Sustainable Ground Water Management

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Water Management today has changed
The “new” water sources of the have changed
Complex and Integrated Portfolio Water Management
Conjunctive Use of Surface and Groundwater

YEAR TYPE

WATER DEMANDS

Surface Supply

Groundwater

Safe Yield

Increased Pumping

Wet
Above Normal
Below Normal
Dry
Dry following Critical
Critical
What should we do to manage ground water sustainably?

◆ Required ground water extraction and water level monitoring & reporting

◆ Coordinated data management and modeling – needs major investment

◆ Expand/empower AB 3030/SB 1938 to allow for extraction limitation, develop templates and review at State, clarify storage rights and processes and make logical transfers easier

◆ Designate critical basins of Statewide interest; overdraft + impact + value

◆ Better link land use planning to ground water management

◆ Require ground water management plans in those basins of critical interest

◆ Leave it to local and regional agencies or collaborations to develop and implement, but with timelines and requirements from State

◆ Use a phased data driven, thresholds based approach, stakeholder driven, facilitated, but with timelines and milestones from the State

◆ Indemnify the losers – insurance fund from rate payers, beneficiaries, State, Delta project?

◆ Follow Hanak, Lund et al. new State Mega-Water Agency with regional management, SWP as a public utility

◆ Much more transparency, public engagement in water supply and ground water
On the cover is the Chinese ideogram for “crisis,” which is comprised of the characters for “danger” and “opportunity.”