

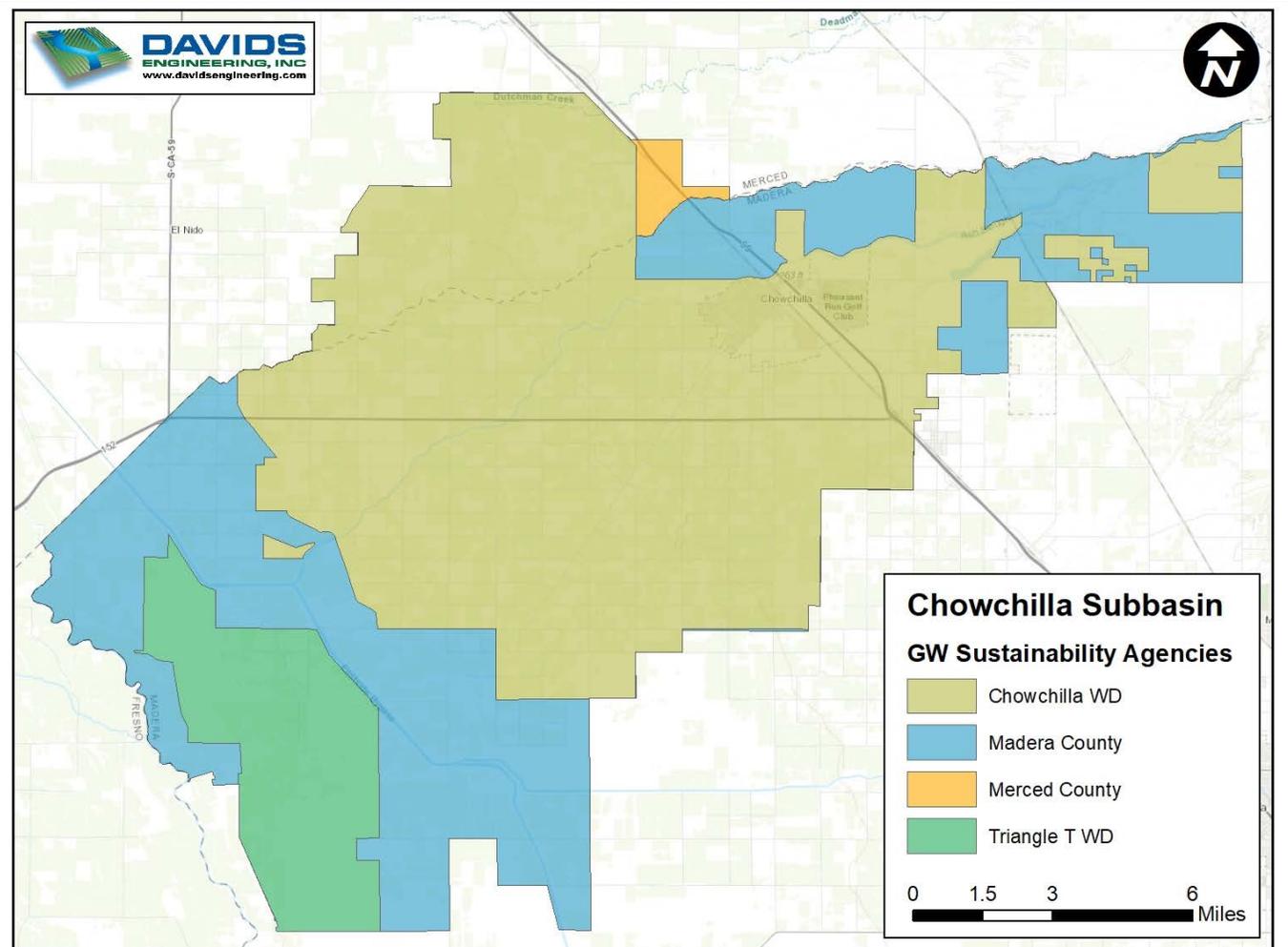
CHOWCHILLA SUBBASIN GSP HIGHLIGHTS

GSP Advisory Committee

October 23, 2019

Chowchilla Subbasin: 4 GSAs preparing 1 GSP

See Chapter 1 for Agency Descriptions



