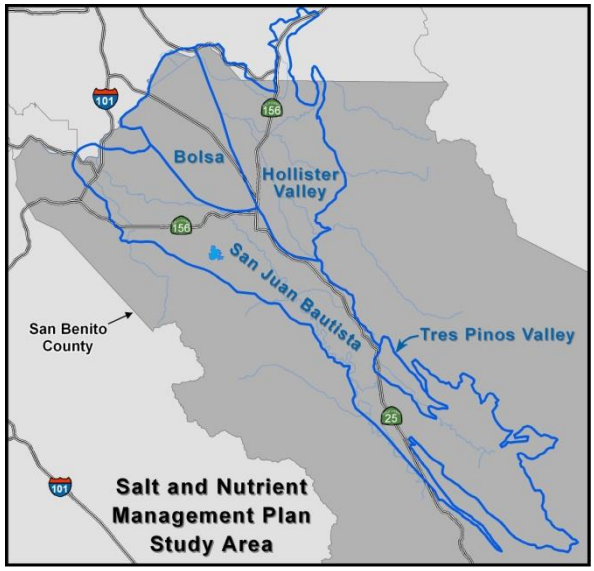
San Benito County Water District Completes Salt and Nutrient Management Plan

In March 2012 San Benito County Water District started the process of developing a **Salt and Nutrient Management Plan** in the San Benito County portion of the Hollister-Gilroy Groundwater Basin. The map below shows the Bolsa, Hollister Valley, San Juan Bautista, and Tres Pinos Valley groundwater subbasins that are part of the plan.



This plan was developed in accordance with the Recycled Water Policy adopted by the California State Water Resources Control Board. This policy encourages increased use of recycled water—for example, for landscape and agricultural irrigation—across California. It also requires development of *Salt and Nutrient Management Plans* to help protect water quality in the State's groundwater basins. The San Benito Salt and Nutrient Management Plan was developed as part of the Pajaro River Watershed Integrated Regional Water Management Plan and includes:

- Definition of water recycling goals and objectives
- Identification of salt and nutrient sources
- Estimation of the salt and nutrient loading to the subbasins and their capacity to assimilate the additional loading
- Development of salt and nutrient loading mitigation strategies
- Improvement of groundwater quality monitoring.

Participation by local agencies, communities, organizations, landowners and other stakeholders was an important part of this process. Accordingly, the District hosted a number of workshops to describe the plan development process and seek input from stakeholders.

The San Benito Salt and Nutrient Management Plan was accepted by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board. Links to the San Benito Salt and Nutrient Management Plan and other relevant documents are provided below:

Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for Northern San Benito County
Pajaro River Watershed Integrated Regional Water Management Plan
Recycled Water Policy

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