

---

# GSP Coordinating Committee

---

**Coordinating Committee Meeting – February 25, 2019**

**Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA  
Merced Subbasin GSA  
Turner Island Water District GSA-1**

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced



---

# Agenda

---

1. Call to order
2. Approval of minutes for January 28, 2019 meeting
3. Stakeholder Committee update
  1. Update from February 25 morning meeting
4. Presentation by Woodard & Curran on GSP development
  1. Water Allocation Frameworks
  2. Next Steps in GSP Development
  3. Other Updates

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced



---

# Agenda

---

5. Public Outreach Update
6. Coordination with Neighboring Basins
7. Long Term SWRCB Permits for Flood Water
8. Public Comment
9. Next Steps and Adjourn

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced



---

# Approval of Minutes

---

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced







---

# Stakeholder Committee Update

---

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced







---

# Water Allocation Framework

---

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced



# Decision-Making Timeline

Focus for  
Today

January	February	March	April	May
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CC and SC discuss potential allocation frameworks</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CC recommends allocation framework to GSA Boards</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• GSA Boards approve allocation framework</li></ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CC and SC consider potential Ps&amp;MAs to meet needs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CC and SC consider potential Ps&amp;MAs to meet needs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CC identifies recommended Ps&amp;MAs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CC recommends Ps&amp;MAs to GSA Boards</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• GSA Boards consider / approve Ps&amp;MAs</li></ul>

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced



# What are we trying to accomplish today?

- Goal: Agree on a recommended water allocation framework for the First Iteration 2020 GSP, for how the sustainable yield of the basin can be allocated at the GSA level
  - Individual GSAs will determine allocations to meet subbasin level sustainability targets
  - GSP text will need to explain the data limitations and additional refinements
  - Need to **move forward together to make the 2020 deadline**
- Allocations will need to be refined prior to implementation and are not expected to take effect within the first 10 years of GSP implementation
  - Additional information will be needed following the 2020 deadline to confirm, validate, and potentially refine modeling assumptions and allocations prior to implementation
- Merced GSP MOU requires recommendations be reached by unanimous decision of the Coordinating Committee
- If we do not reach agreement together, then risk state intervention...

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced



---

# Work Together = Avoid State Intervention

---

- State intervention would be triggered on Feb 1, 2020 if there is no adopted Merced GSP or DWR fails the GSP.
- State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) can designate basin as “probationary” and directly manage groundwater extractions.
- All pumpers would be required to file extraction report with SWRCB and pay fees

Link to SWRCB’s Fact Sheet on State Intervention:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/gmp/docs/intervention/intervention\\_fs.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/gmp/docs/intervention/intervention_fs.pdf)

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

# Potential Fees under State Intervention

Fee Category*	Annual Fee	Applicable Parties
<b>Base Filing Fee</b>	\$300 per well	All extractors required to report.
<b>Unmanaged Rate</b>	\$25 per acre-foot	Extractors in unmanaged areas. If extractors use a meter to measure extractions the rate is \$10 per acre-foot.
<b>Probationary Rate</b>	\$40 per acre-foot	Extractors in probationary basins.
<b>Interim Plan Rate</b>	\$55 per acre-foot	Extractors in probationary basins where the Board determines an interim plan is required.
<b>De minimis Fee</b>	\$100 per well	A well owner that extracts two acre-feet or less per year for domestic purposes in a probationary basin, if the Board decides these extractions are significant.
<b>Late Fee</b>	25% of total fee per month	Extractors that do not file reports by the due date.

\*Fees are subject to change. Additional information available at [waterboards.ca.gov/gmp](http://waterboards.ca.gov/gmp).

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced



# Conceptual GSP Implementation Timeline

Implementation will be phased over 20 years, with 5-yr updates.

