



# Informational Workshop on the Proposed Vina GSA Groundwater Fee

June 14, 2023  
6:00-7:30 p.m.

# Welcome

- 6:00 p.m. **Welcome & Introductions, Vina GSA Background, and Overview of the Proposed Fee**
- 6:20 p.m. **Questions & Answers**
- 7:00 p.m. **Open House**
- 7:30 p.m. **Closing**



# SGMA and Groundwater Management

SGMA = Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

- State law passed in 2014
- Local agencies given authority and responsibility to manage groundwater: **G**roundwater **S**ustainability **A**gencies = **GSA**
  1. Develop and Adopt a **G**roundwater **S**ustainability **P**lan = **GSP** by 2022
  2. Groundwater Monitoring and Reporting Every Year
  3. Implement Projects and Policy Actions to Achieve Sustainability
  4. Achieve Sustainability by 2042



Lowering  
GW Levels



Reduction  
of Storage



Seawater  
Intrusion



Degraded  
Quality



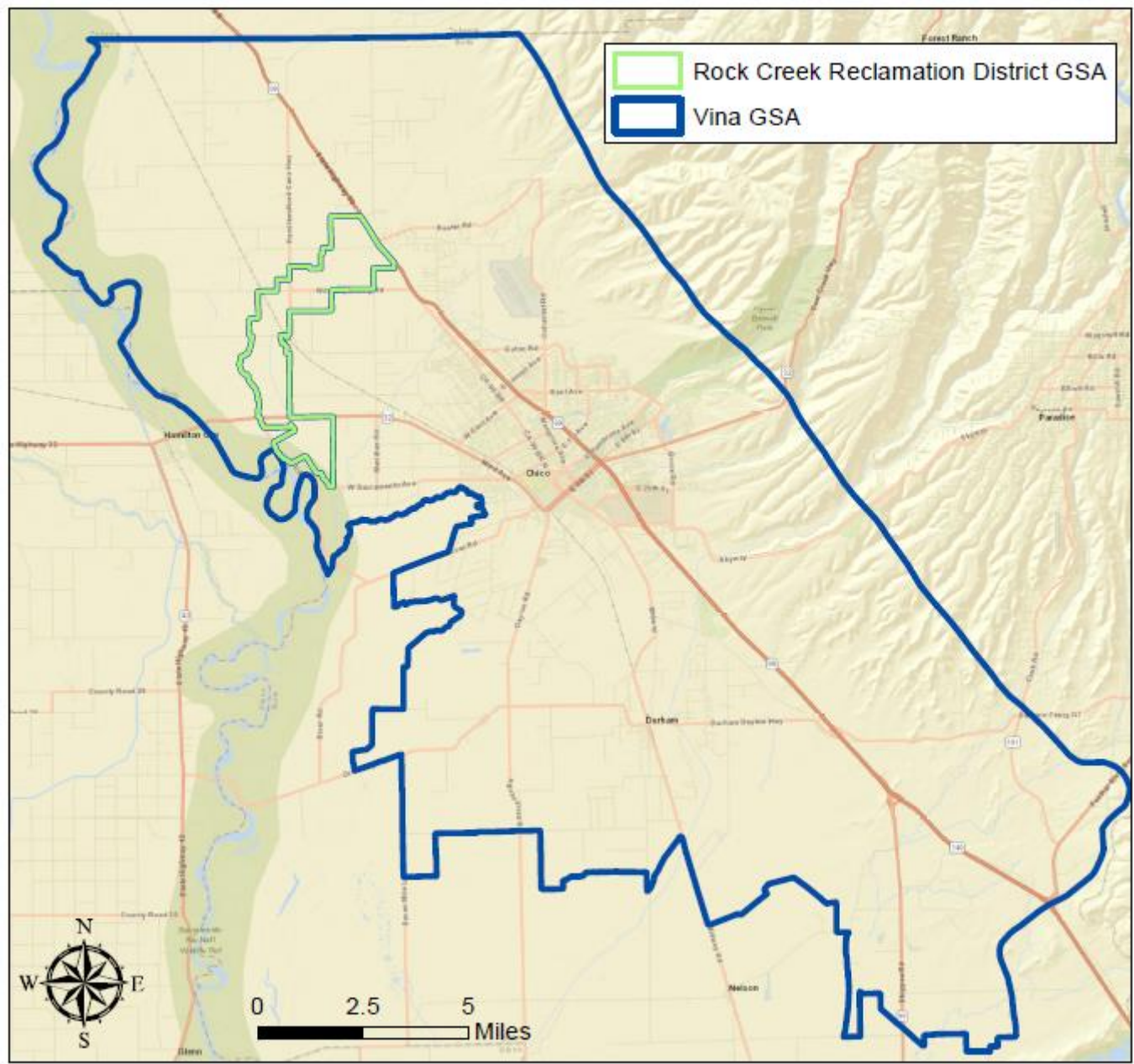
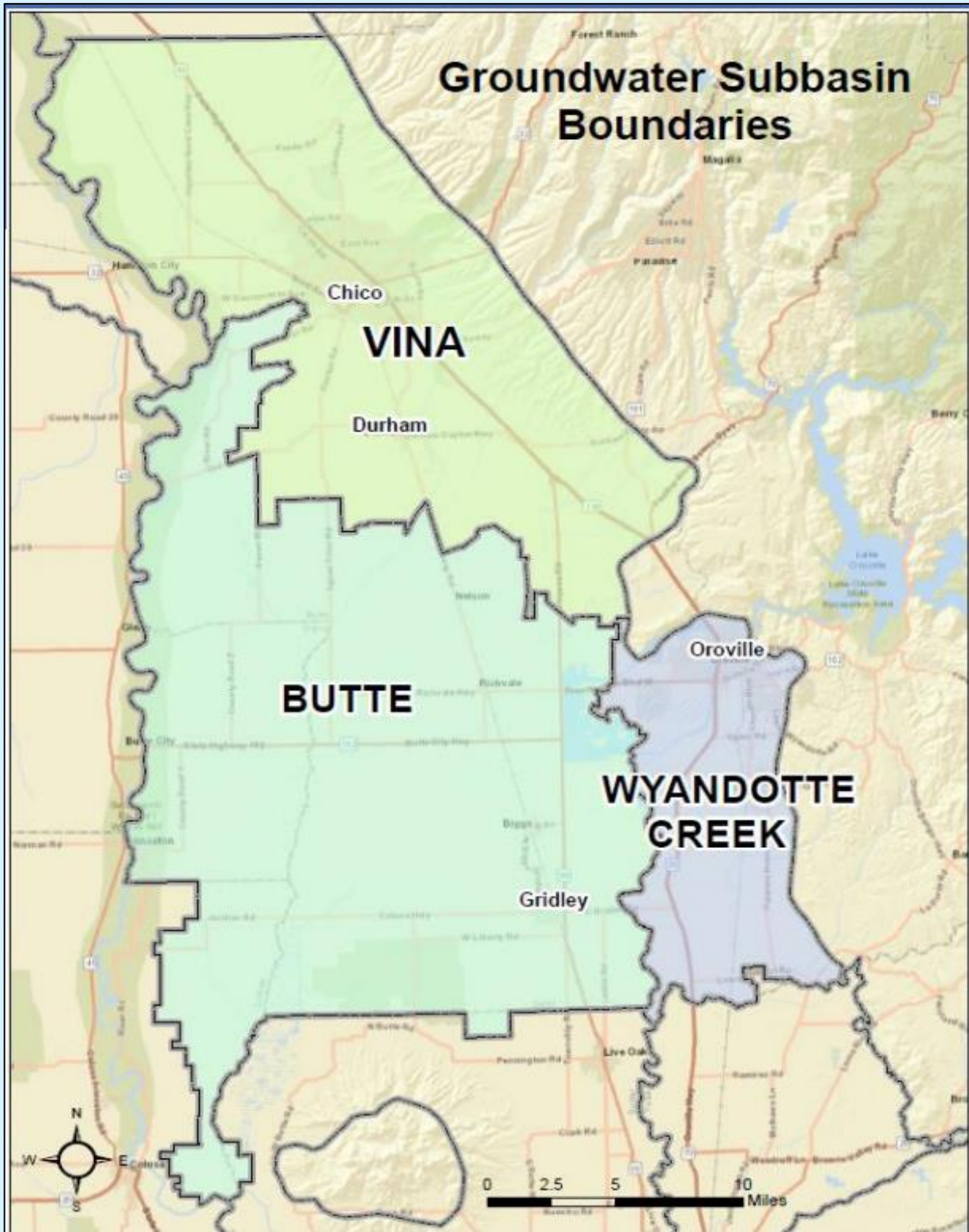
Land  
Subsidence



