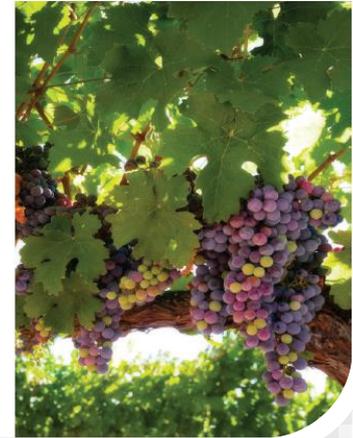
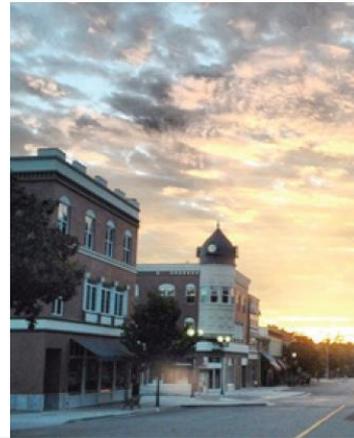
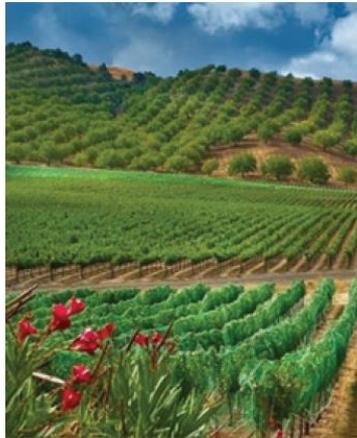


Paso Basin Cooperative Committee Regular Meeting

Wednesday, October 27, 2021, at 4:00 PM

Agenda available at slocounty.ca.gov/pasobasin



Paso Basin Cooperative Committee
October 27, 2021

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Public Comment – Items not on Agenda
5. Consider Adopting Resolution to Continue Meeting Virtually
6. Approval of July 21 and July 27 Meeting Minutes
7. Consider Appointing PBCC Member to position of Secretary
8. Receive update on modifications to GSA boundaries
9. Consider submitting a letter requesting that DWR wait until the statutory deadline to make a determination on the Paso Basin GSP and, if applicable, grant the full 180 days to address GSP deficiencies
10. Receive update and approve approach for addressing Paso Basin GSP Deficiencies
11. Consider recommended Consultant for Water Year 2021 Annual Report development and related contract consistent with MOA Section 6.3
12. Committee Member Comments – Committee members may make brief comments, provide status updates, or communicate with other members, staff, or the public regarding non-agenda topics
13. Upcoming meeting(s)
14. Future Items
15. Adjourn

1 - Call to Order

2 - Pledge of Allegiance



3 - Roll Call

4 - Public Comment – items not on the agenda

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By phone:

Press *9 to “raise your hand” to make a comment

Press *6 to unmute or mute when prompted

From your computer:

Click the “raise hand” icon to make a public comment

Click the unmute button when prompted



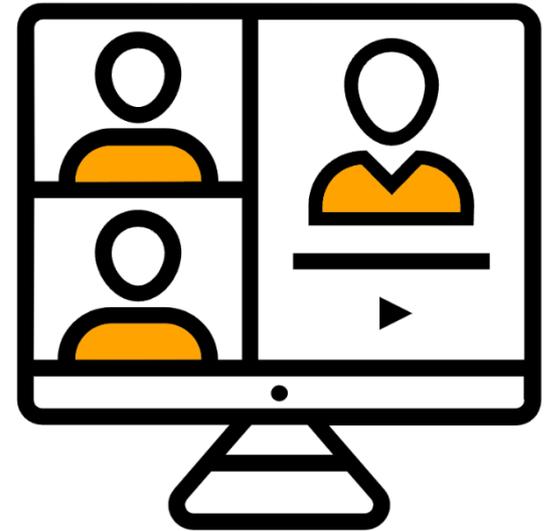
raise hand

5 - Consider Adopting Resolution to Continue Meeting Virtually

5 - Consider Adopting Resolution to Continue Meeting Virtually

Summary

- **Virtual Meetings allowed during COVID-19**
 - **Executive Order** (3/4/20 - 9/30/21)
 - **AB 361** (9/16/21 - current, conditional)
 - *Find in person meeting presents imminent risks*
 - *Considered every 30 day*



Recommendation: Adopt Resolution

5 - Consider Adopting Resolution to Continue Meeting Virtually

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From your computer:

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Click the unmute button when prompted



raise hand

6 - Approval of July 21 and July 27 Meeting Minutes

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Click the unmute button when prompted



raise hand

7 – Consider Appointing PBCC Member to position of Secretary

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Summary

- **Officer Elections were conducted 1/27/21**
 - *Chair: Debbie Arnold*
 - *Vice Chair: Matt Turrentine*
 - *Secretary: Kelly Dodds*
 - *Treasurer: John Hamon*
- *Secretary position vacant following Kelly Dodds' transition to GSA staff*

Recommendation: Appoint new PBCC Secretary

7 - Consider Appointing PBCC Member to position of Secretary

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Click the unmute button when prompted



raise hand

8 – Receive update on modifications to GSA boundaries

8 – Receive update on modifications to GSA boundaries

Summary

2017 - Five GSAs form in Paso Basin / SLO County

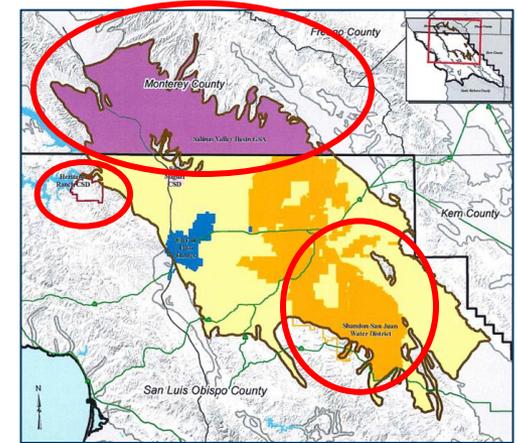
2018 - DWR conducts boundary mods

2019 - HRCSD GSA withdraws from MOA
- LAFCO conditionally approves detachment
- County authorizes GSA boundary update

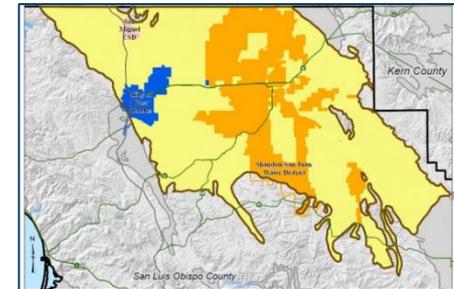
2020 - GSAs wait for LAFCO approval, coord w/ DWR

2021 – GSAs formalize GSA boundary updates

Recommendation: Receive Update



Original GSA map



Updated GSA map

**Paso Basin Cooperative Committee
October 27, 2021**

8 - Receive update on modifications to GSA boundaries

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9 – Consider submitting a letter requesting that DWR wait until the statutory deadline to make a determination on the Paso Basin GSP and, if applicable, grant the full 180 days to address GSP deficiencies

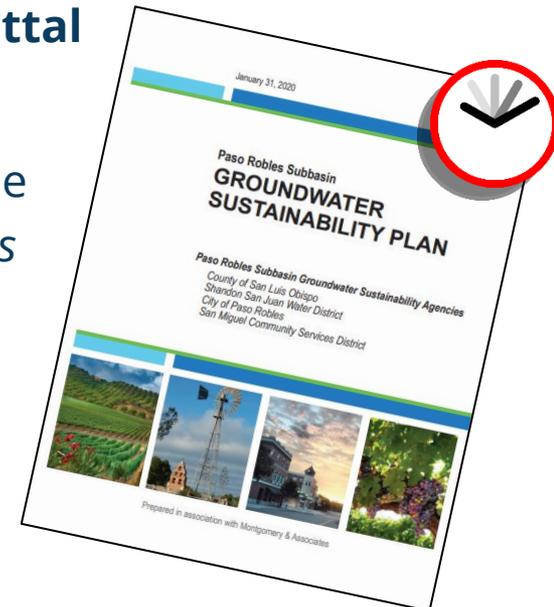
9 – Consider submitting a letter requesting that DWR wait until the statutory deadline to make a determination on the Paso Basin GSP and, if applicable, grant the full 180 days to address GSP deficiencies

Summary

DWR's assessment required within 2 years of GSP submittal

- ✓ **Approved?** Actions *recommended*
- ✗ **Inadequate?** State Water Board authorized to intervene
- ? **Incomplete?** Actions *required*; GSAs given up to 180 days

Recommendation: Consider submitting letter requesting max time



9 - Consider submitting a letter requesting that DWR wait until the statutory deadline to make a determination on the Paso Basin GSP and, if applicable, grant the full 180 days to address GSP deficiencies

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raise hand

10 – Receive update and approve approach for addressing Paso Basin GSP Deficiencies

Paso Robles Basin GSP Corrective Actions Update

Presentation to
Paso Basin Coordination Committee
October 27, 2021

Agenda

- Introductions
- Approach and Schedule
- Update on Groundwater Levels Analysis
- Update on Interconnected Surface Water Analysis

Approach

Address DWR-defined Corrective Actions

1. Provide justification for, and effects associated with, the sustainable management criteria for groundwater levels
2. Develop Sustainable Management Criteria for the Depletions of Interconnected Surface Water based on best available information and science.

