

# Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update



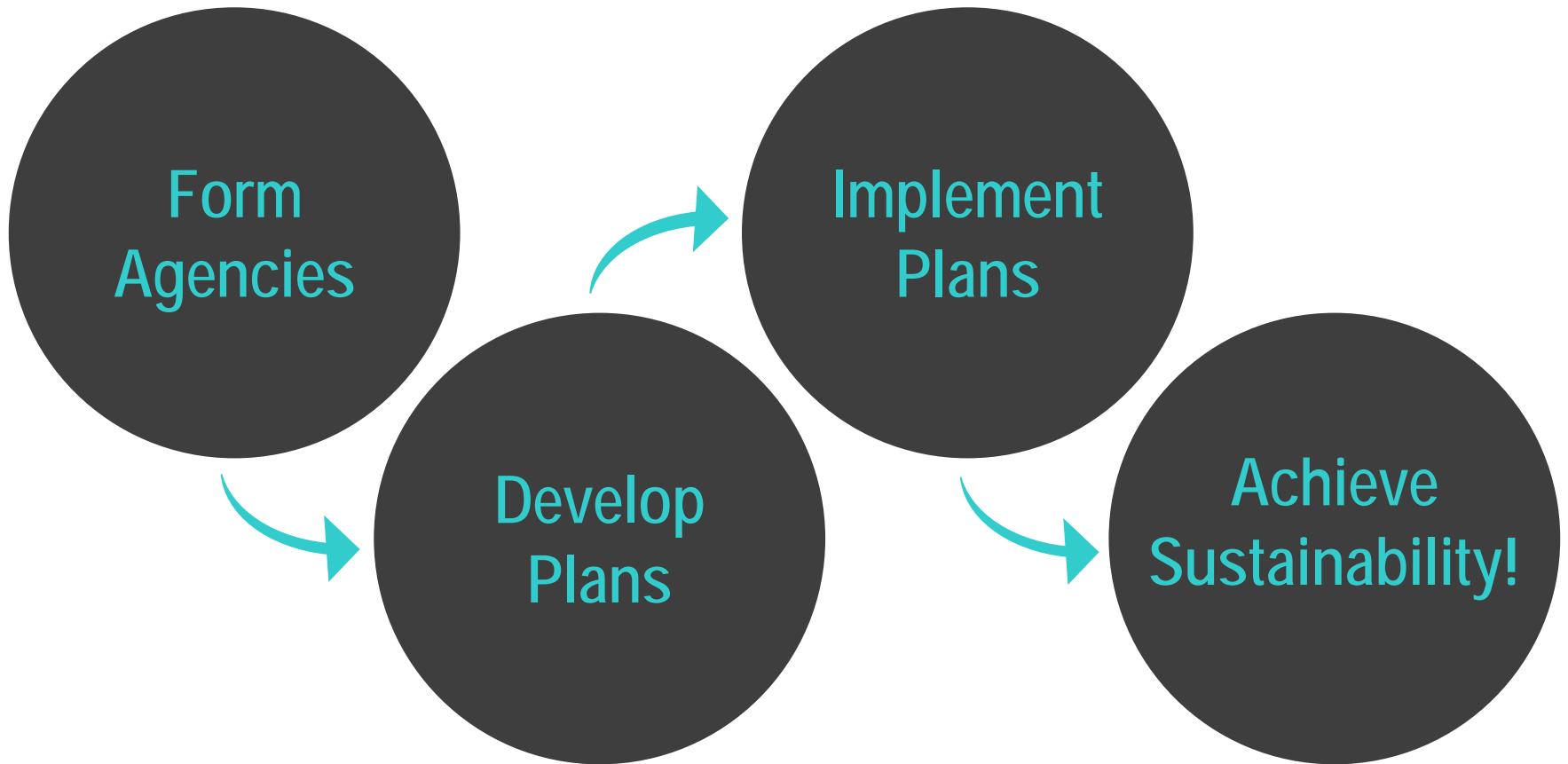
3/21/2019

Groundwater Management Program

“ Groundwater **management**  
in California is best  
accomplished **locally.** ”

Former Governor Jerry Brown

# SGMA



“ [W]here a local groundwater sustainability agency is not managing its groundwater sustainably, **the state needs to protect the resource** until...a local groundwater sustainability agency can sustainably manage the groundwater basin.”

