

# Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)



Office of Research, Planning,  
and Performance

“ Groundwater **management**  
in California is best  
accomplished **locally.** ”

Governor Jerry Brown

The diagram features a central circular node labeled 'SGMA' with a white background and a blue and teal border. Three lines extend from the right side of this circle to three horizontal bars on the right. The top bar is teal and labeled 'GSAs', the middle bar is dark teal and labeled 'DWR', and the bottom bar is dark blue and labeled 'State Water Board'. The entire diagram is set against a light gray background.

**SGMA**

**GSAs**

**DWR**

**State Water Board**

# SGMA in a



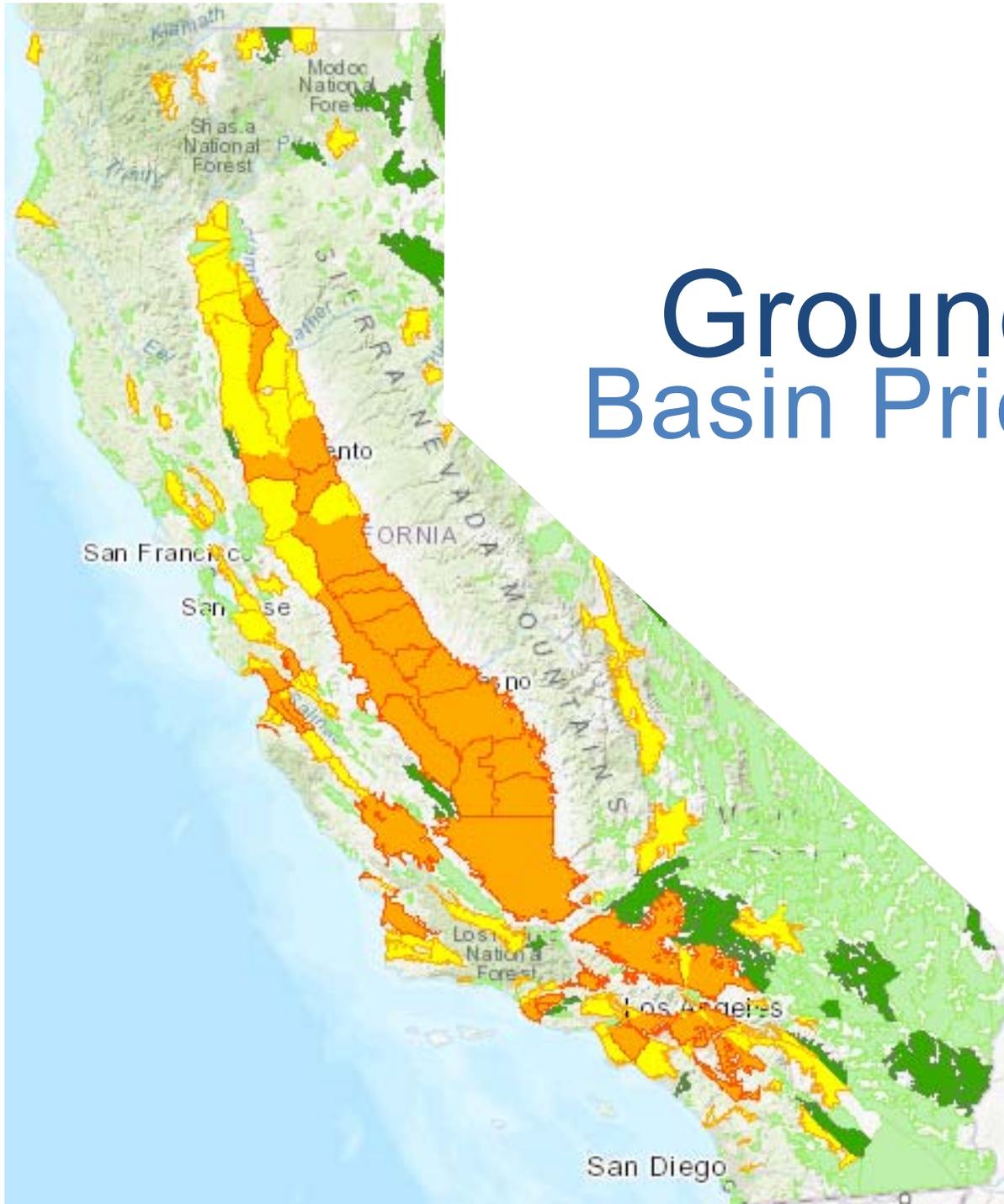
Form  
GSA

Develop  
GSP

Implement  
GSP

Achieve  
Sustainability!

