WELCOME

MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT'S PUBLIC WORKSHOP ON SGMA

- **THIS EVENING'S WORKSHOP IS BEING VIDEO TAPED**
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MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT

Montecito Groundwater Basin

Sustainable Groundwater Management

Public Workshop

March 2, 2017

Agendum

- 6:00 pm: Welcome, Introductions, Purpose of Meeting
- 6:15 pm: General SGMA Overview
  - Legislation
  - Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA)
  - Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)
  - Why GSA/GSP for MWD?
- 7:00 pm: Questions, Comments, and Answers
- 7:45 pm: Adjourn Meeting
- 7:45 pm to 8:00 pm: Meet and Greet

Introductions

- MWD Board Members
- Nick Turner, General Manager, Montecito Water District
- Das Williams, 1st District Supervisor, and Darcel Elliott, Chief of Staff
- Joshua Haggmark, Water Resources Manager, City of Santa Barbara
- Robert McDonald, General Manager, Carpinteria Valley Water District
- Jane Gray, Regional Planner/Project Manager, DUDEK
- Matt Naftaly, Principal Hydrologist, DUDEK

Acronyms

- SGMA - Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
- GSA - Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- GSP - Groundwater Sustainability Plan
- MWD - Montecito Water District
- SWP - State Water Project
- BBM – Basin Boundary Modification
- GW – Groundwater
- AF – Acre Feet
- CASGEM – California State Groundwater Elevation Monitoring
- DWR – Department of Water Resources
- CVWD – Carpinteria Valley Water District
- City – City of Santa Barbara

Purpose of the Meeting

- Public Notice of GSA Formation and Community Engagement
- Provide information on the SGMA process and its relevance in the Montecito Groundwater Basin
- Communicate the importance of local and sustainable water resources management for the Montecito Groundwater Basin
- Dialogue with Community

Identified Community Concerns

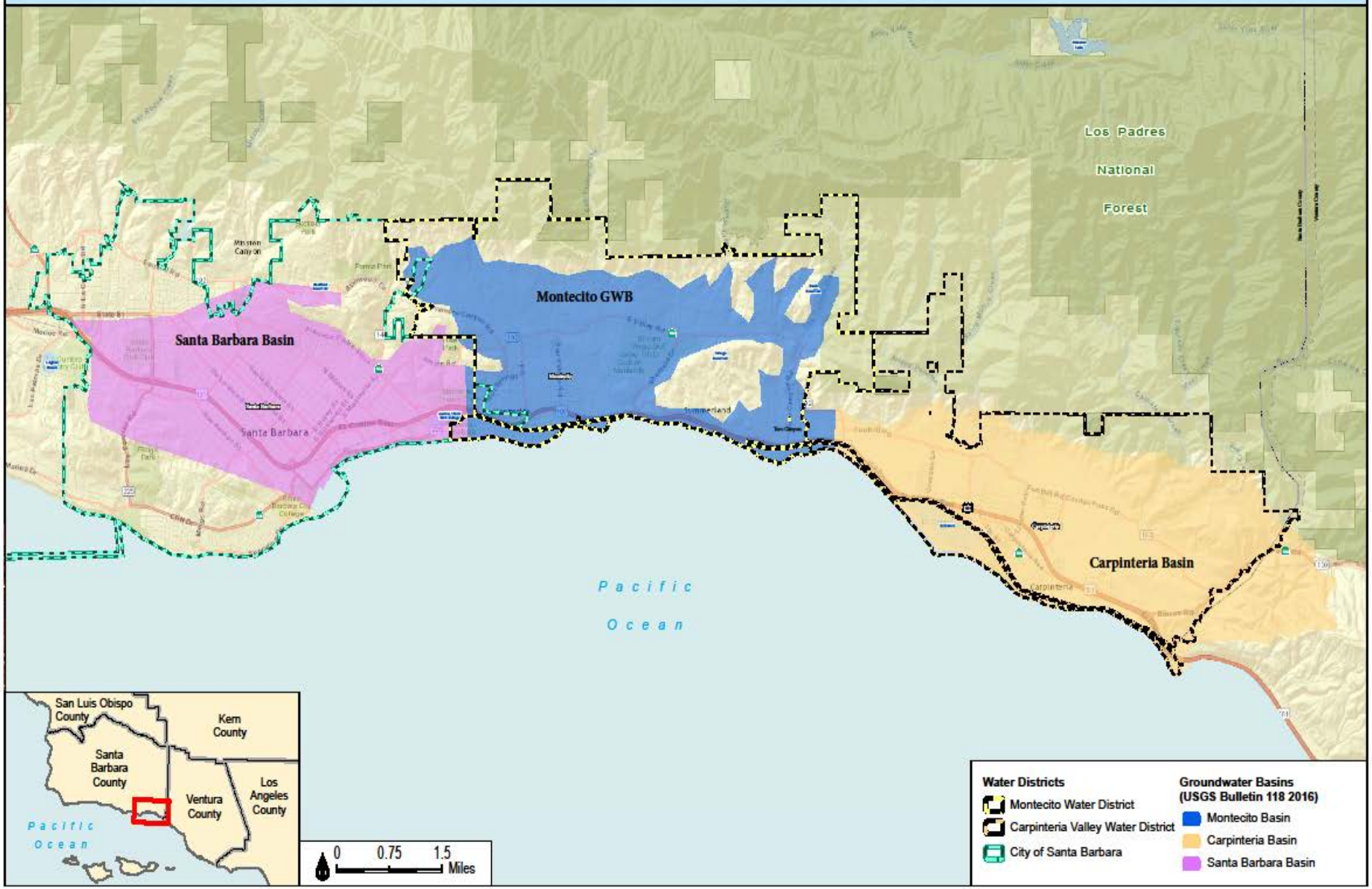
- Seawater Intrusion
- Cost implications
- Basin overdraft
- Local stewardship
- Preservation of landscaping and Montecito Aesthetic
- Agricultural use
- Stakeholder/Community Involvement
- Water Rights
- Metering of wells
- Drought protection
- Water quality protection

