

Draft Survey Introduction

The Lower San Joaquin River Committee urgently needs your help. We are a subcommittee of CVSALTS responsible for determining appropriate agricultural water quality objectives for the lower San Joaquin River. The Committee plans to recommend to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board water quality objectives (numeric objectives for salt concentrations) that are truly consistent with protection of your customer's agricultural uses. The Board will incorporate the objectives into an amendment to the Sacramento/San Joaquin Water Quality Control Plan for the protection of agricultural use in the Lower San Joaquin River. In order to develop a valid recommendation, we need to know the concentrations of river salt that impact your customers crop irrigation needs.

Over the next few weeks we will be asking you for information about the salinity of the water you deliver to your customers and how they use that water. We would like to do an in-depth follow-up survey with Districts that are able to provide useful documentation such as monitoring data and reports. The second survey will focus on collection of data that can be presented to the Board to justify the Committee's recommendations.

Agricultural Water Use Survey in the Lower San Joaquin River Basin

1. Approximately, how many irrigable acres does the District service?
_____ acres
2. What sources of water does the District use to serve its agriculture customers?
SJR DMC Merced R Tuolumne R Stanislaus R groundwater other _____
3. What is the make-up of delivered water to agricultural customers:
In a typical year?
SJR ___ % *DMC* ___ % *Sierra water* ___ % *groundwater* ___ % *other* ___ %
In a dry year?
SJR ___ % *DMC* ___ % *Sierra water* ___ % *groundwater* ___ % *other* ___ %
In a wet year?
SJR ___ % *DMC* ___ % *Sierra water* ___ % *groundwater* ___ % *other* ___ %
4. Does the salinity of the District's water sources vary with time of year, and if so, how?
yes no Brief description of how: _____
5. Does the District blend lower San Joaquin River water with other waters to control salinity of irrigation water?
yes no If yes, would you elaborate? _____
6. Does the District's customers blend lower San Joaquin River water with other waters to control salinity of irrigation water?
yes no If yes, would you elaborate? _____
7. Do District customers avoid irrigation with San Joaquin River water during crop germination?
yes no If yes, which crops? _____
8. Does the District have the ability to offer water of varying salinity to its customers?
yes no If yes, would you elaborate? _____
9. Does the District know if its customer's crop choices are influenced by the salinity of water?
yes no Examples? _____
10. Approximately how many acres within the District are utilized for permanent crops?
Currently _____ acres
About 10 years ago _____ acres
About 20 years ago _____ acres
11. What are the District customer's most salt sensitive crops?
In the last 10 years or so: _____
Greater than 10 years ago: _____
12. What can the District tell us about its customers leaching for salinity control?
