



# CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

## Committee Members

Brenton Kelly (Chair)	Jake Furstenfeld	Roberta Jaffe
Brad DeBranch (Vice Chair)	Jean Gaillard	Vacant
Louise Draucker	Joe Haslett	Vacant

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## AGENDA

September 1, 2022

Agenda for a meeting of the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Standing Advisory Committee meeting to be held on **Thursday, September 1, 2022, at 5:00 PM** at the **Cuyama Recreation District, 4885 Primero St, New Cuyama, CA 93254**. Participate via computer at: [https://teams.microsoft.com/j/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_MDNIMWQwNzgtNDhhOS00OTRhLTgxNWYtNzM5YmYyZjZhY2Zh%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22927a62fc-3166-4d96-9474-79643aa0aa1a%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%229a3646f9-f02e-4528-8215-8c89fb0cb847%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/j/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MDNIMWQwNzgtNDhhOS00OTRhLTgxNWYtNzM5YmYyZjZhY2Zh%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22927a62fc-3166-4d96-9474-79643aa0aa1a%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%229a3646f9-f02e-4528-8215-8c89fb0cb847%22%7d), or by going to Microsoft Teams, downloading the free application, then entering Meeting ID: 273 014 004 085 Passcode: xqfLPa, or telephonically at (469) 480-3918, Phone Conference ID: 830 730 43#

The order in which agenda items are discussed may be changed to accommodate scheduling or other needs of the Committee, the public or meeting participants. Members of the public are encouraged to arrive at the commencement of the meeting to ensure that they are present for Committee discussion of all items in which they are interested.

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, to participate in this meeting, please contact Taylor Blakslee at (661) 477-3385 by 4:00 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to this meeting. The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency reserves the right to limit each speaker to three (3) minutes per subject or topic.*

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Update on SAC Membership
5. Approval of Minutes
  - a. April 28, 2022 – Regular Meeting
  - b. June 20, 2022 – Regular Meeting
6. Groundwater Sustainability Plan
  - a. Direction on GSA Well Permit Policy
  - b. Direction on Administration of Pumping Reductions in the Central Management Area
  - c. Direction on Basin-Wide Water Management Policies
  - d. Update on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Activities
  - e. Update on Adaptive Management Analysis
  - f. Report on Variance Request for The Central Management Area Allocations
  - g. Update on Effort to Identify Potential Non-Reporting Pumpers
  - h. Update on Implementation of Grant-Funded Projects

- i. Schedule for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Model Update
- j. Update on Monitoring Network Implementation
- k. Update on Quarterly Groundwater Conditions Report for July 2022
- l. Update on Annual Water Quality Report

7. Groundwater Sustainability Agency

- a. Report of the Executive Director
- b. Report of the General Counsel
- c. Update on Public Workshop
- d. Board of Directors Agenda Review

8. Items for Upcoming Sessions

9. Committee Forum

10. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

*At this time, the public may address the Committee on any item not appearing on the agenda that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee.*

11. Correspondence

12. Adjourn (7:25 p.m.)

**2022**

**Board Ad hoc List**

CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

<b>Adaptive Management</b>	Bantilan Anselm Vickery Yurosek
<b>Aquifer Test</b>	Bantilan Anselm Vickery Wooster
<b>DWR / CBGSA Coordination</b>	Bantilan Chounet Anselm Wooster Yurosek
<b>Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget</b>	Bantilan Chounet Vickery Williams Wooster
<b>Grant Review Committee</b>	Bantilan Compton Williams Wooster Yurosek
<b>Management Area Policy</b>	Bantilan Chounet Anselm Vickery Wooster
<b>Meter Implementation</b>	Anselm Vickery Wooster Yurosek
<b>Model Refinement</b>	Bantilan Anselm Vickery Yurosek
<b>New Well Permits Policy</b>	Compton Anselm Stoller Williams Yurosek
<b>Unknown Extractors</b>	Anselm Vickery
<b>Grant-Funded Items</b>	Albano Vickery Chounet Williams

<b>Basin-Wide Water Management</b>	Bantilan Chounet Anselm Yurosek
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# Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Standing Advisory Committee Meeting

April 28, 2022

## Draft Meetings Minutes

**PRESENT:**

Kelly, Brenton – Chair  
DeBranch, Brad – Vice Chair  
Draucker, Louise  
Furstenfeld, Jake  
Gaillard, Jean  
Haslett, Joe  
Jaffe, Roberta  
Beck, Jim – Executive Director  
Blakslee, Taylor – Project Manager  
Dominguez, Alex – Legal Counsel  
Van Lienden, Brian – Woodard & Curran

**ABSENT:**

None

**1. Call to Order**

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) Chair Kelly Brad Kelly called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. and Hallmark Group Project Manager Taylor Blakslee provided direction on the meeting protocols in facilitating a remote and in-person meeting.

**2. Roll Call**

Hallmark Group Project Manager Taylor Blakslee called roll of the Committee (shown above).

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Kelly led the pledge of allegiance.

**4. Update on SAC Membership**

Chair Kelly reported that there remain two vacancies for representatives of the Hispanic community and said if anyone knows someone that is interested in serving to let himself or Mr. Blakslee know.

**5. Approval of Minutes**

Chair Kelly opened the floor for comments on the February 24, 2022, CBGSA SAC meeting minutes.

**MOTION**

Vice Chair DeBranch made a motion to adopt the February 24, 2022, CBGSA SAC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Jaffe, a roll call vote was made, and the motion passed.

AYES: DeBranch, Furstenfeld, Gaillard, Kelly  
 NOES: None  
 ABSTAIN: Jaffe  
 ABSENT: Haslett

**6. Groundwater Sustainability Plan**

**a. Direction on Reconciling Differences in Groundwater Sustainability Plan Versions**

Executive Director Jim Beck provided background on the direction of reconciling differences in Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and Mr. Blakslee added that staff’s recommendation is to submit the correct version of Section 7 and update the Executive Summary on the CBGSA website with the version submitted to DWR.

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*Joe Haslett joined the meeting at 5:20 p.m.*  
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**MOTION**

Committee Member Jaffe made a motion to submit the correct version of Section 7 as part of the amended GSP in July and update the Executive Summary on the CBGSA website with the version submitted to the California Department of Water Resources. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Furstenfeld, a roll call vote was made, and the motion passed.

AYES: DeBranch, Draucker, Furstenfeld, Gaillard, Haslett, Kelly, Jaffe  
 NOES: None  
 ABSTAIN: None  
 ABSENT: None

**b. Direction on Amended Groundwater Sustainability Plan**

Mr. Beck provided an overview of the amended Groundwater Sustainability Plan including a review of the timeline leading up to DWR’s GSP determination. Mr. Blakslee provided a summary of the April 28, 2022, consultation meeting with DWR.

Brian Van Lienden provided an update on the following DWR-identified GSP deficiencies on the GSP and are included in the SAC packet.

*Deficiency 1 – The GSP lacks justification for, and effect associated with, the sustainable management criteria for groundwater levels*

No comments or questions from the SAC.

*Deficiency 2 – the GSP does not fully describe the use of groundwater levels as a proxy for depletion of interconnected surface water*

Committee Member Jaffe asked what the plan is for installing piezometer’s since DWR has stressed this multiple times. Mr. Blakslee replied they will be installed within a year under the recently awarded grant funding.

*Deficiency 3 – The GSP does not fully address degraded water quality*

Chair Kelly asked what is being done on the monitoring side and if we were going to be performing a

onetime water quality measurement. Mr. Blakslee confirmed this will be performed once during 2022.

Deficiency 4 – The GSP does not provide explanation for how overdraft will be mitigated in the basin

Chair Kelly asked if this deficiency is in regard to the management area in Ventucopa that has not triggered any management actions but potentially has the same criteria as the Central Management Area. Mr. Van Lienden confirmed this and noted the CBGSA will consider setting sustainable management criteria, if appropriate, in 2025.

Committee Member Jaffe commented her concern with the presentation is that it presents generalized bullet items and there is a lot in the memo that she has a lot of questions on and believes it is important for awareness to be brought forward on these items.

**c. Direction on Governor’s Executive Order N-7-22 Regarding Well Permits**

Mr. Beck provided an overview of the Governor’s Executive Order and Mr. Blakslee reviewed how other counties in Cuyama are responding to Governor’s Executive Order.

Committee Member Furstenfeld asked if there are any groups that are excluded from the executive order and Mr. Blakslee replied that de minimis users and public water supply wells are exempt.

Vice Chair Debranch said he believed replacement wells and modifications to existing wells wouldn’t carry a stricter requirement. He said those wells should be considered differently than a new well.

**d. Direction on Central Management Area Policies**

Mr. Beck provided background on Central Management Area policies and Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of the eight (8) policy points that were reviewed with the ad hoc.

**1. Pumping Reduction Baseline**

Mr. Beck reported that the Board ad hoc considered several time periods and recommended using 2021 as the baseline for implementation pumping reductions.

Chair Kelly asked if the historic 20-year average was considered for the baseline and Mr. Blakeslee replied that the ad hoc did consider this historic average but elected to recommend using the most recent year—2021.

Chair Kelly instituted a poll for selecting the baseline period as follows:

- Committee Member Furstenfeld – In support of the ad hoc recommendation. He noted that the numbers are constantly going to change because we can’t see the future and suggested making a decision and sticking with it.
- Committee Member Jaffe – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Chair Kelly – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Vice Chair Debranch – Not in support of the recommendation.
- Committee Member Draucker – Not in support of using a single year.
- Committee Member Gaillard – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Committee Member Haslett – No decision on support at this time; would like to see more than 1 year of data than 1 year.

**2. Allocation Methodology**

Mr. Beck provided an overview of the ad hoc’s recommendation to use the historic average

from 1998-2017 as the basis for the allocation.

Committee Member Jaffe asked if every landowner in the Central Management Area would need to reduce by the same percentage. Mr. Beck replied the reduction would be based on percentage of what they used over a specific period and divided by total water use which would give you each landowner's percentage for the allocation. Committee Member Jaffe asked if small-scale farmers are considered in this implementation. Mr. Beck responded that all farmers are treated the same and the allocation is based purely on mathematical equations.

Committee Member Gaillard asked how there is data from 1997 when meters were not installed. M. Beck replied that satellite data was used to determine cropping information to estimate water use.

Chair Kelly instituted a poll for selecting the allocation methodology as follows:

- Committee Member Haslett – Not in support of the ad hoc commendation. Stated there needs to be some ground truthing to this and there should be a de minimis category and consideration for small pumpers (i.e., a tiered reduction).
- Committee Member Gaillard – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Committee Member Draucker – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Vice Chair Debranch – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Chair Kelly – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Committee Member Furstenfeld – Allocation should be based on water use, not land use.
- Committee Member Jaffe – In support of the ad hoc recommendation; but de minimis users' needs to be sorted out.

Stakeholder Sue Blackshear stated that the only data that would be available from 1998 would be from the two large ag companies, which are the same growers responsible for the greatest overdraft in the valley.

Stakeholder Daniel Clifford to asked CBGSA legal counsel Alex Dominguez to weigh in on the legality of a tiered allocation system. Mr. Dominguez stated we want to be careful when we are basing an allocation on a specific use, and an allocation on land or historical water use is a different conversation.

### **3. Changed Water Use Inside the Central Management Area**

Mr. Beck provided an overview of the ad hoc's discussions on potential changed water use inside the Central Management Area and how that may affect the allocation.

Committee Member Furstenfeld asked if you would be rewarded for not using your allocation or would you lose that water. Mr. Beck replied we need to develop specific policies on how to handle unused water allocations. Committee Member Galliard expressed concern there would be more water fees and this would never be in the favor of the farmer. Chair Kelly replied this could encourage people to use a lot of water in the short term to be able to have more water in the long term. Committee Member Furstenfeld asked who is responsible for the development of water budgets. Mr. Blakslee replied it is the GSA's responsibility to develop the water budget for the Central Management Area and review special circumstances with the Board.

Chair Kelly instituted a poll as follows:



- Committee Member Jaffe – In support of the ad hoc recommendation if there is a very specific policy.
- Committee Member Furstenfeld – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Chair Kelly – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Vice Chair Debranch – In support of the ad hoc recommendation with the assumption that the variance policy would not allow users to come in with a higher intent to use water.
- Committee Member Draucker – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Committee Member Gaillard – Not in support.
- Committee Member Haslett – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.

#### **4. Central Management Area Boundary (Hydrological vs Operational)**

Mr. Beck provided an overview of the ad hoc's discussions on using an operational boundary for the Central Management Area, or ease of administration, as opposed to the hydrologic boundary.

Committee Member Jaffe asked if there was a map with a comparison. Mr. Blakslee said staff has an old draft of a map that can be sent out but is based on the existing hydrologic boundary and the new proposed boundaries will not be available until the model is update in late June 2022.

Chair Kelly asked if the operational boundary would be based on the model update in July 2022 and be updated in 2025. Mr. Blakslee replied that aligns with the ad hoc recommendation.

Chair Kelly instituted a poll as follows:

- Committee Member Haslett – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Committee Member Gaillard – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Vice Chair Debranch – In support of the ad hoc recommendation but would like to see the draft maps.
- Chair Kelly – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Committee Member Furstenfeld – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Committee Member Jaffe – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.

#### **5. Management Area Criteria Evaluation**

Mr. Beck provided an overview of the ad hoc's discussions on the Management Area criteria and are summarized in the SAC packet.

Committee Member Furstenfeld asked if there were any management actions being taken this year and Mr. Blakslee replied pumping reductions in the Central Management Area will be implemented in 2023.

Committee Member Jaffe asked how looking at other criteria relates to DWR's comments on the CBGSA GSP. Mr. Beck replied we are going to evaluate criteria for our management areas beginning with our latest update and begin the process of what is the proper basis for establishing a management area. He said that is what the CBGSA GSP laid out. Therefore, considering modifications to the criteria is that we have more data and a better understanding of the basin to justify potential actions to refine the efforts to achieve sustainability in the

Cuyama Basin.

Chair Kelly instituted a poll as follows:

- Committee Member Jaffe – In support of the ad hoc’s recommendation.
- Committee Member Furstenfeld – In support of the ad hoc’s recommendation.
- Chair Kelly – In support of the ad hoc’s recommendation
- Vice Chair Debranch – In support of the ad hoc’s recommendation.
- Committee Member Draucker – In support of the ad hoc’s recommendation.
- Committee Member Gaillard – In support of the ad hoc’s recommendation.
- Committee Member Haslett – In support of the ad hoc’s recommendation.

## **6. Management Area Update**

Mr. Beck provided an overview of the ad hoc’s recommendation to update the Management Area boundary at a minimum every five (5) years.

Committee Member Jaffe asked if this relates only to identified management areas and Mr. Blakslee replied staff would be looking at new management areas if identified by future model updates. Committee Member Gaillard agreed that updated the boundary at least every five years is a good increment. Committee Member Furstenfeld commented we should not limit ourselves to only making an update every five years and Mr. Blakslee replied more frequent updates can be considered by the Board at more regular intervals.

Chair Kelly instituted a poll as follows:

- Committee Member Jaffe – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Committee Member Furstenfeld – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Chair Kelly – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Vice Chair Debranch – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Committee Member Draucker – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Committee Member Gaillard – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Committee Member Haslett – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.

## **7. Administration of Pumping Reduction**

Mr. Beck provided an overview of the ad hoc’s discussions on administering the pumping reduction which are included in the SAC packet.

Committee Member Gaillard said the CBGSA needs to consider automation with reporting for flow meters. Committee Member Furstenfeld replied there is a way to cheat these meters by having air flow backwards which reduces the number the meter reports. Committee Member Jaffe asked how these readings are validated. Mr. Blakslee replied pictures of the starting meter for the year and ending meter for the year are required by the CBGSA.

Chair Kelly instituted a poll as follows:

- Committee Member Jaffe – In support of the ad hoc recommendation but recommended implementing additional meter reporting verification.
- Committee Member Furstenfeld – In support of the ad hoc recommendation and also recommended additional meter reporting verification.
- Chair Kelly – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Vice Chair Debranch – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.

- Committee Member Draucker – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Committee Member Gaillard – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.
- Committee Member Haslett – In support of the ad hoc recommendation.

#### **8. Non-Compliance/ Over Pumping Enforcement**

Mr. Beck provided an overview of the ad hoc's discussions on potential non-compliance options which are included in the SAC packet.

Chair Kelly agreed if a pumper is overpumping there should be a fee and if there is a trend of overpumping the GSA should take legal action. Committee Member Gaillard stated there should be an investigation if there is deliberate overpumping. Committee Member Haslett agreed there should be a three-year running average. Committee Member Jaffe agreed with the three-year running average. Committee Member Furstenfeld stated there has to be a bigger penalty to act as a deterrent. Mr. Dominguez stated these fees amounts are set by SGMA and we cannot increase these fees. Committee Member Jaffe stated these penalties need to be stronger

Stakeholder Lynn Carlisle asked if overpumping continues how will this affect the sustainability of the basin and asked if legal action is a penalty, will there be a budget for these legal actions. Mr. Beck replied this would be budgeted. Mr. Blakslee replied that the Budget Ad hoc recommended increasing the legal budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 which can be used to fund some of these potential issues. He also noted the recently awarded grant provides funding for the implementation of pumping reductions.

Committee Member Gaillard replied we should be careful when taking legal action and Mr. Dominguez replied we are always cautious when taking legal action and would not recommend something like this unless the CBGSA was confident it was within its authority.

#### **e. Direction on Basin-Wide Water Management Policies**

Mr. Beck provided an overview of basin-wide management policies to consider, and Committee Member Jaffe said it would be best to get this discussion started sooner rather than later. Committee Members Furstenfeld, Kelly, DeBranch, Draucker and Haslett agreed with starting on these discussions. Stakeholder Lynn Carlisle said it would be best to get these discussions started long before 2025.

#### **f. Direction on Adaptive Management Actions**

Mr. Beck provided an overview of the potential Adaptive Management actions that were developed with a Board ad hoc and are summarized in the SAC packet.

Committee Member Gaillard commented that the 5 percent reduction will be tough on farmers but emphasized that the basin does not want to be managed by the State. He said if the CBGSA pushes too hard people will leave. Committee Member Jaffe said the Cuyama basin is going to have to make some really hard decisions because the groundwater levels are declining and the idea of reducing minimum thresholds does not solve the problem. Committee Member Furstenfeld stated we cannot keep moving numbers around to fit the model. Vice Chair Debranch commented that options 3 or 4 are the only viable solutions to consider.

Chair Kelly asked if this issue was addressed to DWR in the consultation meeting today and said he does not believe there are any acceptable solutions presented. Mr. Beck replied this was discussed with DWR and they cautioned that a robust technical analysis be conducted before considering

adjusting minimum thresholds.

Stakeholder Lynn Carlisle asked what management actions would trigger if the undesirable results criteria for groundwater levels is reached. Mr. Beck replied if the Board elected for the minimum threshold to be moved then no additional management actions would be required in those areas, but we would still be required to reduce pumping in the Central Management Area according the GSP the CBGSA adopted in December 2019.

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*Joe Haslett leaves the meeting at 9:00 p.m.*  
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Chair Kelly instituted the following poll for the options presented.

Committee Member Jaffe – Opposed to options 3 or 4.

Committee Member Furstenfeld – Opposed to options; commented that moving numbers around does not solve anything.

Chair Kelly – Opposed to all options.

Vice Chair Debranch – In support with the ad hoc recommendations.

Committee Member Draucker – Opposed to all options.

Committee Member Gaillard – Opposed to all options.

**g. Direction on Effort to Identify Potential Non-Reporting Pumpers**

Mr. Blakslee reported that staff is developing a strategy with an ad hoc to identify potential non-reporting water users and will provide an update at the next SAC and Board meetings.

**h. Direction on Data Management System (DMS) Enhancements**

Mr. Van Lienden provided an update on potential Data Manage Systems (DMS) enhancements that could be funded by the recently awarded grant. Chair Kelly commented that more data is important and generally supports improvements to the DMS.

**i. Direction on Public Workshop Format**

Mr. Blakslee presented several options for hosting a public workshop that are summarized in the SAC packet.

Committee Member Furstenfeld said holding a workshop on the weekend would be best and suggested a Saturday around 10 or 11 a.m. Committee Member Draucker said if it is around 11 a.m., hosting lunch should be considered. Committee Member Gaillard suggested holding on a weekday after 5 p.m. or on a weekend after 5 p.m. Committee Member Jaffe suggested making the presentation material concise and clear.

Committee Member Jaffe suggested including the adjudication as an item for discussion. Committee Member Furstenfeld suggested having a printout of the various Cuyama jurisdictions. Chair Kelly stated one of the important topics is metering and well information collection, but also any landowner requirements. Committee Member Furstenfeld said a session in Spanish may be considered.

Stakeholder Lynn Carlisle said it would be good to show how the CBGSA GSP implementation and adjudication are different processes.

**j. Update on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Activities**

Mr. Van Lienden presented an update on GSP activities and are included in the SAC packet.

**k. Update on Model Refinement**

Mr. Van Lienden provided update on the model refinement and said model results are still on target for presentation at the July Board meeting.

Stakeholder Lynn Carlise asked where the data that came from for the aquifer test in the northwestern area. Mr. Van Lienden said Woodard & Curran received the raw data from Cleath-Harris and incorporated the raw data. Committee Member Jaffe asked if she could have the data for aquifer test and Mr. Van Lienden said he could provide that data.

**l. Update on Monitoring Network Implementation**

Mr. Van Lienden provided update on monitoring network implementation which is included in the SAC packet.

**m. Update on Quarterly Groundwater Conditions Report for April 2022**

Mr. Blakslee provided an update on Quarterly Groundwater Conditions Report for April 2022 and informed the SAC that groundwater level measurement consultant Justin Faure from Provost & Pritchard (P&P) is no longer with P&P, but staff has met with the transition team and feels confident with their continued service.

**7. Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

**a. Report of the Executive Director**

Mr. Blakslee reported the SGMA grant award will be announced at ACWA next week.

**b. Report of the General Counsel**

Nothing to report

**c. Board of Directors Agenda Review**

Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of the May 4, 2022, CBGSA Board of Directors meeting agenda which is provided in the SAC packet.

**8. Items for Upcoming Sessions**

Nothing to report.

**9. Committee Forum**

Committee Member Furstenfeld noted that going forward he can attend the SAC meeting at an earlier time and asked if the SAC if they wanted to change the time. Mr. Beck reminded the SAC that the Board sets the SAC meeting time, and this can be brought up with the Board.

Committee Member Jaffe announced that the Cuyama Valley Community Association is hosting an adjudication workshop on May 9, 2022.

**10. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda**

No public comments

**11. Correspondence**

Nothing to report.

**12. Adjourn**

Chair Kelly adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

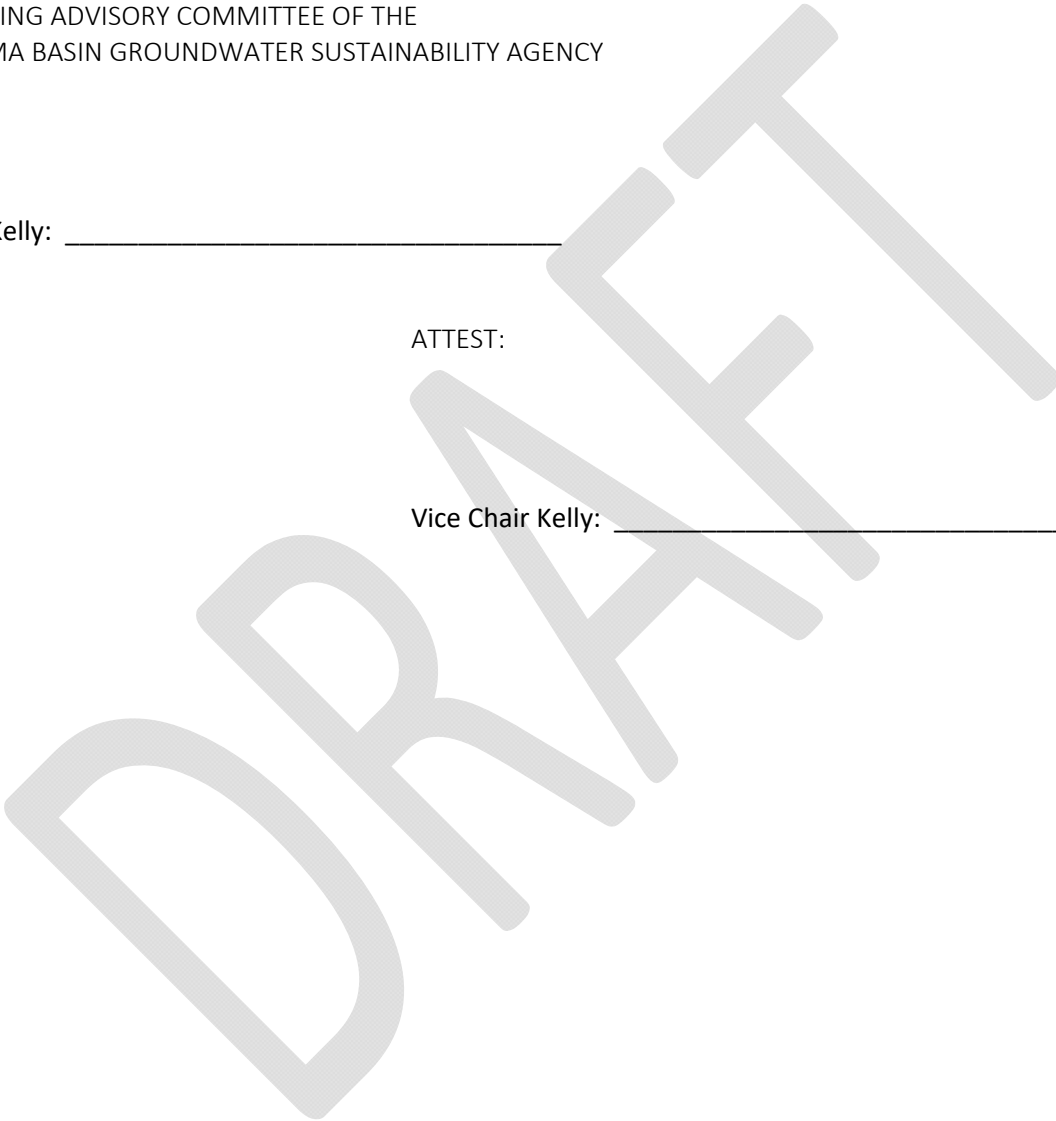
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STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE  
CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Chair Kelly: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

Vice Chair Kelly: \_\_\_\_\_



# Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Standing Advisory Committee Meeting

June 30, 2022

## Draft Meetings Minutes

### **PRESENT:**

Kelly, Brenton – Chair  
DeBranch, Brad – Vice Chair  
Draucker, Louise  
Gaillard, Jean  
Haslett, Joe  
Beck, Jim – Executive Director  
Blakslee, Taylor – Project Manager  
Dominguez, Alex – Legal Counsel  
Van Lienden, Brian – Woodard & Curran

### **ABSENT:**

Furstenfeld, Jake  
Jaffe, Roberta

#### **1. Call to Order**

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) Vice Chair Brad DeBranch called the meeting to order at 5:27 p.m. and Hallmark Group Project Manager Taylor Blakslee provided direction on the meeting protocols in facilitating a remote meeting.

#### **2. Roll Call**

Mr. Blakslee called roll of the Committee (shown above).

#### **3. Pledge of Allegiance**

Vice Chair Brad DeBranch led the pledge of allegiance.

#### **4. Update on SAC Membership**

Vice Chair Brad Debranch reported that there remain two vacancies for representatives of the Hispanic community and noted to direct interested individuals to himself or Mr. Blakslee.

#### **5. Approval of Minutes**

Vice Chair DeBranch opened the floor for comments on the April 28, 2022, CBGSA SAC meeting minutes.

**MOTION**

Committee Member Haslett made a motion to defer the approval of April 28, 2022, CBGSA SAC meeting minutes to the next SAC meeting on September 1, 2022. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Draucker, a roll call vote was made, and the motion passed.

AYES: DeBranch, Draucker, Gaillard, Haslett, Kelly  
 NOES: None  
 ABSTAIN: None  
 ABSENT: Furstenfeld, Jaffe

**6. Groundwater Sustainability Plan****a. Review on Amended Groundwater Sustainability Plan**

Mr. Blakslee provided a brief update on the amended groundwater sustainability plan. Mr. Blakslee read a section of Committee Member Jaffe's letter to the SAC members which is provided in the SAC packet. Stakeholder Jim Wegis noted the water table typically rises when it rains and later falls, which cannot be said for the main basin as it only falls.

**b. Update on Model Refinement**

Mr. Van Lienden provided an update on the model refinement tasks and reviewed the four technical meetings that were held. He provided an overview of the model calibration statistics and the observed groundwater levels versus simulated groundwater levels.

Committee Member Haslett referenced the first graph and noted that 1998 was a record water year for California, so including this information may make the data misleading. Executive Director Beck clarified that the average line shown is a cumulation of the change in storage and that when modeling hydrogeology a record year is typically selected as the starting point.

Chair Kelly asked if the change in parameters was primarily due to changes in transmissivity values. Woodard & Curran modeler Sercan Ceyhan responded that the changes were mostly hydraulic conductivity and storage parameters.

**c. Direction on Central Management Area Policies**

Mr. Blakeslee provided background on Central Management Area (CMA) policies and informed the SAC that a pumping reduction exemption for the Cuyama Community Services District (CCSD), as outlined in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan, needs to be discussed and incorporated into the allocation calculations.

Mr. Blakslee provided an update on the below nine (9) policy points that were reviewed with a Board ad hoc committee.

**1. Pumping Reduction Baseline**

Mr. Blakslee noted the first question for the policy issue is determining the baseline or starting point for pumping reduction. He reviewed how the maximum annual pumping in the CMA was calculated.

Committee Member Haslett asked if the elementary school would be subject to the reduction. Executive Director Beck replied that the school would not be subject to the reduction.



**2. CCSD Pumping Reduction Exemption**

Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of the CCSD pumping reduction exemption and informed the SAC this was a new item for consideration under the CMA policies.

Committee Member Draucker noted Santa Barbara County is remotely watering the park, but there is very little to no watering being done. Committee Member Haslett asked if future buildings would be part of the equation. Executive Director Beck responded that it is something to be considered, and the CBGSA and CCSD will have to work that out. Committee Member Draucker commented there is land adjacent that is supposed to be apartments, but Committee Member Haslett said he believes that was project was not approved. Stakeholder Lynn Carlisle commented the housing project was reversed and the watering will be provided by the CCSD.

The SAC concurred with staff recommendations as presented.

**3. Allocation Methodology (and Variance Policy)**

Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of the draft allocation methodology based on historic water use for 2023 and 2024 in the CMA and draft variance process.

Committee Member Haslett noted there should be a separate variance policy for 2023 and 2024. Executive Director Beck responded that the reason staff is proposing a single variance process for two years is to minimize cost and to simply the process for landowners.

Committee Member Haslett asked how the \$250 processing fee was chosen. Mr. Blakslee responded that it was based on the fee being used by Ventura County for their variance process.

Stakeholder Spencer Harris asked if the parcel size was taken into account in establishing the allocation and Mr. Blakeslee stated it is strictly based on historical pumping. Ms. Harris asked if it was possible for someone not to receive an allocation if they have never pumped. Mr. Blakslee confirmed it was possible, but if the landowner feels this was inappropriate that is the purpose of developing the variance policy.

Stakeholder Guy Lingo commented he has a farm that has not been pumped since the 1960's and asked if his pumping will be restricted. Mr. Blakslee informed Stakeholder Guy Lingo that since his land is outside of the CMA, pumping reductions do not currently apply to him.

Stakeholder Lynn Carlisle asked how the variance policy will affect the allocation and the model. Executive Director Beck replied the variance policy will affect the allocation of all pumpers since if one allocation goes up, others will go down by a certain percentage. He continued to explain the model is unaffected because the same amount of water is going to be pumped.

**MOTION**

Committee Member Draucker made a motion to support staff’s proposed variance policy. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Haslett, a roll call vote was made, and the motion passed.

AYES:	DeBranch, Draucker, Gaillard, Haslett, Kelly
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Furstenfeld, Jaffe

**4. Changed Water Use Inside the Central Management Area**

Executive Director Beck informed the SAC that the changed water use in the CMA would be considered in by the Basin-Wide Water Management ad hoc.

**5. Central Management Area Boundary (Hydrological vs Operational)**

Executive Director Beck provided an overview of the four (4) options for determining the boundary for the CMA which is provided in the SAC packet.

Vice Chair DeBranch commented there that there are some issues with the well locations on the map. Committee Member Haslett suggested removing the variance fee to get more information for the map from landowners and Committee Member Gaillard suggested speaking with each parcel owner on the hydrological boundary.

Chair Kelly stated he is in favor of option two.

Vice Chair DeBranch asked staff to explain how these options affect the sustainability yield. Mr. Beck responded that the sustainability yield will remain the same regardless of which option is selected.

Chair Kelly made a motion to approve option 2. There is no second to the motion.

Committee Member Gaillard suggested going to each farmer and asking for their opinion since their allocation may be impacted.

**6. Management Area Criteria Evaluation**

Mr. Blakslee informed the SAC that options to consider other criteria for management areas will be considered by an ad hoc prior to the 2025 GSP update.

**7. Management Area Update**

Mr. Blakslee informed the SAC the management area designations will be considered when the model is updated.

**8. Administration of Pumping Reduction**

Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of the process for administration of pumping reduction which is provided in the SAC packet.

Stakeholder Jim Wegis asked if water extractors outside of the CMA would be required to report water use. Mr. Blakslee responded that all those with a well in the Cuyama basin would be required to report water use annually.

**MOTION**

Committee Member Haslett made a motion to adopt action item 8 as presented. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Gaillard, a roll call vote was made, and the motion passed.

AYES:	DeBranch, Draucker, Gaillard, Haslett, Kelly
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Furstenfeld, Jaffe

**9. Non-Compliance/ Over Pumping Enforcement**

Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of the policy to address potential non-compliance/over pumping enforcement which is provided in the SAC packet.

Committee Member Gaillard asked what occurs when someone does not report their water use. Legal counsel Alex Dominguez responded the GSA has authority to impose higher penalties and take legal action. Committee Member Gaillard suggested the GSA get feedback from farmers, specifically those who are non-compliant.

Stakeholder Lynn Carlisle suggested adding verbiage that the GSA will revisit this policy in two years. Vice Chair DeBranch noted the Board can address this throughout the process. Executive Director Beck added when the annual report is done the Board would reconsider the process, if needed.

**MOTION**

Committee Member Haslett made a motion to support staff's proposal. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Haslett, a roll call vote was made, and the motion passed.

AYES:	DeBranch, Draucker, Gaillard, Haslett, Kelly
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Furstenfeld, Jaffe

**d. Direction on GSA Well Permit Policy**

Mr. Blakeslee provided an overview of the proposed well permit process and Mr. Beck presented an overview of CBGSA requirements for new and modified wells. Mr. Blakslee reviewed considerations for the proposed well permit GSA hydrologic study requirement.

Committee Member Haslett and Vice Chair DeBranch suggested removing the 100 feet distance requirement and replacing it with the ability to put a replacement well anywhere on the property.

Chair Kelly commented that a larger or deeper well would not be a replacement well and he is in agreement with the first bullet point as presented.

Stakeholder Spencer Harris noted that moving a well over 100 feet vertically and 100 feet horizontally are completely different. He said if a well is drilled 100 feet deeper, it would be considered a new well. Committee Member Gaillard responded that if a well goes dry one would need to drill a deeper well, which is a replacement well.

Chair Kelly and Committee Member Haslett noted there needs to be a hydrologic study for construction of a new well, but not for modification to wells or replacement wells. Stakeholder Dan Clifford commented that a 100 feet distance requirement for replacement wells are too restricting. Committee Member Haslett commented that the requirements are too limiting and broad when dealing with replacement wells. Vice Chair DeBranch added that the requirements for construction of new wells seem restrictive.

Committee Member Haslett noted the Board may want to consider putting parameters in place to designate the distance of a new well to an existing well.

**e. Direction on Effort to Identify Potential Non-Reporting Pumpers**

Mr. Blakeslee provided an overview of the process that was reviewed with the ad hoc and the analysis staff is performing. Chair Kelly asked how this is budgeted. Mr. Blakeslee replied that the grant is funding this effort.

**f. Direction on Public Workshop**

Mr. Blakeslee informed the SAC this item was reviewed at the last meeting and is requesting feedback from the Board. Committee Member Gaillard suggested holding this public workshop prior to the September deadline for reporting variance.

**g. Update on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Activities**

Mr. Van Lienden reviewed the May and June staff accomplishments.

**h. Direction on Adaptive Management Analysis**

Mr. Van Lienden reviewed the adaptive management analysis approach which is included in the SAC packet.

**i. Update on Monitoring Network Implementation**

Mr. Blakeslee provided an overview of the monitoring network implementation which is provided in the SAC packet.

Committee Member Haslett asked Mr. Beck if the water quality test meet California drinking water standards. Mr. Beck responded that the drinking water standards pertain to public water systems, but the laboratory test is the same technique regardless of the sample coming from an agriculture or domestic well.

## **7. Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

**a. Report of the Executive Committee Member**

Nothing to report.

**b. Report of the General Counsel**

Nothing to report.

**c. Board of Committee Member s Agenda Review**

Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of the July 6, 2022, CBGSA Board meeting agenda which is provided in the SAC packet.

**8. Items for Upcoming Sessions**

Committee Member Haslett asked how the administrative staff and Board are approaching the conflict of interest for Bolthouse and Grimmway having representatives on the Boards. Legal Counsel Alex Dominguez replied that legal is reviewing this matter and will discuss in more detail at the Board meeting on July 6, 2022.

**9. Committee Forum**

Chair Kelly asked if the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) electromagnetic survey data will be included on CBGSA website. Mr. Van Lienden responded that it is available on DWR’s website, and Mr. Blakslee said a link will be added to the CBGSA website.

**10. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda**

Stakeholder Guy Lingo thanked the CBGSA staff for hosting this meeting.

**11. Correspondence**

Mr. Blakslee reported that there were two pieces of correspondence. One from Kathleen March and the other from Robbie Jaffee, which are included in the SAC packet.

**12. Adjourn**

Vice Chair DeBranch adjourned the meeting at 9:53 PM.

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STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE  
CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Chair Kelly: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

Vice Chair Kelly: \_\_\_\_\_



TO: Standing Advisory Committee  
Agenda Item No. 6a

FROM: Jim Beck / Alex Dominguez

DATE: September 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Direction on GSA Well Permit Policy

**Recommended Motion**

Standing Advisory Committee feedback requested.

**Discussion**

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency well permit policy points are provided as Attachment 1 for discussion and feedback by the Standing Advisory Committee.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

# 6a. Direction on GSA Well Permit Policy

Jim Beck / Alex Dominguez

September 1, 2022





# Background

- On July 6, 2022, the Board directed staff to continue the development of GSA well permit policies with an ad hoc
- The ad hoc met on August 22, 2022, and August 29, 2022, to consider multiple options



# Draft GSA Policy

- **Modification/Replacement of Existing Wells**
  - Well must be same capacity as existing well (to be verified by driller)
  - Well must be within a ½ mile of existing well
  - Existing well must be properly abandoned following county procedures
- **For Construction of New Wells**
  - Well applicant to hire hydrogeologist firm to ensure “(i) the proposed well would not be inconsistent with the GSA’s GSP; and (ii) the proposed well would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal included in that GSA’s GSP.”

# Draft GSA Procedures

- **Option 1:**
  - Well applications are reviewed *and* **approved** at a monthly Standing Committee
  - To be reported on at the Board
- **Option 2:**
  - Well applications to be reviewed at monthly Standing Committee and put on consent agenda for approval by the Board



TO: Standing Advisory Committee  
Agenda Item No. 6b

FROM: Jim Beck / Alex Dominguez

DATE: September 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Direction on Administration of Pumping Reductions in the Central Management Area

**Recommended Motion**

Standing Advisory Committee feedback requested.

**Discussion**

On July 6, 2022, the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency provided direction on several Central Management Area (CMA) policy points. One outstanding policy point is how to administer the pumping reductions in the CMA and the Board directed staff to bring this back to the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) and Board for direction on September 1, 2022, and September 7, 2022, respectively.

The draft policy points are provided as Attachment 1 for discussion and feedback by the SAC.



Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

6b. Direction on Administration of Pumping Reduction in the  
Central Management Area

Jim Beck / Alex Dominguez

September 1, 2022



# Background

- On May 4, 2022, the Board provided direction on administering the pumping reduction in the Central Management Area
- On July 6, 2022, the following policy was presented, and the Board directed to staff to bring this draft policy back for review at the September 7, 2022, Board meeting



# Draft Administration of Pumping Reduction Policy

- The CBGSA will develop a water allocation for each parcel
  - Preliminary allocations will be provided to landowners in the CMA in July 2022
  - Variance request forms are due September 1, 2022, for 2023 and 2024 allocations
  - The Board will decide on variance requests on November 2, 2022
  - Final landowner allocations will be provided to landowners in the CMA by December 1, 2022
- Each parcel carries an allocation, but water extractions are reported at the wellhead
- Each landowner must submit monthly meter readings for the preceding year by January 31st according the CBGSA meter reporting instructions (provided at [www.cuyamabasin.org](http://www.cuyamabasin.org))
- Each landowner must list the APNs the well served and how many acre-feet of water was used on each APN
- Each landowner must report if water was applied from outside the CMA (i.e., from a nearby well, trucked water, etc.) to an APN within the CMA
- Staff will develop a water accounting to report at the March Board meeting



TO: Standing Advisory Committee  
Agenda Item No. 6c

FROM: Jim Beck / Alex Dominguez

DATE: September 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Direction on Basin-Wide Water Management Policies

**Recommended Motion**

Standing Advisory Committee feedback requested.

**Discussion**

On May 4, 2022, the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors (CBGSA) directed staff to begin discussions on (1) increased water use outside the Central Management Area, and (2) water market/trading discussions.

The Basin-Wide Water Management ad hoc met on August 18, 2022, and Attachment 1 includes items discussed by the ad hoc for Standing Advisory Committee feedback.



Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

# 6c. Direction on Basin-Wide Water Management Policies

Jim Beck / Alex Dominguez

September 1, 2022





# Background

- On May 4, 2022, the Board directed staff to begin discussions with an ad hoc to address the below two water management topics:
  1. Increased water use outside the Central Management Area
  2. Water market/trading discussions

# Increased Water Use Outside the Central Management Area – What Does the GSP Say?

- **Executive Summary (pg ES-1)** “Although current analysis indicates groundwater pumping reductions on the order of 50 to 67 percent may be required Basin-wide to achieve sustainability, additional efforts are required to confirm the amount and location of pumping reductions required to achieve sustainability. These efforts include collecting additional data and a review of the Basin’s groundwater model, along with other efforts as outlined in this document.”



# Increased Water Use Outside the Central Management Area

- Staff analyzed sustainable yield and 2021 water use for three regions in the basin:
  1. West of the Russel Fault
  2. East of the Russel Fault and west of the Santa Barbara Canyon Fault (SBCF)
  3. East of the SBCF
- ***This analysis is preliminary and meant for discussion purposes only***



# Increased Water Use Outside the Central Management Area

**DRAFT**

	Sustainable Yield (AFY)	2021 Pumping (AFY)	2021 Deficit (AF)	Pumping Reduction % Required to Reach SY	Percent of Basin Deficit
1 Entire Basin	19,360	63,900	(44,540)	70%	
2 West of Russell Fault	860	2,200	(1,340)	61%	3%
3 <u>East of the Russell Fault and west of the Santa Barbara Canyon Fault (SBCF)</u>	13,000	53,500	(40,500)	76%	91%
a) Inside CMA	8,850	41,700	(32,850)	79%	
b) Outside CMA	4,150	11,800	(7,650)	65%	
4 East of the SBCF	5,500	8,200	(2,700)	33%	6%

100%



# Increased Water Use Outside the Central Management Area

- SAC feedback requested
- Do anything?
- If yes, when?



TO: Standing Advisory Committee  
Agenda Item No. 6d

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: September 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Update on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Activities

**Recommended Motion**

None – information only.

**Discussion**

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) activities and consultant Woodard & Curran's (W&C) accomplishments are provided as Attachment 1.



Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

# 6d. Update on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Activities

Brian Van Lienden

September 1, 2022



# July-August Accomplishments

Brian Van Lienden

- ✓ Submitted revised GSP to DWR with changes made in response to DWR determination letter
- ✓ Performed water level trends analysis to support adaptive management process related to Basin sustainability criteria
- ✓ Performed technical analyses for management area implementation and non-reporting pumpers identification
- ✓ Developed approaches for implementation of DWR grant agreement tasks
- ✓ Prepared materials for and participated in Cuyama Basin public workshop





TO: Standing Advisory Committee  
Agenda Item No. 6e

FROM: Jim Beck / Brian Van Lienden

DATE: September 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Update on Adaptive Management Analysis

**Recommended Motion**

SAC feedback requested.

**Discussion**

On May 4, 2022, the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board provided direction to perform analyses to assess potentially adjusting the undesirable results criteria for the chronic lowering of groundwater levels and the lowering of minimum thresholds.

In discussions with the California Department of Water Resources' (DWR), they asked staff if groundwater levels throughout the basin would recover in average hydrologic years. The results from that analysis are provided as Attachment 1 for review.

The additional modeling analysis analyzing the glidepath and sustainable management criteria will be presented at the SAC and Board meetings on October 27, 2022 and November 2, 2022, respectively.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

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# 6e. Update on Adaptive Management Analysis

Jim Beck / Brian Van Lienden

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**September 1, 2022**





# Board Direction at May & July Board Meetings

Brian Van Lienden

- Directed staff to perform analysis for options 3 [Revise (Lower) Minimum Thresholds] and 4 [Revise Undesirable Results Trigger (30% for 2-years)]
- The following steps were approved :
  - Perform well survey of all wells in Basin
  - Analyze water level trends at representative monitoring wells with respect to historical hydrology and groundwater extraction
  - CBWRM analysis to estimate future groundwater levels as pumping reductions are implemented following the glidepath (to be presented at Nov 2022 Board meeting)
  - GIS-based analysis to assess potential impacts to beneficial uses and users (to be presented at Nov 2022 Board meeting)

# Update on Well Survey

Brian Van Lienden

- Purpose: Perform well survey of all wells in the basin (including domestic/de minimis wells) to assist in determining if revisions to MTs are protective of those users
- Information requested:
  - Landowner information
  - Well location and construction information:
- Information is requested by September 30, 2022



# Water Level Trends Analysis

Brian Van Lienden

- Board Direction: Analyze water level trends at representative monitoring wells with respect to historical hydrology and groundwater extraction (DWR request).
  - Based on historical trends, would undesirable results be avoided under more favorable hydrogeologic conditions than have occurred since 2015?
  - Analysis to be completed for Sep 2022 Board meeting

# Water Level Trends Analysis - Approach

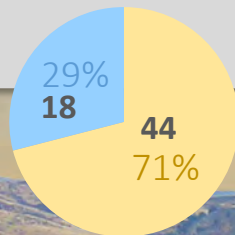
- Compile and summarize precipitation data for the Basin and subdivide periods as wet, or dry based on the cumulative departure from mean precipitation (CDMP) trends.
- Compile and summarize the groundwater production data obtained from the groundwater model for entire basin and evaluate those trends.
- Superimpose precipitation trends, production data, and groundwater level data for individual representative monitoring wells
- Evaluate, qualitatively, correlations among these datasets

# Precipitation Trends

## Historical climatic periods:

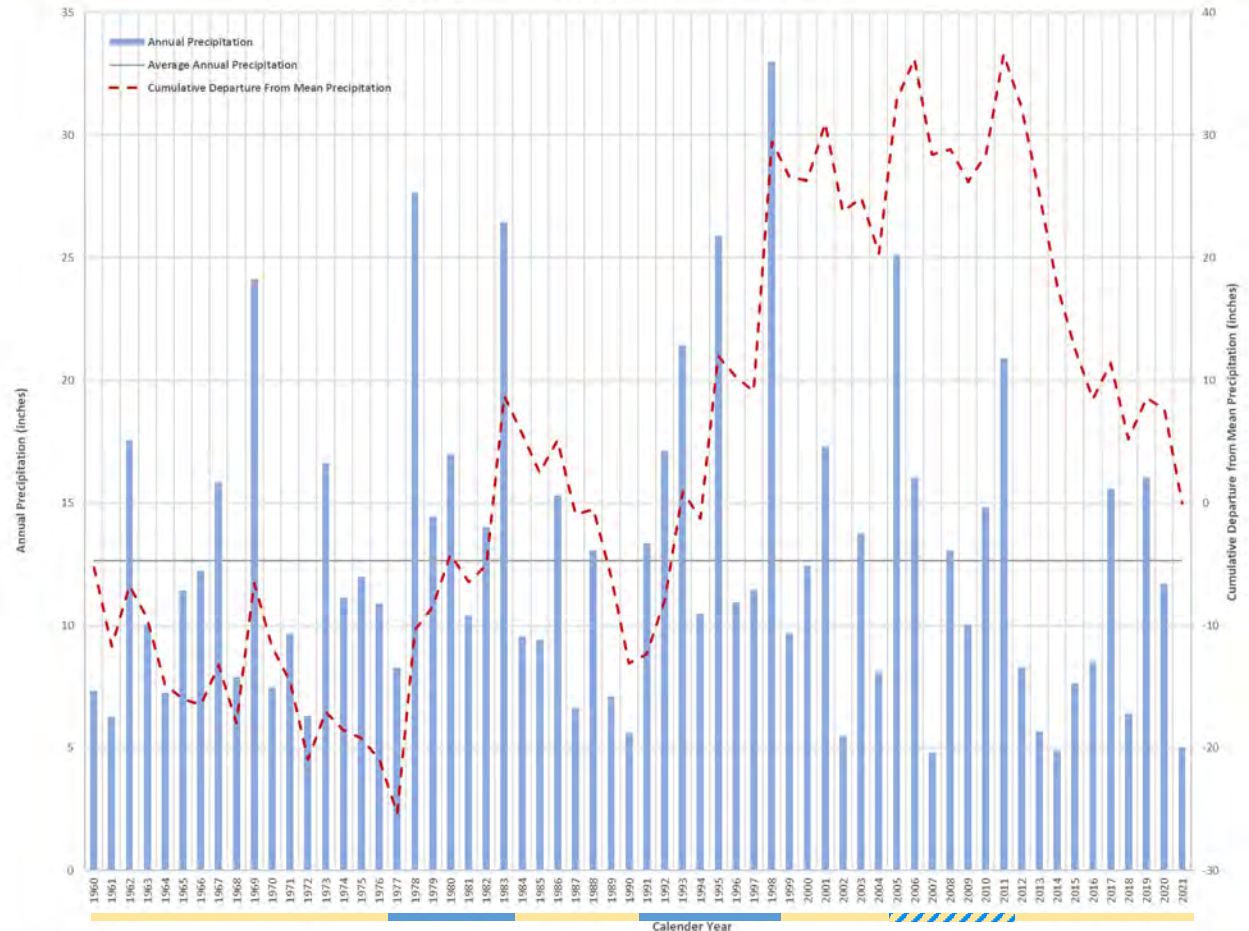
- **1960-1976:** Predominantly **dry**
- **1977-1983:** Predominantly **wet**
- **1984-1990:** Predominantly **dry**
- **1991-1998:** Predominantly **wet**
- **1999-2004:** Predominantly **dry**
- **2005-2011:** Variable with alternating **dry** and **wet** periods
- **2012-2021:** Predominantly **dry**