What is a Groundwater Basin?

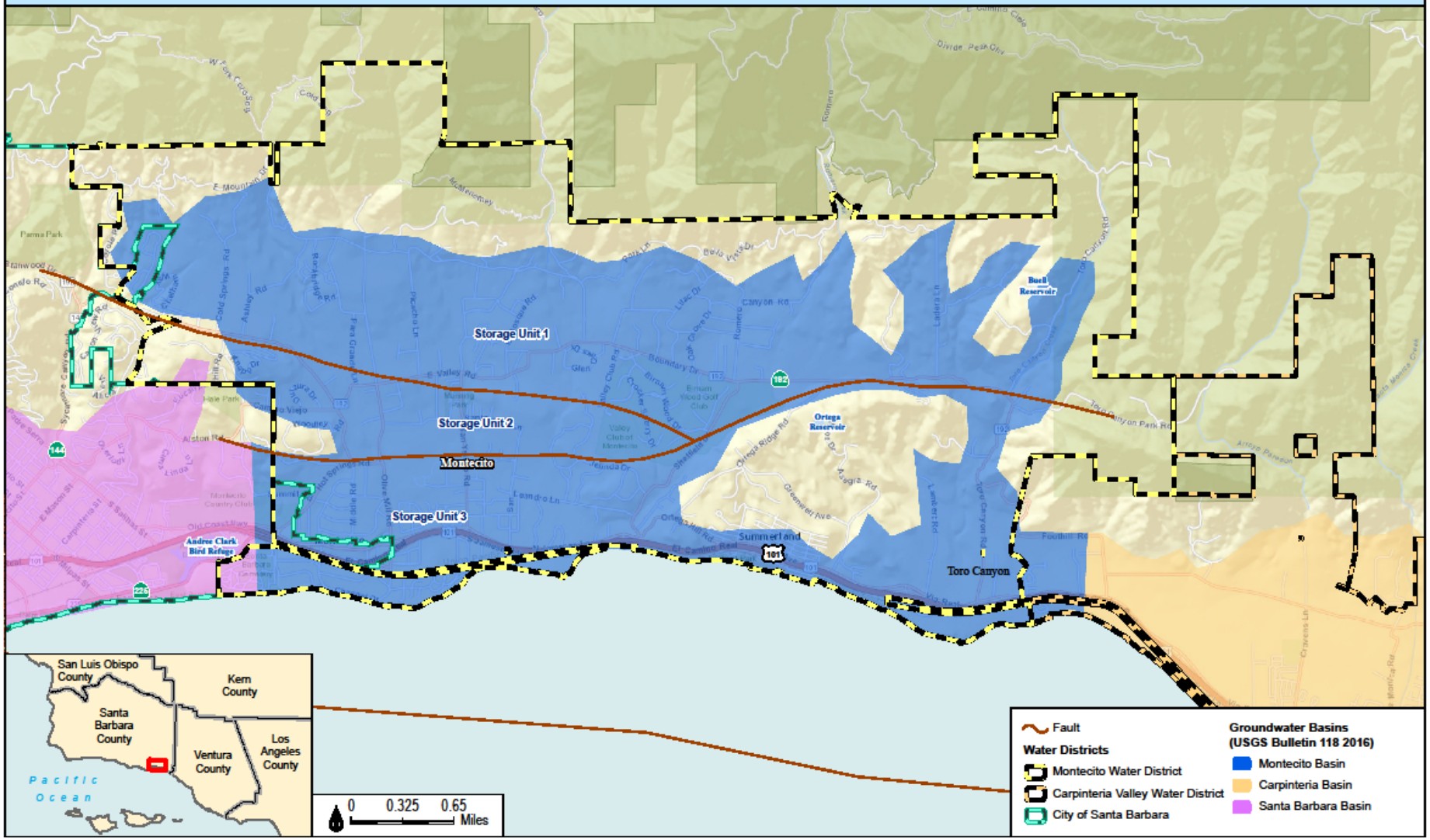
- **SGMA Legislation, Chapter 2. Definitions 10721(g) "Groundwater" means water beneath the surface of the earth within the zone below the water table in which the soil is completely saturated with water, but does not include water that flows in known and definite channels.**

