NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

Open House

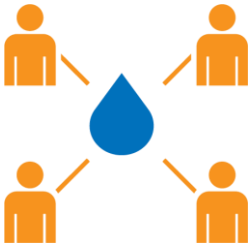
West Park School District
May 2, 2019

Agenda

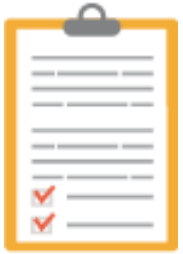
1. SGMA Overview
2. About NKGSA
3. Regional Challenge
4. GSP Status
5. Public Involvement

Key Terminology

SGMA = Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

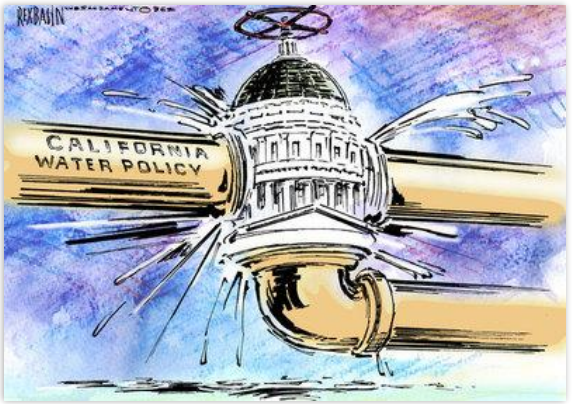


GSA = Groundwater Sustainability Agency



GSP = Groundwater Sustainability Plan

What is the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)?



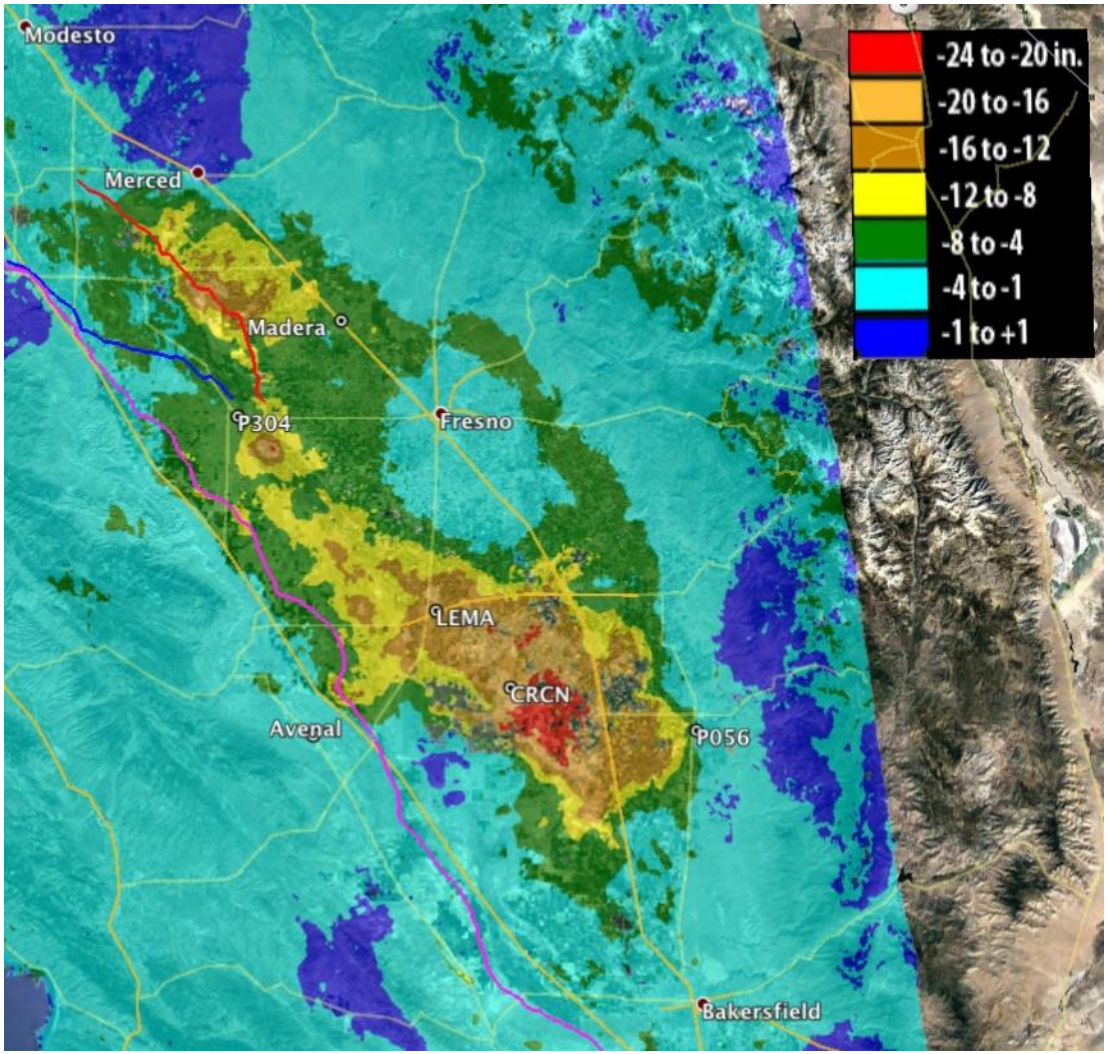
- **Comprehensive legislation to manage groundwater to sustainable levels**

- Adopted in 2014
- Gives local public agencies ability to form Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to comply with SGMA
- Local public agencies mean those with water supply, water management, or land use responsibilities within the groundwater basin – Water Code §10721(n)
- Counties are backstop to local agencies
- State will intervene if locals and counties fail

SGMA was implemented, in part, due to:

Dry Wells and/or
Poor Water Quality

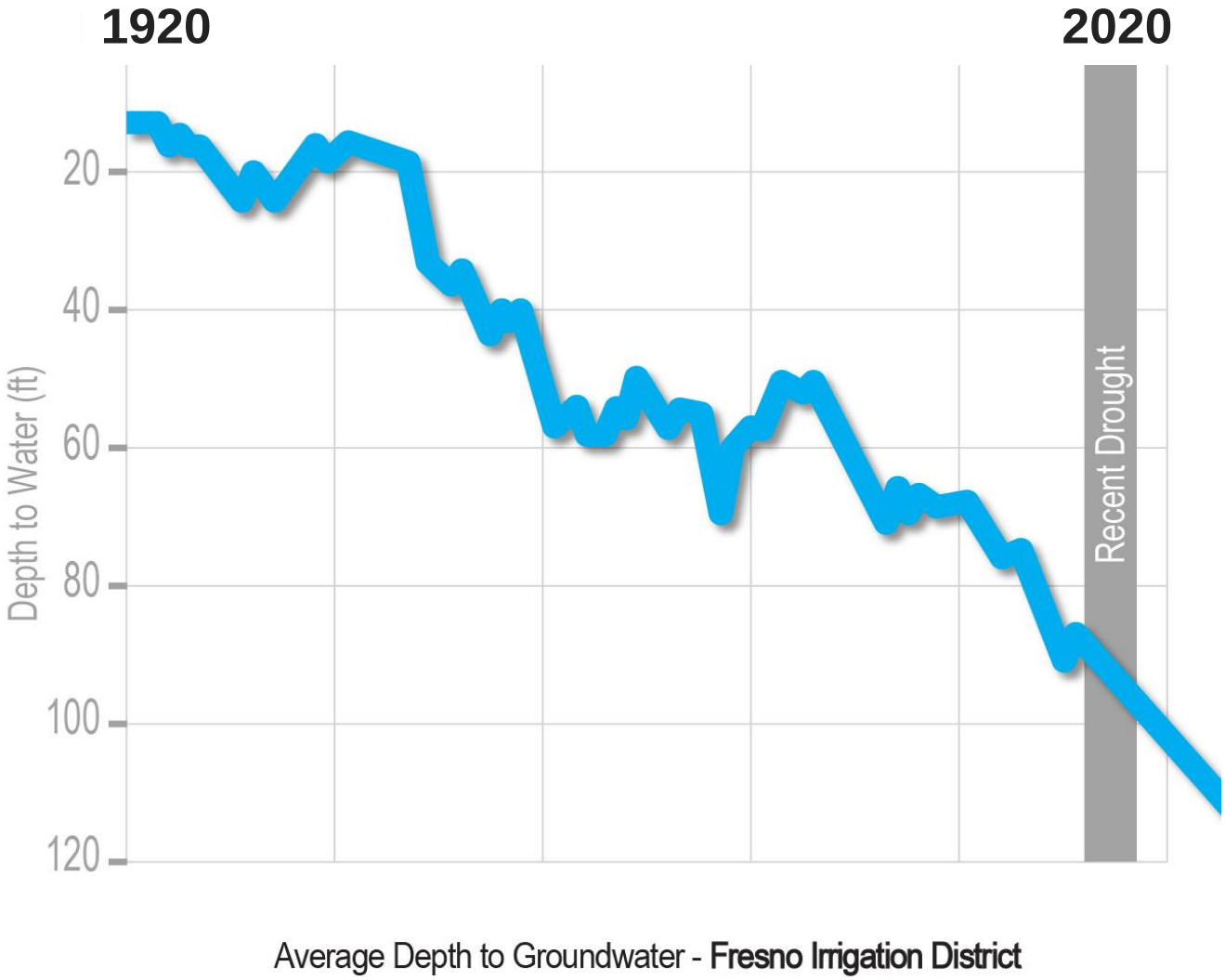
Small Rural Communities – i.e. East Porterville
2,780 dry wells in inland CA
Local Example: 25-30% of Easton wells lowered or dry



