



Big Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan Advisory Committee (GSPAC) Updates

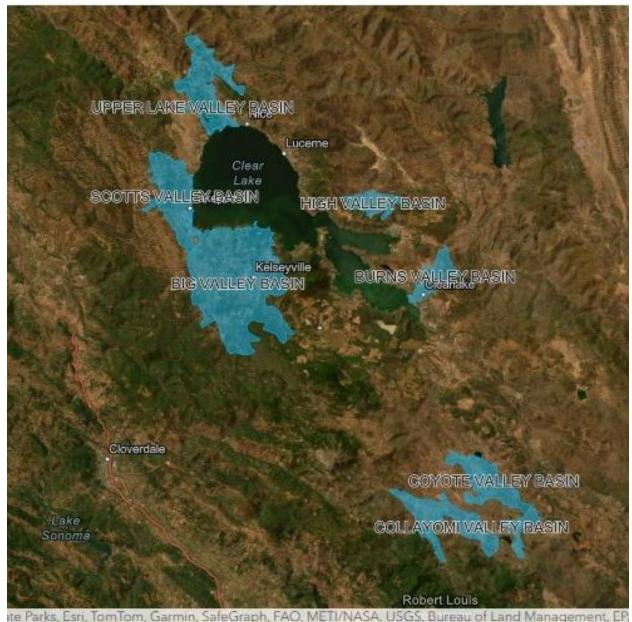
Board Of Supervisors Meeting November 18, 2025

SGMA Overview



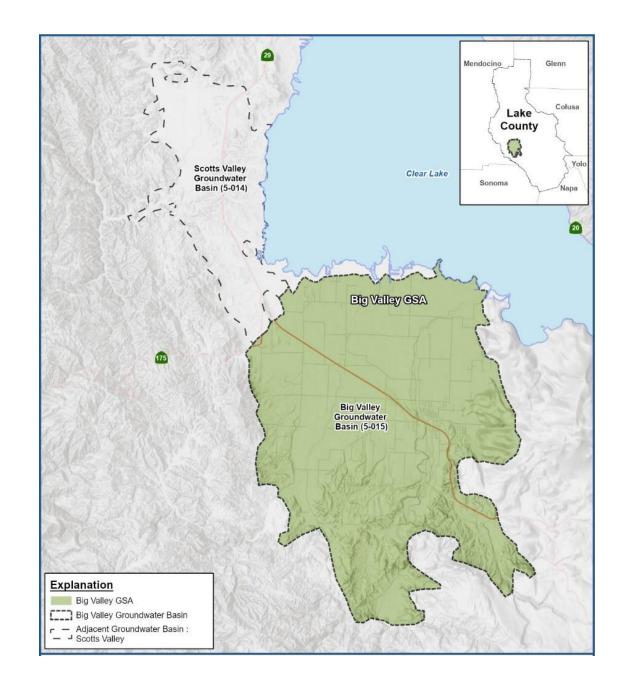
- **SGMA:** Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
- SGMA is a 2014 California law requiring local management of groundwater to prevent overdraft and ensure long-term sustainability.
- It mandates the formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to develop and implement Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) for highand medium-priority basins, with the goal of reaching sustainability by 2042.
- Oversight: CA DWR and State Water Resources Control Board oversee compliance.

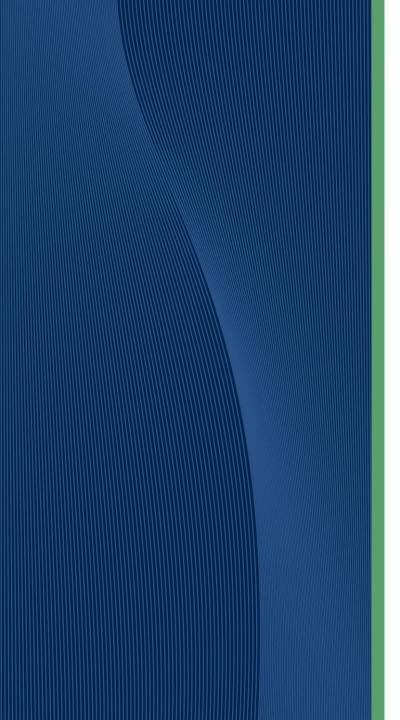
Groundwater Basins in Lake County



ite Parks, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, FAO, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EP

Big Valley Groundwater Basin







SGMA Progress In Lake County

Lake County Watershed Protection District is the Local GSA for the Big Valley Groundwater Basin

Lake County SGMA Progress Cont.



