

North San Joaquin Water Conservation District

Proposed District- wide Groundwater Charge Outreach Meeting

March 30, 2022

Meeting Ground Rules

This is a public discussion, not a debate

Everyone is encouraged to participate

No one or two individuals should dominate a discussion

One person speaks at a time

Do your best to understand the pros and cons of every option

Listen to and respect other points of view

Responsible for groundwater management and aging 1960s surface water system

150,000 acres

ABOUT THE DISTRICT



Mission to sustainably manage water to benefit the local environment, community and economy

75,000 acres of irrigated agriculture

14,000 parcels

7,000 GSA parcels

Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Subbasin

Critically overdrafted subbasin

16 Groundwater Sustainability Agencies

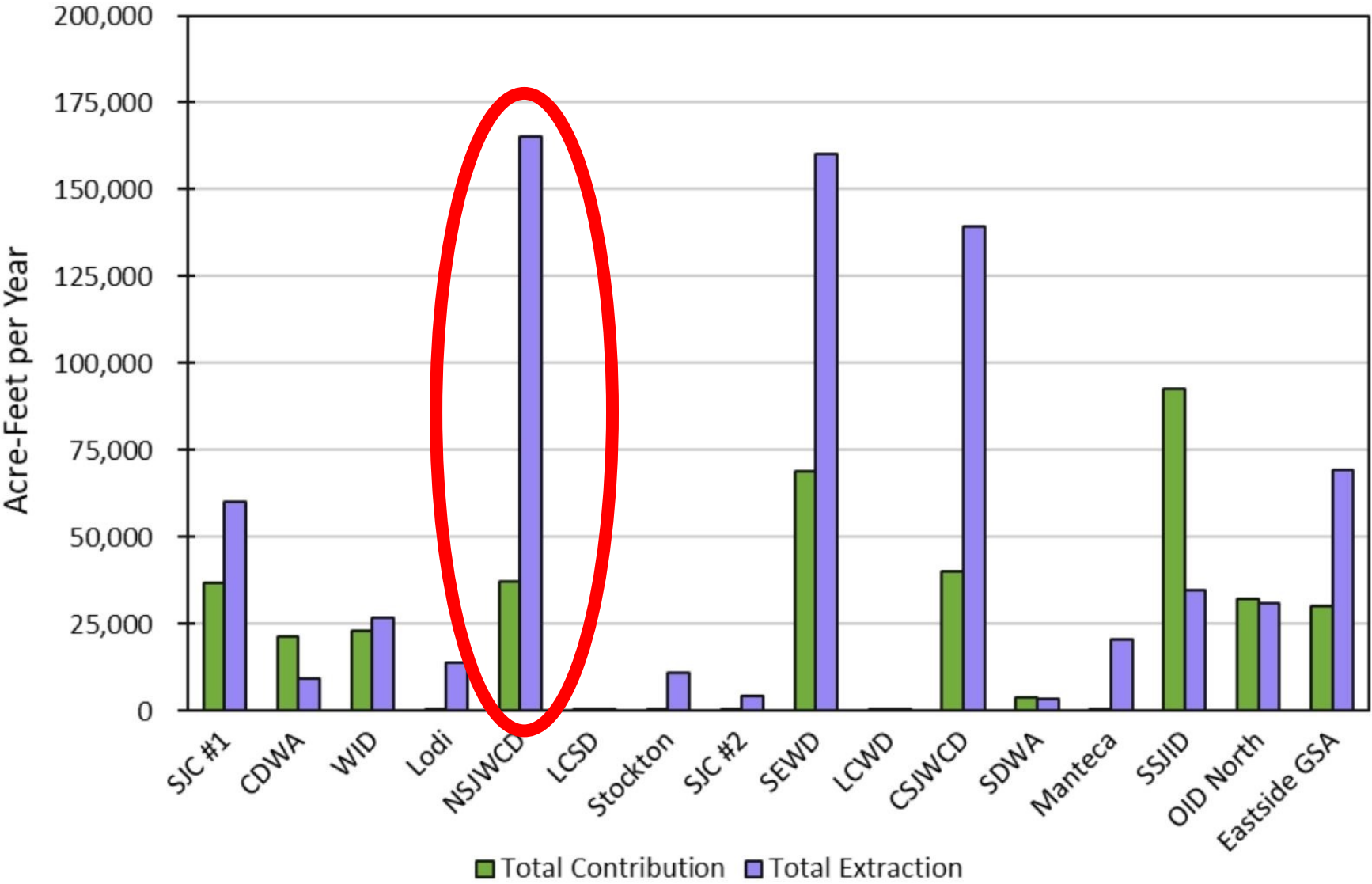
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Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority

GSA's must comply with new state groundwater law



District Groundwater Extraction and Contribution



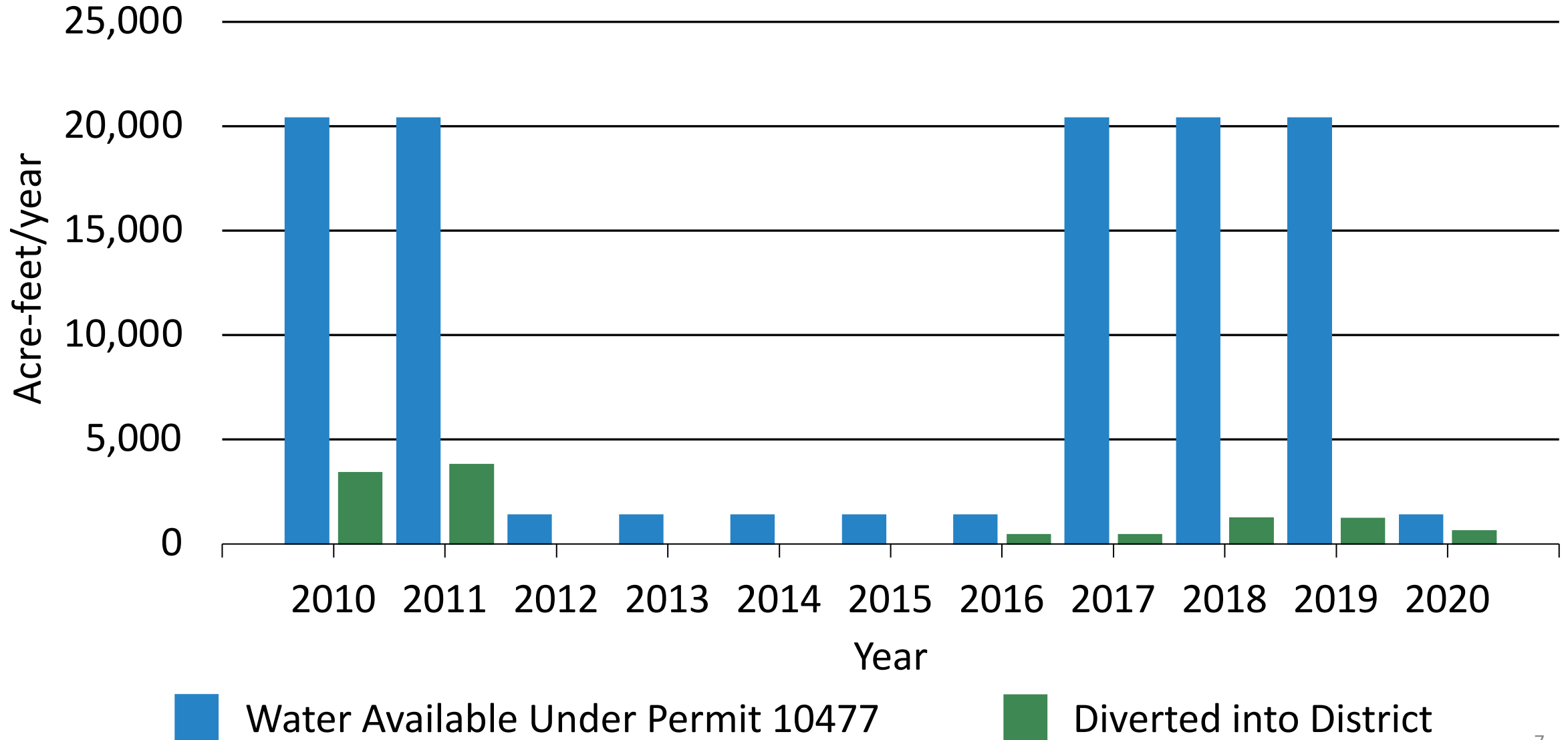
Subbasin Groundwater Decline

"In 1908 my grandparents dug a 25-foot well to access groundwater on our property. Now the wells are 100 to 120 feet deep."

