



# Proposed New YSGA Fee

Public Workshops

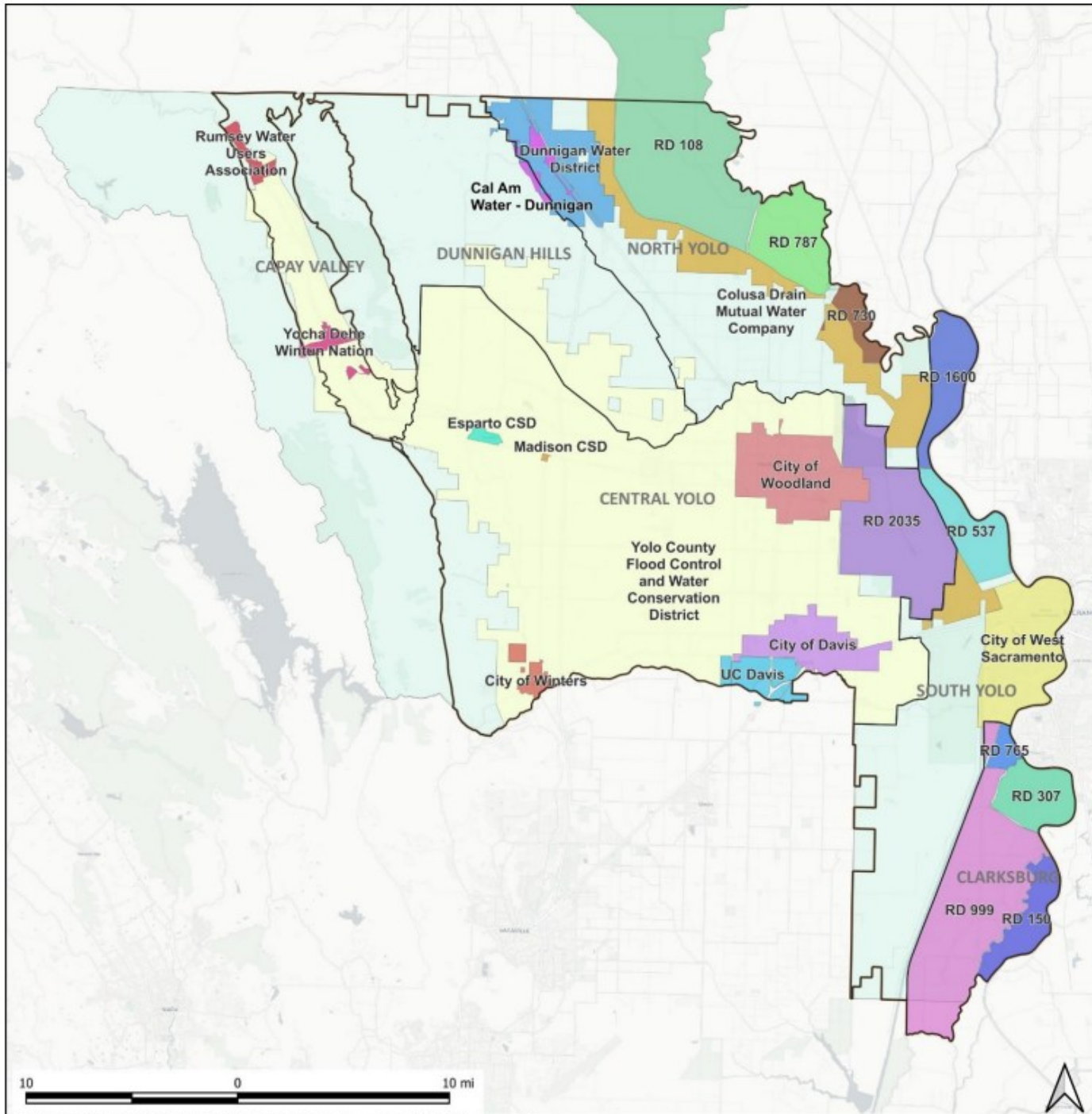
March 2026

# Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency

- 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) legislation
- 2017 Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) formation
  - Member agencies annual contributions
- 2022 Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) submitted to State

# YOLO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER AGENCY

Member Entities and  
Management Areas



- YSGA Boundary
- YSGA Management Areas
- YSGA Member Entities & Affiliated Parties**
- Cal Am Water - Dunnigan
- City of Davis
- City of West Sacramento
- City of Winters
- City of Woodland
- Colusa Drain Mutual Water Co.
- Dunnigan Water District
- Esparto CSD
- Madison CSD
- RD 108
- RD 150
- RD 1600
- RD 2035
- RD 307
- RD 537
- RD 730
- RD 765
- RD 787
- RD 999
- UC Davis
- YCFC & WCD
- Rumsley Water Users Association
- Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation
- County of Yolo

CRS: NAD83 / California Albers



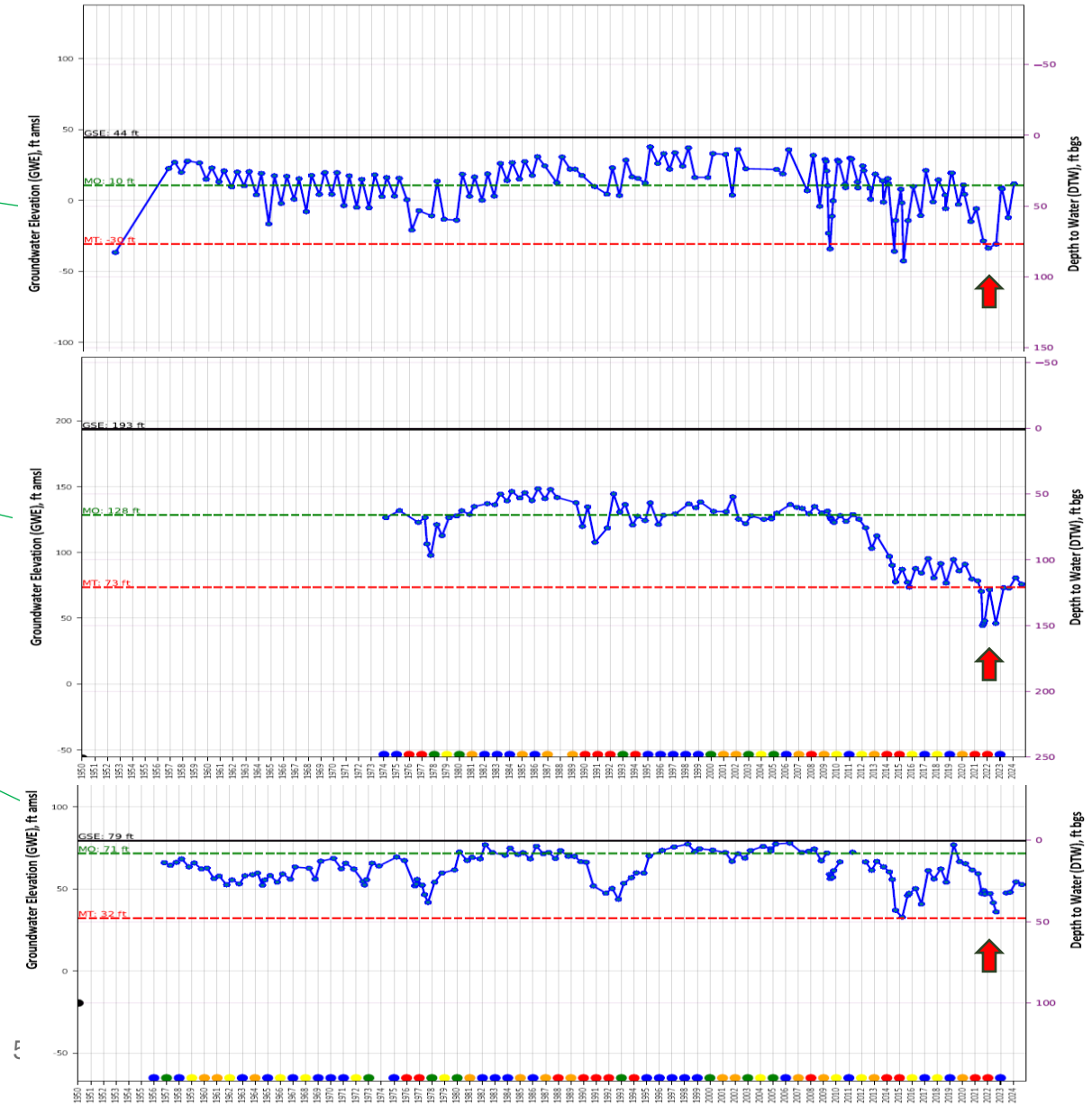
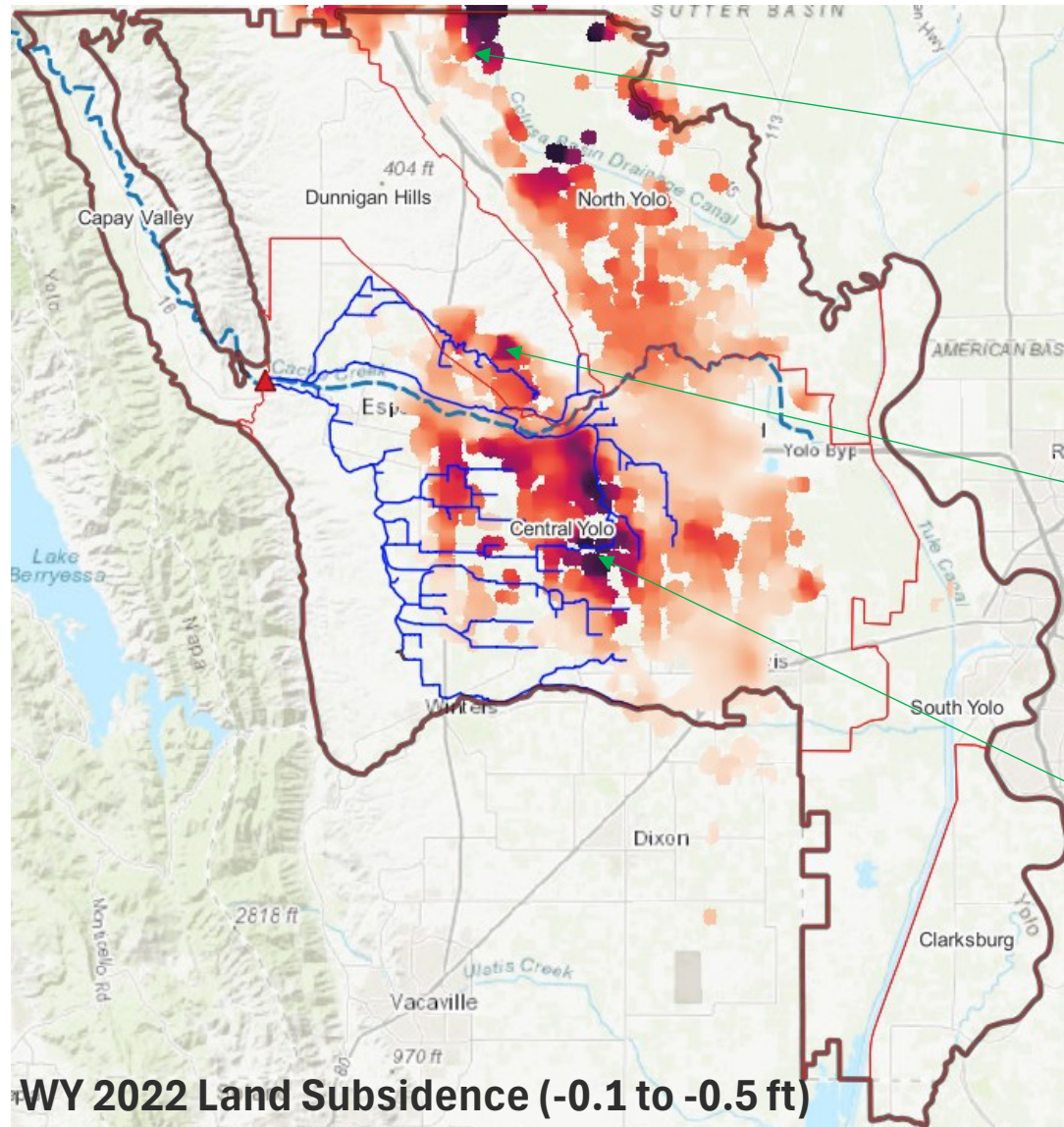
YOLO SUBBASIN  
GROUNDWATER AGENCY  
**YOLO SUBBASIN GSP  
ANNUAL REPORT 2024**