Surface Water  
Depletion

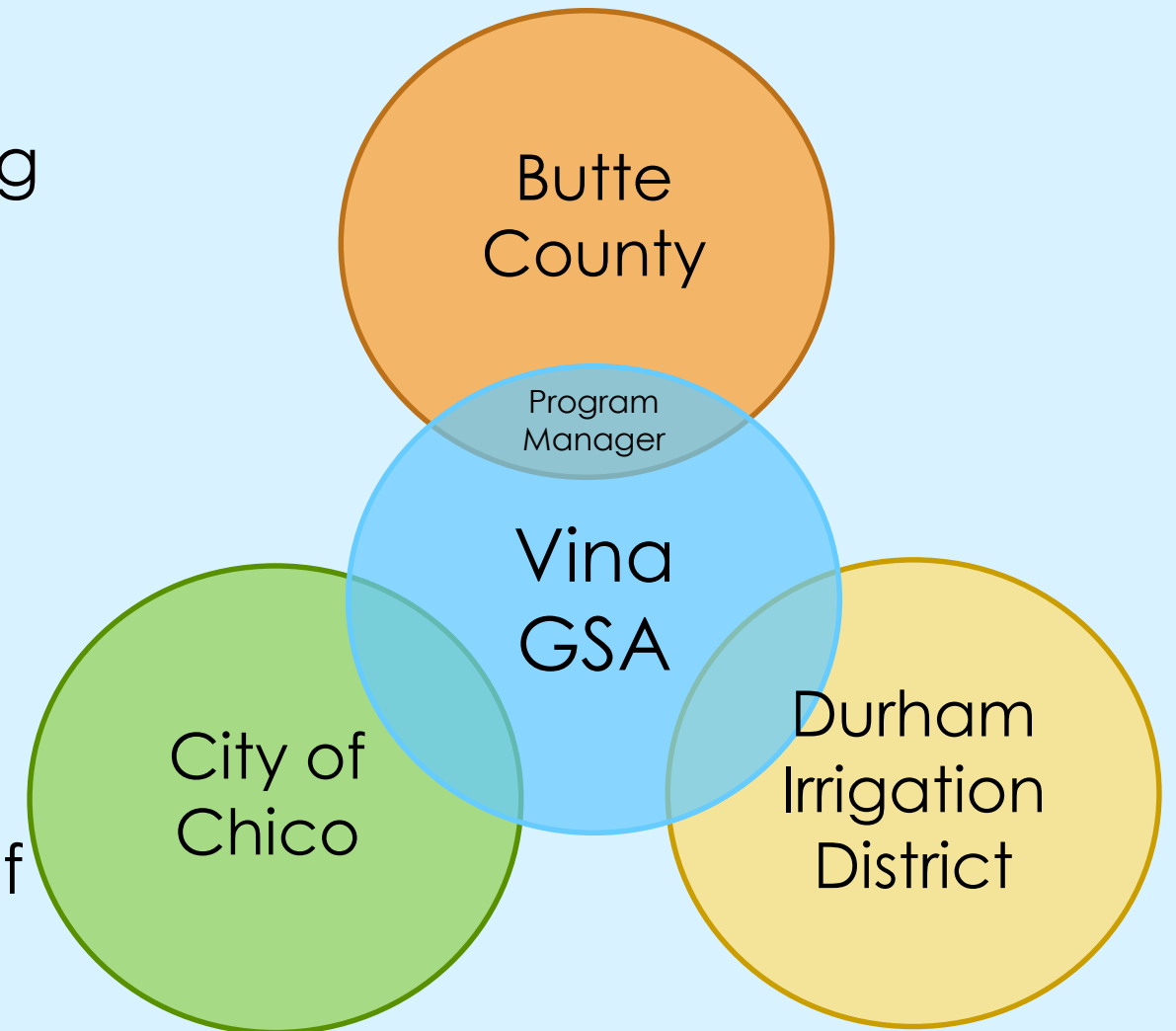






# Overview of the Vina GSA

- Joint Powers Agreement signed in Spring 2019
- 3 Member Agencies – Butte County, Chico, Durham Irrigation District
- 5 Member Board of Directors
- 10 Member Stakeholder Advisory Committee
- Management Committee Comprised of Member Agency Staff



