

SECTION 2: Administrative Information [Article 5, SubArticle 1]

§354.2 Introduction to Administrative Information. This Subarticle describes information in the Plan relating to administrative and other general information about the Agency that has adopted the Plan and the area covered by the Plan.

2.1 Agency Information [§354.6]

DWR initially designated the Basin as a low priority basin, indicating that it would not be required to form a GSA and prepare a Plan under SGMA. In 2019, DWR conducted a basin reprioritization process that reclassified the Basin as a high priority basin based on a recalculation of the importance and dependency of local water users on groundwater. Therefore, this Plan has been prepared to meet SGMA requirements. On January 31, 2020, the Carpinteria Valley Water District (CVWD), the City of Carpinteria, the Santa Barbara County Water Agency (Water Agency), and the County of Ventura entered into a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (JPA) to form the Carpinteria Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Carpinteria GSA) for the purpose of managing groundwater in the Basin and developing this Plan for the Basin. The JPA outlines the powers of the GSA and describes the Board of Directors composition, decision making, and other terms. The Carpinteria GSA Board of Directors adopted Resolution 0001 on February 7, 2020 declaring its intent to designate itself to DWR as the recognized GSA for the Basin, and the required documentation was submitted to DWR in February 2020. The Carpinteria GSA's formation documents are presented in Appendix A.

2.2 Member Agencies

2.2.1 Carpinteria Valley Water District

CVWD was established in 1941 and comprises approximately 11,300 acres in the southern coastal portion of Santa Barbara County, including the City of Carpinteria. CVWD was formed under California Water Code § 30000 et seq. to provide potable water to residential, commercial, and agricultural customers in the Carpinteria Valley, and it has managed groundwater in the Basin under the authority of AB 3030 since 1994. It is governed by a five-member board of directors elected for four-year terms. The board sets water rates, enters into contracts, and has the authority to adopt ordinances effective within its boundaries. CVWD has a staff of about 20 employees under the direction of a General Manager.

2.2.2 City of Carpinteria

The City of Carpinteria was incorporated on September 28, 1965, as a general law city with a five-member City Council elected for four-year overlapping terms. The mayor and vice-mayor are selected by the council from among its members and serve two-year terms. A City Manager is appointed by the council. Water and wastewater treatment services within the city are provided by CVWD and the Carpinteria Sanitary District, respectively. The City exercises management of stormwater flows and land use authority within city limits.

2.2.3 Santa Barbara County Water Agency

The majority of the Basin is located in Santa Barbara County. The Water Agency was established in 1945 by the California Legislature through the Santa Barbara County Water Agency Act to control and conserve storm, flood, and other surface waters for beneficial use and to enter into contracts for water supply. The Water Agency is part of the Santa Barbara County Public Works Department and is responsible for the following:

- Preparing investigations and reports on the County’s water requirements, groundwater conditions, efficient use of water, and other water supply related technical studies.
- Managing County-wide programs, including the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program, Regional Water Efficiency Program, and winter cloud seeding program.
- Providing technical assistance to other County departments, water districts, and the public concerning water availability.
- Administering certain provisions of the Cachuma Project and the Twitchell Dam Project contracts with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR).
- Participating in GSAs.

2.2.4 County of Ventura

The County of Ventura exercises water management and land use planning authority within lands overlying the eastern portion of the Basin. The County of Ventura was formed in 1873 when it separated from Santa Barbara County. The County is governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors elected to serve four-year terms with chairmanship rotating annually.

2.3 Name and Mailing Address [§354.6(a)]

§354.6 Agency Information. When submitting an adopted Plan to the Department, the Agency shall include a copy of the information provided pursuant to Water Code Section 10723.8, with any updates, if necessary, along with the following information:

(a) The name and mailing address of the Agency.

Carpinteria Groundwater Sustainability Agency
1301 Santa Ynez Avenue
Carpinteria, CA 93013

2.4 Organization and Management Structure [§354.6(b)]

§354.6 Agency Information. When submitting an adopted Plan to the Department, the Agency shall include a copy of the information provided pursuant to Water Code Section 10723.8, with any updates, if necessary, along with the following information:

(b) The organization and management structure of the Agency, identifying persons with management authority for implementation of the Plan.

The 2020 JPA describes the agreement among the four member agencies to establish the Carpinteria GSA to manage groundwater in the Basin sustainably and to develop, adopt, and implement a SGMA-compliant Plan for the Basin. It specifies procedures for decision making, describes the GSA’s powers and responsibilities related to Plan development and implementation, and includes provisions for quarterly and special meetings. The 2020 JPA is presented in Appendix A.

The JPA sets forth a governance structure for the GSA, including a board of directors composed of five “regular” and three “optional” directors. The five regular directors are appointed from CVWD, and each of

three optional directors is appointed by one of the other member agencies of the GSA. Directors are appointed to serve for a four-year term and must be a member of the appointing member agency's legislative body. Officers of the board include a chair and a vice chair elected by the board. Each member agency can appoint an alternate director to serve as a substitute in a director's absence. Alternate directors may be a member of the appointing member's legislative body or be in a senior management staff position. The board appoints a treasurer/auditor and an executive director.

2.4.1 Plan Manager and Contact Information [§354.6(c)]

§354.6 Agency Information. When submitting an adopted Plan to the Department, the Agency shall include a copy of the information provided pursuant to Water Code Section 10723.8, with any updates, if necessary, along with the following information:

(c) The name and contact information, including the phone number, mailing address and electronic mail address, of the plan manager.

Robert McDonald, Executive Director
Carpinteria GSA
Mailing address:
1301 Santa Ynez Avenue
Carpinteria, CA 93013
Phone: (805) 684-2816 x123
Email: bob@cvwd.net

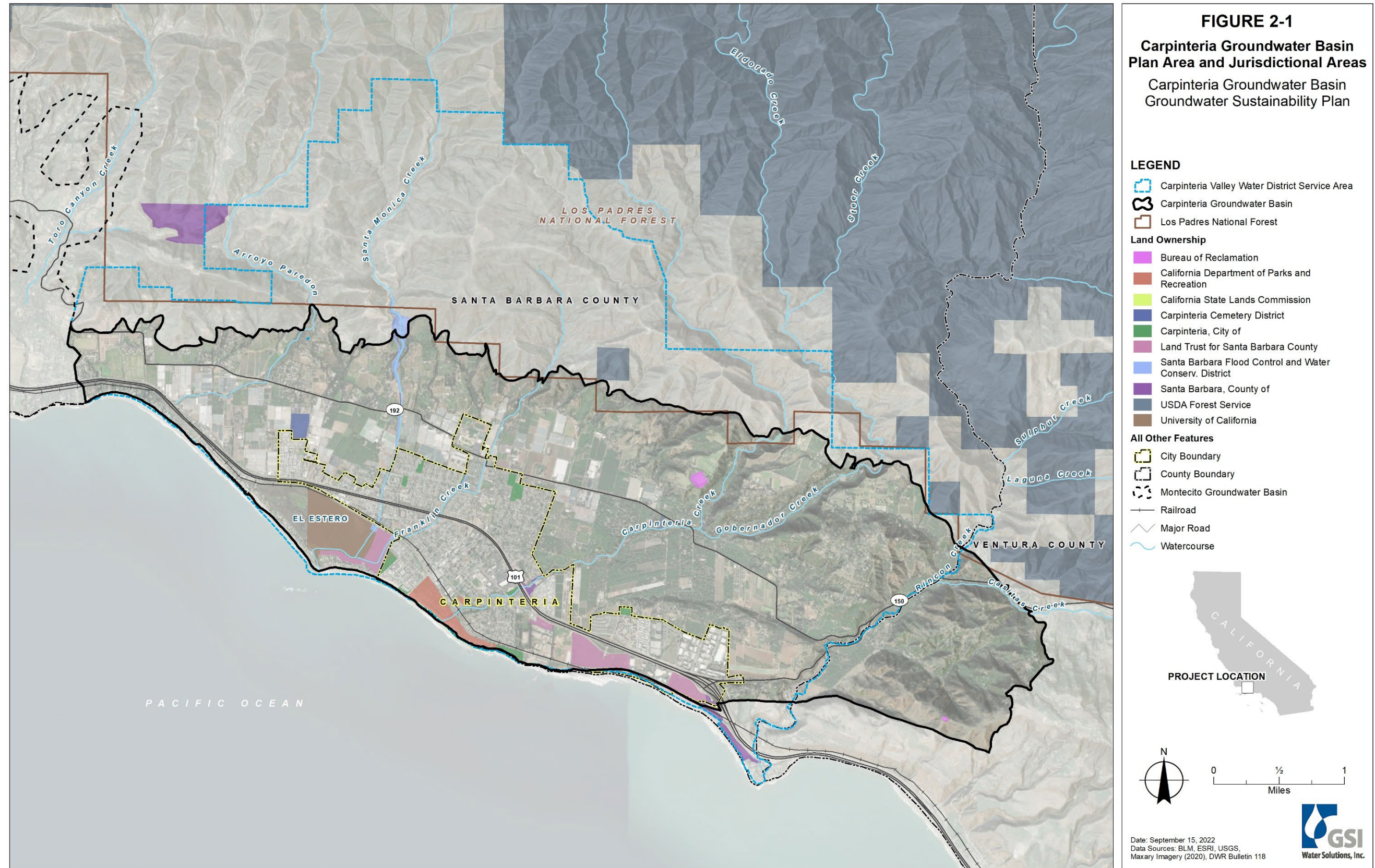
2.4.2 Legal Authority [§354.6(d)]

§354.6 Agency Information. When submitting an adopted Plan to the Department, the Agency shall include a copy of the information provided pursuant to Water Code Section 10723.8, with any updates, if necessary, along with the following information:

(d) The legal authority of the Agency, with specific reference to citations setting forth the duties, powers, and responsibilities of the Agency, demonstrating that the Agency has the legal authority to implement the Plan.

