

Update to Cochise  
Conservation and Recharge  
Network Groundwater  
Modeling Scenarios

November 28, 2018



Cochise Conservation  
& Recharge Network

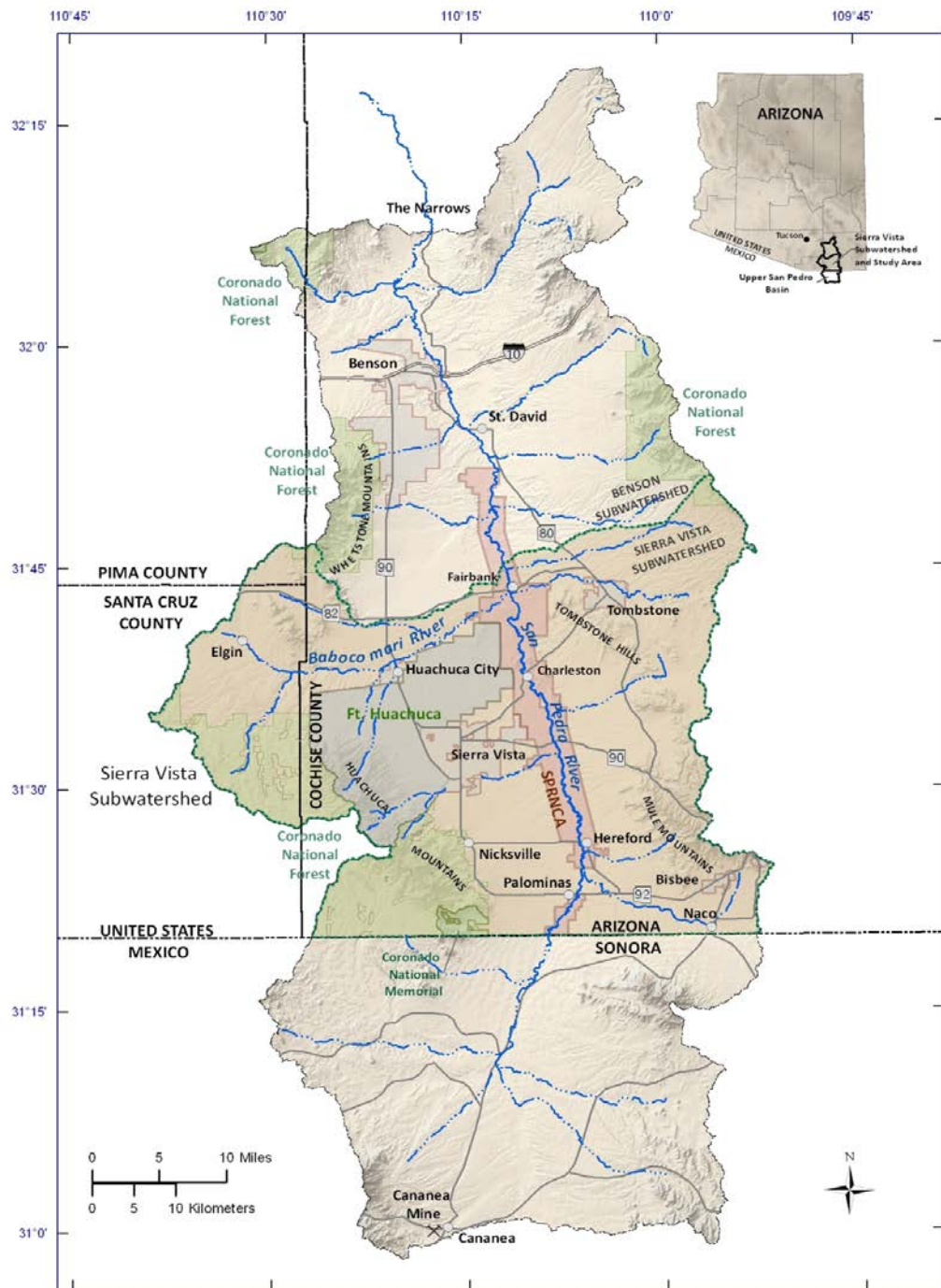
# VERSION NOTES:

- This presentation has been edited in response to questions and clarifications requested at the 11/28/18 Tech Comm meeting.
- Additional background information about the model development has also been added for context.

# Where we've come from

- ADWR's Rural Watershed Initiative fostered the establishment of the **Upper San Pedro Partnership in 1998**, with 21 local, state and federal member agencies (<http://uppersanpedropartnership.org/>)
- USGS was engaged as the honest broker for development of a shared groundwater model
- Sustainable yield was targeted as part of 2004 Defense Authorization Act, Section 321

★ The key question: What “no regrets” projects or policies could be implemented to not only reduce the existing annual deficit, but also address the ***cumulative impact*** of historic, current, and future pumping on the river?



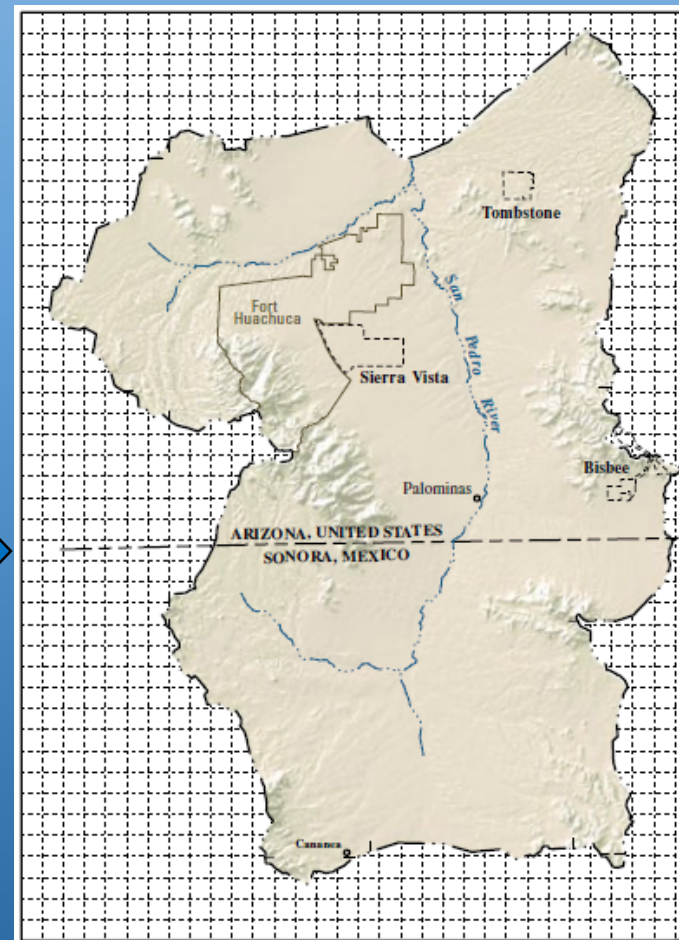
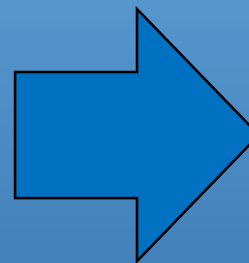
Courtesy of the USGS

## Ground-Water Flow Model of the Sierra Vista Subwatershed and Sonoran Portions of the Upper San Pedro Basin, Southeastern Arizona, United States, and Northern Sonora, Mexico

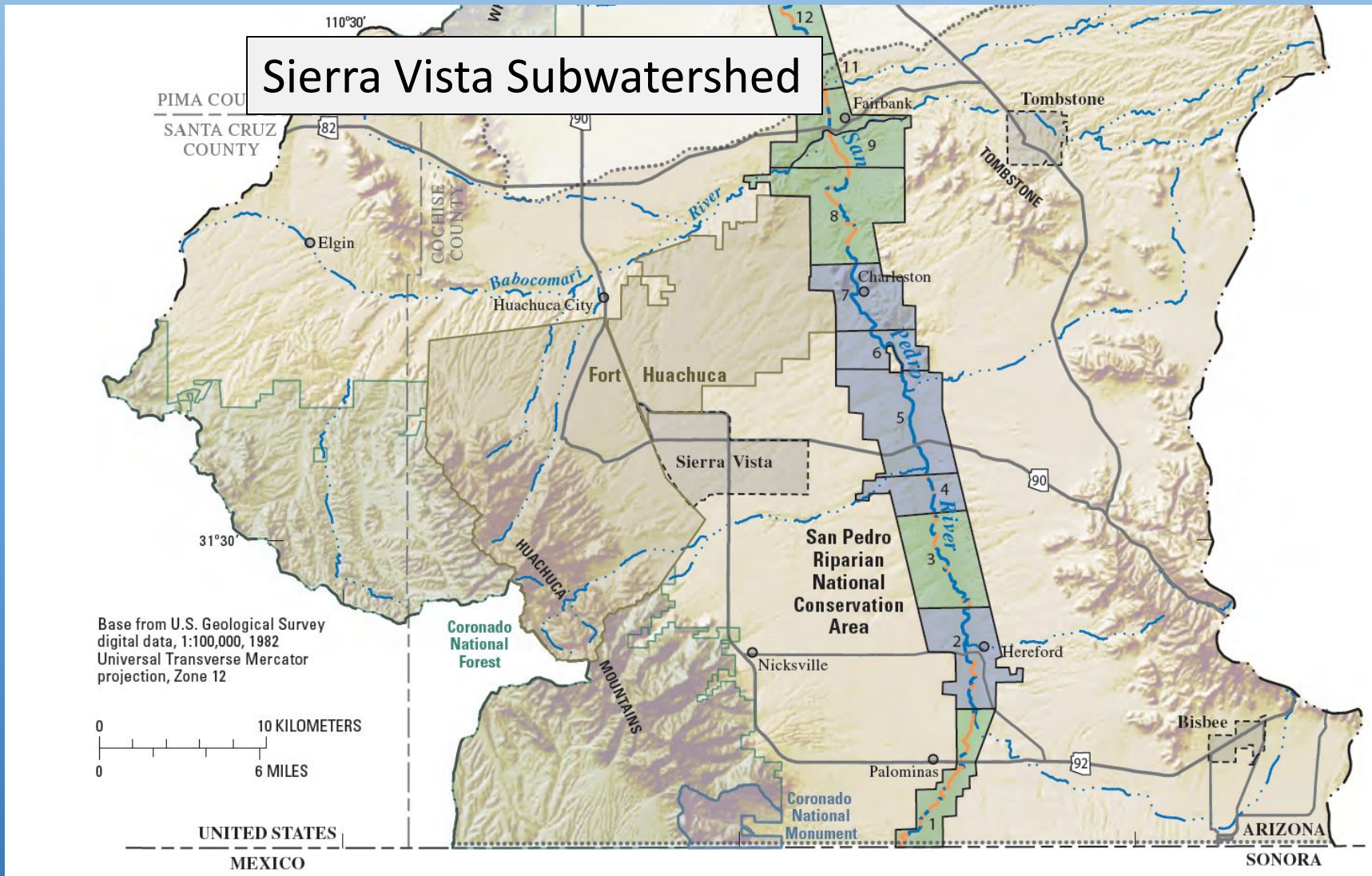
USGS Scientific Investigations Report 2006–5228

By D.R. Pool and Jesse E. Dickinson

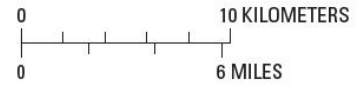
<https://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2006/5228/>