**NSFORD**  
MIC CONSULTING

# History of Success

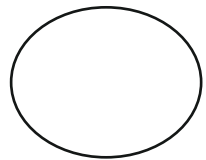
- November 2018: Received **\$1M grant** from DWR for developing Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)
- October 2023: DWR Approved of 2022 Yolo Subbasin GSP
- November 2023: Received **\$7.917M grant** from DWR
  - \$2.3349M for updating the Yolo Subbasin GSP
  - \$5.5821M for projects (Yolo-Zamora, Dunnigan Area, Winters, YCFC&WCD)
- September 2024: Received **\$400k grant** from USBR for modeling adaptive strategies to achieve sustainability

# Known Challenges within Subbasin

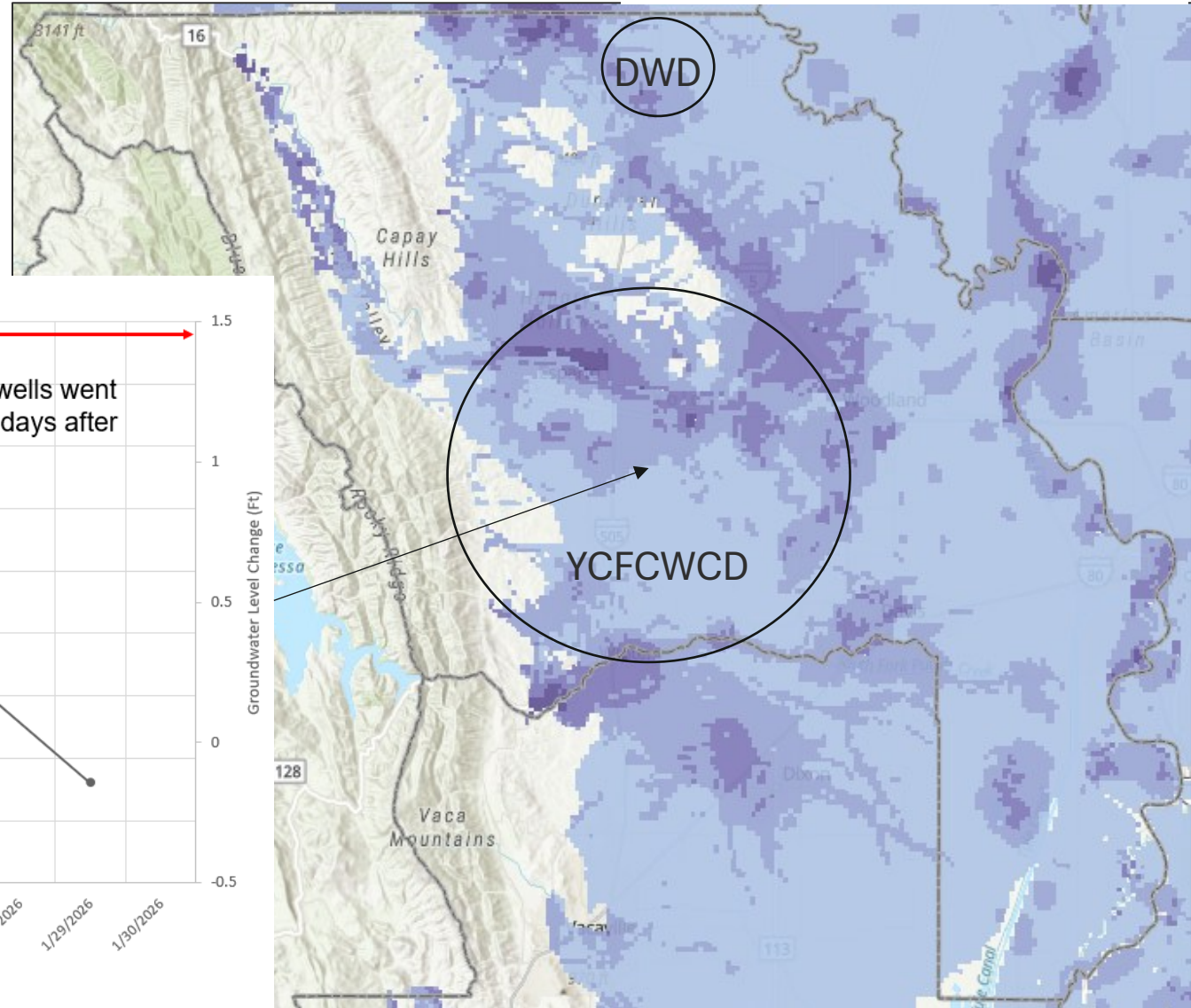


# Known Opportunities within Subbasin

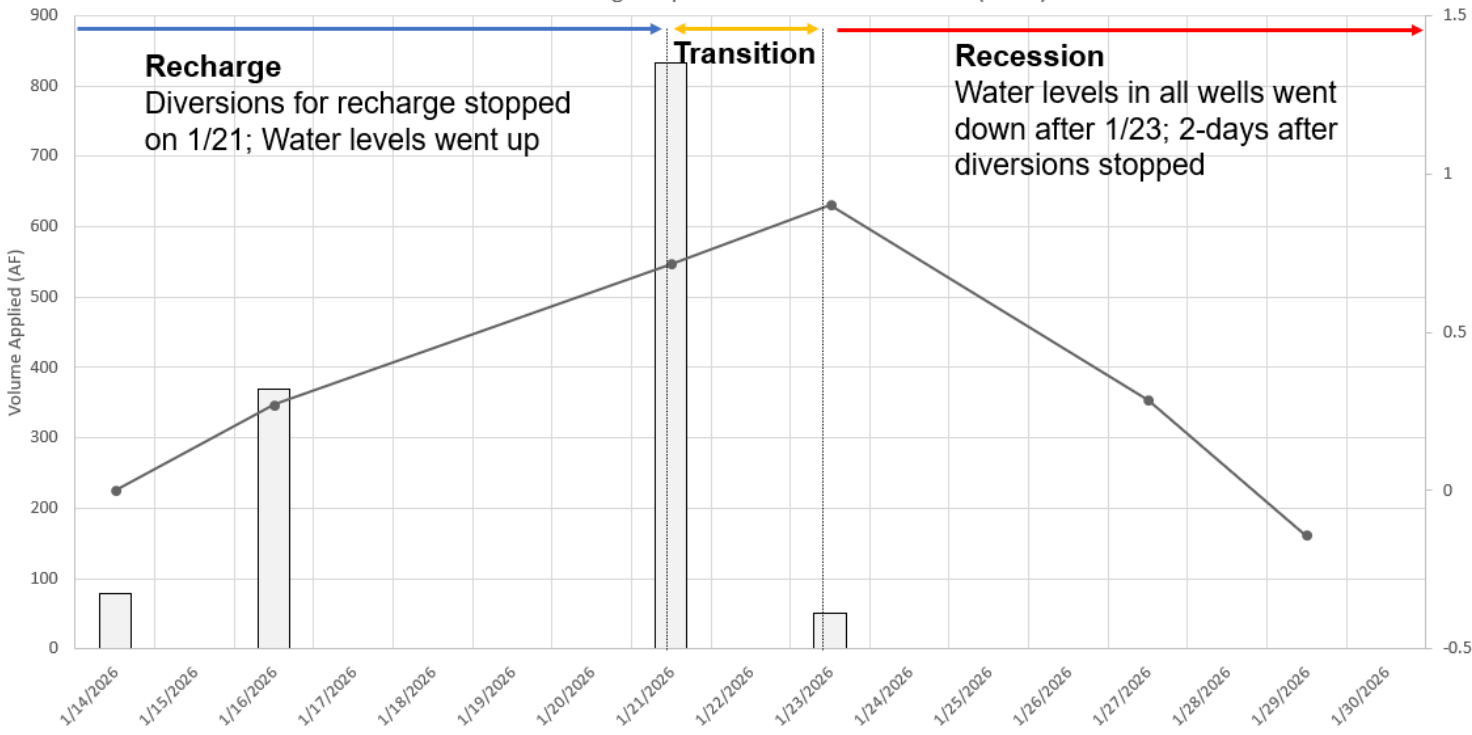
<https://tinyurl.com/yke3e4fk>



YSGA Recharge Activities



District Recharge Impact to Groundwater Levels (Draft)