The Carpinteria GSA was formed in accordance with the requirements of California Water Code § 10723 et seq. The 2020 JPA sets forth the specific authorities of the Carpinteria GSA in developing and implementing this Plan and is included, along with the resolution to designate itself as the GSA for the Basin, in Appendix A. The JPA grants the Carpinteria GSA the authority to have all powers that a GSA is authorized to exercise as provided by SGMA, including, but not limited to, developing a Plan and imposing fees to fund GSA and Plan-related activities.

Figure 2-1 shows the extent of the planning area under this Plan, including the jurisdictional boundaries of each of the Carpinteria GSA's four member agencies. The entire plan area is covered by the four agencies, and no portion of the Basin is covered by an exclusive agency as defined in SGMA. Therefore, the Carpinteria GSA has the legal authority to implement this Plan throughout the plan area, and no authority is needed from any other GSA or agency to implement this Plan.



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2.4.3 Cost and Funding of Plan Implementation [§354.6(e)]

§354.6 Agency Information. When submitting an adopted Plan to the Department, the Agency shall include a copy of the information provided pursuant to Water Code Section 10723.8, with any updates, if necessary, along with the following information:

(e) An estimate of the cost of implementing the Plan and a general description of how the Agency plans to meet those costs.

Estimated costs and options for funding implementation of this Plan are presented in Section 7 of the Plan.

2.5 Description of Plan Area [§354.8(a)(1),(a)(2)]

This Plan covers the entire Carpinteria Groundwater Basin identified by DWR as Basin No. 3-018 (DWR, 2018). This 7,801-acre (12.7 square mile) coastal basin includes portions of Santa Barbara County and Ventura County and the incorporated City of Carpinteria. Surface water bodies in the plan area include the Carpinteria, Franklin, Gobernador, Rincon, Toro Canyon, and Santa Monica Creeks. Highway 101 forms the major transportation corridor running from northwest to southeast through the Basin. Average annual precipitation within the Basin ranges from 15 to 19 inches.

The Basin's eastern boundary underlies Rincon Creek near Laguna Ridge. The Pacific Ocean forms its southern boundary. An adjustment to the western boundary was approved by DWR in 2018 following an application submitted by the Montecito Water District and supported by CVWD for a jurisdictional basin boundary modification. The originally defined Basin boundary was moved to the west to coincide with the boundary between the two water districts' service areas. The new western boundary of the Basin follows the limits of the CVWD service area along Toro Canyon and separates the Basin from the Montecito groundwater basin. The Basin's northern boundary is delineated at the geologic contact with the Coldwater Sandstone and Sespe Formations in the foothills of the Santa Ynez Mountains. DWR approved a second basin boundary modification request in 2018 to refine the delineation of the northern boundary using more recently published geologic maps.

Groundwater rights in the Basin have not been adjudicated. No other GSAs have been formed within the Basin, and no alternative plans have been submitted for any part of the Basin. Therefore, no map is included in this Plan for adjudicated areas or alternative plans.

2.5.1 Summary of Jurisdictional Areas and Other Features [§354.8 (a)(3),(a)(4), and (b)]

§354.8 Description of Plan Area. Each Plan shall include a description of the geographic areas covered, including the following information:

(a) One or more maps of the basin that depict the following, as applicable:

(1) The area covered by the Plan, delineating areas managed by the Agency as an exclusive Agency and any areas for which the Agency is not an exclusive Agency, and the name and location of any adjacent basins.

(2) Adjudicated areas, other Agencies within the basin, and areas covered by an Alternative.

(3) Jurisdictional boundaries of federal or state land (including the identity of the agency with jurisdiction over that land), tribal land, cities, counties, agencies with water management responsibilities, and areas covered by relevant general plans.

(4) Existing land use designations and the identification of water use sector and water source type.

(b) A written description of the Plan area, including a summary of the jurisdictional areas and other features depicted on the map.

Land use jurisdictions in the Basin include Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, the incorporated City of Carpinteria, and small portions of federal and state-owned lands. In unincorporated areas under county jurisdiction, the County of Santa Barbara and the County of Ventura are responsible for comprehensive long-range planning, permitting, and development review. The Santa Barbara Flood Control and Water Conservation District has jurisdiction over certain flood control facilities. The City of Carpinteria has land management authority within its boundaries, and municipal and agricultural water service within the City is provided by CVWD. The Bureau of Reclamation has jurisdiction over the Carpinteria Regulating Reservoir. Lands under state jurisdiction include Carpinteria State Beach (California Department of Parks and Recreation), the beds of tidal waters (California State Lands Commission), and the Carpinteria Salt Marsh Reserve (University of California Natural Reserve System).

CVWD's service area covers all of the Basin within Santa Barbara County with the exception of a small area on the northeast edge of the District boundary, and the service area also extends beyond the Basin boundaries to the north and includes a small portion to the southeast of the Basin on the west side of Rincon Point. CVWD has water management and supply authority within its service area. The Ventura County portion of the Basin is located within the service area of Casitas Municipal Water District, which has water management and supply authority within its service area.

The jurisdictional extent of local, state, and federal jurisdictions within the Basin is shown in Figure 2-1.

2.5.1.1 Land Use

Land use planning authority in unincorporated areas is the responsibility of the Counties. Santa Barbara County and Ventura County collaborate on integrated regional water management, water planning, and land use issues. According to land use data prepared using 2018 data by Land IQ, LLC, and provided to DWR, the

primary land uses in the Basin are agriculture, urban areas, and undeveloped land. Current land uses are summarized by category in Table 2-1 and shown on Figure 2-2.

Table 2-1. Land Use Summary in 2018

Land Use Category	Acres
Agriculture by Crop Type	
Citrus and Subtropical	2,055
Truck, Nursery, and Berry Crops	701
Young Perennial	48
Pasture	80
Grain and Hay	6
Vineyard	1
Deciduous Fruits and Nuts	2
Unclassified Fallow	120
Total Agriculture	3,013
Urban	1,673
Native Vegetation / Rural Residential	3,115
Total	7,801

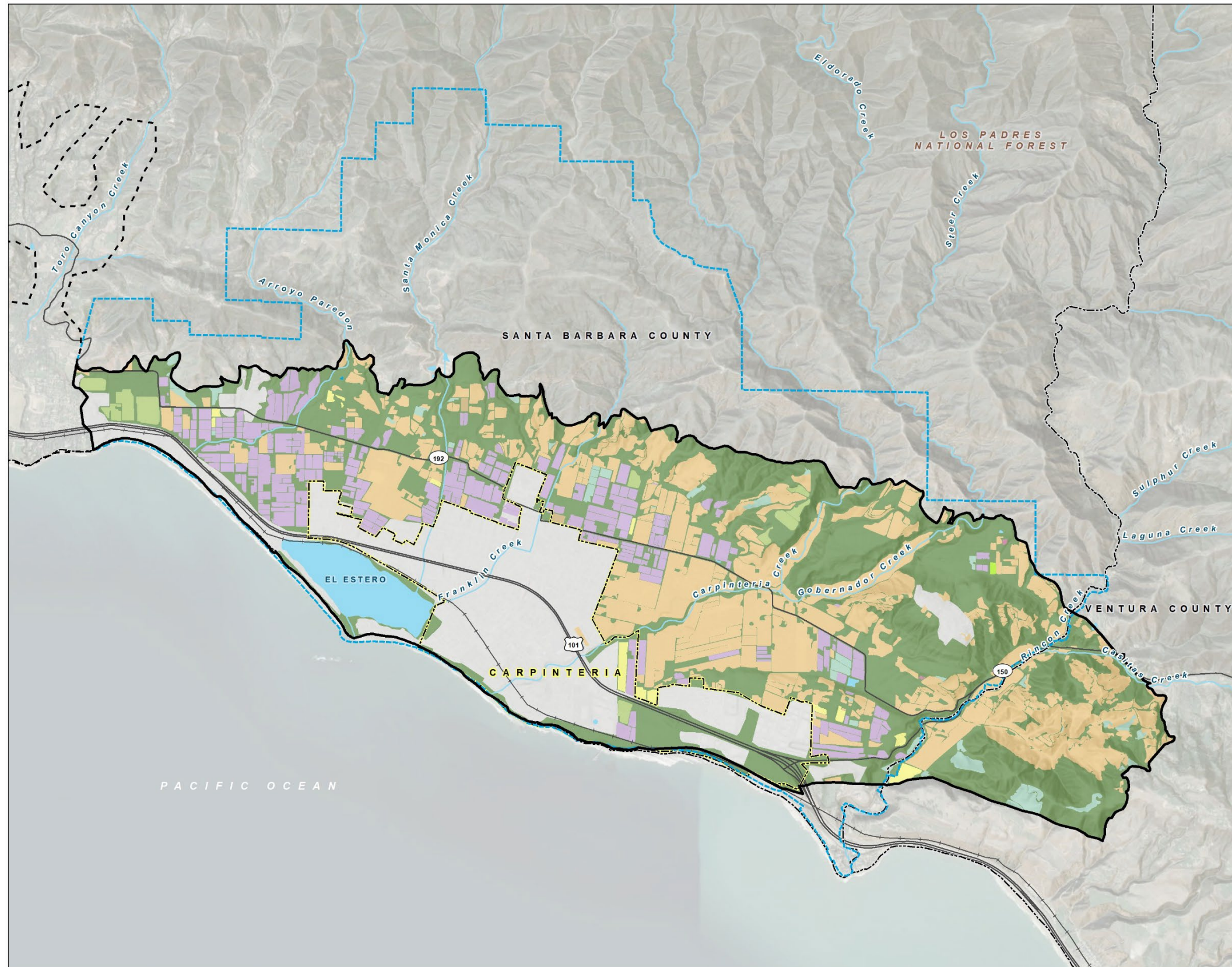


FIGURE 2-2
Existing Land Use Designations
 Carpinteria Groundwater Basin
 Groundwater Sustainability Plan

