



# **YSGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

April 6, 2022

# Agenda

- **Call to Order and Determination of Quorum**
- Public Forum
- PRESENTATION - Review and Discussion of Item #9 of Governor Newsom's Executive Order
- CONSIDERATION - Adoption of a Process for Providing Written Verification to Yolo County's Division of Environmental Health to Approve Well Permits
- Next Meeting - Regularly Scheduled Meeting on June 20, 2022
- Adjournment

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# Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-7-22

Effective March 28, 2022

## EXECUTIVE ORDER N-7-22

**WHEREAS** on April 12, 2021, May 10, 2021, July 8, 2021, and October 19, 2021, I proclaimed states of emergency that continue today and exist across all the counties of California, due to extreme and expanding drought conditions; and

**WHEREAS** climate change continues to intensify the impacts of droughts on our communities, environment, and economy, and California is in a third consecutive year of dry conditions, resulting in continuing drought in all parts of the State; and

**WHEREAS** the 21st century to date has been characterized by record warmth and predominantly dry conditions, and the 2021 meteorological summer in California and the rest of the western United States was the hottest on record; and

**WHEREAS** since my October 19, 2021 Proclamation, early rains in October and December 2021 gave way to the driest January and February in recorded history for the watersheds that provide much of California's water supply; and

**WHEREAS** the ongoing drought will have significant, immediate impacts on communities with vulnerable water supplies, farms that rely on irrigation to grow food and fiber, and fish and wildlife that rely on stream flows and cool water; and

**WHEREAS** the two largest reservoirs of the Central Valley Project, which supplies water to farms and communities in the Central Valley and the Santa Clara Valley and provides critical cold-water habitat for salmon and other anadromous fish, have water storage levels that are approximately 1.1 million acre-feet below last year's low levels on this date; and

**WHEREAS** the record-breaking dry period in January and February and the absence of significant rains in March have required the Department of Water Resources to reduce anticipated deliveries from the State Water Project to 5 percent of requested supplies; and

**WHEREAS** delivery of water by bottle or truck is necessary to protect human safety and public health in those places where water supplies are disrupted; and

**WHEREAS** groundwater use accounts for 41 percent of the State's total water supply on an average annual basis but as much as 58 percent in a critically dry year, and approximately 85 percent of public water systems rely on groundwater as their primary supply; and

**WHEREAS** coordination between local entities that approve permits for new groundwater wells and local groundwater sustainability agencies is important to achieving sustainable levels of groundwater in critically overdrafted basins; and

# Governor Newsom's Executive Order

N-7-22

Effective March 28, 2022

**WHEREAS** the duration of the drought, especially following a multiyear drought that abated only five years ago, underscores the need for California to redouble near-, medium-, and long-term efforts to adapt its water management and delivery systems to a changing climate, shifting precipitation patterns, and water scarcity; and

**WHEREAS** the most consequential, immediate action Californians can take to extend available supplies is to voluntarily reduce their water use by 15 percent from their 2020 levels by implementing the commonsense measures identified in operative paragraph 1 of Executive Order N-10-21 (July 8, 2021); and

**WHEREAS** to protect public health and safety, it is critical the State take certain immediate actions without undue delay to prepare for and mitigate the effects of the drought conditions, and under Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Proclamation would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the drought conditions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM**, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, Government Code sections 8567, 8571, and 8627, do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately:

# Drought E.O. N-7-22: Action 9 – Well Permitting

9. To protect health, safety, and the environment during this drought emergency, a county, city, or other public agency shall not:
  - a. Approve a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well in a basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and classified as medium- or high-priority without first obtaining written verification from a Groundwater Sustainability Agency managing the basin or area of the basin where the well is proposed to be located that groundwater extraction by the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in any applicable Groundwater Sustainability Plan adopted by that Groundwater Sustainability Agency and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by such a plan; or
  - b. Issue a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well without first determining that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well is (1) not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and (2) not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

This paragraph shall not apply to permits for wells that will provide less than two acre-feet per year of groundwater for individual domestic users, or that will exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code.

# DWR's Information Sheet on Drought E.O. N-7-22

Local well permitting agencies retain existing well permitting authorities, including reviewing and administering well permits. Under the Executive Order Action 9, local well permitting agencies must take the following steps during the well permitting process for wells intending to extract groundwater:

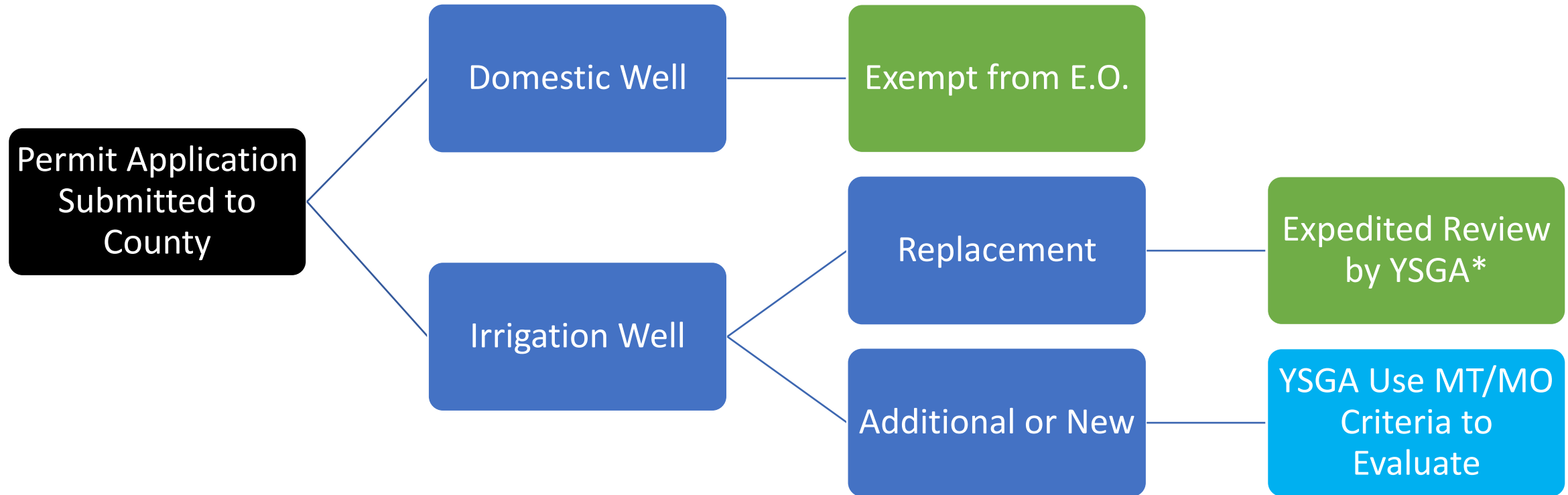


1. Consultation with the GSA – If the proposed well would be in a high or medium priority groundwater basin, the well permitting agency must consult with the GSA and receive written verification from the GSA that the proposed well location is generally consistent (not inconsistent) with the applicable GSP and will not decrease the likelihood of achieving the sustainability goals that the GSAs have developed under SGMA.
2. Permit Evaluation – For every well permit application, the local well permitting agency must determine before issuing a well permit that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well is not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells and is not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

These requirements do not apply to wells that pump less than 2 acre-feet per year (de minimus users) and wells that exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems as defined in [section 116275](#) of the Health and Safety Code.



# Potential Process to Evaluate Whether YSGA Written Verification is Necessary



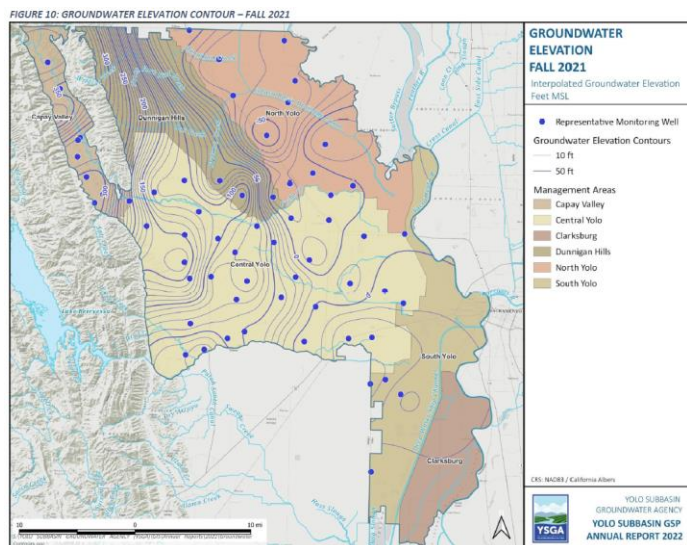
\*In-kind replacement with no increase in consumption

E.O. = Executive Order

MT / MO = Minimum Threshold / Measurable Objective as defined in the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP):

<https://www.yologroundwater.org/yolo-subbasin-groundwater-sustainability-plan>

# Potential Process to Evaluate YSGA's Determination



## Undesirable Results Water Area:

A Management Area (MA) that has triggered the exceedance criteria, but the majority of MAs are not exceeding the criteria.

