

## RESOLUTION 2017-03

### RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FILLMORE AND PIRU BASINS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR A GRANT UNDER THE 2017 SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM

**WHEREAS**, on September 16, 2014, Governor Jerry Brown signed into law Senate Bills 1168 and 1319, and Assembly Bill 1739, collectively known as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), which amended the Water Code (Part 2.74 of Division 6 of the Water Code, Sections 10720-10737.8) and provides the framework for sustainable groundwater management planning and implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, SGMA went into effect on January 1, 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, SGMA requires local public agencies and Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to develop and implement Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) or alternatives to GSPs for designated high and medium priority groundwater basins and subbasins; and

**WHEREAS**, SGMA authorizes a combination of local agencies to form a GSA by entering into a joint powers agreement as authorized by the Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the California Government Code); and

**WHEREAS**, the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (FPBGSA) is such a joint powers authority and exercises jurisdiction upon land overlying the entire Fillmore and Piru Basins (designated subbasin numbers 4-4.05 and 4-4.06, respectively by the California Department of Water Resources' CASGEM groundwater basin system); and

**WHEREAS**, the Fillmore and Piru Basins are designated as medium- and high-priority basins, respectively and are required to be managed by a GSP or coordinated GSPs by January 31, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the FPBGSA is seeking funding to develop a GSP for the Fillmore and Piru Basins; and

**WHEREAS**, The Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1) authorized \$100 million to be available for competitive grants for projects that develop and implement GSPs and projects in accordance with groundwater planning requirements established under Division 6 (commencing with Section 10000) (Water Code Section 79775); and

**WHEREAS**, DWR is administering the Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program, using funds authorized by Proposition 1, to encourage sustainable management of groundwater resources that support SGMA; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, be it resolved by the Board of Directors of the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency as follows:

1. That application be made to the California Department of Water Resources to obtain a grant under the 2017 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program pursuant to the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1) (Water Code Section 79700 et seq.), and to enter into an agreement to receive a grant for the *Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plan*.
2. The Board Chair, or Designee, of the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency is hereby authorized and directed to prepare the necessary data, conduct investigations, file such application, and execute a grant agreement with California Department of Water Resources.



**ADOPTED, SIGNED and APPROVED this October 30, 2017.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director Kelly Long, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kris Sofley, interim Executive Director (ATTEST)

## **ELIGIBILITY DOCUMENTATION**

### **Eligibility**

Eligible grant applicants are public agencies, non-profit organizations, public utilities, federally recognized Indian Tribes, California Native American Tribes, and mutual water companies. As defined under Water Code Section 79702.(s), a public agency is any state agency or department, special district, joint powers authority, city, county, city and county, or other political subdivision of the State.

The applicant, the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (FPBGSA), is a public agency as defined under Water Code Sections 79702.(s) and therefore an eligible grant applicant. The FPBGSA is a joint powers authority (JPA) between the United Water Conservation District (United), the City of Fillmore, and the County of Ventura.

### **CASGEM Basin Prioritization and Compliance**

The Fillmore Basin (Basin Number 4-004.05) and Piru Basins (Basin Number 4-004.06) are designated medium and high priority basins, respectively, under the CASGEM Program. The County of Ventura is the designated Monitoring Entity for all groundwater basins in the County, including the Fillmore and Piru Basins, and is in compliance with California Water Code §10920.

### **Urban Water Management Compliance**

United and the City of Fillmore are urban water suppliers that will receive funding from the grant, as parties to the FPBGSA.

#### United Water Conservation District

United submitted its 2015 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) to California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on June 28, 2016. The UWMP is currently still under review. A letter confirming DWR's receipt of the UWMP is provided with this attachment. United acts as a Primarily Wholesale Urban Water Supplier and is therefore not required to determine baseline or target gallons per capita per day (GPCD), under the Sustainable Water Use and Demand Reduction Part 2.55 of Division 6 (Water Code Section 10608 et seq.). United's certification of compliance with water metering requirements contained in Water Code Section 525 et seq. is provided with this Attachment.

#### City of Fillmore

The City of Fillmore submitted its 2015 UWMP on January 12, 2017. The UWMP is currently still under review. A letter confirming DWR's receipt of the UWMP is provided with this attachment. Compliance with Sustainable Water Use and Demand Reduction Part 2.55 of Division 6 (Water Code Section 10608 et seq.) is documented in the 2015 UWMP. As documented in its 2015 UWMP, the City of Fillmore met its 2015 interim water use target (an excerpt from the UWMP is provided with this attachment). Self-certification of compliance with water metering requirements contained in Water Code Section 525 et seq. for the City of Fillmore is provided with this Attachment.

### **Agricultural Water Management Compliance**

There are no agricultural water suppliers that will receive funding from this grant.

## **Surface Water Diverter Compliance**

United is a surface water diverter that will receive funding from this grant. United has appropriate water rights to Piru Creek and Santa Clara River (both outside of the Piru and Fillmore basins), for which it has submitted surface water diversion reports in compliance with requirements outlined in Part 5.1 (commencing with Section 5100) of Division 2, of the Water Code. Documentation of report submittal through 2017 is included with this attachment.

## Included with this Attachment:

- Documentation of CASGEM Compliance
- Letter from Department of Water Resources Documenting Receipt of United Water Conservation District Urban Water Management Plan
- Certification of Compliance with Water Metering Requirements, United Water Conservation District
- Letter from Department of Water Resources Documenting Receipt of City of Fillmore Urban Water Management Plan
- Documentation of Compliance with the Sustainable Water Use and Demand Reduction, Part 2.55 of Division 6 for City of Fillmore
- Certification of Compliance with Water Metering Requirements, City of Fillmore
- Documentation of Submittal of Surface Water Diversion Reports



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## Public: Report of Monitoring Entities and Basin Monitoring Status

### Filter Report

Select a Filtering Criteria

- By Authority Type
  By Region Office  
 By Groundwater Basin/Subbasin number and name

Basin Number / Name

4-004.02 Oxnard

4-004.03 Mound

4-004.04 Santa Paula

4-004.05 Fillmore

4-004.06 Piru

4-004.07 Santa Clara River Valley East

4-005 Acton Valley

**Run Report** **Clear Selection**

⏪ ⏩ 1 of 1 ⏪ ⏩
Export to the selected format ▼
Export

### Monitoring Entities

Monitoring Entity	Groundwater Basin/Subbasin Name	Groundwater Basin/Subbasin Number	Authority Type	Last Elevation Data Submitted	Associated Well Count
County of Ventura, Watershed Protection District	Fillmore	4-004.05	County Not Managing Groundwater Basin or Subbasin	4/3/2017 12:00:00 AM	16

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Basin Number / Name

- 4-004.02 Oxnard
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- 4-004.04 Santa Paula
- 4-004.05 Fillmore
- 4-004.06 Piru
- 4-004.07 Santa Clara River Valley East
- 4-005 Acton Valley

[Run Report](#) [Clear Selection](#)

### Monitoring Entities

Monitoring Entity	Groundwater Basin/Subbasin Name	Groundwater Basin/Subbasin Number	Authority Type	Last Elevation Data Submitted	Associated Well Count
County of Ventura, Watershed Protection District	Piru	4-004.06	County Not Managing Groundwater Basin or Subbasin	4/20/2017 12:00:00 AM	21

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

1416 NINTH STREET, P.O. BOX 942836  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001  
(916) 653-5791



June 28, 2016

Mr. Robert Richardson  
United Water Conservation District  
106 N. 8th Street  
Santa Paula, California 93060

Dear Mr. Richardson:

This is to inform you that the Department of Water Resources (DWR) received the 2015 Urban Water Management Plan for the United Water Conservation District on June 28, 2016. DWR reviews plans as quickly as possible and in the order they are received.

Please feel free to contact Gwen Huff at (916) 651-9672 if you have any questions or would like to discuss the review of 2015 Urban Water Management Plans. Contact Ms. Huff also if you require an expedited review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Vicki Lake".

Vicki Lake  
Unit Chief  
Urban Water Use Efficiency  
(916) 651-0740



California State Water Resources Control Board  
California Department of Water Resources  
California Department of Public Health



**CERTIFICATION FOR  
COMPLIANCE WITH WATER METERING REQUIREMENTS  
FOR FUNDING APPLICATIONS**

Funding Agency name: California Department of Water Resources  
Funding Program name: Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program  
Applicant (Agency name): United Water Conservation District  
Project Title (as shown on application form): Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Please check one of the boxes below and sign and date this form.

As the authorized representative for the applicant agency, I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, that the agency is not an urban water supplier, as that term is understood pursuant to the provisions of section 529.5 of the Water Code.

As the authorized representative for the applicant agency, I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, that the applicant agency has fully complied with the provisions of Division 1, Chapter 8, Article 3.5 of the California Water Code (sections 525 through 529.7 inclusive) and that ordinances, rules, or regulations have been duly adopted and are in effect as of this date.

I understand that the Funding Agency will rely on this signed certification in order to approve funding and that false and/or inaccurate representations in this Certification Statement may result in loss of all funds awarded to the applicant for its project. Additionally, for the aforementioned reasons, the Funding Agency may withhold disbursement of project funds, and/or pursue any other applicable legal remedy.

Tony Morgan  
Name of Authorized Representative  
(Please print)

[Signature]  
Signature

Deputy General Manager for Groundwater  
Title

02 NOV 17  
Date

## DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1416 NINTH STREET, P.O. BOX 942836  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001  
(916) 653-5791



January 18, 2017

Roxanne Hughes  
City Engineer  
City of Fillmore  
240 Central Avenue  
Fillmore, California 93015

**RE: Urban Water Management Plan Submittal**

Dear Ms. Hughes:

This is to inform you that the Department of Water Resources has received the 2015 Urban Water Management Plan for City of Fillmore on January 12, 2017.

DWR reviews Plans as quickly as possible and in the order they are received. If you require an expedited review, please contact me.

Please feel free to contact Gwen Huff at (916) 651-9672 if you have any questions or would like to discuss the review of 2015 Urban Water Management Plans. Contact Ms. Huff, also, if you require an expedited review.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Vicki Lake".

Vicki Lake  
Unit Chief  
Urban Water Use Efficiency  
Department of Water Resources  
(916) 651-0740



**5.5.2 2015 Compliance Daily per Capita Water Use (GPCD)**

**Law**

*“Compliance daily per capita water use” means the gross water use during the final year of the reporting period (10608.12(e)).*

*Each urban retail water supplier shall meet its interim urban water use target by December 31, 2015 (10608.24(a)).*

The actual 2015 daily per capita water use for the City of Fillmore was 115 gpcd. The City of Fillmore is in overall compliance with the 2015 Interim Target of 152 gpcd as shown in **Table 5-2** (see also **Table SB X7-7 Table 9**). The City was also able to achieve compliance with the 2020 Target of 142 gpcd. The 2015 daily per capita water use (115 gpcd) for the City of Fillmore is a reduction of approximately 29% from the 1999 to 2008 baseline period, and is 19% lower than the 2020 Target of 142 gpcd.

<b>Table 5-2: 2015 Compliance</b>		
<i>Retail Agency</i>		
Actual 2015 GPCD*	2015 Interim Target GPCD*	Did Supplier Achieve Targeted Reduction for 2015? Y/N
115	152	Yes
<i>*All values are in Gallons per Capita per Day (GPCD)</i>		
NOTES: See SB X7-7 tables in Appendix E		

California State Water Resources Control Board  
California Department of Water Resources  
California Department of Public Health



**CERTIFICATION FOR  
COMPLIANCE WITH WATER METERING REQUIREMENTS  
FOR FUNDING APPLICATIONS**

Funding Agency name: California Department of Water Resources

Funding Program name: Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program

Applicant (Agency name): City of Fillmore

Project Title (as shown on application form): Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Please check one of the boxes below and sign and date this form.

As the authorized representative for the applicant agency, I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, that the agency is not an urban water supplier, as that term is understood pursuant to the provisions of section 529.5 of the Water Code.

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Carrie Broggie  
Name of Authorized Representative  
(Please print)

Carrie Broggie  
Signature

Mayor  
Title

11/6/17  
Date





**e-WRIMS Water Right Search Results**

**Criteria:** Displaying Water Rights where Entity Type = Government (State/Municipal); Holder Name like **"United Water Conservation District"**.

Search Results: previous  next

<a href="#">Appl ID</a>	<a href="#">Permit ID</a>	<a href="#">License ID</a>	<a href="#">Water Right Type</a>	<a href="#">Status</a>	<a href="#">Holder Name</a>	<a href="#">Date</a>	<a href="#">Face Amt</a>	<a href="#">County</a>	<a href="#">Source</a>	<a href="#">View Reports</a>	<a href="#">Water Right</a>	<a href="#">Open in GIS</a>	<a href="#">Export to Excel</a>
<a href="#">A027264</a>	019373	013445	Appropriative	Licensed	UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT	03/25/1982	80361.5 acre-ft/yr	Ventura	PIRU CREEK	<a href="#">View Reports</a>	<a href="#">View License</a>	<a href="#">Open in GIS</a>	<a href="#">Download to Excel</a>
<a href="#">A026434</a>	018908		Appropriative	Permitted	UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT	06/26/1980	40000 acre-ft/yr	Ventura	SANTA CLARA RIVER	<a href="#">View Reports</a>	<a href="#">View Permit</a>	<a href="#">Open in GIS</a>	<a href="#">Download to Excel</a>
<a href="#">A012092A</a>	011181	010173	Appropriative	Licensed	UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT	09/18/1947	191430 acre-ft/yr	Ventura	PIRU CREEK, SANTA CLARA RIVER	<a href="#">View Reports</a>	<a href="#">View License</a>	<a href="#">Open in GIS</a>	<a href="#">Download to Excel</a>

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Reports Submitted for A027264

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2016	Report of Licensee	03/30/2017	<a href="#">View</a>
2015	Report of Licensee	06/29/2016	<a href="#">View</a>
2014	Report of Licensee	06/30/2015	<a href="#">View</a>
2013	Report of Licensee	06/27/2014	<a href="#">View</a>
2012	Report of Licensee	06/28/2013	<a href="#">View</a>
2011	Report of Licensee	06/29/2012	<a href="#">View</a>
2010	Report of Licensee	06/30/2011	<a href="#">View</a>
2009	Report of Licensee	05/27/2010	<a href="#">View</a>
2008	Report of Licensee	05/27/2010	<a href="#">View</a>
2007	Report of Licensee	05/27/2010	<a href="#">View</a>
2006	Report of Licensee	05/28/2010	<a href="#">View</a>
2005	Report of Licensee	05/28/2010	<a href="#">View</a>
2004	Report of Licensee	05/28/2010	<a href="#">View</a>

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**e-WRIMS RMS Reports**

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Reports Submitted for A026434

Year	Type	Date Received	Action
2016	Progress Report by Permittee	03/30/2017	<a href="#">View</a>
2015	Progress Report by Permittee	06/29/2016	<a href="#">View</a>
2014	Progress Report by Permittee	06/30/2015	<a href="#">View</a>
2013	Progress Report by Permittee	06/27/2014	<a href="#">View</a>
2012	Progress Report by Permittee	06/28/2013	<a href="#">View</a>
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2009	Progress Report by Permittee	05/27/2010	<a href="#">View</a>
2008	Progress Report by Permittee	05/27/2010	<a href="#">View</a>
2007	Progress Report by Permittee	05/27/2010	<a href="#">View</a>
2006	Progress Report by Permittee	05/28/2010	<a href="#">View</a>

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Reports Submitted for A012092A

Year	Type	Date Received	Action
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2006	Report of Licensee	05/28/2010	<a href="#">View</a>
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## PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

### PROPOSAL SUMMARY

#### *Implementing Agency: Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency*

The Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (FPBGSA) is seeking funding to develop two Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs), one for the Santa Clara River Valley Fillmore Basin and one for the Santa Clara River Valley Piru Basin (Basin Numbers 4-004.05 and 4-004.06, respectively). The Fillmore and Piru Basins are designated as medium and high priority basins, respectively, and are required to be managed by a GSP or coordinated GSPs by January 31, 2022. The FPBGSA was formed through a joint exercise of powers agreement on April 25, 2017 between United Water Conservation District (United), City of Fillmore, and County of Ventura. It was formed for the purposes of taking all actions deemed necessary to ensure sustainable management of the Basins. Though separate GSPs will be developed for each Basin, many of the tasks will be shared, the GSPs will share a common stakeholder group, and are being viewed as a single “project.” To support GSP development, activities include installing 2 monitoring wells and preparing a groundwater flow model. Both, the monitoring wells and the groundwater flow model will provide critical information for the GSPs.