Approach

Corrective Action 1 – Groundwater Levels

- Describe the specific undesirable results GSAs aim to avoid.
- Disclose the anticipated impact of operating the Subbasin at conditions protective against those effects on relatively shallow domestic wells and all other beneficial uses and users.
- Using best available information, analyze locations and number of wells/well infrastructure that could be impacted by Subbasin management.
- Explain how the existing MTs are consistent with avoiding undesirable results.
- As needed, consider mitigation strategies for drinking water well impacts that may occur with continued overdraft.

Approach

Corrective Action 2 – Interconnected Surface Water

- Clarify and address the currently conflicting information in the GSP.
- If the GSAs cannot provide a sufficient, evidence-based justification for the absence of interconnected surface water, develop sustainable management criteria.
- Evaluate and disclose potential effects of the GSP's sustainable management criteria on beneficial uses of the interconnected surface water and on groundwater uses and users.

Tasks

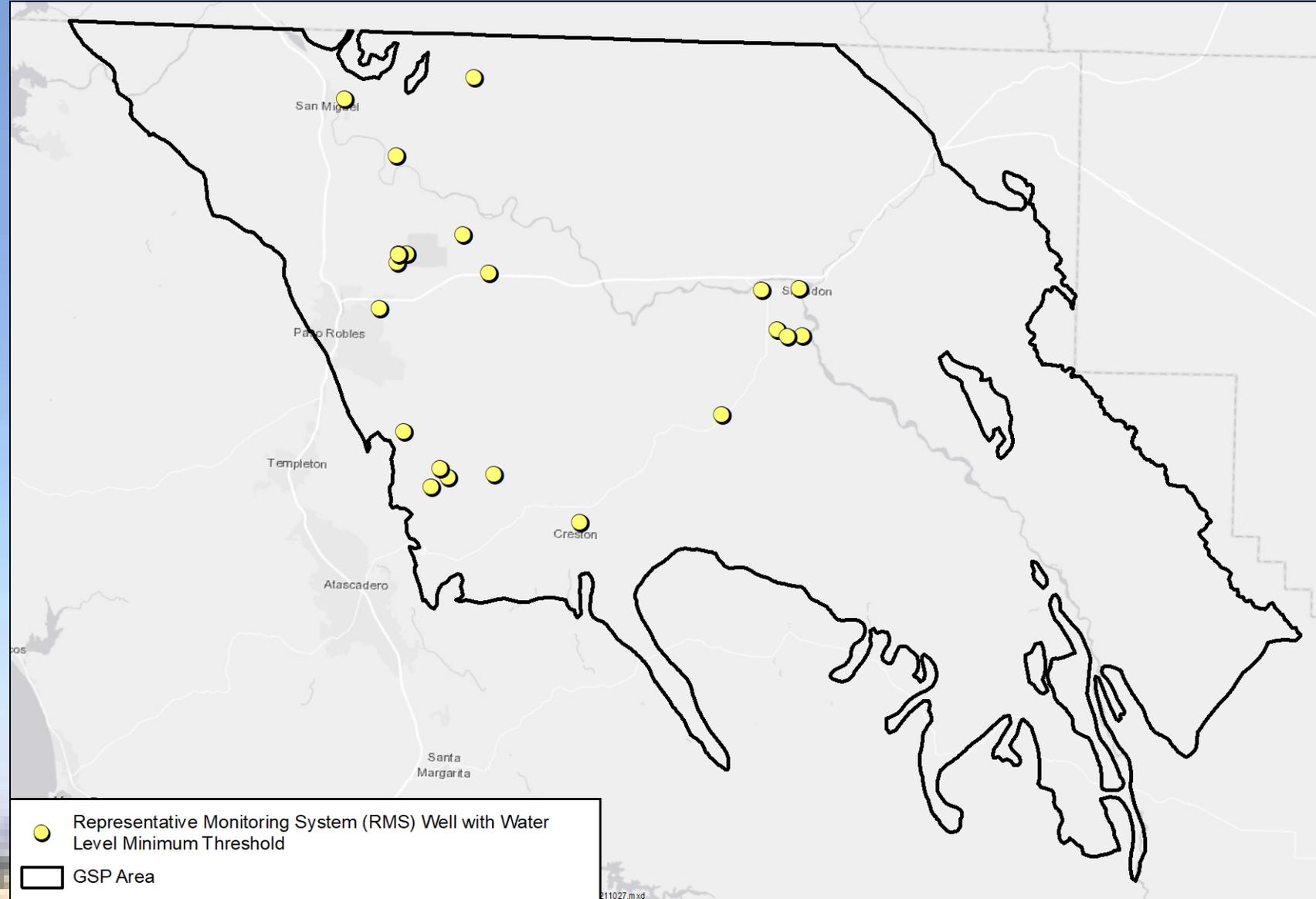
1. Meetings and coordination
2. Review documents and refine approach
3. Analysis for water level SMC
4. Analysis for interconnected surface water SMC
5. Reporting (revised sections and replaced sections)

Approach: Groundwater Level Analysis

1. Review known well construction, specifically total depth
2. Relate these well characteristics to thresholds in RMS wells
3. Evaluate effects of GSP threshold and measurable objective on existing wells

Approach: Groundwater Level Analysis

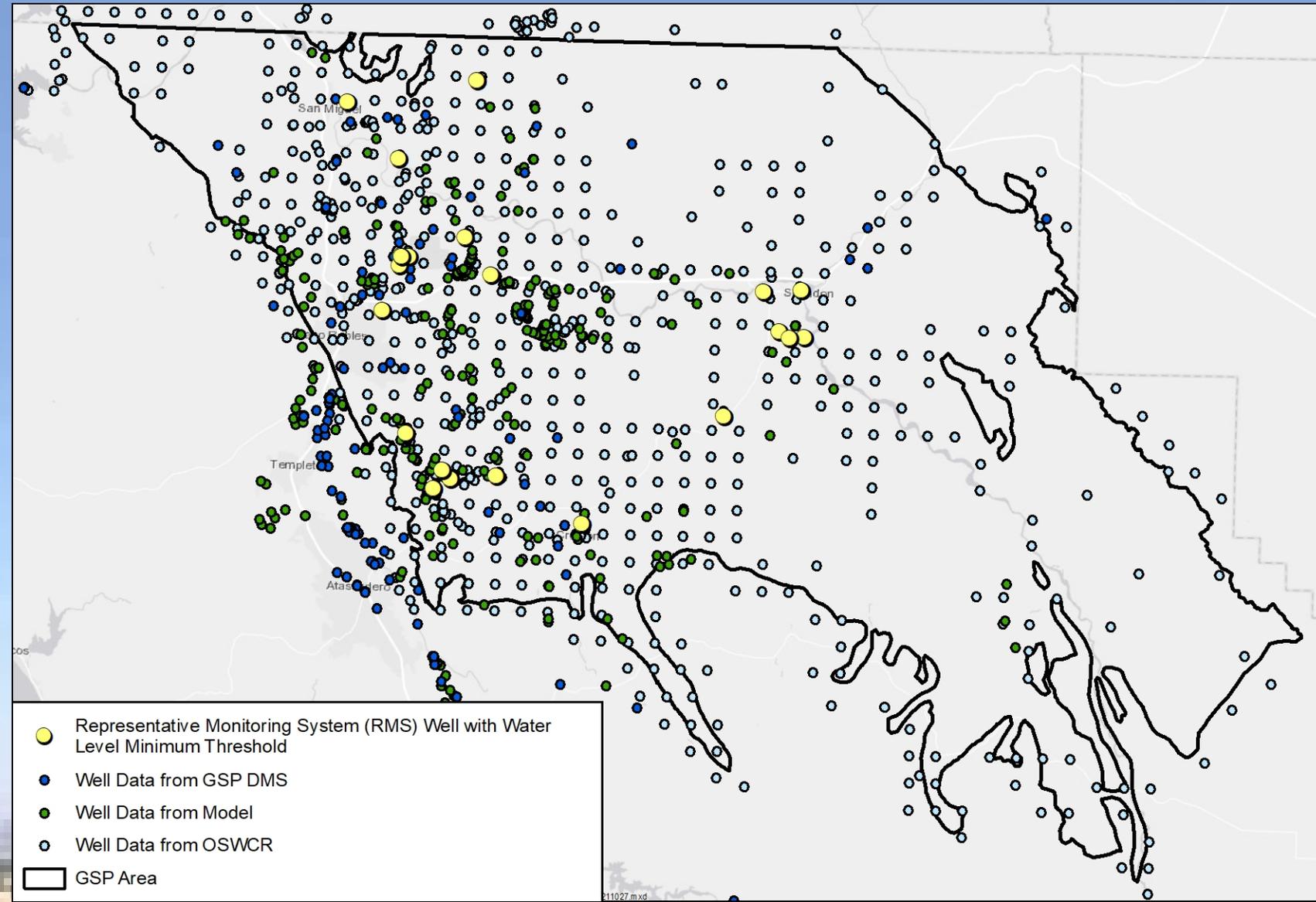
Representative monitoring wells with water level minimum threshold (MT) and measurable objective (MO)