- **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).**

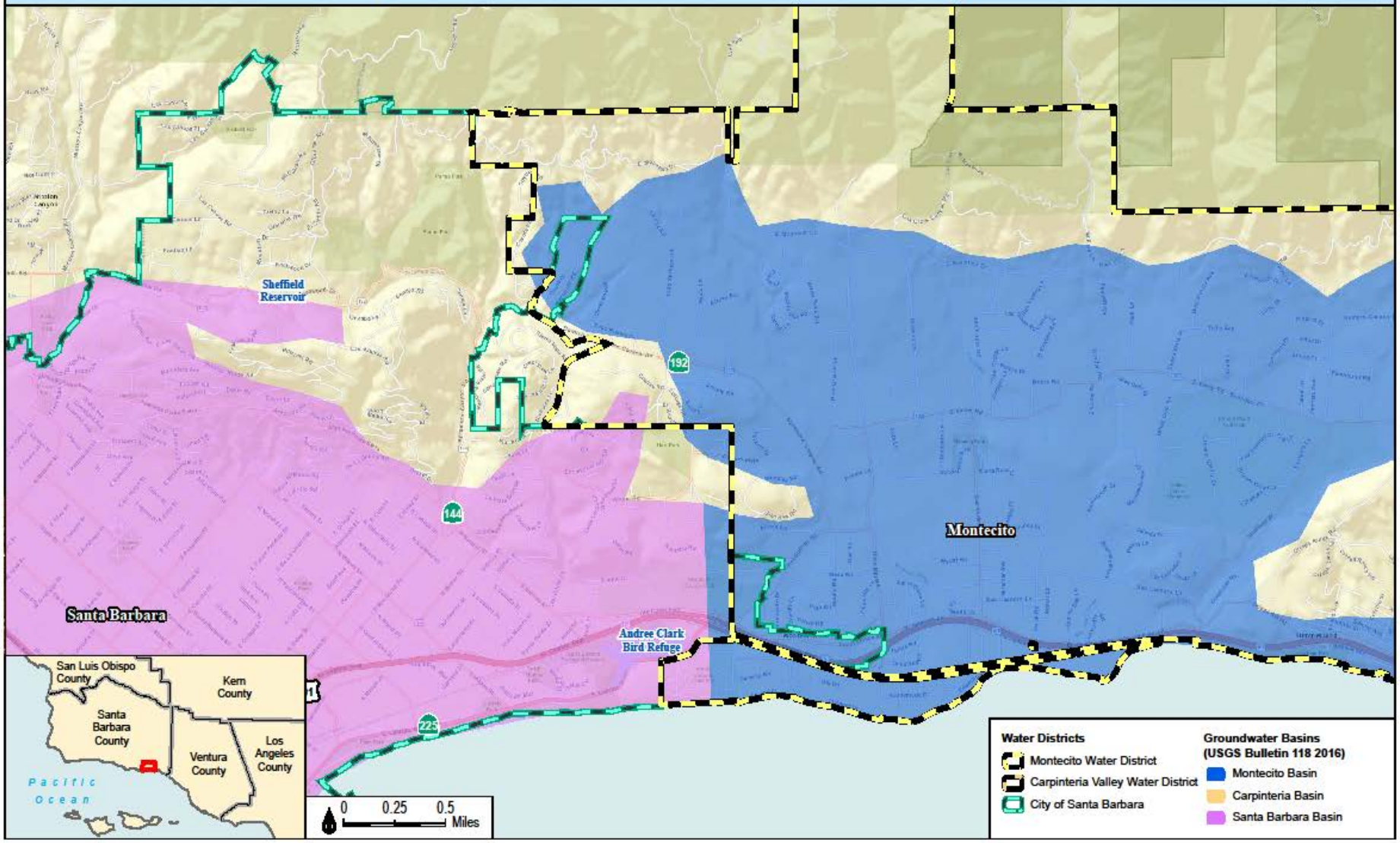
The Montecito Groundwater Basin



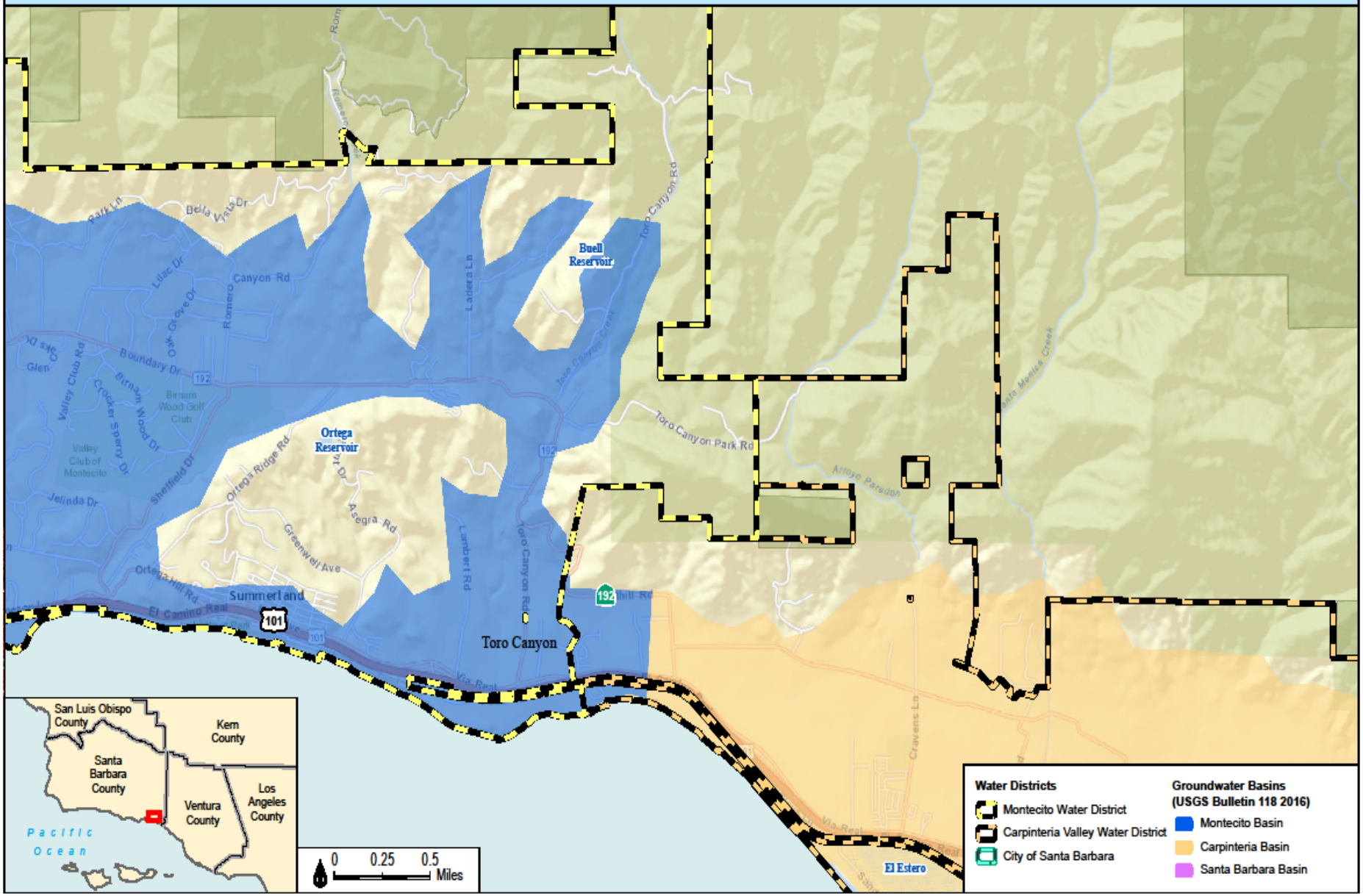