# Board Backstop Basics

- 1 Board only steps in when local efforts fail.
- 2 Temporarily protects the basin until locals come up-to-speed.
- 3 Backstop is triggered by SGMA deadlines.



# TRIGGERING the BACKSTOP

After January 2020

```
graph TD; A[After January 2020] --> B[Basin not covered by plan(s)]; A --> C[No coordination]; B --- D[OR]; C --- D;
```

**Basin not  
covered by  
plan(s)**

**OR**

**No  
coordination**



**BASIN**

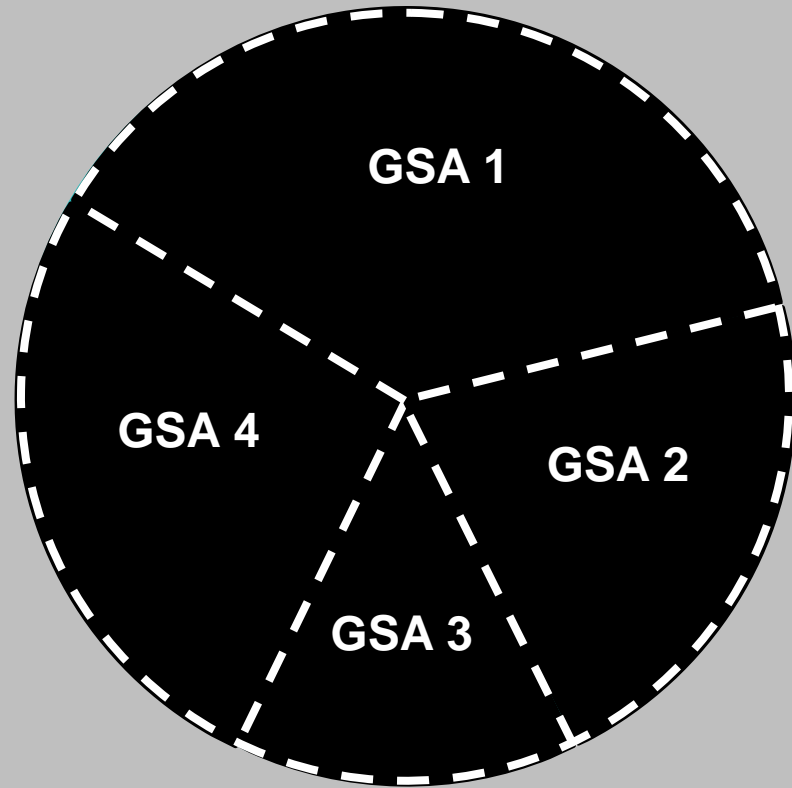


