



Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development

The California Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 requires local agencies to form groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) in numerous water basins in the state of California including the Upper Ventura River Basin spanning from Foster Park to the Camino Cielo Bridge in Matilija Canyon. In March of 2017 the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency (UVRGA) was formed and has been studying hydrologic conditions of the basin since the fall of that year. Studies will lead to a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), which will be submitted to the California Department of Water Resources on or before January of 2022 that is designed to maintain or achieve sustainable groundwater conditions within 20 years.

GSP Public Workshop

URVGA plans to schedule its first public workshop this Spring. The workshop will focus on the basin setting and a preliminary discussion of sustainable basin management considerations.

Please stay tuned for the workshop details!

Local water people were meeting as early as October 2014 to form the agency. The agency has seven board members: three elected Directors from Ventura River Water District, Meiners Oaks Water District, and Casitas Municipal Water District; two appointed managers from City of Ventura Water and County of Ventura; and two public members representing agricultural and environmental interests. The agency secured a \$630,000 grant from the Department of Water Resources. This is expected to pay for nearly half the Plan cost, the remainder coming from a pumping fee, of which water agencies pay 92%.

Development of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) began in late 2019. The UVRGA Board of Directors has approved contracts with three consultants who will team to prepare the GSP. The GSP development team is led by Bryan Bondy, Bondy Groundwater Consulting, Inc. who also serves as the Agency's Executive Director. Mr. Bondy is assisted by Kear Groundwater and Intera, Inc. Kear Groundwater is focused on field data collection efforts and Intera, Inc. will assist with data analysis and quantitative evaluations of groundwater conditions.

Board members welcome your comments. It meets every 2nd Thursday at 1 pm, typically at the Casitas Board room. Past meeting agendas can be found on the agency website <https://uvrgroundwater.org/>, which also contains a schedule for preparing the Plan, contact information and future meeting agendas are posted several days prior to each meeting.



UVRGA Member Agencies

UVRGA was formed under a Joint Powers Authority agreement between:



UVRGA Needs Your Data!

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act requires GSAs use the “best available data and information” when developing a GSPs. UVRGA is going to great lengths to ensure it meets or exceeds this standard. The Agency is compiling data from numerous sources, including the Ventura County Watershed Protection District, California Department of Water Resources, California Division of Drinking Water, California State Water Resources Control Board, United States Geological Survey, and the UVRGA Member Agencies. However, we realize that you may have data not available from these sources. Of particular interest are data regarding groundwater levels, groundwater quality, surface water flow, and surface water quality. UVRGA Board members urge you to share any data as soon as possible. Substantial data are already being studied to prepare a conceptual groundwater basin model and water supply conditions report that will be presented at a workshop this coming spring, but your data may make the GSP better! Please contact Executive Director Bryan Bondy with any data at bbondy@uvrgroundwater.org.

Meet the UVRGA

Board of Directors:

(from left to right in photo below)

Diana Engle, Chair
Meiners Oaks Water District
dengle@uvrgroundwater.org

Bruce Kuebler, Vice Chair
Ventura River Water District
BKuebler@uvrgroundwater.org

Emily Ayala
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Larry Rose
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Angelo Spandrio, Secretary
Casitas Municipal Water District
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Glenn Shephard
Ventura County
Glenn.Shephard@ventura.org

Board Meetings

Regular Board Meetings are scheduled monthly on the second Thursday. Please visit our website for more information.

To receive Board meeting agendas via e-mail, please contact the Agency Administrator Summer Ward at sward@uvrgroundwater.org

Get Involved!

At the core of SGMA is the idea that locals should make groundwater management decisions, not the State. Your input is critical for ensuring the Upper Ventura River GSP reflects local values. Get added to our interested parties list by contacting the Agency Administrator Summer Ward at sward@uvrgroundwater.org

