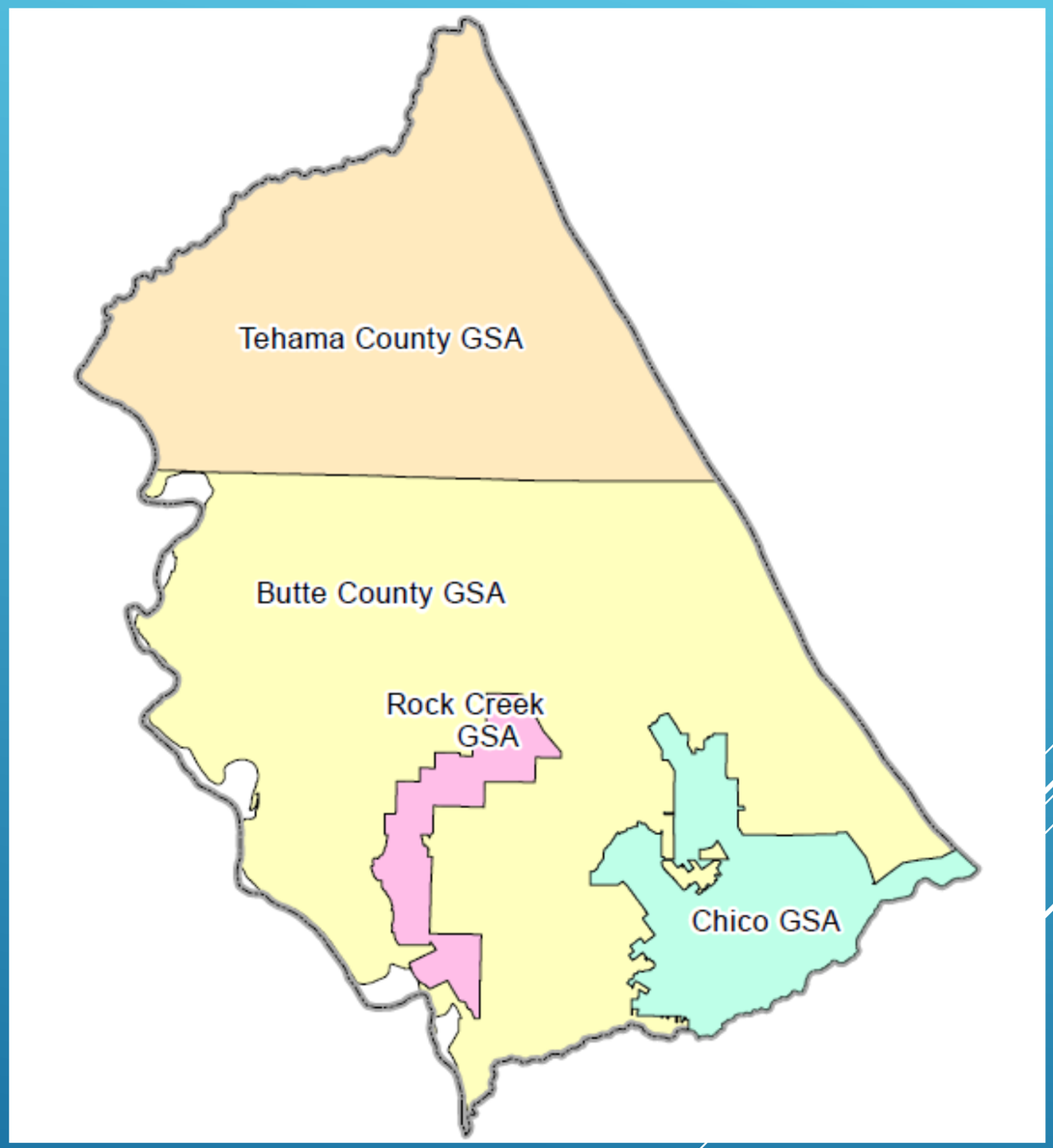
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FORMATION IN BUTTE COUNTY