**Recharge**

Diversions for recharge stopped on 1/21; Water levels went up

**Transition**

**Recession**

Water levels in all wells went down after 1/23; 2-days after diversions stopped

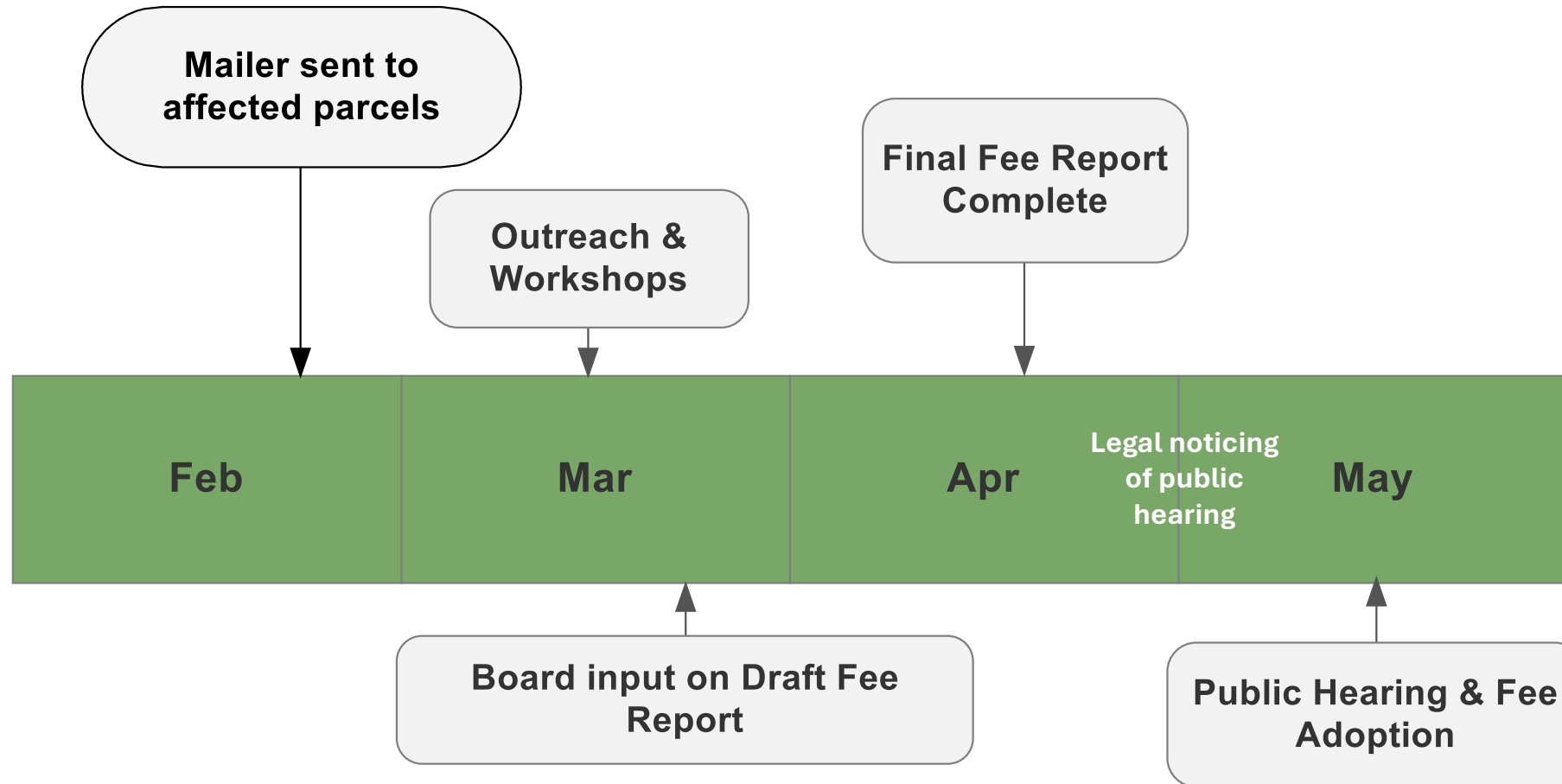
# YSGA Goals

- Continue compliance with SGMA
- Advancing GSP projects and management actions to achieve sustainability by 2042
  - *Example Project:* Groundwater recharge
  - *Example Management Action:* Domestic well mitigation program
- Complete work using best available data, science, and tools
- Improve communication, outreach, and collaboration
- Ensuring groundwater availability for all beneficial uses, including agriculture

# Who will pay the Fee?

- Currently operating revenue is from YSGA member agency contributions and State grants
- The new fee would shift non-grant funded regulatory costs to beneficiaries
- Beneficiaries include:
  - Individuals, businesses, and government agencies, including the State of California, and
  - Wildlife, riparian habitat and other environmental and recreational uses and users of groundwater and surface water sources (because groundwater and surface water are interconnected in the Yolo Subbasin)

# Fiscal Year 2027 Fee Timeline



Fee is collected for the Fiscal Year: July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027

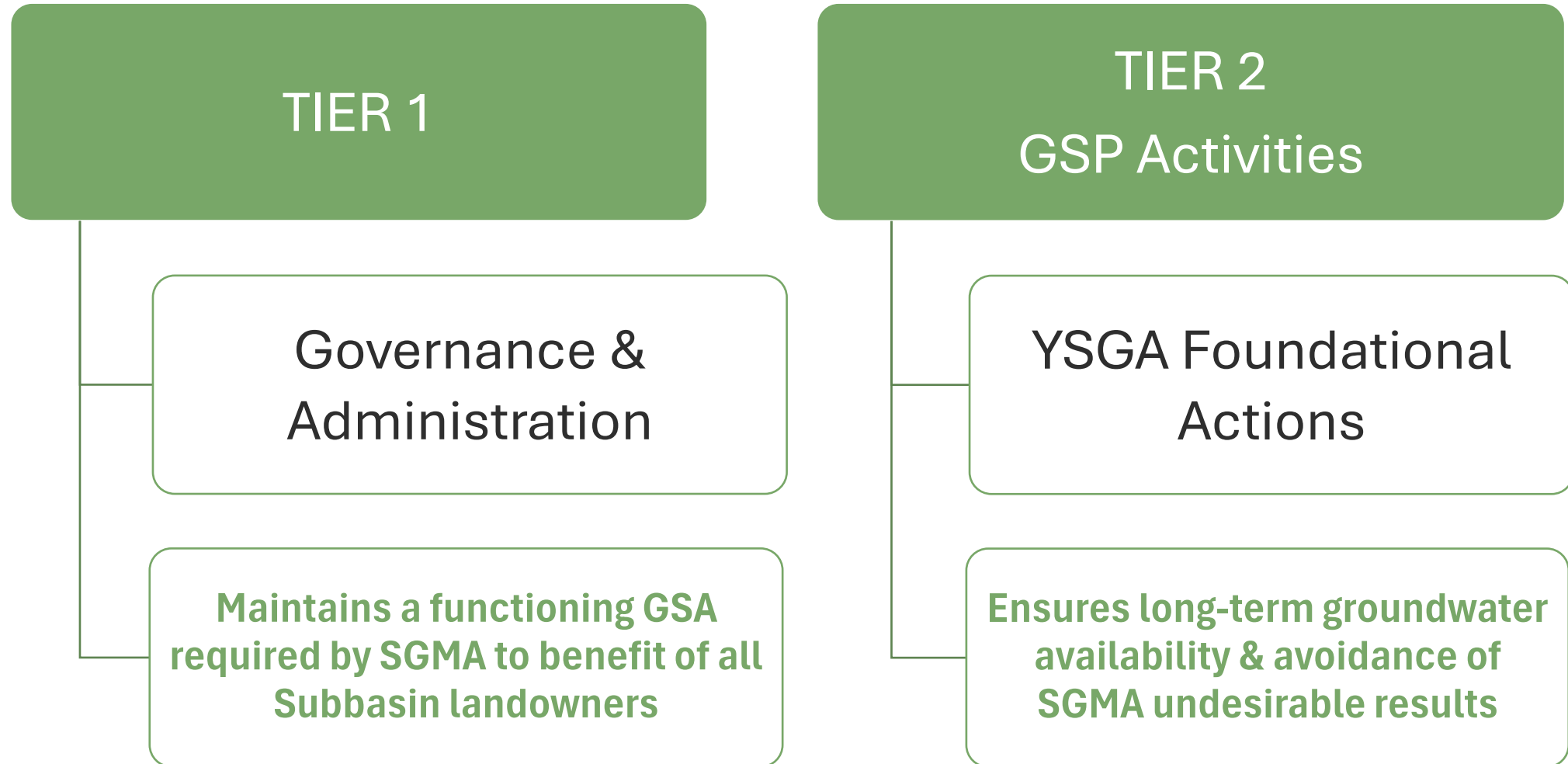
# Fee Collection

- Parcels & water systems owned by **Taxable entities** billed with property taxes
  - Fees collected by Yolo & Solano counties; disbursed to YSGA Jan, May, Jul
- Parcels & water systems owned by **Non-Taxable entities** and parcels receiving service from **Community Water Systems** invoiced by YSGA
  - **Non-Taxable Entities examples:** Clarksburg High School, Capay Cemetery District, Yuba Community College, California Department of Fish & Wildlife
  - **Community Water Systems examples:** City of West Sacramento, Wild Wings Golf Course CSA, UC Davis, Madison CSD
- Parcels owned by **Yocha Dehe** invoiced by YSGA
  - Federally owned parcels held in trust & federally regulated drinking water system are exempt
  - The tribe will pay the fee for parcels owned by the tribe

**All Data and Fees Shown  
in the Presentation are DRAFT**

**YSGA Board will be reviewing the draft fee  
report March 23 and potentially adopting  
the new fees May 18**

# YSGA Functions



# FY27 Fee Level \$1.6 Million

- Tier 1 Administrative costs based on YSGA actual historical costs
- Tier 2 GSP Activities costs developed by staff in YSGA Workplan. The costs are annualized over the next 5 years.

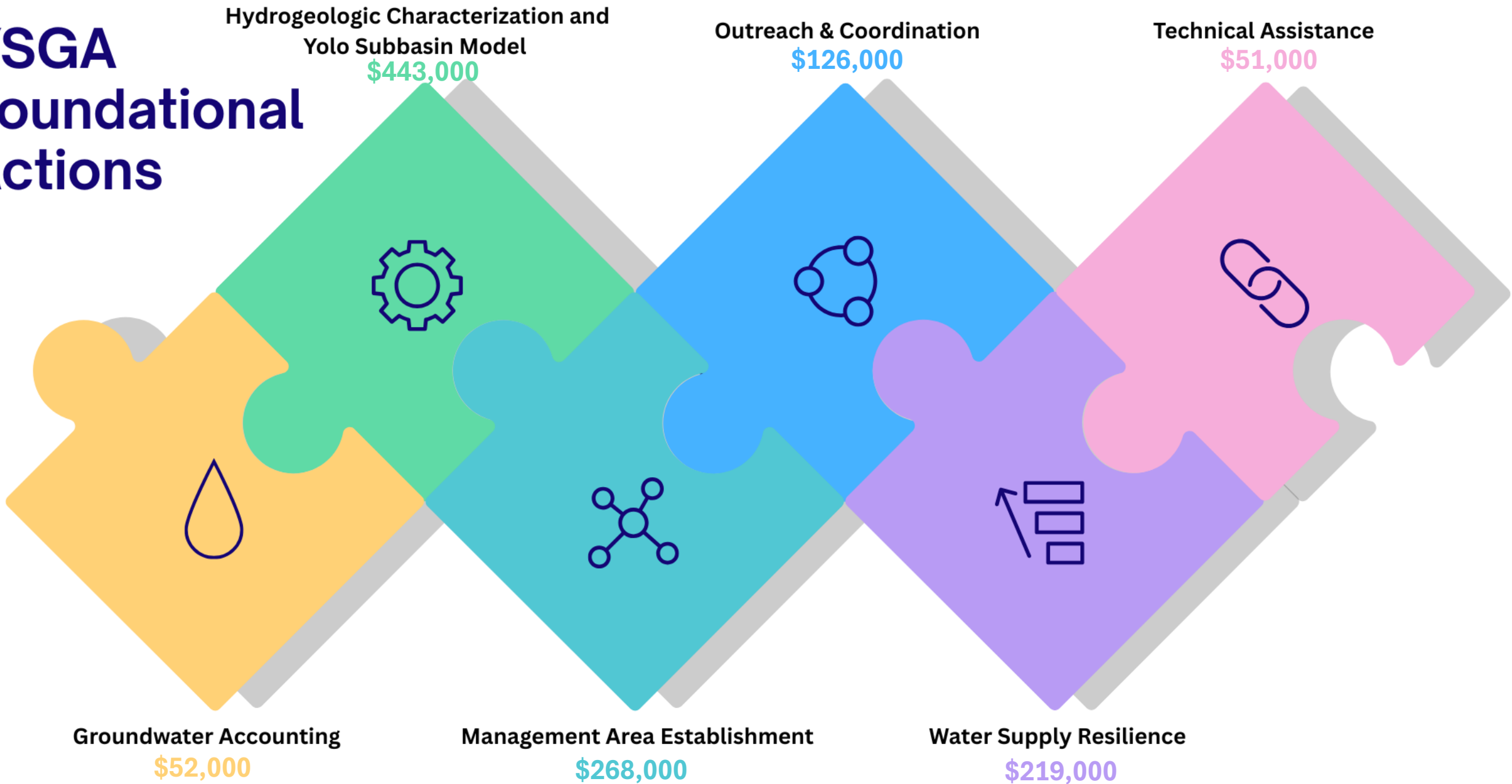
Total Fee Revenue FY27		\$1,600,000
Tier 1 (All Parcels)		\$441,000
Tier 2		\$1,159,000
-- Agricultural Users	95%	\$1,101,050
-- Domestic Users	5%	\$57,950