# Sierra Vista Subwatershed



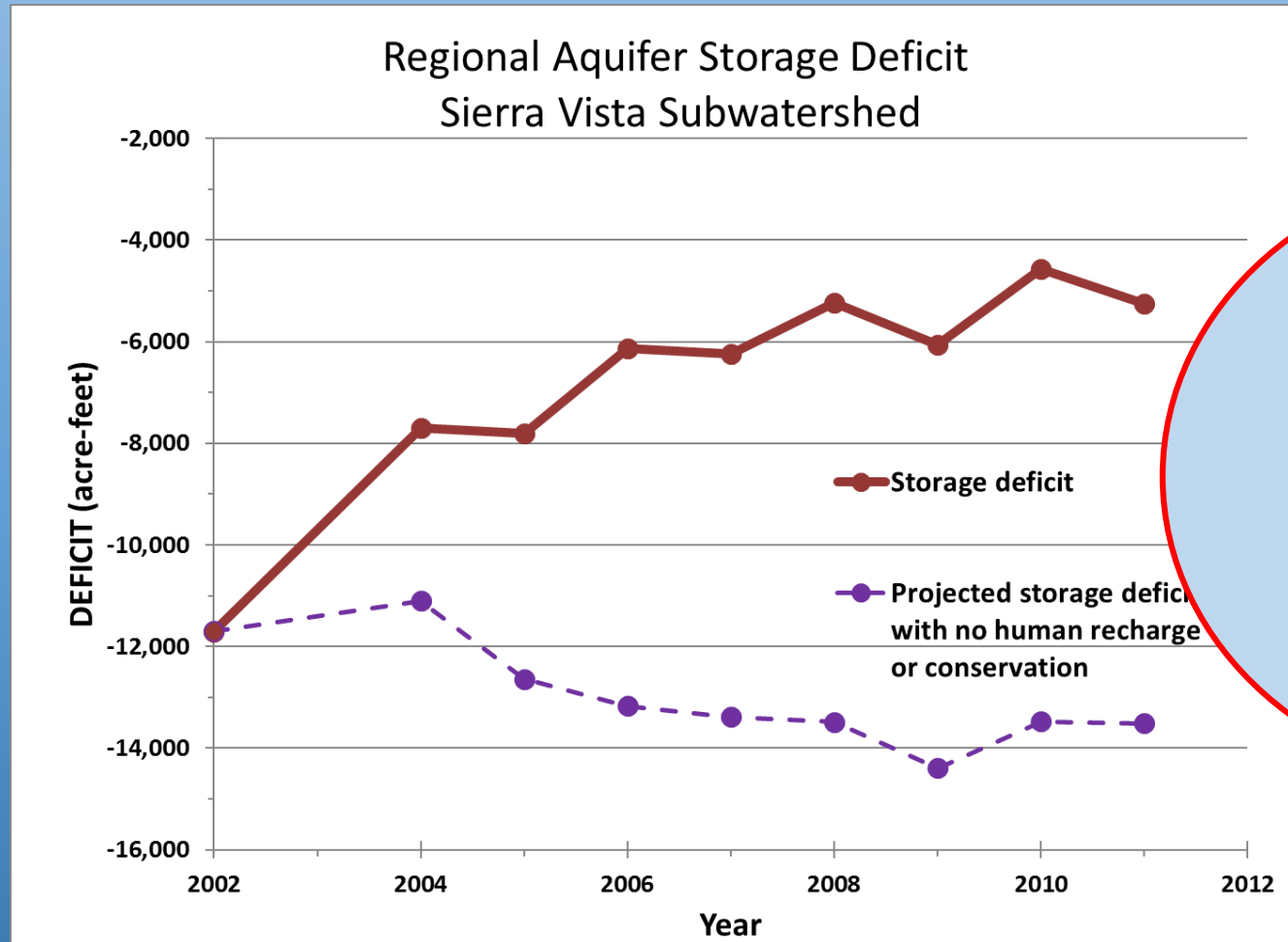
Base from U.S. Geological Survey digital data, 1:100,000, 1982  
Universal Transverse Mercator projection, Zone 12



UNITED STATES  
MEXICO

ARIZONA  
SONORA

# Demand Reduction Measures



Water Budget Approach Did Not Meet Spatially Relevant Needs of River

Source: Upper San Pedro Partnership, 2013, *Water management of the regional aquifer in the Sierra Vista Subwatershed, Arizona—2011 report to Congress: Washington, D.C., U.S. Department of Interior, 16 p.*

<http://uppersanpedropartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/2011321ReportDRAFT05-07-13.pdf>

# Hydrologic Requirements of and Consumptive Ground-Water Use by Riparian Vegetation along the San Pedro River, Arizona

Maintaining  
Alluvial  
Groundwater is  
Critical to  
Supporting  
Riparian Habitat

Scientific Investigations Report 2005—5163

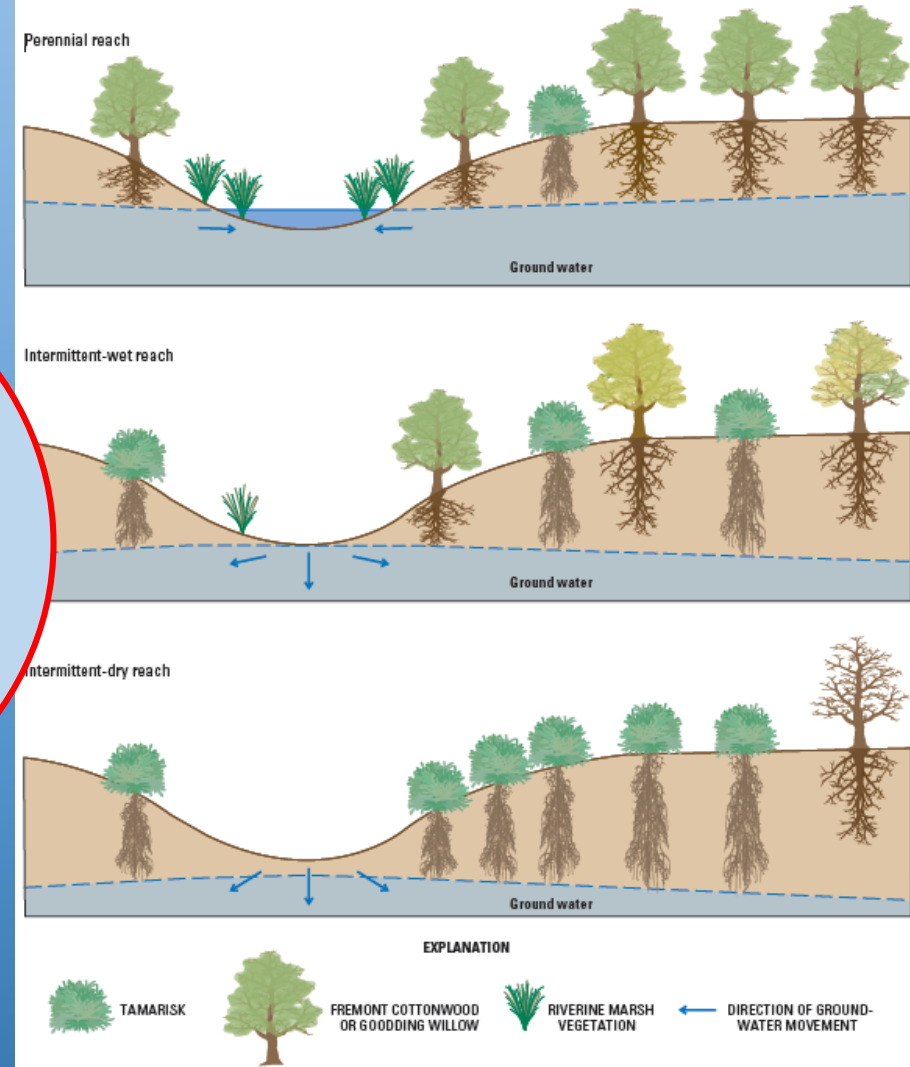


Figure 41. Schematic diagram depicting the three major hydrologic reach types and corresponding vegetation patterns along the Upper San Pedro River, Upper San Pedro Basin, Arizona.



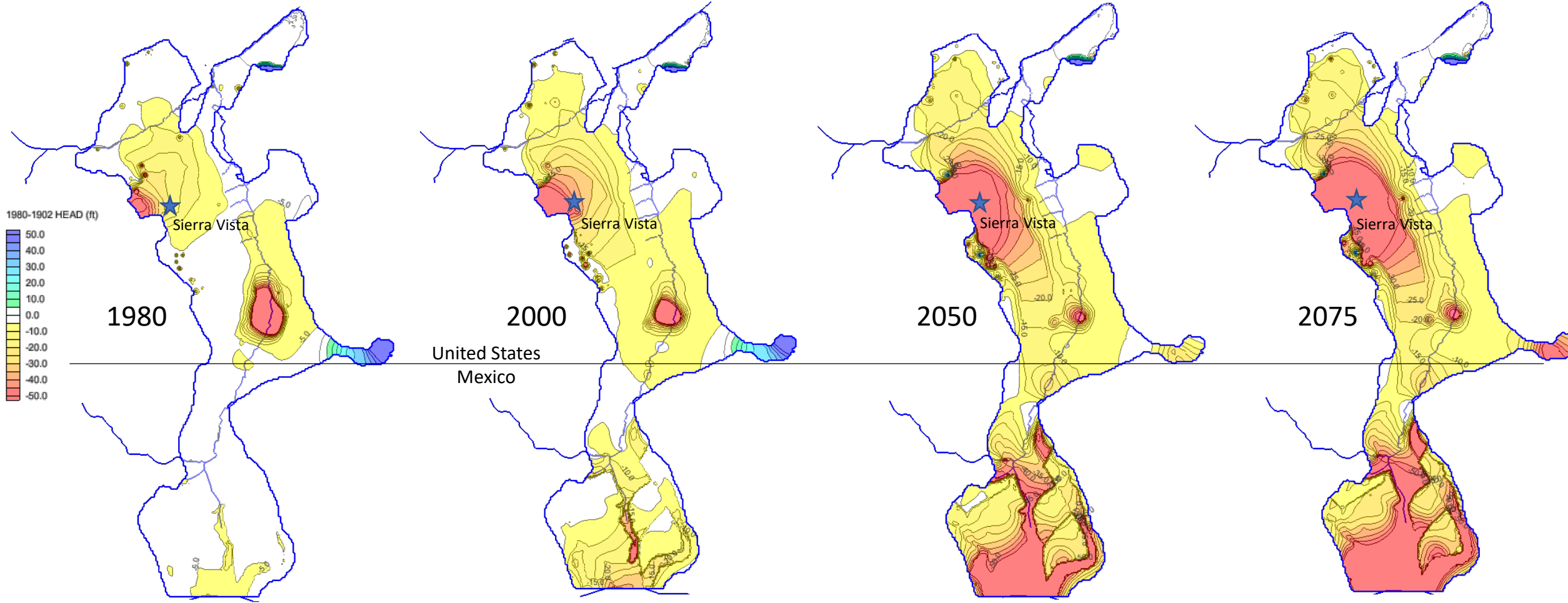
-Challenge &  
Vision  
-Model  
Development  
-Model  
Scenarios.





# CCRN Challenge and Vision...

# Simulated Drawdown in Regional Aquifer of Upper San Pedro Basin (ft)





**WHO:** Sierra Vista, Bisbee, Cochise County,  
Hereford Natural Resources Conservation District,  
The Nature Conservancy