Subsidence 2015 – 2016

Friant Kern Canal
****60% Reduction in Capacity***

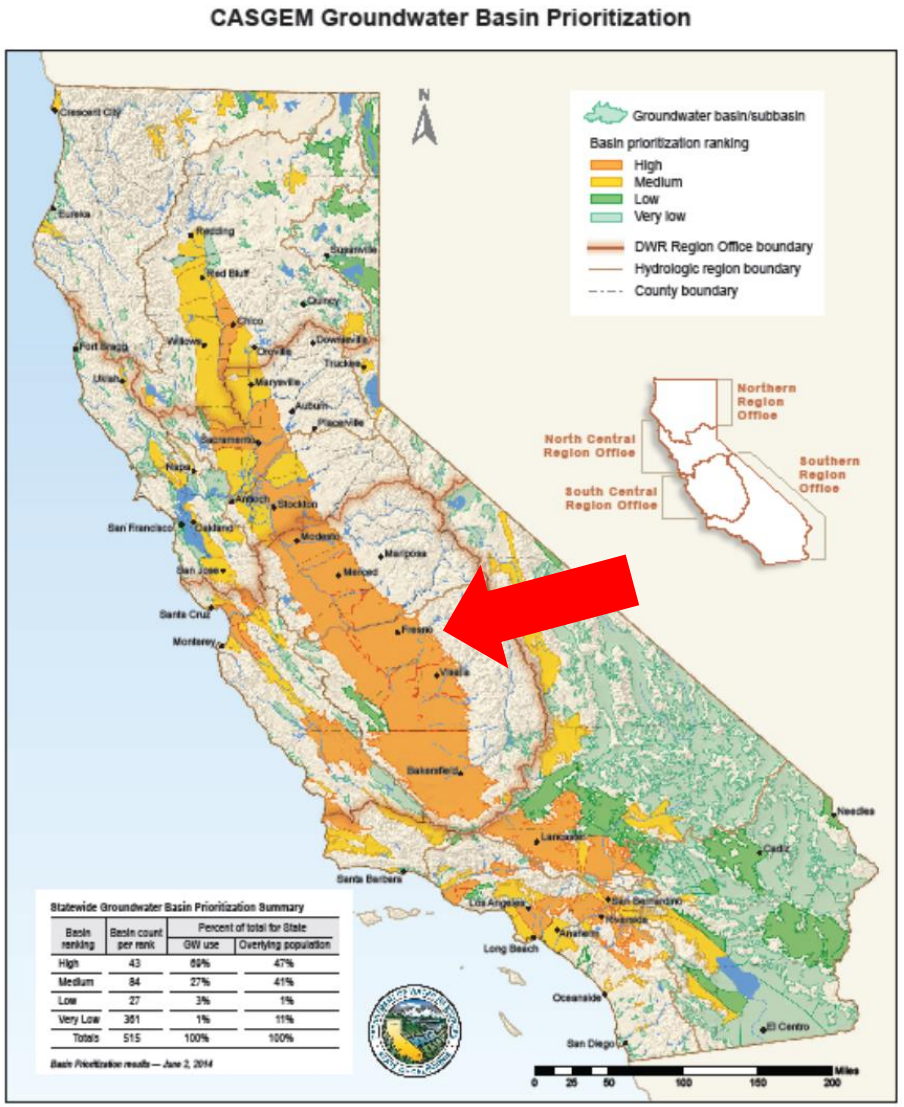
Chronic Overdraft



Average Depth to Groundwater - **Fresno Irrigation District**

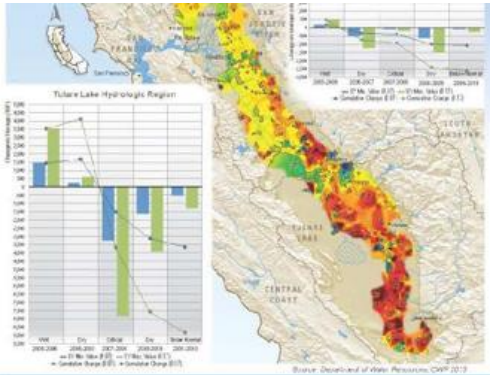
Affected Groundwater Basins

- 515 Statewide
- 127 designated High or Medium priority…they are not in a sustainable condition
- All of the southern portion of the Central Valley is High Priority and identified as in Critical Overdraft

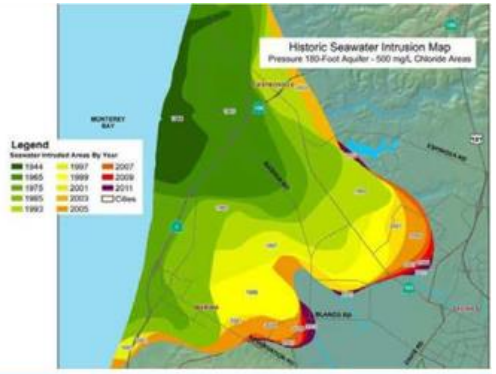


The 6 Undesirable Results

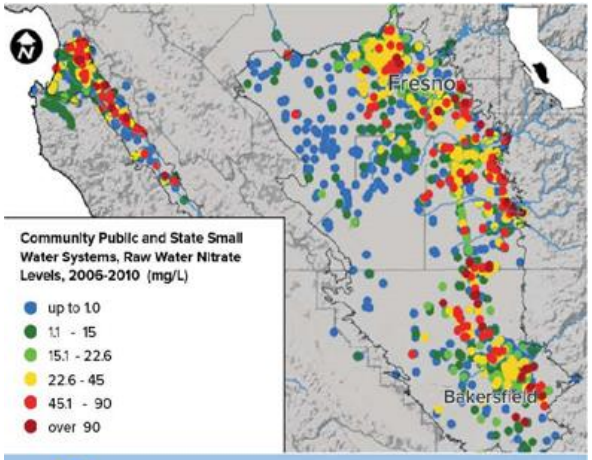
Lowering of GW Levels



Reduction of GW Storage



Seawater Intrusion



Water Quality Degradation

Land Subsidence

Depletion of Interconnected Streams

To avoid these results, GSAs are required to develop a GSP that includes:

- ✓ Description of plan area
- ✓ Groundwater conditions
- ✓ Water budget
- ✓ Managements areas
- ✓ Sustainability goals
- ✓ Description of undesirable results
- ✓ Measurable objectives
- ✓ Description of monitoring protocols and data management
- ✓ Description of projects to achieve sustainability

GSA New and Expanded Powers

- Adopt rules, regulations, and ordinances
- Well registration, metering, reporting, and monitoring
- Regulate groundwater extractions
  - Limiting or suspending groundwater production
- Impose fees and assessments
- Undertake enforcement action for noncompliance

Timeline

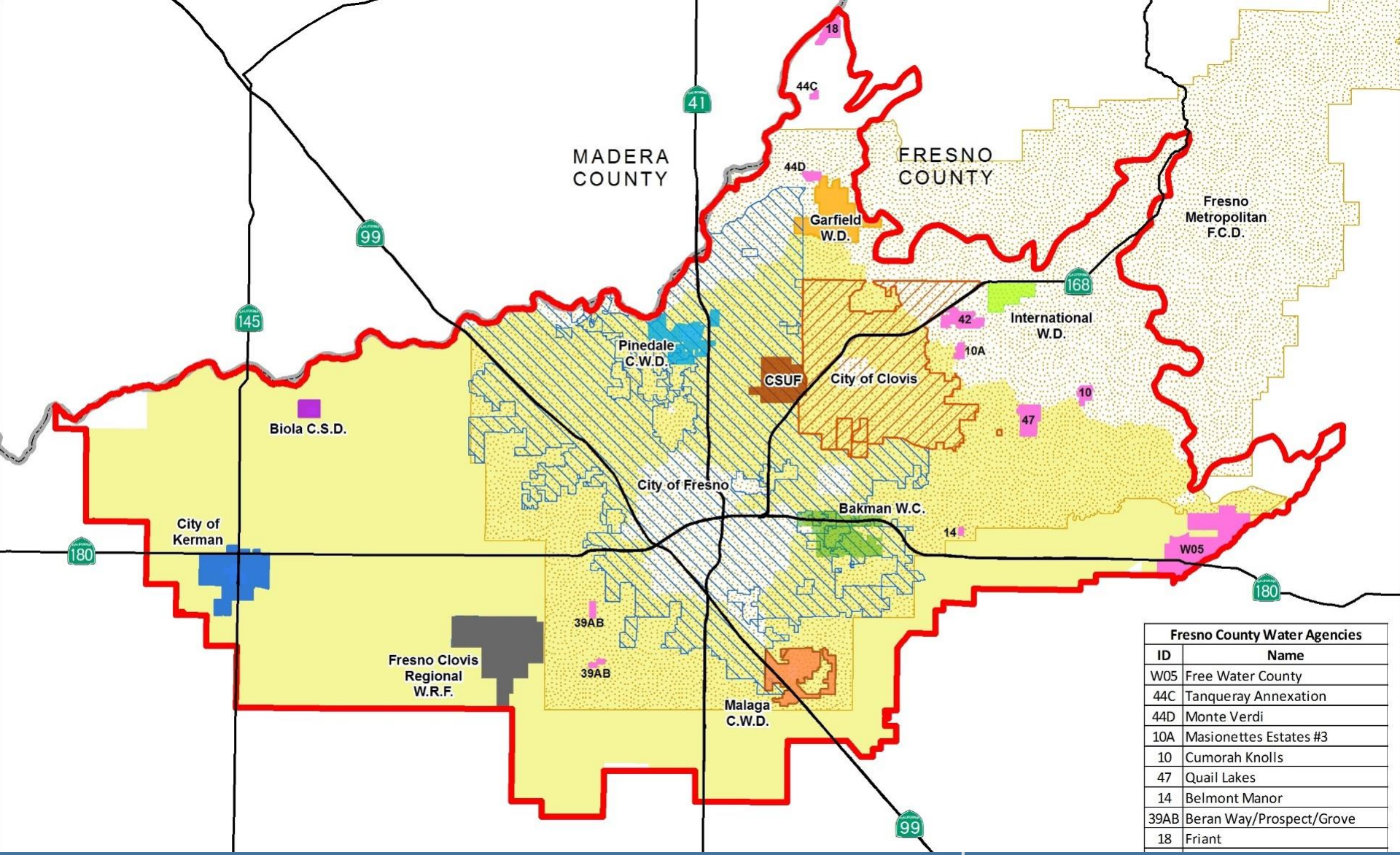
June 30, 2017
Groundwater Sustainability Agencies must be formed.

Late Summer 2019
Draft GSP for public review

January 31, 2040
All critically overdraft required to achieve sustainability.

Fall 2019
GSP adoption proceedings and submittal to the State by Jan. 31, 2020

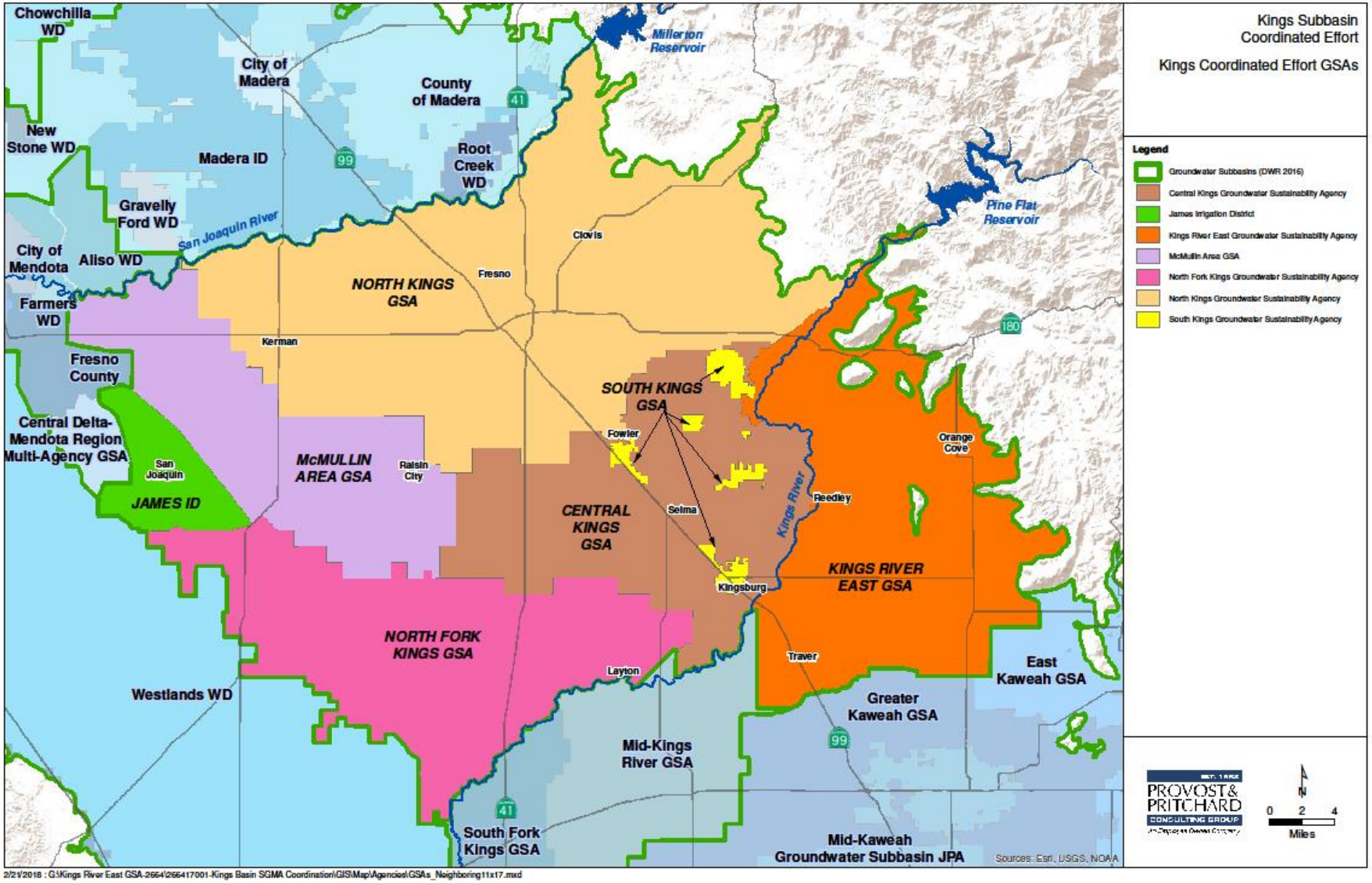
Reports
Annual Reports and 5-Year Updates of the Plan



