

# Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Project

## Project Benefits

### Environmental

- ◇ Improves the quality of flows into creeks.
- ◇ Reduces greenhouse gas emissions by using local water resources instead of imported sources.
- ◇ Reduces dependence on imported water from sensitive Delta ecosystem in Northern California.

### Water Supply

- ◇ Improves the region's water reliability.
- ◇ Enables Southern Ventura County water agencies to develop new local water from existing poor quality groundwater.
- ◇ Expands distribution of recycled water for irrigation, offsetting the need for municipal supplies.

### Water Quality

- ◇ Protects resources for municipal, agricultural & environmental use.
- ◇ Safely removes salts to the ocean where they cause no harm.
- ◇ Helps local communities meet water quality standards for Calleguas Creek and its tributaries, avoiding costly fines by enforcement agencies.

The Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Project (SMP) is a regional pipeline that will collect salty water generated by groundwater desalting facilities and excess recycled water and convey that water for re-use elsewhere. Any unused salty water will be safely discharged to the ocean, where natural salt levels are much higher.



*Berries require low salt water*

**The SMP will improve water supply reliability** by facilitating the development of up to 40,000 acre feet of new, local water supplies each year (one acre-foot is enough water for two households for one year) and expanding the distribution and use of recycled water from areas with abundant supplies to areas of need.

The SMP is vital to the region's water reliability as imported supplies from the State Water Project have become increasingly vulnerable to drought, catastrophic levee failures from flood and/or seismic events, and regulatory shut downs of pumping facilities to protect endangered species.



*Installing 48" pipe*

**The SMP will improve water quality** by moving salts out of the watershed. Salt will be removed from groundwater and the concentrate from the treatment process sent to the SMP. Highly treated wastewater which is too saline for discharge to local streams will be sent to the SMP during wet periods when it is not needed for irrigation.

Ventura County has abundant sources of groundwater, but much of the water is too high in salts for municipal and agricultural use. Salt levels are increasing in surface water supplies as well, and this is harmful to the environment. By treating groundwater to remove salts and moving those salts away from surface waters and into the SMP, water agencies in Ventura County solve a water quality problem, while improving local water supply reliability.

