



***GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY PLAN
PERIODIC EVALUATION
WORKSHOP***

MARCH 12, 2026



WORKSHOP COMPONENTS

- 1. Brief SGMA Background**
- 2. GSP Periodic Evaluation (PE) Overview**
- 3. GSP Highlights & PE Focus Areas**
- 4. GSP Recommended Corrective Actions (RCAs)**
- 5. Questions and Comments**



BRIEF SGMA BACKGROUND

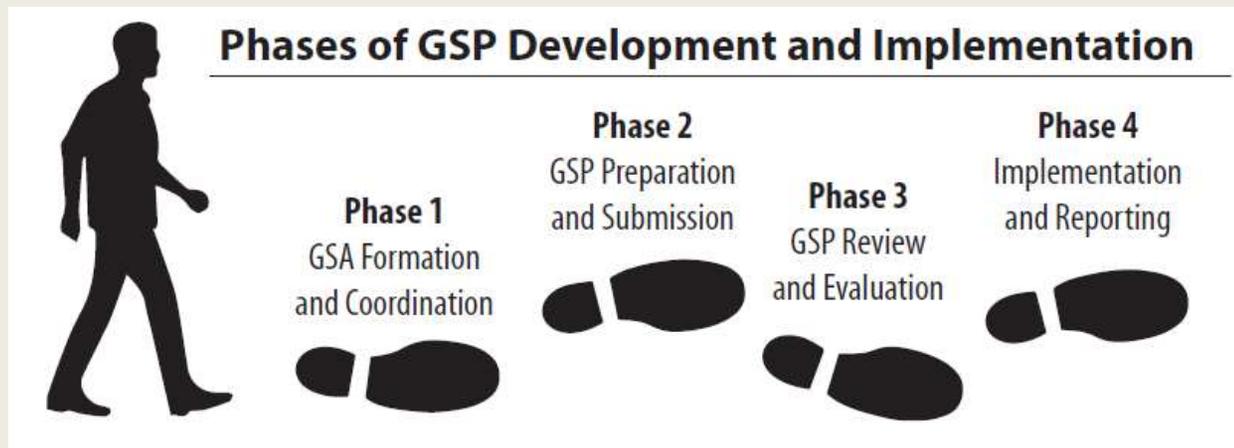


WHAT IS SGMA?

- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
 - Three bill package signed into CA law in late 2014
 - Provides a statewide framework for long-term sustainable groundwater management in CA
 - Requires basins subject to the act to be managed sustainably 20 years after adopting a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) by a local Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)

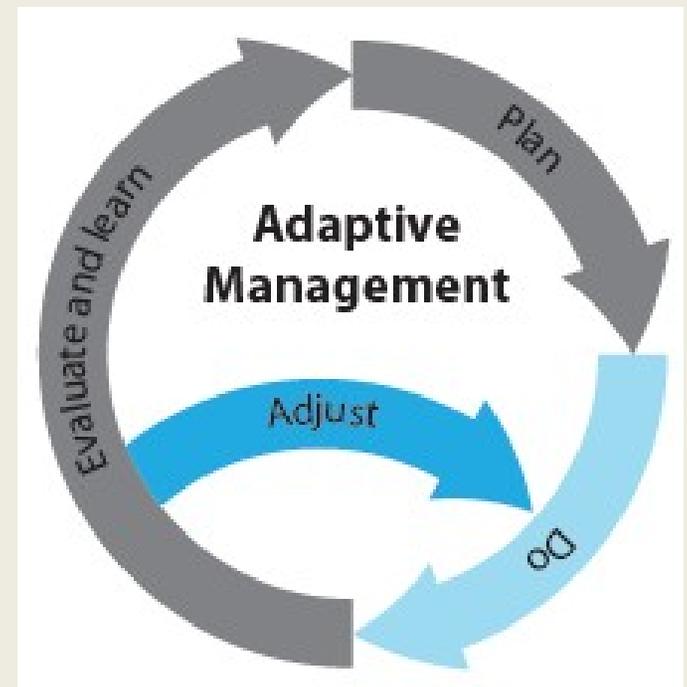
SGMA REQUIREMENTS

1. Form a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)
2. Adopt a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)
 - Due January 31, 2022
3. Achieve Sustainable Groundwater Management
 - 20 years following GSP adoption



WHAT IS A GSP?

