

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

TERM	DEFINITION
AB 2021	See "Pesticide Contamination Prevention Act."
AB 2701	AB 2701 (Chapter 644, Statutes of 2004) amended the Pesticide Contamination Prevention Act (PCPA) to require DPR to post specified information on sampling for pesticide residues in California groundwater to its Web site. This law replaced the previous requirement that DPR submit the sampling information in a written report to the Legislature.
Active ingredient	The chemical or chemicals in a pesticide formulation that are biologically active and are capable, in themselves, of preventing, destroying, repelling or mitigating insects, fungi, rodents, weeds, or other pests. The remainder of the product consists of one or more <i>inert ingredients</i> (such as water, solvents, emulsifiers, surfactants, clay and propellants), which are there for reasons other than pesticidal activity.
Agricultural Commissioner	Local official whose duties include pesticide use enforcement in their counties.
Agricultural use	<p>The use of any pesticide or method or device for the control of plant or animal pests, or any other pests, or the use of any pesticide for the regulation of plant growth or defoliation of plants. Agricultural use includes but is not limited to commercial production of animals or plants (including forest), parks, golf courses, cemeteries, roadsides, rights-of-way, and nurseries. It excludes the sale or use of pesticides intended for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Home use b) Structural pest control c) Industrial or institutional use d) The control of an animal pest under the written prescription of a veterinarian e) Uses by certain local districts or agencies that operate under a cooperative agreement with the California Department of Public Health, such as many mosquito abatement districts. <p>See also "legal agricultural use."</p>

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Analysis	For the well inventory data, it is the act of determining whether a substance is present in a water sample using laboratory methodology.
Cal/EPA	California Environmental Protection Agency. Comprised of the Department of Pesticide Regulation, the Department of Toxic Substances Control, the Water Resources Control Board, the Air Resources Control Board, and the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment.
California Code of Regulations (CCR)	Regulations formally adopted by state agencies. Regulations about pesticides and pest control operations are mainly in Title 3, Division 6, and Title 16, Division 19.
Chemigation	Applying pesticide through an irrigation system or mixing with irrigation water before the water is applied to the soil or crop.
Degradation	<p>With respect to pesticides, degradation is the breakdown of the parent chemical by the action of microbes, water, air, sunlight, or other agents into daughter products (degradates) that may undergo further degradation by similar processes.</p> <p>With respect to groundwater quality, degradation refers to a reduction of water quality.</p>
Detection	A well water sample in which the presence of a pesticide is detected at or above the minimum detection limit of the analytical instruments used for analysis of the pesticide under investigation. A detection may be designated as confirmed or unconfirmed.
Director	In the context of this report, “director” means director of the Department of Pesticide Regulation.
Environmental fate	Describes the processes by which pesticides move and are transformed in the environment, including persistence in air, water, and soil; reactivity and degradation; migration in groundwater; and bioaccumulation in aquatic or terrestrial organisms.
FAC	Food and Agricultural Code. Division 6 of the FAC (specifically sections 11401 - 12499) pertains to the registration, sale and use of pesticides.
Formulation	Pesticide product as sold, usually a mixture of active and inert ingredients.

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Groundwater	Water found below the surface of the land, usually in porous rock formations.
Ground Water Protection Area (GWPA)	A geographic area defined in state regulations as vulnerable to pesticide contamination though the mechanism of either leaching or runoff.
Groundwater Protection List (GWPL)	A list of pesticides having the potential to pollute groundwater included in 3CCR section 6800(b).
Inert ingredient	Any substance other than an active ingredient which is intentionally included in a pesticide product. Also known as “other” ingredients, they do not attack a particular pest but may be chemically or biologically active.
Leaching	A pathway by which agricultural pesticides may reach groundwater; the process by which residues are dissolved in soil water and follow the movement of water through the soil matrix as it recharges a groundwater aquifer.
Legal agricultural use	The application of a pesticide, according to its labeled directions and in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations, for agricultural use as defined in FAC section 11408. See also “agricultural use.”
Maximum contaminant level (MCL)	MCLs are health protective drinking water standards to be met by public water systems. MCLs take into account not only chemicals' health risks but also factors such as their detectability and treatability, as well as the cost of treatment.
Maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG)	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety and are non-enforceable public health goals.
Mitigation measure	A use practice designed to reduce the risk of harm to people or the environment.
Model	Mathematical equations that represent certain processes. These equations can be implemented in a computer program to facilitate calculations and to test model predictions against measured data.
Monitoring well	A well used principally for any of the follow purposes: (1) observing groundwater levels and flow conditions, (2) obtaining samples for determining

