



EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Board Members

South San Joaquin
Irrigation District - Chair
Robert Holmes

Stockton East Water
District – Vice Chair
Mel Panizza

California Water Service
Company
Craig Stevens

Central Delta Water
Agency
George Biagi Jr.

Central San Joaquin Water
Conservation District
Richard Wagner

City of Lodi
Alan Nakanishi

City of Manteca
Regina Lackey

City of Stockton
Michael Blower

Eastside San Joaquin GSA
Gary Tofanelli

Linden County Water
District
Myron Blanton

Lockeford Community
Services District
Mike Henry

North San Joaquin Water
Conservation District
Jason Colombini

Oakdale Irrigation District
Eric Thorburn

San Joaquin County
Sonny Dhaliwal

South Delta Water Agency
John Herrick

Woodbridge Irrigation
District
Keith Bussman

Executive Director

Julia D. Berry

Board of Directors

AGENDA

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

San Joaquin County Council of Governments

555 E. Weber Avenue, Stockton, CA 95202

I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance & Roll Call

II. Additions to the Agenda

(The Board may add an item to the agenda if, upon a two-thirds vote, the Board finds that there is a need for immediate action on the matter and the need came to the attention of the Authority after the posting of this Agenda)

III. Public Comment

(Members of the public may address the Board on any matter related to the Authority that is not included on the Agenda. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes per person.)

IV. Action Items

1. Approval of November 12, 2025 Meeting Minutes

V. Presentations

1. Joe Zilles, P.E., Kleinfelder
2. GSA Spotlight - John Herrick, South Delta GSA

VI. Authority Staff/Agency Reports

1. Executive Director, Julia D. Berry
 - i. ESJGWA Monitoring Well Inventory
2. Department of Water Resources, Chelsea Spier
3. San Joaquin County

VII. Directors' Comments and Project Status Reports

VIII. Adjournment

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY
Board of Directors Meeting
AGENDA
(Continued)

Next Regular Meeting

Wednesday, January 14, 2026
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
San Joaquin County Council of Governments

Items on the Agenda may be taken in any order.

Action may be taken on any item listed on the Agenda.

Writings relating to open session Agenda items that are distributed to members of the Board of Directors will be available for inspection at the San Joaquin County Public Works Water Resources office, excluding writings that are not public records or are exempt from disclosure under the California Public Records Acts.

Agendas and Minutes may also be found at <http://www.ESJGroundwater.org>

Note: If you need disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, please contact San Joaquin County Public Works Water Resources Staff at (209) 468-3089 at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting.

ZOOM LINK:

<https://sjcog.zoom.us/j/82989811836>

Phone One Tap:

+16694449171,,82989811836#

DIAL: +1 669 444 9171

Meeting ID: 829 8981 1836

Passcode: 903992

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT/ROLL CALL

The Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (GWA) Board Meeting convened at the Council of Governments building at 555 E. Weber Ave. Stockton, CA 95202. At approximately 10:30 a.m., the meeting was called to order by Chair Bob Holmes.

In attendance were Directors and Alternates: Richard Wagner, Travis Kahrs, Michael Blower, Christy McKinnon, Myron Blanton, Mike Henry, Jason Colombini, Scot Moody, Keith Bussman, Fritz Buchman, Vice Chair Mel Panizza, and Chair Robert Holmes.

II. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The Board may add an item to the agenda if, upon a two-third vote, the Board finds that there is a need for immediate action on the matter and the need comes to the attention of the Authority after the posting of this agenda.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Elizabeth, representing the Delta Sierra Group, provides verbal and written comments. Chairperson Holmes confirmed the receipt of Mary Elizabeth's written comments and notes that they were distributed to board members prior to the board meeting.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of September 10, 2025, Board Minutes

Motion: Mel Panizza

Second: Michael Blower

The vote was unanimous

2. Groundwater Monitoring Wells Ownership

Executive Director, Julia Berry, shared ARPA spending is moving forward, and staff recommends to the Board that the GSAs take ownership and maintain monitoring the wells.

Motion: Mike Henry

Second: Jason Colombini

The vote was unanimous

3. Change Order – Kleinfelder

Executive Director Julia Berry recommends the board take action to amend Kleinfelder's existing contract in alignment with resolution R-21-03 to allow the Secretary of the Authority to sign the amendment to the contract.

Motion: Richard Wagner

Second: Myron Blanton
The vote was unanimous

V. AUTHORITY STAFF/AGENCY REPORTS

1. Executive Director, Julia D. Berry

- i. Demand Management Program Development Update, Julia Berry summarized her staff report on progress to refine the model, demand management, address project implementation and staff interaction with DWR.
- ii. Financial Report, Khawaja Saifuddin of San Joaquin County provides the financial report provided.

