

NOTICE AND AGENDA OF REGULAR MEETING

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
FOR THE WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER GROUNDWATER BASIN

REGULAR MEETING WILL BE HELD
AT 10:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2022

Remote participation available via ZOOM

Pursuant to AB361, Directors may participate in this meeting via teleconference.
The public can only participate via teleconference. There will be no public meeting location.

To access the meeting via telephone, please dial: 1-669-900-6833
And/or via the Web at: <http://join.zoom.us>

“Join a Meeting” - Meeting ID: 829 4100 0199 - Meeting Passcode: 578382

- You do NOT need to create a ZOOM account or login with email for meeting participation.
- If your device does not have a microphone or speakers, you can call in for audio with the phone number and Meeting ID listed above to listen and participate.
- In the interest of clear reception and efficient administration of the meeting, all persons participating remotely are respectfully requested to mute their line after logging or dialing-in and remain muted at all times unless speaking.

Video/Teleconference Meeting During Coronavirus (COVID-19) State of Emergency: As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting will be available via video/teleconference as recommended by Santa Barbara County Public Health and authorized by Government Code section 54953(e) (State Assembly Bill 361).

Important Notice Regarding Public Participation in Video/Teleconference Meeting: Those who wish to provide public comment on an Agenda Item, or who otherwise are making a presentation to the GSA Committee, may participate in the meeting using the remote access referenced above. **Those wishing to submit written comments instead, please submit any and all comments and materials to the GSA via electronic mail at bbuelow@syrwcd.com.** All submittals of written comments must be received by the GSA no later than **Tuesday, May 24, 2022**, and should indicate **“May 25, 2022 GSA Meeting”** in the subject line. To the extent practicable, public comments and materials received in advance pursuant to this timeframe will be read into the public record during the meeting. Public comments and materials not read into the record will become part of the post-meeting materials available to the public and posted on the SGMA website.

AGENDA ON NEXT PAGE

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
FOR THE WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER GROUNDWATER BASIN

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2022, 10:00 A.M.

AGENDA OF REGULAR MEETING

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Consider findings under Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to authorize continuing teleconference meetings under Resolution WMA-2021-001
- III. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda
- IV. Public Comment (Any member of the public may address the Committee relating to any non-agenda matter within the Committee’s jurisdiction. The total time for all public participation shall not exceed fifteen minutes and the time allotted for each individual shall not exceed five minutes. No action will be taken by the Committee at this meeting on any public item.) *Staff recommends any potential new agenda items based on issues raised be held for discussion under Agenda Item “WMA GSA Committee requests and comments” for items to be included on the next Agenda.*
- V. Review and consider approval of meeting minutes of February 23 and March 23, 2022
- VI. Review and consider approval of Financial Statements and Warrant List
- VII. Update on Executive Order N-7-22
- VIII. Update on Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Well Metering Program
- IX. Update on future governance/JPA/interim cost sharing and long-term funding for WMA expenses
- X. Update on change of GSA Financial Institution
- XI. Next Regular WMA GSA Meeting, Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 10:00 A.M.
- XII. WMA GSA Committee requests and comments
- XIII. Adjournment

[This agenda was posted 72 hours prior to the scheduled special meeting at 3669 Sagunto Street, Suite 101, Santa Ynez, California, and <https://www.santaynezwater.org> in accordance with Government Code Section 54954. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to review agenda materials or participate in this meeting, please contact the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District at (805) 693-1156. Notification 24 hours prior to the meeting will enable the GSA to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.]

MEETING MINUTES

Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Western Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin February 23, 2022

A regular meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Western Management Area (WMA) in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin was held on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. As a result of the COVID-19 emergency, this meeting occurred solely via teleconference as recommended by Santa Barbara County Public Health, as authorized by State Assembly Bill 361, and Resolution WMA-2021-001 (passed on 10/20/2021, reaffirmed 1/5/2022).

GSA Committee Directors Present: Jeremy Ball, Chris Brooks, Myron Heavin, and Steve Jordan

GSA Alternate Committee Directors Present: Ron Stassi, Kristin Worthley

Staff Present: Bill Buelow, Brad Hagemann, Kevin Walsh, and Matt Young

Others Present: Bryan Bondy, Ken DaMako, John Fio (EKI), Karen Kistler, Curtis Lawler (Stetson Engineers), and Charlie Witt

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

GSA Committee Chair Chris Brooks called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked Mr. Bill Buelow to call roll. A quorum was met with four Directors in attendance. Two Alternate Directors were also present.

II. Consider findings under Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to authorize continuing teleconference meetings under Resolution WMA-2021-001

Mr. Buelow explained that the reasonings for State Assembly Bill 361 and adoption of Resolution WMA-2021-001, passed on October 20, 2021, and reaffirmed on January 5, 2022, which authorized teleconference public meetings were still in effect. Discussion followed.

GSA Committee Director Steve Jordan made a MOTION to authorize continuing teleconference meetings under Resolution WMA-2021-001. GSA Committee Director Jeremy Ball seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

III. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

No additions or deletions were made.

IV. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

V. Discuss and consider appointment of WMA GSA Chair and Vice-Chair

The Committee Directors discussed assignment of Chair and Vice-Chair. GSA Director Myron Heavin made a MOTION for Chris Brooks to continue as Chair and to appoint Jeremy Ball as Vice-Chair. GSA Director Steve Jordan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VI. Review and consider approval of meeting minutes of November 17, 2021, December 8, 2021, and January 5, 2022

The minutes of the GSA Committee meetings on November 17, 2021, December 8, 2021, and January 5, 2022, were presented for GSA Committee approval.

GSA Committee Director Steve Jordan made a MOTION to approve the minutes of November 17, 2021, December 8, 2021, and January 5, 2022, as presented. GSA Director Myron Heavin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VII. Review and consider approval of Financial Statements and Warrant List

The GSA Committee reviewed the financial reports of FY 2021-22 Periods 4 through 6 (through December 31, 2021) and the Warrant Lists for October, November, and December 2021. Discussion followed.

GSA Director Myron Heavin made a MOTION to approve the financial reports and the Warrant List for October, November, and December 2021 Warrant Lists (Nos. 1038-1046) totaling \$55,234.68, as presented. GSA Director Steve Jordan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VIII. Review and consider approval of calendar of Regular GSA meetings for 2022 and location of Regular and Special Meetings

Mr. Buelow presented a list of Regular GSA meetings for the 2022 calendar year. He reported that the WMA GSA regularly meets on Wednesday morning of the fourth week in the second month of each quarter (February, May, August, and November) but the date in November could be difficult due to the Thanksgiving holiday. So, the November Regular meeting is proposed to be held one week earlier on November 16, 2022. Discussion followed. Directors provided unanimous consensus.

Mr. Buelow reminded everyone that WMA GSA meetings prior to the Covid-19 pandemic were held in person at the Lompoc Water Treatment Plant. He asked if that location would continue to work for the Committee once meetings are resumed to being held in person. GSA Committee Director Chris Brooks offered use of the Vandenberg Village Community Services District Conference Room as a back up location. Discussion

followed. Directors unanimously preferred to rotate the meeting location to available WMA GSA member agency sites.

IX. Consider approval of printing costs for public copies of the WMA GSP

Mr. Buelow reported the cost estimate to provide a color hard copy of the GSP which was submitted to DWR in January 2022 to the local public library (Lompoc Public Library and/or Vandenberg Village Public Library) is approximately \$500. Alternatively, at no-cost, a digital version can be shared with the public library and be available to the public at the library.

