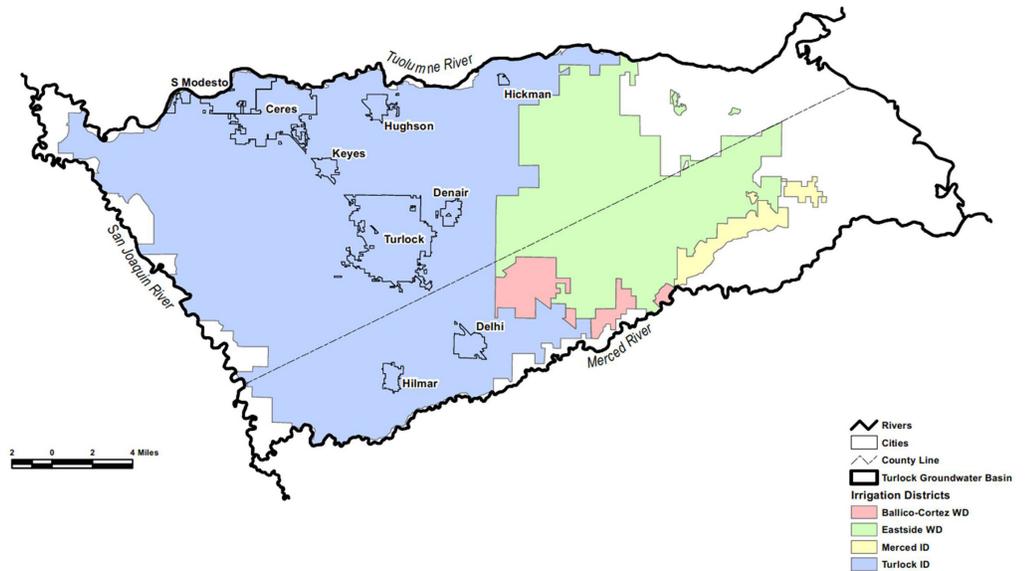


Turlock Subbasin

Basin 5-22.03 as defined by CA Department of Water Resources' Bulletin 118

Turlock Subbasin Facts

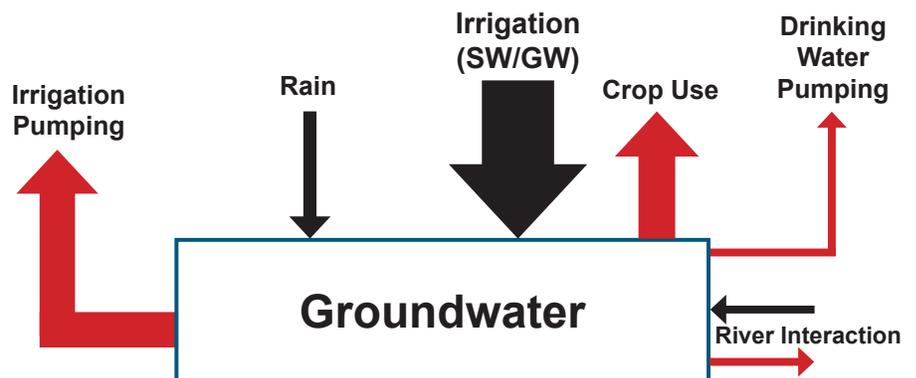
- A mix of cities, counties, irrigation districts, community services districts, water districts, county water districts and private landowners pump groundwater from the Subbasin.
- The Subbasin underlies an area of approximately 347,000 acres, with irrigated crops (250,000 acres), non-irrigated areas (53,000 acres), and urban development (25,000 acres) as the predominant land uses.
- Groundwater from the Subbasin supplies municipal, industrial, rural and agricultural demands of the region. Surface water from the Tuolumne River and, to a lesser extent, the Merced River, supplies a large proportion of agricultural irrigation demands within the Subbasin.
- Deep percolation of irrigation water, via flood irrigation, is the largest inflow to the Subbasin and plays an important role in maintaining groundwater storage.



Our region's groundwater resource, the **Turlock Subbasin** underlies an area of approximately 347,000 acres (542 square miles). The Subbasin, a unit of the much larger San Joaquin Valley Basin, lies on the eastern side of the Valley, encompassing portions of Stanislaus and Merced counties. The Subbasin is bounded by the Tuolumne River to the north, the Merced River to the south, and the San Joaquin River to the west. The eastern boundary is the western extent of the outcrop of crystalline basement rock in the Sierra Nevada foothills. Below is a simplified diagram that shows inputs and outputs to the Turlock Subbasin groundwater system.

Q: How does water get in and out of the Turlock Subbasin?

A: The simplified diagram below helps understand a few of the of the Subbasin's inputs (shown in black) and outputs (in red).



SGMA

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014

The three basic steps of SGMA for local agencies in the Turlock Subbasin

Step

1

Form GSAs

Local agencies form GSAs by 6/30/17 or state intervenes

Step

2

Develop GSPs

GSAs submit GSP(s) by 1/31/22 or state intervenes

Step

3

Get results

No “undesirable results”, meet goals, or state intervenes

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)

requires that “local agencies” in the Turlock Subbasin form at least one Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA), requires GSAs to develop and implement a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) or plans, and requires that the implementation of plans make strides toward reaching a sustainability goal, all while not experiencing significant and unreasonable “undesirable results.” Failure to comply with any of these requirements leads to potential state intervention, to be enforced by the State Water Resources Control Board, which may create interim management plans and charge interim management fees to locals.

Q: What are local agencies doing in the Turlock Subbasin?

A: SGMA defines “local agencies” as public agencies that have water supply, water management, or land use responsibilities within the Subbasin. Since SGMA was signed 9/16/14, the local agencies within the Turlock Groundwater Basin Association (TGBA) have:

- Analyzed the requirements of SGMA
- Discussed SGMA requirements, both among individual agencies and in larger settings, such as TGBA meetings
- Begun to execute a Post-SGMA Memorandum of Understanding that sets forth items of common understanding about GSA and GSP paths
- Begun the stakeholder engagement process until GSAs are formed

3 Ways to Get Involved in SGMA Efforts

1. Seek additional information

CA's [Department of Water Resources' \(DWR\) Sustainable Groundwater Management website](#) and the [California Water Foundation's website](#) offer several FAQs and reports to learn about SGMA.

2. Sign-up for alerts and electronic mailing lists

[Receive alerts from DWR](#) about reports, regulation drafting and important meetings. Also, provide TGBA with your e-mail so we can update you regularly.

3. Go to public meetings (and provide input)

TGBA meetings are public and are generally held the third Thursday of every month at Turlock Irrigation District. Stanislaus County Water Advisory Committee meetings are also a way to voice input and concerns, as well as local agency meetings. Visit www.TurlockGBA.org for a calendar of local and statewide events, and much more information.