

Developing Local Resources for Groundwater Replenishment





Local Groundwater Supply Central and West Coast Basins



Water Wells – over 400 active wells







Solutions

- 1) Court adjudicated (capped) groundwater pumping to 92 billion gallons per year (281,835 acre feet per year).
- 2) LA County Flood Control District installed 16 miles of injection wells along the coast to pump in freshwater and stop the seawater intrusion.
- 3) WRD formed in 1959 to replenish aquifers and protect groundwater quality.





Rio Hondo spreading grounds



San Gabriel spreading grounds

Central Basin Replenishment Sources



Results of WRD basin management

10 Water Surface Elevation (feet MSL) -10 -30 -50 mm -70 -90 -110 Feb-60 Jan-80 Jan-00 Feb-30 Feb-40 Feb-50 Feb-70 Jan-90 Date

CENTRAL BASIN KEY WELL



Rising water levels & drought protection

WEST COAST BASIN KEY WELL

Benefits of Groundwater

- Local reliable supply
- Drought protection
- Cost effective



Historical Cost of Groundwater compared to Imported Water (cost per Acre Foot)







WRD's WIN Program will reduce or eliminate need for imported water to replenish groundwater





Collection of projects to eliminate WRD demand for imported water

Projects to:

- Capture and conserve additional stormwater
- Increase use of recycled water for groundwater replenishment

 Creates locally self-sufficient groundwater supply for 10% of population of California (4 million residents in the Central and West Coast basins)



Stormwater Projects under WIN Program



Dam up the river (temporarily)

- Inflatable rubber dams are proven technology to halt river flow and promote infiltration.
- 2 new dams in 2008 in San Gabriel River. Co-funded by LADPW & WRD.
- Provide 3,600 afy more storm water capture and infiltration.





Increase Conservation Pool behind the Whittier Narrows Dam

- WND is flood control project built by Army Corps 1957.
- Oil wells behind dam limited water storage capability (conservation pool).
- LADPW & WRD cooperated to remove oil wells.
- Conservation pool increased allowing 1,500 afy more storm water capture.
- Can increase by another 1,000 afy with additional study



Interconnection Pipeline

- Two-way pipeline (78" diam, 1.2 mi) to divert flows between Rio Hondo and San Gabriel.
- LACDPW & WRD co-funded project.
- Will go online Spring 2011.
- Will increase storm water capture by 1,300 afy, also more recharge flexibility.



Increase Vadose Zone

- Shallow water table can limit storm water recharge.
- Concept to install pumping wells to drawdown water table, exposing more vadose zone, and freeing up more room for storm water capture / recharge.
- Modeling shows 17,000 afy more storm water can be captured.



Low Impact Developments (LIDS)

- Set of approaches to reduce runoff and pollutants from reaching surface waterways, and promote recharge.
 - Bioswales
 - Porous Pavement
 - Dry wells
 - Rain Harvesting
 - Smart Landscaping



Elmer Avenue site, LA and SG Rivers Watershed Council



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