

Summary of Beneficial Uses and Users

Beneficial uses of groundwater from the Oxnard Subbasin include agricultural, M&I, urban, and environmental uses. Historical, Current, and Projected Land Use, land use on the Oxnard Plain is 47% agriculture, 47% urban, and 6% open space. Of the groundwater produced from the UAS and the LAS, approximately 60% is used for agriculture and the remaining 40% is used for M&I and urban uses. GDEs are the primary environmental users of groundwater in the Subbasin. The GDEs are connected to the semi-perched aquifer, which is separated from the underlying UAS by a clay layer throughout much of the Oxnard Subbasin, and from which there is limited groundwater production.

Beneficial users of groundwater and property interests potentially affected by the use of groundwater are described in the following paragraphs.

Surface Water Users. The primary surface water users within the Oxnard Subbasin are UWCD and CWD, which both operate conjunctive-use programs. The interests of UWCD and CWD are represented on the FCGMA Board, Organization and Management Structure. Consultation with UWCD and CWD staff has occurred formally and informally throughout the development of the GSP, including participation in public meetings and the Technical Advisory Group (TAG). UWCD has also contributed data from their monitoring programs. There are also environmental uses of surface water, as discussed in this section under Environmental Users. All identified surface water users in the Oxnard Subbasin were added to the interested parties list that is sent monthly electronic newsletters and meeting notices regarding the status of the GSP.

Municipal Well Operators and Public and Private Water Purveyors. There are over 40 public and private water purveyors in the Oxnard Plain, as shown on Figure 1-8. A detailed description of each purveyor is included in the VCWPD Inventory of Public and Private Water Purveyors (2006). All of the purveyors in the Oxnard Plain, including all municipal well operators, are supplied water by either UWCD or CMWD. The interests of both UWCD and CMWD are represented on the FCGMA Board, as previously discussed in Section 1.2.3. Staff from both UWCD and CMWD have provided groundwater monitoring data, have participated in public meetings, and regularly collaborate with FCGMA staff. The Cities of Oxnard and Port Hueneme also have direct representation on the FCGMA Board by the representative appointed to serve on behalf of the five incorporated cities within FCGMA jurisdiction. Several of the smaller water districts and mutuals have also participated in FCGMA public meetings and provided comments throughout the development of the GSP.

Agricultural Users. Agricultural users have been identified as key stakeholders since the creation of FCGMA in 1982 and have direct representation through one of five members on the FCGMA Board. The primary crops grown in the Oxnard Plain are strawberries, raspberries, celery, peppers, beans, cabbage, lettuce, spinach, kale, cut flowers, and nursery stock. Agricultural user interests are represented within the Oxnard Plain by the Ventura County Agricultural Commissioner, the

Ventura County Farm Bureau, individual pumpers, and groups of pumpers that have organized to advocate for their interests during the GSP development process. The FCGMA Board directed staff to work with pumpers' groups on the development of proposed allocation systems that will be brought before the FCGMA Board for consideration. FCGMA maintains a database of well owners, including agricultural well owners. All email addresses in the database have been added to the list of interested parties who receive electronic newsletters regarding the status and development of the Oxnard Subbasin GSP.

Domestic Users. The majority of domestic groundwater users in the Subbasin are supplied water from a city, special district, or mutual water company. FCGMA maintains a database of well owners, including domestic well owners. All email addresses in the database have been added to the list of interested parties who receive electronic newsletters regarding the status and development of the Subbasin GSP.

Local Land Use Planning Agencies. FCGMA staff members have reached out to all local land use planning agencies with jurisdiction over the Oxnard Plain, including the County of Ventura, the City of Oxnard, and the City of Port Hueneme. The County of Ventura holds one of five seats on the FCGMA Board. The FCGMA Board also has a member appointed to represent the five incorporated cities, including the cities of Oxnard and Port Hueneme. As discussed in Section 1.6, Land Use Elements or Topic Categories of Applicable General Plans, FCGMA has established working relationships with the land use planning agencies. FCGMA staff has participated on the Ventura County General Plan Update Water Element Focus Group and continues to work with Ventura County planning staff to ensure that the GSP and General Plan Update are consistent.

