



Sustainable Groundwater Management Update

California Department of Water Resources

January 2023



California's Groundwater Supports...



Agriculture



Drinking Water



The Environment



Businesses

Surface Water and Groundwater

For over 100 years, surface water has been actively managed in California

Sustainable groundwater management is a new statewide effort

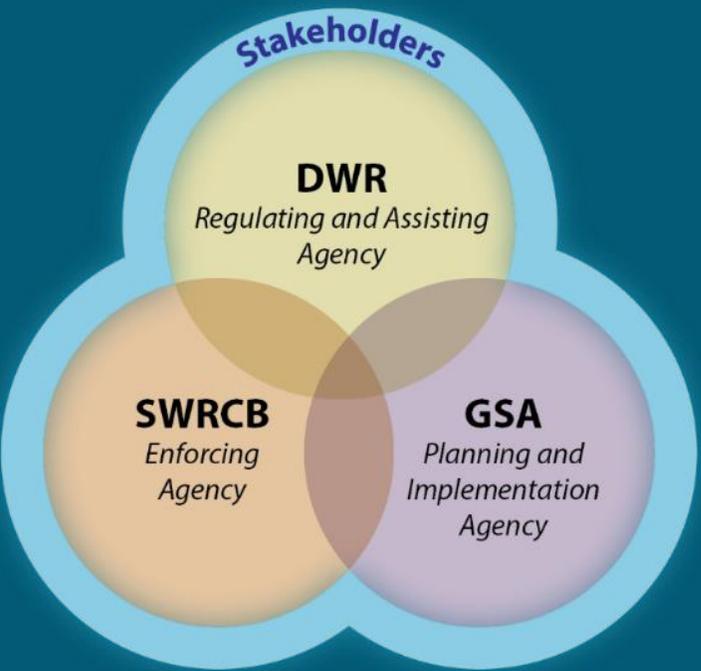


SGMA Timeline

- 2012** 2012-2016 Drought
- 2014** SGMA signed into law

SGMA Overview

Local Control



Sustainability

Avoid Six Undesirable Results



Lowering of GW Levels



Reduction of GW Storage



Seawater Intrusion



Degraded Water Quality



Land Subsidence



