EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ES-1 INTRODUCTION (GSP CHAPTER 1)

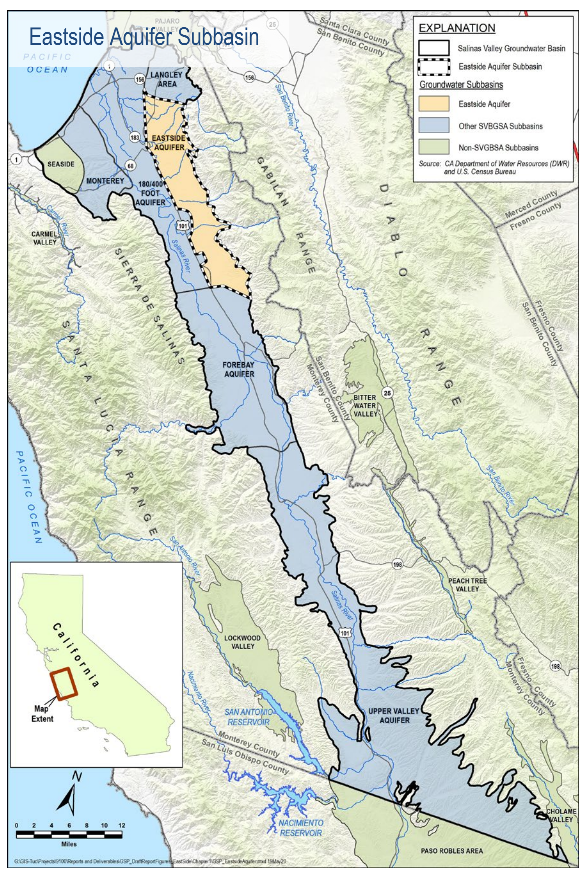
The 2014 California Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires that medium- and high-priority groundwater basins and subbasins develop Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) that outline how groundwater sustainably will be achieved in 20 years, and then maintained for an additional 30 years. This GSP fulfills that requirement for the Salinas Valley—Eastside Aquifer Subbasin (Subbasin), which is designated by the DWR as a medium priority groundwater subbasin.

In 2017, local GSA-eligible entities formed the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA) to develop and implement the GSPs for the Salinas Valley. The SVBGSA is a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) with membership comprising the County of Monterey, Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA), City of Salinas, City of Soledad, City of Gonzales, City of King, Castroville Community Services District, and Monterey One Water. The SVBGSA is governed by an eleven-member Board of Directors, representing public and private groundwater interests throughout the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin. In addition, an Advisory Committee ensures participation by, and input to, the Board by constituencies whose interests are not directly represented on the Board.

The Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin consists of 9 subbasins, of which 6 are entirely or partially under the SVBGSA's jurisdiction. One of the 9 subbasins, the Seaside Subbasin, is adjudicated and not managed by the SVBGSA. Another 2 subbasins, the Paso Robles and Atascadero Subbasins, lie completely in San Luis Obispo County and are managed by other groundwater sustainability agencies.

The SVBGSA developed this GSP for the Eastside Subbasin (DWR subbasin number 3-004.02) in concert with the GSPs for its 5 other Salinas Valley Subbasins: the 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin (DWR subbasin number 3-004.01), the Forebay Aquifer Subbasin (DWR subbasin number 3-004.04), the Upper Valley Aquifer Subbasin (DWR subbasin number 3-004.05), the Langley Area Subbasin (DWR subbasin number 3-004.09) and the Monterey Subbasin (DWR subbasin number 3-004.10). Having a single GSA prepare all or part of the six plans promotes coordination and cooperation across subbasin boundaries.

This GSP covers the entire 57,500 acres of the Eastside Subbasin, as shown on the figure below. The GSP describes current groundwater conditions, develops a hydrogeologic conceptual model, establishes the water budget, outlines locally defined sustainable management criteria, and provides projects and management actions that can be used to reach sustainability by 2042.



ES-2 COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT (GSP CHAPTER 2)

The SVBGSA designed all phases of SGMA implementation to be open collaborative processes with active stakeholder engagement that allows stakeholders and public participants opportunities to provide input and to influence the planning and development process and subsequently GSP implementation. The communications and public engagement process included the following:

- **GSA formation and coordination.** SVBGSA formation and coordination took place from 2015 through 2017 and included completing a Salinas Valley Groundwater Stakeholder Issues Assessment which resulted in recommendations for a transparent, inclusive process for the local implementation of SGMA and formation of the SVBGSA.
- **GSP preparation.** Given the importance of the Subbasin and the development of the GSP to the communities, residents, landowners, farmers, ranchers, businesses, and others, it is essential that inclusive stakeholder input is a primary component of the GSP process. A rigorous review process for each chapter in this GSP and for the final plan ensured that stakeholders had multiple opportunities to review and comment on the draft GSP.
- **Subbasin Planning Committee.** The Eastside Subbasin Planning Committee provides overall direction for GSP development. It comprises local stakeholders and a Board of Directors member, all of whom were appointed by the Board following a publicly noticed application process by the GSA. This Committee represents constituencies that are considered important stakeholders in the Eastside Subbasin, and who may not be represented on the Board of Directors. During the planning process, the SVBGSA held more than 34 Eastside planning meetings including 11 workshops.
- **Communication and public engagement actions (CPE Actions).** CPE Actions provide the SVBGSA Board and staff a guide to ensure consistent messaging about SVBGSA requirements and other related information. CPE Actions provide ways that beneficial users and other stakeholders can provide timely and meaningful input into the GSA decision-making process, are informed of milestones, and offered opportunities to participate in GSP implementation and plan updates.
- **Underrepresented communities (URCs) and disadvantaged communities (DACs).** During development of the 2022 GSPs SVBGSA assessed how URCs and DACs may be engaged with the GSA and how to develop GSA materials that are accessible and culturally responsive (visual and in Spanish). These materials will communicate impacts of groundwater management on local water conditions to engage URCs and DACs into GSA plan reviews and develop pathways for future involvement.

