Quarterly Status Update of GSP Implementation

SCV GSA Board Meeting
June 1, 2026
Item No. 3.2

KEY UPDATES

- May 2026 meeting with DWR and conversation about progress addressing DWRs recommended corrective actions
- Second round of groundwater quality sampling at newly constructed monitoring wells
- Non De Minimis Extraction Reporting
- Six Month Look Ahead

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ACTIONS LEADING UP TO SUBMITTAL OF PERIODIC EVALUATION LATE 2026.

- Continue workshops- fourth workshop is in July
- Continue outreach efforts (social media, email lists, press releases, etc.)
- Regular GSA BoD Meetings
- Draft Periodic Evaluation public review
- Review of Final Draft Periodic Evaluation and Public Hearing

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RECOMMENDED CORRECTIVE ACTION NO. 1

- *Data gap and uncertainty in the hydrogeologic conceptual model and impacts to flow model predictions, sustainable yield, and subsidence estimates.*

- Key Actions by SCV GSA Team
  - Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model updated with new surface Geophysical data, and borehole data last year
  - Current effort is detailed review of E Logs to qualitatively consider potential for subsidence.
  - No evidence of inelastic subsidence
  - We will evaluate sustainable yield with updated flowmodel

- Challenges
  - Data gaps will remain in canyon areas with domestic wells. We will evaluate the important of this data gap moving forward
  - Evaluating inelastic land subsidence potential when there is no evidence of subsidence is a challenge

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RECOMMENDED CORRECTIVE ACTION NO. 2

- *Describe specific Undesirable results related to chronic lowering of groundwater levels*

- Key Actions by SCV GSA Team
  - Great progress on incorporating DWRs recommendation to better connect undesirable results to “actual” undesirable results with low groundwater elevations.
  - We now classify undesirable results to water levels set closer to (but not at) the pump bowls.
  - These values are lower than what is approved in the GSP, so minimum thresholds may go lower in some alluvial and Saugus wells.

- Challenges- GDE monitoring wells
  - Two piezometers destroyed, a third pending destruction due to uncontrolled erosion, a fourth OK, but the stream migrated away from it.
  - Because empirical data of undesirable results does not exist setting minimum requires flowmodel simulations
  - Long term monitoring and evaluation

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RECOMMENDED CORRECTIVE ACTION NO. 3

- *Describe undesirable results pertaining to contaminants and select RMS to monitor contaminant concentrations (Water quality SMC).*

- Key Actions by SCV GSA Team
  - Big success in installing groundwater monitoring wells (thanks for the grant money DWR!)
  - Consistent with DWR recommendations for contaminants, will establish sentry wells for regional perchlorate plume and better describe management actions
  - Note management actions are like what we already do (raise concern with state regulatory agencies)

- Challenges
  - In practice we find our approved GSPs inorganic water quality monitoring, and its tests for undesirable results is not working well to identify undesirable results related to groundwater extraction.
  - Though not a recommended corrective action by DWR, we need to make some clarifications and rely less on the SNMP process.

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RECOMMENDED CORRECTIVE ACTION NO. 4

- *Consider DWR guidance on ISW*
- *Key Actions by SCV GSA Team*
  - *Commented on earlier draft DWR Papers*
  - *Consistent with approved GSP, the SCV GSA has conducted 5 Consecutive years of field monitoring key GDE areas and wells to document and improve our understanding.*
  - *We will consider final DWR guidance to the extent we can in this Periodic Evaluation cycle.*

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KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM THE MEETING WITH DWR

- The absence of DWR's final Interconnected Surface Water Guidance is a known concern among GSAs. DWR is primarily interested in seeing progress and, where practical, recommends considering the draft guidance in ongoing evaluations

- DWR advised us to be sure to communicate with the downstream Piru and Filmore Basin GSA

- For water quality topics, DWR is primarily interested in whether groundwater pumping is exacerbating existing water quality issues or contaminant concentrations

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UPCOMING WORKSHOP 4: JULY 22, 2026. GROUNDWATER FLOW MODEL AND REVISED SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT CRITERIA FOR WATER LEVELS