Environmental Users. Environmental users of groundwater are concentrated in the four GDEs and two potential GDEs described further in Section 2.3.7, Groundwater-Dependent Ecosystems. These GDEs include aquatic habitat, in-channel wetlands, riparian forest, and coastal marshes. FCGMA has taken steps to incorporate the interests of environmental users in the development of the GSP through appointing an environmental representative to the TAG. The TAG held a special meeting focusing on potential groundwater-dependent ecosystems and accepted comments from the public on the potential impacts to surface water bodies. There are several non-governmental organizations with missions associated with environmental water uses on the list of interested parties who receive electronic newsletters regarding the status and development of the Oxnard Subbasin GSP.

The Federal Government. As discussed in Section 1.3.2.3, the federal government is a landowner and groundwater user in the Oxnard Basin through the Naval Base Ventura County. Representatives from the U.S. Navy have been coordinating with FCGMA staff regarding the development of the GSP, have participated in FCGMA public meetings, and are on the list of interested parties who receive electronic newsletters regarding the status and development of the Oxnard Subbasin GSP.

California Native American Tribes. According to the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs California Tribal Homelands and Trust Land Map, updated in 2011 and available from the DWR website, the entire Oxnard Subbasin is within the Chumash Tribal/Cultural area. There are not currently any federally recognized Indian Tribes, Indian land currently or historically held in trust by the U.S. government, or smaller Reservation or Rancheria areas in the Oxnard Plain. FCGMA recognizes that the Chumash culture and associated cultural resources are important in Ventura County. Several active local groups and individuals representing the interests of tribal communities in Ventura County have been added to the list of interested parties, including representatives from the Barbareno/Ventureno Band of Mission Indians (Chumash) and the Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation. FCGMA has reached out to the DWR Southern Region Office Tribal Liaison, Jennifer Wong, and added her to the list of interested parties. The San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians has also shown an interest in the groundwater sustainability planning process and has been added to the list of interested parties.

Disadvantaged Communities. The majority of the Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) within the Oxnard Plain receive water from cities, special districts, or mutual water companies. FCGMA works closely with these water agencies and mutuals that represent the interests of the DACs. The Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County has established a DAC Involvement Committee to discuss DAC needs and project opportunities related to Integrated Regional Water Management. FCGMA staff participates in the DAC Involvement Committee. Representatives from Integrated Regional Water Management and the DAC Involvement Committee have participated in FCGMA public meetings and are on the list of interested parties who receive electronic newsletters regarding the status and development of the Subbasin GSP.

Public Meetings Summary

FCGMA has been discussing the development of a GSP since March 2015. Table 1-12 lists the FCGMA public meetings in which the participants discussed or took action on the Subbasin GSP. Note that the list will be updated as additional meetings occur.

Table 1-12
FCGMA Public Meetings on Oxnard Subbasin GSP

Meeting	Date
TAG Meeting	May 5, 2019
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	April 24, 2019
FCGMA GSP Public Workshop No. 4	March 15, 2019
FCGMA Special Board Meeting	March 15, 2019
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	February 27, 2019
Special TAG Meeting	February 19, 2019
FCGMA Special Board Meeting	February 8, 2019
Special TAG Meeting	February 6, 2019
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	January 23, 2019