# Tier 2 GSP Activities Workplan

- Developed through prioritization of GSP projects and management actions (PMAs)
- Six “**foundational actions**” identified: groupings of high-priority to develop and implement over the next five years



# YSGA Foundational Actions

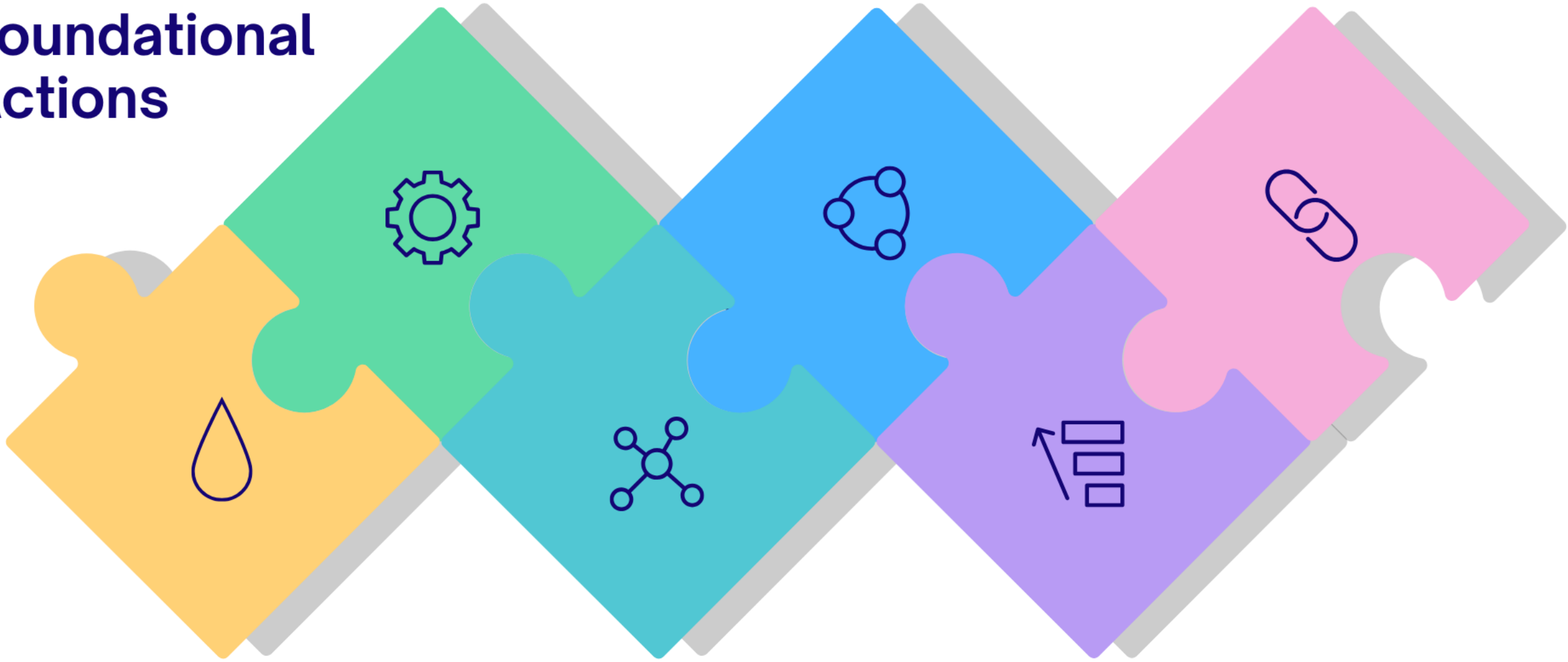


# YSGA Foundational Actions

Hydrogeologic Characterization and  
Yolo Subbasin Model

Outreach & Coordination

Technical Assistance



Groundwater Accounting

Management Area Establishment

Water Supply Resilience



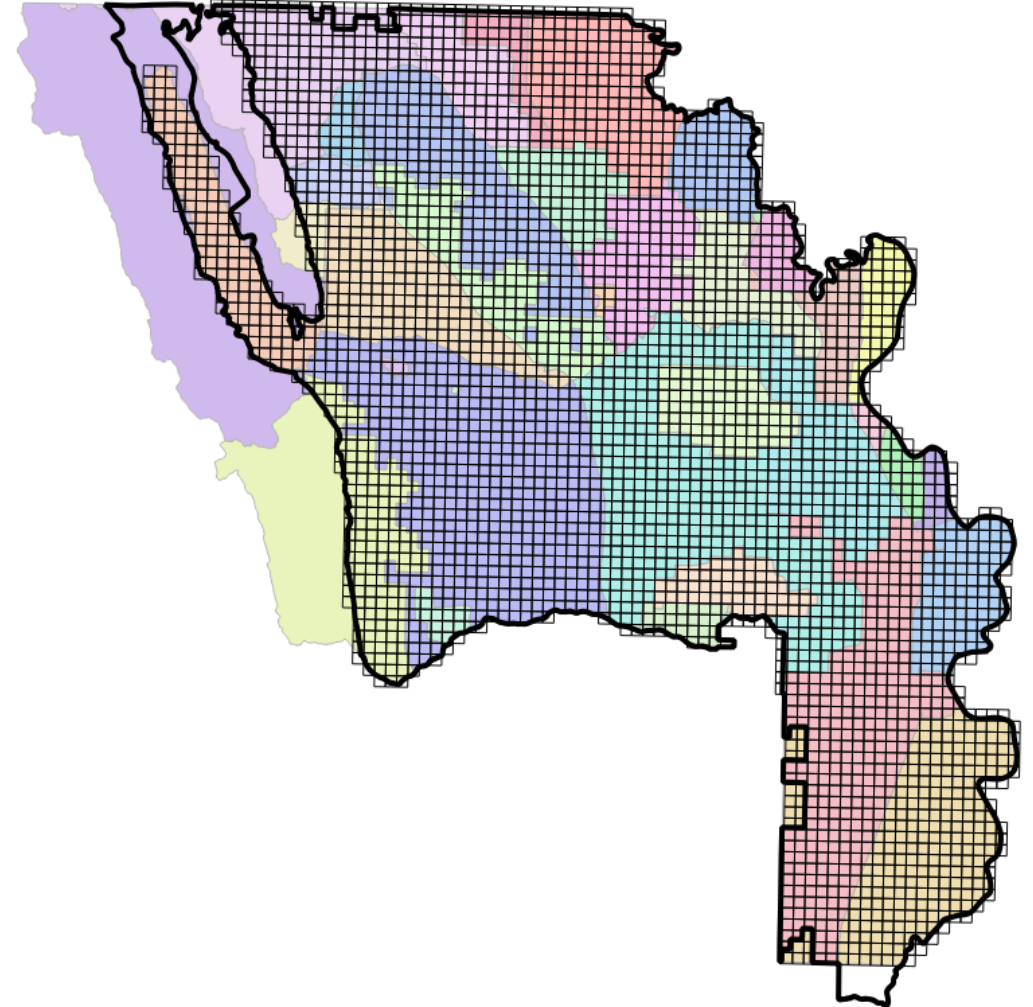
# Hydrogeologic Characterization and Yolo Subbasin Model FY27 Tier 2 Fee Collection: \$443,000

## Goals:

- Obtain and analyze new data to improve understanding of Subbasin hydrogeology
- Fill data gaps
- Incorporate new data to improve the YSGA model

## Benefits:

- Obtain needed information to support setting of Sustainable Management Criteria and management of the Subbasin
- Hydrogeologic data available for landowners, drillers, and member agencies
- YSGA model better reflects real-world conditions
- Improved decision-making capability with higher quality model outputs





# Water Supply Resilience

## FY27 Tier 2 Fee Collection: \$219,000

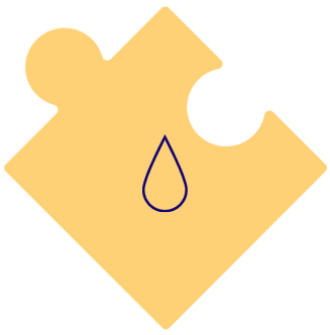
### Goals:

- Facilitate access to new surface water supplies for areas reliant on groundwater
- Expand groundwater recharge opportunities throughout the Subbasin

### Benefits:

- Ensure continued access to both surface and groundwater supplies for beneficial users
- Increase groundwater storage to avoid undesirable results





# Groundwater Accounting

## FY27 Tier 2 Fee Collection: \$52,000

### Goals:

- Improve data collection on surface water and groundwater use
- Better quantify benefits of recharge activities
- Consider developing appropriate framework for demand management

### Benefits:

- Improve estimates of groundwater extraction, hydrogeologic understanding, and water budget model
- Incentivize conjunctive use and recharge
- Avoid violation of minimum thresholds and undesirable results