SVBGSA supports public participation by the development of an interactive website that allows access to all planning and meeting materials, data sets, and meeting notifications. The website can be accessed at: https://svbgsa.org.

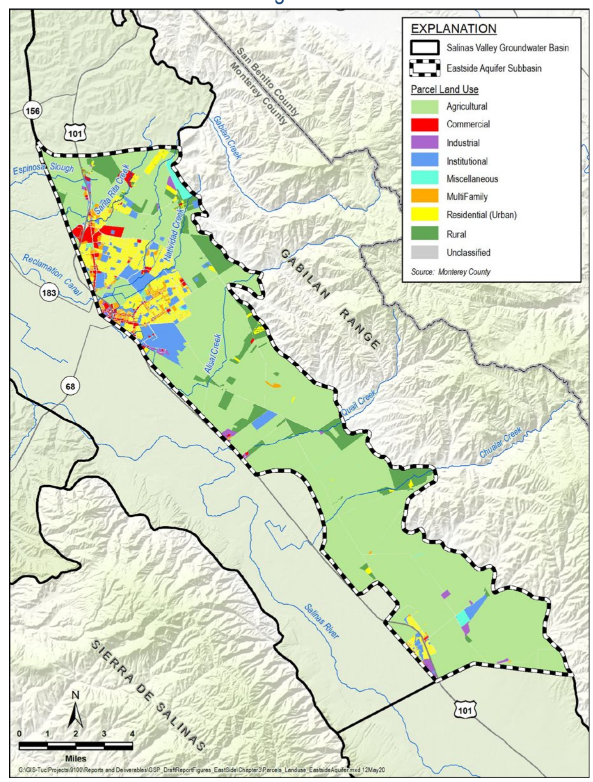
ES-3 DESCRIPTION OF PLAN AREA (GSP CHAPTER 3)

The Eastside Subbasin is located in northeastern Monterey County. The Subbasin contains portions of the City of Salinas, City of Gonzales, and a small portion of Chualar. The figure at right shows that the majority of land in the Subbasin is used for agriculture. Accordingly, the primary water use sector is agriculture. Groundwater is the main water source in the Subbasin; however, surface water diversions also provide a small amount of water.

The Eastside Subbasin is entirely within the jurisdiction of the SVBGSA. This GSP takes into consideration and incorporates existing water resource management, monitoring, and regulatory programs. The sustainability goal, sustainable management criteria, and projects and management actions in this GSP reflect and build on existing local plans and programs. Any potential limits to operational flexibility have already been incorporated into this GSP. Implementation of this GSP is not anticipated to affect water supply assumptions of relevant land use plans over the planning and implementation horizon. The GSA does not have authority over land use planning.

However, the GSA will coordinate with the County on General Plans and land use planning/zoning as needed when implementing the GSP.

Existing Land Use



ES-4 HYDROGEOLOGIC CONCEPTUAL MODEL (GSP CHAPTER 4)

The geology of the Eastside Subbasin is dominated by alluvial fans deposited by surface-water drainages originating in the Gabilan Range. The eastern boundary of the Subbasin is the contact between the unconsolidated sediments and the Gabilan Range that consists mostly of granitic rocks. The northern boundary with the Langley Subbasin generally coincides with the presence of the Aromas Red Sands. There are no reported hydraulic barriers separating these subbasins and therefore there is potential for groundwater flow between them. Similarly, there is likely groundwater flow between the Eastside and 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasins, although flow may be restricted due to the change from alluvial fan sediments in the Eastside Subbasin to marine and riverine sediments in the 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin, which generally define this boundary. At the Subbasin's southern boundary there may be reasonable hydraulic connectivity with the Forebay Subbasin where water along the border moves both down from the mountains and toward the ocean.

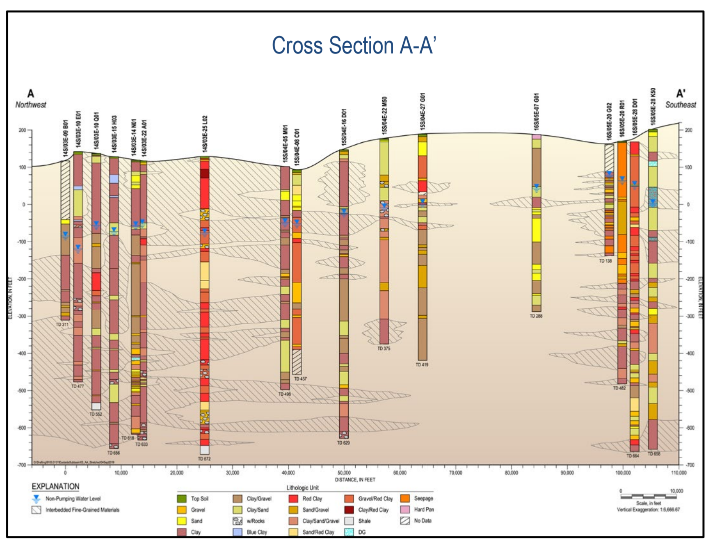
The Eastside Subbasin's sole principal aquifer is made up of two generalized water-bearing zones have been recognized within the alluvial fan aquifer system: the Eastside Shallow Zone and the Eastside Deep Zone. These designations of Shallow and Deep have not been identified as distinct aquifers by most investigators. They are only generalized zones of water-bearing sediments with time-correlated depositions and that are somewhat hydraulically connected to the 180-Foot and 400-Foot Aquifers in the 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin. The seawater intrusion that is occurring in the 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin has not been observed in the Eastside Subbasin, despite the eastward groundwater gradient, suggesting that the hydraulic connection between the subbasins is limited at best. In the 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin, the 400-Foot Aquifer is separated from the Deep Aquifers by the 400-Foot/Deep Aquitard. The historical extents of the alluvial fans that define the Eastside region near the City of Salinas are contemporaneous with the 400-Foot Aquifer. Thus, by inference, the edge of the Deep Aquifers could also potentially extend into the Eastside Subbasin, but further investigation is required to determine this. The figure below shows a geologic cross section of the Subbasin.