#### **Current Need**

*Groundwater is the primary water source for the area and needs to be managed for healthy communities, continued prosperity of the extensive agricultural sector, while protective of local environmental resources.* The Piru and Fillmore Basins are two of a series of alluvial groundwater basins located along the Santa Clara River in Ventura County, covering 7,025 acres and 18,580 acres, respectively. See Figure 3-1. Land use within the Basins is predominantly agricultural with small residential populations in the City of Fillmore and town of Piru (about 17,700 persons). The entire Piru Basin meets the criteria for disadvantaged community (DAC), along with a large portion of the Fillmore Basin. See Figure 3-2. Groundwater serves as the sole source of drinking water within the Basins and with the exception of a limited amount of recycled water, is the primary source of water for agricultural uses. The Piru and Fillmore Basins are home to groundwater dependent ecosystems such as willow-cottonwood riparian habitat that support threatened and endangered species.

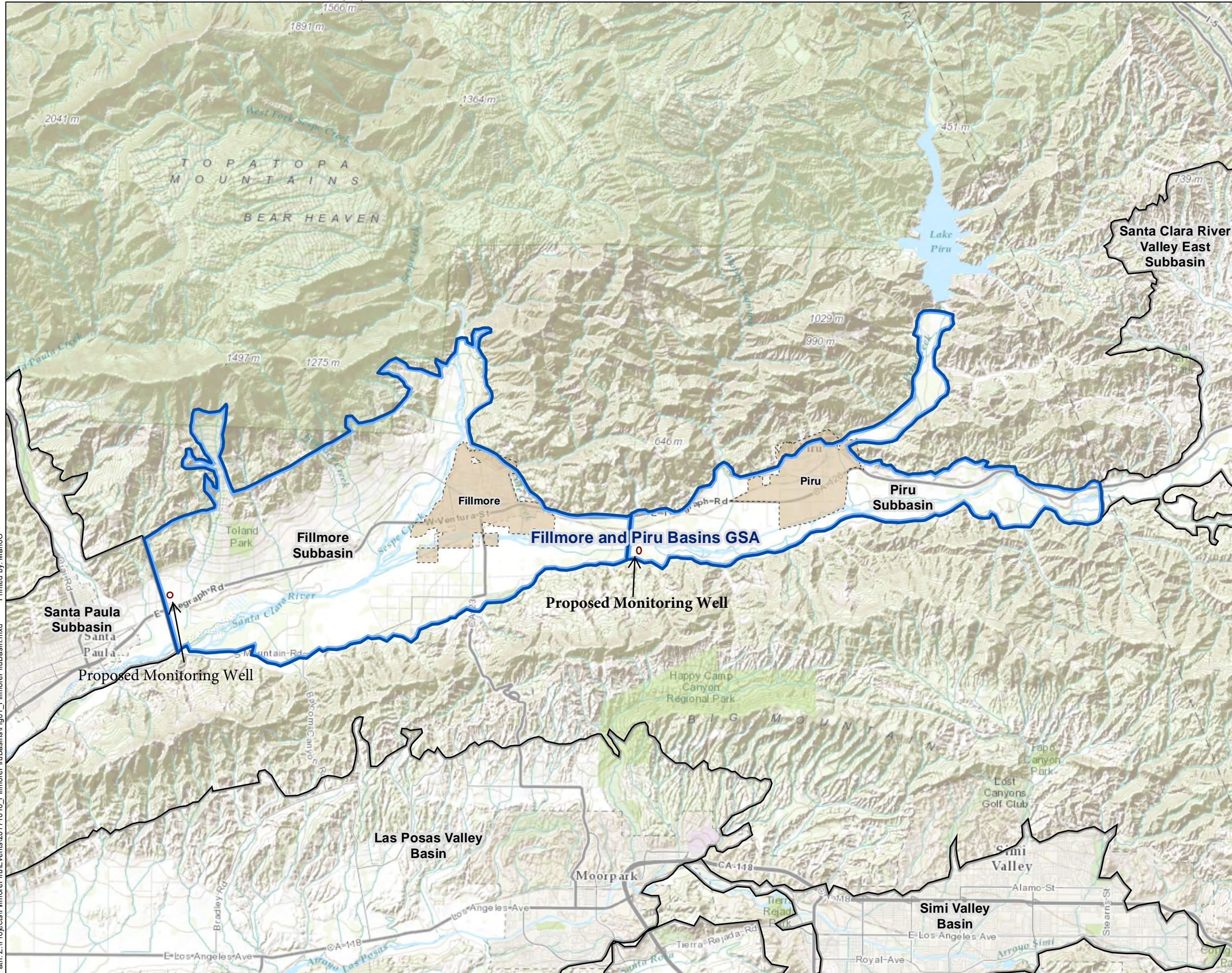
*A forum for ongoing coordination is crucial.* Stakeholders of the Fillmore and Piru Basins have been working on improving the understanding and management of the Basins for over 20 years. In 1995, United, the City of Fillmore, and the Fillmore/Piru Groundwater Pumpers Association formed the Piru/Fillmore Groundwater Planning Council to coordinate implementation and administration of the 1996 Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP) for the Fillmore and Piru Basins; a draft update to the GWMP was prepared in 2013. The document contains valuable guidance for the local management of the Basins. But now a forum is needed that accounts for a broad range of stakeholders, including those of neighboring basins, disadvantaged communities, and environmental interests.

New tools, new approaches, and additional data are needed to take an integrated approach to groundwater management in these two Basins. Besides the need to coordinate with different water users, it has become apparent that there is a need to coordinate management of different elements of the water system. In the past, different elements of the water system were managed separately from other elements, i.e., groundwater was managed as a separate resource from stormwater and separate from recycled water. There is a need to integrate the different facets of water resources management, including water supply, water quality, environmental water use, and groundwater-dependent ecosystem water use and health. The tools and approaches historically used must be updated to consider these different elements.

The GSPs for the Basins will be developed using data and information from the existing GWMP in addition to building upon the effective stakeholder engagement process used to date. A new groundwater model will be developed that accounts for surface water interactions and which is capable of producing aquifer-specific outputs. Critical data gaps will be filled with data from new monitoring wells.



The FPBGSA is currently evaluating how to fund the development of the GSPs without greatly burdening basin users. This is particularly difficult in an area with a high percent of disadvantaged communities (DACs) (almost 48%). The funding provided under this grant program will provide crucial assistance to conduct the necessary tasks for completing the GSPs, which will in turn help optimize management of the groundwater basins towards long-term sustainability.

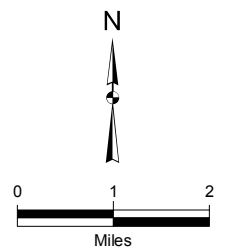




INDEX MAP

**Legend**

-  Fillmore and Piru Basins GSA Boundary (Project Benefit Area)
-  Adjacent and Nearby Basins



**Kennedy/Jenks Consultants**

Fillmore and Piru Basins SGWP Application

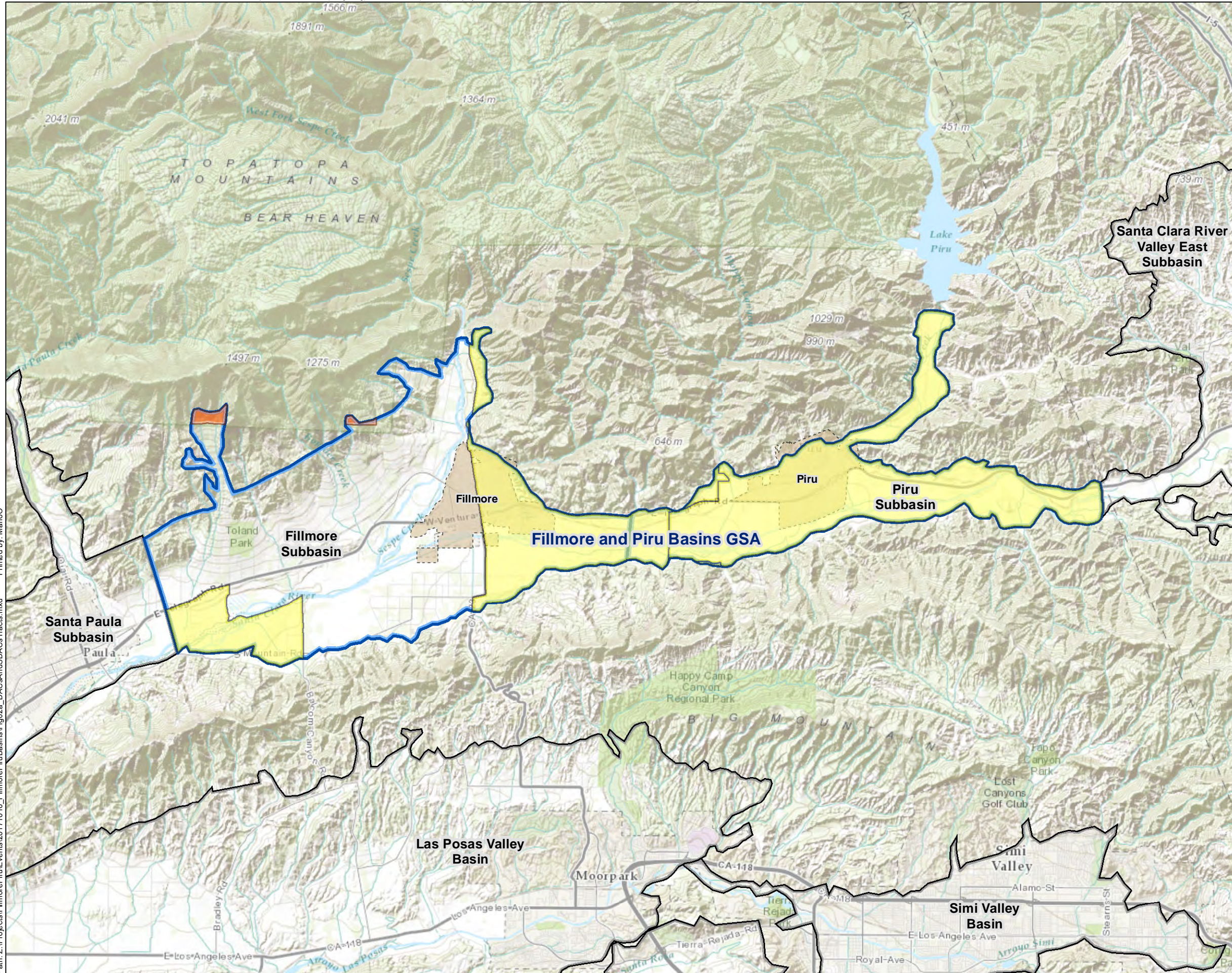
**Fillmore And Piru Basins Boundary**

1644222\*00  
 October 2017

Figure 3-1




Path: Z:\Projects\FillmorePiruEvents\20171016\_FillmorePiruBasins\Fig01\_FillmorePiruBasin.mxd Printed by: Mario

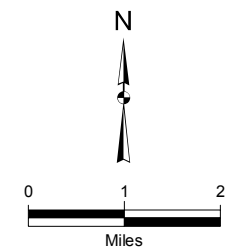




INDEX MAP

**Project Benefit Area**

-  Fillmore and Piru Basins GSA Boundary (30,597 acres)
-  Severely Disadvantage Community Census Tracts (May 2016) in Fillmore and Piru Basins (169 acres; 0.55%)
-  Disadvantage Community Census Tracts (May 2016) in Fillmore and Piru Basins (14,405 acres; 47%)



**Kennedy/Jenks Consultants**

Fillmore and Piru Basins SGWP Application

**Disadvantaged Communities and Severely Disadvantaged Communities in Fillmore and Piru Basins**

1744227\*00  
 October 2017

Figure 3-2



## TECHNICAL NEED

Since completion of the original Ventura Regional Groundwater Model (VRGWM) by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) in 1996, United has completed several modifications to the VRGWM to improve its predictive capabilities. However, the existing model is not capable of evaluating more complex issues and more importantly cannot establish linkages between aquifers. As groundwater management issues become more complex there's also increased need for aquifer-specific information. It has been determined that it is more efficient to develop a completely new model instead of revising the existing one. Therefore, the FPBGSA is proposing completion of a new model, the Santa Clara River Groundwater Flow Model, that will serve to inform the Fillmore and Piru Basins GSPs. The steps for developing the model will consist of creating a basin conceptual model, developing groundwater flow model, and calibrating the groundwater flow model.

Importantly, the Santa Clara River Groundwater Flow Model is being built by United. This has many benefits: the modelers are local and already familiar with the Basins; they already have access to the necessary data; and they can complete the work at much lower cost than use of an outside consultant. The model will specifically serve to provide necessary GSP data, including:

- Historical groundwater elevations, storage, and quality
- Historical demand and extractions by basin
- Historical water budgets
- Identify current water uses and demands
- Current groundwater elevations, storage, and quality
- Current water budget
- Identify projected water uses and demands given local land use plans (general plans, habitat conservation plans)
- Projected future water budget (through 2070)
- Linkages between streamflow and groundwater effects of current, ongoing projects such as wastewater treatment plant discharges along the Santa Clara River
- Data on depth to groundwater and linkages between streamflow and groundwater effects (to benefit evaluation of impacts to groundwater dependent ecosystems)
- Evaluate streamflow and groundwater effects of proposed projects

Work to develop the Santa Clara River Basins Groundwater Flow Model has identified the need for 2 additional nested or clustered monitoring wells. A monitoring well is proposed for each of the boundary areas between the Fillmore and Piru basins, as well as the Fillmore and Santa Paula basins where rising groundwater supports groundwater-dependent ecosystems which emphasize the need to have a better understanding of the surface water – groundwater interactions in these areas. Discrete depth monitoring wells do not exist in the rising groundwater areas so the monitoring wells would provide data to evaluate the interaction between the Santa Clara River and the principal aquifers. It is anticipated that the wells would have a maximum depth of about 400 feet below ground surface with discrete perforated intervals in 2-4 aquifers. An understanding of the Basin boundary is needed to ensure that groundwater management actions benefit the targeted basin. The identification of groundwater-dependent ecosystems will be a new analysis, and the FPBGSA GSP development will be informed by the *Addressing Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act* methodology under development by The Nature Conservancy, amongst other best available science.

Funding will provide the technical support needed to advise the FPBGSA in creating groundwater management strategies and plans that address the stakeholders varied paths toward sustainability. Achieving sustainability of the groundwater resources in the Fillmore and Piru basins supports the human health and safety, economic viability, and ecosystem health of these areas into the future.



## **PROJECT SUPPORT**

### **Description and Documentation of Communication With GSA(s) in Neighboring Basins Regarding Groundwater Sustainability Planning and GSP Development**

The Santa Paula Subbasin lies adjacent to the Fillmore Basin, to the southwest. The majority of that basin is managed under an adjudication to which United, the City of Ventura, and the Santa Paula Pumpers Association serve as the Technical Advisory Committee, which oversees the management of the basin. However, the County of Ventura elected to become the GSA for the outlying areas, including basin areas that lie directly adjacent to the Fillmore Basin. The County of Ventura is at the same time a member of the FPBGSA, which will facilitate coordination of actions across the basins.

Adjacent to the Piru Basin lies the Santa Clara River Valley East Subbasin, which is managed by the Santa Clarita Valley GSA. That area is often referred to as the “Upper Santa Clara River” area, in contrast to the downstream “Lower Santa Clara River” area which encompasses the Fillmore, Piru, and Santa Paula basins. For the last five years the “Upper Santa Clara River” group and “Lower Santa Clara River” group have held regular coordination meetings to share ideas on stormwater capture, flood protection, groundwater infiltration, habitat enhancement, education and river access as part of their respective Integrated Regional Water Management Plans. Entities in the Lower Santa Clara River region participated in the development of the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for the Santa Clarita Valley East Subbasin. And mutual noticing of GSA formation occurred. Going forward, both agencies intend to coordinate to ensure that the sustainability goals of the two GSPs do not interfere with each other and to the extent possible benefit one another. It is anticipated that the two GSAs will review available information, models, and the opportunities to share data. Modeling and other activities that will determine how the basins interact is still pending; based on the outcome of studies and modeling the need for an interbasin agreement will be assessed. The GSAs will track each other’s progress, provide input at key milestones, coordinate management actions as needed, and look for opportunities to implement projects that are mutually beneficial. A letter from the FPBGSA to DWR and the Santa Clarita Valley GSA is provided with this attachment to document the past and planned coordination among the two agencies.

### **Describe and Provide Documentation of Communication with Beneficial Users**

Stakeholder engagement has been a critical component of groundwater management in the Basins. Groundwater users in the Fillmore and Piru areas have regularly provided input and receive updates on groundwater management activities. The original 1996 GWMP was developed with input from public meetings and hearings of the Piru/Fillmore Groundwater Planning Council. The 2013 GWMP update process also relied on public information meetings and hearings. Public hearings are held regularly by United on groundwater conditions and stakeholder engagement and has continued during the recent Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) related efforts.