PARCEL AREA

**172.32**

acres

Edit Acres

PARCEL STATUS

**Active**

Edit Parcel Status

MEMBER ENTITY

**YCFCWCD**

MANAGEMENT AREAS

**Western Central Yolo**

Edit Zone Assignments



# Management Area Establishment

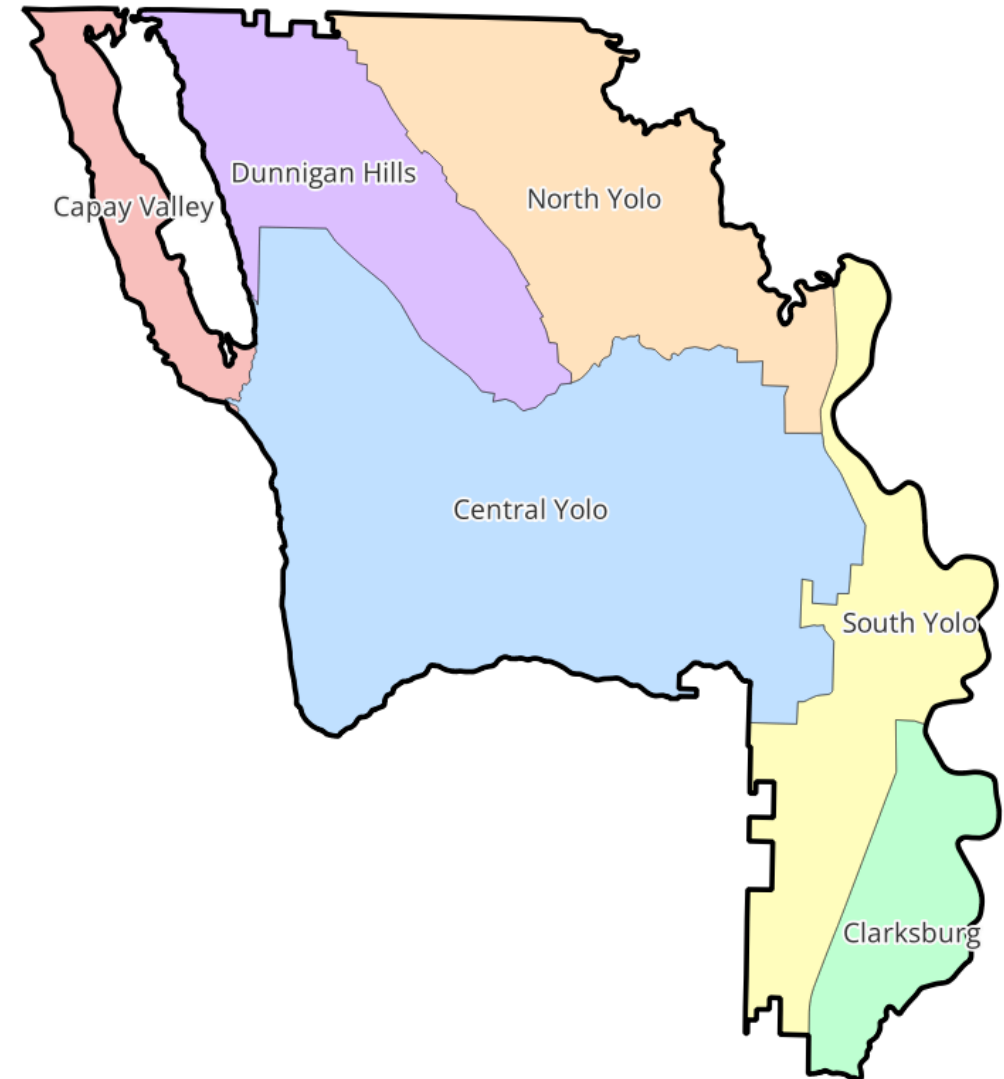
## FY27 Tier 2 Fee Collection: \$268,000

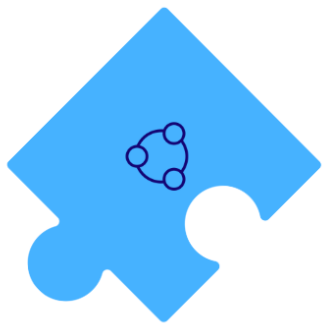
### Goals:

- Stand up Management Area groups
- Provide seed funding to plan and develop beneficiary-pays projects

### Benefits:

- Increased public visibility
- More opportunities to solicit landowner feedback and incorporate local knowledge
- Access to a local funding source promoting groundwater sustainability projects





# Outreach & Coordination

## FY27 Tier 2 Fee Collection: \$126,000

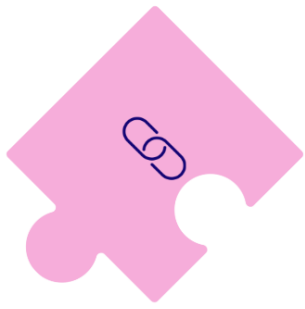
### Goals:

- Develop broader community understanding of groundwater management in the Subbasin
- Increase opportunities for data-sharing, agency coordination, and public feedback

### Benefits:

- Facilitate more frequent learning and data sharing opportunities
- Increase the credibility and visibility of the YSGA
- Improve coordination between YSGA, landowners, and other agencies
- Support collection of data by building relationships





# Technical Assistance

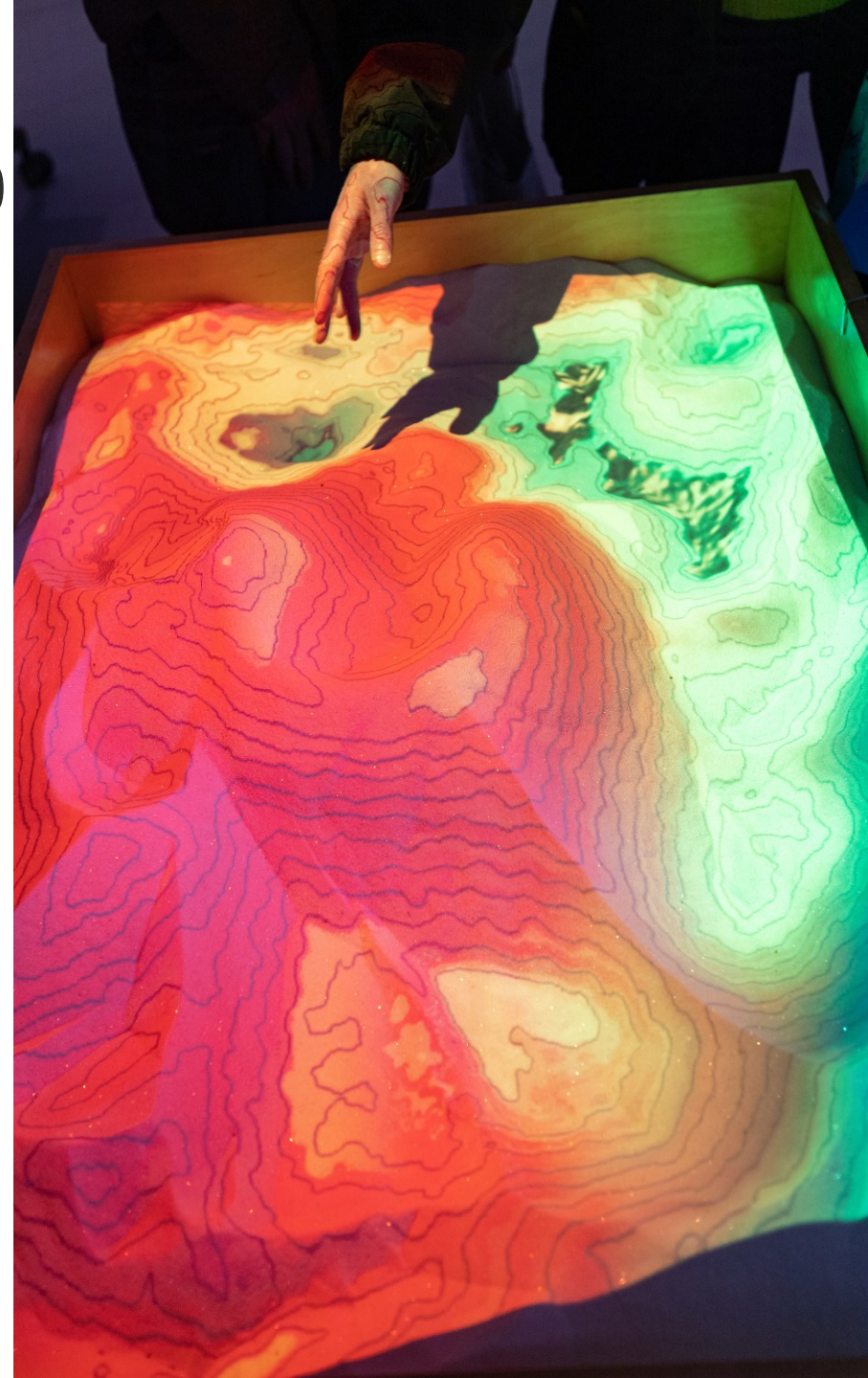
## FY27 Tier 2 Fee Collection: \$51,000

### Goals:

- Provide technical and/or grant funding acquisition support to land with the desire to implement project

### Benefits:

- Provide technical data and resources to support stakeholders
- Increased public participation to achieve and maintain groundwater sustainability
- More opportunities to solicit public feedback
- Access to a local funding source promoting groundwater sustainability projects



# Proposed Fee Structure

## TIER 1 Fees pay for Tier 1 Costs

- Paid by All Parcels unless Exempt
  - Billing Fee per Parcel + Acreage Fee

Only federally owned parcels are exempt from SGMA fees

## TIER 2 Fees pay for Tier 2 Costs

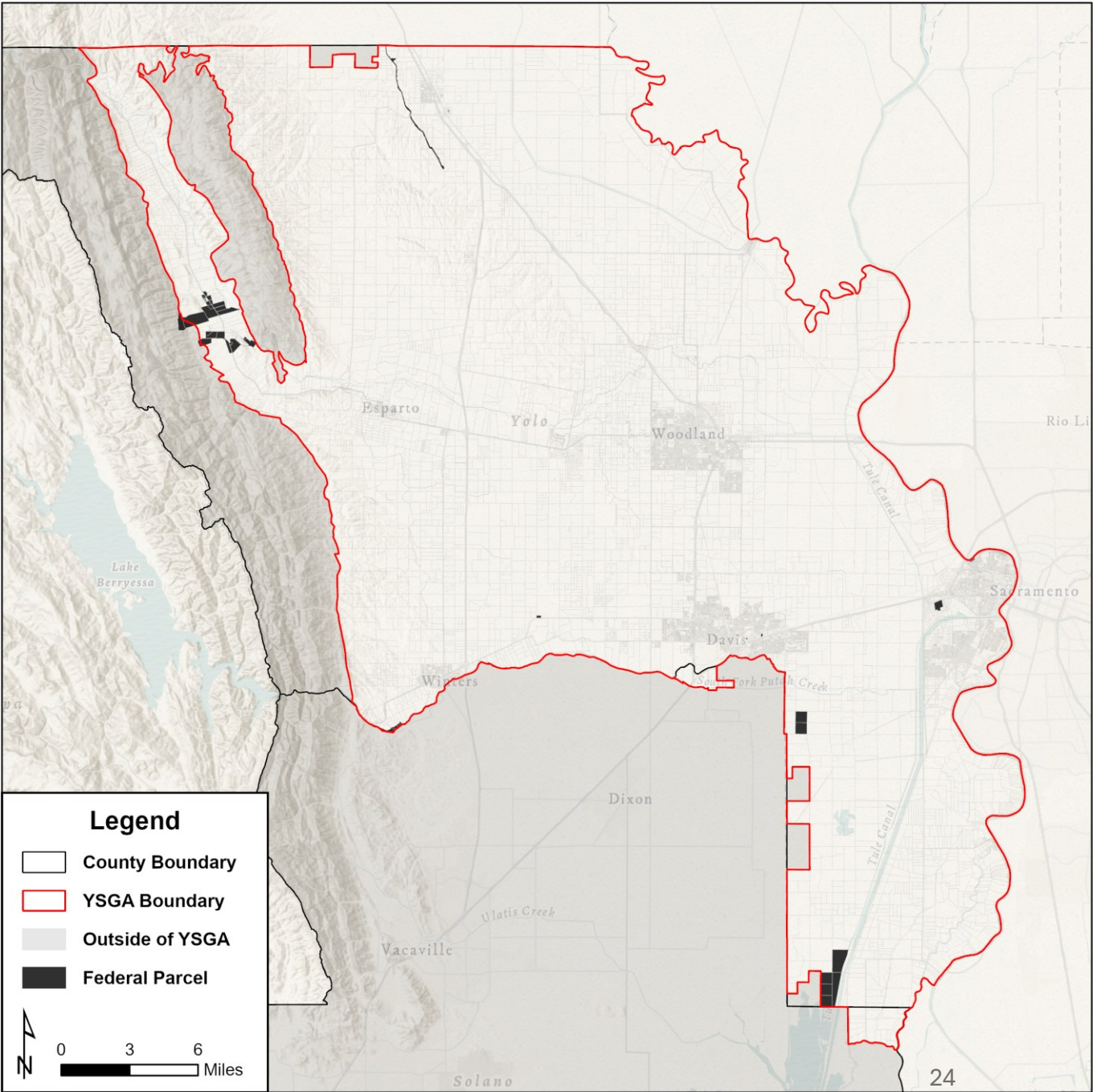
- Paid by Water Users

- Agricultural Fee per Agricultural Acre
  - Districted parcels pay less than Undistricted parcels
- Domestic Fee
  - Charged to regulated and unregulated water systems or water system users
  - Fee is per Developed Parcel, per Connection, or per Person Served depending on the type of water system

