



Attachment 4 consists of the following items:

✓ **Project description for development of the Temecula Valley Basin Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP)**

Below is a detailed description of the proposed project; how the project supports the goals and objectives of the District; how the District collaborates with other agencies in management of the Basin; how outreach will be implemented to inform agencies, stakeholders and the general public of the project; how well monitoring, modeling, monitoring equipment, and data management systems will be updated and maintained, and how the GWMP will be implemented and funded.

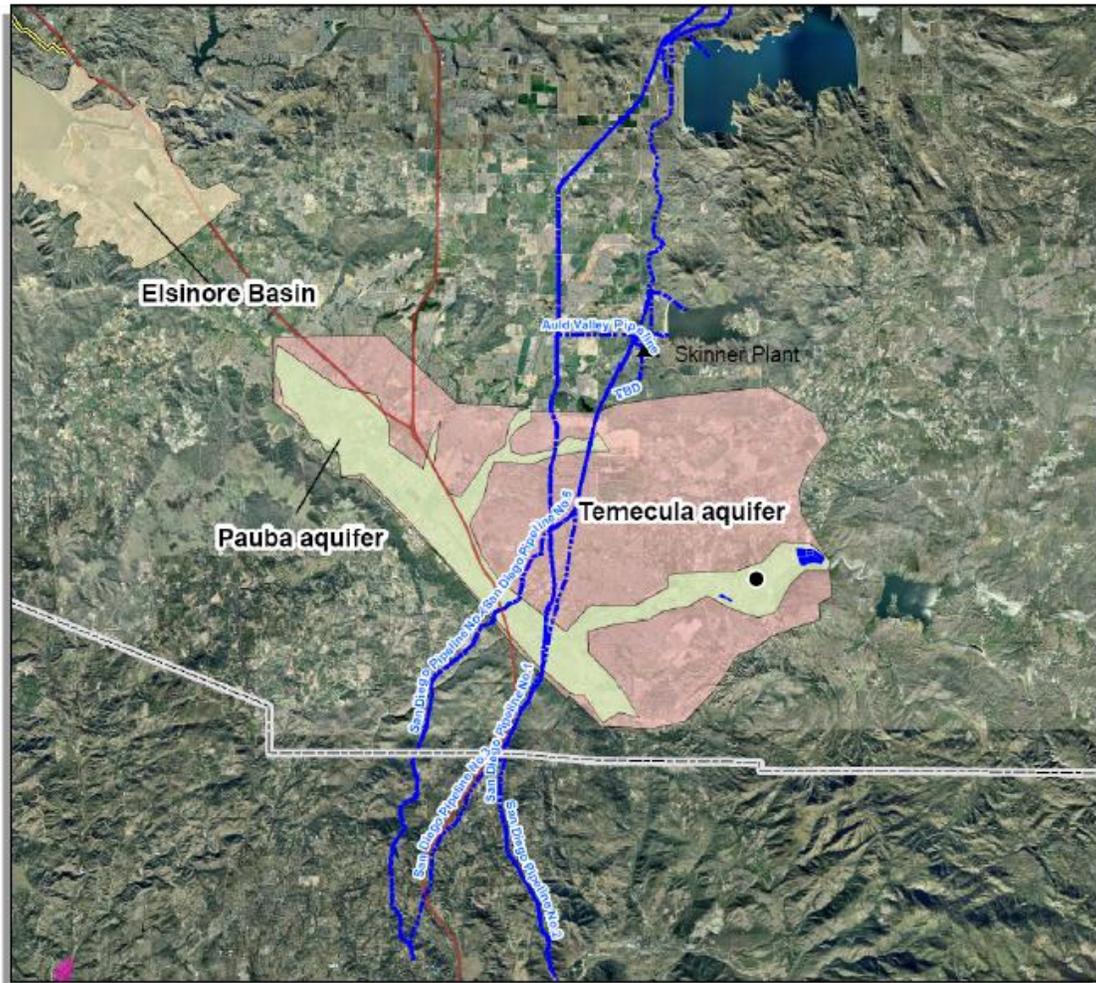
Development of the Temecula Valley Basin Groundwater Management Plan

The Project

Rancho California Water District (RCWD) proposes to develop the Temecula Valley Basin GWMP, identified as Groundwater Basin Number 9-05 in the Department of Water Resources Bulletin 118.

