



WATER & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWS

OCTOBER 2024

SGMA NEWS



Multibenefit Agricultural Land Repurposing Plan (MALRP) Administrative Draft

The Madera County MALRP Administrative Draft is now available and will be presented at the Madera County Board of Supervisors' meeting on Tuesday, October 1, 2024.

Access: [Board of Supervisor's Meeting Here](#)

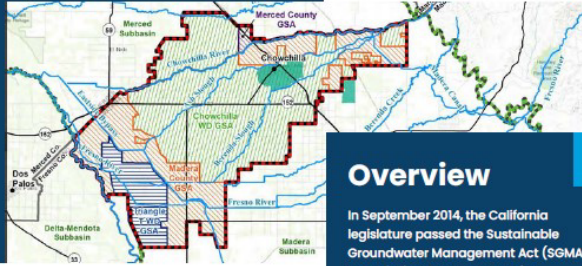
The MALRP Administrative Draft can be accessed at <https://www.maderacountywater.com/multibenefit-land-repurposing-program/>.

CHOWCHILLA SUBBASIN

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER 2024



Chowchilla Subbasin GSP

As required by SGMA, the four GSAs submitted Chowchilla Subbasin's Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) in January 2020. The purpose of this GSP is to characterize groundwater conditions in the Subbasin, to evaluate and report on conditions of overdraft, to establish sustainability goals, and to describe projects and management actions the GSAs will implement to achieve sustainable groundwater management by 2040.

The GSAs have submitted three revised GSPs - July 2022, May 2023 and August 2024 - following feedback and collaboration from the Department of Water Resources and State Water Resources Control Board.

Overview

In September 2014, the California legislature passed the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), establishing new measures for groundwater management and regulation statewide. SGMA provides for local control of groundwater resources while requiring sustainable management of the state's groundwater basins. Under the provisions of SGMA, local agencies must establish governance of their subbasins by forming Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) with the authority to develop, adopt, and implement a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the subbasin.

The Chowchilla Subbasin covers approximately 148,000 acres in Merced and Madera Counties. There are four GSAs that represent the subbasin - Chowchilla Water District GSA, Madera County GSA, Merced County GSA, and Triangle T Water District GSA.



Learn more about the Chowchilla Subbasin GSP



Domestic Well Mitigation Program

To mitigate for current and future domestic well impacts resulting from declining groundwater levels that occur from groundwater management activities outlined in the GSP, the Chowchilla Subbasin GSAs have implemented a domestic well mitigation program (DWMP). The DWMP offers residents with dry domestic wells financial compensation to drill a new well. The program is funded by the Chowchilla Subbasin GSAs.

DWMP Highlights

To date, the DWMP has received 17 applications and awarded mitigation to four applicants, with the average award being \$28,825. Of the additional 13 applications, nine are going through the approval process and four are pending submission of additional paperwork and supporting documentation by the applicant. The program is expected to continue as needed through GSP implementation and until groundwater sustainability is achieved.

We appreciate being able to offer this program. It has grown and evolved with feedback from the community and we look forward to taking it to the next level.

• Brandon Tomlinson, Chowchilla Water District General Manager

Who is eligible for the program?

Anyone located in the Chowchilla Subbasin with a dry domestic well due to declining groundwater levels.

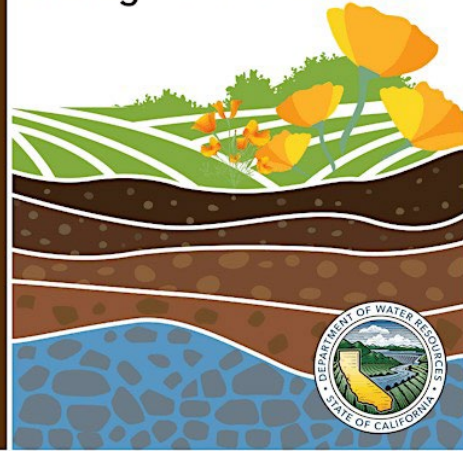
How is this program implemented?

- Chowchilla Water District acts as the administrator of the program, which includes conducting pre-inspections of wells, helping applicants complete an application and seeing them through the process, including cutting a check from the funds provided by the Chowchilla Subbasin GSAs.
- Applicant must complete initial well assessment, and provide documents of any work that has been performed on the well.
- One-time \$100 application fee (the fee will be reimbursed if awarded mitigation under the program).

For more information on the DWMP, please visit chowchillasubbasin.com or contact Chowchilla Water District at (559) 865-4767.

The Road to Sustainability: SGMA 10-Year Anniversary Event

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act 2024



DWR Marks 10 Years of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and Progress Made to Protect Water Supplies

Join the Department of Water Resources (DWR) on November 18th as we commemorate the 10-Year Anniversary of the historic passing of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). Hear from local groundwater sustainability agencies, community organizations, state leaders, and others in the SGMA community as they reflect on the progress made over the first 10 years of SGMA, highlight challenges and lessons learned, and look ahead to the next 10 years of advancing sustainable groundwater management. This all-day event will be held in person at the California Natural Resources Agency in Sacramento and online via Zoom.

If interpretation is requested (either in-person or virtual), please email sgmps@water.ca.gov and we will do our best to make accommodations.

When: November 18, 2024

Where: Participants can join in person at California Natural Resources Agency, 715 P St, Sacramento, CA 95814, or online via Zoom.

