NORTH AMERICAN Subbasin

2026 Groundwater Sustainability Plan - Public Draft

September 2026

SGA SUTTER COUNTY

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1001

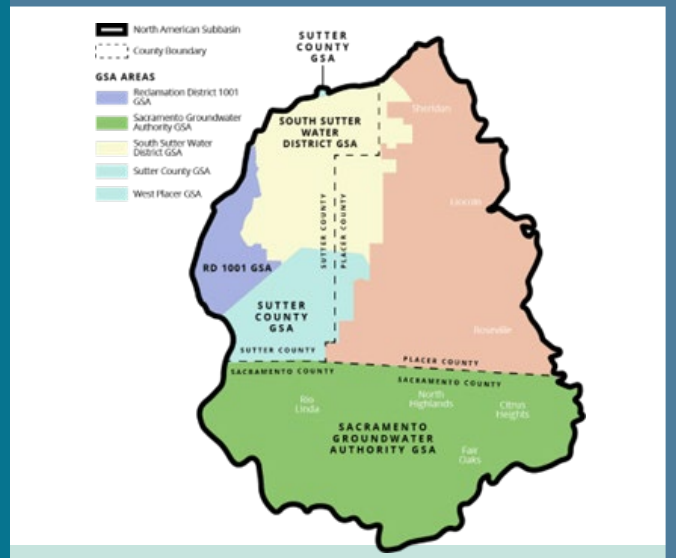
SSWD South Sutter Water District

WEST PLACER GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

North American Groundwater Subbasin (NASb) Groundwater Sustainability Plan Update

Sacramento Groundwater Authority Board of Directors Meeting

October 8, 2026



Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)

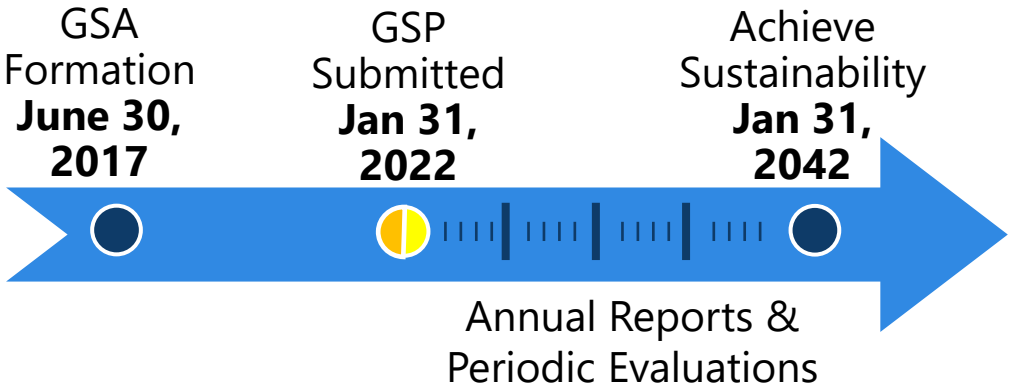
Local Control

"A central feature of these bills is the recognition that groundwater management in California is best accomplished locally."