Total Subbasin
~ 146,000 ac
~ 123,000 ac irrigated

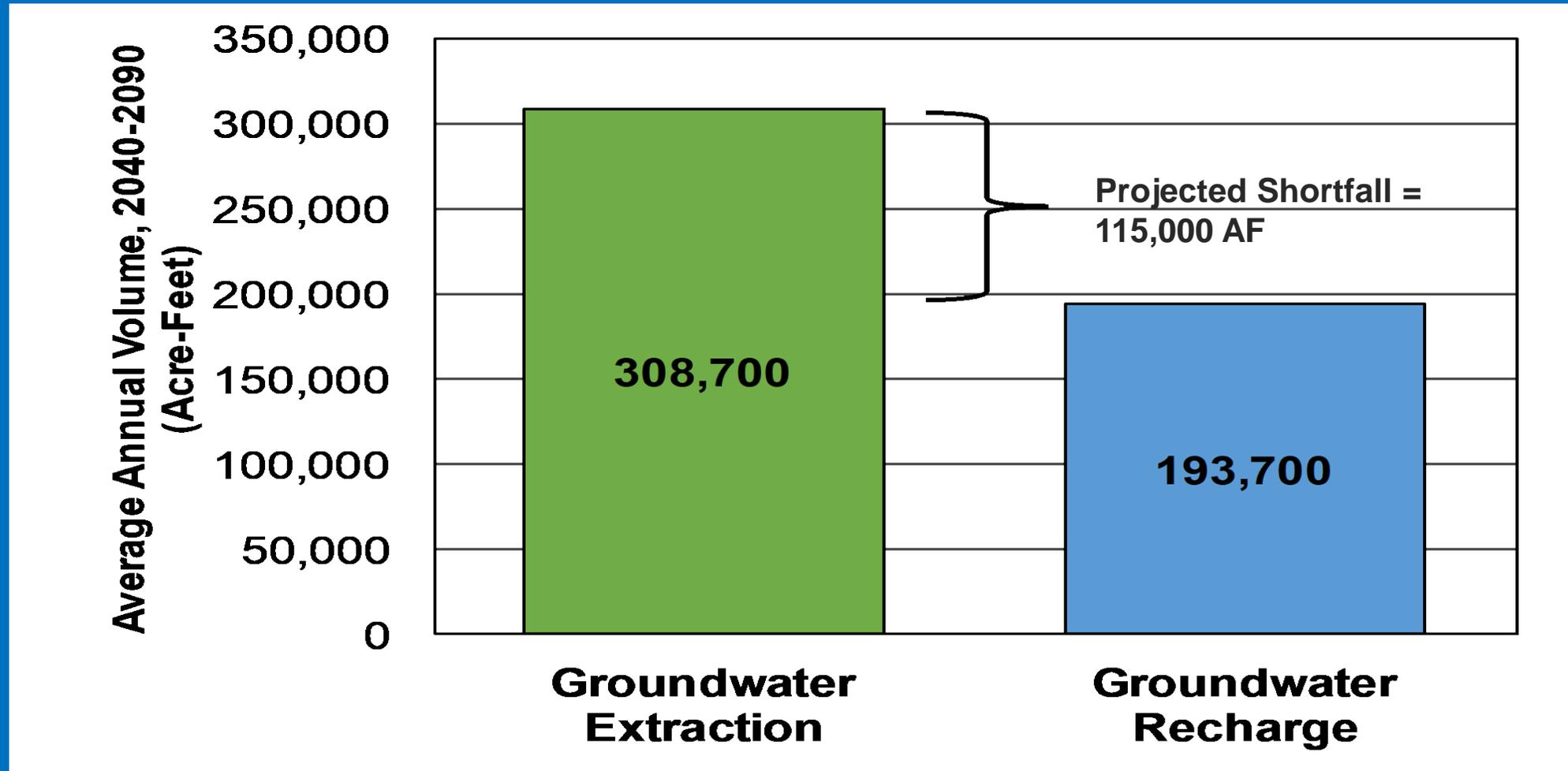
Data Source: GSA boundaries acquired from the DWR SGMA Portal on 2/21/2018.