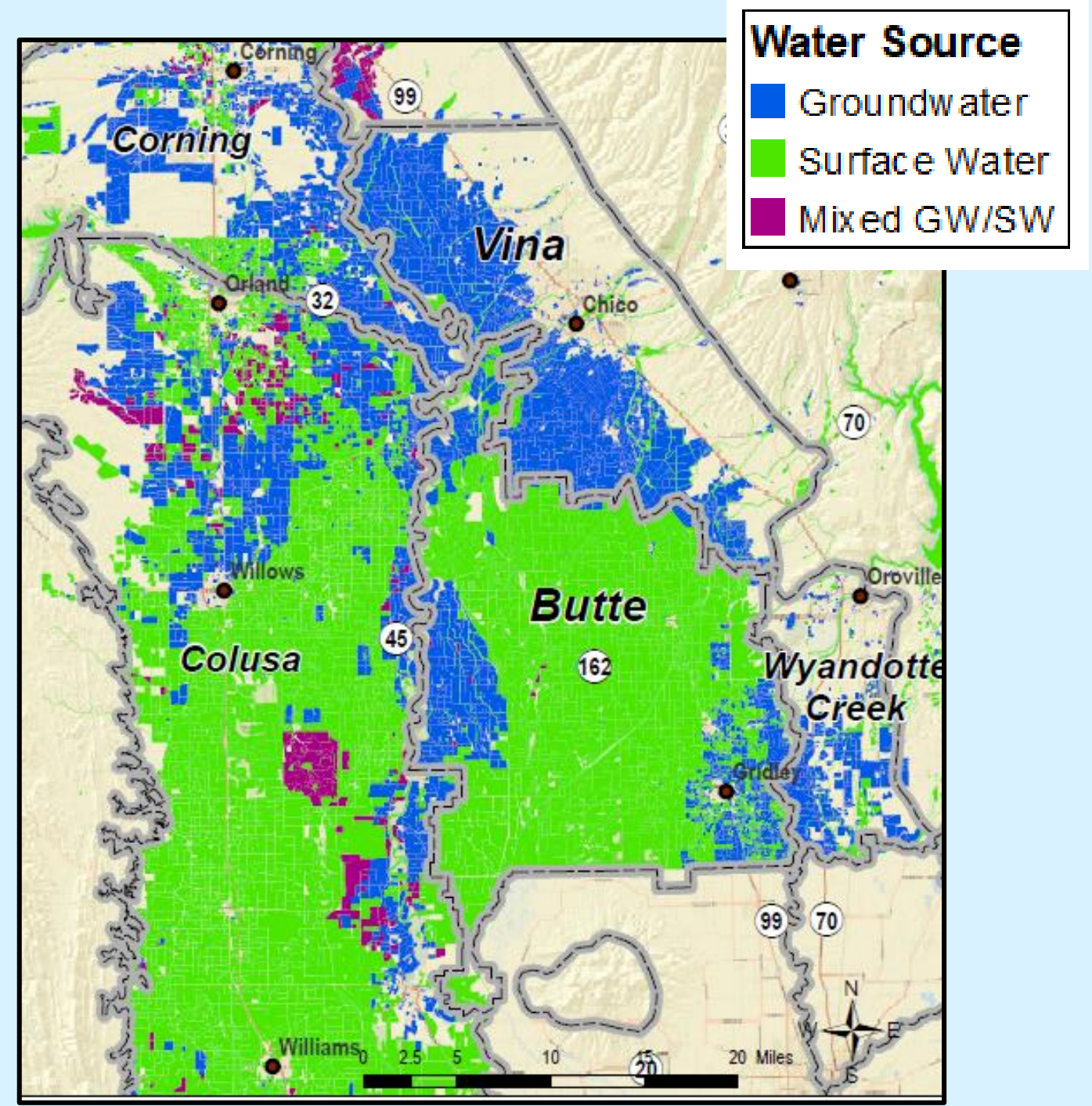
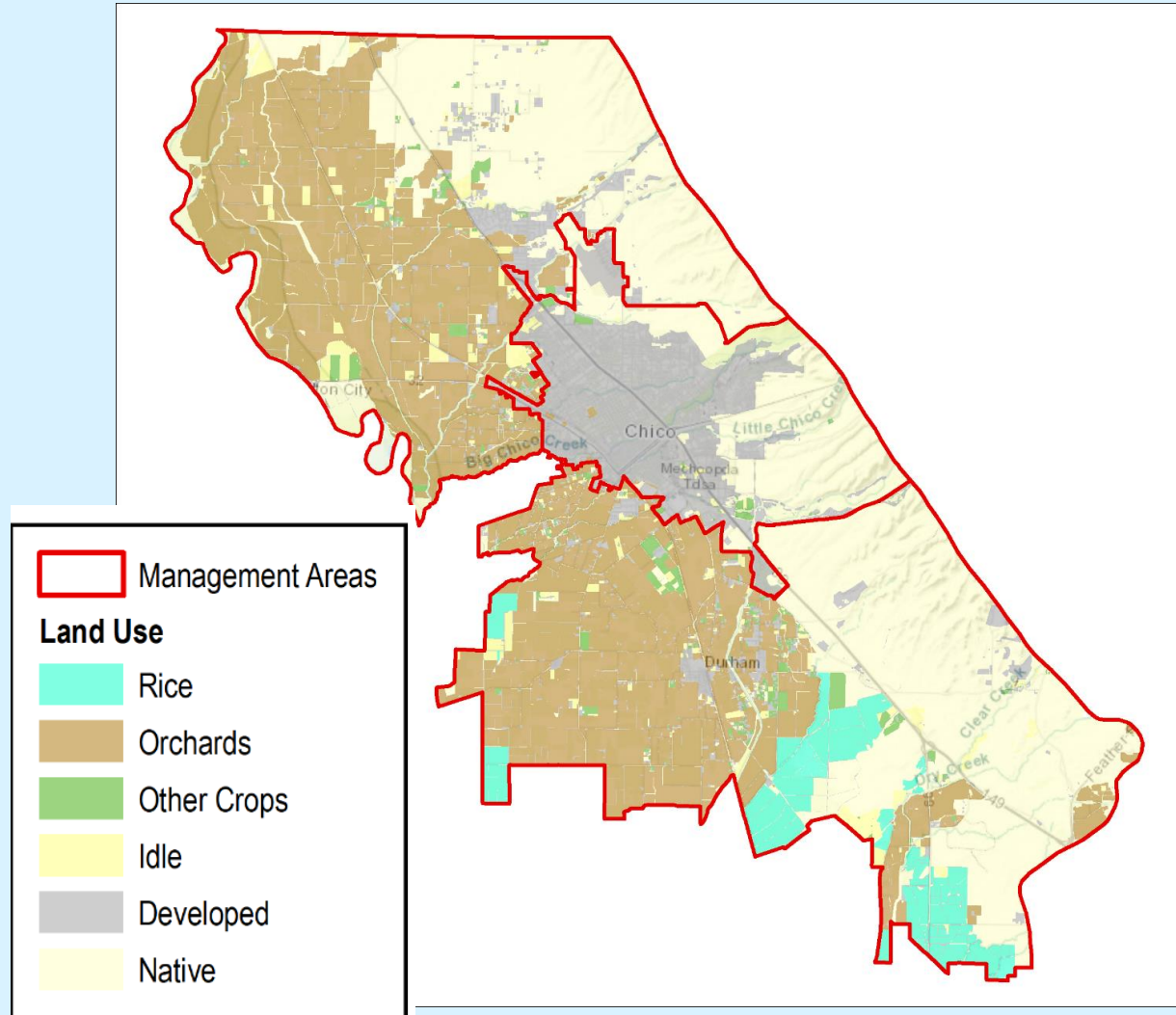
# What Does The Vina GSA Do?