**WHAT:** Implement network of recharge projects  
to meet environmental, social, economic needs

**WHERE:** 7 sites totaling 6,344 acres along 25 miles  
of the river

<https://ccrnsanpedro.org/>

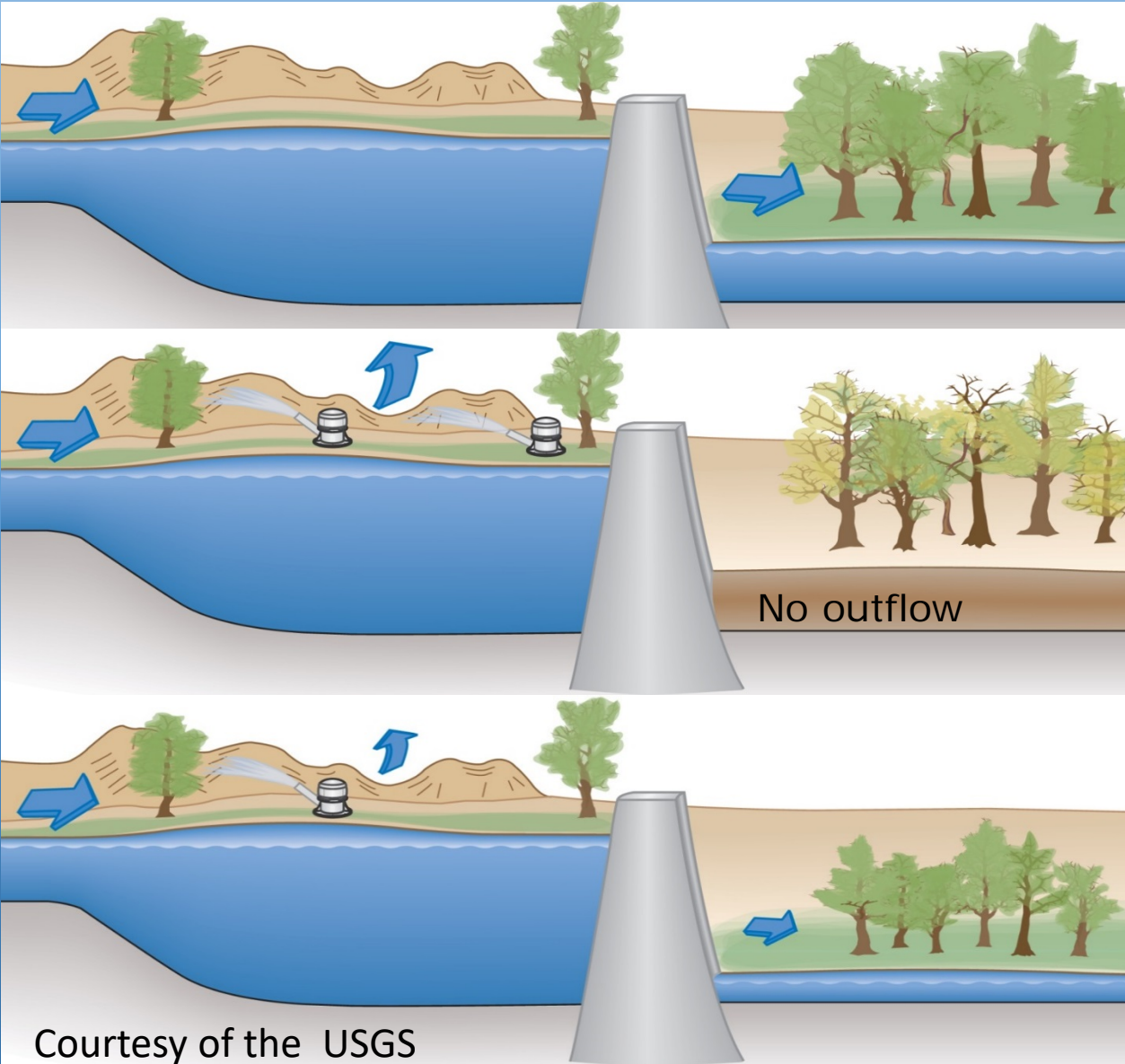
# Sustainable Yield of Groundwater

Development and use of groundwater in a manner that can be maintained for an indefinite time without causing unacceptable environmental, economic, or social consequences

*-U.S. Geological Survey, 1999*

<https://pubs.usgs.gov/circ/circ1186/pdf/circ1186.pdf>

# SUSTAINABLE YIELD



No Pumping

**Safe Yield**  
(Pumping=Inflows)

**Sustainable Yield** assumes  
the consequences are  
acceptable

Courtesy of the USGS



# Model Development

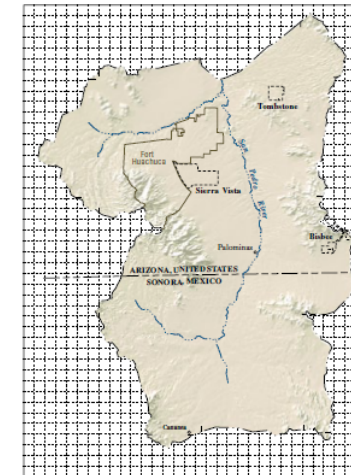
# Upper San Pedro Basin Model

- 250 m x 250 m grid size
- 5-layer MODFLOW model
- 1902-2003 Calibration period
- Published by USGS in 2007
- Updated by Lacher in 2011, 2017 to project pumping and recharge out to 2100.
- Other minor updates to improve EOP and Bisbee recharge representation and to extend Charleston wash into Bella Vista



Prepared in cooperation with the  
UPPER SAN PEDRO PARTNERSHIP and BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

## Ground-Water Flow Model of the Sierra Vista Subwatershed and Sonoran Portions of the Upper San Pedro Basin, Southeastern Arizona, United States, and Northern Sonora, Mexico



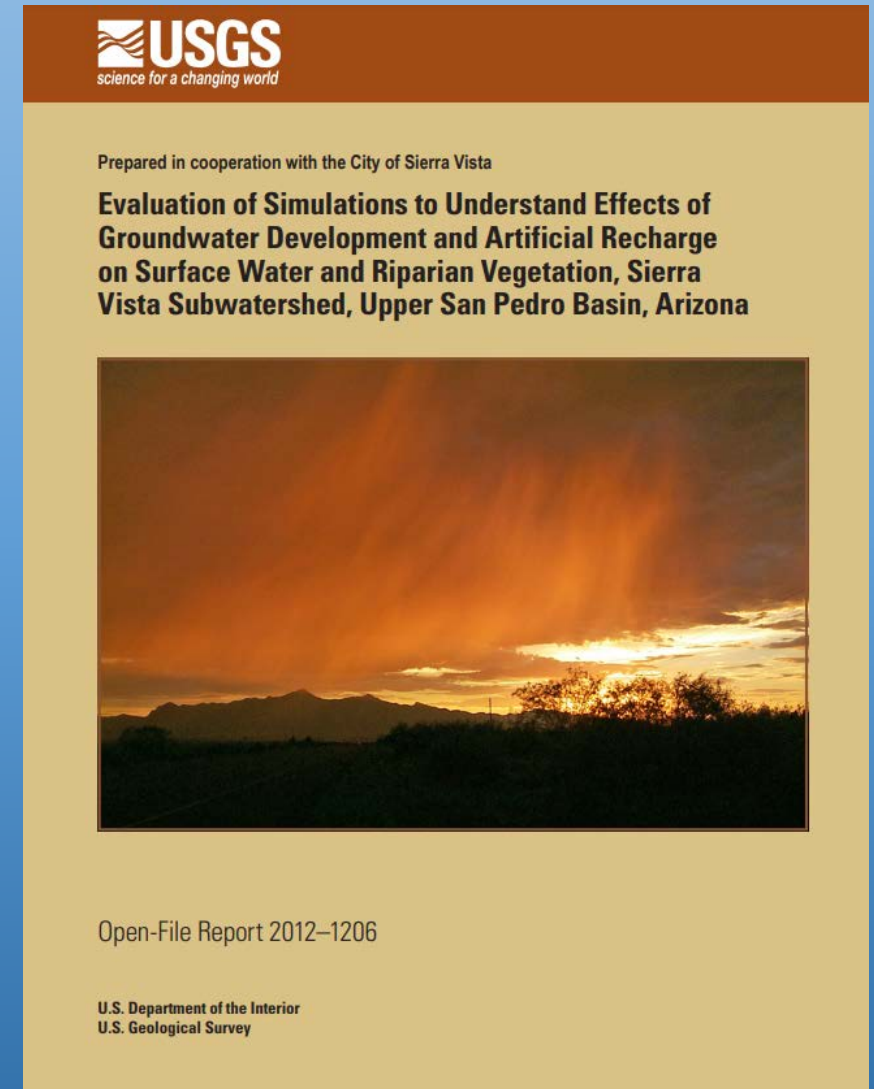
Scientific Investigations Report 2006-5228

U.S. Department of the Interior  
U.S. Geological Survey

<https://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2006/5228/>

# USP Basin Model 2011 Update, USGS Review:

“Lacher made updates and a few corrections to the USGS groundwater flow model. In spite of concerns related to artificial boundary conditions, her applications constitute a reasonable use of the model for basin-wide evaluations of effects for groundwater pumping and artificial recharge.”





# Corrections to pre-2003 USGS model...

Wells Removed from USGS Model	AF (2002)
<b>PUMPING</b>	
Commercial-Industrial	0.00
Fort Huachuca	-43.73
Municipal	-322.95
Stock	0.00
Unused	-171.55
<b>Total Pumping Removed</b>	<b>-538.23</b>
<b>RECHARGE</b>	
Municipal	87.88
Stock	0.00
Unused	19.96
Domestic	-1453.92
Vineyard	0.00
<b>Total Recharge Removed</b>	<b>-1346.08</b>
<b>Net Pumping Removed</b>	<b>-1884.31</b>

Model files: <http://uppersanpedropartnership.org/groundwater-model-dss/>

Report: [http://uppersanpedropartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Update-to-Pumping-Rates-in-Upper-San-Pedro-Basin-Groundwater-Model\\_Feb-2018.pdf](http://uppersanpedropartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Update-to-Pumping-Rates-in-Upper-San-Pedro-Basin-Groundwater-Model_Feb-2018.pdf)



# 2017 Pumping Updates

## Actual/Estimated Pumping:

- Reported Sierra Vista subwatershed (SVS) pumping 2003-2015 from water companies & utilities.
- Estimated unmetered-well pumping for exempt and non-exempt wells (2013).
- Projected Pumping:
- Based on latest (2015) population projections and per-capita water use rates.
  - Muni & domestic only

<http://uppersanpedropartnership.org/groundwater-model-dss/>



# 2017 Recharge Updates

- Incidental Recharge
  - Computed as a fraction of pumping
    - Septic systems (14% of pumping)
    - Irrigation excess water use
- Managed Aquifer Recharge
  - Wastewater treatment
    - EOP (Sierra Vista)
    - Greenbush Draw (Bisbee-Naco)
  - Storm-water
    - Palominas Recharge Project