The GSP is a flexible road map for how a groundwater basin will achieve long term sustainability by avoiding undesirable results through data-driven adaptive management



PURPOSE OF THE GSP IS TO AVOID “UNDESIRABLE RESULTS”

- Overarching goal of SGMA is to avoid Undesirable Results for each of the six SGMA sustainability indicators:



- Minimum Thresholds for Undesirable Results
- Measurable Objectives goals to provide flexibility
- Monitoring networks track progress



GSP PERIODIC EVALUATION OVERVIEW



GSP PERIODIC EVALUATION

■ What?

- Written periodic evaluation report
- Communicate progress on GSP implementation

■ Why?

- It's required...GSP Emergency Regulations
- Prudent for ensuring the basin is managed sustainably

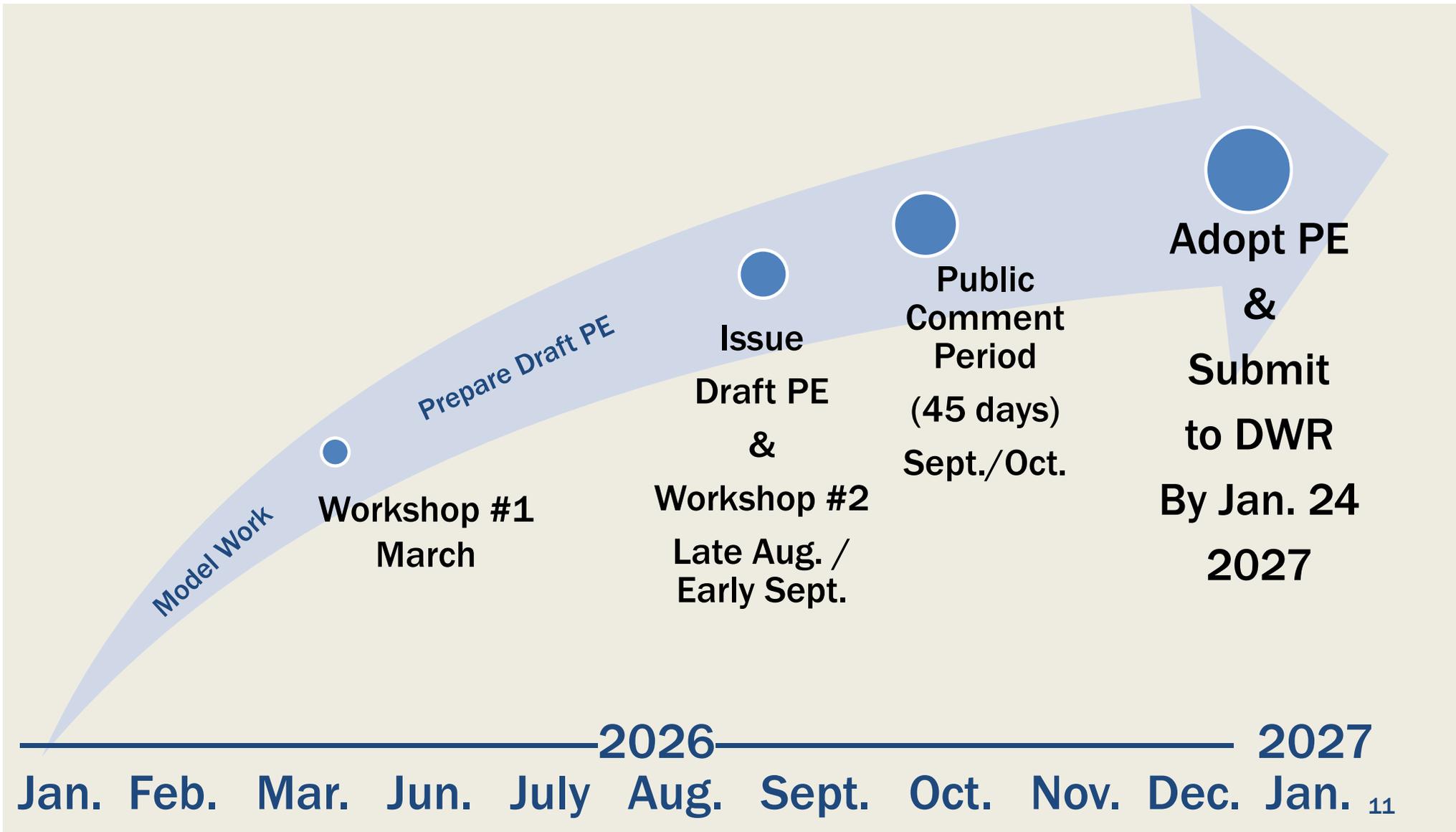
■ When?

