



AGENDA

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, November 19, 2015, 4:00 p.m.

NCTPA/NVTA Conference Room
625 Burnell Street, Napa CA 94559

Board of Directors

Susan Boswell
Tosha Comendant
Diane Dillon
Marita Dorenbecher
Jeri Gill
David Graves
Gary Kraus
Jason Lauritsen
Kenneth Leary
Gretchen Stranzl
McCann
Marc Pandone
Alfredo Pedroza
Jeff Reichel
Scott Sedgley
Pamela Smithers
Rita Steiner
Peter White

Alternates

Keith Caldwell
Paul Dohring
Richard Hall
Irais Lopez-Ortega
Mary Luros
Belia Ramos

Staff

Patrick Lowe,
Secretary
Natural Resources
Conservation Mngr.,
Public Works

Jeff Sharp,
Principal Planner,
Public Works

Robert C. Martin,
Legal Counsel
Deputy Counsel,
County Counsel's
Office

804 First Street,
Napa, CA
94559-2623

Tel: 707-259-8600

info@napawatersheds.org

1. **CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL** (Chair)

2. **APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES**
Meeting of **July 23, 2015** (Chair) (2 min)

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

In this time period, anyone may comment to the Board regarding any subject over which the Board has jurisdiction, or request consideration to place an item on a future Agenda. No comments will be allowed involving any subject matter that is scheduled for discussion as part of this Agenda. Individuals will be limited to a three-minute presentation. No action will be taken by the Board as a result of any item presented at this time. (Chair)

4. **UPDATES, REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

- a) Report on Board of Supervisor's **appointments to the WICC** (Staff) (2 min)
- b) Update on Napa County **water supplies, drought conditions and El Niño** (Phil Miller, Deputy Director, Public Works) (10 min)
- c) Update on Napa County **Groundwater Monitoring Program** (Patrick Lowe, NRC Mgr.) (10 min)
- d) Report on WICC supported **watershed education activities and events** including the **2016 Watershed Education Calendar** (Erick McKee, Napa County RCD) (10 min)
- e) Report on projects and activities of The **Silverado Environmental Association** (SEA) (Silverado Middle School SEA Students) (10 min)
- f) Report on NOAA **Multispecies Recovery Plan** for local Chinook salmon and steelhead (Jonathan Koehler, Biologist, Napa County RCD) (5 min)
- g) Other reports and updates (Board/Staff) (5-10 min)
(cont.)

5. **UPDATES, PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION**

- a) Presentation on the **York Creek Dam removal** project – An update on funding status, project scope and timeline (Tracey Perkosky, Grants Manager, City of St. Helena) (15 min)
- b) Presentation on the **Climate Ready North Bay Scenarios for the Napa Valley**, an effort to help communities get “climate ready.” Developed projections include watershed hydrology such as runoff, recharge and soil moisture and some site-specific work to foster dialog on how to use climate scenarios to generate local information and products for planners, resource managers, and decision-makers to meet climate adaptation challenges (Lisa Micheli, PhD, Executive Director, Pepperwood’s Dwight Center for Conservation) (20 min)
- c) Update on **Napa County land use programs and projects** (David Morrison, Director, Planning, Building and Environmental Services) (20 min)

6. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

Discussion and possible action to appoint an ad hoc subcommittee of the WICC to participate in a facilitated workshop focused on developing website strategies and features that would help the Council achieve its Strategic Plan goals (Staff) (10 min)

7. **INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Exchange of **informational announcements and events** (Staff/Board/Public) (5-10 min)

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Discussion of possible **items for future agendas** (Board/Staff) (5 min)

9. **NEXT MEETING (Chair)**

Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting: **January 28, 2015 – 4:00 p.m.**

10. **ADJOURNMENT (Chair)**

Note: If requested, the agenda and documents in the agenda packet shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability. Please contact Jeff Sharp at 707-259-5936, 804 First St., Napa CA 94559-2623.





-- ACTION MINUTES --

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, July 23, 2015, 4:00 p.m.

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625 Burnell Street, Napa CA 94559

Board of Directors

Susan Boswell
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Diane Dillon
Marita Dorenbecher
Michael Haley
Gary Kraus
Jason Lauritsen
Kenneth Leary
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Marc Pandone
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1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL (Chair)

Members Present: Susan Boswell, Diane Dillon, Marita Dorenbecher, Gary Kraus, Kenneth Leary, Gretchen Stranzl McCann, Marc Pandone, Jeff Reichel, Scott Sedgley, Rita Steiner, Peter White

Members excused: Tosha Comendant, Jason Lauritsen, Matt Pope, Pamela Smithers, Keith Caldwell

Members absent: Alfredo Pedroza

Staff present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp

2. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES

Meeting of May 28, 2015 (Chair) (2 min)

Approved as presented

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

In this time period, anyone may comment to the Board regarding any subject over which the Board has jurisdiction, or request consideration to place an item on a future Agenda. No comments will be allowed involving any subject matter that is scheduled for discussion as part of this Agenda. Individuals will be limited to a three-minute presentation. No action will be taken by the Board as a result of any item presented at this time. (Chair)

None provided

4. UPDATES, REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- a) Report on Board of Supervisors' June 23, 2015 approval of **new name for the WICC and alternates** for City/Town representatives (Staff) (2 min)

Jeff Sharp reported that the Board of Supervisors approved the new name for the WICC and alternates for City/Town representatives.

- b) Update on **Ethics Training** and Committees, Commissions and Advisory Boards Training Workshop on August 7, 2015, 8:00am-12:00pm (Staff) (2 min)

Jeff Sharp provided the update and noted that ethics training is required for all advisory committee members, which includes WICC members.

(cont.)

- c) Report on approved **WICC budget allocation for fiscal year 2015-16** (Staff) (5 min)
Jeff Sharp reported on the Board of Supervisors' approval of the County's 2015-16 budget. Mr. Sharp distributed a report showing the allocation of approved WICC funds for services and expenses for the fiscal year. Included in the report was a status update on the recommended actions in the WICC's 2015-16 Work Plan.
- d) Update on County **Groundwater Monitoring Program** and passage of **Senate Bill 83** allowing public access to well completion reports (Staff) (5 min)
Patrick Lowe provided an update on a new contract, approved by the Board of Supervisors, with Luhdorff and Scalmanini Consulting Engineers, groundwater consultants, to prepare a Basin Analysis Plan by 2017 to meet new State regulations. Mr. Lowe also noted that a new river flow monitoring station will be installed in the lower watershed as part of the work effort to account for in-flows and out-flows of the Napa River watershed. Mr. Lowe also said that 10 well locations in the valley will be monitored more frequently to better understand how those areas are doing with respect to changing groundwater levels and the drought.
- Phil Miller updated the Council on the passage of SB 83. The bill allows for certain well log information, which was proprietary, to be made available to the public. There was concern by some in the groundwater monitoring program that well information be held private, in confidence, to the greatest extent possible by the County. Passage of the bill allows for more public access to well construction information. An outreach effort to those in the monitoring program will be conducted, letting them know of the new State law.*
- e) Report on WICC presentation to the **Environmental Education Coalition of Napa County** (EECNC) on July 14, 2015 (Staff) (2 min)
Jeff Sharp reported on a presentation that he provided to the EECNC group and discussions with EECNC on how the WICC could better serve youth and youth education in the County.
- f) Update on **Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument** designation (Staff) (2 min)
Jeff Sharp pointed to information in the Council's agenda packet. The designation should help to improve resource planning, coordination and funding in the region.
- g) Other reports and updates (Board/Staff) (5-10 min)
Marc Pandone provided information on an upcoming (Aug. 13th at 6:30pm) environmental poetry session at the main library in Napa sponsored by the Sierra Club.
- Jeff Reichel noted that it would be helpful, in support of local water conservation efforts, for the City of Napa to issue monthly water billing rather than every other month.*

5. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION

- a) Presentation and discussion of **Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District** projects and activities (John Woodbury, General Manager, NCRPOS) (15 min)
John Woodbury provided the Council with updates on a number of District projects – Suscol headwaters/Kirkland Ranch Bay Area Ridge Trail connection Phase 1, Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Area Cedar Roughs access, Oat Hill Mine Trail private inholdings, Robert Lewis Stevens State Park Management, Bothe State Park Management, Napa River Bay Trail section south Napa Pipe, Moore Creek Park opening of southern unit trail, Camp Berryessa redevelopment.

Diane Dillon asked about controlling access to Skyline Park via River to Ridge Trail when the park is closed. Mr. Woodbury recommends that a new electronic pay station be installed to help collect fees and conduct back-country spot checks of visitors. Skyline Park is unique in that it was established and is run

by non-profit citizen group. The Park's State lease runs out in 2030. Planning and a new approach to the Park's management should be discussed.

