

RESEARCH TO MORE EFFECTIVELY MANAGE CRITICAL GROUND-WATER BASINS



As the regional management agency for two of the most heavily used ground-water basins in California, the Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD) plays a vital role in shepherding the water resources of southern Los Angeles County. WRD is using the results of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) studies to help more effectively manage the Central and West Coast basins in the most efficient, cost-effective way.

In partnership with WRD, the USGS is using the latest research tools to study the geohydrology and geochemistry of the two basins. USGS scientists are:

- Drilling and collecting detailed data from over 40 multiple-well monitoring sites,
- Conducting regional geohydrologic and geochemical analyses,
- Developing and applying a computer simulation model of regional ground-water flow.

USGS science is providing a more detailed understanding of ground-water flow and quality. This research has enabled WRD to more effectively manage the basins. It has helped the District improve the efficiency of its spreading ponds and barrier injection wells, which replenish the aquifers and control seawater intrusion into the ground-water system.

USGS scientists prepare a drilling core for further analysis



“USGS research has led to a much greater understanding of the ground-water basins than we have ever had before. With better understanding comes better management.”



Ted Johnson,
Chief Hydrogeologist,
Water Replenishment District
of Southern California

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In ponds near Pico Rivera in Los Angeles, water is infiltrated into the ground to replenish aquifers when water levels decline due to pumping. The water in the ponds may be local surface water, imported water from either the Colorado River, northern California, or reclaimed water.