- At least once every five years

GSP PERIODIC EVALUATION SCOPE

- Describe new information collected.
- Describe current groundwater conditions for each sustainability indicator.
- Describe status & changes to any GSP sections.
- Explain how have actions taken by GSA have informed changes in basin management.
- Describe whether there is a need to change any GSP section that would lead to a GSP Amendment.
 - *Appropriate time to amend GSP is after physical solution is adopted*
- Address DWR recommended corrective actions

GSP PERIODIC EVALUATION SCHEDULE





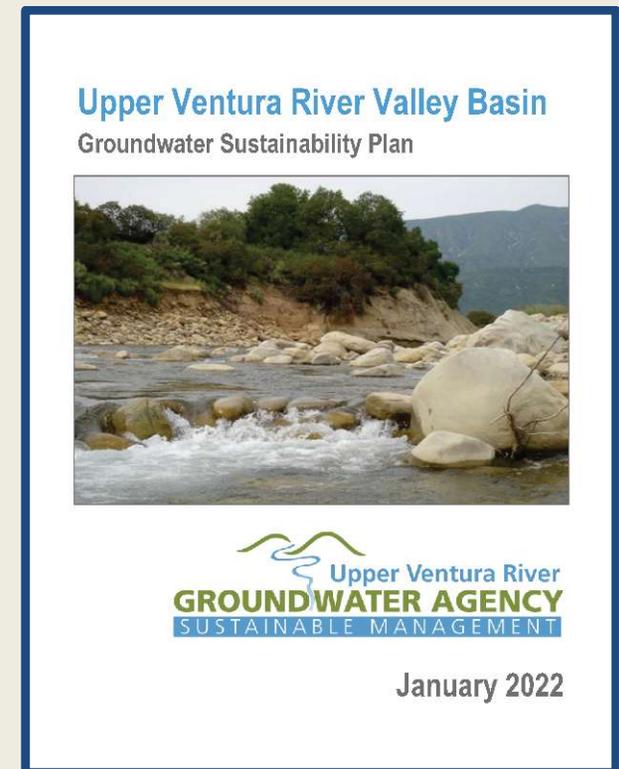
GSP RECAP & PE FOCUS AREAS



GSP CONTENTS

GSP Contents are per GSP Emergency Regulations:

- Executive Summary
- 1. Introduction to Plan Contents
- 2. Administrative Information
- 3. Basin Setting
- 4. Sustainable Management Criteria
- 5. Monitoring Networks
- 6. Projects and Management Actions
- 7. GSP Implementation



SECTION 1

INTRO TO PLAN CONTENTS

GSP

- **Contents**
 - SGMA Background
 - GSP Overview

- **Key Conclusions**
 - N/A

- **Actions**
 - N/A

Periodic Evaluation

- No new information
- No new information

SECTION 2

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

GSP

- **Contents**
 - GSA Description
 - Plan Area Description
 - Water Resource Programs

 - Land Use Info
 - Communications Plan
- **Key Conclusions**
 - N/A
- **Actions**
 - N/A

Periodic Evaluation

- No new information
- No new information
- 2025 Urban Water Management Plans

- No new information
- Stakeholder Engagement plan updates

SECTION 3

BASIN SETTING

GSP

- **Contents**
 - Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model
 - Historical Basin Conditions
 - Water Use / Water Budgets

- **Key Conclusions**
 - No historical land subsidence
 - Water quality not impacted by groundwater extractions
 - No chronic GW level declines
 - Basin has been and is projected to remain in balance

- **Actions**
 - None

Periodic Evaluation

- Basin thickness & channel update
- More recent monitoring data
- Updated water use projections

- Monitoring data further support
- Monitoring data further support

- Monitoring data further support
- Less pumping forecasted, further supporting basin balance projection

UPDATED PUMPING PROJECTIONS

- Projected groundwater pumping 8% less than GSP.
- Basin was already projected to be in balance.
- Updated water balance not necessary for this periodic evaluation.

