



CITIES GROUND WATER EXPORT SYSTEM

RAIN!!! NATURE'S GIFT TO LAND OWNERS



SAN LUIS RESERVOIR

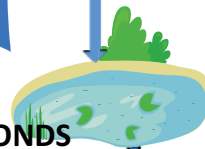
FAMILY RANCHES & GARDEN



FARM LAND



PERCULATION PONDS



WATER TREATMENT



CITY WATER SYSTEMS



CITY WELLS

HOMES



SEWER TREATMENT



EXPORT TO BAY



EARTH FILTER

AQUIFER



CITIES GROUND WATER EXPORT SYSTEM



The “CITIES GROUND WATER EXPORT SYSTEM” is a system that does not recycle water to the aquifer but instead exports rain water and the cities fresh water to the bay after it has been used. City living is very dense and virtually cover the natural earth surface with roof top, roads, parking lots, sidewalks and other non porous surfaces that direct rain water to cities flood control system that exports the water to the bay. Below is a quote from the Watershed Management Plan dated May 2000:

“Urbanization and Imperviousness

A major effect of urbanization is imperviousness. This term is applied to surfaces – roads, sidewalks, rooftops, parking lots – that prevent or inhibit rainfall from sinking into ground cover and groundwater. Urbanization and increased imperviousness can produce smaller, more frequent floods. During extreme events, increased imperviousness has little effect on flows. The reason is that at such times rainfall saturates the natural soils and renders them effectively impervious. But urbanization and increased imperviousness can increase smaller, more frequent floods – 1.5- to 2-year floods – by up to 10 times, particularly during smaller storms and in smaller streams.”

As you can see, most of nature’s gift of rain water that fall on the cities is exported directly to the bay.

Next you ask, where do the cities get their water? The cities get their water from two sources. The first source is from wells. The cities pump water into the city’s water system, the water is used, then sent to the city’s sewer treatment plants and exports the sewer treatment effluent to the bays in most cases. There is no recharging of the aquifer, only extraction. In fact, this is the major cause of land subsidence between 1920 and 1969. Subsidence is the sinking of the land due to over extraction of ground water. This has occurred in several areas near the southern part of the bay. This should not be any surprise that subsidence occurred in these areas since these areas are in the cities that are over extracting ground water due to large population growth and are export the used water. There is no evidence of subsidence in the south county cities of Morgan Hill, Gilroy and San Martin.

The second source of water is the Santa Clara Valley Water District fresh water supply system. The district gets water from the San Luis reservoir directly or from local reservoirs, treats it at a number of fresh water treatment plants and sells the treated water to the cities that merge this water with their well extracted water. Again, this water ends up in the sewer treatment plants that exports the effluent water to the bay.

To replace the water that the Cities are exporting, the Santa Clara Valley Water District operates a number of offstream percolation ponds along Stevens Creek; along Los Gatos Creek downstream of Lexington and Vasona reservoirs; along Alamos Creek, Guadalupe Creek, and the Guadalupe River downstream of Almaden, Calero, and Guadalupe reservoirs.

In conclusion, it is evident by this discussion that the cities are the cause of over pumping of the aquifer and the subsidence affecting the southern part of the bay. Santa Clara Valley Water District wants you to believe well users are also the cause of over pumping so they can charge well users for a share of ground water recharge, the importing of water and the whole expensive system they have created to support the importing.

If you own a well, don’t be fooled by the district false campaigns. Protest the well charges now!!!