2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
<b>Monitoring and Reporting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish Monitoring Network</li> <li>• Install New Wells</li> <li>• Develop Metering Program</li> <li>• Extensive public outreach</li> <li>• Funded and smaller projects implemented</li> </ul>	<b>Preparation for Allocations and Low Capital Outlay Projects</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GSAs conduct 5-year evaluation/update</li> <li>• Planning/ Design/ Construction for small to medium sized projects</li> <li>• Monitoring and reporting continues</li> <li>• Metering program continues</li> <li>• Outreach continues</li> </ul>	<b>Prepare for Sustainability</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GSAs conduct 5-year evaluation/update</li> <li>• Planning/ Design/ Construction for larger projects begins</li> <li>• Monitoring and reporting continues</li> <li>• Outreach continues</li> <li>• Allocation program begins phase-in</li> </ul>	<b>Implement Sustainable Operations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GSAs conduct 5-year evaluation/update</li> <li>• Project implementation completed</li> <li>• Allocations fully implemented/enforced</li> </ul>	

# Merced GSP Allocation Framework under Discussion

1. Determine **Sustainable Yield** of the Basin
2. Subtract groundwater originating from **Developed Supply** (seepage of developed/imported surface water) to obtain sustainable yield of native groundwater
3. Allocate sustainable yield of native groundwater to **Overlying Users** and **Appropriative Users** based on their proportional historical use
  - a) Select averaging period for determining historical use
  - b) Overlying users allocated based on acreage
  - c) Appropriative users allocated based on fraction of historical use among appropriators
4. Use framework as basis for **basin-wide management and allocation to GSAs**. GSAs can modify the implementation and allocations within their GSA boundary.



