



GRAVELLY FORD WATER DISTRICT

18811 Road 27 · Madera, CA 93638 (559) 474 ·1000 Fax: (559) 673 ·1086

Board of Directors

Steven Emmert, Pres.
Seth Kirk, V. Pres.
Kenneth Basila
Diane Kirk
Paul Stewart

July 7, 2016

Manager

Don Roberts

Via Email & U.S. Mail

Mr. Mark Nordberg, GSA Project Manager
Senior Engineering Geologist
California Department of Water Resources
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Mr. Mike McKenzie
Senior Engineering Geologist
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Fresno, CA 93726
Charles.McKenzie@water.ca.gov

RE: Notice of the Gravelly Ford Water District's Intent to Serve as Groundwater Sustainability Agency for a Portion of the Madera Subbasin

To Whom it May Concern,

This letter constitutes notice to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) of Gravelly Ford Water District's (GFWD or District) intent to undertake sustainable groundwater management in a portion of the Madera Subbasin (Basin) as a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) pursuant to the Sustainability Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). GFWD is a public agency, established by the State Legislature as a Special Act District, and is eligible to serve as a GSA. This notice of intent is timely filed within 30 days of the date GFWD's Board of Directors (Board) approved its June 8, 2016 resolution electing to serve as a GSA.

This notice also includes all information requires to be submitted pursuant to Section 10723.8(a) of the Water Code. This notice encloses a map depicting GFWD's proposed GSA management area. (Water Code, § 10723.8, subd. (a)(1).) GFWD's proposed management area follows the boundary of the District and land owned by the District. The District's resolution electing to form a GSA is also enclosed.¹ (Id., subd. (a)(2).) Also attached to the resolution is the "Proof of Publication" for public noticing. No new bylaws, ordinances, or other new authorities were adopted in connection with this resolution to serve as a GSA. (Id., subd. (a)(3).)

Pursuant to Section 10723.8(a)(4) of the Water Code, the following is a list of "interested parties developed pursuant to [Water Code] Section 10723.2 and an explanation of how their interests will be considered in the development and operation of the groundwater sustainability agency and the development and implementation of the [District's] sustainability plan."

Specifically, Section 10723.2 of the Water Code requires a GSA to "consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, as well as those responsible for implementing GSPs," including the following interests:

(a) Holders of overlying groundwater rights, including:

(1) Agricultural users.

- The Gravelly Ford Water District encompasses approximately 8,300 acres, of which, approximately 8,000 acres are agriculture. As GFWD is a conjunctive use District, most of agricultural users in the District are also groundwater users. GFWD has preexisting relationships with these landowners.

(2) Domestic Well owners.

- Most rural domestic well owners are also agricultural landowners and will be considered by the District.

(b) Municipal well operators.

- There are no municipal wells within the GFWD boundary.

(c) Public water systems.

- There are no Public Water Systems within the GFWD boundary.
-

¹ The District did not adopt any new bylaws, ordinances, or new authorities that are applicable to this notice.

(d) Local land use planning agencies.

- County of Madera. The County of Madera and GFWD are members of the Madera Subbasin GSA Formation Committee and the Madera Groundwater Authority and will coordinate and cooperate through those processes.

(e) Environmental users of groundwater.

- Not applicable.

(f) Surface water users, if there is a hydrologic connection between surface and groundwater bodies.

- Not applicable. Within GFWD's boundary, the only surface water users are supplied by GFWD and described above.

(g) The federal government, including, but not limited to, the military and managers of federal lands.

- There are no federal lands within the District.

(h) California Native American Tribes.

- There are no lands of California Native American Tribes within the District.

(i) Disadvantaged communities, including, but not limited to, those served by private domestic wells or small community water systems.

- Madera County is considered by DWR as a county with a countywide median household income of less than 80%, GFWD is located entirely within Madera County. There are no Disadvantaged Communities within or adjacent to the Gravelly Ford Water District. The District will coordinate with the County of Madera on any areas that in the future may be considered Disadvantaged Communities within or adjacent to the District. The County of Madera and GFWD are both members of the Madera Subbasin GSA Formation Committee and the Madera Groundwater Authority.

(j) Entities listed in Section 10927 that are monitoring

- GFWD is a member of the Madera Subbasin GSA Formation Committee and the Madera Groundwater Authority. The agencies in these organizations include the Madera Irrigation District, City of Madera, County of Madera, and local water agencies including Gravelly Ford Water District, Root Creek Water District, Madera

Water District, and Aliso Water District. Agencies from the Chowchilla Subbasin and Delta Mendota Subbasin also participate including Columbia Canal Company, Chowchilla Water District, and the City of Chowchilla.