- Manages groundwater resources to avoid undesirable results
- Prepared the GSP, prepares 5-year updates and amendments
- Policy development, ordinances, and regulatory enforcement
- Ensures compliance with SGMA
  - Tracks groundwater conditions and conducts groundwater monitoring
  - Prepares and submits Annual Reports
- Pursues grant funding for and implements projects
- Holds GSA Board and SHAC meetings, and facilitates community outreach/education
- Inter- and intra-basin coordination
- Coordination with local, state and federal agencies
- Prevents state intervention and maintains local control of groundwater





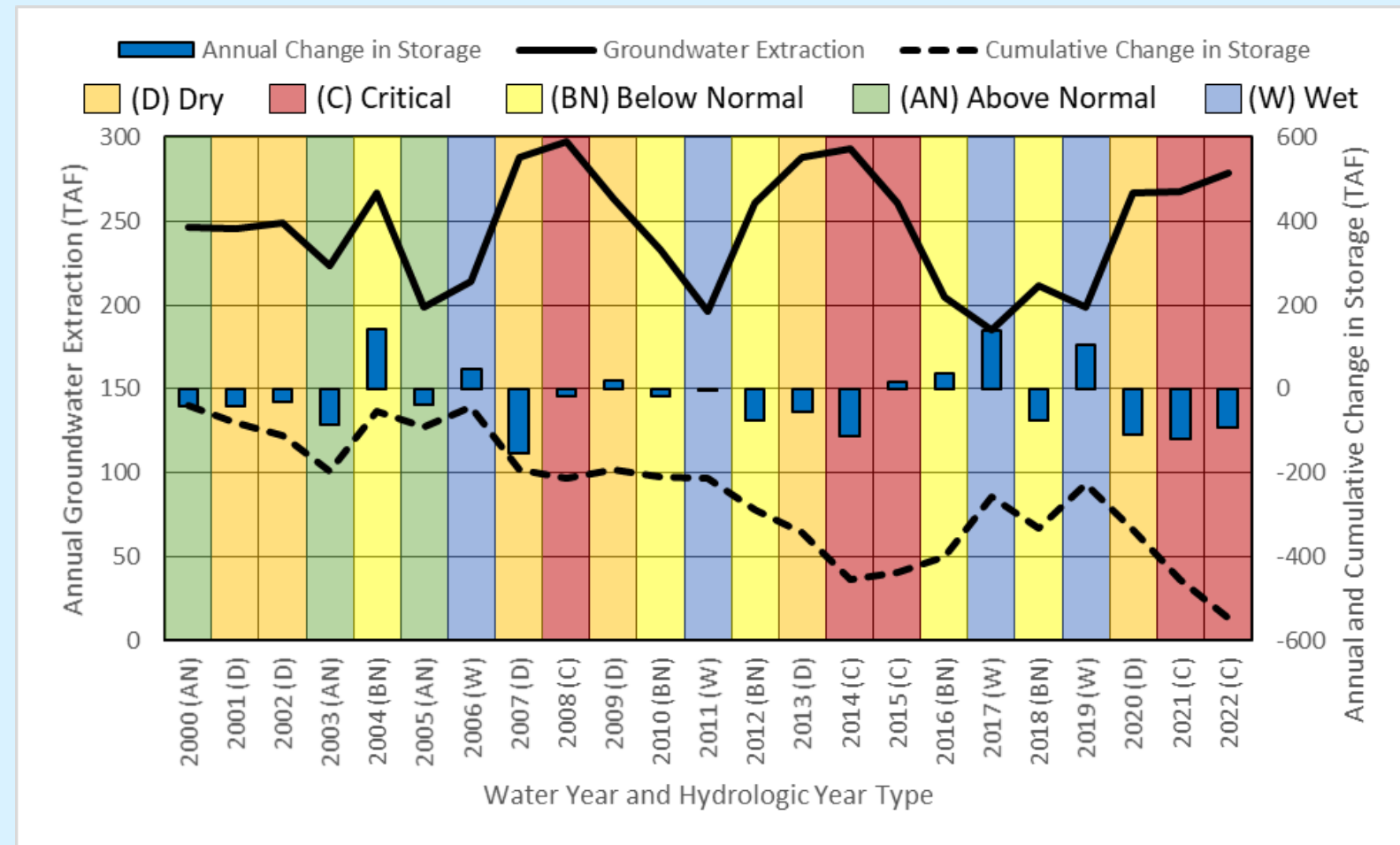
# Land & Water Use in Vina



# A Subbasin Out of Balance

Over the past 22 years:

- Groundwater pumping is stable, but variable (sensitive to water year type)
- Groundwater in storage has declined about 500,000 AF from 2000 to 2022
  - Average almost 23,000 AF each year
  - Change in Storage is sensitive to water year type also