2. Department of Water Resources - none

VI. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS AND PROJECT STATUS REPORTS

Director Richard Wagner informs the Board of the passing of Reid Roberts, General Manager of Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

11:13 AM



EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: December 10, 2025

TO: ESJGWA Board of Directors
FROM: Julia Berry, Executive Director
SUBJECT: ESJGWA Monitoring Well Inventory
Date: December 4, 2025

Recommendation

This report is provided for informational purposes only. No Board action or recommendation is requested at this time.

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) manages the SGMA Portal (Portal), which aggregates groundwater data, provides public access, and supports GSAs in meeting SGMA requirements. They do not directly manage local wells; that's the responsibility of local GSAs.

The Portal holds data for monitored groundwater well data (water levels and quality). Two monitoring well types identified in the Portal include (1) representative wells and (2) standard wells. Representative wells are the priority for DWR as they serve as "indicators" for a broader portion of the aquifer and represent conditions for a whole management area or group of wells.

The Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (ESJGWA) has assumed responsibility for monitoring and reporting the SGMA wells in the region. The process of gathering the data for the Portal includes collecting, verifying, and reporting every Spring and Fall. ESJGWA currently has 172 reporting wells in the Portal which include 21 SGMA representative wells and 151 standard SGMA wells. Of note, 162 of the 172 Portal wells are also identified as California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) wells. A CASGEM well is a well officially designated by a local monitoring entity and DWR for tracking groundwater level trends over time to provide long-term, statewide data on groundwater elevations. Before SGMA existed (2014), CASGEM was California's main statewide groundwater-level tracking system. Under SGMA, many of the same wells were incorporated into representative monitoring networks.

Staff researched and identified the 172 well locations by agency and detailed the various teams that collect the samples, validate the data, and upload data into the SGMA database. Sampling may be done physically in person, or new technology has allowed for well data to be collected electronically via telemetry. Telemetry is the automatic collection of data from a remote source and transmission to a receiving station for monitoring and analysis.

The purpose of dedicating staff time is to become well acquainted with the data is to ensure complete reporting and data integrity. We have determined that minor data gaps may be easily corrected with additional staff time. Many agencies and multiple consultant teams have historically been involved in

collecting and validating and San Joaquin County staff has been uploading data to the Portal. It would be wise for the Authority to take responsibility for process from start to finish to ensure compliance with SGMA.

Below is a summary of ESJGWA Groundwater Sustainability Agencies and the corresponding number of SGMA wells within each GSA boundary:

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY MEMBER GSAS	SGMA Representative Wells	SGMA Standard Wells	Total Wells
California Water Service Company	2	24	26
Central Delta Water Agency	1	11	12
Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District	2	11	13
City of Lodi	1	34	35
City of Manteca	1	5	6
City of Stockton	0	5	5
Eastside San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency	3	26	29
Linden County Water District	1	0	1
Lockeford Community Water District	1	0	1
North San Joaquin Water Conservation District	0	17	17
Oakdale Irrigation District	3	5	8
San Joaquin County	0	3	3
South Delta Water Agency	0	0	0
South San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency	2	1	3
Stockton East Water District	0	5	5
Woodbridge Irrigation District	4	4	8
Total	21	151	172

December 2025 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

Grants

California Grants Portal

The California State Library, in partnership with the Department of Water Resources and other state grantmaking agencies, has launched the California Grants Portal – your one destination to find all state grant and loan opportunities provided on a first-come or competitive basis. Visit grants.ca.gov to find funding opportunities for you and your community.

DWR's Underrepresented Communities and Small Farmer Technical Assistance Program

The mission of the Program is to determine the needs, risks, and vulnerabilities with the implementation of the SGMA for underrepresented communities and small farms in medium and high priority basins, including critically overdrafted (COD) basins. The types of services provided include, but are not limited to: Groundwater level monitoring; Aquifer testing to determine long-term yield and supply; Identifying Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs); Analyze well interference; Identifying additional water supply; Analyze existing well condition using downhole video log; Rehabilitation of water storage tank; Long-term water supply and demand analysis; Analyze and help to facilitate water transfers. [More information is available on the webpage](#). **Local entities can request services by emailing SGM_TA@water.ca.gov.**

Upcoming conferences, webinars, new reports and data

DWR Seeks Public Comment on Released Draft California's Groundwater: Bulletin 118 – Update 2025

DWR released the [Draft California's Groundwater: Bulletin 118 – Update 2025 \(CalGW Update 2025\)](#), opening a 45-day public comment period (**ending December 5th**). CalGW Update 2025 provides a comprehensive inventory and assessment of available information on the occurrence and nature of groundwater and informs decisions on the protection, use, monitoring and management of the resource. This five-year update builds on the CalGW Update 2020 by integrating data submitted to DWR by local agencies under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), including information reported in Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSP), Alternatives to GSPs, annual reports, and other groundwater initiatives. CalGW Update 2025 is part of a comprehensive suite of resources designed to support groundwater understanding and management across the state, including the [Semi-Annual Updates](#), [CalGW Live](#), and the [Basin Characterization](#) program. The full document as well as a highlights document (in English and Spanish) and all appendices can be [downloaded here](#).

