

Water Supply and Sustainability

Managing Our Resources
For Profit

Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District

- Historical Water Rights back to 1883
- Settlement Contracts
 - 720,000 acre feet of base supply
 - 105,000 CVP water
- Irrigate 141,000 acres of farmland
- Supplies water to 3 federal wildlife refuges

Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District

- Board's primary focus
 - Protection of Water Rights
 - Preserve reliability of Supply
 - Enhancement of water supply for state
- Active engagement—Local, Regional, State and Federal levels
- Proactive—Anticipate problems

Recent History

- Injunction for killing of winter run salmon
- Stipulated agreement to build new screen
- Legislation on landowner voting in 1992
- Replacement of all directors
- Hiring of new legal counsel and manager

Fish Screen & Gradient Project

- Fish screen
 - Cost of \$65,000,000
 - Federal, district and state cost share
- Gradient Restoration Project
 - Cost of \$15,000,000
 - Federal, district and state cost share







Fish Screen & Gradient Project

- Need to Winterize System
 - Increased demand for winter water
 - Rice straw decomposition
 - Duck Hunting
 - CVPIA and refuge water supply

Fish Screen & Gradient Project

- Refuge Water Supply
 - CVPIA contract
 - Sacramento, Delevan and Colusa Federal Wildlife Refuges
 - Federal funding to winterize our system
\$15,000,000
 - Siphon on Stony Creek
 - Wheeling revenue



Water Transfers

- Districts Interest in Transferring Water
 - Meet economic needs of growers
 - Need to address statewide objectives
 - Potential to become part of cropping mix

Water Transfers

- District's Policy
 - Priority for transfers
 - Ag areas within the Sacramento River watershed
 - Environmental purposes
 - Urban water agencies north of the delta
 - Ag or urban water users south of the Delta

Water Transfers

- 2005 MET Transfer
 - Terms:
 - One year transfer
 - Land fallowing transfer
 - \$10.00/AF option on up to 80,000AF
 - Total Payment of \$125.00/AF for water purchased
 - District retained 25% of revenue

Water Transfer

- Mechanics
 - April 1 deadline to option 40,000-80,000 AF
 - Tillage fee
 - Call between 4/1-4/14---\$10.00/AF
 - Call between 4/15-5/1---\$20.00/AF

Water Transfer

- MET Transfer
 - Revenue:
 - Rice
 - Gross \$412.50/acre
 - Grower \$309.37/acre
 - District \$103.13/acre
 - Tillage cost in addition to above \$33-\$66/acre

Water Transfers

- Future
 - Short Term Transfers
 - Fallowing, groundwater or combination
 - General acceptance by region
 - Long Term Transfers
 - Valley not ready for any type of transfer
 - Fear of loss of water right

Water Supply

- Support increased supply in State
 - Transfers should not be a replacement for storage
 - Need to improve overall system reliability (state)
 - “Keep the wolf away from the hen house”

Water Supply

- Support for Sites Reservoir
 - District would not be direct beneficiary
 - Opportunity for wheeling revenue
 - Lobbied in Washington, DC for Sites Funding
 - Over \$5,000,000 appropriated to GCID over last 5 years

Water Supply

- Groundwater Development
 - Development of a basin wide approach to water management
 - Working with landowners within district
 - Working with adjoining districts
 - Potential future revenue stream for well owners

Contract Renewal

- Settlement Contracts
 - Renewed for another 40 years
 - Similar terms and conditions (same supply)
 - Senior water right contract—first priority on the river

Contract Renewal

- Potential Litigation
 - Environmentalist will challenge renewal
 - Defense will cost millions of dollars
 - Outcome could have enormous impacts on the land values in the valley

Beneficiary Pays

- CALFED
 - Development of policy by agency
 - Early proposals had cost as high as \$40-50/A
 - Still being negotiated
 - We support the concept but people should not pay unless they receive direct benefits
 - Indirect benefits paid by all citizens

Regionalization

- Desire to build an Integrated Regional Water Management Program
 - Not a top down process
 - Build on existing partnerships
 - Regional conjunctive use programs
 - Work with county and city government, irrigation districts and interested parties

Questions?