Overview of Tulare Lake Basin General Order

- Tulare Lake Basin General Order adopted by Regional Board 9/19/13
  - Previous Order only applied to surface water discharges
  - New Order based on assumption that all irrigators are potential dischargers to groundwater

- Requires ALL irrigators to comply - either as member of Coalition or under an Individual Order
  - Failure to participate will subject landowner to Regional Board penalties
  - Individual Order obligations are onerous and costly
Who Must Comply

- Applies to land irrigated to produce crops or pasture used for commercial purposes
- Does not apply to lands covered by other orders (Dairy)
- Does not apply to range land or non-irrigated lands
- Current acreage covered - 449,657
- New acreage that needs to enroll – 500,000
CV Salts
Strategy and Framework

- Revise Regulatory Structure
  - Beneficial Uses; Water Quality Objectives; Policies
  - Revise Basin Plan

- Develop Policies and Procedures to:
  - Evaluate Compliance
  - Provide Regulatory Flexibility

- Provide basis for short and long-term management of salts and nitrate at appropriate geographic scales
CV Salts

- Analysis of N and TDS by zone
- Analysis of dominant ag uses by zone
- Analysis of beneficial uses
  - Designation of MUN for Tulare Lake
IAZ Prioritization for NO$_3$-N (10 mg/L)

3 IAZs exceed Ranking Criteria for NO$_3$-N
IAZ Prioritization for TDS (500 mg/L)

High Priority Ranking for IAZs TDS (500 mg/L)

Priority Ranking Using Ambient Data
- Green: Low
- Yellow: 1
- Red: 2
- Orange: 3 High

Priority Ranking Using Simulations
- Green: 0-1 Simulations Exceed 500 mg/L (TDS)
- Purple: 2-3 Simulations Exceed 500 mg/L (TDS)

Combined Ambient Data and Simulation Results

High Priority Ranking For TDS (500 mg/L)
- Green: Low
- Yellow: 1
- Orange: 2
- Red: 3
- Dark Red: 4 High

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10 IAZs exceed Ranking Criteria for TDS at 500 mg/L
Questions