WELCOME MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT'S PUBLIC WORKSHOP ON SGMA

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- Or sign-up anytime at: <u>WWW.MONTECITOWATER.COM</u>



Montecito Groundwater Basin Sustainable Groundwater Management



Public Workshop November 16, 2017

Agendum

- 6:00 pm: Welcome, Introductions, and Purpose of Meeting
- 6:15 pm: Refresh on SGMA & General SGMA Overview
 - Legislation
 - Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA)
 - Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)
- 6:45 pm: MWD SGMA Status Update
 - What has MWD been doing since March 2017 Public Workshop?
 - Coordination and Agreement with Santa Barbara and Carpinteria
 - Basin Boundary Modification
- 7:15 pm: Questions, Comments, and Answers
- 7:45 pm: Adjourn Meeting
- 7:45 pm to 8:00 pm: Meet and Greet





Purpose of the Meeting

- Dialogue with Community
- Communicate the importance of local and sustainable water resources management for the Montecito Groundwater Basin
- Provide an overview of the SGMA process
- Provide an update on SGMA and related processes for the Montecito Groundwater Basin (MGWB)





Identified Community Concerns

- Seawater Intrusion
- Cost implications
- Basin overdraft
- Local stewardship
- Preservation of landscaping and Montecito Aesthetic
- Agricultural use

- Stakeholder/Community Involvement
- Water Rights
- Metering of wells
- Drought protection
- Water quality protection

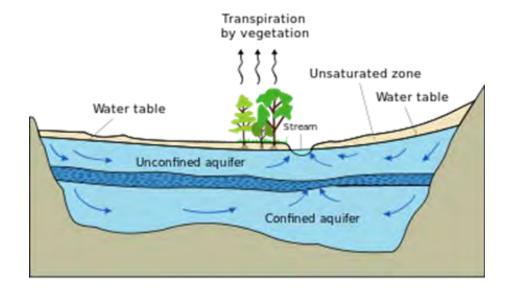


What is a Groundwater Basin?

- SGMA Legislation, Chapter 2. Definitions 10721(g) "Groundwater" means water beneath the surface of the earth within the zone below the water table in which the soil is completely saturated with water, but does not include water that flows in known and definite channels.
- SGMA Legislation, Chapter 2. Definitions 10721(b) "Basin" means a groundwater basin or subbasin identified and defined in Bulletin 118 or as modified pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 10722).



