

Agriculture and Sustainable Groundwater Management

- My focus - Lands with surface supplies (v. “white lands”) in San Joaquin Valley
- SGMA and Farmers
 - What is wanted: Sustainable surface supplies, i.e., Plan A – a pipe dream?
 - What is anticipated: Reluctant recognition of pumping limitations, i.e., Plan B
- Plan B brings about major land use implications, both existing and future
- Whether A or B or both, farmers also want a SGMA road map, i.e. the GSA rules

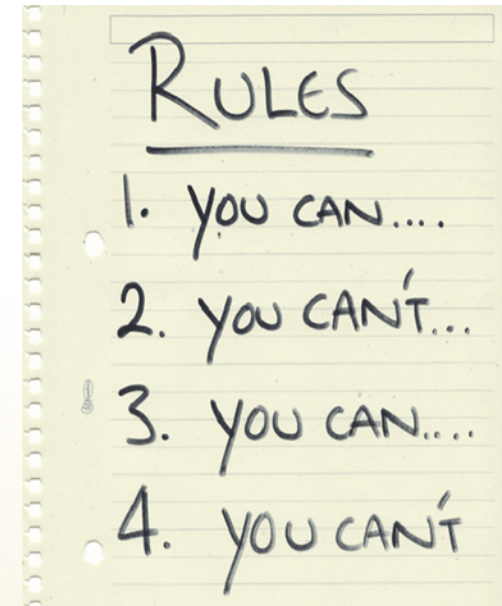
Uncommon Dialogue

Unanticipated Land Use Planning

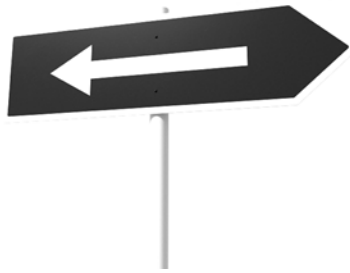


Rules: Cart Before the Horse?

- What are the GSA rules?
- Rules await:
 - Groundwater basin knowledge
 - The sustainability goal
 - Urban coordination – overlying, correlative v. appropriative, prescriptive rights
 - Allocation methodologies
 - Stakeholder vetting



SGMA Land Use Tools



The Challenges:

- 1) Reverse land use planning?
- 2) Basin conundrum - Plan B → one for all and all for one?

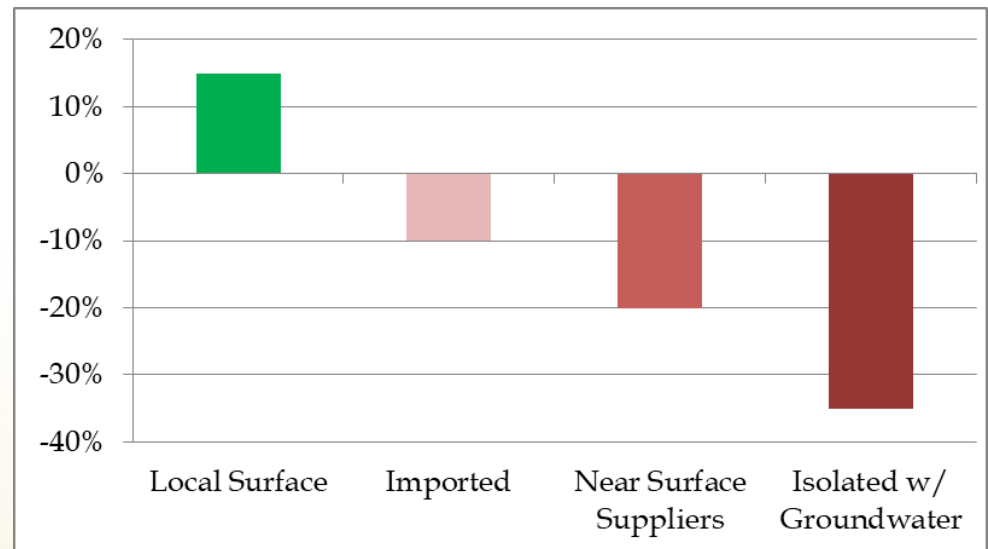
The Tools:

- Plan A – acquire surface water
- Plan B – restrict extractions
 - ✓ Permanent crop v row crop lands
 - ✓ Voluntary land retirement options
 - ✓ Couple fallowing with recharge
 - ✓ Couple fallowing with solar generation
 - ✓ Financial penalties
 - ✓ Storage accounts
 - ✓ Sell, lease groundwater allotments

Interim Land Value Realities

- Financial markets reacting
- Groupings:
 - Lands w/ local Sierra stream supplies
 - Lands with imported supplies
 - Lands in or near surface suppliers
 - Isolated lands with deep groundwater only

Land Value Changes – South San Joaquin Valley



Will GSP tools mitigate for sagging land values?