The FPBGSA places a high priority on stakeholder engagement and solicited stakeholder participation during development of the joint powers authority agreement (JPA Agreement) which formed the GSA. As part of that stakeholder outreach, the signatory members held numerous public meetings to discuss important terms to be included in the JPA Agreement. The interested parties list (provided with this attachment) was used to contact stakeholder participants. The signatory members also held multiple stakeholder outreach meetings to engage and educate stakeholders within the Fillmore and Piru Basins about the requirements of SGMA, the JPA Agreement, and the Agency’s intention to form a GSA for the two Basins. For example, on April 1, 2015, the United Board of Directors held a workshop in Fillmore to begin discussion about local requirements under SGMA. Documentation of past stakeholder meetings is provided with this attachment.

In addition to FPBGSA’s public outreach efforts, FPBGSA designated three seats on its six-seat Board of Directors for Stakeholder Directors: one for a Stakeholder Director from the Fillmore Basin Pumpers Association, one for a Stakeholder Director from the Piru Basin Pumpers Association, and one for a Stakeholder Director from Environmental Interest Groups. Stakeholder Director appointments were approved and filled during the July 26, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting.

**FILLMORE AND PIRU BASINS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLANS  
2017 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program – Category 2 Proposal**

The FPBGSA plans to continue its practice of seeking broad stakeholder engagement in management of the Basins' groundwater resources as it undertakes the process to develop and implement the plans for the Basins over the next several years. The FPBGSA will solicit and welcome participation from the following important stakeholder groups:

- Holders of overlying groundwater rights, including agricultural users, domestic well owners, and municipal well owners
- Public water systems located within the Fillmore and Piru Basins
- Local land use planning agencies
- Environmental users of groundwater
- Surface water users
- Federal government, including but not limited to the military and managers of federal lands
- California Native American Tribes
- Disadvantaged Communities and Severe Disadvantage Communities
- Entities conducting water level measurement programs across the Basins

## Included with this Attachment:

- Letter of Support and Coordination, Chair of the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- Documentation of Past Outreach and Coordination
  - Materials from Workshop on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, April 2015
  - Materials from Workshop on Formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs), January 2016
- Fillmore and Piru Basins List of Interested Parties
- Letter of Support and Coordination, City of Fillmore
- Letter of Support and Coordination, Fillmore Pumpers Association
- Letter of Support and Coordination, Piru Basin Pumpers Association
- Letter of Support and Coordination, Warring Water Service Inc.



**FILLMORE AND PIRU BASINS**  
**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**  
250 Central Avenue, Fillmore, CA 93015  
(805) 525-4431

October 31, 2017

Mr. Zaffar Eusuff  
Program Manager  
Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program  
California Department of Water Resources  
1419 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency Sustainable  
Groundwater Planning Grant Program Application  
Letter of Support and Coordination

Dear Mr. Eusuff:

The Fillmore and Piru Groundwater Sustainability Agency is very pleased to have the opportunity to submit a grant application to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program (a Category 2 proposal) for assistance with development of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

The Fillmore and Piru Basins (Basins 4-004.05 and 4-004.06) are contiguous basins in what is commonly referred to as the "Lower Santa Clara River". The Piru Basin is immediately adjacent to the Santa Clara River Valley Basin East (Basin 4-004.07) which is under the management of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency in the area commonly referred to as the "Upper Santa Clara River." This letter is intended to document the past coordination with the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency and the intent to continue coordination during GSP development.

**Past Coordination**

The agencies, stakeholders, and others that comprise the Fillmore and Piru GSA and the Santa Clarita Valley GSA have interacted for the last several years as follows:

- For the last five years "Upper Santa Clara River" group and "Lower Santa Clara River" group have held regular coordination meetings as part of their respective Integrated Regional Water Management Plans.
- Entities in the Lower Santa Clara River region participated in the development of the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for the Santa Clarita Valley.
- Mutual noticing of GSA formation

Eusuff Zaffar  
Department of Water Resources  
October 26, 2017  
Page 2

### **Planned Coordination**

GSP development for the Fillmore and Piru Basins and Santa Clarita Valley are still in their infancy. However, both agencies intend to coordinate to ensure that the sustainability goals of the two GSPs not interfere with each other and to the extent possible benefit one another. It is anticipated that the two GSAs will review available information, models, and the opportunities to share data. Modelling and other activities that will determine how the basins interact is still pending; based on the outcome of studies and modeling the need for an interbasin agreement will be assessed. The GSAs will track each other's progress, provide input at key milestones, coordinate management actions as needed, and look for opportunities to implement projects that are mutually beneficial.

Thank you again for the opportunity to solicit funding from DWR for the GSP development.

Very truly yours,

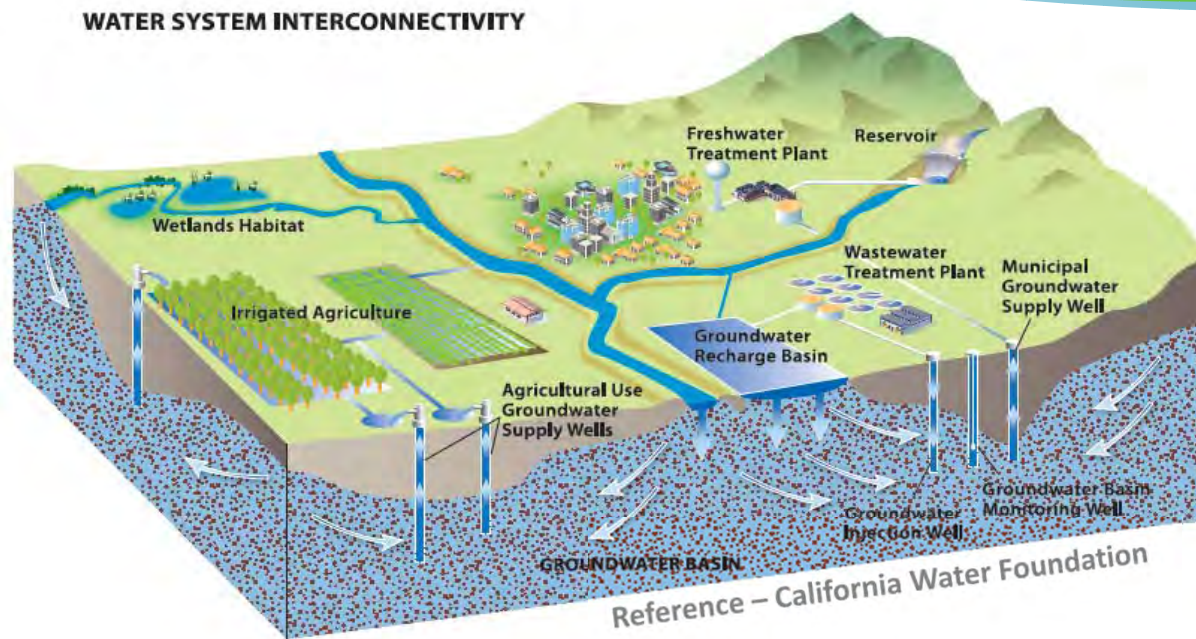
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kelly Long". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Kelly Long, Director  
Chair

Enclosure

cc: Santa Clarita Valley GSA

# Workshop on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act



## An Opportunity for Improved Groundwater Management Collaboration

UWCD Board of Directors - Fillmore, CA - April 1, 2015

# 5 Stages of Groundwater Management



- **Denial** - deny the reality of the situation...block out the words and hide from the facts...disbelief
- **Anger** – intense emotion...search for someone to blame
- **Bargaining** – need to regain control... “if only we had...”  
...seek compromise...renegotiate the terms
- **Depression** – reaction to practical implications relating to the changing situation
- **Acceptance** – "It's going to be okay." "I can't fight it, I may as well prepare for it and be a part of it."



# Presentation Overview

- What is groundwater management, then & now
- Framework: The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)
- The groundwater management planning process
- New Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs)
- Groundwater management collaboration
- State agency roles

# “SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT”

- ◆ **SB1168, AB1739, & SB1319** passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor;
- ◆ “*Groundwater Sustainability Agencies*” to direct local groundwater management activities at basin or subbasin level;
- ◆ Goal of groundwater sustainability in next 20 years with interim milestones in five year increments;
- ◆ Groundwater sustainability agency (GSA) can be a single local entity or combination of local entities that elects to assume this responsibility.
  - Local exceptions – *Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA)* and *Ojai Groundwater Management Agency* are deemed the exclusive local agencies within their respective statutory boundaries to be the GSA unless they elect to not assume the role

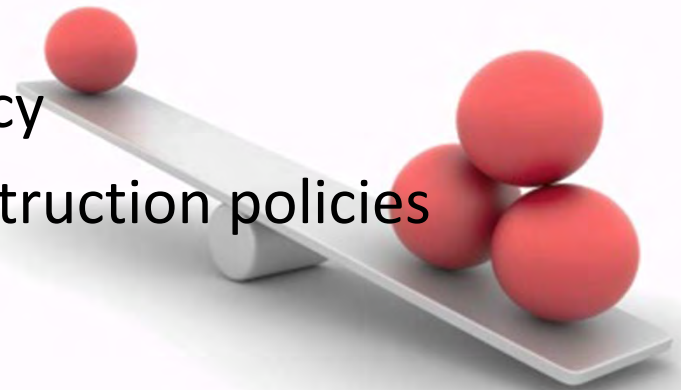
# What is Groundwater Management?

## *Some Things Haven't Changed*

- Existing Groundwater Management Plans under AB3030/SB1938 (Water Code §10753, et seq):
  - Plans grounded in science-based understanding of basin hydrology; include maps of basin & recharge areas
  - Focus typically on recharge enhancement, monitoring, conservation and wellhead protection
  - Include Basin Management Objectives (BMOs)
  - Makes basin eligible for state water funds

# Groundwater Management Still About Balancing Supply and Demand

- Groundwater supply can be increased through recharge or supplemented with surface water
- Conjunctive management with surface water supplies can increase groundwater sustainability
- Managing groundwater demand
  - Conservation and water efficiency
  - Land use planning and well construction policies informed by GSPs
  - Limiting groundwater use





# Groundwater Management Under SGMA

## *Many Things Have Changed*

- Groundwater management no longer voluntary
- State will now review whether local GSPs achieve sustainability
- Plans must contain measurable objectives that will reach sustainability goal
- SGMA grants new and additional groundwater management authorities to Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs)
- State intervention in basin management now possible

# SGMA Framework for Sustainability

- Emphasis on local control
- 20 years to achieve sustainability goal – milestones every 5 years
- State intervention only if locals do not act
- One element of comprehensive state policy initiative including:
  - Water conservation
  - Water recycling
  - Water storage
  - Safe drinking water
  - Wetlands/watershed restoration



# Steps to Groundwater Sustainability

## Step one

Local agencies must form local groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) in high- and medium-priority basins within two years

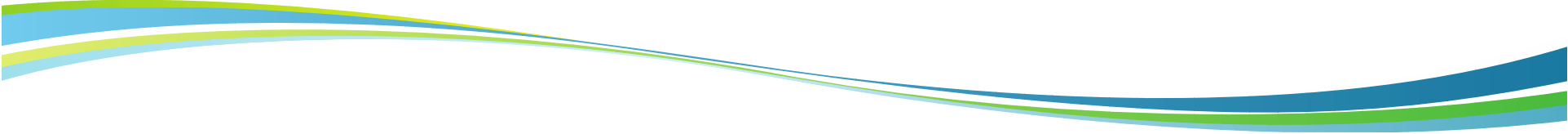
## Step two

GSA's in high- and medium-priority basins must adopt groundwater sustainability plans (GSPs) within five to seven years, depending on whether in critical overdraft

## Step three

Once plans are in place GSA's have 20 years to fully implement them and achieve the sustainability goal

# Key Implementation Dates



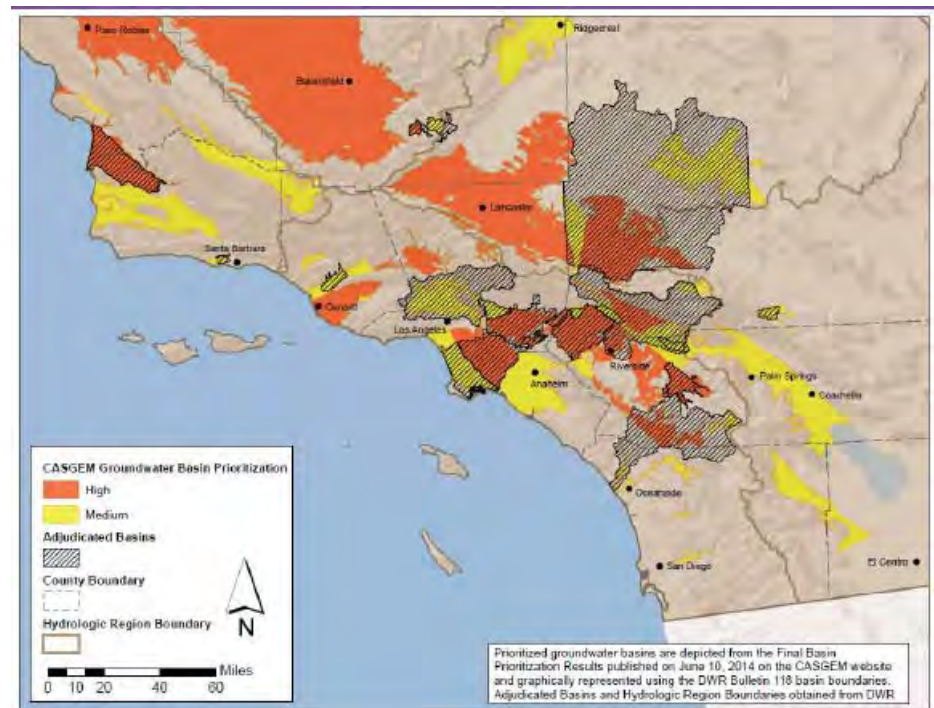
Time	Action
June 30, 2017	Formation of GSAs
Jan. 31, 2020	Completion of GSPs in critically overdrafted basins
Jan. 31, 2022	Completion of Plans in all other high/medium priority basins
20 years after adoption of plan	High- and medium-priority basins achieve sustainability

DWR may grant up to two, five-year extensions on implementation upon showing of good cause and progress



# High-Priority and Medium-Priority Basins

- Priority designated by DWR per CASGEM June 2014 prioritization
- Criteria include population, irrigated agriculture dependent on groundwater, etc.
- 125 of 515 basins are high- or medium-priority basins statewide
- Implementation is elective but encouraged in low-priority basins



SUBBASIN/BASIN	<u>PRIORITY</u> Critical Overdraft *	Comments (CASGEM Prioritization)
Piru / Santa Clara River Valley	High *	GW Quality impacts: nitrates, storm runoff, leaking tanks, etc. (B-118). High Selenium and other inorganics, average TDS was 1450 mg/l (Ventura co 2011 annual gw report)
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Oxnard Plain (inc. Forebay) / Santa Clara River Valley	High *	Saline intrusion, nitrates, pesticides, and PCBs have impacted some water wells per (B-118).
na / Pleasant Valley	High *	PC - Discharge of poor quality GW from dewatering wells and effluent discharge from the wastewater treatment facility into the Arroyo Simi have led to rising water levels in the basin along with higher TDS and Chloride levels
na / Las Posas	High*	TDS is generally high in this basin. REH - Public Comment includes reports of subsidence, overdraft and saline intrusion (chloride from adjacent basin?)

# Important Exceptions

- GSP requirement does not apply in pre-existing adjudicated basins
- Local agencies may petition DWR to use an existing groundwater plan as an “Alternative Plan” if it satisfies the objectives of the SGMA (§ 10733.6)
  - Must be submitted to DWR by January 1, 2017 and every 5 years thereafter
  - Must demonstrate sustainable management over a period of at least 10 years

# Forming Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (by June 2017)

- Any *local agency* or combination of agencies overlying basin may elect to be a GSA
- *Local agency* is any public agency that does at least one of the following:
  - Water supply
  - Water management
  - Land use
- Counties are the default GSA in “unmanaged” areas
- Can be more than one GSA in basin



# The Planning Process is a Public Process

- Public notice and hearing required to designate GSA
- Once established, GSA must consider “all interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater” including specific interests listed in §10723.2
  - List includes ag and domestic users, public & private water systems, tribes, environmental users and disadvantaged communities, among others
  - GSA must maintain “interested persons” list
  - Public hearing required to adopt GSP



# New Management Responsibilities Under SGMA

## Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) are responsible for:

- Maintaining basin groundwater sustainability
- Submittal of annual reports to the Department of Water Resources including
  - Groundwater elevation data
  - Annual aggregated groundwater extraction data
  - Surface water supply used and available for groundwater recharge or in-lieu use
  - Total water use
  - Change in groundwater storage
- Conduct periodic review and assessment of the GSP, evaluating and responding to changing conditions
- Conduct public hearings regarding GSP adoption or amendment



# What is Sustainable Groundwater Management?

Now defined in Water Code §10721:

*Management and use of groundwater in a manner that can be maintained during the planning and implementation horizon without causing undesirable results.*

- Chronic lowering of groundwater levels indicating a *significant and unreasonable* depletion of supply
- Reductions in groundwater storage
- Seawater intrusion
- Degraded water quality
- Land subsidence
- Surface water depletions that have adverse impacts on beneficial uses

# GSA Authorities

“...may perform any act necessary or proper to carry out the purposes...”  
of this act, including, for example:

- Adopt rules, regulations, ordinances, and resolutions;
- Develop groundwater sustainability plan;
- Propose and collect fees;
- Monitor compliance and enforcement;
- Investigate, appropriate, and acquire surface water, surface water rights, groundwater, and groundwater rights into the GSA;
- Registration of groundwater extraction facilities (wells)
- Reporting of groundwater extractions to GSA;
- Provide for voluntary following program;
- Transport, reclaim, purify, desalinate, treat, or otherwise manage and control polluted water, wastewater, or other waters for subsequent use;
- Impose well spacing restrictions on new wells;
- Impose reasonable operating regulations on existing wells to minimize well interference, including requiring operating on rotation basis;
- Control groundwater extractions of new, existing, reactivated wells; and
- Authorize temporary and permanent transfers of groundwater extraction allocations.

