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If you would like to stay updated on what is happening with the Madera County GSAs, please join our interested parties list!

<https://www.maderacountywater.com/join-list/>

If you would like to learn more about previous meetings, webinars, or trainings, please explore the Madera County Water Website ([maderacountywater.com](http://maderacountywater.com)) for links to video recordings or PDFs of previous presentations.

Previous County GSA Board of Directors meetings can also be found at:

<http://maderacountyca.iqm2.com/Citizens/Default.aspx>

The Madera County Board of Supervisors serves as the ex officio Board of Directors for the County GSAs.

## Field Verification Opportunity

The County GSAs are looking for growers who are willing to participate in a program to field verify IrriWatch.

In order to participate in the program, you must be able to provide flowmeter data at regular intervals via a smartphone based mobile data collection platform. Data should be submitted monthly, and will include the flowmeter GPS location, an entry of the flowmeter totalizer value, a picture of the totalized value, and a selection of the totalizer units.

The flowmeters must be installed and maintained to the manufacturers standards and be calibrated within two years of participation.

Upon sign-up, you will be asked to provide a diagram of your fields and which flowmeter is measuring the applied water to which field(s). There must be a clear understanding of which flowmeter(s) measure applied water delivered to which field(s), to accurately compare to IrriWatch data.

If you have questions or would like more information on how to participate, please contact our office:

(559) 662-8015.

## Madera County GSA 5-Year Allocation Schedule

Madera County GSA:	Inches of ETAW		
Year	Madera Subbasin	Chowchilla Subbasin	Delta-Mendota Subbasin
2021	28.3	26.7	19.8
2022	28.0	26.3	19.6
2023	27.7	25.9	19.3
2024	27.4	25.5	19.1
2025	27.1	25.1	18.9

### ETAW:

ETAW: The evapotranspiration of applied water (ETAW) is the volume of applied water that is transpired by plants and evaporated from the soil. ETAW is measured by satellite-based remote sensing.



# Madera County GSAs

SGMA IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

Quarter 1 2022

Special points of interest:

- 2022 Calendar Year Allocations
- Field Verification Program
- IrriWatch Frequently Asked Questions
- Updates to the IrriWatch Platform
- How Allocations are Calculated

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## Groundwater Allocations in Madera County GSAs

The Madera County GSAs have been working closely with IrriWatch to determine and communicate groundwater allocations for 2022. Following the 2021 pilot allocation year, the first official allocation year began January 1, 2022. Allocations are determined by provisions outlined in Board Resolutions 2020-166, 2021-069, and 2021-113. Growers will receive a Groundwater Allocation Report for the 2021 calendar year (1/1/2021 to 12/31/2021) to see how their ETAW compared to their allocation at the parcel and farm unit level. These reports are created with IrriWatch ETAW data.

Based largely on grower feedback, IrriWatch is currently updating

several reports and ways to view allocations and ETAW on a parcel and farm unit level. Once these updates are finalized, additional information and training will be provided. Final allocation and ETAW data for 2021 is provided on the attached groundwater allocation reports.

In addition to the allocation calculations in IrriWatch, the Madera County GSAs maintain allocation calculations for each farm unit, whether they are registered in IrriWatch or not. This allows for verification of the automated system and provides backup records at the County level. These sheets utilize the allocation determination factors outlined in the

allocation program resolutions and calculates each allocation accordingly.

The majority of growers have now registered and have access to IrriWatch. Those parcels which have not yet been registered will be assigned to a farm unit using an automated process, until they are claimed by a grower who registers them. Farm unit usage reports will still be generated and sent out to those who are not registered, based on the information from the automated registration process. Any applicable fees will still be applied to the appropriate parcels.

See page 3 for a description of how allocations are determined.

## Grower To-Do List:

- Review your 2021 Groundwater Allocation Report(s)
- Monitor ETAW in IrriWatch
- Participate in 2022 Field Verification Program

## IrriWatch Updates

In order to address concerns expressed by growers, and to fully implement the provisions of the allocation program, some updates will be made to IrriWatch in early 2022. During this time some of the functionality of IrriWatch will not be available to growers. This implementation period was chosen to avoid peak irrigation times and minimize impacts to growers. Full reinstatement of all IrriWatch functionality is anticipated by February 1, 2022.

During this period, you will still be able to log-in to IrriWatch and view fields and ETAW data but you will not be able to see allocation, allocation remaining, or carryover water.

The full reporting functions for parcel budgets/farm unit budgets will not be available, however, monthly usage reports will be sent out by the GSA.

