

GROUNDWATER STORAGE SOUTH OF THE DELTA (KERN COUNTY GROUNDWATER BASIN)

In wetter years:

- ◆ Kern water users shift to groundwater; forego portion of SWP allocation
- ◆ Up to 90,000 af could be provided in year that KCWA receives 100% allocation
- ◆ Quantity would decrease as SWP allocation reduced (at 50% allocation no water would be available)
- ◆ Replacement of groundwater basin water would be with Friant Project 215 water (flood control deliveries)
- ◆ Terms to be developed by KCWA, MWD, and USBR
- ◆ Cost per acre foot - \$75

In first years of a drought:

- ◆ Entities with banked water provide 100,000 af on annual basis -- could be provided in two consecutive years and possibly three years
- ◆ Short-term arrangement to establish EWA in early Stage 1
- ◆ Kern groundwater basin would be available for approximately 5 years
- ◆ Entities with available bank accounts prefer making water available as purchase and not by storing water prior to extraction
- ◆ The cost of banked (purchased) water will range from \$180 to \$220 per acre foot

Other issues to consider:

- ◆ Water projects would determine the amount of water that can be delivered based on agreed upon baseline
- ◆ Reduction in exports below baseline would be done without reducing water allocations.
- ◆ San Luis Reservoir storage levels can be maintained above 300,000 af most years (use demand shifting in some years to accomplish)
- ◆ Resulting reduced project storage can be recovered through reduced flood control releases in most years
- ◆ In other years replace with Kern groundwater
- ◆ Guaranteed annual supply of 100,000 af can be incorporated into project operations
- ◆ Need to look at affect of lower storage levels (in first year of drought) on temperatures in upper Sacramento and Feather Rivers