

## 388 1. AGENCY INFORMATION, PLAN AREA, COMMUNICATION

### 389 1.1 Introduction and Agency Information

#### 390 1.1.1 Purpose of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan

391 The purpose of this Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) is to meet the regulatory  
392 requirements set forth in the three-bill legislative package consisting of Assembly Bill (AB)  
393 1739 (Dickinson), Senate Bill (SB) 1168 (Pavley), and SB 1319 (Pavley), collectively known as  
394 the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). SGMA defines sustainable  
395 groundwater management as “management and use of groundwater in a manner that can be  
396 maintained during the planning and implementation horizon without causing undesirable  
397 results,” which are defined by SGMA as any of the following effects caused by groundwater  
398 conditions occurring throughout the basin (Department of Water Resources [DWR], 2018a):

- 399 • Chronic lowering of groundwater levels indicating a significant and unreasonable  
400 depletion of supply if continued over the planning and implementation horizon
- 401 • Significant and unreasonable reduction of groundwater storage
- 402 • Significant and unreasonable seawater intrusion
- 403 • Significant and unreasonable degraded water quality, including the migration of  
404 contaminant plumes that impair water supplies
- 405 • Significant and unreasonable land subsidence that substantially interferes with surface  
406 land uses
- 407 • Depletions of interconnected surface water that have significant and unreasonable  
408 adverse impacts on beneficial uses of the surface water

409 The Vina Groundwater Subbasin (Vina Subbasin or Subbasin) has been identified by the DWR  
410 as a high priority basin. The Vina Groundwater Sustainability Plan (Vina GSP) was developed to  
411 meet SGMA regulatory requirements by the January 31, 2022, deadline for high priority basins  
412 while reflecting local needs and preserving local control over water resources. The Vina GSP  
413 provides a path to achieve and document sustainable groundwater management within 20 years  
414 following Vina GSP adoption, promoting the long-term sustainability of locally managed  
415 groundwater resources now and into the future.

416 While the Vina GSP offers a new and significant approach to groundwater resource protection, it  
417 was developed within an existing framework of comprehensive planning efforts. Throughout the  
418 Vina Subbasin, several separate yet related planning efforts have occurred previously or are  
419 concurrently proceeding. In November 1996, the voters in Butte County approved “An  
420 Ordinance to Protect The Groundwater Resources In Butte County.” One of the stated purposes  
421 of the ordinance was that “the groundwater underlying Butte County is a significant water  
422 resource which must be reasonably and beneficially used and conserved for the benefit of the  
423 overlying land by avoiding extractions which harm the Butte basin aquifers, causing exceedance  
424 of the safe yield or a condition of overdraft.” Other significant reports prepared in the Vina  
425 Subbasin include integrated regional water management, urban water management, habitat

426 conservation, basin assessment, and general planning. The Vina GSP fits in with these prior  
427 planning efforts, building on existing local management and basin characterization. A  
428 description of prior planning efforts can be found in Section 1.2 of this document.

### 429 **1.1.2 Sustainability Goal**

430 A sustainability goal is the culmination of conditions resulting in a sustainable condition  
431 (absence of undesirable results) within 20 years. The sustainability goal reflects this requirement  
432 and succinctly states the GSP's objectives and desired conditions of the Subbasin.

433 The sustainability goal for the Vina Subbasin is “to ensure that groundwater is managed to  
434 provide a water supply of adequate quantity and quality to support rural areas and communities,  
435 the agricultural economic base of the region, and environmental uses now and in the future.”

436 Additional discussion of the sustainability goal can be found in Section 3: Sustainable  
437 Management Criteria.

### 438 **1.1.3 Contact Information**

439 The Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) has been tasked with submitting a single,  
440 jointly composed GSP to DWR on behalf of the entire Subbasin. Contact information for the  
441 submitting agency and Plan Manager is provided below:

Submitting Agency: Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
308 Nelson Avenue  
Oroville, California 95965  
<https://www.vinagsa.org>

Plan Manager: Dr. Christina Buck  
308 Nelson Avenue  
Oroville, California 95965  
530.552.3595  
[cbuck@buttecounty.net](mailto:cbuck@buttecounty.net)

442

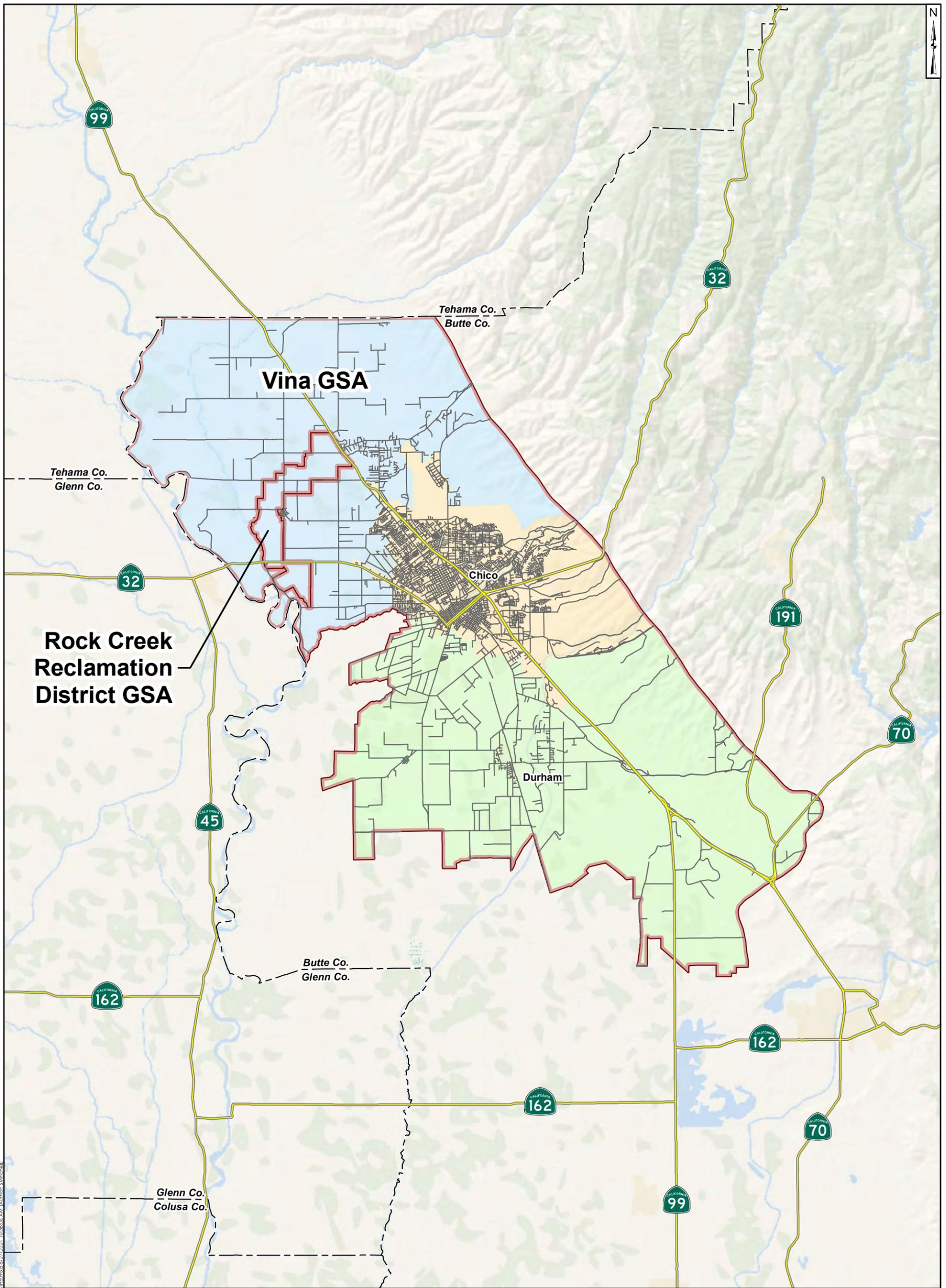
### 443 **1.1.4 Agency Information**

444 The Vina GSA and the Rock Creek Reclamation District GSA are the two GSAs in the Vina  
445 Subbasin, as shown in Figure 1-1. The two GSAs intend to submit one GSP for the Vina  
446 Subbasin. The GSAs entered into a Cooperation Agreement for the purpose of developing and  
447 implementing a single GSP for the Vina Subbasin (Appendix 1-A).

448 Additional information for the two GSAs is provided below.

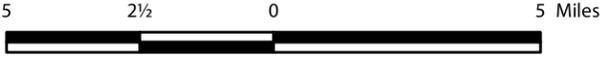
#### 449 **1.1.4.1 Vina GSA**

450 The Vina GSA was formed through the execution of a Joint Powers Agreement (Agreement) by  
451 the County of Butte, City of Chico, and Durham Irrigation District (Appendix 1-B). The Vina  
452 GSA filed to be a GSA on June 5, 2019. The purpose of the Agreement was to create the Vina  
453 GSA to (a) to develop, adopt, and implement a GSP for the Vina Subbasin in order to implement



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Legend	
	GSA boundaries
	Vina North
	Vina Chico
	Vina South
	Highways
	Other roads
	County boundaries
	Roads

	
<b>Groundwater Sustainability Agencies</b> Vina GSP	
	
Project No.: SAC282	August 2021
<b>Figure 1-1</b>	

454 SGMA requirements and achieve the sustainability goals; and (b) involve the public and  
455 subbasin stakeholders through outreach and engagement in developing and implementing the  
456 GSP. The Vina GSA covers the portions of the Vina Subbasin outside of the Rock Creek  
457 Reclamation District GSA jurisdictional boundary. At the heart of the Agreement is the focus to  
458 maximize local input and decision-making and address the different water demands and  
459 sustainability considerations in the municipal and rural areas of the Vina Subbasin.

460 The Vina GSA Board serves as the policy-making role for SGMA implementation in the Vina  
461 GSA. All GSA Board meetings are subject to the Brown Act and are noticed and open to the  
462 public. The GSA Board is composed of five seats, each with equal and full voting rights,  
463 including:

- 464 1. Butte County – 1 seat (Member Agency)
- 465 2. City of Chico – 1 seat (Member Agency)
- 466 3. Durham Irrigation District – 1 seat (Member Agency)
- 467 4. Agricultural groundwater user – 1 seat (Butte County Appointed )
- 468 5. Domestic well user (non-agricultural) – 1 seat (Butte County Board Appointed )

469 The Vina GSA Board possesses the ability to exercise those powers specifically granted by the  
470 Joint Powers Act and SGMA. The Agreement states that the GSA shall possess the ability to  
471 exercise those powers specifically granted by the Joint Powers` Act and SGMA. Additionally,  
472 the GSA has the ability to exercise the common powers of its Members related to the purposes of  
473 the GSA, including, but not limited to, the following:

- 474 • To designate itself as the exclusive GSA for the Basin pursuant to SGMA.
- 475 • To develop, adopt and implement a GSP for the Basin pursuant to SGMA.
- 476 • To adopt rules, regulations, policies, bylaws and procedures governing the operation of  
477 the GSA and adoption and implementation of a GSP for the Basin.
- 478 • To adopt ordinances within the Basin consistent with the purpose of the GSA as  
479 necessary to implement the GSP and otherwise meeting the requirements of the SGMA.
- 480 • To obtain legal, financial, accounting, technical, engineering, and other services needed  
481 to carry out the purposes of this Agreement.
- 482 • To perform periodic reviews of the GSP including submittal of annual reports.
- 483 • To require the registration and monitoring of wells within the Basin.
- 484 • To issue revenue bonds or other appropriate public or private debt and incur debts,  
485 liabilities or obligations.
- 486 • To exercise the powers permitted under Government Code section 6504 or any successor  
487 statute.
- 488 • To levy taxes, assessments, charges and fees as provided in SGMA or otherwise provided  
489 by law.

- 490 • To regulate and monitor groundwater extractions within the Basin as permitted by  
 491 SGMA, provided that this Agreement does not extend to a Member's operation of its  
 492 systems to distribute water once extracted or otherwise obtained, unless and to the extent  
 493 required by other laws now in existence or as may otherwise be adopted.
- 494 • To establish and administer projects and programs for the benefit of the Basin.
- 495 • To cooperate, act in conjunction and contract with the United States, the State of  
 496 California, or any agency thereof, counties, municipalities, special districts, GSAs, public  
 497 and private corporations of any kind (including, without limitation, Public Utilities  
 498 Commission regulated utilities and mutual water companies), and individuals, or any of  
 499 them, for any and all purposes necessary or convenient for the full exercise of powers of  
 500 the GSA.
- 501 • To accumulate operating and reserve funds and invest the same as allowed by law for the  
 502 purposes of the GSA and to invest funds pursuant to California Government Code section  
 503 6509.5 or other applicable State Law.
- 504 • To apply for and accept grants, contributions, donations and loans under any federal, state  
 505 or local programs for assistance in development or implementing any of its projects or  
 506 programs for the purposes of the GSA.
- 507 • To acquire by negotiation, lease, purchase, construct, hold, manage, maintain, operate  
 508 and dispose of any buildings, property, water rights, works or improvements within and  
 509 without the respective boundaries of the Members necessary to accomplish the purposes  
 510 described herein.
- 511 • To sue and be sued in the GSA's own name.
- 512 • To exercise the common powers of its Members to develop, collect, provide and  
 513 disseminate information that furthers the purposes of the GSA, including but not limited  
 514 to the operation of the GSA and adoption and implementation of a Groundwater  
 515 Sustainability Plan for the Basin, to the Members' legislative, administrative, and judicial  
 516 bodies, as well as the public generally.
- 517 • To perform all other acts necessary or proper to carry out fully the purposes of this  
 518 Agreement.

519 The Vina GSA Board aspires to seek consensus. If the Vina GSA Board cannot reach consensus,  
 520 the Vina GSA Board defaults to the following voting structure.

- 521 • Quorum: A majority of the members of the Vina GSA Board members shall constitute a  
 522 quorum for purposes of transacting business.
- 523 • Director Votes: Each member of the Vina GSA Board shall have one vote.
- 524 • Supermajority Voting Requirement (four affirmative votes) for the following:
- 525     1. Bylaws adoption, modification or alteration
- 526     2. GSP adoption, modification, alteration

- 527 3. Adoption of assessment, charges and fees
- 528 4. Adoptions of regulations and ordinances
- 529 5. Adoption or modification of annual budget, including capital projects
- 530 6. Property acquisition (excepting rights of way)
- 531 7. Removal of Advisory Committee Members
- 532 8. Modifications to the composition and number of Advisory Committee Members
- 533 9. Removal of stakeholder board seats as is consistent with the Agreement

534 The Vina GSA Board does not have the authority to limit or interfere with the respective  
535 Member Agency’s rights and authorities over their own internal matters, including, but not  
536 limited to, legal rights to surface water supplies and assets, groundwater supplies and assets,  
537 facilities, operations, water management and water supply matters. The Member Agencies made  
538 no commitments by entering into the Agreement to share or otherwise contribute their water  
539 supply assets as part of the development or implementation of a GSP. Nothing in the Agreement  
540 modifies or limits a Member Agency’s police powers, land use authorities, or any other  
541 authority. The Member Agencies cooperate to obtain consulting, administrative and management  
542 services needed to efficiently develop a GSP and to identify mechanisms for the management  
543 and funding commitments reasonably anticipated to be necessary for the purposes of this  
544 Agreement.

545 Each Member Agency (Butte County, City of Chico and Durham Irrigation District) designates a  
546 staff person (in-kind support) to participate on the Vina GSA Management Committee. The  
547 Mechoopda Tribe is a recognized Tribe in the Vina Subbasin. The Vina GSA is collaborating  
548 with the Mechoopda Tribe on the development of the GSP and the Tribe has a staff member  
549 designated as an ex-officio member of the Management Committee for the purpose of GSP  
550 development and implementation.

551 The Management Committee receives direction from the Vina GSA Board, makes  
552 recommendations and generates staff reports and proposals to the Vina GSA Board. The  
553 Management Committee staffs the Advisory Committee and reports to the Vina GSA Board  
554 recommendations and actions from the Advisory Committee. The Management Committee  
555 assures that staff and other resources are provided to prepare and implement the GSP and  
556 administer the governance for the Vina GSA.

