



Stanislaus & Tuolumne Rivers Groundwater Basin Association
Groundwater Sustainability Agency
1231 11th Street | Modesto, CA 95354
Email: strgba@mid.org

STRGBA GSA AGENDA

Wednesday, March 26, 2025, 1:30 p.m.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81579202869>
By phone: 1-669-900-9128
Webinar ID: 815 7920 2869

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The public may participate in this meeting in the three ways described below.

Instructions for Participating in the Workshop via Zoom Webinar or Phone

On your desktop/iPad or tablet/laptop:

1. To join the webinar, click the link published in the agenda for the current meeting about 5 minutes before the webinar begins.
2. Follow the on-screen instructions to install and/or launch the Zoom application.
3. If prompted, enter the webinar ID published on the agenda.
4. All public attendees will enter the meeting muted.
5. If you wish to speak under Business from the Public, or after the Chairman calls for public comment, click on the “Raise Hand” button to request to speak.

On your phone:

1. To attend the meeting by phone, call the number published in the agenda for the meeting.
2. Enter the webinar ID published in the agenda, then hit the # symbol.
3. All public attendees will enter the meeting muted.
4. If you wish to speak under Business from the Public, or after the Chairman calls for public comment, press *9 on your phone to “Raise Hand” or simply request to speak.

In person: Oakdale Irrigation District, 1205 East F Street, Oakdale

To view a physical copy of the agenda, please visit the Oakdale Irrigation District office at 1205 East F Street, Oakdale. A complete copy of the agenda packet is also available on www.strgba.org



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1. Call to Order/Welcome and Introductions
(Four agencies are needed for a quorum)
2. Business from the Public
Who: Public
Expected Outcome: Interested persons are welcome to introduce any topic within the GSA's jurisdiction. Matters presented under this heading may be discussed but no action will be taken by the GSA at this meeting. It is not required, but speakers may provide their name and address. Public Comments will be limited to five minutes per speaker.
3. Topic: Approve 3/12/2025 Meeting Minutes [[Action item](#)]
Who: Eric Thorburn, Committee
Expected Outcome: Approval
4. Topic: Approve Water Year 2024 Annual Report [[Action item](#)]
Who: Eric Thorburn, Committee
Expected Outcome: Approval
5. Topic: Valley Water Collaborative Update
Who: Valley Water Collaborative, Committee
Expected Outcome: Discussion
6. Next meeting
Tentative April 9, 2025, at 1:30 p.m.
7. Committee Comments/Reports



MEETING MINUTES

March 12, 2025 (1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.)

The meeting was called to order at 1:31 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

The following members of the Stanislaus and Tuolumne Rivers Groundwater Basin Association Groundwater Sustainability Agency (STRGBA GSA) attended either in-person or via Zoom.

In-Person Member Agency Attendees:

Modesto Irrigation District (MID):	Paul Peschel
Oakdale Irrigation District (OID):	Eric Thorburn
Stanislaus County:	Christy McKinnon
City of Oakdale:	Jeff Roberts
City of Modesto:	Tim Barahona
City of Riverbank:	Darin Smallen
City of Waterford:	Mike Pitcock

Other Attendees:

Louie Brichetto	David Cameron
Arden Wells	Ali Stevens
Tara Khan	Luke Crawford
Julia Berry	Liz Elliott
Matthew Toste	Stacy Henderson
Emily Sheldon	Dennis Wittchow
Melissa Williams	Tim Coleman
Amir Mani	Brandon Herreman
Jarin Tasnim Anika	Gordon Enas
Sean Roddy	Bill Lyons
Alexandra Duarte	Larry Byrd
Mark Fahey	Anthony Ratto
Dominick Amador	



2. Business from the Public

- Fahey asked if the 2024 water analysis results were collected. Thorburn confirmed they have been collected and will possibly provide an update in the coming months.
- Roddy inquired about the five-foot threshold in the GSP and how this threshold was determined.
- Bricchetto asked if Todd Groundwater's model incorporates projects to their full potential within the GSP.

3. Approve 12/18/2024 Meeting Minutes [Action item]

Peschel moved, seconded by Pitcock to approve the 12/18/2024 meeting minutes.

