A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

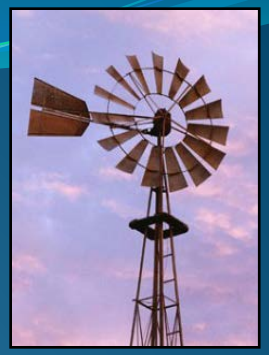
# Our Groundwater Resources in Napa County

## Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

## Implementation Update

Board of Supervisors Special Meeting
December 13, 2016

# Sustainable Groundwater Management Act



- Signed into law Sept. 16, 2014 by Governor Brown
  - Three-bill package that collectively creates a new structure for sustainable management of California's groundwater basins. (Senate Bill (SB) 1168, Assembly Bill (AB) 1739, and SB 1319)
- Represents a significant change in State's history of water management, providing framework and authority at the Local and State level to advance groundwater management planning.
- A central feature of the Act is the recognition that groundwater management in California is best accomplished locally.
- Establishes a definition of sustainable groundwater management, provides local agency authority, prioritizes basins with the greatest need, and sets a timeline for implementation.

# Groundwater Legislation Timeline

**Jan 1, 2015**
Local Agencies may no longer adopt or update GMPs for high and medium priority basins.
Water Code § 10750.1

**Jan 31, 2015 ***
DWR releases initial basin prioritization. **
Water Code § 10722.4

**2015 - 2016 ***
DWR identifies basins subject to critical conditions of overdraft.
Water Code § 12924(a)

**Jan 1, 2016**
DWR adopts regulations to revise basin boundaries.
Water Code § 10722.2(b)

**Apr 1, 2016**
Adjudicated basins submit final judgment to DWR and begin submitting annual reports to DWR.
Water Code § 10720.8(f)

**Jun 1, 2016**
DWR adopts regulations for evaluating and implementing GSPs and coordination agreements and DWR adopts regulations for evaluating alternatives to GSPs.
Water Code § 10733.2

**Dec 31, 2016 ***
DWR publishes report on water available for groundwater replenishment.
Water Code § 10729(c)

**2017**
DWR publishes Bulletin 118- Interim Update with updated Basin Boundaries, updated Basin Prioritization, and reissues (as needed) basins subject to critical conditions of overdraft.

**Jan 1, 2017 ***
DWR publishes BMPs for sustainable management of groundwater.
Water Code § 10729(d)

**Jan 1, 2017**
Alternative to a GSP due to DWR.
Water Code § 10733.6

**Jun 30, 2017**
Establish GSAs (or equivalent) for all high and medium priority basins.
Water Code § 10735.2(a)

**Jul 1, 2017**
County must affirm or disaffirm responsibility as GSA if no GSA has been established.
Water Code § 10724(b)

**2020**
DWR publishes Bulletin 118- Comprehensive Update.
Water Code § 12924

**Jan 31, 2020**
High and medium priority basins identified subject to critical conditions of overdraft must be managed under a GSP.
Water Code § 10720.7(a)(1)

On April 1 following GSP adoption and annually thereafter, GSAs provide report on progress towards sustainability to DWR.
Water Code § 10728

**Jan 31, 2022**
All other high and medium priority basins must be managed under a GSP.
Water Code § 10720.7(a)(2)

On April 1 following GSP adoption and annually thereafter, GSAs provide report on progress towards sustainability to DWR.
Water Code § 10728

2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2025

**Jun 30, 2017**
Board may hold a hearing to designate a basin as "probationary" if a GSA or approved alternative is not established.
Water Code § 10735.2(a)(1)

**Jul 1, 2017**
Board adopts a fee schedule for "state back-stop" related costs.
Water Code § 1529.5

**Dec 15, 2017**
Board begins collection of annual reports from persons extracting more than two acre feet per year from areas not managed by a GSA.
Water Code § 5202

**Jan 1, 2018**
Board may begin to develop interim plans if a local agency has not remedied the deficiency that resulted in the "probationary basin" status. The Board consults with DWR.
Water Code § 10735.4(c)

Probationary basins may petition for un-designation. The Board consults with DWR to determine if the petition is complete. The Board acts on the petition within 90 days of submittal.
Water Code § 10735.8(g)(2)

**Jan 31, 2020**
Board may hold a hearing to designate a critically-overdrafted basin as "probationary" if DWR, in consultation with the Board, determines that the GSP is inadequate or will not achieve sustainability.
Water Code § 10735.2(a)(3)

