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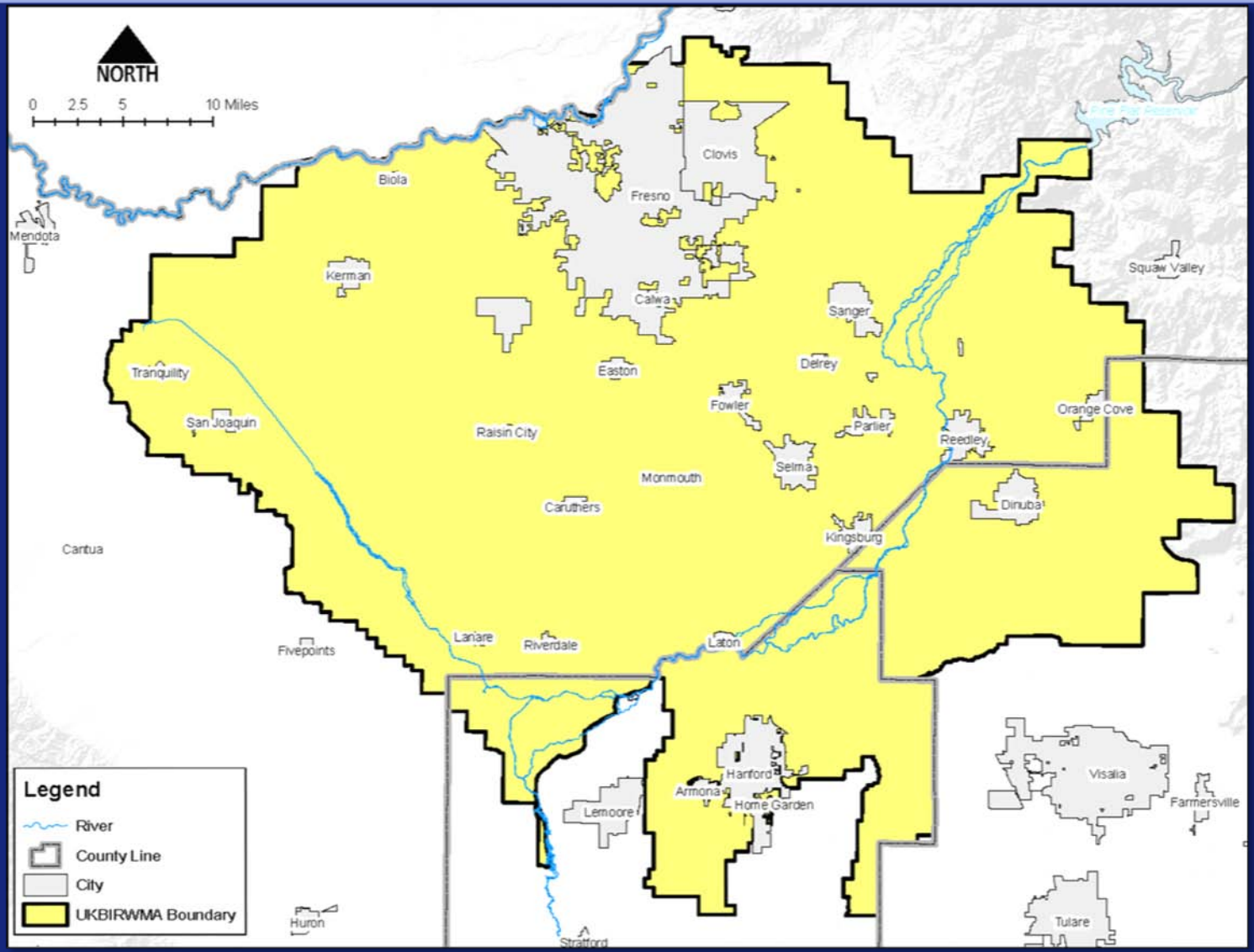
Integrated Regional Water Management in the Kings Basin



Eric Osterling
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Kings Basin Water Authority
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January 17, 2012

