

January 2022 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 to find funding opportunities for you and your community.

DWR: DRAFT 2022 IRWM Grant Program Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package

We are pleased to announce the release of the DRAFT 2022 IRWM Grant Program Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package (GL/PSP) for the Proposition 1 - Round 2 IRWM Implementation. Release of the drafts commences a 60-day public comment period, which will close at 5:00 pm on February 8, 2021. This solicitation will make **approximately \$192 million** in grant funding available for IRWM implementation projects. *Please note that the draft identifies a March 2022 deadline for Cycle 1 as originally proposed in early 2021. DWR will update this deadline to later in 2022 in the final Proposal Solicitation Package based on the public comments collected.* For more information on the Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Program, visit [Implementation Grant Program](#) or e-mail us at: dwr_irwm@water.ca.gov. Workshops will be held on the following days, click the date to register for the webinar: [Northern CA, Tuesday 2/1/22 9:30-11:30 am](#); [Central CA, Thursday 2/3/22 10:00-12:00 am](#); and [Southern CA, Tuesday 2/8/22 9:30-11:30 am](#).

DWR: FINAL SGMA Funding Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released the final [Guidelines](#) and [Proposal Solicitation Package](#) (PSP) for the [Sustainable Groundwater Management \(SGM\) Grant Program's](#) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation Funding. Over \$350 million in grants will be available for planning and implementation projects to help regional groundwater agencies comply with the SGMA. **The Round 1 grant solicitation for Critically Overdrafted (COD) basins is now open.** Those potential applicants located within COD basins will be contacted by a SGM Grant Program team member to provide the required templates for applicants to use while applying for the grant program. The Round 1 solicitation will **end on February 18, 2022.**

CalTrans: \$296 Million for Clean California Local Grant Program

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) developed the Clean California Local Grant Program as part of a two-year program through which approximately \$296 million in funds will go to local communities to beautify and improve local streets and roads, tribal lands, parks, pathways, and transit centers to clean and enhance public spaces. Through the combination of adding beautification measures and art in public spaces along with the removal of litter and debris, this effort will enhance communities and improve spaces for walking and recreation. View the [Clean California Local Grant Program Factsheet \(PDF\)](#) and access [full grant guidelines here](#). [Applicant workshop will be held January 12, 1:30 – 3pm](#). **Applications due Feb 1, 2022.**

DWR: \$200 Million Drought Funding to Support Small Communities

DWR released [guidelines](#) for how small water systems may apply for funds as part of the Small Community Drought Relief Program. Eligible projects must be designed to benefit small communities (< 3,000 connections or 3,000 AFY) located in counties under Governor Newsom's drought emergency proclamations or which the SWRCB may determine that drought conditions necessitate urgent and immediate action. Small communities impacted by the drought are encouraged to apply as soon as possible as funds will be dispersed on a first come first serve basis and can submit applications or questions to SmallCommunityDrought@water.ca.gov. This grant will fund projects that provide immediate or interim drinking water supplies such as hauled or bottled water deliveries, deepening of wells, new or temporary water tank storage, new pipelines and connections to more reliable nearby systems, etc. No local cost share is required.

January 2022 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

Department of Conservation: Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program DRAFT Guidelines open for comment

The Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing Program seeks to increase regional capacity to repurpose agricultural land to reduce reliance on groundwater while providing community health, economic wellbeing, water supply, habitat, renewable energy, and climate benefits. **A total of \$50 million will be available**, with up to \$10 million per basin. [Draft Grant Guidelines and links to January public workshops \(1/18, 1/19, & 1/20\) can be found here](#). Public comments can be sent to shanna.atherton@conservation.ca.gov. **Public comment closes January 31, 2022 and application release expected 2/4/22 with submission due date of March 21, 2022.**

CalFire: Fire Prevention Grants Program FY 2021-2022

CAL FIRE's Fire Prevention Grants Program provides funding for fire prevention projects and activities in and near fire threatened communities. Funded activities include hazardous fuels reduction, wildfire prevention planning, and wildfire prevention education with an emphasis on improving public health and safety while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. **Approximately \$120 Million available, no funding match required, application deadline is 2/9/22.** [More information can be found here](#).

