## **Meeting Summary**

### **Drought Resilience Interagency & Partners (DRIP) Collaborative**

Water Infrastructure and Planning Workgroup Meeting #3
California Natural Resources Agency, 715 P St, Sacramento, Room 06-212
August 28, 2025 | 1:30PM to 3:00PM

The meeting recording is available at: https://youtu.be/UJE-Jycwa I

Meeting materials, including the presentation, are available at: <a href="http://www.water.ca.gov/drip">http://www.water.ca.gov/drip</a>

**Meeting Objective:** Continue vetting and developing three ideas proposed at the July 18, 2025 DRIP Collaborative meeting related to Water Infrastructure and Planning. Learn from subject matter experts, about their experiences and knowledge including past and current efforts and lessons learned, to inform the workgroup discussion.

#### Workgroup members in attendance:

- Emily Rooney, Agricultural Council of California
- Tim Worley, California Association of Mutual Water Companies
- Lorena Munoz, Community Water Center
- Alvar Escriva-Bou, University of California Davis
- Laura Ramos, California Water Institute at Fresno State
- Katie Ruby, California Urban Water Agencies
- Carolina Hernandez, Los Angeles County Public Works

#### Absent:

- Jason Colombini, Jay Colombini Ranch, Inc.
- Suzanne Pecci, Public Member

#### Also in attendance:

- Lance Eckhart, PG, CHG, General Manager/Chief Hydrogeologist for San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
- Tim Godwin, PG, Technical and Policy Advisor to Deputy Director, Executive Division for the Department

There were three subject matter expert presentations scheduled, but unfortunately the presentation on the State Water Project Adaptation Strategy was not given due to the lack of time. The two presentations were to inform and provide further depth of understanding for two water infrastructure and planning ideas.

### Infra 1 & Infra 3: Proposed Pathways

#### <u>Idea Infra1: Enhance Support and Collaboration for Vulnerable and Small Water</u> Systems Infrastructure Needs

At the July 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, members discussed the merits of the idea and supported revisiting the idea of regional forums as a vehicle to organize support for local small and vulnerable water systems. Members wanted to learn more from a subject matter expert presentation on their experience on how they addressed systemic vulnerabilities for local small and vulnerable water systems.

## <u>Idea Infra3: Establish Groundwater Recharge Infrastructure Program for Local Drought</u> Resilience

Acknowledging that there is a lot of discussion, coordination, and work being done on groundwater recharge in the state, members continue to seek opportunities to engage on groundwater recharge and where there could be some value added from the DRIP Collaborative. Thus, the workgroup continued to seek to be more informed on the status of groundwater recharge in the state to coalesce potential engagement on groundwater recharge that can help local drought resilience.

# Idea Infra1: Enhance Support and Collaboration for Vulnerable and Small Water Systems Infrastructure Needs

To inform the workgroup members on related activities to the idea of enhancing support and collaboration for vulnerable and small water systems infrastructure needs, the workgroup received a presentation from Lance Eckhart, the general manager and chief hydrologist for the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency and previously at the Mojave Water Agency. Mr. Eckhart shared his extensive experience in engaging with smaller water agencies and system managers within the watersheds of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency and the Mojave Water Agency.

#### Mojave Water Agency Experience

The presentation started with a slide depicting Mojave Water Agency's boundary, its watershed, and disadvantaged communities within that watershed to provide context and reflect the number of disadvantaged communities (DACs) and their water systems. As an integrated water management plan project manager, one of Mr. Eckhart's responsibilities was to update their integrated water plan. Part of the update required the inclusion of DAC communities and their water systems that were outside of the water agency's boundary while addressing some funding opportunity inequalities. Some of the inequalities were due to lack of regular participation in public process, not having staff to attend meetings and engage, or that DAC representatives were either busy or working their day jobs.

To help address these issues, Mojave Water Agency proactively reached out to engage DACs about their water systems and identify their challenges. Challenges varied from:

Aging infrastructure

- Regulatory violations
- Lack of managerial and financial capacity

Despite Mojave Water Agency not having specific experience to assist DACs, they collaborated with the nonprofit, California Rual Water Association to provide training, technical assistance, resources, and information to achieve high standards of service. Mojave Water Agency also provided \$200,000 dollars of financial assistance to pay for staffing, application technical writing, and grant funding applications. Such funding was made available from assessed taxes since 1960 for imported water within the watershed although imported water was not received. Funding also went toward grant required information such as need assessments; reports on technical, management, financial (TMF) capabilities and gaps, water audits to document water system issues, and preliminary engineering reports. A slide provided a graph depicting a flowchart to develop and identify grant-required information.