- b) Presentation on **2015 Napa Youth Ecology Corps** program and stewardship projects (Shaun Horne, Resource Specialist, Napa County Flood District) (15 min)
Shaun Horne introduced members of the 2015 Corps present, showed a short video and provided the Council with an overview of the program and update on recent NYEC projects. Corps members participated in the presentation and provided their perspectives on the program and what it means to them and their future career aspirations.
- c) Presentation on **Napa County Firewise Program** and defensible space planning to mitigate wildland fire risks (Joe Fletcher, Fire Prevention Captain, CalFire) (15 min)
Joe Fletcher was unable to attend due to local fire emergency (Wragg Fire).
- d) Presentation and discussion of **groundwater information on WICC** website (Staff) (10 min)
Jeff Sharp presented an overview of the groundwater information available on the WICC website. Mr. Sharp used the website to show how the public could navigate and access groundwater maps, reports and summaries for various areas of the County (mostly within the Napa Valley). The long-term plan is to update the information on the site annually using reports and data from the County's Groundwater Monitoring Program.

Marita Dorenbecher noted that this information would be good to show to City/Town councils.

6. **REPORT, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**

Report and discussion on **WICC presentation for use by Board Members** to increase WICC awareness, and possible **appointment of an outreach ad-hoc subcommittee** to identify and take part in presentation opportunities (Staff) (15 min)

Jeff Sharp reported on the development of a WICC overview presentation for use as an outreach tool. The presentation is available to WICC members and staff for their use. The Council provided the following feedback: the presentation needs to be shorter (10 mins or less), provide a 2 min overview then highlight one or two key areas/projects that the WICC supports (groundwater, rotary screw trap, website maps/data), an interactive presentation (using the website) is more interesting than static slides, more photos, less text. As presentation dates are confirmed, share those with the Council so that others on the Council may attend (depending on schedules/timing). It was suggested, that Instead of a "PowerPoint" presentation, that the speaker directly use the WICC website, demonstrating the site and what it has to offer as communication tool will draw more attention to it and more use.

Scott Sedgley noted that protection of lands in the City of Napa's watersheds is becoming a priority and will be discussed at a meeting on the 4th or 18th of August. The WICC site could be utilized in those discussions.

Diane Dillon mentioned the County Supervisors would be interested helping with presentations conducted in their respective districts.

7. **INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Exchange of **informational announcements and events** (Staff/Board/Public) (5-10 min)

- a) **Oxbow Bypass Dedication Ceremony**, August 4th 11:00AM, Oxbow Bypass/McKinstry St., Napa
A flier with details of the celebration was provided to the Council
- b) **Wildlife Speaker Series:** River Otters – August 12th, Beavers – September 9th, 7:00PM, Napa Book Mine
- c) Other announcements (Board/Staff) (5-10 min)
None provided

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Discussion of possible **items for future agendas** (Board/Staff) (5 min)

Napa Valley Community Foundation, Climate Ready Grant findings, Perspectives on dry-farming vineyards, Stormwater Education, and other items

Scott Sedgley announced that the CA Water Commission will hold a public meeting on July 27th from 6:00p-8:00p at the Napa Elks Lodge to take comments on Water Quality Supply Infrastructure Improvement Act.

Susan Boswell announced the California Climate Change Symposium taking place on Aug 24th and 25th at the Sacramento Convention Center.

9. NEXT MEETING (Chair)

Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting: **September 24, 2015 – 4:00 p.m.**

10. ADJOURNMENT (Chair)

Motion and approval to adjourn.

Note: If requested, the agenda and documents in the agenda packet shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability. Please contact Jeff Sharp at 707-259-5936, 804 First St., Napa CA 94559-2623.



Voting Key

If not unanimous, votes will be tallied (N = No; A = Abstained, X = Excused) using the following Board Member abbreviations: SB = Susan Boswell; Tosha Comendant = TC, DD = Diane Dillon; MD = Marita Dorenbecher, GK = Gary Kraus; JL = Jason Lauritsen; KL = Kenneth Leary; GSMC = Gretchen Stranzl McCann; MPI = Marc Pandone; AP = Alfredo Pedroza; MP2 = Matt Pope; JR = Jeff Reichel; SS = Scott Sedgley; PS = Pamela Smithers; RS = Rita Steiner; PW = Peter White; KC = Keith Caldwell (alternate)

Example Key:

SB	TC	DD	MD	GK	JL	KL	GSMC	MPI	AP	MP2	JR	SS	PS	RS	PW	KC
X			A			N				A						

WATERSHED INFORMATION AND CONSERVANCY COUNCIL OF NAPA COUNTY (WICC)

4 year term

<u>Name (District)</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Date of Appointment</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Gretchen Stranzl-McCann (5)	Napa Co. Resource Conservation Dist.	2-4-14; 9-23-14	8-2018
Jason Lauritsen (4)	Public At Large	9-14-10; 9-23-14	8-2018
Gary Kraus (3) <i>Irais Lopez-Ortega</i>	City Council – Calistoga Alternate	10-20-15 10-20-15	11-2018
Peter White (3) <i>Paul Dohring (Alternate)</i>	City Council – St. Helena	10-20-15 10-20-15	11-2018
Kenneth Leary (5) <i>Belia Ramos (Alternate)</i>	City Council – American Canyon	10-20-15 10-20-15	11-2018
Jeri Gill (5)	Conservation, Development & Planning	10-20-15	12-2018
John Reichel (1)	Napa County Land Trust	9-18-12	8-2016
Rita Steiner	Natural Resource Conservation Service	9-18-12	8-2016
Tosha Comendant (2)	Public At Large	4-15-14	8-2016
Scott Sedgley (4) <i>Mary Luros (Alternate)</i>	City Council – Napa	1-15-13 10-20-15	12-2016
Marita Dorenbecher <i>Richard Hall (Alternate)</i>	Town Council – Yountville	10-20-15 10-20-15	11-2018
Alfredo Pedroza (4)	Board of Supervisors	1-6-15	12-2016
Diane Dillon (3)	Board of Supervisors	1-11-11; 1-6-15	12-2018
Keith Caldwell (5)	Board of Supervisors, Alternate	1-8-13	12-2016
Marc V. Pandone (3)	Public At Large	10-22-13	8-2017
David Graves (1)	Public At Large	10-20-15	8-2017
Susan Boswell (3)	Public At Large	10-22-13	8-2017
Pamela Smithers (3)	Public At Large	12-10-13	8-2017

Meets fourth Thursday of every other month at 4:00 p.m. at 625 Burnell Street, Napa, CA.

Liaison/Dept. Contact – Jeff Sharp (Water Resources Div., Dept. of Public Works) (707) 259-5936

The WICC Board serves as an advisory committee to Napa County Board of Supervisors. The role of the WICC is to assist the Board of Supervisors in their decision-making process and serve as a conduit for citizen input by gathering, analyzing and recommending options related to the management of watershed resources. In that capacity, the WICC has a responsibility to publicly evaluate and discuss matters they have been requested to review and comment upon by the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors has charged the WICC (under Resolution 02-103 and through verbal direction) with making recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on matters relating to watershed restoration projects and resource protection activities, coordination of land acquisition, and development of a long-term watershed resource management program providing public outreach and education, monitoring coordination, inventory and assessment, and data management.

Commission Contact and Liaison:

Jeff Sharp

Napa County Dept. of Public Works

804 First St., Napa CA, 94559-2623 (707) 259-5936

Jeff.Sharp@countyofnapa.org



NOAA NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Strong El Niño sets the stage for 2015-2016 winter weather

October 15, 2015

Forecasters at [NOAA's Climate Prediction Center](#) issued the [U.S. Winter Outlook](#) today favoring cooler and wetter weather in Southern Tier states with above-average temperatures most likely in the West and across the Northern Tier. This year's El Niño, among the strongest on record, is expected to influence weather and climate patterns this winter by impacting the position of the Pacific jet stream.

"A strong El Niño is in place and should exert a strong influence over our weather this winter," said Mike Halpert, deputy director, NOAA's Climate Prediction Center. "While temperature and precipitation impacts associated with El Niño are favored, El Niño is not the only player. Cold-air outbreaks and snow storms will likely occur at times this winter. However, the frequency, number and intensity of these events cannot be predicted on a seasonal timescale."

Other factors that often play a role in the winter weather include the [Arctic Oscillation](#), which influences the number of arctic air masses that penetrate into the South and [nor'easters](#) on the East Coast, and the [Madden-Julian Oscillation](#), which can impact the number of heavy rain storms in the Pacific Northwest.

The 2015 U.S. Winter Outlook (December through February):

Precipitation Outlook:

- Wetter-than-average conditions most likely in the Southern Tier of the United States, from central and southern California, across Texas, to Florida, and up the East Coast to southern New England. Above-average precipitation is also favored in southeastern Alaska.
- Drier-than-average conditions most likely for Hawaii, central and western Alaska, parts of the Pacific Northwest and northern Rockies, and for areas near the Great Lakes and Ohio Valley.



Temperature - U.S. Winter Outlook: 2015-2016 (Credit: NOAA)



Precipitation - U.S. Winter Outlook: 2015-2016 (Credit: NOAA)

Temperature Outlook:

- Above-average temperatures are favored across much of the West and the northern half of the contiguous United States. Temperatures are also favored to be above-average in Alaska and much of Hawaii. Below-average temperatures are most likely in the southern Plains and Southeast.

