Merced GSP
Joint Coordination & Stakeholder Advisory Committees Meeting

March 5, 2025

Meeting will begin at 10:00 am or a few minutes after – thank you for joining us!

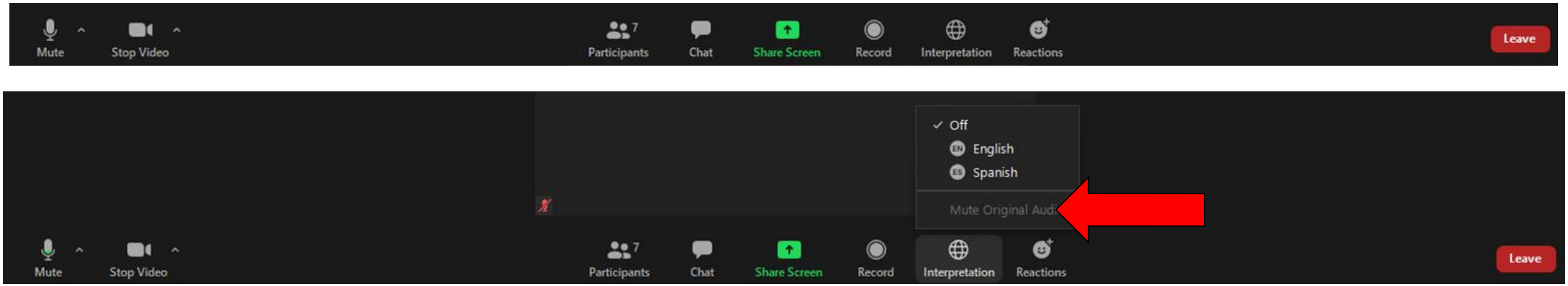
Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA
Merced Subbasin GSA
Turner Island Water District GSA-1

MERCED SGMA

Welcome, Instructions for Zoom
Bienvenidos, Instrucciones para Zoom

We have two language audio channels available. English only speakers, please select English.

Si solamente habla español, debe seleccionar un canal de idioma



The meeting will have simultaneous interpreting, so you are welcome to comment in your native language.
La junta será interpretada simultáneamente, así que le invitamos a que haga comentarios en su lenguaje nativo.

Agenda

1. Call to Order and Welcome
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Coordination Committee Meeting Minutes
4. Public Comment
5. ***Addition – Projects portion from "Water Year 2024 Annual Report" agenda item***
6. Reports
7. Water Year 2024 Annual Report
8. GSP Implementation Coordination Update
9. Next Steps and adjourn

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

Coordination Committee Roll Call

Representative	GSA
Hicham ElTal	Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA
Scott McBride	Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA
Justin Vinson	Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA
Frank Verduzco	Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA
Ken Elwin *(alternate)*	Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA
Mike Gallo	Merced Subbasin GSA
Nic Marchini	Merced Subbasin GSA
Dave Nervino	Merced Subbasin GSA
Gino Pedretti *(alternate)*	Merced Subbasin GSA
George Park *(alternate)*	Merced Subbasin GSA
Kel Mitchel	Turner Island Water District GSA #1

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

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Stakeholder Advisory Committee Members

Committee Member	Interest/Affiliation	Alternate	Interest/Affiliation
Alvaro Arias	UC Merced	Phillip Woods	UC Merced
Arlan Thomas	MIDAC member	Ben Migliazzo	Live Oak Farms
Bill Eisenstein	River Partners		
Bob Kelley	Stevinson Representative	Blake Nervino	Stevinson/Merquin
Breanne Vandenberg	MCFB		
Caitie Diemel	ESJWQC		
Craig Arnold	Arnold Farms		
Daniel Melendrez	City of Merced		
Danielle Serrano	Serrano Farms - Le Grand		
David Belt	Foster Farms		
Eddie Rojas	E&J Gallo Winery		
Emma Reyes	Martin Reyes Farm/Land Leveling		
Jean Okuye	E Merced RCD		
Joe Sansoni	Sansoni Farms/MCFB		
Joe Scoto	Scoto Brothers/McSwain School Dist.		
Lisa Baker	Clayton Water District	Scott Menefee	Clayton Water District
Lisa Kayser-Grant	Sierra Club		
Maxwell Norton	Unincorporated area		
Nav Athwal	TriNut Farms		
Simon Vander Woude	Sandy Mush MWC		
Susan Walsh	City of Merced	Bill Spriggs	Resident City of Merced
Thomas Dinwoodie	Master Gardener/McSwain		
Trevor Hutton	Valley Land Alliance		
Wes Myers	Merced Grassland Coalition	Lou Myers	Benjamin Land LP
Zachary Hamman	Cal Am Water		

Approval of Coordination Committee Meeting Minutes

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- October 16, 2024

Questions/Comments from Public:

For remote attendees, If you would like to make a comment, please type the comment in the chat or raise your hand to request to be taken off mute

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

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Projects portion of WY 2024 Annual Report

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

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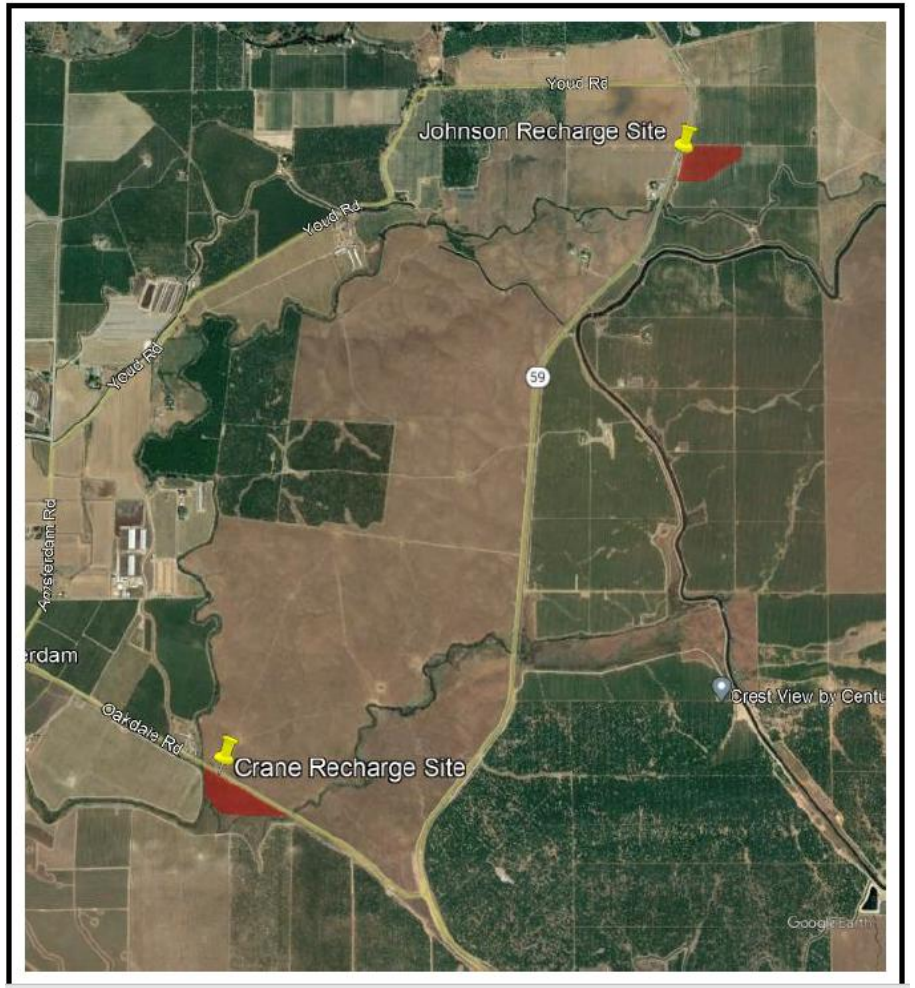
Amsterdam Water District