# *New Groundwater Sustainability Plans*

## **Options for new Groundwater Sustainability Agencies**

- Create single GSP covering entire basin
- Multiple GSAs in one basin may prepare separate Plans, but must coordinate and use common data and methods
- Multiple GSAs group together as JPA / MOU / other legal arrangement and create single GSP
- DWR will review multiple GSPs together
- May be possible to use existing plan as “Alternative” under SGMA



# Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs)

- GW sustainability on 20 yr timeline with 5 yr interim progress points
- Encourage enhanced opportunities for conjunctive use of SW and GW
- Major technical components for each basin / subbasin include, for example:
  - ✓ Water supply sources (SW & GW) / Water demand (M&I, AG, ENV) / WQ / Beneficial water use / Environmental water use / GW pumping / GW recharge / GW elevations / Subsidence / Land use changes / Monitoring & enforcement pgms / Management alternatives / BMOs / Sustainable yield
- Measurable objectives/interim milestones to reach sustainability goal
- Adjudicated basins must submit annual reports to CA DWR



# Department of Water Resources Role

- Designate basins as high, medium, low or very low priority
- Provide technical assistance
- Review GSPs initially and periodically for compliance with Act
  - Multiple plans within a basin must be evaluated collectively
- Evaluate whether one GSP adversely affects adjacent basin's ability to achieve sustainability goal



# State Water Resources Control Board Role

- May intervene if GSA not formed or fails to adopt and implement compliant GSP by certain dates
- Designate “probationary status” if deficiencies not addressed
- Create interim plan for basin until local GSA is able to assume responsibility
- Probationary status requires a GSA to respond to SWRCB and describe how it intends to rectify deficiencies



# What About Water Rights?

- Neither the SGMA nor Groundwater Sustainability Plans alter existing groundwater or surface water rights
- However, like other property rights, water rights can be regulated
- *“It is the intent of the Legislature to preserve the security of water rights in the state **to the greatest extent possible consistent with the sustainable management of groundwater.**”* [Water Code §10720.1]



*Discussing Water Rights, A Western Pastime*

# What Could Go Wrong?

*Answers Will Vary by Locality*

- Will formation of GSAs turn into a “food fight”?
- Do local agencies have technical expertise and organizational capacity to take this on?
- How will sustainability planning be funded, especially in the startup phase?



# What Could Go Wrong?

*Answers Will Vary by Locality*

- How will interested parties including rural well owners, agriculture & environmental users be represented?
- What level of impacts from groundwater withdrawals are acceptable?
  - How will impacts to surface water be addressed?
- How will tension between resource protection, competing water demands and water rights be resolved?
- Will local communities adapt to new restrictions? Will local politics adapt?



# Next Steps – more to come...

## Possible Updates:

- Follow-up Legislation
  - SGMA ministerial ‘clean-up’ language
  - Streamlined adjudication?
- Development of rules & guidelines by DWR

# Resources

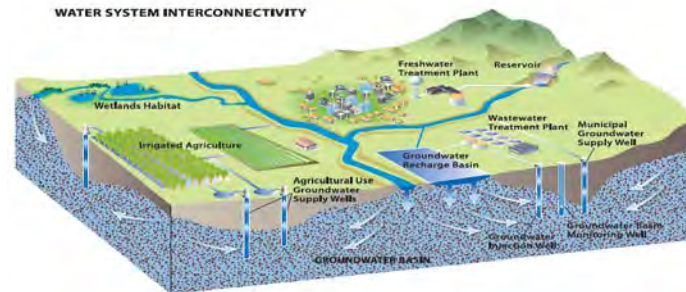


- Full version of SGMA statute and other resources  
[www.opr.ca.gov/docs/s\\_groundwater.php](http://www.opr.ca.gov/docs/s_groundwater.php)
- DWR Groundwater Information Center  
[www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/](http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/)
- ACWA's Groundwater Sustainability Page  
[www.acwa.com/content/groundwater/groundwater-sustainability](http://www.acwa.com/content/groundwater/groundwater-sustainability)
- California Water Foundation Information /  
Recommendations on Groundwater Sustainability  
[www.californiawaterfoundation.org](http://www.californiawaterfoundation.org)



# QUESTIONS?

## Sustainable Groundwater Management Act



### Formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs)

An Opportunity for Improved Groundwater  
Management Collaboration

## *5 Stages of Groundwater Management*

- **Denial** - deny the reality of the situation...block out the words and hide from the facts...disbelief
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## Presentation Overview

- The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)
- The groundwater management planning process
- New Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs)
- Land use & groundwater management collaboration (GSA's)

## “SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT”

- ◆ **SB1168, AB1739, & SB1319** passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor became effective Jan 1, 2015;
- ◆ **SB13 & AB617** recently enacted;
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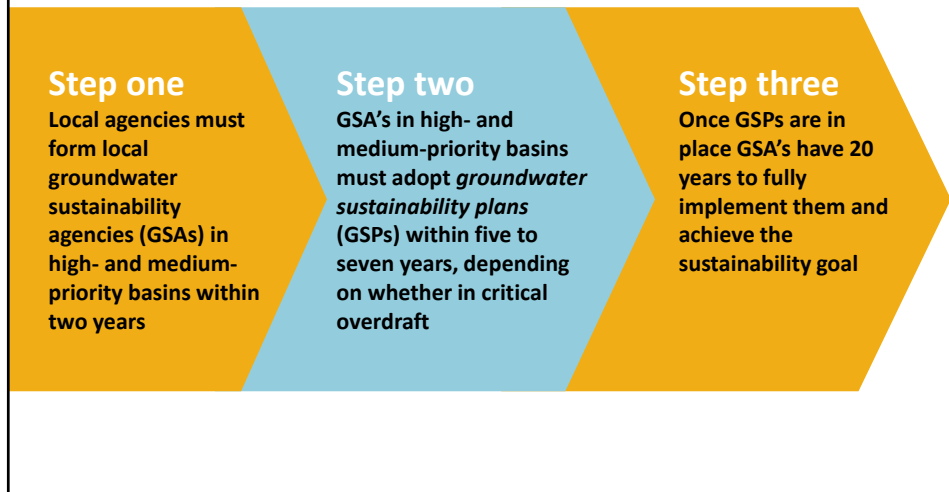
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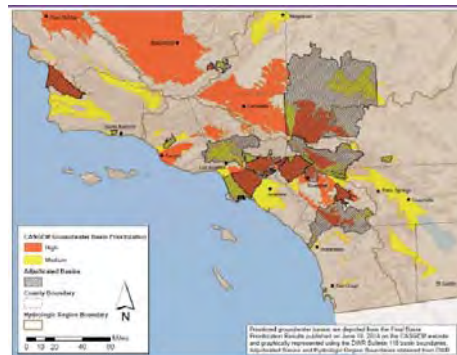
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## High-Priority and Medium-Priority Basins

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- Criteria include population, irrigated agriculture dependent on groundwater, etc.
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*Groundwater Planning Process*

## Forming Groundwater Sustainability Agencies

(by June 2017)



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  - Land use
- Counties are the default GSA in “unmanaged” areas
- Can be more than one GSA in basin, but cannot overlap areas
  - Local Exceptions:
    - Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency
    - Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency
- Public Process



## New Management Responsibilities Under SGMA

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- Maintaining basin groundwater sustainability
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- Conduct periodic review and assessment of the GSP, evaluating and responding to changing conditions
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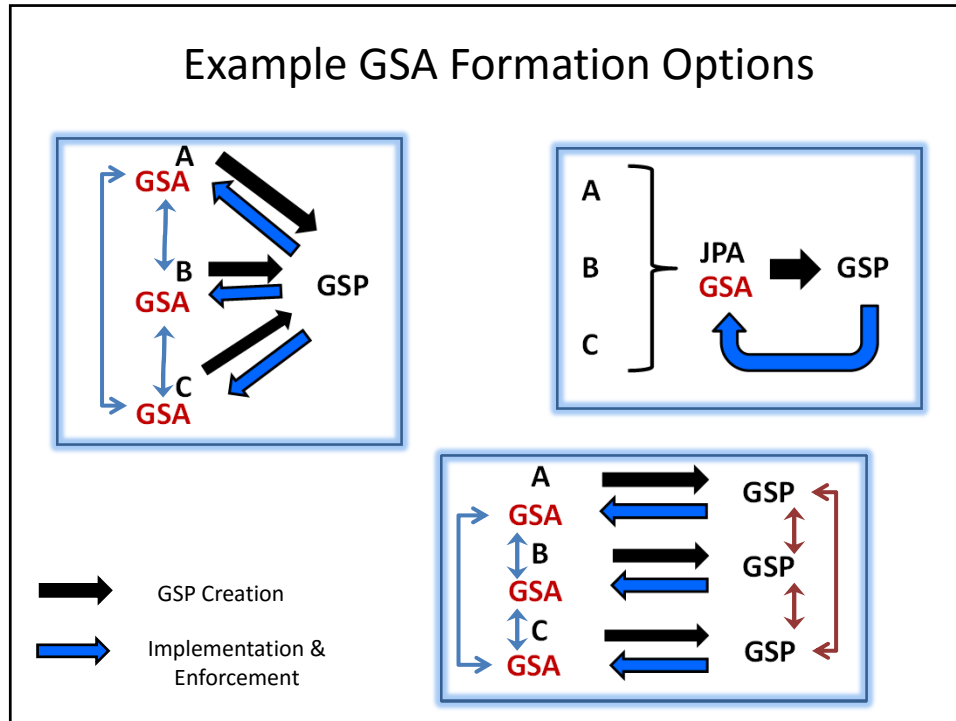
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### **Options for new Groundwater Sustainability Agencies**

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- Multiple GSAs group together as JPA / MOU / other legal arrangement and create single GSP
- DWR will review multiple GSPs together
- May be possible to use existing plan as “Alternative” under SGMA





- ### New Groundwater Sustainability Plans
- Plan Requirements**
- 50-year planning horizon; 20 years to reach sustainability
  - Measurable objectives/interim milestones to reach sustainability goal
  - Physical description of basin
  - Groundwater-surface water interaction
  - Historical and projected data on demands and supplies. Major technical components include, for example:
    - ✓ Water supply sources (SW & GW) / Water demand (M&I, AG, ENV) / WQ / Beneficial water use / Environmental water use / GW pumping / GW recharge / GW elevations / Subsidence / Land use changes / Monitoring & enforcement pgms / Management alternatives / BMOs / Sustainable yield
  - Monitoring and management provisions
  - Description of how Plan affects other GSPs
  - GSP adoption is exempt from CEQA

## What About Water Rights?

- Neither the SGMA nor Groundwater Sustainability Plans alter existing groundwater or surface water rights
- However, like other property rights, water rights can be regulated
- *“It is the intent of the Legislature to preserve the security of water rights in the state **to the greatest extent possible consistent with the sustainable management of groundwater.**” [Water Code §10720.1]*



Discussing Water Rights, A Western Pastime

## What's Next?

- Follow-up Legislation
- Development of rules and guidelines by DWR
- Stakeholder Meetings
- Hearings for GSA Formation
- GSA Operational Framework



## State's Roles

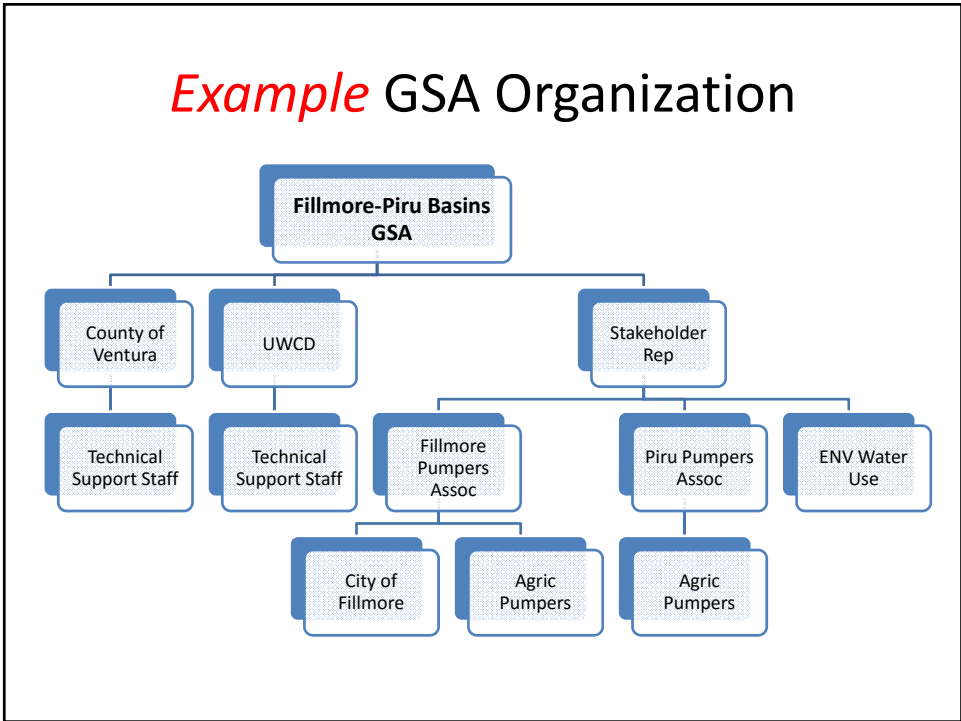
- Department of Water Resources
  - Defines the Basins and their Status
  - Regulations & Guidelines
  - Provide Technical Support
- State Water Resources Control Board
  - Intervene if no GSA or no GSP
  - Create an interim plan where there is none
  - Regulates deficiencies



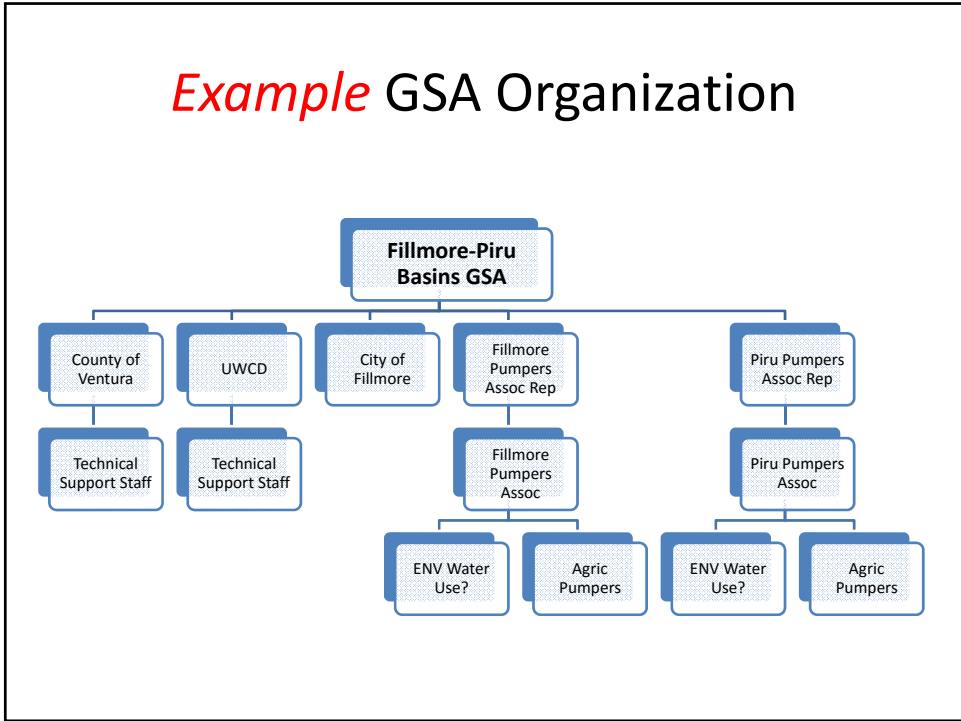
## Resources

- Full version of SGMA statute and other resources  
[www.opr.ca.gov/docs/s\\_groundwater.php](http://www.opr.ca.gov/docs/s_groundwater.php)
- DWR Groundwater Information Center  
[www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/](http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/)
- ACWA's Groundwater Sustainability Page  
[www.acwa.com/content/groundwater/groundwater-sustainability](http://www.acwa.com/content/groundwater/groundwater-sustainability)
- California Water Foundation Information / Recommendations on Groundwater Sustainability  
[www.californiawaterfoundation.org](http://www.californiawaterfoundation.org)

