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# Groundwater Sustainability Plan

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JULY 2022



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& Curran**





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TO: Paul Gosselin, California Department of Water Resources Deputy Director  
FROM: Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
DATE: July 6, 2022  
RE: Revisions to Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin

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Following submittal of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) in January 2020, the Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) received a Determination Letter (Letter) on January 21, 2022 (Supplemental Appendix A) from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). The Letter provided the CBGSA with an Incomplete Determination for the GSP and the necessary corrective actions required for approval. Per SGMA regulations, the CBGSA was given a 180-day correction period to update and address any deficiencies in the GSP. DWR's Incomplete Determination identified four areas of deficiency that required revisions to and resubmittal of the GSP. The four deficiencies are summarized as follows:

- Potential Corrective Action 1: Provide justification for, and effects associated with, the sustainable management criteria and how they may affect beneficial users.
- Potential Corrective Action 2: Use of groundwater levels as a proxy for depletion of interconnected surface water.
- Potential Corrective Action 3: Further address degraded water quality by providing additional clarification and justification of available data, monitoring, and thresholds.
- Potential Corrective Action 4: Provide explanation for how overdraft will be mitigated in the basin.

To address these deficiencies, the CBGSA developed supplemental information that has been included in this revised version of the GSP. This information is included in a technical memorandum (Supplemental Appendix B) that describes the CBGSA's response to the Letter in detail, with relevant supplemental information inserted into this revised version of the GSP, including:

- Supplemental Table of Contents – This is inserted at the end of the original Table of Contents and provides page numbers of the supplemental text sections.
- Supplemental GSP Subsections – To ensure transparency, all revisions to the original GSP are included as supplemental subsections at the end of each applicable section. These supplemental subsections are on new pages separate from the original GSP, with text in **blue color font**, and with notes to identify what GSP subsections the supplemental information pertains to.

In addition, a recent review of the CBGSA January 2020 submittal to DWR revealed that an incorrect version of Section 7 was submitted to DWR at that time. To accurately reflect the direction of the CBGSA Board, the revised GSP includes the version of Section 7 that was originally approved by the Board in December 2019, with supplemental content added in response to DWR's determination letter as described above. To ensure full transparency and to assist DWR with its review, a pdf comparison between the version submitted to DWR and the version approved by the Board in December 2019 has been provided as Supplemental Appendix C.

The revised version of the GSP, including the supplemental content and appendices described above, was approved by the CBGSA Board on July 6, 2022.

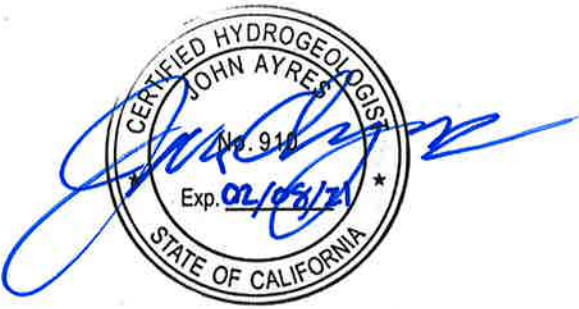


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# Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin

## Groundwater Sustainability Plan



Prepared by:



December 2019

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## Table of Contents

<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....</b>	<b>ES-1</b>
<b>1. AGENCY INFORMATION, PLAN AREA, AND COMMUNICATION .....</b>	<b>1-1</b>
1.1 Introduction and Agency Information.....	1-1
1.1.1 Contact Information .....	1-2
1.1.2 Management Structure .....	1-2
1.1.3 Legal Authority.....	1-3
1.2 Plan Area.....	1-3
1.2.1 Plan Area Definition.....	1-3
1.2.2 Plan Area Setting.....	1-3
1.2.3 Existing Surface Water Monitoring Programs.....	1-27
1.2.4 Existing Groundwater Monitoring Programs .....	1-29
1.2.5 Existing Water Management Programs .....	1-32
1.2.6 General Plans in Plan Area .....	1-34
1.2.7 Plan Elements from CWC Section 10727.4.....	1-45
1.3 Notice and Communication .....	1-46
1.3.1 Description of Beneficial Uses and Users of Groundwater.....	1-46
1.3.2 List of Public Meetings Where the GSP was Discussed .....	1-50
1.3.3 Comments Regarding the GSP Received by the CBGSA, Response Summary .....	1-50
1.3.4 GSA Decision Making Process.....	1-51
1.3.5 Opportunities for Public Engagement and How Public Input was Used .....	1-52
1.3.6 How GSA Encourages Active Involvement .....	1-54
1.3.7 Method of Informing the Public.....	1-55
1.4 References.....	1-55
<b>2. BASIN SETTINGS: OVERVIEW .....</b>	<b>2-1</b>
2.1 Basin Settings: HCM .....	2-1
2.1.1 Useful Terms .....	2-1
2.1.2 Regional Geologic and Structural Setting.....	2-3
2.1.3 Geologic History .....	2-5
2.1.4 Geologic Formations/Stratigraphy .....	2-6
2.1.5 Faults and Structural Features .....	2-17
2.1.6 Basin Boundaries .....	2-25
2.1.7 Principal Aquifers and Aquitards .....	2-26
2.1.8 Natural Water Quality Characterization .....	2-34
2.1.9 Topography, Surface Water and Recharge.....	2-38



2.1.10	Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model Data Gaps .....	2-45
2.2	Basin Settings: Groundwater Conditions.....	2-45
2.2.1	Useful Terms .....	2-48
2.2.2	Groundwater Elevation Data Processing.....	2-49
2.2.3	Groundwater Trends.....	2-59
2.2.4	Change in Groundwater Storage.....	2-94
2.2.5	Seawater Intrusion.....	2-95
2.2.6	Land Subsidence.....	2-95
2.2.7	Groundwater Quality.....	2-98
2.2.8	Interconnected Surface Water Systems .....	2-112
2.2.9	Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems.....	2-117
2.2.10	Data Gaps .....	2-121
2.3	Basin Settings: Water Budget .....	2-121
2.4	References .....	2-142
2.4.1	HCM References .....	2-142
2.4.2	Groundwater Conditions References .....	2-145
<b>3.</b>	<b>UNDESIRABLE RESULTS .....</b>	<b>3-1</b>
3.1	Sustainability Goal.....	3-1
3.2	Undesirable Results Statements .....	3-1
3.2.1	Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels .....	3-2
3.2.2	Reduction of Groundwater Storage .....	3-3
3.2.3	Seawater Intrusion.....	3-3
3.2.4	Degraded Water Quality .....	3-4
3.2.5	Land Subsidence.....	3-4
3.2.6	Depletions of Interconnected Surface Water .....	3-5
3.3	Evaluation of the Presence of Undesirable Results .....	3-6
3.3.1	Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels .....	3-6
3.3.2	Reduction of Groundwater Storage .....	3-6
3.3.3	Seawater Intrusion.....	3-7
3.3.4	Degraded Water Quality .....	3-7
3.3.5	Land Subsidence.....	3-7
3.3.6	Depletions of Interconnected Surface Water .....	3-8
3.4	References .....	3-8
<b>4.</b>	<b>MONITORING NETWORKS.....</b>	<b>4-1</b>
4.1	Useful Terms.....	4-1
4.1.1	Well-Related Terms.....	4-2