<http://uppersanpedropartnership.org/groundwater-model-dss/>

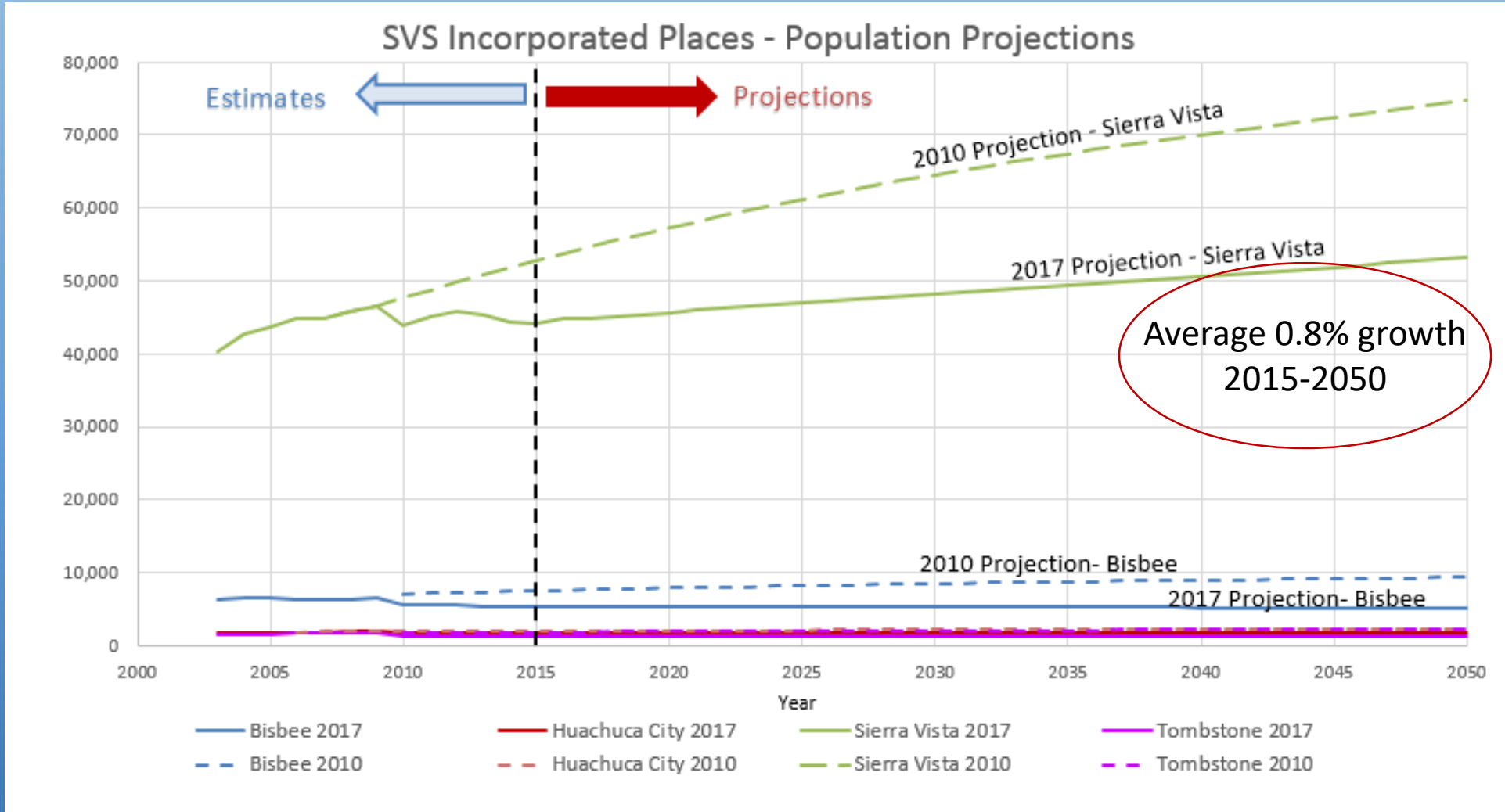
# Not Changed In 2011 or 2017 Updates

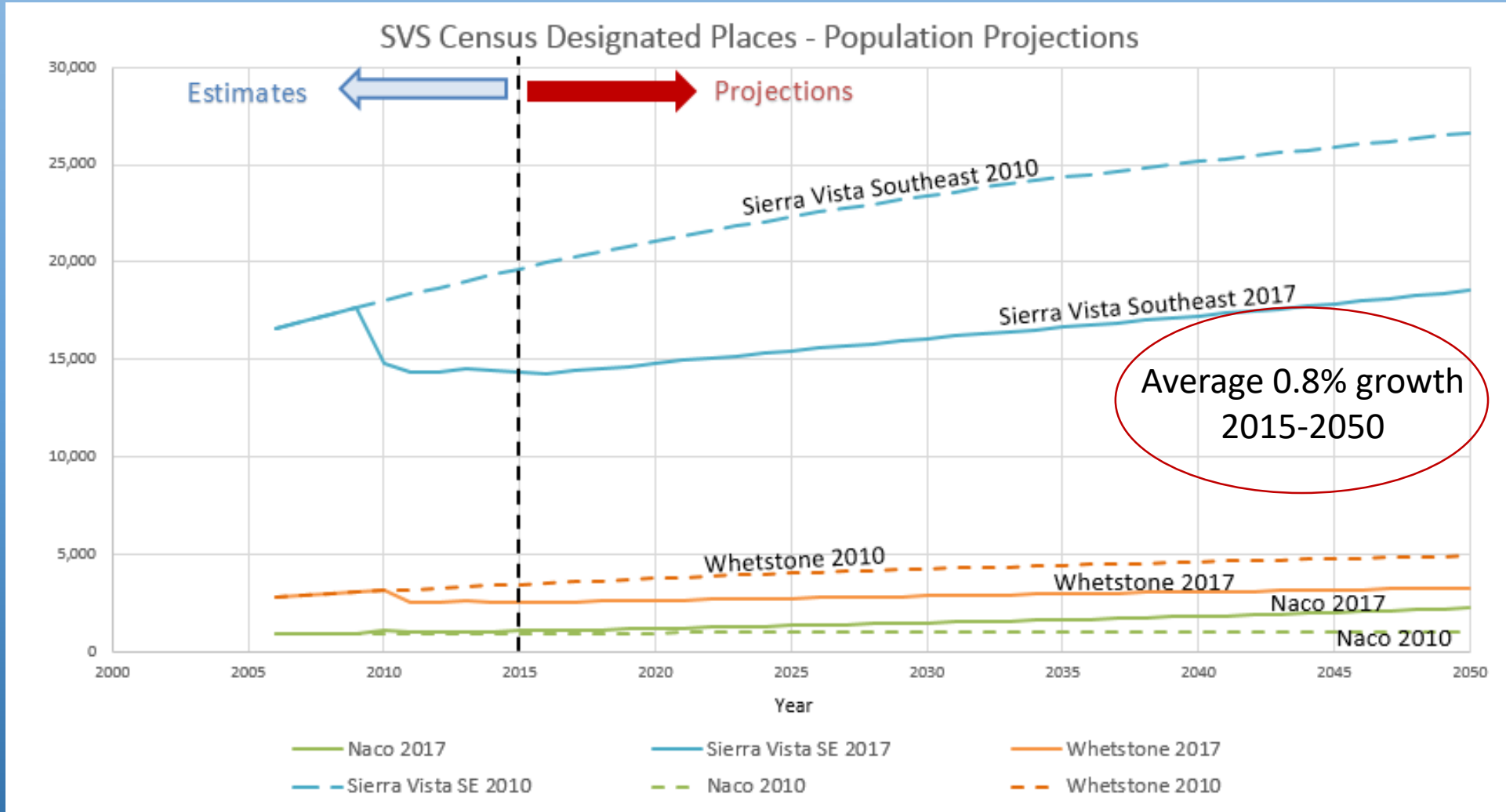
## Pumping

- US Mining & Ag
- All Mexico

## Recharge

- Natural (climate)
- Park areas





## Comparison of Recent Simulated and Estimated Unmetered SVS Pumping (AF)

Unmetered Well Category	Pool & Dickinson (2007) Simulated 2002 Values	Plateau Resources (2013) Estimated 2012 Values <sup>1</sup>		Gungle, et. al (2016) Estimated 2012 Values		Mean of Estimated 2012 Values	Lacher (2017) Simulated 2012 Values
		mean	range	mean	range		
Domestic	1234 <sup>2</sup>	1,250	1135 to 1366	1400 <sup>3</sup>	700 to 2100	1,325	1,216
Commercial-Industrial (including golf courses)	1,388	1,056	1065 to 1070 <sup>4</sup>	983 <sup>5</sup>	900 to 1500 <sup>6</sup>	1,026	1,301
Large Outdoor/Irrigation (excluding golf courses) <sup>7</sup>	413	505	425 to 584	50	0 to 150	317	414
Stock and Other Undefined	1,657	57 <sup>8</sup>	n/a	57 <sup>9</sup>	n/a	57	57
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3,607</b>	<b>2,880</b>	<b>1823.3 to 2042.5</b>	<b>2,650</b>	<b>1600 to 3750</b>	<b>2,725</b>	<b>2,987</b>
State Trust Land	171			n/a			171
Sand & Gravel	307			160			307

### Notes:

1-All estimates from Plateau Resources (2013) except "Stock" value, which is from Hereford NRCD (Upper San Pedro Partnership Tech. Comm., Apr 2014)

2 - Pool & Dickinson (2007) value includes 1180 for "Domestic" and 53 AF of "Undetermined" category in ADWR Well Registry

3- Values include stock estimate of 12 AF

4- 1200 minus 57 for stock and 160 for sand & gravel Includes all rural/exempt-well pumping (stock, comm-industrial, and other outdoor uses)

5- Turf (including golf courses)

6 - Range includes stock plus sand & gravel

7 - Pool & Dickinson (2007) value includes 265 for vineyards and 83 for other irrigation

8 - Plateau Res. (2013) figure is 12 AF for 1 cattle ranch with 900 head

9 - Included in "Commercial-Industrial" in report.

n/a = not applicable

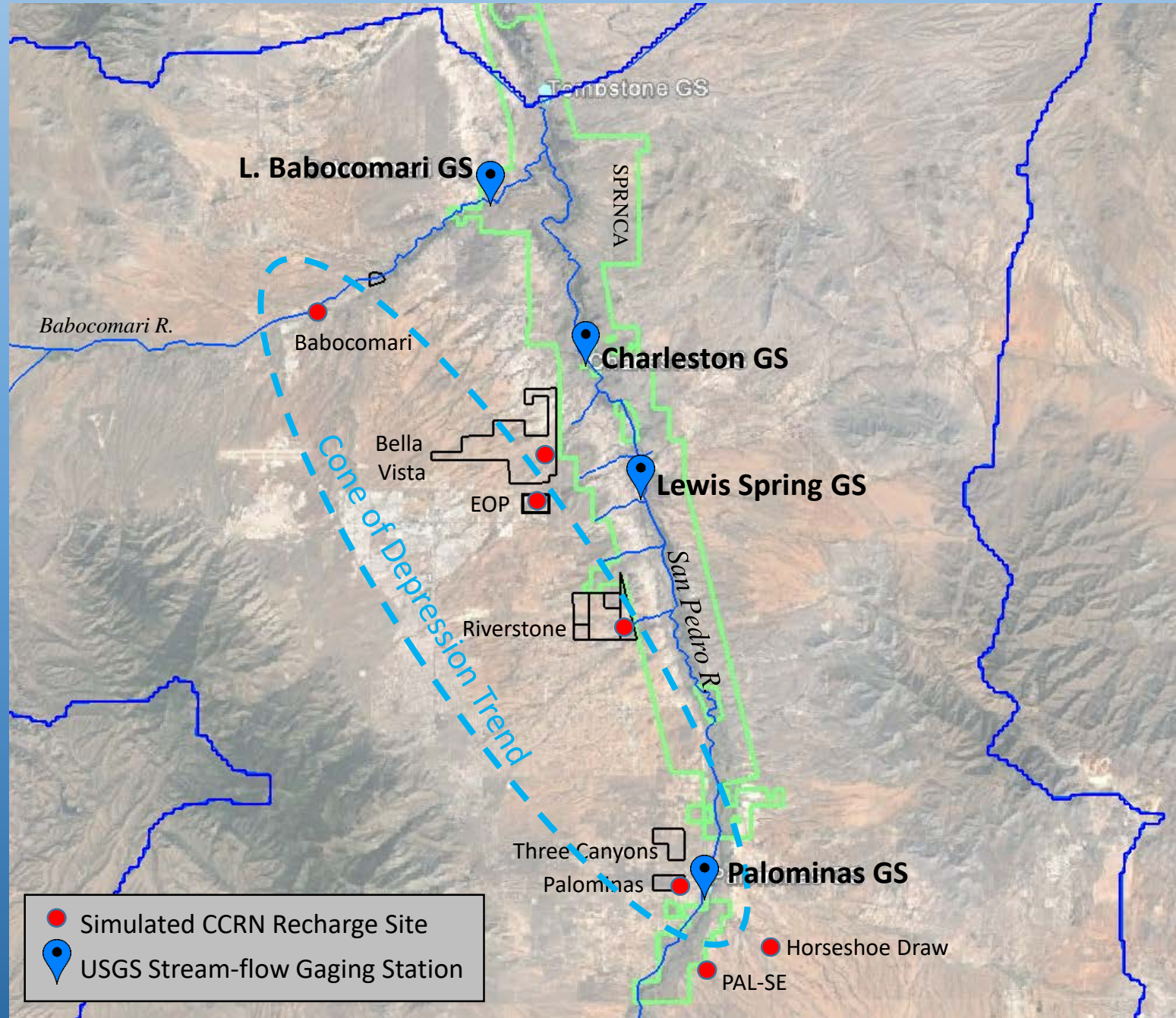
<http://uppersanpedropartnership.org/groundwater-model-dss/>



# CCRN Model Scenario...



# Simulated CCRN Sites and USGS Stream-flow Gaging Stations



## Simulated Managed Aquifer Recharge (2015-2075)

Hypothetical Recharge Scenario	Site	Recharge Rate (AF/yr)	Start	Stop
CCRN Recharge	Babocomari	500*	2020	2075
	EOP Basins	1938	2015	2075
	EOP Wetlands	805	2015	2075
	Bella Vista	500	2020	2075
	Riverstone	400	2025	<b>2040</b>
	Riverstone	800	<b>2040</b>	2075
	Palominas RP	40	2016	2075
	Horseshoe Draw	40	2017	2075
	Palominas SE	428*	2020	2075
Total CCRN Recharge 2020-2039		4651		
Total CCRN Recharge 2040-2075		5051		
No Pumping/No Recharge	EOP Basins	1938	2015	2020
	EOP Wetlands	805	2015	2020
	Horseshoe Draw	40	2017	2020
	Bisbee/Greenbush Draw	280	2015	2020
	Ft Huachuca	716	2015	2020
	Palominas RP	40	2016	2020
Total Recharge 2015-2020		3819		

