

October 2022 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

Grants

California Grants Portal

The California State Library, in partnership with the Department of Water Resources and other state grantmaking agencies, has launched the California Grants Portal – your one destination to find all state grant and loan opportunities provided on a first-come or competitive basis. Visit grants.ca.gov to find funding opportunities for you and your community.

DWR: IWRM Grant Funding Final Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package Announced

We are pleased to announce the release of the FINAL 2022 IRWM Grant [Program Guidelines](#) and [Proposal Solicitation Package](#) for the [Proposition 1 - Round 2 IRWM Implementation Grant](#). **This solicitation will make approximately \$193 million in grant funding available for IRWM implementation projects.** For more information on the Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Program, visit Implementation Grant Program or e-mail us at: dwr_irwm@water.ca.gov. Application deadlines are August 19, 2022 and February 1, 2023.

NEW: Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Round 2 Now Open

DWR is pleased to announce that the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program's SGMA Implementation Round 2 grant solicitation has officially opened. Round 2 is open to applicants located within medium and high priority basins, including critically overdrafted groundwater basins. The 2021 SGMA Implementation Guidelines (2021 Guidelines) and Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) posted in December 2021 can be located on the [SGM Grant Program's website](#) and will be used for Round 2. Round 2 will provide **approximately \$230 million** (depending upon the upcoming 2023/2024 State Budget Act) for planning and implementation projects to help comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Applications are due by November 30th, 2022 at 5pm.

NEW: Urban Community Drought Relief Grant Program

DWR has released the FINAL 2022 Guidelines/Proposal Solicitation Package (GL/PSP) for the [Urban Community Drought Relief Grant Program](#) for public review. This solicitation will make **approximately \$285 million in grant funding available for drought response projects with a solicitation deadline of January 31, 2023.** The drought relief goal is to address immediate impacts on human health and safety and on fish and wildlife resources, and to provide water to persons or communities that lose or are threatened with the loss or contamination of water supplies. **The final PSP and related information can be found here.**

NEW: Water tank program for dry wells

DWR in partnership with CalOES, DGS, and Water Boards has a new tank program for domestic wells that have gone dry. Eligible Applicants Include: public agencies, public utilities, special districts, colleges and universities, mutual water companies, nonprofit organizations, federally recognized tribes and state tribes listed on the NAHC's consultation list. Under the program, 2,500 gallon tanks are pre-purchased by DWR. The program includes funding for the tanks to be delivered to residence and connected to their existing plumbing with a small pump, and for water hauling to fill the tanks to meet basic health and sanitation needs. For more information contact: smallcommunitydrought@water.ca.gov or Alena Misaghi at (559) 230-3309.

DWR Division of Multi-Benefit Initiatives Delta Levees Special Flood Control Projects 2022: **Coming Soon**

The intent of this Project Solicitation Package is to provide funding for public benefit in accordance with Section 12311 of the California Water Code for Multi-Benefit projects in the California Delta and parts of the Suisan Marsh. Projects targeted for this grant are those that promote levee improvement, habitat enhancement, seismic resiliency, and/or export water supply reliability. Up to \$37 million will be available and the solicitation is expected to open in Spring of 2023. [More information here.](#)

California Financing Coordination Committee Funding Fair

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[The California Financing Coordinating Committee is holding free funding fairs](#) on **October 19 and November 3** to educate the public and potential customers about available funding. The funding fairs also include an opportunity to discuss your projects with financial representatives from each agency. CFCC members facilitate and expedite the completion of various types of infrastructure projects by helping customers combine the resources of different agencies. Presentations will be held from 9 a.m. to about 12:30 p.m. and participants can visit virtual booths from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. to meet with representatives.

Other state & federal grant websites for resources that may be helpful are:

- California Financing Coordinating Committee -- <https://cfcc.ca.gov/>, and
- CalOES grants -- <https://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/grants-management>
- US EPA -- <https://www.epa.gov/grants/specific-epa-grant-programs>, and
- Economic Development Administration -- <https://eda.gov/funding-opportunities/>

Upcoming conferences, webinars, new reports and data

California's Water Supply Strategy: Adapting to a Hotter, Drier Future

August 11, 2022 Governor Newsom announced a new strategic document to manage water in the face of a projected 10% reduction in supplies over the next 20 years. The strategy calls for investing in new sources of water supply, accelerating projects and modernizing how the state manages water through new technology to increase water supply and adapt to more extreme weather patterns caused by climate change. The [full strategy document](#) can be found here and a [press release here](#).

NEW: DWR Releases the Latest California's Groundwater Conditions, Semi-Annual Update

The new water year began on October 1, and the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released the latest version of [California's Groundwater Conditions, Semi-Annual Update: October 2022](#). This update is part of a suite of groundwater data, tools, and publications under the umbrella of [DWR's California's Groundwater \(Bulletin 118\)](#) and provides information on statewide groundwater levels, land subsidence, and well infrastructure, including dry well reporting, and summarizes the effects of the current and historical drought periods on California's groundwater conditions.

