



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DWR Publishes Best Management Practices for the Sustainable Management of Groundwater

SACRAMENTO – Local agencies and Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) can now reference DWR's [Best Management Practices \(BMPs\)](#) as they develop their plans to sustainably manage California's groundwater basins. DWR today published the BMPs, a series of five documents that provide regulatory clarification, technical guidance, and general examples to assist GSAs and inform local agencies and stakeholders. DWR was required to publish BMPs on its website by January 1, 2017, as required by the [Sustainable Groundwater Management Act \(SGMA\)](#).

Under SGMA, and as directed by regulation, local agencies and GSAs in high- and medium-priority groundwater basins are required to develop and implement Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) or alternatives to GSPs in accordance with the [GSP Regulations](#).

The BMPs cover five topics:

1. Monitoring Protocols, Standards and Sites
2. Monitoring Networks and Identification of Data Gaps
3. Hydrogeological Conceptual Model
4. Water Budget
5. Modeling

Public input has been essential to DWR's development of the BMPs. Beginning with an online survey in summer 2016, DWR solicited public opinion and comment that helped to develop the draft BMPs. In fall 2016, DWR held three public meetings and considered comments to garner feedback on the draft documents, which were used to inform the final BMPs published today.

In addition to the topics addressed in the BMPs, DWR also drafted Guidance Documents for topic areas unique to SGMA, including a preparation checklist for submitting a GSP to DWR and a GSP annotated outline. The BMPs and Guidance Documents are available for viewing and download on the [DWR website](#).

Every Californian should take steps to conserve water. Find out how at SaveOurWater.com.

