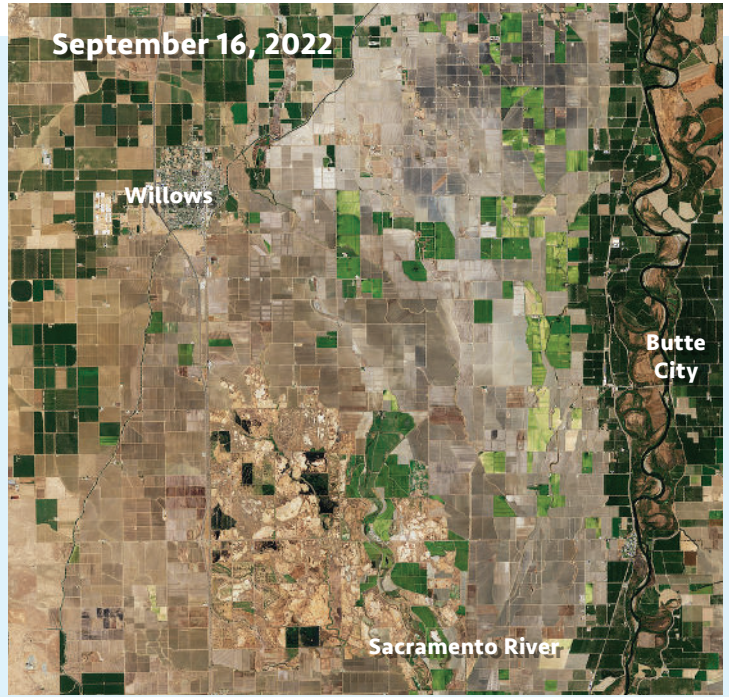
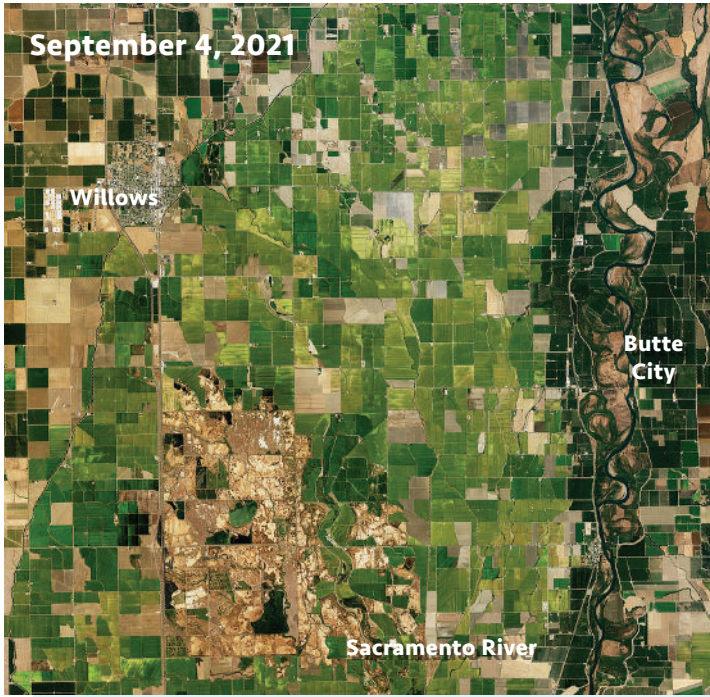




## DROUGHT EFFECTS ON RICE PRODUCTION

*in Glenn & Colusa Counties*



The Sacramento Valley is the largest rice-growing region in California. The region has been hard hit by the ongoing drought, as illustrated in the NASA Earth Observatory images above.

### RICE PRODUCTION

| Typical year                  | 2022 (Estimated)                              |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 500,000 acres planted         | 250,000 acres planted                         |
| \$5 billion+ to state economy | \$750 million lost (mills, dryers, suppliers) |
| 25,000 production jobs        | 5,300 jobs lost                               |

Source: California Rice Commission; Northern California Water Association



### DROUGHT IMPLICATIONS FOR GCID



**18% allocation** from Central Valley Project



**106,000 acres** followed (estimated)



Landowners receive just **.40 acre-feet** of water per acre



**\$8.8 million** budget deficit (2021-2022)



### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS



Winter-flooding of harvested rice fields provides food and habitat for millions of migrating waterfowl on the Pacific Flyway.



Nearly 230 wildlife species depend on Sacramento Valley rice fields for their survival.



Widespread fallowing, combined with a 55% cut in water allocations to the Sacramento, Delevan, and Colusa National Wildlife Refuges, threatens hundreds of bird species.



Acquiring and restoring 255,000 acres of wetlands that rice provides would cost close to \$3 billion.



40% of the water used to grow rice is recycled in a typical year through outflows to refuges, neighboring farms or downstream to replenish the environment.



### GCID'S DROUGHT RESPONSE

**GCID took the following steps to increase conservation and manage supply:**

- Moved to 24-hour delivery schedule to reduce water needed to recharge laterals
- Stopped delivering to partial fields and small parcels
- Reduced flow rate for rice
- Created Operator Area water budgets
- Implemented District-wide measurements of open channel on-field water use
- Terminated deliveries to farms once unit duty was met
- Locked gates on main canal to allow for better accounting of all water
- Instituted fines for waste or misuse of water

### DISTRICT BUY-BACK

For the first time, GCID created a Supplemental Purchase Pool that allowed water users to sell their water back to the District for **\$300 per acre-foot**. The water was resold within the district for **\$321.79 per acre-foot**. Water remaining in the pool was sold to national wildlife refuges.