

# **Fractured Rock Aquifer Sustainability**

Progress Report to the Water  
Demand Committee

June 2010



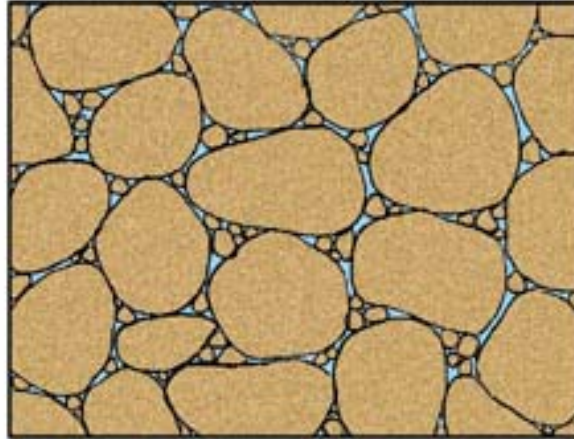
# Presentation Outline

1. Direction of Board
2. Definition of Fractured Rock Aquifers
3. Aquifer Sustainability vs. Aquifer Quality
4. Scientific Approach to Evaluating Fractured Rock Aquifers
5. Progress report - Pilot study of Carmel Woods and Aguajito Areas
6. Conclusions and Recommendations

# Direction from Board

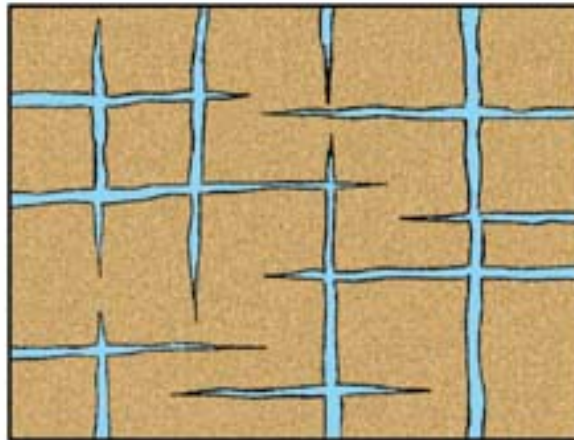
- The Water Demand Committee at its December 7, 2009 meeting recommended preparation of an ordinance to suspend WDS processing.
- The Technical Advisory Committee reviewed the concept of such an ordinance at its January 5, 2010 meeting. The TAC posed questions and made suggestions, but did not have a specific recommendation because an ordinance was not available for review at that time.
- At the January 28, 2010 regular board meeting the board considered adopting **URGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 143 TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING PROCESSING AND RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS FOR WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS IN FRACTURED ROCK FORMATIONS**
- With a 7-0 vote, the board denied the adoption of the ordinance and directed staff to investigate the sustainability of fractured rock aquifer systems and bring a progress report back to the Water Demand Committee within 90 days.

## 2. Definition of Fractured Rock Aquifer



### **Fluvial Aquifer**

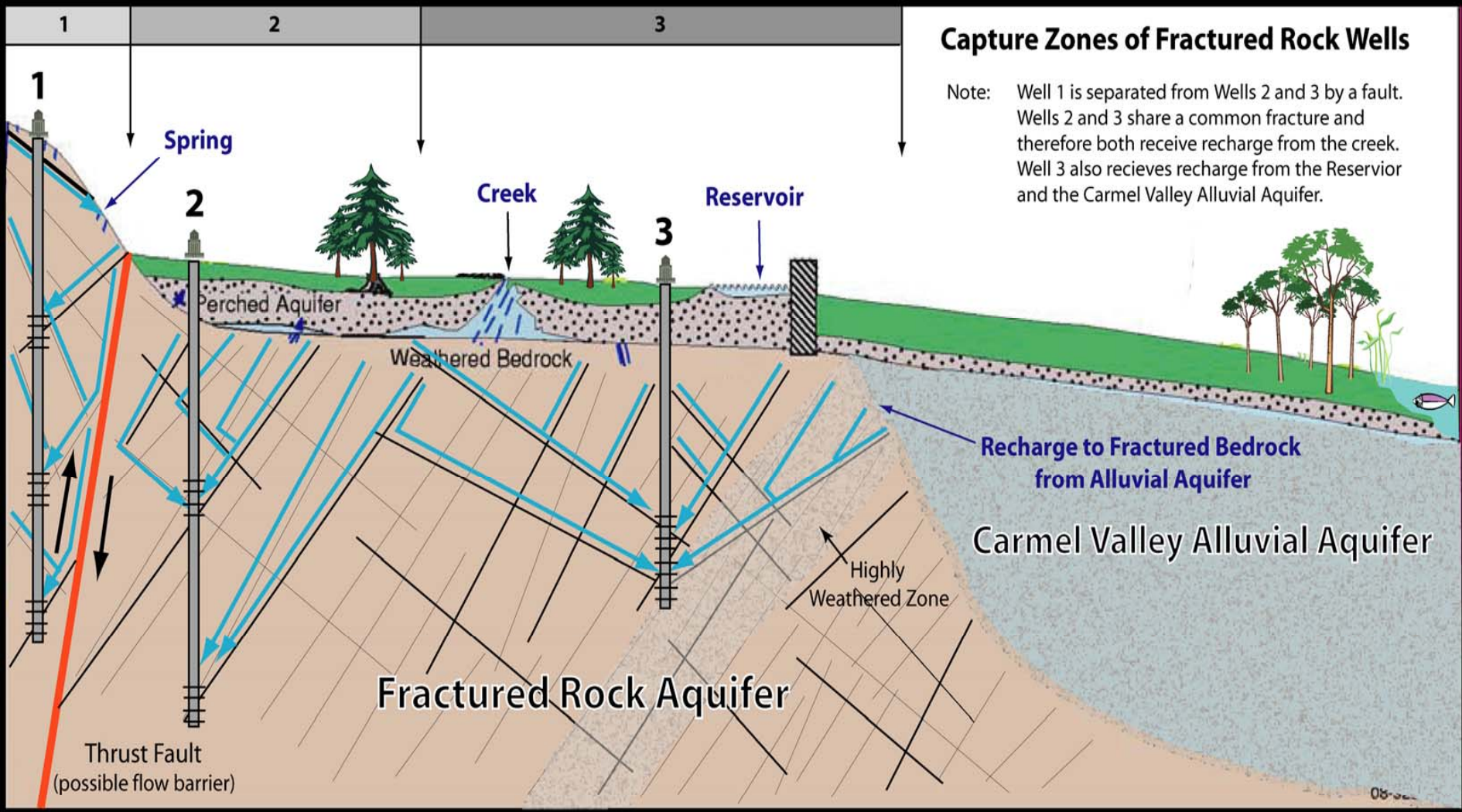
Water exists in spaces between grains (primary porosity). Carmel Valley Alluvial Aquifer



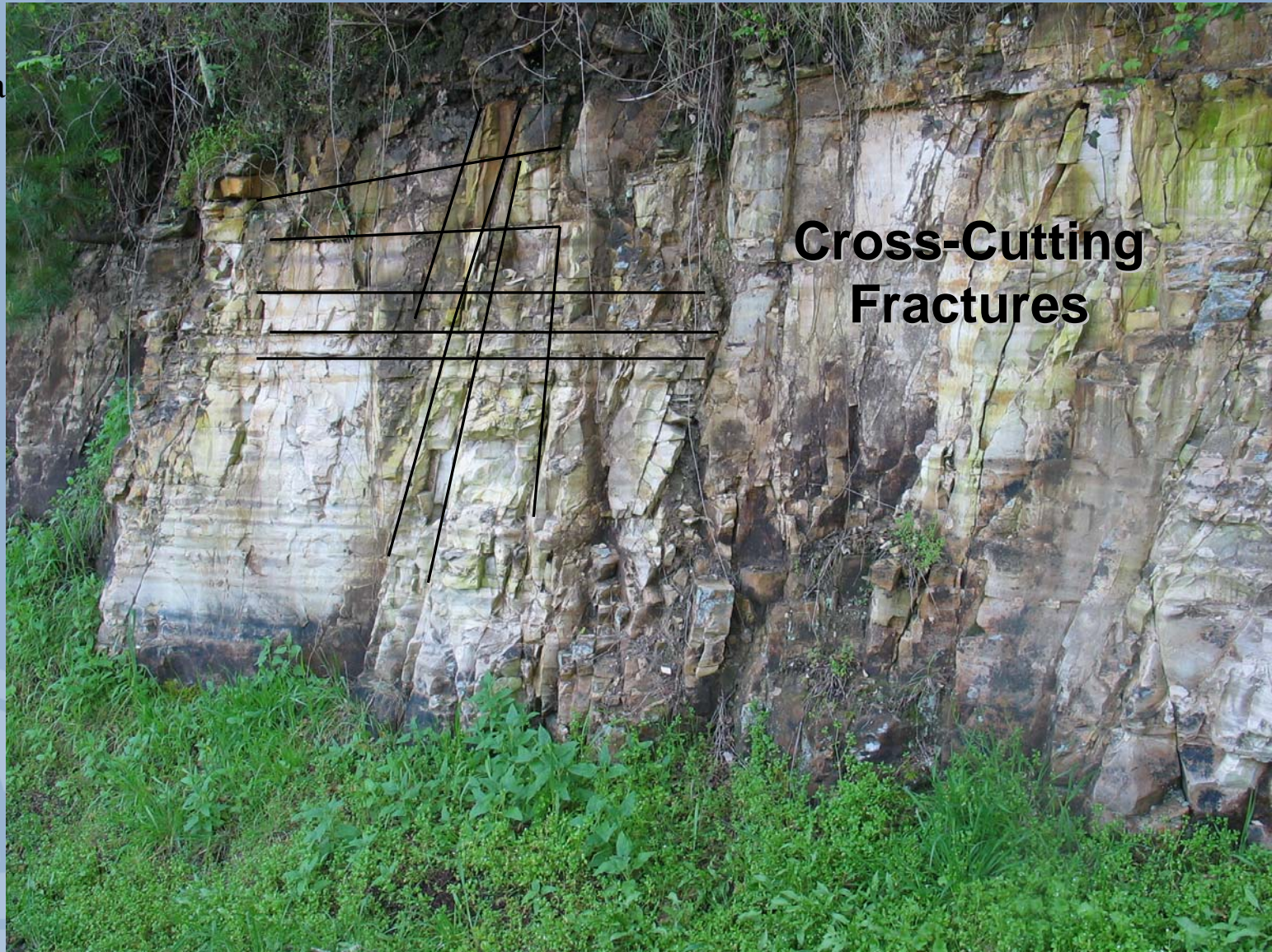
### **Fractured Rock Aquifer**

Water exists in fractures in non water bearing rocks (secondary porosity).