**Jan 2021**
Board may begin developing interim plans for critically overdrafted "probationary basins" one year after the probationary designation, if the Board, in consultation with the DWR, determines that a local agency has not remedied the deficiency that resulted in the probationary status.
Water Code § 10735.6(b)

**Jan 31, 2022**
Board may hold a hearing to designate a high and medium priority basin as "probationary" if DWR, in consultation with the Board, determines that the GSP is inadequate or will not achieve sustainability.
Water Code § 10735.2(a)(5)(A)

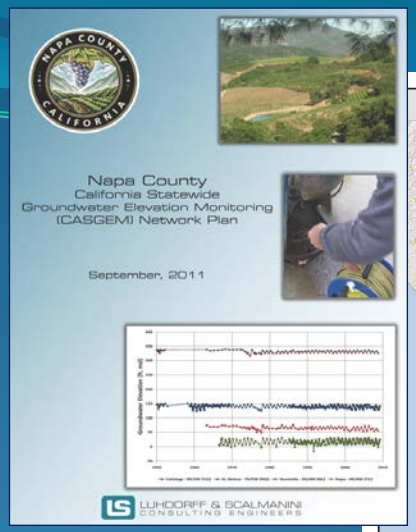
**Jan 31, 2025**
Board may designate a basin as "probationary" if DWR, in consultation with the Board, determines that the GSP is inadequate or not being implemented correctly, and the Board determines that the basin is in a condition where groundwater extractions result in significant depletion of interconnected surface waters.
Water Code § 10735.2(a)(5)(B)

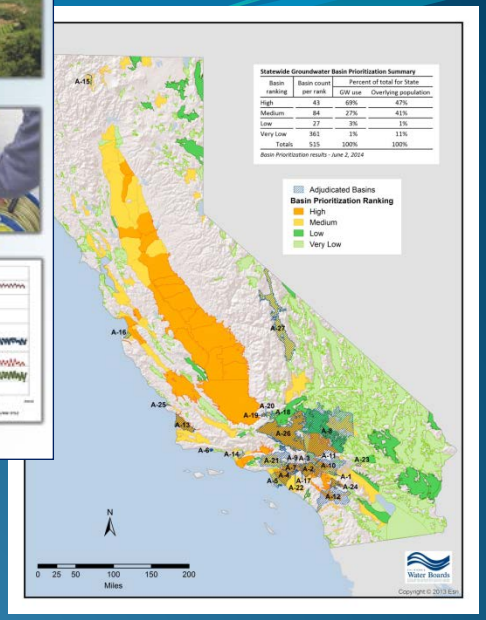
- Water Board Action
- DWR Action
- Joint Water Board and DWR Action
- Local Action

GMP Groundwater Management Plan
GSA Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSP Groundwater Sustainability Plan
BMPs Best Management Practices
* Elements to be documented in Bulletin 118 Updates
** Basin prioritization will be updated prior to each Bulletin 118 Update (estimated to be every 5 years)

