

SGMA: Managing GW Sustainably and Fiscally Responsibly



Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)

- Developed to protect groundwater resources & eliminate overdraft conditions
- Mandates groundwater sustainability by 2040
- Grants local control over groundwater resources to Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs)
- Requires GSAs to develop and implement Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) outlining efforts to achieve sustainability
- Progress is monitored by CA Department of Water Resources (DWR)
- Calls for State intervention if local efforts fail

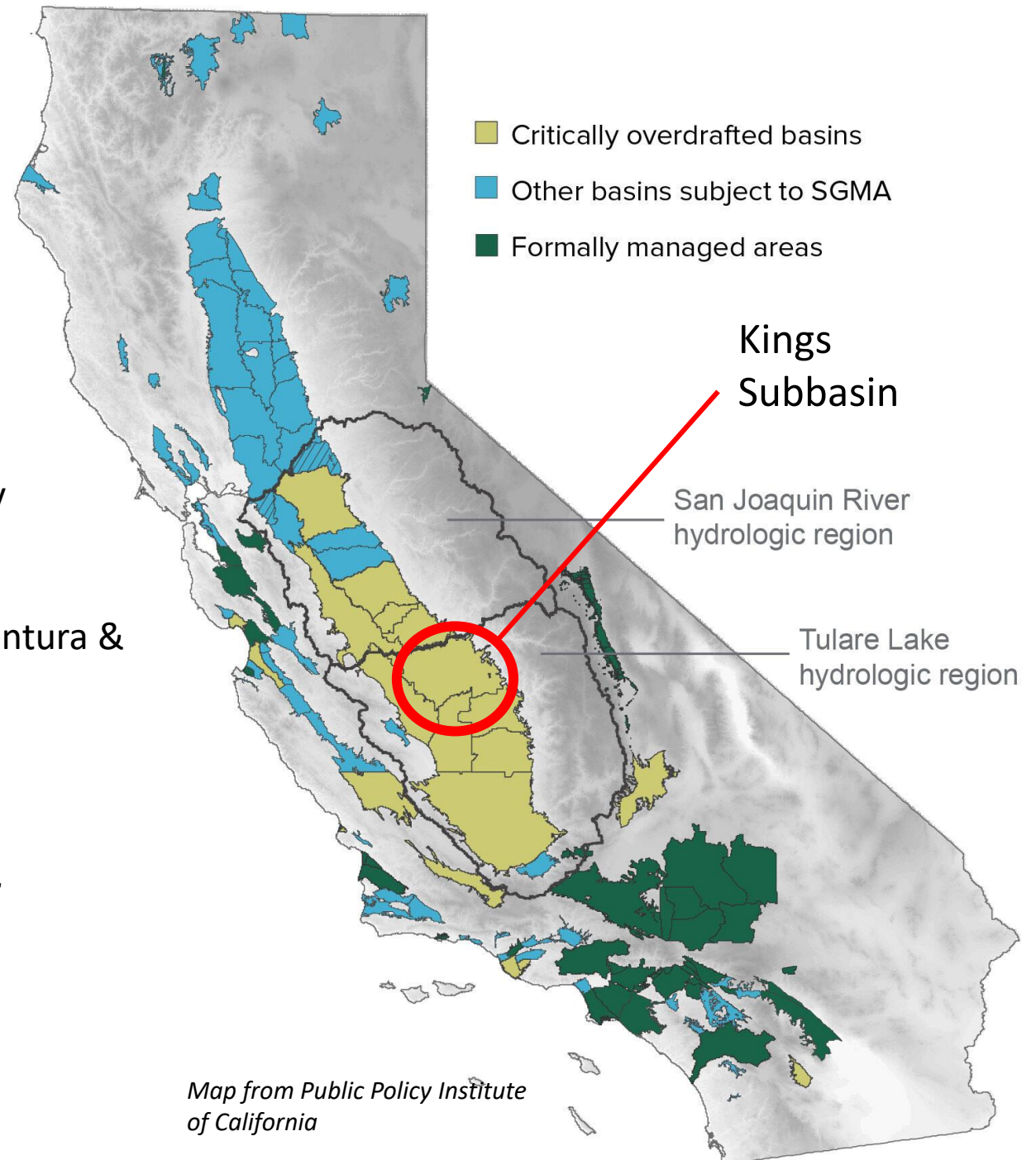
San Joaquin Valley Subbasins

Critically overdrafted basins with approved GSPs:

- **Kings Subbasin** - Fresno County
- Paso Robles Subbasin - San Luis Obispo County
- Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin - San Joaquin County
- Merced Subbasin - Merced County
- Westside Subbasin - Fresno & Kings County
- Cuyama Basin – Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Ventura & Kern Counties

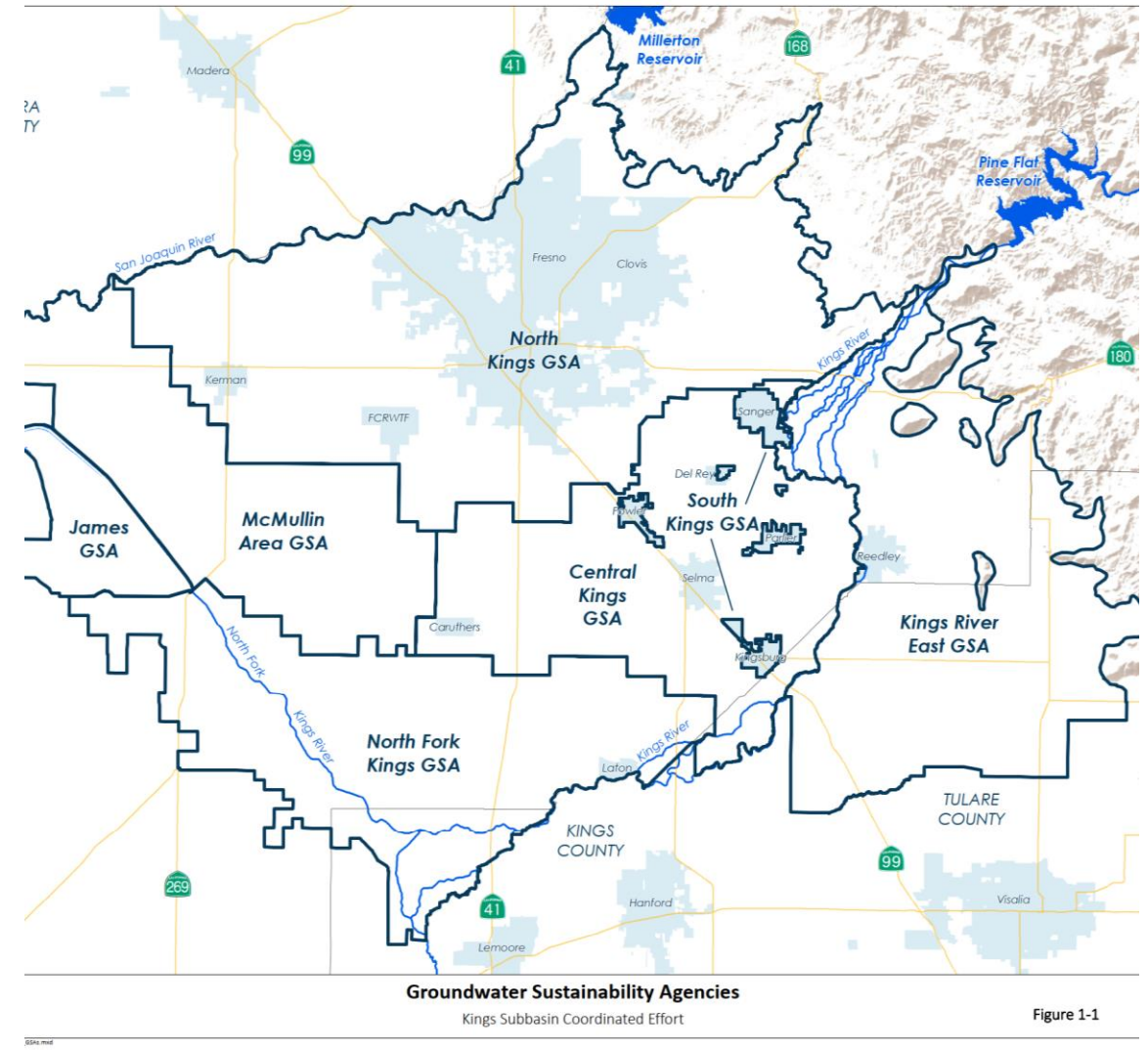
Critically overdrafted basins with inadequate GSPs:

- Chowchilla Subbasin – Madera & Merced counties
- Delta-Mendota Subbasin – San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Fresno, & San Benito counties
- Kaweah Subbasin – Tulare & Kings counties
- Tule Subbasin – Tulare County
- Tulare Lake Subbasin – Kings County
- Kern Subbasin – Kern County