Summary of Hydrologic Year Type  
1960-2021 (last 61 years)



■ Dry ■ Wet

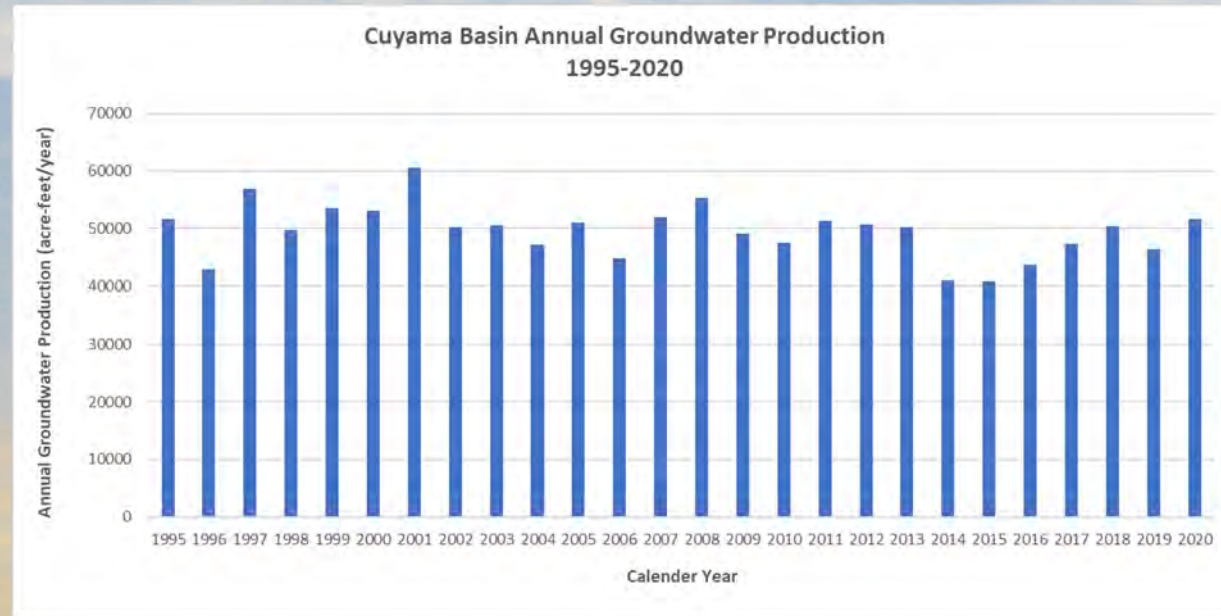
Average Annual Precipitation, Cuyama Basin (1960 - 2021)





# Groundwater Production Trends

- Groundwater production was estimated using the CBWRM model
- Groundwater production is relatively stable from 1995-2020
- Wells in most regions with irrigation show groundwater level declines during recent dry period
- No wells were identified that had both long-term groundwater level records and localized changes in pumping



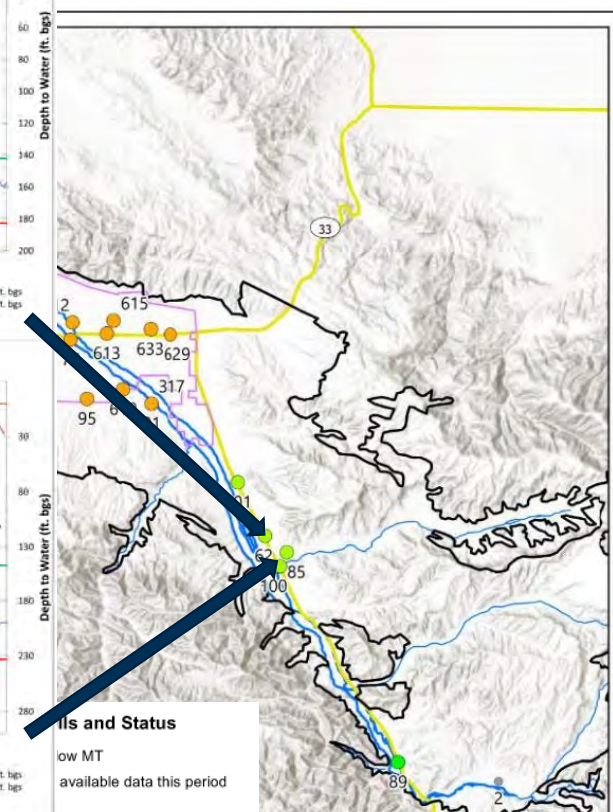
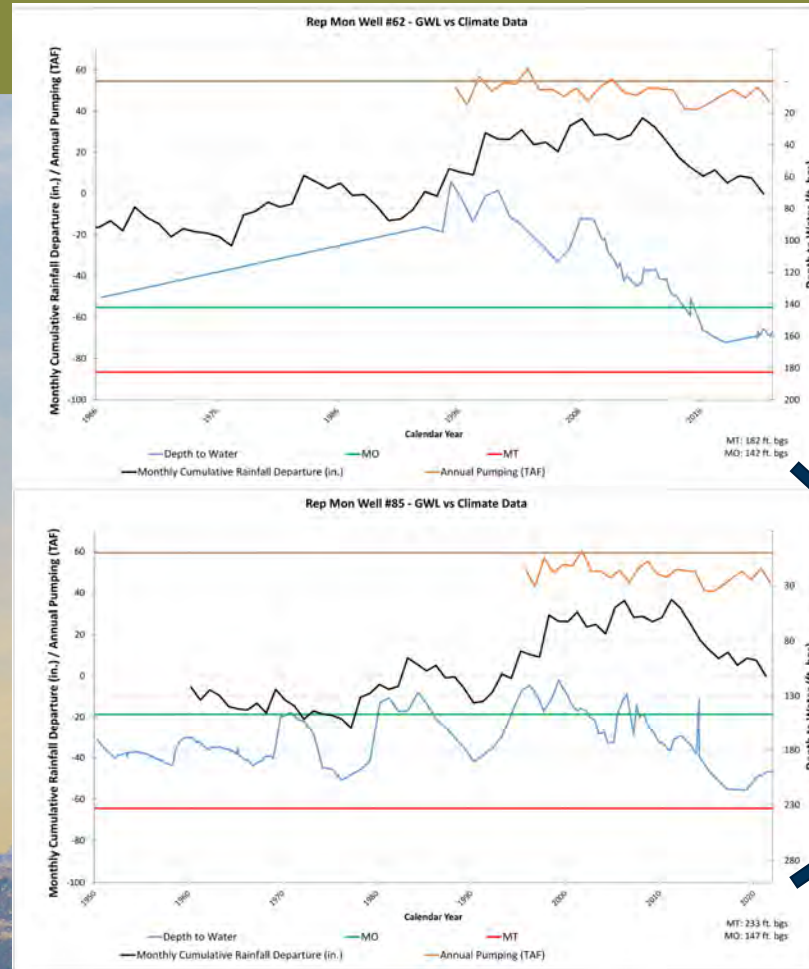


# Summary of Groundwater Level Trends in Different Climatic Periods

- 2012-2021 dry period:
  - 29 wells generally declining
  - 18 wells generally stable
  - 0 wells generally increasing
- 2005-2011 alternating wet-dry period:
  - 21 wells generally declining
  - 10 wells generally stable
  - 1 well generally increasing
- 1991-98 wet period
  - 3 wells generally declining
  - 7 wells generally stable
  - 2 wells generally increasing

# Groundwater Level Trends – Southeast of Santa Barbara Canyon Fault

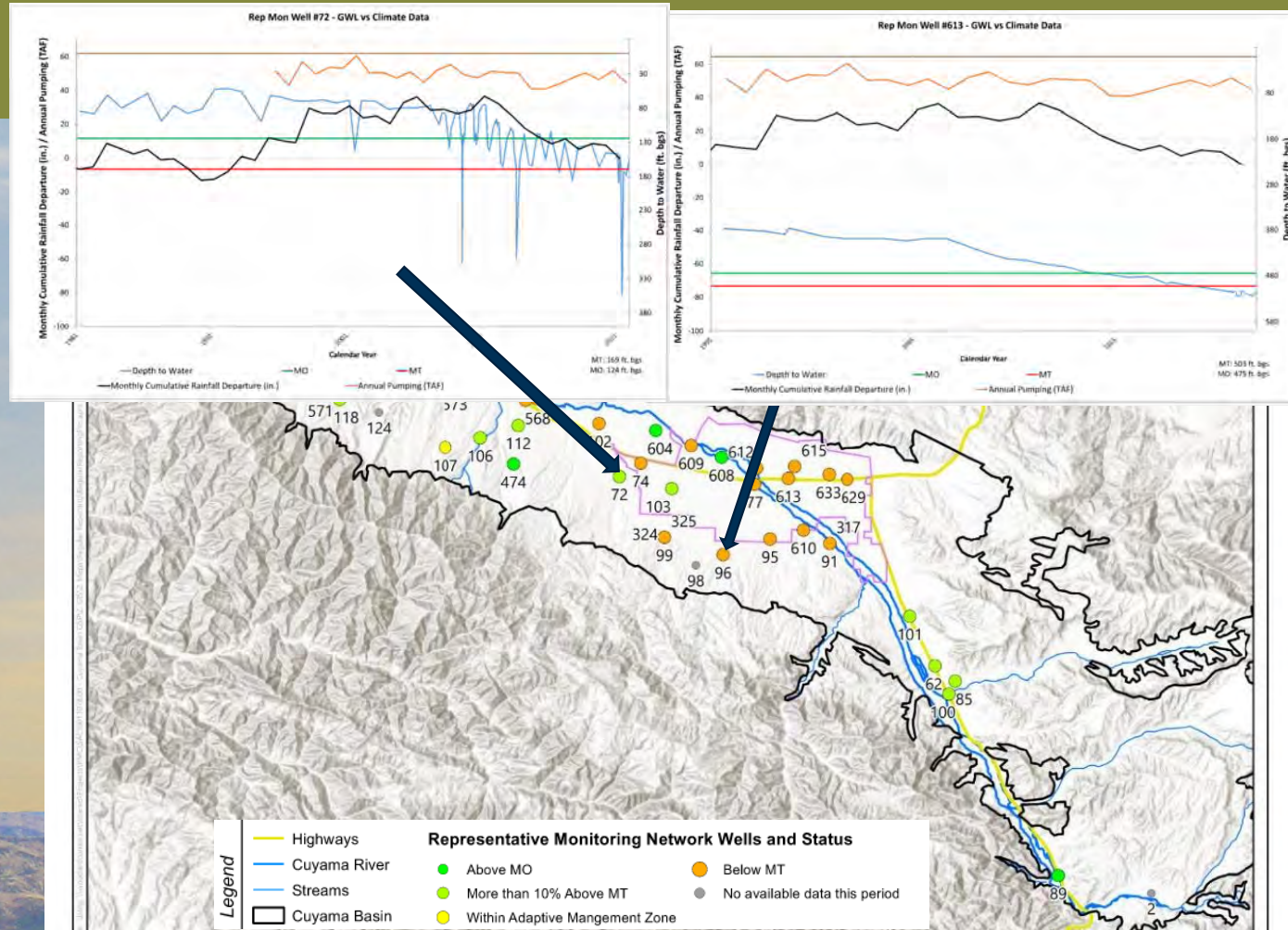
- 2012-2021 dry period:
  - 4 wells generally declining
  - 2 wells generally stable
- 1991-98 wet period
  - Both wells with historical data (62 and 85) are generally increasing
- Wells in this region show a correlation with precipitation





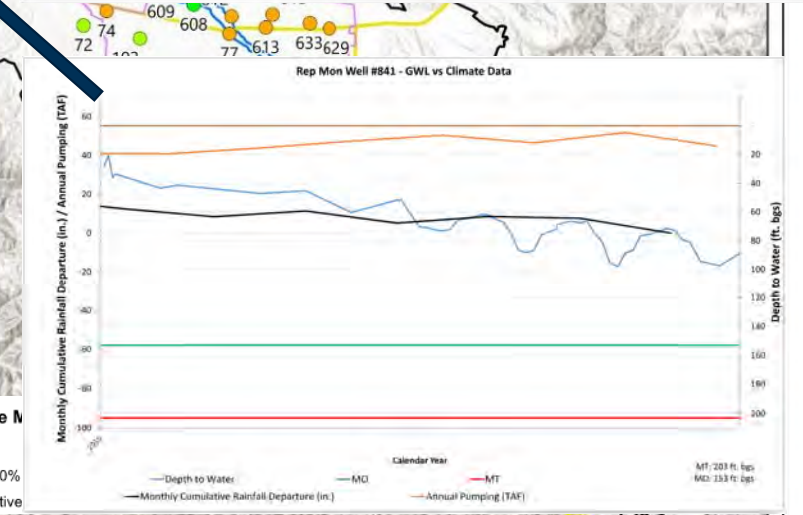
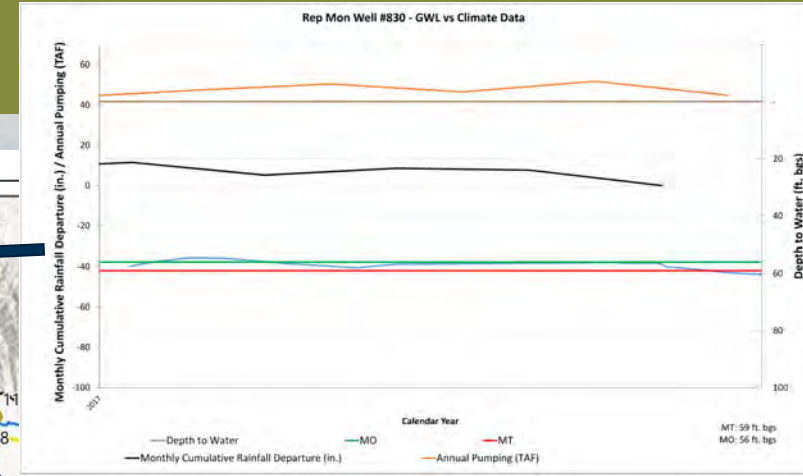
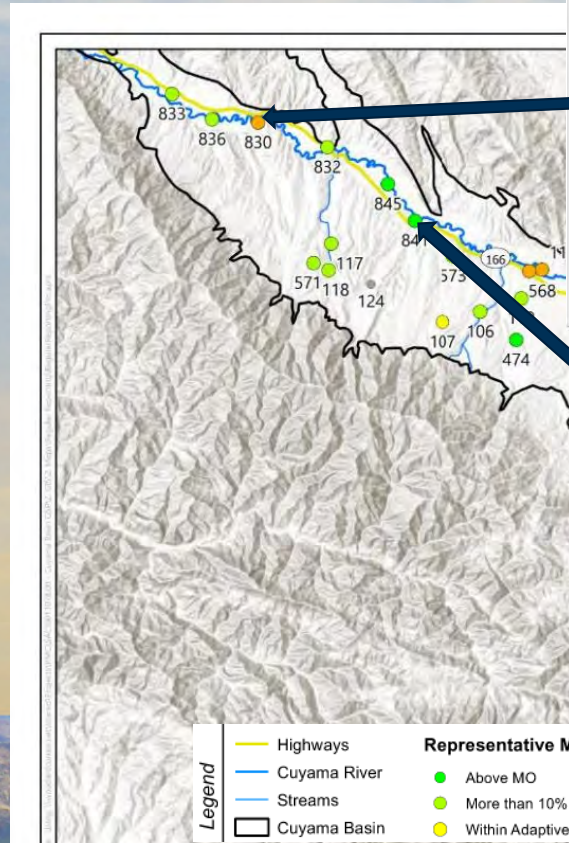
# Groundwater Level Trends – Central Region

- 2012-2021 dry period:
  - 23 wells generally declining
  - 11 wells generally stable
- 1991-98 wet period
  - 3 wells generally declining
    - all also were generally declining in 2012-2021
  - 6 wells generally stable
    - 5 were generally declining in 2012-2021
- Wells in this region show some correlation with precipitation



# Groundwater Level Trends – West of Russell Fault

- 2012-2021 dry period:
  - 2 wells generally declining
  - 5 wells generally stable
- None of the wells in this region have measurements going back to historical wet periods
- Therefore, it is not clear the extent to which groundwater levels would improve under wetter conditions





# Conclusions / Recommendation

- Analysis shows correlation of aquifer recovery with wet years in the area southeast of Santa Barbara Canyon Fault (Ventucopa area)
- Data gaps in historical water level data in the area west of the Russel Fault, and inconclusive correlation of groundwater level recovery in the Central region and wet periods
- Recommend consider this analysis in the context of the glidepath modeling analysis to be presented on October 27, 2022, and November 2, 2022





TO: Standing Advisory Committee  
Agenda Item No. 6f

FROM: Jim Beck/ Alex Dominguez

DATE: September 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Report on Variance Request for the Central Management Area Allocations

**Recommended Motion**

None – information only.

**Discussion**

On July 6, 2022, the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency adopted a variance process for 2023 and 2024 Central Management Area water allocations. Variance Request Forms are due September 1, 2022, and a summary of the requests received are provided as Attachment 1.

Attachment 1

*No Variance Request Forms have been submitted to-date.*



TO: Standing Advisory Committee  
Agenda Item No. 6g

FROM: Jim Beck / Brian Van Lienden

DATE: September 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Update on Effort to Identify Potential Non-Reporting Pumpers

**Recommended Motion**

SAC feedback requested.

**Discussion**

On March 2, 2022, the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) Board directed staff to develop a strategy to identify potential non-reporting pumpers. An ad hoc was appointed and met on June 6, 2022, to develop a strategy which was presented to the Board on July 6, 2022.

On August 17, 2022, the ad hoc met to review the staff analysis which is provided as Attachment 1.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

6g. Update on Effort to Identify Potential Non-Reporting Pumpers

Jim Beck / Brian Van Lienden

September 1, 2022





# Background

- On May 4, 2022, the Board directed staff to develop a plan to investigate potential non-reporting pumpers
- An ad hoc was set (Directors Anselm and Vickery) and met on June 6, 2022
- The following process was reviewed with the ad hoc and staff is performing the analysis

# Approach to Identify Potential Unknown Pumpers

Status	No.	Task
✓	1.0	Compile and QA/QC APNs that were reported by water users to be irrigated in 2021 (from the 2021 groundwater extraction fee process)
✓	2.0	Determine which parcels have irrigated acreage by overlaying GIS layers of parcels and irrigated acres (irrigated acres data from 2019 DWR and 2021 landowner-reported cropping data)
✓	3.0	Use lists of irrigated parcels from parts (a) and (b) above to generate a list of parcels that are potentially irrigated but have not been reported by Cuyama landowners
<i>In progress</i>	3.1	QA/QC results (desktop analysis)
		<i>For potential non-reporting parcels:</i>
	4.1	Identity landowner
	4.2	Communicate with landowner to confirm that parcel is actually irrigated and if so, communicate CBGSA Board policies including extraction fee, meter requirement, etc.
	4.2.1	Determine contact info with local landowners/CBWD, direct mailing to parcel address, field visit (P&P or other staff), fees on tax roll
	4.2.2	Board to consider back fees, penalties and meter compliance hearing (if applicable)



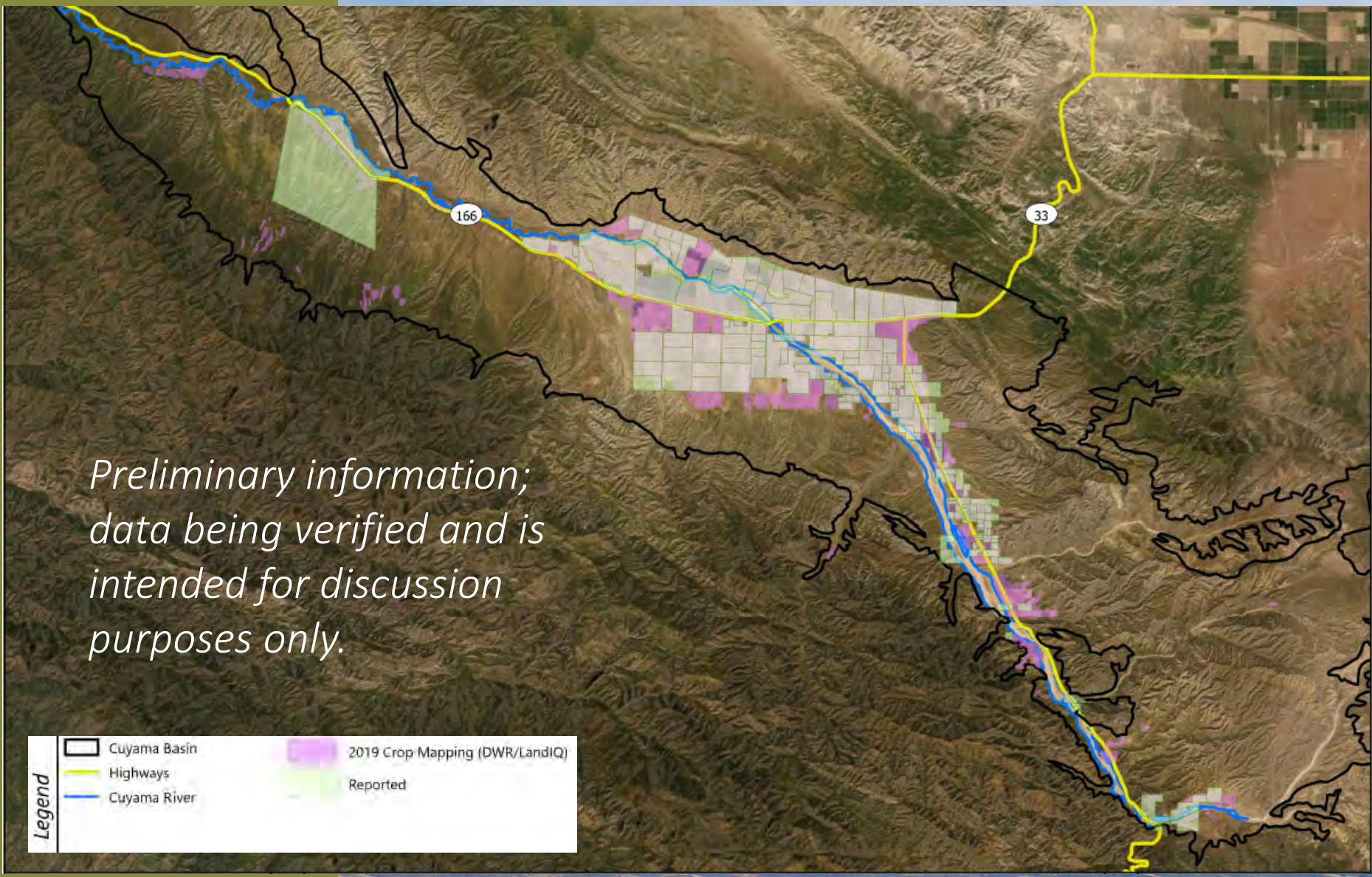
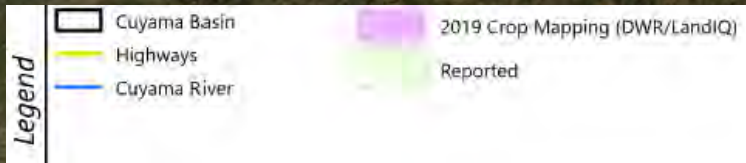
# Quality Assurance / Quality Control Process

- Staff is currently verifying the following:
  - Fallowed lands
  - Un-reporting due to land ownership changes
  - Mis-reported irrigated APNs from landowner in 2021



# Irrigated Lands: 2021 User-Reported vs. 2019 DWR Data Set

*Preliminary information;  
data being verified and is  
intended for discussion  
purposes only.*





# Next Steps

Status	No.	Task
✓	1.0	Compile and QA/QC APNs that were reported by water users to be irrigated in 2021 (from the 2021 groundwater extraction fee process)
✓	2.0	Determine which parcels have irrigated acreage by overlaying GIS layers of parcels and irrigated acres (irrigated acres data from 2019 DWR and 2021 landowner-reported cropping data)
✓	3.0	Use lists of irrigated parcels from parts (a) and (b) above to generate a list of parcels that are potentially irrigated but have not been reported by Cuyama landowners
<i>In progress</i>	3.1	QA/QC results (desktop analysis)
		<i>For potential non-reporting parcels:</i>
	4.1	<b>Identity landowner</b>
	4.2	<b>Communicate with landowner to confirm that parcel is actually irrigated and if so, communicate CBGSA Board policies including extraction fee, meter requirement, etc.</b>
	4.2.1	<b>Determine contact info with local landowners/CBWD, direct mailing to parcel address, field visit (P&amp;P or other staff), fees on tax roll</b>
	4.2.2	<b>Board to consider back fees, penalties and meter compliance hearing (if applicable)</b>



TO: Standing Advisory Committee  
Agenda Item No. 6h

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: September 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Update on Implementation of Grant-Funded Projects

**Recommended Motion**

Standing Advisory Committee feedback requested.

**Discussion**

To plan for current fiscal year (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023) implementation of the recently awarded \$7.6 million Sustainable Groundwater Management grant, an ad hoc was appointed and met on August 23, 2022, to provide specific recommendations on planned grant components for the current fiscal year.

A summary of the planned grant components for the current fiscal year, and the ad hoc's recommendations are provided as Attachment 1 for Standing Advisory Committee review.



Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency


# 6h. Update on Implementation of Grant-Funded Projects

Jim Beck / Brian Van Lienden

**September 1, 2022**



# Grant Funding - 2021 SGMA Implementation Round 1 Grant Award

- Purpose: Support implementation of GSP to achieve sustainability with investments in groundwater recharge
- **\$7,600,000 ÷ 3 years**
- Grant Period of Performance: 
- Grant funded tasks:
  1. Grant Administration
  2. Perform Monitoring and Monitoring Network Enhancements
  3. Project and management Action Implementation
  4. GSP Implementation, Outreach, and Compliance Activities
  5. Improve Understanding of Basin Water Use



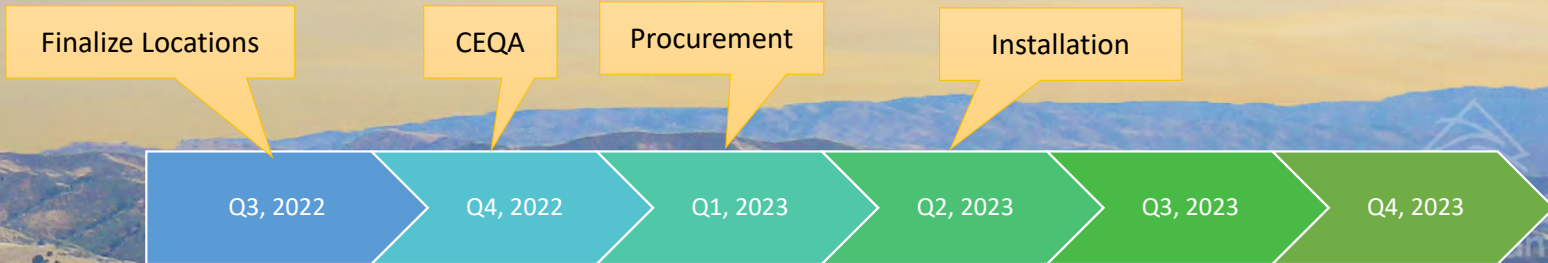
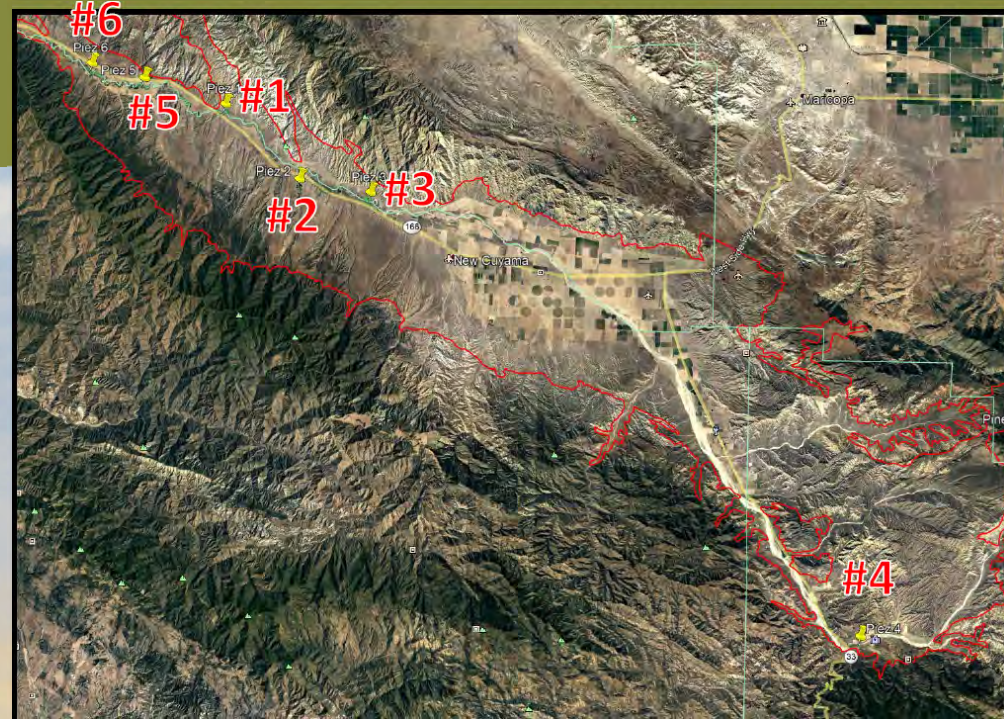
# Grant Year 1: Major 2022/23 Grant Tasks

## Major Tasks to start this year:

- Installation of Piezometers
- Installation of Monitoring Wells
- Updated land use survey
- River channel survey
- CIMIS/weather station installation
- Precipitation enhancement feasibility study

# Piezometers

- **Objective**
  - Monitoring shallow groundwater levels near mapped occurrences of potential GDEs by installing a minimum of four (4) piezometers about 50-100 feet deep (small diameter)
- **Grant Funding**
  - Available funding: \$210,000
- **Next Steps**
  - Identify and contact landowners
  - Touch base with North Fork Vineyards
- **Ad hoc Recommendation**
  - Agree with approach





# Monitoring Wells

## Objective

- Refinement of existing groundwater level monitoring network by installing a minimum of four (4) multi-level monitoring wells (3 casings each) with an average depth of ~750 ft

## Grant Funding

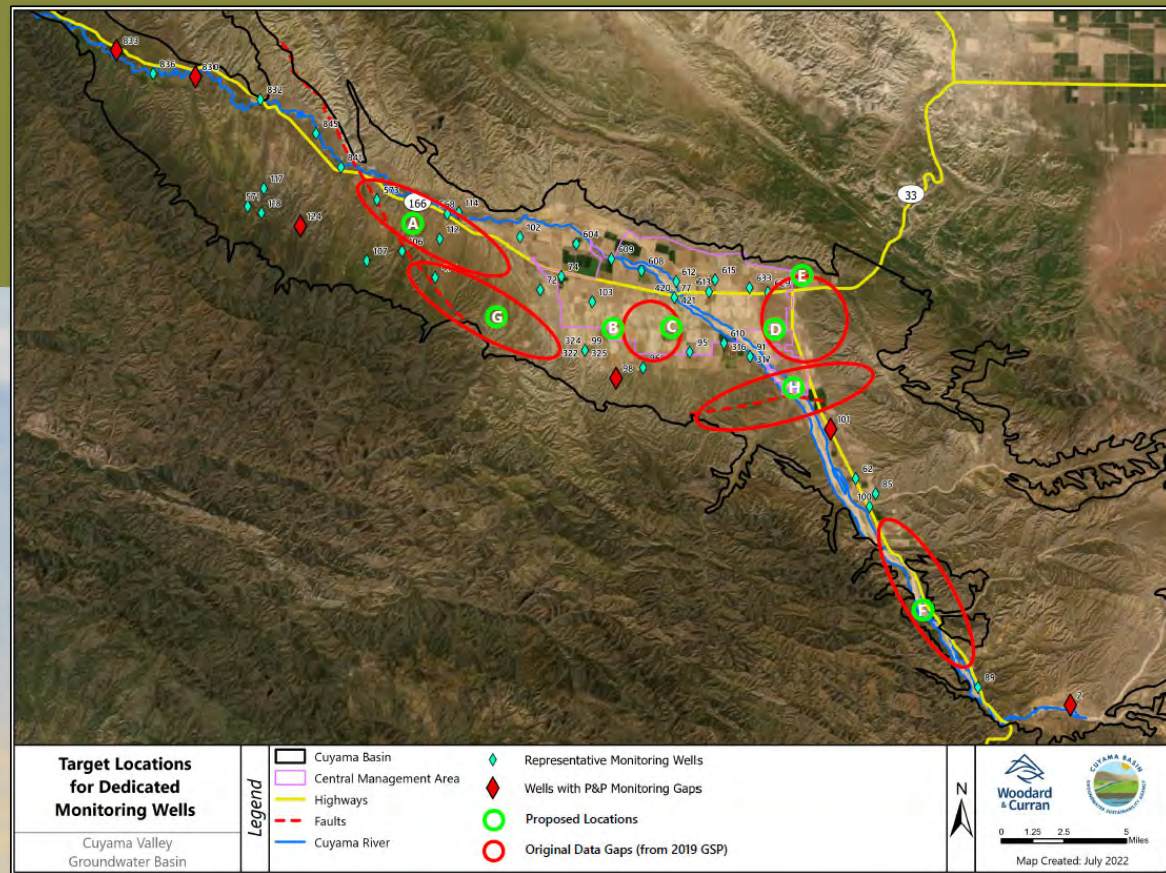
- Available funding: \$2,415,000

## Next Steps

- Staff to prioritize well locations
- Identify and contact landowners
- Confirm ability to pump test in SBCF area
- Develop RFP and bid

## Ad hoc Recommendation

- Agree with approach
- Prioritize wells in “F” and “H” areas



Finalize Locations

CEQA

Procurement

Installation

Q3, 2022

Q4, 2022

Q1, 2023

Q2, 2023

Q3, 2023

Q4, 2023



# CIMIS/Weather Stations

## Objective

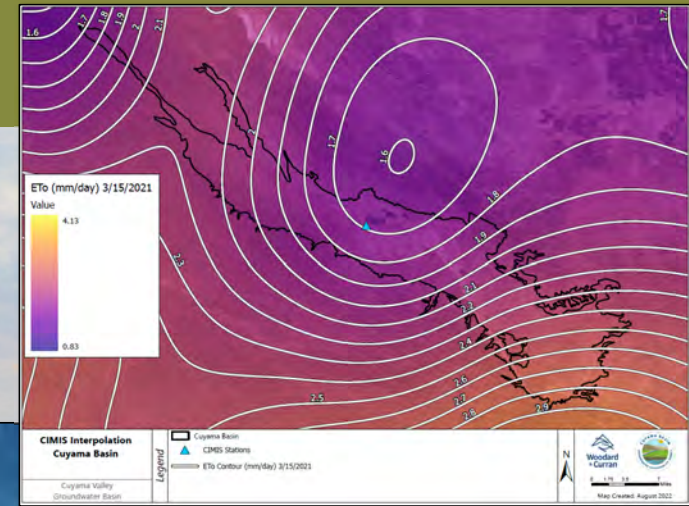
- Improve estimates of reference evapotranspiration in the model and expand spatial coverage of reference evapotranspiration across the basin

## Grant funding

- Enhance the existing CIMIS station
- Installation of a minimum of two (2) additional CIMIS stations
- Available funding: \$80,000

## Schedule

- Finalize locations: Q3 2022
- CEQA: Q4 2023
- Procurement: Q1 2023
- Installation: Q2 2023





# CIMIS/Weather Stations

## Facilities

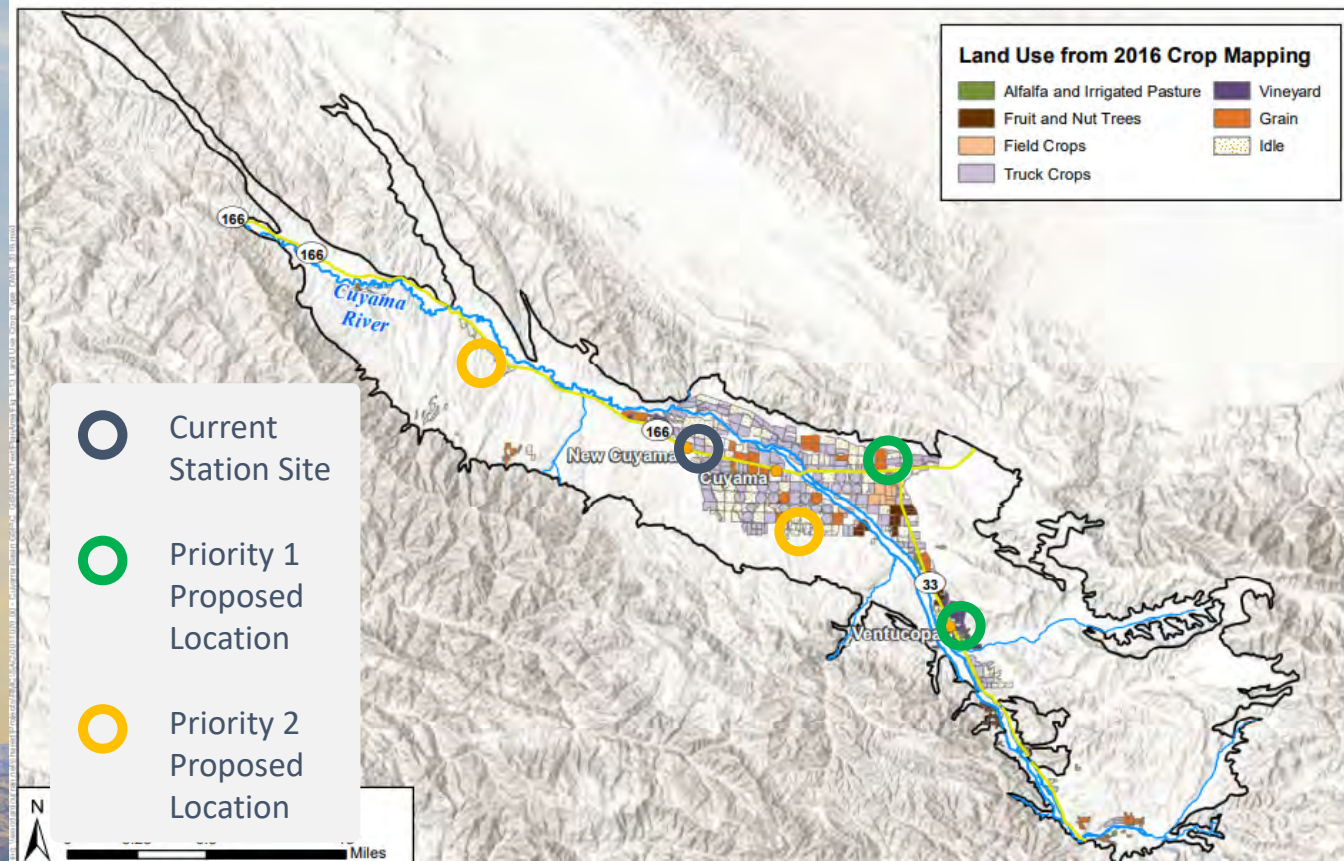
- Standard DWR CIMIS instruments
- Site requirements include 20-acre or larger pasture with 10'x10' fenced enclosure; grass in the enclosure needs to be maintained

## Next Steps

- Discuss possibility of moving existing station with DWR
- Develop landowner request sheet (power, water, mowing, etc.) and identify landowners in priority 1 zones

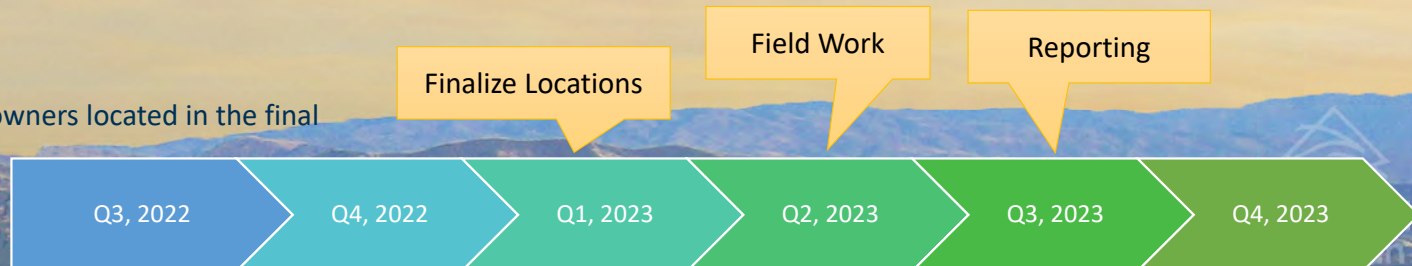
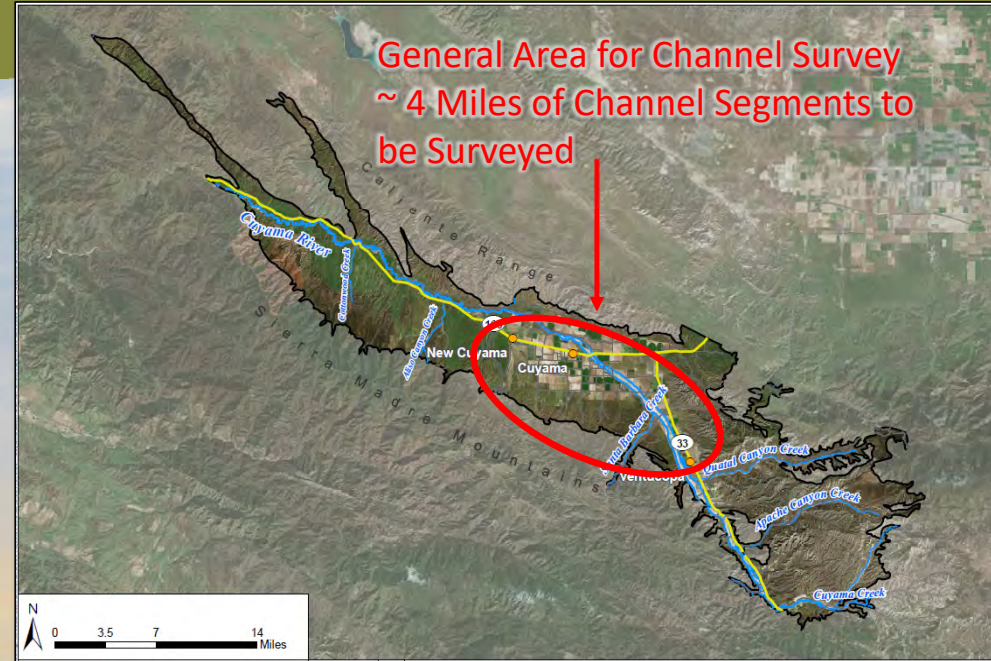
## Ad hoc Recommendation

- Agree with general approach and locations



# River Channel Survey

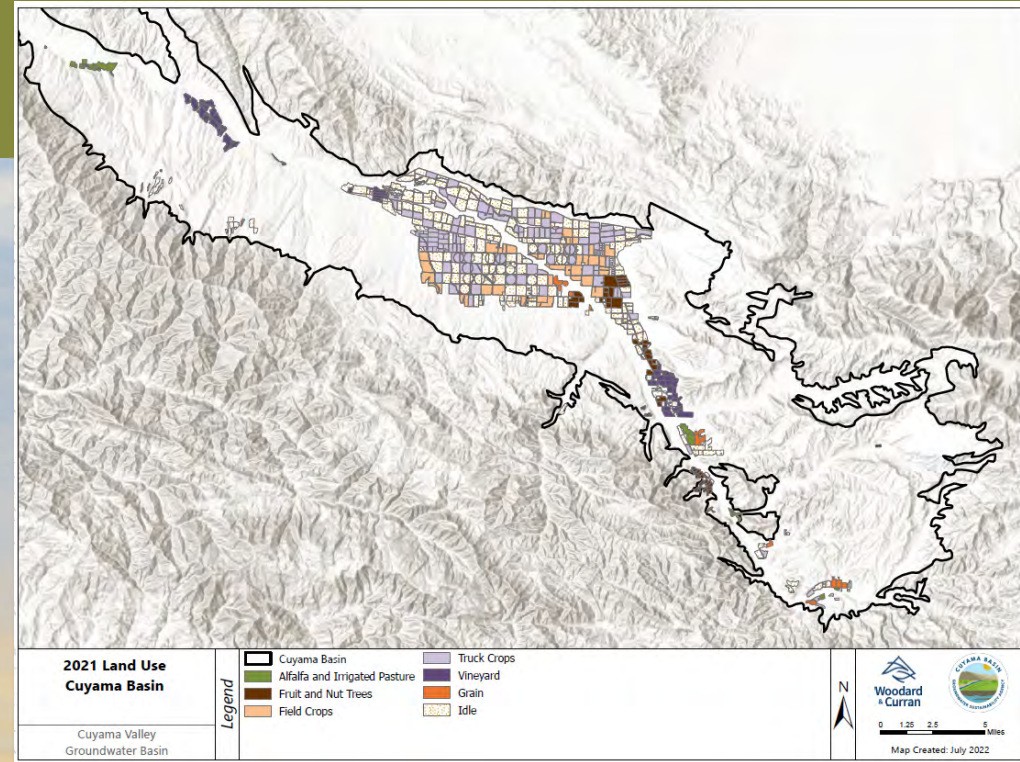
- **Objective**
  - Improve understanding of river channel geometry to improve estimates of stream seepage in the GW model by surveying a minimum of four (4) miles of the river channel using drone flight for photogrammetry, ~0.5 foot accuracy
- **Grant Funding**
  - Available funding: \$45,000
- **Next Steps**
  - Staff to coordinate with modeling team identify the critical channel segments for surveying
  - Evaluate access needs constraints and contact landowners along flight path (if needed)
  - Develop mailer and determine area to notice
- **Ad hoc Recommendation**
  - Agree with approach
  - Mail notice of drone survey to landowners located in the final survey images





# Update Land Use Data

- **Objective**
  - Develop basin-wide land use dataset water years 2020-2024 to better understand current and cyclical land use trends, as well as to improve estimation of water use in the Basin (including semiannual in-field verification)
  - Updates to historical cropping data for 1996-2019
- **Grant Funding**
  - Available funding: \$30,000
  - Estimated costs from Land IQ: \$30,750
- **Next Steps**
  - Execute contract with Land IQ
  - Land use estimates to be provided by Land IQ in late 2022 for use in Annual Report
- **Ad hoc Recommendation**
  - Agree with general approach



Reporting of WY 2020-22 data

Q3, 2022

Q4, 2022

Q1, 2023

Q2, 2023

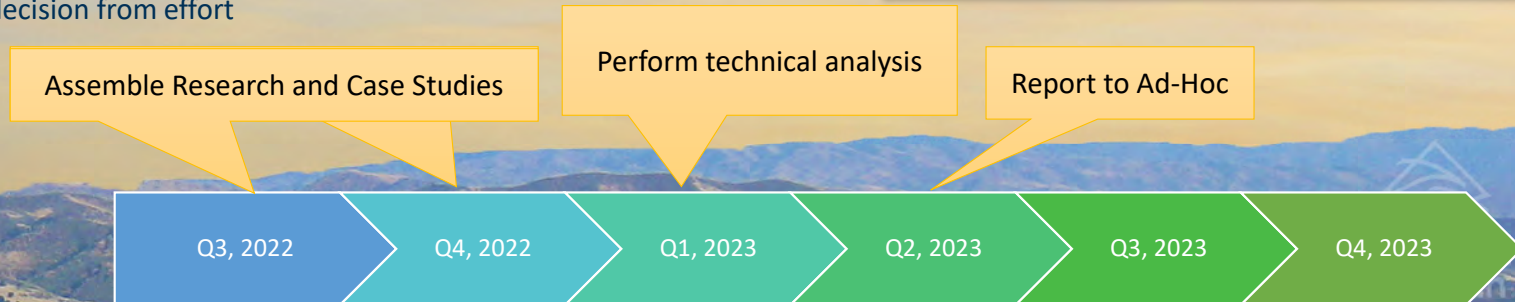
Q3, 2023

Q4, 2023



# Precipitation Enhancement Studies

- **Objective**
  - Perform technical analysis to improve understanding of precipitation enhancement feasibility and potential effectiveness in the Basin including benefits and costs
- **Grant Funding**
  - Available funding: \$30,000
- **Next Steps**
  - Assemble available research and case studies
  - Develop refined technical data and costs
- **Ad hoc Recommendation**
  - Agree with general approach
  - Need a project go/no-go decision from effort





TO: Standing Advisory Committee  
Agenda Item No. 6i

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: September 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Schedule for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Model Update

**Recommended Motion**

None – information only.