Depletion of Interconnected Streams

SGMA Timeline

- 2012** 2012-2016 Drought
- 2014** SGMA signed into law

Groundwater Sustainability Plans



Who

- Administrative Information -

What

- Basin Setting -

Where

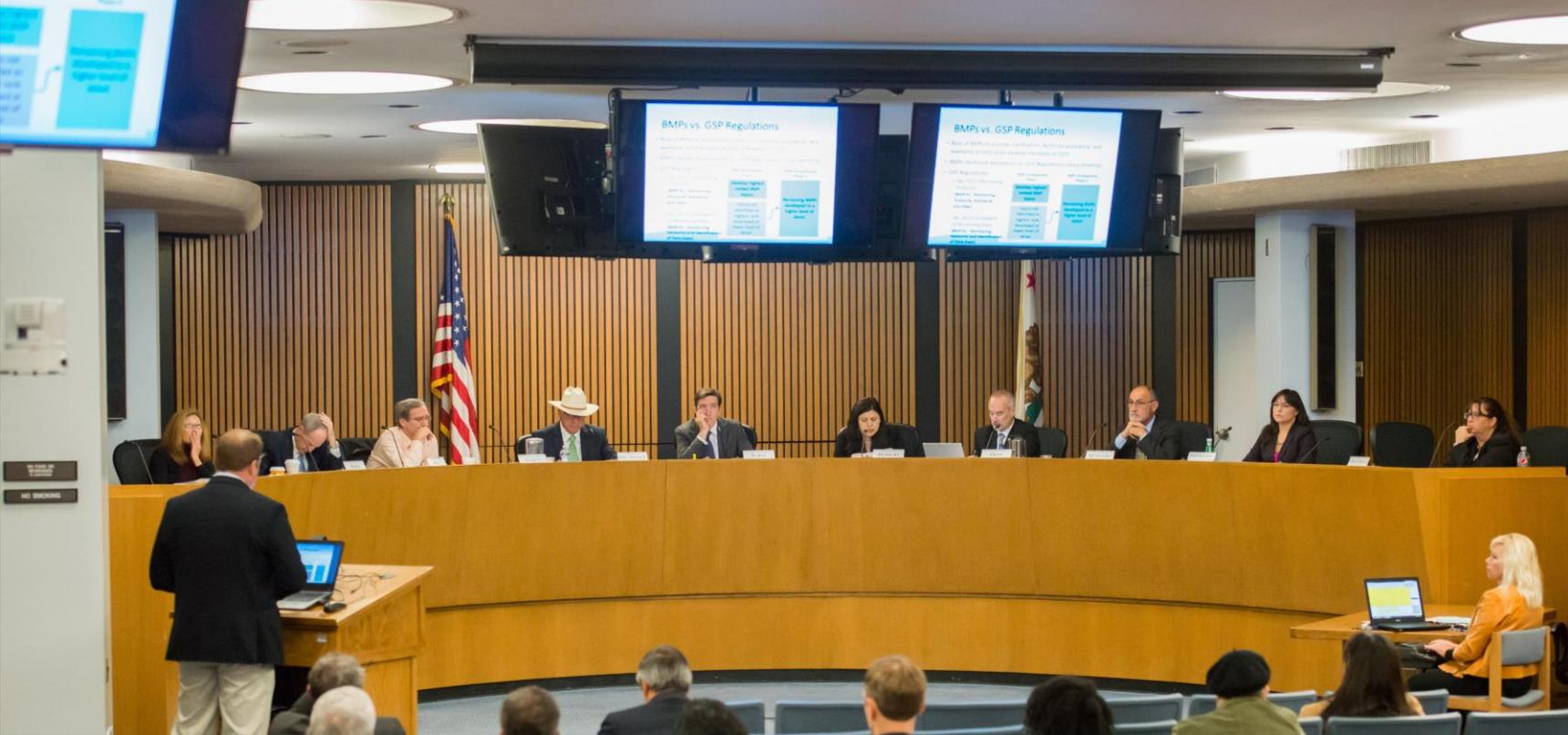
- Sustainable Management Criteria -
- Monitoring Network -

How

- Projects & Management Actions -

SGMA Timeline

- 2012** 2012-2016 Drought
- 2014** SGMA signed into law
- 2016** SGMA Rulemaking



California Water Commission Approved Two Regulations



Basin Boundary Regulations (Oct. 2015)



GSP Regulations (May 2016)

SGMA Timeline

- 2012** 2012-2016 Drought
- 2014** SGMA signed into law
- 2017** Agency Formation

