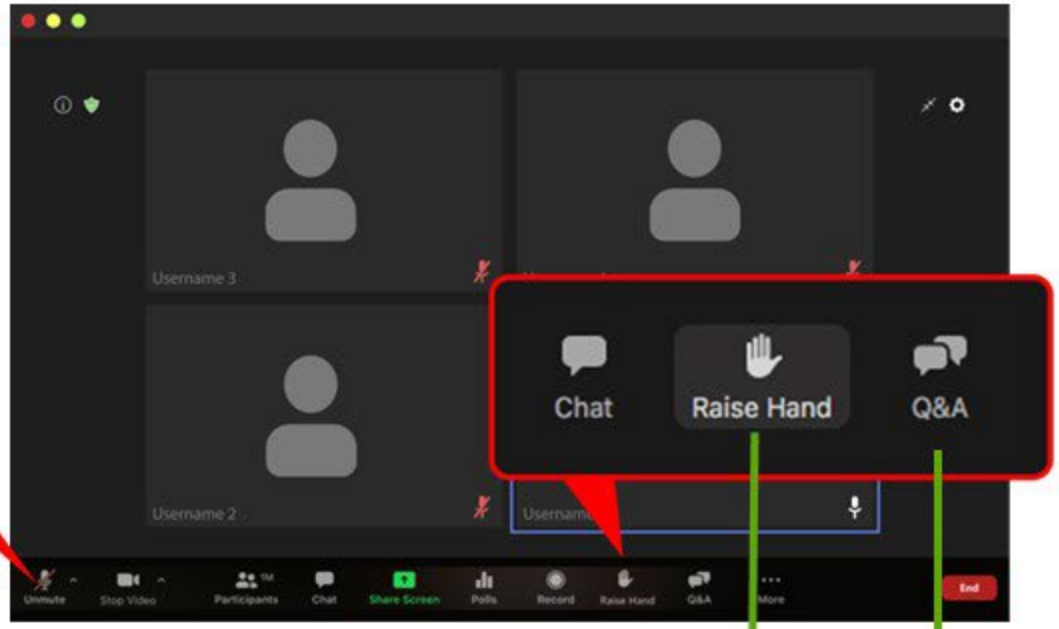
Valley Water

Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection

Thank you for joining us. We will be starting our meeting shortly.

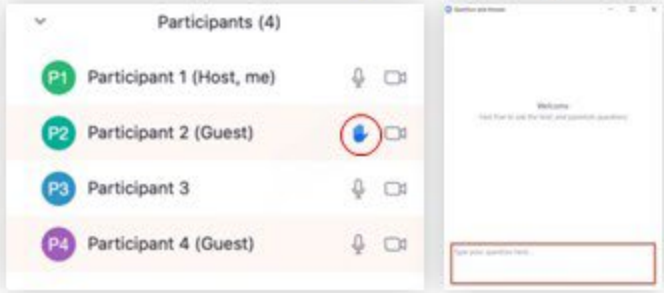
Zoom Webinar Instructions

JOIN COMPUTER AUDIO



If internet is unstable, use Phone Audio

- Check your invite/email for call-in number and meeting ID
- Dial call-in number: **1-669-900-9128**
- Enter webinar ID then #

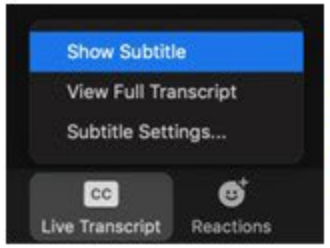


ASK A QUESTION

- After we enable your mic, you have to unmute yourself before you verbally ask your question.

If only on phone:

- Press *9 to **raise your hand.**
- Press *6 to **mute/unmute** yourself.



ENABLE CLOSED CAPTIONS/LIVE TRANSCRIPT

Groundwater Management Plan for Continued Sustainability

Public Meeting - July 30, 2026

Scott Elkins, P.G.
Associate Water Resources Specialist
Groundwater Management Unit

Valley Water

Overview

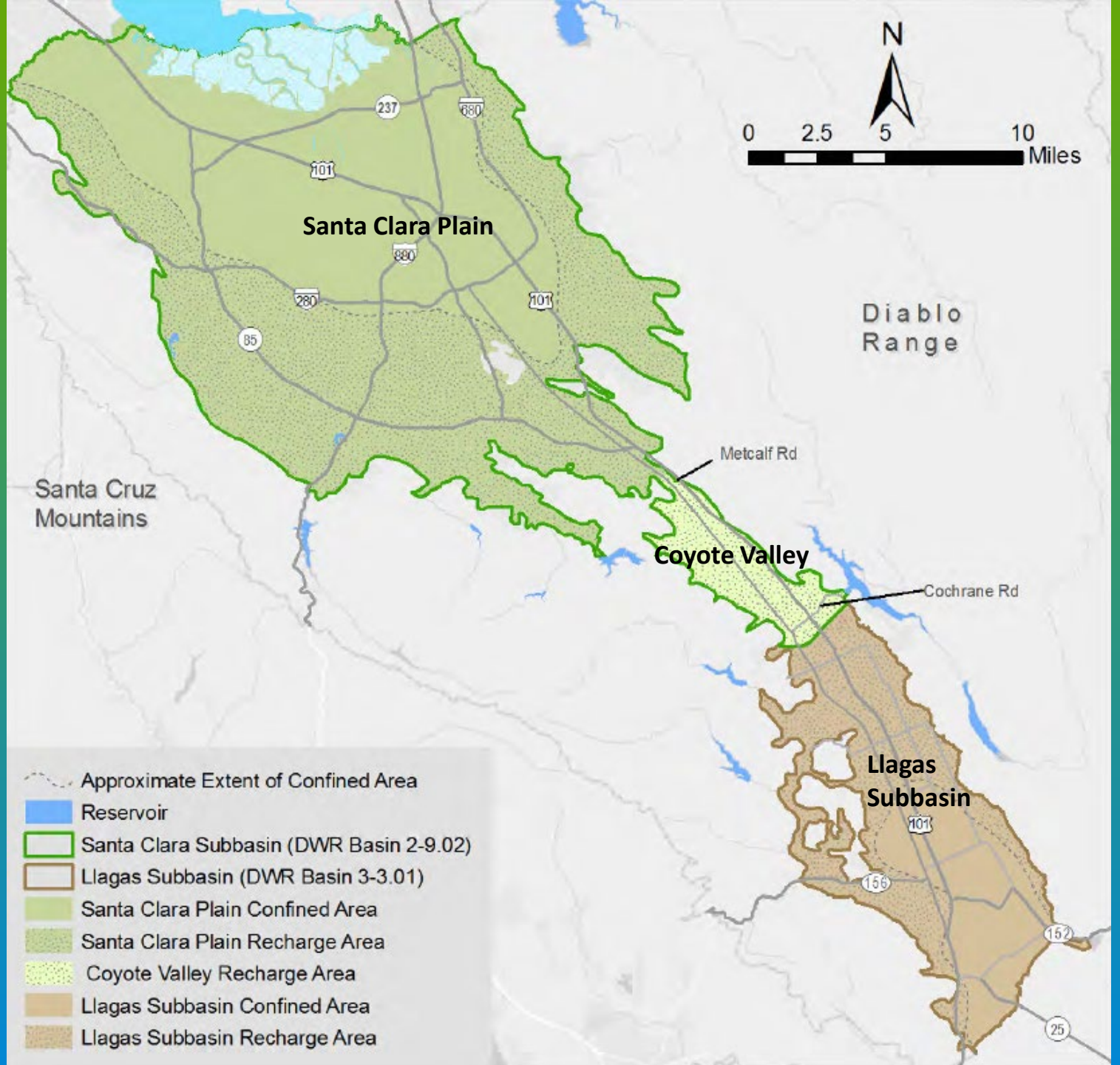
- Importance of groundwater
- Understanding basin conditions
- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)
- 2026 Groundwater Management Plan
- Public feedback and Q&A

Valley Water

Introduction & Goals

- Valley Water is the groundwater management agency for Santa Clara County:
  - Ensure groundwater supply reliability and sustainability
  - Engage and inform all interested parties; and outreach/coordination with adjacent basins
  - Progress update on our 2026 Groundwater Management Plan to ensure continued compliance with SGMA
  - Timeline and next steps

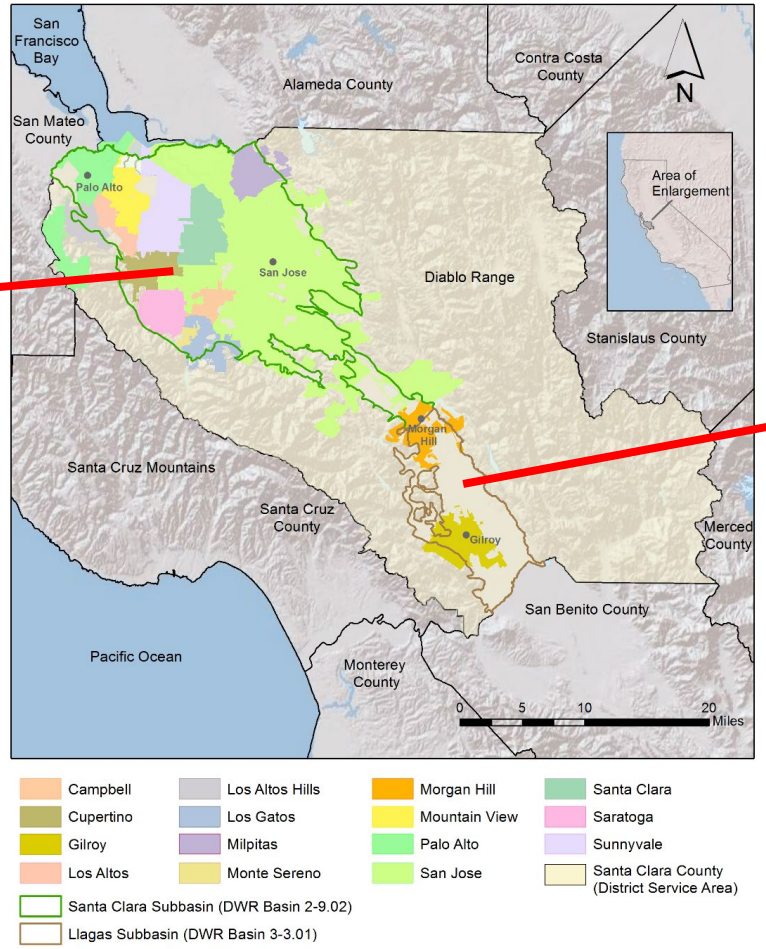
Importance of Groundwater



Groundwater: Essential Local Water Resource

- 40-50% of water used countywide
- Twice the storage capacity of all 10 local surface-water reservoirs combined