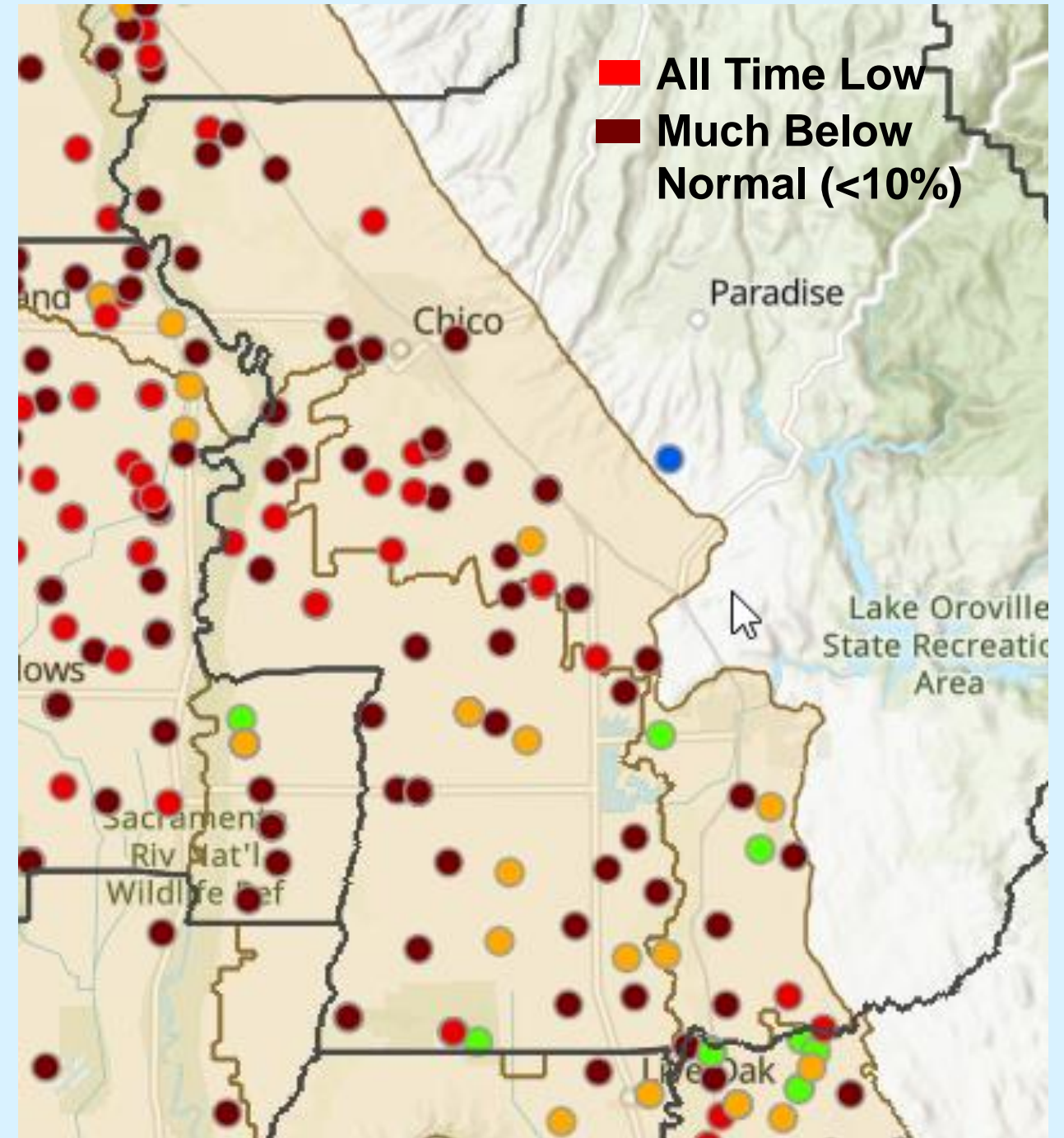
**Action is needed to stabilize groundwater levels (and storage) and to reach sustainable groundwater conditions**





# Groundwater Management & Drought Emergency Response

- 26 Dry wells reported to State Dry Well Reporting System
- 33 Applicants to Butte County Off. Of Emergency Management Drought Assistance Program
- County program offers storage tank installation and water delivery



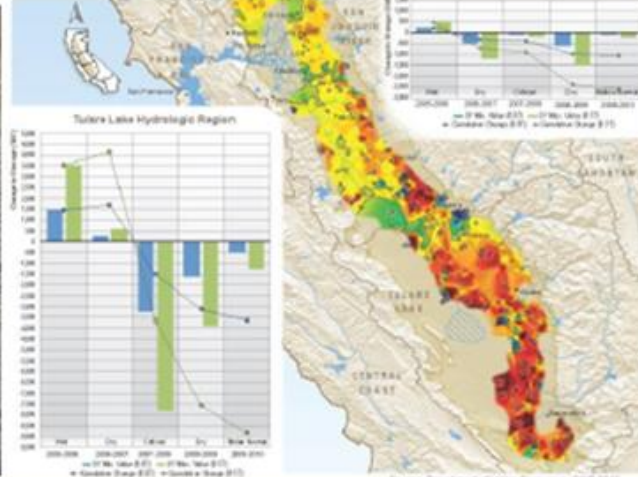
Fall 2022 Groundwater Level Conditions



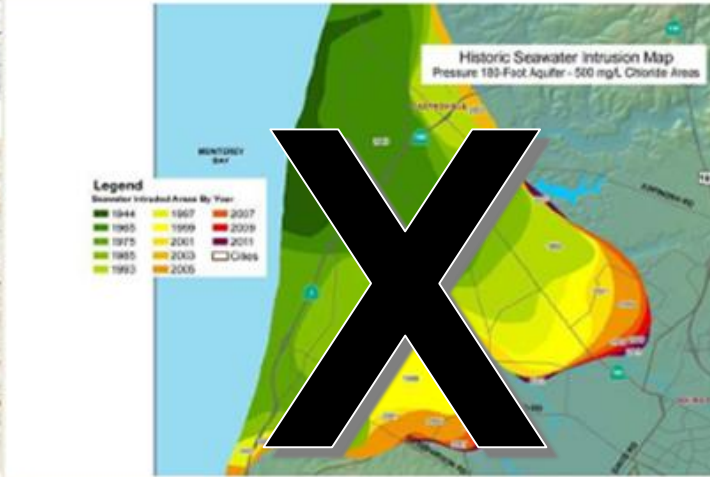
# Why is Groundwater Management Important?