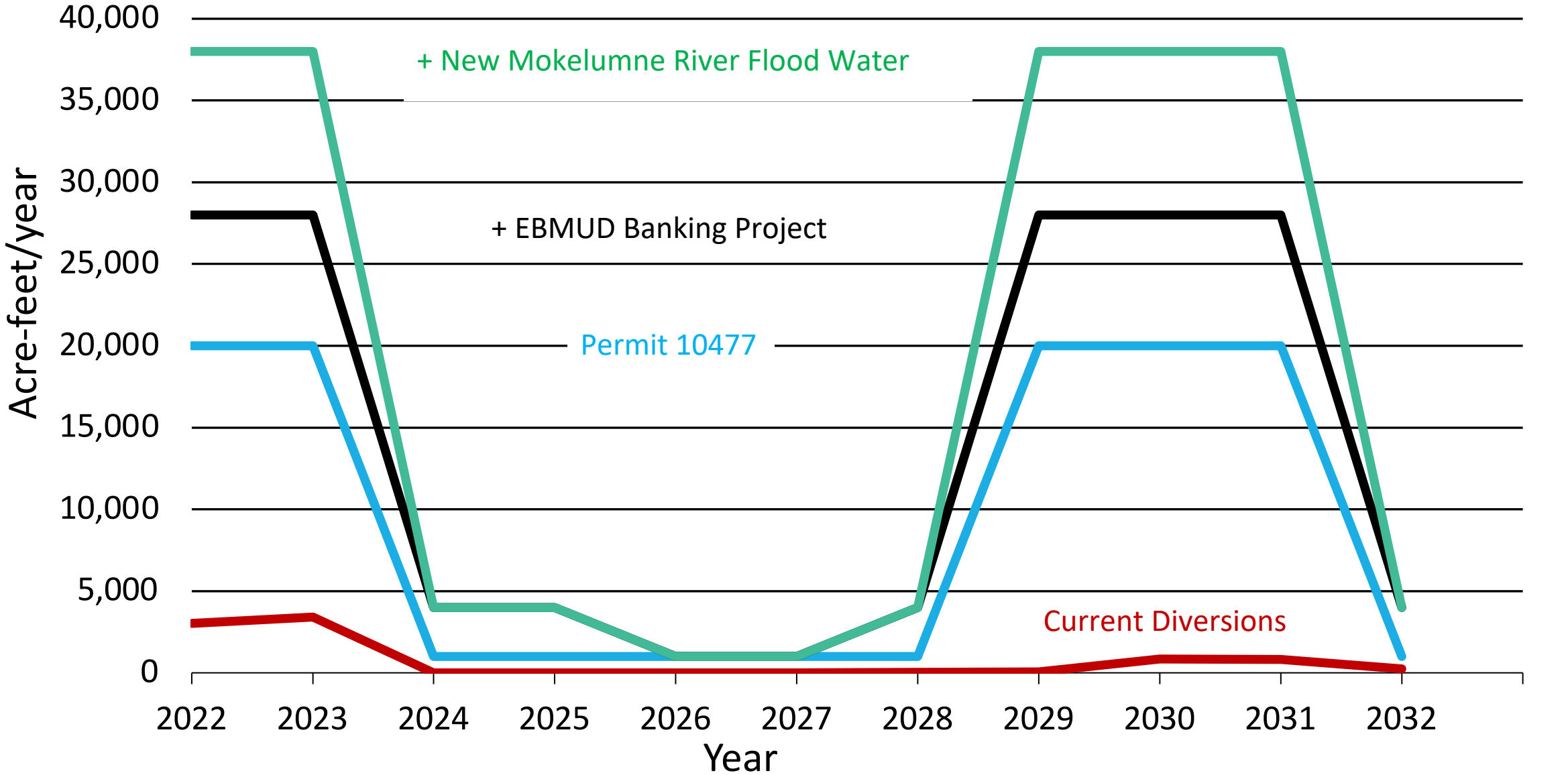
"I've had to deepen wells and have seen an increase in my electric bill to pump groundwater."

"My grandparents had a well dug on the property in the 1920s which was 90 feet deep, and I recently quit using it because the well went dry. I had to drill a deeper well."