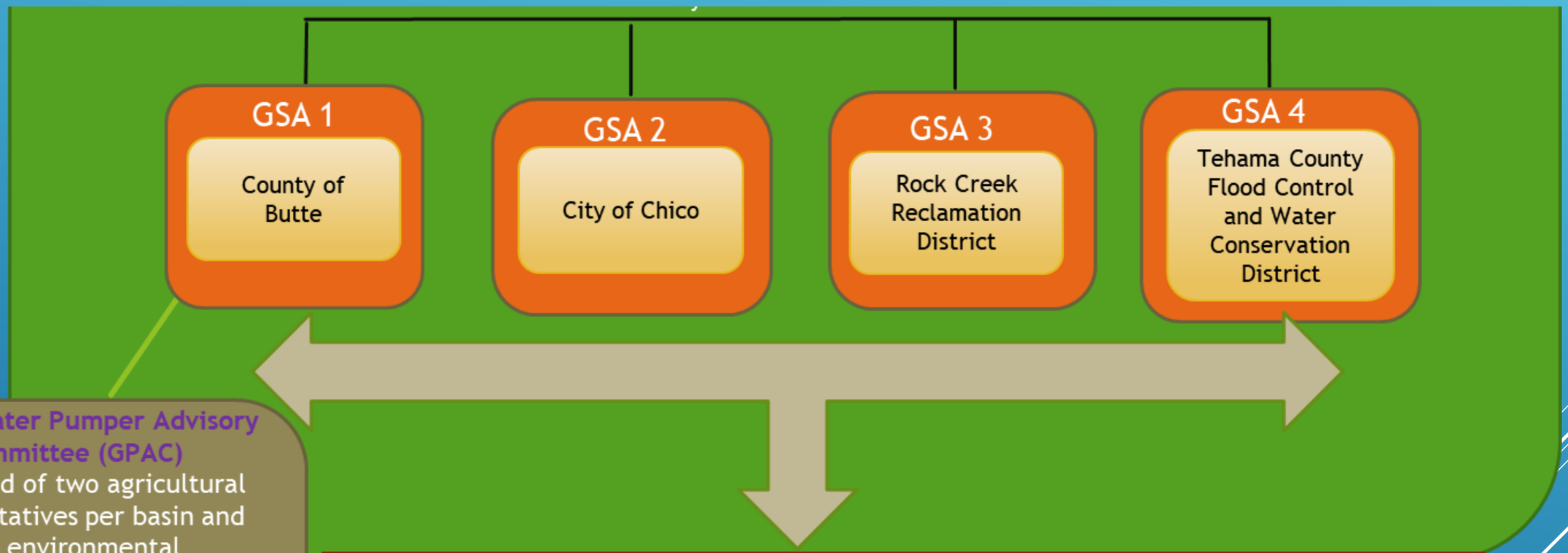
Paul Gosselin, Director

February 2, 2019

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Vina Governance

Current
"Distributed" Governance



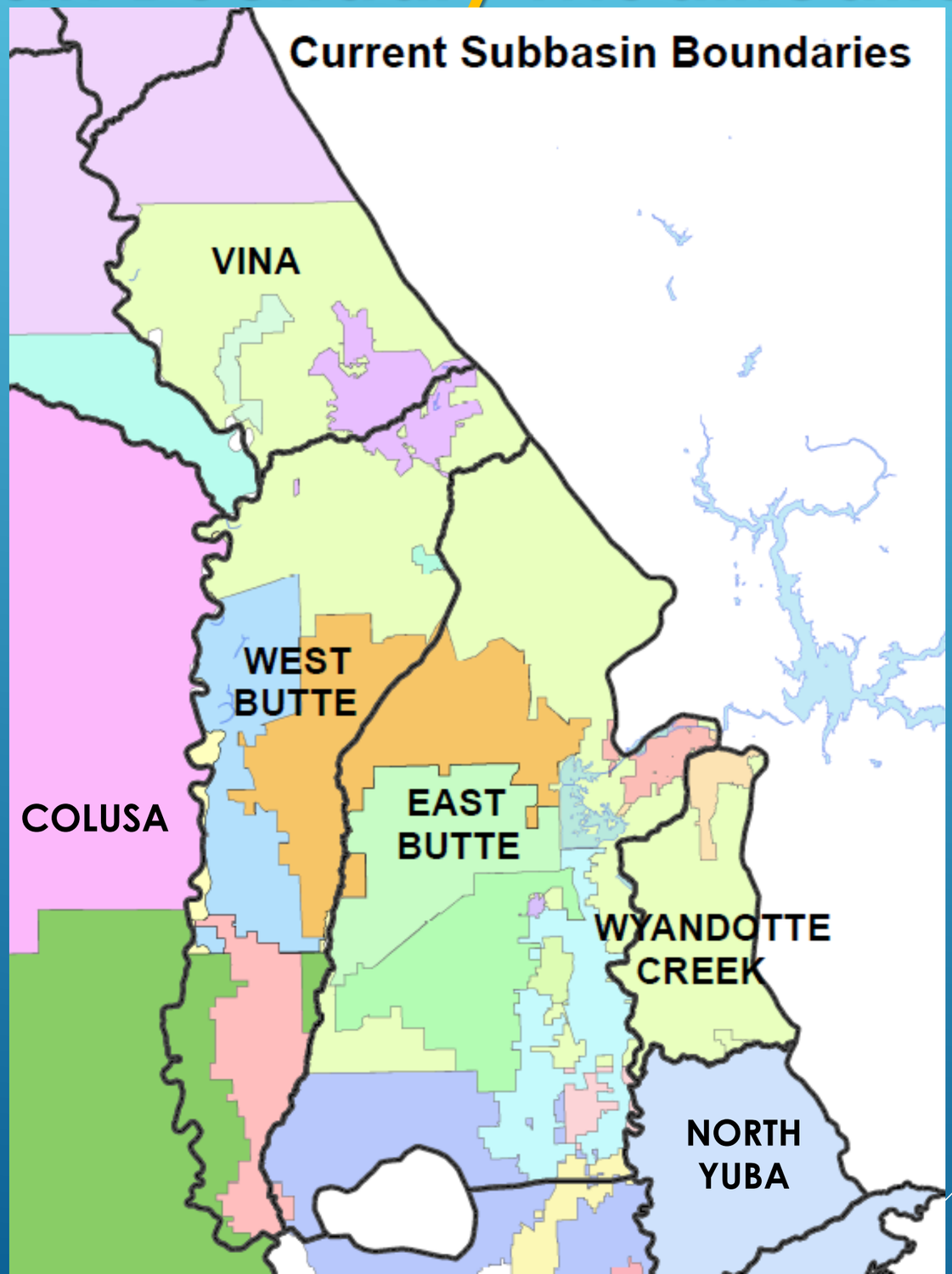
Groundwater Pumper Advisory Committee (GPAC)
Comprised of two agricultural representatives per basin and one environmental representative for the entire county. The GPAC represents groundwater beneficial users in the County Represented Areas. This group advises the County only. Members of the GPAC are appointed by the Butte County Board of Supervisors.

All GSAs have formally committed through letters of support to work toward the development of one GSP for the Vina subbasin. Currently, there are no formal agreements specifying the governance for GSP development and implementation.