**GOAL:**  
 Maintain 2003  
 Baseflows  
 at Nearest USGS G.S.

CCRN Recharge

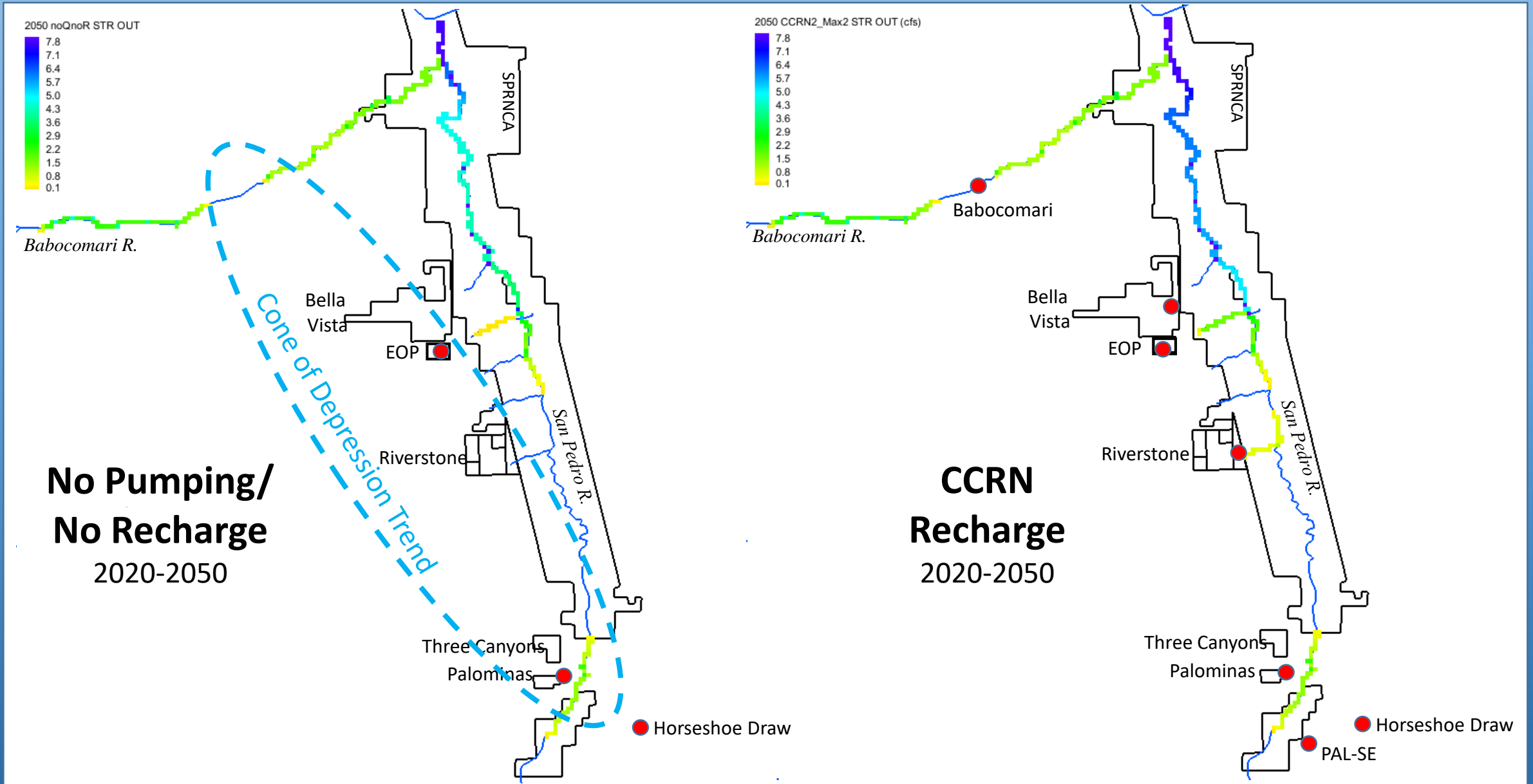
\* Average of 2020-2075 stepped-up recharge rate



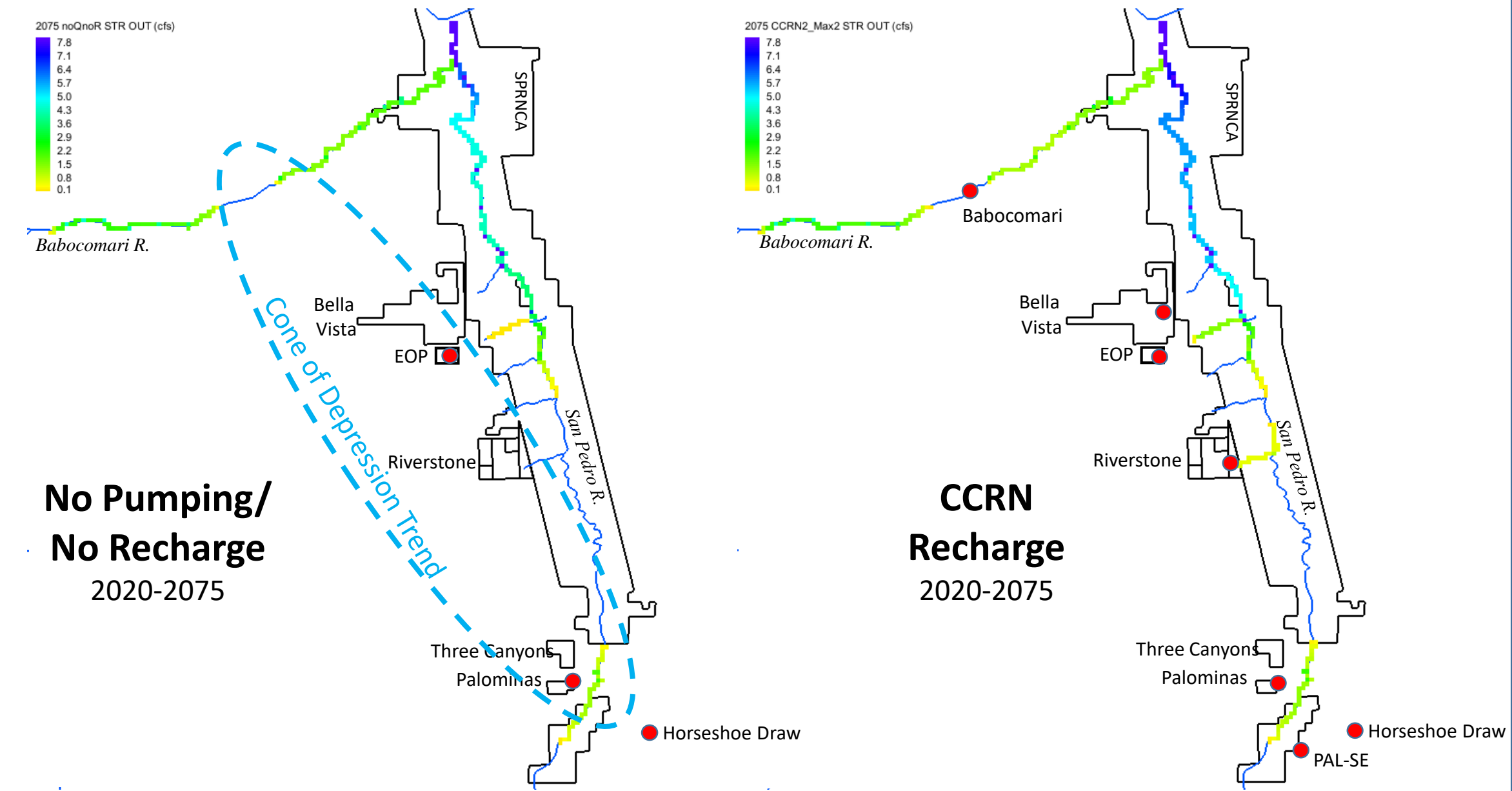


# Simulation Results: Spatial Patterns Baseflow Trends

# Simulated Baseflow in Sierra Vista Subwatershed in 2050 (cfs)



# Simulated Baseflow in Sierra Vista Subwatershed in 2075 (cfs)

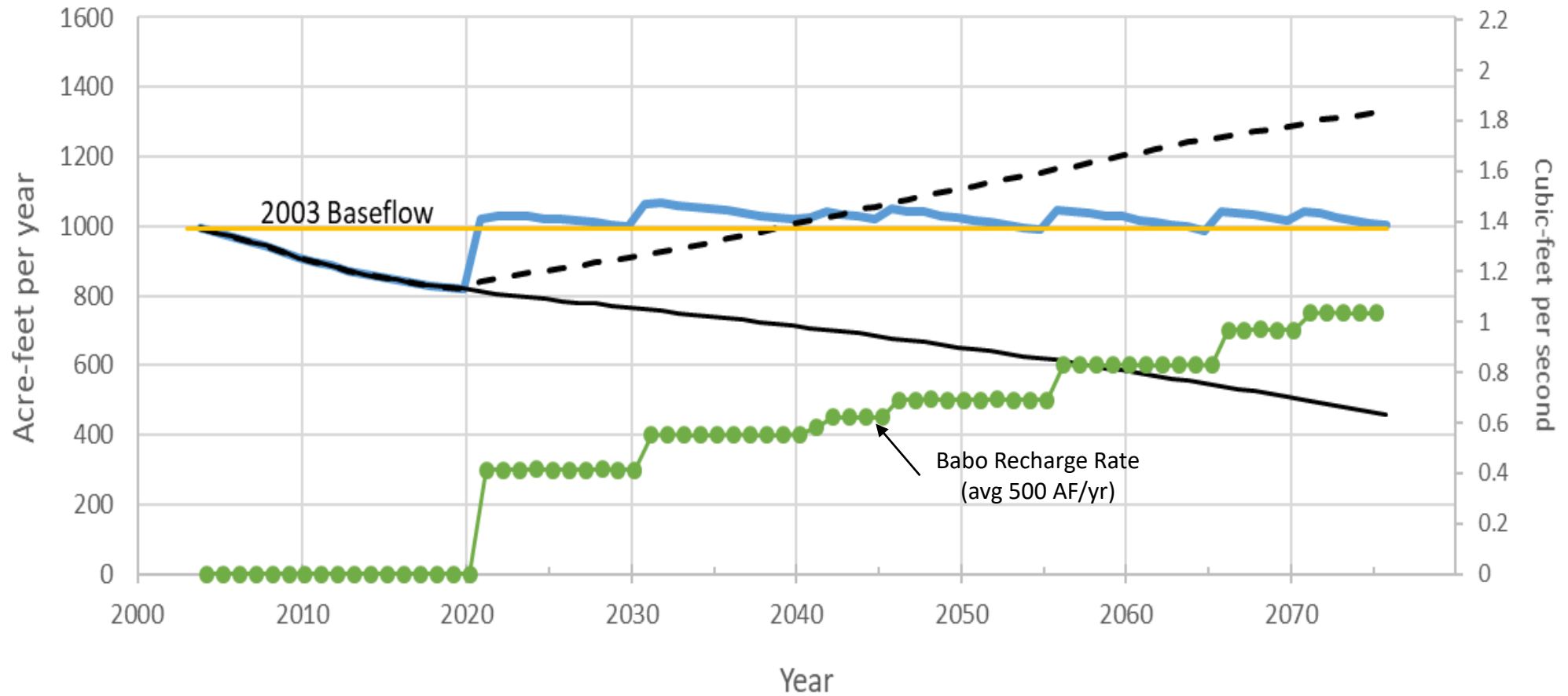




# Simulation Results: Baseflow at Gaging Stations

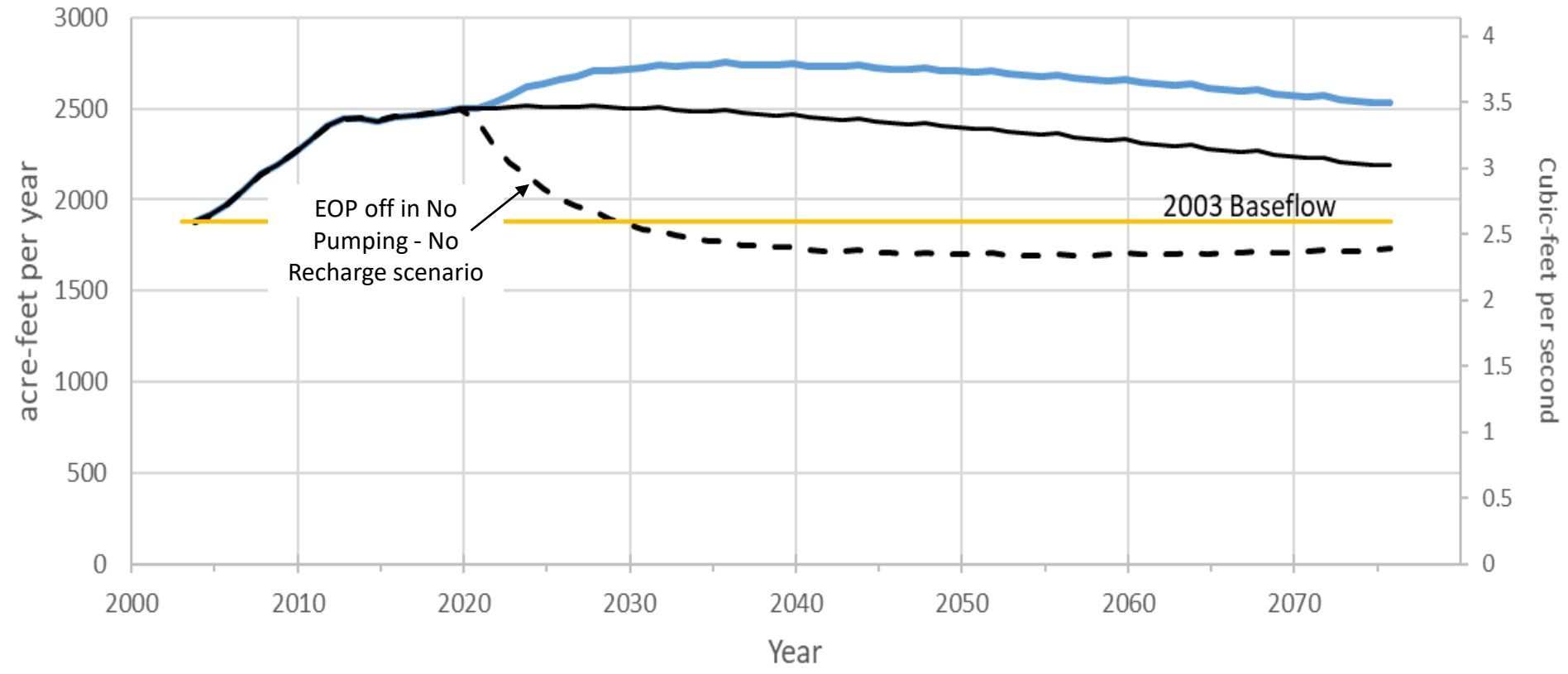
# Simulated Baseflow at Babocomari Near Tombstone, AZ Gaging Station (09471400)

\*\*\* PRELIMINARY RESULTS \*\*\*



# Simulated Baseflow at San Pedro River at Charleston, AZ Gaging Station (09471000)

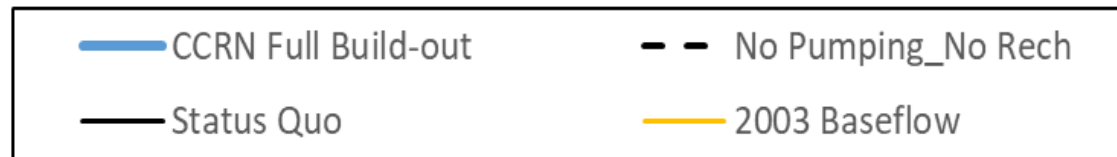
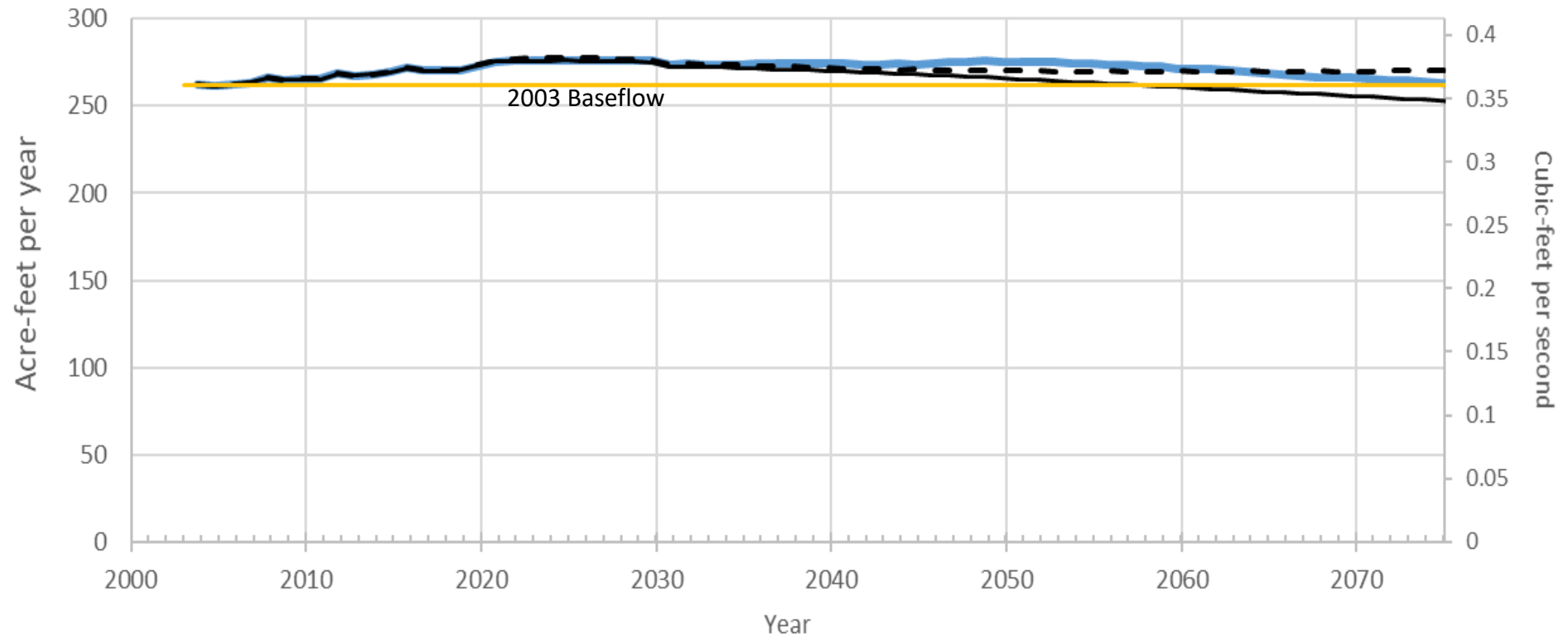
\*\*\* PRELIMINARY RESULTS \*\*\*





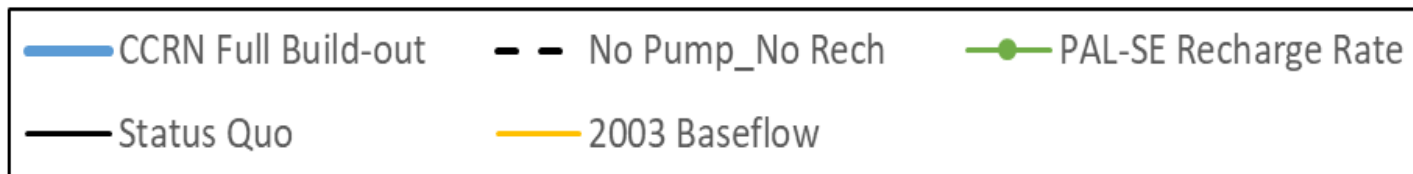
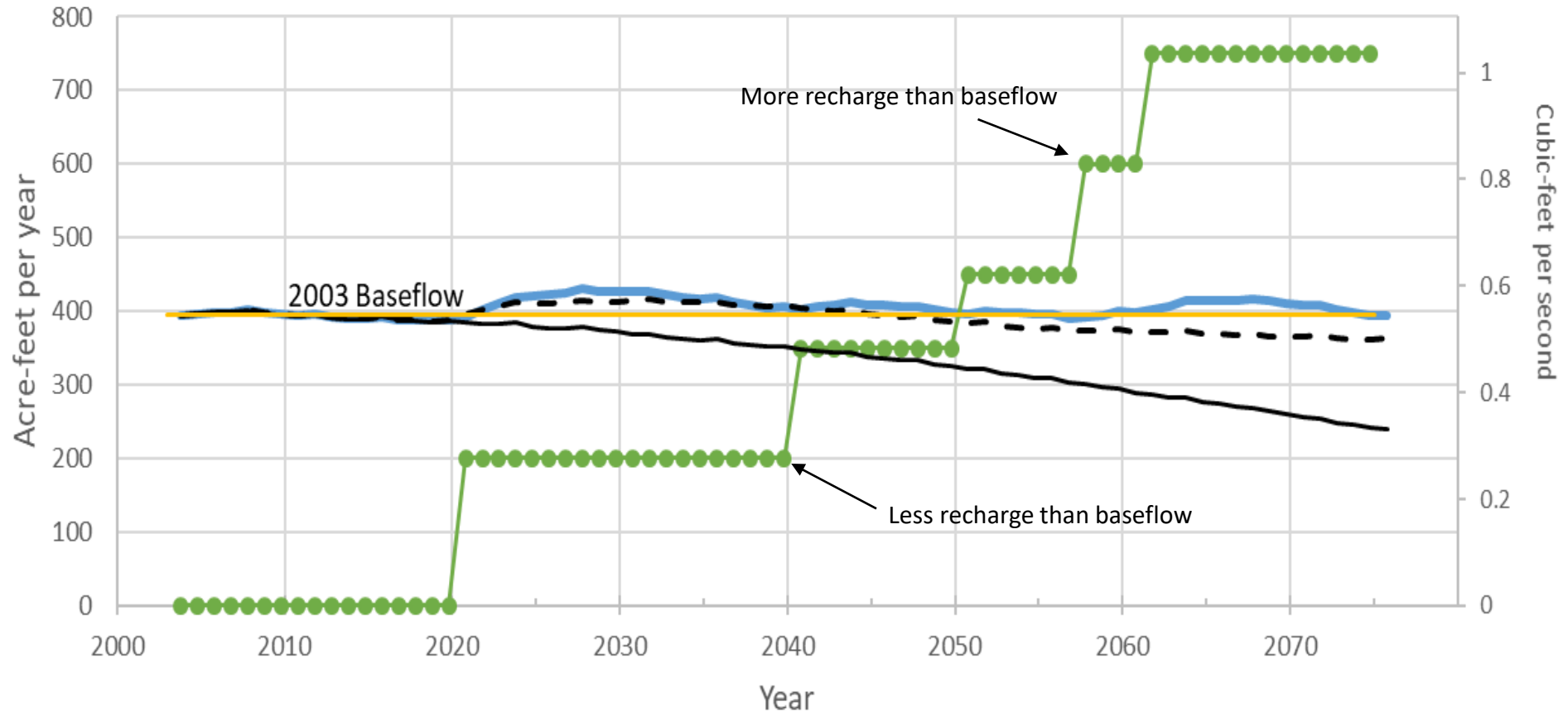
# Simulated Baseflow at San Pedro at Lewis Springs Gaging Station (09470920)

\*\*\* PRELIMINARY RESULTS \*\*\*



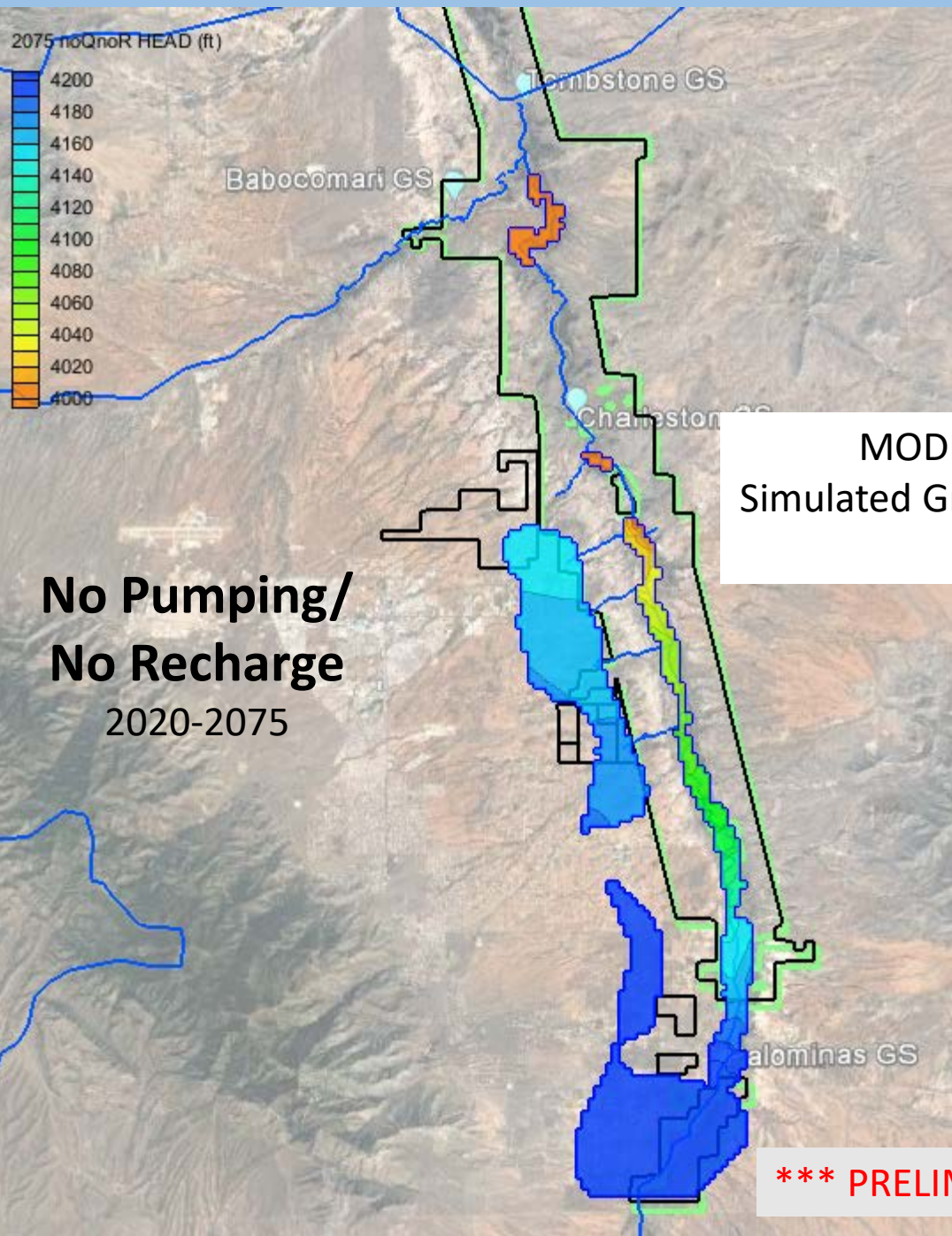
# Simulated Baseflow at San Pedro at Palominas, AZ Gaging Station (0947050)

