

# Final Approval of Groundwater Sustainability Plan for Upper San Luis Rey Valley Sub-Basin

YUIMA MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT, ON BEHALF OF PAUMA VALLEY  
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

January 24, 2022

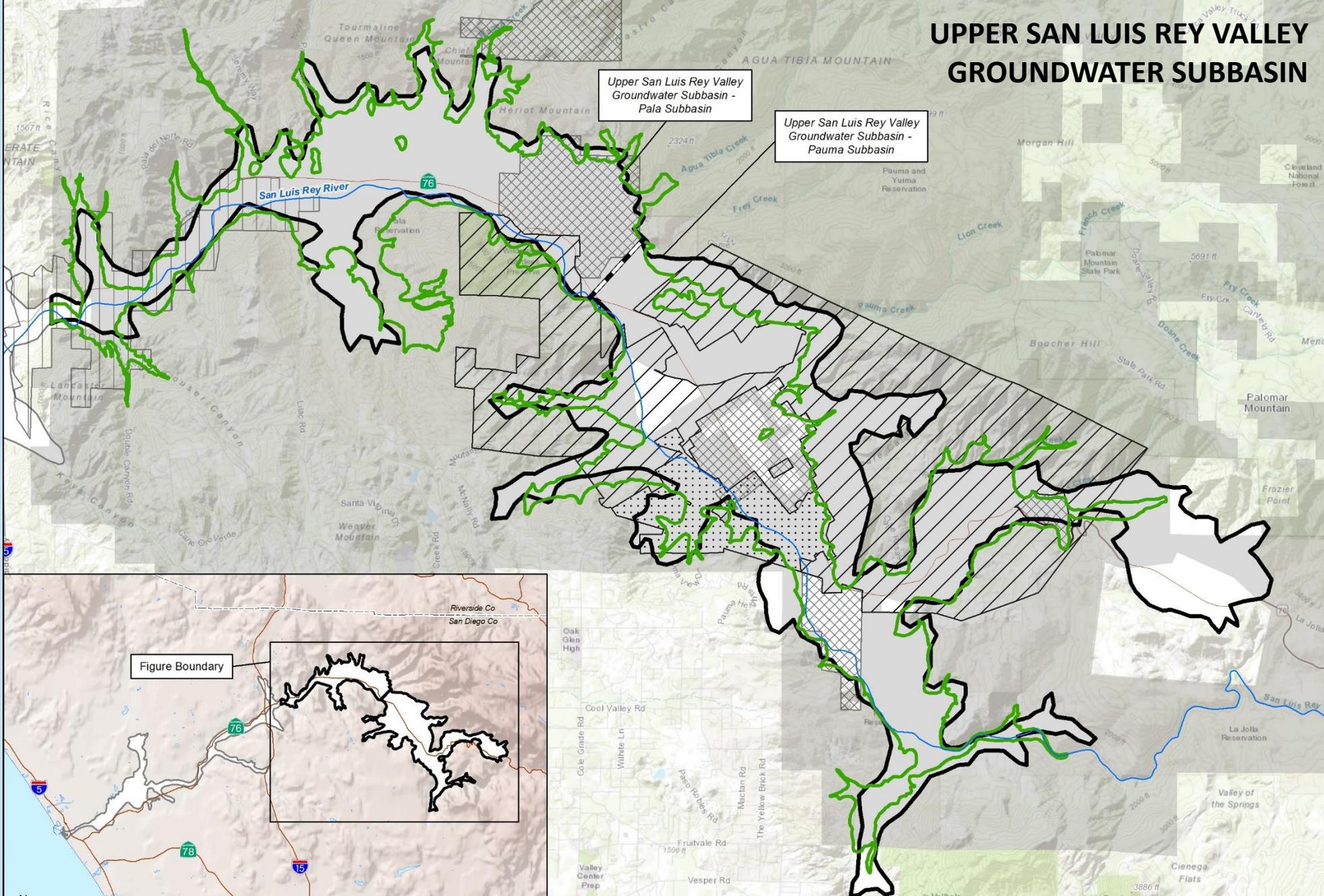
# Topics to Be Covered

- Yuima Is the Lead Agency for The Pauma Valley GSA And Needs To Approve The Groundwater Sustainability Plan, or GSP, for the Upper San Luis Rey Valley Sub-Basin after today's public hearing.
- Today's Presentation Will Cover:
  - What Does the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) require?
  - Meeting the Requirements of SGMA in the Upper San Luis Rey
  - Public notice and significant comments received on the GSP?
  - Process for approval of GSP in Upper San Luis Rey?
  - What happens after the GSP is submitted to DWR?

# What Does SGMA Require?

- SGMA, passed in 2014, and amended in 2015, seeks to ensure that CA groundwater basins are managed sustainably. Focus is on “medium” and “high” priority groundwater basins & subbasins.
- SGMA gives local agencies such as water districts, resource conservation districts, and community service districts, who elect to become Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, or GSAs, the authority to sustainably manage groundwater within their jurisdictions, with state intervention if local agencies fail to act.
- SGMA requires one or more GSAs to manage groundwater in all basins designated by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) as medium or high priority. The Upper San Luis Rey Valley Groundwater Subbasin (DWR number 9-007.01) is designated as a medium priority basin.

# UPPER SAN LUIS REY VALLEY GROUNDWATER SUBBASIN



## EXPLANATION

- Groundwater Basins/Subbasins
-  San Luis Rey Valley Groundwater Basin (DWR Bulletin 118, 2016)
  -  Upper San Luis Rey Valley Groundwater Subbasins - Pala and Pauma (AB1944, 2018)
  -  Frey Creek (SWRCB D1649, 2002)
  -  Proposed Pala/Pauma Subbasin Boundary (Refer to Section 3.3.1 for additional discussion)
- Pauma Valley GSA
-  Pauma Municipal Water District
  -  Pauma Valley Community Services District
  -  San Luis Rey Municipal Water District
  -  Upper San Luis Rey Resource Conservation District
  -  Yuima Municipal Water District

**NOTE: The proposed Upper San Luis Rey Valley Groundwater Basin boundaries are based on geology but have not yet been approved by DWR**

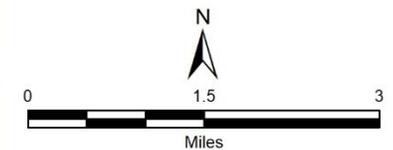
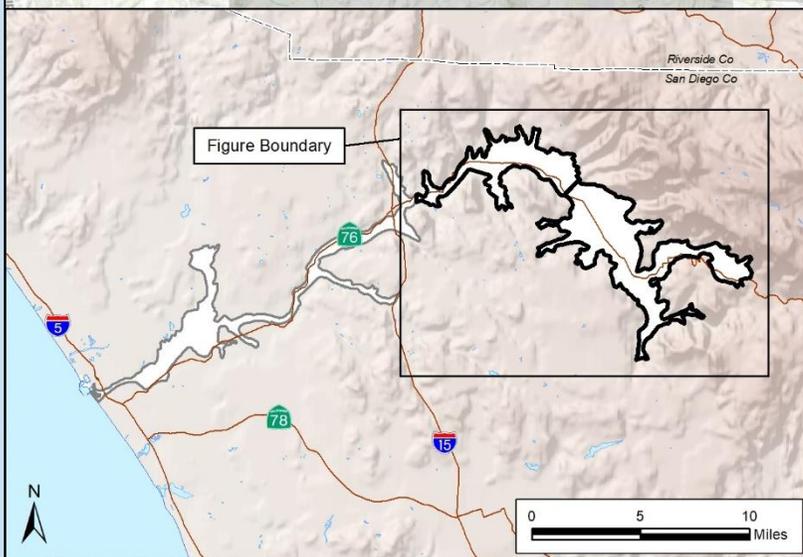


Figure Boundary



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

**SAN LUIS REY VALLEY  
GROUNDWATER BASIN  
JURISDICTIONAL  
BOUNDARIES**

# What Does SGMA Require?

- The GSA must develop and submit to DWR, before January 31, 2022, a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) that will result in sustainable groundwater management by end of a 20 year implementation horizon.
- GSA Must Ensure Sustainable Management Via GSP:
- GSP must ensure: no chronic lowering of groundwater levels, and no significant and unreasonable: degradation of water quality, loss of groundwater storage, seawater intrusion, subsidence, depletion of connected surface waters.
  - Good news in the Upper San Luis Rey, we're already sustainable under most hydrologic circumstances. Very different than the Central Valley and some coastal aquifers that are profoundly overdrafted.
  - GSP proposed for adoption will ensure that the Upper San Luis Rey remains compliant with SGMA while preventing the six "deadly sins" above from occurring.

# Meeting the Requirements of SGMA in the Upper San Luis Rey

- Yuima, County of San Diego, Upper San Luis Rey Resource Conservation District (RCD), and Pauma Valley Community Service District (CSD) formed the “Pauma Valley GSA” in 2017 through a memorandum of understanding, the 2017 MOU.
- Subsequently, the County withdrew from the 2017 MOU and Yuima took on the lead role for GSP preparation and implementation with the generous assistance of two grants from DWR.
- The 2017 MOU specifically authorized the addition of new members (San Luis Rey MWD and Pauma MWD), and the ability of other members, such as the County, to withdraw, without affecting the ability of the PVGSA to continue as GSA.
- In 2020 Yuima, after obtaining proposals, Yuima contracted with Geoscience to prepare the GSP for the Upper San Luis Rey Subbasin.
- Extensive public outreach, including to Tribes and the San Luis Rey Indian Water Authority, ensued. Yuima and Geoscience developed and implemented a stakeholder outreach plan and the PVGSA Executive Team met on numerous occasions to advise Yuima on the contents and structure of the GSP.

# Public Notification and Significant Comments Received

- PUBLIC NOTIFICATION PROCESS FOR GSP

- PVGSA provided notice regarding approval of the GSP to the County on October 15, 2021.
- PVGSA sent draft GSP out for a 45-day public notice period on November 23, 2021.
- Multiple public meetings and workshops held on GSP through fall of 2021.
- Newspaper notice regarding GSP public hearing published on November 13 and November 20, 2021 in the Valley Roadrunner.
- Yuima prepared a comment matrix responding to each comment received—which Yuima directors received at the same time or after the public who were able to access comment matrix via the Yuima website. Revisions to the GSP were also made based upon comments received.

- 144 separate written comments received from six major commenters:

- San Luis Rey Indian Water Authority
- CA Department of Fish and Wildlife
- National Marine Fisheries Service
- City of Oceanside
- Valley Center MWD
- Nature Conservancy

# Approval Process for GSP

- Per the 2017 MOU, Yuima is to approve the GSP and submit it to DWR on behalf of the PVGSA upon obtaining the recommendation of the PVGSA Executive Team.
  - PVGSA Executive Team is composed of at least one member from each member agency.
  - During the month of January 2022, CSD, RCD, SLR MWD and PMWD all had public hearings and meetings wherein their respective boards unanimously passed resolutions recommending approval of the GSP, and authorizing their representatives on the Executive Team to vote to approve the GSP per the process established in the 2017 MOU.
  - On Friday, January 21, the PVGSA Executive Team met and unanimously approved a resolution approving the GSP for the Upper San Luis Rey Valley Subbasin, and recommending that Yuima approve the GSP and submit the GSP to DWR prior to January 31, 2022.
  - Yuima Board approval of the GSP for the Upper San Luis Rey Valley Subbasin is the final step before submission of the GSP to DWR.

# What Happens After GSP Submission?

- PVGSA anticipates changing governance structure from the current MOU structure to a joint powers authority, or JPA structure, that will allow better governance, better ability to plan and implement projects/management actions, and better ability to fund the ongoing operations of the GSA.
- SLRIWA has been offered two voting seats on the JPA if they wish to participate, or they can participate in any other manner they feel comfortable participating.
- PVGSA wants the Tribes at the table and part of the solution in ensuring sustainable groundwater management throughout the Subbasin in the future.

# What Happens After GSP Submission?

- Immediate studies and additional monitoring are planned to help ensure GSA is managing based upon the best available data.
- There is a need for a boundary change as soon as DWR window opens. Prior maps in Bulletin 118 were not to scale, and revisions to current subbasin boundaries are needed to conform to actual alluvial (groundwater bearing) portion of the valley which forms the groundwater basin.
- Upon submission of the GSP, DWR will put the Upper San Luis Rey Valley GSP out for public review and will then review the GSP for technical sufficiency and compliance with SGMA.