A grant application process was developed that became more efficient, could be replicated, and was successful, which left people feeling good. The success bore out of the Mojave Water Agency being willing to take a leadership role to:

- Engage and reach out to DAC communities about their failing water systems,
- Provide technical and financial support to assist disadvantage communities in their grant funding applications, and
- Be a reliable overseeing agency and provide funding to help bridge between immediate needs and the timing when grant funding was received

#### San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency

Mr. Eckhart described his current water agency, the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA), as a smaller agency than the Mojave Water Agency, with a smaller geographic footprint, serving a smaller population in the high desert. He presented a slide with a map depicting four small water systems that have been assessed using a similar approach as done for small water systems that Mojave Water Agency supported. The SGPWA acted in a similar fashion by being a reginal entity willing to partner with a nonprofit for technical support while providing project management services. The SGPWA provided upfront funding for a nonprofit to reach out to these small systems, create relationships, and develop needs assessments as required to apply for grant funding. After a needs assessment of issues and problems, the SGPWA increased the small water system education and understanding of the technical, managerial, and financial needs, sometimes providing the understanding for the need to raise water rates, which may not have been raised for decades, to fund system improvements. Other funding for system improvements were from grant applications to state and federal programs, which may require temporary funding from SGPWA to bridge funding gaps between immediate project needs and when state and federal programs released funding. SGPWA provided additional support to small water systems by increasing contract capacity; providing project management; and accounting, tracking, and reporting of grant funding requirements. "It's a lot of work, but it works."

#### Small Systems Program

A small system program (Program) is a public and nonprofit partnership, where a nonprofit provides support services (e.g., needs assessment, TMF capabilities and gaps, water audits, etc.) to small water systems that larger regional agencies may not be able to provide. The public, larger regional agency can provide sustainable financial wherewithal for the longevity of projects and programs while providing a valid and accountable backstop to public grant funding – all with the intention to pull additional funding from outside the region such as state and federal funding. SGPWA was able to provide a \$15 million line of credit, at zero interest, as a gap to fund and cover between spent project expenses and reimbursements from grant funding.

#### **Lessons Learned**

Bridging the gap between funding sources and the needs of disadvantaged community small water systems. There are funding options such as state revolving funds or grant funds, but it is hard to bridge between meeting and paying for the improvement demands and receiving such funding over time and through reimbursements or matching funds. Regional agencies working with nonprofits can significantly help address this issue and be very targeted and reactive to address needs. Local, nonregulatory regional agencies can play a role between regulators and small water systems that are out of compliance by somewhat mediating and find alternate pathways forward. Regional agencies can establish relationship and trust to help guide DAC communities and the management of their small water systems. Those relationships and trust are keys to implementing work and overcoming obstacles to getting small water systems back into compliance or to help consolidate water systems for the benefit of the DAC communities. Regional coordination between larger water agencies working with small water systems make coordination, collaboration, and implementation easier and more efficient than managing issues individually. It will take time and some successes for others to see that it works, but "... it's greatly rewarding and very, very repeatable."

#### **Questions and Answers**

Emily Rooney asked regarding the need for bridge loans and gap funding: "... is there a list that readily available to identify those partners or is this something that every small water system has to seek out on their own?"

Mr. Eckhart: No list per se. There is a need for regional entities to take some
"responsibility and kind of a spirit of stewardship across the entire region that
includes smaller water systems because you don't leave parts of your community
behind...the funding mechanism is the regional entity and their reserves and kind
of trusting their own people in the community. iBank has done some work in this
area...[a potential source] if your [small water systems] don't have a regional
entity."

Carolina Hernandez asked: "[H]ow [were] you [able to] approach...your board to kind of do the initial assessments even before you got into the whole floating agreement to float different grants and things like that? How did your board take that? And then two, did you get any of your customers saying, hey, what are you guys doing, putting this \$200K up?"

• Mr. Eckhart: "Shame is a tool and don't forget to use that...introduce the board to everybody [in those communities and drive them in those communities because] they don't live there. [I]f you do have a board member that's from one of these areas, you have them tell their story. [Y]ou can't have the more affluent areas getting better and better and it's not being distributed to these smaller systems that everybody forgets about. [Also,] use DWR as a lever [who] gave us a pretty good chunk of money to update our plan. [B]undling the grants together, we would always have a disadvantage community component."