4.1.2	Other Terms .....	4-2
4.2	Monitoring Network Objectives.....	4-3
4.2.1	Basin Conditions Relevant to Measurement Density and Frequency .....	4-4
4.3	Existing Monitoring Used.....	4-6
4.3.1	Groundwater Level Monitoring .....	4-6
4.3.2	Overlapping and Duplicate Data.....	4-22
4.3.3	Groundwater Quality Monitoring (Combined Existing Programs).....	4-22
4.3.4	Subsidence Monitoring .....	4-33
4.3.5	Surface Water Monitoring.....	4-33
4.4	Monitoring Rationales.....	4-35
4.5	Groundwater Level Monitoring Network.....	4-35
4.5.1	Monitoring Wells Selected for Monitoring Network.....	4-35
4.5.2	Monitoring Frequency.....	4-39
4.5.3	Spatial Density.....	4-40
4.5.4	Representative Monitoring.....	4-41
4.5.5	Groundwater Level Monitoring Network .....	4-42
4.5.6	Monitoring Protocols.....	4-48
4.5.7	Data Gaps .....	4-48
4.5.8	Plan to Fill Data Gaps.....	4-48
4.6	Groundwater Storage Monitoring Network.....	4-50
4.7	Seawater Intrusion Monitoring Network .....	4-50
4.8	Degraded Groundwater Quality Monitoring Network.....	4-50
4.8.1	Management Areas .....	4-50
4.8.2	Monitoring Sites Selected for Monitoring Network.....	4-51
4.8.3	Monitoring Frequency .....	4-51
4.8.4	Spatial Density.....	4-51
4.8.5	Representative Monitoring.....	4-52
4.8.6	Groundwater Quality Monitoring Network.....	4-52
4.8.7	Monitoring Protocols.....	4-58
4.8.8	Data Gaps .....	4-58
4.8.9	Plan to Fill Data Gaps.....	4-60
4.9	Land Subsidence Monitoring Network.....	4-60
4.9.1	Management Areas .....	4-60
4.9.2	Monitoring Sites Selected for Monitoring Network.....	4-60
4.9.3	Monitoring Frequency .....	4-60
4.9.4	Spatial Density.....	4-61



4.9.5	Monitoring Protocols.....	4-63
4.9.6	Data Gaps .....	4-63
4.9.7	Plan to Fill Data Gaps.....	4-63
4.10	Depletions of Interconnected Surface Water Monitoring Network.....	4-66
4.11	References .....	4-66
<b>5.</b>	<b>MINIMUM THRESHOLDS, MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES, AND INTERIM MILESTONES .....</b>	<b>5-1</b>
5.1	Useful Terms .....	5-1
5.2	Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels .....	5-2
5.2.1	Threshold Regions .....	5-2
5.2.2	Minimum Thresholds, Measurable Objectives, and Interim Milestones .....	5-6
5.2.3	Selected MT, MO, and IM Graphs, Figures, and Tables .....	5-9
5.3	Reduction of Groundwater Storage.....	5-15
5.3.1	Threshold Regions .....	5-15
5.3.2	Proxy Monitoring.....	5-15
5.4	Seawater Intrusion .....	5-15
5.5	Degraded Water Quality .....	5-15
5.5.1	Threshold Regions .....	5-16
5.5.2	Proxy Monitoring.....	5-18
5.5.3	Minimum Thresholds, Measurable Objectives, and Interim Milestones .....	5-18
5.6	Subsidence.....	5-23
5.6.1	Threshold Regions .....	5-23
5.6.2	Representative Monitoring.....	5-23
5.6.3	Minimum Thresholds, Measurable Objectives, and Interim Milestones .....	5-23
5.7	Depletions of Interconnected Surface Water.....	5-26
5.8	References .....	5-26
<b>6.</b>	<b>DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM .....</b>	<b>6-1</b>
6.1	DMS Overview .....	6-1
6.2	DMS Functionality .....	6-2
6.2.1	User and Data Access Permissions .....	6-2
6.2.2	Data Entry and Validation.....	6-4
6.2.3	Visualization and Analysis .....	6-7
6.2.4	Query and Reporting .....	6-8
6.3	Data Included in the DMS .....	6-9
<b>7.</b>	<b>PROJECTS AND MANAGEMENT ACTIONS.....</b>	<b>7-1</b>
7.1	Introduction.....	7-1
7.2	Management Areas.....	7-1