Drought Outlook:

- The [U.S. Drought Outlook](#) shows some improvement is likely in central and southern California by the end of January, but not drought removal. Additional statewide relief is possible during February and March. Drought removal is likely across large parts of the Southwest, while improvement or removal is also likely in the southern Plains. However, drought is likely to persist in the Pacific Northwest and northern Rockies, with drought development likely in Hawaii, parts of the northern Plains and in the northern Great Lakes region.

While it is good news that drought improvement is predicted for California, one season of above-average rain and snow is unlikely to remove four years of drought,” said Halpert. “California would need close to twice its normal rainfall to get out of drought and that’s unlikely.”

This seasonal outlook does not project where and when snowstorms may hit or provide total seasonal snowfall accumulations. Snow forecasts are dependent upon the strength and track of winter storms, which are generally not predictable more than a week in advance.



NOAA produces seasonal outlooks to help communities prepare for what's likely to come in the next few months and minimize weather's impacts on lives and livelihoods. Empowering people with actionable forecasts and [winter weather tips](#) is key to NOAA's effort to build a [Weather-Ready Nation](#).

NOAA's mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage our coastal and marine resources. Join us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and our other [social media channels](#).

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Groundwater Level Conditions Update:

Napa Valley Floor, MST Subarea, and Carneros Subarea

September 8, 2015

1. Throughout March 2015, Napa County staff recorded groundwater levels in a total of 94 wells, including 5 county-owned monitoring wells at surface water/groundwater monitoring sites. These included:
 - 46 wells in the Napa Valley Floor Subareas
 - 24 wells in the MST Subarea
 - 12 wells in the Carneros Subarea
 - 12 wells in other groundwater subareas.

2. Overall, the spring 2015 data show that groundwater levels have remained stable or have increased relative to spring 2014 groundwater levels, as indicated by subarea below:

Napa Valley Floor Subareas

- In the St. Helena Subarea groundwater levels increased up to 8 ft. or remained stable between spring 2014 and spring 2015 in four wells with long-term records.
- In the Yountville Subarea groundwater levels increased between 5 ft. and 8 ft. between spring 2014 and spring 2015 in six wells with long-term records.
- In the Napa and Calistoga Subareas groundwater levels were stable between spring 2014 and spring 2015 in six wells with long-term records.

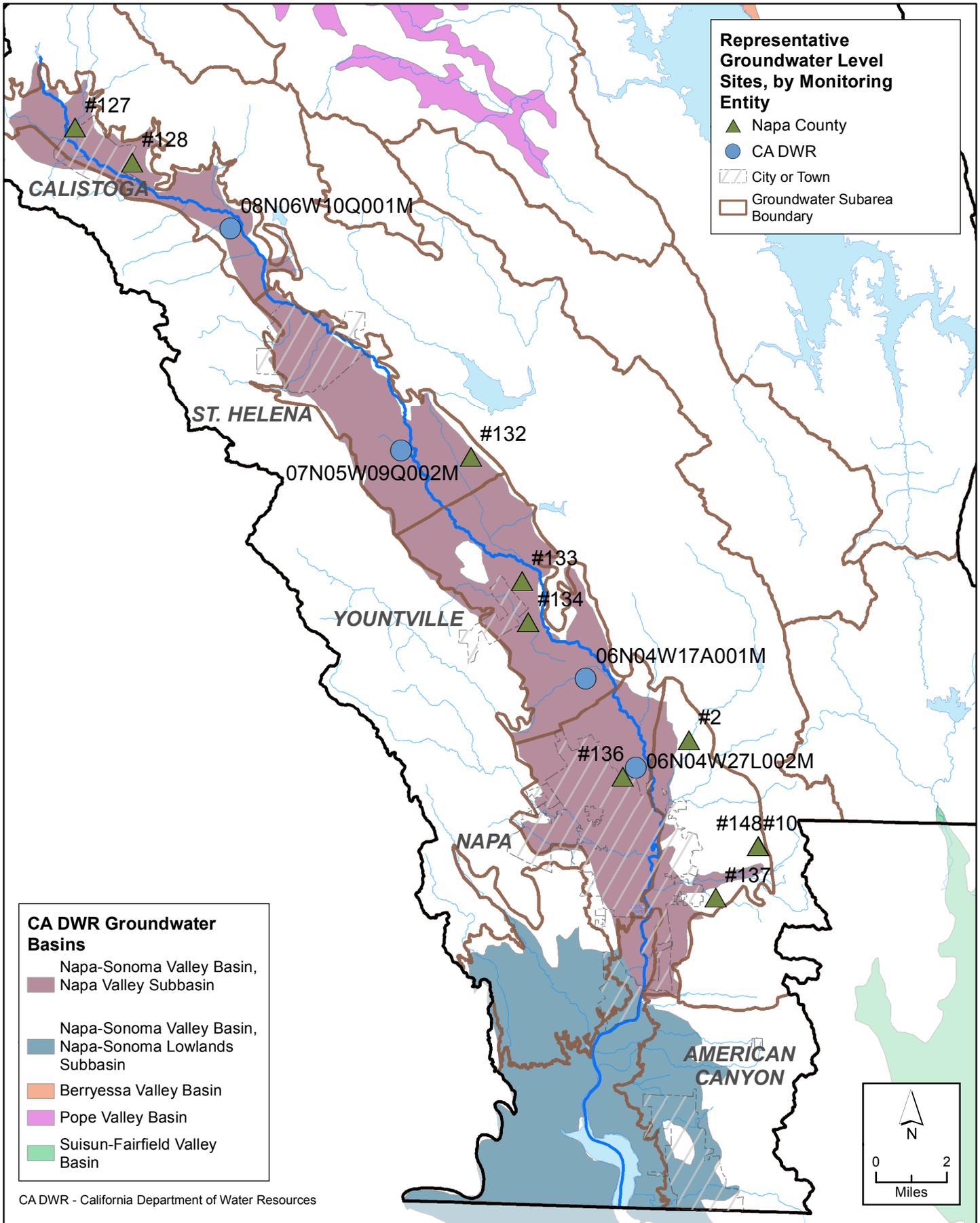
MST Subarea

- Between spring 2014 and spring 2015 groundwater levels increased or remained stable in 18 of 21 wells with long-term records, with water level increases of at least 10 ft. in 9 wells.

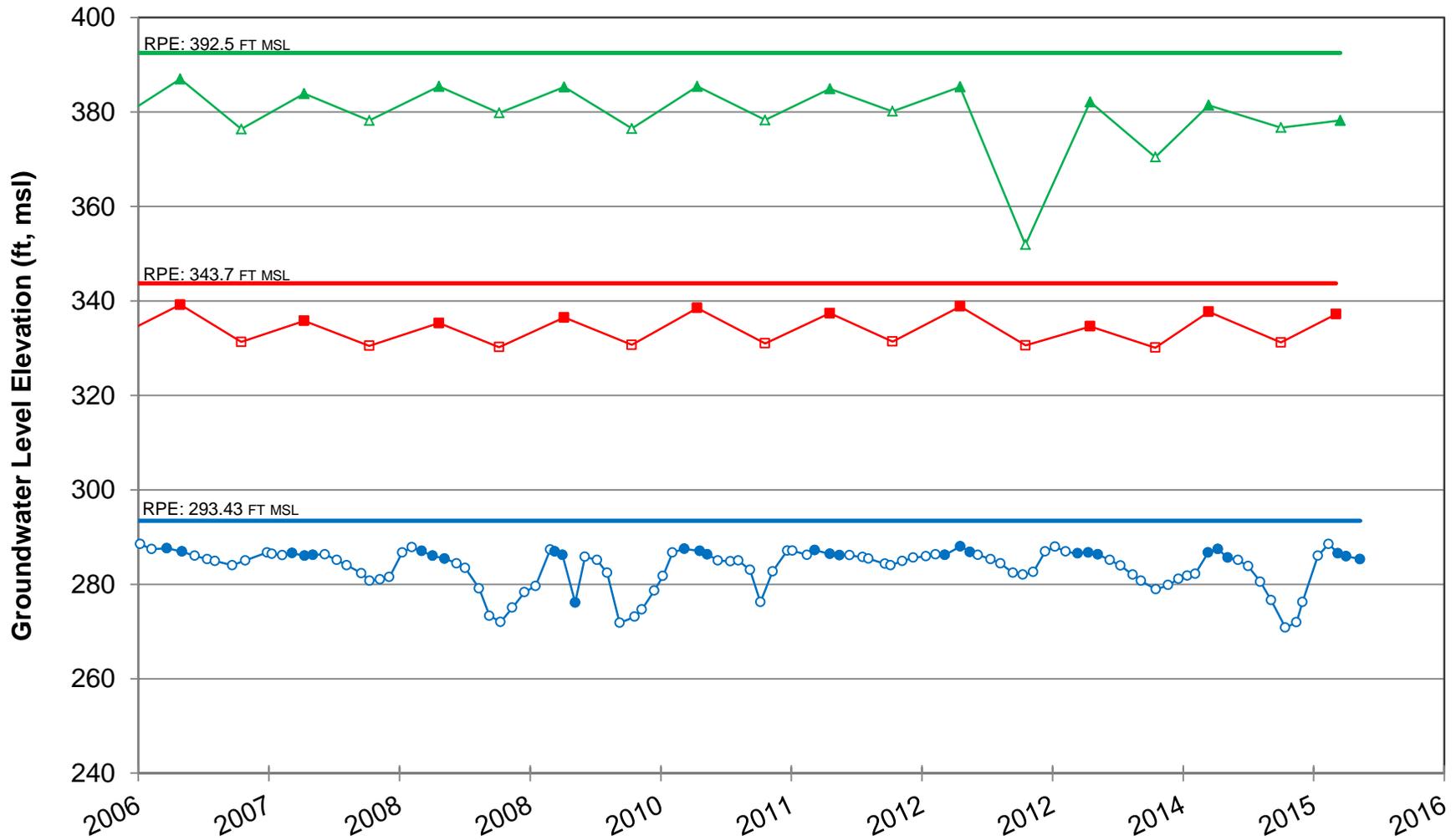
Carneros Subarea

- Although no currently monitored wells have long-term data records, between spring 2014 and spring 2015 groundwater levels were stable in 9 of 10 wells with at least two years of data.