Approach: Groundwater Level Analysis

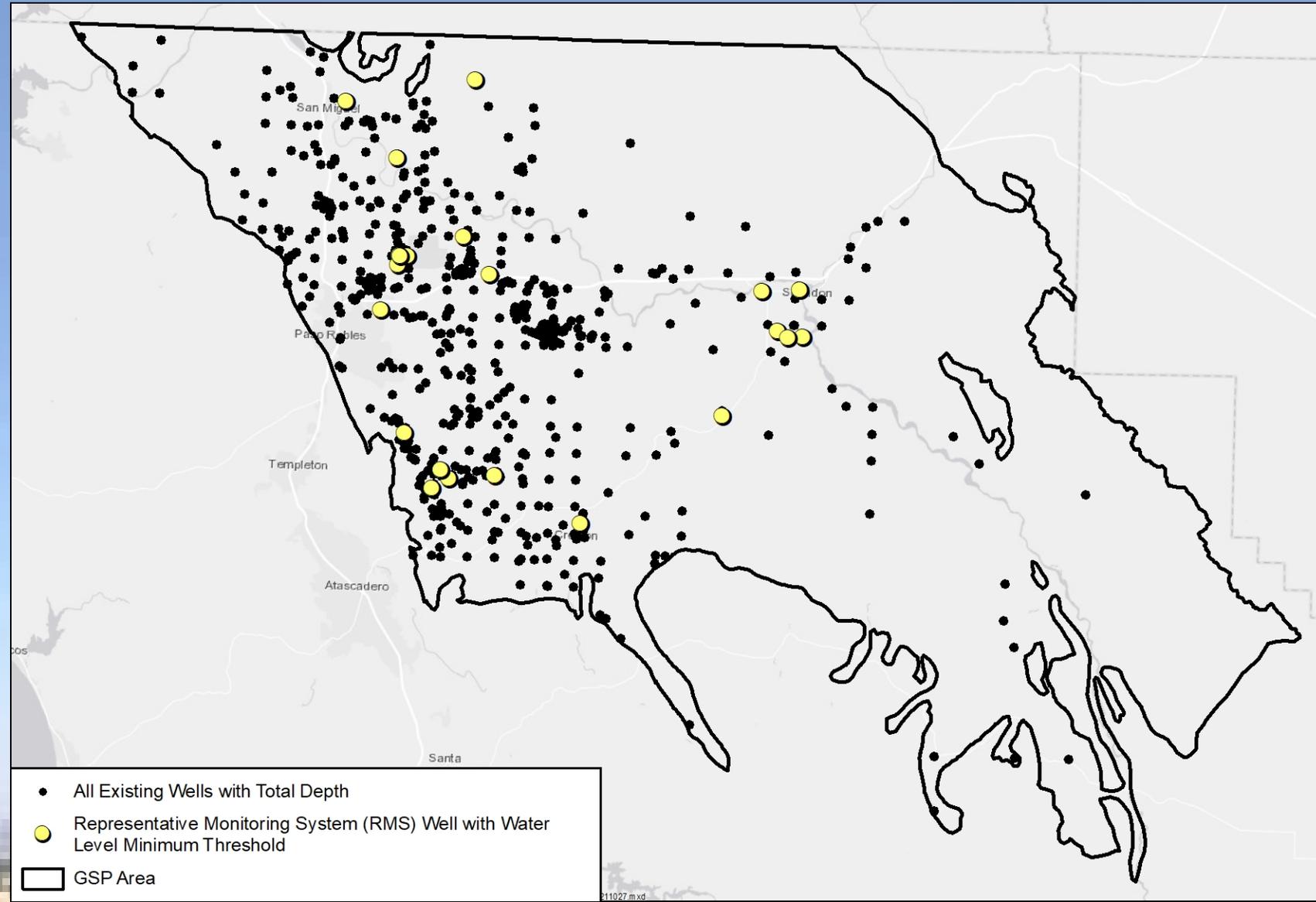
Available total depth information sources:

- GSP data management system (DMS)
- Recent Model update
- DWR OSWCR



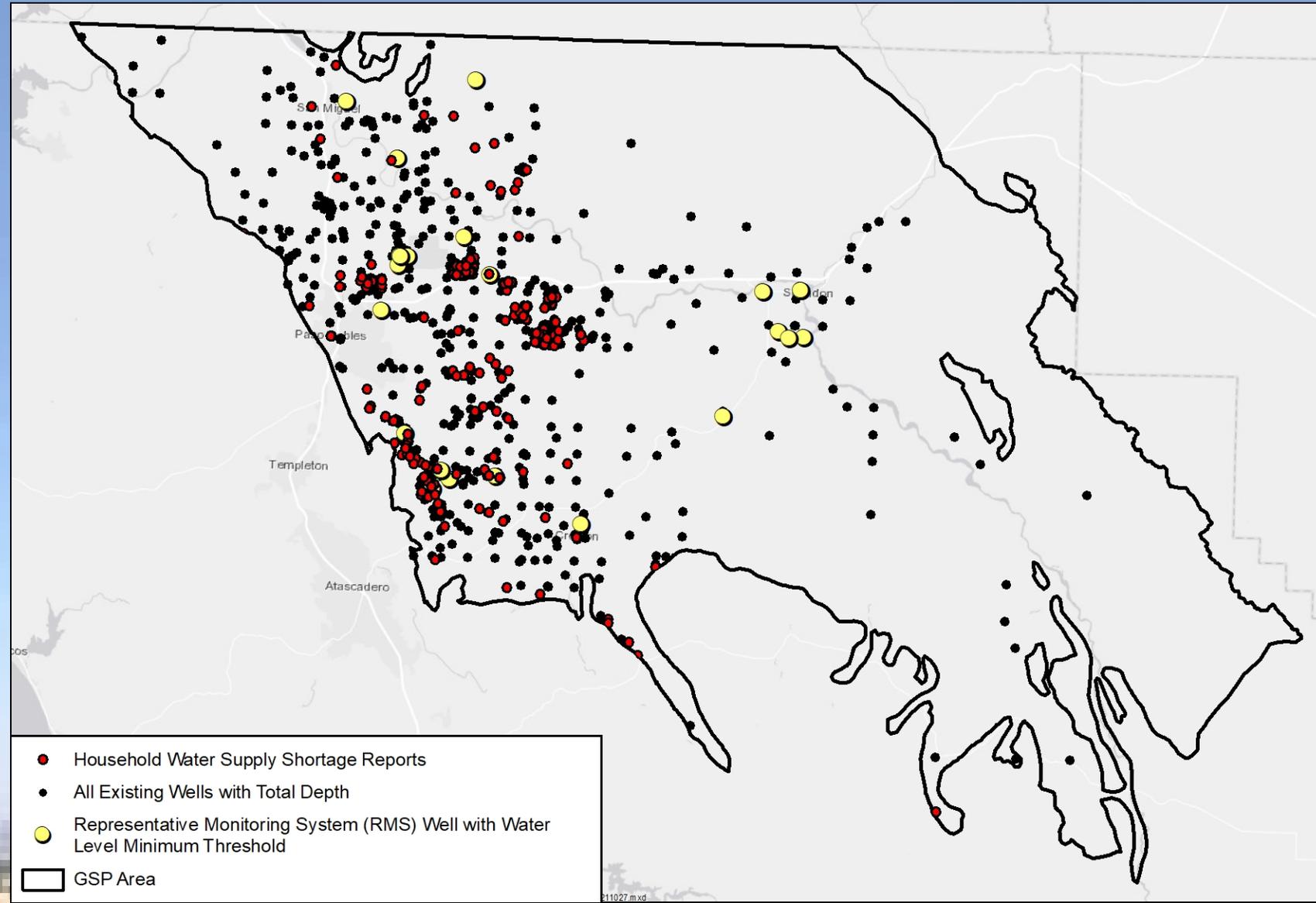
Approach: Groundwater Level Analysis

Many of these wells have records of total depth



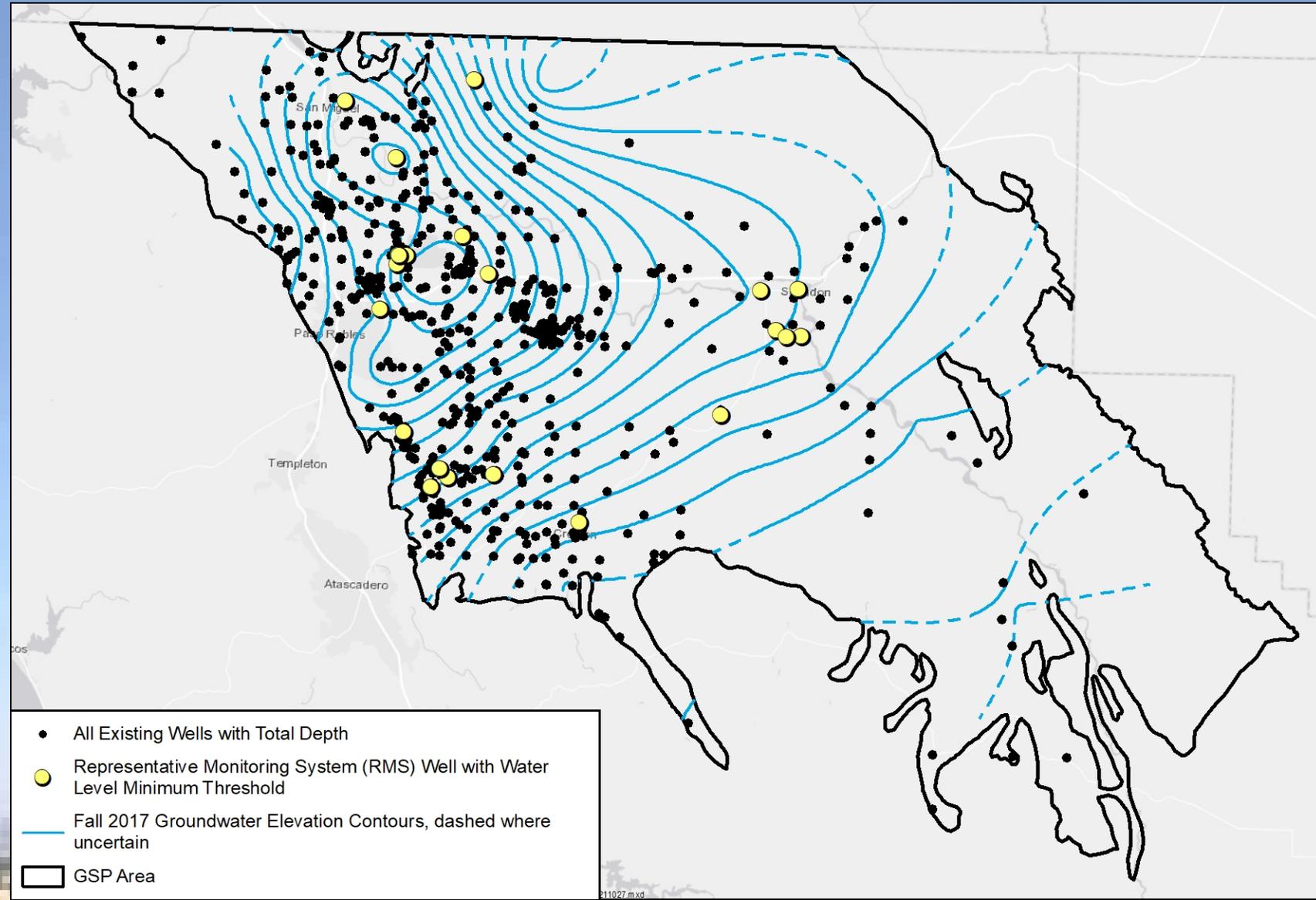
Approach: Groundwater Level Analysis

This dataset provides coverage of Household Water Supply Shortage Report locations



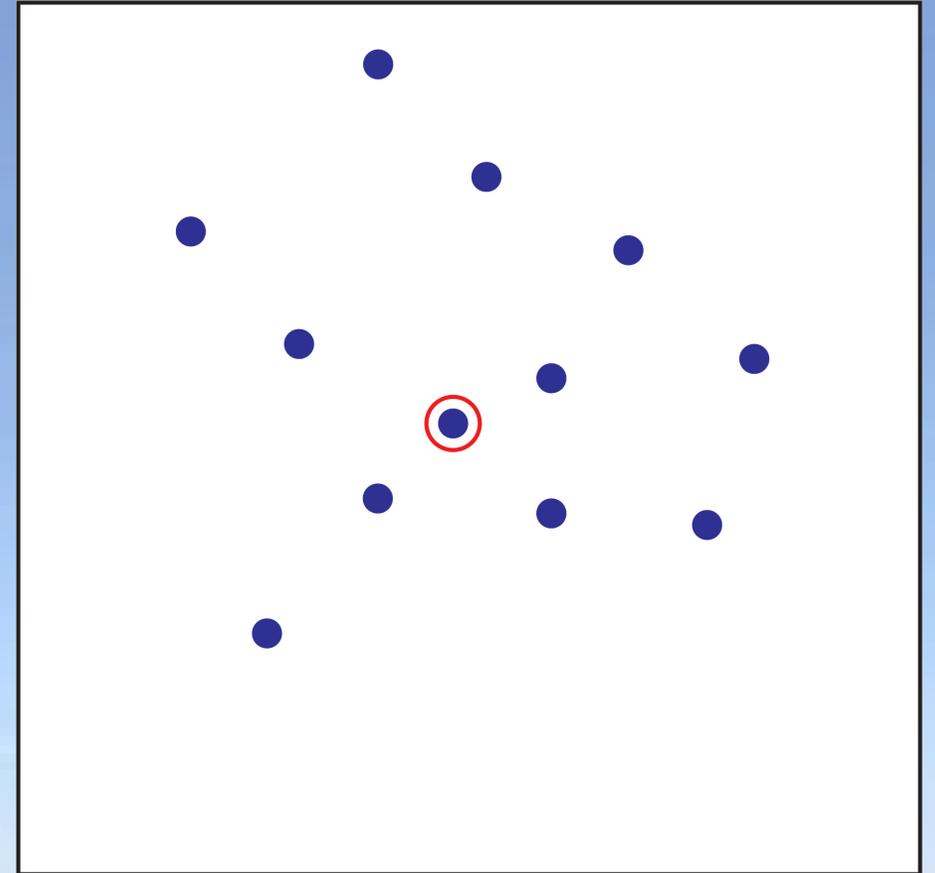
Approach : Groundwater Level Analysis

Well location accuracy limits our ability to interpolate MT surface at existing well locations