Parcels within the service territory of a YSGA member irrigation or reclamation district are Districted

# Tier 1 Fee Explanation – All Parcels Pay the Tier 1 Fee

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	Revenue Collected	TIER 1 Fee
Billing Fee	\$87,750	\$1.50 per Parcel
Plus Acreage Fee	\$353,250	\$0.76 per Acre of entire Parcel in YSGA Boundary
<b>Total Fee Revenue</b>	<b>\$441,000</b>	

# Agriculture Tier 2 Fee

Agriculture pays 95% of Tier 2 Costs based on historical water use

- Agricultural Acres *pay the same per cropped and managed wetland acre*

1. Only charges for the land that is or has been using water to grow crops or keep as wetland for environmental or recreational purposes.

2. Does not charge grazing land, vernal pools, other passive uses of land.

**Cropped Acre:** An acre identified using DWR/Land IQ most recently published crop mapping layer, including all crop codes (row crop, pasture, grain and hay, rice, idle for example).

**Managed Wetland Acre:** An acre identified as managed wetland by YSGA periodic studies.

# Cropped Acres Descriptions

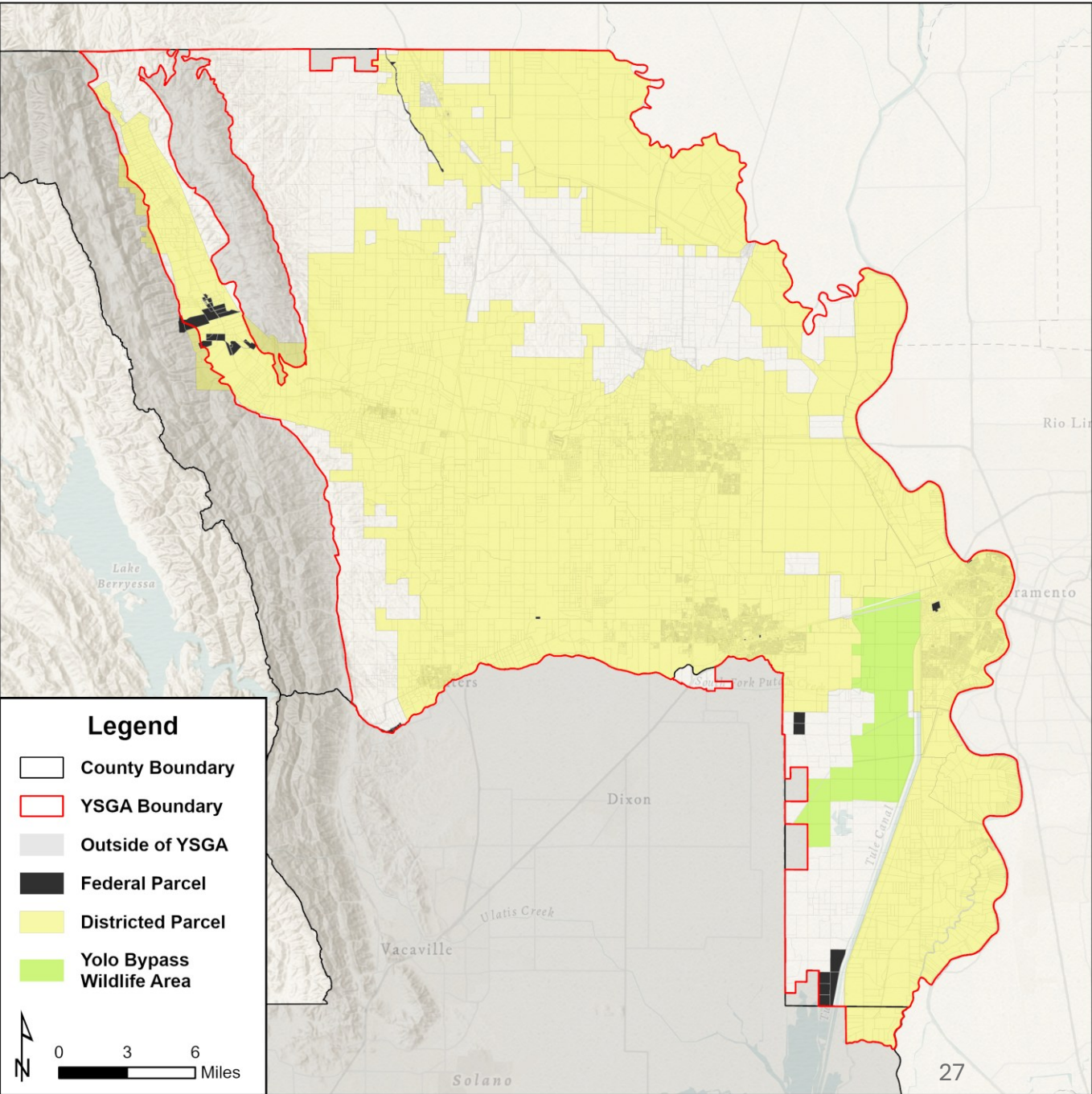
DWR Code	DWR Description	Land IQ Description
C	CITRUS & SUBTROPICAL	Avocados, citrus, dates, eucalyptus, kiwis, olives
D	DECIDUOUS FRUITS & NUTS	Almonds, apples, apricots, cherries peaches & nectarines, pears, pecans, pistachios, plums, pomegranates, prunes, walnuts
F	FIELD CROPS	Beans, corn, cotton, safflower, beets, sunflowers
G	GRAIN & HAY CROPS	Grain & hay, wheat
I	IDLE	Long-term idle (fallow 4+ years) & short term idle (cropped in the last 3 years)
P	PASTURE	Alfalfa & alfalfa mixes, pasture, grasses
R	RICE	Rice and wild rice
T	TRUCK NURSERY & BERRY CROPS	Bushberries, carrots, cole crops, flowers, nursery & Xmas trees, greenhouse, lettuce / leafy greens, melons, squash, cucumbers, truck crops, onions & garlic, peppers, potatoes & sweet potatoes, tomatoes
UL	URBAN LANDSCAPE	Golf course
V	VINEYARD	Grapes
X	UNCLASSIFIED	Not cropped, cropped partial year, or unclassified at time of remote-sensing
YP	YOUNG PERENNIAL	Young perennials

For FY27 the YSGA will use 2025 agricultural land use data from LandIQ

The intent is not to charge dry farmed acres; however, the data source cannot identify dry farmed crops. YSGA will establish a corrections procedure for landowners to report dry farming.

# Tier 2 Fee Explanation - Agriculture

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	Revenue Collected	TIER 2 Fee
Districted Fee	\$644,000	\$2.78 per Agricultural Acre
Undistricted Fee	\$457,050	\$7.94 per Agricultural Acre
<b>Total Fee Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,101,050</b>	

# FY27 Fee per Agricultural Acre

Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area	Districted Areas	Undistricted Areas
\$0	\$2.78	\$7.94

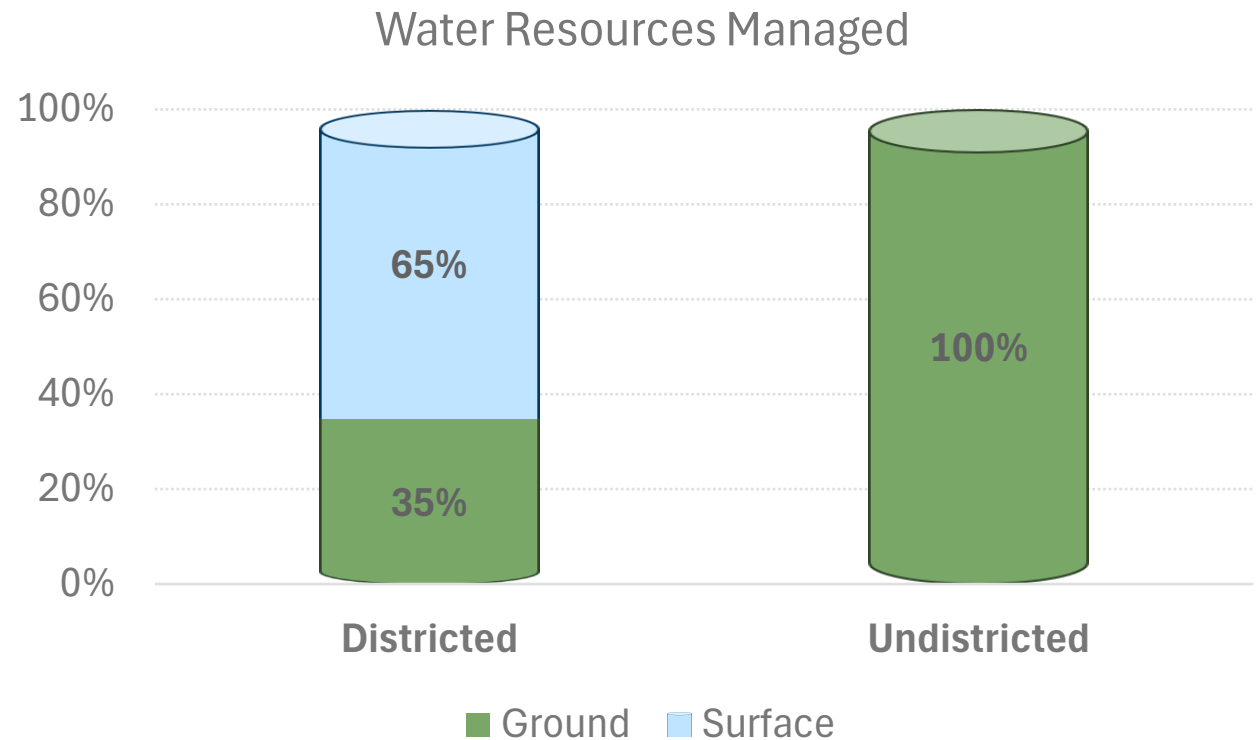
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- Fee is lower for Districted Parcels because water resources in Districted Areas are being managed by a YSGA member or affiliate.
- Undistricted Parcels have a higher fee because their water resources are not being managed by a YSGA member or affiliate.
- Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area (YBWA) parcels are not Districted but do have a water management entity. Agricultural acres within YBWA Parcels do not pay Tier 2 because these parcels are managed to mimic natural flooding and drainage that once occurred in the Yolo Basin.