>250
Groundwater Sustainability
Agencies Formed by June 30, 2017



SGMA Timeline

2012 2012-2016 Drought

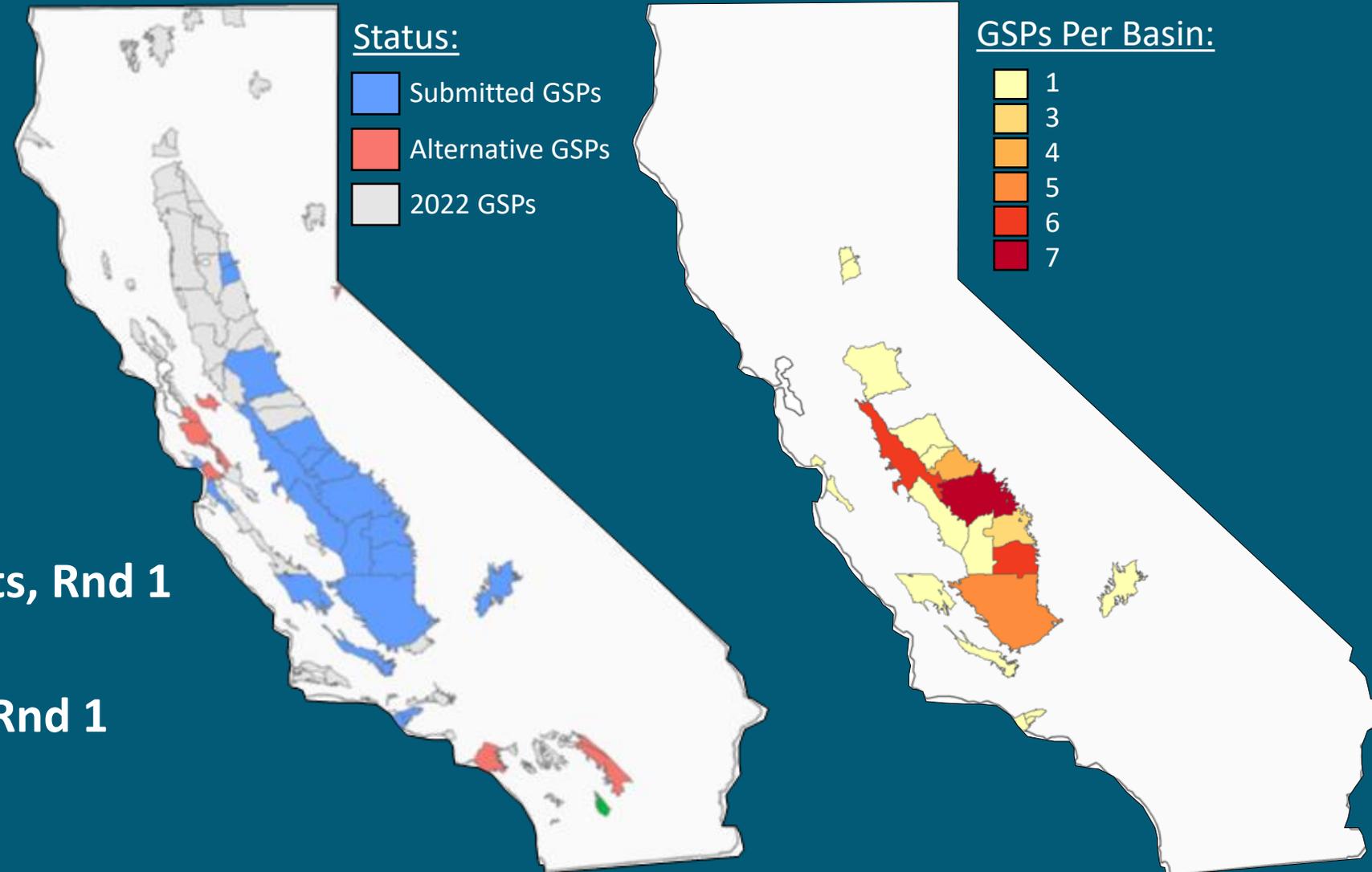
2014 SGMA signed into law

2017 Agency Formation

2020 GSP Submittals, Rnd 1