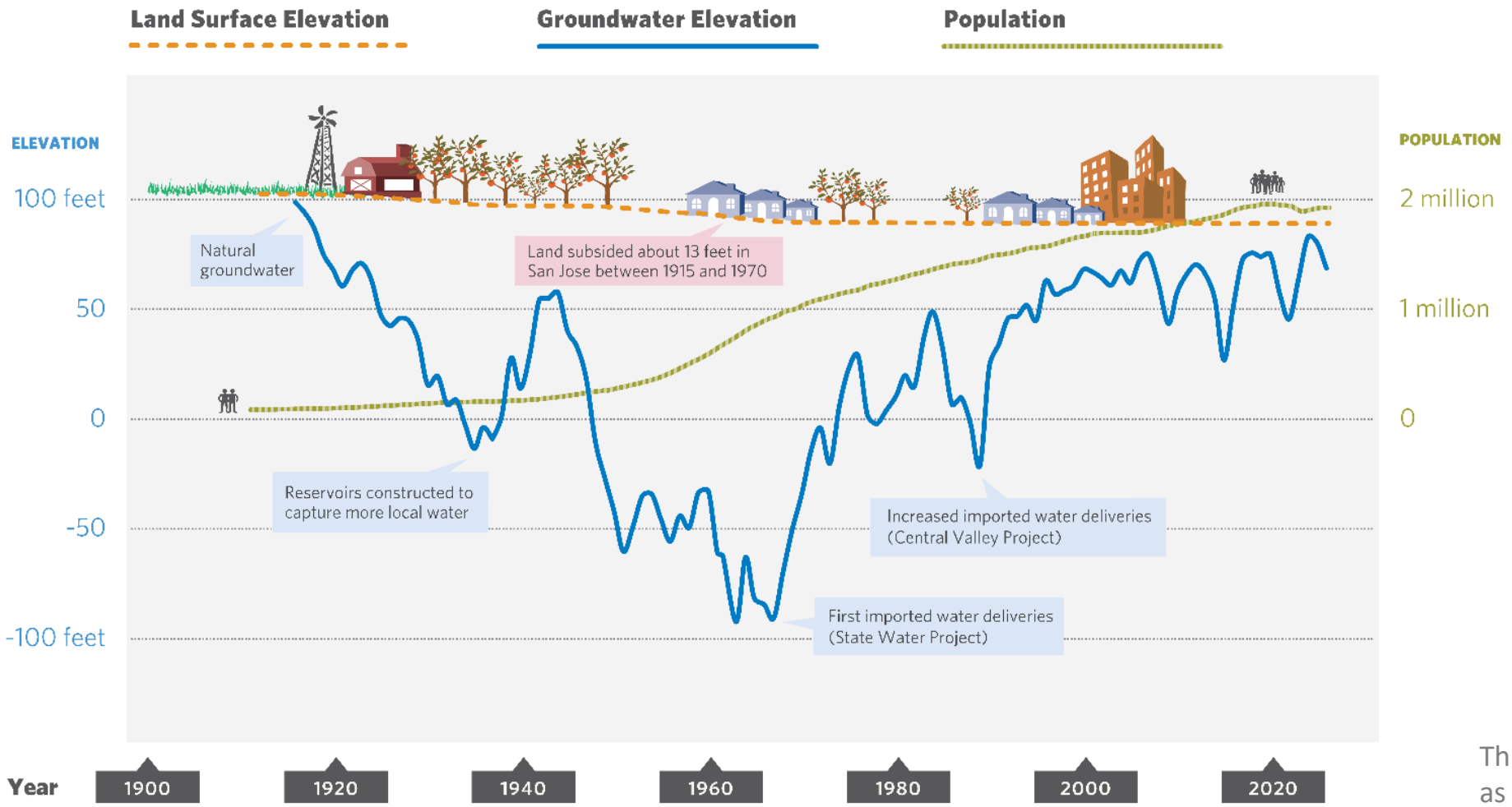
Urban Communities:
San Jose and Silicon Valley nearly 30% reliant on groundwater supply



Agricultural Communities:
Nearly 100% reliant on groundwater supply

Santa Clara County Groundwater-at-a-Glance

A representation of our groundwater supply throughout the years compared with the local population growth.



This visual is not intended as a technical exhibit.

Valley Water's History – Begins with Groundwater

- Increasing groundwater reliance during early 1900s led to overdraft and land subsidence
- Valley Water was formed in 1929
- First wells drilled in 1850s for agriculture
- By 1920s, there were 1,700 new well drilled each year
- 1915 Subsidence began


SAN JOSE SINKS 4 FEET DURING LAST 14 YEARS

Stanford Scientists Announce Study of Surrounding Earth Areas

RECORDS HALL SETTLING

Experts See Possibility of Stresses Leading Up to Major Shocks

SUNKEN AREA

S.F. BAY

HAYWARD

REDWOOD CITY

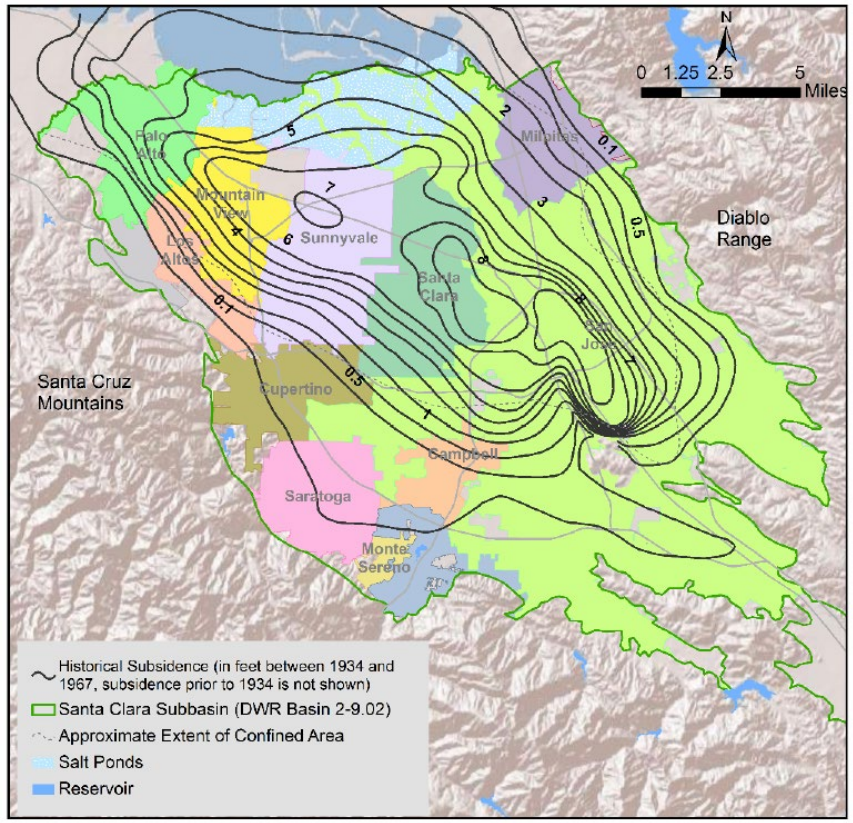
PALO ALTO

SAN JOSE

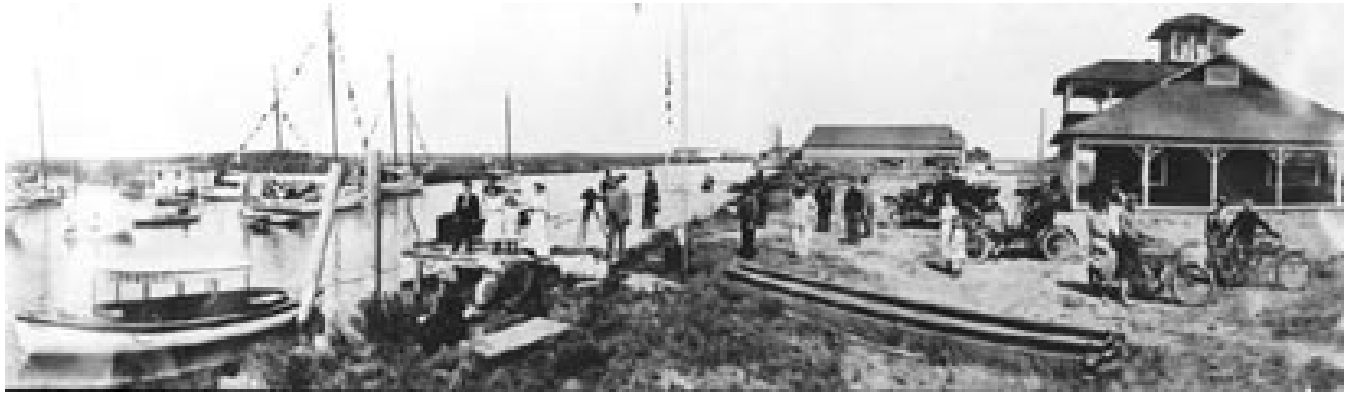
COYOTE

Land Subsidence

Historical subsidence in Santa Clara Plain (1915 – 1970)



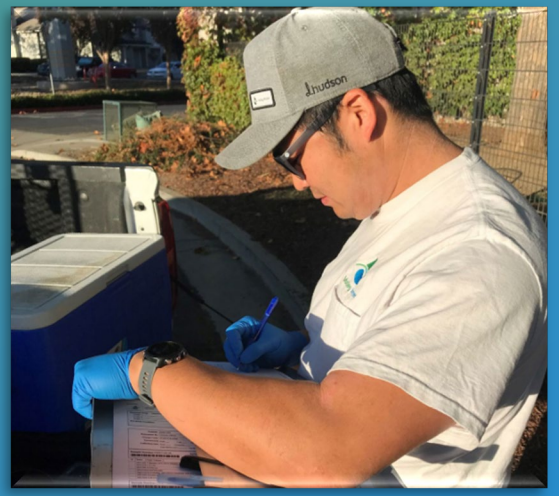
- >13 feet of subsidence from 1915 to 1970
- >1 foot of subsidence of over 100 miles2



South Bay Yacht Club in Alviso

- Now 10 feet below sea level
- Levees are needed

Understanding Basin Conditions

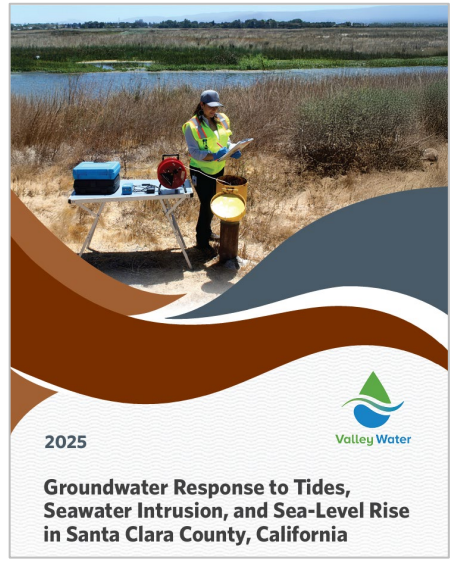


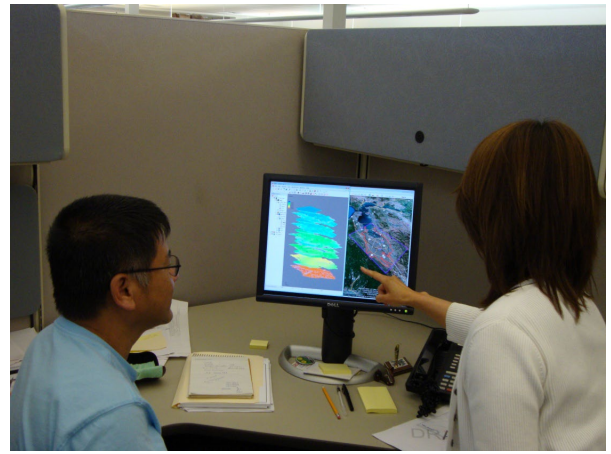
Monitoring, Modeling, and Special Studies

- **Monitoring networks**
  - Groundwater levels (>230 wells)
  - Subsidence (>150 locations)
  - Water quality (>300 wells)

- **Groundwater models**
  - Assess water levels and storage
  - Evaluate scenarios

- **Special studies**
  - Groundwater Response to Tides, Seawater Intrusion, and Sea-Level Rise in Santa Clara County, California (published 2025)



