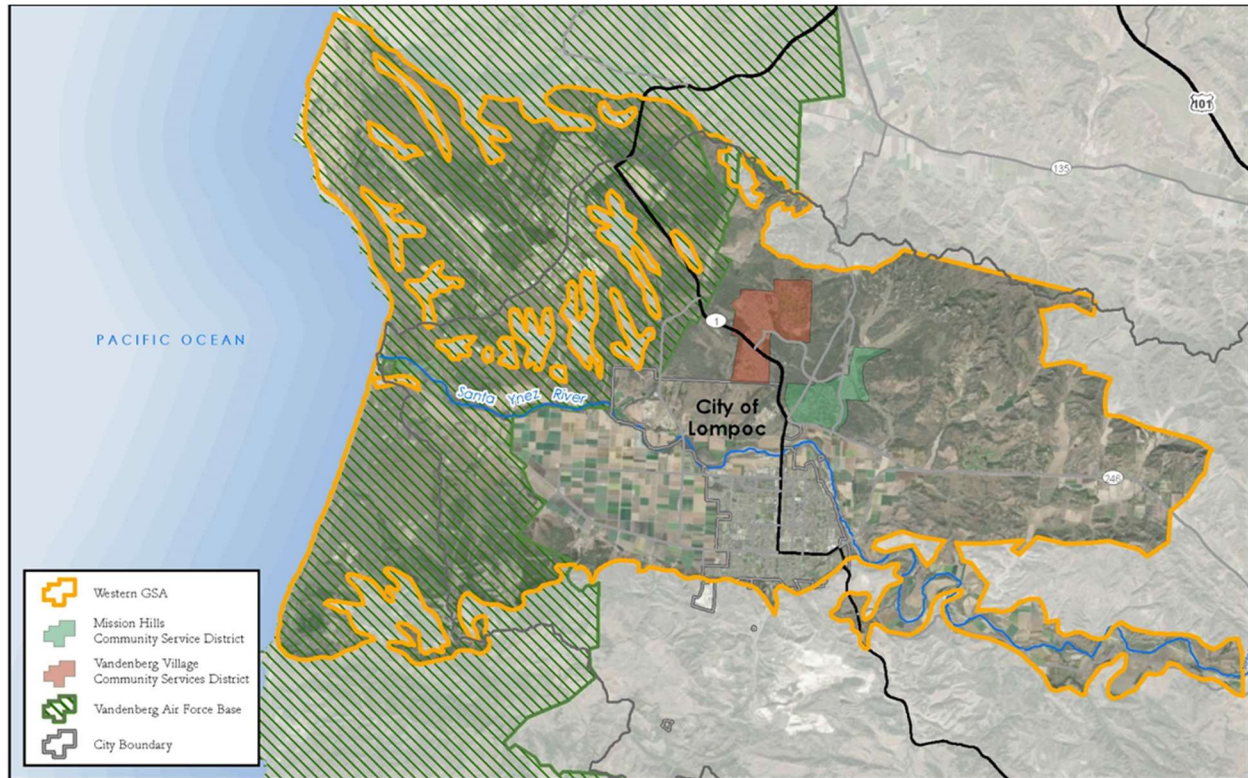


DRAFT FINAL PUBLIC OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PLAN



Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin
Western Management Area
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Prepared by



DUDEK

Geosyntec
consultants

FEBRUARY 2020

WMA GSA Public Outreach and Engagement Plan

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
GLOSSARY OF TERMS/ABBREVIATIONS.....	III
I BACKGROUND ON SGMA.....	1
1.1 SGMA Requirements for Stakeholder Engagement.....	2
2 SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY BASIN	3
3 WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA (WMA)	6
3.1 Stakeholders and Interested Parties	6
3.2 WMA GSA Formation	6
3.3 Decision-Making Process	7
3.4 WMA GSP	7
4 PURPOSE.....	7
4.1 Defining Sustainability for the WMA.....	8
4.2 Outreach and Engagement Goals	8
5 GSP ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES.....	9
5.1 Staying Informed	9
5.2 Providing Feedback to the GSA	10
5.3 Citizen Advisory Group Representation	10
5.4 GSP Engagement Summary	10
6 CONTACT US.....	12

FIGURES

1 Management Areas and Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Boundaries	5
2 Western Management Area and Santa Ynez River Valley Basin Boundary	6
3 Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development Roles and Responsibilities	10

APPENDICIES

A Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Requirements for Stakeholder Engagement.....	13
B List of Beneficial Uses and Users of Groundwater	15
C Index Maps.....	18

WMA GSA Public Outreach and Engagement Plan

GLOSSARY OF TERMS/ABBREVIATIONS

Acronym/Abbreviation	Definition
Aquifer	An underground layer of water-bearing permeable rock, rock fractures or unconsolidated material (gravel, sand, or silt) that yields significant amounts of groundwater to wells or springs (DWR Bulletin 118).
CAG	Citizen Advisory Group
CMA	Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Central Management Area
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
EMA	Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Eastern Management Area
Engagement	Efforts made to understand and involve stakeholders and their concerns in activities and decisions of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSA	Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
MHCSD	Mission Hills Community Services District
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014
Stakeholder	An individual or entity interested in or affected by the Groundwater Sustainability Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
SYRVGB	Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin
SYRWCD	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
VVCSD	Vandenberg Village Community Services District
WMA	Santa Ynez River Valley Basin Western Management Area



WMA GSA Public Outreach and Engagement Plan

INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

I BACKGROUND ON SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown on September 16, 2014, created a new framework for groundwater management in California. The framework includes a structure and schedule to achieve sustainable groundwater management within 20 years. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has historically managed the state's central repository for groundwater data. Under SGMA, DWR provides guidance, financial assistance, and technical support for compliance with state requirements. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) provides the regulatory backstop under SGMA, taking over basin management and assessing fees if local groundwater management is not successful in complying with the requirements of SGMA.

SGMA established a new structure for local groundwater management through Groundwater Sustainable Agencies (GSAs). The formation of GSAs for all basins that the DWR designated as high and medium priority groundwater basins was required by July 1, 2017. Each GSA for these high and medium priority basins must then develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) that details how sustainable groundwater management will be achieved within 20 years of implementing the GSP. Sustainable groundwater management is defined by SGMA as *the management and use of groundwater in a manner that can be maintained during the planning and implementation horizon without causing undesirable results*. This avoidance of undesirable results is measured through the following six sustainability indicators:

1. Chronic lowering of groundwater levels indicating a significant and unreasonable depletion of supply if continued over the planning and implementation horizon
2. Significant and unreasonable reduction of groundwater storage
3. Significant and unreasonable seawater intrusion
4. Significant and unreasonable degradation of water quality
5. Significant and unreasonable land subsidence
6. Depletion of interconnected surface water and groundwater that has significant and unreasonable adverse impacts on beneficial uses of the surface water

The GSP is a tool used to help the GSA sustainably manage the basin. The criteria for sustainable management, including determining what is significant and unreasonable within the parameters of SGMA for the groundwater basin managed by that GSA, must be assessed, with input from stakeholders, before the GSP can be adopted.

I.1 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Requirements for Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder engagement is an important component of any successful long-term planning effort and is required by the SGMA (Sections 10720–10730) and GSP Regulations (Sections 353–354). Each GSA shall encourage and support active involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the groundwater basin (Section 10727.8). The GSA must also allow for voluntary participation by Native American tribes and the federal government (Section 10720.3). The GSA may appoint and consult with an advisory committee (Section 10727.8) and must consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater within the basin (Section 10723.2).

Engaging members of the public in groundwater sustainability planning can improve public understanding of the technical, financial, and political considerations the GSA factors into their decision-making process. Participation by the public can also improve the GSA's understanding of the potential impacts of their decisions. SGMA recognized the importance of stakeholder engagement and laid out specific requirements for stakeholder engagement within each of the four phases of SGMA:

Phase 1: GSA Formation and Coordination

- Establish and maintain a list of interested parties (Section 10723.4).
- Provide public notice of the GSA formation (Section 10723[b]).
- Conduct a GSA formation public hearing (Section 10723[b]).
- Notify DWR of the GSA formation (Section 10723[b]).
- Provide a written statement to DWR as well as the cities and counties within the GSA boundary, describing how interested parties may participate in the GSP development (Section 10727.8).

Phase 2: GSP Preparation and Submission

- Submit initial notification of intent to prepare a GSP (Section 353.6).
- Prepare a GSP that considers beneficial uses and users of groundwater when describing undesirable results, minimum thresholds, projects and actions (Section 10727.8, Section 10723.2, and Section 354.10).
- The GSP must include a communication section that includes the following (Section 354.10):
 - Explanation of the GSA's decision-making process;
 - List of public meetings at which the GSP was discussed;
 - Identification of opportunities for public engagement and a discussion of how public input and response will be used;

WMA GSA Public Outreach and Engagement Plan

- Description of how the GSA encourages the active involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the basin;
 - Description of how the GSA will inform the public about progress implementing the GSP, including the status of projects and actions.
- Public noticing and public meeting procedures prior to adopting, submitting, or amending a GSP (Section 10728.4).

Phase 3: GSP Review and Evaluation

- Upon GSA adoption of the GSP and submittal to DWR, the GSP will be available on the DWR website for a 60-day public comment period. Any person may provide comments to the DWR on the GSP. DWR will consider the comments received prior to completing their evaluation and assessment of the GSP (Section 353.8).

Phase 4: Implementation and Reporting

- SGMA requires assessments and re-evaluation of the GSP at least every 5 years.
- GSA's must provide public notice and hold public meetings prior to amending the GSP (Section 10730).
- Public notice is required before the GSA imposes or increases fees (Section 10730). The GSA must also follow other applicable laws and regulations associated with the assessment of fees including the requirements of Proposition 218.

Appendix A to this document includes a table with the statutory requirements to assist the GSA in tracking progress towards meeting the requirements throughout each of the four phases.

2 SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN

The Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (SYRVGB), as described in DWR Bulletin 118, lies under approximately 319 square miles of land in the Santa Ynez Valley in Santa Barbara County. The boundaries of the SYRVGB, as determined by DWR, are the Purisima Hills on the northwest, the San Rafael Mountains on the northeast, the Santa Ynez Mountains to the south, and the Pacific Ocean on the west. The SYRVGB has established the following three management areas:

- Western Management Area (WMA)
- Central Management Area (CMA)
- Eastern Management Area (EMA)

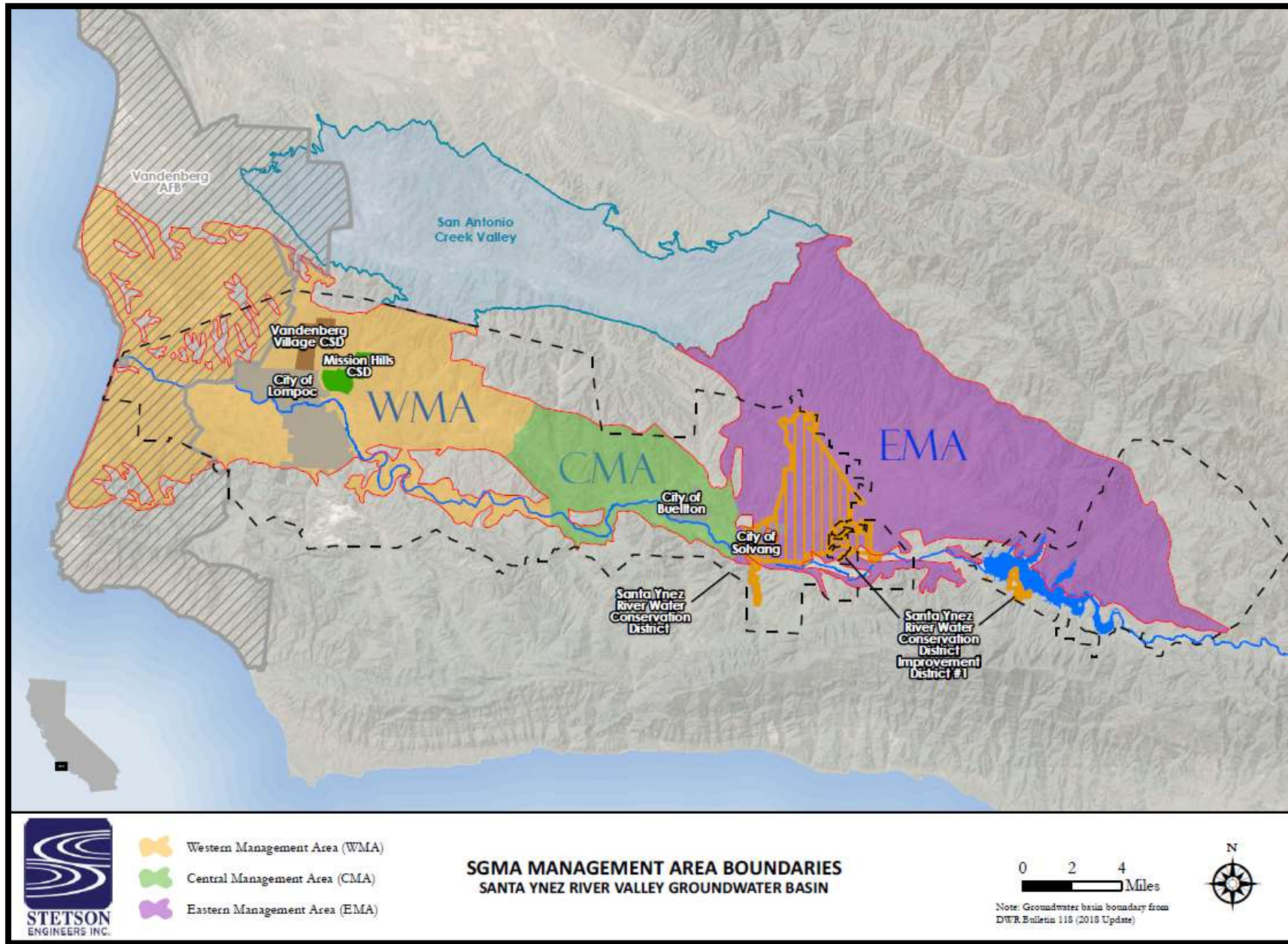
The WMA, as described in Bulletin 118 is comprised of the Lompoc Plain, Lompoc Terrace and Lompoc Upland and Santa Rita Valley. The CMA includes the Buellton Upland, and the EMA

WMA GSA Public Outreach and Engagement Plan

includes the Santa Ynez Upland. Each Management Area also contains their respective section of the Santa Ynez River alluvium. Figure 1 shows the SYRVGB boundaries and the three management areas and Figure 2 shows the WMA Boundary. Local agencies within the management areas collaborated to form GSAs for each of the management areas in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding for Implementation of the SGMA in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin dated May 23, 2016. The three GSAs have continued to coordinate and have entered into an Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement for Implementation of the SGMA in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin. The three GSAs will enter into a formal SGMA compliant coordination agreements prior to submittal of the GSPs to DWR.

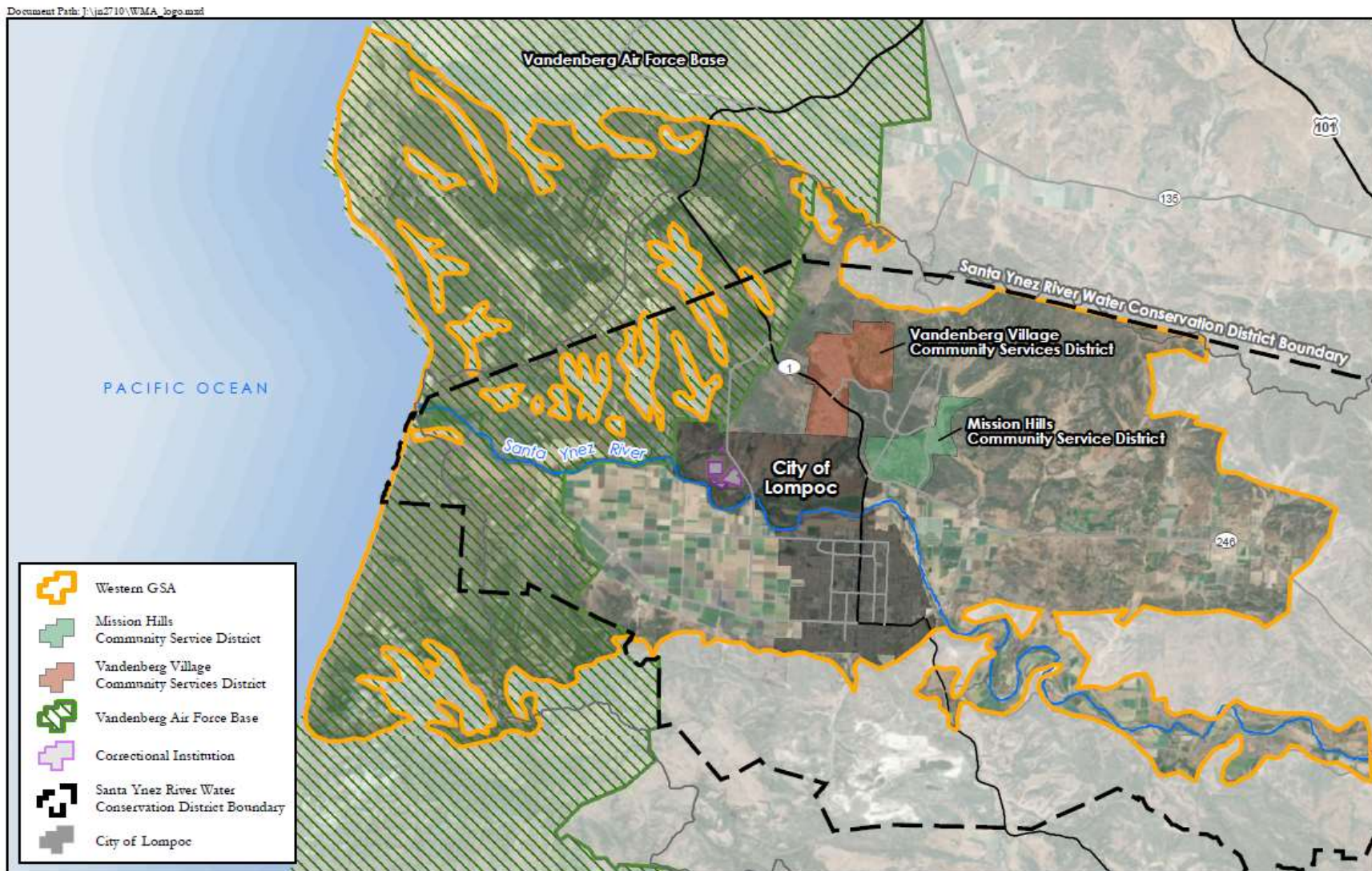
WMA GSA Public Outreach and Engagement Plan

Figure 1: Management Areas and Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Boundaries



WMA GSA Public Outreach and Engagement Plan

Figure 2: Western Management Area Boundary



3 WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA

Land use within the WMA includes agriculture, open space, residential, commercial and industrial uses in the county unincorporated areas as well as the City of Lompoc, Mission Hills, Vandenberg Village and portions of the Vandenberg Air Force Base. Groundwater basins of the WMA include the Santa Ynez River alluvial deposits and those of the older uplands and plains. The Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (SYRWCD) jurisdiction includes all of the groundwater basins and additional watershed areas. The SYRWCD, formed in 1939, has the responsibility of administering and protecting water uses within the SYRVB.

In conjunction with the groundwater replenishment in the WMA, Santa Ynez River water is stored in Cachuma Reservoir in accordance with SWRCB Order WR 89-18 for the benefit of downstream water users. Releases from Cachuma Reservoir replenish downstream groundwater basins based on the accrual of credit water stored in the Above Narrows and Below Narrows accounts in the Reservoir. Vandenberg Air Force Base, part of which is within the WMA, has contracted for imported water from the State Water Project. The Federal Bureau of Prisons is a groundwater user within the WMA.

3.1 Stakeholders and Interested Parties

Interested parties and stakeholders in the WMA include residents, domestic well owners, public agency representatives, landowners, non-governmental organizations, agricultural well owners, tribal interests, and business owners. Any member of the public can request (in writing) to be added to the list of interested parties and receive updates via email. Stakeholders can also subscribe to the interested parties list at www.santaynezwater.org. In November 2019, the email addresses of the stakeholders and interested parties identified during the GSA formation and subsequent GSA activities were merged into a centralized email distribution list through www.santaynezwater.org. This list will be updated as individuals subscribe and unsubscribe through the website. This master list of stakeholders and interested parties will be used to distribute meeting announcements and important updates including the availability of documents for review and comment. A list of beneficial uses and users of groundwater within the WMA is included as Appendix B. Appendix C includes a detailed indexed map of the WMA so individuals can identify whether or not they reside within the WMA.

3.2 Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency Formation

The WMA GSA was formed on January 11, 2017, through a Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Lompoc, SYRWCD, Vandenberg Village Community Services District (VVCSD), Mission Hills Community Services District (MHCSD), and the Santa Barbara County Water

WMA GSA Public Outreach and Engagement Plan

Agency. The WMA filed a notice of intent to form a GSA with the DWR and became the exclusive GSA for the WMA in May 2017.

3.3 Decision-Making Process

WMA GSA member agencies formed a GSA Committee, comprised of appointed representatives from each member agency. The WMA GSA Committee (Committee) is responsible for implementing the requirements of SGMA including overseeing the development of a WMA GSP and coordinating activities between the agencies and GSAs within the SYRVGB. The Santa Barbara County Water Agency participates on the WMA GSA Committee as a non-voting member. Votes are weighted as shown in Table I and were established at the time of WMA GSA formation by Memorandum of Agreement between the participating agencies. All proposed actions or resolutions must pass by a simple majority vote, requiring at least five votes to pass. Adoption of the GSP, budgets, and any type of fee or charge requires 75% or at least six votes to pass.

Table I. Western Management Area Weighted Voting

Member Agency	Number of Votes
SYRWCD	4
City of Lompoc	2
VVCSD	1
MHCSD	1

3.4 Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Plan

The Committee has hired a consultant team to develop a GSP in compliance with SGMA for adoption by the GSA and submittal to DWR by January 1, 2022.

4 PURPOSE

This Public Outreach and Engagement Plan (Plan) has been developed as a communication tool to help stakeholders understand the importance of participation in groundwater sustainability planning and lay the framework of how stakeholders can actively engage in the GSA and GSP planning efforts.

In 2018, DWR released a guidance document for GSP Stakeholder Communication and Engagement that details best practices, including the development of Communication and Engagement Plans to increase transparency in the GSP development process. The Committee will prepare a GSP in accordance with the SGMA, to guide future management decisions. Example management decisions include: the amount of water that can be pumped from the WMA without causing undesirable results; and new project development to enhance water resource management. The SGMA, as well as the state agencies implementing the act (DWR, SWRCB), have mandated public and stakeholder outreach and engagement during GSP development. The

WMA GSA Public Outreach and Engagement Plan

Committee supports and encourages active involvement from diverse social, cultural, and economic groups within the SYRVGB to ensure relevant and interested stakeholders and the public are involved throughout the GSP development. This Public Outreach and Engagement Plan provides a framework for clear communication and transparency throughout the GSP development and implementation process. It will be updated as needed.

4.1 Defining Sustainability for the Western Management Area

During GSP development, the Committee will request stakeholder feedback as they develop criteria for “significant and unreasonable” undesirable results for the WMA. The Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) will play a central role in reviewing technical information generated for the GSP, from the stakeholder perspective, and is expected to form consensus on key sustainable management recommendations for the Committee’s consideration. The Committee may also request feedback from the CAG and stakeholders regarding specific projects and management actions that could be used to sustainably manage groundwater within the WMA.

4.2 Outreach and Engagement Goals

Outreach and engagement for the WMA began during the GSA formation process. Information about the GSA formation was posted on the Santa Barbara County website (<https://www.countyofsb.org/pwd/gsa.sbc>). Individual landowners and groundwater pumpers within the WMA were contacted directly to discuss requirements of the SGMA and potential future changes to groundwater management in the WMA. The individual WMA member agencies issued public notices of intent of participate in the WMA GSA and held public meetings to receive comments. The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors also held a public meeting regarding the formation of the WMA GSA. Public notices announcing the various meeting and public hearings to form the WMA GSA were also published in the *Santa Barbara News Press*. Additionally, there were one-on-one meetings held between SYRWCD Staff and several SYRWCD constituent groundwater pumpers to provide information on SGMA and the formation of GSAs in the SYRVGB. Specifically, there were two meetings held between SYRWCD staff and members of the Lompoc Growers and Shippers Association to provide outreach to members of the Agricultural Community in the Lompoc Valley.

The Committee’s goal is to build and maintain a collaborative and inclusive process for stakeholder engagement and GSP development and to consider the interests of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the WMA during development of the GSP. This includes the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater. Collaborative and inclusive processes will assist in making the GSP more resilient by increasing public buy-in, promoting compliance, and enhancing the quality of information on which the GSP is based. The Committee has established an open and ongoing list of interested persons to whom notices are

WMA GSA Public Outreach and Engagement Plan

and will be sent regarding meetings of the WMA GSA, GSP development, and other SGMA-related activities. This approach will increase the success of the GSP by fostering early public participation, development of stakeholder supported management strategies, and enhancing the data quality and basis of GSP development. Specifically, the Committee will implement the following tiered outreach strategy to actively engage a diverse group of stakeholders in the development of the GSP:

1. Facilitate engagement of a diverse group of stakeholders in the development of the GSP through the CAG;
2. Provide regular updates on GSP development progress via email to the list of interested parties;
3. Build and maintain a website where stakeholders can obtain WMA GSA information, ask questions, and provide comments; and
4. Broad Participation: Hold public meetings where members of the public can ask questions and provide comment.

This four-tiered engagement strategy is designed to give a diverse group of stakeholders multiple forums to participate, as appropriate, based on their level of interest, availability, and communication style. The Committee will continuously evaluate stakeholder outreach and engagement goals. The Committee may adjust the engagement strategy and/or provide additional outreach opportunities as needed throughout the GSP development and implementation process.

5 GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

5.1 Staying Informed

The best way to get the latest information on the GSP development process is to subscribe to the email distribution list. Interested parties can subscribe to the email distribution list from the WMA GSA's website (www.santaynezwater.org). Additional outreach to beneficial users will be conducted as appropriate to direct users to the website to subscribe to electronic project updates and meeting announcements. Outreach may include announcements with water bills, media releases, announcements through agricultural industry organizations (i.e., The Farm Bureau, Grower-Shipper Association of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties, Santa Barbara County Vintners, the Santa Barbara County Cattlemen's Association and Santa Barbara County Cattlewomen's Association), or other methods as appropriate. Regular communications will be distributed via email at least quarterly throughout the GSP development process. Emails will provide notice of public meetings and other important updates.

5.2 Providing Feedback to the Groundwater Sustainable Agency

Questions and comments regarding the WMA GSA and GSP development process can be sent using the feedback link on the WMA GSA's website (www.santaynezwater.org). All Committee and CAG meetings are open to the public and provide opportunity for the public to comment. The WMA GSA will provide members of the public opportunities to comment on the GSP before adoption. Comments on the GSP are requested in writing, in electronic format, through the online comment form. Comments on the GSP that are entered into the online comment form will be submitted to DWR as part of the public record along with a summary of how the comments were considered and/or incorporated in the final GSP. Electronic links to the online comment form will be provided to interested parties via email and via public notice for the public at large. The public and stakeholders will be provided with information about the timeframe and process for submitting electronic, written comments. If stakeholders need assistance in completing the online comment submittal form they can contact staff (contact information provided in Section 6). Notice of opportunities to comment will also be posted on the WMA GSA website (www.santaynezwater.org).

5.3 Citizen Advisory Group Representation












The purpose of a CAG is to provide additional public input to the Committee, representative of various categories of groundwater uses and users within the WMA, as set forth by the SGMA. In addition to providing their individual perspectives, CAG members serve in respective capacities, representing different categories of groundwater uses and users in the WMA. CAG members are expected to work collaboratively with all of the following: other CAG members, at-large stakeholders, members of the public, the Committee, staff of member agencies of the WMA GSA, other GSAs within the SYRVGB, related agencies, and agency staff members. At various points during development of the GSP, the CAG may be asked to provide perspective on elements or sections of the GSP and on the final draft of the GSP.

5.4 Groundwater Sustainability Plan Engagement Summary

Expected roles, responsibilities, and opportunities for engagement throughout the GSP development process are summarized in Figure 3. The Committee may provide additional opportunities or adjust the process as needed to meet the needs of stakeholders and the requirements of SGMA.

WMA GSA Public Outreach and Engagement Plan

Figure 3: Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development Roles and Responsibilities

Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development Participants	Roles and Responsibilities for Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development
<p>Western Management Area (WMA) Groundwater Sustainable Agency (GSA) Voting Member Agencies:</p> <p>Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (SYRWCD), Mission Hills Community Services District (MHCSDD), Vandenberg Air Force Base (VVCSD), and City of Lompoc</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">     </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversee Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development • Approve budgets, fees, and charges • Conduct public hearings • Consider stakeholder feedback • Adopt the GSP • Provide direction to GSA staff
<p>WMA GSA Non-Voting Member Agency:</p> <p>Santa Barbara County Water Agency</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in GSA meeting and Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) meetings as appropriate • Provide guidance to the GSA
<p>WMA GSA Staff</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administer the WMA and CAG • Provide notice of public meetings • Manage GSP consultant team
<p>CAG</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review technical information • Confer with other groundwater users and interested parties • Provide feedback and recommendations to the WMA
<p>Interested Parties</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend GSA meetings and workshops • Read electronic newsletters • Provide input on draft and final GSP
<p>GSP Consultant Team</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">    </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop draft GSP components • Present information and make changes as directed by the WMA • Prepare final GSP

6 CONTACT US

The best way to stay informed and receive the most current information for the WMA GSA and GSP development is to subscribe to the email distribution list. To subscribe, register as an interested party on the website: <http://portal.santaynezwater.org/registration>. Additional information may be obtained by contacting:

- **Name:** Bill Buelow
- **Title:** SGMA Program Manager
- **Phone Number:** 805.693.1156 ext. 403
- **Direct Email:** bbuelow@syrwcd.com
- **Website:** www.santaynezwater.org

APPENDIX A: SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

Public outreach and engagement are an important component of any successful long-term planning effort and is required by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) (Sections 10720–10730) and Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Regulations (Sections 353–354). This appendix provides a quick reference to how the Western Management Area (WMA) Groundwater Sustainable Agency (GSA) will meet these requirements.

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Requirement	Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency
The Groundwater Sustainable Agency (GSA) must encourage and support active involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the groundwater basin. (Sustainable Groundwater Management Act [SGMA] Section 10727.8)	Implement a tiered outreach strategy as discussed in Section 4.1 of this plan.
The GSA must also allow for voluntary participation by Native American tribes and the federal government (SGMA Section 10720.3).	The Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians are a participant in the Eastern Management Area (EMA) and EMA Citizen Advisory Group (CAG).
The GSA must consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater within the basin (SGMA Section 10723.2).	CAG representation as discussed in Section 5.3 of this plan.
The GSA may appoint and consult with an advisory committee (SGMA Section 10727.8)	CAG formation as discussed in Section 5.3 of this plan.
Establish and maintain a list of interested parties (SGMA Section 10723.4).	See discussion under Section 3.1 of this plan.
Provide public notice of the GSA formation (SGMA Section 10723[b]).	Completed on November 4, 6, 16, 22, 23, 29 and 30, 2016 December 28, 2016;
Notify Department of Water Resources (DWR) of the GSA formation (SGMA Section 10723[b]).	Uploaded to DWR Portal on February 15, 2017
Conduct a GSA formation public hearing (SGMA Section 10723[b]).	Public hearing conducted on November 17, 2016;

WMA GSA Public Outreach and Engagement Plan

	December 6 (two locations) and 21, 2016; January 11, 2017
Provide a written statement to DWR as well as the cities and counties within the GSA boundary, describing how interested parties may participate in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development (SGMA Section 10727.8).	Completed on June 7, 2018
Submit initial notification of intent to prepare a GSP (GSP Regulations Section 353.6).	Completed on June 7, 2018
<p>Prepare a GSP that considers beneficial uses and users of groundwater when describing undesirable results, minimum thresholds, projects and actions (SGMA Section 10727.8, Section 10723.2, and GSP Regulations Section 354.10). The GSP must include a communication section that includes the following (GSP Regulations Section 354.10):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explanation of the GSA's decision-making process; • List of public meetings at which the GSP was discussed; • Identification of opportunities for public engagement and a discussion of how public input and response will be used; • Description of how the GSA encourages the active involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the basin; • Description of how the GSA will inform the public about progress implementing the Plan, including the status of projects and actions. 	To be completed in the draft and final GSP.
Public noticing and public meeting procedures prior to adopting, submitting, or amending a GSP (SGMA Section 10728.4).	To be completed in the draft and final GSP.
Upon GSA adoption of the GSP and submittal to DWR, the GSP will be available on the DWR website for a 60-day public comment period. Any person may provide comments to the DWR on the GSP. DWR will consider the comments received prior to completing their evaluation and assessment of the GSP (GSP Regulations Section 353.8).	To be completed by DWR.

WMA GSA Public Outreach and Engagement Plan

GSA's must provide public notice and hold public meetings prior to amending the GSP (SGMA Section 10730).	To be completed as discussed in the final GSP.
Public notice is required before the GSA imposes or increases fees (SGMA Section 10730).	To be completed as discussed in the final GSP.

APPENDIX B: List of Beneficial Uses and Users

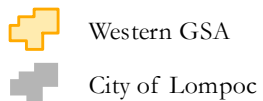
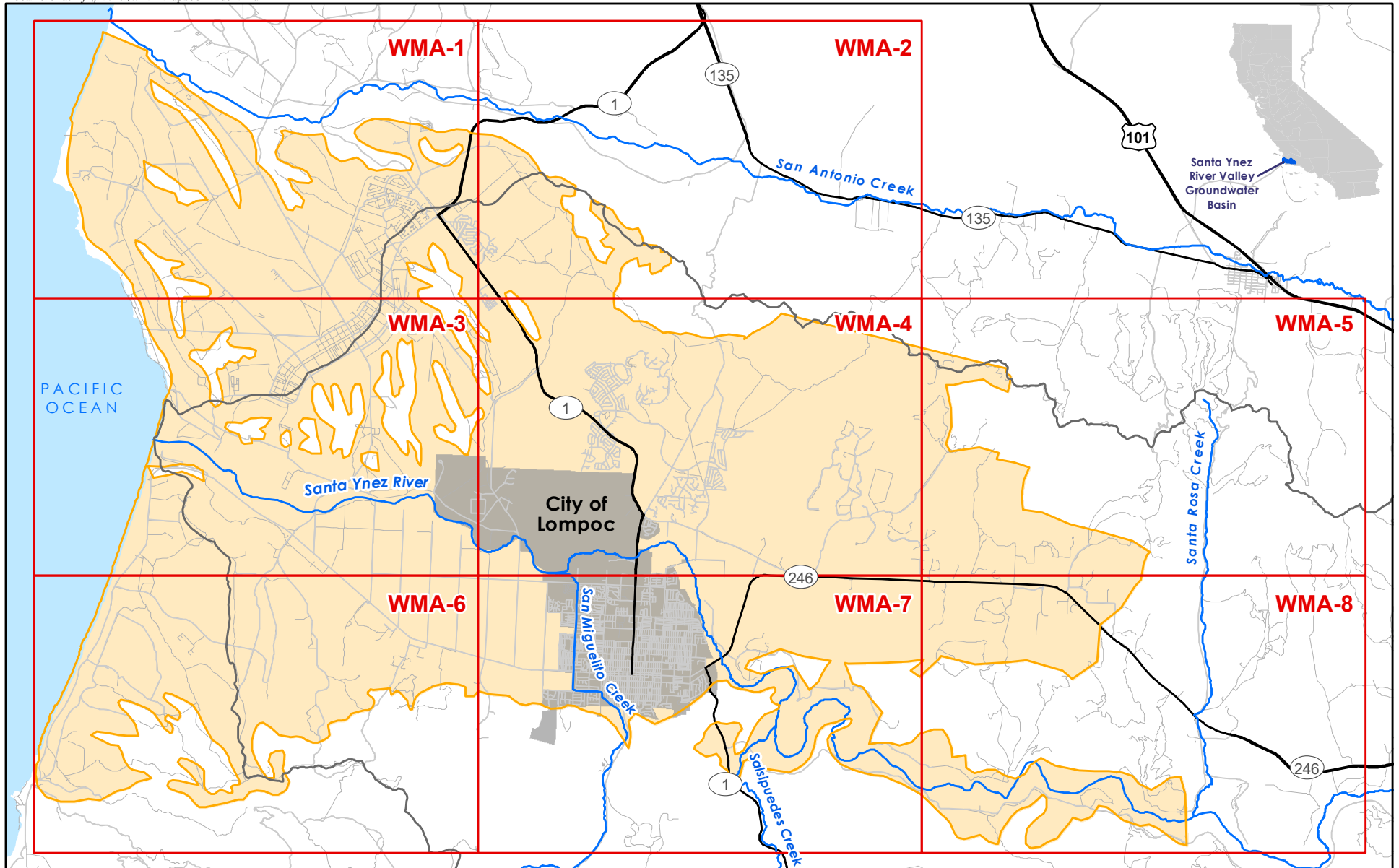
In accordance with Section 10723.2 and Section 10723.8 (a)(4) of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), the following parties have or will be contacted to determine how best to consider and protect their interests throughout the formation of the Groundwater Sustainable Agency (GSA), development of a GSP, and implementation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). These interests include, but are not limited to the following:

- (a) Holders of overlying groundwater rights, including (1) agricultural users and (2) domestic water-well owners: The City of Lompoc, Vandenberg Village Community Services District (VVCSD), and Mission Hills Community Services District (MHCSD) are GSA members. Domestic water-well owners and agricultural users that have reported groundwater production with the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (SYRWCD) were invited to apply to become a member of the Western Management Area (WMA) GSA Citizen Advisory Group (CAG). Several representatives from the agricultural community are on the WMA CAG.
- (b) Municipal Well Operators: The City of Lompoc, VVCSD, and MHCSD are GSA members. The City, VVCSD and MHCSD are all members of the WMA GSA.
- (c) Public Water Systems: City of Lompoc, VVCSD, and MHCSD are GSA members. Representatives from mutual water companies in the WMA were invited to apply to become a member of the WMA GSA CAG.
- (d) Local Land Use Planning Agencies: The City of Lompoc is a member of the WMA GSA and the Santa Barbara County Planning and Development Department through Santa Barbara County Water Agency is a member of the WMA GSA.
- (e) Environmental Users of Groundwater: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife was added to the list of interested parties and was invited to apply to become a member of the WMA GSA CAG.
- (f) Surface Water Users: SYRWCD calls for water-rights releases under Order from the State of California Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). The City of Lompoc pumps groundwater and discharges treated wastewater to the Santa Ynez River. Agricultural interests (i.e., vineyards and truck crops) that have reported groundwater production with SYRWCD. The City is a member of the WMA GSA and several representatives from the agricultural community are on the WMA GSA CAG.
- (g) Federal Government: Vandenberg Air Force Base and the Lompoc Federal Correctional Complex are located within the WMA. Neither is required to nor will they participate in SGMA. Both the Vandenberg Air Force Base and the Lompoc Federal Penitentiary. A VAFB representative is a member of the WMA CAG.
- (h) California Native American tribes: None. (Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians are in the Eastern Management Area [EMA])
- (i) Disadvantaged Communities: Portions of the City of Lompoc are considered Disadvantaged Communities by the Department of Water Resources (DWR). Residents of the City of Lompoc were invited to apply to become a member of the WMA CAG. The residents within the DAC are represented on the WMA GSA by the City of Lompoc.

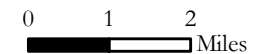
WMA GSA Public Outreach and Engagement Plan

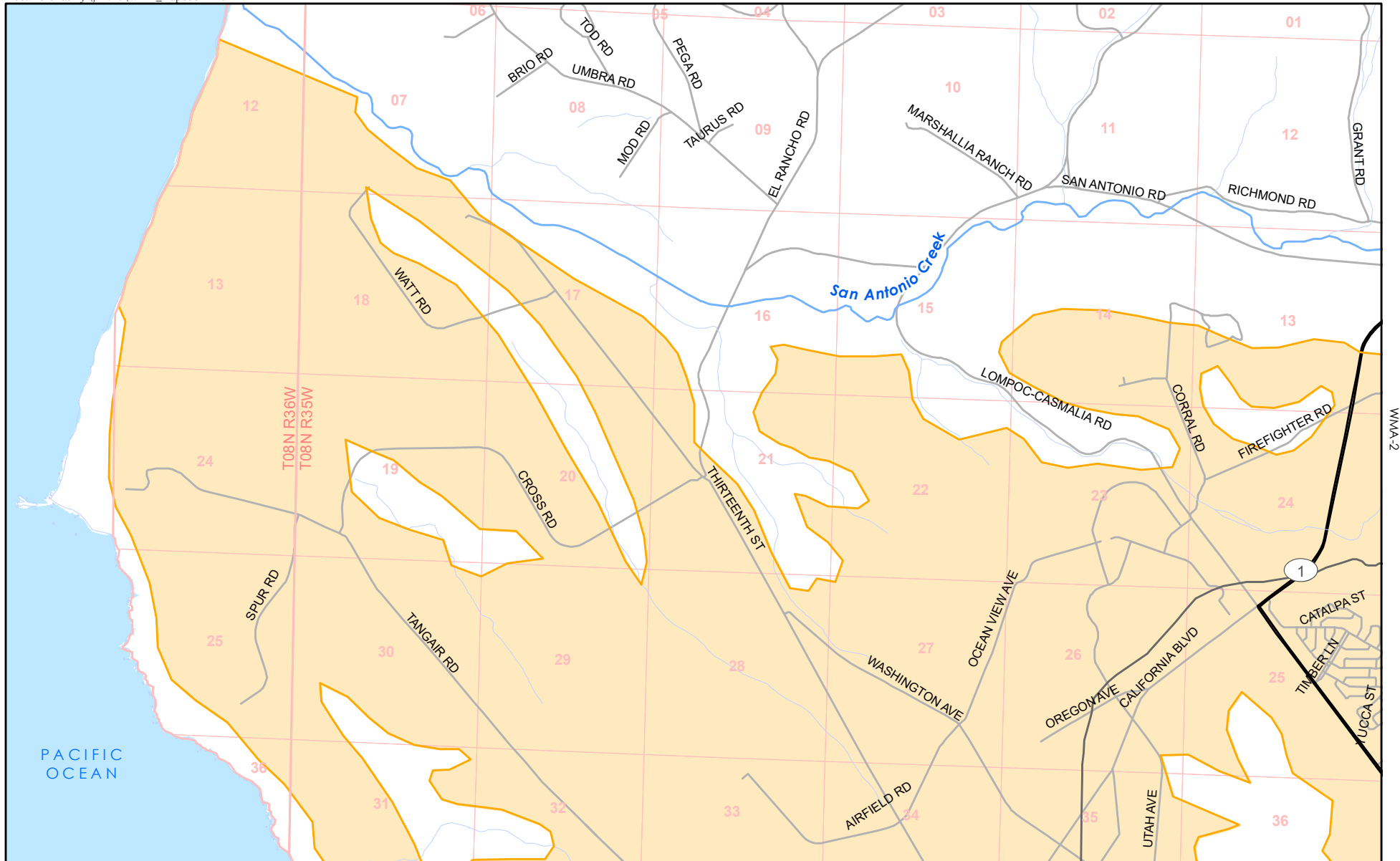
- (j) Entities Listed in SGMA Section 10927 that are monitoring groundwater elevations in all or part of the WMA managed by the GSA: SYRWCD in collaboration with the City of Lompoc, VVCSD and MHCSD monitors wells in the WMA and all are members of the GSA. The Santa Barbara County Water Agency is the CASGEM agency within the WMA and is a member of the GSA.




The WMA has also added the following entities that submitted letters requesting participation in the GSA and/or GSP process to the list of interested parties; Vandenberg Air Force Base, Freeport-McMoRan Oil & Gas (now Sentinel Peak Resources California LLC), Imerys Mineral California Inc., and the National Marine Fisheries Service.



**WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA BOUNDARY
MAPBOOK INDEX**
SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY





-  Western GSA
-  City of Lompoc
-  Township/Range/Section

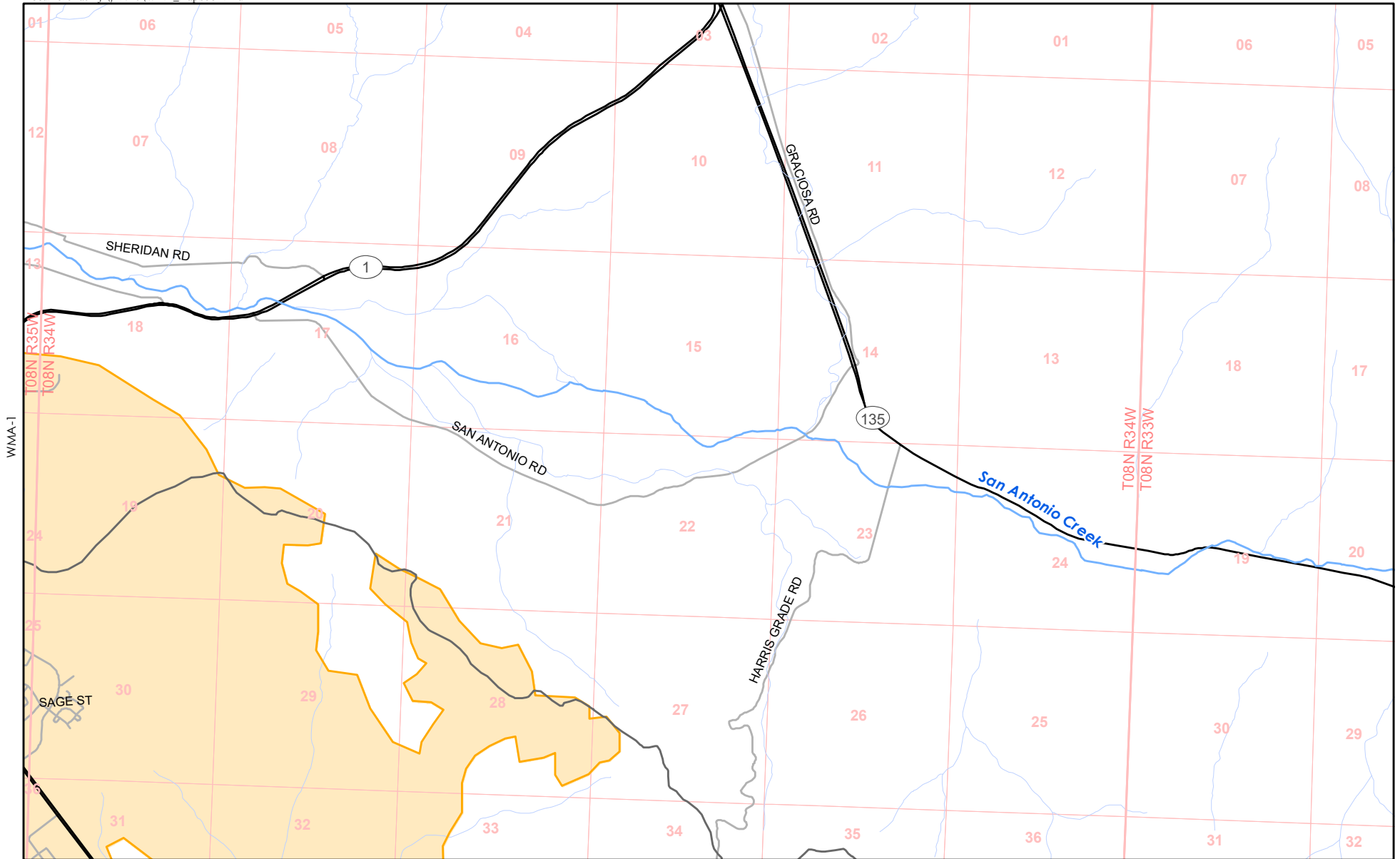
WMA-3




WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA BOUNDARY MAPBOOK

SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

0 0.25 0.5
Miles



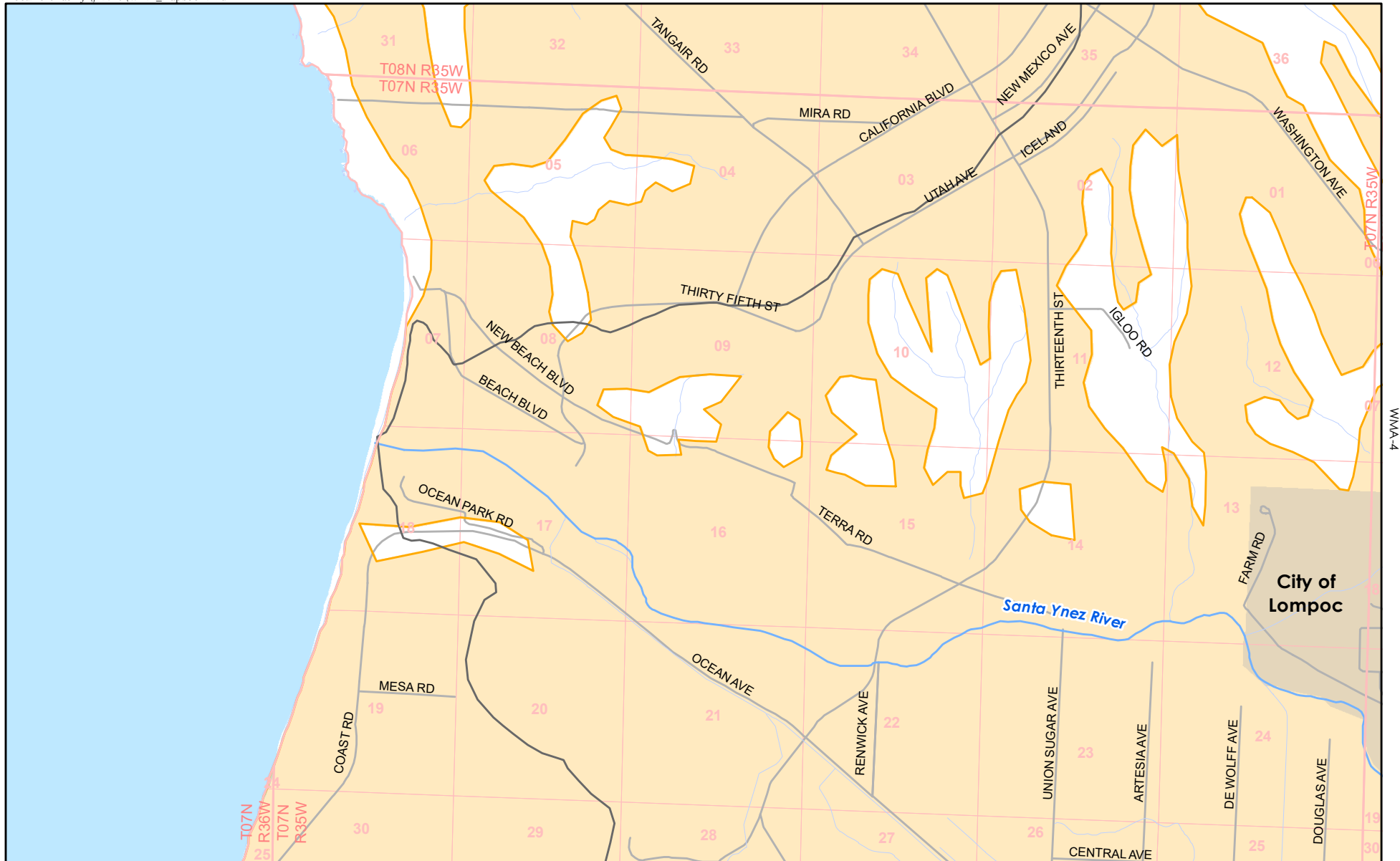





-  Western GSA
-  City of Lompoc
-  Township/Range/Section

**WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA BOUNDARY
MAPBOOK**
SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