Prop 68 grant funding awarded: $100,000

"Summary of Soil Investigations for Amsterdam Water District Recharge Project"

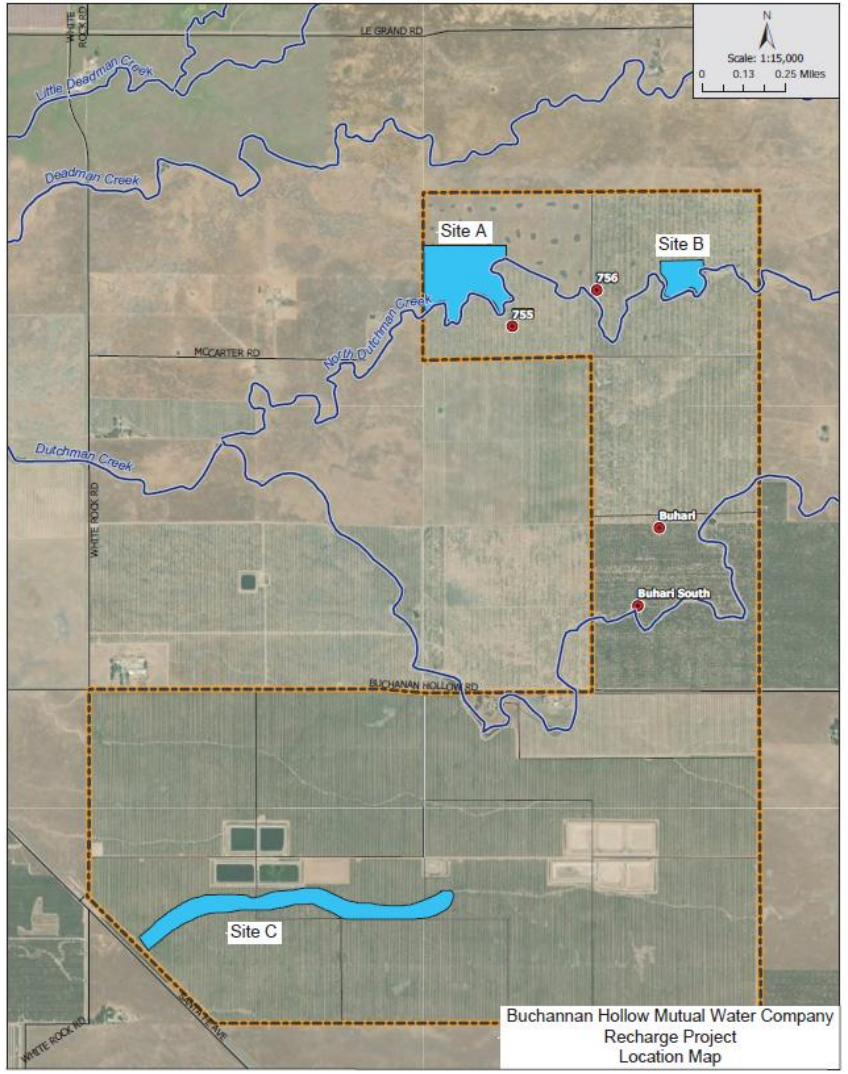
- Two (2) sites were evaluated for groundwater recharge suitability.
  - Crane: The roughly 20-acre site is Oakdale Road, Edendale Creek, and Canal Creek. The results of the investigation stated that a full-scale project is not recommended for this site due to the generally low permeability of the soils near the surface.
  - Johnson: The 15-acre site is on the east side of Highway 59, with several hundred feet north of Canal Creek. Almond trees will be taken out and a recharge basin The soils at this site below 5 to 10 feet deep are suitable for groundwater recharge.
- Johnson Site is being developed into a MLRP Application to build a15-acre recharge pond.



“Summary of Soil Investigations for Buchannan Hollow Mutual Water Company”

Prop 68 funding awarded: $26,000

- Three (3) sites were evaluated for groundwater recharge suitability.
- All three (3) sites evaluated were determined to be unsuitable for groundwater recharge due to soil and logistics issues.



Le Grand-Athlone Water District Intertie Canal

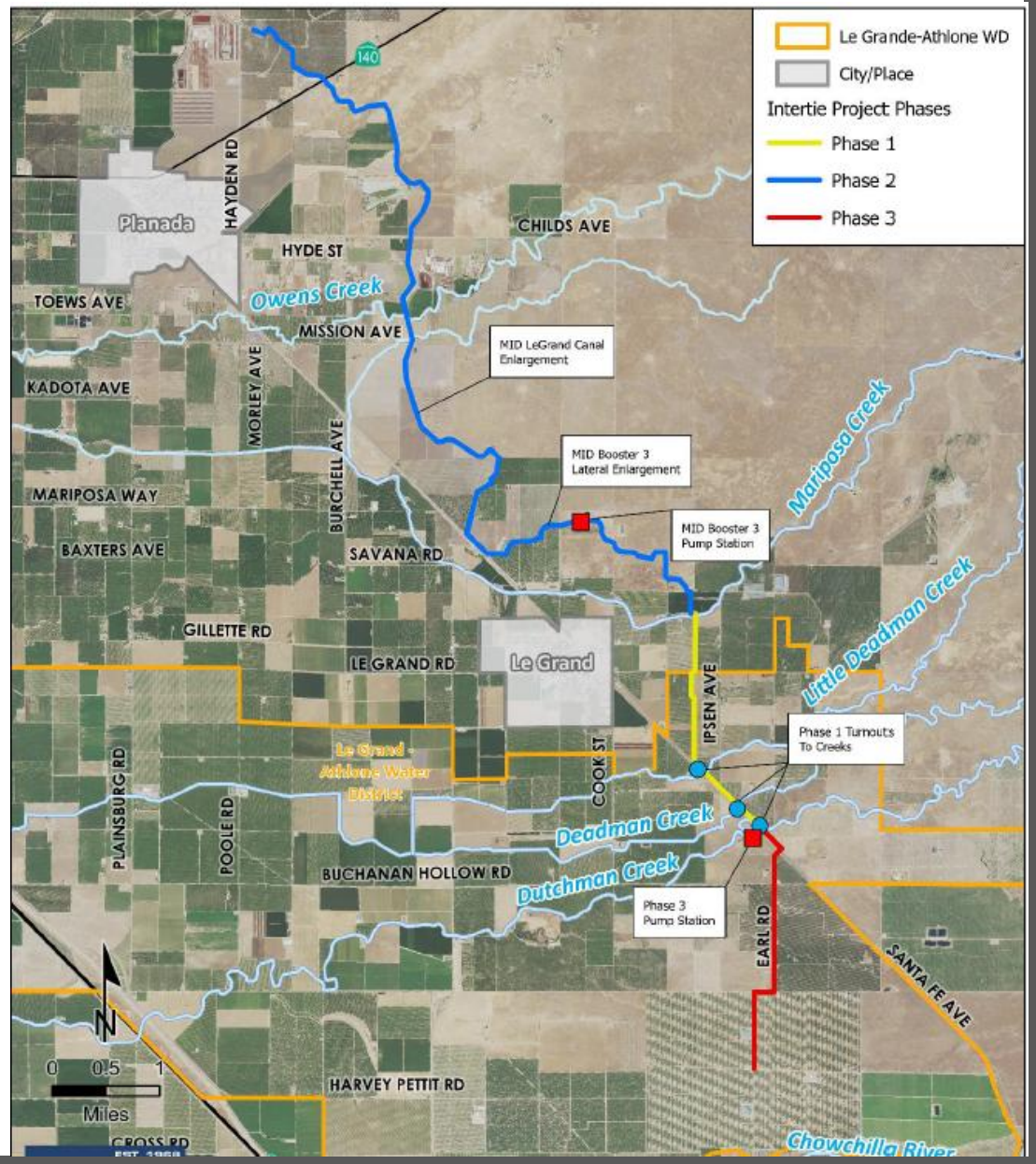
The Intertie Canal is a 125 CFS canal and pipeline that will eventually connect Merced ID to the Chowchilla River. It is planned to be bi-directional.

