

DROUGHT UPDATE

Yolo County Board of Supervisors

JULY 11, 2023

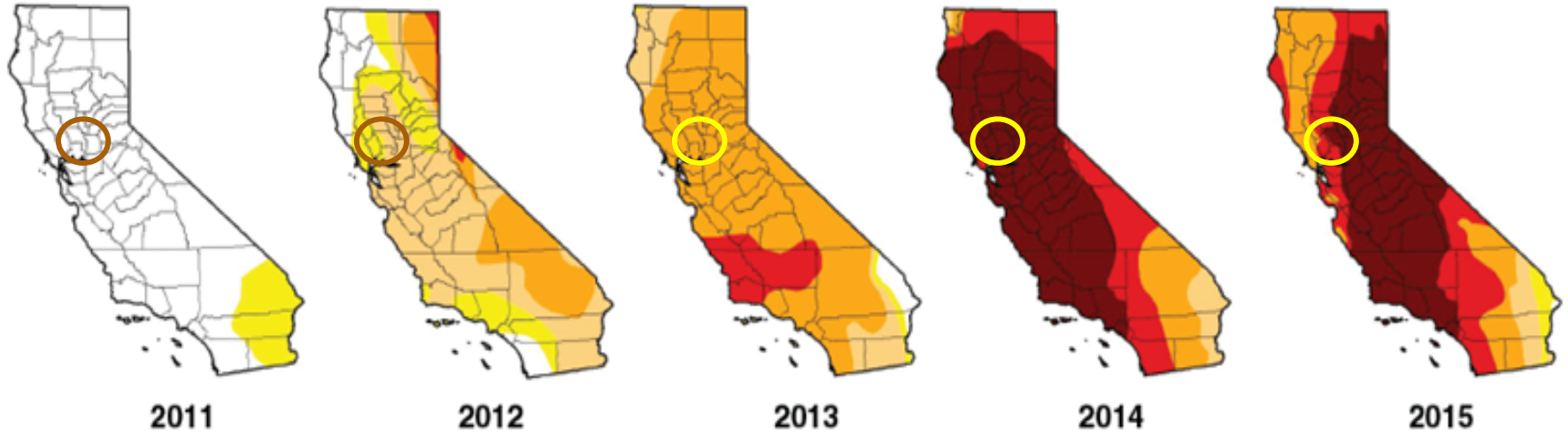


PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- Recent Events: Petition, U.S. Drought Monitor
- Dry Well Reporting & Status Update
- Overview: Changes to Well Permit Process
- Well Permit Application/Issuance Update
- Groundwater Conditions Update
- Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency Update
 - Areas of Special Concern
 - Grant Funding Award



Statewide Drought Measurements From U.S. Drought Monitor, Taken Around October 1 Each Year^a