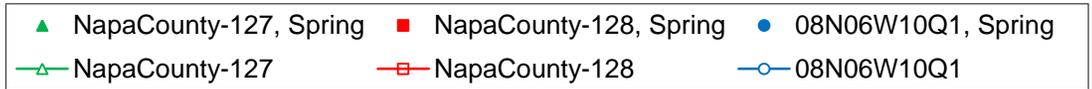
3. Currently monitored wells in the Napa Valley Floor with long-term records show that, where drought-related water level declines have been observed in the past, water levels in spring 2015 were above the levels recorded in spring during the 1976/1977 drought, which was the worst drought on record in both Napa Valley and throughout California.
4. In August 2015, the County began interim monthly monitoring at a subset of 9 wells in the Napa Valley Floor to address data gaps identified in the 2014 Groundwater Monitoring Program Annual Report, which recommended more frequent data collection.
 - The August 2015 data show that groundwater levels are consistent with previous late summer/fall season readings at these wells, indicating no unexpected declines over the summer at these locations.



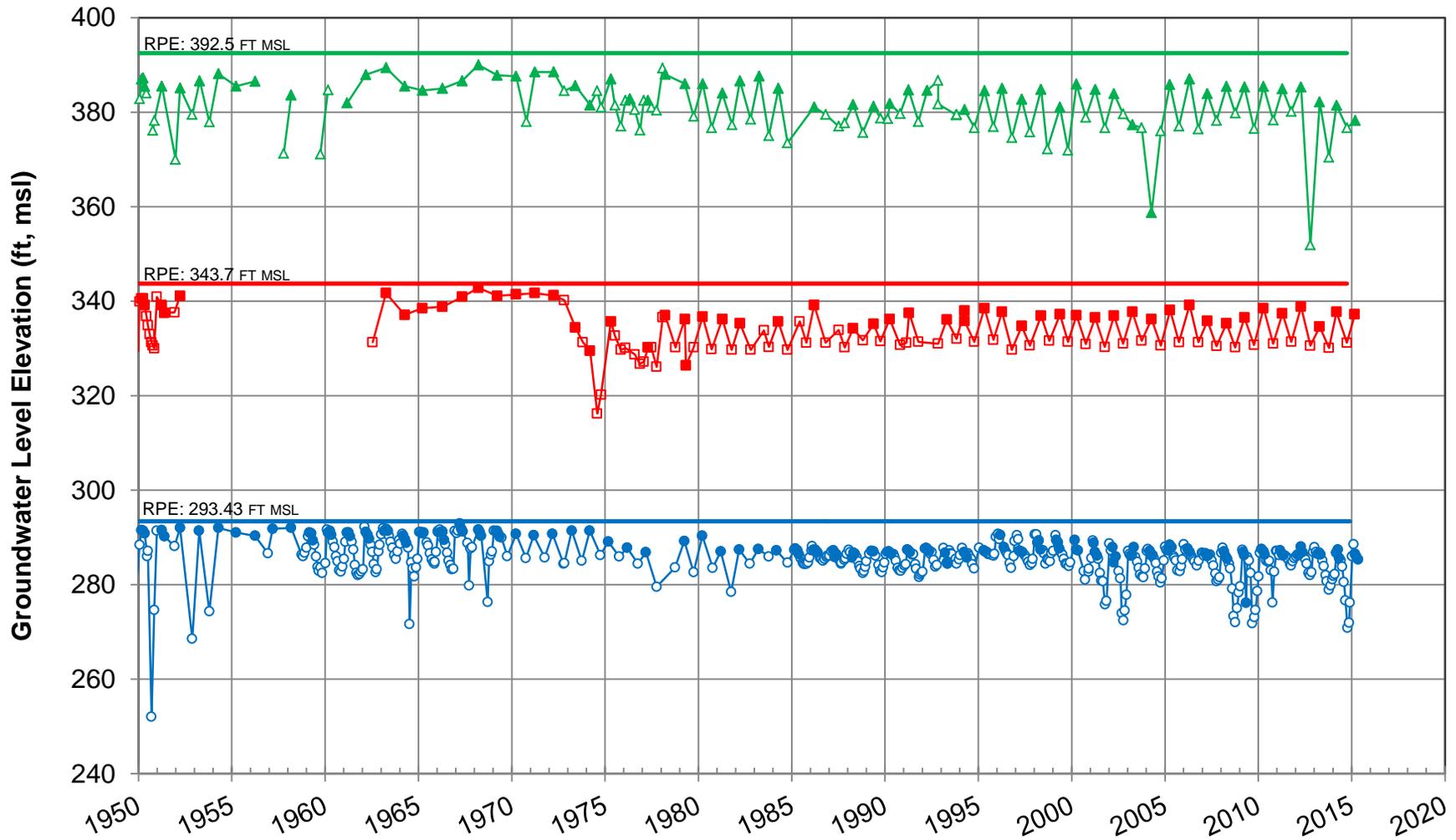
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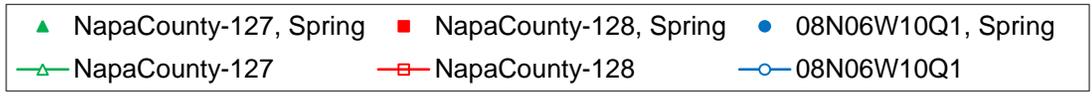
RPE = Reference Point Elevation
 msl = mean sea level, North American Vertical Datum of 1988



