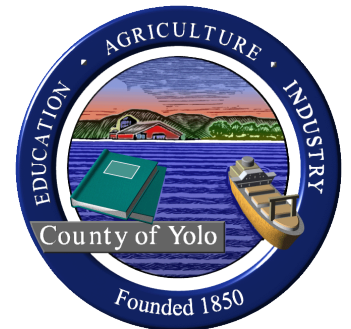


# Agricultural Well Permit Moratorium

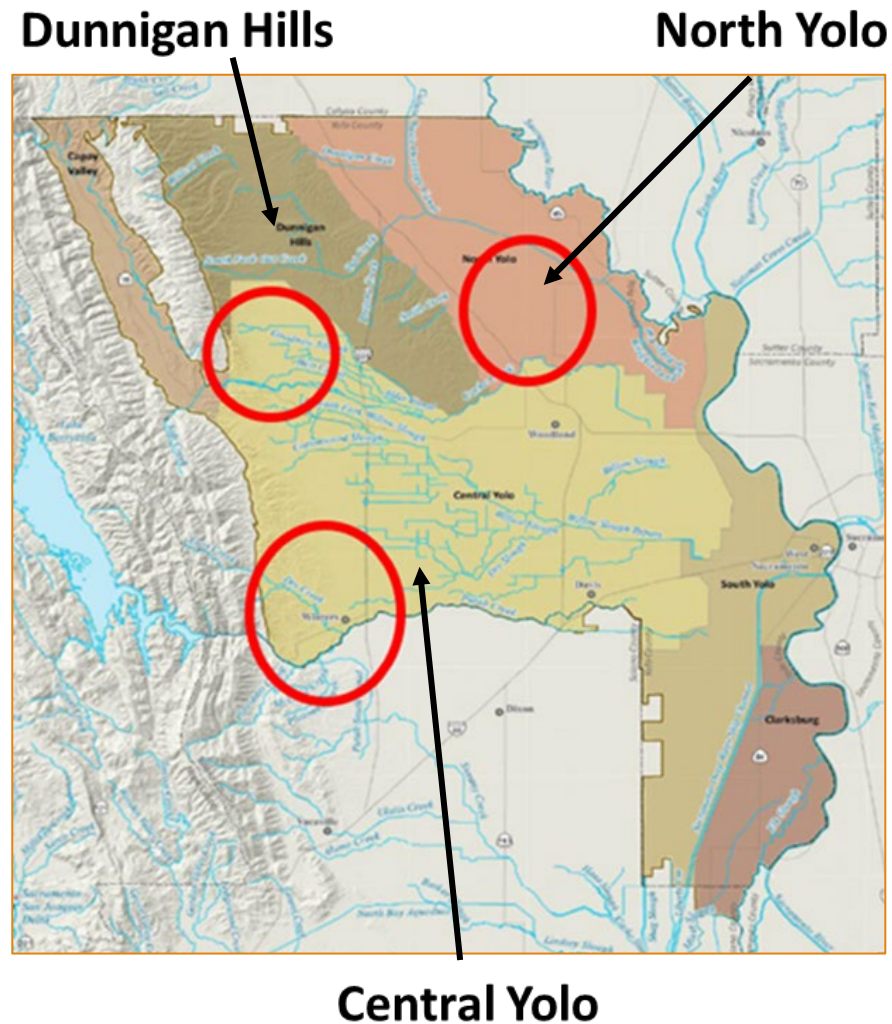
Yolo County Board of Supervisors

NOVEMBER 7, 2023



# ABOUT THE AGRICULTURAL WELL PERMIT MORATORIUM

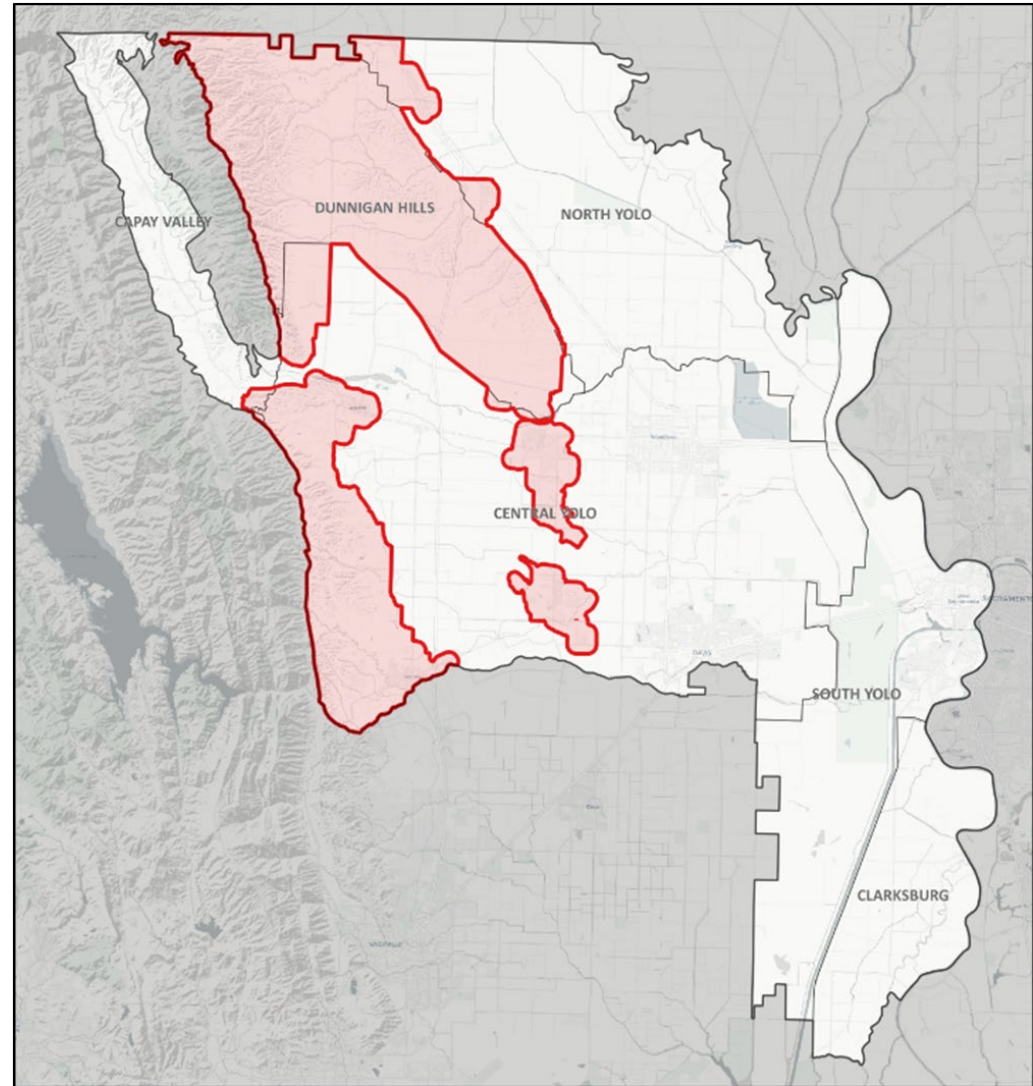
- Temporary (45-days) until YSGA map and process updated – will expire on November 10, 2023, unless rescinded or extended by the Board
- Intended to allow County/YSGA to develop policy modifications in Focus Areas
- Excludes certain replacement ag wells (like for like), domestic/de minimis user wells, public supply wells, and monitoring wells
- Excludes Clarksburg, South Yolo, and Capay Valley Management Areas