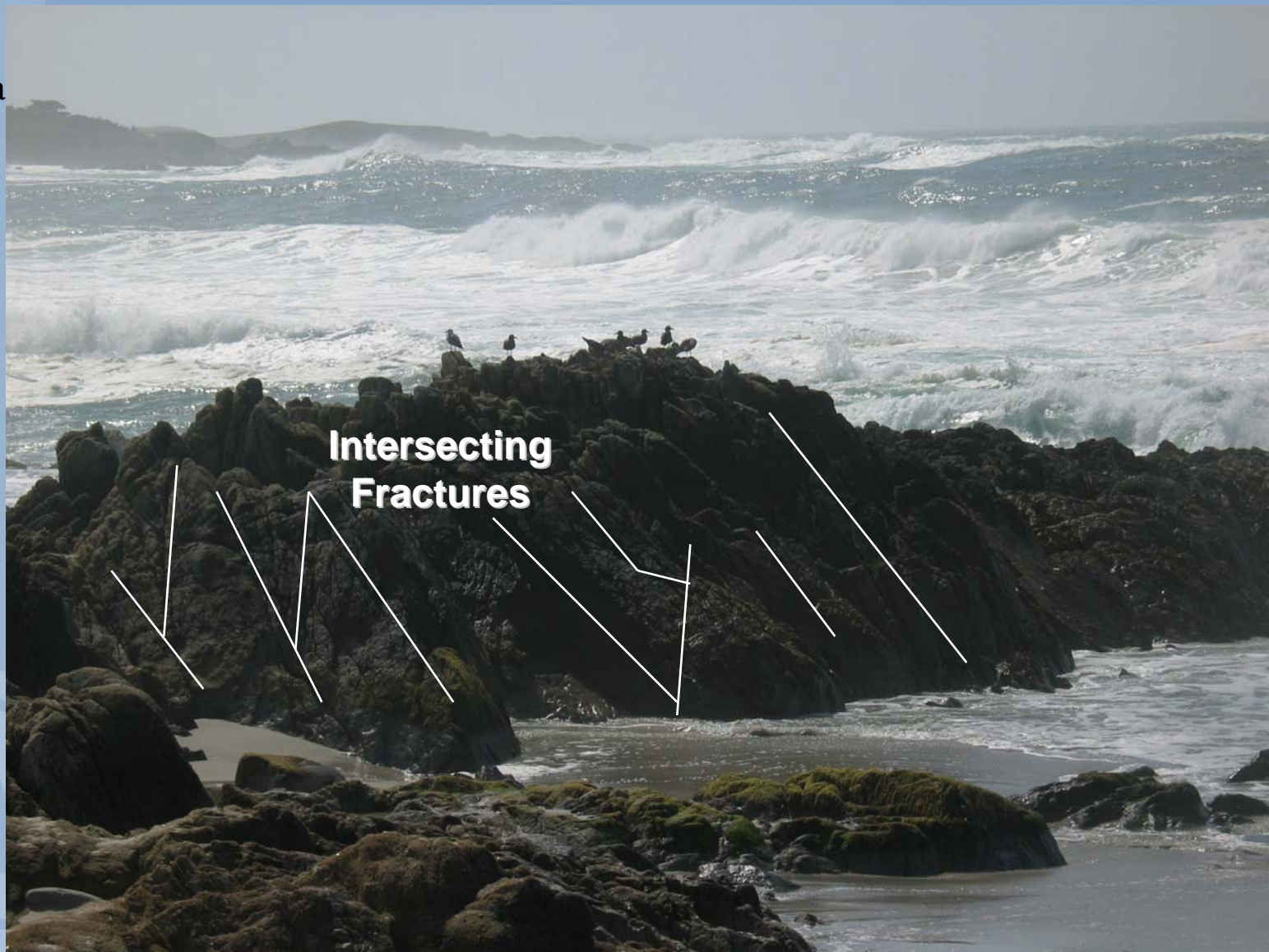


**Cross-Cutting  
Fractures**



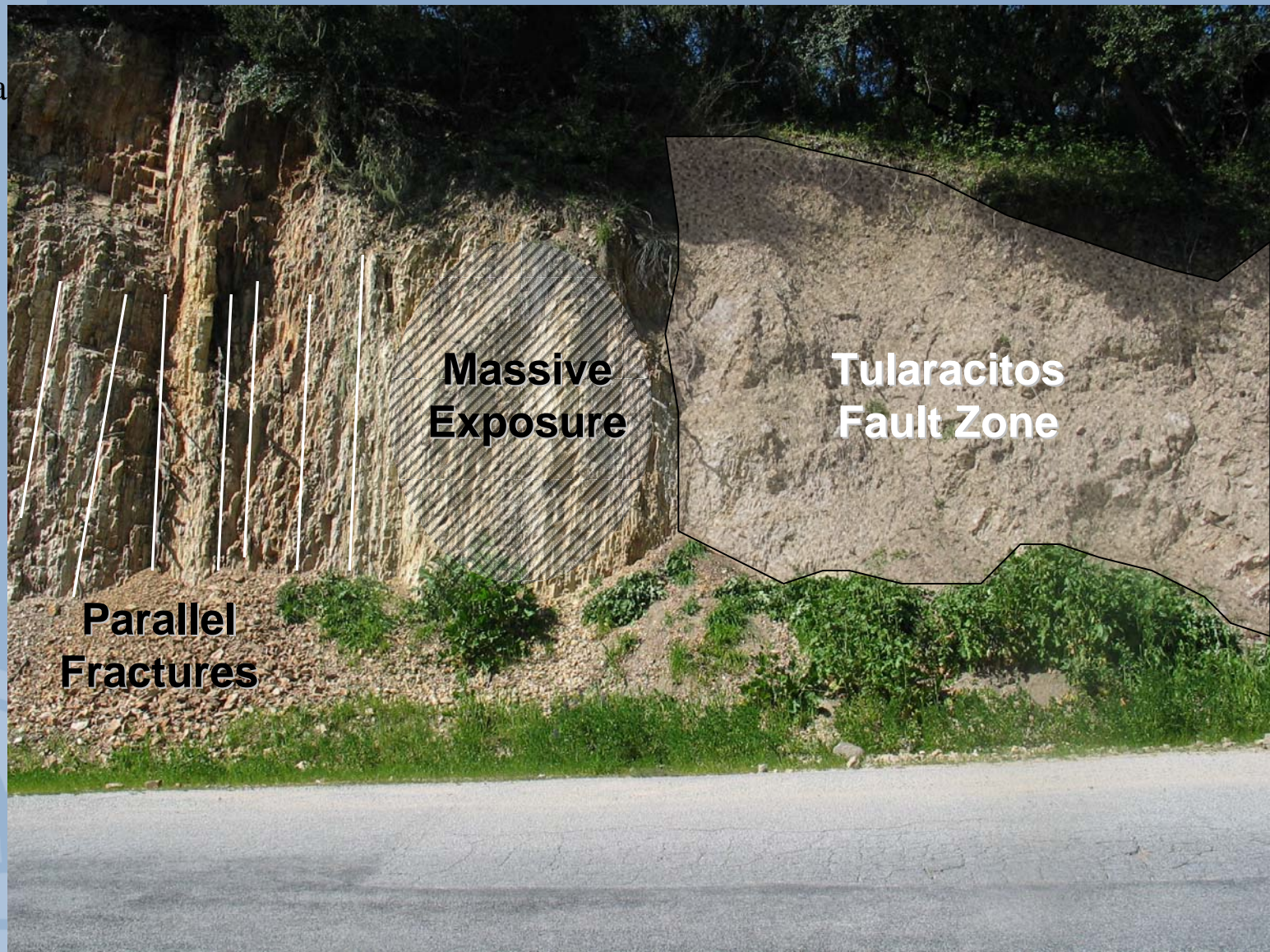


Monterey Peninsula  
Water  
Management  
District

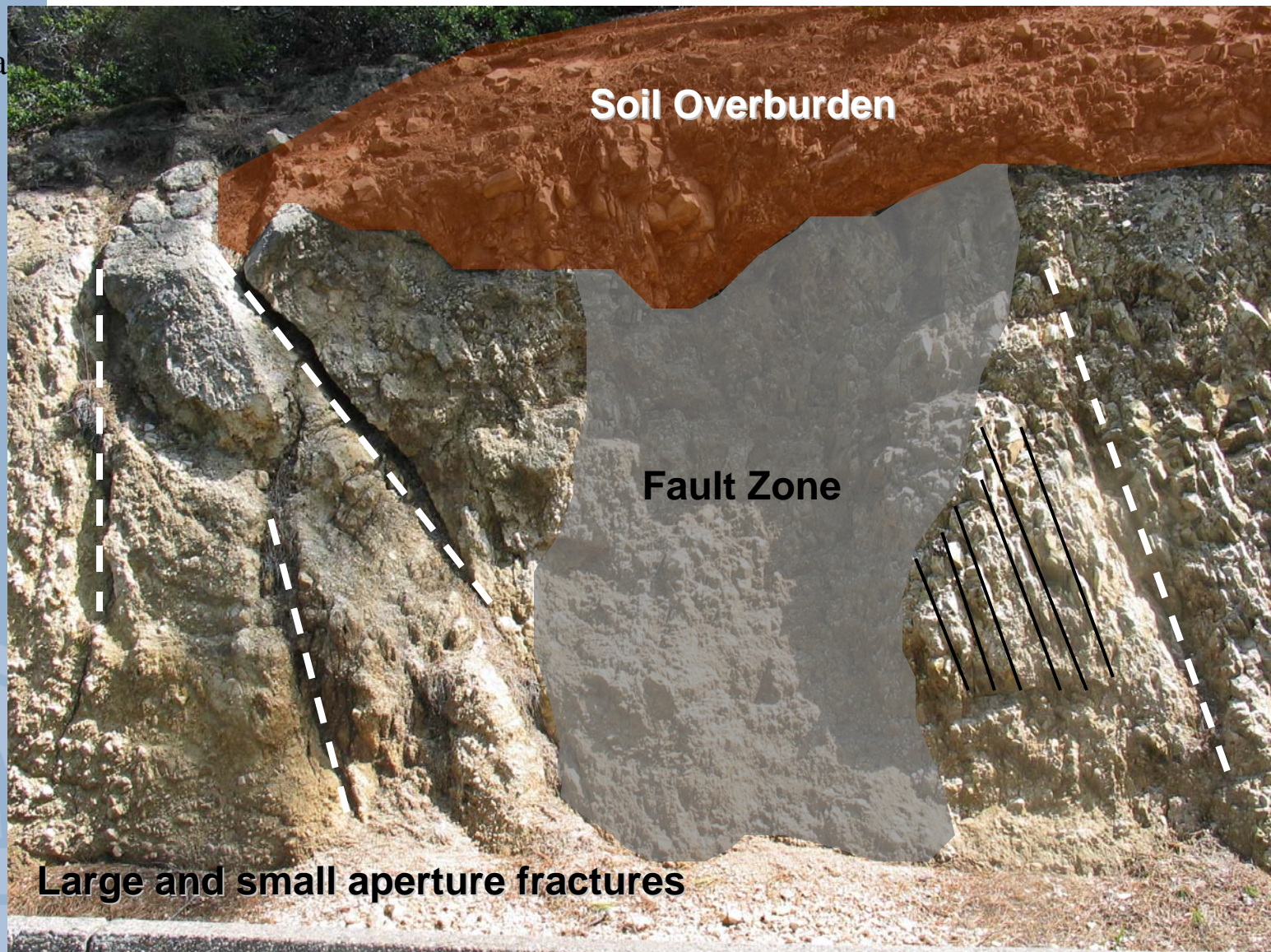


Monterey Peninsula  
Water Management District



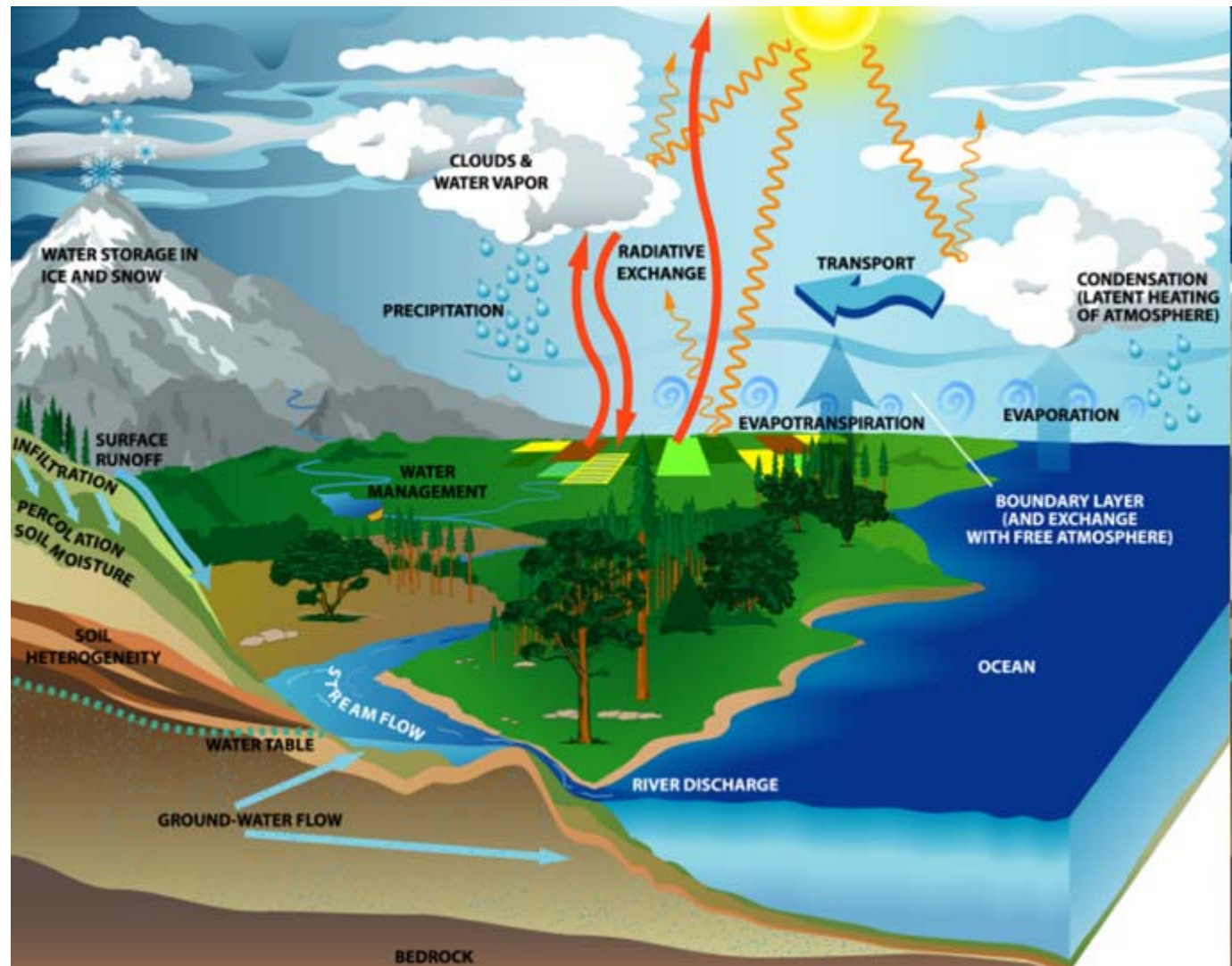




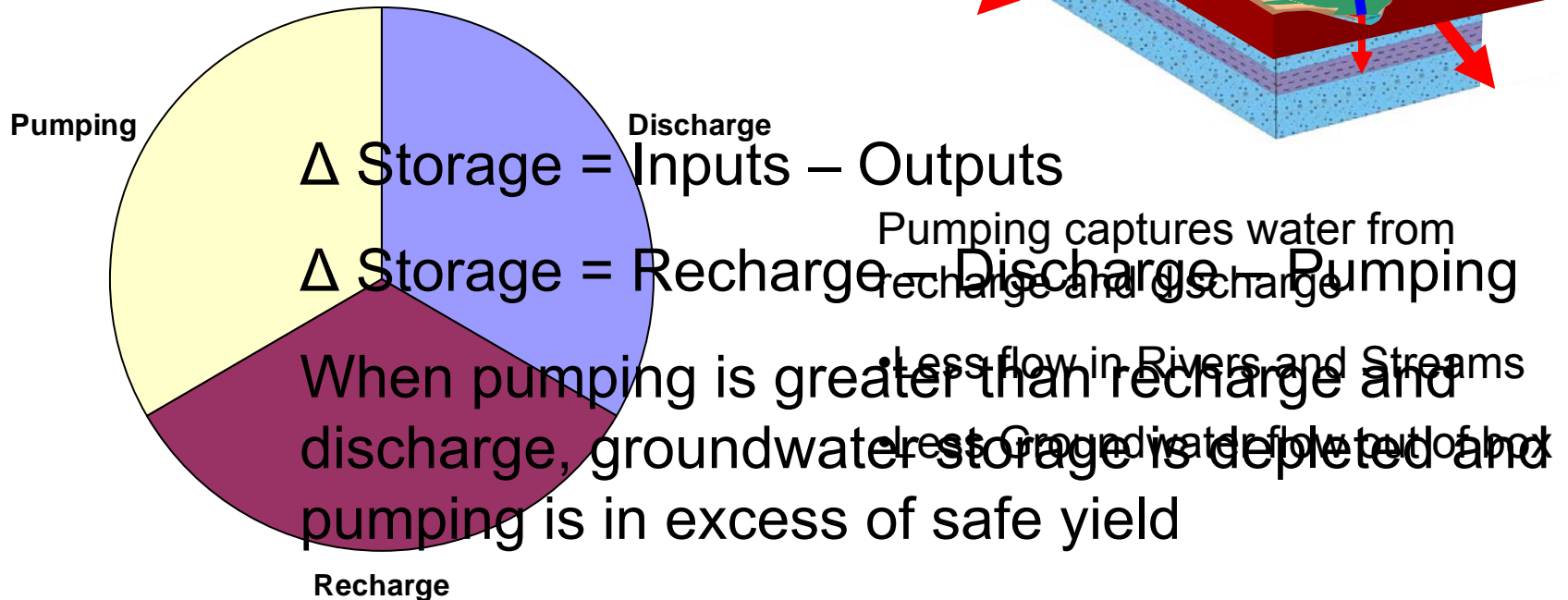
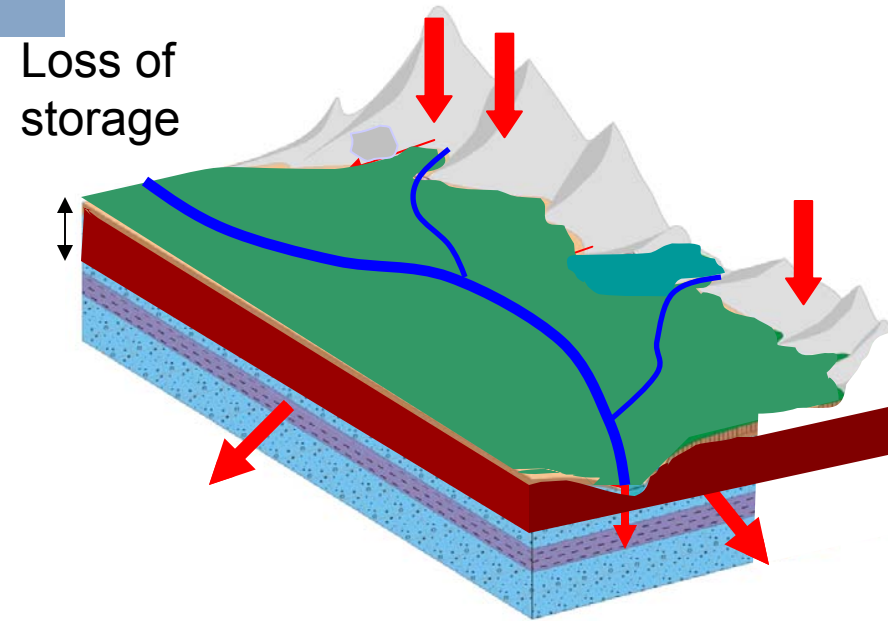


