and investment will improve physical infrastructure to store, move, and share water more flexibly and integrate water management through shared use of science, data, and technology.

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- **Be prepared:** Each region must prepare for new threats, including more extreme droughts and floods and hotter temperatures. State investments and guidance will enable preparation, protective actions, and adaptive management to weather these stresses.

Introduction to Groundwater, Watersheds, and Groundwater Sustainability Plans - Online Course

Thursday, May 21 and 28, June 4, 18, and 25 (15 hours) 9:00am – 12:00pm PDT (GMT -07:00). Registration is \$100 (or \$60 with reduction waiver). Registration here: <https://registration.ucdavis.edu>

This online short course will review the fundamental principles of groundwater and watershed hydrology, water budgets, water quality, and water law and regulation in an intuitive, highly accessible fashion. Through real world examples, participants learn about the most common tools for measuring, monitoring, and assessing groundwater and surface water resources. We then review the key steps and elements of planning for groundwater sustainability.