# DRAFT “FOCUS AREAS” DELINEATION

## Basis for Delineation:

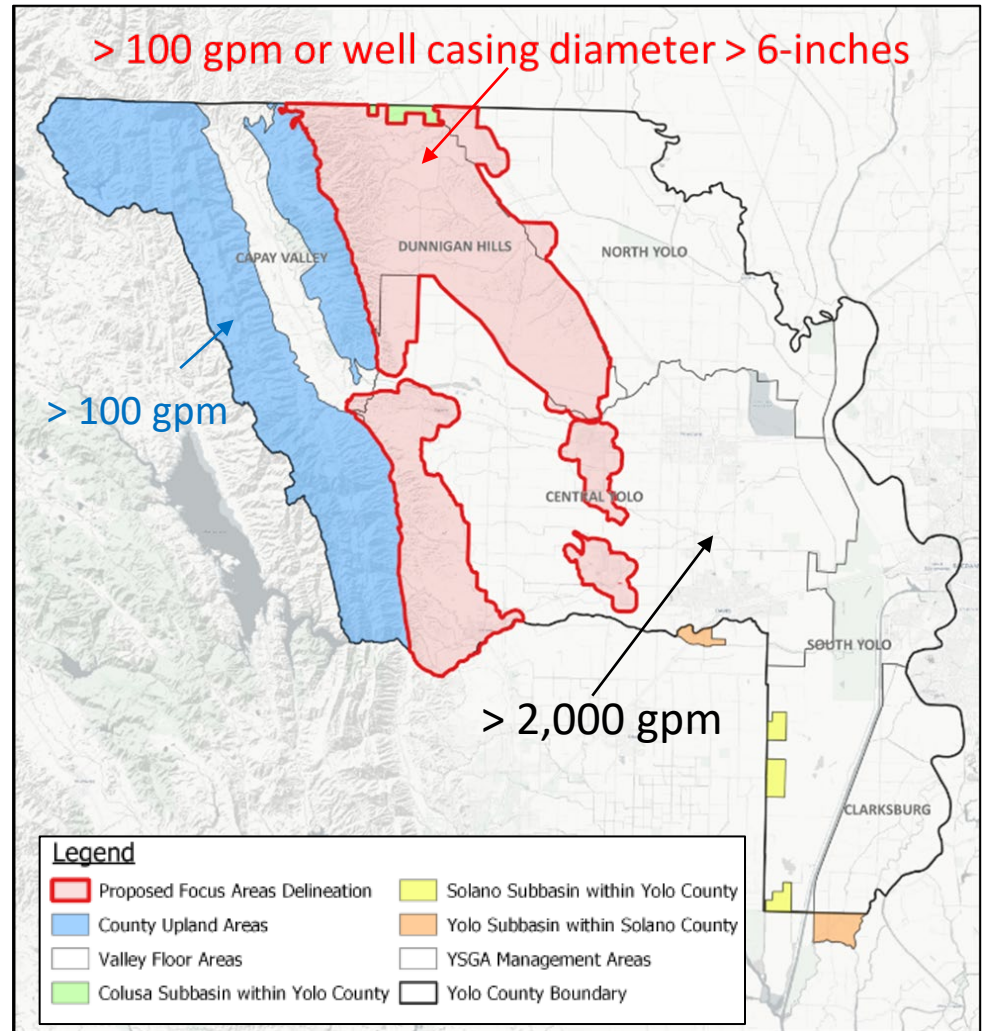
- Levels below defined MTs
- Levels with 10-year decline > 25 feet
- Low recharge potential
- Limited groundwater data
- Reported dry wells and citizen concerns
- High domestic well densities
- Small water systems
- 2,000-foot buffer added near areas where high densities of domestic wells exist



# CURRENT COUNTY POLICY & YSGA OVERLAP

County has developed minimum separation distances based on new wells\* pumping capacity where a Hydrogeologist Report is required to *verify* that the well would be compliant with Executive Order N-3-23 Section 4A and 4B