DWR presented an overview of the Draft CalGW Update 2025 at a public virtual webinar meeting on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, from noon to 1:00 p.m. The [recording can be viewed here](#) in English or Spanish.

Preliminary Sac Valley Aquifer Recharge Potential Maps Available

New: [Aquifer Recharge Potential maps](#) and a [process document](#) are now available to download from the [Basin Characterization CNRA Open Data Portal](#). Note– we'll be updating the ARP Process Document later in October.

October BCX webinar: Lessons Learned on Heterogeneity and How Those Can Simplify Flow Model Parameterization

The November [Basin Characterization Exchange](#) (BCX) virtual presentation on presentation by DWR's California's Groundwater-Bulletin 118 team, who provided an overview of [CalGW Update 2025](#) with a focus on the newly available Basin Characterization content. The meeting recording and presentation slides are now available on the [BCX Hub](#).

The next BCX meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 16, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. The session will feature a presentation by Rick Cramer and Ken Ehman on using Environmental Sequence Stratigraphy (ESS) to construct geologic models based on data collected in the environmental and groundwater sectors. Visit the [webinar event page](#) to register

December 2025 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

Fall Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Forum: November 19th, 2025

DWR Sustainable Groundwater Management Office held a Fall 2025 GSA Forum Wednesday, November 19, 2025, from 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM. **The theme is SGMA after 10-years – How to Keep the Momentum Going.** The GSA Forum featured interviews with GSA representatives, highlighting approaches they have taken to navigate SGMA implementation challenges. These critical insights will include discussions of onboarding GSA staff, and experiences towards making progress on projects and management actions. DWR also hosted a Q&A session about Periodic Evaluations and an informational session on current and planned tools, resources, and opportunities to aid GSAs during implementation. A recording of the general session will be posted to the [California DWR YouTube channel](#) as soon as it is available.

DWR Releases Subsidence DRAFT BMP and Educational Resource Webpage

DWR) has released a [draft Best Management Practices document](#) for public comment, to help local water agencies address land subsidence, support groundwater reliant communities, and help meet objectives set by SGMA. The public comment period has closed and **the BMP is expected to be finalized around the end of 2025.**

DWR has also launched of a [new webpage dedicated to providing educational resources and information about land subsidence](#) in California, particularly as it relates to groundwater use and sustainable groundwater management. The resources available on this page are designed to help the public better understand subsidence and associated potential impacts. The page will be updated with educational materials, data, best management practices, and project information as it is available.

DWR Releases Second and Third Paper on Depletions of Interconnected Surface Water

To help GSAs address the depletion of interconnected surface water (ISW) in their Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs), the DWR released the second and third in a series of three draft papers that discuss the technical aspects of ISW and quantification of depletions of ISW caused by groundwater pumping. The first paper (Paper 1), [Depletions of Interconnected Surface Water: An Introduction](#), introduced concepts associated with ISW, including approaches for identifying ISW and defining depletion of ISW from groundwater pumping. The second paper (Paper 2), [Techniques for Estimating Interconnected Surface Water Depletion Caused by Groundwater Use](#), continues the foundational concepts presented in Paper 1 by discussing the data requirements, methods, and general implementation process to consider for ISW depletion analyses. The final paper (Paper 3), [Examples for Estimating Interconnected Surface Water Depletion Caused by Groundwater Use](#), continues and expands upon the topics presented in Paper 2 by providing detailed examples of using numerical models to evaluate depletion of ISW. A pre-recorded webinar that summarizes the contents of the three papers and describes the next steps in the development of the guidance document [can be viewed here](#).

The DRAFT ISW guidance document is *tentatively* scheduled for end 2025 or early 2026 for public release.

SGMA Updates and Tools

Update Your GSA and GSP Manager Point of Contact Information in DWR's SGMA Portal

If your GSA and/or GSP Plan Manager Point of Contact (POC) is not current, or you are not sure, please visit the SGMA Portal to ensure that your contact information is up-to-date. When logged in, the Portal allows edits to be made to previously submitted contact information. If you have SGMA Portal questions, please email them to GSPSubmittal@water.ca.gov.

The CASGEM Online System is Moving to the SGMA Portal July of 2026

The Department is beginning to integrate the [California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring \(CASGEM\) Program's Online System](#) with the [SGMA Portal's](#) Monitoring Network Module (MNM). This integration will

December 2025 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

streamline groundwater elevation data management and reporting processes by consolidating data submission into one location – the SGMA Portal's MNM. Our goal is to provide a more unified and efficient user experience for local agencies, stakeholders, and the public.