0 0.25 0.5
Miles



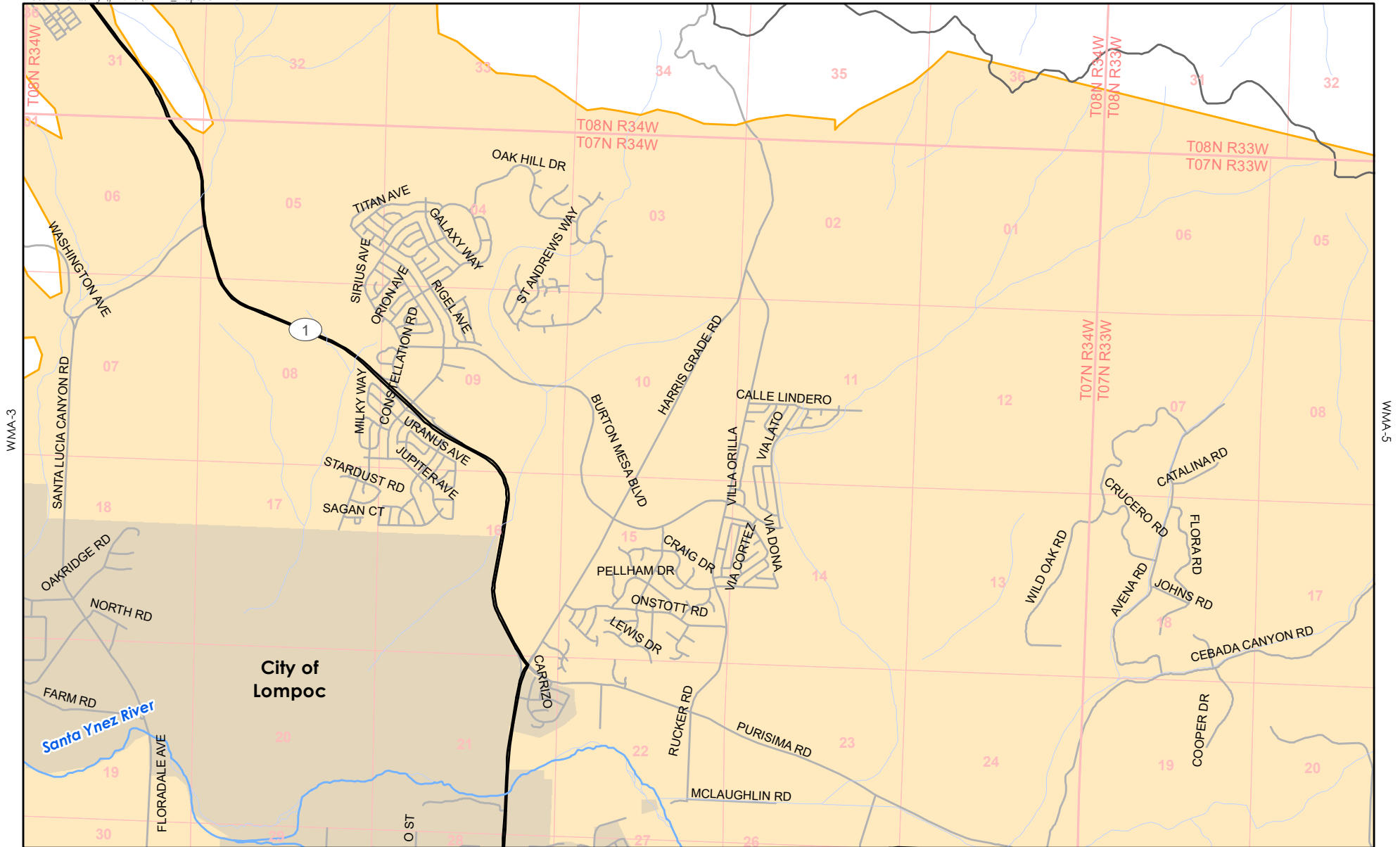





-  Western GSA
-  City of Lompoc
-  Township/Range/Section

**WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA BOUNDARY
MAPBOOK**
SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

0 0.25 0.5
Miles



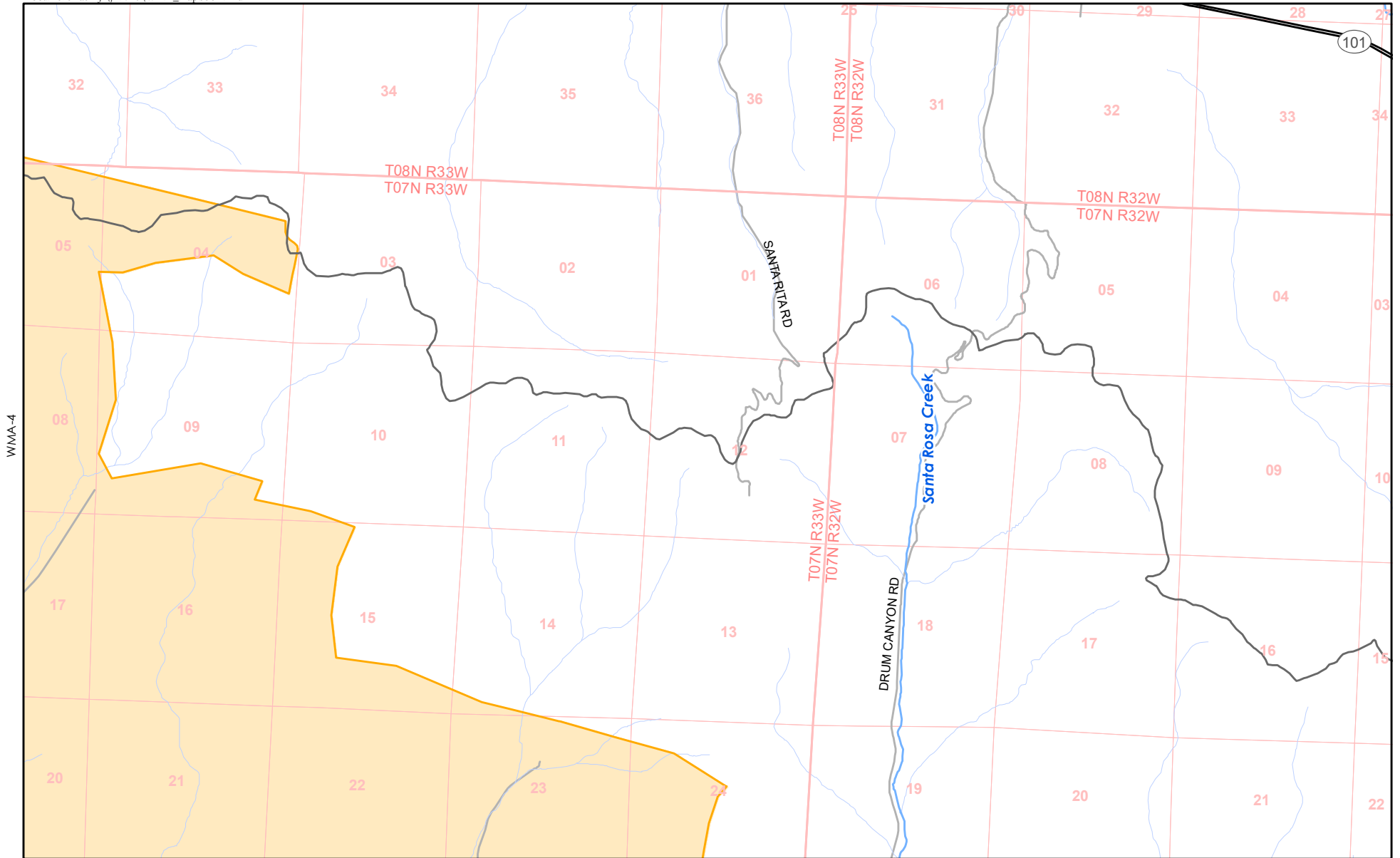


-  Western GSA
-  City of Lompoc
-  Township/Range/Section

WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA BOUNDARY
MAPBOOK
SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

0 0.25 0.5
Miles





Western GSA



City of Lompoc



Township/Range/Section

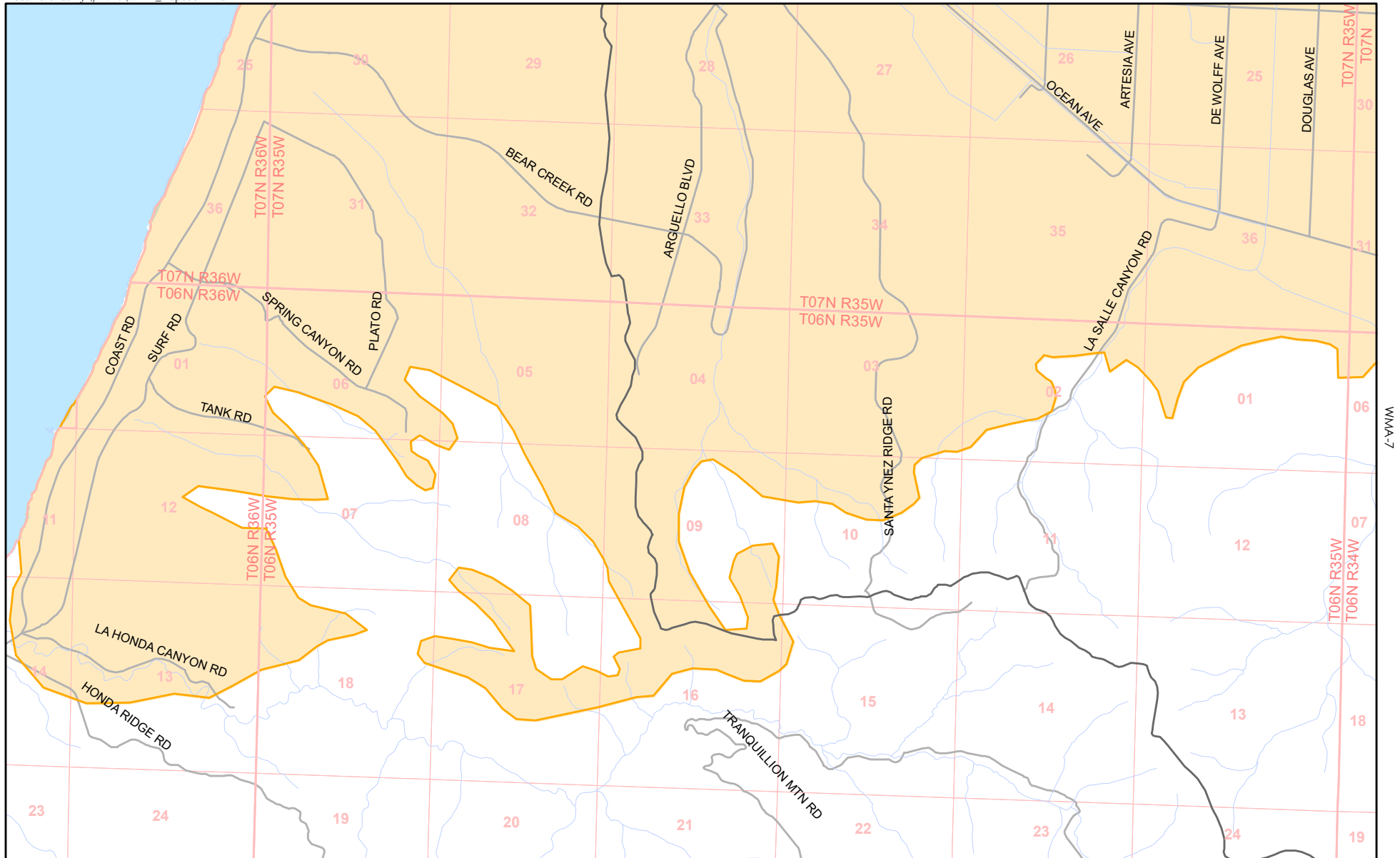
WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA BOUNDARY