Total Project Costs:	**$25,547,500**
Awarded Grants:	
Phase 1-Prop 68 Rd.1 funding awarded:	**$4,170,800**
Phase 2-Prop 68 Rd.2 funding awarded:	**$1,000,000**
Icarp:	**$1,000,000**

Applying for USBR Small Storage Program Grant

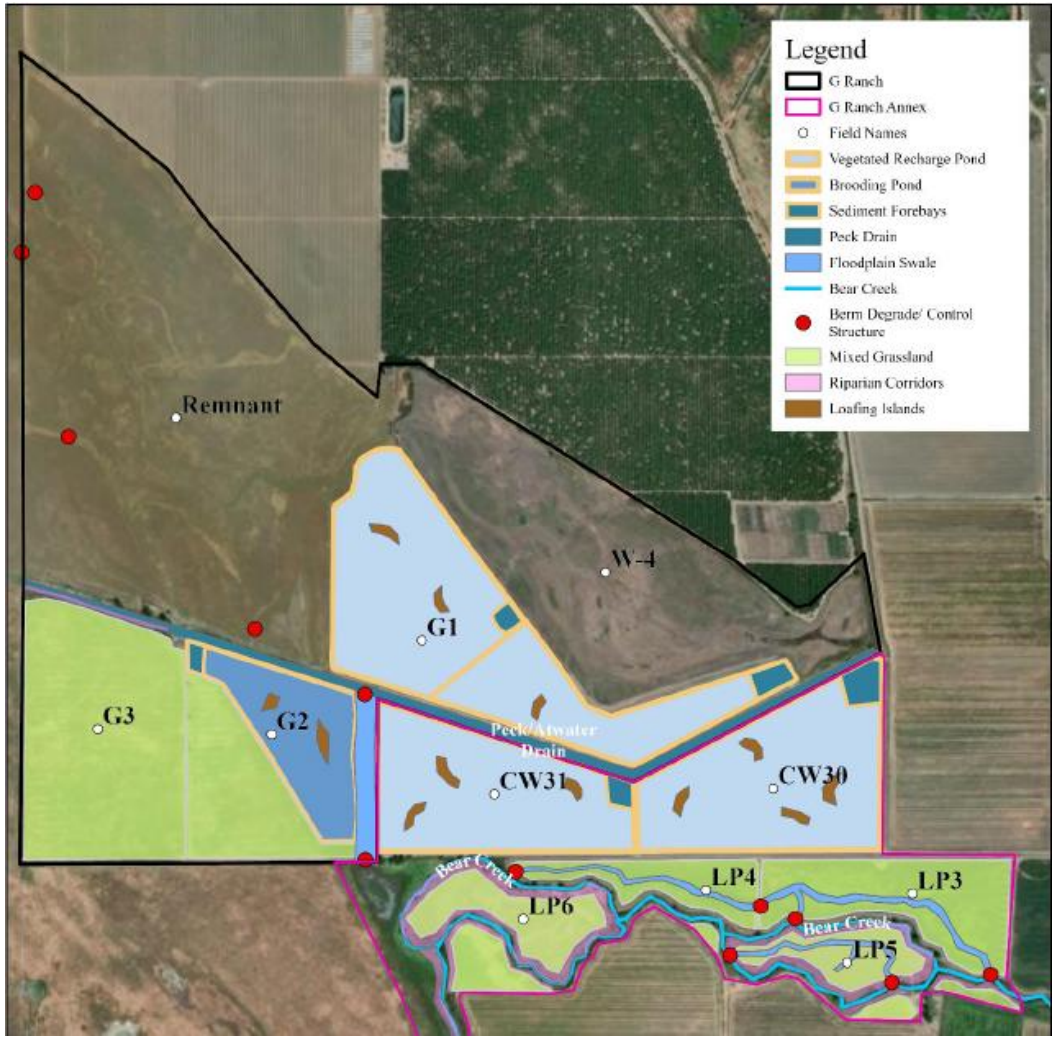
EPA WIFIA Financing for remainder

Phase I Complete



La Paloma Mutual Water Company

G Ranch Groundwater Recharge, Habitat Enhancement & Floodplain Expansion Project



Prop 68 Rd.2 funding awarded: $1,000,000
Prop 68 Rd.3 funding awarded: $2,610,000
River Partners: $400,000
$4,010,000

