



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DWR Secures Approval of SGMA Groundwater Basin Boundary Regulations *Nears Completion of First Major Milestone Implementing Landmark Groundwater Law*

SACRAMENTO –Implementation of the [Sustainable Groundwater Management Act](#) (SGMA) took an important step forward today as the California Water Commission (CWC) adopted the new [Department of Water Resources](#) (DWR) [groundwater basin boundary regulations](#). The regulations establish the process for local agencies to request DWR modify the boundaries of a groundwater basin or subbasin, a key provision of the landmark groundwater law signed by Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. last year.

These regulations specify the information required to comply with [Water Code 10722.2](#), which outlines the process that local agencies need to follow to request that DWR modify the boundaries of a groundwater basin, including subbasins or the creation of new subbasins. They also identify the methodology and criteria that will be applied by DWR when reviewing and approving the boundary modification requests. SGMA used the existing groundwater basin and subbasin boundaries in California based on [Bulletin 118](#), a comprehensive report on California groundwater resources that is periodically updated by DWR.

The new rules adopted today are the result of months of public input. On July 17, 2015, DWR released an initial public draft of the regulations, inviting public review and comment through September 4, 2015, and held three public meetings around the state. DWR reviewed and made revisions to the July 17 draft based on the public comments submitted and feedback from the CWC. The basin boundary regulations will now be sent to the [Office of Administrative Law](#) for processing, and DWR will begin accepting requests from local agencies for basin boundary modifications January 1, 2016.

For more information on the new regulations or California's existing groundwater basins and subbasins please visit: <http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/index.cfm>

This is the fourth year of California's drought. To learn about the actions the state has taken to manage our water systems and cope with the drought's impacts, visit [Drought.CA.Gov](#). Every Californian should take steps to conserve water. Find out how at [SaveOurWater.com](#).

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