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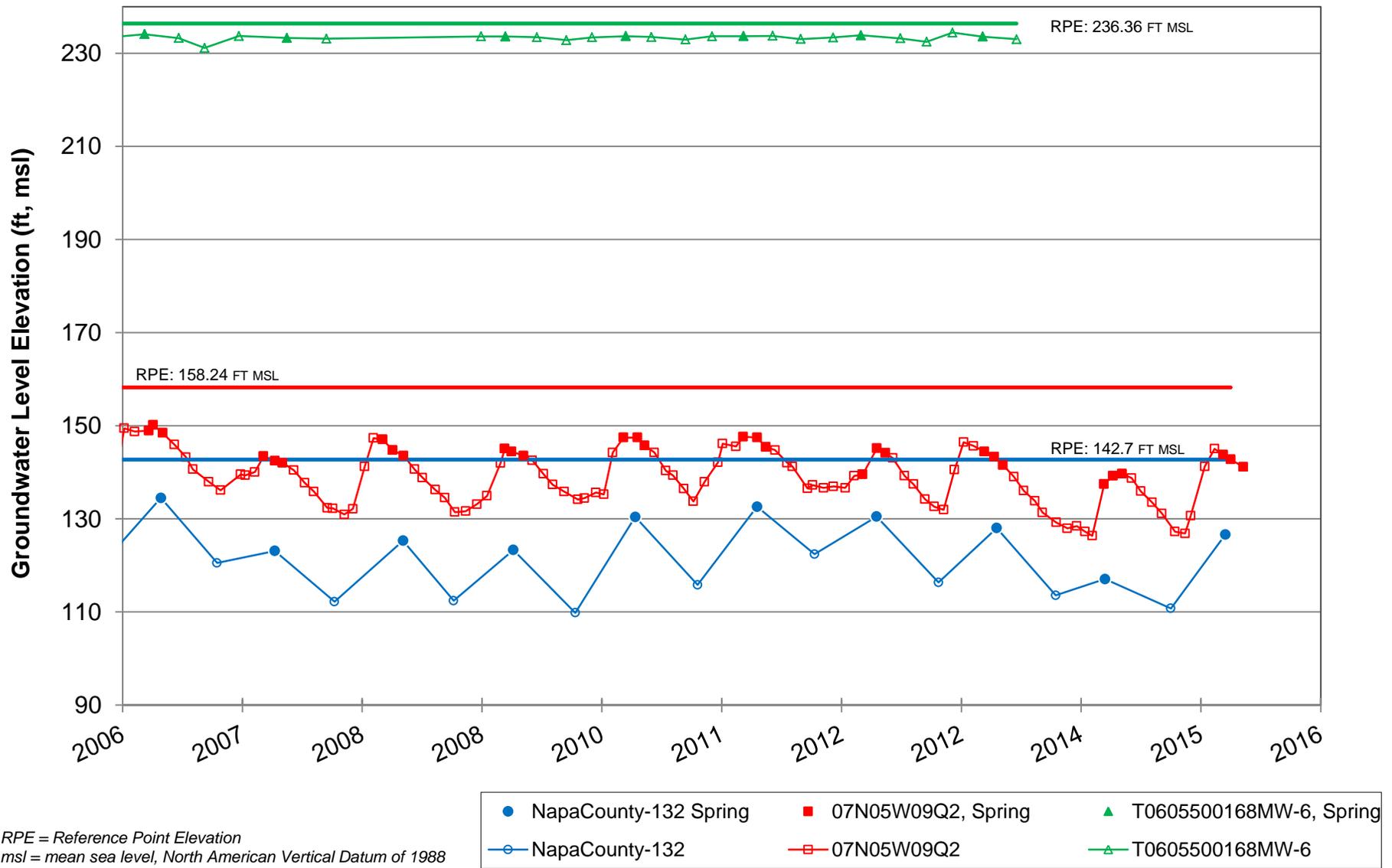
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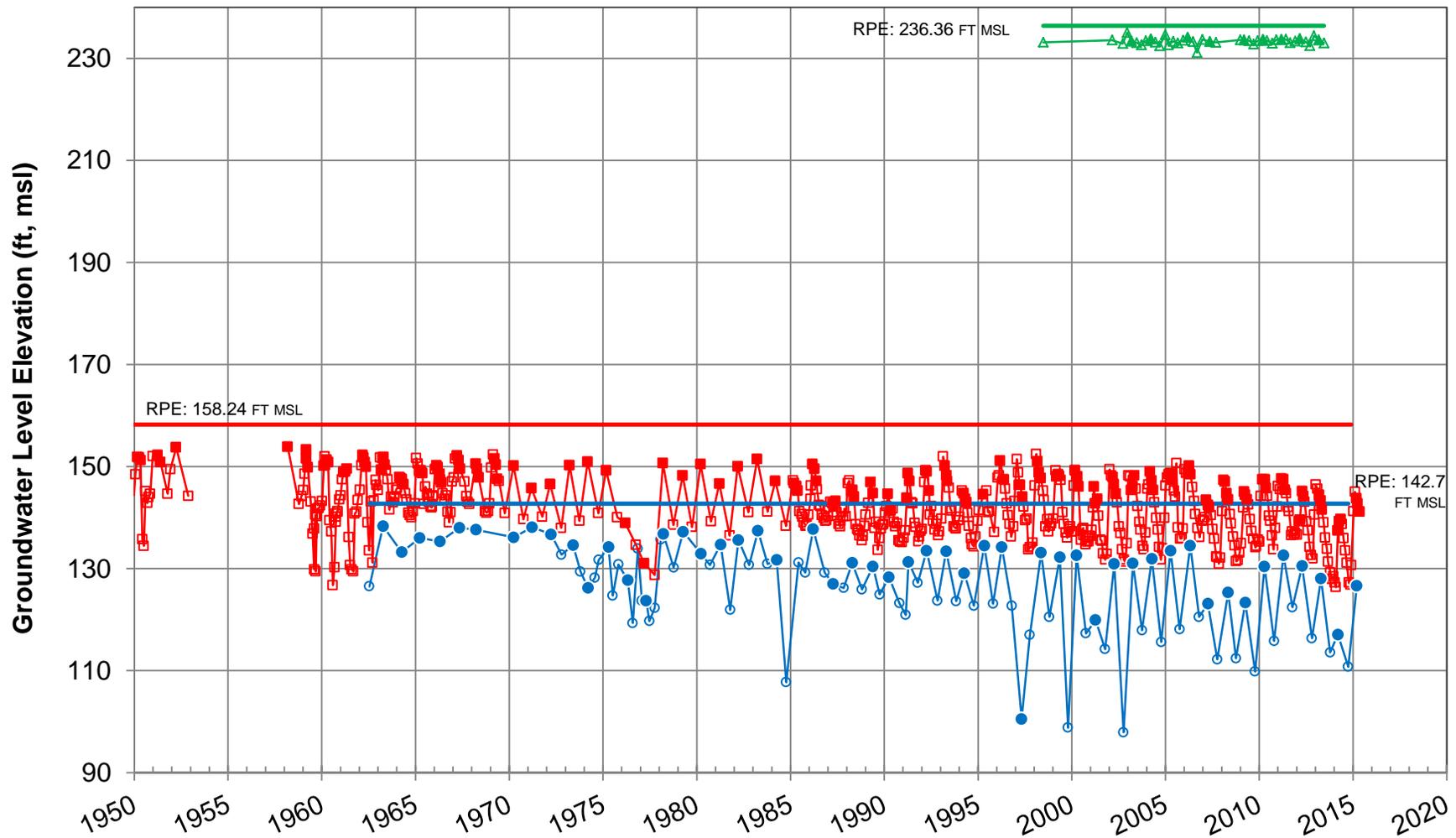
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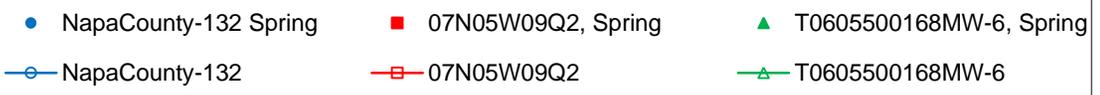
**Representative Groundwater Hydrographs
 Subarea: Napa Valley Floor - Calistoga**