# Apportion sustainable yield between overlying and appropriative users based on historical use

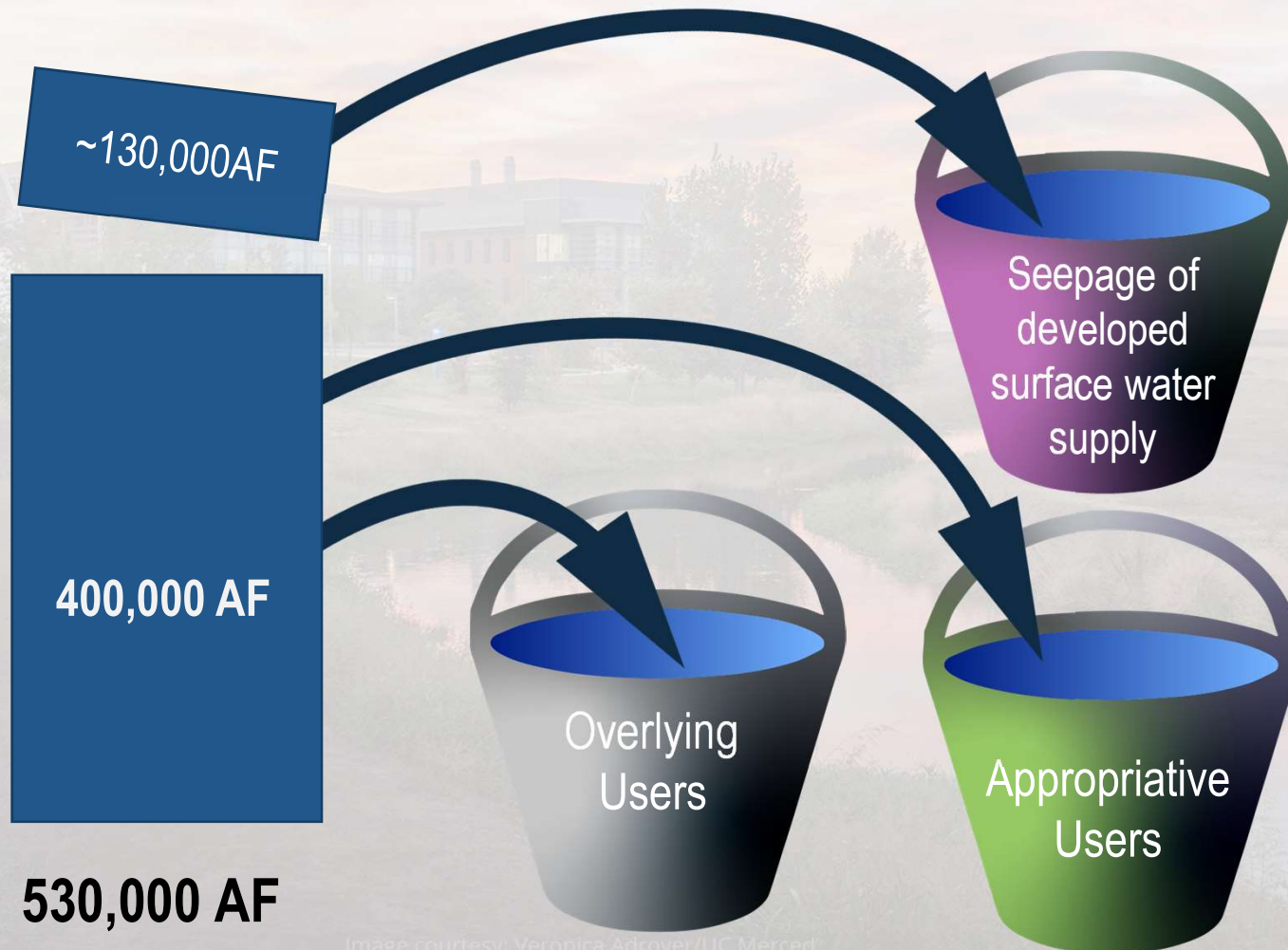


Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

# Summary from SC Allocation Framework Discussion

## Feedback from January 28<sup>th</sup> SC Committee Meeting:

- Important to consider drought years in historical period because there's potential for more frequent drought in the future
- Having a 10-year historical averaging period seems to make sense, especially because this can be adjusted later
- Addressing dormant overlying rights: There were mixed comments on partial allocation for unirrigated lands. In general, not in favor of 100% allocation. Some were in favor of having a partial allocation as a starting point (e.g. 25% or 50%), while others are in favor of 0%
- If there is an allocation for unirrigated lands, there should be direction on how this water can be sold and used
- If there is a 0% allocation, there should be mechanism for these lands to request an allocation in the future
- Meters will be important. We need to know what we are pumping

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced



# Feedback from GSA Allocation Framework Review Meetings

- Make metering a priority in first 5 years
- General consensus that 10-year time period is appropriate for historical baseline
- Consider frequency of re-evaluation of allocations and seepage estimates (perhaps annual or every 5 years?)
- Factor in population growth and annexation for Cities. Concern that cities will have infill. They have been working hard at conservation and seen water efficiency increase, but expect population growth to continue.
- Factor in GPCD when developing allocations for cities or have GPCD threshold to trigger allocation review.
- The 2020-2030 period should not be a free-for-all to pump. We should establish thresholds during this time.
- Clarification to reiterate: GSAs will need to determine the AF/A allocation within their boundaries
- Need to have a method of verification for seepage estimates
- Consider how to address rangeland, partial allocations, water market rules at basin or GSA-level
- May be practical considerations in spreading out pumping to avoid subsidence

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

# What is Recommendation to GSA Boards Regarding Water Allocation Framework?

- Agreement on overall framework?
  1. Determine sustainable yield
  2. Subtract developed supply to obtain sustainable yield of native gw
  3. Allocate native gw sustainable yield to Overlying Users and Appropriative Users based on proportion of historical use
  4. Use this framework to determine total allocations to each GSA. GSAs can modify implementation within their own boundaries.
- Confirm historical averaging period: 2006-2015
- Address future users
  - Approach to dormant overlayers: partial allocation (SC discussed 25-50% partial) or mechanism for future allocation (e.g. Mojave)
  - Approach to future City needs due to infill: consideration of GPCD in developing allocations to Cities
- Select frequency of reevaluation: Annual

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced



---

# CC Recommendation to GSA Boards

---

(to be finalized at CC meeting)

*Once agreement reached, a motion should be made to approve the recommendations as captured on this slide to the GSA boards*