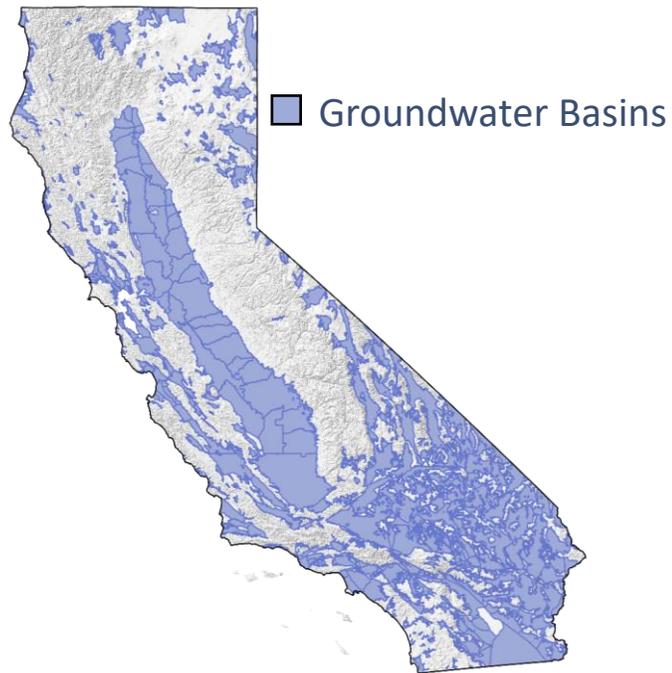
2021 Initial GSP Assessments, Rnd 1

2022 All GSP Assessments, Rnd 1
GSP Submittals, Rnd 2

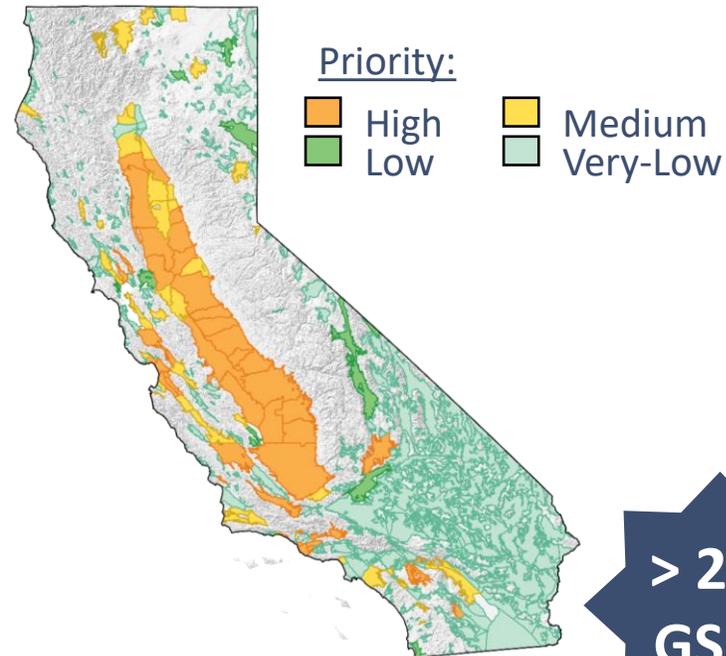


Where Does SGMA Apply?