Current District Water Right Utilization

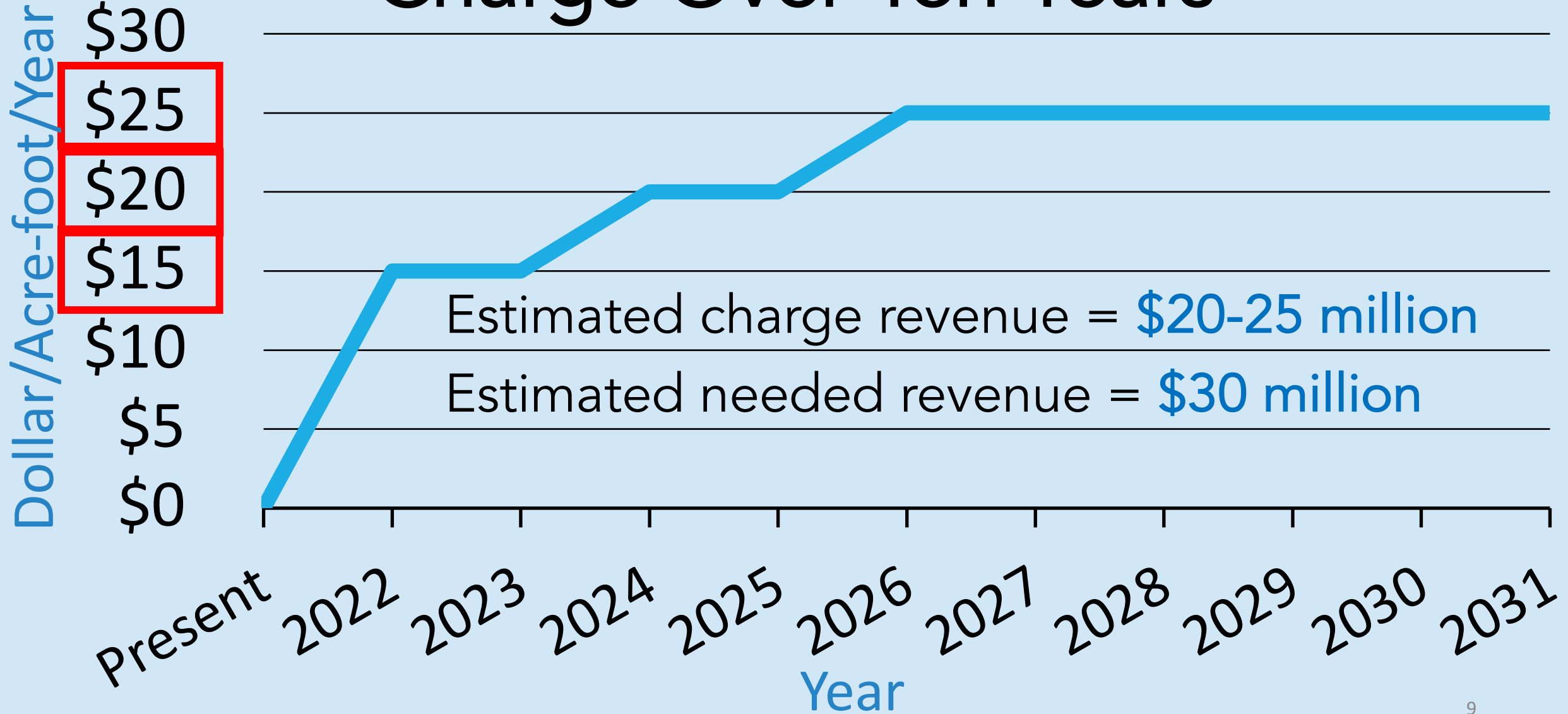


Potential District Surface Water Use

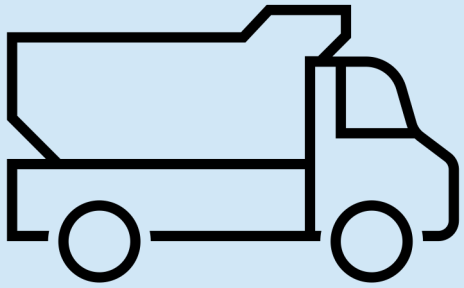


+ New Mokelumne River Flood Water + EBMUD Banking Project Permit 10477 Current Diversion⁸

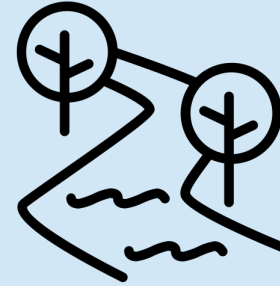
Proposed District-Wide Groundwater Charge Over Ten Years



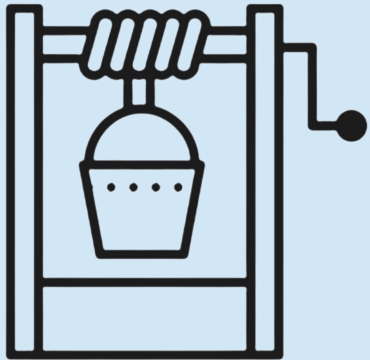
Eligible Uses



Recharge project construction



Protection of existing water right and pursuit of new water rights



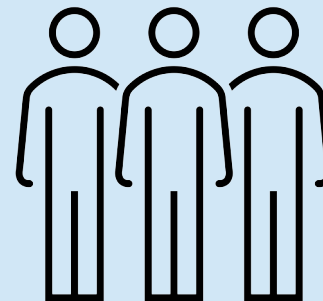
Required SGMA monitoring



Reporting and compliance

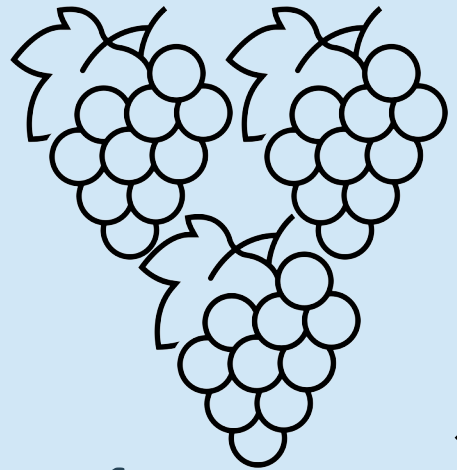


Operations and maintenance



District staff

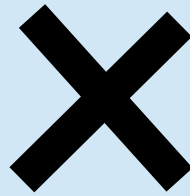
Proposed Maximum District-Wide Annual Groundwater Charge Per Acre (Vineyard)



