

MEETING AGENDA



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Sustainable Groundwater Management Program (SGMP) SGMA Tribal Advisory Group

May 5, 2022, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Via Microsoft Teams: [Click here to join the meeting](#)
 Or call in (audio only): [+1 916-573-2034,,872017444#](#)
 Phone Conference ID: 872 017 444#
[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

Meeting Objectives

- Update on SGMP Activities
- Updates and Participation in Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Development
- Drought Assistance Update
- California Water Plan Update 2023
- Update on Harmful Algae Blooms

TIME	ITEM	PRESENTERS
1:00 p.m. 15 mins	Welcome & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions and Opening Remarks • Meeting Goals, Commitment, and Desired Outcomes 	Anecita Agustinez , DWR Tribal Policy Advisor Bo Mazzetti , Chairman Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians Paul Gosselin , Deputy Director, DWR SGM Office
1:15 p.m. 15 mins	SGMP Updates – <i>see Att.1 for more information and resources</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • California's Groundwater (Bulletin 118) • Program Overview and Public Comments on GSPs • Proposition 68 Technical Assistance Program Survey 	Brett Wyckoff , Tech. Assist. Senior Eng. Geologist, DWR SGM Office Paul Gosselin [Additional DWR staff TBD]
1:30 p.m. 30 mins	Tribal Updates and Participation in GSAs and GSP Development (Introductions, Solicit feedback on future meeting topics, etc.)	Facilitated by John Covington , Water Department Manager, Morongo Band of Mission Indians
2:00 p.m. 10 mins	Small Community Drought Relief Program – <i>see Att. 2 for more information</i>	Kevin Faulkenberry , Manager, DWR South Central Region Office
2:10 p.m. 10 mins	California Water Plan Update 2023 – <i>see Att. 3 for more information</i>	Kamyar Guivetchi , Manager, DWR Division of Planning
2:20 p.m. 10 mins	Update on Harmful Algae Blooms – <i>see Att. 4 for more information</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts to Vulnerable Communities and to Tribal Cultural Resources 	Rosemary Hartman , DWR Division of Integrated Science & Engineering [Additional DWR staff TBD]
2:30 p.m. 30 mins	Hosting Next Meetings and Open Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 4 and October 6 • Topics for next meeting 	Facilitated by Anecita Agustinez
3:00 p.m.	Adjourn	Facilitated by Anecita Agustinez



ATTACHMENT 1 – BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON DWR’S SGMP AND UPDATES

California's Groundwater (Bulletin 118)

[California’s Groundwater \(Bulletin 118\)](#) is the State’s official publication on the occurrence and nature of groundwater in California. The publication defines the groundwater basin boundaries and summarizes groundwater information for each of the State’s 10 hydrologic regions. With the passage of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in 2014, California’s Groundwater now serves an additional role by providing important information on groundwater basins including Critical Conditions of Overdraft, Basin Boundaries, and Basin Priority. This information can help local communities, community-based organizations, local water managers, and public officials work together to create solutions for the long-term reliability of groundwater.

DWR has also developed [California’s Groundwater Live](#) to improve the access and timeliness of groundwater data submitted by local agencies.

Statewide Groundwater Management Assistance

DWR will continue to provide [assistance](#) and guidance to locals throughout plan implementation under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

Planning Assistance

- **Basin Points of Contact/Regional Coordinators:** Each high- and medium- priority basins are assigned a Point of Contact (POC) and a Regional Coordinator (RC) from DWR Region Offices. POCs and RCs assist GSAs and stakeholders in the basin to [connect with DWR](#) and locate resources for assistance.
- **Facilitation Support Services (FSS):** Provides professional facilitators to help GSAs foster discussions among diverse water management interest groups. GSAs or other groups coordinating with the GSAs to develop and implement GSPs, are eligible to apply on a continuous basis using the following [link](#).
- **Written Translation Services (WTS):** Available to help GSAs, or other groups assisting in local SGMA implementation efforts, to communicate the groundwater planning activities with their non-English speaking constituents. GSAs or other groups coordinating with the GSAs to develop GSPs, are eligible to apply on a continuous basis using the following [link](#).
- **Communication and Engagement Toolkits:** [Available](#) to help the GSAs communicate and educate the public and interested parties in their basins about groundwater and SGMA.