Projected Normal / Wet Year Groundwater Extractions

Entity	GSP (AFY ¹)	Periodic Evaluation (AFY ¹)	Difference (AFY)	Difference (%)
Casitas MWD	188	188	0	0%
City of Ventura	4,200 ²	4,268 ³	68	+2%
Meiners Oaks Water District	924	700	(224)	-24%
Ventura River Water District	950	770	(180)	-19%
Private Wells	661	442	(219)	-33%
Total	6,923	6,367	(555)	-8%

Notes:

- (1) Values shown are for wet/normal years. Information was also collected for single and multiple dry years.
- (2) Assumed “settlement” protocols.
- (3) Assumes “Interim Order Protocols.”

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SECTION 4

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT CRITERIA

GSP

- Contents
 - Sustainability Goal
 - Sustainability Criteria for applicable sustainability indicators

- Key Conclusions
 - 4/6 sustainability indicators are applicable
 - Subsidence & seawater intrusion sustainability indicators not applicable

- Actions
 - Aquatic GDE monitoring to assess SMC
 - Domestic Well Survey

Periodic Evaluation

- No changes
- Review monitoring data compared to sustainability criteria

- Address DWR Recommended Corrective Actions
- Data continue to confirm inapplicability

- Document aquatic GDE findings
- Document Domestic Well Survey findings

SECTION 5

MONITORING NETWORKS

GSP

■ Contents

- Groundwater Level
- Groundwater Quality

- Surface Water Flow
- Land Subsidence
- GDEs

■ Actions

- Address data gaps

Periodic Evaluation

- Document implementation
- Document need to address gaps in sampling by others

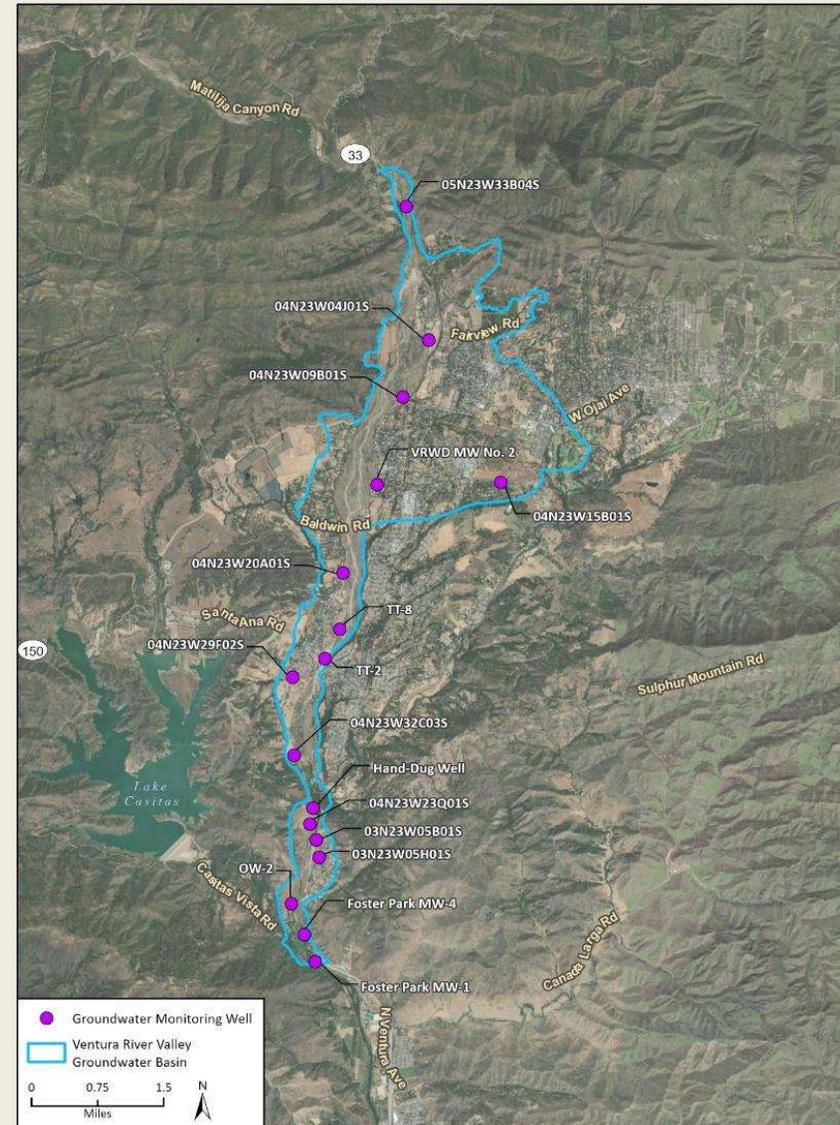
- Document implementation
- No changes anticipated
- Document implementation