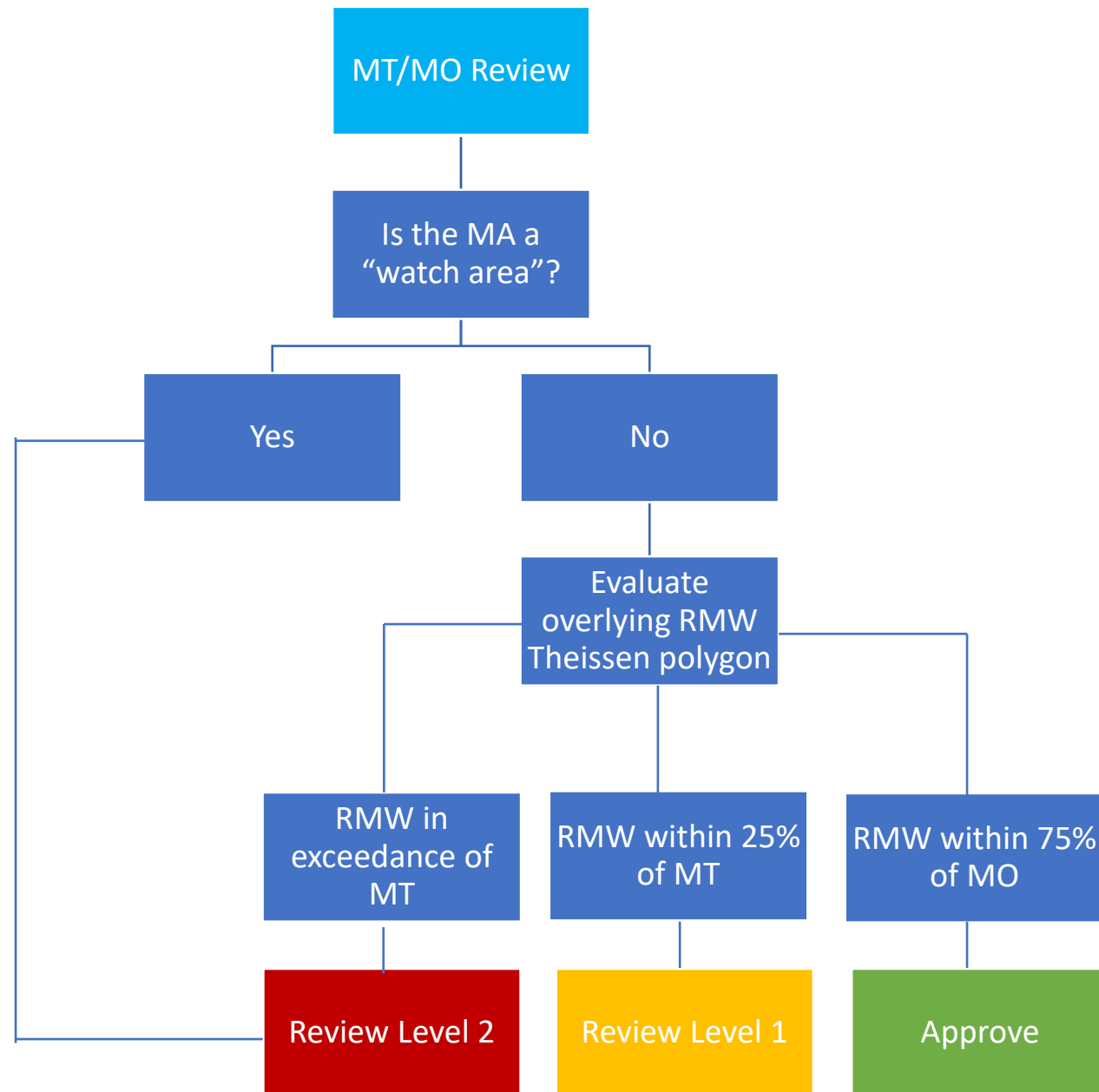
MA = Management Area

RMW = Representative Monitoring Well as determined in the Yolo Subbasin GSP

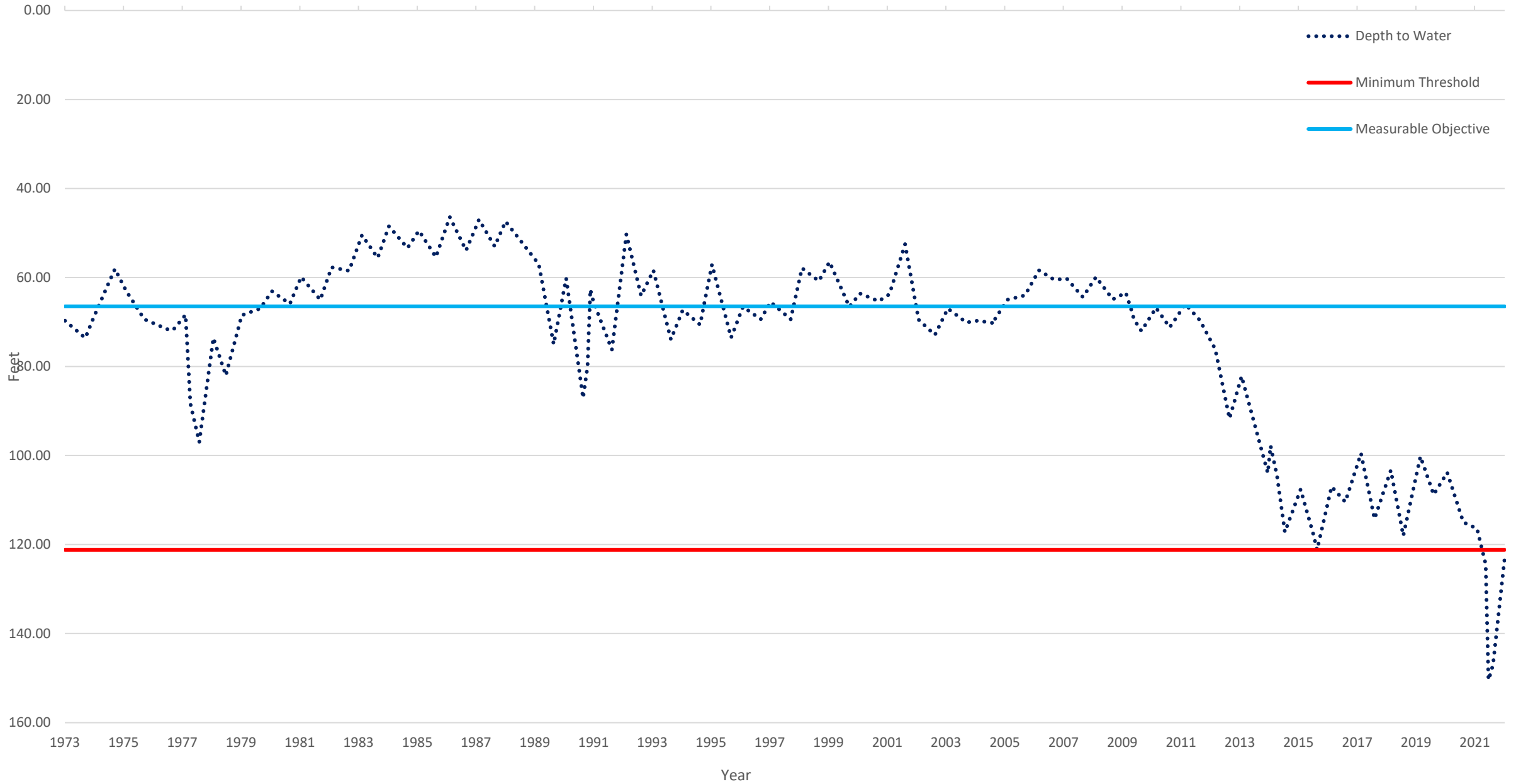
MO = Measurable Objective as defined in the Yolo Subbasin GSP

