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COUNTY



Outline for Chowchilla Subbasin County GSA Allocation Discussion

1. Why are we here?
2. What happened?
3. What does the GSP say?
4. What are the risks?
5. What are the options?
6. Recommendation

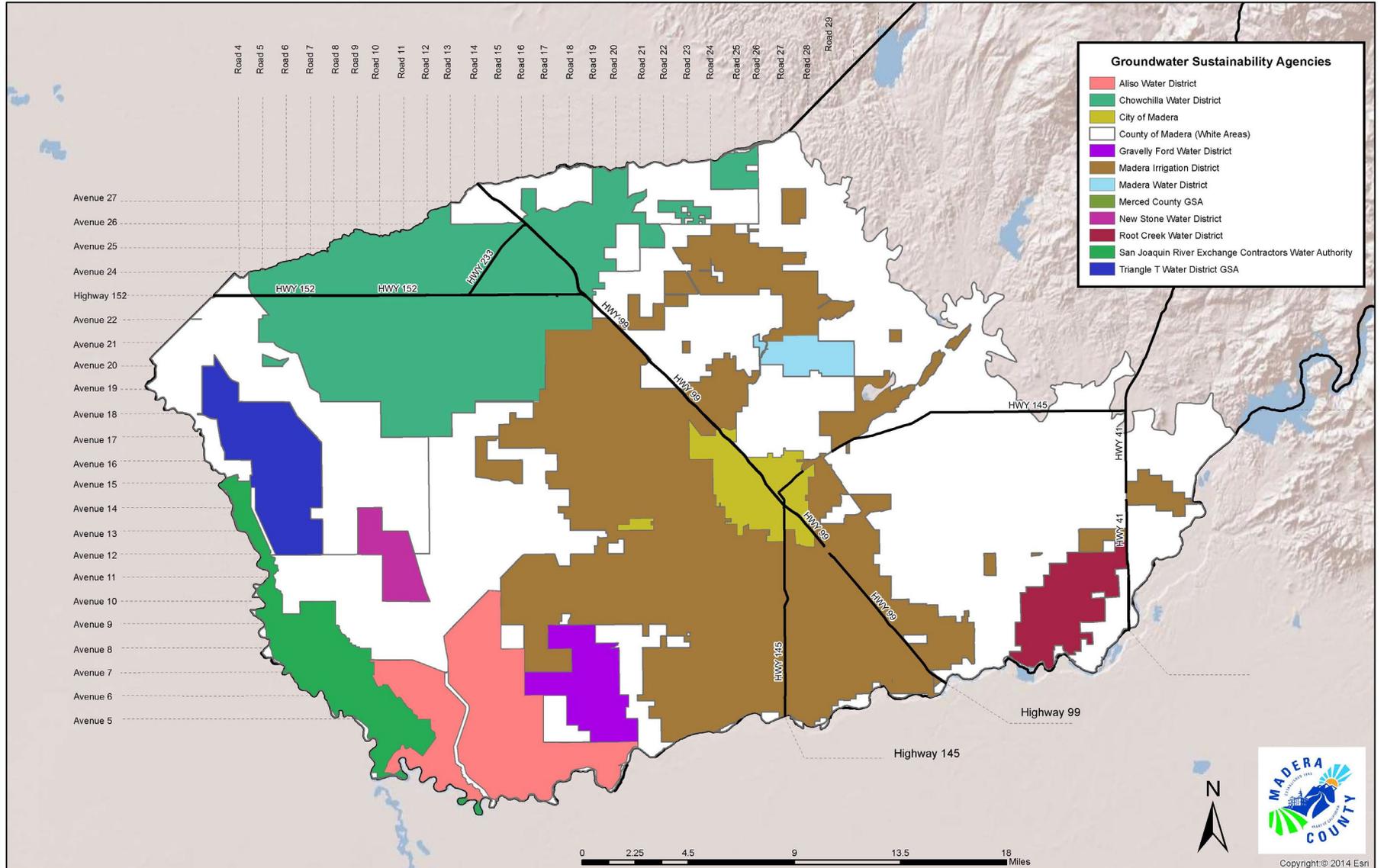


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Why are we here?