MGWB Storage Units



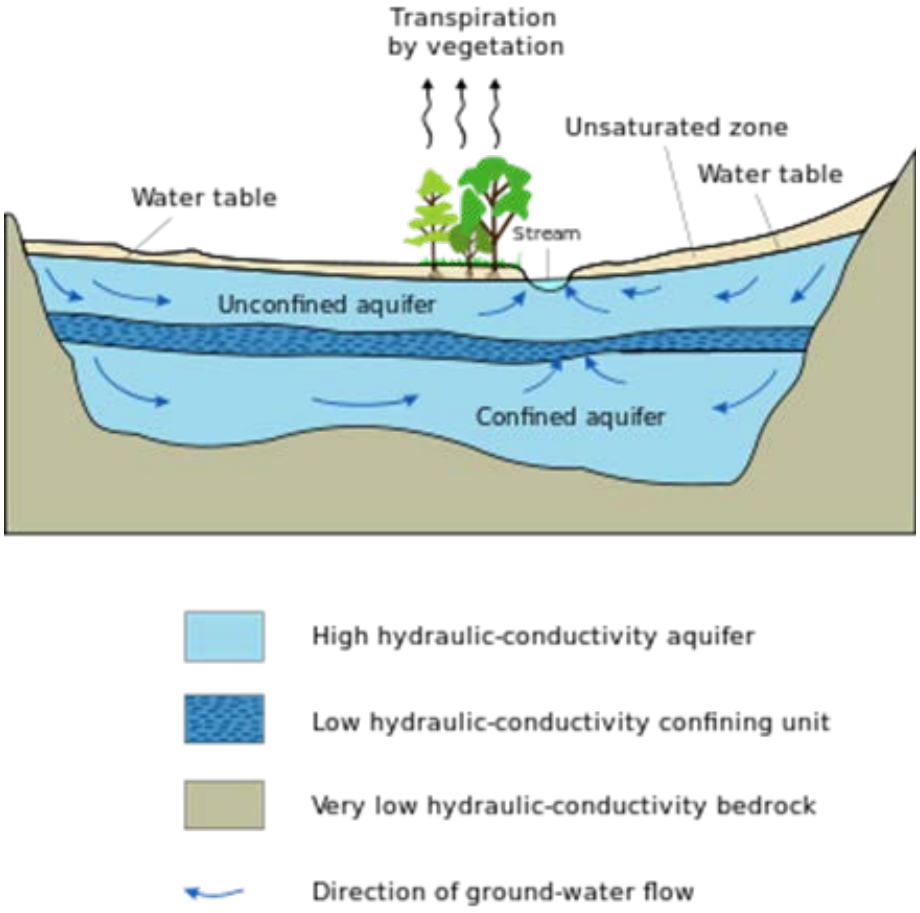
City of Santa Barbara Overlap Area



CVWD Overlap Area



Simplistic Basin Cross-Section



DWR's Basin Prioritization

- Began in 2009 - DWR's CASGEM Program.
  - Initial program monitoring basins statewide

- Currently, Medium or High priority basins (Bulletin 118) are required to implement SGMA.