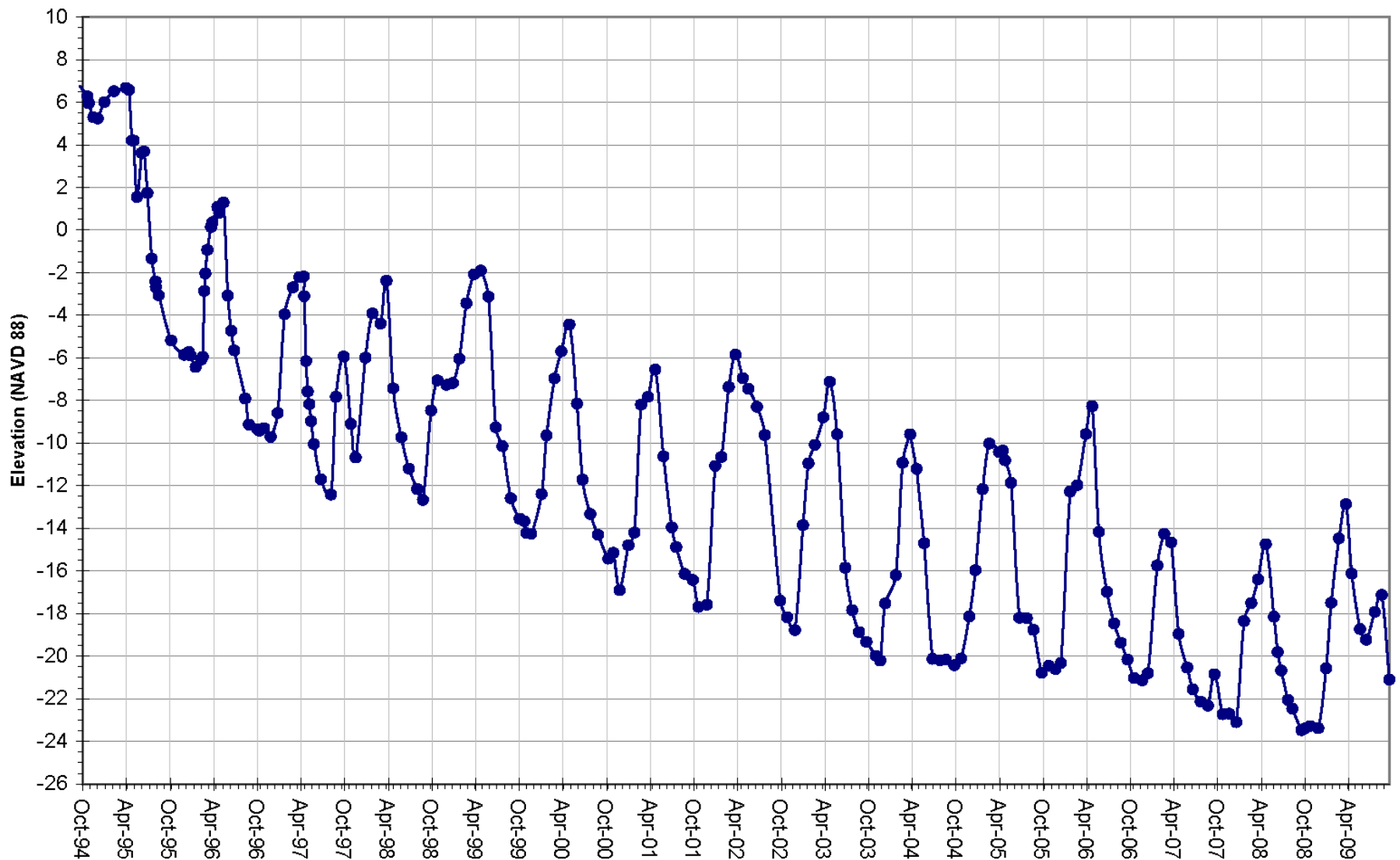


### 3. Aquifer Sustainability vs. Aquifer Quality



➤ **Safe Yield:** Maintain the balance between meeting water demands while avoiding environmental impacts to the aquifer system.





**Monterey Peninsula  
Water Management District**

### Watermaster Well No. 112 - MPWMD FO-09 (Deep) (15S/1E-15Pb)

Screened from 790-830 in the Santa Margarita Formation (Tsm)  
Wellhead Elevation 188.85 MSL  
DWR Driller Log No. N/A  
Datasource: MPWMD



## Quality of Fractured Rock Aquifer

“Quality” in this context is defined as ability of aquifer to yield significant quantities of water to a well within economic constraints. Quality of the aquifer is *\*not\** the same as sustainability of an aquifer. Sustainability is obtained by pumping within the safe yield of the aquifer.

**Poor Quality (low yield)  
Fractured Rock Aquifer**

**High Quality (high yield)  
Fractured Rock Aquifer**



Little to no  
fractures

Non-connected  
small fractures  
fractures

Connected small  
fractures

Connected small  
and large fractures

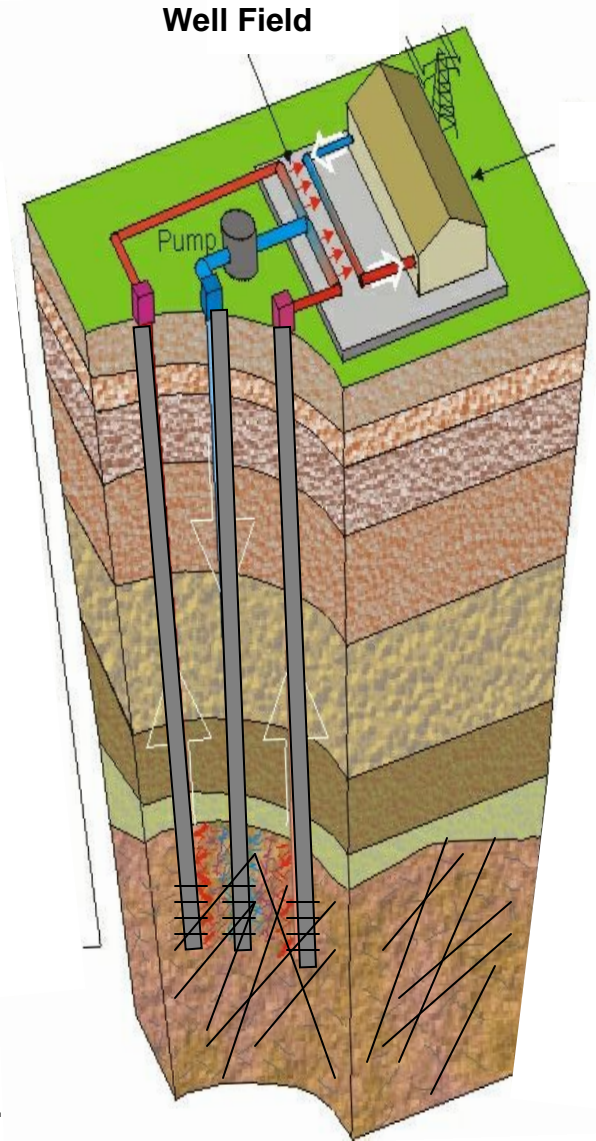
## 4. Scientific Approach to Evaluating Fractured Rock Aquifers

### Types of Data:

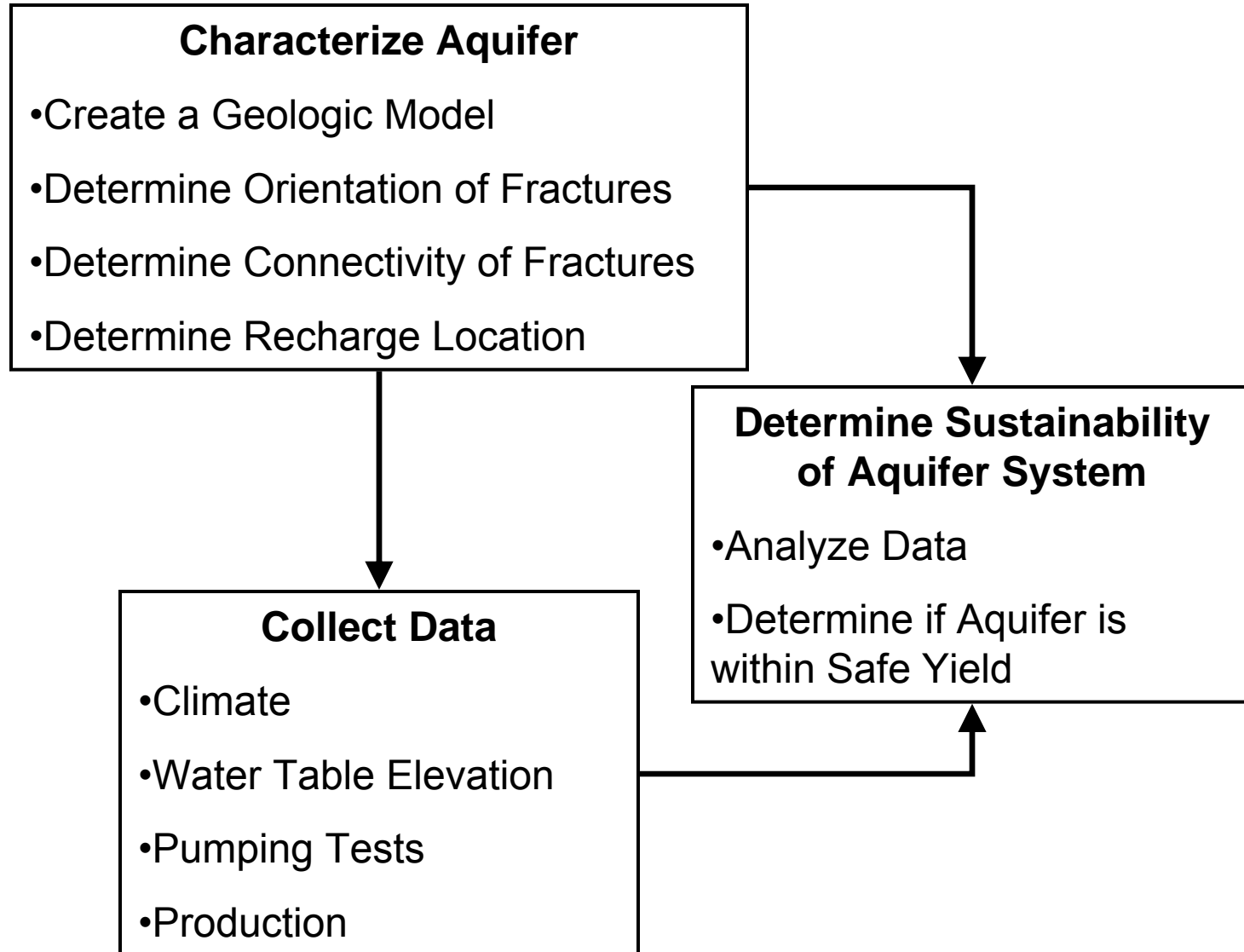
- Non-changing: Geology, fracture patterns, and location, depth, and construction of wells.
- Transient (time dependant): water table elevation, pumping (rates, volumes, and pump tests), water chemistry.

### Value of Data:

- Non-changing: Geologic structure, size and orientation of fractures. (pathways for water to move)
- Transient: Change in groundwater storage, timing of recharge, aquifer parameters, connectivity of fractures.



## Work Flow for Determining the Sustainability of a Fractured Rock Aquifer



# Fractured Rock Aquifer Matrix for Characterizing Fracture Size and Connectivity

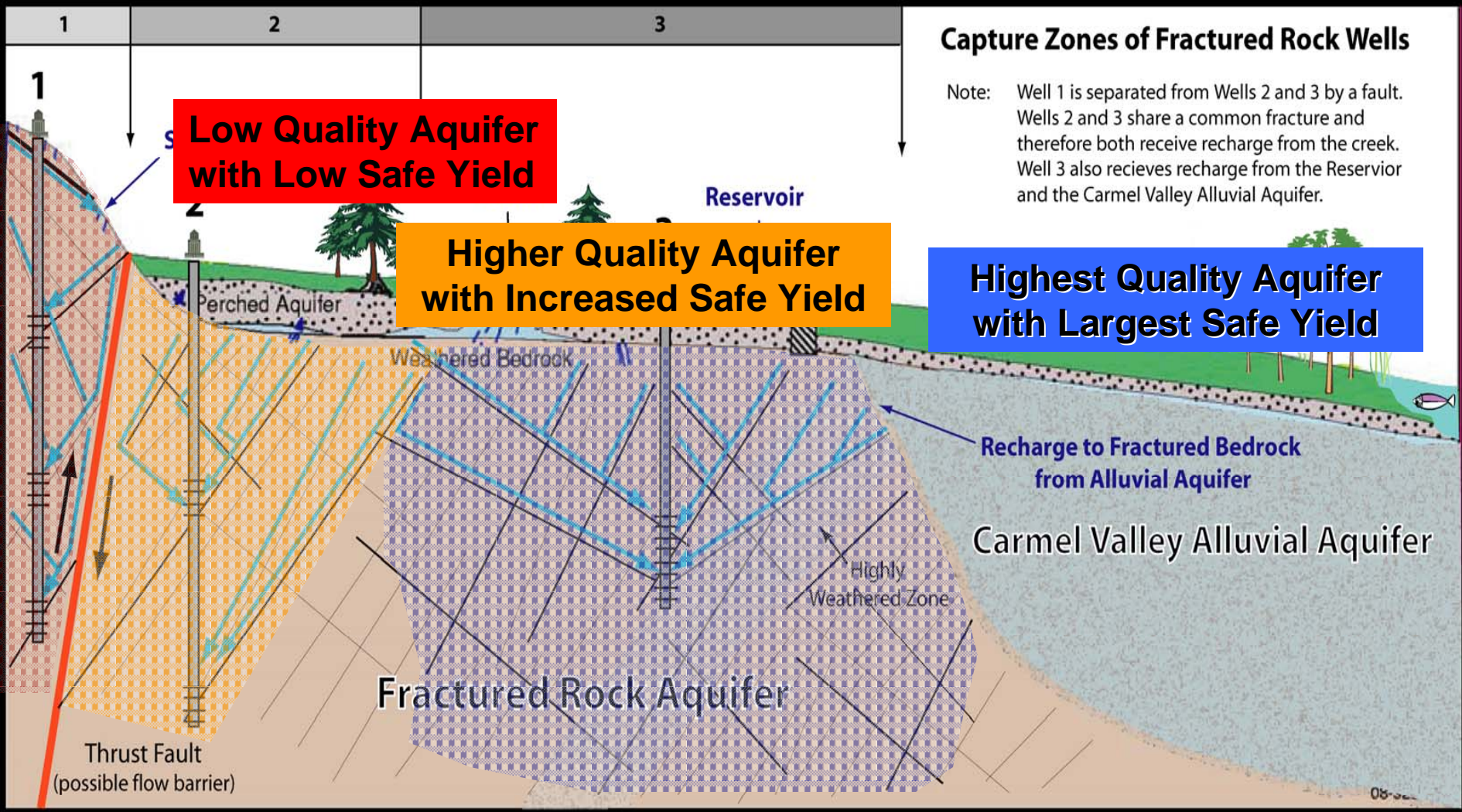
Characteristics of Aquifer and Wells	Connectivity of Fractures		Size of Fractures	
	Non Connected Fractures	Connected Fractures	Large Fractures	Small Fractures
High well yield(s) <sup>1,2,6</sup>		X	X	
Clustering of high well yields <sup>6</sup>			X	
Similar water chemistry <sup>2,3,5</sup>		X		
Pumping effects from neighboring wells <sup>2,3</sup>		X		
Similar water levels <sup>1,2,3</sup>		X		
Similar well construction (Screen Elevation) <sup>1,5</sup>		X		
Long Screened intervals <sup>1</sup>		X		
Large fractures and multiple fracture patterns in outcrops <sup>4,5</sup>		X		
Mappable Linements <sup>4,5</sup>		X		
Similar properties aligned with Regional Structures <sup>4,5</sup>		X	X	
Fast and complete recovery following pump test		X	X	
Low well yield(s) <sup>1,2,6</sup>	X			X
Clustering of low well yields <sup>6</sup>	X			
Varied water chemistry <sup>2,3,5</sup>	X			
Pumping effects from neighboring wells not observed <sup>2,3</sup>	X			
Dissimilar water levels <sup>1,2,3</sup>	X			
Dissimilar well construction (Screen Elevation) <sup>1,5</sup>	X	X		
Multiple Screened intervals <sup>1</sup>	X			
Small fractures and singular pattern in outcrops <sup>4,5</sup>	X			X
No Linements <sup>4,5</sup>	X			
No alignment with Regional Structures <sup>4,5</sup>	X			
Slow and incomplete recovery following pump test	X			X

