

## Tehama County Groundwater Recharge Area Investigation



December 2010

BROWN AND CALDWELL

## Outline

- Project Purpose
- Data
- Project Approach
- Selection Criteria
- Results
- Next Steps

## **Project Purpose**

- Identify areas within Tehama County for detailed investigation of groundwater recharge potential
- Set the stage for further discussion of enhanced recharge and investigation with the 4-county region
- Be <u>proactive</u> by preparing Tehama County to be in a position to advance enhanced groundwater recharge in the future

#### Project Approach: Summary



### Project Approach: Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria	Category	Reason for Use
Riverbank, Modesto, Alluvium	Geology	Potential for recharge
Non-silty loams, and stream gravels	Soils	Potential for recharge
1000 feet from streams, 2000 from canals,		
Surface water using Irrigation Districts	Near Water	Practical constraint
areas that experienced a larger than 15 foot	> 15 feet drawdown in	
decline from 2006 to 2009	spring 06 to 09	Area of need
Areas that experienced a larger than 25 foot	2 years with > 25 feet	
decline from spring to summer 2 or more times	spring - summer	
out of 4 years	drawdown	Area of need
Depth to water in Summer 2008 estimated to	DTW > 40 feet in	
be larger than 40 feet in shallow wells	shallow wells	Potential for recharge

#### AB3030 Technical Advisory Committee, December 2010

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#### Data



#### Source Data - Geology



#### Source Data - Soils



#### Source Data – Irrigation Districts



![](_page_8_Figure_4.jpeg)

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### Source Data - Spring – Summer Drawdown

![](_page_9_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Figure_6.jpeg)

#### Source Data - Spring – Summer Drawdown

![](_page_10_Figure_3.jpeg)

### Source Data – Spring Contours

![](_page_11_Figure_3.jpeg)

### Source Data – Spring 2006 to Spring 2009

![](_page_12_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Source Data – Spring 2006 to Spring 2009

![](_page_13_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Source Data – Depth to Water in Wells Less Than 150 Feet Deep

![](_page_14_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Source Data - Land and Water Use

![](_page_15_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Source Data - Parcels

![](_page_16_Figure_3.jpeg)

### Criteria: Soil and Geology

- Riverbank and Modesto Formations
- Loam, Sandy Loam, and Riverwash soils

![](_page_17_Figure_5.jpeg)

### Criteria: Geology, Soil, and Proximity to a Water Source

- Riverbank and Modesto Formations
- Loam, Sandy Loam, and Riverwash soils
- Within 2000 feet of a canal or 1000 feet of a stream

![](_page_18_Figure_6.jpeg)

### Criteria: Geology, Soil, Surface Water, and Drawdown

- Riverbank and Modesto
   Formations
- Loam, Sandy Loam, and Riverwash soils
- Areas within 1-2000 feet of streams/canals
- Areas with either
  >25 spring summer DD or
  >15 2006-2009
  spring DD

![](_page_19_Figure_7.jpeg)

#### Criteria: Geology, Soil, Surface Water, Drawdown and Depth to Water

- Riverbank and Modesto Formations
- Loam, Sandy Loam, and Riverwash soils
- Areas within 1-2000 feet of streams/canals
- Areas with either
  >25 spring-summer
  DD or >15 2006 2009 spring DD
- DTW > 40 feet

![](_page_20_Figure_8.jpeg)

Results

![](_page_21_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Results -Recommended Area A

![](_page_22_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Results -Recommended Area B

![](_page_23_Figure_3.jpeg)

### Results -Recommended Area C

![](_page_24_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Results -Recommended Area D

![](_page_25_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Results -Recommended Area E

![](_page_26_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Results -Recommended Area F

![](_page_27_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Results -Recommended Area G

![](_page_28_Figure_3.jpeg)

### **Next Steps**

- Summary Report
  - To TAC for review prior to next AB3030 meeting
  - Discuss report at next AB3030 meeting
- AB303 grant application (Spring 2011)
- Identify potential water supplies
- Find willing landowner/participants
- Perform feasibility studies on specific sites

## **BMO** Revisions

Cumulative Frequency and Well Depth Distribution BMO versus Dedicated Well Comparison

## **Presentation Outline**

- Why revise BMOs
- Recommended BMO revisions
- Example Results
- Next steps

## Why Revise BMOs

- Current BMO levels, established in 2001, are not indicative of actual levels of concern
- New methodology helps establish levels that are meaningful for management purposes
- Most of the dedicated monitoring wells now have a long enough period of record to be utilized as BMO well replacements

## **Recommended BMO Revisions**

- Establish new levels for each BMO well utilizing a standardized methodology
- Compare and assess BMO levels to nearby well infrastructure
- Provides a first step necessary to assess risk of exceeding safe yield (as defined in BMO process)
- Correlate and consolidate some existing BMO wells to dedicated monitoring wells where appropriate

## Standard Methodology

- Existing BMO levels utilize a wide variety of methodologies.
- Consolidating methodologies allows for comparison of wells within areas and between areas.
- Recommend utilizing a 2 standard deviation methodology

## Standard Methodology

Water Surface Elevation and Stage Alert Levels for State Well Number 21N03W22H001M

![](_page_35_Figure_2.jpeg)

## Standard Methodology

Water Surface Elevation and Stage Alert Levels for State Well Number 21N03W22H001M

![](_page_36_Figure_2.jpeg)

- Helps validate appropriateness of BMO levels for the specific area
- Collects and analyzes the nine square miles around an existing BMO well

![](_page_37_Picture_3.jpeg)

Wells Installed From 1950 to 2010 Within 9 Square Miles Surrounding

![](_page_38_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Figure_3.jpeg)

Cumulative frequency (%)

Total Depth (ft. below ground surface)

Wells Installed From 1950 to 2010 Within 9 Square Miles Surrounding

State Well Number 21N03W22H01M

![](_page_39_Figure_3.jpeg)

Total Depth (ft. below ground surface)

![](_page_40_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Correlate to Dedicated Monitoring Wells

- Dedicated monitoring wells are more consistent than the current BMO wells
  - Well construction is known
  - No pumping occurs at the monitoring well
  - Monitoring can be correlated to specific aquifers
  - Continuous dataloggers

## Correlate to Dedicated Monitoring Wells

- Correlate location (within 2 miles)
- Correlate to monitoring history
  - Similar responses to seasonal changes
  - Similar responses to long term changes
- Correlate screened intervals
  - Similar depth of screened intervals

## **Correlate Location**

![](_page_43_Picture_1.jpeg)

## **Correlate Monitoring History**

![](_page_44_Figure_1.jpeg)

## **Correlate Screened Intervals**

![](_page_45_Figure_1.jpeg)

## **Example Results**

- New BMO levels that are of consistent methodology County wide
- New BMO levels that consider existing well infrastructure
- New BMO wells that are more reliable and indicative of regional trends

## Next Steps

- Apply new BMO stage methodology to other BMO wells
- Create cumulative frequency graphs for areas around BMO wells
- Correlate and consolidate existing BMO wells to dedicated monitoring wells where appropriate