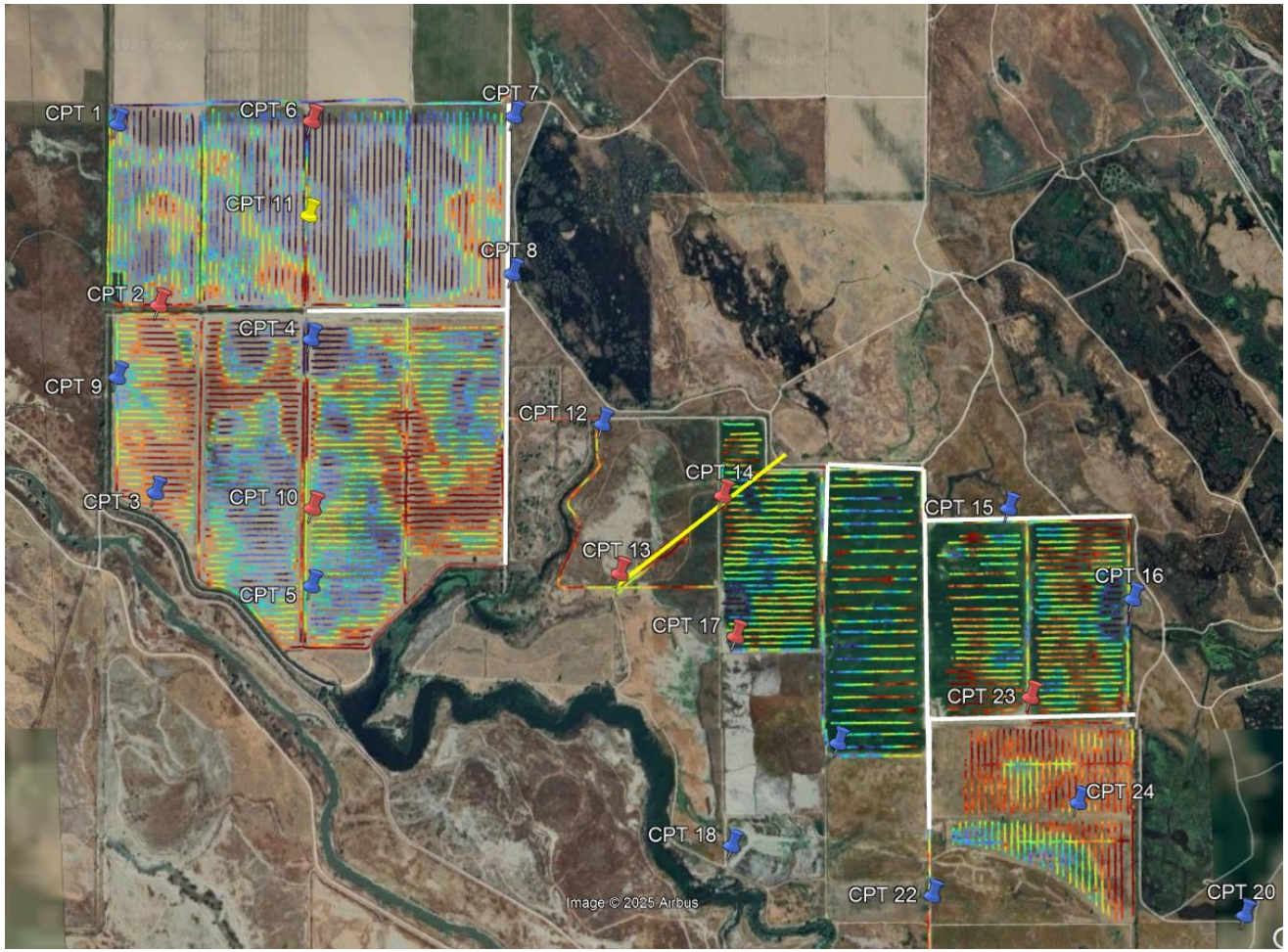
Project is projected to be fully funded.

- This effort is a multi-purpose land repurposing project that provides habitat restoration, reduces flood risk, and promotes groundwater recharge.
- The project will fallow 169-acres of productive farm ground and cover a total of 439 acres.
- Project partners include:
  - Joseph Gallo Farms
  - River Partners
  - Ducks Unlimited
  - USFWS
  - Geosyntec Hydrogeologist Consultants
  - HT Harvey Ecological Consultants
- Construction will begin in May
- Project completion expected in Spring 2026

La Paloma Mutual Water Company

Bear Creek Groundwater Recharge, Habitat Enhancement & Floodplain Expansion Project

Prop 68 Rd.3 funding awarded: $750,000
River Partners: $1,000,000
$1,750,000



Project is still seeking additional funds.

- The project is located on approximately 2,111-acres.
- The Project will re-establish approximately 1,171-acres of irrigated farm ground to floodplains, providing habitat for migrating waterfowl.
- Net benefit of approximately 8,000 acre-feet per year.
- Project partners include:
  - Joseph Gallo Farms
  - River Partners
  - Ducks Unlimited
  - USFWS
  - Geosyntec Hydrogeologist Consultants
  - HT Harvey Ecological Consultants
- Construction will begin in Summer 2025
- Project will be submitting a MLRP application

Sandy Mush Mutual Water Company

Vander Dussen Subsidence Prior

Prop 68, Rd.2 funding awarded: $798,735

This Flood-MAR project built a 1.25-mile pipeline to divert approximately 3,600 AFY of flood water from Merced Irrigation District's El Nido system to be applied directly to agricultural fields.

Sandy Mush Mutual Water Company

Vander Woude Storage Reservoir

- This project is a 30-acre storage reservoir with a capacity of 250 acre-feet (AF).

- The project will divert flood water from Mariposa and Owens Creeks and store it for later use to meet crop demand.

Prop 68, Rd.2 funding awarded: **$300,000**
Prop 1, Rd.2 funding awarded: **$315,296**

Total Project Cost: **$1,000,000**

Project Completed

Reports

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

GSA Reports

- Updates from each GSA on activities within their own jurisdiction:
  - Merced Subbasin GSA
    - *Including MLRP presentation*
  - Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA
  - Turner Island Water District GSA #1