GSA Director Steve Jordan made a MOTION directing staff to wait on providing a printed copy of the current submitted version of the WMA GSP, with cost not to exceed \$500, until a specific request for a printed copy is received. GSA Director Chris Brooks seconded the motion. Discussion followed. GSA Director Steve Jordan withdrew the MOTION.

GSA Director Jeremy Ball made a MOTION directing staff to provide a printed copy of the current submitted version of the WMA GSP, with cost not to exceed \$500, at the Lompoc Public Library, with option to change location to the Vandenberg Village Public Library. GSA Director Chris Brooks seconded the motion and it passed 3-1-0 by roll call vote with GSA Director Myron Heavin voting NO.

X. Receive update from WMA CAG Meeting of February 4, 2022

Ms. Karen Kistler presented a Memorandum dated February 4, 2022, which she prepared on behalf of the WMA Citizen Advisory Group (CAG), summarizing the WMA CAG Workshop and Q & A on Future Governance Options held on February 4, 2022. Discussion followed.

Mr. Ken DaMako informed the GSA Committee about an offshore desalination plant option being researched for possible future installation by the Vandenberg Space Force Base as its primary water source and he offered to arrange a presentation by Seawell Water to the GSA Committee at a future meeting. Discussion followed.

XI. Receive cost update and presentation from Stetson on the First Annual Report for the WMA

Mr. Curtis Lawler, Stetson Engineers, reported that the WMA GSP was submitted to DWR in January and showed those present how to access and comment on the GSP through the DWR website.

He presented a summary of the Draft WMA First Annual Report for Water Year 2021, dated February 2022. The presentation provided an overview of the GSP chapters, Annual Report sections, and a schedule of tasks for the remainder of Water Year 2022. The scope of the Annual Report covers Water Year 2021, summarizing data collected October 2020 through September 2021. It describes the GSAs progress towards implementing the GSP and sustainability. It also complies with the SGMA statute to

provide groundwater elevation data, annual aggregated data identifying groundwater extraction for the preceding water year, surface water supply used for or available for use for groundwater recharge or in-lieu use, total water use, and change in groundwater storage. Mr. Lawler provided suggestions to address certain data gaps. Discussion followed.

GSA Committee Director Jeremy Ball asked for a prioritization of the WMA GSP Implementation Projects including designation as to which are required by the State for the GSA Committee to be cost effective. Mr. Lawler responded that the SGMA groundwater management is self-determined by the GSA but that the State can step in if they determine the GSA is not doing a good job. No action was taken.

XII. Update and discussion on future governance, JPA, future projects, and funding for WMA expenses

Mr. Buelow reported that staff and attorneys from all eight basin-wide member agencies recently participated in a meeting to discuss future governance that resulted in some good agreement on key ideals. There was agreement that decisions on implementing the GSPs should remain at the individual GSA level while, to the extent possible, utilize economies of scale for cost savings. County Counsel agreed to take the ideas discussed by the group and craft a future governance model for consideration and further discussion. The group agreed that the attorneys of the member agencies should meet separately to discuss legal details including migrating the current Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) structure that created the GSA to now form each GSA as an entity through a JPA and with possibly an umbrella JPA linking the three GSA entities together. More meetings of the groups are expected with intent to report back to the committees on the progress at a future meeting. Discussion followed.

GSA Committee Director Jeremy Ball asked staff to provide a process to define the cost projection of proposed future governance options, provide any GSP related tasks currently performed by one of the member agencies in lieu of customizing tasks, anticipation of constituent reception of a potential “pump tax”. He reported that the City of Lompoc has researched funding options and provided information that was gathered. Discussion followed.

XIII. Review possible change of GSA Financial Institution

Mr. Buelow informed the GSA Committee that WMA GSA banking account may be moved to a new bank. As the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (Parent District) owns the banking account for benefit of the WMA GSA at Mechanics Bank and the Parent District Board of Directors will be considering changing all of their owned accounts from Mechanics Bank to Five Star Bank at its upcoming March 9, 2022 meeting. Discussion followed. No action was taken.

XIV. Consider Special WMA GSA Meeting Wednesday, March 23, 2022, at 10:00 A.M.

Mr. Buelow reported that a WMA GSA Special Meeting will be scheduled for Wednesday, March 23, 2022, remote participation only, for the GSA Committee to review the final Annual Report and consider acceptance and submittal to DWR.

XV. Next Regular WMA GSA Meeting, Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at 10:00 A.M.

Mr. Buelow announced the next regular WMA GSA meeting will be Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., via remote participation.

XVI. CMA GSA Committee requests and comments

Discussed in Item X, GSA Committee Directors, by consensus, requested that staff arrange for a 15-minute maximum presentation by Seawell Water be scheduled for a future meeting regarding a possible future installation of an offshore desalination plant by the Vandenberg Space Force Base.

GSA Committee Director Myron Heavin asked if there are any special reports by state grants funding available to all agencies for GSP implementation.

XVII. Adjournment

GSA Director Chris Brooks adjourned the meeting at 12:29 p.m.

Chris Brooks, Chair

William J. Buelow, Secretary

MEETING MINUTES

Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Western Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin March 23, 2022

A special meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Western Management Area (WMA) in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin was held on Wednesday, March 23, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. As a result of the COVID-19 emergency, this meeting occurred solely via teleconference as recommended by Santa Barbara County Public Health, as authorized by State Assembly Bill 361, and Resolution WMA-2021-001 (passed on 10/20/2021, reaffirmed 2/23/2022).

GSA Committee Directors Present: Jeremy Ball, Chris Brooks, Myron Heavin, Steve Jordan, and Meighan Diethofer (Acting Alternate)

GSA Alternate Committee Directors Present: Art Hibbits, Ron Stassi, Kristin Worthley

Staff Present: Joe Barget, Bill Buelow, Marliez Diaz, Brad Hagemann, Amber Thompson, Kevin Walsh, and Matt Young

Others Present: Matt Brady, Doug Circle, John Fio (EKI), Curtis Lawler (Stetson Engineers), Miles McCammon (Stetson Engineers), and Derek McLeish

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

GSA Committee Chair Chris Brooks called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked Mr. Bill Buelow to call roll. A quorum was met with four GSA Committee Directors in attendance plus one non-voting GSA Acting Alternate Director. Three Alternate Directors were also present.

Mr. Buelow welcomed and introduced Ms. Marliez Diaz, a new staff member with the Santa Barbara County Water Agency who was hired to assist with SGMA matters in the County.

II. Consider findings under Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to authorize continuing teleconference meetings under Resolution WMA-2021-001

Mr. Buelow explained that the reasonings for State Assembly Bill 361 and adoption of Resolution WMA-2021-001, passed on October 20, 2021, and reaffirmed on February 23, 2022, which authorized teleconference public meetings were still in effect. Discussion followed.

GSA Committee Director Myron Heavin made a MOTION to authorize continuing teleconference meetings under Resolution WMA-2021-001. GSA Committee Director Jeremy Ball seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

III. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

No additions or deletions were made.

IV. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

V. Receive Draft First Annual Report for the Western Management Area of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (WMA AR)

Mr. Curtis Lawler, Stetson Engineers, presented a summary of the Draft WMA First Annual Report for Water Year 2021, dated March 2022. The scope of the Annual Report covers Water Year 2021, summarizes data collected through September 2021, and describes progress towards implementing the GSP. Discussion followed.

