

North County Water Supply: Framework, Status, and Future

Central Coast Vineyard Team
Paso Robles Groundwater Basin
and Irrigation Management

April 30, 2013

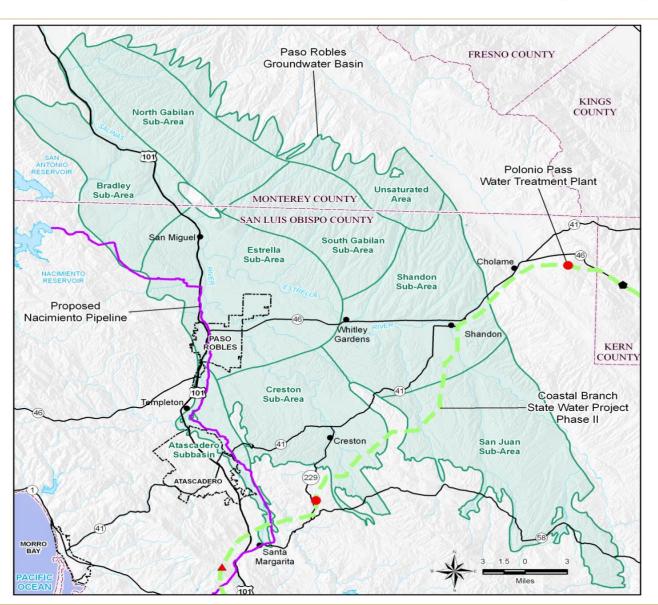
Paul A. Sorensen, PG, CHg Principal Hydrogeologist Fugro Consultants, Inc.



Paso Robles Groundwater Basin



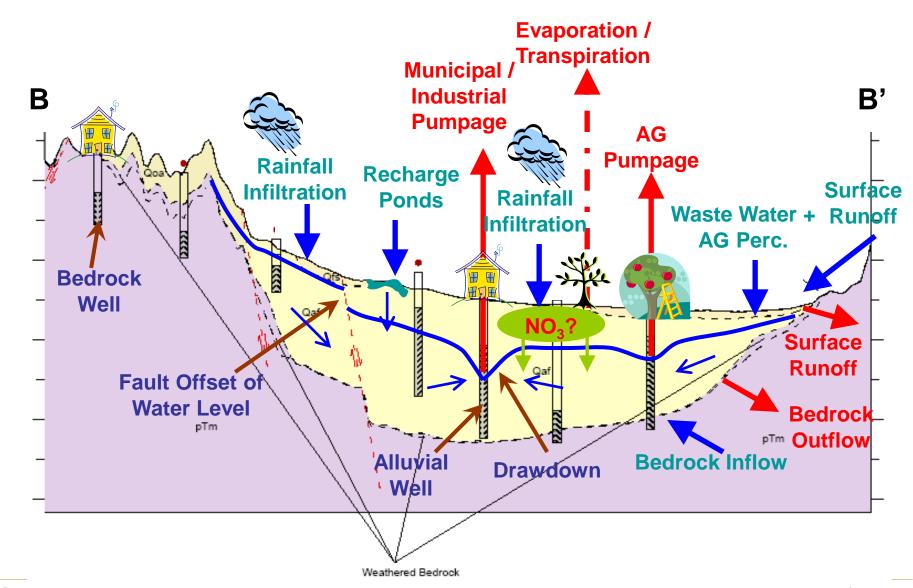
- 800 square miles
- 500,000 acres



Page 2 www.fugro.com

Basin Hydrogeology And Water Balance Conceptualization





Basin Conditions

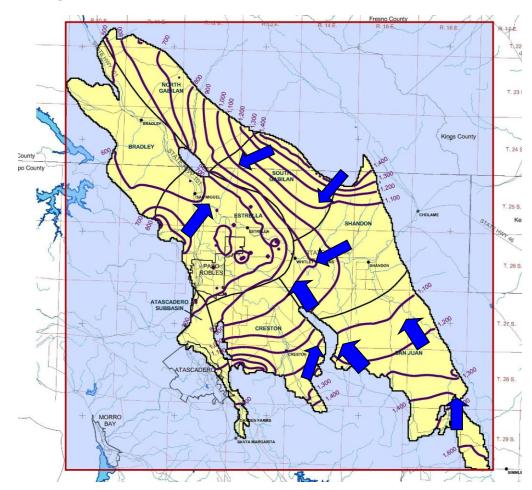


Perennial Yield – (1997 data)
 (the rate at which groundwater can be pumped from wells without decreasing water in storage)

- 97,700 AFY

- Basin Pumpage– 96,800 AFY(2011)
- Agricultural Water Demand

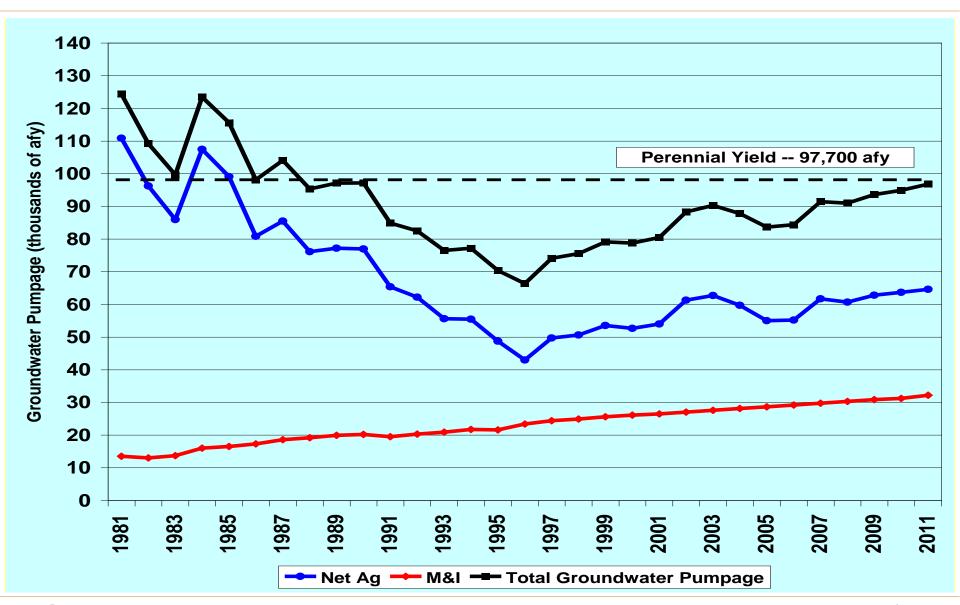
 67,000 AFY
 (70% of basin pumpage)



Page 4 www.fugro.com

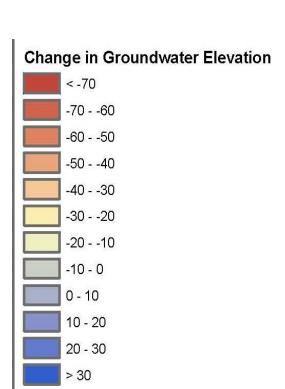
History of Groundwater Pumpage

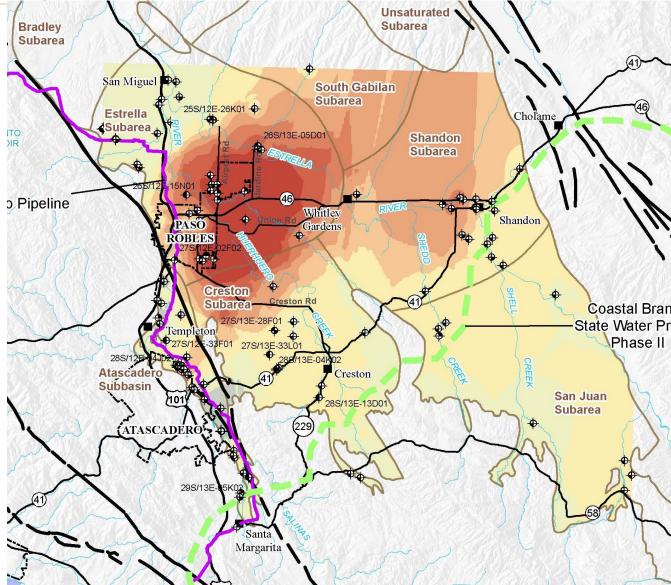




Change in Groundwater Levels 1997 to 2010







Solutions



- Conservation
- Land use restrictions (current County jurisdiction restricted to rural domestic)
- Desalination
- Reclaimed/Recycled water
- Water transfers
 - Unallocated State Water
 - Salinas Dam
- Retire undeveloped properties

Page 7 www.fugro.com

Availability of Supplemental Water



Nacimiento Water

- Total SLO County Nacimiento supply 17,500 AFY
 - Lakeside deliveries and supply 1,750 AFY
 - SLO County water project supply 15,750 AFY
 - City of Paso Robles 4,000 AFY
 - City of San Luis Obispo 3,380 AFY
 - Atascadero Mutual Water Company 2,000 AFY
 - Templeton Community Services District 250 AFY
 - CSA 10A (Cayucos) 25 AFY
- Total Commitment 9,655 AFY
- Available (uncommitted) 6,095 AFY

Additional Imported Water Supply Options



Page 9 www.fugro.com

Solutions



The A-word (adjudication)

Page 10 www.fugro.com

Obstacles / Barriers to Solutions



- Cost (desalination, recycled water, water transfers, retire undeveloped parcels)
- Lack of regional jurisdictional agency
- California water law
 - Senior rights to overlying landowners
 - Junior rights to cities / water purveyors
- County "Right-to-Farm"
- Lack of awareness of problem
- Self-interest

Page 11 www.fugro.com



Thank You



Important Recent Actions



- Resource Capacity Study, Water Supply in the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin (SLO County Planning, August 2010)
 - Concluded that Basin was at or near perennial yield
 - Recommended that Board of Supervisors declare the Basin to be in a "Level of Severity III"
- Declaration of "Level of Severity III" (Board of Supervisors, February 2011)

Page 13 www.fugro.com

Important Recent Actions



- Paso Robles Basin Groundwater Management Plan (GEI Consultants and Fugro, March 2011)
- Development of Paso Basin Groundwater
 Management Blue Ribbon Steering Committee
 (April 2011)
- Amendment of County Land Use Ordinance (Board of Supervisors, September 2012)

Important Recent Actions



- Amendment of County Land Use Ordinance (Board of Supervisors, September 2012)
 - Requires new development to offset new water demand for non-ag purposes
 - Requires that offsets conserve water used for non-ag purposes
 - Prohibits general plan amendments that would result in a net increase in water demand for non-ag purposes
 - Prohibits the approval of new land divisions
 - Includes mandatory conservation measures for outdoor water use

Page 15 www.fugro.com