Carolina Hernandez asked: "How about your customers, others that are paying?"

• Mr. Eckhart: "So we're not retail. And that's a big difference, ours are ad valorem property taxes. So that's a big key. I think if you're retail, that is a much more difficult nut to crack, because otherwise it looks like you're subsidizing somebody else. It could be any kind of services working with a nonprofit. Maybe there's some discretionary funds to get the nonprofit in there and to start to work in the area, it doesn't take a tremendous amount of money. And occasionally sometimes the state will assign technical folks or circuit writers or people from the nonprofits. There's funds to help pay for the nonprofits to do these types of programs, but also it helps if a regional entity is kind of helping guide where the need is and making the introductions. It moves a lot faster, kind of at the speed of trust."

Carolina Hernandez asked: "[W]hat kind of overarching programs that might be common to all small water systems, aside from giving them a grant for something, like some of them just need training,...is there something on your mind that could be common throughout California?"

• Mr. Eckhart: "So one of the things we started to work with a nonprofit is we would host for everybody...operator classes for training at our headquarters or centralized location and we would invite the small systems first and then open it up to the other local larger cities, but we wanted to reach out and say this is free training [so] you get your continuing education units...and we can feed you lunch. So free classes in your own backyard and we would tailor those classes to kind of the challenges of the region...allowed us to network and have discussions on consolidation, discussions on grant programs and say[ing] well, these folks just got 16 months ago, maybe you should go back and engage."

# Idea Infra3: Establish Groundwater Recharge Infrastructure Program for Local Drought Resilience

To inform on the landscape of work in the state regarding groundwater recharge, the workgroup members received a presentation from Tim Godwin, the policy advisor to the Deputy Director of the Sustainable Groundwater Management at the Department of Water Resources (Department). Mr. Godwin shared his knowledge and experience on groundwater recharge efforts in the state which include opportunities, challenges, and how the state and the Department provide data, information, funding, and technical assistance to improve and increase the ability for local entities to recharge their groundwater aquifers.

#### Past Few Years

The presentation began with a shared observation that changing climate is increasing the frequency of drier periods and extremely wet periods, sometimes during the same year, which 2023 was a case in point; a swing from drought conditions to extreme flooding events highlighted by the reemergence of the Tulare Lake. 2023 also provided opportunities for Groundwater Sustainability Agencies to implement their plans which called for recharge activities to address overdraft of groundwater in various regions in the state. Unfortunately, because precipitation landed quickly and with great intensity, we were not as readily prepared to manage surface water enough to minimize flood impacts.

In 2023, the Department, in collaboration with local agencies, utilized executive orders from the Governor to accelerate the capture and storage of high-water flows for groundwater recharge. Through the Flood Diversion and Recharge Enhancement Program, approximately 400,000 acre-feet of floodwater were diverted onto 90,000 acres of open and working lands, achieving dual goals of reducing downstream flood risk and enhancing groundwater supplies. These efforts were guided by specific land use and water quality requirements, with water quality emerging as a significant concern. Statewide, a total of 4 million acre-feet of managed aquifer recharge was reported in Groundwater Sustainable Agency (GSA) annual reports, reflecting a substantial increase in recharge activity. Much of that water was managed through programs like LAWP and diversions in the Owens Valley which may offer insights into large-scale recharge strategies in the Central Valley.

In addition to broader recharge efforts, the Department is looking to optimize the use of high flow conditions within the existing infrastructure of the State Water Project and Central Valley Project, to harness the system's capacity to divert and store excess water for long-term use. A key initiative involved converting former agricultural lands into dedicated recharge basins—a process referred to as "rip and chip"—where the Department partnered with local agencies to remove crops and prepare land for enhanced infiltration. These efforts were supported by the deployment of siphons and temporary pumps to safely divert floodwaters into these newly developed recharge areas, further expanding the state's ability to manage and store high flows effectively.

