

# Madera County GSAs Allocation FAQ

## What is an allocation?

An allocation is a water budget made available to agricultural water users within the Madera County Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs). Over time, the allocated water budget will decrease to sustainable levels.

## Who has an allocation?

There are allocations for irrigated acres within the Madera County GSAs in the Madera, Chowchilla, and Delta-Mendota Subbasins.

## What makes up an allocation?

Allocations are made up of two types of water. Sustainable Yield (SY) and Transitional Water (TW).

- SY is the amount of natural groundwater present in the subbasins through seepage and percolation.
- TW is excess groundwater being pumped from the subbasins; this decreases over time until it reaches zero.

## How is my allocation calculated?

If your land has been irrigated prior to June 08, 2021 (Resolution 2021-069) then you will receive both SY and TW. If you decide to opt-in “Never Irrigated” lands you are only eligible to receive SY for the irrigated acreage portion. Please see tables below.

Madera County GSA			
Madera Subbasin	Inches of ETAW		
Year	SY	TW	Total
2024	12.7	14.7	27.4
2025	12.7	14.4	27.1

Madera County GSA			
Chowchilla Subbasin	Inches of ETAW		
Year	SY	TW	Total
2024	7.1	18.4	25.5
2025	7.1	18.0	25.1

Madera County GSA			
Delta-Mendota Subbasin	Inches of ETAW		
Year	SY	TW	Total
2024	8.6	10.5	19.1
2025	8.6	10.3	18.9

## What happens if I am under my allocation?

You will be able to carryover unused allocation to the following calendar year. Currently, carryover does not have any decay factor and/or expiration date.

## What happens if I go over my allocation?

Currently, there are penalties in place for using water over the farm unit allocation. See the table for amounts per year.

Madera County GSA	
Madera Subbasin	Resolution 2022-145
Year	Amount Over the Farm Unit Allocation Penalty
2023	\$100 / AF
2024	\$200 / AF
2025	\$300 / AF
2026	\$400 / AF
2027	\$500 / AF

Madera County GSA		
Chowchilla Subbasin	Resolution 2022-143	
Year	Amount Over the Farm Unit Allocation Penalty	Additional Penalty
2023	\$100 / AF	\$1000/Farm Unit
2024	\$200 / AF	\$1000/Farm Unit
2025	\$300 / AF	\$1000/Farm Unit
2026	\$400 / AF	\$1000/Farm Unit
2027	\$500 / AF	\$1000/Farm Unit

Madera County GSA	
Delta-Mendota Subbasin	Resolution 2022-144
Year	Amount Over the Farm Unit Allocation Penalty
2023	\$100 / AF
2024	\$200 / AF
2025	\$300 / AF
2026	\$400 / AF
2027	\$500 / AF