Fresno County Water Agencies	
ID	Name
W05	Free Water County
44C	Tanqueray Annexation
44D	Monte Verdi
10A	Masionettes Estates #3
10	Cumorah Knolls
47	Quail Lakes
14	Belmont Manor
39AB	Beran Way/Prospect/Grove
18	Friant

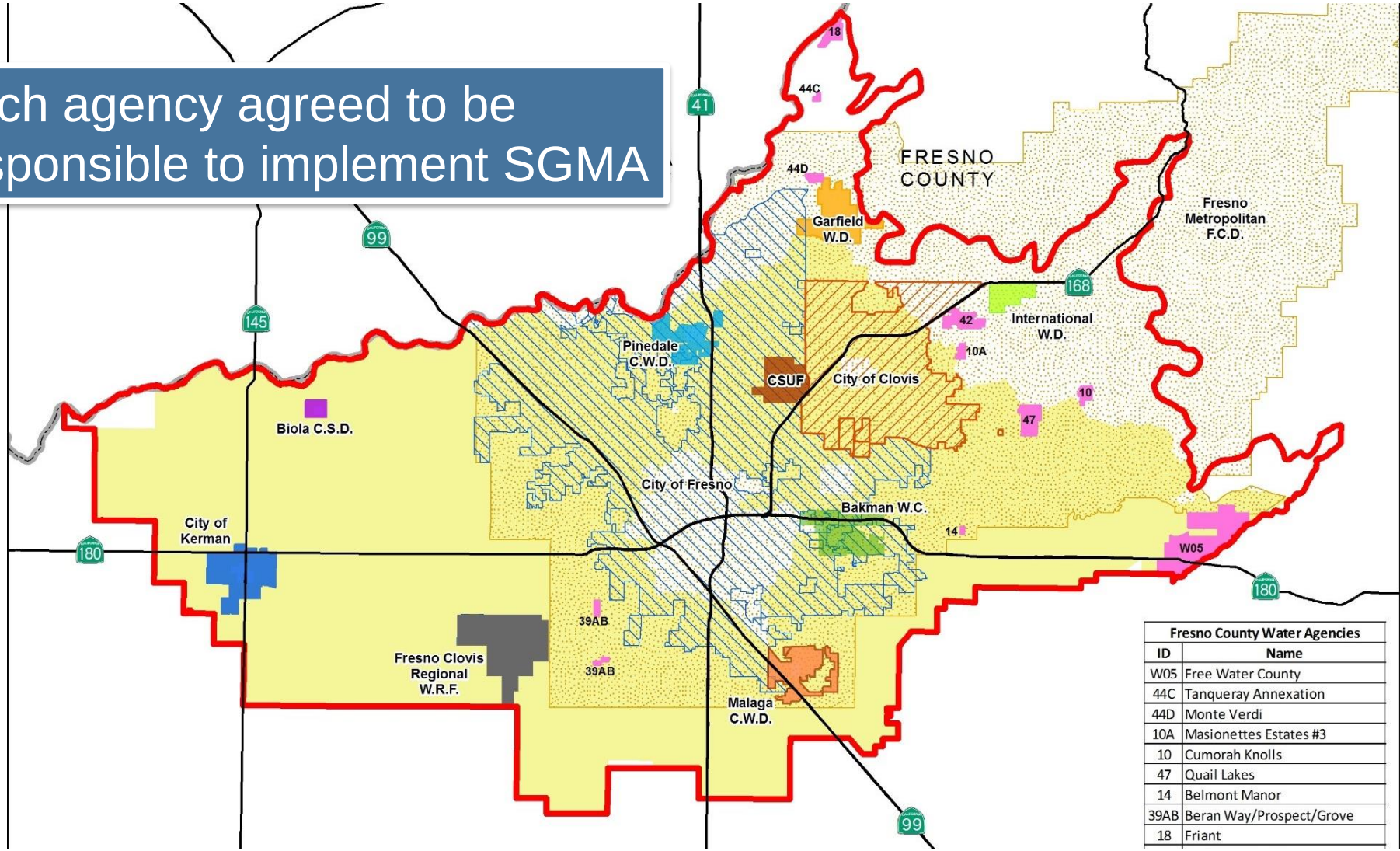
About NKGSA

Kings Subbasin GSAs



North Kings GSA

Each agency agreed to be responsible to implement SGMA



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Members and Governing Structure

Seat Assignment	Member	Current Board Member
#1	Fresno Irrigation District	Jerry Prieto (FID)
#2	Shared irrigation district: Garfield WD, International WD, Fresno ID	Karl Kienow (Garfield W.D.)
#3	Shared "Small Agency": Bakman Water Company, Biola CSD, CSU Fresno*, City of Kerman, FMFCD	Rhonda Armstrong (City of Kerman)
#4	City of Clovis	Jose Flores (City of Clovis)
#5	City of Fresno	Lee Brand (City of Fresno)
#6	County of Fresno	Brian Pacheco (County of Fresno)
#7	At-Large	Steve Pickens (Bakman Water Company)