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Vina Governance

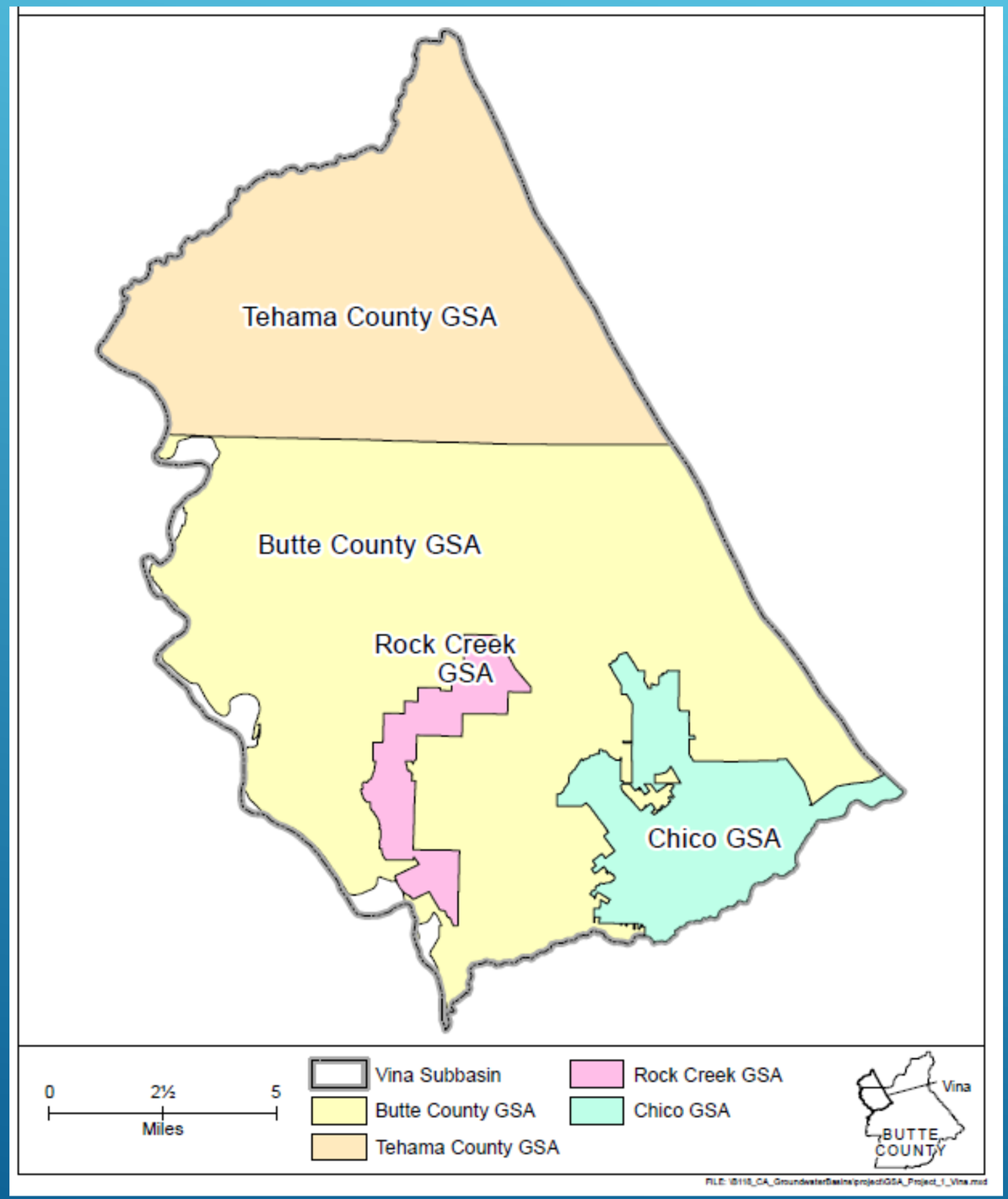
Basin Boundary Modifications



SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Vina Governance

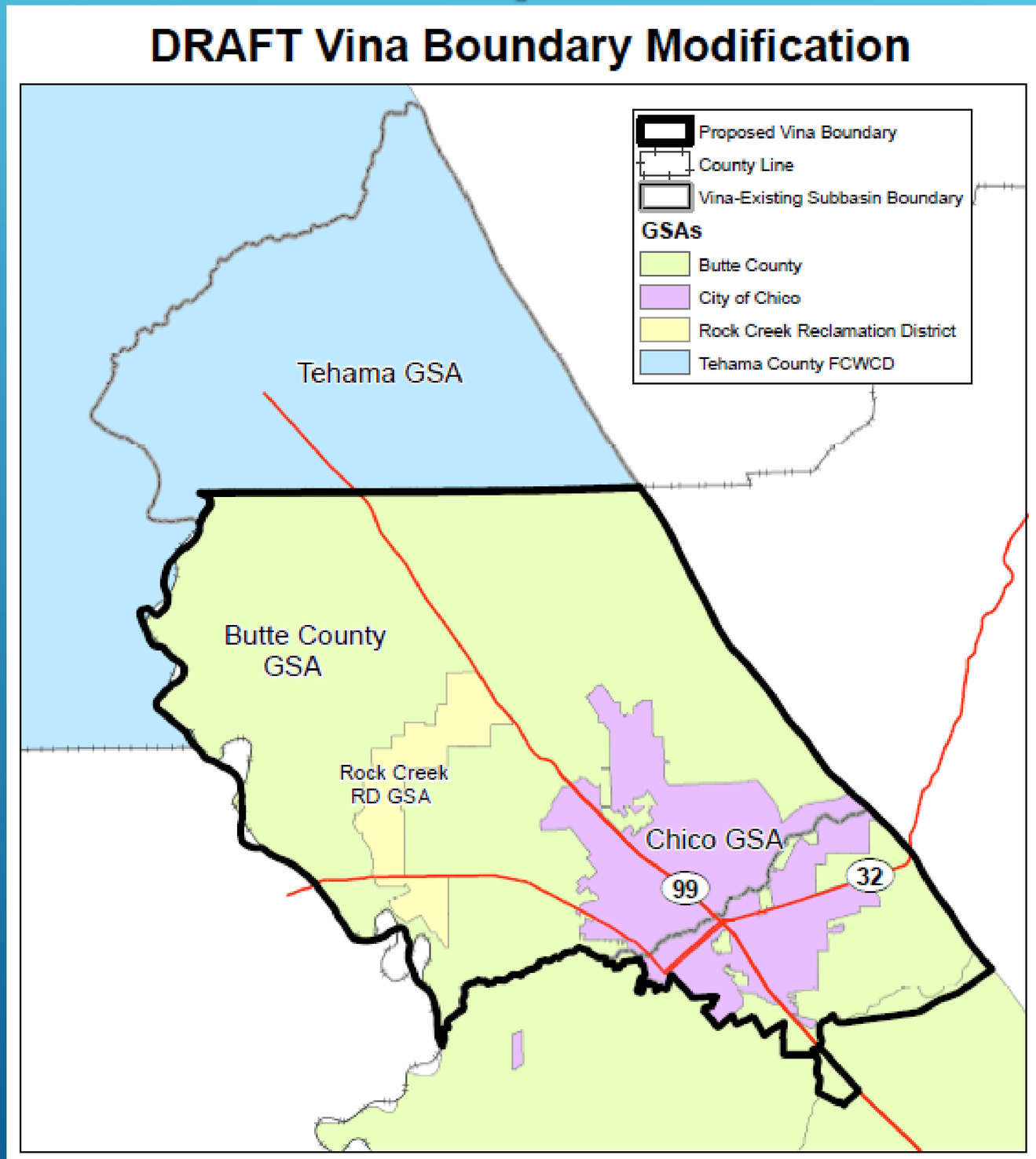
Basin Boundary Modifications



SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Vina Governance

Basin Boundary Modifications



SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Vina Governance

Joint Powers Agency Agreement

Signatories ("Member Agencies")

- Butte County
- City of Chico
- Rock Creek Reclamation District

Key Provisions

- Limited to SGMA authorities
- No Employees
- Withdrawal Provision
- Additional members
- Preservation of Powers

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Vina Governance

Joint Powers Agency (JPA) Board

- Butte County (Member Agency)
- City of Chico (Member Agency)
- Rock Creek Reclamation District (Member Agency)
- Agricultural Groundwater User (appointed)
- Domestic Well User (appointed)

Member Agency are elected officials
Super majority vote for major items
Alternates for each seat

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Vina Governance

Stakeholder Board Members

- Reside in the subbasin
- Agricultural
  - Commercial ag operation in Vina
  - At least 50 acres
  - Sole interest in Sacramento Valley
  - Nominated by Agricultural Groundwater Users of Butte County (AGUBC)
- Domestic
  - Domestic well use (non-agricultural)
  - Open application process

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Vina Governance

Vina Subbasin DRAFT Governance Diagram

Multi-Agency GSA with current eligible local agencies (Member Agencies) develops one GSP through a Joint Powers Authority

Proposed Vina Subbasin GSA Board Structure

