Groundwater is a major part of California’s water supply, providing close to 40 percent of supply during wet years and up to 60 percent in dry years. Groundwater can be found nearly everywhere in California. Most of California’s groundwater is used within the majority of the 515 groundwater basins and fractured bedrock and volcanic rock areas outside the groundwater basins. **California’s Groundwater (Bulletin 118) is an inventory and assessment of available information on the occurrence and nature of California’s groundwater to inform decisions affecting the protection, use, and management of the resource.**

**Provides Critical Information for Groundwater Sustainability Agencies**

DWR publishes California’s Groundwater to meet requirements of the California Water Code (Section 12924). The requirements include establishing basin boundaries and priority levels, as well as determining which basins are subject to critical conditions of overdraft. DWR must also document groundwater use, management, monitoring, and conditions found throughout California. With the passage of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) in 2014, the report now serves an additional role by providing Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) with important groundwater related data, including remote sensed land use and subsidence, climate data, and modeling.
Vision and Schedule for California’s Groundwater Update 2020

The vision for the 2020 Update is to compile existing groundwater data across the State and position the update to efficiently organize and report the increased volume of groundwater data that will be submitted through SGMA for the 2025 update and beyond. The comprehensive and up-to-date groundwater data and information in California’s Groundwater will help in planning proper management actions to ensure long-term water resilience as directed by Governor Newsom.

California’s Groundwater Update 2020 will inventory and assess:

▶ Groundwater demands, supplies, and development
▶ Groundwater use and management
▶ Groundwater monitoring activities
▶ Groundwater conditions
▶ Impact of climate change on groundwater resources
▶ Summarized groundwater information for each of the 10 hydrologic regions

The 2020 update will present information in a statewide report and associated hydrologic region summaries. As part of 2020 update, DWR will begin the long-term process of updating the existing groundwater basin reports using information submitted by GSAs for high and medium priority basins subject to SGMA, and from information collected by DWR staff for low and very low priority basins.

DWR will release a draft 2020 Update for public review in late 2020. DWR will also be updating its Bulletin 118 web site to facilitate more frequent future updates and efficient access to California’s groundwater information.

How You Can Participate

Public comments or suggestions for the 2020 Update may be sent to the Bulletin 118 e-mail address in the contact information provided here. In addition, DWR is soliciting preliminary input in a survey available online at the link below. The survey can also be accessed on mobile devices by scanning the QR code below.

Link to survey:

https://survey.sogosurvey.com/r/yhNnaz

Android Users may need to download a QR code scanner from Google Play or other app store.

Contact Information

For more information or questions on DWR’s Bulletin 118, please contact:
bulletin118@water.ca.gov

Or visit
https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Data-and-Tools
for additional information on DWR’s groundwater related Data, Tools, and Reports.