Decision-Making Support

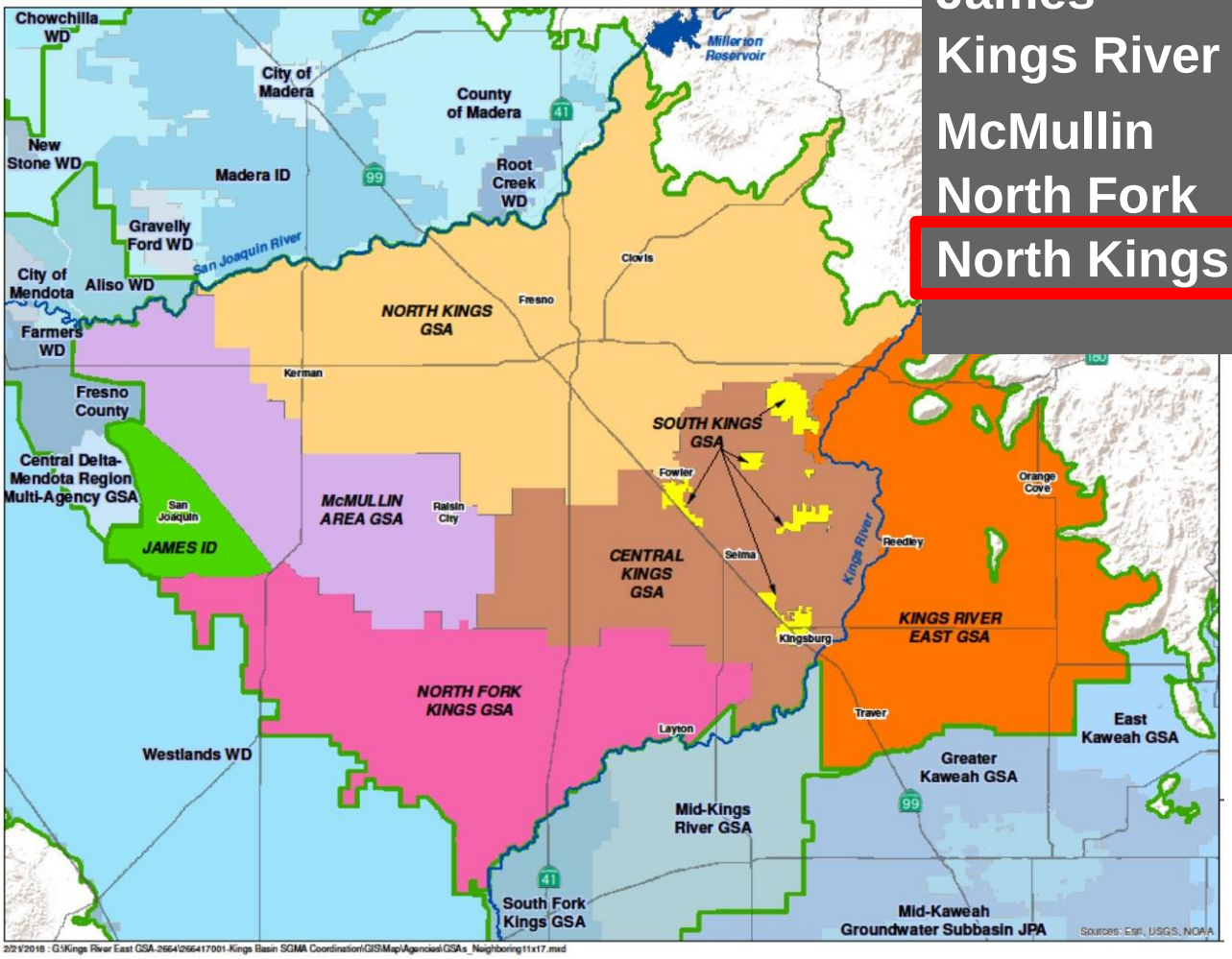
- Executive Officer – FID's Gary Serrato
  - Advisory Committee – Chair is Scott Redelfs (Clovis) & Vice Chair is Bill Stretch (FID)
  - Technical Subcommittee – Chair is Adam Claes (FID)
    - Charged with developing GSP
    - Comprised of wide range of stakeholders
    - County is active participant
  - Membership/Outreach/Communications Subcommittee – Chair is Brandy Swisher (FMFCD)
  - Administrative/Fiscal Subcommittee – Chair is Lisa Koehn (Clovis-retired)
- Stakeholders – *You!*

Plan Status

Plan Status

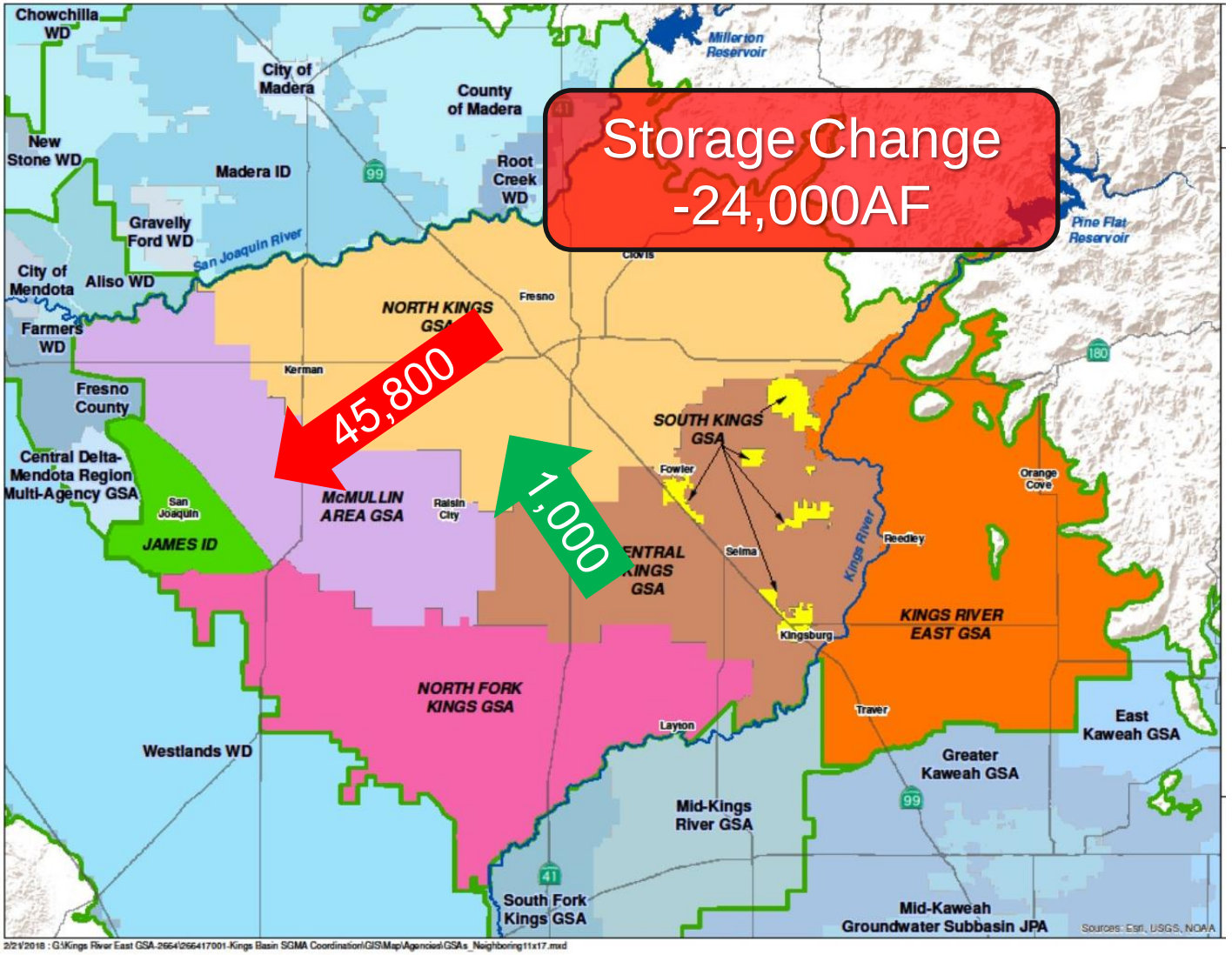
Water Balance

GSA	Initial Responsibility (AF)
Central/South	-7,100
James	16,700
Kings River East	-11,000
McMullin	-91,100
North Fork	-50,300
North Kings	20,800
Total	-122,000



