

Chronic Lowering of Groundwater-Levels: Key Points/Considerations



- SGMA Definition: Chronic lowering of groundwater levels indicating a significant and unreasonable depletion of supply if continued over the 50-year planning and implementation horizon.
- Groundwater levels will be measured using a Representative Monitoring Point network of wells throughout the basin; this network is a subset of the entire GSA well monitoring network.

Main Themes from previous AC Input Reflected in preliminary SMCs

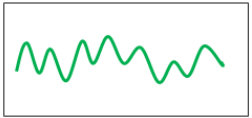
- For areas with stable trends, maintain groundwater levels within or near historical conditions while accounting for future droughts and climate variability.
- For areas with declining trends, protect beneficial users that could be impacted by the declining groundwater levels and stabilize and reverse the declining trends.

Draft Methodology* Developed for Distinct Observed Patterns

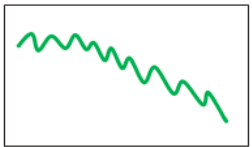


Preliminary factors and metrics considered.

- Water Supply Well Depths (incorporate protections for existing water wells)
- Historical Low Groundwater-Levels
- Projected Future Groundwater-Levels
- *Groundwater-Dependent Ecosystems (TBD)*



1. For wells with stable groundwater-level trends, **maintain groundwater levels within or near historical conditions while accounting for future droughts and climate variability.**



2. For wells with historical declining trends, **stabilize and reverse the declining trends and restore groundwater-levels to pre-2010 levels.**

*Incorporates initial advisory committee input on significant and unreasonable effects



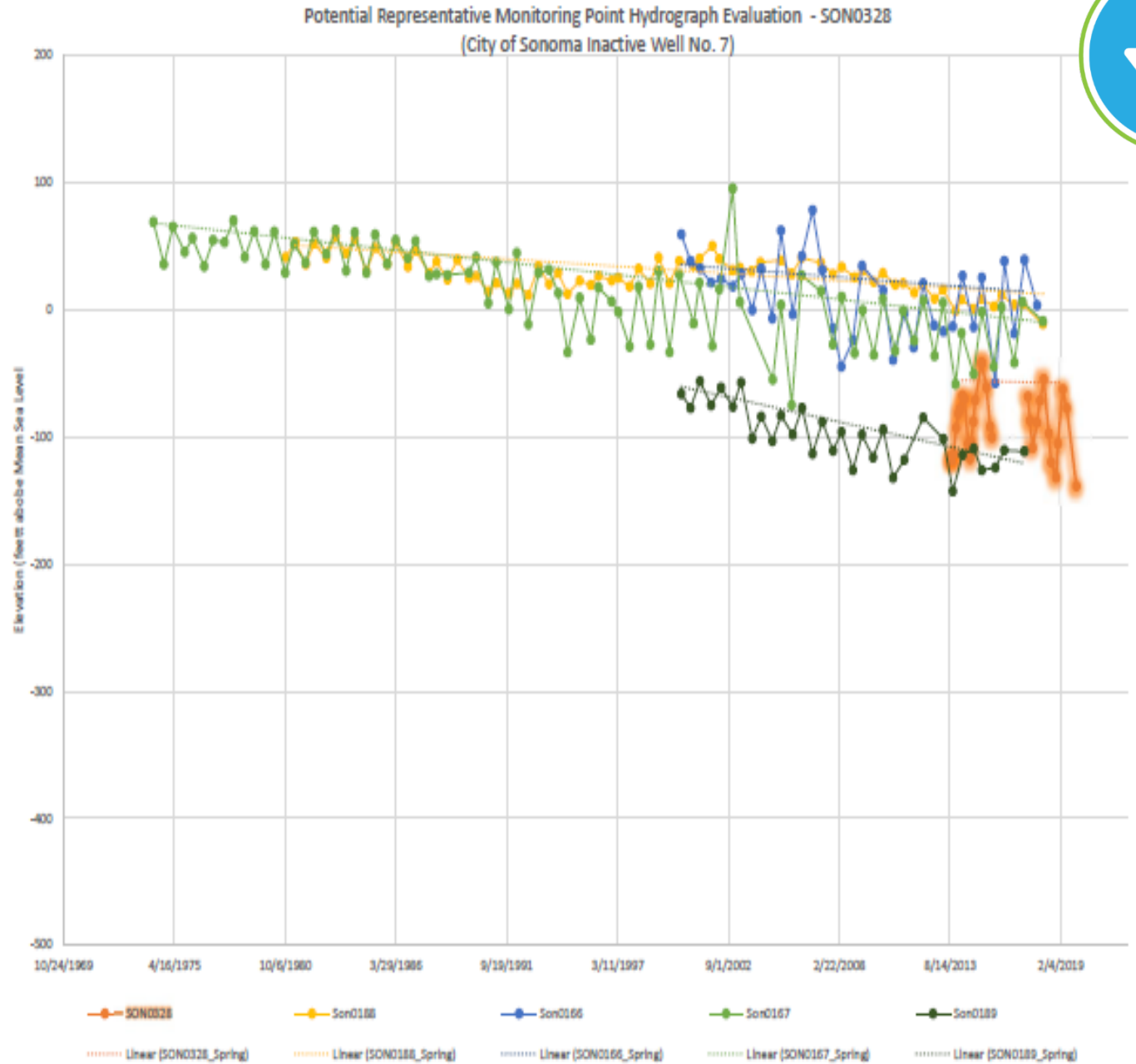
Remaining Questions and Issues

1. Assess historical data availability to better define historical “averages” - *ongoing*
2. Assess and describe potential impacts on beneficial users – *ongoing*
 - Further assess water well depth datasets to best incorporate protection of existing well users
3. **Reassess appropriateness of SMCs based on future projected model scenarios, in particular, for areas with identified groundwater-level declines** – *late summer/fall*
4. Develop range of options for establishing Undesirable Results for Board consideration with AC input – *late summer/fall*

Status Update of Ongoing Work

Assess historical data availability to better define historical “averages”

- Assessing datasets from available monitoring wells near each RMP to evaluate historical trends to improve definition of “historical averages”



Status Update of Ongoing Work



Further assess water well depth datasets to best incorporate protection of existing well users

- Statistical evaluation of depths of existing known water wells in the vicinity of each proposed RMP to assess proper depth percentile for protection