DWR's Basin Prioritization

- **MGWB current designation is "very low"*.**

- **DWR is currently reassessing basin prioritization with updated information and data.**
  - **DWR will release information in summer 2017**

*** MGWB could be subject to reprioritization with more accurate data since 2009, and particularly in consideration of the increased number of wells in the basin since CASGEM commenced.**

DWR's Basin Prioritization

- DWR uses the following criteria to determine Basin Priority:
  - Population
  - Projected Growth
  - Total Number of public and private wells
  - Irrigated acreage
  - Reliance on groundwater as a primary source
  - Groundwater impacts including:
    - Overdraft
    - Land subsidence
    - Water quality degradation
    - Sea water intrusion

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Declaration

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).
  - Formation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) by June 30, 2017 for medium and high priority basins.
  - Development of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) by January 31, 2022 for medium and high priority basins.

What is the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act?

- **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**

SGMA Participation

- Required in all medium and high priority basins.
- Exemptions:
  - Federal Government
  - Recognized Native American Tribes
  - Previously Adjudicated Basins

SGMA Participation and De Minimis Users

- 2-AF per year (AFY) for domestic uses.
- Subject to SGMA, depending on Local needs.
  - GSAs decide how de minimis users are incorporated
  - GSAs decide to include or exclude
  - GSAs decide on fees
  - GSAs cannot require metering
  - May be subject to reporting and fees if state intervenes
- Domestic wells can be regulated by authorities (i.e. counties, water districts) outside SGMA scope.

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

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

Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)

- Must be approved by DWR no later than 2022 (for medium and high priority basins).
- GSP must be updated every 5 years.
- GSP must result in “sustainable conditions” within 20 years (by 2042).

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).**

Funding the GSA and GSP

- GSA may conduct a rate study to determine rates/fees.

- State Funding (Proposition 1) is available for the GSP.

SGMA Process: Timeline Overview

2009	• November - DWR issues basin prioritization for CASGEM Program
2015	• January 1 - SGMA Legislation takes effect
2017	• June 30 - GSA formation required for medium and high priority basins • Also in June, DWR to issue re-analysis of basin prioritization
2020	• GSPs must be adopted for critically over-drafted basins
2022	• GSPs must be adopted for medium and high priority basins
2040	• All critically over-drafted basins must achieve sustainability
2042	• All medium and high priority basins must achieve sustainability

MGWB Process: Timeline Overview

2015	• January 1 - SGMA Legislation takes effect
2016	• October 19 - MWD Board directs staff to initiate GSA formation
2017	• Community Engagement • Fall/Winter, MWD Board consideration of Resolution to be GSA
2018	• Winter/Spring - MWD to file for GSA status • Summer - DWR approves MWD as GSA • Summer/Fall - MWD initiates GSP • DWR to conduct Basin Boundary Modification process
2021	• MWD submits GSP to DWR
2022	• GSPs to be adopted and implementation to begin

Why GSA and GSP for the Montecito Groundwater Basin?

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.**
- **GSA /GSP provides for *local* control of the only *local* 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.