These updates are being done to ensure that the assessed acres and

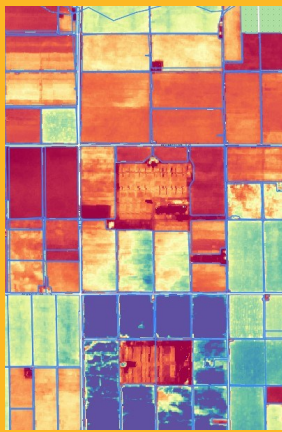
irrigated acres accurately reflect data from the Assessor's office and will implement an automated system for calculating allocations.

We appreciate your understanding and patience while these changes are being made.

More information on these IrriWatch updates can be found at: [maderacountywater.com/allocations/](http://maderacountywater.com/allocations/)

Look for the presentation from 1/13/2022.

# IrriWatch FAQs



Example image from IrriWatch platform showing vegetative cover

**Q: I stopped irrigating, why does IrriWatch still show ETAW on my fields?**

A: ETAW is the evapotranspiration of applied water, which does not directly correlate to irrigation practices in time. Even though you may have stopped irrigating your fields, the plants are still able to transpire water that was previously applied and stored in the root zone.

**Q: The assessed and/or irrigated acreage and crop type that I see for my parcels in IrriWatch is not what I believe to be correct. How should I address this?**

A: Official acreage and crop data is taken from the Madera County Assessor's Office. Any discrepancies between your APN, irrigated acreage numbers, or actual crop type should be addressed directly with the Assessor's Office. IrriWatch will be periodically updated with the official data from the Assessor's Office. The Assessor's Office can be reached at (559) 675-7654 or assessor@maderacounty.com

**Q: I sold my property/I just bought property. How do I adjust my parcels in IrriWatch?**

A: Legal ownership changes can be addressed by the Clerk-Recorder's Office. Mailing addresses can be updated in the Assessor's Office. The agreement of how fees payable to the GSA, associated with the property in question, will be transferred and paid must be determined by the parties involved in the sale of the property. The County GSAs are not responsible for transferring or reconciling payments associated with a transfer of title.

**Q: Can I register my parcels in IrriWatch if I haven't already?**

A: Yes, please email etmeasurement@maderacounty.com with your APN numbers and a preferred email address for your IrriWatch account.

**Q: My allocation in IrriWatch seems slightly different than my 2021 allocation. What happened?**

A: Allocations shown on the IrriWatch platform during 2021 were based on 2016 Statewide crop data irrigated areas from DWR. While often similar to the legal assessed parcel acreages on file with the County Assessor's Office, there can be differences between these acreages. The Groundwater Allocation Reports provided in this mailing correctly use Madera County Assessor's data for the following: (1) total assessed parcel acreage, (2) irrigated acreage, and (3) crop type. IrriWatch and future groundwater allocation reports will continue to use these Assessor's data in 2022 and future years. Contact the Madera County Assessor's Office at (559) 675-7710 or assessor@maderacounty.com for information or to make any modifications. Importantly, IrriWatch's ETAW measurements are unaffected by these changes; only the allocation calculations are impacted.

**Q: Some graphs and reports aren't available in IrriWatch. Where did these go?**

A: Based largely on grower feedback, IrriWatch is currently updating several reports and ways to view allocations and ETAW on a parcel and farm unit level. Once these updates are finalized, additional information and training will be provided. Final allocation and ETAW data for 2021 is provided on the attached groundwater allocation reports.

**Q: Should I plant cover crops? Will they affect my ETAW?**

A: The County GSAs recognize the importance of and benefits provided by cover crops. The GSA does not offer advice on what should or should not be planted. It should be noted that cover crops are plants that transpire water. In addition to increasing soil fertility, it should also be noted that cover crops may (1) increase infiltration capacity (and thereby decrease runoff), (2) increase soil water holding capacity, and (3) decrease evaporation from bare soil. Growers will need to weigh all of these factors when deciding to plant cover crops.

