
Merced GSP Stakeholder Advisory Committee

Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting – November 8, 2021

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

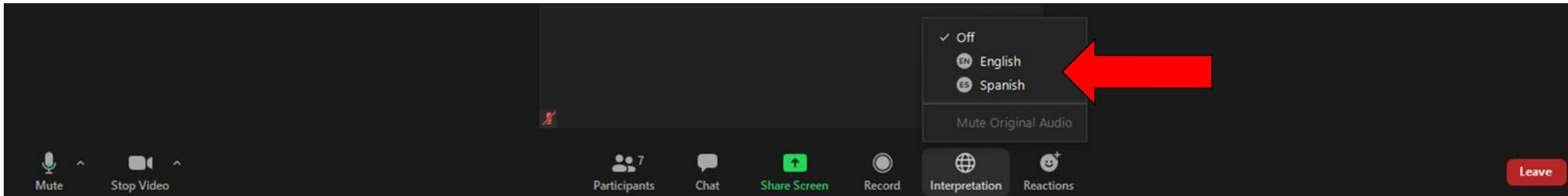
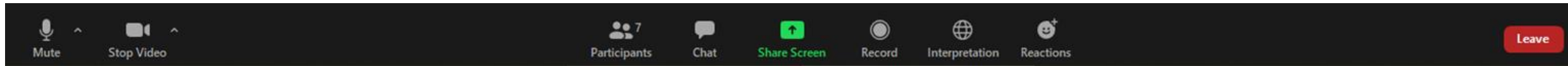


Welcome, Instructions for Zoom

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



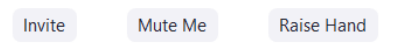
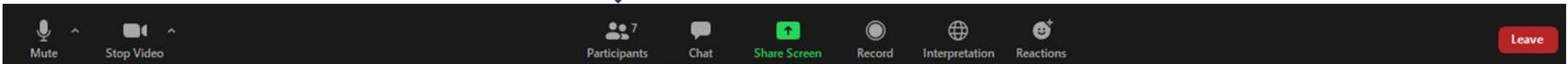
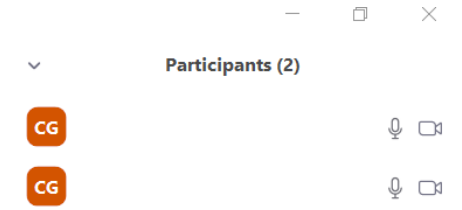
The meeting will have simultaneous interpreting, so you are welcome to comment in your native language.
La junta será interpretada simultáneamente, así que le invitamos a que haga comentarios en su lenguaje nativo.

Welcome, Instructions for Zoom

- We are beginning the meeting with everyone on mute.
- Please keep yourself muted until called upon and asked to unmute.
- We recommend that you view in “Gallery View” to see the project team and Stakeholder Committee members.
- If you have comments, please use the “**Raise Hand**” feature:
 - Stakeholder Committee: during discussion time
 - Members of the Public: during Public Comment or when the moderator asks for public comments.
- The moderator will call on you to unmute.
- If you cannot hear the host or have technical issues, use the **Chat** to Host and we will try to address the issue.

Stakeholder Advisory Committee Members

- Please keep your video on whenever possible.



SAC November 8 Agenda

1. Call to Order and Welcome
2. Roll Call
 - a) Review of Agenda and Meeting Guidelines
3. GSA Reports
 - a) Coordination Committee
 - b) Merced Subbasin GSA, Lacey McBride
 - c) Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA, Hicham EITal
 - d) Turner Island Water District GSA #1, Kel Mitchel
 - e) SAC questions and discussion
4. DWR GSP Review
 - a) Update on DWR review of other GSPs, Samantha Salvia
5. Data Gaps Plan
 - a) Review of results and status, Chris Hewes
 - b) Request to identify additional wells, Lacey McBride
 - c) SAC discussion
6. Drought Update
 - a) Drought update, Lacey McBride and Samantha Salvia
 - b) SAC discussion
7. Public Comment
8. Next Steps and Adjourn

Stakeholder Advisory Committee Members

Present	Committee Member	Interest/Affiliation	Present	Alternate	Interest/Affiliation
	Arlan Thomas	MIDAC member		Ben Migliazzo	Live Oak Farms
X	Bob Kelley	Stevinson Representative		Blake Nervino	Stevinson/Merquin
	Breanne Ramos	MCFB			
X	Craig Arnold	Arnold Farms			
X	Darren Olguin	Resident of Merced County			
X	Dave Serrano	Serrano Farms - Le Grand			
X	David Belt	Foster Farms			
X	Emma Reyes	Martin Reyes Farm/Land Leveling			
	Greg Olzack	Atwater Resident			
	Jean Okuye	E Merced RCD			
	Joe Sansoni	Sansoni Farms/MCFB			
X	Joe Scoto	Scoto Brothers/McSwain School Dist.			
	Jose Moran	Livingston City Council			
	Lacy Carothers	Cal Am Water			
X	Lisa Baker	Clayton Water District			
X	Lisa Kayser-Grant	Sierra Club			
	Mark Maxwell	UC Merced			
X	Maxwell Norton	Unincorporated area			
X	Nav Athwal	TriNut Farms			
	Olivia Gomez	Community of Planada	X	Amanda Monaco	Leadership Counsel
X	Parry Klassen	ESJWQC			
X	Reyn Akinia Darcy Brown	River Partners			
	Rick Drayer	Merced/Mariposa Cattlemen			
	Robert Weimer	Weimer Farms			
X	Simon Vander Woude	Sandy Mush MWC			
X	Susan Walsh	City of Merced	X	Bill Spriggs	Resident City of Merced
	Thomas Dinwoodie	Master Gardener/McSwain			
X	Trevor Hutton	Valley Land Alliance			
X	Wes Myers	Merced Grassland Coalition		Lou Myers	Benjamin Land LP

Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting Agreements

Guidelines for successful meetings

- Civility is required.
 - Treat one another with courtesy and respect.
 - Be honest, fair, and as candid as possible.
 - Personal attacks and stereotyping are not acceptable.
- Creativity is encouraged.
 - Think outside the box and welcome new ideas.
 - Build on the ideas of others to improve results.
 - Disagreements are problems to be solved rather than battles to be won.
- Efficiency is important.
 - Participate fully, without distractions.
 - Respect time constraints and be succinct.
 - Let one person speak at a time.
- Constructiveness is essential.
 - Take responsibility for the group as a whole and ask for what you need.
 - Enter commitments honestly and keep them.

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

Topics Covered at July Stakeholder Advisory Committee

- 1) SGMA Overview (water rights, GSA authority)
- 2) Merced GSP Overview (estimated sustainable yield, allocation framework)
- 3) Current basin conditions (estimated sustainable yield, allocation framework)
- 4) Data Gaps Plan (analysis, results, and recommendations)
- 5) Drought Preparedness (status and resources)

Reminder: Slides, notes, and all GSP documents are publicly available at www.mercedsgma.org



GSA Reports

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced



GSA Reports

- Coordination Committee
- Updates from each GSA on activities they are undertaking in their own jurisdiction:
 - Merced Subbasin GSA
 - Merced Irrigation-Urban GSA
 - Turner Island Water District GSA #1