Interested parties will have several opportunities, both formally and informally, to provide input to GFWD throughout the process of developing, operating, and implementing the GSA including, but not limited to, public comment periods required by SGMA, opportunities for public comment during the GFWD's regular and special board meetings, and at other times to be determined and noticed pursuant to Water Code section 10727.8(a).

If you should have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at 559-474-1000.

Sincerely,



Don Roberts, PE
General Manager

Enclosure

**GRAVELLY FORD WATER DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2016-05**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS,
GRAVELLY FORD WATER DISTRICT
ELECTION TO SERVE AS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

RESOLVED by the Board of Directors ("Board") of the Gravelly Ford Water District ("District"), at a regular meeting duly called and held on May 11, 2016, at the business office of the Madera Irrigation District, 12152 Road 28 1/4, Madera, California 93637 as follows:

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014, Water Code sections 10720-10737.8 ("SGMA") was signed into law on September 16, 2014; and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires that each California groundwater basin or subbasin be managed by a Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("GSA"), or multiple GSAs, and that such management be implemented pursuant to an approved Groundwater Sustainability Plan ("GSP") or multiple GSPs; and

WHEREAS, the District's service area overlies a portion of the subbasin of the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin known as a portion of the Madera Subbasin (Basin No. 5-22.06 in the Department of Water Resources' CASGEM system), an unadjudicated groundwater basin overlying a portion of Madera County (the "Basin"); and

WHEREAS, the District is a local public agency as defined in section 10721 of the Water Code; and

WHEREAS, the District is authorized to be a GSA for a portion of the Basin pursuant to section 10723(a) of the Water Code; and

WHEREAS, notice a public hearing to consider whether the District should become a GSA for a portion of the Basin, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A," was published in the Madera Tribune on April 30, 2016, and May 7, 2016, pursuant to section 6066 of the Government Code and section 10723(b) of the Water Code; and

WHEREAS, the District had provided notice by mail via U.S. Postal Service to all landowners and water users within Gravelly Ford Water District of said Public Hearing; and

WHEREAS, the District received no comments or communications either written, email, telephone or in person in response objecting to such proposed Election for the District to serve as Groundwater Sustainability Agency; and

WHEREAS, the District has made a good faith effort to provide courtesy copies of the hearing notice to the Basin's other potential GSAs, including the board of supervisors of Madera County, the City of Madera, and other districts that overlie the Basin; and

WHEREAS, the District held a public hearing at which its Board of Directors considered whether the District should become a GSA for the Basin; and

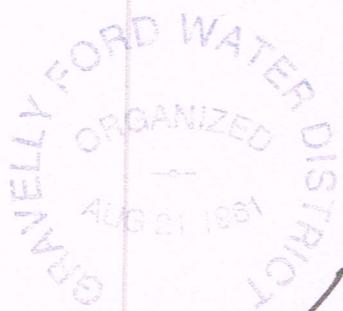
WHEREAS, it would be in the best interest of the District to become a GSA for a portion of the subbasin; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of Gravelly Ford Water District do order as follows:

1. The District hereby elects to be the exclusive Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the portion of the Madera Subbasin that is shown on the map attached hereto as Exhibit "B" and incorporated herein by reference.
2. Within 30 days of the date of this Resolution, the General Manager is directed to submit a notice of intent to the Department of Water Resources, pursuant to Water Code section 10723.8(a).
3. The General Manager shall, after complying with Water Code section 10727.8, begin the process of developing the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Basin in accordance with all applicable statutes and regulations in partnership with other GSAs in the Basin.
4. The General Manager shall create and maintain a list of persons interested in receiving notices concerning the District's SGMA process pursuant to section 10723.4 of the Water Code.
5. The General Manager shall provide regular progress reports on the SGMA implementation process to the Board.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Gravelly Ford Water District, at a regular meeting of the Board held on the 8th day of June, 2016, by the following vote:

AYES: Directors S Kirk, K Basila, P Stewart, D Kirk, S Emmert
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE

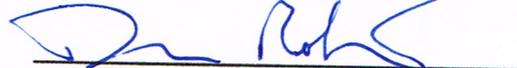


Steven Emmert
Steven Emmert, President

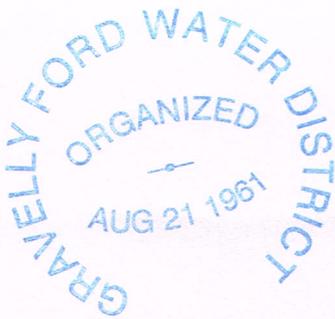
ATTEST: Kenneth Basila
Kenneth Basila, Secretary

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

The undersigned Secretary of the Board of the Gravelly Ford Water District hereby certifies that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of Resolution No. 2016-05 adopted June 8, 2016.



