

## March 2021 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

### Grants

#### California Grants Portal

The California State Library, in partnership with the Department of Water Resources and other state grantmaking agencies, has launched the California Grants Portal – your one destination to find all state grant and loan opportunities provided on a first-come or competitive basis. Visit [grants.ca.gov](https://grants.ca.gov) to find funding opportunities for you and your community.

#### **CalFIRE: Fire Prevention Grants Now Open**

Contingent upon appropriation from the California Climate Investments, or other fund source, up to \$165 million will be awarded. The program provides funding for projects and activities that address the risk of wildfire, reduce wildfire potential, and increase community resiliency. Funded activities include hazardous fuel reduction, wildfire prevention planning, and wildfire prevention education with an emphasis on improving public health and safety while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Applications must be submitted **no later than May 19th, 2021 by 3:00 PM PDT**. Overview of the grant program, application process and workshop details will be posted on the [Fire Prevention Grants](#) webpage.

#### **USBR: WaterSMART Grants: Water Marketing Strategy Grants for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021**

The grant is to leverage federal funding to develop a “Water Marketing Strategy”, which includes:

- (1) Outreach and partnership building;
- (2) Scoping and planning activities (e.g., hydrologic, economic, legal and other types of analysis); and
- (3) Development of a water marketing strategy document describing how water marketing activities will be implemented.

**\$3 Million available total and the application deadline is April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021.** More info here:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=331273>

#### DWR's Floodplain Management, Protection, and Risk Awareness (FMPRA) Grant Program

There is \$25M available to provide financial assistance for flood risk reduction activities related to stormwater, mudslide, and other flash flood related protections. The final grant guidelines are expected to be published in summer of 2021. <https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/Flood-Management-Protection-Risk-Awareness-Program>

#### State Water Resource Control Board, Groundwater Grant Program: Amendment to Funding Guidelines

The SWRCB has recently updated its funding guidelines for administering the \$720 million dollars in prop 1 groundwater grant funding. More info on this grant program can be found here:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/grants\\_loans/proposition1/groundwater\\_sustainability.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/proposition1/groundwater_sustainability.html)

#### California Financing Coordinating Committee: Funding fair recording posted

The October 22, 2020 CFCC funding fair filled up early so if you were unable to join in October, the recording is now available here: <https://www.cfcc.ca.gov/>. The next funding fair is tentatively scheduled for March of 2021.

#### **DWR: Prop 68 Groundwater Implementation Grant DRAFT awards announced**

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is pleased to release the draft award recommendation for the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program's Proposition 68 Implementation – Round 1 grant solicitation. The recommended awards will provide \$26 million in Proposition 68 grant funding to 6 Awardees. DWR received 15 applications requesting a total of approximately \$70 million in grant funds and approximately \$36.5 million in Local Cost Share. **Public comments on the draft funding awards must be submitted to [sgwp@water.ca.gov](mailto:sgwp@water.ca.gov) no later than Tuesday, March 22, 2021 by 5 PM.**

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Other state & federal grant websites for resources that may be helpful are:

- California Financing Coordinating Committee -- <https://cfcc.ca.gov/>, and
- CalOES grants -- <https://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/grants-management>
- US EPA -- <https://www.epa.gov/grants/specific-epa-grant-programs>, and
- Economic Development Administration -- <https://eda.gov/funding-opportunities/>
- The rollout webinars of FEMA's new grant, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (risk reduction), started in July 2020 and can be found at: <https://www.fema.gov/bric>

## Upcoming conferences, webinars, new reports and data

### 2021 Bay-Delta Science Conference: Free and Virtual

[Registration](#) is open now for the 2021 Bay-Delta Science Conference, which will be held virtually **April 6-9**. This year's theme is "Building Resilience Through Diversity in Science." The Conference will include concurrent sessions; on-demand talks; posters; an art exhibition; special events; and opportunities to interact with other attendees, presenters, and members of the planning committee.

### SWRCB: Comment period extended for Staff Report on Climate Change

A webinar will be held March 18<sup>th</sup>, 11am – 1pm. The webinar will provide a detailed overview of the staff report, and provide an opportunity to ask questions and comment. Register [here](#) for the webinar and view the report [here](#). The comment period has been extended until the end of day on March 31, 2021.

CivicSpark Partner applications for the 2021-22 service year OPEN NOW!

Since 2014, the Local Government Commission's CivicSpark AmeriCorps program has recruited over 400 Fellows directly supporting over 600 community and climate resilience projects all across California while serving as a career accelerator for emerging leaders. Priority deadline is February 28, regular application deadline March 31<sup>st</sup>. Learn more and/or sign up for an informational webinar here: <https://civicspark.lgc.org/join-civicspark/>

Climate Adaptation Planning Guide Workshop Series

Registration Open: 2021 Adaptation Planning Guide Workshop Series – A series of online in-depth webinar workshops on the [Adaptation Planning Guide](#) and other resources for practitioners. Workshop content will feature a mix of introductory and technical content, case studies, tools and data, breakouts, and more and **will be held March 17<sup>th</sup>, April 14 and May 12**. To register visit:

[https://governorca.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_cOkwSQ\\_oQqvJ3vDsh5Clw](https://governorca.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_cOkwSQ_oQqvJ3vDsh5Clw)

SWRCB Releases 2012-2019 Public Water Supply Datasets

The State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water has released the latest round of electronic annual report datasets from public drinking water systems. The release covers reporting years 2012–2019, including more than 7 million records for reporting year 2019.

