Groundwater Sustainability Planning in an Agro-Urban Basin

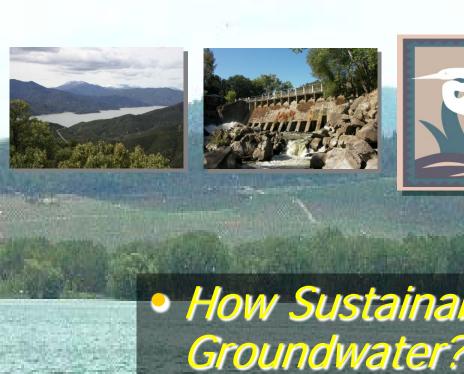
California Water Policy Seminar Series

February 2, 2014

Tim O'Halloran www.ycfcwcd.org





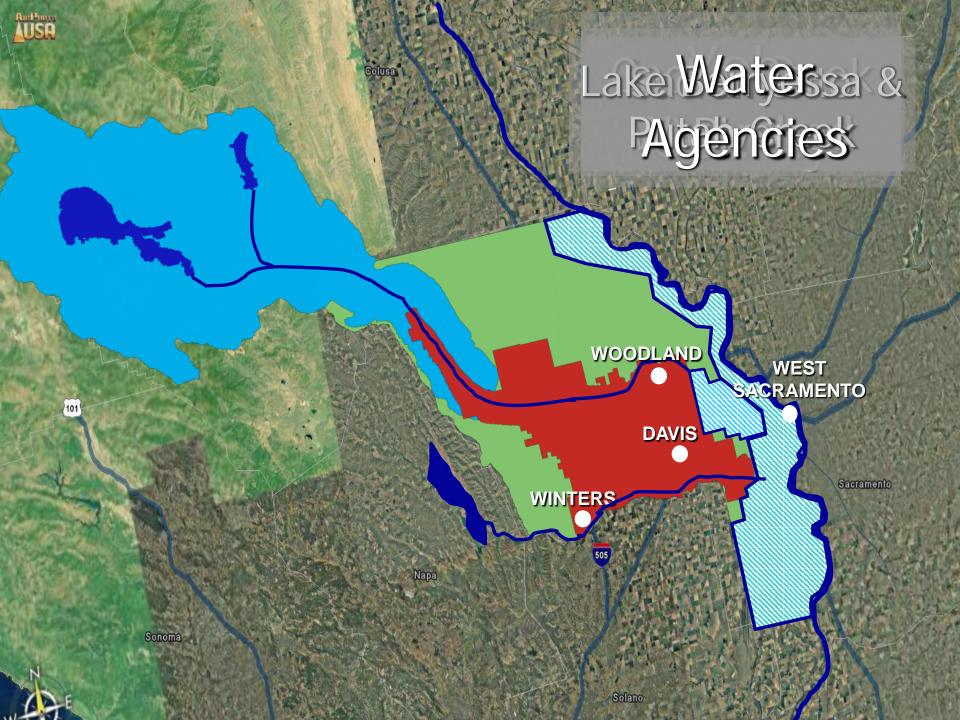


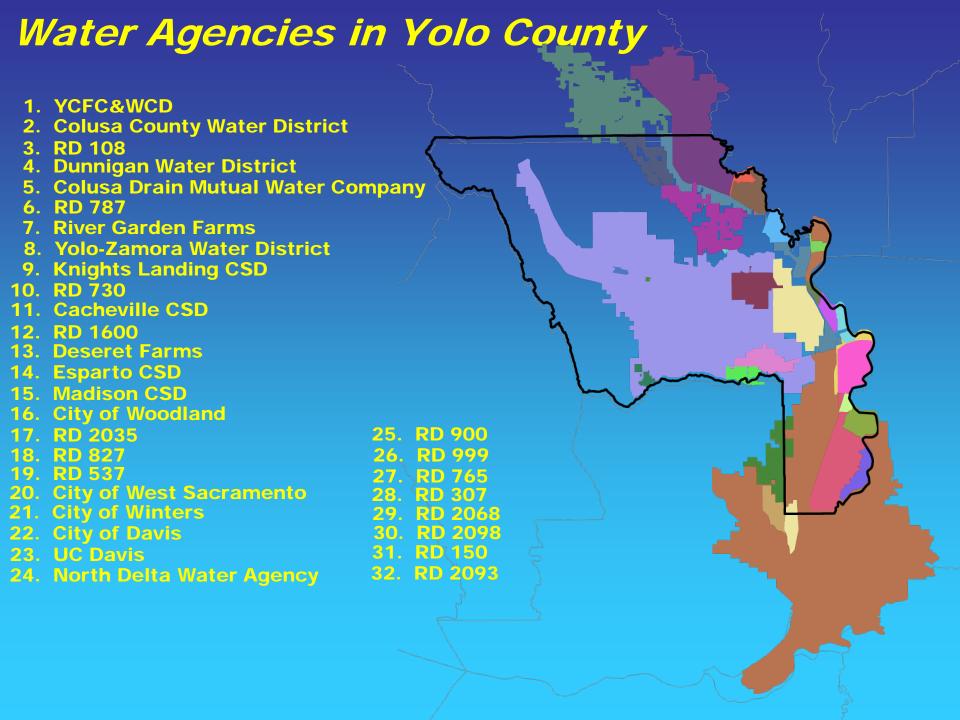


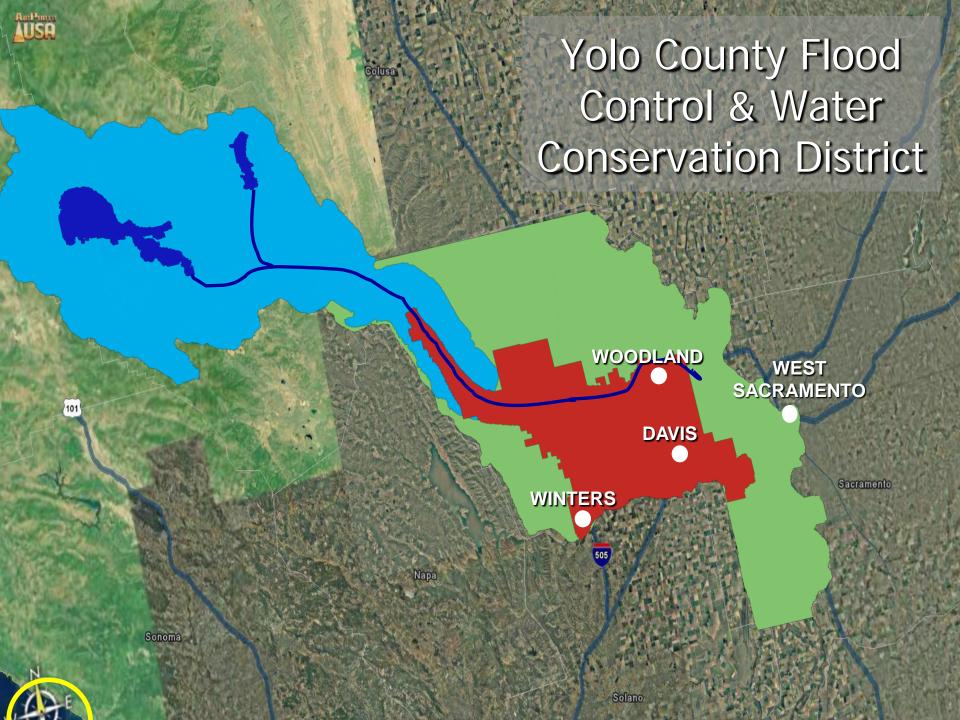


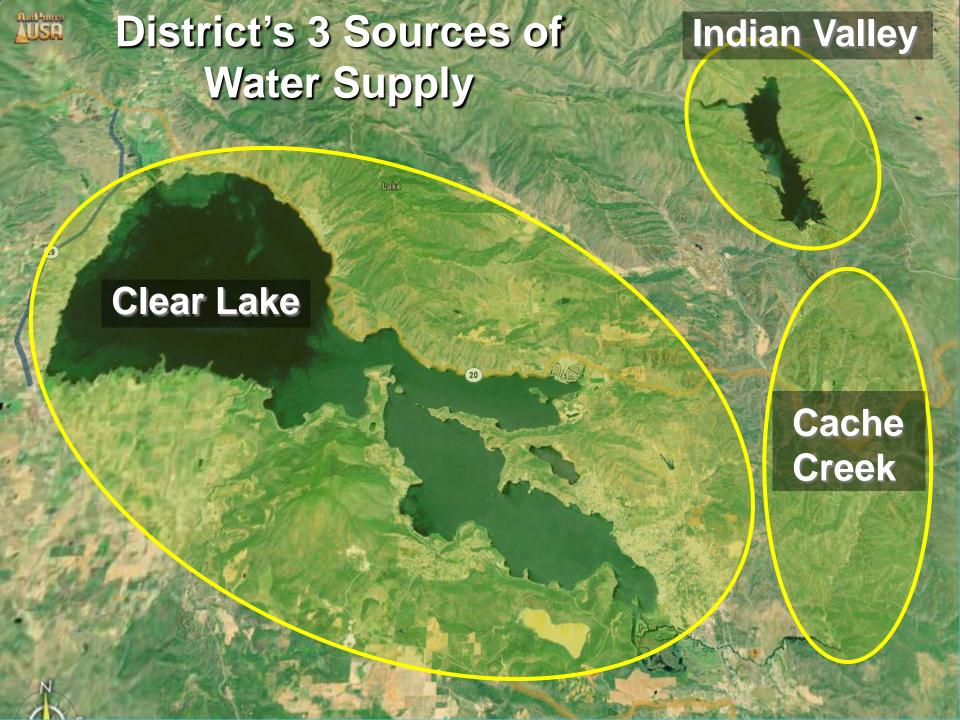