This GSP adopts the base of the Subbasin defined by the USGS (Durbin, et al., 1978). The base of the Subbasin is defined by the sharp interface between alluvium and the underlying granitic rocks that exists near the Gabilan Range; however, the Subbasin does not have a well-defined base across the entire Subbasin. The usable portion of the Subbasin does not always include the full thickness of alluvium and with depth the viability of the sediments as productive freshwater principal aquifer becomes increasingly limited.

Detailed aquifer property values (storativity, conductivity, and transmissivity) for the principal aquifer were not available at the time of GSP development. The SVBGSA will fill this data gap during GSP implementation. Specific capacity data is used as a proxy for transmissivity data and indicate that the principal aquifer is relatively transmissive with moderate well yields.

Natural groundwater recharge occurs through infiltration of surface water from streams, deep percolation of excess applied irrigation water, deep percolation of infiltrating precipitation, and subsurface inflow from adjacent subbasins. The areas with the highest potential for surficial recharge are found along tributary streams. Many of the other soils in the Subbasin are classified as moderate for recharge potential, meaning that some water applied to surface could make it to the Eastside Shallow Zone or perched zones. Actual recharge to deeper productive zones of the Subbasin could be limited because the discontinuous alluvial sediments and the interfingering clay lenses may prevent deep recharge. Subsurface recharge is primarily from inflow from the adjacent Forebay and 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasins to the south and west, respectively (DWR, 2004).

Groundwater can leave the aquifer in locations where surface water and groundwater are interconnected. There are no potential locations of interconnected surface water in the Subbasin to date but interconnection could happen in the future. In areas of interconnection, groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs) may depend on groundwater emerging from aquifers or on groundwater occurring near the ground surface, and may discharge groundwater through evapotranspiration (ET).

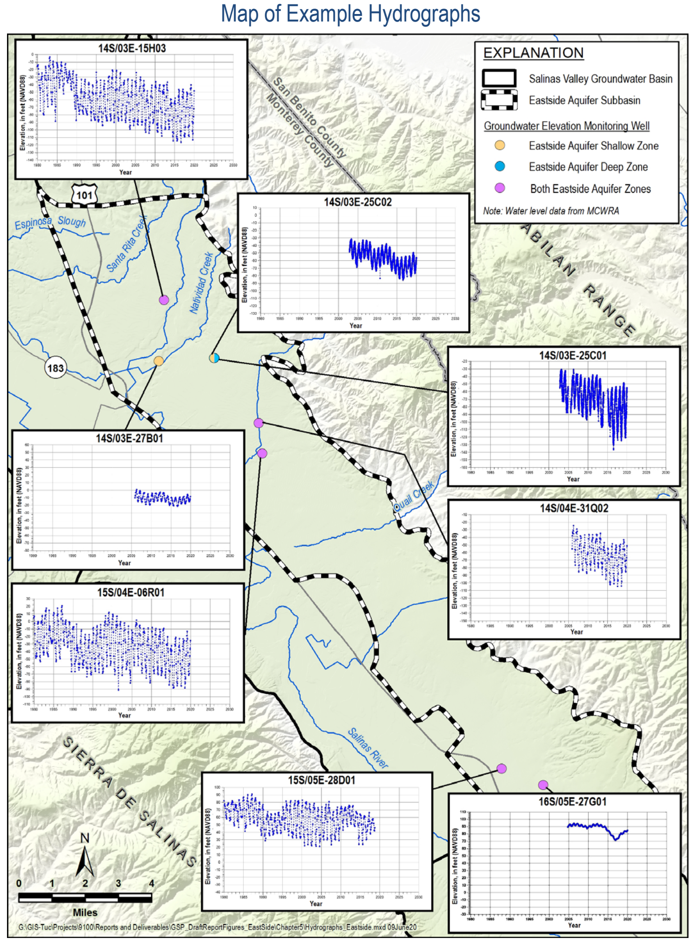


ES-5 GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS (GSP CHAPTER 5)

Historical groundwater conditions in the Subbasin occurred before January 1, 2015 and current conditions occurred after January 1, 2015. Where possible, 2019 was chosen as the representative current year for groundwater conditions.

- **Groundwater elevations.** Historically, groundwater hydrographs show a decline in groundwater elevations throughout most of the Eastside Subbasin, in both the Shallow and Deep Zones of the Aquifer. Groundwater elevations have been chronically lowered due to pumping and are lowest during higher irrigation seasons. Groundwater elevations near the boundary with the Forebay Aquifer Subbasin have generally been more stable than the rest of the Subbasin. The figure at right shows example hydrographs for the Subbasin.
- **Change in groundwater storage.** The historical average annual loss of storage based on groundwater elevation change between 1944 and 2019 is approximately 3,400 acre-feet per year (AF/yr.) in the Eastside Subbasin, defined as the average change in groundwater that can be safely used for domestic, industrial, or agricultural purposes. However, other analyses have estimated greater declines in storage. Based on prior reports, groundwater elevations, and modeling, this GSP considers the average historical overdraft to be approximately 10,000 AF/yr.
- **Seawater intrusion.** There is no seawater intrusion in the Eastside Subbasin. However, the neighboring 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin has been subject to seawater intrusion for more than 70 years.
- **Groundwater quality.** Elevated nitrate concentrations in groundwater were locally present in the 1960s and significantly increased in 1970s and 1980s. In 2018, nitrate levels exceeded the drinking water MCL in 58% of on-farm domestic wells and 61% of irrigation supply wells in the Subbasin (CCRWQCB, 2018). Other constituents found at levels of concern for either potable or irrigation uses include 1,2,3-trichloropropane, iron, specific conductance, and total dissolved solids.
- **Subsidence.** No measurable subsidence has been recorded anywhere in the Subbasin between June 2015 and June 2019.
- **Interconnected surface water.** Provisional model results show that there is no interconnected surface water in the Subbasin.