# Groundwater Basin Prioritization



Very Low

Low

Medium

High

# What is Sustainability?

**Basin operated within its sustainable yield  
and not experiencing undesirable results:**



Lowering  
GW Levels



Storage  
Reduction



Seawater  
Intrusion



Degraded  
Quality



Land  
Subsidence



Surface  
Depletion

**Significant and unreasonable...**

**...caused by groundwater conditions  
occurring throughout the basin.**

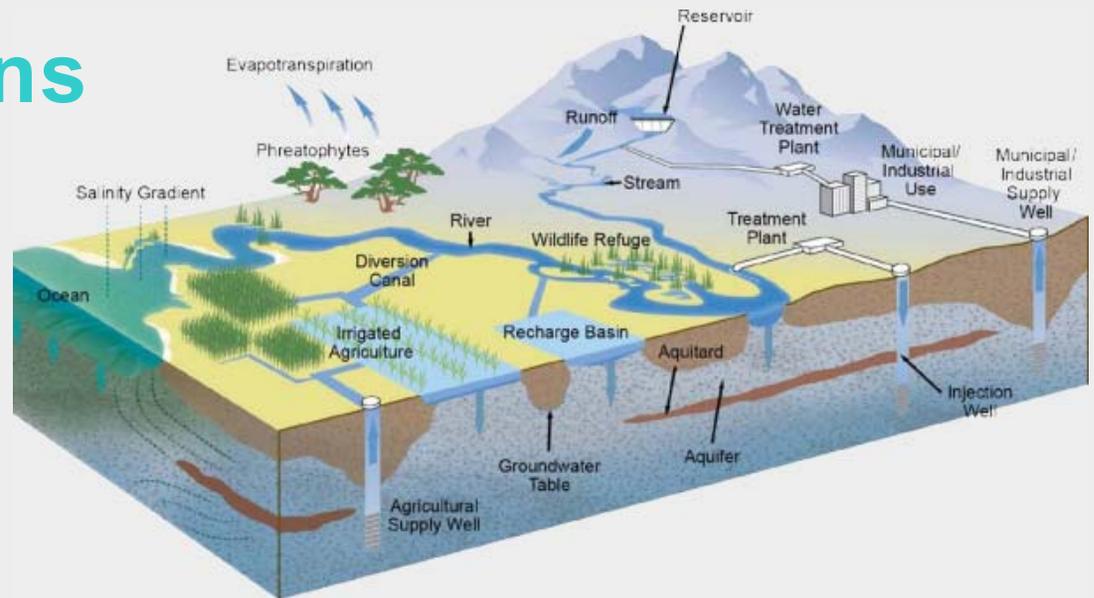
# GSP Elements

Groundwater Conditions

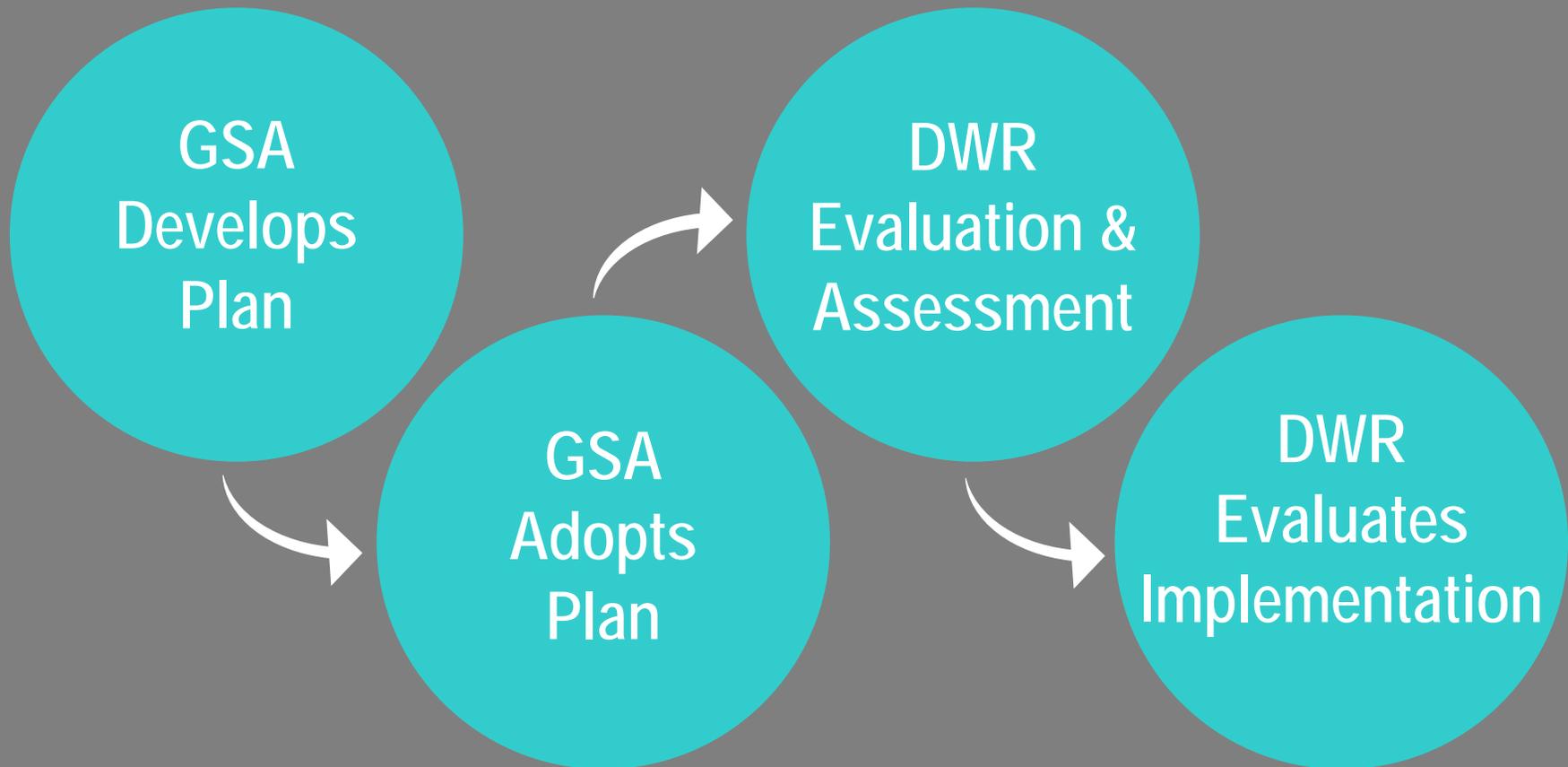
Sustainability Criteria

Monitoring

Projects & Actions



# GSP Review Process



“ [W]here a local groundwater sustainability agency is not managing its groundwater sustainably, **the state needs to protect the resource** until...a local groundwater sustainability agency can sustainably manage the groundwater basin.”

