

## Water Plan Regional Workshop Summary – Bakersfield, CA

### ***DISCUSSION ON WATER PLAN CONTENT***

After hearing the presentation on the approach, content, and structure of Update 2009, workshop participants were asked to brainstorm other topics that should be considered for inclusion in the Water Plan. Workshop attendees were specifically asked to think about regional issues and concerns that might benefit from additional attention. Three key themes that emerged during the group reports included:

- a. the availability, reliability, and affordability of drinking water
- b. better definition of IRWM planning regions – these should correlate with B160 regions; would allow better integration
- c. groundwater issues: overdraft/sustainability; water quality (arsenic and nitrates in Alpaugh community wells)

Other topics that were identified by multiple group reports included:

- d. economic factors: water pricing; economic considerations regarding alternative supply (e.g. water recycling)
- e. agricultural consideration: water quality, ag land conservation, water use efficiency
- f. planning coordination: integration of water planning with land use planning, Basin Plans
- g. supply: additional storage, reliability, drought/shortages, infrastructure improvements
- h. B160 should identify potential solutions to both specific regional and statewide water problems (e.g. enlarge Friant/Kern Canal, new surface and groundwater storage)

### ***DISCUSSION ON REGIONAL REPORT CONTENT***

The discussion groups suggested a wide range of additional topics that might be included in the Regional Reports:

- a. regional data:
  - more land use planning information
  - discuss urban development issues/population growth
  - include issues that affect regional water imports (e.g. Delta concerns) and needed amounts
  - information that streamline lengthy institutional processes (e.g. Water Boards point of use permits; exchange water agreements between multiple agencies)
  - identify areas with special sensitivity (from planning departments)
  - include status of legislation related to water quantity and water supply
  - discuss sustainable strategies for providing water to rural and disadvantaged communities (rural water systems, etc.)
  - funding issues: operational and maintenance costs not covered by grant programs
  - regulatory setting; some local ordinances/regulations undermine water conservation

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- b. water supply/demand/quality data:
  - mapping of groundwater conditions, supply, and quality – partner with USGS to determine amount of San Joaquin Valley groundwater; show saltwater intrusion
  - validate and provide better access to all groundwater data
  - surface water treatment – Alta Irrigation District
  - water banking – Friant Irrigation District, CIS
- c. challenges/opportunities, accomplishments:
  - discuss uses for dairy wastes – effluent is not suitable for sensitive crops
  - promote wastewater treatment plants, instead of septic, for problem areas and for new development – combine with recycling infrastructure to provide new supply
- d. resource management strategies:
  - renewed focus on reuse and recharge projects that are economically feasible and protect environmental resources
- e. regional planning:
  - Upper Kings River Forum
  - protect existing and new water supplies (water quality)
  - coordinate with regional plans and Basin Plans
- f. reference:
  - expand mapping/GIS data:
    - table of existing plans (show on map) – generation and type of water plans
    - GIS and extent of groundwater contamination
    - possible point source locations
    - age and conditions of drinking water systems and wastewater systems
    - socio-economic data (water rates as percentage of household income)
    - detailed surface hydrology maps