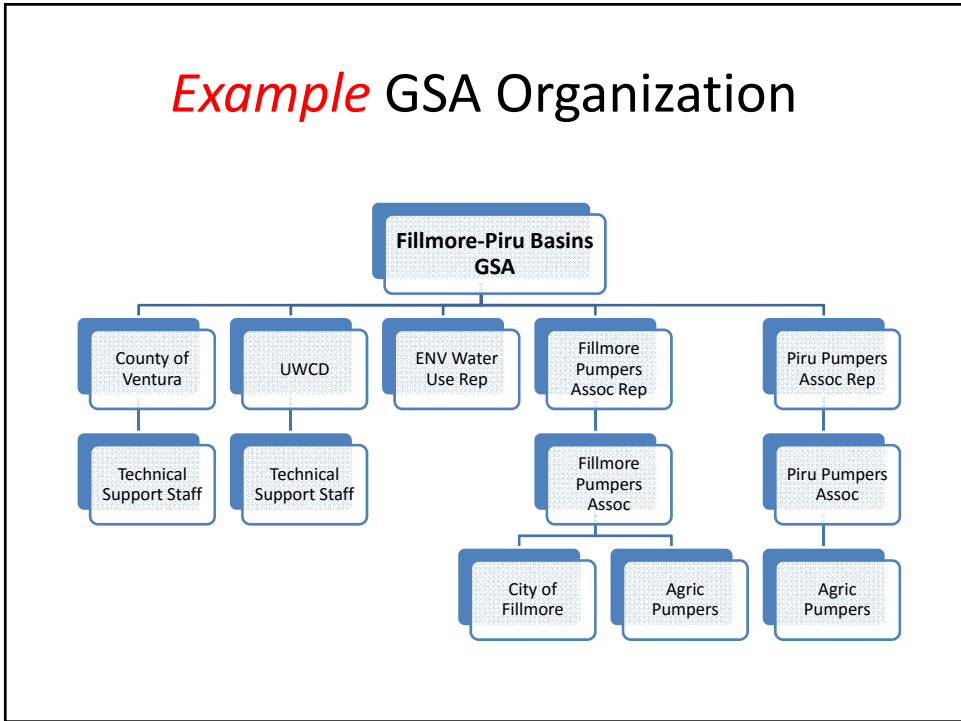
QUESTIONS?



### Example GSA Organization



### Example GSA Organization



## LIST OF ALL BENEFICIAL USES AND USERS OF GROUNDWATER

Pursuant to Water Code Sections 10723.8(a)(4) and 10723.2, the Agency will consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, as well as those responsible for implementing a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“Plan”).

The Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“Agency”) has engaged stakeholders in the development of the Agency to serve as the groundwater sustainability agency (“GSA”). For example, during development of the joint powers authority agreement (“JPA Agreement”) forming the Agency, the signatory members held numerous public meetings to discuss important terms to be included in the JPA Agreement. The signatory members also held multiple stakeholder outreach meetings to engage and educate stakeholders within the Piru and Fillmore Basins (“Basins”) about the requirements of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”), the JPA Agreement, and the Agency’s intention to form a GSA for the Basins. In addition to the Agency’s public outreach efforts, it also designated three seats on its six-seat Board of Directors for Stakeholder Directors: two seats are reserved for one Stakeholder Director from the Fillmore Basin Pumper’s Association and one from the Piru Basin Pumper’s Association, and one seat is reserved for an Environmental Stakeholder Director.

The Agency plans to continue its practice of seeking broad stakeholder engagement in management of the Basins’ groundwater resources as it undertakes the process to develop and implement the Plans for the Basins over the next several years. The Agency will solicit and welcome participation from the following stakeholder groups:

### **Holders of Overlying Groundwater Rights, including:**

- **Agricultural Users:** There are agricultural users of groundwater operating on land overlying the Basins. To account for these users’ interests, the Agency designated two seats on its six-member governing board to be filled by Stakeholder Directors (one each from Fillmore and Piru Basins). The Stakeholder Directors are appointed from nominations received by the Pumper’s Associations members. The Stakeholder Directors are responsible for engaging the Basins’ agricultural users of groundwater and representing their interests before the Agency.
- **Domestic Well Owners:** There are many domestic wells overlying the Basins. It is believed that the majority—if not all—of these domestic well owners are de minimus users, as defined by SGMA. The Stakeholder Directors are responsible for engaging the Basins’ domestic well owners and representing their interests before the Agency. The Agency anticipates that the Plans will address the collective interests of domestic users of groundwater wells and plans to engage in outreach to domestic well owners throughout the development of the Plans through inviting their participation in the Agency’s public meetings.
- **Municipal Well Operators:** The Agency is a joint powers authority created by three local public agencies. The City of Fillmore, one of the Agency’s signatory members, operates municipal wells within the Fillmore Basin and is represented on the Agency’s Board of Directors.



**Public Water Systems:** The following public water systems are located within the Agency’s boundaries (from Ventura County Watershed Protection District: Water & Environmental Resources Division Groundwater Section, “Inventory of Public & Private Water Purveyors in Ventura County”, March 2006):

**Fillmore Basin:**

- Brownstone Mutual Water Company
- Citrus Mutual Water Company
- Community Mutual Water Company
- Fillmore Irrigation Company
- Goodenough Mutual Water Company
- Hardscrabble Mutual Water Company
- San Cayetano Mutual Water Company
- South Mountain Mutual Water Company
- Southside Improvement Company
- Storke Mutual Water Company
- Timber Canyon Mutual Water Company
- Toland Road Water System

**Piru Basin:**

- Piru Mutual Water Company
- Warring Water Service, Inc.

Signatory members to the JPA Agreement forming the Agency, as well as local stakeholder organizations, have communicated with these entities throughout development of the JPA Agreement and the Agency’s decision to form a GSA for the Basins. The Agency will continue to communicate with these entities concerning Plan development (one for each of the two Basins) and implementation and opportunities to participate in the process, including through the advisory committee to be established.

**Local Land Use Planning Agencies:** The County of Ventura (“County”) has land use planning authority on land overlying the Basins. In addition, the City of Fillmore has land use planning authority on land within its city limits. Both the County and the City of Fillmore are signatory members to the JPA Agreement forming the Agency and represented on the Agency’s Board of Directors.

**Environmental Users of Groundwater:** There are numerous environmental organizations dedicated to preserving and maintaining environmental values operating within the boundaries of the Basins. To account for these users’ interests, the Agency designated a seat on its six-member governing board to be filled by an Environmental Stakeholder Director. The Environmental Stakeholder Director is appointed from nominations received from local environmental nonprofit organizations supportive of the Basins’ groundwater sustainability. The Environmental Stakeholder Director is responsible for engaging stakeholders within the Basins representing environmental users of surface and groundwater and representing their interests before the Agency.

**Surface Water Users, if there is a hydrologic connection between surface and groundwater bodies:**

Based on past studies performed in the Basins, there is hydrologic connection between surface and groundwater in certain areas of the Santa Clara River. The Agency plans to engage with surface water users throughout development of the Plans to better understand and take into account their interests.

**Federal Government, including, but not limited to, the military and managers of federal lands:** The Agency plans to engage with Federal and State Agencies (e.g. California Department of Fish and Wildlife) throughout development of the Plans to better understand and take into account their interests.

**California Native American Tribes:** The Agency plans to engage with California Native American Tribes throughout development of the Plans to better understand and take into account their interests.

**Disadvantaged Communities, including, but not limited to those served by private domestic wells or small community water systems:** Disadvantaged Communities are represented by Stakeholder Directors. The Agency plans to engage with Disadvantaged Communities throughout development of the Plans to better understand and take into account their interests.

**Entities Listed in Section 10927 that are Monitoring and Reporting Groundwater Elevations in all or a part of the Groundwater Basin Managed by the GSA:** Both the County of Ventura (“County”) and United Water Conservation District (“United”) have water level measurement programs. The County is the designated California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (“CASGEM”) entity for the Basins. United regularly provides the County with the data from their water level measurement program for CASGEM submittal. The County is a signatory member to the JPA Agreement forming the Agency and represented on the Agency’s Board of Directors.

The Agency’s and other stakeholders’ roles and responsibilities will be further developed and defined in each of the two Basin’s Sustainability Plans. The Agency welcomes feedback during this process from the State, any of the agencies or organizations listed herein, and any other interested stakeholders.

If the Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) requires anything further prior to the acceptance of this notification of the Agency’s election to serve as the GSA for the Basin, please address your inquiry to:

Kelly Long, Chair  
Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
c/o City Manager  
Fillmore City Hall  
250 Central Avenue  
Fillmore, CA 93015

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**8. Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes from the Board Meeting of June 26, 2017, Director McFadden; Second, Director Broggie. Roll call vote: three ayes (Broggie, Long and McFadden); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**9. Appointment of Agency Stakeholder Directors**

**The Board will consider nominees for the three (3) Stakeholder Director positions on the FPBGSA Board of Directors**

**Motion**

After reviewing individual statements from each of the nominees for the three Stakeholder Director positions (Gordon Kimball for Fillmore Basin Pumpers Association; Glen Pace for Piru Basin Pumpers Association; and Candice Meneghin for the Environmental Interests groups), nominees were interviewed by Directors Broggie, Long and McFadden individually regarding their backgrounds, qualifications, and experience as well as to why they wanted to participate in the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

Motion to approve and appoint Gordon Kimball as the Stakeholder Director nominated by the Fillmore Basin Pumpers Association, Director Broggie; Second Director McFadden. Roll call vote: three ayes (Broggie, Long and McFadden); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously.

Motion to approve and appoint Glen Pace as the Stakeholder Director nominated by the Piru Basin Pumpers Association, Director McFadden; Second Director Broggie. Roll call vote: three ayes (Broggie, Long and McFadden); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously.

Motion to approve and appoint Candice Meneghin as the Stakeholder Director nominated by the Environmental Interests Groups, Director Broggie; Second, Director McFadden. Roll call vote: three ayes (Broggie, Long and McFadden); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously.

**10. Adoption of Schedule for Future Meetings**

**Motion**

The Board of Directors reviewed proposed meeting dates for the FPBGSA regular Board of Directors meetings based on the availability of the City of Fillmore City Council Chambers as the site for such future meetings. After checking personal calendars and discussing various options specific dates were agreed to for future meetings, with the caveat that the Board could move to amend specific meeting



## CITY OF FILLMORE

CENTRAL PARK PLAZA  
250 Central Avenue  
Fillmore, California 93015-1907  
(805) 524-3701 • FAX (805) 524-5707

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November 6, 2017

California Department of Water Resources  
Financial Assistance Branch  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236

Attn: Zaffar Eusuff

**Subject:** Support for the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Dear Mr. Eusuff:

On behalf of the City of Fillmore, I would like to express my full support for the development of the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), for which the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (FPBGSA) is seeking funding under the Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program.

Funding under the Grant Program will significantly help facilitate local groundwater management representative of all beneficial users, including the many agricultural users in the Basins. The funding assistance is also particularly important to the Fillmore/Piru area, given the high proportion of disadvantaged communities (DACs), severely DACs and economically distressed areas within the Basins.

Groundwater from the Fillmore and Piru Basins provides in many cases the sole source of municipal and agricultural water supply in the area, therefore necessitating effective, coordinated management of the Basins. As beneficial users of this groundwater, we're dedicated to the sustainable management of the Basins and have been active participants of the extensive cooperative groundwater planning and management efforts to date. We therefore fully support the initiatives that the FPBGSA's is taking to coordinate and lead sustainable groundwater management of the Fillmore and Piru Basins.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our endorsement for the Fillmore and Piru Basins GSP. We strongly urge your thoughtful consideration of funding to support the Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carrie Broggie".

Carrie Broggie  
Mayor  
City of Fillmore



Fillmore Basin Pumpers Association, Inc.  
540 Sespe Ave., Suite 3  
Fillmore, CA 93015

November 7, 2017

California Department of Water Resources  
Financial Assistance Branch  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236

Attn: Zaffar Eusuff

**Subject:** Support for the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Dear Mr. Eusuff:

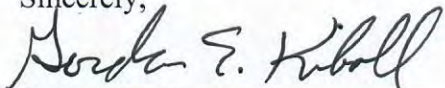
On behalf of the Fillmore Basin Pumpers Association, Inc., I would like to express my full support for the development of the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), for which the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (FPBGSA) is seeking funding under the Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program.

Funding under the Grant Program will significantly help facilitate local groundwater management representative of all beneficial users, including the many agricultural users in the Basins. The funding assistance is also particularly important to the Fillmore/Piru area, given the high proportion of disadvantaged communities (DACs), severely DACs and economically distressed areas within the Basins.

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Thank you for the opportunity to express our endorsement for the Fillmore and Piru Basins GSP. We strongly urge your thoughtful consideration of funding to support the Project.

Sincerely,



Gordon E. Kimball  
President

Fillmore Basin Pumpers Association, Inc.

November 7, 2017

California Department of Water Resources  
Financial Assistance Branch  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236

Attn: Zaffar Eusuff

**Subject:** Support for the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Dear Mr. Eusuff:

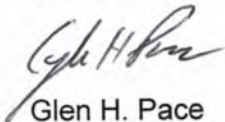
On behalf of the Piru Basin Pumpers Association, I would like to express my full support for the development of the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), for which the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (FPBGSA) is seeking funding under the Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program.

Funding under the Grant Program will significantly help facilitate local groundwater management representative of all beneficial users, including the many agricultural users in the Basins. The funding assistance is also particularly important to the Fillmore/Piru area, given the high proportion of disadvantaged communities (DACs), severely DACs and economically distressed areas within the Basins.

Groundwater from the Fillmore and Piru Basins provides in many cases the sole source of municipal and agricultural water supply in the area, therefore necessitating effective, coordinated management of the Basins. As beneficial users of this groundwater, we're dedicated to the sustainable management of the Basins and have been active participants of the extensive cooperative groundwater planning and management efforts to date. We therefore fully support the initiatives that the FPBGSA's is taking to coordinate and lead sustainable groundwater management of the Fillmore and Piru Basins.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our endorsement for the Fillmore and Piru Basins GSP. We strongly urge your thoughtful consideration of funding to support the Project.

Sincerely,



Glen H. Pace  
President  
Piru Basin Pumpers Association



November 7, 2017

California Department of Water Resources  
Financial Assistance Branch  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236

Attn: Zaffar Eusuff

**Subject:** Support for the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Dear Mr. Eusuff:

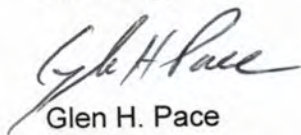
On behalf of the Warring Water Service, I would like to express my full support for the development of the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), for which the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (FPBGSA) is seeking funding under the Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program.

Funding under the Grant Program will significantly help facilitate local groundwater management representative of all beneficial users, including the many agricultural users in the Basins. The funding assistance is also particularly important to the Fillmore/Piru area, given the high proportion of disadvantaged communities (DACs), severely DACs and economically distressed areas within the Basins.

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Thank you for the opportunity to express our endorsement for the Fillmore and Piru Basins GSP. We strongly urge your thoughtful consideration of funding to support the Project.

Sincerely,



Glen H. Pace  
President  
Warring Water Service Inc.

## **WORK PLAN**

The Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (FPBGSA) proposes preparing two Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs), one for the Fillmore Basin and one for the Piru Basin. Though there will be two plans, the intent is to share data, modeling, and hold coordinated outreach efforts between the two plans to streamline GSP development and keep costs down. As shown in the Schedule (Attachment 5), the two GSPs are expected to go forward in parallel.

### **STAKEHOLDER COORDINATION AND ENGAGEMENT (TASKS 1-5)**

#### **Task 1. Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Public Outreach**

The Fillmore and Piru Basins have a wide variety of stakeholders as evidenced by the composition of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors consists of one member from United Water Conservation District (United) (a wholesale water agency), the County of Ventura (land use entity), the City of Fillmore (a land use entity and municipal water purveyor), a stakeholder director from the Fillmore Basin Pumpers Association, a stakeholder director from the Piru Basin Pumpers Association, and a stakeholder director from Environmental Interest Groups (to represent interests of environmental organizations performing work in the basins).