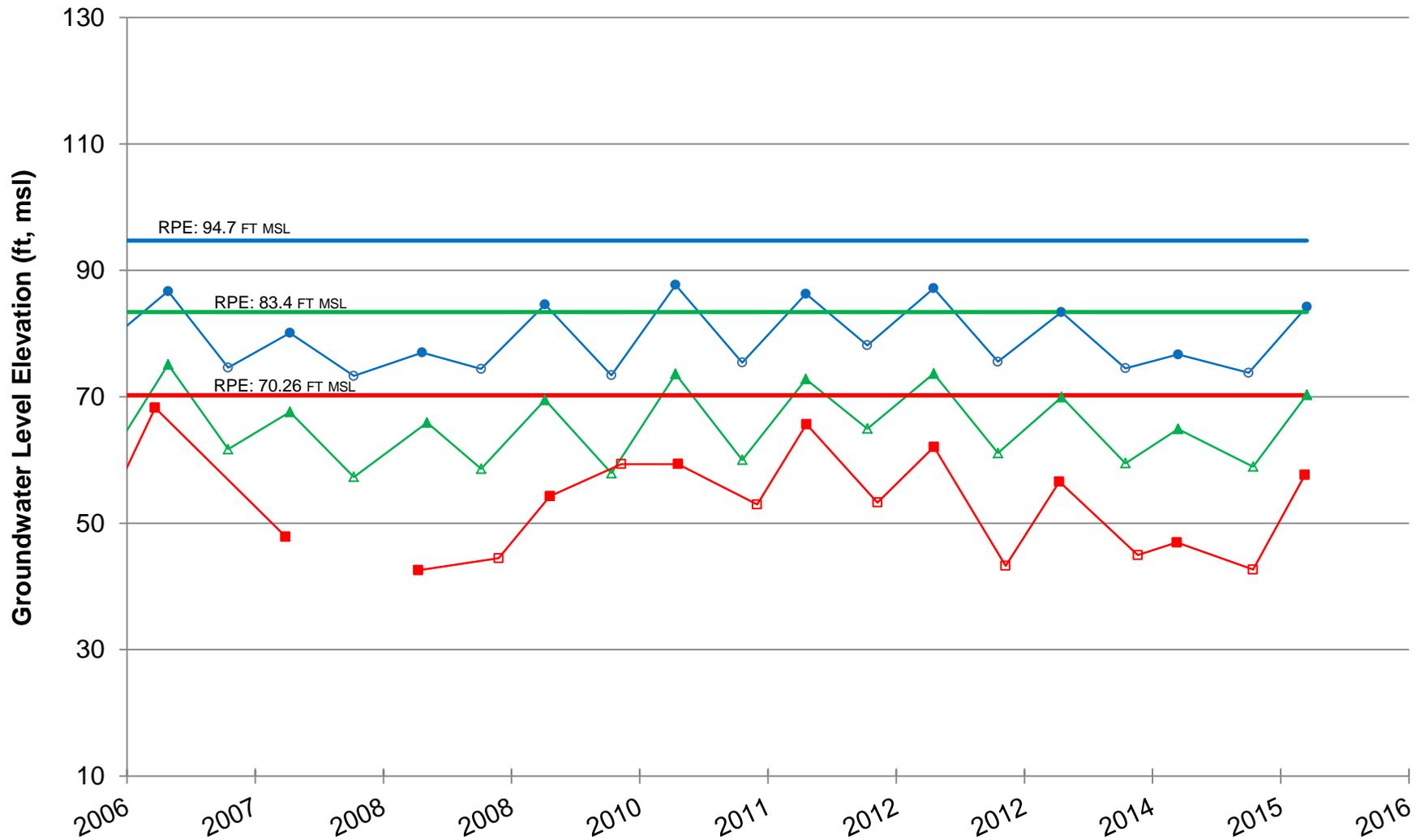
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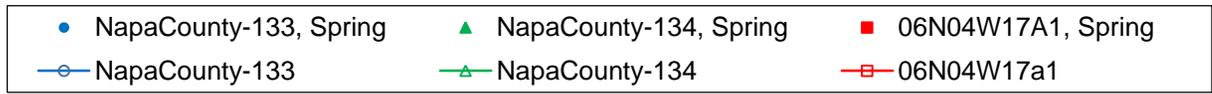
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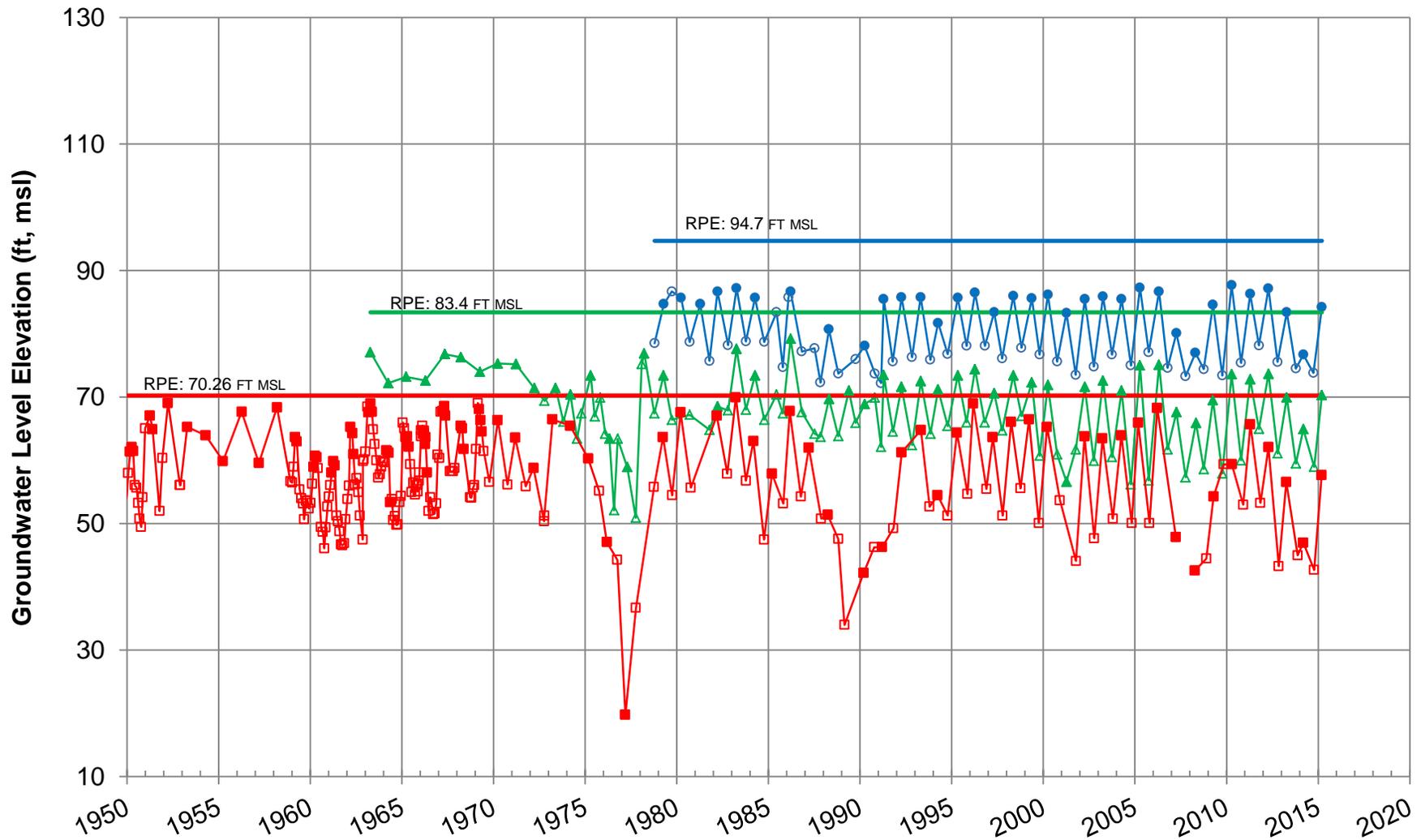
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 msl = mean sea level, North American Vertical Datum of 1988



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Representative Groundwater Hydrographs
Subarea: Napa Valley Floor - Yountville



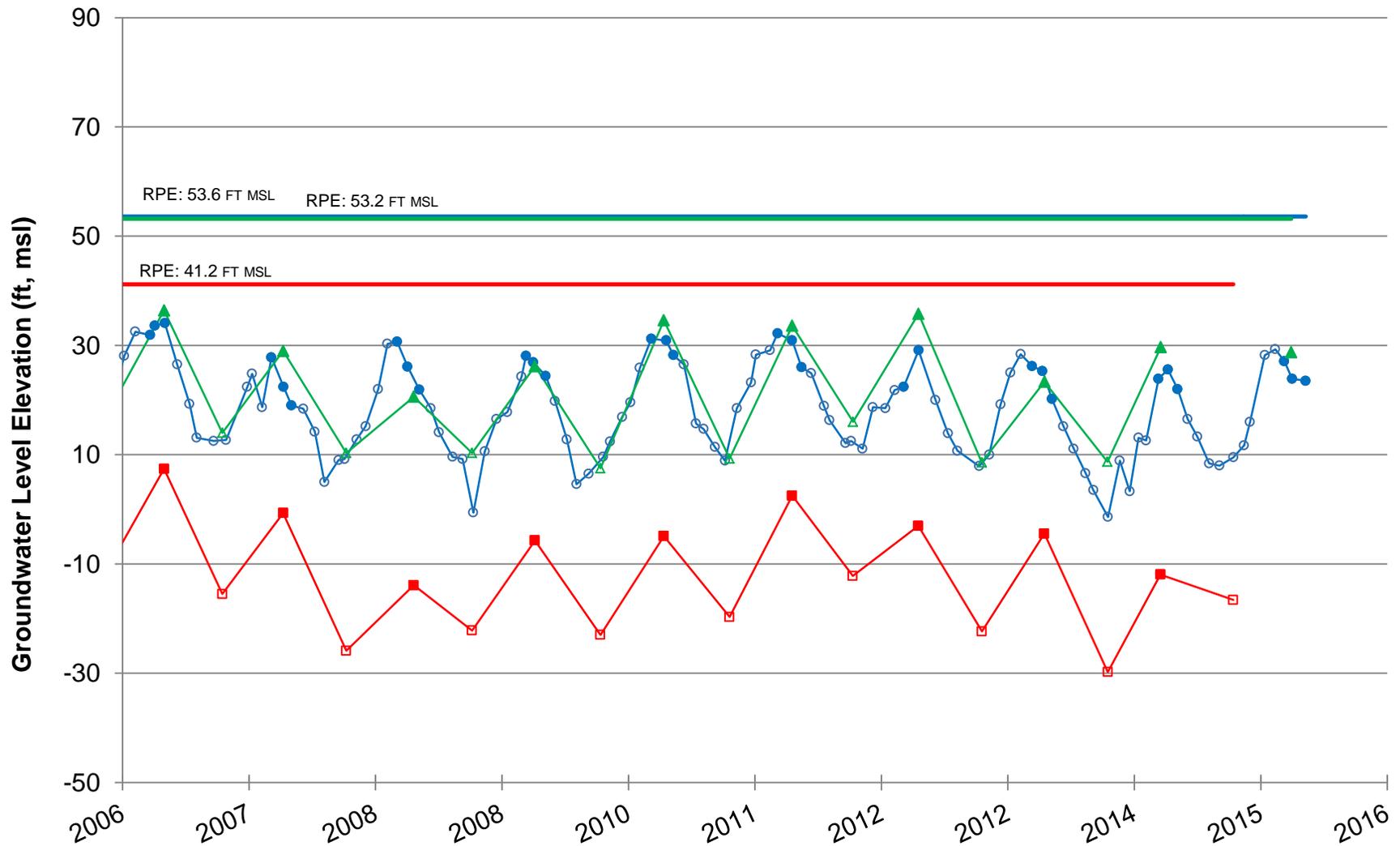
RPE = Reference Point Elevation
 msl = mean sea level, North American Vertical Datum of 1988