\*\*\* PRELIMINARY RESULTS \*\*\*

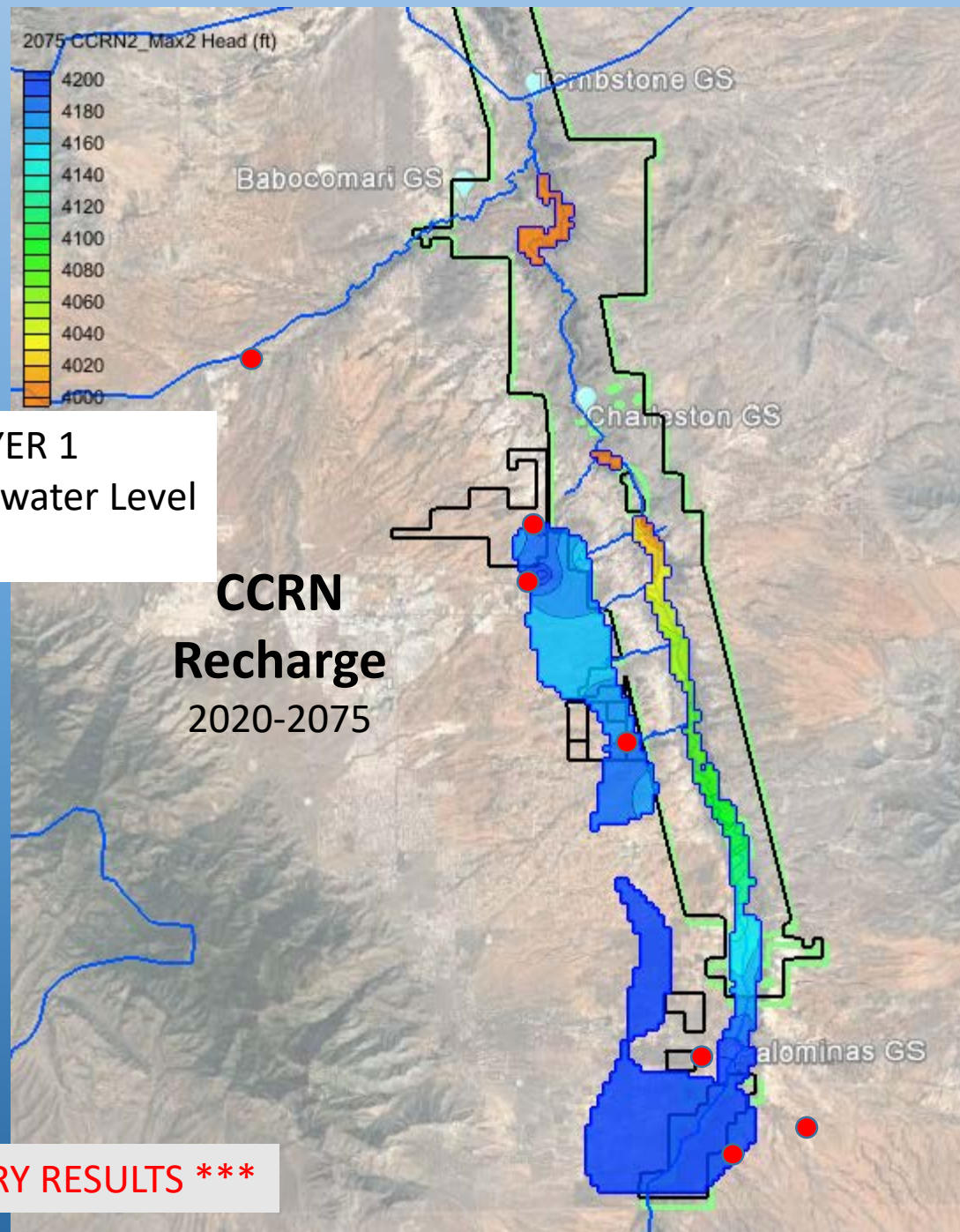




# Simulation Results: Groundwater Levels (Head)



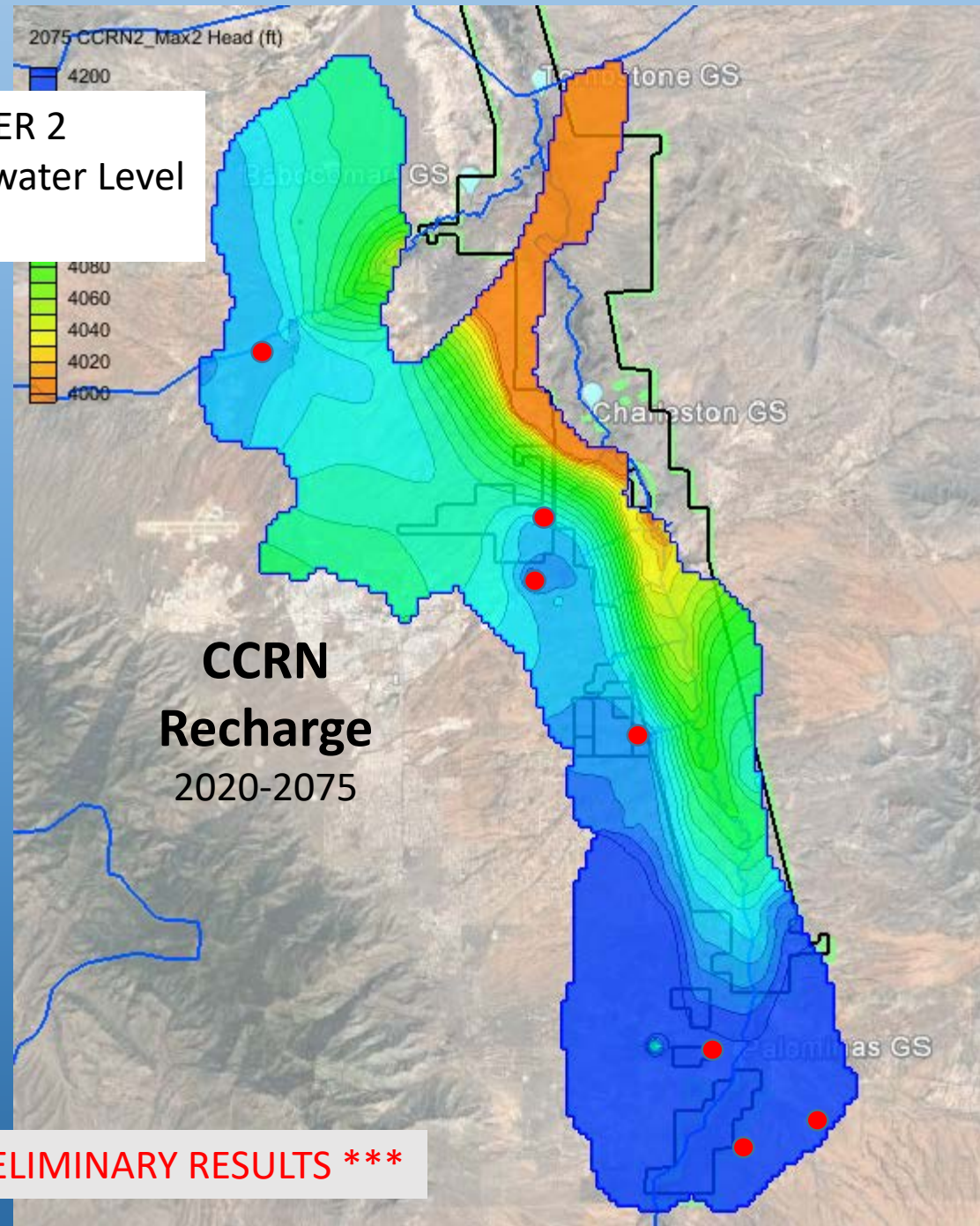
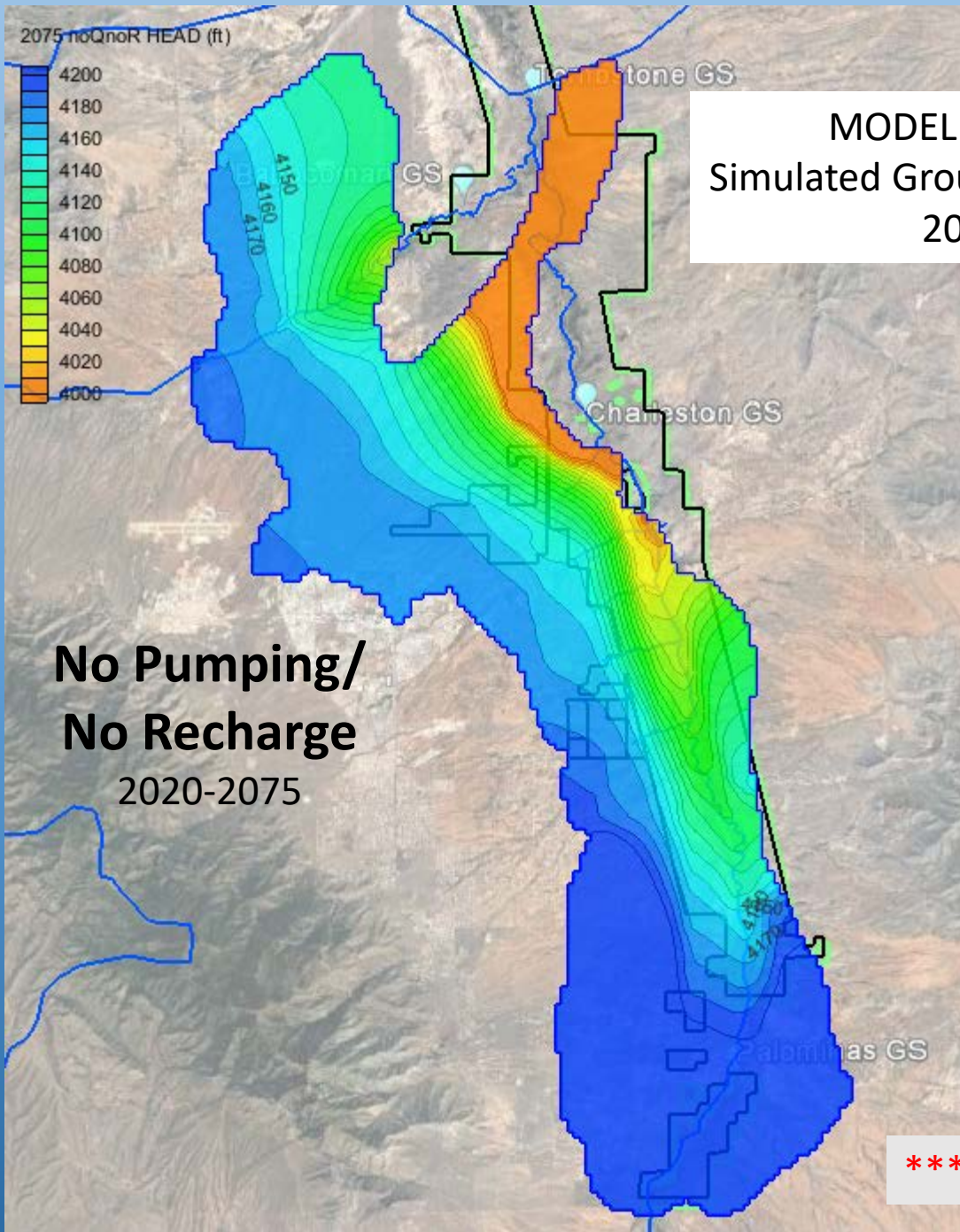
**No Pumping/  
No Recharge  
2020-2075**