A plan for stakeholder engagement will be developed to interface with activities needed to develop the GSPs. The stakeholder engagement strategy will address outreach challenges including: building trust among water agencies, agricultural interests, and environmental interests; and determining the need for and potential composition of the advisory committee and facilitation. The stakeholder engagement plan will address noticing, time and place of meetings, roles and responsibilities of any committees, how stakeholder input will be documented and addressed, as well as target audiences and key messaging.

As part of the stakeholder engagement plan, the FPBGSA will implement a public outreach plan. This task involves developing materials for public outreach and then holding forums on the GSPs at critical junctures. Materials will be developed to provide consistent messaging. Informational materials will be developed that can be used to inform the stakeholders and the community about basin status, GSP goals, objectives, process, and outcomes. These materials will be suitable for both printed distribution and the internet. A FPBGSA website will be established. Appropriate media contacts will be identified, including contacts that can be briefed on the GSP process.

A specific activity in Task 1 is defining methods to reach out to disadvantaged community (DAC) groups. The Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County recently conducted a DAC needs assessment which identified specific contacts for outreach to low-income, minority, and Spanish-speaking communities; these contacts include non-profits such as the Cabrillo Economic Development Group and CAUSE, as well as the County of Ventura Community Development Department. These groups will be asked to provide input to the Stakeholder Engagement Plan to ensure broad participation in in the GSPs development and implementation.

The following forums are proposed as part of Task 1:

**FILLMORE AND PIRU BASINS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLANS  
2017 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program – Category 2 Proposal**

<i>Meeting Topic</i>	<i>Audience</i>	<i>Desired Outcome</i>
GSP Kickoff	Public, water management agencies, beneficial users, DWR, others as identified in Stakeholder Engagement Plan	GSP content and process, ways to participate
GSP development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- GSP Bylaws (See Task 5)</li> <li>- Water Budget (See Task 9)</li> <li>- Sustainability Criteria (See Task 10)</li> <li>- Management Actions (See Task 12)</li> <li>- Draft and Final GSPs (See Task 14)</li> </ul>	See individual task descriptions.	See individual task descriptions.

Work on Task 1 has not yet started (0% complete).

### *Task 1 Deliverables*

- Stakeholder engagement plan
- Informational handouts
- Agendas and meeting materials
- GSA website

## **Task 2. Memorandum of Understanding with United Water Conservation District and Ventura County**

United has performed extensive research on water resources, performs groundwater monitoring, and is managing the development of the Santa Clara River Basins Groundwater Flow Model (for details see Box 1). The County of Ventura, as the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) entity, also has collected a significant amount of groundwater data that could benefit the Fillmore and Piru Basins GSPs. The County of Ventura and United routinely now share groundwater elevation and water quality data from their respective databases. Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) are needed between the GSA and United and the County of Ventura to: (1) ensure data, studies, and models developed can be utilized to benefit the GSPs and (2) to ensure coordination of water resources management actions undertaken by the FPBGSA, United, and the County of Ventura. The MOU will set out a structure whereby the management agencies, though autonomous, will coordinate and benefit each other’s planning and projects.

Drafts of the MOUs with the County of Ventura and United are anticipated to be completed within the next 3 months.

Work on Task 2 is approximately 45% complete.

### *Task 2 Deliverables*

- MOU between United and FPBGSA
- MOU between County of Ventura and FPBGSA



### **Box 1 Past Technical Work**

Studies, investigations, and other technical work related to the Fillmore and Piru Basins go back as far as the 1950s, the list below includes the highlights:

#### **Data**

- Groundwater elevation data 1980-present
- Pumping data 1980-present
- Water dated 1980-present
- Mapping of monitoring network

#### **Studies**

- A Plan for Groundwater Management, United Water Conservation District, 1959
- Geologic Map of the Fillmore Quadrangle, 1990
- Memorandum of Understanding in the Fillmore/Piru Groundwater Basins, 1995
- AB3030 Ground Water Management Plan for the Fillmore and Piru Basins, 1996
- Simulation of Ground-Water/Surface-Water Flow in the Santa Clara-Calleguas Ground-Water Basin, Ventura County, California, 2003
- Chloride in the Piru Basin, 2006
- Task 2B-1 Numerical Model Development and Scenario Results East and Piru Subbasins, Upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL Collaborative Process, 2008
- Draft 2013 Piru/Fillmore Basins AB 3030 Groundwater Management Plan, 2013
- Farmers Irrigation Company Well 12 Aquifer Test Analysis, 2013
- Lower Santa Clara River Salt and Nutrient Management Plan, 2015
- United Water Conservation District, Piru and Fillmore Basins AB3030 Biennial Groundwater Conditions Report, 2013, 2015, and 2016
- Groundwater and Surface Water Conditions Reports, 2012, 2014, and 2017

#### **Projects (Built)**

- Santa Felicia Dam and Lake Piru
- Piru Spreading Grounds Basins

### **Task 3. Stakeholder Education**

The FPBGSA Board of Directors and stakeholders in the basin come from widely varying backgrounds. The familiarity with the characteristics of the basins, institutional constraints, and water management opportunities is uneven. As a result, educational workshops are necessary to establish a common understanding of topics. In April 2015, the United Board of Directors held a workshop in Fillmore to begin discussions about local requirements under the Act as well as review of conditions in the Fillmore and Piru Basins. Another workshop was held in January 2017 to review SGMA status and basin conditions. This stakeholder education process will need to continue. It will be necessary to identify important technical studies, to review the Santa Clara River Basins Groundwater Flow Model (inputs, outputs, assumptions, and proper use), to review groundwater dependent ecosystems in the basins,

**FILLMORE AND PIRU BASINS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLANS  
2017 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program – Category 2 Proposal**

and to review past and proposed actions to manage groundwater. After the necessary information is identified, workshops will be held, as documented below:

<i>Meeting Topic</i>	<i>Audience</i>	<i>Desired Outcome</i>
Basin Boundaries	Board of Directors, stakeholders, public, others as identified in Stakeholder Engagement Plan	Collective understanding of basin characteristics and common understanding of groundwater conditions
Past Groundwater Management Actions	Board of Directors, stakeholders, public, other water management agencies, others as identified in Stakeholder Engagement Plan	Background information on past actions, limitations, and successes
Proposed Groundwater Management Actions	Board of Directors, stakeholders, public, other water management agencies, others as identified in Stakeholder Engagement Plan	Common understanding of feasibility (technical, institutional, financial) of proposed groundwater management actions
Santa Clara River Basins Groundwater Flow Model	Board of Directors, stakeholders, public, others as identified in Stakeholder Engagement Plan	Collective understanding of the model assumptions, appropriate use of model, and model limitations
Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems in Basins	Board of Directors, stakeholders, public, others as identified in Stakeholder Engagement Plan	Collective understanding of the potential presence of groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs) in the basins and hydrologic features of these GDEs

Work on Task 3 is approximately 30% complete.

### *Task 3 Deliverables*

- Agendas and Meeting Materials

### **Task 4. Develop Interbasin Agreement**

The Piru Basin (Basin 4-004.06) is adjacent to the Santa Clara River Valley East (Basin 4-004.07) managed by the Santa Clarita Valley GSA. The goal of the interbasin agreement is to ensure that the sustainability goals of the different GSPs not interfere with each other and, if possible, complement each other. The GSAs will review available data, models, and the opportunities to share data. The interbasin agreements will have set points where the agencies review and provide input to each other's sustainability goals. This interbasin agreement will be completed upon development of GSA Bylaws (Task 5).

Work on Task 4 has not yet started (0% complete).

*Task 4 Deliverables*

- Interbasin Agreement with Santa Clarita Valley GSA

**Task 5. Develop GSA Bylaws**

The Joint Powers Agreement which formed the FPBGSA provides the basic policies and procedures needed to initiate the GSPs, however, to develop the GSPs it will be necessary to formalize such things as the authority of the GSA, office locations and contact information, open meetings and quorums, rules of order, composition of the board and appointments to the board, board compensation and expenses, process for budget approval, code of ethics, and purchasing and procurement policy. A crucial element of the bylaws will be the decision to include an advisory committee, the makeup of the advisory committee, and how appointments are made to the advisory committee. Two meetings are proposed to discuss the bylaws, with particular emphasis on need for and role of advisory committee, as documented below:

<i>Meeting Topic</i>	<i>Audience</i>	<i>Desired Outcome</i>
GSA Bylaws	Board of Directors, stakeholders, public, others as identified in Stakeholder Engagement Plan	Determination to form advisory committee, appointments to advisory committee

Work on Task 5 started in April 2017 (with development of the JPA) and is approximately 15% complete.

*Task 5 Deliverables*

- Draft and Final Bylaws

**TECHNICAL DATA AND ANALYSIS (TASKS 6-7)**

**Task 6. Additional Monitoring Wells**

Work to develop the Santa Clara River Basins Groundwater Flow Model has identified the need for 2 additional nested or clustered monitoring wells in the boundary area between the Fillmore and Piru Basins as well as the Fillmore and Santa Paula basins. Most of the data on the Basins come from production wells, few of which are in the boundary area. Water-level measurements from observation wells are needed to understand the boundaries of the Basins, to gather information about the hydrologic stresses acting on the aquifers and how these stresses affect ground-water recharge, storage, and discharge. An understanding of the Basin boundary is needed to ensure that groundwater management actions benefit the targeted basin.

Given the minimal disturbance from well installation it is anticipated that the monitoring wells will qualify for a Class 4 CEQA Exemption.

Work on Task 6 has not yet started (0% complete).

*Task 6 Deliverables*

- Notice of Exemption for Monitoring Wells
- Well Drilling Permits for New Monitoring Wells

- Well Completion Reports

### **Task 7. Complete Santa Clara River Basins Groundwater Flow Model**

The Santa Clara River Basins Groundwater Flow Model conceptual framework was started in May 2017 as was the collection of pumping, surface water flow, and precipitation data. The Santa Clara River Basins Groundwater Flow Model is being developed by United. This has significant benefits for the GSPs: the modelers are local and familiar with the basin; the modelers already have access to the necessary data; and the modelers can complete the work at a much lower cost than use of an outside consultant. The model will specifically serve to provide necessary GSP data, including:

- Historical groundwater elevations, storage, and quality
- Historical demand and extractions by basin
- Historical water budgets
- Identify current water uses and demands
- Identify potential presence of Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs)
- Current groundwater elevations, storage, and quality
- Current water budget
- Identify projected water uses and demands given local land use plans (general plans, habitat conservation plans)
- Projected future water budget (through 2070)
- Linkages between streamflow and groundwater effects of current, ongoing projects such as wastewater treatment plant discharges along the River
- Evaluate streamflow and groundwater effects of proposed projects (including changes in depth to groundwater as indicator of potential impact to GDEs)

To ensure transparency in the process, an independent third-party will conduct a technical peer review of the model.

Work on Task 7 is approximately 10% complete.

#### *Task 7 Deliverables*

- Technical Memorandum summarizing peer review of model
- Final model documentation

## **GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN DEVELOPMENT (TASKS 8-14)**

### **Task 8. Plan Area and Basin Setting**

Review of the existing data demonstrates that it is adequate to prepare the Plan Area and Basin settings for the Fillmore Basin GSP and the Piru Basin GSP.

Plan Area will include a description of land use (existing and projected), existing water resource monitoring and management, parties affected by the GSP, historic and predicted climate, and historic and current water demands and supplies.

Basin Setting will include identification of principal aquifers and aquitards, maps of topography, surficial geology, soils, recharge and discharge areas, other surface water features. This section will also go

**FILLMORE AND PIRU BASINS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLANS  
2017 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program – Category 2 Proposal**

into current and historical groundwater conditions including groundwater contour maps, flow direction patterns of groundwater movement, hydrographs for monitoring wells, graphs documenting change in storage, discussion on known groundwater quality issues, identify areas potentially supportive of GDEs.

Work on Task 8 has not yet started (0% complete).

**Task 8 Deliverables**

- Draft GSP Chapter on Plan Area, Basin Setting, and Groundwater Conditions – Fillmore Basin
- Draft GSP Chapter on Plan Area, Basin Setting, and Groundwater Conditions – Piru Basin

**Task 9. Water Budget**

Data gathered as part of the model development (Task 7), which began in May 2017, will be used to develop water budgets for the period 1980-2015 for both the Fillmore and Piru basins and will include wet, dry, and normal precipitation years. The model will also provide build-out assessment of water demands through year 2045 necessary to estimate future water budgets (through 2070). Two meetings with stakeholders are planned to go over water budgets, as documented below:

<i>Meeting Topic</i>	<i>Audience</i>	<i>Desired Outcome</i>
Water Budget	Stakeholders, adjacent GSA representatives, others as defined in Stakeholder Engagement Plan	Input to inflows and outflows affecting basin water budget; consensus on water budget

Work on Task 9 has not yet started (0% complete).

**Task 9 Deliverables**

- Draft GSP Chapter on Water Budgets – Fillmore
- Draft GSP Chapter on Water Budgets - Piru

**Task 10. Establishment of Basin Sustainability Criteria**

The approach to this task will be to identify sustainable management criteria, metrics to track sustainability goals, and means of monitoring for undesirable results using minimum thresholds and measurable objectives. As defined by California's Department of Water Resources (DWR), undesirable results for at least six sustainability indicators must be examined: land subsidence; degradation of groundwater quality; loss of surface/groundwater connection; significant reduction in groundwater storage; declining groundwater levels; and seawater intrusion. The potential for undesirable results will be evaluated based on climate cycles and not individual years. Sustainability criteria will be basin specific. As documented below, at least three meetings, per basin, are proposed to review and take input on the significance and unreasonableness of potential impacts (such as impacts to GDEs) and minimum thresholds for the sustainability indicators. The GSA Board of Directors will consider the stakeholder input as guidance when evaluating potential significance and undesirableness of proposed management actions.



**FILLMORE AND PIRU BASINS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLANS  
2017 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program – Category 2 Proposal**

<i>Meeting Topic</i>	<i>Audience</i>	<i>Desired Outcome</i>
Sustainability Criteria	Stakeholders, adjacent GSA representatives, others as defined in Stakeholder Engagement Plan	Establish definition of unreasonable results and minimum thresholds for sustainability indicators

Work on Task 10 has not yet started (0% complete).

### *Task 10 Deliverables*

- Draft GSP Chapter on Undesirable Results, Sustainability Goals, Minimum Thresholds, Measurable Objectives, and Five-Year Milestones – Fillmore Basin
- Draft GSP Chapter on Undesirable Results, Sustainability Goals, Minimum Thresholds, Measurable Objectives, and Five-Year Milestones – Piru Basin

### **Task 11. Evaluate Monitoring Network**

The existing monitoring network, including facilities managed by United and the County of Ventura, will be evaluated for the capability to monitor undesirable results, minimum thresholds, and to track progress toward GSP sustainability goals. Specific items will be to identify monitoring objectives, review the existing monitoring network and identify any additional data needed to rank GSP sustainability goals, develop monitoring protocols, develop reporting protocols, and outline a plan for review and improvement of the monitoring network.

Work on Task 11 has not yet started (0% complete).

### *Task 11 Deliverables*

- Draft GSP Chapter on Existing and Planned Monitoring Network – Fillmore Basin
- Draft GSP Chapter on Existing and Planned Monitoring Network – Piru Basin

### **Task 12. Management Actions**

This task is meant to evaluate the management actions needed to meet sustainability criteria. The FPBGSA will outreach to beneficial users, the public, DWR, and adjacent GSAs to identify potential management actions. Potential projects and programs will be cataloged and then ranked using a weighting scheme based on cost, potential benefits, reliability, objectives and ability to implement. The Santa Clara River Basins Groundwater Flow Model will be used to evaluate potential management actions. The most feasible projects/management actions will be modeled. The result will be a prioritized list of projects, programs, and management actions. As shown below, at least two meetings, per basin, are proposed to review and take input on management actions and their prioritization.

**FILLMORE AND PIRU BASINS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLANS  
2017 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program – Category 2 Proposal**

<i>Meeting Topic</i>	<i>Audience</i>	<i>Desired Outcome</i>
Management Actions	Stakeholders, adjacent GSA representatives, others as defined in Stakeholder Engagement Plan	Solicitation of potential management actions. Common understanding of feasibility (technical, institutional, financial) of proposed groundwater management actions

Work on Task 12 has not yet started (0% complete).

### *Task 12 Deliverables*

- Draft GSP Chapter on Projects and Management Actions to Achieve Sustainability Goals – Fillmore Basin
- Draft GSP Chapter on Projects and Management Actions to Achieve Sustainability Goals – Piru Basin

### **Task 13. Define Plan Implementation Actions**

This task involves developing a plan of action to implement the GSP, including a schedule, estimate of costs to implement the GSP, data management planning, filling data gaps, and the process for periodic evaluation and annual reporting.

Work on Task 13 has not yet started (0% complete).

### *Task 13 Deliverables*

- Draft GSP Chapter on Plan Implementation Actions – Fillmore Basin
- Draft GSP Chapter on Plan Implementation Actions – Piru Basin

### **Task 14. Draft and Final GSPs**

This task will include preparing the executive summary, introduction, agency information, and GSP organization chapters and compiling and organizing the information generated in Tasks 8 through 13 to create the First Administrative Draft GSPs for both the Fillmore and Piru Basins. The First Administrative Draft GSPs will be prepared for circulation, review and comment by the FPBGSA and stakeholders. To ensure transparency in the process, an independent third-party will be tasked with preparing a peer review of the technical tasks contained in the First Administrative Draft GSPs.

Following this review, comment will be taken via a workshop among the Board; this workshop will also be a “check-in” point with DWR.

<i>Topic</i>	<i>Audience</i>	<i>Desired Outcome</i>
Draft GSP	Stakeholders, adjacent GSA representatives, DWR, others as defined in Stakeholder Engagement Plan	Review and comment on First Administrative Draft GSP; evaluation of First Administrative Draft GSP using peer review

## **FILLMORE AND PIRU BASINS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLANS 2017 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program – Category 2 Proposal**

Based on stakeholder comments, Second Administrative Draft GSPs will be prepared. These draft GSPs will be for review and input by the Board of Directors. Following this review, the Board will give direction about how to create the Public Draft GSPs. A public hearing will be held on the Public Draft GSPs. The comments received on the Public Draft GSPs will be considered by the FPBGSA prior to plan adoption. Upon adoption the GSPs will be considered “final” and submitted to DWR for review and approval.

Work on Task 14 has not yet started (0% complete).

### *Task 14 Deliverables*

- Summary of Peer Review – Fillmore Basin GSP
- Summary of Peer Review – Piru Basin GSP
- Public Draft GSP - Fillmore Basin
- Final GSP - Fillmore Basin
- Copy of adoption resolution - Fillmore Basin
- Copy of DWR confirmation of receipt of GSP – Fillmore Basin
- Public Draft GSP - Piru Basin
- Final GSP - Piru Basin
- Copy of adoption resolution - Piru Basin
- Copy of DWR confirmation of receipt of GSP – Piru Basin

## **GRANT MANAGEMENT (TASKS 15)**

### **Task 15. Grant Administration**

This task includes management of the grant agreement including compliance with grant requirements and provision of supporting grant documentation as requested by DWR. This task includes preparation and submission of quarterly invoices and progress reports to DWR. This task also includes administrative responsibilities associated with the project such as coordinating with partnering agencies and managing consultants/contractors.

Work on Task 15 will start upon grant award (0% complete).

### *Task 15 Deliverables*

- Quarterly Invoices and Progress Reports
- Final Grant Completion Report

**FILLMORE AND PIRU BASINS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLANS  
2017 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program – Category 2 Proposal**

**BUDGET**

**Project Budget**

Table 5-1 illustrates estimated costs for work plan tasks and subtasks. Costs are based United Water Conservation District estimates to prepare the Groundwater Model and to install monitoring wells, estimates from agency staff who prepared the 2013 Groundwater Management Plan, and estimates from consultants familiar with GSP preparation. Table 5-2 presents a rollup by budget category. Because over 47% of the project benefit area qualifies as either a disadvantaged community or severely disadvantaged community; the Fillmore and Piru Basins GSA is requesting a reduction in the cost share requirement from 50% to 25%. Local cost share will come from in-kind services.

**Table 5-1. Estimated Cost by Work Plan Task**

Task	Assumption	Hrs/Units	Rate	Cost
<b>Budget Category A</b>				
15 Direct Project Administration	Consultant	1	30,228	30,228
<i>Subtotal Budget Category A</i>				30,228
<b>Budget Category B</b>				
6 Additional Monitoring Wells	Contractor	2	400,000	800,000
7 Complete the Santa Clara River Basins Groundwater Flow Model	GSA Staff Scientists (Bio/Hydro)	3300	107	353,100
	GSA Groundwater Manager	1238	142	175,796
	GSA Assistant Hydrologist	2938	80	235,040
	Peer Review/Consultant	132	270	35,640
8 Plan Area and Basin Setting	GSA Staff Scientists (Bio/Hydro)	120	107	12,840
	GSA Groundwater Manager	80	142	11,360
	GSA Assistant Hydrologist	192	80	15,360
9 Water Budgets	GSA Staff Scientists (Bio/Hydro)	60	107	6,420
	GSA Groundwater Manager	40	142	5,680
	GSA Assistant Hydrologist	96	80	7,680
10 Est Sustainability Criteria	GSA Staff Sr. Hydrologist	80	160	12,800
	GSA Groundwater Manager	80	142	11,360
	GSA Staff Scientists (Bio/Hydro)	94	107	10,058
	Facilitator	44	110	4,840
11 Evaluate Monitoring Network	GSA Staff Sr. Hydrologist	32	160	5,120
	GSA Groundwater Manager	10	142	1,420
12 Management Actions	GSA Staff Scientists (Bio/Hydro)	700	107	74,900
	GSA Groundwater Manager	300	142	42,600
	GSA Assistant Hydrologist	700	80	56,000
	Facilitator	44	110	4,840
13 Plan Implementation Actions	GSA Management	80	142	11,360
	GSA Staff Scientists (Bio/Hydro)	36	107	3,852
14 Draft and Final GSP	GSA Management	80	142	11,360
	GSA Staff Scientists (Bio/Hydro)	36	107	3,852
	Peer Review/Consultant	100	270	27,000
	Facilitator	44	110	4,840
<i>Subtotal Budget Category B</i>				1,945,118.00

**FILLMORE AND PIRU BASINS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLANS  
2017 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program – Category 2 Proposal**

Table 5-1 cont.

Task	Assumption	Hrs/Units	Rate	Cost
<b>Budget Category C</b>				
1 Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Public Outreach	GSA Management	60	142	8,520
	Facilitator	48	110	5,280
	GSA Staff Scientists (Bio/Hydro)	40	107	4,280
2 MOUs with United Water and Ventura Co.	GSA Management	24	142	3,408
	GSA Staff Scientists (Bio/Hydro)	20	107	2,140
3 Stakeholder Education	GSA Management	48	142	6,816
	GSA Staff Scientists (Bio/Hydro)	48	107	5,136
	Facilitator	32	110	3,520
4 Interbasin Agreement	GSA Management	40	142	5,680
	Legal Staff	28	300	8,400
	GSA Staff Scientists (Bio/Hydro)	40	107	4,280
5 Develop GSA Bylaws	GSA Management	32	142	4,544
	Legal Staff	24	300	7,200
	Facilitator	8	110	880
<i>Subtotal Budget Category C</i>				70,084.00
<b>Budget Category D</b>				
<i>Subtotal Budget Category D</i>				0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$2,045,430</b>

Table 5-2. Project Budget (Table 4 from PSP)

Proposal Title: Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plans

Project Title: Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plans

Project serves a need of a DAC?:  Yes  No

Cost Share Waiver requested?  Yes  No

		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
	Tasks	Requested Grant Amount	Cost Share: Non-State Fund Source <sup>1,2</sup>	Other Cost Share	Total Cost
(a)	Direct Project Administration	0.00	30,228.00	0.00	30,228.00
(b)	Plan Development	1,500,000.00	445,118.00	0.00	1,945,118.00
(c)	Stakeholder Engagement	0	70,084.00	0.00	70,084.00
(d)	N/A				
(e)	Grand Total Sum (a) through (d)	\$1,500,000.00	\$545,430.00	\$0.00	\$2,045,430.00

1. Sources of cost share are in-kind services.

2. A match reduction from 50% to 25% is being requested.



**FILLMORE AND PIRU BASINS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLANS  
2017 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program – Category 2 Proposal**

## Proposal Budget

There is only one project proposed in this application, therefore the project and the proposal budget are the same (see Table 5-3 below). As stated above, the Fillmore and Piru Basins GSA is requesting a reduction in the cost share requirement from 50% to 25% due to the fact that over 47% of the project benefit area qualifies as either a disadvantaged community or severely disadvantaged community.

**Table 5-3. Proposal Budget (Table 5 from PSP)**

**Proposal Title:** Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plans

Project serves a need of a DAC?:  Yes  No

Cost Share Waiver requested?  Yes  No

		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
	Tasks	Requested Grant Amount	Cost Share: Non-State Fund Source <sup>1,2</sup>	Other Cost Share	Total Cost	% Cost Share
(a)	Fillmore and Piru Basins GSPs	1,500,000.00	545,430.00	0.00	2,045,430.00	27%
	Proposal Sum (a) through (d)	\$1,500,000.00	\$545,430.00	\$0.00	\$2,045,430.00	27%

1. Sources of cost share are in-kind services.

2. A match reduction from 50% to 25% is being requested.

## **SCHEDULE**

### **Project Schedule**

There is one project proposed in this application, Completion of the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs). The anticipated schedule is provided in Figure 6-1. Figure 6-1 shows the start and end dates for each task and subtask in the work plan.

Several items affect the schedule:

- The need to complete a GSP by January 31, 2022. The goal is to finish the GSPs well ahead of this date (mid-2021).
- Anticipated grant award in January 2018.
- The need to complete a Stakeholder Coordination and Engagement Plan before GSP Kick-off.
- The timeframe needed to complete the Santa Clara River Basins Model. Evaluation of groundwater management options requires operation of the groundwater model. The schedule takes this dependency into account and also gives consideration to tasks that could be accomplished independently of the model.
- The need to leave adequate time for stakeholder input.

Work on the Santa Clara River Basins Model started in May 2017 but the main tasks of the GSP will start in January 2018. Milestones include:

- GSP Kickoff Meeting in July 2018
- Final GSP for the Fillmore Basin in June 2021
- Final GSP for the Piru Basin June 2021
- Final Grant Completion Report in August 2021

### **Proposal Schedule**

There is only one project proposed in this application, therefore the project and the proposal schedule are the same. The overall proposal schedule is approximately three and a half years, extending from grant award in January 2018 to August 2021.

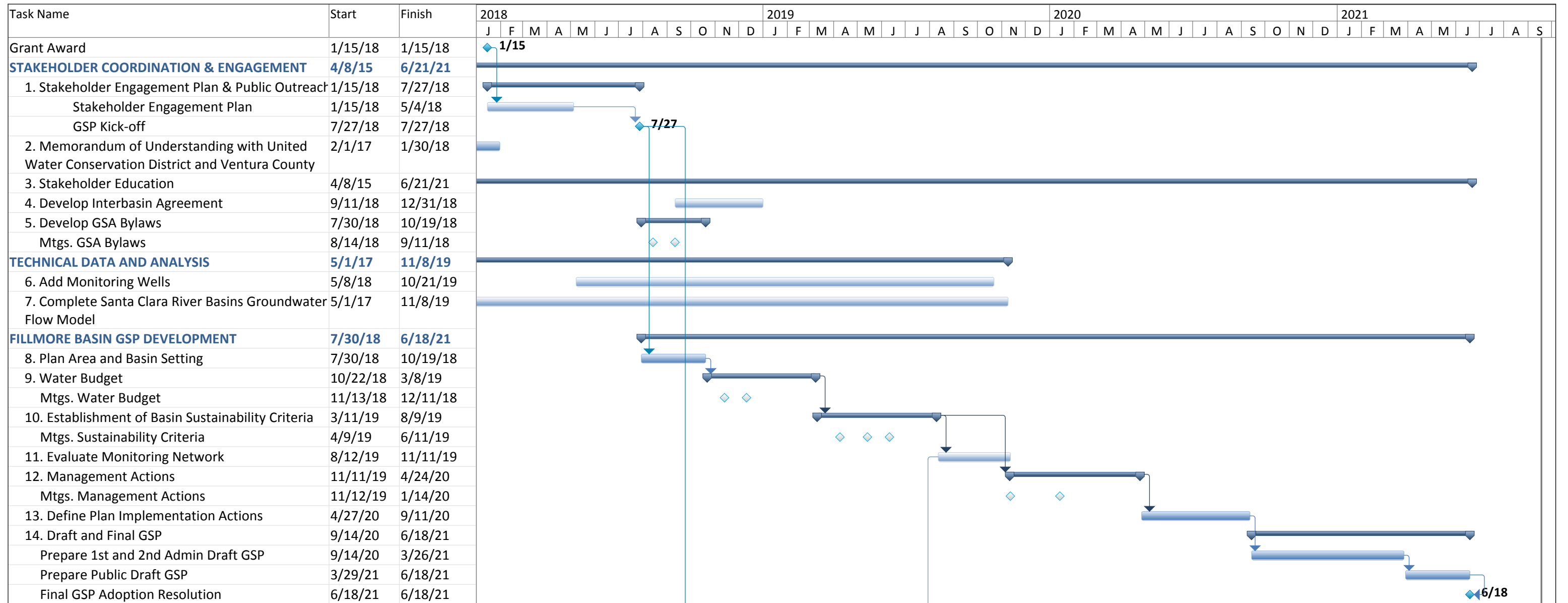
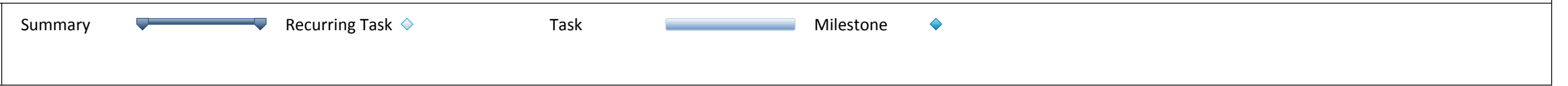


Figure 6-1. Schedule  
Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plans



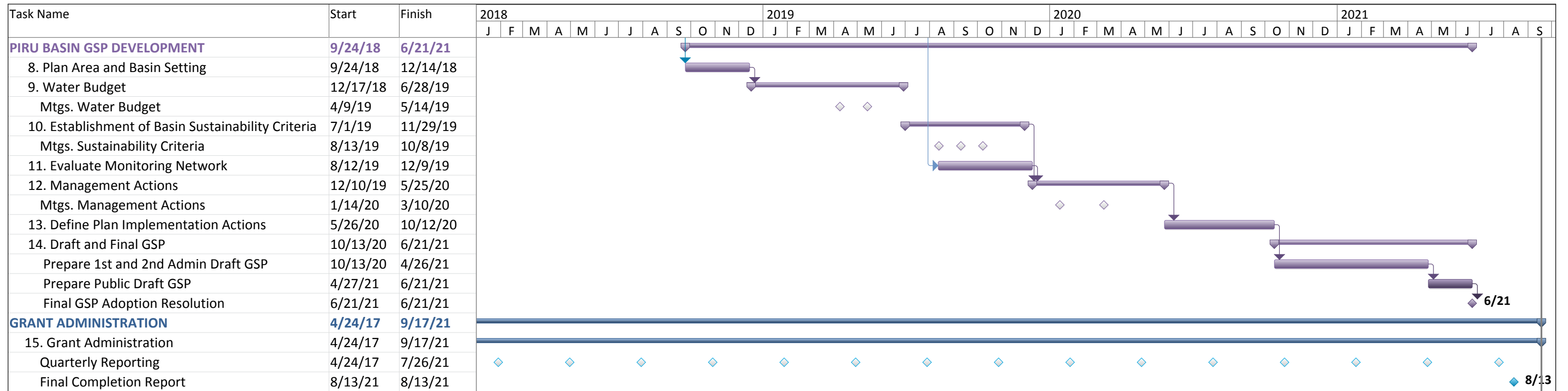
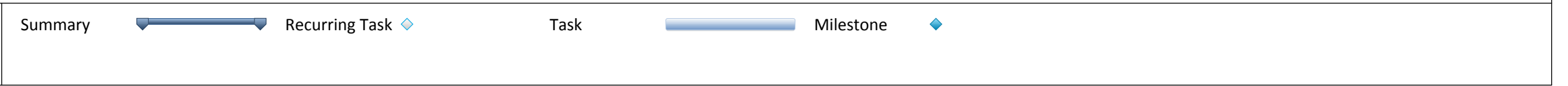


Figure 6-1. Schedule  
Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Plans



## **DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY**

According to Proposition 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program Guidelines, a Disadvantaged Community (DAC) is a community with an annual median household income (MHI) that is less than 80 percent of the Statewide annual MHI. Based on American Community Survey (ACS) data for the years 2010-2014, the Statewide MHI value is \$61,489 and hence the DAC threshold is \$49,191.

The Fillmore Basin GSP and Piru Basin GSP benefit area is consistent with the boundary of the Fillmore and Piru Basins. Based on DAC census tract data<sup>1</sup> for those areas, 47 percent of the project benefit area meets the DAC criterion and 0.55 percent meets the criterion for Severely Disadvantaged Community (SDAC). See Figure 7-1. For those areas, the MHI ranges between \$33,026 and \$44,331. SDACs are also discussed in Attachment 9.