- NapaCounty-133, Spring
- ▲ NapaCounty-134, Spring
- 06N04W17A1, Spring
- NapaCounty-133
- △ NapaCounty-134
- 06N04W17a1

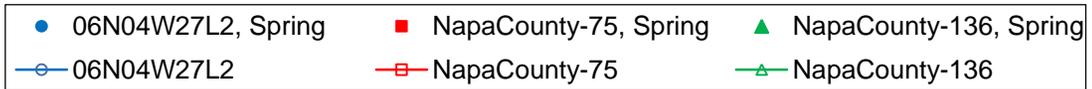
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Representative Groundwater Hydrographs
Subarea: Napa Valley Floor - Yountville



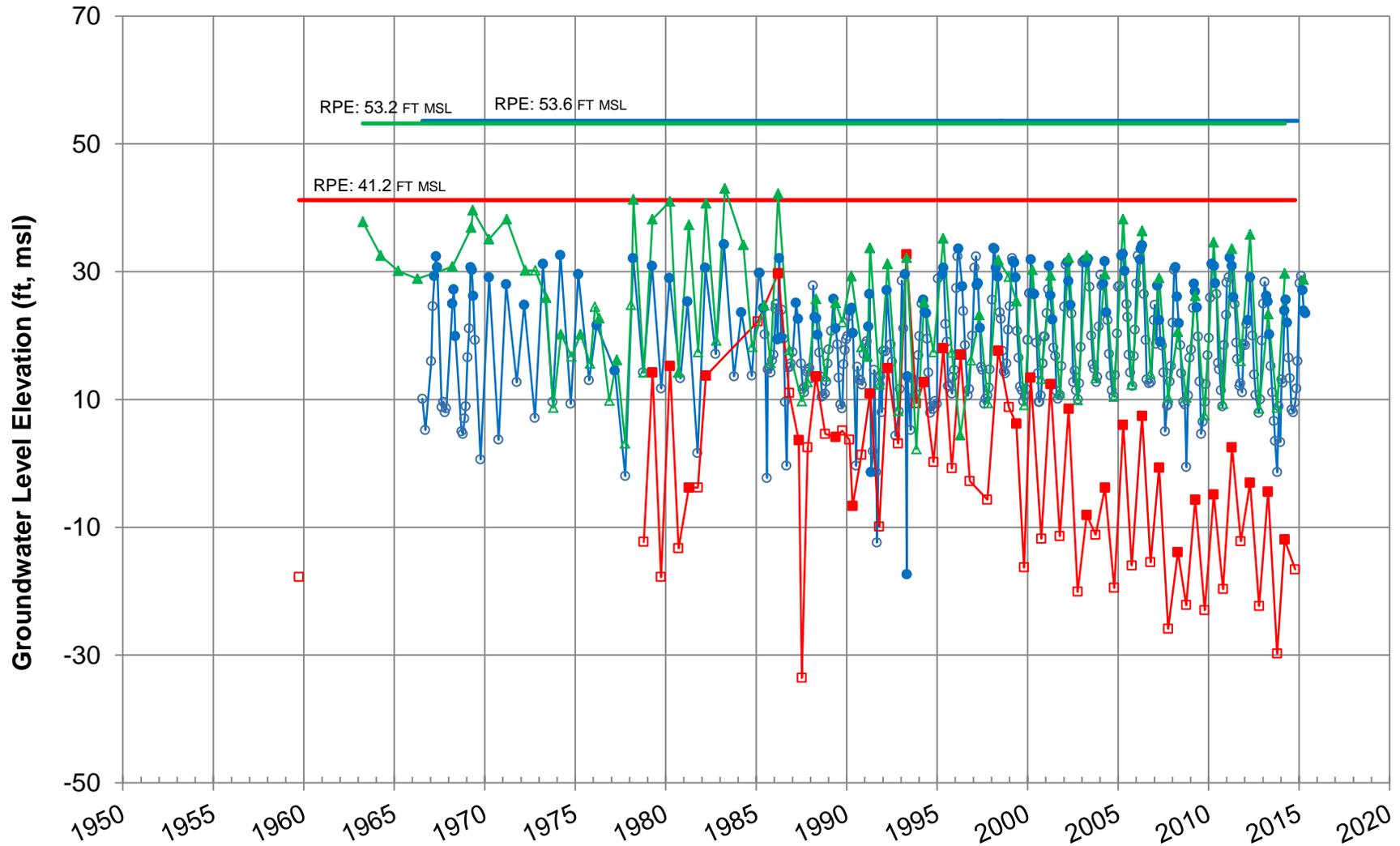
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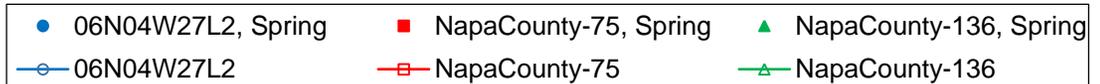
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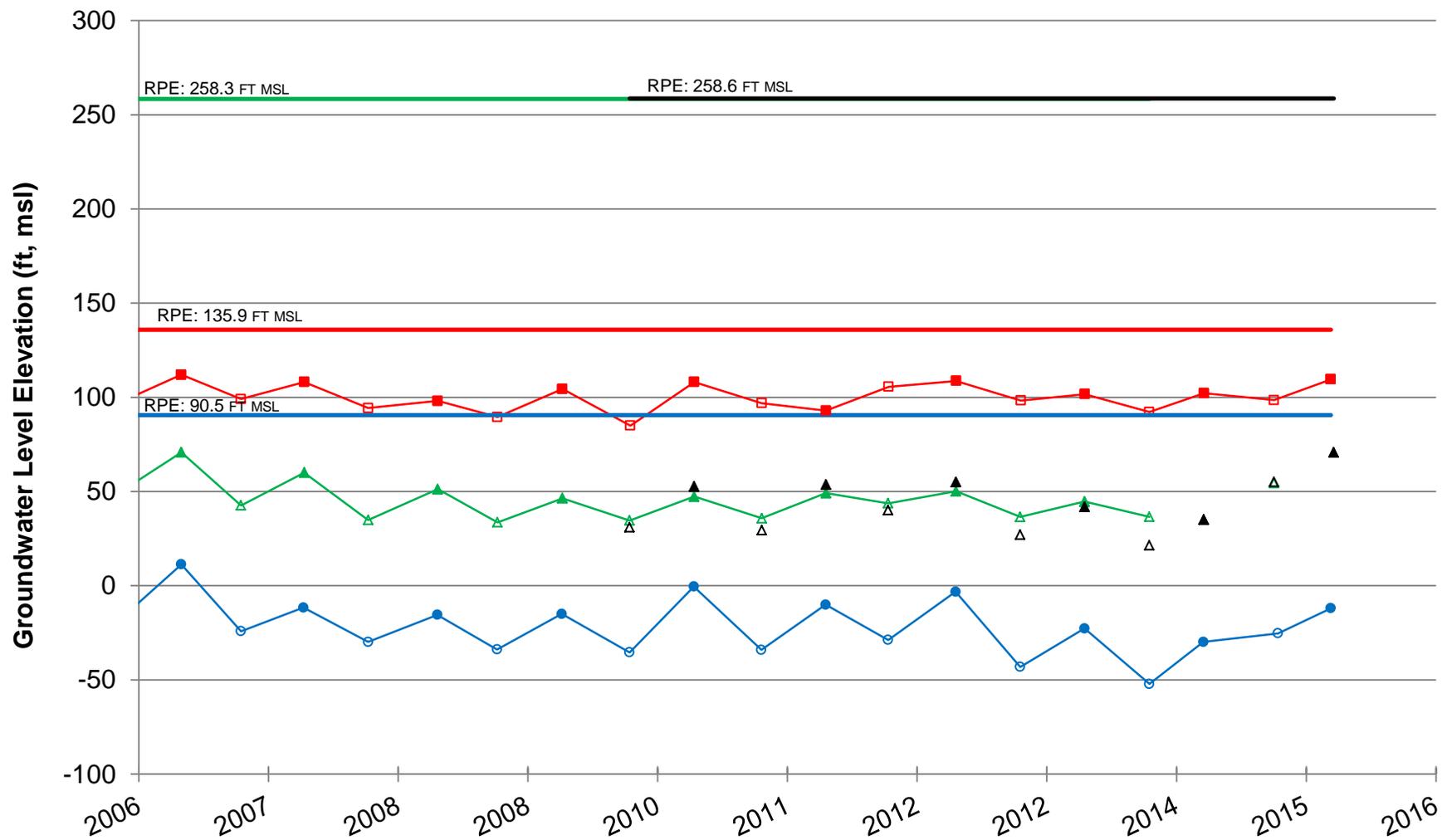
**Representative Groundwater Hydrographs
 Subarea: Napa Valley Floor - Napa**



RPE = Reference Point Elevation
 msl = mean sea level, North American Vertical Datum of 1988