EPA Grants Award Process Webinar

EPA invites all grant applicants and grant recipients to attend a Grants Award Process Webinar on **Wednesday, January 26, 2022, from 2:00-3:30 pm ET**. Hosted by EPA's Office of Grants and Debarment, this high-level webinar will cover topics related to finding and applying for grants as well as the basics of managing a grant award. Advance [registration is required](#).

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/>

Upcoming conferences, webinars, new reports and data

Progress Report Issued on Implementation of the Water Resilience Portfolio

The progress that has been made on implementing California's [Water Resilience Portfolio](#) is detailed in a [new report](#) from the State. The portfolio was released 18 months ago by Governor Newsom as a water policy blueprint to build climate resilience. The progress report summarizes work done on 142 actions outlined in the portfolio.

NEW: DWR and the State Water Resources Control Board have released new [principles and strategies for groundwater management and drinking water wells](#). The document provides a framework for the development of drought-resistant communities. Approximately 82 percent of Californians rely on groundwater for some portion of their [drinking water](#) or other household uses. A [Spanish version](#) of the draft is available.

DWR: DRAFT Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP) Conservation Strategy 2022

The Conservation Strategy is an integral component of the 2022 CVFPP Update. Its purpose is to provide actionable and measurable targets to improve riverine, aquatic, wetland, and riparian habitat in the flood system through the integration of ecological principles with flood risk reduction projects, operation and maintenance activities, institutional support, and other means (e.g., the removal of fish passage barriers). The Conservation Strategy also provides data, information, and guidance to floodplain managers to assist in the development of

January 2022 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

multi-benefit flood infrastructure improvement projects by integrating project components and management strategies that benefit native species and their habitats. [The draft document is now available on DWR's website](#). There will be a 60-day review period for the Draft Conservation Strategy; as such, **DWR will be accepting comments until February 10, 2022**. Comments can be submitted via the [webform here](#) or emailed to CScomments@water.ca.gov.

FIRO Workshop and Webinars in January and March

The next Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO) Workshop will look at FIRO as a climate resiliency strategy. This is part of a webinar series hosted by the Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes. The workshop will be held Wednesday, Jan.12 and the 8th annual workshop will be held March 21-24 (tentative). [More information can be found here.](#)

DWR Released California's Groundwater Update 2020 (formerly Bulletin 118) and California's Groundwater Live Online

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) today released the final [California's Groundwater – Update 2020 \(Bulletin-118\)](#), containing information on the condition of the State's groundwater, which is especially important with most of California facing ongoing drought conditions. DWR has also developed a companion web-based application called [California's Groundwater Live](#) (CalGW Live), leveraging the [California Natural Resources Agency Open Data Platform](#) (Open Data) to improve the access and timeliness of statewide groundwater information. The easy-to-use interface will make many of the data sets used in CalGW Update 2020 available in an interactive map format that will be updated regularly for viewing and downloading. For more information, visit the updated [California's Groundwater website](#) Contact: CalGW@water.ca.gov

OpenET makes tracking water use data easier with satellite data

A space-based tool is ready to help track water in the western U.S. Using data from satellites, [Open Evapotranspiration](#) (OpenET) gives farmers and other water users information on how much of their water loss ends up as evapotranspiration. The OpenET data are available for 17 western states, including the Colorado River basin area.

Week of Webinars on Statewide Groundwater Management Efforts

DWR is hosting a week of webinars on statewide groundwater management efforts. **All presentations were recorded and the links are below and can also be found on the program webpage.**

- [2022 Groundwater Sustainability Plan \(GSP\) Submittal Workshop](#)
- [2022 Alternative 5-year Update Submittal Workshop](#)
- [Resources for Sustainable Groundwater Management Act \(SGMA\) Implementation](#) (found under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Program Events tab)
- [Accessing Groundwater Data and Tools](#)

Water Board: Drinking water needs assessments

For the first time, the State Water Resources Control Board has completed a comprehensive look at California water systems that are struggling to provide safe drinking water. [The needs assessment](#) identifies failing water systems and those at risk of failing. It also offers the most in-depth view of long-term drinking water safety the state has ever had. Details are available in this [news release](#).