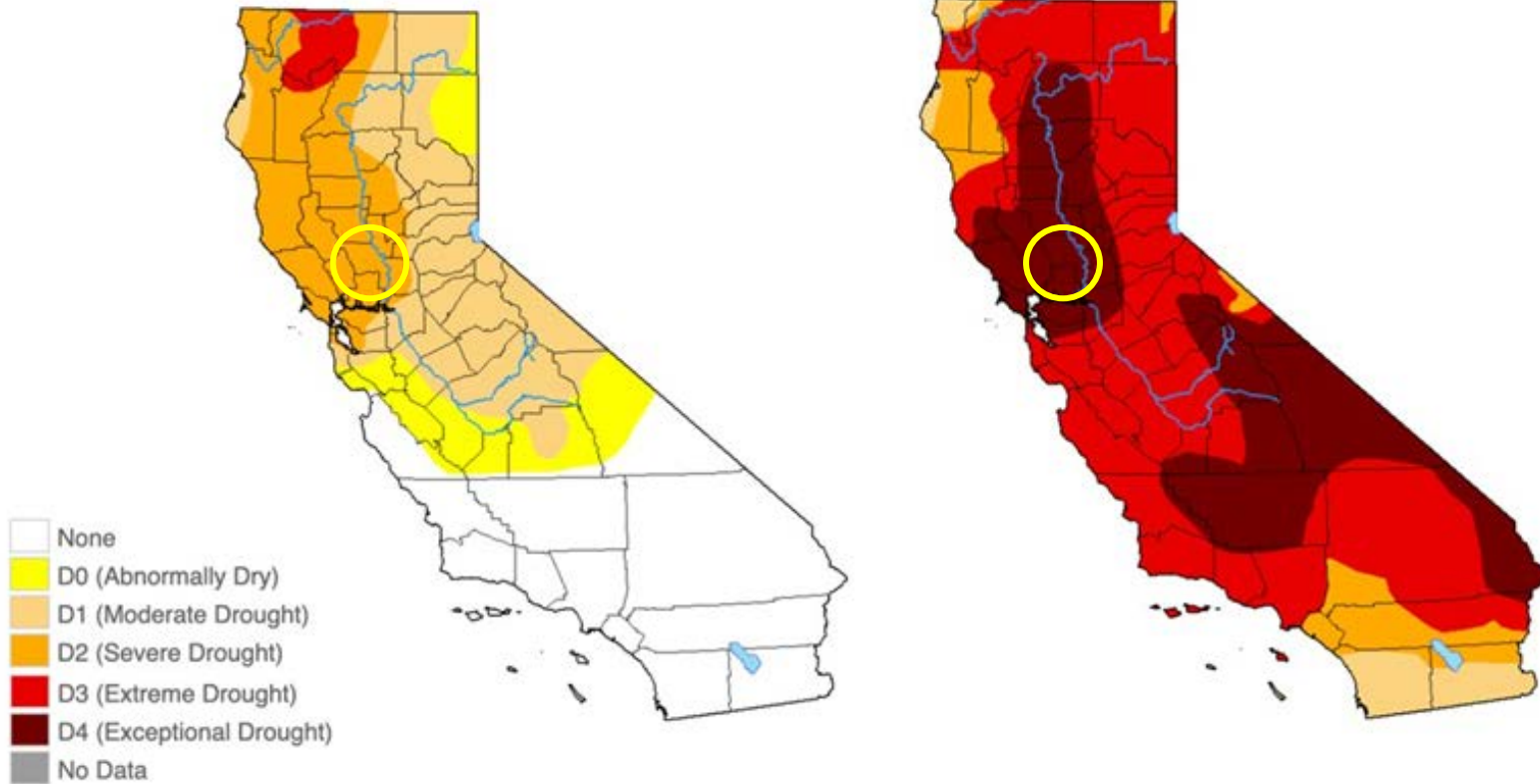


U.S. Drought Monitor: 2011 - 2015



JULY 7, 2020

JULY 6, 2021



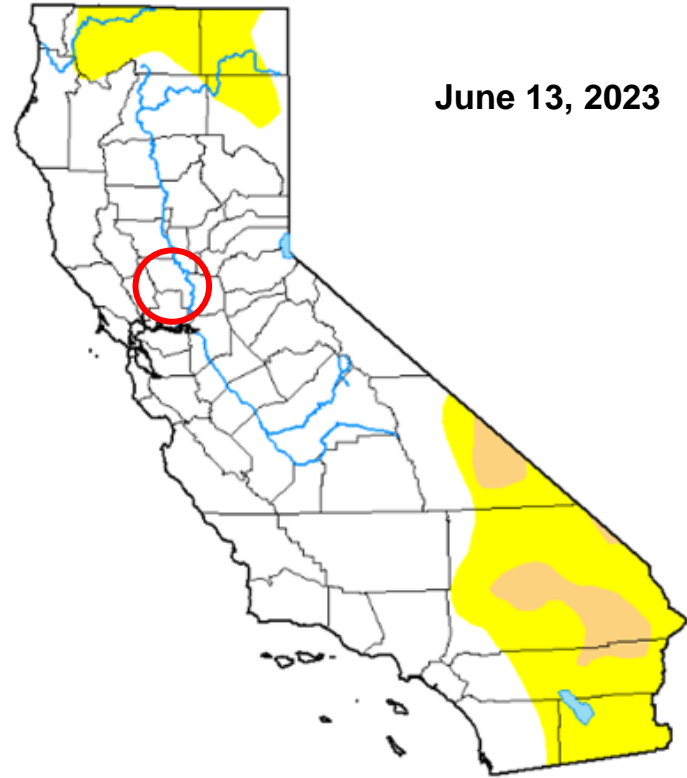
U.S. Drought Monitor: 2020 - 2021



U.S. Drought Monitor
California



U.S. Drought Monitor
California



U.S. Drought Monitor: Fall 2022 – June 2023



Dry Wells

- Dry Well Program (Yolo OES) provides drinking and domestic water
- Outreach: Partnered with Farm Bureau & RISE, Inc.
- Dry wells likely underreported