- Monitoring networks built out; additional water quality sampling needed

GROUNDWATER LEVEL MONITORING NETWORK

17 Locations

- 14 equipped by UVRGA
- 3 equipped by owner



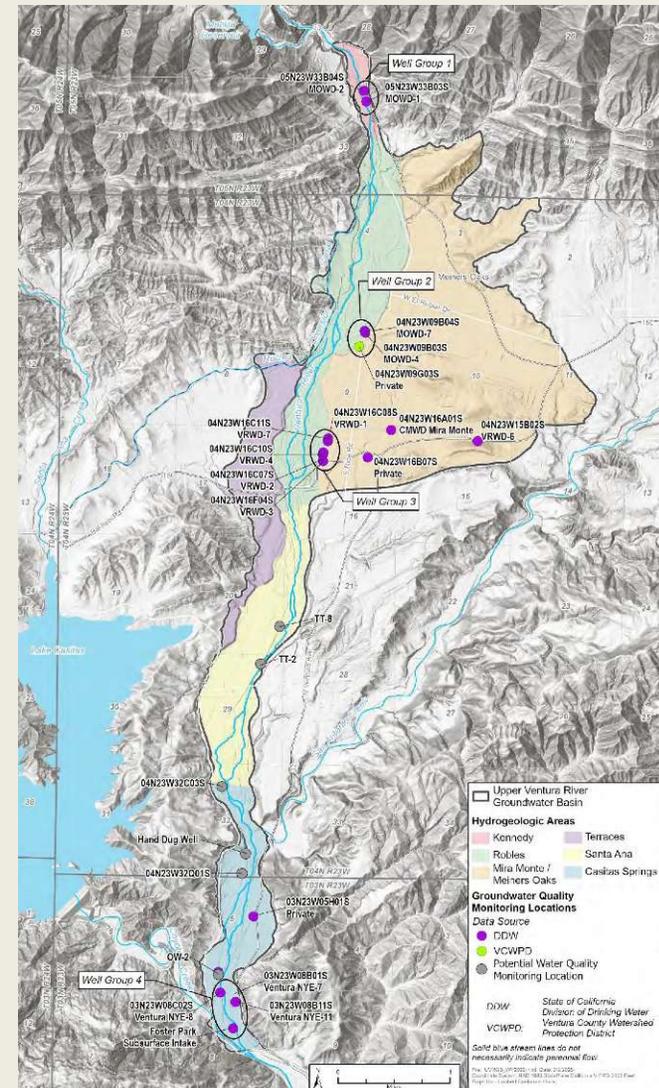
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Additional data provided by California Natural Resources Agency, 2020.

