



Multibenefit Land
Repurposing Program | MLRP Madera

Overview of Selected Projects for Public Comment

June 20, 2024

Interpretation & Language Assistance

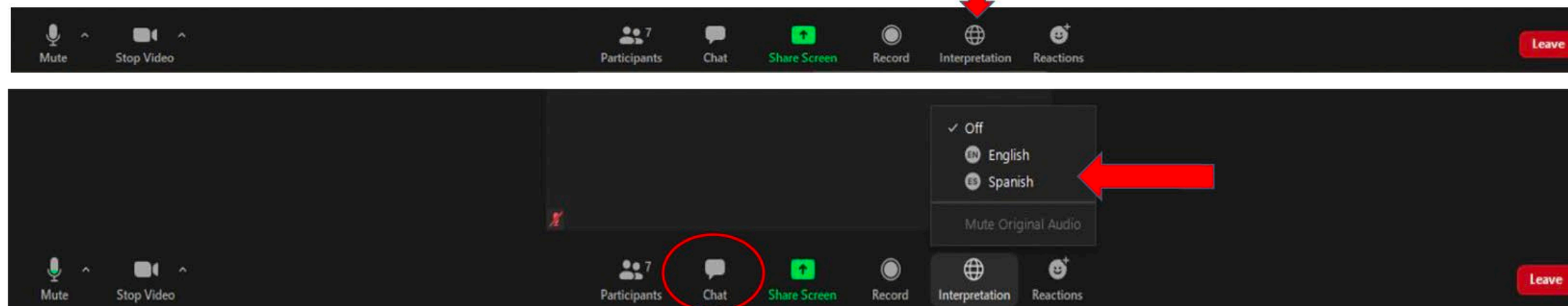


English

If you are a monolingual English speaker, please select the world-like interpretation icon at the bottom of the screen, then select English. If you are using zoom via a telephone/tablet, you will select the three dots to see more options, followed by interpretation and then English.

Español

Si solo habla/o prefiere escuchar en español, seleccione el icono de interpretación que parece a un mundo en la parte inferior de la pantalla, luego seleccione español y no olvide silenciar el audio original. Si está usando Zoom en un teléfono o tableta, seleccionará los tres puntos para ver más opciones, seguido por interpretación y después español.



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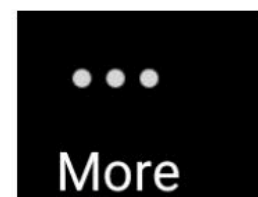
ASK QUESTIONS AND COMMENT
HACER PREGUNTAS O DAR COMENTARIOS



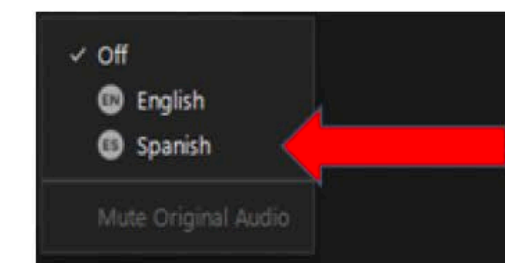
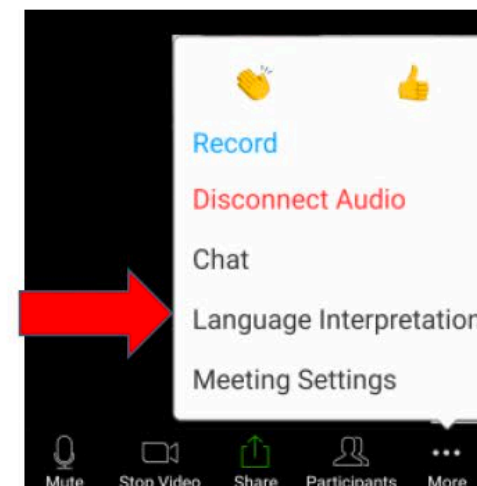
Raise Hand, & Reactions
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ZOOM APP ON PHONE OR TABLET

APLICACIÓN DE ZOOM POR TELÉFONO O TABLETA



SELECT THE THREE DOTS
SELECCIONE LOS TRES PUNTITOS



SELECT YOUR LANGUAGE
SELECCIONE SU LENGUAJE

Welcome & Overview

Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program

- Purpose: Support willing landowners in transitioning irrigated agricultural lands to a new use that requires less water
- Funding: California Department of Conservation (DOC) grant program
- Goal: Help support groundwater sustainability while creating community, environmental and economic co-benefits

Why MLRP Matters

Proactive approach prevents negative impacts of unmanaged fallowing.