GSA Committee Director Steve Jordan expressed concern with interpretations of SGMA definitions and technicalities of brackish water versus seawater intrusion in the WMA. Discussion continued.

GSA Committee Director Myron Heavin made a MOTION to accept the First Annual Report, as presented or with non-substantive corrections, and submit the report to DWR. GSA Committee Director Steve Jordan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VI. Discuss and consider requesting staff to develop well registration and metering program for WMA

Mr. Buelow introduced the GSP implementation tasks of well registration and metering or alternative measurement programs. He emphasized the importance of consistency in technical meter and installation requirements across all three GSAs within the Basin and provide a clear, smooth transition with costs defrayed. He advised that the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (District) has a well registration program and the Santa Barbara County Water Agency staff offered to review the measure and meter requirements in California, and with approval from the County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors, developed the Well Monitoring Assistance Program (WMAAP) providing funding to offset up to \$500 of the equipment cost of qualifying water meters. Discussion followed.

Ms. Diaz explained the rebate program and the eligibility rules including that the GSA must encourage or require metering. Discussion followed.

GSA Committee Director Jeremy Ball made a MOTION directing staff to develop options for a well registration and either a metering program or other measurement options

for the Western Management Area GSA Committee Director Steve Jordan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VII. Update and discussion on future governance

Mr. Buelow reported that staff and attorneys in all three management areas from all eight basin-wide member agencies have participated together in a few meetings, attorneys from all eight member agencies have met separately and each GSA staff and attorney groups have also met together to discuss future governance. He reported that member agency staff together with respective legal counsel are working on a draft Joint Powers Agreement, concepts on interim cost sharing and comparison of costs for different future governance model options. The future governance model options take into consideration direction and suggestions received from the GSA Committee and CAGs including to keep away from top-heavy organization, keep costs low for the constituents, consider where costs can be shared among the three GSAs while maintain local control of implementation of the GSPs. Extensive discussion followed.

GSA Committee Director Chris Brooks asked about different future governance options that can be considered. GSA Committee Director Jeremy Ball requested staff create line-item budget details on different future governance options to aid in decision making. Discussion continued.

VIII. Next Regular WMA GSA Meeting, Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at 10:00 A.M.

Mr. Buelow announced the next regular WMA GSA meeting will be Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. via remote participation, as requested by Committee.

IX. WMA GSA Committee requests and comments

Mr. Buelow announced there is a press release regarding the Santa Ynez Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plans Approved written and submitted by County staff that was published in the March 15, 2022, edition Santa Ynez Star.

X. Adjournment

GSA Committee Chair Chris Brooks adjourned the meeting at 12:39 p.m.

Chris Brooks, Chair

William J. Buelow, Secretary

SYRWCD WMA
BALANCE SHEET
MARCH 31, 2022

Assets

Current Assets

Mechanics Bank #8301	\$41,236.77	
Other Current Assets	1,000.00	

TOTAL Current Assets		42,236.77

TOTAL Assets		\$42,236.77
		=====

Liabilities AND Equity

TOTAL Liabilities		-----
		.00

Net Position

Retained Earnings	143,038.46	
Retained Earnings-Current Year	(100,801.69)	

TOTAL Net Position		42,236.77

TOTAL Liabilities AND Equity		\$42,236.77
		=====

SYRWCD WMA
INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE 9 PERIODS ENDED MARCH 31, 2022

	QUARTER TO DATE		YEAR TO DATE	
	ACTUAL	DATE PERCENT	ACTUAL	DATE PERCENT
Revenue:				
Revenue				
Operating Assessments	\$23,100.00	100.0 %	76,774.00	100.0
TOTAL Revenue	23,100.00	100.0	76,774.00	100.0
TOTAL Revenue	23,100.00	100.0	76,774.00	100.0
Gross Profit	23,100.00	100.0	76,774.00	100.0
Expenses:				
Operating Expenses				
Outside Staff Support	150.00	.6	450.00	.6
Public Relations	31.54	.1	476.77	.6
TOTAL Operating Expenses	181.54	.8	926.77	1.2
Consultants				
General Consultant	1,528.00	6.6	1,528.00	2.0
Stakeholder Engagement	921.00	4.0	12,231.00	15.9
GSP - DMS	118.00	.5	147.50	.2
GSP - HCM	.00	.0	2,334.50	3.0
GSP - Water Budget, GW Models	59.00	.3	4,924.50	6.4
GSP - Monitor/Measure	.00	.0	5,600.50	7.3
GSP - Sustainable Mgt Criteria	.00	.0	9,589.00	12.5
GSP - Projects/Mgt Actions	.00	.0	15,084.25	19.6
GSP - GSP Doc	39,294.22	170.1	88,589.89	115.4
GSP - AEM Survey	.00	.0	32,396.78	42.2
Annual Report	4,223.00	18.3	4,223.00	5.5
TOTAL Consultants	46,143.22	199.8	176,648.92	230.1
TOTAL Expenses	46,324.76	200.5	177,575.69	231.3
Net Income from Operations	(23,224.76)	(100.5)	(100,801.69)	(131.3)
Earnings before Income Tax	(23,224.76)	(100.5)	(100,801.69)	(131.3)
Net Income (Loss)	\$(23,224.76)	(100.5)%	(100,801.69)	(131.3)

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FOR THE
WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA (WMA)
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN**

JANUARY 2022 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1047	01/04/22	Santa Barbara News Press	Legal Notice of January 5, 2022 Public Hearing on GSP (12/17 & 12/24/21 publications) (1/3 of total paid per GSA)	\$ 31.54
1048	01/04/22	Stetson Engineers	November 2021 Engineering Service (Task Order #1)	\$ 17,628.60
1049	01/04/22	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District	Stetson Engineers, Engineering Service (October 2021) Technical Memo: Lompoc Upland GW Conditions	\$ 1,528.00
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 19,188.14

FEBRUARY 2022 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1050	02/08/22	Stetson Engineers	December 2021 Engineering Service (Task Order #1 & Annual Report)	\$ 14,927.12
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 14,927.12

MARCH 2022 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1051		VOID	VOID - printing error	\$ -
1052	03/09/22	Stetson Engineers	January 2022 Engineering Service (Task Order #1 & Annual Report)	\$ 12,059.50
1053	03/09/22	Valley Bookkeeping	2022 1st Quarter Bookkeeping (January, February, March 2022)	\$ 150.00
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 12,209.50

TOTAL THIS QUARTER: \$ 46,324.76

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-7-22

WHEREAS on April 12, 2021, May 10, 2021, July 8, 2021, and October 19, 2021, I proclaimed states of emergency that continue today and exist across all the counties of California, due to extreme and expanding drought conditions; and

WHEREAS climate change continues to intensify the impacts of droughts on our communities, environment, and economy, and California is in a third consecutive year of dry conditions, resulting in continuing drought in all parts of the State; and

WHEREAS the 21st century to date has been characterized by record warmth and predominantly dry conditions, and the 2021 meteorological summer in California and the rest of the western United States was the hottest on record; and

WHEREAS since my October 19, 2021 Proclamation, early rains in October and December 2021 gave way to the driest January and February in recorded history for the watersheds that provide much of California's water supply; and

WHEREAS the ongoing drought will have significant, immediate impacts on communities with vulnerable water supplies, farms that rely on irrigation to grow food and fiber, and fish and wildlife that rely on stream flows and cool water; and