7.3	Overview of Projects and Management Actions.....	7-3
7.3.1	Addressing Sustainability Indicators.....	7-4
7.3.2	Overdraft Mitigation .....	7-7
7.3.3	Water Balance Management for Drought Preparedness.....	7-7
7.4	Projects .....	7-7
7.4.1	Flood and Stormwater Capture .....	7-7
7.4.2	Precipitation Enhancement.....	7-12
7.4.3	Water Supply Transfers/Exchanges .....	7-17
7.4.4	Improve Reliability of Water Supplies for Local Communities .....	7-19
7.5	Water Management Actions .....	7-22
7.5.1	Basin-Wide Economic Analysis .....	7-22
7.5.2	Pumping Allocations in Central Basin Management Area .....	7-24
7.6	Adaptive Management .....	7-28
7.7	References .....	7-29
<b>8.</b>	<b>IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.....</b>	<b>8-1</b>
8.1	Plan Implementation.....	8-1
8.1.1	Implementation Schedule .....	8-1
8.2	Implementation Costs and Funding Sources .....	8-3
8.2.1	GSP Implementation and Funding .....	8-4
8.2.2	Projects and Management Actions .....	8-4
8.3	Annual Reports.....	8-7
8.3.1	General Information .....	8-7
8.3.2	Basin Conditions.....	8-7
8.3.3	Plan Implementation Progress .....	8-8
8.4	Five-Year Evaluation Report .....	8-8
8.4.1	Sustainability Evaluation.....	8-8
8.4.2	Plan Implementation Progress .....	8-8
8.4.3	Reconsideration of GSP Elements.....	8-8
8.4.4	Monitoring Network Description.....	8-9
8.4.5	New Information .....	8-9
8.4.6	Regulations or Ordinances .....	8-9
8.4.7	Legal or Enforcement Actions .....	8-9
8.4.8	Plan Amendments .....	8-9
8.4.9	Coordination .....	8-9



## Tables

Table 1-1: USGS Surface Flow Gages in the Cuyama Basin .....	1-27
Table 1-2: Plan Elements from CWC Section 10727.4 .....	1-45
Table 2-1: Summary of Hydraulic Conductivities in Aquifer Formations .....	2-30
Table 2-2: Stream Depletion by Reach .....	2-115
Table 2-3: Summary of Groundwater Budget Assumptions .....	2-127
Table 2-4: Average Annual Land Surface Water Budget .....	2-129
Table 2-5: Average Annual Groundwater Budget .....	2-130
Table 2-6: Current and Projected Average Annual Supply, Demand, and Change in Groundwater Storage by Water Year Type .....	2-137
Table 2-7: Average Annual Groundwater Budget for Sustainability Scenarios .....	2-142
Table 4-1: Well Identification Matrix .....	4-22
Table 4-2: Number of Wells Selected for Monitoring Network .....	4-37
Table 4-3: Monitoring frequency Based on Aquifer Properties and Degree of Use .....	4-39
Table 4-4: Monitoring Well Density Considerations .....	4-40
Table 4-5: Wells included in the Groundwater Levels and Storage Monitoring Network .....	4-43
Table 4-6: Groundwater Quality Monitoring Sites by Source .....	4-51
Table 4-7: Wells Included in the Groundwater Quality Monitoring Network .....	4-53
Table 5-1: Representative Monitoring Network and Sustainability Criteria .....	5-11
Table 5-2: MOs, MTs, and Interim Milestones for Groundwater Quality Representative Sites - TDS .....	5-19
Table 6-1: Data Management System User Types/Access .....	6-3
Table 6-2: Data Collection Site Information .....	6-5
Table 6-3: Data Types and Their Associated Parameters Configured in the DMS .....	6-10
Table 6-4: Sources of Data Included in the Data Management System .....	6-12
Table 7-1: Proposed Projects, Management Actions, and Adaptive Management Strategies...7-3	
Table 7-2: Summary of How Projects and Management Actions Address Sustainability Indicators .....	7-5
Table 8-1: CBGSA and GSP Implementation Costs .....	8-3
Table 8-2: Financing Options for Proposed Projects, Management Actions, and Adaptive Management Strategies .....	8-6



