

Water Board Groundwater Work Plan

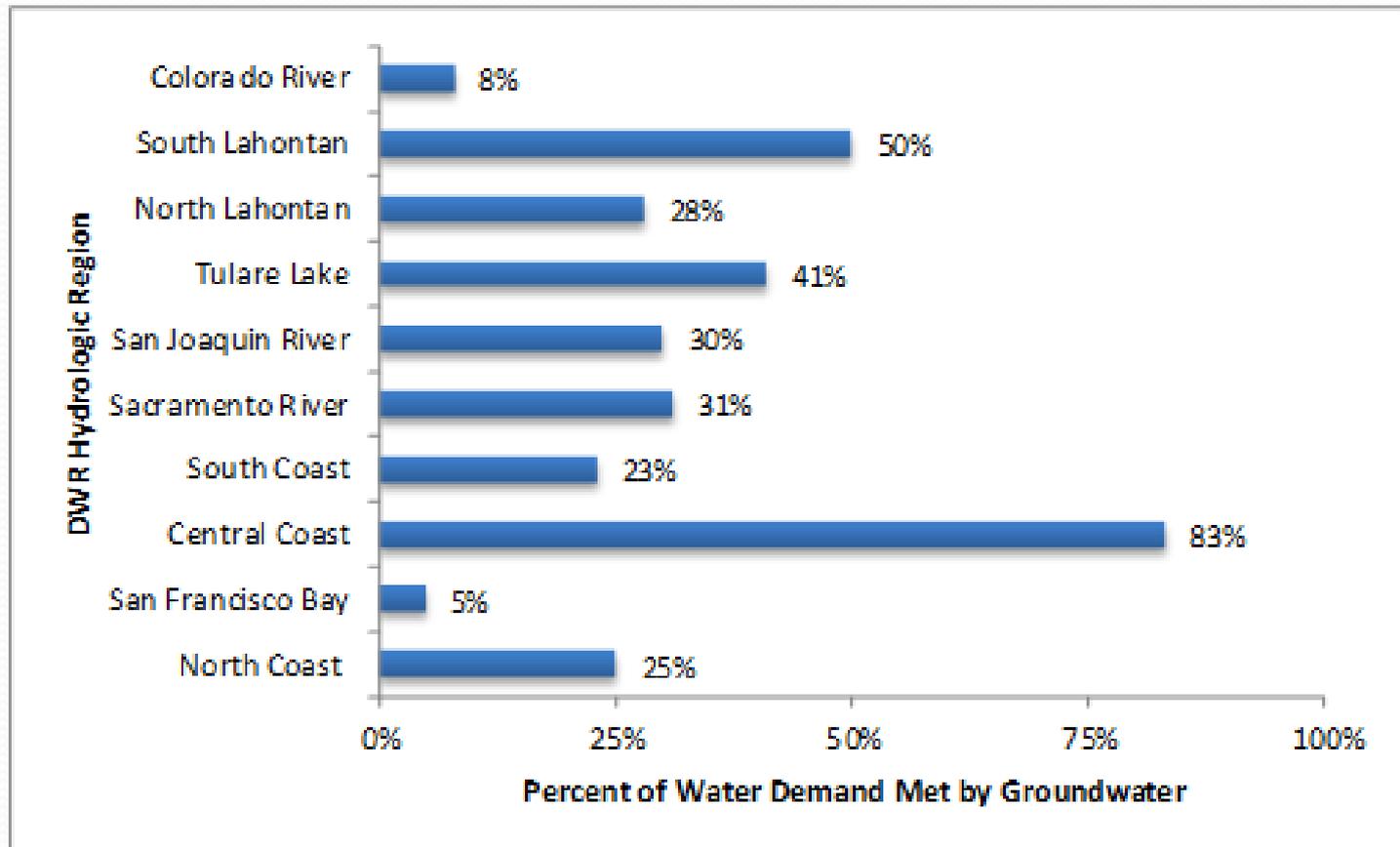


Quick Facts on California

Water Groundwater Use

- Percentage of Urban and Agricultural Demands met with groundwater
 - Normal Year: 30 percent
 - Dry year: 40 percent
- About 9 million Californians (1 in 3) rely solely on groundwater to meet their needs
- On the Central Coast, 90 percent of drinking water comes from groundwater
- California uses more groundwater than any other state.
- Significant overdraft occurring in the Central Valley and other areas
 - 1 million acre feet per year
- Need will grow

% Water Demand Met by Groundwater



Source: DWR, Bulletin 118, 2003

Western States' Approach to Groundwater Management

Groundwater Management Components:	California	Arizona	Texas	Colorado	New Mexico
Statewide groundwater use permitting	—	X	—	X	X
Active management areas	—	X	X	X	X
Statewide policy—well data made public	—	X	X	X	X
Statewide policy—metering, measurement, and reporting requirements	— ^a	X	—	X	X

^a SBX76 provides for statewide measurement (at the basin level), but not metering of water extraction.

Source: Legislative Analyst's Office, 2010

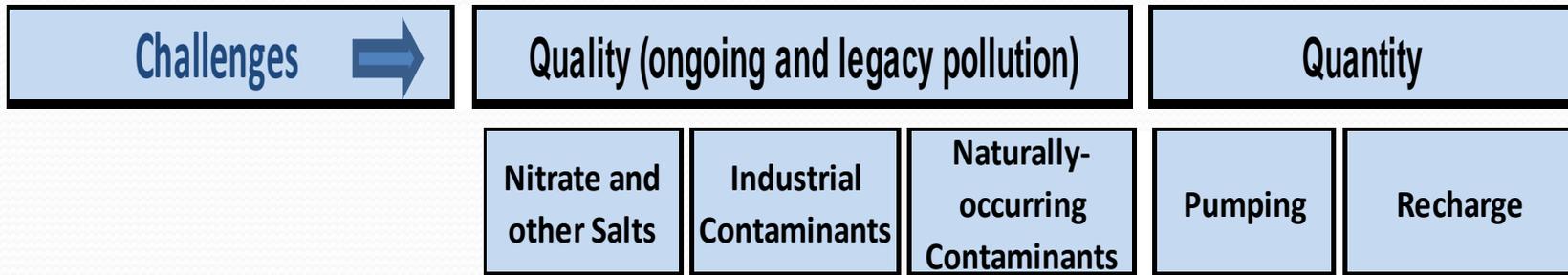
Groundwater Challenges

Quality:

- Industrial Contaminants (point source)
- Nitrates and Salts (non point source)
- Naturally-occurring Contaminants

Quantity:

- Pumping
- Recharge



Wine & Water



Deep trouble in the North County



The North County's primary water source is facing an unprecedented crisis. Over the past 30 years, levels in the underground aquifer have dropped precipitously, 80 to 100 feet or more in some areas.

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In rural North County, all is not well

Residents of the rural parts of San Luis Obispo County north of the Cuesta Grade bought or built their homes to enjoy the simple country life. But their dream of raising a family and maybe a few animals is in peril.

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[Video: A water delivery in Creston](#)



Firefox - Fresno, Calif's Groundwater is Dangerously Low

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Fresno, Calif.'s Groundwater is Dangerously Low

Source: Copyright 2013, Associated Press
Date: September 7, 2013
Byline: Gosia Wozniacka
Original URL: [Status ONLINE](#)
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For decades, this city in California's agricultural heartland relied exclusively on cheap, plentiful groundwater and pumped increasingly larger amounts from an aquifer as its population grew.

But eventually, the water table dropped by more than 100 feet, causing some of Fresno's wells to cave in and others to slow to a trickle. The cost of replacing those wells and extracting groundwater ballooned by 400 percent.

"We became the largest energy demand in the region - \$11 million a year for electricity just to run the pumps," said Martin Querin, manager of the city's water division, which supplies 550,000 residents.

Fresno is just one player in a water war that's quietly being fought underground. Throughout the Central Valley - one of the world's most productive agricultural regions - farmers, residents and cities have seen their wells go dry. Those who can afford it have drilled deeper wells that can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

[Continue to Read Full Article at Source](#)



[Natural-Born Killer: Stop Scott Walker's Open-Pit Mining Assault upon Wisconsin's Water](#)

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Wells Dry as Ground Water Lowers

Video Images



Reported by: Colin Lygren

Email: clygren@khsstv.com

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A new problem is welling up in Tehama County. The last year, groundwater levels have dropped dramatically, causing big problems for some homeowners.

Winter has been good to Harry Johnson, rains have trickled down, filling up his well. But when he moved in to his home this summer...

'Cone of depression' is causing structural damage

Story Comments

Print Font Size: [A](#) [A](#) [A](#)

Posted: Saturday, October 6, 2012 12:00 am | Updated: 5:04 am, Sat Oct 6, 2012.

0 comments

A recent Record (AP) article, "Drought a boon for fix-it firms," addressed the serious problem of lack of water causing serious settling or "subsidence" damage to many homes. The article was from St. Louis, Mo., but could just as well be from Morada and San Joaquin County.

A large portion of San Joaquin County, including Linden and Morada, sits atop a vast void in our groundwater basin. This "cone of depression," or massive hole, is caused from groundwater depletion — a severe overdraft of our aquifer amounting to 200,000 acre-feet per year and growing. With little or no natural recharge or replenishment, and the continual overpumping by the city of Stockton, the cone of depression deepens.



Recent Comments

Posted 37 minutes ago by Jerome R Kinderman.

ARTICLE: Letter: Lack of common sense is making ...

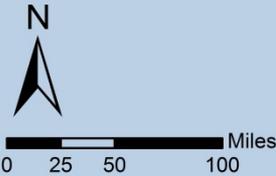
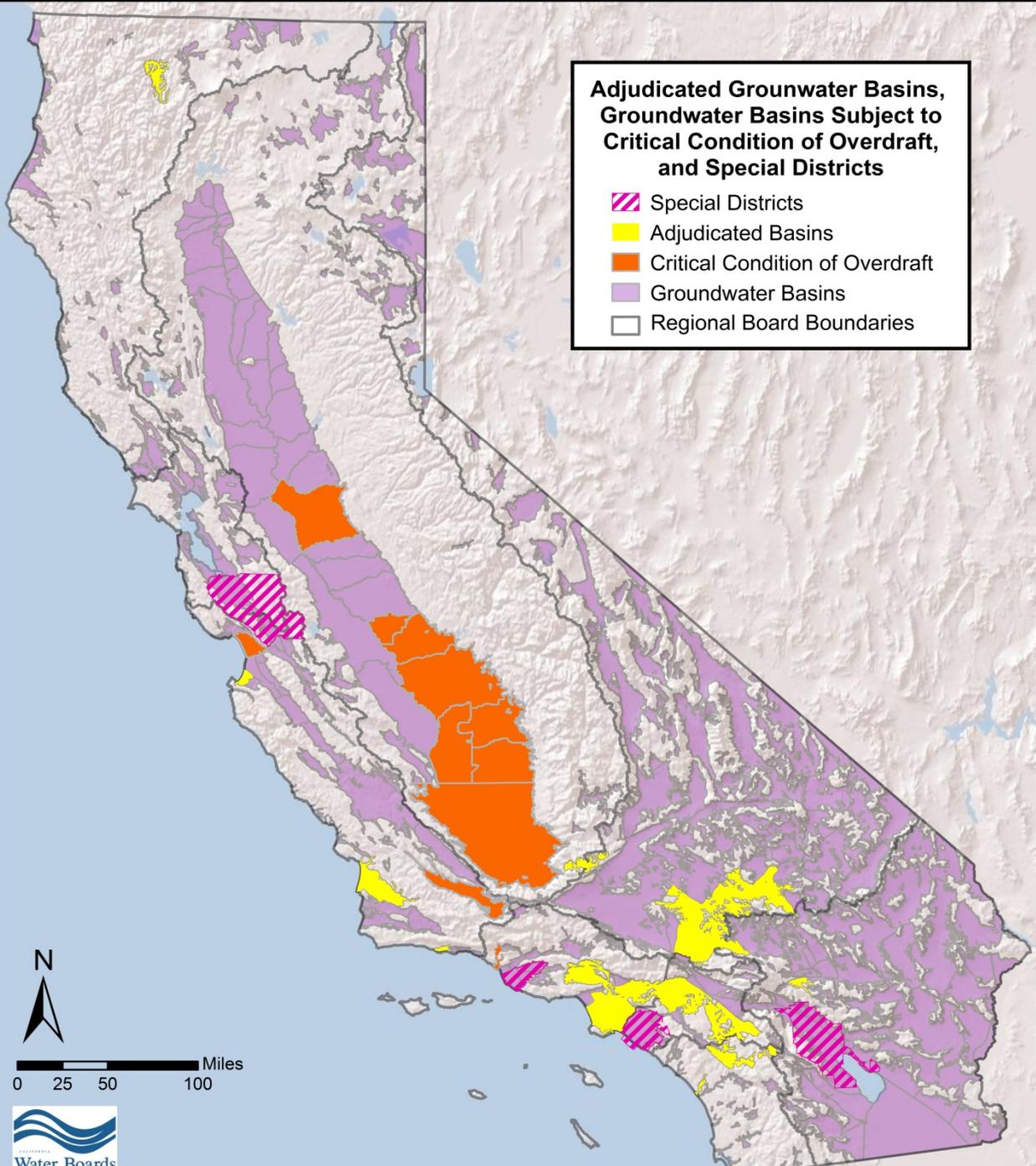
For those who find themselves so terribly offended by this and other letters, columns and articles published in the News-Sentinel, might I

Policy Reports

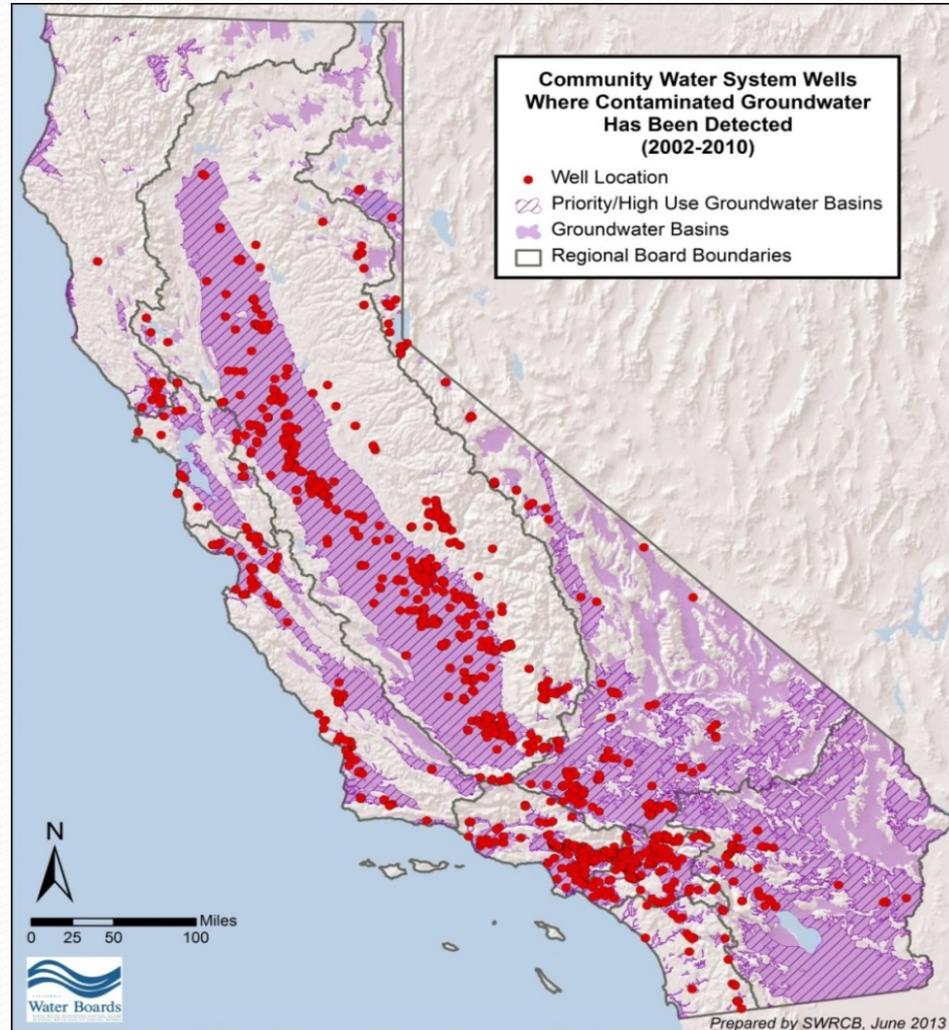
- Legislative Analysts Office – 2009
- Public Policy Institute of California – 2010
- ACWA Framework - 2011
- UCLA Pritzker Brief – 2011
- Stanford Woods Institute – 2011
- UC Santa Cruz - 2012
- Others....

Adjudicated Grounwater Basins, Groundwater Basins Subject to Critical Condition of Overdraft, and Special Districts

- Special Districts
- Adjudicated Basins
- Critical Condition of Overdraft
- Groundwater Basins
- Regional Board Boundaries

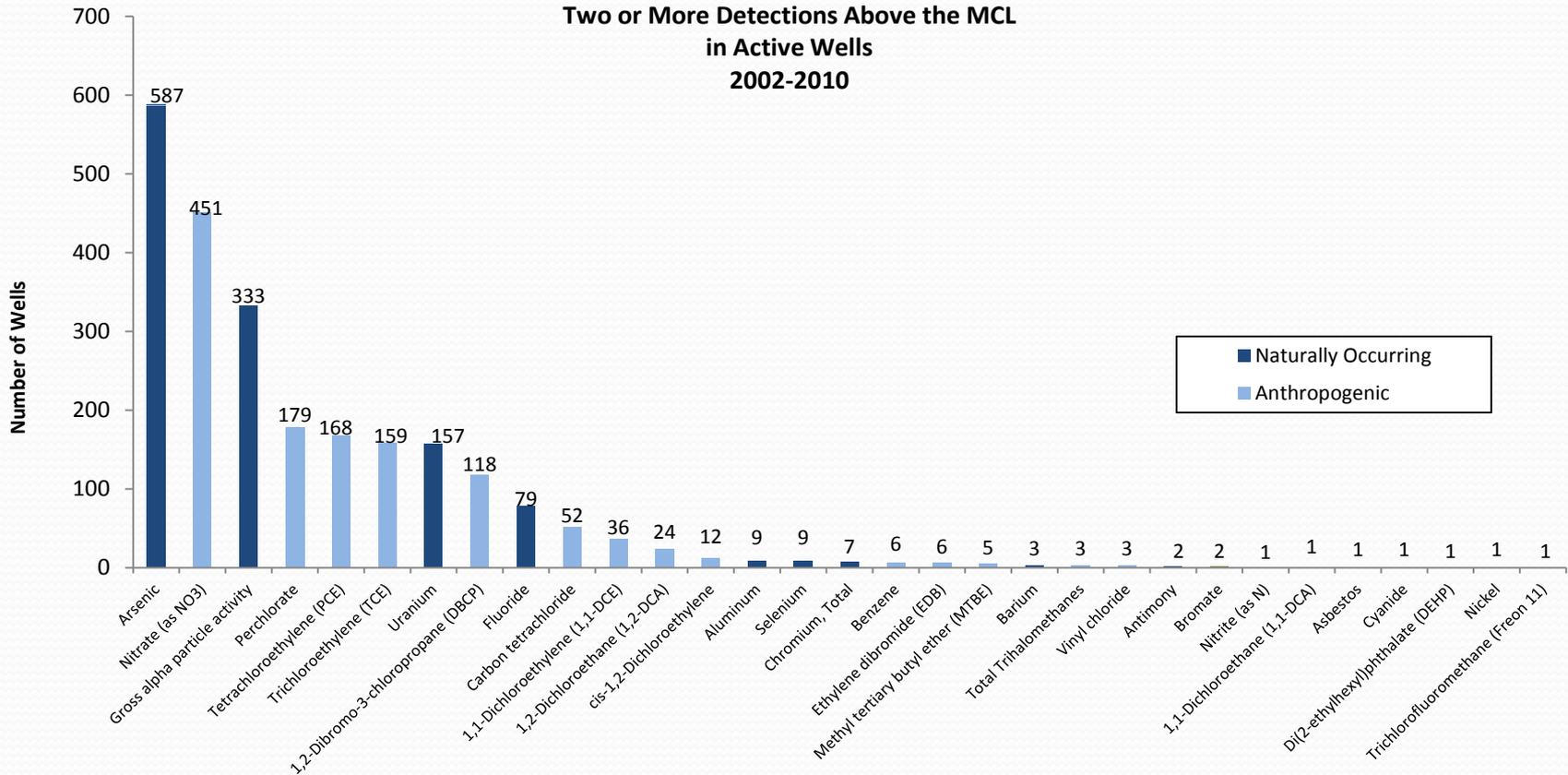


Community Well Systems Where Contamination Has Been Detected



Community Water Systems with Principal Contaminants Detected

Principal Contaminant Detections: Wells
Two or More Detections Above the MCL
in Active Wells
2002-2010



Groundwater Workplan

- The Water Boards are preparing a workplan to identify and prioritize groundwater protection actions that will be carried out over the next five years.
- The goal is to ensure that the Water Boards effectively use their authorities and resources to address the State's most pressing groundwater challenges and to compliment groundwater management efforts occurring at the local level.
- Concept Paper Released September 2013

Key Concepts

- Water Boards are only part of the solution
- Local and regional agencies have many of the tools and authorities needed for effective management and our often successful
- Where local and regional efforts are successful we should play a supporting role
- Focus on areas where problems exist and local management is insufficient

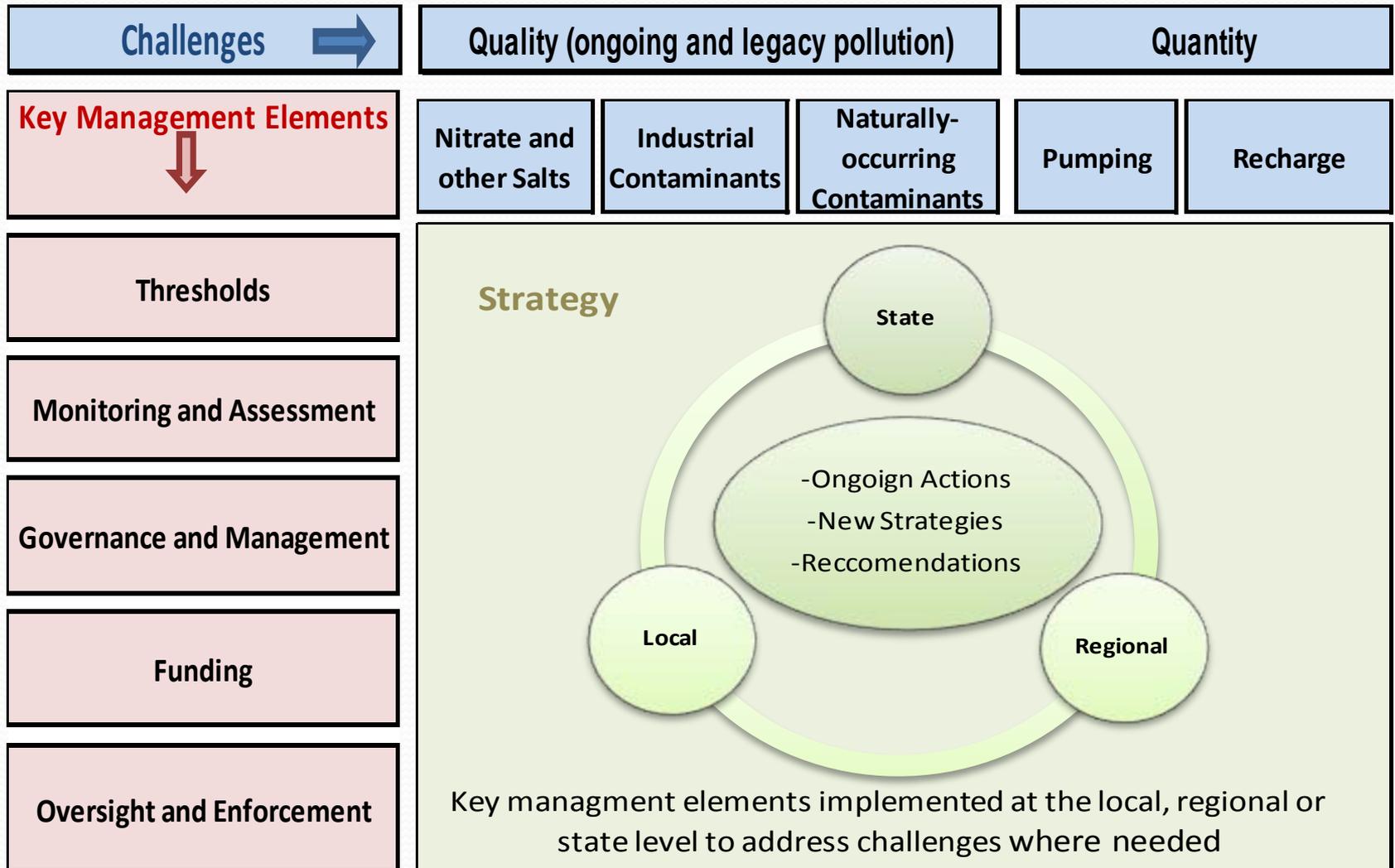
Our Vision: Regional Leadership

We envision a future where well-equipped local and regional groundwater management entities use monitoring information and thresholds to manage and maintain groundwater of sufficient quality at sustainable levels over the long-term; and where local and regional management efforts are backed-up by State support and oversight, where needed.

What's Needed

1. Thresholds for water level drawdown and water quality for impacted, vulnerable, and high-use basins;
2. Water quality and water level monitoring data and data management systems capable of determining if thresholds are being met and evaluating trends;
3. A governance structure with the planning, assessment, and governance mechanisms needed to prevent impacts before they occur, clean up contamination where it has occurred, and effectively manage groundwater at the basin scale to ensure drawdown and water quality thresholds are attained; and
4. Funding to support management, monitoring, oversight.
5. Oversight and enforcement in basins where ongoing management and control efforts are not protecting groundwater.

Concept Plan Framework



Upcoming

Draft Concept Paper now available at

www.waterboards.ca.gov

Select "Groundwater" on home page

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**Asking for comments
by December 6th, 2013**

- Small Dialogues
- January 22nd Workshop
- Refine Water Board activities
- Complete Workplan & implement

