



**Fillmore and Piru Basins**  
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

**MINUTES**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Thursday, May 21, 2020 - 5:00 p.m.**

**In accordance with the California Governor's Executive Stay at Home Order and the County of Ventura Health Officer Declared Local Health Emergency and Be Well at Home Order resulting from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), the Fillmore City Hall is closed to the public. Therefore, the FPB GSA will be holding its Regular Board of Directors meeting virtually using the ZOOM video conferencing application.**

**Board Members Participating:**

Kelly Long, Chair  
Edwin T. McFadden, Vice Chair/Secretary/Treasurer  
Tim Holmgren  
Gordon Kimball  
Candice Meneghin  
Glen Pace

**Staff Participating:**

Anthony Emmert, Executive Director  
Scott Nave, OMLO, Legal Counsel  
Eva Ibarra, Clerk of the Board

**Public Participating:**

Lisa Ballin, DBS&A, Stakeholder Consultant  
Bryan Bondy, Bondy Groundwater Consulting, Inc.  
Christian Braudrick, Stillwater Sciences  
Matt Carpenter  
Emilio Cervantes  
Dan Detmer, UWCD  
Erin Gorospe, UWCD  
Dr. Zachary Hanson, UWCD  
Rachael Laenen, Fillmore and Piru Pumpers' Associations  
Tim Moore, DBS&A  
Tony Morgan, DBS&A  
Bruce Orr, Stillwater Sciences  
Sam Rojas,  
Kris Sofley, UWCD  
J. Thurber  
Steve Zimmer

## 1. Call to Order - First Open Session

Chair Long called the meeting to order at 5pm. She asked every to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 1A Pledge of Allegiance

### 1B Directors Roll Call

Chair Long asked the clerk to call roll call. Directors Holmgren, Kimball, Meneghin, Pace, McFadden and Long were all in attendance.

### 1C Public Comments

Chair Long asked if there were any public comments. None were offered.

### 1D Approval of Agenda

#### Motion

Chair Long asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. Ms. Ibarra noted that the staff report for Motion item 4E had listed the APN number for the property being discussed incorrectly and noted that the correct APN number is 040-0-190-375, as listed in the agenda and attachment documents for Motion item 4E.

Motion to approve the agenda as amended, Director McFadden; Second, Director Holmgren. Roll call vote: six ayes (Holmgren, Kimball, Meneghin, Pace, McFadden, Long); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0/0.

## 1. Updates

### 2A Director Announcements/Board Communications:

Oral Reports from the Board

#### **Fillmore Pumpers Association Stakeholder Director Update**

Director Kimball reported that the Fillmore Pumpers Associate had a meeting on March 10 and would be holding its annual meeting in conjunction with the Piru Pumpers Association on June 9 at 10am via Zoom.

#### **Piru Pumpers Association Stakeholder Director Update**

Director Pace reaffirmed Director Kimball's report and added that the three-year term for the GSA Director seat was about to expire, but the Pumpers had agreed to reappoint him for another term.

### **Environmental Stakeholder Director Update**

Director Meneghin mentioned DWR's Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) grant, Wildlife Conservation Board Instream Flow – due July 2020. She also said that she had participated in a call with representatives from other GSA's on May 21 to discuss and outline a job description for a watershed coordinator to support GSA efforts with grant writing, stakeholder engagement, grant writing, et cetera. She also reported her participation in a monthly NGO groundwater collaborative call and presented on Ventura County's stakeholder engagement on GSAs as a model for other GSAs statewide. Director Meneghin also advised the Board that the Greater Ventura County Environmental Stakeholders Collaborative she has been convening quarterly will be hosting a GDE webinar on June 19, 2020.

### **City of Fillmore Member Director Update**

Director Holmgren said that he had nothing to report.

### **United Water Conservation District Director Update**

Vice Chair McFadden reported that although it is unlikely that there will be any Article 21 water available however UWCD will be release some 38,000 acre feet of stored water from Lake Piru in August that will be a great help to the basins.

### **County of Ventura Director Update**

Chair Long reported that the County is focused on COVID-19 issues and that it has an excellent phase II reopening that will impact more businesses, retailers with exterior doors and restaurants with limited indoor seating, although they can continue with food orders for delivery or pick up. She added that K-12 classes will open in the Fall.