4. Elect 2025 STRGBA GSA Chairman and Vice Chairman [Action item]

Pitcock moved, seconded by Smallen to approve elect Eric Thorburn as Chairman and Paul Peschel as Vice Chairman.

5. 2024 Water Year Annual Report Presentation & Schedule

Todd Groundwater and Woodard Curran provided a presentation on the Annual Report. To view the presentation and comments by using the link below.

<https://youtu.be/IMgHZuKcNhw?si=tfcA7A1QDY3HsfTI>

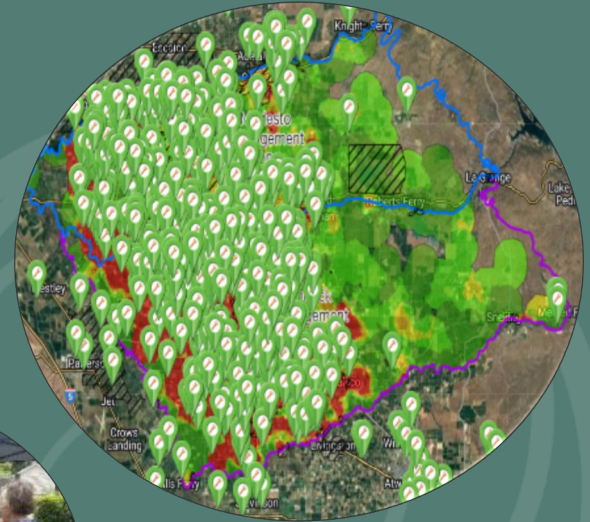
6. Next Meeting

March 26, 2025, at 1:30 p.m.

7. Committee Comments/Reports

Thorburn provided an update on the WMP & MA Workshops. The next workshop is tentatively scheduled for April, and we will distribute a notice along with the meeting minutes.

Valley Water Collaborative Management Zone Update *MOU request*



March 26, 2025

VALLEY WATER COLLABORATIVE STRUCTURE

We are a non-profit organization...

- Formed to implement Management Zone approach to address nitrate contamination of groundwater drinking water supplies
- Modesto administrative office

Mission

*To maintain and improve the quality of life in the northern San Joaquin Valley by **implementing programs that provide access to safe drinking water for residents**, and by engaging in activities with the goal of **protecting or enhancing the quality of groundwater used as drinking water** for residents in the region.*



**Valley Water
Collaborative**
valleywaterc.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & BASIN ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Board of Directors

- 12 Board Members representing 5 sectors
 - 3 irrigated agriculture
 - 3 municipalities/cities
 - 3 food processor/winery/other
 - 2 dairy industry
 - 1 poultry