Since the Temecula Valley Basin (Basin) is currently managed by RCWD under judgments, permits, agreements through cooperation with multiple agencies, development of an AB 3030-compliant GWMP would organize these documents into one formally-adopted plan to manage the Basin for its safe production and its quality.

Figure 4-1 on the following page shows the general location of the Basin in southwest Riverside County. Figure 5-1 in Attachment 5 shows additional detail within the Basin area, including the RCWD service area boundary and major water features.



Temecula-Murrieta Basin



Figure 1
Temecula Valley Groundwater Basin

Support of Goals and Objectives of the GWMP

The following goals and objectives have been established for groundwater management in the Basin and will be consistent in the development of the GWMP:

Goals

- Provide a safe, reliable, and sustainable local water supply
- Reduce dependence on imported water
- Improve groundwater management
- Ensure water quality
- Enhance integrated regional water management (IRWM) for the Upper Santa Margarita Watershed (USMW)
- Educate residential and agricultural communities on water sources, quality and conservation

Objectives

- Guide the management of the Basin on a sustainable safe yield basis.
- Develop programs and projects to improve water quantity and quality in the Basin and outflow to Temecula Creek in coordination and consistency with the Santa Margarita River Watershed Watermaster, County of Riverside and the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).
- Identify specific programs and projects to affect optimum basin production.
- Develop optimum strategies for existing and future facilities, including wells, pumps, pipelines, and treatment systems, to treat and distribute groundwater.
- Describe and enhance the Basin monitoring program.
- Characterize standards for compliance with local, regional and statewide agencies.
- Identify, in coordination with the District's Regional Integrated Resources Plan (IRP), alternative methods for recharge and conjunctive use.
- Describe programs that address emergency or critical water shortage situations.
- Evaluate, in cooperation with multiple agencies, impacts of proposed developments, including the Temecula Valley Wine Country Community Plan, on groundwater quality.
- Evaluate, in coordination with the County of Riverside and the RWQCB, programs that address septic system use, maintenance and operations, and the potential for sewer systems.
- Incorporate and collaborate groundwater information into updates and implementation of the USMW IRWM Plan.
- Categorize an approach and methodology by conducting studies and analysis.
- Develop programs for municipal and industrial (M&I) and agricultural community involvement, outreach and education.

In addition, the GWMP would be consistent with the following *Guiding Principles and Key Strategic Objectives* of the District's 2010 Strategic Plan Update:

Reliability

Objective A: Reduce impact of regional water shortages; protect and increase sustainability of groundwater resources. Action: Prepare Groundwater Conjunctive Use Feasibility Report.

Quality

Objective I: Address planning for long-term salinity management/nutrient management. Action: Complete salt/nutrient management plan with regional partners by March 2014.

Objective J: Anticipate and comply with regulatory and environmental changes. Action: Evaluate impact of potential changes in water quality regulations on well production and cost of operations.

Objective K: Provide safe drinking water to customers by ensuring all current and anticipated drinking-water regulations are met or surpassed. Action: Drinking water regulatory compliance.

Stewardship

Objective M: Optimize real estate management (acquisition and use). Action: Investigate and acquire potential well sites as identified in the Integrated Resources Plan.

Customer and Community

Objective Z: Improve outreach to community, key stakeholders and local governments. Actions: Brief key stakeholders, local business groups, and local newspapers on water supply challenges, need for Delta solution, and RCWD's Integrated Resources Plan for local supplies.

Objective AA: Inform RCWD customers about water issues, water rates, policies and water efficiency assistance opportunities. Actions: Provide information in water bill mailer, newsletter, newspaper and other means; Assess opportunities to increase customer awareness on water supply conditions.