## **2B Executive Director Update**

### **Information Item**

Executive Director Emmert reported that the agency's first three grant reports and invoices have been approved and that the Agency may receive payment for those invoices in this fiscal year. He added that the fourth grant report was submitted to DWR on May 20 and that payment will definitely be in the next fiscal year period.

## **2C Legal Counsel Update**

### **Information Item**

Legal Counsel Scott Nave said he had no updates.

**2D GSP Consultant Update**  
**Information Item**

Tony Morgan of Daniel B Stephens & Associates gave a presentation to the Board, updating the Agency's Board Discussion Topics/Schedule; GSP status and tentative project timeline, proposed outline, technical appendices and general workflow (see attached presentation).

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine by the Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member pulls an item from the Calendar. Pulled items will be discussed and acted on separately by the Board. Members of the public who want to comment on a Consent Calendar item should do so under Public Comments. (ROLL CALL VOTE REQUIRED)

**3A Approval of Minutes**

The Board will consider approving the Minutes from the Board Meeting of April 16, 2020.

**3B Approval of Warrants**

The Board will consider approving the following invoices for payment:

County of Ventura IT Services Department	\$ 40.00
Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Inc.	\$50,350.65
Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, LLP	\$ 8,000.00
United Water Conservation District	\$14,879.16

**3C Monthly Financial Report**

The Board will receive a monthly profit and loss statement and balance sheet for the FPBGSA from UWCD's accounting staff.

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar items, Vice Chair McFadden; Second, Director Kimball. Roll call vote: six ayes (Holmgren, Kimball, Meneghin, Pace, McFadden, Long); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0/0.

**4. MOTION ITEMS**

**4A Budget Workshop**  
**Motion**

Motion to schedule a Budget Workshop on Thursday, June 4 at 5p.m., Director Meneghin; Second, Vice Chair McFadden. Roll Call vote: six ayes (Holmgren, Kimball, Meneghin, Pace, McFadden, Long); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0/0.

#### **4B Stakeholder Workshop**

##### **Motion**

During its discussion of the Stakeholder Workshop agenda and logistics, Director Kimball said he thought asking questions are each topic is a great idea and starts engagement early in the meeting. He also said that the Financial (Budget) Update should be removed from the agenda, and Director Meneghin and Chair Long agreed.

Motion to schedule the Stakeholder Workshop on Thursday, June 25, 2020 from 6pm to 8:30pm via Zoom and use the proposed agenda and logistics as modified, Vice Chair McFadden; Second, Director Holmgren. Roll call vote: six ayes (Holmgren, Kimball, Meneghin, Pace, McFadden, Long); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously, 6/0/0.

#### **4C Request to Waive Late Fees and Interest for Hobson Ranch**

##### **Motion**

Chair Long asked if there were any questions or comment from the Board regarding the request from Hobson Ranch for a waiver of late fees and interest totaling \$8.44. None were offered. Motion to approve the request from Hobson Ranch for a waiver of late fees and interest totaling \$8.44, Director Kimball; Second Vice Chair McFadden. Roll call vote: six ayes (Holmgren, Kimball, Meneghin, Pace, McFadden, Long); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0/0.

#### **4D Management Criteria Development Ad Hoc Committee**

##### **Motion**

The discussion started with Director Kimball, who said that it is important to get ideas as well as input from staff and the Board and it is critical that all people using water have input. Chair Long said that the general policy regarding ad hoc committees is pretty straight forward and Vice Chair McFadden added that the management criteria development ad hoc committee, similar to the Stakeholder Outreach or Budget ad hoc committees, would meet once a month for a period of time for focused discussions and would report back to the Board with recommendations. Director Meneghin, Pace and McFadden volunteered to serve on the ad hoc committee.

Bryan Bondy of Bondy Groundwater Consulting, Inc., stated that he had some concerns regarding the ad hoc committee for developing management criteria as he contends that this is the most critical element and the heart of the GSP and suggested the Board review the Brown Act's definition of ad hoc versus standing committees.

Mr. Morgan responded to Mr. Bondy saying that the ad hoc committee does not have authority but rather makes recommendations to the Board after focusing on the specifics that would be too time intensive for the whole Board to discuss in detail.

Ms. Ballin added that the September Stakeholder meeting is devoted to Management Criteria discussion.