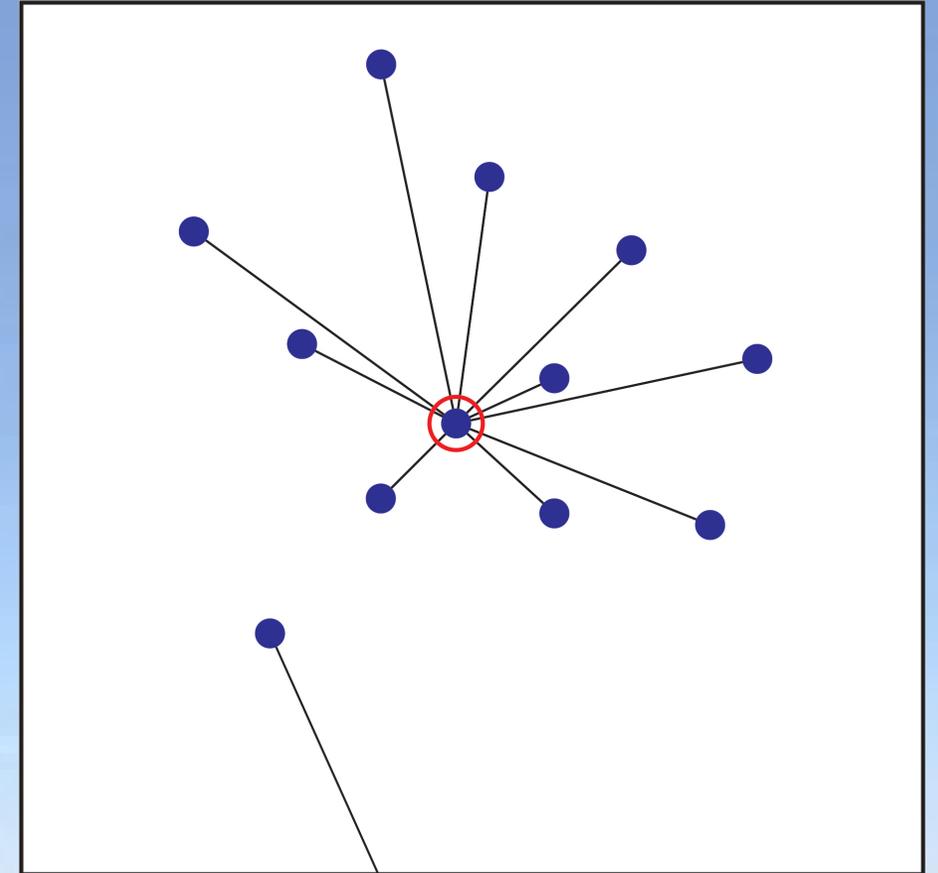
Refined Approach: Water Level Analysis

1. Identify which RMS well each existing wells is closest to



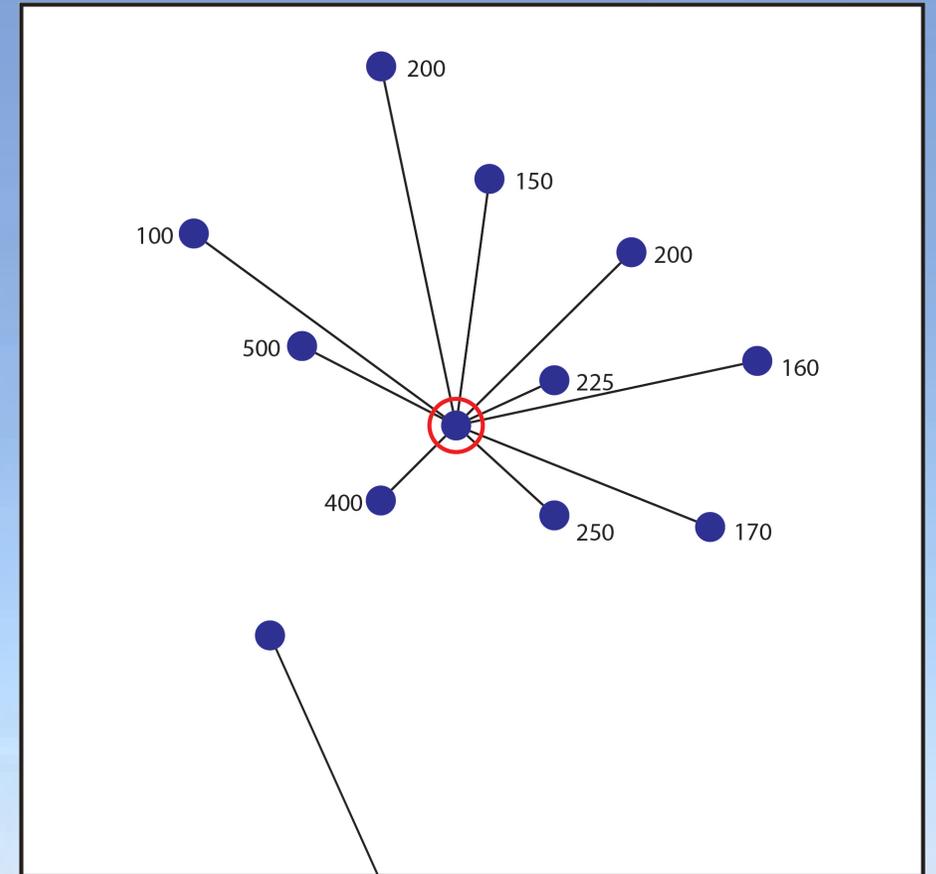
Refined Approach: Water Level Analysis

1. Identify which RMS well each existing wells is closest to
2. Assign existing wells to the closest RMS well



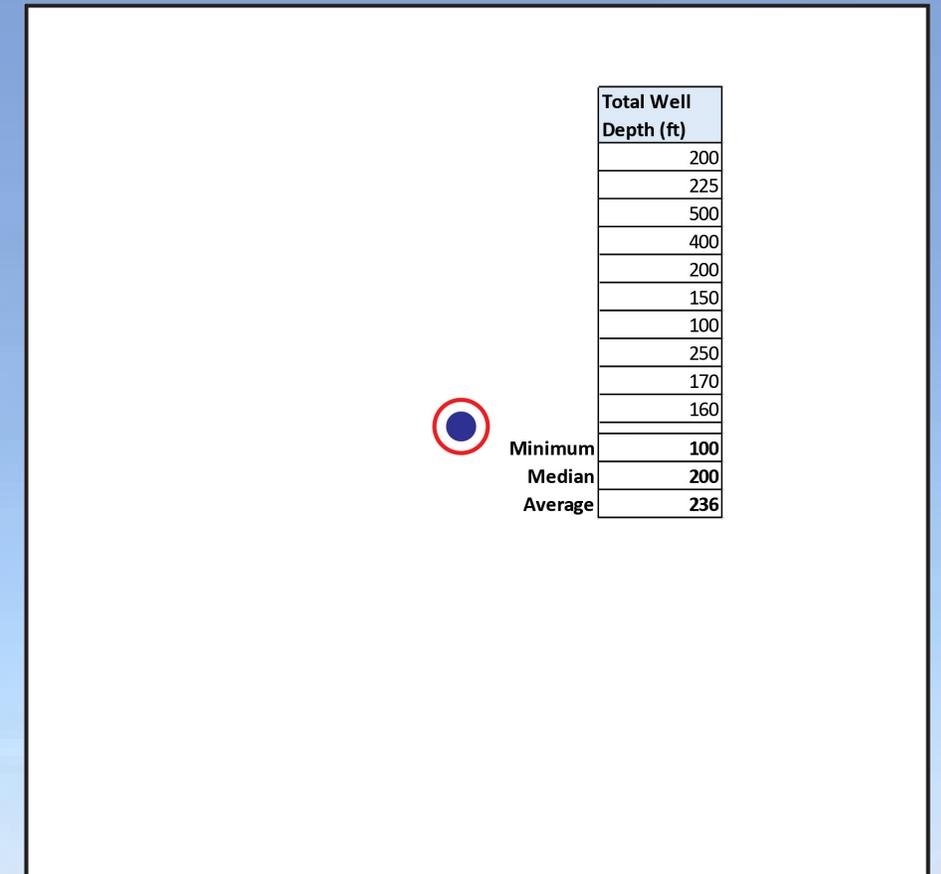
Refined Approach: Water Level Analysis

1. Identify which RMS well each existing wells is closest to
2. Assign existing wells to the closest RMS well
3. Review total depth information for all wells assigned to an RMS well



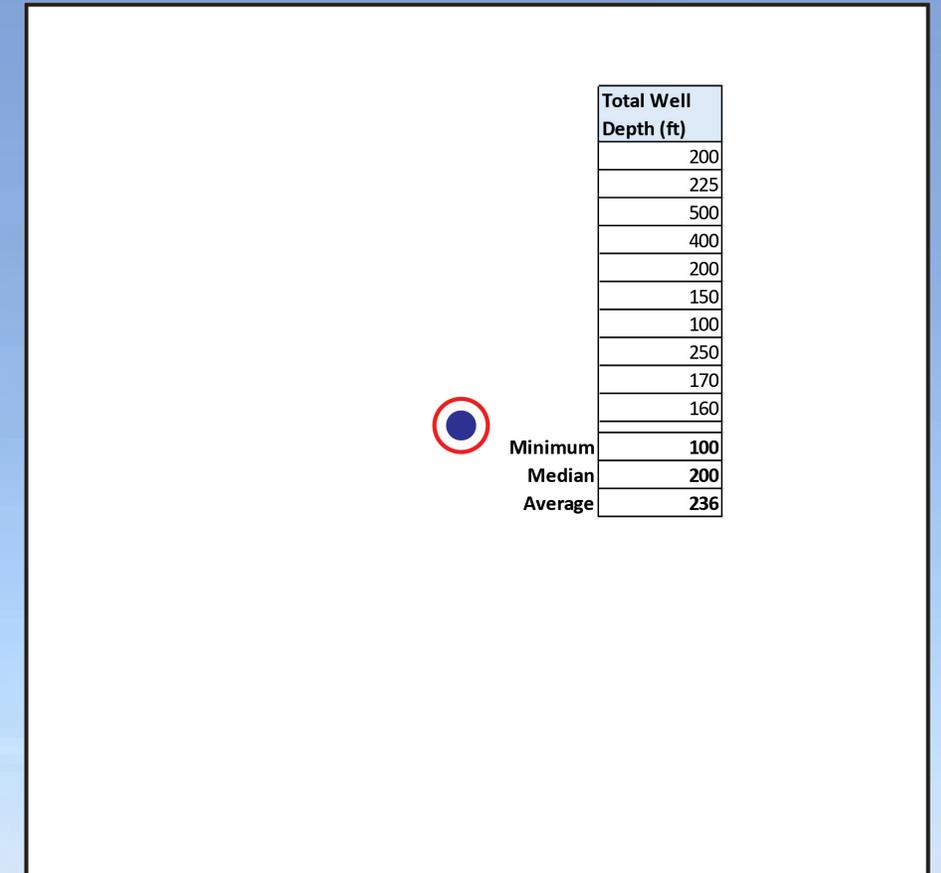
Refined Approach: Water Level Analysis

1. Identify which RMS well each existing wells is closest to
2. Assign existing wells to the closest RMS well
3. Review total depth information for all wells assigned to an RMS well
4. Summarize these well characteristics for each group/RMS well