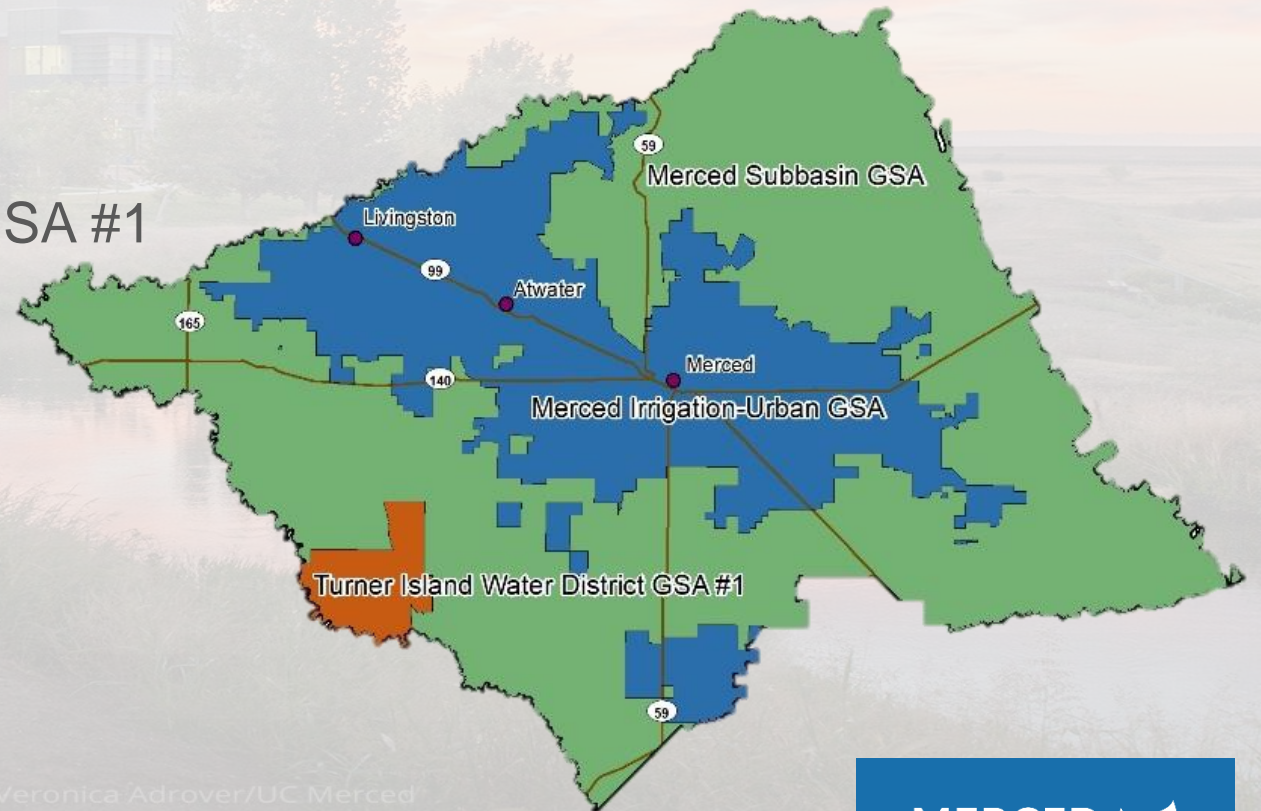


Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced



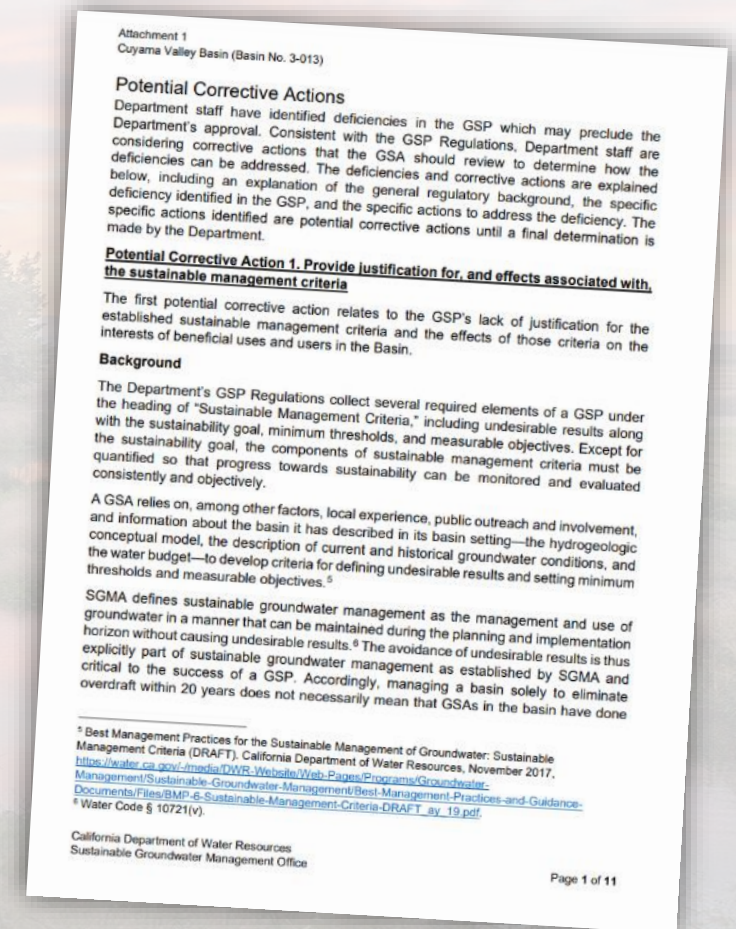
DWR GSP Review

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced



Insights from DWR Comment to Other GSPs

- DWR to date has only officially completed review and approved 2 GSPs (Santa Cruz and Salinas)
- DWR says they will meet the regulatory deadline to complete reviews by January 2022.
- Expect DWR will ask for corrective actions and GSAs will have 180 days to respond
- DWR provided comments on two GSPs with potential relevance to Central Valley GSPs:
 - Better justification for how minimum thresholds are consistent with avoiding undesirable results
 - Concern about use of groundwater levels as a proxy for Interconnected Surface Water sustainability criteria
 - Request to add sustainable management criteria and a monitoring network for nitrates and arsenic (the Cuyama GSP only has criteria for salinity)



SGMA Implementation – Planning and Projects Grant Funding

- Round 1: \$171M recently made available for grant awards, **\$152M for critically overdrafted basins.**
 - Total amount will be split evenly to provide \$7.6M per critically overdrafted basin.
 - Minimum of \$3.7M shall be used toward:
 - Geophysical investigations (AEM);
 - Early implementation of existing regional flood management plans that incorporate groundwater recharge; or
 - Projects that would complement efforts of a local GSP, that provide for floodplain expansion to benefit groundwater recharge or habitat (e.g., basin recharge using peak flows from a river, creek, or stream).
- **Round 1 is not competitive between basins.**
 - Later Round 2 is open to all medium and high priority basins not receiving money in Round 1.



Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

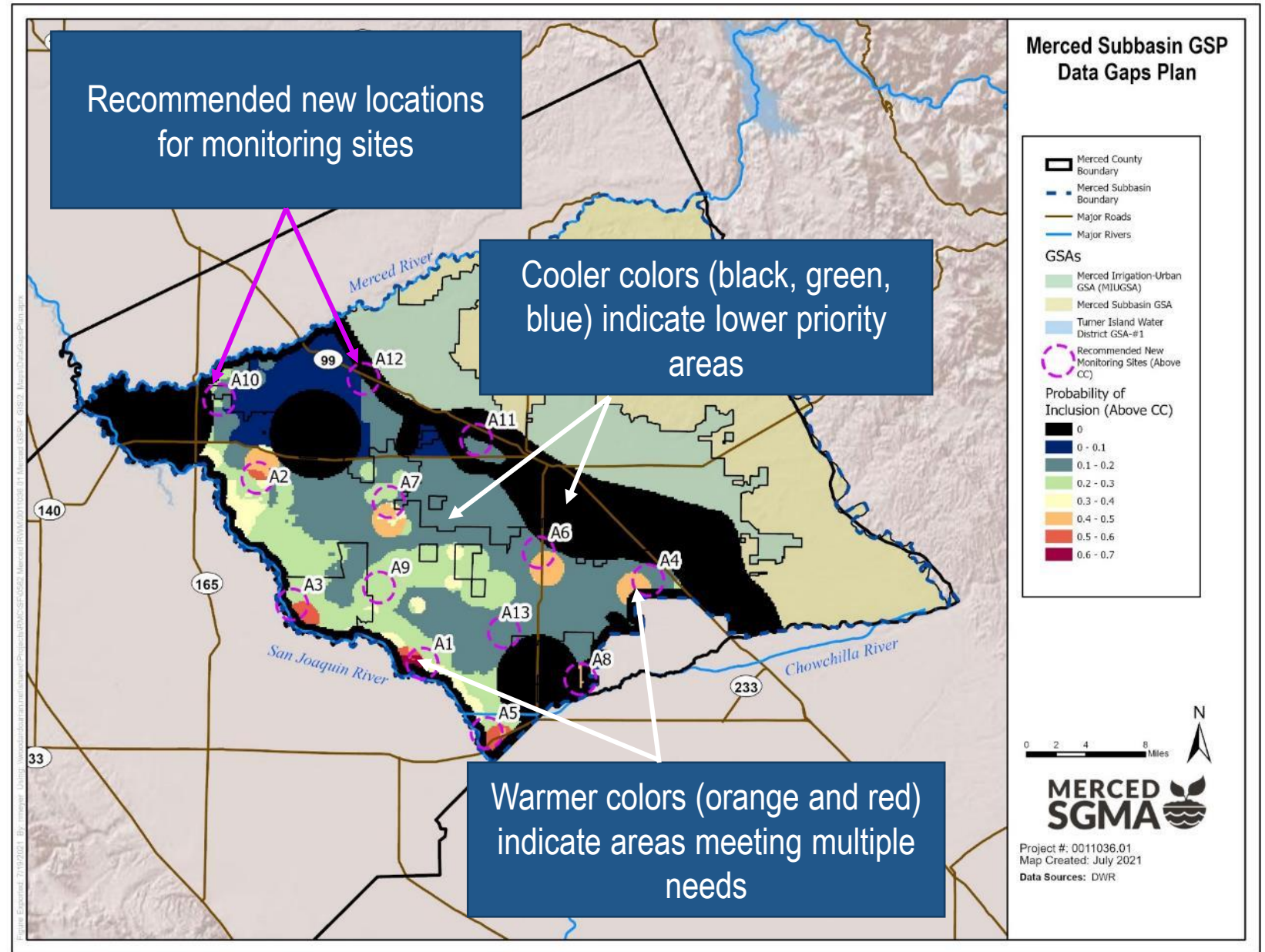


Data Gaps Plan

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

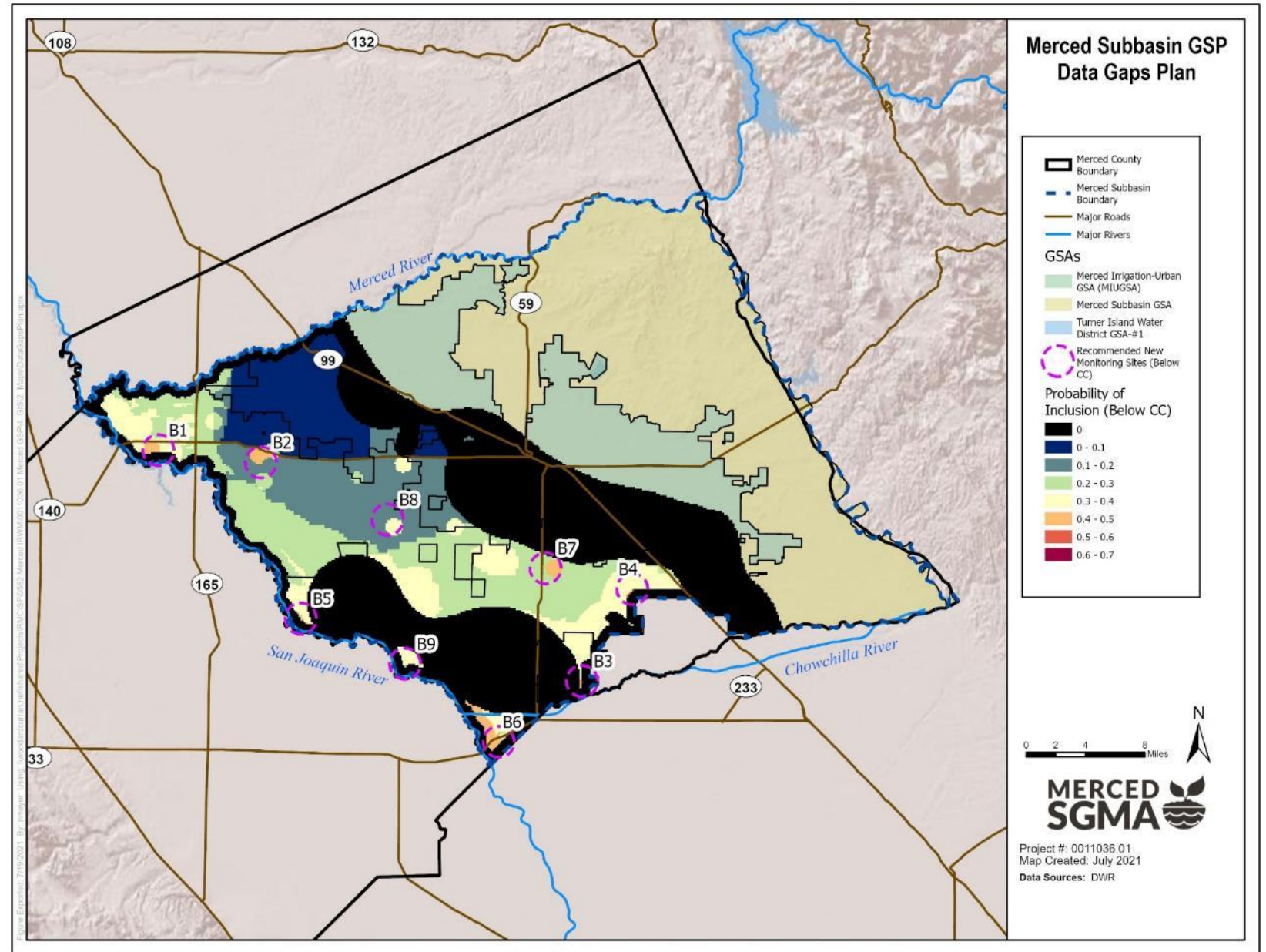
Run spatial analysis tool to increase monitoring density: Above Corcoran Clay