- County of Butte
- City of Chico
- Rock Creek Reclamation District
- GSA Board appointed seat- Agricultural User
- GSA Board appointed seat- Domestic Well User
- Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (pursuing a basin boundary modification to county line)

The GSA Board of Directors is comprised of 3 Member Agency Directors who are elected officials appointed by each Member agency and 2 stakeholder seats appointed by the JPA Board.

Management Committee

Comprised of staff representative(s) from each of the Member Agencies. The Management Committee takes direction from the GSA Board; may recommend agenda topics, make staff recommendations, generate staff reports and proposals to GSA Board and staff the stakeholder advisory committees.

Consultants: Hired by GSA Board and report to the Management Committee.

Stakeholder Committees

Stakeholder Advisory Committee

- Brown Act compliant
- Appointed by GSA Board
- Represents diverse interests
- Provides input and formal recommendations to GSA Board on GSA policies and GSP development and implementation

Technical Working Groups

- Ad hoc
- Established by the Management Committee
- Advise the Management Committee on technical matters related to GSP development and implementation, as needed.

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Vina Governance

Stakeholder Advisory Committee

- 9 member Advisory Committee
  - 1 - Cal Water
  - 3 - At-large agricultural water users
    - 2 at-large (1 large >200 ac, 1 small 50-200 ac)
    - 1 GPAC member
  - 2 - At-large domestic well users
    - 1 de minimus (< 2af / year)
    - 1 ranchette
  - 1 - At-large environmental
  - 1 - At-large business
  - 1 - Tribal representative

- At-large members are appointed by the JPA Board.

