

# Cambria Emergency Water Supply Project

Cambria Community Services District



## Emergency Water Supply Project Update



**CDM  
Smith**®

August 27, 2014

# Agenda

- Introductions
- Project need
- Historical studies
- Overview of Emergency Supply Project
- Hydrology/Mitigation Flow/Quality of Discharge to Lagoon
- Evaporation Pond
- Biological resources
- Land use & mitigation measures
- Progress to date
- Questions & Answers



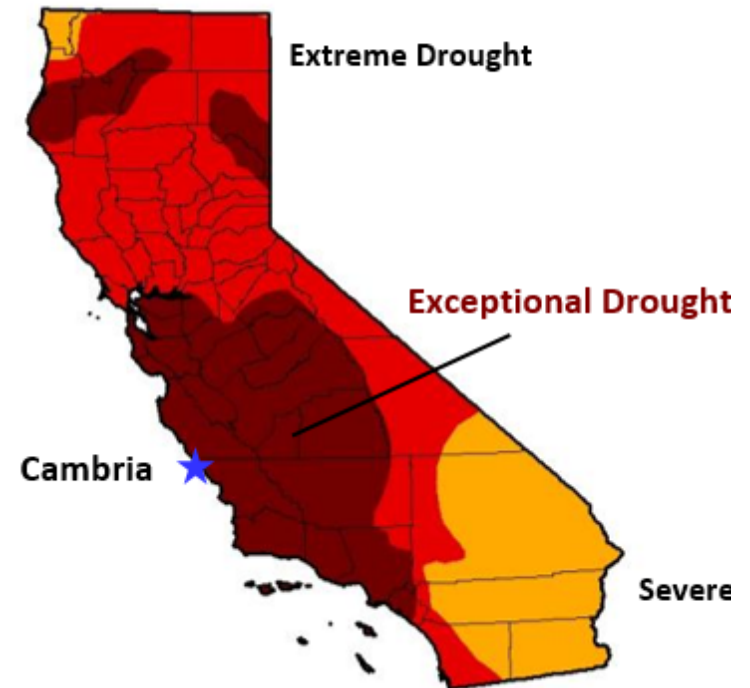
# Introductions

- CCSD President - Jim Bahringer
- CCSD Vice President – Gail Robinette
- CCSD General Manager – Jerry Gruber
- CCSD District Engineer - Bob Gresens, P.E.
- WTP Engineer – CDM Smith, Greg Wetterau, PE
- Hydrogeologist – CDM Smith, Mike Smith, PG
- CEQA Project Manager – RBF, Rita Garcia
- Project Biologist – RBF, Tom McGill
- Regulator Specialist – RBF, Richard Beck
- Principal-in-Charge – CDM Smith, Mari Garza-Bird



# State of CCSD Current Conditions

- Cambria is located in the “Exceptional Drought” area
- Rainfall this year is only 80% of minimum amount required to recharge local aquifers
- If drought continues then Community will run out of water
- Imperative to provide enough water for public health, safety, sanitation, and fire protection
- State OES is monitoring the situation closely
- Emergency measures are in place by CCSD with > 40% conservation occurring over past several months
- Emergency supply project is currently under construction with completion estimated to occur by November 14, 2014.



**July 8, 2014**  
**US Drought Monitor**



# Historical Studies

- USACOE study
- 28 identified options,
  - screened to 8 alternatives – developed high level concepts
  - Screened to 4 alternatives – full concepts developed and studied
- Public meetings
- Recommended alternative used as basis for the emergency water supply project

