

SGMA 101

What is SGMA, and why does it matter?

Board of Directors

July 20, 2026

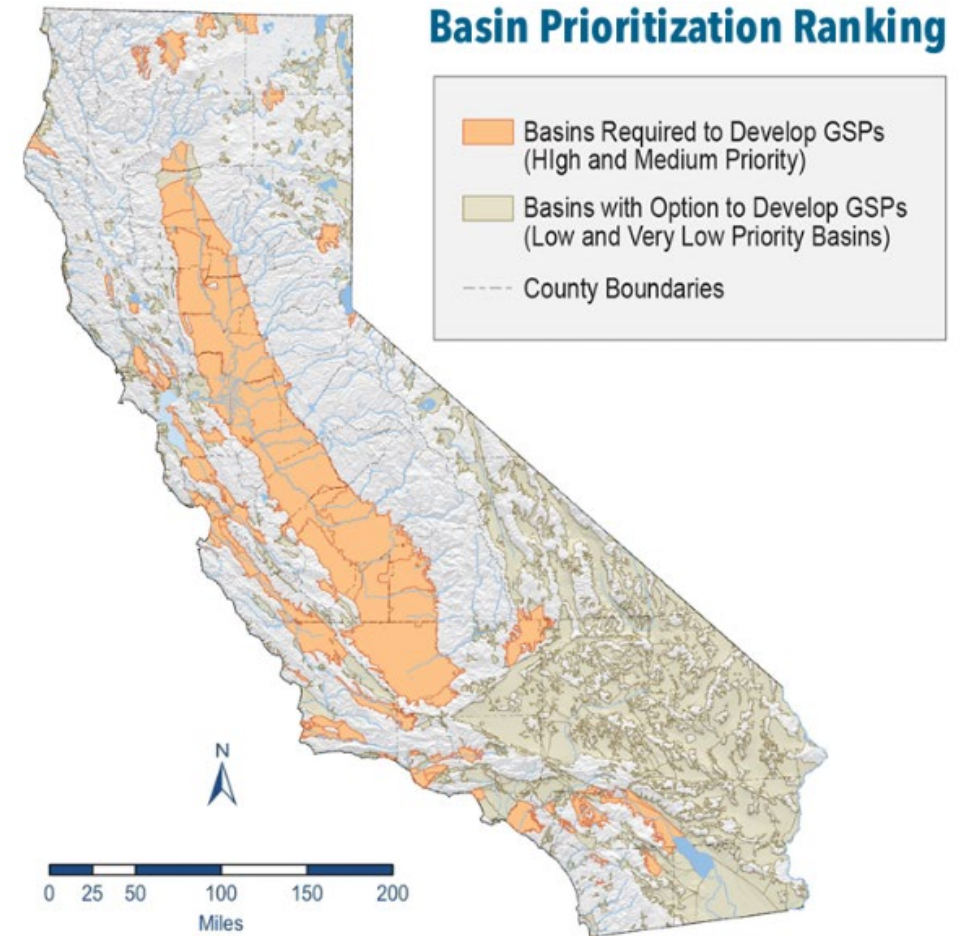
What is SGMA?

- SGMA stands for the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
- In 2014, during the height of California's 2012 to 2016 drought, the State enacted historic legislation – the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
- SGMA is California's framework for making sure groundwater is managed **locally**, responsibly, and sustainably for the long term
- **Local** agencies lead the work, with State oversight and review



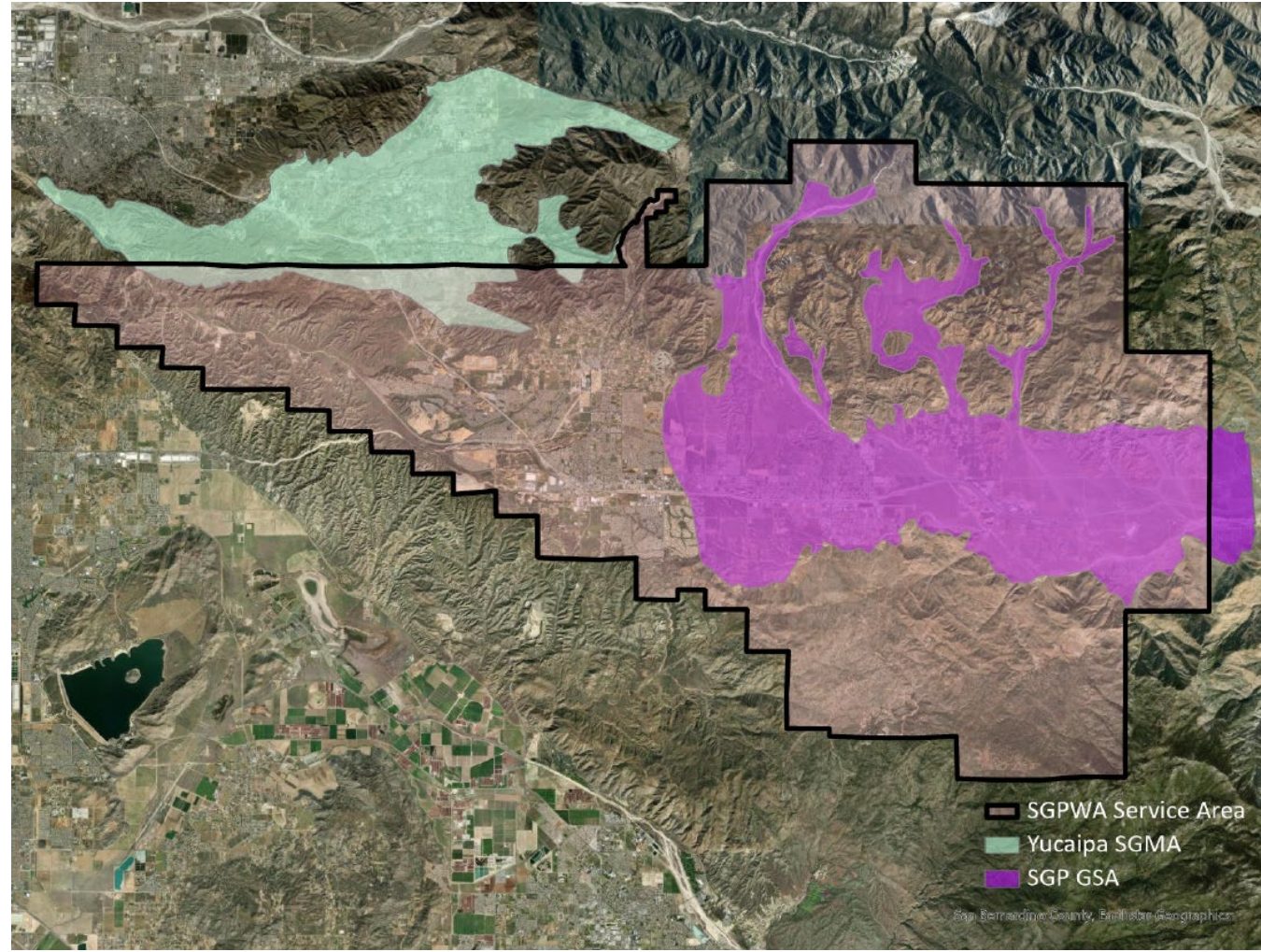
Who Manages SGMA?