- 2014: CA Passed SGMA
- 2015: DWR releases Basin prioritization
- 2021: Received \$1.3M SGMA Implementation Grant (DWR).
 - Formation of the GSA & GSP
 - Consulting services, meetings, etc.
- 2022: Submit GSP to DWR, approved in 2023 (4/27)
- 2021 2024: Annual Report submitted (2025 report submitted 4/26')
- 2027: Next 5-Year Evaluation due
- 2042: Achieve long-term sustainability

Requirement to be Compliant with SGMA



Submit an annual update Report

- Submit a periodic evaluation every 5 years (a comprehensive update)
 - Next periodic evaluation is due in 2027

Cost to Implement SGMA



SGMA Implementation Costs

There are common costs associated with SGMA implementation. Example costs are highlighted below for reference but should not be taken as an exhaustive list.

Administrative Costs

- GSA Board or Committee meetings
- Staff
- Legal counsel/consultants
- Fiscal responsibilities

 (e.g., budgeting, annual audits)
- Interested-party outreach and engagement
- Acquiring/maintaining fixed assets
- Website
- General operation and maintenance needs

Regulatory Costs

- Annual reports
- GSP periodic evaluations Monitoring
- Data Management System maintenance

Project and Capital Costs

- Planning, design, and construction of projects (e.g., monitoring wells, recharge basins, well mitigation, storage facilities, etc.)
- New tool development and construction

Source: DWR's Funding SGMA Implementation Resource Guide

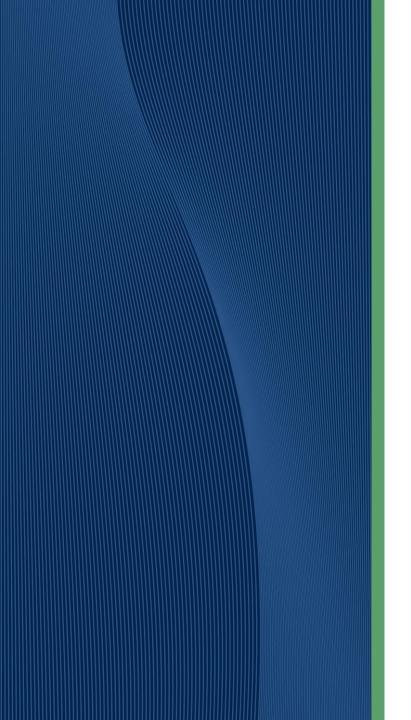
Cost to Implement SGMA Cont.



Grants: Applied (successful and unsuccessful)

Water Resources internal funds (limited)

Need to establish a long-term funding stream





Immediate Funding Needs

Immediate Funding Needs



Cost of the Annual GSP update report:

- Approximately \$80k annually (as of 2025)
- Will reduce to about \$40k annually with internal staff support

Cost of the Periodic Evaluation: \$200k

- Once every 5 years; \$200k total with internal staff support
- OR \$40k annually
- Funding Evaluation & Feasibility Study to determine long term funding options.
 - Approximately \$100k (incl. \$10k to 15k contractor retainer fee)

Immediate Funding Needs



- Annual Report (GSP update): ~\$40K/year (with staff support).
- 5-Year Periodic Evaluation: \$200K total (\$40K/year avg).
- Funding Feasibility Study: ~\$100K

Total of Approximately: \$340k





Options to Address Immediate Funding Needs

Immediate Funding Options



Funding Strategy & Ask

- Previously allocated matching funds: \$500K (May 3, 2022) for stormwater projects.(File # 22-402)
 - Only \$50K used so far.
- **Request**: Expand use of remaining ~\$450K to include groundwater management costs.

• **Purpose**: Cover annual reports, 5-year evaluations, and long-term funding feasibility study.

Long Term Funding Needs



Annual report: Approximately \$40k/year (as of 2025)
 (with internal staff support)

Periodic Evaluation: \$200k every 5 years (or ~\$40k/year)

 Total of Approximately: \$80k to \$100k/year (adjusted for inflation)

Long Term Funding Options



- Need to be in effect by 2027, so the next periodic evaluations and annual reports cost is covered
- Option 1: County provides 100% of annual need (~\$100K/year).
- **Option 2**: County provides 50% (~\$50K/year), balance via local fee mechanisms (e.g., Prop 218).
- Option 3: 100% of the need is met with a local fee mechanisms (e.g., Prop 218).
- We will continue to pursue external grant opportunities for this work, with County funds serving as a contingency to ensure continuity if such funding is not secured