WHEREAS the two largest reservoirs of the Central Valley Project, which supplies water to farms and communities in the Central Valley and the Santa Clara Valley and provides critical cold-water habitat for salmon and other anadromous fish, have water storage levels that are approximately 1.1 million acre-feet below last year's low levels on this date; and

WHEREAS the record-breaking dry period in January and February and the absence of significant rains in March have required the Department of Water Resources to reduce anticipated deliveries from the State Water Project to 5 percent of requested supplies; and

WHEREAS delivery of water by bottle or truck is necessary to protect human safety and public health in those places where water supplies are disrupted; and

WHEREAS groundwater use accounts for 41 percent of the State's total water supply on an average annual basis but as much as 58 percent in a critically dry year, and approximately 85 percent of public water systems rely on groundwater as their primary supply; and

WHEREAS coordination between local entities that approve permits for new groundwater wells and local groundwater sustainability agencies is important to achieving sustainable levels of groundwater in critically overdrafted basins; and

WHEREAS the duration of the drought, especially following a multiyear drought that abated only five years ago, underscores the need for California to redouble near-, medium-, and long-term efforts to adapt its water management and delivery systems to a changing climate, shifting precipitation patterns, and water scarcity; and

WHEREAS the most consequential, immediate action Californians can take to extend available supplies is to voluntarily reduce their water use by 15 percent from their 2020 levels by implementing the commonsense measures identified in operative paragraph 1 of Executive Order N-10-21 (July 8, 2021); and

WHEREAS to protect public health and safety, it is critical the State take certain immediate actions without undue delay to prepare for and mitigate the effects of the drought conditions, and under Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Proclamation would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the drought conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, Government Code sections 8567, 8571, and 8627, do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The orders and provisions contained in my April 21, 2021, May 10, 2021, July 8, 2021, and October 19, 2021 Proclamations remain in full force and effect, except as modified by those Proclamations and herein. State agencies shall continue to implement all directions from those Proclamations and accelerate implementation where feasible.
2. To help the State achieve its conservation goals and ensure sufficient water for essential indoor and outdoor use, I call on all Californians to strive to limit summertime water use and to use water more efficiently indoors and out. The statewide Save Our Water conservation campaign at SaveOurWater.com provides simple ways for Californians to reduce water use in their everyday lives. Furthermore, I encourage Californians to understand and track the amount of water they use and measure their progress toward their conservation goals.
3. By May 25, 2022, the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) shall consider adopting emergency regulations that include all of the following:
 - a. A requirement that each urban water supplier, as defined in section 10617 of the Water Code, shall submit to the Department of Water Resources a preliminary annual water supply and demand assessment consistent with section 10632.1 of the Water Code no later than June 1, 2022, and submit a final annual water

supply and demand assessment to the Department of Water Resources no later than the deadline set by section 10632.1 of the Water Code;

- b. A requirement that each urban water supplier that has submitted a water shortage contingency plan to the Department of Water Resources implement, at a minimum, the shortage response actions adopted under section 10632 of the Water Code for a shortage level of up to twenty percent (Level 2), by a date to be set by the Water Board; and
- c. A requirement that each urban water supplier that has not submitted a water shortage contingency plan to the Department of Water Resources implement, at a minimum, shortage response actions established by the Water Board, which shall take into consideration model actions that the Department of Water Resources shall develop for urban water supplier water shortage contingency planning for Level 2, by a date to be set by the Water Board.

To further conserve water and improve drought resiliency if the drought lasts beyond this year, I encourage urban water suppliers to conserve more than required by the emergency regulations described in this paragraph and to voluntarily activate more stringent local requirements based on a shortage level of up to thirty percent (Level 3).

- 4. To promote water conservation, the Department of Water Resources shall consult with leaders in the commercial, industrial, and institutional sectors to develop strategies for improving water conservation, including direct technical assistance, financial assistance, and other approaches. By May 25, 2022, the Water Board shall consider adopting emergency regulations defining "non-functional turf" (that is, a definition of turf that is ornamental and not otherwise used for human recreation purposes such as school fields, sports fields, and parks) and banning irrigation of non-functional turf in the commercial, industrial, and institutional sectors except as it may be required to ensure the health of trees and other perennial non-turf plantings.
- 5. In order to maximize the efficient use of water and to preserve water supplies critical to human health and safety and the environment, Public Resources Code, Division 13 (commencing with section 21000) and regulations adopted pursuant to that Division are hereby suspended, with respect to the directives in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Order and any other projects and activities for the purpose of water conservation to the extent necessary to address the impacts of the drought, and any permits necessary to carry out such projects or activities. Entities that desire to conduct activities under this suspension, other than the directives in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Order, shall first request that the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency make a determination that the proposed activities are eligible to be conducted under this suspension. The Secretary shall use sound discretion in applying this Executive Order to ensure that the suspension serves the purpose of accelerating conservation projects that are necessary to address impacts of the drought, while at the same time

protecting public health and the environment. The entities implementing these directives or conducting activities under this suspension shall maintain on their websites a list of all activities or approvals for which these provisions are suspended.

6. To support voluntary approaches to improve fish habitat that would require change petitions under Water Code section 1707 and either Water Code sections 1425 through 1432 or Water Code sections 1725 through 1732, and where the primary purpose is to improve conditions for fish, the Water Board shall expeditiously consider petitions that add a fish and wildlife beneficial use or point of diversion and place of storage to improve conditions for anadromous fish. California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 1064, subdivisions (a)(1)(A)(i)-(ii) are suspended with respect to any petition that is subject to this paragraph.
7. To facilitate the hauling of water for domestic use by local communities and domestic water users threatened with the loss of water supply or degraded water quality resulting from drought, any ordinance, regulation, prohibition, policy, or requirement of any kind adopted by a public agency that prohibits the hauling of water out of the water's basin of origin or a public agency's jurisdiction is hereby suspended. The suspension authorized pursuant to this paragraph shall be limited to the hauling of water by truck or bottle to be used for human consumption, cooking, or sanitation in communities or residences threatened with the loss of affordable safe drinking water. Nothing in this paragraph limits any public health or safety requirement to ensure the safety of hauled water.
8. The Water Board shall expand inspections to determine whether illegal diversions or wasteful or unreasonable use of water are occurring and bring enforcement actions against illegal diverters and those engaging in the wasteful and unreasonable use of water. When access is not granted by a property owner, the Water Board may obtain an inspection warrant pursuant to the procedures set forth in Title 13 (commencing with section 1822.50) of Part 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure for the purposes of conducting an inspection pursuant to this directive.
9. To protect health, safety, and the environment during this drought emergency, a county, city, or other public agency shall not:
 - a. Approve a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well in a basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and classified as medium- or high-priority without first obtaining written verification from a Groundwater Sustainability Agency managing the basin or area of the basin where the well is proposed to be located that groundwater extraction by the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in any applicable Groundwater Sustainability Plan adopted by that Groundwater Sustainability

Agency and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by such a plan; or

- b. Issue a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well without first determining that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well is (1) not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and (2) not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

This paragraph shall not apply to permits for wells that will provide less than two acre-feet per year of groundwater for individual domestic users, or that will exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code.