December 2014

# Groundwater Basin Prioritization

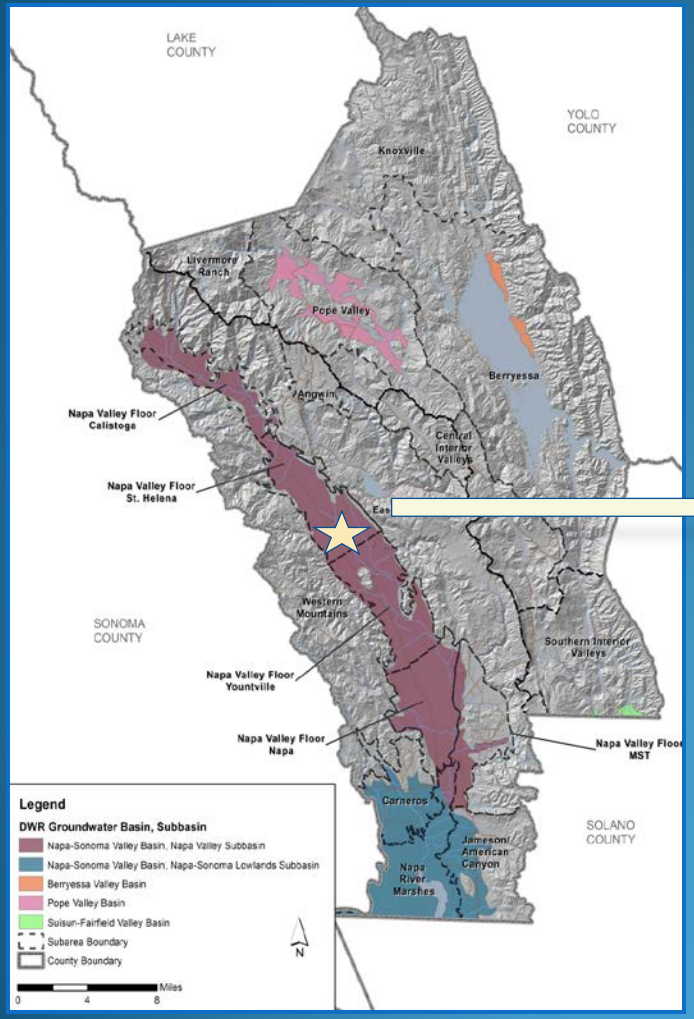


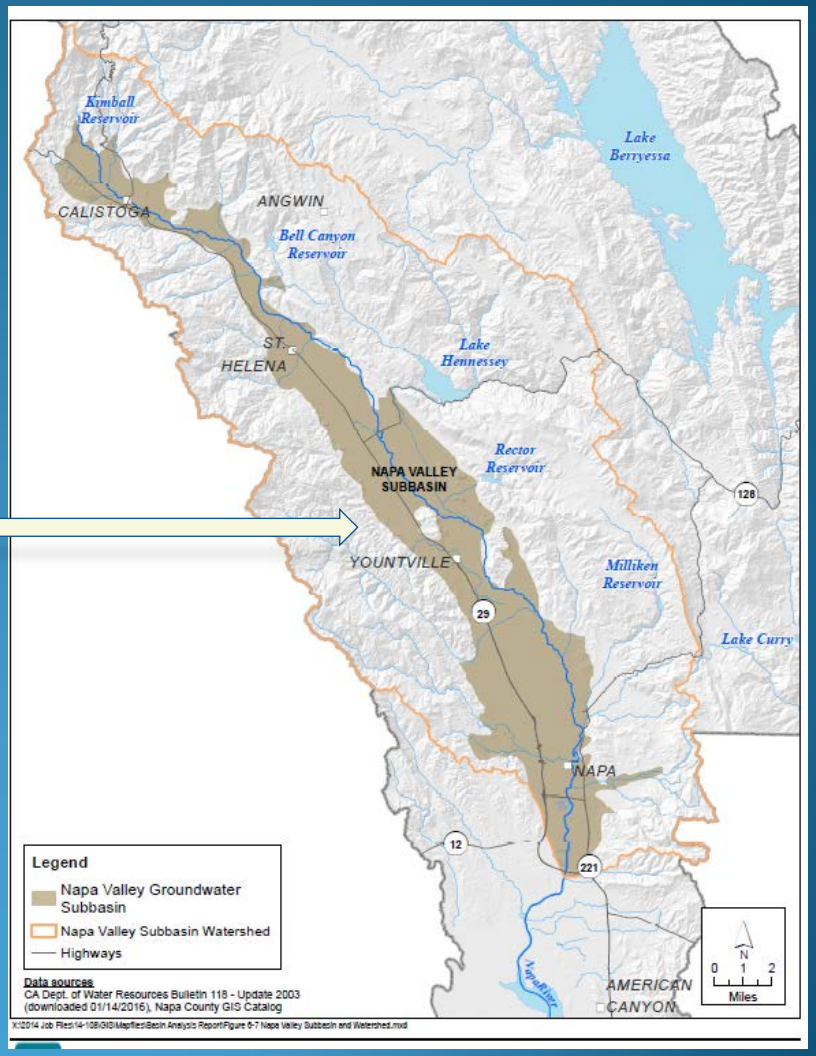




- Department of Water Resources (DWR) established groundwater basin priorities
- Only high and medium priority basins are subject to the SGMA requirements at this time
- DWR determined that the current CASGEM basin prioritizations are sufficient for this purpose
- Under CASGEM, the Napa Valley subbasin is designated as a medium priority

