



## **Background on Groundwater Recharge & Storage**

**Jeanine Jones, California Department of Water Resources**

# Terminology

- **Groundwater Storage Projects**
  - Large projects comparable in storage capacity to surface reservoirs
  - Recharge by spreading basins/ponds/river channels
  - Often incorporate conjunctive use or banking elements
- **Flood-MAR**
  - DWR flood-managed aquifer recharge studies
  - Post-SGMA, interest in exploring recharge opportunities on ag lands, wildlife refuges, flood bypasses, etc
- **Aquifer Storage & Recovery (ASR)**
  - Generally storage of treated drinking water
  - Recharge by injection wells
  - SWRCB waste discharge permit
- **Stormwater Capture**
  - Urban runoff
  - SWRCB Clean Water Act permit process
  - Turning a waste into a resource

# Urban Southern California



# San Joaquin Valley

(projects comparable in size to Folsom Lake)



# Elements of a Groundwater Storage Project

- Source of recharge water
- Conveyance
- Empty groundwater basin
- Recharge & extraction facilities
- Money

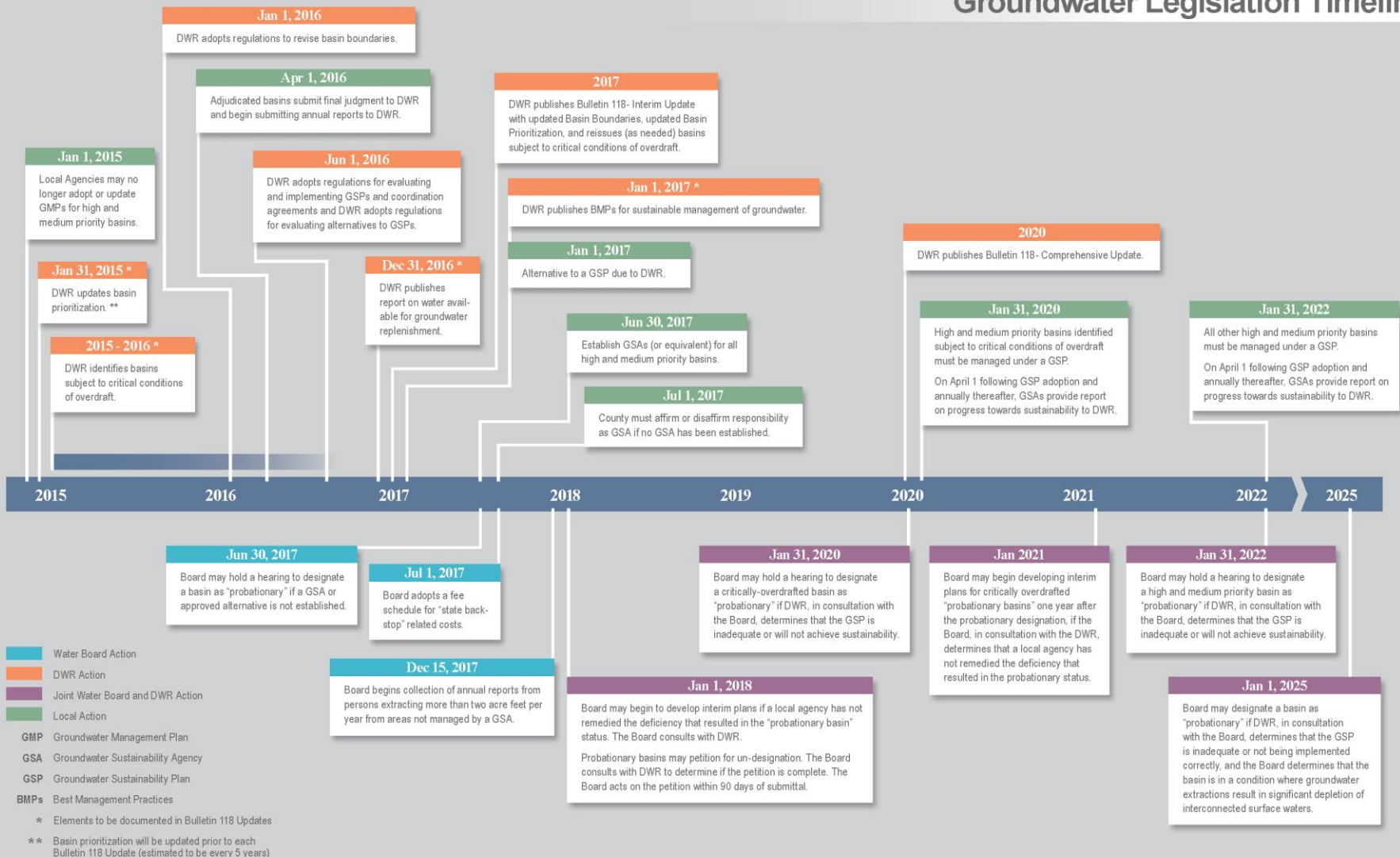




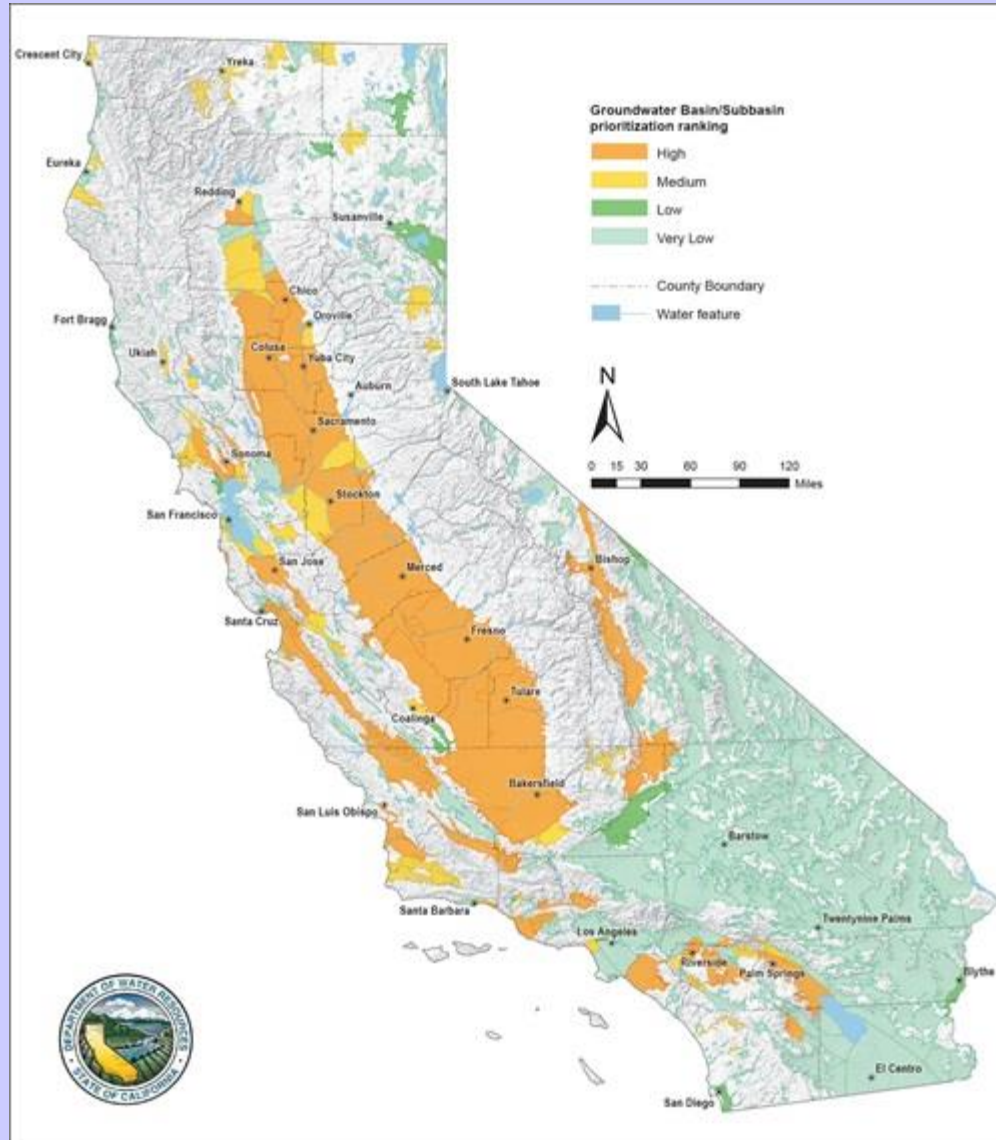


# Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

## Groundwater Legislation Timeline







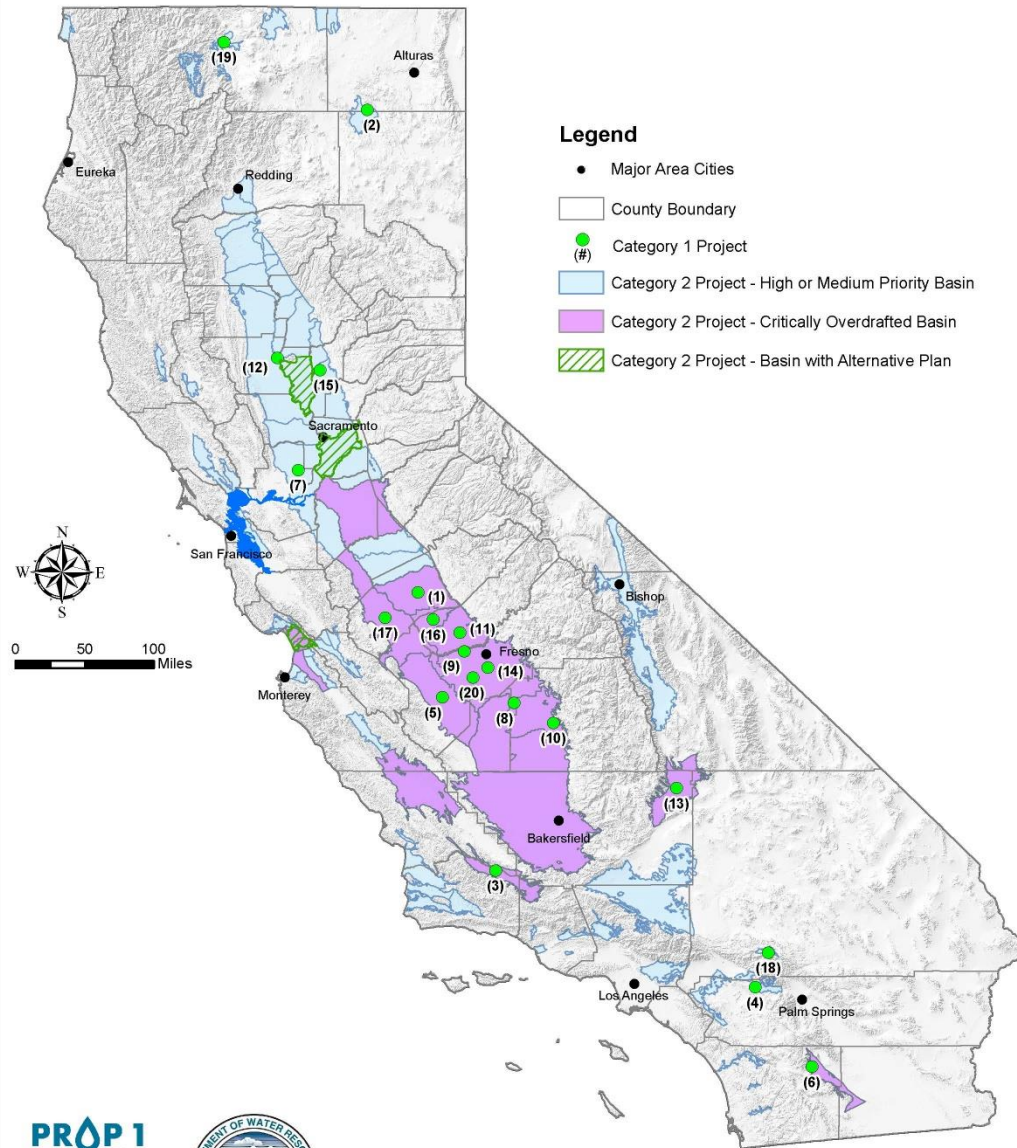
## Groundwater Basins Subject to Critical Conditions of Overdraft



# Final Awards

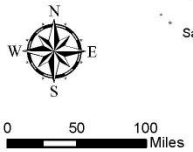
## 2017 Groundwater Sustainability Plans and Projects Solicitation

### April 2018



#### Legend

- Major Area Cities
- County Boundary
- (#) Category 1 Project
- Category 2 Project - High or Medium Priority Basin
- Category 2 Project - Critically Overdrafted Basin
- Category 2 Project - Basin with Alternative Plan



Note:  
 Groundwater basin boundaries are approximate.  
 Data source: DWR's CASGEM Groundwater Basin Prioritization data layer as shown in:  
<https://gis.water.ca.gov/ano/boundaries/>

# Executive Order B-39-17

- To increase available capacity in river and flood control channels statewide and to utilize anticipated high water flows to recharge local groundwater while minimizing flooding risks, the State Water Resources Control Board and California Regional Water Quality Control Boards shall prioritize temporary water rights permits, water quality certifications, waste discharge requirements, and conditional waivers of waste discharge requirements to accelerate approvals for projects throughout the state that enhance the ability of a local or state agency to capture high runoff events for local storage or recharge, consistent with water rights priorities and protections for fish and wildlife.

# Many Studies of Recharge on Ag Lands Underway



The Almond Board is investing in field research and partnerships to determine the feasibility of using almond acreage as locations for groundwater recharge when excess water is available from winter flood releases.



# BRIDGING THE GAP

JANUARY 28-29  
DANA HOTEL, SAN DIEGO



**Groundwater  
Resources  
Association**  
*of California*

In Collaboration with



**CW3E**  
Center for Western Weather  
and Water Extremes

*Improving weather  
forecasting, surface  
reservoir operations  
and increasing  
managed aquifer  
recharge.*