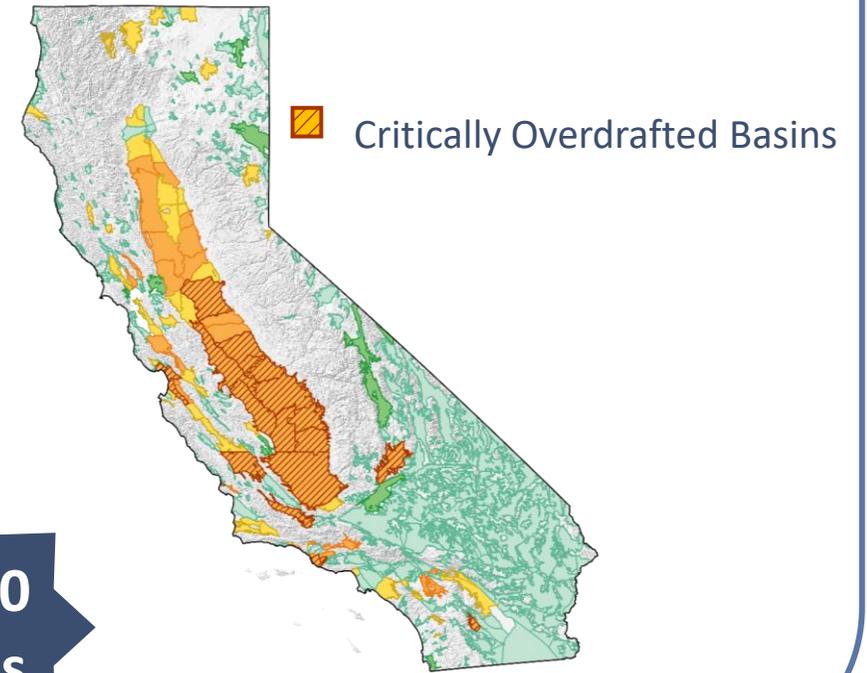
515 Basins



94 High and Medium Priority Basins



21 Critically Overdrafted Basins



> 250
GSAs

Formed by June 30, 2017

GSP & Alternative Periodic Evaluation Submittals

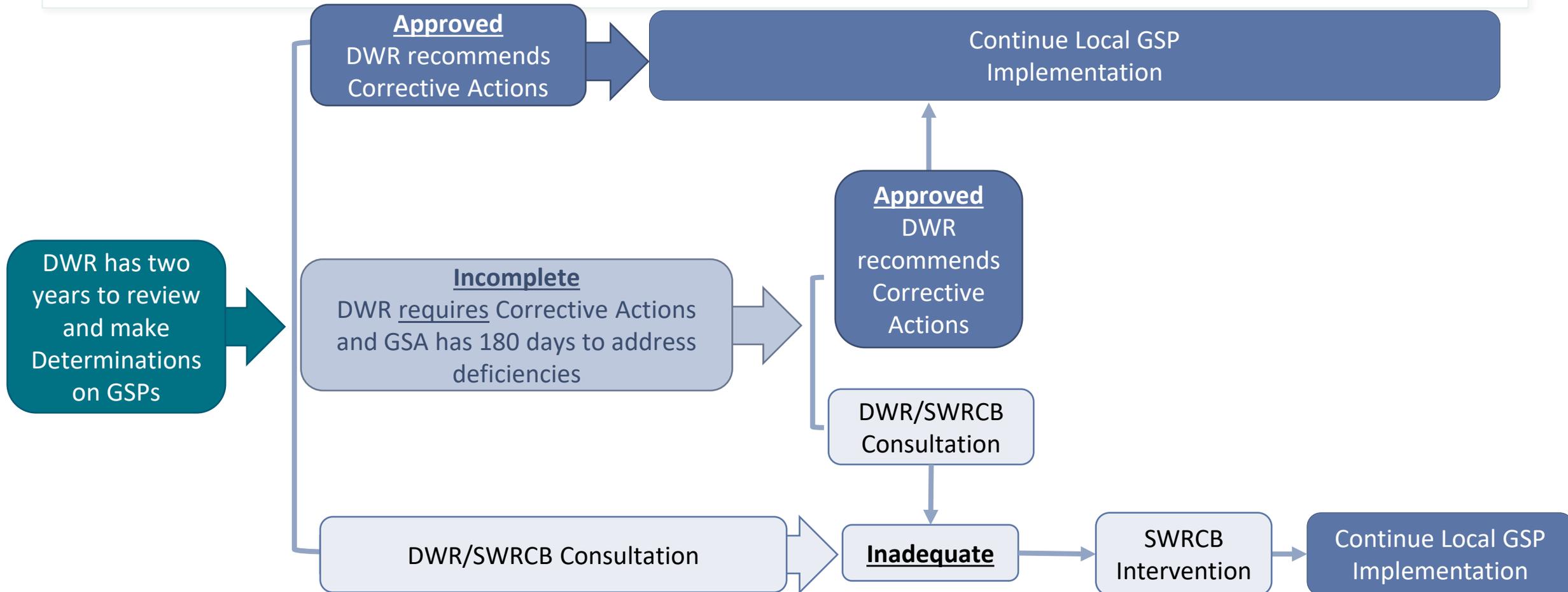
- Critically Overdrafted Basin GSPs were submitted by January 31, 2020
 - **21 basins/46 GSPs**
- High and Medium Priority GSPs were submitted by January 31, 2022
 - **63 basins/65 GSPs**
- **9 Alternative Periodic Evaluations** were submitted by January 1, 2022 (*updated plans are submitted to DWR every 5 years for review*)

Please visit the SGMA Portal to find submitted Plans, Public Comments, and DWR Assessments:

<https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/>



SGMA Regulatory Pathways

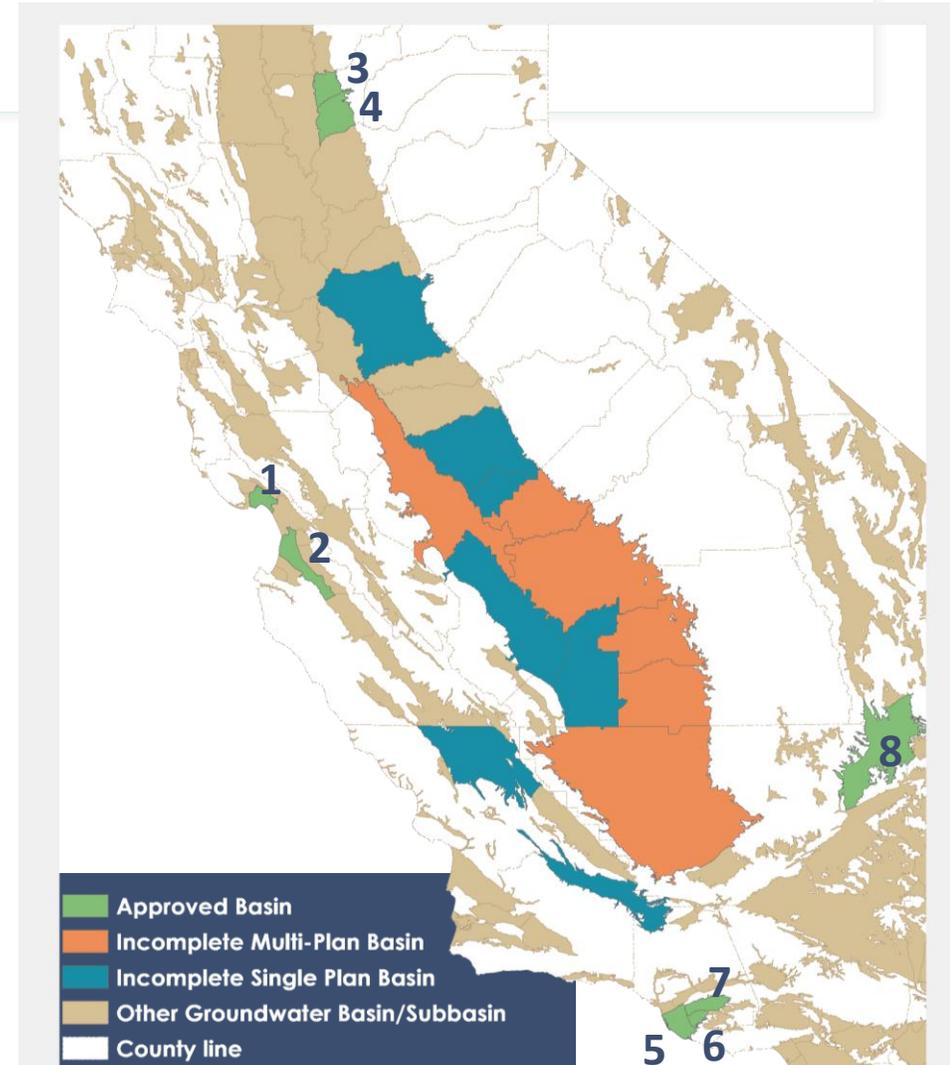


Groundwater Sustainability Plans Determinations

8
out of
21
Basins

Approved Basins:

1. Santa Cruz Mid-County Basin
2. 180/400 Foot Aquifer Subbasin
3. North Yuba Subbasin
4. South Yuba Subbasin
5. Oxnard Basin
6. Pleasant Valley Subbasin
7. Las Posas Basin
8. Indian Wells Valley Basin



