

Live Question and Answer Webinar on first GSP Assessments

June 24, 2021



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER
MANAGEMENT OFFICE



Overview

- SGMA Regulatory Update
 - First Release of GSP Decisions
 - Initial GSP Findings
- Alignment of Funding and Assistance
- Live Question and Answer

Audio Options

Note: All participant microphones will be muted while the speaker is presenting.

1. To Use Your Computer's Audio:

When the webinar begins, you will be connected to audio using your computer's microphone and speakers (i.e., Voice Over Internet Protocol or VoIP). A headset is recommended.

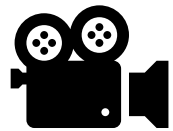
--OR--

2. To Use your Telephone:

If you prefer to use your phone, you must select "Use Telephone" after joining the webinar and call in using the number provided in the email confirmation received during registration.

Phone Number: **+1 (562) 247-8422**

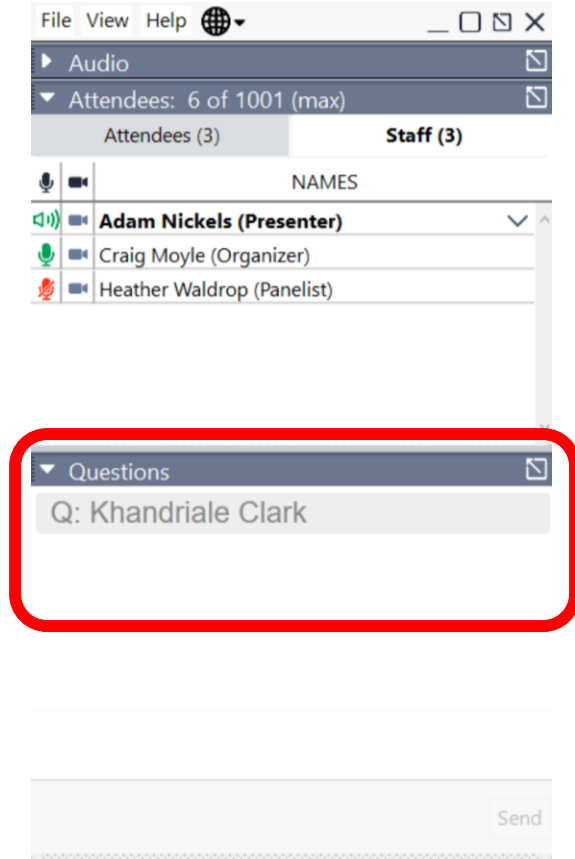
Access Code: **825-692-189**



**This Meeting is
Being Recorded:**

A recording of the webinar and copies of the webinar materials will be made publicly available.

How to Ask Questions



Webinar Participants:

- Open the “Questions” tab in the GoTo Webinar dashboard.
- Type in your request or your question and send to “All”.
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Please indicate if you would NOT like your name read into the record.

First Decisions Released on Local SGMA Plans

- Staggered approach for releasing DWR decisions
- June 3 release included:

Approved Plans

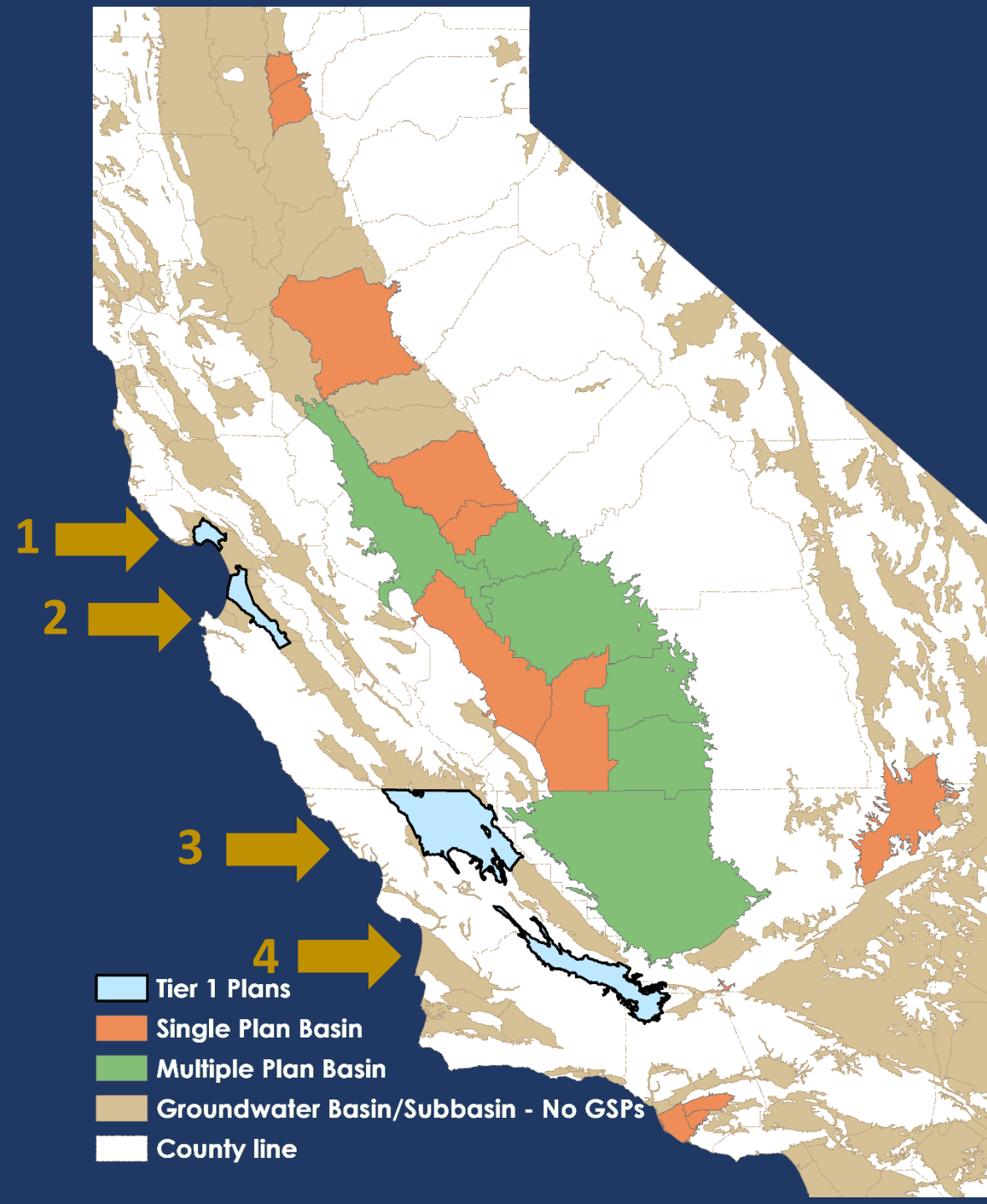
1. Santa Cruz Mid-County Basin
2. 180/400 Foot Aquifer Subbasin

Notified Locals to Consult on Plan Deficiencies

(final determination to be released by January 2022)

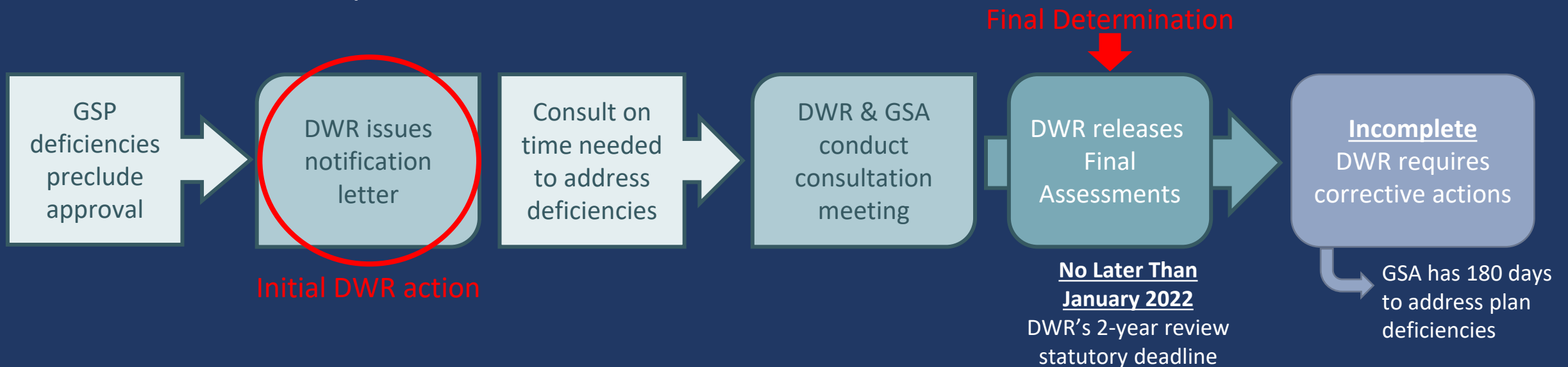
3. Paso Robles Subbasin
4. Cuyama Valley Basin