In the year following the 2023 flood diversion efforts, executive orders were formalized into Water Code 1242.1, providing a legal framework for local agencies to capture and divert flood flows. However, the implementation revealed several constraints. Water could only be applied to open and working lands that met strict criteria—excluding areas with a history of fertilizer or pesticide use, or those near dairy waste operations—to prevent contamination of groundwater. Additionally, many agencies were unprepared due to the requirement for a local flood plan that defined flood risk thresholds necessary to trigger emergency diversions. Another limitation was that diverted floodwaters under this provision did not come with a dedicated water right, which further complicated participation. These challenges highlighted the need for better preparedness and more flexible regulatory mechanisms moving forward.

#### Water Year 2025

Although a new executive order from the Governor was in place that eased constraints around local flood plan requirements, there was incremental progress in capturing high flows. Only the diversion of 500 acre-feet of water was attributed to the new executive order. This modest gain underscored the vast untapped potential for floodwater capture, especially as climate change continues to shift precipitation patterns toward more intense flow events and reduced snowpack. Expanded operations within the State Water Project enabled more floodwater to be moved into contractor storage, but limitations in the southern Delta, due to water quality control plan constraints, prevented the diversion of an estimated 700,000 acre-feet from the Sacramento system alone. The Department continues to gather insights through Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) annual reports and GSPs, to improve its understanding of where local agencies are succeeding or facing barriers while using that knowledge to inform future planning and coordination.

Looking towards the rest of the year, the Department continues to support local agencies in implementing flood diversion strategies, with recent progress seen during the past winter. Notably, Sacramento County successfully developed a local flood plan and, in coordination with the Army Corps, diverted significant volumes of water from the Cosumnes River onto agricultural lands for infiltration and groundwater recharge. These efforts reflect growing familiarity with the Water Code 1242.1 process and its requirements. Analysis from PPIC highlights the vast difference in flow volumes between the Sacramento and San Joaquin systems, with the Sacramento offering far greater opportunities for capture, though current Delta conveyance constraints continue to limit the ability to divert and store these high flows. As the Department prepares for future droughts, it is actively engaging with local agencies, including through recent follow-up meetings on Sacramento Valley flood diversion, to expand collaboration and improve readiness for capturing and storing floodwaters.

A key constraint in managing and capturing flood flows lies in the reliability of monitoring systems, particularly those used to define flood conditions that would trigger the use of groundwater recharge to mitigate flood risks. With ongoing transitions at the federal level affecting the River Forecast Center, the Department is actively working to maintain coordination and ensure timely, accurate data is available to inform flood management

decisions. This collaboration is essential not only for protecting communities and infrastructure but also for enabling water districts to identify and act on opportunities to capture and store floodwaters. Strengthening these connections between forecasting, emergency response, and water storage operations remains a critical focus moving forward.

The Department is actively collaborating with local agencies to establish and refine flood monitoring thresholds at numerous locations across the state. Understanding potential thresholds can inform flood control managers and groundwater recharge agencies define when specific actions should be taken in response to rising flood risks. By using this data-driven approach, the Department aims to better identify windows of opportunity for safe floodwater diversions; both to reduce flood risk and to enhance groundwater recharge. This method supports more precise, timely decision-making and strengthens the overall effectiveness of flood and water management strategies.

#### **Known Challenges**

As the Department continues to expand opportunities for groundwater recharge efforts, it faces growing challenges tied to increasing water demand from both agricultural and urban sectors, as well as shifting hydrologic patterns marked by reduced snowpack and more extreme weather events. While off-stream surface water storage projects like Sites Reservoir offer new opportunities, they require infrastructure to pump and store high flows and must be complemented by better use of available aquifer space. Maintaining and operating flood control systems remains critical amid intensifying storms and water quality concerns such as legacy salt buildup, pesticide residues, and naturally occurring contaminants. To better understand these impacts, the Department has initiated water quality sampling in project areas. Effective groundwater management is also essential, especially in over drafted basins, to ensure stored water is used sustainably during droughts. Additionally, land subsidence continues to impair water conveyance infrastructure, underscoring the need for integrated planning and long-term resilience strategies.

#### Regulatory and Permitting Challenges

One of the more complex challenges in floodwater recharge under Water Code 1242.1 is the legal and regulatory treatment of diverted storm flows. When these flows are recharged into groundwater systems, they do not carry a specific water right, like natural recharge, in-lieu use, or recycled water. However, when surface water is stored underground under a permit, it retains its identity as surface water until it is extracted and put to beneficial use. This distinction, managed by the State Water Board, creates a regulatory overlap between surface and groundwater rights. As a result, the groundwater system now contains a mix of native groundwater and stored surface water, making it increasingly important for SGMA agencies to track and account for these waters. The concept of "coloring the water" is being used to illustrate the need for clear accountability and beneficial use tracking as these systems become more integrated and complex.

