

Big Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Annual Report for Water Year 2021

No. 5-004 Big Valley Groundwater Basin

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Abbreviations

AEM	Airborne Electromagnetic Surveys
AF	Acre-feet
AgMAR	Agricultural Managed Recharge
BVAC	Big Valley Advisory Committee
BVGB	Big Valley Groundwater Basin
BVGSP	Big Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan
BVMW	Big Valley Monitoring Well
CASGEM	California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CIMIS	California Irrigation Management Information System
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
ET	Evapotranspiration
GSA	Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
IM	Interim Milestone
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MO	Measurable Objective
MT	Minimum Threshold
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
RMW	Representative Monitoring Well
RVB	Round Valley Basin
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SMC	Sustainable Management Criteria
USGS	United States Geological Survey
UCCE	University of California Cooperative Extension
WY	Water year

Executive Summary

The Big Valley Groundwater Basin (referred to herein as “the basin,” or “BVGB” interchangeably), California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Basin No. 5-004 is classified as a “medium” priority basin. (DWR, 2019). The basin, shown in **Figure 1.1**, spans a land area of about 144 square miles in Modoc and Lassen counties (28 and 72 percent respectively). To comply with the requirements set forth by the 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) (California Water Code, Section 10720 et seq.), both counties have taken on the role of Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the portion of the basin within their jurisdictional boundaries.

The Groundwater Sustainability Plan (BVGSP or GSP) was adopted by both County Boards of Supervisors on December 15, 2021 and submitted to DWR on January 27, 2022. Per California Code of Regulations (CCR) 23 § 356.2, an Annual Report must be submitted to DWR by April 1 of each year following the adoption of the GSP, providing updates to basin conditions for the preceding water year (October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021). Data covered in the basin GSP concludes in water year (WY) 2018. This first annual report covers the entire Big Valley Groundwater Basin and provides an update on basin conditions for the subsequent water years, 2019 through 2021.

For this period, updates to basin conditions are constrained by data availability limitations and discrepancies in technical support which stem from the failure of GEI, the engineering firm contracted to assist the GSAs in the development of the GSP, to fulfill contract deliverables in a timely manner. A major reason for this was the loss of the only GEI employee who had developed the models used in the development of the Big Valley GSP to DWR, where he was subsequently barred from communicating directly with the GSAs. The remaining GEI staff assigned to this project were not readily able to replicate the methods used to update the water budget, contour maps, and hydrographs essential to creating this report. As such, the GSAs have been limited in their ability to accurately assess changes in basin conditions for this first annual report, and it is their intention that future reports shall continue to amend reporting accuracy wherever possible.

Conditions in the Basin during the 2021 WY have remained consistent with those discussed in the GSP with relation to sustainability criteria. Even during the dry and critical water years of 2020 and 2021 (respectively), water elevations at all representative monitoring wells with significant historic data to analyze remained above their measurable objectives.

Since 2018, the BVGB experienced varying precipitation. The 2019 water year was classified as wet (well above average). Water years 2020 and 2021 were dry and critically dry, respectively. During the 2021 water year, the basin received 55% of its normal precipitation.¹ In 2021, the

¹ Source: https://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/rainfall_data.php#monthly Measured at the Adin Ranger station. Consider updating to include precipitation data from Bieber too

wettest months were generally from September through February, and the driest between March and August. The Pit River and Ash Creek, major tributaries in the basin, typically experience high flows occurring during the winter months and lows during the summer, correlating with trends in precipitation and snowpack melt. Summer flows of the Pit River and all tributaries are fully allocated under existing water rights.

Within the BVGB, 22 wells were enrolled in the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program (CASGEM.). During GSP implementation, five deep wells were constructed to support additional monitoring and were added to the CASGEM program. These deep wells, along with 7 other CASGEM wells, were selected to be Representative Monitoring Wells (RMWs) for basin conditions and assigned Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC). Hydrographs for each RMW are provided in **Appendix A** and summarized in **Table 2.1.2** relative to their SMCs.

Depth-to-groundwater data taken from the RMWs was used to generate groundwater elevation contours for Fall and Spring for the 2019, 2020, and 2021 water years. These wells are also used to determine change in groundwater storage. The hydraulic gradients illustrated by the contour maps generally indicate north-south directional flow on the west side of the basin, and east-west directional flow on the east side of the basin. Seasonal variations are apparent as gradient steepness increases in the fall and decreases in the spring across the basin, corresponding with times of groundwater extraction and recharge respectively. This remains consistent with seasonal variance observed in the 2018 and preceding water year contours. Updated estimates of groundwater storage for water years 2019 through 2021 are reported in **Figure 2.2.4**, which shows water year type (precipitation), the annual change in groundwater storage, and the cumulative change in groundwater storage from WY 1983 to WY 2021.

Although this model is limited by its reliance on assumptions about aquifer structure and the quality of data available for the water budget, it is sufficiently accurate for this report. As implementation progresses and more data is made available, refining this and other models will improve the accuracy of estimates. A map showing annual changes in groundwater storage between the fall season of WY 2020 to 2021 can be found in **Appendix E**.

As described in the GSP, land use sectors in Big Valley “differ from DWR’s water use sectors identified in Article 2 of the GSP regulations because DWR’s sectors don’t adequately describe the uses in Big Valley.” (BVGSP 3-8). At the time of this report, the best data available to estimate land use by water use sector remains that which was reported in the development of the GSP. However, this dataset was identified as inaccurate, and as such, remains a data gap in this report. **Table 2.2.1** (Table 3-2 in the GSP) continues to provide the best summary of water use sectors for water years 2019, 2020, and 2021.

Overall, basin conditions during the 2021 water year have remained consistent with the trends anticipated in the GSP. **Table 2.1.2** provides a summary of water levels and SMCs in the RMWs.

For wells where there is sufficient data to analyze, groundwater levels have remained above the measurable objectives and as such, remain well above Minimum Thresholds.

Implementation of the GSP has been ongoing concurrently with its development, as outlined in Chapter 9: Project and Management Actions. Due to limited data availability, as with in the GSP, the water budget and other models used in this report draw heavily on assumptions about environmental factors such as evapotranspiration (ET), crop water use efficiency, and land use data. Improving data quality for basin management is a major goal of the GSAs. Therefore, the primary focus of work at this time has been to address the data gaps identified in the GSP, many of which carry over into this report. Outreach efforts have recruited a total of 14 participants for the Voluntary Well Metering Program, for which installation of flow meters is anticipated to start in the spring of 2022. The planned stream gage on the Pit River where it enters the basin will be critical for future monitoring efforts to improve the accuracy of the surface water flow measurements. Likewise, the proposed installation of a California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS) sensor in the basin would help refine estimates of a number of variables, none the least of which include precipitation and evapotranspiration.

1. General Information

1.1 Background

The local community in the Big Valley Groundwater Basin and surrounding areas is extremely rural, economically disadvantaged and resource capacity limited. As with much of the surrounding region, the economy is largely agricultural, but unlike many other groundwater basins in California, the growing season in Big Valley is constrained to about 101 days per year by hard freezes and snow. Considering these limitations, the majority of farmed land employs low impact farming techniques to produce low-input crops such as hay and pasture crops. The ensuing cropping systems support an abundance of wildlife habitat and help maintain pristine quality in both surface and groundwater systems.

1.1.1 Big Valley Basin GSAs and Big Valley Advisory Committee

With no other existing agency to take up this task, Modoc and Lassen Counties were established as GSAs for their respective portions of the basin in 2017 to attempt to retain local control of groundwater management.

When DWR finalized the basin's medium priority designation in 2019, the GSAs elected to collaborate on a single GSP and developed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which details the coordination between the two GSAs. The MOU provided for the establishment of a local advisory committee to oversee the development of the GSP. Applications for this committee, known as the Big Valley Advisory Committee (BVAC) were solicited from local landowners and residents following public noticing protocols. Appointments were made by the County Boards of Supervisors. The BVAC was comprised of a board member from each county, one alternate board member from each county, and two public applicants from each county.

1.1.2 Big Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan

From chapter one of the Big Valley GSP, "the sustainability goal for the Big Valley Groundwater Basin is to maintain a locally governed, economically feasible, sustainable groundwater basin and surrounding watershed for existing and future legal beneficial uses with a concentration on agriculture. Sustainable management will be conducted in context with the unique culture of the basin, character of the community, quality of life of the Big Valley residents, and the vested right of agricultural pursuits through the continued use of groundwater and surface water." (BVGSP p. 1-5).

Management of the basin prioritizes the interests of the basin's legal beneficial users in all decisions, as defined under the sustainability goal. To this effect, projects and management actions were identified in Chapter 9 of the GSP and are being implemented to refine existing data gaps. Consistent with this objective and to avoid undesirable results, monitoring networks to

evaluate quantifiable management criteria (minimum thresholds, measurable objectives, and interim milestones²) were established for the six sustainability indicators³.

In compliance with 23 CCR §352.6⁴, monitoring data is stored on a SharePoint site, accessible by Modoc and Lassen GSAs, and technical support staff.

1.2 Plan Area

With ground elevations averaging around 4,500 feet, the basin is located in the volcanic high desert region of California's far northeastern corner. It is one of many similar basins spread throughout the region classified by their relative isolation and small size. The total land area covered by the basin is about 144 square miles, with Modoc County representing around 40 square miles in the north and Lassen County comprising roughly 104 square miles in the south. A map showing the basin boundary and county jurisdictions is provided in **Figure 1.1**.

Geologically, "The BVGB is bounded to the north and south by Pleistocene and Pliocene basalt and Tertiary pyroclastic rocks of the Turner Creek Formation, to the west by Tertiary rocks of the Big Valley Mountain volcanic series and to the east by the Turner Creek Formation. The Pit River enters the Basin from the north and exits at the southernmost tip of the valley through a narrow canyon gorge. Ash Creek flows into the valley from Round Valley and disperses into Big Swamp. Near its confluence with the Pit River, Ash Creek reforms as a tributary at the western edge of Big Swamp. Annual precipitation ranges from 13 to 17 inches." (DWR 2003). Since 2003, the Ash Creek Wildlife Refuge was established and now occupies most of the area formerly known as Big Swamp. A series of restoration projects and farming practices have been implemented within its boundaries, resulting in changes to the stream channel where it flows through the refuge.

The definable bottom of the aquifer sits at about 1,200 feet (BVGSP, ES-4), at which depth all production wells are represented. Models used in basin management assume a single principle aquifer because no distinct, widespread confining beds have been identified in the subsurface.

Although the BVGB is isolated and does not share a boundary with another basin, the Round Valley Basin (RVB), which received a very low prioritization, is located directly to the north from where Ash Creek flows into the BVGB at the town of Adin. Hydraulic communication between the two basins where they are separated by a half-mile gap of alluvium is suspected by the GSAs but has not been confirmed by DWR or GEI. Surrounding upland areas are also

² Interim Milestones are optional criteria not subject to enforcement and none have been set for the BVGB.

³ The six sustainability indicators defined under SGMA are: chronic lowering of groundwater levels, reduction of groundwater storage, seawater intrusion, degraded water quality, land subsidence, and depletions of interconnected surface water. The BVGB was not found to experience direct impacts from seawater intrusion, subsidence, depletion of interconnected surface water, or degraded water quality.

⁴ 23 CCR §352.6. Data Management System, "Each Agency shall develop and maintain a data management system that is capable of storing and reporting information relevant to the development or implementation of the Plan and monitoring of the basin."

thought to contribute to basin recharge and were mapped as such by DWR in 1963. An upland assessment being completed by GEI is also working towards clarifying this relationship.

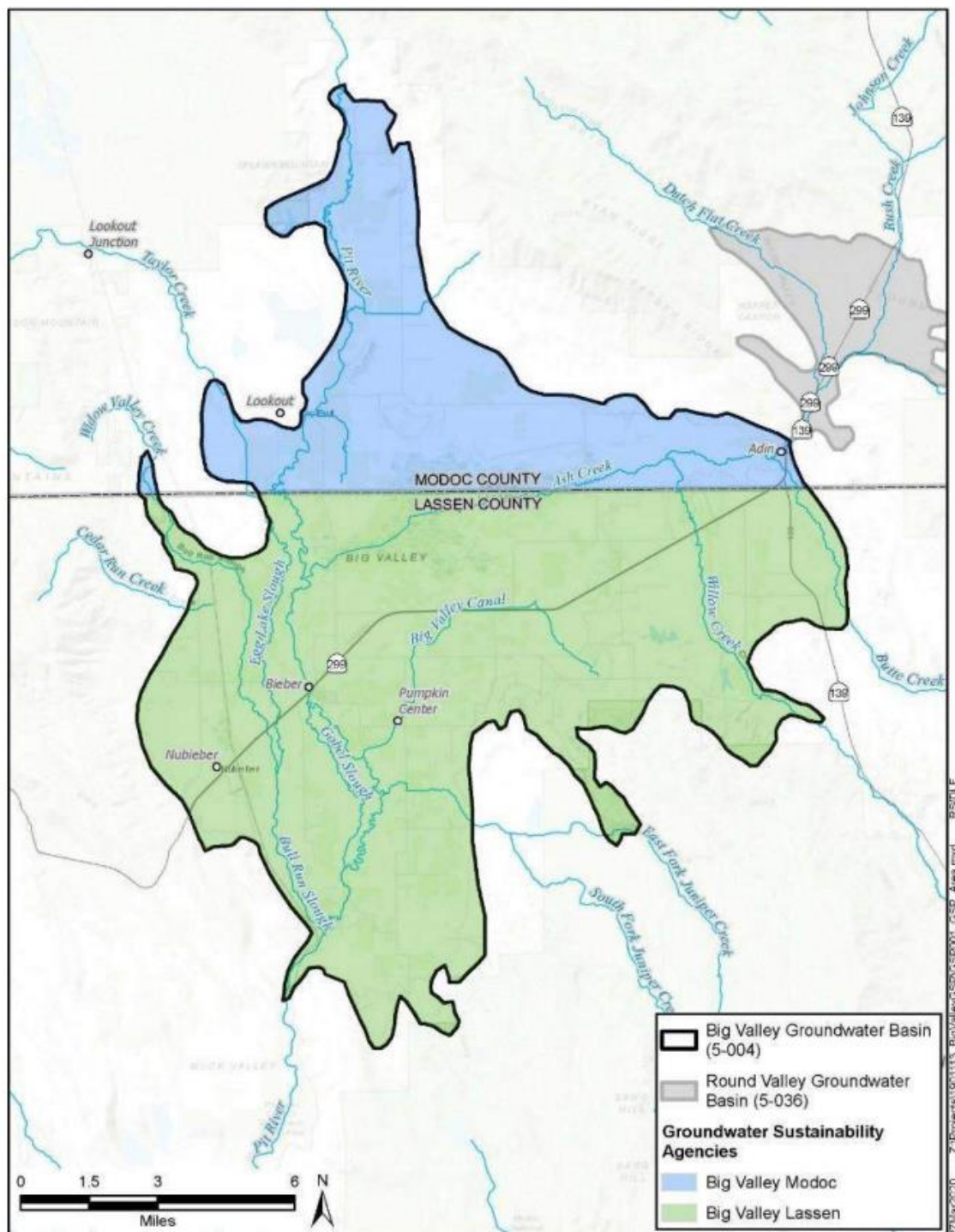


Figure 1.1 Big Valley Groundwater Basin Map (BVGSP ES-2)

1.2.1 Climate

The climate of the BVGB is highly variable depending on season and year. On average, temperatures range between 32 and 69 degrees Fahrenheit. However, the summer months regularly see temperatures exceeding 90°F, and temperatures in winter months can fall as low as -10°F. These hard freezes limit agricultural production for much of the year.

Historic climate data was recorded in the basin at two stations, Bieber 4 NW and Adin RS, which were administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Both stations are no longer active. Current precipitation data used in the water budget estimations is drawn from the nearest CIMIS station in McArthur CA, #43, which is separated from the BVGB by the Big Valley Mountains to the west. Monthly averages of climate data from 1983 to 2021 are presented in **Table 1.2** with the caveat that the use of this data, which is not specific to the microclimate of the BVGB, lends some uncertainty to current estimates of the water budget. The installation of a CIMIS station at a location within the basin is highly desirable to improve data reliability.

Table 1.2 Monthly Climate Data from CIMIS Station #43 in McArthur, CA (1984-2021)			
Month	Average Rainfall (inches)	Average Reference ET ⁵ (inches)	Average Daily Temperature (°F)
October	1.31	3.04	49
November	2.22	1.22	38
December	2.83	0.75	32
January	2.51	0.89	33
February	2.65	1.59	37
March	2.50	3.02	42
April	1.71	4.47	48
May	1.62	5.96	55
June	0.61	7.32	63
July	0.15	8.19	69
August	0.18	7.17	66
September	0.44	5.03	60

(CIMIS Monthly Averages)

1.2.2 Surface Water and Drainage Features

The two major sources of surface water in the BVGB are the Pit River and Ash Creek, which enter the basin near the towns of Lookout and Adin respectively. There are several other small creeks which connect into the two larger systems throughout the basin. Water is diverted through a series of unlined drainage ditches and canals, which have been identified along with agricultural land for their potential to contribute to recharge. Historically, several stream gages have monitored water levels on the Pit River, Ash Creek, and Willow Creek, shown in **Figure 1.2**. For this reporting period, data is available from two gages on the Pit River: The Muck

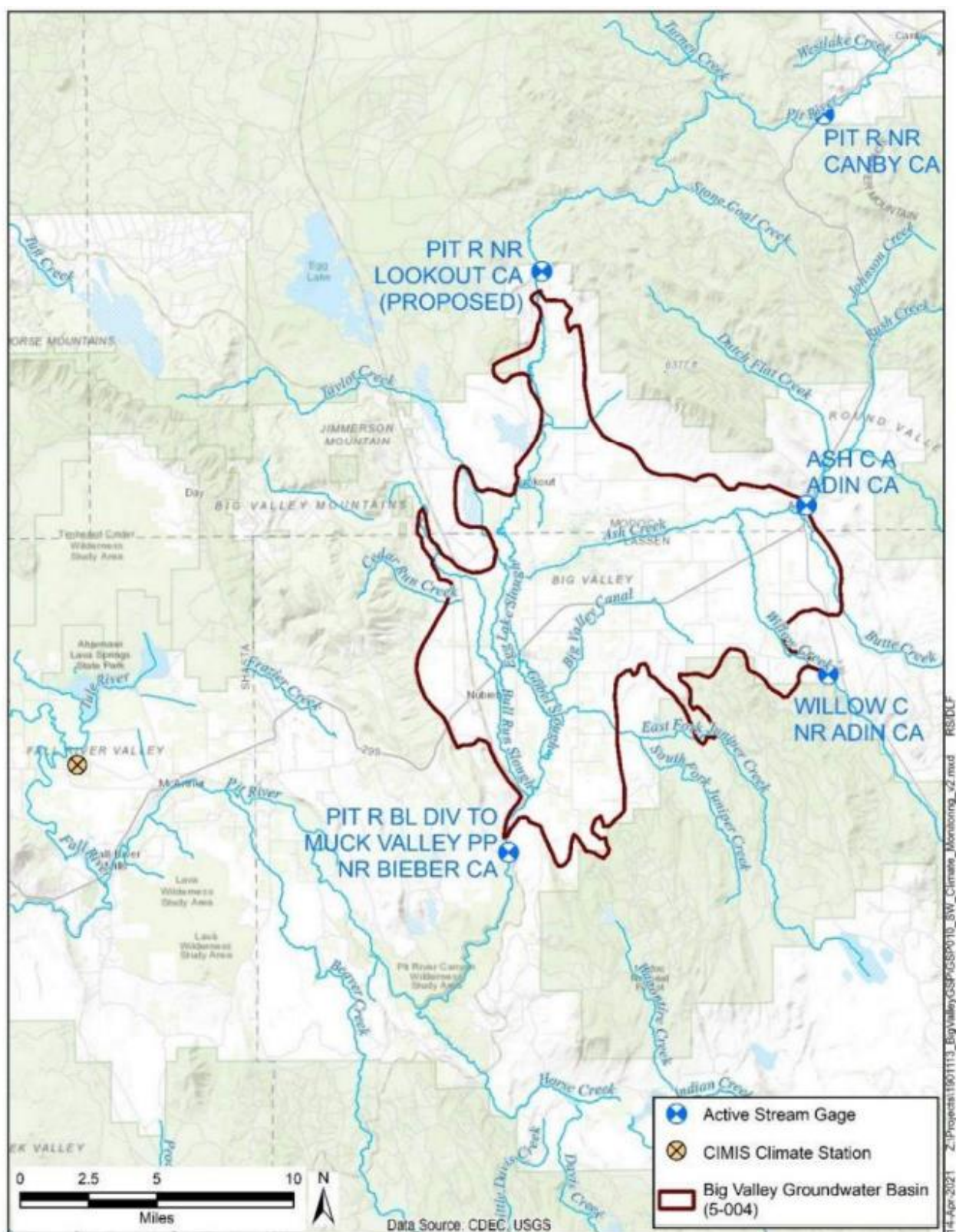
⁵ Reference ET refers to Evapotranspiration that has been adjusted to account for irrigation.

Valley gage through a verbal data sharing agreement with Brookfield Renewable Energy, and from the USGS Canby Gage. The stream gage on Ash Creek measured flow from 1981 to 1999 and was reactivated in 2019 to provide data at 15-minute intervals. Future monitoring will include a gage on the Pit River just above where it enters the basin, and the Willow Creek gage, which DWR is working to reestablish.

Annual average daily streamflow at the Canby gage is reported for water years 2010 through 2021 in **Table 1.2.1**. Flows are shown to correlate with water year type, with highest daily averages occurring concurrently with the wet years in 2011, 2017 and 2019, and the lowest daily flows occurring during the less than normal years of 2012, 2014 and 2021. This data demonstrates the extreme variability in surface water availability in the Pit River. The wettest year recorded 20 times more volume in surface water flows than the driest, and the difference between the second wettest year saw flows 13 times the volume of the flows recorded in the second driest year.

Table 1.2.1 Annual Average Daily Streamflow at the Canby USGS Gage

Water Year	Average Daily Flow (cfs) at Canby Gage	SRI Water Year ¹
2010	56.4	BN
2011	380.8	W
2012	66	BN
2013	73.6	D
2014	20.9	C
2015	41.7	C
2016	208.2	BN
2017	456.1	W
2018	138.5	BN
2019	387.2	W
2020	69.3	D
2021	30.6	C
Notes: ¹ Sacramento Valley Water Year Indices Water year type. C = Critical, D = Dry, BN = Below Normal, AN = Above Normal, W = Wet Source(s): USGS Surface Water Data; DWR Data Exchange Center Historic Water Year Hydrologic Classification Indices.		



2 Groundwater Conditions

This section provides an update on changes in groundwater conditions in the BVGB for the 2019, 2020, and 2021 water years.

2.1 Groundwater Elevations

2.1.1 Groundwater Elevation Contour Maps

Spring and fall groundwater contours included in the GSP are current through the 2019 WY. However, for consistency, 2019, 2020 and 2021 changes in groundwater elevation are discussed in this report. Throughout this reporting period, water levels in the basin have declined slightly during the dry and critical years of 2020 and 2021, respectively. The 2019 water year was a wet year, which allowed groundwater levels to recover.

Fall groundwater elevations rose between 2019 and 2020 and declined slightly between 2020 and 2021. For all three years, groundwater levels in the northeastern region of the basin remained relatively unchanged, and slight fluctuations in groundwater levels were observed near the basin's center and southern region.

Spring groundwater elevations across all three years have generally followed the same patterns consistent with water year type, although water levels across all three years recovered significantly between the fall and spring seasons. Notably, spring water elevations recovered in the 2021 WY to nearly the levels of the preceding water year despite the differential in precipitation between the two years.

These spring trends suggest that the basin's storage capacity is resilient, provided that sufficient water is available for recharge. In years where precipitation is limited, a combination of surface water storage options and off-season recharge projects may help enhance this process and mitigate further groundwater level decline.

DWR has measured water levels for many decades and has indicated that it will continue to measure water levels for the foreseeable future. The period covered by this report coincides with an extended period of limited data availability, particularly in the southern portion of the basin for the 2019-2021 water years. Covid-19 is suspected to have contributed to this data gap by constraining the ability of DWR staff to conduct necessary field work, which has required technical staff to estimate water levels for some parts of the basin. This uncertainty could be ameliorated in future reports if data availability and reporting improve.

2.1.2 Groundwater Elevation Hydrographs

Twelve Representative Monitoring Wells were selected and assigned measurable objectives⁶ (MOs) and minimum thresholds (MTs) to assess groundwater elevation and depth to water conditions. **Figure 2.1.2** shows the relative distribution of these RMWs within the BVGB. Of these, the five Big Valley Monitoring Wells (BVMWs) are each located at one of the clusters of monitoring wells that the GSAs received funding from DWR to drill in 2019 and 2020. Data from the BVMW clusters notably can be used to determine the directional flow of groundwater within the basin. MOs were set at the 2015⁷ fall water elevation levels wherever possible. The newer wells included in the monitoring network were assigned MOs at the earliest fall water elevation reported. For the five new BVMWs, 2020 was the first year fall monitoring data was collected. The ACWA-3 well was assigned an MO at its 2017 fall level. Given the differences in conditions that occurred in the basin between the 2015, 2017 and 2019 water years, the MOs set for the newer wells may be adjusted in the future to better reflect basin conditions.

During the time period covered by this report, conditions in the basin have remained sustainable. Substantively, the wells with sufficient historic data to predict future trends are all projected to remain above their respective MOs through 2040. Wells installed or added to the representative monitoring network after 2015, which include the five new BVMWs and ACWA-3, do not have significant historical data to analyze at this point. However, preliminary data suggests low seasonal variance across these sites.

Historic water level trends, estimated from the hydrograph trend lines, have suggested an average groundwater level decline of approximately 0.53 ft/year across the basin. However, evaluating basin conditions in this way can be misleading considering that changes to water levels vary greatly.

Water level trends for all wells appear to correlate with water year type, although the degree of change differs from site to site. Three wells, 08F1, ACWA-3, and 26E1 have fluctuated minimally with projected rates of change falling between a very slight decline of .04 ft/year and a slight increase of .16 ft/year. Preliminary data from BVMW wells 2-1, 3-1, and 5-1 appear to reflect similar trends. Again, however, empirical data from the five new monitoring wells cannot be meaningfully interpreted at this time due to the limited period for which it has been collected. Preliminary trends for BVMW 1-1 and 4-1 are not apparent for this reason. By the time of the five-year report, however, that is expected to change as six years of monitoring will have been completed.

⁶ “Measurable objective (MO): Numeric Values that reflect the desired groundwater conditions at a particular monitoring site. MOs must be set for the same monitoring sites as the MTs and are not subject to enforcement.” (BVGSP 7-1)

⁷ Measurable objectives were set at the fall 2015 levels, which were generally the lowest, most recent groundwater level measurements prior to the adoption of the BVGSP. These levels provide a reasonable proxy for desired conditions because agricultural uses remain feasible at them. (BVGSP 7-3).

Two wells, 13K2 and 20B6 have demonstrated slight declining trends in water levels at a rate of 0.70 and 0.72 ft/year respectively. It should be noted that since 2015, data has not been reported for 20B6 and has been reported sporadically for 13K2. Given the uncertainty produced by this lack of data, it is imperative that either efforts to consistently collect and report data for these sites are improved, or new sites are selected to reflect basin conditions in future reports. The first of these options is the most desirable outcome to maintain reporting consistency through future years, keeping in mind that these wells are also used for contour mapping.

The trends reflected in 01A1 and 16D1 indicate moderate levels of decline at the rates of 1.20 and 1.28 ft/year respectively. Of the twelve RMWs, the data represented in the hydrographs for these sites are the most variable, particularly during the dry period from 2011 to 2016. Although spring water levels have generally been declining, they have consistently remained above fall water levels for the same water year. The relationship between depletion and recharge appears nonlinear and elastic, with greater differences between fall and spring water levels observed the closer fall water levels come to the measurable objective.

This relationship highlights the correlation between recharge and seasonality which suggests that much of the water pumped in the basin from one year to another was likely recharged during the preceding year. The GSAs suspect that much of the recharge observed in the basin is contributed by upland areas within the watershed, but which fall outside the basin's current boundaries. For this reason, the GSAs are interested in expanding basin boundaries. Additionally, increases in demand on groundwater supplies correlate with dry periods such as seen in the hydrograph for well 01A1, which implies that groundwater is used most often when surface water is not available. Economically, this makes sense because groundwater extraction is much more energy intensive than surface water diversions and thus more expensive. The trends observed in the hydrographs support the need for enhancements to surface water storage capacity in and around the basin. Even an additional 5,000 AF of storage would greatly help to offset the slight overdraft estimated in the water budget.

Water levels have been generally increasing at well 01A1 and decreasing at well 16D1 since 2015, which marked the end of the considerable dry period that prompted the passage of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Spring water levels at well 16D1 remained just about level with the two preceding years, although fall water levels did decline considerably more than they had in the same time frame. DWR has not reported fall WY 2021 water levels for well 16D1, but spring levels at this site fell to an all-time low for the season. However, water levels at both sites have remained above their measurable objectives and are projected to remain above 2015 levels well into the future. A summary of spring elevations for the 2021 water year and corresponding sustainable management criteria is provided in **Table 2.1.2** to highlight current conditions in the basin.

Minimum thresholds were set to reflect the water level at which pumping costs would render agricultural pursuits unviable. For this reporting period, water levels have remained well above

these levels and are not projected to come anywhere near to them within the next 20 years. Conditions in the basin will continue to be monitored at these locations with respect to their sustainable management criteria, and updates will be provided in future reports.

Table 2.1.2 Water Year 2021 RMW Hydrograph Summary Table¹				
Well Name	Spring Groundwater Elevation (ft)	Fall Groundwater Elevation (ft)	Minimum Threshold (ft)	Measurable Objective (ft)
01A1	4127.6	4084.5	3895	4035
08F1	4227.7	4226.9	4082	4222
13K2	N/A	4081	3922	4062
16D1	4095.7	N/A	3939	4079
20B6	N/A	N/A	3945	4085
26E1	4126.6	4118.1	3974	4114
ACWA-3	4148.3	4139	3996	4136
BVMW 1-1	4181.2	4156.8	4022	4162
BVMW 2-1	4194.1	4194.1	4054	4194
BVMW 3-1	4148.6	4144.3	4006	4146
BVMW 4-1	4120.3	4094.9	3948	4088
BVMW 5-1	4085.4	4078.8	3942	4082
Notes:				
1 Data reported in this table was downloaded from the online SGMA Data Viewer (https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/?appid=SGMADataViewer)				

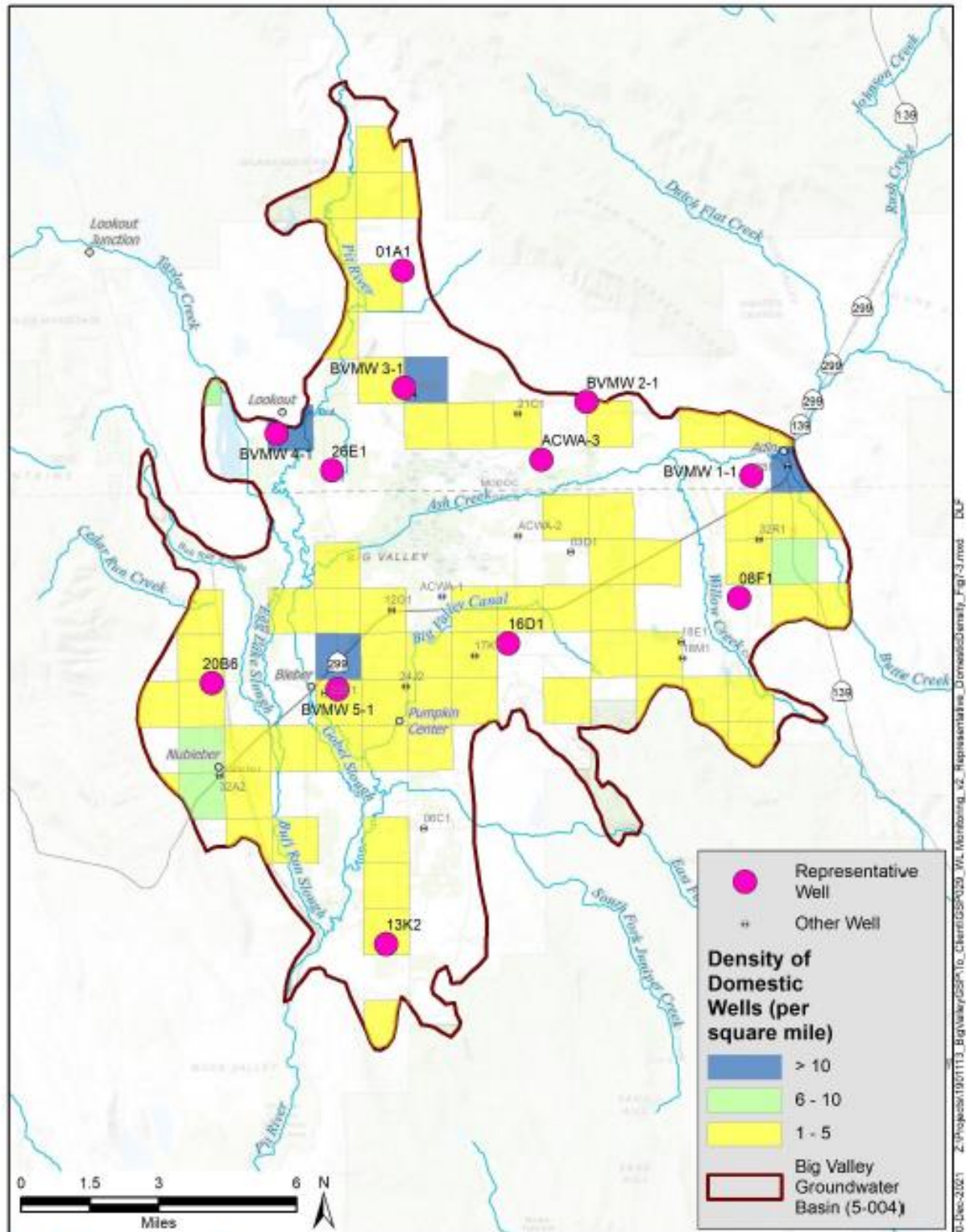


Figure 2.1.2 Map of Domestic Well Densities and Representative Groundwater Wells (BVGSP 7-6)

2.2 Water Budget

GEI, the engineering firm contracted to be the technical lead for the Big Valley GSP, chose to develop the water budget (**Appendix D**) using an excel spreadsheet tool. This method was selected as both an economically and technologically feasible way for the GSAs to create the water budget for the GSP, and to calculate water budget estimates for future reports. As discussed in depth in the GSP, the many assumptions and data gaps that were present when completing the water budget carry over into this report. GSA staff was unable to review the data necessary to complete the water budget updates for the 2021 and preceding water years. This was due to the only staff member at GEI who had the skill set to update the excel water budget leaving the firm on December 31, 2021. The water budget included in this report continues to rely upon the assumptions determined by GEI, and the excel table was completed by GEI staff. The output figure in this report is exactly what was received by the GSAs for completion of the annual report. Updating the water budget with new information from additional monitoring wells, surface water monitoring, recharge calculations and more will begin in the 2022 annual report.

2.2.1 Groundwater Extraction

Groundwater extraction within Big Valley is estimated in the water budget using a combination of pumping, land use, ET, and extraction data. Groundwater extraction by land use sector has not been quantified due to the data gaps from the GSP that carry over into this report. The exact amount of extraction occurring within the basin is not easily quantified, and current estimates draw on the locations of wells shown in **Figure 2.1.2** (above). Using the estimates that were first created by GEI for the GSP, it is apparent that there are strong positive relationships between groundwater pumping, surface water availability and annual precipitation. 2019 had below average groundwater extraction of 38,400 acre feet but the subsequent two dry and critically dry years saw increased pumping of 53,700 and 54,000 acre feet, respectively. Additionally, during dry years, groundwater extraction is exacerbated in the downstream regions of the basin, correlating with the priority of riparian rights.

Future reports will include estimates of groundwater extraction by sector, once the data and methodology used to make these estimates is transmitted from GEI to the GSAs. For now, the general understanding of extractions within the basin is sufficient to manage the basin until more data becomes available. Table 3-2, carried over from the GSP, summarizes land use by water use sector. A map illustrating the distribution of land use sectors throughout the basin is available in **Appendix C**. Evaluated together, these figures indicate the areas where groundwater extraction is most likely to occur, although they do not provide good estimates of extraction. For this reason, it is necessary to refer to the contour maps to intuit where most extraction occurs which can be accomplished by analyzing the hydrologic gradients. In doing so, the agricultural sector generally represents the greatest amount of groundwater extraction within the basin, most notably in years when there is not sufficient surface water to maintain crop yield and survival.

Table 2.2.1 2016 Land Use Summary by Water Use Sector

Water use sector	Acres	Percent of Total
Community ^a	250	<1%
Industrial	196	<1%
Agricultural	22,246	24%
State Wildlife Area ^b	14,583	26%
Managed Recharge	-	0%
Native Vegetation and Rural Domestic ^c	54,782	60%
Total	92,057	100%
Notes: a Includes the use in the communities of Bieber, Nubieber and Adin b Made up of a combination of wetlands and non-irrigated upland areas c Includes the large areas of land in the Valley which have domestic wells interspersed (Source: Modified from DWR 2020b by GEI)		

BVGSP (3-9)**2.2.2 Surface Water Supply**

The Pit River and Ash Creek are the primary sources of surface water into the BVGB. Stream inflow and outflow volume is not well understood in the basin, but recent efforts to increase data sharing between entities and a new stream gage on the Pit River should improve estimates in the future. Surface water supply varied exceptionally from 2019 to 2021. From the water budget tables provided in **Appendix C**, in 2019, stream flow was over 683,000 AF with total inflow estimated at 819,000 AF. 2020 received 80% less stream flow and 2021 received 90% less stream flow than 2019 at 130,700 and 67,900 acre-feet respectively.

Drastic variation in stream flow is reflected in the water budget between wet and dry years. The water budget highlights the importance of surface water availability for meeting the needs of agriculture production and habitat in the basin. Notably, the highest volume of surface water deliveries in the basin occurs during dry and critical years such as 2020 and 2021, respectively. Outflow, as a result, is significantly reduced. During these times, as established in previous sections, demand for groundwater is also higher. Cumulatively, the relationships between water supply and demand both from surface and groundwater sources indicate that increased surface water storage options are required to support the continued sustainability of the basin. DWR climate model forecasts, which predict increased precipitation and in the form of rain instead of snow in the Big Valley Region in years to come, provide another reason for more surface water storage and water buffering availability to create a sustainable water resource for basin users.

2.2.3 Total Water Available

As discussed in preceding sections, there is currently not sufficient data available to quantify water use by sector for the basin. For the period covered by this report, a definite relationship can be seen between surface water availability and groundwater extraction in Big Valley. In years high surface water availability, considerably less groundwater is used to support all water users.

Table 2.2.3 provides a summary of water budget estimates of water available for use by all sectors combined for the water years covered in this report. Although users do tend to use less water overall in dry and critically dry years, developing more surface storage and off-season recharge opportunities for plentiful years could significantly abate groundwater dependence. Comparing total outflow in the land system verse the surface water system, in dry years water coming from groundwater and the land system is marginally more than coming from the surface water system. In wet years, the water coming from the land system is markedly less than that coming from the surface water system. This indicates that water is leaving the basin in large quantities, again pointing to the importance of expanding surface water storage opportunities.

Table 2.2.3 Total Available Water For Use By All Sectors¹

Water Year	Groundwater (AF)	Surface Water (AF)	Total Water (AF)
2019	38,400	70,000	108,400
2020	53,700	84,900	138,600
2021	54,000	86,400	140,400

Notes:

1 Numbers reported in this table are derived from the water budget provided by GEI (**Appendix C**). Data available for use in future reports is anticipated to improve in quality, at which point water use by sector can be estimated with greater accuracy. Estimates of combined water sources are not available at this time.

2.2.4 Change in Groundwater Storage

As explained in section 5.2 of the BVGSP, change in groundwater elevation is directly correlated with change in groundwater storage. (BVGSP 5-9). The contour maps included in **Appendix B** provide a static representation of groundwater storage for the spring and fall seasons of each water year reported herein. Therefore, the annual change in groundwater storage for the 2020-2021 WY was estimated in ArcGIS by calculating the difference in groundwater surface elevation between spring 2020 and spring 2021. Spring values were used for this estimate as they provide a more stable short-term reference to measure storage capacity than fall values, given the amount of recharge that occurs between the two seasons. The resulting map is provided in **Appendix E**. Simply put, this estimate draws on the basin storage model, represented by the following equation: (1200ft definable bottom- average depth to water) x (92,057 Acre Basin Area) x (5% specific yield). Trends, delineated by the contours, show that most of the basin saw an increase in storage ranging between 1 to 5 feet, and, notably, 6 to 10 feet and 11 to 15 feet in some areas. One small area in the basin had a noticeable decline in storage greater than -9 feet. **Figure 2.2.4** gives the cumulative change in storage vs. precipitation for water years 1983-2021. Corresponding with water year type, storage in the BVGB increased by approximately 12,000 AF during the above average wet year of 2019. In 2020, a dry year, storage decreased by an estimated 27,000 AF and dropped by an additional 30,000 AF during the critically dry 2021 water year.

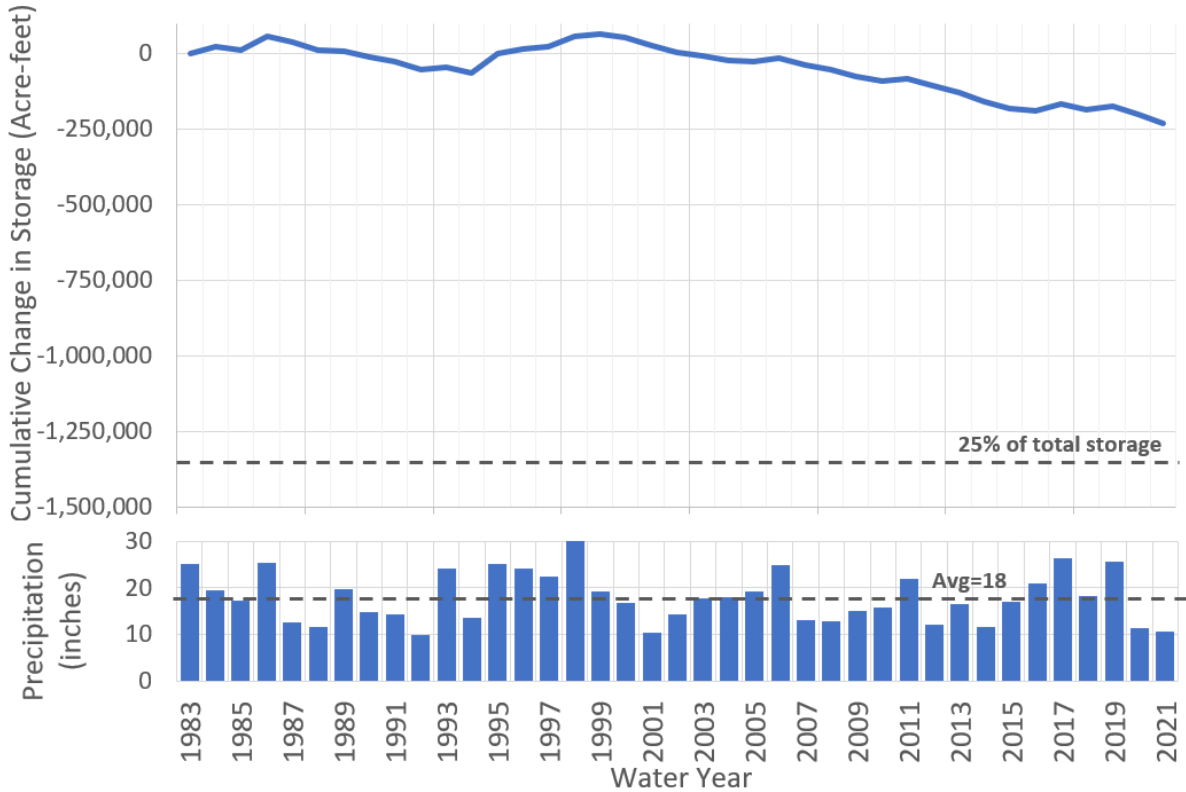


Figure 2.2.4: Estimated Cumulative Change in Groundwater Storage Vs. Precipitation (GEI)

Cumulatively, the storage capacity of the basin has declined minimally since 2018. Intuitively this figure suggests that the basin will remain sustainable well into the future, as the change in storage capacity has not exceeded 250,000 acre-feet in the 38 years between 1983 and 2021.

3 GSP Implementation Progress

The objectives of the projects laid out in Ch. 9 of the GSP, Projects and Management Actions, target the data gaps which have driven the current assumptions about basin conditions. For this reason, adaptive management is a strategy identified in the GSP to inform its implementation as better data becomes available. In support of this, many of the projects identified in the GSP have been running concurrently with its development.

Throughout the development of the GSP, strong efforts were made to engage stakeholders at monthly BVAC meetings, University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) workshops and mailings, and via social media. These interactions have helped inform the types and scopes of projects important to Big Valley groundwater users and other represented groups. Communication through mailings, social media, and email has also been used to keep interested parties up to date and informed about opportunities to participate.

At the time of this report, the stream gage assessment has been completed and construction will soon begin at the site north of Lookout. At other proposed gage sites identified in the assessment, other parties have stepped in to either share data or restore existing gage infrastructure. Other marks of project progress include the recruitment of fourteen participants for the voluntary well metering program for which enrolled wells will provide data to help refine basin groundwater pumping estimates. More progress is anticipated to expand this program further.

As part of a wider research effort lead by UCCE in cooperation with local landowners, data for the feasibility of Agricultural Managed Recharge (AgMAR) has been collected for 2021 and is currently being analyzed. A study evaluating the relationship between evapotranspiration and applied water was also conducted to help refine future water budget estimates. The widespread implementation of these projects in the basin has been impeded by regulatory limitations and financial burden of off-season diversions. More work is necessary to determine the circumstances under which AgMAR projects present viable options for recharge given these constraints. Most importantly, regulatory impediments also restrict the ability of technical staff to perform the upstream water availability assessment identified in section 9.1 of the BVGSP, which would help basin water users obtain permits for recharge.

Progress has also been made in identifying potential upland areas for juniper removal and other forest health projects to improve water availability for the basin. It is anticipated that these projects, combined with efforts to improve mapping accuracy, may be used to support the expansion of basin boundaries. The GSAs are still waiting to receive results hear back from GEI for the upland assessment which was started in October 2019.

Following the installation of five representative monitoring well clusters in 2019 and 2020, data has been continuously downloaded from the transducers, which are set to record at 15-minute intervals. Depth-to-water measurements at these wells have been hand recorded monthly by GSA affiliate staff since 2020. Surface water quality has been sampled on the same days that staff

monitors the wells from sites on the Pit River and Ash Creek. Presently, the GSAs are looking forward to reviewing the data DWR recently collected during the AEM survey of the basin in October 2021 to better understand the basin's hydrogeological structure.

4. References

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- California Code of Regulations §352.6. Data Management Systems. 2021.
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- _____. 2020b. CADWR Land Use Viewer <https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/CADWRLandUseViewer/>.
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- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Data Viewer. 2022. Groundwater Levels.
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5. Appendices

Appendix A: Hydrographs

Groundwater Level Report

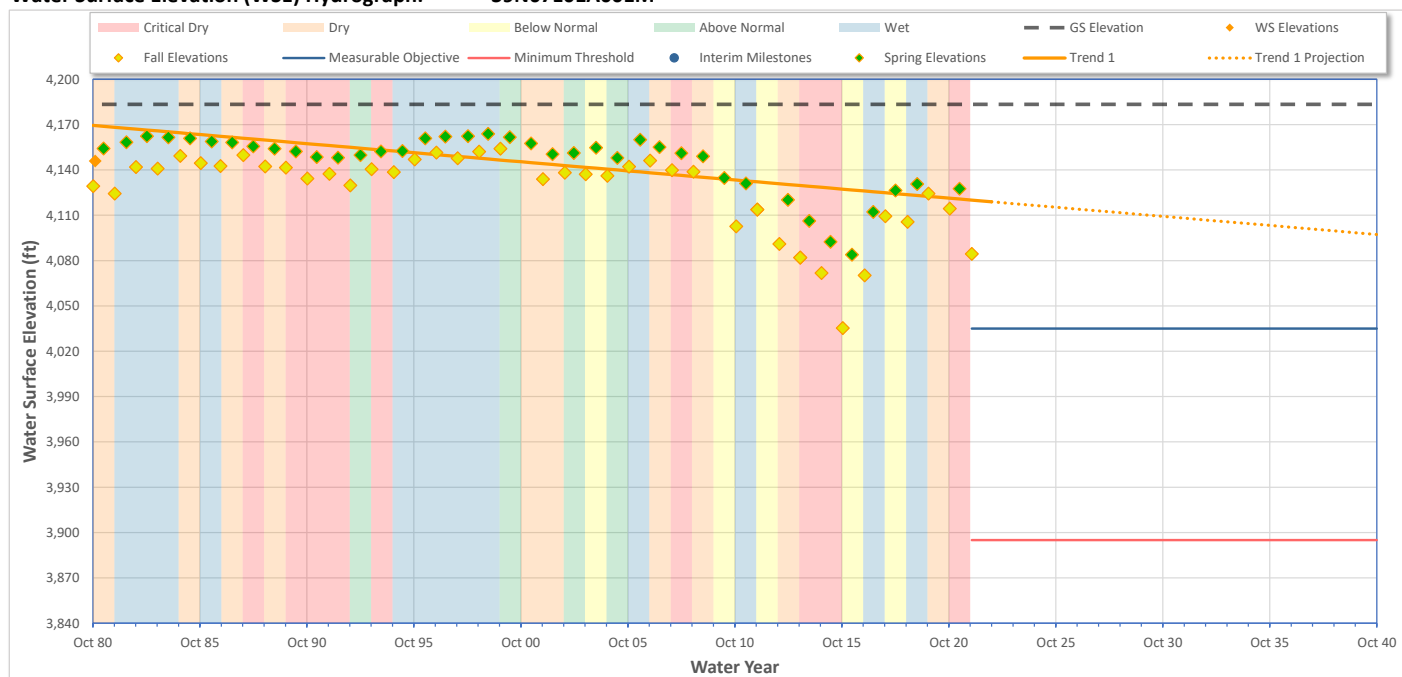
Date: 2/22/2022

Well Information	
Well ID	036673_39N07E01A001M
Well Name	39N07E01A001M
State Number	39N07E01A001M
WCR Number	14565
Site Code	412539N1211050W001
Well Location	
County	Modoc
Basin	Big Valley
Hydrologic Region	Sacramento River
Station Organization	Modoc County Planning Department
Well Type Information	
Well Use	Stockwatering
Completion Type	Single Well

