



External Utility Stewardship: *Conjunctive Use*

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Conjunctive Use

- The coordinated management of surface water and groundwater supplies.
- Recharge Basins and Injection Wells
- In-Lieu Recharge
- Flood Flows and Recycled Water
- Other Examples

Benefits of Conjunctive Use

- Conservation
- Improve dry-year water supply reliability
- Improved flood control
- Meet environmental needs
- Improve groundwater quality
- Reduce groundwater overdraft
- Protection from salt water intrusion

Historical Background

- Examples dating back to the 1800s
- 1914 Water Commission Act
- Water Code section 1242
- Senate and Assembly Bills
- Integrated Water Resources Information System (IWRIS)

Common Elements

- Investigating the groundwater aquifer characteristics
- Estimating surface water and groundwater responses
- Monitoring of groundwater level and quality
- Environmental compliance
- Managing contractual and legal features
- Public education and public outreach

Controversies/Impediments

- Lack of Information, Data and Tools
- Water Code section 13752: Well Data
- Surface Water Availability

Controversies/Impediments

- Pumping Impacts on Surface Waterflows and Aquatic Ecosystems
- Infrastructure
- Management/Role of Government Agencies
- Water Quality

Controversies/Impediments

- Environmental Concerns
- Climate Change
- Water Rights

State Water Plan Recommendations

- Management by local agencies
- Continued State funding
- Statewide comprehensive data management system

State Water Plan Recommendations

- Framework to assess conjunctive use programs
- Improve coordination among local, State, and federal agencies
- Identify opportunities to reduce runoff and increase recharge
- Enhance recharge of storm flows

State Water Plan Recommendations

- Streamline the environmental permitting process
- Streamline the State Board permitting process to facilitate water transfers
- Consider changes to Water Code section 13752

Questions?

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