

IRWM in the Valley



California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley

Board of Directors Meeting

6-17-2016

Sarge Green

FRESNO  **STATE**

California Water Institute



IRWM

- ❖ **Adopted by the Partnership in 2009 as a strategy to improve water conditions in the Valley**
 - ❖ Water Work Group included leadership from San Joaquin and Kern Counties
 - ❖ Chose operating principle of working on the activities we agreed upon
 - ❖ Resulted in a report prepared by CWI, IRWM recommended to improve water conditions
 - ❖ Federal legislation offered support in order to develop a Valley-wide plan

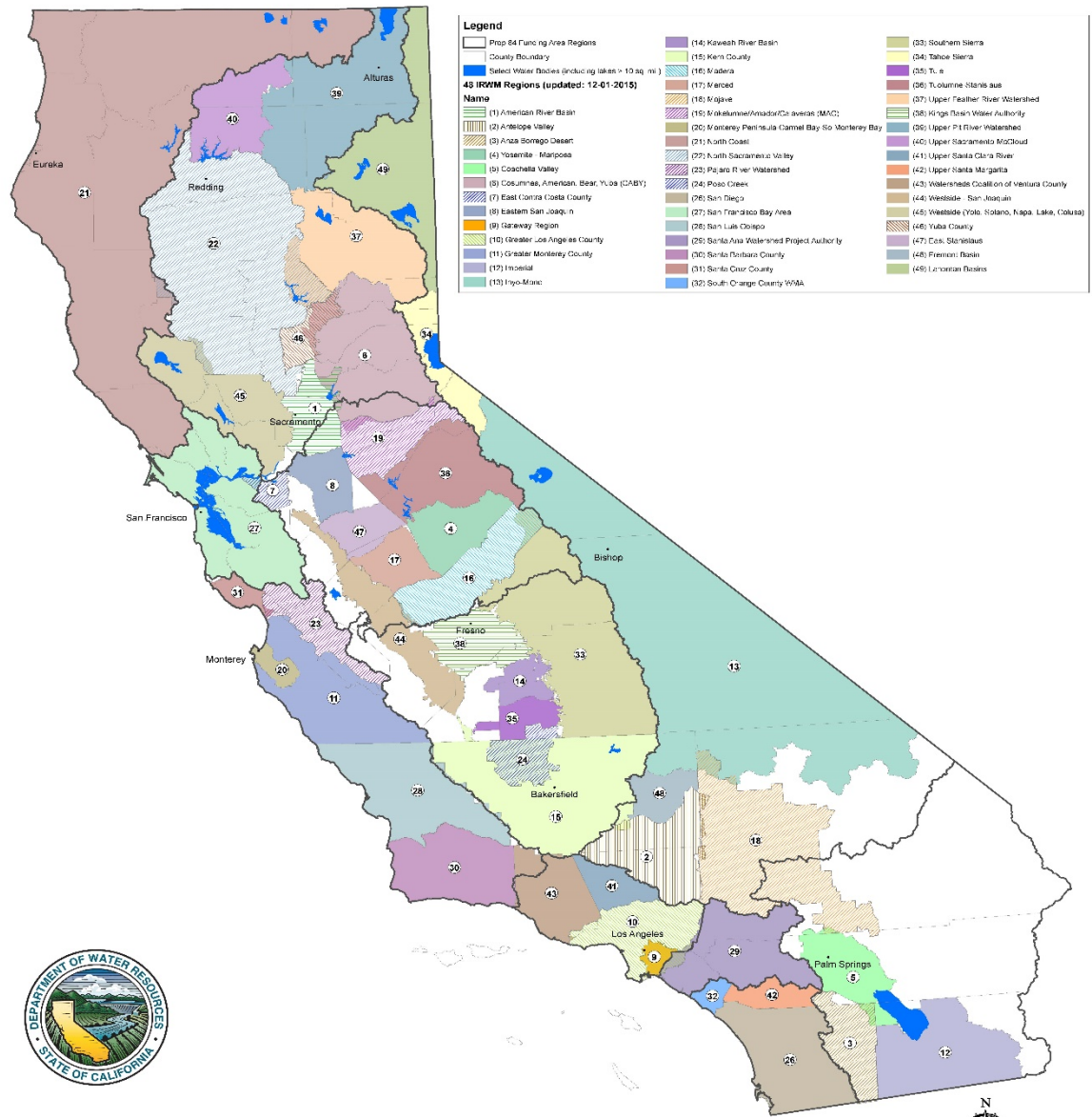
This presentation is a summary of Valley IRWM implementation