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/certlic/drinkingwater/ear.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/ear.html)

DWR has formed a technical advisory committee for the update of California Well Standards

The TAC has 67 members from broad backgrounds. They will meet from March 2021 to March 2022. We anticipate the Public Review Draft will be released in September 2022, followed by the Final Well Standards in December 2022. Those interested listening into TAC meetings or providing suggestions may email:

[Bulletin74@water.ca.gov](mailto:Bulletin74@water.ca.gov). More information here: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Wells/Well-Standards>

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation: New Data sharing webpage

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The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has released the new Reclamation Information Sharing Environment (RISE) website. It provides access to Reclamation's water-related data. The site includes maps to help search for data in a particular area. There is also a catalog offering access to datasets and time-series data. <https://data.usbr.gov/>

## DRAFT Urban and Agricultural Water Management Plans Released, DWR

DWR has released draft versions of two water management guidebooks; one for urban water management plans and the other for agricultural water management plans. Both plans serve as long-term water supply and demand management strategies. Information on both plans can be found here: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency>. Updated guidance documents for UWMP's are available by emailing [wue@water.ca.gov](mailto:wue@water.ca.gov).

## Flood-MAR (Managed Aquifer Recharge)

A kickoff meeting to establish a Flood-MAR network was held December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and a second meeting was held March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021. There is also an ongoing [Lunch-MAR monthly speaker series](#). If you are interested in attending or getting involved 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)

## SGMA

### DWR Releases Draft California's Groundwater – Update 2020, Seeks Public Comment

DWR has released the [draft California's Groundwater – Update 2020 \(Bulletin-118\)](#), containing information on the condition of the State's groundwater. DWR encourages community members and water managers to review the publication and provide input. **Comments can be submitted to [CalGW@water.ca.gov](mailto:CalGW@water.ca.gov) and will be accepted through April 26, 2021.** An overview of the document will be presented at a [webinar on March 30<sup>th</sup>](#), [register here](#)

- Informational Video: [English](#), [Spanish](#)
- Fact Sheet: [English](#), [Spanish](#)
- FAQ: [English](#), [Spanish](#)
- [California's Groundwater Online](#)
- General Information Video: [Groundwater: California's Vital Resource](#)

### NEW: SGMA Water Year Type Dataset Now Available

In the dataset, the water years are labeled as wet, above normal, below normal, dry, or critical based on the amount of precipitation during that water year and the previous one. The information is available for all California watersheds except those underlying the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Hydrologic Regions since that information is already available. [Data](#) and a [development report](#) are now available.

February 18<sup>th</sup> Webinar: [Joint DWR-State Water Board General SGMA Webinar](#) on Groundwater Sustainability Planning  
The Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the State Water Resources Control Board held a virtual General Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) A [video recording of the meeting](#) is available on YouTube and will be posted to the DWR website, along with additional materials, in the near future.

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

GSPs and public comments have been posed on the SGMA portal here: <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/gsp/all>.

### Dry Well Reporting Site

There is a website available to report private wells going dry at <https://mydrywatersupply.water.ca.gov/report/>  
This information reported to this site is intended to inform state and local agencies on drought impacts on household water supplies. The Household Water Supply Shortage Reporting System was first created as part of

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our emergency response efforts to previous droughts, and we are continuing to gather information relating to shortages of household water from private well or surface water sources.

### NEW Statewide Groundwater Level Change Report and Maps Available

The [Spring 2020 Groundwater Level Change Report](#) and accompanying maps are available on the DWR website and present a summary of groundwater level data. The report and maps include a discussion of groundwater level trends with multi-year comparisons which can assist with the development of GSPs.

### 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.

### C2VSim Fine Grid Update Published December 2020

C2VSimFG Version 1.0 is a historical simulation model designed to estimate regional groundwater flow throughout the Central Valley. C2VSimFG is an integrated hydrologic model application and uses demand estimates from land use and population to calculate spatially distributed groundwater pumping and recharge estimates. The updated tool includes calibration of aquifer properties and documentation. DWR will host informational webinars and a multi-day training event on C2VSimFG Version 1.0 in winter 2021. More information and downloads can be found here under the “modeling/modeling applications” tabs:

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

### 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

These projects include 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>

- [New Data](#) is available on AEM pilot studies.

### 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-and-Engagement> New written translation services available in 10 languages for outreach materials (5,000 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.