Don Roberts, Deputy Secretary



Proof of Publication

(2015.5 C.C.P.)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

GRAVELLY FORD WATER DISTRICT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) ss.
County of Madera)

I am a citizens of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of the printer of the Madera Tribune, a newspaper of general circulation, published in the City of Madera, County of Madera, and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of General circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Madera, State of California, under the date of November 9, 1966, Case Number 4875 that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

April 30, May 7, 2016

I certify or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

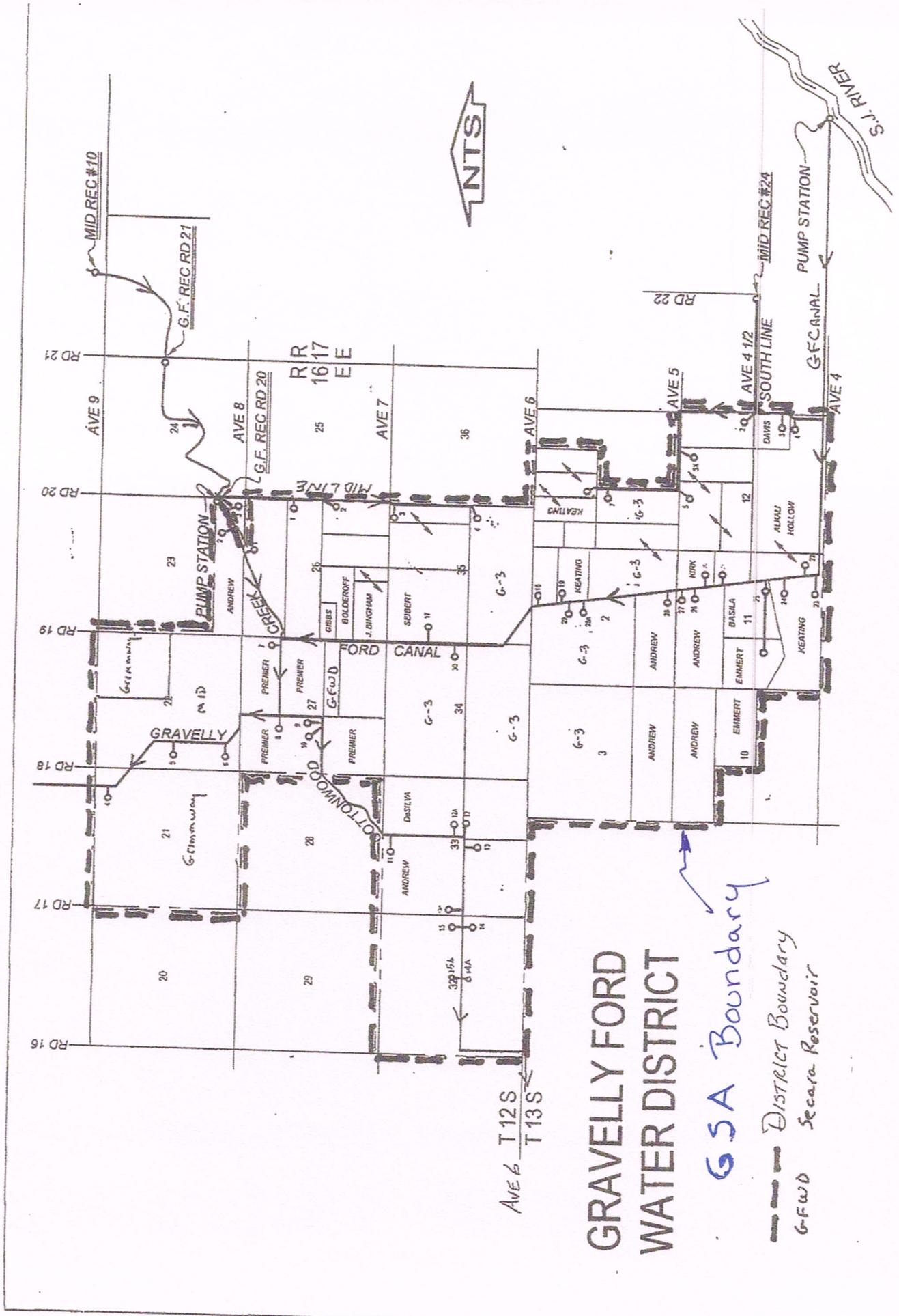
Signature
Date 7/7/16

GRAVELLY FORD WATER DISTRICT
Notice of Public Hearing
Election to become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to Water Code Section 10723, the Gravelly Ford Water District ("District") will hold a public hearing during a regular meeting on May 11, 2016, commencing at 1:30 p.m. at the Madera Irrigation District's office at 12152 Road 28 1/4, Madera, CA, to determine whether the District will become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for a portion of the Madera Subbasin of the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin. Written comments may be submitted to the District Office at 18811 Rd 27 Madera, CA 93638 Attn: Don Roberts, Board Deputy Secretary, or to the District at donroberts717@gmail.com., no later than 4:00 p.m. on May 10, 2016.

During the hearing, the District will allow oral comments and will receive additional written comments before making a decision. The President of the Board may limit oral comments to a reasonable length.
Dated: April 26, 2016
Don Roberts, General Manager