Basin Advisory Committees

- 1 Committee per basin
 - 6 members each basin; sector representation

Modesto-Turlock Basins

City/Municipal Participants

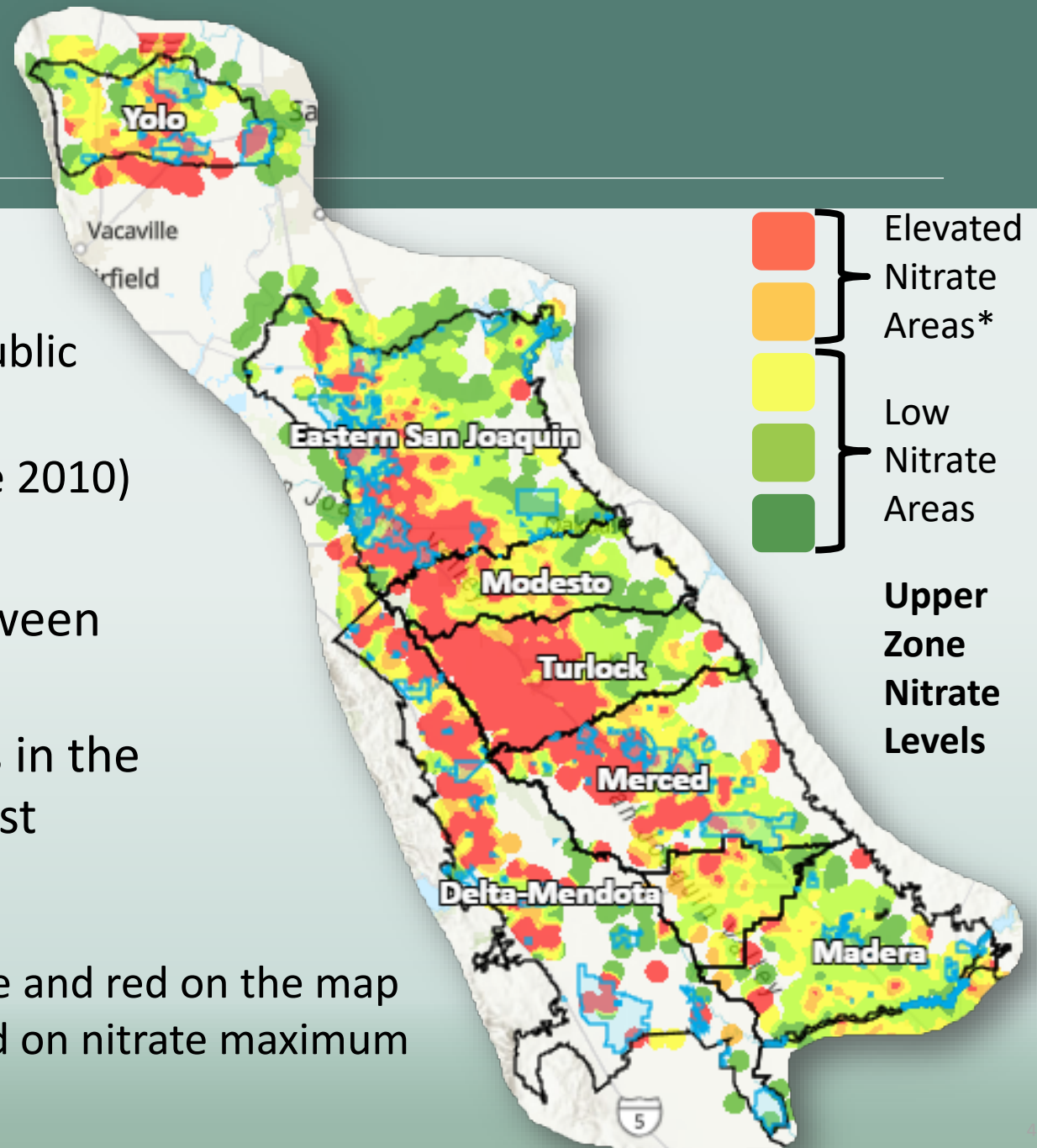
- Ceres
- Delhi
- Hilmar
- Hughson
- Modesto
- Salida
- Snelling
- Waterford

- Del Rio CSD
- Del Rio East HOA
- Del Rio Lago Wastewater System
- Stanislaus County

