



October 29, 2021

The proposed 2022 water allocation discussion in the regularly scheduled Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MKGSA) Advisory Committee meeting identified six key issues that generated the most discussion. We envision discussing these six items 2 or 3 at-a-time at regular and/or special advisory committee meetings in the months to come.

CURRENT LIST OF CATEGORIES FOR REVIEW

- 1. What is the method to track pumping and how can growers check their water budget?**
The MKGSA estimates pumping in order to fill missing/ erroneous metered well readings. This discussion focuses on whether ET or groundwater pumping estimates should be used for accounting.
- 2. How will the pumping cap be implemented in the first year?**
Discuss retroactive accounting from October 2021-September 2022, prorating from the water allocation implementation date, or accounting only after implementation have been proposed.
- 3. How far can growers move/trade water?**
The MKGSA anticipates providing flexibility to growers and the ability to move and trade their water supply. Discuss how policies regarding the water market (maximum distance limits, pricing structure, metering requirements, etc) coincide with the allocation.
- 4. What should the penalty be in 2022 if the cap is exceeded?**
Discuss how to slow the drop in groundwater levels while providing maximum flexibility in the first year - as those implementing, and using, the water allocation adapt to the new policy.
- 5. What should the pumping cap number be?**
The MKGSA is evaluating pumping cap between 1.5 and 2.5 AF/acre annually; initial feedback indicated some interest in a rolling allocation (for instance, 4.5-7.5 AF/acre over 3 years).
- 6. What is the durability of the groundwater allocation?**
Discuss how long can excess (unused) groundwater credits be stored for and the fraction of the excess water available for use in future years.