## Figures

Figure 1-1: Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin.....	1-5
Figure 1-2: Cuyama Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Boundary .....	1-6
Figure 1-3: Neighboring Groundwater Basins.....	1-10
Figure 1-4: Counties Overlying Cuyama Basin .....	1-11
Figure 1-5: Non-County Jurisdictional Boundaries .....	1-12
Figure 1-6: 1996 Land Use .....	1-13
Figure 1-7: 2000 Land Use .....	1-14
Figure 1-8: 2003 Land Use .....	1-15
Figure 1-9: 2006 Land Use .....	1-16
Figure 1-10: 2009 Land Use .....	1-17
Figure 1-11: 2012 Land Use .....	1-18
Figure 1-12: 2014 Land Use .....	1-19
Figure 1-13: 2016 Land Use .....	1-20
Figure 1-14: Land Use by Water Source .....	1-21
Figure 1-15: Domestic Well Density and Average Depths.....	1-22
Figure 1-16: Production Well Density and Average Depths.....	1-23
Figure 1-17: Public Well Density and Average Depths .....	1-24
Figure 1-18: Federal and State Lands .....	1-25
Figure 1-19: Regional Watersheds .....	1-26
Figure 1-20: Surface Stream Flow Gages .....	1-28
Figure 1-21: Topics and Decision Process for GSP Development .....	1-52
Figure 2-1: Regional Geologic Setting .....	2-4
Figure 2-2: Geologic Map .....	2-7
Figure 2-3: Generalized Stratigraphic Column of the Cuyama Valley.....	2-9
Figure 2-4: Generalized Stratigraphic Diagram .....	2-9
Figure 2-5: Location of USGS 2015 Cross Sections.....	2-14
Figure 2-6: USGS Cross Section A-A' .....	2-15
Figure 2-7: USGS Cross Section B-B' .....	2-16
Figure 2-8: Major Faults.....	2-19
Figure 2-9: Geology with DeLong Overlay .....	2-24
Figure 2-10: Location of Aquifer Testing Well Sites.....	2-33
Figure 2-11: Location of USGS 2013 Groundwater Quality Sampling Sites .....	2-35
Figure 2-12: Piper Diagram for Well CVKR1-4 .....	2-36
Figure 2-13: Location Map for Samples Used in Figure 2-12 .....	2-36
Figure 2-14: Piper Diagram of USGS 2013 Water Quality Sampling.....	2-37





Figure 2-15: Location Map of USGS 2013 Sampling.....	2-37
Figure 2-16: Topography .....	2-39
Figure 2-17: Surface Water.....	2-40
Figure 2-18: Recharge Areas and Springs .....	2-42
Figure 2-19: Soils by Permeability .....	2-43
Figure 2-20: Soils by Hydrologic Group .....	2-44
Figure 2-21: Cuyama Basin Landmarks .....	2-47
Figure 2-22: Cuyama Basin Wells with Monitoring Well provided by DWR .....	2-51
Figure 2-23: Cuyama Basin Wells with Monitoring Data provided by USGS.....	2-52
Figure 2-24: Cuyama Basin Wells with Monitoring Data provided by Local Agencies.....	2-53
Figure 2-25: Cuyama Basin Wells with Monitoring Data provided by Private Landowners .....	2-55
Figure 2-26: Cuyama Basin Wells by Last Measurement Date .....	2-56
Figure 2-27: Central Cuyama Basin Wells and Hydrographs by Data Source.....	2-57
Figure 2-28: Western Cuyama Basin Wells and Hydrographs by Data Source.....	2-58
Figure 2-29: Water Level Drawdown Contours, 1966 to 1947.....	2-60
Figure 2-30: 1966 Water Level Contours.....	2-61
Figure 2-31: Cuyama Groundwater Basin Hydrographs .....	2-64
Figure 2-32: Cuyama Groundwater Basin Hydrographs in the Ventucopa Area of the Basin .....	2-65
Figure 2-33: Cuyama Groundwater Basin Historical Hydrographs in the Central Basin.....	2-66
Figure 2-34: Cuyama Groundwater Basin Hydrographs in the Central Portion of the Basin ...	2-67
Figure 2-35: Cuyama Groundwater Basin Hydrographs in the Westside Area of the Basin....	2-68
Figure 2-36: Hydrographs of CVFR1-4 .....	2-71
Figure 2-37: Hydrographs of CVBR1-4.....	2-72
Figure 2-38: Hydrographs of CVKR1-4.....	2-73
Figure 2-39: Cuyama Basin Wells by Groundwater Surface Elevation in Spring 2018.....	2-76
Figure 2-40: Cuyama Basin Wells by Depth to Water in Spring 2018 .....	2-77
Figure 2-41: Fall 2017 Groundwater Elevation Contours.....	2-79
Figure 2-42: Fall 2017 Depth to Water Contours .....	2-81
Figure 2-43: Spring 2017 Groundwater Elevation Contours .....	2-83
Figure 2-44: Spring 2017 Depth to Water Contours .....	2-85
Figure 2-45: Spring 2015 Groundwater Elevation Contours .....	2-87
Figure 2-46: Spring 2015 Depth to Water Contours .....	2-89
Figure 2-47: Fall 2014 Groundwater Elevation Contours.....	2-91
Figure 2-48: Fall 2014 Depth to Water Contours .....	2-93
Figure 2-49: Cuyama Groundwater Storage by Year, Water Year Type, and Cumulative Water Volume.....	2-94



