Solving Seawater Intrusion in the Central and West Coast Basins of Coastal Los Angeles County....for Now

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# LA County Population Growth



#### 1930s – 1950s Pumping Double Natural Replenishment



80 1930 60 40 (feet above/below sea level) **Groundwater Elevation** 20 0 -20 160 foot drop (49 m)-40 -60 -80 -100 -120 1930 1935 1955 1985 1990 1995 2000 2005 2010 2015 940 945 1950 1960 1965 1980 970 975

Central Basin Key Well 2S/13W-10A1

Unsustainable. Severe Overdraft. Wells Went Dry. Seawater Intrusion. Great threat to local water supply.

#### STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

EARL WARREN, Governor C. H. PURCELL, Director of Public Works EDWARD HYATT, State Engineer

**BULLETIN No. 53** 

#### SOUTH COASTAL BASIN **INVESTIGATION**

#### OVERDRAFT ON GROUND WATER BASINS



1947

1947

STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES DIVISION OF RESOURCES PLANNING

BULLETIN No. 63

#### SEA WATER INTRUSION IN CALIFORNIA

#### APPENDIX B REPORT BY LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

ON

INVESTIGATIONAL WORK FOR PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF SEA WATER INTRUSION, WEST COAST BASIN EXPERI-MENTAL PROJECT, LOS ANGELES COUNTY

As Directed by Chapter 1500, Statutes of 1951



Governor



With Population **Growth Came** Groundwater **Pumping Greater** than Natural Replenishment... **Overdraft** and Seawater Intrusion



GOODWIN I. KNIGHT

By 1950s, groundwater was below sea level in half of the basins, resulting in Sea Water Intrusion Several miles inland along the Coast

PV FAI

# **Sea Water Intrusion**



Modified from DWR 1961, Cross Section E-E'



Ocean

Blocked

Intrusion

All coastal aquifers likely have minor seawater intrusion, even if not in overdraft

But heavy pumping can increase rate and distance of intrusion.

Seawater intrusion barriers can block the inflow of salt water and replenish the basins with fresh water



### Initial Barrier Tests 1952 - 1954



#### Seawater Barrier Wells



#### Sea Water Barrier Wells - LACFCD



Dominguez Gap Barrier Project 1970s Alamitos Gap Barrier Project 1960s

Nearly 300 injection wells, 16 mile overall length

PV Hills



## Water for the Barriers

Treated Drinking Water (potable) from MWD (imported water):

- Exclusive source 1953 1995.
- Partial Source 1995 Present.
- 1.5 Million acre-feet to date.



#### Advanced Treated Recycled Water:

- Since 1995 at West Coast Barrier (WBMWD).
- Since 2005 at Alamitos Barrier (WRD).
- Since 2006 at Dominguez Barrier (City of LA).
- 184,000 acre-feet to date.

Goal is to move towards 100% recycled water at all three barriers (Water Independence Now–WIN).





### **Advanced Treated Recycled** Water for Barriers



Secondary or Tertiary Wastewater

To





Oxidation H2O2

Ultra Violet Light

**Reverse Osmosis** 

### **Barrier Injection Amounts & Costs**

■ Injection Amounts (2016-17 estimate): Potable Water: 6,260 af Recycled Water: 32,300 af Total Cost of Water: Potable Water: Recycled Water:

<u>26,040 af (81%)</u>

\$ 8.5 million (\$1360/af) <u>\$18.4 million (\$707/af)</u> \$26.9 million

### Going to 100% Recycled at Barriers

Angeles

**Forrance** 

West Coast Barrier: Permitted for 100%

Santa Monica Mtn

San Fernando Valley

Pacific

Ocean

Vordes Hills Dominguez Gap Barrier: Permitted for 50%. Moving towards 100% 2017

Carson

Alamitos Barrier: Permitted 100%

San Gabriel Mtns

Long

each

### **Seawater Barrier Models**









# Summary

- Seawater barrier injection wells have been a proven deterrent to intrusion for over 60 years. Steep inland gradients caused by groundwater pumping are the main driver for the intrusion.
- Recycled water is an effective injection source for the barriers to offset the need for potable water use.
- WRD's goal is to have the barriers at 100% recycled water in 2017.
  - Impact of increased pumping and/or sea level rise may require additional injection and/or additional wells. Modeling can help predict the impacts.



# **Thank You**