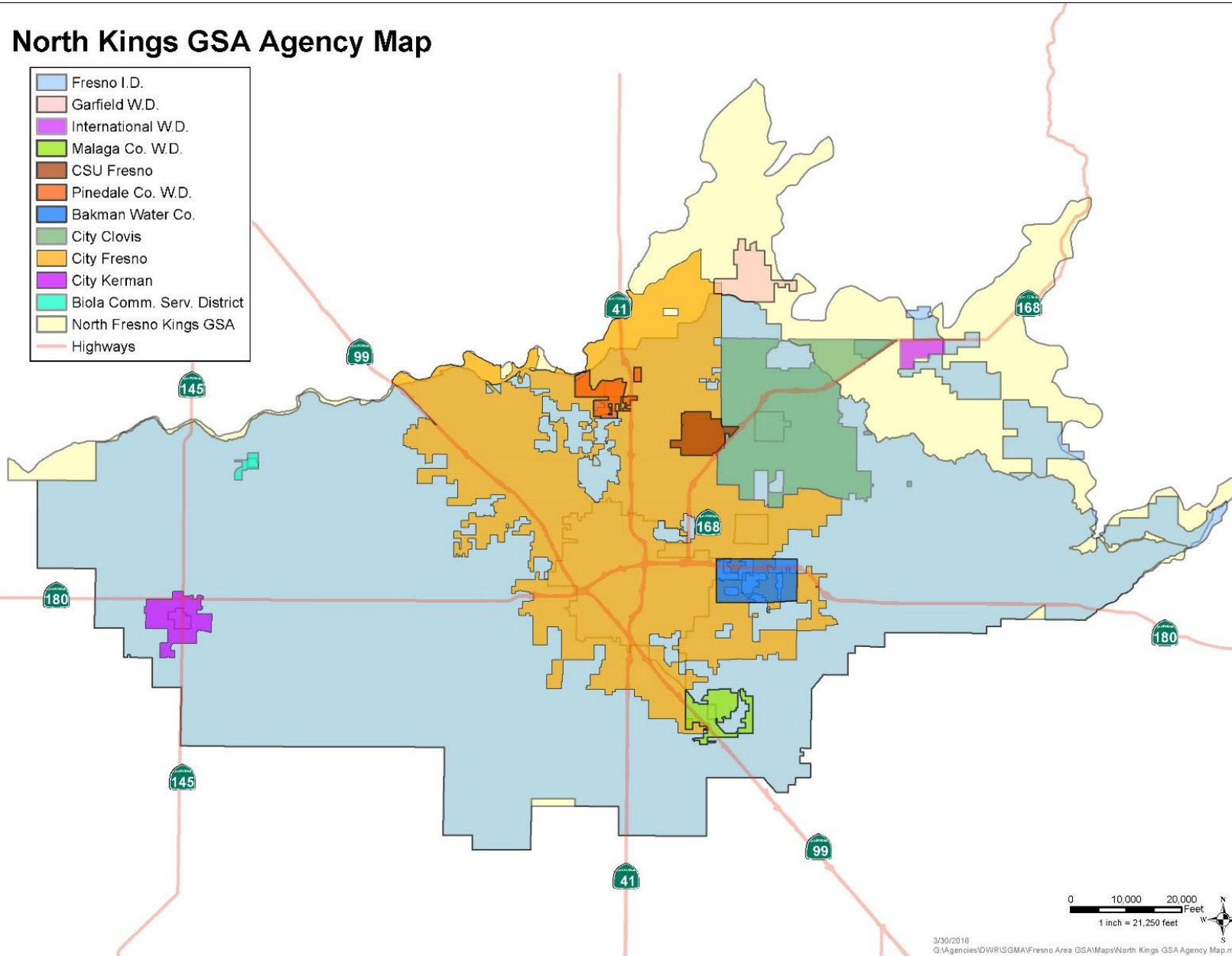


Kings Subbasin

- 7 GSAs in the Kings Subbasin totaling 979,000 acres
 - **North Kings GSA**
 - James GSA
 - McMullin Area GSA
 - Central Kings GSA
 - North Fork Kings GSA
 - South Kings GSA
 - Kings River East GSA
- Covers portions of 3 counties: Fresno, Kings, Tulare



North Kings GSA Agency Map



North Kings GSA

- 312,000 acres
- Joint Powers Authority formed in December 2016



Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)

