

Questions for Agricultural Sector in Support of the Supply and Demand Modeling Scenarios for the EMS Basin Study

QUESTIONS FOR GROWERS

1. If the volume available for irrigation from the District is reduced, to what extent will you change crop types from higher to lower water use?
2. If the volume available for irrigation from the District is reduced, would you consider drilling your own well (if permissible)?
3. If you had to take land out of production due to reduced water supply, what approach would you take to select acreage? Are you more likely to take acres out that have been farmed less intensively in the past ten years?
4. Do you plan on participating in voluntary compensated conservation programs in response to reduced water supply?
5. If dairy farms migrate out of the area will you continue to produce and transport alfalfa or transition to a different crop type? Is there a tipping point associated with this decision?
6. Are you planning any changes in irrigation methods (e.g., subsurface drip, low-pressure sprinkler, pumpback systems, changing run length, etc) during the modeling period?
7. How do you anticipate changes in water quality affecting your crop productivity? At what point does water quality become a physical/financial constraint?

QUESTIONS FOR IRRIGATION DISTRICT MANAGERS OR GROWERS WITH OWN WELLS

1. What is the range in water levels in which pumping is financially viable? At what point does water level become a physical/financial constraint?
2. How much of the currently irrigated acreage do you expect will be developed during the modeling period?
3. Do you plan on participating in voluntary compensated conservation programs in response to reduced water supply?
4. Are you planning any changes in distribution efficiency (e.g., canal lining, laterals, interconnects, etc.) during the modeling period?
5. Are you considering any changes in groundwater pumping in response to water quality issues?