The Department is navigating a complex landscape of water rights and permitting pathways to support floodwater diversions and groundwater recharge. Existing mechanisms include pre- and post-1914 water rights, project-based contracts, and provisions like Article 21 (State Water Project) and Article 215 (Central Valley Project), which allow for the use of surplus water. Newer tools, such as temporary permits including streamlined 180-day and five-year options under Section 9020, offer additional flexibility for capturing high flows. However, these processes remain administratively intensive, requiring detailed analysis of water availability, diversion thresholds, and accounting. The Department has been assisting local agencies in initiating these efforts earlier in the year to improve readiness. The State Water Board is encouraging the use of five-year permits for their longer-term utility. Meanwhile, diversions under Water Code 1242.1 do not require a permit but are constrained by the need for a local flood plan and suitable infiltration lands to avoid water quality risks. These overlapping systems highlight the need for coordination and clarity as agencies work to expand recharge capacity.

#### Land Subsidence Negative Effects on Infrastructure

Land subsidence remains a critical issue in California, significantly impacting both water conveyance and flood protection infrastructure, particularly in the San Joaquin Valley. The Department, in coordination with local agencies under SGMA, is addressing major subsidence zones, often referred to as "subsidence bowls", through newly released best management practices. In areas like the Friant-Kern Canal, restoring infrastructure integrity may require raising groundwater levels by as much as 70 feet to halt further subsidence. Preliminary estimates suggest that each foot of groundwater level increase in the region could equate to over a million acre-feet of potential water storage. This presents a substantial opportunity to enhance groundwater reserves, if recharge efforts are carefully managed to protect water quality and the communities that depend on these aquifers.

#### **Drivers For State Action**

The Department's efforts are closely aligned with major state initiatives such as the SGMA, the Water Resilience Portfolio, and the Governor's Water Supply Strategy (Strategy), all of which emphasize the urgent need to adapt to California's changing hydrology. Executive orders related to flood and drought have played a key role in jumpstarting recharge projects by enabling expedited action where local agencies were ready. Moving forward, the Department is focused on integrating its flagship planning documents such as the California Water Plan, the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan, and Bulletin 118 to identify and optimize opportunities for high-flow diversions and groundwater recharge. While California has built a world-class flood infrastructure system that efficiently moves water out to sea, the challenge now is to re-engineer that system to mimic natural recharge processes in a managed way, capturing more of those flows to build long-term water resilience.

As highlighted in the Strategy, the expansion of storage above and below ground is significantly large and key to the state's resiliency to drought and water supply shortages. The Strategy has a statewide goal of 3.7 million acre-feet in storage by

2030. The state has a long way to go, but there is progress which highlights the opportunity ahead for preparedness for drought and water supply shortages.

#### **Expediting Flood Diversion and Recharge**

Looking ahead, the Department is prioritizing technical assistance and data-driven planning to support expanded groundwater recharge. This includes the development of five San Joaquin Valley watershed studies which are comprehensive modeling efforts that evaluate high flow capture potential and explore reoperation of higher elevation, rim reservoirs to enhance groundwater storage. The Department is also advancing floodplain reconnection projects, such as those under the Flood Diversion and Recharge Enhancement Program and deploying tools like aerial electromagnetic geophysics to identify areas with strong vertical connectivity for deep aquifer recharge. In parallel, it is supporting local agencies in developing flood plans, streamlining temporary water right applications, and participating in collaborative networks like the Flood-Managed Aquifer Recharge (Flood-MAR). Financial assistance remains a key component, with ongoing grant programs and the upcoming Proposition 4 funding round, for which the Department is actively seeking stakeholder input to ensure resources are effectively targeted.

#### Top Needs to Expand Storage Through Recharge

To maximize the use of California's natural infrastructure, particularly groundwater basins for long-term water storage, the Department is prioritizing several high-impact strategies. These include repurposing lands that may come out of agricultural production due to SGMA implementation, identifying and connecting those lands to recharge opportunities, and advancing detailed water budget accounting to better align supply and demand. Expanding water banking and trading concepts is also a key focus, along with leveraging infrastructure like the Delta Conveyance Project to more effectively capture high flows from the Sacramento system. Achieving these goals will require strong partnerships and flexible agreements with water contractors, as well as continued collaboration with the State Water Board to streamline and modernize water rights permitting. Ultimately, enhanced coordination and communication between state and federal agencies will be essential to optimize storage and build long-term water resilience.