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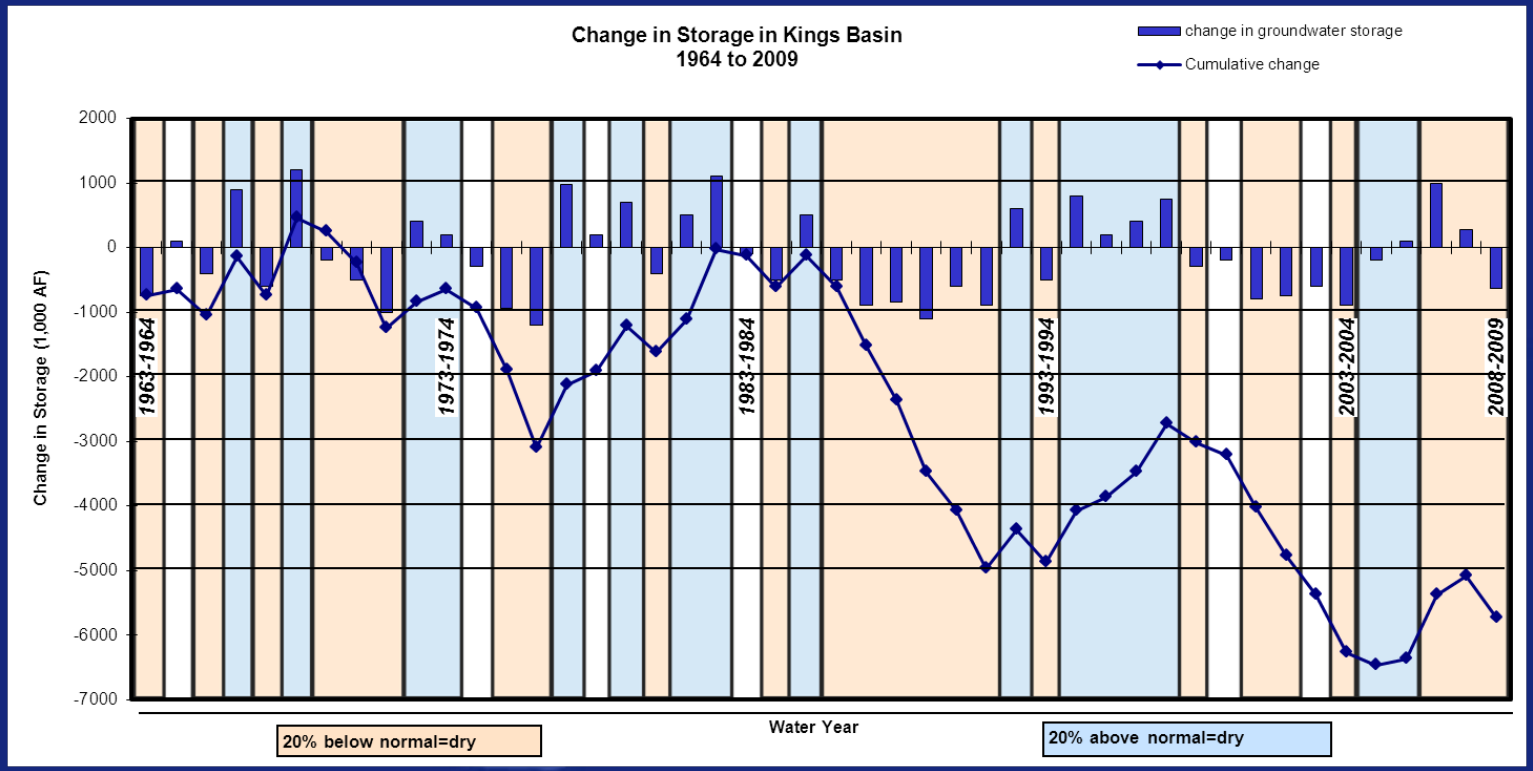
Kings Groundwater Basin's Decline in Storage

- Average annual overdraft since 1963 ~ 120 TAF
- Over 500 TAF in flood flows left the system in 2010 alone
- Over 7 MAF in flood flows have left the system since 1982