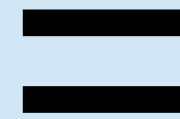
1-acre
vineyard



2 acre-
feet/acre



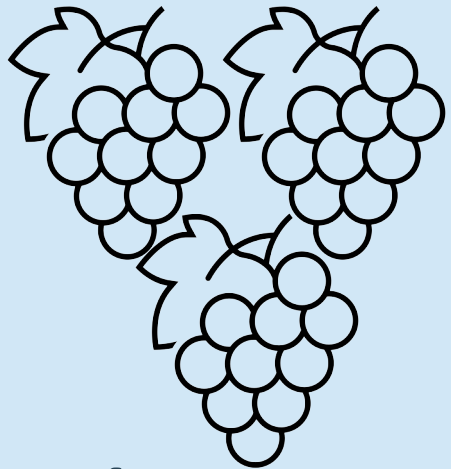
\$25 per
acre-
foot



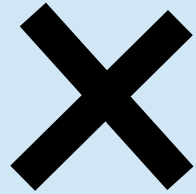
\$50

per year per
acre

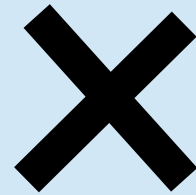
Minimum State Intervention Groundwater Charge Per Acre (Vineyard)



1-acre
vineyard



2 acre-
feet/acre



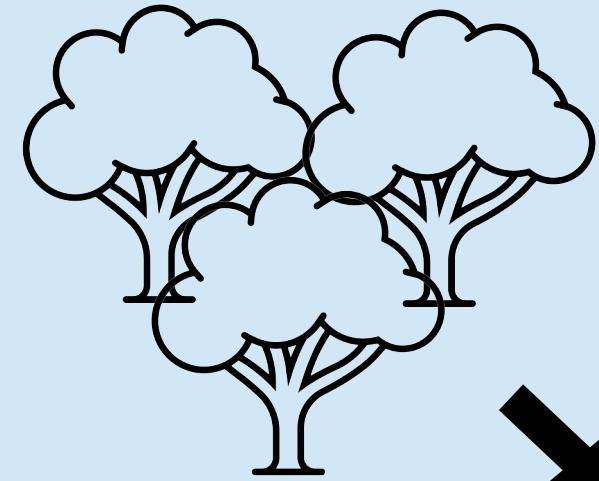
\$40 per
acre-
foot



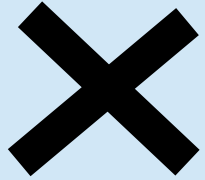
\$80

per year per
acre

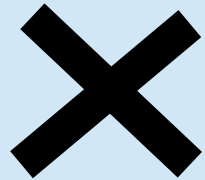
Proposed Maximum District-Wide Groundwater Charge Per Acre (Orchard)



1-acre
orchard



3 acre-
feet/acre



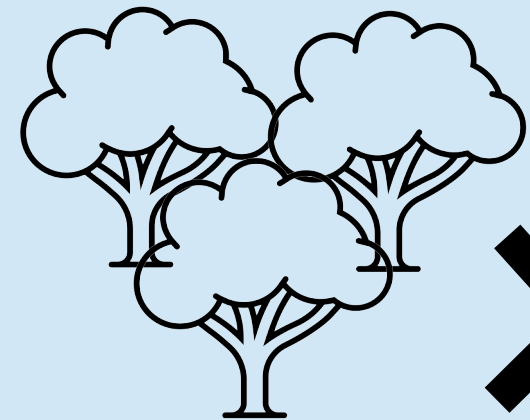
\$25 per
acre-
foot



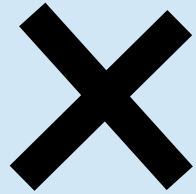
\$75

per year per
acre

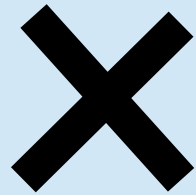
Minimum State Intervention Groundwater Charge Per Acre (Orchard)