**Discussion**

An update on the schedule for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 model update is provided as Attachment 1.



Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

6i. Schedule for Fiscal year 2023-2024 Model Update

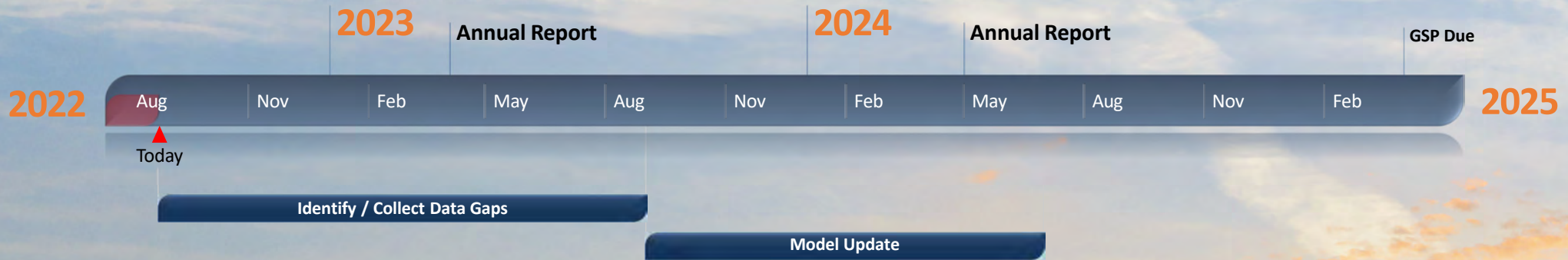
Brian Van Lienden

September 1, 2022





# Model Update Schedule



## Data to Include in the Next Model Update:

- AEM
- USGS stream gauge data
- Metered data
- Unknown pumpers data
- River channel survey
- CIMIS station data
- Incorporate irrigation water from springs
- Land use data (irrigation, springs, etc.)
- Other?



TO: Standing Advisory Committee  
Agenda Item No. 6j

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: September 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Update on Monitoring Network Implementation

**Recommended Motion**

None – information only.

**Discussion**

An update regarding the monitoring network implementation is provided as Attachment 1.



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# 6j. Update on Monitoring Network Implementation

Brian Van Lienden

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**September 1, 2022**





# Stream Gauge Locations

Brian Van Lienden

## USGS DATA

### 1. Cuyama R NR Ventucopa

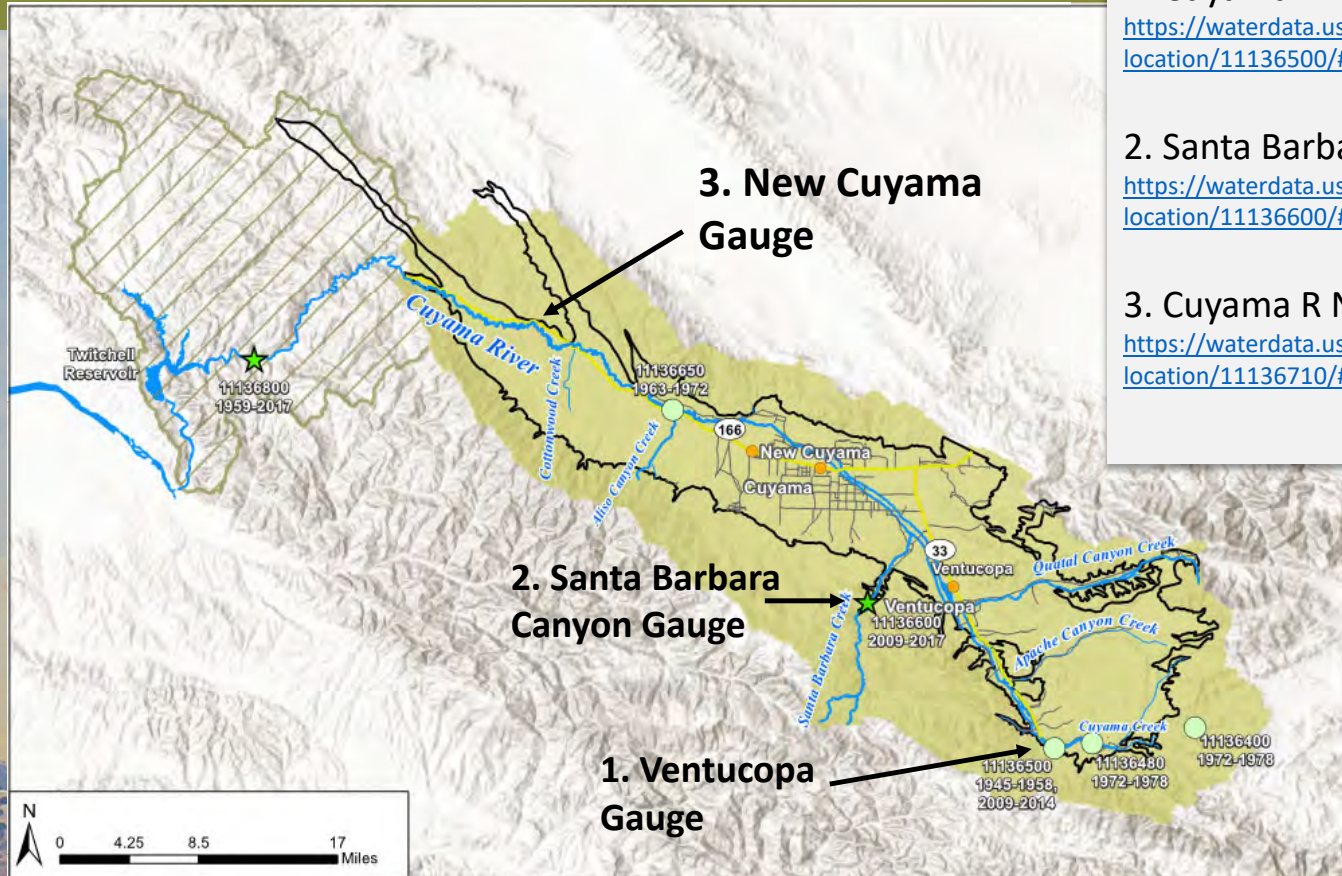
<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/monitoring-location/11136500/#parameterCode=00060&period=P365D>

### 2. Santa Barbara CYN C NR Ventucopa

<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/monitoring-location/11136600/#parameterCode=00060&period=P365D>

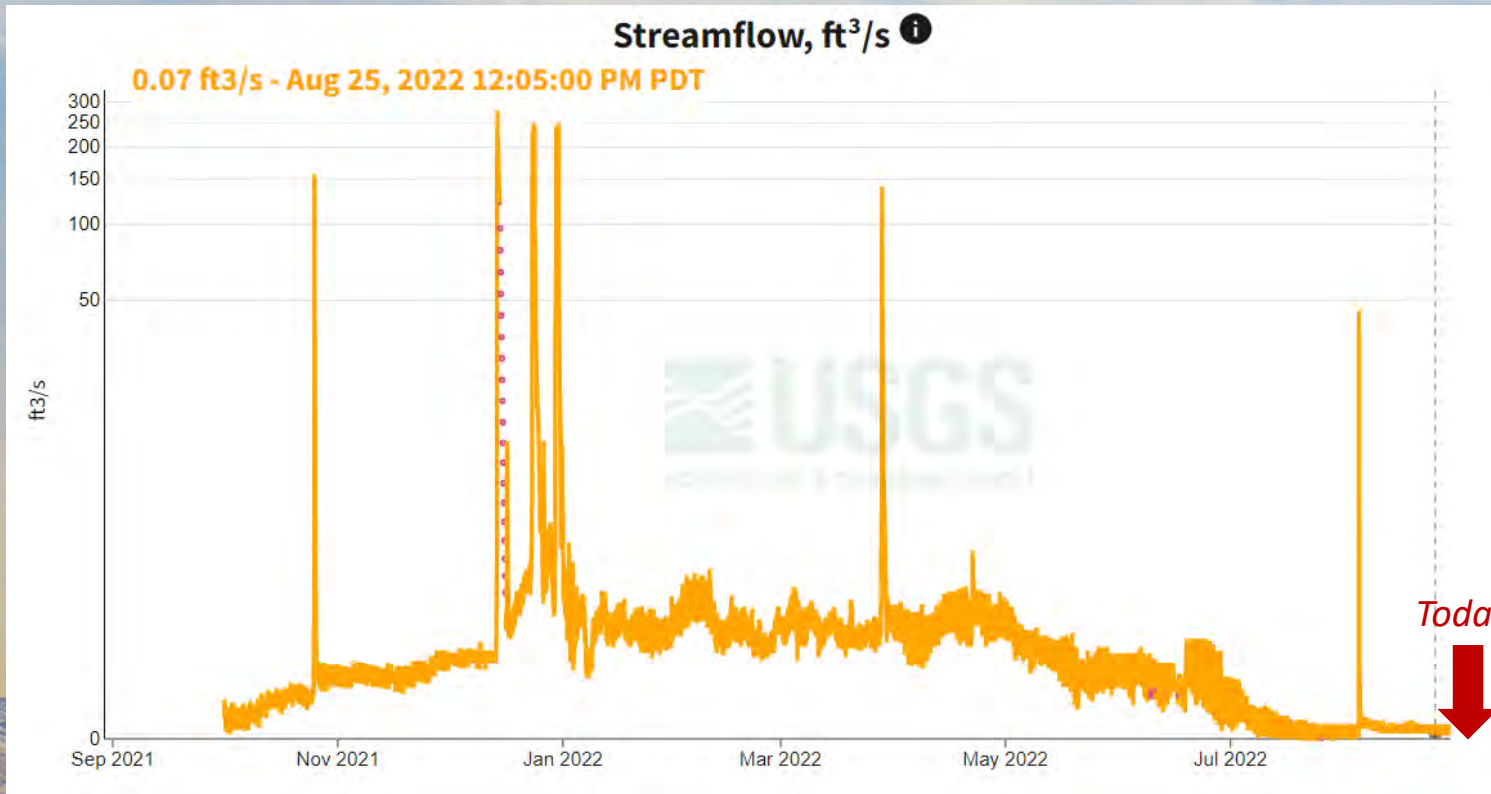
### 3. Cuyama R NR New Cuyama (Spanish Ranch)

<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/monitoring-location/11136710/#parameterCode=00060&period=P365D>



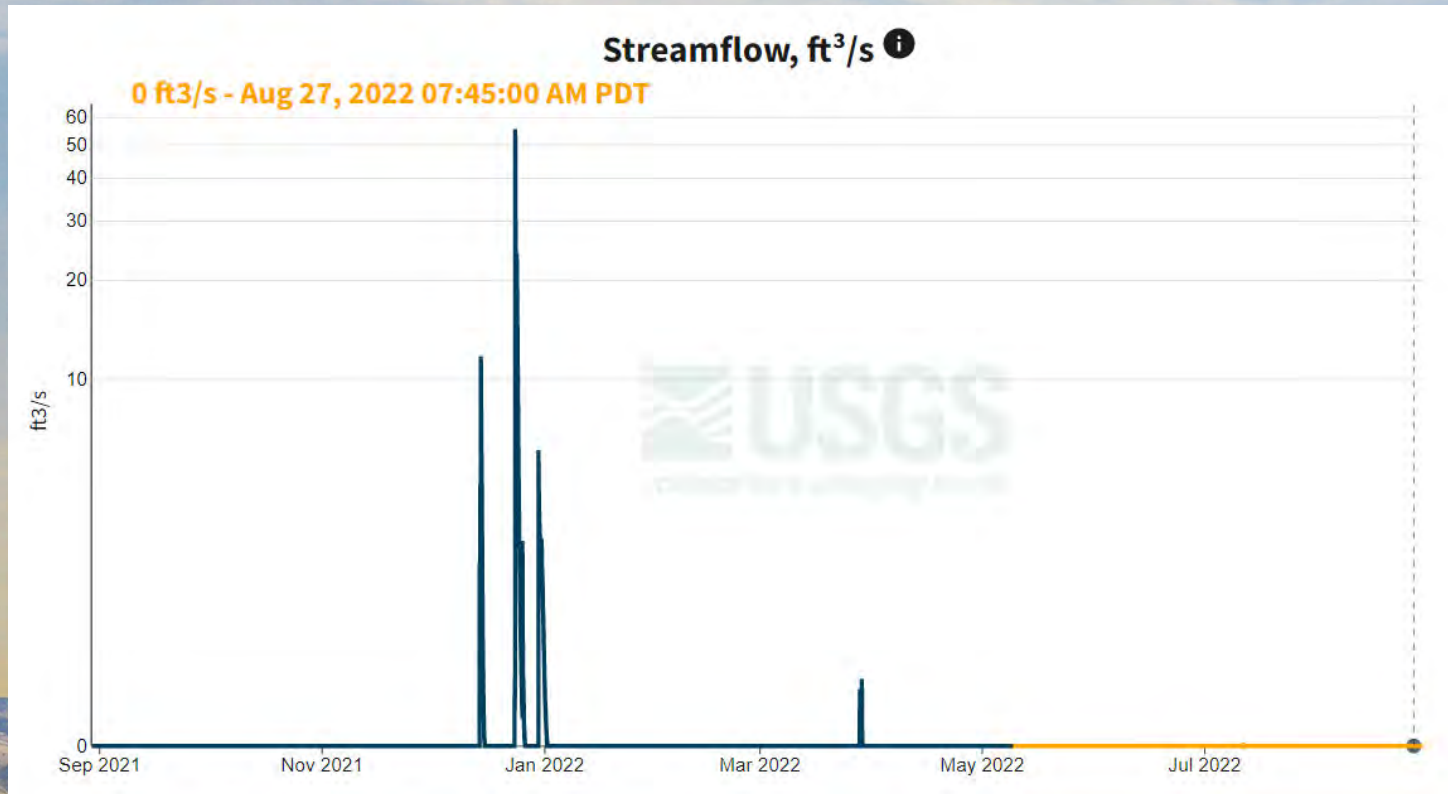
# 1. Cuyama R NR Ventucopa: Discharge Data

Brian Van Lienden



# 2. Santa Barbara CYN C NR Ventucopa: Discharge Data

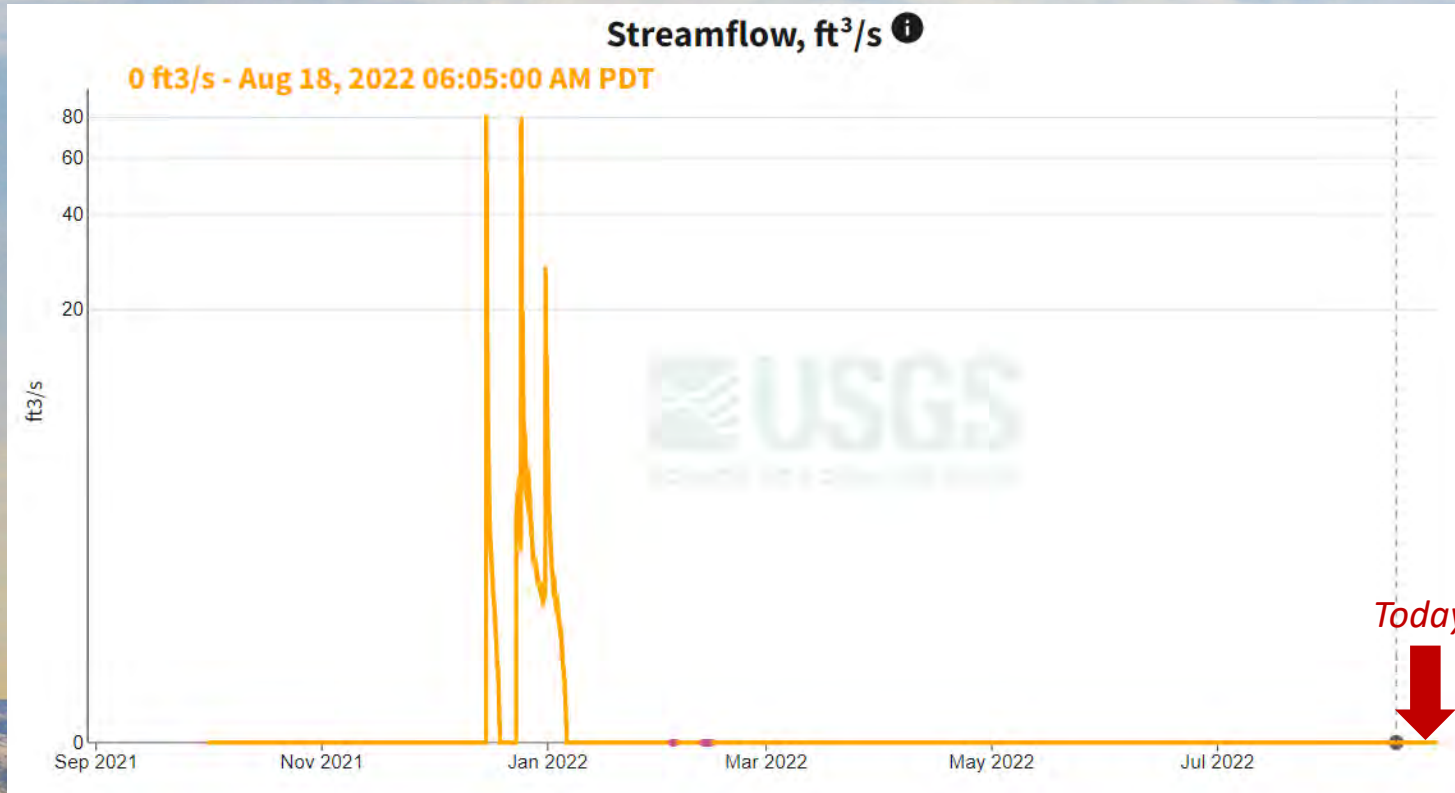
Brian Van Lienden





# 3. Cuyama R NR New Cuyama (Spanish Ranch): Discharge Data

Brian Van Lienden



# Schedule for Cuyama Basin Monitoring in 2022

Brian Van Lienden

- Quarterly groundwater levels monitoring:
  - January, April, July, November
- Water quality testing:
  - Per the GSP, perform a single EC measurement in August
  - As discussed in response letter to DWR, the CBGSA would perform a single measurement and lab testing for nitrates, arsenic and TDS
    - Staff proposed performing this sampling and testing during July

# Update on DWR TSS Program

Brian Van Lienden

- DWR installed three new multi-completion monitoring wells in the Cuyama Basin in 2021
  - Staff is continuing to work with DWR to install transducers in these wells





TO: Standing Advisory Committee  
Agenda Item No. 6k

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: September 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Update on Quarterly Groundwater Conditions Report for July 2022

**Recommended Motion**

None – information only.

**Discussion**

An update on the groundwater levels representative monitoring network and select hydrographs is provided as Attachment 1 and the detailed July 2022 Groundwater Conditions Report is provided as Attachment 2.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

# 6k. Update on Monthly Groundwater Conditions Report

Brian Van Lienden

September 1, 2022

*[Link to July Report](#)*



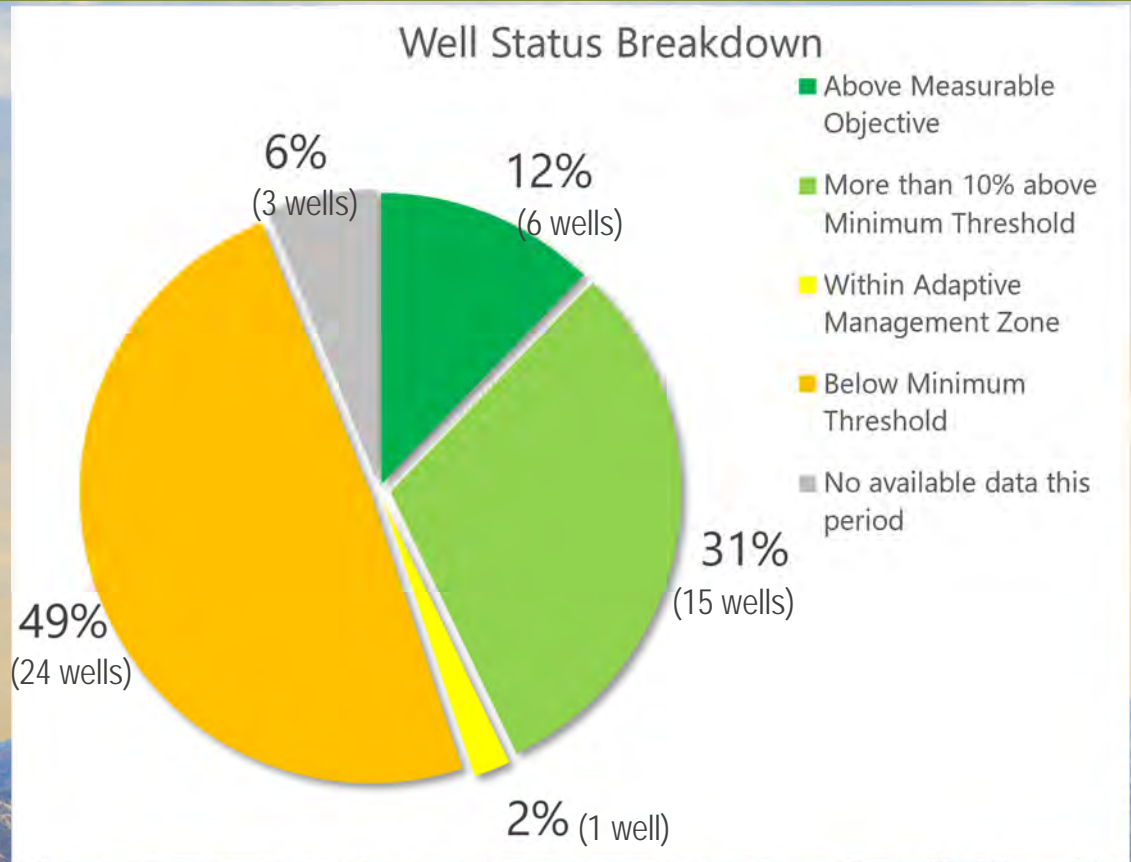
# Groundwater Levels Monitoring Network – Summary of Current Conditions

- Monitoring data from January 2022, April 2022, and July 2022 for representative wells is included in the Groundwater Conditions report
- 46 of 49 representative monitoring wells have levels data in at least one out of the previous 7 months
- 24 wells were below the minimum threshold based on latest measurement in October to April

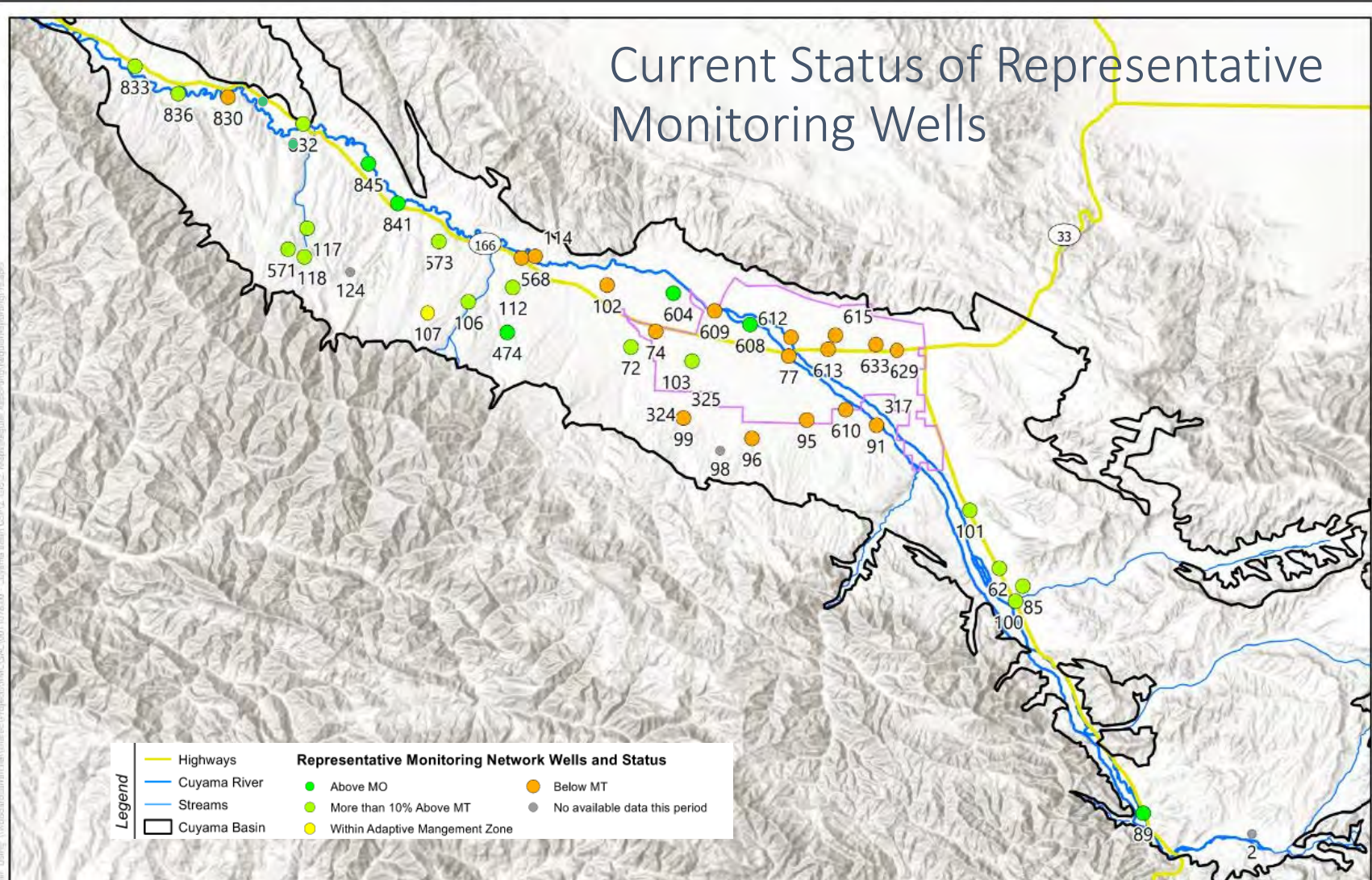


# Summary of Groundwater Well Levels as Compared To Sustainability Criteria

- 24 wells are currently below minimum threshold (MT)
  - 30% of wells (i.e. 15 wells) below MT for 14 months
  - 8 of these were already below MT at time of GSP adoption
- Adaptive management analysis is currently under way as directed by Board in July