Groundwater Sustainability Plans Determinations

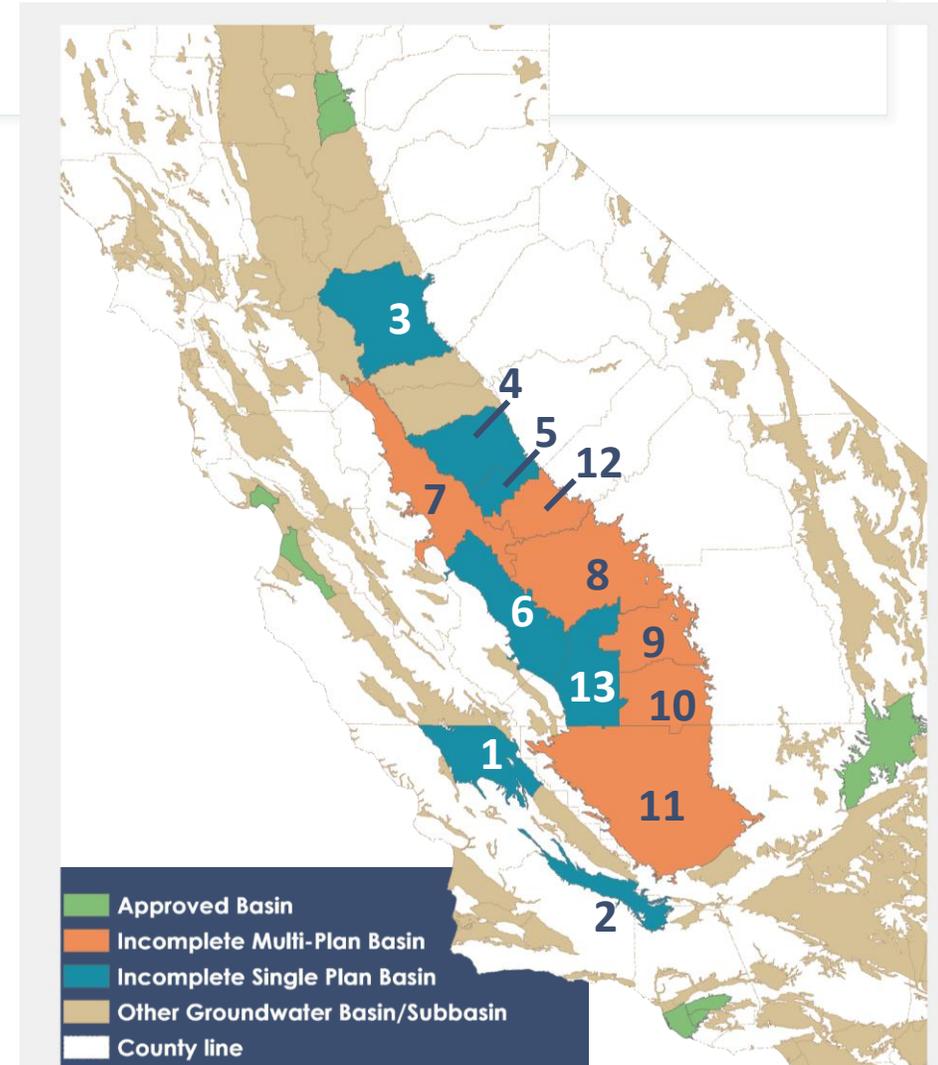
13
out of
21
Basins

Incomplete Basins:

1. Paso Robles Subbasin
2. Cuyama Valley Basin
3. Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin
4. Merced Subbasin
5. Chowchilla Subbasin
6. Westside Subbasin
7. Delta Mendota Subbasin
8. Kings Subbasin
9. Kaweah Subbasin
10. Tule Subbasin
11. Kern Subbasin
12. Madera Subbasin

Inadequate Basin:

13. Tulare Lake Subbasin



Themes of Incomplete GSPs

- Additional analysis and justification of how **Sustainable Management Criteria** were developed or will need to be developed further
- Did not considered all **Beneficial Groundwater Users and Uses**
- Some **multi-plan basins** did not coordinate and address **inconsistencies in their data and methodologies**