Governor Jerry Brown, September 2014

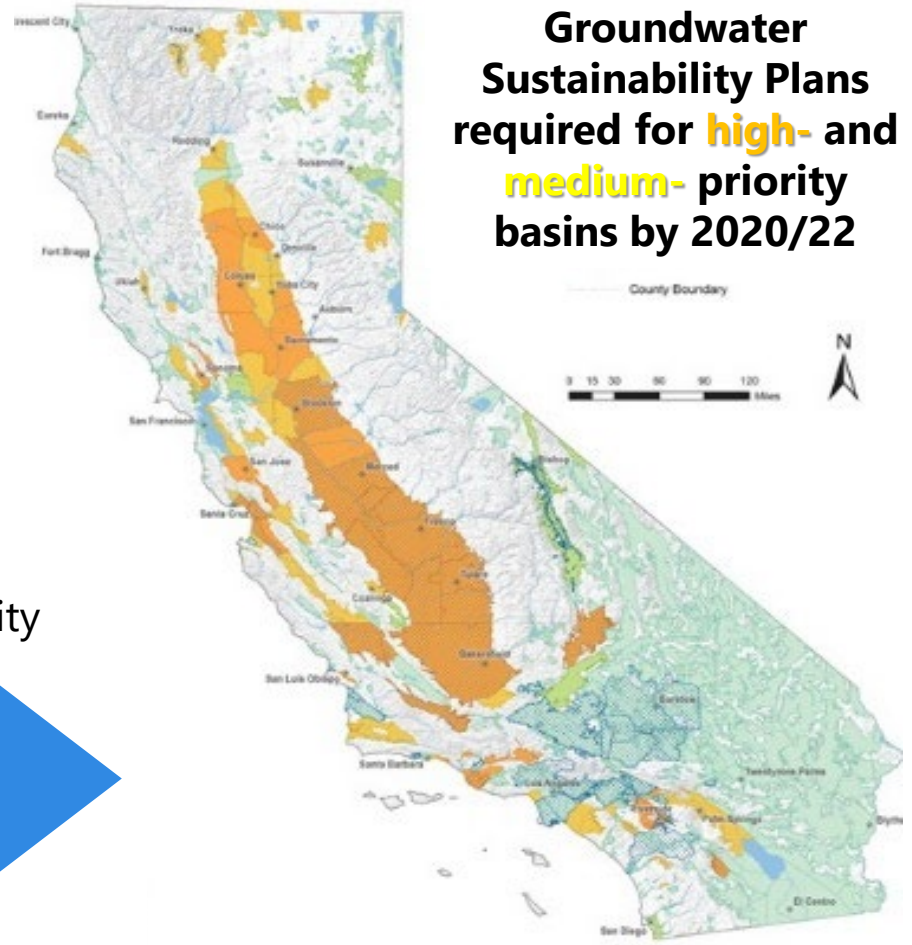
Roles

SGMA Timeline



Groundwater Basins

Groundwater Sustainability Plans required for high- and medium- priority basins by 2020/22



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GSP

Goal: Ensuring sustainability through projects and programs that will assist in meeting goals

Current Status:
Initial GSP Submitted in December 2021 and approved by DWR; Amended GSP will be submitted by January 2027

Annual Report

Goal: Provides information on groundwater conditions and implementation of GSP for the prior water year

5-year focus

Current Status: The fifth annual report for Water Year 2025 was submitted to DWR in March 2026

Periodic Evaluation

Goal: Periodically review the GSP to ensure that proposed projects and programs are helping the basin meet its sustainability goals

Current Status: In progress, to be submitted by January 2027

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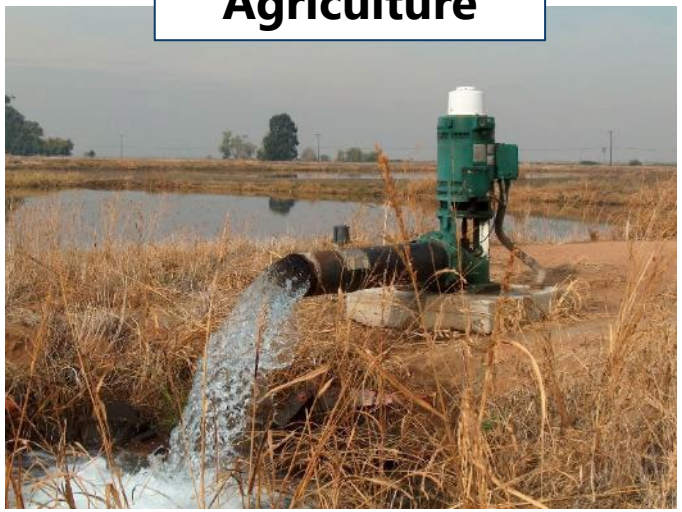
Documents available at: nasbgroundwater.org