557 The Vina GSA does not and will not have any employees. However, the Vina GSA has the  
558 power to employ consultants to fulfill the objectives and purposes of SGMA and complete a  
559 GSP. Butte County is leading the development of technical aspects of the GSP including  
560 contracting for professional services in coordination with the Management Committee and the  
561 Vina GSA Board. The Management Committee may form ad hoc technical working groups to  
562 provide input on technical matters pertaining to the GSP. Preparation of the Vina GSP and  
563 carrying out governance requires various administrative activities such as meeting management,  
564 website development and maintenance, public outreach and communication.

565 The Vina Advisory Committee provides input and recommendations to Vina GSA Board on  
566 GSA policies and GSP development and implementation. There are 10 Advisory Committee  
567 members, including:

- 568 • Agricultural groundwater users (3)
- 569 • At-large domestic well users (2)
- 570 • At-large environmental representative (1)
- 571 • At-large business representative (1)
- 572 • Cal Water-Chico (1)
- 573 • CSU Chico (1)
- 574 • Butte College (1)

575 The Management Committee participates in Advisory Committee meetings. The Vina GSA  
576 Board appoints at-large members to fill Advisory Committee seats. Eligible individuals  
577 interested in participating on the Advisory Committee from the community or organizations  
578 within the subbasin can apply to the Vina GSA to become a member. At-large members must  
579 live, farm or be employed by a firm operating in the Vina GSA. To inform the Vina GSA Board  
580 and assist in decision-making, the Advisory Committee will provide written recommendations  
581 that will be included in Management Committee reports. The recommendations will identify  
582 areas of agreement and disagreement. The Advisory Committee will strive for consensus when  
583 possible, but reaching consensus is not necessary. Consensus means that everyone can at least  
584 “live with” the recommendation. When unable to reach consensus on recommendations, the  
585 Advisory Committee will outline the areas in which it does not agree, providing some  
586 explanation to inform the Vina GSA Board decision-making. The Vina GSA Board will consider  
587 Advisory Committee recommendations when making decisions. If that Board does not agree  
588 with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, the Vina GSA Board shall state the  
589 reasons for its decision. The Advisory Committee will be staffed by a member of one of the  
590 Member Agencies. All Advisory Committee meetings are subject to the Brown Act and will be  
591 noticed and open to the public.

#### 592 ***1.1.4.2 Rock Creek Reclamation District GSA***

593 The Rock Creek Reclamation District (RCRD) provides flood control and groundwater  
594 sustainability services to approximately 4,625 acres of agricultural and single-family residential  
595 parcels in northern Butte County. The District is located in the Big Chico Creek and Pine Creek  
596 Watersheds. RCRD is governed by a seven-member Board of Trustees elected by the landowners  
597 to staggered four-year terms. The Board of Trustees conducts its regular meetings quarterly, and  
598 holds special meetings as needed. Board meetings are open to the public and are conducted in  
599 accordance with the Brown Act. Members of the public regularly attend meetings virtually or in-  
600 person. RCRD regularly contracts with a District Counsel and a Secretary to the Board, who  
601 provide professional services (legal and secretarial, respectively) at the discretion of and as  
602 directed by the Board of Trustees. Most other RCRD services, including reclamation and flood  
603 control work, are performed by contracted parties on a seasonal or ad-hoc basis at the direction  
604 of the Board of Trustees.

605 Initially formed in 1985 under the State Reclamation Act (California Water Code Section 50000  
606 et seq.) and Butte County Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 85-167, RCRD has a long track  
607 record of undertaking flood projects for the benefit of its landowners and will continue to  
608 provide services and benefits to the community in this area. In 2018, RCRD expanded its Sphere  
609 of Influence to approximately 19,027 acres (total 23,652 acres).

610 RCRD provides for repair, maintenance, and improvement of natural channel water conveyance  
611 and flood protection facilities within the area. RCRD is empowered to construct, maintain, and  
612 operate drains, canals, sluices, bulkheads, watergates, levees, embankments, pumping plants,  
613 dams, diversion, or irrigation works, and all other facilities reasonably necessary or convenient to  
614 accomplish District purposes.

615 As a local agency with water supply, water management, or land use responsibilities within the  
616 Vina Subbasin, RCRD is authorized to become a GSA over the Vina Subbasin, pursuant to  
617 Water Code sections 10723 and 10721(n). On October 18, 2016, RCRD elected to become a  
618 GSA over its boundaries, in accordance with the notice and hearing requirements of Water Code  
619 section 10723 and Government Code section 6066. On or around October 26, 2016, the RCRD  
620 GSA sent notice to DWR of its intent to undertake sustainable groundwater management,  
621 pursuant to Water Code sections 10723(d) and 10723.8. RCRD became the exclusive GSA over  
622 its jurisdictional boundaries.

623 The RCRD GSA is managed by the Board of Trustees of RCRD with meetings conducted in  
624 accordance with the Brown Act. The RCRD GSA formed an ad-hoc SGMA Committee to  
625 provide assistance to the RCRD Board of Trustees on development of the GSP. The ad-hoc  
626 committee consists of two RCRD trustees. The RCRD GSA's SGMA committee members are  
627 uncompensated and assist the Board of Trustees with in-kind contributions of time and resources.  
628 All GSA powers are retained and exercised by the Board of Trustees of RCRD. Upon formation,  
629 and as of 2021, the committee is staffed by RCRD's Chair, Hal Crain, and RCRD's Vice-Chair,  
630 Darren Rice. The function of the ad-hoc committee is to provide input and make  
631 recommendations to the RCRD Board of Trustees on development of the GSP, and to serve as  
632 the point of contact between the Vina GSA and RCRD GSA. A member of the committee  
633 attends Vina GSA meetings and Vina GSA Stakeholder Advisory committee meetings.  
634 Additionally, several joint meetings of the boards of Vina GSA and RCRD GSA were held  
635 during the development of the GSP.

636 Development and implementation of the GSP is funded primarily by a DWR grant administered  
637 by Butte County on behalf of the GSAs and pursuant to a Cooperation Agreement between the  
638 Vina GSA and RCRD GSA. RCRD GSA additionally provides in-kind contributions of its  
639 SGMA committee members' time and resources. Other incidental RCRD GSA costs are funded  
640 by RCRD's annual special assessment. RCRD GSA's implementation of the GSP will be funded  
641 by these sources and any additional sources of revenue or funding that the Board of Trustees of  
642 RCRD deems proper and consistent with applicable law and its obligations as a GSA and  
643 Reclamation District.

## 644 1.2 Groundwater Sustainability Plan Area

645 This section provides a detailed description of the Vina Subbasin, including major streams and  
646 creeks, institutional entities, agricultural and urban land uses, locations of groundwater wells,  
647 and locations of state lands. The GSP Area document also describes existing surface water and  
648 groundwater monitoring programs, existing water management programs, and general plans in  
649 the GSP Area.

### 650 1.2.1 Summary of Jurisdictional Areas and Other Features

651 The Vina Subbasin falls within the larger Sacramento Valley Groundwater Basin (Figure 1-2).  
652 Basin designations by DWR were first published in 1952 in Water Quality Investigations Report  
653 No. 3, Ground Water Basins in California, and subsequently updated in Bulletin 118 in 1975,  
654 1980, 2003, and draft update in 2020. As shown in Figure 1-3, the Vina Subbasin (Bulletin 118  
655 Basin Number 5-021.57) is bordered to the north by the Los Molinos Subbasin (Bulletin 118  
656 Basin Number 5-021.56), the Corning Subbasin (Bulletin 118 Basin Number 5-021.51), and the  
657 Butte Subbasin (Bulletin 118 Basin Number 5-021.40); to the south by the Wyandotte Creek  
658 Subbasin (Bulletin 118 Basin Number 5-021.69); and to the east by the Sierra Nevada  
659 geomorphic province.

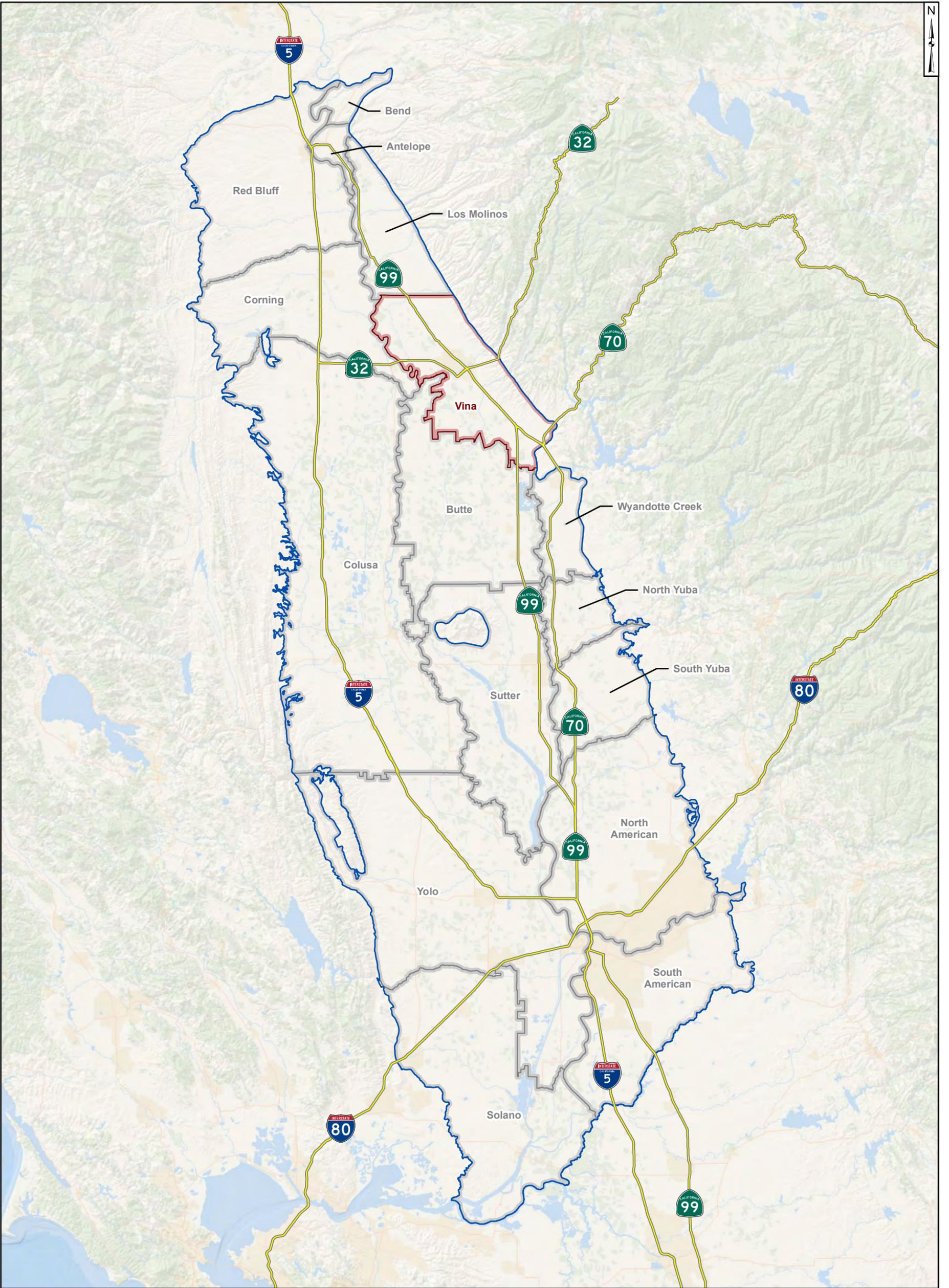
660 The Vina Subbasin is located within Butte County. Geologic units in the Vina Subbasin consist  
661 of consolidated rocks and unconsolidated deposits as discussed in detail in Section 2. No  
662 adjudicated areas or areas covered by an alternative to a GSP exist within the Vina Subbasin.

663 Figure 1-4 shows the Vina Subbasin's key geographic features, including city boundaries. The  
664 Subbasin encompasses an area of about 289 square miles. There are two entities within the  
665 Subbasin with land use jurisdiction: Butte County and the City of Chico.

666 Figure 1-5 shows the spatial extent of Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) and Severely  
667 Disadvantaged Communities (SDACs) in the Vina Subbasin. DWR defines DACs as census  
668 geographies (census tracts, census block groups, and census-designated places) with an annual  
669 median household income (MHI) that is less than 80% of the statewide annual MHI. SDACs are  
670 defined as census geographies with an MHI less than 60 percent of the statewide annual MHI.  
671 DWR uses the most recently available 5-year American Community Survey (ACS) dataset to  
672 identify these areas. For this GSP, the 2012-2016 ACS dataset was used, establishing statewide  
673 MHI as \$63,783 (DWR, Mapping Tools).

674 Figure 1-6 shows a map of land use in the Vina Subbasin across four general categories:  
675 cropland, industrial, undeveloped, and urban. These categories were mapped based on categories  
676 provided by 2015 land use from the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA)  
677 CropScape 2015 dataset.

678 Land use patterns in the Vina Subbasin are dominated by agricultural uses, including nut and  
679 fruit trees, vineyards, row crops, grazing, and forage. Throughout the Vina Subbasin both  
680 agricultural and urban land use rely on a combination of surface water and groundwater. Land  
681 use is primarily controlled by local agencies. Land use patterns in the low foothills to the east are  
682 dominated by native vegetation and unirrigated pasture lands (USDA, 2015).



**Legend**

Sacramento Valley Groundwater Basin

Vina Subbasin

Other Sacramento Valley Subbasins

Highways

**Groundwater Subbasins**

20 10 0 20 Miles

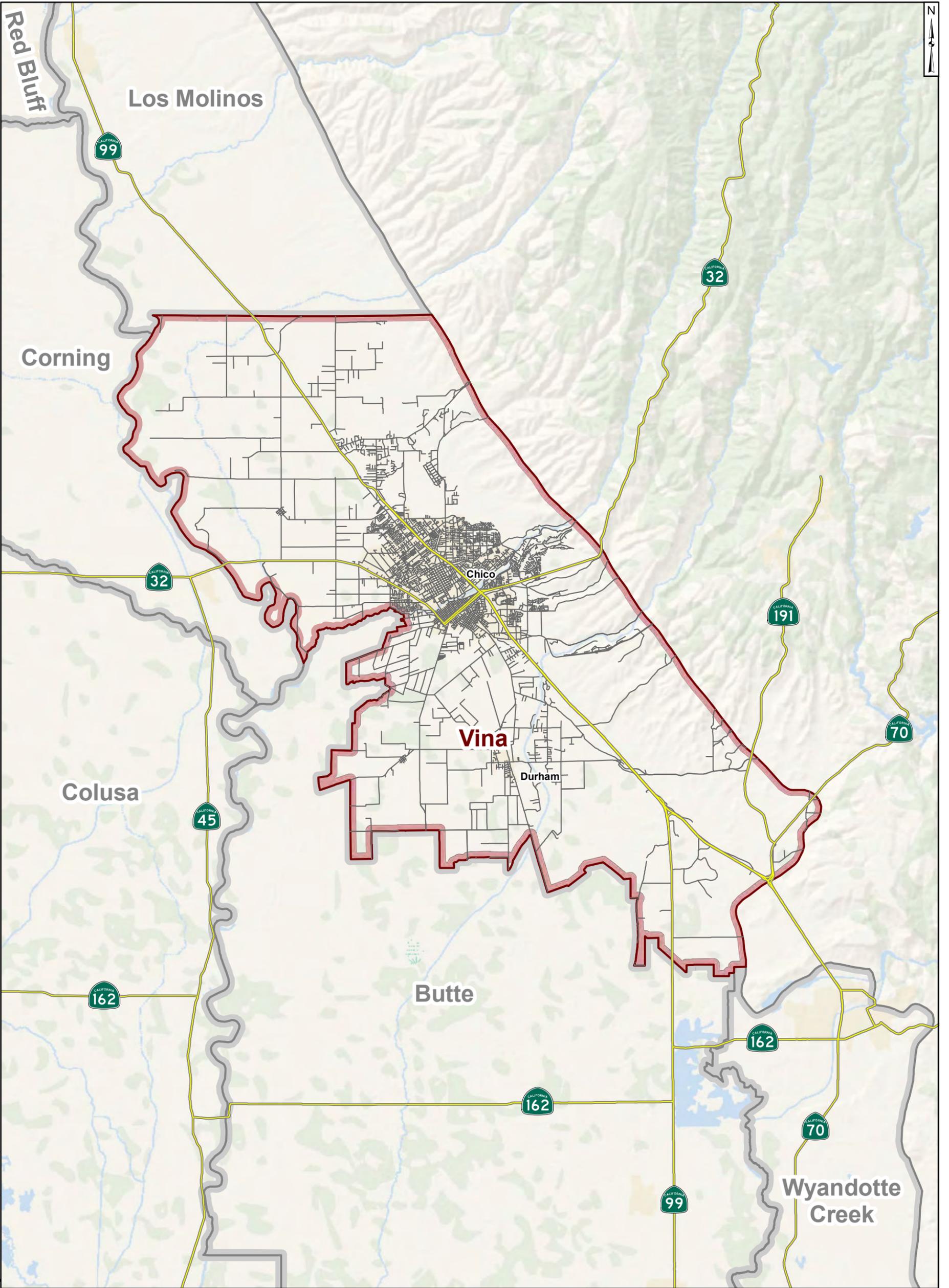
**Sacramento Valley Groundwater Basin**  
Vina GSP