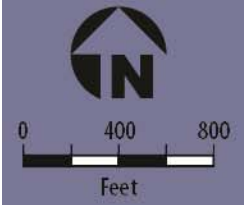


# OVERVIEW OF EMERGENCY WATER SUPPLY PROJECT

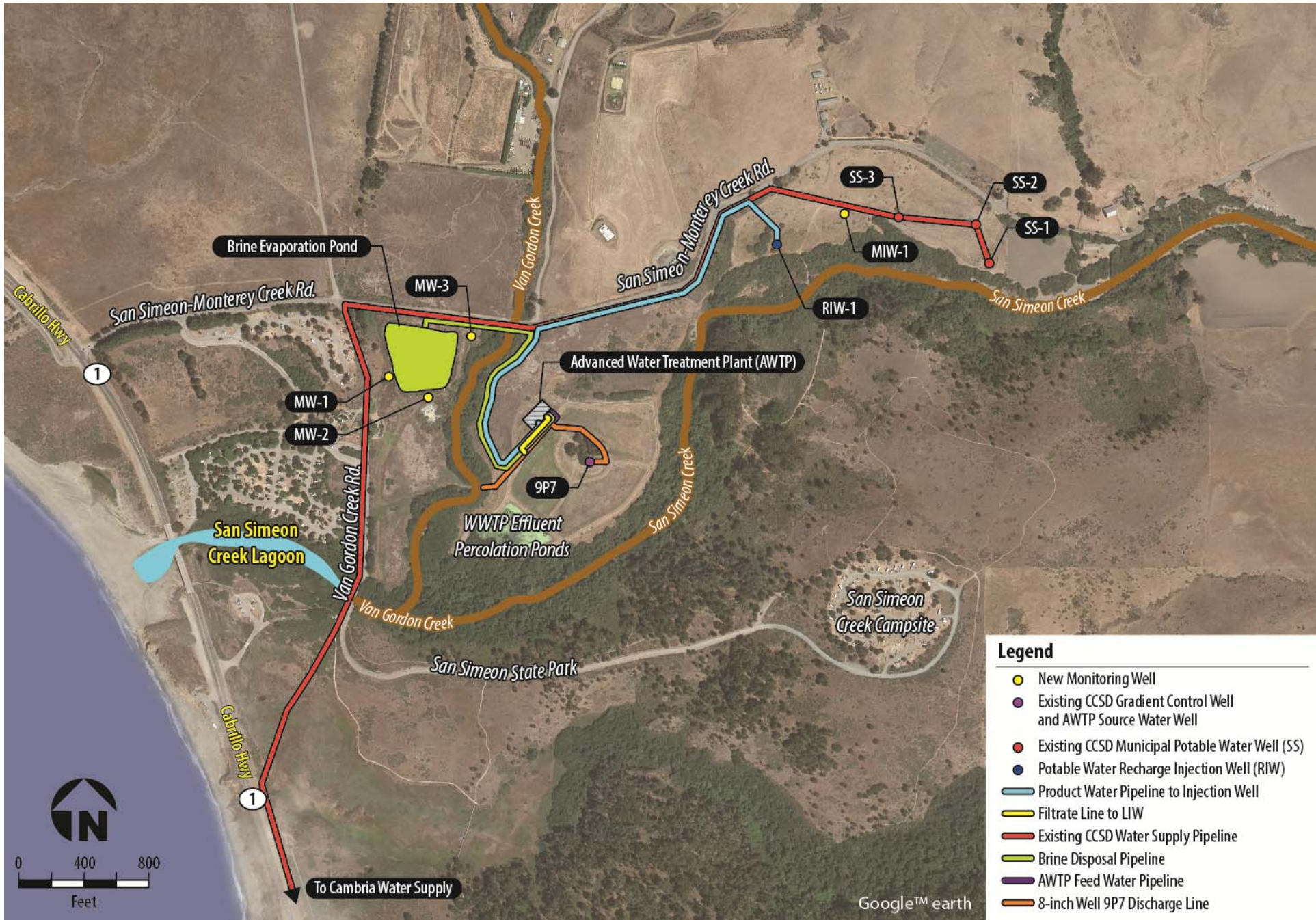


**Legend**

- New Monitoring Well
- Existing CCSD Gradient Control Well and AWTP Source Water Well
- Existing CCSD Municipal Potable Water Well (SS)
- Potable Water Recharge Injection Well (RIW)
- Product Water Pipeline to Injection Well
- Filtrate Line to LIW
- Existing CCSD Water Supply Pipeline
- Brine Disposal Pipeline
- AWTP Feed Water Pipeline
- 8-inch Well 9P7 Discharge Line



Google™ earth



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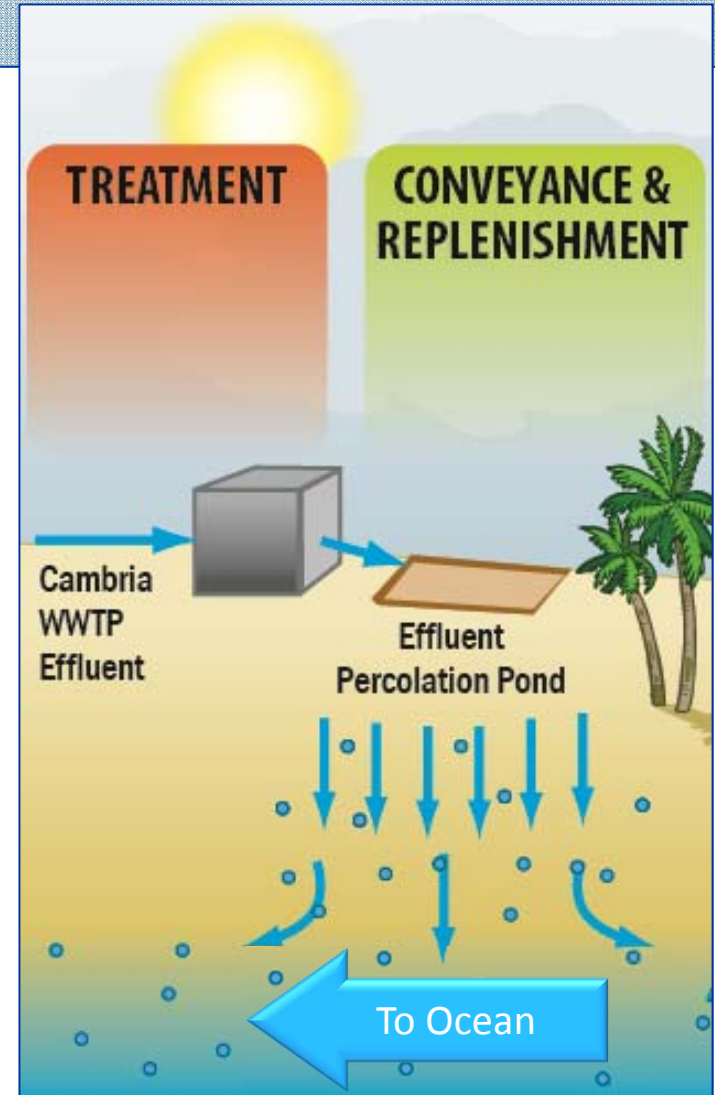
# How much water will be produced?

- 272 gpm of drinking water to CCSD customers
- Approximately 250 acre-feet of drinking water during the 6 month drought season

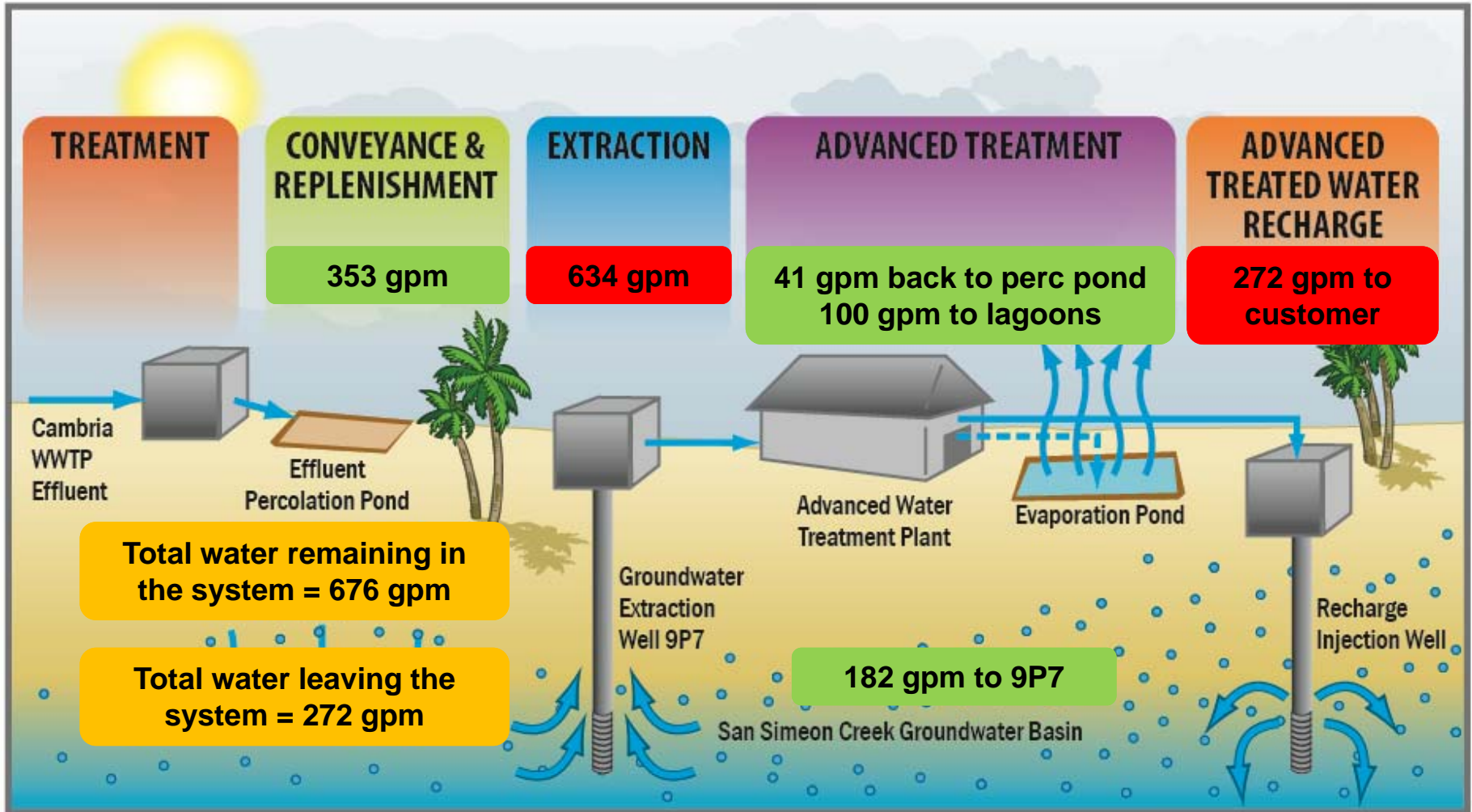


# What Happens to Our Water Now?

- 0.5 mgd wastewater treated at WWTP
- Treated water sent to percolation ponds near San Simeon State Park
- All water, including basin underflow, ultimately ends up in ocean (>45 acre-feet/month)
- Emergency project will recover a portion of this water



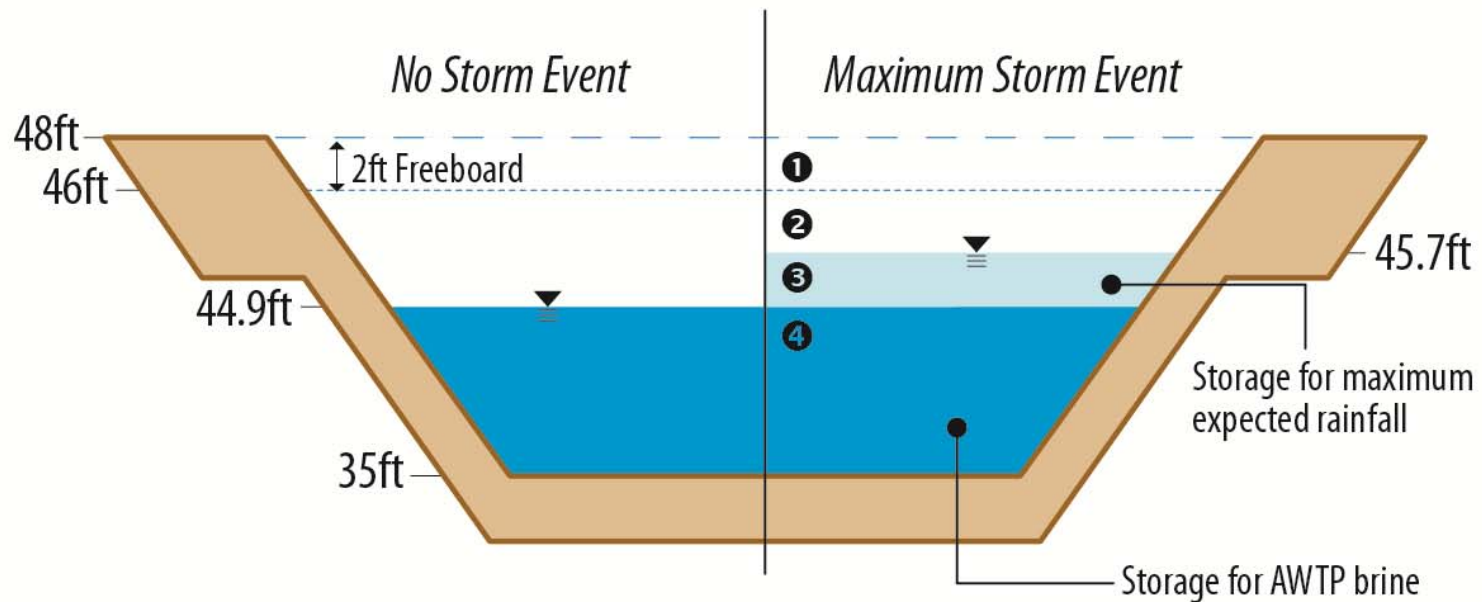
# What is Groundwater Replenishment?



