



Ukiah Valley Basin

Sustainable Groundwater Management Newsletter

FALL 2023

The Ukiah Valley Basin is a medium-priority groundwater basin managed by the Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (UVBGSA)—a joint powers authority formed between the County of Mendocino, City of Ukiah, Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District, and Upper Russian River Water Agency. Under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), the GSA ensures sustainable management of the Ukiah Valley Basin's groundwater resources consistent with the Basin's Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). This Newsletter serves to provide an update on groundwater management activities and implementation of the GSP.

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS & BASIN NEWS

Groundwater Sustainability Plan Approved by DWR

The Ukiah Valley Basin's Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on January 28, 2022, was [approved](#) on July 27, 2023. Annual reporting and five-year updates to the GSP are required through 2042. The first plan update, in 2027, will address DWR's recommended corrective actions.

Rate and Fee Study Underway

The UVBGSA is conducting a rate and fee study (RFS) to establish a long-term, dependable funding mechanism for administration of the GSA and GSP implementation. Work on the study started this June and is expected to be completed by August 2024. Hansford Economic Consulting and RollinsPR Consulting will help the UVBGSA establish a reasonable, equitable, and supported fee structure that considers all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, using a public outreach plan that can be viewed as a part of the [August 2023 TAC and Board packets](#). For more information, reach out to: staff@ukiahvalleygroundwater.org

Coming Up:

Ukiah Valley Basin GSA Board Meeting and RFS Workshop

October 12, 2023, 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

County of Mendocino Board of Supervisors Chambers: 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah or Online via Zoom

UVBGSA Continues to Engage with Mendocino County's Efforts to Revise the Well Permitting Process

The GSA is coordinating with Mendocino County Environmental Health to comply with Executive Orders N-7-22 and N-3-23, which furthered the State's drought response by requiring new well permitting provisions in groundwater basins which are subject to SGMA.

A third workshop is anticipated this winter to share information on the GSA's role in the County's revised, draft process for well permitting provide an update on timing for when to expect the updated process to be adopted and solicit feedback from community members.

RESOURCES

[GSA Website](#)

[Ukiah Valley Basin GSP](#)

and

[DWR Determination Letter](#)

[Annual Reports](#)

Ukiah Valley Basin

Sustainable Groundwater Management Newsletter

Get to Know Your GSA

The Ukiah Valley Basin GSA is governed by a Board of Directors and supported by a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and staff.

Elizabeth Salomone is the Chair of the GSA TAC and the General Manager of Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District, a GSA member agency. She also serves on the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Region 1 Board. Elizabeth is recognized as an open-minded, collaborative water leader in Mendocino County and the Russian River watershed, to help creatively unravel some of the most pressing water issues facing this predominately rural and disadvantaged area. From innovative project solutions to thoughtful relationship building, Elizabeth provides a unique new face in California's water industry. She elevates collaborations and coalitions of support to improve resiliency and adaptive responses to environmental and social evolution.



Looking Ahead to 2024

Ukiah Valley Basin GSA Board Meeting and RFS Workshop

January 11, 2024, 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

County of Mendocino Board of Supervisors Chambers or Online via Zoom

Ukiah Valley Basin GSA Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting

March 13, 2024, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

County of Mendocino Board of Supervisors Chambers or Online via Zoom

Ukiah Valley Basin GSA Board Meeting

April 11, 2024, 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

County of Mendocino Board of Supervisors Chambers or Online via Zoom

Contact Information

Education and Outreach Efforts

The GSA is expanding education and outreach activities through workshops, newsletters such as this one, and involvement at meetings hosted by community groups and other local organizations to provide updates on groundwater management activities.

To contact the general manager of the GSA, Erik Cadaret, use: admin@ukiahvalleygroundwater.org

For all other inquiries, use:
staff@ukiahvalleygroundwater.org

Or submit messages through the website:
<https://ukiahvalleygroundwater.org/contact/>

Do you have suggestions for meetings or groups the GSA should connect with? Let us know!