Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agencies to Host Community Workshop Wednesday, May 22, 2024

Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Progress and 2025 Update
Get Involved Now to Learn and Provide Input about the Future of Groundwater

The three groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) in the Merced Subbasin (Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, Merced Irrigation-Urban Groundwater Sustainability Agency, and Turner Island Groundwater Sustainability Agency #1) will host a community workshop to discuss the 2025 Periodic Evaluation and update to the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) being developed now for the Merced Subbasin.

When: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Physical location option: Sam Pipes Room, Merced Civic Center, 678 West 18th Street, Merced, CA 95340.
Virtual (remote) option: Zoom Webinar https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86809873849
Spanish language translation services will be available online through Zoom.

Who Should Attend: All interested community members, ranchers, farmers, landowners, business owners, and residents with private wells are encouraged to attend.

What will be presented for discussion: The workshop is an opportunity to learn more about the progress made towards sustainability in the Merced Subbasin, as well as updates being incorporated into the 2025 update of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) (see map on page 2) and discuss, ask questions, and provide input on the topics:

- Progress towards sustainability
- Actions to achieve sustainability
- Updates to the GSP as a result of comments from the Department of Water Resources

For more information about the Merced Subbasin GSP, to sign up for email updates, to find meeting times and locations, and to make a comment or ask a question, visit http://www.mercedsgma.org.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, to participate in this meeting, please contact Chris Hewes from Woodard & Curran at 415-321-3422.

Roles and Responsibilities for Implementing & Updating the Merced Subbasin GSP

Governing Boards

Consistent with the requirements of the SGMA, water management and land management agencies in Merced Subbasin formed three Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs): the Merced Irrigation-Urban Groundwater Sustainability Agency, the Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, and the Turner Island Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency #1. The three GSAs are collaborating to implement one Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the entire Merced Groundwater Subbasin. The plan was submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) in January 2020, revised to address DWR comments in July 2022, and is currently undergoing a regular 5-year Periodic Evaluation and update ahead of January 2025.

Coordination Committee

The three GSAs for the Merced Groundwater Subbasin have formed a Coordination Committee of senior staff and governing board members to coordinate day-to-day planning activities and public outreach. Meetings of the Coordination Committee are held every 1-3 months, are noticed, and are open to the public.

Stakeholder Advisory Committee

The three GSAs have also formed a Stakeholder Advisory Committee. The Stakeholder Advisory Committee is comprised of community representatives and was formed to advise the Coordination Committee and the GSA governing boards on groundwater conditions, management issues and needs, and projects and management actions to improve sustainability in the basin. Meetings of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee are held every 1-3 months, are noticed, and are open to the public.

General Public, Landowners, Farmers, and Ranchers in the Merced Subbasin

The agencies and the Coordination Committee welcome public input as the GSP is updated. Consider attending a Board meeting, Coordination Committee meeting, or Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting, or a Community Workshop to learn more, ask questions, and provide input.