Refined Approach: Water Level Analysis

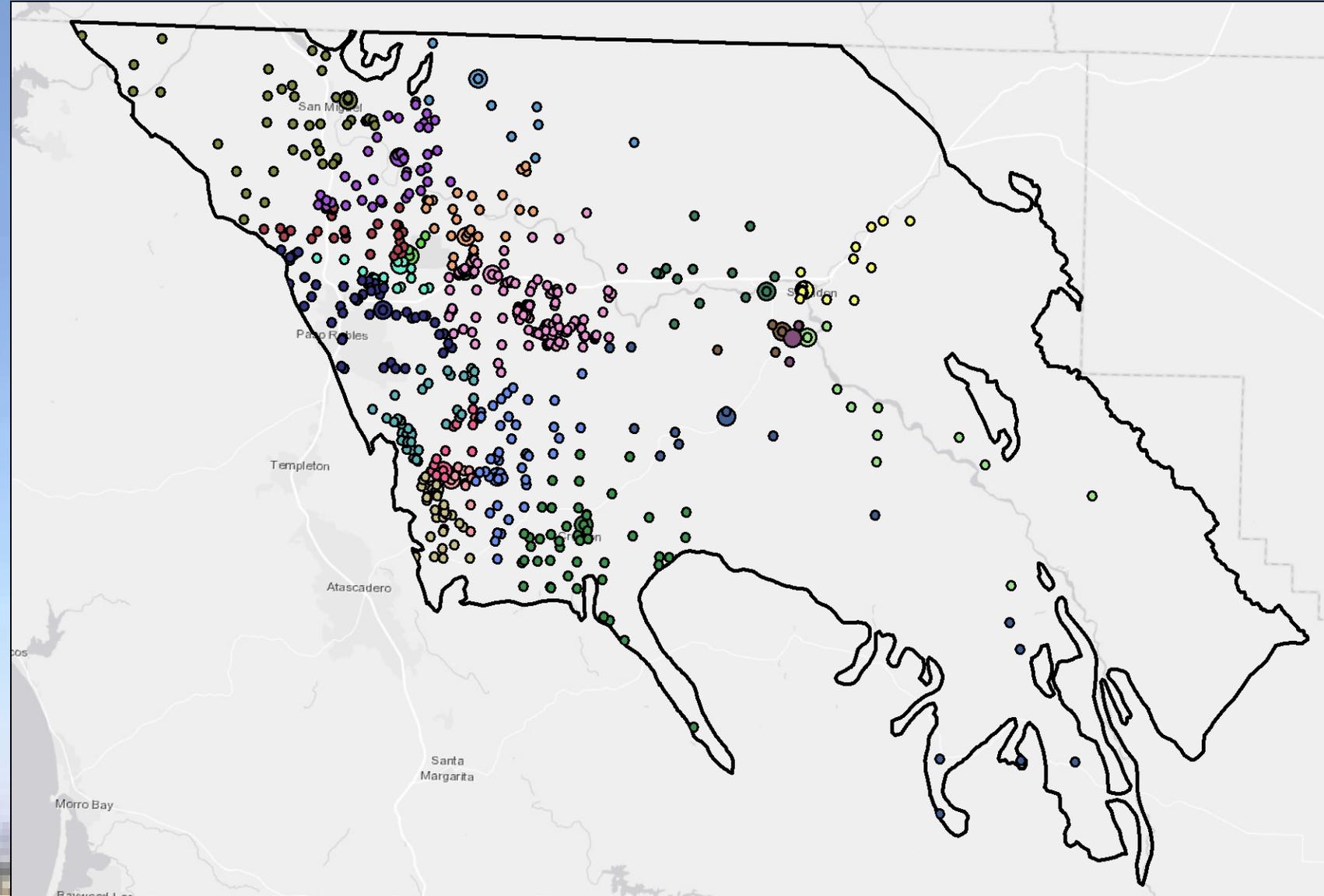
1. Identify which RMS well each existing wells is closest to
2. Assign existing wells to the closest RMS well
3. Review total depth information for all wells assigned to an RMS well
4. Summarize these well characteristics for each group/RMS well
5. Evaluate effects of GSP threshold and measurable objective on existing wells by RMS group



Refined Approach: Water Level Analysis

Wells with total depth correlated to closest RMS well

Working on refining approach based on the distance to RMS and depth of existing well



Approach: Interconnected Surface Water

Riparian Vegetation

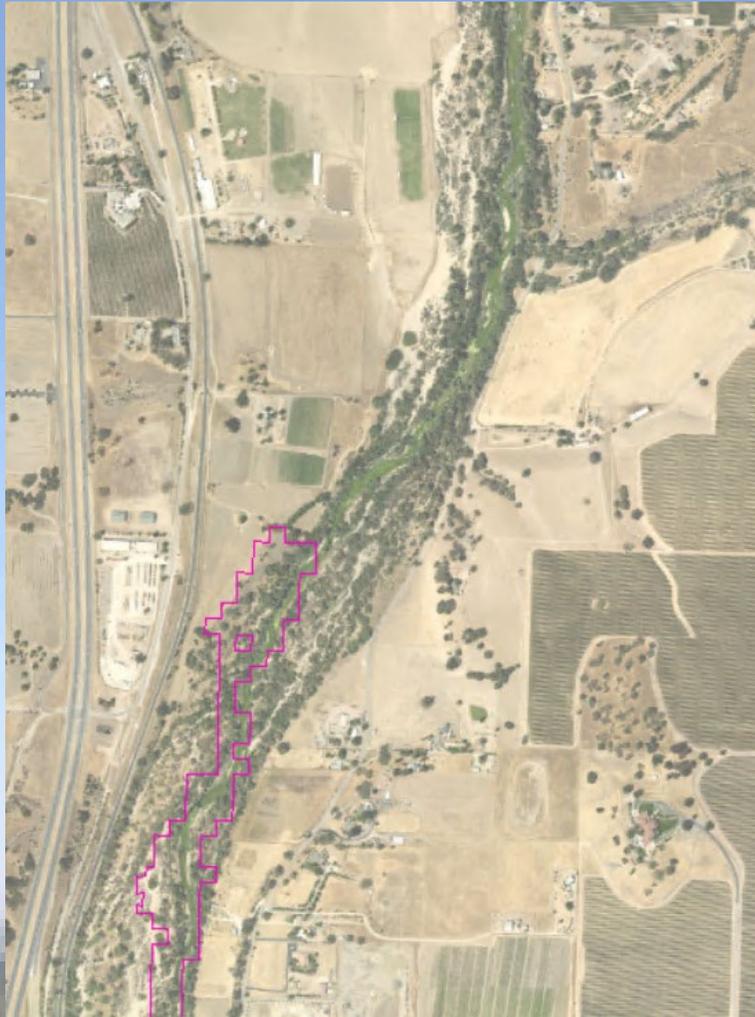
- Review mapped phreatophytes and wetlands
- Evaluate quantitative relationships among vegetation health, precipitation, stream flow and groundwater levels
- Select MT as depth to water empirically associated with reasonable vegetation health and survival

Aquatic Animals

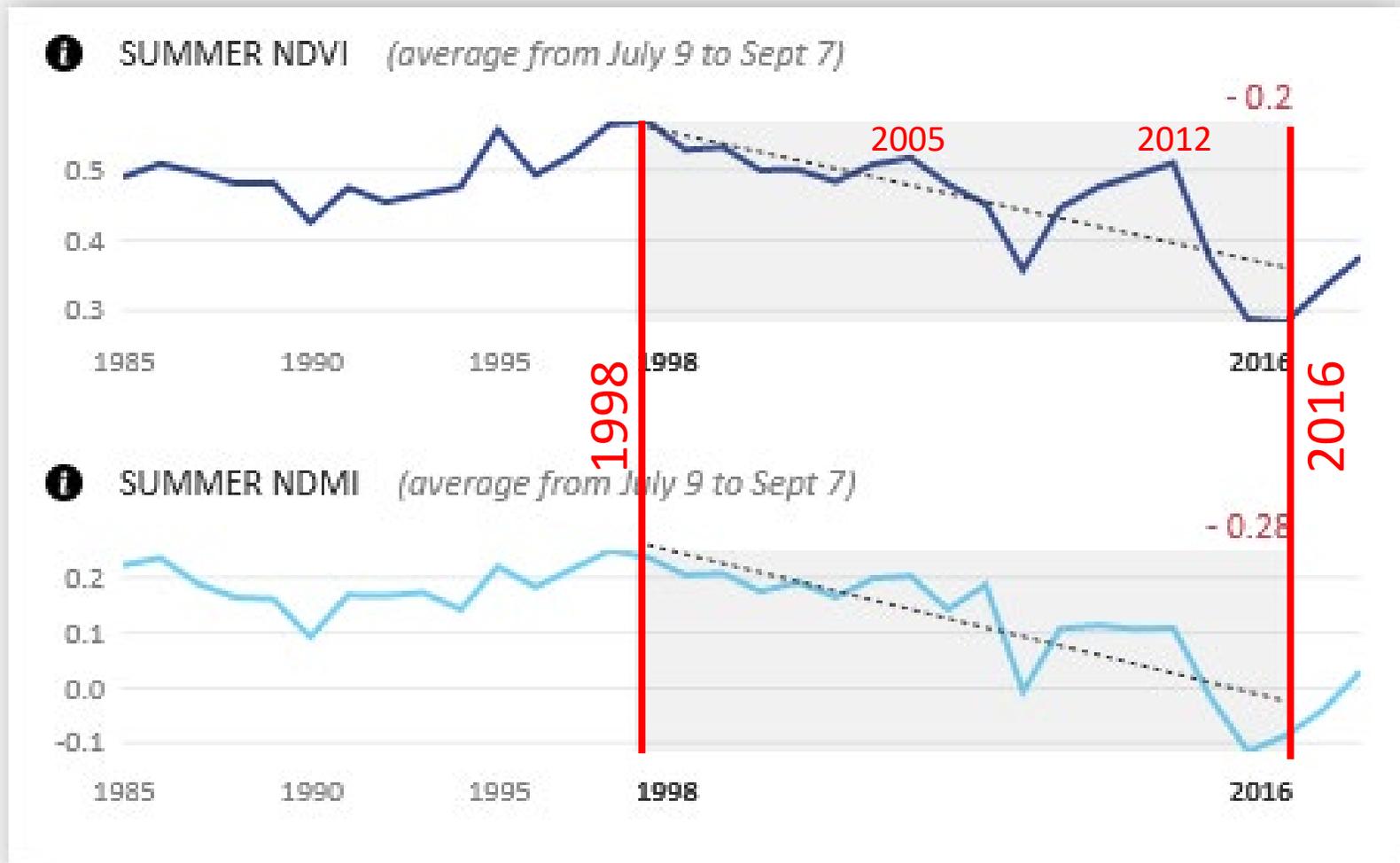
- Literature review and expert interviews to document recent historical presence of steelhead
- Steelhead passage day analysis under recent historical conditions and with MTs and GSP projects