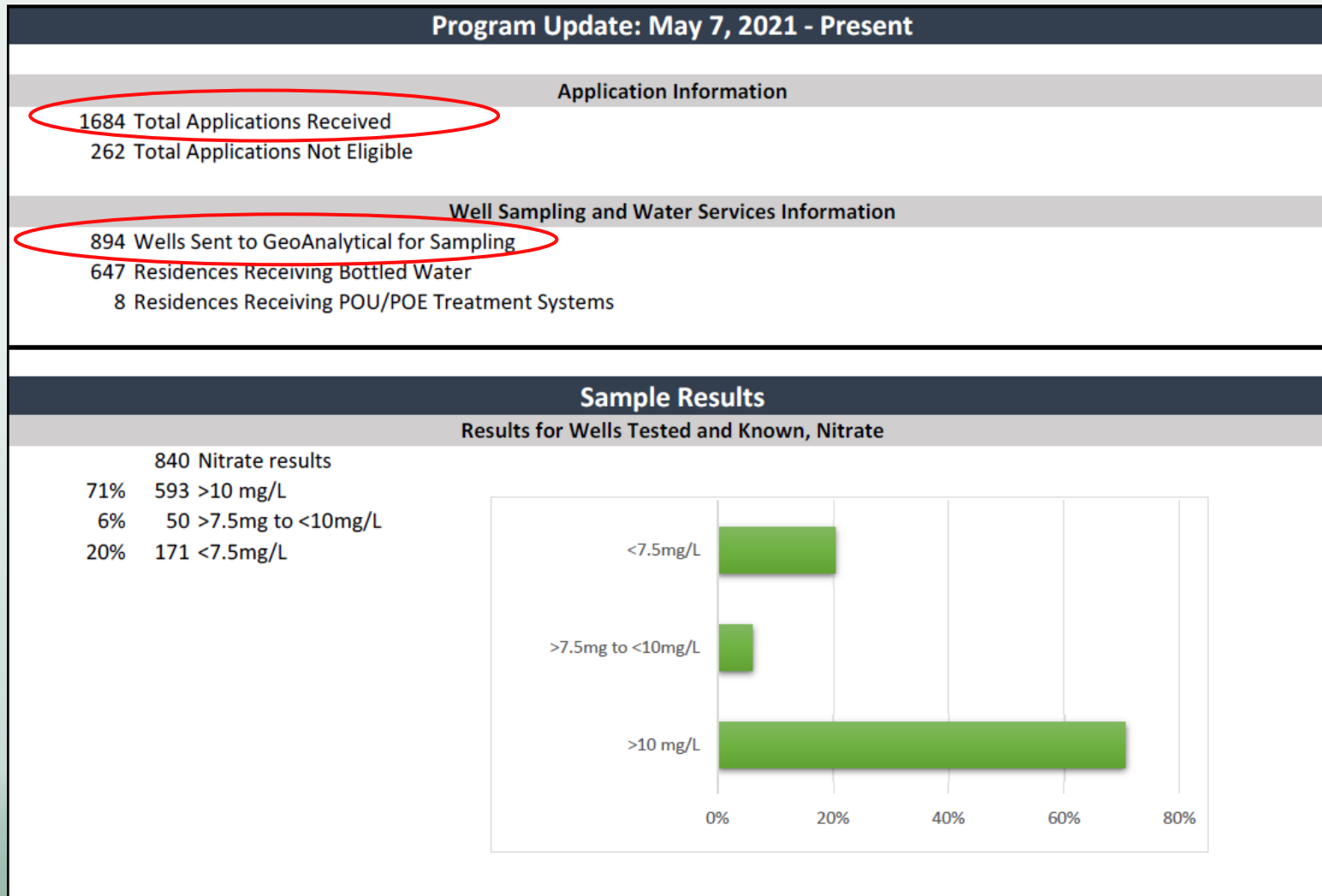
WHERE IS GROUNDWATER IMPACTED BY NITRATE?

- Data Gathering:
 - Collecting groundwater nitrate data from public and county databases
 - Focusing on recent water quality data (since 2010)
 - Categorizing nitrate data by well depth
- Estimate nitrate levels in groundwater between known data points
- Develop maps of current nitrate conditions in the Upper Zone (where your domestic well most likely pumps water)

* “Elevated Nitrate Areas” means areas in orange and red on the map where nitrate levels are > 7.5 mg/L as N (based on nitrate maximum contaminant level of 10 mg/L as N)

