



CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee Members

Brenton Kelly (Chair)	Jean Gaillard	John Caufield	Roberta Jaffe
Joe Haslett (Vice Chair)	Brad DeBranch	David Lewis	

AGENDA

June 26, 2025

Agenda for a meeting of the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Standing Advisory Committee meeting to be held on Thursday, June 26, 2025, at 5:00 PM at the **Cuyama Valley Family Resource Center 4689 CA-166, New Cuyama, CA 93254**. Participate via computer at: <https://msteams.link/SMRO> or by going to Microsoft Teams, downloading the free application, then entering Meeting ID: 271 931 749 29 Passcode: ep9zi3jm, or telephonically at (469) 480-3918, Phone Conference ID: 443 911 300#.

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.

Teleconference Locations:

4689 CA-166 New Cuyama, CA 93254	11601 Bolthouse Dr. Ste 200 Bakersfield, CA 93311	144 De La Costa Ave. Santa Cruz, CA 95060	1135 24th St. Paso Robles, CA 93446
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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 (Kelly) (1 min)
2. Roll Call (Kelly) (1 min)
3. Pledge of Allegiance (Kelly) (2 min)
4. Meeting Protocols (Bianchi) (2 min)
5. 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.*

ACTION ITEMS

6. Approval of May 1, 2025, Minutes (Kelly) (3 min)
7. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation
 - a) Approve CIMIS Station Landowner Agreements (Blakslee) (10 min)
 - b) Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on the Plan and Timeline to Evaluate Allocations in the Ventucopa Management Area (Blakslee/Van Lienden) (45 min)
 - c) Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Identifying Regions to Use for Evaluating Expanded Allocations and Overview and Evaluation Plan and Schedule (Blakslee/Van Lienden) (60 min)

- d) Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on the CMA Allocation Exchanges Policy (i.e. Water Market) (Blakslee) (45 min)
- e) Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on CMA Carryover Policy (Blakslee) (45 min)
- f) Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Revising Sustainable Management Criteria at Opti Well No. 118 (Van Lienden) (10 min)
- g) Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Replacing Well 608 in the Representative Monitoring Network (Van Lienden) (10 min)

REPORT ITEMS

- 8. Technical Updates
 - a) Update on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Activities (Van Lienden) (5 min)
 - b) Update on Grant-Funded Projects (Van Lienden) (5 min)
 - c) Update on April 2025 Groundwater Conditions Report (Van Lienden) (5 min)
- 9. Administrative Updates
 - a) Report of the Executive Director (Blakslee) (5 min) – *Verbal*
 - b) Report of the General Counsel (Dominguez) (1 min) – *Verbal*
 - c) Board of Directors Agenda Review (Blakslee) (3 min)
- 10. Items for Upcoming Sessions (1 min)
- 11. Committee Forum (1 min)
- 12. Correspondence (1 min)
- 13. Adjourn (9:22 p.m.)

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Standing Advisory Committee Meeting

May 1, 2025

Draft Meetings Minutes

PRESENT:

Kelly, Brenton – Chair
Haslett, Joe – Vice Chair
Caufield, John
DeBranch, Brad
Gaillard, Jean
Jaffe, Roberta
Lewis, Dave

Bianchi, Grace – Project Coordinator
Blakslee, Taylor – Assistant Executive Director
Dominguez, Alex – Legal Counsel
Van Lienden, Brian – Woodard & Curran

1. Call to Order

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) Standing Advisory Committee (SAC)
Chair Kelly called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Bianchi called roll of the Committee (shown above).

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Kelly led the pledge of allegiance.

4. Meeting Protocol

Project Coordinator Grace Bianchi provided an overview of the meeting protocols in facilitating a hybrid meeting.

5. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Committee Member Jaffe expressed frustration over the lack of response to their letter regarding adjudication, which was sent on March 3rd. She emphasized the importance of the topic and the need for regular updates during SAC meetings.

Legal Counsel Alex Dominguez confirmed that the correspondence was included in the board packet in March and stated that the board does not necessarily respond to every piece of correspondence it receives.

6. Approval of February 27, 2025 Minutes

Committee Chair Kelly opened the floor for comments on the February 27, 2025, CBGSA SAC meeting minutes.

There were no comments on this item.

MOTION

Committee Member Jaffe made a motion to approve February 27, 2025, CBGSA SAC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Caufield. A roll call vote was made, and the motion passed.

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

7. Discuss and Appropriate Action on Potential Nonreporting Pumping

Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of the potential nonreporting pumping analysis, the methodology, and past work done on the analysis.

Ms. Bianchi provided an overview of the methodology, which included data from Land IQ and landowner reported use information. She reported that 20 parcels were identified in the initial analysis, representing about 900 acres.

Mr. Blakslee clarified that the fields have only been identified as irrigated, and does not have any information on how much water was used for irrigation.

Committee Member Caufield raised questions about the accuracy of the Land IQ data and the need for ground truthing in the west side of the basin.

Mr. Van Lienden explained that Land IQ's ground truthing was limited to public roadways and areas where they had permission from landowners.

Staff agreed to look into the data further.

The committee generally agreed to move forward with staff's recommendation for most of the irrigated fields.

Committee Member Dave Lewis asked how these nonreported parcels will impact the parcels and asked for the acreage of reported parcels.

The committee generally agreed to move forward with staff's recommendation for most of the irrigated fields and provided comments on the following parcels:

- Committee Member Robbie Jaffe commented that APN 147-050-038 is dry farmed and report each year.
- Committee Member Caufield commented that APN 149-090-053 is irrigated with surface water. He suggested coming up with questions for landowners.
- SAC generally agreed to follow the staff recommendation to remove APN 147-030-061 from potential nonreporting pumpers list.
- Stakeholder Jim Menzies (APN 151-060-002 and 001-015-018) expressed frustration over being listed as nonreporting. He noted that they previously reported and that the land was irrigated up until 2021.
 - o Staff agreed to verify the data and correct any errors.
- SAC members noted that APN 002-008-025 is dry-farmed and should be removed from the list.
- 002-008-006
 - o Dry-farmed and should be removed from list

Committee Member Caufield noted that the parcels identified as irrigated was previously ground-truthed.

- 002-014-002 / 002-014-006 / 002-014-017
 - o Stakeholder Jason Higbee from Kern Ridge commented that they have been farming on these parcels and APNs should've been reported by Kern Ridge.
 - o Staff agreed to follow up with kern ridge to confirm APNs
- A committee member noted they have contact info for APN 002-014-018 and SAC recommended staff follow up with landowners.
- SAC recommended that staff follow up with landowners of APN 002-014-012
- SAC confirmed that APNs 002-021-006 / 002-015-016 was spring fed and can be removed from potential nonreporting list.
- SAC noted recommended staff reach out to landowners at APN 001-022-005

8. Report on Basin-Wide Pumping

Ms. Bianchi provided a brief overview of basin-wide pumping which was previously requested by the board. The report included reported pumping from 2019 through 2024.

Committee Member Lewis asked about the model recalibration process.

Mr. Van Lienden described adjustments to ET rates and land use assumptions in the model.

Stakeholder Jane Wooster suggested renaming the spreadsheet column from landowner to reporting entity.

9. Report on 2024 Central management Area Allocations

Ms. Bianchi provided an update on the 2024 Central management Area (CMA) allocation report, including the addition of Duncan Farms. The report summarized the water allocations and usage for various landowners in the CMA.

The committee discussed the significance of the data, noting that only 57% of the 2024 allocations were used. They raised questions about the reasons for the low pumping from some users and the impact of weather conditions on water use. It was suggested to Rename landowner column.

Committee Member Debranch commented allocation impacts are tied to historical use and cropping decisions.

Committee Member Jaffe asked about the significance of 57% of allocations were used in 2024.

Staff noted that the 2024 allocations reflect the old model and updated model will be reflected in 2025 allocations.

Committee Member Haslett commented that the 57% of allocations used support the need for equitable allocations.

Committee Member Gaillard commented on farming variability due to rainfall and crop cycles.

Committee Member DeBranch commented that the model uses historic water use and for allocations that are not use. Reported use changes significantly each year.

Committee Member Lewis responded that smaller farmers have annual crops, making it difficult to rotate crops.

10. Report on Historic Modeled Pumping for all Parcels in the Basin

Mr. Blakslee provided background on the inclusion of historic modeled pumping data for all parcels in the basin, as requested by the board.

The committee discussed the methodology and potential issues with the data, emphasizing the need for quality assurance and control.

Committee Member Jaffe asked how historic pumping is estimated.

Mr. Van Lienden responded that the model uses Land IQ land use datasets and soil characteristics.

Chair Kelly requested the spreadsheet of historic pumping.

Committee Member Lewis commented that the historic pumping is used for the model and highlights inequities in the basin.

The SAC emphasized the need for quality assurance and control to ensure the accuracy of the modeled data. They discussed the importance of verifying the data with landowners and other sources.

11. Technical Updates

a. Update on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Activities

Mr. Van Lienden noted that the update on GSP activities is provided in the SAC packet.

b. Update on Grant-Funded Projects

Mr. Van Lienden provided a brief update on the grant-funded projects, which is provided in the SAC packet. He reported staff is working with DWR to develop a grant amendment for the extension of funds for the CIMIS stations. He noted that transducers had been procured and would be installed in the coming weeks.

12. Administrative Updates

a. Report of the Executive Director

Nothing to report.

b. Report of the General Counsel

Nothing to report.

c. Board of Directors Agenda Review

Mr. Blakslee briefly noted that May 7, 2025, CBGSA Board Meeting agenda is provided in the SAC packet.

13. Items for Upcoming Sessions

Nothing to report.

14. Committee Forum

Nothing to report.

15. Correspondence

Nothing to report.

16. Adjourn

Chair Kelly adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE
CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Chair Kelly: _____

ATTEST:

Vice Chair Haslett: _____

DRAFT



TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 7a

FROM: Taylor Blakslee

DATE: Juen 26, 2025

SUBJECT: Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on CIMIS Agreement

Recommended Motion

Approve the revocable license agreement for installation of CIMIS station.

Discussion

The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) has received grant funding to support the installation of California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS) weather stations. These stations will improve reference evapotranspiration (ET) estimates in the basin's groundwater model and expand spatial coverage of reference ET across the basin.

To move forward, a Revocable License Agreement (**Attachment 1**) has been developed between the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), CBGSA (as Cooperator), and the landowner. The agreement defines the terms for site access, installation, operation, and maintenance of the CIMIS station.

Staff recommends SAC and Board approve the attached Revocable License Agreement (Attachment 1) to proceed CIMIS station installation.

CIMIS Station Name & Number _____

REVOCABLE LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR INSTALLATION OF A CALIFORNIA IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM STATION

This revocable License Agreement (“Agreement”) for a California Irrigation Management Information System Station (“CIMIS Station”) is entered into as of _____ (“Effective Date”), by and between _____, [enter type of entity if applicable] hereinafter (“COOPERATOR”), _____, [enter type of entity if applicable] hereinafter (“LANDOWNER”), and the California Department of Water Resources, a department of the State of California’s Natural Resources Agency hereinafter (“DWR”). DWR, LANDOWNER, and COOPERATOR are hereinafter at times collectively referred to as the “Parties” and individually as a “Party.”

RECITALS

A. LANDOWNER owns the real property APN _____ located in or near _____ (City name if within City or delete) _____, County of _____, State of California (“Property”). The Property is shown in Exhibit A.

B. Under this Agreement, LANDOWNER is granting DWR and COOPERATOR permission to construct, install, operate, maintain, and administer a computerized CIMIS Station to collect weather information necessary for estimating reference crop water use under local conditions. The CIMIS Station will be placed on a portion of the Property (“SITE”). The approximate dimensions of the SITE are ____ ft by ____ ft. The SITE’s location and boundaries on the Property and CIMIS Station equipment location within the SITE are shown on Exhibit B.

Now, therefore, the Parties agree as follows:

AGREEMENT

1. Grant of License.

LANDOWNER hereby grants to DWR, COOPERATOR and their employees, agents and contractors a License to enter upon and use the Property as set forth in Section 2. This Agreement is revokable by any Party pursuant to paragraph 4 below.

2. Use of Property.

DWR and COOPERATOR may perform the Work (defined below) on the SITE and may enter, exit, and travel across the Property as set forth on Exhibit B for purposes of accessing the SITE and performing the Work. The “Work” consists of (1) constructing and installing CIMIS Station at the SITE and (2) operating, maintaining, repairing, and/or obtaining data from the CIMIS Station. Specific Work items and the allocation of responsibility for performing them are described in Section 3.

The Work will be performed in the location within the SITE where the CIMIS Station equipment is to be installed as shown on Exhibit B. LANDOWNER will allow DWR and COOPERATOR to pass over certain other portions of the Property shown on Exhibit B as may be reasonably necessary only for entrance to and/or exit from the SITE to perform the activities provided in this Agreement. LANDOWNER will provide DWR and COOPERATOR with any keys necessary or allow DWR and COOPERATOR to place locks in a chain configuration with existing locks in order to gain vehicle access to SITE. DWR and COOPERATOR shall close all gates behind them while visiting the SITE.

3. Work Items and Division of Work Between DWR and COOPERATOR

- (a) DWR and COOPERATOR will be responsible for the following:
- (i) DWR will install the CIMIS Station at the SITE, with programming identical to the existing programming used in DWR's CIMIS network; will calibrate and program all CIMIS Station equipment; will be responsible for monthly service charges for cellular modem communication service to the CIMIS Station; will assist Parties to troubleshoot problems with the CIMIS Station; will perform semiannual maintenance visits to the CIMIS Station for quality control purposes; will program the CIMIS main computer to call the CIMIS Station automatically every day, check and flag data by a quality control program, calculate reference evapotranspiration (ET_o), and store data (both hourly and daily) in the computer's database; will make the CIMIS Station data available publicly through the CIMIS Website, FTP, or Web API;
 - (ii) (DWR or COOPERATOR) will provide all equipment necessary for a complete CIMIS Station, and replacement equipment as needed to operate, maintain, and repair the CIMIS Station for the duration of the CIMIS station activity.
 - (iii) COOPERATOR will be responsible for monthly maintenance and repair of the CIMIS Station equipment using maintenance procedures provided by DWR and will assist DWR to troubleshoot problems with the CIMIS Station when needed.
 - (iv) (DWR or COOPERATOR) will install a fence around the CIMIS Station equipment at a minimum size of sixteen feet by sixteen feet, if DWR determines necessary to exclude livestock or unauthorized people.
 - (v) If DWR determines it is needed and as appropriate, COOPERATOR will delegate at least one employee to take one or more of the CIMIS-related courses sponsored by DWR at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo or comparable trainings. Cal Poly offers courses through its Irrigation Training & Research Center (ITRC). The most important courses are listed under Landscape Water Management and Ag Irrigation System Evaluation on the ITRC website, <http://www.itrc.org/classes.htm>.
 - (vi) DWR will bear all costs of performing the activities it is responsible for above and COOPERATOR will bear all the costs of performing the activities it is responsible for above.
- (b) LANDOWNER will:
- (i) Ensure the SITE is well-irrigated (low plant water stress) perennial grass and agrees to maintain this land use configuration for the term of this Agreement.
 - (ii) Maintain the perennial grass within the SITE at a height of 3 to 6 inches by such practices as mowing and cattle grazing.

- (iii) Provide water and ensure the irrigation system for the SITE does not directly impact the CIMIS station sensors in any way.
- (iv) Allow CIMIS Station equipment unobstructed and unrestricted exposure to wind and solar radiation within the SITE.
- (v) LANDOWNER shall bear all costs of performing the activities set forth in 3(b).

4. Term

The term will begin on the Effective Date and end thirty (30) calendar days after any Party provides written notice to the other Parties of this Agreement's termination.

5. Repair

To the extent any Party is the direct cause of damage to the Property, such Party shall, within a reasonable amount of time following the discovery thereof, repair any damage. The repair shall return the Property to the condition it was in immediately preceding the occurrence of any such damage.

6. CIMIS Station Removal at Termination

Within thirty (30) calendar days of termination of this Agreement, DWR and COOPERATOR shall remove their respective installations of the CIMIS Station appurtenances and shall engage in reasonable efforts to restore the portion of the SITE disturbed by the CIMIS Station to its condition preceding installation of the CIMIS Station, normal wear and tear excepted.

7. Indemnification

Each Party agrees to indemnify and hold harmless each other Party and its employees, contractors, agents, representatives, transferees, successors, assigns, or invitees, from and against any and all liabilities, claims, actions, or demands, costs or expenses, including attorney's fees (collectively, a "Loss"), arising out of or in any way connected to each of their and their respective contractors', representatives', heirs', successors', assigns', or invitees' use of the Property, such indemnity being to the extent of Loss caused by their or their contractors', representatives', heirs', successors', assigns', or invitees' willful misconduct or active negligence.

8. Notices

All notices given pursuant to this Agreement must be in writing and by electronic mail delivered to the addresses set forth below, promptly followed by personal delivery, U.S. Mail or established express delivery service, such as Federal Express, with postage or delivery charge prepaid, return receipt requested, and addressed to the persons and addresses designated below. All notices shall be effective upon receipt.

DWR:

Name and title
Company or Agency
Address
City, CA ZIP Code
Phone Number
Email

Cooperator:

Name and title
Company or Agency
Address
City, CA ZIP Code
Phone Number
Email

Landowner:

Name and title
Company or Agency
Address
City, CA ZIP Code
Phone Number
Email

9. Execution in Counterparts

This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, which together shall constitute one agreement with the same effect as if the Parties had signed the same signature page. The Parties further agree that electronic signatures shall have the same force and effect as manual signatures.

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

COOPERATOR

Approval Recommended by:

_____ Date: _____

Ricardo Trezza
CIMIS Program Supervisor

_____ Date: _____

Signatory, title
Company or Agency

Approval Recommended by:

_____ Date: _____

Fahmi H. Kassis
Right of Way Agent

LANDOWNER

_____ Date: _____

Signatory, title
Company or Agency

Accepted by:

_____ Date: _____

Linus A. Paulus
Chief, Acquisition and Appraisal Section

EXHIBIT A
The Property

EXHIBIT B

Location and Boundaries of SITE Along with Access Route(s)

EXHIBIT C

Regional Description of the Property



TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 7b

FROM: Taylor Blakslee

DATE: June 26, 2025

SUBJECT: Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on the Plan and Timeline to Evaluate Allocations in the Ventucopa Management Area

Recommended Motion

SAC and Board feedback requested.

Discussion

On March 5, 2025, the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) Board provided direction on GSA project priorities to include in the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget. At its May 7, 2025, meeting, the board adopted the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget, which included the following projects: 1) evaluate expanding allocations in the Ventucopa Management Area; 2) evaluate expanding allocations outside the Central Management Area (CMA); 3) consider implementing a CMA allocation exchanges policy (i.e. water market); and 4) consider implementing a CMA carryover policy.

A proposed plan and timeline to evaluate allocations in the Ventucopa Management Area is provided as **Attachment 1**. Staff are requesting SAC and Board feedback on whether to proceed with the proposed plan and schedule to evaluate allocations in the Ventucopa Management Area.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

7b. Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on the Plan and Timeline to Evaluate Allocations in the Ventucopa Management Area Taylor Blakslee / Brian Van Lienden

June 26, 2025



Background

- On March 5, 2025, the CBGSA Board provided direction on GSA project prioritization to include in the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget
- On May 7, 2025, the CBGSA Board adopted the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget, which included the following projects:
 - Evaluate expanding allocations in the Ventucopa Management Area
 - Evaluate expanding allocations outside the Central Management Area (CMA)
 - Consider implementing a CMA allocation exchanges policy (i.e. water market)
 - Consider implementing a CMA carryover policy

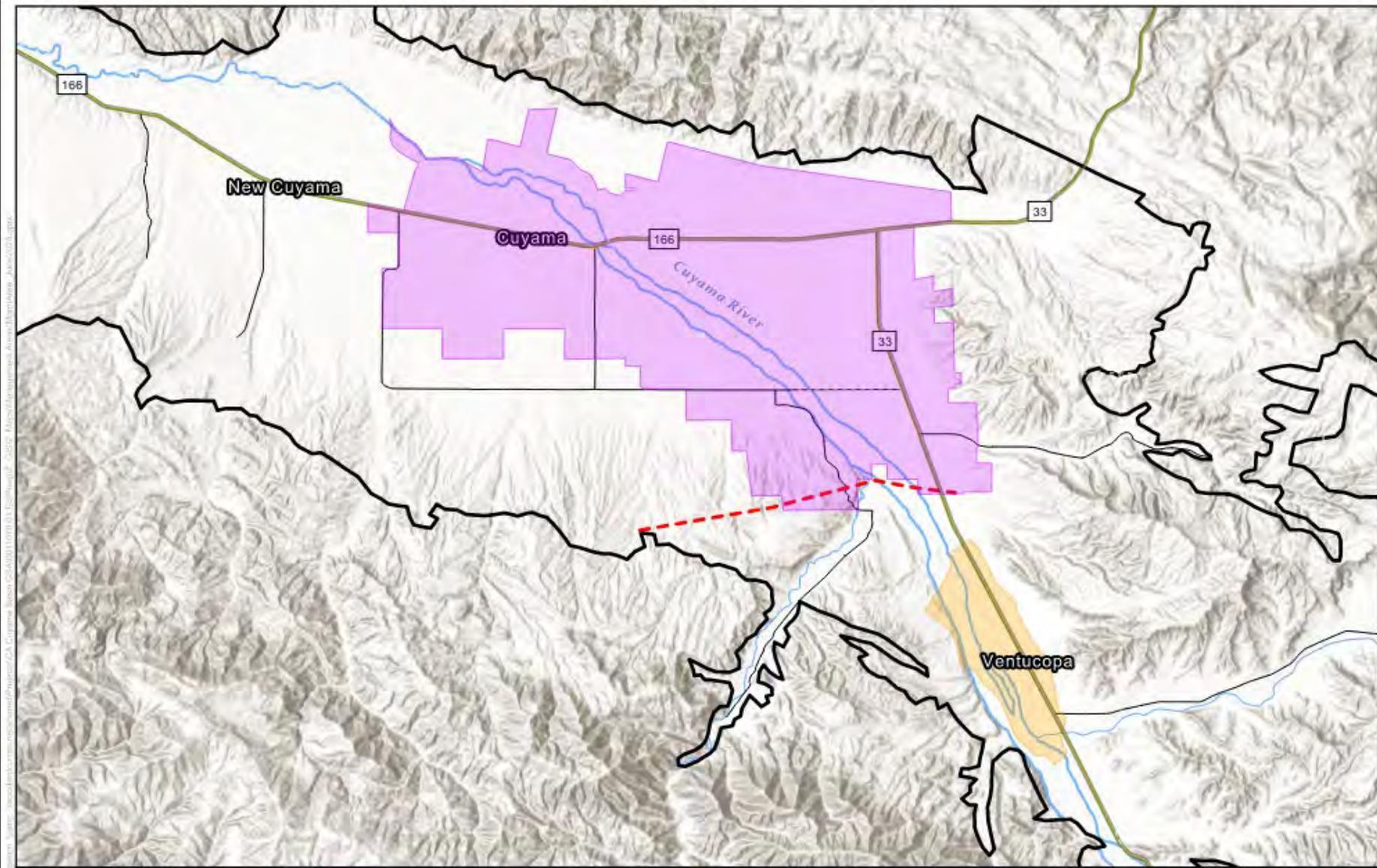


Figure 7-1: CBGSA Management Areas
Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin

Legend	 Central Management Area	 Highway	 Creek
	 Ventucopa Management Area	 Local Road	 Cuyama River
	 Town	 Cuyama Basin	


 Woodard & Curran


 CUYAMA BASIN
 SUSTAINABLE WATER RESOURCES


 N


 0 0.5 1 2 Miles
 Map Created: January 2025

Third Party GIS Disclaimer: This map is for reference and graphical purposes only and should not be relied upon by third parties for any legal decisions. Any reliance upon the map or data contained herein shall be at the users' sole risk. Data sources: CA DWR, Esri, USGS



Plan and Timeline to Evaluate Allocations in the Ventucopa Management Area

- **Objective:** Develop a recommendation for whether the allocations should be expanded to the Ventucopa management area or if additional data and/or model recalibration is needed in the next fiscal year

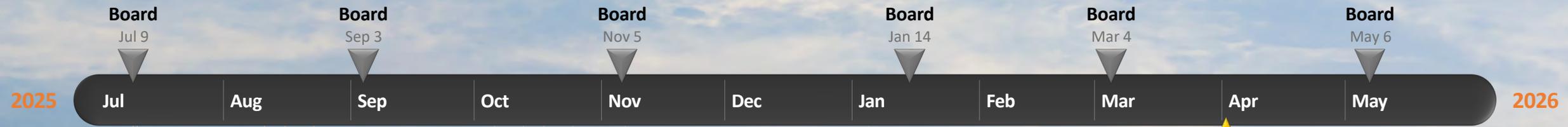
Proposed Process to Assess Available Data and Current Model

- Determine if current data and model are adequate to assess if allocations are needed:
 - Assess data availability: develop a list of data needed and data available in the Ventucopa Management Area and identify data gaps and assess potential impact to model
 - Assess model performance: present comparisons of modeled vs measured groundwater levels and modeled water budgets for the 1998-2024 water years
- Consider options for evaluation of potential allocations:
 - Use current data and model to evaluate potential allocations
 - Perform a model re-calibration with currently available data (including current SBCF study)
 - Develop additional data before performing a model re-calibration availability of data to perform model re-calibration

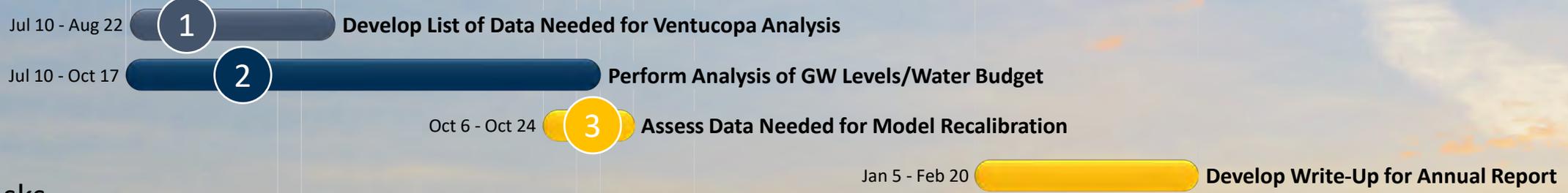
Ventucopa Management Area

Draft Plan/Timeline for Assessing the Implementation of Allocations

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Development



★
Apr 1
Annual Report Due



Tasks

Meetings





TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 7c

FROM: Taylor Blakslee

DATE: June 26, 2025

SUBJECT: Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Identifying Regions to Use for Evaluating Expanded Allocations and Overview and Evaluation Plan and Schedule

Recommended Motion

SAC and Board feedback requested.

Discussion

On March 5, 2025, the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) Board provided direction on GSA project priorities to include in the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget. During the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget approval, the board directed staff to evaluate the potential for expanding groundwater allocations outside the existing management areas. **Attachment 1** outlines a proposed process and schedule to assess available data and model performance in support of this evaluating expanded allocations.

In order to guide technical analysis, staff are seeking SAC and Board direction on which regions to analyze as potential options for allocations outside the existing management areas, with the understanding that this does not involve selecting areas for allocation of sustainable yield at this time.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

7c. Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Identifying Regions to Use for Evaluating Expanded Allocations and Overview and Evaluation Plan and Schedule

Taylor Blakslee / Brian Van Lienden

June 26, 2025



Plan and Timeline to Evaluate Allocations Outside the Existing Management Areas

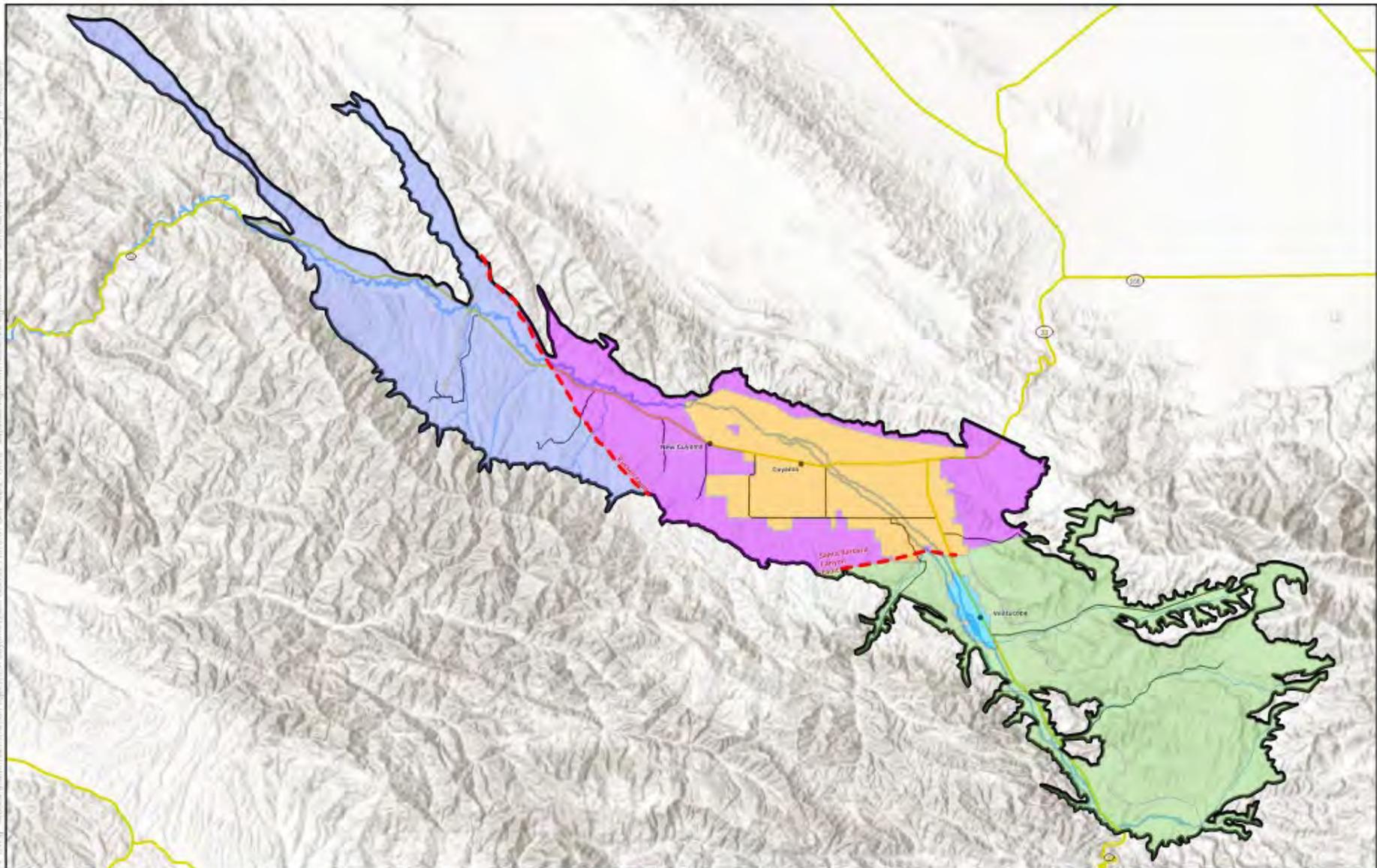
- **Objective:** Develop a recommendation for whether the allocations should be expanded outside the existing management areas or if additional data and/or model recalibration is needed in the next fiscal year

Proposed Process to Assess Available Data and Current Model

- Determine if current data and model are adequate to assess if allocations are needed:
 - Determine regions to use for analysis of data and model in areas outside of current management areas
 - Assess data availability: develop a list of data needed and data available outside the existing management areas and identify data gaps and assess potential impact to model
 - Assess model performance: present comparisons of modeled vs measured groundwater levels and modeled water budgets for the 1998-2024 water years
- Consider options for evaluation of potential allocations:
 - Use current data and model to evaluate potential allocations
 - Perform a model re-calibration with currently available data
 - Develop additional data before performing a model re-calibration availability of data to perform model re-calibration

Identifying Regions to Use for Evaluating Expanded Allocations

- Staff is not looking for direction on regions to use for allocation of the sustainable yield at this time
- Staff is seeking direction on which regions the Board would like to see analyzed as they consider potential options for allocations outside of the existing management areas
- The following maps present a sub-division of the basin by current management areas and major geologic features



<p>Potential Regions for Consideration</p> <p>Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin</p>	<p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMA and Farming Units Boundary Central Region Southeast of Santa Barbara Canyon Fault Ventucopa Management Area West of Russell Fault 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fault Highway Local Road Town 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creek Cuyama River Cuyama Basin 	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>N</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>0 1.5 3 6 Miles</p> </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Map Created: June 2025</p>
		<p style="font-size: x-small;">Third Party GIS Disclaimer: This map is for reference and graphical purposes only and should not be relied upon by third parties for any legal decisions. Any reliance upon the map or data contained herein shall be at the users' sole risk. Data sources: CA DWR, Esri, USGS</p>			



Potential Options for Regions to Use in Analysis

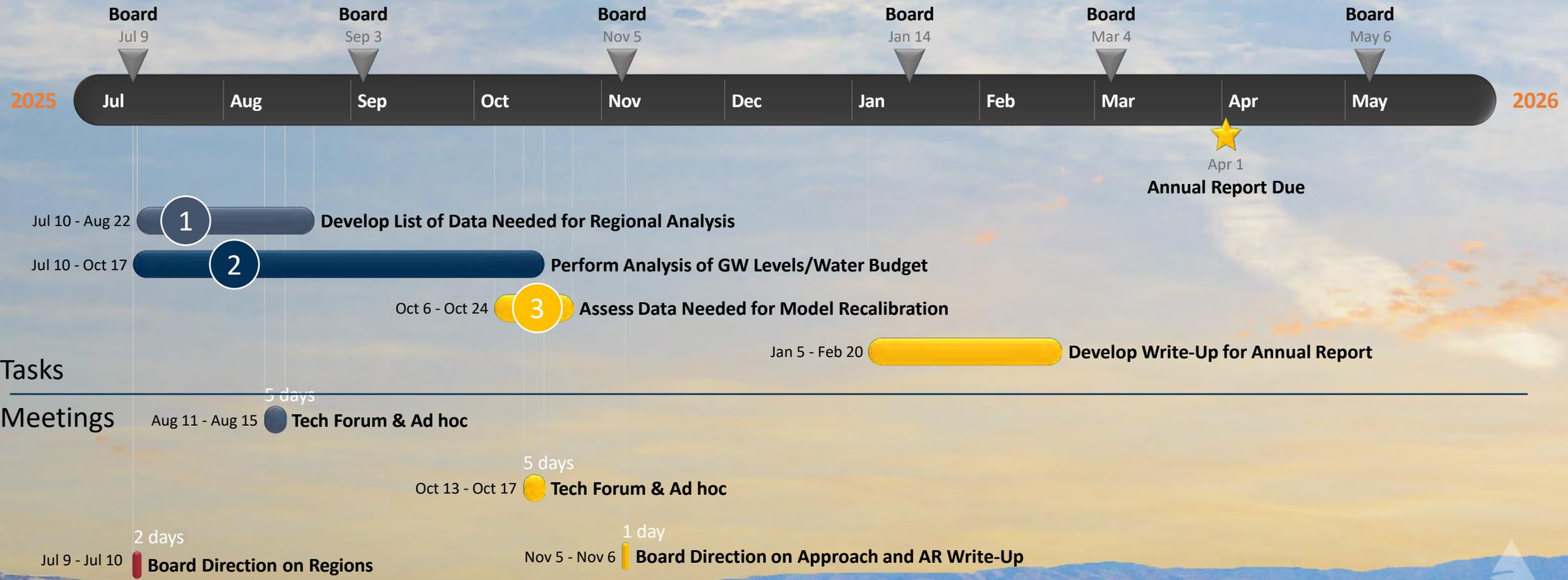
1. Use two existing Management Areas (CMA/Ventucopa) and rest of basin only (3 analysis regions)
2. Use existing MAs and key geologic features shown in map on previous slide (5 analysis regions)
3. Option 2 with other potential basin sub-regions based on hydrology, topography or other geologic features (5+ analysis regions)

What option would the SAC/Board like staff to move forward with for the analysis?

Outside Central Management Area

Draft Plan/Timeline for Assessing the Implementation of Allocations

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Development





TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 7d

FROM: Taylor Blakslee

DATE: June 26, 2025

SUBJECT: Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on the CMA Allocation Exchanges Policy (i.e. Water Market)

Recommended Motion

SAC and Board feedback requested.

Discussion

On March 5, 2025, the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) Board provided direction on GSA project priorities to include in the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget. On May 7, 2025, the CBGSA Board adopted the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget, which included potentially developing and implementing an allocation exchange (i.e. water market) in the Central Management Area (CMA). In response, a Board ad hoc committee (Directors Higbee, Jackson, Williams, and Wooster) convened on June 18, 2025, to review draft policy considerations for potentially developing an allocation exchange program.

An overview of key policy consideration and potential implementation schedule are provided at **Attachment 1**. Staff is requesting SAC and Board feedback on these preliminary considerations to inform the development of a potential allocation exchange program.

Allocation Exchanges Key Policy Considerations for Cuyama Basin GSA

Background

On March 5, 2025, the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) Board provided direction on GSA project prioritization to include in the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget. On May 7, 2025, the CBGSA Board adopted the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget, which included potentially developing and implementing an allocation exchange (i.e. water market) in the Central Management Area (CMA). A Board ad hoc was formed (Directors Higbee, Jackson, Williams, and Wooster) and met on June 18, 2025, to review the below draft policy considerations for potentially developing an allocation exchange program.

Potential Implementation Schedule

During the January 15, 2025, CBGSA Board meeting, several 2025-2029 CMA groundwater allocation variance requests were considered by the Board. Specifically, a motion was made for landowner David Lewis to “grant a one-year variance (for 2025) of up to 120 AF for David Lewis to continue his current farming practices and **give time for the Board to consider policies to address these issues on a long-term basis as soon as possible.**”

During this meeting several Directors commented that a potential water market or groundwater allocation exchange program may provide a mechanism to address David Lewis’ water shortage.

Since Mr. Lewis’ variance was only granted for one year (i.e. 2025), a CMA groundwater allocation program would need to be developed and implemented in 2025, if this is meant to be a tool to address Mr. Lewis issue.

Allocation Exchange Policy Considerations

1. Trading System Type
 - a. Free Market
 - i. Landowner to landowner
 - ii. Landowner sets price
 - iii. GSA involved to confirm seller has the water to sell and record sale
 - b. Turnback Pool
 - i. Landowners contribute unused allocations to central pool managed by the GSA
 - ii. GSA announces available pool
 - iii. GSA sets the price or auctions water
2. Landowner Participation Eligibility
 - a. Landowner to be in good financial standing with the GSA?
3. Trading Rules
 - a. Who can trade?

- i. Any landowner in the CMA in good financial standing with the GSA.
 - b. How much can be traded?
 - i. Only the 2040 sustainable yield?
 - ii. The entirety of a landowner's allocation?
 - c. Trade Limitations
 - i. Only trade within similar hydrogeologic areas?
 - ii. Limit trade distance? (x miles)
 - iii. Only trade down gradient?
 - iv. MTs may prevent excessive water extractions from a localized area
 - d. What is the trade timeframe?
 - i. Allow trades throughout the year?
 - ii. Establish a limited window to allow trades?
 - e. Single, or Multi-Year Trades
 - i. Restrict to single year trades?
 - ii. Allow multi-year trades (up to 5 years)
 - f. Should the GSA charge a set up or admin fee?
 - i. Fox Canyon charges:
 1. One-time enrollment fees are \$700 for the first well and \$300 for each additional well.
 2. Both buyer and seller pay a fee of 2% for each trade to the Exchange Administrator for administrative costs (4% total).
- 4. Protection for Small Users
 - a. Should the GSA reserve allocations for small pumpers, or cap trade volumes to prevent market dominance?
 - b. Require sellers to reasonably demonstrate the water can be put to beneficial use? (e.g. crop factors x years of trade, etc.)
- 5. Tracking/Transparency
 - a. Use a simple water accounting system (spreadsheet) to track trades and usage.
 - b. Should trade records be private or summarized for public reporting?
- 6. Approval Process
 - a. Staff-administered and/or board approval process?
 - b. Require a basic transfer form signed by both parties



TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 7e

FROM: Taylor Blakslee

DATE: June 26, 2025

SUBJECT: Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on CMA Carryover Policy

Recommended Motion

SAC and Board feedback requested.

Discussion

As part of the fiscal year 2025–2026 budget adopted on May 7, 2025, the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) board included the potential development of groundwater carryover program as part of the fiscal year project priorities. In response, a Board ad hoc committee (Directors Higbee, Jackson, Williams, and Wooster) met on June 18, 2025, to review draft policy considerations for a potential groundwater carryover program. The key considerations for establishing a carryover program as outlined in **Attachment 1**.

Staff are requesting SAC and Board feedback on these policy considerations and potential implementation schedule.

Carryover Key Policy Considerations for the Cuyama Basin GSA

Background

On March 5, 2025, the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) Board provided direction on GSA project prioritization to include in the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget. On May 7, 2025, the CBGSA Board adopted the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget, which included potentially developing and implementing a groundwater carryover program in the Central Management Area (CMA). A Board ad hoc was formed (Directors Higbee, Jackson, Williams, and Wooster) and met on June 18, 2025, to review the below draft policy considerations for potentially developing a groundwater carryover program.

Potential Implementation Schedule

The Board has expressed interest in considering the development of a carryover policy in the past, but may be developed during Fiscal Year 2025-2026, or deferred to a later time at the Board's discretion.

Carryover Policy Considerations

1. Term
 - a) Annual, or multi-year (up to 5 years)?
 - b) Forfeited if not used within 5 years.
2. What Qualifies as Carryover Water
 - a) Any unused allocation at the end of the year?
 - b) Only unused water that is less than or equal to the 2040 sustainable yield?
3. Landowner Participation Eligibility
 - a) Landowner to be in good financial standing with the GSA?
4. Leave-Behind Factor
 - a) Consider annual factor for losses (e.g., 5–10% of carryover lost annually).
5. Priority of Use
 - a) Define the order: typically, carryover is used before current-year allocation.
6. Transferability of Carryover
 - a) Can carryover water be traded like current-year allocation?
7. Tracking/Transparency
 - a) Use a simple water accounting system (spreadsheet) to track carryover and usage.
 - b) Should carryover records be private or summarized for public reporting?
8. Approval Process
 - a) Staff-administered and/or board approval process?



TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 7f

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: June 26, 2025

SUBJECT: Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Revising Sustainable Management Criteria at Opti Well No. 118

Recommended Motion

Approve revision of Minimum Threshold for Well No. 118 from 40 feet to 72 feet depth to water.

Discussion

The Minimum Threshold (MT) for Depth to Water (DTW) helps protect nearby wells by considering surrounding well depths.

The MT for Monitoring Well No. 118 was originally set at 40 feet, but this was influenced by a nearby shallow well that appears to be misclassified or dry. Removing that well results in a revised MT of 72 feet, based on the deepest historical measurement and a standard buffer.

An overview of this issue is provided in **Attachment 1**. Staff recommend SAC/Board approve revising the MT to 72 feet DTW.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

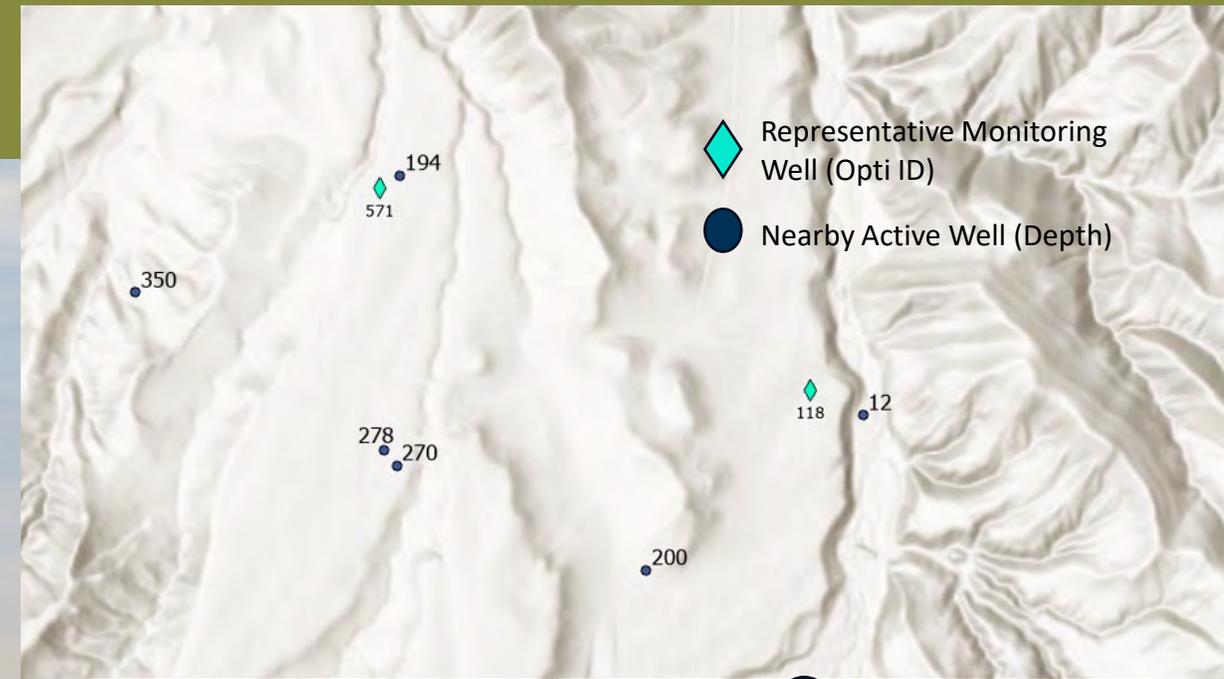
7f. Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Revising Sustainable Management Criteria at Opti Well No. 118
Brian Van Lienden

June 26, 2025



Revising Sustainable Management Criteria at Opti Well No. 118

- Minimum Threshold (MT) is currently **40 feet Depth to Water (DTW)** based on well protection depth criteria
- Well protection depth estimate was skewed by the presence of a shallow (12-foot depth) nearby well in the database
 - This well depth is likely to be erroneous (or the well is actually dry)
- If nearby well is removed, then the revised MT would be **72 feet DTW** based on deepest historical measurement (+ buffer) criteria
- **Does the SAC/Board approve revising the Minimum Threshold to 72 feet (DTW)?**





TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 7g

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: June 26, 2025

SUBJECT: Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Replacing Well 608 in the Representative Monitoring Network

Recommended Motion

Approve replacing Well 608 with newly installed well in the representative monitoring network.

Discussion

In 2024, Opti Well 608 was destroyed, and groundwater level measurements have since been collected from a newly installed nearby well, as summarized in **Attachment 1**.

Staff is requesting SAC/Board direction on updating the Representative Monitoring Network to reflect the new well.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

7g. Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Replacing Well 608
in the Representative Monitoring Network

Brian Van Lienden

June 26, 2025

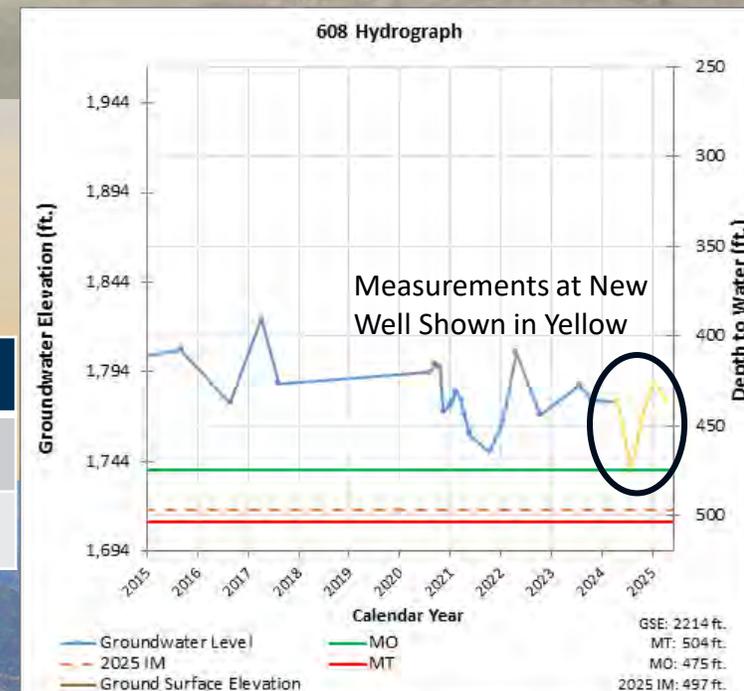


Replacing Well 608 in the Representative Monitoring Network

- Opti Well 608 was destroyed in early 2024
- Since April 2024, Provost & Pritchard has taken measurements at a newly installed nearby well in its place
- **Does the SAC/Board approve replacing Well 608 with the newly installed well in the representative monitoring network?**
 - Minimum Threshold (MT) and Measurable Objective (MO) would be unchanged in terms of elevation
 - Depth to Water MT and MO would be adjusted by 0.4 feet due to the difference in ground surface elevation



	Well 608	New Well
Well Depth	745 ft	1,177 ft
Perforation	305'-745'	562'-1177'





TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 8a

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: June 26, 2025

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.

May-Jun Accomplishments

- ✓ Finalized fault investigation report and posted on Cuyama Basin website (<https://cuyamabasin.org/resources.html#basin-reports>)
- ✓ Developed approaches for pumping allocation evaluation options
- ✓ Developed April 2025 Groundwater Conditions Report
- ✓ Performed DMS data updates
- ✓ Installed transducers in newly installed wells
- ✓ Finalized amendment for grant agreement and prepared grant invoice submittal



TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 8b

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: June 26, 2025

SUBJECT: Update on Grant-Funded Projects

Recommended Motion

None – information only.

Discussion

An update on Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) grant-funded projects is provided as Attachment 1.

Updates on Grant Funded Projects

- Grant amendment to extend agreement to December 2025 was approved to allow for completion of CIMIS station installation
 - Work on other technical grant components complete as of the end of June 2025
- Technical Work Updates:
 - Cloud seeding report has been posted on the Cuyama Basin website here: <https://cuyamabasin.org/resources.html#basin-reports>
 - Transducers have been installed in newly installed wells



TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 8c

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: June 26, 2025

SUBJECT: Update on April 2025 Groundwater Conditions Report

Recommended Motion

None – information only.

Discussion

The quarterly Groundwater Conditions– Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin April 2025 report is summarized as Attachment 1 and the detailed report is provided as Attachment 2.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Update on Quarterly Groundwater Conditions Report

June 26, 2025

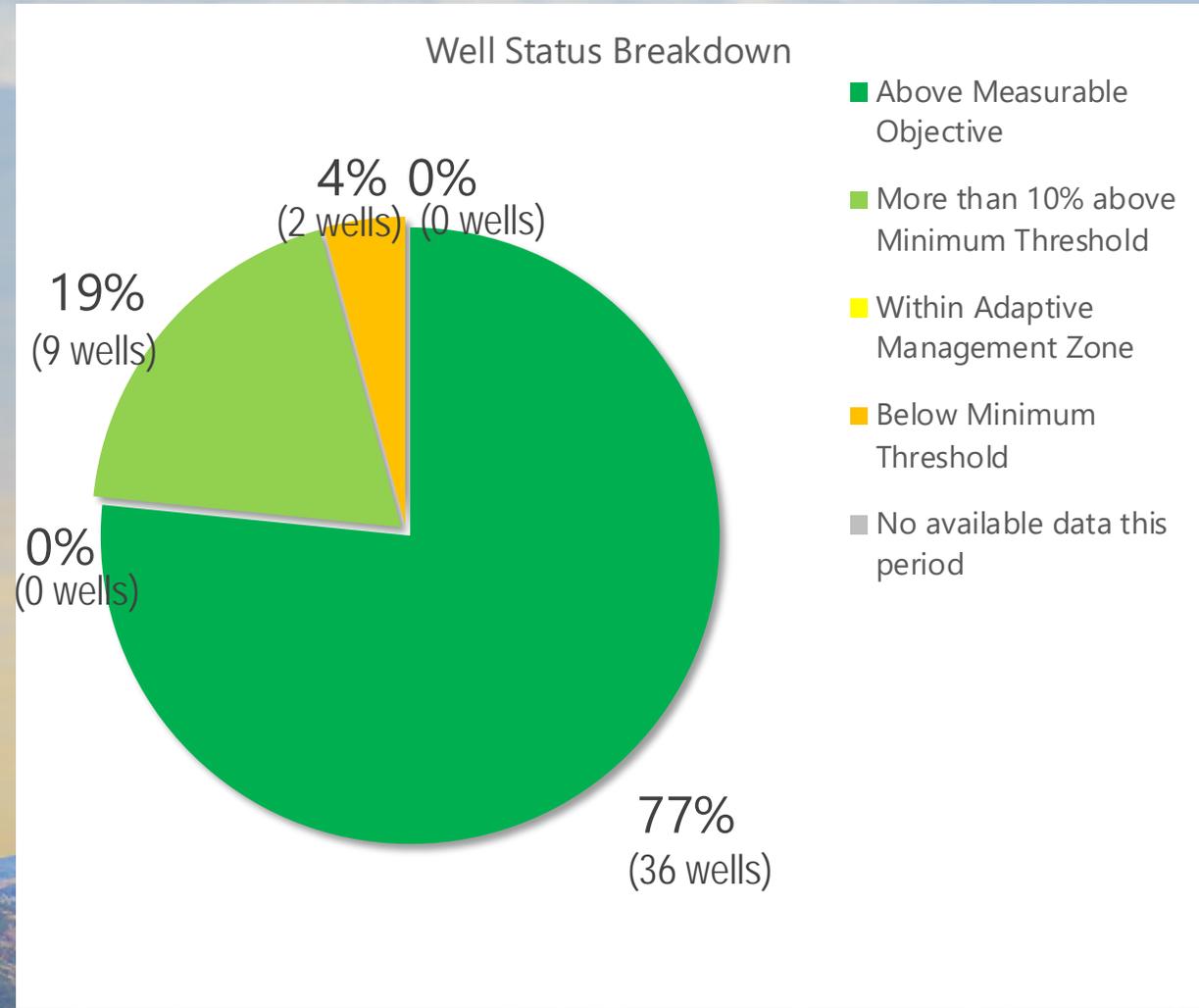


Groundwater Levels Monitoring Network – Summary of Current Conditions

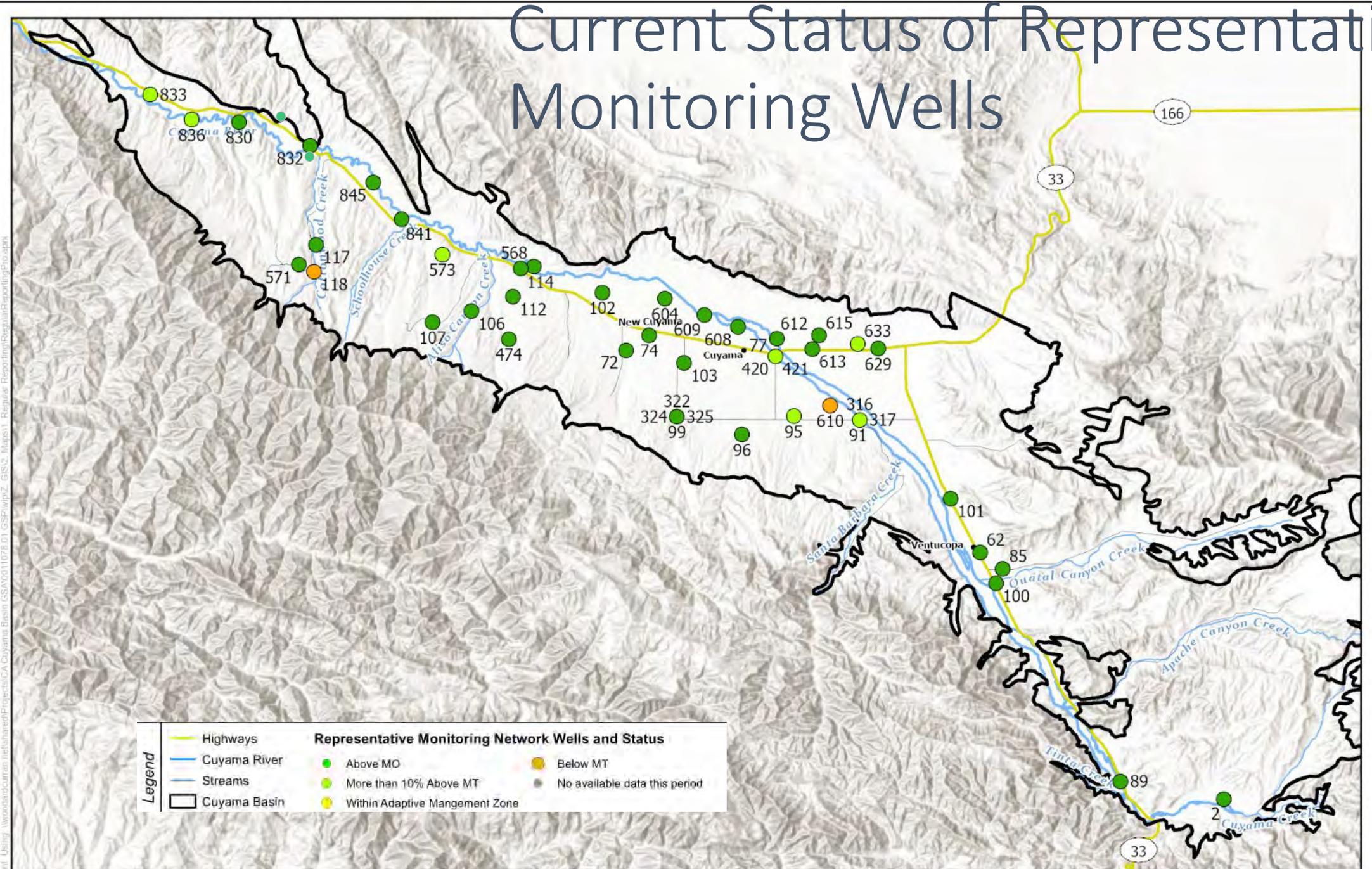
- Monitoring data from October 2024, January 2025, and April 2025 for representative wells is included in the Groundwater Conditions report
- All 47 representative monitoring wells have levels data at least once in the previous 12 months
- 2 wells were below the updated minimum threshold based on latest measurement since July 2024

Summary of Groundwater Well Levels as Compared To Sustainability Criteria

- 2 wells are currently below the updated minimum threshold (MT)
 - 2 wells (4%) have been below the MT for at least 24 months
 - 0 wells dropped below the MT in April 2025
 - 0 wells moved above the MT in April 2025

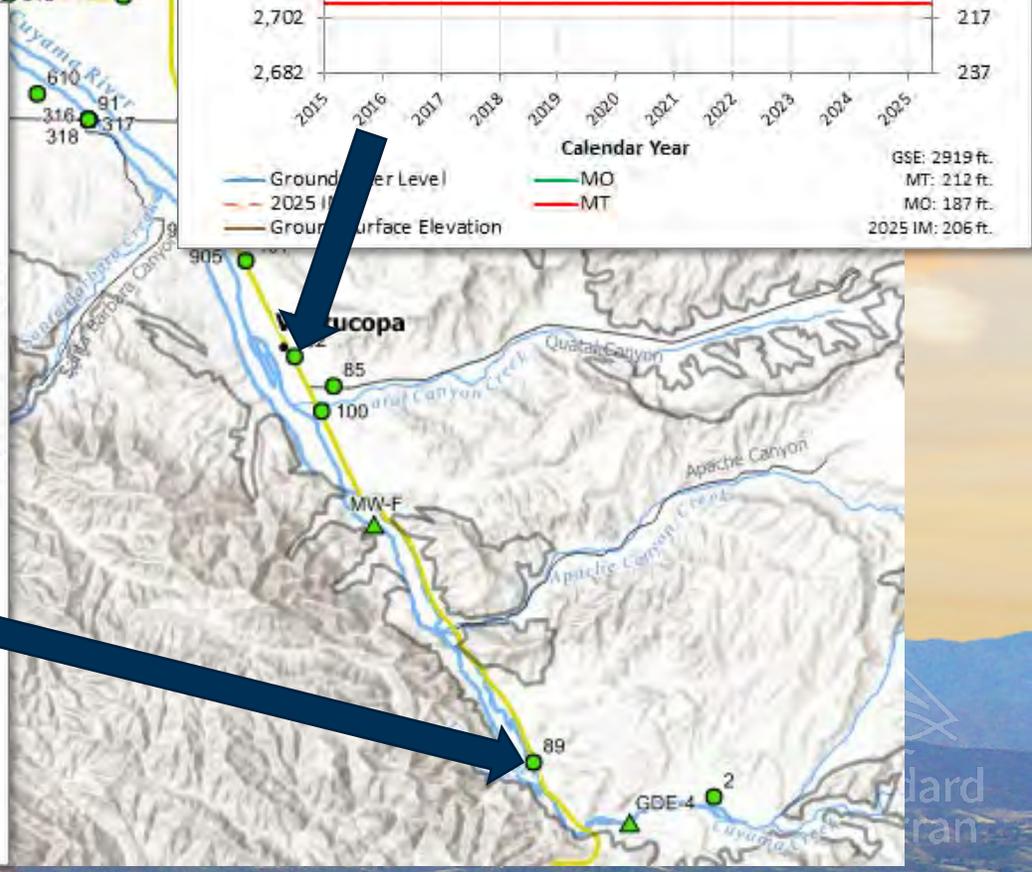
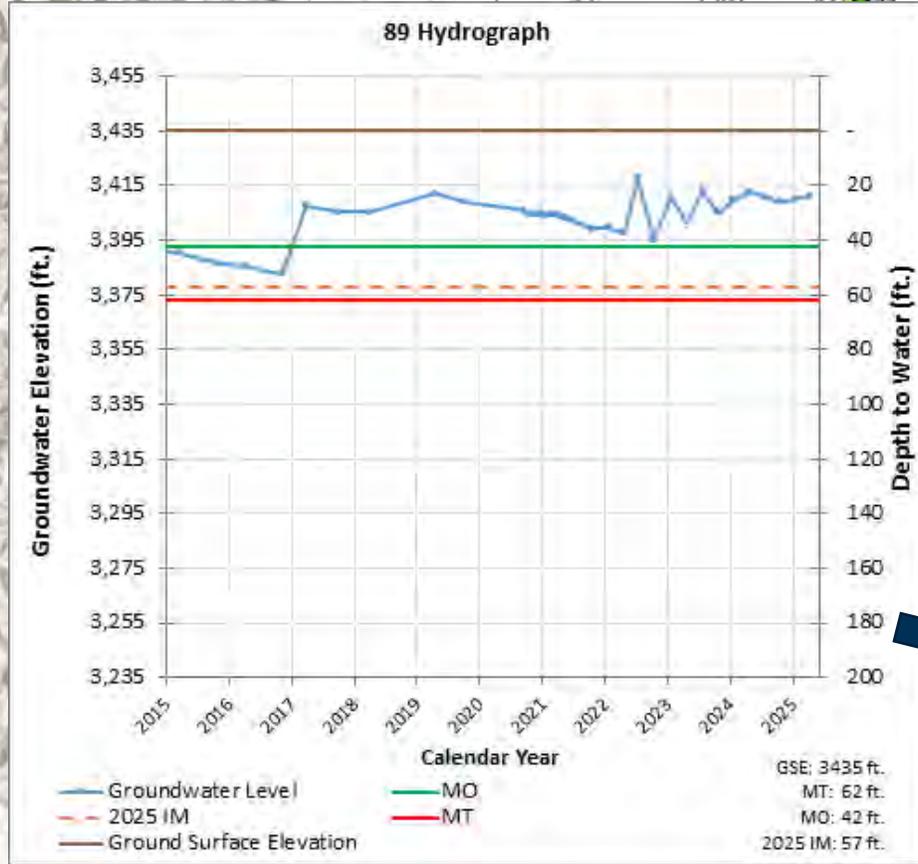
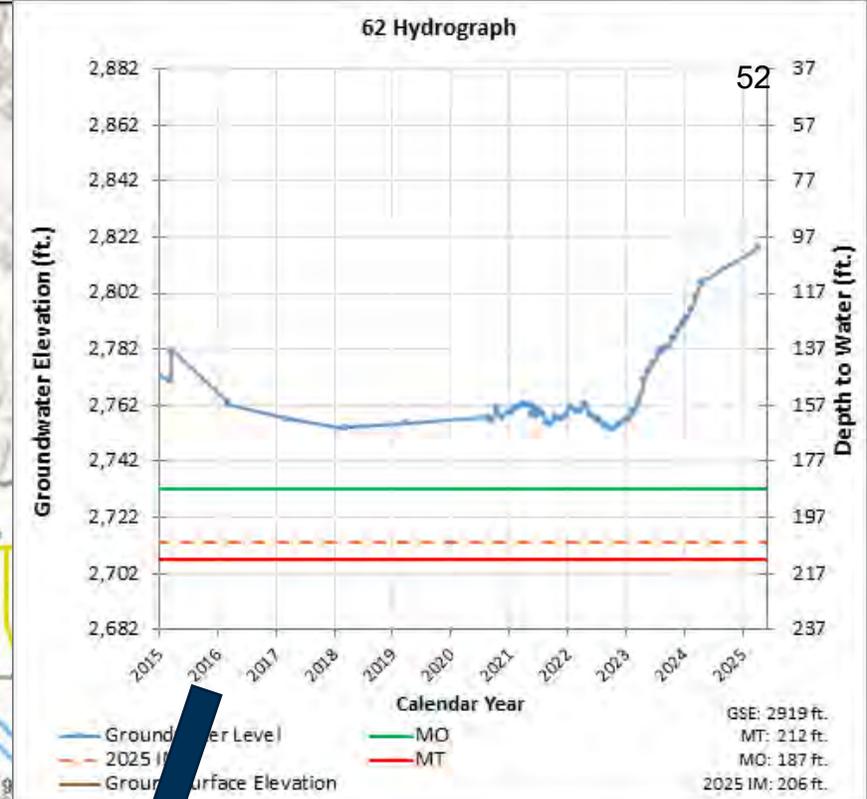
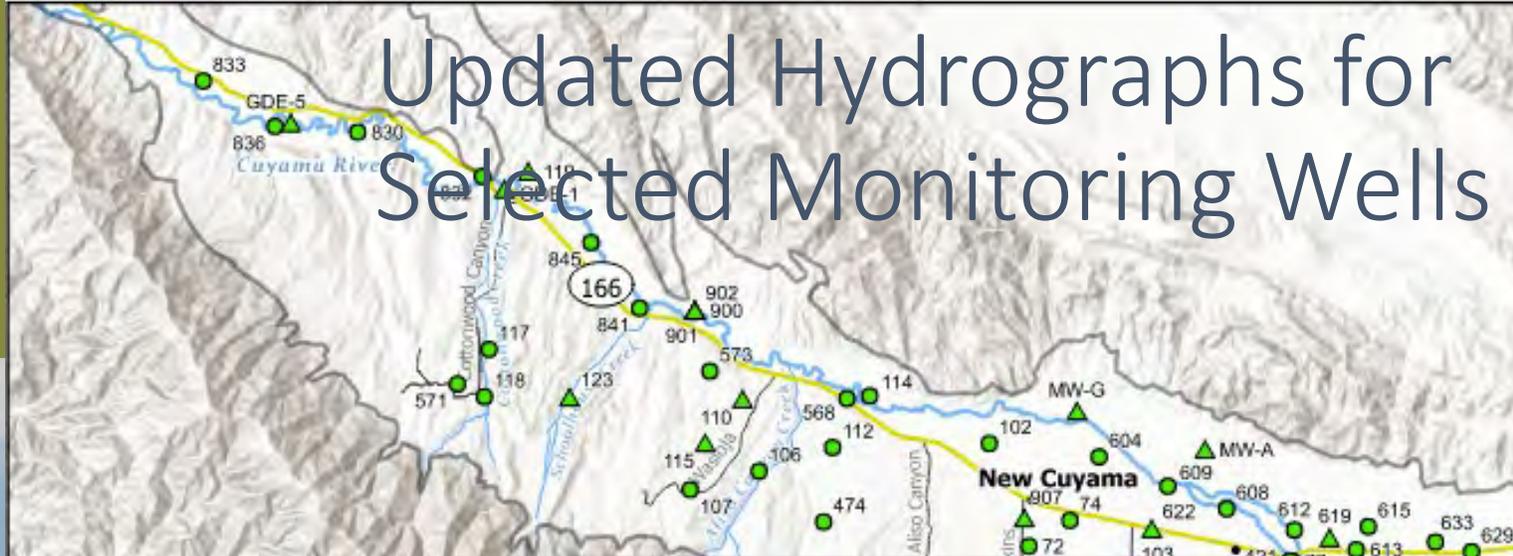


Current Status of Representative Monitoring Wells

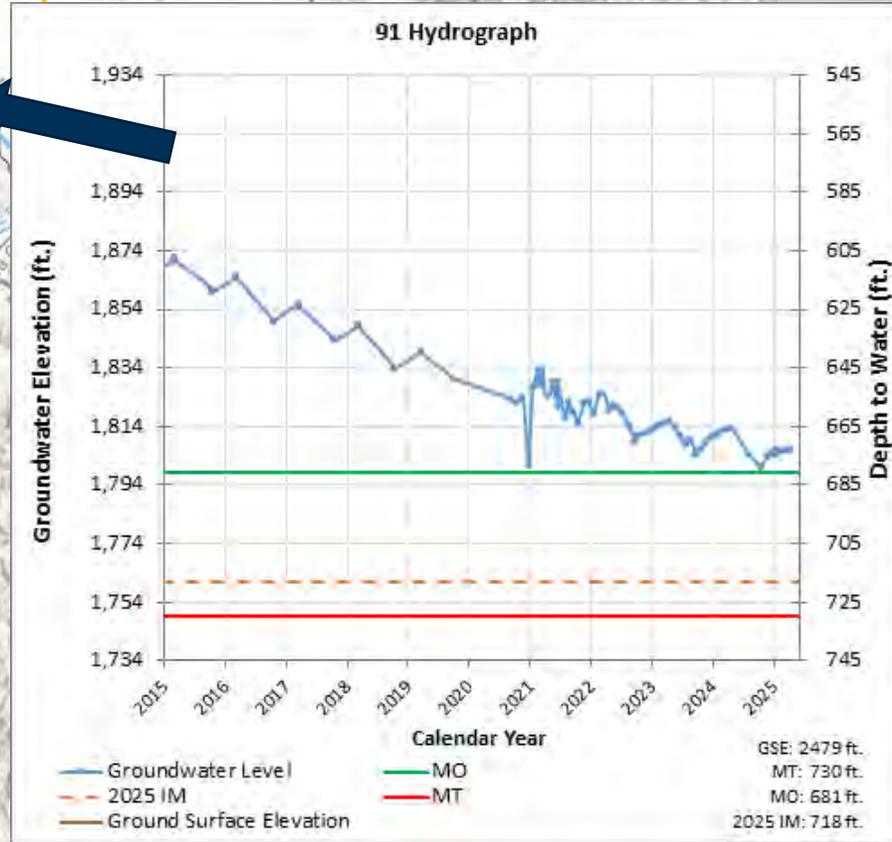
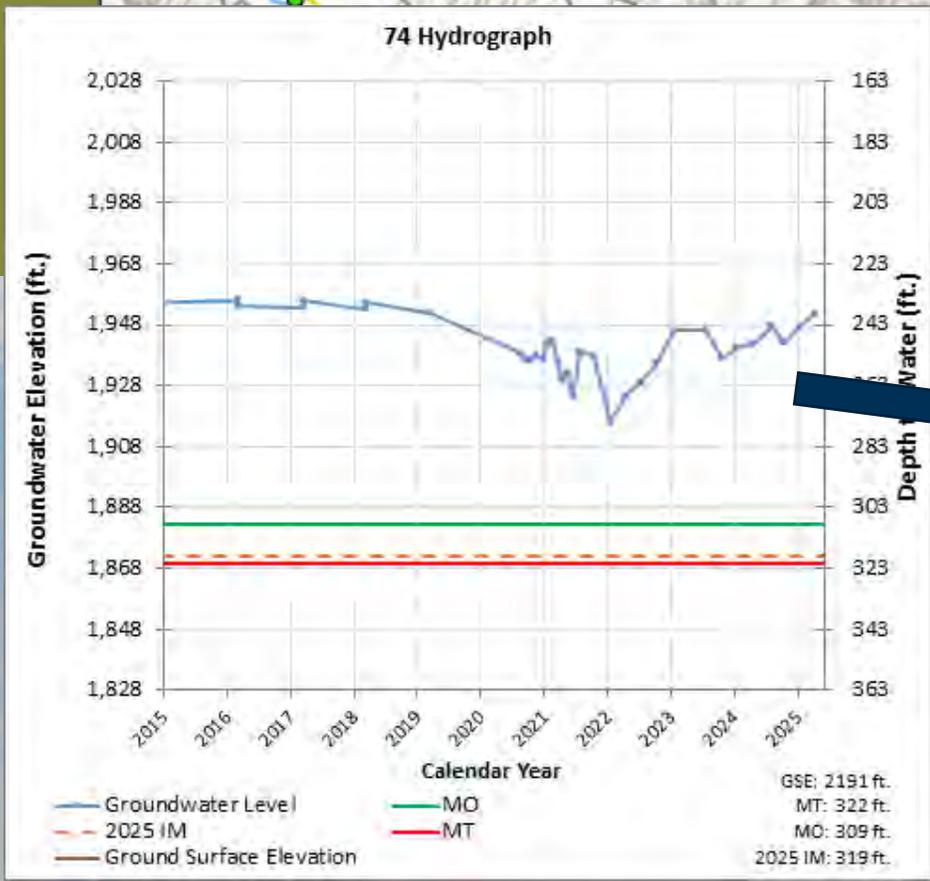


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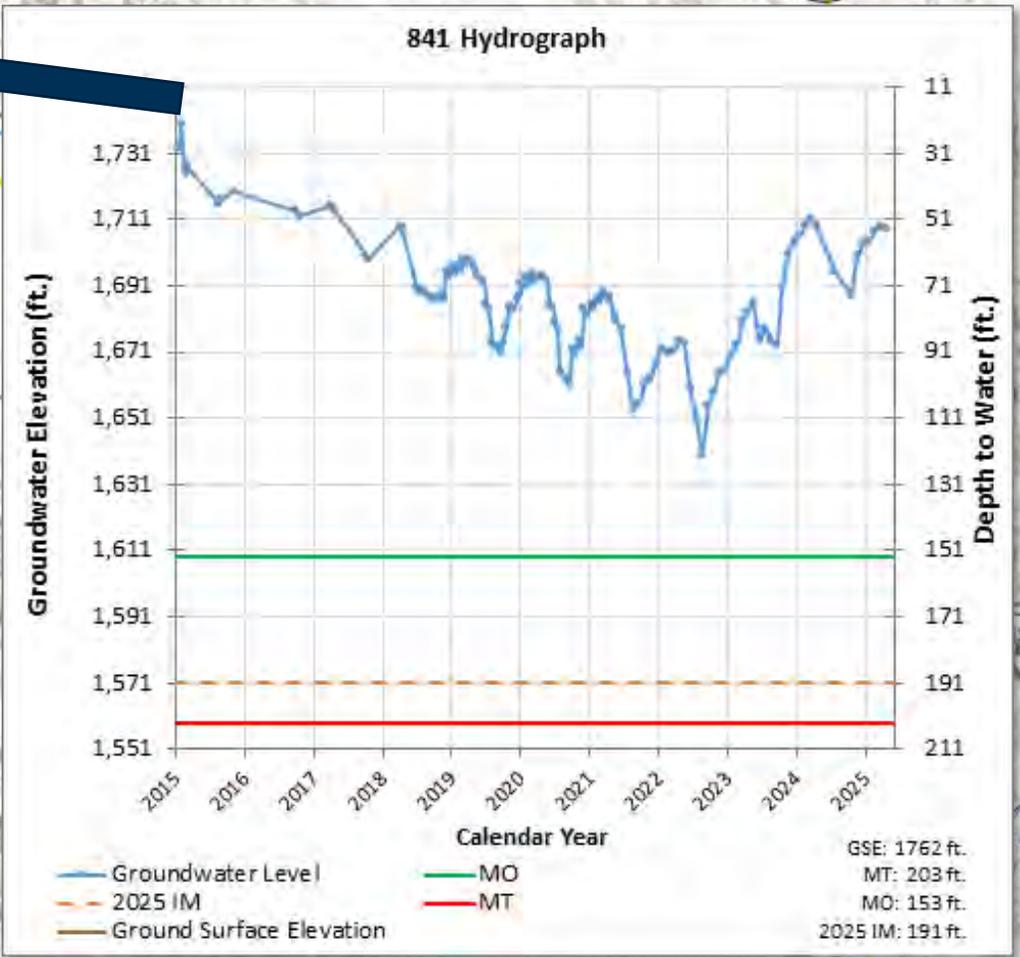
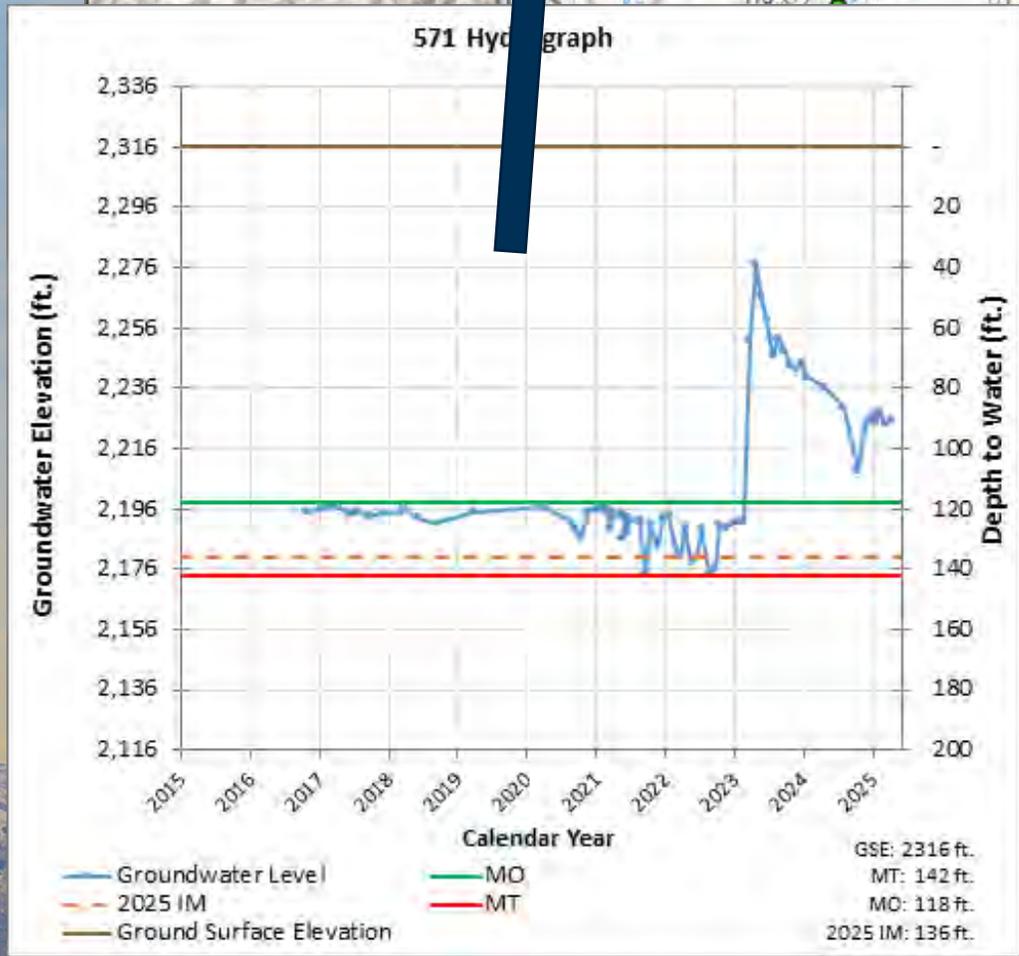
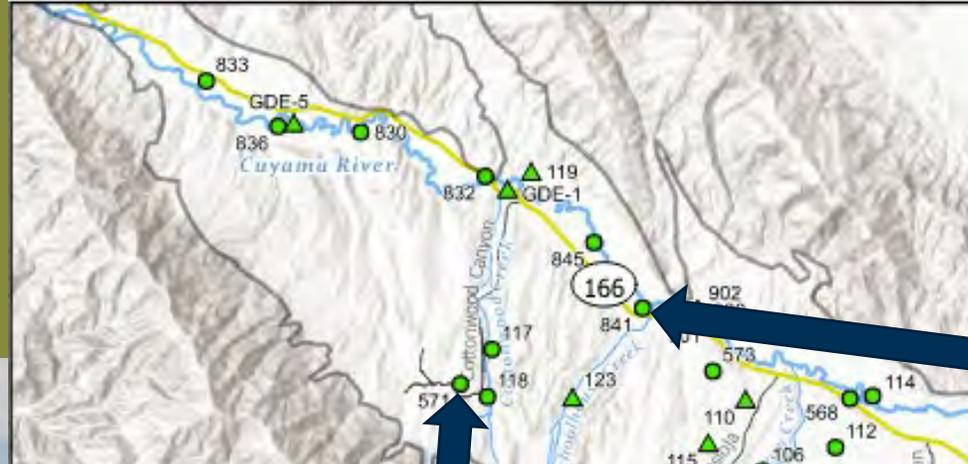
Updated Hydrographs for Selected Monitoring Wells



Updated Hydrographs for Selected Monitoring Wells



Updated Hydrographs for Selected Monitoring Wells



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

April 2025

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Sacramento, CA
916.999.8700

woodardcurran.com

**Cuyama Basin
Groundwater
Sustainability Agency**

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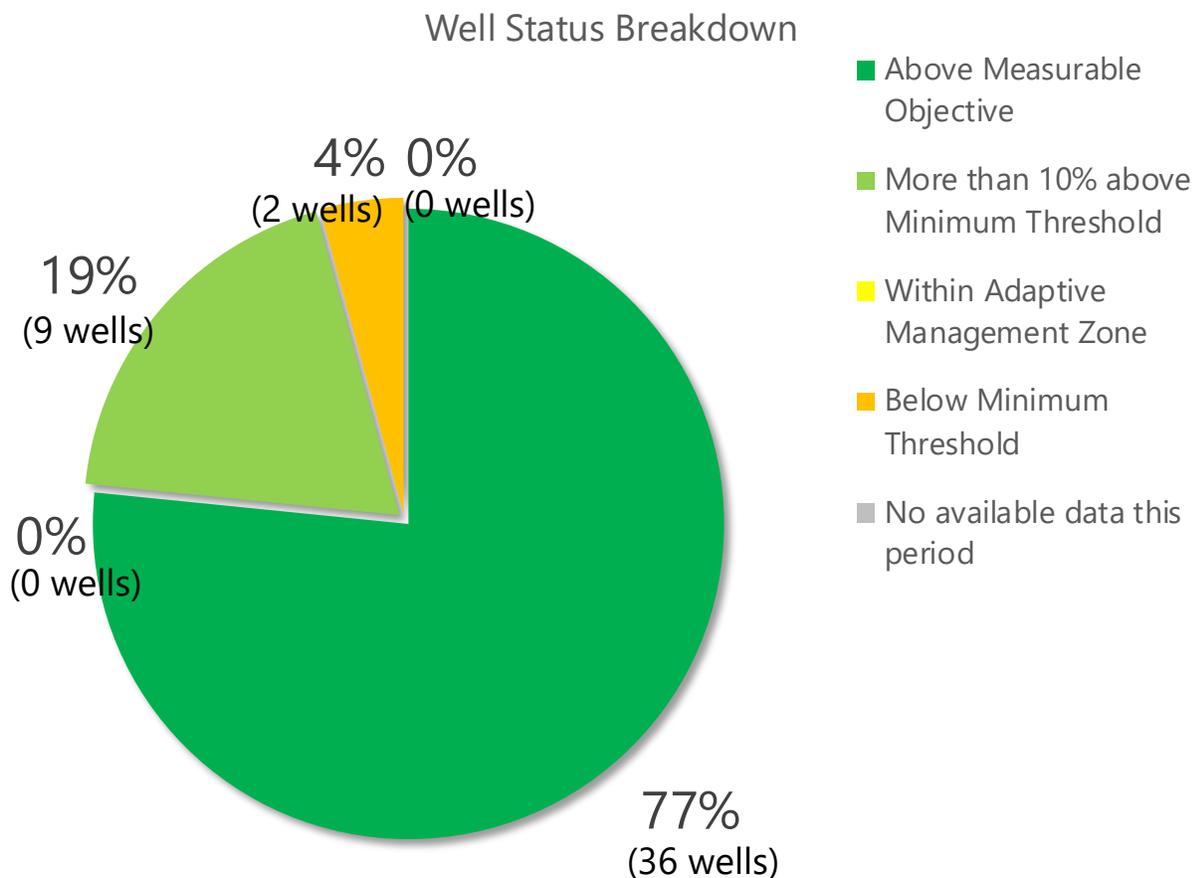
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1. INTRODUCTION

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



There are currently 2 wells with groundwater levels exceeding the updated minimum thresholds. 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, 4% of representative monitoring wells (i.e. 2 wells) have exceeded the minimum threshold for 24 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 and the measurement from the same time period in the previous year. 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 are also 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	Oct-24	Jan-25	Apr-25	Last Year		Annual Elevation Change
		GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	Month/ Year	
72	Central	2005	2034	2025	2034	Apr-24	-9.9
74	Central	1942	1947	1951	1941	Apr-24	9.7
77	Central	1766	1791	1777	1795	Apr-24	-18.2
91	Central	1800	1806	1806	1813	Apr-24	-7.6
95	Central	1867	1867	1868	2389	Apr-24	-520.2
96	Central	2266	2266	2268	2269	Apr-24	-0.9
99	Central	2145	2212	2156	2218	Apr-24	-61.4
102	Central	1671	1763	1669	-	-	-
103	Central	2051	2054	2057	2050	Apr-24	6.8
112	Central	2043	2043	2046	2042	Apr-24	4.1
114	Central	1878	1879	1881	1880	Apr-24	1.1
316	Central	1800	1804	1805	1812	Apr-24	-7.6
317	Central	1802	1806	1806	1814	Apr-24	-7.5
322	Central	2138	2211	2152	2217	Apr-24	-65.5
324	Central	2169	2210	2178	2216	Apr-24	-37.9
325	Central	2193	2211	2194	2216	Apr-24	-22.1
420	Central	1766	1791	1775	1794	Apr-24	-19.3
421	Central	1781	1795	1787	1800	Apr-24	-12.9
474	Central	2235	2234	2236	2232	Apr-24	4.8
568	Central	1858	1873	1878	1874	Apr-24	4.3

Well	Region	Oct-24	Jan-25	Apr-25	Last Year		Annual Elevation Change
		GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	Month/ Year	
604	Central	1650	1667	1668	1655	Apr-24	12.5
608	Central	1769	1790	1779	1778	Apr-24	0.8
609	Central	1722	1725	1732	1723	Apr-24	9.6
610	Central	1795	1801	1803	1808	Apr-24	-4.7
612	Central	1805	1803	1817	1796	Apr-24	20.8
613	Central	1818	-	1805	1797	Apr-24	8.3
615	Central	1805	1795	1797	1806	Apr-24	-8.7
629	Central	1800	1802	1805	1821	Apr-24	-15.4
633	Central	1805	-	1798	1800	Apr-24	-1.4
62	Eastern	-	-	2818	2806	Apr-24	11.9
85	Eastern	2907	2908	2910	2891	Apr-24	19.1
100	Eastern	2935	2930	2928	2939	Apr-24	-11
101	Eastern	2655	2671	2678	2658	Apr-24	19.6
841	Northwestern	1688	1704	1708	1709	Feb-24	-1.7
845	Northwestern	1632	1642	1645	1643	Feb-24	1.9
2	Southeastern	3686	3699	3697	3706	Apr-24	-8.7
89	Southeastern	3409	3410	3411	3413	Apr-24	-1.5
106	Western	2176	2176	2178	2175	Apr-24	2.2
107	Western	2419	2418	2418	2419	Apr-24	-0.7
117	Western	1945	1944	1945	1947	Apr-24	-2
118	Western	2212	2212	2212	2213	Apr-24	-0.6

Well	Region	Oct-24	Jan-25	Apr-25	Last Year		Annual Elevation Change
		GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	Month/ Year	
571	Western	2209	2225	2226	2236	Apr-24	-10.8
573	Western	2012	2012	2016	2010	Apr-24	6.1
830	Far-West Northwestern	-	-	-	1511	Apr-24	-
832	Far-West Northwestern	1605	1605	1608	1604	Apr-24	3.7
833	Far-West Northwestern	1436	1436	1440	1433	Apr-24	7.1
836	Far-West Northwestern	1477	1477	1480	1479	Apr-24	0.7

*Well 608 is now confirmed to be “destroyed” and is no longer available for monitoring. The landowner and monitoring staff have identified a well within 100 ft that is suitable to continue monitoring in this location, and the groundwater level monitoring network will be modified to remove well 608 and add in this new well. The new well is in the process of being incorporated into Opti and being assigned an ID number.

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	145	4/11/2025	373	369	328	790	Above Measurable Objective	No
74	Central	240	4/10/2025	322	321	309	-	Above Measurable Objective	No
77	Central	506	4/10/2025	514	509	464	980	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
91	Central	673	4/11/2025	730	725	681	980	Above Measurable Objective	No
95	Central	589	4/11/2025	597	594	562	805	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
96	Central	340	4/9/2025	369	368	361	500	Above Measurable Objective	No
99	Central	348	4/9/2025	379	378	368	750	Above Measurable Objective	No
102	Central	374	4/10/2025	470	466	432	-	Above Measurable Objective	No
103	Central	230	4/9/2025	379	374	324	1030	Above Measurable Objective	No
112	Central	83	4/10/2025	102	102	100	441	Above Measurable Objective	No
114	Central	46	4/10/2025	58	58	56	58	Above Measurable Objective	No
316	Central	675	4/11/2025	731	726	682	830	Above Measurable Objective	No
317	Central	673	4/11/2025	700	695	650	700	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
322	Central	352	4/9/2025	387	386	378	850	Above Measurable Objective	No
324	Central	326	4/9/2025	365	364	353	560	Above Measurable Objective	No
325	Central	310	4/9/2025	331	330	323	380	Above Measurable Objective	No
420	Central	508	4/10/2025	514	509	464	780	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						
421	Central	496	4/10/2025	514	509	466	620	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
474	Central	129	4/10/2025	197	195	178	213	Above Measurable Objective	No
568	Central	34	4/10/2025	47	47	46	188	Above Measurable Objective	No
604	Central	450	4/10/2025	544	540	505	924	Above Measurable Objective	No
608	Central	435	4/11/2025	504	501	475	745	Above Measurable Objective	No
609	Central	434	4/10/2025	499	495	462	970	Above Measurable Objective	No
610	Central	637	4/11/2025	557	554	527	780	Below Minimum Threshold (57 months)	No
612	Central	455	4/11/2025	513	511	490	1070	Above Measurable Objective	No
613	Central	523	4/11/2025	578	575	550	830	Above Measurable Objective	No
615	Central	526	4/11/2025	588	585	556	865	Above Measurable Objective	No
629	Central	574	4/11/2025	613	610	581	1000	Above Measurable Objective	No
633	Central	566	4/11/2025	605	600	551	1000	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
62	Eastern	101	4/9/2025	212	210	187	212	Above Measurable Objective	No
85	Eastern	139	4/9/2025	200	198	176	233	Above Measurable Objective	No
100	Eastern	80	4/9/2025	186	183	157	284	Above Measurable Objective	No
101	Eastern	70	4/9/2025	138	136	115	200	Above Measurable Objective	No
841	Northwestern	53	2/20/2025	203	198	153	600	Above Measurable Objective	No
845	Northwestern	66	2/20/2025	203	198	153	380	Above Measurable Objective	No
2	Southeastern	23	4/11/2025	52	50	35	73	Above Measurable Objective	No

Well	Region	Current Month		Minimum Threshold	Within 10% Minimum Threshold	Measurable Objective	Well Depth	Status	GSA Action Required?
		GWL (DTW)	Date						
89	Southeastern	24	4/11/2025	62	60	42	125	Above Measurable Objective	No
106	Western	141	4/10/2025	164	163	152	228	Above Measurable Objective	No
107	Western	75	4/10/2025	122	120	103	200	Above Measurable Objective	No
117	Western	153	4/10/2025	163	162	154	212	Above Measurable Objective	No
118	Western	51	4/10/2025	40	37	10	500	Below Minimum Threshold (55 months)	No
571	Western	91	4/10/2025	142	140	118	280	Above Measurable Objective	No
573	Western	66	4/10/2025	93	88	42	404	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
830	Far-West Northwestern	-	-	63	63	60	77	No Data Available this Period (Above MO in July 2024)	No
832	Far-West Northwestern	32	4/9/2025	50	49	35	132	Above Measurable Objective	No
833	Far-West Northwestern	16	4/9/2025	48	44	10	504	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
836	Far-West Northwestern	29	4/9/2025	49	45	10	325	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No

*Well 608 is now confirmed to be “destroyed” and is no longer available for monitoring. The landowner and monitoring staff have identified a well within 100 ft that is suitable to continue monitoring in this location, which is where the measurement shown was taken. The groundwater level representative network will be modified to remove well 608 and add in this new well. The new well is in the process of being incorporated into Opti and being assigned an ID number.

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

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

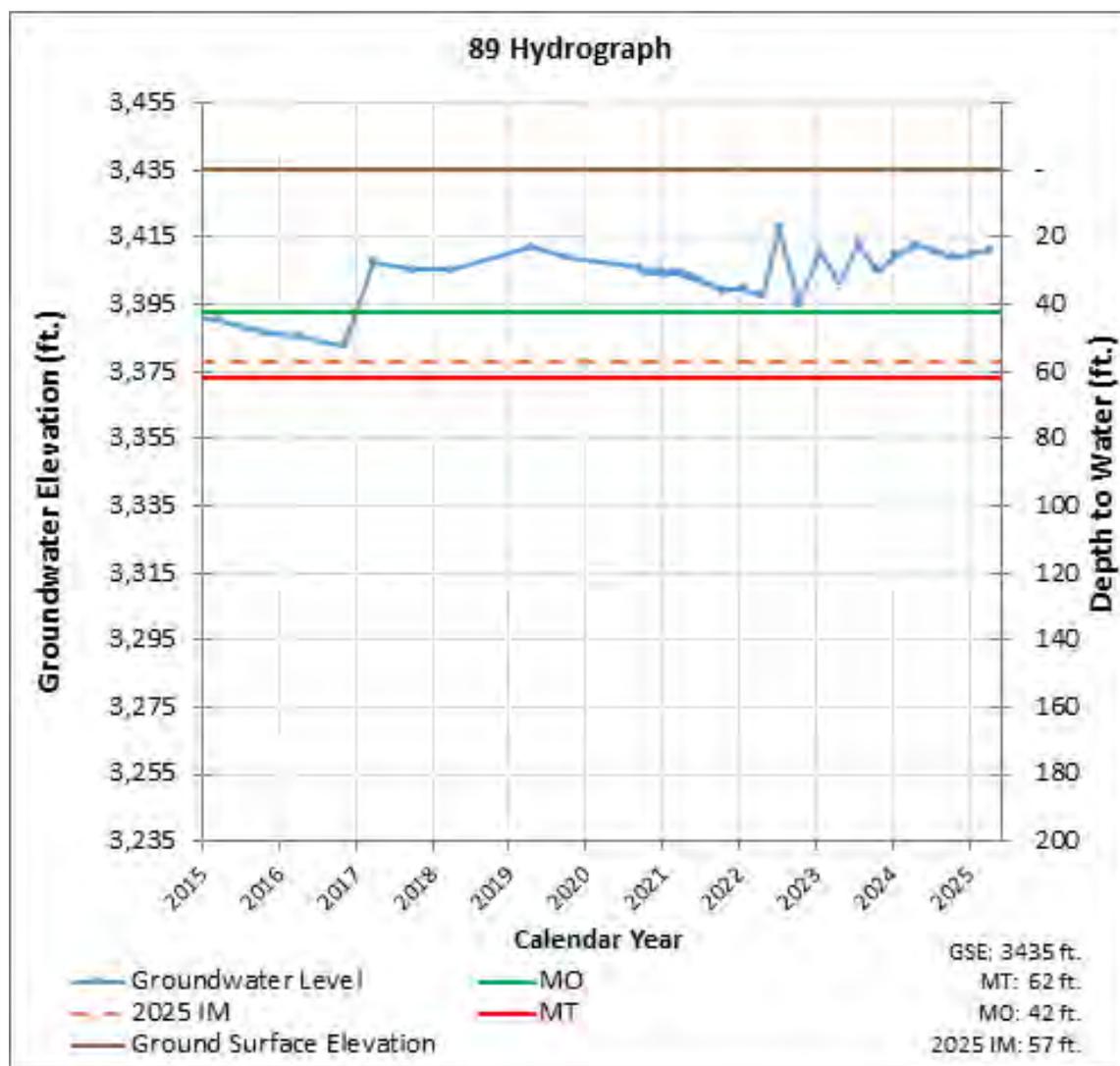


Figure 3: Eastern Region – Well 62

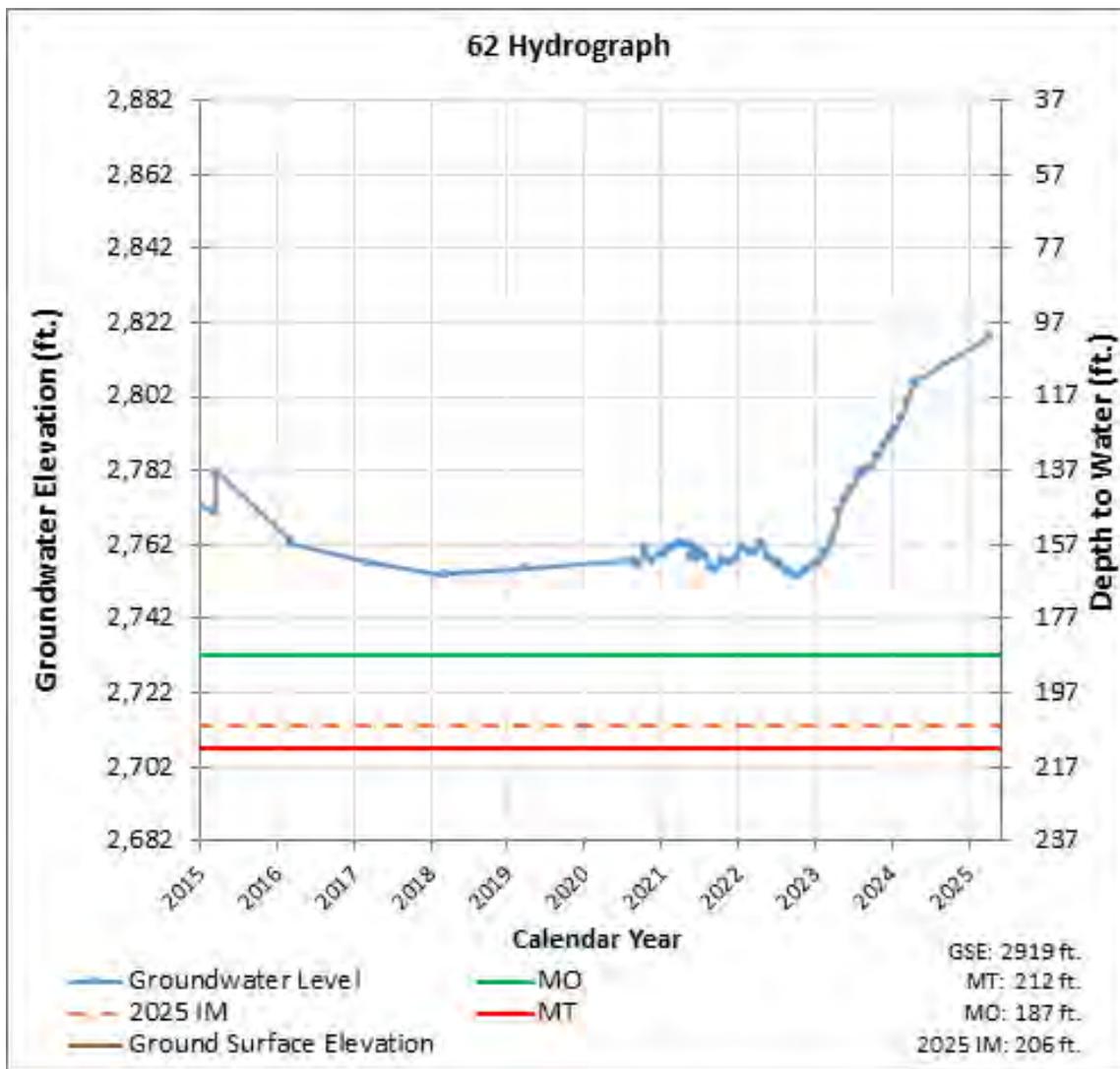


Figure 4: Central Region – Well 91

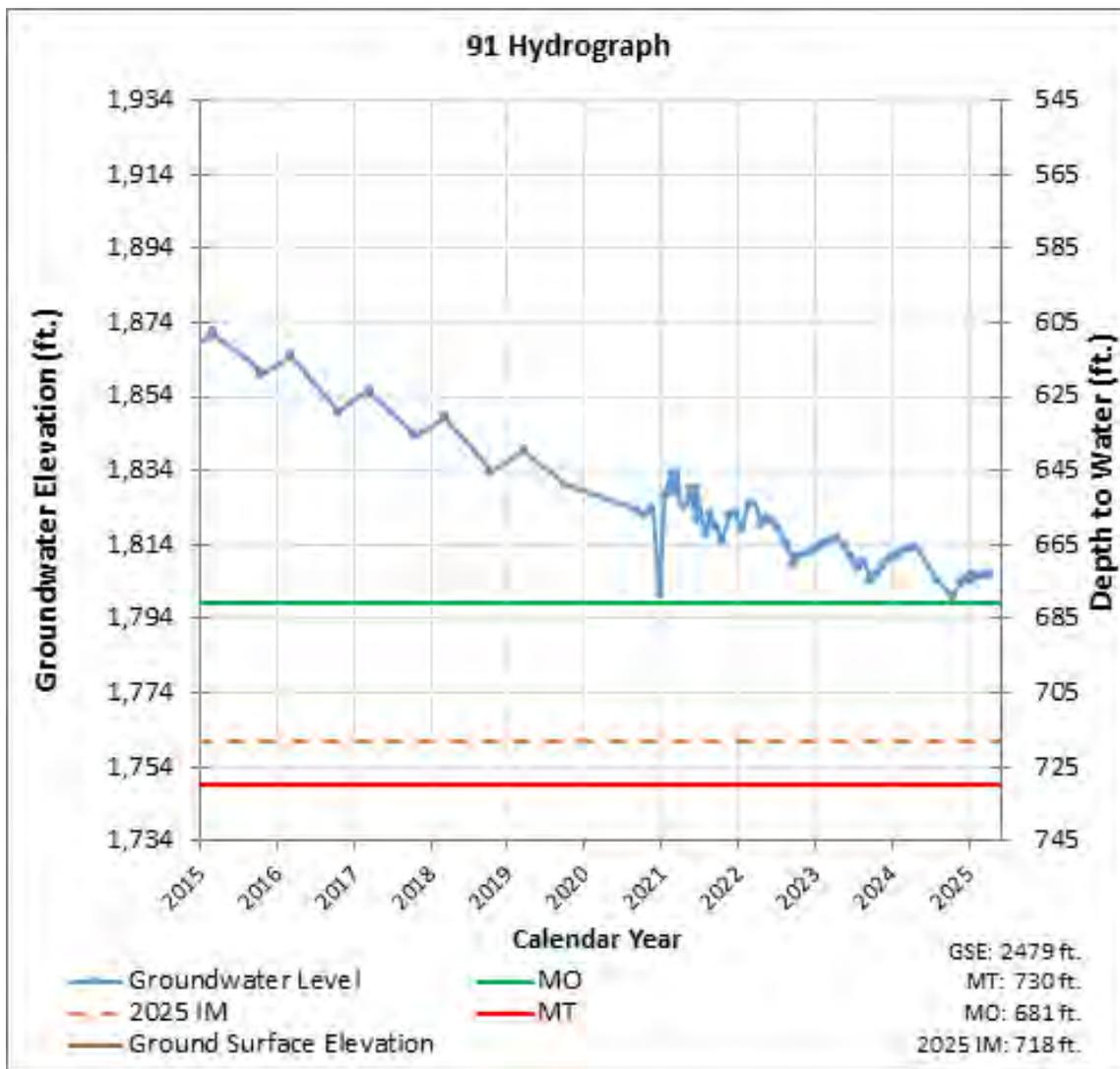


Figure 5: Central Region – Well 74

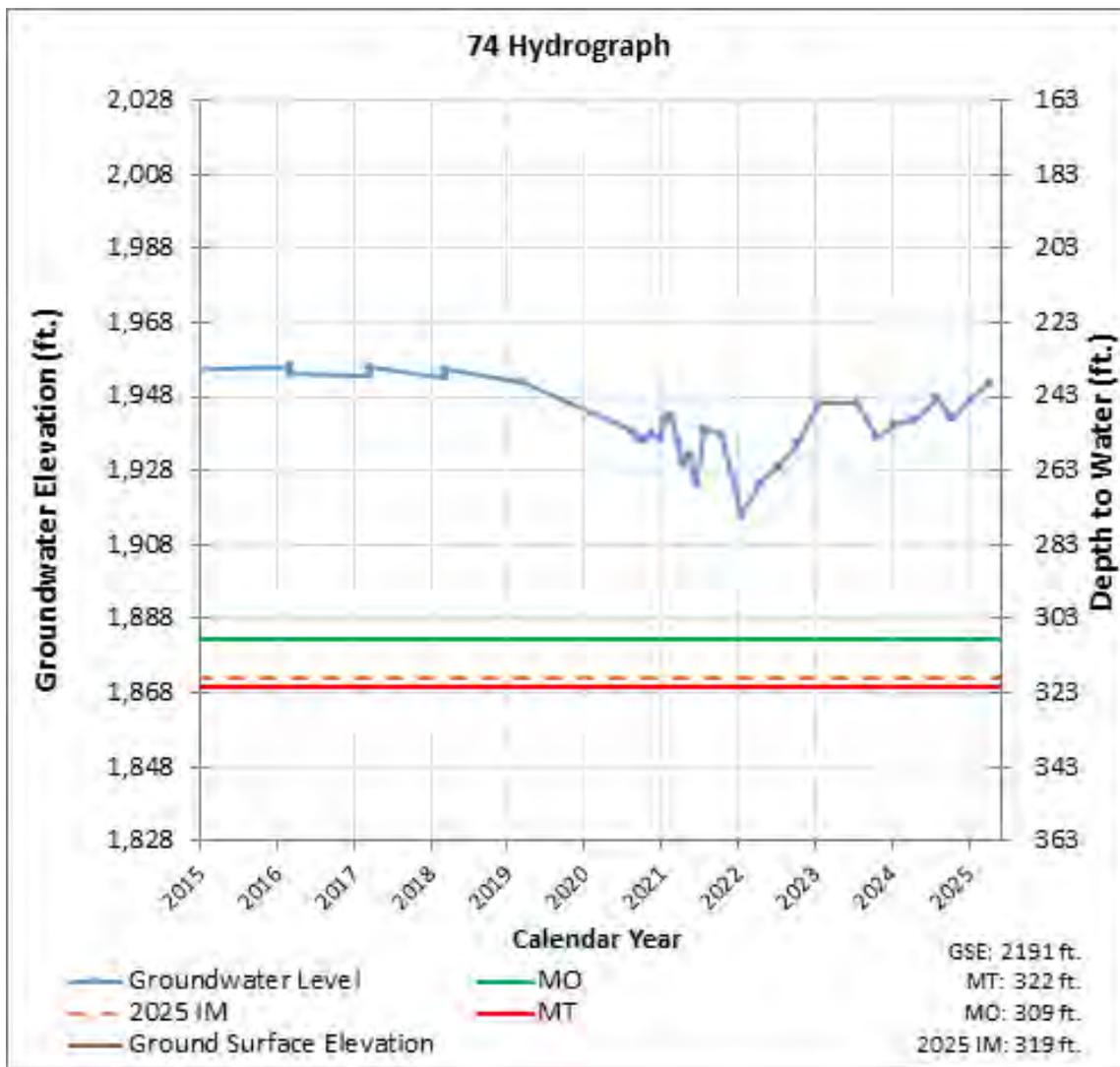


Figure 6: Western Region – Well 571

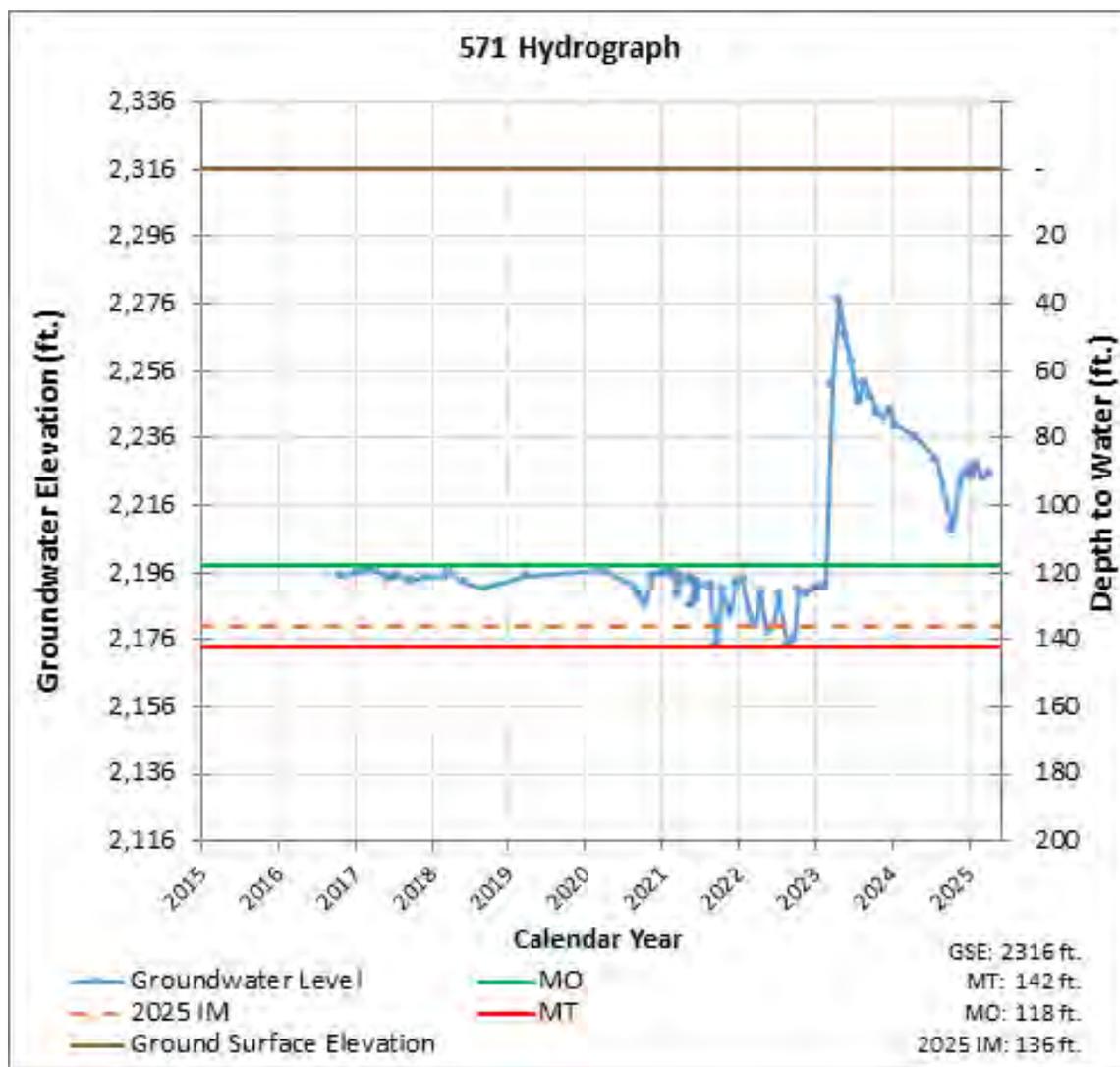
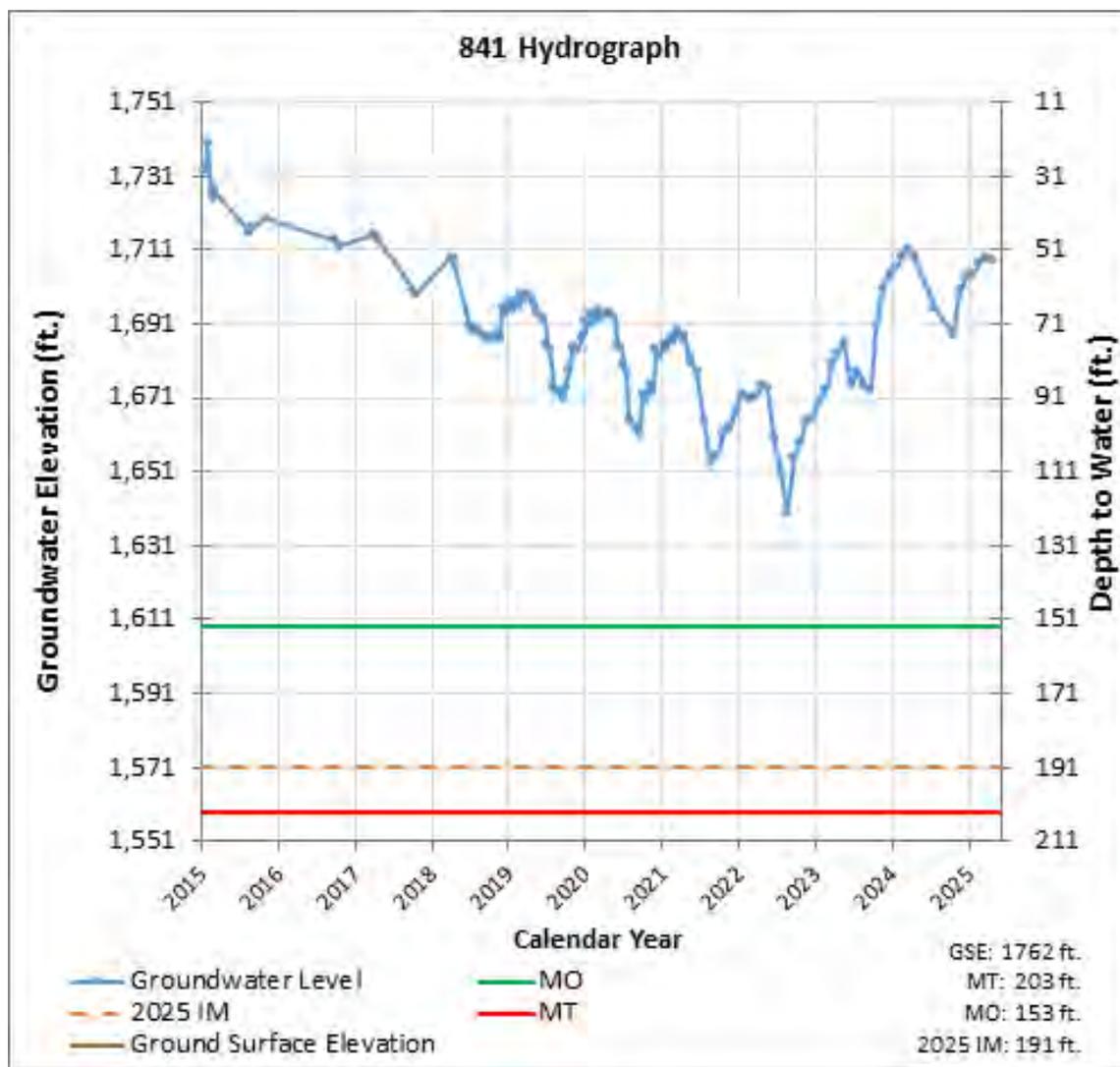


Figure 7: Northwestern Region – Well 841



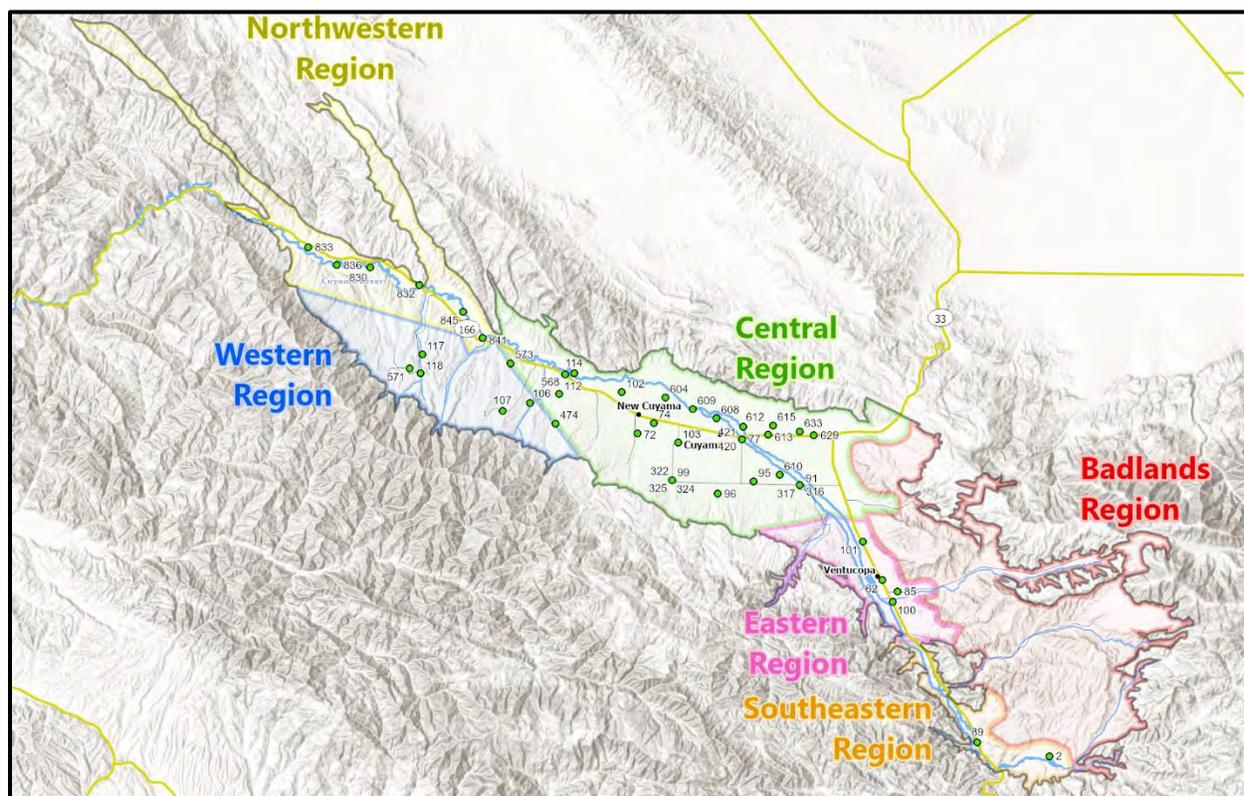


Figure 8: Threshold Regions in the Cuyama Groundwater Basin

5. MONITORING NETWORK UPDATES

As shown in Table 2, there is one well with no measurement during the current monitoring period. These “no measurement codes” can have different causes as described below.

- Landowner changed and an access agreement has not been established with the current landowner:
 - Well 830

Additionally, well 608 is now confirmed to be “destroyed” and is no longer available for monitoring. The landowner and monitoring staff have identified a well within 100 ft that is suitable to continue monitoring in this location; the data from that new well is still reported for well 608 in this version of the report. The groundwater level monitoring network will be modified to remove well 608 and add in this new well. The new well is in the process of being incorporated into Opti. The new well will use historical data from Well 608 as a proxy for future analysis conducted for GSP implementation.





TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 9c

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: June 26, 2025

SUBJECT: Board of Directors Agenda Review

Recommended Motion

None – informational only.

Discussion

The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors agenda for the July 9, 2025, Board of Directors meeting is provided as Attachment 1.



CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Board of Directors

Cory Bantilan Chair, Santa Barbara County Water Agency
Derek Yurosek Vice Chair, Cuyama Basin Water District
Vacant Secretary, County of Ventura
Byron Albano Treasurer, Cuyama Basin Water District
Jason Higbee Cuyama Basin Water District
Steve Jackson Cuyama Basin Water District

Jimmy Paulding County of San Luis Obispo
Katelyn Zenger County of Kern
Matthew Young Santa Barbara County Water Agency
Deborah Williams Cuyama Community Services District
Jane Wooster Cuyama Basin Water District

AGENDA

July 9, 2025

Agenda for a meeting of the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors to be held on Wednesday, July 9, 2025, at 2:00 PM at the **Cuyama Valley Family Resource Center 4689 CA-166, New Cuyama, CA 93254**. Participate via computer at: <https://msteams.link/4GXC> or by going to Microsoft Teams, downloading the free application, then entering Meeting ID: 211 568 992 705 Passcode: et2fD66g or enter or telephonically at (469) 480-3918 Phone Conference ID: 839 596 065#.

Teleconference Locations:

4689 CA-166 New Cuyama, CA 93254			
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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 (Bantilan) (1 min)
2. Roll Call (Blakslee) (1 min)
3. Pledge of Allegiance (Bantilan) (1 min)
4. Meeting Protocols (Blakslee) (2 min)
5. Standing Advisory Committee Meeting Report (Kelly) (3 min)
6. Elect Secretary (Bantilan) (1 min)

CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and non-controversial by staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Board or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Board concerning the item before action is taken.

7. Approve May 7, 2025, and May 22, 2025, Meeting Minutes (Bantilan) (1 min)
8. Approve Payment of Bills for April and May 2025 (Blakslee) (1 min)

9. Approve Financial Reports for April and May 2025 (Blakslee) (1 min)

ACTION ITEMS

All action items require a simple majority vote by default (50% of the vote). Items that require a super majority vote (75% of the weighted total) will be noted as such at the end of the item.

10. Director Participation at SAC Meetings (Bantilan) (3 min)
11. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation
- a) Approve CIMIS Station Setup Costs Presented by Sunridge Farms (Blakslee) (10 min)
 - b) Approve CIMIS Station Landowner Agreement (Blakslee) (10 min)
 - c) Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on the Plan and Timeline to Evaluate Allocations in the Ventucopa Management Area (Beck/Van Lienden) (45 min)
 - d) Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Identifying Regions to Use for Evaluating Expanded Allocations and Overview and Evaluation Plan and Schedule (Beck/Van Lienden) (60 min)
 - e) Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on the CMA Allocation Exchanges Policy (i.e. Water Market) (Blakslee) (45 min)
 - f) Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on CMA Carryover Policy (Blakslee) (45 min)
 - g) Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Revising Sustainable Management Criteria at Opti Well No. 118 (Van Lienden) (10 min)
 - h) Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Replacing Well 608 in the Representative Monitoring Network (Van Lienden) (10 min)

REPORT ITEMS

12. Administrative Updates
- a) Report of the Executive Director (Blakslee) (5 min)
 - b) Report of the General Counsel (Hughes) (5 min)
13. Technical Updates
- a) Update on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Activities (Van Lienden) (5 min)
 - b) Update on Grant-Funded Projects (Van Lienden) (5 min)
 - c) Update on April 2025 Groundwater Conditions Report (Van Lienden) (5 min)
14. Report of Ad Hoc Committees (1 min)
15. Directors' Forum (1 min)
16. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda (5 min)
17. Correspondence (1 min)

CLOSED SESSION

18. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (15 min)
Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1)
- (a) Bolthouse Land Company, LLC, et al v. All Persons Claiming a Right to Extract or Store Groundwater in the Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin (BCV-21-101927)
19. Adjourn (6:48 p.m.)