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What happened?

- From 2017-2019, the County worked as a partner with three other agencies in Chowchilla to develop a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) – See group 2019 dates below:
- February 7, 2019 Madera & Chowchilla Subbasin Joint Meeting, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Frank Bergon Senior Center
- March 27, 2019 Chowchilla GSP Advisory Committee, 2-5 p.m. at Portuguese Hall in Chowchilla.
- May 29, 2019 Chowchilla GSP Advisory Committee, 10-12 noon at Portuguese Hall in Chowchilla.
- July 31, 2019 Chowchilla GSP Advisory Committee, 10-12 noon at Portuguese Hall in Chowchilla.
- October 23, 2019 Chowchilla GSP Advisory Committee, 1-3 p.m. at Chowchilla Water District.
- November 20, 2019 Chowchilla GSP Advisory Committee, 2 p.m. at Chowchilla Water District.



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What happened?

- From 2020-2022, the County developed a rate study that quantified costs for projects in multiple groundwater sustainability plans
 - 8/17/2021 – BOS presentation
 - 9/21/2021 – BOS presentation on recharge
 - 11/2/2021 – BOS presentation on Sites
 - 11/30/2021 – Public Workshop
 - 12/7/2021 – BOS presentation with preliminary rates
 - 2/25/2022 – Public Workshop
 - 3/1/2022 – BOS presentation
 - 3/9/2022 – BOS presentation
 - 3/29/2022 – BOS presentation
 - 4/12/2022 – BOS presentation and draft rate study
 - 6/10/2022 – Looking Forward Workshop + 2 small group workshops
 - 6/21/2022 – Public Hearing
- In the Chowchilla Subbasin, costs included land repurposing, participation in Sites/water purchases, recharge, and domestic well mitigation.
- Total cost was \$204/enrolled acre per year for the first five years
- There was a majority protest in the Chowchilla Subbasin, which means the rates in the Chowchilla Subbasin could not be adopted