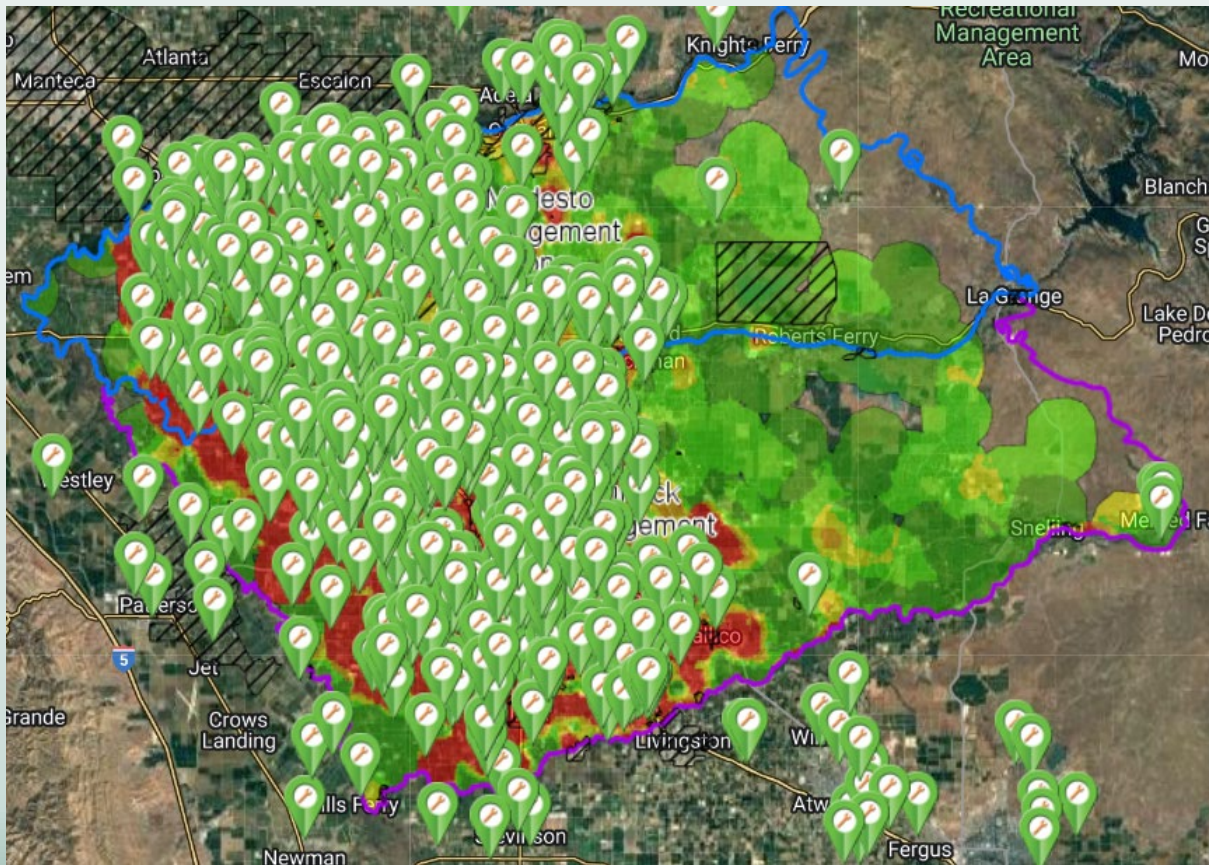


APPLICATION UPDATE

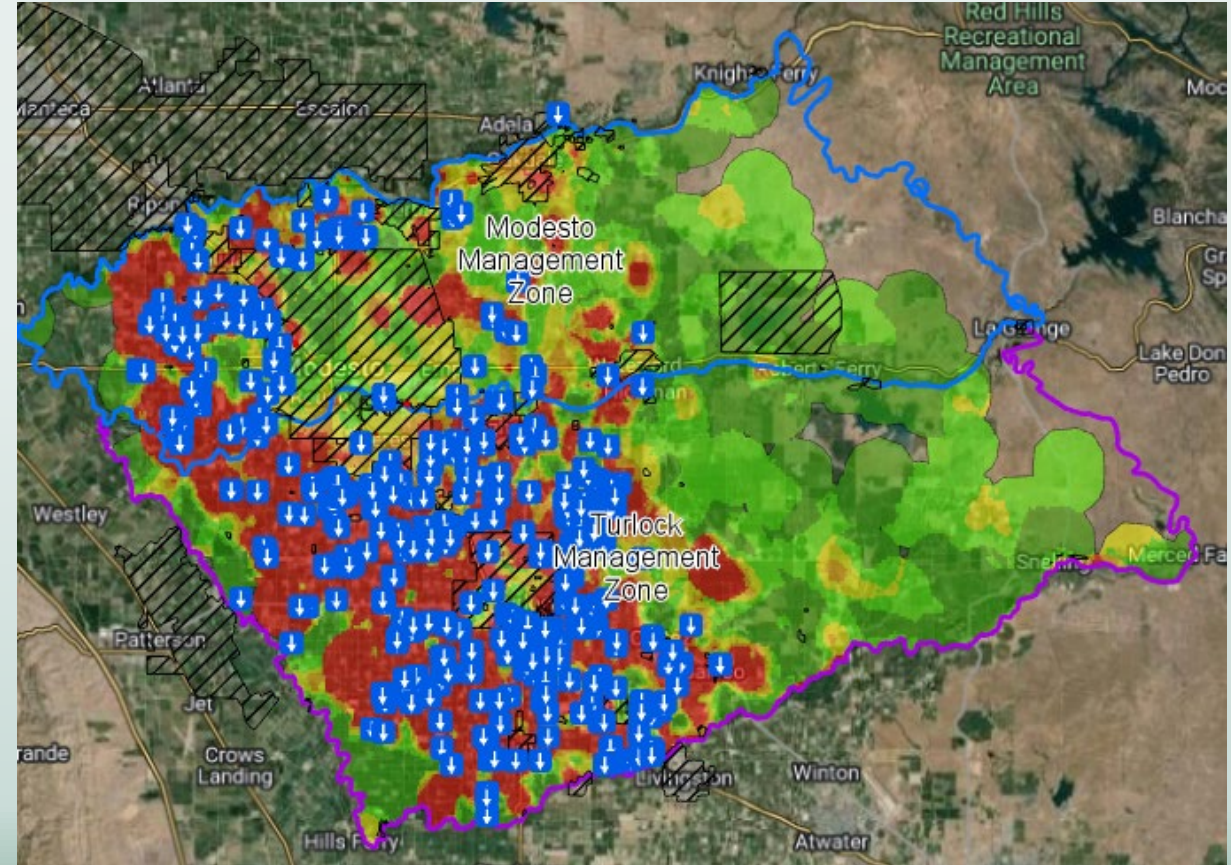


EXPANDING APPLICANT-WATER DELIVERY MAPPING TO P2 BASINS

APPLICANTS



BOTTLED WATER RECIPIENTS



LONG-TERM PLANNING

- Management Zone Implementation Plan (MZIP)



MANAGEMENT ZONE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (MZIP)

GOAL 1: SAFE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM

- Implementation of the existing emergency/interim drinking water program (“*Early Action Plan*”) continues now and during MZIP implementation:
 - Outreach to the local community and residents
 - Domestic well testing
 - Bottled water delivery
- Under MZIP, work begins with local communities/stakeholders on development of long-term drinking water solutions in Modesto and Turlock Management Zones
- MZIPs include:
 - Identification of “Initial Focus Areas” in each Management Zone where long-term solutions work is beginning
 - Detailed Workplans with implementation milestones/schedule
 - Work underway to build IFA contacts/networks, organize IFA outreach events

MZIP GOAL 2: NITRATE REDUCTION PROGRAM

- MZIP establishes program to meet goal for dischargers in the Management Zone to no longer cause or contribute to exceedances of the nitrate water quality objective
- Nitrate reduction programs are tailored to discharger type, aka “sectors”
- For each sector, the MZIP proposes:
 - Nitrate reduction goals to be met by specified dates
 - Interim milestones or activities to be completed by specified dates to ensure goals are achieved
- MZIP includes interim milestones to provide basis for dischargers to demonstrate compliance with the nitrate reduction goals

Sectors

- Irrigated agriculture
- Milk cow dairies
- Confined bovine feeding operations
- Poultry facilities,
- “Non-Chapter 15 Program” dischargers (domestic wastewater facilities, food processors, biosolids disposal, etc.)

MZIP - OTHER KEY ELEMENTS

- Surveillance and Monitoring Program to track long-term water quality conditions
- Reporting program (annual progress reports and required 5-year and 10-year reports)
- Management Zone administrative and coordination activities
- Restoration program to address Nitrate Control Program Goal 3 to restore nitrate water quality in groundwater - where reasonable, feasible and practicable