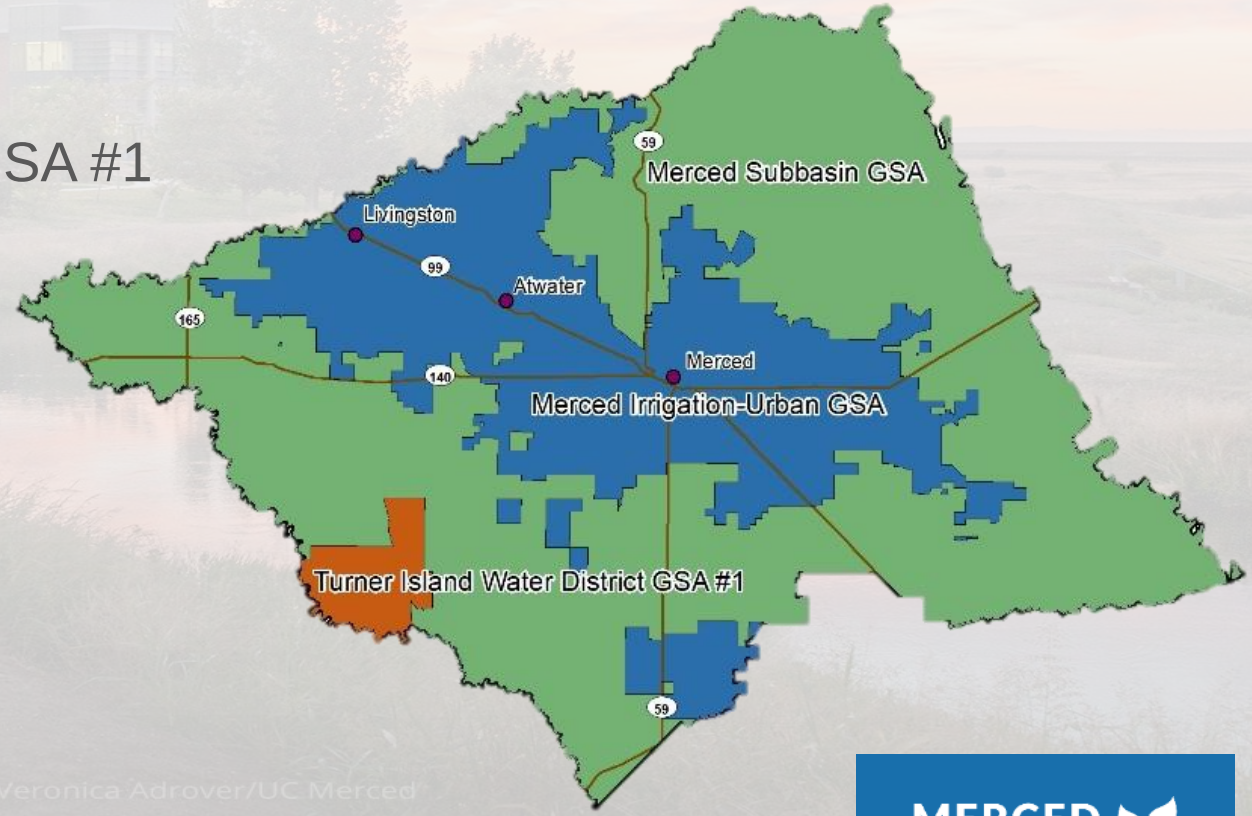


Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

Water Year 2024 Annual Report

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

MERCED SGMA

The WY 2024 GSP Annual Report was recently drafted and is under review by GSA staff

- SGMA requires annual reports on basin conditions and the status of plan implementation every April 1
- Have to report both on:
  - **Basin Conditions**
    - Model update
    - Pumping and surface water diversions
    - Levels, storage, quality, subsidence
  - **Implementation Status**
    - Projects & Management Actions
      - e.g.. MSGSA demand reduction objective
    - Grant funding
    - Other support activities

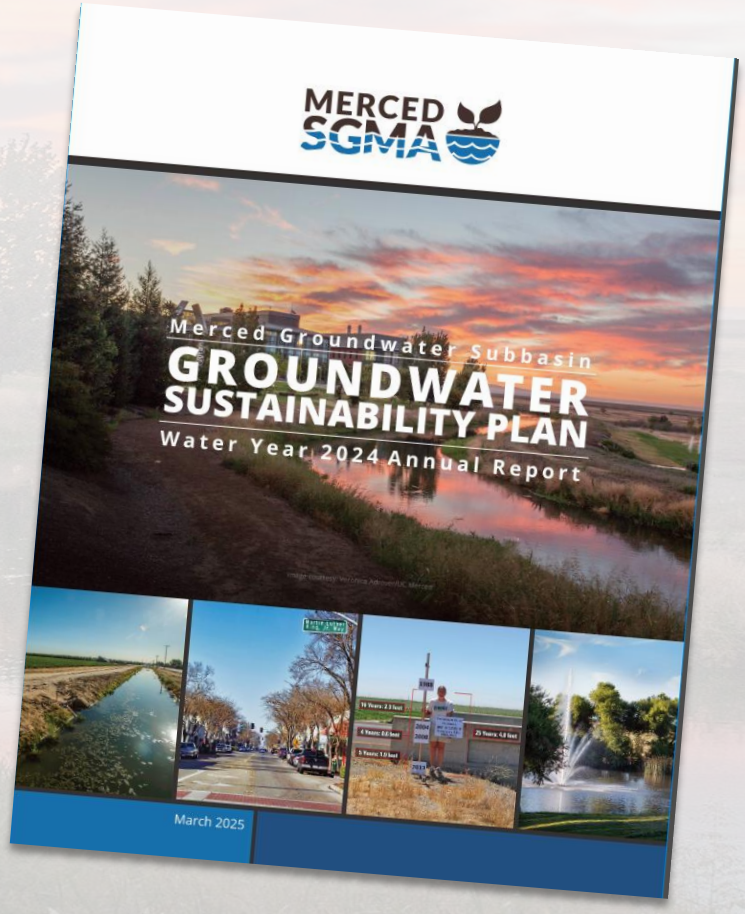


Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

Sustainable Management Criteria Status

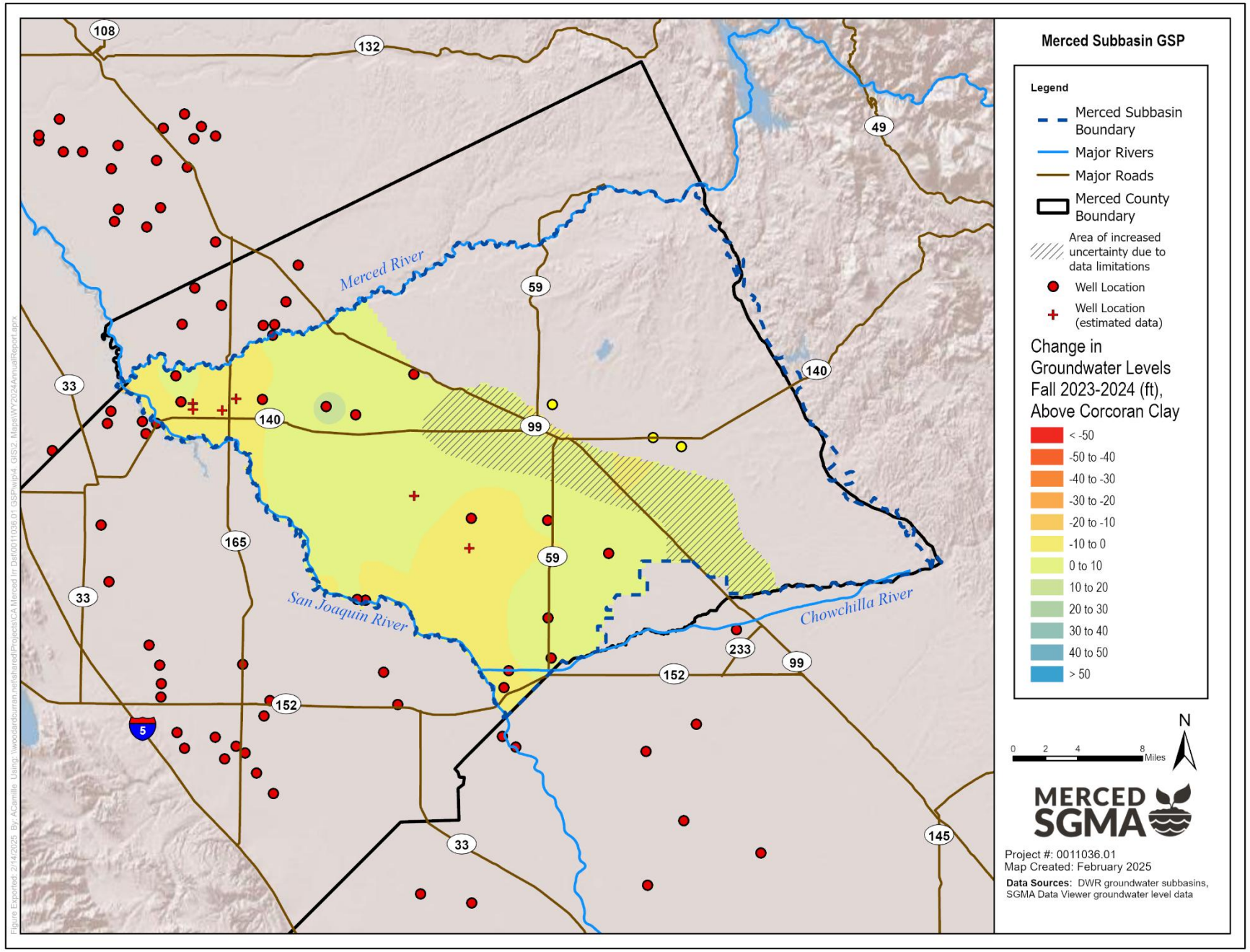
Sustainability Indicator	Minimum Threshold (MT)	Interim Milestone (IM)	Measurable Objective (MO)	Undesirable Result	WY 2024 Annual Report Status
Groundwater Levels	Fall 2015 groundwater elevation	Based on range of projected values that account for hydrologic uncertainty	November or October 2011 groundwater elevation (measured, or estimation if historical record not available)	Greater than 25% of representative wells fall below MT in 2 consecutive years	6/29 wells (21%) are below MT. 23 of 29 wells are below MO. 28/29 are above 2025 IM. 1 well not measured.
Groundwater Storage	Groundwater levels used as a proxy for this sustainability indicator				
Seawater Intrusion	Not applicable - not present and not likely to occur due to the distance between the Subbasin and the Pacific Ocean (and Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta)				
Degraded Water Quality	1,000 mg/L TDS	1,000 mg/L TDS	500 mg/L TDS	At least 25% representative wells exceed MT for 2 consecutive years	No wells exceeded MT. 3 wells exceeded MO.
Land Subsidence	0 ft/year, subject to uncertainty of +/-0.16 ft/year	2025: -0.75 ft/year 2030: -0.5 ft/year 2035: -0.25 ft/year	0 ft/year	Exceedance of MT at 3 or more representative sites for 2 consecutive years	3/4 sites exceed MT. All sites within IMs.
Depletions of Interconnected Surface Waters	Groundwater levels used as a proxy for this sustainability indicator				