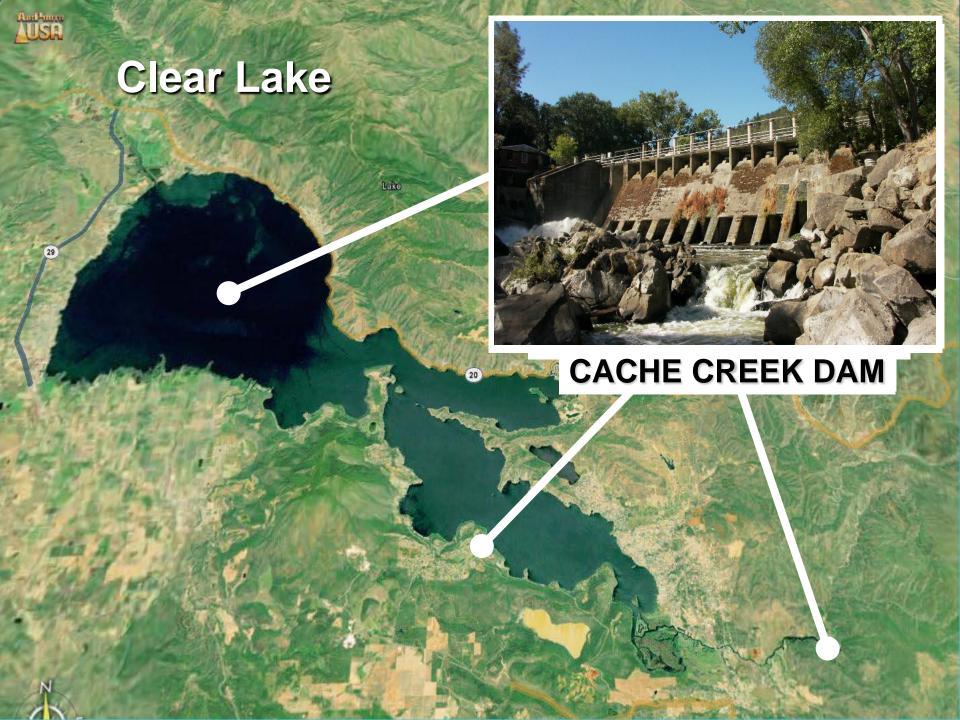
- How Sustainable is Yolo County's Groundwater?
- Can't I Just Drill a Deeper Well than My Neighbor?
- I Was Here First Why are We Allowing New Wells?

