# SGMA & Santa Margarita Basin Conditions

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### What is SGMA?

- Intent of the 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) is for groundwater to be managed sustainably in California's groundwater basins by local public agencies and groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs)
- In basins designated by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) as medium and high priority, local public agencies and GSAs are required to develop and implement groundwater sustainability plans (GSPs)
- Medium priority basins' GSPs are to be submitted to DWR by January 31, 2022

# Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency Responsibility

- Lead communication, outreach, and engagement efforts within the basin
- Develop and implement a GSP, and complete 5-year GSP updates
- Monitor, evaluate, and report progress towards achieving sustainability goals





#### Required SGMA Elements for Addressing Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water

- SGMA requires the identification of interconnected surface waters, and of Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs) (§354.16 (f)(g))
  - Assess the rate of depletion and if the depletion of surface water is causing a Significant and Unreasonable impact
  - If conditions are significant and unreasonable, they cannot get worse than they were on Jan 1, 2015
- GSA must set Minimum Thresholds and Measurable Objectives to prevent further significant and unreasonable impacts
- GSA must define Undesirable Results based on a combination of minimum threshold exceedances

## Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water

- Since SGMA is a groundwater management act, groundwater contribution to streamflow is the only component of streamflow that the GSA is responsible for
  - In areas where groundwater is connected to surface water, and
  - In areas where groundwater is used

- Groundwater management under SGMA should not be used to compensate for:
  - Dry years
  - Changes to runoff that are not related to GSP implementation
  - Changes to or impacts from in-stream diversions

## Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water

- 1. Understand the portion of streamflow that comprises groundwater
- 2. Understand the timing and significance of groundwater's contribution to beneficial users of surface water
- Ensure that groundwater management and groundwater use under the GSP does not cause significant & unreasonable impacts to beneficial users of surface water









Santa Margarita, Lompico and Butano are principal aquifers



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This is very conceptual also inflow from surface water happening



SM Levels change relative to climate and also pumping cycles



Add aquifer subareas and muni production wells screened in SM plus private wells Quail and Pas MW2 are not current



Monterey Fm probably pumped by priv pumpers throughout basin – no other GWL data except in south Well 9

Data gap that needs to be filled with GSP monitoring network – wells in non municipal areas

PAUSE



Not much exposure at surface for recharge, area where Monterey is missing – important recharge area Predominately muni pumping, some private wells 150-200 ft decline Pumped too much **PAUSE** 



No environmental or quarry pumping anymore



Add aquifer subareas and muni production wells screened in SM plus private wells



Hydrograph is both Lom/Butano No other wells with data, need dedicated monitoring well **PAUSE** 