IS YOUR WELL DRY?

Report Dry Wells for Assistance Information

Please contact 530-406-4930 or drywells@yolocounty.org

GROUNDWATER MEASUREMENTS WILL BE REQUIRED.

WE WILL NOT SHARE YOUR INFORMATION WITH ANY STATE OR FEDERAL REGULATORY ENTITIES.



ESTA SECO TU POZO?

Reporte Seco Pozos para obtener información de asistencia.

Por favor contactar a (530) 406-4930 o drywells@yolocounty.org

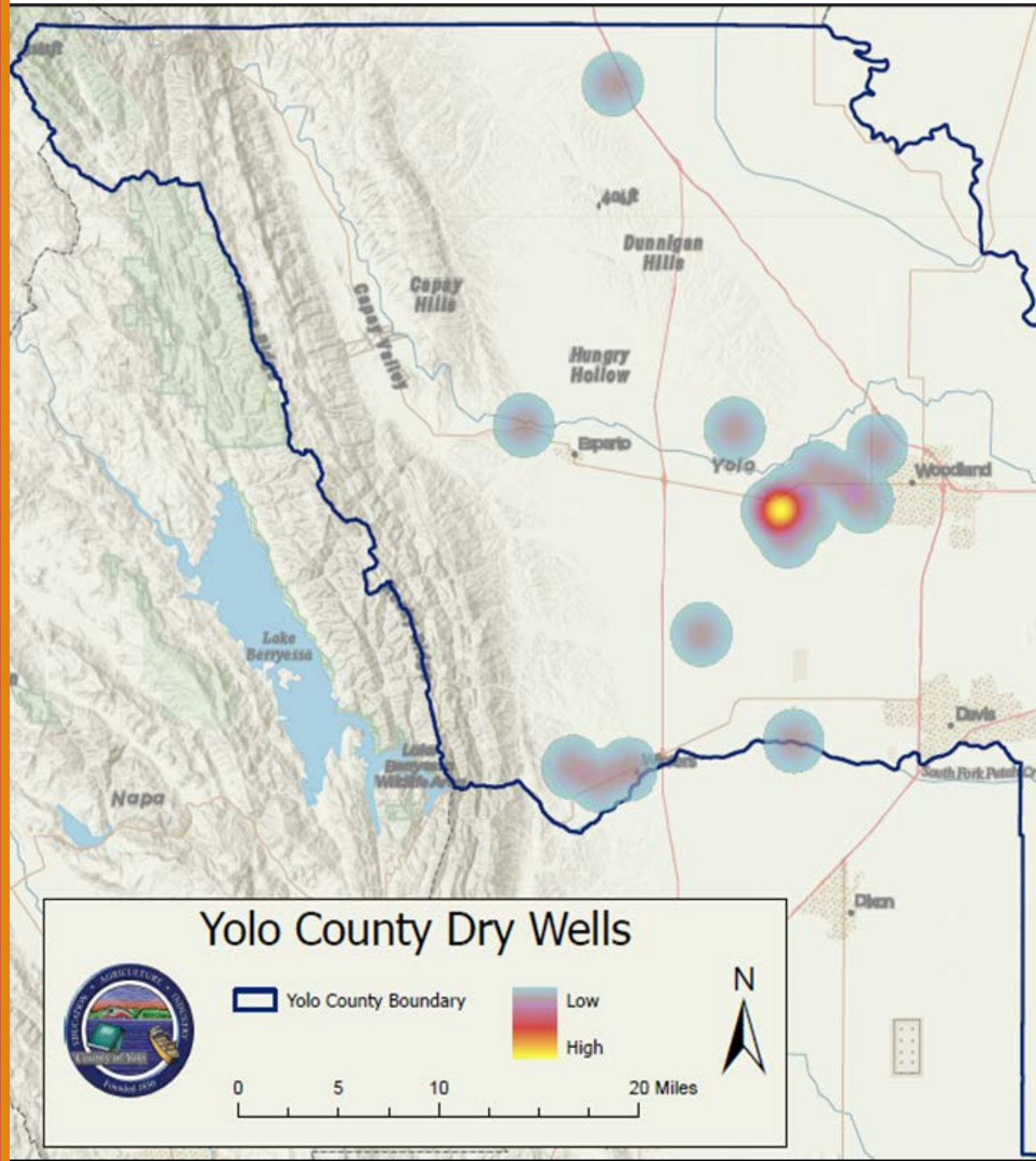
SE REQUERIRÁN MEDICIONES DE AGUA SUBTERRÁNEA.