Map of Example Hydrographs



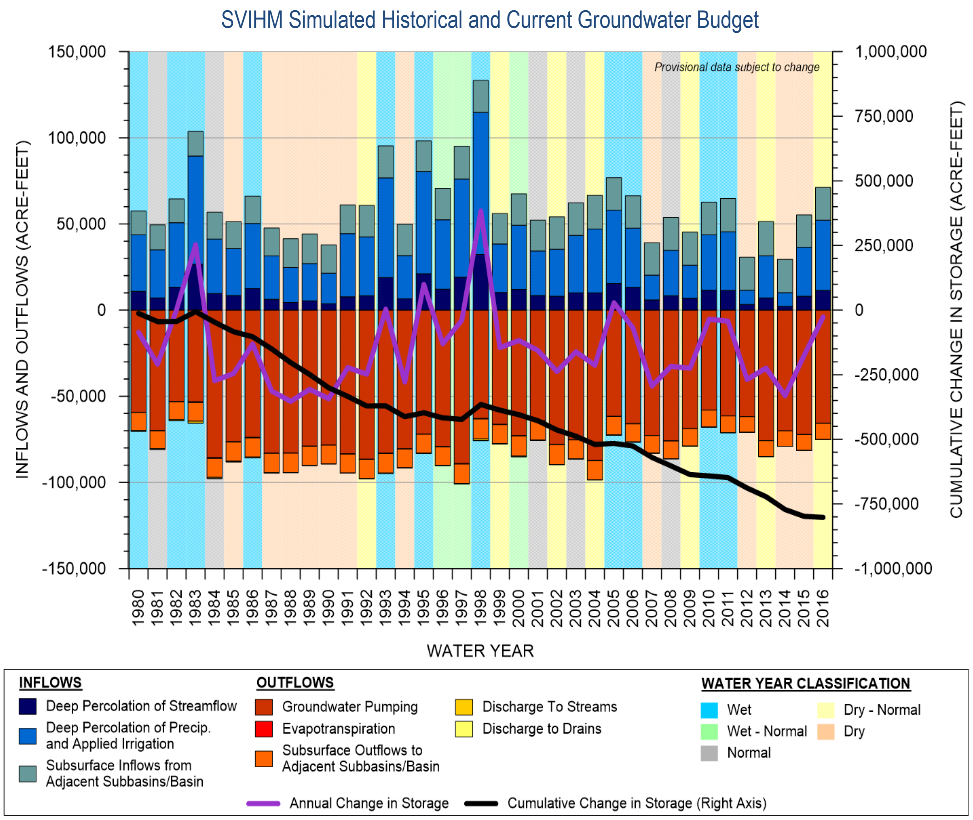
ES-6 WATER BUDGETS (GSP CHAPTER 6)

Water budgets provide an accounting and assessment of the total annual volume of surface water and groundwater entering and leaving the Subbasin. This GSP presents water budgets for 3 time periods – historical (1980 to 2016), current (2016), and projected with estimated 2030 and 2070 climate change factors. Water Year 2016 was the last year included in the models that could be used to develop water budgets for the GSP. Water Year 2016 meets the definition of current year found in the SGMA regulations (23 California Code of Regulations §354.18 (c)(1)); however, Water Year 2016 was preceded by multiple dry or dry-normal years and may not necessarily represent average current conditions. This chapter presents the surface water budget and groundwater budget for each time period. The groundwater budget contains aggregate numbers for the Subbasin and is not differentiated spatially.

The water budgets are developed using the historical Salinas Valley Integrated Hydrologic Model (SVIHM) and the predictive Salinas Valley Operational Model (SVOM), both developed by the USGS. The models are representations of natural conditions and are limited by assumptions and uncertainty associated with the data upon which they are based. The water budgets produced by the models are adjusted with reported extraction data to ensure the water budgets are based on the best available science and data.

Historical and Current Water Budgets and Historical Sustainable Yield. The groundwater budget accounts for the inflows and outflows to and from the Subbasin's groundwater system. This includes subsurface inflows and outflows of groundwater at the Subbasin boundaries, recharge, pumping, ET, and net streambed exchange.

The historical groundwater budget figure on the next page shows the annual groundwater inflows and outflows, annual change in groundwater storage, and cumulative change in storage. Changes in groundwater storage are generally driven by groundwater pumping, increasing during wet periods and declining during dry periods. However, historical decline in groundwater levels varies across the Subbasin. On average, historical outflows from the groundwater system have been greater than inflows, resulting in a decrease in groundwater storage. Based on estimates from Brown and Caldwell's State of the Salinas River Groundwater Basin report (2015), analysis and comparison of groundwater level changes over time, and model results, it is estimated that the Subbasin has historically been in overdraft on the order of 10,000 AF/yr. When this change in storage is subtracted from a range of the historical pumping, the estimated historical sustainable yield ranges from 69,300 to 86,700 AF/yr. The sustainable yield of the Subbasin is an estimate of the quantity of groundwater that can be pumped on a long-term average annual basis without causing any of the 6 undesirable results defined in ES-8. The current sustainable yield represents a snapshot in time and is not used for groundwater management planning. These results are provisional and are subject to change in future GSP updates after the SVIHM and SVOM are released by the USGS. Projected Water Budgets and Projected Sustainable Yield. Projected water budgets for 2030 and 2070 are extracted from the SVOM, which simulates future hydrologic conditions with assumed climate change based on the climate change factors recommended by DWR. Results are then adjusted based on extraction to produce the water budget based on best available data. The projected water budget includes a surface water budget and groundwater budget, each quantifying all inflows and outflows. The average change in storage for the sustainable yield calculations is set to a loss of 10,000 AF/yr. as is done in the historical water budget. Subtracting the average change in storage of 10,000 AF/yr. from the projected pumping, results in a projected sustainable yield of 80,400 AF/yr. and 84,500 AF/yr. for 2030 and 2070, respectively.



