

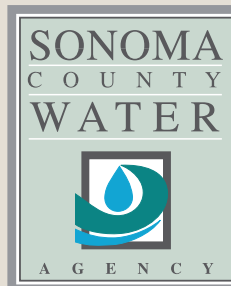
PROVIDING DATA AND MODELING TO HELP MANAGE WATER SUPPLIES



The Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) and other local water purveyors have partnered with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to assess hydrologic conditions and to quantify the county-wide interconnections between surface water and ground water.

Through this partnership, USGS scientists have completed assessments of the geohydrology and geochemistry of the Sonoma and Alexander Valley ground-water basins. Now, the USGS is constructing a detailed ground-water flow model of the Santa Rosa Plain. It will be used to help identify strategies for surface-water/ground-water management and help to ensure long-term viability of the water supply.

The USGS is also working with the SCWA to help meet future demand in the face of possible new restrictions on its main source of water, the Russian River. SCWA draws water from the alluvial aquifer underlying and adjacent to the Russian River and may want to extend riverbank filtration facilities to new areas. USGS scientists are conducting research to characterize riverbank filtration processes and changes in water quality during reduced river flows.



"USGS brings a wide variety of technical expertise and credibility to help address complex technical, regulatory, and political water-resource issues. They are objective and they don't have an agenda, with respect to these often contentious and controversial issues. The USGS is an important partner in conducting science to form a sound basis for stakeholders and decision makers to develop informed water policy in our region."

Jay Jasperse, Deputy Chief Engineer,
Engineering and Resource Planning,
Sonoma County Water Agency



**For more information about the
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USGS scientists collect water-quality samples and conduct other measurements