Publish Dates: April 30 and May 7, 2016
No. 2881 - April 30, May 7, 2016



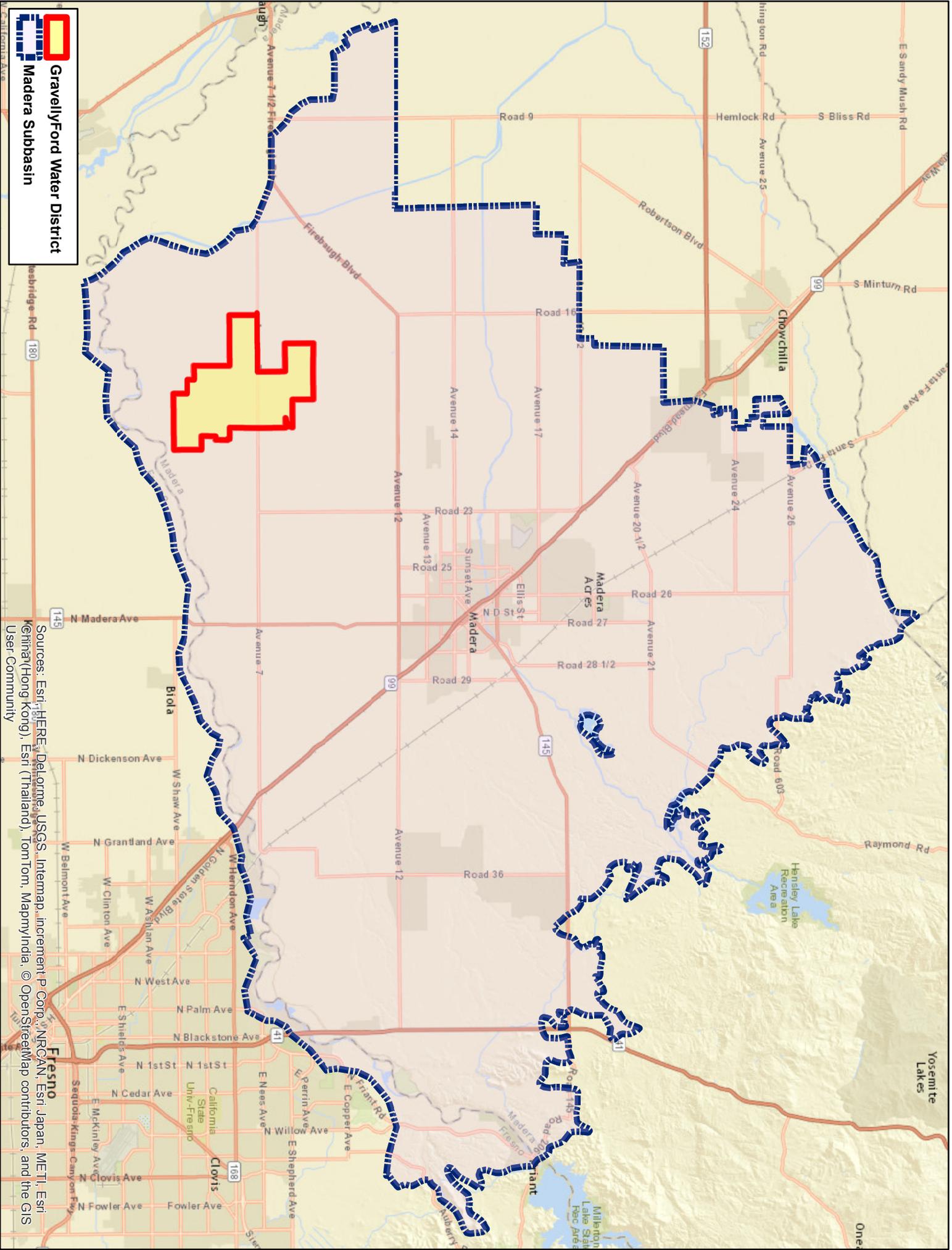
GRAVELLY FORD WATER DISTRICT

GSA Boundary

District Boundary

G-FWD Secara Reservoir

Ave 6 T 12S
T 13S



 Gravelly Ford Water District