**1 GSA**

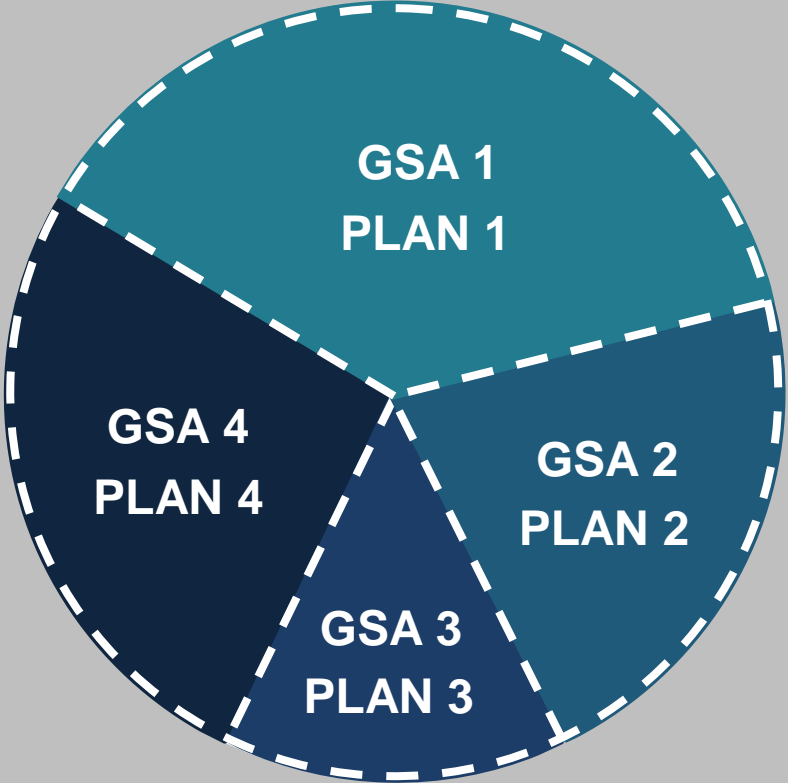


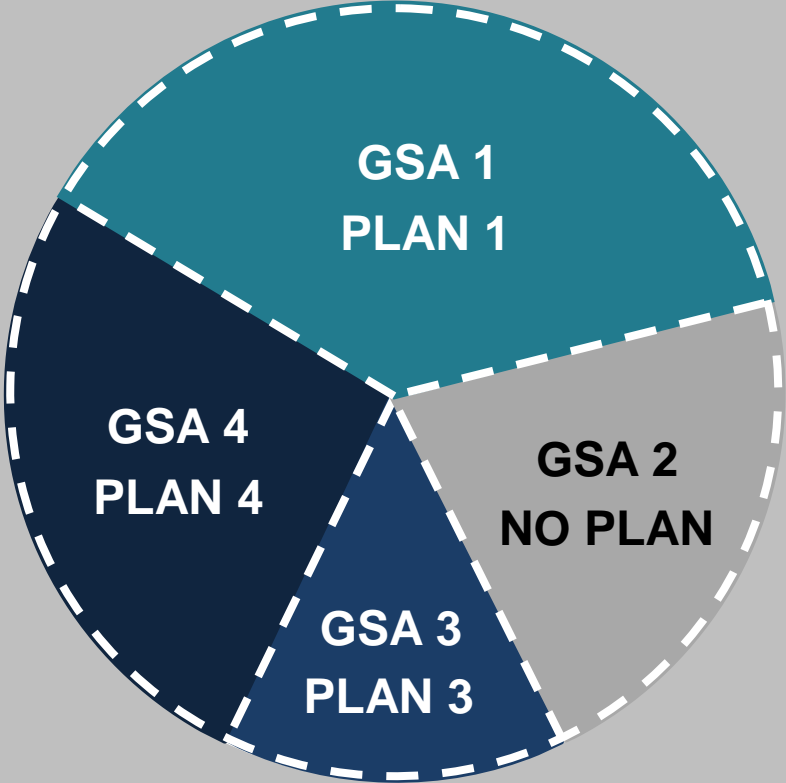
1 GSA

1 PLAN

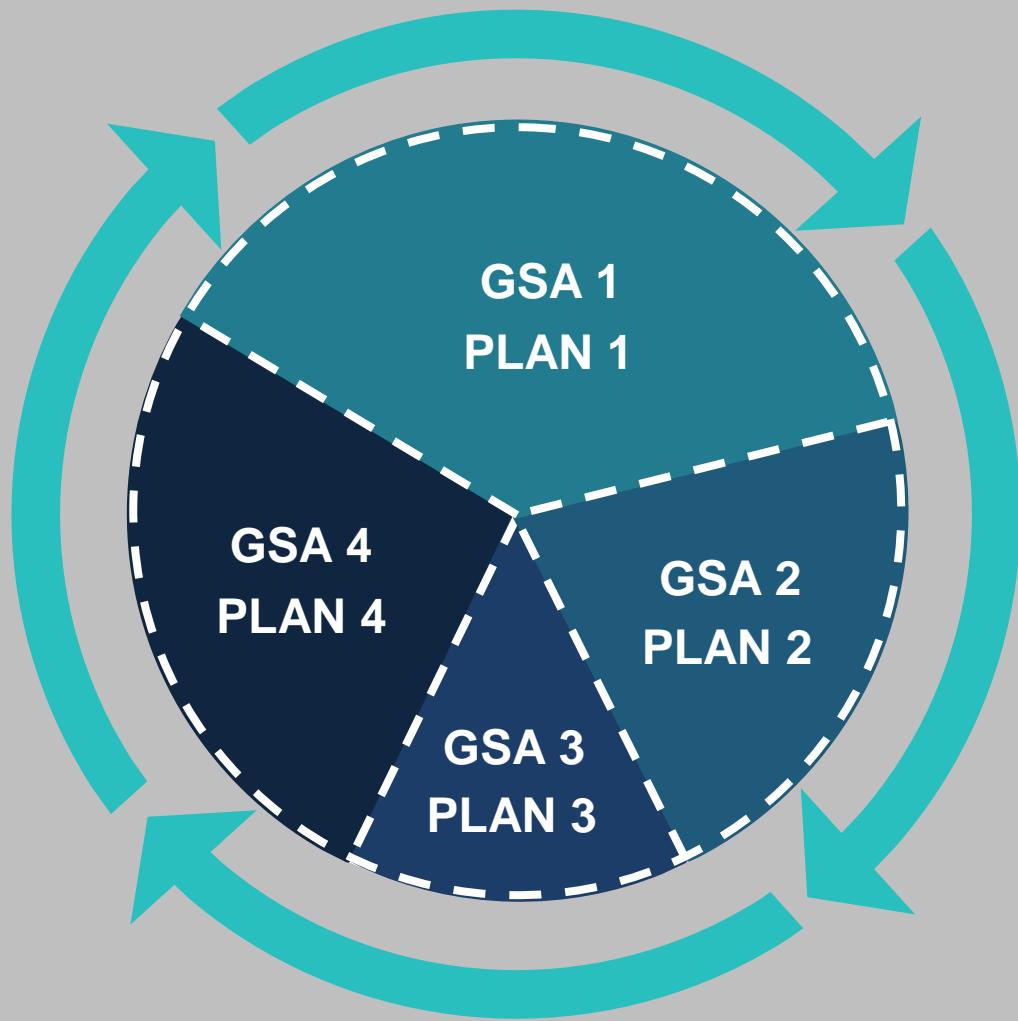














“ The board, after notice and a public hearing, may designate a high- or medium-priority basin as a probationary basin, if... after January 31, 2020, **none of the following have occurred:**

(A) A groundwater sustainability agency has adopted a groundwater sustainability plan for the entire basin.

(B) A collection of local agencies has adopted groundwater sustainability plans that collectively serve as a groundwater sustainability plan for the entire basin... ”

# Probationary groundwater BASIN



State makes decisions



State gathers data



State may require meters



Locals have an opportunity  
to fix issues



# Groundwater extraction reports

Pumpers report directly to the Board annually.

- 1 Well location and capacity**
- 2 Monthly extraction volumes**
- 3 Place and purpose of use**