California Legislature

# Board Backstop Basics

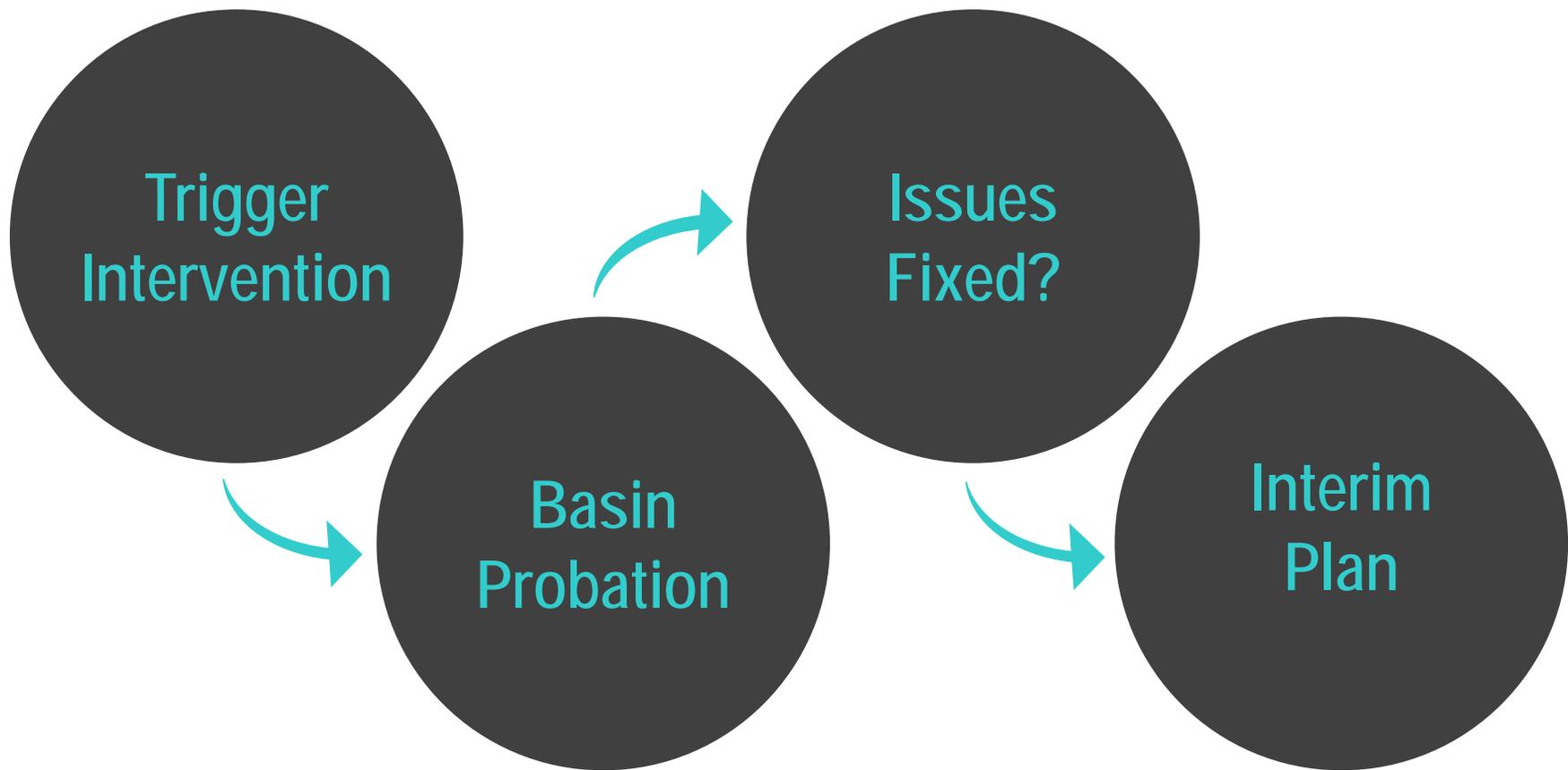
- 1 Board only steps in when local efforts fail.
- 2 Temporarily protects the basin until locals come up-to-speed.
- 3 Backstop is triggered by SGMA deadlines.