Mr. Bondy said that a written description may help clarify the criteria for folks. Chair Long said that the ad hoc committee would review what steps to take and make a recommendation to the full Board. Director Kimball agreed, saying that you have got to start somewhere.

**4E Request for Comment/Request for Waiver of Ventura County Water Well and Water Well Permit Prohibitions regarding Peres Lane, APN 040-0-190-375**

**Motion**

The Board discussed the request from Ventura County Public Work's to review and comment regarding waiving water well permit prohibitions for the property owners on Peres Lane in an unincorporated area of Ventura County and within the Fillmore and Piru Basins GSA Boundary (APN 040-0-190-375).

Director Meneghin voiced her concerns about waiving well permit prohibitions without having a full understanding of how it will impact the sustainability of the basins. Vice Chair McFadden said that he was in favor of providing a letter supporting the request, providing the person making the request can demonstrate that they are the property owner.

Motion to provide a letter of support with the caveat that the request is made by the property owner, Vice Chair McFadden; Second, Director Holmgren. Roll call vote: five ayes (Holmgren, Kimball, Pace, McFadden, Long); none opposed; one abstaining (Meneghin). Motion carries unanimously 5/0/1/0.

**5. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**5A Auditor's Reports for FY 2017-18 and FY 2018-19**

**Information Item**

UWCD's Controller Erin Gorospe presented information regarding the FY 2017-18 and FY 2018-19 Auditor's reports. Director Kimball congratulated Erin and staff for a job well done.

## **5B Database Management System Update and Demonstration**

### **Information Item**

Daniel B. Stephens and Associates' Tim Moore presented information and a demonstration of the proposed FPBGSA database management system.

Vice Chair McFadden asked Mr. Moore if all the information contained in the system would be available to the public and Mr. Moore said that it would be. Mr. Moore added that it would not be easily accessible, although most of the information, but not all the information, would be available. Mr. Moore also said that according to SGMA, any data used for the groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) needs to be published and available to the public. Vice Chair McFadden said he was concerned about infringing on privacy issues.

Mr. Moore said that to develop the GSP, you need information regarding who is pumping, how much they're pumping and to what depth their pumping, and how that is presented in the GSP may not be in as much detail, but the backup for that needs to be provided to DWR and made public. Vice Chair McFadden said the Agency should be sensitive to the privacy of some of that information. Director Pace reiterated concerns about private information and asked the Agency legal counsel for his opinion.

Mr. Nave said that once the information is released, unless it is exempt under the Brown Act (information being in draft form was given as an example), it is public information. There are protections for documents that are in draft form, but once published, it is public. Vice Chair McFadden asked if it is exempt before information is released to any of the Directors. Director Kimball said that the Agency can start the process at the Stakeholder Workshop and that the Agency needs to be open and transparent about everything that goes into managing the basins. Vice Chair McFadden said he would like a legal opinion with that goal in mind.

## **5C Introduction to Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems**

### **Information Item**

Stillwater Sciences' Dr. Christian Braudrick presented an introduction to groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs) (see attached). Chair Long thanked Dr. Braudrick for his time and said that there was a lot of good information included in his presentation. She added that she was sure there is more information to come.

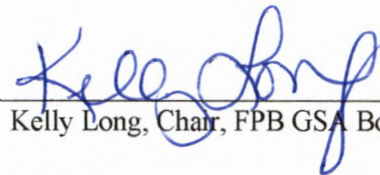
**FUTURE TOPICS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION**

Chair long asked if there were any topics Board members would like to include for discussion at future meetings. None were offered.

**ADJOURNMENT 7:10p.m.**

Chair Long adjourned the meeting to the next **Regular Board Meeting** on Thursday, **June 18, 2020** or call of the Chair.

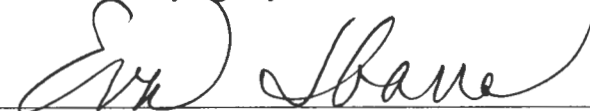
ATTEST:



Kelly Long, Chair, FPB GSA Board of Directors

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Board of Directors meeting of May 21, 2020.