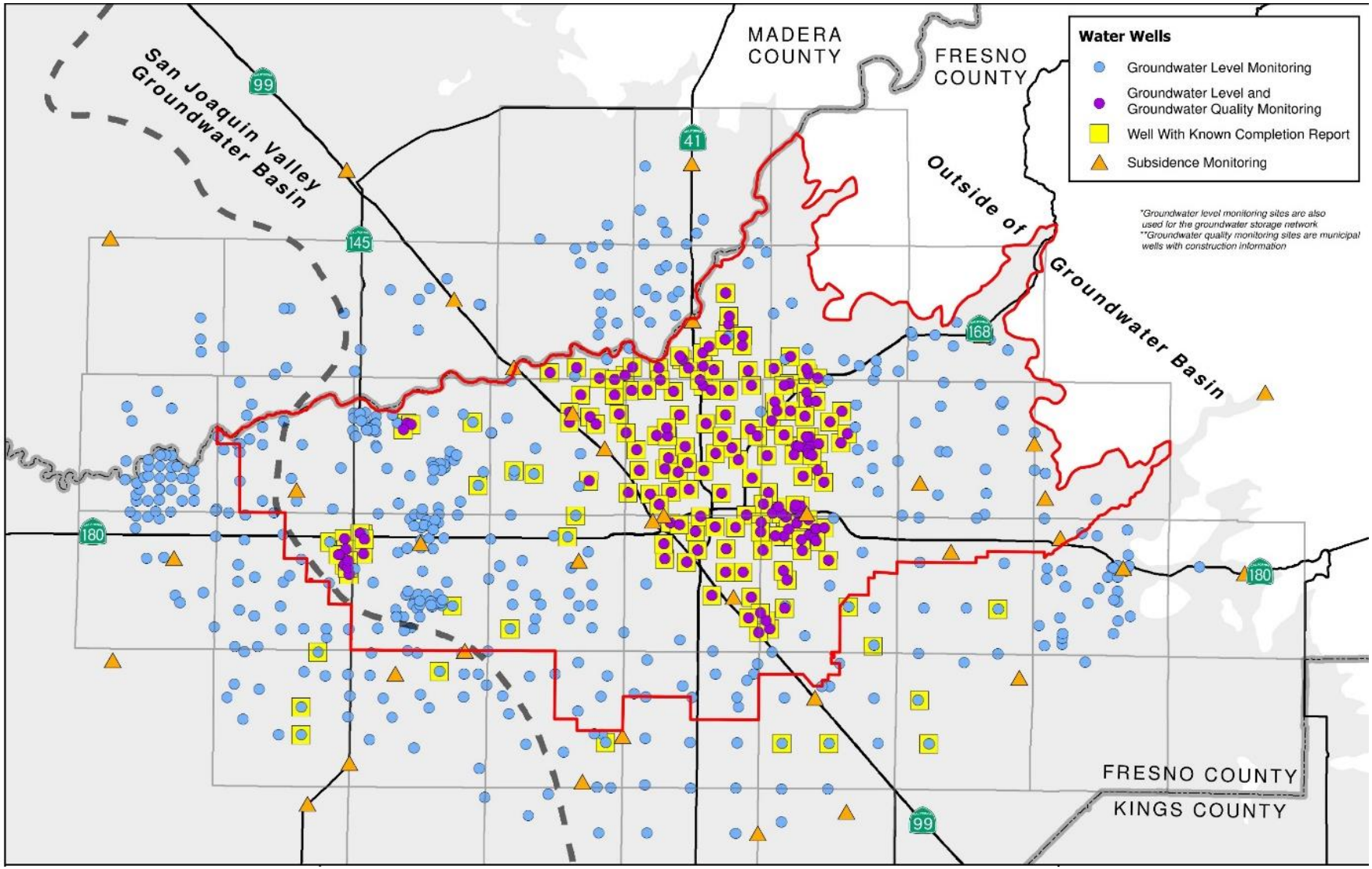
Water Balance

NKGSA in "surplus" ONLY if boundary flows stop



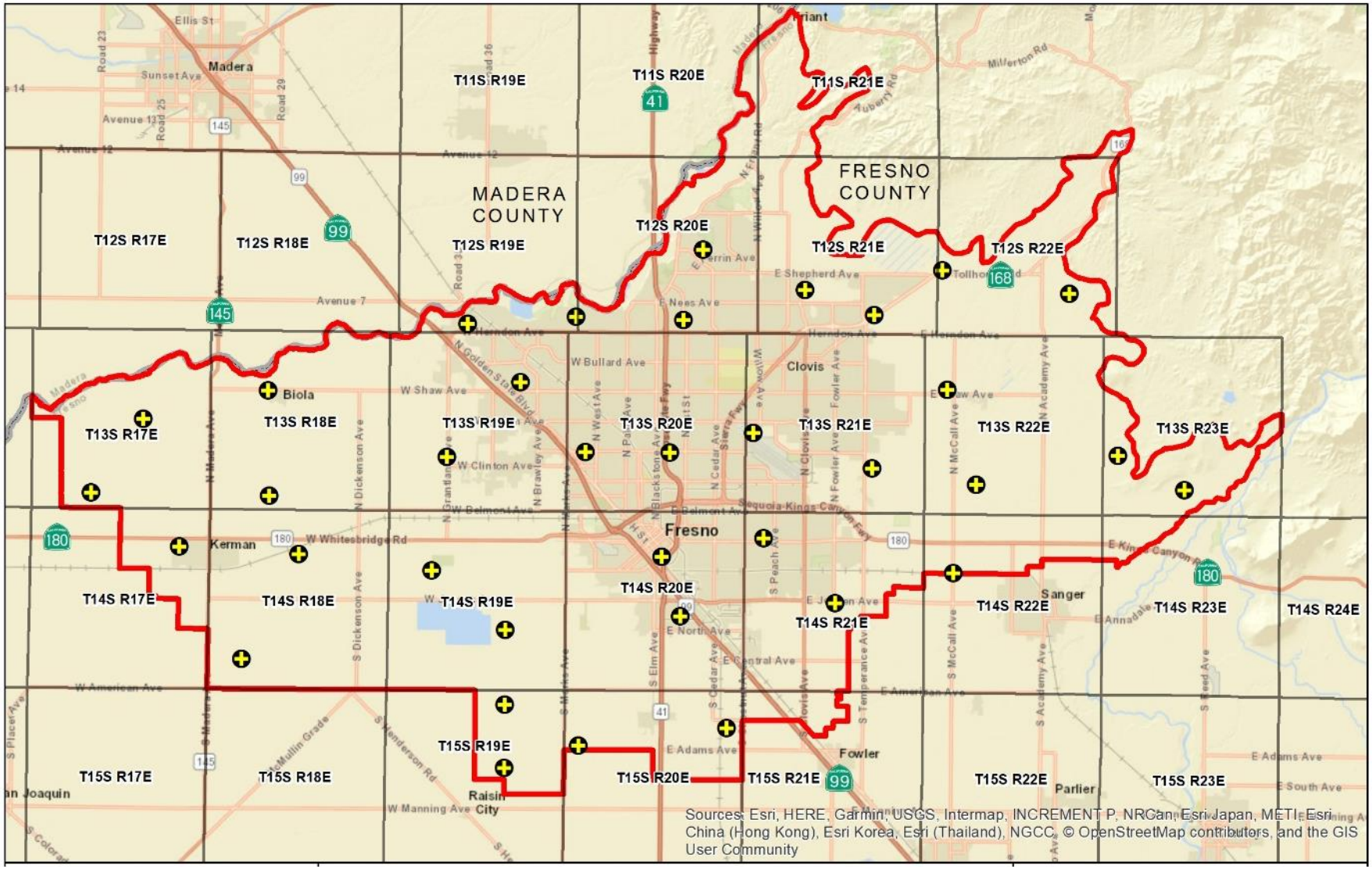
Plan Status

Groundwater Monitoring

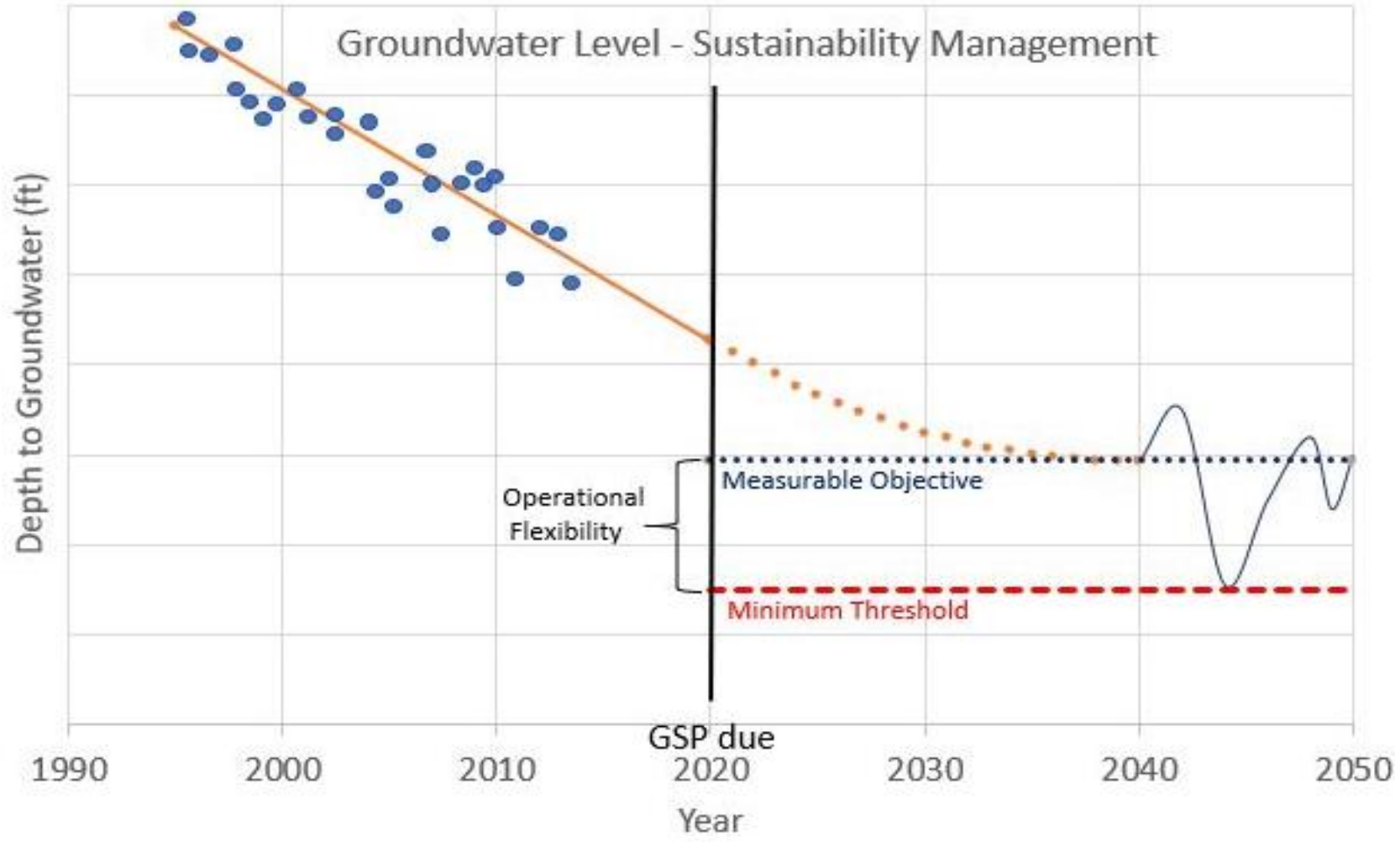


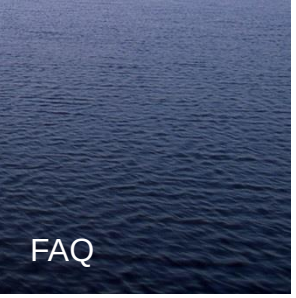
Plan Status

Indicator Wells



Sustainable Management Criteria

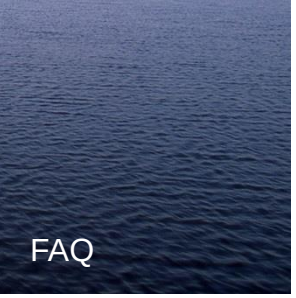




Frequently Asked Questions

1. If the GSA is essentially sustainable now, why do groundwater levels in FID service area continuing to decline?

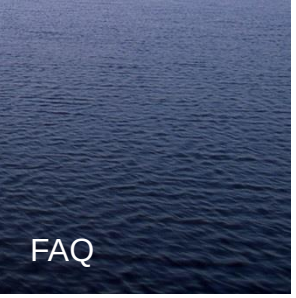
- FID service area may be sustainable w/ current land use
- Pumping from NKGSA's neighbors w/o surface water.
- Creates GW outflow from NKGSA
- NKGSA is working with its neighbors



Frequently Asked Questions

2. Am I going to be limited on how much I can pump?

- NKGSA plans to monitor GW on area-wide basis rather than set and limit groundwater pumping from every single well
- Parcel-by-parcel monitoring expensive



Frequently Asked Questions

3. Am I going to have to put meter on my well?

- FID not initially recommending meters within its service area
- Utilize area-wide approach first
- May require meters if conditions do not improve prior to 2040

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions

4. Am I going to have to pay more for water?

If you are currently paying an FID assessment:

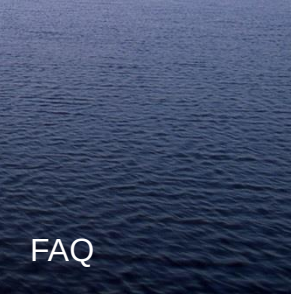
- Until Jan 2020, FID funding SGMA admin through existing assessment revenue
- After Jan 2020, FID may assess additional fee for SGMA admin.
- Currently not planning on increasing rates for additional SGMA-related projects

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions

5. What can GSAs do about water quality?

- Identify existing plumes, WQ issues, & monitoring network (assistance from outside organizations)
- SGMA legislation does not require GSAs to fix existing water quality issues
- NKGSA does not intend to introduce new requirements/regulations – reference existing
- Implement GW management that does not degrade GW quality (undesirable results)