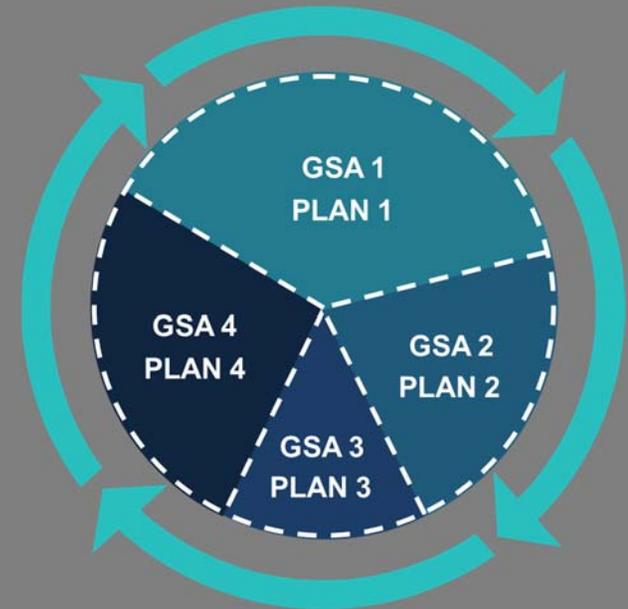
# TRIGGERING the BACKSTOP



# Backstop



# AVOIDING *the* BACKSTOP



# Probationary groundwater BASIN



Opportunity to fix issues



All pumpers report



Board investigations



May require meters



# Reporting Process



# Extraction **REPORTS**

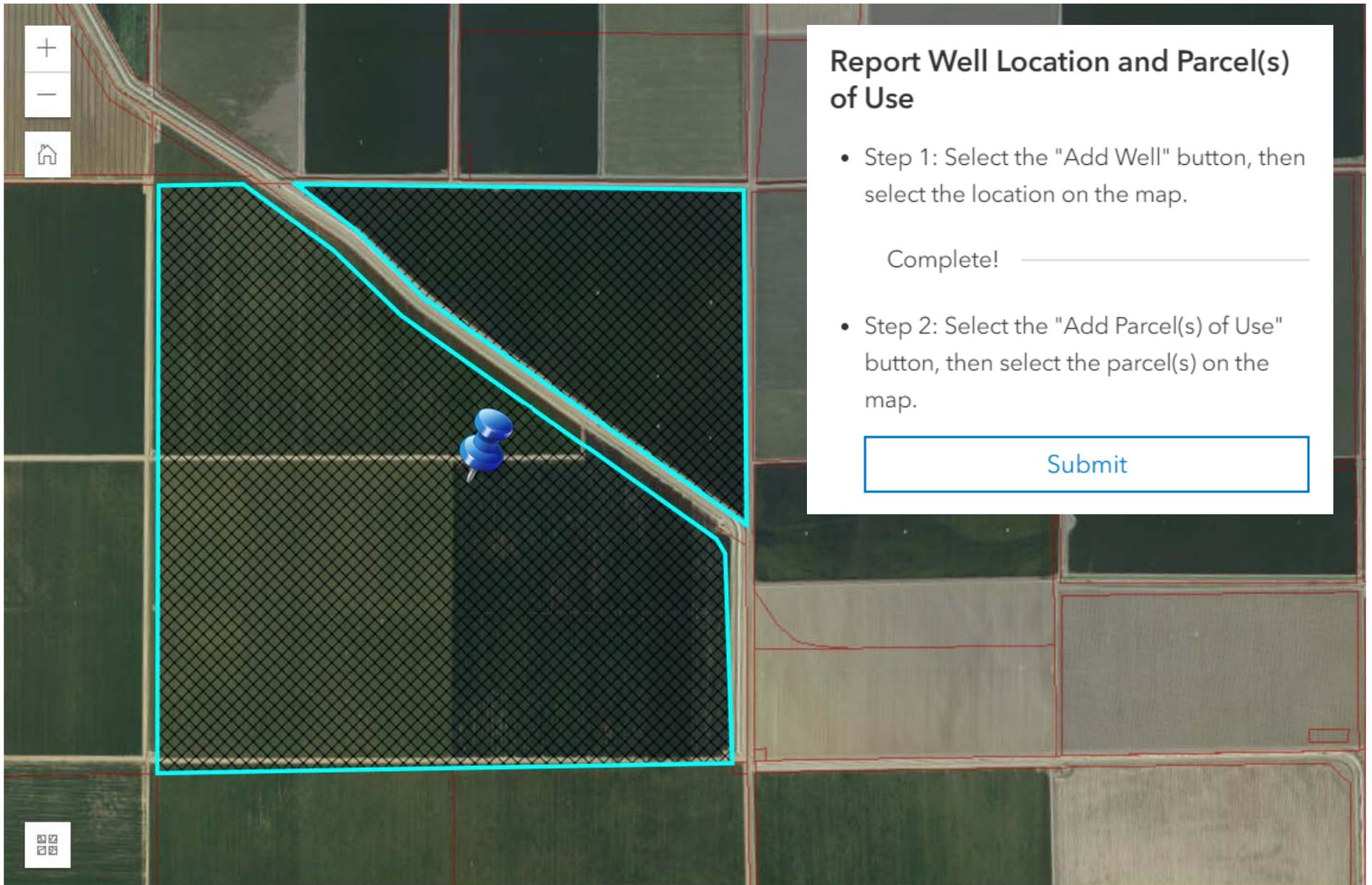
Reports are submitted annually.

