

## **Required technical components of the Groundwater Management Plan**

A properly prepared groundwater management plan will include all the required components identified in California Water Code (CWC) Section 10753.7. These required components were included in the CWC in 2002 with SB 1938 and further enhanced in 2013 with AB 359. The plans may also include none, some, or all of the twelve voluntary components identified in CWC Section 10753.8. These components were added into the CWC in 1992 with AB 3030 (Groundwater Management Act).

Note: The bracketed text at the end of each step is the citation California Water section.

### **Required components**

For the purposes of qualifying as a groundwater management plan under this section, a plan **shall** contain the components that are set forth in section 10753.7. Also a local agency seeking state funds administered by the department for groundwater projects or groundwater quality projects **shall do all** of the following *[10753.7 (a)]*. Details in this section contain CWC language and if necessary a breakdown of the different parts of the code for easy of reading. Use this document as a guide and please refer to the actual CWC language when necessary.

- 1) **Prepare and implement** a groundwater management plan that includes basin management objectives (BMO) for the groundwater basin that is subject to the plan. The plan shall include components relating to the monitoring and management of groundwater levels within the groundwater basin, groundwater quality degradation, inelastic land surface subsidence, changes in surface flow and surface water quality that directly affect groundwater levels or quality or are caused by groundwater pumping in the basin, and **(New)** a description of how recharge areas identified in the plan substantially contribute to the replenishment of the groundwater basin. *[10753.7 (a) (1)]*

The following is a restructuring of the CWC section detail above to aid in reading:

- a) The monitoring AND management of groundwater levels within the groundwater basin
- b) The monitoring AND management of groundwater quality degradation
- c) The monitoring AND management of inelastic land surface subsidence
- d) The monitoring AND management of changes in surface flow and surface water quality that directly affect groundwater levels or quality
- e) The monitoring AND management of changes in surface flow and surface water quality that are caused by groundwater pumping in the basin
- f) **Effective 1/1/2013** – A description of how recharge areas identified in the plan substantially contribute to the replenishment of the groundwater basin

Specific and measurable BMOs need to be established to cover items a-e. Item f is not a BMO and is self-explanatory.

- 2) In support of component 1, the local agency shall prepare a plan to involve other agencies that enables the local agency to work cooperatively with other public entities whose service area or boundary overlies the groundwater basin. *[10753.7 (a) (2)]*

- 3) In support of component 1, the local agency shall prepare a map(s) that details the following. *[10753.7 (a) (3)]*
- a) The area of the groundwater basin, as defined in the department’s Bulletin No. 118. (2003)
  - b) The area of the local agency that will be subject to the plan
  - c) The boundaries of other local agencies that overlie the basin in which the agency is developing a groundwater management plan.
  - d) **Effective 1/1/2013** – The groundwater management plan shall include a map identifying the recharge areas for the groundwater basin. *[10753.7 (a) (4) (A)]*

**Effective 1/1/2013** – “map identifying the recharge areas” means a map that identifies, or maps that identify, the current recharge areas that substantially contribute to the replenishment of the groundwater basin. *[10753.7 (a) (4) (D)]*

- 4) The local agency shall adopt monitoring protocols that are designed to detect changes in groundwater levels, groundwater quality, inelastic surface subsidence for basins for which subsidence has been identified as a potential problem, and flow and quality of surface water that directly affect groundwater levels or quality or are caused by groundwater pumping in the basin. The monitoring protocols shall be designed to generate information that promotes efficient and effective groundwater management. *[10753.7 (a) (5)]*

The following is a restructuring of the CWC section detailed above to aid in reading:

- a) Adopt monitoring protocols that are designed to detect changes in groundwater levels
  - b) Adopt monitoring protocols that are designed to detect changes in groundwater quality
  - c) Adopt monitoring protocols that are designed to detect changes in inelastic surface subsidence for basins for which subsidence has been identified as a potential problem
  - d) Adopt monitoring protocols that are designed to detect changes in flow and quality of surface water that directly affect groundwater levels or quality
  - e) Adopt monitoring protocols that are designed to detect changes in flow and quality of surface water that are caused by groundwater pumping in the basin
- 5) For local agencies that are located in areas outside the groundwater basins delineated on the latest edition (2003) of the department’s groundwater basin and subbasin map shall prepare groundwater management plans incorporating the components in this subdivision, and shall use geologic and hydrologic principles appropriate to those areas. *[10753.7 (a) (6)]*

1/1/2014