Update: ISW Vegetation Mapping

NCCAG riparian vegetation mapping: low to moderate accuracy in this basin



Update: Vegetation Trends



Nature Conservancy
GDE Pulse Tool: NDVI
and NDMI

Declining trend from
1998 to 2016, with
minor increases in
2005 and 2012

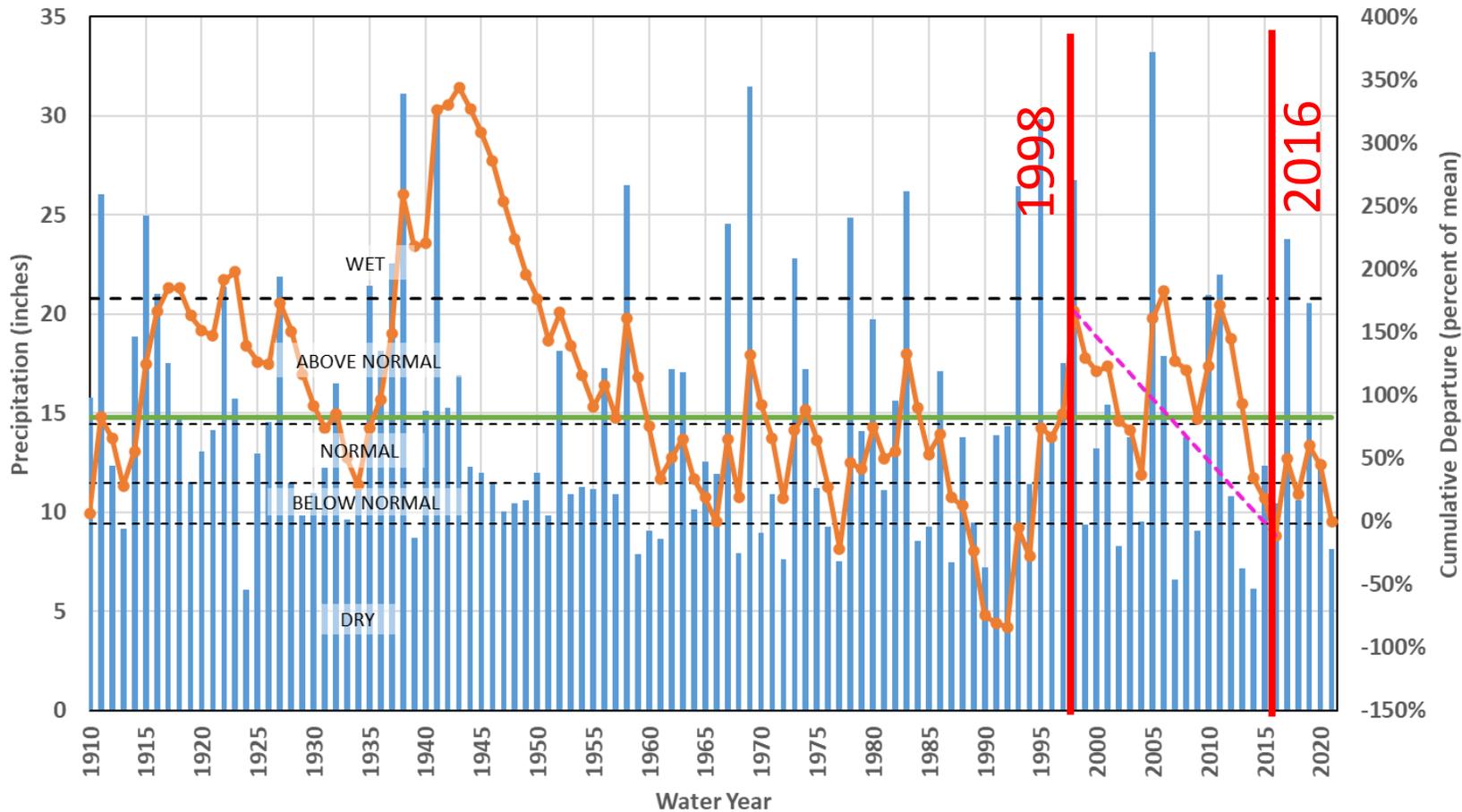
Update: Vegetation Trends—2

Which hydrologic variables correlate with the NDVI and NDMI patterns?

- Precipitation
- Stream flow
- Groundwater levels

Update: Precipitation Trends

Precipitation at Paso Robles, CA (NOAA Station GHCND:USC00046730)



- Annual Precipitation
- Average
- Quintile 1
- Quintile 2
- Quintile 3
- Quintile 4
- Cumulative Departure
- - - - 1998-2016

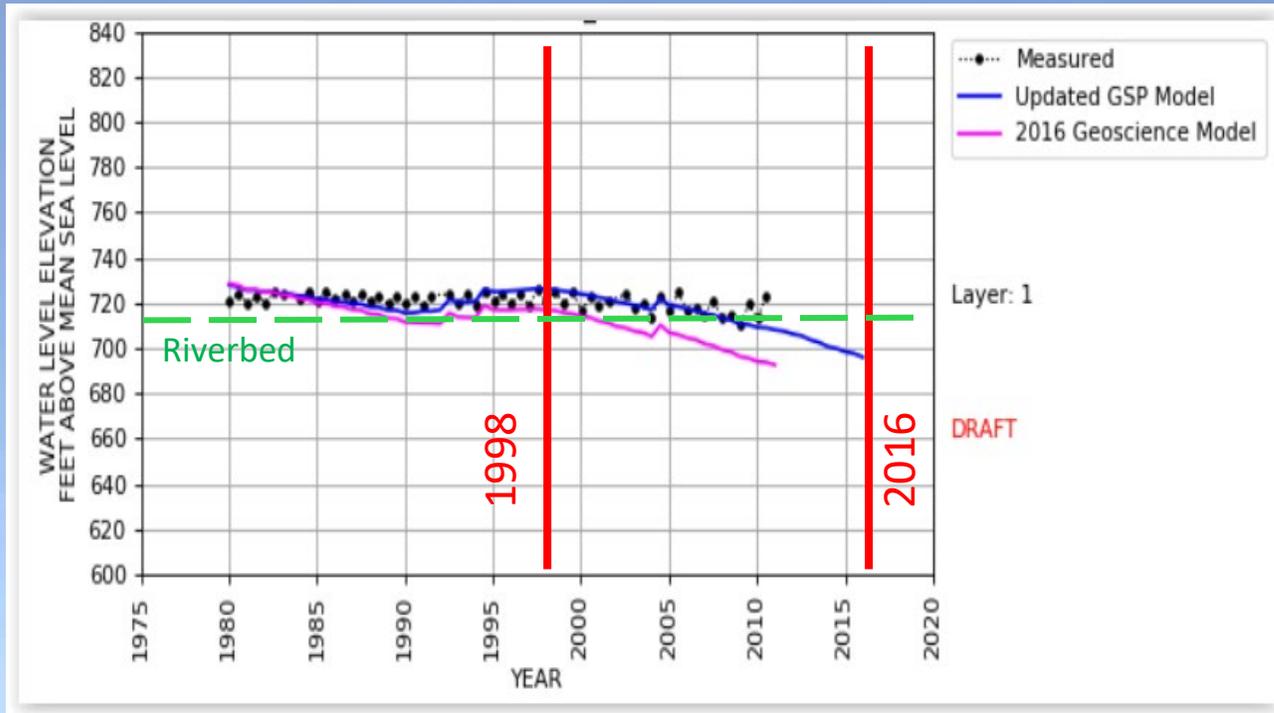
Cumulative Departure of Annual Precipitation at Paso Robles

Net decline 1998-2016, with brief but large highs in 2006 and 2011

Water Level Evaluation for GDEs—1

- Phreatophytes sense the true water table in the alluvium, not the water level in deeper aquifers
- Few wells with water levels also have borehole or screen depth information
- Nested monitoring wells installed this year for SEP have really helped!

Water Level Evaluation for GDEs—2



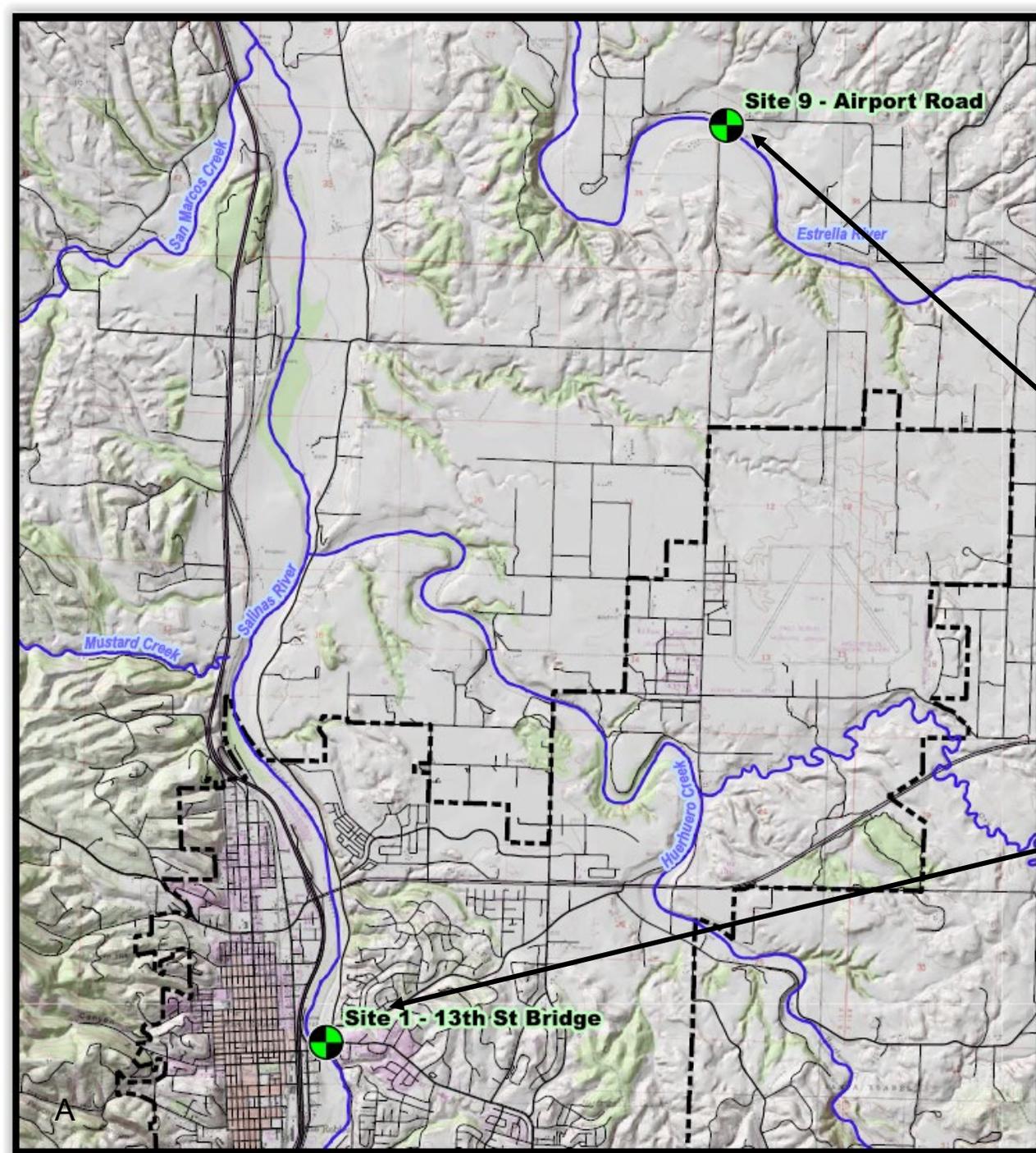
Typical shallow alluvial well has stable water levels close to riverbed elevation

Water Level Evaluation for GDEs—3

New SEP monitoring wells

Vertical water-level gradient 1:1

Vertical water-level gradient ≈ 0



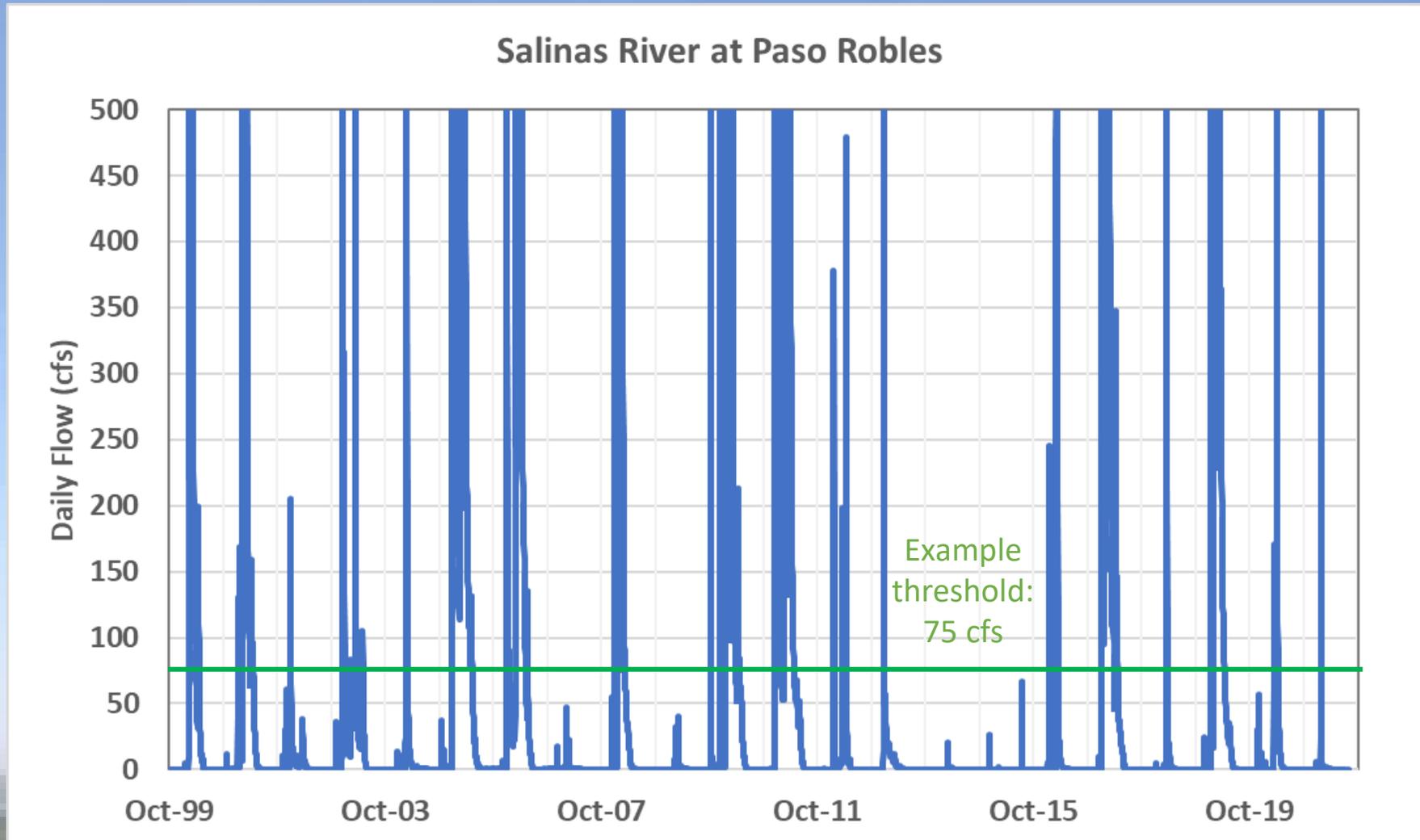
Water Level Evaluation for GDEs—4

Approach: evaluate all hydrographs for wells near Salinas and Estrella Rivers

- Compare riverbed elevation with alluvial and Paso Robles groundwater levels
- Compare water level trends with vegetation NDVI and NDMI trends
- Compare air photos of vegetation between years when water levels are high vs. low

Update: Passage Opportunity

Count number of days each year flow exceeds passage threshold



Questions?

10 – Receive update and approve approach for addressing Paso Basin GSP Deficiencies

By phone:

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raise hand

11 – Consider recommended Consultant for Water Year 2021 Annual Report development and related contract consistent with MOA Section 6.3

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Summary

- Technical update on gw conditions & impacts of GSP implementation; due April 1 to DWR
- PBCC considered Consultant Procurement Process & approved approach 7/21/2021
- One proposal received (GSI, \$72,980)

Recommendation: Consider approving Water Year 2021 Annual Report consultant, budget, contract and forward to City of Paso Robles

**Paso Basin Cooperative Committee
October 27, 2021**

11 – Consider recommended Consultant for Water Year 2021 Annual Report development and related contract consistent with MOA Section 6.3

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raise hand

12 - Committee Member Comments

13 – Upcoming meeting(s)

- **Special Meeting(s)**
 - **Likely required December 2021**
- **2022 Regular Meetings**
 - **Must be at least quarterly**
 - **Historically have been 4th Wednesday**
 - January 26, 2022
 - April 27, 2022
 - July 27, 2022
 - October 26, 2022

14 - Future Items

15 - Adjourn

Thank you!

**Paso Basin Cooperative Committee
October 27, 2021**