Technical Assistance

- **Technical Support Services (TSS):** Provides DWR technical staff and drilling and other contractors to assist GSAs with the installation of dedicated groundwater monitoring wells and other monitoring stations to fill data gaps identified in the basins. For more information or help starting a TSS application, contact DWR’s Region Coordinators at sgmp_rc@water.ca.gov.
- **Data and Tools:** Statewide datasets and models have been developed to assist GSAs and the public by providing information to help with the development of GSP elements. The following datasets and tools have been made available:



Technical Assistance, continued

- Online interactive maps for the public to view and download SGMA datasets, now on CalGW Live: <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/CalGWLIVE/> and also on the [SGMA Data Viewer](#), including groundwater levels, wells, environmental, land use and subsidence data
 - The most up-to-date subsidence data, from January 2015 to October 2021, will be released February 2022 and will be reported out quarterly moving forward.
- For Central Valley basins, a [water resources management and planning model](#) that simulates groundwater, surface water, stream-groundwater interaction (C2VSim-FG) is available.
- [Aerial electromagnetic \(AEM\) surveys](#) flown by helicopter over basins provides data to understand basin conditions and inform where water can be applied to recharge the basin.
- **Guidance and Education:**
 - [Six Best Management Practices \(BMPs\) and five Guidance Documents](#) to provide clarification, guidance, and examples to help GSAs develop elements of a GSP.
 - [California's Groundwater Update](#): State's official publication on the occurrence and nature of groundwater in California.

Financial Assistance

Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program:

- **SGM Grant Program:** provides funds to develop and implement sustainable groundwater planning and projects.
- DWR released Final 2021 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation [Guidelines](#) and [Proposal Solicitation Package](#) (GL/PSP) on December 17, 2021 for at least two rounds of funding:
 - Round 1 will provide over \$150 million (M) to critically overdrafted basins for planning and implementation projects to help comply with SGMA. Solicitation began December 20, 2021 and closed February 25, 2022.
 - Round 2 anticipates making over \$200M available to high and medium priority basins for planning and implementation projects to help comply with SGMA. Solicitation is planned to open in fall 2022 with final awards in spring/summer 2023.
- For questions, please contact DWR's Financial Assistance Branch at SGWP@water.ca.gov.

Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Implementation Grant Program:

- **IRWM Grant Program:** provides funding for projects and programs that implement an IRWM Plan, including groundwater management projects. Approximately \$222M of Proposition 1 funding has been awarded in 2019/2020. Another \$192M in Proposition 1 funds will be available in 2021-2022 timeframe.
- For questions, please contact dwr_irwm@water.ca.gov.



TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

We want to hear from you!

DWR's Prop 68 Technical Assistance program provides community outreach, engagement and technical needs, risks and vulnerability assessments for prioritized water systems within Tribal Communities. Once these prioritized systems undergo the needs, risks, and vulnerability assessments, as related to the implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, preliminary engineering reports will be generated to scope out funding-ready projects.

We ensure effective communication and government-to-government consultation, creating a channel for Tribal Governments to provide input at all levels into the development of regulations, rules, policies, programs, projects, plans, property decisions, and activities that may impact Tribal Communities.



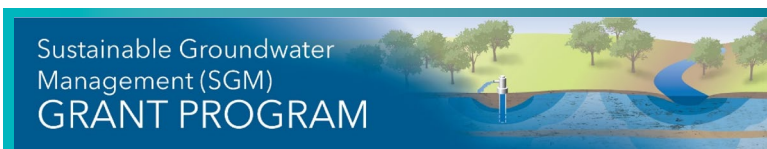
**GROUNDWATER NEEDS
ASSESSMENT SURVEY**

*Please scan the QR code
to participate.*



DWR is committed to open, inclusive, and regular communication with Tribal Governments and Communities to recognize and understand their needs and interests.

Within the State of California, Tribes, Tribal Governments, and Tribal Communities face multiple challenges regarding access to clean, affordable, and sustainable groundwater and water resources. Tribes, Tribal Governments, and Tribal Communities are disproportionately impacted by water supply and water quality challenges, such as overdraft in basins and contamination, that is either anthropogenic (created by human activities) or naturally occurring. Moreover, the Tribal cultural significance of water and water bodies is not often recognized by local, state, or federal governments, which presents challenges.



UNDERREPRESENTED COMMUNITIES

We want to hear from you!

Within the State of California, Underrepresented Communities face multiple challenges regarding access to clean, affordable, and sustainable groundwater and water resources. Underrepresented Communities are disproportionately impacted by water supply and water quality challenges, such as overdraft in basins and contamination, that is either anthropogenic (created by human activities) or naturally occurring. Moreover, the Underrepresented Community significance of water and water bodies is not often recognized by local, state, or federal governments, which presents challenges.