About MLRP

Today's Agenda (60 minutes)

- MLRP Program Overview (5 min)
- Selection Process & Portfolio Approach (3 min)
- Project Portfolio Presentation (45 min)
- Public Comment Process & Next Steps (7 min)

Our Goal Today

Present selected projects for public input to support MLRP program goals and multibenefit outcomes.

MLRP Program Goals

1. Support Groundwater Sustainability - Reduce reliance on groundwater in overdrafted basins
2. Community Benefits - Provide benefits to disadvantaged communities
3. Economic Support - Sustain land-based economies impacted by groundwater measures
4. Environmental Benefits - Create habitat, improve water quality, reduce climate impacts
5. Regional Collaboration - Foster partnerships for basin-scale solutions

Project Selection Process

Application Stats:

- 72 pre-applications (interest forms)
- 28 applications (project proposals)
- 6 projects selected (plus 3 runner ups)

Funding Available:

- Up to \$6 million in total funding for project portfolio
- \$1 million funding cap per project award

More info on scoring and selection framework in the ***Madera MLRP Project Portfolio Memo*** available at: www.maderacountywater.com/multibenefit-land-repurposing-program.

Portfolio Approach

- ✓ Diversity:
Multiple project types and geographic distribution
- ✓ Impact:
Combined water savings and community benefits
- ✓ Innovation:
Demonstration models for regional scaling
- ✓ Inclusiveness:
Community and stakeholder collaboration and partnerships



PROJECT A: STORMWATER

Multibenefit stormwater management with recreational opportunities

Project Overview

- Location: County of Madera GSA – Madera (proximate to a disadvantaged community)
- Size: 17.3 acres (almond orchard conversion)
- Total Budget: \$1.28M
- MLRP Funding Request: \$882K

Key Features

- 4.5-acre engineered stormwater detention basin
- First public recreational space in underserved area
- 2,000-foot walking trail with interpretive signage
- Native habitat establishment

Benefits

- Water: 36.7 acre-feet (AF) annual savings + 47-72 AF stormwater infiltration
- Community: Public park with trails, parking, educational/event space
- Environment: Flood protection, air quality improvement, habitat creation

PROJECT B: TRIBAL/CULTURAL SPACE

Unique cultural space benefiting tribal and migrant community needs

Project Overview	Key Features	Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Location: County of Madera GSA - Madera• Size: 4.2 acres (almond orchard conversion)• Total Budget: \$1.23M• MLRP Funding Request: \$1M	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Traditional Temazcal sweat lodge facility• Designated area for cultivation of indigenous herbs and crops• Solar energy system• Native pollinator habitat with cultural significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water: 3.6 AF annual savings through minimal irrigation transition• Cultural: Dedicated space for indigenous practices and education• Community: Wellness programming, cultural preservation, employment• Environment: Habitat creation, regenerative land management

PROJECT C: RECHARGE/FLOOD MGMT

Combined groundwater recharge and flood management infrastructure

Project Overview

- Location: County of Madera GSA - Chowchilla (near Chowchilla Bypass)
- Size: 12 acres (10 acres recharge, 2 acres solar)
- Total Budget: \$2.78M
- MLRP Funding Request: \$1M

Key Features

- 10-acre flood-managed aquifer recharge (Flood-MAR) system
- Variable frequency drive pump with fish screens
- 215 kWh solar photovoltaic system
- Integration with existing turnout structure

Benefits

- Water: 30 AF annual savings + 733 AF average annual recharge
- Infrastructure: Strategic flood management, renewable energy
- Economy: Maintains 154 acres of productive pistachio farming
- Environment: Reduced emissions, natural filtration

PROJECT D: AGAVE CROP

Transitioning to drought	- resistant agave with habitat co	- benefits
Project Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Location: Madera Water District GSA• Size: 37.27 acres (34.27 agave, 3-acre reservoir)• Total Budget: \$1.10M• MLRP Funding Request: \$1M	Key Features <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transition from pistachios (2.75 AF/acre) to agave (0.5 AF/acre)• 15 AF groundwater recharge reservoir• California buckwheat habitat around reservoir• Organic farming methods implementation	Benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water: 83 AF annual savings (~80% reduction) while maintaining productivity• Innovation: Demonstrates drought-resistant crop alternatives• Environment: Improved soil health, pollinator habitat, reduced emissions• Economy: Income through 10-year harvest cycle and interim sales

PROJECT E: BUFFER ZONE

Creating community buffers with groundwater recharge

Project Overview

- Location: County of Madera GSA – Madera (adjacent to residential community)
- Size: 118 acres (almond orchard conversion)
- Total Budget: \$1.36M
- MLRP Funding Request: \$1M