10. To address household or small community drinking water shortages dependent upon groundwater wells that have failed due to drought conditions, the Department of Water Resources shall work with other state agencies to investigate expedited regulatory pathways to modify, repair, or reconstruct failed household or small community or public supply wells, while recognizing the need to ensure the sustainability of such wells as provided for in paragraph 9.
11. State agencies shall collaborate with tribes and federal, regional, and local agencies on actions related to promoting groundwater recharge and increasing storage.
12. To help advance groundwater recharge projects, and to demonstrate the feasibility of projects that can use available high water flows to recharge local groundwater while minimizing flood risks, the Water Board and Regional Water Quality Control Boards shall prioritize water right permits, water quality certifications, waste discharge requirements, and conditional waivers of waste discharge requirements to accelerate approvals for projects that enhance the ability of a local or state agency to capture high precipitation events for local storage or recharge, consistent with water right priorities and protections for fish and wildlife. For the purposes of carrying out this paragraph, Division 13 (commencing with section 21000) of the Public Resources Code and regulations adopted pursuant to that Division, and Chapter 3 (commencing with section 85225) of Part 3 of Division 35 of the Water Code and regulations adopted pursuant thereto are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to address the impacts of the drought. This suspension applies to (a) any actions taken by state agencies, (b) any actions taken by local agencies where the state agency with primary responsibility for the implementation of the directives concurs that local action is required, and (c) permits necessary to carry out actions under (a) or (b). The entities implementing these directives shall maintain on their websites a list of all activities or approvals for which these provisions are suspended.
13. With respect to recharge projects under either Flood-Managed Aquifer Recharge or the Department of Water Resources Sustainable

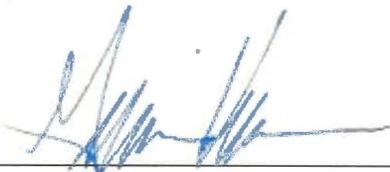
Groundwater Management Grant Program occurring on open and working lands to replenish and store water in groundwater basins that will help mitigate groundwater conditions impacted by drought, for any (a) actions taken by state agencies, (b) actions taken by a local agency where the Department of Water Resources concurs that local action is required, and (c) permits necessary to carry out actions under (a) or (b), Public Resources Code, Division 13 (commencing with section 21000) and regulations adopted pursuant to that Division are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to address the impacts of the drought. The entities implementing these directives shall maintain on their websites a list of all activities or approvals for which these provisions are suspended.

14. To increase resilience of state water supplies during prolonged drought conditions, the Department of Water Resources shall prepare for the potential creation and implementation of a multi-year transfer program pilot project for the purpose of acquiring water from willing partners and storing and conveying water to areas of need.
15. By April 15, 2022, state agencies shall submit to the Department of Finance for my consideration proposals to mitigate the worsening effects of severe drought, including emergency assistance to communities and households and others facing water shortages as a result of the drought, facilitation of groundwater recharge and wastewater recycling, improvements in water use efficiency, protection of fish and wildlife, mitigation of drought-related economic or water-supply disruption, and other potential investments to support short- and long-term drought response.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 28th day of March 2022.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

SHIRLEY N. WEBER, PH.D.
Secretary of State



WATER WELL PERMITTING AND DROUGHT EMERGENCY

May 10, 2022
Virtual Public Workshop



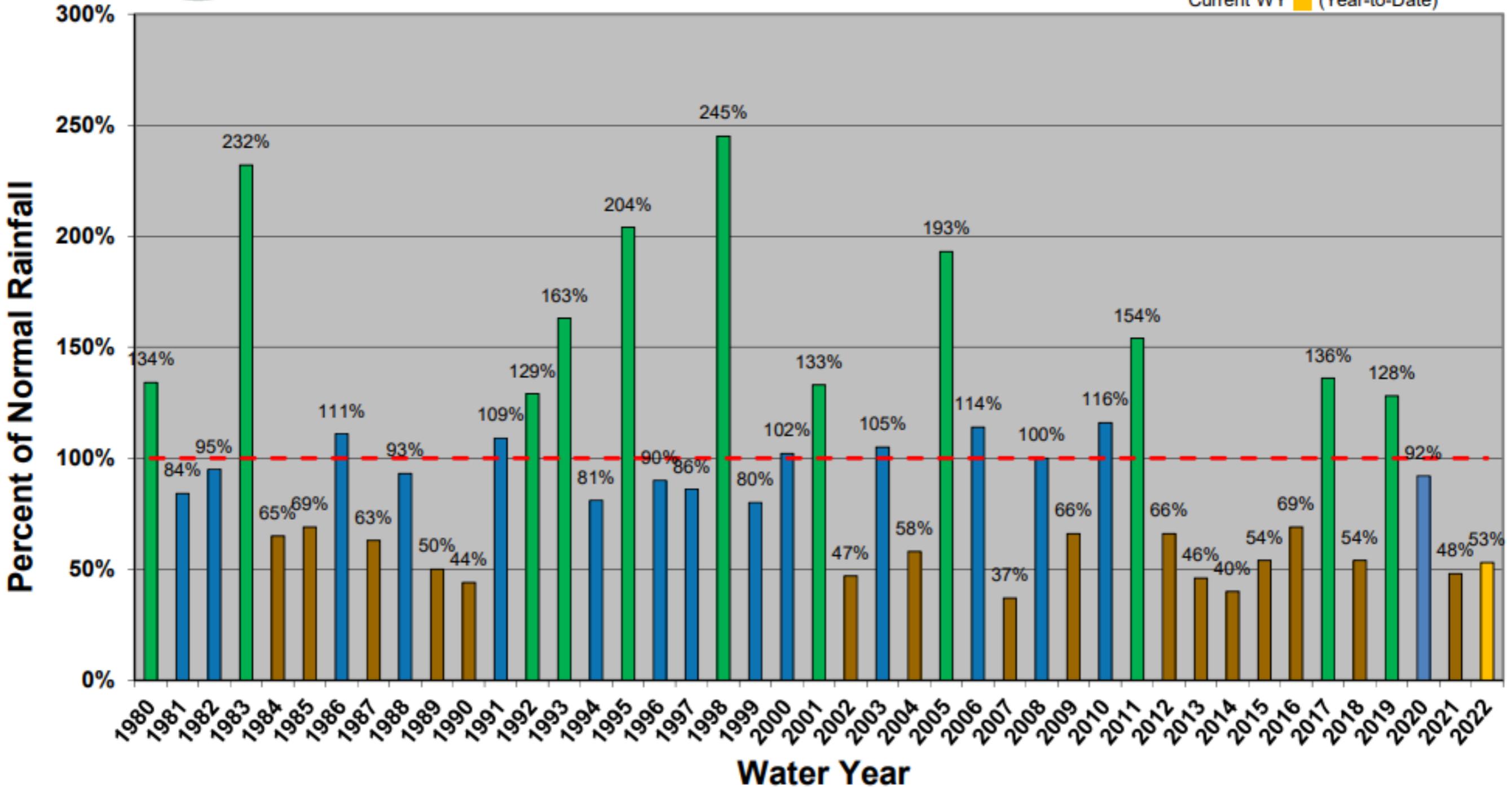
LOCAL DROUGHT EMERGENCY



Countywide Percent-of-Normal Water-Year Rainfall

Updated through March 1, 2022
 (Rainfall as a percentage of an entire average water-year)

Wet Years (>120% Normal Rain)
 Dry Years (< 80% Normal Rain)
 Avg Years (within ±20% Normal)
 Current WY (Year-to-Date)





Governor's Executive Order N-7-22 (issued March 28, 2022)