Table 1-12
FCGMA Public Meetings on Oxnard Subbasin GSP

Meeting	Date
Special TAG Meeting	January 17, 2019
TAG Meeting	December 6, 2018
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	December 5, 2018
FCGMA Special Board Meeting	November 20, 2018
TAG Meeting	November 1, 2018
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	October 24, 2018
FCGMA Special Board Meeting	October 12, 2018
TAG Meeting	October 4, 2018
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	September 26, 2018
FCGMA Special Board Meeting	September 14, 2018
TAG Meeting	September 6, 2018
FCGMA Special Board Meeting	August 29, 2018
FCGMA Special Board Meeting Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Pumping Allocation Workshop	July 25, 2018
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	July 25, 2018
TAG Meeting	July 5, 2018
FCGMA Special Board Meeting	June 20, 2018
Special TAG Meeting	June 19, 2018
TAG Meeting	June 14, 2018
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	May 23, 2018
TAG Meeting	May 3, 2018
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	April 25, 2018
TAG Meeting	April 5, 2018
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	March 28, 2018
FCGMA Special Board Meeting	March 9, 2018
TAG Meeting	March 1, 2018
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	February 28, 2018
FCGMA Special Board Meeting	February 26, 2018
FCGMA GSP Public Workshop No. 3	February 8, 2018
TAG Meeting	February 1, 2018
Special TAG Meeting	January 30, 2018
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	January 24, 2018
TAG Meeting	January 4, 2018
FCGMA Special Board Meeting	January 3, 2018
Special TAG Meeting	December 14, 2017
FCGMA Special Board Meeting	November 13, 2017
TAG Meeting	November 2, 2017
TAG Meeting	October 6, 2017
FCGMA Special Board Meeting	October 13, 2017
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	October 25, 2017
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	September 27, 2017
FCGMA GSP Public Stakeholder Workshop No. 2A – Oxnard and Pleasant Valley	September 20, 2017
FCGMA Operations Committee Meeting	September 14, 2017

Table 1-12
FCGMA Public Meetings on Oxnard Subbasin GSP

Meeting	Date
TAG Meeting	September 7, 2017
FCGMA Special Board Meeting	August 11, 2017
FCGMA Operations Committee Meeting	August 10, 2017
TAG Meeting	August 3, 2017
Special TAG Meeting – Sustainability Objective Concepts	July 27, 2017
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	July 26, 2017
FCGMA Fiscal Committee Budget Workshop	July 25, 2017
Water Market Pilot Program Ad Hoc Committee Meeting	July 24, 2017
FCGMA Board Executive Committee Meeting	July 12, 2017
TAG Meeting	July 6, 2017
Special TAG Meeting – Groundwater-Dependent Ecosystems	June 29, 2017
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	June 28, 2017
FCGMA Board Executive Committee Meeting	June 15, 2017
TAG Meeting	June 1, 2017
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	May 24, 2017
TAG Meeting	May 4, 2017
Special TAG Meeting – Groundwater Models	April 27, 2017
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	April 26, 2017
Special TAG Meeting	March 24, 2017
Special TAG Meeting – Groundwater Models	March 24, 2017
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	March 22, 2017
TAG Meeting	March 3, 2017
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	February 22, 2017
TAG Meeting	February 2, 2017
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	January 25, 2017
TAG Meeting	December 16, 2016
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	December 9, 2016
TAG Meeting	November 18, 2016
FCGMA GSP Public Workshop No. 1	November 15, 2016
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	October 26, 2016
TAG Meeting	October 7, 2016
FCGMA Executive Committee	October 3, 2016
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	September 28, 2016
TAG Meeting	August 26, 2016
TAG Meeting	July 29, 2016
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	July 20, 2016
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	June 22, 2016
TAG Meeting	May 27, 2016
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	May 25, 2016
FCGMA Special Board Meeting	May 13, 2016
TAG Meeting	April 29, 2016
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	April 27, 2017

Table 1-12
FCGMA Public Meetings on Oxnard Subbasin GSP

Meeting	Date
TAG Meeting	March 25, 2016
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	March 23, 2016
FCGMA Special Board Meeting	March 11, 2016
TAG Meeting	February 26, 2016
TAG Meeting	January 29, 2016
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	January 27, 2016
TAG Meeting	December 18, 2015
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	December 11, 2015
TAG Meeting	November 20, 2015
FCGMA Special Board Meeting	November 13, 2015
TAG Meeting	October 30, 2015
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	October 28, 2015
TAG Meeting	September 25, 2015
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	September 23, 2015
TAG Meeting	August 28, 2015
FCGMA Special Board Meeting	August 13, 2015
TAG Meeting	July 30, 2015
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	July 22, 2015
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	June 24, 2015
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	May 27, 2015
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	April 22, 2015
FCGMA Regular Board Meeting	March 25, 2015

FCGMA = Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency; GSP = Groundwater Sustainability Plan; TAG = Technical Advisory Group.

