

July 25, 2022



Mr. Paul Gosselin
Deputy Director, Sustainable Groundwater Management
California Department of Water Resources

Subject: Submission of July 2022 Update to Groundwater Sustainability Plan for Merced Subbasin

Dear Mr. Gosselin,

The Merced Irrigation-Urban Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MIUGSA), Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MSGSA), and Turner Island Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency #1 (TIWD GSA-1) have jointly developed a revised version of the Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), originally submitted in January 2020. The July 2022 revised GSP was prepared in response to the Statement of Findings issued by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on January 28, 2022.¹ The revision was developed openly and transparently with substantial input from the public, including at 9 public meetings of the Subbasin's Coordination and Stakeholder Advisory committees, held between January 31 and June 27, 2022, in addition to the several public meetings of the respective GSA boards where development of the revised GSP was discussed and direction provided. The revised GSP has been adopted by the three GSAs and will be implemented accordingly.

In addition to this letter, the following have been uploaded to the SGMA Portal:

- July 2022 Revision to the November 2019 Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan
- Redline strikeout version of the July 2022 Revision to the November 2019 Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan
- Tabular summary of the edits made to the GSP in response to each of the respective corrective actions in the Statement of Findings
- Updated GSP Elements Guide
- 90-day notice to cities and counties within the GSP area
- Public notice announcing the respective adoption hearings of each GSA
- Resolutions documenting adoption of the revised GSP by MIUGSA, MSGSA, and TIWD GSA-1, respectively

The Merced Subbasin GSAs would like to thank DWR staff for their thorough review and willingness to meet to discuss the findings. The GSAs believe that the revised GSP incorporates all appropriate corrective actions in response to DWR's comments and which thoroughly respond to the identified deficiencies.

Sincerely,

Hicham ElTal, Chair
Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA

Ker Mitchell, Chair
Turner Island Water District GSA-1

Lloyd Pareira, Jr., Chair
Merced Subbasin GSA

¹ Statement of Findings Regarding the Determination of Incomplete Status of the San Joaquin Valley – Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan. DWR. January 28, 2022. Retrieved January 28, 2022, from <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/service/gspdocument/download/7782>