



WATER & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWS

AUGUST 2025

SGMA NEWS

COUNTY GSA COMMITTEE MEETING

Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Committee Meeting

(for the Madera, Chowchilla, and Delta-Mendota Subbasins)

August 5, 2025 - 1:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Madera County Government Center
200 W. 4th Street, Madera CA 93637; Board of Supervisors Chambers

REMOTE PARTICIPATION

<https://zoom.us/j/89876438188>

The Madera County GSA Committee, consisting of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board, will be meeting on the first Tuesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. in the Madera County Board of Supervisors Chambers. The purpose of this committee is to receive public input on the County GSA items. This is a public meeting, and all are welcome to join.

The agenda and packet for this meeting are on the County website at:

[Search - PrimeGov Portal](#)

These documents are also available at the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, acting on behalf of the Madera County GSAs.



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT OFFICE

Public Comment Period Opens for a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Chowchilla Subbasin

A modified groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) for the Chowchilla Subbasin (Subbasin) that has recently been submitted to the Department of Water Resources (Department) is now posted on the [SGMA Portal](#). This basin was returned to the Department's jurisdiction by the State Water Resources Control Board on June 6, 2025. The 2025 GSP will be reviewed by the Department and public comments will be considered as part of the review. The status of the Subbasin in the SGMA Portal will remain *Inadequate – Under Review* until the Department issues its new determination following the completion of the review. A 75-day public comment period is being held for the GSP. In the table below is a link to the submitted GSP, counties it covers, and the public comment period end date. Information about how to comment can be found in a public comment fact sheet, available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). Public comments are welcomed and encouraged. A SGMA Portal account is not necessary to submit comments.

Basin	Local ID (if applicable)	County Covered	Public Comment Period End Date
Chowchilla	N/A	Madera Merced	9/28/2025

[Sustainable Groundwater Management Act \(SGMA\) Portal - Department of Water Resources](#)



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT OFFICE

DWR Releases Draft Best Management Practices on Managing Land Subsidence in California

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released a [draft Best Management Practices document](#) for public comment, to help local water agencies address land subsidence, support groundwater reliant communities, and help meet objectives set by the [Sustainable Groundwater Management Act](#) (SGMA) to avoid or minimize current and future impacts of subsidence.

The public comment period began on July 24, 2025 and will close on September 22, 2025. Interested parties are strongly encouraged to submit comments and attend upcoming in-person meetings held in Clovis, Delano, and Willows.

DWR is soliciting public feedback by hosting a series of public meetings across the state focused on the draft Best Management Practices document. These meetings will include an overview of the draft document and serve as a venue to ask questions and provide public comment; please see the information listed and flyer linked below for details. Note that registration is encouraged but not required - the flyer includes links for each event, which are for planning purposes only.

Central California: **Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.** Clovis Veterans Hall, 808 4th Street, Clovis, CA 93612

- [Press Release \(July 24, 2025\)](#)
- [Sustainable Groundwater Management Act \(SGMA\)](#)
- [DWR's SGMA Best Management Practices and Guidance Documents webpage](#)
- [Subsidence webpage](#) with [Subsidence 101 Factsheet](#) and more

- [What is Subsidence and How Does it Impact the Ground Beneath Our Feet \(June 2025\)](#)
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FLOOD NEWS



Upcoming Lunch-MAR Sessions

Overview of Groundwater Accounting Platform

The next Lunch-MAR meeting will be in collaboration with the California Water Data Consortium's *Data for Lunch Series*. [Hannah Ake](#) will provide an overview of the Groundwater Accounting Platform, an open-source tool that helps California water managers, landowners, and water users track water budgets and usage more easily in near real-time. This tool has been expanded to provide additional features and functionalities to help more groundwater agencies and growers track water use allocations under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Learn more at the Wednesday, August 6, Lunch-MAR presentation. The hour-long [webinar](#) begins at 12:30 p.m.

Like Texas, many parts of California face serious flood risks

Low-lying areas along rivers and creeks can be hazardous when downpours and torrents come, as shown by past floods in parts of the state including the Los Angeles area, the Central Valley and the Central Coast.