- Other critically-overdrafted basins will receive determinations throughout this year to meet DWR's overall January 2022 statutory deadline
- Assessment information & video message:
<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/SGMA-Groundwater-Management/Groundwater-Sustainability-Plans>



Notification Letters

- The notification letters released are not final determinations
 - Agencies provided time to address deficiencies while maintaining local control
 - Supports SGMA's iterative process of progress being made over time
 - Provides open communication between DWR and the GSAs



Recommended vs. Required Corrective Actions

- No plans are perfect

Recommended Corrective Actions:

- Approved Plans
- Generally, plan changes can be incorporated into 5-year updates
- Not conditional or qualified approval

Required Corrective Actions:

- Once basin is determined Incomplete
- GSAs have 180 days to address the plan deficiencies







Initial GSP Findings

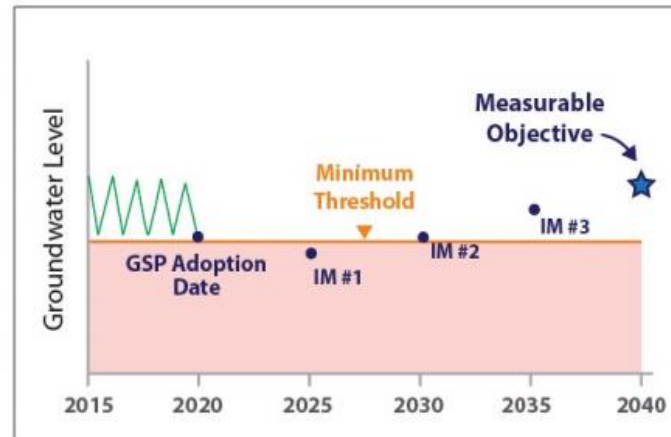
Initial GSP Findings

- Eliminating overdraft is central to SGMA but not the only requirement
- This should be done in concert with avoiding Undesirable Results and the development of Sustainable Management Criteria



*In general, the **sustainable yield** of a basin is the amount of groundwater that can be withdrawn annually without causing undesirable results*

Sustainability Indicators						
	Lowering GW Levels	Reduction of Storage	Seawater Intrusion	Degraded Quality	Land Subsidence	Surface Water Depletion
Metric(s) Defined in GSP Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groundwater Elevation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total Volume 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chloride concentration isocontour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Migration of Plumes Number of supply wells Volume Location of isocontour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate and Extent of Land Subsidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volume or rate of surface water depletion



NOTE: Diagrams from [DWR's Draft Best Management Practices document on Sustainable Management Criteria](#)

Initial GSP Findings, cont.

- Identify and define undesirable results
 - What are the significant and unreasonable effects in your basin?
- Define the minimum thresholds & measurable objectives
 - Justification for the minimum thresholds
 - Evaluate and disclose the effects on beneficial uses and users
- Include projects and actions that are consistent with avoiding undesirable results and mitigating overdraft
 - Comprehensive approach with supply augmentation & demand reduction strategies
- Clearly show work and identify data gaps