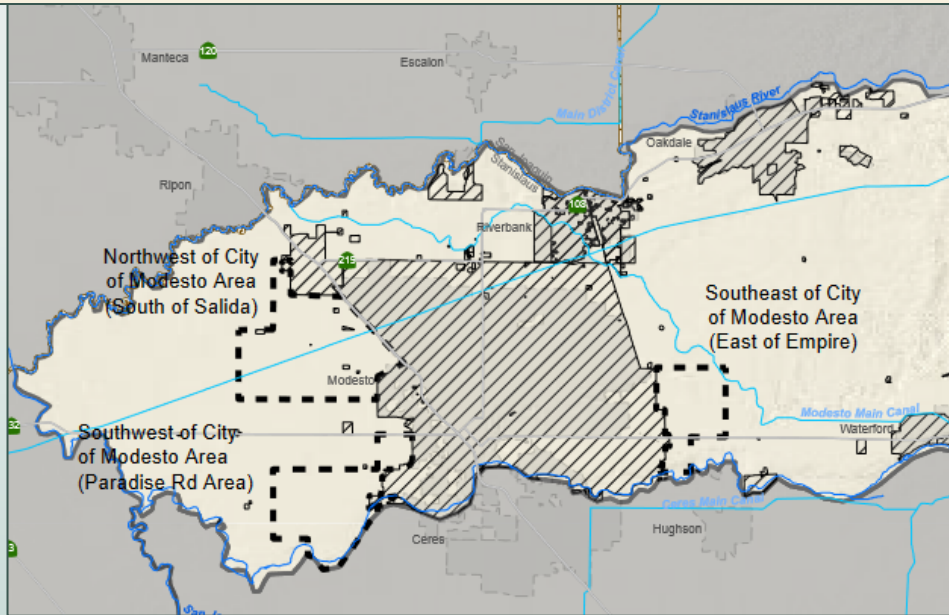
INITIAL FOCUS AREA OUTREACH



INITIAL FOCUS AREA (IFA)

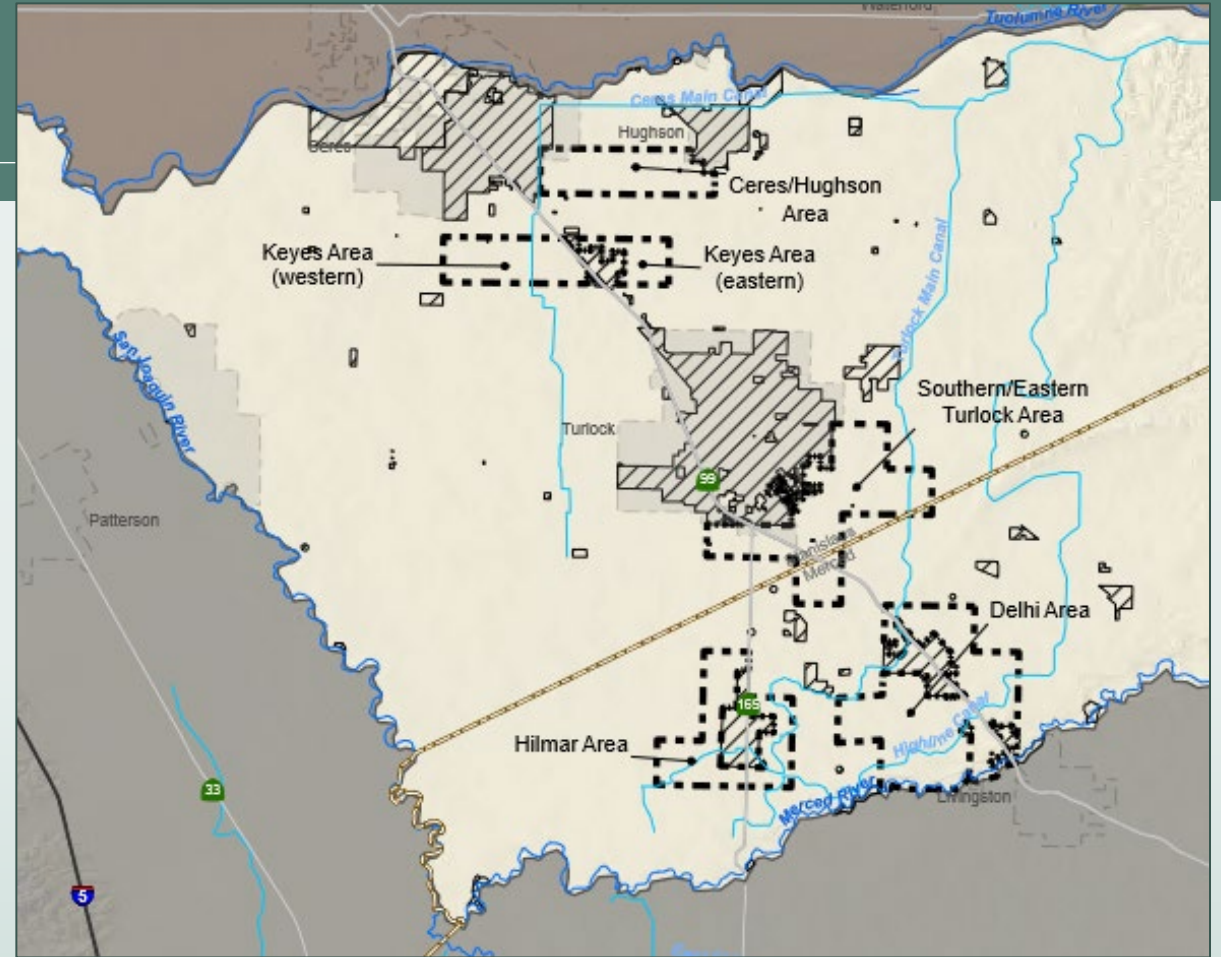
Science-based approach that considers ...