Beneficial Uses and Users

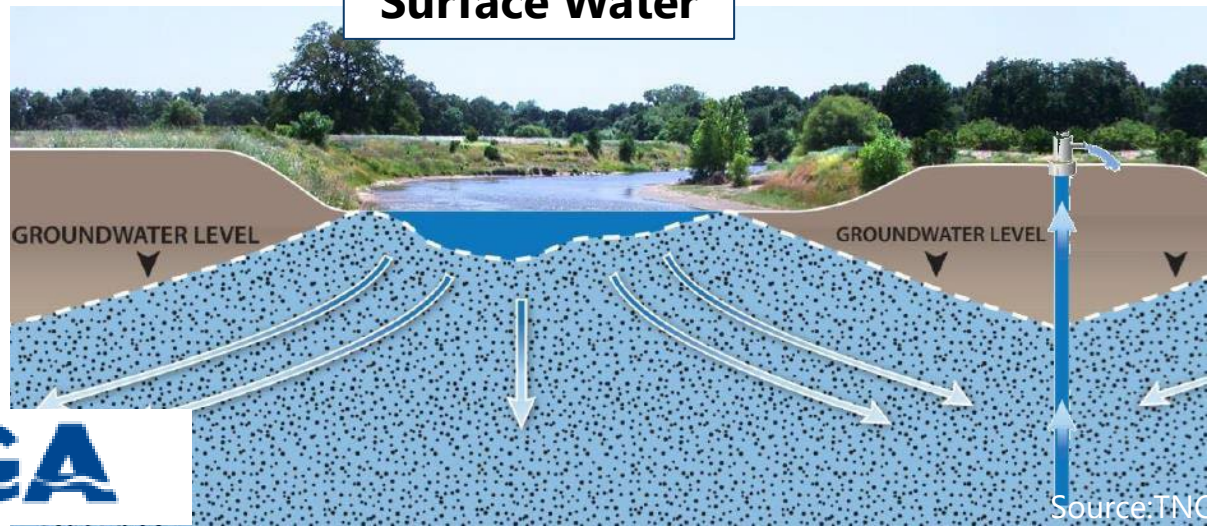
Agriculture



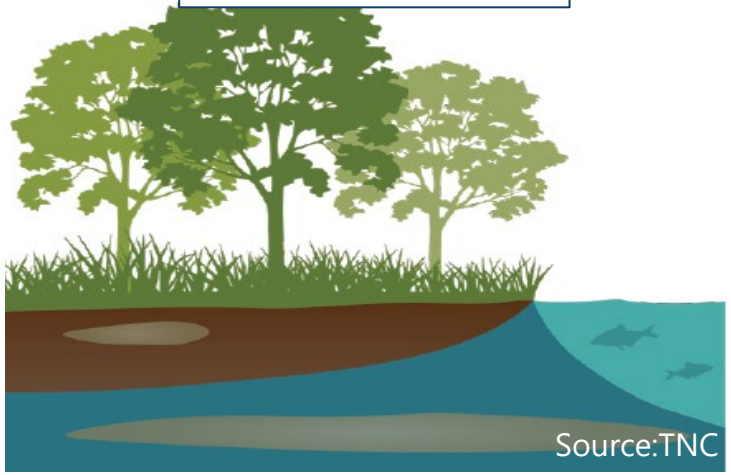
Municipal

Domestic

Surface Water



Environment



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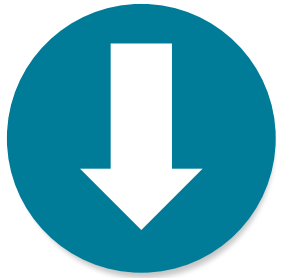
Sustainability Indicators

What we're avoiding to protect our Beneficial Uses and Users



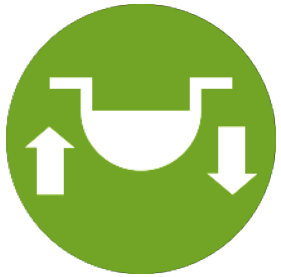
Chronic lowering of groundwater levels

Degraded water quality

Reduction of groundwater storage

Land subsidence

Seawater intrusion



Depletions of interconnected surface waters

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Periodic Evaluation

Periodic Evaluation

What did we find?

- No Undesirable Results occurred under the 2021 GSP criteria during 2021–2025.
- Dry years from 2021-2022 showed declines in groundwater levels and storage
- Wet and Above Normal years from 2023-2025 showed conditions rebounding or stabilizing
- Localized groundwater level declines and data gaps required additional attention

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Periodic Evaluation

Conditions relative to the 2021 GSP criteria

Sustainability Indicator	Status during 2021–2025
Groundwater levels and storage	Few localized Minimum Threshold exceedances. No Undesirable Results were observed.
Water quality	One Minimum Threshold exceedance for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS). No Undesirable Result observed.
Seawater	Not applicable in the Subbasin.
Land subsidence	Few localized Minimum Threshold exceedances. No Undesirable Result or documented infrastructure impacts.
Interconnected surface water	Few Minimum Threshold exceedances. No Undesirable Result observed.