- ❖ Domestic wells exempt
- ❖ Irrigation water well requirements
- ❖ Temporary water well ordinance
- ❖ Water well permit fees

Drought EO N-7-22: Action 9

For new wells or alterations to existing wells*

9a. Consultation with the GSAs, Prior to Approving a Well Permit

- In high and medium priority basins, where there is a GSA and GSP
- Obtain written verification from the GSA
- Consistency with GSP & sustainability goals

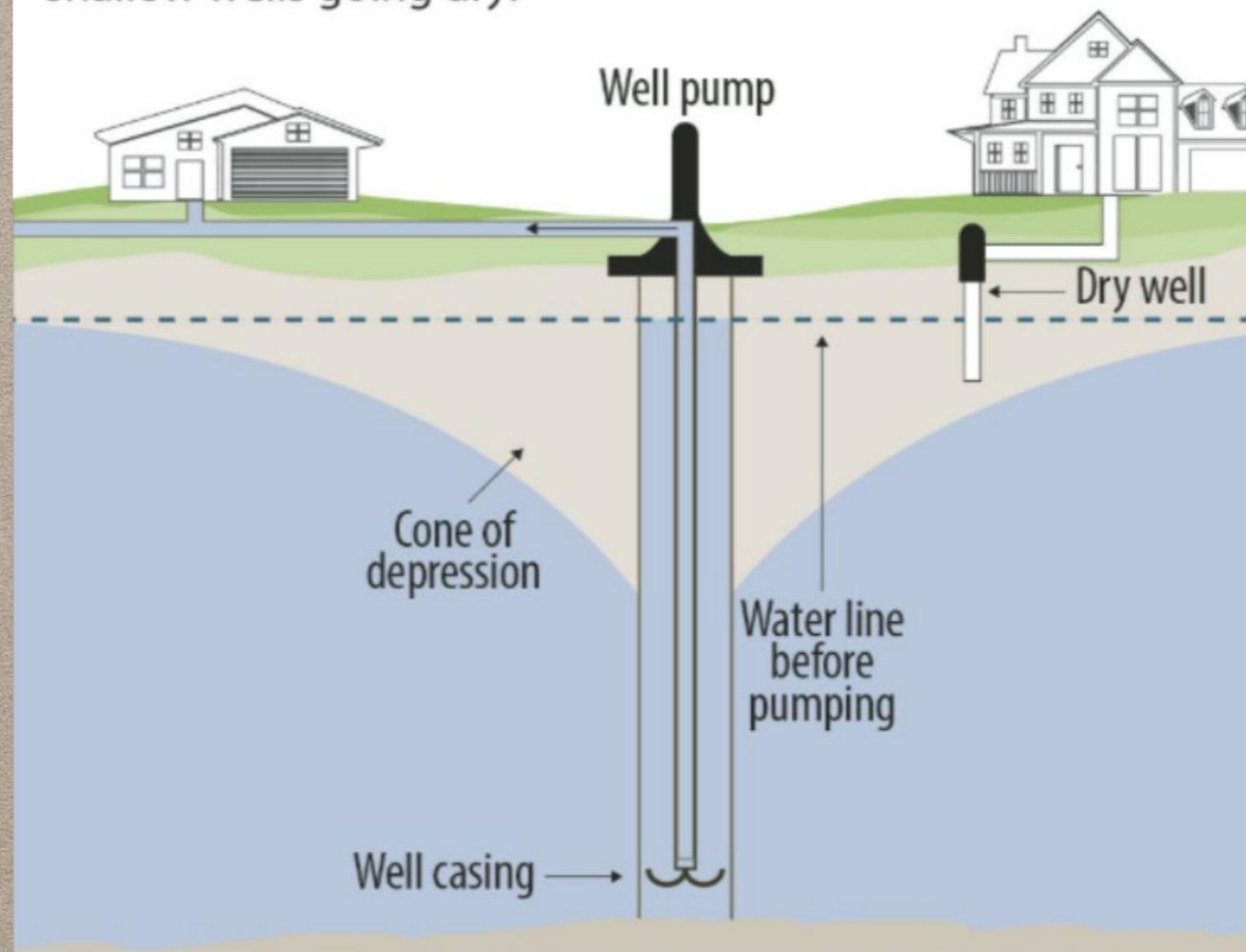
9b. Permit Evaluation, Prior to Issuing a Well Permit

1. Not likely to interfere with production and functioning of existing nearby wells
2. Not likely to cause adverse subsidence impact or damage nearby infrastructure

**excluding individual domestic wells who use less than two acre-feet per year and public water system supply who rely exclusively on groundwater wells*

A cone of depression

Large water withdrawals from an aquifer can lower the water table and create a "cone of depression" that can result in shallow wells going dry.