LEGEND

- Carpinteria Valley Water District Service Area
- Carpinteria Groundwater Basin

Land Use

- Citrus and Subtropical
- Deciduous Fruits and Nuts
- Grain and Hay Crops
- Pasture
- Truck, Nursery, and Berry Crops
- Urban
- Vineyards
- Unclassified Fallow
- Young Perennial
- Native Vegetation and Rural Domestic

All Other Features

- City Boundary
- County Boundary
- Montecito Groundwater Basin
- Railroad
- Major Road
- Watercourse
- Waterbody

NOTE
 DWR: California Department of Water Resources

Date: September 12, 2022
 Data Sources: BLM, ESRI, USGS, Maxary Imagery (2020), DWR Bulletin 118, DWR (2018)

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The City of Carpinteria, which occupies approximately 2.6 square miles within the Basin, includes the following zoning designations within its boundaries (City of Carpinteria, 2003):

- Three Residential categories
- Planned Unit Development
- General Commercial and Visitor-serving Commercial
- Three Industrial categories
- Public Facility
- Open Space/Recreation
- Agriculture
- Transportation Corridor

Further details on land use planning are available in Section 2.2.3 of this Plan.

2.5.1.2 Water Use Sector

Water demands in the Basin are organized into the six water use sectors identified in the SGMA emergency regulations. These are:

- **Urban.** Urban water use is assigned to non-agricultural water uses in the City of Carpinteria.
- **Industrial.** There is limited industrial use in the Basin. Most industrial use is located within the City of Carpinteria and is accounted for in the urban water use sector.
- **Agricultural.** This is a major water use sector in the Basin and is mostly outside of the City of Carpinteria.
- **Managed wetlands.** The Carpinteria Salt Marsh, also known as El Estero, includes wetland habitat managed by the University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB) Natural Reserve System, Santa Barbara Land Trust, and the City of Carpinteria.
- **Managed recharge.** At present there is no managed recharge in the Basin.
- **Native vegetation.** This is a major water use sector in the Basin by land area. This sector, required by the regulations, includes rural residential areas. Native vegetation is the term used in the regulations for all other unmanaged and non-irrigated land use sectors.

Figure 2-3 shows the distribution of the water use sectors in the Basin.

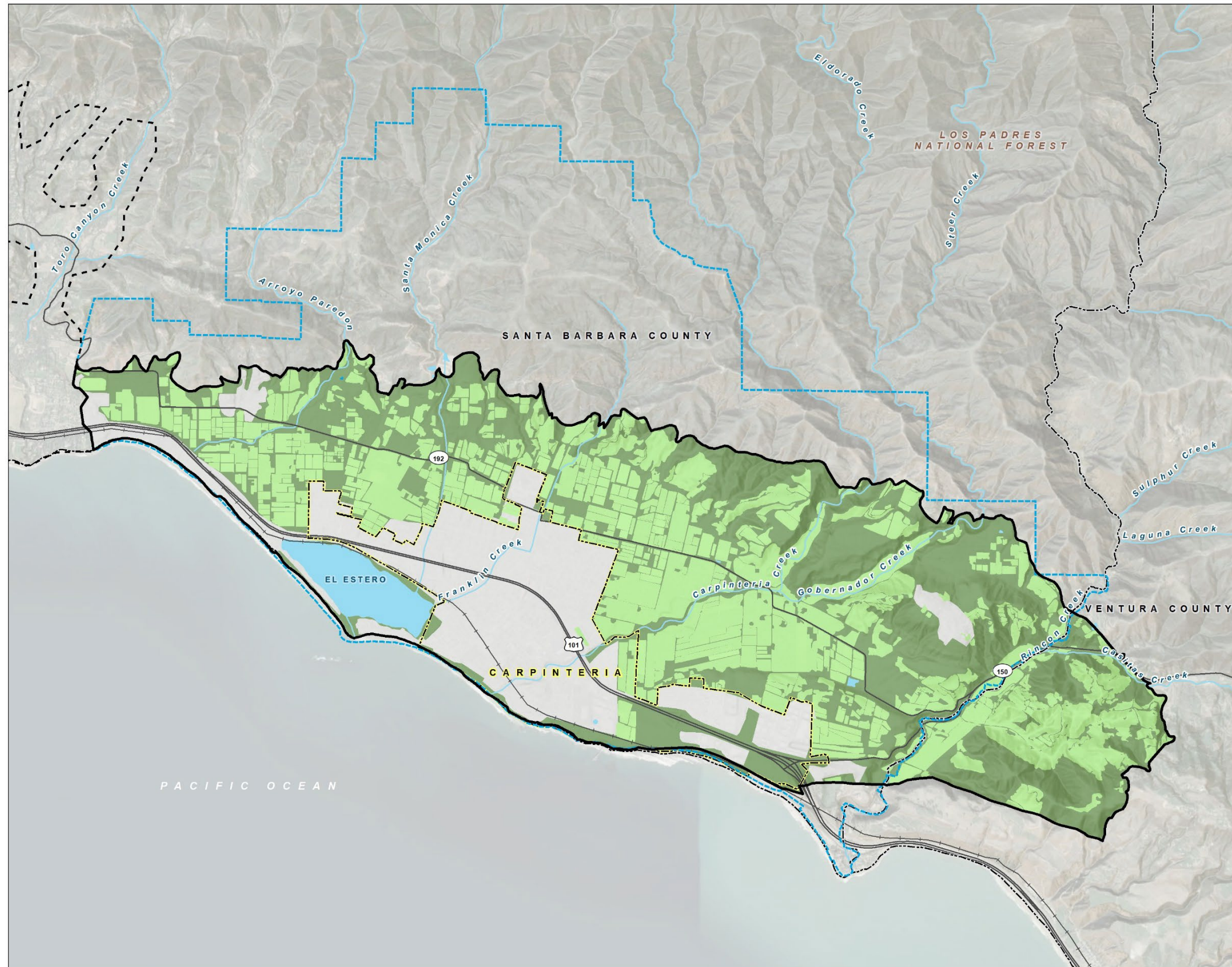


FIGURE 2-3
Water Use Sectors
 Carpinteria Groundwater Basin
 Groundwater Sustainability Plan

LEGEND

- Carpinteria Valley Water District Service Area
- Carpinteria Groundwater Basin

Water Use Sectors

- Agricultural
- Urban
- Native Vegetation and Rural Domestic

All Other Features

- City Boundary
- County Boundary
- Montecito Groundwater Basin
- Railroad
- Major Road
- Watercourse
- Waterbody

NOTE
 DWR: California Department of Water Resources

Date: September 12, 2022
 Data Sources: BLM, ESRI, USGS, Maxary Imagery (2020), DWR Bulletin 118, DWR (2018)

