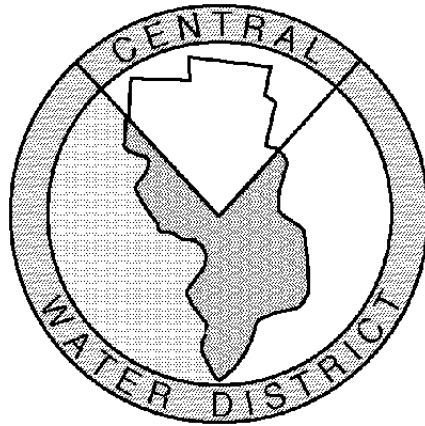


# Mid-County Groundwater Stakeholder Meeting

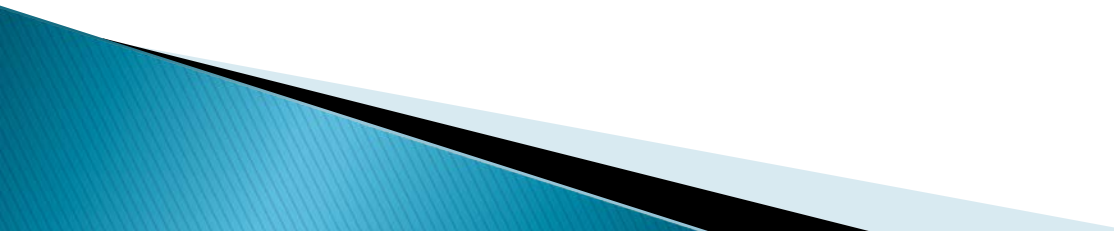
Fifth Meeting  
December 18, 2014

# Meetings are Sponsored by:




- ▶ Basin Implementation Group (BIG) is a joint exercise of powers between Central Water District and Soquel Creek Water District

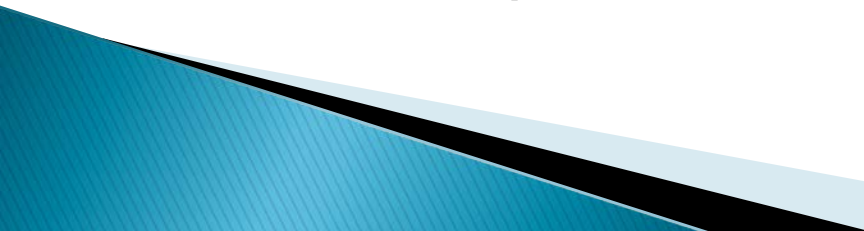
# Overview of Fifth Meeting

- ▶ Purpose of Meetings and topics to be covered
  - ▶ Ground Rules
  - ▶ Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
  - ▶ Getting to the Right Questions
  - ▶ Community Engagement and Collaborative Decision-Making
  - ▶ Discussion
- 

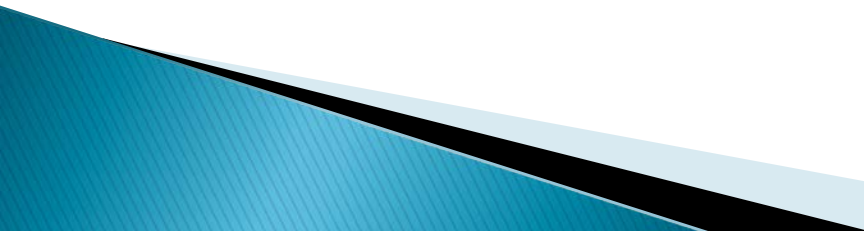
# Purpose of Groundwater Stakeholder Meetings

- ▶ Convene Mid-County groundwater basin users in a series of discussions.
  - ▶ Share information about groundwater hydrology, groundwater rights, water use efficiency, basin sustainability and management approaches.
  - ▶ Develop common understanding of issues.
  - ▶ Develop recommendations for basin protection and management strategies.
  - ▶ Address the role and responsibilities of non-agency groundwater pumpers.
- 


# Meetings Topics

- ▶ May 13: Overview of basin conditions and management
  - ▶ July 8: Detail on basin hydrology and issues
  - ▶ August 27: More time for discussion
  - ▶ September 9: State and local groundwater law and new approaches to management
  - ▶ December 18: the new sustainable groundwater management act and process for future decision-making
  - ▶ January 27: Develop recommendations for moving toward improved mid-county basin management
- 