 Madera Subbasin

Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri
 ©kinat(Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS
 User Community

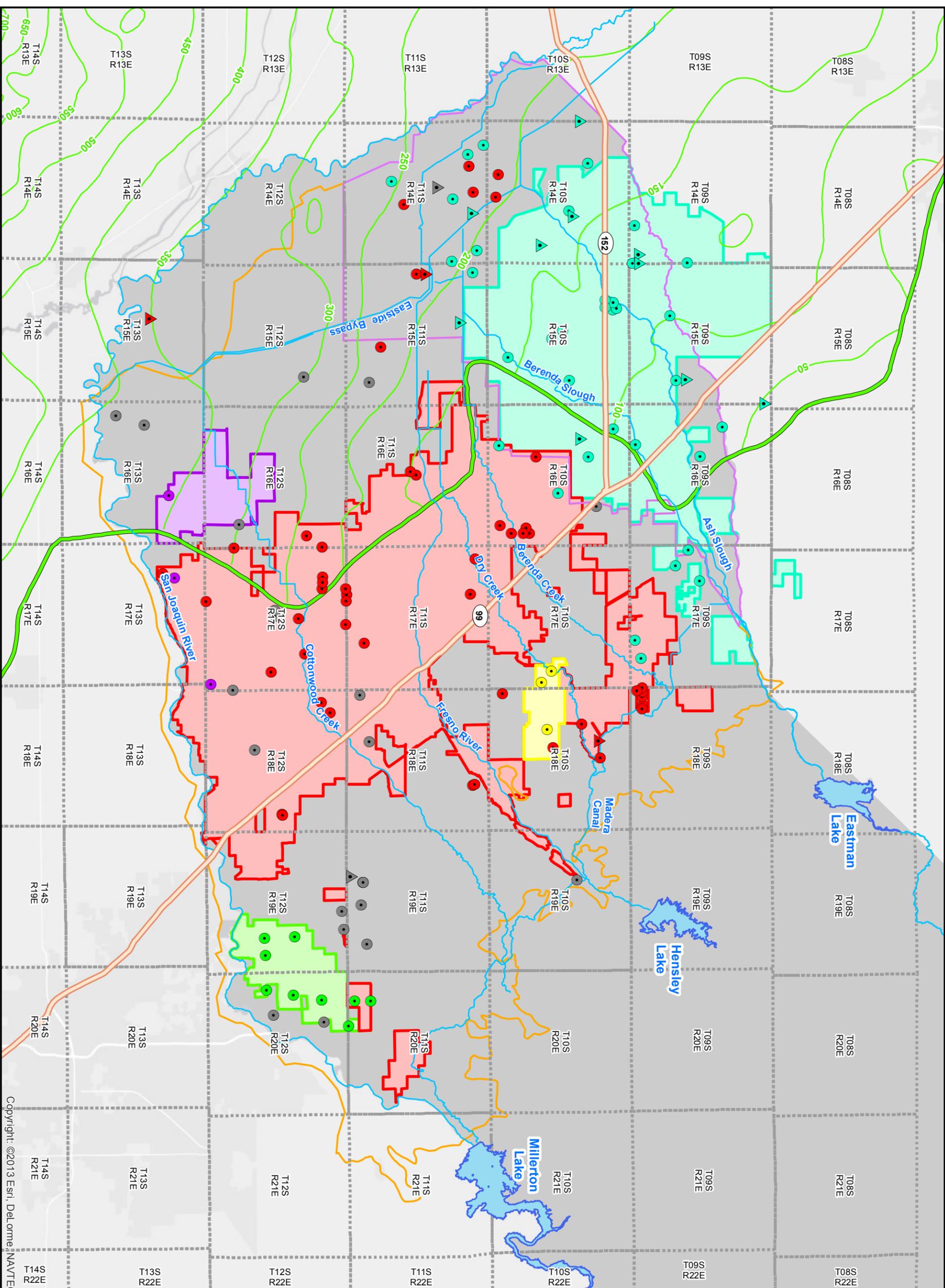
Madera-Chowchilla CASGEM Group Well Location Map

