



## **ITEM 4 (Old Format)/ 4a. GSA - 00001 (New Format)**

Informational Item: Results on Measurement Methods  
(and Accounting Platform) Questionnaire and Staff  
Recommendation with Grower Feedback



@MADERACOUNTY  
maderacounty.com





# Background

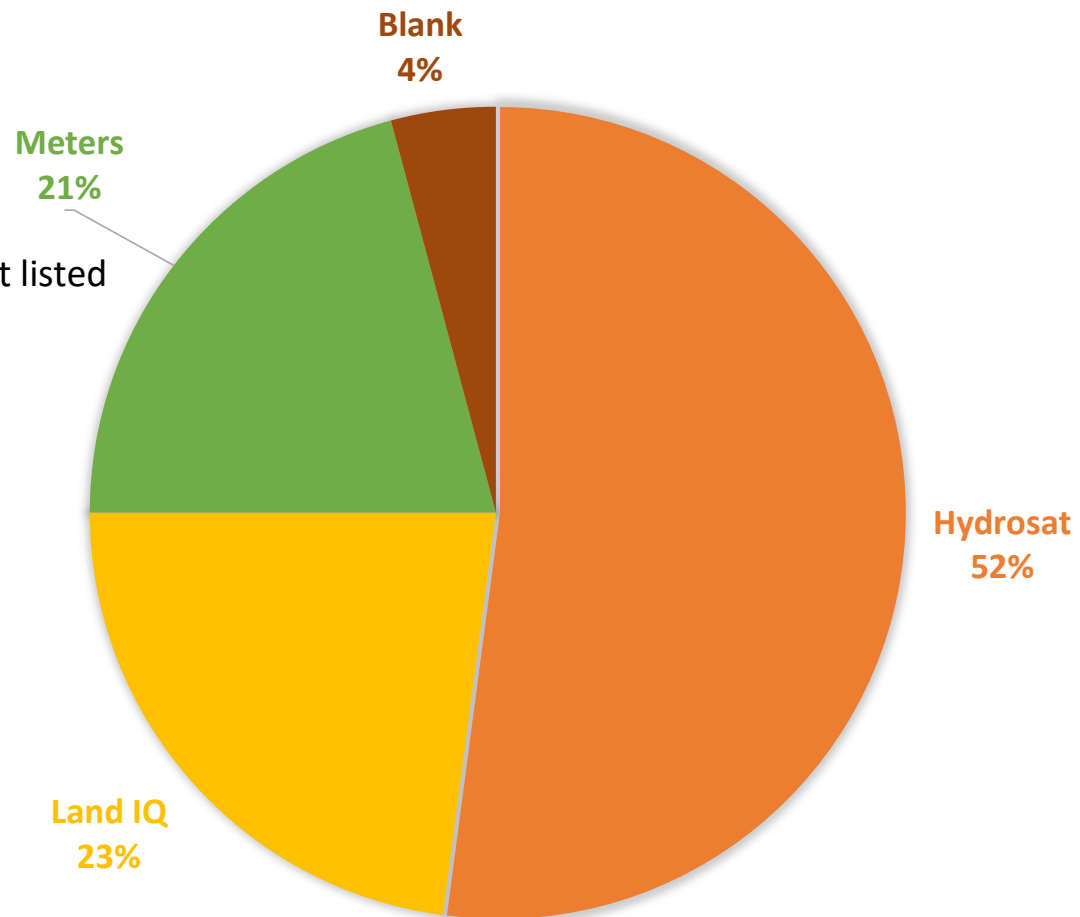
- May - Issued RFP for measurement
  - Seven proposals were received
    - Two for the measurement service with online platforms and five with accounting platforms
- July - Public presentations at the GSA committee
  - Questions collected from growers after public presentations
  - Grower review period until end of July:
    - Proposals
    - Presentations
    - Responses to questions
- August – Short update to GSA Committee
- September – GSA Committee presentation with a staff recommendation based on grower feedback
  - 30% response rate representing 35,000 acres
- October – Contract negotiation
- November – GSA Committee and Board of Directors
- Target date to begin on January 1, 2026



@MADERACOUNTY  
maderacounty.com



# Grower Questionnaire, Question #1



Meters were not listed  
as an option

WHAT IS YOUR PREFERRED SATELLITE MEASUREMENT METHOD?