Frequently Asked Questions

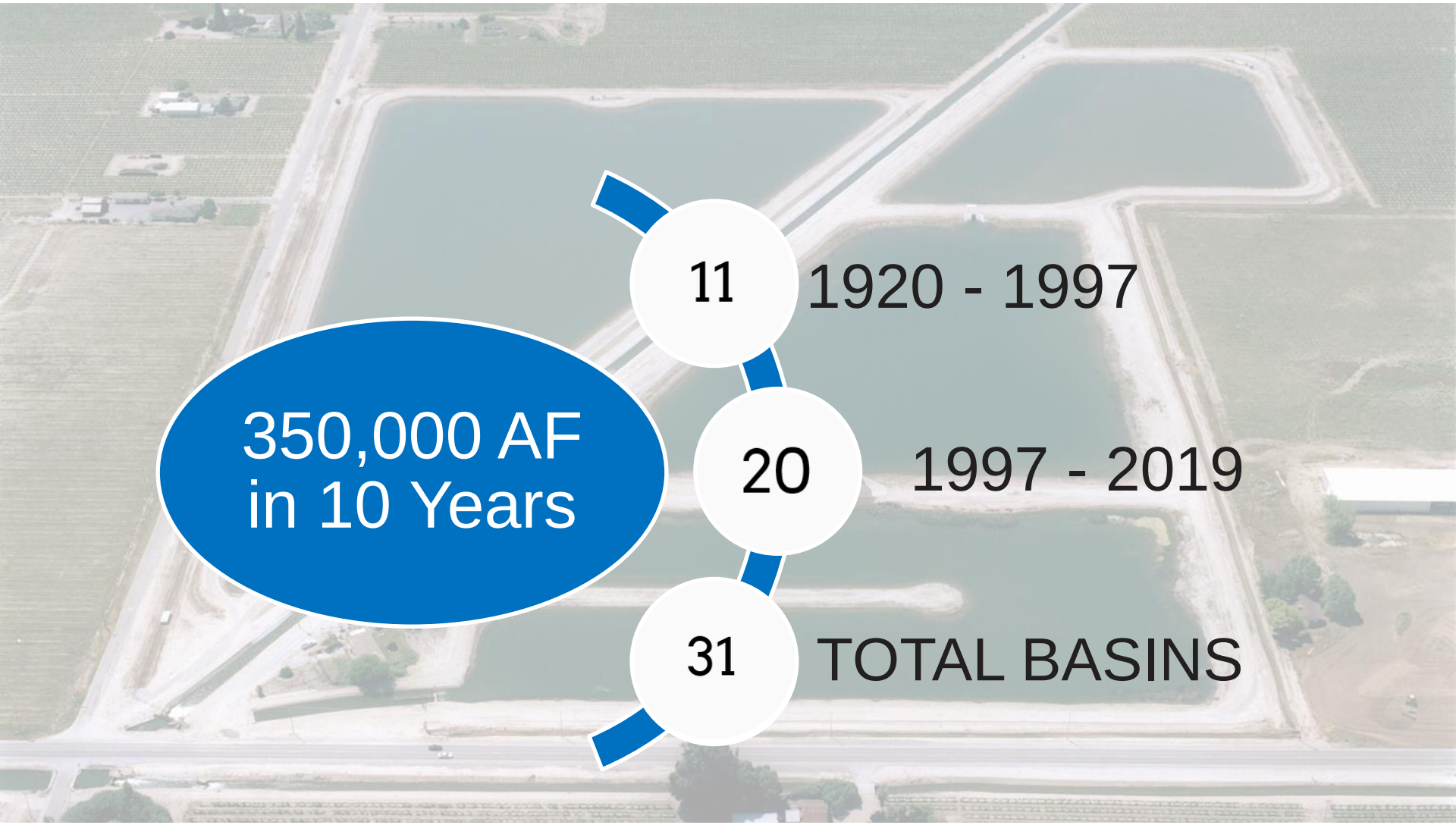
6. What are the cities and urban pumpers required to do about groundwater impacts?

- All pumpers must mitigate for impacts
- Cities have relied on GW, significantly lowering GW under urban area
- Cities operate SWTFs to treat FID surface water.
- Divert storm water to FMFCD basins (92)

FID Strategies – Existing & Proposed Infrastructure

	Strategy	Examples
1	**On-Farm Recharge**	Irrigation Season, Floods
2	**Dual Use Recharge Basins**	Regulation, Storm
3	**Flood Detention Basins**	Big Dry Creek Reservoir, etc.
4	**Operational Efficiencies**	Transfers, etc.
5	**Invest in New Reservoirs**	Temperance Flat, etc.

FID Basins & Recharge



NEW RECHARGE BASINS
UNDER CONSTRUCTION

WATER - YOUR MOST VALUABLE RESOURCE

150 Acres of New Basins

WAGNER BASIN
SHAW & MADERA
60 acres

CENTRAL BASINS
PROJECT SITES

EAST & MALAGA
40 acres

HUGHES & CENTRAL
36 acres

LINCOLN & ORANGE
14 acres

Public Involvement

Stay Engaged

Talk to your water provider or GSA representative.

Sign-up to the NKGSA email list

Learn more about your regional water supplies

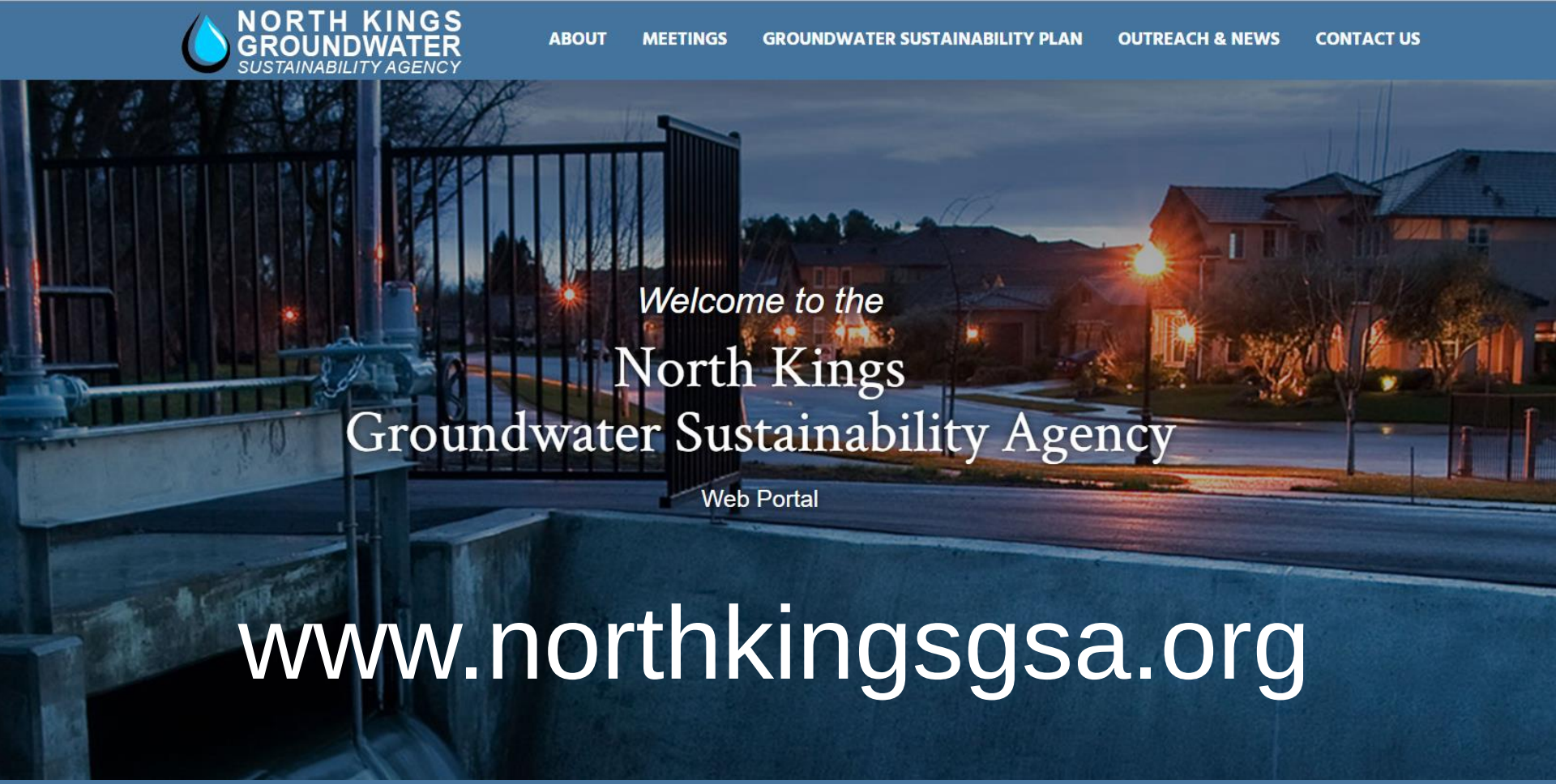
Attend public meetings and workshops

Provide input on the groundwater sustainability plan

Help us spread the word!

SGMA Summary

- SGMA is a State law
- Requires the formation of GSAs
- Allows locals to address and solve undesirable results
- State will stay out if locals/County succeed
- If locals/County fail, State could control groundwater pumping in the entire subbasin
- NKGSA is identifying and understanding area's undesirable results and potential solutions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