# Current Status of Representative Monitoring Wells

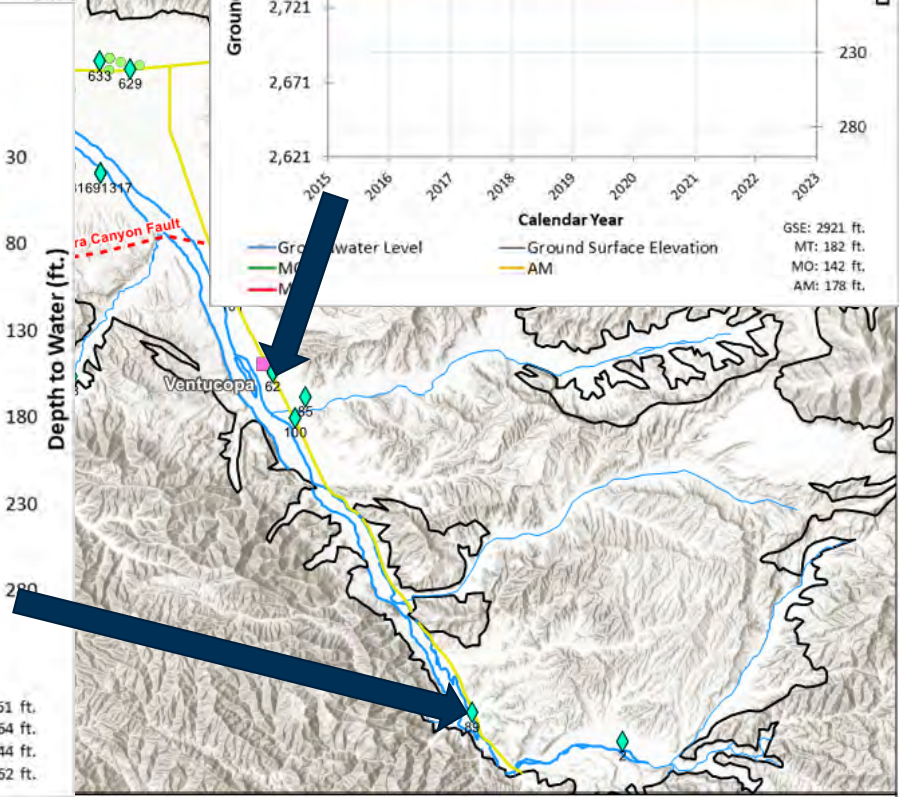
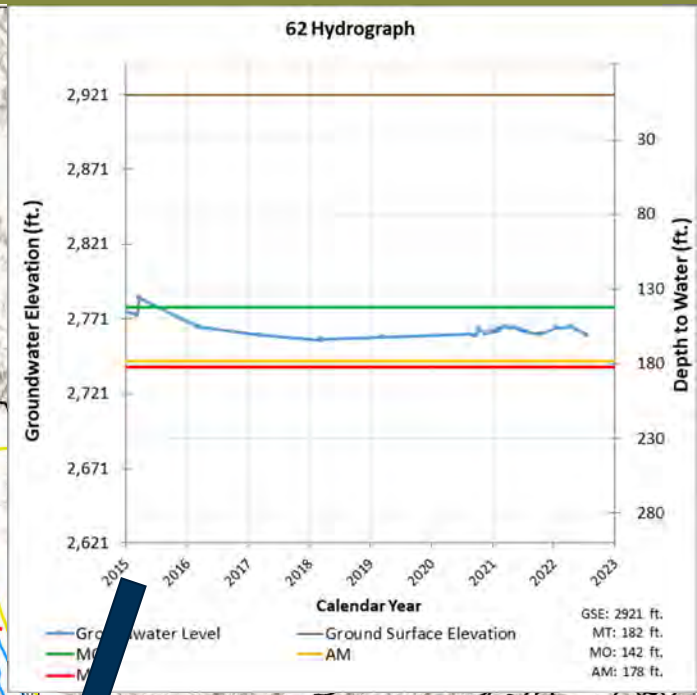
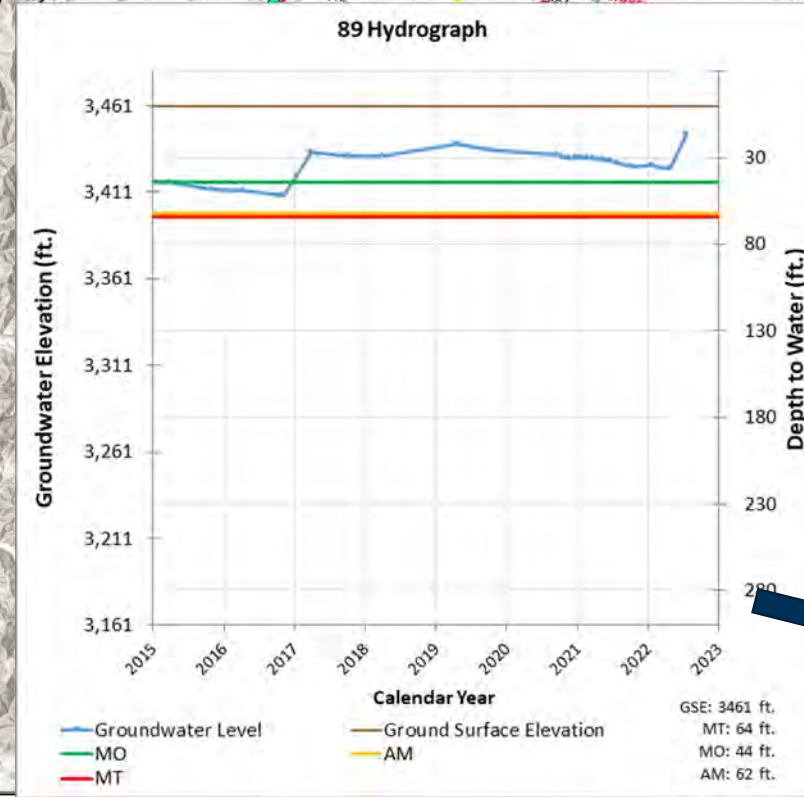
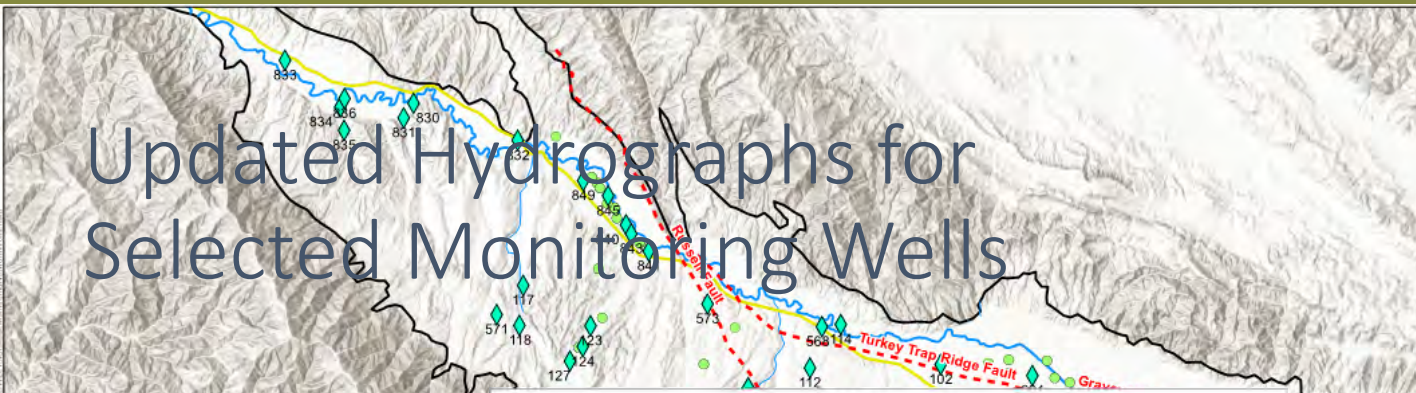


File Path: \\nas01.arsanet.mnh.wa.gov\arc2\Projects\03\MC\GAC\001\1276\01 - Cuyama Basin\CDPZ\CDPZ - Map\Legend - Representative Monitoring Wells.mxd

<b>Legend</b>	Highways	<b>Representative Monitoring Network Wells and Status</b>	
	Cuyama River	Above MO	Below MT
Streams	More than 10% Above MT	No available data this period	
Cuyama Basin	Within Adaptive Mangement Zone		

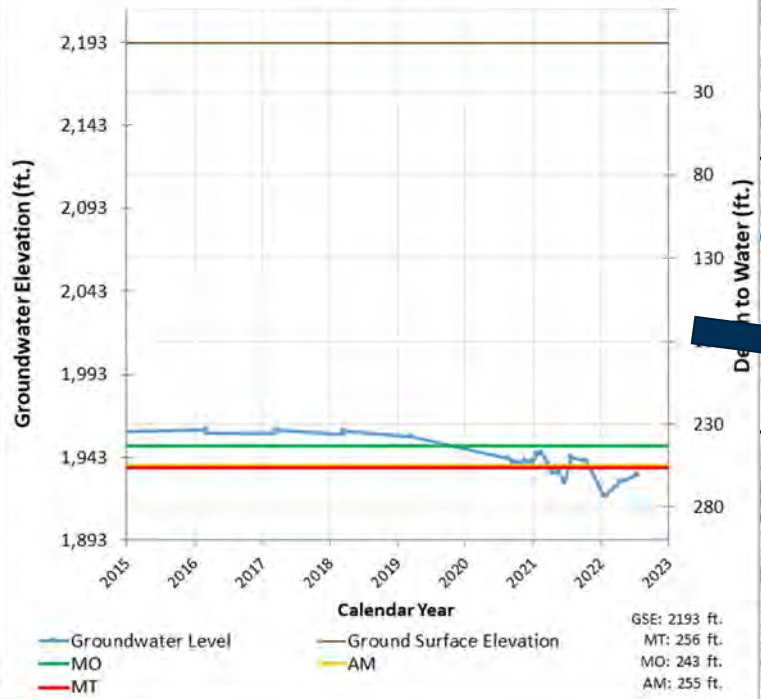


# Updated Hydrographs for Selected Monitoring Wells

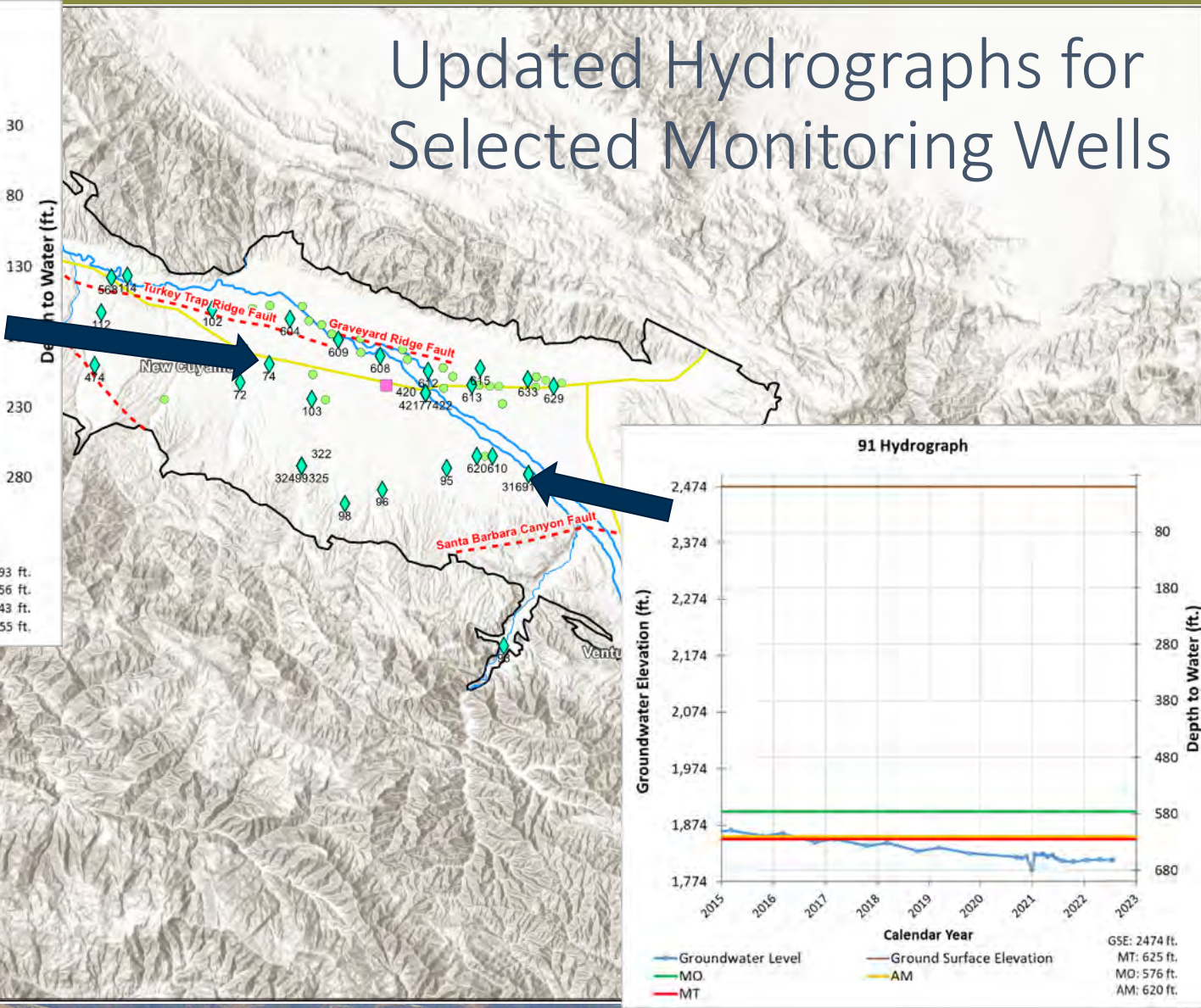




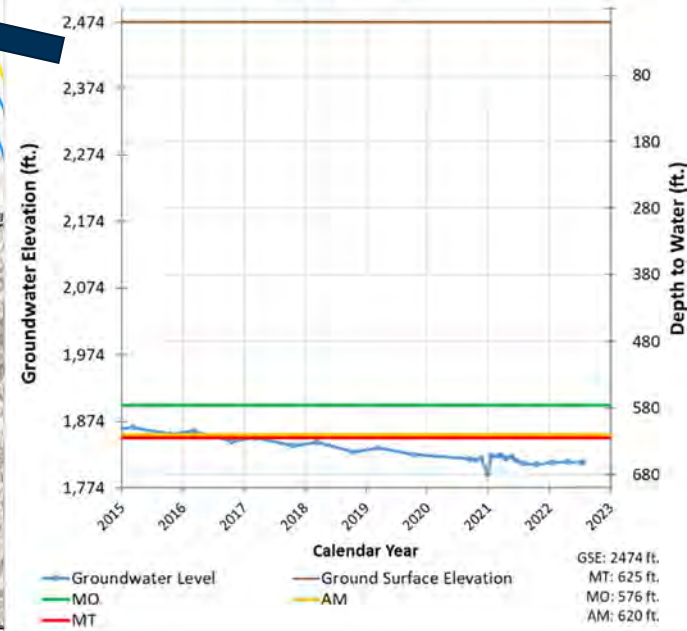
74 Hydrograph



# Updated Hydrographs for Selected Monitoring Wells

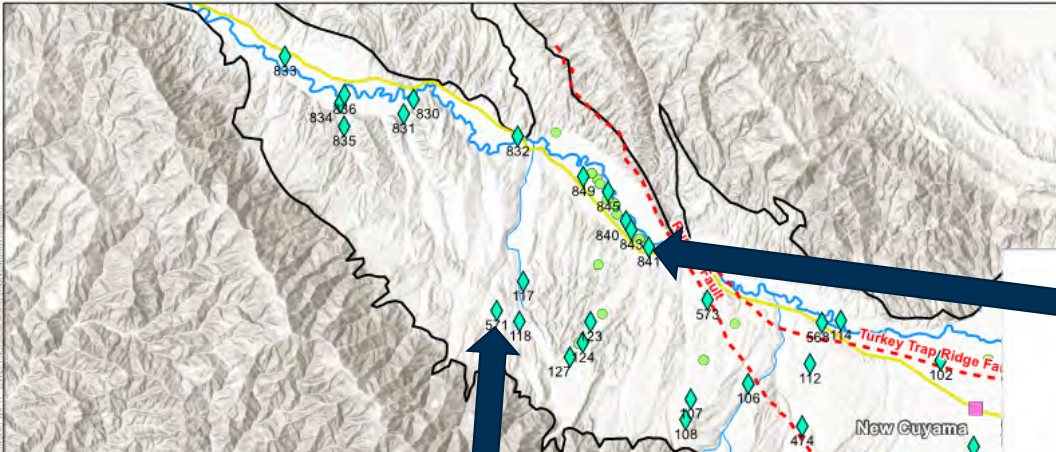


91 Hydrograph

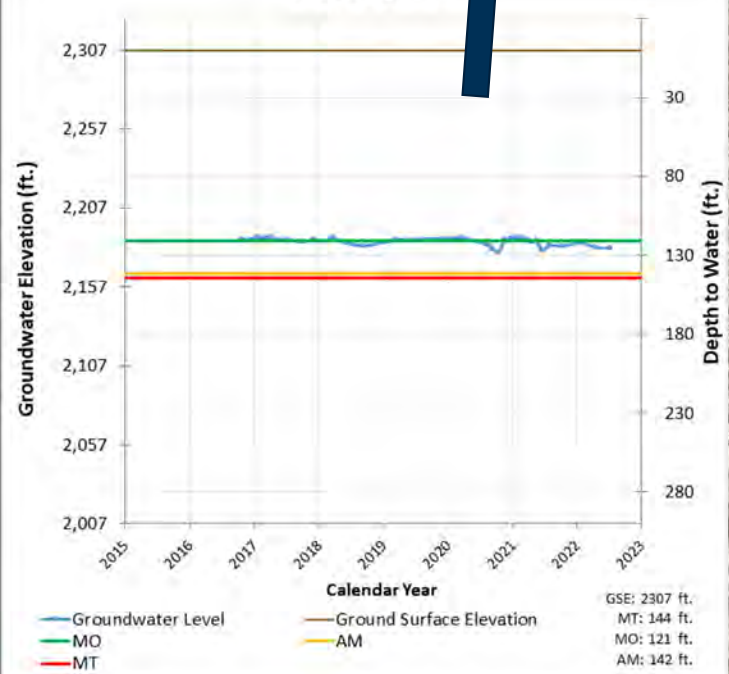




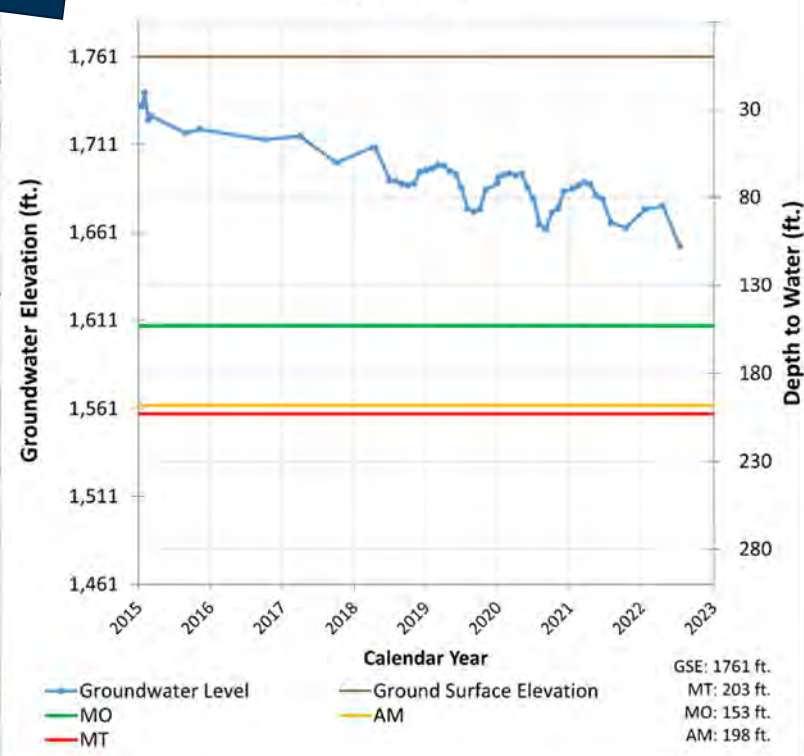
# Updated Hydrographs for Selected Monitoring Wells



571 Hydrograph



841 Hydrograph





**GROUNDWATER  
CONDITIONS  
REPORT –  
CUYAMA VALLEY  
GROUNDWATER  
BASIN**

July 2022

801 T Street  
Sacramento, CA  
916.999.8700

[woodardcurran.com](http://woodardcurran.com)

**Cuyama Basin  
Groundwater  
Sustainability Agency**



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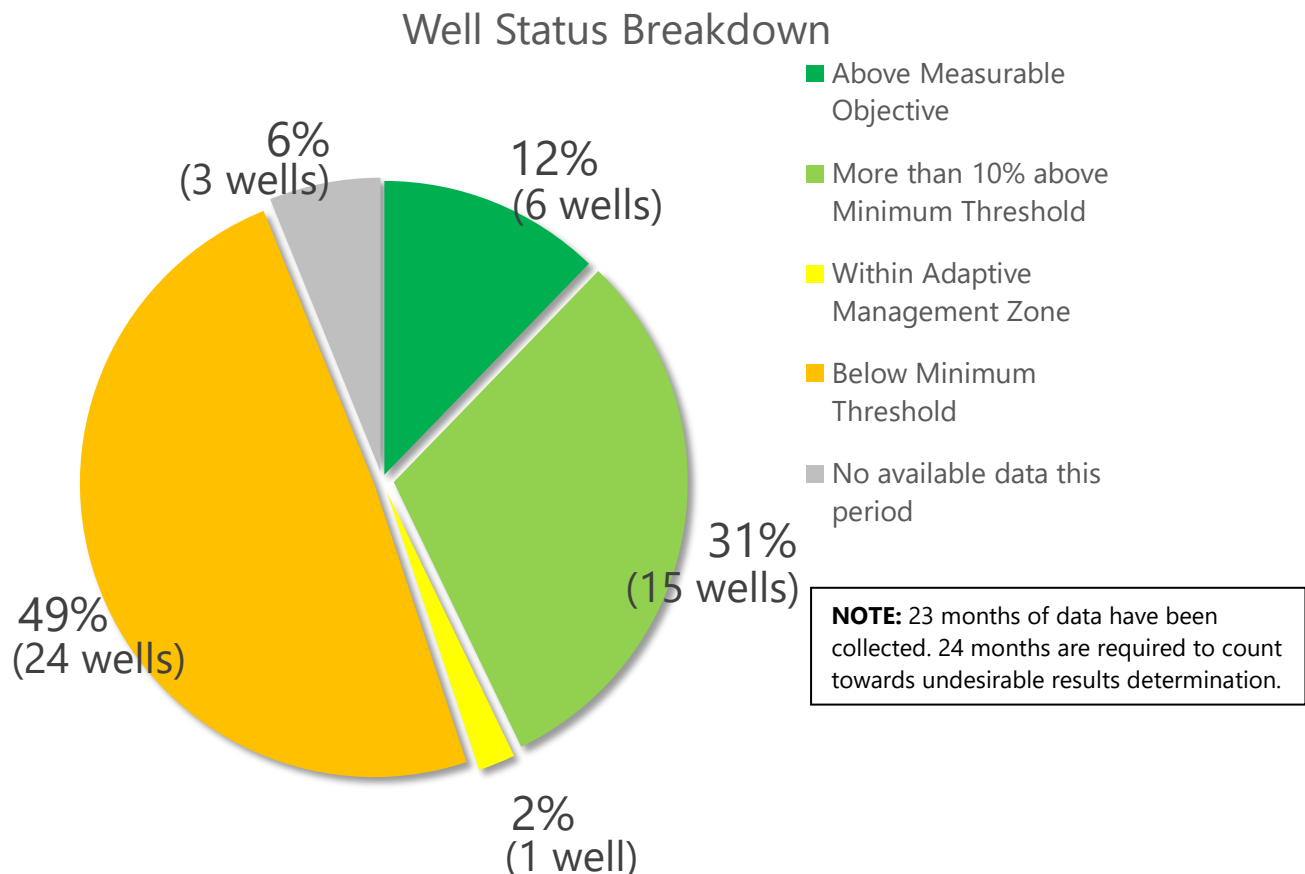
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## 1. INTRODUCTION

This report is intended to provide an update on the current groundwater level conditions in the Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin. This work is completed by the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA), in compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

## 2. SUMMARY STATISTICS



As outlined in the GSP, undesirable results for the chronic lowering of groundwater levels occurs, “when 30 percent of representative monitoring wells... fall below their minimum groundwater elevation threshold for two consecutive years.” (Cuyama GSP, pg. 3-2). Currently, 30% of representative monitoring wells (i.e. 15 wells) have been below the minimum threshold for 14 or more consecutive months.