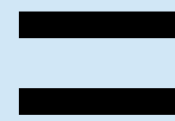
1-acre
orchard



3 acre-
feet/acre



\$40 per
acre-
foot



\$120

per year per
acre

Per Acre Annual Groundwater Charge Comparison

Proposed
District-wide
(Orchard)

\$75

\$120

State
Intervention
(Orchard)

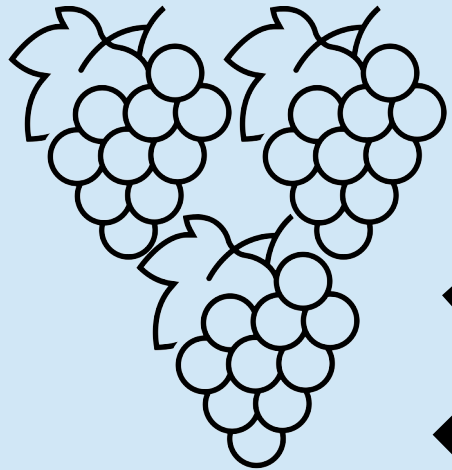
Proposed
District-wide
(Vineyard)

\$50

\$80

State
Intervention
(Vineyard)

Total Proposed District Groundwater Charge for 40-Acre Vineyard



40-acre
vineyard

X

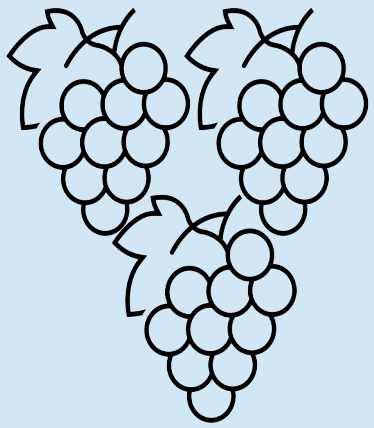
\$50 per
acre per
year

=

\$2,000

per year

Total Minimum State Intervention Charge for 40-Acre Vineyard



40-acre
vineyard

X

\$80

per
acre
per
year

+

\$300

per
well

=

\$3,500

per year

Comparison of Total Annual Groundwater Charge for 40-Acre Vineyard

\$2,000

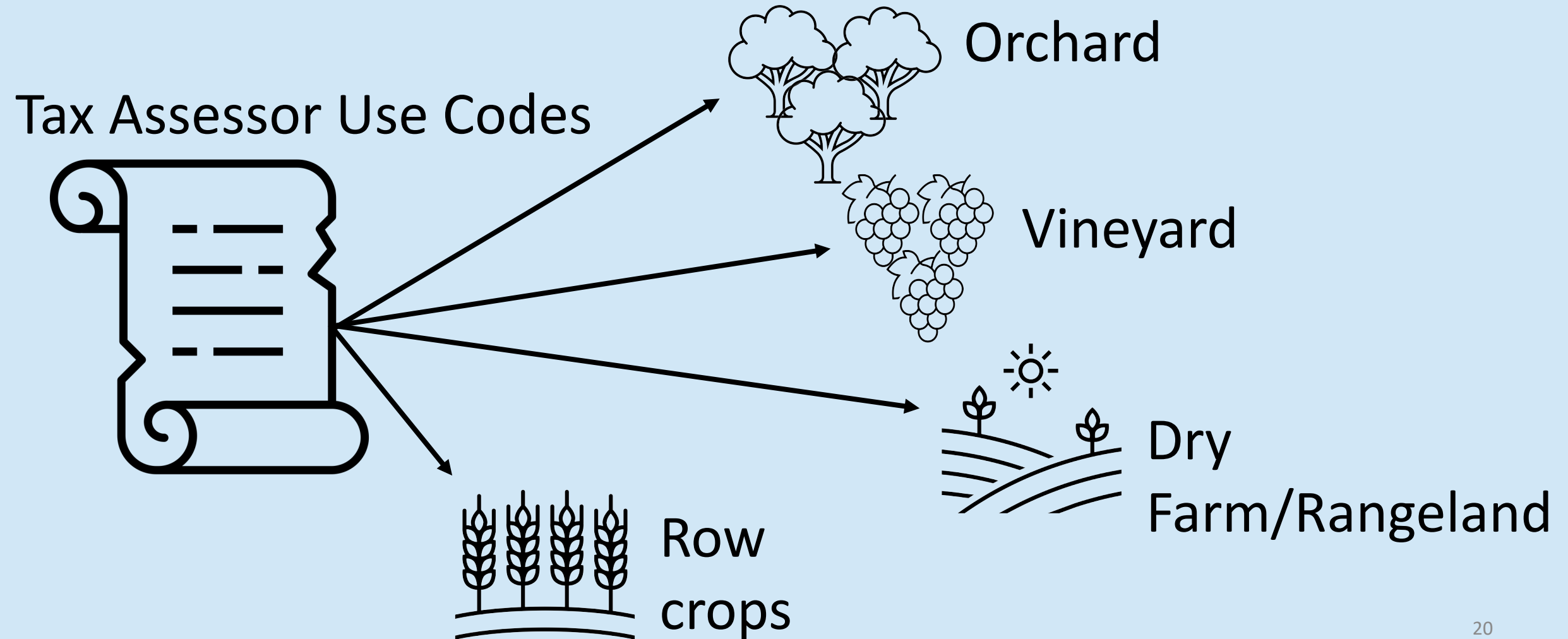
Proposed District-
wide Charge
(Vineyard)