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GROUNDWATER QUALITY MONITORING NETWORK

8 Locations

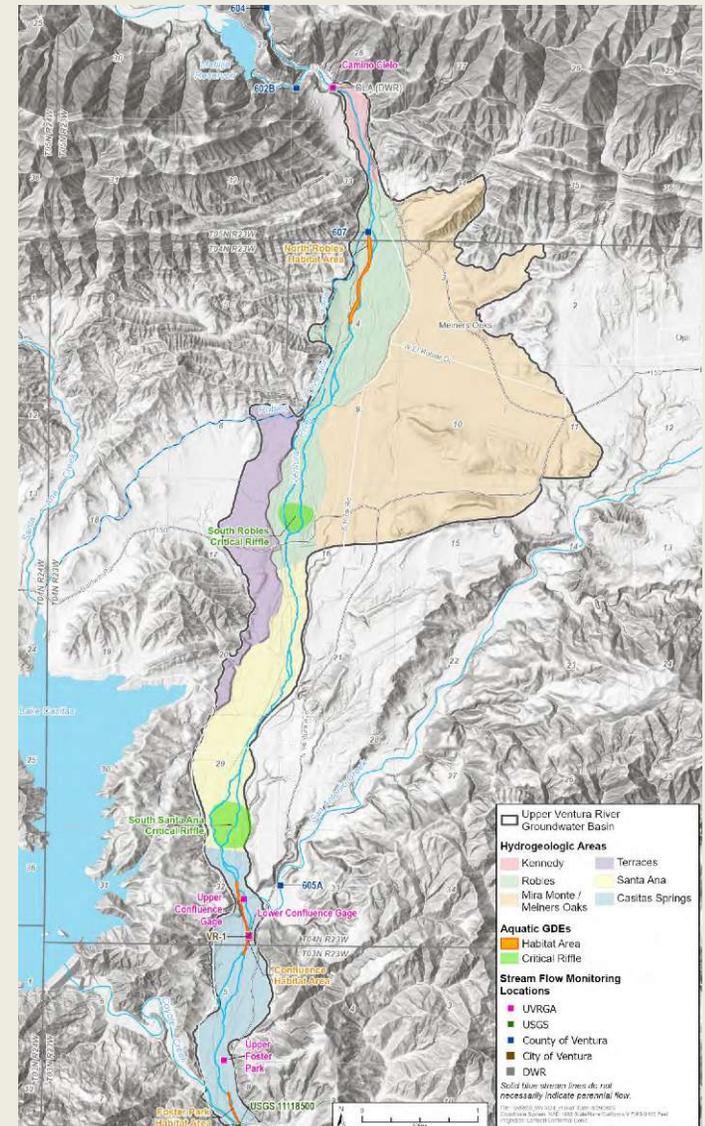
- Location is a single well or group of wells
- All sampled by others
- Some locations not sampled frequently
- UVRGA will need to supplement sampling