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2.5.1.3 Water Source Type

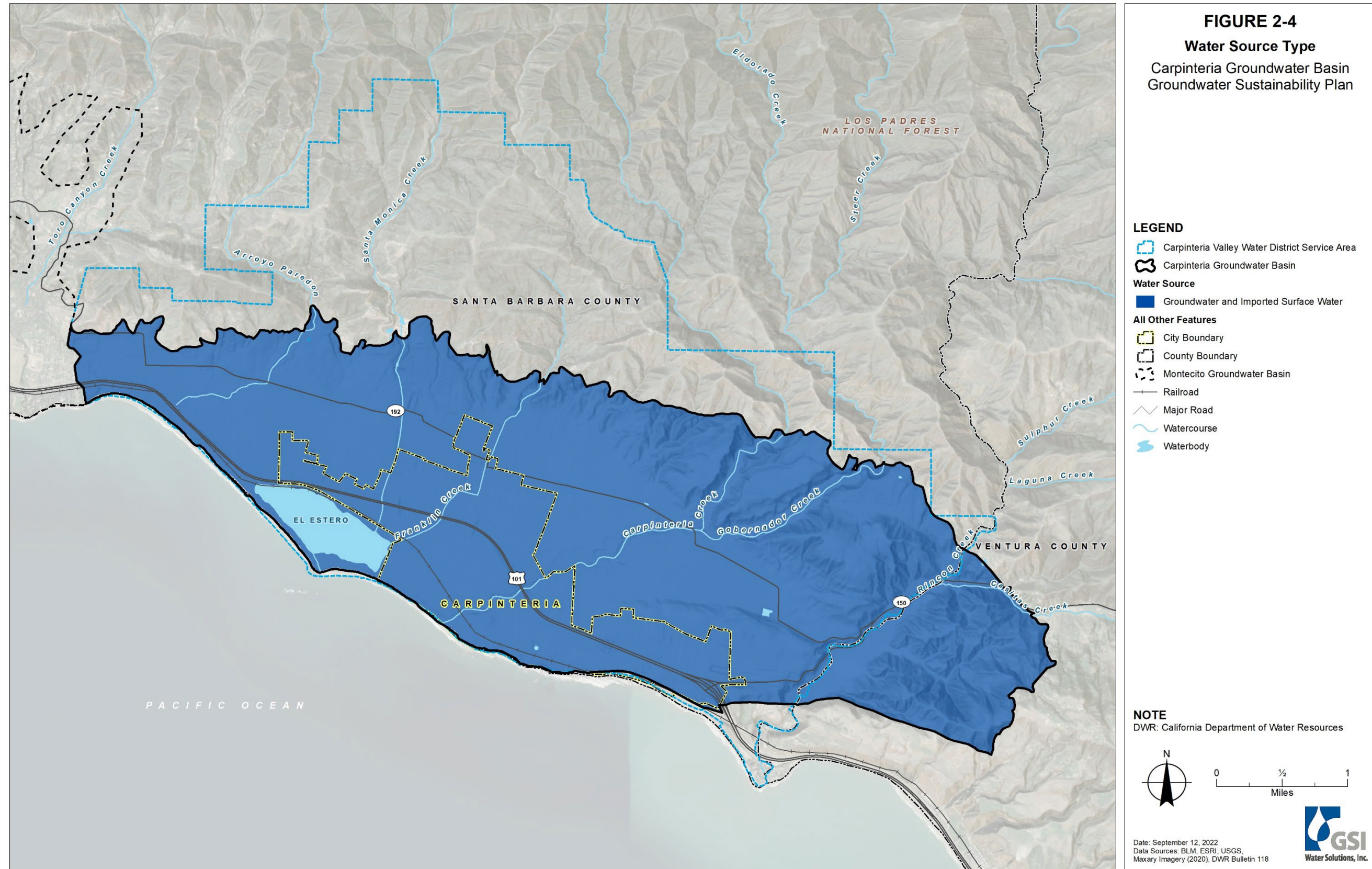
Water supply sources include groundwater pumped within the Basin and surface water imported from outside the Basin. Within the Santa Barbara County portion of the Basin, groundwater is used by CVWD for domestic and agricultural water service, and it is also pumped by individual agricultural users.

CVWD receives a significant portion of its water supply from the Cachuma Project, which stores water from the Santa Ynez River in Lake Cachuma. Santa Barbara County Water Agency holds a Master Water Supply Contract with USBR to use Lake Cachuma as a source of water supply, and CVWD has a Water Supply Agreement with the Water Agency to receive water from this source. Under this agreement, CVWD is allocated 10.94 percent of the available water supply in Cachuma Lake each year, which amounts to a maximum allocation of 2,813 acre-feet annually. The long-term average annual allocation has been approximately 1,970 acre-feet. In addition, CVWD receives up to 400 acre-feet per year of water stored in Lake Cachuma via a State Water exchange program with the Santa Ynez Water Conservation District, Improvement District No. 1.

The Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District is a State Water Project (SWP) Contractor that divides its annual allocation of SWP water among multiple participating agencies, including the Central Coast Water Authority. CVWD is a member agency of the Central Coast Water Authority and has a contract to receive 2000 acre-feet of water from the SWP per year with an additional 200 acre-feet per year of drought buffer. Depending on hydrologic conditions in the state each year, delivery of SWP water to CVWD can vary from 5 to 100 percent of its contracted entitlement, averaging about 876 acre-feet per year. From 2016 through 2020, CVWD's average annual water supply was composed of around 38 percent local groundwater, 40 percent Cachuma Project water, and 22 percent SWP water (Woodard and Curran, 2021).

Within the Ventura County portion of the Basin, the source of water is groundwater and surface water supplied by Casitas Municipal Water District from Lake Casitas. Lake Casitas receives inflow from surface runoff in its surrounding watershed, Coyote Creek, Santa Ana Creek, and the Ventura River via the Robles Canal. Casitas Municipal Water District's surface water supply sources and municipal groundwater wells are located east of the Basin in Ventura County. Casitas Municipal Water District holds a contract for 5,000 acre-feet per year of SWP water; however, infrastructure has not been developed to deliver the water.

Figure 2-4 shows areas with access to imported surface water and groundwater.



2.5.2 Water Resources Monitoring and Management Programs [§354.8(c) and (d)]

§354.8 Description of Plan Area. Each Plan shall include a description of the geographic areas covered, including the following information:

(c) Identification of existing water resource monitoring and management programs, and description of any such programs the Agency plans to incorporate in its monitoring network or in development of its Plan. The Agency may coordinate with existing water resource monitoring and management programs to incorporate and adopt that program as part of the Plan.

(d) A description of how existing water resource monitoring or management programs may limit operational flexibility in the basin, and how the Plan has been developed to adapt to those limits.

2.5.2.1 Groundwater Level Monitoring

Groundwater level monitoring has been conducted in the Basin since the early 1940s. In 1996, CVWD adopted a Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP) that includes collection and reporting of data on groundwater levels, production, and water quality. Under the GWMP, CVWD monitors 44 wells throughout the Basin including CVWD production wells, private production wells, and monitoring wells. Water level data are collected bimonthly from 25 to 28 of the wells in the monitoring network. These data are used to prepare hydrographs for 20 key representative wells and to create contour maps of basin-wide groundwater elevation conditions for the fall and spring periods of each water year.

In 2009, the California legislature passed Senate Bill X7-6, the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) Program, mandating that local agencies collect groundwater elevation data to track seasonal and long-term trends in groundwater elevations in groundwater basins statewide. CVWD is the designated monitoring entity for the Basin and monitors groundwater levels in 12 wells within the Basin under the CASGEM Program, some of which have groundwater level data dating back to the 1940s. The wells monitored include 10 observation wells and 2 inactive irrigation wells. Monitoring is generally conducted on a bimonthly basis. Many of the functions of the CASGEM Program will be replaced or subsumed by the GSAs under SGMA.

In 2019, CVWD implemented the Sentinel Well Project, installing a cluster of monitoring wells in the western portion of the Basin near the northwestern edge of the Carpinteria Salt Marsh. This location was selected to provide water level, water quality, and geophysical data (bulk conductivity via induction surveys) related to evaluating the potential for seawater intrusion.

Groundwater level data sources and representative monitoring sites are discussed further in Sections 3 and 5 of this Plan.

2.5.2.2 Groundwater Quality Monitoring

Groundwater quality is monitored under several programs by different entities in the Basin, including the following:

- Groundwater quality data are collected by CVWD in the fall and spring of each water year from 25 to 30 wells under the GWMP. Water samples are analyzed for total dissolved solids (TDS), chloride, and nitrate. Water quality samples are collected in the Sentinel Wells on a quarterly basis. Each Sentinel Well was also equipped with a probe to continuously measure and record electrical conductivity and

temperature data, but the transducers failed due to high pressure and a replacement solution has not yet been identified.

- CVWD monitors water quality in its municipal supply wells and develops annual water quality reports to comply with its water supply permits and California Safe Drinking Water requirements.
- The State Water Resources Control Board’s (SWRCB’s) Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment (GAMA) program compiles groundwater quality data from multiple sources and regulatory programs, such as the US Geological Survey (USGS), Department of Pesticide Regulations, Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP), and SWRCB Division of Drinking Water (DDW). This data is publicly available in the GeoTracker GAMA Program database.

Groundwater quality for drinking water and agricultural purposes is discussed in more detail in Section 3 of this Plan.

2.5.2.3 Surface Water Monitoring

The USGS measures streamflow in Carpinteria Creek at a gage located just downstream of the confluence with Gobernador Creek. Data from this gage (USGS Station 11119500) are available from 1941 to the present in the electronic National Water Information System (NWIS) files retrievable from the USGS Water Resources website. A new stream gage was installed in 2020 by DWR on Carpinteria Creek downstream of the Eighth Street/Calle Ocho footbridge. Gage data is retrievable from DWR’s California Data Exchange Center web application.

USBR maintains data on water releases from Lake Cachuma’s Bradbury Dam. Water from the State Water Project is conveyed via the Coastal Branch and Central Coast Water Authority Extension to Lake Cachuma, and from there through the Tecolote Tunnel to coastal water providers including CVWD.

Selected water quality data collected by USGS at the Carpinteria Creek stream gage site from 1979 through 1992 are available on the USGS website. The SWRCB’s Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) currently monitors water quality at 12 sites in the Basin, and data can be accessed on the SWAMP Data Dashboard (<https://gispublic.waterboards.ca.gov/swamp-data/>) and through the US Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) “How’s My Waterway?” web tool (<https://mywaterway.epa.gov/>). Climate Monitoring

Climate data are available from two meteorological stations in the Basin monitored by the Santa Barbara County Flood Control District: Carpinteria Fire Station (Station No. 208), located in downtown Carpinteria, and Carpinteria USFS (Station No. 383), located at Rincon Station in the Los Padres National Forest near the USGS stream gage on Carpinteria Creek. In addition to these stations, there are 4 weather stations near the Basin that are monitored by the County, one of which is located within CVWD’s service area boundary. Table 2-2 displays information on the meteorological stations within and near the Basin.