**Geosyntec**  
consultants

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**Figure 1-2**

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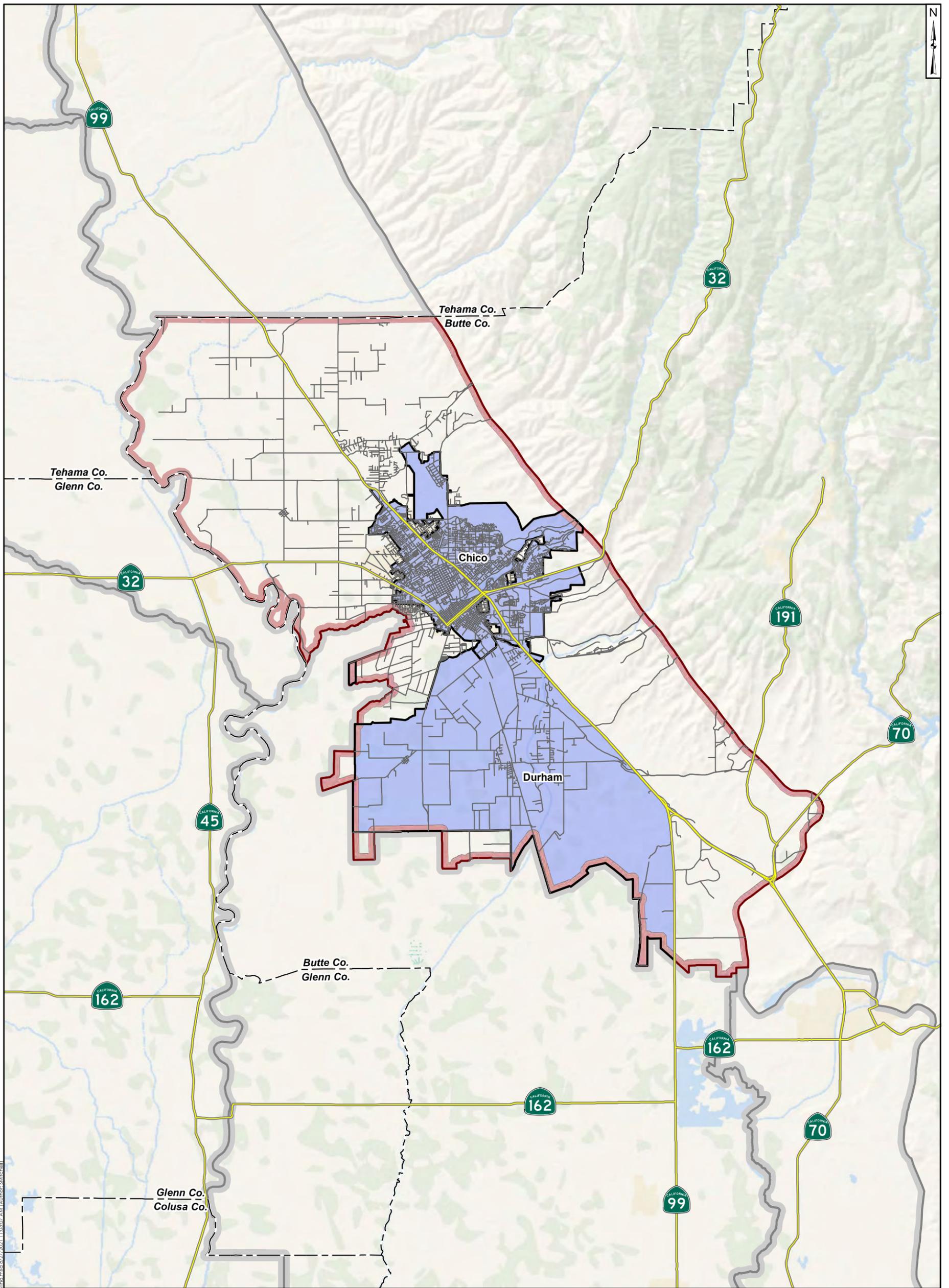
**Legend**

	Vina Subbasin		Roads
	Neighboring Subbasins		Highways
			Other roads

	
<b>Neighboring Groundwater Subbasins</b> Vina GSP	
	
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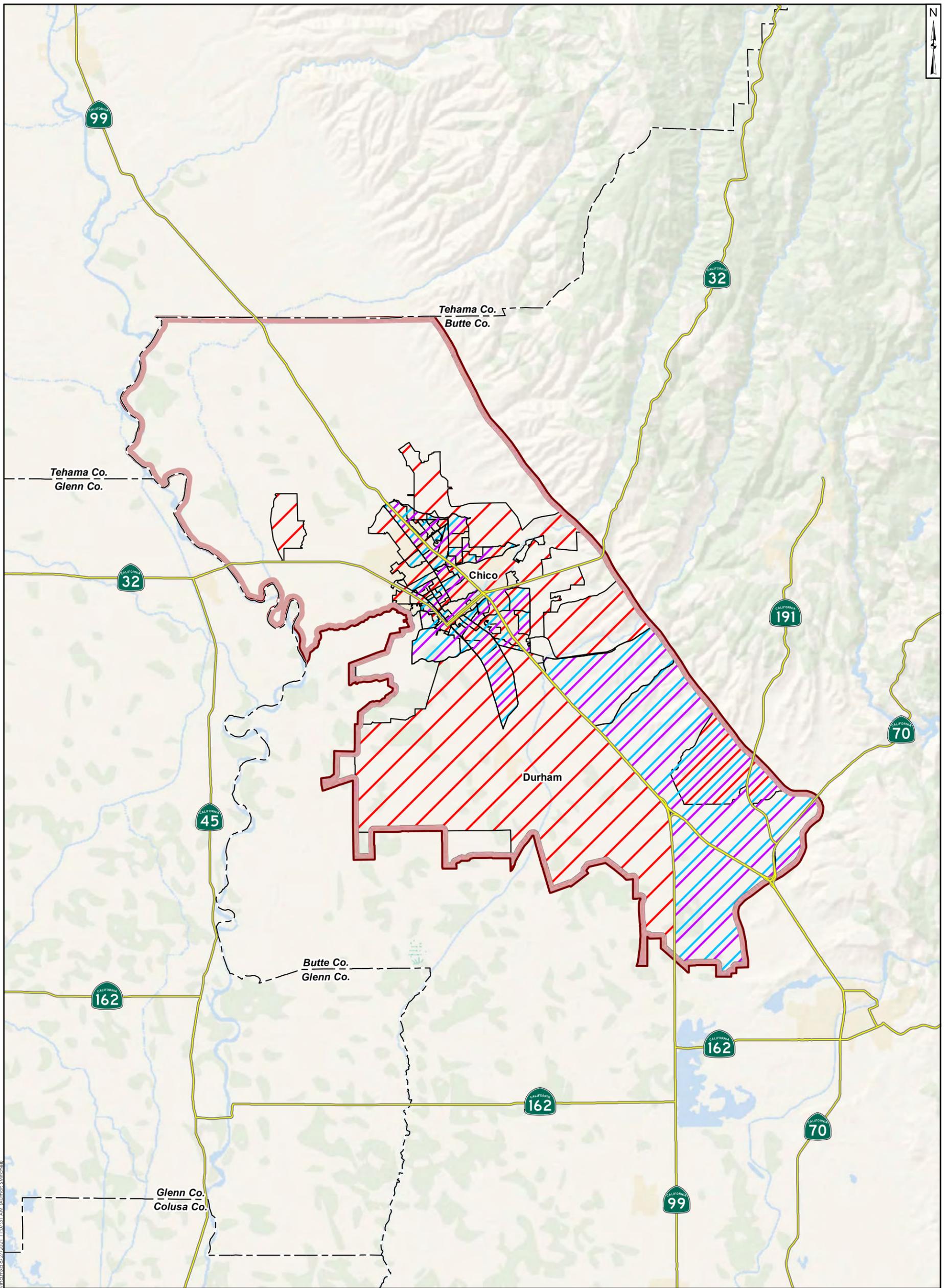
Figure  
**1-3**

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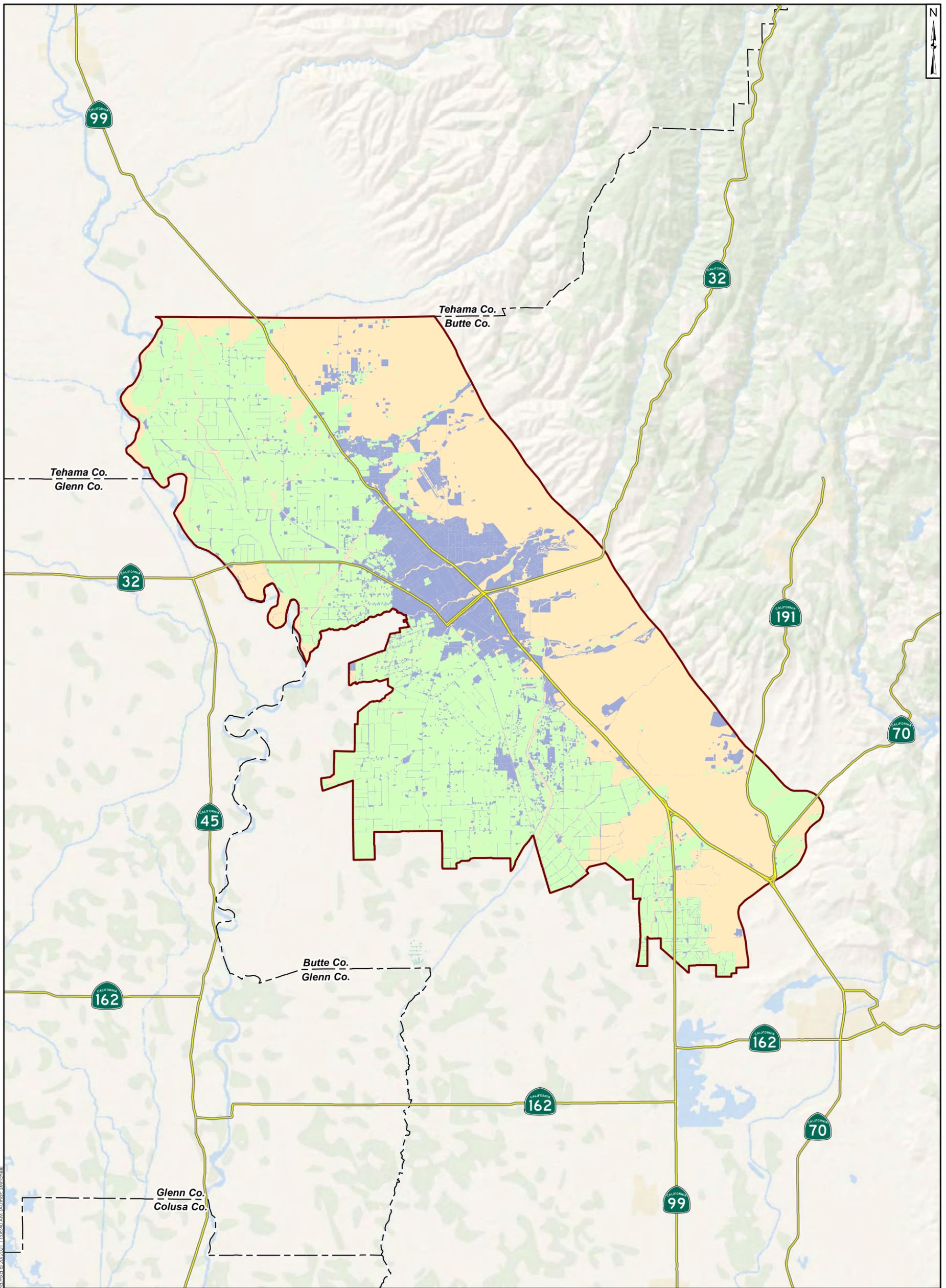
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<b>Legend</b>		5      2½      0      5 Miles 	
<b>Groundwater Subbasins</b> Vina Subbasin Neighboring Subbasins Incorporated cities	<b>Roads</b> Highways Other roads <b>Boundaries</b> County boundaries	<b>Cities</b> Vina GSP	
		<b>Figure</b> <b>1-4</b>	
Project No.: SAC282		August 2021	



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<b>Legend</b> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Vina Groundwater Subbasin</li> <li> Disadvantaged Communities (2018) By census tract</li> <li> Disadvantaged Communities (2018) By block group</li> <li> Disadvantaged Communities (2018) By place</li> </ul> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Roads</li> <li> Highways</li> <li> Boundaries</li> <li> County boundaries</li> </ul> </div> </div>			<b>Disadvantaged Communities (2018)</b> Vina GSP
		<b>Figure</b> <b>1-5</b>	
Project No.: SAC282	August 2021		



**Legend**

	Vina Groundwater Subbasin		Roads
	Agricultural areas		Highways
	Developed areas		Boundaries
	Other land use		County boundaries

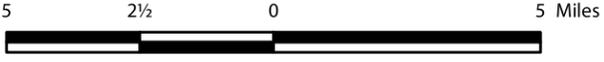
	
<b>Land Use</b> Vina GSP	
	
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Figure  
**1-6**

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683 Crop type varies by region, with fruit and nut trees and rice fields comprising the majority of  
684 agriculture in the Subbasin. Almond and walnut orchards dominate the northern and central  
685 portion of the Subbasin, and rice fields dominate the southern portion of the Subbasin  
686 (Figure 1--7). Figure 1-8 shows a map with boundaries of federal and state public lands within  
687 the region that includes the Vina Subbasin.

688 Figure 1-9 to Figure 1-12 show the density of domestic, public, industrial, and irrigation wells  
689 per square mile in the Vina Subbasin, as classified by the DWR Online System for Well  
690 Completion Reports (OSWCR), which is discussed in Section 1.4.4. Though there are overlaps  
691 and discrepancies in the designation of wells, domestic wells are largely private residential wells,  
692 public wells are municipal operated wells, and production wells are for irrigation, municipal,  
693 public, and industrial purposes (DWR, 2019a). Areas with few wells exist in the Subbasin,  
694 particularly in the northwestern corner of the Subbasin and to the east. Wells containing  
695 groundwater level data are described further in Section 1.4.

696 Figure 1-13 shows locations of major rivers, streams, and creeks within the Vina Subbasin. The  
697 Sacramento River borders the Subbasin on its western side. Other larger surface water bodies  
698 traversing the Subbasin include Big Chico Creek and Butte Creek. Smaller local or ephemeral  
699 streams entering and traversing the Subbasin include Pine Creek, Rock Creek, Mud Creek,  
700 Sycamore Creek, Little Chico Creek, Hamlin Slough, Little Dry Creek, and Clear Creek.  
701 Additional information regarding surface waters can be found in Section 2, Basin Setting.

