

# Our Groundwater Sustainability Plan



**Montecito GSA** recognized by California's Department of Water Resources (DWR) after extensive public formation process

## Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)

Adopted & Submitted to Department of Water Resources (DWR) in 2023  
Approved February 2025

Scan to View Plan



*Findings based on available data and analysis indicate Montecito Groundwater Basin is not currently experiencing undesirable results.*

## GSP 5 Year Evaluations

2014

**Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)**  
Legislation enacted

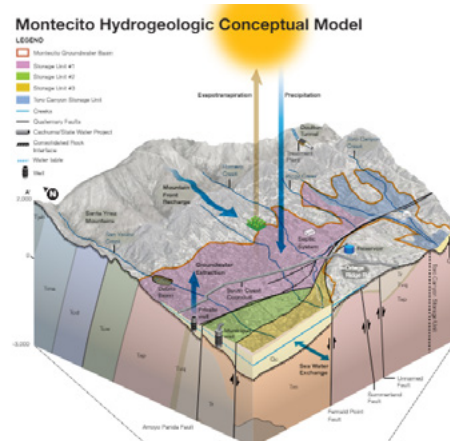
2018

## Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)

### Development

- Community Engagement Plan Implemented
- Stakeholder & Technical Advisory Committees Formed
- Grant Funding \$2M+ Secured
- Projects / Data Collection Initiated:

- Basin Numerical Model
- Seawater Intrusion Monitoring
- Voluntary Well Metering Program
- Surface Water Flow Measurements
- Monitoring Well Network



2023

2025

2028

2033

2038

2043

### Implementation

Forward Focus: fill data gaps to support ongoing monitoring and model refinement

- Expand Groundwater Level and Quality Monitoring
- Expand Seawater Intrusion Monitoring Network
- Expand Voluntary Well Metering
- Evaluate Groundwater-Surface Water Interactions
- Incentivize Stakeholder Participation: Rebates
- Enhance Groundwater Well Database: Well Registry
- Update Basin Numerical Model
- Pursue additional Grant funding

## Long Term Sustainability Goal

*The Montecito GSA's sustainability goal is to prevent undesirable results and optimize long-term use of the groundwater basin for the benefit of all stakeholders.*

*This will be achieved through a collaborative, knowledge-based process informed by locally-defined quantitative criteria, ongoing monitoring and modeling, and incremental, data-supported management actions as needed to prevent seawater intrusion and ensure sustainable groundwater levels, storage, and quality.*



## Why is Groundwater Important for Our Community?

Residences, commercial institutions, agricultural operations, and the community at large depends upon groundwater. Public wells supplying Montecito Water District and many private wells draw from the Montecito Groundwater Basin. The water derived from these wells is vital to the health, wellbeing, and vibrancy of our community, particularly during periods of drought.

## Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)

SGMA, legislated in 2014, recognizes that groundwater provides a significant portion of California's water supply and that groundwater resources are most effectively managed at the **local** or regional level.

## Montecito Groundwater Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Montecito GSA's mission is to ensure a reliable and sustainable groundwater supply for the community through effective basin management pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Montecito GSA is the local agency responsible for developing and implementing a Groundwater Sustainability Plan to provide for long-term health of the basin.





Montecito Groundwater Basin

**Groundwater  
Sustainability  
Agency**

### Learn More

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