# Napa County Groundwater Basins/ Sub-Basins (DWR)

# Napa Valley Groundwater Subbasin



# Groundwater Sustainability Agencies

- SGMA promotes coordinated management of groundwater basins and allows a local agency (or combination) to form a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA).
  - A “local agency” is defined as “a local public agency that has water supply, water management, or land use responsibilities within a groundwater basin.”
  - The Act provides for a broad range of new authorities and responsibilities, including the ability to assess fees to cover the cost of the program
  - Local agencies in high- and medium-priority groundwater basins have until June 30, 2017 to form a GSA.
- Counties are presumed to be the GSA for basins or portions not otherwise covered by another GSA, and must notify DWR
- A GSA is not required where it is demonstrated to DWR that the basin is being managed sustainably, as defined by SGMA

# Groundwater Sustainability Plans

- In high- and medium-priority basins, the local agency must develop a GSP or Alternative provided by SGMA
  - Each basin must be covered by a single plan developed by one or more agencies, or by multiple/coordinated plans
- The local agency must adopt a GSP and submit to DWR by:
  - (1) January 31, 2020, for all high or medium priority basins that are subject to critical conditions of overdraft, or
  - (2) January 31, 2022, for all other high and medium priority basins (Napa Valley subbasin) unless the local agency establishes it is otherwise being sustainably managed, or the basin is adjudicated.
  - Low and very low priority basins are encouraged to adopt GSPs, but they are not required to do so.
- The California Water Commission approved the draft Regulations for GSPs and Alternatives May 18, 2016; then adopted by the Office of Administrative Law and became effective August 15, 2016.

# Groundwater Sustainability: Basin Analysis Report-Alternative

- A local agency or GSA may elect to submit an Alternative that demonstrates the basin is being managed sustainably
  - On March 3, 2015 the Board of Supervisors carefully considered SGMA implementation and directed staff to pursue the Alternative option, which would allow us to act sooner rather than later and was cost effective.
  - The Alternative is a Basin Analysis Report that demonstrates the basin has operated within its sustainable yield for a period of at least 10 years
  - It must be consistent with and balance the intent of the Act (SGMA) with the functionally equivalent elements of a GSP
- A local agency or GSA must submit an Alternative to DWR for review by January 1, 2017 and every five years thereafter.
- Groundwater basins that are being managed sustainably are not required to create a GSA or develop a GSP.

# Land Use Planning

- SGMA is intended to strengthen the connection between land use planning and water management throughout California.
- Amends Planning and Zoning Law to require increased coordination between land use planning agencies and groundwater sustainability/local agencies.
- Requires local planning agencies to review/consider a GSP/GMP/Interim Plan/Alternative prior to adopting a substantial amendment to the General Plan.

# The State's Role

## Department of Water Resources (DWR)

### Evaluation and Assessment

Review GSPs/Alt-Plans for compliance with the legislation

### Technical Assistance

Provide local agencies with assistance for implementation, including:

- Adopt regulations for GSPs/Alt Plans : June 1, 2016
- Publish report estimating water availability by Dec. 31, 2016
- Development of GW Sustainability BMPs by Jan. 1, 2017

### Financial Assistance

Grant funding to be used for development and implementation of GSPs and projects.

# The State's Role:

## State Water Resources Control Board

- Will act as the backstop agency and intervene for those groundwater basins where:
  - A GSP or Alternative is not developed/adopted for the basin
  - The local agency or GSA does not implement the Plan
  - A GSA was not formed for the basin
- May designate a basin as probationary if not in compliance
- Local agency would have 6 months to one year to remedy
- If not, SWRCB may prepare an interim plan and assess fees to recover costs in administering basin oversight

# Napa County Groundwater Program & SGMA Implementation Timeline

2009-2013
Groundwater (GW) Studies & Recommendations (LSCE)

2013-2016
State Grant for SW/GW Monitoring Wells

June 2008
General Plan Update
—
Water/GW Policies

2010-2014
CASGEM Implementation:
County Monitoring Agency(2010)
CASGEM Plan(2011); Update (2014)

Feb 14, 2011
Board of Supervisors Groundwater Workshop
———
2011-2014
GW Resources Advisory Comm (GRAC) and Joint WICC Mtgs

March 2015
BOS Annual GW Update Report & SGMA Direction

May 2015
BOS Water Availability Analysis (WAA) Update

April 2016
BOS Annual GW Update Report & SGMA Direction

Sept/Nov 2016
WICC Mtgs SGMA Workshops
———
2011-2016
WICC Mtgs Bi-monthly

**Dec 2016**
Board of Supervisors Special Mtg
———
NV Basin Analysis Report to DWR

April 2017
BOS Annual GW Update Report
&
DWR Report & Imp Update (1st annual)