Figure 2-50: Locations of Continuous GPS and Reference InSAR Sites  
in the Cuyama Valley .....2-96

Figure 2-51: Subsidence Monitoring Locations.....2-97

Figure 2-52: 1966 Average Well Measurements of Total Dissolved Solids .....2-101

Figure 2-53: 2011-2018 Average Well Measurements of Total Dissolved Solids .....2-102

Figure 2-54: Cuyama Groundwater Basin Historic TDS Levels in Selected Wells .....2-103

Figure 2-55: 1966 Average Well Measurements of Nitrate as Nitrogen .....2-104

Figure 2-56: 2011-2018 Average Well Measurements of Nitrate as Nitrogen .....2-105

Figure 2-57: 2008-2018 Average Well Measurements of Arsenic, ug/L .....2-106

Figure 2-58: Sites with Water Quality Concerns .....2-107

Figure 2-59: Locations of GAMA Sample Locations .....2-109

Figure 2-60: USGS 2013c Water Quality Monitoring Sites .....2-111

Figure 2-61: Assigned Surface Water Flow Reaches .....2-113

Figure 2-62: NCCAG Dataset in the Cuyama Basin .....2-118

Figure 2-63: Groupings Used in GDE Analysis.....2-119

Figure 2-64: Probable and Non-Probable GDEs .....2-120

Figure 2-65: Generalized Water Budget Diagram.....2-123

Figure 2-66: 50-Year Historical Precipitation and Cumulative Departure  
from Mean Precipitation .....2-125

Figure 2-67: Historical Average Annual Land Surface Water Budget.....2-131

Figure 2-68: Historical Land Surface Water Budget Annual Time Series .....2-131

Figure 2-69: Historical Average Annual Groundwater Budget .....2-132

Figure 2-70: Historical Groundwater Budget Annual Time Series .....2-133

Figure 2-71: Current and Projected Average Annual Land Surface Water Budget .....2-134

Figure 2-72: Current and Projected Land Surface Water Budget Annual Time Series.....2-134

Figure 2-73: Current and Projected Average Annual Groundwater Budget.....2-135

Figure 2-74: Current and Projected Groundwater Budget Annual Time Series .....2-136

Figure 2-75: Projected Average Annual Land Surface Water Budget with Climate Change .2-138

Figure 2-76: Projected Land Surface Water Budget with Climate Change  
Annual Time Series .....2-138

Figure 2-77: Current and Projected Average Annual Groundwater Budget.....2-139

Figure 2-78: Current and Projected Groundwater Budget Annual Time Series .....2-140

Figure 4-1: Well Completion Diagram .....4-1

Figure 4-2: Central Basin with Combined Hydrograph .....4-5

Figure 4-3: Cuyama Groundwater Basin Wells with Monitoring Data Provided by DWR .....4-8

Figure 4-4: Cuyama Groundwater Basin Wells with Monitoring Data Provided by USGS.....4-11

Figure 4-5: Cuyama Groundwater Basin Wells with Monitoring Data Provided by SBCWA....4-13



Figure 4-6: Cuyama Groundwater Basin Wells with Monitoring Data Provided by SLOCFC&WCD .....4-15

Figure 4-7: Cuyama Groundwater Basin Wells with Monitoring Data Provided by VCWPD.... 4-17

Figure 4-8: Cuyama Groundwater Basin Wells with Monitoring Data Provided by CCSD.....4-19

Figure 4-9: Cuyama Groundwater Basin Wells with Monitoring Data Provided by Private Landowners .....4-21

Figure 4-10: Cuyama Basin NWQMC, USGS, ILRP Water Quality Monitoring Sites .....4-24

Figure 4-11: Cuyama Basin GAMA/DWR Groundwater Quality Monitoring Sites .....4-26