**Well Connected High Quality Fractured Rock Aquifer**

**Low Quality Disconnected Fractured Rock Aquifer**

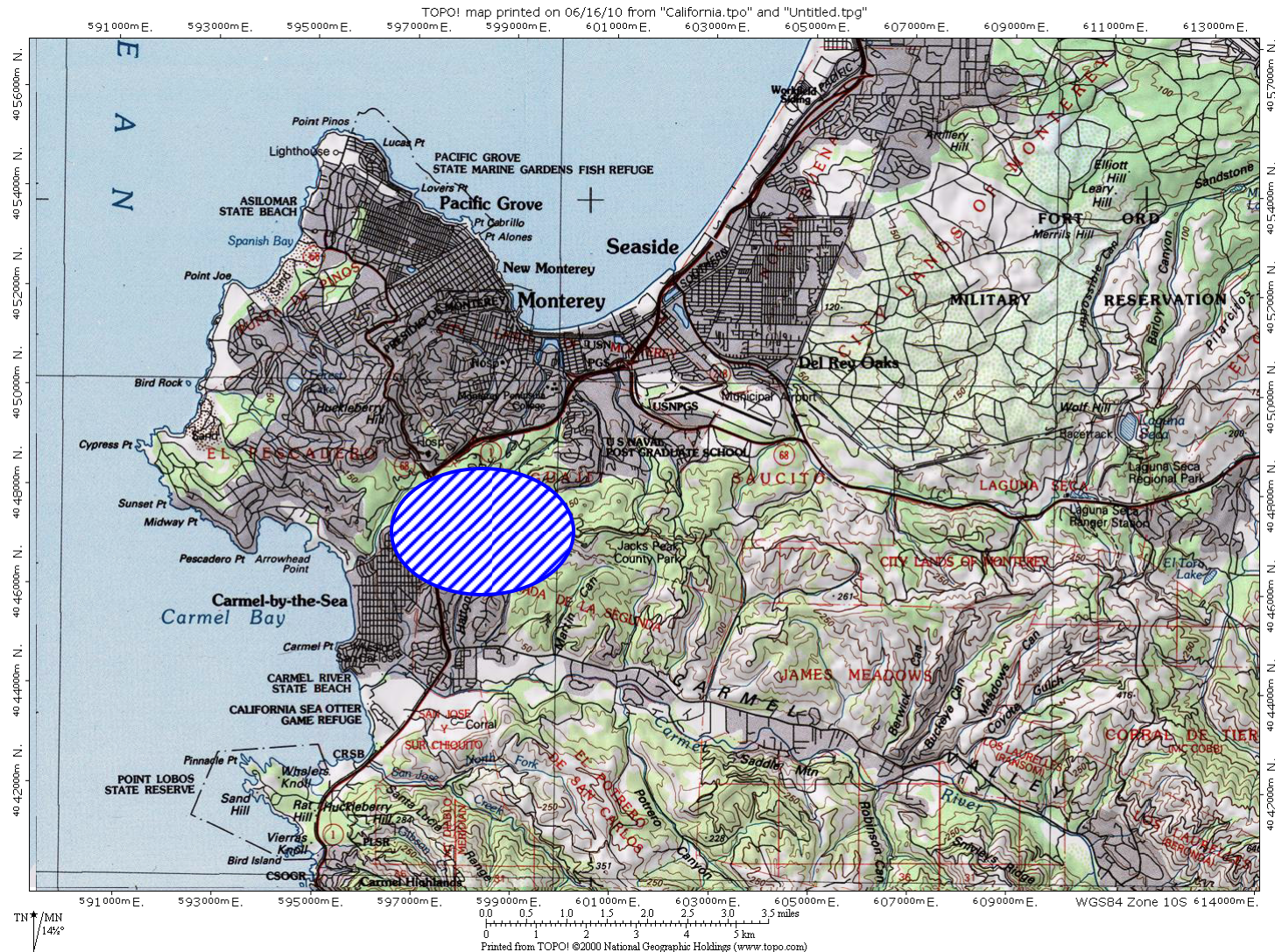
\*High Quality and Low Quality Fractured Rock Aquifers Can be sustainable if Pumping is Less than Safe Yield of Aquifer System







## 5. Carmel Woods Aguajito Pilot Study Area



## **Steps to Evaluate Fractured Rock Aquifer in Pilot Study Area**

- 1. Review existing data for study area**
- 2. Review geologic and hydrogeologic reports**
- 3. Review topographic maps to understand hydrologic basins and identify recharge and discharge boundaries**
- 4. Create a geologic model**
- 5. Evaluate water elevation, chemistry, and pump test to understand the quality and sustainability of the aquifer**



## **Data Available for Pilot Study Area**

- DWR Driller Logs
- Geologic Map
- Pumping Tests
- Water Chemistry
- Non-Continuous Water Table Elevations
- Annual Production Volumes
- Instantaneous Pumping Rates



ORIGINAL

File with DWR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

THE RESOURCES AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

WATER WELL DRILLERS REPORT

Do not fill in

No. 150523

Permit No. or Date 7942 - 9-16-85

State Well No. 05N06E35F02

CITY OF GALT

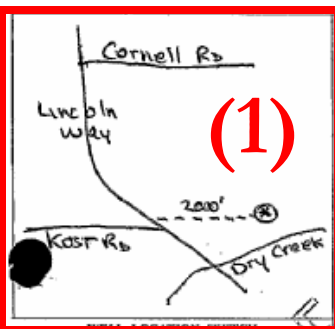
(1) OWNER: Name Russell Enterprises  
 Address P.O. Box 711  
 City Galt, CA Zip 95632  
 (2) LOCATION OF WELL (See instructions):  
 County Sacramento District's Well Number 1  
 Well address if different from above Lincoln Way  
 Township Range Section   
 Distance from cliffs, roads, railroads, fences, etc.

(12) WELL LOG: Total depth 780 ft. Depth of completed well 660 ft.  
 from ft. to ft. Formation (Describe by color, character, size or material)  
 0 - 2 top soil  
 2 - 18 brown clay  
 18 - 28 sand and gravel  
 28 - 30 clay sand and gravel  
 30 - 32 gray sandy clay  
 32 - 40 brown brittle clay  
 40 - 42 white coarse sand  
 42 - 50 green brittle blue clay  
 50 - 58 brown sandy clay  
 58 - 63 fine sand  
 63 - 105 coarse sand and gravel to 2"  
 105 - 112 gravel to 5"  
 112 - 143 soft gray clay  
 143 - 175 blue sandy clay  
 175 - 185 coarse sand and gravel  
 185 - 236 brittle blue clay  
 236 - 238 gravel  
 238 - 260 brittle blue clay  
 260 - 262 clay and gravel mixed  
 262 - 264 blue clay  
 264 - 266 sand  
 266 - 271 blue clay  
 271 - 273 coarse sand and gravel  
 273 - 288 blue brittle clay  
 288 - 294 cemented sand and gravel  
 294 - 297 coarse sand and gravel  
 297 - 312 brittle blue clay  
 312 - 315 coarse sand, gravel and clay  
 315 - 317 gravel and coarse sand  
 317 - 327 blue clay sandy  
 327 - 330 sand and gravel  
 330 - 357 sandy blue clay  
 357 - 360 cemented sand  
 360 - 385 brittle blue clay  
 385 - 386 clay and sand mixed  
 386 - 393 blue clay  
 393 - 395 sand and gravel  
 395 - 447 blue soft clay (over)  
 Work started Apr 10 1985 Completed Sept 28 1985

(3) TYPE OF WORK:

New Well ☒ Drilling ☐Reconstruction ☐Reconditioning ☐Horizontal Well ☐Destruction ☐ (Describe destruction materials and procedures in Item 12)

(4) PROPOSED USE:

Domestic ☐Irrigation ☐Industrial ☐Test Well ☐Other ☐

(5) EQUIPMENT:  
 Rotary ☐ Reverse ☒ No ☐ Size 28"  
 Cable ☐ Air ☐ Diameter of bore 28"  
 Other ☐ Bucket ☐ Packed from 0 to 670

(7) CASING INSTALLED:

Steel ☒ Plastic ☐ Concrete ☐

From ft. To ft. Dia. in. Gauge of Wall Exposed ft. To ft. Slope

+2 180 16 3125 See back side

650 660 16 3125

(10) WATER LEVELS:

Depth of first water, if known 40-42 ft.Standing level after well completion  ft.

(11) WELL TESTS:

Was well test made? Yes ☒ No ☐ If yes, by whom? WDCType of test Pump ☒ Ball ☐Depth to water at start of test ft At end of test ftFlow 3500 gal/min after 48 hours Water temperature Chemical analysis made? Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, by whom? Was electric log made? Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, attach copy to this report

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30 - 32 gray sandy clay

32 - 40 brown brittle clay

40 - 42 white coarse sand

42 - 50 green brittle blue clay

50 - 58 brown sandy clay

58 - 63 fine sand

63 - 105 coarse sand and gravel to 2"

105 - 112 gravel to 5"

112 - 143 soft gray clay

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Domestic ☐Irrigation ☐Industrial ☐Test Well ☐Other ☐Other ☐Other ☐Other ☐Other ☐

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### 3) Poor pump test and water level data.

Verbal communication



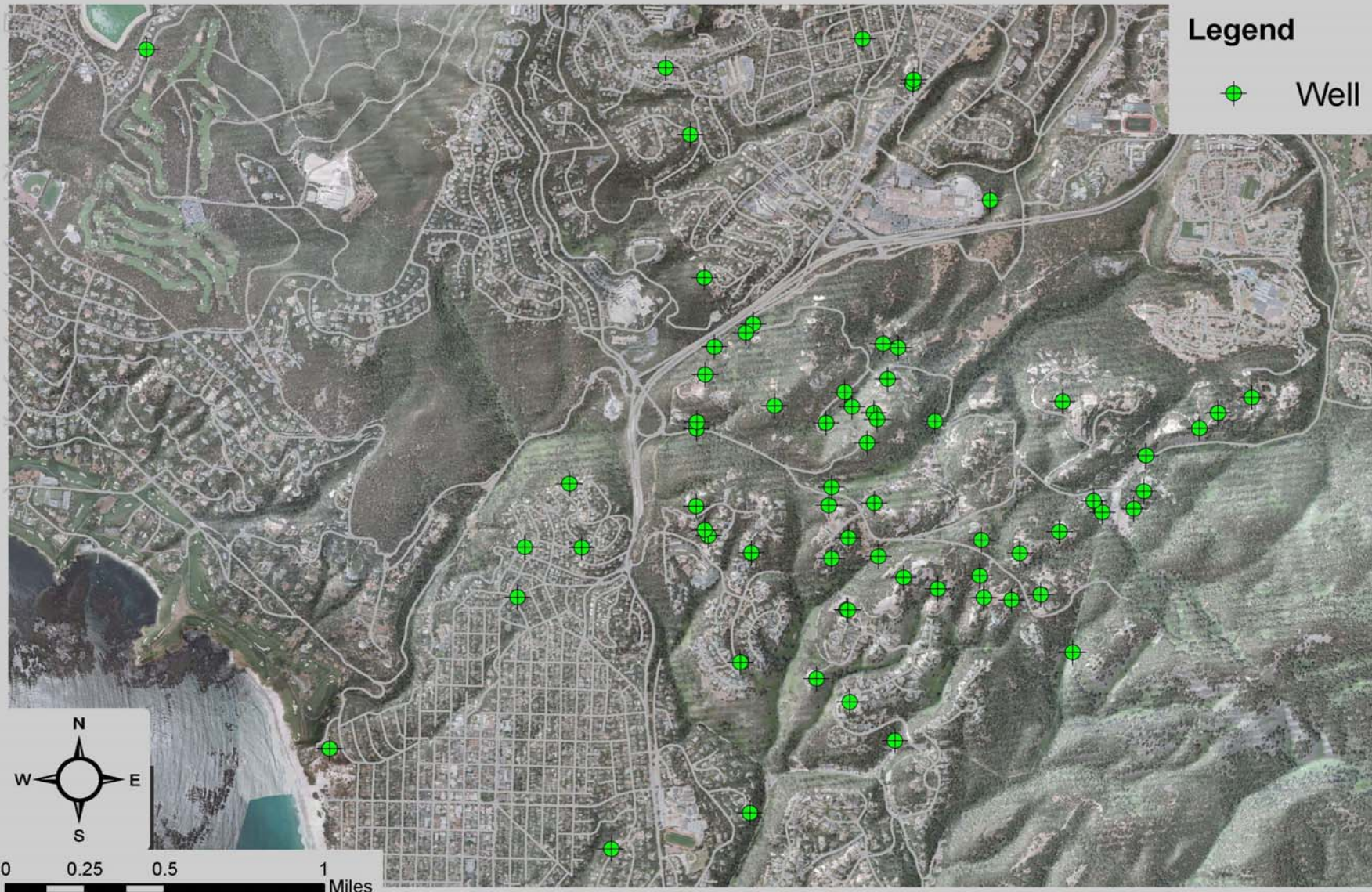
**Location of Wells Within the Pilot  
Fractured Rock Aquifer  
Sustainability Study Area**