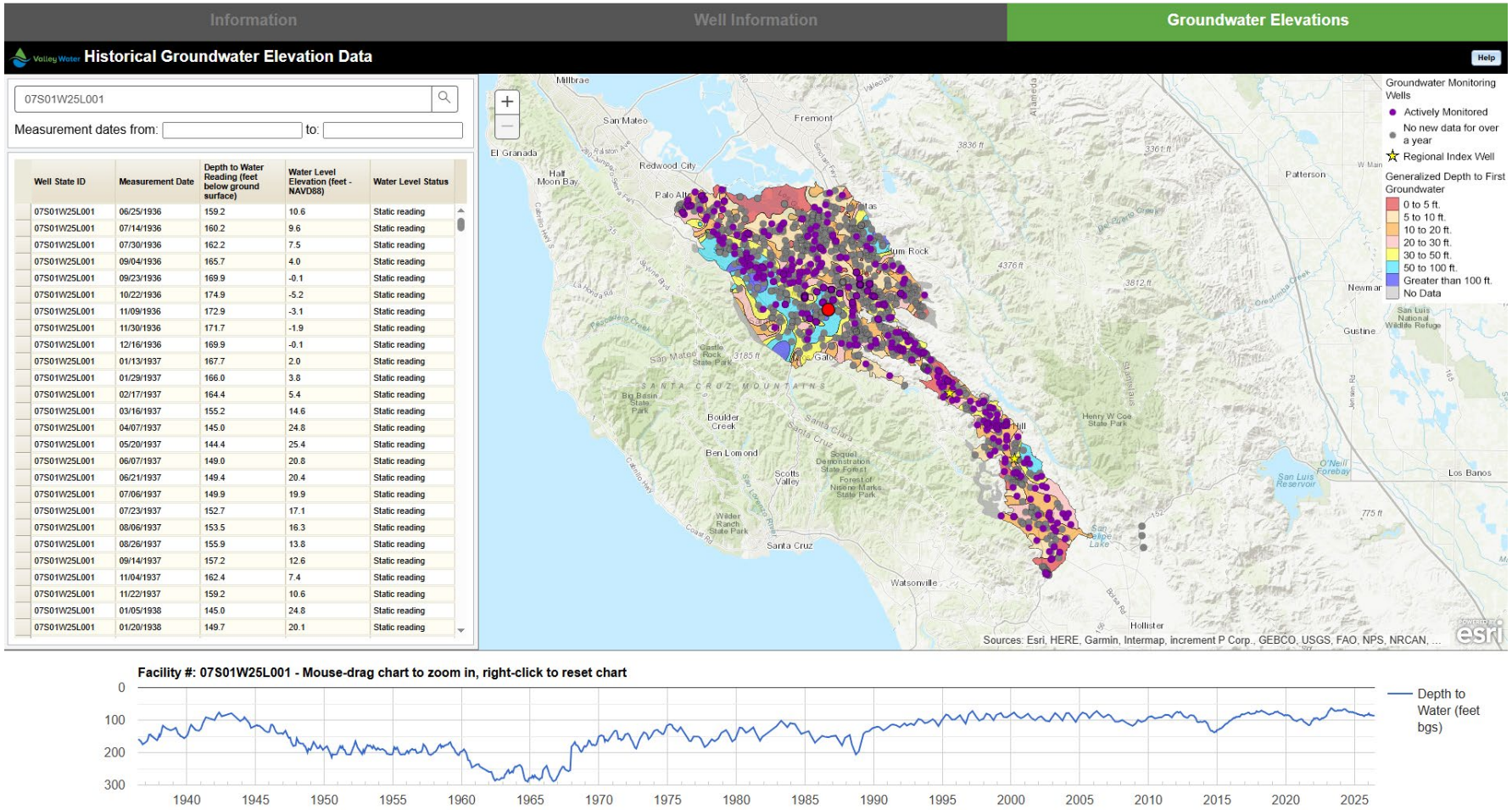


Groundwater Level Monitoring

- >230 wells
  - Valley Water
- >200 wells
  - Water Retailers

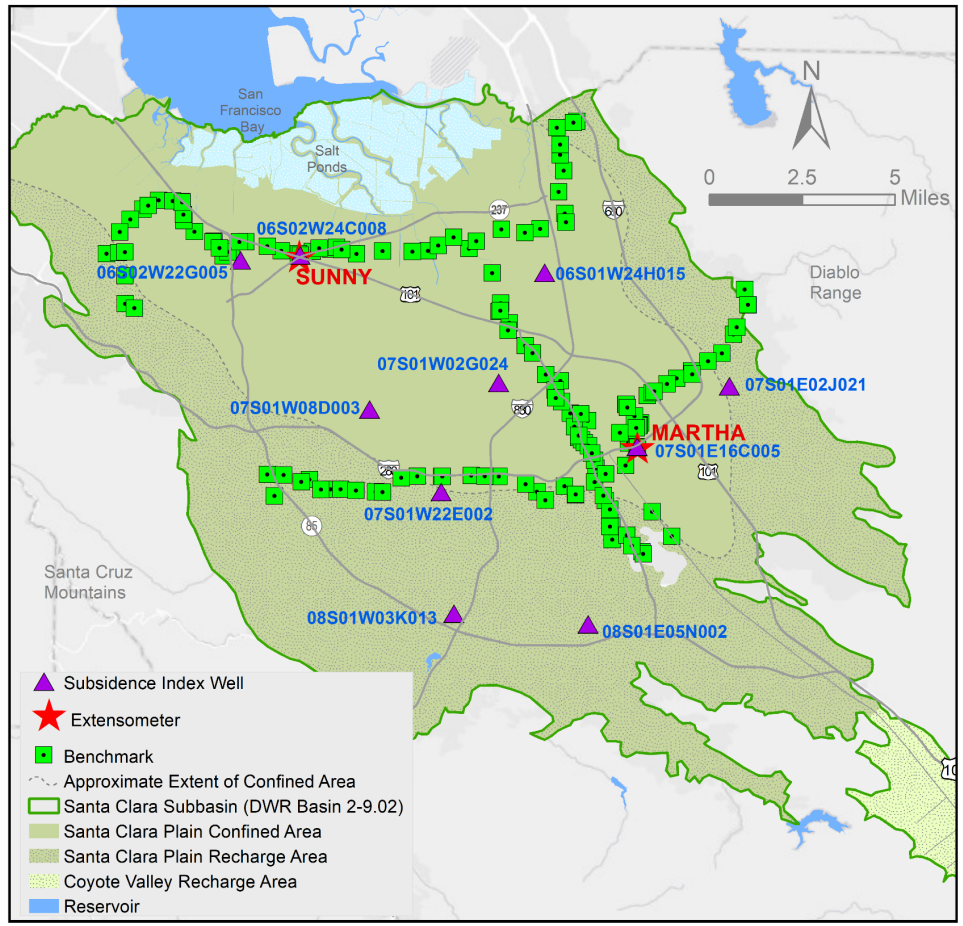
Groundwater Level Data Available Online

gis.valleywater.org/Wells.html



Subsidence Monitoring

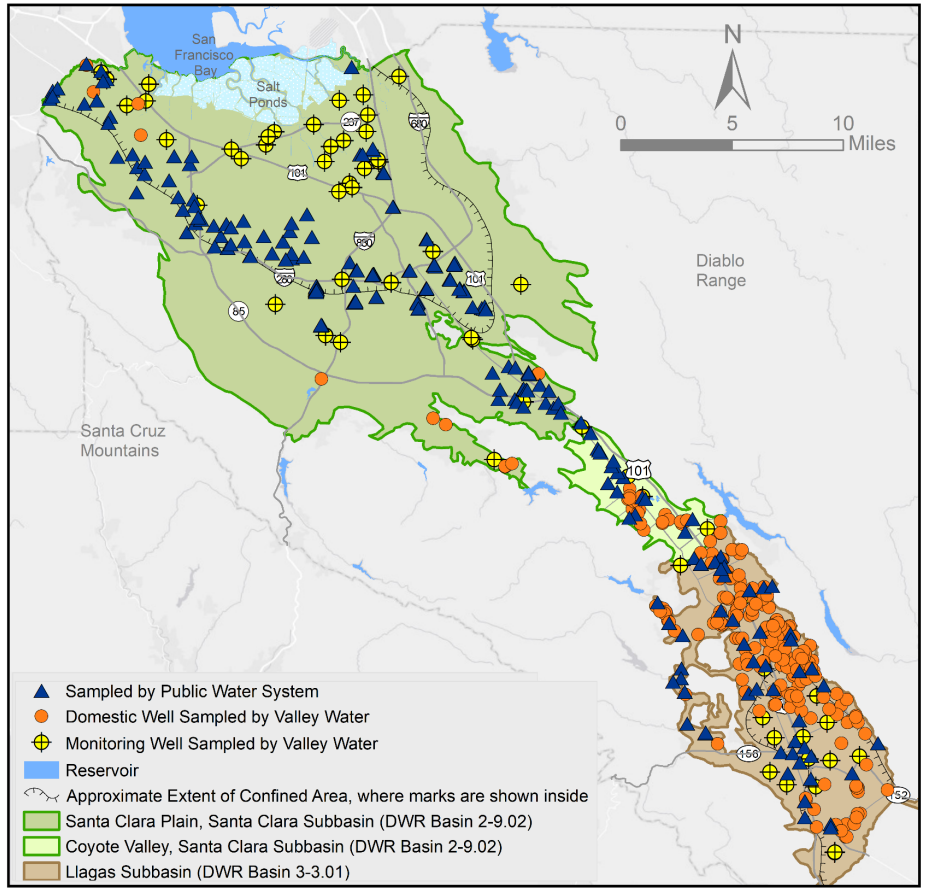
- Annual benchmark elevation surveys of approximately 150 locations
- 10 subsidence index wells
- Monitoring at two extensometers:
  - “Sunny”
    (near Moffett Field in Sunnyvale)
  - “Martha”
    (downtown San José, Martha St.)