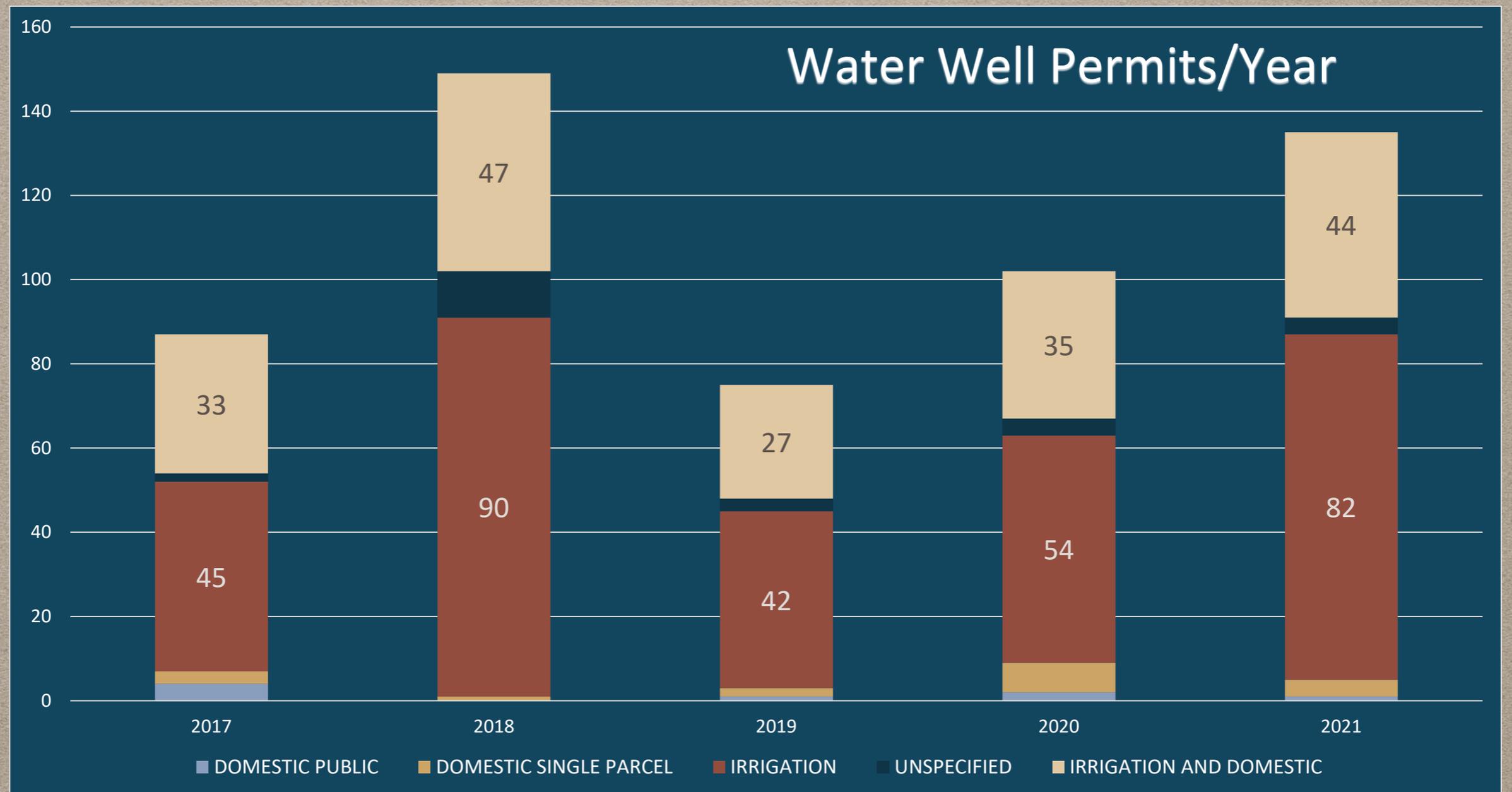


**STEP 1 – INDICATE TYPE,
LOCATION, AND USE**



OR





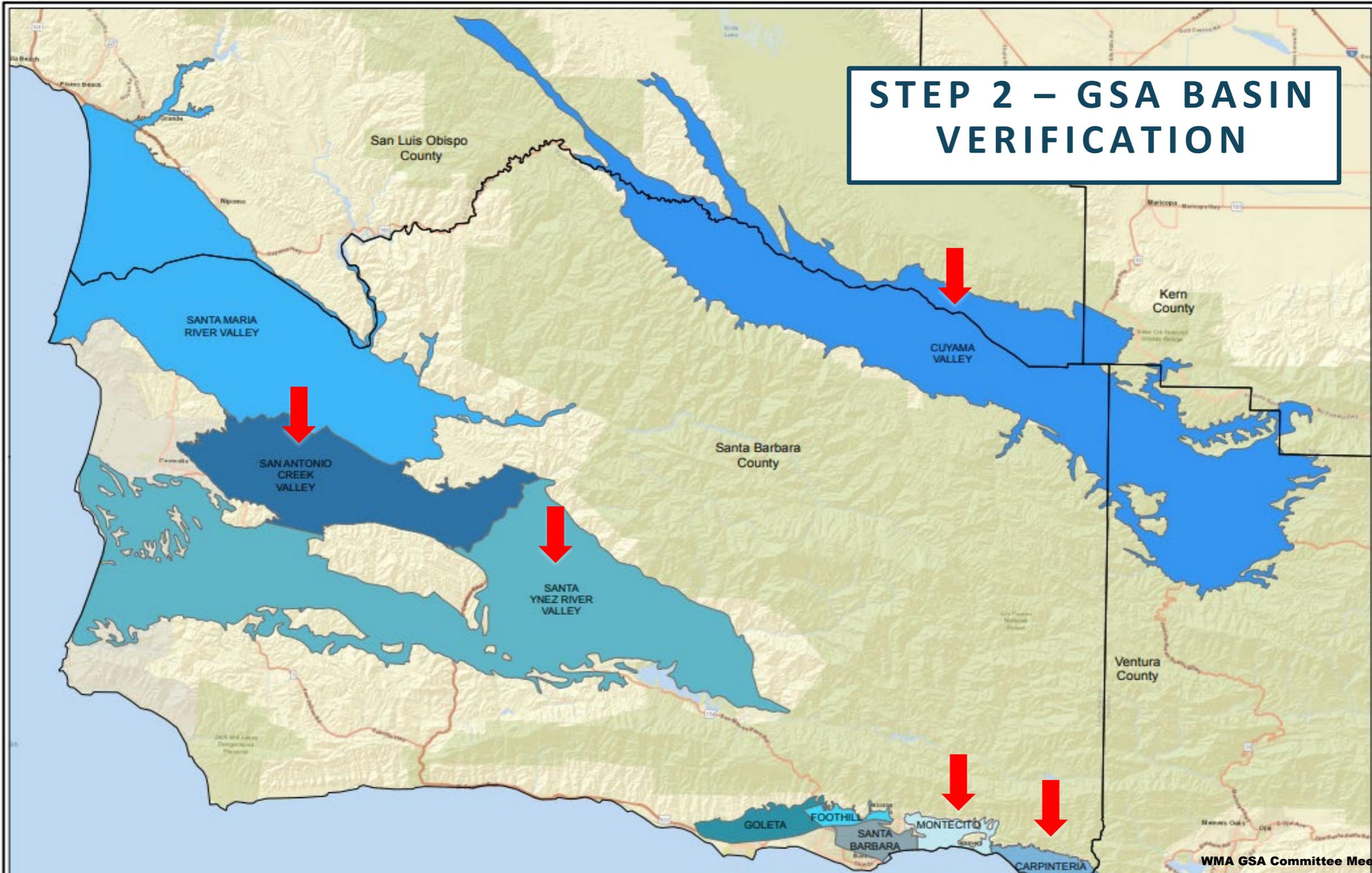
No further permitting steps or additional fees:

- ❖ Domestic wells with less than two acre-feet per year
- ❖ Public water system wells

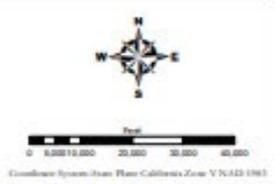
STEP 2 – GSA BASIN VERIFICATION

Department of Public Works
 County of Santa Barbara

- Key to Features**
- Groundwater Basins**
- CARPINTERIA
 - CUYAMA VALLEY
 - FOOTHILL
 - GOLETA
 - MONTECITO
 - SAN ANTONIO CREEK VALLEY
 - SANTA BARBARA
 - SANTA MARIA RIVER VALLEY
 - SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY



This map is for reference only. Although every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information, errors and omissions, including those of physical nature, may be present. Santa Barbara County shall not be liable for any errors, omissions, or damages that result from inappropriate use of this document. No level of accuracy is claimed for the boundary lines shown herein and lines should not be used to obtain boundary values, bearings or distances.