- Disadvantaged community status
- Density of domestic wells
- Residents within areas of elevated nitrate concentrations



MODESTO

- Northwest of City of Modesto Area (South of Salida)
- Southeast of City of Modesto Area (East of Empire)
- Southwest of City of Modesto Area (Paradise Rd Area)



TURLOCK

- Ceres/Hughson Area
- Keyes Area
- South and East of City of Turlock Area
- Delhi Area
- Hilmar Area

SAFER GRANT COLLABORATION



State Water
Resources
Control Board



SAFER DRINKING WATER

SAFE AND AFFORDABLE FUNDING FOR EQUITY AND RESILIENCE

Grant Overview

- Grant to test for contaminants other than nitrate and provide replacement water to residences in a DAC or who are low-income

SAFER Cost-Sharing Arrangement

- **Well Testing**
 - SAFER covers 100% of additional contaminant testing
 - VWC covers 100% of nitrate testing
- **Replacement Water**
 - % cost-share varies based on contaminant found above MCL
 - For example, if they are N+arsenic, SAFER will split the replacement water 50/50, if they are in DAC or are low-income
- **Outreach, Administration, and Applicant/Data Management**
 - Varies by task

SAFER GRANT COLLABORATION



State Water
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Control Board



SAFER DRINKING WATER

SAFE AND AFFORDABLE FUNDING FOR EQUITY AND RESILIENCE

Testing Began March 2022

CONTAMINANT TESTED	% ABOVE MCL
Uranium	50%
1,2,3 TCP	15%
Arsenic	6%
DBCP	1%
EDB	0%
Total Chromium	0%

Lead, copper, perchlorate tested in some circumstances; E.coli and Total Coliform tested by Self-Help Enterprises in some circumstances.

Planned Activities

- POU / POE installations on qualified applicants

OUTREACH MATERIALS ALREADY DEVELOPED IN PI

- Design/content refined over three years use
- Will continue use in all P2 basins
- Mailings directed to known rural residences in neighborhoods with elevated nitrate conditions
- Mailing sent to 21,570 addresses on February 22nd for the launch of the program.
- Continue to pursue new outreach approaches



Printed Standard
US Postage
PAID
Fresno, CA
Permit #2201

Valley Water Collaborative
1201 L Street
Modesto, CA 95354
f @ valleywater.org

Free Well Water Testing!

Get your well tested for harmful contaminants! If eligible, you could also receive free water delivered to your home. Don't miss out! Applying is quick and easy -visit valleywater.org or call **209-750-3867** to apply today!

Prueba Gratuita de Agua de Pozo

¡Analiza su pozo de agua para detectar contaminantes dañinos! Si calificas, tu hogar también podría recibir agua potable gratis. ¡No pierdas esta oportunidad! Visita valleywater.org o llama al **209-750-3867** para programar tu prueba hoy.

Funded in part by the State Water Resources Control Board under the Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) drinking water program.

Scan to apply
Escanear para aplicar

THANK YOU!

WEBSITE: www.valleywaterc.org

EMAIL: contact@valleywaterc.org

PHONE: 209-750-3867



**Valley Water
Collaborative**