Martha extensometer

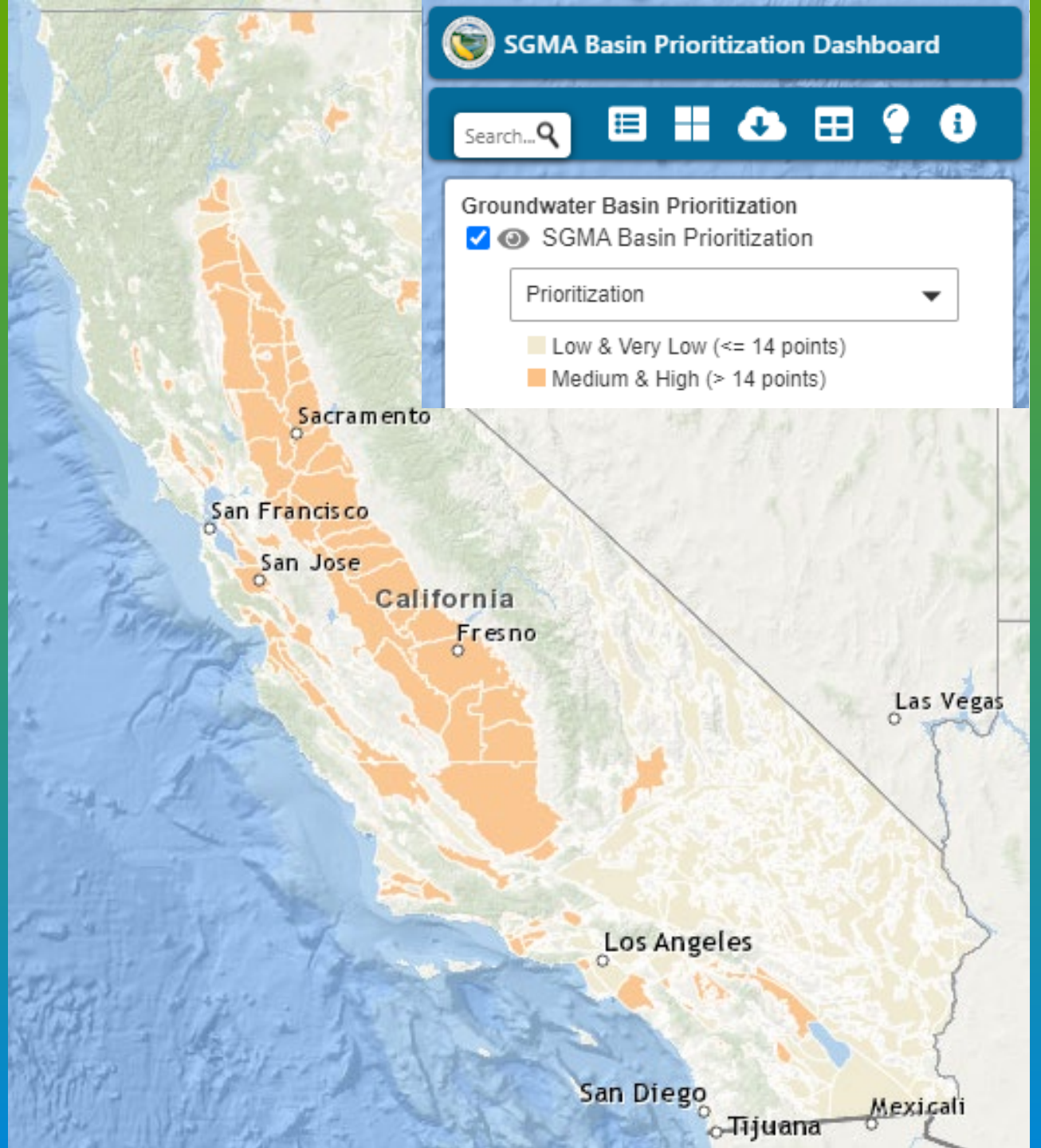
Groundwater Quality Monitoring

- Valley Water has 91 dedicated groundwater quality monitoring wells in shallow and principal aquifers:
  - 70 monitoring & 21 domestic wells
- Public water supply wells (250 wells)
- Free domestic well testing program (206 wells in WY2025)
- Monitoring near recycled water irrigation sites (22 wells)



WY2025 Groundwater Quality Monitoring Network

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)



Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)

(Jan. 1, 2015)

- Empowers local agencies to form Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (**GSA**s) to manage groundwater and adopt Groundwater Sustainability Plans (**GSP**s) (or **Alternatives**)

- Local control, but provides for State assistance and if needed, State intervention

- Requires basins to reach sustainability within twenty years (2040 or 2042)

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)

Goal to avoid undesirable results that are “significant and unreasonable” conditions:

1. Chronic lowering of groundwater levels

2. Reduction in storage

3. Seawater intrusion

4. Degraded water quality

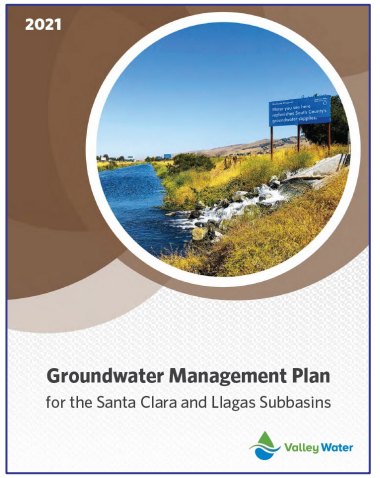
5. Land subsidence

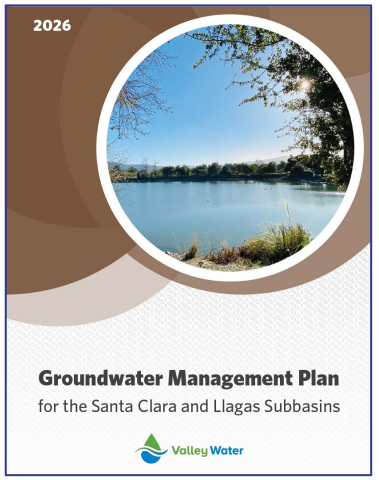
6. Depletion of interconnected surface water that have adverse impacts on beneficial uses of the surface water

History

- **May 2016:** Valley Water became the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Santa Clara and Llagas subbasins
- **December 2016:** Groundwater Management Plan submitted as an Alternative to a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)
- **July 2019:** Department of Water Resources (DWR) approved Valley Water's Alternative
- **December 2021:** submitted first 5-year periodic evaluation. Approved by DWR in 2024.

➢ **<u>December 17, 2026</u>:** second 5-year update due to DWR

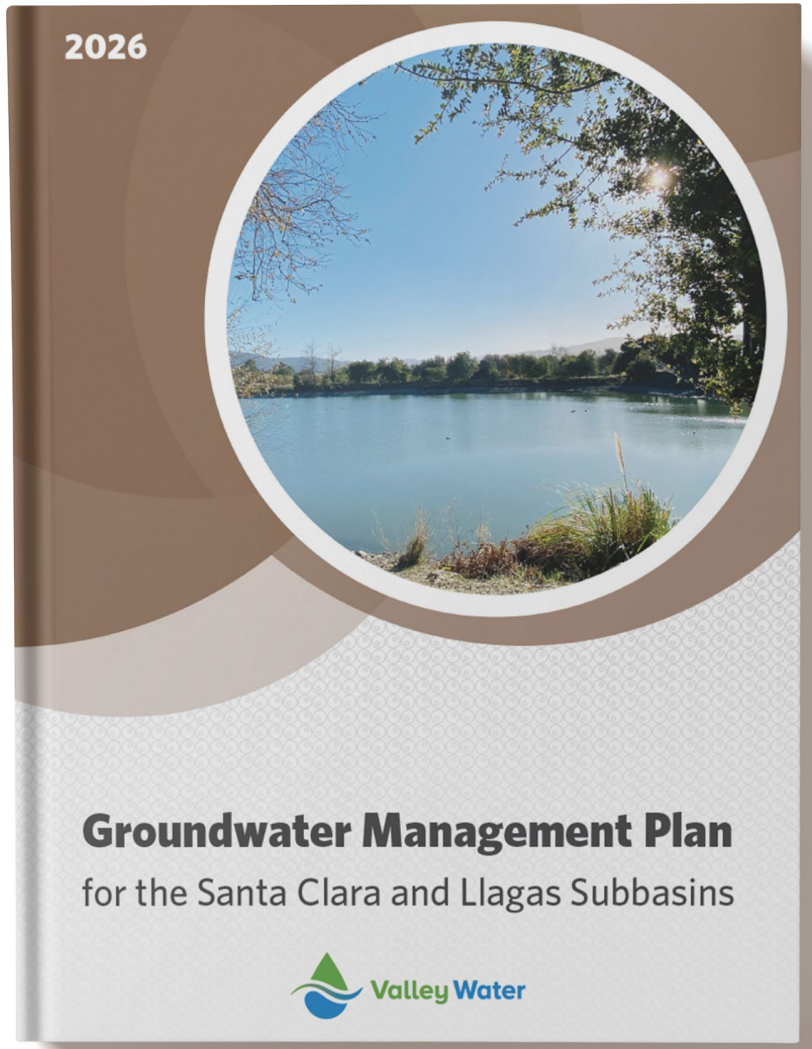




What is the Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP)?

Describes our groundwater management framework:

- Authorities and partners
- Basin setting, conditions, and monitoring
- Programs & potential actions to achieve groundwater sustainability goals
- Outcome measures – metrics for groundwater storage, subsidence, seawater intrusion, and groundwater quality



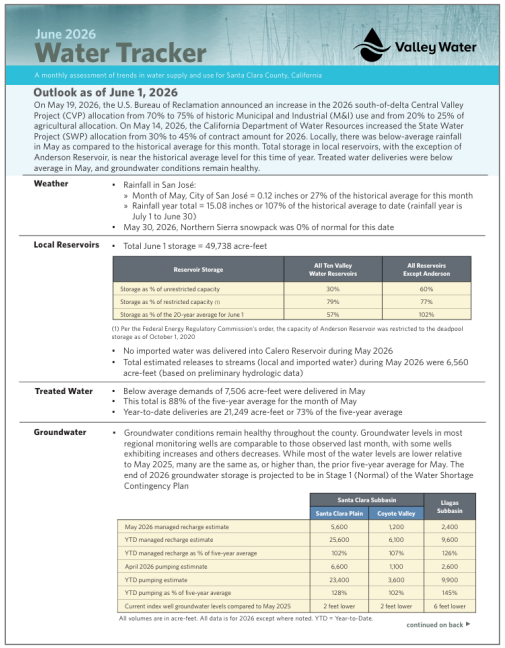
2021 GWMP available at:
delivr.com/2m7ec

Effective Groundwater Management Program

- Long-term groundwater balance due to:
  - Managed aquifer recharge
  - In-lieu recharge
    - Treated water deliveries
    - Water conservation
    - Recycled & purified water
- Groundwater quality protection
- Coordination with other agencies and partners

Public Reporting of Groundwater Data

Monthly:
Water Tracker



June 2026
Water Tracker
Valley Water
A monthly assessment of trends in water supply and use for Santa Clara County, California

Outlook as of June 1, 2026
On May 19, 2026, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation announced an increase in the 2026 south-of-delta Central Valley Project (CVP) allocation from 70% to 75% of historic Municipal and Industrial (M&I) use and from 20% to 25% of agricultural allocation. On May 14, 2026, the California Department of Water Resources increased the State Water Project (SWP) allocation from 30% to 45% of contract amount for 2026. Locally, there was below-average rainfall in May as compared to the historical average for this month. Total storage in local reservoirs, with the exception of Anderson Reservoir, is near the historical average level for this time of year. Treated water deliveries were below average in May, and groundwater conditions remain healthy.

Weather
- Rainfall in San José:
  - Month of May, City of San José = 0.12 inches or 27% of the historical average for this month
  - Rainfall year total = 15.08 inches or 107% of the historical average to date (rainfall year is July 1 to June 30)
- May 30, 2026, Northern Sierra snowpack was 0% of normal for this date

Local Reservoirs
- Total June 1 storage = 49,738 acre-feet

Reservoir Storage	All Ten Valley Water Reservoirs	All Reservoirs Except Anderson
Storage as % of unrestricted capacity	30%	60%
Storage as % of restricted capacity (1)	79%	77%
Storage as % of the 20-year average for June 1	57%	102%

(1) Per the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's order, the capacity of Anderson Reservoir was restricted to the deadpool storage as of October 1, 2020

- No imported water was delivered into Calero Reservoir during May 2026
- Total estimated releases to streams (local and imported water) during May 2026 were 6,560 acre-feet (based on preliminary hydrologic data)

Treated Water
- Below average demands of 7,506 acre-feet were delivered in May
- This total is 88% of the five-year average for the month of May
- Year-to-date deliveries are 21,249 acre-feet or 73% of the five-year average

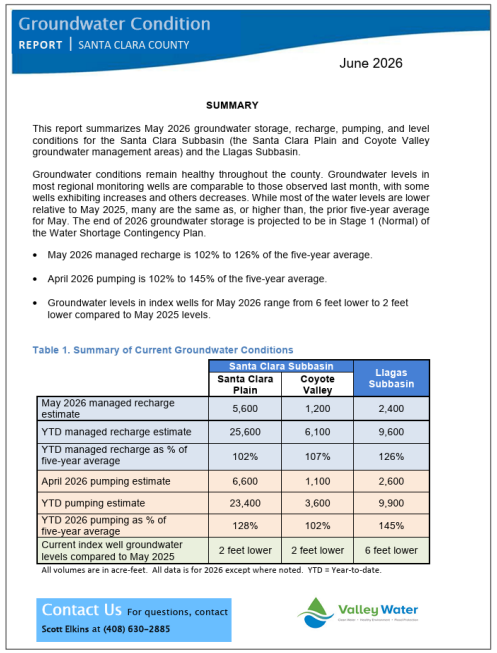
Groundwater
- Groundwater conditions remain healthy throughout the county. Groundwater levels in most regional monitoring wells are comparable to those observed last month, with some wells exhibiting increases and others decreases. While most of the water levels are lower relative to May 2025, many are the same as, or higher than, the prior five-year average for May. The end of 2026 groundwater storage is projected to be in Stage 1 (Normal) of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan

	Santa Clara Subbasin		Llagas Subbasin
	Santa Clara Plain	Coyote Valley	
May 2026 managed recharge estimate	5,600	1,200	2,400
YTD managed recharge estimate	25,600	6,100	9,600
YTD managed recharge as % of five-year average	102%	107%	126%
April 2026 pumping estimate	6,600	1,100	2,600
YTD pumping estimate	23,400	3,600	9,900
YTD pumping as % of five-year average	128%	102%	145%
Current index well groundwater levels compared to May 2025	2 feet lower	2 feet lower	6 feet lower

All volumes are in acre-feet. All data is for 2026 except where noted. YTD = Year-to-Date.

continued on back ▸

Monthly:
GW Conditions Report



Groundwater Condition
REPORT | SANTA CLARA COUNTY
June 2026

SUMMARY

This report summarizes May 2026 groundwater storage, recharge, pumping, and level conditions for the Santa Clara Subbasin (the Santa Clara Plain and Coyote Valley groundwater management areas) and the Llagas Subbasin.