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How the Periodic Evaluation led to a GSP Amendment

- DWR provided six recommendations
  - Addressing them can impact determination
- Substantial improvements in data and understanding since the 2021 GSP
- GSAs considered refinements to criteria to meet local needs and better protect beneficial uses and users
- Current Status: In progress, to be submitted by January 2027

GSP Amendment

Approach to GSP Amendment

Review DWR Feedback

Consider what has and hasn't worked for the Subbasin

Integrate new data and modeling results

Refine management criteria

Conduct outreach & gather feedback

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DWR's Recommended Corrective Actions

- Bottom of Basin Definition
- Data Gaps
- Water Quality Criteria
- Subsidence Criteria
- Interconnected Surface Water Criteria
- Monitoring Network Documentation

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NASb GSP Proposed Amendments

GSP Chapter	Summary of Changes
Global Organization	• Reorganized and consolidated. • Adds the first implementation cycle record.
Chapter 1 - Administrative Information	• Combines administrative and outreach content. • Updates governance and status. • Updates the land use baseline. • Refines the well inventory.
Chapter 2 - Basin Setting	• Strengthens the hydrogeologic conceptual model. • Extends groundwater condition records. • Modernizes groundwater quality analysis. • Updates subsidence, Interconnected Surface Water, and Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems analyses. • Rebuilds the water budgets with the updated CoSANA model. • Revises average annual storage results. • Adds an extreme climate sensitivity test.

NASb GSP Proposed Amendments (cont.)

GSP Chapter	Summary of Changes
Chapter 3 - Sustainable Management Criteria	• Expands the Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) rationale. • Groundwater levels impact-based Minimum Thresholds. • Groundwater levels Minimum Objectives and Interim Milestones. • Water quality. • Land subsidence. • Interconnected surface water.
Chapter 4 - Monitoring Networks	• Refines representative groundwater level coverage. • Standardizes timing and sensitivity monitoring. • Documents completed data gap work. • Revises the water quality network. • Makes InSAR the representative subsidence dataset. • Aligns ISW monitoring with revised groundwater level SMCs.

NASb GSP Proposed Amendments (cont.)

GSP Chapter	Summary of Changes
Chapter 5 - Projects and Management Actions	• Reframes the portfolio and list of PMAs. • Elevates the Sacramento Regional Water Bank to PMA 1. • Updates Water Bank cost and scale. • Carries forward and expands management actions. • Adds flexible conjunctive use and recharge development. • Updates the conceptual project list.
Chapter 6 - Plan Implementation	• Retains staffing and cost sharing structure. • Moves the five-year budget window. • Updates implementation actions to current status. • Aligns recurring work with the amended GSP.

NASb GSP Amendment/Evaluation Anticipated Timeline and Schedule

Date	Milestone
September 3, 2026	90-day notification to cities and counties on Amended GSP Adoption.
September 21, 2026	Amended GSP available for public review and public commenting period begins.
October 12, 2026	Public comment meeting.
December 8, 2026	City of Lincoln - Public Hearing Date, 2026 GSP Adoption. Natomas Central Mutual Water Company - Public Hearing Date, 2026 GSP Adoption. Sutter County - Public Hearing Date, 2026 GSP Adoption.
December 10, 2026	Sacramento Groundwater Authority - Public Hearing Date, 2026 GSP Adoption.
December 15, 2026	Placer County - Public Hearing Date, 2026 GSP Adoption.
December 16, 2026	Reclamation District 1001 - Public Hearing Date, 2026 GSP Adoption.
December 17, 2026	South Sutter Water District - Public Hearing Date, 2026 GSP Adoption. Placer County Water Authority - Public Hearing Date, 2026 GSP Adoption.
January 20, 2027	City of Roseville, Public Hearing Date, 2026 GSP Adoption.
January 24, 2027	Amended 2026 GSP submitted to DWR.

