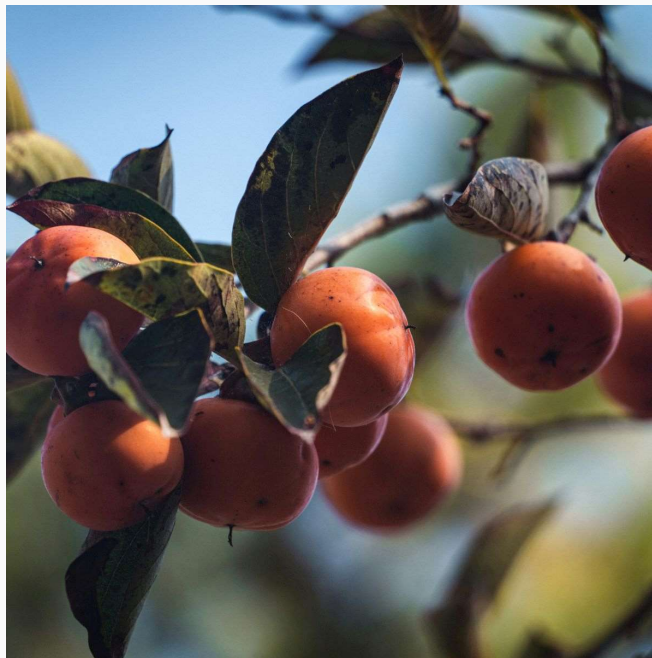




**WATER & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWS
FOR GROWERS
IN THE MADERA COUNTY GSAs**

AUGUST 2024



ALTERNATIVES SURVEY

Keep an eye on your mailbox!
Soon you'll receive a survey about groundwater rates. Your input will be valuable!



County of Madera
Groundwater Sustaina
200 W. 4th Street, Mac

Dear Valued Farmer:

The Board of Supervisors (acting as the Board of Directors for the County GSA) is exploring ways to adjust your groundwater rates in the County GSA, Madera Subbasin, including pursuing grants, looking for cost-effective measures, and evaluating partnerships. If a temporary injunction on groundwater rates is lifted, the Board will assess a lower alternative rate for projects in addition to the GSA Admin Fee. Along with a potential reduction in rates comes a smaller scale of projects and a corresponding reduction in expected 2040 allocation. A table of potential rates and allocations is provided below. All alternatives are subject to additional review. Please indicate your preference by completing the survey, tearing off and mailing the postcard back or taking a picture and emailing it to the address provided. Results will be presented to the Board of Supervisors acting as the Board of Directors in September 2024.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Anagnoson
Director of Water and Natural Resources

Allocations at 2025 and 2040

	Approximate Rate (\$/acre)	Adopted Allocation in 2025	Expected Allocation in 2040
Adopted Rate	\$246	27 inches	23 inches*
Alternative #1	\$65	27 inches	13 inches
Alternative #2	\$95	27 inches	15.5 inches
Alternative #3	\$170	27 inches	18 inches

*Based on analysis accompanying the 2022 Rate Study and presented in the Looking Forward Public Works Report dated June 10, 2022

More information to come will be posted on
<https://www.maderacountywater.com/alternatives/>

2024 VERIFICATION PROJECT UPDATE

Madera County GSA is happy to announce that the 2024 Verification Project began this August 2024 and will continue until the end of the 2024 year. So far, the project is off to a great start. There is new participation and some that are participating for the 2nd and 3rd year. The Water Resources Specialists are coordinating with participating growers to do on-site field work, conducting the verification data collection.

CHOWCHILLA SUBBASIN AUGUST 2024 REVISED GSP

CHOWCHILLA SUBBASIN AUGUST 2024

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD NOW OPEN

AUGUST 2024 REVISED GSP

A copy of the revised GSP can be found at www.maderacountywater.com/chowchilla-subbasin

SUBMIT COMMENTS

Comments on the revised GSP can be submitted via email to the Plan Manager at dwelch@cwdwater.com

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD

The 30-day public review period **began on August 2, 2024 and will end on September 2, 2024.**

GSP A COM ME

August 9:30 a.m.
Chowchilla District
327 S. C Street
Chowchilla, CA

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN (GSP) REVISIONS OVERVIEW

As of August 2024, the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) in the Chowchilla Subbasin have revised the Subbasin GSP on three occasions. Following is a brief summary of the various sections of the GSP.

GSP REVISIONS COMPLETED IN JULY 2022

Addressed the potential deficiencies identified by DWR in the 2020 GSP and discussed during five DWR consultation meetings between the GSAs and DWR. The revised GSP summarized the progressive implementation actions taken by the GSAs to implement the GSP in January 2020; recognized the Subbasin GSAs' clear ability to implement a Domestic Well Mitigation Program beginning no later than the execution of a memorandum of understanding (MOU); and committed to implementing the GSP and achieving sustainable groundwater conditions.

GSP REVISIONS COMPLETED IN MAY 2023

Resolved the remaining deficiencies identified by DWR in the 2020 GSP related to groundwater levels and subsidence through established sustainable management criteria related to groundwater levels in the Subbasin; reaffirmed commitment to upholding the Human Health and Environment Protection Standard for groundwater in the Subbasin for all beneficial uses and to manage groundwater in the Subbasin for all beneficial uses and to recognize the launch and current status of the Domestic Well Mitigation Program; and committed to the benefits of projects and management actions to all stakeholders. The revised GSP recognizes the launch and current status of the Domestic Well Mitigation Program and committed to the benefits of projects and management actions to all stakeholders. The revised GSP implementation will achieve sustainable groundwater conditions in the Subbasin and meet the requirements of the SGMA.

[View PDF Flyer](#)
[August 2024 Revised GSP](#)

INFORMATIONAL RESOURCES

Harvest Season Increases Equipment and Vehicles on Rural Roads

Throughout the Central Valley, farms are humming with activity as many of our 350+ crops are harvested this time of year. August and September are typically considered peak season, though there's always something in season locally.

Harvest brings along with it increased traffic to rural roads during all hours of the day and night, including harvesters, tractors, trucks and vehicles. Many times, these pieces of equipment are moving much slower than the posted maximum speed, thus caution and patience needs to be exercised by fellow drivers. The public is urged to slow down, pass only when lawful and safe, and recognize visibility can be difficult during certain periods of the day and night.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

**California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)
Grant Programs for Farmers**

CDFA offers grants for farmers and ranchers throughout California.

[View CDFA available grants](#)

One of the grants available is the State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEEP). It provides financial assistance in the form of grants to implement irrigation systems that reduce greenhouse gases and save water on California agriculture.

Watch this [Youtube video](#) provided by CDFA and learn how SWEEP has had a positive effect on Seth Rossow's family owned farm, Rossow Farms which is located in Merced, San Joaquin County.

CONTACT US

For questions, please contact your Water Resources Specialist directly, call us at (559) 662-8015, email ETmeasurement@maderacounty.com, visit our [website](#), or [schedule an appointment](#).



Madera County Water & Natural Resources, 200 West 4th Street, Suite 3100, Madera, CA 93637
Phone: 559-662-8015.

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