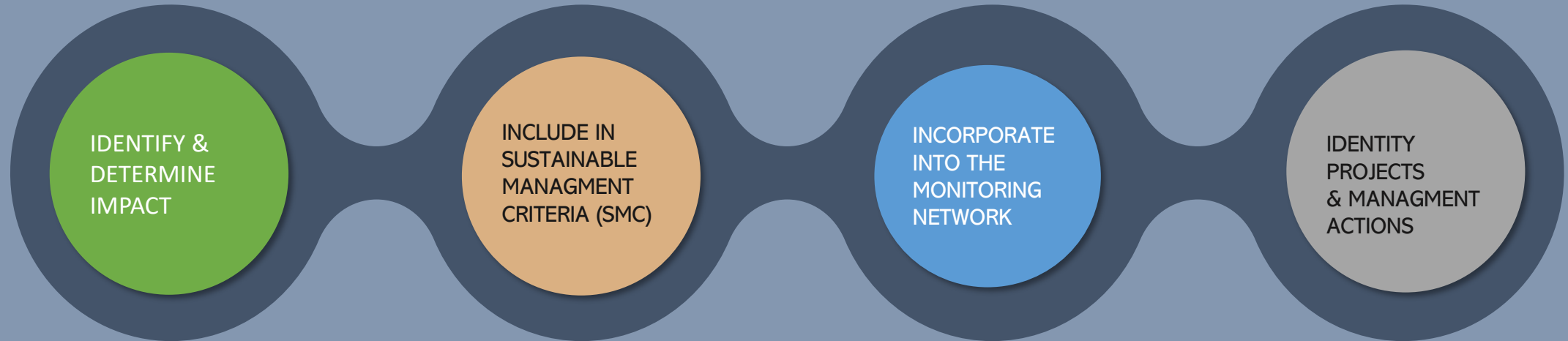


# Tour of the Groundwater Resource Hub

*Environmental Resources for Groundwater Sustainability Plans*



## Identify GDEs

**Map** and **Characterize** GDEs in the basin. The results from this step will be used to consider GDEs in other parts of the GSP, including establishing sustainable management criteria and assessing the monitoring network.

## Determine Potential Impacts on the environment

Use hydrologic data to observe changes in groundwater conditions to help define whether potential effects on the environment are occurring or may occur.

## Consider the environment when establishing the SMC

Consider GDEs when establishing sustainable management criteria for the basin. The objective in setting sustainable management criteria is to protect GDEs from adverse groundwater impacts while providing a reasonable margin of operational flexibility based on levels of uncertainty.

## Incorporate the environment into the Monitoring Network

Assess and improve the hydrologic monitoring network to ensure groundwater conditions and sustainability indicators are sufficient to detect impacts to the environment.

Incorporate relevant biological data collection into the monitoring network to monitor GDE responses to changing groundwater conditions.

## Identify Projects & Management Actions

Select projects and management actions that may help to maintain or improve GDEs to achieve the basin sustainability goal

## STEPS TO INCLUDE THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT CRITERIA

- [Set the Sustainability Goal](#)
- [Set Minimum Thresholds for Sustainability Indicators](#)
- [Establish Measurable Objectives and Interim Milestones](#)

## RESOURCES TO INCLUDE THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT CRITERIA

### DOWNLOADABLE WORKSHEET

Establishing the Sustainability Goal and Measurable Objectives as they Pertain to GDEs [PDF](#) | [Word Doc](#)

## GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS

[Groundwater & Stream Interaction in California's Central Valley](#)  
[Streamflow Depletion by Wells – Understanding & Managing the Effects of Groundwater Pumping on Streamflow](#)  
[GDEs under SGMA: Guidance for preparing GSPs](#)  
[Identifying GDEs under SGMA: Best Practices for using the NC Dataset](#)  
 Answer questions in the “Sustainable Management Criteria” section of the [Environmental User Checklist](#)

## KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- ✓ Set minimum thresholds for the six sustainability indicators at levels that prevent adverse impacts to GDEs and are consistent with any requirements under other laws.
- ✓ Set measurable objectives and five-year interim milestones that fall within the baseline range and are sufficiently above the minimum thresholds to maintain the ecological health of GDEs.
- ✓ Set the minimum threshold for sustainability indicators that reflect the baseline low value identified within the GDE's baseline period for the corresponding hydrologic parameter
- ✓ If no baseline period was defined or if adverse impacts to GDEs were already occurring during baseline conditions, then determine what hydrologic conditions are necessary to avoid adverse impacts to GDEs and collect additional information in the monitoring network.

