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Salinas Valley: 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Supplemental Information

Outline

Acronyms & Abbreviations

Definitions

References

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Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

OUTLINE

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ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

ADEQ	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
ADWR	Arizona Department of Water Resources
AF	acre-feet
AF/yr.	acre-feet per year
Alco	Alisal Water Corporation
AMBAG	Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments
amls	above mean sea level
AWPF	Advanced Water Purification Facility
Basin Plan	Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coast Basin
BCM	Basin Characterization Model
bgs	below ground surface
BLM	U.S. Bureau of Land Management
Cal-Am	California-American Water
CASGEM	California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring
CCGC	Central Coast Groundwater Coalition
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CCRWQCB	Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
CCTAG	Climate Change Technical Advisory Group
cfs	cubic feet per second
CIFP	Capital Improvement and Financing Plan
COCs	Constituents of Concern
COOP	Cooperative Observer program
County GSA	County of Monterey Ground Water Sustainability Agency
CSD	Community Services District
CSIP	Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project
DCE	dichloroethylene
DDW	Division of Drinking Water
DEM	Digital Elevation Model
DMS	Data management system
DTSC	Department of Toxic Substances Control
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
EIR	environmental impact report
EIS	environmental impact statement
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ET	evapotranspiration
eWRIMS	Electronic Water Rights Information Management System
ft/d	feet per day
ft/yr	feet per year
ft ² /d	square feet per day
FORA	Fort Ord Reuse Authority
GAMA	Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment

GDE	groundwater-dependent ecosystem
GIS	geographic information systems
GMP	Groundwater Management Plan
gpd/ft	gallons per day per foot
gpm	gallons per minute
GPS	global positioning system
GRC	General Rate Case
GSA	Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
gSSURGO	Gridded Soil Survey Geographic
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
HSU	hydrostratigraphic unit
ILRP	Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program
InSAR	Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar
IRWM	Integrated Regional Water Management
JPA	Joint Powers Authority
LID	Low Impact Development
M1W	Monterey One Water
MA	Management Area
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level
MCRCD	Monterey County Resource Conservation District
MCWD	Marina Coast Water District
MCWRA	Monterey County Water Resources Agency
meq/L	milliequivalents per liter
mg/L	milligrams per liter
MPWSP	Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project
MTBE	methyl tert butyl ether
NCCAG	Natural Communities Commonly Associated with Groundwater
NCSS	National Cooperative Soil Survey
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHD	National Hydrology Dataset
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRCS	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
NWIS	National Water Information System (USGS)
NWS	National Weather Service
O&M	operations and maintenance
OSWCR	Online System for Well Completion Reports
PAH	polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
PCB	polychlorinated biphenyl
PCE	tetrachloroethylene
PET	potential evapotranspiration

PRISM	Parameter-elevation Regressions on Independent Slopes Model
PWM	Pure Water Monterey
QA/QC	quality assurance / quality control
QAPP	Quality Assurance Project Plan
R2	correlation coefficient
RMS	representative monitoring sites
RTP	Regional Wastewater Treatment Plan
RWVG	Regional Water Management Group
SAGBI	Soil Agricultural Groundwater Banking Index
SB	Senate Bill
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SMC	Sustainable Management Criteria
SMCA	State Marine Conservation Area
SMCL	secondary maximum contaminant level
SMR	State Marine Reserve
SRDF	Salinas River Diversion Facility
Subbasin	Salinas Valley – 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin
SVBGSA	Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
SVIHM	Salinas Valley Integrated Hydrologic Model
SVRP	Salinas Valley Reclamation Project
SVWP	Salinas Valley Water Project
SWQCB	State Water Quality Control Board
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TCE	trichloroethylene
TDS	total dissolved solids
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
USGS	United States Geological Survey
UWMP	Urban Water Management Plan
VIC	Variable Infiltration Capacity
VOC	volatile organic compound
VSMOW	Vienna Standard Mean Ocean Water
WDR	Waste Discharge Requirements

DEFINITIONS

California Water Code

Sec. 10721

Unless the context otherwise requires, the following definitions govern the construction of this part:

- (a) Adjudication action means an action filed in the superior or federal district court to determine the rights to extract groundwater from a basin or store water within a basin, including, but not limited to, actions to quiet title respecting rights to extract or store groundwater or an action brought to impose a physical solution on a basin.
- (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).
- (c) Bulletin 118 means the department's report entitled California's Groundwater: Bulletin 118 updated in 2003, as it may be subsequently updated or revised in accordance with Section 12924.
- (d) Coordination agreement means a legal agreement adopted between two or more groundwater sustainability agencies that provides the basis for coordinating multiple agencies or groundwater sustainability plans within a basin pursuant to this part.
- (e) De minimis extractor means a person who extracts, for domestic purposes, two acre-feet or less per year.
- (f) Governing body means the legislative body of a groundwater sustainability agency.
- (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.
- (h) Groundwater extraction facility means a device or method for extracting groundwater from within a basin.
- (i) Groundwater recharge or recharge means the augmentation of groundwater, by natural or artificial means.
- (j) Groundwater sustainability agency means one or more local agencies that implement the provisions of this part. For purposes of imposing fees pursuant to Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 10730) or taking action to enforce a groundwater sustainability plan,

groundwater sustainability agency also means each local agency comprising the groundwater sustainability agency if the plan authorizes separate agency action.