\$3,500

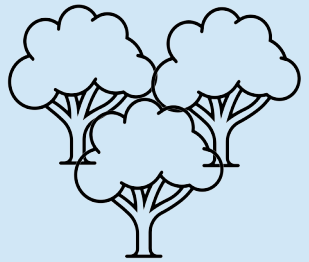
State
Intervention
(Vineyard)

	District	State Intervention
Authority	Locally elected District Board members	Politically appointed State Water Resource Control Board (SWRCB) and SWRCB staff
Cost	Proposed \$15-25 per acre-foot groundwater pumped; can be set lower but not higher than \$25 per acre-foot	\$300 per well annually and \$40 per acre-foot pumped, subject to annual increases decided by SWRCB
Oversight	Charge cannot increase without a vote of landowners and Board decisions conducted at local level	Cost increase anytime SWRCB sets a revised fee schedule, which is usually every year
Outcomes	Construction and operation of local groundwater recharge projects; work to secure new surface water supplies for the area	Administration and oversight at state level, groundwater meter mandates and pumping restrictions; no local projects

#1 - Identify the Property Land Use



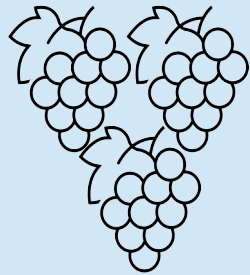
#2 – Estimate Groundwater Pumping Based on Land Use



