

EAST BAY PLAIN SUBBASIN

Newsletter No. 1 - July 2025



Water Year 2024 Annual Report

The East Bay Plain (EBP) Subbasin Groundwater Sustainable Agencies (GSAs) are required to submit Annual Reports by April 1 of each year to summarize groundwater conditions and water use, as well as progress made to implement projects and management actions, and achieved interim milestones established in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) during the previous water year (October through September). These reports meet the requirement of California Code of Regulations Title 23 (23 CR) §356.2. On March 26, 2025, the GSP Water Year 2024 Annual Report was submitted by the GSAs. The annual report was accepted by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) on July 11, 2025, as satisfying its requirements.

The Annual Report for WY2024, including an Executive Summary highlighting the key takeaways, can be found [here](#). The EBP Subbasin is sustainable under current conditions in relation to the six SGMA sustainability indicators.

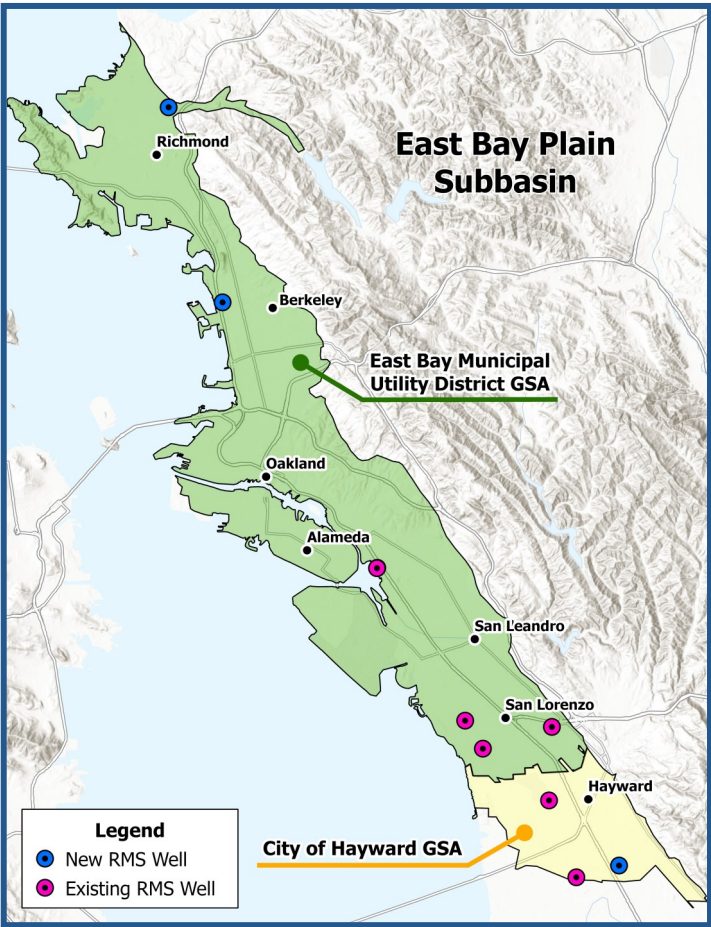
Installation of Three Groundwater Monitoring Wells

The GSAs completed installation of three new groundwater monitoring wells in February 2025. The work was completed by Well Industries, Inc., and partially funded by Proposition 68 funds through the DWR’s Sustainable Groundwater Planning (SGWP) Grant.

Wells were installed in the cities of San Pablo, Berkeley and Hayward and spanned the Shallow and Intermediate Aquifer Zones. The new wells are part of the EBP Representative Monitoring Sites (RMS) network, which now includes 17 monitoring wells over 9 sites.

The new wells partially complete the Management Action in the GSP of installing monitoring facilities to help fill data gaps and further characterize the subbasin. Future work to complete the Management Action will be reassessed in the GSP Periodic Evaluation. The new wells address the lack of data in the northern portion of the subbasin, monitor seawater intrusion along the western boundary, and further characterize the southern boundary of the basin.

Monitoring of the new sites began in Spring 2025 and include groundwater level measurements and water quality sampling at frequencies in accordance with SGMA requirements. All measurements and sampling results can be viewed on the [East Bay Plain Subbasin Data Management System](#).

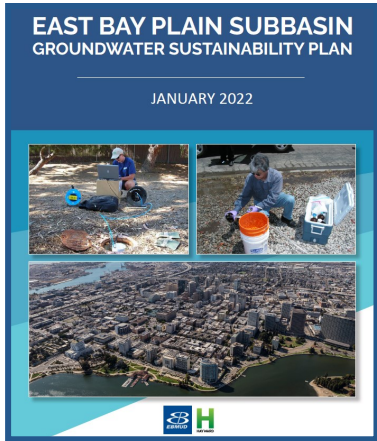


Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Study to be Completed

As a part of the 2022 GSP groundwater basin characterization, an analysis was completed using satellite imagery and ecological datasets as recommended under SGMA-guidance to prepare a map of Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs). From this effort, the EBP GSAs identified potential GDEs for further verification. In Spring 2024, the verification process was initiated as a part of the EBP Subbasin GDE/ Biological Monitoring Project (GDE Monitoring Project).

To date, data review and analyses have been performed for the GDE Monitoring Project, including review of local datasets (such as stream gauge measurements) and newly available environmental datasets to better verify potential GDEs. Based on data analyses, field observations were conducted to determine which locations showed evidence of likely being a GDE and suitable monitoring sites were selected for future ecological monitoring. In September 2024, ecological monitoring sites were then surveyed to establish baseline conditions. Analyses and field findings are currently being completed and documented in a Baseline Habitat Survey Report that is scheduled for completion by Fall of 2025.

Ramping up for the GSP’s Five-Year Update



This fall, EBMUD and the City of Hayward will initiate work on the required five-year update to the 2022 East Bay Plain Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). This update is now referred to as the GSP Periodic Evaluation and will include the preparation of a corresponding GSP Amendment. These documents will be completed and submitted to DWR by the January 31, 2027 deadline.

Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers, who supported the development of the 2022 GSP, will again provide professional and technical support for this upcoming effort.

As part of preparing the GSP Periodic Evaluation and Amendment, the GSAs will hold periodic stakeholder meetings beginning this fall to share progress and to receive input throughout the process. An invitation to the kick-off meeting will be sent out later this summer.

Links

- ◆ [East Bay Plain Data Management System](#)
- ◆ [EBMUD Sustainable Groundwater Management Webpage](#)
- ◆ [City of Hayward Sustainable Groundwater Management Webpage](#)