- (k) Groundwater sustainability plan or plan means a plan of a groundwater sustainability agency proposed or adopted pursuant to this part.
- (l) Groundwater sustainability program means a coordinated and ongoing activity undertaken to benefit a basin, pursuant to a groundwater sustainability plan.
- (m) In-lieu use means the use of surface water by persons that could otherwise extract groundwater in order to leave groundwater in the basin.
- (n) Local agency means a local public agency that has water supply, water management, or land use responsibilities within a groundwater basin.
- (o) Operator means a person operating a groundwater extraction facility. The owner of a groundwater extraction facility shall be conclusively presumed to be the operator unless a satisfactory showing is made to the governing body of the groundwater sustainability agency that the groundwater extraction facility actually is operated by some other person.
- (p) Owner means a person owning a groundwater extraction facility or an interest in a groundwater extraction facility other than a lien to secure the payment of a debt or other obligation.
- (q) Personal information has the same meaning as defined in Section 1798.3 of the Civil Code.
- (r) Planning and implementation horizon means a 50-year time period over which a groundwater sustainability agency determines that plans and measures will be implemented in a basin to ensure that the basin is operated within its sustainable yield.
- (s) Public water system has the same meaning as defined in Section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (t) Recharge area means the area that supplies water to an aquifer in a groundwater basin.
- (u) Sustainability goal means the existence and implementation of one or more groundwater sustainability plans that achieve sustainable groundwater management by identifying and causing the implementation of measures targeted to ensure that the applicable basin is operated within its sustainable yield.

- (v) Sustainable groundwater management means the management and use of groundwater in a manner that can be maintained during the planning and implementation horizon without causing undesirable results.
- (w) Sustainable yield means the maximum quantity of water, calculated over a base period representative of long-term conditions in the basin and including any temporary surplus that can be withdrawn annually from a groundwater supply without causing an undesirable result.
- (x) Undesirable result means one or more of the following effects caused by groundwater conditions occurring throughout the basin:
 - (1) Chronic lowering of groundwater levels indicating a significant and unreasonable depletion of supply if continued over the planning and implementation horizon. Overdraft during a period of drought is not sufficient to establish a chronic lowering of groundwater levels if extractions and groundwater recharge are managed as necessary to ensure that reductions in groundwater levels or storage during a period of drought are offset by increases in groundwater levels or storage during other periods.
 - (2) Significant and unreasonable reduction of groundwater storage.
 - (3) Significant and unreasonable seawater intrusion.
 - (4) Significant and unreasonable degraded water quality, including the migration of contaminant plumes that impair water supplies.
 - (5) Significant and unreasonable land subsidence that substantially interferes with surface land uses.
 - (6) Depletions of interconnected surface water that have significant and unreasonable adverse impacts on beneficial uses of the surface water.
- (y) Water budget means an accounting of the total groundwater and surface water entering and leaving a basin including the changes in the amount of water stored.
- (z) Watermaster means a watermaster appointed by a court or pursuant to other law.
- (aa) Water year means the period from October 1 through the following September 30, inclusive.

- (ab) Wellhead protection area means the surface and subsurface area surrounding a water well or well field that supplies a public water system through which contaminants are reasonably likely to migrate toward the water well or well field.

Official California Code of Regulations

Title 23. Waters

Division 2. Department of Water Resources

Chapter 1.5. Groundwater Management

Subchapter 2. Groundwater Sustainability Plans

Article 2. Definitions

23 CCR § 351

§ 351. Definitions.

The definitions in the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, Bulletin 118, and Subchapter 1 of this Chapter, shall apply to these regulations. In the event of conflicting definitions, the definitions in the Act govern the meanings in this Subchapter. In addition, the following terms used in this Subchapter have the following meanings:

- (a) “Agency” refers to a groundwater sustainability agency as defined in the Act.
- (b) “Agricultural water management plan” refers to a plan adopted pursuant to the Agricultural Water Management Planning Act as described in Part 2.8 of Division 6 of the Water Code, commencing with Section 10800 et seq.
- (c) “Alternative” refers to an alternative to a Plan described in Water Code Section 10733.6.
- (d) “Annual report” refers to the report required by Water Code Section 10728.
- (e) “Baseline” or “baseline conditions” refer to historic information used to project future conditions for hydrology, water demand, and availability of surface water and to evaluate potential sustainable management practices of a basin.
- (f) “Basin” means a groundwater basin or subbasin identified and defined in Bulletin 118 or as modified pursuant to Water Code 10722 et seq.
- (g) “Basin setting” refers to the information about the physical setting, characteristics, and current conditions of the basin as described by the Agency in the hydrogeologic conceptual model, the groundwater conditions, and the water budget, pursuant to Subarticle 2 of Article 5.