Reports require...

- well location & capacity
- monthly extraction volumes
- place & purpose of use

Reports must be filed electronically.

Information on extraction reports is available at [www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/gmp/reporting.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/gmp/reporting.shtml).



## Report Well Location and Parcel(s) of Use

- Step 1: Select the "Add Well" button, then select the location on the map.

Complete! \_\_\_\_\_

- Step 2: Select the "Add Parcel(s) of Use" button, then select the parcel(s) on the map.

Submit

# FEES for intervention

**Base  
Filing Fee**  
(per well)

**\$300**

+

**Volumetric  
Rate**  
(per acre-foot)

Unmanaged  
**\$25**

Probation  
**\$40\***

Interim Plan  
**\$55\***

+

**Late  
Fee**  
(per month)

**25%**

\*special studies extra

# Board INVESTIGATIONS

Board works with individual pumpers

Examination of water rights

Informational orders

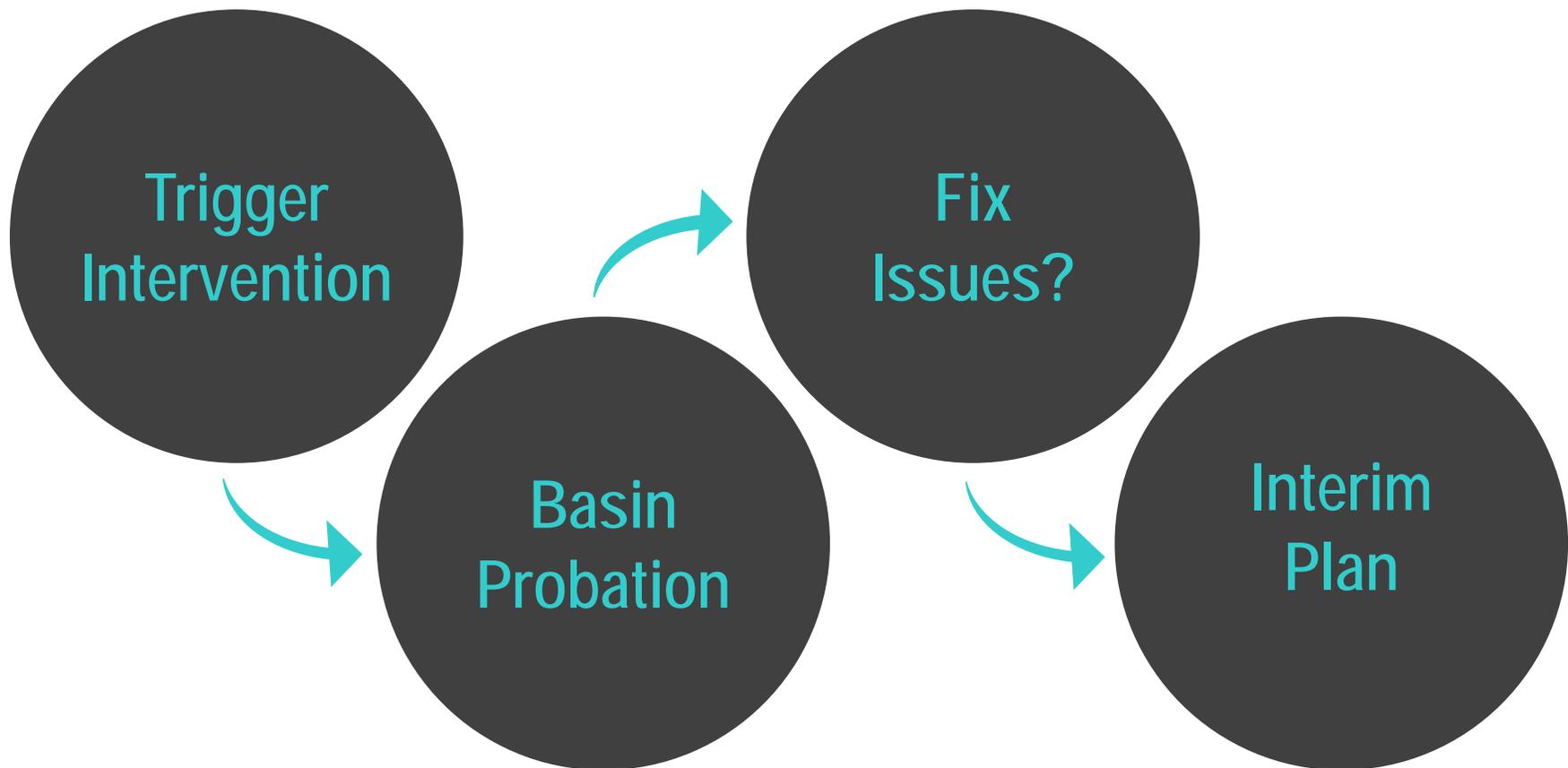
Data transparency

Well registration

Fees



# Backstop





# Physical Solutions

Increase supply

Storm water capture

Develop local supply

Water imports

Desalination

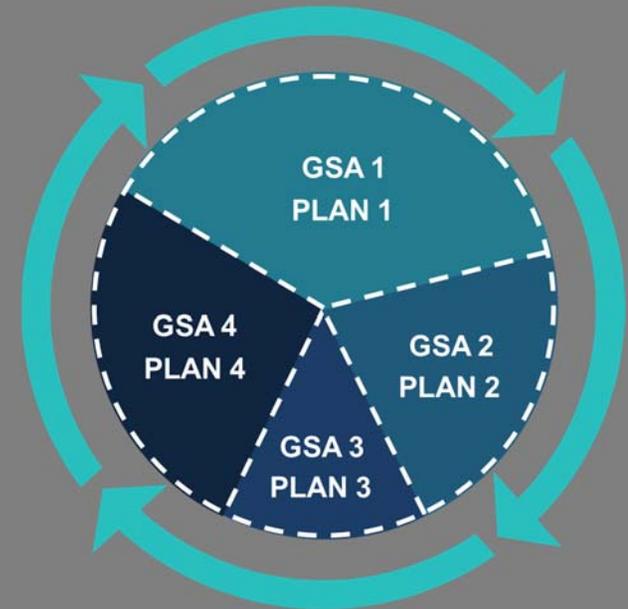
# Demand Management

Decrease demand

Pumping restrictions

\*most likely  
corrective action

# AVOIDING *the* BACKSTOP



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**Groundwater  
Management  
Program**  
[www.waterboards.ca.gov/gmp](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/gmp)