NO COMPARTIREMOS SU INFORMACIÓN CON NINGUNA ENTIDAD REGULADORA, ESTATAL O FEDERAL.



Dry Wells

- 49 confirmed dry (since 2021)
- 21 wells remain dry
- No reports since March 2023



Petition to Stop New Wells on Previously Non-Irrigated Lands

change.org

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Stop Drilling New Wells on Historic Non-Irrigated land of Yolo County

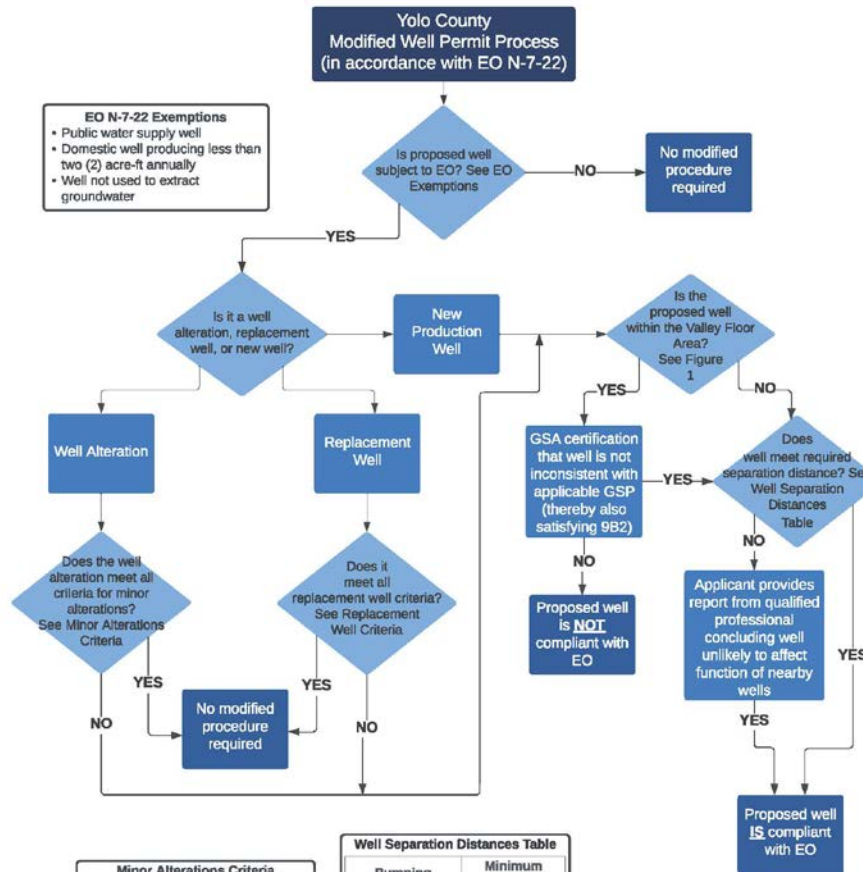


Well Permit Process: EO-N-7-22 Modifications

The EO requires additional review and analysis of agricultural well permit applications from both Yolo County Environmental Health (YCEH) and the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency ("YSGA").