Figure 4-12:Cuyama Basin CCSD Water Quality Monitoring Site .....4-28

Figure 4-13: Cuyama Basin VCWPD Water Quality Sites .....4-30

Figure 4-14: Cuyama Basin Landowner Water Quality Sites.....4-32

Figure 4-15: Cuyama Basin Rivers, Streams, and Surface Flow Gages .....4-34

Figure 4-16: Cuyama Well Tiering Criteria.....4-36

Figure 4-17: Cuyama Basin Groundwater Level and Storage Monitoring Network Wells by Tier.....4-38

Figure 4-18: Groundwater Level and Storage Representative Wells, and Other Monitoring Network Wells .....4-47

Figure 4-19: Groundwater Levels Monitoring Network Data Gap Areas.....4-49

Figure 4-20: Cuyama Basin Groundwater Quality Monitoring Network Wells.....4-57

Figure 4-21: Identification of Groundwater Quality Monitoring Data Gaps.....4-59

Figure 4-22: Current Subsidence Monitoring Stations In and Around the Cuyama Basin .....4-62

Figure 4-23: Subsidence Monitoring Location Data Gap Areas.....4-65

Figure 5-1: Threshold Regions .....5-4

Figure 5-2: Example Hydrograph.....5-10

Figure 5-3: Groundwater Quality Representative Wells.....5-17

Figure 5-4: Subsidence Representative Locations .....5-25

Figure 6-1: Screenshot of Opti Platform .....6-1

Figure 6-2: Screenshot of Opti Login Screen.....6-4

Figure 6-3: Screenshot of Data Entry Tool Interface .....6-6

Figure 6-4: DMS Map View .....6-8

Figure 7-1: CBGSA Management Areas.....7-2

Figure 7-2: Groundwater Recharge Potential in Santa Barbara County .....7-11

Figure 7-3: Potential Change in Groundwater Storage from Precipitation Enhancement.....7-14

Figure 7-4: Glide Path for Central Basin Management Area Groundwater Pumping Reductions .....7-26

Figure 8-1: Implementation Schedule .....8-2



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## Appendices

Appendices are organized by chapter at the end of this document.

### Chapter 1

- Appendix A Preparation Checklist for Groundwater Sustainability Plan Submittal
- Appendix B Notification of Intent to Develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan
- Appendix C Notice of Decision to Form a Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- Appendix D Groundwater Sustainability Plan Summary of Public Comments and Responses

### Chapter 2

- Appendix A – Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin Hydrographs
- Appendix B – White Paper: Subsidence and Subsidence Monitoring Techniques
- Appendix C – Cuyama Basin Water Resources Model Documentation
- Appendix D – Technical Memorandum: Verification of NCCAG-Identified Locations

### Chapter 4

- Appendix A – Monitoring Protocols for Groundwater Level Monitoring Network
- Appendix B – USGS Ground-Water Data-Collection Protocols and Procedures for the National Water-Quality Assessment Program: Collection and Documentation of Water-Quality Samples and Related Data

### Chapter 5

- Appendix A – Hydrographs Showing Minimum Thresholds, Measurable Objectives and Interim Milestones

### Chapter 6

- Appendix A – Cuyama Basin Data Management System Opti Data Public User Guide



## Acronyms

µg/L	micrograms per liter
AF	acre-feet (foot)
AFY	acre-feet per year
AHOGS	automated high output ground seeding system site
Basin	Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin
BMP	best management practice
CASGEM Program	California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program
CBGSA	Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
CBWD	Cuyama Basin Water District
CBWRM	Cuyama Basin Water Resources Model
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CCSD	Cuyama Community Services District
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEDEN	California Environmental Data Exchange Network
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CGPS	continuous global positioning system
CMWC	Cuyama Mutual Water Company
CUVHM	Cuyama Valley Hydrologic Model
DEM	digital elevation model
DMS	data management system
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
EKI	EKI Environment & Water, Inc.
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
GAMA Program	California Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment Program
GDE	groundwater dependent ecosystem
GPS	global positioning system
GSE	ground surface elevation
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
HCM	hydrogeologic conceptual model