# Districted Parcels Lower Fee

Districted Parcels will pay 35% of Undistricted Parcels Tier 2 Agricultural Fee based on management of subbasin water resources

**Irrigation & Reclamation Districts include:** Rumsey Water Users Association, UC Davis, City of West Sacramento (RD900), Dunnigan Water District, Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District, Colusa Drain Mutual Water Company, RD 108, RD 150, RD 307, RD 537, RD 730, RD 765, RD 787, RD 999, RD 1600, and RD 2035



Note: Surface water use occurs in portions of undistricted areas. The total amount is insignificant and is therefore not shown in the illustration.

# Agricultural User



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Tier 1		
Billing Fee	\$1.50	
Acreage Fee	= 100 acres*\$0.76	
<b>Total Tier 1</b>	<b>\$77.50</b>	
Tier 2		
	Districted	Undistricted
Ag. Fee	= 95 acres*\$2.78	= 95 acres*\$7.94
<b>Total Tier 2</b>	<b>\$264.10</b>	<b>\$754.30</b>
<b>Fee Total</b>	<b>\$341.60</b>	<b>\$831.80</b>

OR

# Agricultural User with Home



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Tier 1		
Billing Fee	\$1.50	
Acreage Fee	= 100 acres*\$0.76	
<b>Total Tier 1</b>	<b>\$77.50</b>	
Tier 2		
	Districted	Undistricted
Ag. Fee	= 90 acres*\$2.78	= 90 acres*\$7.94
Dom. Fee	\$1.36	\$1.36
<b>Total Tier 2</b>	<b>\$251.56</b>	<b>\$715.96</b>
<b>Fee Total</b>	<b>\$329.08</b>	<b>\$793.46</b>

**OR**

# Rangeland

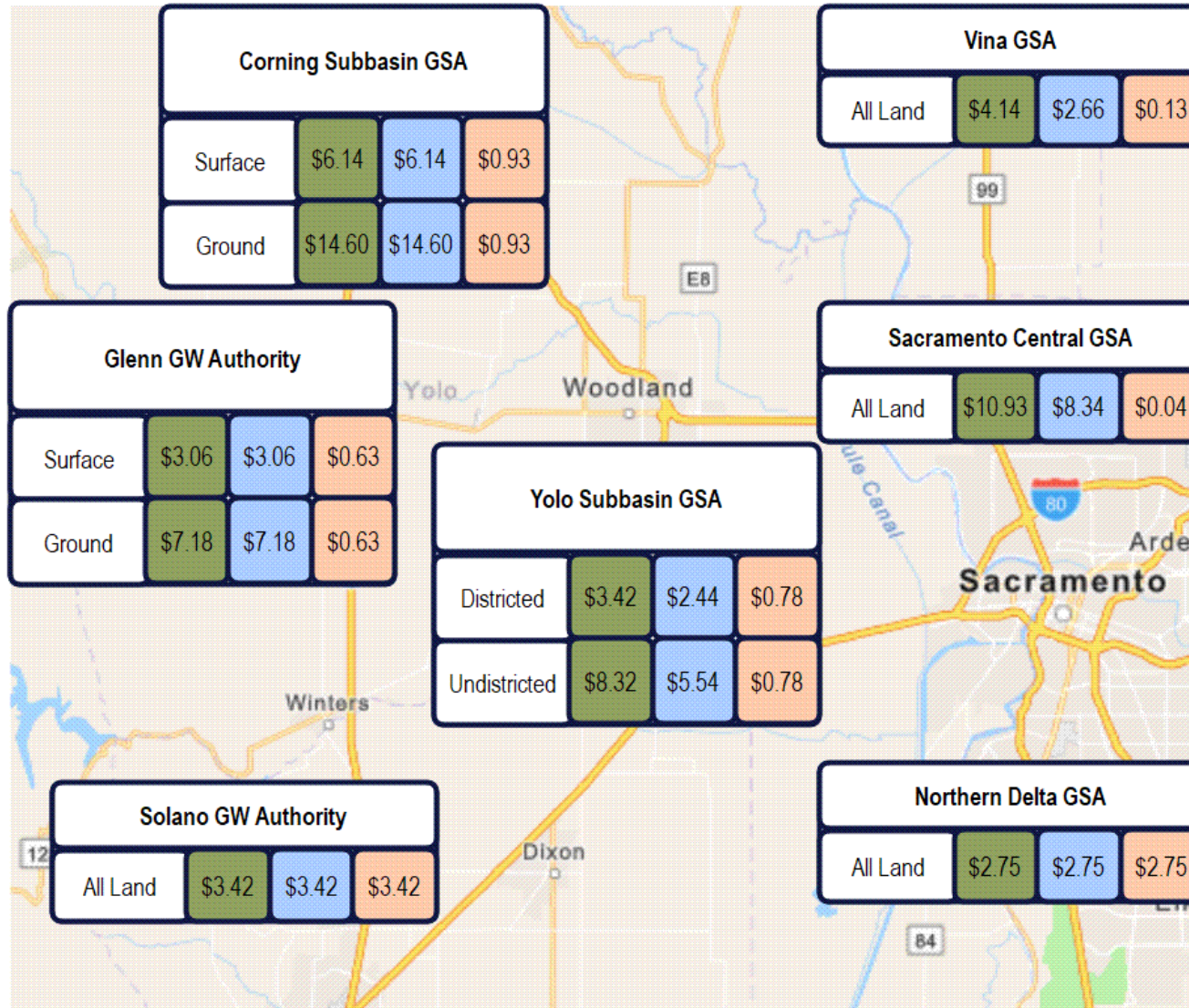


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Tier 1	
Billing Fee	\$1.50
Acreage Fee	= 650 acres*\$0.76
<b>Total Tier 1</b>	<b>\$495.50</b>

# Agricultural Parcel Fees GSA Comparison

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Comparison on a PER ACRE basis for these 3 examples:

Key	
95 ac cropped / 5 ac unproductive	Green
60 ac cropped / 40 ac unproductive	Blue
100 Acres Rangeland	Orange

Notes:

1. Comparison fees are for FY26. YSGA fees are for FY27.
2. The Sacramento Central GSA fee is calculated assuming the crop uses 2.5 ac-ft / ac / yr.
3. Northern Delta and Sac. Central GSAs are in final year of adopted rates.
4. Solano Subbasin is a medium priority basin. All others are high priority basins.
5. YSGA, Vina GSA, and Sac. Central GSA tier 2 fees applied only to cropped acres. For all other GSAs, the fee is applied to the entire parcel.

# Domestic Tier 2 Fee

Domestic users pay 5% of Tier 2 Costs based on historical water use

- Unregulated water systems pay per Developed Parcel
- State Small Water Systems & Community Water Systems pay per connection
- Non-Community Water Systems pay per person served

**1. Charges all domestic water users.**

**2. Unregulated domestic water users have a Parcel with building(s) served drinking water by a single domestic well or County unregulated well with 2-4 connections.**

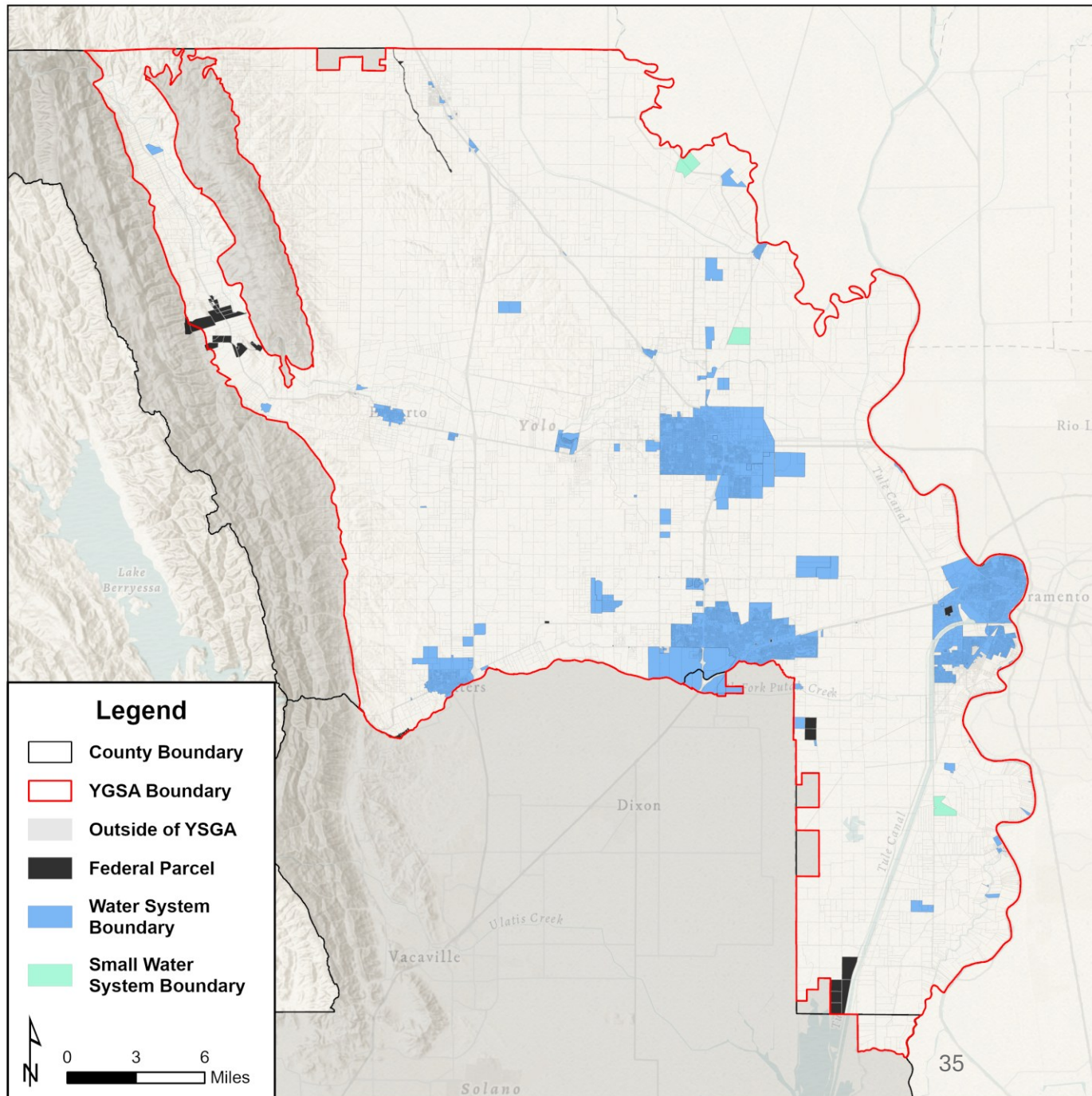
**3. State Small Water Systems are regulated with 5-14 connections.**

**4. Community Water Systems are regulated with 15+ connections.**

**5. Non-Community Water Systems are regulated water systems that are not Community Water Systems (such as schools and restaurants).**