13 sites recommended



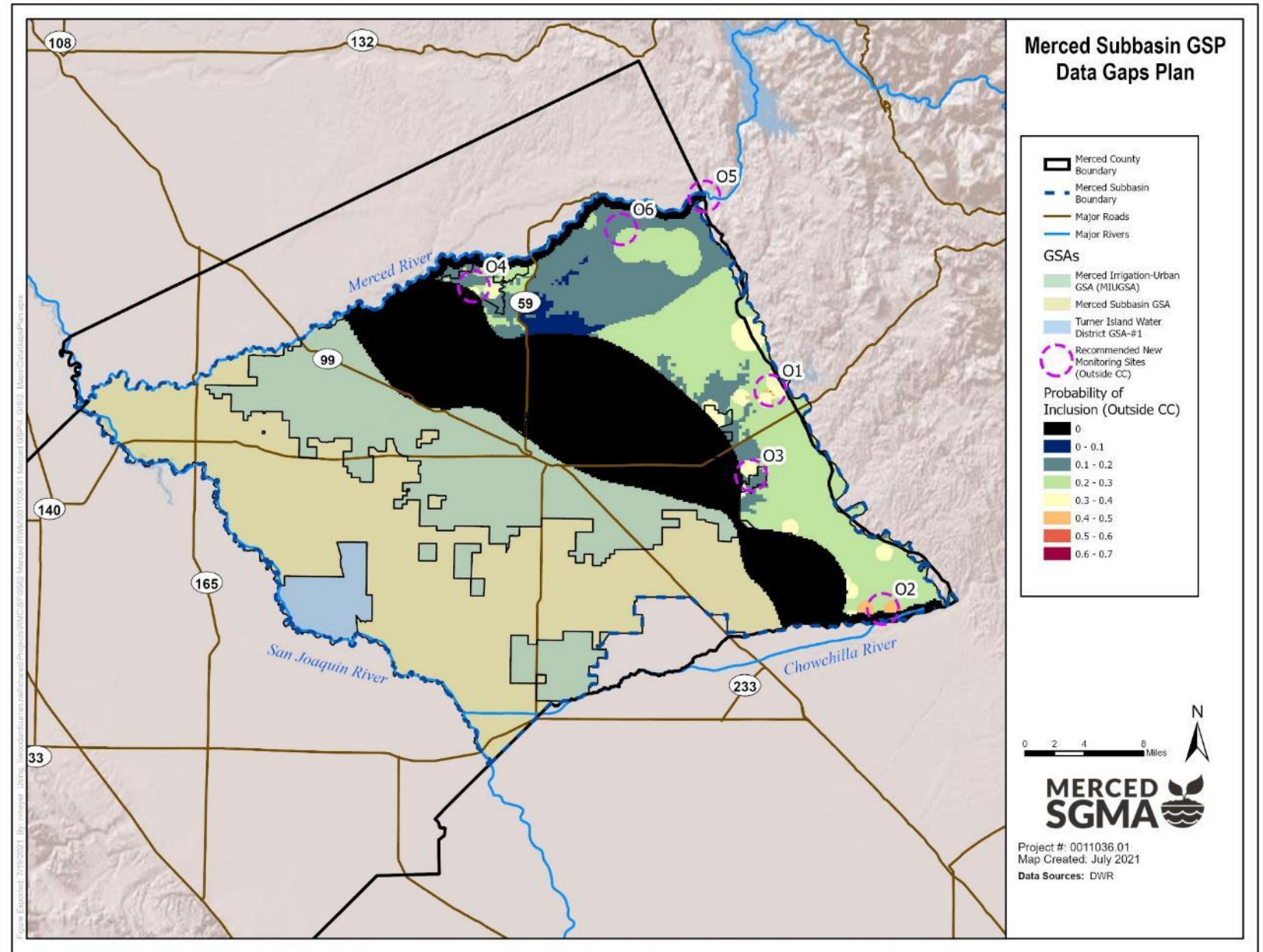
Run spatial analysis tool to increase monitoring density: Below Corcoran Clay