The projected sustainable yield is the long-term estimate of the quantity of groundwater that can be pumped once all 6 undesirable results have been addressed; however, it does not include projects, management actions, or pumping reductions needed to avoid undesirable results and reach sustainability according to the 6 sustainability indicators. Although the sustainable yield values provide guidance for achieving sustainability, simply increasing groundwater recharge or reducing pumping to within the sustainable yield is not proof of sustainability. Sustainability must be demonstrated through avoiding all 6 undesirable results. The projected water budgets are based on a provisional version of the SVOM and are subject to change. Model information and assumptions are based on provisional documentation on the model.

The sustainable yield value will be updated in future GSP updates as more data are collected and additional analyses are conducted. The table below summarizes the historical and projected sustainable yields for the Subbasin.

Summary of Historical and Projected 2070 Sustainable Yields in AF/yr.

	Historical Sustainable Yield Range	2070 Projected Sustainable Yield
Groundwater Pumping	79,300 to 96,700	94,500
Change in Storage	-10,000	-10,000
Sustainable Yield	69,300 to 86,700	84,500

This data (model and/or model results) are preliminary or provisional and are subject to revision. This model and model results are being provided to meet the need for timely best science. The model has not received final approval by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). No warranty, expressed or implied, is made by the USGS or the U.S. Government as to the functionality of the model and related material nor shall the fact of release constitute any such warranty. The model is provided on the condition that neither the USGS nor the U.S. Government shall be held liable for any damages resulting from the authorized or unauthorized use of the model.

ES-7 MONITORING NETWORKS (GSP CHAPTER 7)

Monitoring networks are developed for data collection of sufficient quality, frequency, and distribution to characterize groundwater and related surface water conditions in the Subbasin and to evaluate changing conditions that occur as the Plan is implemented. The SVBGSA developed monitoring networks for each of the 6 sustainability indicators, based on existing monitoring sites to the extent possible. Where needed monitoring networks will be expanded and data gaps filled to improve the SVBGSA's ability to demonstrate sustainability and refine the hydrogeologic conceptual model.

- **Groundwater levels** are measured in 35 designated monitoring wells that form a network sufficient to demonstrate groundwater occurrence, flow directions, and hydraulic gradients. The figure to the right shows the existing monitoring network, all monitoring is conducted by MCWRA.

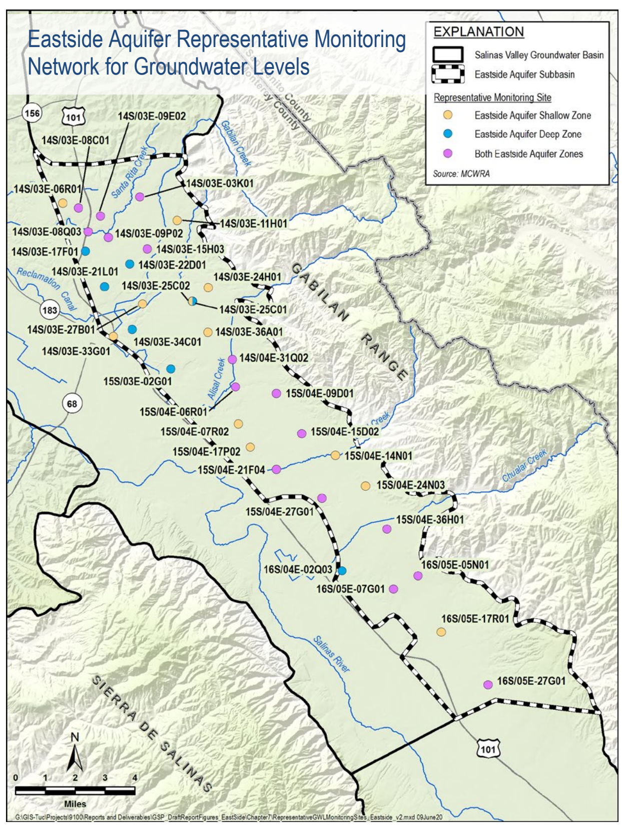
- **Groundwater storage** is measured by groundwater elevations; thus the groundwater storage and groundwater level monitoring networks are identical.

- **Seawater intrusion** is evaluated based on a 500 mg/L chloride concentration isocontour derived from measurements at a specific network of monitoring wells in the Eastside Subbasin and the adjacent 180/400-Foot Subbasin. Monitoring and development of the chloride isocontour maps are done by MCWRA.

- **Groundwater quality** is evaluated by monitoring groundwater quality at a network of existing water supply wells. Drinking water constituents of concern will be assessed at public water system supply wells through the Division of Drinking Water program and at on-farm domestic wells through the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (IRLP), shown on the figures at right and on the following page, respectively. Agricultural constituents of concern will be assessed at irrigation supply wells that are also monitored through the ILRP.

- **Land subsidence** is assessed based on the land subsidence data DWR has collected with InSAR satellite data.

