



COOPERATIVE WATER
MANAGEMENT GROUP

WORKING GROUP 2008/2009 OBJECTIVES

Planning Objective No. 1

Limit additional large scale pumping in areas that appear to be adversely impacted.

- Continue to evaluate water quality and level changes in areas impacted by large scale pumping.

Planning Objective No. 2

Distribute new groundwater extraction within the Valley in a manner that will minimize adverse effects to existing groundwater conditions (levels and quality), and maximize the long-term supply within the Valley.

- The Water District has continued moving pumping to the Southwest Well Field. Well No. 34 has been drilled and is expected to be equipped by summer 2008. Well No. 34 will replace existing Well No. 8.
- Collect baseline data for new pumping areas and continue monitoring for changes.
- TAC will be available to assist major producers in the location of new wells.

Planning Objective No. 3

Aggressively pursue the development and implementation of water conservation policy and education programs.

- Continue development and support of the Cooperative Groundwater Management Group website.
- Conservation tips and new information pertaining to water resources in the Indian Wells Valley will continue to be part of the Working Group's website.
- Continue annual support of the SEEP Program.
- Encourage the use of drip irrigation systems for agriculture similar to the one being used by Quist Farms.
- Update Working Group's water conservation policy.
- Publicize and distribute resources including the booklet on Xeriscape landscaping, the Working Group's water conservation policy, and the pamphlet on re-use of gray water.
- The Indian Wells Valley Water District (Water District) will:
 - Hold Xeriscape workshops.
 - Continue teacher education training through Project WET.
 - Participate in the Fall Desert Empire Fair and Home and Leisure Show to distributing water saving devices (shower heads, hose nozzles, and faucet aerators) and conservation information.
 - Recognize Xeriscape landscapes.
 - Publish a quarterly newsletter with conservation page for its customers.
 - Provide assistance for water use and leak detection.

- Evaluate SmartSet timers for large area applications that will adjust landscape watering based on weather conditions.
- The Water District and the City of Ridgecrest, with the involvement of Kern County, will develop a landscape ordinance for new development that meets or exceeds State requirements.
- Establish a unified community view for water conservation.

Planning Objective No. 4

Encourage the use of treated water, reclaimed water, recycled, gray and lower quality water where appropriate and economically feasible.

- The Water District is conducting a Brackish Water Treatment Pilot Study at the Northwest Well Field.
- Searles Valley Minerals (SVM) is exploring the feasibility of transferring water from the treatment facility operated by the City of Ridgecrest to Searles Valley for beneficial use at SVM's facilities.
- The Working Group encourages new developers to install purple pipe systems for eventual use.
- The Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS) continues to use reclaimed water from the waste water treatment facility to water the golf course.

Planning Objective No. 5

Explore the potential for other types of water management programs that are beneficial to the Valley.

- The Water District is conducting a reconnaissance level aquifer storage and recovery site evaluation.
- Continue to pursue grant funding for a Watershed Coordinator.
- Explore the potential for participating in the development of the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

Planning Objective No. 6

Continue cooperative efforts to develop information and data which contributes to further defining and better understanding the groundwater resource in the Indian Wells Valley.

- With completion of the second AB303 Grant, pursue implementation of recommendations for future potential grant proposals for acquisition of drilling sites, installation of monitoring wells in the major canyons, chemical and isotope analysis of canyon groundwater systems, development of representative chemical/isotope flow paths in the canyon groundwater systems, development of a lithologic model for the entire basin, regular chemical samples of water wells and increased groundwater level monitoring.

- The Water District together with Searles Valley Minerals and NAWS will develop a groundwater flow model for the basin and will be available in 2009.
- Continue support of Remote Automated Weather Stations (RAWS) to collect weather/climate data and evaluate installation and support for additional sites.
- Continue to compile annual production information.
- Develop a map with well locations to indicate production areas and intensity of pumping.
- Use the Working Group's website as an outreach program to inform small water groups/co-ops of current or pending legislation such as arsenic removal.
- Continue to evaluate water quality and level changes throughout the Valley as resources allow.

Planning Objective No. 7

Develop an interagency management framework to implement and enforce the objectives of this Plan.

- This objective was achieved with the drafting and acceptance of the Steering Committee Operating Guidelines in January 1997.