The IRWM Plans

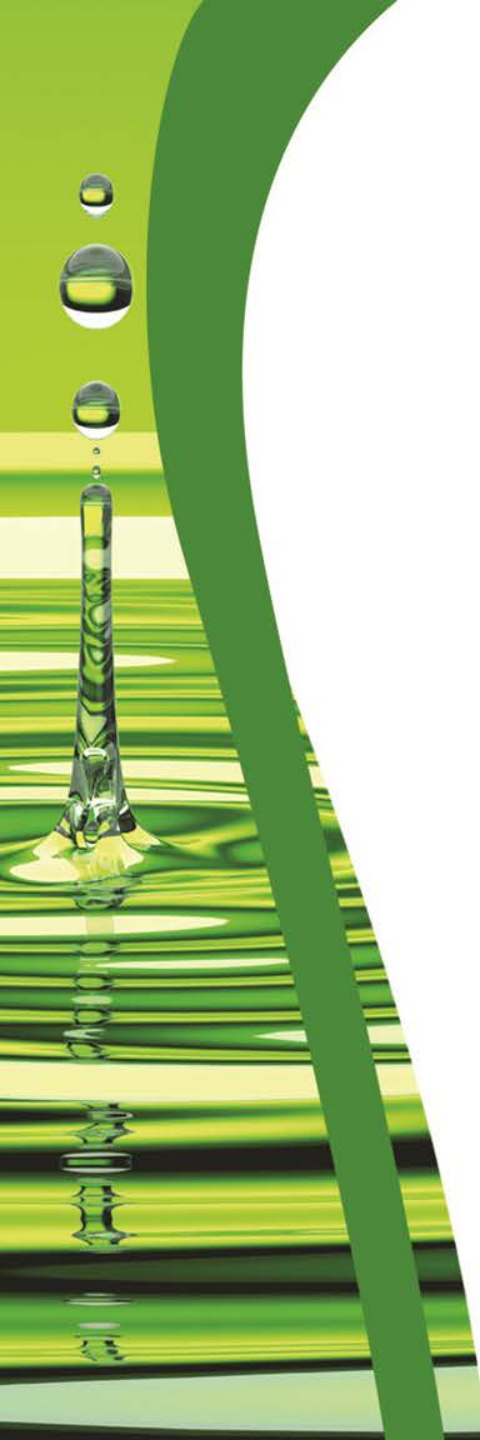
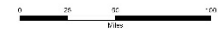
- ❖ 48 statewide (see map)
- ❖ 19 in the San Joaquin Valley
- ❖ Added upper watershed plans in mountain counties to eight Valley floor counties
- ❖ “White areas” have no plan coverage

Integrated Regional Water Management
48 IRWM Planning Regions
Updated: December, 2015



Notes:

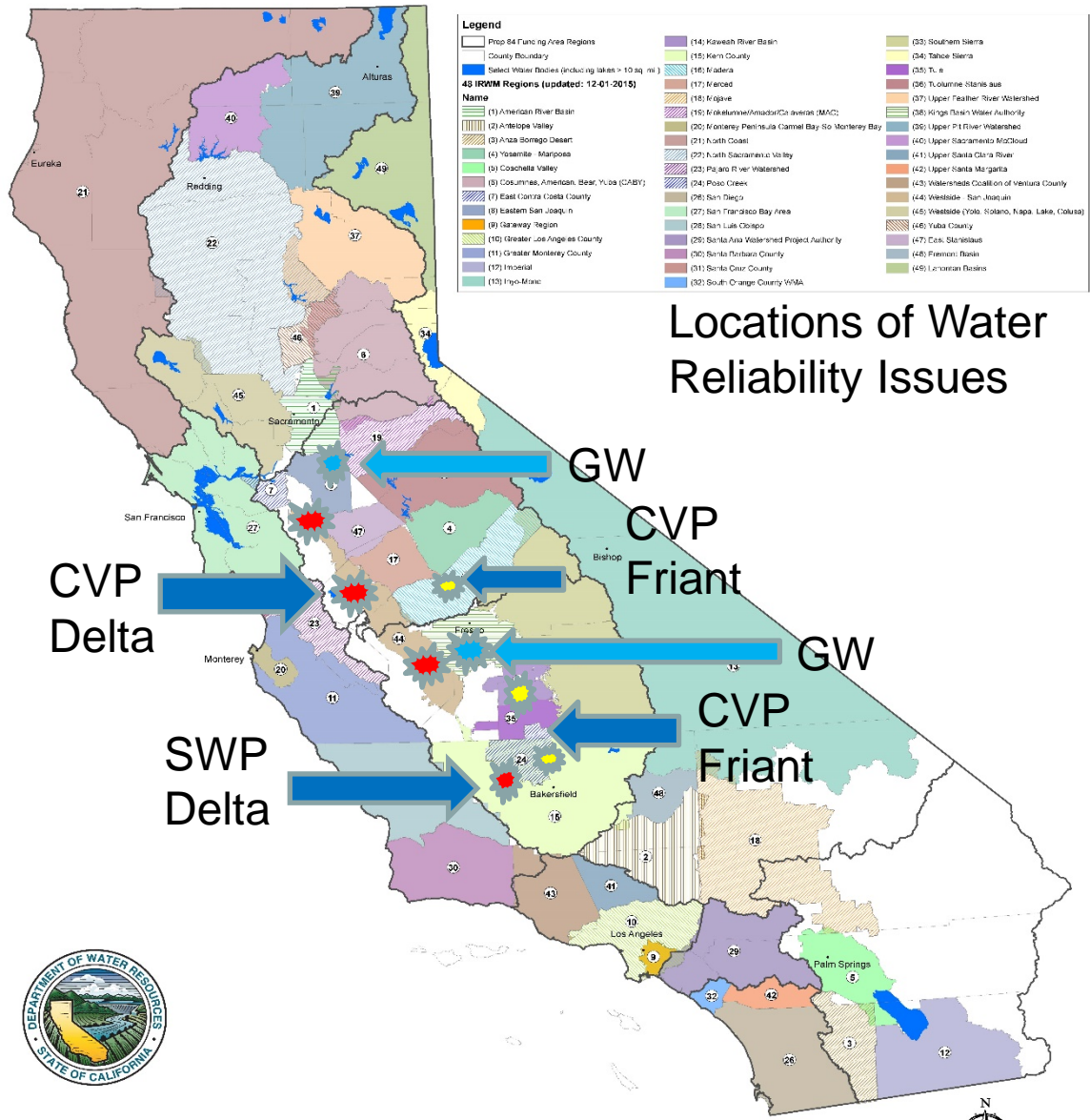
- 1) Hatch symbols are shown where there is a boundary overlap.
- 2) Numbers shown are for reference purposes only and correspond to internal DWR Region Acceptance Process (RAP) submittal identifications.
- 3) Region boundaries shown are those submitted by each Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) to DWR as part of the RAP (or per subsequent, approved revisions).
- RAP 2009 = ID No's 1 - 48
- RAP 2011 = ID No's 47 - 49
- 4) ID No. 25 (Sacramento Valley) is no longer participating in the IRWM Grant Program and is no longer shown.