ATTEST:



Eva Ibarra, Clerk of the Board



## Item 2D - GSP Consultant Update

- Board Discussion Topics / Schedule
- GSP Status
- Stakeholder Engagement Workshop Schedule - Agenda Item 4B
- Management Criteria Development Ad Hoc Committee - Agenda Item 4D
- Database Management System Update and Demonstration - Agenda Item 5B
- Introduction to Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems - Agenda Item 5C



## Board Discussion Topics / Schedule

	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3
Apr-2020	Intro to Sustainable Management Criteria		
May-2020	Data Base Management System Update/Demo	GDEs	
Jun-2020	GW model review (UWCD)	Management Areas	
Jul-2020	Future conditions (modeling?)	Water budget (model files) (UWCD)	

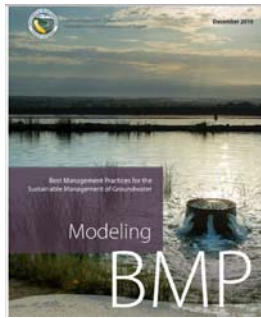
- Proposed technical topics for discussion at Board meetings
- Introduction to important elements in the GSP
- References to suggested reading materials (e.g., DWR Best Management Practices or Guidance Documents) - resources on flash drive



## June 2020 Reference / Background Materials

### Groundwater Models - DWR Best Management Practice

<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/SGMA-Groundwater-Management/Best-Management-Practices-and-Guidance-Documents>



#### Regulations

§ 352.4 f,g Data and Reporting Standards

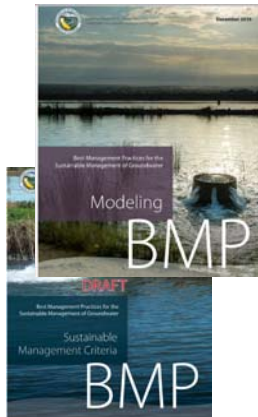
§ 354.18 e Water Budget

§ 354.28 c Minimum Thresholds

## June 2020 Reference / Background Materials

### Management Areas - DWR Best Management Practice

<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/SGMA-Groundwater-Management/Best-Management-Practices-and-Guidance-Documents>