Groundwater conditions remain healthy throughout the county. Groundwater levels in most regional monitoring wells are comparable to those observed last month, with some wells exhibiting increases and others decreases. While most of the water levels are lower relative to May 2025, many are the same as, or higher than, the prior five-year average for May. The end of 2026 groundwater storage is projected to be in Stage 1 (Normal) of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

- May 2026 managed recharge is 102% to 126% of the five-year average.
- April 2026 pumping is 102% to 145% of the five-year average.
- Groundwater levels in index wells for May 2026 range from 6 feet lower to 2 feet lower compared to May 2025 levels.

Table 1. Summary of Current Groundwater Conditions

	Santa Clara Subbasin		Llagas Subbasin
	Santa Clara Plain	Coyote Valley	
May 2026 managed recharge estimate	5,600	1,200	2,400
YTD managed recharge estimate	25,600	6,100	9,600
YTD managed recharge as % of five-year average	102%	107%	126%
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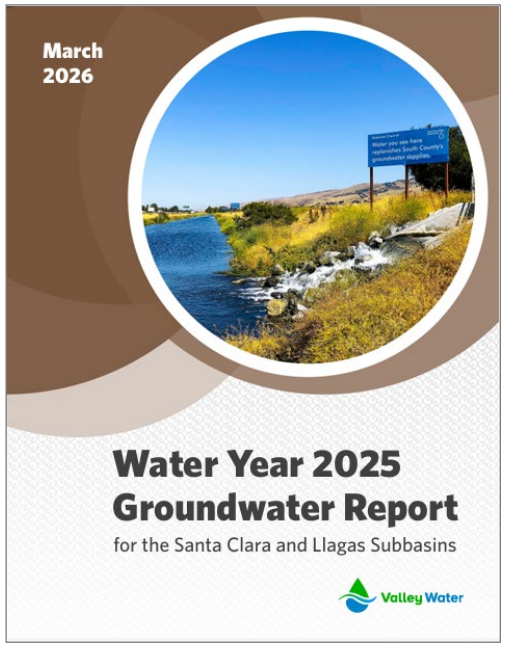
All volumes are in acre-feet. All data is for 2026 except where noted. YTD = Year-to-date.

Contact Us For questions, contact Scott Elkins at (408) 630-2885

Valley Water

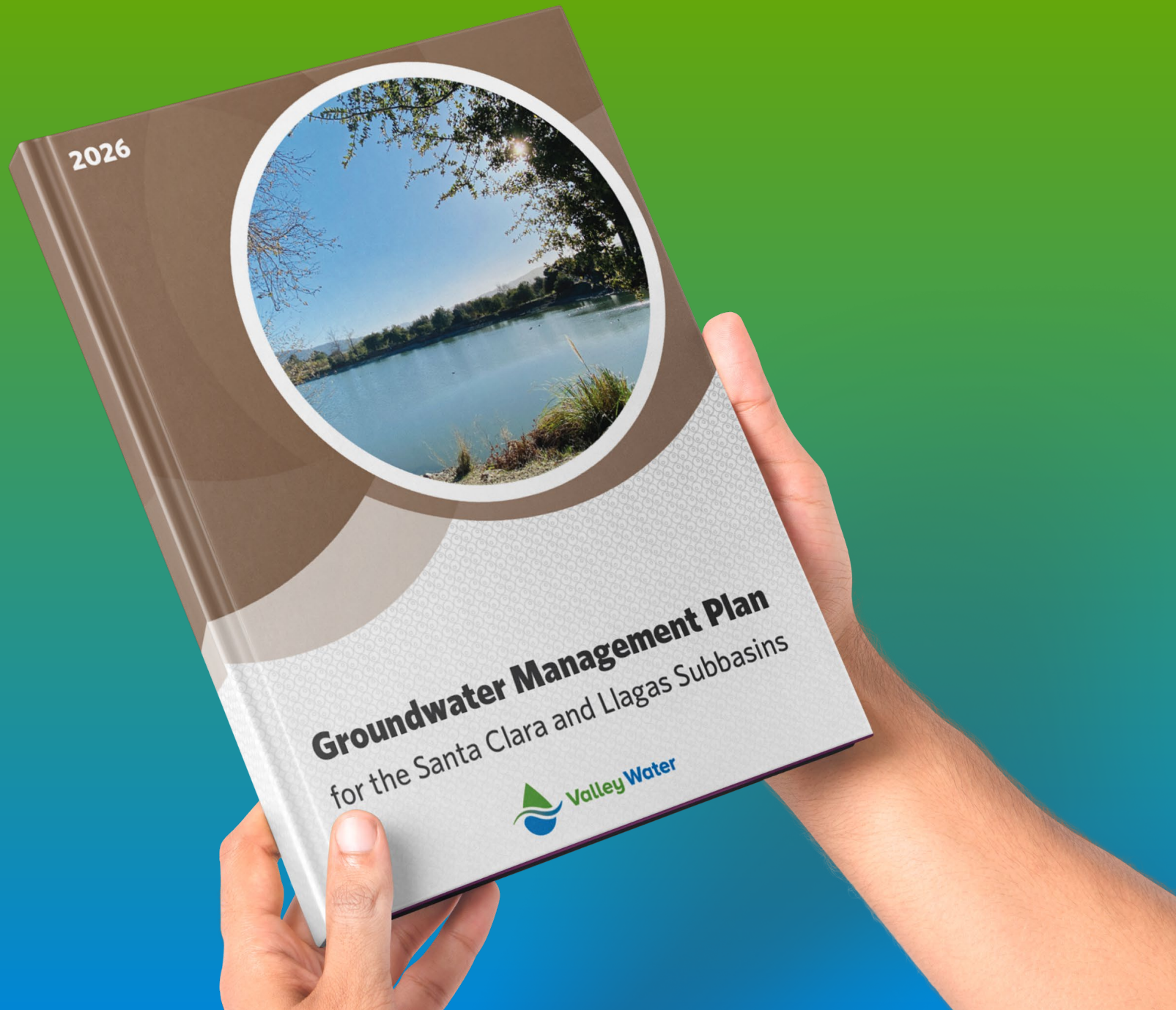
Annually (April 1):
WY Report



Every 5 years:
GWMP update

GW = groundwater WY = water year (Oct 1 to Sept 30)

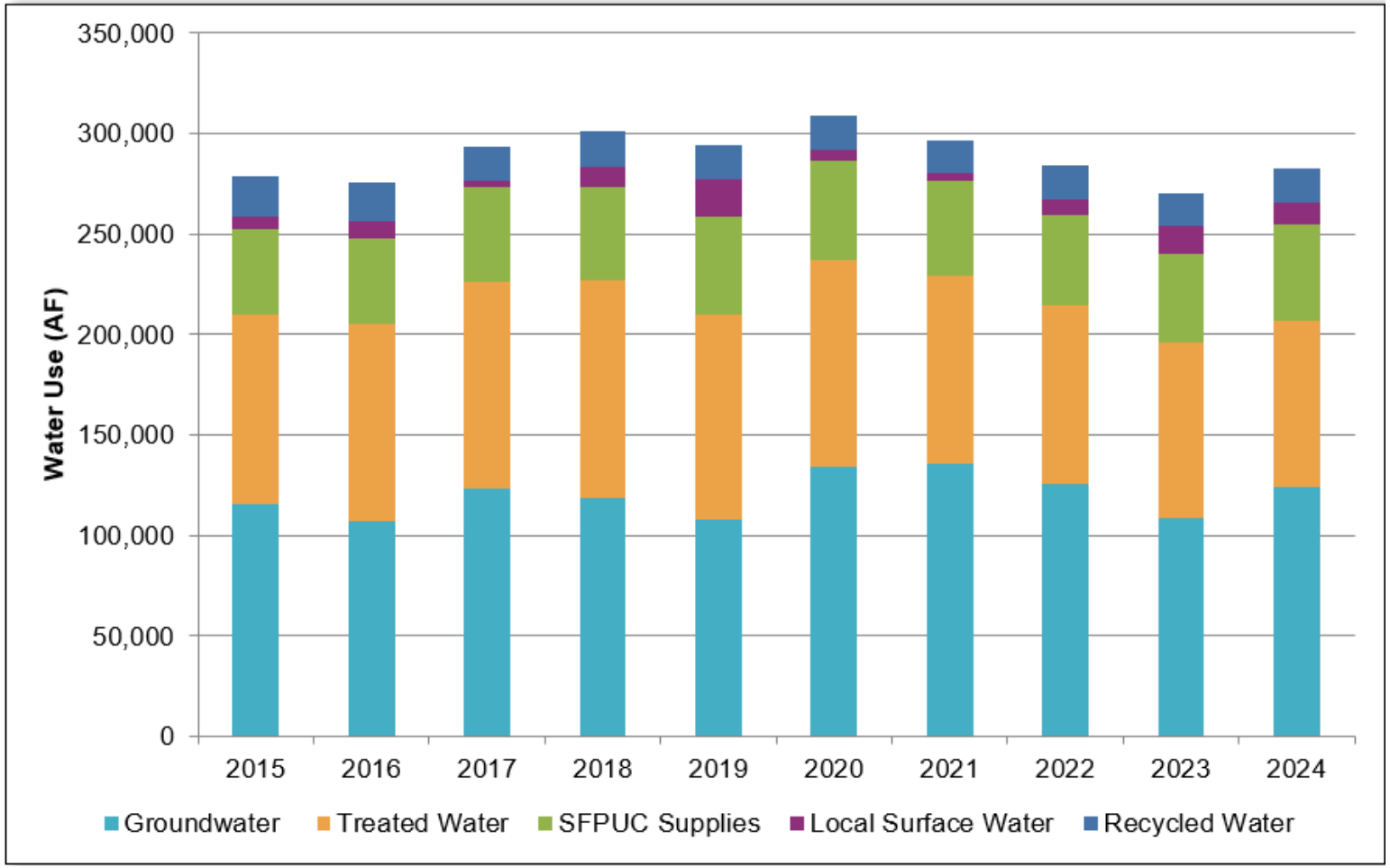
2026 Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP)



