

ARTICLE 7. Annual Reports and Periodic Evaluations by the Agency

§ 356. Introduction to Annual Reports and Periodic Evaluations by the Agency

This Article describes the procedural and substantive requirements for the annual reports and periodic evaluation of Plans prepared by an Agency.

Note: Authority cited: Section 10733.2, Water Code.

Reference: Section 10733.2, Water Code.

§ 356.2. Annual Reports

Each Agency shall submit an annual report to the Department by April 1 of each year following the adoption of the Plan. The annual report shall include the following components for the preceding water year:

(a) General information, including an executive summary and a location map depicting the basin covered by the report.

(b) A detailed description and graphical representation of the following conditions of the basin managed in the Plan:

(1) Groundwater elevation data from monitoring wells identified in the monitoring network shall be analyzed and displayed as follows:

(A) Groundwater elevation contour maps for each principal aquifer in the basin illustrating, at a minimum, the seasonal high and seasonal low groundwater conditions.

(B) Hydrographs of groundwater elevations and water year type using historical data to the greatest extent available, including from January 1, 2015, to current reporting year.

(2) Groundwater extraction for the preceding water year. Data shall be collected using the best available measurement methods and shall be presented in a table that summarizes groundwater extractions by water use sector, and identifies the method of measurement (direct or estimate) and accuracy of measurements, and a map that illustrates the general location and volume of groundwater extractions.

(3) Surface water supply used or available for use, for groundwater recharge or in-lieu use shall be reported based on quantitative data that describes the annual volume and sources for the preceding water year.

(4) Total water use shall be collected using the best available measurement methods and shall be reported in a table that summarizes total water use by water use sector, water source type, and identifies the method of measurement (direct or estimate) and accuracy of measurements. Existing water use data from the most recent Urban Water Management Plans or Agricultural Water Management Plans within the basin may be used, as long as the data are reported by water year.

(5) Change in groundwater in storage shall include the following:

(A) Change in groundwater in storage maps for each principal aquifer in the basin.

(B) A graph depicting water year type, groundwater use, the annual change in groundwater in storage, and the cumulative change in groundwater in storage for the basin based on historical data to the greatest extent available, including from January 1, 2015, to the current reporting year.

(c) A description of progress towards implementing the Plan, including achieving interim milestones, and implementation of projects or management actions since the previous annual report.

Note: Authority cited: Section 10733.2, Water Code.

Reference: Sections 10727.2, 10728, and 10733.2, Water Code.

§ 356.4. Periodic Evaluation by Agency

Each Agency shall evaluate its Plan at least every five years and whenever the Plan is amended, and provide a written assessment to the Department. The assessment shall describe whether the Plan implementation, including implementation of projects and management actions, are meeting the sustainability goal in the basin, and shall include the following:

(a) A description of current groundwater conditions for each applicable sustainability indicator relative to measurable objectives, interim milestones and minimum thresholds.

(b) A description of the implementation of any projects or management actions, and the effect on groundwater conditions resulting from those projects or management actions.

(c) Elements of the Plan, including the basin setting, management areas, or the identification of undesirable results and the setting of minimum thresholds and measurable objectives, shall be reconsidered and revisions proposed, if necessary.

(d) An evaluation of the basin setting in light of significant new information or changes in water use, and an explanation of any significant changes. If the Agency's evaluation shows that the basin is experiencing overdraft conditions, the Agency shall include an assessment of measures to mitigate that overdraft.

(e) A description of the monitoring network within the basin, including whether data gaps exist, or any areas within the basin are represented by data that does not satisfy the requirements of Sections 352.4 and 354.34(c). The description shall include the following:

(1) An assessment of monitoring network function with an analysis of data collected to date, identification of data gaps, and the actions necessary to improve the monitoring network, consistent with the requirements of Section 354.38.

(2) If the Agency identifies data gaps, the Plan shall describe a program for the acquisition of additional data sources, including an estimate of the timing of that acquisition, and for incorporation of newly obtained information into the Plan.

(3) The Plan shall prioritize the installation of new data collection facilities and analysis of new data based on the needs of the basin.

(f) A description of significant new information that has been made available since Plan adoption or amendment, or the last five-year assessment. The description shall also include whether new information warrants changes to any aspect of the Plan, including the

evaluation of the basin setting, measurable objectives, minimum thresholds, or the criteria defining undesirable results.

(g) A description of relevant actions taken by the Agency, including a summary of regulations or ordinances related to the Plan.

(h) Information describing any enforcement or legal actions taken by the Agency in furtherance of the sustainability goal for the basin.

(i) A description of completed or proposed Plan amendments.

(j) Where appropriate, a summary of coordination that occurred between multiple Agencies in a single basin, Agencies in hydrologically connected basins, and land use agencies.

(k) Other information the Agency deems appropriate, along with any information required by the Department to conduct a periodic review as required by Water Code Section 10733.

Note: Authority cited: Section 10733.2, Water Code.

Reference: Sections 10727.2, 10728, 10728.2, 10733.2, and 10733.8, Water Code.

NOTE: This is an excerpt from the Groundwater Sustainability Regulations. Read the full regulations here:

https://water.ca.gov/LegacyFiles/groundwater/sgm/pdfs/GSP_Emergency_Regulations.pdf