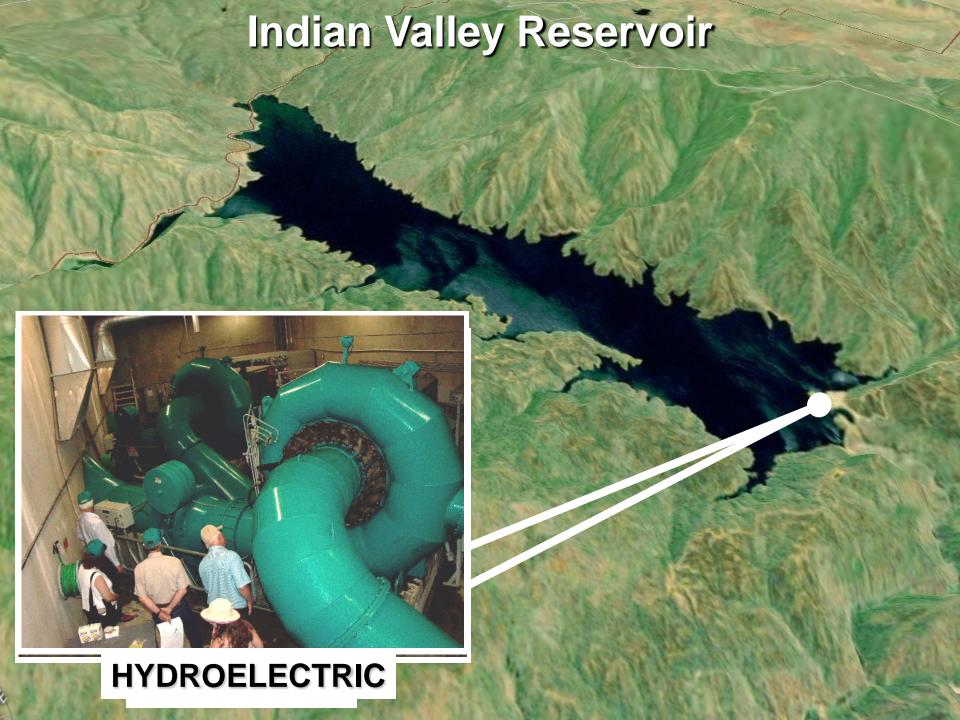


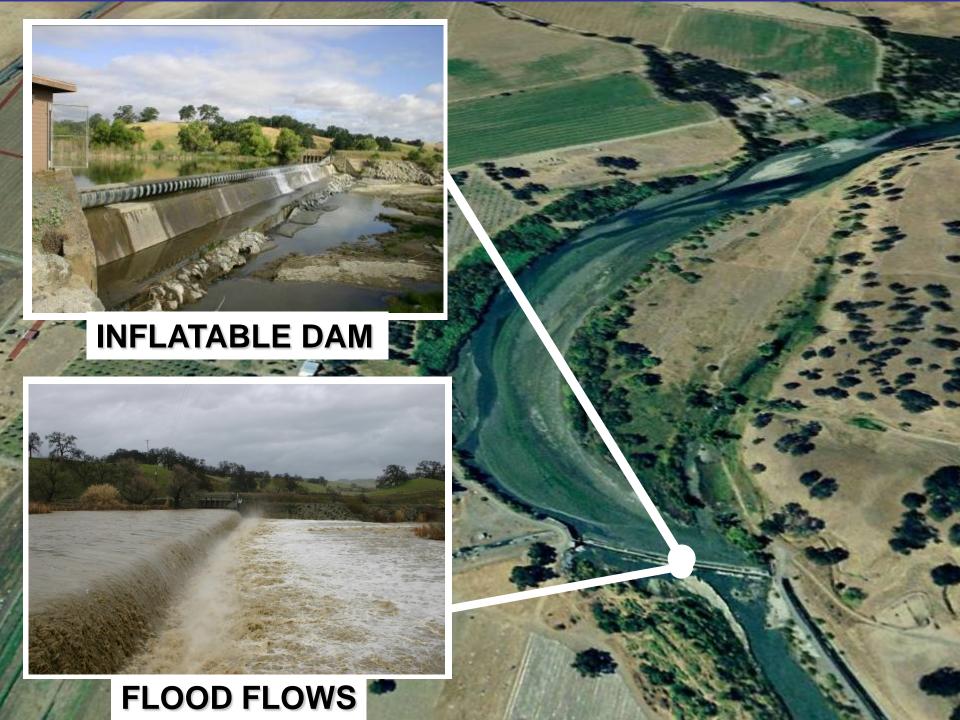


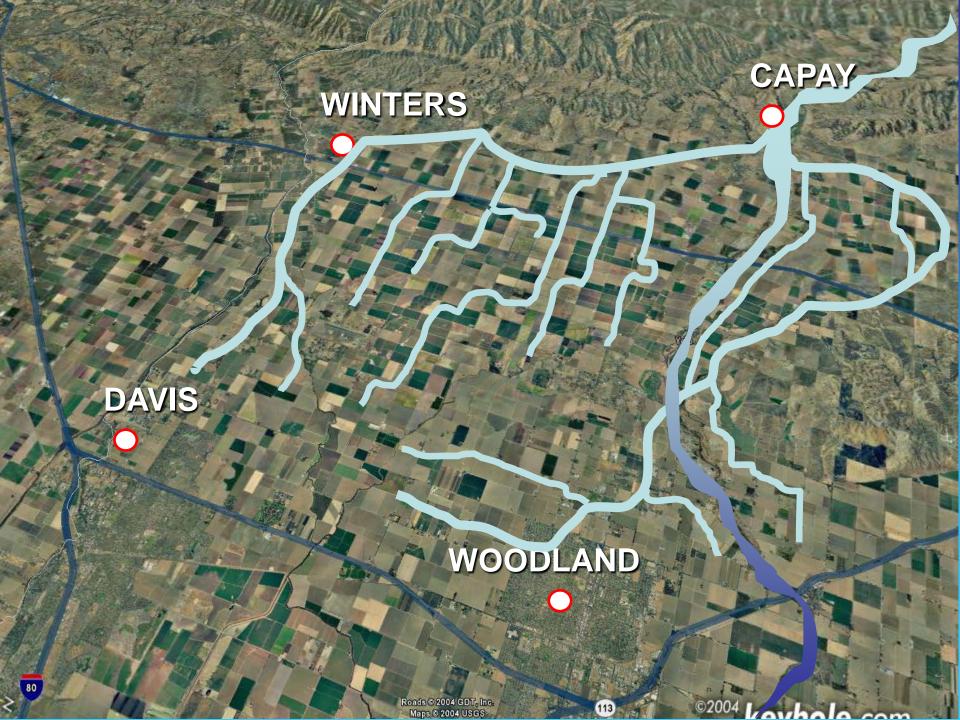














Water Resources Association and the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan





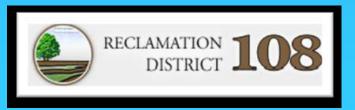








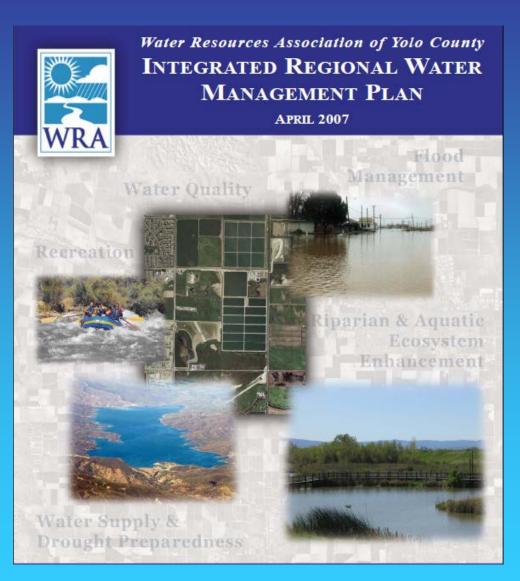








Integrated Regional Water Management Plan



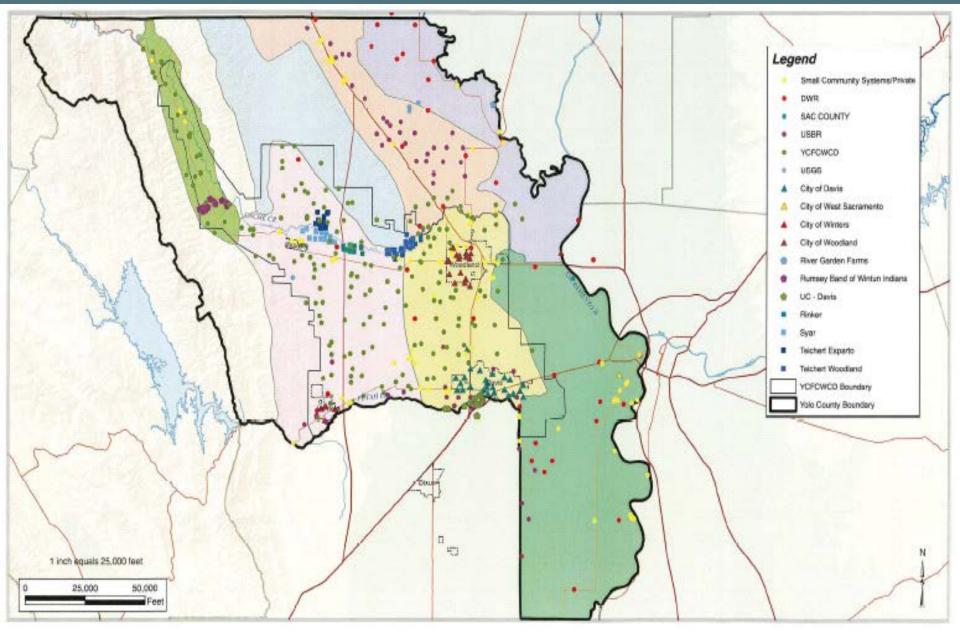
- ✓ Water Supply & Drought Preparedness
- ✓ Water Quality
- Storm Drainage and Flood Control
- Aquatic Ecosystem Enhancement
- Recreation