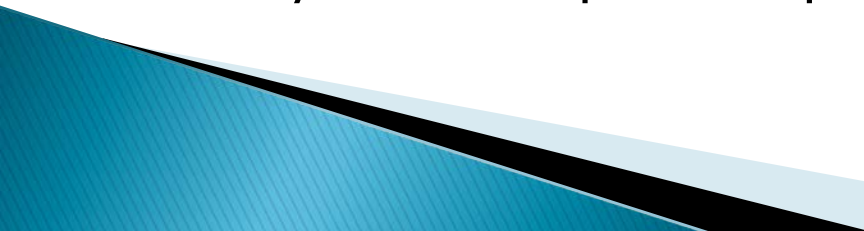
# Meeting Ground Rules

- ▶ Promote exchange of information and discussion of ideas.
  - ▶ Do not accuse or blame, or dwell on past actions.
  - ▶ Staff will be developing recommendations to Boards based on ideas presented and discussions at meetings.
  - ▶ Committee members are encouraged to provide input directly to Boards during their deliberation.
  - ▶ Ultimately decisions on basin management will be made by the Boards, with potential opportunities for votes as prescribed by law (Water Code, Prop 218)
  - ▶ Generally will have opportunity for discussion and questions on topics at hand throughout the meeting, with general discussion at the end.
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# The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

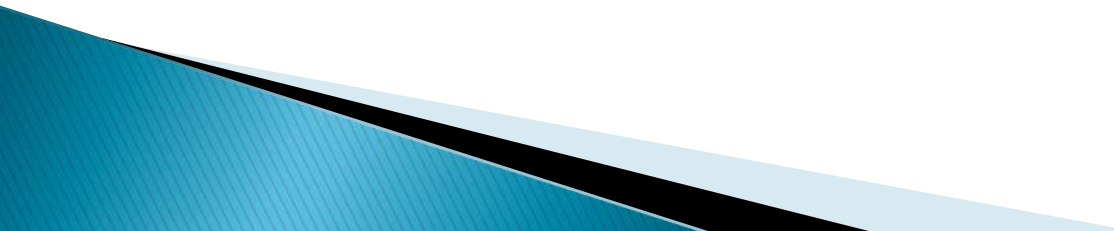
- ▶ Develop and implement a plan that will prevent undesirable results:
    - Chronic lowering of groundwater levels
    - Significant, unreasonable reductions in storage
    - Significant, unreasonable degradation of water quality, seawater intrusion
    - Significant, unreasonable depletion of surface water
  - ▶ Local agency or combination of agencies may form Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)
  - ▶ GSA may measure and limit extraction, impose management fees, enforce the terms of the groundwater sustainability plan
  - ▶ Involvement of Stakeholders
  - ▶ Coordination with land use agencies
  - ▶ Funding and technical assistance
  - ▶ State oversight and action if locals fail to act
- 

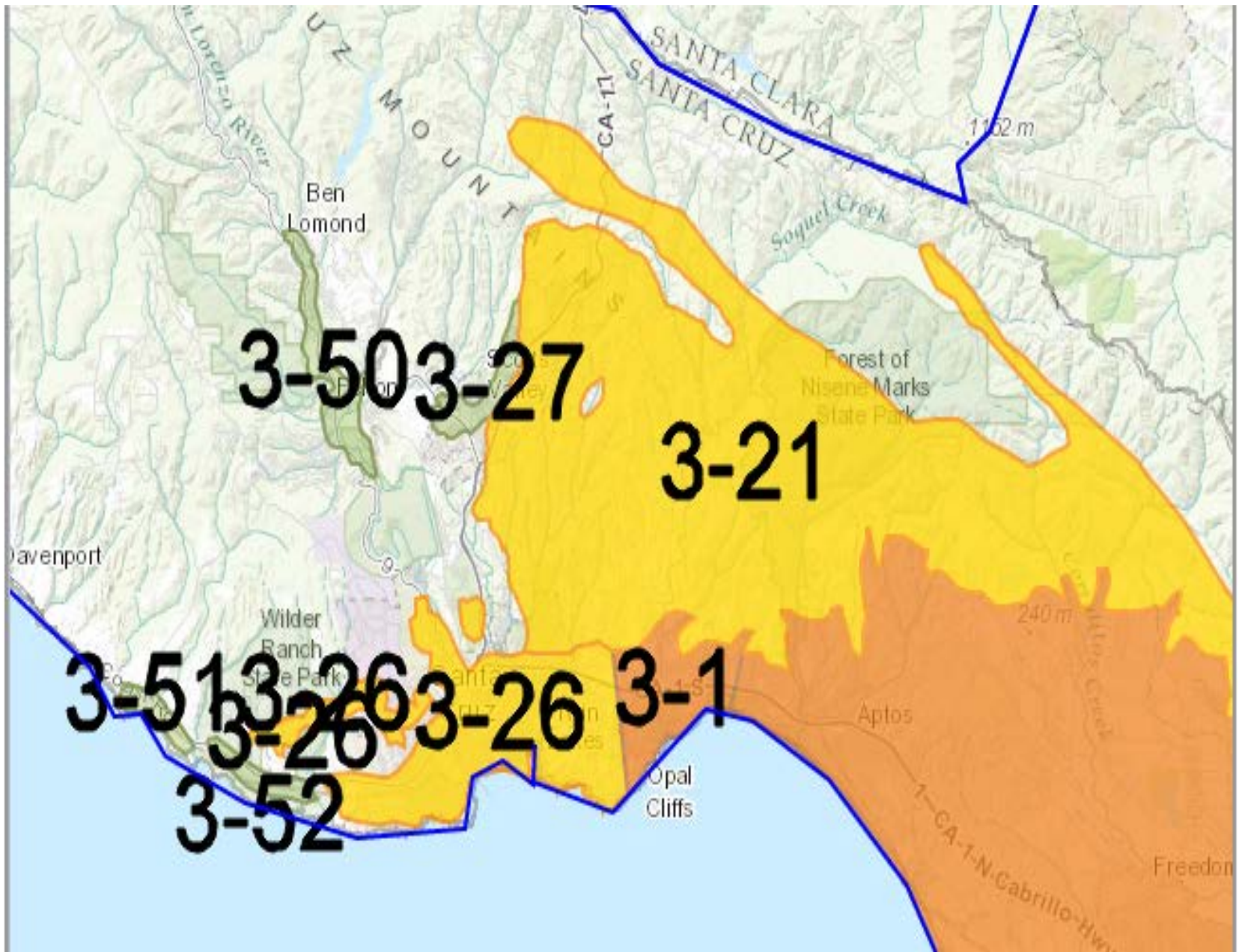
# The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

- ▶ January 1, 2015 – Legislation goes into effect
  - ▶ January 31, 2015 – DWR completes initial basin prioritization
  - ▶ January 1, 2016 – DWR adopts criteria for modifying basin boundaries
  - ▶ June 30, 2017 – Local GSA's must be formed
  - ▶ January 31, 2020 – GSP's for basins in critical overdraft
  - ▶ January 31, 2022 – GSP's for other medium and high priority basins
  - ▶ Annually – GSA submits report on elevation, extraction, storage
  - ▶ 20 years after plan adoption: sustainability achieved
- 

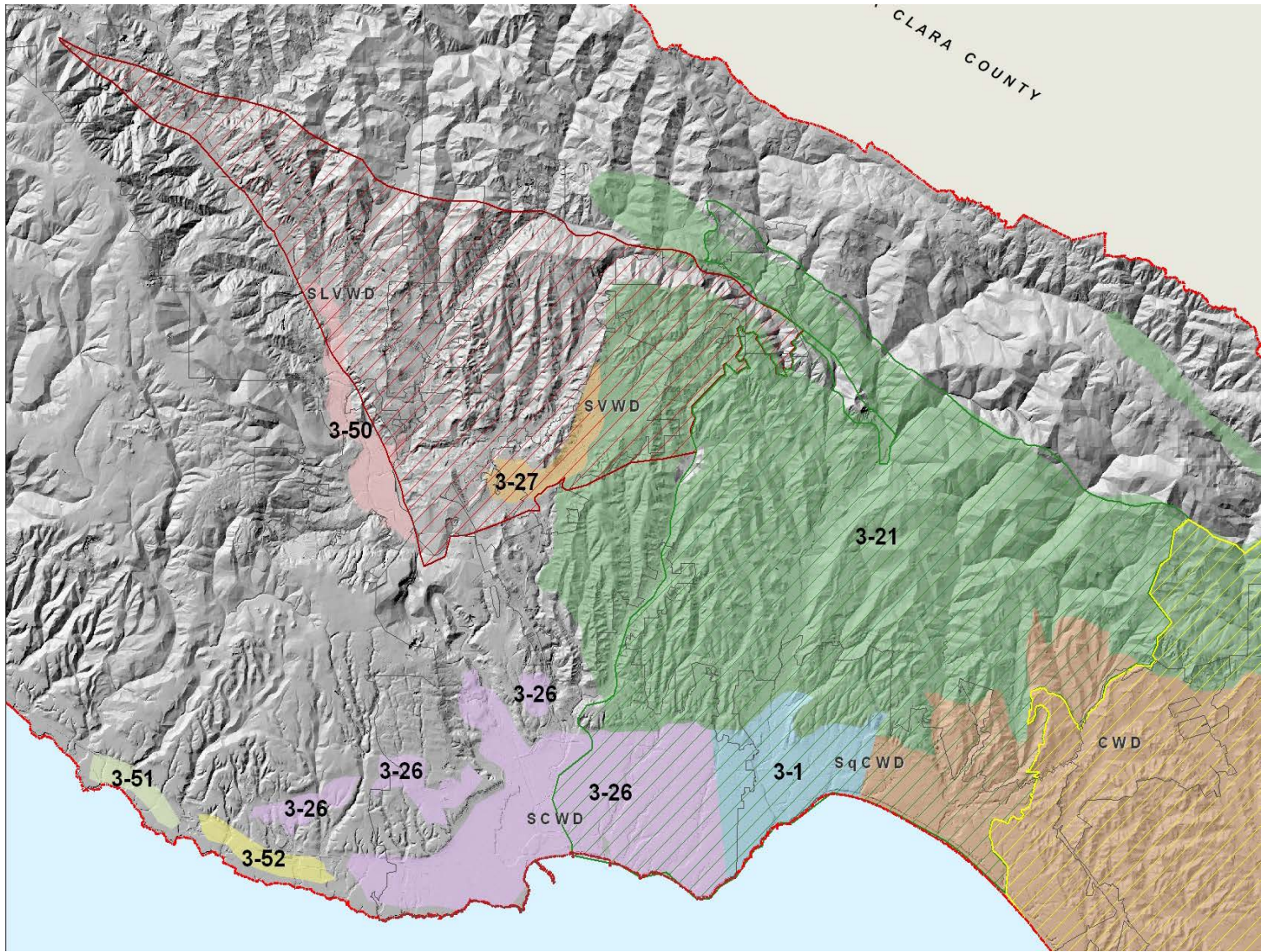


# Mid-County Groundwater “Basin”

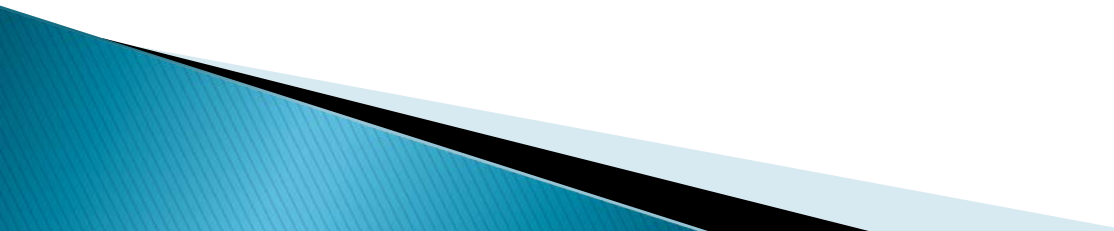
- ▶ Boundaries not properly reflected in State Bulletin 118
  - ▶ Portions designated as medium to high priority
  - ▶ Depleted groundwater levels
  - ▶ Seawater Intrusion
  - ▶ Reduction in surface water flow
- 







# Next Steps

- ▶ Achieve local consensus on basin boundaries and priority
  - ▶ Request State to correct information on basin boundaries and characteristics
  - ▶ Form local groundwater sustainability agency – JPA?
    - SqCWD
    - CWD
    - City of Santa Cruz
    - County
    - PVWMA
  - ▶ Engage with other stakeholders, users
  - ▶ Update Soquel–Aptos Groundwater Plan to meet requirements of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan
  - ▶ Implement Plan
- 

# Discussion