Legend

- Chowchilla Water District (CWD)
- Gravelly Ford Water District (GFWD)
- Madera County Boundary
- Madera Irrigation District (MID)
- Madera Water District (MWD)
- Root Creek Water District (RCWD)
- CWD - CASGEM Well
- CWD - Voluntary Well
- GFWD - CASGEM Well
- Madera County - CASGEM Well
- Madera County - Voluntary Well
- MID - CASGEM Well
- MID - Voluntary Well
- MWD CASGEM Well
- RCWD CASGEM Well
- Waterways
- Corcoran Clay Elevation Below Ground Surface
- Corcoran Clay Extent
- Chowchilla Subbasin
- Madera Subbasin
- Township & Range
- CASGEM Boundary



Date: 7/29/2015
Author: Ramon E Mendez



SENT TO ALL LANDOWNERS &
WATER USERS



GRAVELLY FORD WATER DISTRICT

18811 Road 27 · Madera, CA 93638 (559) 474-1000 Fax: (559) 673-1086

May 2, 2016

Board of Directors

Steven Emmert, Pres.
Seth Kirk, V. Pres.
Kenneth Basila
Diane Kirk
Paul Stewart

Manager

Don Roberts

CALIFORNIA'S SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT AND GRAVELLY FORD WATER DISTRICT'S INVOLVEMENT

GRAVELLY FORD WATER DISTRICT (DISTRICT)

- GFWD has scheduled a public hearing at 1:30 PM on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at the Board Room of Madera Irrigation District, 12152 Rd 28½, Madera, CA 93637, to determine whether the District will become the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for a portion of the Madera Subbasin for areas within the District's jurisdiction (See Legal Notice).

CALIFORNIA'S SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT (SGMA)

• State Level

- On September 16, 2014, Gov. Jerry Brown signed into law a three-bill legislative package related to groundwater in the State of California. This three-bill legislation is known as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (SGMA). The SGMA provides a framework for sustainable management of groundwater supplies by local authorities, with a limited role of state intervention only if necessary to protect the resource. The act requires the formation of local groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) that must assess conditions in their local water basins and adopt locally-based management plans.

MADERA GROUNDWATER JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY (JPA)

• County Level

- The Madera Groundwater Authority's goal is "to provide for the conjunctive use of groundwater and surface water within the represented groundwater basins to ensure the reliability of a long-term water supply to meet current and future beneficial uses through the development of a coordinated and comprehensive regional approach to the monitoring, evaluation and management of groundwater resources."

- Formed December 21, 2014.

- Member Agencies: Madera Irrigation District, Madera County, City of Madera, Aliso Water District, Gravelly Ford Water District, Root Creek Water District, City of Chowchilla, Chowchilla Water District, and Madera Water District.

MADERA SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (GSA)

•Subbasin Level

- The position of the Committee at this time is a multiple GSA, one Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Structure.
- Subject to the outcome of the hearing on May 11, 2016, the District plans to file with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to become a GSA for areas within its jurisdiction.
- Formation Committee Member Agencies: Madera Irrigation District, Madera County, City of Madera, Aliso Water District, Gravelly Ford Water District, Root Creek Water District, Madera Water District, and New Sone Water District.

GRAVELLY FORD WATER DISTRICT (GFWD)

• District Level

- GFWD is an integral member of the Madera Groundwater JPA and Madera Subbasin GSA Formation committee. The District is a member of the Madera-Chowchilla Basin Regional Groundwater Monitoring Plan which achieved California Statewide Elevation Monitoring Program (CASGEM) compliance in September 2015.
- GFWD plans to file with the Department of water Resources (DWR) to become a GSA for areas within its jurisdiction.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

• Landowner Level

- Become educated on the State's legislation and requirements.
- Participate in the CASGEM program by providing GFWD or another local agency with a signed well consent letter and well log to help ensure CASGEM compliance.
- Ask questions and discuss your concerns with agency Directors and Staff.
- Stay informed - attend Board Meetings, JPA meetings and other agency meetings to understand what is happening related to groundwater in Madera County.