



California  
**Department of  
Conservation**  
Division of Land Resource  
Protection

# What's Land-Use Got to do with It?

**How groundwater sustainability and land-use will be inextricably linked**

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## Looking to the horizon: Regional impacts

- Food and fiber production
- Jobs
- Local economic production
- Loss of tax revenue
- Air quality
- Increased heat
- Habitat loss
- Social well-being

## What we need to do

- Support locals and regions to prepare for changes
- Support farmers and ranchers
- Minimize harm from land fallowing
- Advance opportunities to achieve other benefits

## How: Help multi-disciplinary regional partners lead

- High fiscal capacity
- Local government
- Multi disciplinary
- Landowner and community centered

## With support from multiple state and federal agencies

- Department of Water Resources
- California Department of Food and Agriculture
- Governor's Office of Business Development
- Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Wildlife Conservation Board
- Department of Conservation
- National Resource Conservation Service

## New Program: Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing Program

- Support regions plan for land use changes
- Help farmers and ranchers stay with land
- Repurpose lands for multiple benefits, short/long term
- Provide drought response

## Regionally led, flexible, and needs-driven

- Regional Block Grants
- Broad landowner, community, and local government networks
- Pay for services
- Capacity and technical assistance

# Alignment with Department of Conservation Programs

- Farmland Mapping and Monitoring
- Williamson Act
- SGMA Watershed Coordinator
- Sustainable Ag Land Conservation
- Geologic Expertise



## And with State and Federal Programs

- Water
- Healthy Soils
- Biodiversity
- Climate
- Economic Development

# Historic shifts in agriculture = historic land use change

- Missions
- Gold Rush
- Water Projects
- Groundwater sustainability?