Santa Barbara County
 Groundwater Basins

Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri

Drought EO N-7-22: Action 9

For new wells or alterations to existing wells*

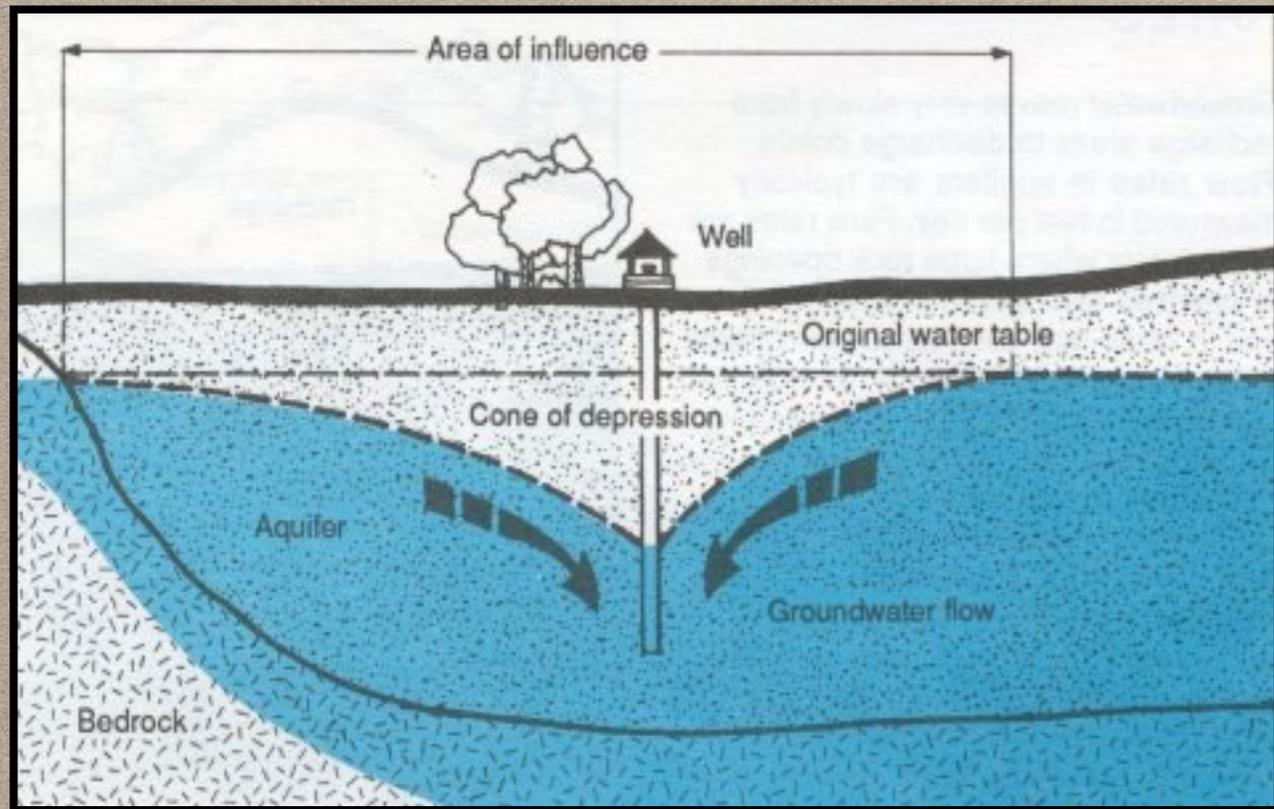
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**excluding individual domestic wells who use less than two acre-feet per year and public water system supply who rely exclusively on groundwater wells*



STEP 3 – ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT TO NEARBY WELLS

Wells >1,000 feet

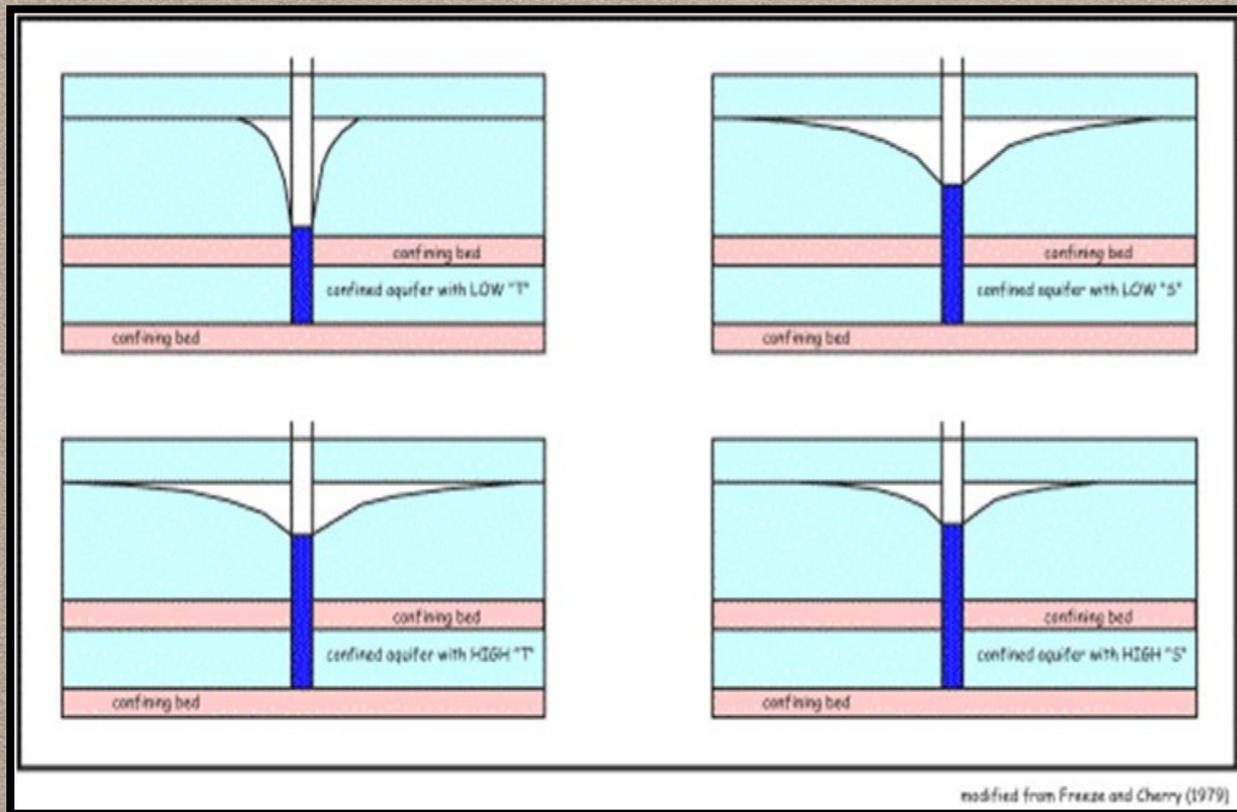
- ❖ No further information required
- ❖ CEQA Filing Fee

No further permitting steps:

- ❖ New wells located >1,000 from existing wells
- ❖ Replacement wells (“like for like”)

Additional fee required:

- ❖ CEQA filing fee of \$50



Wells <1,000 feet

- ❖ Aquifer Data Submitted by CHG
- ❖ Review Fee at Existing Rate of \$161/Hour
- ❖ CEQA Filing Fee

- **Water Well Construction Permit Fee (\$721) - No Change**
- **Additional Review (Hourly Rate) - No Change**
 - Two hours included in flat permit fee
 - Additional review at \$161/hour
- **CEQA Filing Fee (\$50) – *NEW***
 - Filing fee for Fish & Wildlife (if applicable)



PROJECT TYPE	APPLICATION, FEE, INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT (STEP 1)	GSA APPROVAL EO-N-7-22 9A (STEP 2)	LOCATION-SPECIFIC HYDROLOGY DATA EO-N-7-22 9B (STEP 3)	CEQA REVIEW
NEW WELL OR ALTERATION OF EXISTING WELL (INCREASING CAPACITY)	YES	IF IN A MEDIUM- OR HIGH-PRIORITY BASIN	IF PROPOSED WELL IS LESS THAN 1,000 FEET FROM AN EXISTING WELL	YES
REPLACEMENT WELL (NO INCREASE IN CAPACITY)	YES	IF IN A MEDIUM- OR HIGH-PRIORITY BASIN	N/A	YES
INDIVIDUAL DOMESTIC WELLS	YES	EXEMPT	N/A	N/A
PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY WELLS	YES	EXEMPT	N/A	N/A

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

EHSAdmin@sbcphd.org