2026 GWMP – General Updates

- Recent 10 years of data: 2015 to 2024
- Updates to figures and tables
- Updates to projects and programs
- Reference new guidance documents

Figure 4-1. Countywide Water Use by Source (2015-2024)

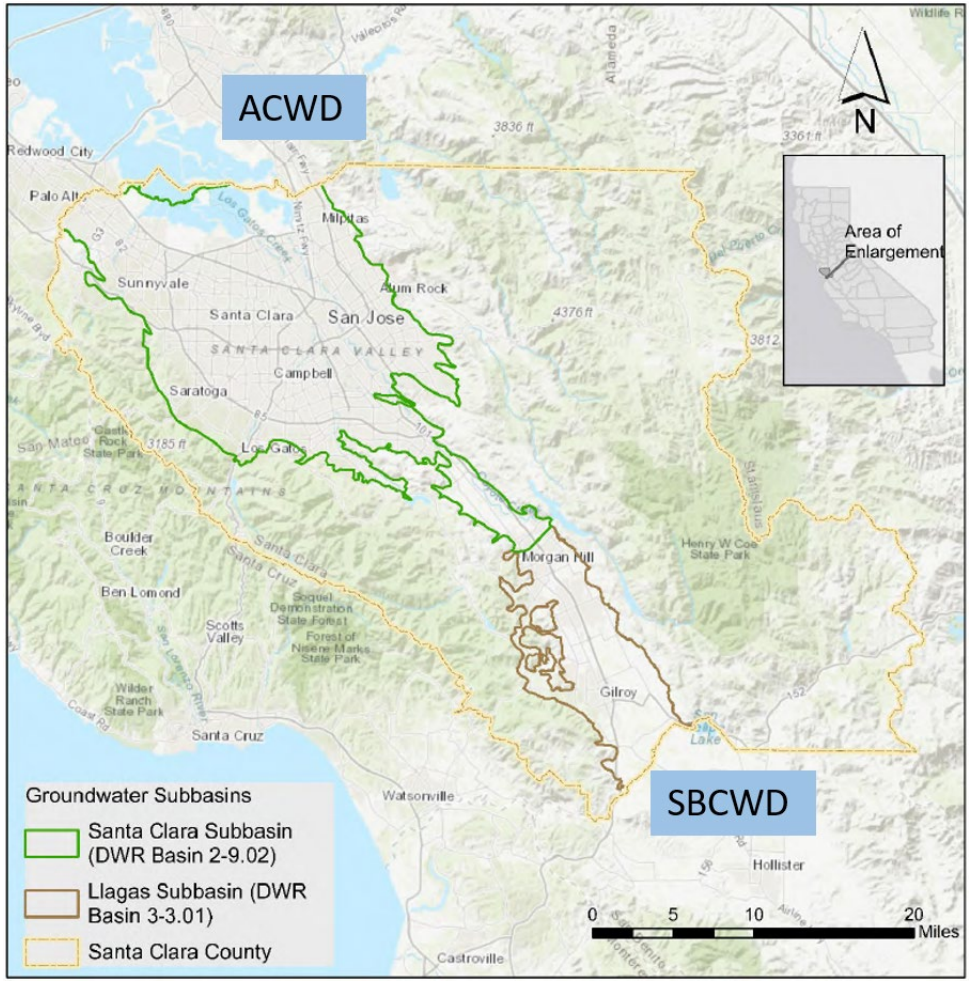


2026 GWMP – DWR Recommendations

Describe how inter-basin items have been coordinated, such as:

- Monitoring networks
- Hydrogeologic conceptual models
- Water budgets

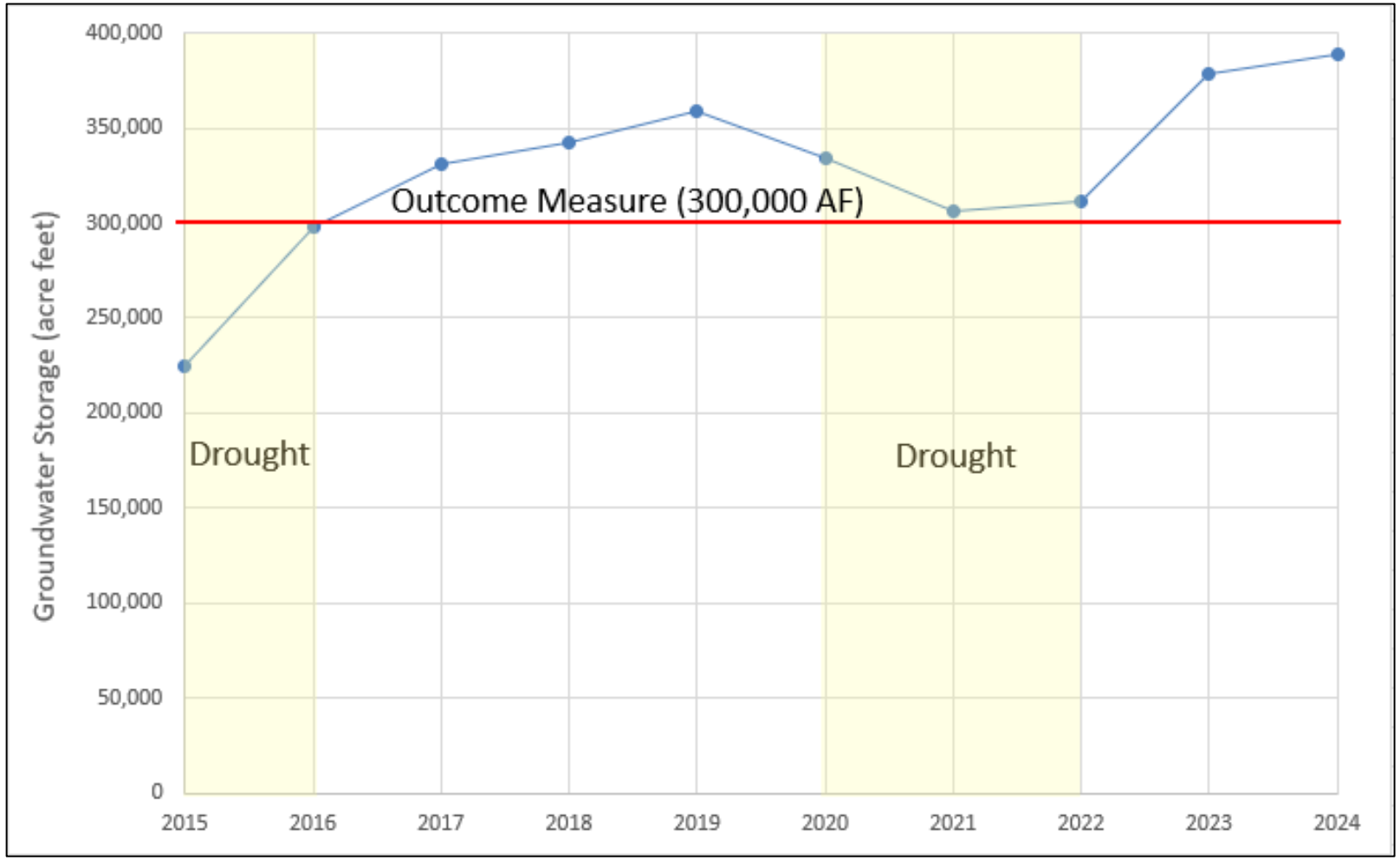
Ensure monitoring network details are consistent with SGMA Monitoring Network Module:



Outcome Measures – Groundwater Storage

Projected end-of-year groundwater storage is greater than:

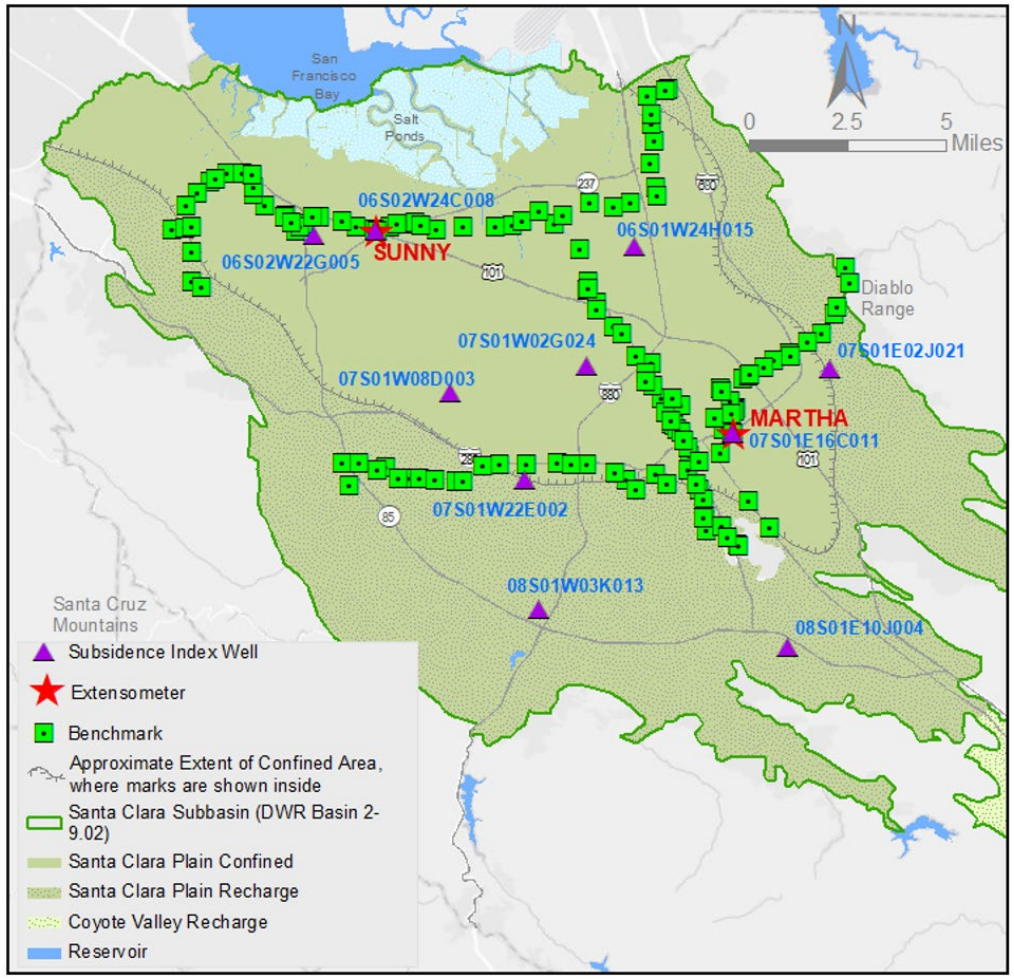
- 278,000 acre-feet (AF) in the Santa Clara Plain
- 5,000 AF in the Coyote Valley
- 17,000 AF in the Llagas Subbasin
- combined 300,000 AF in the Santa Clara and Llagas subbasins



Outcome Measures – Groundwater Levels and Subsidence

Groundwater levels are above subsidence thresholds at the Santa Clara Subbasin subsidence index wells:

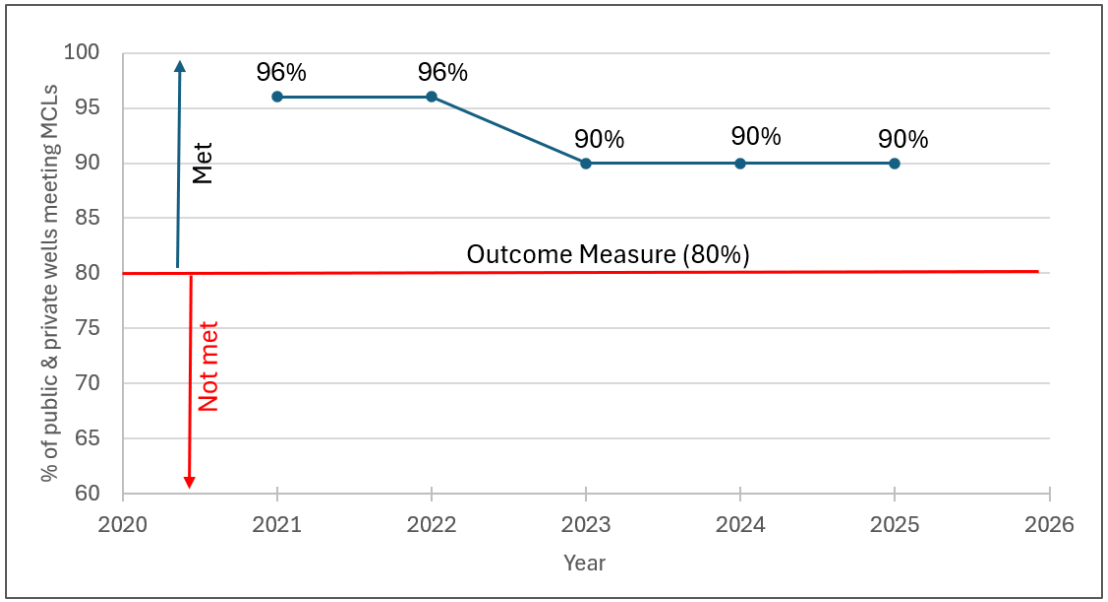
- From 2015 to 2024, groundwater levels at all 10 subsidence index wells remained above their respective subsidence threshold elevations.



