

HYD117 - Irrigation Water Management - Spring 2001

Assignment #1 - March 30

Read the following papers, and write a 2-4 page essay on Irrigation Water Management. Include your opinions on (1) what we have learnt from the past, (2) what are the problems and solutions, and (3) is the California situation different than elsewhere in the world. Also, include a final paragraph on what you expect to take away from this course.

Three papers are attached:

1. Historical Perspectives on Sustainable Development by C. Pointing (Article in Environment, Volume 32(9), 1990)

Describes the growth and subsequent destruction of three civilizations: Mesopotamia, Mediterranean Europe and the Maya society.

2. Irrigation Trends in World Agriculture by M.E. Jensen, W.R. Rangeley, and P.J. Dieleman. Chapter in: Irrigation of Agricultural Crops - Agronomy Monograph 30, American Society of Agronomy, 1990.

Gives an historical perspective of irrigation projects, their common problems, their developments since the 1950's, the state-of-the-art, and their future potential.

3. Water Facts, Salt Balance in the San Joaquin Valley. Number 20. State of California, Department of Water Resources, March 1998.

Statement of problems in irrigation in the SJV, and possible solutions.