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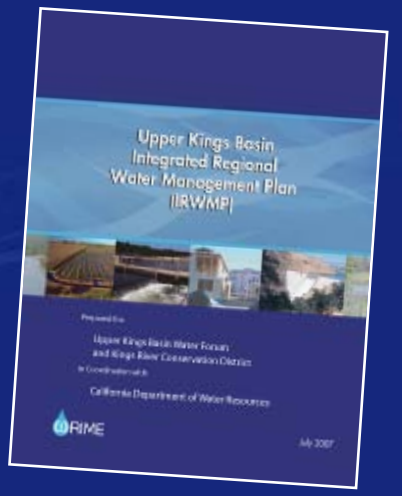
IRWM Plan Priorities

- Projects to increase water supply reliability & preserve quality
  - Groundwater recharge, conveyance
  - Recycling
  - Metering
- Protect and enhance aquatic ecosystems and wildlife habitat, and riparian recreation areas
- Public Awareness
- Coordinated Basin-level Monitoring
  - Groundwater elevations, quality, subsidence



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Cultivation of IRWM in the Kings Basin

- 2001 the Basin Advisory Panel (BAP) was formed:
  + KRCD and 3 upper basin water districts
  + Assistance provided by DWR
  + Goals: to address the overdraft problem and develop implementable solutions

- 2004 the Upper Kings Basin Water Forum was formed from the BAP to coordinate water management activities and develop an IRWMP
  + Composed of KRCD, 5 upper basin irrigation/water districts, 10 cities, 3 counties, and 15 other governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations
  + Assistance provided by DWR
  + Goals: to prepare a groundwater and surface water model and develop the IRWMP

- 2009 the Upper Kings Basin IRWM Authority was formed from the UKBWF to further develop the IRWMP under Prop 84
  + Composed of 17 members and 24 interested parties
  + Expanded boundary to include entire groundwater basin
  + Branded name “Kings Basin Water Authority”

- 2011 Celebrating 10 Years of IRWM Planning
  + Composed of 17 members and 24 interested parties
  + Expanded boundary to include entire groundwater basin
  + Branded name “Kings Basin Water Authority”

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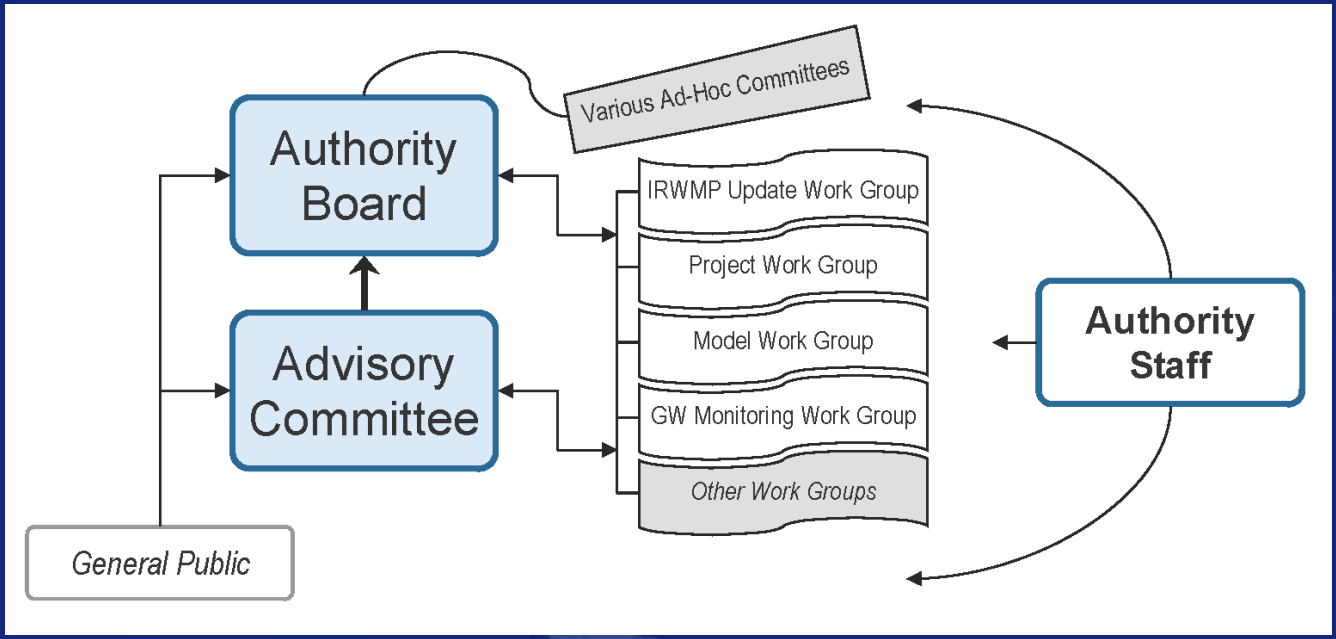
Water Authority Governance Structure