GSP Comments and Responses

The FCGMA Board approved release of a Preliminary Draft GSP in January 2018, with a 90-day comment period. An evening public workshop was held on February 8, 2018, to present the Preliminary Draft GSP, answer questions, and solicit comments. Formal comments were accepted in writing only. The comments were submitted in person at the public workshop and electronically via email to fcmgma-gsp@ventura.org. A total of 32 comment letters were received by FCGMA on all three GSPs. A summary of the comments was presented to the FCGMA Board at the May 23, 2018, meeting. In consideration of these comments, FCGMA completed an independent peer review of the numerical groundwater models, completed additional analysis for the water quality approach, and extended the timeline for completion of the GSP. Comments on the Preliminary Draft GSP and direction from the FCGMA Board after consideration of public comments have been incorporated in the Draft GSP.

Before completing the Draft GSP, additional information was made available to the public to enhance understanding of the technical information and processes used for the development of the

Draft GSP. The following documents were posted on the FCGMA website, discussed in public FCGMA meetings, and sent to the list of interested parties in electronic newsletters:

- Minimum Thresholds and Measurable Objectives Data, March 2019
- Peer Review of the United Water Conservation District and Calleguas Municipal Water District Models for the Oxnard Subbasin, Pleasant Valley Basin, and Las Posas Valley Basin, March 2019
- Approach for GSP Modeling of Future Conditions in the Oxnard Subbasin, Pleasant Valley Basin and Las Posas Valley Basin, January 2019
- Minimum Thresholds and Measurable Objectives in the Las Posas Valley Basin, Oxnard Subbasin, and Pleasant Valley Basin, January 2019
- Assessing the Sustainable Yield of the Oxnard Subbasin, Pleasant Valley Basin, and Las Posas Valley Basin, January 2019

A public workshop was held on March 15, 2019, to discuss the estimated sustainable yield, minimum thresholds, and measurable objectives proposed for the Draft GSP. Comments received at the public workshop have been incorporated into this Draft GSP. After the Draft GSP is approved by the FCGMA Board, a public comment period will be opened, during which time FCGMA will solicit formal comments on the Draft GSP.

Relationships between State and Federal Regulatory Agencies

FCGMA has not entered into any formal agreements with the federal government regarding preparation or administration of this GSP or groundwater management pursuant to SGMA, Section 10720.3(c). The U.S. Navy is a current beneficial user of water within the Subbasin and has initiated informal coordination with FCGMA staff, including a presentation to the FCGMA Board on May 24, 2017, detailing the Navy's interests and operations related to water use within the FCGMA boundaries. There are no federally recognized Indian Tribes within the Subbasin boundaries.

FCGMA recognizes the need for both formal and informal consultation with state and federal regulatory agencies throughout the implementation of the GSP. FCGMA received a formal request from the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on October 11, 2016, to be added to the list of interested parties for the development of the GSP. FCGMA has added NMFS to the list of interested parties, as well as the following state and federal regulatory agencies:

- Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife

- California Department of Water Resources

Outreach and Engagement Plan Development and implementation

A public outreach and engagement plan was developed for all of the GSPs that FCGMA is developing. The purpose of the public outreach and engagement plan was to create a common understanding and transparency throughout the groundwater sustainability planning process, including fulfilling the requirements of SGMA as described in DWR 2016b, Section 354.10.d. The public outreach and engagement plan discusses the FCGMA decision-making process; identifies opportunities for public engagement and provides a discussion of how public input and response will be used; describes how FCGMA encourages the active involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the Subbasin; and describes the method FCGMA shall follow to inform the public about progress implementing the public outreach and engagement plan, including the status of projects and actions.