Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Newsletter No. 3 March 2021

Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), enacted January 2015, creates a new framework for groundwater management. The management plan developed by this process will regulate future groundwater use and will be completed in early 2022.

Check SantaYnezWater.org for schedule of Public Meetings and Workshops

The building blocks that inform a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) are:

Basin Setting

Characterizes the basin, evaluates and assesses current and historical conditions, and quantifies groundwater flows into and out of the basin.

Summarized through the Hydrological Conceptual Model, Groundwater Conditions, and Water Budget.

Drafts Completed

Numerical Groundwater Model

A computational method that represents an approximation of the hydrologic system.

A useful tool for estimating the potential hydrologic effects of proposed water management activities.

Pending

Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) Workshops

Emphasizing local control of groundwater management through public engagement.

Workshops are utilized to establish appropriate thresholds for undesirable results to develop a plan for sustainable groundwater management.

Coming Soon

Groundwater Sustainability Plan Sections

Plan Area and Basin Setting

- Description of the Plan Area
- Basin Setting

Sustainable Management Criteria

- Sustainability Goal
- Measurable Objectives
- Minimum Thresholds
- Undesirable Results
- Monitoring Network

Actions to Achieve Sustainability Goal

- Proposed Projects
- Proposed Management Actions

Plan Implementation

- Estimate of GSP Costs
- Schedule
- Annual Reporting
- Periodic Evaluations

The various DRAFT documents/chapters released for this plan will be compiled and form the larger GSP document as shown to the left. There are multiple opportunities for the public to comment on the chapters and full GSP before it is finalized in 2022.

For more information, meeting announcements, and to review and comment on draft documents, please visit