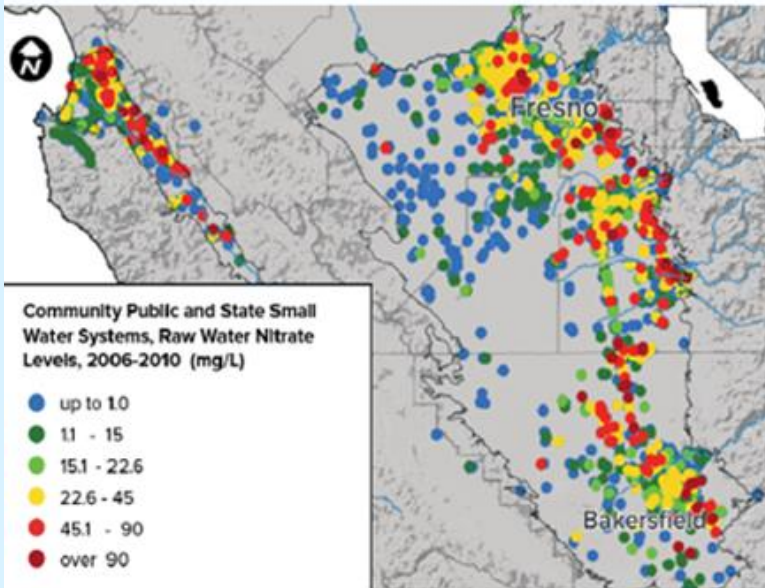
Lowering of GW Levels



Reduction of GW Storage



Seawater Intrusion



Land Subsidence



Depletion of Interconnected Streams

## Undesirable Results Impacts:

- Wells and water supply
- Pumping costs
- Crop growth
- Infrastructure
- Aquatic ecosystems
- Economy and increases costs
- Quality of life



Water Quality Degradation

# Developing a Fee Under Prop 218

1. Review of Governance, Structure and Funding for GSA – 2/8/23
2. Revenue projections – 3/8/23
  - Identify costs, confirm revenue needs, and develop cost allocation alternatives
3. Review of a Technical Memorandum (TM) – 4/12/23
4. Engineer's Report/Fee Study – 5/10/23
5. Notice of Public Hearing mailed – 6/5/23
6. Informational Workshop – 6/14/23
7. Public Hearing – Fee Approval / Protest Hearing – 7/26/23
8. Fee placed on Assessor's Tax Roll – 8/10/23 (for property tax bill)





# Need for Long-Term Funding



Revenue Needs of the GSA



# What Fees Pay For

Fee Cost Category	Fiscal Year 2023-24	Fiscal Year 2024-25	Fiscal Year 2025-26	Fiscal Year 2026-27	Fiscal Year 2027-28
<b>VGSA Admin. Budget</b>					
Prof. Services (Admin)	\$167,500	\$167,500	\$167,500	\$167,500	\$167,500
Office Expenses	\$19,250	\$16,250	\$15,750	\$15,750	\$15,750
Prof. Services (GSP)	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
Legal Defense	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
County Tax Roll	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$9,000
Contingency	\$32,075	\$26,775	\$24,725	\$24,725	\$24,725
Admin. Sub-total	\$352,825	\$294,525	\$271,975	\$271,975	\$271,975
<b>SGMA Compliance</b>	<b>\$186,300</b>	<b>\$186,300</b>	<b>\$186,300</b>	<b>\$186,300</b>	<b>\$175,500</b>
<b>TOTAL VGSA Costs</b>	<b>\$539,125</b>	<b>\$495,250</b>	<b>\$485,772</b>	<b>\$508,685</b>	<b>\$519,071</b>

GSA Administration: Program Manager, Office Expenses, and legal services for GSA operations with VGSA serving as fiscal agent for members and stakeholders.

GSA SGMA Compliance: Annual Reports, 5-Year GSP Updates, GSA coordination, Data Management, Financial Planning, Surface-Groundwater modeling, and grant funding.

Total Vina GSA Costs include 3% annual inflation rate in FY2024-25 through FY2027-28.

# Uniform Fee

- **Fee Report** proposes implementing a Fee of the maximum amount of \$3.09/per acre for all assessable parcels.