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Governance Status

Management Areas

An area within a basin that may have different

- Minimum thresholds
- Measurable objectives
- Monitoring
- Projects and management actions

based on differences in water use sector, water source type, geology, aquifer characteristics or other factors.

Demonstrate it can be managed without causing undesirable results outside the Area

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Vina Governance

Management Areas

Two Vina Management Areas

- Chico Urban Area
  - Chico City Council will approve the Management Area Chapter
- Agricultural Area
  - Rock Creek will approve the Management Area Chapter for their jurisdictional area
  - Butte County area will be approved by a Committee

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Vina Governance

Management Areas

Butte County Management Area Committee

- 7 member Committee

  1 - Butte County JPA Board Member

  6 – Stakeholder Advisory Committee Members

  3 - agricultural groundwater users

  2 - domestic well users

  1 - environmental user

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Vina Governance

Next Steps

- **Vina Working Group Meeting (public)**
  - May 31st from 3-5 PM
  - Chico Masonic Center
- **Drafting and legal review of the JPA**
- **Vina Public Workshop (TBD)**
  - July
- **Adoption of JPA**
  - August/September 2018

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Vina Governance

Staff Recommendation

Proceed with the drafting of a JPA Agreement for consideration for approval by the Board

Requested Action

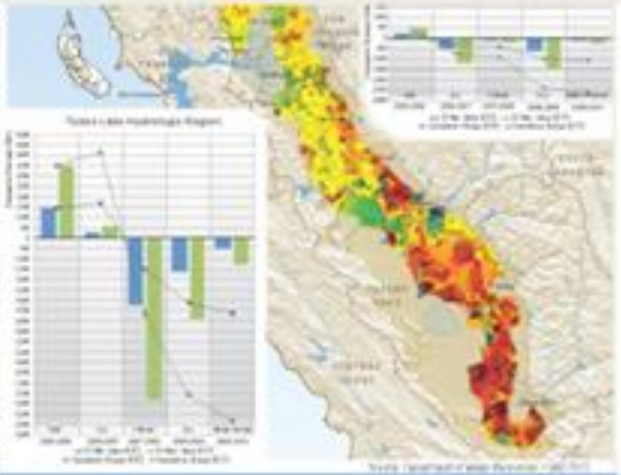
Provide direction to staff

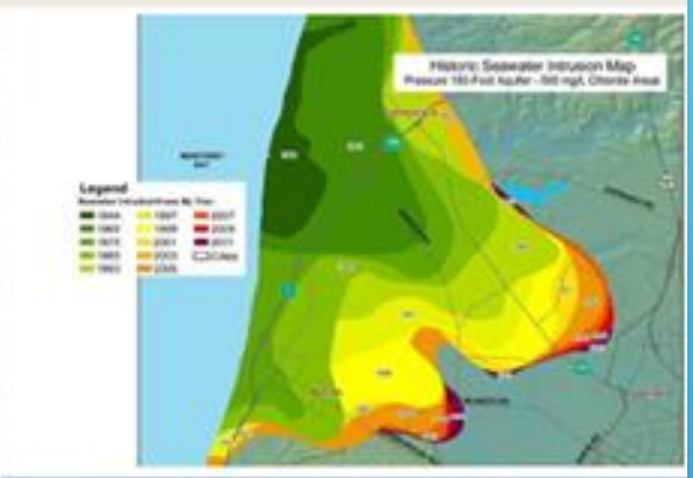
SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Thank You