## 3. CURRENT CONDITIONS

Table 1 includes the most recent groundwater level measurements taken in the Cuyama Basin from representative wells included in the Cuyama GSP Groundwater Level Monitoring Network, as well as the previous two measurements. Table 2 includes all of the wells and their current status in relation to the thresholds applied to each well. This information is also shown on Figure 1.

All measurements have also been incorporated into the Cuyama DMS, which may be accessed at <https://opti.woodardcurran.com/cuyama/login.php>.

**Table 1: Recent Groundwater Levels for Representative Monitoring Network**

Well	Region	Jan-22	Apr-22	Jul-22	Last Year		Annual Elevation Change (ft)
		GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	Month/Year	
72	Central	2022	2021	2010	1999	Jul-21	11
74	Central	1919	1928	1932	1943	Jul-21	-11
77	Central	1814	1803	1772	1776	Jul-21	-4
91	Central	1812	1813	1812	1811	Jul-21	1
95	Central	1848	1847	1841	1848	Jul-21	-7
96	Central	2271	2271	2270	2272	Jul-21	-2
98	Central	-	-	-	-	-	-
99	Central	2222	2223	2178	2155	Jul-21	23
102	Central	1622	1622	-	1711	Jul-21	-
103	Central	1997	2007	2014	1976	Jul-21	37
112	Central	2054	2053	2053	2054	Jul-21	-1
114	Central	-	1878	1878	1879	Jul-21	-1
316	Central	1812	1813	1811	1813	Jul-21	-2
317	Central	1812	1813	1813	1813	Jul-21	0
322	Central	2220	2222	2169	2146	Jul-21	23
324	Central	2218	2220	2187	2169	Jul-21	18
325	Central	2220	2222	2201	2204	Jul-21	-3
420	Central	1803	1792	1768	1763	Jul-21	5
421	Central	1800	1793	1789	1776	Jul-21	13
474	Central	2204	2204	2203	2204	Jul-21	0



Well	Region	Jan-22	Apr-22	Jul-22	Last Year		Annual Elevation Change (ft)
		GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	Month/ Year	
568	Central	1867	1868	1852	1867	Jul-21	-14
604	Central	1674	-	-	-	-	-
608	Central	1779	1817	-	-	-	-
609	Central	1789	1760	1692	-	-	-
610	Central	1814	1814	1801	1813	Jul-21	-12
612	Central	1795	1793	-	1811	Jul-21	-
613	Central	1814	1809	1792	1809	Jul-21	-17
615	Central	1814	1813	1795	1817	Jul-21	-22
629	Central	1813	1807	-	-	-	-
633	Central	1815	1794	-	-	-	-
62	Eastern	2765	2766	2760	2763	Jul-21	-3
85	Eastern	2847	2847	2846	2847	Jul-21	-1
100	Eastern	2850	2850	2849	2852	Jul-21	-3
101	Eastern	2635	-	-	2617	Jul-21	-
841	Northwestern	1674	1676	1653	1667	Jul-21	-14
845	Northwestern	1646	1645	1633	1640	Jul-21	-7
2	Southeastern	-	-	-	-	-	-
89	Southeastern	3427	3425	3445	3428	Jul-21	16
106	Western	2183	2183	2183	2184	Jul-21	-1
107	Western	2370	2383	2392	2393	Jul-21	-2
117	Western	1947	1946	1945	1946	Jul-21	-1

Well	Region	Jan-22	Apr-22	Jul-22	Last Year		Annual Elevation Change (ft)
		GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	Month/ Year	
118	Western	2211	2210	2210	2217	Jul-21	-7
124	Western	-	-	-	-	-	-
571	Western	2185	2182	2181	2183	Jul-21	-2
573	Western	2013	2013	2012	2013	Jul-21	-1
830	Far-West Northwestern	-	1510	1509	-	-	-
832	Far-West Northwestern	1590	1590	1590	1592	Jul-21	-2
833	Far-West Northwestern	1432	-	1423	1429	Jul-21	-6
836	Far-West Northwestern	1448	1448	1447	1448	Jul-21	-1

**Table 2: Well Status Related to Thresholds**

Well	Region	Current Month		Minimum Threshold	Within 10% Minimum Threshold	Measurable Objective	Well Depth	Status	GSA Action Required?
		GWL (DTW)	Date						
72	Central	162	7/14/2022	169	165	124	790	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
74	Central	261	7/14/2022	256	255	243		Below Minimum Threshold (7 months)	No
77	Central	514	7/14/2022	450	445	400	980	Below Minimum Threshold (23 months)	No
91	Central	662	7/14/2022	625	620	576	980	Below Minimum Threshold (23 months)	No
95	Central	608	7/13/2022	573	570	538	805	Below Minimum Threshold (23 months)	No
96	Central	336	7/13/2022	333	332	325	500	Below Minimum Threshold (20 months)	No
98	Central	-		450	449	439	750	No available data this period (no available data in past 12 months)	No
99	Central	335	7/14/2022	311	310	300	750	Below Minimum Threshold (1 month)	No
102	Central	-		235	231	197		No available data this period (below MT in Apr 2022, 19 months)	No
103	Central	275	7/14/2022	290	285	235	1030	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
112	Central	86	7/14/2022	87	87	85	441	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
114	Central	47	7/14/2022	47	47	45	58	Below Minimum Threshold (4 months)	No
316	Central	663	7/13/2022	623	618	574	830	Below Minimum Threshold (23 months)	No
317	Central	661	7/13/2022	623	618	573	700	Below Minimum Threshold (23 months)	No



Well	Region	Current Month		Minimum Threshold	Within 10% Minimum Threshold	Measurable Objective	Well Depth	Status	GSA Action Required?
		GWL (DTW)	Date						
322	Central	344	7/14/2022	307	306	298	850	Below Minimum Threshold (1 month)	No
324	Central	325	7/14/2022	311	310	299	560	Below Minimum Threshold (1 month)	No
325	Central	312	7/14/2022	300	299	292	380	Below Minimum Threshold (1 month)	No
420	Central	518	7/13/2022	450	445	400	780	Below Minimum Threshold (23 months)	No
421	Central	497	7/13/2022	446	441	398	620	Below Minimum Threshold (23 months)	No
474	Central	165	7/14/2022	188	186	169	213	Above Measurable Objective	No
568	Central	53	7/14/2022	37	37	36	188	Below Minimum Threshold (14 months)	No
604	Central	-		526	522	487	924	No available data this period (above MO in Jan 2022)	No
608	Central	-		436	433	407	745	No available data this period (above MO in Apr 2022)	No
609	Central	475	7/15/2022	458	454	421	970	Below Minimum Threshold (1 month)	No
610	Central	641	7/13/2022	621	618	591	780	Below Minimum Threshold (15 months)	No
612	Central	-		463	461	440	1070	No available data this period (below MT in Apr 2022, 7 months)	No
613	Central	538	7/13/2022	503	500	475	830	Below Minimum Threshold (21 months)	No
615	Central	532	7/13/2022	500	497	468	865	Below Minimum Threshold (20 months)	No
629	Central	-		559	556	527	1000	No available data this period (below MT in Apr 2022, 16 months)	No

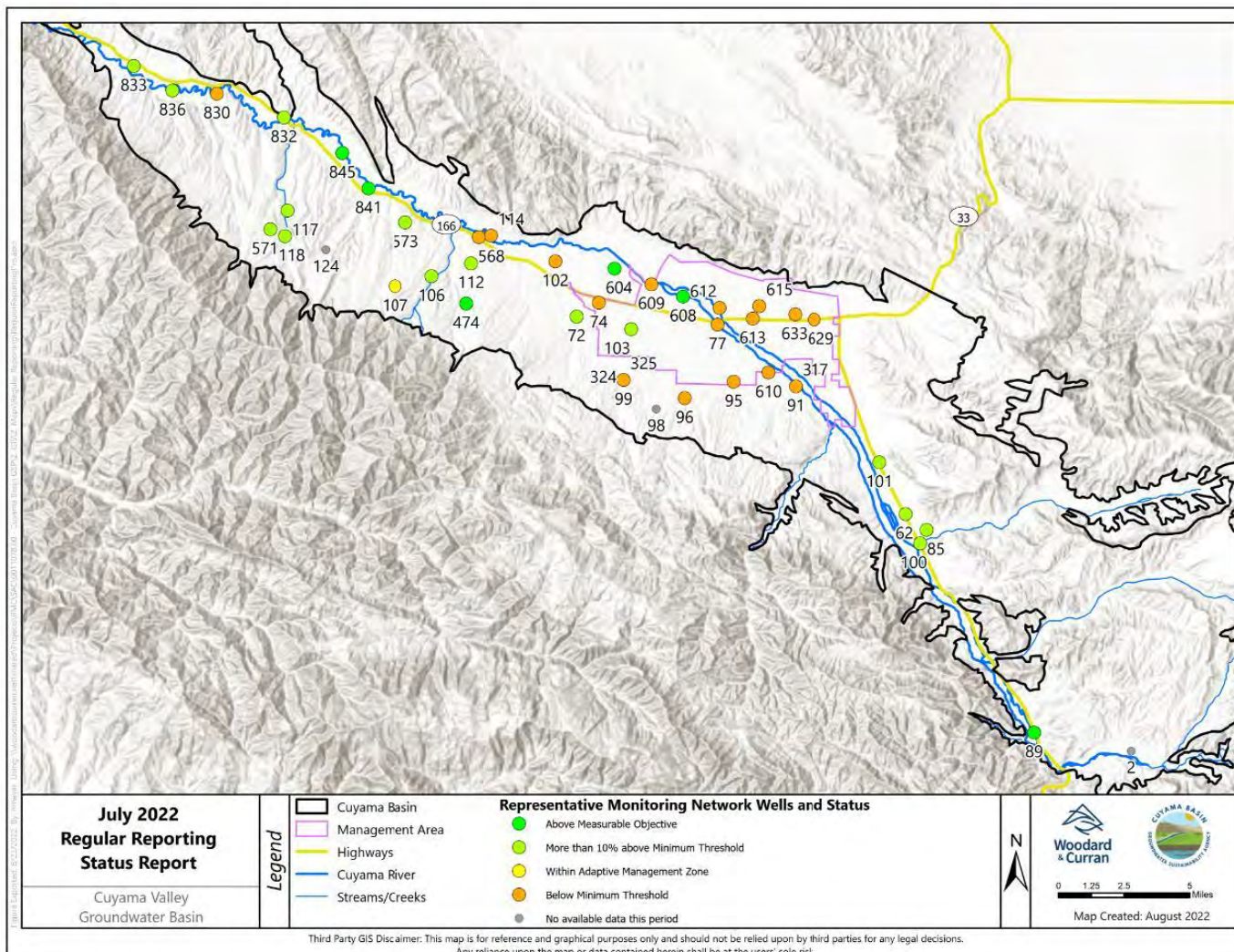
Well	Region	Current Month		Minimum Threshold	Within 10% Minimum Threshold	Measurable Objective	Well Depth	Status	GSA Action Required?
		GWL (DTW)	Date						
633	Central	-		547	542	493	1000	No available data this period (below MT in Apr 2022, 16 months)	No
62	Eastern	161	7/14/2022	182	178	142	212	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
85	Eastern	201	7/15/2022	233	225	147	233	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
100	Eastern	155	7/14/2022	181	175	125	284	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
101	Eastern	-		111	108	81	200	No available data this period (>10% above MT in Jan 2022)	No
841	Northwestern	108	7/14/2022	203	198	153	600	Above Measurable Objective	No
845	Northwestern	78	7/14/2022	203	198	153	380	Above Measurable Objective	No
2	Southeastern	-		72	70	55	73	No available data this period (no available data in past 12 months)	No
89	Southeastern	17	7/14/2022	64	62	44	125	Above Measurable Objective	No
106	Western	144	7/14/2022	154	153	141	228	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
107	Western	91	7/14/2022	91	89	72	200	Within Adaptive Management Zone	No
117	Western	153	7/13/2022	160	159	151	212	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
118	Western	60	7/13/2022	124	117	57	500	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
124	Western	-		73	71	57	161	No available data this period (no available data in past 12 months)	No
571	Western	126	7/13/2022	144	142	121	280	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No

Well	Region	Current Month		Minimum Threshold	Within 10% Minimum Threshold	Measurable Objective	Well Depth	Status	GSA Action Required?
		GWL (DTW)	Date						
573	Western	72	7/14/2022	118	113	68	404	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
830	Far-West Northwestern	62	7/14/2022	59	59	56	77	Below Minimum Threshold (13 months)	No
832	Far-West Northwestern	40	7/13/2022	45	44	30	132	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
833	Far-West Northwestern	34	7/14/2022	96	89	24	504	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
836	Far-West Northwestern	39	7/13/2022	79	75	36	325	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No

Note: Wells only count towards the identification of undesirable results if the level measurement is below the minimum threshold for 24 consecutive months.



**Figure 1: Groundwater Level Representative Wells and Status in July 2022**



#### 4. HYDROGRAPHS

The following hydrographs provide an overview of conditions in each of the six areas threshold regions identified in the GSP.

