

PRESS RELEASE

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Fennemore Craig's Sean Hood Releases White Paper on How the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Will Affect California's Water Users

PHOENIX, AZ – 21 of California's basins have been designated as "critically overdrafted." Groundwater is a crucial resource in the state that features arid and semiarid climates as well as one of the most robust agricultural industries in the country. In fact, the state's groundwater provides around 40% of the water for the state's farms and cities on average.

California's legislative body acted to mitigate the overdrafting issue by signing a three-bill package known as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) into California state law in September 2014 with the goal of producing sustainable groundwater management in the state by 2042.

"The agriculture industry is undoubtedly going to feel the squeeze from SGMA. However, they aren't the only ones. SGMA is going to have a trickle-down effect that will hit municipalities, tourism and hospitality, and the industrial and mining sectors," said [Sean T. Hood](#), director at Fennemore Craig with a specialty in water rights. "We faced similar measures in Arizona in the 1980s and know firsthand how to navigate complex water rights issues and regulations as well as how to help business owners have a voice in this incredibly important conversation that will have a drastic impact on their businesses, so they can thrive now and in the future."

With the first SGMA deadline slated for the beginning of 2020, this in-depth white paper released by Fennemore Craig is intended to serve as a roadmap to help those impacted understand the regulation, track key deadlines and demonstrate the similarities to Arizona's Groundwater Management Act and how businesses can mitigate key concerns and potential issues.

To read the full white paper, click [here](#).

About Fennemore Craig

For over 130 years, [Fennemore Craig](#), a NLJ 250 firm, has provided high quality legal counsel to help clients thrive in a complex and constantly evolving business and legal landscape. Fennemore Craig goes beyond the expected to generate maximum value for its clients and to help them keep pace with the rate of change, protect their legal interests and identify opportunities. Today, the firm is uniquely poised to help fulfill needs that range from general counsel to niche legal specialties, works on issues ranging from [water rights](#) in the West, business formation, [mining, gaming](#) and cross-border trade and offers a deep understanding of the issues facing The New West. Learn more about its legal services at [FennemoreCraig.com](#)