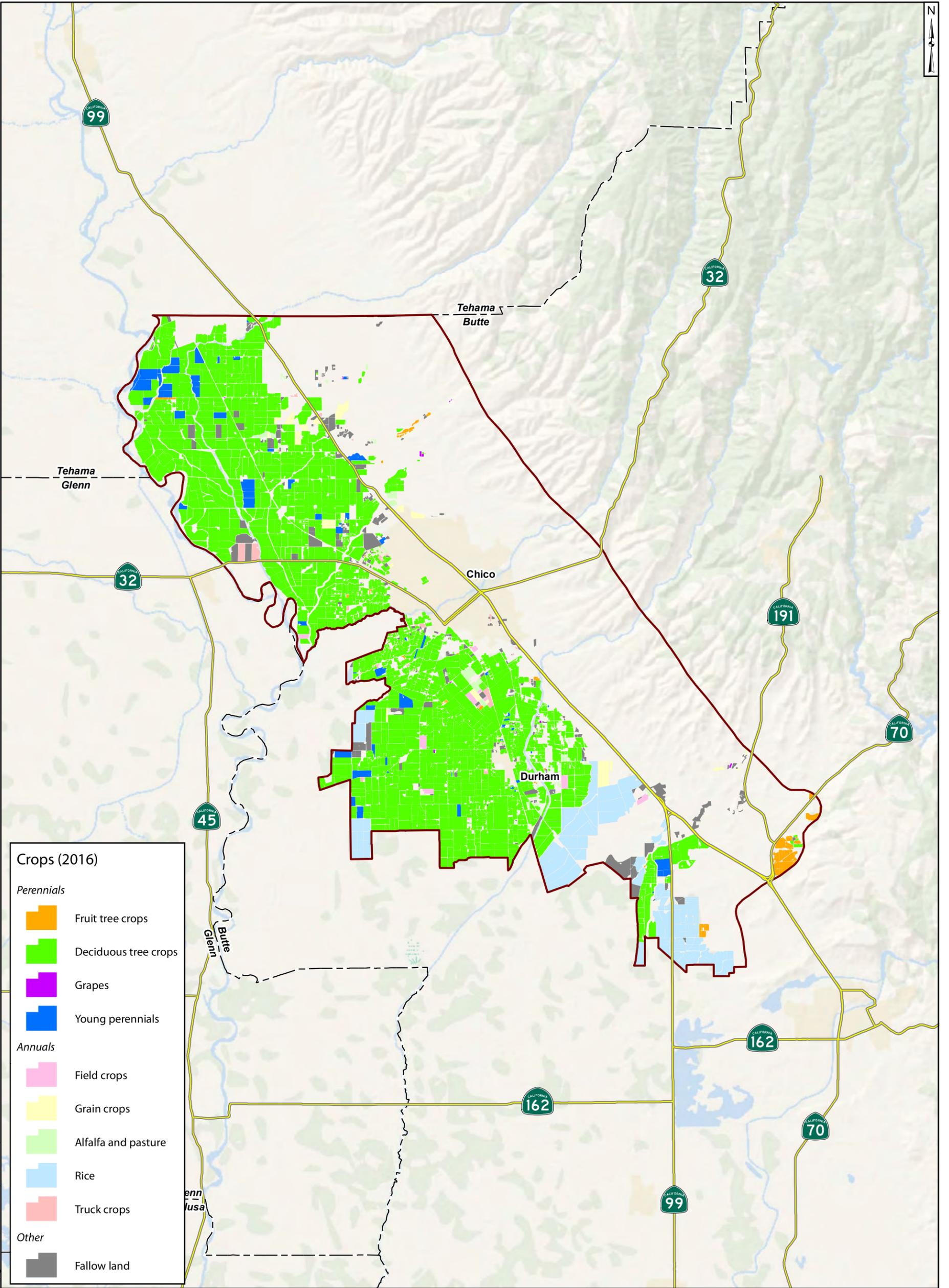
## 702 **1.2.2 Management Areas**

703 A Management Area (MA) refers to an area within a basin for which a GSP may identify  
704 different minimum thresholds, measurable objectives, monitoring, and projects and actions based  
705 on unique local conditions or other circumstances as described in the GSP regulations. The GSP  
706 must describe each MA, including rationale for approach and demonstrate it can be managed  
707 without causing undesirable results within or outside the MA. Three MAs are defined in the Vina  
708 Subbasin by the joint powers agreement forming the Vina GSA, Vina North, Vina Chico, and  
709 Vina South (Figure 1-1).

### 710 **1.2.2.1 Definition and Reason for Creation**

711 The Vina North MA overlies the Butte County area north of the City of Chico and Big Chico  
712 Creek, within the jurisdictional boundary of the GSA. The Rock Creek Reclamation District  
713 GSA is situated in this MA. The Vina GSA and the Rock Creek Reclamation District GSA have  
714 committed through a Cooperation Agreement to develop a single GSP for the Vina Subbasin.  
715 The two GSAs will coordinate their efforts in the Vina North MA. The second MA encompasses  
716 the area that overlies the municipal area within and adjacent to the City of Chico (Vina Chico  
717 MA). The Vina South MA overlies the Durham Irrigation District and the Butte County areas  
718 south of the City of Chico. The Vina GSA is the exclusive GSA for the Vina Chico and Vina  
719 South MAs.

720 Although all stakeholders have a shared interest in sustainable management of groundwater in  
721 this predominantly groundwater dependent subbasin, the landscape of beneficial users varies  
722 between Management Areas. Vina North is dominated by irrigated agriculture dependent on  
723 wells with sparsely distributed rural residential domestic well users and the small community of  
724 Nord. The Sacramento River flows along the western boundary but otherwise, ephemeral streams



**Crops (2016)**

*Perennials*

- Fruit tree crops
- Deciduous tree crops
- Grapes
- Young perennials

*Annuals*

- Field crops
- Grain crops
- Alfalfa and pasture
- Rice
- Truck crops

*Other*

- Fallow land

**Legend**

- Vina Groundwater Subbasin

*Roads*

- Highways

*Boundaries*

- County boundaries

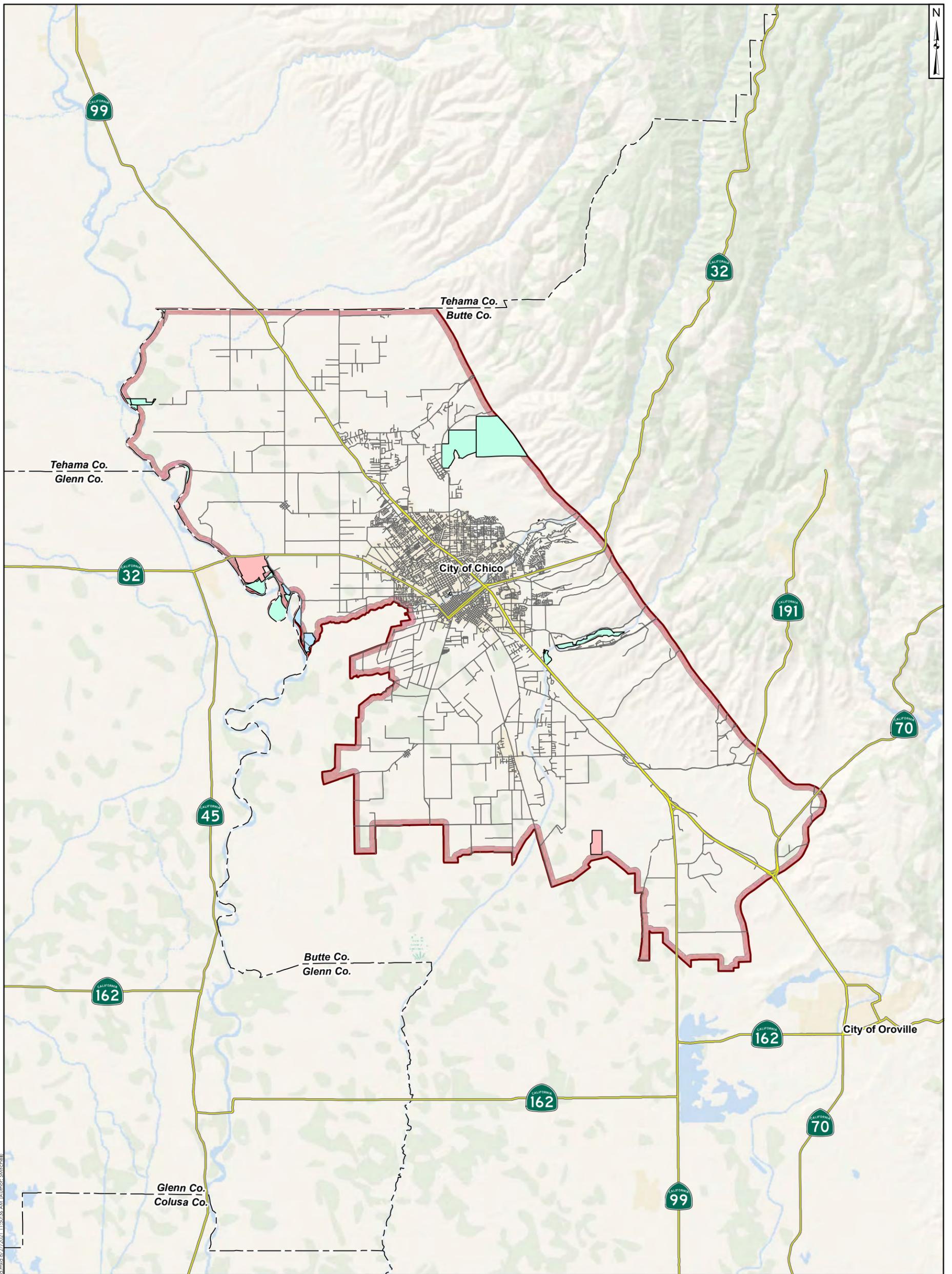


**Land Use by Crop Type**  
Vina GSP

**Geosyntec**  
consultants

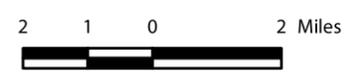
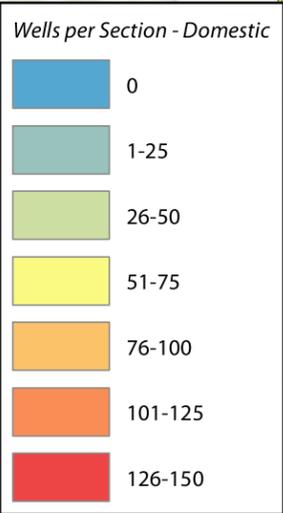
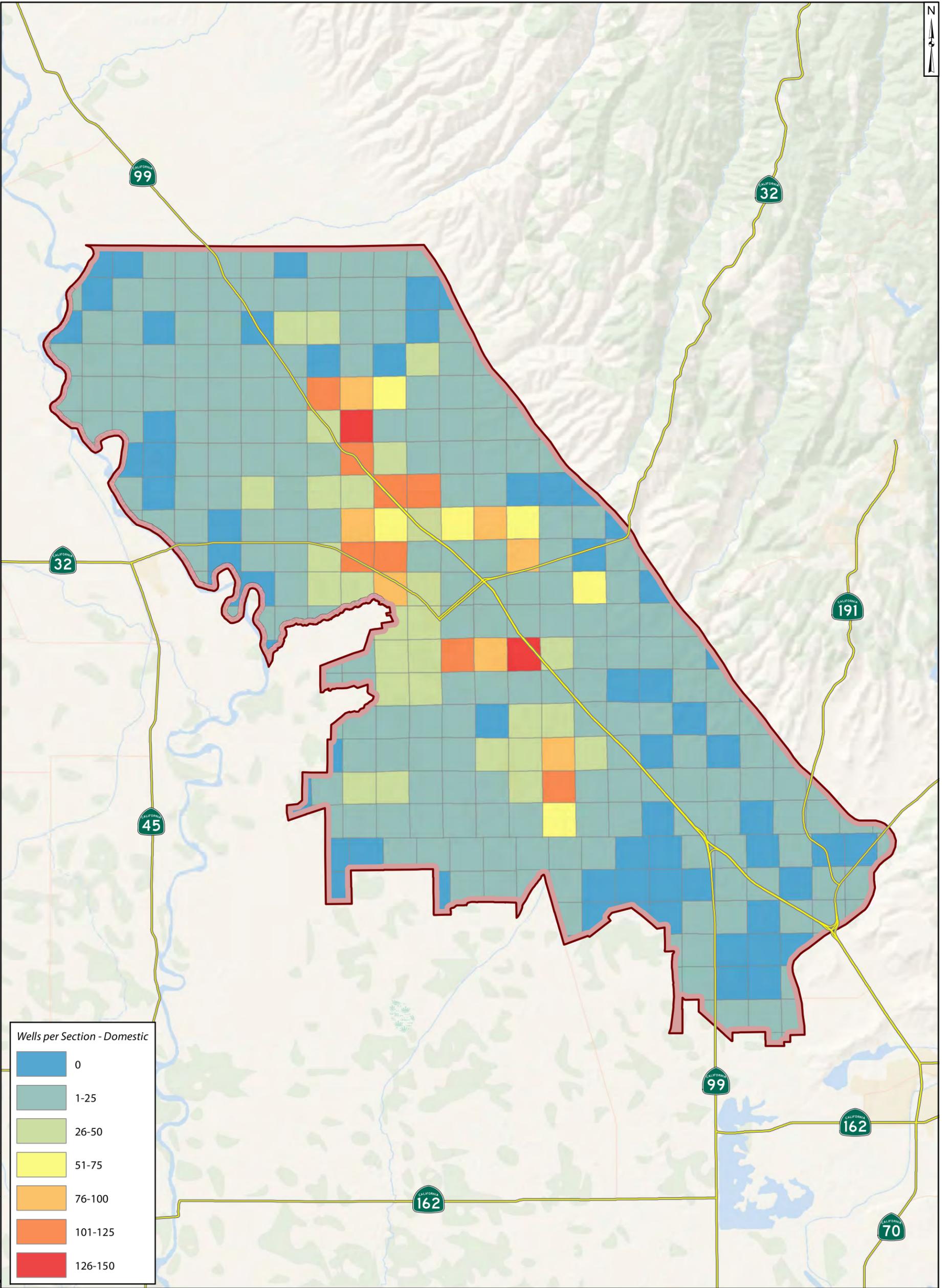
Project No.: SAC282      August 2021

I:\GIS\Projects\2021\08\_GSP\_Maps\Map\Map1-7\_LandUseCropType\_Vina.mxd # 2/2/2021 11:17:18 AM Author:SMIT@ell



I:\GIS\Projects\2021\08\_GSP\_Maps\Map\_Vina\Chico\_Vina\_GSP\_Map.mxd 8/27/2021 11:50:36 AM (Author: SMitchell)

<b>Legend</b> Vina Groundwater Subbasin <b>State and Federal Lands</b> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service lands California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife lands California State Parks <i>Roads</i> Highways Other roads <i>Boundaries</i> County boundaries		
		<b>State and Federal Lands</b> Vina GSP
Project No.: SAC282		August 2021
		<b>Figure</b> <b>1-8</b>