MT = Minimum Threshold as defined in the Yolo Subbasin GSP

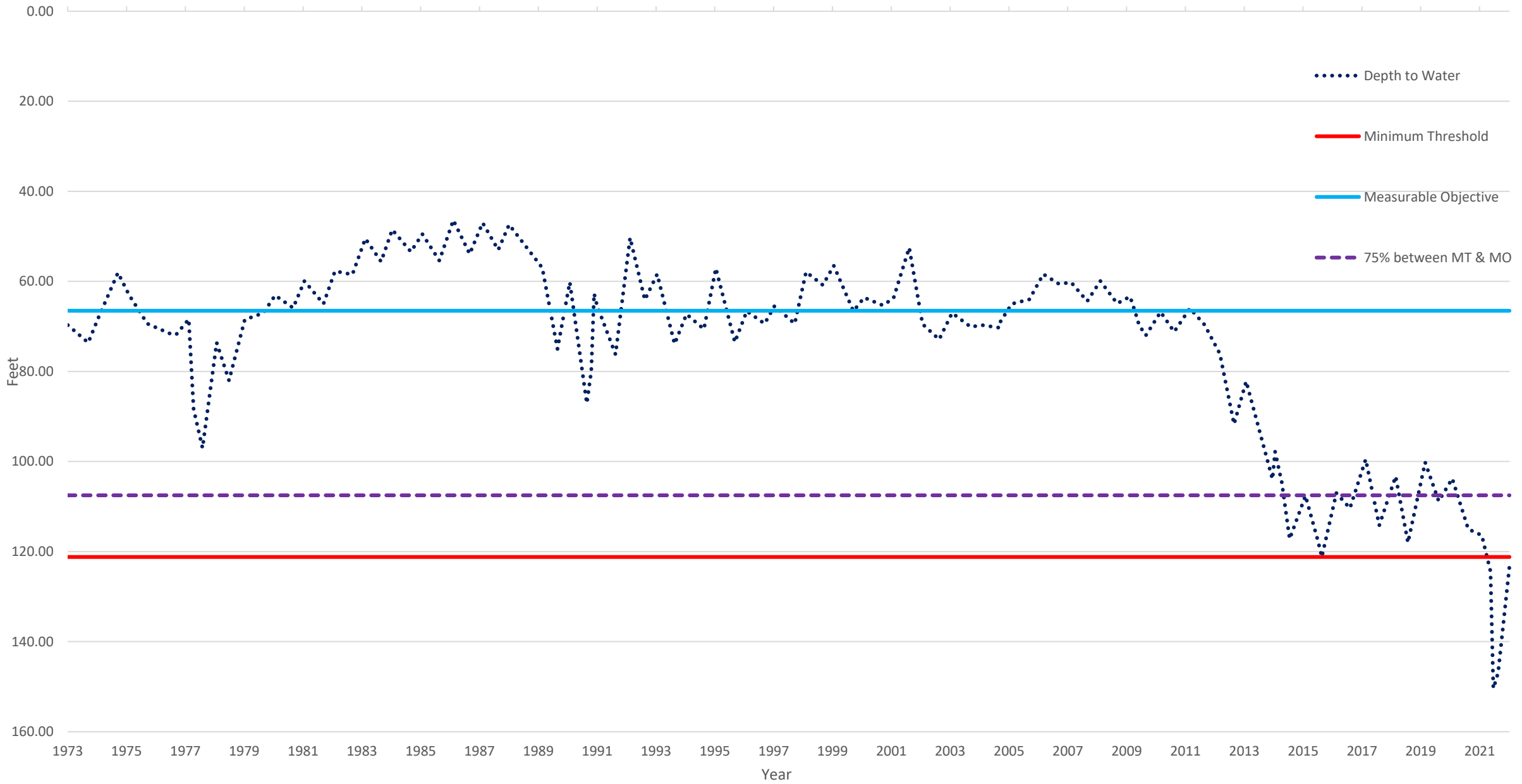
<https://www.yologroundwater.org/yolo-subbasin-groundwater-sustainability-plan>