MAPBOOK

SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

0 0.25 0.5
Miles





Western GSA



City of Lompoc



Township/Range/Section

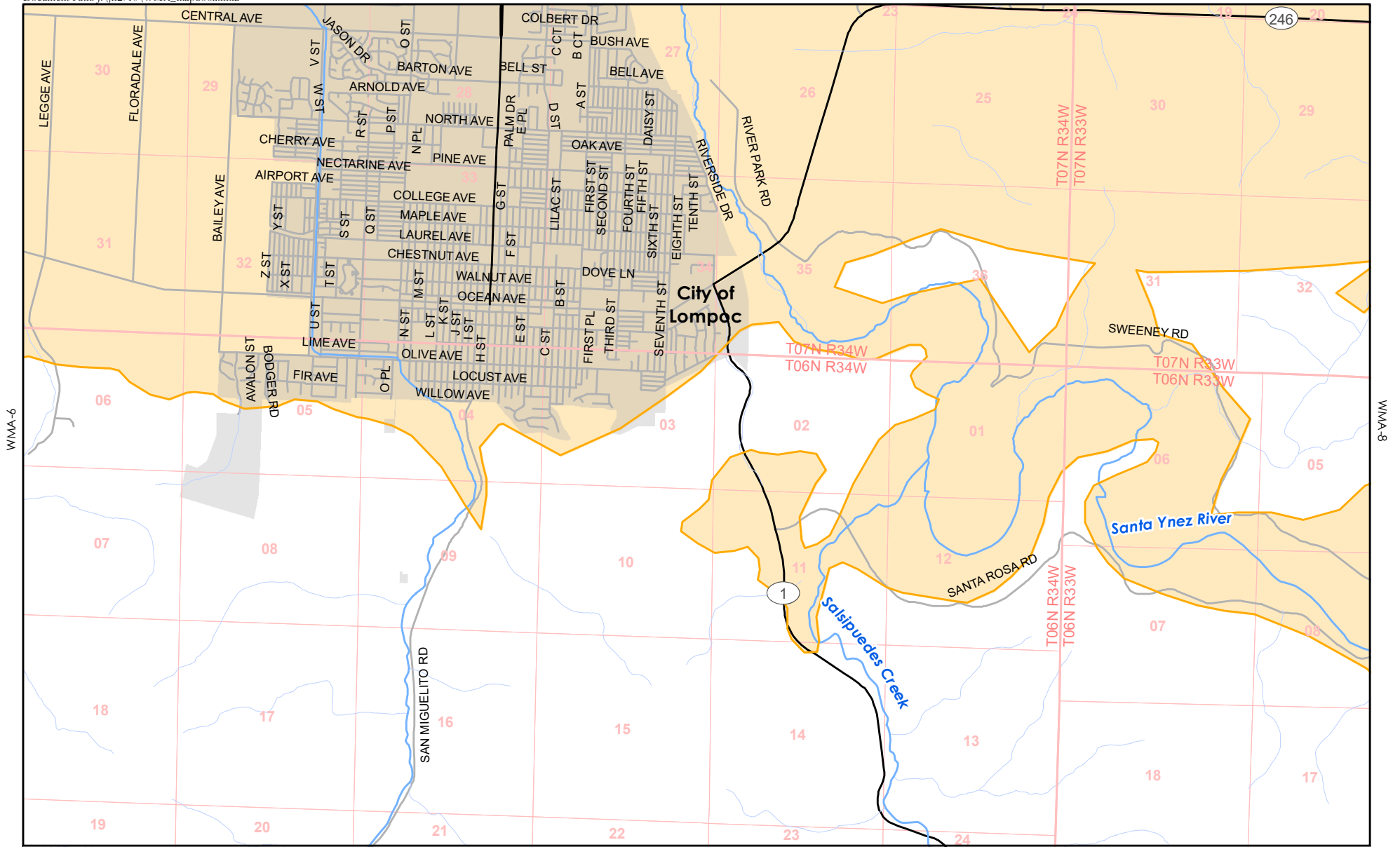
WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA BOUNDARY

MAPBOOK

SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

0 0.25 0.5
Miles





Western GSA



City of Lompoc



Township/Range/Section

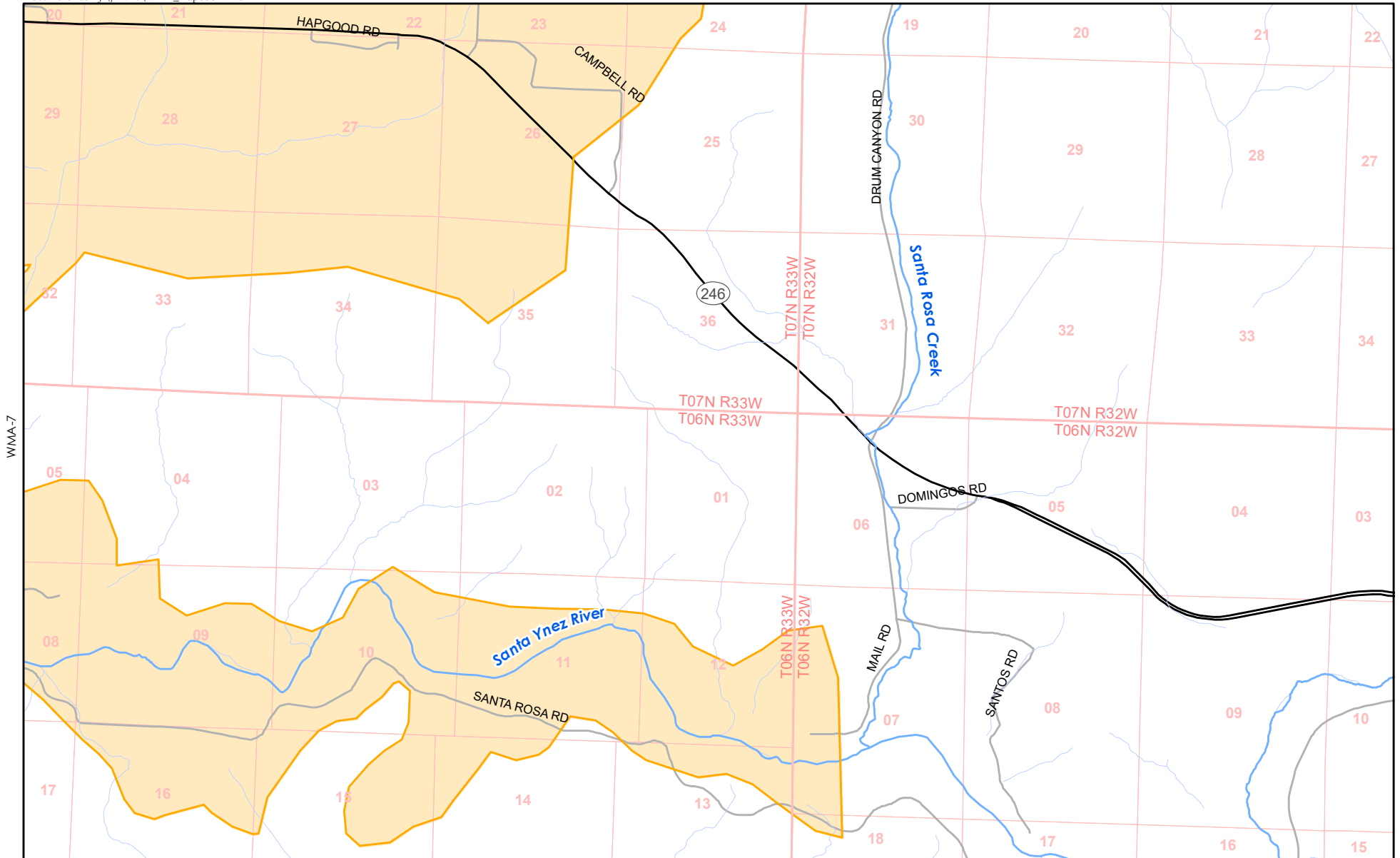
WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA BOUNDARY

MAPBOOK

SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

0 0.25 0.5
Miles





Western GSA



City of Lompoc



Township/Range/Section

WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA BOUNDARY

MAPBOOK

SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

0 0.25 0.5
Miles



