



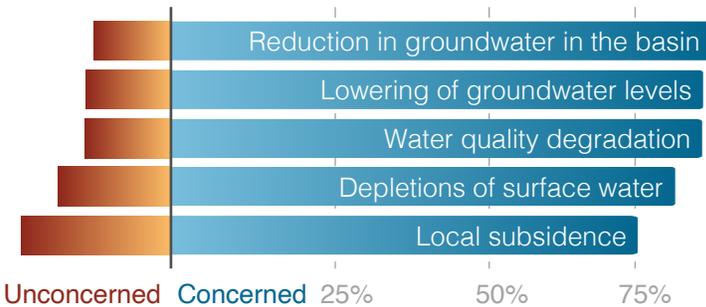
# Farmer Perspectives on Groundwater Sustainability

Survey results from Fresno, Madera, San Luis Obispo, and Yolo Counties

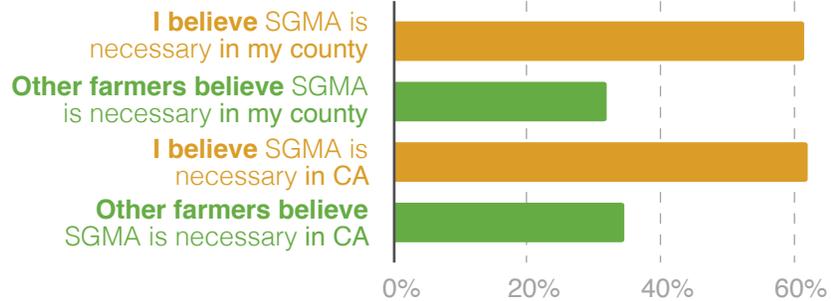
The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires the implementation of water management plans to achieve groundwater sustainability by 2040. Agriculture is the largest human user of water in California; therefore farmers are an important stakeholder for SGMA implementation and achieving water sustainability. This brief provides an overview of survey results from 690 farmers.

## State of Groundwater

**76%** of farmers were concerned about SGMA undesirable results.



The majority of farmers believe that SGMA is necessary, but do not think other farmers agree.



## SGMA Process



**71%** agreed that the SGMA process has been managed locally



**68%** agreed that the SGMA process has involved farmers



**55%** agreed that the SGMA process has been fair



**50%** clearly understand SGMA policy

## Solutions for Sustainability

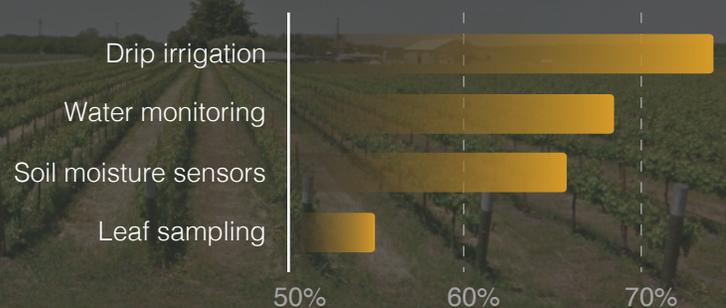


Support for water management techniques:

- 90%** → Farmer adoption of water management practices
- 90%** → District investment in conjunctive use infrastructure
- 90%** → Incentives for water saving practices
- 83%** → Public program highlighting farmers' water practices
- 76%** → Individual recharge credits
- 60%** → Permits for drilling new wells



The majority of farmers are likely to adopt these practices in the future:



The majority of farmers surveyed are concerned about groundwater resources, support the SGMA process, and see the need to adopt practices and policies to achieve groundwater sustainability.

