

Glossary for the Livermore Valley Alternate Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Alternative – refers to an alternative to a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

Annual report – refers to the yearly report required by Water Code Section 10728.

Aquifer – a body of permeable rock which can contain or transmit groundwater.

Areal Recharge Model – A model that estimates recharge from irrigation and direct soil infiltration of precipitation.

Basin – a groundwater basin or subbasin identified and defined in Bulletin 118 or as modified pursuant to Water Code 10722 et seq.

Basin setting – the information about the physical setting, characteristics, and current conditions of the basin as described by the Agency in the hydrogeologic conceptual model, the groundwater conditions, and the water budget, pursuant to Subarticle 2 of Article 5.

Best available science – the use of sufficient and credible information and data, specific to the decision being made and the time frame available for making that decision, that is consistent with scientific and engineering professional standards of practice.

Best management practice – a practice, or combination of practices, that are designed to achieve sustainable groundwater management and have been determined to be technologically and economically effective, practicable, and based on best available science.

CASGEM – California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program developed by the DWR pursuant to Water Code Section 10920 et seq., or as amended.

Data gap – a lack of information that significantly affects the understanding of the basin setting or evaluation of the efficacy of Plan implementation and could limit the ability to assess whether a basin is being sustainably managed.

Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem (GDE) – ecological communities or species that depend on groundwater emerging from aquifers or on groundwater occurring near the ground surface.

Groundwater flow – the volume and direction of groundwater movement into, out of, or throughout a basin.

Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) – Zone 7, a groundwater sustainability agency as defined in the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

Historic Low – the lowest groundwater level at any time.

Interconnected surface water – When groundwater rises to an elevation where it becomes, and/or remains, a part of a surface water body. Surface water can drain from a water body over time if the surrounding groundwater levels drop.

Interested parties – persons and entities on the list of interested persons established by the Agency pursuant to Water Code Section 10723.4.

Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (InSAR) – an effective way to measure changes in land surface altitude. InSAR makes high-density measurements over large areas by using radar signals from Earth-orbiting satellites to measure changes in land-surface altitude.

Interim milestone – refers to a target value representing measurable groundwater conditions, in increments of five years, set by an Agency as part of a Plan.

Management area – refers to an area within a basin for which the Plan may identify different minimum thresholds, measurable objectives, monitoring, or projects and management actions based on differences in water use sector, water source type, geology, aquifer characteristics, or other factors.

Measurable Objectives (MO) – specific, quantifiable goals for the maintenance or improvement of specified groundwater conditions that have been included in an adopted Plan to achieve the sustainability goal for the basin.

Minimum Threshold (MT) – a numeric value for each sustainability indicator used to define undesirable results.

NAD83 – North American Datum of 1983 is a horizontal datum computed by the National Geodetic Survey.

NAVD88 – North American Vertical Datum of 1988 computed by the National Geodetic Survey.

Plain language – language that the intended audience can readily understand and use because that language is concise, well-organized, uses simple vocabulary, avoids excessive acronyms and overly technical language.

Plan – a groundwater sustainability plan.

Plan implementation – an Agency's exercise of the powers and authorities described in the Act, which commences after an Agency adopts and submits a Plan or Alternative to the Department and begins exercising such powers and authorities.

Plan manager – an employee or authorized representative of an Agency, or Agencies, appointed through a coordination agreement or other agreement, who has been delegated management authority for submitting the Plan and serving as the point of contact between the Agency and the Department.

Principal aquifers – aquifers or aquifer systems that store, transmit, and yield significant or economic quantities of groundwater to wells, springs, or surface water systems.

Recharge – a hydrologic process, where water moves downward from surface water to groundwater.

Reference point – a permanent, stationary and readily identifiable mark or point on a well, such as the top of casing, from which groundwater level measurements are taken, or other monitoring site.

Representative monitoring site – a monitoring site within a broader network of sites that typifies one or more conditions within the basin or an area of the basin.

Seasonal high – the highest annual static groundwater elevation that is typically measured in the Spring and associated with stable aquifer conditions following a period of lowest annual groundwater demand.

Seasonal low – refers to the lowest annual static groundwater elevation that is typically measured in the Fall and is associated with a period of stable aquifer conditions following a period of highest annual groundwater demand.

Seawater intrusion – the advancement of seawater into a groundwater supply that results in degradation of water quality in the basin and includes seawater from any source.

Statutory deadline – the date by which an Agency must be managing a basin pursuant to an adopted Plan, as described in Water Code Sections 10720.7 or 10722.4.

Sustainability Indicator (SI) – any of the effects caused by groundwater conditions occurring throughout the basin that, when significant and unreasonable, cause undesirable results, as described in Water Code Section 10721(x).

Uncertainty – a lack of understanding of the basin setting that significantly affects an Agency's ability to develop sustainable management criteria and appropriate projects and management actions in a Plan, or to evaluate the efficacy of Plan implementation, and therefore may limit the ability to assess whether a basin is being sustainably managed.

Urban water management plan (UWMP) – refers to a plan adopted pursuant to the Urban Water Management Planning Act as described in Part 2.6 of Division 6 of the Water Code, commencing with Section 10610 et seq.

Water source type – the source from which water is derived to meet the applied beneficial uses, including groundwater, recycled water, reused water, and surface water sources identified as Central Valley Project, the State Water Project, the Colorado River Project, local supplies, and local imported supplies.

Water use sector – categories of water demand based on the general land uses to which the water is applied, including urban, industrial, agricultural, managed wetlands, managed recharge, and native vegetation.

Water year – refers to the period from October 1 through the following September 30.

Water year type – refers to the classification provided by the Department to assess the amount of annual precipitation in a basin.