**Density of Domestic Wells per Section**  
Vina GSP

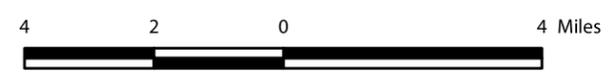
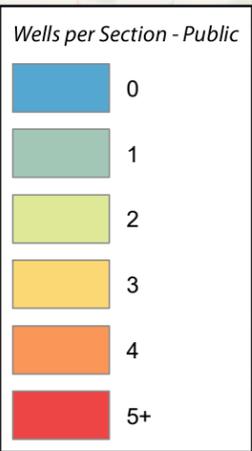
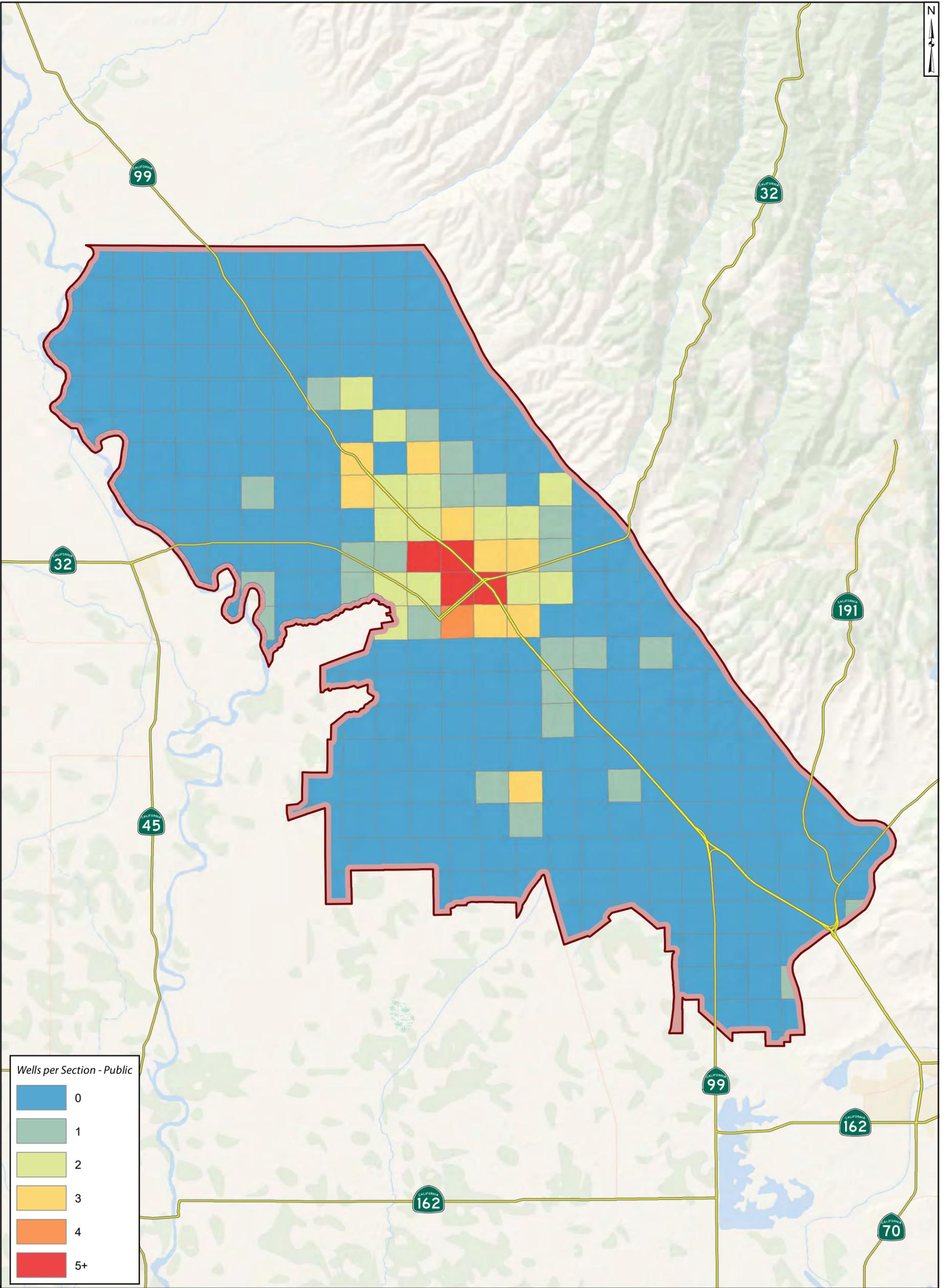
**Geosyntec**  
consultants

Project No.: SAC282

August 2021

Figure  
**1-9**

I:\GIS\Projects\Bottle County\Project\202108\_GSP\_Maps\Map\Map1\WellsDomestic\_Vina.mxd 8/18/2021 10:29:59 PM Author: SMitchell



**Density of Public Wells per Section**  
Vina GSP

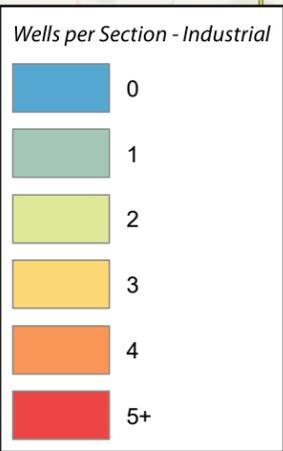
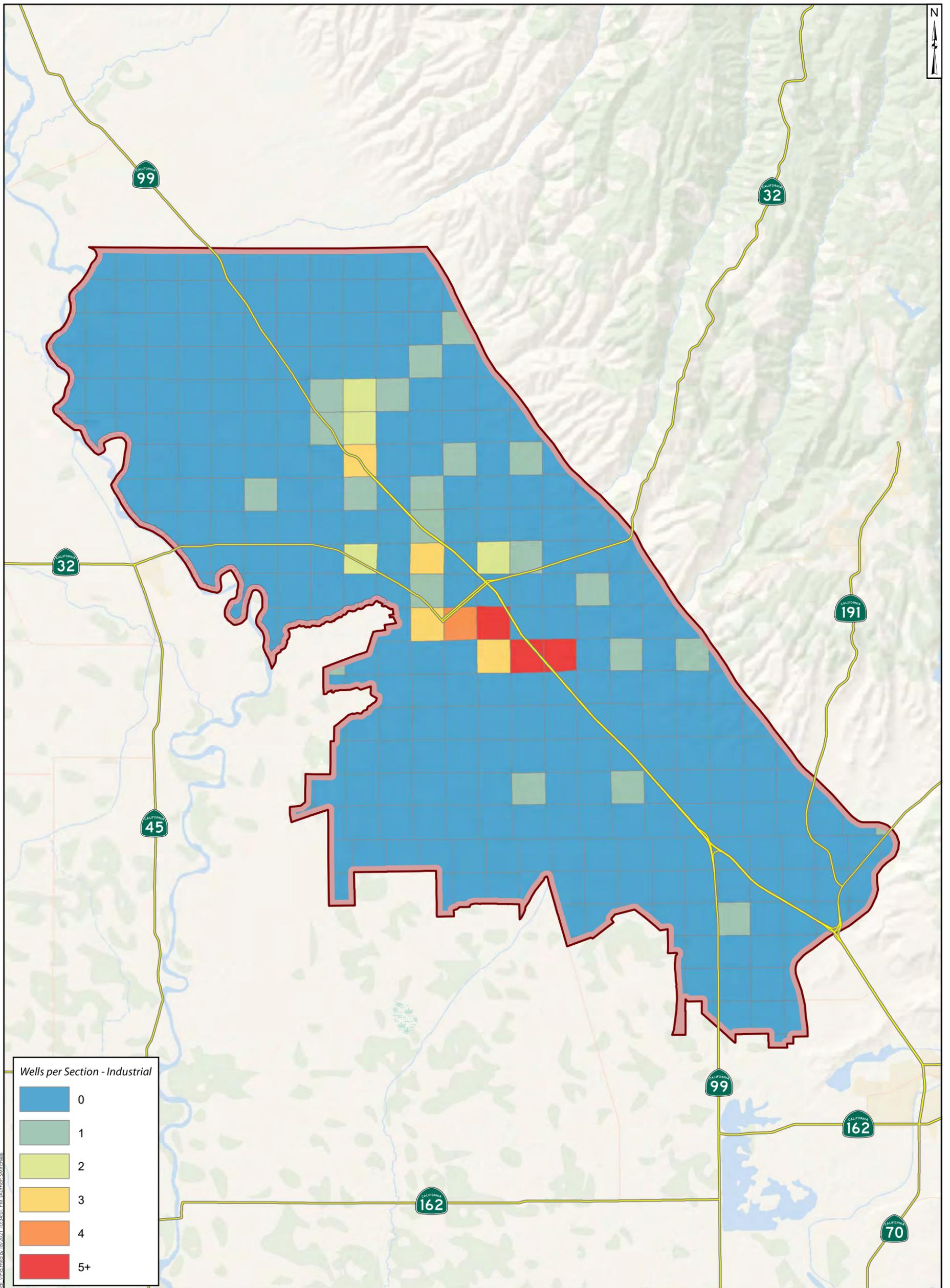
**Geosyntec**  
consultants

Project No.: SAC282

August 2021

Figure  
**1-10**

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**Density of Industrial Wells per Section**  
Vina GSP

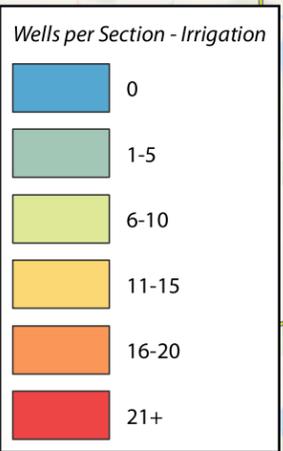
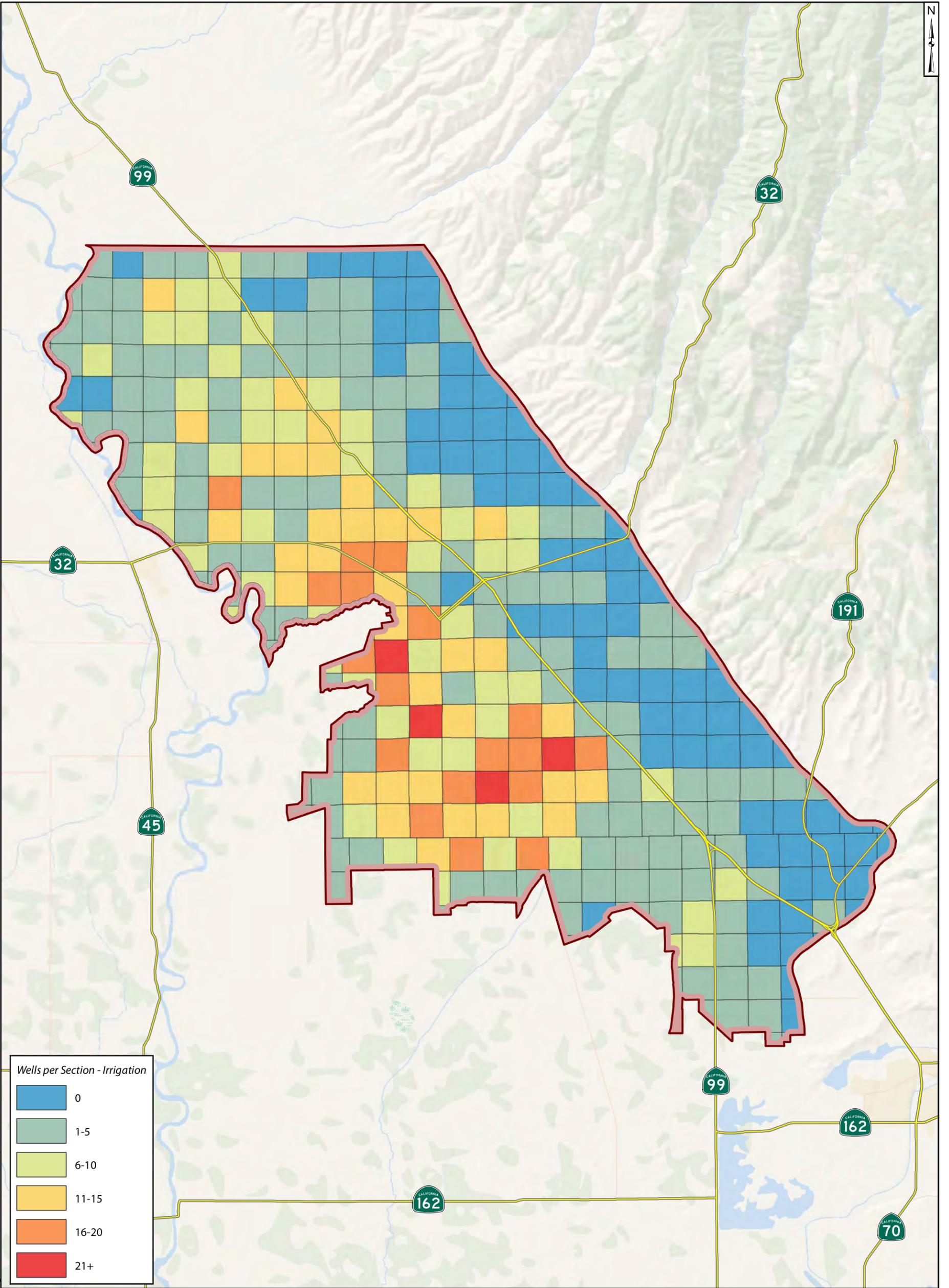
**Geosyntec**  
consultants

Project No.: SAC282

August 2021

Figure  
**1-11**

I:\GIS\Projects\Bottle County\Project\202108\_GSP\_Maps\Map\Map1-11\_VinaGroundwaterSubbasin.mxd 8/18/2021 10:54:51 PM (Author: Mitchell)



**Density of Irrigation Wells per Section**  
Vina GSP

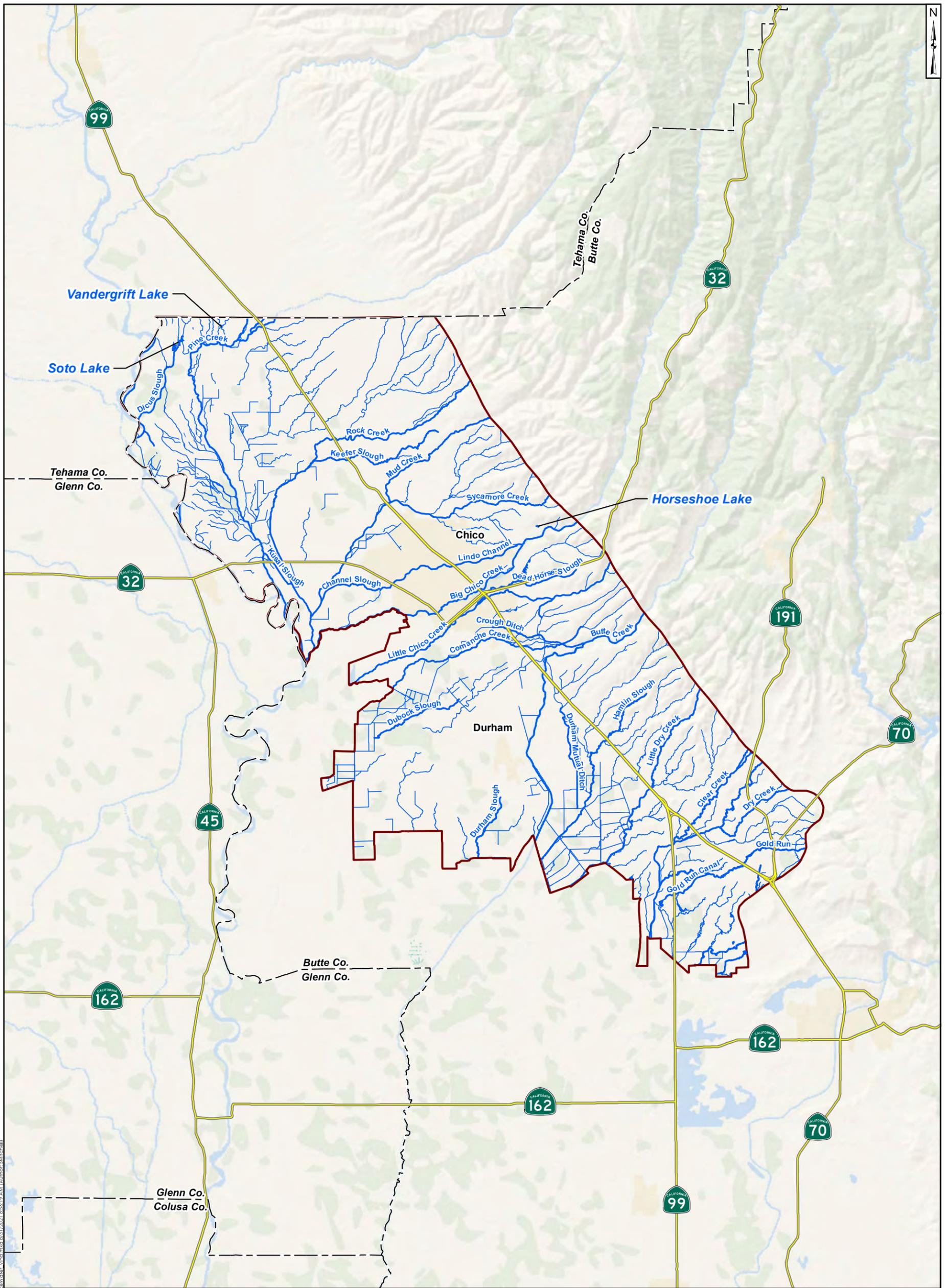
**Geosyntec**  
consultants

Project No.: SAC282

August 2021

Figure  
**1-12**

I:\GIS\Projects\Bottle County\Project\1002108\_GSP\_Maps\Map\10112\_Vinagrass\_Vina\_GSP.mxd 8/18/2021 10:56:45 PM Author:SMitchell



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<b>Legend</b> Vina Groundwater Subbasin Surface Water Water bodies Named streams Other streams Roads Highways Boundaries County boundaries		
<b>Surface Water Bodies</b> Vina GSP		
Project No.: SAC282      August 2021		
		<b>Figure</b> <b>1-13</b>

725 are present including Pine Creek, Rock Creek, and Mud Creek. It contains the jurisdictions of  
726 Rock Creek Reclamation District GSA and Vina GSA.