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	groundwater quality, or (3) evaluating hydraulic properties of water-bearing strata.
Non-agricultural use	See “ <i>agricultural use</i> .”
Nonpoint source	Pollution sources which are diffuse and do not have a distinct discharge point (compare with <i>point source</i>), for example, applications of agricultural pesticide to crops.
Permit	Time- and site-specific permits are issued by County Agricultural Commissioners for the use of pesticides designated as restricted materials.
Pest	Any undesired insect, rodent, nematode, fungus, bird, vertebrate, invertebrate, weed, virus, bacteria, or other microorganism (except microorganisms on or in humans or animals) which is declared to be injurious to health or environment.
Pest control	The use or application of any pesticide. It also means the use of any substance, method or device to control pests; prevent, destroy, repel, mitigate or correct any pest infestation or disorder of plants; or inhibit, regulate, stimulate or otherwise alter plant growth by direct application to plants.
Pesticide	A substance, or mixture of substances, intended to defoliate plants, regulate plant growth, or prevent, destroy, repel, or mitigate any insects, fungi, bacteria, weeds, rodents, predatory animal, or any other form of plant or animal life declared to be a pest detrimental to vegetation, man, animal, or households, or any environment. Also, in California only, a spray adjuvant.
Pesticide Contamination Prevention Act (PCPA, AB 2021)	A law, effective January 1, 1986, which added agricultural use sections 13141 through 13152 to Division 7 of the FAC. The PCPA requires the following: 1) each registrant of an agricultural use pesticide to submit environmental fate data to DPR; 2) the Director to use those data to establish a list of pesticides with the potential to pollute groundwater (GWPL); 3) the Director to monitor groundwater for these pesticides; 4) all local, county, and state agencies to report to DPR the results of pesticides sampled in groundwater; 5) the Director to maintain a specified well sampling database and to post certain information annually on its website about pesticides in groundwater; and 6) a specified subcommittee and the Director to conduct a formal review to determine if continued use of a pesticide can be allowed if it is detected and verified in groundwater due to legal agricultural use.
Pesticide Management Zone (PMZ)	A geographic surveying unit of approximately one-square-mile, which is vulnerable to groundwater contamination based on detections of pesticides or pesticide degradates in groundwater due to agricultural use. PMZs were formally listed in 3CCR section 6802 and were pesticide specific. The use of a

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	pesticide inside its PMZs was subject to certain groundwater protection restrictions and requirements. PMZs were renamed GWPAs in May 2004.
Point source	A source of contamination, such as a spill or at a waste site, that is initially deposited and concentrated in a small, well-defined area.
Pollution	Food and Agriculture Code section 13142 defines “ <i>pollution</i> ” as “the consequence of polluting,” and “ <i>pollute</i> ” as “...to introduce a product into the groundwaters of the state resulting in an active ingredient, other specified ingredient, or a degradation product of a pesticide above a level that does not cause adverse health effects, accounting for an adequate margin of safety.”
Public health goal (PHG)	PHGs are established by OEHHA. They are concentrations of drinking water contaminants that pose no significant health risk if consumed for a lifetime, based on current risk assessment principles, practices, and methods. OEHHA establishes PHGs pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 116365(c) for contaminants with MCLs.
Range	<p>When used in the context of mapping locations, a range is a single series or row of townships, each six miles square, extending parallel to, and numbered east and west from, a survey base meridian line.</p> <p>A range is a vertical column of townships.</p>
Registered pesticide	A pesticide product approved by the U.S. EPA and DPR for use in California.
Regulations	These are adopted by state agencies to implement or clarify statutes enacted by the California Legislature. They can also be adopted in response to federal legislation, court decisions, changing technologies, and concerns for the health and well-being of the residents of California.

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Restricted material	A pesticide that with certain exceptions may be possessed or used only by or under the supervision of licensed or certified persons, and only in accordance with a permit issued by the CAC.
Senate Bill (SB) 1117	<p>SB 1117 of 2014 amended the Pesticide Contamination Prevention Act (PCPA) to require DPR to regulate each active ingredient, other specified ingredient, or degradation product of a pesticide on the GWPL that is detected as a result of lawful agricultural use. It also revises the information that DPR is required to post on its Internet Web site to include pesticide degradation products and other specified ingredients.</p> <p>SB 1117 also revises the information included in the GWPL to include not only each active ingredient, but other specified ingredients or degradation product(s) of a pesticide that, when applied, have the potential to pollute groundwater. It also requires DPR’s Director—in consultation with a specified subcommittee of the Director’s Pesticide Registration and Evaluation Committee—to develop a peer reviewed method to determine pollution potential using specific numerical values.</p>
Section	Section/Township/Range: Public Land Survey System units. A section is a one-square-mile block of land containing 640 acres. A township contains 36 sections. A range is a vertical column of townships.
Specific numerical values (SNV)	Certain numeric threshold values that the PCPA requires to be established for the following physical and chemical properties of pesticide active ingredients: water solubility, soil adsorption coefficient, hydrolysis, aerobic, and anaerobic soil metabolism, and field dissipation (the field dissipation SNV has not been established). The PCPA associates these properties with the longevity and mobility of a pesticide in the soil and requires the establishment of SNVs in regulation as a means of predicting which pesticides are likely to pollute groundwater.
Township	<p>When used in the context of mapping locations, a township is a public land surveying unit that is a square parcel of land, six miles on each side. The location of a township is established as being so many six-mile units east or west of a north-south line running through an initial point (called the “principal meridian”) and so many six-mile units north or south of an east-west line running through another point (called the “baseline”).</p> <p>A township normally contains 36 sections.</p>

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Well Inventory Database	A statewide database, required by the PCPA and maintained by DPR, of wells sampled for pesticides and pesticide degradates.