# EVAPORATION POND

# Evaporation Pond

## Brine Level After First 6 Months of AWTP Operation



### Storage Volumes

- ① 6.4 acre-feet   ② 0.5 acre-feet   ③ 2.7 acre-feet   ④ 18.1 acre-feet



# Brine disposal to an evaporation pond

- Evaporation blowers operational conditions:
  - Evaporators will operate only when wind is blowing from west to east
  - Evaporators will not operate with wind speeds above 6mph
- Sound proofing will be provided for the blowers
- Weather station located on-site to monitor operational conditions



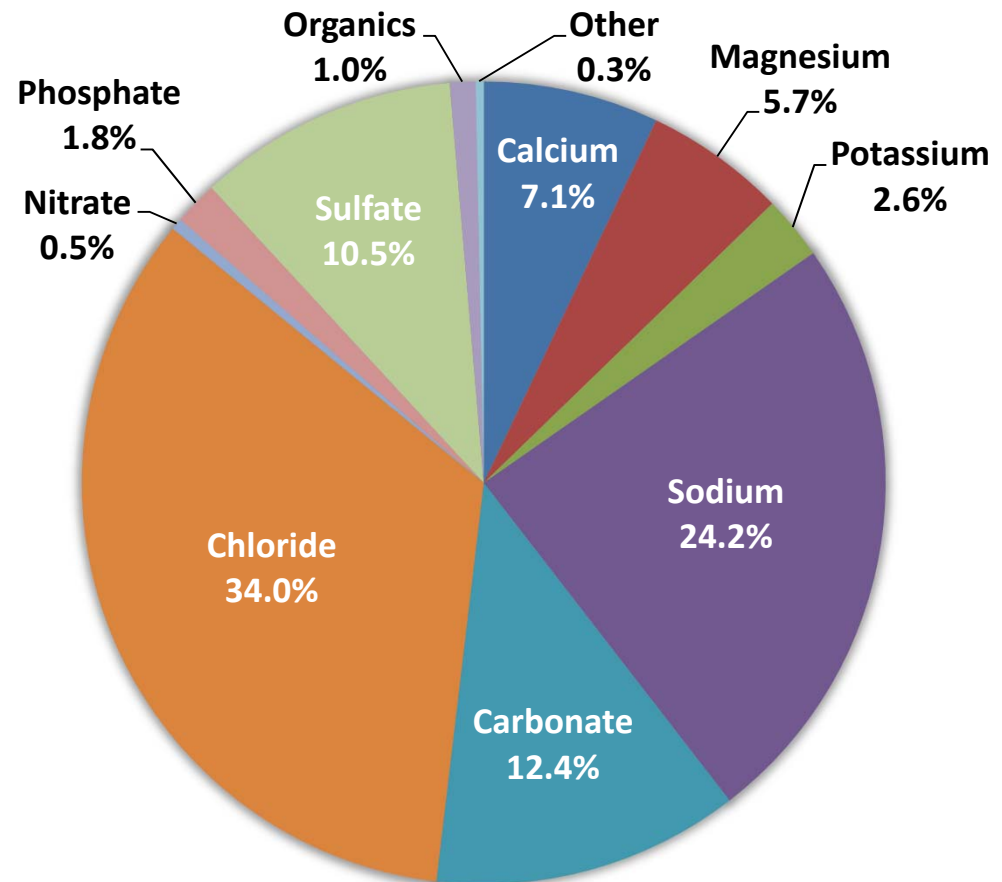
# Evaporation Pond: Maximum Liquid Concentrations

- Maximum concentrations reached in brine solution controlled primarily by solubility
  - Total TDS expected to reach 360,000 mg/L
  - 90% will be sodium chloride
  - Remaining salts will be primarily sodium carbonate and sodium sulfate



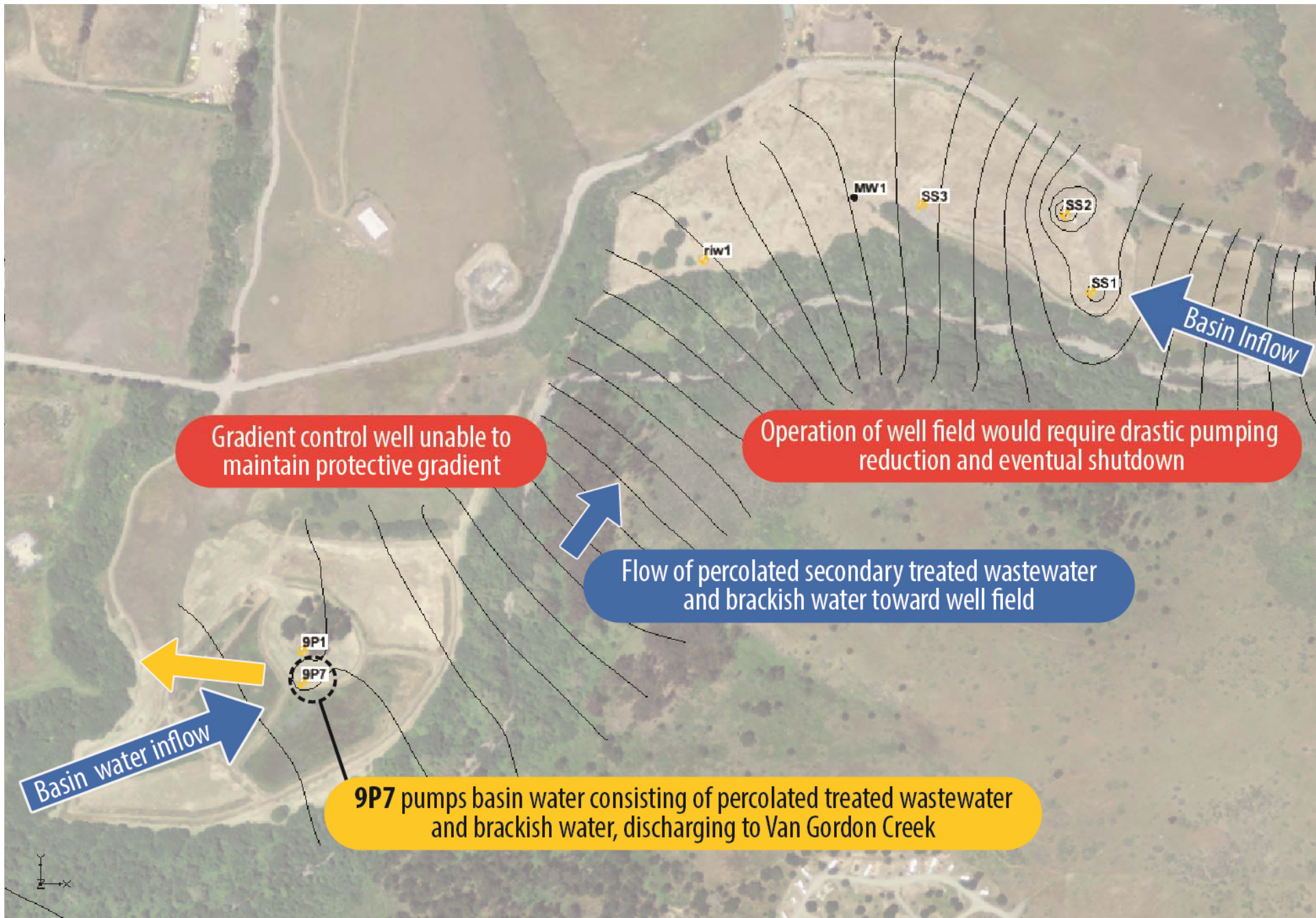
# Evaporation Pond: Projected Constituents in Dry Solids

