



Vina GSA Grant

Demand Reduction Strategies Update

Webinar

November 7, 2024



Vina SGM Grant Background

- DWR awarded a **\$5.5m grant** to the Vina GSA
 - Contracts signed: April 2024
 - Funds spent by: March 2026
- To lead portions of the grant funded work, the Vina GSA partnered with:
 - Butte County Department of Water and Resource Conservation (**BCWRC**)
 - Agricultural Groundwater Users of Butte County (**AGUBC**)



Area	Key Activities	Budget
Admin and Outreach	Grant administration, invoicing, stakeholder outreach	\$365,000
GSP Updates, Data, and Outreach	Well monitoring, data visualization, GSP evaluation, community engagement	\$1,070,000
Demand Reduction Strategies	Orchard and precision irrigation pilot programs, stakeholder engagement	\$2,440,000
Surface Water & Groundwater Recharge Projects	Lindo Channel recharge, feasibility studies, project identification	\$1,180,000
Interbasin Coordination, Modeling, and Reporting	Fee study, annual reports, groundwater model update	\$480,000





Demand Reduction Strategies

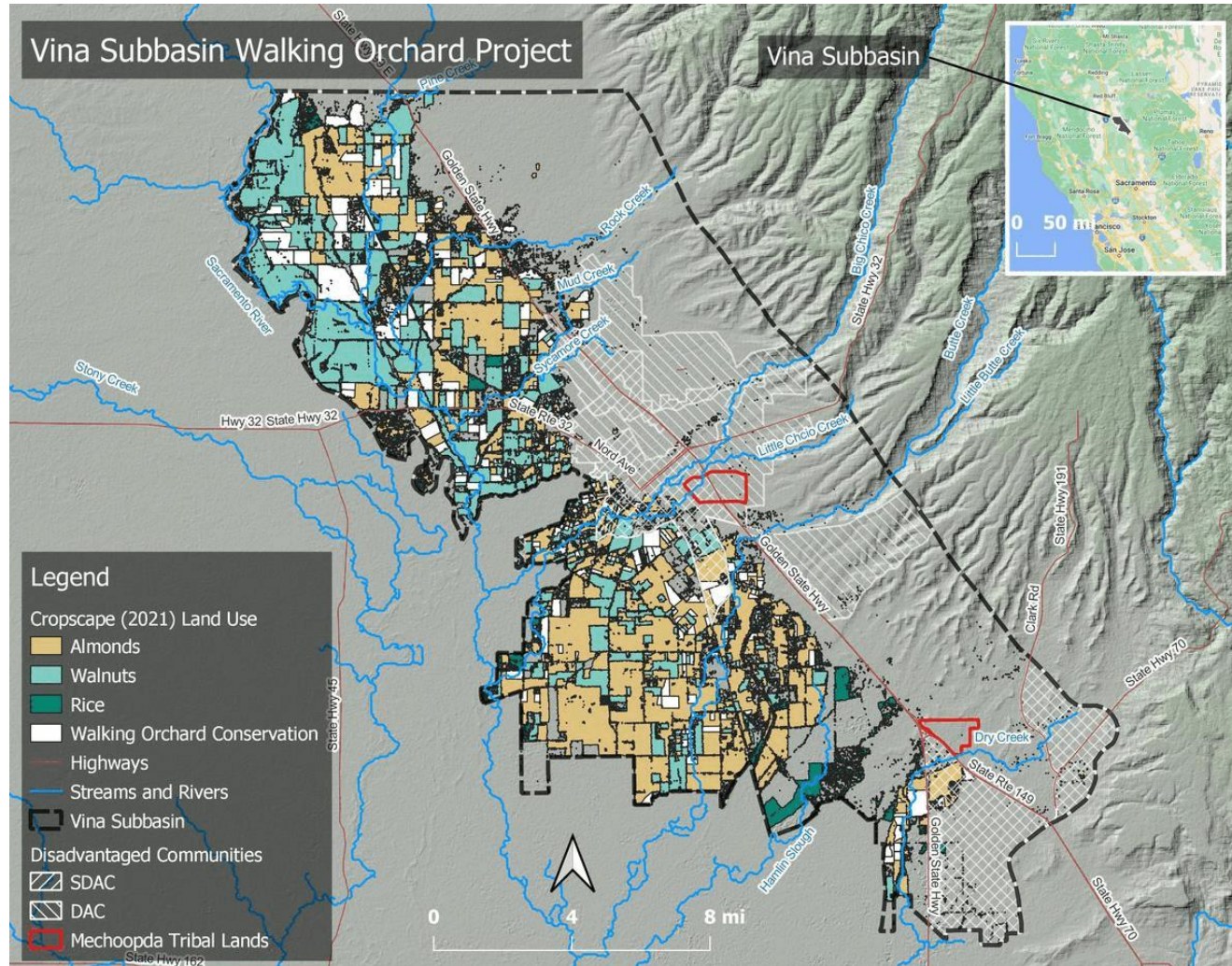
Will improve subbasin sustainability related to groundwater levels and groundwater storage **by decreasing consumptive use** through two programs:

1. **Extend Orchard Replacement Pilot Program**
2. **Precision Irrigation Pilot Program**

Partnering with Land IQ to develop the pilot programs.



Extend Orchard Replacement Program



What:

Incentivize local growers to **extend the duration of their current fallowing practice** between orchard removal and replanting by one or more growing seasons.

Why:

Extra time allows the soil to fallow and **reduces the overall demand** on groundwater.

Goals & Benefits:

- Temporarily fallow between 1,600 and 3,200 acres per year.
- Reduce groundwater use by 4,000 to 8,000 acre-feet per year in the Subbasin.





Extend Orchard Replacement Program

EOR Grant Guidelines:

<https://qrco.de/bfXtxk>

Program Elements

Incentive Components

1. Groundwater Savings
2. Temporary Land Transition
3. Participation Bonus

Eligibility, Exclusions, Minimum Requirements

Application Process

Review Process

1. Administrative Review
2. Technical Review
3. Selection



SCAN ME!





Extend Orchard Replacement Program

Program Timeline

Date	Event
October 24, 2024	Draft EOR Pilot Guidelines released for public comment. Send comments to info@vinagsa.org and info@agubc.org .
November 7, 2024	Webinar on the Extend Orchard and Precision Irrigation Pilot programs. Visit www.vinagsa.org for details.
November 20, 2024	SHAC Meeting.
November 25, 2024	Draft EOR Pilot Guidelines public comment period closes.
December 11, 2024	Vina GSA Meeting (anticipated approval of EOR Pilot Guidelines).
December 16, 2024	EOR Pilot Program Application period opens.
December 17 or 18, 2024	Public Meeting / Workshop on the EOR Pilot Program.
January 10, 2025	EOR Pilot Program Application period closes.
January 14 – 24, 2025	Administrative & Technical Review.
By January 31, 2025	Notification of Selected Applicants.
February 2025	Applicant Contracts Completed.
March – April 2025	Tree Removal Period.





Precision Irrigation Program

Perform a **comprehensive state of irrigation technology and systems analysis** in the Subbasin, as follows:

Step	Description
Step 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use spatial data (ET, crop type, & crop age) to compare orchards of the same type and maturity.• Find out which orchards have higher water use and lower water use (i.e., consumptive use).
Step 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use spatial data to analyze relationships between water use and soil type, tree density, and/or irrigation method.• Identify orchards of interest
Step 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collect information from willing landowners on historical yields, irrigation scheduling/management, and variety.
Step 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify strategies to reduce ET without decreasing yield for basin-wide implementation.