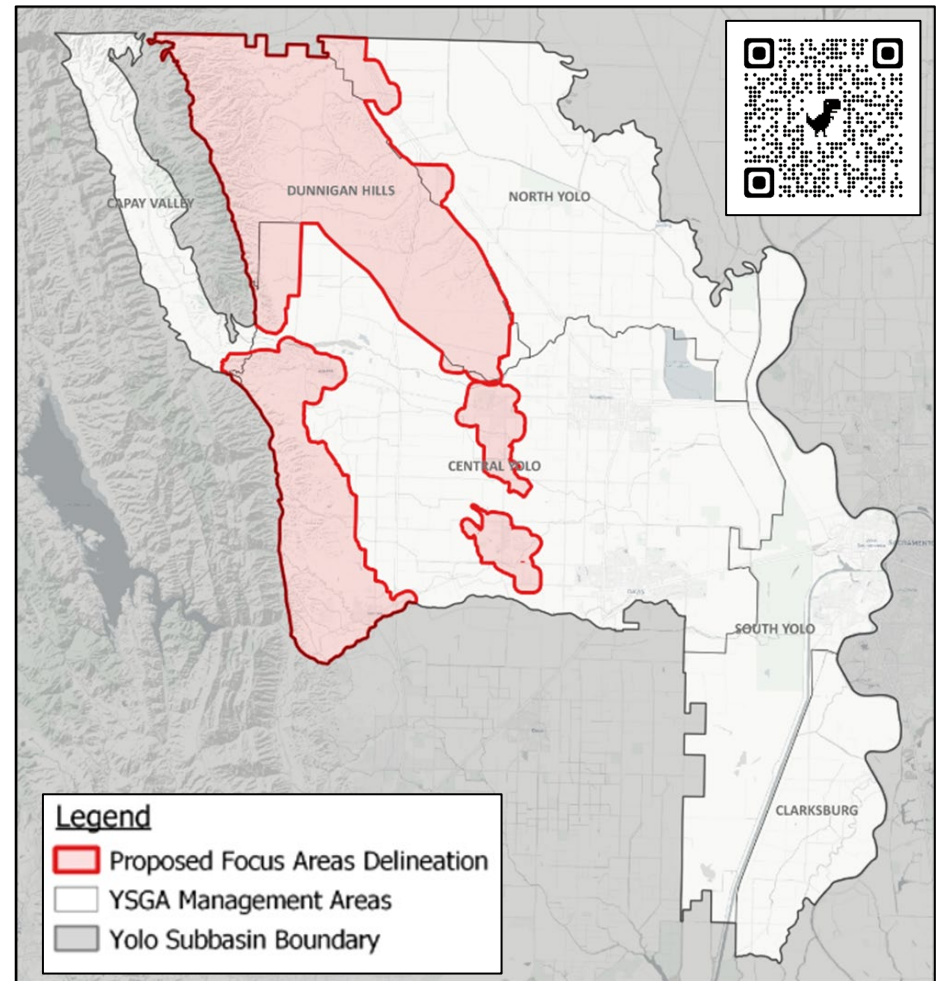
- Proposed Focus Areas delineation
- Upland areas (blue areas)
- Valley Floor areas (white/clear areas)
- Orange areas are subject to YSGA + Solano County permitting requirements
- Yellow areas are subject to Solano Subbasin GSA + Yolo County permitting requirements
- Green areas are subject to Colusa Groundwater Authority + Yolo County permitting requirements



\*or proposed alteration of an existing well

# YOLO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER AGENCY NEXT STEPS

- **October 31 – November 14:** Draft “Focus Areas” Map Public Comment Period
- **TBD:** YSGA Drought Planning Committee meeting to review draft minimum criteria for Hydrogeology Reports
- **November 20, 2023:** YSGA Board meeting
  - “Adopt” Focus Areas Map
  - Review draft Hydrogeology Report criteria
  - Review draft updated YSGA Well Permitting Procedures
- **November 22 – December 6:** Public comment period on standardized criteria for Hydrogeology Reports
- **December/January:** Board meeting to finalize updated YSGA Well Permitting Procedures



# STAFF RECOMMENDATION

- Allow urgency ordinance (No. 1563) to **expire**
- Well permit verification process modifications final in Nov. 2023
- Additional measures, including hydrogeologist reports in Focus Areas, as early as December
- Moratorium is now geographically larger/broader than refined “Focus Area” map
- County cannot issue new ag. well permits without verification/concurrence from YSGA
- County process will adhere to YSGA protocols and Governor’s EO

Questions?