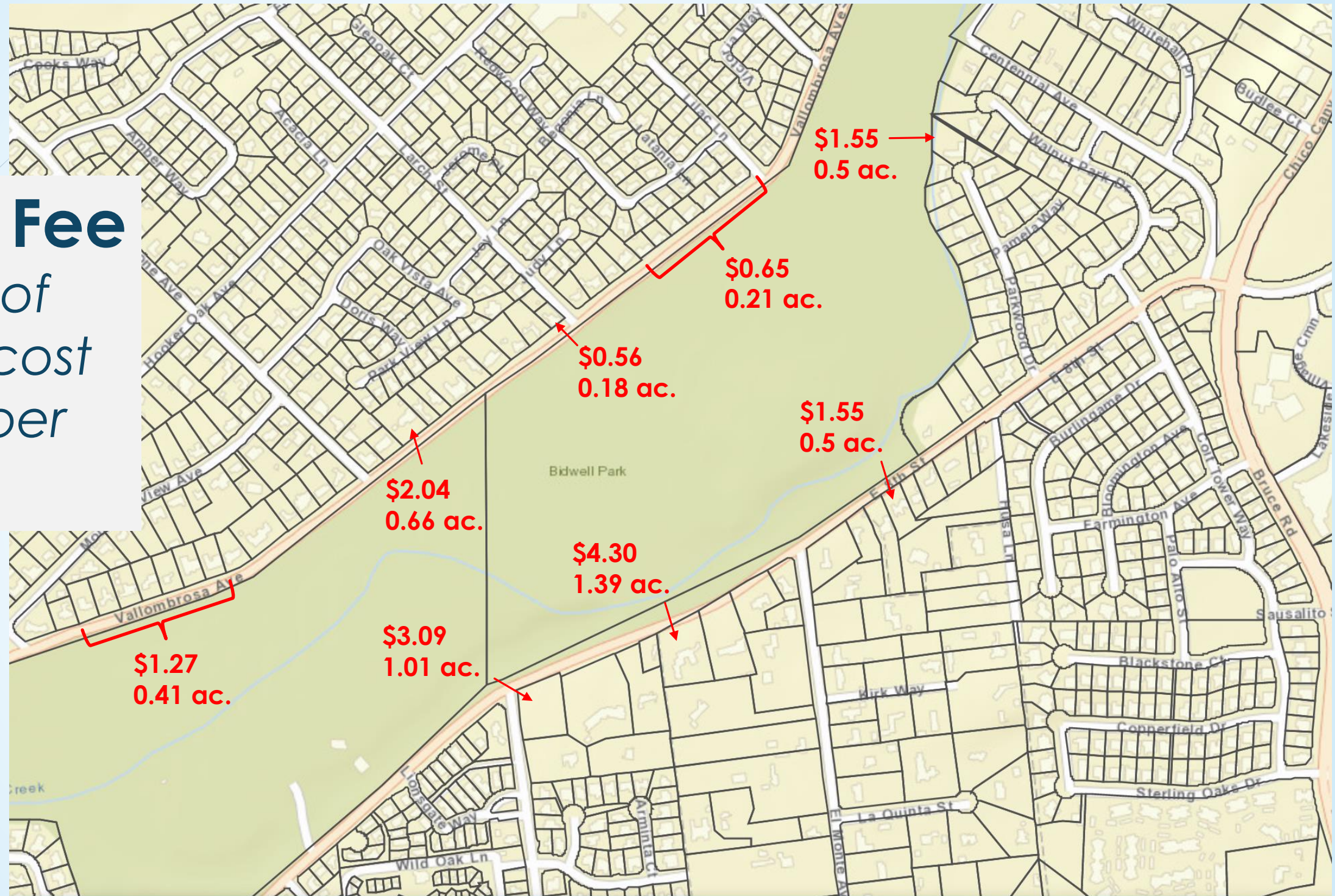
Vina GSA Uniform Cost/Acre Fee					
	FY 23-24	FY 24-25	FY 25-26	FY 26-27	FY 27-28
Operational Budget	\$539,125	\$495,250	\$485,772	\$508,685	\$519,071
Assessable Acreage	174,327	174,327	174,327	174,327	174,327
<b>Uniform Cost/Acre</b>	<b>\$3.09</b>	<b>\$2.84</b>	<b>\$2.79</b>	<b>\$2.92</b>	<b>\$2.98</b>





# Uniform Fee

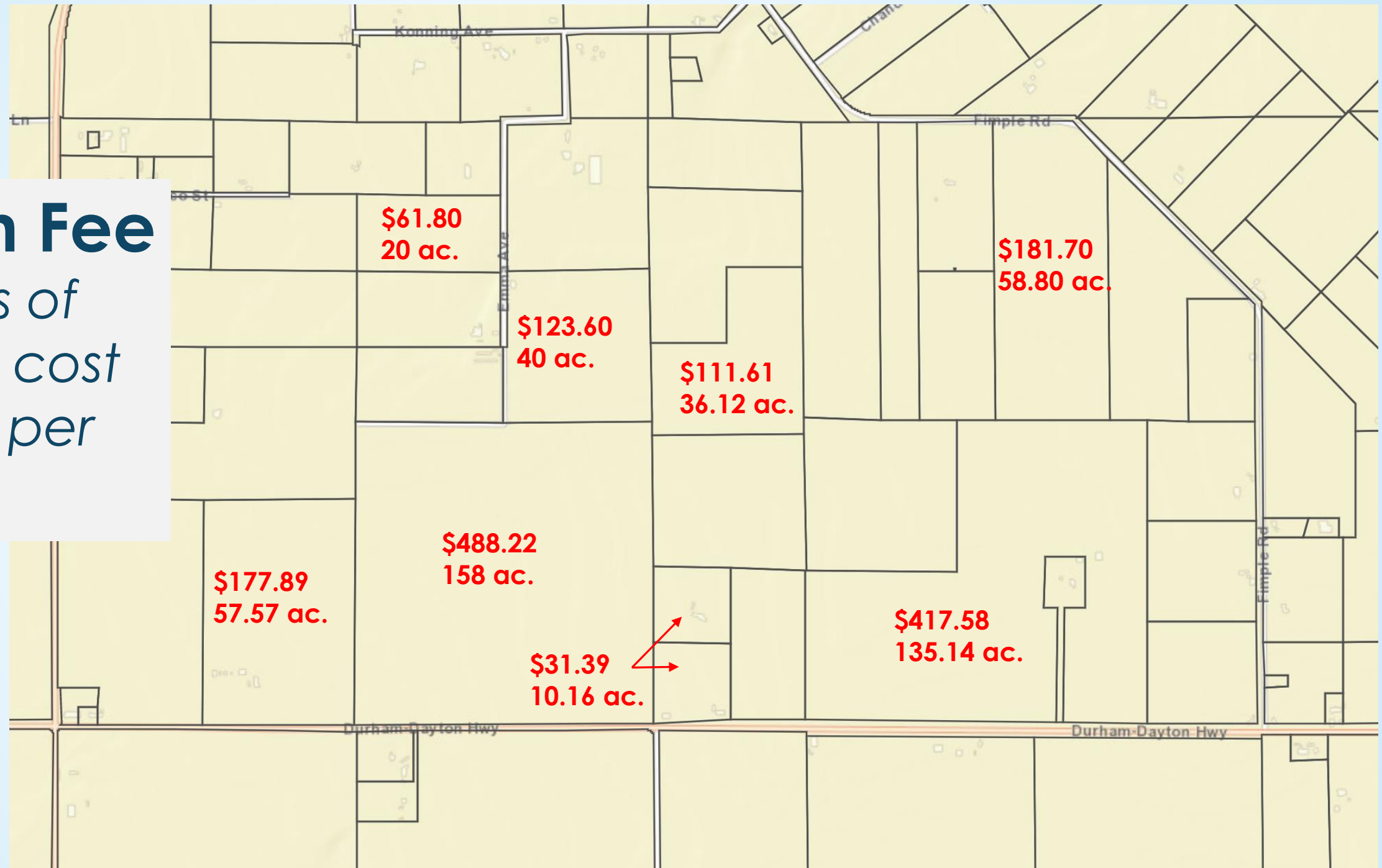
Examples of prorated cost per acre per year