SURFACE WATER FLOW MONITORING NETWORK

10 Locations in GSP

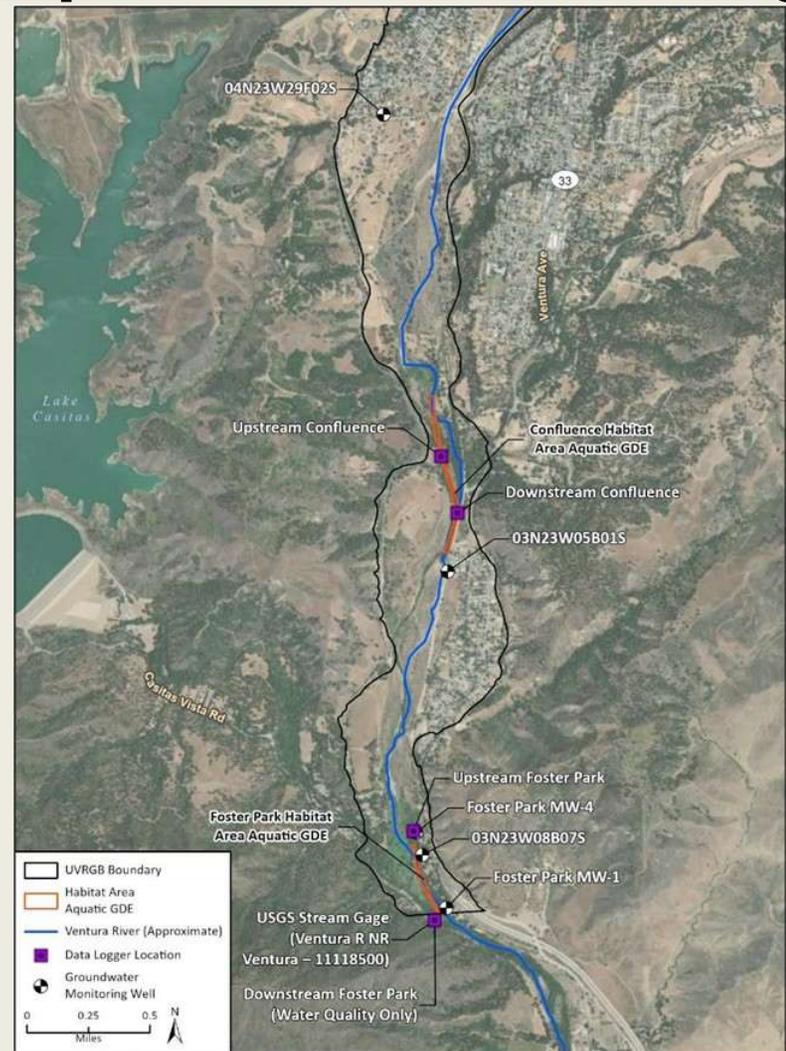
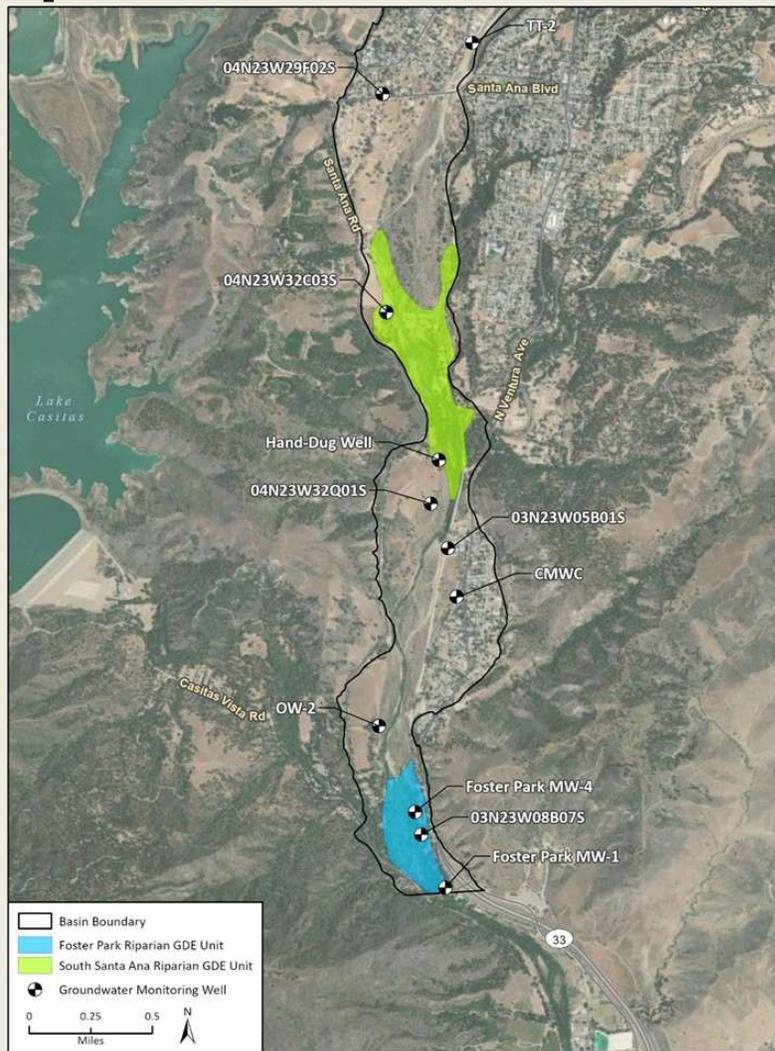
- 4 VCWPD
- 2 City of Ventura
 - One lost in flood
- 1 USGS
- 1 DWR
 - Deemed infeasible
- 2 UVRGA
 - Camino Cielo (DWR to take over)
 - SA Confluence
- Wet/dry mapping