## Acronyms

ID	identification number
ILRP	Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program
IM	interim milestone
InSAR	interferometric synthetic aperture radar
IRWM	Integrated Regional Water Management
LID	low impact development
LiDAR	light detection and ranging
Ma	million years
MCL	maximum contaminant level
mg/L	milligrams per liter
MO	measurable objective
MSC	Master State Well Code
MT	minimum threshold
NAVSTAR	Original name for the Global Positioning System; satellite-based radionavigation system owned by the United States government and operated by the United States Air Force
NCCAG	Natural Communities Commonly Associated with Groundwater
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NWIS	National Watershed Information System
NWQMC	National Water Quality Monitoring Council
PBO	Plate Boundary Observatory
PG&E	Pacific Gas & Electric
PRISM	Parameter-Elevation Regressions on Independent Slopes Model
RCD	Resource Conservation District
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SAGBI	Soil Agricultural Groundwater Banking Index
SBCF	Santa Barbara Canyon Fault
SBCWA	Santa Barbara County Water Agency



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## Acronyms

SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SLOCFC&WCD	San Luis Obispo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District
SR	State Route
TDS	total dissolved solids
TSS	Technical Support Services
UNAVCO	University NAVSTAR Consortium, a non-profit, university-governed consortium facilitating geoscience research and education using geodesy
USGS	United States Geological Survey
VCWPD	Ventura County Watershed Protection District
VWSC	Ventucopa Water Supply Company
WDL	Water Data Library
WMP	Water Management Plan



## Supplemental Table of Contents

<b>1. AGENCY INFORMATION, PLAN AREA, AND COMMUNICATION</b> .....	<b>1-1</b>
<i>No supplemental text was added to Section 1 during the 2022 Update</i>	
<b>2. BASIN SETTINGS: OVERVIEW</b> .....	<b>2-1</b>
2.2.7 Groundwater Conditions: Groundwater Quality .....	2-147
<b>3. UNDESIRABLE RESULTS</b> .....	<b>3-1</b>
3.3 Evaluation of the Presence of Undesirable Results .....	3-9
<b>4. MONITORING NETWORKS</b> .....	<b>4-1</b>
4.10 Depletions of Interconnected Surface Water Monitoring Network .....	4-68
<b>5. MINIMUM THRESHOLDS, MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES, AND INTERIM MILESTONES</b> .....	<b>5-1</b>
5.2 Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels .....	5-27
5.5 Degraded Water Quality .....	5-32
<b>6. DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM</b> .....	<b>6-1</b>
<i>No supplemental text was added to Section 6 during the 2022 Update</i>	
<b>7. PROJECTS AND MANAGEMENT ACTIONS</b> .....	<b>7-1</b>
7.2 Management Areas .....	7-29
7.6 Adaptive Management .....	7-32
<b>8. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN</b> .....	<b>8-1</b>
<i>No supplemental text was added to Section 8 during the 2022 Update</i>	

## Supplemental Tables

Table 2-8: Summary Statistics for Nitrate (as N) and Arsenic .....	2-147
Table 4-8: Interconnected Surface Water Monitoring Network .....	4-71
Table 5-3: Domestic and Production Wells and MT Summary Statistics .....	5-28
Table 7-3: Eastern Region Groundwater Budget Summary (acre-feet per year) .....	7-30

## Supplemental Figures

Figure 2-79: Average Well Measurements of Nitrate (as N) from 2010 through 2020 .....	2-148
Figure 2-80: Average Well Measurements of Arsenic from 2010 through 2020 .....	2-149
Figure 4-24: Potential Stream Interconnectivity using Historical Modeled Groundwater Levels in January 2015 .....	4-69
Figure 4-25: Interconnected Surface Water Monitoring Network .....	4-73
Figure 5-5: Well Status Based on Minimum Threshold Analysis .....	5-29
Figure 5-6: Change in Groundwater Levels in Northwestern Region from CBWRM Test Simulation .....	5-31



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## Supplemental Appendices

### 2022 Update

Appendix A – DWR “Incomplete” Determination of the 2020 Cuyama Valley Basin GSP

Appendix B – CBGSA Response to DWR’s Determination Letter

Appendix C – PDF Comparison of Section 7 Versions (as Submitted vs Board Approved)





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