- (h) “Best available science” refers to the use of sufficient and credible information and data, specific to the decision being made and the time frame available for making that decision, that is consistent with scientific and engineering professional standards of practice.
- (i) “Best management practice” refers to a practice, or combination of practices, that are designed to achieve sustainable groundwater management and have been determined to be technologically and economically effective, practicable, and based on best available science.
- (j) “Board” refers to the State Water Resources Control Board.
- (k) “CASGEM” refers to the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program developed by the Department pursuant to Water Code Section 10920 et seq., or as amended.
- (l) “Data gap” refers to a lack of information that significantly affects the understanding of the basin setting or evaluation of the efficacy of Plan implementation, and could limit the ability to assess whether a basin is being sustainably managed.
- (m) “Groundwater dependent ecosystem” refers to ecological communities or species that depend on groundwater emerging from aquifers or on groundwater occurring near the ground surface.
- (n) “Groundwater flow” refers to the volume and direction of groundwater movement into, out of, or throughout a basin.
- (o) “Interconnected surface water” refers to surface water that is hydraulically connected at any point by a continuous saturated zone to the underlying aquifer and the overlying surface water is not completely depleted.
- (p) “Interested parties” refers to persons and entities on the list of interested persons established by the Agency pursuant to Water Code Section 10723.4.
- (q) “Interim milestone” refers to a target value representing measurable groundwater conditions, in increments of five years, set by an Agency as part of a Plan.
- (r) “Management area” refers to an area within a basin for which the Plan may identify different minimum thresholds, measurable objectives, monitoring, or projects and management actions based on differences in water use sector, water source type, geology, aquifer characteristics, or other factors.

- (s) “Measurable objectives” refer to specific, quantifiable goals for the maintenance or improvement of specified groundwater conditions that have been included in an adopted Plan to achieve the sustainability goal for the basin.
- (t) “Minimum threshold” refers to a numeric value for each sustainability indicator used to define undesirable results.
- (u) “NAD83” refers to the North American Datum of 1983 computed by the National Geodetic Survey, or as modified.
- (v) “NAVD88” refers to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 computed by the National Geodetic Survey, or as modified.
- (w) “Plain language” means language that the intended audience can readily understand and use because that language is concise, well-organized, uses simple vocabulary, avoids excessive acronyms and technical language, and follows other best practices of plain language writing.
- (x) “Plan” refers to a groundwater sustainability plan as defined in the Act.
- (y) “Plan implementation” refers to an Agency's exercise of the powers and authorities described in the Act, which commences after an Agency adopts and submits a Plan or Alternative to the Department and begins exercising such powers and authorities.
- (z) “Plan manager” is an employee or authorized representative of an Agency, or Agencies, appointed through a coordination agreement or other agreement, who has been delegated management authority for submitting the Plan and serving as the point of contact between the Agency and the Department.
- (aa) “Principal aquifers” refer to aquifers or aquifer systems that store, transmit, and yield significant or economic quantities of groundwater to wells, springs, or surface water systems.
- (ab) “Reference point” refers to a permanent, stationary and readily identifiable mark or point on a well, such as the top of casing, from which groundwater level measurements are taken, or other monitoring site.
- (ac) “Representative monitoring” refers to a monitoring site within a broader network of sites that typifies one or more conditions within the basin or an area of the basin.
- (ad) “Seasonal high” refers to the highest annual static groundwater elevation that is typically measured in the Spring and associated with stable aquifer conditions following a period of lowest annual groundwater demand.

- (ae) “Seasonal low” refers to the lowest annual static groundwater elevation that is typically measured in the Summer or Fall, and associated with a period of stable aquifer conditions following a period of highest annual groundwater demand.
- (af) “Seawater intrusion” refers to the advancement of seawater into a groundwater supply that results in degradation of water quality in the basin, and includes seawater from any source.
- (ag) “Statutory deadline” refers to the date by which an Agency must be managing a basin pursuant to an adopted Plan, as described in Water Code Sections 10720.7 or 10722.4.
- (ah) “Sustainability indicator” refers to any of the effects caused by groundwater conditions occurring throughout the basin that, when significant and unreasonable, cause undesirable results, as described in Water Code Section 10721(x).
- (ai) “Uncertainty” refers to a lack of understanding of the basin setting that significantly affects an Agency's ability to develop sustainable management criteria and appropriate projects and management actions in a Plan, or to evaluate the efficacy of Plan implementation, and therefore may limit the ability to assess whether a basin is being sustainably managed.
- (aj) “Urban water management plan” refers to a plan adopted pursuant to the Urban Water Management Planning Act as described in Part 2.6 of Division 6 of the Water Code, commencing with Section 10610 et seq.
- (ak) “Water source type” represents the source from which water is derived to meet the applied beneficial uses, including groundwater, recycled water, reused water, and surface water sources identified as Central Valley Project, the State Water Project, the Colorado River Project, local supplies, and local imported supplies.
- (al) “Water use sector” refers to categories of water demand based on the general land uses to which the water is applied, including urban, industrial, agricultural, managed wetlands, managed recharge, and native vegetation.
- (am) “Water year” refers to the period from October 1 through the following September 30, inclusive, as defined in the Act.
- (an) “Water year type” refers to the classification provided by the Department to assess the amount of annual precipitation in a basin.

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