Simplistic Basin Cross-Section







Very low hydraulic-conductivity bedrock

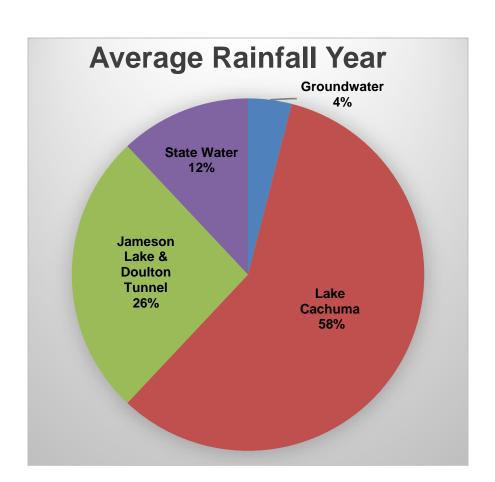
Direction of ground-water flow

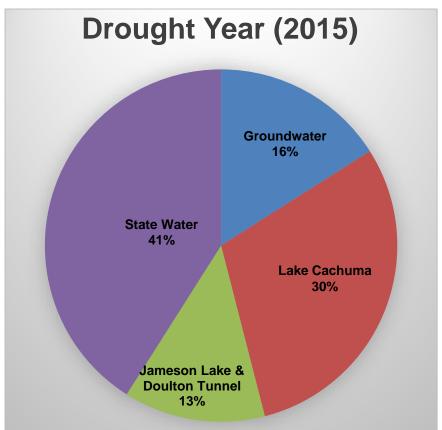




Montecito Water Supplies

Normal and Drought Years

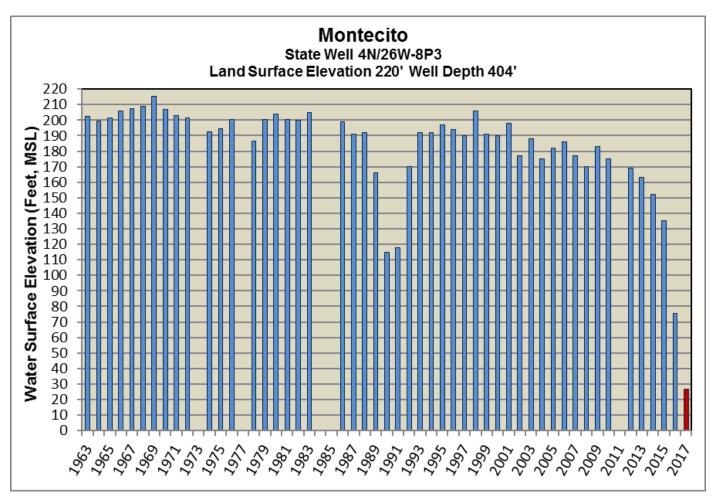








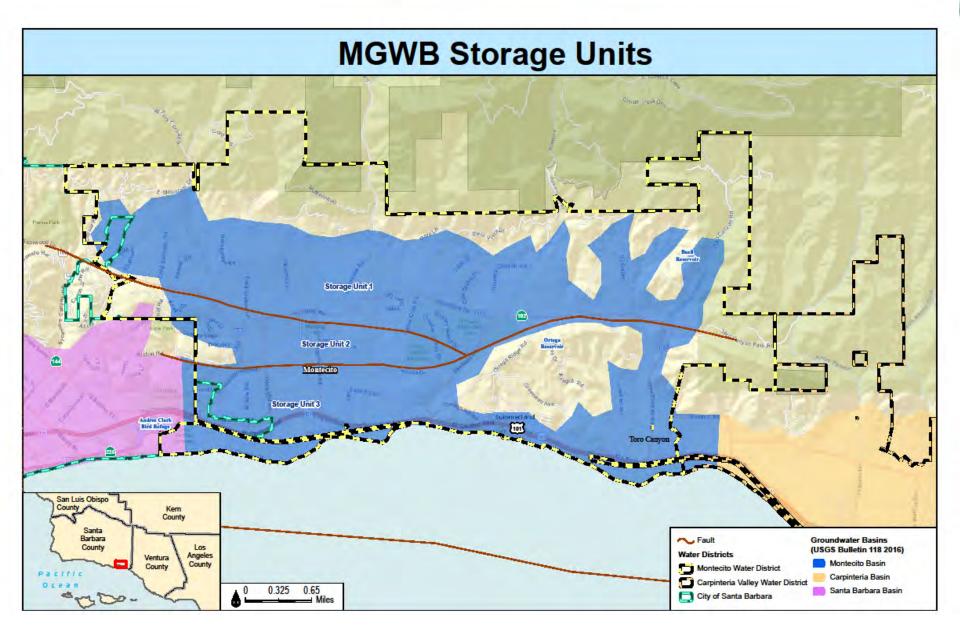
Groundwater Basin Response

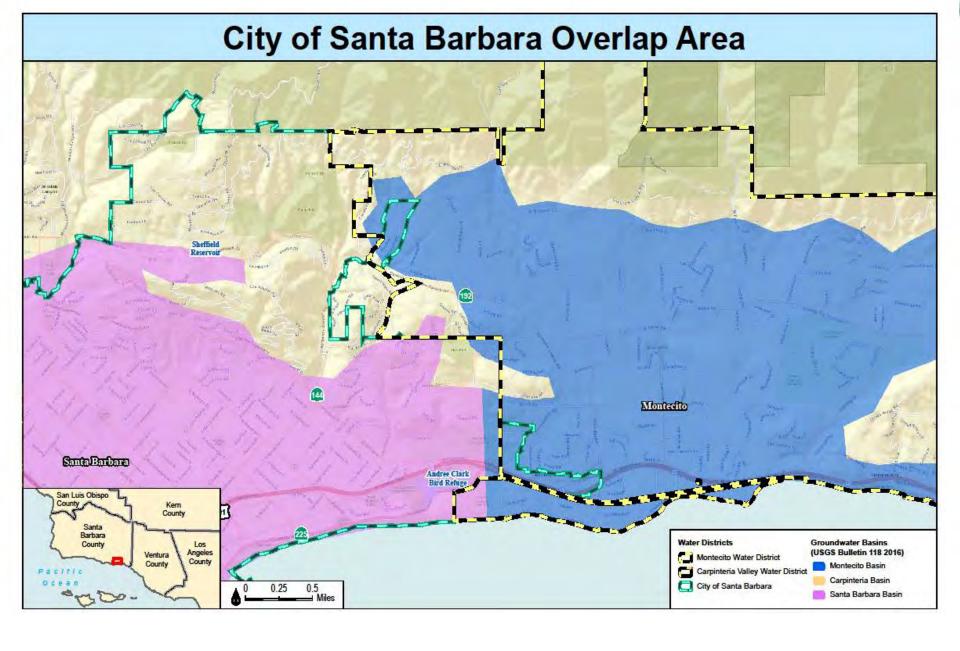


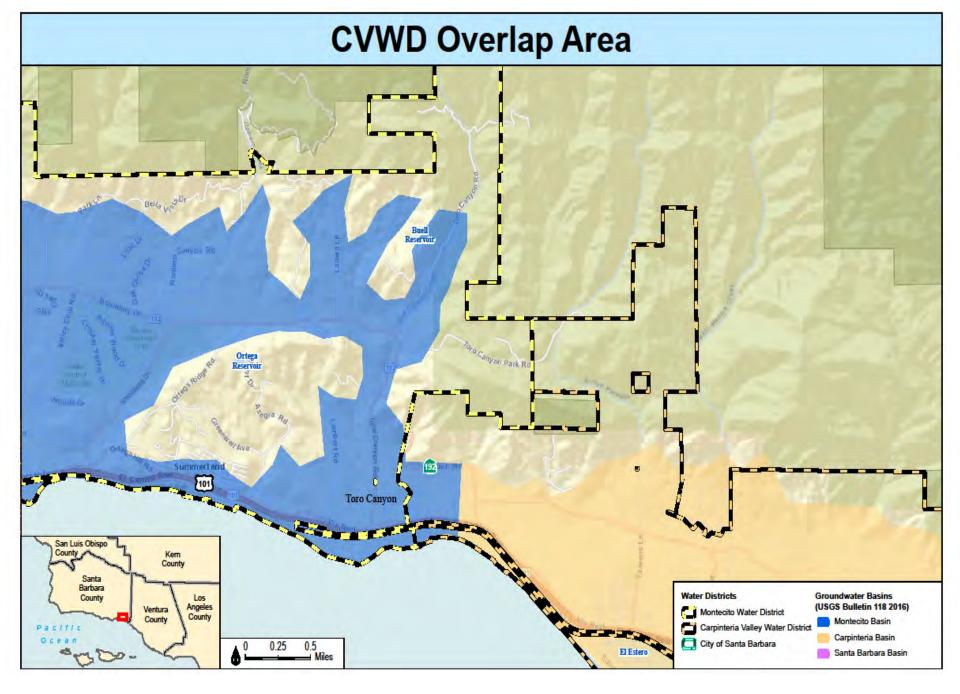


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Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Declaration

(January, 2015) The legislature finds and declares as follows:

The people of the state have a primary interest in the protection, management, and reasonable beneficial use of the water resources of the state, both surface and underground, and the integrated management of the state's water resources is essential to meeting its water management goals.

What is the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act?

- State law emphasizing local management of groundwater resources.
- Local agencies form Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and develop Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs).
- The GSAs: Manage groundwater in "a manner that can be maintained during the planning and implementation horizon without causing undesirable results."
- Implementation of a GSP and programs / projects to achieve sustainability by 2042.

SGMA is Intended to Prevent "undesirable results"

- Undesirable results as defined by DWR are:
 - Chronic lowering of groundwater levels
 - Significant and unreasonable reduction in groundwater storage
 - Significant and unreasonable degradation of water quality
 - Land subsidence due to collapsing of aquifer pore space
 - Surface water depletions that have significant and unreasonable impacts on beneficial uses
 - Seawater intrusion



Importance of GSA and GSP for MGWB

- Groundwater is a critical part of the water supply portfolio.