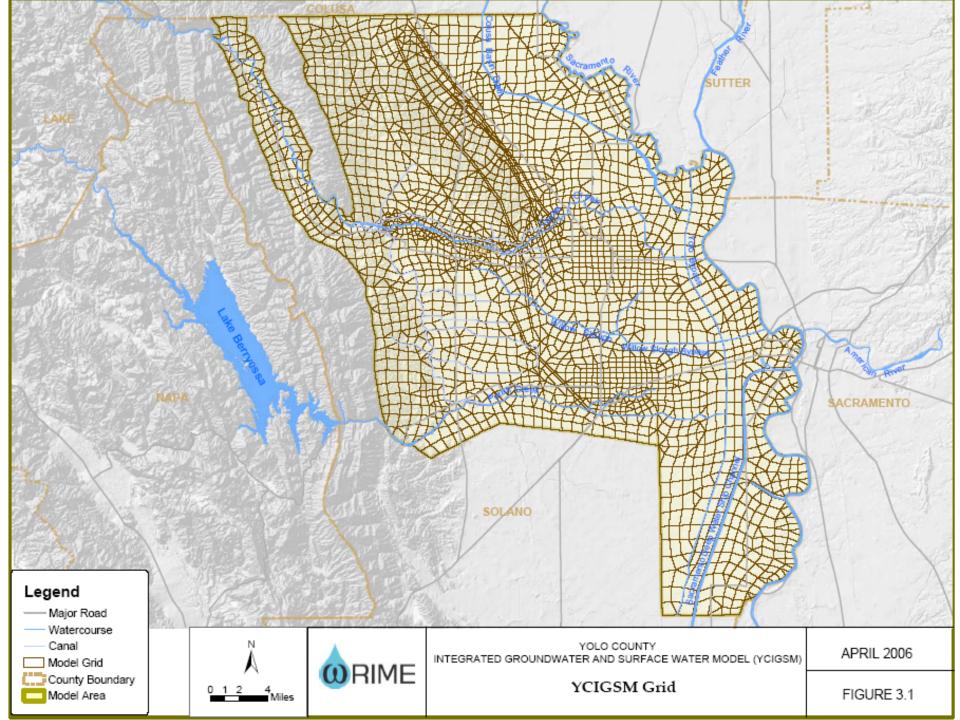
IRWMP Foundational Actions

Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

- Groundwater Monitoring
- Surface Water Monitoring
- Subsidence Monitoring
- Groundwater Modeling
- WEAP Climate Change Model
- Environmental and Aquatic Habitat
- Topographic Mapping (LiDAR)
- Water Resource Information Database
- SCADA Network Enhancement



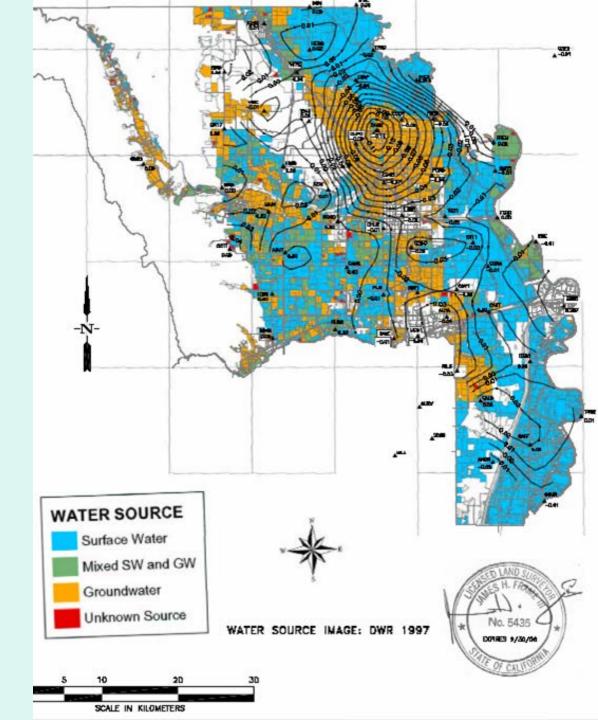
Yolo County Groundwater Monitoring Program



Contour Map of Subsidence

+

Patterns of Surface and Groundwater Use.



Yolo County Water Resources Information Database - Windows Internet Explorer http://wrid.facilitiesmap.com/ 🌟 Favorites 🏉 Yolo County Water Reso... 🗶 🛂 Google register: lost password: plugin: downloads Yolo County Water Resources Information Database authorized user login username password submit

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New Groundwater Legislation and "The Year of Groundwater"

Groundwater Legislation

"Sustainable Groundwater Management Act" (SGMA) Passed by California Legislature August 29, 2014 and to become effective January 1, 2015.

The stated intent of the SGMA includes <u>"To provide</u> <u>local groundwater agencies with the authority and</u> <u>technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater"</u>

Generally, <u>"sustainability"</u> means bringing the basin into balance by eliminating overdraft.

Groundwater Legislation Requirements

- ✓ High and medium priority basins are required to comply with SGMA.
- Groundwater basins areas and priorities are defined by Department of Water Resources. A process to amend basin boundaries to be developed by DWR
- ✓ Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs') are to be formed by a local agency or a combination of local agencies.
- ✓ GSA required to develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)

Groundwater Legislation Timelines and State Intervention

- ✓ June 1, 2016 -- DWR to develop regulations for evaluating Groundwater Sustainability Plans.
- ✓ January 1, 2017 -- DWR to prepare "best management practices" guidelines.
- ✓ July 1, 2017 -- Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs') are to be formed by a local agency or a combination of local agencies.
- ✓ January 31, 2020 -- Designated GSA required to develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

Yolo County Groundwater Status and Implementation Plan

- ✓ 4 Sub-basins in Yolo County
- √ 1 "high" priority, 2 "medium" priority and 1 "low" priority
- Extensive groundwater monitoring program in place
- ✓ Water Resource Association already established as the CASGEM groundwater monitoring entity
- Groundwater conditions generally in sustainable condition

The Year of Groundwater!

