



Launch of the California DWR Land Use Viewer

As part of DWR's ongoing commitment to provide technical assistance to Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and other water managers throughout the state, DWR has developed the **California Land Use Viewer** (<https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/CADWRLandUseViewer>). The Land Use Viewer allows GSAs and the public to easily access both statewide (as recent as 2014 crop data) and existing county land use datasets that have been collected over the last 30 years. The Viewer also includes a variety of tools that will allow users to download and analyze land use data.

Background

DWR began surveying land use in the early 1950's for specific projects and by the mid 1960's began an ongoing program to perform yearly land use surveys to collect urban, agricultural, and environmental land use and water use data that serve as the basis for estimating current and projected water uses on a statewide and regional scale. Since 1950 DWR has conducted over 250 land use surveys of all or parts of California's 58 counties.

Benefits to GSAs and other Water Managers

Currently, regional and statewide land use information is publicly available; however, this information is collected and disseminated by a variety of state and local agencies and private companies.

The Land Use Viewer provides consistent, centralized land use data that will improve coordination across the State and help GSAs meet the requirements of SGMA and the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) regulations.



California DWR Land Use Viewer

<https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/CADWRLandUseViewer/>

Benefits of the Land Use Viewer

- **Standardized, Statewide Coverage:** The Land Use Viewer provides access to a standardized, single year, statewide dataset as well as historical county land use data collected at various time periods over the last 30 years.
- **Supports GSP Development:** The Land Use Viewer integrates data from DWR into a common, well organized, and accessible format that will benefit GSAs as they develop their GSPs including requirements to provide descriptions of existing land use designations and quantifying the historical, current, and projected water budget for groundwater basins.
- **Reduced Cost to GSAs and Land Owners:** Easily accessible statewide land use data provided by DWR will save GSAs time and money, which in turn will reduce costs to land owners and other groundwater users in the basins.
- **Provides Appropriate Data Access:** The Land Use Viewer displays the type of crop that was grown in previous years (i.e. 2014), and does not display water use, fertilizer application, or other related agricultural data, which protects private information as required by law.

How DWR will use this Data

For many years, DWR has collected land use data throughout the State and uses this information to develop water use estimates for statewide and regional planning efforts, including water use projections, water use efficiency evaluation, groundwater model development, and water transfers. With the passage of SGMA, DWR will use the existing county and newly developed statewide land use information to review GSPs and enhance DWR's groundwater models that will be made available for GSAs to use, if they choose, for GSP development.

Contact and Additional Information

- For more information or questions on **DWR's Land Use Viewer**, please contact Wyatt Arnold at Wyatt.Arnold@water.ca.gov
- For more information or questions on **DWR's Land Use Program**, please contact Simon Eching at Simon.Eching@water.ca.gov or visit <http://www.water.ca.gov/landwateruse/>
- For more information or questions on **DWR's technical assistance**, please contact Steven Springhorn at Steven.Springhorn@water.ca.gov, or visit http://water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/data_tools_reports.cfm for additional information on DWR's SGMA related Data, Tools, and Reports.



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