Well Coordinates/Geometry		
Location	Lat:	41.2539
	Long:	-121.1050
Well Depth		300 ft
Ground Surface Elevation		4183.4 ft
Ref. Point Elevation		4184.40 ft
Screen Depth Range		-
Screen Elevation Range		-
Well Period of Record		
Period-of-Record		1979..2022
WS Elev-Range	Min:	4035.4 ft
	Max:	4163.9 ft

Trend Analysis	
Seasonal Data Method	Apr1/Oct1
Show Trend 1	Spring Data
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: End WY:
Extend Trend Line	Yes
Trend Results	Slope (1.203 ft/yr)
Show Trend 2	None
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: End WY:
Extend Trend Line	No
Trend Results	Slope -

Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Hydrograph: 39N07E01A001M



Sustainability Indicator Considerations

Observed WS Elevations		
Parameter		Value
WS Elevation Range	Min:	4035.4 ft
	Max:	4163.9 ft
2015 WS Elevations	Spring:	4092.5 ft
	Fall:	4035.4 ft
Current WS Elevations	Spring:	4127.6 ft
	Fall:	4084.5 ft

Trend Projections		
Year	Trend 1	Trend 2
2025	4115.3 ft	-
2030	4109.3 ft	-
2035	4103.3 ft	-
2040	4097.2 ft	-
	-	-
	-	-

Sustainability Indicator Settings

Key	Threshold Type	Effect. Yr.	Value	Description
MT	Minimum Threshold	2022	3895.0 ft	
MO	Measureable Objective	2022	4035.0 ft	

Groundwater Level Report

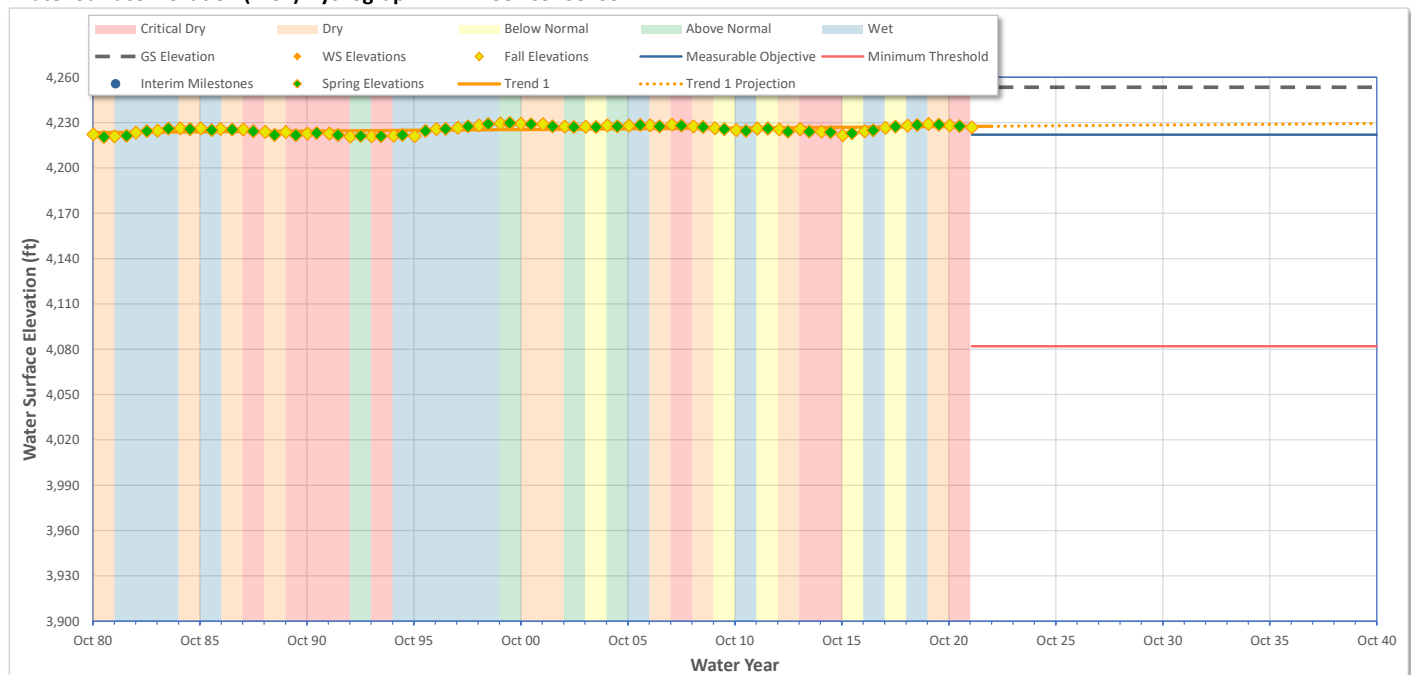
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Well Information	
Well ID	036672_38N09E08F001M
Well Name	38N09E08F001M
State Number	38N09E08F001M
WCR Number	49934
Site Code	411493N1209656W001
Well Location	
County	Lassen
Basin	Big Valley
Hydrologic Region	Sacramento River
Station Organization	Lassen County Department of Planning and Building Services
Well Type Information	
Well Use	Other
Completion Type	Single Well

Well Coordinates/Geometry		
Location	Lat:	41.1493
	Long:	-120.9656
Well Depth		217 ft
Ground Surface Elevation		4253.4 ft
Ref. Point Elevation		4255.40 ft
Screen Depth Range		-
Screen Elevation Range		-
Well Period of Record		
Period-of-Record		1979..2022
WS Elev-Range	Min:	4220.5 ft
	Max:	4229.8 ft

Trend Analysis		
Seasonal Data Method		Apr1/Oct1
Show Trend 1		Spring Data
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY:	
	End WY:	
Extend Trend Line		Yes
Trend Results	Slope	0.100 ft/yr
Show Trend 2		None
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY:	
	End WY:	
Extend Trend Line		No
Trend Results	Slope	-

Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Hydrograph: 38N09E08F001M



Sustainability Indicator Settings

Key	Threshold Type	Effect. Yr.	Value	Description
MT	Minimum Threshold	2022	4082.0 ft	
MO	Measurable Objective	2022	4222.0 ft	

Groundwater Level Report

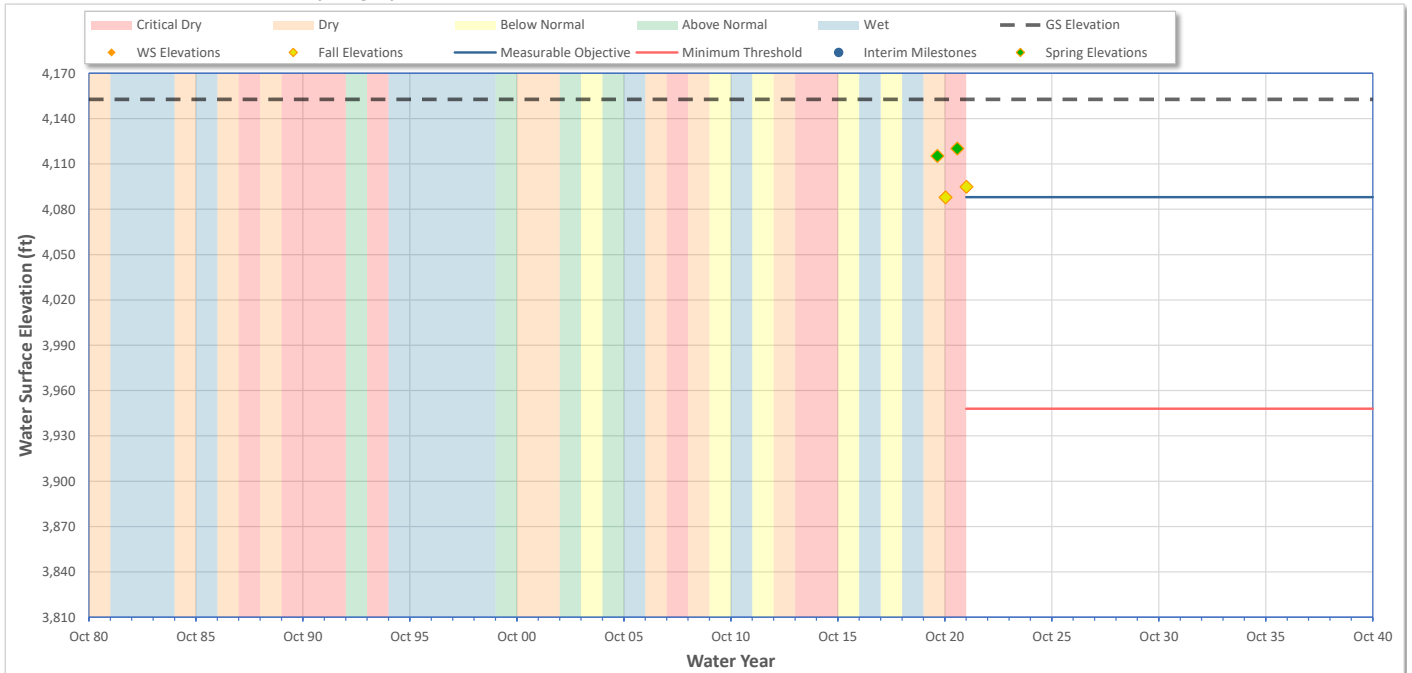
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Well Information	
Well ID	055627_BVMW 4-1
Well Name	BVMW 4-1
State Number	-
WCR Number	WCR2019-017359
Site Code	412029N1211587W001
Well Location	
County	Lassen
Basin	Big Valley
Hydrologic Region	Sacramento River
Station Organization	Modoc County Planning Department
Well Type Information	
Well Use	Observation
Completion Type	Single Well

Well Coordinates/Geometry		
Location	Lat:	41.2029
	Long:	-121.1587
Well Depth		425 ft
Ground Surface Elevation		4152.7 ft
Ref. Point Elevation		4152.40 ft
Screen Depth Range		385 to 415 ft
Screen Elevation Range		3829 to 3799 ft
Well Period of Record		
Period-of-Record		2020..2022
WS Elev-Range	Min:	4088.0 ft
	Max:	4120.3 ft

Trend Analysis	
Seasonal Data Method	Apr1/Oct1
Show Trend 1	Spring Data
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: 2014 End WY:
Extend Trend Line	Yes
Trend Results	Slope 5.361 ft/yr
Show Trend 2	None
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: End WY:
Extend Trend Line	No
Trend Results	Slope -

Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Hydrograph: BVMW 4-1



Sustainability Indicator Settings

Key	Threshold Type	Effect. Yr.	Value	Description
MT	Minimum Threshold	2022	3948.0 ft	
MO	Measurable Objective	2022	4088.0 ft	

Groundwater Level Report

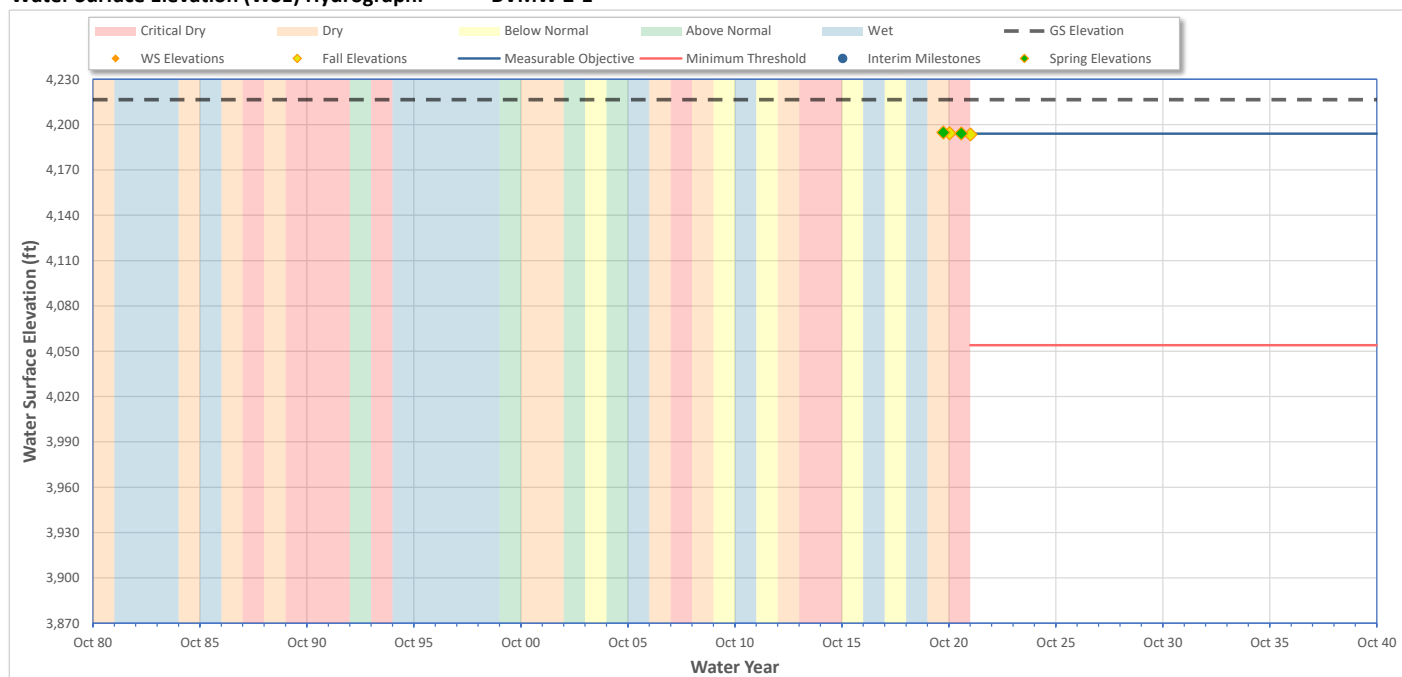
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Well Information	
Well ID	055619_BVMW 2-1
Well Name	BVMW 2-1
State Number	-
WCR Number	WCR2020-006667
Site Code	412119N1210286W001
Well Location	
County	Lassen
Basin	Big Valley
Hydrologic Region	Sacramento River
Station Organization	Modoc County Planning Department
Well Type Information	
Well Use	Observation
Completion Type	Single Well

Well Coordinates/Geometry		
Location	Lat:	41.2119
	Long:	-121.0286
Well Depth		250 ft
Ground Surface Elevation		4216.5 ft
Ref. Point Elevation		4216.18 ft
Screen Depth Range		210 to 250 ft
Screen Elevation Range		3942 to 3902 ft
Well Period of Record		
Period-of-Record		2020..2022
WS Elev-Range	Min:	4193.6 ft
	Max:	4194.9 ft

Trend Analysis	
Seasonal Data Method	Apr1/Oct1
Show Trend 1	Spring Data
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: 2014 End WY:
Extend Trend Line	Yes
Trend Results	Slope (0.863 ft/yr)
Show Trend 2	None
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: End WY:
Extend Trend Line	No
Trend Results	Slope -

Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Hydrograph: BVMW 2-1



Sustainability Indicator Considerations

Observed WS Elevations		
Parameter		Value
WS Elevation Range	Min:	4193.6 ft
	Max:	4194.9 ft
2015 WS Elevations	Spring:	-
	Fall:	-
Current WS Elevations	Spring:	4194.1 ft
	Fall:	4193.6 ft

Trend Projections		
Year	Trend 1	Trend 2
2025	4190.3 ft	-
2030	4186.0 ft	-
2035	4181.7 ft	-
2040	4177.4 ft	-
	-	-
	-	-

Sustainability Indicator Settings

Key	Threshold Type	Effect. Yr.	Value	Description
MT	Minimum Threshold	2022	4054.0 ft	
MO	Measureable Objective	2022	4194.0 ft	

Groundwater Level Report

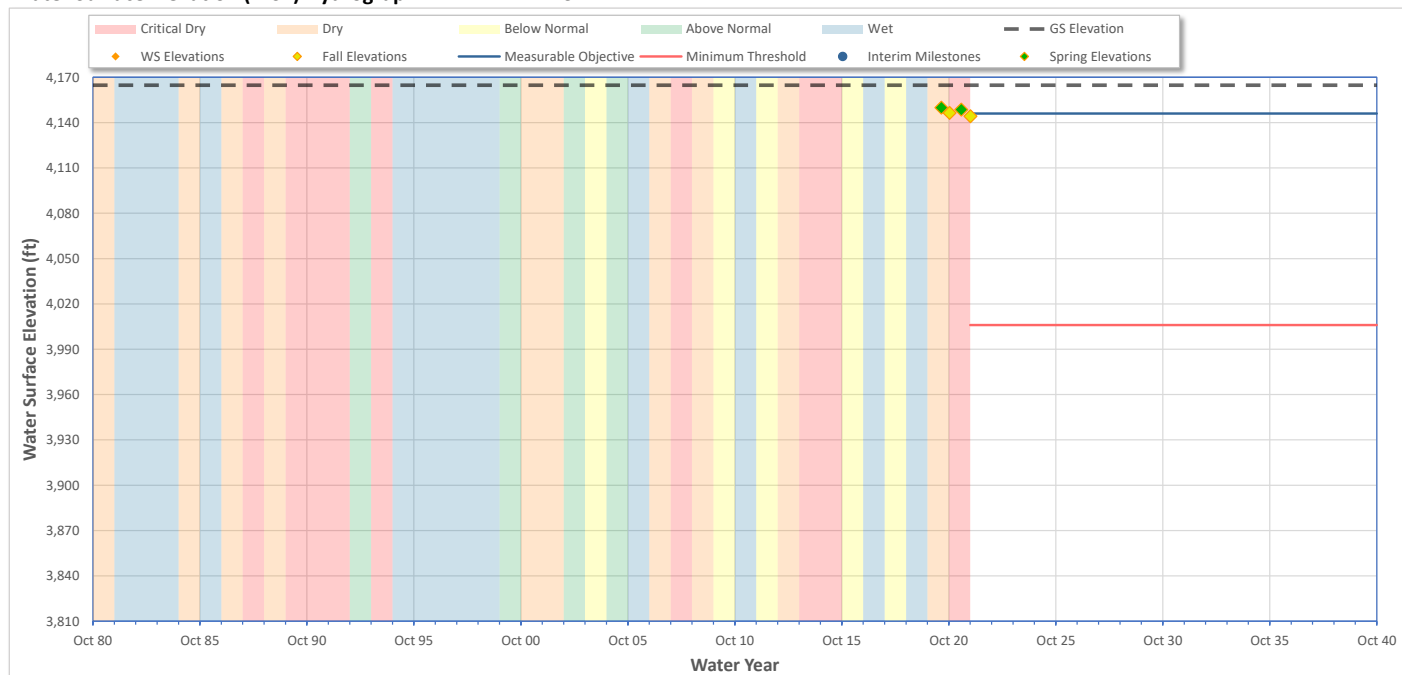
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Well Information	
Well ID	055623_BVMW 3-1
Well Name	BVMW 3-1
State Number	-
WCR Number	WCR2020-006592
Site Code	412169N1211050W001
Well Location	
County	Lassen
Basin	Big Valley
Hydrologic Region	Sacramento River
Station Organization	Modoc County Planning Department
Well Type Information	
Well Use	Observation
Completion Type	Single Well

Well Coordinates/Geometry		
Location	Lat:	41.2169
	Long:	-121.1050
Well Depth		185 ft
Ground Surface Elevation		4164.8 ft
Ref. Point Elevation		4164.41 ft
Screen Depth Range		135 to 185 ft
Screen Elevation Range		4079 to 4029 ft
Well Period of Record		
Period-of-Record		2020..2022
WS Elev-Range	Min:	4144.3 ft
	Max:	4149.9 ft

Trend Analysis	
Seasonal Data Method	Apr1/Oct1
Show Trend 1	Spring Data
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: 2014 End WY:
Extend Trend Line	Yes
Trend Results	Slope (3.300 ft/yr)
Show Trend 2	None
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: End WY:
Extend Trend Line	No
Trend Results	Slope -

Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Hydrograph: BVMW 3-1



Sustainability Indicator Considerations

Observed WS Elevations		
Parameter		Value
WS Elevation Range	Min:	4144.3 ft
	Max:	4149.9 ft
2015 WS Elevations	Spring:	-
	Fall:	-
Current WS Elevations	Spring:	4181.2 ft
	Fall:	4156.8 ft

Trend Projections		
Year	Trend 1	Trend 2
2025	4166.6 ft	-
2030	4150.1 ft	-
2035	4133.6 ft	-
2040	4117.1 ft	-
	-	-
	-	-

Sustainability Indicator Settings

Key	Threshold Type	Effect. Yr.	Value	Description
MT	Minimum Threshold	2022	4006.0 ft	
MO	Measureable Objective	2022	4146.0 ft	

Groundwater Level Report

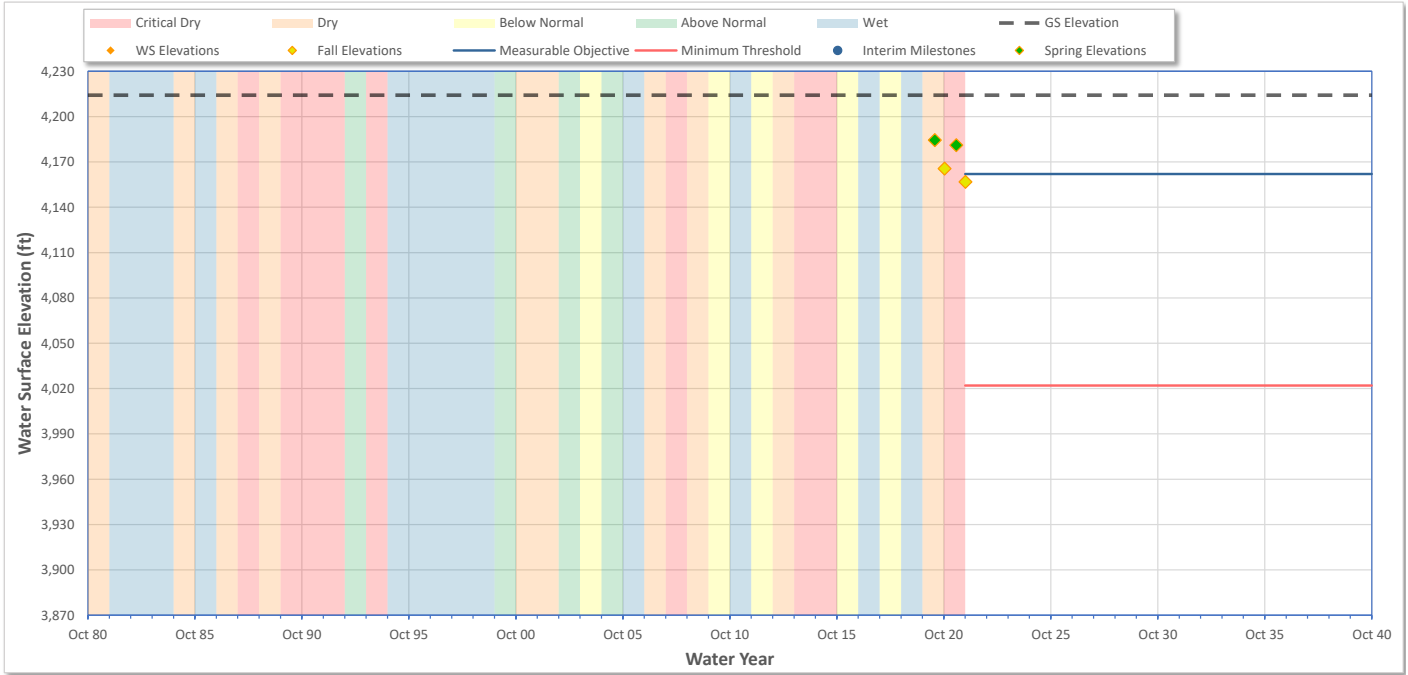
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Well Information	
Well ID	055615_BVMW 1-1
Well Name	BVMW 1-1
State Number	-
WCR Number	WCR2020-006214
Site Code	411880N1209599W001
Well Location	
County	Lassen
Basin	Big Valley
Hydrologic Region	Sacramento River
Station Organization	Modoc County Planning Department
Well Type Information	
Well Use	Observation
Completion Type	Single Well

Well Coordinates/Geometry		
Location	Lat:	41.1880
	Long:	-120.9599
Well Depth		265 ft
Ground Surface Elevation		4214.2 ft
Ref. Point Elevation		4213.84 ft
Screen Depth Range		175 to 265 ft
Screen Elevation Range		4039 to 3949 ft
Well Period of Record		
Period-of-Record		2020..2022
WS Elev-Range	Min:	4156.8 ft
	Max:	4184.5 ft

Trend Analysis	
Seasonal Data Method	Apr1/Oct1
Show Trend 1	Spring Data
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: 2014 End WY:
Extend Trend Line	Yes
Trend Results	Slope (3.300 ft/yr)
Show Trend 2	None
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: End WY:
Extend Trend Line	No
Trend Results	Slope -

Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Hydrograph: BVMW 1-1



Sustainability Indicator Considerations

Observed WS Elevations		
Parameter		Value
WS Elevation Range	Min:	4156.8 ft
	Max:	4184.5 ft
2015 WS Elevations	Spring:	-
	Fall:	-
Current WS Elevations	Spring:	4181.2 ft
	Fall:	4156.8 ft

Trend Projections		
Year	Trend 1	Trend 2
2025	4166.6 ft	-
2030	4150.1 ft	-
2035	4133.6 ft	-
2040	4117.1 ft	-
	-	-
	-	-

Sustainability Indicator Settings

Key	Threshold Type	Effect. Yr.	Value	Description
MT	Minimum Threshold	2022	4022.0 ft	
MO	Measureable Objective	2022	4162.0 ft	

Groundwater Level Report

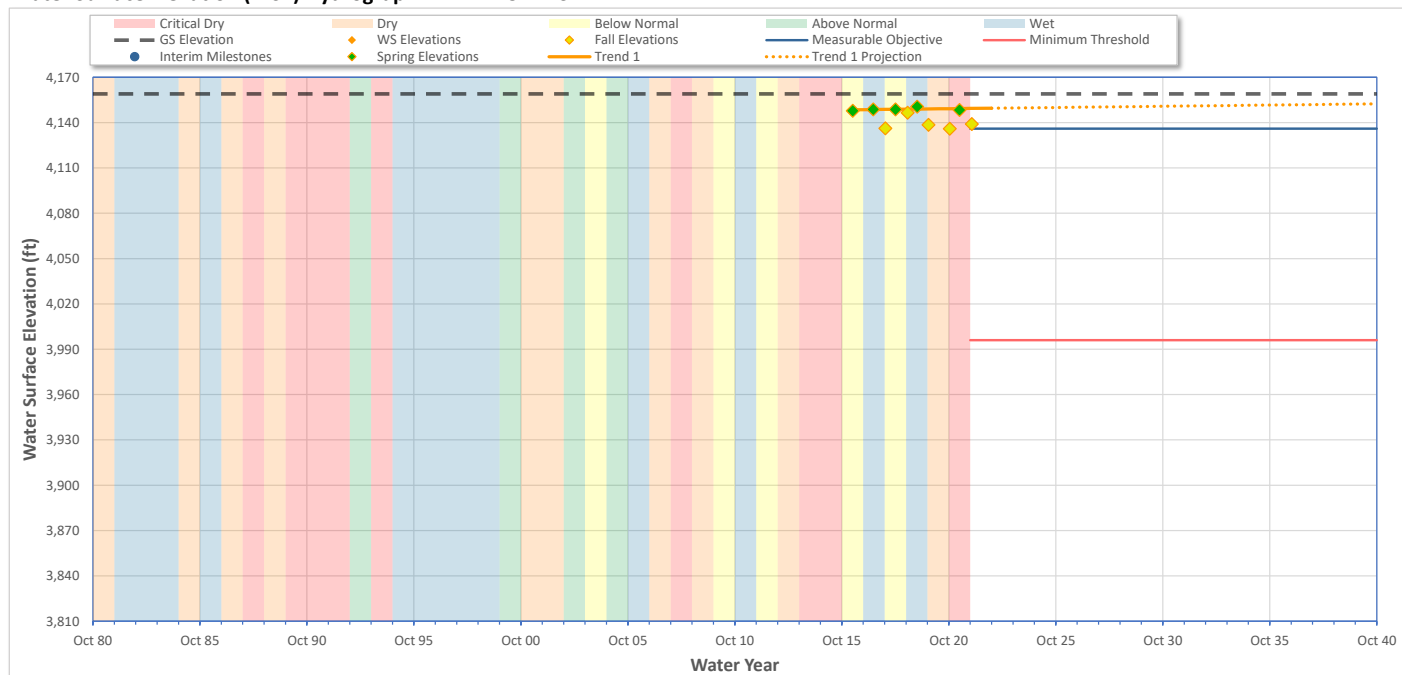
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Well Information	
Well ID	051537_ACWA-3
Well Name	ACWA-3
State Number	39N08E28A001M
WCR Number	951365
Site Code	411938N1210478W001
Well Location	
County	Modoc
Basin	Big Valley
Hydrologic Region	Sacramento River
Station Organization	Lassen County Department of Planning and Building Services
Well Type Information	
Well Use	Irrigation
Completion Type	Single Well

Well Coordinates/Geometry		
Location	Lat:	41.1938
	Long:	-121.0478
Well Depth		720 ft
Ground Surface Elevation		4159.0 ft
Ref. Point Elevation		4159.83 ft
Screen Depth Range		60 to 720 ft
Screen Elevation Range		4154 to 3494 ft
Well Period of Record		
Period-of-Record		2016..2022
WS Elev-Range	Min:	4135.9 ft
	Max:	4150.6 ft

Trend Analysis	
Seasonal Data Method	Apr1/Oct1
Show Trend 1	Spring Data
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: 2014 End WY:
Extend Trend Line	Yes
Trend Results	Slope 0.160 ft/yr
Show Trend 2	None
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: End WY:
Extend Trend Line	No
Trend Results	Slope -

Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Hydrograph: ACWA-3



Sustainability Indicator Considerations

Observed WS Elevations		
Parameter		Value
WS Elevation Range	Min:	4135.9 ft
	Max:	4150.6 ft
2015 WS Elevations	Spring:	-
	Fall:	-
Current WS Elevations	Spring:	4148.3 ft
	Fall:	4139.0 ft

Trend Projections		
Year	Trend 1	Trend 2
2025	4150.0 ft	-
2030	4150.8 ft	-
2035	4151.6 ft	-
2040	4152.4 ft	-
	-	-
	-	-

Sustainability Indicator Settings

Key	Threshold Type	Effect. Yr.	Value	Description
MT	Minimum Threshold	2022	3996.0 ft	
MO	Measureable Objective	2022	4136.0 ft	

Groundwater Level Report

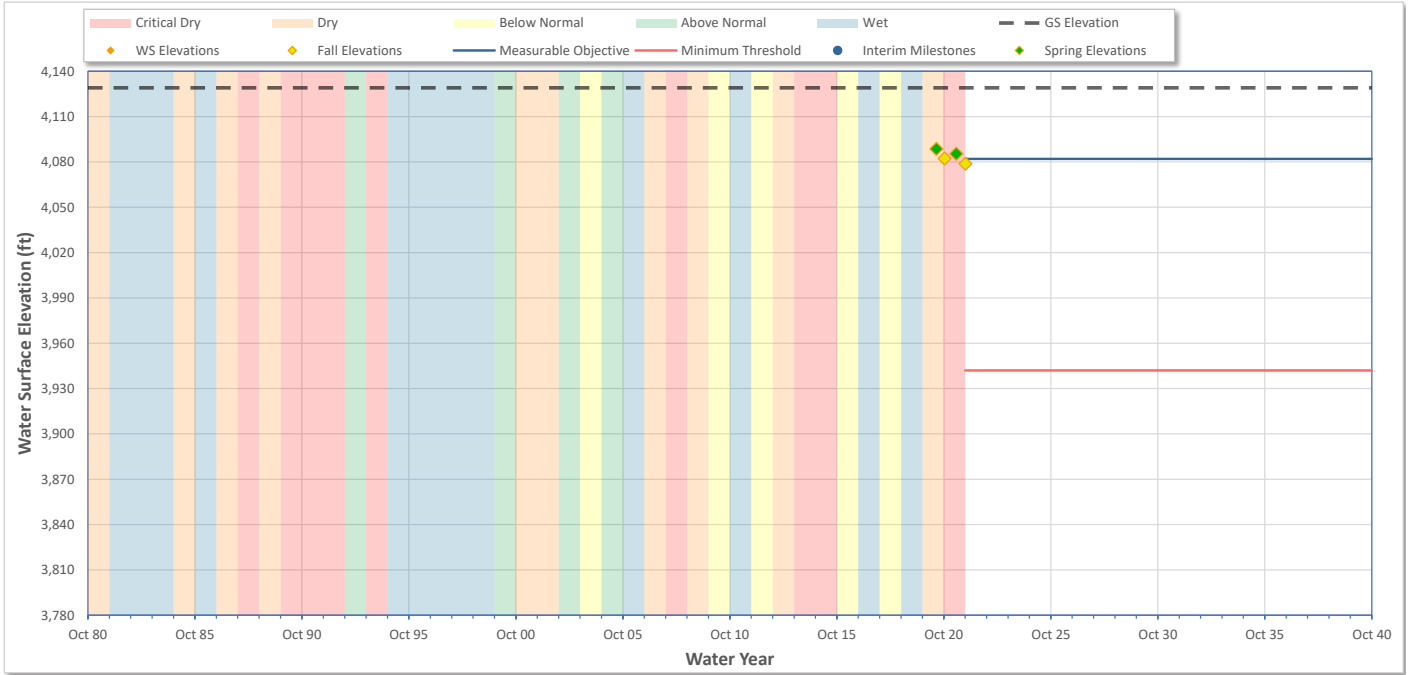
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Well Information	
Well ID	055525_BVMW 5-1
Well Name	BVMW 5-1
State Number	-
WCR Number	WCR2020-006658
Site Code	411219N1211339W001
Well Location	
County	Lassen
Basin	Big Valley
Hydrologic Region	Sacramento River
Station Organization	Lassen County Department of Planning and Building Services
Well Type Information	
Well Use	Observation
Completion Type	Single Well

Well Coordinates/Geometry		
Location	Lat:	41.1219
	Long:	-121.1339
Well Depth		540 ft
Ground Surface Elevation		4129.1 ft
Ref. Point Elevation		4129.05 ft
Screen Depth Range		485 to 535 ft
Screen Elevation Range		3679 to 3629 ft
Well Period of Record		
Period-of-Record		2020..2022
WS Elev-Range	Min:	4078.8 ft
	Max:	4088.7 ft

Trend Analysis	
Seasonal Data Method	Apr1/Oct1
Show Trend 1	Spring Data
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: 2014 End WY:
Extend Trend Line	Yes
Trend Results	Slope (3.534 ft/yr)
Show Trend 2	None
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: End WY:
Extend Trend Line	No
Trend Results	Slope -

Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Hydrograph: BVMW 5-1



Sustainability Indicator Considerations

Observed WS Elevations		
Parameter		Value
WS Elevation Range	Min:	4078.8 ft
	Max:	4088.7 ft
2015 WS Elevations	Spring:	-
	Fall:	-
Current WS Elevations	Spring:	4085.4 ft
	Fall:	4078.8 ft

Trend Projections		
Year	Trend 1	Trend 2
2025	4069.8 ft	-
2030	4052.2 ft	-
2035	4034.5 ft	-
2040	4016.8 ft	-
	-	-
	-	-

Sustainability Indicator Settings

Key	Threshold Type	Effect. Yr.	Value	Description
MT	Minimum Threshold	2022	3942.0 ft	
MO	Measureable Objective	2022	4082.0 ft	

Groundwater Level Report

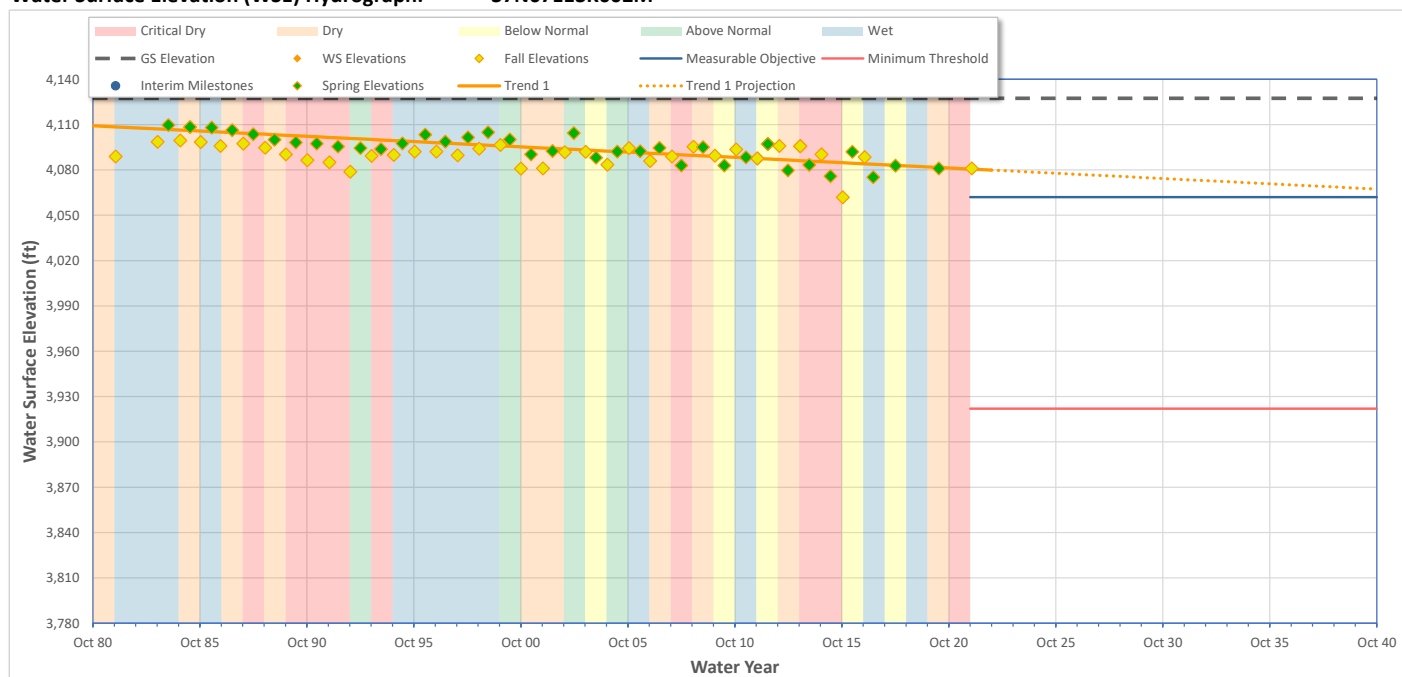
Date: 2/17/2022

Well Information	
Well ID	036667_37N07E13K002M
Well Name	37N07E13K002M
State Number	37N07E13K002M
WCR Number	90029
Site Code	410413N1211147W001
Well Location	
County	Lassen
Basin	Big Valley
Hydrologic Region	Sacramento River
Station Organization	Lassen County Department of Planning and Building Services
Well Type Information	
Well Use	Irrigation
Completion Type	Single Well

Well Coordinates/Geometry		
Location	Lat:	41.0413
	Long:	-121.1147
Well Depth		260 ft
Ground Surface Elevation		4127.4 ft
Ref. Point Elevation		4127.90 ft
Screen Depth Range		-
Screen Elevation Range		-
Well Period of Record		
Period-of-Record		1982..2022
WS Elev-Range	Min:	4061.9 ft
	Max:	4109.7 ft

Trend Analysis	
Seasonal Data Method	Apr1/Oct1
Show Trend 1	Spring Data
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: End WY:
Extend Trend Line	Yes
Trend Results	Slope (0.699 ft/yr)
Show Trend 2	None
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: End WY:
Extend Trend Line	No
Trend Results	Slope -

Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Hydrograph: 37N07E13K002M



Sustainability Indicator Settings

Key	Threshold Type	Effect. Yr.	Value	Description
MT	Minimum Threshold	2022	3922.0 ft	
MO	Measureable Objective	2022	4062.0 ft	

Groundwater Level Report

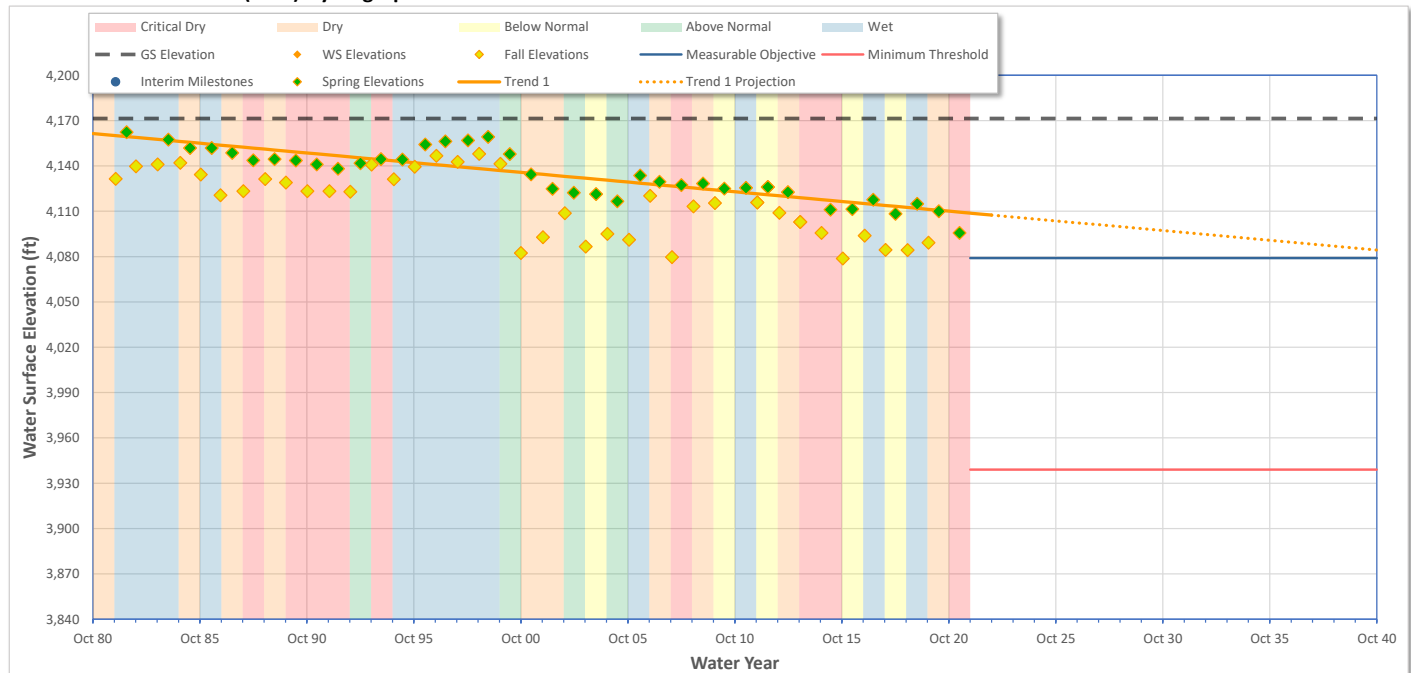
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Well ID	022097_38N08E16D001M
Well Name	38N08E16D001M
State Number	38N08E16D001M
WCR Number	90143
Site Code	411359N1210625W001
Well Location	
County	Lassen
Basin	Big Valley
Hydrologic Region	Sacramento River
Station Organization	Lassen County Department of Planning and Building Services
Well Type Information	
Well Use	Irrigation
Completion Type	Single Well

Well Coordinates/Geometry		
Location	Lat:	41.1358
	Long:	-121.0625
Well Depth		491 ft
Ground Surface Elevation		4171.4 ft
Ref. Point Elevation		4171.60 ft
Screen Depth Range		-
Screen Elevation Range		-
Well Period of Record		
Period-of-Record		1982..2022
WS Elev-Range	Min:	4078.7 ft
	Max:	4162.4 ft

Trend Analysis	
Seasonal Data Method	Apr1/Oct1
Show Trend 1	Spring Data
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: End WY:
Extend Trend Line	Yes
Trend Results	Slope (1.284 ft/yr)
Show Trend 2	None
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: End WY:
Extend Trend Line	No
Trend Results	Slope -

Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Hydrograph: 38N08E16D001M



Sustainability Indicator Settings

Key	Threshold Type	Effect. Yr.	Value	Description
MT	Minimum Threshold	2022	3939.0 ft	
MO	Measureable Objective	2022	4079.0 ft	

Groundwater Level Report

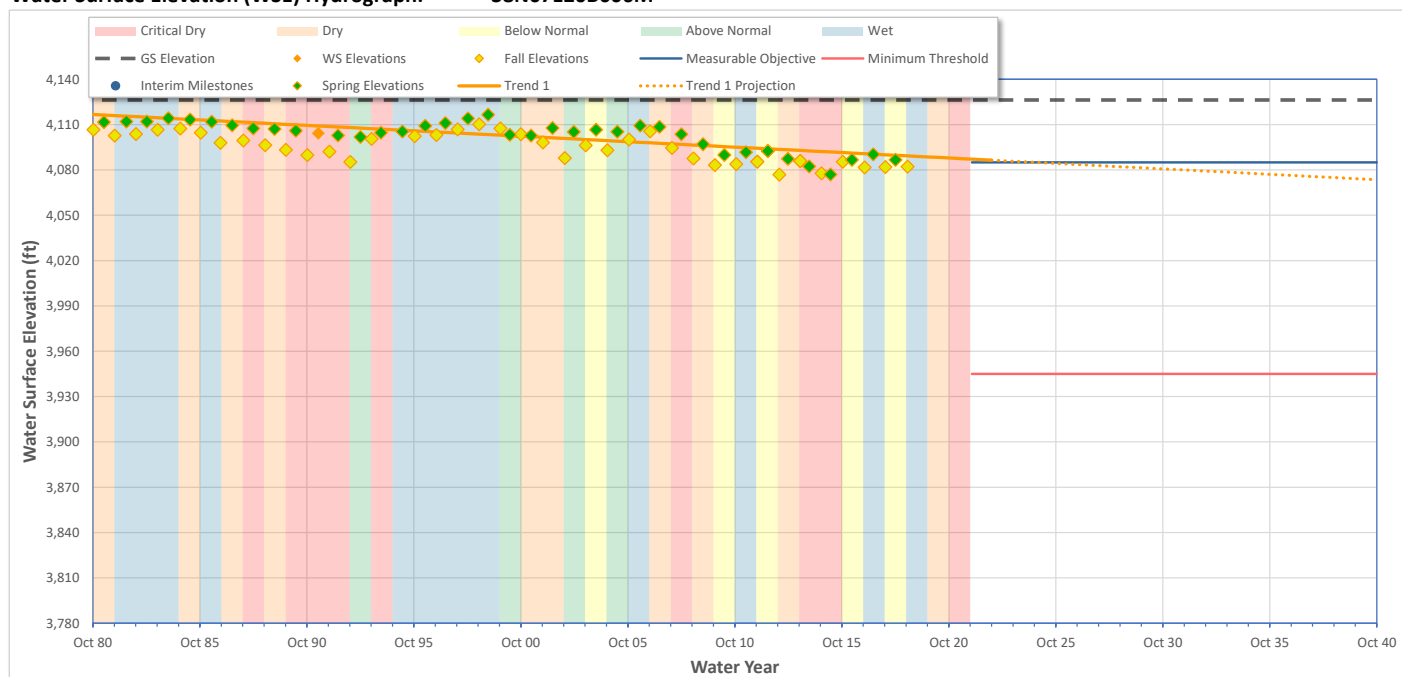
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Well Information	
Well ID	022094_38N07E20B006M
Well Name	38N07E20B006M
State Number	38N07E20B006M
WCR Number	128135
Site Code	411242N1211866W001
Well Location	
County	Lassen
Basin	Big Valley
Hydrologic Region	Sacramento River
Station Organization	Lassen County Department of Planning and Building Services
Well Type Information	
Well Use	Residential
Completion Type	Single Well

Well Coordinates/Geometry		
Location	Lat:	41.1242
	Long:	-121.1866
Well Depth		183 ft
Ground Surface Elevation		4126.3 ft
Ref. Point Elevation		4127.30 ft
Screen Depth Range		-
Screen Elevation Range		-
Well Period of Record		
Period-of-Record		1979..2022
WS Elev-Range	Min:	4076.9 ft
	Max:	4116.6 ft

Trend Analysis	
Seasonal Data Method	Apr1/Oct1
Show Trend 1	Spring Data
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: End WY:
Extend Trend Line	Yes
Trend Results	Slope (0.720 ft/yr)
Show Trend 2	None
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: End WY:
Extend Trend Line	No
Trend Results	Slope -

Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Hydrograph: 38N07E20B006M



Sustainability Indicator Settings

Key	Threshold Type	Effect. Yr.	Value	Description
MT	Minimum Threshold	2022	3945.0 ft	
MO	Measureable Objective	2022	4085.0 ft	

Groundwater Level Report

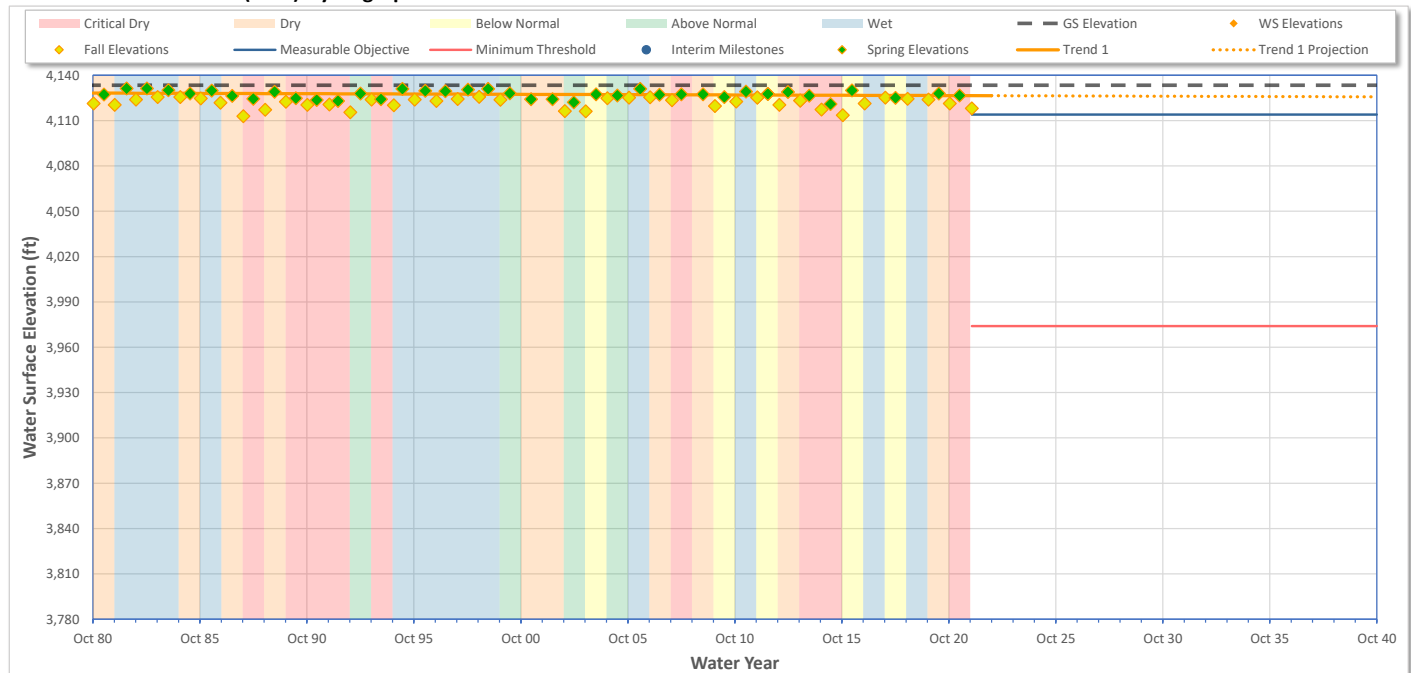
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Well Name	39N07E26E001M
State Number	39N07E26E001M
WCR Number	127484
Site Code	411911N1211354W001
Well Location	
County	Modoc
Basin	Big Valley
Hydrologic Region	Sacramento River
Station Organization	Modoc County Planning Department
Well Type Information	
Well Use	Irrigation
Completion Type	Single Well

Well Coordinates/Geometry		
Location	Lat:	41.1911
	Long:	-121.1354
Well Depth		400 ft
Ground Surface Elevation		4133.4 ft
Ref. Point Elevation		4135.00 ft
Screen Depth Range		20 to 400 ft
Screen Elevation Range		4115 to 3735 ft
Well Period of Record		
Period-of-Record		1979..2022
WS Elev-Range	Min:	4113.0 ft
	Max:	4131.3 ft

Trend Analysis	
Seasonal Data Method	Apr1/Oct1
Show Trend 1	Spring Data
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: End WY:
Extend Trend Line	Yes
Trend Results	Slope (0.042 ft/yr)
Show Trend 2	None
Date Range (Optional)	Start WY: End WY:
Extend Trend Line	No
Trend Results	Slope -

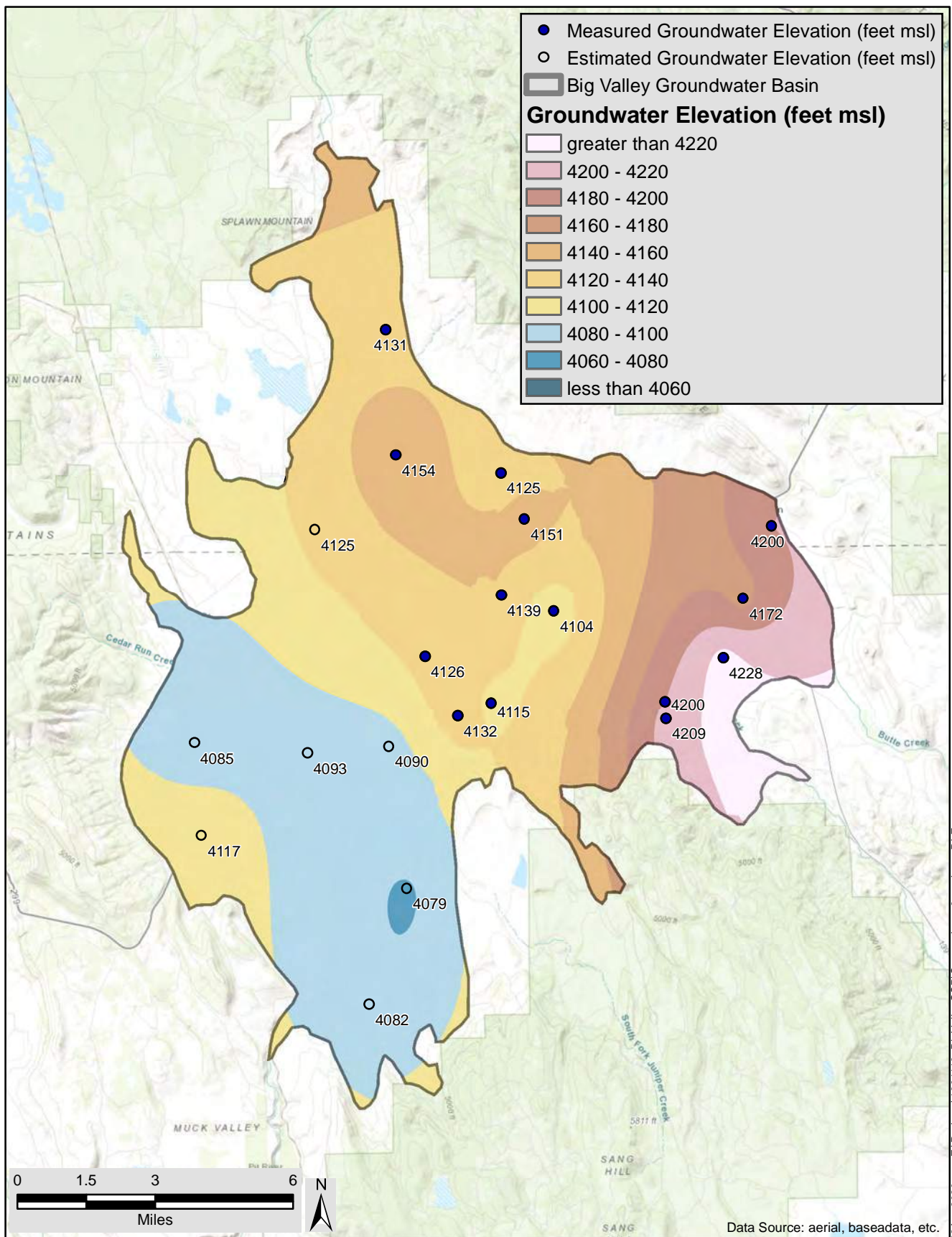
Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Hydrograph: 39N07E26E001M



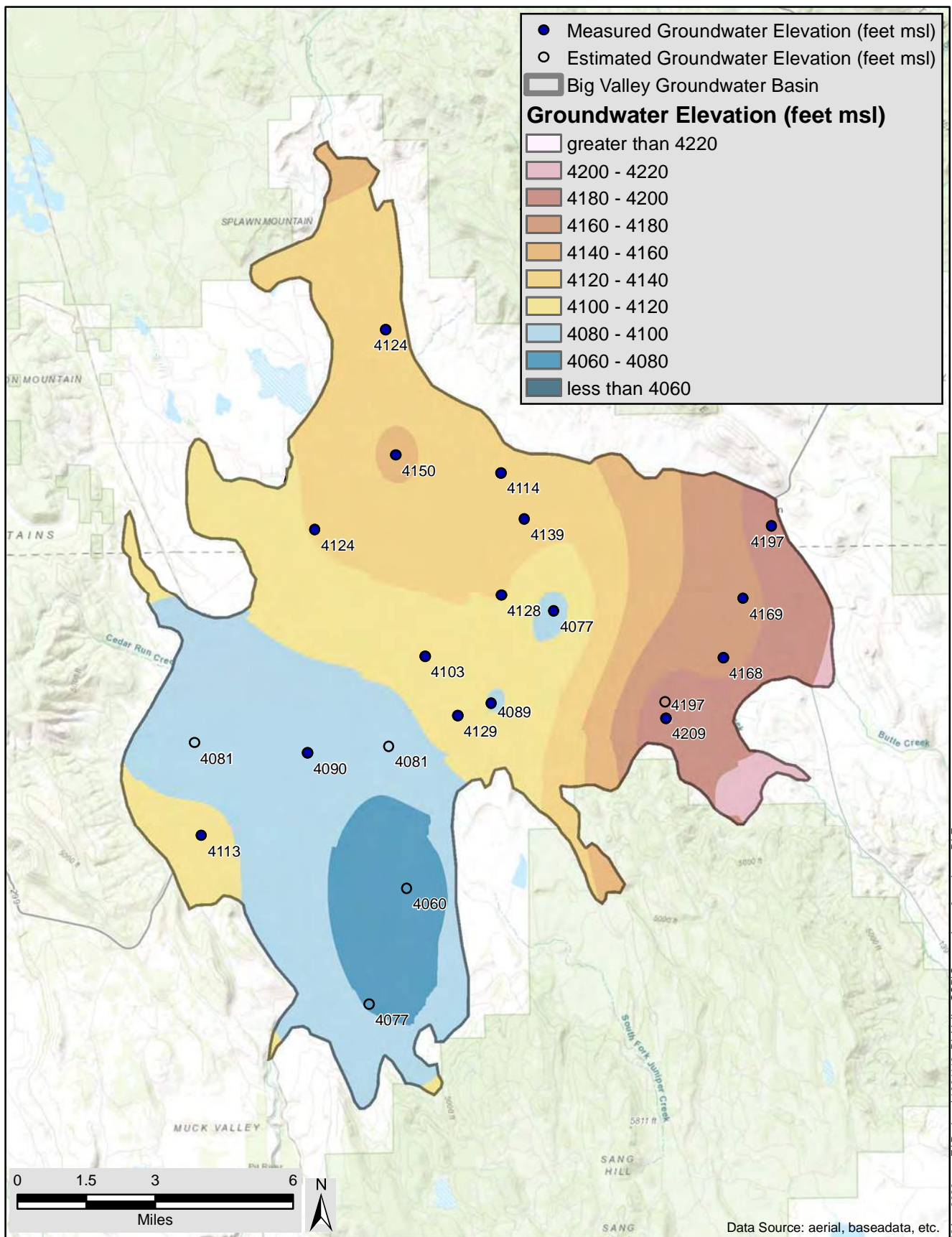
Sustainability Indicator Settings

Key	Threshold Type	Effect. Yr.	Value	Description
MT	Minimum Threshold	2022	3974.0 ft	
MO	Measureable Objective	2022	4114.0 ft	

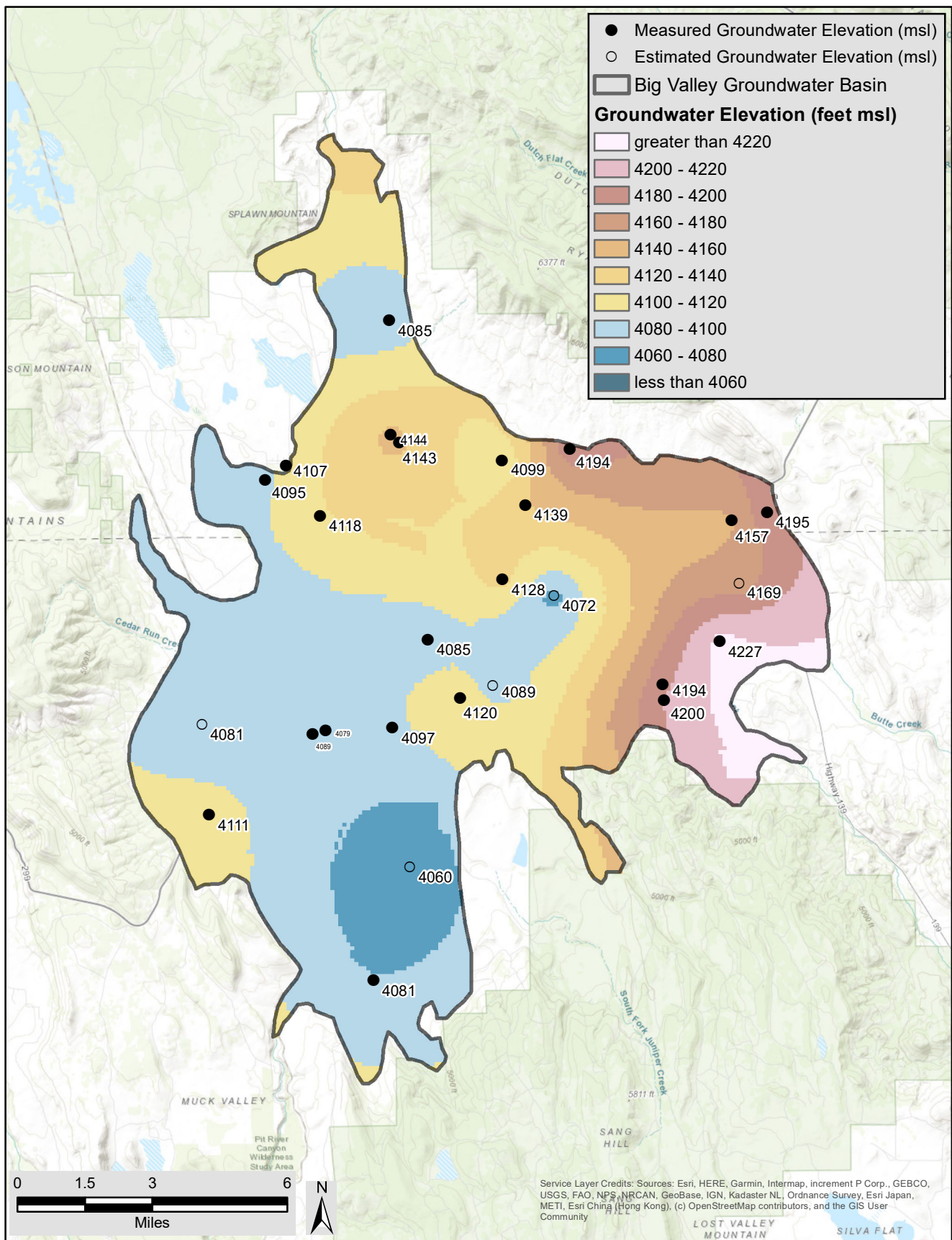
Appendix B: Groundwater Elevation Contours



Z:\Projects\1901113_BigValleyGSP\Contouring_v3.mxd DLF 22Aug2020



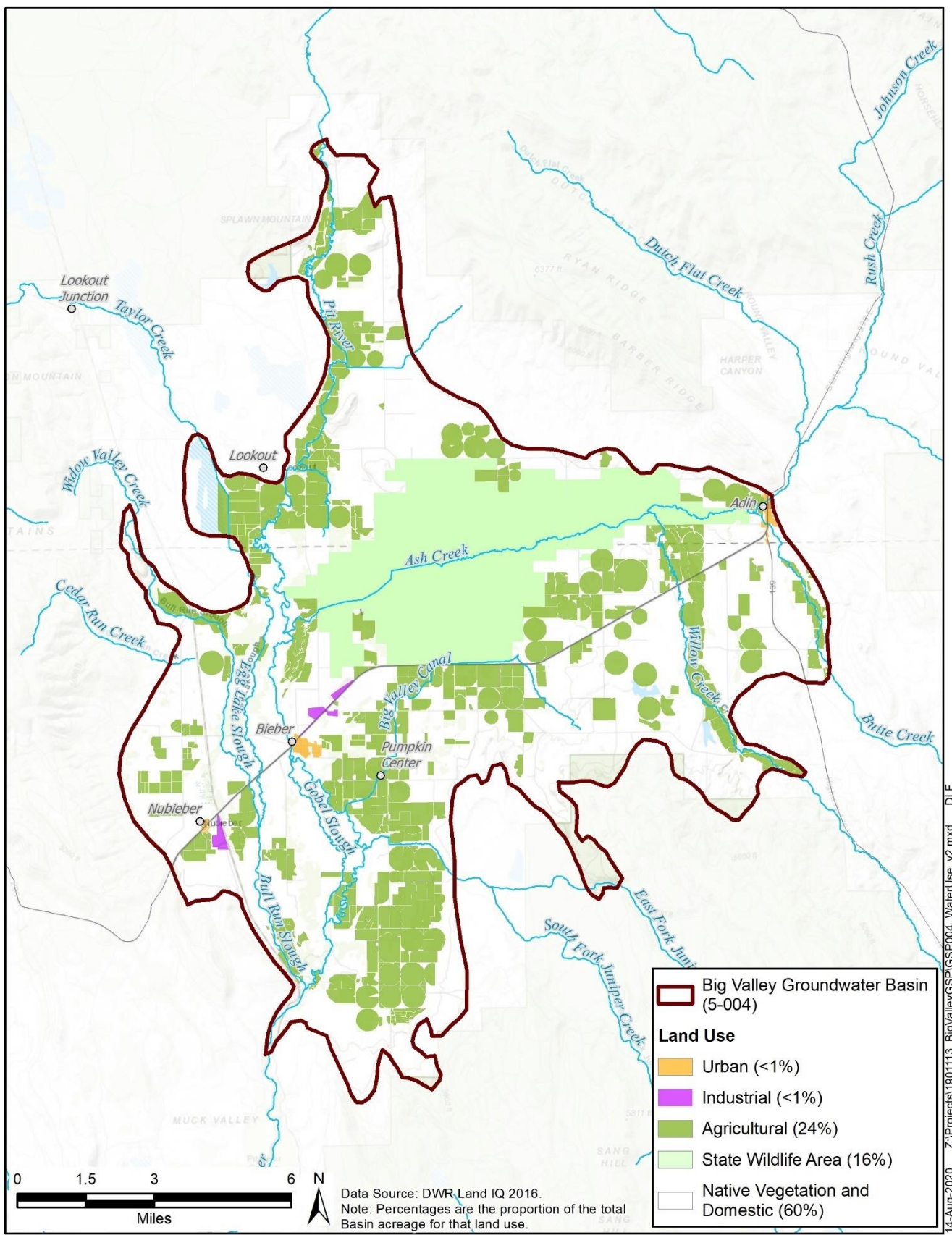
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Big Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Modoc and Lassen Counties, California		Groundwater Elevations Fall 2021	
Big Valley Groundwater Basin GSAs		FEBRUARY 2022	FINAL FIGURE

Appendix C: Land Use by Water Use Sector Map



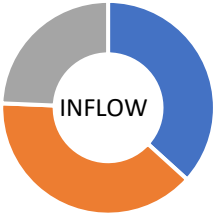
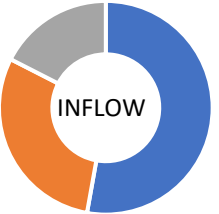
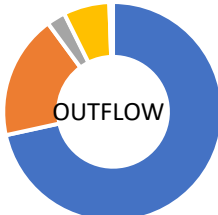
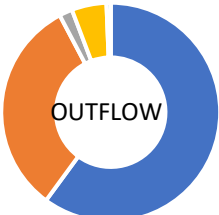
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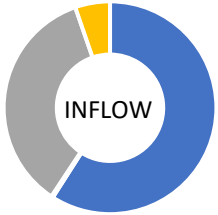
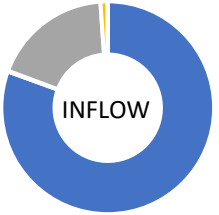
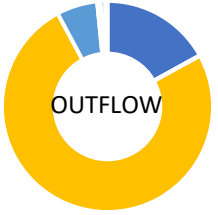
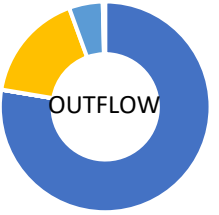
674
675
676

Land Use by Water Use Sector

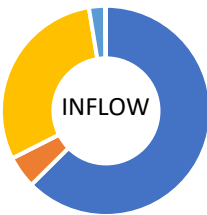
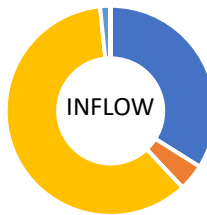
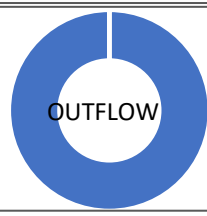
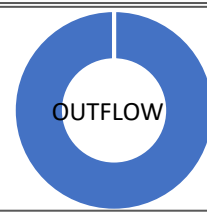
Appendix D: Water Budget

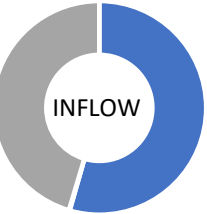
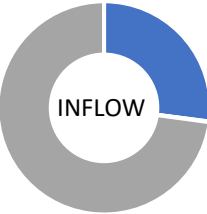
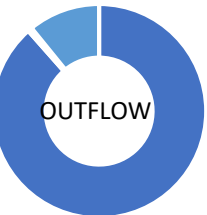
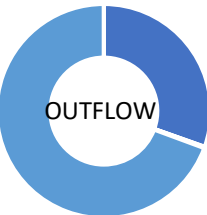
Big Valley Groundwater Basin Water Budget

LAND SYSTEM			2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2021		Average (1984-2021)	Average (1984-2021)	
Item	Flow Type	Origin/ Destination	Component	Estimated Acre-Feet	Estimated Acre-Feet	Estimated Acre-Feet	Estimated Acre-Feet	Estimated Acre-Feet		Estimated Acre-Feet		
1 (1)	Inflow	Into Basin	Precipitation on Land System	201,600	140,000	195,300	87,100	81,500	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Precipitation on Land SystemSurface Water DeliveryGroundwater Extraction	135,600	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Precipitation on Land SystemSurface Water DeliveryGroundwater Extraction	
2 (2)	Inflow	Between Systems	Surface Water Delivery	75,000	77,900	70,000	84,900	86,400		76,200		
3 (3)	Inflow	Between Systems	Groundwater Extraction	42,400	46,900	38,400	53,700	54,000		44,900		
4 (4)	Inflow	(1)+(2)+(3)	Total Inflow	319,000	265,000	304,000	226,000	222,000		257,000		
5 (5)	Outflow	Out of Basin	Evapotranspiration	160,000	153,500	154,400	155,000	158,900	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">EvapotranspirationRunoffReturn FlowRecharge of Applied WaterRecharge of PrecipitationManaged Aquifer Recharge	154,200	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">EvapotranspirationRunoffReturn FlowRecharge of Applied WaterRecharge of PrecipitationManaged Aquifer Recharge	
6 (6)	Outflow	Between Systems	Runoff	139,400	91,100	131,100	48,700	40,700		82,700		
7 (7)	Outflow	Between Systems	Return Flow	4,800	5,300	4,300	6,000	6,100		5,000		
8 (8)	Outflow	Between Systems	Recharge of Applied Water	12,900	13,500	12,000	14,800	15,100		13,200		
9 (9)	Outflow	Between Systems	Recharge of Precipitation	1,900	1,500	1,900	1,200	1,200		1,600		
10 (10)	Outflow	Between Systems	Managed Aquifer Recharge	-	-	-	-	-		-		
11 (11)	Outflow	(5)+(6)+(7)+(8)+(9)+(10)	Total Outflow	319,000	265,000	304,000	226,000	222,000		257,000		
12 (12)	Storage Change	(4)-(11)	Change in Land System Storage	-	-	-	-	-		-		

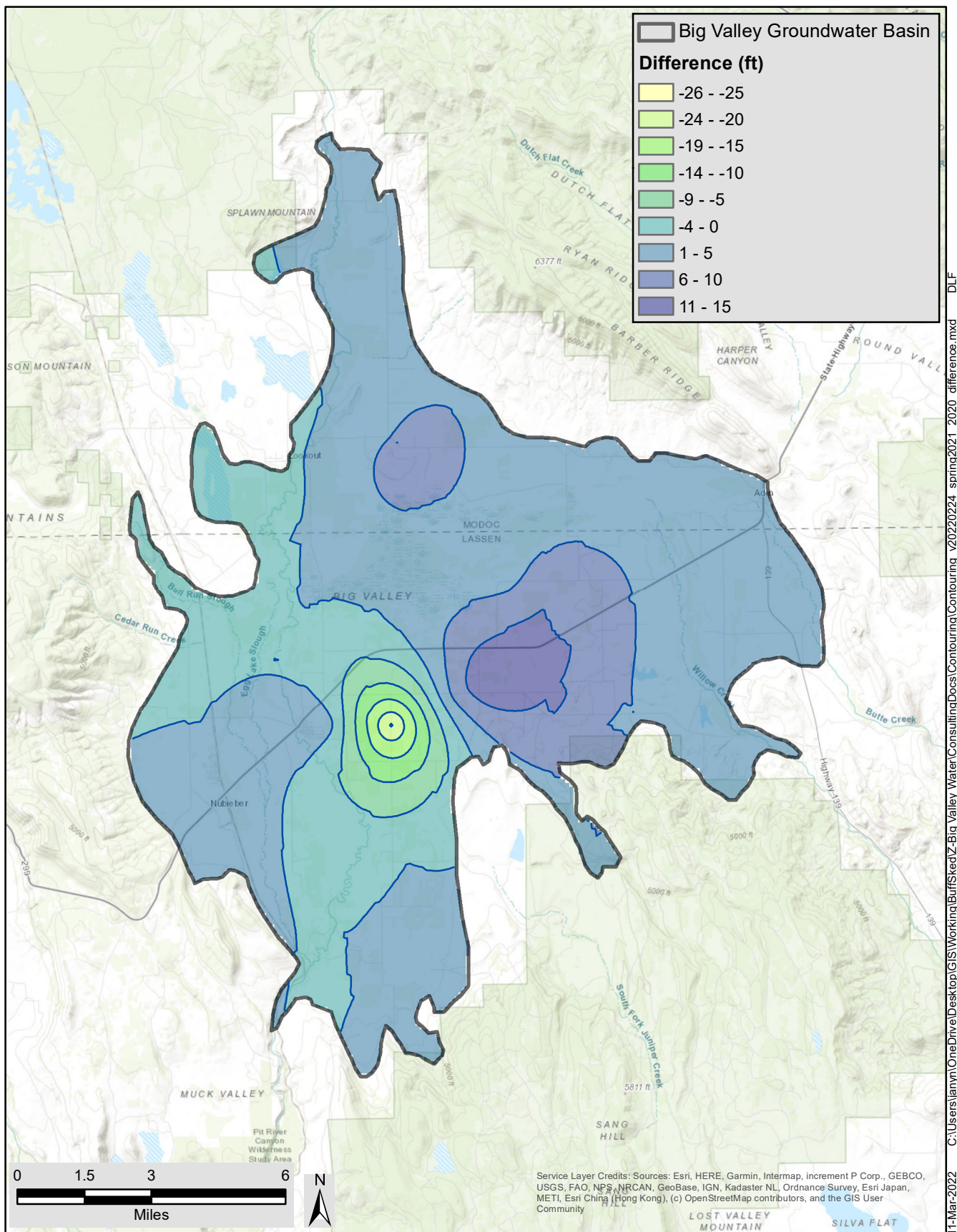
SURFACE WATER SYSTEM			2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2021		Average (1984-2021)	Average (1984-2021)	
Item	Flow Type	Origin/ Destination	Component	Estimated Acre-Feet	Estimated Acre-Feet	Estimated Acre-Feet	Estimated Acre-Feet	Estimated Acre-Feet		Estimated Acre-Feet		
13 (13)	Inflow	Into Basin	Stream Inflow	809,000	243,100	683,300	130,700	67,900	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Stream InflowPrecipitation on ReservoirsRunoffReturn FlowStream Gain from GroundwaterReservoir Gain from Groundwater	365,100	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Stream InflowPrecipitation on ReservoirsRunoffReturn FlowStream Gain from GroundwaterReservoir Gain from Groundwater	
14 (14)	Inflow	Into Basin	Precipitation on Reservoirs	700	500	700	300	300		500		
6 (6)	Inflow	Between Systems	Runoff	139,400	91,100	131,100	48,700	40,700		82,700		
7 (7)	Inflow	Between Systems	Return Flow	4,800	5,300	4,300	6,000	6,100		5,000		
15 (15)	Inflow	Between Systems	Stream Gain from Groundwater	-	-	-	-	-		-		
16 (16)	Inflow	Between Systems	Reservoir Gain from Groundwater	-	-	-	-	-		-		
17 (17)	Inflow	(13)+(14)+(6)+(7)+(15)+(16)	Total Inflow	954,000	340,000	819,000	186,000	115,000		453,000		
18 (18)	Outflow	Out of Basin	Stream Outflow	827,900	245,000	712,000	88,800	19,500	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Stream OutflowConveyance EvaporationConveyance SeepageSurface Water DeliveryStream Loss to GroundwaterReservoir Loss to GroundwaterReservoir EvaporationStream Evaporation	351,800	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Stream OutflowConveyance EvaporationConveyance SeepageSurface Water DeliveryStream Loss to GroundwaterReservoir Loss to GroundwaterReservoir EvaporationStream Evaporation	
19 (19)	Outflow	Out of Basin	Conveyance Evaporation	50	50	40	50	50		50		
20 (20)	Outflow	Between Systems	Conveyance Seepage	30	30	30	30	30		30		
2 (2)	Outflow	Between Systems	Surface Water Delivery	75,000	77,900	70,000	84,900	86,400		76,200		
21 (21)	Outflow	Between Systems	Stream Loss to Groundwater	49,200	15,300	35,800	10,100	7,200		23,500		
22 (22)	Outflow	Between Systems	Reservoir Loss to Groundwater	600	600	600	600	600		600		
23 (23)	Outflow	Out of Basin	Reservoir Evaporation	700	700	700	800	800		700		
24 (24)	Outflow	Out of Basin	Stream Evaporation	400	400	400	400	400		400		
25 (25)	Outflow	(18)+(19)+(20)+(2)+(21)+(22)+(23)+(24)	Total Outflow	954,000	340,000	819,000	186,000	115,000		453,000		
26 (26)	Storage Change	(17)-(25)	Change in Surface Water Storage	-	-	-	-	-		-		

Big Valley Groundwater Basin Water Budget

GROUNDWATER SYSTEM			2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	<u>2021</u>		Average (1984-2021)	<u>Average (1984-2021)</u>	
Item	Flow Type	Origin/ Destination	Component	Estimated Acre-Feet	Estimated Acre-Feet	Estimated Acre-Feet	Estimated Acre-Feet	Estimated Acre-Feet		Estimated Acre-Feet		
8 (8)	Inflow	Between Systems	Recharge of Applied Water	12,900	13,500	12,000	14,800	15,100				
9 (9)	Inflow	Between Systems	Recharge of Precipitation	1,900	1,500	1,900	1,200	1,200				
10 (10)	Inflow	Between Systems	Managed Aquifer Recharge	-	-	-	-	-				
21 (21)	Inflow	Between Systems	Groundwater Gain from Stream	49,200	15,300	35,800	10,100	7,200				
22 (22)	Inflow	Between Systems	Groundwater Gain from Reservoir	600	600	600	600	600				
20 (20)	Inflow	Between Systems	Conveyance Seepage	30	30	30	30	30				
27 (27)	Inflow	Into Basin	Subsurface Inflow	1	1	1	1	1				
28 (28)	Inflow	(8)+(9)+(10)+(21)+(22)+(20)+(27) Total Inflow		64,700	30,900	50,400	26,700	24,100		38,900		
3 (3)	Outflow	Between Systems	Groundwater Extraction	42,400	46,900	38,400	53,700	54,000				
15 (15)	Outflow	Between Systems	Groundwater Loss to Stream	-	-	-	-	-				
16 (16)	Outflow	Between Systems	Groundwater Loss to Reservoir	-	-	-	-	-				
29 (29)	Outflow	Out of Basin	Subsurface Outflow	-	-	-	-	-				
30 (30)	Outflow	(3)+(15)+(16)+(29) Total Outflow		42,400	46,900	38,400	53,700	54,000		44,900		
31 (31)	Storage Change	(28)-(30)	Change in Groundwater Storage	22,000	(16,000)	12,000	(27,000)	(30,000)		(6,000)		

TOTAL BASIN WATER BUDGET			2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	<u>2021</u>		Average (1984-2021)	<u>Average (1984-2021)</u>	
Item	Flow Type	Origin/ Destination	Component	Estimated Acre-Feet	Estimated Acre-Feet	Estimated Acre-Feet	Estimated Acre-Feet	Estimated Acre-Feet		Estimated Acre-Feet		
1 (1)	Inflow	Into Basin	Precipitation on Land System	201,600	140,000	195,300	87,100	81,500				
14 (14)	Inflow	Into Basin	Precipitation on Reservoirs	700	500	700	300	300				
13 (13)	Inflow	Into Basin	Stream Inflow	809,000	243,100	683,300	130,700	67,900				
27 (27)	Inflow	Into Basin	Subsurface Inflow	1	1	1	1	1				
32 (32)	Inflow	(1)+(14)+(13)+(27) Total Inflow		1,011,300	383,600	879,300	218,100	149,700		501,100		
5 (5)	Outflow	Out of Basin	Evapotranspiration	160,000	153,500	154,400	155,000	158,900				
24 (24)	Outflow	Out of Basin	Stream Evaporation	400	400	400	400	400				
23 (23)	Outflow	Out of Basin	Reservoir Evaporation	700	700	700	800	800				
19 (19)	Outflow	Out of Basin	Conveyance Evaporation	-	-	-	-	-				
18 (18)	Outflow	Out of Basin	Stream Outflow	827,900	245,000	712,000	88,800	19,500				
29 (29)	Outflow	Out of Basin	Subsurface Outflow	-	-	-	-	-				
33 (33)	Outflow	(5)+(24)+(23)+(19)+(18)+(29) Total Outflow		989,000	399,600	867,400	245,100	179,600		507,100		
34 (34)	Storage Change	(32)-(33)	Change in Total System Storage	22,000	(16,000)	12,000	(27,000)	(30,000)		(6,000)		

Appendix E: Map of Storage Change



DLF

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11-Mar-2022

Big Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Modoc and Lassen Counties, California		Groundwater Elevations Spring 2020 and 2021 Difference	
Big Valley Groundwater Basin GSAs		MARCH 2022	FIGURE