9 sites recommended



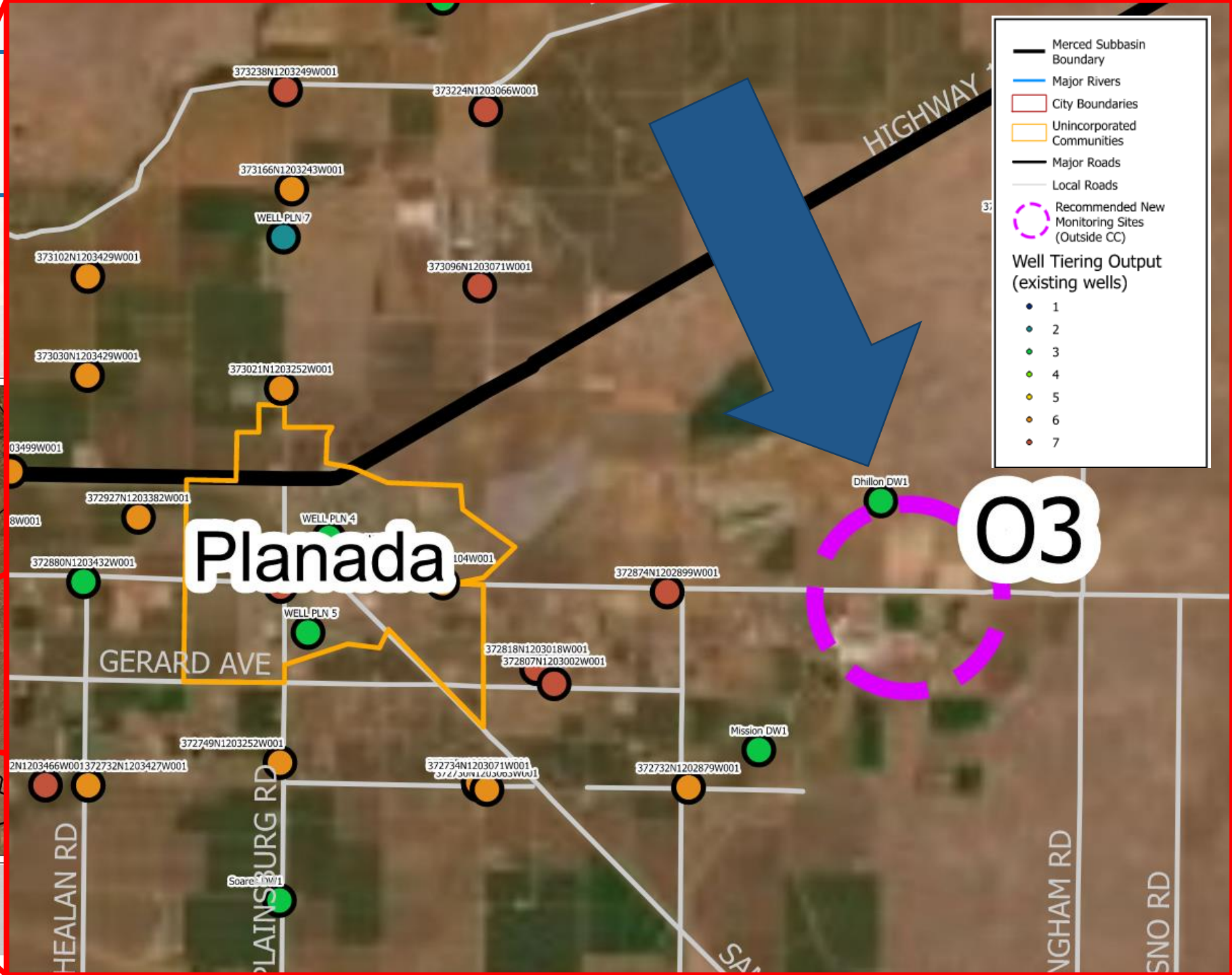
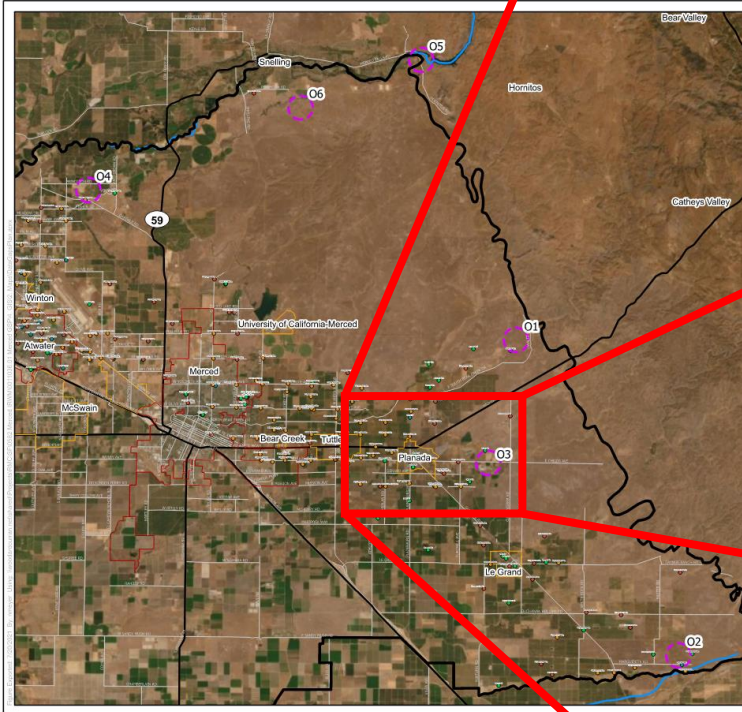
Run spatial analysis tool to increase monitoring density: Outside Corcoran Clay

6 sites recommended



Example Detailed Map

(see Appendix B)



Grant Funded Data Gaps Plan – Phase 2

- Basin received Prop 68 Planning Grant funding to address GSP Data Gaps
- Data Gaps Plan has been developed and will continue to be modified as new information collected
- ~\$270,000 remaining in grant funding for addressing Data Gaps to be utilized by end of 2022
- Contract on behalf of the GSAs for groundwater monitoring activities that will support Data Gaps Phase 2, is anticipated November/December 2021.

Prop 68 Grant: Addressing Merced GSP Data Gaps

Completed

- Develop Plan to Address Data Gaps
- Stakeholder Outreach

Upcoming

- Upgrade & incorporate existing wells into network
- Install new wells in critical locations