**Monterey Peninsula Water  
Management District**

**Legend**

 Well





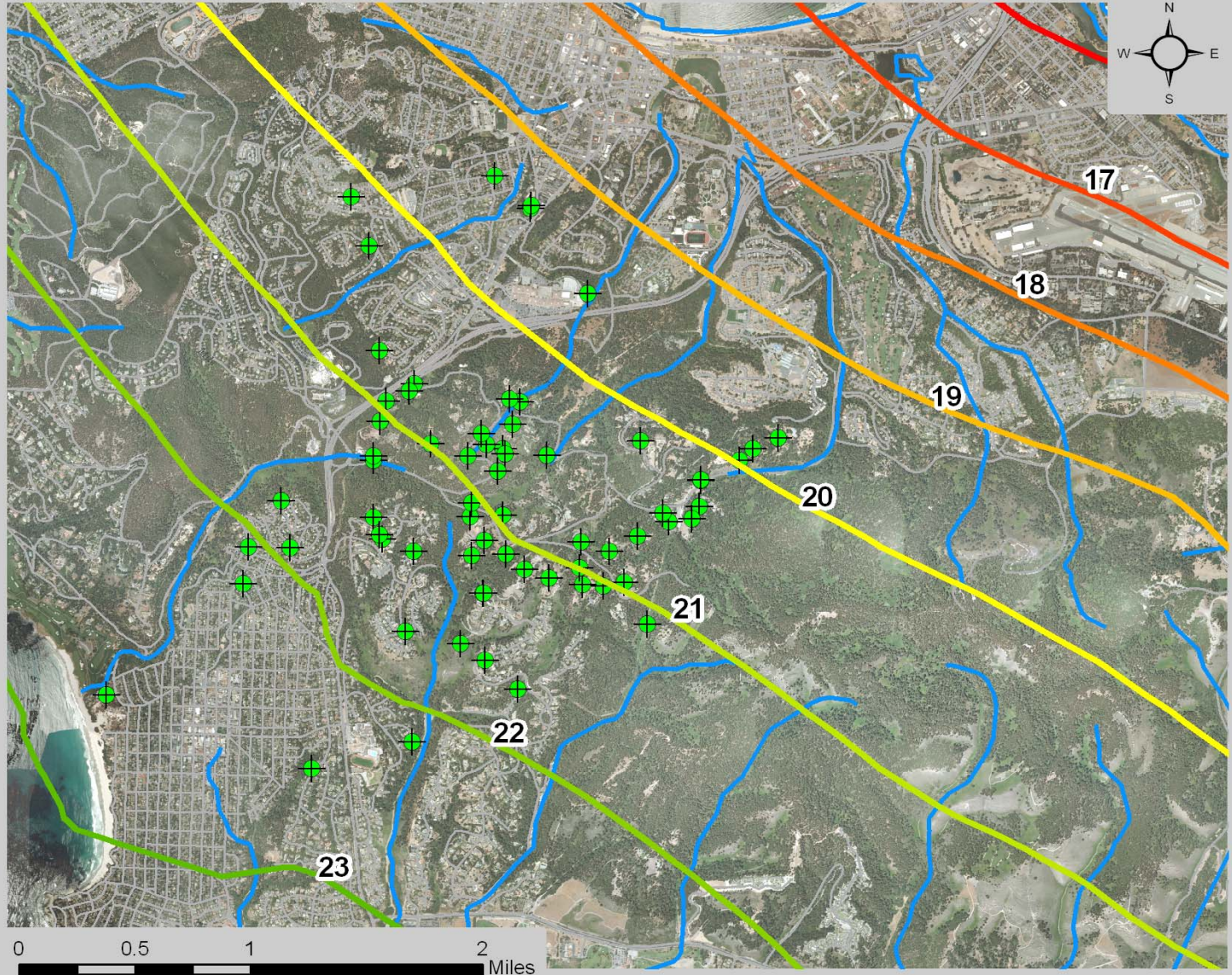
# Annual Average Rainfall within the Fractured Rock Aquifer Well Sustainability Study Area



## Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

### Legend

#### Annual Rainfall inches





# Geologic Map of the Fractured Rock Aquifer Well Sustainability Study Area
















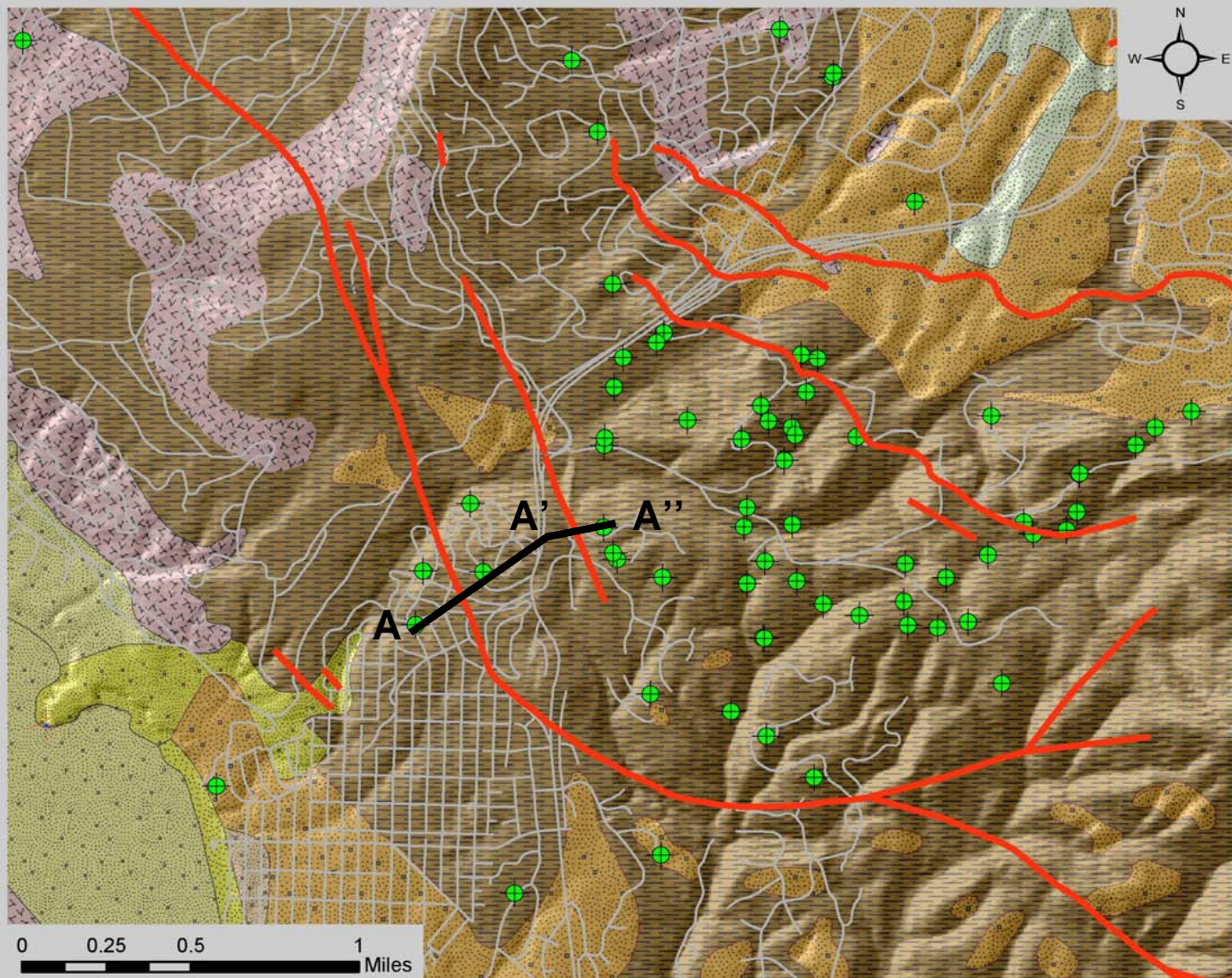
## Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

### Legend

-  Fault
-  Wells

### Geologic Unit

-  Granite
-  Monterey
-  Ov
-  Pc
-  Q
-  QT
-  Qar
-  Qd
-  Landslide
-  Qmt
-  Qo
-  Qod
-  Qs









# Geologic Map of the Fractured Rock Aquifer Well Sustainability Study Area
















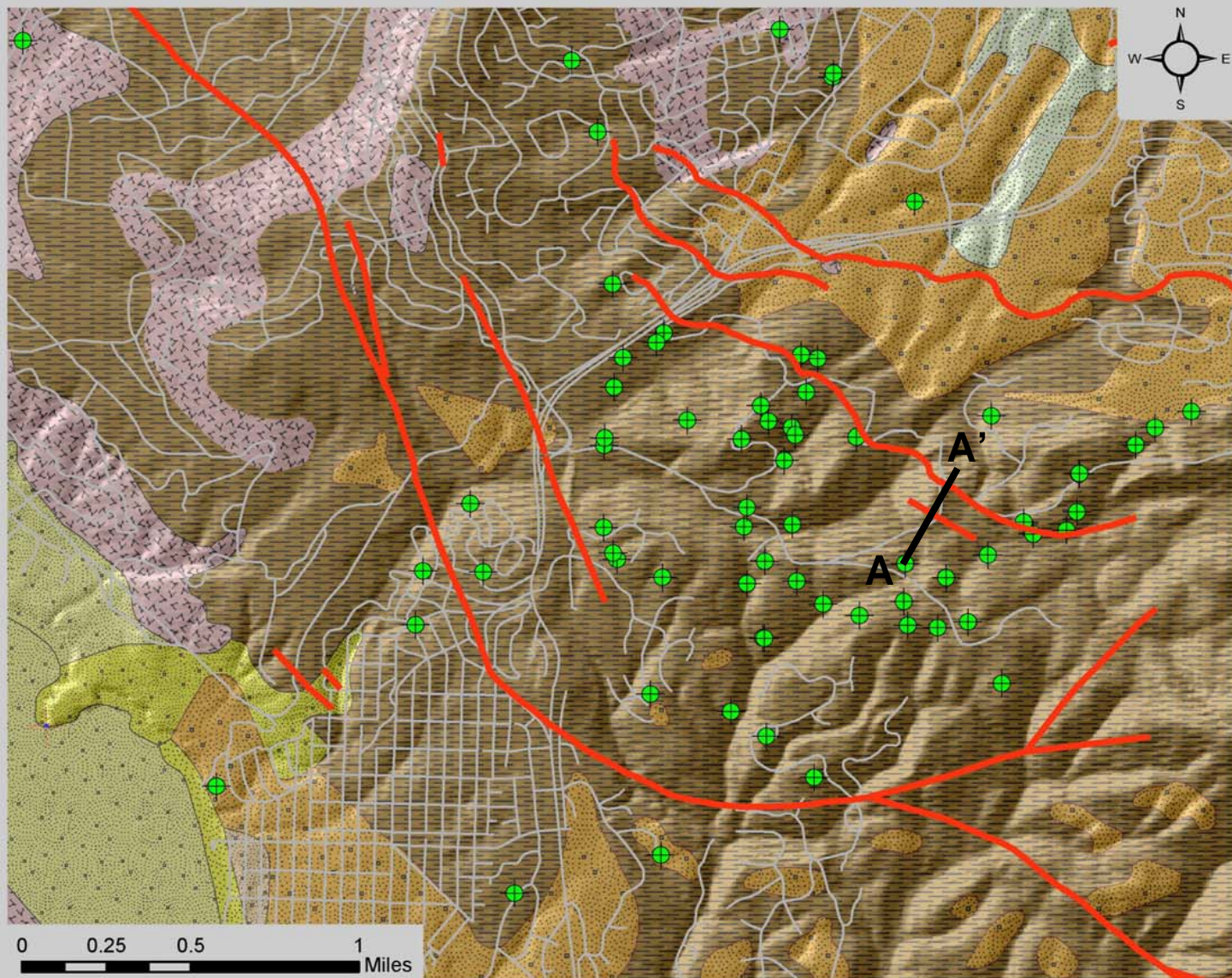
## Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

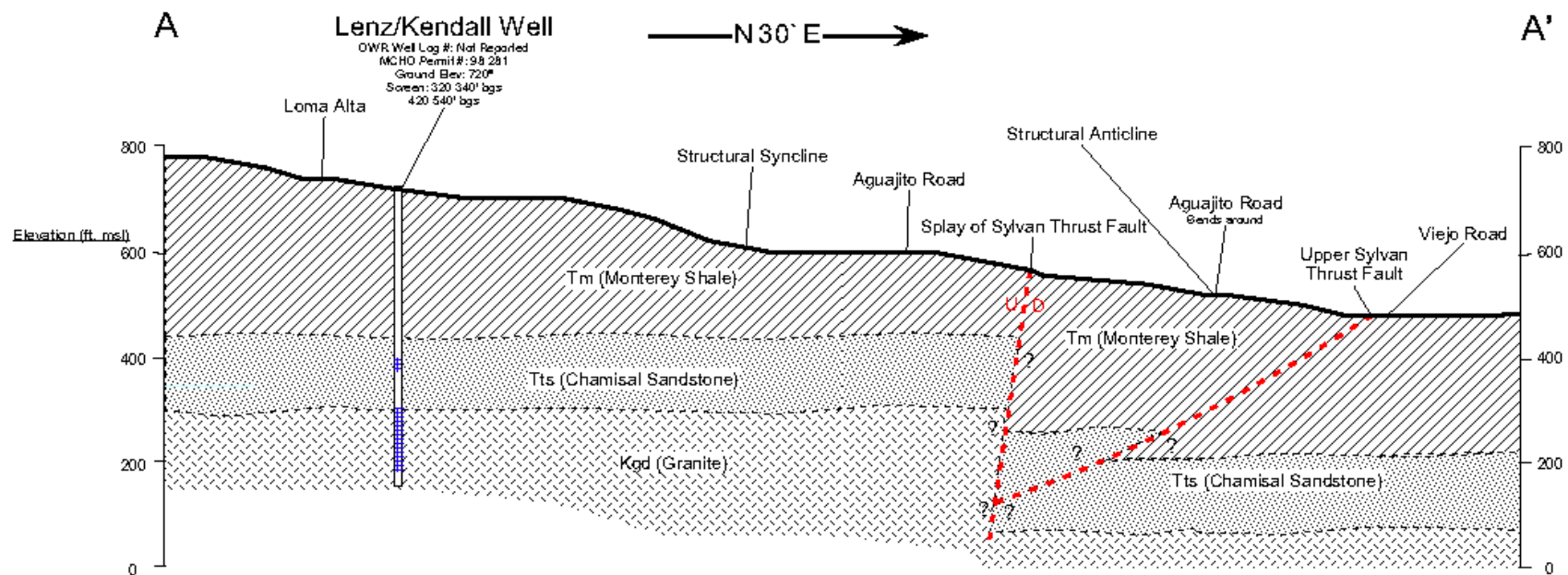
### Legend

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-  Qo
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-  Qs





## EXPLANATION

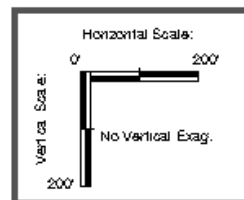
Tm = Monterey Formation (porcelanite) - (Miocene) - Light brown to white, hard, brittle, platy.

Tts = Chamisal Sandstone (Miocene) - Marine deposition; buff to light gray, poorly to well sorted arkosic sandstone, locally friable, locally conglomeratic.

Kgd = Granodiorite to Quartz Monzonite Basement Complex (Cretaceous)

### NOTES:

This geologic cross section is a graphical representation only. Data used to create this cross section was obtained from Geologic Map (Figure 3) and Department of Water Resources Well Completion Report(s) - Appendix A. Faults (if applicable): Actual fault offset, and dip is uncertain. Fault motion is correct.





# Screened Interval Geology of wells within the Fractured Rock Aquifer Well Sustainability Study

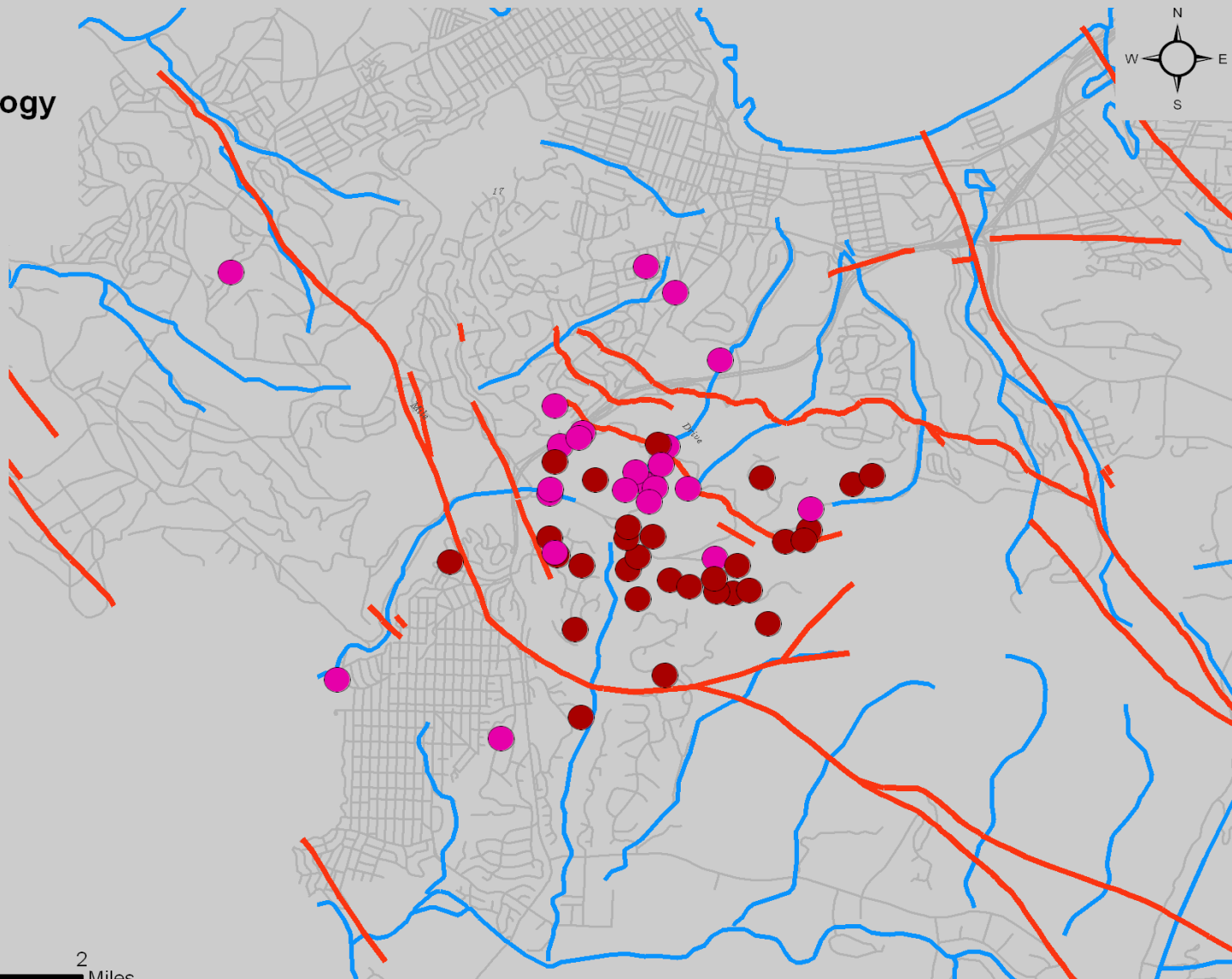


## Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

### Legend

#### Well Screen Lithology

- Granite
- Monterey Shale



0 0.5 1 2  
Miles

# Drill dates for well within the Fractured Rock Aquifer Well Sustainability Study Area

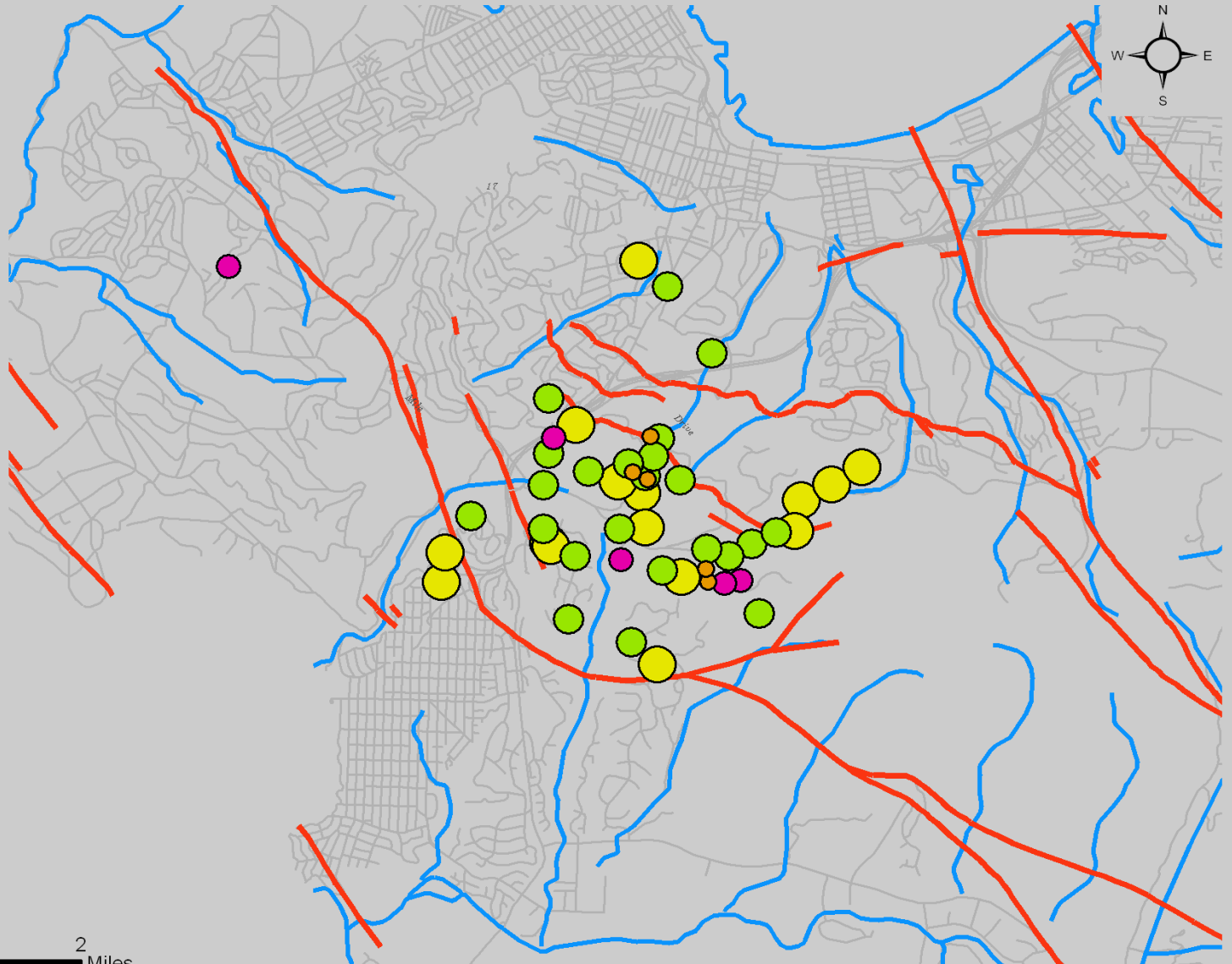


## Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

### Legend

#### Drill Date

- Pre 1985
- 1985 - 1995
- 1996 - 2003
- 2004 - 2009



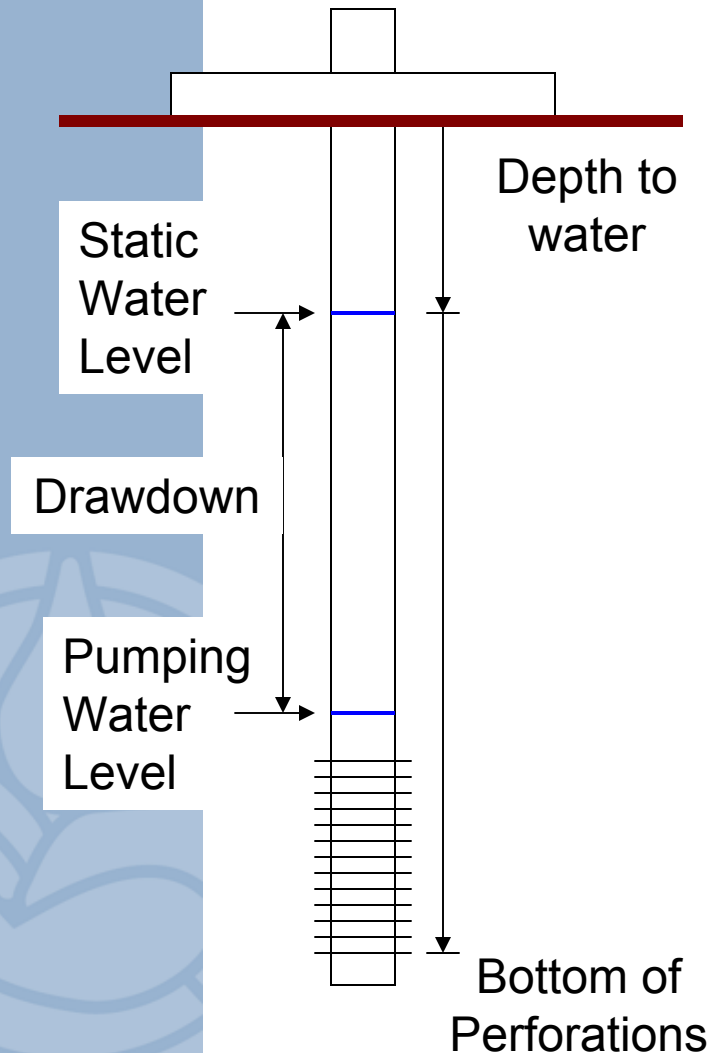
0 0.5 1 2 Miles

# Well Performance – Aquifer Quality

Pumping tests are performed upon well completion to calculate the ability of well to produce water.

- MPWMD water distribution system permits require 72 hour pumping tests during permitting process
  - Good quality data
  - Accurate aquifer parameters
  - Consistent methodology
  - Poor geographic coverage
- DWR pumping test
  - Data often incomplete
  - Can not be used to calculate aquifer parameters
  - Inconsistent methods
  - Good geographical coverage

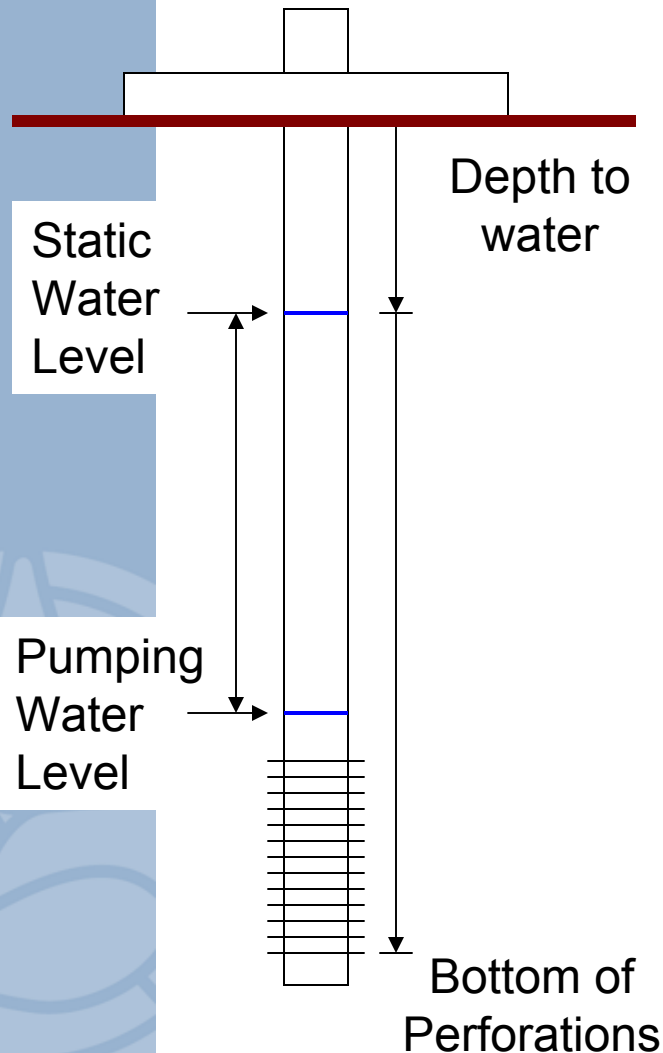
# MPWMD Well Yield Calculation for Water Distribution System Permit



- **Available Drawdown** =  $1/3$   
(depth to bottom of perforations – Static Water Level)
- **Specific Capacity**<sup>1</sup> = GPM / Drawdown
- **Calculated well yield** = Specific Capacity<sup>1</sup> \* Available Drawdown
- Poor Geographical Coverage

1. Specific Capacity calculated from first 24 hours of 72 hour pumping test.

# DWR Drawdown Ratio



- Driller reports often do not report drawdown associated with pumping tests.
- In an attempt to normalize flow rate data reported on Drillers logs with depth, we created a “Drawdown Ratio.”
- **Drawdown Ratio** =  $\text{GPM} / (\text{Static Water Level} - \text{Depth to Bottom of Screens})$
- Good Geographical Coverage

# Drawdown Ratios within the Fractured Rock Aquifer Well Sustainability Study Area



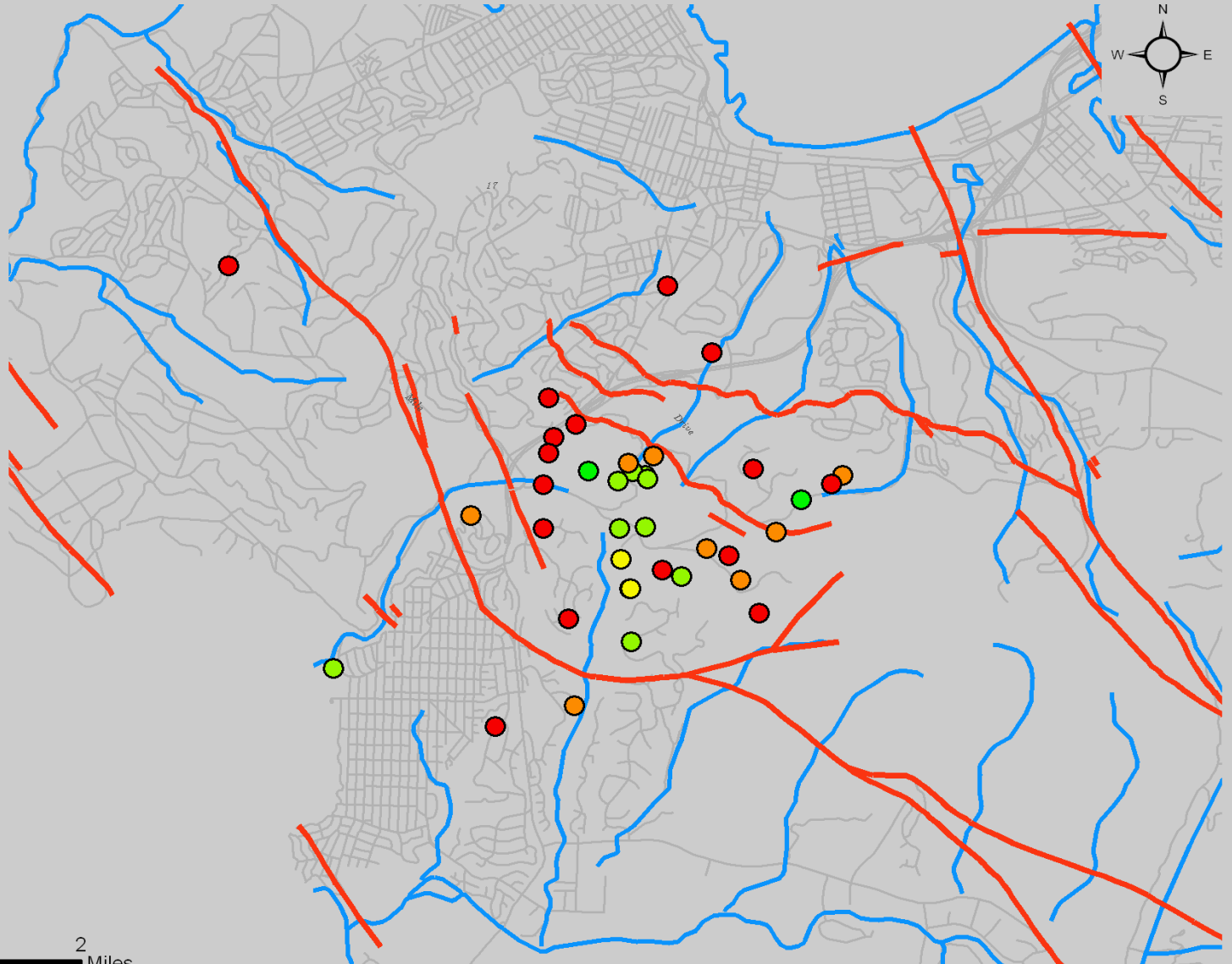
## Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

### Legend

#### Drawdown Ratio

gpm/ft

- 0 - 0.25
- 0.26 - 0.65
- 0.66 - 1.0
- 1.1 - 2.5
- 2.6 - 4



# Predicted Drawdown Ratios within the Fractured Rock Aquifer Well Sustainability Study Area



## Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

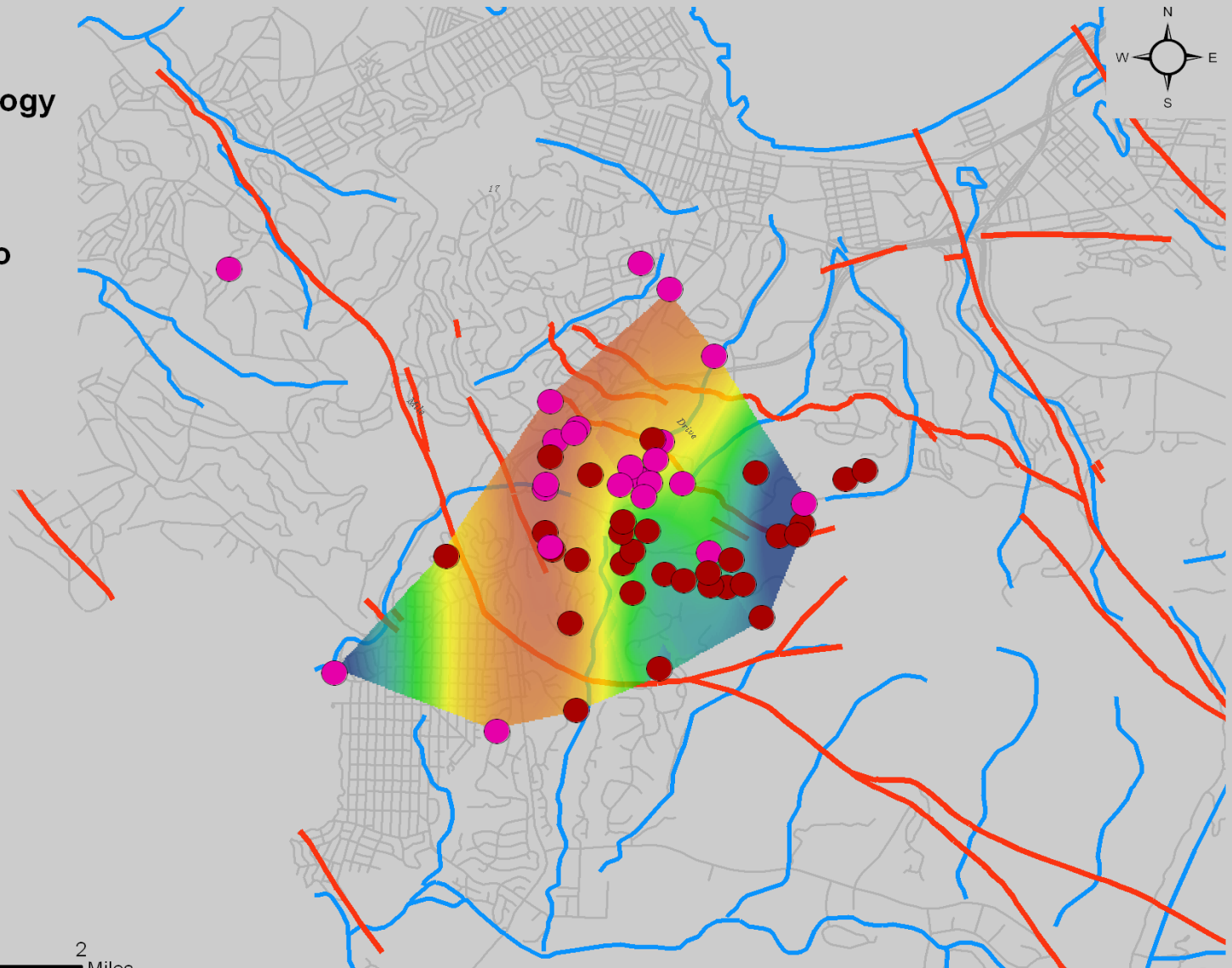
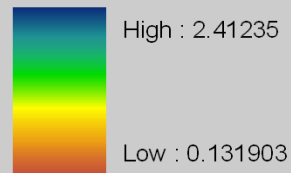
### Legend

#### Well Screen Lithology

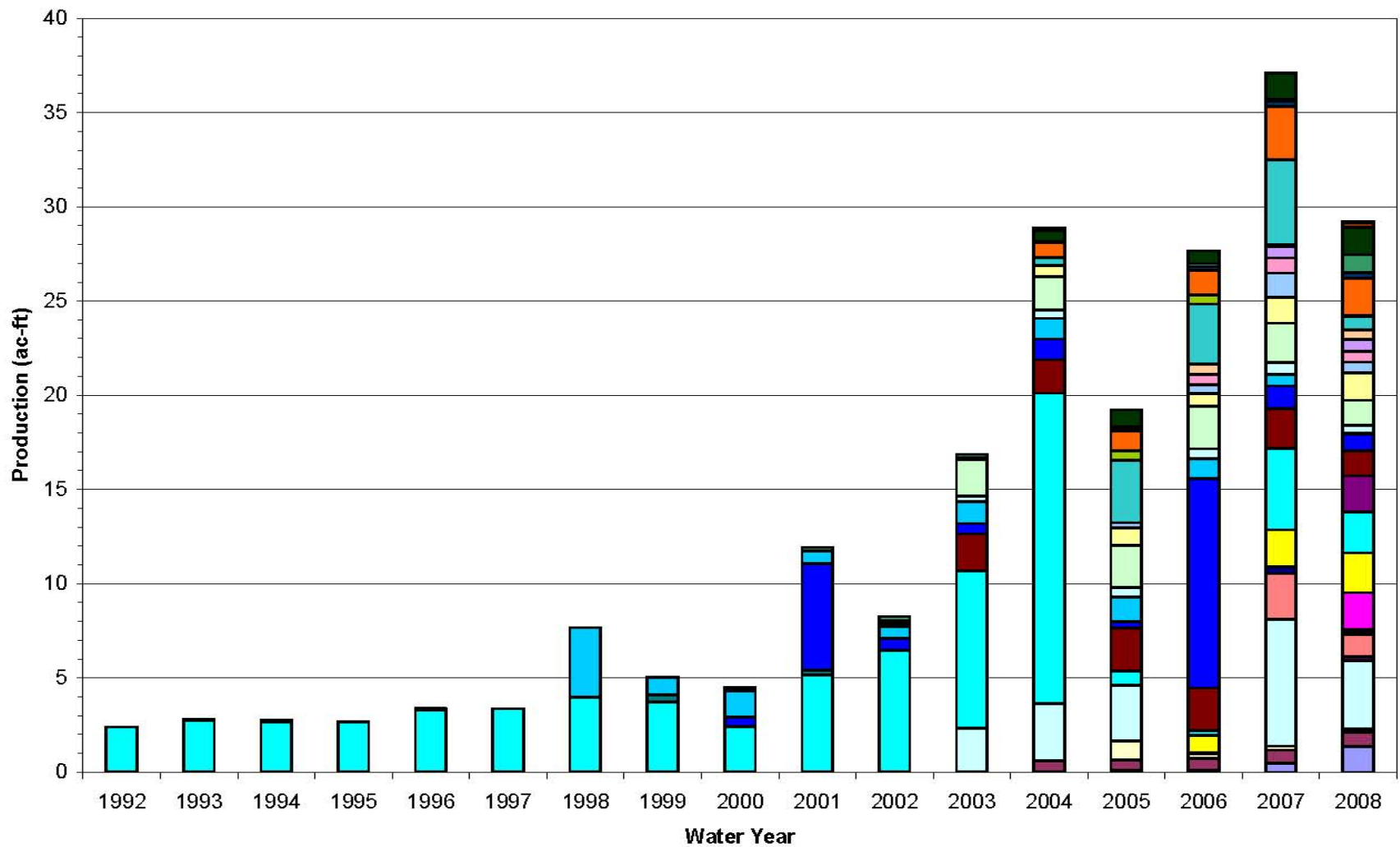
- Granite
- Monterey Shale

#### Predicted DD Ratio

GPM/ft







**Monterey Peninsula  
Water Management District**

**Production History by Water Year within the Pilot  
Fractured Rock Aquifer Sustainability Area**



# Average Annual Production within the Fractured Rock Aquifer Well Sustainability Study Area



## Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

### Legend

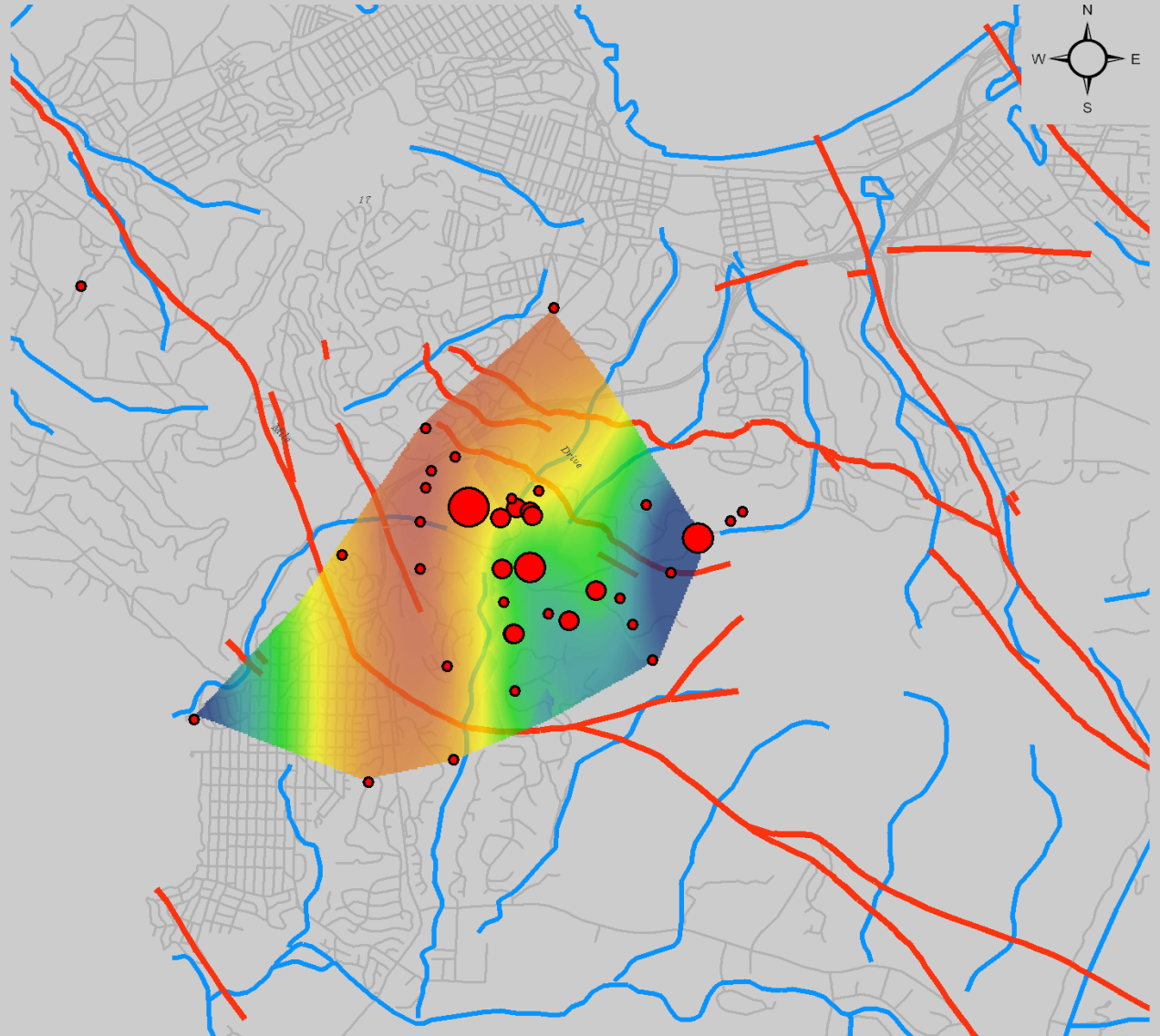
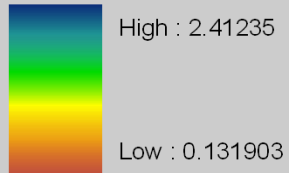
#### Average Annual Production

