

AUGUST 2021

GLOSSARY

SISKIYOU COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Shasta Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan

PUBLIC DRAFT REPORT



Glossary

Term	Definition
Adjudicated Areas	Where disputes over legal rights to groundwater have resulted in a court-issued ruling (known as an adjudication). Adjudications can cover an entire basin, a portion of a basin, or a group of basins.
Basin Setting	The physical setting, characteristics, and conditions of the basin.
CASGEM	The California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program
Data Gap	A lack of information that could limit the ability to evaluate whether a basin is being sustainably managed, that significantly affects understanding of the basin setting or that limits assessment of the efficacy of implementation of the groundwater sustainability plan.
De Minimis Extractor	A person who extracts, for domestic purposes, less than or equal to 2 acre-feet of groundwater per year.
Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems	Ecological communities or species that depend on groundwater emerging from aquifers or on groundwater occurring near the ground surface.
Groundwater Sustainability Agency	One or a combination of local agencies with water supply, water management or land use responsibilities may establish a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). The GSA holds the responsibility to develop and implement a groundwater sustainability plan.
Groundwater Sustainability Plan	A 20-year plan to ensure groundwater is managed sustainability within a groundwater basin.
Hydrogeological Conceptual Model	A description of the geologic and hydrologic setting that determines groundwater occurrence, movement, and general conditions in a basin or subbasin.
Interconnected surface water	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.
Interim Milestones	periodic goals (defined every five years, at minimum), that are used to measure progress toward measurable objectives and the sustainability goal.
Measurable Objective	specific and quantifiable goals that are defined to reflect the desired groundwater conditions in the Basin and achieve the sustainability goal within 20 years. Measurable objectives are defined in relation to the six undesirable results and use the same metrics as minimum thresholds.
Minimum Threshold	a quantitative value representative of groundwater conditions at a site (or sites), that, if exceeded, may cause an undesirable result. The term “maximum threshold” (MaxT) is the equivalent value for sustainable management criteria with a defined maximum limit (e.g., groundwater quality).
Projects and Management Actions	creation or modification of a physical structure / infrastructure (project) and creation of policies, procedures, or regulations (management actions) that are implemented to achieve Basin sustainability.
Representative Monitoring Points	for each sustainability indicator, a subset of the entire monitoring network where minimum thresholds, measurable objectives, and milestones are measured and evaluated.

SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, a three-bill package signed into California state law in 2014.
Sustainability Goal	The overarching goal for the Basin with respect to managing groundwater conditions to ensure the absence of undesirable results.
Sustainability Indicators	Six indicators defined under SGMA: chronic lowering of groundwater levels, reduction of groundwater storage, seawater intrusion, degraded groundwater quality, land subsidence, and depletions of interconnected surface water. These indicators describe groundwater-related conditions in the Basin and are used to determine occurrence of undesirable results (23 CCR 354.28(b)(1)-(6).)
Sustainable Management Criteria	Minimum thresholds, measurable objectives, and undesirable results, consistent with the sustainability goal, that must be defined for each sustainability indicator.
Undesirable Result	<p>Conditions, defined under SGMA as:</p> <p>“... one or more of the following effects caused by groundwater conditions occurring throughout a basin:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chronic lowering of groundwater levels indicating a significant and unreasonable depletion of supply if continued over the planning and implementation horizon.... 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.” <p>(Wat. Code § 10721(x)(1)-(6).)</p>
Water Budget	An estimated accounting of all the water (surface and groundwater) that flows into and out of a basin.
Water Year	The period from October 1 through and including the following September 30.
Water Year Type	A classification, provided by the Department of Water Resources that reflects the amount of annual precipitation in a basin.