Public Review and Next Steps

- Draft Amended 2026 GSP and commenting instructions available at: https://nasbgroundwater.org/gsp/
- Written comments can be submitted to: info@sgah2o.org
- Amended 2026 GSP comment deadline: **October 21, 2026**
- **Responses to comments will be provided in the final Amended 2026 GSP, which will be available January 2027**
- All local agencies of the five GSAs will be adopting the amended GSP with public hearings during December 2026 and January 2027

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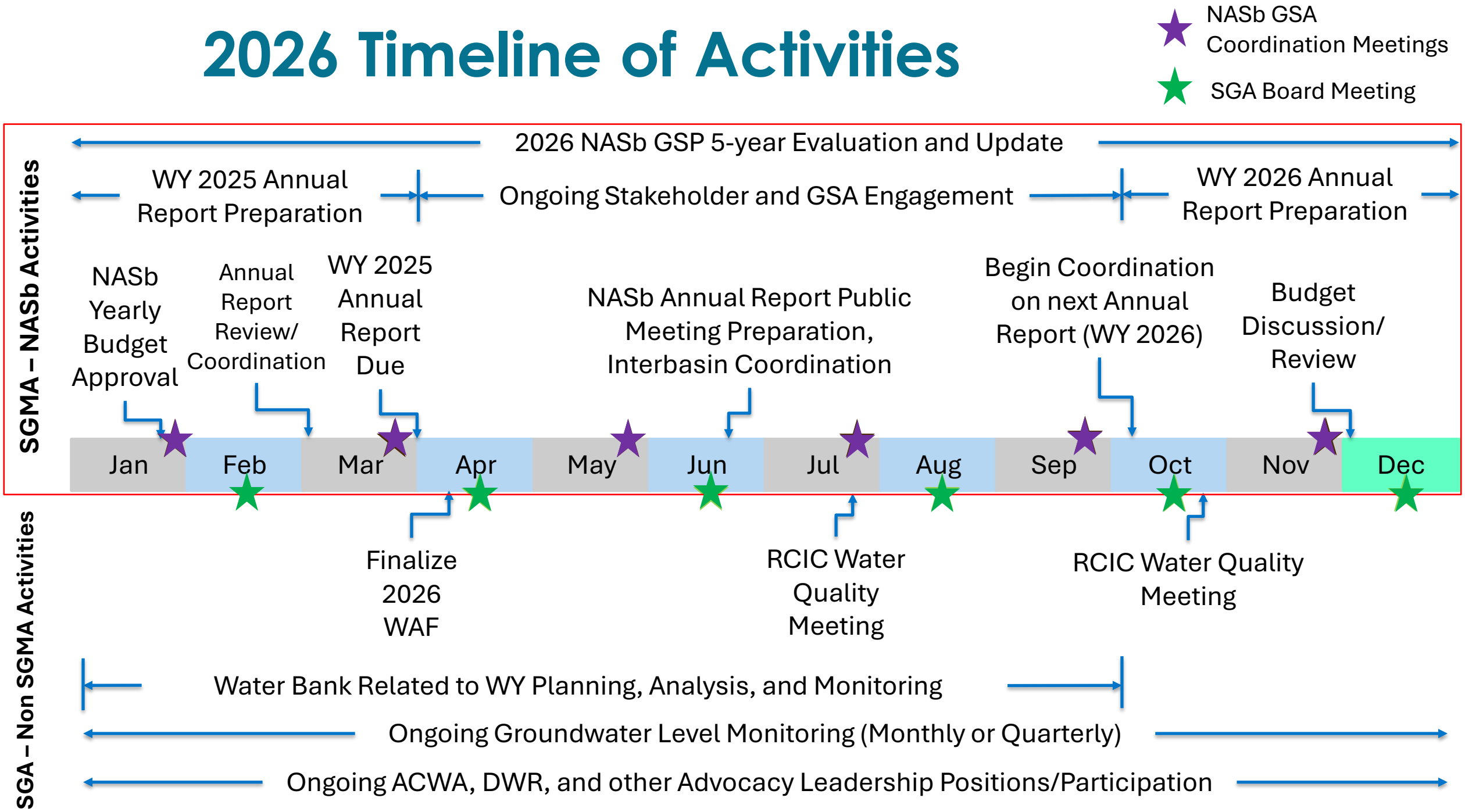
2026 Timeline of Activities