Table 2-2. Meteorological Monitoring Stations

Station No.	Station Name	Beginning of Record	Location	Elevation (feet)	Period Average Precipitation (inches)
208	Carpinteria Fire Station	1949	Within Basin	30	17.13
383	Carpinteria USFS	1949	Within Basin	120	19.58
325	Montecito	1926	Outside Basin	135	19.65

328	Summerland	1971	Outside Basin	85	18.50
231	Doulton Tunnel	1932	Outside Basin	1775	27.15
252	Edison Trail	1974	Outside Basin (CVWD service area)	1700	24.68

The closest California Irrigation Management Information Center station is the Santa Barbara station (Station No. 107) located about 8 miles west of the Basin at the north end of the Santa Barbara Golf Club. This station measures several climatic factors that allow a calculation of daily reference evapotranspiration (ET) for the area since 1993.

2.5.2.4 Existing Water Resource Management Programs [§354.8(c) and (d)]

§354.8 Description of Plan Area. Each Plan shall include a description of the geographic areas covered, including the following information:

(c) Identification of existing water resource monitoring and management programs, and description of any such programs the Agency plans to incorporate in its monitoring network or in development of its Plan. The Agency may coordinate with existing water resource monitoring and management programs to incorporate and adopt that program as part of the Plan.

(d) A description of how existing water resource monitoring or management programs may limit operational flexibility in the basin, and how the Plan has been developed to adapt to those limits.

Existing water management plans in the Basin include the CVWD Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), CVWD Agricultural Water Management Plan (AWMP), the Casitas Municipal Water District UWMP, the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coast Basin, the Santa Barbara County Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan, and the Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County (WCVC) Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. In addition, the Santa Barbara County Groundwater Basins Summary Report provides monitoring data and further information about groundwater resources in the region.

CVWD Urban Water Management Plan

The UWMP Act requires urban water suppliers to compare the total projected demand for water supply with the amount of water supply that is available over the next 20 years, in 5-year increments. The CVWD UWMP was updated in 2020 and describes CVWD’s facilities and service area, available water supplies, water demands, water reliability, and water shortage contingency plans. The UWMP includes CVWD’s Groundwater Management Plan, originally developed in 1996, as an appendix. As described in the UWMP, the Groundwater Management Plan will be superseded by this Plan, so it will not limit operational flexibility in the Basin. All groundwater level and water quality monitoring activities described in this Plan are consistent with the UWMP.

CVWD Agricultural Water Management Plan

The CVWD AWMP was prepared in 2016 to comply with the California Agricultural Water Management Planning Act’s requirements for agricultural water suppliers. The AWMP describes CVWD’s service area, agricultural water demands, water supplies, water supply reliability, and water demand management (conservation) activities.

Casitas Municipal Water District Urban Water Management Plan

Casitas Municipal Water District prepared its UWMP in 2020 for its service area in western Ventura County, including the portion of the Basin in Ventura County where the district provides retail water supply services. The UWMP describes the service area, coordination of wholesale and retail water service, water supplies, water demands, water reliability, and strategies for managing risks and potential water shortages. Casitas Municipal Water District's groundwater supply wells and surface water sources are not located within the Basin. Casitas Municipal Water District imports surface water into the Basin from the adjacent Ventura River Watershed.

Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coast Basin – Planning Elements

The Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin (WQ Basin Plan) (RWQCB et al., 2017) provides management strategies to ensure that surface water and groundwater in the Central Coast Region are managed to provide the highest possible quality. The WQ Basin Plan includes the following elements:

- The water quality standards that must be maintained for all the water uses in the region
- An implementation plan that describes the programs, projections, and other actions necessary to achieve the water quality standards
- The existing plans and policies of the SWRCB and the RWQCB that protect water quality
- A description of the monitoring and surveillance programs to support ensuring management of surface and groundwater

The WQ Basin Plan includes recommended actions, requirements, and management principles, including salt source control, to ensure high-quality surface water and groundwater for all beneficial uses. The present and potential future beneficial uses for inland waters listed in the WQ Basin Plan include surface water and groundwater as municipal supply (water for community, military, or individual water supplies); agricultural purposes; groundwater recharge; recreational water contact and non-contact; sport fishing; warm freshwater habitat; wildlife habitat; rare, threatened or endangered species; and spawning, reproduction, and/or early development of fish.

The WQ Basin Plan also describes the existing regulatory monitoring and assessment of point sources of pollution and a program to control nonpoint sources of pollution; the GAMA program to assess groundwater quality; the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program; and the available state, federal, and regional assessments of water quality (see Section 2.2.2.6 for more on the water quality measures outlined in the WQ Basin Plan).

Santa Barbara County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

The Santa Barbara County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (Santa Barbara IRWM Plan) (Dudek, 2019), updated in 2019, provides guidance for integrating water management across the Santa Barbara region, which includes the portion of the Basin within Santa Barbara County. The Santa Barbara IRWM Plan was updated through a 2-year process that included a broad array of stakeholders and objectives, priorities, and resource management strategies were revisited to respond to the changing conditions in the region, including increasing vulnerabilities from climate change, and in response to new state-mandated requirements, including SGMA regulations.

The Santa Barbara IRWM Plan integrated 34 selected water management strategies and considered and included an additional eight strategies for the region. The strategies included in the Santa Barbara IRWM Plan have or will have a role in protecting the region's water supply reliability, water quality, ecosystems, groundwater, and flood management objectives. The integration of these strategies resulted in a list of

action items (projects, programs, and studies) needed to implement the Santa Barbara IRWM Plan over the 25-year planning horizon.

Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

The WVCV IRWM Plan (WVCV, 2019), updated in 2019, addresses region-wide water management issues for the Ventura region, including the portion of the Basin in Ventura County. The WVCV IRWM Plan supports the development and implementation of individual watershed management plans for major watersheds in the region, including the Ventura River watershed, which partially overlaps with the Basin. This plan integrates 32 resource management strategies and describes current and future plans for implementation.

Santa Barbara County Groundwater Basins Summary Report

The 2021 Santa Barbara County Groundwater Basins Summary Report (Groundwater Report) (Santa Barbara County, 2021) describes the conditions of groundwater and groundwater basins in Santa Barbara County. The Groundwater Report provides data from state and federal monitoring for water quantity and quality following the local drought emergency that lasted from 2014 to 2019. For each basin in the county, the report describes basin characteristics and status, provides groundwater levels and hydrographs for selected wells, and discusses developments in supplemental supplies and basin management plans.

2.5.2.5 Existing Groundwater Regulatory Programs

Agricultural Order

In 2017, the Central Coast RWQCB issued Agricultural Order No. R3-2017-0002, a Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands (Agricultural Order) (RWQCB, 2017). The permit requires that growers implement practices to reduce nitrate leaching into groundwater and improve surface receiving water quality. Specific requirements for individual growers are structured into three tiers based on the relative risk their operations pose to water quality. Growers must enroll, pay fees, and meet various monitoring and reporting requirements according to the tier to which they are assigned. All growers are required to implement groundwater monitoring, either individually or as part of a cooperative regional monitoring program. Growers electing to implement individual monitoring (i.e., not participating in the regional monitoring program) are required to test all on-farm domestic wells and the primary irrigation supply well for nitrate or nitrate plus nitrite, and general minerals, including, but not limited to, total dissolved solids, sodium, chloride, and sulfate.

The Central Coast RWQCB is currently developing Agricultural Order No. R3-2021-0040 (RWQCB, 2021). The updated Agricultural Order has more frequent groundwater monitoring requirements than Agricultural Order No. R3-2017-0002. Beginning in 2022, all growers must conduct annual sampling of all on-farm domestic drinking water supply wells and the primary irrigation well between March 1 and May 31. Growers must report monitoring results by July 31 each year. Additionally, groundwater trend monitoring is required under the updated Agricultural Order. All growers are required to implement groundwater trend monitoring work plans either individually or as part of a cooperative regional monitoring program. Work plans for groundwater trend monitoring must be submitted by a date dependent on the phase area.

Title 22 Drinking Water Program

The DDW regulates public water systems in the state to ensure the delivery of safe drinking water to the public. A public water system is defined as a system for the provision of water for human consumption through pipes or other constructed conveyances that has 15 or more service connections or regularly serves at least 25 individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year. Private domestic wells, wells associated with

drinking water systems with less than 15 residential service connections, and industrial and irrigation wells are not regulated by the DDW.

The County of Santa Barbara has primacy and regulates state small water systems as defined in Chapter 34B Domestic Water Systems (Ordinance No. 12-4843) (Santa Barbara County, 2012). The DDW enforces the monitoring requirements established in Title 22 of the CCR for public water system wells, and all the data collected must be reported to the DDW. Title 22 also designates the regulatory limits (known as maximum contaminant levels) for various waterborne contaminants, including volatile organic compounds, non-volatile synthetic organic compounds, inorganic chemicals, radionuclides, disinfection byproducts, general physical constituents, and other parameters.

Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coast Basin – Water Quality Requirements

The pollution control actions required by, and best management practices recommended by, the SWRCB and the RWQCB are described in the Basin Plan (RWQCB et al., 2017). The plans and policies of the SWRCB for managing water quality are listed in Section 5 and included as appendices to the Basin Plan. Key policies that affect the management of surface water and groundwater in the Basin include the State Policy for Water Quality Control, Sources of Drinking Water Policy, and the Nonpoint Source Management Plan. Discharge prohibitions outlined in the Basin Plan include regulations for groundwaters, salt discharge, and other discharge requirements. Best management practices recommended in the Basin Plan include source controls that prevent a discharge or threatened discharge and treatment controls that remove pollutants from a discharge before it reaches surface water or groundwater. The Basin Plan also lists the thresholds for Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for water bodies covered by the plan. A TMDL for nitrogen and phosphorus compounds in the Franklin Creek watershed was developed by the RWQCB in 2018 and approved by the US EPA in 2019. In the Arroyo Paredon watershed, a TMDL for diazinon and additive toxicity with chlorpyrifos was approved in 2013, and a TMDL for nitrate was approved in 2014.

2.5.2.6 Conjunctive Use Programs [§354.8(e)]

§354.8 Description of Plan Area. Each Plan shall include a description of the geographic areas covered, including the following information:

(e) A description of conjunctive use programs in the basin.

In accordance with CVWD's Groundwater Management Plan, developed to comply with Assembly Bill 3030 requirements, CVWD has managed its groundwater sources in conjunction with its allocation of SWP water and water from the Cachuma Project to optimize long-term sustainability in the Basin. Details on water sources and historical, current, and projected water budgets are available in Section 3 of this Plan.

2.5.3 Land Use/General Plans

2.5.3.1 Land Use and General Plans Summary [§354.8(f)(1),(f)(2), and (f)(3)]

§354.8 Description of Plan Area. Each Plan shall include a description of the geographic areas covered, including the following information:

(f) A plain language description of the land use elements or topic categories of applicable general plans that includes the following:

(1) A summary of general plans and other land use plans governing the basin.

(2) A general description of how implementation of existing land use plans may change water demands within the basin or affect the ability of the Agency to achieve sustainable groundwater management over the planning and implementation horizon, and how the Plan addresses those potential effects.

(3) A general description of how implementation of the Plan may affect the water supply assumptions of relevant land use plans over the planning and implementation horizon.

Land use planning authority in the Basin is the responsibility of Santa Barbara County, Ventura County, and the City of Carpinteria. The Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan includes the following elements that have a bearing on water quantity or quality:

- A land use element that outlines the distribution of real estate, open space and agricultural land, mineral resources, recreational facilities, schools, and waste facilities
- A conservation element¹ that addresses the conservation, development, and use of natural resources including water, forests, soils, rivers, and mineral deposits
- Community and specific plans for municipalities and more urban areas to provide goals, policies, and standards to guide community development
- An open space element that details plans and measures for preserving open space for natural resources, outdoor recreation, public health and safety, and agriculture.

The Ventura County 2040 General Plan includes the following chapters that may impact water quantity or quality:

- A land use and community character element that establishes land use designations identifying the type and intensity of uses in unincorporated areas, along with goals and policies for future change, development, and natural resource protection
- A public facilities, services, and infrastructure element that describes policies related to wastewater treatment and flood control and drainage facilities
- A conservation and open space element that addresses the conservation and development of natural resources, including policies related to saltwater intrusion

¹ Various studies indicate slight to moderate levels of overdraft in several groundwater basins within the County and substantial overdraft in one basin (Santa Barbara County, 2012). The goals and policies in the Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan, Conservation Element, Groundwater Resources Section were developed to protect local groundwater.

- A water resources element that discusses water supply, water quality, conservation and reuse, watershed management, and groundwater sustainability.

The City of Carpinteria's General Plan/Local Coastal Use Plan (General Plan) was updated in 2003 and includes several elements related to water resources:

- A land use element establishing the type and intensity of land uses within the city to guide growth and development
- An open space, recreation, and conservation element that describes local water resources and outlines policies to protect them.

In 2019 the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors limited cannabis cultivation in the unincorporated areas of the County within the Carpinteria Agricultural Overlay District to no more than 186 acres of cannabis cultivation, nurseries, and microbusinesses with cultivation (Santa Barbara County Code § 50-7) and added a required special land use permit. The Carpinteria Agricultural Overlay District encompasses nearly all lands zoned for agricultural use within the Basin. As of 2020 in Ventura County, the cultivation of cannabis in pre-existing greenhouses and other indoor structures on lands zoned for agricultural, industrial, or commercial use is generally permitted with a required special business license, provided the premises are more than 1,200 feet away from specified sensitive land uses.

2.5.3.2 How Land Use Plans May Impact Water Demands and Sustainable Groundwater Management

The Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan includes goals, principles, and policies aligned with sustainable groundwater management. In particular, the Groundwater Resources Section of the plan's Conservation Element outlines four major goals that are compatible with sustainable management objectives under SGMA. These goals are:

- Goal 1: To ensure adequate quality and quantity of groundwater for present and future County residents, and to eliminate prolonged overdraft of any groundwater basins.
- Goal 2: To improve existing groundwater quality, where feasible, and to preclude further permanent or long-term degradation in groundwater quality.
- Goal 3: To coordinate County land use planning decisions and water resources planning and supply availability.
- Goal 4: To maintain accurate and current information on groundwater conditions throughout the County.

As a county-wide document, the Comprehensive Plan does not make specific policy recommendations for the Basin. Nonetheless, the overarching policies and strategies in the plan promote water conservation, coordinated decision making around land use and water resources, groundwater recharge, and prevention of prolonged overdraft, all of which are consistent with the sustainable groundwater management objectives of this Plan.

Similarly, the water element of the Ventura County General Plan sets a goal that is compatible with sustainable groundwater management under SGMA:

- Goal WR-4: To maintain and restore the chemical, physical, and biological integrity and quantity of groundwater resources.

The Ventura County General Plan does not make specific policy recommendations for the Basin, but its strategies and principles apply throughout the County, including within the Ventura portion of the Basin. Among others, these policies direct Ventura County to work with GSAs in support of SGMA implementation

and groundwater management, to identify important groundwater recharge area protections needed, and to support groundwater recharge projects.

The City of Carpinteria General Plan sets objectives and policies supporting sustainable groundwater management, including water conservation measures, protection of water quality in groundwater basins, and working with CVWD to implement the Groundwater Management Plan, which will be superseded by this Plan.

2.5.3.3 How Sustainable Groundwater Management May Affect Water Supply Assumptions

As described above, the sustainable groundwater management focus of this Plan is well-aligned with the goals and policies in the Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan, Ventura County General Plan, and Carpinteria General Plan. Local land use policies regarding coordination of land use planning with water resources planning may present opportunities to include groundwater sustainability data in decision making. Data collected during the development and implementation of this Plan may be used to refine water supply assumptions and support sustainability. Historical, current, and projected groundwater budgets are presented in Section 3 of this Plan. Groundwater budget components include natural and anthropogenic sources of recharge and discharge from the Basin. Projects and management actions contemplated by the Carpinteria GSA to mitigate water supply deficit or future drought conditions are discussed in Section 6 of this Plan.

2.5.3.4 Well Permitting [§354.8(f)(4), §354.8(a)5]

§354.8 Description of Plan Area. Each Plan shall include a description of the geographic areas covered, including the following information:

(a) One or more maps of the basin that depict the following, as applicable:

(5) The density of wells per square mile, by dasymetric or similar mapping techniques, showing the general distribution of agricultural, industrial, and domestic water supply wells in the basin, including de minimis extractors, and the location and extent of communities dependent upon groundwater, utilizing data provided by the Department, as specified in Section 353.2, or the best available information.

(f) A plain language description of the land use elements or topic categories of applicable general plans that includes the following:

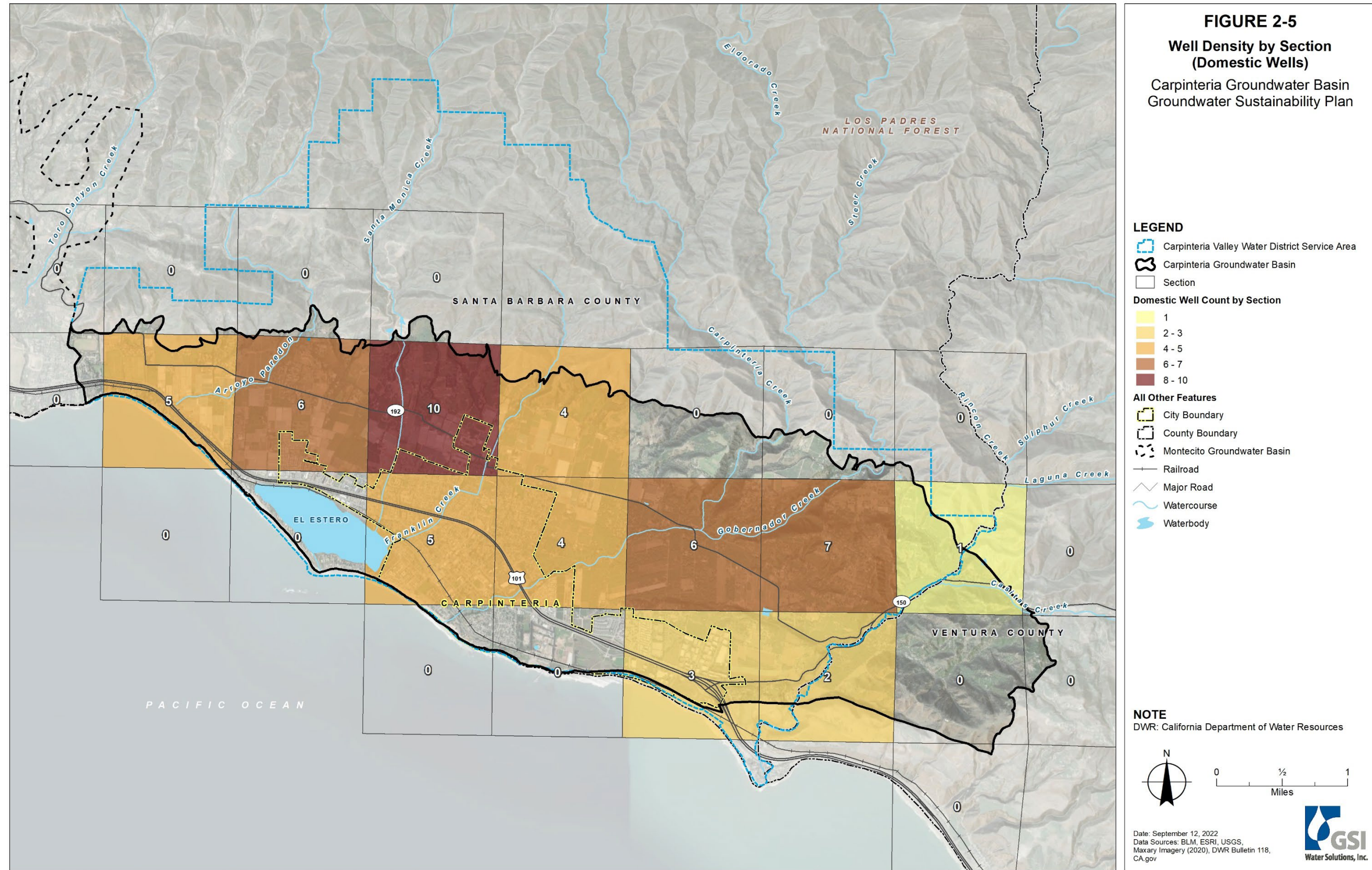
(4) A summary of the process for permitting new or replacement wells in the basin, including adopted standards in local well ordinances, zoning codes, and policies contained in adopted land use plans.