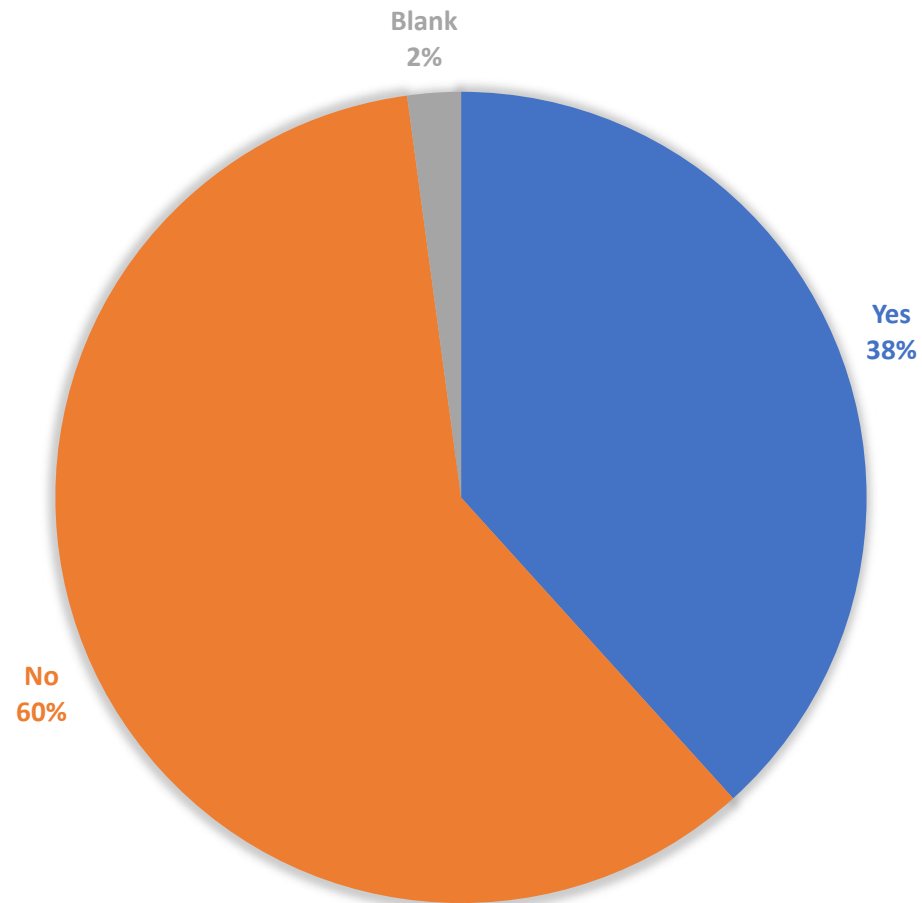


@MADERACOUNTY  
maderacounty.com





## Grower Questionnaire, Question #2

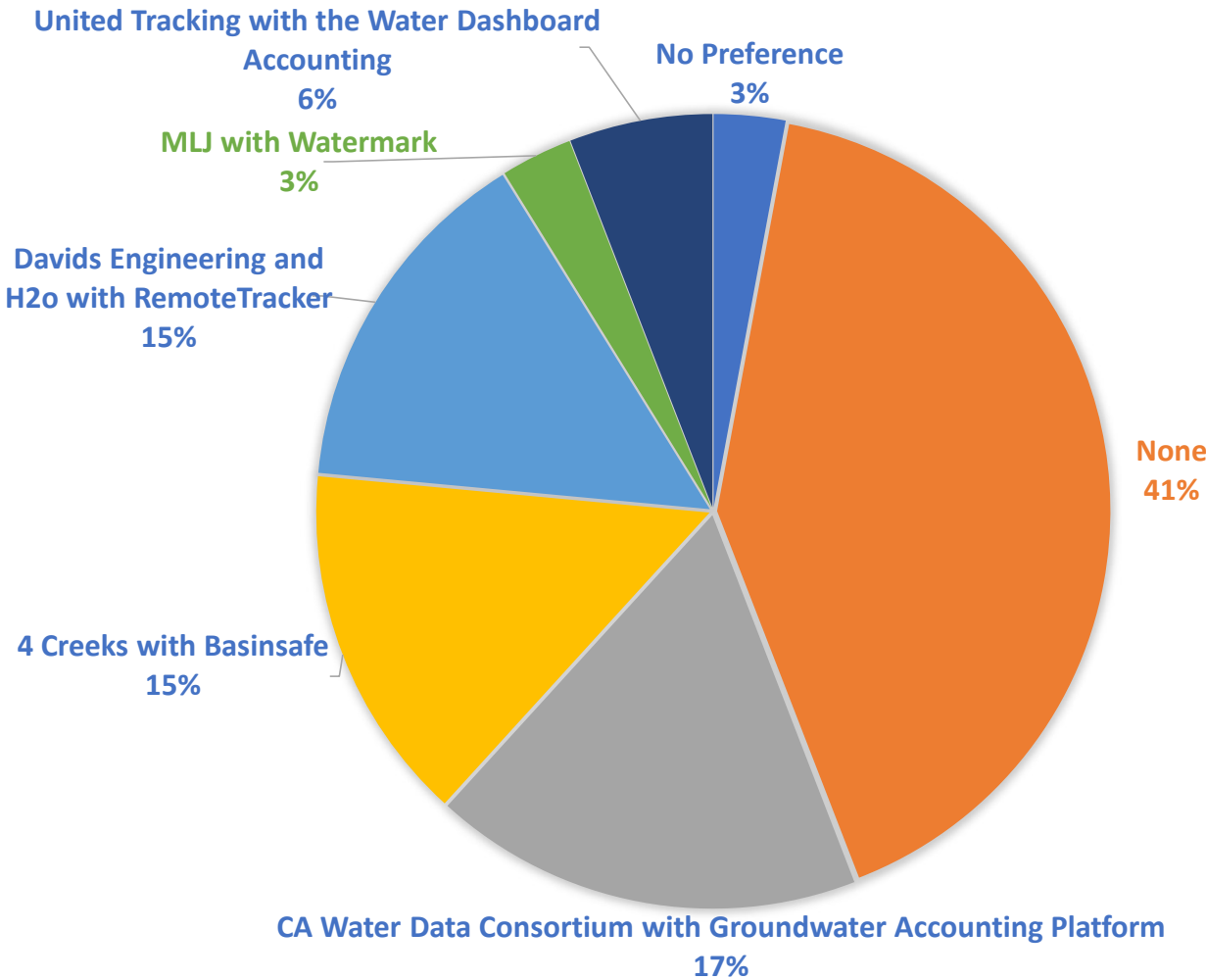


DO YOU SUPPORT MCGSA FUNDING MORE THAN ONE SATELLITE MEASUREMENT METHOD?



# Grower Questionnaire, Question #3

WHICH ACCOUNTING PLATFORM DO YOU PREFER?





## Next Steps

- Direct staff to begin contract negotiations with Hydrosat for the satellite measurement method for 2026 for 3 years in the amount of \$164,340 per year
- Direct staff to ask top three measurement platforms to do longer demonstration presentations and issue questionnaire again; this would be a separate platform contract



@MADERACOUNTY  
maderacounty.com





## ITEM 5 (Old Format)/ 4b. GSA 00002 (New Format)

Action Item: Consideration and recommendation to the Board of Directors to adopt a Resolution establishing the Farm Unit Annual Changes Policy.

This proposed Resolution and Policy is consistent with the authority granted under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), and is exempt from CEQA under Guidelines sections 15307, 15308, and 15061(b)(3).