GROUNDWATER NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

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DWR is committed to open, inclusive, and regular communication with Underrepresented Communities to recognize and understand their needs and interests.

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DWR's Prop 68 Technical Assistance program provides community outreach, engagement and technical needs, risks and vulnerability assessments for prioritized water systems within Tribal Communities. Once these prioritized systems undergo the needs, risks and vulnerability assessments, preliminary engineering reports will be generated to scope out funding-ready projects.



Sustainable Groundwater
Management (SGM)
GRANT PROGRAM



ATTACHMENT 2 – BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON DWR’S DROUGHT RELIEF PROGRAMS

Small Community Drought Relief Program

The Small Community Drought Relief Program is one of DWR's Drought Relief Grant Programs that offers financial and technical assistance to small communities facing water supply challenges because of the current drought. The Program was authorized by the Legislature pursuant to the [Budget Act of 2021](#).

Funding:

Of the \$200 million allocated for the Small Community Drought Relief Program, a total of \$190 million in funding was made available for grants under this Program. DWR is currently accepting applications for eligible projects on a non-competitive first-come, first-served basis.

Program eligibility, how to apply, resources, and DWR’s related drought preparedness work can be found on the Program website: <https://water.ca.gov/Water-Basics/Drought/Small-Community-Drought-Relief>.

Please direct questions to: SmallCommunityDrought@water.ca.gov.

Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Grant Funding Program

Additionally, the Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Program is the second of DWR’s Drought Relief Grant Programs that offers financial assistance to address drought impacts through implementation of projects with multiple benefits:

- For communities, including Tribes, facing the loss or contamination of their water supplies due to the drought; and
- To address immediate drought impacts on human health and safety, and to protect fish and wildlife resources plus other public benefits, such as ecosystem improvements.

Funding:

Funding for the Program was authorized by the Legislature pursuant to the [Budget Act of 2021](#) and its Trailer Bill, [Assembly Bill 148](#); DWR was allocated \$100 million for Urban Communities and \$200 million for Multibenefit projects. The same Budget Act also authorized \$200 million for the Small Community Drought Relief Program.

Current opportunities/grant solicitation, program schedule, how to apply, and resources can be found on the Program website: <https://water.ca.gov/Water-Basics/Drought/Urban-Multi-Benefit-Drought>

Please direct questions to: urbandrought@water.ca.gov.



ATTACHMENT 3 – BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON CALIFORNIA WATER PLAN

California Water Plan

The California Water Plan is the State's strategic plan for sustainably managing and developing water resources for current and future generations. Required by Water Code Section 10005(a), it presents the status and trends of California's water-dependent natural resources; water supplies; and agricultural, urban, and environmental water demands for a range of plausible future scenarios.

Intended Outcomes of Update 2023

Update 2023 will:

- Promote Climate Change Adaptation
- Support California's Regions
- Strengthen Water Equity

The preparation of Update 2023 provides a venue for aligning State agencies tasked with implementing California's Water Resilience Portfolio (WRP). A cornerstone of Update 2023, the WRP, is the Administration's roadmap for California water management considering climate change, more extreme droughts and floods, rising temperatures, declining fish populations, groundwater overdraft, and other challenges. Update 2023 will advance a statewide vision, watershed resilience planning framework with strategies and toolkit, and indicators and metrics to track progress, sustainability, and resilience.

Update 2023 will also be informed by a diverse group of stakeholders. Engagement venues include:

- Core State Agency Team
- Policy Advisory Committee
- Tribal Advisory Committee
- Regional forums
- Topic and/or place-based workshops

You can contribute to updates.

- Visit our [Participation](#) page to learn about the various ways to take part.
- Subscribe to [California Water Plan eNews](#), our weekly electronic newsletter, for the latest information on the Water Plan.
- Read public comments.
- Submit your own comments.

Additional information about Update 2023 can be found in the [Update 2023 Brochure](#). Please direct any questions to the [Water Plan Team](#).



ATTACHMENT 4 – HARMFUL ALGAE BLOOMS

Algal Blooms

The California State Water Project (SWP), which is operated and maintained by the Department of Water Resources, spans 705 miles throughout California and offers a variety of recreational opportunities at several reservoirs. When blue-green algae, also known as cyanobacteria, are present in the waterways, DWR urges all recreational users to exercise caution and always avoid contacting algae. If the blue-green algae become a Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB), water activities will be impacted due to public safety concerns.

More information on algal blooms can be found at: <https://water.ca.gov/What-We-Do/Recreation/Algal-Blooms>