A Collaborative Effort Co-sponsored by the;

Water Resources Association of Yolo County

and the
Yolo County Farm Bureau

Year of Groundwater

- Previous work that put us in a strong position
 - Creation of a regional multi-agency groundwater level monitoring network including real-time sensors
 - Establishment and maintenance of the Water Resources Information Database (WRID)
 - County-wide groundwater model (IGSM)
 - Creation of a subsidence monitoring network
 - Development of AB 3030 groundwater management plans
 - Engagement at State, Regional and Local levels to advance pro-active groundwater management activities



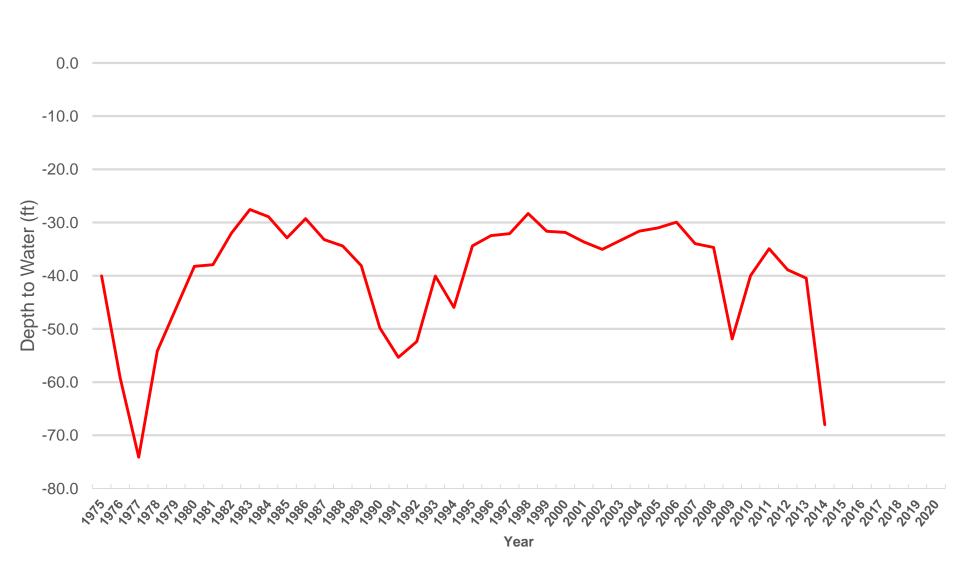
Is Yolo County's Groundwater Sustainable?

Has it been?

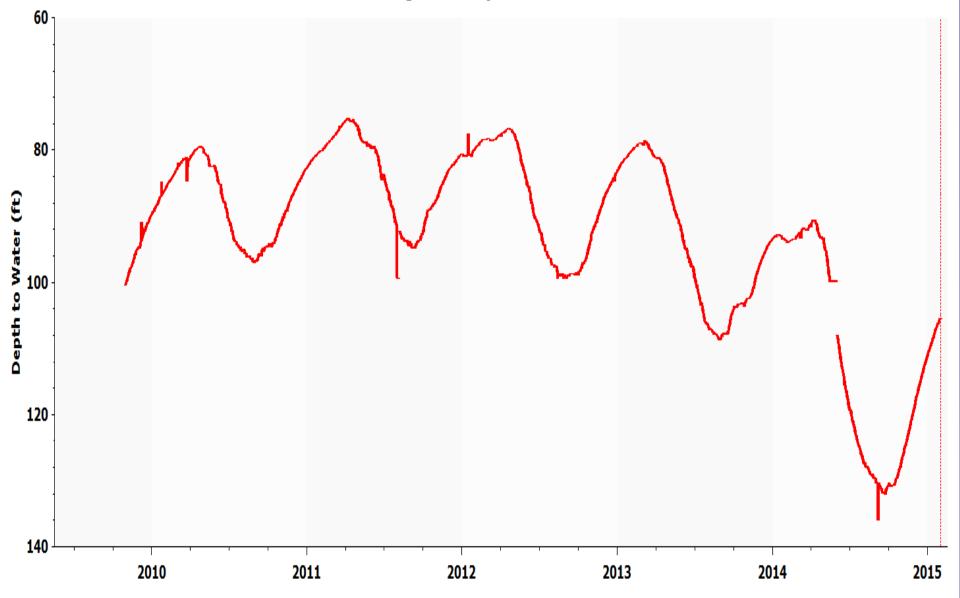
Will it continue to be?