Stakeholder Engagement Chart for GSP Development

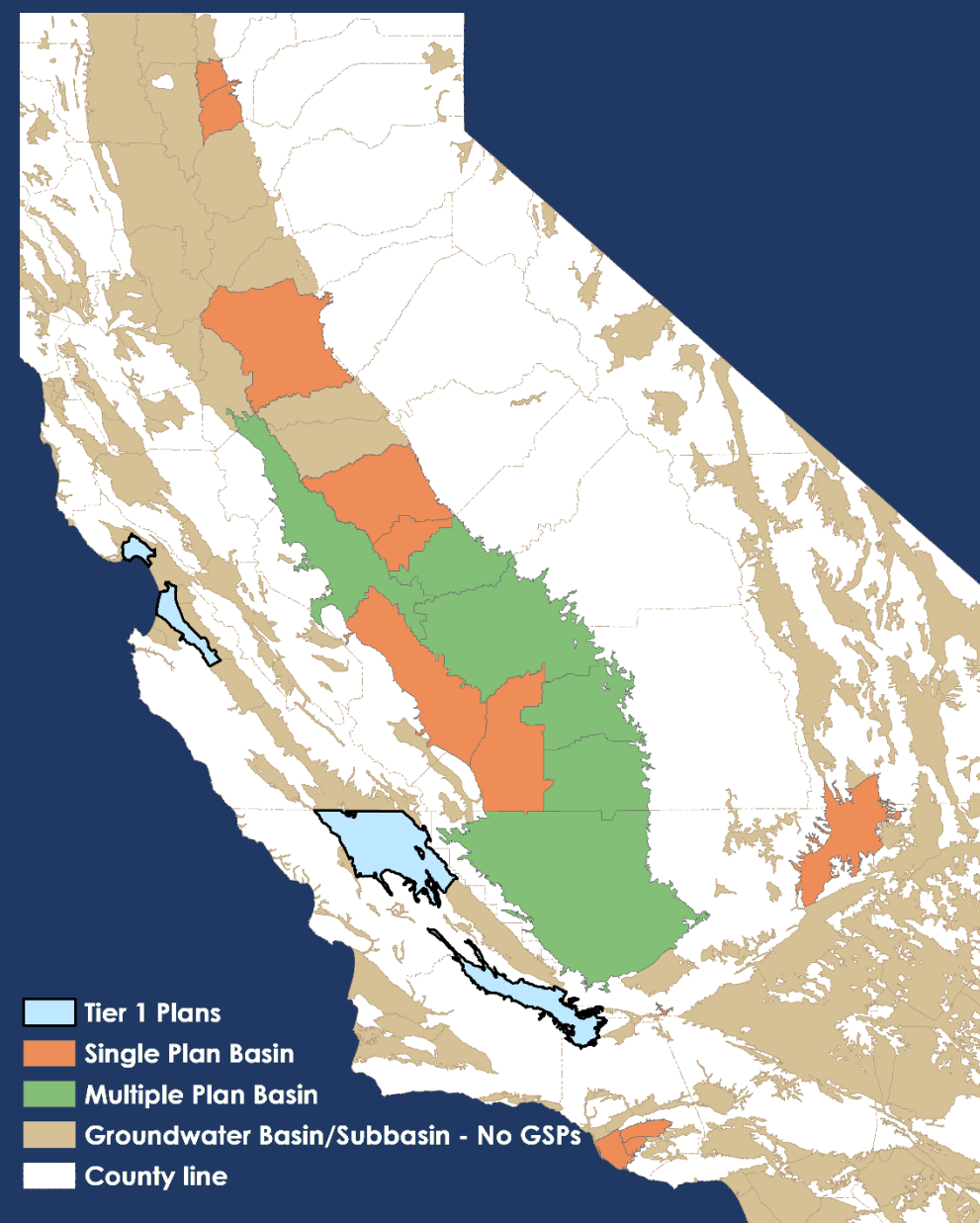
Category of Interest	Examples of Stakeholder Groups
General Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens groups • Community leader
Land Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipalities (City, County planning departments) • Regional land use agencies
Private users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private pumpers • Domestic users • Schools and colleges • Hospitals
Urban/ Agriculture users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water agencies • Irrigation districts • Municipal water companies • Resource conservation districts • Farmers/Farm Bureaus
Industrial users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial and industrial self-supplier • Local trade association or group
Environmental and Ecosystem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal and State agencies (Fish and Wildlife) • Wetland managers • Environmental groups
Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chambers of commerce • Business groups/associations • Elected officials (Board of Supervisors, City Council membe) • State Assembly members • State Senators
Human right to water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disadvantaged Communities • Small community systems • Environmental Justice Groups
Tribes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tribal Government
Federal and State lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military bases/Department of Defense • Forrest service • National Park Service • Bureau of Land Management • California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Integrated Water Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional water management groups (IRWM regions) • Flood agencies • Recycled water coalition