Orchard



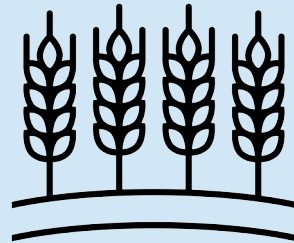
3



Vineyard



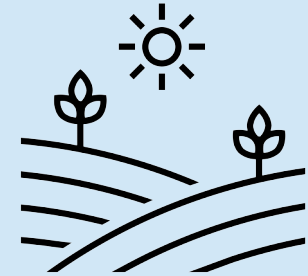
2



Row Crops



2



Dry Farm/Rangeland



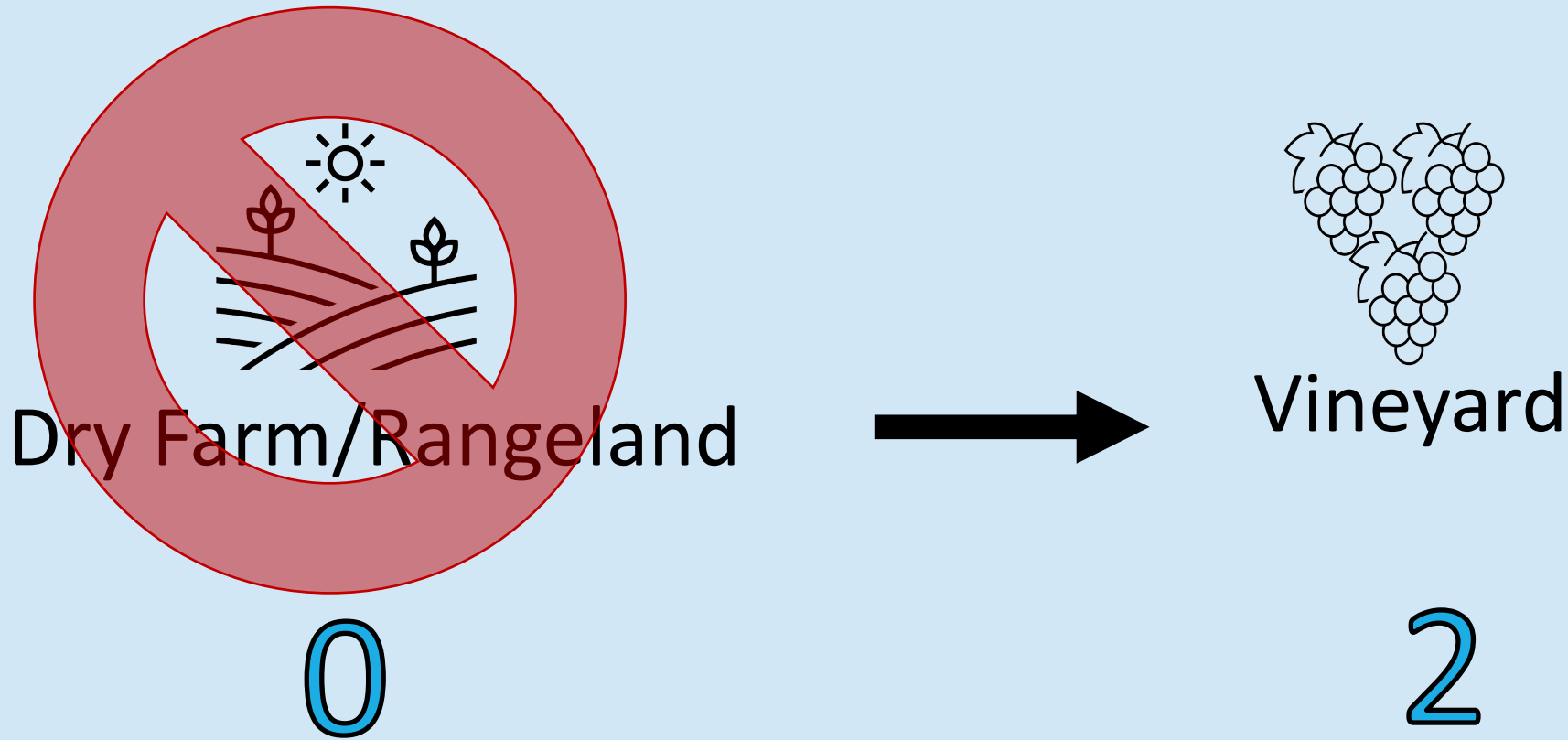
0

Acre-feet per acre

#3 – Adjust for Parcels Using Surface Water

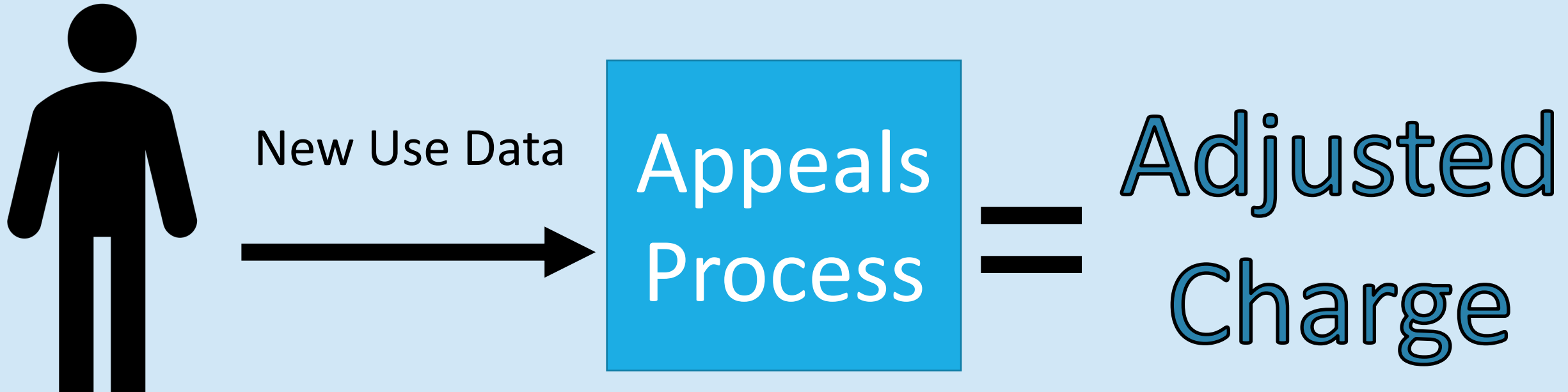
- If a landowner only uses surface water, they will not pay a groundwater charge
- If a landowner uses 50% surface water and 50% groundwater, the groundwater charge will be reduced by 50%

#4 – Adjust for Incorrect or New Land Uses



acre-feet per acre

#5 – Adjust for Landowner Appeals



Timeline

April 6

District Board considers approval of final Engineer's Report and structure of proposed district-wide charge

End of April

District mails notice to landowners about groundwater charge

June 14

Public hearing and ballot proceeding (held at least 45 days after notice is mailed)

December

If groundwater charge passes, first time charge will appear on property tax bills

Feedback



Feedback?
Email nsjwcd@outlook.com



Visit our website!
nsjgroundwater.org



Contact your Board member representative
and attend District Board meetings!