# 

Filling the Biggest Data Gap in Water Management





Finding the ways that work







Google Earth Engine

### **Evapotranspiration and Consumptive Use**

Water applied to a field ultimately:

Evaporates

Transpires (after being used by plants to grow)

Recharges underlying groundwater

Runs off and returns to a local canal or river



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### Measuring ET enables:

Development of realistic water budgets



Incentives for conservation and innovation

Proper credit for reduced use



Reduced transaction costs for water trading programs

Increased on-farm efficiencies





#### **OpenET Goals:**

Reliable ET data are produced and available at low cost, and are **easily accessible via openetdata.org** for any area within the Western US.

There is trust in the validity of the data and information provided by the platform, and it is utilized by farmers, and private and public resource managers at the local, state and federal levels.

A variety of **sustainable resource management practices are enabled** at a much larger scale than currently possible.



FILLING THE BIGGEST DATA GAP IN WATER MANAGEMENT

# The OpenET Approach



### **Field Boundaries**

- Currently 368,541 features
- Dataset based off of the 2008
   Farm Service Agency Common
   Land Unit (CLU)
- CLU data has been found to contain geometry errors
- Semi-automated processing to "clean" the data
- Does not reflect land cover changes since 2008



### **Improving Irrigation Scheduling Tools**



"If you give farmers better information on when they should and shouldn't have their water on, you're going to save water. I think that's the greatest asset of OpenET"

-Denise Moyle, Diamond Valley Nevada

### Partnering with Other Experts to Guide Development



### **Community Support for OpenET**

"We have used ET data to gain a better understanding of our water consumption and design more efficient irrigation systems that use about 15% less water. With the demands on water from a growing population and feeding more people, we have to figure out how to get the best value from every drop of water. ET data is crucial to providing this information."

> MARK OWENS OREGON STATE REPRESENTATIVE/GROWER

"OpenET allows planning for agricultural water needs in a way that just wasn't possible before"

> E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL CHAIR CA SWRCB

"OpenET could be revolutionary."

BUZZ THOMPSON STANFORD UNIVERSITY'S WATER IN THE WEST PROGRAM "Right now, we use aerial imagery and infrared technology, and we pay for it. If we had another tool, it would be really helpful."

> DON CAMERON VICE PRESIDENT TERRANOVA RANCH, HELM, CA

"Saving water saves farmers money, so they have a strong incentive to conserve. If a program like OpenET makes cents — as in dollars and cents — then make it available to farmers, move out of the way and they'll adopt it. I've talked to farmers who are eager to get their hands on this data,"

> DON PARRISH AMERICAN FARM BUREAU

## The **OPENI** Team

Environmental Defense Fund Robyn Grimm, Dana Rollison, Maurice Hall

DRI, NASA Ames, Habitat Seven (Multimodel Development, Integration, API, UI) Justin Huntington, Forrest Melton, Jamie Herring, Charles Morton, Britta Daudert, Alberto Guzman, Jody Hansen, Jordan Harding, Matt Bromley

USDA, NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, U. Maryland, U. Wisconsin (ALEXI/DisALEXI) Martha Anderson, Yun Yang, Christopher Hain, Mitch Schull, Mutlu Ozdogan

U. of Nebraska, U. of Idaho, DRI (EE METRIC) Ayse Kilic, Rick Allen, Peter Revelle, Samuel Ortega

NASA JPL (PT JPL) Josh Fisher, Gregory Halverson

NASA Ames, CSUMB, Stanford University (SIMS) Forrest Melton, Alberto Guzman, Lee Johnson, Tianxin Wang, Conor Doherty

USGS (SSEBop) Gabriel Senay, MacKenzie Friedrichs

Google Earth Engine Tyler Erickson



### How OpenET Works



### **OpenET API for Integration with Other Software**



### **OpenET Uses Well-Established Methods**



### **OpenET Uses Data from a Constellation of Satellites**



Image credit: NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center Conceptual Image Lab