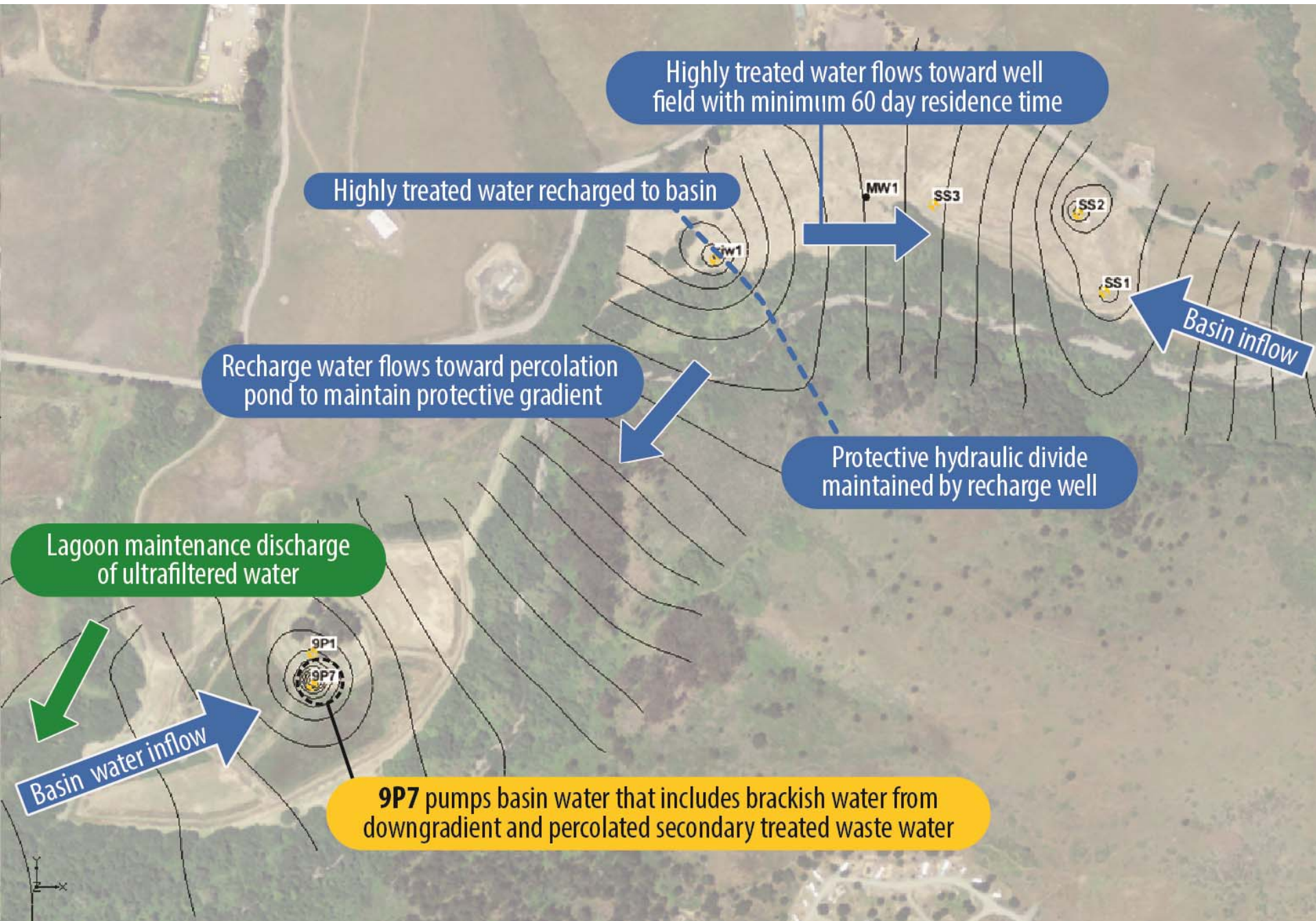
94% of solids will come from six constituents





# HYDROLOGY/MITIGATION FLOW/QUALITY OF DISCHARGE TO LAGOON





# Tracer Test

- Pump from existing production wells SS1 and SS2 at a total of 454 gpm
- Inject at RIW-1 with addition of tracer
- Addition of tracer bromide salt at 10 ppm
- Cease addition of tracer after 30 days
- Total duration of test 67 days
- At end of test wells SS1 and SS2 continue producing at 454 gpm
- Gradient control pumping and discharge to lagoon not necessary during injection period



# Lagoon with Ocean Discharge – March 2010



# Lagoon Low Water – September 2010



# Lagoon – August 2013



# Upper Lagoon – July 2014





# Lagoon Near Beach Berm – July 2014



# Lagoon Mitigation Flow Evaluation Methods

- Groundwater model for basin used to assess lagoon water balance using the MODFLOW lake simulation package
- Uncertainties on hydraulic conductivity of lagoon sediments, so conservative assumption of good connectivity implemented during original calibration
- Lagoon geometry simplified to include typical summer extent
- Lagoon outlet elevation to ocean is modeled at 7 feet and lagoon water level allowed to rise as a function of inflows



# Lagoon Calibration Update

- Stage monitoring in lagoon conducted over a 1 week period after model calibration
- During this period, an event caused a rise in water level followed by a fall of 7.3 inches over a 7 day period, a loss rate of 14,819 ft<sup>3</sup>/day (77 GPM)
- This established the rate and the average change in head for lake conductance which was used for the comparative evaluation of mitigation alternatives



# Simulation Approach

- The lagoon water balance evaluated under two climatic regimes
  - Normal conditions where surface flow in San Simeon Creek occurs December through April
  - Drought conditions include a two year period with no significant surface water inflow to the basin and native recharge reduced
  - Antecedent period assumes normal runoff for both scenarios
- Current CCSD operations simulated for each of these climatic scenarios as a baseline
- Proposed water supply alternative simulated for the two climatic conditions with lagoon mitigation flows of 0, 50, 100 and 150 gpm during the 6 month dry season



# Baseline Operating Assumptions

- San Simeon well field production at permitted rate 454 gpm
- Percolation pond recharge 353 gpm
- Gradient control well 25 gpm (June – October during drought years), assume not needed during normal years
- Gradient control discharge to Van Gordon creek
- Irrigation wells operate during dry season
- Permit for well field requires maintenance of a protective gradient between the percolation ponds and the well field

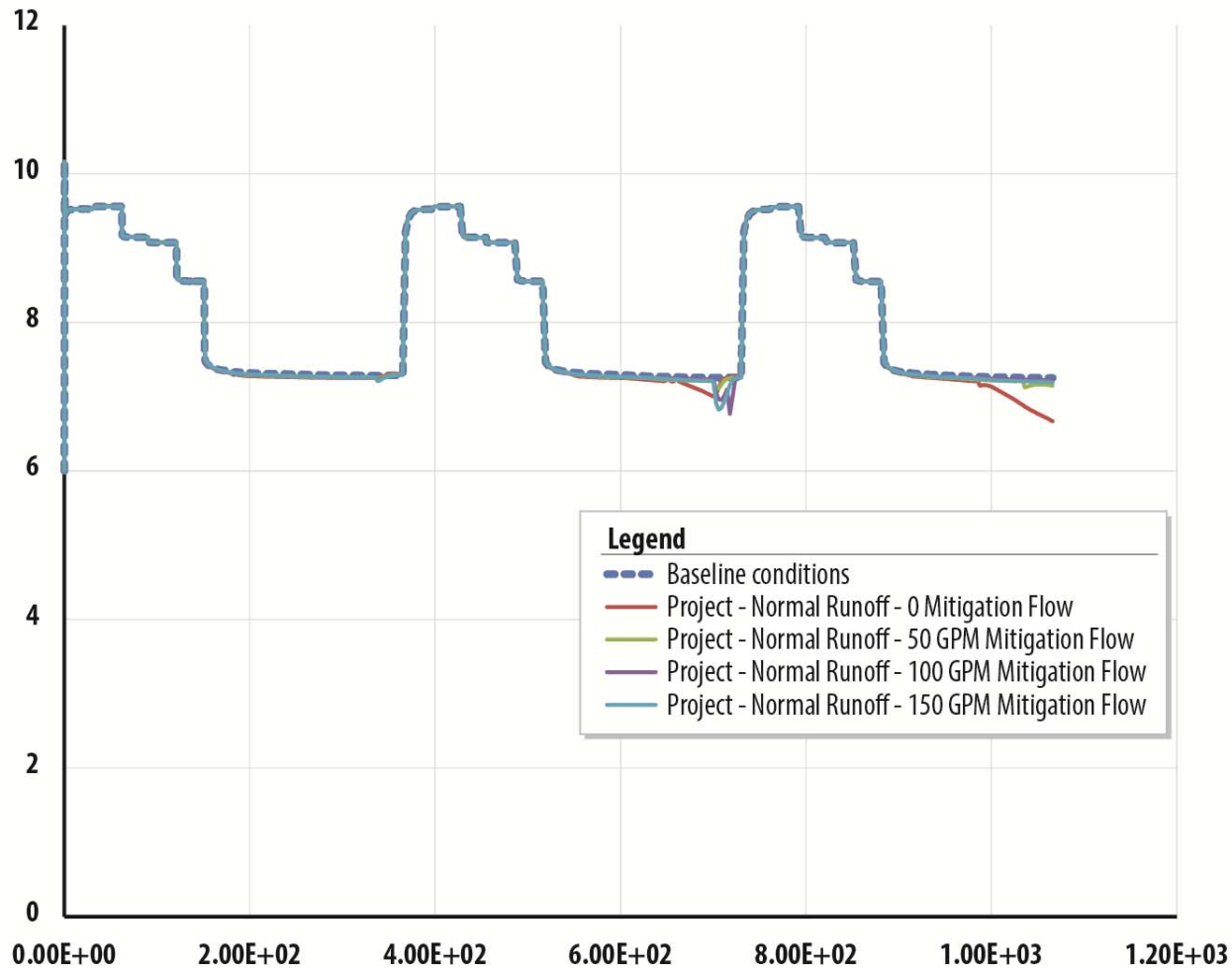


# Project Operating Assumptions

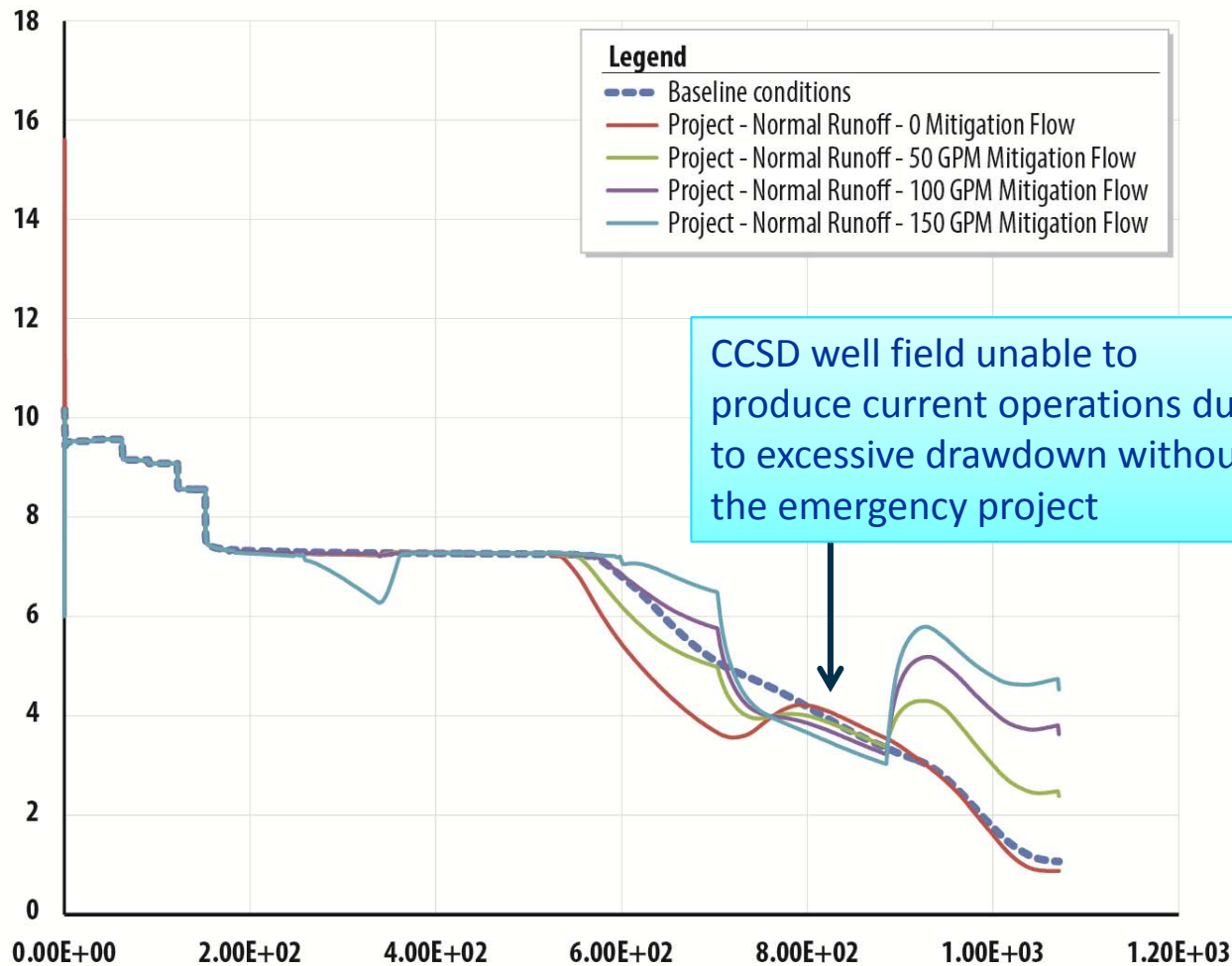
- San Simeon well field production rate 454 gpm
- Percolation pond recharge 353 gpm
- RIW-1 recharge 454 gpm
  - Maintains protective gradient from Percolation Pond area
  - Provides recharge to CCSD well field after residence time
- 9P7 pumping 634 gpm
  - RIW-1 recharge 454 gpm
  - Ultrafilter backwash discharge to percolation ponds 40 gpm
  - Discharge brine to evaporation pond 40 gpm
  - Mitigation discharge to lagoon 100 gpm
- Reverts to baseline conditions during wet season
- Irrigation wells operate during dry season



# Comparison of Baseline and Project Operations – Normal Runoff Conditions



# Comparison of Baseline and Project Operations – Extended Drought Conditions





# Summary Normal Runoff Conditions/ Non Drought Conditions

- No significant impact on lagoon stage from current project operations
- Mitigation flows not necessary under normal runoff climatic conditions



# Summary Of Extended Drought Conditions

- Without emergency water supply project:
  - CCSD well field production will not be feasible after second drought season due to depletion of the basin storage
  - The lagoons will cease to exist
- With emergency water supply project:
  - Mitigation flow of 100 GPM more than sufficient to maintain lagoon water levels above elevation 3 feet during extended droughts
  - During second drought year water levels during project operations increase to about 5 feet



# Project Advantages

- Project implementation will allow continued operation of the CCSD well field
- Stage in the lagoon will be maintained at or above baseline conditions with 100 GPM mitigation flows



# BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

# Establishing Baseline Conditions for the Adaptive Management Plan

- CCSD conducted annual aquatic surveys from 1992 to 2006
  - San Simeon Lagoon surveyed once in early summer, once in the fall for tidewater goby
  - San Simeon Creek surveyed once in early summer for steelhead
  - Surveys of adjacent lagoons and creeks:
    - Santa Rosa Lagoon surveyed once in early summer, once in the fall for tidewater goby
    - Santa Rosa Creek surveyed once in early summer for steelhead



## Additional Efforts

- RBF proposes conducting the following focused surveys as part:
  - Tidewater goby (lagoon)
  - California red-legged frog (lagoon/creek)
  - Steelhead (lagoon/creek)



## Existing Steelhead Data

- South-Central California Steelhead Recovery Plan (December 2013)
  - San Simeon Creek population is listed as a “Core 1” population indicating highest recovery priority
  - Groundwater extraction is listed as a “very high threat”
  - Recovery plan suggests a study is needed to assess groundwater extraction impacts
  - San Simeon Creek is in Critical Habitat, Estero Bay Hydrologic Unit



# Endangered Species Approvals

- The Corps will initiate Section 7 consultation with USFWS/NMFS for potential impacts from this project once a 404 application is submitted
- Biological monitoring as part of the AMP will help provide ongoing data on the effects of groundwater extraction





# Agency Consultation

- Both USFWS and CDFW requested AMP as part of a Section 7 consultation
- Coastal Commission requirements:
  - Riparian and wetland 100-foot buffer zones
  - Protection of riparian and terrestrial vegetation
  - Protection of steelhead streams and fish migration



# CWA 404 Permitting Requirements

- Triggers Federal Nexus for Section 7
- RBF conducted a jurisdictional delineation of the site in August 2014
- State and Federal waters/wetlands mapped



# Jurisdictional Wetlands/Waters



35°35'36.07" N  
 121°07'25.12" W  
 35°35'14.01" N  
 121°06'38.72" W

- Reference Lat/Long
- Soil Pit
- Survey Area
- Brine Evaporation Basin
- Maintained Effluent Ponds
- 6.71 AC Corps/Regional Board OHWM
- 0.39 AC Corps/Regional Board Wetland



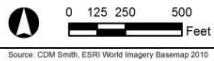
Source: CDM Smith, ESRI World Imagery Basemap 2010

CAMBRIA EMERGENCY WATER SUPPLY PROJECT  
 DELINEATION OF STATE AND FEDERAL JURISDICTIONAL WATERS  
 Corps/Regional Board Jurisdictional Map

# Jurisdictional Wetlands/Waters



CAMBRIA EMERGENCY WATER SUPPLY PROJECT  
 DELINEATION OF STATE AND FEDERAL JURISDICTIONAL WATERS  
**CDFW Jurisdictional Map**



# Jurisdictional Wetlands/Waters



CAMBRIA EMERGENCY WATER SUPPLY PROJECT  
 DELINEATION OF STATE AND FEDERAL JURISDICTIONAL WATERS  
**CCC Jurisdictional Map**



# Potential Effects to Local Waterways

- Groundwater modeling indicates minimal adverse effects will occur
- Some level of uncertainty exists
- The AMP will help track and respond to any changes, adverse or beneficial, in habitat structure



# Mitigation Program

- Preparation of a CWA 404 Permit
  - Section 7 Consultation with USFWS/NMFS
  - Adaptive Management Plan will be prepared as part of the Section 7 Consultation in “coordination and collaboration” with USFWS/NMFS
    - Biological Monitoring
    - GW and Surface Water Monitoring and Modeling
    - Ongoing Focused Surveys
    - Data Review/Analysis
    - Series of Adaptive Management Measures
    - Reporting Process



# LAND USE & MITIGATION MEASURES



## CEQA Status/Schedule

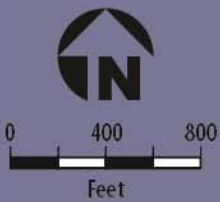
- IS/MND 30-day public review period June 23 – July 22, 2014
- Project modifications, since IS/MND Release
- Necessitate IS/MND Revisions
- Constitute “Significant New Information”
- Next CEQA steps under evaluation



# Land Use

- Mechanical spray evaporators
- Sensitive receptors
  - Hearst San Simeon State Park campgrounds & trail
  - Van Gordon Creek Corridor





Google™ earth



# Potential Effects

- Aesthetics and lighting
- Brine drift
- Noise – Construction-related
- Noise – Operational



# Aesthetics and Lighting

- No lighting proposed
- San Simeon Creek corridor to the south buffers project
  - Not visible to Washburn Primitive Campground
  - Not visible to trail
- Proposed native vegetation along western boundary to buffer project (MM AES-2)
- Not Visible to San Simeon Creek Campground
- Including nearest sites 18, 19, 21, 23, and 24





# Noise – Construction-Related

- Acoustically dispersed and Intermittent
  - Short-term Intermittent Exposure in Excess of Standards Could Occur
  - Nesting Bird Clearance Survey (MM BIO-10) Prior to Construction
  - Project is a Noise Exempt Noise Source
    - Equipment Connected With Emergency Activities
    - Construction Noise Sources Provided Within Restricted Hours



## Noise – Operational

- AWTP noise contained within containers
- Evaporators include soundwall enclosures
- Below CZLUO noise standards of 45/50dBA (day/night) @ nearest receptors
- 42 dBA at western property line (distance of 200 feet)
- 40 dBA at San Simeon Creek Washburn Primitive Campground (distance of 250 feet to nearest sites)
- 38 dBA at Van Gordon Creek Corridor (distance of 400 feet)





# County Growth Management Ordinance (GMO)

- “Allocation” of new units (i.e. “Growth”) in Cambria is set at zero percent
- Any change would require:
  - Adoption of an amendment by the county board of supervisors
  - Environmental review under CEQA



# PROGRESS TO DATE

## Progress to Date

- Hydrogeological modeling completed in April
- IS/MND Posted
- Design completed this month
- All long-lead equipment has been ordered
  - Process Equipment
- Construction contract executed
  - Sub-contracts being finalized this week
  - Construction starting this week
  - Bio & Native Indian monitors in place
- Completion expected in November



# QUESTIONS