Web-Based Mapping Tool Showing Nearly 3,000 Groundwater Sustainability Projects

The Department of Resources (DWR) is pleased to announce the development of a new web-based interactive mapping tool that will allow the public to explore thousands of groundwater projects initiated in California over the last decade. There are various filters to quickly identify projects in a basin, subbasin, legislative district, county, and many others. The tool focuses on project benefits and effectiveness in relationship to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Sustainability Indicators. **The Press Release with more information on the tool and other resources provided by DWR can be [found here](#). The [web tool can be viewed here](#).**

County Drought Plan Requirements for State Small Water Systems and Domestic Wells

DWR and the State Water Resources Control Board will host a series of webinars on their development of a guidebook for preparing county drought plans. The plans will focus on helping small water systems and rural communities. The [first two of the four webinars were held in June and August](#) and the [recording of the 6/2/22 workshop](#) and the [8/31/22 workshops](#) can be viewed here. The webinar included a review of the requirements in [Senate Bill 552](#) that cover drought planning.

FREE Leak Detection for Small Water Systems

Protecting California's water supply is more important than ever as we brace for another year of drought conditions. The California Rural Water Association (CRWA), in partnership with the Department of Water Resources, is offering FREE leak detection surveys for small water systems. **If you are a small (including Tribal) water system with 3,000 connections or less, sign up for a free leak detection survey today! Please contact Ruby Viramontes at: rviramontes@calruralwater.org to get started.**

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Executive Order N-7-22

On March 28, 2022 Governor Newsom signed [Executive Order N-7-22](#), which **included new well permitting requirements (Action 9) as well as CEQA exemptions and permit streamlining for FloodMAR projects (Action 13)**. The materials including a fact sheets, recording and presentation materials from the April 13th and a self-certification form for the CEQA waiver are now posted on DWR's Drought Webpage, under the 'Drought Well Permitting Requirements' and the 'CEQA Suspension on Groundwater Recharge Projects' accordion dropdowns: <https://water.ca.gov/water-basics/drought>.

NEW: Bagley-Keene Open Meetings Act Teleconferencing Authorization Extended Until July 1, 2023

[Senate Bill \(SB\) 189, Item \(20\)](#), which was approved by Governor Newsom on June 30, 2022, authorizes state entities to hold public meetings, subject to specified notice and accessibility requirements, through teleconferencing and making public meetings accessible telephonically or otherwise electronically to the public, as specified. The bill would suspend certain requirements of existing law, including the requirements that each teleconference location be accessible to the public and that members of the public be able to address the state body at each teleconference location. The bill also sunsets these provisions as of July 1, 2023.

DWR's Climate Change Program Resources

DWR's Climate change program has lots of initiatives including resources for water managers. Check out their [webpage](#) and [factsheet](#) here.

Webpage for CA Water Plan Update 2023 Published by DWR

DWR has unveiled the new webpage for [California Water Plan Update 2023](#). The California Water Plan is updated every five years. It is the State's strategic plan for managing and developing California's water resources. Update 2023 will emphasize climate change adaptation, regional and watershed resilience, and water equity. Video recordings of the meetings [are available here](#). [Registration is now open](#) for an **October 27th workshop** to present draft content for the 2023 update.

DWR and the State Water Resources Control Board have released [principles and strategies for groundwater management and drinking water wells](#). The document provides a framework for the development of drought-resistant communities. Approximately 82 percent of Californians rely on groundwater for some portion of their drinking water or other household uses. A [Spanish version](#) of the draft is available.

California's Groundwater Live: Up-to-date data on groundwater conditions, well installations and subsidence

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) released the final [California's Groundwater – Update 2020 \(Bulletin-118\)](#), containing information on the condition of the State's groundwater, DWR has also developed a companion web-based application called [California's Groundwater Live](#) (CalGW Live), leveraging the [California Natural Resources Agency Open Data Platform](#) (Open Data) to improve the access and timeliness of statewide groundwater information. The easy-to-use interface will make many of the data sets used in CalGW Update 2020 available in an interactive map format that will be updated regularly for viewing and downloading. For more information, visit the updated [California's Groundwater website](#) Contact: CalGW@water.ca.gov.

OpenET makes tracking water use data easier with satellite data

A space-based tool is ready to help track water in the western U.S. Using data from satellites, [Open Evapotranspiration](#) (OpenET) gives farmers and other water users information on how much of their water loss ends up as evapotranspiration. The OpenET data are available for 17 western states, including the Colorado River basin area.

Delta Conveyance

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DRAFT EIR Now Available for public review and comment extended through December 16, 2022.