#### USGS-NASA Landsat 5/7/8 (TM / ETM+ / OLI) 30m/0.22 acres | overpass every 8-16 days

NASA Terra / Aqua 1 km | daily overpass

#### **NASA-NOAA Suomi NPP**

~300-375m | daily overpass

NOAA GOES-15/16/17

0.5-4 km | < hourly

ESA Sentinel-2A, 2B

20m/0.1 acres | overpass every 5-10 days

### The Value of a Community Effort



- Ability to rapidly compare results from different models to identify consistent differences
- Identification of opportunities to improve methods / models
- Collaboration to improve consistency of data inputs and reduce redundancy
- Collaboration on evaluation and intercomparison → larger pool of ground measurements and approaches

### Intercomparison and Accuracy Assessment



Phase II 'blind' comparison ongoing for 130+ flux tower sites

### **Phase I Results for Cropland Sites**

Fig. 1: Model agreement for total seasonal ET for croplands

### Fig. 2: Model agreement with flux towers (croplands, full period)



n = 24 sites	Ensemble Mean	EE-METRIC	SIMS	PT-JPL	SSEBOP	DisALEXI
Slope	0.98	1.05	0.97	0.94	0.92	1.03
MAE (mmd/day)	0.49	0.71	0.70	0.61	0.79	0.62
RMSE (mmd/day)	0.62	0.88	0.87	0.81	0.99	0.79
R-squared	0.92	0.85	0.89	0.87	0.81	0.89





#### Alfalfa | Harney County, SE Oregon





### Comparison to Pumping

Working with State water agencies linking pumping records (magnetic flow meters) with water right permits, actual places of use, and OpenET data





Joined Fields	Pumping Data	OpenET Fields	
AoI ID	Application Number	Field ID	
0	['43270', '43268', '43836']	['NV_8705', 'NV_8673']	
1	['21930']	['NV_8734']	
2	['35012']	['NV_683']	
3	['22194']	['NV_8636']	
4	['21428']	['NV_8749']	
5	['33670', '33671']	['NV_5012']	
6	['46505']	['NV_8756']	
7	['23739', '41884', '23711', '41883', '23738']	['NV_13343',	
		'NV_13342']	

### Key Milestones for Next 6 Months



# **OPENET**

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## **OpenET will go live in 2021**

### **Additional Slides**





Home Explore Data Secure Dashboard Training Case Studies









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Home Explore Data Secure Dashboard Training Case Studies





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Home Explore Data Secure Dashboard Training Case Studies



### Partnering with Other Experts to Guide Development

#### California

- Jack Rice, Western Resource Strategies LLC
- Mark Cady, California Department of Food and Agriculture
- Daniel Mountjoy, Sustainable Conservation
- Maria del Mar Alsina, E. & J. Gallo Winery
- Brent Vanderburgh, California State Water Resources
   Control Board
- Josué Medellín-Azuara, University of California Agricultural Issues Center
- Byron Clark, Davids Engineering, Inc.
- **Debbie Franco**, California Governor's Office of Planning and Research
- Bekele Temesgen, Chris McCready, and Paul Shipman, California Department of Water Resources

#### **Colorado River Basin**

- Jennifer Pitt, National Audubon Society
- Charlie Ferrantelli, Wyoming State Engineer's Office
- Lauren Steely, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- Rabi Gyawali, Arizona Department of Water Resources
- Erin Wilson, Wilson Water Group
- Niel Allen and Alfonso Torres-Rua, Utah State University
- Levi Kryder, Nevada Division of Water Resources
- Molly Magnuson, New Mexico Office of the State Engineer
- Jim Prairie, Troy Wirth, and David Eckhardt, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- Luke Gingerich, J-U-B Engineers
- Sara Larsen, Upper Colorado River Commission
- Adel Abdallah, Western States Water Council
- Sean Collier, Southern Nevada Water Authority
- Kari Burgert, Nebraska Department of Natural Resources