

Surface Water Advisory Group (SWAG)

Meeting #3

December 4, 2020



CBI

CATALYZING COLLABORATION

Meeting Focus



- Strong turnout and discussion
- Covered four main topics
 - Historical water budget update
 - Undesirable Results for interconnected surface waters
 - Identifying and verifying groundwater-dependent ecosystems
 - Projects and management actions

Meeting Feedback



- Identifying and Verifying Groundwater-Dependent Ecosystems
 - Offers to help in either providing data or accessing land (TNC, Sac Valley Conservancy, Bill Myers)
 - Interest in coordinating efforts on both sides of the Cosumnes River
 - Some on-the-ground metrics suggested (e.g., species, canopy, etc.)
 - Consider future monitoring needs as groundwater returns to 2015 levels

Meeting Feedback



- Interconnected Surface Waters: SMCs and URs
 - No feedback specifically on SMC
 - Few concrete ideas for URs put forward – challenging to articulate correlations
 - Modeling of different scenarios may be helpful in identifying URs (e.g., what would a 3-year crash on the river due to groundwater use mean to salmon with a 3-year return)
 - Additional comments expected once SWAG members have had time to review and consider presentation materials

Meeting Feedback



- Projects & Management Actions
 - Appreciation of scope of actions (supply and demand-side); encouragement for multi-beneficial approach
 - Interest in partnering on multi-benefit projects
 - Willingness to help explore viability of Sacramento River transfers, but caution on difficulty
 - Mixed views on strategies centered on moving water: some offers of help; others suggest changing farm practices instead
 - More time needed to review PMAs and develop comments

What's Next?



- Additional feedback and comments expected in writing by this Friday
- SWAG expected to next meet in February