- SGMA is implemented **locally**
- **Local** agencies form Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to manage groundwater basins defined by DWR Bulletin 118
- High, and Medium Priority Basins required to form a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)
- Bulletin 118 identifies 515 groundwater basins in the State
 - High and Medium Priority = 94 Basins
 - Low and very low Priority = 410 Basins

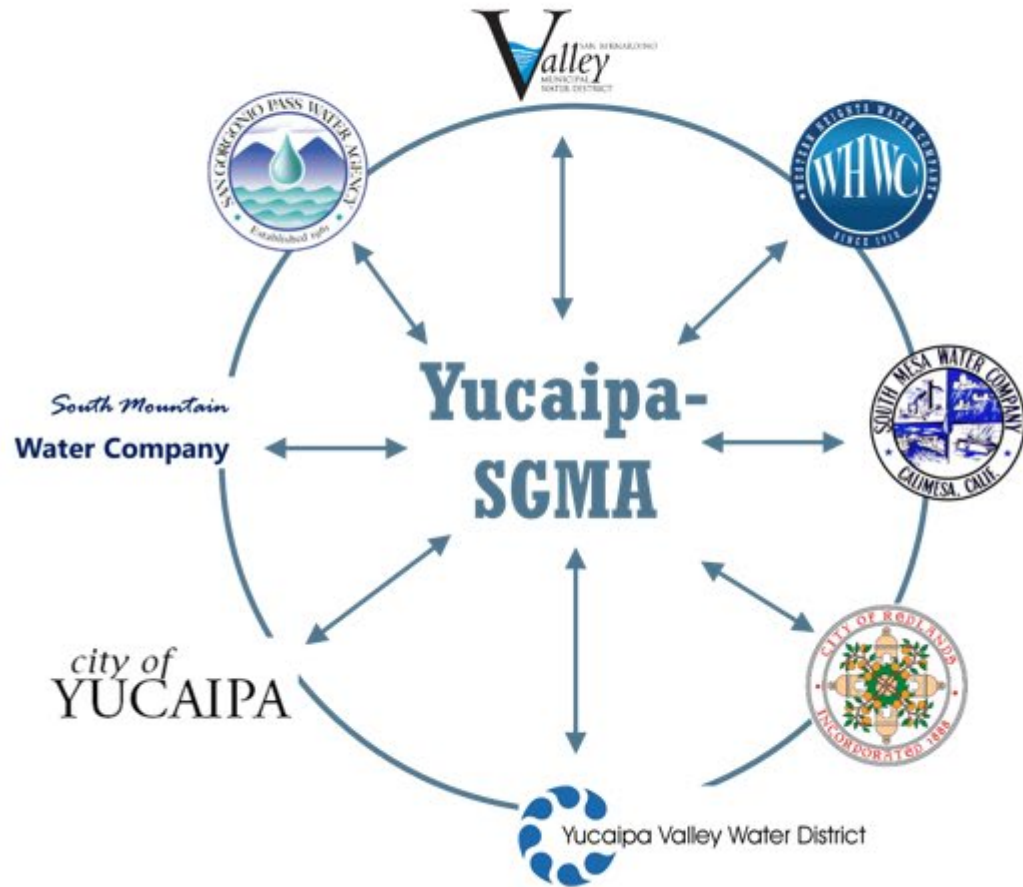


Who Manages SGMA

- Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) are local agencies responsible for SGMA
- GSAs prepare and implement groundwater plans
- DWR reviews plans and provides guidance
- The State Water Board may step in if **local** management is not adequate



Who Manages the GSAs?



Next SGMA 101 topic Discussion

What is a Groundwater Sustainability Plan?