Anthony Navasero asked: With a lot of work happening around groundwater recharge, "What's the challenge, what's the holdup [to increasing groundwater recharge]?"

• Mr. Godwin: "Don Cameron, Chair of the [California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)]...took those early risks and put water, saturated his vines in the valley and evaluated what was the impact...working closely now...with sustainable conservation and the grant tool that is really advancing the connections and information process to inform growers about how their specific crops on their specific land may or may not be affected by inundation, and...it's building that capacity. We have the GSAs who want to do these recharge projects, but...there's a risk being taken by the landowner as it may affect their crop, their property and investment,...[but] there is...a benefit for the recharge

that they're going to get from that and how does that get accounted. I think there's a lot of questions about how they get credit for the risk they're taking to put water on their lands."

Alvar Escriva-Bou asked: "...[Based] from the experience you had in 2023 because you had commented who was recharging; is there any kind of common thread of who was able to recharge,...why some people it was important for them to recharge, what were some challenges? Do you have any insights on that?"

• Mr. Godwin: "What we found through the flood diversion and recharge enhancement effort, rip and chip, those were typically agencies that were already recharging in some capacity or another. So, they already had the experience that this was value add for them, they knew how to do it, they were just trying to get new projects implemented. And I think those resulted in significant expansions of their operations. I think that was probably the common thread,...we were engaged with the people who had the experience. So, it's about sharing that experience so others can partake in that effort as well."

Alvar Escriva-Bou followed up and asked: "You mentioned a lot of things [about] accounting when you were [mentioning]... 'the incentive needs'...to know that they're recharging [with] so much water maybe having an economic incentive, maybe having all kinds of incentives, but when you were talking about the accounting, what exactly do we need for [accounting]?"

• Mr. Godwin: "Well, the Sustainable Groundwater Management plans already call for an accounting...[a]nd it is the foundation for really, I think to your point, incentivizing landowners to do this. I just don't think the GSAs have quite reached that maturity point and connection point yet of building those opportunities. I think we're going to see more and more projects and actions coming out of the GSAs that do recognize that some of the lands are probably going to come out of production and yet some of those lands may be optimal recharge locations. There might be value in investing collectively at converting those lands into recharge basins that then can be managed and shared and maybe there's some economic benefit. Maybe we're going to farm water, right? So, it's changing a dynamic that is very well entrenched and some new concepts."

Lorena Munoz asked: "... curious if there's been any communication or some partnership with DWR and some of the block grantees that have funding to do projects like this, and I'd like to hear your thoughts on that."

 Mr. Godwin: "... we were working closely with the initial MLRP [Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program, CDOC] effort and we intend to work closely with the upcoming refunding of that through Prop 4...we're engaging with them, really trying to align all of the funding sources to be complementary of one another. I met yesterday with representatives from CDFA and their SWEEP Program [State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program] also has Prop 4 funding...we're going to be coordinating on how these funding sources best support the locals' effort in kind of threading this needle where all of these buckets of money have specific focus, but it's really moving people towards that resiliency and ability to store and manage these conditions."

Anthony Navasero asked: "You talked about the Flood MAR hub as a resource, but are there other resources that proponents would look for? Like, is there a flow chart or a guide, some kind of document that may inspire others in their regions to start to look at recharge and if not is that an idea that we can spur and grow that there should be one created?

Mr. Godwin: So first, because of the iterative approach we've had with trying to roll out managed aquifer recharge, the Flood MAR group formed...and developed the research data development program,...but I think there's a tremendous resource within the Flood-MAR network and there's a lot of guidance developed as part of that. But we're also developing additional guidance on top of that for the SGMA program, helping those to see pathways through, but I think there's still a need...we're just trying to piece these things together for the first time to be able to articulate the challenges in implementing these things and accounting for groundwater recharge. I think for the first time to really manage our water portfolio, surface and groundwater water. There are many agencies that have been doing it for a long time, Mojave and work that Lance has done in the past. I know he's been very connected in how best to manage these things. there's full water portfolios, especially if you could home in on really trying to address a specific region or purpose and maybe that purpose is drought resiliency,...but at the same time we're trying now,...having your perspectives embedded in that guidance document would be tremendously valuable."