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Undesirable Results

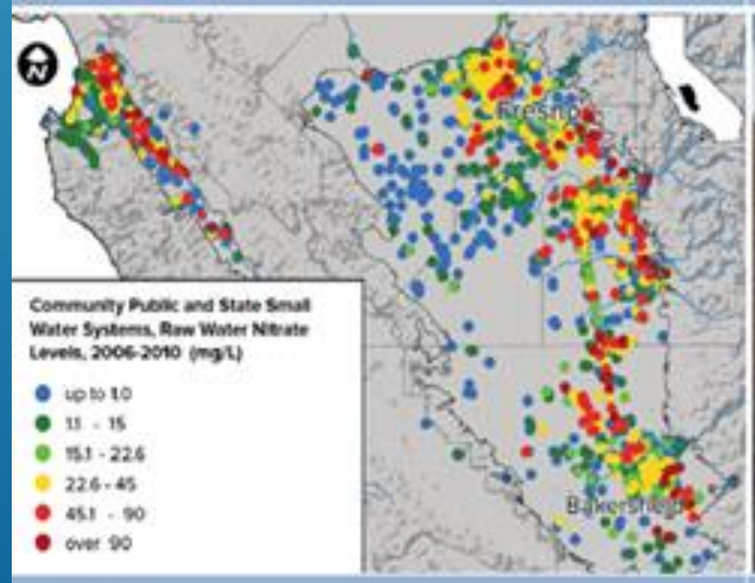




Lowering of GW Levels

Reduction of GW Storage

Seawater Intrusion



Water Quality Degradation

Land Subsidence

Depletion of Interconnected Streams

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Extra Slides

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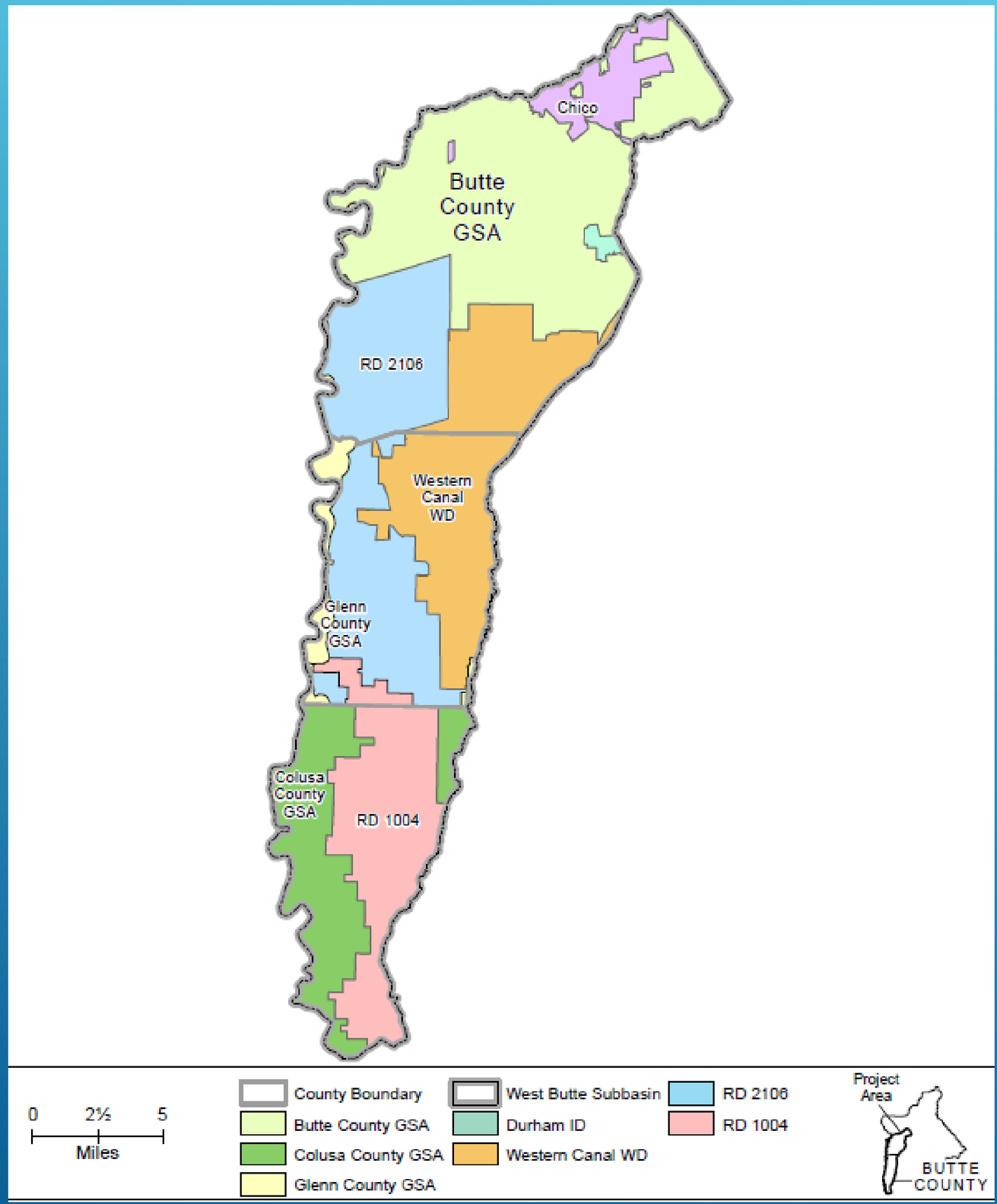
SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Governance and Basin Modification Status