@MADERACOUNTY  
maderacounty.com







## Background

- Farm unit concept came from Advisory Committee in 2020
  - irrigated land that is owned or managed by the same entity within the same zone; intended to reflect real-world operations
  - used for managing groundwater extraction allocations
- Penalties = Use over the groundwater allocation that can be attributed to a specific APN (for the tax roll, if unpaid)
- Carryover = Unused groundwater allocation, recharge credits, and purchased surface water credits that roll over to the next year for the farm unit
- Recently, several growers have come forward with specific requests for carryover to be split in ways that haven't been contemplated



@MADERACOUNTY  
maderacounty.com





# Penalties

## Current Practice:

- Penalties are shared by farm unit
- Penalties can be attributable to APNs by volume
- If unpaid, penalties are assessed through the Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office by APN

## Penalty Recommendations:

- Allow flexibility through lease, sales, or other written agreement and if provided follow fully executed lease or sales terms (i.e., We will follow your lease, sales, or other agreement)
- Continue to distribute penalties to resulting farm units using a volumetric apportionment approach, unless a negotiated lease, sales or other written agreement provides for a different penalty split
- When a farm unit is sold, the owner for the majority of the calendar year pays the penalty unless a lease, sales or other agreement applies



@MADERACOUNTY  
maderacounty.com





# Carryover

## Current Practice:

- Carryover is shared by farm unit
- If a farm unit is split, then carryover is divided proportionally by volume of water used by each parcel

## Carryover Recommendations:

- Allow flexibility through lease, sales, or other written agreements and if provided follow fully executed lease or sales terms (i.e., We will follow your lease, sales, or agreement agreement)
- Distribute carryover to resulting farm units using a volumetric apportionment approach, unless a negotiated lease, sales or other written agreement provides for a different carryover split



@MADERACOUNTY  
maderacounty.com





## How the Volumetric Apportionment Approach Works

Based on each APN's contribution to the farm unit's overall groundwater use.

- **For carryover credits:** Parcels that used less water (contributing more to the carryover credit) receive a larger share of the carryover credit
- **For penalties:** Parcels that used more water (contributing more to the penalty) bear a larger share of those penalties



@MADERACOUNTY  
maderacounty.com





## Staff Recommendation

Consideration and recommendation to the Board of Directors to adopt a resolution for Farm Unit Annual Changes Policy



@MADERACOUNTY  
maderacounty.com





## **ITEM 6 (Old Format)/ 4c. GSA – 00003 (New Format)**

Action Item: Consideration and recommendation to the Board of Directors to adopt a Resolution establishing the 2026 – 2040 GSP-Based Allocations for the Madera County Groundwater Sustainability Agencies in the Madera, Chowchilla and Delta-Mendota Subbasins.

This proposed Resolution and Policy is consistent with the authority granted under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), and is exempt from CEQA under Guidelines sections 15307, 15308, and 15061(b)(3).



@MADERACOUNTY  
maderacounty.com





## GSP text

Madera County plans to gradually phase-in demand management between now and 2040. Starting in 2020 and continuing through 2025, average annual groundwater pumping will be reduced by 2% (of the total demand reduction amount) per year, for a total cumulative reduction of 10% by 2025. Groundwater pumping will be reduced by 6% per year starting in 2026 and continuing through 2040.

-2025 Joint GSP Amendment, p. 4-43

Starting in 2021 and continuing through 2025, average annual groundwater pumping is reduced by 2% (of the total demand reduction amount) per year, for a total cumulative reduction of 10% by 2025. Groundwater pumping is planned to be reduced by 6% per year starting in 2026 and continuing through 2040.