- Outlines how a basin will avoid negative effects of groundwater overdraft & achieve sustainable groundwater levels by 2040
- Includes physical description of groundwater management area
 - Groundwater conditions, water budget, sustainability criteria, monitoring program, and projects & management actions
- Requirements:
 - Who is involved in the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)
 - Member agencies
 - Basin's geology & hydrogeology
 - Stakeholder engagement and community involvement
 - How GSA will define & measure sustainability
 - Programs & projects to achieve sustainability
 - How GSP will be implemented



Defining Sustainability



Sustainable groundwater management:
management & use of groundwater in a way that
can be maintained without causing undesirable
results

Undesirable Results

- Declining groundwater levels
- Reduced groundwater storage
- Degradation of water quality
- Impacts to interconnected streams (surface water/groundwater interconnection)
- Land subsidence
- Seawater intrusion





Addressing declining groundwater levels

- Addressing groundwater level declines as part of efforts to achieve sustainability (\$\$\$)
 - Well monitoring network – (\$\$\$)
 - Establishes well depths & calculates groundwater storage change from season to season
 - Helps to better understand and track groundwater levels over time
 - Annual reporting – (\$\$\$)
 - Subbasins must submit annual report by April 1st of each year to Department of Water Resources
 - Shows progress towards sustainability milestones
 - Evaluates groundwater storage change from year to year
 - Project & management actions listed in Groundwater Sustainability Plan - (\$\$\$)
 - Well mitigation program, groundwater recharge projects, well registration
- 

North Kings Administrative Program Expenses

Funding Tool Kit:

- Land Based Assessments – Prop 218
- Fees – Prop 26
- Loans
- Grants
- JPA Participation Revenues
- Well Permit Fees
- Extraction Fees
- Other

Program	Date Range	Revenues Used or Projected to Be Used	Anticipated Expense
GSP Preparation	2017-2020	Grants	\$1M
Monitoring Network Improvements	2020 – 2026	Grants, Agency Contributions	\$3 - \$5M
Domestic Well Mitigation	2024-2040	Agency Cost-Share	\$12 - \$19M
Recharge Basins	2020 – 2040	Direct Agency Expense; Grants	\$60M
Well Registration Portal	2023 - 2040	Agency Cost Share	\$100k
		Total	\$76 - \$86M

Fiscal Management in Uncertain Times

- Grants, Grants, Grants
- Proposition 218 Election
- Stakeholder Engagement – Transparency
 - Tight Controls to Minimize Expenses
- Phasing Funding and Implementation Over Reasonable Time Frame
- Accountability
- Establishing Healthy Operating Reserves



CONTINUE THE LEGACY



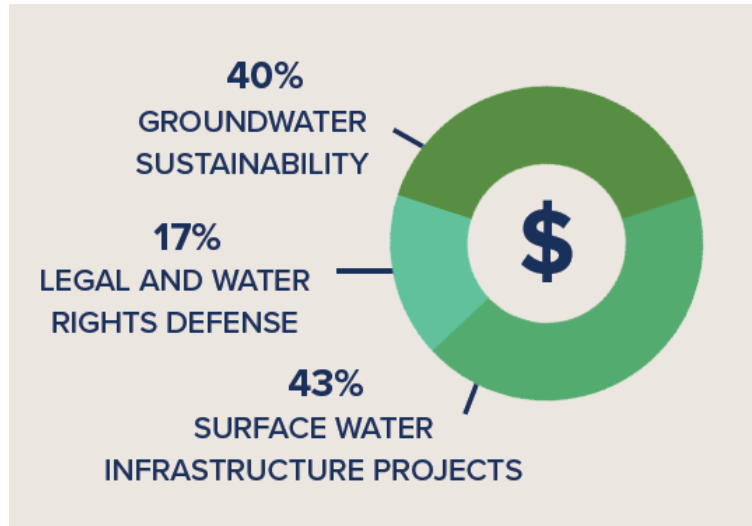
GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY



SURFACE WATER
INFRASTRUCTURE



LEGAL AND WATER
RIGHTS DEFENSE



CONTINUE THE LEGACY

Successful Strategy

- Simple Message: Three Funding Buckets
- Over 80 individual or small group grower meetings.
- Leave Behind Materials
- Short Videos with Explanations
- Board Member Education
- Consistent Messaging
- Start Early – 2 year Project Plan
- 64.3% Approval for Rate Increase

Key Takeaways

Raising Revenues for Compliance with New Regulations and Associated Programs Is Not Easy.

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Early Identification of Needs and Board Member Education and Support Are Critical.

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Accountability for Expenditure of Raised Funds is Essential for Future Fund Raising Efforts.

Questions?

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