Members of the public and other interested parties can submit comments on the Draft EIR in the following ways: Email: deltaconveyancecomments@water.ca.gov, Online: www.deltaconveyanceproject.com, U.S. Mail: CA Department of Water Resources, Attn: Delta Conveyance Office, P.O. Box 942836, Sacramento, CA 94236-0001 or during Virtual Public Hearing:

The key aspects of the [Delta Conveyance Project](#) are illustrated in a [new story map](#) published by DWR. In addition to covering the elements of the conveyance project, the story map provides a tour of the State Water Project and its vital role in delivering to 27 million Californians, 750,000 acres of farmland, and businesses throughout California. There are also links to resources that provide expanded information on various topics. 3 new videos are available as well.

- Episode 1: [What is Delta Conveyance?](#)
- Episode 2: [Why is California's Major Water Supply at Risk?](#)
- Episode 3: [How Will the Delta Conveyance Project Protect our Water Supplies?](#)

SGMA & Drought

NEW: Save the Date: Fall 2022 GSA Forum

DWR is hosting a virtual Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Forum for GSA members and representatives on November 9, 2022, from 9:00 AM to noon. The Forum will be a platform for GSAs to come together to engage, exchange ideas, and establish professional networks. The Fall 2022 GSA Forum will include a panel discussion with up to five representatives from different GSAs, focused on how the GSAs have approached funding SGMA implementation. A diverse group of GSAs will be represented to showcase various geographic locations, governance structures, and funding approaches. Each panelist will provide a brief presentation, followed by a Q&A session with the audience.

Update Your GSA and GSP Manager Point of Contact Information in DWR's SGMA Portal

If your GSA and/or GSP Plan Manager Point of Contact (POC) is not current, or you are not sure, please visit the SGMA Portal to ensure that your contact information is up-to-date. When logged in, the Portal allows edits to be made to previously submitted contact information. If you have SGMA Portal questions, please email them to: GSPSubmittal@water.ca.gov.

Dry Well Susceptibility Map

The DWR, in coordination with the State Water Resources Control Board, has developed an interactive mapping tool, called the Dry Well Susceptibility Tool. This tool identifies areas within groundwater basins that may be prone to water supply shortages in drinking water wells. State and local agencies and well owners can use this tool to anticipate where wells may go dry based on historical conditions to inform drought preparedness decision-making. To use this tool, navigate to [California's Groundwater Live website](#) and click the [Dry Domestic Well Susceptibility tab](#). A fact sheet on this tool, as well as DWR's Dry Well Reporting System, [is available here](#).

Dry Well Reporting Site

There is a website available to [report private wells going dry](#). Information reported to this site is intended to inform state and local agencies on drought impacts on household water supplies. The data reported on this site (excluding personal identifiable information) can be viewed on the [SGMA data viewer](#) or downloaded on the [CNRA Atlas](#). Individuals or local agencies can report water shortages and [a list of resources are included on the webpage](#). The reporting forms are available in both English and Spanish. Local agencies can now sign up to receive notifications of any dry wells reported in their area. To sign up please email sgmps@water.ca.gov.

DWR is developing eight Proposition 68-funded technical projects

These projects include airborne electromagnetic surveys, improving groundwater elevation and quality monitoring networks, Statewide land use data collection, improved subsidence monitoring network, installing and

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maintaining stream gauges, maintaining and enhancing statewide well completion reports, managing and reporting sustainable groundwater information, and enhancing and maintaining DWR's modeling tools. Fact sheets on each project can be viewed under the "Prop 68" tab [here](#).

- [AEM webpage](#) contains information on the how the process works, safety, schedule, data submission by GSAs, TAC, pilot study data and more. Public webinar was held **June 8th 12:00 – 1:00**, a [recording can be viewed here](#) and [handouts can be downloaded here](#). **NEW:** Draft Airborne Electromagnetic (AEM) resistivity data for the Southern San Joaquin Valley have been published on the [California Natural Resources Agency Open Data Portal](#). The dataset can also be viewed online on the [AEM Data Viewer](#). DWR's AEM surveys will continue this Fall in the Monterey Bay Area. Visit the AEM Survey Schedule webpage for more information on the tentative data publication dates.
- **2019 Statewide Crop Mapping data was released in July of 2022** and includes multi-cropping information. The 2019 dataset includes agricultural land use and urban boundaries for all 58 counties in California.
- **InSAR subsidence data is now available through July 1 of 2022** and can now be viewed on the [SGMA data viewer](#). The updated GIS services and data reports are also available [online](#). Future data will be released on a quarterly basis.

Facilitation Support Services (FSS): [Funding still available](#)

- GSA's developing GSPs are eligible to receive funding for identification and engagement of interested parties, meeting facilitation, interest-based negotiation/consensus building, and public outreach facilitation
- More information [can be found here](#). [Written translation services available in 8 languages for outreach materials \(5,000 word maximum\)](#).