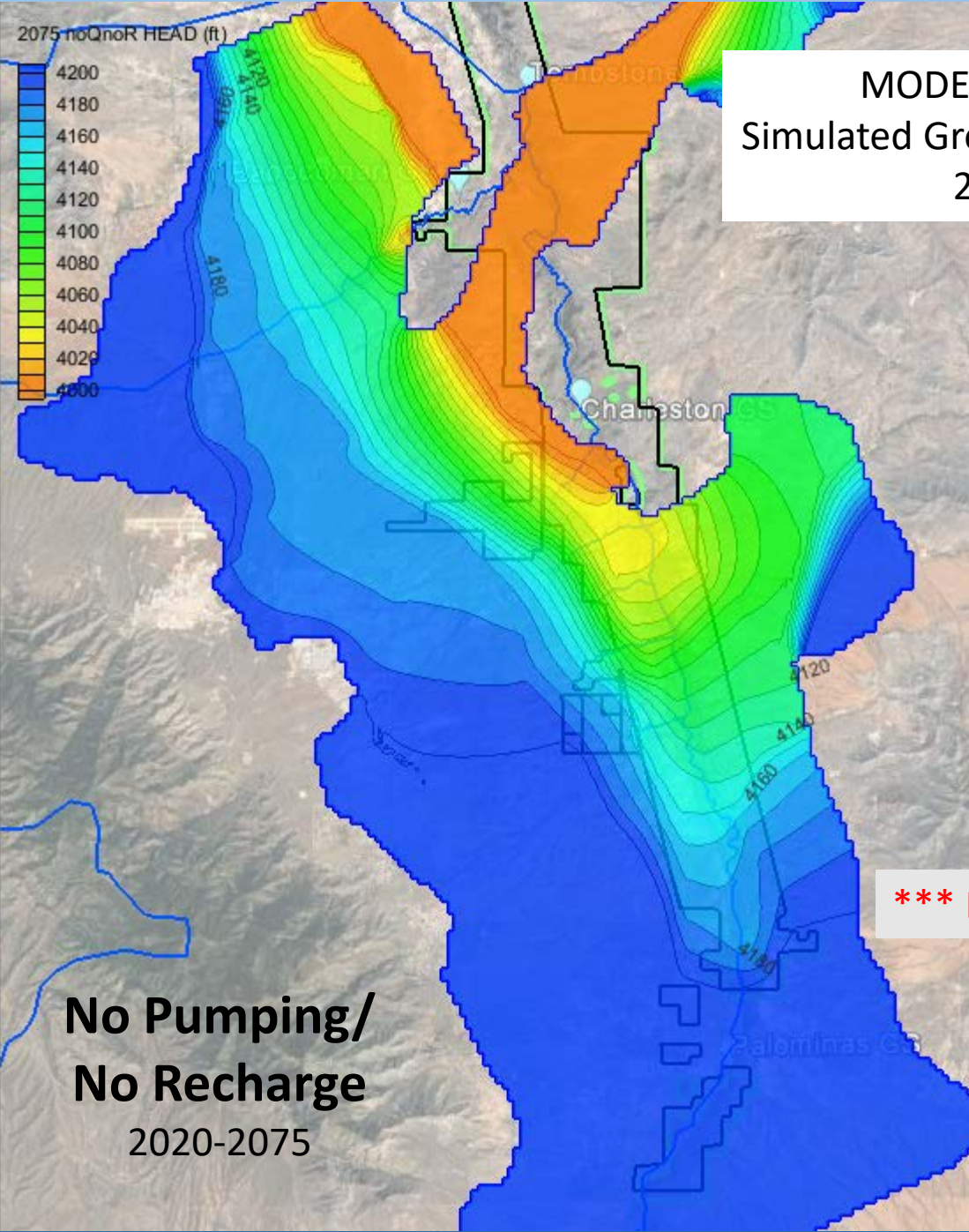
**CCRN  
Recharge  
2020-2075**

MODEL LAYER 1  
Simulated Groundwater Level  
2075

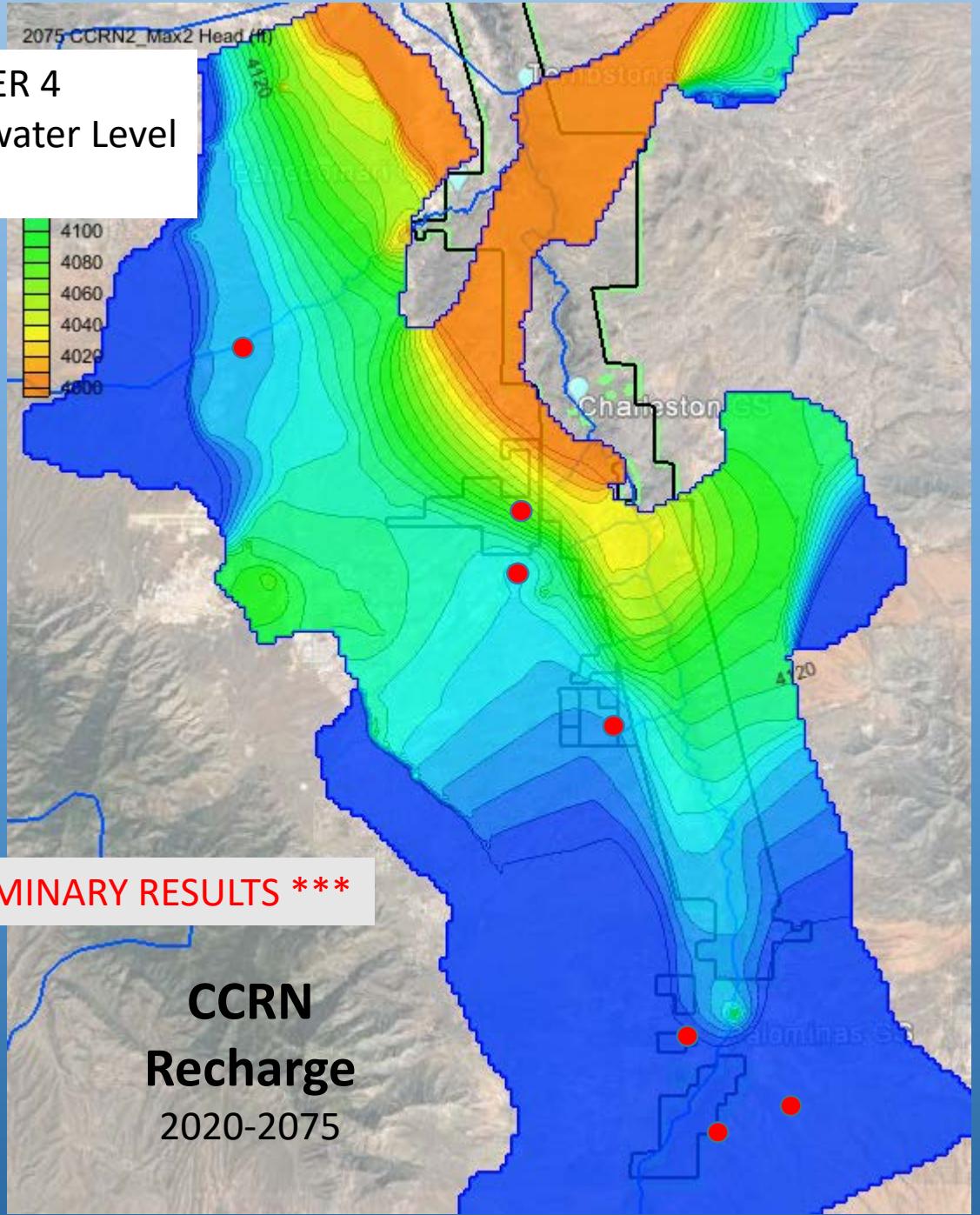
**\*\*\* PRELIMINARY RESULTS \*\*\***



\*\*\* PRELIMINARY RESULTS \*\*\*



**MODEL LAYER 4**  
Simulated Groundwater Level  
2075



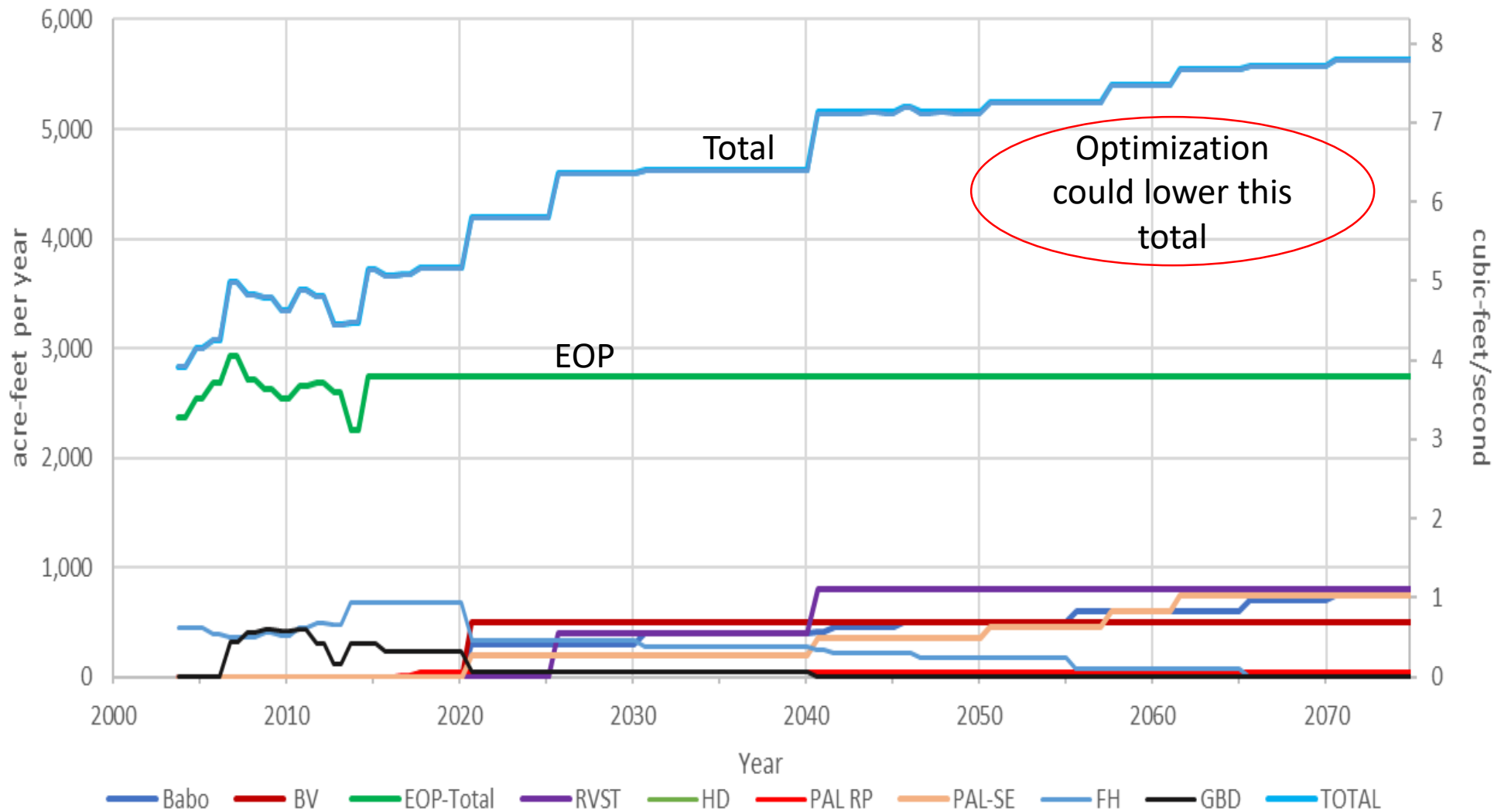
**\*\*\* PRELIMINARY RESULTS \*\*\***



# Simulation Summary

# Total Simulated CCRN Full Build-out Recharge

\*\*\* PRELIMINARY RESULTS \*\*\*





# Simulation Summary

## CCRN Full Build Out vs. No Pumping/No Recharge 2020-2075:

### CCRN Full Build Out

- Maintains baseflows at or above 2003 levels on San Pedro mainstem and Lower Babocomari through 2075.
- Buffers alluvial aquifer from cone of depression.

### No Pumping/No Recharge

- Significant recovery of regional aquifer within SV/FH cone of depression.
- UNDER performs compared to CCRN in terms of alluvial groundwater levels and baseflows, except at Lower Babo (2043-2075).



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