**Figure 2: Southeast Region – Well 89**

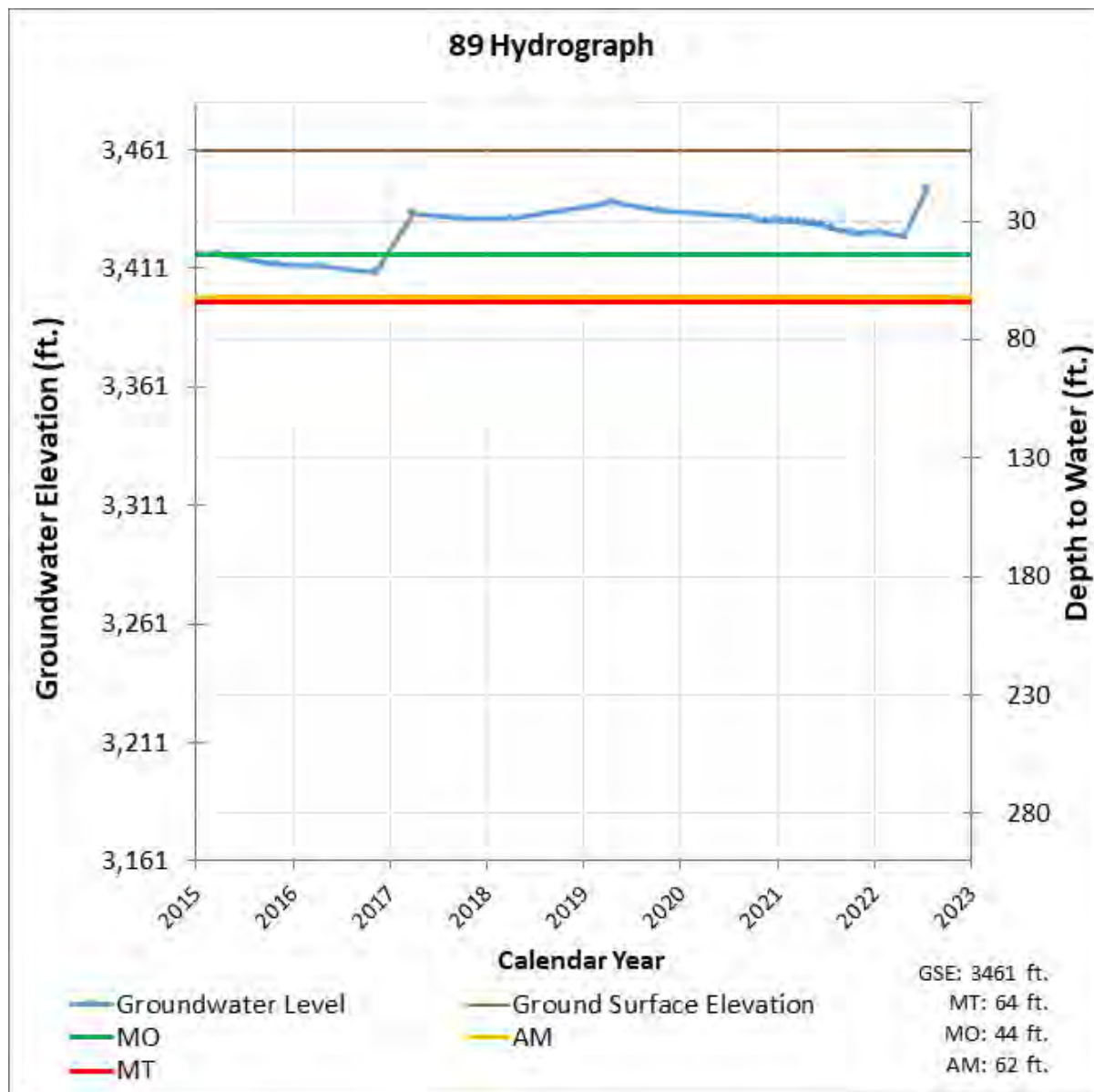


Figure 3: Eastern Region – Well 62

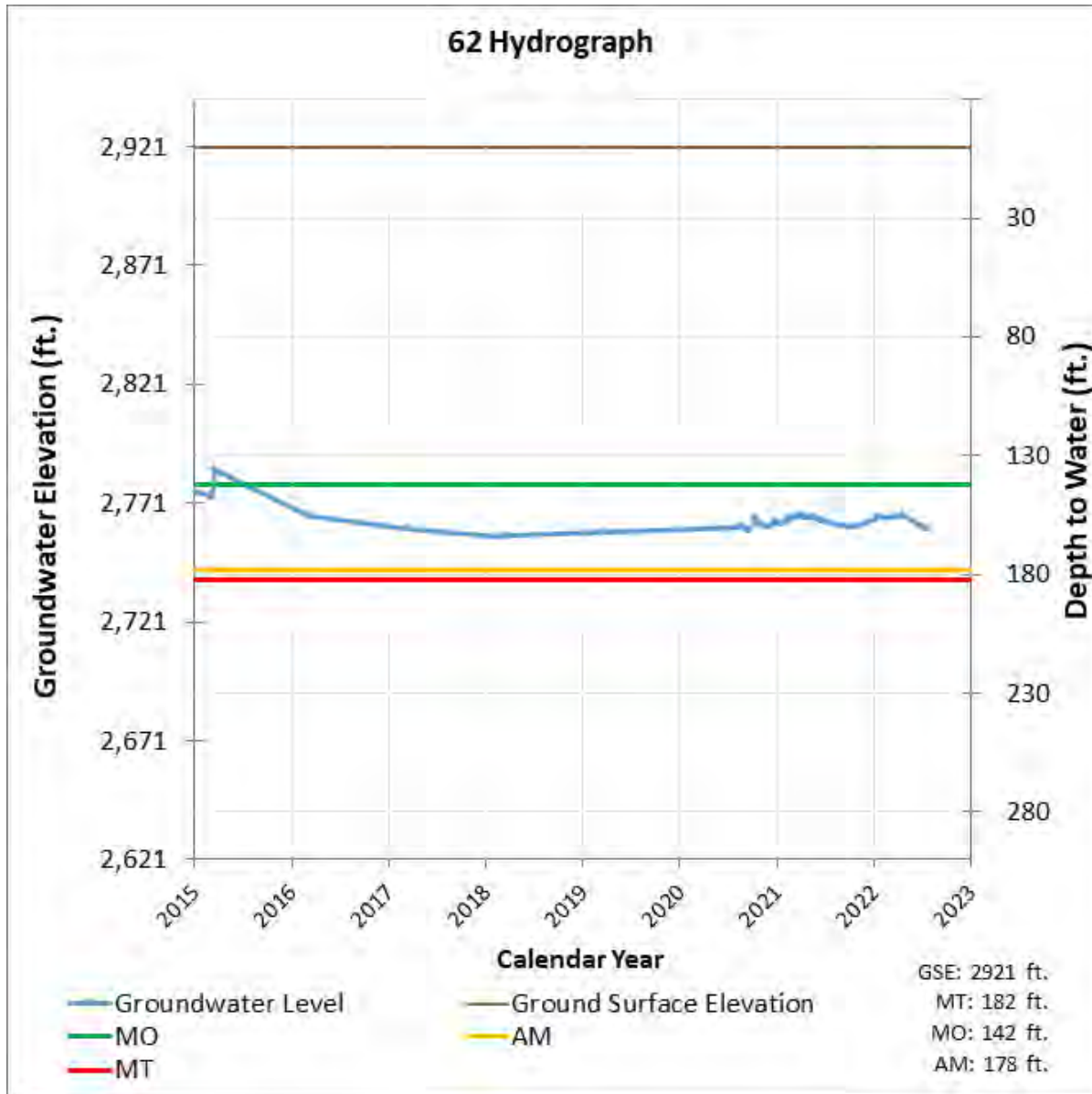




Figure 4: Central Region – Well 91

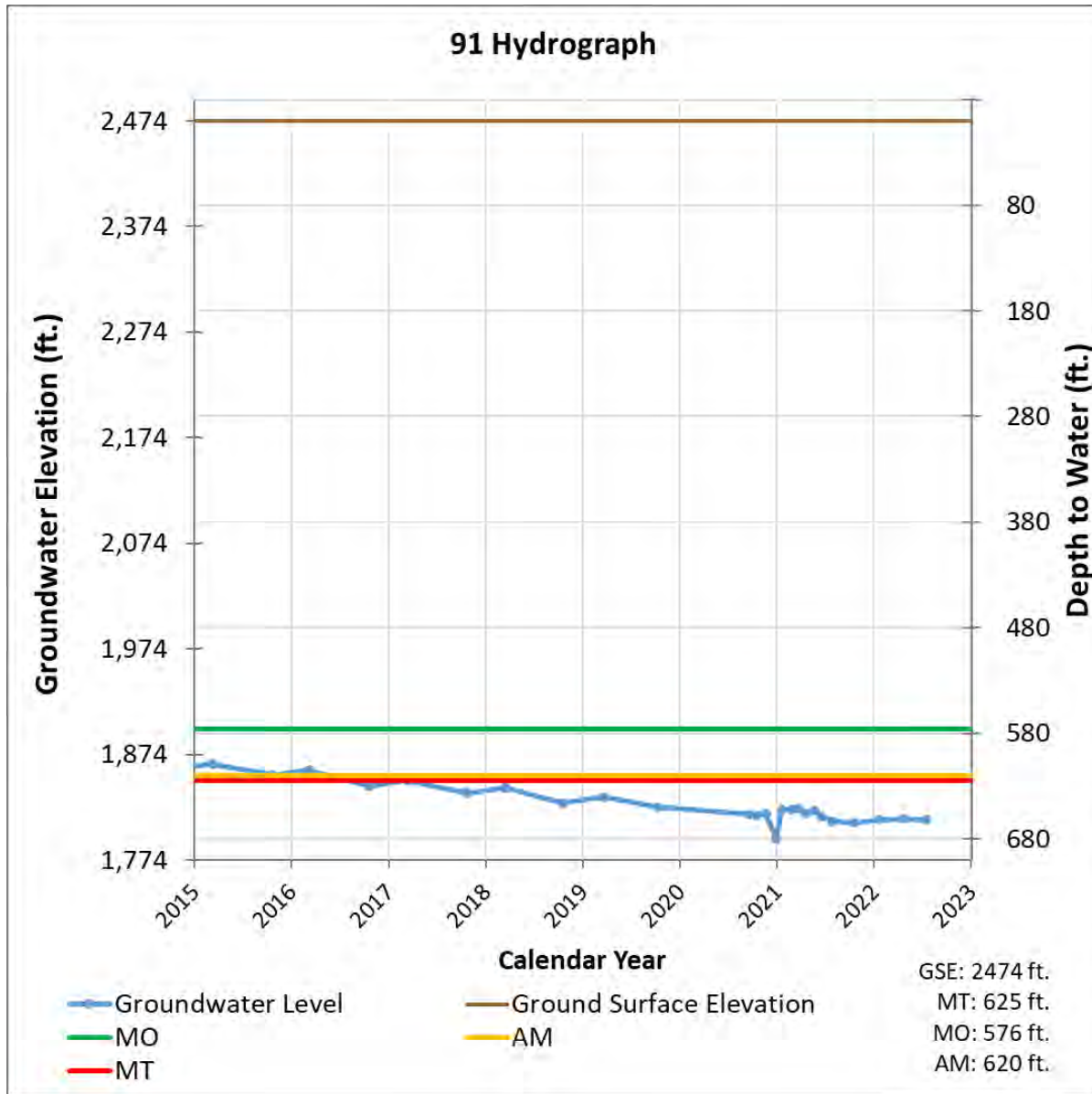


Figure 5: Central Region – Well 74

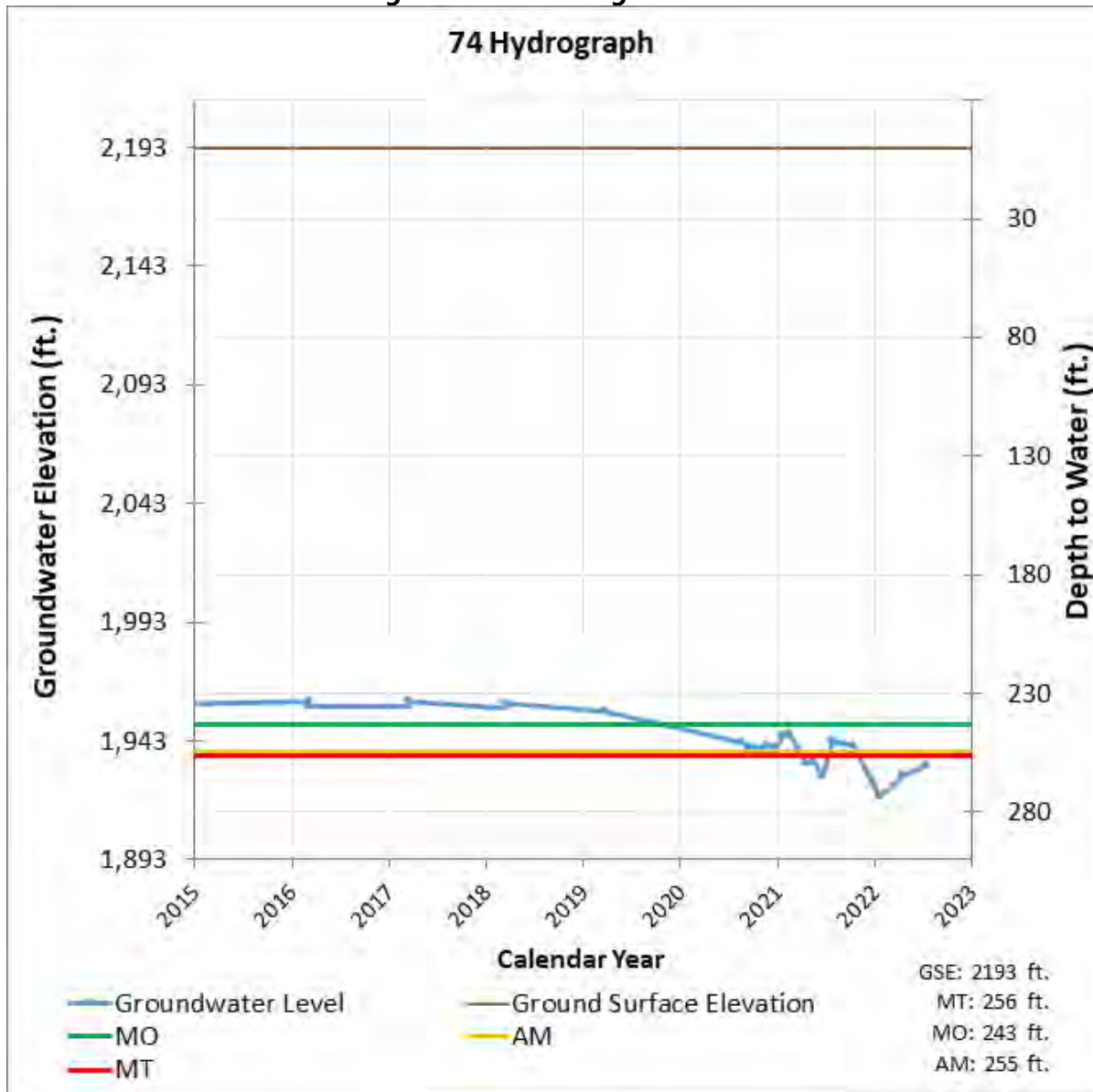


Figure 6: Western Region – Well 571

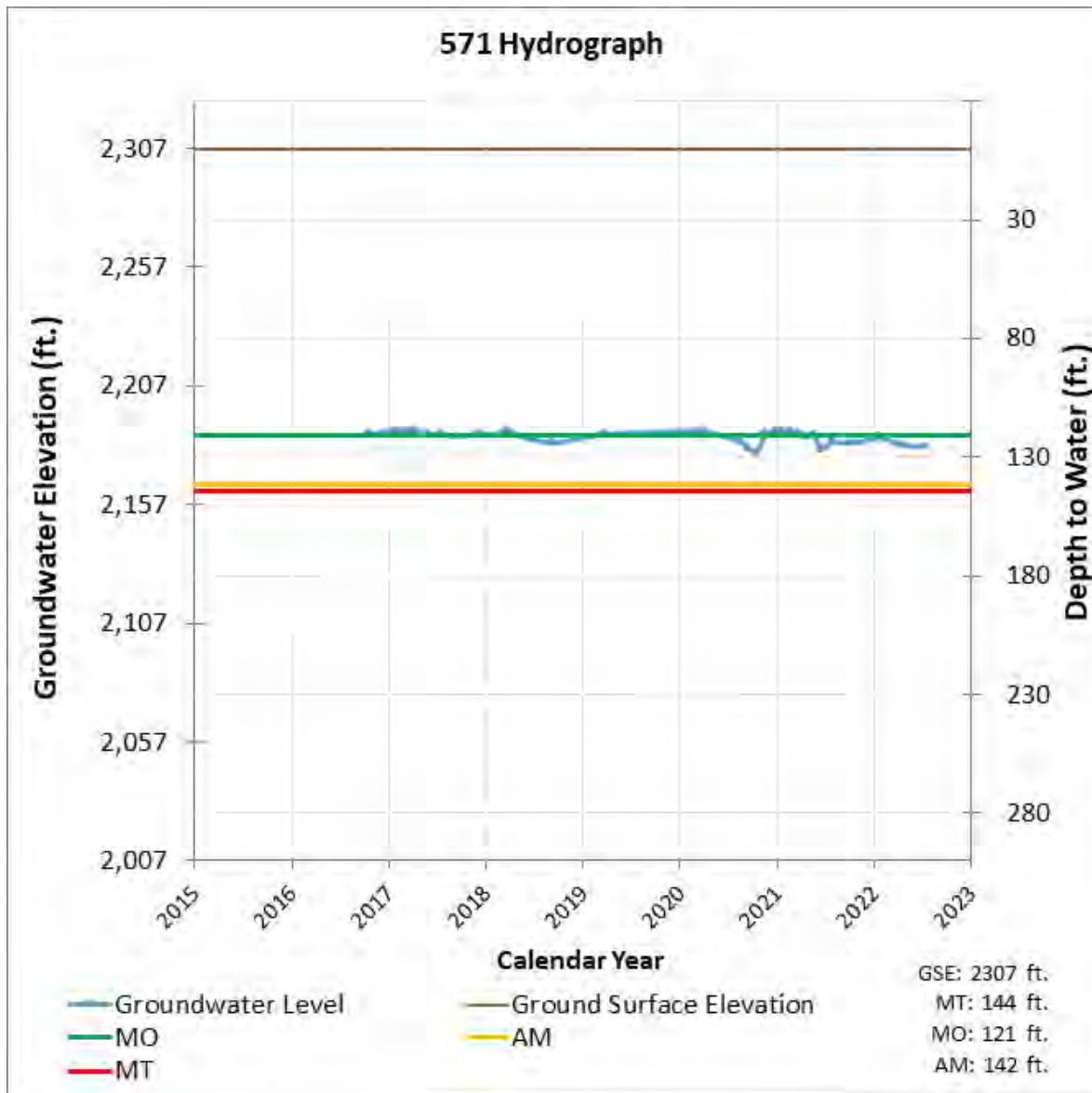
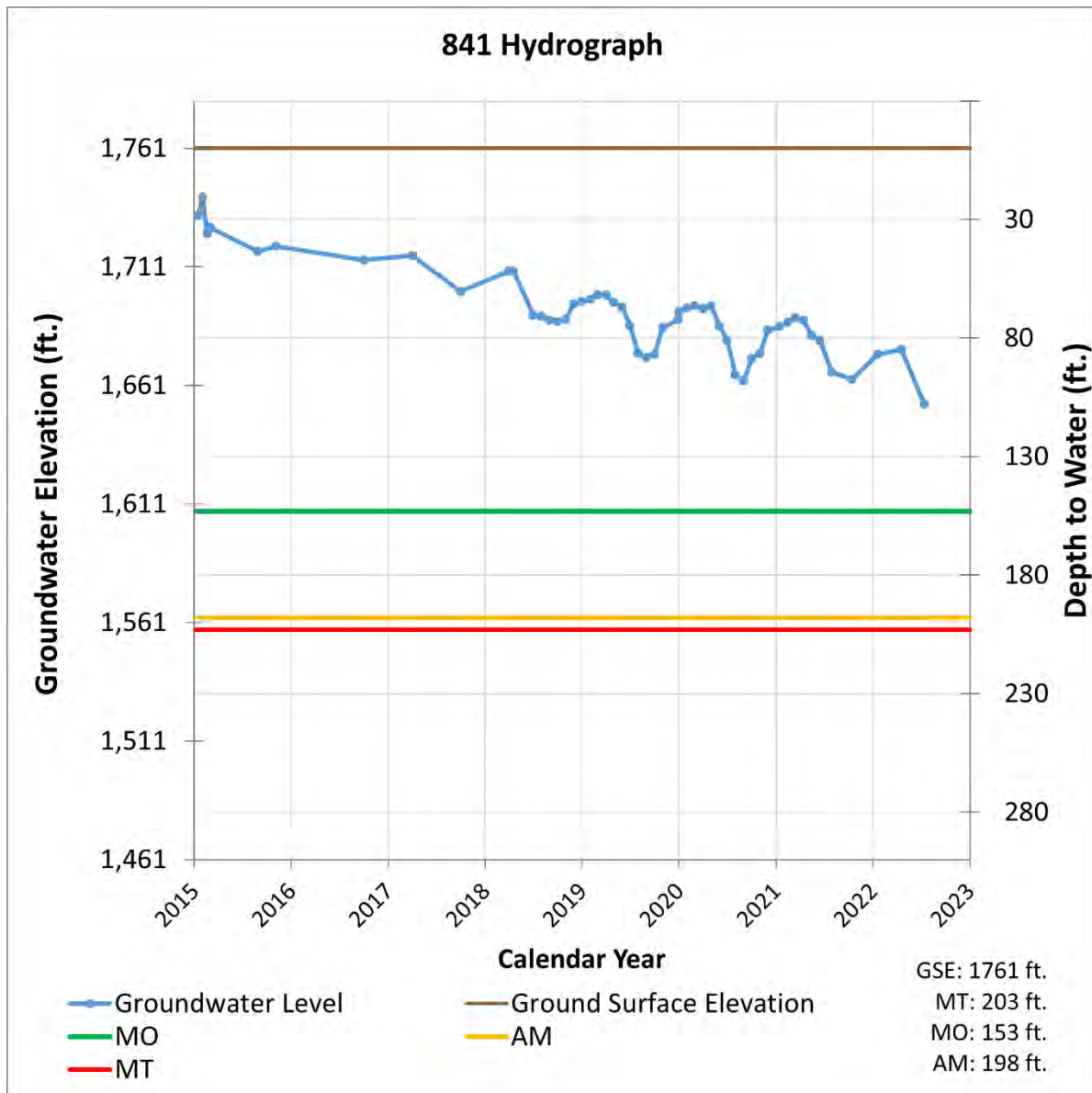
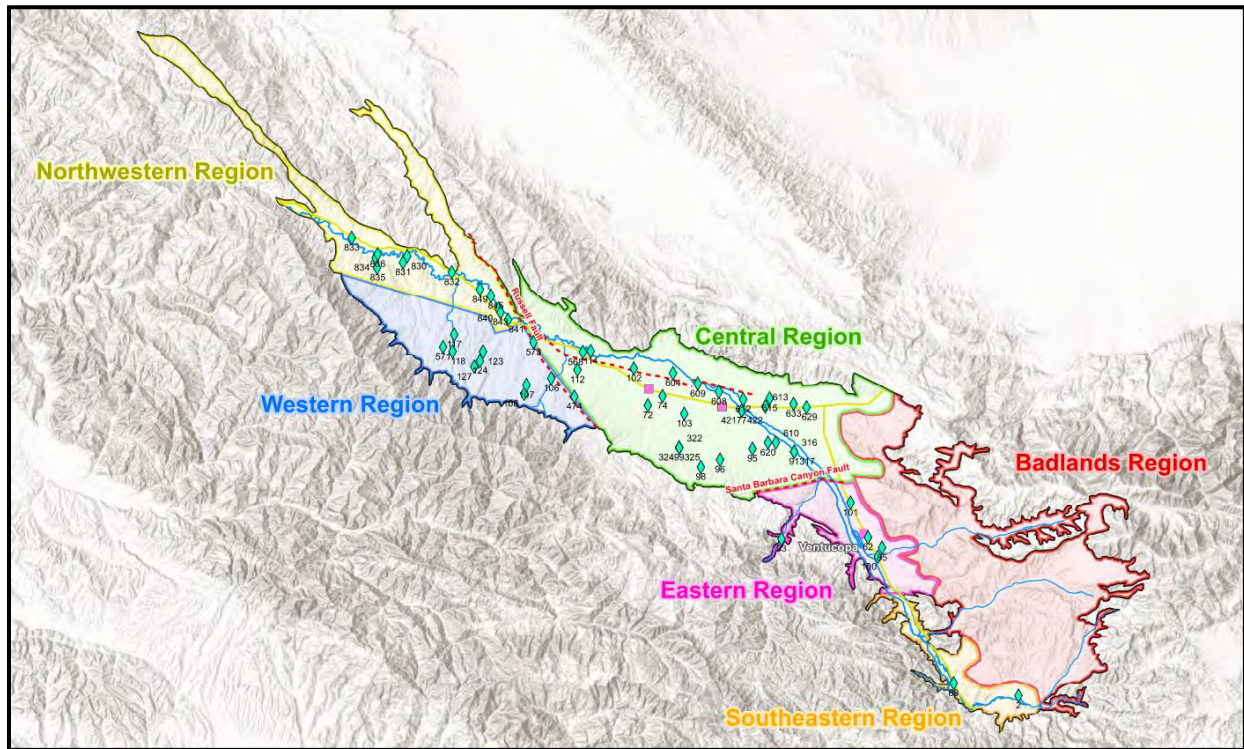




Figure 7: Northwestern Region – Well 841





**Figure 8: Threshold Regions in the Cuyama Groundwater Basin**

## 5. MONITORING NETWORK UPDATES

As shown in Table 2, there are 3 wells without measurements in the last 12 months. These “no measurement codes” can have different causes as described below.

- Access agreements have not been established with the landowner:
  - Wells 2, 98, 124



**Woodard  
& Curran**

[woodardcurran.com](http://woodardcurran.com)





TO: Standing Advisory Committee  
Agenda Item No. 6I

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: September 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Update on Annual Water Quality Report

**Recommended Motion**

None – information only.

**Discussion**

Annual water quality samples for total dissolved solids (TDS), arsenic and nitrates were collected in August 2022. A map of the wells sampled is provided as Attachment 1, and lab results will be provided at the SAC and Board meetings on October 27, 2022 and November 2, 2022, respectively.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

# 6I. Update on Annual Water Quality Report

Brian Van Lienden

September 1, 2022

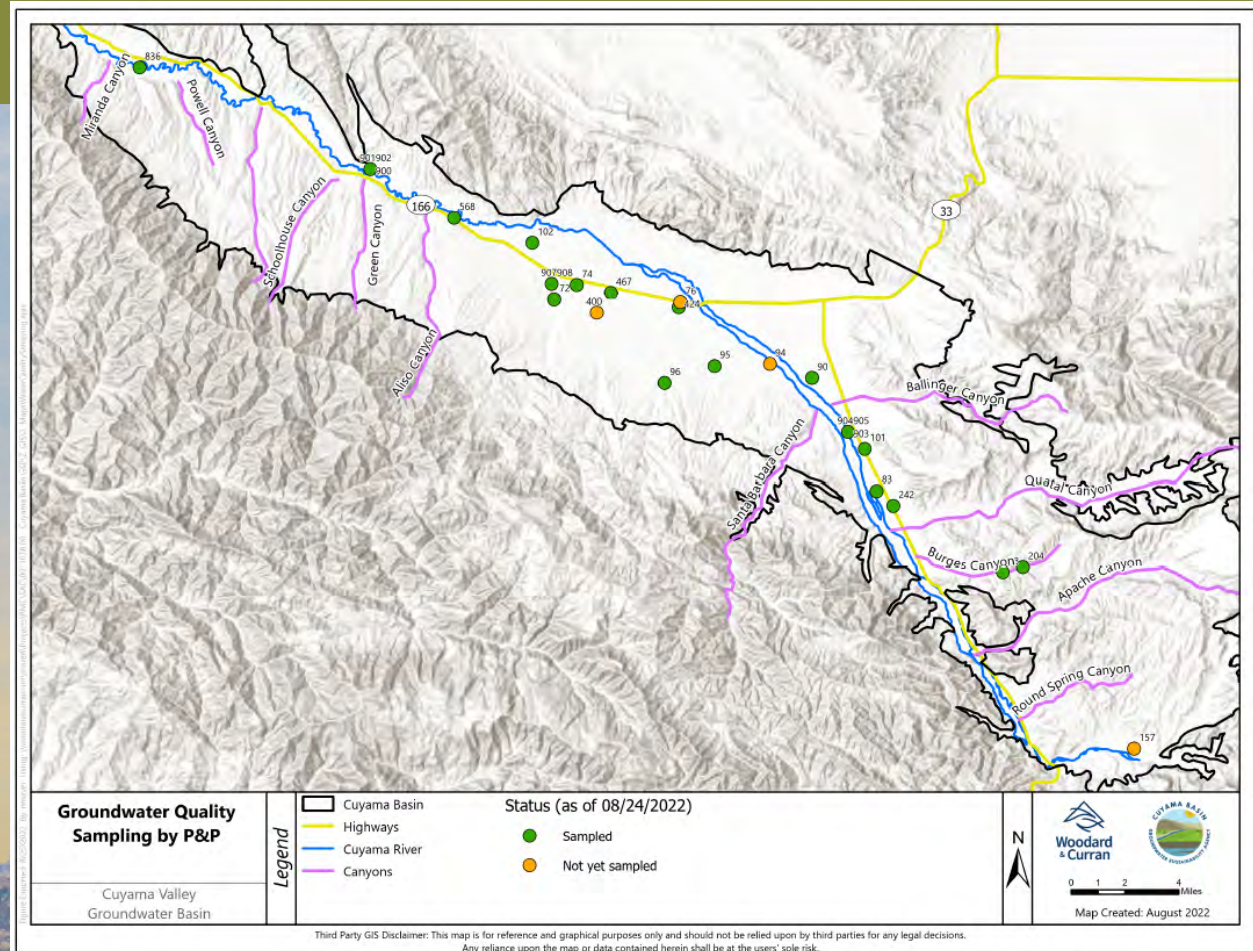




# Update on Annual Water Quality Report

Brian Van Lienden

- Water quality testing was performed at 24 wells in August
- Lab testing is being performed for nitrates, arsenic and TDS
- Results will be reported to the Board in November







TO: Standing Advisory Committee  
Agenda Item No. 7c

FROM: Jim Beck / Taylor Blakslee

DATE: September 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Update on Public Workshop

**Recommended Motion**

None – informational only.

**Discussion**

The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) hosted an informational workshop for landowners on August 25, 2022, and a summary of the workshop is provided as Attachment 1.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

# 7c. Update on Public Workshop

Taylor Blakslee

September 1, 2022





# 7c. Update on Public Workshop

- Public Workshop held on Thursday August 25, 2022
- Total Attendees: 60
  - *25 in-person*
  - *35 online*
- Discussed the following topics
  - SGMA/GSA Background
  - What has the GSA done
  - What GSA activities are planned
  - Landowner requirements
  - Adjudication update





TO: Standing Advisory Committee  
Agenda Item No. 7d

FROM: Jim Beck, Executive Director

DATE: September 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Board of Directors Agenda Review

**Recommended Motion**

None – informational only.

**Discussion**

The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors agenda for the September 7, 2022, Board of Directors meeting is provided as Attachment 1.



# CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

## Board of Directors

**Derek Yurosek** Chair, Cuyama Basin Water District  
**Paul Chounet** Vice Chair, Cuyama Community Services District  
**Cory Bantilan** Secretary, Santa Barbara County Water Agency  
**Matt Vickery** Treasurer, Cuyama Basin Water District  
**Byron Albano** Cuyama Basin Water District  
**Lynn Compton** County of San Luis Obispo

**Zack Scrivner** County of Kern  
**Glenn Shephard** County of Ventura  
**Lorena Stoller** Cuyama Basin Water District  
**Das Williams** Santa Barbara County Water Agency  
**Jane Wooster** Cuyama Basin Water District

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## AGENDA

SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

Agenda for a meeting of the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors to be held on Wednesday, September 7, 2022, at 2:00 PM at the **Cuyama Recreation District, 4885 Primero St, New Cuyama, CA 93254**. Participate via computer at: [https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_MDM1MjU2NTQtMzdhNS00MzRmLThkNzItYTtyMmYxOGFhYTBlk%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22927a62fc-3166-4d96-9474-79643aa0aa1a%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%229a3646f9-f02e-4528-8215-8c89fb0cb847%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MDM1MjU2NTQtMzdhNS00MzRmLThkNzItYTtyMmYxOGFhYTBlk%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22927a62fc-3166-4d96-9474-79643aa0aa1a%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%229a3646f9-f02e-4528-8215-8c89fb0cb847%22%7d), or by going to Microsoft Teams, downloading the free application, then entering Meeting ID: 299 086 546 245 Passcode: dXUcL2, or enter or telephonically at (469) 480-3918 Phone Conference ID: 618 240 46#.

### Teleconference Locations:

4885 Primero St,  
New Cuyama, CA 93254

The order in which agenda items are discussed may be changed to accommodate scheduling or other needs of the Board or Committee, the public, or meeting participants. Members of the public are encouraged to arrive at the commencement of the meeting to ensure that they are present for discussion of all items in which they are interested.

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, to participate in this meeting, please contact Taylor Blakslee at (661) 477-3385 by 4:00 p.m. on the Friday prior to this meeting. The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency reserves the right to limit each speaker to three (3) minutes per subject or topic.*

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Standing Advisory Committee Meeting Report

### CONSENT AGENDA

5. Approval of Minutes – July 6, 2022
6. Approval of Payment of Bills for June and July 2022
7. Approval of Financial Report for June and July 2022
8. Approval of Annual USGS Stream Gauge Operation and Maintenance Agreement

### **ACTION ITEMS**

9. Direction on GSA Well Permit Policy
10. Direction on Administration of Pumping Reductions in the Central Management Area
11. Direction on Basin-Wide Water Management Policies

### **REPORT ITEMS**

12. Administrative Updates
  - a) Report of the Executive Director
  - b) Report of the General Counsel
  - c) Update on Public Workshop
13. Technical Updates
  - a) Update on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Activities
  - b) Update on Adaptive Management Analysis
  - c) Report on Variance Requests for the Central Management Area Allocations
  - d) Update on Effort to Identify Potential Non-Reporting Pumpers
  - e) Update on Implementation of Grant-Funded Projects
  - f) Schedule for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Model Update
  - g) Update on Monitoring Network Implementation
  - h) Update on Quarterly Groundwater Conditions Report for July 2022
  - i) Update on Annual Water Quality Report

### **CLOSED SESSION**

14. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation  
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9, subdivision (d)(2)
  - a) Number of Potential Cases: One
15. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation  
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9, subdivision (d)(4)
  - a) Number of Potential Cases: One

### **REGULAR SESSION**

16. Report of the Ad Hoc Committee
17. Directors' Forum
18. Public comment for Items Not on the Agenda
19. Correspondence
20. Adjourn