---

# Next Steps in GSP Development

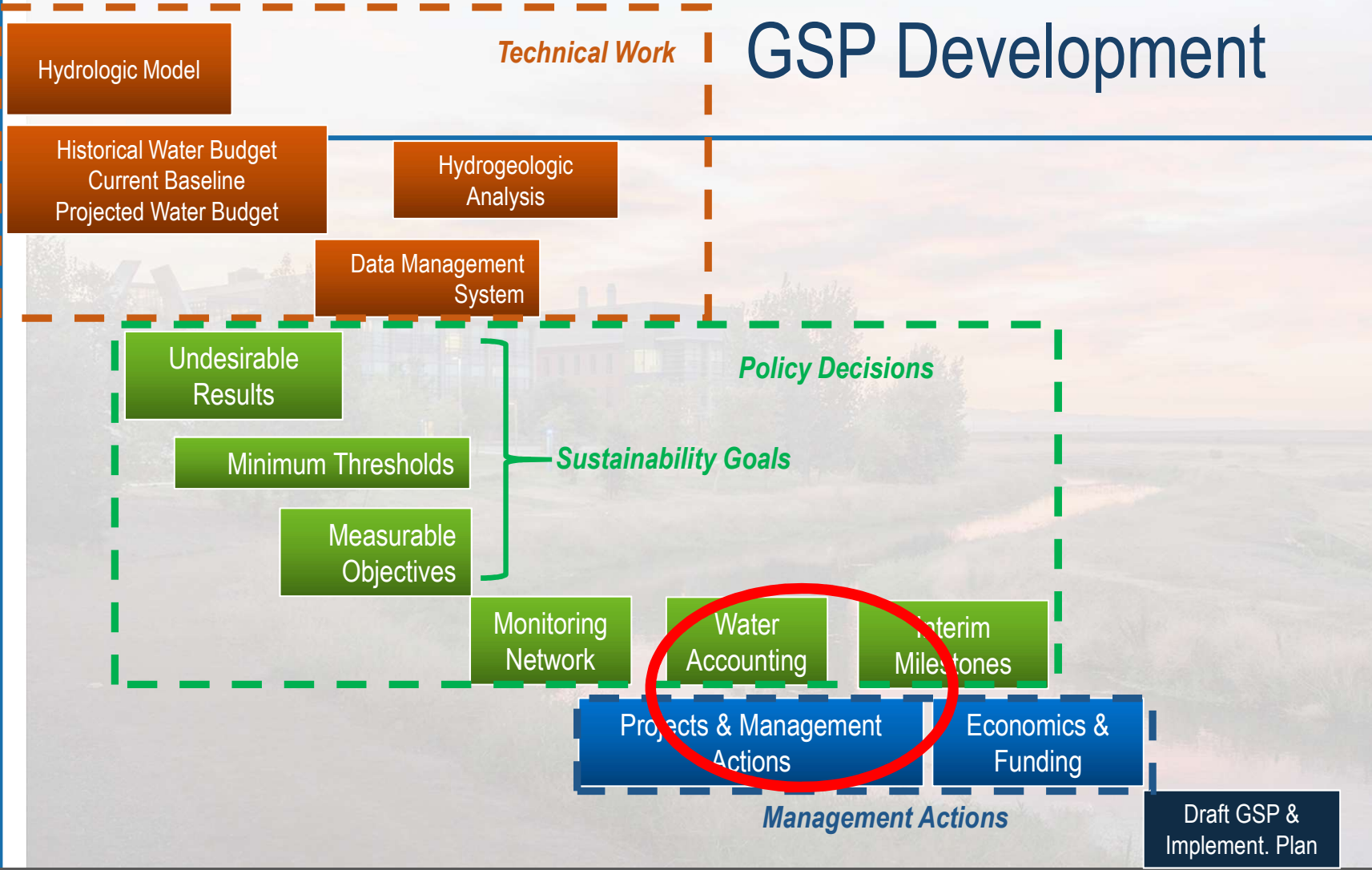
---

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced





# GSP Development

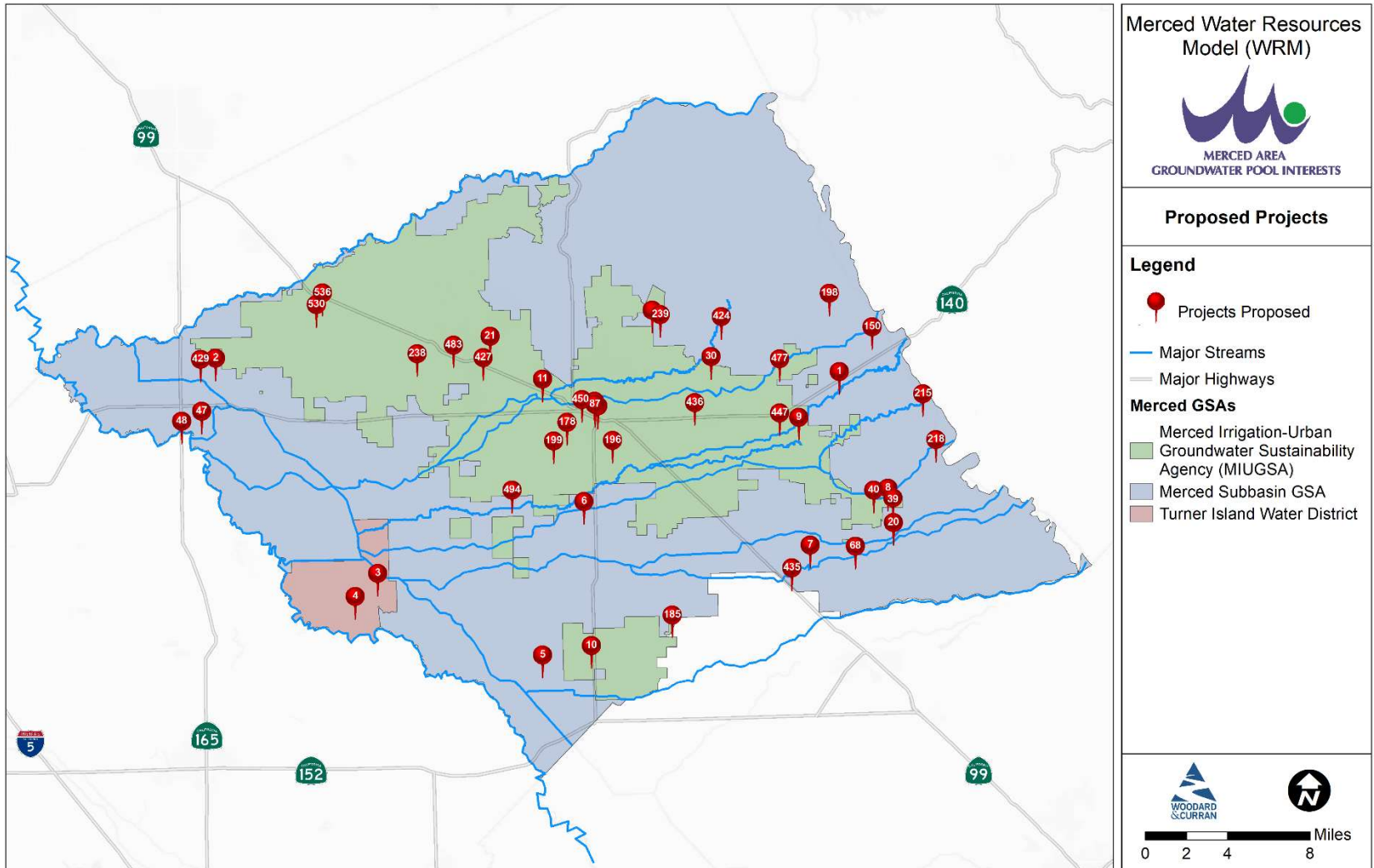


Jun 2018 Jul 2018 Aug 2018 Sep 2018 Oct 2018 Nov 2018 Dec 2018 Jan 2019 Feb 2019 Mar 2019 Apr 2019 May 2019 Jun 2019 Jul 2019

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced



# Projects & Management Actions: Currently 47 Projects on Draft List



Document Path: \\woodardcurran\external\GIS\Projects\GIS\0182-001 Merced IWR Model\Stage Maps for CDP\Projects.mxd





---

# Other Updates

---

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced



---

# Data Management System

---

- Reminder: beta test link for Merced Data Management System up and running:  
<https://opti.woodardcurran.com/merced/>
- No feedback received so far. Please send comments and questions via the “contact us” link at the bottom of the page
- A guideline is available on the login page