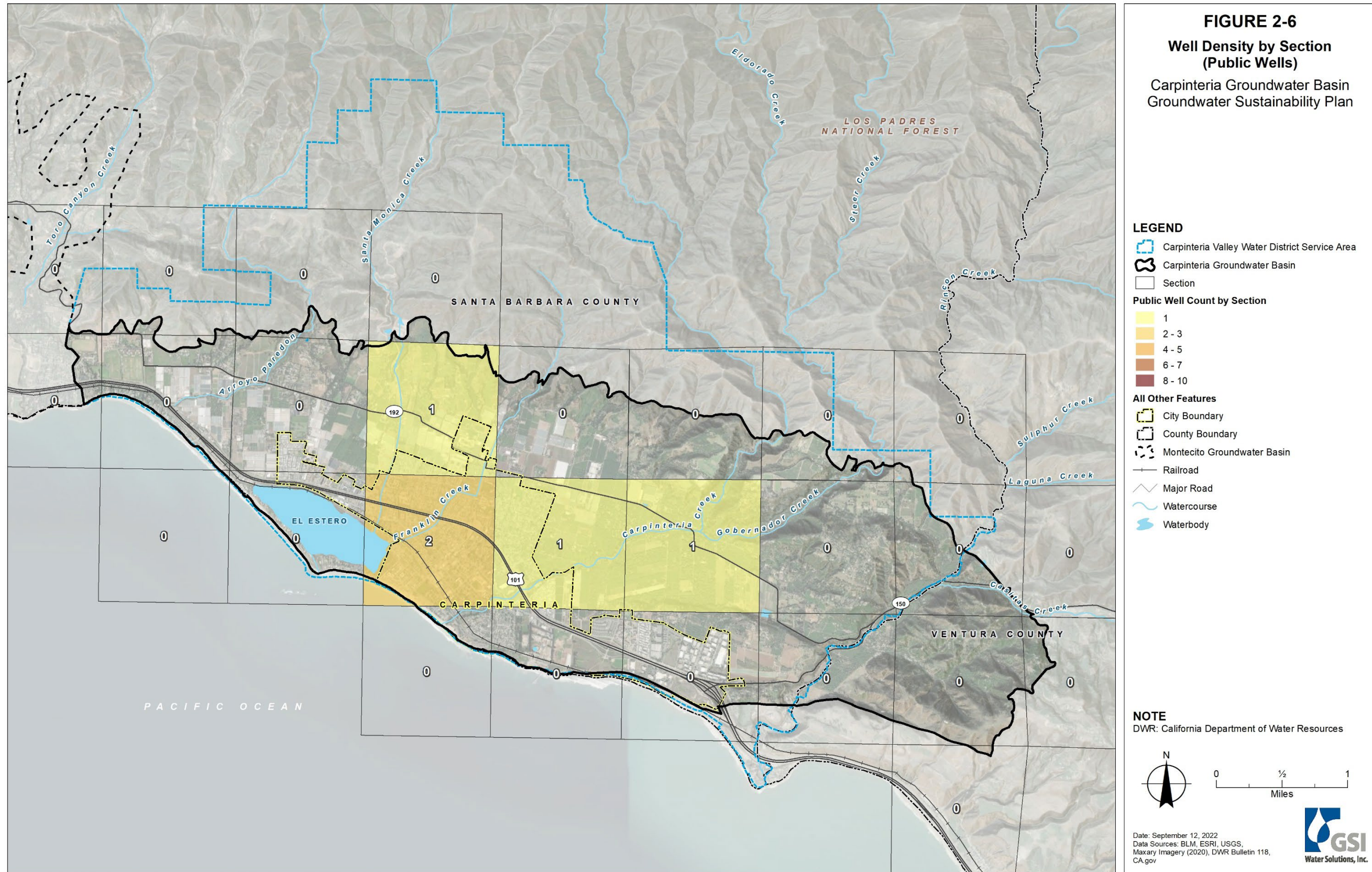
Within the Santa Barbara portion of the Basin, the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department's Environmental Health Services Division requires a Water Well Permit for all new and replacement wells and for modifications to wells, such as deepening, replacement or repairs. A permit application and map must be submitted describing the proposed location, construction, and intended use of the well. An Environmental Health Services representative reviews the application and conducts a site inspection before issuance of a permit can occur. Standards for well construction are set forth in Santa Barbara County Code § 34A-12. Once the well construction or replacement is completed, the property owner or well driller must provide a copy of the completed well log to Environmental Health Services.

In the Ventura portion of the Basin, the Ventura County Public Works Agency's Groundwater Section requires a Well Permit for new and replacement wells and modifications to existing wells. A permit application and map must be submitted describing the proposed location, construction, and intended use of the well. Standards for well construction are set forth in Ventura County Water Well Standards Bulletin No. 74-9. All new wells, other than those for de minimus extractors, are required to be equipped with a flowmeter. Once well construction or modification is completed, the licensed water well contractor who completed the work must provide a well completion report to the Ventura County Public Works Agency.

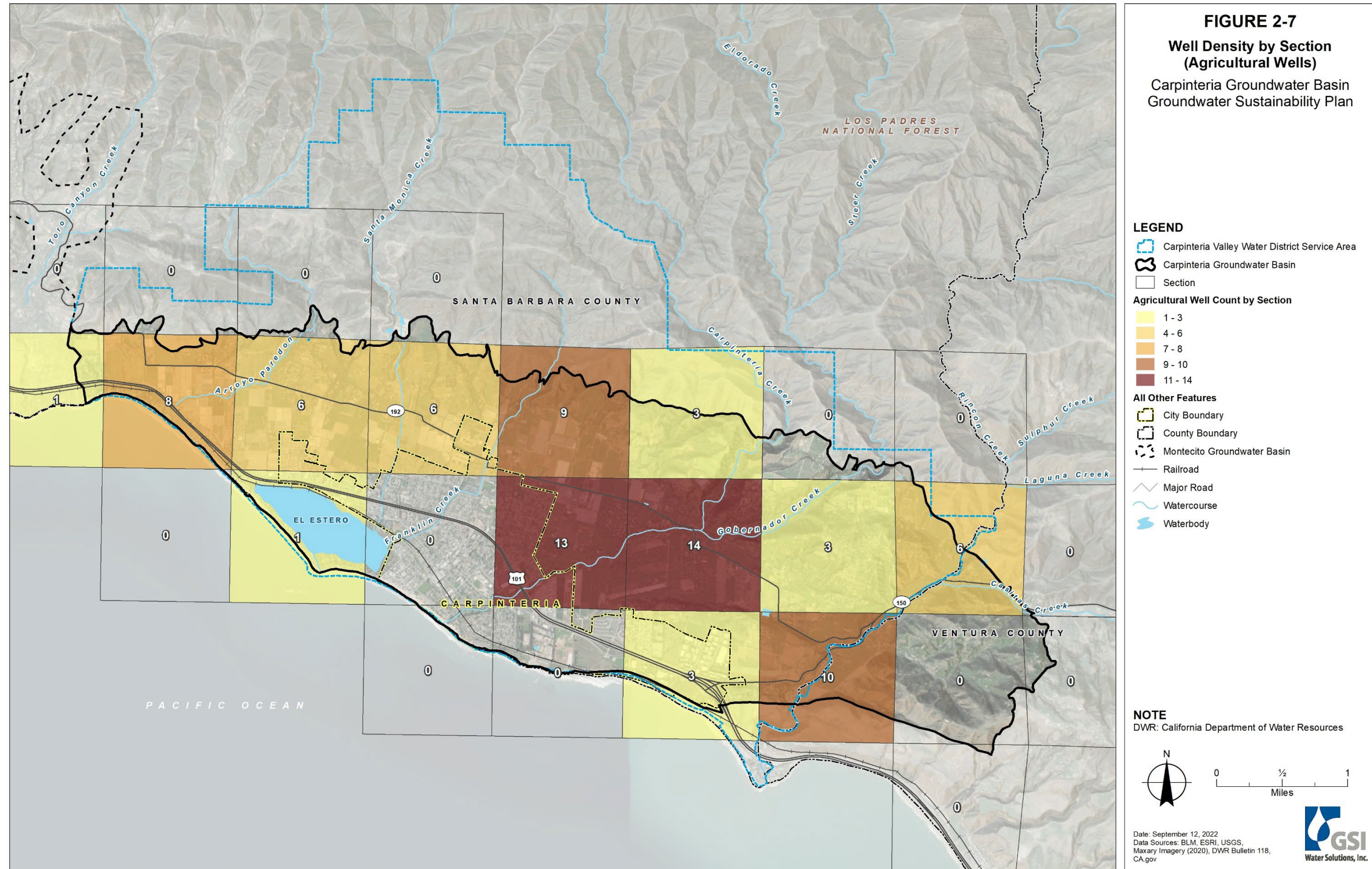
Well types in the Basin include domestic, public supply, and agricultural wells. Figures 2-5, 2-6, and 2-7 present the number and density of these well types in the Basin. Well data were retrieved from the DWR Well Completion Report Database, via the SGMA Data Viewer Web Application (<https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/?appid=SGMADataViewer>). This database contains the locations and construction details for newly constructed, modified, or destroyed wells in California. DWR categorizes wells as domestic, production, or public supply, among other usage types. The majority of well completion reports have been spatially registered to the center of the 1x1 mile Public Land Survey System section that the well is located in.

