

San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency

DATE: January 10, 2022

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Lance Eckhart, General Manager

BY: Lance Eckhart, General Manager

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2022-02 ADOPTING THE GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FOR THE YUCAIPA SUBBASIN (BASIN NO. 8-002.07) AS A MEMBER OF THE YUCAIPA SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors adopt Resolution 2022-02, recommending approval of the Final Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Yucaipa Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

PREVIOUS CONSIDERATION

- Board of Directors – June 5, 2017 and multiple updates thereafter: The Board approved a Memorandum of Agreement be part of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Yucaipa Subbasin and has been intermittently updated as the Groundwater Sustainability Plan was developed.

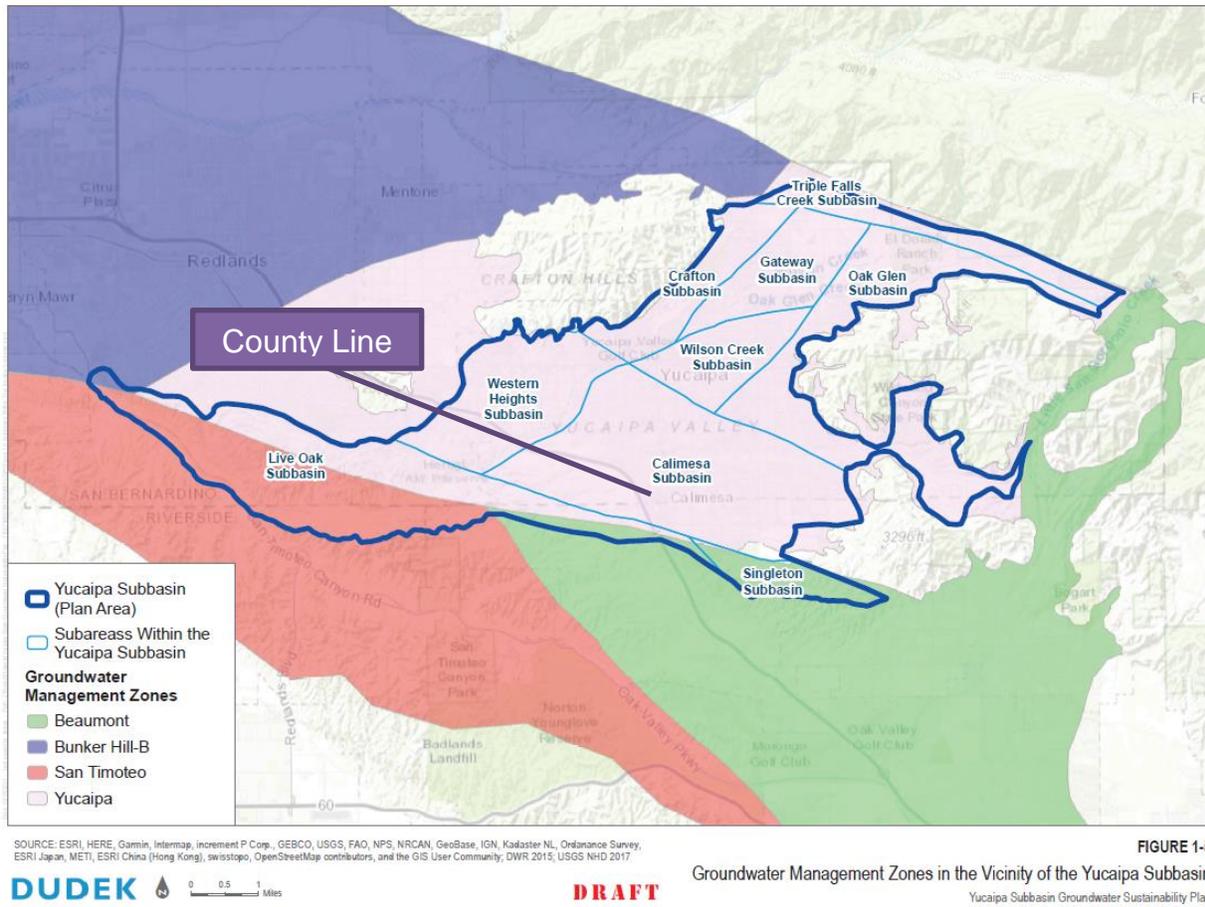
BACKGROUND

Development of the Yucaipa Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) has been a multi-year planning process that is associated with the 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). SGMA gives local resource management agencies a structure to cooperatively manage the local groundwater basin(s). SGMA's intent is to protect the long-term sustainability of the groundwater basin(s). This is done by local resource management agencies forming a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) and collaboratively developing a GSP that details how the basin is to be managed moving forward.

The Agency has been actively involved in the development of the GSA for the Yucaipa Subbasin. Additional agencies involved within the basin are South Mesa Water Company, Western Heights Water Company, the City of Calimesa, the City of Redlands, the City of Yucaipa, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, and Yucaipa Valley Water District.

The Yucaipa Subbasin (GSP area) covers parts of both San Bernardino County and Riverside County. The primary area of interest within the Yucaipa Subbasin for the Agency is the Calimesa Subbasin/Management Area. Water purveyors within the

Calimesa Subbasin/Management Area are the Yucaipa Valley Water District, South Mesa Water Company, and the City of Redlands to a lesser degree.



The GSP is available for review and is available on the Yucaipa SGMA website at <https://yucaipasgma.org/draft-gsp>. The public comment period for the Public Review Draft of the GSP recently ended (Nov. 2 through Dec. 1, 2021). Public comments to the GSP have been received and are being incorporated into the GSP. The comments do not materially change the plan. Resolution 2022-02 detailing the adoption process for the GSA is attached. Once adopted, the GSP will be submitted to DWR for further public comment and review and will be found here (<https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/>).

FISCAL IMPACT

NONE

ACTION

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-02 approving the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Yucaipa Subbasin.

ATTACHMENTS

- Resolution No. 2022-02

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-02

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY AS A MEMBER OF THE YUCAIPA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY TO ADOPT THE GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FOR THE YUCAIPA SUBBASIN (BASIN NO. 8-002.07)

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2014, Governor Jerry Brown signed into law Senate Bills 1168 and 1319, and Assembly Bill 1739, collectively known as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA"), codified in certain provisions of the California Government Code, including commencing with Section 65350.5, and codified in Part 2.74 of Division 6 of the California Water Code, commencing with Section 10720, and amending other provisions of the California Government Code and California Water Code; and,

WHEREAS, SGMA went into effect on January 1, 2015; and,

WHEREAS, various clarifying amendments to SGMA were signed into law in 2015, including Senate Bills 13 and 226, and Assembly Bills 617 and 939, which were codified in part in California Water Code Section 10723.6(a), authorizing a combination of local agencies to form a Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("GSA") pursuant to a joint powers agreement, a memorandum of agreement, or other legal agreement; and, California Water Code Section 10723.6(b), authorizing water corporations regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission and mutual water companies to participate in a GSA through a memorandum of agreement or other legal agreement; and,

WHEREAS, the legislative intent and effect of SGMA, as set forth in California Water Code Section 10720.1, includes the following: (1) to provide for the sustainable management of groundwater basins; (2) to enhance local management of groundwater consistent with rights to use or store groundwater and Section 2 of Article X of the California Constitution, and to preserve the security of water rights in the state to the greatest extent possible consistent with the sustainable management of groundwater; (3) to establish minimum standards for sustainable groundwater management; (4) to provide local groundwater agencies with the authority and the technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater; (5) to avoid or minimize subsidence; (6) to improve data collection and understanding about groundwater; (7) to increase groundwater storage and remove impediments to recharge; (8) to manage groundwater basins through the actions of local governmental agencies to the greatest extent feasible, while minimizing state intervention to only when necessary to ensure that local agencies manage groundwater in a sustainable manner; and (9) to provide a more efficient and cost-effective groundwater adjudication process that protects water rights, ensures due process, prevents unnecessary delay, and furthers the objectives of SGMA; and,

WHEREAS, SGMA affords GSAs specific powers to manage groundwater in addition to existing legal authorities, which powers may be used to provide the maximum degree of local control and flexibility consistent with the sustainability goals of SGMA; and,

WHEREAS, SGMA includes several un-codified findings by the California Legislature, including the determination that the people of the state have a primary interest in the protection, management, and reasonable beneficial use of the water resources of the state, both surface and underground, and that the integrated management of the state's water resources is essential to meeting its water management goals; and,

WHEREAS, the Yucaipa Subbasin (“SUBBASIN”) is identified by the California Department of Water Resources Bulletin 118 as Sub-basin No. 8-002.07 of the Upper Santa Ana Valley Groundwater Basin, and is designated by the California Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) as a high-priority basin and not subject to critical conditions of overdraft; and,

WHEREAS, California Water Code Section 10720.7 requires the SUBBASIN, as a high-priority basin that is not designated by DWR as being subject to critical conditions of overdraft, to be managed by a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“GSP”) by January 31, 2022; and,

WHEREAS, South Mesa Water Company (“SOUTH MESA”), South Mountain Water Company (“SOUTH MOUNTAIN”), Western Heights Water Company (“WHWC”) and Yucaipa Valley Water District (“YVWD”), herein collectively referred to as the “WATER PURVEYORS”; and the City of Calimesa (“CALIMESA”), the City of Redlands (“REDLANDS”) and the City of Yucaipa (“YUCAIPA”), herein collectively referred to as the MUNICIPALITIES”; and the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (“SBVMWD”) and the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency (“SGPWA”), herein collectively referred to as the “REGIONALS”, entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) in June 2017 to form a GSA called the Yucaipa Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“YUCAIPA GSA”), and,

WHEREAS, each of the above-described entities is individually referred to as a “PARTY” and are collectively referred to as the “PARTIES”. SOUTH MESA, SOUTH MOUNTAIN and WHWC are collectively referred to as the “MUTUALS”; and, the PARTIES other than the MUTUALS are collectively referred to as the “LOCAL AGENCIES,” and,

WHEREAS, The County of Riverside (“RIVERSIDE”) and the County of San Bernardino (“SAN BERNARDINO”), collectively referred to as the “COUNTIES,” are stakeholders but not PARTIES in the YUCAIPA GSA, and,

WHEREAS, CALIMESA submitted a written Notice of Withdrawal dated November 19, 2018 and the Yucaipa GSA subsequently acknowledged the withdrawal of CALIMESA from the Yucaipa GSA at the January 23, 2019 YUCAIPA GSA Board meeting, and,

WHEREAS, the LOCAL AGENCIES have water supply, water management, and/or land use responsibilities for their respective jurisdictional areas overlying the SUBBASIN and are local agencies as defined by SGMA in California Water Code Section 10721(n), and thus each is authorized by SGMA to form a GSA; and,

WHEREAS, the LOCAL AGENCIES' individually have jurisdictional and/or service areas within and their collective jurisdictional areas and/or service areas that cover the entirety of the SUBBASIN, with no gaps in coverage; and,

WHEREAS, the WATER PURVEYORS, including the MUTUALS, produce groundwater and provide water service within the SUBBASIN; and,

WHEREAS, the REGIONALS are State Water Contractors, and have the rights and duties of such, including for the delivery of State Water Project Water within the SUBBASIN; and,

WHEREAS, the PARTIES have worked with local stakeholders and interested parties in the SUBBASIN that are not PARTIES in YUCAIPA GSA to carry out the policy, purposes, and requirements of SGMA in the SUBBASIN; and,

WHEREAS, the YUCAIPA GSA has developed a GSP for the SUBBASIN as required by SGMA; and,

WHEREAS, the YUCAIPA GSA has provided the public notices required by Water Code section 10727.8, including a Public Outreach and Engagement Plan, informing the public on how to participate in the development of the GSP; and,

WHEREAS, the YUCAIPA GSA has held numerous public meetings where elements of the GSP for the SUBBASIN have been presented and discussed, and where the general public has been provided the opportunity to comment on the various elements of the GSP; and,

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Executive Order N-29-20 that suspended the requirement to hold public meetings at physical locations, the YUCAIPA GSA held online public meetings and provided details in the public notices informing the public how to participate in the online meetings; and,

WHEREAS, the YUCAIPA GSA has received written public comments on the various elements of the GSP, which have been reviewed and commented on, where and as appropriate, as part of the GSP; and,

WHEREAS, the YUCAIPA GSA announced a community engagement meeting (i.e., public hearing) for November 16, 2021, as required by Water Code section 10728.4 for the purposes of considering public comments before adopting a GSP for the SUBBASIN; and,

WHEREAS, the SGPWA Board of Directors has had the opportunity to review the most current version of the GSP; and

WHEREAS, the GSP for the Subbasin contains all the elements required by Water Code sections 10727.2 and 10727.4; and,

WHEREAS, after its filing with DWR, the GSP for the Subbasin will be subject to review by DWR for a period not exceeding two years; and,

WHEREAS, it is now necessary and appropriate for the Board of Directors of the SGPWA to consider the adoption of the GSP for the sustainable management of the SUBBASIN, and authorize the adoption of the GSP for the sustainable management of the SUBBASIN and directs its Representative on the YUCAIPA GSA board to vote to approve and authorize the filing of the GSP with DWR no later than the date required by SGMA;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency, as follows:

1. The above Recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by this reference.
2. The San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency does hereby approve and adopt the Final Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Yucaipa Subbasin, as presented or with minor, non-substantive revisions to the GSP approved by its Representative between today's date and the date the GSP is submitted to DWR.
3. The San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency does hereby authorize its Representative to vote to

formally approve the Final Yucaipa Subbasin GSP on behalf of the SGPWA at the upcoming meeting of the Yucaipa GSA expected to take place on or about January 26, 2022.

4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency, this 10th day of January, 2022, by the following vote:

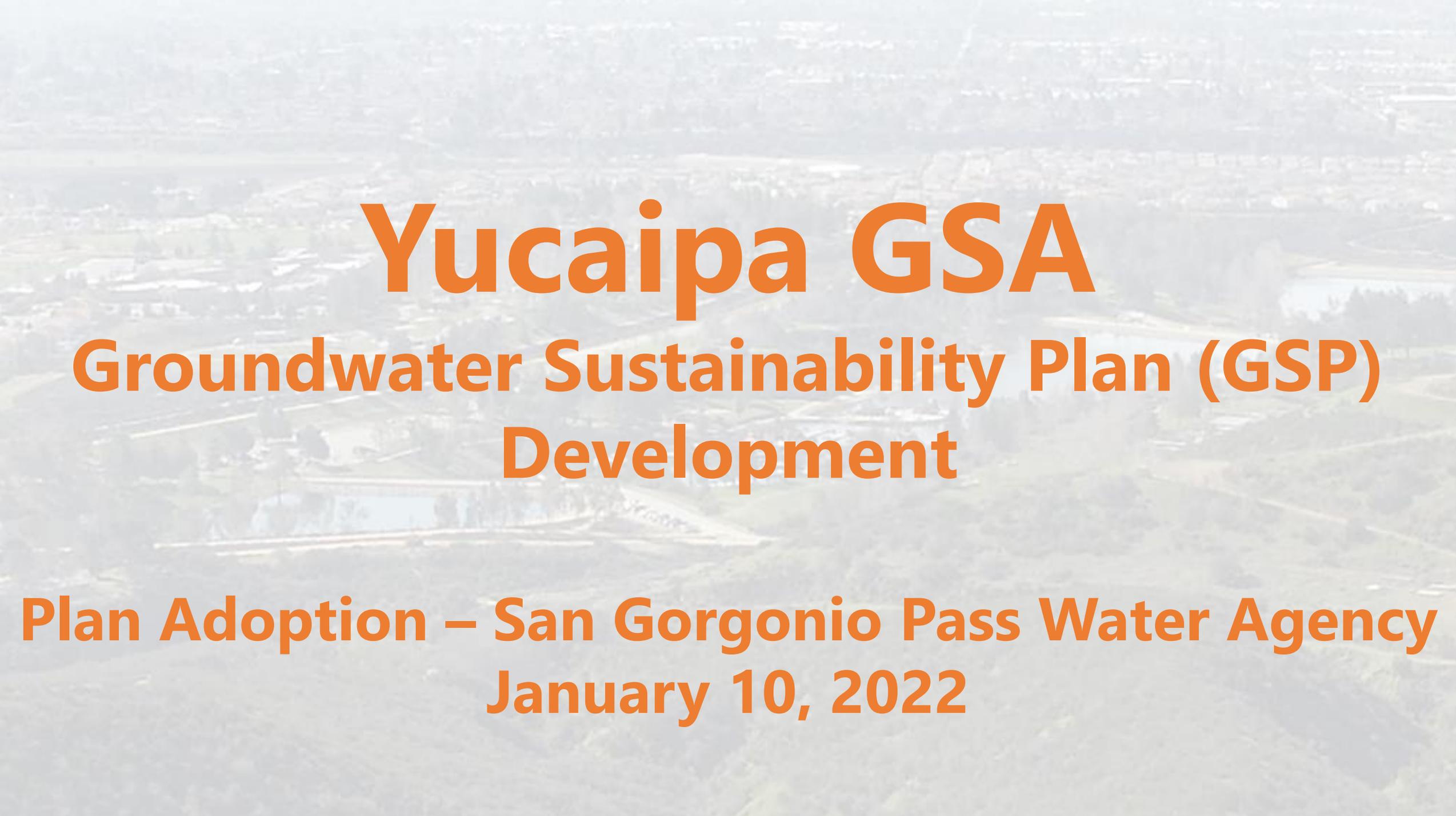
AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Board President

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Yucaipa, California, showing a large stadium in the foreground and residential areas in the background. The image is faded to serve as a background for the text.

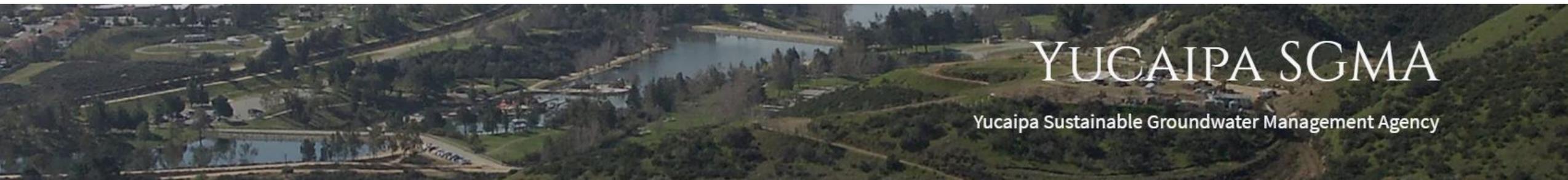
Yucaipa GSA

Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Development

**Plan Adoption – San Geronio Pass Water Agency
January 10, 2022**

Presentation Outline

- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
- Yucaipa Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- Groundwater Sustainability Plan
 - Management Areas
 - Sustainable Yield
 - Sustainability Indicators
- Sustainability Criteria that Identify when Undesirable Results Occur
- Management Actions to Sustainably Manage Groundwater Resources
- Plan Implementation

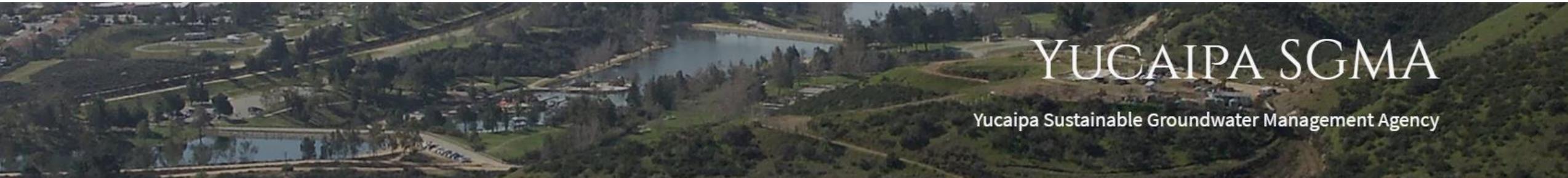
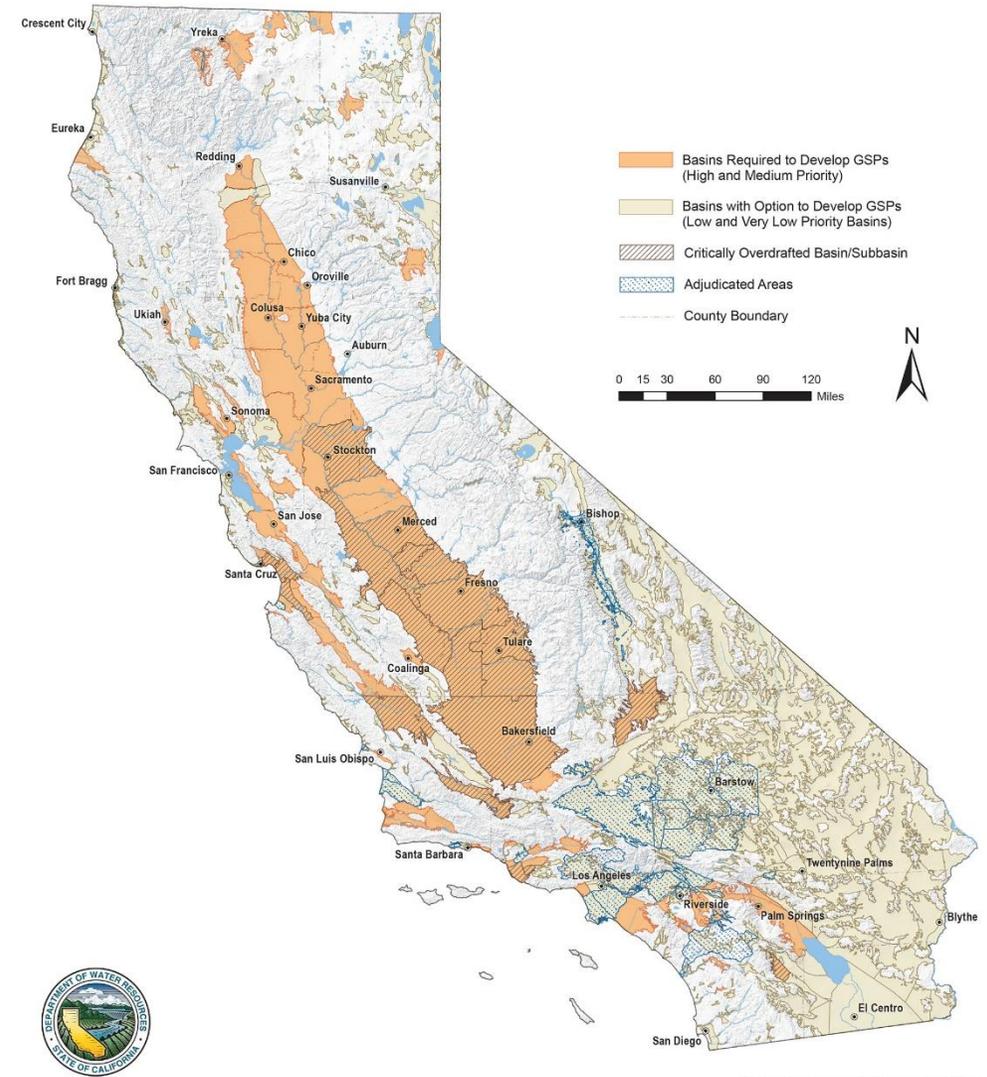


YUCAIPA SGMA

Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

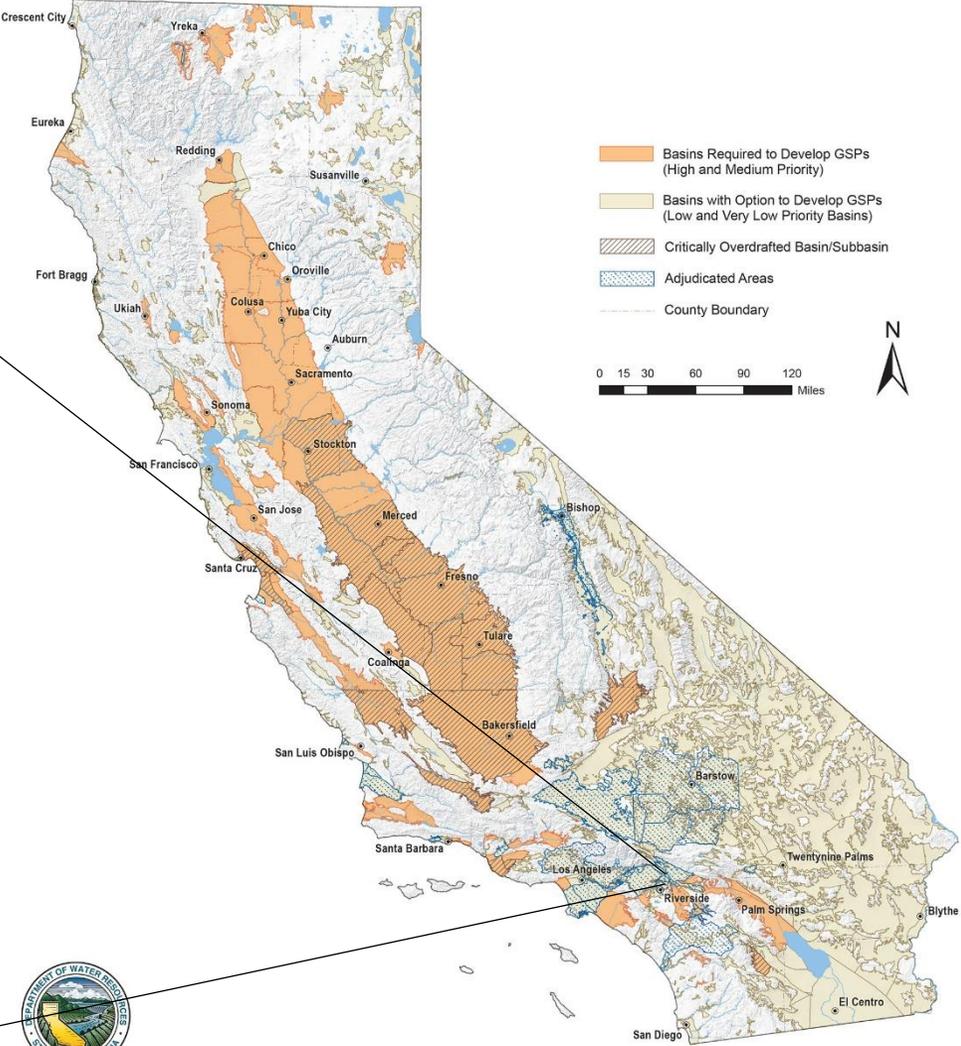
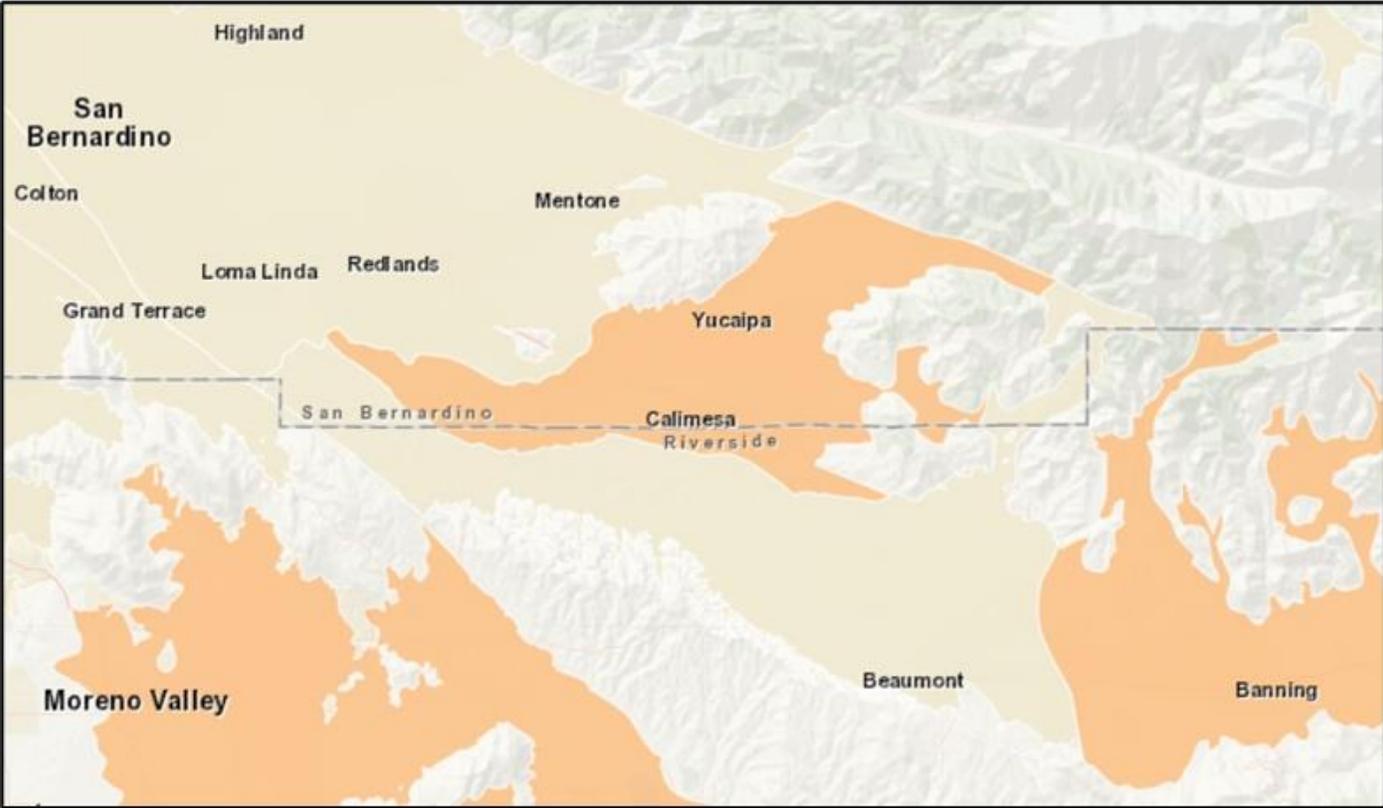
- Enacted September 2014
- **Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs)**
- **Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)**
- Manage California's groundwater basins sustainably
 - Sustainable Yield
 - Sustainability Indicators



YUCAIPA SGMA

Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act



Department of Water Resources, Public Affairs Office April 28, 2020

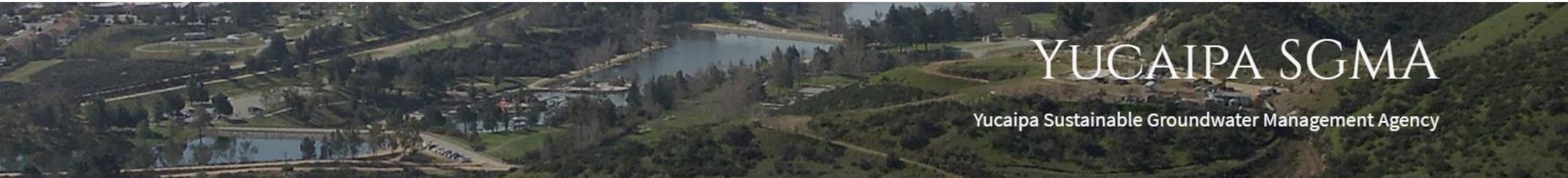
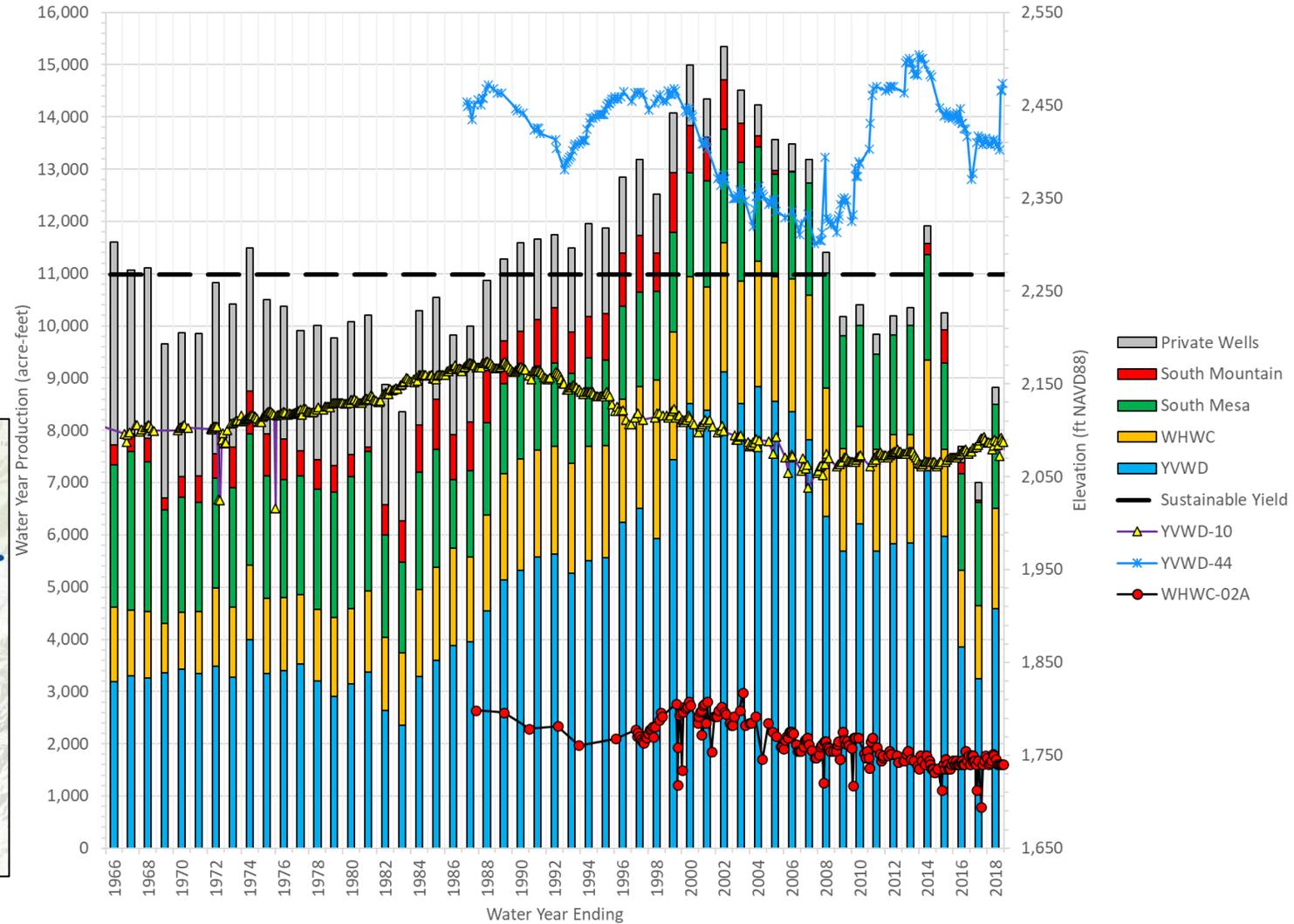
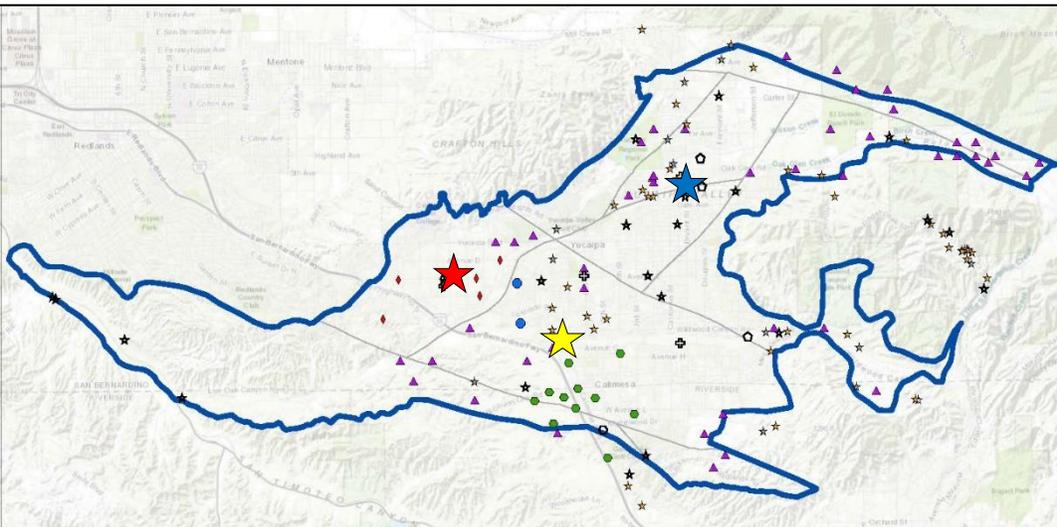


YUCAIPA SGMA

Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency

Yucaipa Subbasin

- DWR listed High Priority Basin
 - Dependence on Groundwater as a Local Water Supply
 - Declining Water Levels



GSA for Yucaipa Subbasin

• Yucaipa GSA Member Agencies

- City of Redlands
- City of Yucaipa
- San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
- San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
- South Mesa Water Company
- South Mountain Water Company
- Western Heights Water Company
- Yucaipa Valley Water District

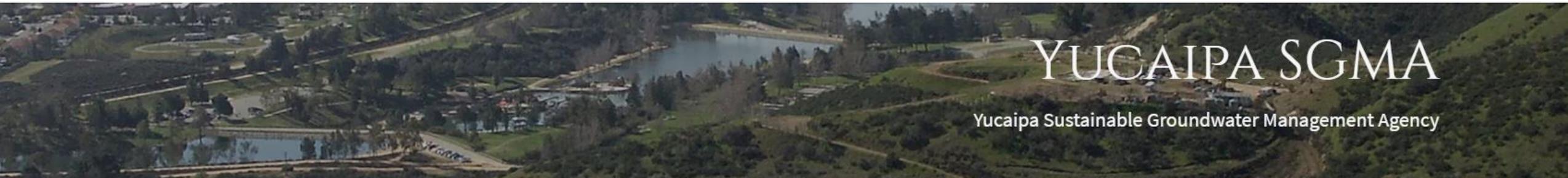
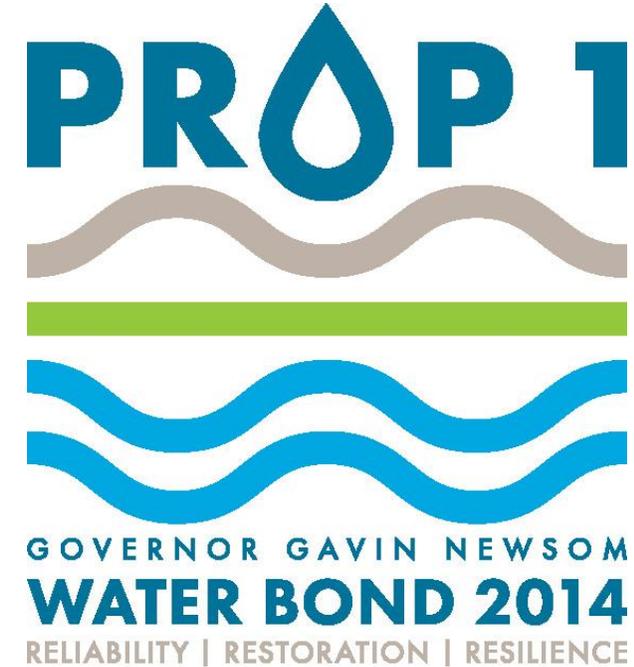


YUCAIPA SGMA

Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency

GSP Development Funding

- DWR Proposition 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant
 - Grant Award: \$815,100
- Grant funded activities:
 - USGS Yucaipa Basin Groundwater model
 - Infiltration Studies
 - Public Outreach and Engagement Plan
 - GSP Development

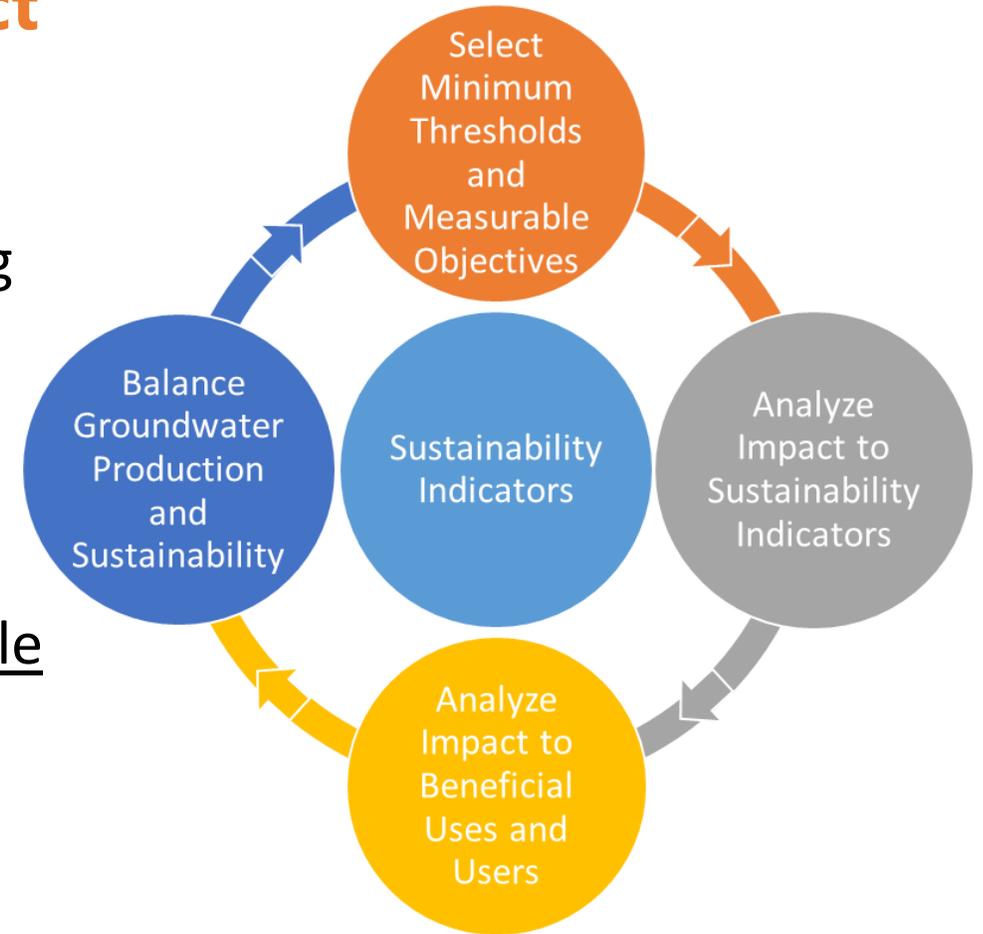


YUCAIPA SGMA

Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

- **Groundwater Sustainability**
 - Managing the use of groundwater without causing undesirable results.
- **Sustainable Yield**
 - Maximum quantity of groundwater that can be withdrawn annually without causing an undesirable result based on long-term conditions.



YUCAIPA SGMA

Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency

Sustainability Indicators that Apply to Yucaipa Subbasin



Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Elevations



Reduction of Groundwater in Storage



Interconnected surface water and groundwater



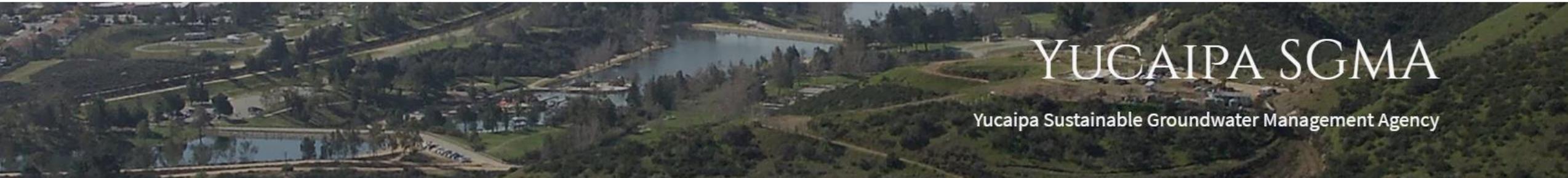
Land Subsidence



Degradation in Groundwater Quality



Seawater Intrusion



Sustainable Management Criteria

1. Sustainability Goal

Prevent undesirable results within the 20-year implementation period

2. Undesirable Results

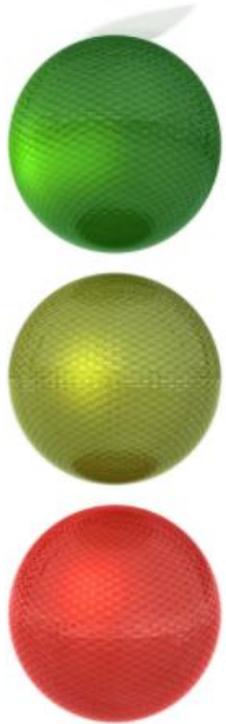
Conditions that represent “**significant and unreasonable effects**” for sustainability indicators

3. Measurable Objectives

- a) Milestones marking progress in achieving the sustainability goal
- b) Provide operational flexibility – implement actions and/or projects

4. Minimum Thresholds

Point when undesirable condition occurs

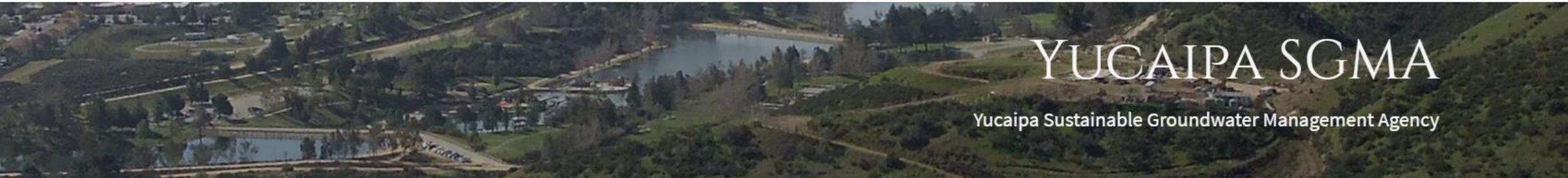
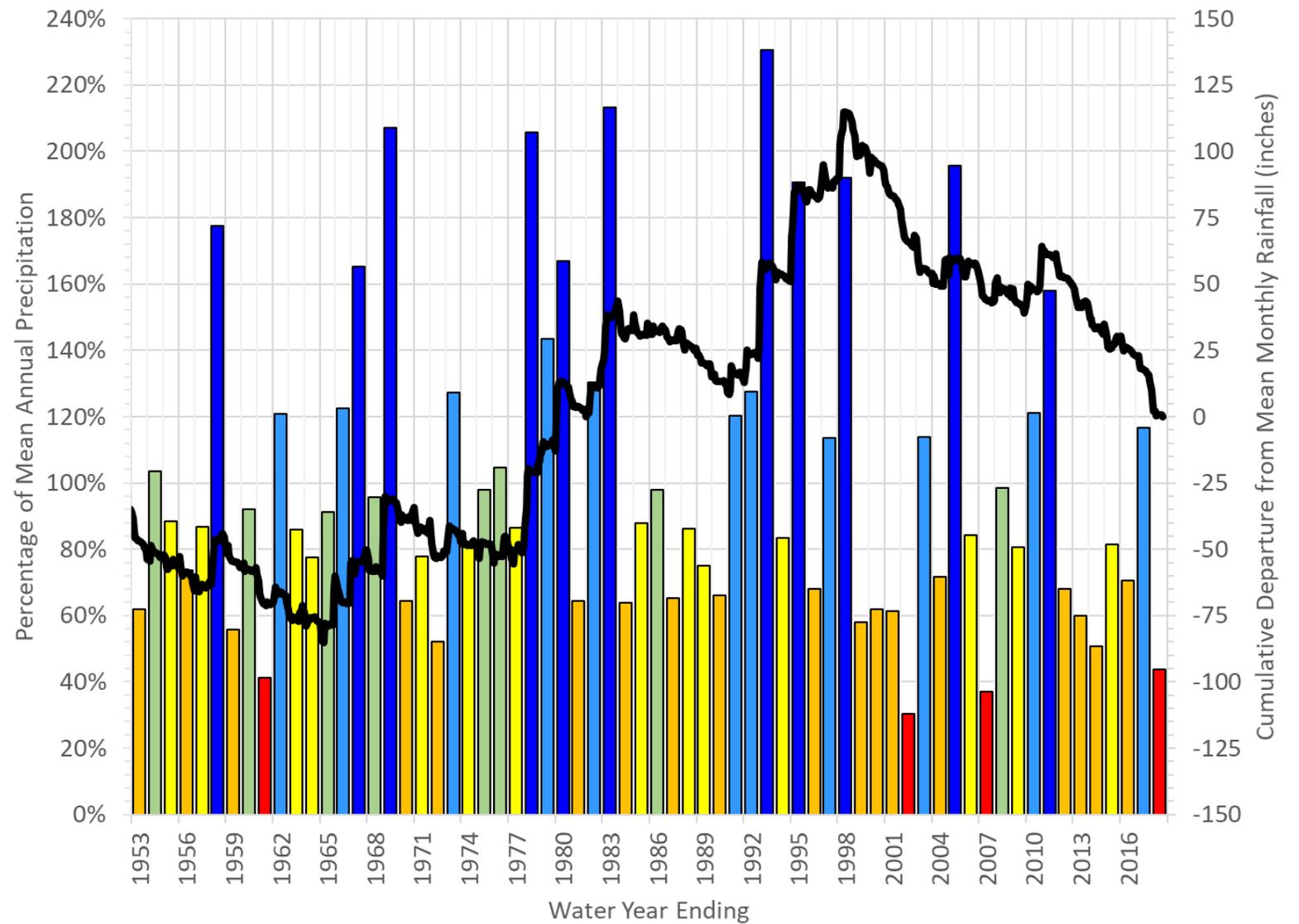


YUCAIPA SGMA

Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency

Water Year Types in the Yucaipa Subbasin

- █ Wet (>150%)
- █ Above Normal (110%-150%)
- █ Normal (90%-110%)
- █ Below Normal (75%-90%)
- █ Dry (50%-75%)
- █ Critically Dry (<50%)
- █ CDMM



YUCAIPA SGMA

Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency

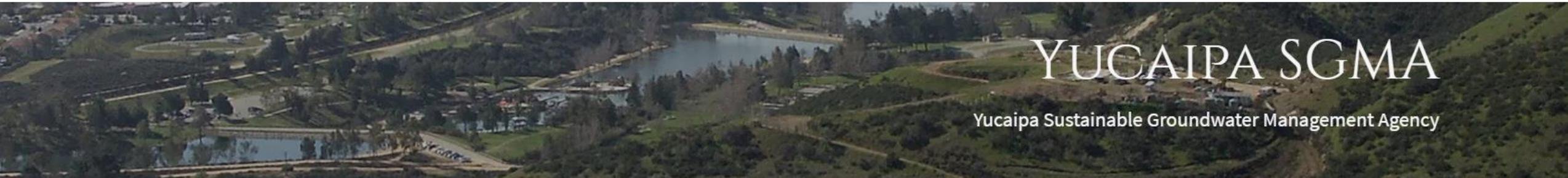
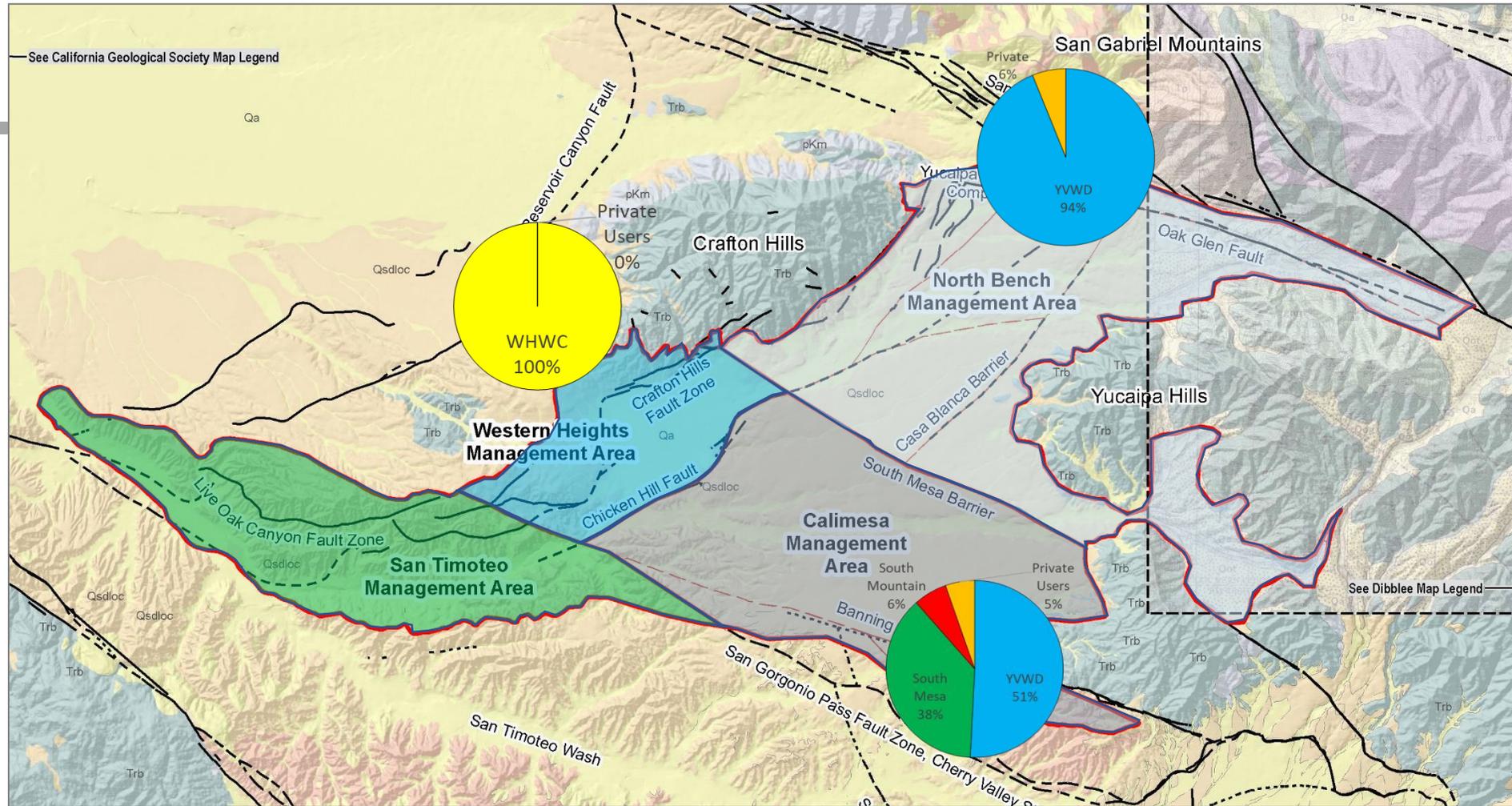
Management Areas

North Bench Management Area

Calimesa Management Area

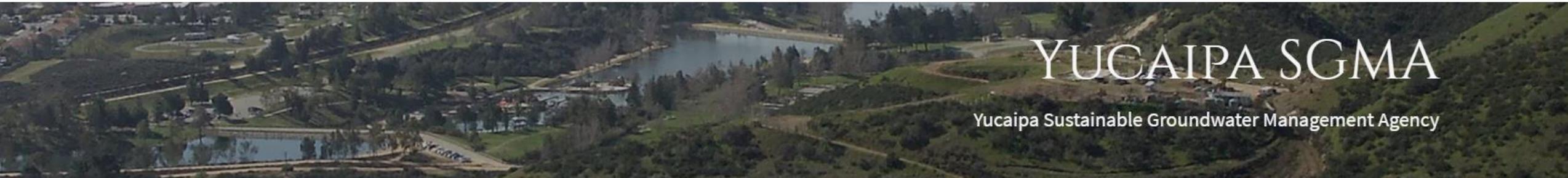
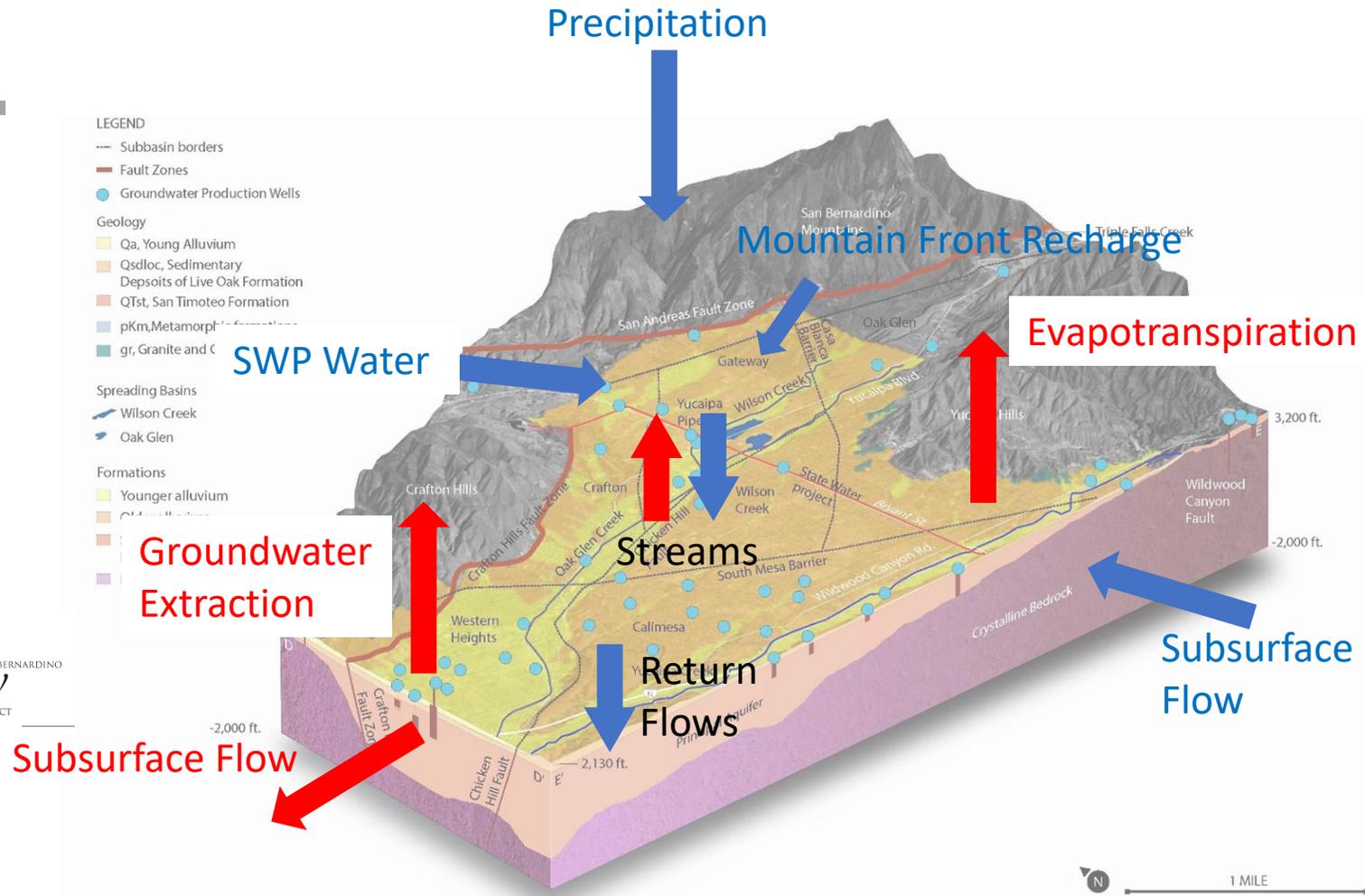
Western Heights Management Area

San Timoteo Management Area



Water Budget Analysis

- Accounting of Water in the Basin
- Inflows
 - Precipitation
 - Mountain Front Recharge
 - Stream Flow Leakage
 - Imported SWP Water
 - Return Flows
 - Subsurface Flows
- Outflows
 - Pumping
 - Evapotranspiration
 - Groundwater Discharge to Streams
 - Subsurface Flows



YUCAIPA SGMA

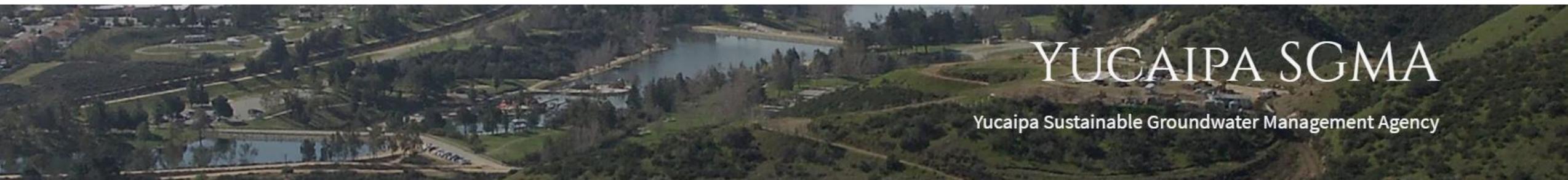
Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency

Estimated Sustainable Yield

Sustainable Yield is the maximum quantity of water that can be withdrawn annually from a groundwater supply without causing an undesirable result.



Management Area	Sustainable Yield (AFY)
North Bench	3,940
Calimesa	4,955
Western Heights	1,760
San Timoteo	325
Total	10,980



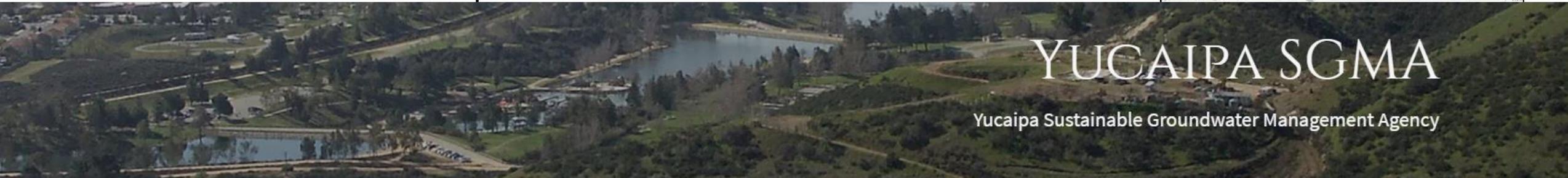
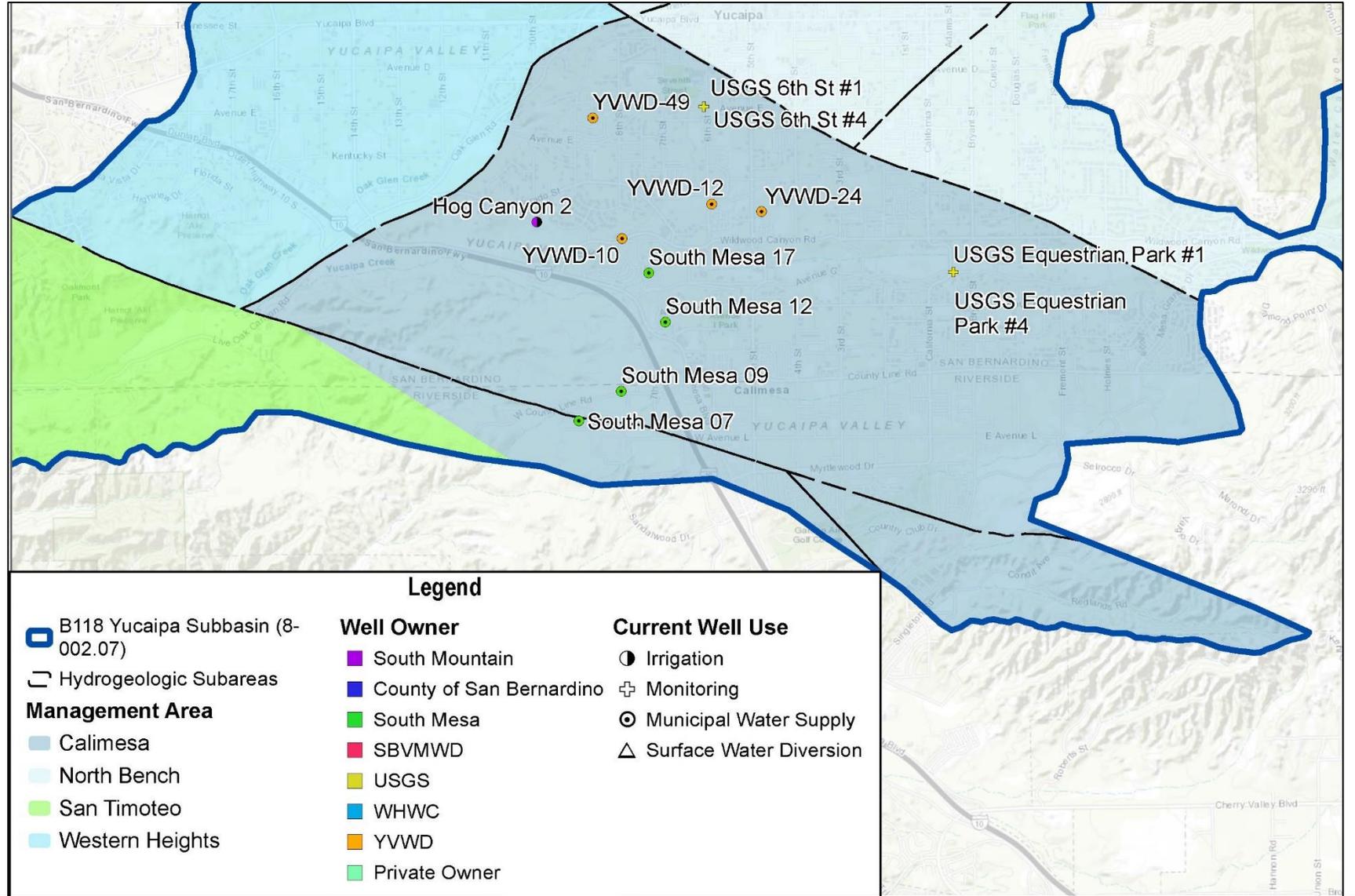
YUCAIPA SGMA

Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency

Calimesa Management Area

Representative Monitoring Points

- Measure Groundwater Levels to Evaluate Conditions relative to Measurable Objectives and Minimum Threshold



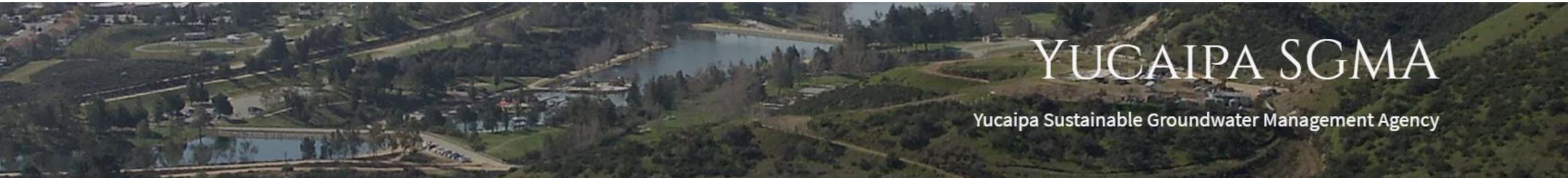
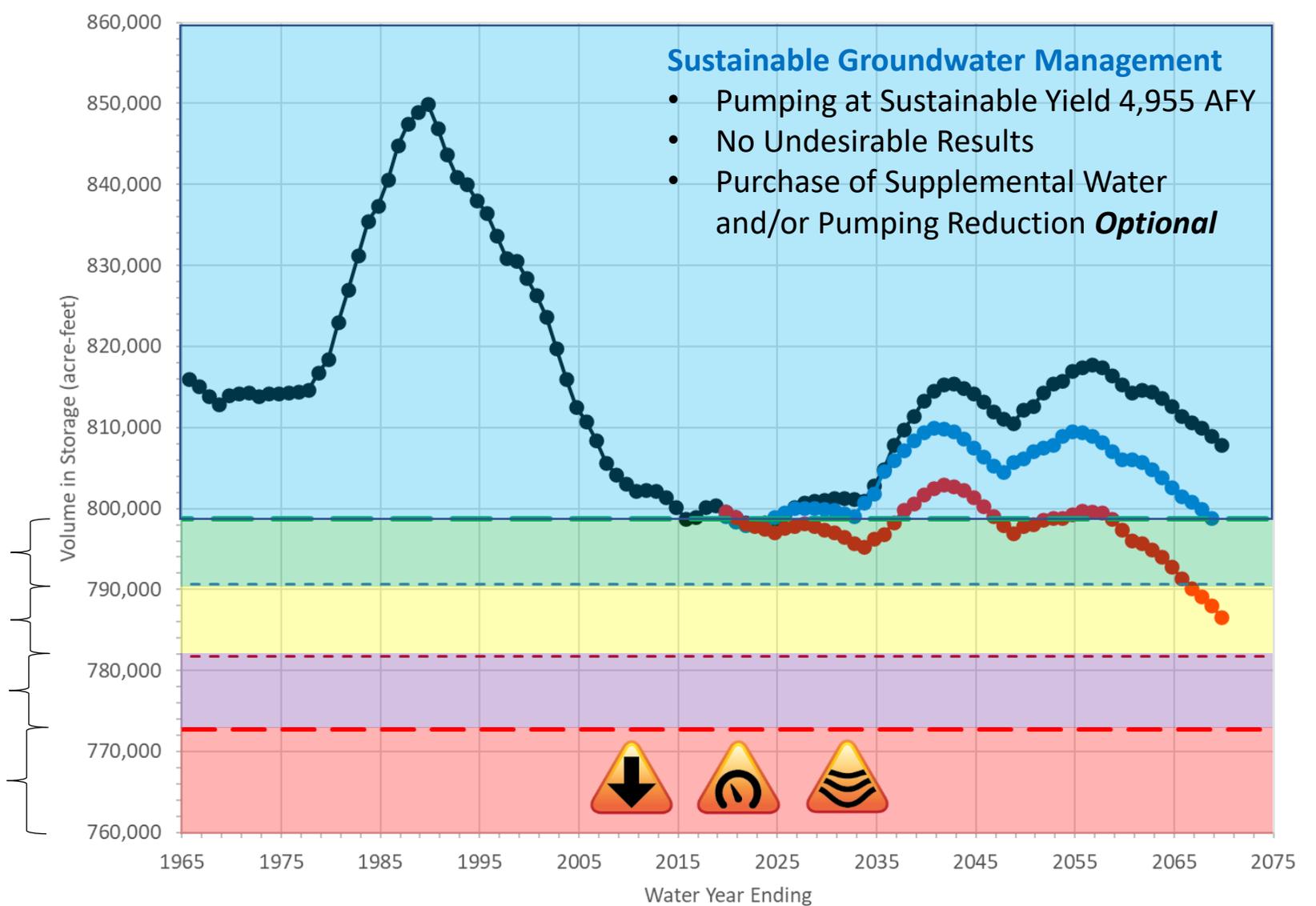
YUCAIPA SGMA

Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency

Calimesa Management Area

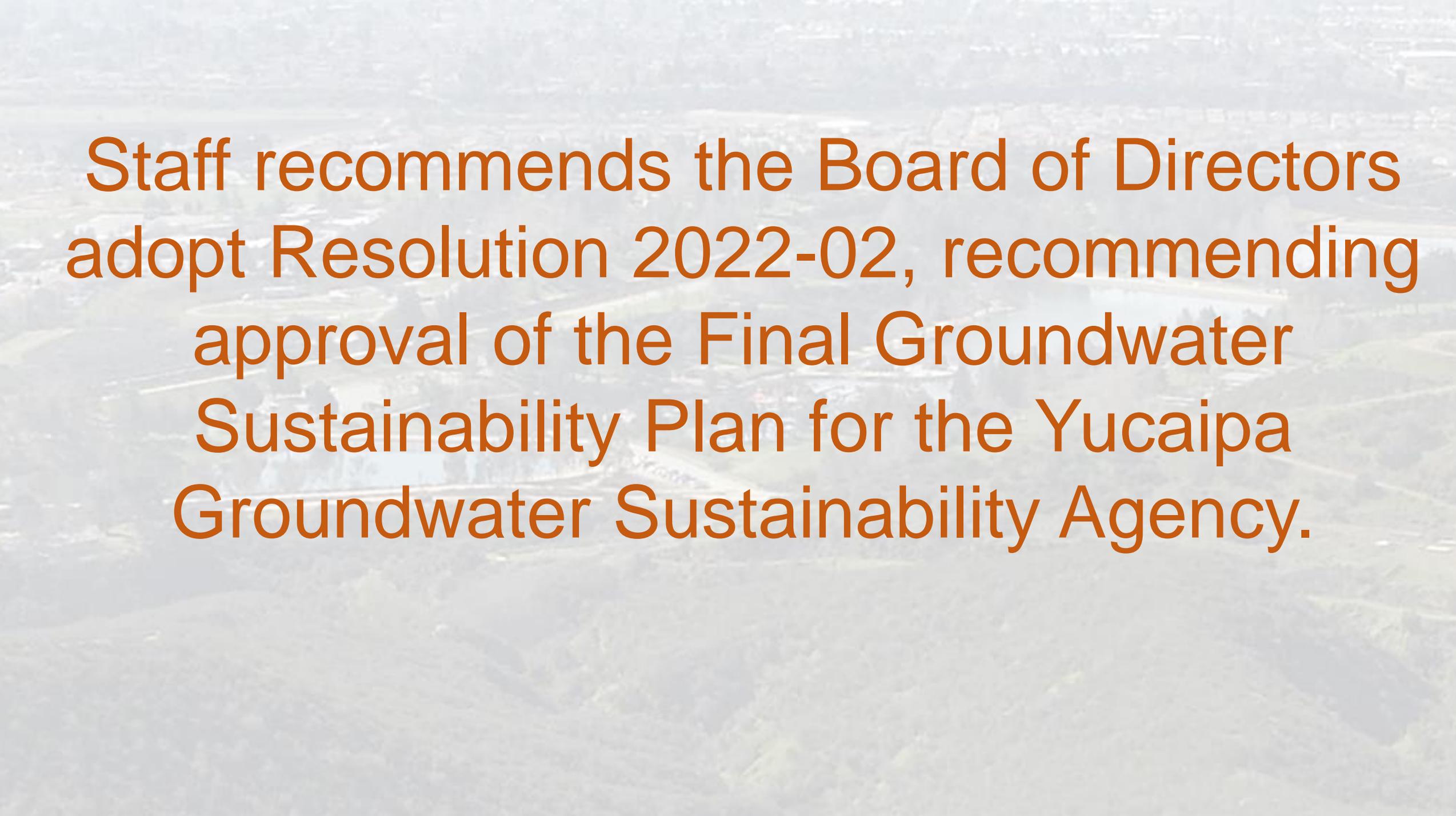
Management Actions

- 5% Reduction in Net Use of Groundwater
- 10% Reduction in Net Use of Groundwater
- 15% Reduction in Net Use of Groundwater
- 20% Reduction in Net Use of Groundwater



YUCAIPA SGMA

Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency

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