Water Code Section 5202

# FEES for groundwater pumpers

**Base  
Filing Fee**  
(per well)

**\$300**

**+**

**Volumetric  
Rate**  
(per acre-foot)

Unmanaged  
**\$25**

Probation  
**\$40\***

Interim Plan  
**\$55\***

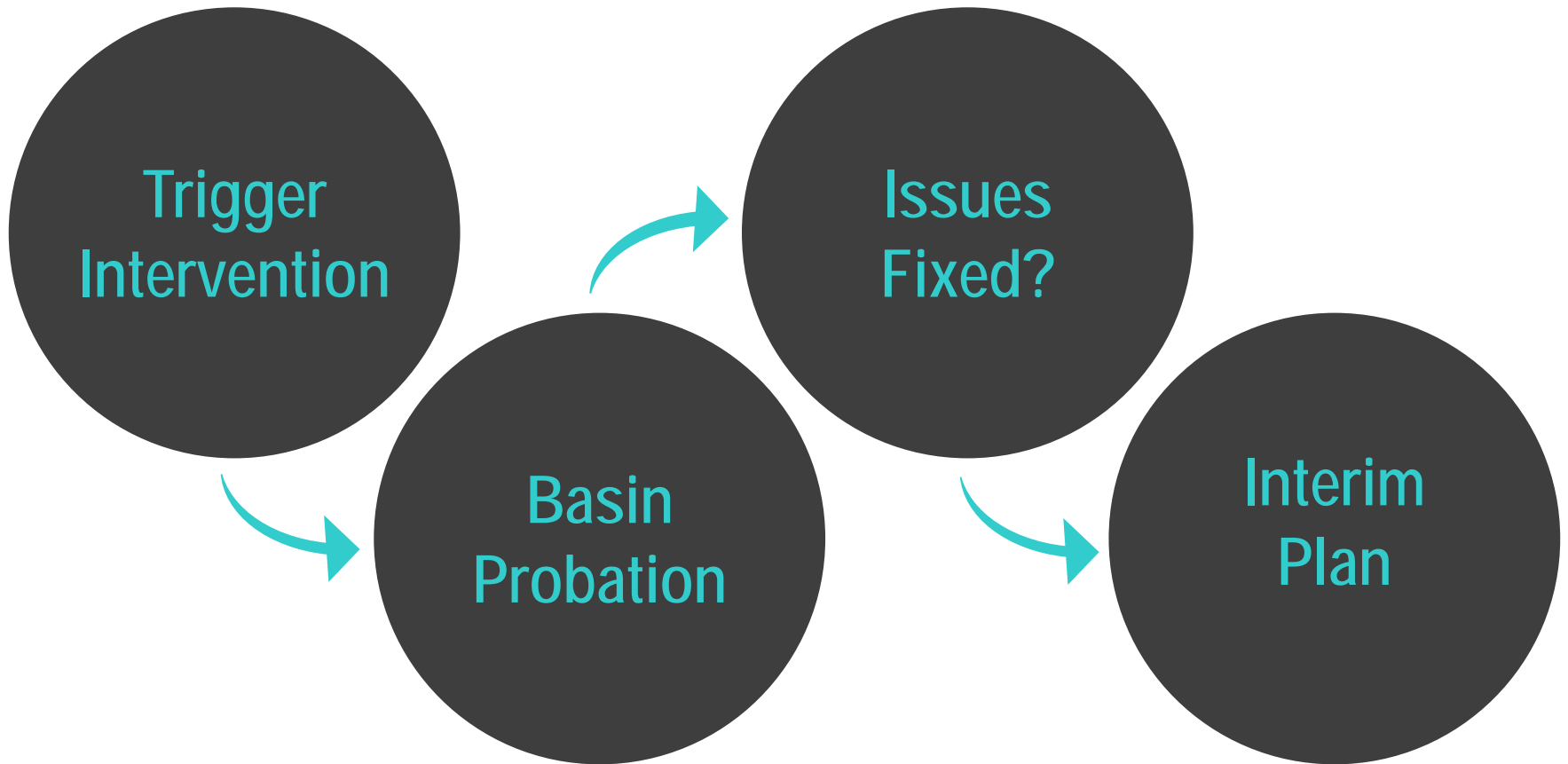
**+**

**Late  
Fee**  
(per month)

**25%**

\*special studies extra

# Backstop



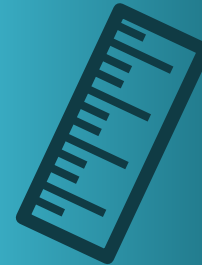


Corrective Actions



Enforcement

Interim  
**PLAN**



Monitoring



Schedule

# Interim PLAN

May include:



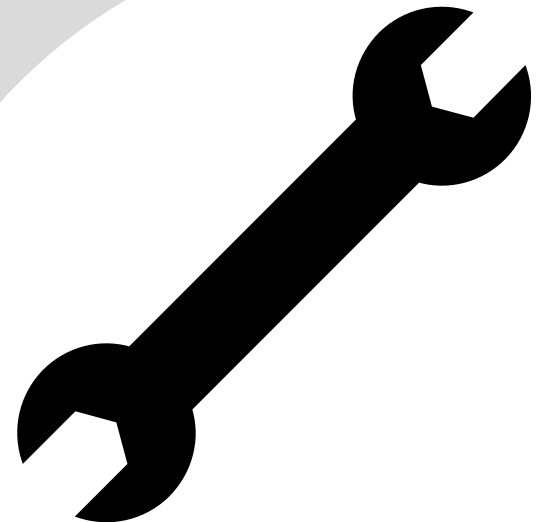
Pumping restrictions



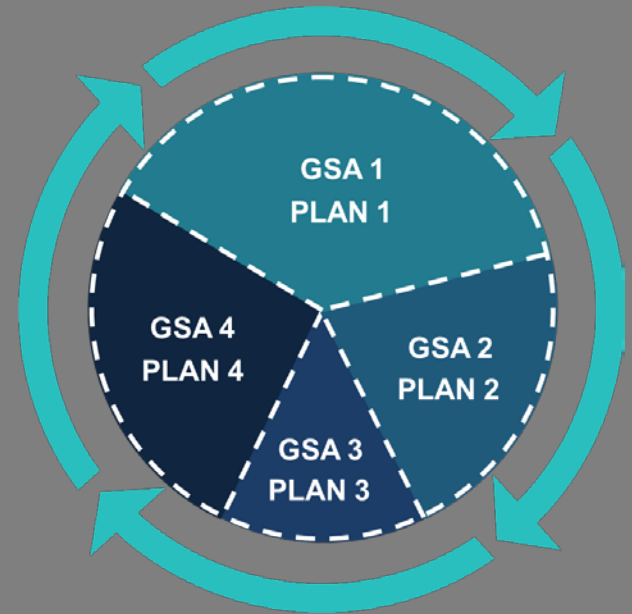
Physical solution



Principles & guidelines for  
administration of interconnected  
surface water rights



# AVOIDING *the* BACKSTOP



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accomplished **locally.** ”

Former Governor Jerry Brown

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**Groundwater  
Management Program**  
[www.waterboards.ca.gov/gmp](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/gmp)

# Probationary groundwater BASIN



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to fix issues



Appendix slides





## Report Well Location and Parcel(s) of Use

- Step 1: Select the "Add Well" button, then select the location on the map.

Complete! \_\_\_\_\_

- Step 2: Select the "Add Parcel(s) of Use" button, then select the parcel(s) on the map.