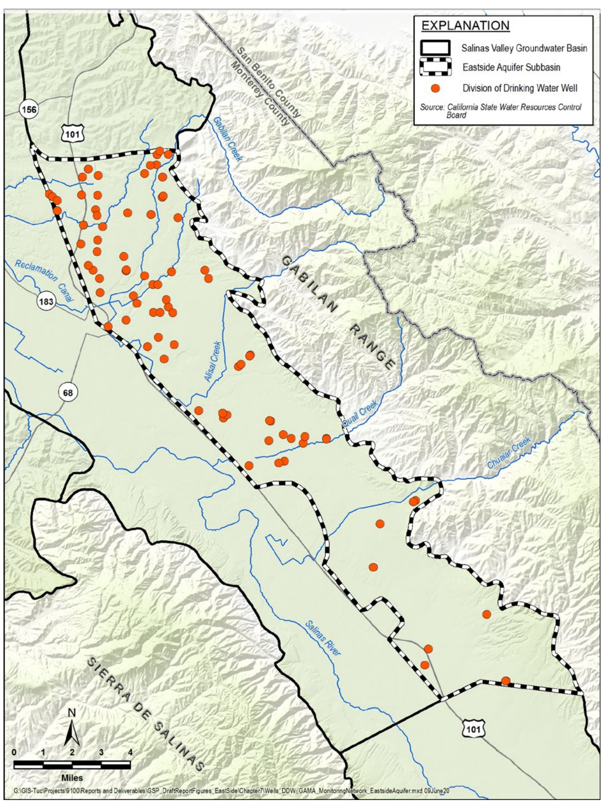
- **Interconnected surface water** will be assessed through monitoring shallow groundwater elevations near locations of interconnection. Given the lack of monitoring data, the SVBGSA plans to install a shallow well to establish the level of interconnection of the Gabilan Creek with the underlying shallow sediments just over the boundary with the Langley Subbasin. Interconnection might exist in the future near this area within the Eastside Subbasin.



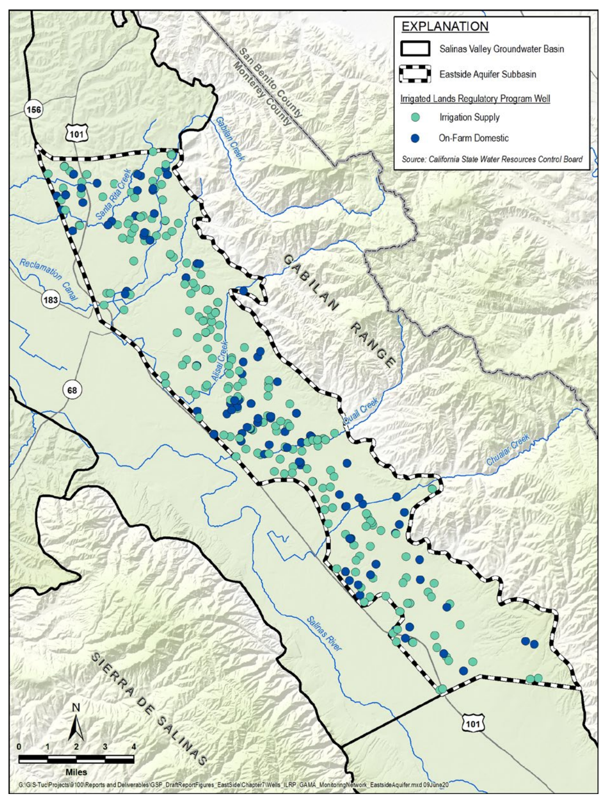
- **Other monitoring networks** are not necessary to monitor the 6 sustainability indicators in the Subbasin; however, DWR requires annual reporting of pumping and surface water use in the Subbasin.
  - **Groundwater extraction** monitoring includes municipal and agricultural pumping reported to the MCWRA.
  - **Salinas River Watershed Diversion** data from the Electronic Water Rights Information Management System (eWRIMS) is used to monitor the surface water diversions in the Subbasin.

The SVBGSA has developed a Data Management System (DMS) to store, review, and upload data collected as part of GSP development and implementation. The DMS includes a publicly accessible web-map hosted on the SVBGSA website; accessed at https://svbgsa.org/gsp-web-map-and-data/.

DDW Public Water System Supply Wells in the Groundwater Quality Monitoring Network



ILRP On-Farm Domestic and Irrigation Supply Wells in the Groundwater Quality Monitoring Network



ES-8 SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT CRITERIA (GSP CHAPTER 8)

The sustainability goal of the Eastside Subbasin is to manage groundwater resources for long-term community, financial, and environmental benefits to the Subbasin's residents and businesses. The goal of this GSP is to ensure long-term viable water supplies while maintaining the unique cultural, community, and business aspects of the Subbasin. It is the express goal of this GSP to balance the needs of all water users in the Subbasin.

Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) define the conditions that constitute sustainable groundwater management. The following table provides a summary of the SMC for each of the 6 sustainability indicators. Measurable objectives reflect the subbasin's goals for desired groundwater conditions for each sustainability indicator. These provide operational flexibility above the minimum thresholds. The minimum thresholds are quantitative indicators of the Subbasin's locally defined significant and unreasonable conditions. The undesirable result is a combination of minimum threshold exceedances that show a significant and unreasonable condition across the Subbasin. This GSP is designed avoid undesirable results, and achieve the sustainability goals within 20 years, along with interim milestones every 5 years that show progress. The management actions and projects provide sufficient options for reaching the measurable objectives within 20 years and maintaining those conditions for 30 years for all 6 sustainability indicators.