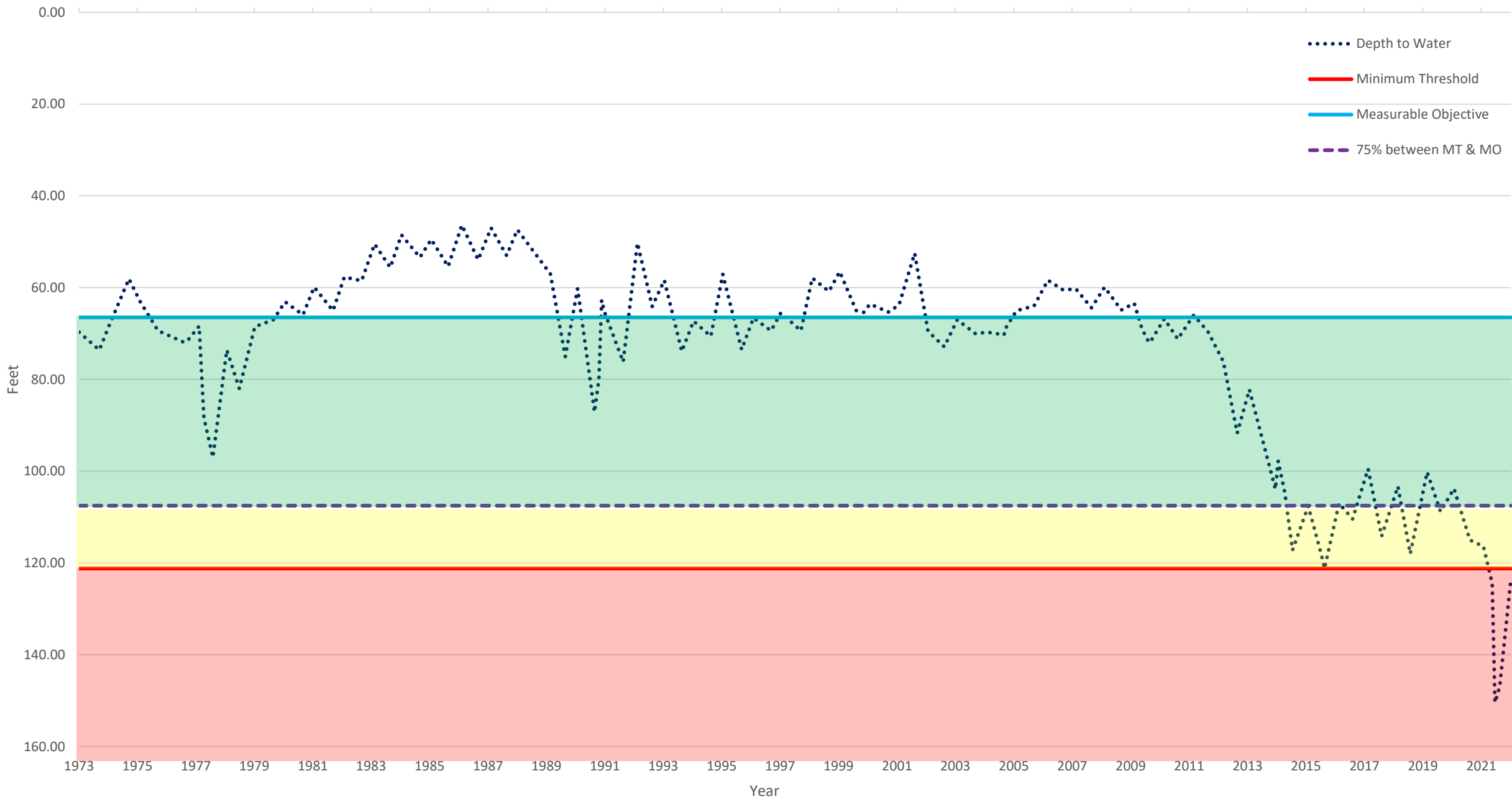
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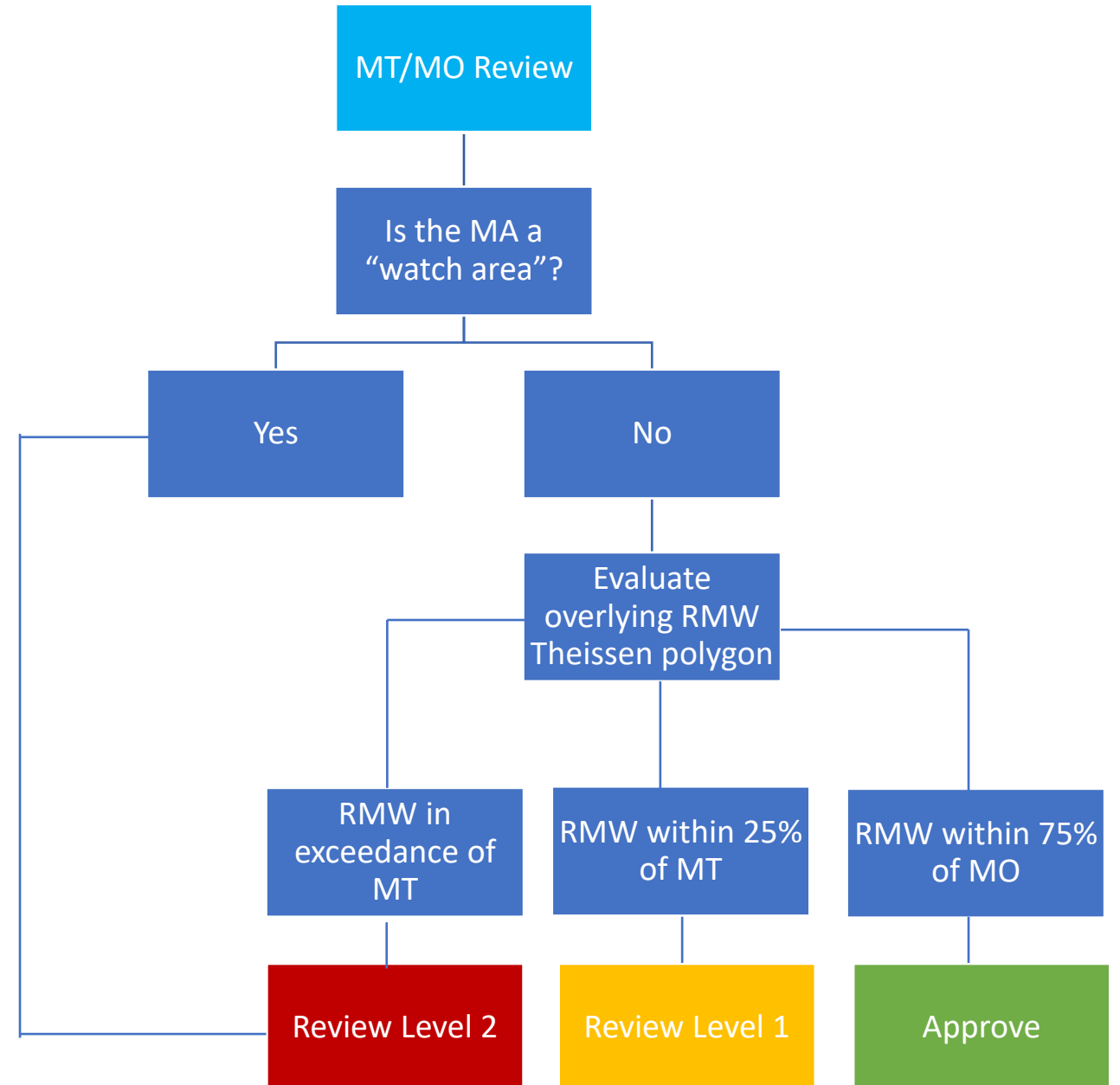
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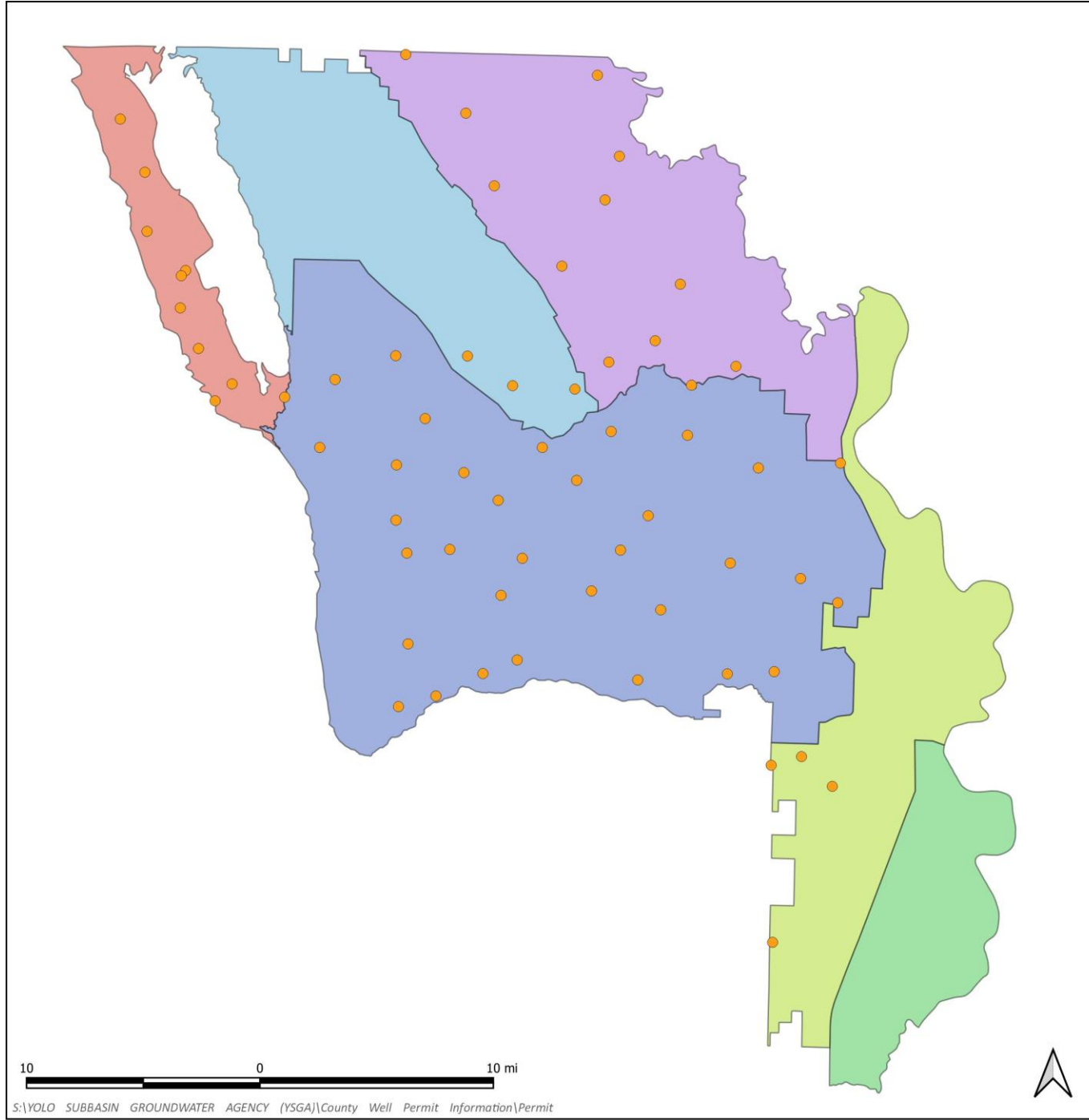
MO = Measurable Objective as defined in the Yolo Subbasin GSP

