

# **MADERA SUBBASIN REVISED GSP AND 5-YEAR UPDATE TIMELINE AGREEMENT**

**February 9, 2023**

This MADERA SUBBASIN REVISED GSP AND 5-YEAR UPDATE TIMELINE AGREEMENT (“Agreement”) has been prepared at the direction of the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies of the County of Madera (“County”), the City of Madera (“City”), the Madera Irrigation District (“MID”), the Root Creek Water District (“RCWD”), the Madera Water District (“MWD”), the Gravelly Ford Water District (“GFWD”), and the New Stone Water District (“NSWD”), collectively hereinafter referred to as the “Parties,” or individually as a “Party.”

## **RECITALS**

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2014, the Governor of the State of California signed the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”) into law, consisting of Senate Bills 1168 and 1319, and Assembly Bill 1739 collectively, codified at Water Code sections 10720, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, each Party overlies the Madera Groundwater Subbasin (“Subbasin”), which is defined by the California Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) in Bulletin 118 as Basin Number 5-22.06, and may be modified from time to time in accordance with Water Code section 10722.2; and

WHEREAS, the Subbasin has been designated by DWR as a high-priority basin in a state of “critical overdraft”; and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires that California groundwater basins and subbasins be managed by a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“GSA”) or multiple GSAs, and that such management be implemented pursuant to an approved Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“GSP”), or multiple coordinated GSPs; and

WHEREAS, County, City, MID, and MWD have developed one GSP; RCWD has developed one GSP; GFWD has developed one GSP; and NSWD has developed one GSP, such that the Subbasin is governed by four separate GSPs unified through the Subbasin Coordination Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Subbasin has no adjudicated areas or areas covered by an Alternative to a GSP as described in Water Code Section 10733.6; and

WHEREAS, the Parties agree to submit revised GSPs consistent with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) “Incomplete” Determination dated September 22, 2022, no later than March 21, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Parties, in accordance with the Subbasin Coordination Agreement, desire for the Coordination Workgroup, as defined in the Subbasin Coordination Agreement, to meet on at least a quarterly basis, beginning in January 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Parties recognize that for a variety of reasons, many outside the control of the Parties, GSP implementation within the Subbasin has changed or otherwise been altered from that

which was outlined in each of the four GSPs within the Subbasin as submitted in January of 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Parties have been and shall continue to document changes to GSP implementation in their respective Annual Reports; and

WHEREAS, the Parties recognize and agree that the GSPs revised as part of the statutorily required 2025 Update (“Update”) should adequately and appropriately memorialize the changes to GSP implementation that have occurred since submission of the original GSPs in January 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Parties agree that the GSPs revised as part of the statutorily required Update shall include, among other changes as determined necessary, revised Projects and Management Actions (“PMAs”) as determined necessary by each Party consistent with the broader Sustainability Goal of the Subbasin; and

WHEREAS, the Parties agree that work shall begin as early as February 2023 on the statutorily required Update to each of the GSPs; and

WHEREAS, the Parties agree to work cooperatively with one another as part of the statutorily required Update.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants and conditions contained herein and these Recitals, which are hereby incorporated herein by this reference, the Parties agree to the following draft Update timeline:

DRAFT Update Timeline:

February 2023	Initiate activities on the statutorily required Update.
March 21, 2023:	Submit revised GSPs.
April 13, 2023:	Finalize recommended changes to draft Update timeline. Initiate development of Update workplans, including assignments for individual GSAs and consultants, and request input on changes to the Coordination Agreement.
May 2023:	Finalize Update workplans, enter into contract(s) necessary for Update, and initiate data request for comprehensive groundwater model and water balance update.
June 2023:	Data submission complete, comprehensive groundwater model and water budget update to commence. Initiate implementation of Subsidence and Interconnected Surface Water (ISW) Workplans. Begin discussion on revised, new, and/or modified PMAs, inclusive of existing/potential funding sources.

- July 2023: Develop Draft Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Action Plan. Identify any missing data necessary for comprehensive groundwater model and water budget update.
- August 2023: Additional data request complete. Continue discussion on revised, new, and/or modified PMAs, inclusive of existing/potential funding sources.
- September 2023: Conduct expedited review of DWR comments and recommended actions on revised GSPs (dependent on DWR). Coordinate meeting with DWR to review comments and recommended actions. Finalize Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Action Plan.
- October 2023: Finalize review of DWR comments and recommended actions and incorporate into Update workplans. Finalize Update workplans including specific assignments for individual GSAs and consultant tasks. Schedule meeting with DWR to discuss Update process and procedures. Continue discussion on revised, new, and/or modified PMAs, inclusive of existing/potential funding sources.
- November 2023: Review preliminary comprehensive groundwater model and water budget results. Provide direction on potential model revisions. Begin implementation of Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Action Plan.
- December 2023: Begin refinement of Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) for each sustainability indicator.
- March 2024: Revise monitoring network and protocols. Review updated comprehensive groundwater model and historical water budget results. Finalize comprehensive groundwater model update and historical water budgets (model documentation will not be complete and will be included as an appendix with the draft Update). Continue discussion on revised, new, and/or modified PMAs, inclusive of existing/potential funding sources. Begin projected water budget analysis. Begin GSP revisions and written assessment of GSP implementation in compliance with 23 CCR § 356.4. Begin Coordination Agreement revisions.
- May 2024: Review projected water budget results. Modify and finalize draft revised, new, and/or modified PMAs, inclusive of existing/potential funding sources. Continue implementation of Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Action Plan. Continue refinement of SMC. Continue GSP revisions and written assessment of GSP implementation in compliance with 23 CCR § 356.4. Continue Coordination Agreement revisions.

- June 2024: Finalize projected water budgets. Incorporate early results from Subsidence and ISW Workplans. Continue implementation of Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Action Plan. Continue GSP revisions and written assessment of GSP implementation in compliance with 23 CCR § 356.4. Continue Coordination Agreement revisions.
- July 2024: Finalize SMC and revised, new, and/or modified PMAs. Continue implementation of Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Action Plan. Finalize monitoring network and protocols. Continue GSP revisions and written assessment of GSP implementation in compliance with 23 CCR § 356.4. Continue Coordination Agreement revisions. Schedule meeting with DWR to discuss status of Update.
- August 2024: Continue implementation of Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Action Plan. Finalize draft Coordination Agreement revisions. Continue GSP revisions and written assessment of GSP implementation in compliance with 23 CCR § 356.4 .
- September 2024: Final approval of Update.
- Sept./Oct. 2024: Begin public notices, public hearings, and formal approval at individual GSA level.
- January 2025: Submit Update, including written assessment of GSP implementation, other appendices, and Coordination Agreement in compliance with 23 CCR § 356.4.