

Summary of Special Salinity Network Workgroup Meeting/Webinar: June 15, 2017

Attendees

NWFWMD: Kathleen Coates

SRWMD: Tom Mirti, Tara Rodgers

SJRWMD: Chris Mundy, Don Boniol

SWFWMD: Dave Dewitt, Steve DeSmith, Granville Kinsman

SFWMD: Jon Shaw, Lucia Baldwin, Kim Hanes

USGS: Scott Prinos

DEP: Rick Copeland, Jay Silvanima, Carolyn Voyles, Kate Muldoon, Joe Bauer

Summary

The purpose of the Salinity Network Workgroup (SNW) special meeting was to discuss the Groundwater Level Percentile Ranking Index (GWL PRI). Rick Copeland (RC) of DEP gave a PowerPoint presentation that summarized the reasons for conducting the special meeting and presented the specific issues that were to be discussed. The presentation is found in a separate document.

Seven SNW entities provide data for the statewide GWLP RI maps. The entities are: the NWFWMD, SRWMD, SJRWMD, SWFWMD, SFWMD, Alachua County, and DEP.

Prior to the special meeting, RC asked each of the entities to be ready to address four questions:

1. Should the SNW select one of the two methods for producing the GWL PRI? The two choices center around the array of data to be used for the period of record (POR) which are:
 - a. Compare x (the value we want to rank) to all historical monthly array data in the POR,
 - b. Compare x only to either all May (typical statewide dry period) or all September data (typical statewide wet period) in the POR. That is compare the representative x to all May (seasonally adjusted) data, or the representative x to all September (seasonally adjusted) data.
2. Use both methods;
3. Cease efforts to produce statewide GWLPRI maps; or
4. Develop other ideas for evaluating changes in groundwater levels.

In the event that the SNW decided on item 2, prior to the special meeting, RC sent a proposal to the participating entities. For each sampling event, these entities will send all pertinent data to DEP. DEP will generate statewide GWLPRI maps using both methods and corresponding text. Prior to publication, a draft map and corresponding text will be generated by DEP for each May and September WL PRI map for review by the participating agencies. In addition to explaining groundwater conditions of the state, the text will:

1. Indicate the two methods produce different results,
2. How the two methods are different,
3. Reasons for using producing both maps, and
4. That some WMDs produce their own version of one of the two methods for internal reasons.

Results

During the webinar, all entities present agreed that the efforts of producing GWLPRI maps should continue. In addition, all entities present at the special meeting, agreed that both maps should be produced.

Next Steps

RC will obtain historical groundwater level data from the participating entities. He will report on the progress at the next scheduled Salinity Network Workgroup meeting on **November 8** from **1:00 to 3:00** pm.