#### Regulations

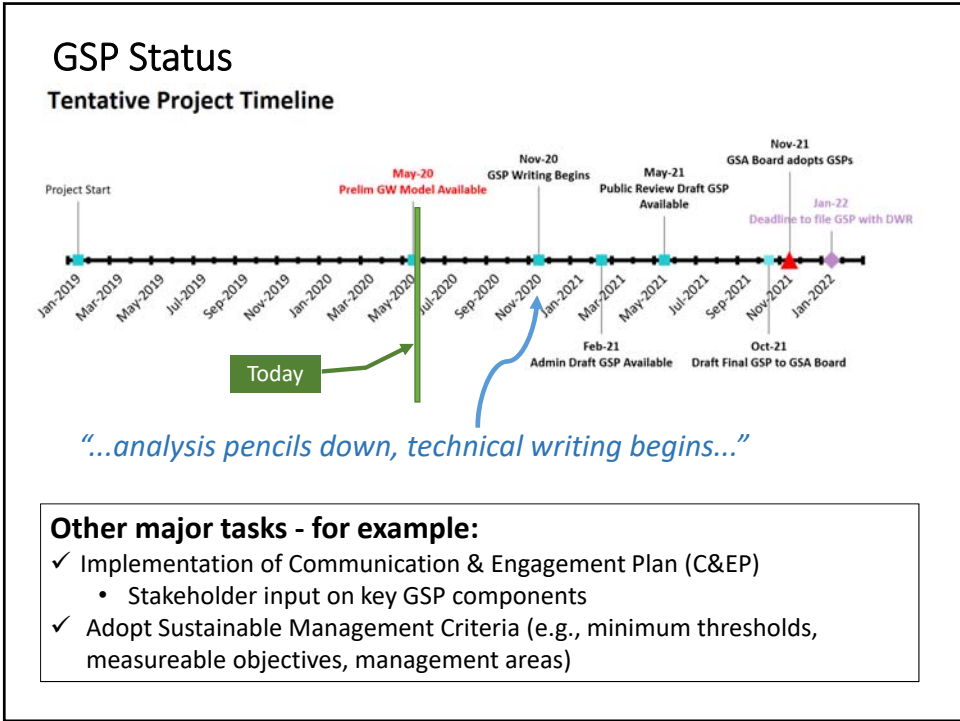
§ 350.4 d General Principles

§ 354.38 e Assessment and Improvement of Monitoring Network

§ 354.44 Projects and Management Actions

§ 355.4 b (3) Criteria for Plan Evaluation

§ 356.4 Periodic Evaluation by Agency



### GSP Status - Proposed GSP Outline

**Executive Summary**

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Introduction</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 Purpose of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP or Plan)</li> <li>1.2 Sustainability Goal</li> <li>1.3 Agency Information (Reg. § 354.6)                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.3.1 Organization and Management Structure of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA or Agency)</li> <li>1.3.2 Legal Authority of the GSA</li> <li>1.3.3 Estimated Cost of Implementing the GSP and the GSA’s Approach to Meet Costs</li> </ol> </li> <li>1.4 GSP Organization</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>2. Plan Area and Basin Setting</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1 Description of the Plan Area (Reg. § 354.8)                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1.1 Summary of Jurisdictional Areas and Other Features (Reg. § 354.8 b)</li> <li>2.1.2 Water Resources Monitoring and Management Programs (Reg. § 354.8 c, d, e)</li> <li>2.1.3 Land Use Elements or Topic Categories of Applicable General Plans (Reg. § 354.8 f)</li> <li>2.1.4 Additional GSP Elements (Reg. § 354.8 g)</li> <li>2.1.5 Notice and Communication (Reg. § 354.10)</li> </ol> </li> <li>2.2 Basin Setting                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.2.1 Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model (Reg. § 354.14)</li> <li>2.2.2 Current and Historical Groundwater Conditions (Reg. § 354.16)</li> <li>2.2.3 Water Budget Information (Reg. § 354.18)</li> <li>2.2.4 Management Areas (as Applicable) (Reg. § 354.20)</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>3. Sustainable Management Criteria</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.1 Sustainability Goal (Reg. § 354.24)</li> <li>3.2 Measureable Objectives (Reg. § 354.30)</li> <li>3.3 Minimum Thresholds (Reg. § 354.28)</li> <li>3.4 Undesirable Results (Reg. § 354.26)</li> <li>3.5 Monitoring Network                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.5.1 Description of Monitoring Network (Reg. § 354.34)</li> <li>3.5.2 Monitoring Protocols for Data Collection and Monitoring (Reg. § 352.2)</li> <li>3.5.3 Representative Monitoring (Reg. § 354.36)</li> <li>3.5.4 Assessment and Improvement of Monitoring Network (Reg. § 354.38)</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> <li><b>4. Projects and Management Actions to Achieve Sustainability Goal (Reg. § 354.44)</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4.1 Project #1 Description</li> <li>4.2 Project #2 Description</li> <li>4.3 Project #X Description</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>5. Plan Implementation</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5.1 Estimate of GSP Implementation Costs (Reg. § 354.6)</li> <li>5.2 Schedule for Implementation</li> <li>5.3 Annual Reporting</li> <li>5.4 Periodic Evaluations</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>6. References and Technical Studies (Reg. § 354.4)</b></li> </ol>
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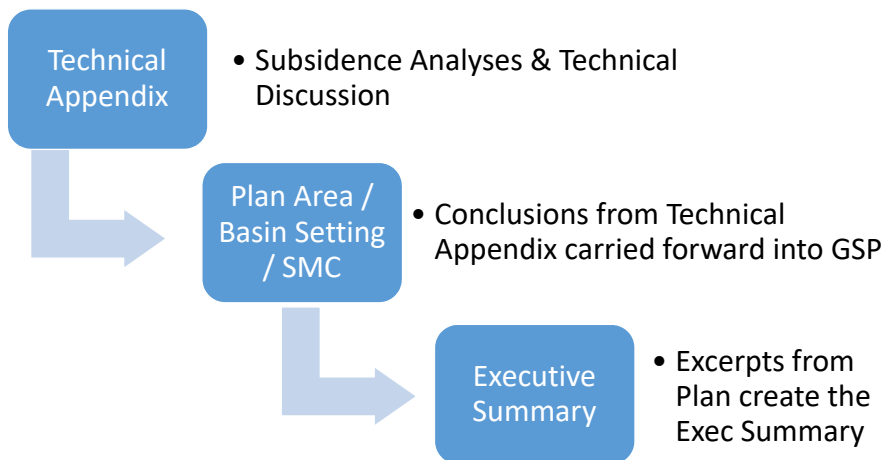
### GSP Status - Technical Appendices