Sustainable Management Criteria Summary

Sustainability Indicator	Measurable Objective	Minimum Threshold	Undesirable Result
Chronic lowering of groundwater levels	Minimum thresholds are set to 2015 groundwater elevations.	Measurable objectives are set to 1999 groundwater elevations.	More than 15% of groundwater elevation minimum thresholds are exceeded. Allows for 4 exceedances per year in the Eastside Aquifer Subbasin.
Reduction in groundwater storage	Minimum thresholds are established by proxy using groundwater elevations. The reduction in groundwater storage minimum thresholds are identical to the chronic lowering of groundwater levels minimum thresholds.	Measurable objectives are established by proxy using groundwater elevations. The reduction in groundwater storage measurable objectives are identical to the chronic lowering of groundwater levels measurable objectives.	More than 15% of groundwater elevation minimum thresholds are exceeded. The undesirable result for reduction in groundwater storage is established by proxy using groundwater elevations.
Seawater intrusion	Minimum threshold is the 500 mg/L chloride isocontour at the Subbasin boundary.	Measurable objective is identical to the minimum threshold, resulting in no seawater intrusion in the Eastside Subbasin.	Any exceedance of the minimum threshold, resulting in mapped seawater intrusion within the Subbasin boundary.
Degraded groundwater quality	Minimum thresholds are zero additional exceedances of the regulatory drinking water standards (potable supply wells) or the Basin Plan objectives (irrigation supply wells) beyond those observed in 2019 for groundwater quality COC. Exceedances are only measured in public water system supply wells and ILRP on-farm domestic and irrigation supply wells. (Measurable objectives are identical to the minimum thresholds.)		Future or new minimum thresholds exceedances are caused by a direct result of GSA groundwater management action(s), including projects or management actions and regulation of groundwater extraction.
Land subsidence	Minimum threshold is zero net long-term subsidence, with no more than 0.1 foot per year of estimated land movement to account for InSAR errors. (Measurable objective is identical to the minimum threshold, resulting in zero net long-term subsidence.)		There is an exceedance of the minimum threshold for subsidence due to lowered groundwater elevations.
Depletion of interconnected surface water	Minimum thresholds are established by proxy using shallow groundwater elevations observed in 2015 near locations of ISW.	Measurable objectives are established by proxy using shallow groundwater elevations observed in 1999 near locations of ISW.	There is an exceedance of the minimum threshold in a shallow groundwater monitoring well used to monitor ISW.

ES-9 PROJECTS AND MANAGEMENT ACTIONS (GSP CHAPTER 9)

This GSP identifies projects and management actions that provide stakeholders with options to reach sustainability. The set of projects and actions achieve the following objectives:

- Attaining groundwater sustainability by 2042 by meeting Subbasin-specific SMC
- Providing equity between who benefits from projects and who pays for projects
- Providing incentives to constrain groundwater pumping within the sustainable yield

The projects and management actions included in this GSP outline a framework for reaching sustainability; however, many details must be negotiated before any of the projects and management actions can be implemented. The set of projects and management actions provides sufficient options for reaching and maintaining sustainability throughout the planning horizon, but they do not all necessarily need to be implemented.

This GSP is developed as part of an integrated effort by the SVBGSA to achieve groundwater sustainability in all 6 subbasins of the Salinas Valley under its authority. Therefore, the projects and actions included in this GSP are part of a larger set of integrated projects and actions for the entire Valley.

This GSP focuses on the projects that directly help the Eastside Subbasin reach its sustainability goals, but also includes multi-subbasin projects outside the Subbasin that will likely benefit the Subbasin and reduce the need for additional projects and management actions. In addition, the chapter includes implementation actions that contribute to groundwater management and GSP implementation but do not directly help the Subbasin reach or maintain sustainability. The projects, management actions, and implementation actions for this GSP are listed in the following table

Projects and Management Actions

Project/ Management Action #	Name	Description	Project Benefits
A – INCREASED RECHARGE			
A1	Managed Aquifer Recharge with Overland Flow	Construct basins for managed aquifer recharge of overland flow before it reaches streams	Groundwater recharge, less stormwater and erosion, more regular surface temperature
A2	Floodplain Enhancement and Recharge	Restore creeks and floodplains to slow the flow of water	More infiltration, less erosion, less flooding
B – SURFACE WATER DIVERSIONS			
B1	11043 Diversion at Chualar	Build a new facility near Chualar that would be allowed to divert water from the Salinas River when streamflow is high	Less groundwater pumping, moderately less seawater intrusion in other subbasins
B2	11043 Diversion at Soledad	Build a new facility near Soledad that would be allowed to divert water from the Salinas River when streamflow is high	Less groundwater pumping, slightly less seawater intrusion in other subbasins
B3	Surface Water Diversion from Gabilan Creek	Build a new facility on Gabilan Creek that would be allowed to divert water when streamflow is high.	Collects streamflow that would otherwise be lost to the ocean

Project/ Management Action #	Name	Description	Project Benefits
C – ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLIES			
C1	Eastside Irrigation Water Supply Project (or Somavia Road Project)	Import groundwater from the 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin	Less groundwater pumping in the Eastside Aquifer Subbasin
C2	Salinas Scalping Plant	Build a water treatment facility to recycle wastewater for agricultural use	Less groundwater pumping
D – REGIONAL ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLIES			
D1	Regional Municipal Supply Project	Build a regional desalination plant that would treat brackish water extracted from seawater intrusion barrier and supply drinking water to municipalities in the Eastside Aquifer Subbasin and other subbasins	Less groundwater pumping, reduced risk of seawater intrusion
D2	CSIP Optimization and Expansion	Expand CSIP into the northwest corner of the Eastside Aquifer Subbasin	Less groundwater pumping
E – DEMAND MANAGEMENT			
E1	Conservation and Agricultural BMPs	Promote agricultural best management practices and support use of ET data as an irrigation management tool for growers	Better tools assist growers to use water more efficiently; decreased groundwater extraction
E2	Fallowing, Fallow Bank, and Agricultural Land Retirement	Includes voluntary fallowing, a fallow bank whereby anybody fallowing land could draw against the bank to offset lost profit from fallowing, and retirement of agricultural land	Decreased groundwater extraction for irrigated agriculture
E3	Pumping Allocations and Controls	Proactively determines how extraction should be fairly divided and controlled if needed	Decreases extraction if needed
F – SALINAS RIVER PROJECTS AND MANAGEMENT ACTIONS *(projects will likely have indirect benefits for the Eastside Subbasin that may reduce the need for other projects and management actions)*			
F1	Multi-benefit Stream Channel improvements	Prune native vegetation and remove non-native vegetation, manage sediment, and enhance floodplains for recharge. Includes 3 components: 1. Stream Maintenance Program 2. Invasive Species Eradication 3. Floodplain Enhancement and Recharge	Groundwater recharge, flood risk reduction, returns streams to a natural state of dynamic equilibrium
F2	MCWRA Drought Reoperation	Support the existing Drought Technical Advisory Committee (D-TAC) when it develops plans for how to manage reservoir releases during drought	Multi-subbasin benefits: more regular seasonal reservoir releases; drought resilience
F3	Reservoir Reoperation	Collaborate with MCWRA to evaluate potential reoperation scenarios, which could be paired with projects such as the Interlake Tunnel, seasonal reservoir releases with aquifer storage and recovery, or other potential projects.	Additional regular annual reservoir releases; drought resilience
G - IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS			
G1	Well Registration	Register all production wells, including domestic wells	Better informed decisions, more management options
G2	Groundwater Extraction Management System (GEMS) Expansion and Enhancement	Update current GEMS program by collecting groundwater extraction data from wells in areas not currently covered by GEMS and improving data collection	Better informed decisions

