

Board Report

File #: WRAG 21-042, Version: 1

Consider receiving a report on the addition of a Deep Aquifers Addendum to the Salinas Valley Water Conditions Report.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Directors:

Receive a report on the addition of a Deep Aquifers Addendum to the Salinas Valley Water Conditions Report.

SUMMARY:

Staff has prepared a Deep Aquifers Addendum to the Salinas Valley Water Conditions Report (Quarterly Conditions Report). This addendum includes Staff's analysis and discussion of current Deep Aquifer conditions and will be updated every quarter with more information. This is being done in preparation of selecting a subset of wells to represent the Deep Aquifers in the Quarterly Conditions Report, beginning next water year.

DISCUSSION:

The Quarterly Conditions Report is produced every quarter of the water year and provides a brief overview and discussion of water conditions including precipitation, reservoir storage and groundwater level trends (Attachment 1). More than 100 wells are measured each month to monitor seasonal groundwater level fluctuations in the Salinas Valley. A subset of wells is used to generate average groundwater levels for each aquifer or subarea. Currently, the Quarterly Conditions Report does not include the Deep Aquifers.

Staff has prepared a Deep Aquifers Addendum to the Quarterly Conditions Report (Attachment 2). This addendum includes Staff's analysis and discussion of current Deep Aquifer data and will be updated every quarter. The first version includes information on the wells being considered to represent the Deep Aquifers, current groundwater levels and trends of these wells, and discussion on the vertical hydraulic gradient between the Deep and overlying aquifers. This information is being presented while Staff continues to analyze which data will be used to represent groundwater level trends in the Deep Aquifers for the Quarterly Conditions Report, beginning next water year 2021-2022.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The Basin Management Advisory Committee received this report on February 3rd, 2021.

FINANCING:

There is no financial impact for receiving this report.

Prepared by: Howard Franklin, Senior Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860

Approved by: Brent Buche, General Manager (831) 755-4860

Attachments:

1. Salinas Valley Water Conditions for the First Quarter of Water Year 2020-2021

2. Deep Aquifers Addendum to the Salinas Valley Water Conditions, First Quarter of Water Year 2020-2021