Average Depth to Groundwater in Yolo County (ft)

(average of annual maximum depth to water by well)



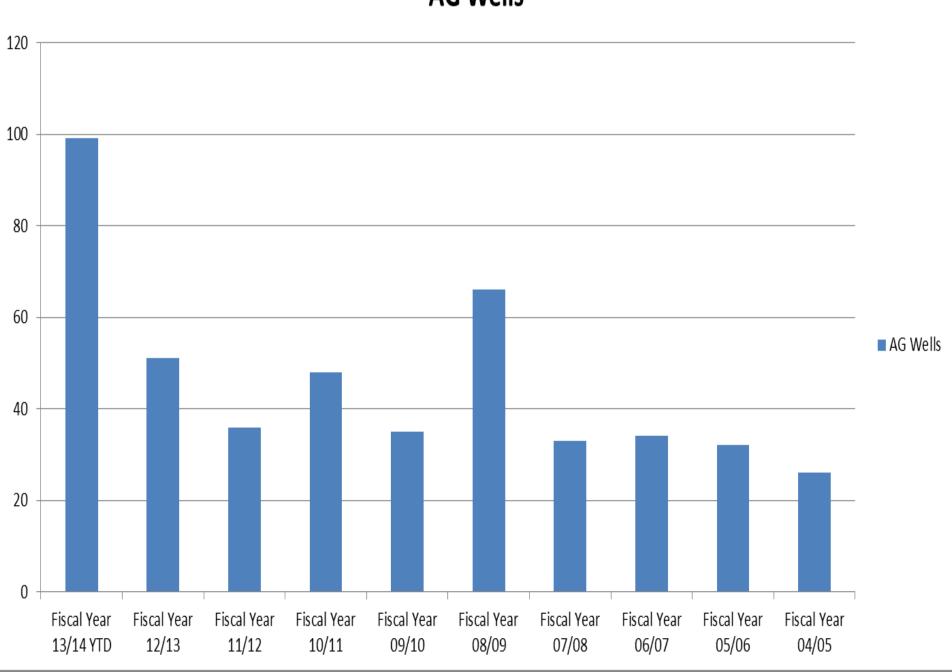
HQ Well Depth to Water



Trace | KU

✓ + HQ Well Depth to Water - Raw (Trace resample interval is sm... -Latest Value Ruler

AG Wells



If the Yolo Region's Groundwater Usage is Sustainable then.....

It probably doesn't matter who the GSA is

If the Yolo Region's Groundwater Usage is **NOT** Sustainable then....

It matters a lot!

What Responsibilities will the GSA have?

What Authorities will the GSA have?

What Authorities will the GSA have?

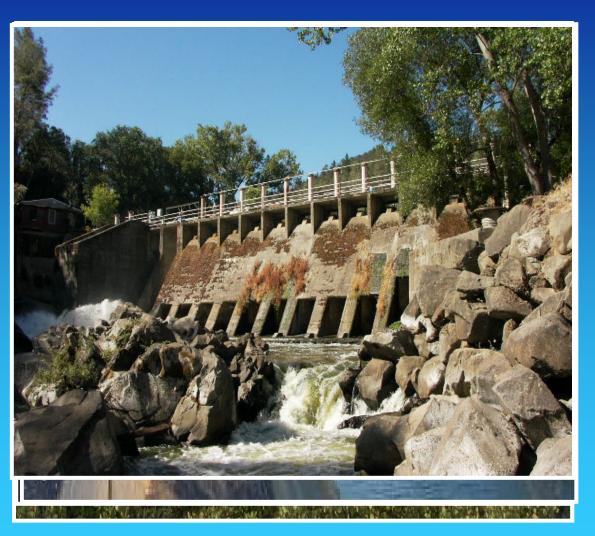
- 1. To determine the need for groundwater management
- 2. To prepare and adopt a groundwater sustainability plan and implementing rules and regulations
- 3. To propose and update fees
- 4. To monitor compliance and enforcement
- 5. (See Legislation Chapter 5)

Proposal:

The WRA, in coordination with the Yolo County Farm Bureau and other interested parties, will act as the planning forum for determining what agency or agencies will serve as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA).



Significant Past Water Decisions



- ✓ Non-participation in Solano Project (1950's)
- ✓ Flood Control on Cache Creek (1958)
- ✓ Purchase of Clear Lake Water Company (1967)
- Construction of Indian Valley Reservoir (1976)

Thank You

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Groundwater Information Center: http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater