

# ON-FARM GROUNDWATER RECHARGE: EXPLAINED

Almond Board of California is supporting research to understand how almond orchards can be leveraged to recharge underground aquifers, collectively California's largest water storage system and essential to cities and farms.

675,000 ACRES OF CALIFORNIA ALMOND ORCHARDS HAVE MODERATELY GOOD OR BETTER SOIL SUITABILITY FOR GROUNDWATER RECHARGE.<sup>1</sup>



- 1 PRECIPITATION:** Winter storms bring rain and snow, sometimes more than California's water infrastructure can handle.
- 2 HIGH FLOWS:** Extra stormwater flows down rivers and canals. Instead of flowing out to the ocean, the water is diverted to farmland.
- 3 IN THE ORCHARD:** Dormant during the winter months, almond orchards can be flooded with excess stormwater, allowing the water to make its way into the soil without harming the trees.
- 4 UNDERGROUND:** Water slowly makes its way down to underground aquifers, replenishing groundwater levels.
- 5 DOING GOOD FOR ALL:** The water recharged through this programme will benefit all Californians, not just farmers.

1. Land IQ. Groundwater Recharge Suitability Analysis. November 2015.