GDE MONITORING NETWORKS

Riparian GDE Monitoring

Aquatic GDE Monitoring



SECTION 6

PROJECTS / MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

GSP

- **Contents**
 - Domestic Well Survey
 - Foster Park Protocols
 - Actions to Address Indirect Depletion
 - Groundwater Level and Stream Gage Data Gaps
 - Confluence Aquatic Habit Monitoring Study

Periodic Evaluation

- Completed
- Ongoing
- In progress

- Completed

- Ongoing

SECTION 7

GSP IMPLEMENTATION

GSP

- **Contents**
 - **GSP Implementation Costs**
 - **GSP Implementation Schedule**

Periodic Evaluation

- **Update costs and schedule based on latest information**



DWR
GSP
RECOMMENDED
CORRECTIVE
ACTIONS



GSP RECOMMENDED CORRECTIVE ACTION NO. 1

No.	Applicable Sustainability Indicator	DWR Recommended Corrective Action	Anticipated Response Approach
1a	Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels	Amend the quantitative definition of undesirable results to account for localized threshold exceedances or provide additional information to the GSP to support why undesirable results will not occur until minimum thresholds are exceeded in 100 percent of representative monitoring sites and clarify the time component in the definition.	Update framing based on new information from well registration process and Domestic Well Survey. Lay groundwork for potential future update of undesirable results definition concurrent with GSP update following adoption of physical solution.
1b	Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels	Revise the definition of undesirable results to remove the groundwater extraction condition or clearly explain how the Subbasin can be managed in a way where groundwater extractions would not contribute at all to a combination of threshold exceedances that lead to undesirable results.	Provide more framing and context to demonstrate where and under what conditions pumping can cause undesirable results. Lay groundwork for potential future update of undesirable results definition concurrent with GSP update following adoption of physical solution.
2	Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels	Implement the management action entitled, " <i>Domestic Well Survey</i> " to obtain additional information about domestic wells in the Subbasin. After the project is implemented, the GSA should identify the degree/extent of potential impacts including the percentage, number, and location of potentially impacted wells at the proposed minimum thresholds for chronic lowering of groundwater levels.	Document Domestic Well Survey results.
3a	Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water	Investigate and define what is considered significant and unreasonable conditions in the Confluence Aquatic Habitat Area. Establish sustainable management criteria consisting of the rate or volume of surface water depletions caused by groundwater use that will avoid those conditions in this portion of the Plan area.	Document Confluence Habitat Biological Monitoring Study results and need for continued monitoring to resolve whether significant and unreasonable conditions exist that are related to ISW depletion.

GSP RECOMMENDED CORRECTIVE ACTION NO. 1

No.	Applicable Sustainability Indicator	DWR Recommended Corrective Action	Anticipated Response Approach
3b	Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water	Consider utilizing the interconnected surface water guidance, as appropriate, when issued by the Department to establish quantifiable minimum thresholds, measurable objectives, and management actions.	DWR has not published the guidance document.
3c	Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water	Continue to fill data gaps, collect additional monitoring data, and implement the current strategy to manage depletions of interconnected surface water and define segments of interconnectivity and timing.	Document data gaps addressed.
3d	Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water	Prioritize collaborating and coordinating with local, state, and federal regulatory agencies as well as interested parties to better understand the full suite of beneficial uses and users that may be impacted by pumping induced surface water depletion within the GSA's jurisdictional area.	Document Stakeholder Engagement Plan update and focused outreach performed to listed entities.
4	Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water	Provide further discussion surrounding how the Foster Park Protocols and the settlement agreement may impact or limit the GSA's ability to manage groundwater in the Subbasin. Specifically, the GSA should describe how these existing agreements may temporarily modify operations within the subbasin and discuss any possible mitigation measures or actions that may be taken by the GSA in response.	Provide requested clarifications.

HOW TO STAY ENGAGED

- Track status at: <https://uvrgroundwater.org/>
- Submit comments at:
<https://uvrgroundwater.org/sgma-overview/>
(Comment form located at bottom of page)
- Join the UVRGA Interested Parties List:
<https://uvrgroundwater.org/join-interested-parties-list/>
- Email inquiries to: bbondy@uvrgroundwater.org



Q&A & COMMENTS