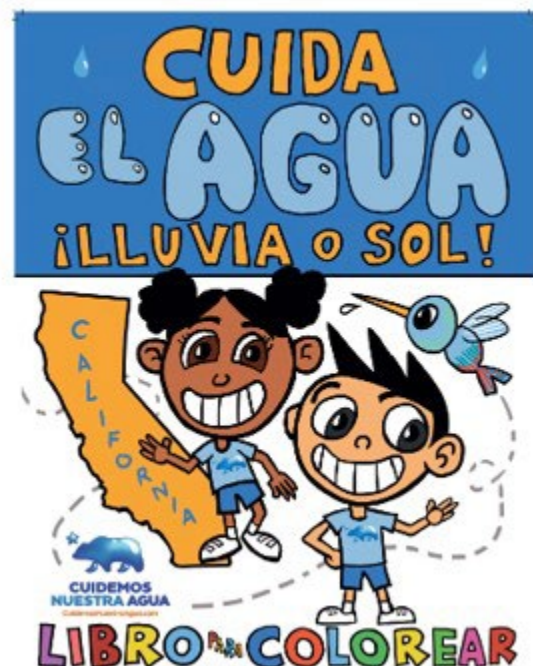
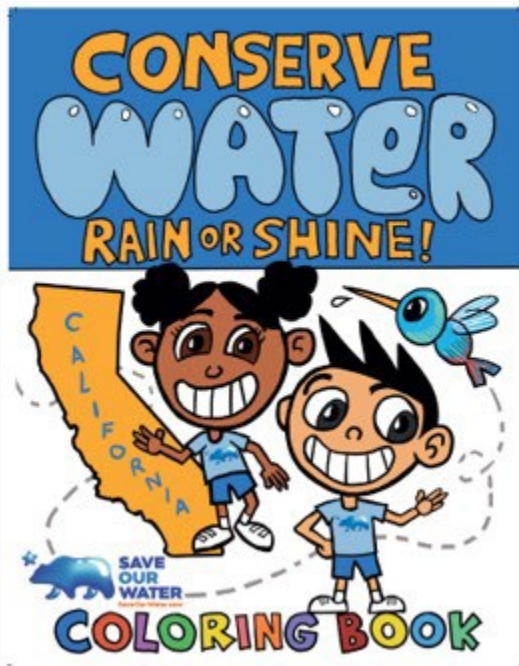
When a series of extreme winter storms hit California in 2023, about [two dozen people](#) died statewide, including some who were swept away by floodwaters and others who were killed by a rockslide, falling trees or car crashes.

[Read More](#)

DROUGHT

Make Conservation the California Way of Life

California is experiencing more extreme weather, swinging between flood and drought. With the wets getting wetter and the hots getting hotter, every household is being asked to continue saving water for our future. Start with the kids! Below are coloring books to pass the word along to the little ones.



Get your own copy of this coloring book!

[Click Here for English](#)

[Click Here for Spanish](#)

EVENTS



The Private Well Class webinars are live enrichment sessions, in addition to the [main email course](#) material. Webinar registration is separate from enrollment in the email class. Both are free and you must register for any of our webinar dates separately.

Upcoming Webinars – Private Well

Is My Water Safe to Drink? - Common Questions about Private Wells

August 5, 2025, 1pm Central

[Registration](#)



Volunteer Planting Day – Volunteers Needed

Madera-Chowchilla Resource Conservation District is kicking off its Fall planting season and is calling on community volunteers to help plant native trees and shrubs that support local biodiversity and pollinators. Volunteers should come prepared for outdoor work, including digging, lifting, and getting their hands dirty. Sun protection, closed-toe shoes, garden gloves, and appropriate work clothes are recommended. Drinks and refreshments will be provided.

Those interested in volunteering are encouraged to RSVP by emailing Programs@maderachowchillarcdd.org. Additional details, including date and location, will be provided upon confirmation.

For more information, visit: www.maderachowchillarcdd.org

Phone: 559-755-5148

OTHER NEWS



PPIC report studies 2023 Central Valley water conditions

The [Public Policy Institute of California](#) (PPIC) released a report last month that takes a high-level look at 2023 water conditions in the Central Valley, the State's largest watershed. [How Much Water Is Available for Groundwater Recharge in the Central Valley?](#) examines the amount of water needed to comply with environmental regulations in the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta and how much might have been made available for other purposes, including groundwater recharge. This analysis also provides a starting point for understanding opportunities and constraints in drier years, when the tradeoffs with downstream uses — particularly exports from the south Delta by the State and federal water projects — would loom larger.

New DWR Subsidence webpage

DWR has several programs focused on [statewide groundwater management](#), including addressing land subsidence. To that end, DWR has created a new [Subsidence webpage](#). The page explains what subsidence is and why it occurs and offers educational resources, including videos and a [factsheet](#).



Visit our website at:
maderacountywater.com

Have questions on your allocation, measurement, or any other GSA concern?
[Schedule an appointment](#) with us! We can also be reached at (559) 662-8015, at
the County Government Building on the third floor, or you can visit us online
at maderacountywater.com.