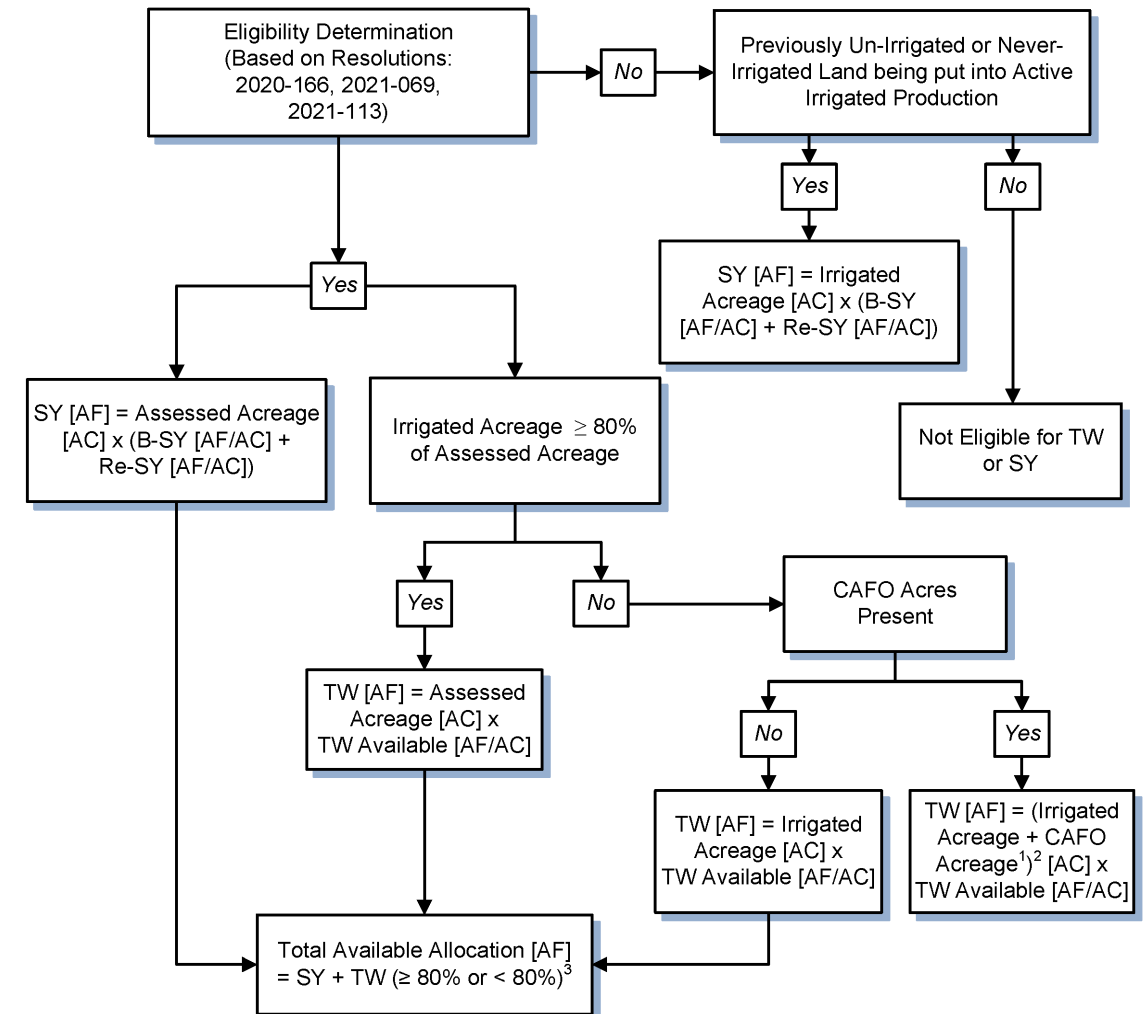
For more information on how allocations are calculated please visit <https://www.maderacountywater.com/allocations/> for links to previous meetings and presentations, as well as the three board resolutions that established the allocation program.

# How Was My Allocation Determined?



## Madera County Groundwater Allocation Logic

- The following logic diagram is based on relevant Madera County resolutions (i.e., 2020-166, 2021-069, 2021-113) available at: <https://www.maderacountywater.com/allocations/>
- Assessed and Irrigated acreage based on records from the Madera County Assessor's Office. Contact the Madera County Assessor's Office at (559) 675-7710 or [assessor@maderacounty.com](mailto:assessor@maderacounty.com) for information.



**Footnotes:**

- <sup>1</sup> CAFO Acreage is from the State Water Resources Control Board and may not match Madera County Assessor's Office records.
- <sup>2</sup> Total of Irrigated Acreage and CAFO Acreage is not to exceed the total Assessed Acreage of the parcel.
- <sup>3</sup> Total available allocation is the sum of sustainable yield (SY), both base (B-SY) and renewable (Re-SY), and transitional water (TW).

**List of Abbreviations:**

- AC = Acres
- AF = Acre-Feet
- AF/AC = Acre-Feet per Acre
- B-SY = Base Sustainable Yield
- CAFO = Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations
- Re-SY = Re-allocated Sustainable Yield
- SY = Sustainable Yield
- TW = Transitional Water