



Arroyo Grande Subbasin GSP Stakeholder Workshop #1: Basin Setting and Visioning

December 15, 2020



Presenters



TIFFANY MEYER
Water Systems Consulting



DAN HEIMEL
Water Systems Consulting

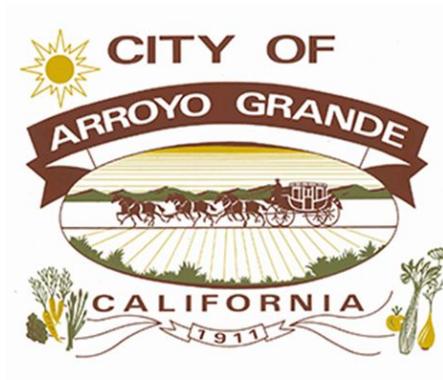


DAVID O'ROURKE, PG, CHG
Hydrogeologist, GSI Water Solutions

Q&A Panelists



DICK TZOU, PE
County of San Luis Obispo



SHANE TAYLOR
City of Arroyo Grande

Who's Here



Workshop Goals

- Share project overview, timeline and alignment with other projects
- Share key requirements of SGMA
- Share basin setting overview
- Document stakeholder's shared vision of what a "sustainable Arroyo Grande subbasin" means



Workshop Agenda

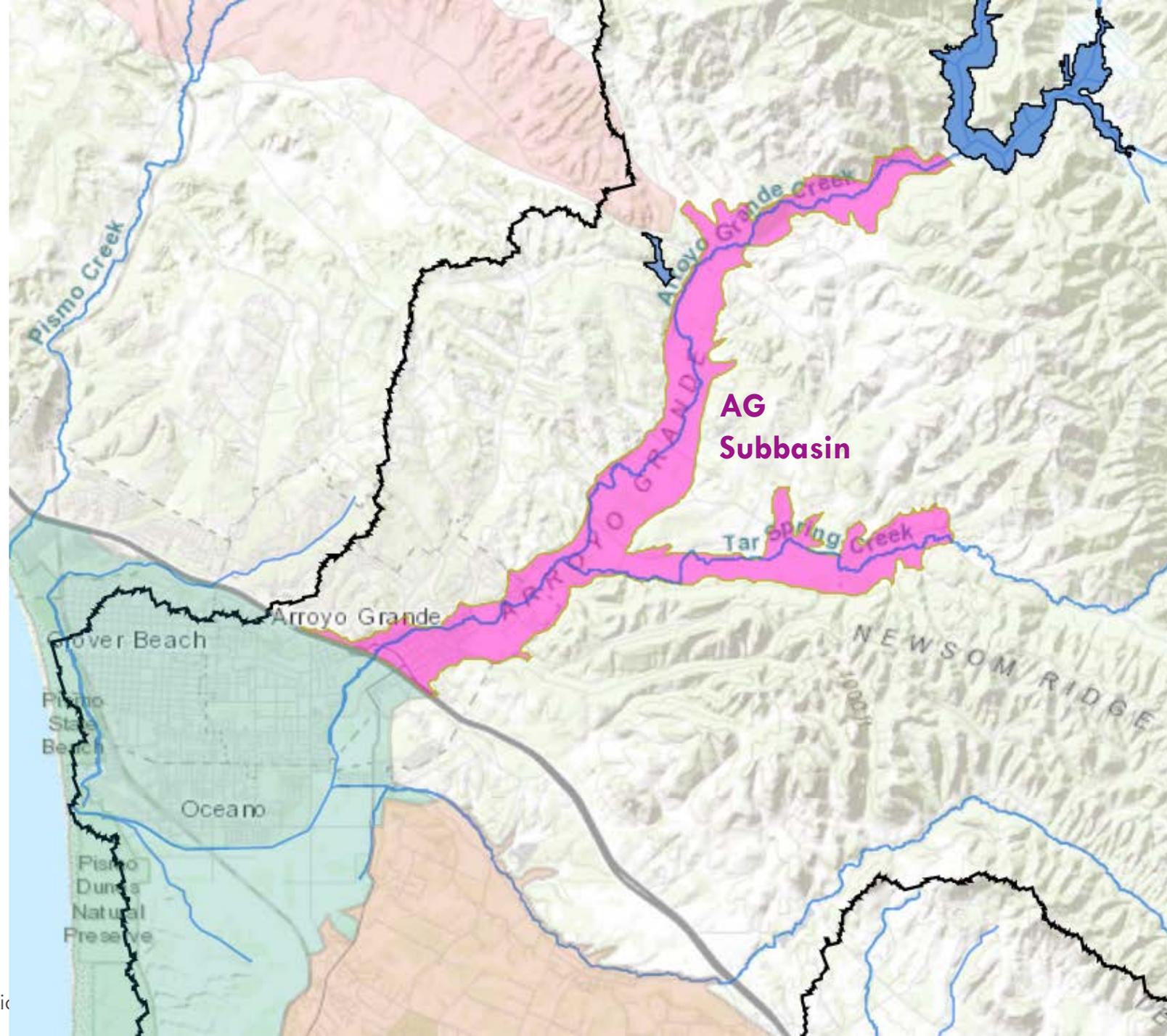
- 10 min Project Overview
- 10 min Groundwater 101
- 20 min Overview of the Basin Setting
- 40 min Group Activity: Visioning
- 5 min What's Next

Project Overview

DAN HEIMEL, WSC

Continuing to secure sustainable groundwater in the Arroyo Grande Subbasin

- SGMA-compliant GSP
- Not required for low priority basins
- Supports parallel efforts
- Includes development of a surface water / groundwater model



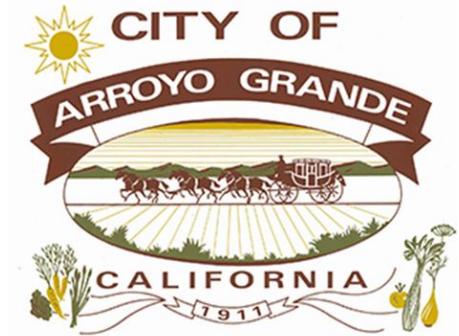
Basin Governance

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCIES (GSA)



Dick Tzou, PE

Water Resources Engineer,
County of San Luis Obispo



Shane Taylor

Utilities Manager,
City of Arroyo Grande

Basin Governance Timeline

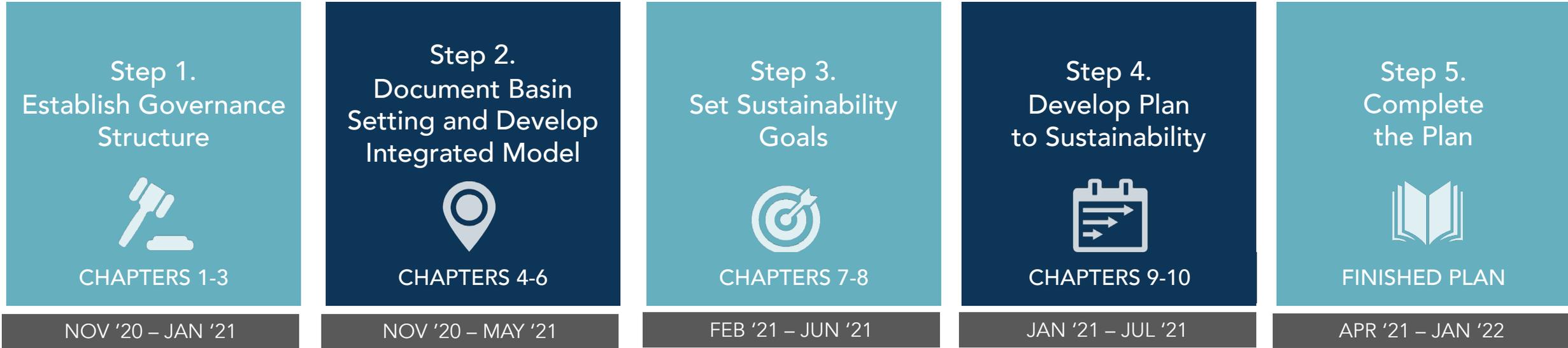


Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Deadlines



Schedule and Opportunities to Inform the GSP

*Schedule subject to change



STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP #1: BASIN SETTING AND VISIONING

DEC 15, 2020

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
Q1 2021

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
MAY 2021

PUBLIC MEETING PROJECT UPDATES — PER DEFINED SCHEDULE

- County Board of Supervisors SGMA Update
- City of AG City Council

STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP #2: SUSTAINABLE GOAL SETTING
MAR 3, 2021

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
JUN 2021

PUBLIC MEETING PROJECT UPDATES — PER DEFINED SCHEDULE

- County Board of Supervisors SGMA Update
- City of AG City Council

STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP #3: PROJECTS AND MANAGEMENT ACTIONS
MAY 12, 2021

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
JUL 2021

PUBLIC MEETING PROJECT UPDATES — PER DEFINED SCHEDULE

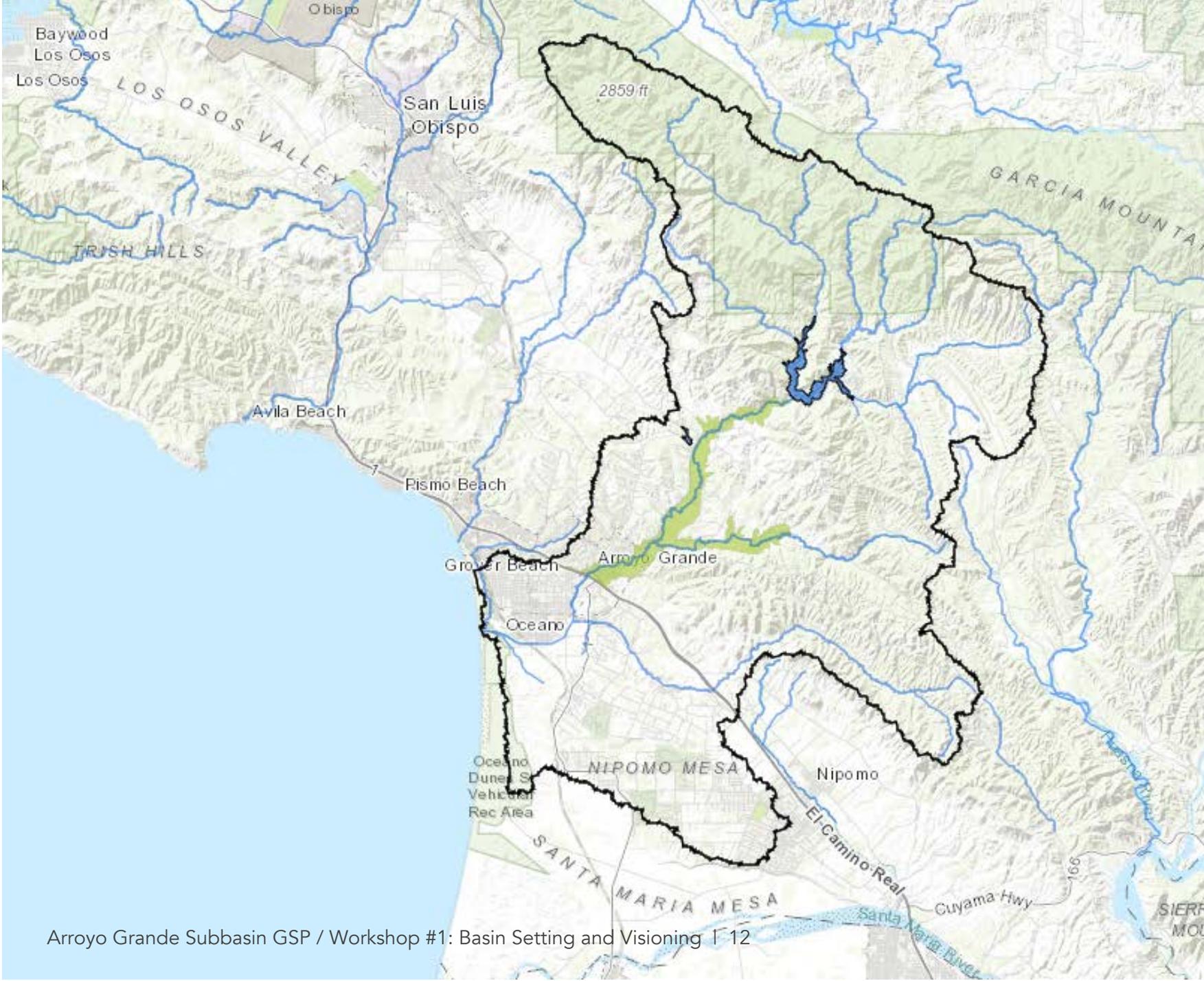
- County Board of Supervisors SGMA Update
- City of AG City Council

FULL DRAFT GSP / PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
NOV 2021

PUBLIC MEETING PROJECT UPDATES — PER DEFINED SCHEDULE

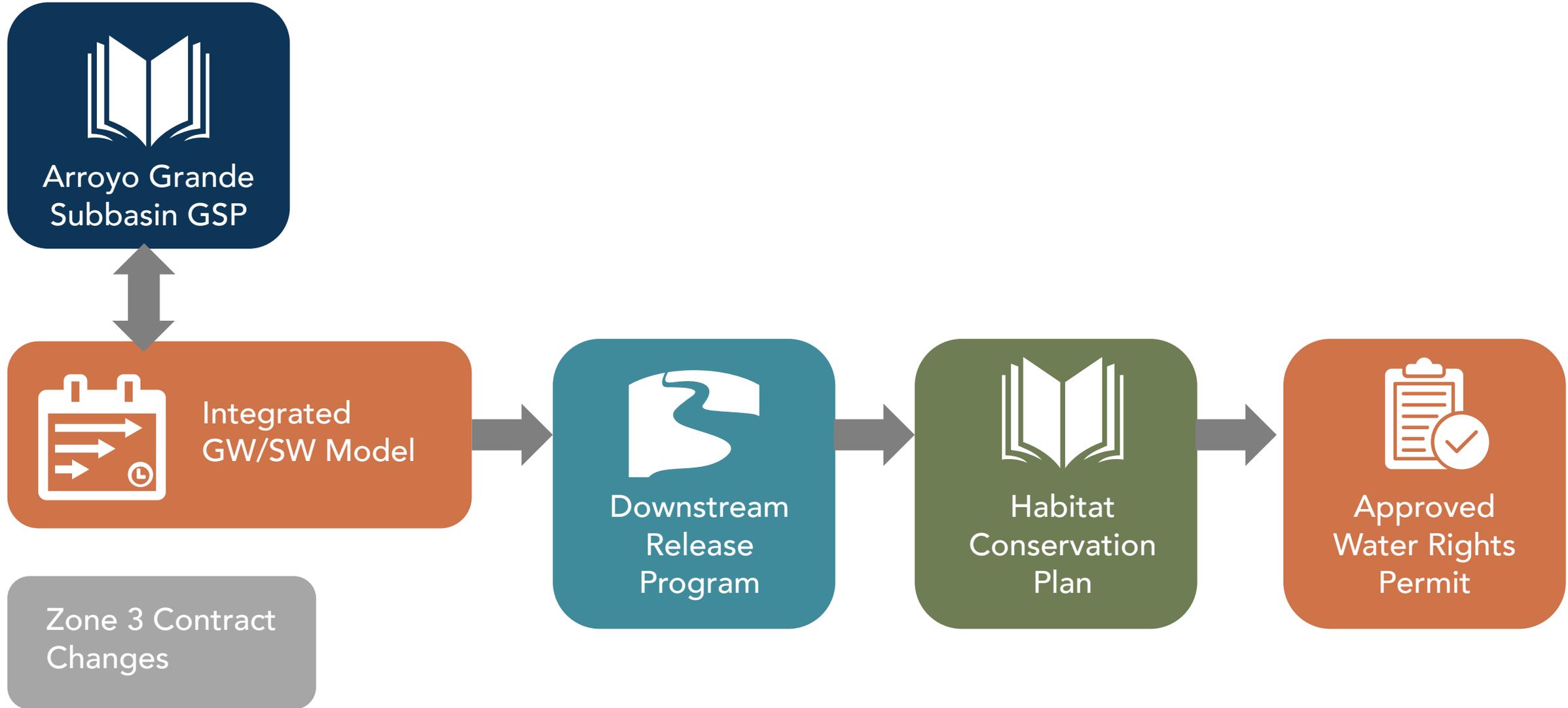
- County Board of Supervisors SGMA Update
- City of AG City Council

WE ARE HERE



The Arroyo Grande Subbasin is a critical component of a much larger regional surface and groundwater system.

GSP Supports Critical AG Creek Initiatives



GSP Project Benefits

Regulatory Compliance

- National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) need for enhanced modeling toolsets to support the HCP
- HCP is required for an incidental-take permit and approved water rights permit

Leveraged Grant Funding

- SGMA GSP grant provides a funding source for development of critical modeling toolsets

GSP Project Benefits

Improved Hydrologic Analysis

- Surface water/groundwater hydrologic model for entire Arroyo Grande Creek watershed
- Upper watershed (above the dam) modeling allows for more accurate evaluation of climate change and cloud seeding impacts on reservoir inflow
- Enhanced stormwater flow and capture evaluation opportunities

Enhanced Management

- The surface water/groundwater model integrated with the reservoir operations model (MODSIM)

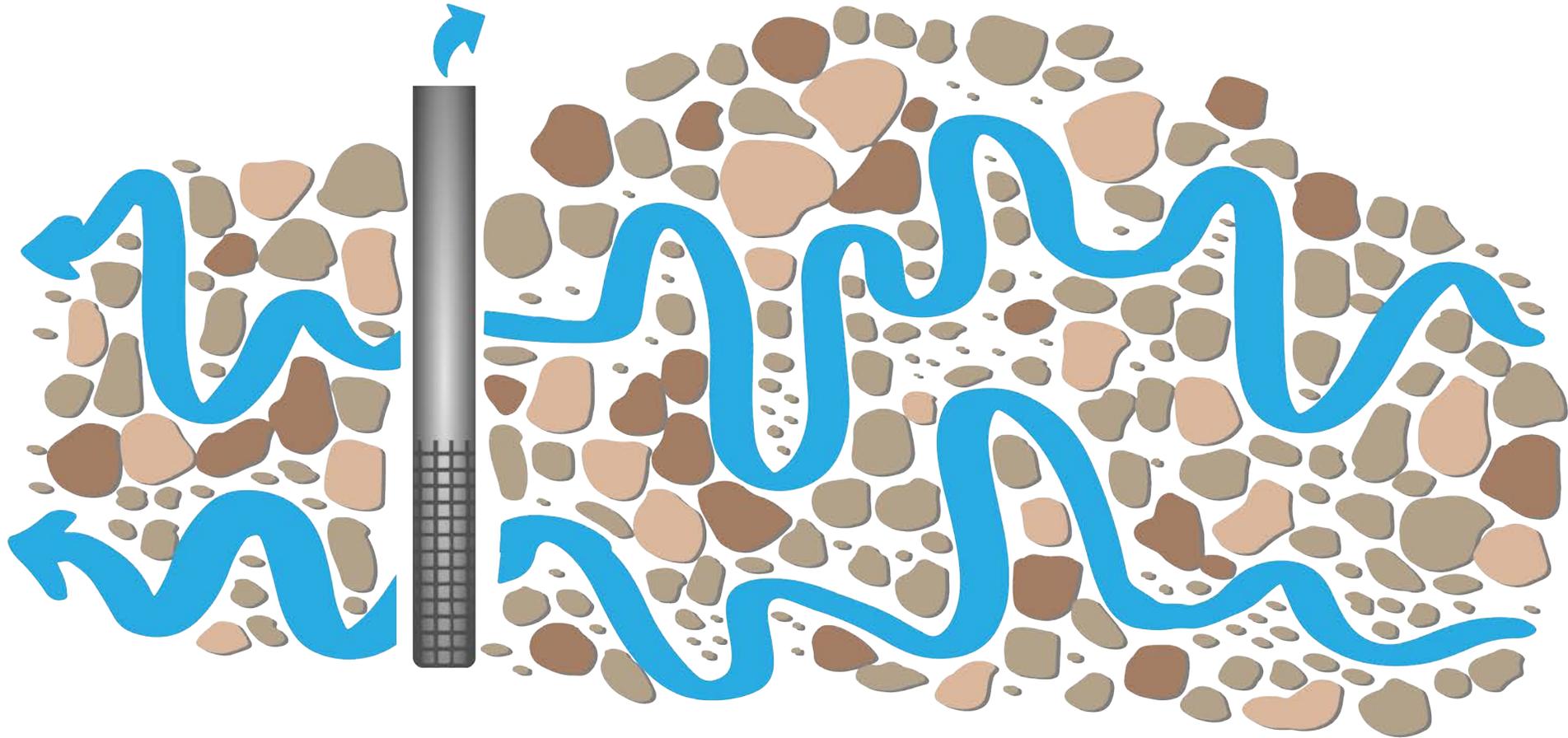
A scenic view of a valley with a dirt road and a small pond, overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The landscape features rolling hills, dense green trees on the left, and a dirt road winding through the center. A small pond is visible in the lower right. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

Questions?

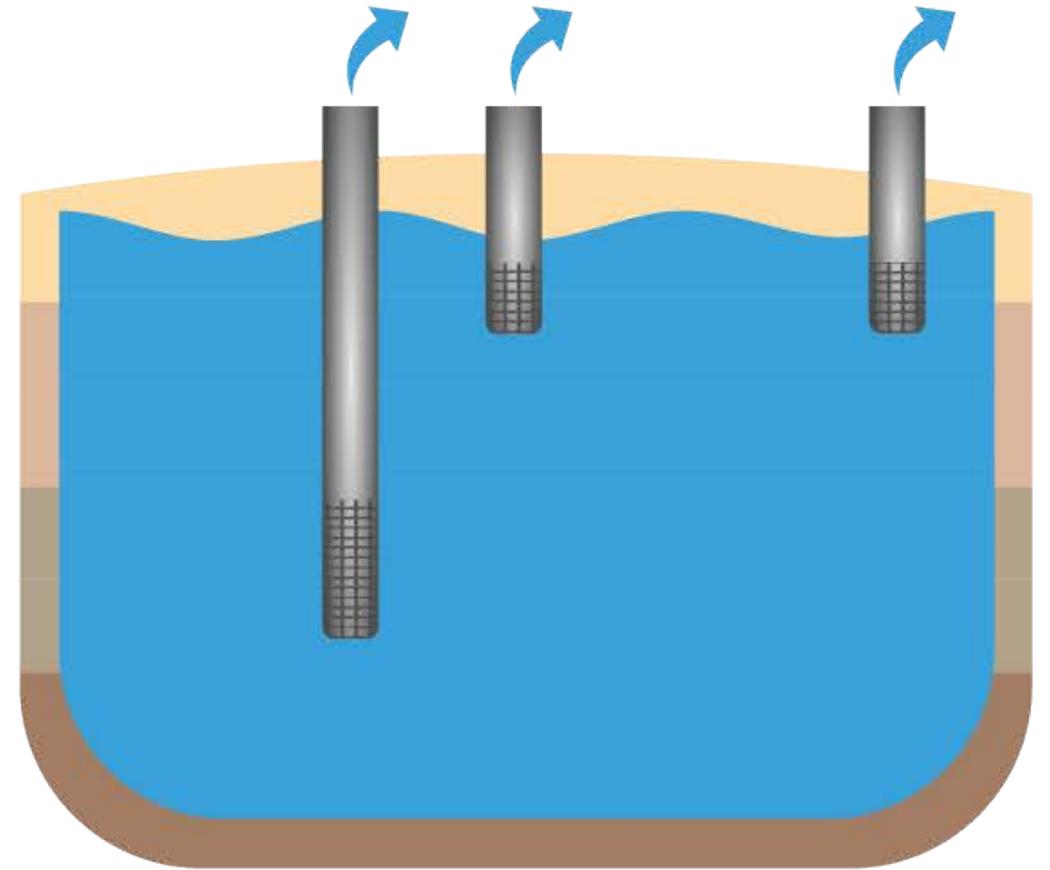
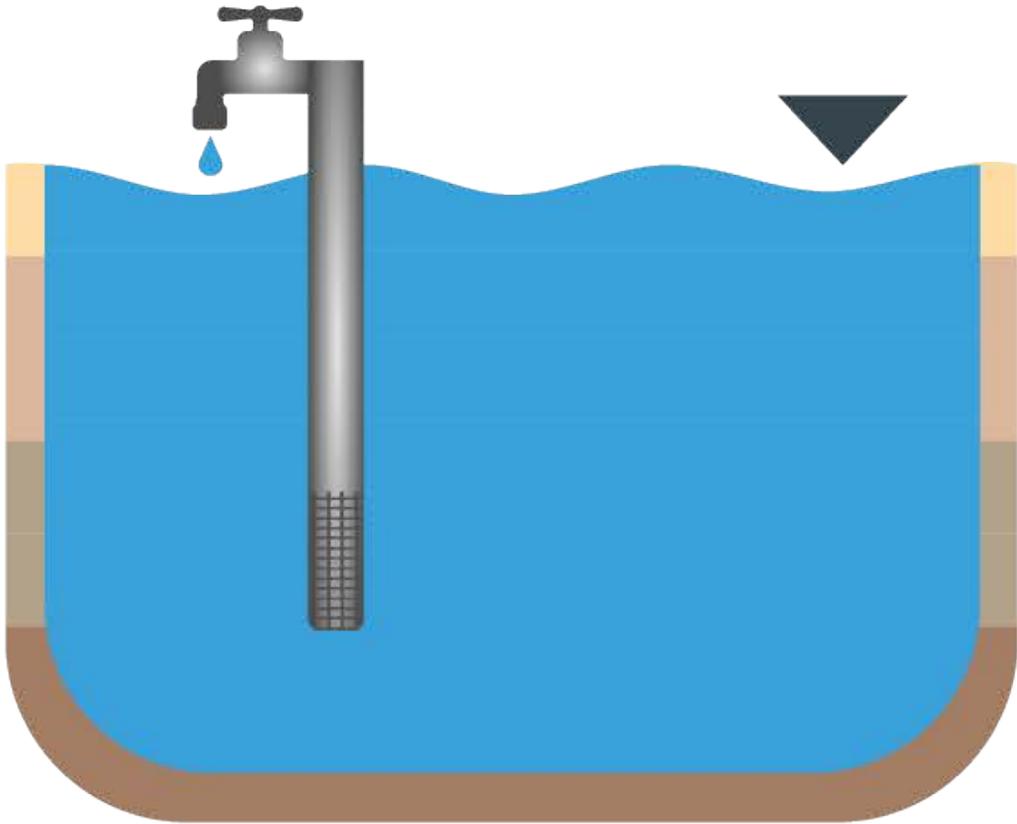
Groundwater 101

DAVE O'ROURKE, WSC

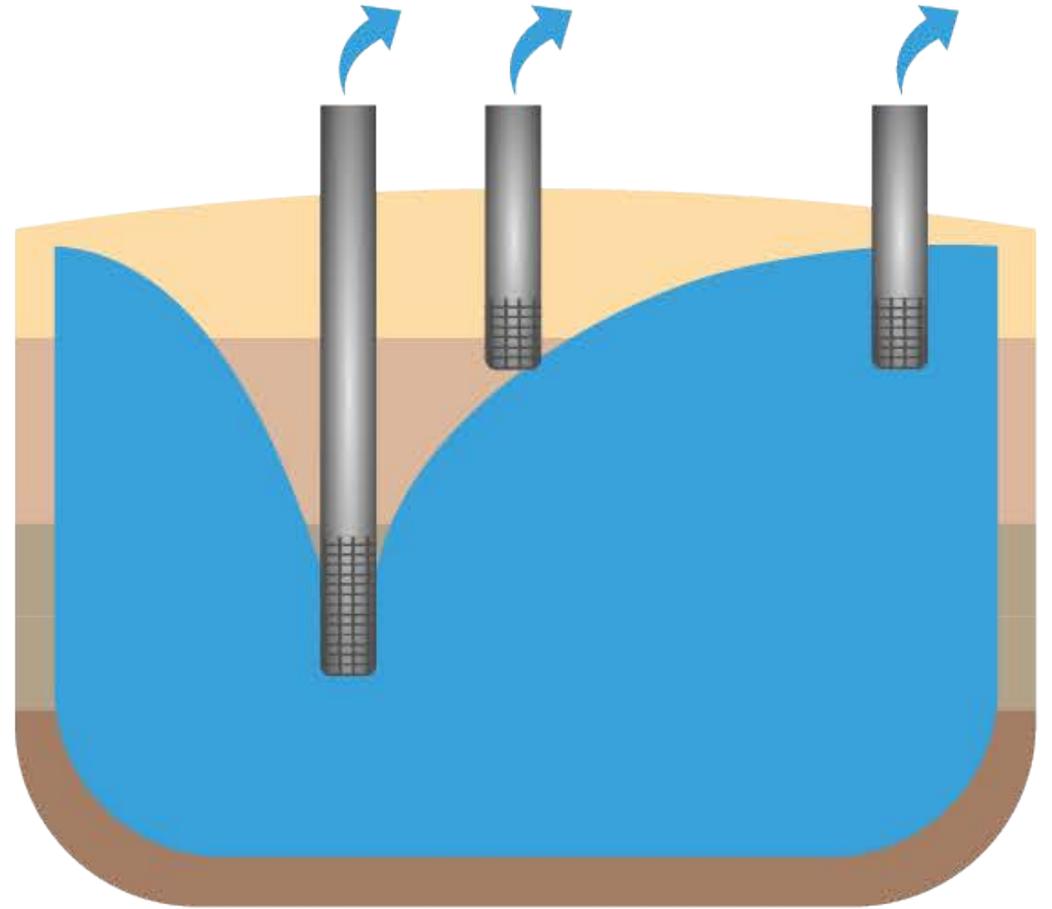
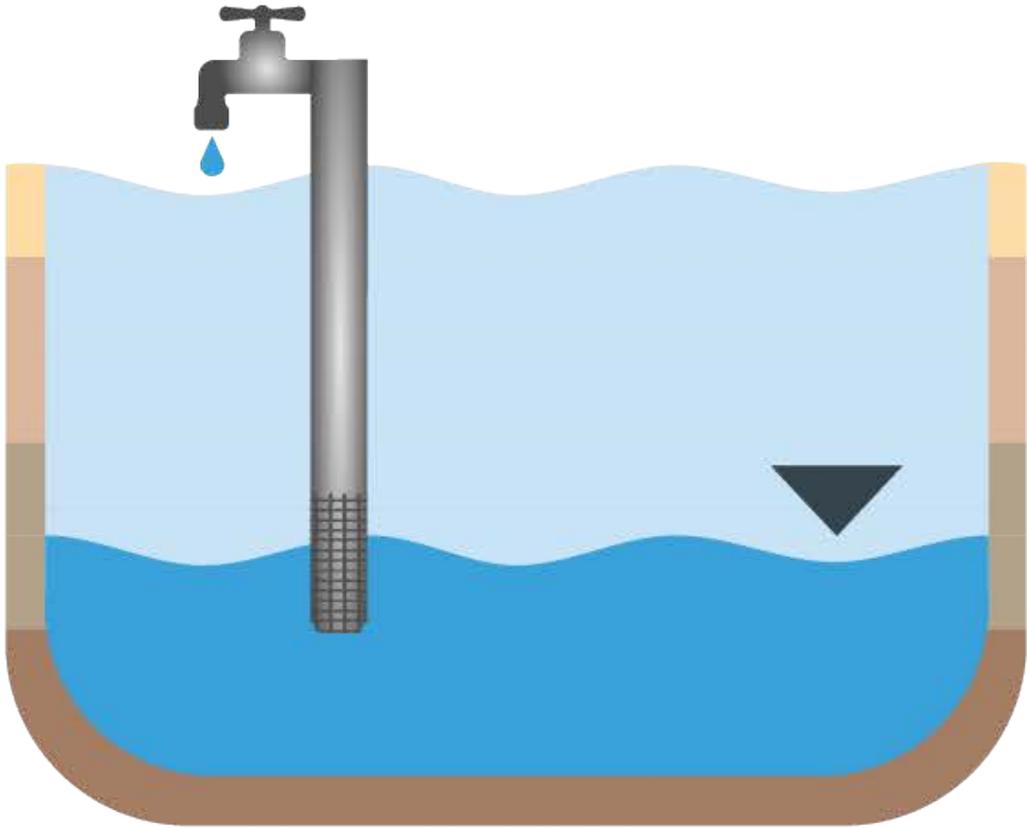
What is groundwater?



Surface Water vs. Groundwater

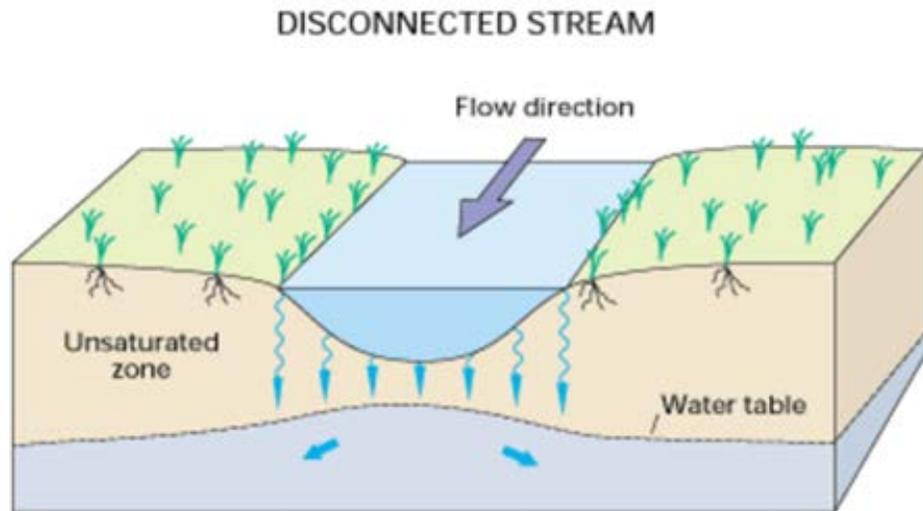
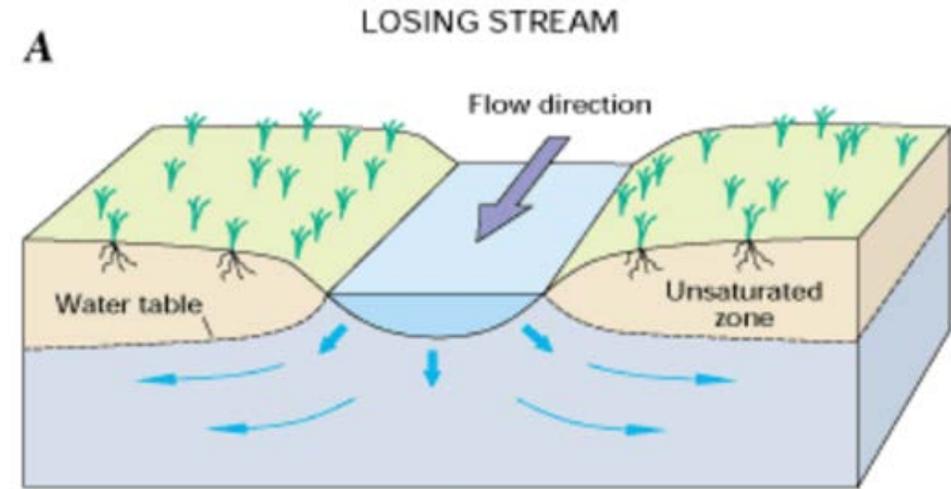
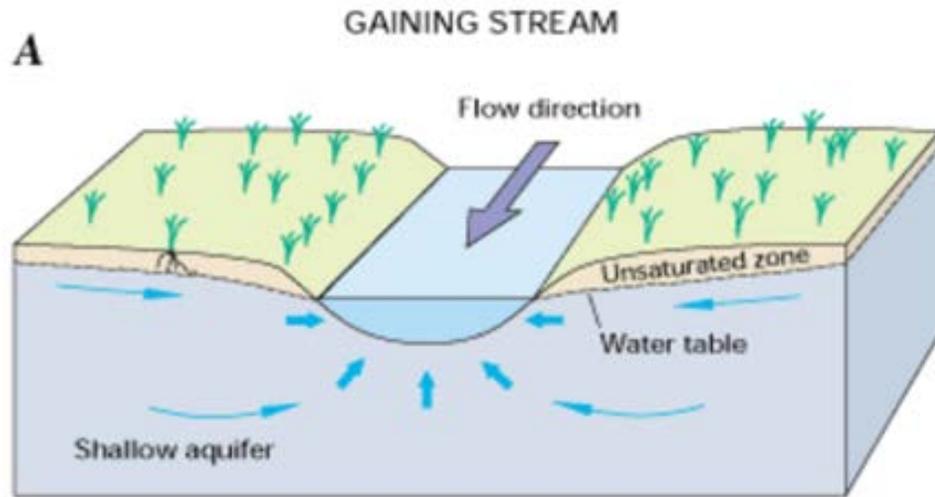


Surface Water vs. Groundwater



Surface Water Groundwater Interaction

Gaining and Losing Stream Examples



- **The same stream may be gaining or losing at different locations, or may change seasonally.**

Groundwater Sustainability Indicators



CHRONIC LOWERING OF
GROUNDWATER LEVELS



REDUCTION OF
GROUNDWATER STORAGE



LAND
SUBSIDENCE



WATER QUALITY
DEGRADATION



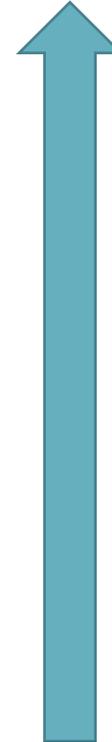
INTERCONNECTED SURFACE
WATER DEPLETIONS



SEAWATER
INTRUSION

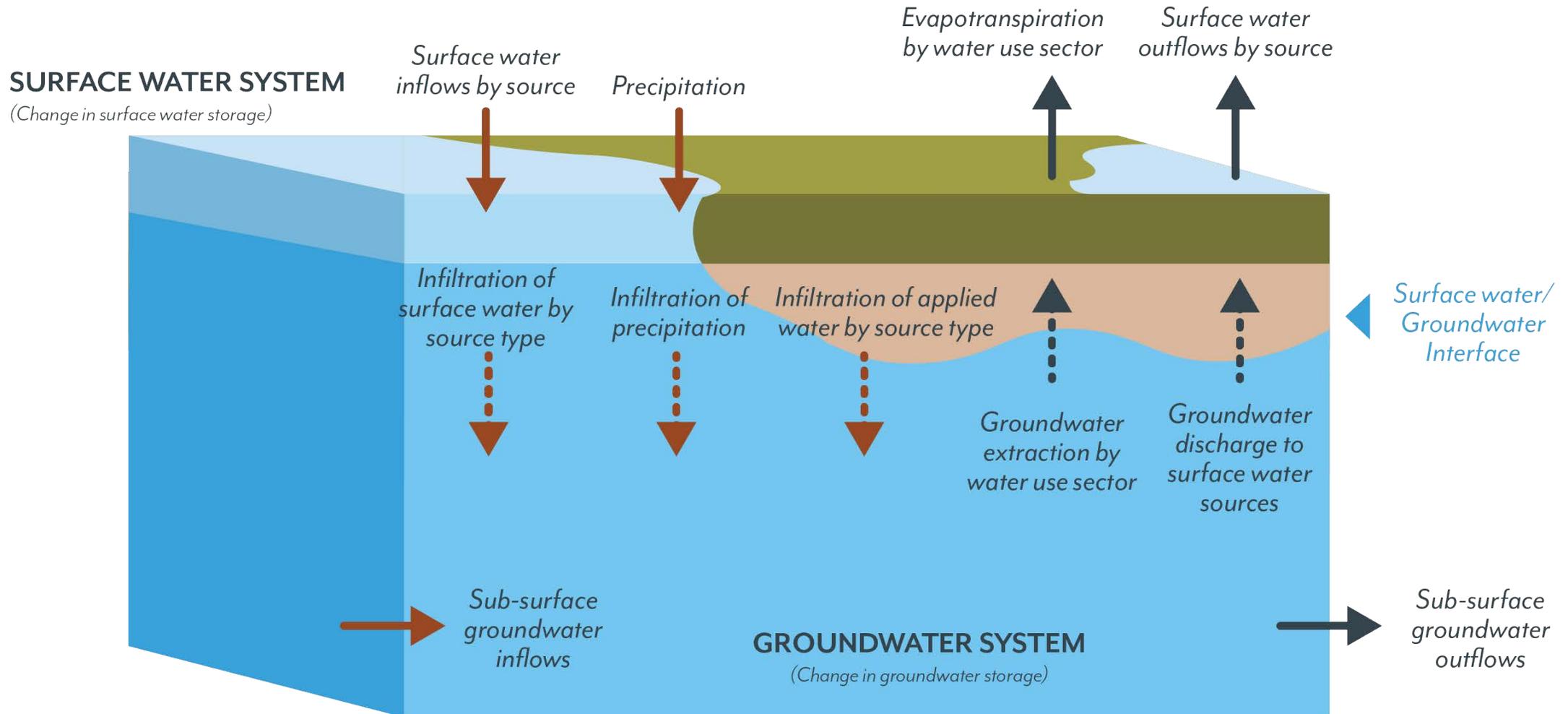
Groundwater Data We Use and Analyze

- **Water Level Hydrographs:** Point in space over variable time
- **Water level map:** Point in time over **variable space**
- **Changes in water levels:**
Addition/subtraction of water level mapped surfaces
- **Water budget:** Uses indirect data



Increasing reliability
of data

The Water Budget

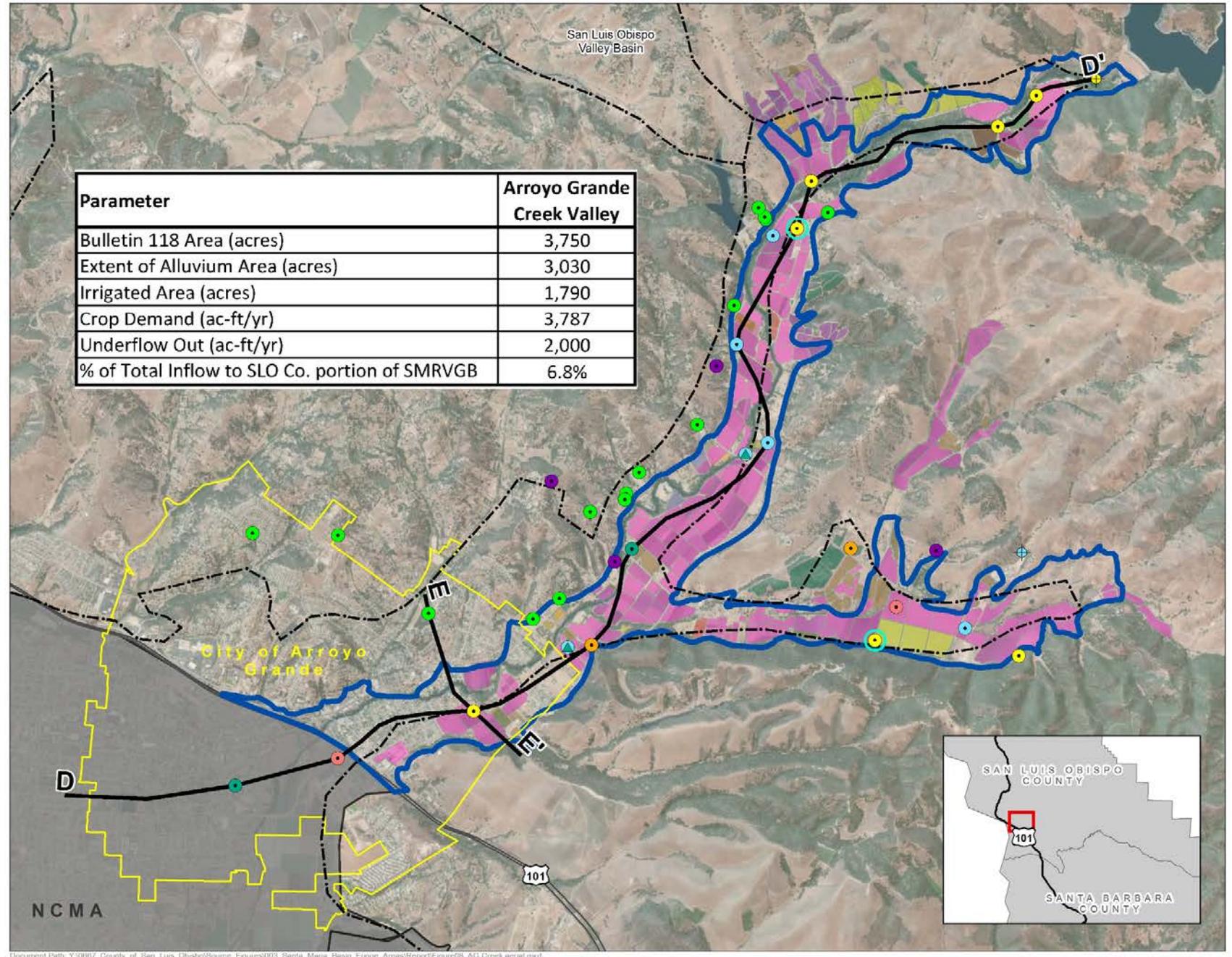


Overview of the Basin Setting

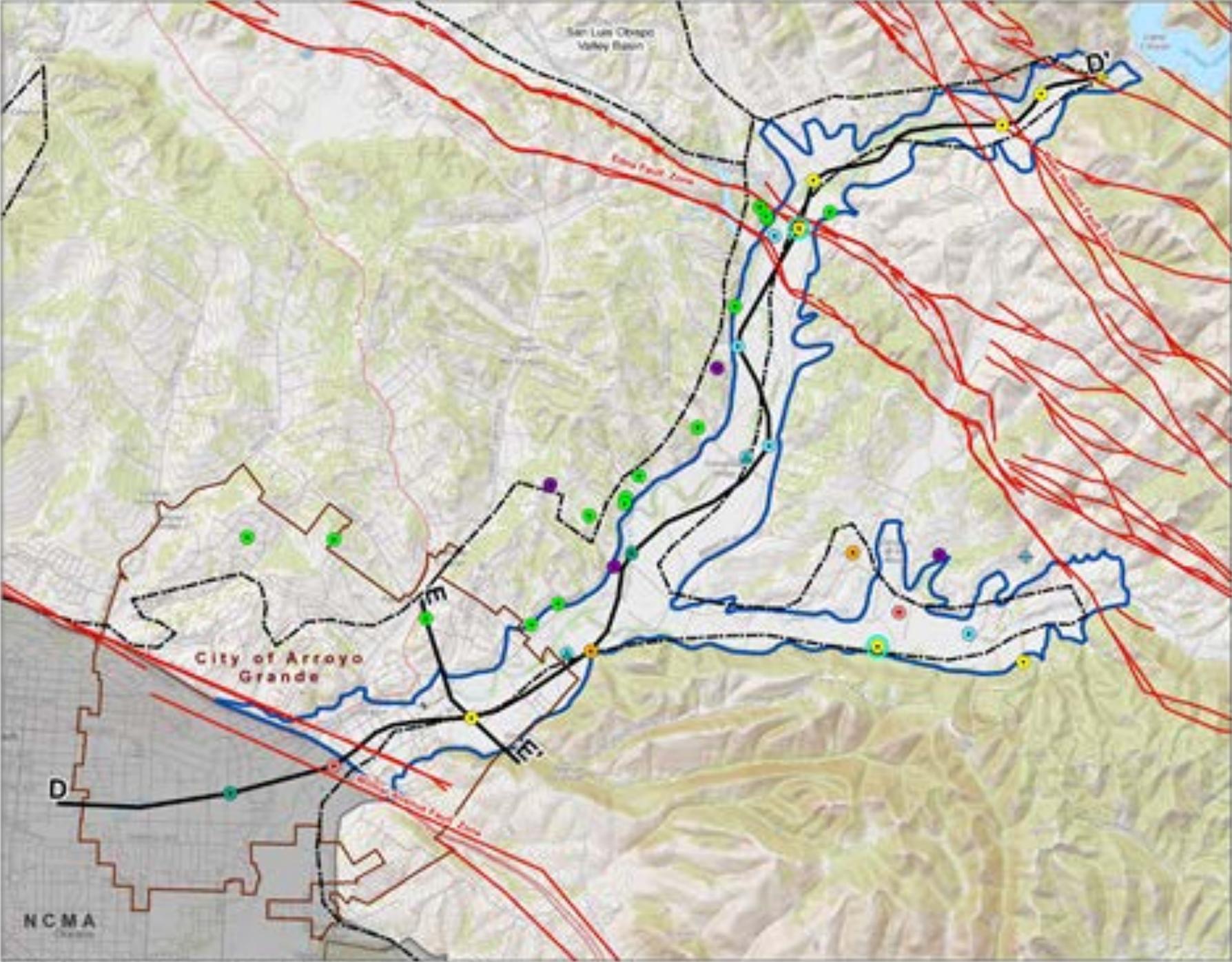
DAVE O'ROURKE

Aerial Photograph of Subbasin

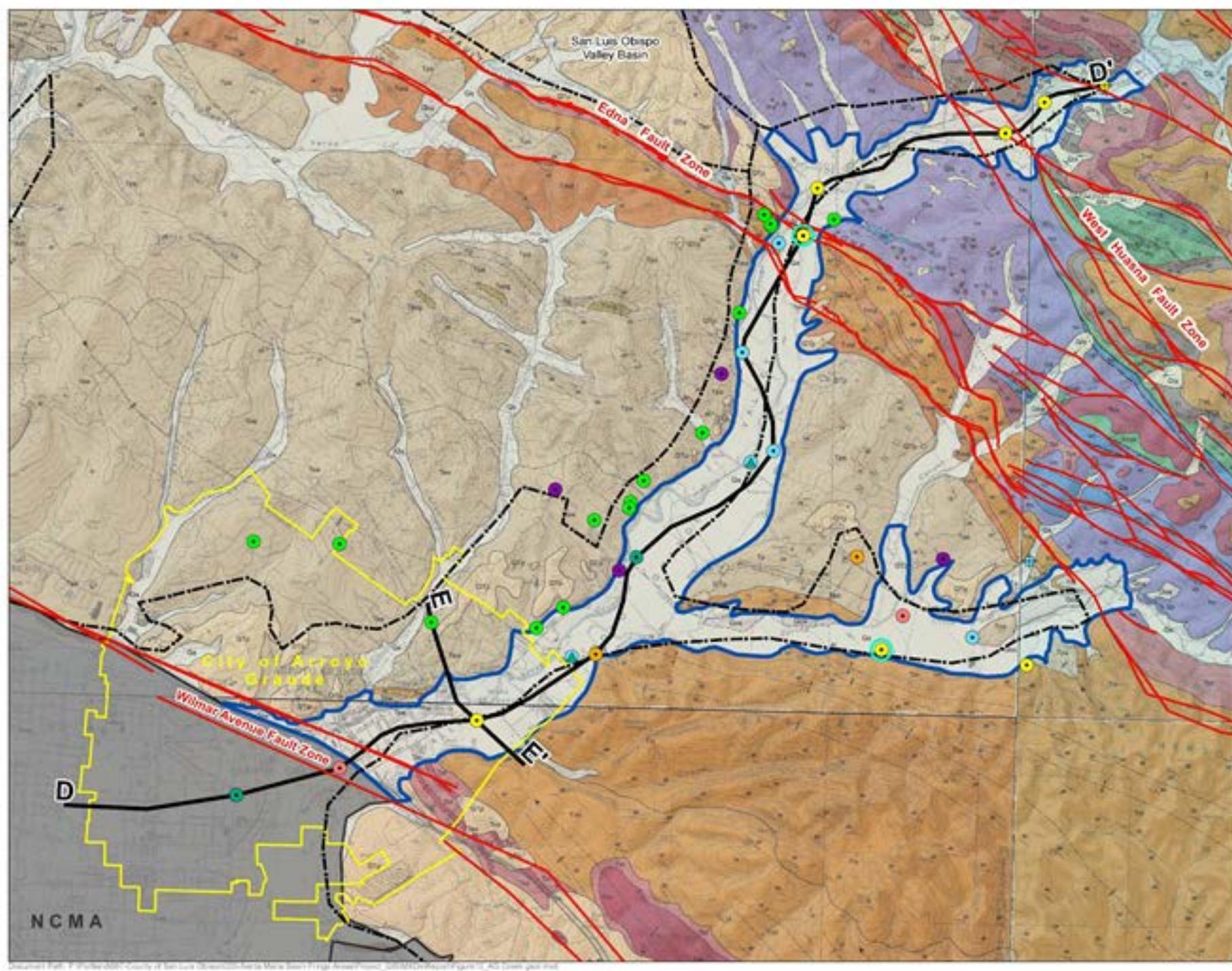
- Agriculture is primary land use
- Arroyo Grande Creek flow depends on Lake Lopez Releases
- Tar Springs Creek has natural flow.



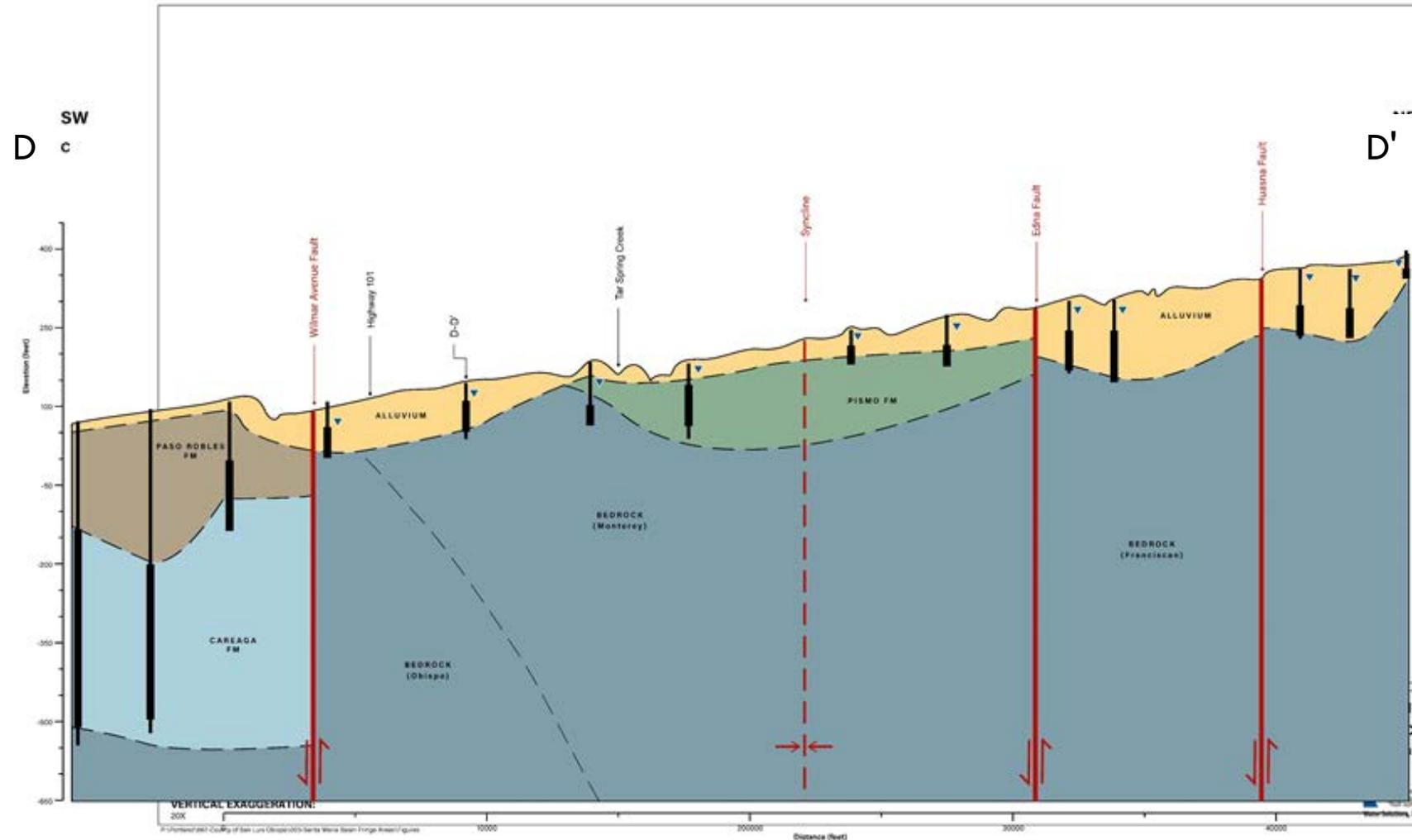
Topographic Map of Subbasin



Geologic Map of Subbasin

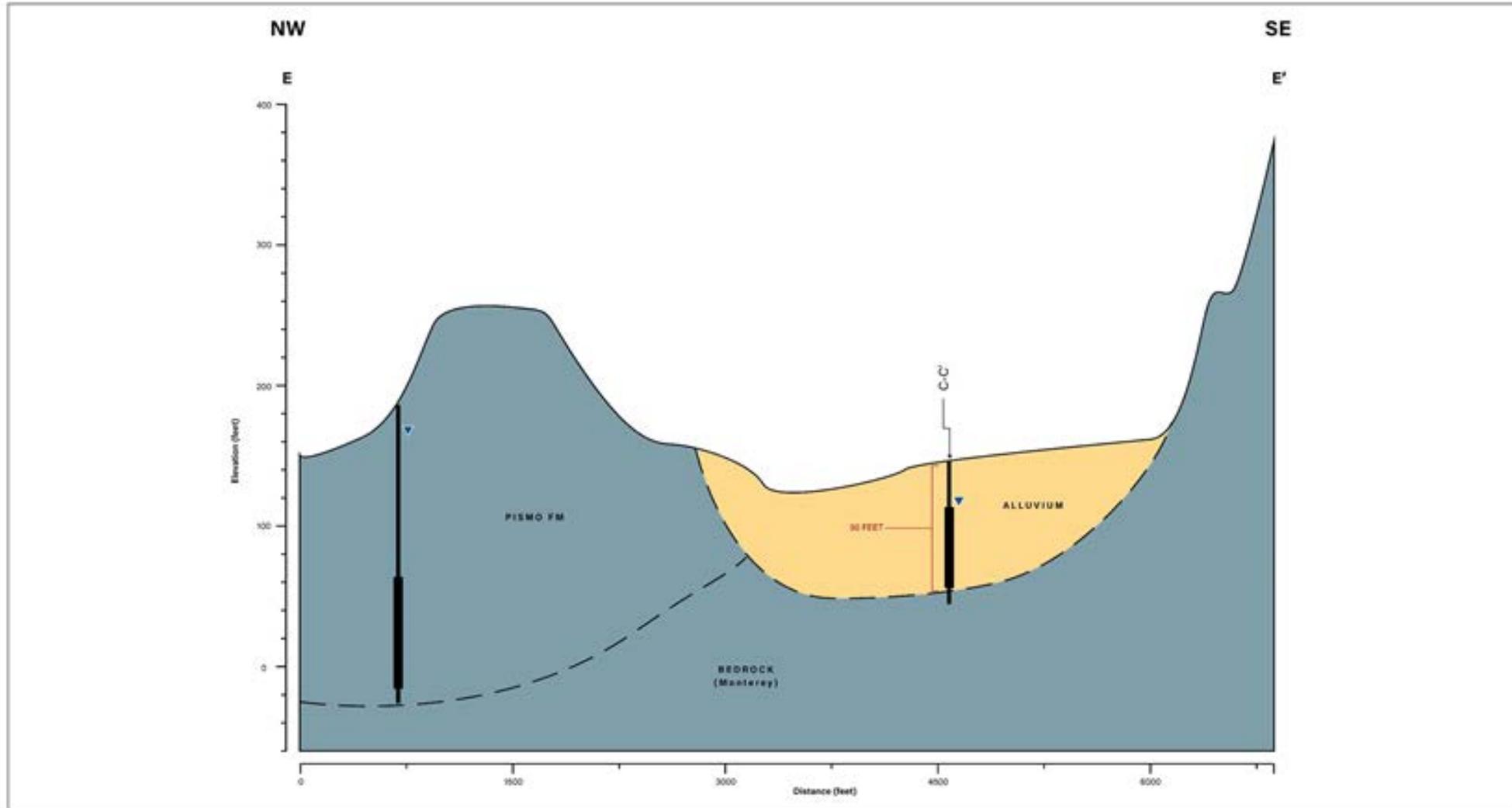


Conceptual Cross-Section of Basin (Down Valley)

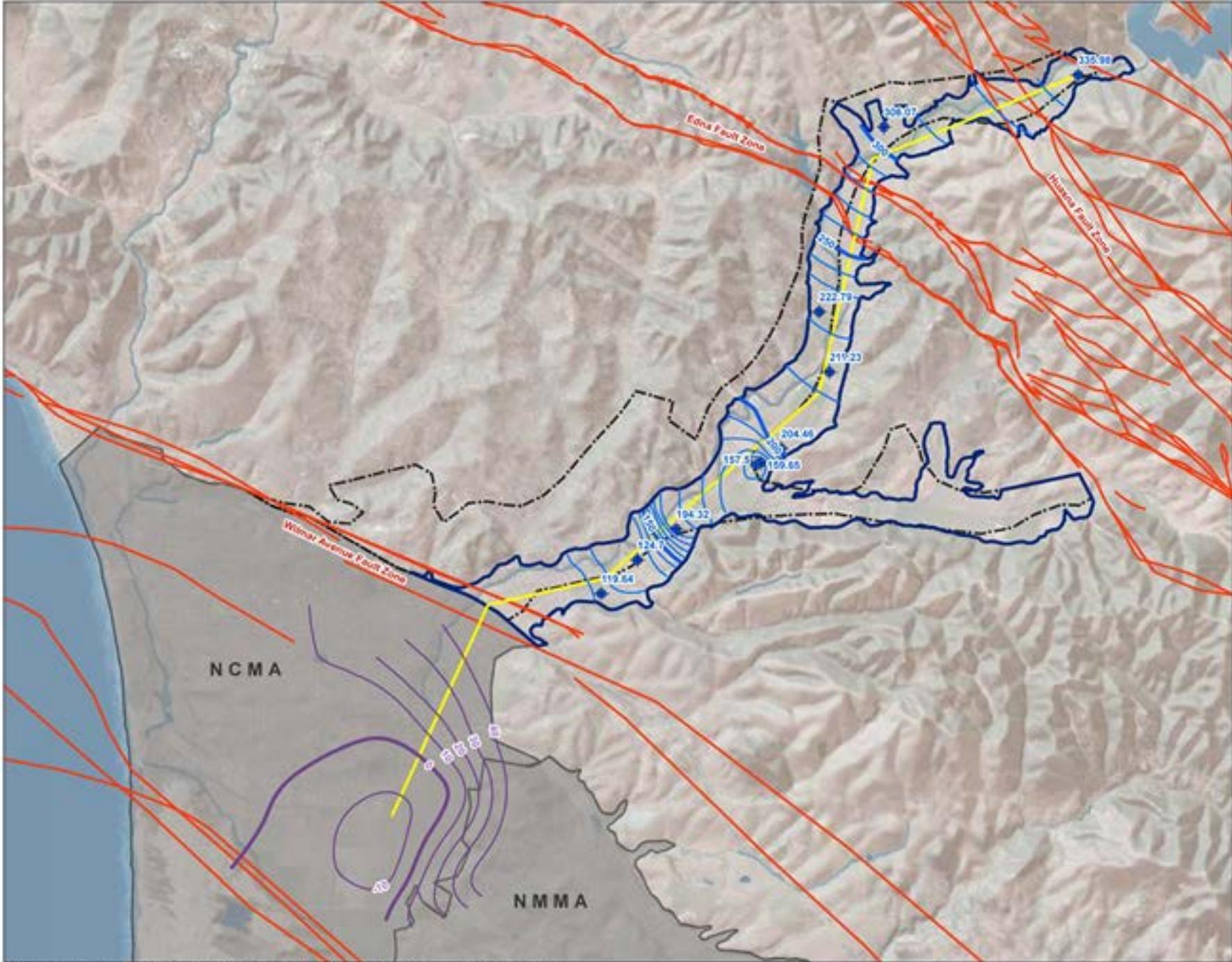


- 100-150 feet of alluvial sediments atop bedrock.
- Wilmar Avenue Fault is downgradient extent of sub-basin

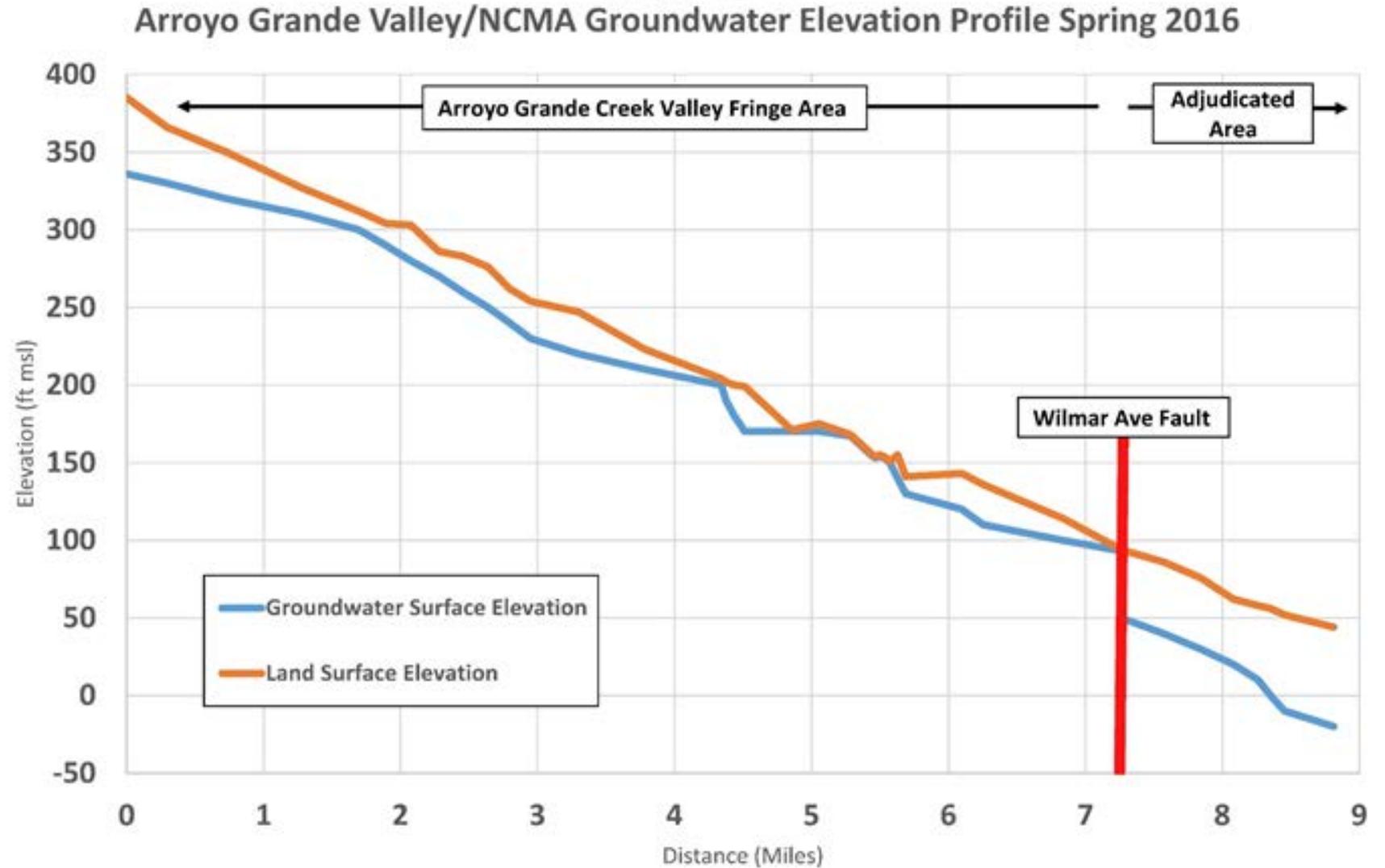
Conceptual Cross-Section of Basin (Cross Valley)



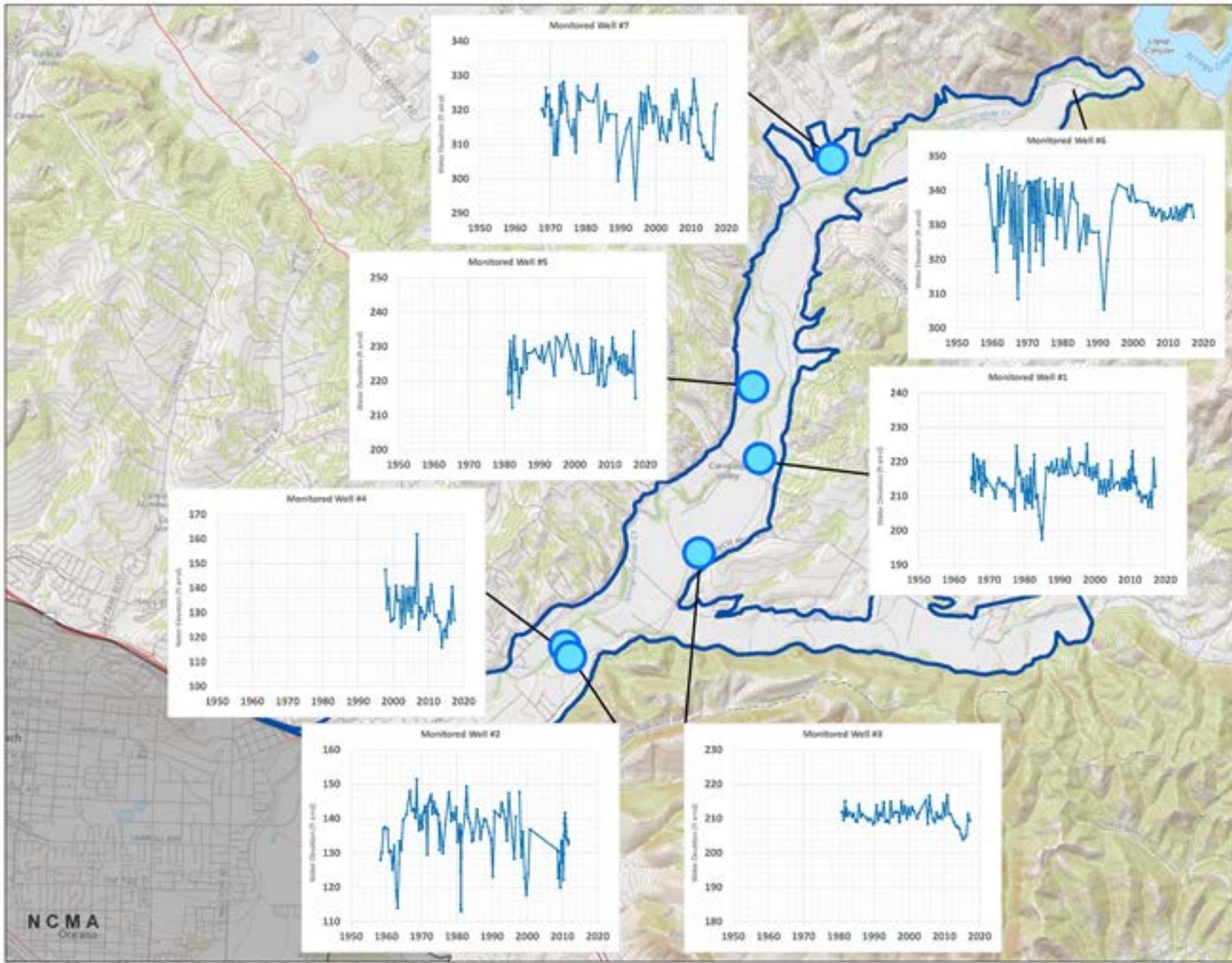
Spring 2016 Groundwater Elevation Contour Maps



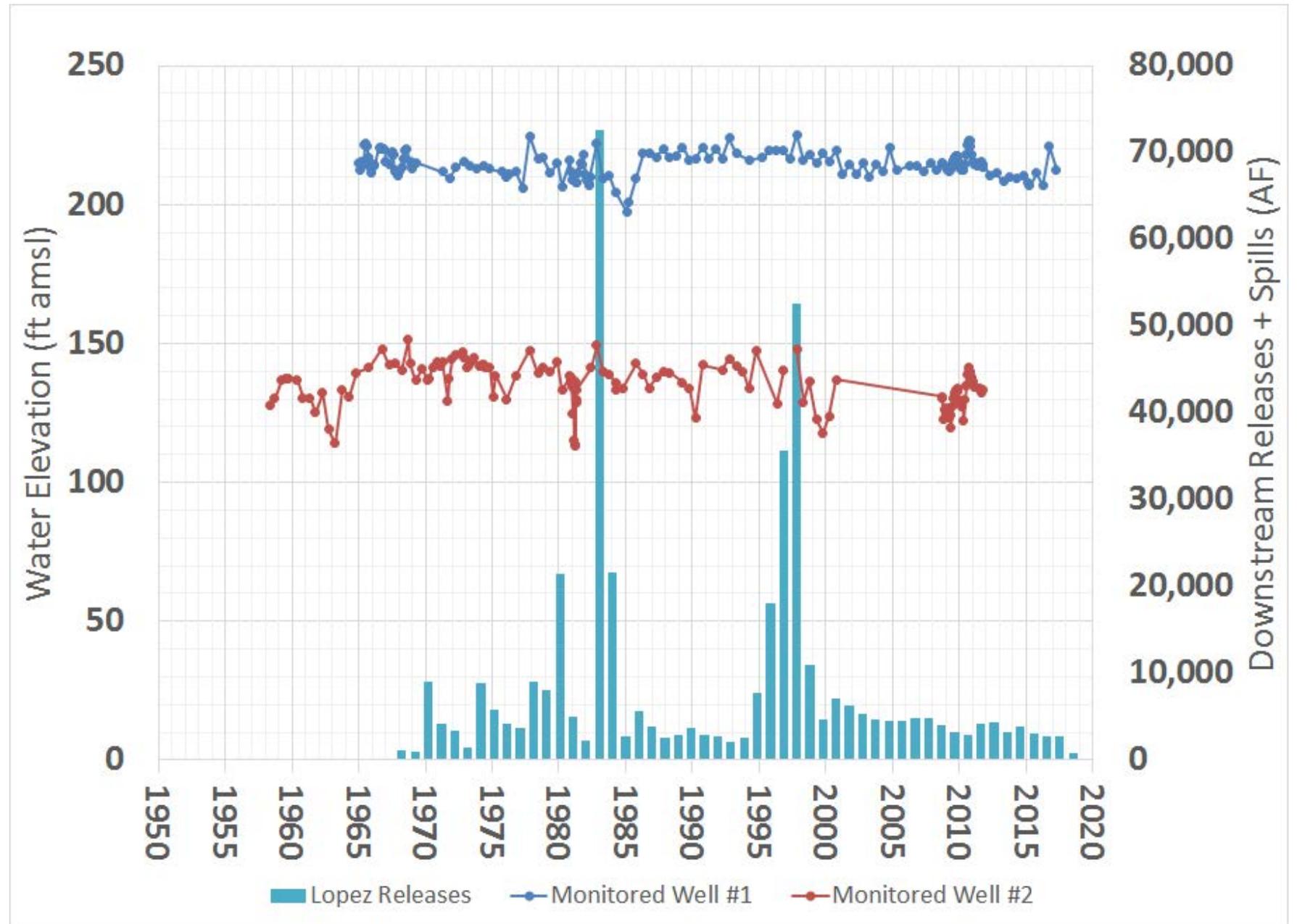
Groundwater Elevation Profile



Groundwater Elevation Hydrograph



Lopez Releases and Groundwater Elevations



An aerial photograph of a valley with a river winding through it. The hills are covered in dense green forest on the left and scrubby vegetation on the right. The sky is clear and blue.

Groundwater Data Request

A scenic view of a valley with a river, surrounded by green hills and a forested area. The text "Questions?" is overlaid in the center.

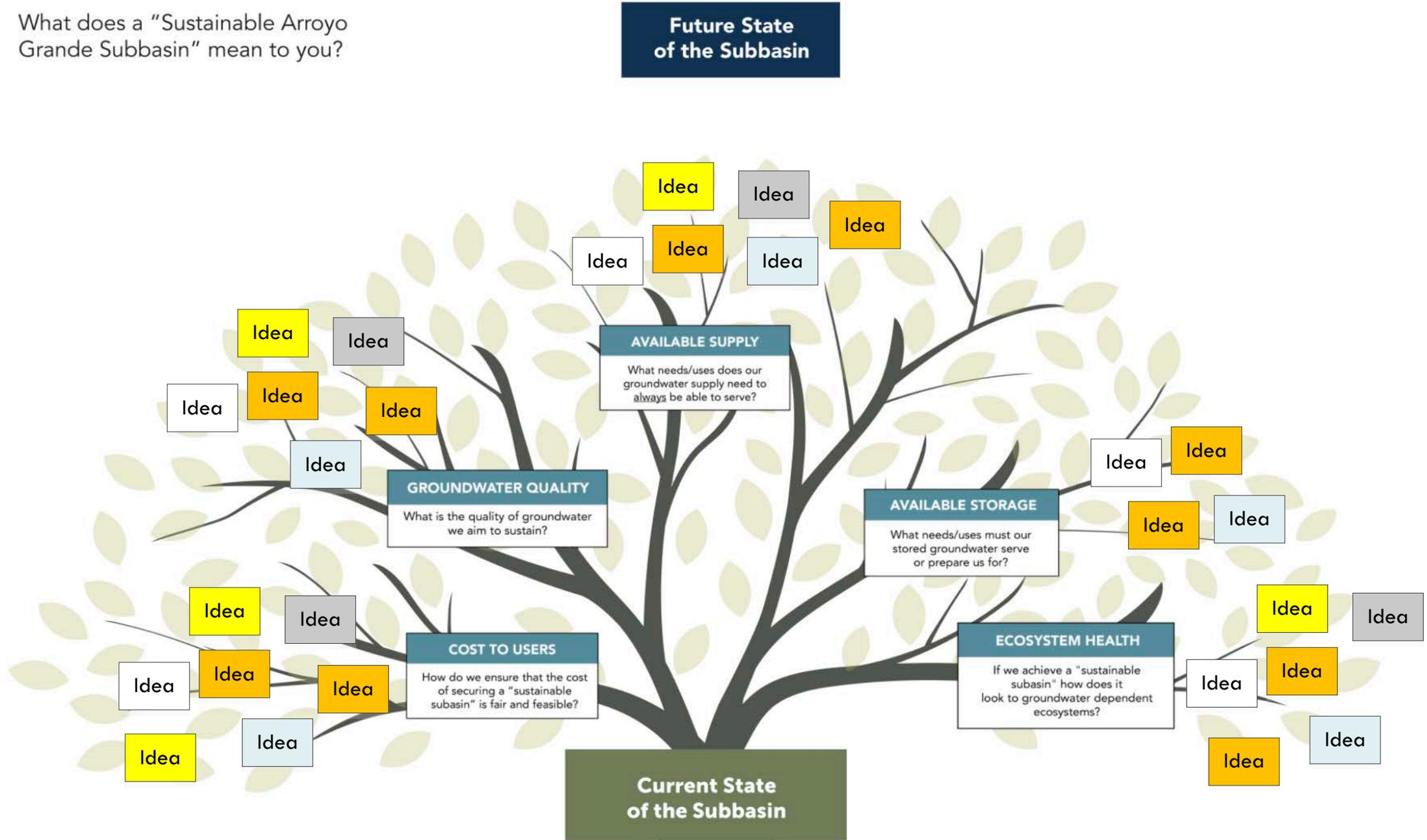
Questions?

Visioning Exercise

TIFFANY MEYER, WSC

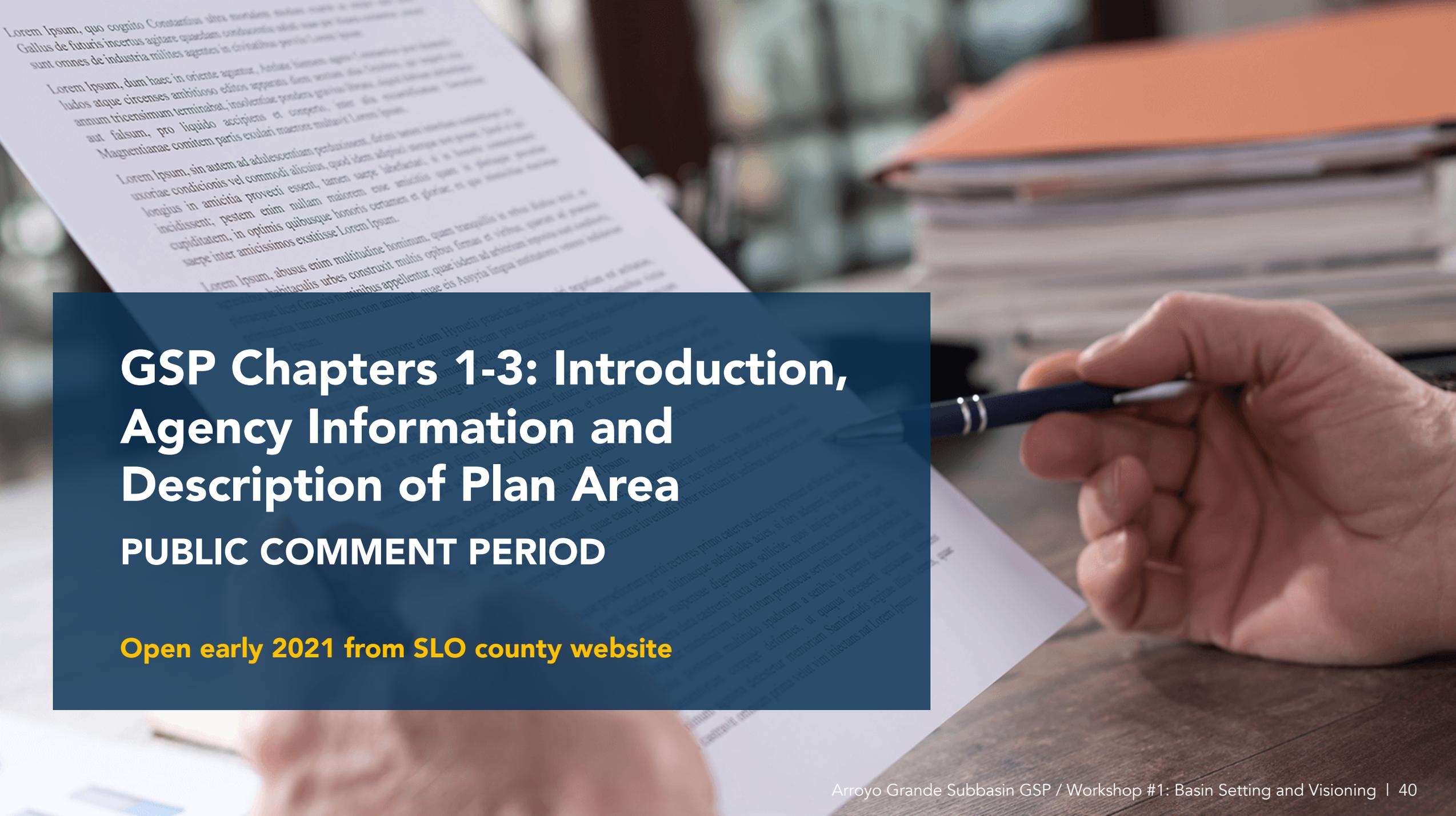
BASIN VISIONING EXERCISE

What does a "Sustainable Arroyo Grande Subbasin" mean to you?



What's Next?

TIFFANY MEYER, WSC

A hand holding a pen over a document with a blue overlay containing text. The background shows a desk with papers and a stack of books.

GSP Chapters 1-3: Introduction, Agency Information and Description of Plan Area PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Open early 2021 from SLO county website



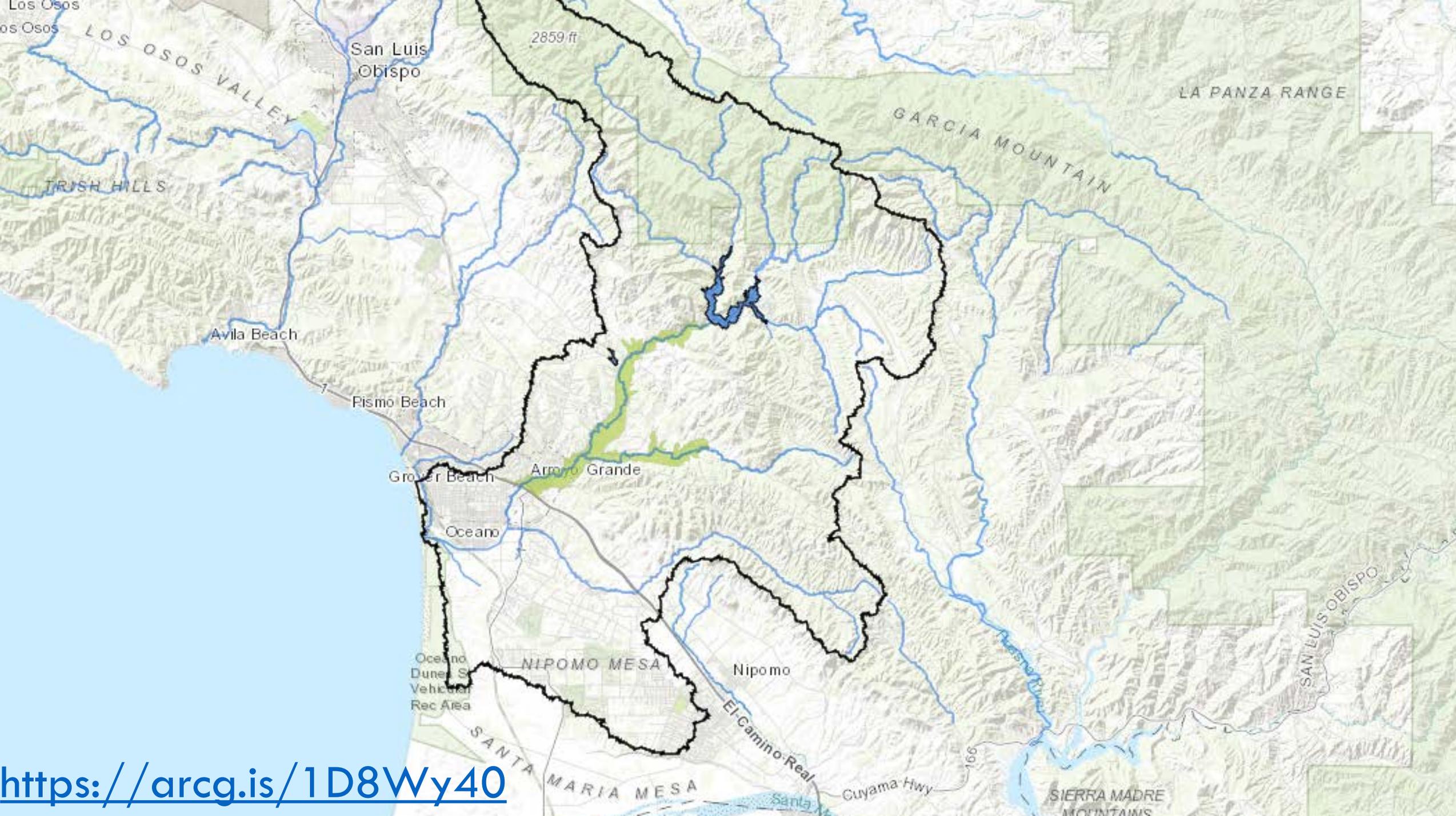
Workshop #2: Sustainable Goal Setting

Mar. 3, 2021 • 3:00pm-5:00pm •
Virtual via Zoom Meetings



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