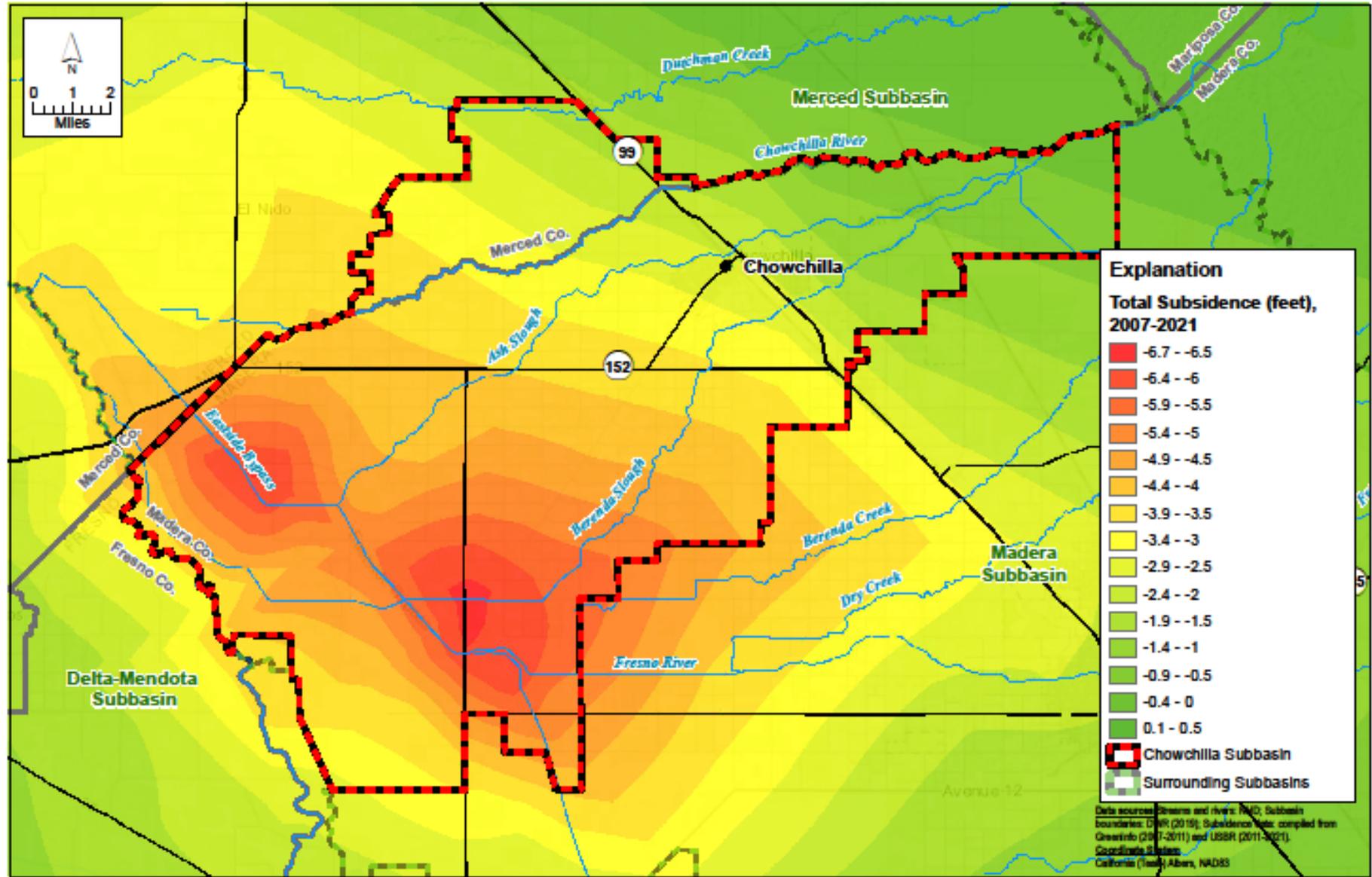


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X:\2021\21-156 Davids Engineering - Chowchilla Subbasin GSP DWR Consultation Letter\REPORT\Revised\GSP\Sections from Demand\Subsidence\MAPS\Figure X-X Chowchilla Subbasin Total Subsidence 2007-2021.mxd



FIGURE 2-67
Map of Total Subsidence 2007-2021
[combined from GreenInfo (2007-2011) and USBR (2011-2021)]

Chowchilla Subbasin
Groundwater Sustainability Plan



Statewide Distribution of Dry Wells

(Last updated 9/9/2022 4:08:57 AM)

https://tableau.cnra.ca.gov/t/DWR_SGM/views/mydrywatersupply/Map.pdf



Reported

- Last 30 days
- 31-365 days
- >365 days



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What does the GSP say?

- “At this time, based on the expected yield of the projects identified under Section 4.2.1 and 4.2.2, the Madera County demand management program will reduce average annual groundwater pumping by 27,550 acre-feet (16,250 acre-feet in Madera County West and 11,300 SG in Madera County East). However, if Madera County project yields are lower than initially estimated, Madera County will proportionally increase the level of demand management.”
- Chowchilla GSP – July 2022 Revised, p. 4-31



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What are the risks?

- Chowchilla GSP is currently under review with DWR
- The plan is very vulnerable to being deemed inadequate because there is currently no funding mechanism in place for County GSA projects:
 - Domestic well mitigation
 - Participation in Sites or other purchase of water
 - Recharge
 - Land repurposing
- ALL GSAs are impacted
- **State Board Intervention possible in Subbasin**



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What are the options?

Allocation

1. Do nothing
 - A. Keep the current allocation
2. Reduce the allocation for 2023
 - A. Reduction methodology to be determined
3. Enter into MOU with Chowchilla grower group to fund and implement the Revised GSP as submitted to DWR on July 27, 2022
 - A. Keep the allocation as is for 2023
 - B. Need immediate certainty on: (1) type of public agency to be formed, (2) funding, (3) mechanics of escrow account, (4) project management for completion of projects in the Revised GSP
 - C. Not a menu of options to select from – must fund the entirety of the GSP
 - D. Funds deposited in escrow account by December 15, 2022 for 50% of rate that funds projects in GSP.



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