

# U.S. Bureau of Land Management Nevada Groundwater Projects Office

Clark, Lincoln, and White Pine Counties  
Groundwater Development Project

## Socioeconomics

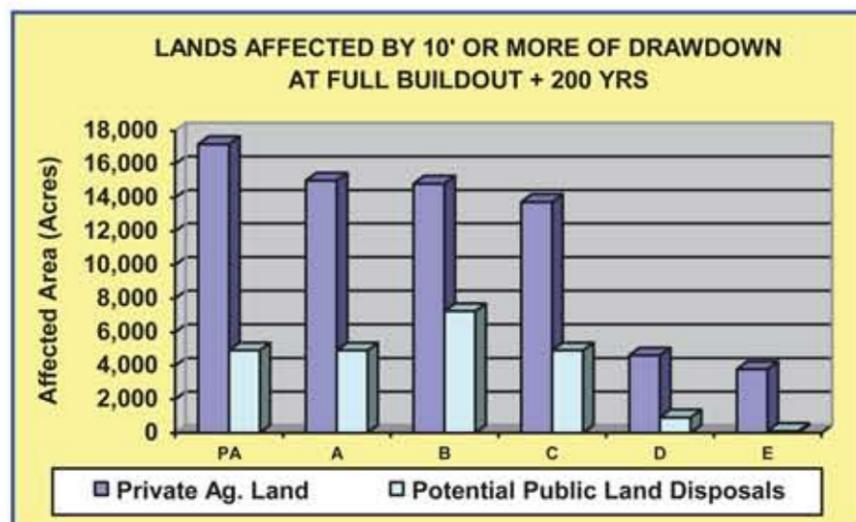
### PUMPING EFFECTS

#### Social and economic impacts of groundwater pumping:

- Materialize over many years and would correlate to pumping volume
- Disruption of lifestyles would likely occur in the region
- Residents of rural areas remain concerned about potential effects on air quality, wildlife, rangeland (e.g., grazing and hunting), economic development, and lifestyles for current and future generations
- Alt. D results in fewer adverse social & economic effects in Spring Valley
- Alt. D or Alt. E avoids or defers adverse social & economic effects in Snake Valley
- The Las Vegas Valley and Lincoln County benefit from conveyance capacity and augmented water supply

#### Long-term economic risks to local agricultural from groundwater drawdown:

- Potential effects on livestock production
- Higher irrigation pumping and well development costs
- Higher costs could adversely affect farm and ranch output
- Adverse effects on long-term financial viability of agricultural operations



- Rural communities weakened by declines in agricultural sector

#### Other economic factors:

- Uncertain water supply may discourage retirement / lifestyle migration, second home investment, and economic development in rural areas
- Value of some agricultural land may increase based on water rights
- Lincoln and White Pine counties would realize inter-basin water transfer fees
- Water availability would not be a driving force of growth in the Las Vegas Valley; but may enable growth and buffer severity of future water shortages