1. Interbasin and Coordination Agreements (as applicable) (Reg. § 357)
2. List of Public Meetings (Reg. § 354.10)
3. Joint Powers Authority
4. Communication and Engagement Plan (C&EP)
5. Water Budgets
6. Monitoring Plan/Network and Data Gaps Analysis
  - a. Hydrographs (streamflow and water levels)
  - b. Water Quality (SW and GW) Time Series
7. Sampling and Analysis Plan
8. Sustainable Management Criteria
9. Subsidence
10. Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs)
11. Climate Change Analysis
12. Projects/Management Actions
13. GSP Implementation Costs ?
14. Groundwater Model Documentation
15. Comments and Responses to Comments (Reg. § 354.10)

**Some  
Technical  
Appendices  
are  
complete**

**Many  
Technical  
Appendices  
are in  
progress**

### GSP Status - GSP General Workflow



Questions ?



# Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems

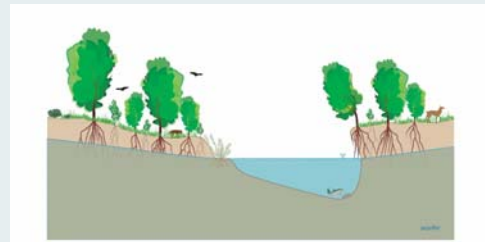
Christian Braudrick and Bruce Orr  
Stillwater Sciences



## Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs)

DWR defines GDEs as ecological communities or species that depend on groundwater emerging from aquifers or on groundwater occurring near the ground surface.

Healthy Riparian Zone

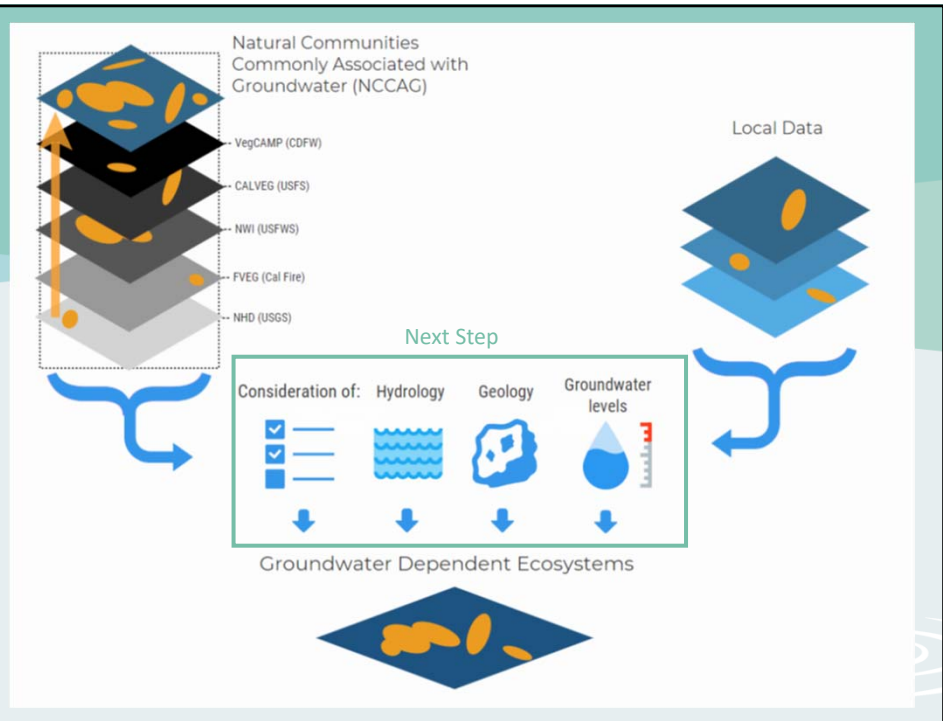


Braudrick et al., 2018 (figure by K. Rodriguez)

*GDEs occur in a variety of different environments ranging from seeps and springs, to groundwater-dependent wetlands, to aquatic and riparian ecosystems associated with rivers that partially or entirely rely on groundwater.*



# Approach



# Source Data

- High quality data(Stillwater Sciences 2016) along the Santa Clara River, data quality is lower (CalVeg) on the margins of the basin