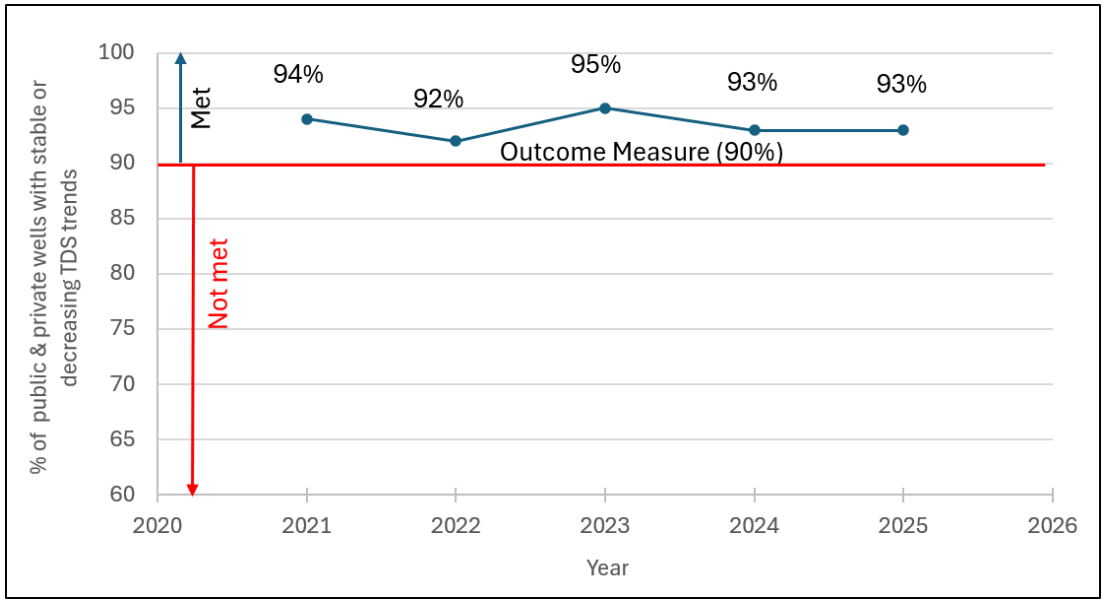
Outcome Measures – Water Quality

For **Santa Clara Subbasin** public and private water supply wells:

- at least 80% meet primary drinking water standards



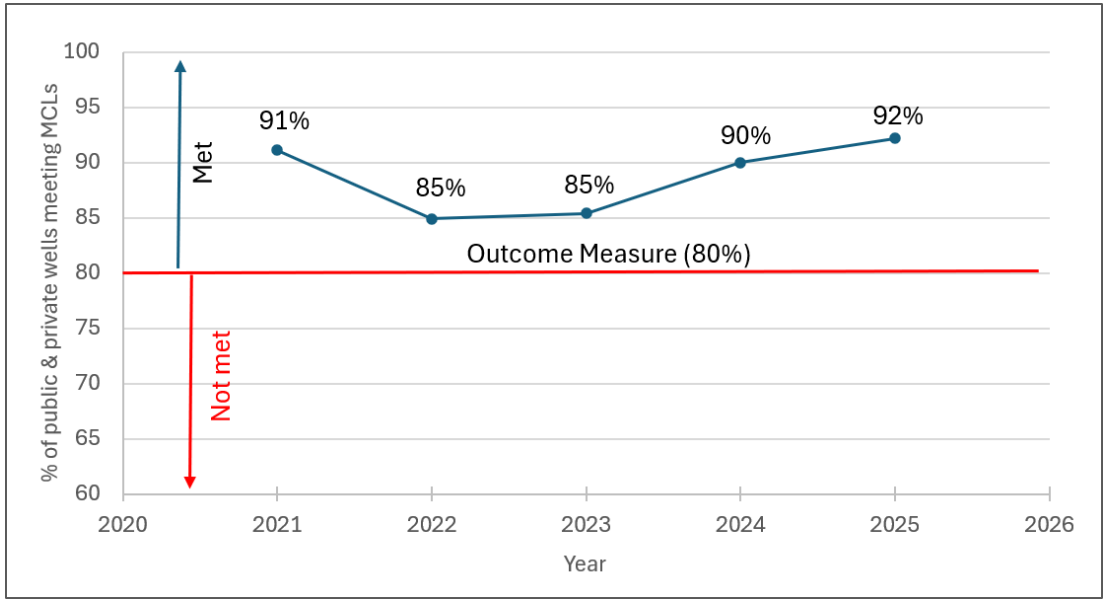
- at least 90% have stable or decreasing trends for total dissolved solids



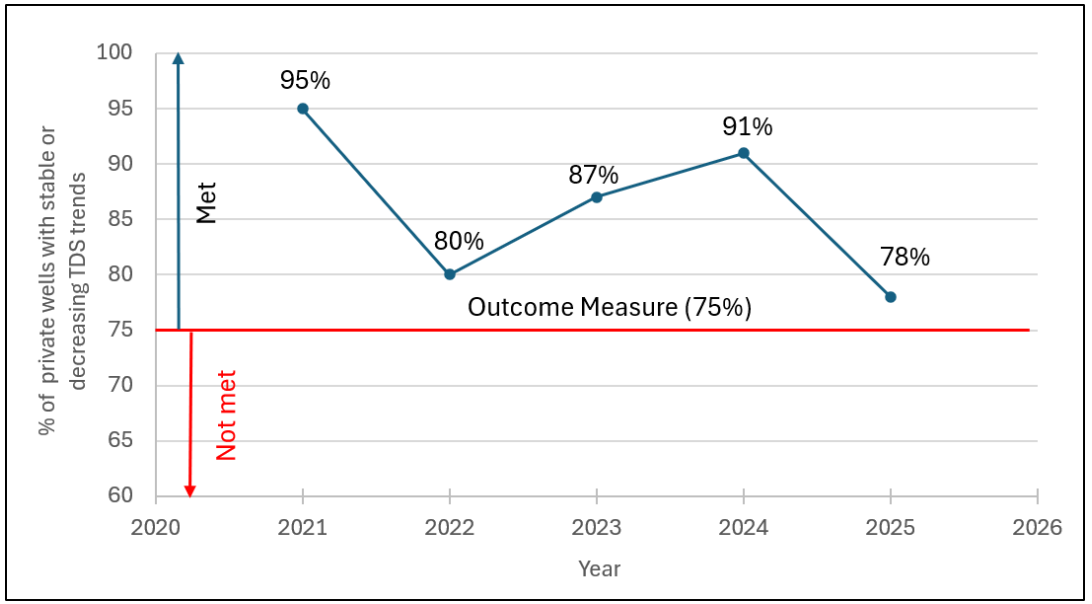
Outcome Measures – Water Quality

For **Llagas Subbasin** public water supply wells:

- at least 80% meet primary drinking water standards



- at least 75% of private water supply wells have stable or decreasing trends for total dissolved solids

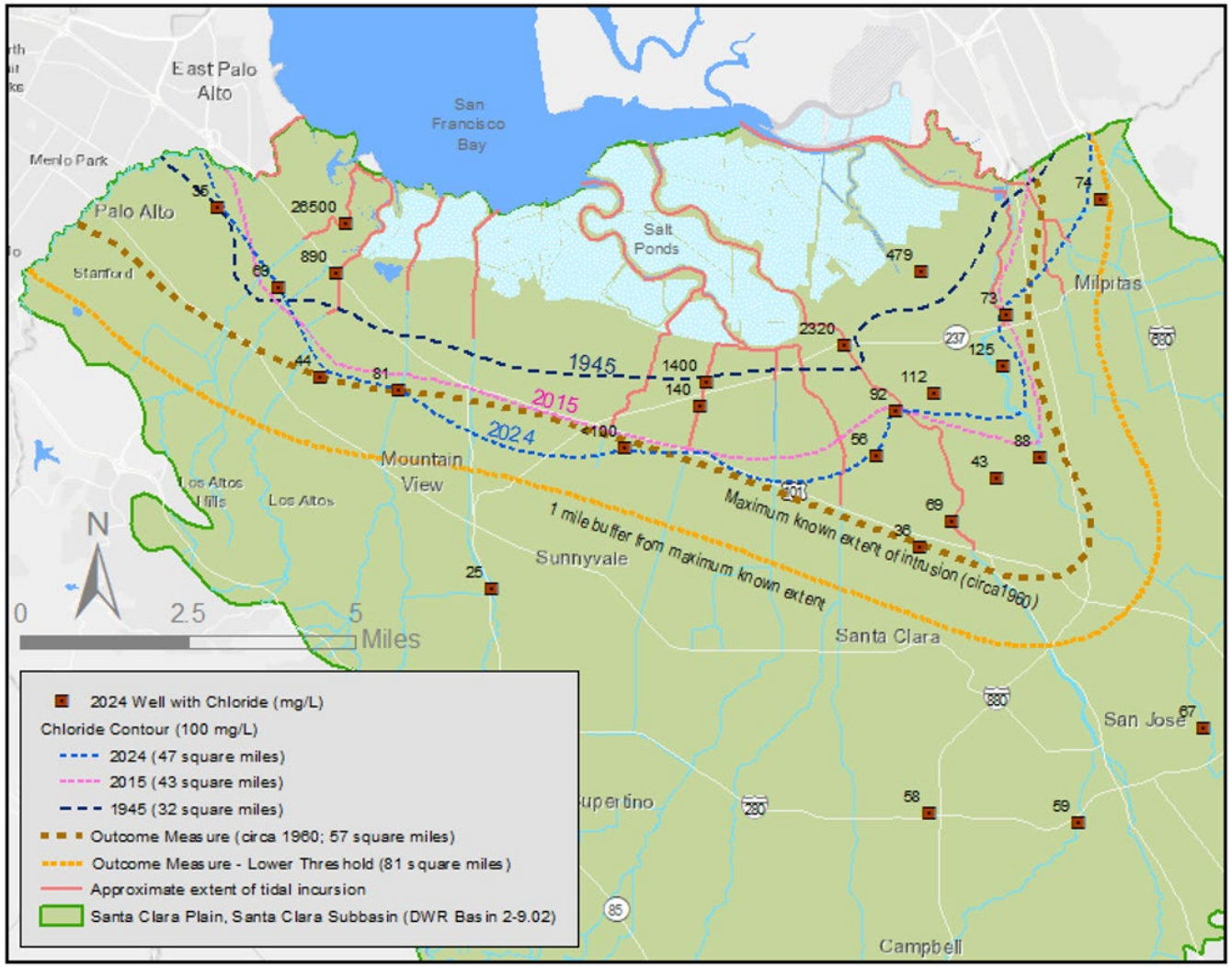


Outcome Measures – Seawater Intrusion

In the **Santa Clara Subbasin** shallow aquifer, the 100 milligram per liter chloride isocontour area is less than the historical maximum extent area (57 square miles).

