

# **DWR's Basin Characterization Program**

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# California's Groundwater Connected Activities

### Requirements

CA Water Code 10720.1, 10729, 10920, 12924 Focus - SGMA Basins Water Resilience Portfolio, Water Supply Strategy, Drought/Flood



### DWR is Required to Publish Bulletin - 118, Characterize Groundwater Basins, and Provide Assistance

### CA's Groundwater (B-118) & CA Water Plan (B-160) (Archive & Vision)



### **California's Groundwater Informational Resources**

### California's Groundwater (Bulletin 118) Updates



**Updated every 5 years** 

- CalGW (B-118) consists of:
   >Highlights (English & Spanish)
   >Statewide Report
- Update 2025 in Development
- Target Release Date, Mid & End of 2025
- More Info: water.ca.gov/calgw



Updated twice a year

### Semi-Annual Conditions Updates

#### **California's Groundwater Live**



Updated daily

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## Basin Characterization Program – Overview

### DWR is required to provide assistance, characterize groundwater basins, and update California's Groundwater (Bulletin 118).

### SGMA, Recharge, & GW Applications

- Primary Aquifers
- Extent of Clays
- Recharge Sites
- Interconnected Surface Water (ISW)
- Subsidence Potential
- Base of Fresh Water
- Vulnerable Domestic Wells
- Salinity Mapping

#### **Community of Practice**

- Local, State, & Federal Agencies
- NGOs, Academia, & Private Sector
- Basin Characterization Workgroup





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### Data Archive California's Groundwater



# Statewide AEM Surveys – What we've accomplished



support implementation of SGMA.

When: Summer 2021 - Fall 2023.

fully surveyed).

What: ~16,000 line-miles of data.

- Data collected in reconnaissance grid ~3x13 km (~2x8 mile) line spacing line spacing.
- Coordinated closely with local groundwater managers on areas of interest.

- **Goal**: To improve understanding of large-scale aquifer structure and
- Where: All high- and medium-priority groundwater basins, where data collection was feasible (95 groundwater subbasins partially or

# AEM Method and Data

Send signals into earth and the measure the EM response





# AEM Texture Model for the Central Valley

All interpretations for coarse-grained materials





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All interpretations for coarse-grained materials





# AEM Texture Model for the Central Valley

All interpretations for coarse-grained materials



#### Predominately fine-grained material

### **Comparison of Shallow Texture to Mapped Alluvial Fans**



## AEM Surficial Groundwater Recharge Map for the Central Valley



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Basin Characterization Workgroup

### Tim Parker (Ramboll) Collect & **Compile Data**

Mesut Cayar (W&C) and Matt Tonkin (SSPA) **Integrated Analysis of All Subsurface Data** 









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### **Data Archive** California's Groundwater



### Basin Characterization Program – Collect Data through Pilot Studies

Explore methods, techniques, and analyses that address SGMA initiatives and create guidance for groundwater managers.

### **SGMA** Initiatives

- Groundwater Recharge
- Interconnected Surface Water
- Subsidence
- Base of Fresh Water
- Seawater Intrusion
- Vulnerable Domestic Wells

### **Methodologies**

- Infill AEM
- t-TEM
- FloaTEM
- NMR-logs
- E-logs

### Cone Penetrometer

- Monitoring Wells
- Lithology logs
- Well re-activation
- Aquifer tests

#### Pilot Study 1

SGMA Initiatives: Groundwater recharge, ISW, domestic wells Where: Upper San Joaquin River/Eastern Madera





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Pilot Study 2 SGMA Initiatives: ISW, groundwater recharge, flood mitigation Where: Pajaro Valley





#### Pilot Study 3

SGMA Initiatives: Subsidence, groundwater recharge Where: TBD, San Joaquin Valley



### Basin Characterization Program – Analyses Processes





## Basin Characterization Program – Aquifer Recharge Potential Maps

| Aquifer Recharge<br>Potential Map  | Recharge Method   | Analysis   |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Surficial Shallow                  | <ul> <li>Flood mitigation</li> <li>Surface water<br/>spreading</li> <li>FloodMAR</li> </ul> | Conditions in top 50 feet.                       |
| Surficial Preferential<br>Pathways | <ul> <li>Dedicated surface<br/>groundwater recharge<br/>facilities</li> </ul>               | Connections from surface to deeper aquifer       |
| Preferential Pathways              | Dry Wells   | Connections from below surface to deeper aquifer |
| Deep Storage                       | <ul><li>ASR</li><li>Deep injection</li></ul>  | Available storage space in deep aquifer.         |







## Basin Characterization Program – State-Stewarded Models and Maps

### State-stewarded models and maps updated regularly as new data are collected or digitized.

### Goals for State-Stewarded Maps and Models

- Aquifer Recharge
   Potential
- Texture Model
- Aquifer Storage
- Hydrostratigraphic Model
- Important Aquifers
- Extent of Corcoran Clay
- Depth to Basement
- Base of Fresh Water



![](_page_15_Picture_12.jpeg)

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## Basin Characterization Program – Integration of Efforts

Think globally, act locally. Data collection, tool development and analyses first at local scale, then statewide scale.

### **Basin Characterization Program**

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![](_page_16_Picture_4.jpeg)

Texture Model HSM HCM Components

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![](_page_16_Picture_7.jpeg)

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Local Scale (Pilot Studies)

![](_page_16_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_12.jpeg)

### **Statewide Scale**

## **Basin Characterization Timeline**

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_3.jpeg)

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#### Basin Characterization Workgroup

Tentative Timeline & Activities - Subject to Change

# Thank you!

**Basin Characterization Program Website**:

<u>https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-</u> <u>Management/Bulletin-118/Basin-Characterization</u>

Email: Basin.Characterization@water.ca.gov

![](_page_18_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_5.jpeg)