Submit

# ENFORCEMENT

**Willful Misstatement**

**Misdemeanor**

**\$1,000 & 6 months** imprisonment

**Material Misstatement or Device Tampering**

**\$25,000 + \$1000** per day

**Failure to File**

**\$1,000 + \$500** per day

# What is Sustainability?

**Basin operated within its sustainable yield  
and not experiencing undesirable results:**



Lowering  
GW Levels



Storage  
Reduction



Seawater  
Intrusion



Degraded  
Quality



Land  
Subsidence



Surface  
Depletion

**Significant and unreasonable...**

**...caused by groundwater conditions  
occurring throughout the basin.**

# Board INVESTIGATIONS

Board works with individual pumpers

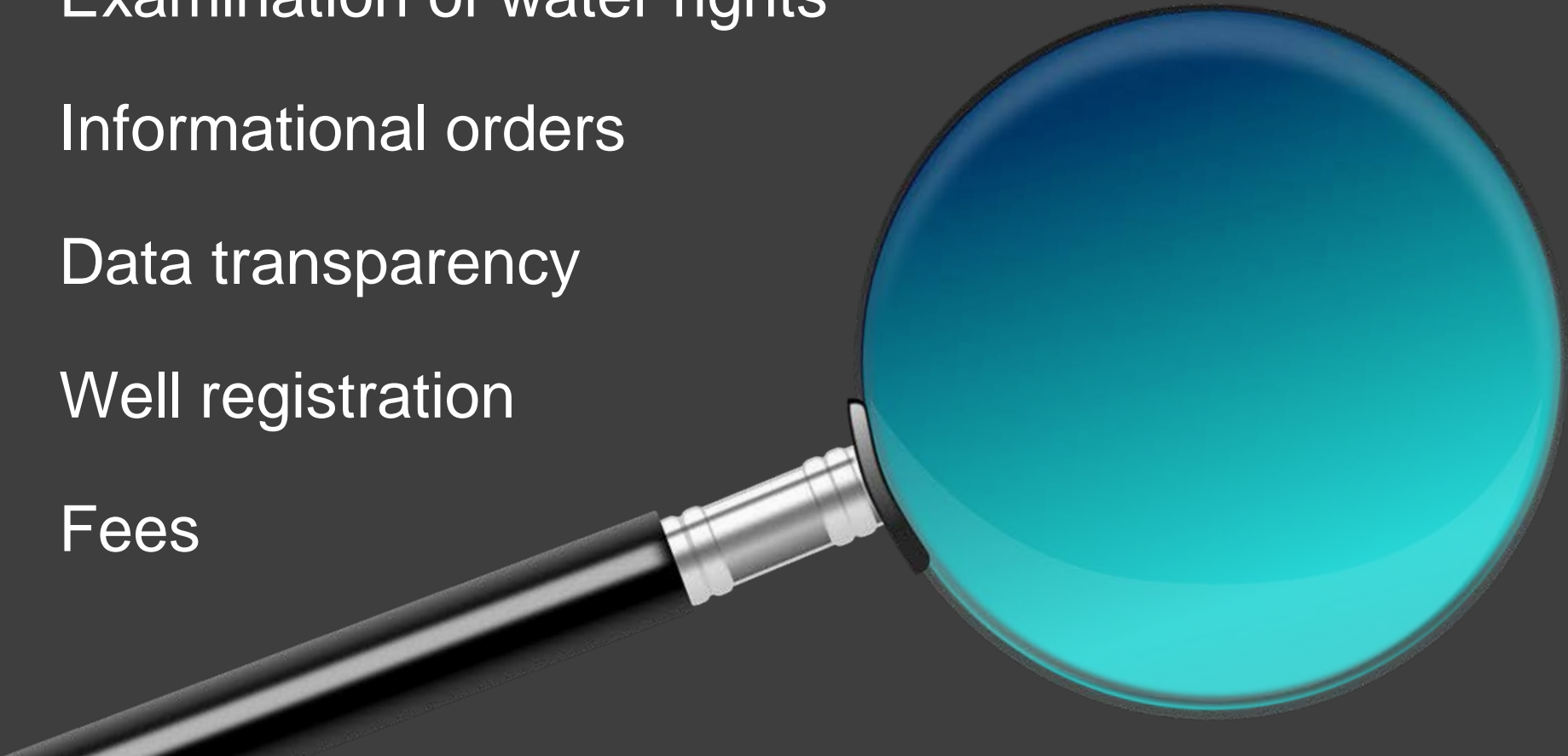
Examination of water rights

Informational orders

Data transparency

Well registration

Fees



# **DE MINIMIS** **Extractors**

**2 acre-feet or less per year**

**Domestic purposes only**

**\$100 flat filing fee**

