## Mid-County Basin Groundwater Hydrology and Management

Presented on July 8, 2014 to Mid-County Groundwater Stakeholder Advisory Group Santa Cruz County



## HydroMetrics WRI Introduction

- Consulting groundwater hydrologist for Soquel Creek Water District (SqCWD) since 2005
- Lead consultant on Basin Management Technical Study for Central Water District (CWD) funded by state grant



## Outline

- Existing data and analyses for groundwater management
  - Basin hydrogeology
  - Seawater intrusion and basin overdraft
  - SqCWD Pumping plans
  - Drought conditions
  - Streamflow and shallow water levels
  - Well Master Plan effects on private wells
  - CWD groundwater model



## Levels of Information

- Collected Data
- Hydrogeologic Interpretation
- Calculated or Modeled Estimates
- Information to Refine

## Basin Hydrogeology



## Data: Geologic and Geophysical Logs











## Interpreted: Basin Geologic Outcrops

Punsima Glenwood Synch

#### Purisima



Irabb, E.E., 1997 (Undifferentiated Purisima/Glenwood Syncline and coastal terrace deposits)

#### Interpreted: Basin Geologic Cross Section



## Data: Groundwater Level Monitoring







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Historical Record: Monthly measurements with airline or sounder Ongoing Record: Every 15 minutes Checked with sounder quarterly

## Data: Wells Monitored for Basin Management

- Soquel Creek Water District production and monitoring wells
- Central Water District production and monitoring wells
- City of Santa Cruz production and monitoring wells
- ~30 private wells monitored by Santa Cruz County
- Wells monitored by Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency





rics<sub>WRI</sub>



#### Seawater Intrusion and Basin Overdraft



## Data: Coastal Monitoring Wells



Hydro

#### Data: Monitoring Well Sampling Equipment



#### Data: Coastal Well Chloride Concentrations



etrics

#### Interpreted: Seawater Intrusion in Aromas



Deepest Monitoring Wells (A Screen) Installed Below Salt Interface

#### Interpreted: Seawater Intrusion in Purisima





## **Refinement: Geophysics Studies**



## Estimated: Protective Elevations to Stop Seawater Intrusion in Aromas



#### Estimated: Protective Elevations to Prevent Seawater Intrusion in Purisima



#### Current Levels vs. Protective Elevations



## Refinement: Use Logger Data

• Calculate More Accurate Annual Averages to Compare to Protective Elevations



#### Soquel Creek Water District Pumping Plans



## SqCWD Planned Pumping Reductions

- SqCWD will <u>adaptively manage</u> pumping to raise and maintain groundwater levels to protective elevations and prevent seawater intrusion
- SqCWD plans pumping reductions to eliminate long-term overdraft based on water balance:

SqCWD Long-Term Consumptive Use= Recharge MINUS Protective Outflow to Ocean MINUS Outflow to Pajaro Valley MINUS non-SqCWD Consumptive Use

#### Estimated: Recharge Using PRMS Model



#### Estimated: Protective Outflow to Ocean



Hydro

## Estimated: Flow to Pajaro Valley



#### Data and Estimated: Non-SqCWD Use



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## Estimated: Non-Ag Water Use Factors

Land Use	AFY/	Source			
Residential/Accommodations					
Urban/Suburban	0.39-0.50	Faler (1992) Wolcott (1999)			
High Urban	0.43	Faler (1992) – avg of SFR and duplex			
Mountain/Rural	0.44-1.00	Wolcott (1999) – Pingree (1997)			
On Agricultural Parcel	0.39	Same as urban			
Mobile Park	0.12	Faler (1992)			
Visitor Accommodations	1.53	50 gpd/ppl			
Small Water Systems	0.44	Wolcott (1999)			
Со	mmercial				
Public/Community Facility	1.00	Faler (1992)			
Service	0.50	Estimate			

## Estimated: Ag/Irrigation Water Use Factors

Туре	AFY/ acre	Source	
Truck	2.00	Faler (1992), San Andreas Mutual	
Apple	0.23	CWD Usage 2010-11 (little water applied to established trees)	
Vineyards	0.40	CWD Usage 2010-11 (little water applied to established vines)	
Pasture	2.0	DWR, Faler (1992), adjusted for warm season only	
Golf	1.93	Faler (1992)	
Fields	1.71	Faler (1992)	
Park	1.0	Faler (1992), adjusted for 60% of parcel irrigated, includes urban open space	
Bamboo	0.43	CWD Usage 2010-11	
Citrus	0.23	Same as apple	
Egg Ranch	2.70	AFY/parcel, CWD Usage 2010-11	
Horses	3.00	AFY/parcel, estimate for parcels with >10 horses	

## Other Estimates of Water Use

- PVWMA Study of Aromas WD, Central WD, San Andreas Mutual: 0.47-0.73 AFY/parcel
- San Lorenzo Valley mountain residential: 0.2 AFY/parcel
- Small horse properties: 1 AFY/parcel (Ricker, 2014)



#### Data: SqCWD Pumping Reduced Last 5 Years



## Refinement: Groundwater Model



- Expand CWD groundwater model to Purisima area
- Evaluate pumping plans such as recovery times
- Evaluate water balance components such as outflows
- Evaluate supplemental supply options



## **Drought Conditions**



#### Data: 3<sup>rd</sup> Consecutive Low Rainfall Year



 Estimated Recharge last 3 years 16% of Average for WY 1984-2009 WY 2011-2012 Santa Cruz rainfall estimated based on De Laveaga Stn WY 2014 through May Hvdro

etrics<sub>WBI</sub>

# Data: Soquel Creek Streamflow and Shallow Groundwater

#### Upstream



#### Monitoring to Interpret Pumping Effects



#### Interpreted: Losing Reach of Soquel Creek



## Pumping Effects at Private Wells



# Data: Private Well Monitoring and Mitigation



- Monitoring private wells near new SqCWD pumping for pumping effects
  - 13 private/mutual wells enrolled near Polo Grounds well
  - 8 private wells enrolled near O'Neill Ranch well



#### Estimated: Pumping Effects on Private Wells Evaluated by CWD Model



2017 2019 2021 2023 2025 2027 2029 2031 2033 2035 2037 2039 2041

## Data Collected

- Geologic and geophysical logs
- Groundwater levels
- Groundwater quality
- Water agency use
- Water use of some small water systems
- Rainfall
- Soquel Creek stream water levels and shallow groundwater levels
- Private well water levels and use for municipal pumping effects

## Hydrogeologic Interpretation

- Basin geology (Hydrostratigraphy)
- Groundwater elevation contour maps
- Seawater intrusion salt interface
- Surface water-groundwater interaction on Soquel Creek
- Pumping effects on private wells

## Calculated or Modeled Estimates

- Protective Elevations coastal groundwater levels to protect basin from seawater intrusion
- Areal recharge
- Protective outflow to ocean
- Flow to Pajaro Valley
- Water use of some small water systems
- Water use of private pumpers
- Effects of potential pumping re-distribution by CWD



## Information Refinements

- Geophysics studies to locate seawater intrusion salt interface
- Calculate more accurate average levels from groundwater level logger data for comparison with protective elevations
- Expand CWD model to cover Purisima



Q & A