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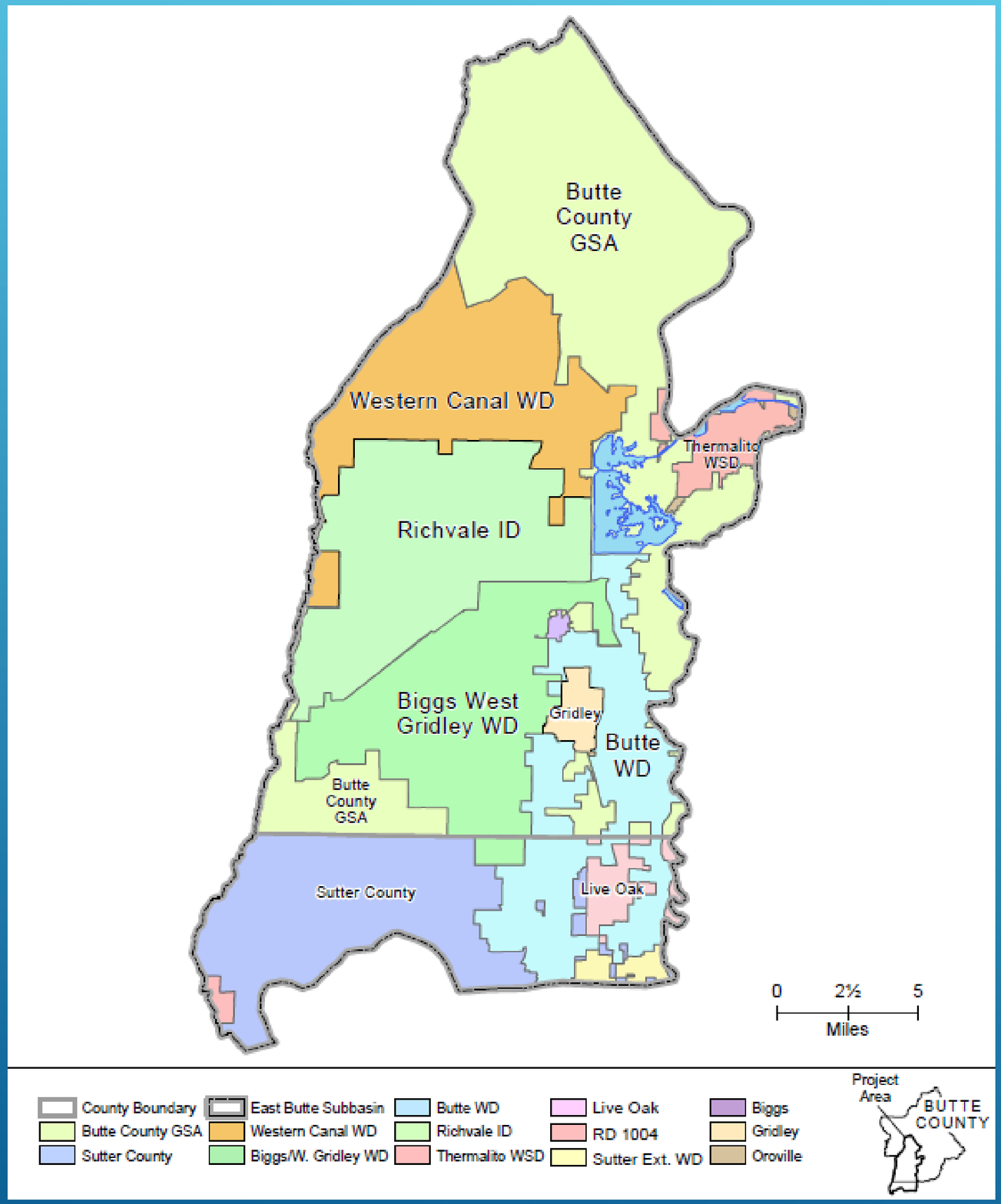
Governance and Basin Modification Status