2017-2022
SGMA/DWR Annual Reporting & Implementation Update
———
Ongoing WICC Mtgs and Symposiums for GW Educ/Outreach

Jan. 31, 2022
1st Update to DWR
——
NV Basin Analysis Report

2008 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | WE ARE HERE | 2017 | 2020 | 2022

2009-2010
DWR CASGEM Program
—
GW Elevation Monitoring Guidelines

Sept 2014
Sustainable GW Mgmt Act (SGMA) Adoption

Jan 2015
SGMA Implementa-tion Begins
———
DWR Basin Priorities Updates

Jan 2016
DWR Basin Boundary Regs

May 2016
GSP & Alt Regsulations by CA Water Comm/DWR
–
Aug 15, 2016
OAL Final Regs Adoption

**Jan 1, 2017**
SGMA/DWR Deadline for Alternatives to GSPs

June 30, 2017
GSA s for High/Med Basin Deadline

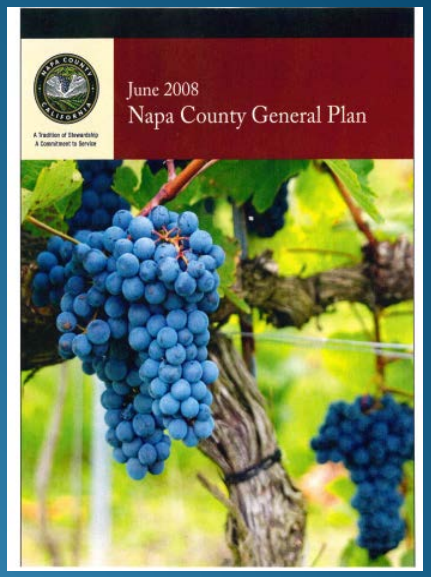
Jan. 31, 2020
GSPs for Critical Basins Deadline

Jan. 31, 2022
GSP s for High/Med Basins Deadline
Initial GSPs

## DWR SGMA Timeline

# Groundwater Sustainability

**Napa County General Plan and Groundwater Sustainability Objectives provide foundation**



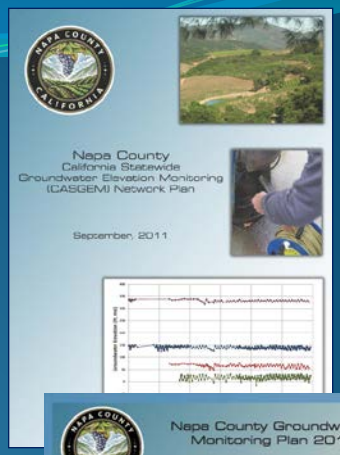

## General Plan Update (June 2008):

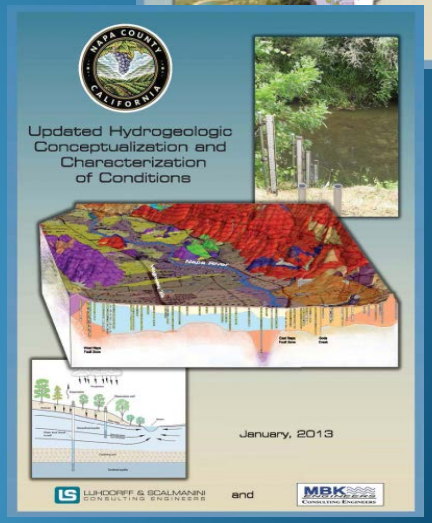
### Water Resources Goals

- **Goal - CON-12:** Collect information about status of Surface and Groundwater resources for improved forecasting of supplies and effective management
  - **Action Item - CON WR-4:** Implement a countywide watershed monitoring program to assess health of County's watersheds
  - **Action Item - CON WR-8:** Monitor Surface and Groundwater interrelationships using County-owned wells and stream and precipitation gauges, data from private property owners on a voluntary basis, data via conditions of land-use approvals, data from DWR and other agencies/organizations

