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DROUGHT GROUNDWATER RELIANCE
IN THE TULARE AND SAN JOAQUIN HYDROLOGIC STUDY AREAS
ESTIMATED PERCENTAGES OF WATER USE BY SOURCE

	Tulare Basin			San Joaquin Basin		
	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977
Local Surface Water Development	18%	8%	6%	37%	29%	16%
Imported Surface Water	28%	29%	10%	22%	22%	18%
Groundwater (Safe yield and Overdraft)	54%	72%	84%	41%	49%	66%

Source: Compiled from California Department of Water Resources, The 1976-1977 California Drought, A Review, Table 3 (1978).

Groundwater basins have been used for many years as water storage reservoirs. The total storage capacity of all basins in the State has been estimated to be 1.3 billion acre-feet. Usable storage capacity has been conservatively estimated by the Department of Water Resources to be 143 million acre-feet.

Artificial replenishment programs were first conducted in some parts of Southern California before the turn of the century. Since 1957, the conjunctive use of groundwater, surface water, and groundwater basin storage capacity has been part of the State Water Plan. ^{9/} Conjunctive use means the coordinated operation of a groundwater basin and surface water supplies. The concept of conjunctive use is generally considered to have three aspects: Increased groundwater use or decreased groundwater replenishment with surface supplies in dry years when surface supplies are less than normal; increased use of surface water in lieu of groundwater, either to allow groundwater levels to recover, or to replenish artificially groundwater supplies in years