Registration: <https://SGMA10Year.eventbrite.com> *Virtual attendees will be emailed a Zoom link prior to the event.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

YOSEMITE CLIMBING ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

Welcome to
Oakhurst

YOSEMITE CLIMBING ASSOCIATION

FACELIFT®

After Party
AT SOUTH GATE BREWING CO.
40233 ENTERPRISE DR.
OAKHURST, CA 93644

EVENT SPONSORS

LA SPORTIVA CLIF WEST YOSEMITE MODEL COMPANY ROYAL ROBBINS TIS

DATE: OCTOBER 5TH 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM: Clean up
3:00 PM: After Party

MEETING POINT: OAKHURST COMMUNITY PARK
49044 CIVIC CIR, OAKHURST, CA 93644

EVENT PARTNERS

EMADCO Bee's Bakery Cafe DISC VER YOSEMITE

Registration is completely free! Please join us by signing up here:
[Oakhurst Facelift Registration.](#)



Farming, Monarch Butterflies, and the New EPA Workplan: What Does this Mean for Farmers?

What Growers Need to Know About the Federal ESA Listing of the Monarch Butterflies & New EPA Regulations

Join Dr. Chip Taylor of Monarch Watch and Brigit Rollins from the National Agricultural Law Center for an informative webinar that will cover:

- The history of this important species
- Crucial insights on the anticipated federal ESA listing of the monarch butterfly
- Its impact on farming operations
- What to expect from the new EPA workplan on pesticide use

Register now to understand how these developments could affect your business.

Webinar Details:

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM PT

CCA CEUs available (CCA-10-Sustainability 1)

[Webinar Details and Register Here](#)



State Water Resources Control Board

Groundwater recharge seminar set for next month

On Wednesday, Oct. 9, the State Water Resources Control Board will [host a virtual workshop](#) for public entities and individuals interested in diverting floodwaters for groundwater recharge. The workshop will cover how [Section 1242.1](#) of the California Water Code may allow for the diversion of flood waters for groundwater recharge in the coming wet season. The presentations will provide tips and tools for diversion reporting.



You're Invited!

Join us as we take a deep dive into long-term maintenance with our upcoming webinar series. Inspired by conversations across our region about the dire need to discuss, prepare, and collaborate on the maintenance of projects after implementation - this series will include presentations from topic-area experts, panel discussions, and resource sharing on grazing, burning, and herbicides as techniques for maintaining community safety and encouraging healthy, prosperous forest lands.

[REGISTER HERE](#) for Session #1: Prescribed Grazing for Consumption of Wildfire Fuels - October 17, 10:00-12:00

<https://bit.ly/47P9ndD>

Y/S RC&DC is able provide this series to the Southern Sierra region due to support from the [AIM Program](#) by Coalitions and Collaboratives Inc. (COCO)



LONG-TERM MAINTENANCE & STEWARDSHIP *WEBINAR SERIES*

Join us for our 3-part series bringing attention to the essential topic of long-term maintenance for fuels and forest health projects. Learn from topic experts and discuss challenges and solutions with other organizations from the Southern Sierra!

Prescribed Grazing for Consumption of Wildfire Fuels
October 17, 2024
🕒 10:00-12:00

Prescribed & Cultural Burning for Maintenance and Stewardship
November 12, 2024
🕒 9:30-12:00

Herbicides for Regrowth Management and Desired Species Protection
January/February, 2025
🕒 Time TBD



Register Now for Session #1 – Prescribed Grazing
<https://bit.ly/47P9ndD>

811 Safe Excavation Workshops

Damage Prevention is a Shared Responsibility
Dig-in Reduction Team (DIRT)

Purpose:

PG&E is committed to improving excavation safety and reducing damages to underground infrastructure.

Each year, PG&E's Dig-in Reduction Team (DIRT) conducts approximately 200 safe excavation workshops aimed at educating companies and individuals who excavate.

Prior to conducting these workshops, in 2014 PG&E experienced a dig-in ratio of approximately 2.41 dig-ins per 1000 USA tickets. Through participation in these workshops, this ratio has drastically been reduced to 0.98 in 2021.

This reduced dig-in ratio is due to the combination of a significant increase in the number of USA tickets received and a drop in total excavation damages.

PG&E attributes this progress in reducing excavation damages to company-wide efforts.

These efforts include:

- Excavator education & partnership
- Improved Locate & Mark practices
- Investigation and evaluation of all dig-ins
- Metric tracking and visibility
- Partnering with One Call Centers

For more information or to schedule a **no-cost** workshop, please contact DIRT at: damageprevention@pge.com

Topics Covered:

- Excavation Defined
- Legal requirements for a USA ticket
 - Delineations
 - Potholing
 - Renewals, Remarks, Field Meets & Standbys
- Study of previous incidents (recent & historical)
- Current trends in excavation damages
- Current CA Excavation Laws
 - GC 4216
 - CCR Title 8 Section 1541
 - California Underground Safety Board
- Best practices when excavating near facilities

[Register Here](#)

**1102 S. PINE ST
MADERA, CA 93636
559-675-8871**

[**Register Here**](#)



APG expects this event to be a blockbuster workshop with a cast of great representatives from academia, irrigation districts, Ground Water Sustainability Agencies (GSAs), and local Central Valley farmers. Please RSVP if you plan to attend. We look forward to you joining the workshop **Oct. 24th** at the International Agri-Center, Banquet Hall, Tulare, CA. !

[Cultivating a Sustainable Future: Water and Recharge Strategies | October 24, 2024](#)

Join us on October 24 for an essential Recharge Day, where industry leaders, researchers, and experts come together to discuss the future of water sustainability in agriculture.

www.eventcreate.com

Please do NOT use fake spiderweb decorations this Fall! They are deadly for bees, butterflies and hummingbirds, and are even strong enough to snare an owl!



Visit our website at:
maderacountywater.com

Have questions on your allocation, measurement, or any other GSA concern? [Schedule an appointment](#) with us! We can also be reached at (559) 662-8015, at the County Government Building on the third floor, or you can visit us online at maderacountywater.com.