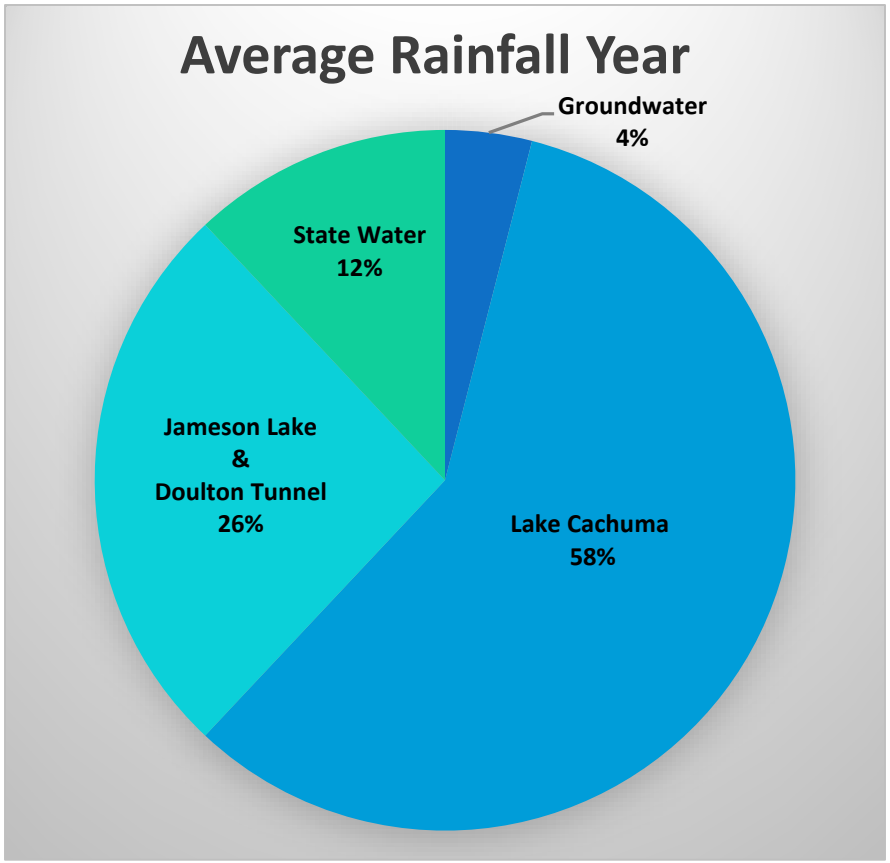
Importance of GSA and GSP for MGWB

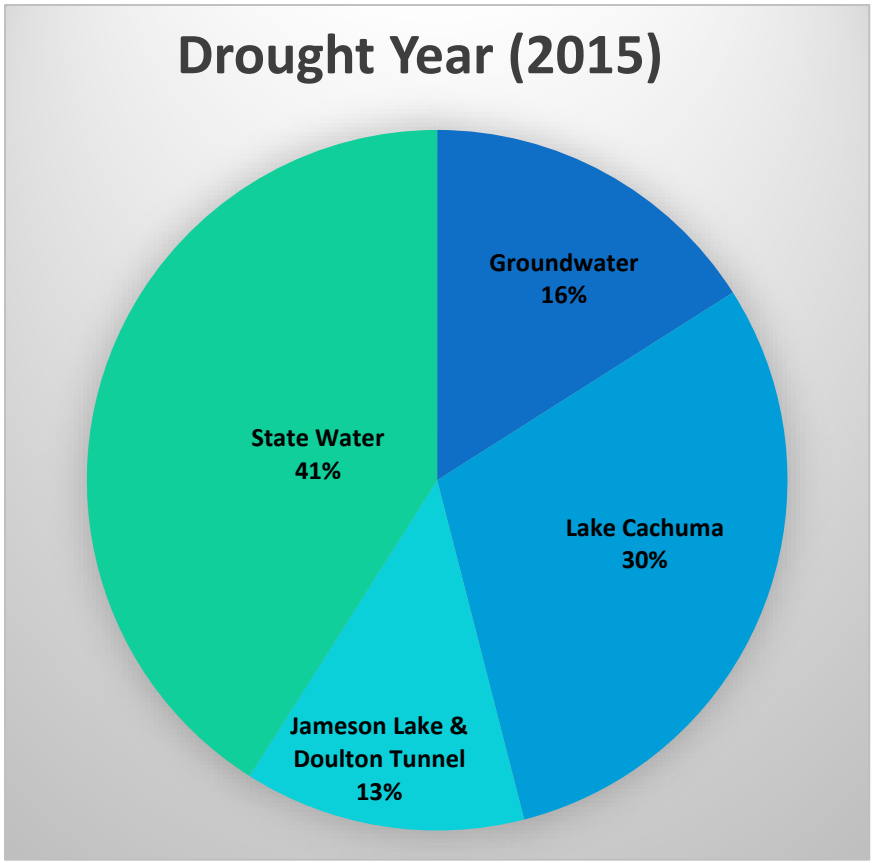
- Surface water supplies compromised:
  - increased demand;
  - decreased surface water storage capacity; and
  - changes in climate patterns.

- GSP identifies projects and programs to enhance and ensure the longevity of the Basin resources.

