Sacramento Regional Groundwater Management

Tom Gohring

3/24/14
Sacramento Regional Groundwater Management

• Setting
• Water Forum Agreement
  – 3 Basins
  – Sustainable Yields
• North Basin
• Central Basin
• South Basin
Mix of Surface and Groundwater
“Our vital groundwater resource supplies over half the water used in the region. The purpose of a groundwater management plan is to protect the viability of that resource for both current and future users.”

(Water Forum Agreement, 2000)
“This must be accomplished by creating publicly accountable governance structures which respect the rights of all groundwater users. Ideally, these structures should be established using existing authority and institutions.”

(Water Forum Agreement, 2000)
Water Forum Agreement

Sustainable Yields

- North Area
  - 131,000 Acre-feet
- Central Area
  - 273,000 Acre-feet
- South Area
  - 115,000 Acre-feet
Status

Extraction Less than Sustainable Yields

- North Area
  - 131,000 Acre-feet
- Central Area
  - 273,000 Acre-feet
- South Area
  - 115,000 Acre-feet
## North Basin Accounting Framework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Pumping Prior to SGA (ac-ft)</th>
<th>Sustainability Reduction (ac-ft)</th>
<th>Sustainable Target (ac-ft)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carmichael WD</td>
<td>7,516</td>
<td>870</td>
<td>6,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Sacramento</td>
<td>23,287</td>
<td>2,696</td>
<td>20,591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California American Water</td>
<td>20,351</td>
<td>2,356</td>
<td>17,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Del Paso Manor WD</td>
<td>1,657</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>1,465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden State WC</td>
<td>1,242</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>1,098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rio Linda/Elverta Community WD</td>
<td>3,259</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>2,882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacramento County WA</td>
<td>4,850</td>
<td>562</td>
<td>4,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacramento Suburban WD</td>
<td>39,622</td>
<td>4,587</td>
<td>35,035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>101,784</td>
<td>11,784</td>
<td>90,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Central Basin Accounting Framework
Conclusions

- Extraction less than sustainable yield targets
- Governance score: 2 out of 3
- Contamination: scary but contained (maybe)
- Future: depends on pattern of development