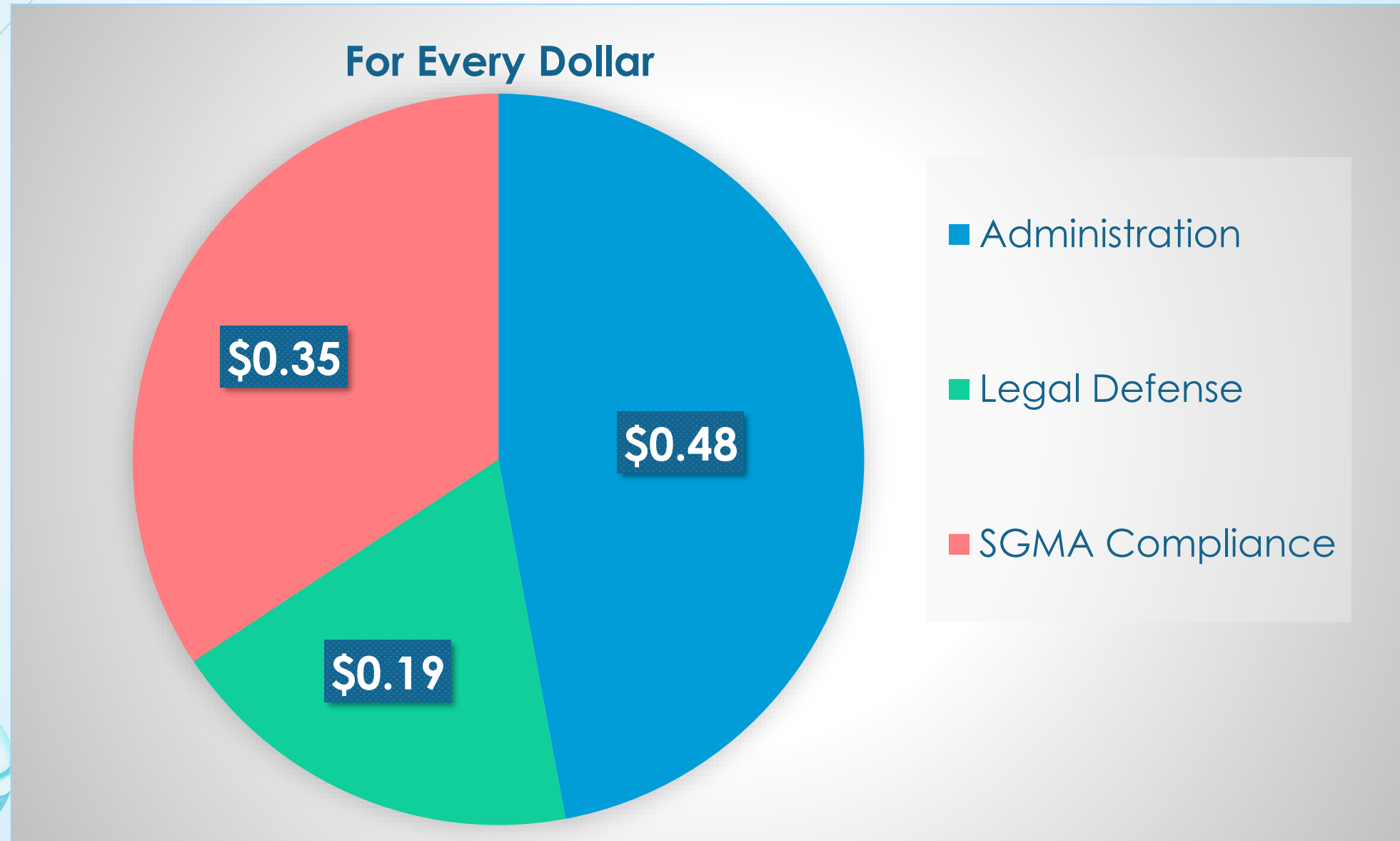


## Uniform Fee

*Examples of  
prorated cost  
per acre per  
year*



# For Every Dollar Spent in 23/24 FY:





# State Water Board Intervention Fees

Fee Category	Fee Amount	Applicable Parties
Base Filing Fee	\$300 per well	All extractors required to report (excludes *de minimis extractors).
Probationary Rate	\$40 per AF	Extractors in probationary basins (excludes de minimis extractors).
Interim Plan Rate	\$55 per AF	Extractors in probationary basins where the State Water Board determines an interim plan is required (excludes de minimis extractors).
De minimis Fee	\$100 per well	De minimis extractors in probationary basins (if determined by the State Water Board at a public hearing).
Automatic Late Fee	25% per month	Extractors that do not file reports by the due date.



\*Well owner who extracts two acre-feet or less of groundwater per year for domestic purposes

# Public Hearing and Majority Protest

**July 26, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.**

**City of Chico City Council Chambers, 421 Main Street, Chico**

- Under the California State Constitution, owners of land subject to the proposed fee have the right to protest its adoption. Only written protests received prior to the end of the hearing will be counted as valid official protests.
- Official protests can be mailed or submitted in person at the hearing on July 26<sup>th</sup>. Written protests must include the following information to be considered valid:
  1. Landowner name(s),
  2. Assessor's parcel number,
  3. Statement of protest,
  4. Valid landowner signature(s).

**Mail to: Vina GSA, PO Box 7211, Chico, CA 95927**

***Protests submitted by e-mail, fax, or other electronic means are not valid and will not be counted as a protest.***



# Clarifying Questions & Answers

If you have questions about SGMA, the Vina GSA, Vina Subbasin GSP, or the proposed fee, you may **raise your hand** or fill out a **question card**.

If you have questions for GSA staff or the technical consultants, you may also choose to wait until the open house.

*Please note, this is not the protest hearing for the fee.*

Protests should be mailed in advance of the public hearing or submitted at the public hearing on July 26, 2023 at 5:30 pm at the City of Chico Council Chambers, 421 Main Street.





# Frequently Asked Questions

- How much will my fee be?
- I have Cal Water, why do I have to pay a fee?
- Can grant money help reduce my cost?
- Other Questions?



# Before we break for the Open House...

Send questions/comments (not protests) to:  
[vinagsa@gmail.com](mailto:vinagsa@gmail.com)

Frequently Asked Questions (online)  
<https://www.vinagsa.org/faqs-frequently-asked-questions>

[Sign up for the Vina GSA \*\*Interested Parties list\*\*](#) (online or find Marisa)



# Open House

Still have questions? We are here until 7:30 to meet with you.

For questions about the Vina GSA and the proposed fee,  
talk to Kamie or LSCE

For questions about SGMA and groundwater conditions,  
talk to Christina or Kelly