Next Steps & State Assistance

Next Steps

- Approved Assessments
 - Continue implementing plans and incorporate recommended corrective actions into 5-year plan update
- Notification Letters
 - Prepare for consultation with DWR on plan deficiencies
- Other COD Basins
 - Review DWR's first assessments and letters
 - Be prepared to have staff and consultants ready for determinations to be released later in 2021

All GSAs Continue Implementation

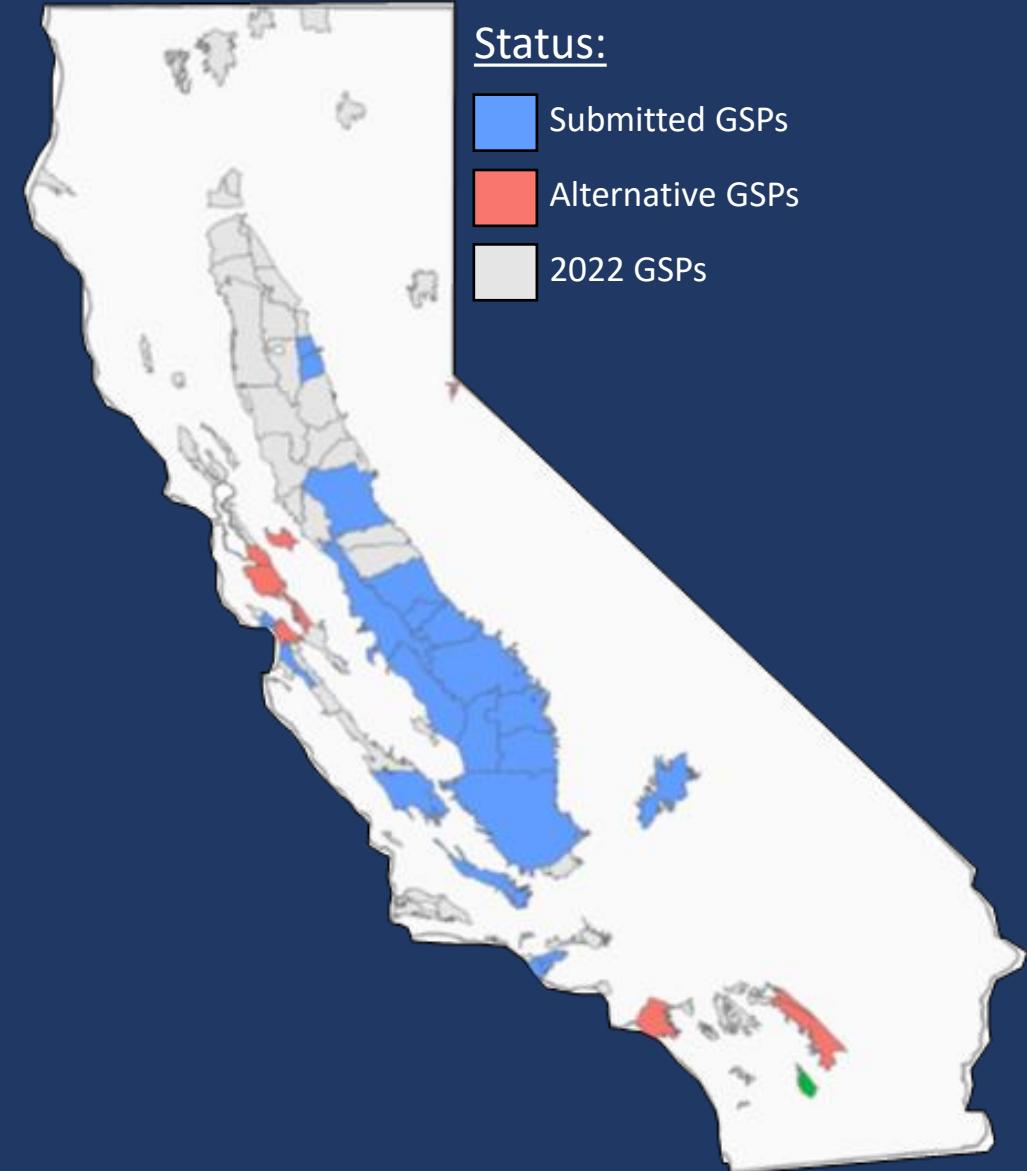


Next Steps, cont.

- 2022 Basins
 - Prepare to submit your first plans by the January 2022 deadline
 - Prepare to submit your Annual Reports on April 1, 2022
 - DWR will host a Fall webinar on How-to-Submit plans via the SGMA Portal
 - In the meantime:
 - Submit questions: GSPSubmittal@water.ca.gov
 - Connect, in advance, with your DWR POC: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Assistance-and-Engagement>
 - Use the NEW Resources Tab on the SGMA Portal: <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/resources>
- Basins with Approved Alternatives
 - Prepare to submit your 5-year update by the 2022 deadline



All GSAs Continue Implementation



DWR Planning Assistance

- **DWR resources to support GSA outreach and engagement efforts:**
 - **Communication and Engagement Toolkit**
 - **Webinars and Events**
 - **Staff support, Guidance, and Services:**

Basin Points of
Contacts

Guidance
documents

Facilitation
Support

Written
Translation
Services



For more information, visit the [Assistance and Engagement](#) webpage

DWR Funding Efforts

- **Round 2, SGM Implementation Grant Program**

- ~\$70M for the construction of projects that support GSP implementation; will begin in 2022

- **January Budget**

- \$60M for that support GSP development and implementation in the COD basins

- **May Revise**

- \$300M for SGMA implementation, including:
 - Infrastructure projects to improve water supply, water quality, and/or the reliability of drinking water wells
 - Technical assistance grants to ensure engagement of underrepresented communities
 - Provide underrepresented communities with direct and tangible drinking water quality and supply benefits where analysis and mitigation are needed



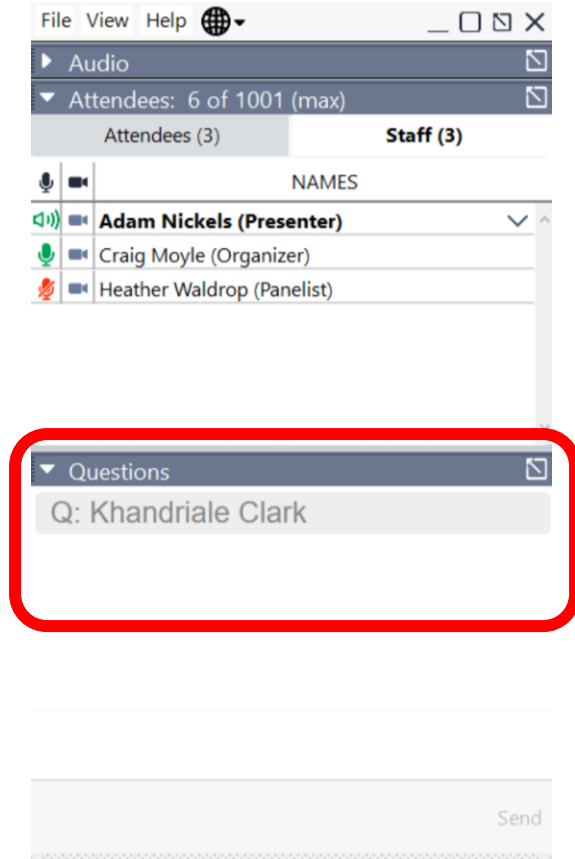
**GOVERNOR'S BUDGET PROPOSAL:
INVESTMENTS IN SUSTAINABLE
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT**

DWR Technical Assistance

- May Revise Elements
 - \$10 million to DWR to Accelerate Collection and Reporting of Subsidence (InSAR) Data
 - Part of \$49 million to DWR for Critical Data Collection includes:
 - Enhanced Groundwater Monitoring
 - Support Groundwater Accounting
 - Expansion of AEM Surveying
- Upcoming Airborne Electromagnetic (AEM) Surveys
 - Recently Held (June 8) Webinar on upcoming surveys
 - [More information on the DWR AEM Webpage](#)
- New Efforts on Accounting & Water Trading
 - Recently Held California Water Commission Water Trading Expert Panel on [June 16](#)
 - Recently Held Workshop on Accounting Platform hosted by the CA Water Data Consortium and the Environmental Defense Fund, [June 23: Click Here For More Information](#)



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Thank You

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