HAVE A RECHARGE PROJECT CONCEPT AND WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Types of Recharge

Direct Recharge
Surface water primarily applied to dedicated recharge basins outside of the irrigation season.

In-Lieu Recharge
Surface water primarily applied to cropped surfaces during the irrigation season (irrigation).

Flood-MAR
Uses flood events or anticipated rainfall for cropped surfaces and recharge basins.

Does Madera County have a recharge policy?

Policy 1

Policy 2

Yes, Madera County has two recharge policies - one for surface water and one for floodflows - that provide recharge credits to qualified landowners. Scan the QR codes for more information.

Recharge Study Interest Form

The Madera County Groundwater Sustainability Agency is looking for landowners with land that can be used for recharge. If you have land that you believe may be suitable, please scan the QR code and fill out the form.

Helpful Conversions

1 acre foot (AF) = 1 foot of water over 1 acre
1 cfs for 24 hours = 2 AF
1 cfs = 449 gallons per minute

Important items to consider for any recharge project include, but aren't limited to:

- Water Supply
- Cost (Capital and Operations & Maintenance)
- Permitting
- Design
- Long-term Maintenance Obligations
- Funding Opportunities
  - National Resources Conservation Service
  - WaterSMART
- Schedule

Direct Recharge Project Guidance

Flow * Duration = Opportunity

Site Selection Considerations
- Infiltration rates
- Water conveyance to site
- Topography

Earthwork
- Balance cut/fill to minimize costs

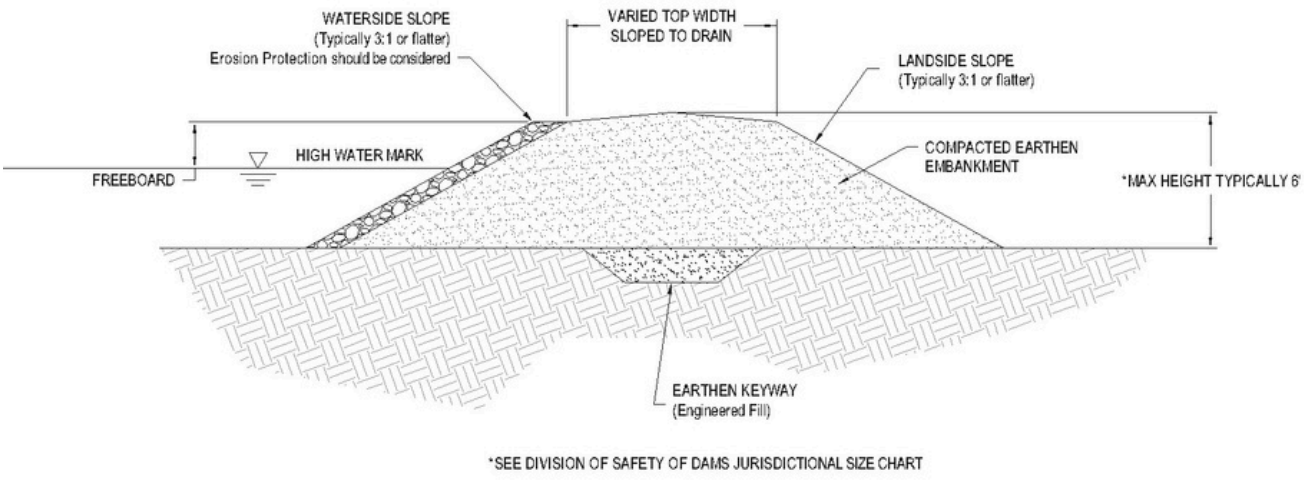
Embankment Recharge Basin Sizing
- Large enough to accomplish recharge objective
- Stay under jurisdictional thresholds
- See figures on next page for more information

Recharge Suitability Index -
https://casoilresource.lawr.ucdavis.edu/sagbi/

For more information, contact your Madera County Water Resources Specialist at 559-662-8015 or wnr@maderacounty.com.

The illustrations and recommendations contained herein are provided as general guidelines and are not intended to be used for construction. Consultation with an engineering professional is required to ensure a project design is conducive to site conditions.

Typical Embankment



Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) Jurisdictional Chart

This chart illustrates the height and storage-capacity thresholds that trigger when DSOD must take jurisdiction over a "dam."

In general, its best to keep embankments shorter than 6 feet above the lowest adjacent ground along the outside toe of the basin.

However, as shown in the chart, the embankment height can exceed 6 feet if the basin storage capacity is under 50 AF.

Consultation with a licensed engineer is recommended to make jurisdictional determinations.

https://water.ca.gov/Programs/All-Programs/Division-of-Safety-of-Dams/Jurisdictional-Sized-Dams