

## **Spring Newsletter**

**March 2024** 

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https://uvrgroundwater.org/

<u>UVRGA Field</u> <u>Monitoring Program</u> <u>Presentation at the</u> <u>Upcoming April 4, 2024</u> <u>Ventura Watershed</u> Council Meeting

UVRGA's Executive Director and consultants are scheduled to present a summary of UVRGA's groundwater, surface water, aquatic groundwater dependent ecosystem (GDEs), and riparian GDE field monitoring programs. This is a opportunity to learn about these exciting programs and the data that has been collected thus far in the Upper Ventura River Valley Basin.

For more information about the meeting, please visit: https://venturawatershed.org/

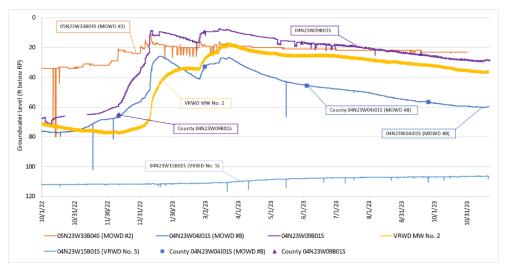


Stream Gauging on the Ventura River near Camino Cielo Road.

## **UVRGA's Field Monitoring Programs In Focus**

Pursuant to its adopted Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP or Plan), UVRGA operates five field monitoring programs to collect data necessary for Plan implementation. These five field monitoring programs include:

• <u>Groundwater Level Monitoring</u>: UVRGA currently maintains continuous groundwater level recording devices in eight wells and obtains continuous data from owners of three additional wells. UVRGA is currently working on adding four wells to the groundwater level monitoring network. The data are used to help understand basin dynamics, evaluate groundwater and surface water interaction, calibrate the Basin groundwater model, and implement the chronic lowering of groundwater levels and groundwater storage sustainable management criteria (SMC) included in the GSP.



Selected Groundwater Levels During Water Year 22/23 Showing Rapid Rise Following Storms in Early 2023

• <u>Streamflow Measurements</u>: UVRGA currently maintains dry weather stream gages at three locations and obtains data from others for six additional locations within or adjacent to the Upper Ventura River Valley Basin. The data are used to help understand basin dynamics, evaluate groundwater and surface water interaction, calibrate the Basin groundwater model, and implement the depletions of interconnected surface water SMC included in the GSP.



Visual Streamflow Monitoring of Ventura River at Santa Ana Blvd. In Feb. 2023



Aquatic Habitat Mapping in Ventura River.

## Upcoming UVRGA Board Meetings

The UVRGA Board of Directors scheduled its 2024 Regular Board meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 1:00 PM. The next scheduled regular meeting is March 14, 2024. Special meetings are also scheduled on as-needed basis. The UVRGA Board meets at the Ventura River Water District located at 409 Old Baldwin Road, Ojai, CA 93023.

For the latest updates concerning Board meetings, please visit: <u>https://uvrgroundwater.org/publ</u> ic-meetings/

- <u>Visual Streamflow Monitoring</u>: UVRGA performs monthly visual monitoring of the Ventura River to document locations of flowing and dry reaches within the Upper Ventura River Valley Basin. The data are used to help understand basin dynamics, evaluate groundwater and surface water interaction, and calibrate the Basin groundwater model.
- <u>Riparian Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem (GDE) Monitoring</u>: UVRGA periodically collects aerial orthoimagery via drone and couples that with satellite-based vegetation and moisture indices (NDVI and NDMI) to assess changes in riparian vegetation health and distribution in the two riparian GDE areas identified in the GSP.



Aerial Imagery of Foster Park Riparian GDE Area December 2022, March 2023, and July 2023

• <u>Aquatic GDE Monitoring</u>: UVRGA performs periodic aquatic habitat mapping, fish stranding and mortality surveys, habitat suitability surveys, snorkel surveys, water quality monitoring, and aerial and ground photography in the two aquatic GDE areas identified in the GSP. The data are used to assess performance of the depletions of interconnected surface water SMC included in the GSP for the Foster Park Aquatic GDE area and to determine if SMC are needed for the Confluence Aquatic GDE area.

Annual data summaries are available on UVRGA website at <a href="https://uvrgroundwater.org/sgma-overview/">https://uvrgroundwater.org/sgma-overview/</a>

## Stay Informed

If you haven't already, please join our interested parties list at: https://uvrgroundwater.org/join-interested-parties-list/.