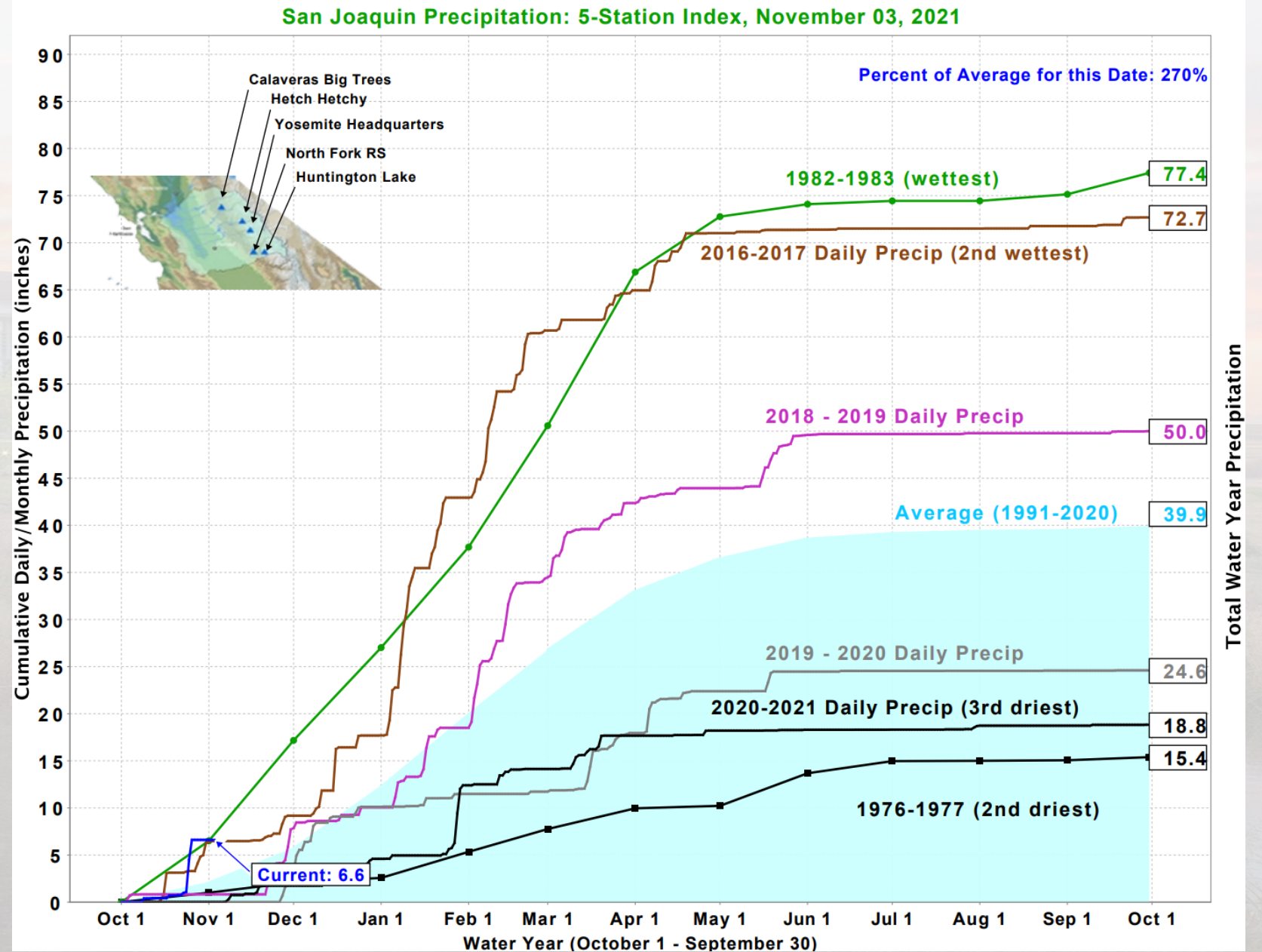


Drought Update

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced



Current Conditions



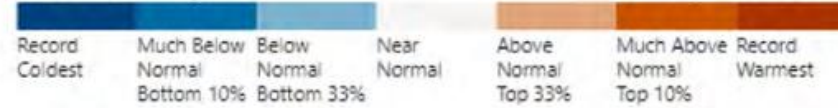
WY 2021 Significantly Above Average Temps



California by Climatological Regions
Temperature Percentile Ranking for November 2020 - April 2021



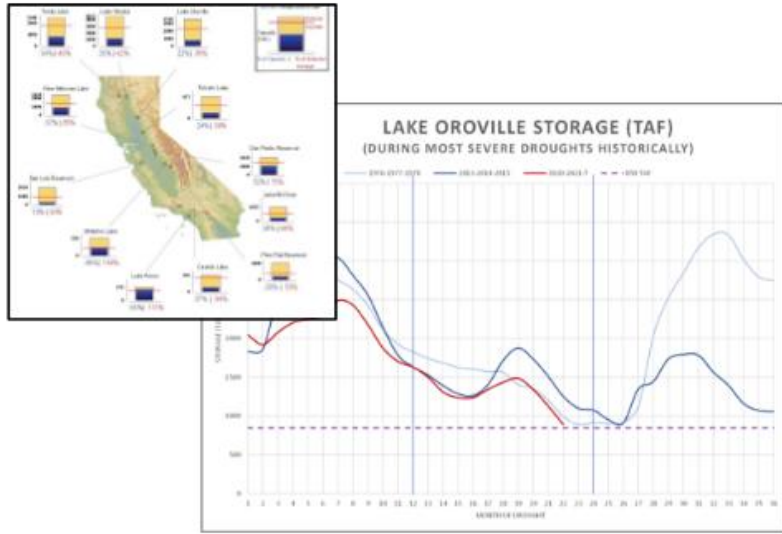
Percentile Rankings



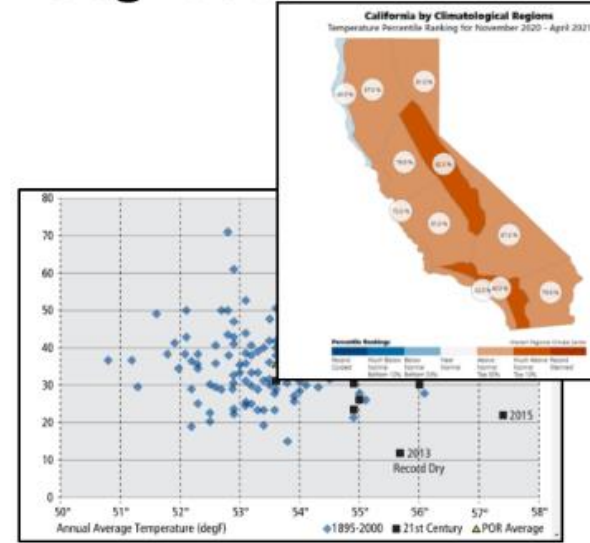
Western Regional Climate Center

Source: "2021 Drought Conditions" presentation at Sept 2021 California Water Commission hearing