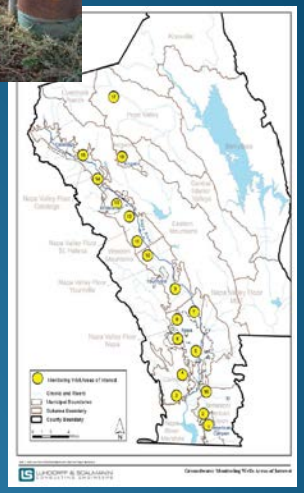
# Working to Improve Our Understanding of Groundwater

- Request for Proposals/Contract (2009)
  - Comprehensive Groundwater Resources/ Monitoring Evaluation and Recommendations (LSCE)
- BOS Groundwater Workshop (Feb. 2011)
  - Report on GW Conditions/Monitoring Recommendations
  - Groundwater Resources Advisory Committee (GRAC)
- Groundwater Monitoring Plan (Jan 2013) and CASGEM Plan (Sept 2011/2014)
  - Plan addressing Long-term Monitoring Needs
- Updated Hydrogeologic Conceptualization & Characterization of Conditions (Jan 2013)
  - Report Addressing GW Data Gaps

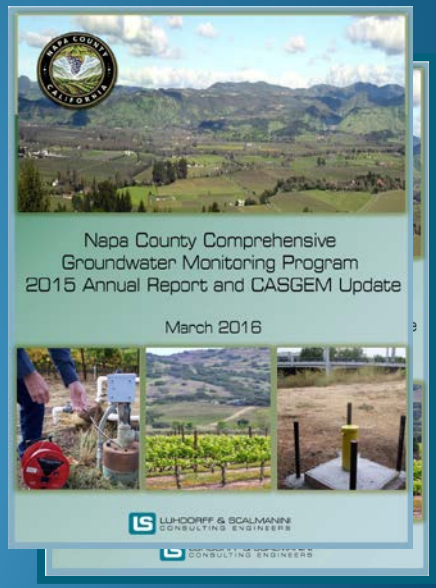




# Groundwater Monitoring



- Monitoring well network: expanded voluntary monitoring to help answer remaining questions
  - Supports County water resources goals and addresses identified data needs
  - Coordinates data collection with State/CASGEM
- GW/SW Monitoring: developed five new dedicated wells for groundwater/surface water monitoring along the Napa River
- Groundwater Monitoring Annual Report: provides an annual update on groundwater level trends and groundwater quality conditions



# Napa County
# Groundwater Sustainability Objectives 2014

## Groundwater Sustainability *(definition)*

*Groundwater sustainability depends on the development and use of groundwater in a manner that can be maintained indefinitely without causing unacceptable economic, environmental, or social consequences, while protecting economic, environmental, and social benefits.*

- As such, groundwater sustainability is both a goal and a process.
- Groundwater sustainability is a shared responsibility of everyone that lives and works in the County.

*Groundwater Resources Advisory Committee (GRAC)*

# Sustainability:
# …..from Plans to Actions

- Expanded Monitoring Program and Annual Reporting to ensure long-term sustainability (General Plan goal)
- Updated County's Water Availability Analysis (WAA) and Groundwater Ordinance.
- Extended Recycled Water to the MST and Carneros
- Expanded Water Conservation Program Efforts
- Groundwater Outreach & Education (WICC & RCD)

# Education & Outreach

- WICC Meetings
  - Hosting Public Meetings/Forums
- Participation in Community Events
  - Earthday, River Fest, and others
- WICC Watershed Symposiums
- Public Workshops
  - Updates and New DIY monitoring tools

    *" Determine your Well-being"*

# Next Steps:

- **Groundwater Sustainability – Basin Analysis Report**
  - Submittal to State-DWR by January 1, 2017
  - Includse DWR-Alternative Elements Guide to show GSP consistency
  - DWR Review: 60 day comment period; followed by review/action
- **Annual GW Monitoring Report/CASGEM Update** (April 2017)
  - Address DWR requirements and GW Monitoring Plan priorities
- **DWR Proposed Groundwater BMPs/Others** (2017)
  - WICC Review of new groundwater BMPs/other items from DWR
- **Groundwater Model Update** (2017-2019)
  - Pursue grant funding for groundwater model update
- **Groundwater Sustainability Program** – (2018-2022)
  - Begin review/update of Basin Analysis Report for next DWR submittal

# For Additional Information on Groundwater and SGMA:

- Napa County: http://www.countyofnapa.org/groundwater/

  http://www.napawatersheds.org/groundwater/

- State: http://groundwater.ca.gov
- DWR: http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/
- SWRCB: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/gmp/

Thank You…