Provide written descriptions for undesirable results relating to low groundwater levels. A clarification to address DWR's recommended corrective action

For example: *"***Inability to meet future groundwater demand for municipal, agricultural, and domestic uses due to declining groundwater levels caused by pumping"**

Establishing the written description is Step 1

Step 2 includes establishing minimum thresholds and then evaluating these with the groundwater flowmodel

Flow model simulations for future pumping will advise us if future pumping would result in groundwater elevations going below any minimum thresholds

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GSP PERIODIC EVALUATION (OTHER KEY EVENTS)

August 3 or 5, 2026	Special GSA Meeting/Present Public Draft PE
September 1	Issue Public Notice of 30-Day Public Comment Period
September 1-30	30 Day Public Review
October 5	Regular GSA Meeting, Summarize Public Comment on the Draft PE
October 5-31	Prepare Final Draft PE
November 2 or 4	Special GSA Meeting and present Final Draft
November (tbd)	Issue 30 Day Public Notice for Adopting PE
December 7 or 14	Special GSA Meeting Public Hearing
December (tbd)	Submit Periodic Evaluation to DWR

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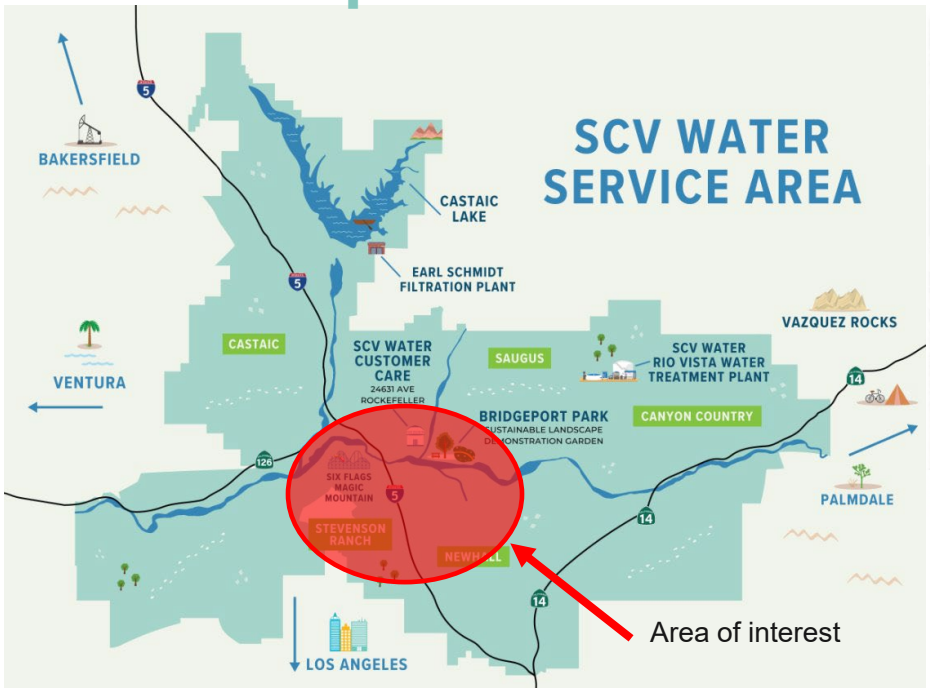
EXPANDED MONITORING IN THE UPPER SANTA CLARA RIVER BASIN

Location Map



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JUNE 30 DEADLINE FOR NON DE MINIMIS EXTRACTION REPORTING

- Outreach and Forms Completed and Website Updated
- Well registration and metering paperwork has come in for selected wells
  - Some well owners have not been responsive (yet), and by end of June we will know the degree (if any) where the GSA may need to take additional action to complete this effort.

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SIX MONTH LOOK AHEAD

- Advancement of the Periodic Evaluation will continue including:
  - Outreach, Workshops, BoD meetings
  - Flow Model update
  - Technical work
  - Consultant contract management
- Continue tracking non de minimis reporting compliance

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