

Enterprise-Anderson Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)?

SGMA is a law that requires local agencies to manage groundwater use to avoid undesirable results. All groundwater basins rated medium or high priority in Department of Water Resources Bulletin 118 must create a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) and a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), or the State will step in to manage groundwater. For more information visit:

http://www.water.ca.gov/cagroundwater/docs/sgma_brochure_jan_2015.pdf

What is the Enterprise Anderson Groundwater Sustainability Agency (EAGSA)? The EAGSA is comprised of Shasta County, City of Anderson, City of Redding, Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District, Bella Vista Water District, and Clear Creek Community Services District. The purpose of the EAGSA is to sustainably manage the Enterprise and Anderson subbasins and comply with SGMA, while keeping taxpayer costs down. The GSA formed with a memorandum of understanding on June 30, 2017 and plans to develop a GSP by January 31, 2022. The EAGSA is responsible for sustainably managing groundwater in the Enterprise and Anderson subbasins. The EAGSA will develop and implement a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

Any local public agency that has water supply, water management, or land use responsibilities in a basin can become a GSA. Two GSA's cannot overlap. More GSA Information can be found at:

http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/pdfs/DWR_GSA_FAQ_2016-01-07.pdf

What is a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)?

A GSP is a long-term plan to sustainably manage groundwater and prevent undesirable results. The legislation lists six undesirable results: chronic lowering of groundwater levels, reduction of groundwater storage, seawater intrusion, degraded water quality, land subsidence, and depletion of interconnected surface water. Some undesirable results are non-issues in the Redding Basin, but all must be considered in the GSP. A guide for the GSP regulations can be found at:

http://water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/pdfs/GSP_Final_Regs_Guidebook.pdf

Is there a GSP for the Anderson and Enterprise Subbasins?

The EAGSA is working on the planning process now. The EAGSA has contracted Jacobs Engineering, Redding, CA to help study the groundwater basin and write the Groundwater Sustainability Plan. They have hired Kearns & West, a public outreach consultant to help stakeholders learn about their groundwater planning process and provide input to the plan. The EAGSA anticipates adopting the GSP prior to the 2022 deadline.

In the interim, groundwater is managed in accordance with the Coordinated AB3030 Groundwater Management Plan, adopted by the County in May 2007. The AB 3030 plan can be found at:

http://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/pw_index/engineering/water_agency/ab3030_plan.aspx

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How can we maintain local control of our groundwater?

Local agencies have formed the EAGSA to maintain local control of groundwater resources and management. If groundwater resources matter to you, please contact the EAGSA to join the Interested Parties list and contribute to sustainable groundwater management.

Does Shasta County have a groundwater problem?

There are no known problems with the Redding Area Groundwater Basin. The State has identified both Enterprise and Anderson subbasins as medium priority – meaning they are not in critical condition. This rating is mostly based on a heavy weighting of the criteria for population overlying the basin and its dependence on groundwater.

To view a complete map of all alluvial groundwater basins in California and their rating, go to <https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/gicima/>. On the upper left side of the page, click on the “Boundaries” tab and then check the box next to “CASGEM Groundwater Basin Prioritization”.

How could the Groundwater Sustainability Plan affect me?

Groundwater users will need to work together to make sure that the use of groundwater supplies are not consistently decreasing groundwater, taking too much water away from rivers and wetlands, nor making the ground settle or sink.

If you own a well or rent a home that uses a well, the sustainable management of groundwater could help ensure that your well doesn't go dry due to others' groundwater use. If you enjoy fishing, duck hunting or other water-related recreation, this sustainable management could ensure that groundwater use does not damage the wildlife habitat that is dependent on groundwater supplies. If you irrigate lands for agriculture or ranching, the EAGSA seeks to ensure that your groundwater supply will be predictable and reliable to sustain your and your family's livelihood. Studying the groundwater basin will improve our understanding of our groundwater supply and how to manage it to support future community and economic prosperity.

How do I get involved?

- Contact Shasta County Public Works at (530) 225-5661 to be added to the Interested Parties list for email updates on the planning process.
- Come to the EAGSA Board meetings each trimester in April, August, and December.
- Participate in Public Workshops in August/September 2019 and August/September 2020 to learn and provide your values, objectives, data needs, and alternatives for the future.
- Learn more at the EAGSA website: <https://www.cityofredding.org/departments/public-works/eagsa> where you can find Board meeting minutes and maps.
- Attend your local water supplier's Board meeting to learn more.