Project/ Management Action #	Name	Description	Project Benefits
G3	Dry Well Notification System	Develop a system for well owners to notify the GSA if their wells go dry. Refer those owners to resources to assess and improve their water supplies. Form a working group if concerning patterns emerge.	Support affected well owners with analysis of groundwater elevation decline
G4	Water Quality Coordination Group	Form a working group for agencies and organizations to collaborate on addressing water quality concerns	Improve water quality
G5	Support Protection of Areas of High Recharge	Work with land use agencies to protect land with high recharge potential	Help prevent decline of infiltration capacity
G6	Deep Aquifers Study	Complete study of the Deep Aquifers to enable better management of groundwater and seawater intrusion	Increase understanding of Deep Aquifers
G7	Land Use Jurisdiction Coordination Program	Review land use plans and efforts to coordinate with land use planning agencies to assess activities that potentially create risks to groundwater quality or quantity.	Better aligned land use and water use planning

Mitigation of Overdraft. The Eastside Subbasin has historically been in overdraft and it is projected to still be in overdraft throughout the GSP planning horizon unless projects and management actions bring extraction in line with the sustainable yield. The overdraft can be mitigated by reducing pumping or recharging the subbasin, either through direct or in-lieu means. The potential projects and management actions in this chapter are sufficient to mitigate existing overdraft. These include potential demand management through pumping allocations to be used if other projects and management actions do not reach sustainability goals and mitigate overdraft.

ES-10 IMPLEMENTATION (GSP CHAPTER 10)

This GSP lays out a roadmap for addressing all of the activities needed for GSP implementation between 2022 and 2042, focusing mainly on the activities between 2022 and 2027. Implementing this GSP requires the following formative activities:

Data, monitoring, and reporting. SGMA requires submittal of annual monitoring data and development of an annual report to track groundwater conditions with respect to the SMC. Monitoring will mostly rely on existing monitoring programs, and expansion of those programs. The groundwater level and groundwater extraction monitoring networks will be improved to provide sufficient temporal coverage. Only ISW needs the establishment of a new monitoring network, which will help monitor ISW in the adjacent Langley Area Subbasin. Data from the monitoring programs will be maintained in the DMS and evaluated annually. SVBGSA also plans to fill the aquifer properties and lithologic and hydrostratigraphic data gaps in the HCM to gain a better understanding of the principal aquifer.

Continuing communication and stakeholder engagement. The SVBGSA website will be maintained as a communication tool for posting data, reports, and meeting information. Additionally, the SVBGSA will routinely report information to the public about GSP implementation, progress towards sustainability, and the need to use groundwater efficiently.

Refining and implementing projects and management actions. The projects and management actions in this GSP have been identified as beneficial and sufficient for reaching and maintaining sustainability in the Eastside Subbasin. During GSP implementation, they will be refined and prioritized, and impacts of projects and management actions on adjacent subbasins will be analyzed as part of the project selection process. The SVBGSA Board of Directors will approve projects and management actions that are selected for funding.

Adapting management with the 5-year update. SGMA requires assessment reports every 5 years to assess progress towards sustainability, a description of significant new information or data, and whether the GSP needs to be adapted. The 5-year update will include updating the SVIHM and SVOM with newly collected data and updating model scenarios to reflect both the additional data and refinements in project design or assumptions.

Developing a funding strategy. SVBGSA established a valley-wide Operational Fee to fund the typical annual operational costs of its regulatory program authorized by SGMA, including regulatory activities of management groundwater to sustainability (such as GSP development), day-to-day administrative operations costs, and prudent reserves. The cost is relatively low because SVBGSA can spread its administrative costs over the 6 subbasins it manages. In addition, this GSP provides an estimate of the start-up budget needed to implement this GSP within the Eastside Subbasin. The SVBGSA estimates that these planned activities will cost $888,000 over the first 5 years of implementation in the Eastside Subbasin. The start-up budget does not include funding for implementing specific projects and management actions. For projects funded by SVBGSA or funding SVBGSA raises to contribute to the implementation of projects, this GSP includes a list of potential funding mechanisms, and SVBGSA will evaluate the most appropriate mechanism for each project.

Schedule. Implementation of the Eastside Aquifer Subbasin GSP must be integrated with that of the 5 other GSPs in the Salinas Valley to ensure all subbasins can reach and maintain sustainability. The general implementation schedule for the first 5 years of GSP implementation, provided in the figure below, includes 6 main tasks and DWR's review and approval process. For projects and management actions, implementation will begin with implementation actions and prioritization of projects and management actions to reach sustainability. Throughout GSP implementation, projects and management actions will be continually updated as new data and analyses are available. The GSP is intended to include adaptive management that will refine the implementation and direction of this GSP over time.

General Schedule of 5-Year Start-Up Plan