Subsidence

Water quality

Groundwater Levels and
Drinking water impacts

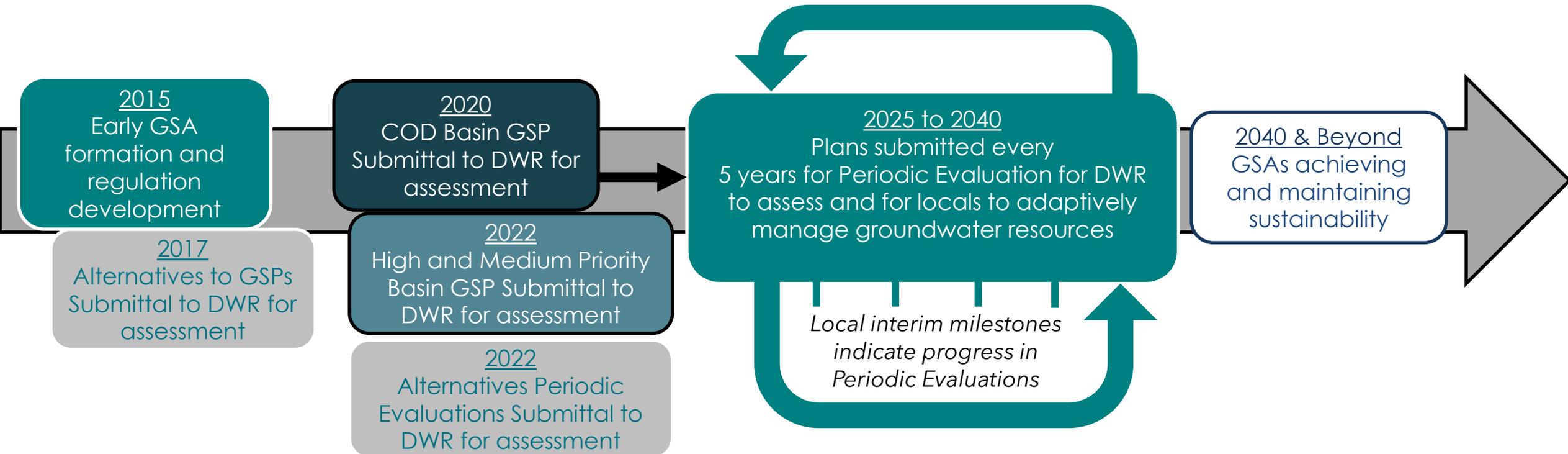
Depletion of Interconnected
surface water

Lack of coordination among GSPs
Inconsistent data and methodology



SGMA Implementation

SGMA Implementation: 20 Year Horizon





DWR Groundwater Assistance

Sustainable Groundwater Management Assistance

Financial Assistance

- \$400M (2021 & 2022)
- Round 1 Awarded May 2022
 - \$150M for COD Basins (~\$7.6M per basin)
- Round 2 Closed November 30, 2022
 - ~\$250M available for award to all High/Medium Priority Basins
 - Includes \$10M for Small Farm Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

- Monitoring well installation
- Data Platforms including:
 - CalGW Live:
 - Reported dry wells
 - Dry well susceptibility
 - Quarterly land subsidence

Planning Assistance

- Facilitation Services
- Translation Services
- Best Management Practices and Guidance Documents
- Staff Basin Points-of-Contact

Next Steps: Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation

- **Addressing Groundwater Sustainability Plan Corrective Actions**
 - Preparing for Periodic Evaluation (next plan update)
- **Filling Data Gaps & Improvements**
 - Modeling, Monitoring, and Water Budgets
- **Building Local Agency Capacity**
 - Local Funding Challenges/Stability
- **Advancing Projects and Management Actions**
 - Supply Augmentation including Groundwater Recharge
 - Demand Reduction including Allocations and Groundwater Trading



Ribbon cutting ceremony held by the Fresno Irrigation District for the Savory Pond Expansion project funded by DWR in Fresno, California

Statewide Initiatives: Supporting Local Projects & Actions

Demand Reduction

- **Coming soon – LandFlex Program:** Drought agricultural program with funding for transitional waters (expediting allocations)
- **California Water Commission White Paper on Groundwater Trading:** Considering vulnerable users in local trading programs
- **Open ET Initiative & Water Accounting Platform**

Supply Augmentation

- **Water Supply Strategy:** DWR Regulatory Assistance on 180-day Temporary, Streamlined Water Rights Permits
- **Executive Order 13:** CEQA Suspension for Local Recharge Projects



Additional State Resources

Department of Water Resources (DWR)

- *LandFlex Program (Coming Soon)*

Department of Conservation (DOC)

- *Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing Program (MLRP)*
- *Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (SALC)*

California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)

- *State Water Efficiency & Enhancement Program*
- *Healthy Soils Initiative*

Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz)

- *Community and economic transition resources, contact sgmps@water.ca.gov if interested*



Thank You

- For more information, please contact SGMPS@water.ca.gov