The Well Completion Report Database contains over 600 entries for wells within the Basin. Many of these entries represent well abandonments, modifications, or test hole borings for which wells were not constructed. There are often duplicate entries for wells due to the existence of multiple well-naming conventions. To the extent possible, the dataset was filtered to remove duplicate entries and identify unique subsets of domestic, irrigation, and public supply wells. Database entries which lacked an accompanying well completion report and for which no usage data were available were excluded. The location and status (active, inactive, destroyed) of the wells shown on the maps have not been verified.





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2.5.3.5 Impact of Land Use Plans Outside of Basin on Sustainable Groundwater Management [§354.8(f)(5)]

§354.8 Description of Plan Area. Each Plan shall include a description of the geographic areas covered, including the following information:

(f) A plain language description of the land use elements or topic categories of applicable general plans that includes the following:

(5) To the extent known, the Agency may include information regarding the implementation of land use plans outside the basin that could affect the ability of the Agency to achieve sustainable groundwater management.

The Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan and Ventura County General Plan described previously apply throughout their respective counties and are not specific to the Basin. Implementation of these two county plans is anticipated to be complementary to implementation of this Plan and achievement of sustainable groundwater management. The Carpinteria GSA is not aware of any other land use plans outside the Basin that would limit progress toward sustainability or prevent sustainable groundwater management.

2.5.4 Additional Plan Elements [§354.8(g)]

§354.8 Description of Plan Area. Each Plan shall include a description of the geographic areas covered, including the following information:

(g) A description of any of the additional Plan elements included in Water Code Section 10727.4 that the Agency determines to be appropriate.

Additional Plan elements from California Water Code § 10727.4 are shown in Table 2-3 below along with a description of how they are addressed in the Plan, coordinated with other entities, or are not applicable to the Basin.

Table 2-3. Plan Elements from California Water Code Section 10727.4

Element	Location
(a) Control of saline water intrusion	Section 3.2.3, Seawater Intrusion and Section 5, Monitoring Networks
(b) Wellhead protection areas and recharge areas	To be coordinated with Santa Barbara County and Ventura County
(c) Migration of contaminated groundwater	Section 3, Basin Setting and Section 5, Monitoring Networks
(d) A well abandonment and well destruction program	To be coordinated with Santa Barbara County and Ventura County
(e) Replenishment of groundwater extractions	Section 6, Projects and Management Actions
(f) Activities implementing, opportunities for, and removing impediments to, conjunctive use or underground storage	Section 6, Projects and Management Actions

Element	Location
(g) Well construction policies	To be coordinated with Santa Barbara County and Ventura County
(h) Measures addressing groundwater contamination cleanup, groundwater recharge, in-lieu use, diversions to storage, conservation, water recycling, conveyance, and extraction projects	Section 6, Projects and Management Actions
(i) Efficient water management practices, as defined in Section 10902, for the delivery of water and water conservation methods to improve the efficiency of water use	To be coordinated with CVWD and other entities as applicable
(j) Efforts to develop relationships with state and federal regulatory agencies	Section 6, Projects and Management Actions
(k) Processes to review land use plans and efforts to coordinate with land use planning agencies to assess activities that potentially create risks to groundwater quality or quantity	To be coordinated with Santa Barbara County, Ventura County, and City of Carpinteria
(l) Impacts on groundwater dependent ecosystems	Section 3, Basin Setting and Section 3.2.7, Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems

2.6 Notice and Communication [§354.10]

2.6.1 Beneficial Uses and Users [§354.10(a)]

§354.10 Notice and Communication. Each Plan shall include a summary of information relating to notification and communication by the Agency with other agencies and interested parties including the following:

(a) A description of the beneficial uses and users of groundwater in the basin, including the land uses and property interests potentially affected by the use of groundwater in the basin, the types of parties representing those interests, and the nature of consultation with those parties.

The Carpinteria GSA has engaged stakeholders in consultation since its formation, starting with public meetings during development of the JPA Agreement forming the GSA. A contact list for interested parties was developed through this process, and the Carpinteria GSA has continued seeking broad engagement in management of the Basin’s groundwater resources during development of this Plan. Beneficial uses and users identified in the Basin and invited to participate in development and implementation of the Plan include:

- Holders of overlying groundwater rights, including:
 - Agricultural users. There are agricultural users of groundwater operating on land overlying the Basin. The Carpinteria GSA anticipates that the Plan will address the collective interests of agricultural users of groundwater wells and will continue to engage in outreach to them throughout the

development and implementation of the Plan through inviting their participation in the GSA's public meetings.

- Domestic well owners. There are domestic wells overlying the Basin. The majority of these domestic well owners are likely to be de minimus users, as defined by SGMA. The Carpinteria GSA anticipates that the Plan will address the collective interests of domestic users of groundwater wells and plans to continue to engage in outreach to them throughout the development and implementation of the Plan through inviting their participation in the GSA's public meetings.
- Municipal well operators. The Carpinteria GSA is a joint powers authority created by four local public agencies. One of the GSA's signatory members, CVWD, owns and operates municipal wells in the Basin. The City of Carpinteria also owns wells, which are used for landscape irrigation.
- Public water systems. CVWD is a public water system located within the Basin and is a signatory member to the JPA Agreement. Casitas Municipal Water District is a public water system serving the Ventura County portion of the Basin and will be invited to participate in the GSA's public meetings.
- Local land use planning agencies. The County of Santa Barbara, County of Ventura, and City of Carpinteria have land use planning authority on land overlying the Basin. All three agencies are signatory members to the JPA Agreement forming the Carpinteria GSA. Santa Barbara County is represented via the Santa Barbara County Water Agency.
- Environmental users of groundwater. The Carpinteria GSA will assess whether any environmental users of groundwater exist within the Basin and will reach out to appropriate resource agencies if any are identified. The Carpinteria GSA will conduct outreach to environmental organizations within the Basin and will consider environmental interests throughout development of the Plan by inviting their participation in the GSA's public meetings.
- Surface water users, if there is a hydrologic connection between surface and groundwater bodies. Three potential surface water diversions within the Basin were identified on the State Water Resources Control Board Electronic Water Rights Information Management System. These users will be reached out to if a hydrologic connection between surface water and groundwater is determined to exist near the points of diversion.
- Federal government, including, but not limited to, the military and managers of federal lands. Portions of the Basin lie within the Los Padres National Forest. The Carpinteria GSA will reach out to the United States Department of Agriculture.
- California Native American Tribes. The Carpinteria GSA will ensure that a representative of overlying California Native American tribes is on the GSA's interested parties list, in order to receive notices of all public meetings and other stakeholder involvement opportunities.
- Disadvantaged Communities, including, but not limited to those served by private domestic wells or small community water systems. DACs located within the Basin are served by CVWD, a JPA member, and by Casitas Municipal Water District. CVWD will assist the Carpinteria GSA with DAC outreach and engagement.
- Entities listed in Section 10927 that are monitoring and reporting groundwater elevations in all or a part of the groundwater basin managed by the GSA. CVWD is the designated CASGEM entity for the Basin. CVWD is a JPA member.

Based on several datasets, two disadvantaged communities (DACs) were identified in the Basin. DWR's DACs online mapping tool shows the Ventura County portion of the Basin and one census block group in the City of Carpinteria as DACs.² The Casitas Municipal Water District's UWMP shows the Ventura County portion of the Basin as a DAC (Casitas Municipal Water District, 2020).

² Available at <https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/dacs/>. (Accessed July 20, 2022.)