Presentation Overview

- Description of CASGEM
- Monitoring entities
- Implementation
- Benefits
- Contributions by each participating agency
- Experiences from other basins
California State Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM)

- Developed by Department of Water Resources in 2009
- Established a permanent, locally-managed program of regular monitoring to track seasonal and long term trends in groundwater elevations
- Voluntary, but ...
CASGEM Monitoring Entities

- Local agencies volunteer monitoring responsibility within all or part of a basin
- Cooperative association (contract, JPA, MOA)
- 43 local entities
CASGEM Implementation

- Fill out application
  - Identify representative and accessible wells
  - Establish a water level monitoring plan
- Collect or compile groundwater elevations, at least twice a year, and submit them to DWR’s database
CASGEM Benefits

- Makes the groundwater elevation information available publicly
- If no monitoring entity, local agencies ineligible for certain state (DWR) funding
  - Enforcement of this has been focused on higher priority basins
CASGEM Prioritization

- Basins ranked on population and growth, size, # wells and types, groundwater reliance, and other factors
- San Mateo Plain Subbasin was designated as ‘Very Low’ priority in 2014
CASGEM Prioritization

• Groundwater usage less than 2,000 AFY
  – Default score of 0 overall
• Would have been ‘Medium’ priority otherwise
• DWR is updating the CASGEM basin prioritizations in 2018
• Basin may be re-designated
Participating Agencies Contributions

- Access to wells
- Staff time collecting and compiling data
- Coordinating with partners and DWR
- Uploading data through portal
CASGEM in Neighboring Basins

- Santa Clara Valley Water District
- Alameda County Water District
- East Bay Municipal Utility District
- Westside Basin Partners (purple)
Discussion

- Access to wells
- Dedicate staff time
- Timing of commitment
- Agreement mechanism
- Roles and responsibilities