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**Paso Robles Subbasin  
Groundwater Sustainability Plan  
Chapter 7 Monitoring Network**

*Prepared for the Paso Robles Subbasin Cooperative Committee and the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies*

February 27, 2019

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## 7 MONITORING NETWORKS

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This chapter describes the monitoring networks that exist and improvements to the monitoring networks that will be developed in the Subbasin as part of GSP implementation. This chapter is prepared in accordance with the SGMA regulations §354.32 and includes monitoring objectives, monitoring protocols, and data reporting requirements.

The monitoring networks presented in this chapter are based on existing monitoring sites. It will be necessary to expand the existing monitoring networks and identify or install more monitoring sites to fully demonstrate sustainability, refine the hydrogeologic conceptual model, and improve the GSP model. Monitoring networks are described for each of the five applicable sustainability indicators, and data gaps are identified for every monitoring network. These data gaps will be addressed during GSP implementation, as further described in Chapter 10: Plan Implementation. Addressing these data gaps and developing more extensive and complete monitoring networks will improve the GSA's ability to track progress and demonstrate sustainability. Data gaps will be addressed by the GSAs early during the GSP implementation, working together to sustainably protect the groundwater resource upon which they and their constituents rely.

### 7.1 Monitoring Objectives

The SGMA regulations require monitoring networks be developed to promote the collection of data of sufficient quality, frequency, and spatial distribution to characterize groundwater and related surface water conditions in the Subbasin and to evaluate changing conditions that occur through implementation of the GSP. The monitoring network should accomplish the following:

- Demonstrate progress toward achieving measurable objectives described in the GSP.
- Monitor impacts to the beneficial uses and users of groundwater.
- Monitor changes in groundwater conditions relative to measurable objectives and minimum thresholds.
- Quantify annual changes in water budget components.

The minimum thresholds and measurable objectives monitored by the networks are described in Chapter 8, Sustainable Management Criteria.

#### 7.1.1 Monitoring Networks

Monitoring networks are developed for each of the five sustainability indicators that are relevant to the Subbasin:

- Chronic lowering of groundwater levels
- Reduction in groundwater storage
- Degraded water quality
- Land subsidence
- Depletion of interconnected surface water

The Subbasin is isolated from the Pacific Ocean and is not threatened by seawater intrusion; therefore, this GSP does not provide monitoring for the seawater intrusion sustainability indicator.

The SGMA regulations allow the GSP to use existing monitoring sites for the monitoring network. Wells used for monitoring, however, are limited by restrictions in §352.4(c) of the SMA regulations which requires the GSAs to provide various data for any wells used as monitoring wells, including but not limited to: CASGEM well identification number, well location, ground surface elevation, well depth, and perforated intervals. Wells for which these data were not available, or could not be easily inferred, could not be used in the current groundwater monitoring network.

The approach for establishing the monitoring network for this Subbasin is to leverage existing monitoring programs and incorporate additional monitoring locations that have been made available by cooperating entities. The monitoring networks are limited to locations with data that are publicly available and not collected under confidentiality agreements; the availability of well data and restrictions of existing confidentiality agreements results in a monitoring network with relatively few wells. This chapter identifies data gaps in each monitoring network and proposes locations for filling those data gaps.

### **7.1.2 Management Areas**

The SGMA regulations require that if management areas are established, the quantity and density of monitoring sites in those areas shall be sufficient to evaluate conditions of the Subbasin setting and sustainable management criteria specific to that area. At this time, management areas have not been defined for the Subbasin. If management areas are developed in the future, the monitoring networks will be reevaluated to ensure that there is sufficient monitoring to evaluate conditions in each management area.

## **7.2 Groundwater Level Monitoring Network**

The minimum thresholds and measurable objectives for the chronic lowering of groundwater levels sustainability indicator are evaluated by monitoring groundwater levels. The SGMA

regulations require a network of monitoring wells sufficient to demonstrate groundwater occurrence, flow directions, and hydraulic gradients between principal aquifers and surface water features.

Existing well records and existing groundwater monitoring programs in the Subbasin are described in Chapters 3 and 5, respectively. Groundwater well construction data and water level data were obtained from the following public sources:

- San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (SLOFCWCD)
- USGS National Water Information System (NWIS)
- DWR Online System for Well Completion Reports (OSWCR)
- DWR SGMA Data Viewer
- DWR California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM)
- City of Paso Robles and San Miguel CSD for public drinking water supply wells

These data sources resulted in a dataset of thousands of wells. The dataset was analyzed using the following steps to assess whether individual wells could be included in the initial GSP groundwater level monitoring network:

- **Include Only Currently Measured Wells.** To reduce the possibility of selecting a well that has not been monitored in many years or that may no longer be accessible, wells were excluded that did not have at least one groundwater level measurement from 2012 or later. All the groundwater level monitoring data available for the Subbasin that met this criterion were provided by SLOFCWCD or the USGS NWIS, which have monitored groundwater levels in approximately 130 wells since 2012.
- **Remove Confidential Wells.** Most of the wells in the SLOFCWCD groundwater level monitoring network are subject to confidentiality agreements. Because monitoring data collected as part of this GSP will be publicly available, data from these confidential wells cannot be used and therefore these wells are currently excluded from the GSP monitoring network.

Applying these criteria resulted in 17 potential groundwater level monitoring wells in the Subbasin that could be used to monitor future groundwater levels as part of GSP implementation. Within this group of 17 wells, there are two well clusters: each consisting of three wells in the same location. The wells in these two clusters are all screened in the Paso Robles Formation Aquifer at various depths. A comparison of hydrographs for each cluster indicates that water levels have been generally similar in the three wells in each cluster, as shown on Figure 7-1. Only one well was selected from each cluster for inclusion in the

monitoring network because it is representative of all the wells in that cluster. The two wells selected for monitoring are wells 26S/15E-20B04 and 25S/12E-16K05, which narrows the list of potential monitoring wells to 13 after removing the other wells in each cluster.

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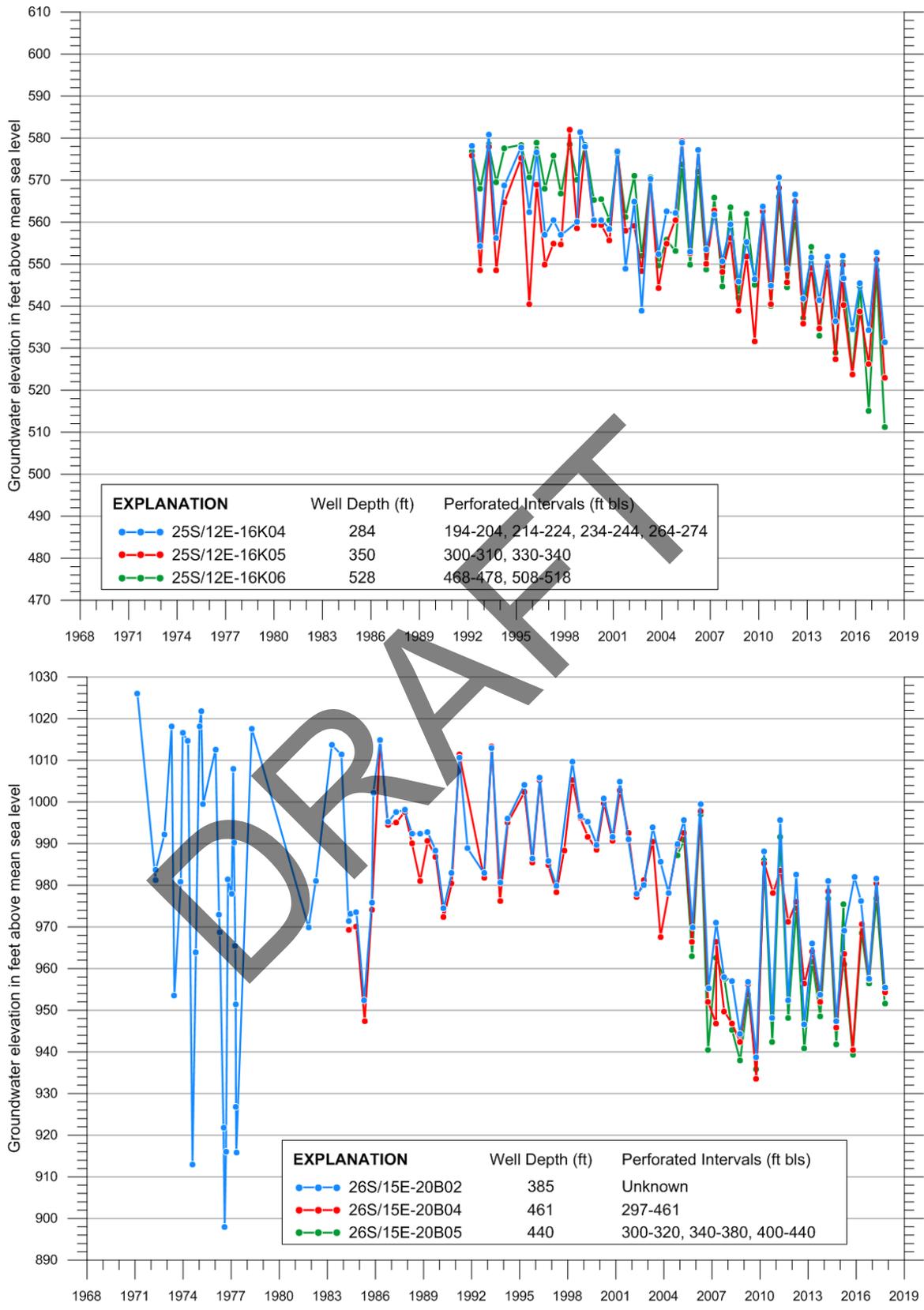


Figure 7-1. Hydrographs of Wells in Well Clusters

There are two principal aquifers in the Subbasin, as described in Chapter 4. The Alluvial Aquifer occurs along stream channels and is generally up to about 100 feet thick. The Paso Robles Formation Aquifer occurs in thin discontinuous sand and gravel zones throughout the Subbasin. The wells in the proposed monitoring network are assigned to an aquifer according to these guidelines:

- The well location is compared to the surface geology map, Figure 4-4.
- If the well is located where the Paso Robles Formation is mapped at land surface on the surface geology map, then it is assumed to be monitoring the Paso Robles Formation Aquifer.
- If the well is located in the mapped extent of alluvium, and the screened interval or total well depth is less than 100 feet, then it was assumed to be monitoring the Alluvial Aquifer. If the top of the perforated interval is greater than 100 feet below land surface, then the well was assumed to be monitoring the Paso Robles Formation Aquifer.

The depths of 2 of the 13 wells are unknown: 27S-14E-29G01 and 25S/12E-20K03. Although well completion reports are available online via the State's OSWCR system, the well completion report numbers are unknown for these wells and therefore it is impossible to identify the associated well completion reports. For well 27S-14E-29G01, depth to water is greater than 150 feet below land surface on average and therefore was assumed to be monitoring the Paso Robles Formation Aquifer and was included in the monitoring network. Depth to water in well 25S/12E-20K03 is approximately 30 feet below land surface and may be monitoring the alluvial aquifer, but its aquifer designation is unknown pending confirmation of screened interval and/or total depth. Therefore, this well was excluded from the monitoring network at this time. This well will be included in the monitoring network after the well completion information is verified during GSP implementation.

Based on these guidelines, there are currently 12 wells in the network monitoring groundwater levels the Paso Robles Formation Aquifer. Representative monitoring wells for the Alluvial Aquifer that meet the criteria of known well depth and publicly available data have not been identified. However, there are numerous wells that are believed to exist within the Alluvial Aquifer that could be included in the monitoring network after the data on depth and screened interval are obtained and confidentiality restrictions are lifted. Some of these wells will be assessed in the future during GSP implementation to obtain well depth and/or screened interval, as described in Chapter 10. The wells in the water level monitoring network are listed in Table 7-1 and shown on Figure 7-2.

All 12 wells are part of the SLOFCWCD monitoring network. These wells either are not subject to confidentiality agreements or the well data are located in a public database hosted by DWR and therefore are publicly available from at least one source. The monitoring

frequency indicates that water levels are presumably measured twice a year, in accordance with the SLOFCWCD protocol of measuring depths to water in April and October of each year. The most recent available measurement was 2016 or 2017 in all wells.

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Table 7-1. Groundwater Level Monitoring Well Network in Paso Robles Formation Aquifer

Well ID (alt ID)	Well Depth (feet)	Screen Interval(s) (feet bls)	Reference Point Elevation (feet AMSL)	First Year of Data	Last Year of Data	Years Measured (years)	Number of Measurements
25S/12E-16K05 (PASO-0345)	350	300-310, 330-340	669.8	1992	2017	25	52
25S/12E-26L01 (PASO-0205)	400	200-400	719.72	1970	2017	47	103
25S/13E-08L02 (PASO-0195)	270	110-270	1033.81	2012	2017	5	11
26S/12E-26E07 (PASO-0124)	400	---	835	1958	2017	59	128
26S/13E-08M01 (PASO-0164)	400	260-400	827.92	2013	2017	4	11
26S/13E-16N01 (PASO-0282)	400	200-400	890.17	2012	2017	5	11
26S/15E-20B04 (PASO-0401)	461	297-461	1036.36	1984	2017	33	66
27S/12E-13N01 (PASO-0223)	295	195-295	972.42	2012	2017	5	11
27S/13E-28F01 (PASO-0243)	212	118-212	1072	1969	2017	48	104
27S/13E-30N01 (PASO-0086)	355	215-235, 275-355	1086.73	2012	2016	4	6
27S/14E-29G01 (PASO-0041)	---	---	1201.5	1974	2017	43	73
28S/13E-01B01 (PASO-0066)	254	154-254	1099.93	2012	2016	4	9

Notes

--- = unknown

ASML – above mean sea level

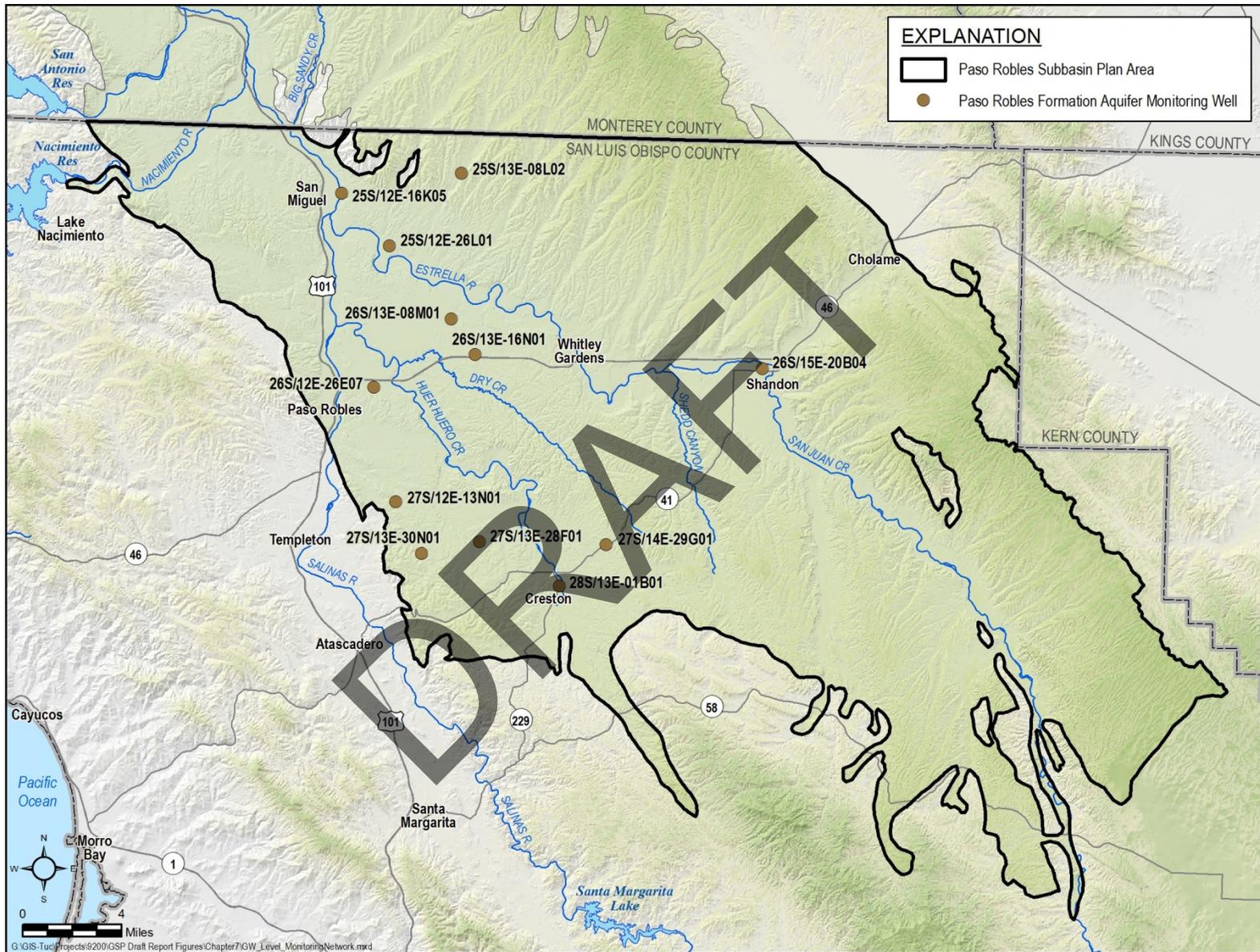


Figure 7-2. Groundwater Level Monitoring Well Network in Paso Robles Formation Aquifer

## 7.2.1 Groundwater Level Monitoring Network Data Gaps

Data gaps have been identified using guidelines in the SGMA regulations and BMPs published by DWR on monitoring networks (DWR, 2016a). Table 7-2 summarizes the suggested attributes of a groundwater level monitoring network from the BMPs in comparison to the current network, and identifies data gaps.

The SGMA regulations require a sufficient density of monitoring wells to characterize the groundwater table or potentiometric surface for each principal aquifer. Professional judgement is also used to determine an adequate level of monitoring density in areas of active groundwater pumping and near specific projects that will be developed in the Subbasin under the GSP.

While there is no definitive rule on well density, the BMP cites a range of 0.2 to 10 wells per 100 square miles, with a median of 5 wells per 100 square miles from various cited studies. The CASGEM monitoring plan is 10 to 20 wells per 100 square miles (SLOFCWCD, 2014). The Subbasin is 684 square miles, which equates to 34 wells at a median density of 5 wells per 100 square miles. The monitoring network of 12 wells is within the recommended range cited in the BMP (1 to 68 wells), but the number of monitoring wells is considered low given the size and complexity of the Subbasin.

The BMP document states that groundwater level data must be collected from each principal aquifer in the Subbasin. The current monitoring network only includes wells assigned to the Paso Robles Formation Aquifer. There are no wells in the current monitoring network that monitor the Alluvial Aquifer. This is a data gap that will be addressed in the near future, possibly by video logging, as further described in Chapter 10, Plan Implementation.

A program to increase monitoring frequency will be developed to determine seasonal high and low groundwater elevations and also monitor groundwater response to recharge and other activities. One method to increase monitoring frequency is to install continuous dataloggers in existing and new monitoring wells, as further described in Chapter 10, Plan Implementation.

Groundwater level data must be sufficient to identify changes in groundwater flow directions and gradients. Groundwater contour maps are presented in Chapter 5 for both aquifers. These maps were prepared using available monitoring data, including data collected from wells subject to confidentiality agreements. To comply with the confidentiality agreements, the data and well locations are not included on the maps. During the implementation phase of the GSP, groundwater elevation maps will be developed using only the publicly available data collected as part of this GSP. The 12 wells in the proposed GSP monitoring network are insufficient to develop representative and sufficiently detailed groundwater contour maps for either the Paso Robles Formation or Alluvial Aquifers. The lack of publicly available data for both aquifers is identified as a data gap that will be addressed early in GSP implementation.

A recent study by GSI Water Solutions, Inc. (GSI) came to similar conclusions about data gaps in the Paso Robles Formation (GSI, 2018). The data gap areas developed by GSI are shown on Figure 7-3. These are areas where existing wells that can serve as monitoring wells should be identified, or new monitoring wells should be installed in the Paso Robles Formation Aquifer. Figure 7-3 also shows locations of data gaps and potential new well locations for the Alluvial Aquifer.

The data gap areas on Figure 7-3 will be addressed in the future by either identifying an existing well in the area that meets the criteria for a valid monitoring well, or drilling a new well in the area, as further described in Chapter 10, Plan Implementation. There are approximately 90 confidential wells in the Subbasin that have been monitored since 2012 that could be used to fill some of these data gaps if the well owners agree to sign amended confidentiality agreements. SLOFCWCD will attempt to secure such amended agreements in areas where data gaps have been identified. The GSI data gap report identifies and targets specific confidential wells for consideration as new monitoring wells in a publicly accessible monitoring system. If an existing well cannot be identified to fill a data gap, it will be necessary to drill a new monitoring well for that data gap area.

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Table 7-2. Summary of Best Management Practices, Groundwater Level Monitoring Well Network, and Data Gaps

Best Management Practice (DWR, 2016a)	Current Monitoring Network	Data Gap
Groundwater level data will be collected from each principal aquifer in the basin.	12 wells in the Paso Robles Formation Aquifer; no wells in the Alluvial Aquifer	Additional wells are needed; well depth, screen interval, well log, and aquifer designation are unknown for candidate monitoring wells; renegotiate to release confidentiality from confidential wells with water level measurement more recent than 2000 in database
Groundwater level data must be sufficient to produce seasonal maps of groundwater elevations throughout the basin that clearly identify changes in groundwater flow direction and gradient (Spatial Density).	Confidential data from 43 wells and non-confidential data from 9 wells were used to create seasonal groundwater elevation maps for the Paso Robles Formation Aquifer (Chapter 5); Confidential data from 7 wells and data from 1 non-confidential well were used to create an annual groundwater elevation map for the Alluvial Aquifer (Chapter 5).	Some data used to prepare groundwater elevation maps in the GSP are confidential; in the future, only publicly available data will be used to develop contour maps. Additional wells are needed to develop representative contour maps.
Groundwater levels will be collected during the middle of October and March for comparative reporting purposes, although more frequent monitoring may be required (Frequency).	All 12 wells in the existing monitoring network have been monitored twice a year, in spring (April) and fall (October), since at least 2012.	Seasonal monitoring is the protocol for SLOFCWCD (Appendix E); more frequent monitoring may be needed to identify actual seasonal high and low groundwater elevations and further characterize groundwater level fluctuations; instrumentation like transducers or other technology may be used in future to monitor groundwater elevations.
Data must be sufficient for mapping groundwater depressions, recharge areas, and along margins of basins where groundwater flow is known to enter or leave a basin.	Current network of 12 wells is insufficient for mapping all of these areas.	Additional monitoring wells are required in groundwater depressions, near recharge features such as rivers and streams, and along Subbasin margins; possibly install instrumentation like transducers or other technology in future monitoring wells.
Well density must be adequate to determine changes in storage.	Current network of 12 wells is insufficient for determining changes in groundwater storage.	Additional monitoring wells are required to adequately cover the Subbasin and determine changes in groundwater storage.
Data must be able to demonstrate the interconnectivity between shallow groundwater and surface water bodies, where appropriate.	There is at least one well that may be completed in the Alluvial Aquifer if construction data were known.	Additional wells will be needed in the Alluvial Aquifer near reaches of interconnected surface water to characterize interconnectivity.
Data must be able to map the effects of management actions, i.e., managed aquifer recharge.	Current network of 12 wells is inadequate for mapping the effects of management actions.	Additional monitoring wells are required to map the effectiveness of management actions. This monitoring will be addressed as projects are implemented
Data must be able to demonstrate conditions near basin boundaries; agencies may consider coordinating monitoring efforts with adjacent basins to provide consistent data across basin boundaries. Agencies may consider characterization and continued impacts of internal hydraulic boundary conditions, such as faults, disconformities, or other internal boundary types.	Several wells in the existing monitoring network are used to monitor conditions on the southwestern boundary of the Subbasin.	Additional wells are likely necessary along the northern boundary with the Upper Valley Subbasin of the Salinas Valley. Additional wells may be necessary to map the structure and effect of internal faults.
Data must be able to characterize conditions and monitor adverse impacts to beneficial uses and users identified within the basin.	The current monitoring network characterizes only a portion of the Subbasin and the potential impacts.	Network will be expanded in accordance with the data gaps identified above.

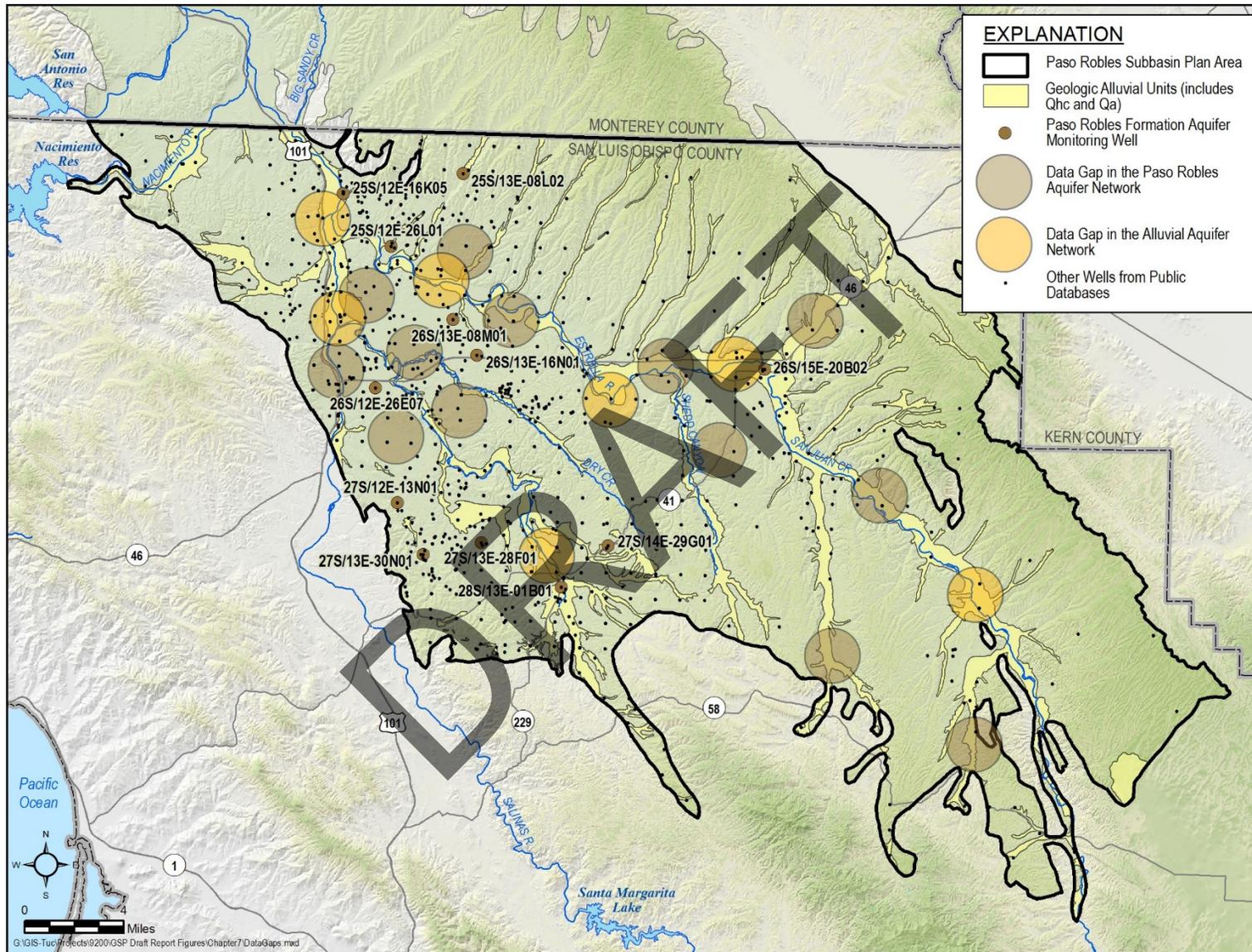


Figure 7-3. Data Gaps in the Groundwater Level Monitoring Well Network

## **7.2.2 Groundwater Level Monitoring Protocols**

The groundwater level monitoring protocols established by SLOFCWCD are adopted by this GSP for manual groundwater level monitoring. The monitoring protocols are included in Appendix E.

There are various automated groundwater level monitoring devices in operation across the Subbasin and the GSP implementation phase will incorporate automated logging of groundwater elevations. Automated water level monitoring is already used in a number of private wells in the basin; these data may be used to supplement the current water level monitoring network in the future. As automated groundwater level monitoring systems are added to the monitoring network, appropriate protocols for each automated system will be incorporated into this GSP.

Automated groundwater level monitoring systems have the advantage of supplying more frequent groundwater levels with no increase in monitoring costs. The groundwater level monitoring BMP recommends more frequent monitoring in certain areas, including shallow, unconfined aquifers, in areas of rapid recharge, in areas of greater withdrawal rates, and in areas of more variable climatic conditions. More frequent monitoring may also be required in specific places where sustainability indicators are a concern or to track impacts of specific management actions and projects. The need for more frequent monitoring will be evaluated, and a program to increase monitoring frequency will be developed during the GSP implementation phase, described in Chapter 10.

## **7.3 Groundwater Storage Monitoring Network**

This GSP adopts groundwater levels as a proxy for assessing change in groundwater storage, as described in Chapter 8, Sustainable Management Criteria. Groundwater level monitoring points that are adequate for collecting the groundwater level data are identified in Section 7.2. Therefore, the network of wells providing groundwater level data for the reduction in groundwater storage sustainability indicator is the same wells shown on Table 7-1.

### **7.3.1 Groundwater Storage Monitoring Data Gaps**

Data gaps in the groundwater storage monitoring network are similar to the data gaps identified for the groundwater level monitoring network discussed in Section 7.2.1. Because change in groundwater storage is predominantly influenced by changes in shallow water table elevations, more shallow wells than those discussed in Section 7.2.1 may be necessary. Additional water table wells may be needed throughout the Paso Robles Formation Aquifer. The number of additional water table wells will not be known until there is an assessment of how many existing wells are screened at or near the existing water table in the Paso Robles

Formation Aquifer. This is a data gap that will be addressed during GSP implementation as described in Chapter 10: Plan Implementation.

### **7.3.2 Groundwater Storage Monitoring Protocols**

The groundwater storage monitoring network is identical to the groundwater level monitoring network. Therefore, the protocols used for gathering water level data to assess changes in groundwater storage are identical to the protocols used for the chronic lowering of groundwater levels sustainability indicator. Protocols for the manual collection of groundwater levels are included in Appendix E. As automated groundwater level collection devices are added to the monitoring network, protocols will be developed for each of these automated systems and incorporated into the GSP.

## **7.4 Water Quality Monitoring Network**

The sustainability indicator for degraded water quality is evaluated by monitoring groundwater quality at a network of existing supply wells. The SGMA regulations require sufficient spatial and temporal data from each applicable principal aquifer to determine groundwater quality trends for water quality indicators to address known water quality issues.

As described in Chapter 5, there are no known contaminant plumes in the Subbasin, therefore the monitoring network is monitoring only non-point source constituents of concern and naturally occurring water quality impacts.

Existing groundwater quality monitoring programs in the Subbasin are described in Chapter 3 and groundwater quality distribution and trends are described in Chapter 5. Constituents of concern were identified in Chapter 5 based on comparison to drinking water standards and levels that could impact crop production. As described in Chapter 8, separate minimum thresholds are set for agricultural constituents of concern and public supply well constituents of concern. Therefore, although there is a single groundwater quality monitoring network, different wells in the network will be assessed for different constituents. Constituents of concern for drinking water will be assessed at public water supply wells. Constituents of concern for crop health will be assessed at agricultural supply wells.

The public water supply wells included in the monitoring network were identified by reviewing data from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Drinking Water. Wells were selected that were sampled for at least one of the constituents of concern during 2015 or more recently. These wells are listed in Table 7-3 and shown on Figure 7-4. For the 41 public supply wells in the groundwater quality monitoring network, an assumed aquifer designation was assigned based on surficial geologic maps (Figure 4-4) and well depths when available. There are 31 wells that are in the Paso Robles Formation Aquifer, seven wells in the Alluvial Aquifer, and three wells where the aquifer could not be estimated.

Verifying the aquifer for these three wells is a data gap that will be addressed during plan implementation.

The agricultural supply wells included in the monitoring network were identified by reviewing data from the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) that are stored in the SWRCB's Geotracker/GAMA database. Wells were selected that had detections of at least one of the agricultural constituents of concern reported from 2015 or more recently (GAMA, 2015). There are 28 ILRP properties with agricultural supply wells in the groundwater quality monitoring network. Since multiple wells of unknown depth are associated with a given IRLP ID, the aquifer monitored by these wells is unknown. These wells are listed in Table 7-3 and shown on Figure 7-4. If an IRLP property has multiple wells, the location of the well is shown at the average of these coordinates.

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Table 7-3. Groundwater Quality Monitoring Well Network

Well ID	Type of Well	Well Depth <sup>1</sup> (feet)	Screen Interval (feet bls)	First Measurement Date	Last Measurement Date	Measurement Period (years)	Measurement Count	Assumed Aquifer
W0604000207-001	PWS	440	340-440	2002	2018	16	63	PR
W0604000210-001	PWS	117	87-117	2002	2015	13	9	---
W0604000512-001	PWS	60	30-60	2002	2015	13	13	AA
W0604000554-001	PWS	355	155-355	2002	2016	14	16	PR
W0604000554-003	PWS	237	174-237	2002	2016	14	16	PR
W0604000620-001	PWS	354	120-354	2001	2018	17	36	PR
W0604000620-002	PWS	510	310-510	2002	2018	16	41	PR
W0604000693-002	PWS	40	---	2005	2017	12	9	AA
W0604000708-001	PWS	80	80-80	2002	2018	16	10	AA
W0604000781-001	PWS	792	412-792	2002	2018	16	21	PR
W0604000781-011	PWS	670	380-670	2002	2018	16	21	PR
W0604000788-001	PWS	450	235-450	2002	2018	16	15	PR
W0604000788-005	PWS	920	400-920	2003	2018	15	14	PR
W0604000789-001	PWS	245	125-245	2002	2018	16	17	PR
W0604000790-001	PWS	175	126-175	2002	2018	16	62	---
W0604000803-001	PWS	420	100-420	2004	2018	14	10	PR
W0604000803-002	PWS	420	200-420	2004	2018	14	10	PR
W0604010007-003	PWS	400	200-400	1984	2016	32	36	PR
W0604010007-004	PWS	500	---	1984	2018	34	82	PR
W0604010007-006	PWS	344	---	1987	2018	31	34	PR
W0604010007-007	PWS	80	20-80	1984	2017	33	23	AA
W0604010007-008	PWS	80	20-80	1984	2018	34	24	AA

Well ID	Type of Well	Well Depth <sup>1</sup> (feet)	Screen Interval (feet bls)	First Measurement Date	Last Measurement Date	Measurement Period (years)	Measurement Count	Assumed Aquifer
W0604010007-009	PWS	---	---	1990	2018	28	8	---
W0604010007-010	PWS	600	260-600	1990	2017	27	17	PR
W0604010007-012	PWS	425	---	1984	2018	34	35	PR
W0604010007-013	PWS	317	---	1984	2018	34	34	PR
W0604010007-017	PWS	675	---	1993	2018	25	26	PR
W0604010007-018	PWS	535	---	1993	2016	23	23	PR
W0604010007-019	PWS	220	---	1995	2017	22	25	PR
W0604010007-020	PWS	610	---	1996	2017	21	22	PR
W0604010007-021	PWS	100	---	1998	2018	20	22	AA
W0604010007-038	PWS	1060	300-1060	2003	2018	15	18	PR
W0604010010-004	PWS	300	85-300	1984	2018	34	118	PR
W0604010010-005	PWS	360	162-360	1991	2018	27	105	PR
W0604010010-009	PWS	380	350-380	2007	2018	11	250	PR
W0604010028-002	PWS	342	297-342	1991	2018	27	46	PR
W0604010028-004	PWS	400	300-400	2002	2018	16	31	PR
W0604010831-001	PWS	840	640-840	1989	2016	27	24	PR
W0604010831-002	PWS	446	401-446	1989	2016	27	23	PR
W0604010831-003	PWS	475	410-475	1989	2016	27	24	PR
W0604010900-002	PWS	50	---	1999	2018	19	18	AA
AGL020000646	ILRP	660	---	2012	2017	5	---	---
AGL020000801	ILRP	---	---	2013	2017	4	---	---
AGL020001525	ILRP	---	---	2014	2017	3	---	---
AGL020001534	ILRP	---	---	2013	2017	4	---	---

Well ID	Type of Well	Well Depth <sup>1</sup> (feet)	Screen Interval (feet bls)	First Measurement Date	Last Measurement Date	Measurement Period (years)	Measurement Count	Assumed Aquifer
AGL020001605	ILRP	---	---	2015	2017	2	---	---
AGL020001689	ILRP	---	---	2014	2017	3	---	---
AGL020001800	ILRP	---	---	2015	2015	<1	---	---
AGL020003900	ILRP	---	---	2015	2015	<1	---	---
AGL020004014	ILRP	---	---	2014	2017	3	---	---
AGL020005173	ILRP	---	---	2015	2017	2	---	---
AGL020005268	ILRP	---	---	2015	2015	<1	---	---
AGL020007128	ILRP	---	---	2014	2017	3	---	---
AGL020007471	ILRP	---	---	2015	2015	<1	---	---
AGL020007593	ILRP	---	---	2015	2018	3	---	---
AGL020007721	ILRP	---	---	2017	2017	<1	---	---
AGL020007807	ILRP	---	---	2012	2017	5	---	---
AGL020007815	ILRP	---	---	2012	2017	5	---	---
AGL020007848	ILRP	---	---	2015	2015	<1	---	---
AGL020007872	ILRP	---	---	2015	2018	3	---	---
AGL020009803	ILRP	---	---	2014	2018	4	---	---
AGL020010282	ILRP	---	---	2012	2015	3	---	---
AGL020013814	ILRP	---	---	2015	2018	3	---	---
AGL020015242	ILRP	---	---	2015	2018	3	---	---
AGL020015302	ILRP	---	---	2013	2017	4	---	---
AGL020016382	ILRP	---	---	2015	2018	3	---	---
AGL020024742	ILRP	---	---	2016	2017	1	---	---
AGL020025402	ILRP	---	---	2015	2017	2	---	---

Well ID	Type of Well	Well Depth <sup>1</sup> (feet)	Screen Interval (feet bls)	First Measurement Date	Last Measurement Date	Measurement Period (years)	Measurement Count	Assumed Aquifer
AGL020028348	ILRP	---	---	2017	2017	<1	---	---

Notes

--- = Unknown

(1) = total well depth is assumed to be equivalent to bottom of perforated interval

AA = Alluvial Aquifer; PR = Paso Robles Formation Aquifer

PWS = Public water supply

ILRP = Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

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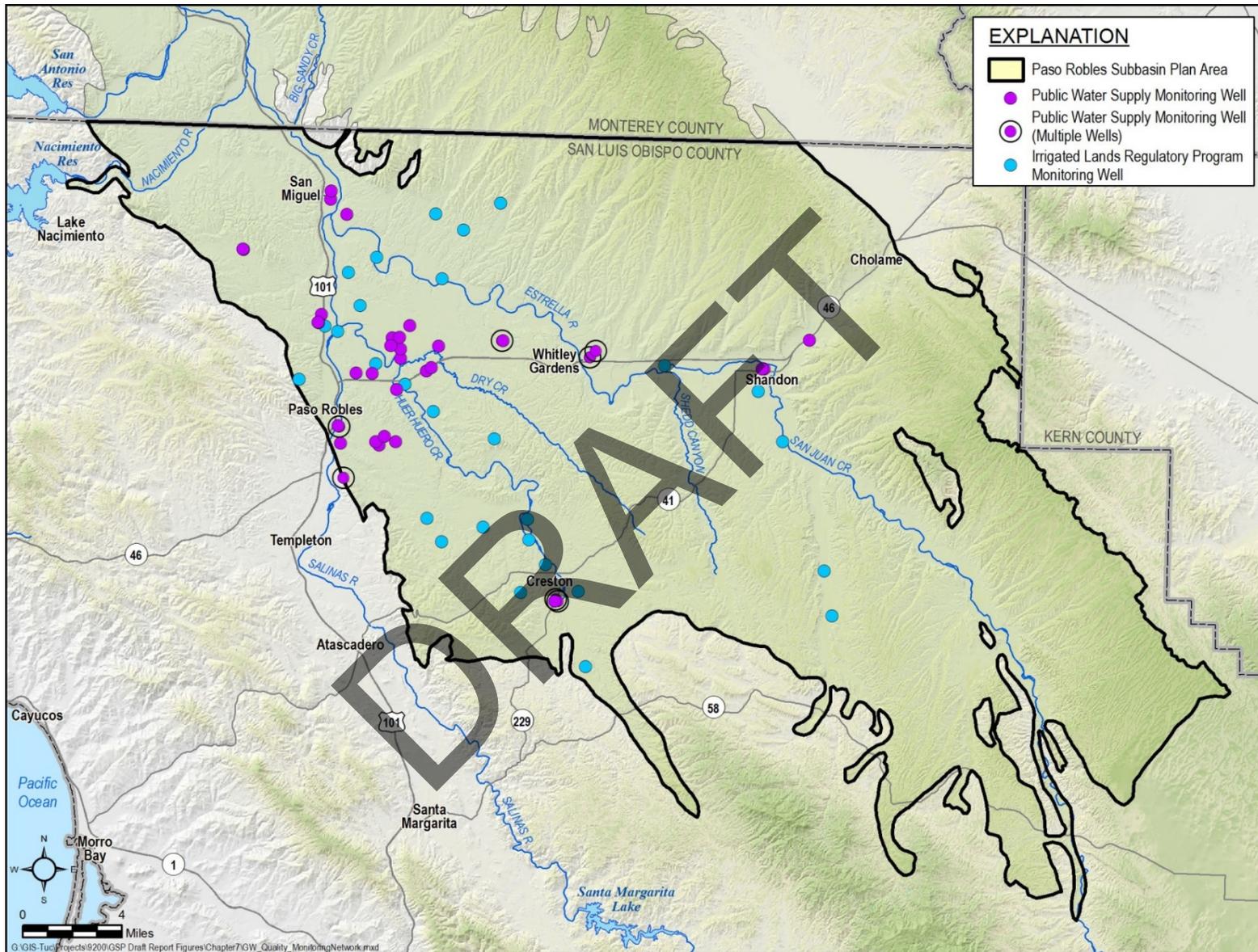


Figure 7-4. Groundwater Quality Monitoring Well Network

### **7.4.1 Groundwater Quality Monitoring Data Gaps**

Data gaps have been identified based on the SGMA regulations and BMPs published by DWR on monitoring networks (DWR, 2016a). Table 7-4 summarizes the recommendations for groundwater quality monitoring from the BMPs, the current network, and data gaps. There is adequate spatial coverage in the network to assess impacts to beneficial uses and users. The primary data gap is that well construction info for many wells in the monitoring network is unknown. Additional wells may be necessary to monitor impacts of projects and actions on water quality. Addressing these data gaps is part of the GSP implementation phase, as described in Chapter 10.

### **7.4.2 Groundwater Quality Monitoring Protocols**

Water quality samples are currently being collected according to SWRCB and ILRP requirements. ILRP data are currently collected under Central Coast RWQCB Ag Order 3.0. ILRP samples are collected under the Tier 1, Tier 2, or Tier 3 monitoring and reporting programs. Copies of these monitoring and reporting programs are included in Appendix E, and incorporated herein as monitoring protocols. These protocols will continue to be followed during GSP implementation for the groundwater quality monitoring.

## **7.5 Land Subsidence Monitoring Network**

The sustainability indicator for land subsidence is evaluated by monitoring land surface elevation at a network of Continuous GPS (CGPS) sites and calculating an annual rate of change at each site. As described in Chapter 5, the existing land subsidence monitoring program in the Subbasin includes five CGPS stations that measure the three-dimensional position of a point on the earth's surface in time intervals as frequent as 15 seconds. Horizontal and vertical movement are monitored, but vertical movement is the primary interest and can be an indication of subsidence or uplift. DWR references a dataset managed by the University NAVSTAR Consortium (UNAVCO). The UNAVCO Data Center handles data management and processing for a global network of GPS instrumentation that record signals from the five CGPS stations. UNAVCO's Data Archive Interface (DAIv2) can be used to access and download the latest CGPS data from the available stations (UNAVCO, 2019).

The five CGPS stations in the network are shown on Figure 7-5 and summarized in Table 7-5. The subsidence data are shown in Figure 7-6.

Table 7-4. Summary of Groundwater Quality Monitoring, Best Management Practices, and Data Gaps

Best Management Practice (DWR, 2016a)	Current Network	Data Gap
<p>Monitor groundwater quality data from each principal aquifer in the basin that is currently, or may be in the future, impacted by degraded water quality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The spatial distribution must be adequate to map or supplement mapping of known contaminants.</li> <li>Monitoring should occur based upon professional opinion, but generally correlate to the seasonal high and low groundwater level, or more frequent as appropriate.</li> </ul>	<p>There are 41 municipal wells and 28 IRLP wells within the plan area that have been regularly sampled since at least 2015 for groundwater quality.</p>	<p>None; the current monitoring network contains adequate spatial distribution to map water quality in the basin.</p>
<p>Collect groundwater quality data from each principal aquifer in the basin that is currently, or may be in the future, impacted by degraded water quality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agencies should use existing water quality monitoring data to the greatest degree possible. For example, these could include ILRP, GAMA, existing RWQCB monitoring and remediation programs, and drinking water source assessment programs.</li> </ul>	<p>Public databases provide adequate water quality information for degraded water quality.</p>	<p>Well depth and construction info for some wells in the monitoring network is unknown; however, there seems to be adequate coverage in both principal aquifers</p>
<p>Define the three-dimensional extent of any existing degraded water quality impact.</p>	<p>There are a large number of wells that are actively sampled.</p>	<p>Depth or construction information will need to be obtained to determine the vertical extent of contaminants</p>
<p>Data should be sufficient for mapping movement of degraded water quality.</p>	<p>There are a large number of wells that are actively sampled.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Data should be sufficient to assess groundwater quality impacts to beneficial uses and users.</p>	<p>Water quality monitoring program assesses impacts to both agricultural and municipal users.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Data should be adequate to evaluate whether management activities are contributing to water quality degradation.</p>	<p>There are a large number of wells that are actively sampled.</p>	<p>Projects and actions are being developed. Water quality network will be evaluated and augmented if necessary.</p>

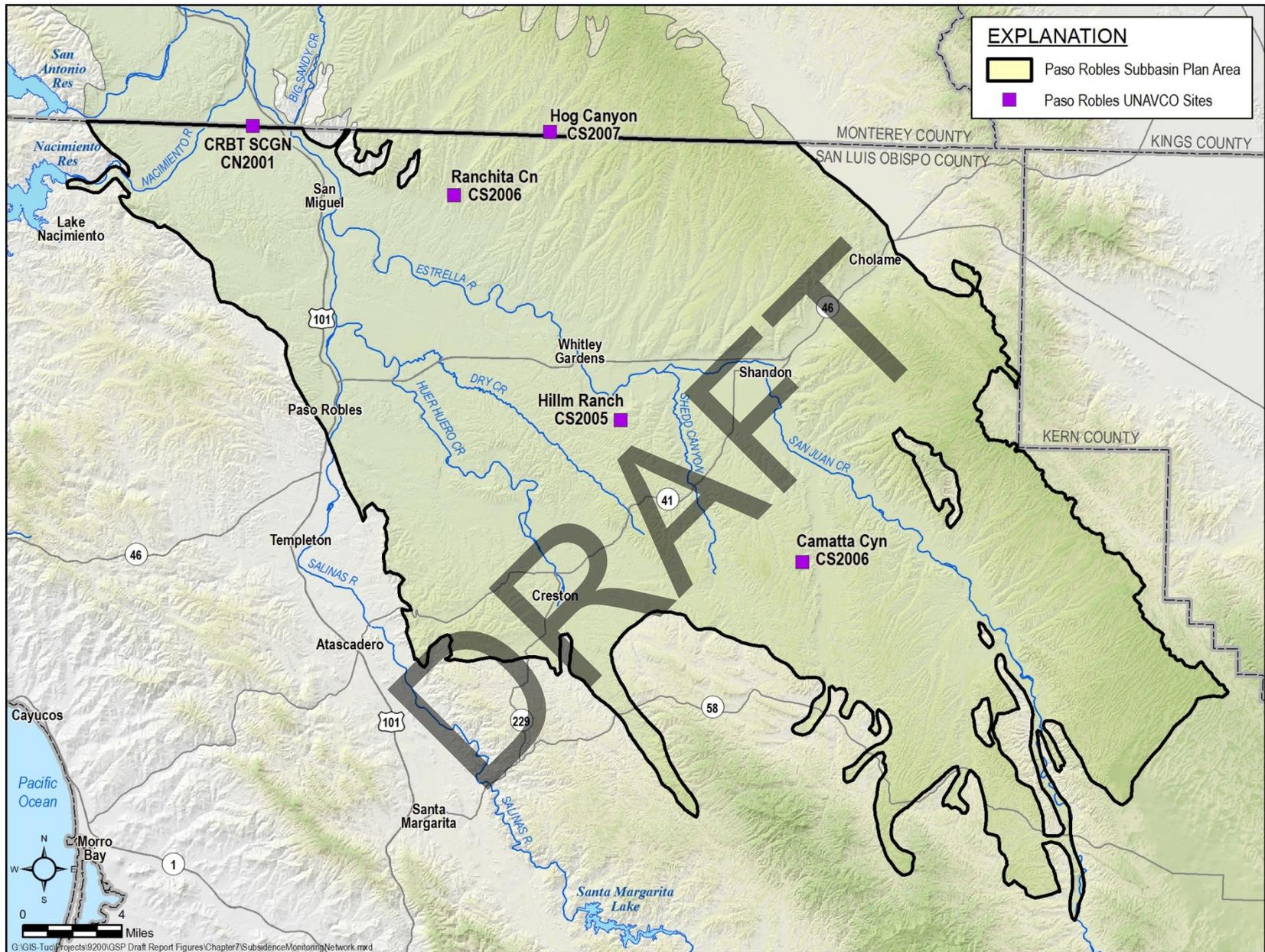


Figure 7-5. Land Subsidence Monitoring Network

Table 7-5. Land Subsidence Monitoring Network

Station ID	Log Time Interval	Name	Latitude	Longitude	Earliest Measurement Date
CRBT	15.0 sec	CRBT SCGN CN2001	35.79161	-120.75075	2001 Sep 13
P531	15.0 sec	Hog Canyon CS2007	35.79269	-120.5366	2007 Jan 17
P527	15.0 sec	Ranchita Cn CS2006	35.75414	-120.60475	2006 Aug 30
P530	15.0 sec	Hillm Ranch CS2005	35.6248	-120.48043	2005 Jul 08
P280	15.0 sec	Camatta Cyn CS2006	35.54405	-120.34761	2006 Jun 23

### 7.5.1 Land Subsidence Monitoring Data Gaps

Available data indicate that there is currently no long-term subsidence occurring in the Subbasin that affects infrastructure. There are no data gaps identified with the subsidence network at this time.

### 7.5.2 Land Subsidence Monitoring Protocols

The BMP notes that no standard procedures exist for collecting subsidence data. For the Subbasin, the protocol for monitoring subsidence will be to download the most recent time-series data for the five CGPS sites on an annual basis. The data collected and processed by UNAVCO will continue to be used for monitoring subsidence. If additional datasets become available, they will be evaluated and incorporated into the monitoring program if appropriate. If the annual monitoring indicates subsidence is occurring at a rate greater than the minimum thresholds, then additional investigation and monitoring may be warranted. The GSAs will also consider subsidence surveys published by the USGS and DWR in assessing land subsidence across the Subbasin.

## 7.6 Interconnected Surface Water Monitoring Network

As discussed in Chapter 5, the consensus among local groundwater experts is that there is no interconnection between surface water and groundwater in the Subbasin. Therefore, there is no need for a monitoring network that quantifies surface water depletion from interconnected surface waters. However, there is a need to verify whether or not there are interconnected surface waters in the Subbasin. The assessment of whether or not there are interconnected surface waters will be evaluated by monitoring surface water and groundwater in areas where interconnected

surface water conditions may exist. Shallow monitoring well data will be collected and compared to the surveyed thalweg of adjacent streams, rivers, or wetlands. In accordance with the assessment of wells discussed in Section 7.2, wells were not identified that met the criteria for including them in a monitoring network for monitoring shallow groundwater levels adjacent to streams, rivers, or wetlands in the Alluvial Aquifer.

### **7.6.1 Interconnected Surface Water Monitoring Data Gaps**

Data gaps have been identified to assess the existence of interconnected surface water bodies in the Subbasin. The initial data gap is the lack of wells that monitor the shallow groundwater table adjacent to streams and rivers. Chapter 5 presented an evaluation of potential shallow groundwater in the Alluvial Aquifer near streams and rivers water based on the GSP model. These areas of potential shallow groundwater in the Alluvial Aquifer will be targeted as areas where shallow groundwater wells are needed. Based on this analysis, the locations of either existing shallow monitoring wells that must be identified, or new monitoring wells that must be installed are shown on Figure 7-7.

If the shallow monitoring wells indicate interconnected surface water bodies in the Subbasin, additional analysis will be undertaken to quantify the surface water depletion and potentially relate the quantified surface water depletion rates to shallow groundwater elevations. The surface water depletion rates will be quantified with the GSP model or other appropriate means, including incorporating the existing stream gauging programs described in Chapter 3.

If the shallow monitoring wells indicate interconnected surface water bodies in the Subbasin, additional data gaps may be identified to address all of the SGMA regulations including the following:

- Establishing flow conditions including surface water discharge, surface water head, and baseflow contribution.
- Establishing the approximate date and location where ephemeral or intermittent flowing streams and rivers cease to flow, if applicable.
- Establishing temporal change in conditions due to variations in stream discharge and regional groundwater extraction.

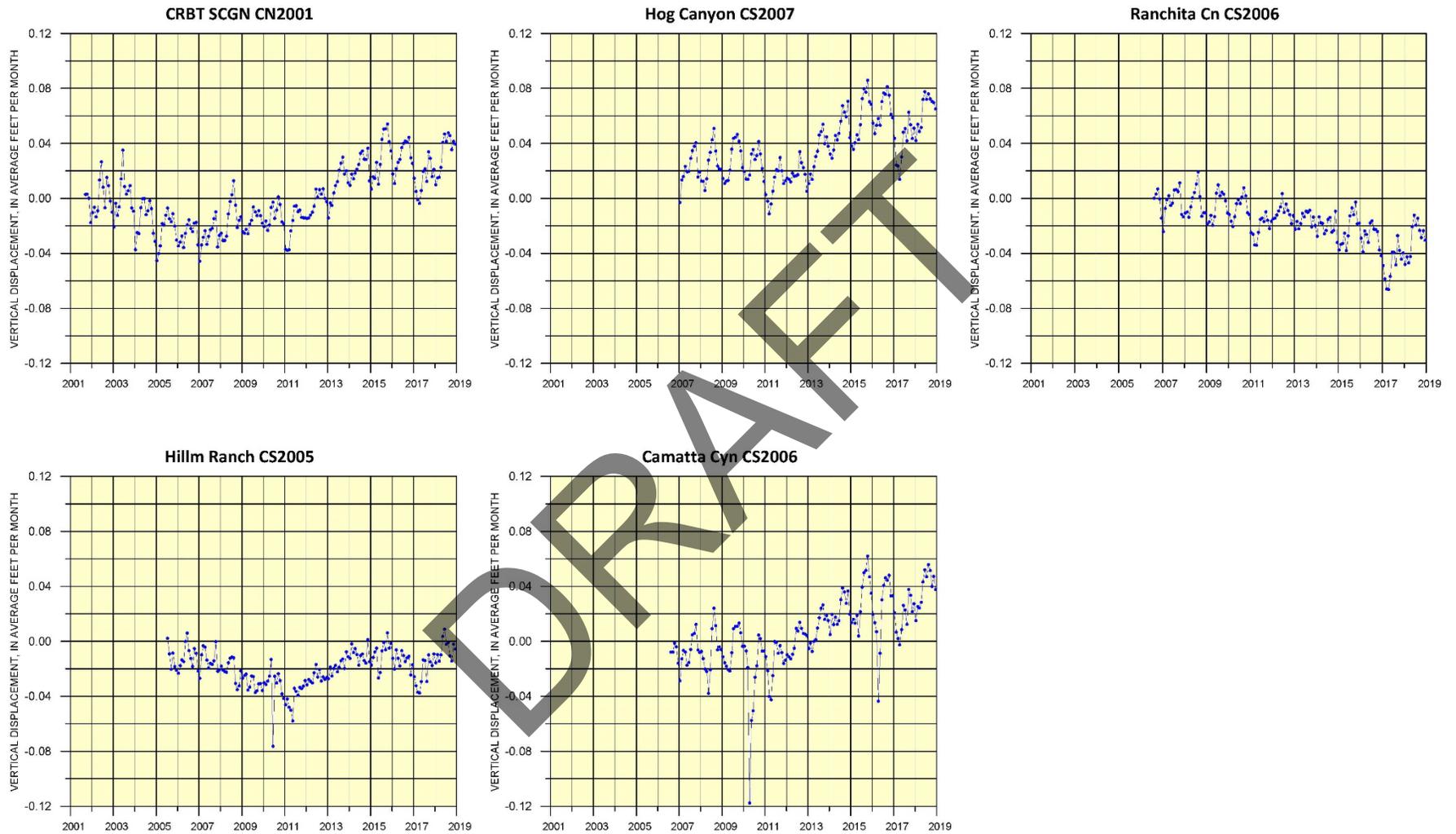


Figure 7-6. Monthly Averages of Vertical Displacement at UNAVCO Continuous GPS Stations

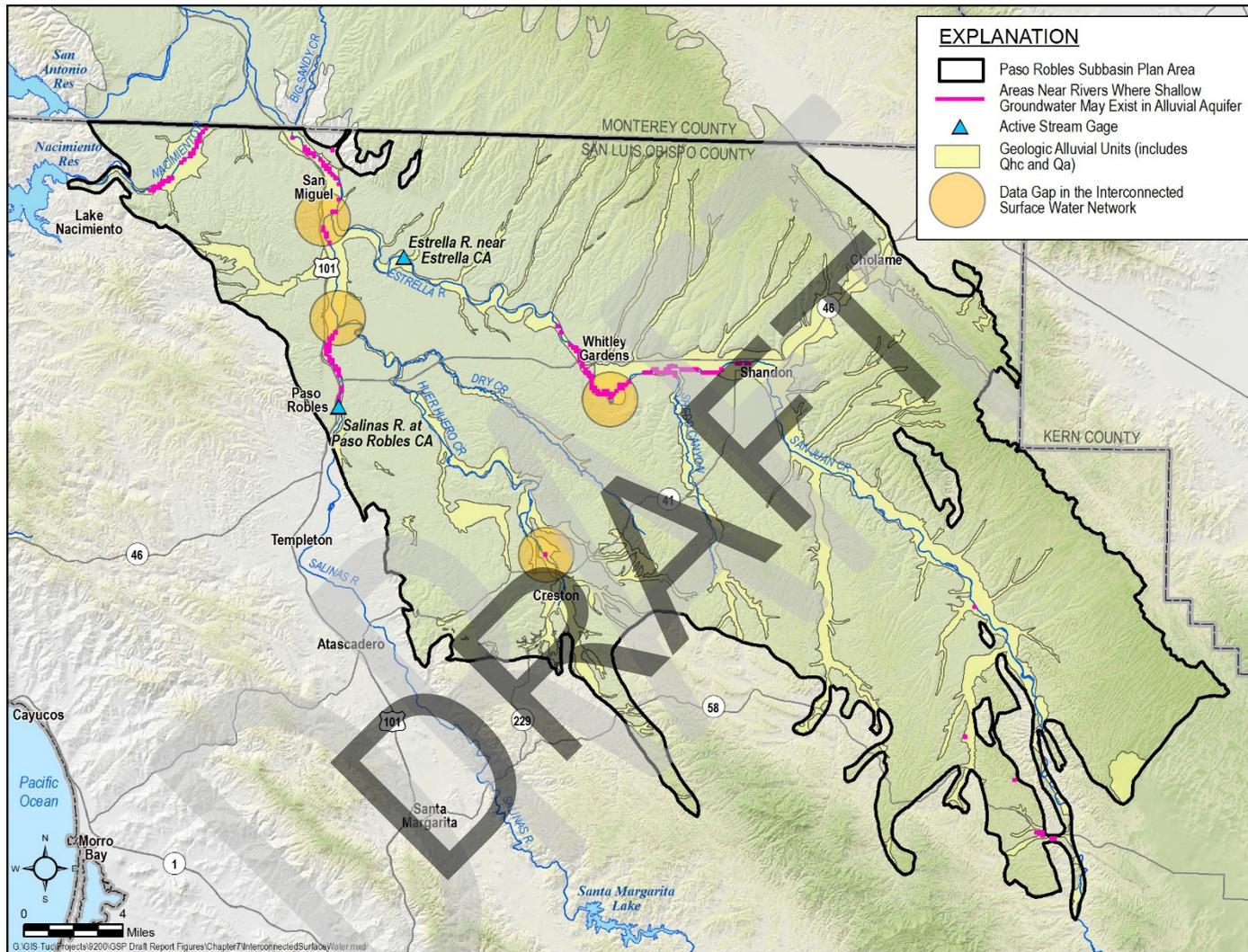


Figure 7-7. Data Gaps in the Interconnected Surface Water Monitoring Well Network

## 7.6.2 Interconnected Surface Water Monitoring Protocols

Stream gauging is currently being conducted by the USGS according to the protocol outlined in the BMP. Water level monitoring will be conducted in accordance the protocols described in the water level monitoring network section of this chapter.

## 7.7 Representative Monitoring Sites

Representative monitoring sites (RMS) are defined in the SGMA regulations as a subset of monitoring sites that are representative of conditions in the Subbasin. All of the monitoring sites in this chapter are considered RMS.

## 7.8 Data Management System and Data Reporting

The SGMA regulations provide broad requirements on data management, stating that a GSP must adhere to the following guidelines for a DMS:

- Article 3, Section 352.6: Each Agency shall develop and maintain a data management system that is capable of storing and reporting information relevant to the development or implementation of the GSP and monitoring of the Subbasin.
- Article 5, Section 354.40: Monitoring data shall be stored in the data management system developed pursuant to Section 352.6. A copy of the monitoring data shall be included in the Annual Report and submitted electronically on forms provided by the Department.

The Paso Robles Subbasin Data Management System (DMS) will be used for the organization, review, and uploading of data to implement the GSP. All data stored in the DMS have a unique identifier and a quality control check was performed on the data.

The Paso Robles Subbasin DMS was developed in Microsoft Access and contains the following main tables:

- **Well\_Info** - General information about a well, including identifiers used by various agencies.
- **Site\_Info** - Site information about a well, recharge site, or diversion; including location, elevation, and address information
- **Well\_Constr** - Well construction information including depth, diameter, etc.
- **Well\_Constr\_Screen**- Supplements **Well\_Constr** with well screen information. One well can have multiple screens.

- **Well\_Geologic\_Aquifer** - Information about the aquifer parameters of the well such as pumping test information, confinement, and transmissivity.
- **Well\_Geologic\_Lithology** - Lithologic information at a well site. Each well may have multiple lithologies at different depths.
- **Water\_Level** - Water level measurements for wells
- **Well\_Pumping** - Pumping measurements for wells, annual or monthly
- **SW\_Recharge** - Recharge measurements for a recharge site, annual or monthly
- **SW\_Diversion** - Diversion volume measurements for a diversion site, annual or monthly
- **Water\_Quality** - Water quality data for wells or other type of site

Data sources used to populate the Paso Robles DMS are listed on Table 7-6. Categories marked with an X indicate datasets that are publicly accessible.

Table 7-6. Data Sources Used to Populate DMS

Data Sets	Data Category							
	Well and site info	Well construction	Aquifer properties and lithology (data to be added)	Water level	Pumping (data to be added)	Recharge (data to be added)	Diversion (data to be added)	Water quality
DWR (CASGEM)	X	X		X				
San Luis Obispo County	X	X		X				
Geotracker GAMA	X							X

Data were compiled and reviewed to comply with data quality objectives. The review included the following checks:

- Identifying outliers that may have been introduced during the original data entry process by others.
- Removing or flagging questionable data being uploaded in the DMS. This applies to historic water level data, water quality data, and water level over time.

The data were loaded into the database and checked for errors and missing data. Error tables were developed to identify water level and/or well construction data that were missing. For

water level data, another data quality check was completed by plotting well hydrographs to identify and remove anomalous data points.

In the future, well log information will be entered for selected wells and other information will be added as needed to satisfy the requirements of the SGMA regulations. The DMS will be migrated to a web-based DMS managed by the County of San Luis Obispo that is currently being planned and developed as part of the San Luis Obispo Valley Basin GSP development process.

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