Some Plan Findings

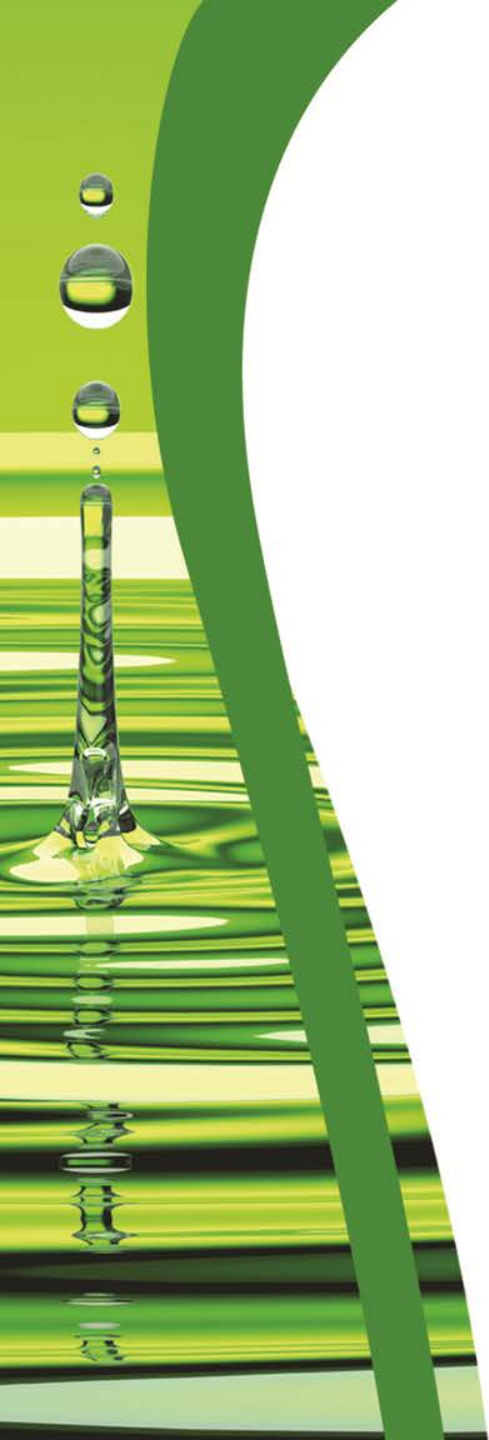
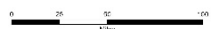
- ❖ Many plan groups found synergies of value; eg moving water around collaboratively
- ❖ All plan areas developed large lists of projects that included both long-standing infrastructure needs and new ones that met collective goals
- ❖ The predominant issues identified were surface water reliability and deteriorating groundwater conditions
- ❖ The greatest unmet needs added to the plan responsibilities were DAC drinking water and wastewater problems



Locations of Water Reliability Issues



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State Water Bond Fund Investments in the Valley

