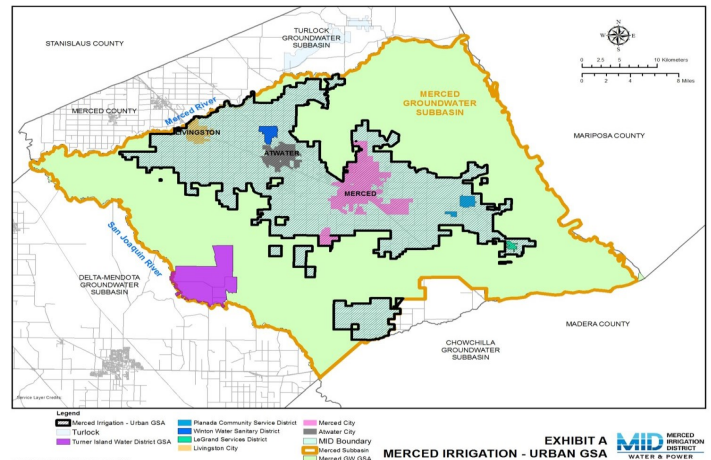


Get to Know Your Groundwater Sustainability Agency: Merced Irrigation-Urban Groundwater Sustainability Agency

OVERVIEW

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) is a new law that, once fully implemented, will fundamentally change the way we use and manage groundwater in California. The Act applies to areas that rely heavily on groundwater. It also requires local agencies to form Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to manage and regulate groundwater. Once formed, these GSAs will have new powers, including the ability to limit or suspend groundwater pumping and charge fees for groundwater extraction and will be responsible for ensuring that groundwater conditions improve by 2040.



To do so, GSAs will need to develop and implement Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs). GSPs will need to document the groundwater conditions in the area; establish goals to prevent negative impacts; and identify projects and management actions that improve groundwater conditions.

YOUR GSA AT A GLANCE

GSA NAME	Merced Irrigation-Urban Groundwater Sustainability Agency		
FORMED	April 24, 2017		
AGENCY TYPE	Memorandum of Understanding (A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is a nonbinding agreement between two or more parties outlining the terms and details of an understanding, including each parties' requirements and responsibilities.)		
GSA MEMBER AGENCIES	City of Merced, City of Atwater, City of Livingston, Le Grand Community Services District, Planada Community Services District, Winton Water and Sanitary District, and Merced Irrigation District		
GSA BOUNDARIES	Atwater, City of Merced, LeGrand, Livingston, Planada, Winton, The Grove, El Nido, Tuttle, Bear Creek, Cressey, Lingard		
BOARD OF DIRECTORS	Hicham Eltal Stephanie Dietz Ken Elwin Jose Antonio Ramirez	Brenda Wey Carlos Valencia Daniel Chavez Bob Giampoli	Cynthia Benevidez Justin Vinson
GSA MEETINGS	MIUGSA meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 9 AM at the Merced Irrigation District, 744 W. 20th Street, Merced, CA 95340		
COMMITTEES	The Coordinating Committee consists of representatives from each GSA in the Merced subbasin and coordinates GSP planning and public outreach. The Stakeholder Committee consists of community representatives who will review and advise on groundwater conditions, management issues and needs, and projects and management actions to improve sustainability in the basin. Both committees meet the fourth Wednesday of every month at the Castle Conference Center in Atwater. The stakeholder committee meets at 9:30 a.m. and the coordinating committee meets at 1:30 p.m.		

GET INVOLVED!

Most unincorporated communities in the San Joaquin Valley are solely reliant on groundwater for drinking water. Many more residents rely on private wells. SGMA intends to bring different water users together to decide how to use and manage groundwater. As a result, decisions made by the GSAs will affect residents in rural communities.

Get involved and HELP your GSA:

- **Understand the groundwater challenges affecting rural unincorporated communities and/or private wells.**
- **Identify and develop projects that improve groundwater conditions in your community.**
- **Identify ways to keep rates affordable.**

Ways to Get Involved:

- Register as an interested party for the GSA to receive notices of meetings and important information about Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development.
- Attend the GSA board and/or committee meetings. Give public comment or ask questions about their work.
- **Apply to serve on a committee!**

Together, we can make sure that drinking-water needs are well represented in this important process!

CONTACT INFORMATION

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