-2025 Revised Chowchilla GSP, p. 4-31



SJREC-1	Groundwater Allocations - Madera County GSA	Madera County GSA - Delta-Mendota	Allocations for sustainable yield and transitional water have been established for irrigated acres within the Madera County GSA- Delta Mendota Subbasin. The allocations decrease over time per set schedule until the sustainable yield is met. From 2021 to 2025, allocations were designed to reduce transitional water by 2% annually. Transitional water will be reduced by 6% annually from 2025 to 2040 pending the GSP Periodic Evaluation.	X		X	X	Implementation underway	Allocation reports, acreages, and measurement options are sent yearly	N/A	Ongoing; From 2021 to 2025, allocations are designed to reduce transitional water by 2% annually
---------	---	-----------------------------------	---	---	--	---	---	-------------------------	---	-----	--

-Delta Mendota Subbasin GSP, Projects and Management Actions, p. 28



# Existing Allocations

Madera County GSA: Madera Subbasin		Inches of EAW	
Year	Sustainable Yield *	Transitional Water	Total
2021	12.7	15.6	28.3
2022	12.7	15.3	28
2023	12.7	15	27.7
2024	12.7	14.7	27.4
2025	12.7	14.4	27.1

\* Often rounded to 13

Madera County GSA: Chowchilla Subbasin		Inches of EAW	
Year	Sustainable Yield	Transitional Water	Total
2021	7.1	19.6	26.7
2022	7.1	19.2	26.3
2023	7.1	18.8	25.9
2024	7.1	18.4	25.5
2025	7.1	18	25.1

Madera County GSA: Delta-Mendota Subbasin		Inches of EAW	
Year	Sustainable Yield	Transitional Water	Total
2021	8.6	11.2	19.8
2022	8.6	11	19.6
2023	8.6	10.7	19.3
2024	8.6	10.5	19.1
2025	8.6	10.3	18.9



@MADERACOUNTY  
maderacounty.com





# Proposed Allocations



Madera County GSA: Madera Subbasin							
	GSA Allocations (af/yr)		Per-Acre Allocation (inches/ac/yr)				
Year	SY	TW	B-SY	Re-SY	TW	Total for Irr.	Total Non-irr
2020	90,000	113,000	6	6.7	16.0	28.7	0
2021		110,740			15.6	28.3	0
2022		108,480			15.3	28.0	0
2023		106,220			15.0	27.7	0
2024		103,960			14.7	27.4	0
2025		101,700			14.4	27.1	0
2026		94,920			12.9	25.2	0
2027		88,140			12.0	24.3	0
2028		81,360			11.1	23.4	0
2029		74,580			10.2	22.5	0
2030		67,800	9.2	21.5	0		
2031		61,020	8.3	20.6	0		
2032		54,240	7.4	19.7	0		
2033		47,460	6.5	18.8	0		
2034		40,680	5.5	17.8	0		
2035		33,900	4.6	16.9	0		
2036		27,120	3.7	16.0	0		
2037		20,340	2.8	15.1	0		
2038		13,560	1.8	14.1	0		
2039		6,780	0.9	13.2	0		
2040	0	0.0	12.3	0			
Irrigated Ac. 2020 to 2025 =			85,000		Can access B-SY, Re-SY and TW		
Irrigated Ac. 2026 to 2040 =			88,154				
Non-irr. Opt-in acres =			0		Can access only B-SY and Re-SY		
Total GSA acres =			185,000				
Per-Acre Allocation Terms:							
Base Sustainable Yield (B-SY) - the quantity of sustainable yield of native groundwater when shared equally over all GSA acres at 6 in/ac/yr.							
Re-allocated Sustainable Yield (Re-SY) - the amount of Base Sustainable Yield remaining when considering GSA parcels that have chosen to opt-out. The quantity is divided and shared equally among the remaining opt-in parcels and added to the Base Sustainable Yield, estimated at 3 in/ac/yr.							
Transition Water (TW) - the annual quantity available to irrigated or non-irrigated lands. This quantity will decrease annually until zero. "Never-irrigated" lands are not eligible for Transition Water.							