Acre-feet



#### Predicted DD Ratio

GPM/ft



# Total Recorded Production within the Fractured Rock Aquifer Well Sustainability Study Area



## Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

### Legend

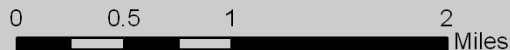
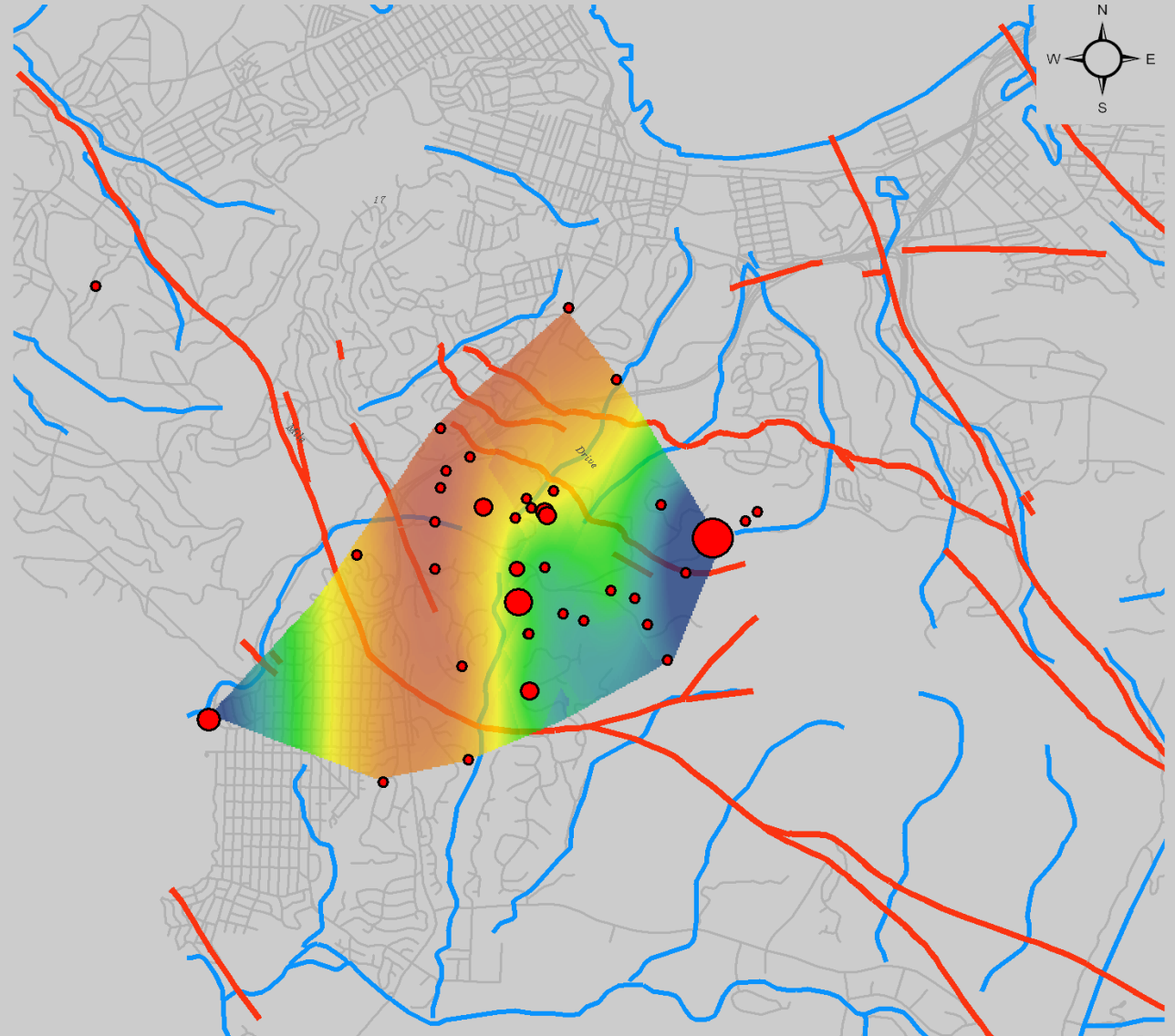
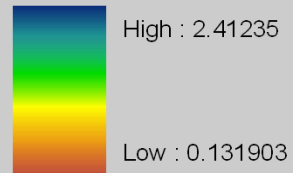
#### Total Recorded Production

##### Total



#### Predicted DD Ratio

##### GPM/ft





**Location of Wells Within the Pilot  
Fractured Rock Aquifer  
Sustainability Study Area**



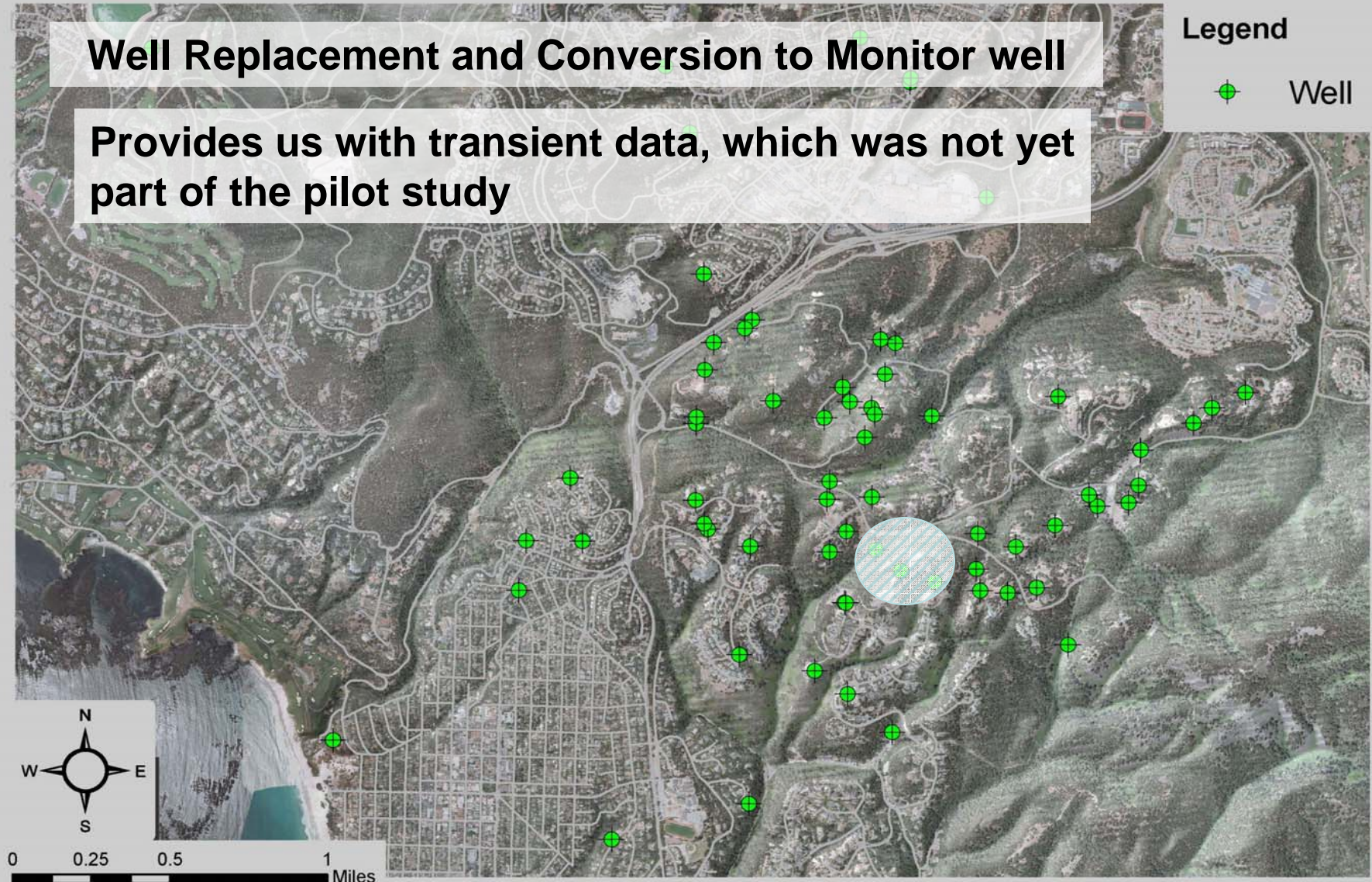
**Monterey Peninsula Water  
Management District**

**Well Replacement and Conversion to Monitor well**

**Provides us with transient data, which was not yet  
part of the pilot study**

**Legend**

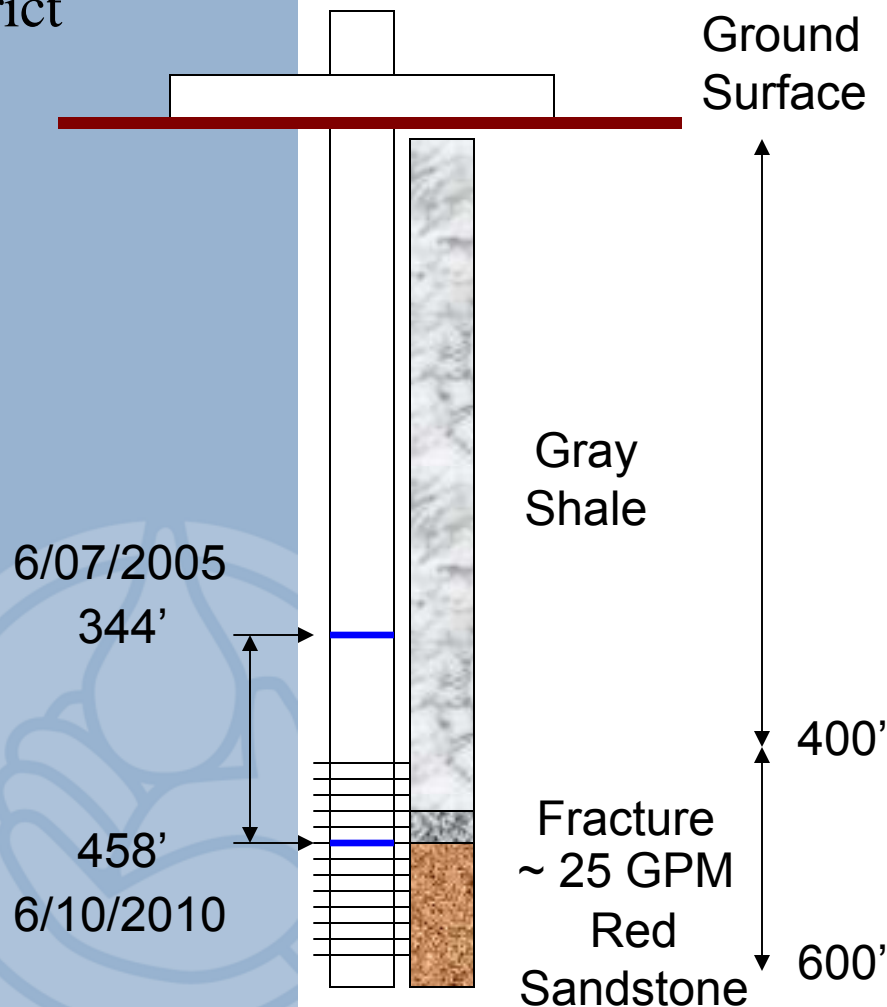
● Well



Monterey Peninsula  
Water  
Management  
District

## Data from Monitor well

- Drilled as Production well in 6/2005
- 72 hour pump test completed as requirement for WDS permit.
- Well produced 6.2 GPM over the test and pumping water level was 19 feet below static.
- An observation well 550 feet from the pumping well was monitored and considered to be hydrogeologically disconnected from the pumping well.
- In June 2005 static water level was 344 feet BGS compared to June 2010 when static water level was measured to be 459 feet BGS.
- A total of 4.5 acre-feet was produced from the well between 2005 and 2010.
- A replacement well has been drilled 500 feet from the monitoring well and is not hydrogeologically connected to the monitor well.





## Conclusions drawn from monitor well data:

- Performance of well observed during pump test indicated good quality fractured rock aquifer.
- Wells spaced more than 500 feet from one another are not hydrogeologically connected.
- 4.5 acre feet was produced from the well and 114 feet of water level decline was observed.
- Well was not an adequate for the long term water supply demand outlined in the WDS permit process.
- Full water level recovery following pump test was not observed and could be a future consideration on evaluating wells during the WDS permit process.



# Pilot Study Conclusions

- Not enough data to determine sustainability in pilot study area;
  - More water table elevation data is necessary to measure changes in storage and timing of recharge,
  - Fracture pattern analysis is necessary to determine preferential groundwater flow paths.
- Cluster of wells with low DWR drawdown Ratio screened in Granitic Bedrock.
- Wells screened in Monterey formation have a higher DWR drawdown ratio than wells screened in Granitic Basement in the Pilot Study Area.
- Average annual production in study area has increased from 5 acre-feet in 2000 to 35 acre-feet in 2009.

# Recommendations

- Pilot Study Recommendations
  - Complete bedrock mapping and fracture analysis for fracture patterns in Pilot Study Area.
  - Instrument wells available for monitoring within the Pilot Study Area.
- District Wide Recommendations
  - Undertake tasks completed in Pilot Study Area in all fractured rock regions of the District to Identify areas of;
    - poor producing wells,
    - high or quickly increasing annual production
  - Add ongoing water level monitoring requirements to the Water Distribution System Process.
  - Instrument wells available for monitoring within fractured rock regions of the District.
  - Apply for grant opportunities.