727 Vina Chico is predominantly an urban area with California Water Service (Cal Water) providing  
728 groundwater supplies for residential and municipal use. To a very limited extent, private  
729 domestic wells provide the primary source of water to households or in some cases provide a  
730 secondary supply for outdoor water use. Several creeks traverse Vina Chico including Big Chico  
731 Creek, Little Chico Creek, and Butte Creek.

732 Vina South is dominated by irrigated agriculture dependent on groundwater and to a lesser extent  
733 surface water diversions primarily from Butte Creek. In and around the community of Durham,  
734 significant numbers of rural residents and ranchettes depend on groundwater typically from  
735 relatively shallow domestic wells interspersed with agricultural land uses. Both perennial and  
736 ephemeral streams traverse Vina South including but not limited to Butte Creek, Little Dry  
737 Creek, and Dry Creek, which becomes the Cherokee Canal.

738 The interests and vulnerability of stakeholders and groundwater uses in these Management Areas  
739 vary based on the nature of the water demand (agricultural, domestic, municipal), numbers and  
740 characteristics (i.e., depth) of wells supplying groundwater, and to some degree the  
741 hydrogeology and mix of recharge sources (i.e., the presence of Butte Creek in Vina South  
742 compared to ephemeral streams in Vina North). The reason for creating these Management Areas  
743 in the Vina Subbasin is to focus development of minimum thresholds, measurable objectives,  
744 monitoring, and projects and actions in a way that best meets the mix of needs of the uses and  
745 users of groundwater unique to the MA. The defined MAs also allow Member Agencies to focus  
746 efforts and staff resources on development of portions of the GSP most relevant to stakeholders  
747 within their jurisdiction. These established MAs facilitate successful development and long-term  
748 implementation of the GSP by effectively targeting the needs, vulnerabilities, and opportunities  
749 of local conditions in these areas.

## 750 **1.3 Management Programs**

751 Existing management programs within the Vina Subbasin are described below.

### 752 **1.3.1 Groundwater Management Plan**

753 The County of Butte has a Groundwater Management Plan that covers the entire County except  
754 for areas covered by Urban Water Management Plans. The Butte County Groundwater  
755 Management Plan can be found at:

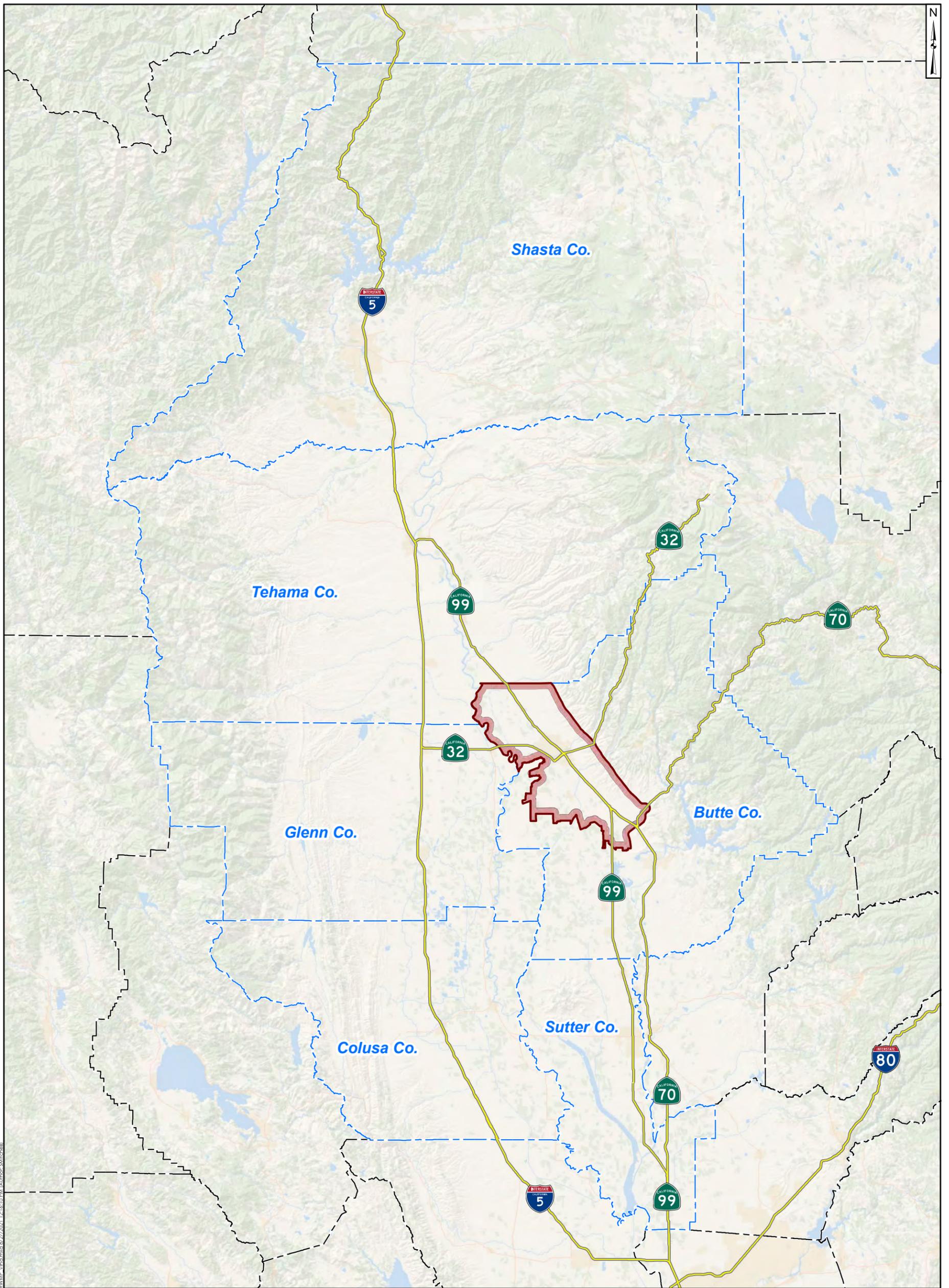
756 <http://www.buttecounty.net/waterresourceconservation/groundwatermanagementplan>

### 757 **1.3.2 Urban Water Management Plans**

758 Cal Water and Durham Irrigation District have prepared Urban Water Management Plans.

### 759 **1.3.3 Northern Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan**

760 Six counties, including Butte, Shasta, Tehama, Glenn, Colusa, and Sutter counties (Figure 1-14),  
761 of the Northern Sacramento Valley have been working together for over 10 years to lay the  
762 foundation for an integrated regional plan to address water-related issues such as economic



F:\GIS\SAC282\99 - Butte County\Project\202108\_GSP\_Maps\99\99-1-4\_Vina\_IRWMP\_Vinomd8/27/2021\_12:16:10 PM\_Auditor-Mitchell

<b>Legend</b> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="border: 2px solid red; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Vina Groundwater Subbasin</li> <li><span style="border: 2px dashed blue; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Counties within the IRWMP</li> </ul> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><i>Roads</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="border-bottom: 2px solid yellow; width: 20px; display: inline-block; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Highways</li> </ul> <p><i>Boundaries</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="border-bottom: 1px dashed black; width: 20px; display: inline-block; margin-right: 5px;"></span> County boundaries</li> </ul> </div> </div>			<b>Northern Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) Vina GSP</b>
		<b>Figure</b> <b>1-14</b>	
Project No.: SAC282	August 2021		

763 health and vitality; water supply reliability; flood, stormwater, and flood management; water  
764 quality improvements; and ecosystem protection and enhancement. The counties have completed  
765 the development of a valley-wide Integrated Regional Water Management Plan and have  
766 committed to continuing the efforts of regional water management through this plan. The  
767 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) is a collaborative effort to enhance  
768 coordination of the water resources in a region. IRWM involves multiple agencies, stakeholders,  
769 tribes, individuals and groups to address water-related issues and offer solutions which can  
770 provide multiple benefits to the region. Representatives of the six counties are working in  
771 partnership with community stakeholders, tribes and the public to identify the water-related  
772 needs of the region. This information was used to develop goals and objectives of the IRWM  
773 Plan, and the identification of projects and programs to be included in the GSP. The GSP was  
774 adopted in April 2014 and will better position the region and local partners to receive funding for  
775 high-priority projects.

#### 776 **1.3.4 Conjunctive Use Programs**

777 There are no conjunctive use programs in the Vina Subbasin.

#### 778 **1.3.5 General Plans in the Plan Area**

779 The Vina Subbasin is subject to the Butte County General Plan 2030 and the City of Chico  
780 General Plan. In 2018, the Camp Fire destroyed 18,000 structures in Butte County displacing  
781 over 27,000 residents. In 2020, the North Complex Fire destroyed homes in Berry Creek, Feather  
782 Falls, and other areas. While the Town of Paradise, Concow, Berry Creek and other impacted  
783 areas rebuild, many residents have relocated to other parts of Butte County. The existing General  
784 Plans may not fully account for the relocation of wildfire survivors. The GSP accounts for  
785 changes in population and updates to General Plans during GSP implementation.

##### 786 ***1.3.5.1 Butte County General Plan 2030***

787 The Butte County General Plan 2030 was adopted by the Butte County Board of Supervisors in  
788 October 2010. The General Plan 2030 identifies the goals, policies, and actions governing land  
789 use in the unincorporated portions of Butte County. The General Plan 2030 reflects the  
790 community desire to conserve and enhance the legacy of their forebears, namely, sustainable  
791 development. To this end, the General Plan 2030 envisions and supports a Butte County in 2030  
792 where:

- 793 • Urban development will be primarily centralized within and adjacent to the existing  
794 municipal limits and larger unincorporated communities. Urban development will have  
795 efficient, reliable public facilities and infrastructure. Employment centers and a range of  
796 services will be located near residential areas so that people spend less time in their cars.  
797 Residential communities will be walkable, bicycle facilities will be provided, and there  
798 will be access to public transit.
- 799 • Small unincorporated areas will be well-planned through community-driven planning  
800 processes so that community character is preserved, and adequate public services and  
801 facilities are provided. Rural residential development will be limited and will strive to be  
802 compatible with agricultural and environmental uses and will address wildfire risks and  
803 public service's needs.

- 804       • Agriculture and open space will continue to dominate Butte County’s landscape and be  
805       an important part of the County’s culture and economy. Existing agricultural areas will be  
806       maintained, and an array of agricultural services will support agriculture while providing  
807       new jobs to Butte County residents.

808       The General Plan 2030 includes an optional Water Resources Element in addition to the  
809       mandatory elements of Land Use, Housing, Economic Development, Agriculture, Circulation,  
810       Conservation and Open-space, Health and Safety, and Public Facilities and Services. In adopting  
811       the Water Resources Element, the General Plan 2030 recognized the importance and  
812       interrelationship between land use and water resources management. The General Plan 2030  
813       Water Resources Element has six goals:

- 814           1. Maintain and enhance water quality.
- 815           2. Ensure an abundant and sustainable water supply to support all uses in Butte County.
- 816           3. Effectively manage groundwater resources to ensure a long-term water supply for  
817           Butte County.
- 818           4. Promote water conservation as an important part of a long-term and sustainable water  
819           supply.
- 820           5. Protect water quality through effective storm water management.
- 821           6. Improve stream bank stability and protect riparian resources.

822       Key Water Resources Element policies include:

- 823       • W-P1.4: Where appropriate, new development shall be Low Impact Development (LID)  
824       that minimizes impervious area, minimizes runoff and pollution, and incorporates best  
825       management practices.
- 826       • W-P2.1: The County supports solutions to ensure the sustainability of community water  
827       supplies.
- 828       • W-P2.3: Water resources shall be planned and managed in a way that relies on sound  
829       science and public participation.
- 830       • W-P2.5: The expansion of public water systems to areas identified for future  
831       development on the General Plan land use map is encouraged.
- 832       • W-P2.6: The County supports water development projects that are needed to supply local  
833       demands.
- 834       • W-P2.8: The County supports Area of Origin water rights, the existing water right  
835       priority system and the authority to make water management decisions locally to meet the  
836       county’s current and future needs, thereby protecting Butte County’s communities,  
837       economy and environment.
- 838       • W-P2.9: Applicants for new major development projects, as determined by the  
839       Department of Development Services, shall demonstrate adequate water supply to meet

- 840 the needs of the project, including an evaluation of potential cumulative impacts to  
841 surrounding groundwater users and the environment.
- 842 • W-P3.1: The County shall continue to ensure the sustainability of groundwater resources,  
843 including groundwater levels, groundwater quality and avoidance of land subsidence,  
844 through a basin management objective program that relies on management at the local  
845 level, utilizes sound scientific data and assures compliance.
  - 846 • W-P3.2: Groundwater transfers and substitution programs shall be regulated to protect  
847 the sustainability of the County's economy, communities and ecosystem, pursuant to  
848 Chapter 33 of the Butte County Code.
  - 849 • W-P3.3: The County shall protect groundwater recharge and groundwater quality when  
850 considering new development projects.
  - 851 • W-P4.1: Agricultural and urban water use efficiency shall be promoted.
  - 852 • W-P4.2: Water conservation efforts of local Resource Conservation Districts, the Natural  
853 Resource Conservation Service and irrigation districts should be coordinated.
  - 854 • W-P4.3: The County shall work with municipal and industrial water purveyors to  
855 implement water conservation policies and measures.
  - 856 • W-P4.4: Opportunities to recover and utilize wastewater for beneficial purposes shall be  
857 promoted and encouraged.
  - 858 • W-P4.5: The use of reclaimed wastewater for non-potable uses shall be encouraged, as  
859 well as dual plumbing that allows graywater from showers, sinks and washers to be  
860 reused for landscape irrigation in new developments.
  - 861 • W-P4.6: New development projects shall adopt best management practices for water use  
862 efficiency and demonstrate specific water conservation measures.
  - 863 • W-P5.2: New development projects shall identify and adequately mitigate their water  
864 quality impacts from stormwater runoff.
  - 865 • W-P5.3: Pervious pavements shall be allowed and encouraged where their use will not  
866 hinder mobility.

867 Implementation of the Vina GSP will provide for sustainable groundwater management and is  
868 not anticipated to affect water supply assumptions in the General Plans. Information on the Butte  
869 County General Plan 2030 and related documents can be found at [www.buttegeneralplan.net](http://www.buttegeneralplan.net).

### 870 ***1.3.5.2 City of Chico***

871 The Chico City Council adopted the Chico 2030 General Plan in April 2011. The General Plan  
872 was comprehensively reviewed and updated in 2017. Chico's 2030 General Plan reflects the  
873 community's commitment to meeting the challenge of creating and maintaining a sustainable  
874 community. Sustainability in Chico means maintaining a culture of stewardship to enhance our  
875 natural environment, economic strength, and quality of life for present and future generations.  
876 The Chico General Plan's goals, policies and actions are intended to work together to achieve  
877 sustainability. The Chico General Plan recognizes that sustainability is an organizing principle,

878 and that the City must consider the interdependent interests of protecting the environment,  
879 promoting social equity, and achieving a healthy economy in its actions and programs.

880 To establish a sustainable development trend for the community, the Chico General Plan  
881 identifies and promotes certain development patterns, including compact urban development,  
882 infill development and redevelopment, mixed-use development, complete neighborhoods, and a  
883 variety of housing types. The Chico General Plan further seeks to preserve and enhance its older  
884 neighborhoods, promote economic development, protect sensitive environmental resources, and  
885 provide open space and parks. To achieve these sometimes-competing goals, the Chico General  
886 Plan addresses three distinct areas of the City: areas of stability, areas of potential change, and  
887 areas for new growth.

888 The State General Plan Guidelines call for the Chico General Plan to address all land within the  
889 City limits, land within the City’s designated Sphere of Influence (SOI), and other land in  
890 unincorporated Butte County which relates to the City’s planning efforts.