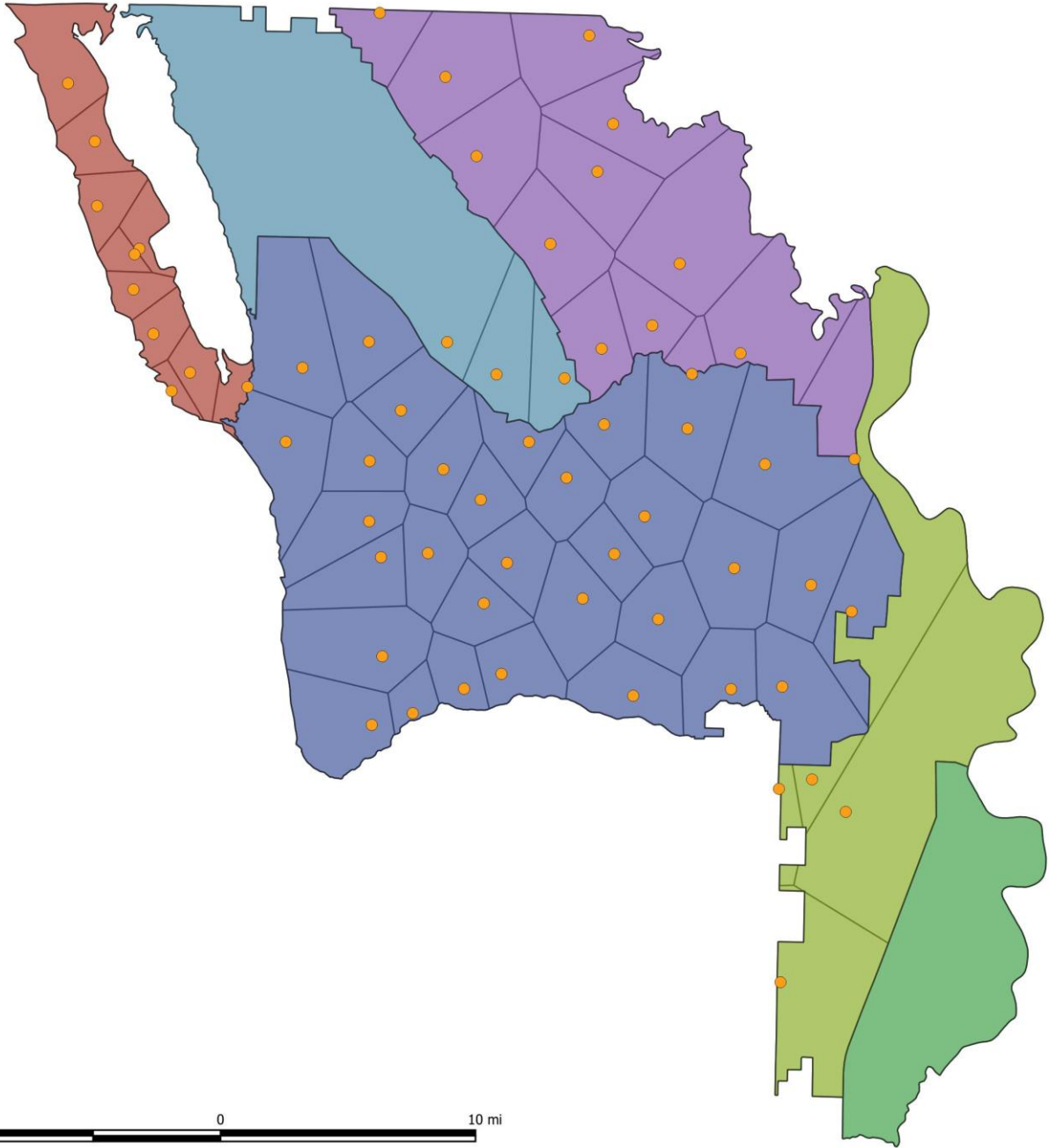
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# YSGA Management Areas

- YSGA Management Areas
- Capay Valley
  - Central Yolo
  - Clarksburg
  - Dunnigan Hills
  - North Yolo
  - South Yolo
  - Representative Wells

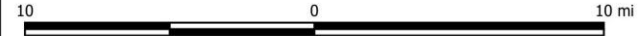




### Thiessen Polygons

YSGA Management Areas

- Capay Valley
- Central Yolo
- Clarksburg
- Dunnigan Hills
- North Yolo
- South Yolo
- Representative Wells