Collaboration with Other Agencies in Management of the Basin

RCWD will work cooperatively with the entities in the affected groundwater basin area toward bringing together the components of the legal and other documents listed in Attachment 3 that govern surface and groundwater management in the watershed into a single groundwater management plan, while understanding the governing Court documents and agreements remain the authoritative jurisdiction.

Agencies RCWD will collaborate with include Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD); Western Municipal Water District (WMWD); U.S. Marine Corps Camp Pendleton; Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians; Santa Margarita River (SMR) Watershed Watermaster (Watermaster) Steering Committee, which includes all of the aforementioned agencies as well as Fallbrook Public Utilities District (FPUD); private agricultural pumpers; and other interested stakeholders. The San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board and other state and federal agencies will also be invited to participate, as well as non-governmental organizations in the region. These agencies will be contacted by the project manager, who will explain the purpose of developing a GWMP, the importance of their participation in the process, and the time commitment anticipated.

RCWD will establish a Plan Development Team to bring together experts familiar with and producing groundwater from the Basin. A Plan Outreach Team will also be organized to in support of the Plan Development Team and to conduct outreach to stakeholders and the general public about the Plan development.

Outreach To Interested Agencies, Stakeholders and General Public

Outreach to inform groundwater users, stakeholders, and the general public will utilize existing methods established within RCWD and the Watermaster. This includes partnering with the Upper Santa Margarita Watershed Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Stakeholders workshops that are scheduled quarterly; regular meetings of the SMR Watermaster Steering Committee; and RCWD public outreach methods, including notification and information distribution through the RCWD website, press releases, fact sheets, community events, and other timely methods. Since these methods are continually being published or attended, proven to bring together multiple agencies to collaborate on various water planning topics, and are familiar to the target outreach audience, the use of these methods will prove effective and efficient.

All significant groundwater pumpers, as accounted for in the federal Case 1247 including those private agricultural pumpers in the Murrieta Valley area who were exercising overlying groundwater rights at the time, will be included in outreach efforts to participate in Plan development.

Monitoring, Modeling and Data Management Systems

As a result of the extensive litigation, the RCWD annual “Recommended Groundwater Production” report includes a comprehensive, high-quality groundwater model covering the area of the region’s watershed. The Basin will continue to be modeled and studied under the GWMP, which will include the following:

- Basin management objectives
- Monitoring and management of groundwater levels
- Monitoring of inelastic land surface subsidence
- Monitoring protocols
- Groundwater quality
- Surface flows and quality

RCWD has been working with GEOSCIENCE Support Services, Inc. for many years to conduct Basin modeling and prepare the annual “Recommended Groundwater Production” report. GEOSCIENCE reviews individual well production and historical hydrographs, while considering water levels from all production and monitoring wells. Hydrograph subareas and “index wells” representing water level changes in the subarea are used to formulate the production recommendation.

GWMP Implementation and Funding

The groundwater basin is currently managed by RCWD, and will continue to be under the Temecula Valley Basin GWMP. Development of the GWMP will enhance collaboration among the groundwater producers and stakeholders in the Basin for implementation of the GWMP. RCWD will continue to work collaboratively with WMWD to share and coordinate groundwater management data, jointly participate in the annual groundwater audit and budgeting activities, and work collaboratively with the Watermaster and other Basin stakeholders to identify projects and implement the GWMP.

RCWD will also continue to work cooperatively with the Watermaster to 1) manage the basin on a watershed-wide basis through the GWMP, utilizing the Court jurisdiction, the Annual Watermaster Report, groundwater management agreement, and cooperative water resource agreement, 2) implement projects through RCWD and/or the Upper Santa Margarita Watershed Planning Region Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, and 3) prepare an annual groundwater hydrogeologic assessment, "*Recommended Ground Water Production*", that will complement the GWMP to continuously guide the management of the Basin on a sustainable safe yield basis.

The RCWD annual operating budget includes funding for groundwater management, which will include funding for implementation of the GWMP.