- YSGA must provide written verification that the proposed well is not inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in the applicable Groundwater Sustainability Plan adopted by YSGA and will not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the Yolo Subbasin.
- YCEH must make a determination that the proposed well is:
 - not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and
 - not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.
- YCEH worked with a hydrogeologist from Lohdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers to develop temporary well permitting procedures to ensure compliance with the EO.

Modified Well Permit Issuance Process



EO N-7-22 Exemptions

- Public water supply well
- Domestic well producing less than two (2) acre-ft annually
- Well not used to extract groundwater

Minor Alterations Criteria

- No increase in well production
- No significant change to depth interval from which groundwater is extracted with the well

Replacement Well Criteria

- Within 100 feet of well being replaced
- No increase in well production
- Similar construction characteristics as well being replaced

Well Separation Distances Table

Pumping Capacity (gpm)	Minimum Separation Distance (feet)
Wells in Valley Floor Areas	
<500	250
500-1000	500
1000-1500	1000
1500-2000	2000
>2000	Report required
Wells in Upland Areas	
<15	500
15-100	1000
>100	Report required

Separation Distance Evaluation

- Applicant must map known active wells within the required separation distance plus 500 feet.
- Existing active wells owned by the applicant located on same parcel as the proposed well or on an adjacent parcel are not considered in separation distance requirement.



Agricultural Well Permit Applications

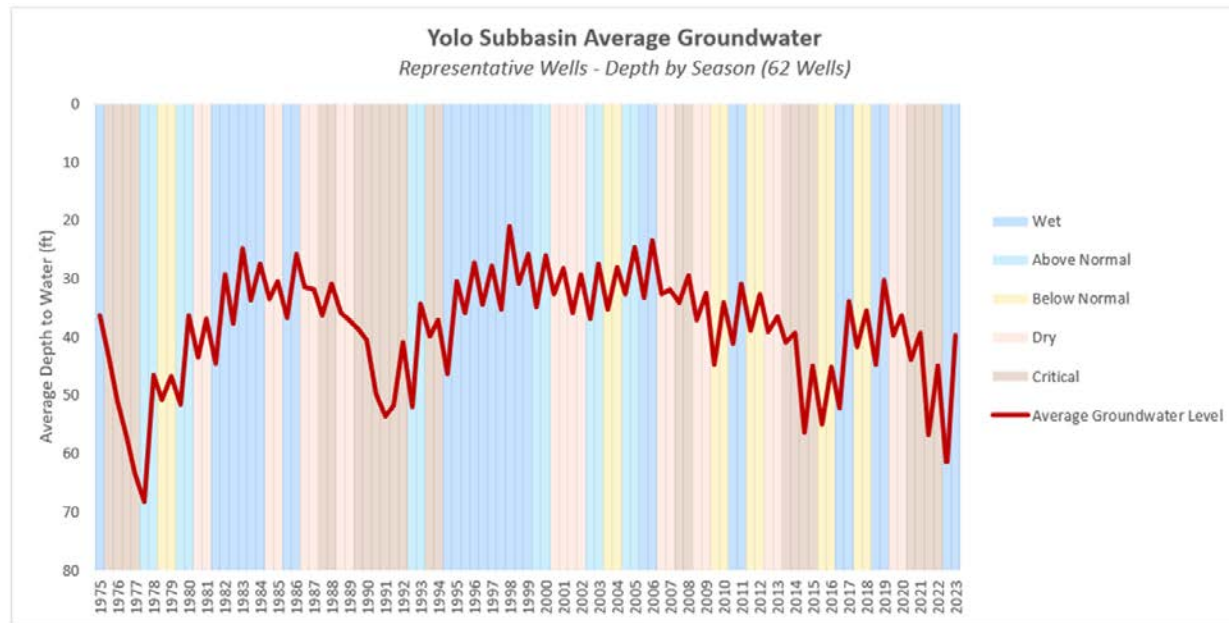
Applications received since EO issued on March 28, 2022
(as of 6/20/2023)