Outcome Measure met:

- 2015: 43 square miles
- 2024: 47 square miles

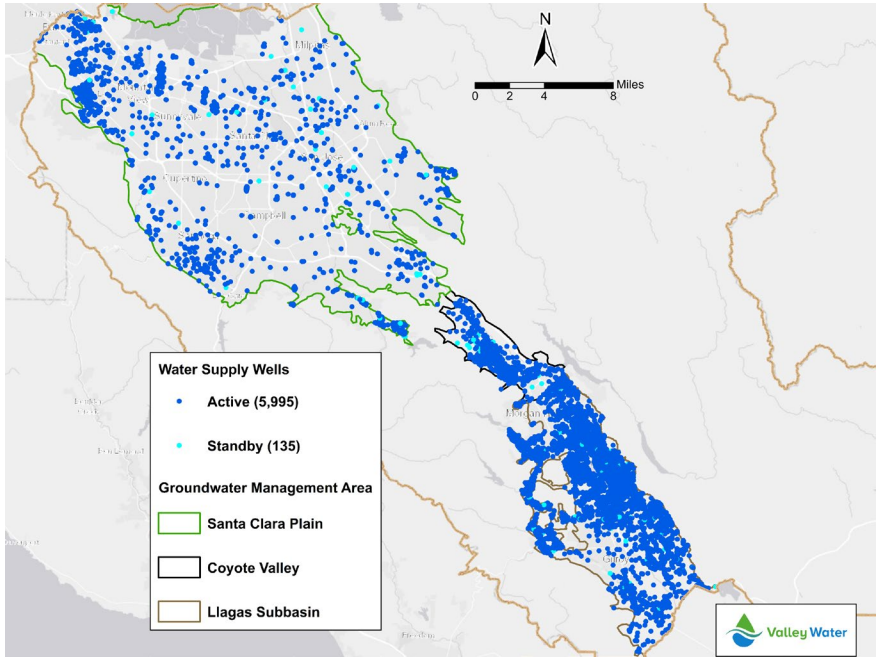


Evaluation of Dry Supply Wells during Drought

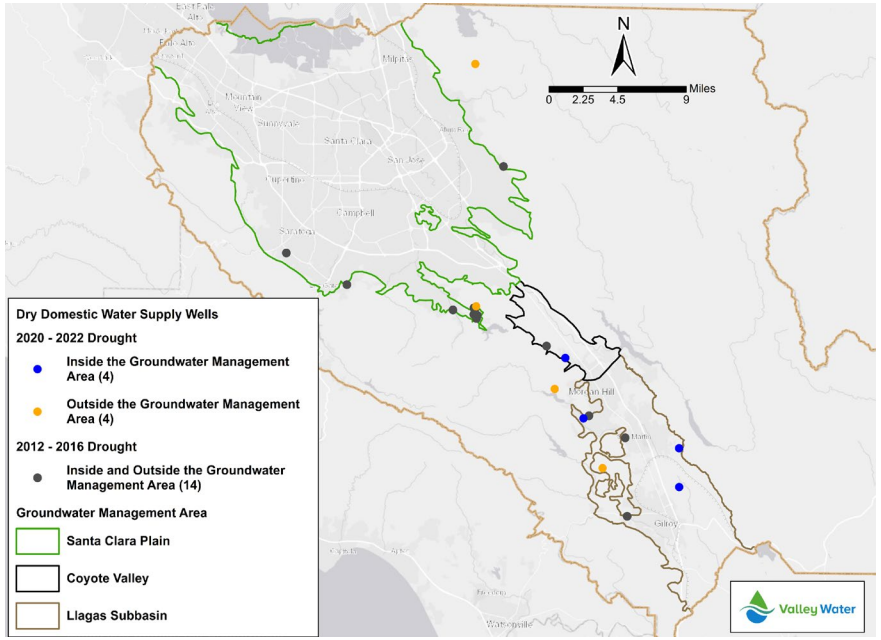
- 6,130 water supply wells in the Santa Clara and Llagas subbasins

- Dry wells during 2020–2022 drought:
  - 9 domestic wells;
  - Only 4 wells inside the subbasins: 0.07% (4 of 6,130) of the supply wells

Valley Water's management practices maintain sustainable groundwater, even during drought



6,130 Water Supply Wells



4 Reported Dry Wells

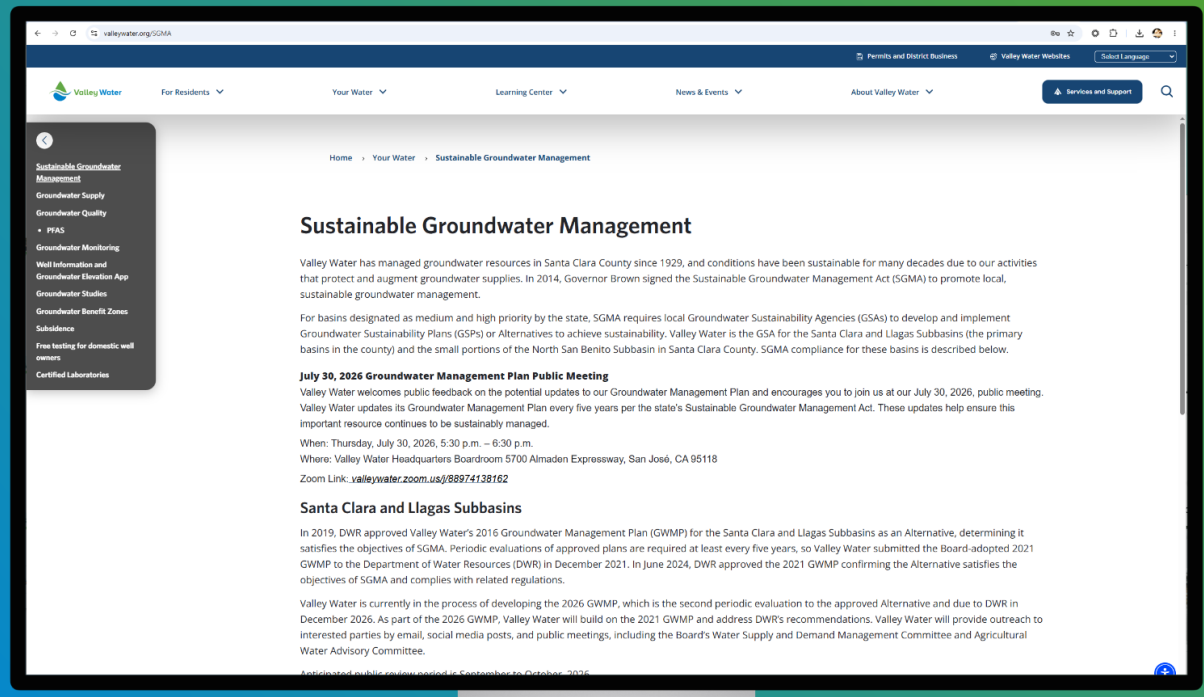
Public Engagement and Outreach

- **Engage interested parties via:**
  Email/website/social media
- Water Retailers Joint Water Supply & Groundwater Subcommittee meetings
- Board Committee updates
  - Water Supply and Demand Management Committee
  - Agricultural Water Advisory Committee
- Public meeting – July 30, 2026

Website

delivr.com/2m7ec

valleywater.org/SGMA



Valley Water

Schedule & Key Dates

Expected GWMP Release and Adoption Schedule

August 2026
Public Draft Released

October 2026
Water Supply &
Demand Management Committee

November 2026
Public hearing and Board consideration

December, 2026
Deadline to submit to DWR

2027 and beyond
Continue implementing the GWMP (Alternative)

Questions?

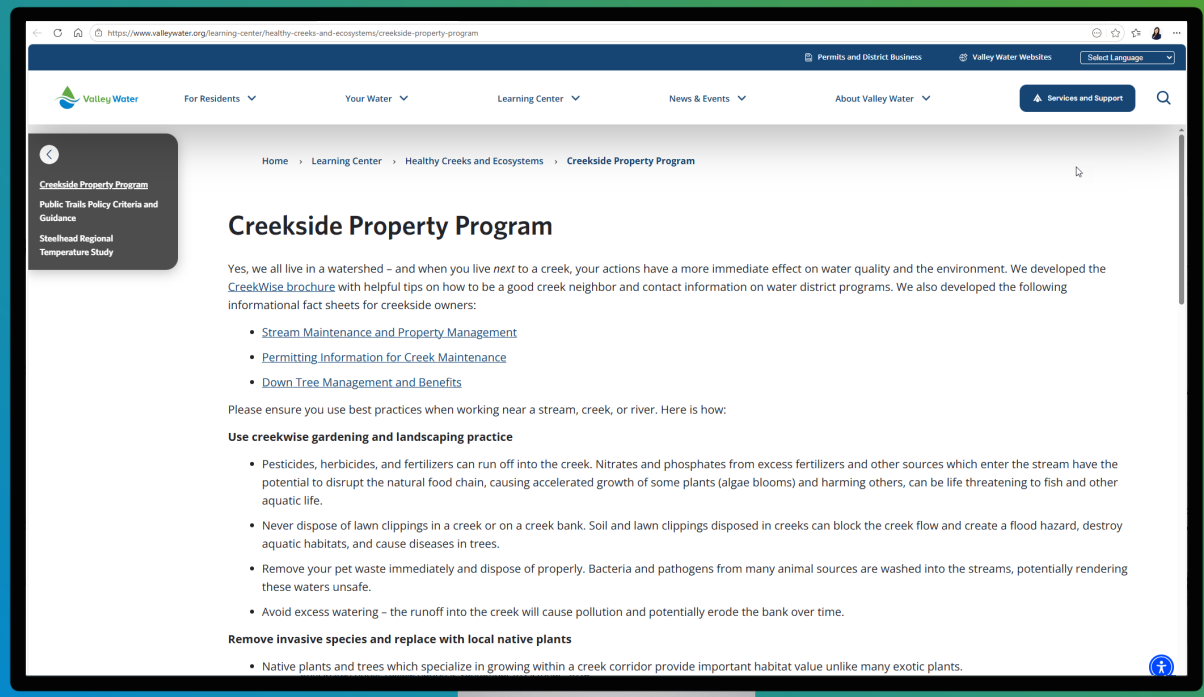
Valley Water

Creekside Property Program

Yes, we all live in a watershed – and when you live next to a creek, your actions have a more immediate effect on water quality and the environment. We developed the CreekWise brochure with helpful tips on how to be a good creek neighbor and contact information on water district programs.

Website

delivr.com/286bw-qr



Valley Water

Learn More About Valley Water's Future Projects

Water Supply Master Plan 2050

The Water Supply Master Plan is Valley Water's guiding document for long-term water supply investments to ensure water supply reliability for Santa Clara County.

Capital Improvement Program

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) contains Valley Water's capital projects, which includes flood protection, water quality and infrastructure maintenance efforts.

Thank you!


Madrone Channel
Santa Clara Valley Water District
Water you see here replenishes South County's groundwater supplies.