January 2022 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

SGMA

GSP and Alternative Plan Periodic Evaluations Submittals

If you have questions or need assistance while submitting your 2022 GSP, Alternative Periodic Evaluation (5-year) Plan Update, or update to a previously submitted 2020 GSP, please contact us at GSPSubmittal@water.ca.gov. We have additional staff monitoring this account to provide prompt responses and help with document submittal to [DWR's SGMA Portal](#). If your GSA POC is not current, or you are not sure, please visit the [SGMA Portal](#) to ensure that your contact information is up-to-date. When logged in, the Portal allows edits to be made to previously submitted contact information.

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 data reported on this site (excluding personal identifiable information) can be viewed on the [SGMA data viewer](#) or downloaded on the [CNRA Atlas](#). Individuals or local agencies can report water shortages and a list of resources are included on the webpage. The reporting forms are available in both English and Spanish.

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](#).

- [AEM webpage](#) contains information on the how the process works, safety, schedule, data submission by GSAs, TAC, pilot study data and more. Public webinar was held **June 8th 12:00 – 1:00**, a [recording can be viewed here](#) and [handouts can be downloaded here](#). **Sonoma Valley Basins were surveyed in November, 2021 and North San Joaquin and Southern Sacramento basins planned for surveying in April 2022.**
- [2018 Statewide Crop Mapping data](#) dataset builds on the 2014 and 2016 statewide crop mapping datasets DWR previously released and includes multi-cropping information. The 2018 dataset includes agricultural land use and urban boundaries for all 58 counties in California. Water year 2019 is planned to be released in 2022.
- [InSAR subsidence data](#) is now available through October of 2020 and can be viewed on the [SGMA data viewer](#). The updated GIS services and data reports are also available [online](#). Future data will be released on a quarterly basis.

DWR Releases First and Second batches of GSP Assessments

On June 3rd, DWR released its first assessments of groundwater sustainability plans, which includes the approval of GSPs for the Santa Cruz Mid-County Basin and the 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin. In addition, DWR also notified GSAs in the Cuyama Valley Basin and Paso Robles Subbasin that their GSPs lack specific details and are not yet approved. **On November 18th, 2021 the next round of assessments were released** including the approval of GSPs for the North and South Yuba Subbasins in Yuba County and the Oxnard Subbasin and Pleasant Valley Basin in Ventura County. In addition, DWR also notified groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) in the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin, Merced Subbasin, Chowchilla Subbasin, and Westside Subbasin that their GSPs lack specific details and are not yet approved. **On December 9th**, DWR issued letters to communicate to the agencies representing the remaining six subbasins within the San Joaquin Valley Basin on the status of their groundwater sustainability plans, which contain deficiencies that will need to be addressed. These assessments and notification letters, along with other pertinent information, can be viewed [here on the DWR SGMA Portal](#).

January 2022 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

Outreach and Educational Materials Available

DWR's [SGMA Assistance and Engagement webpage](#) has added new communication and engagement toolkit items including:

- A new video – [Groundwater: California's Vital Resource](#) now available in [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Punjabi](#), and [Hmong](#)
- A Story Map for a non-technical audience – [Groundwater: Understanding and Managing this Vital Resource](#)
- [Guidance on Engaging and Communicating with Underrepresented Groundwater Users](#)
- [SGMA Communications: Media Relations and Social Media](#), including [DWR's Groundwater Media Contacts](#)
- “DWR's Assistance Role in Groundwater Management” video: [English](#) and [Spanish](#)

CASGEM to Monitoring Network Module Transition Frequently Asked Questions Available

The [CASGEM to Monitoring Network Module Transition Frequently Asked Questions](#) (FAQ) document covers questions related to the Groundwater Monitoring Law, the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) Program, a GSP's required monitoring, the SGMA Portal's Monitoring Network Module (MNM), and a basin's or subbasin's transition from the CASGEM Online System to the SGMA Portal's Monitoring Network Module .

C2VSim Fine Grid Update Published April 2021

DWR has released an update to the Fine-Grid California Central Valley Groundwater-Surface Water Simulation (C2VSimFG) Model, which can be used by Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) developing water budgets for their GSPs. [C2VSimFG Version 1.01](#) utilizes the latest version of the Integrated Water Flow Model software and corrects minor errors in the model files. These updates do not significantly affect the overall model calibration; however, resulting changes to simulated groundwater levels may vary by basin.

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](#). [New written translation services available in 10 languages for outreach materials \(5,000 word maximum\).](#)