**Note:** This is a “beta” (test) version of the DMS. Data is being updated on an ongoing basis.

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced





---

# Public Outreach Update

---

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced







---

# Coordination With Neighboring Basins Update

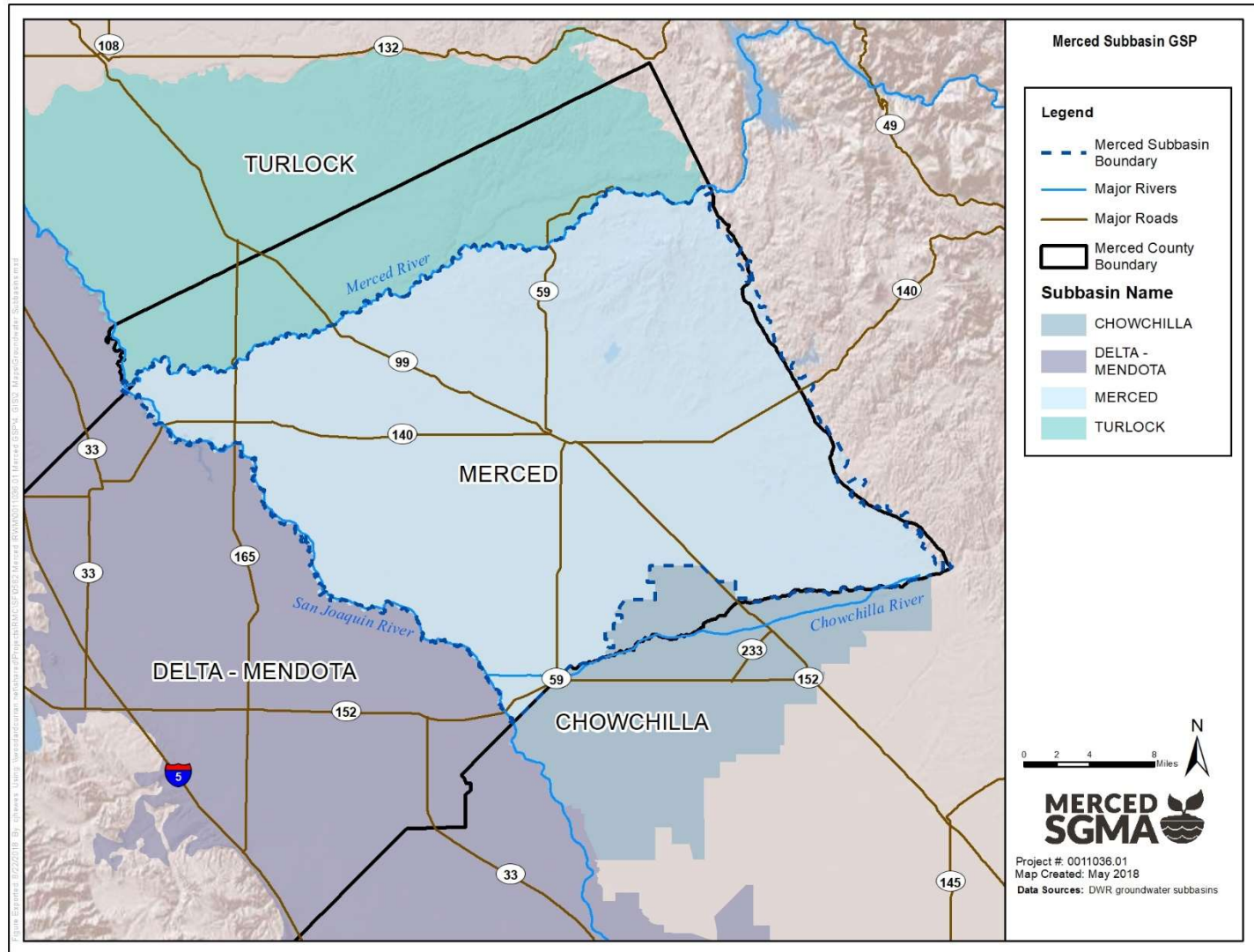
---

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced





# Coordination with Neighboring Basins





---

# Long Term SWRCB Permits for Flood Water

---

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced







---

# Questions/Comments from Public

---

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced







---

# Next Steps

---

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced





# What's coming up next?

- GSP Development Items:
  - Water Allocations Framework to be presented and reviewed for approval at GSA Board level
  - Review and assess projects and management actions
- Focus for March meeting
  - Projects and Management Actions
  - Minimum Thresholds and Measurable Objectives
- Adjourn to next meeting: March 25<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 PM at Castle Conference Center

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

---

# GSP Coordinating Committee

---

**Coordinating Committee Meeting – February 25, 2019**

**Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA  
Merced Subbasin GSA  
Turner Island Water District GSA-1**

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

