## CASGEM Program Accomplishments and Statistics

Cooperation between DWR and many local agencies has resulted in the following progress and accomplishments:

- Groundwater elevation monitoring data submitted
- DWR report to Legislature and Governor submitted
- CASGEM Online System developed and implemented
- Alternative Monitoring (AB 1152) integrated into CASGEM
- CASGEM Groundwater Basin Prioritization Process developed
- Outreach with local agencies continued

The following statistics reference basin priority, which is explained on the inside of this brochure and online at www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/casgem

As of December 1, 2013, the CASGEM Program has produced the following results:

- 152 basins, subbasins or portions of basins with a designated Monitoring Entity
- 71 unique designated Monitoring Entities
- Almost 100,000 groundwater elevation measurements submitted, including historical measurements prior to July 2011
- Statewide groundwater basins prioritization (draft results):
  - 46 High priority
  - 80 Medium priority
  - 35 Low priority
  - 354 Very Low priority
  - 58% of High and Medium priority groundwater basins are fully monitored under CASGEM
  - An additional 8% of High and Medium priority groundwater basins are partially monitored under CASGEM
  - 34% of High and Medium priority groundwater basins are not currently monitored under CASGEM

## Contact DWR


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## Feedback

Do you have comments or suggestions on the CASGEM Groundwater Basin Prioritization Process, Basin Summary results for your respective basin or data used to determine the basin ranking (e.g. irrigated acreage, volume of groundwater used)?

DWR invites you to email written comments by **February, 24th 2014** to:
Brett.Wyckoff@water.ca.gov

CASGEM

California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program

# CASGEM Overview and Next Steps

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) implemented the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) Program in response to legislation enacted in the California Water Code as part of California's 2009 Comprehensive Water package.

CASGEM establishes a permanent, locally managed program of regular and systematic groundwater level monitoring to track seasonal and long-term trends in groundwater elevations in all of California's 515 groundwater basins (as identified in DWR's Bulletin 118 update 2003) and makes this information readily available to the public.

The California Water Code (§10933 and §12924) requires DWR to prioritize California's groundwater basins and subbasins and conduct groundwater basin assessments. As such, DWR developed the CASGEM Groundwater Basin Prioritization Process.

For more information please visit the CASGEM Program website:
www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/casgem


**Department of Water Resources**
**California Natural Resources Agency**
**State of California**

December 2013

## What Is CASGEM Groundwater Basin Prioritization?

The CASGEM Groundwater Basin Prioritization (Basin Prioritization) is a statewide ranking of groundwater basin importance that incorporates groundwater reliance and focuses on basins producing greater than 90% of California's annual groundwater.

The results are a statewide assessment, therefore it is important to recognize the statewide findings are not intended to diminish the local importance of the smaller size or lower-use groundwater basins.

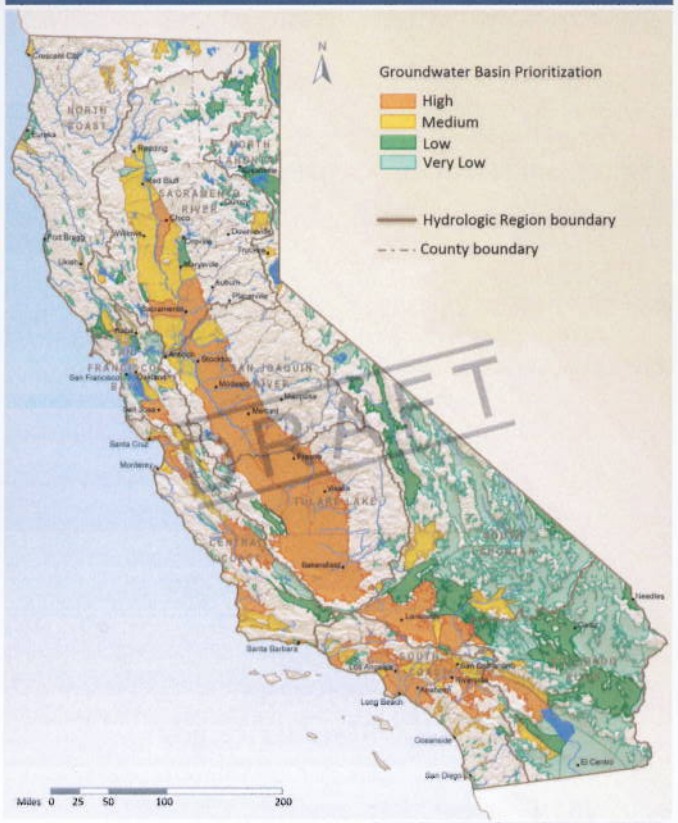
## Criteria and Analysis

The California Water Code (§10933 ) requires prioritization of California's groundwater basins using the following eight criteria:

1) Overlying population;
2) Projected growth of overlying population;
3) Public supply wells;
4) Total wells;
5) Overlying irrigated acreage;
6) Reliance on groundwater as the primary source of water;
7) Impacts on the groundwater; including overdraft, subsidence, saline intrusion, and other water quality degradation; and
8) Any other information determined to be relevant by the Department.

A complete description of the Basin Prioritization process is posted on the CASGEM program website: www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/casgem

## Draft Basin Prioritization Map (as of December 1, 2013)




Source: Department of Water Resources, CWP 2013

## Findings

Basin Prioritization findings indicate that 126 of California's 515 groundwater basins and subbasins are High and Medium priority. These basins account for 92% of California's annual groundwater pumping and supply 89% of the population which resides over groundwater basins. The remaining 388 basins are Low and Very Low priority and comprise 75% of the groundwater basins in the State.

## Draft Basin Prioritization Results (as of December 1, 2013)

| Basin Priority Ranking | Basin Count | Percent of Total | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Groundwater Use* | | Overlying Population* | |
| High | 46 | 68% | 92% | 69% | 89% |
| Medium | 80 | 24% | | 20% | |
| Low | 35 | 6% | 8% | 1% | 11% |
| Very Low | 354 | 2% | | 10% | |
| **Totals:** | **515** | **100%** | | **100%** | |

Note: * Estimated percentages are based on total groundwater use and population overlying all groundwater basin areas Statewide.

## Next Steps

- After receiving public comments, DWR will compile a list of the High and Medium priority groundwater basins/subbasins and if applicable, portions of basins that do not have a designated Monitoring Entity. DWR staff will prioritize working with agencies in these areas to identify and designate a Monitoring Entity to monitor the groundwater elevations in their respective groundwater basins.
- Basin Prioritization is being used to align resources in the implementation of the CASGEM Program. Due to limited resources, DWR will focus on the High and Medium priority groundwater basins first.
- DWR will continue to work with local agencies to designate Monitoring Entities in groundwater basins and subbasins that are currently not being monitored.
- It is anticipated that the list of High and Medium priority groundwater basins that are not monitored under the CASGEM program will be finalized in late March 2014. This list will be provided to State water grant programs. Although CASGEM is a voluntary program, not participating could result in ineligibility for a State water grant or loan. Grant eligibility will be determined by the respective grant program.