Four GSAs

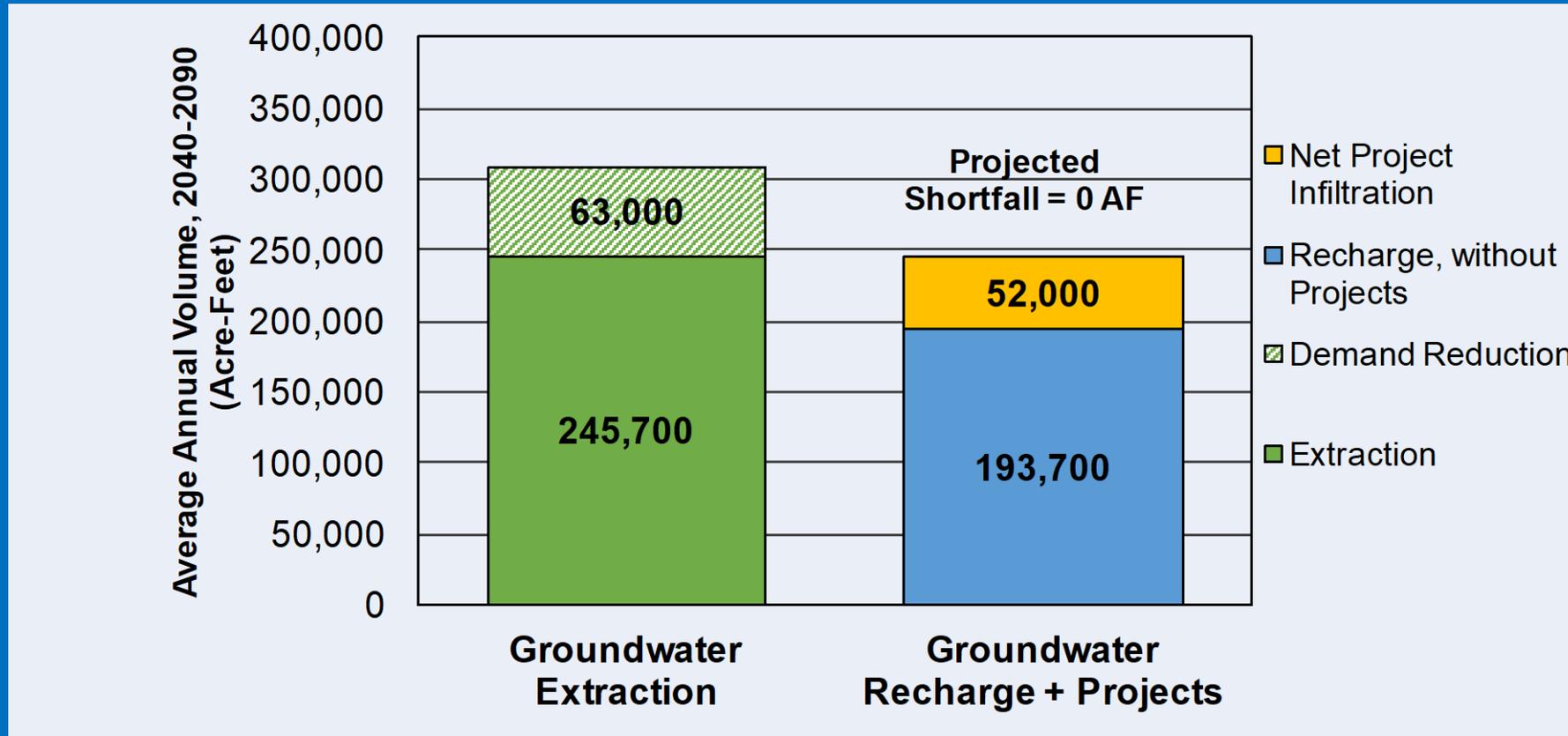
GSA	Subregion	Acres
Chowchilla Water District GSA	Chowchilla Water District GSA	85,200
Madera County GSA	Madera County GSA – East	11,400
	Madera County GSA – West	31,200
Merced County GSA	Sierra Vista Mutual Water Company	3,800
Triangle T WD GSA	Triangle T Water District GSA	14,700
Total		146,300

Chowchilla Subbasin GSP

Projected shortage without SGMA



GSP details solutions to solve the projected overdraft



Crop Water Use Reduction Program: Madera County East 11,300 af, Madera County West 16,250 af, TTWD 1,700 af. Remaining crop water use reduction due to permanent recharge basins replacing irrigated area and increased use of surface water in lieu of groundwater.

Projects

- Winter Flooding of Crops
- Construct Groundwater Recharge Basins
- Import Surface Water
- Expand Capacity of Buchanan Dam
- Expand Capacity of Madera Canal
- Construct Merced-Chowchilla Intertie Canal
- Construct New Turnouts to Capture Flood Flows

Management Action Options

- Groundwater Allocation
- Market for Allocation and Trading of GW Credits
- Voluntary Land Fallowing (Conservation Easement)
- Groundwater Extraction Fee
- Restrict Lower Aquifer Pumping in Subsidence Area

Things to consider

- Administrative/regulatory burden for growers
- Administrative burden for GSAs
- Individual economics
- GSA economics
- County economics
- Flexibility and adaptability of approach to assure GSA targets are met

Potential near-term groundwater impacts

- GSAs need time to transition and complete projects and actions – which will lower groundwater levels during implementation
- Planned mitigation for impacts can address concerns of lowered groundwater levels during implementation



Groundwater impacts would be much greater without the GSP actions

- Modeling estimated that groundwater levels would continue to drop absent the actions contemplated by the GSP
 - Without the GSP: groundwater levels would drop another 100 to 150 feet by 2090
 - With the GSP: groundwater levels may temporarily drop between 2020 and 2040, but are expected to stabilize by 2040 and into the future

GSAAs are considering a mitigation program for impacted drinking water wells

- 2020/2021: Details developed with stakeholder input
- Possible mitigation actions
 - Replace/lower existing well
 - Connect to community water system
- Possible types of support
 - Low interest loans
 - Grants
- Likely will require well owners to sign up for program

Commenting and Next Meeting

- Comments can be made at this listening session.
- Comments can be emailed to chowchillaGSPcomments@maderacounty.com by November 5, 2019
- Comment forms are available at maderacountywater.com under the Chowchilla Subbasin
- The next GSP Advisory Meeting is November 20, 2019 – 2 p.m.
 - Advisory Committee can make a recommendation to adopt GSP

Questions