



San Joaquin County Observations and Lessons Learned

Matt Zidar, Water Resources Manager
San Joaquin County Flood Control & Water Conservation District

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**EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN
GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY**

Major Message and Take Aways



- Integrated planning and project development are critical. **Multi-, Multi, Multi...**
- Nothing new under the sun... **well maybe some things...**
- Communications, engagement and outreach - **fund it and do it...**
- Local control means local funding...
- Regulatory reform and legislation are needed...

A Simple Planning Construct

- What Water? WAFR and WAA
- What diversion and conveyance?
- What lands for recharge?
- What type of recharge (direct, in-lieu, spreading)

Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Basin

- ESJ Groundwater Authority JPA
- 16 GSAs – One GSP
- Critical Overdraft
- Assets in Play
 - Mokelumne, Calaveras and Stanislaus Rivers
 - 1.5-2M AF of available groundwater storage
- Open space, alluvial fans, flood plains

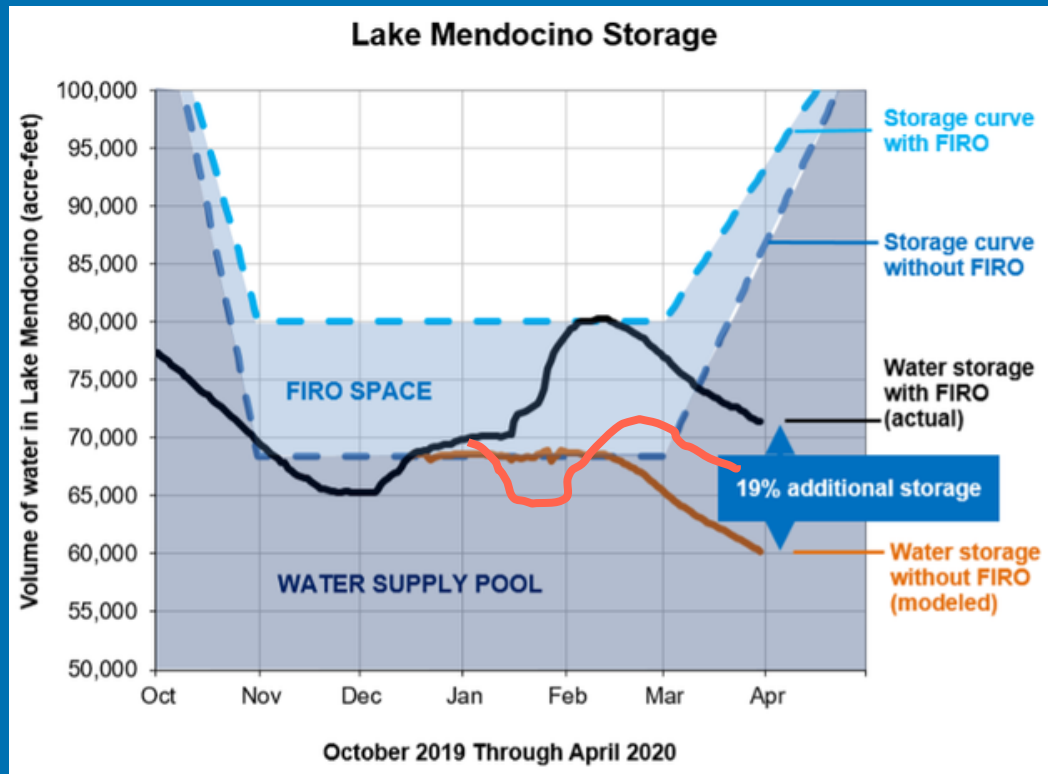


Integrated Planning and Projects

- Multi-, Multi, Multi...
 - Partners - many cooks in this kitchen
 - Objectives
 - Benefits
 - Funding
 - Sources- Conjunctive use of SW/GW storage and supply
- Think Watershed and Basin Scale
- Decision support Engineering, Economic, Fiscal, Environmental

Nothing new under the sun... Things become timely....

- Well, except for technology and what it enables
- Key concepts
 - Forecast Informed Operations (FIRO)
 - Flood Managed Aquifer Recharge (FloodMAR)
 - These are fraternal twins (FIROMAR)
- Success is about timing, understanding, and alignment



Communications, Engagement and Outreach



- Messaging to connect the dots- talk about drought during floods and flood during drought
 - *Let no crisis go unleveraged*
- Branding and promoting ownership of the problem, find champions for the solutions
- "We" are all responsible for informing and educating
- What is the "ask" of your audience?
- It is not cheap and is the first function to be neglected

Local Control Means Local Funding

- State intervention is a real threat... Litigation and adjudication are no better
- Ownership of the problem first to then get skin in the game - ask who is contributing to the problem and in what proportion?
- Economics of it all - willingness and ability to pay
- 218 is a BIG constraint
- Anti- tax and anti- government sentiment need to be overcome

Groundwater SGMA Planning is a Twelve Step Program

1. We admitted we were powerless ... **and needed SGMA legislation**
2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore sanity.... **DWR, SWRCB or the Courts.**
3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of **Local GSAs**

Groundwater SGMA Planning is a Twelve Step Program (cont.)

4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory.... Developed a water budget, quantified the problem (“Oh man...”)
5. Admitted to ourselves, and community the exact nature of our wrongs... Community outreach and engagement; set sustainable management criteria; Water Accounting Framework

Groundwater SGMA Planning is a Twelve Step Program (cont.)

6. Were entirely ready to have the remove all these defects of character..... **Opted to do a 218 and assessments**
7. Humbly asked a higher power to remove our shortcomings.... **Obtained grant funding. Passed a 218!**
8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed.... **Did economic and fiscal analysis**

Groundwater SGMA Planning is a Twelve Step Program (cont.)

9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible.... Well mitigation program? DAC support?
10. Continued to take personal inventory... Became willing to pay... Personally supported and promoted the 218 initiative
11. Sought through meditation to improve our conscious contact with DWR/SWRCB Annual Report and 5 year updates; passed the 218

Groundwater SGMA Planning is a Twelve Step Program (cont.)

And Finally.....

12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to others, and to practice these principles in all our affairs **Attended and presented at PCL events and supported the GRA!**