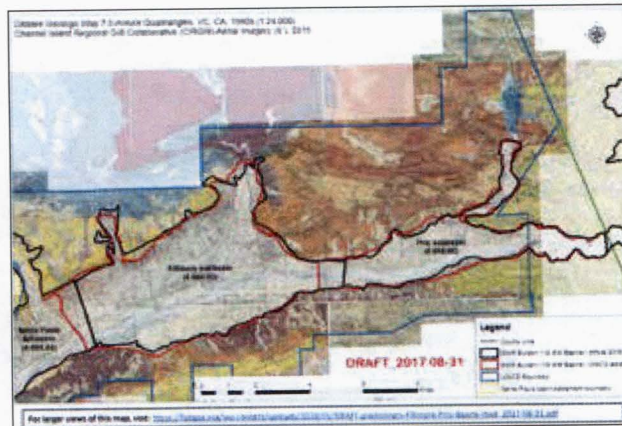




Workshop to review modifying groundwater basin boundaries

The Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency is hosting a public workshop to discuss Fillmore and Piru Basin boundary modifications on Friday, March 16, from 9 to 11 a.m., at Veteran's Memorial Building 511 Second St., Fillmore.

The Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency role is to study, plan, develop, finance, acquire, construct, maintain, repair, manage, operate, control, and govern water supply, projects and exercise groundwater management authority within either or

both of the basins either alone or in cooperation with other public or private non-member entities, and each is a local agency eligible to serve as the GSA, either alone or jointly through a joint powers agreement as provided for by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, signed into state law on Sept. 16, 2014.

The legislation created a framework for management and use of groundwater in a manner that can be maintained during the planning and implementation horizon without causing undesirable results, according to the SGMA website. "SGMA requires governments and water agencies of high- and medium-priority basins to halt overdraft and bring groundwater basins into balanced levels of pumping and recharge. Under SGMA, these basins should reach sustainability within 20 years of implementing their sustainability plans. For critically over-drafted basins, that will be 2040. For the remaining high and medium priority basins, 2042 is the deadline."

In his signing statement, Gov. Jerry Brown emphasized that

"groundwater management in California is best accomplished locally." Through the Sustainable Groundwater Management Program, the state Department of Water Resources provides ongoing support to local agencies through guidance and financial and technical assistance.

SGMA empowers local agencies to form Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to manage basins sustainably and requires those GSAs to adopt Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) for crucial groundwater basins in California, including in Fillmore and Piru.

Serving on the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency are Board Chair Kelly Long, who represents Santa Paula and Fillmore on the Ventura County Board of Supervisors; Vice Chair Edwin T. McFadden III, who is on the United Water Conservation District Board of Directors; Carrie Broggie, who is on the Fillmore City Council; Gordon Kimball of Santa Paula, representing Fillmore Basin Pumpers; Candice Meneghin, conservation program manager in the Southern California Region for California Trout; and Glen Pace, president of the Piru Basin Pumpers Association and president of Warring Water Service Inc. in the Piru basin.