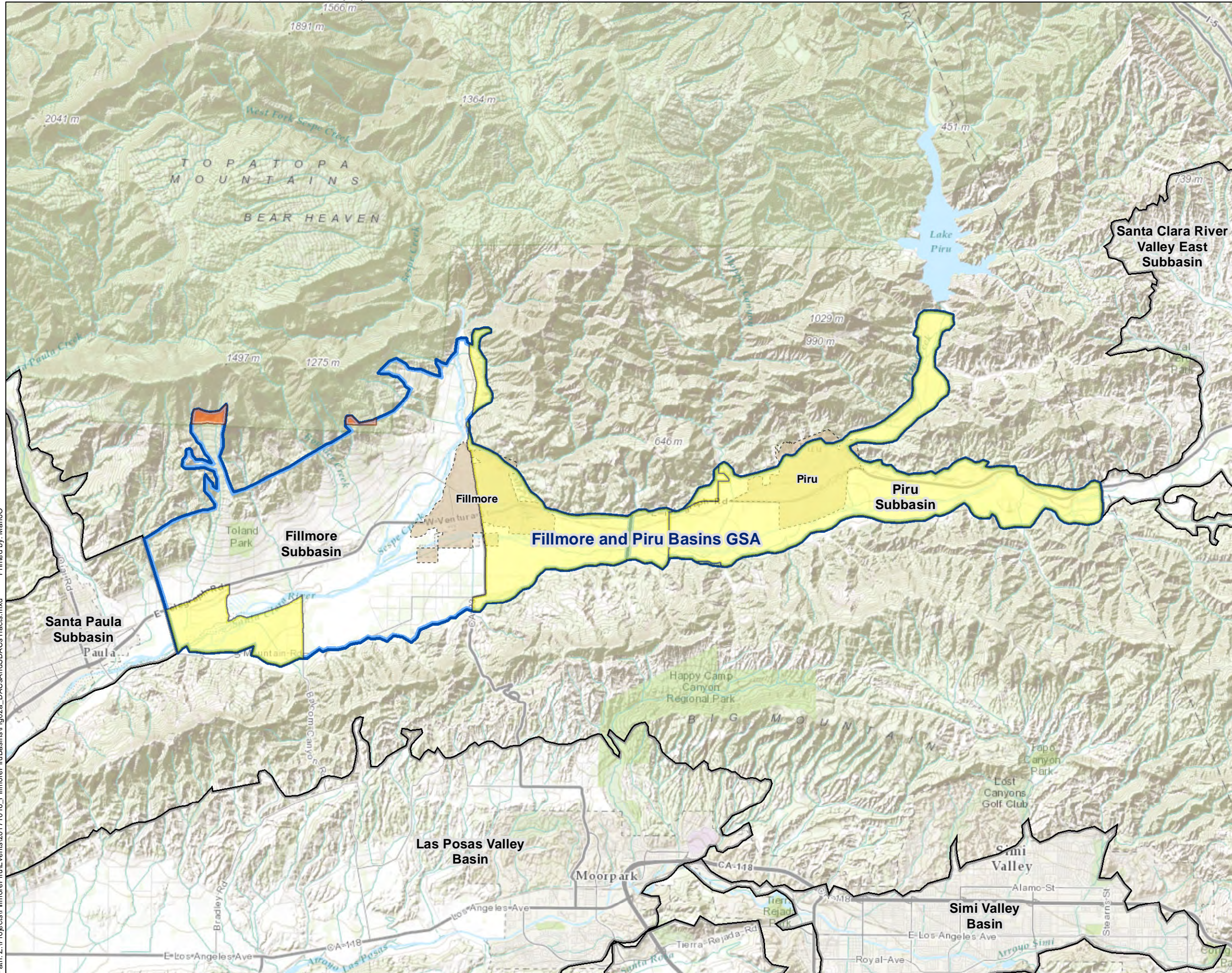
Groundwater Sustainability Plans for the Fillmore and Piru Basins, which are the desired final product of this proposal, will help improve groundwater management across the Basins and will equally benefit DACs as well as non-DACs.

Based on Program Guidelines, if 50 percent or more of the project area is a DAC, SDAC or Economically Distressed Area (EDA), an applicant can request a 100 percent waiver on cost share. In this case, as the DAC coverage is less than 50 percent, the Fillmore and Piru Basins GSP is requesting a cost share reduction, from 50% to 25%.

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<sup>1</sup> Data from Department of Water Resources Disadvantaged Communities Mapping Tool, based on *US Census American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Data: 2010-2014*.

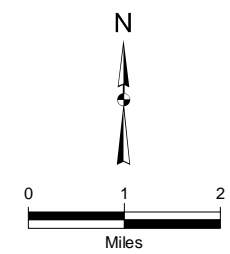




INDEX MAP

**Project Benefit Area**

-  Fillmore and Piru Basins GSA Boundary (30,597 acres)
-  Severely Disadvantage Community Census Tracts (May 2016) in Fillmore and Piru Basins (169 acres; 0.55%)
-  Disadvantage Community Census Tracts (May 2016) in Fillmore and Piru Basins (14,405 acres; 47%)



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Fillmore and Piru Basins SGWP Application

**Disadvantaged Communities and Severely Disadvantaged Communities in Fillmore and Piru Basins**

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 October 2017

Figure 7-1

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## **ECONOMICALLY DISTRESSED AREA**

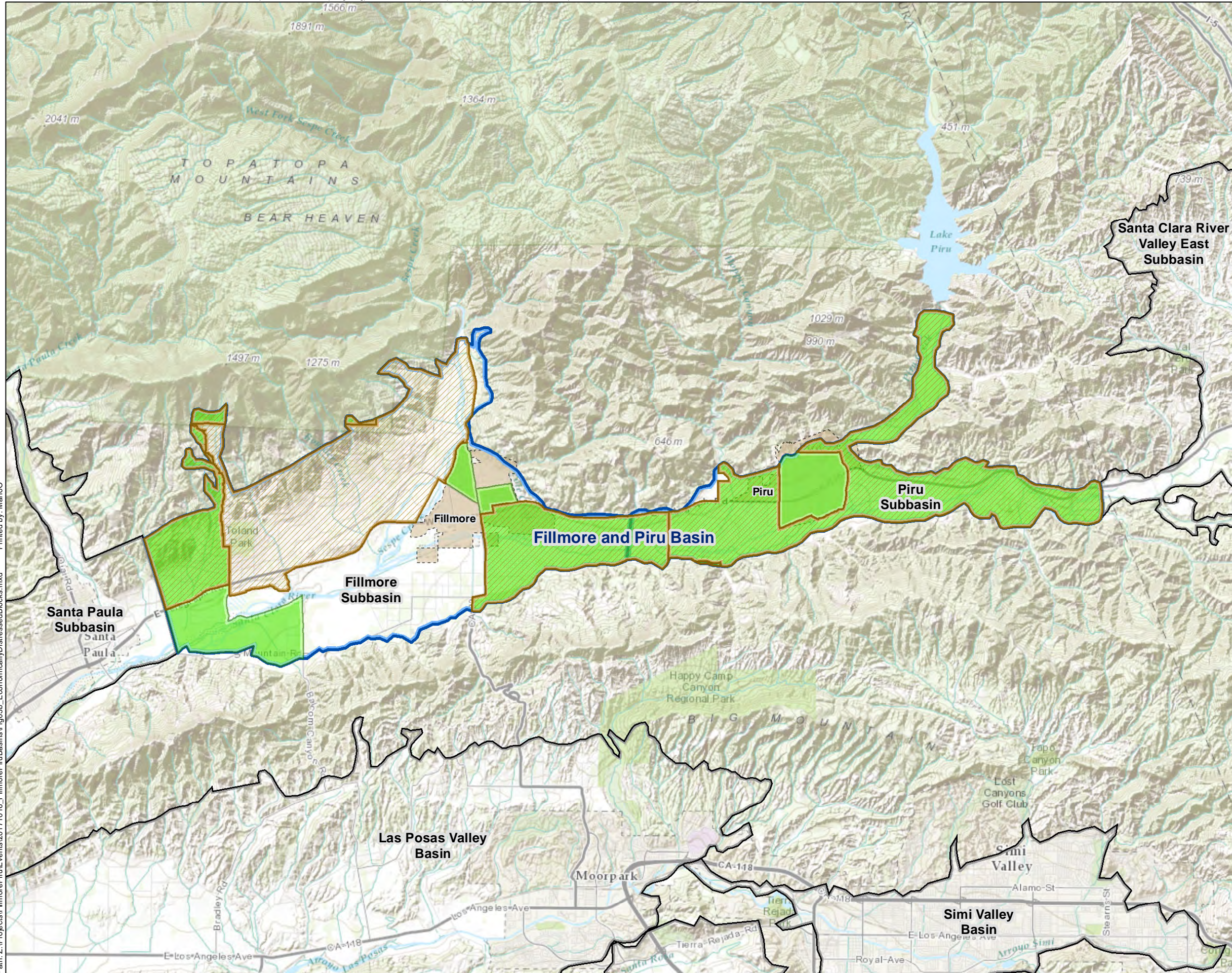
According to Proposition 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program Guidelines, an Economically Distressed Area (EDA) is a municipality with a population of 20,000 persons or less, a rural county, or a reasonably isolated and divisible segment of a larger municipality where the segment of the population is 20,000 persons or less, with an annual median household income that is less than 85 percent of the statewide median household income, and with one or more of the following conditions as determined by the Department of Water Resources (DWR): (1) financial hardship, (2) unemployment rate at least 2 percent higher than the statewide average, or (3) low population density.

Based on American Community Survey (ACS) data for the years 2010-2014, the Statewide MHI value is \$61,489 and hence the EDA threshold of 85 percent is \$52,266.

The Fillmore GSP and Piru Basin GSP benefit area is consistent with the boundary of the Fillmore and Piru Basins. Based on available GIS data, a total of 27 percent of the benefit area meets the EDA criteria. EDA areas are overlap areas shown on Figure 8-1 below.




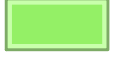
Since the coverage of Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) and Severely DACs is greater than the percentage of EDA, a cost share reduction is being requested based on DAC data, as noted in Attachments 7 and 9.

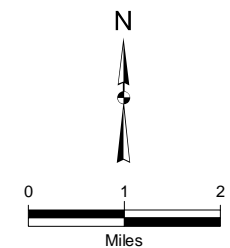




INDEX MAP

Legend

-  Fillmore and Piru Basins GSA Boundary (30,597 acres)
-  Adjacent and Nearby Basins
-  Low Population Density-Census Blocks (May 2016) in Fillmore Piru Basins (20,269 acres; 66%)
-  Municipal-Population Counting Tool-Blocks (May 2016) in Fillmore and Piru Basins (15,748. acres; 51%)



**Kennedy/Jenks Consultants**

Fillmore and Piru Basins SGWP Application

**Economically Distressed Areas  
Census Blocks in Fillmore and Piru Basins**

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Figure 8-1



## **SEVERELY DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY**

According to Proposition 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program Guidelines, a Severely Disadvantaged Community (SDAC) is a community with an annual median household income (MHI) that is less than 60 percent of the Statewide annual MHI. Based on American Community Survey (ACS) data for the years 2010-2014, the Statewide MHI value is \$61,489 and hence the SDAC threshold is \$36,893.

The Fillmore and Piru Basins GSPs benefit area is consistent with the boundary of the Fillmore and Piru Basins. Based on DAC census tract data<sup>1</sup> for that area, 0.55 percent of the project benefit area meets the SDAC criterion, with an MHI of \$33,026. Forty-seven percent of the project benefit area meets the DAC criterion, as described in Attachment 7. See Figure 9-1.

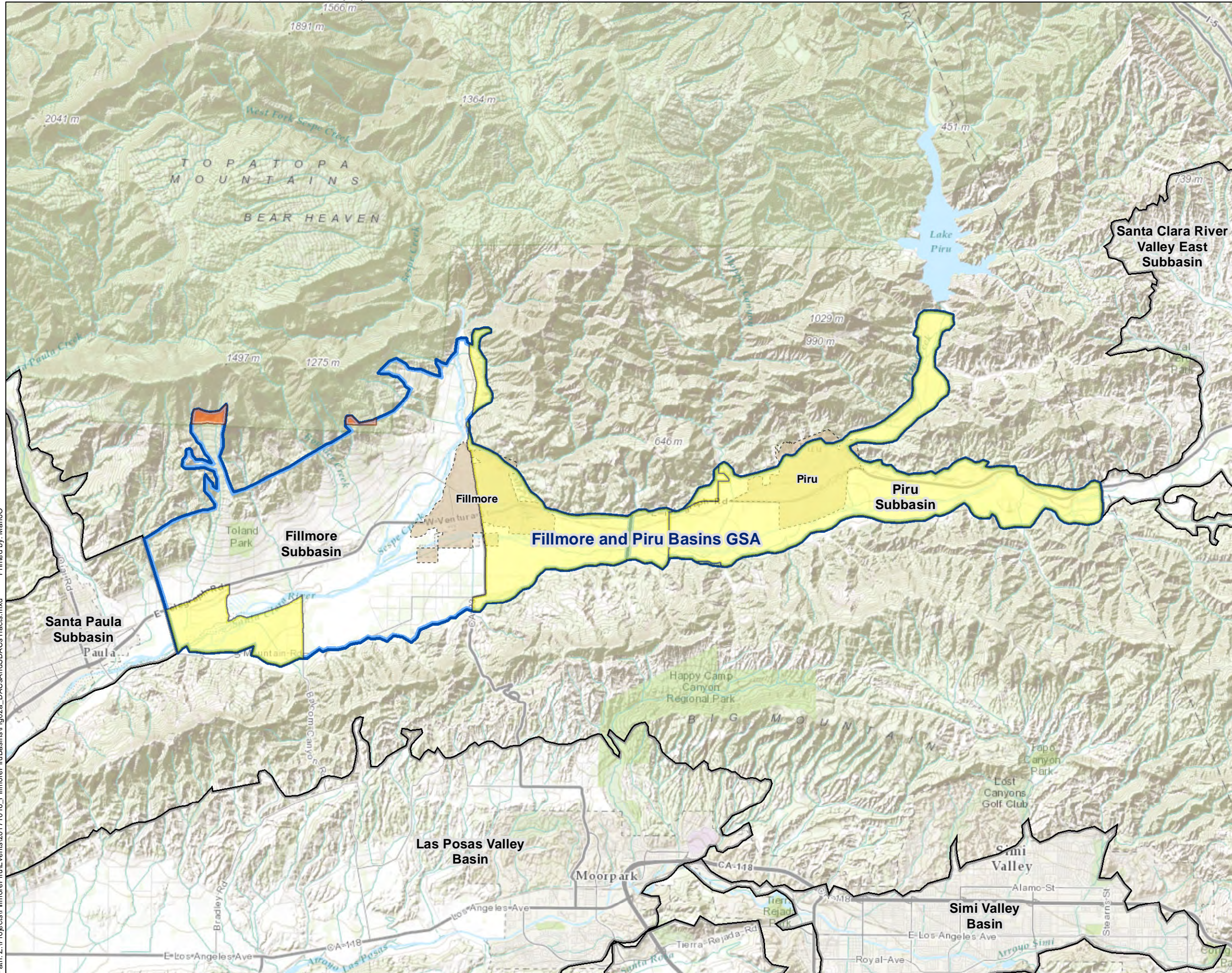
Groundwater Sustainability Plans for the Fillmore and Piru Basins, which are the desired final product of this proposal, will help improve groundwater management across the Basins and will equally benefit DACs as well as non-DACs.

Based on Program Guidelines, if 50 percent or more of the project area is a DAC, SDAC or Economically Distressed Area (EDA), an applicant can request a 100 percent waiver on cost share. In this case, as the DAC coverage is less than 50 percent; the Fillmore and Piru Basins GSP is requesting a cost share reduction, from 50% to 25%.

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<sup>1</sup> Data from Department of Water Resources Disadvantaged Communities Mapping Tool, based on *US Census American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Data: 2010-2014*.

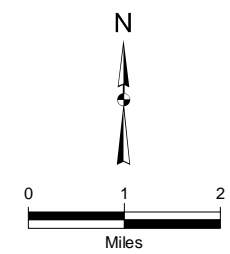




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**Project Benefit Area**

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-  Disadvantaged Community Census Tracts (May 2016) in Fillmore and Piru Basins (14,405 acres; 47%)



**Kennedy/Jenks Consultants**

Fillmore and Piru Basins SGWP Application

**Disadvantaged Communities and Severely Disadvantaged Communities in Fillmore and Piru Basins**

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Figure 7-1

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