

# SWIG TAC Deep Aquifers Study Recommendations

Seawater Intrusion Working Group

November 23, 2020





# SWIG TAC's Charge

- Provide recommendations to the SWIG
- Identify tasks that could be included in the Deep Aquifers Study RFP
- Do not write the scope of work for the RFP





## Process Details

- ▶ The TAC comprises technical members. Therefore the recommendations are something of a technical wish list.
- ▶ We have attempted to restrict the wish list to reasonable activities
- ▶ The recommendations do not include specific details, to avoid writing the RFP scope of work
  
- ▶ The SWIG can accept or reject any or all of the recommendations



## SWIG TAC Recommendations: Structure of RFP and Deep Aquifers Study

- ▶ The RFP should include a list of available data sources for the Deep Aquifers
- ▶ Some TAC members suggested that the study be phased
  - ▶ Address critical issues early, such as local overdraft
  - ▶ However, do not focus on one part of the Deep Aquifers at the expense of the rest of the Deep Aquifers
  - ▶ Current recommendation: Consultant should provide interim reports, and not hold all results until the final project report




# SWIG TAC Recommendations: Activities 1

- ▶ Describe the Deep Aquifers geology, hydrogeology and extents
  - ▶ Geologically, the Deep Aquifers extend beyond the Salinas Valley
  - ▶ Hydrogeologically, the Deep Aquifers are often identified by the presence of the aquitard that separates it from the 400-Foot Aquifer. The extent of this Aquitard is poorly mapped
  - ▶ The study should provide a clear definition of what constitutes the Deep Aquifers
  - ▶ We anticipate that the study will address whether, and to what degree, the deep aquifers exist in the 180/400, Monterey, Langley, and Forebay subbasins



## SWIG TAC Recommendations: Activities 2

- ▶ Develop a water budget for the Deep Aquifers
  - ▶ Where does Deep Aquifers recharge come from?
  - ▶ How does Deep Aquifers recharge affect other aquifers?
  - ▶ Are the Deep Aquifers in overdraft, and by how much?
  - ▶ Differentiate between local overdraft and regional overdraft in the Deep Aquifers.



## SWIG TAC Recommendations: Activities 3 & 4: (Not part of the strict, scientific investigation)

- ▶ Address the economic value of the Deep Aquifers
  - ▶ Who can use the Deep Aquifers economically?
  - ▶ What existing agreements limit the use, or reserve the use, of the Deep Aquifers?
- ▶ Practical aspects of managing the Deep Aquifers
  - ▶ How does management outside the Salinas Valley impact the Deep Aquifers?
  - ▶ Describe limitations of managing the Deep Aquifers only within the Salinas Valley



## SWIG TAC Recommendations: Activities 4

- ▶ Propose and Initiate a Deep Aquifers monitoring program
  - ▶ Use existing data and infrastructure as much as possible
    - ▶ Existing wells
    - ▶ Geophysical data
  - ▶ Address uncertainty
  - ▶ Manage risk
  
- ▶ Some TAC members stated that the improved monitoring should be initiated immediately
  - ▶ Is it practical to initiate a monitoring program without having analyzed what we already know?
  - ▶ Can a consultant estimate the cost of gathering data from an improved monitoring program?





# Questions

