



# Review of Eastern San Joaquin Agricultural General WDR's

## *The Ugly, the Bad and the Good!*

Comments by:

David Zoldoske, Director

Center for Irrigation Technology

California State University, Fresno



## *The Ugly-* *Proposed Order*

- 13 years of stakeholder efforts largely ignored
- Overall, it appears to be a large “data grab”, with no clear purpose or outcome stated
- Need for Coalitions- includes 21,000 farmers w/60 acres or less- (disproportionately hard on minorities)



## *The Ugly-* *Proposed Order*

- 13 years of stakeholder efforts largely ignored
- Overall, it appears to be a large “data grab”, with no clear purpose or outcome stated
- Need for Coalitions- includes 21,000 farmers w/60 acres or less- (disproportionately hard on minorities)



## *The Ugly-* *Proposed Order*

- 13 years of stakeholder efforts largely ignored
- Overall, it appears to be a large “data grab”, with no clear purpose or outcome stated
- **Need for Coalitions-** includes 21,000 farmers w/60 acres or less-  
(disproportionately hard on minorities)



## *The Bad-* *Proposed Order*

- The process was exclusionary, expect for a small circle of input by SWRCB staff (should have been remanded to Region 5 Board for expanded dialog)
- Well water quality monitoring should be done by Division of Drinking Water and/or local public health departments
- A/R nitrogen ratio is poorly understood by experts- misses key management objectives

## **The Bad- Proposed Order**

- The process was exclusionary, expect for a small circle of input by SWRCB staff (should have been remanded to Region 5 Board for expanded dialog)
- Well water quality monitoring should be done by Division of Drinking Water and/or local public health departments
- A/R nitrogen ratio is poorly understood by experts- misses key management objectives

## *The Bad-* *Proposed Order*

- The process was exclusionary, expect for a small circle of input by SWRCB staff (should have been remanded to Region 5 Board for expanded dialog)
- Well water quality monitoring should be done by Division of Drinking Water and/or local public health departments
- A/R nitrogen ratio is poorly understood by experts- misses key management objectives

# Limitations of “*Nitrogen Tracking & Reporting System Task Force*”

(12/5/13)

IV. Recommendation- page 22, “Additionally, it is recognized that the timing and amount of water applied can be critical to water/nitrogen moving below the root zone and is not tracked as part of these recommendations. Current and future technology adoption by growers will provide better knowledge and management in this area.”



# *The Good-* *Proposed Order* *-Going Forward-*

- Expanded water education programs must be included to demonstrate basic understanding of “Key” components for improved groundwater quality
- Topics should include *soil health, water distribution, and timing/amount*
- Irrigation systems should provide minimum information to insure high operational necessary and data collection/management (*verification*)



# *The Good-* *Proposed Order* *-Going Forward-*

- Expanded water education programs must be included to demonstrate basic understanding of “Key” components for improved groundwater quality
- Topics should include *soil health, water distribution, and timing/amount*
- Irrigation systems should provide necessary information to insure high operational efficiency and data collection/management (*verification*)



# *The Good-* *Proposed Order* *-Going Forward-*

- Expanded water education programs must be included to demonstrate basic understanding of “Key” components for improved groundwater quality
- Topics should include *soil health, water distribution, and timing/amount*
- Irrigation systems should provide necessary information to insure high operational efficiency and data collection/management (*verification*)



# *Closing Remarks*

Requirements should reflect:

- 1) Both groundwater quality objectives and SGMA implementation,
- 2) Development of a single set of requirements that meet multiple objectives,
- 3) Strategically targeted state funds to meet local/state goals,
- 4) The result will be less confusing to growers, more effective and a better use of limited resources.

***Thank You!***

