

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PV Water

PV Water Board Adopts Basin Management Plan: Groundwater Sustainability Update 2022

For 15 months, Ad Hoc committee, staff, consultants and interested parties contributed to the updating of PV Water Approved Groundwater Sustainability Plan Alternative

Watsonville, CA, November 17, 2021—The Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PV Water) Board of Directors unanimously adopted the Basin Management Plan: Groundwater Sustainability Update 2022 (GSU22) on Wednesday evening. The action came after more than a year of work on the plan by a 17 member Ad Hoc Sustainable Groundwater Committee, staff, consultants, and interested parties, which included 23 meetings in total. The Board meeting was attended by 29 people and many provided remarks during a public hearing, after which the Board took action. Adoption of the Plan, which includes newly developed sustainable groundwater management criteria, is a significant achievement and a requirement under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, a 2014 law requiring groundwater basins in California to achieve sustainable groundwater resources by 2040. A \$500,000 grant from the California Department of Water Resources, under Proposition 68, provided funding for this effort.

PV Water Director Stephen Rider shared his thoughts during the public hearing: “PV Water is committed to sustainability and to keeping local control of our groundwater resources.” After the public hearing, Director Javier Zamora, shared appreciation for all involved, “PV Water did a great job bringing many different people together, I’m really happy to see this many people involved!”

PV Water posted the Public Review Draft of the GSU22 on September 21, 2021, and requested that interested parties review and comment on the document. The revised Board Review Draft of the GSU22 was published on October 15th and incorporated edits in response to comments received and was presented during the October 20th Board of Directors Meeting. Two technical memorandum documents responding to comments received, and a summary document identify revisions made for the Public Review Draft and the Board Review Draft in the GSU22 was adopted during the November Meeting. Board Chair, Amy Newell, responded to the public, “I read all comments received, usually two times, we listen to all your questions and comments.”

The GSU22 will be submitted before the January 1st deadline and will then be posted on the state SGMA Portal for an additional 75 day comment period. PV Water will continue to submit annual reports every spring for the preceding Water Year (Oct 1st – Sept 31st). PV Water is actively advancing the projects and programs described in the Approved Groundwater Sustainability Plan Alternative (GSP) that was approved in July of 2019. The projects include the College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project, the Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge and Recovery Project, and adaptively managed conservation program that consists of rebates for residents and farmers and technical and educational advice to reduce groundwater usage.

PV Water will be updating the GSU every 5 years and encourages the community to get involved during the GSU27, GSU32 and GSU37 efforts. Groundwater management is a community effort. Go to www.pvwater.org to learn more about water in the Pajaro Valley.

GSU22

Pajaro Valley Basin Management Plan

Groundwater Sustainability
Update 2022

Prepared by Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency and Montgomery & Associates



November 12, 2021
For Board Adoption

ABOUT PV WATER

PV Water is a state-chartered water management agency formed to efficiently and economically manage existing and supplemental water supplies in order to prevent further increase in and to accomplish the continuing reduction of, long-term overdraft. PV Water also works to provide and ensure sufficient water supplies for present and future anticipated needs within its boundaries, generally the greater coastal Pajaro Valley. For more information, visit www.pvwater.org or on [Facebook](#).

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