### 891 ***Chico General Plan Organization***

892 State law requires the General Plan to address the subjects of land use, circulation, housing,  
893 noise, safety, conservation, and open space. Additional topics (or “elements”) may be covered at  
894 the discretion of the jurisdiction, provided that they are consistent with one another. Chico’s  
895 General Plan includes the following optional elements: Sustainability; Downtown; Community  
896 Design; Economic Development; Parks, Public Facilities and Services; and Cultural Resources  
897 and Historic Preservation.

### 898 ***Parks, Public Facilities, and Services Element***

899 The Chico 2030 General Plan Parks, Public Facilities, and Services Element acknowledges:

900 *The Tuscan aquifer is the primary groundwater reservoir underlying and providing*  
901 *municipal and agricultural water to the Planning Area. The groundwater supply is*  
902 *largely recharged by infiltration in the foothills located east of Chico, from Big Chico*  
903 *and Little Chico Creeks, Lindo Channel, and to a lesser extent from precipitation*  
904 *throughout the area. The California Water Service Company (Cal Water), the City’s*  
905 *water supplier, has adopted a Water Master Plan (WMP) which analyzes the aquifer’s*  
906 *supply. The WMP concludes that no substantial overdraft of the aquifer is currently*  
907 *occurring within the Planning Area. In addition, Butte County continually monitors the*  
908 *groundwater basin and maintains a series of monitoring and test wells located*  
909 *throughout the County to provide information on water supply.*

910 Relevant Goals, Policies, Actions from the Water Supply and Water Quality is provided below:

- 911 • Goal OS-3: Conserve water resources and improve water quality.
- 912 • Policy OS-3.1 (Surface Water Resources) – Protect and improve the quality of surface  
913 water.
- 914 • Action OS-3.1.1 (Comply with State Standards) – Comply with the California Regional  
915 Water Quality Control Board's regulations and standards to maintain, protect, and  
916 improve water quality and quantity.

- 917 • Policy OS-3.2 (Protect Groundwater) – Protect groundwater and aquifer recharge areas to  
918 maintain groundwater supply and quality.
- 919 • Action OS-3.2.1 (Protect Recharge Areas) – Avoid impacts to groundwater recharge  
920 areas through open space preservation, runoff management, stream setbacks and  
921 clustering of development.
- 922 • Action OS-3.2.2 (Map Recharge Areas) – Work with local, state and regional agencies to  
923 identify and map groundwater recharge areas within the Sphere of Influence.
- 924 • Action OS-3.2.5 (Groundwater Protection) – Oppose regional sales and transfers of local  
925 groundwater.
- 926 • Policy OS-3.3 (Water Conservation and Reclamation) – Encourage water conservation  
927 and the reuse of water.
- 928 • Action OS-3.3.1 (Water Conservation Program Funding) – Work with Cal Water to  
929 implement a water conservation program to reduce per capita water use 20 percent by  
930 2020 pursuant to the requirements of the State Water Plan.
- 931 • Action OS-3.3.4 (Reclaimed Water) – Determine the feasibility and costs and benefits of  
932 reusing the City’s treated wastewater for irrigation.

933 The Chico 2030 General Plan Parks, Public Facilities, and Services Element acknowledges:

934 *Water service in the City is provided by the California Water Service Company (Cal*  
935 *Water). Cal Water is a private company whose Chico District was formed in 1926.*  
936 *Residents not supplied by Cal Water obtain water through private wells. Cal Water*  
937 *currently uses a system of 65 wells which deliver approximately 27 million gallons of*  
938 *water to customers each day. The delivery system is composed of over 355 miles of*  
939 *pipeline, seven storage tanks and six booster pumps.*

940 *Cal Water maintains two primary management plans for the Chico area water system, as*  
941 *required by state law. Their Urban Area Management Plan, adopted in 2007, provides an*  
942 *overview of Cal Water and the Chico area water system, establishes policies and*  
943 *programs concerning water delivery and treatment, as well as water conservation and*  
944 *management practices. The Water Supply and Facilities Master Plan, adopted in 2008,*  
945 *guides the growth and development of their water delivery system to meet the*  
946 *community’s future needs.*

947 Relevant Goals, Policies, Actions from the Water Facilities is provided below:

- 948 • Goal PPF5-5: Maintain a sustainable supply of high-quality water, delivered through an  
949 efficient water system to support Chico’s existing and future population, including fire  
950 suppression efforts.
- 951 • Policy PPF5-5.1 (Protect Aquifer Resources) – Protect the quality and capacity of the  
952 upper and lower Tuscan and Tehama aquifers underlying the Chico Planning Area.
- 953 • Action PPF5-5.1.1 (Groundwater Protection Advocacy) – Oppose regional sales and  
954 transfers of local groundwater, including water export contracts, and actively participate

955 in county-wide and regional discussions and advocacy for the protection of groundwater  
956 resources.

957 • Action PPF5-5.1.2 (Groundwater Supplies and Budgeting) – Support periodic evaluation  
958 of groundwater availability using the Butte Basin Groundwater Model and Cal Water’s  
959 work to establish a water supply budget with specific measures to assure sustainable  
960 levels of groundwater.

961 • Action PPF5-5.1.3 (Groundwater Recharge and Quality) – Where feasible given flood  
962 management requirements, maintain the natural or existing condition of waterways and  
963 floodplains and protect watersheds to ensure groundwater recharge and water quality.

964 • Action PPF5-5.1.5 (Monitor Groundwater Levels) – Utilize the annual comprehensive  
965 groundwater monitoring data collected by the Butte County Department of Water and  
966 Resource Conservation (BCDWRC) to assess the quality and quantity of water for the  
967 Chico area.

968 • Policy PPF5-5.2 (Future Water System) – Consult with Cal Water to ensure that its water  
969 system will serve the City’s long-term needs and that State regulations SB 610 and SB  
970 221 are met.

971 • Action PPF5-5.2.3 (Water Services for New Development) – Work with Cal Water to  
972 ensure that water treatment and delivery infrastructure are in place prior to occupancy or  
973 assured through the use of bonds or other sureties to the City and Cal Water’s  
974 satisfaction.

975 • Policy PPF5-5.3 (Water Conservation) – Work with Cal Water to implement water  
976 conservation management practices.

977 • Action PPF5-5.3.1 (Treated Wastewater) – Explore the feasibility of using treated  
978 wastewater to provide irrigation to landscaped areas and other suitable locations to reduce  
979 the demand for groundwater.

980 Implementation of the Vina GSP will provide for sustainable groundwater management and is  
981 not anticipated to affect water supply assumptions in the City’s General Plan. Information on the  
982 City of Chico 2030 General Plan and related documents can be found at  
983 <https://chico.ca.us/general-plan-other-planning-documents>

#### 984 **1.3.5.3 Permitting of New Wells**

985 The construction, repair or destruction of wells is subject to permitting by the Butte County  
986 Division of Environmental Health pursuant to Chapter 23B of the Butte County Code, Water  
987 Wells. The chapter provides minimum procedures for the proper construction of water wells and  
988 for the proper destruction of abandoned wells in order to ensure that water obtained from wells  
989 within the County of Butte will be suitable for the purposes for which used and that wells  
990 constructed or abandoned pursuant to this chapter will not cause pollution or impairment of the  
991 quality of the groundwater within the county. An additional purpose is to reduce potential well  
992 interference problems to existing wells and potential adverse impacts to the environment which  
993 could be caused by the construction of new wells or the repair or deepening of existing wells  
994 where a permit is required. Important provisions of the chapter include:

- 995 • The construction, repair, reconstruction, deepening, abandonment and destruction of  
996 wells in Butte County must follow the standards in Bulletin 74-81 and its supplement  
997 bulletin 74-90, Water Well Standards, State of California.
- 998 • After July 25, 1996, the pumping capacity of a new well cannot be greater than 50  
999 gallons per minute per acre to reasonably serve the overlying land, including contiguous  
1000 parcels of land under the same ownership as the land upon which the well is located.
- 1001 • Wells can only be drilled by a person licensed to drill water wells pursuant to the  
1002 provisions of Business and Professions Code section 7000 et seq. possessing a C-57  
1003 water well contractor's license required by section 13750.5 of the California Water Code.
- 1004 • Domestic well owners are required to ensure that a new well will operate properly  
1005 assuming a repeat of the groundwater conditions experienced during the period 1987  
1006 through 1994 in the area in which the new well is located.
- 1007 • Well drillers reports must be filed with Butte County as well as with the Department of  
1008 Water Resources.
- 1009 • Notification of well permit applications are required in specific instances to adjoining  
1010 landowners and/or local agencies with an adopted groundwater management plan  
1011 pursuant to part 2.75 of division 6 of the California Water Code (commencing at section  
1012 10750). Landowners and/or local agencies are provided 30 days to provide comments  
1013 prior to permit issuance.
- 1014 • Wells with a casing diameter greater than 8 inches are required to be drilled at specific  
1015 distances away from existing wells.
- 1016 • In addition to well sealing requirements specified within state well standards bulletin 74-  
1017 81 and bulletin 74-90, the seal shall be extended 5 feet into the first consolidated  
1018 formation encountered below 15 feet to a maximum required sealing depth of 50 feet.

#### 1019 ***1.3.5.4 Land Use Plans Outside of the Basin***

1020 The Tehama County General Plan and the Glenn County General Plan and zoning ordinances are  
1021 the land use plans adjacent to the Vina Subbasin. The Vina GSA will continue to monitor  
1022 amendments to the Tehama County and Glenn County General Plans.

### 1023 **1.4 Groundwater Level Monitoring and Data Sources**

1024 Groundwater level programs predominantly used for development of the GSP include  
1025 BCDWRC, Cal Water, California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM),  
1026 and the CA DWR Water Data Library. Each of these programs are discussed below.

#### 1027 **1.4.1 Butte County Department of Water and Resource Conservation Program**

1028 As discussed above, in November 1996, the voters in Butte County approved "AN  
1029 ORDINANCE TO PROTECT THE GROUNDWATER RESOURCES IN BUTTE COUNTY."  
1030 The ordinance is now codified as Chapter 33 of the Butte County Code relating to groundwater  
1031 conservation. Section 3.01 of this code, Groundwater Planning Process, requires the preparation  
1032 of a groundwater status report based upon the data gathered and analyzed pursuant to Section

1033 3.02, Groundwater Monitoring. In 2000, the Butte County Board of Supervisors amended  
1034 Chapter 33, the Groundwater Conservation Ordinance, to require the delivery of the  
1035 Groundwater Status Report by February of each year. In 2010, the Water Commission  
1036 designated the BCDWRC as the entity responsible for creating and submitting the annual report.

1037 In February 2004, the Butte County Board of Supervisors adopted the Groundwater Management  
1038 Ordinance, which was codified as Chapter 33A of the Butte County Code. Chapter 33A calls for  
1039 the establishment of a monitoring network and Basin Management Objectives (BMOs) for  
1040 groundwater elevation, groundwater quality related to saline intrusion and land subsidence. The  
1041 BMO concept was incorporated into California Water Code §10750 et. seq., as a component of  
1042 AB 3030 Groundwater Management Plans. On September 28, 2004, the Butte County Board of  
1043 Supervisors formally approved Resolution 04-181 adopting the countywide AB 3030  
1044 Groundwater Management Plan that includes components of the BMO program.

1045 In 2011, Chapter 33A was amended and retitled to “Basin Management Objectives” requiring a  
1046 report each February describing conditions in the basin relative to established basin management  
1047 objectives. The foregoing actions by the Board allow the consolidation of reporting of  
1048 groundwater conditions from both Chapter 33 and 33A into a single report submitted by the  
1049 Department on an annual basis in February. Groundwater level measurements occur four times  
1050 per year following this program. Appendix 1-C provides the Groundwater Status Report for the  
1051 2020 Water Year following this program. With the new requirements of SGMA, revisions to  
1052 Chapter 33A were approved in 2019 to continue the transition of groundwater management in  
1053 Butte County from the BMO program to implementation of SGMA in each of the three  
1054 subbasins in Butte County, including the Vina Subbasin.

#### 1055 **1.4.2 California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring**

1056 DWR maintains several groundwater level monitoring programs, tools, and resources covering  
1057 California. The CASGEM Program is DWR’s primary resource for groundwater level data and  
1058 has been used extensively in the development of this GSP. The CASGEM Program was  
1059 authorized in 2009 by SB X7-6 to establish collaboration between local monitoring parties and  
1060 DWR to collect and make public statewide groundwater elevation data. The program provides  
1061 the framework for local agencies or other organizations to “assume responsibility for monitoring  
1062 and reporting groundwater elevations in all or part of a basin or subbasin” (Water Code §10927).  
1063 The BCDWRC is the CASGEM monitoring entity for the Vina Subbasin. The groundwater  
1064 monitoring program discussed above for BCDWRC complies with the reporting requirements of  
1065 the CASGEM program.

#### 1066 **1.4.3 Water Data Library**

1067 DWR’s Water Data Library (WDL) contains measurements of groundwater elevations from  
1068 water supply and monitoring wells monitored by numerous entities, such as DWR and local  
1069 agencies. Groundwater level measurements available from the WDL are either continuously or  
1070 periodically measured. Continuous measurements are provided by automatic water level  
1071 measuring devices that take readings at wells; periodic measurements are manual recordings  
1072 typically occurring at monthly or semi-annual time intervals. Measurements displayed through  
1073 the WDL are taken through other programs, such as CASGEM. The WDL lists the organization  
1074 responsible for collecting each water level measurement. The WDL water level measurements

1075 are available through the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) Open Data website as a  
1076 bulk download, or through the WDL website on a per station basis.

#### 1077 **1.4.4 Online System for Well Completion Reports**

1078 The OSWCR is a DWR program used to document and compile boring or well completion  
1079 records throughout California. There are as many as two million domestic, irrigation, and  
1080 monitoring water wells in California included in this dataset, including more than 4,000 domestic  
1081 wells located in the Vina Subbasin. However, as discussed in Section 3, the well characteristics  
1082 in this database are not always accurate or precise, and, unfortunately, it is not known which of  
1083 the wells in the database are in use or have been abandoned or replaced. When a well is  
1084 constructed, modified, or destroyed, drilling contractors are required to submit a Well  
1085 Completion Report to DWR for upload to the interactive OSWCR website. OSWCR is used as a  
1086 data source for wells identified for monitoring. In this GSP, the OSWCR database was used to  
1087 describe the GSP area and identify sustainable management criteria.

### 1088 **1.5 Groundwater Quality Monitoring and Data Sources**

1089 Groundwater quality programs predominantly used for development of the GSP include  
1090 BCDWRC, Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition (SVWQC), State Water Resources  
1091 Control Board (SWRCB) Geotracker/ Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment  
1092 Program (GAMA) and the DWR WDL. Each of these programs are discussed below.

#### 1093 **1.5.1 Butte County Department of Water and Resource Conservation Program**

1094 As discussed in Section 1.4.1, the BMO program developed by Butte County includes  
1095 groundwater quality monitoring that is presented annually in the Groundwater Status Reports.  
1096 Appendix 1-C provides the Water Year 2020 Groundwater Status Report summarizing the results  
1097 of this groundwater quality monitoring.

#### 1098 **1.5.2 Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition**

1099 Because irrigated agriculture is the predominant land use in the Subbasin, monitoring of the  
1100 groundwater quality data developed through the Groundwater Quality Trend Monitoring Work  
1101 Plan (GQTMWP) being implemented by the SVWQC for compliance with the Central Valley  
1102 Regional Board's Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) is an important source of  
1103 information to GSAs in the Vina Subbasin. This program is implemented by California Rice  
1104 Commission that submits annual reports on groundwater quality throughout the region.

#### 1105 **1.5.3 Geotracker/Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment**

1106 GeoTracker, operated by the SWRCB, contains records for sites that require cleanup, such as  
1107 leaking underground storage tank sites, Department of Defense sites, and cleanup program sites.  
1108 GeoTracker also contains records for various unregulated projects as well as permitted facilities  
1109 including: ILRP, future CV-SALTS, oil and gas production, operating permitted underground  
1110 storage tanks, and land disposal sites. GeoTracker receives records and data from SWRCB  
1111 programs and other monitoring agencies.