14 wells (out of 43 representative wells) sampled in WY 2024.

First consecutive year of exceedance at 3 sites

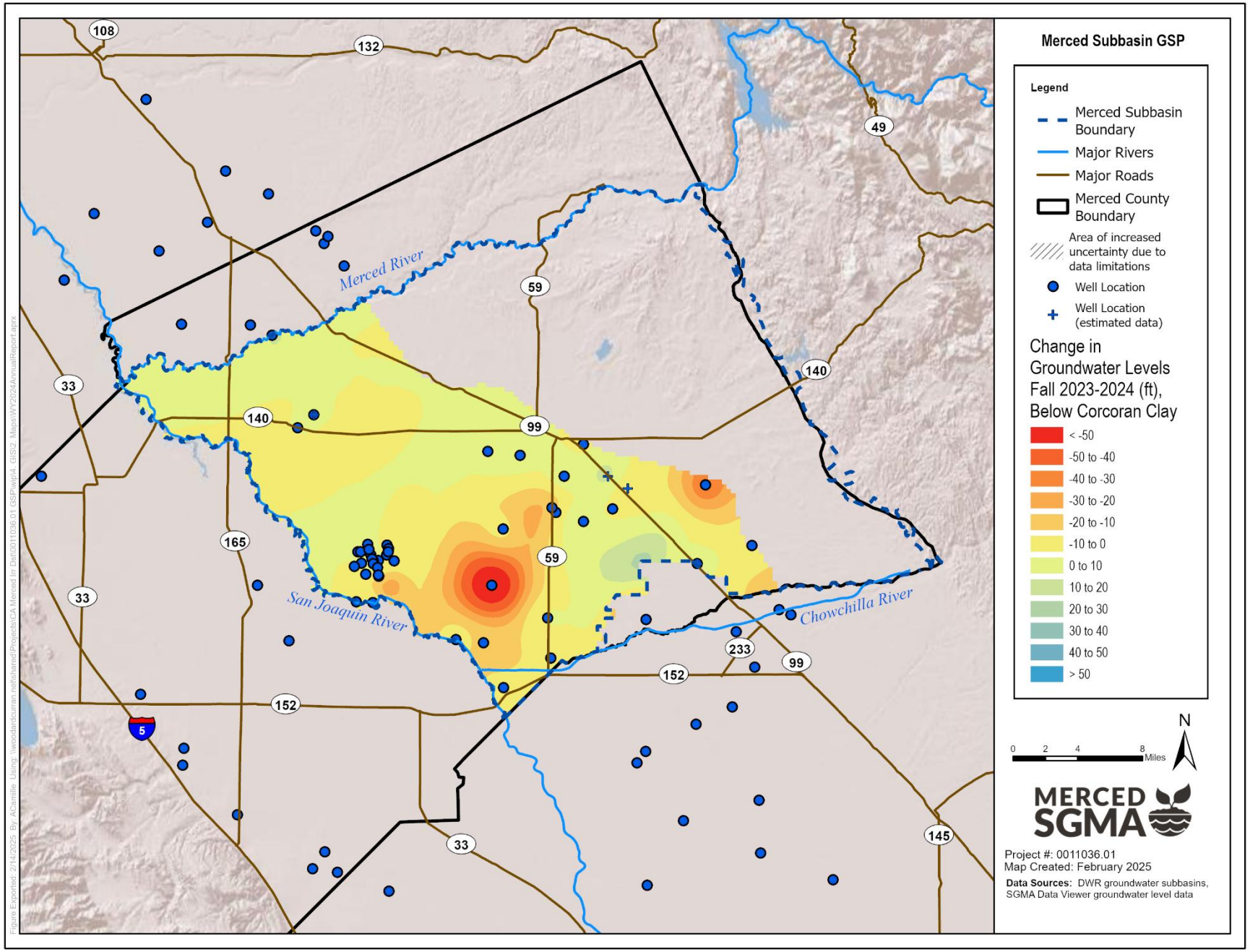
Change in Groundwater Levels

Above Corcoran Clay



Change in Groundwater Levels

Below Corcoran Clay



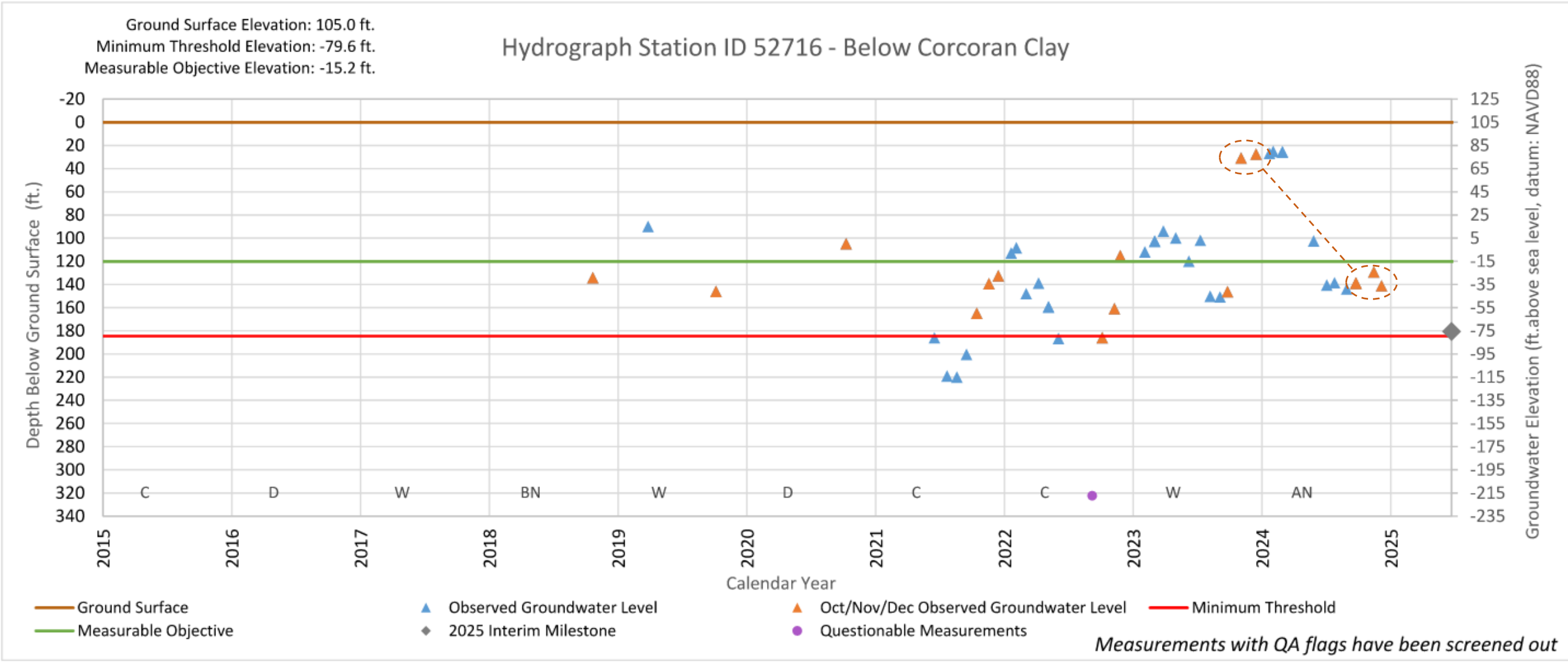
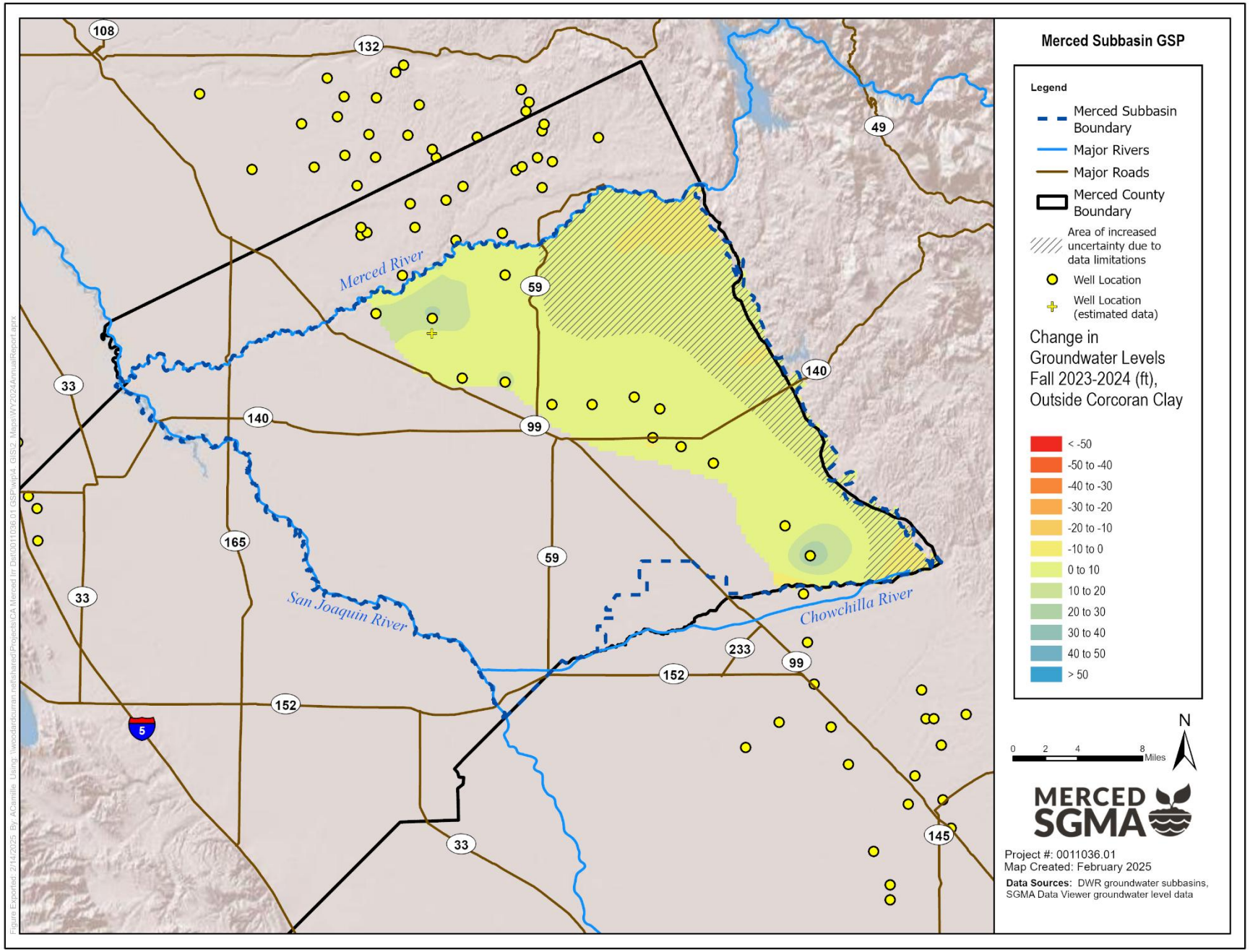


Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

Change in Groundwater Levels

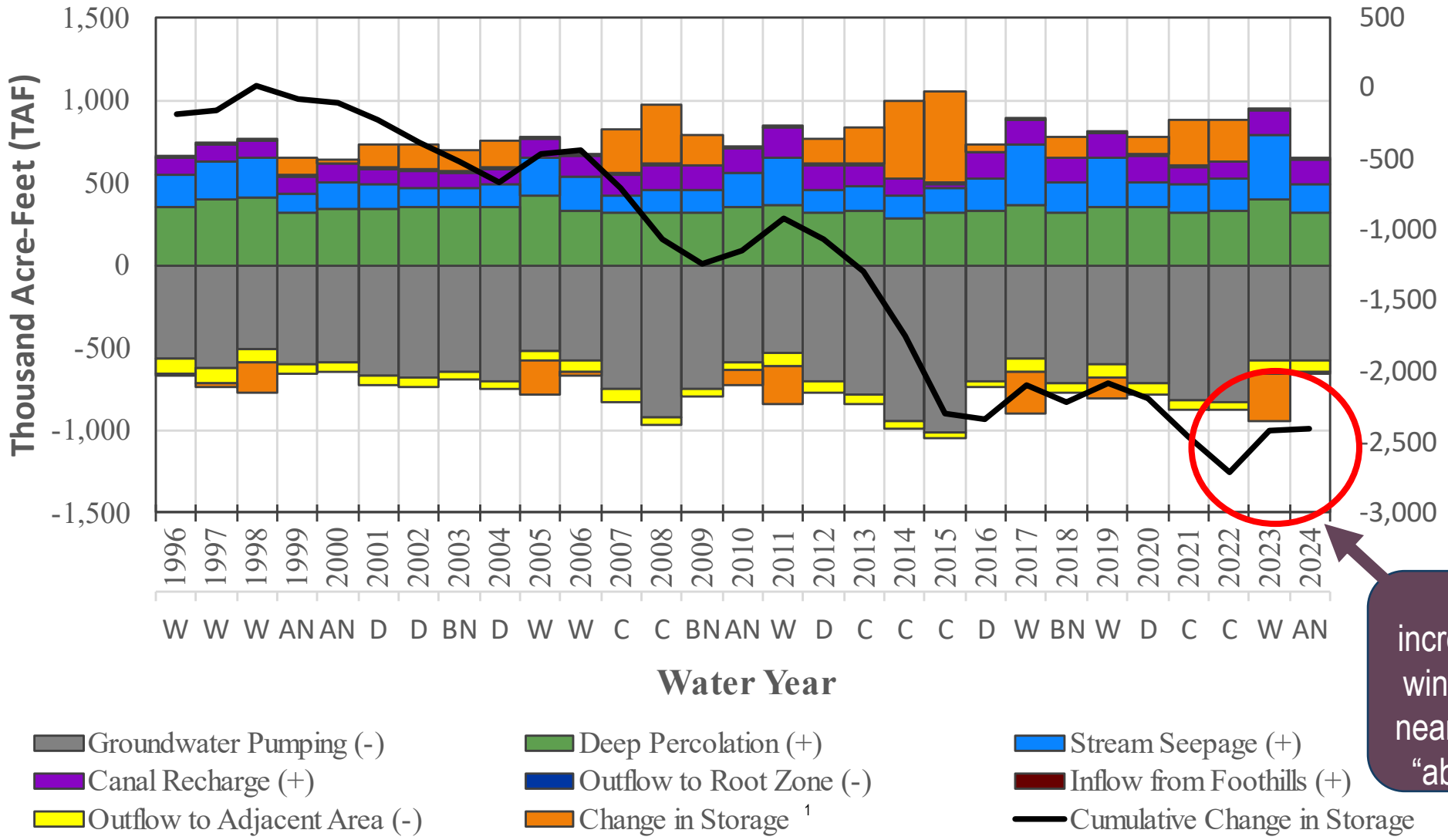
Outside Corcoran Clay



Change in Storage

Water Entering Subbasin

Water Leaving Subbasin

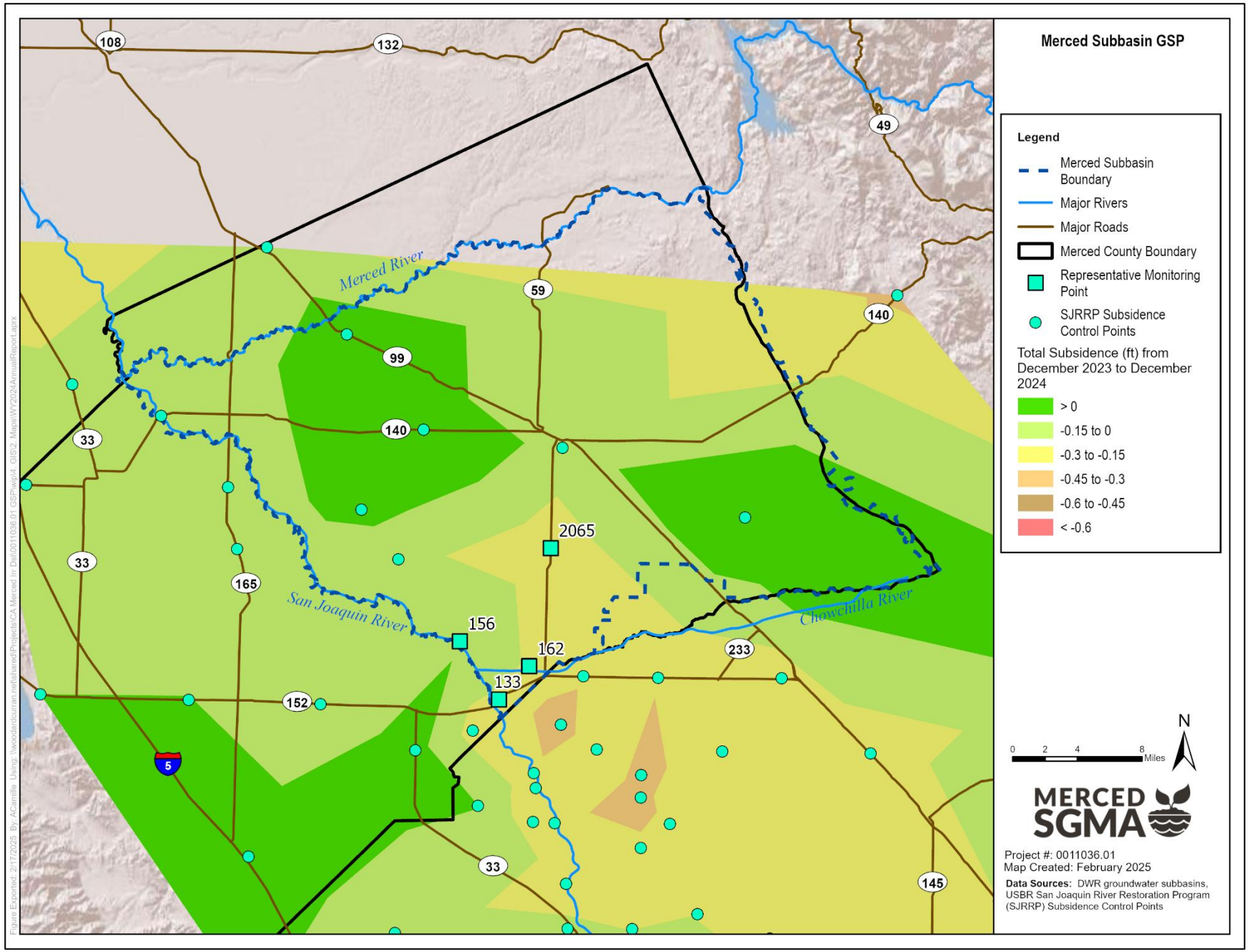


WY 2023 increase with wet winter; WY 2024 nearly flat despite "above normal"

Subsidence Dec 2023 – Dec 2024

Min. Threshold / Measurable Objective:
0 ft/yr

2025 Interim Milestone:
-0.25 ft/yr



Next Steps

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

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What's coming up next?

- Next meeting in May-June time period to discuss domestic well mitigation program

Merced GSP
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March 5, 2025

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