Key Features

- Nearly 1,000-foot buffer between agriculture and 24 residential parcels
- Removal of 16,000 almond trees
- Three engineered recharge basins with dikes
- Native habitat corridor establishment

Benefits

- Water: 324 AF annual savings + enhanced natural recharge
- Community: Eliminates pesticide drift and agricultural dust impacts
- Health: Protects 21 residences dependent on domestic wells
- Environment: Air/water quality improvement, flood protection for 200+ properties

PROJECT F: LARGE RECHARGE

Large - scale groundwater recharge with native habitat restoration

Project Overview

- Location: Madera Irrigation District GSA
- Size: 50 acres (retirement of planned citrus development)
- Total Budget: \$967K
- MLRP Funding Request: \$967K

Key Features

- Comprehensive flood-irrigated recharge basin
- 4,500 feet of 12-inch pipe with water control structures
- Native species establishment for seasonal flooding compatibility
- SCADA system for groundwater monitoring

Benefits

- Water: 120 AF annual savings + 291 AF average annual recharge
- Environment: Large-scale habitat creation, soil health improvement
- Infrastructure: Regional water management demonstration
- Innovation: Scalable model for agricultural land retirement

RUNNER -UP 1: AGAVE CROP

Alternative agave transition with recharge infrastructure

Project Overview

- Location: Madera Water District GSA
- Size: 38.6 acres (pistachio to agave conversion)
- Total Budget: \$1.10M
- MLRP Funding Request: \$1M

Key Features

- Transition from pistachios (2.75 AF/acre) to agave (0.5 AF/acre)
- 15 AF groundwater recharge reservoir
- Native California buckwheat habitat establishment
- Organic farming practices implementation

Benefits

- Water: 87 AF annual savings (~80% reduction) through drought-resistant crop transition
- Innovation: Expands drought-resistant crop adoption regionally
- Environment: Pollinator habitat, improved soil health, reduced emissions
- Economy: Demonstrates agricultural diversification model

RUNNER - UP 2 : RECHARGE/FLOOD MGMT

Additional Flood - MAR system near Chowchilla Bypass

Project Overview

- Location: County of Madera GSA - Madera (near Chowchilla Bypass with existing water rights)
- Size: 30 acres (almond orchard conversion)
- Total Budget: \$4.97M
- MLRP Funding Request: \$1M

Key Features

- 30-acre flood-managed aquifer recharge basin
- Self-constructed turnout structure with fish screens
- 60-inch reinforced concrete pipeline
- 30 cfs pump system with 59.5 AF daily capacity

Benefits

- Water: 88 AF annual savings + 1,000 AF average annual recharge
- Agriculture: Maintains 480 acres of productive almond farming
- Environment: Migratory bird habitat, natural filtration
- Regional: 56% reduction in net groundwater extraction

RUNNER -UP 3 : RECHARGE/FLOOD MGMT

Comprehensive recharge system with dual turnout structures

Project Overview

- Location: County of Madera GSA – Madera (near Chowchilla Water Bypass)
- Size: 30 acres (pistachio orchard conversion)
- Total Budget: \$5.23M
- MLRP Funding Request: \$1M

Key Features

- North and south turnout structures with fish screens
- Gate control systems and reinforced concrete pump boxes
- 60-inch reinforced concrete pipeline infrastructure
- Comprehensive sediment and debris management

Benefits

- Water: 90 AF annual savings + 1,000 AF average annual recharge
- Agriculture: Maintains 279 acres of productive orchards
- Environment: Enhanced fish protection, habitat preservation
- Innovation: Demonstrates integrated flood management approach

Public Comment Process

Comment Period: June 11 - 27, 2025

How to Submit Questions and Comments

- Email: mlrp@maderacounty.com
- Language assistance: (559) 662-8015
- Spanish language materials available upon request

What We're Seeking

- Ideas to enhance project co-benefits (community, environmental, or economic)
- Opportunities for additional partnerships, collaboration, and funding

Next Steps

1. Comment Analysis (June 23-27)
2. Project refinement with applicants (as needed)
3. DOC Submission (June-July)
4. DOC Review & Approval (July-August)
5. Project Implementation (Fall 2025-2035)

Contact Info & Resources

- Email: mlrp@maderacounty.com
- Phone: (559) 662-8015

Comprehensive ***Madera MLRP Project Portfolio Memo*** available for download at:
<https://www.maderacountywater.com/multibenefit-land-repurposing-program>