No action is required at this time. With the updated schedule, CASGEM Monitoring Entities and Online System users do not need to take any steps between now and July 2026. CASGEM Monitoring Entities and Online System users should submit their Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 data through the CASGEM Online System as normal.

If you have questions, please reach out to your DWR region office CASGEM contact ([here](#)) or to the CASGEM Program in Headquarters at CASGEM@water.ca.gov.

2023 Provisional Statewide Crop Mapping data was released in December of 2024 and the final 2022 data set was released March of 2025. The data sets include multi-cropping information. The provisional datasets includes agricultural land use and urban boundaries for all 58 counties in California. The data can now be accessed at the following locations: [CA DWR Land Use Viewer](#) (viewing and downloading); [CNRA Webpage](#) (viewing and downloading); on the [SGMA Data Viewer](#) (viewing) and the [California State Geportal](#) (viewing and downloading).

Facilitation Support Service and Translation Services Available to GSA's at No Cost

GSA's developing GSPs are eligible to receive funding for identification and engagement of interested parties, meeting facilitation, interest-based negotiation/consensus building, and public outreach facilitation. [FAQ about FSS is available here](#). More information [can be found here](#). Written translation services available in 8 languages for outreach materials (5,000 word maximum). DWR has **Verbal Interpretation service available to GSA's**. Real-time interpretive services are available to GSAs for virtual, hybrid, or in-person meetings in support of GSP implementation with the goal of engaging underrepresented communities within basins and encouraging equal access for non-fluent English speakers during the implementation of GSP's. If you are interested in learning more or receiving support from an interpretation team email sgmps@water.ca.gov.

Reminders: Drought related tools & guidance

'Be Well Prepared' Initiative and Website

May 17, 2023, DWR released the [Be Well Prepared initiative](#). DWR is providing tools and resources to help communities that are dependent on groundwater and experiencing climate-driven weather extremes, to prepare for potential impacts to household water supplies. The Be Well Prepared initiative focuses on domestic well owners and residents that use and maintain their well. [The website includes resources and information](#) that every well owner should know and understand about: groundwater conditions, well maintenance, water quality, assistance, and additional articles, videos and resources. A [new flyer](#) from DWR provides the four initial steps for well owners to take if they think their well has gone dry. This flyer is also available in [Spanish](#) and [Hmong](#).

SB552: DWR's Water Shortage Vulnerability Scoring and Tool

As part of its technical assistance to support SB 552 implementation, DWR developed the [Water Shortage Vulnerability Scoring and Tool](#) to provide the foundational data and information statewide to counties for their water shortage risk assessment.

Dry Well Susceptibility Map

The DWR, in coordination with the State Water Resources Control Board, has developed an interactive mapping tool, called the Dry Well Susceptibility Tool. This tool identifies areas within groundwater basins that may be prone to water supply shortages in drinking water wells. State and local agencies and well owners can use this tool to anticipate where wells may go dry based on historical conditions to inform drought preparedness decision-making. To use this tool, navigate to [California's Groundwater Live website](#) and click the [Dry Domestic Well Susceptibility tab](#). A fact sheet on this tool, as well as DWR's Dry Well Reporting System, [is available here](#).

Dry Well Reporting Site

December 2025 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

There is a website available to [report private wells going dry](#). Information reported to this site is intended to inform state and local agencies on drought impacts on household water supplies. The data reported on this site (excluding personal identifiable information) can be viewed on the [SGMA data viewer](#) or downloaded on the [CNRA Atlas](#). Individuals or local agencies can report water shortages and [a list of resources](#) are included on the [webpage](#). The reporting forms are available in both English and Spanish. Local agencies can now sign up to receive notifications of any dry wells reported in their area. To sign up please email sgmps@water.ca.gov.

California's Groundwater Live: Up-to-date data on groundwater conditions, well installations and subsidence

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) released the final [California's Groundwater – Update 2020 \(Bulletin-118\)](#), containing information on the condition of the State's groundwater, DWR has also developed a companion web-based application called [California's Groundwater Live](#) (CalGW Live), leveraging the [California Natural Resources Agency Open Data Platform](#) (Open Data) to improve the access and timeliness of statewide groundwater information. The easy-to-use interface will make many of the data sets used in CalGW Update 2020 available in an interactive map format that will be updated regularly for viewing and downloading. For more information, visit the updated [California's Groundwater website](#) Contact: CalGW@water.ca.gov.

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released the [Fall 2024 Semi-Annual Groundwater Conditions Update](#), which provides a look back at groundwater conditions following California's historic 2023 Water Year and an average 2024 Water Year. It also summarizes groundwater conditions over the first 10 years of Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation (2014-2024).