

Water Accounting Framework

Presentation to SCGA

September 12, 2007

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Today's Presentation

- What is a Framework?
- Why Does the Central Basin Need a Framework?
- Framework Development Efforts in the Region
- Moving Forward

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What is a Water Accounting Framework?

- A set of policies & procedures to encourage conjunctive use operations in an area to ensure long-term sustainability of the underlying GW basin
- Part of basin management "tool box"

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Why Does the Central Basin Need a Framework?

First, some history

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Water Forum Agreement (WFA)

- Identified implementation of conjunctive use programs as a means to improve overall water supply reliability & provide for sustainable use of groundwater
 - Maximize SW when available; SW limited during critical periods
 - Use GW in Dry Years; sustainable yield established to reduce declining GW levels using technical & policy considerations

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Central Basin Sustainable Yield

- The negotiated sustainable groundwater yield in WFA for Central Basin is 273,000 AF/year
- 273,000 AF/year was determined to have acceptable levels of impact of:
 - Water quality degradation
 - Dewatering of wells
 - Higher costs of pumping
 - Land subsidence

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CSCGMP

- Purpose of CSCGMP:
 - To maintain a safe, sustainable, and high quality groundwater resource
- Actions include:
 - Continued investigations of conjunctive use opportunities
 - Continued investigations of banking and exchange partnerships

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- Purposes of SCGA:
 - Maintain long-term sustainable yield
 - Implementation of BMOs
 - Oversee Well Protection Program
 - Manage use of GW and facilitate implementation of conjunctive use program
 - Safeguard groundwater quality
 - Work collaboratively throughout region

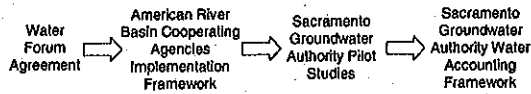
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Framework Could Help SCGA by . . .

- Assisting with investigation of conjunctive use and GW recharge opportunities as called for in CSCGMP
- Improving operational flexibility
- Accounting for changed conditions in Central Basin
- Facilitating intra- & inter-basin exchanges
 - Forum for discussion
 - Consistency with GMP, Well Protection Plan, etc.
 - Consistency/coordination with SGA & its Framework

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Framework Development Efforts in the Region



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SGA Basin Monitoring & Management Tools

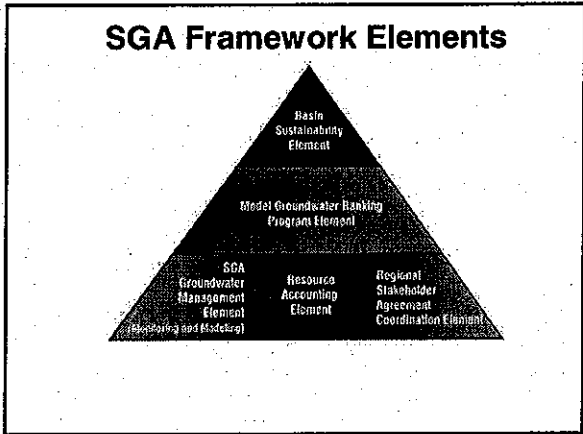
- GMP, DMS, GW modeling
- Pilot Studies
- Monitoring & reporting programs, biennial Basin Management Report
- Water Accounting Framework

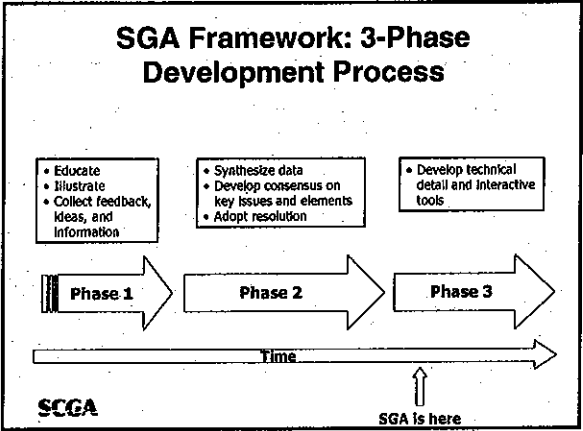
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SGA Framework Objectives

- Ensure safe & sustainable water supply for greater Sacramento region
- Encourage water purveyors to "bank" water in basin, when available, for use during dry periods
- Establish framework that supports groundwater banking programs by setting forth rules for operating a model groundwater bank & monitoring basin to ensure its sustainability as program is implemented
- Refine & enumerate SGA's role in implementing Framework objectives

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- ### Application to SCGA
- Similarities of some SGA & SCGA "issues" indicate that a SCGA Framework would be advantageous
 - Potential to refine some SGA concepts and elements
 - Potential to coordinate common efforts with SGA to minimize duplication
 - Differences between SGA and SCGA "issues" must be addressed separately
 - Require development of concepts, elements, and/or tools within Central Basin
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Moving Forward

- Phase 1 of SCGA Framework funded thru Central Basin's American River Basin IRWMP effort – ONGOING
- Phases 2 & 3 not currently funded or started – financial participation of GW banking partners needed

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Questions?