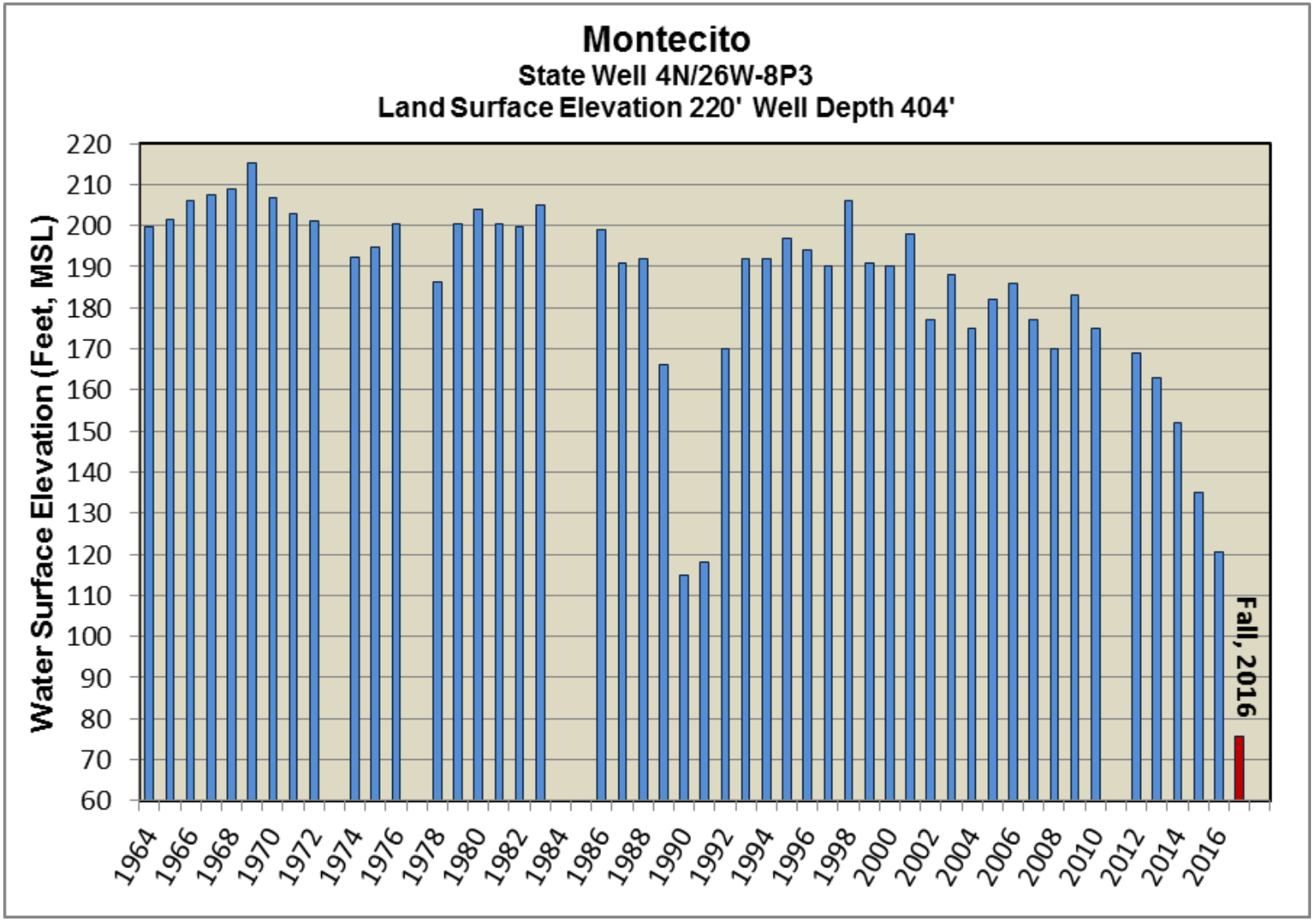
Montecito Water Supplies

Normal and Drought Years





Groundwater Basin Response



Modified from SBCWA 2011 Groundwater Report

Storage Unit 1

GSP will address the following:

- Useable storage
- Safe yield
- Quantity of water used
- Interaction of storage units

GSP will address the following:

- 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.**

Goals of the GSP for MGWB

- **Implement programs and projects for water resources' stewardship.**
- **Protect and / or increase the sustainable yield of the basin in a cost-effective manner.**
- **Protect and enhance groundwater quality.**

Community Engagement

- Create Dialogue
- Series of Public and Stakeholder Forums
- Forum used in other Basins forming GSAs:
  - Advisory Committee for GSA formation
  - Advisory Committee to the formed GSA

Contact Information

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Questions?

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