

Siskiyou County, Butte Valley Groundwater Basin
Sustainable Groundwater Management, Cost Estimate, Fiscal Year 2026–27
July 2026

This document summarizes the tasks and associated budget for the Sustainable Management of Groundwater in the Butte Valley Basin. The budget reflects estimated costs as of June 2026 and represents the annual budget for Fiscal Year 2026–27 (July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027). The budget is summarized in **Table 1** below.

1. Monitoring

1.1 Groundwater Level Monitoring (\$12,000)

Monitoring to measure basin groundwater level conditions, evaluate compliance with sustainability criteria, and inform management decisions. Efforts to scout and design monitoring sites, as well as purchase, build, calibrate and install monitoring equipment as needed are included in this component. Work to maintain the code repositories and databases necessary to house, access, and modify data are included. Special studies required to investigate site specific groundwater conditions are included as well.

1.2 Surface Water Level Monitoring (\$9,500)

Monitoring to measure basin surface water level conditions and inform management decisions. Efforts to scout and design monitoring sites, as well as purchase, build, calibrate and install monitoring equipment as needed are included in this component. Work to maintain the code repositories and databases necessary to house, access, and modify data are included. Special studies required to investigate site specific conditions are included as well.

1.3 Water Quality Monitoring (\$0)

This component funds monitoring groundwater quality to inform management decisions. Water quality monitoring is not anticipated during Fiscal Year 2026-27 but is provided as a placeholder for work in future years. Work to maintain the code repositories and databases necessary to house, access, and modify data are included in this component.

1.4 Miscellaneous Equipment Maintenance (Soil Moisture, Rain Gage, etc.) (\$1,750)

This component funds as needed equipment maintenance and repair of the basin's monitoring sites.

2. Reporting

2.1 Annual Reporting and Modeling (\$25,500)

Compilation and submittal of the Annual Report, required to be submitted to DWR annually on April 1. The report evaluates the Basin's sustainability management criteria for each sustainability indicator, and details groundwater conditions, water use, and management actions taken in the past year. This involves compiling and analyzing monitoring data, summarizing groundwater extraction volumes, and documenting progress toward sustainability goals. Updated model runs will be conducted to evaluate

groundwater basin conditions. Budget for this component also covers required data submittals associated with the Annual Report.

This component includes maintaining, updating, and running the numerical models used to implement the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), and includes analysis of water level and other required datasets such as water quality, surface flow, precipitation, and snow, among others. Models will be updated to incorporate newly acquired data and will be used to evaluate specific management scenarios and climate updates. Stakeholder input will be incorporated into planning scenarios, and the model will be used to evaluate the impact of management on the groundwater basin.

2.2 Periodic Evaluation (\$20,000)

Every five years, the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) must conduct a comprehensive assessment of its GSP to evaluate progress toward sustainability and determine if modifications are needed. This assessment includes a detailed technical review of basin conditions, an update on modeling efforts, and an evaluation of the GSP's monitoring networks and sustainability management criteria. Stakeholder engagement may be necessary if major modifications to the GSP are found to be necessary. Communication and consultation with DWR may also be necessary to achieve compliance. This component comprises development of the Periodic Evaluation, and submittal to DWR.

3. Regulatory Assistance

3.1 Assistance Related to GSP Implementation (\$14,000)

Real time understanding of groundwater conditions and water use, as well as the potential implementation of management actions in response to the basin's conditions. This component includes regulatory assistance to support implementation of the GSP and compliance with the SGMA. Services include interpretation of evolving SGMA requirements, coordination with DWR and the State Water Resources Control Board, evaluation of basin management actions, preparation of written responses, technical support materials, and compliance documentation as needed to address agency comments or requests. This task will ensure that basin management actions remain consistent with regulatory expectations and implementation timelines.

4. Outreach

4.1 1 In-Person Meeting, 1 Zoom Meeting (\$8,000)

Necessary outreach to stakeholders from the GSA to collaborate during implementation of sustainable groundwater management. The GSA plans to conduct at least one in person Advisory Committee (AC) meetings per year and one virtual meeting (Zoom) to provide updates, gather input, and discuss management actions. This budget item covers meeting coordination, materials preparation, and staff time to facilitate stakeholder outreach.

5. Grant Assistance

5.1 Grant Assistance (Identification and Application) (\$8,900)

Grant writing efforts to secure external funding to finance the implementation of the GSP. This includes identifying funding opportunities, preparing applications, coordinating with potential subconsultants, grant writing, and satisfaction of other potential requirements of the grant. Coordination with the entity distributing the grant is included in this component.

Fiscal Year 2026–27 Cost Estimate

The total of the above tasks is \$99,650, as provided in **Table 1** below.

Table 1. Siskiyou County Annual Cost Estimate for Sustainable Groundwater Management for the Butte Valley Basin (FY 2026-27: July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027)

Task	Subtask and Description	Labor Cost	Equip. and Material Cost	Total Cost
1 - Monitoring	1.1 - Groundwater Level Monitoring	\$11,000	\$1,000	\$12,000
	1.2 - Surface Water Level Monitoring	\$9,000	\$500	\$9,500
	1.3 - Water Quality Monitoring	\$0		\$0
	1.4 - Miscellaneous Equipment Maintenance (Soil Moisture, Rain Gage, etc.)	\$1,500	\$250	\$1,750
2 - Reporting	2.1 - Annual Reporting and Associated Modeling (WY2026)	\$25,500		\$25,500
	2.2 - Periodic Evaluation	\$20,000		\$20,000
3 - Regulatory Assistance	3.1 - Assistance Related to GSP Implementation	\$14,000		\$14,000
4 - Outreach	4.1 - 1 In-Person Meeting, 1 Zoom Meeting	\$8,000		\$8,000
5 - Grant Assistance	5.1 - Grant Assistance (Identification and Application)	\$8,900		\$8,900
Total for all tasks		\$97,900	\$1,750	\$99,650