



County of San Diego

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Notification to New Well Owners: Borrego Valley, San Diego River Valley, San Luis Rey Valley, and San Pasqual Valley Groundwater Basins

The County of San Diego (County) is providing this notification to new well owners located in the Borrego Valley, San Diego River Valley, San Luis Rey Valley, and San Pasqual Valley Groundwater Basins and other interested parties regarding the implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) that may include future requirements that could affect groundwater users within SGMA-mandated basins. It is the intent of the County to provide this information to enable applicants for water well permits to make informed decisions about well installation and groundwater extraction prior to well drilling.

Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs), including the County, have authority to utilize a number of new management tools to achieve groundwater sustainability. Although these management tools have yet to be implemented within the County, they may be applied in the future and include the following:

- Registering and metering groundwater wells;
- Mandating annual extraction and water level reports from individual well owners using more than 2 acre-feet per year (a single-family residence generally uses about one half of an acre-foot per year);
- Imposing limits on extractions;
- Mitigating against groundwater overdraft (pumping more water than recharges naturally);
- Implementing rules and regulations; and
- Assessing fees to support creation and implementation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

If you have any questions regarding SGMA or would like to be included on the *Interested Persons List* to receive periodic SGMA updates, please contact the County SGMA team at:

PDS.LUEGGroundwater@sdcounty.ca.gov.

Background

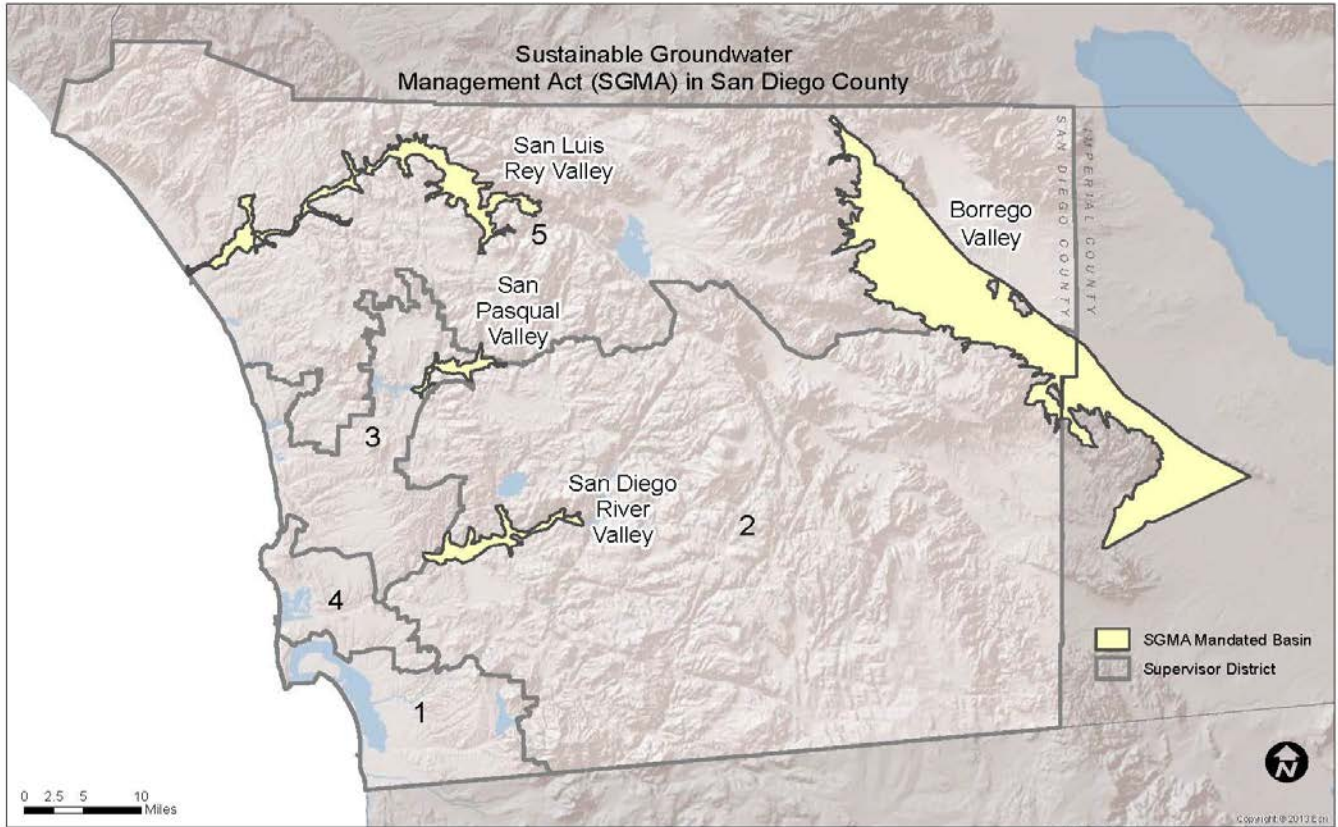
In September 2014, Governor Brown signed SGMA into law. SGMA, which went into effect on January 1, 2015, provides a framework to regulate groundwater for the first time in California's history. The intent of the law is to strengthen local groundwater management of basins most critical to the state's water needs.

SGMA requires basins to be sustainably managed by local public agencies (e.g., counties, cities, and water agencies) who become GSAs. The primary purpose of the GSAs is to develop and implement a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) to achieve long-term groundwater sustainability in the basin.

Sustainable Groundwater Management in San Diego County

In San Diego County, the State has designated four of the county's basins that are subject to SGMA: Borrego Valley, San Diego River Valley, San Luis Rey Valley and San Pasqual Valley.

Notification to Future New Well Owners: Borrego Valley, San Diego River Valley, San Luis Rey Valley, and San Pasqual Valley Groundwater Basins



On January 6, 2016, the County Board of Supervisors became a GSA in Borrego Valley and on August 2, 2016 for the three remaining basins (San Luis Rey Valley, San Diego River Valley and San Pasqual Valley). The County will be sharing the responsibility of managing groundwater in each basin with other local agencies that have chosen to become GSAs.

SGMA Implementation Timeline

The following are deadlines for SGMA Implementation:

Deadline	Action
June 30, 2017	Formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs)
January 31, 2020	Completion of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) for critically overdrafted basins (e.g., Borrego Valley)
January 31, 2022	Completion of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) for other priority basins (e.g., San Diego River, San Luis Rey, and San Pasqual)
20-Year Implementation Period	Implementation of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs)