

December 15, 2014

## California's DWR Announces Initial Groundwater Basin Prioritization under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (Act) directs the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to develop a list of priority basins by Jan. 31, 2015. TODAY, Dec. 15, 2014, DWR announced that the basin prioritization finalized in June 2014 under the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) program will be the [initial prioritization required by the Act](#) when it goes into effect on Jan. 1, 2015. The Act requires the preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the 127 high and medium priority groundwater basins included in DWR's initial prioritization, which according to DWR's announcement, account for approximately 96 percent of groundwater use in California.

A basin's initial prioritization under the Act may change in the future any time DWR updates its Bulletin 118 alluvial groundwater basin boundaries. The next update of Bulletin 118 is expected in 2016.

For more information on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014, see our [Desktop Reference](#).

If you have any questions about the Act and its application to you and your business, please contact a member of Brownstein's California Water Group.

*This document is intended to provide you with general information regarding the California Department of Water Resources announcement of initial groundwater basin prioritization. The contents of this document are not intended to provide specific legal advice. If you have any questions about the contents of this document or if you need legal advice as to an issue, please contact an attorney listed in the link provided below or your regular Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP attorney. This communication may be considered advertising in some jurisdictions.*

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP's [California Water Group](#).