- ❖ Prop 50 – 33.2 M
- ❖ Prop 1E – approx. 22 M
- ❖ Prop 84 – approx. 96.3 M



Challenges to Developing a "Valley" Water Plan

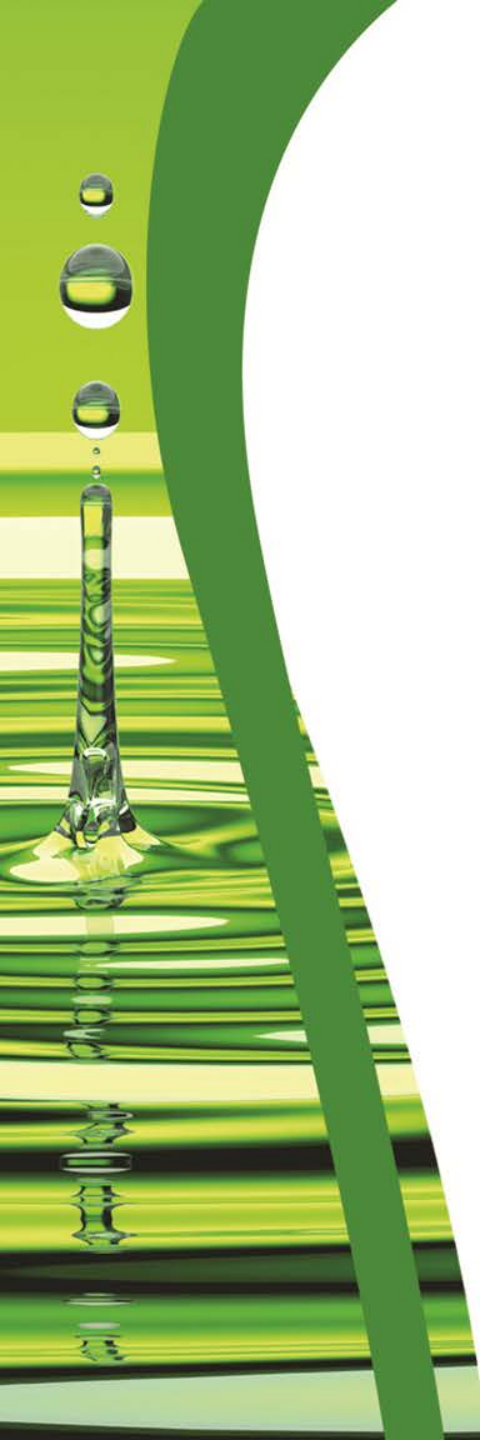
- ❖ IRWM added to Water Code in 2002
- ❖ New water policies/laws added from 2009 – 2014
 - ❖ ESA Biops 2009 Delta smelt and Salmon - 2009
 - ❖ Delta Stewardship Council - 2009
 - ❖ SBx 7-7 Water measurement, ag and urban wmp - 2009
 - ❖ CASGEM – groundwater elevation - 2009
 - ❖ CA Recycled Water Policy, SNMP - 2009
 - ❖ Central Valley Flood Protection Plan - 2009
 - ❖ Irrigated Lands Update – added groundwater quality evaluation and controls - 2009
 - ❖ The Right to Clean Drinking Water - 2012
 - ❖ The Water Action Plan – 2014
 - ❖ SGMA -2014
 - ❖ Drought Emergency Declaration - 2015

The Gaps in IRWM

- ❖ An original goal of the Partnership “Framework” was to include “sources” and develop a water budget under IRWM – Supervisor Ray Watson
- ❖ The 19 separate new regional areas did not weave into larger basin IRWM entities – Tulare Basin developed an informational collaborative but not a “plan area”
- ❖ Water source area IRWMs are operating separately from water use areas
- ❖ Sustainability remains an issue because of sub-regional independent approaches to imported water
- ❖ In order to attain the goal of a Valley-wide Water Plan we need to explore alternate institutional arrangements
- ❖ The CWI report presents a concept that organizes water source and water use IRWM areas

The Future

- ❖ CWI suggests a watershed-based institutional approach to better link water source and use management as well as develop a water budget
- ❖ The concept involves maximizing available in-Valley sources and conservation of in-Valley uses
- ❖ Even with reduced demands, imports will still be necessary to support the Valley's future population and optimized agricultural production
- ❖ The goal is to reduce Delta demands to the extent feasible so as to continue a justifiable level of ongoing Delta supplies



Conclusion

- ❖ IRWM will likely remain an important part of any ongoing water management strategies
- ❖ It has developed very important agency collaborations and developed efficient projects and lists of projects that need implementation
- ❖ The question is, with all the new policy and law changes, does any appetite remain for additional change, especially institutional changes? Only time will tell!