- Groundwater is a critical part of drought response and emergency water supply.
- Groundwater supplies remain depleted.
- GSA /GSP provides for local control of a local and reliable water supply.



Importance of GSA and GSP for MGWB

- Lack of proactive management could result in failure of public and/or private water wells, and jeopardize supply.
- The number of wells drilled in the basin has increased substantially since the beginning of the current drought and is not accurately known.
- Unmonitored/unregulated groundwater use can result in localized interference of groundwater wells, pumping depressions, and groundwater quality impairment.
- GSP identifies projects and programs to enhance and ensure the longevity of the Basin resources.

MGWB Process: Timeline & Status

2015

• January 1 - SGMA Legislation takes effect

2016

• October 19 - MWD Board directs staff to initiate GSA formation

2017

Community Engagement

2018

- Spring MWD Board consideration of Resolution to be GSA
- Spring MWD to file for GSA status
- Summer DWR approves MWD as GSA
- Summer/Fall MWD initiates GSP
- DWR to conduct Basin Boundary Modification/prioritization process

2021

• MWD submits GSP to DWR

2022

• GSPs to be adopted and implementation to begin

Community Engagement

- Create Dialogue
- Public and Stakeholder Forums
 - March and November 2017
- SGMA Stakeholder List
 - Signups at Meetings and on MWD web site
- SGMA Informational Web Page at www.montecitowater.com
- SGMA Fliers in mail / Email updates to Stakeholder List
- SGMA Updates at the monthly Montecito Association meeting



What is a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)?

- A local agency responsible for developing and implementing a GSP to meet the sustainability goals of the basin.
- Eligible local agencies for a GSA must have:
 - water supply authority;
 - water management authority; and/or
 - land use authority.
- A single agency or a combination of eligible local agencies can form a GSA.



Tools of the GSA

- Request revisions to basin boundaries
- Request to establish new sub-basins
- Well registration
- Measurement of groundwater extraction
- Annual extraction reports
- Extraction limits
- Fund the GSA and implement local GSP



GSA Governance

- GSA Board of Directors = MWD Board of Directors
- Bylaws and processes are being drafted and will take into consideration any DWR/SGMA requirements.
- GSA formation will continue to be developed in public board meetings over the coming months.

Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)

- Plan must include technical information:
 - Hydrogeological conditions of the aquifer
 - Historical and projected water demands
 - Potential areas of recharge
 - Measureable objectives and milestones toward sustainability
 - A monitoring and management plan



GSP will address the following:

- Useable storage
- Safe yield
- Quantity of water used
- Interaction of storage units
- Seawater intrusion
- Projects and programs available to enhance and ensure the longevity of the Basin resources
- Feasibility and cost analyses



Goals of the GSP for MGWB

- Preserve local control of groundwater management.
- Respect overlying and other proprietary rights to groundwater.
- Acquire vetted technical information and data.
- Implement programs and projects for water resources' stewardship.
- Protect and/or increase the sustainable yield of the basin in a costeffective manner.
- Protect and enhance groundwater quality.



Funding the GSA and GSP

- Costs are not yet defined.
 - Costs dependent upon the scope of the GSP.
 - Costs dependent on the projects and programs identified to achieve sustainability.
- GSA & GSP may be funded by basin user fees (assessments).
- GSA may conduct a rate study to determine rates/fees.



Basin Boundary Modification (BBM)

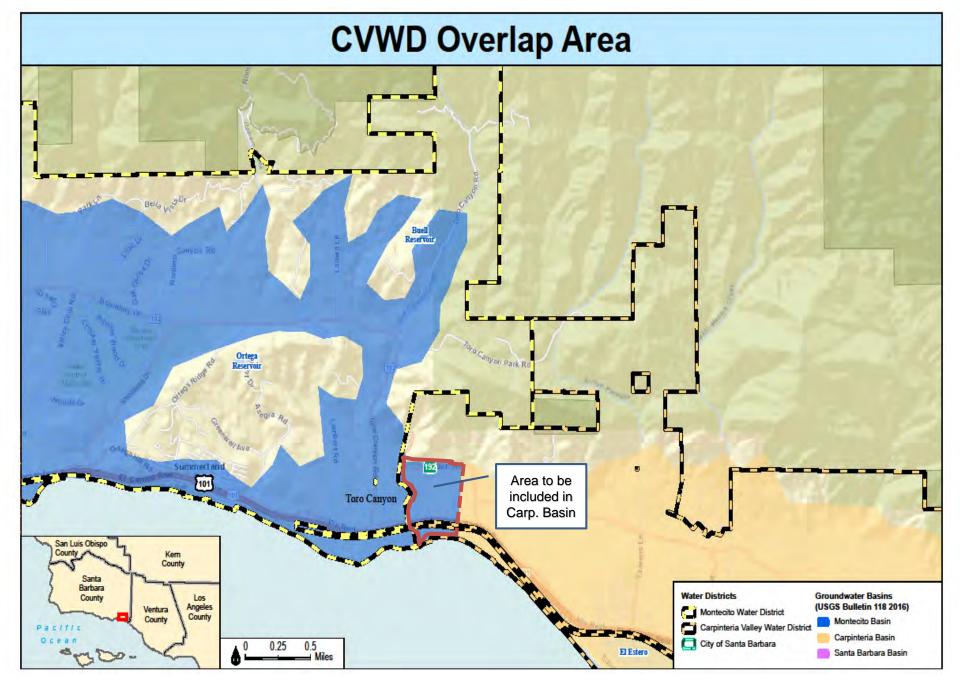
- Opportunity for Local Entities to modify previously recognized basin boundaries.
- Modifications must be made on Scientific or Jurisdictional Considerations.
 - Scientific modification to a basin or subbasin boundary involves the addition, deletion, or relocation of a boundary based on the geologic or hydrologic conditions that define a groundwater basin or subbasin.
 - Jurisdictional modification involves the addition, deletion, or relocation of a basin or subbasin boundary that is not a scientific modification but promotes sustainable groundwater management.



Basin Boundary Modification Update

- **DWR** is currently conducting the 2nd round of BBM.
- MWD and CVWD have submitted the Initial Notification required to start the process.
- DWR has indicated that the process has been delayed.
 - Time frame uncertain.





Coordination with Neighboring Agencies

- SGMA requires cooperation with adjacent basin agencies.
- Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) are being developed with both the City and CVWD.
- Provisions of MOUs:
 - Cooperation in Basin Management
 - Data and information sharing
 - Basin Boundary Modification (CVWD)
 - Jurisdictional/assessment coordination in areas of overlap



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Questions?