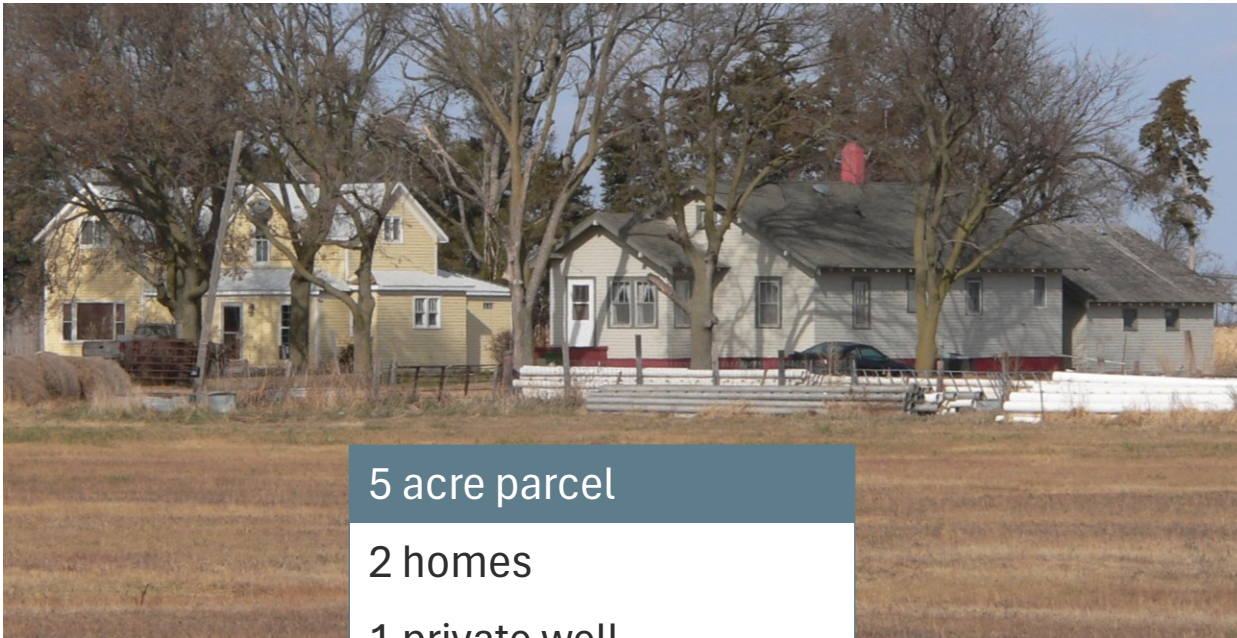
# Tier 2 Fee Explanation – Domestic - Water Systems

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Water System User	Revenue Collected	TIER 2 Fee
Unregulated	\$6,600	\$1.36 per Developed Parcel
State Small Water	<\$50	\$0.40 per Connection
Community	\$48,750	\$0.80 per Connection
Non-Community	\$2,550	\$0.32 per Person Served
<b>Total Fee Revenue</b>	<b>\$57,950</b>	<b>\$0.80 per Domestic Water Equivalent</b>

# Rural Residential with Private Well Unregulated Domestic Water Use



5 acre parcel

2 homes

1 private well

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Fee Calculation		
Tier 1	\$1.50	Billing Fee
	= 5 acres*\$0.76	Acreage Fee
<b>Total Tier 1</b>	<b>\$5.30</b>	
Tier 2	\$1.36	Domestic Fee
<b>Fee Total</b>	<b>\$6.66</b>	

# School Regulated Non-Community Water System

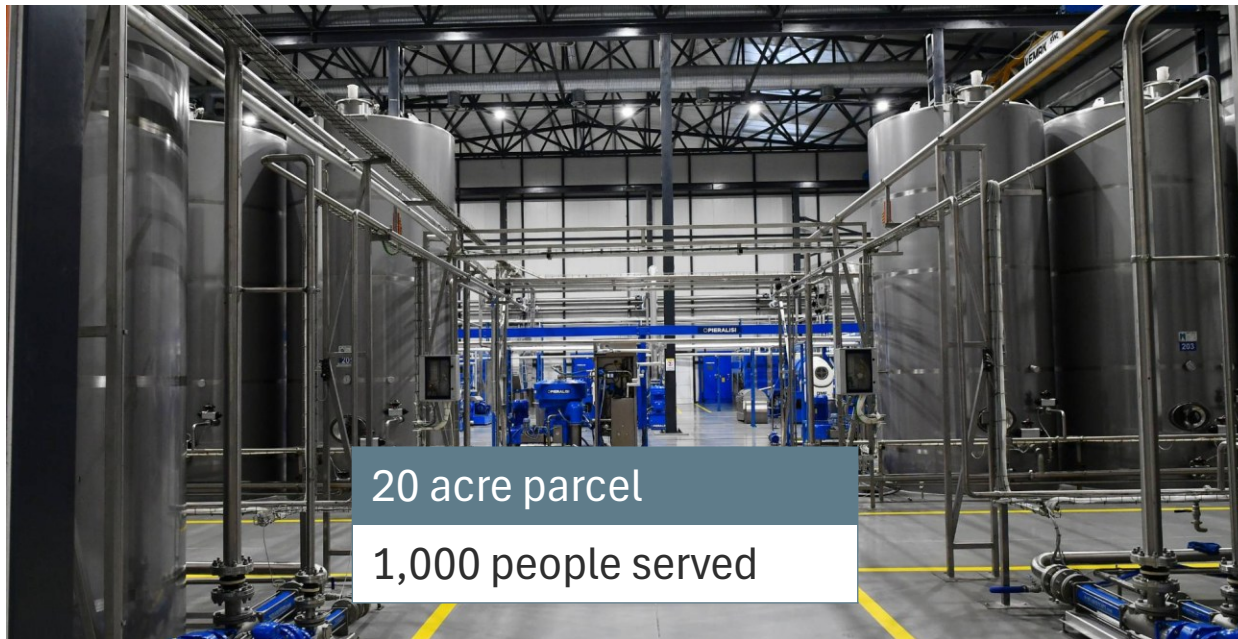


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Fee Calculation		
Tier 1	\$1.50	Billing Fee
	= 10 acres*\$0.76	Acreage Fee
<b>Total Tier 1</b>	<b>\$9.10</b>	
Persons served	250	
	= 250*\$0.32	Domestic Fee
<b>Total Tier 2</b>	<b>\$80.00</b>	
<b>Fee Total</b>	<b>\$89.10</b>	

# Canning Facility

## Regulated Non-Community Water System



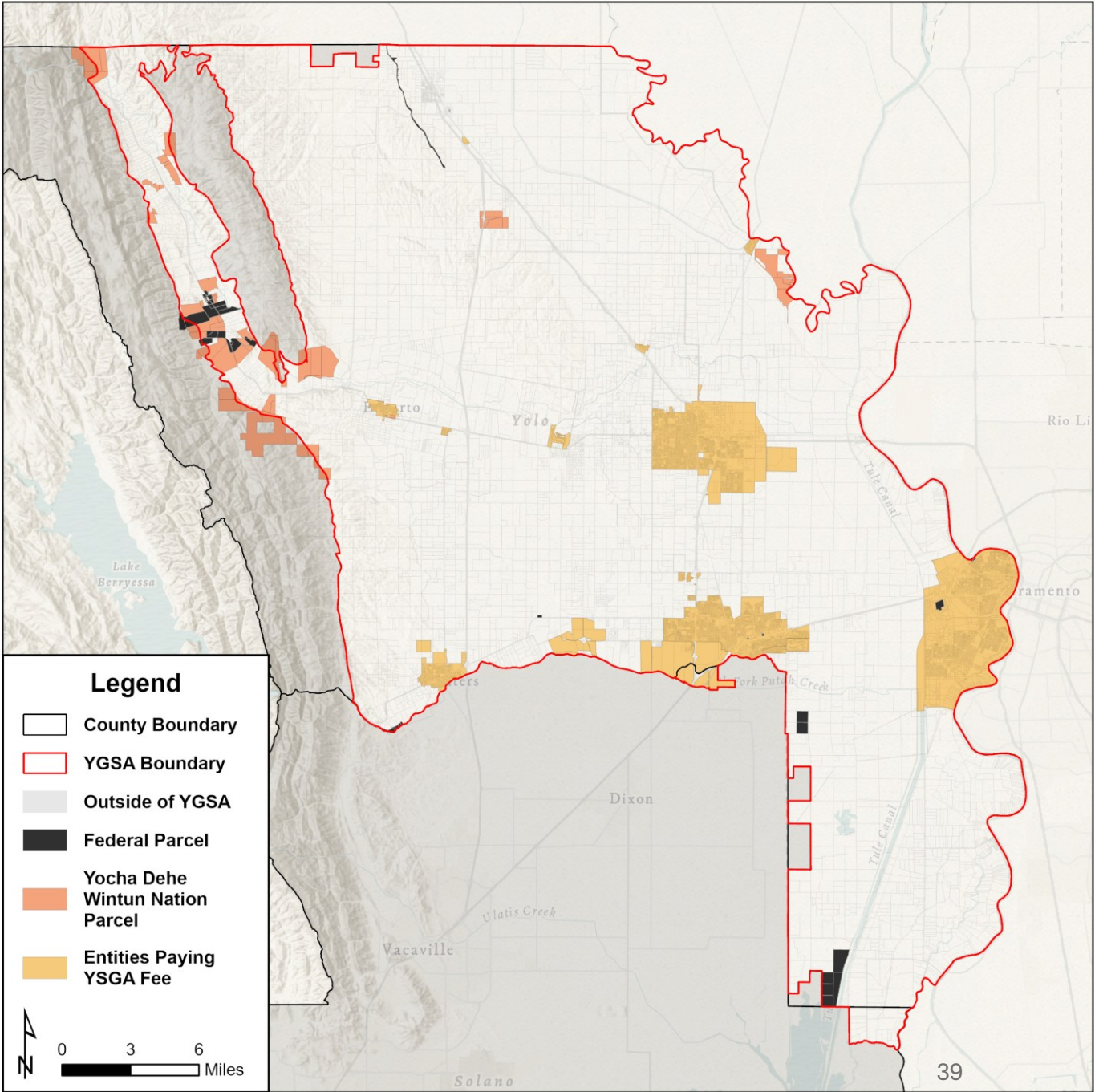
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Fee Calculation		
Tier 1	\$1.50	Billing Fee
	= 20 acres*\$0.76	Acreage Fee
<b>Total Tier 1</b>	<b>\$16.70</b>	
Persons served	1,000	
	= 1,000*\$0.32	Domestic Fee
<b>Total Tier 2</b>	<b>\$320</b>	
<b>Fee Total</b>	<b>\$336.70</b>	

# Entities Paying YSGA Fees for their Customers

- Cities
- UC Davis
- Community Service Districts
- County Service Areas
- Other Community public & private water providers (e.g. Cal Am Dunnigan)

& Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation



# Customer Notification and Customer Rights

- Regulatory fees are routinely adopted by government agencies. A SGMA regulatory fee must:
  - Be noticed in a newspaper of general circulation that publishes at least once a week, once a week for 2 successive weeks
  - YSGA must hold a public meeting prior to imposing the fee
  - YSGA must make the data upon which the fee is based public at least 20 days prior to the public hearing
- The public can submit comments to the YSGA Board and/or speak to the Board in its Board meetings

# Questions & Answers