

LandFlex (Targeted Land Repurposing) Program: Frequently Asked Questions

What is LandFlex?

LandFlex is a California Department of Water Resources (DWR) grant program to help protect drinking water wells in underrepresented communities and accelerate implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The program is intended to: (1) provide immediate benefits for vulnerable domestic wells, (2) accelerate the transition to sustainable groundwater management, and (3) implement best practices.

How does LandFlex affect Madera County?

The Madera Subbasin portion of the Madera County GSA was awarded \$9.3 million in grant funds from LandFlex. The Madera County GSA will use up to \$8.8 million of these funds to pay growers to voluntarily and temporarily fallow agricultural lands in priority areas.

How will the funds be used?

The grant funds will compensate participating growers for three specific actions on each acre that chooses to participate in LandFlex. Each grower must undertake all three actions; they cannot be decoupled. LandFlex will pay for the following actions:

1. **One-Year Fallowing:** Fallow land during the 2023 Water Year (this year through 9/30) and receive \$350/acre-foot of allocation saved (Transitional Water plus Sustainable Yield).
2. **Buyback of Transitional Water:** Permanently give up access to Transitional Water on the acres enrolled in LandFlex and receive \$1,000/acre-foot of 2023 Transitional Water.
3. **Land Use Transition:** Receive a payment per acre to transition fallowed lands of \$250 for row crops, \$2,000 for dairy feed, and \$2,800 for orchard and vineyards.

How much might LandFlex pay?

There is a [calculator](#) available on the LandFlex website that parties can use to estimate payments. Actual payments will be determined by the GSA according to the TLRP rules.

How does LandFlex differ from the Voluntary Land Repurposing and Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing Programs in Madera County?

LandFlex is specifically focused on preventing domestic wells from going dry. It incentivizes participation in areas where a reduction in agricultural pumping would help keep household and small community water system wells from going dry.

Who is eligible?

All irrigated agricultural lands in the Madera County GSA portion of the Madera Subbasin are potentially eligible for the program. The TLRP Rules list application and eligibility requirements.

When can I apply?

LandFlex applications are open now (April 19, 2023) through May 2, 2023. Go to landflex.org/apply to apply now!