Low End-of-2021 Storage Levels

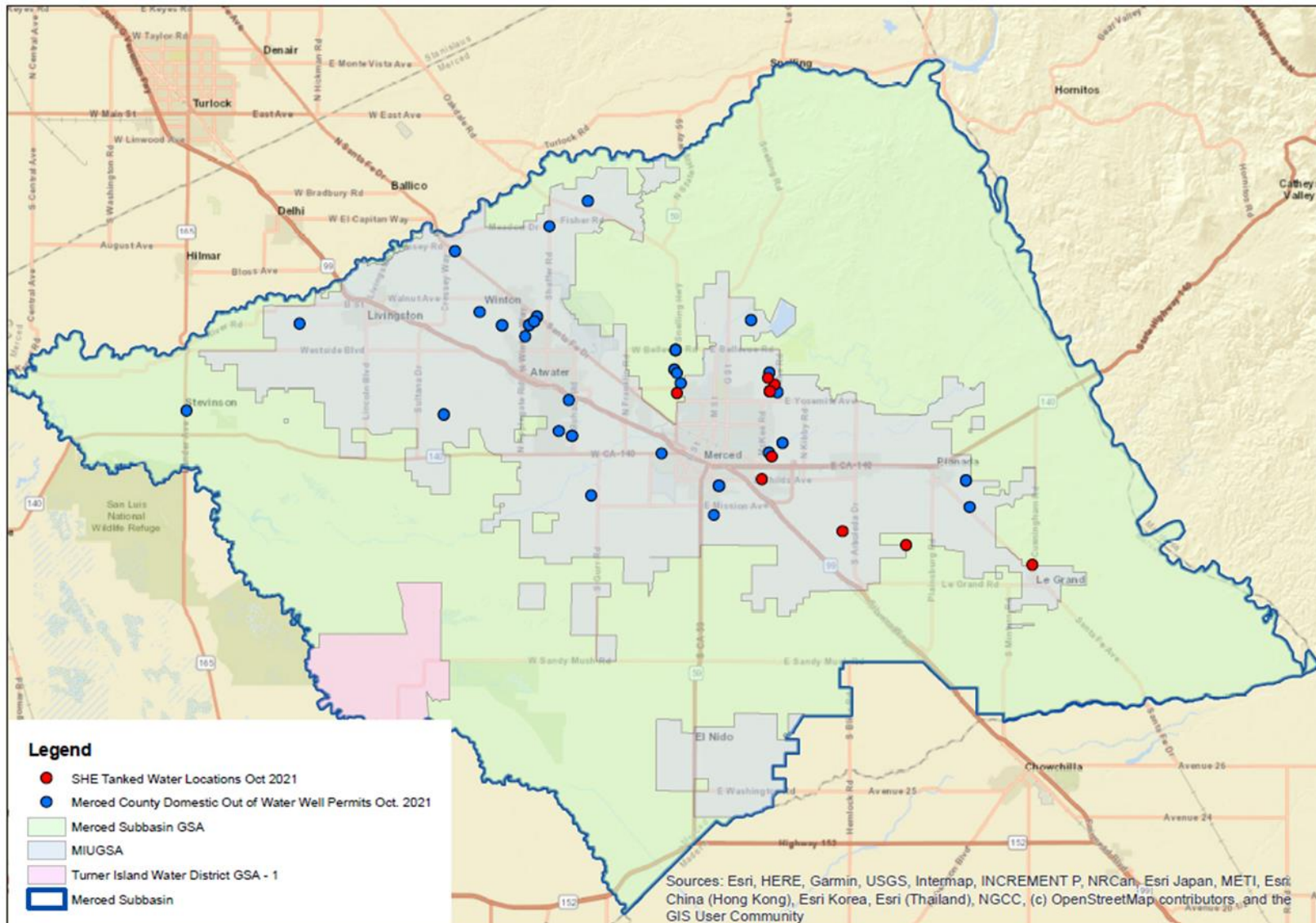


Hot and Dry conditions throughout the State



Higher risk of very low water supply conditions requires aggressive planning to prepare for 2022

Dry Domestic Well Permits and Tanked Water



- Tanked water supplied by SHE to Merced Subbasin: 9 tanks installed (July –October 2021)
- Out of water domestic well permits issued in Merced Subbasin: 33 (April – October 2021)

Emergency Water Resources in Merced County



Water is Essential



Visit for a list of resources by county
www.mywellwentdry.org

Call Self-Help Enterprises
559.802.1685

- Self Help Enterprises administers SAFER Drinking Water Grant Funding and Programs in Merced
 - Bottled water program
 - Emergency access to hauled/tanked water
 - Water well assessment, repair or replacement
 - Water quality testing

Drought Line: 559-802-1685



Public Comment

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced



Next Steps

Image courtesy: Veronica Adrover/UC Merced

What's coming up next?

- Adjourn to next Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting: January 2022

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