Received	Replacement well	New well	Issued	Pending*
67	22	45	36	31

**For pending agricultural well permits applications, 13 of the permit applicants have received YSGA verification but the applicant still needs to submit additional information for Environmental Health to approve the permit.*



Groundwater Conditions Update



Mid-March 2021 Average Depth to Water ~ 39 feet
Mid-August 2021 Average Depth to Water ~ 57 feet
Early March 2022 Average Depth to Water ~ 45 feet
September 2022 Average Depth to Water ~62 feet
April 2023 Average Depth to Water ~ 40 feet

Of Note:

1977-78 Recovery from Fall to Spring ~21 feet
2016-17 Recovery from Fall to Spring ~ 18 feet
2022-23 Recovery from Fall to Spring ~22 feet



Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency Update

- Areas of Special Concern

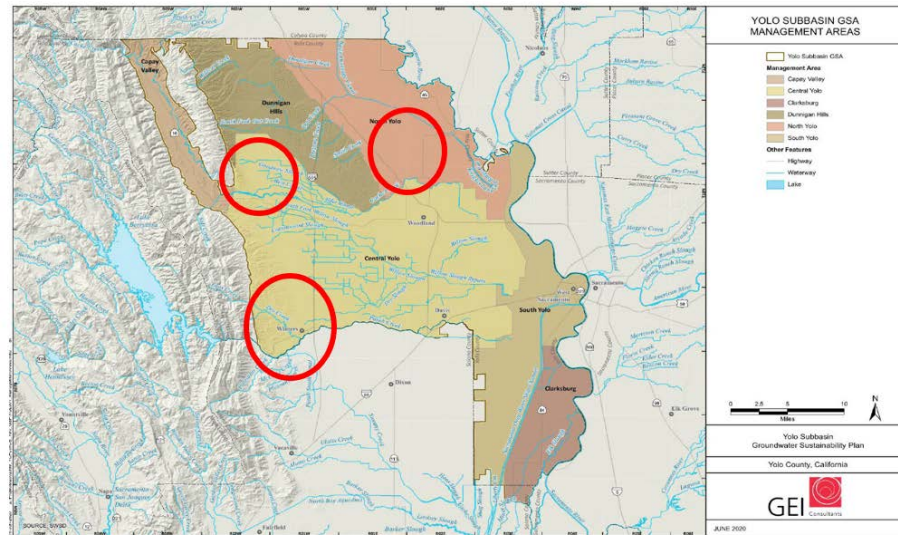
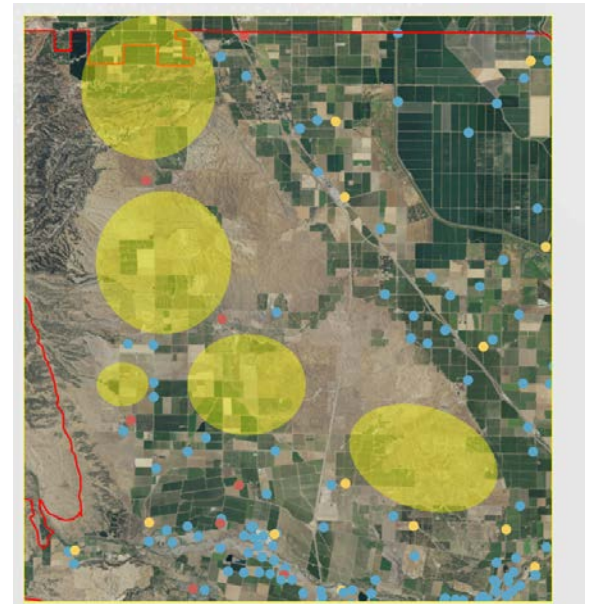


Figure 2-61. Yolo Subbasin Management Areas.

- Data Gaps



Questions?