1112 The Geotracker System also contains links to GAMA. The GAMA Program is California's  
1113 comprehensive groundwater quality monitoring program that was created by the SWRCB in

1114 2000. It was later expanded by [Assembly Bill 599](#) - the Groundwater Quality Monitoring Act of  
1115 2001. AB 599 required the State Water Board, in coordination with an [Interagency Task Force](#)  
1116 [\(ITF\) and Public Advisory Committee \(PAC\)](#) to integrate existing monitoring programs and  
1117 design new program elements as necessary, resulting in a [publicly accepted plan](#) to monitor and  
1118 assess groundwater quality in basins that account for 95% of the state's groundwater use. The  
1119 GAMA Program is based on interagency collaboration with the State and Regional Water  
1120 Boards, Department of Water Resources, Department of Pesticide Regulations, United States  
1121 Geological Survey, and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and cooperation with local  
1122 water agencies and well owners.

#### 1123 **1.5.4 Water Data Library**

1124 DWR's WDL contains groundwater quality data in addition to the groundwater level records  
1125 described previously. This information includes data from discrete groundwater quality samples  
1126 collected by DWR and other cooperating entities. These water quality data list the entity  
1127 responsible for taking the sample but do not specify what program the sample was taken under.  
1128 The WDL water quality measurements are available through the CNRA Open Data website as a  
1129 bulk download, or through the WDL website on a per-station basis. WDL water quality  
1130 measurements in this GSP are utilized for basin characterization but are acquired from the other  
1131 programs.

#### 1132 **1.6 Subsidence**

1133 To determine whether subsidence is occurring, a subsidence monitoring network has been  
1134 established throughout Butte County consisting of observation stations and extensometers  
1135 managed by DWR. The observation stations are a result of DWR's efforts to establish a  
1136 subsidence monitoring network across the valley to capture changes in the ground surface  
1137 elevation. The observation stations are established monuments with precisely surveyed land  
1138 surface elevations. They are distributed throughout the valley such that the entire county is well  
1139 represented. In 2008, DWR along with numerous partners performed the initial GPS survey of  
1140 the observation stations to establish a baseline measurement for future comparisons. The network  
1141 was resurveyed in 2017 using similar methods and equipment as those used in the 2008 survey  
1142 and results were analyzed to depict the change in elevation at each station between those years.  
1143 Results of the survey are available here,  
1144 <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/?appid=SGMADataViewer#landsub>

1145 Extensometers are installed in wells or boreholes and are a more site-specific method of  
1146 measuring land subsidence as they can detect changes in the thickness of the sediment  
1147 surrounding the well due to compaction or expansion. These instruments are capable of detecting  
1148 very slight changes in land surface elevation on a continuous basis with an accuracy of +/- 0.01  
1149 feet or approximately 3 millimeters (mm). The three extensometers in Butte County have a  
1150 period of record beginning in 2005 and were chosen by DWR based on a high likelihood of  
1151 seeing subsidence in these areas if it were to occur, based on the presence of known clay and  
1152 other fine-grained deposits in these areas. Data are available through July 2020 from the DWR  
1153 Water Data Library. A summary of the historic information within the Vina Subbasin obtained  
1154 from these networks is presented in Section 2, Basin Setting, and the monitoring network for  
1155 implementation of the GSP is discussed in Section 4, Monitoring Networks.

## 1156 **1.7 Interconnection of Databases**

1157 Several of the databases discussed above utilize the same water level or water quality data. These  
1158 records often specify the monitoring entity responsible for the measurement. Although these data  
1159 overlap between databases, the correlation between databases is not specified. For example,  
1160 water level data in the WDL are also in CASGEM, but this link is not mentioned in WDL  
1161 records. This lack of connection poses problems for gathering water level and quality data  
1162 throughout California. Efforts have been made in the development of this GSP to overcome the  
1163 issue related to overlap and poor correlation between databases, but the issue remains. It is  
1164 recommended that agencies work together to utilize a common unique identifier to ease use of  
1165 multiple datasets.

## 1166 **1.8 Notice and Communication (23 California Code of Regulations § 354.10)**

### 1167 **1.8.1 Notice of Intent to Adopt Groundwater Sustainability Plan**

1168 A notice of intent (NOI) to adopt a GSP was signed by the GSAs and distributed on June 28,  
1169 2021. The hard copies of the NOI were mailed to cities and counties within the Subbasin  
1170 including the following:

- 1171 • Butte County
- 1172 • City of Chico

1173 Copies of the NOI are provided in Appendix 1-A.

### 1174 **1.8.2 Overview**

1175 California's SGMA of 2014 requires broad and diverse stakeholder involvement in GSA  
1176 activities and during the development and implementation of GSPs for groundwater basins  
1177 around the state, including the Vina Subbasin. The intent of SGMA is to ensure successful,  
1178 sustainable management of groundwater resources at the local level, success of GSP  
1179 development and implementation will require cooperation by all beneficial users (defined  
1180 below). Therefore, coordinated communication and consistent messaging of valid information  
1181 and facilitation of opportunities for the involvement of beneficial users will guide the path  
1182 forward.

1183 To facilitate stakeholder involvement in the GSA process, a Communication and Engagement  
1184 Plan (C&E Plan) (Appendix 1-D) was created for the Vina GSA. The desired outcomes and  
1185 goals of the C&E Plan were to:

1186 Outcomes: The desired outcome of the C&E Plan was to achieve understanding and support for  
1187 GSP adoption and implementation in consideration of the people, economy, and environment  
1188 within the subbasin and in coordination with adjacent subbasins.

1189 Plan Goals:

- 1190 1. Enhance understanding and inform the public about water and groundwater resources  
1191 in the Vina Subbasin, the purpose and need for sustainable groundwater management,  
1192 the benefits of sustainable groundwater management, and the need for a GSP.

- 1193 2. Engage diverse interested parties and stakeholders and promote informed feedback  
1194 from stakeholders, the community, and groundwater-dependent users throughout the  
1195 GSP preparation and implementation process.
- 1196 3. Coordinate communication and involvement between the GSA (Board, Stakeholder  
1197 Advisory Committee and Management Committee), Rock Creek Reclamation District  
1198 GSA, and other local agencies, elected and appointed officials, and the general public.
- 1199 4. Rely on the Stakeholder Advisory Committee to facilitate a comprehensive public  
1200 engagement process.
- 1201 5. Employ a variety of outreach methods that make public participation accessible and  
1202 that encourage broad participation.
- 1203 6. Respond to public concerns.
- 1204 7. Provide accurate and up-to-date information.
- 1205 8. Create public value and use GSA resources wisely by managing communications and  
1206 engagement in a manner that is resourceful and efficient.

### 1207 **1.8.3 Description of Beneficial Uses and Users in the Basin**

1208 SGMA calls for consideration of all interested parties that the GSA must consider when  
1209 developing and implementing the GSP. GSAs must encourage the active involvement of diverse  
1210 social, cultural, and economic elements of the population. Therefore, stakeholders or beneficial  
1211 users are any stakeholders who have an interest in groundwater use and management in the Vina  
1212 Subbasin. Their interest may be related to GSA activities, GSP development and  
1213 implementation, and/or water access and management in general.

1214 To assist in identifying categories of beneficial users in the Vina Subbasin, the C&E Plan listed  
1215 broad categories of interested parties to be considered during development and implementation  
1216 of the GSP. These include, but are not limited to:

- 1217 • General public
- 1218 • Agricultural users of water
- 1219 • Domestic well owners
- 1220 • Municipal well operators
- 1221 • Public water systems
- 1222 • Land use planning agencies
- 1223 • Environmental users of groundwater
- 1224 • Surface water users
- 1225 • The federal government
- 1226 • California Native American tribes

- 1227        • Disadvantaged communities and historically underrepresented groundwater users  
 1228            (including those served by private domestic wells or small community water systems).

1229 Table 1-1 further identifies potential stakeholder groups and engagement purpose.

1230 **Table 1-1: Stakeholder Engagement Chart for Groundwater Sustainability Plan**  
 1231 **Development**

Category of Interest	Examples of Stakeholder Groups	Engagement purpose
General Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Citizens groups</li> <li>• Community leaders</li> <li>• Service clubs and professional organizations</li> </ul>	Inform to improve public awareness of sustainable groundwater management
Private users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private pumpers</li> <li>• Domestic users</li> <li>• School/College systems; Butte College</li> <li>• Hospitals</li> </ul>	Inform and involve to minimize negative impact to these users
Urban/ Agriculture users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water agencies</li> <li>• Colleges/Universities; Butte College, CSU Chico</li> <li>• Water associations; Groundwater Pumpers Advisory Committee, Agricultural Groundwater Users of Butte County</li> <li>• Irrigation districts; Durham Irrigation District (member agency), Rock Creek Reclamation District (a GSA within Vina Subbasin)</li> <li>• Mutual water companies</li> <li>• Resource conservation districts</li> <li>• Farm Bureau: Butte County Farm Bureau</li> </ul>	Collaborate to ensure sustainable management of groundwater
Industrial users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commercial and industrial self-supplier</li> <li>• Local trade association or group</li> </ul>	Inform and involve to avoid negative impact to these users
Land Use Planning Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Municipalities (City, County planning departments):</li> <li>• Regional land use agencies</li> </ul>	Consult and involve to ensure land use policies are supporting GSPs
Environmental and Ecosystem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional agencies: Butte County Resource Conservation District</li> <li>• Federal and State agencies: California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)</li> <li>• Environmental groups: Butte Environmental Council, The Nature Conservancy,</li> </ul>	Inform and involve to sustain a vital ecosystem
Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chambers of commerce: City of Chico</li> <li>• Business groups/associations</li> <li>• Elected officials (Board of Supervisors, City Council)</li> <li>• State Assembly members</li> <li>• State Senators</li> </ul>	Inform and involve to support a stable economy
Human right to water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disadvantaged Communities</li> <li>• Small community systems</li> <li>• Environmental Justice Groups: Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability, Self-Help Enterprises, Community Water Center</li> </ul>	Inform and involve to provide a safe and secure groundwater supplies to all communities reliant on groundwater

Category of Interest	Examples of Stakeholder Groups	Engagement purpose
Tribes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federally Recognized Tribes and non-federally recognized Tribes with Lands or potential interests in Chowchilla Subbasin</li> </ul>	Inform, involve and consult with tribal government
Federal lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)</li> <li>Bureau of Land Management</li> </ul>	Inform, involve and collaborate to ensure basin sustainability
Integrated Water Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional water management groups (IRWM regions); Upper Feather River IRWM and the North Sacramento Valley (NSV) IRWM group</li> <li>Flood agencies</li> </ul>	Inform, involve and collaborate to improve regional sustainability

1232

1233 **1.8.4 Communications**

1234 **1.8.4.1 Decision-making Processes**

1235 As noted above, the Vina Subbasin is consists of two GSAs for GSP development, the Vina GSA  
 1236 and the Rock Creek GSA. The two GSAs have jointly developed this coordinated GSP.

1237 GSA Boards are the final decision-makers for the Vina Subbasin. To assist in GSP development,  
 1238 the Vina GSA convened a Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SHAC) in 2019. The composition  
 1239 of the SHAC is intended to represent the beneficial uses and users of groundwater in the Vina  
 1240 GSA. The SHAC is comprised of seven at-large members appointed by the GSA Board and three  
 1241 members representing Cal Water Chico, CSU Chico, and Butte College. The SHAC is charged  
 1242 with actively engaging with the public for input and feedback. The SHAC has been meeting  
 1243 approximately monthly since its formation.

1244 Generally, the representatives attending the GSA Management Committee meetings are  
 1245 designated staff from the member agencies. In addition to coordinating the SHAC and GSA  
 1246 Board, the GSA Management Committee assists the SHAC in identifying and clarifying  
 1247 recommendations for GSP development which are presented to the GSA Boards in public  
 1248 meetings.

1249 **1.8.4.2 Public Engagement Opportunities**

1250 There were a number of different meetings at which the public had the opportunity to engage  
 1251 during the GSP development process:

1252 

- GSA Board meetings: The Vina GSA Board and the Rock Creek GSA Board in the Vina  
 1253 Subbasin held regular public meetings, including joint meetings, to facilitate public input.  
 1254 The Rock Creek GSA held regular public meetings in many cases in conjunction with the  
 1255 Reclamation District’s standing board meetings.

1256 

- Subbasin-wide Technical meetings

1257 

- SHAC meetings

1258 

- Farm Bureau Water Forum meetings

1259 

- City of Chico meetings

1260 

- Regional Water Management Group meetings

1261 **1.8.4.3 Encouraging Active Involvement**

1262 The GSAs carried out community engagement during the development of the GSP, which  
1263 included meetings and presentation materials to inform the public. The GSP has been revised to  
1264 incorporate public feedback. There were also activities related to encouraging involvement and  
1265 building capacity for engagement. The GSAs Management Committees used a variety of tools to  
1266 solicit input, including maintaining an up-to-date website with announcements, calendar of  
1267 events and meetings, and links to draft Sections of the GSP; establishing an interested parties list;  
1268 email newsletters; brown bag seminars, webinars, and public notices. These documents  
1269 encouraged and prepared community members to participate in GSP development by providing  
1270 technical information as well as information about opportunities for engagement.

1271 As part of the 40-day public review period initiated on September 10, 2021 with issuance of this  
1272 Public Draft of the GSP, the GSA Management Committee will work with the numerous entities  
1273 to inform them about the plan and encourage their involvement. Appendix 1-C lists the SGMA  
1274 public meetings that were held throughout the GSAs formation and GSP preparation process.

1275 **1.8.4.4 Soliciting Written Comments**

1276 In addition to soliciting feedback at GSAs meetings, opportunities were provided to offer written  
1277 comments on the various Sections of the GSP as draft versions became available. Stakeholders  
1278 could provide comments via an online comment form, letter, or email. An informal comment  
1279 period began when the draft of the first Section of the GSP was released in April 2019, and an  
1280 official 40-day comment period begins with issuance of this Public Draft of the GSP on  
1281 September 10, 2021 and continues through October 19, 2021. In addition, a special GSP  
1282 Advisory Committee meeting will be held after the 40-day public comment period ends to solicit  
1283 comments. All comments received via the comment form, letter, or email will be provided to the  
1284 SHAC and Vina GSA Board in agenda packets for review.

1285 The written comments and responses can be found in Appendix 1-E.

1286 **1.8.5 Informing the Public About Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development**  
1287 **Progress**

1288 **1.8.5.1 Interested Parties List**

1289 An email distribution list of Subbasin-wide stakeholders and beneficial users was developed for  
1290 outreach throughout the GSP planning process. Any interested member of the public may request  
1291 to be added to the list via this link: Contact Us - Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
1292 (vinagsa.org)

1293 **1.8.5.2 Distribution of Flyers**

1294 Typically, before a public meeting in the Subbasin, an email flyer was created with key  
1295 information provided. The flyer was emailed out to the Interested Party list.

1296 **1.8.5.3 Press Outreach**

1297 Press releases were issued at key junctures and decision-making points for the Subbasin.

1298 **1.8.5.4 A Centralized Vina GSA Website**

1299 Throughout the planning process (and beyond) the Vina GSA has maintained a website with  
1300 information about Subbasin-wide planning efforts related to SGMA.

1301 The Subbasin website contains:

- 1302 • Homepage with links to key pages within the site
- 1303 • About Us with an overview of the Vina GSA and SGMA
- 1304 • Governance that describes the structure of the GSAs, Board Members, SHAC Members,  
1305 Meeting Dates and Agendas, and Transparency Documents
- 1306 • Calendar of Board and SHAC Meetings and Workshops
- 1307 • Library Links including the GSP
- 1308 • Contact Us page for email correspondence

1309 ***1.8.5.5 Engagement Matrix***

1310 The Engagement Matrix, in Appendix 1-F, provides details about the implementation of each of  
1311 the communication methods outlined above. The matrix presents each communication strategy,  
1312 as required by statute or laid out in the C&E Plan, along with details about specific instances of  
1313 that strategy. For example, each public GSP-related meeting is listed with information about the  
1314 date, topic, and location of the meeting as well as how it was publicized, to whom it was  
1315 targeted, what opportunities for feedback were provided, and who participated.

1316 ***1.8.5.6 Stakeholder Input and Responses***

1317 The engagement opportunities described above provided various avenues for stakeholders to  
1318 provide input on GSP development. The matrix in Appendix 1-F summarizes the public  
1319 comments received, organized by commenter, organization, section/line of comment location,  
1320 comment, and location of where the comment was addressed or changed within the final  
1321 document, as applicable.

1322

1323

1324