Madera County GSA: Chowchilla Subbasin							
	GSA Allocations (af/yr)		Per-Acre Allocation (inches/ac/yr)				
Year	SY	TW	B-SY	Re-SY	TW	Total for Irr.	Total Non-irr.
2020	22,500	63,400	1.1		20.0	27.1	0
2021		62,132			19.6	26.7	0
2022		60,864			19.2	26.3	0
2023		59,596			18.8	25.9	0
2024		58,328			18.4	25.5	0
2025		57,060			18.0	25.1	0
2026		53,256			16.8	23.9	0
2027		49,452			15.6	22.7	0
2028		45,648			14.4	21.5	0
2029		41,844			13.2	20.3	0
2030		38,040	12.0	19.1	0		
2031		34,236	10.8	17.9	0		
2032		30,432	9.6	16.7	0		
2033		26,628	8.4	15.5	0		
2034		22,824	7.2	14.3	0		
2035		19,020	6.0	13.1	0		
2036		15,216	4.8	11.9	0		
2037		11,412	3.6	10.7	0		
2038		7,608	2.4	9.5	0		
2039		3,804	1.2	8.3	0		
2040	0	0.0	7.1	0			
Irrigated Ac. 2020 to 2025 =			38,000	Can access B-SY, Re-SY and TW			
Irrigated Ac. 2026 to 2040 =			0				
Non-Irr. Opt-in acres =			0	Can access only B-SY and Re-SY			
Total GSA acres = 45,000							
Per-Acre Allocation Terms:							
Base Sustainable Yield (B-SY) - the quantity of sustainable yield of native groundwater when shared equally over all GSA acres at 6 in/ac/yr.							
Re-allocated Sustainable Yield (Re-SY) - the amount of Base Sustainable Yield remaining when considering GSA parcels that have chosen to opt-out. The quantity is divided and shared equally among the remaining opt-in parcels and added to the Base Sustainable Yield, estimated at 0.5 in/ac/yr.							
Transition Water (TW) - the annual quantity available to irrigated or non-irrigated lands. This quantity will decrease annually until zero. "Never-irrigated" lands are not eligible for							



@MADERACOUNTY  
maderacounty.com





Madera County GSA: Delta Mendota Subbasin							
	GSA Allocations (af/yr)		Per-Acre Allocation (inches/ac/yr)				
Year	SY	TW	B-SY	Re-SY	TW	Total for Irr.	Total Non-irr.
2020	1,500	2,000	6	2.6	11.4	20.0	0
2021		1,960			11.2	19.8	0
2022		1,920			11.0	19.6	0
2023		1,880			10.7	19.3	0
2024		1,840			10.5	19.1	0
2025		1,800			10.3	18.9	0
2026		1,680			17.2	32.5	0
2027		1,560			16.0	31.3	0
2028		1,440			14.7	30.0	0
2029		1,320			13.5	28.8	0
2030		1,200	12.3	27.6	0		
2031		1,080	11.0	26.3	0		
2032		960	9.8	25.1	0		
2033		840	8.6	23.9	0		
2034		720	7.4	22.7	0		
2035		600	6.1	21.4	0		
2036		480	4.9	20.2	0		
2037		360	3.7	19.0	0		
2038		240	2.5	17.8	0		
2039		120	1.2	16.5	0		
2040	0	0.0	15.3	0			
Irrigated Ac. 2020 to 2025 =			2,100		Can access B-SY, Re-SY and TW		
Irrigated Ac. 2026 to 2040 =			1,174				
Non-Irr. Opt-in acres =			0		Can access only B-SY and Re-SY		
Total GSA acres =			3,300				
Per-Acre Allocation Terms:							
Base Sustainable Yield (B-SY) - the quantity of sustainable yield of native groundwater when shared equally over all GSA acres at 6 in/ac/yr.							
Re-allocated Sustainable Yield (Re-SY) - the amount of Base Sustainable Yield remaining when considering GSA parcels that have chosen to opt-out. The quantity is divided and shared equally among the remaining opt-in parcels and added to the Base Sustainable Yield, estimated at 2.6 in/ac/yr.							
Transition Water (TW) - the annual quantity available to irrigated or non-irrigated lands. This quantity will decrease annually until zero. "Never-irrigated" lands are not eligible for Transition Water.							



## Staff Recommendation

- Recommend to board of directors adoption of allocations from structure in adopted groundwater sustainability plans



@MADERACOUNTY  
maderacounty.com