Members – voting members, only public entities

Interested Parties – non-voting (on the Advisory Committee) may be public and non-public entities (non-governmental organizations and local & state agencies) advisory capacity participate in committees and sub-committees seek their support before decisions are made

Administrative Manager / Staff – executive and fiscal agent, non-voting



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Diversity of IRWM Planning Participation

MEMBERS (17)

Alta Irrigation District
City of Clovis
City of Dinuba
City of Fresno
City of Kerman
City of Kingsburg
City of Parlier
City of Reedley
City of Sanger
City of Selma
County of Fresno
County of Tulare
Consolidated Irrigation District
Fresno Metro. Flood Control Dist.
Fresno Irrigation District
Kings County Water District
Kings River Conservation District
Raisin City Water District

INTERESTED PARTIES (32)

Bakman Water Company
Biola Community Services District
California Native Plant Society, Sequoia Chapter
City of San Joaquin
Community Water Center
County of Kings
Crescent Canal Company
Cutler Public Utilities District
East Orosi Community Services District
El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust
Hardwick Water Company
James Irrigation District
Kings River Conservancy
Kings River Water Association
Laguna Irrigation District
Laton Community Service District
Liberty Canal Company
Liberty Water District
London Community Services District
Mid-Valley Water District
Orange Cove Irrigation District
Orosi Public Utilities District
Reed Ditch Company
Riverdale Irrigation District
Riverdale Public Utility District
Self-Help Enterprises
Sierra Club, Tehipite Chapter
Sierra Resource Conservation District
Sultana Community Services District
Terranova Ranch, Inc.
Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners

OTHER PARTICIPATION

CA Department of Fish & Game
CA Department of Water Resources
California Water Institute (CSUF)
Center for Collaborative Policy
Fresno Audubon Society
Kings River Fisheries Program
Regional Water Quality Control Board
Sierra Nevada Research Institute (UCM)
State Water Resources Control Board

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IRWM Successes

- Awarded $30M in grant funds to implement $60M in projects
- Developed a regional integrated GW/surface-water model
- 20,000 AF of annual direct recharge capacity added
- Water metering projects – combined reduce per capita annual consumption by 12,000 AF
- Surface water treatment projects – combined reduce annual need for GW pumping by up to 50,000 AF
- Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) planning outreach and water resources needs assessment
- Coordinated SB-1938 GW Management Plan development and implementation (GW elevations, quality, subsidence)
- SB-7x6 (CASGEM) plans for Kings and Tulare Lake Basins
- *Over 100 planned projects with more than 100,000 AF of additional annual benefit*

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Challenges

- Maintaining grant eligibility in an increasingly complex and time-consuming regulatory environment is nearing the level of being cost prohibitive
- While still the best option for governance, equal participation and avoiding “pay to play” with JPA has not been easy
- Large and diverse stakeholder group results in higher quality planning framework, however, limited funding makes it a challenge to meet needs of all interests

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Plans for the Future

- Update IRWMP to meet new requirements and incorporate input from new stakeholders
- Implement DAC Outreach pilot study to better engage and identify DAC critical water supply/quality needs and potential projects
- New Website, and improved DMS
- Explore potential opportunities for internally funding high priority projects, or external funding other than IRWM