## Classification (Spring 2022)

 Township\_QTRs

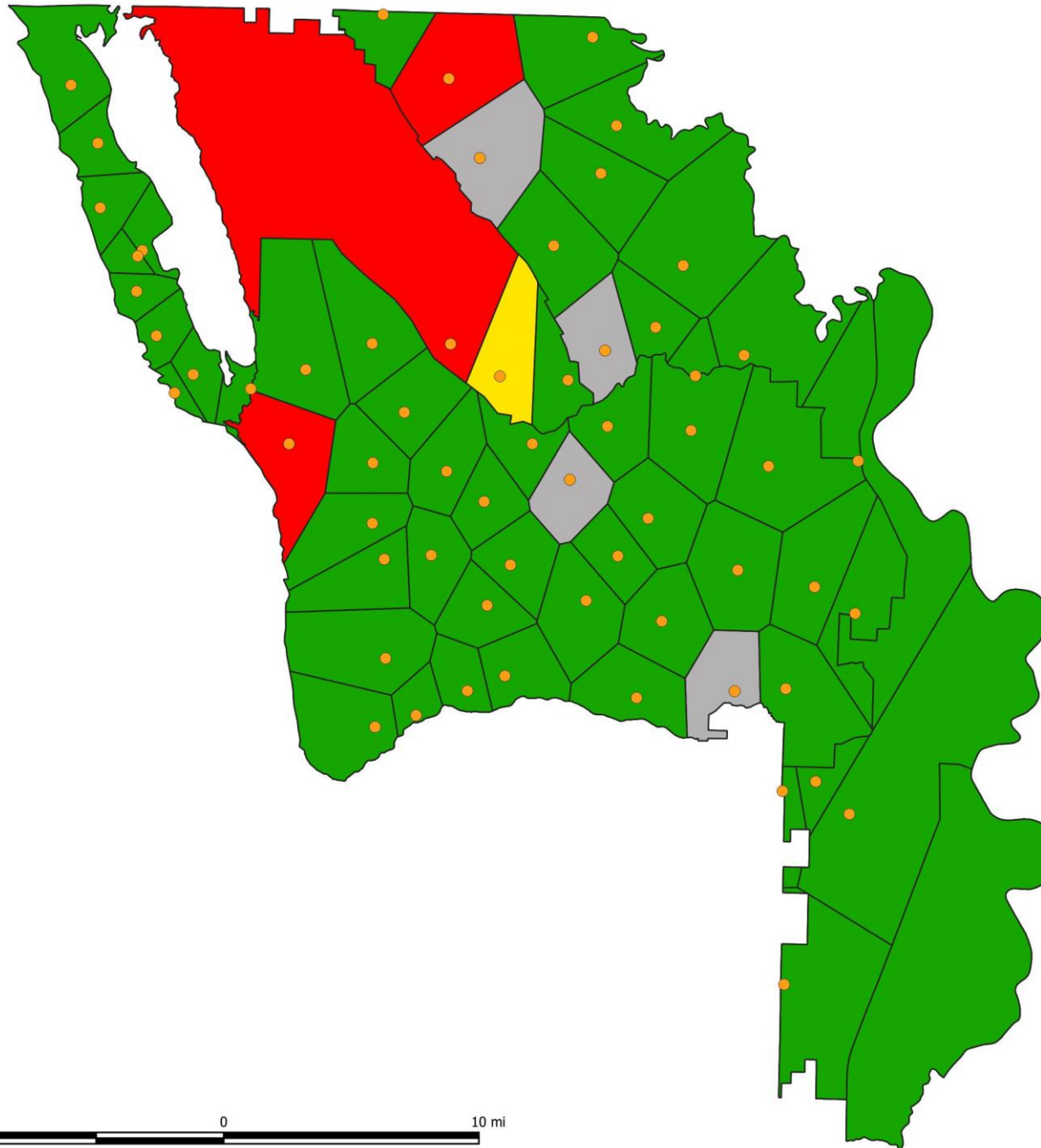
Proximity to MT

 0-75%

 75-100%

 >100%

 No Data

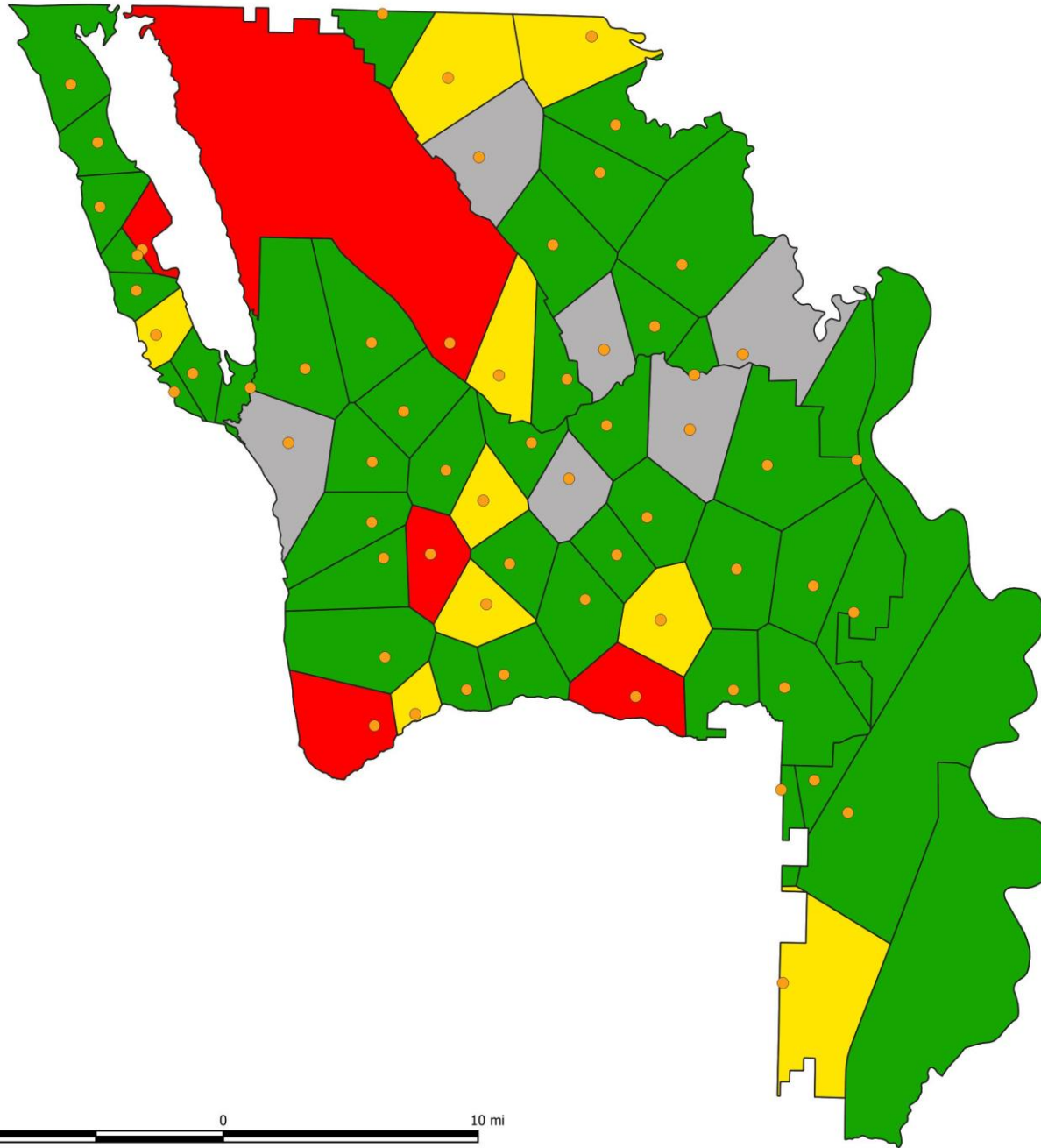


10 0 10 mi

S:\YOLO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER AGENCY (YSGA)\County Well Permit Information\Permit



YOLO SUBBASIN  
GROUNDWATER AGENCY



## Classification (Fall 2021)

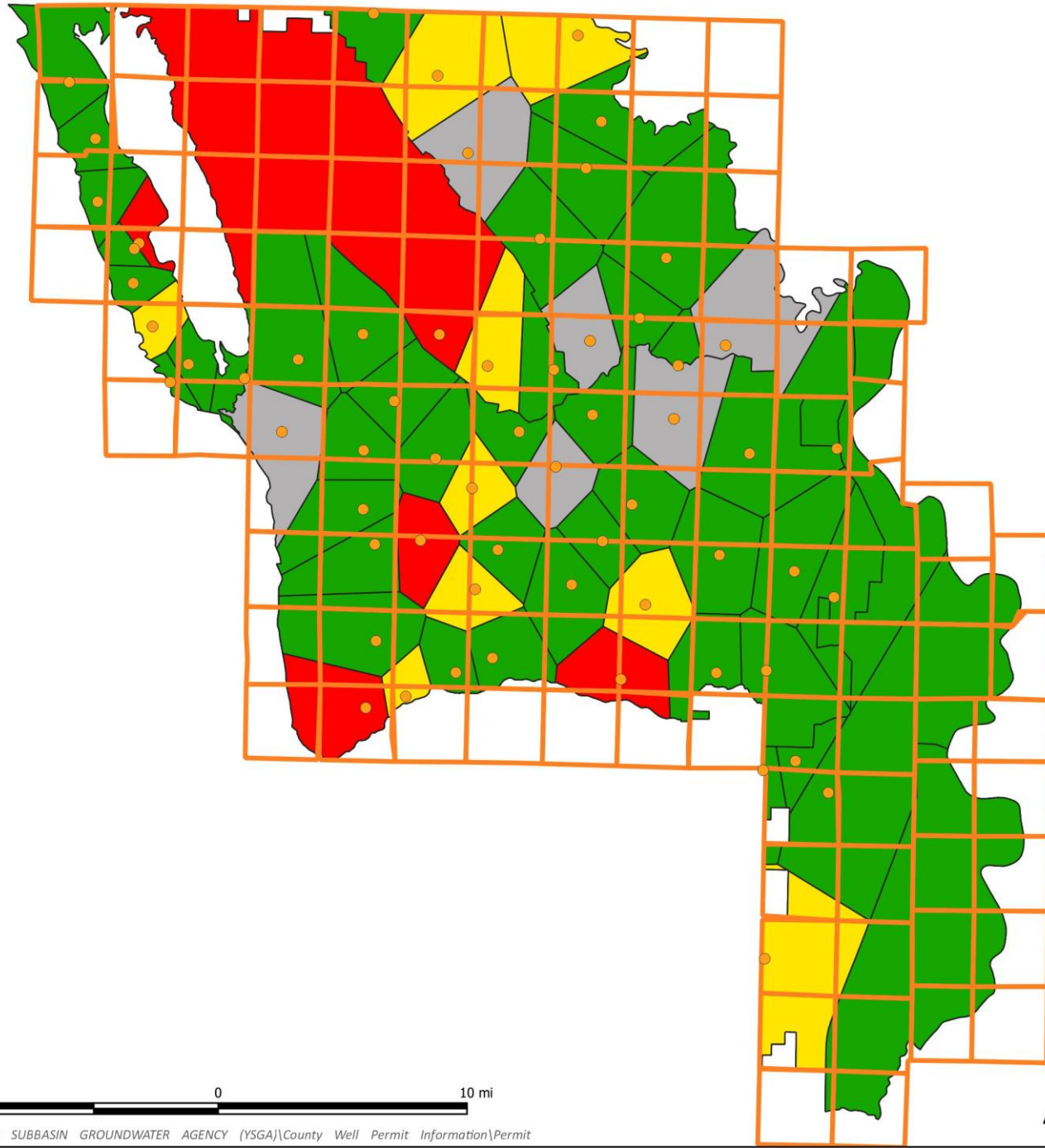
- Representative Wells
- Proximity to MT (Fall 2021)
- 0-75%
  - 75-100%
  - >100%
  - No Data



YOLO SUBBASIN  
GROUNDWATER AGENCY

10 0 10 mi

## Well Impact Analysis



Township\_QTRs

Proximity to MT

0-75%

75-100%

>100%

No Data

Representative Wells

10 0 10 mi

S:\YOLO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER AGENCY (YSGA)\County Well Permit Information\Permit



YOLO SUBBASIN  
GROUNDWATER AGENCY

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# YSGA Staff Recommendation

Authorize the Executive Officer for 30 days to consult with the County in their well permitting program provide written verification on behalf of the YSGA for actions related to Paragraph 9 of the Governor's Drought E.O. N-7-22 pending further action by the Board.

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- Adjournment