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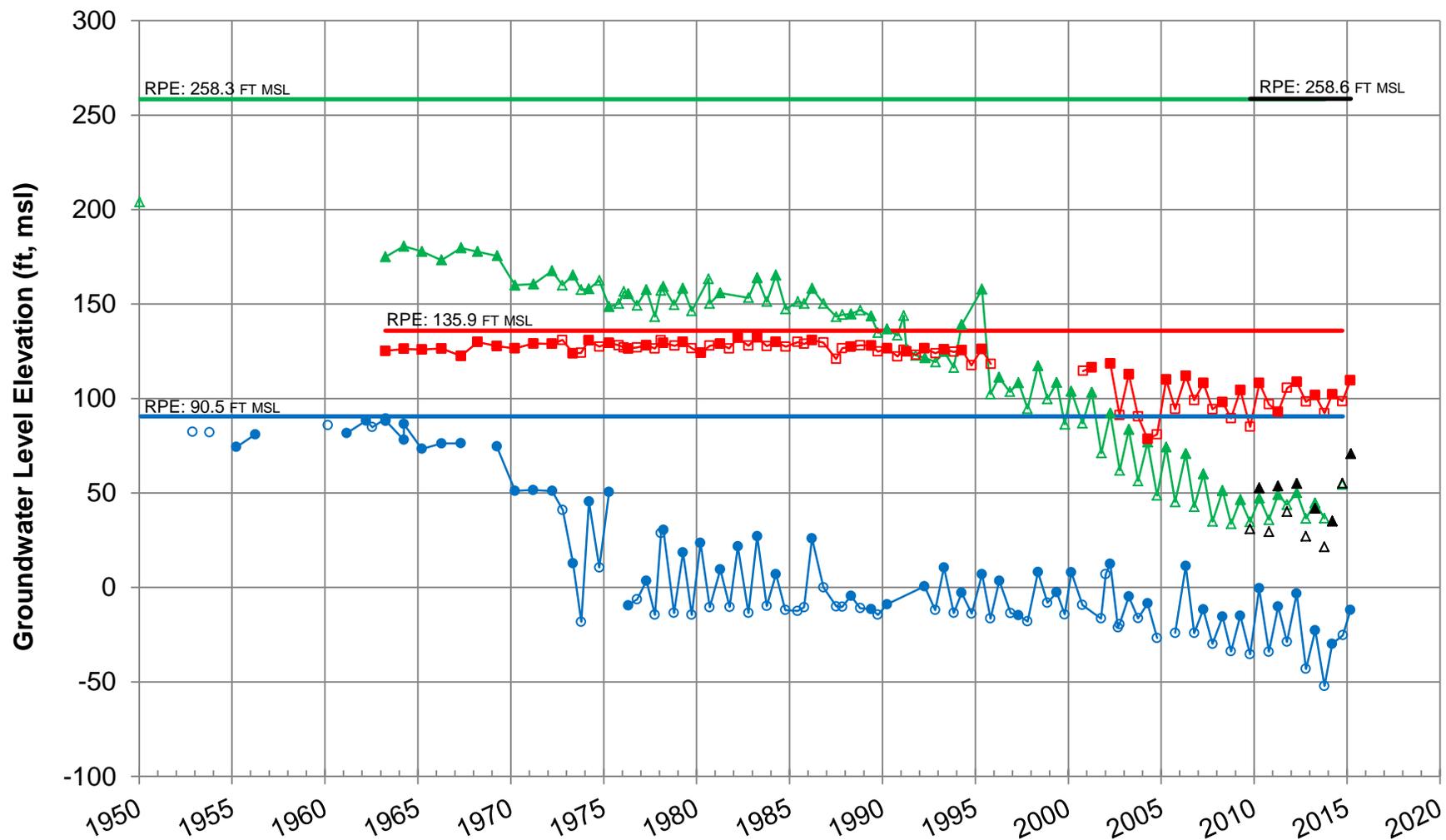
RPE = Reference Point Elevation
 msl = mean sea level, North American Vertical Datum of 1988

- NapaCounty-2, Spring ▲ NapaCounty-10, Spring ■ NapaCounty-137, Spring
- NapaCounty-2 ▲ NapaCounty-10 □ NapaCounty-137
- ▲ NapaCounty-148, Spring △ NapaCounty-148

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**Representative Groundwater Hydrographs
 Subarea: Napa Valley Floor - MST**



RPE = Reference Point Elevation
 msl = mean sea level, North American Vertical Datum of 1988

- NapaCounty-2, Spring
- ▲ NapaCounty-10, Spring
- NapaCounty-137, Spring
- NapaCounty-2
- △ NapaCounty-10
- NapaCounty-137
- ▲ NapaCounty-148, Spring
- △ NapaCounty-148

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Contact: Jim Milbury
562-980-4006/cell 310-245-7114

Oct. 5, 2015

NOAA Fisheries Seeks Public Input on a Multispecies Recovery Plan to Restore Salmon and Steelhead Along California's North and Central Coast

Informational workshops planned in Arcata, Santa Cruz, Ukiah, Oakland and Santa Rosa

NOAA's Fisheries Service announced in today's federal register the availability of a draft [recovery plan](#) for public comment on three species of salmonids that spawn and rear in streams and rivers along the central and northern California coast, and in tributaries to San Francisco Bay. The fish, all listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), are the [California Coastal Chinook salmon](#), and [Northern California](#) and [Central California Coast steelhead](#).

The ESA requires development of a recovery plan when a species is listed as either threatened or endangered. A recovery plan is not a regulatory document but acts as a framework to rebuild a species to a sustainable level that no longer requires federal protection. The process encourages the public to comment and participate before the plan is finalized.

"We hope to get as much public participation and build as many partnerships as possible," said Lisa Van Atta, NOAA Fisheries Acting Assistant Regional Administrator for California Coastal Office in Santa Rosa, Calif. "Over 80 percent of the 8 million acres covered by this plan are privately owned, and cooperation among all stakeholders, private and public, will be crucial in achieving the plan's goals."

The decline for the species covered by this plan is a result of degraded habitat caused in part by water diversions, cannabis, forestry, agriculture, and several other factors associated with urbanization. This recovery plan will help categorize and prioritize those threats.

The multispecies recovery plan covers a geographic area extending from the Redwood Creek watershed in Humboldt County south to the Aptos Creek watershed in Santa Cruz County including tributaries into Humboldt and San Francisco Bays, excluding the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers.

A series of public workshops will be held to help inform interested parties on the Draft Recovery Plan. Written comments will also be accepted at the workshops. These include:

- UKIAH--October 14, 2015, UC Cooperative Extension Mendocino, 890 N. Bush Street, Ukiah, CA 95482, from 6-8 pm
- ARCATA--October 15, 2015, Humboldt Area Foundation, 363 Indianola Road, Bayside, CA 95524, from 6-8 pm
- SANTA CRUZ--October 20, 2015, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, 110 Shaffer Road, Santa Cruz, CA 95060, from 3-5 pm
- OAKLAND--November 3, 2015, Elihu M Harris State Building, 1515 Clay St. Oakland, CA 94612, from 1-3 pm
- SANTA ROSA--November 5, 2015, Sonoma County Water Agency, 404 Aviation Blvd., Santa Rosa, CA 95403, from 1-3 pm

Public comment and information relevant to this recovery plan may be submitted at the workshops or by any of the methods listed below before 5:00 p.m., December 4, 2015.

Electronic Submissions:

WCR_CMSRecoveryPlan.Comments@NOAA.gov

Mail:

Recovery Team
National Marine Fisheries Service
777 Sonoma Avenue, Room 325
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Electronic copies of this draft plan may be downloaded from the following internet site:

http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/protected_species/salmon_steelhead/recovery_planning_and_implementation/north_central_california_coast/north_central_california_coast_salmon_recovery_domain.html

If you do not have online access, you can receive a CD copy by emailing a request to Andrea Berry at andrea.berry@noaa.gov.

NOAA's mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage our coastal and marine resources. Join us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and our other [social media channels](#).

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On the web: ["Proposed plan seeks to restore salmon and steelhead across 8 million acres of California's north-central coast"](#)



Upper York Creek Dam Removal and Ecosystem Restoration Project Update

Project Goals:

Remove the Upper York Creek Dam to restore stream flow in York Creek to permit fish passage, improve cool water flow for Federally-listed Central California Coast (CCC) Steelhead, allow natural sediment flow as the dam is blocking both large and small flows downstream, and restore two acres of riparian and terrestrial habitat. Over 500 trees will be planted during the restoration along with over 3,000 plants. A healthy population of rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) exist upstream of the dam, proving that this is a good spawning and rearing ground, and CCC Steelhead are located downstream of the dam.

Existing Conditions:

Historic Earthen Dam prohibits fish passage, especially for CCC Steelhead into prime rearing and spawning area upstream and debris or sediment flow into lower York Creek and the Napa River. Plans are 65% complete and City is in the process of securing permits from Federal and State agencies.

Project Challenges:

Maintaining the stability of Spring Mountain Road after the Dam removal, a common connection between the cities of St Helena and Santa Rosa.

Securing \$1.5 million to complete the funding shortfall to begin construction.

Construction Funding:

Construction Estimate: \$4.9 million

City Bond Funds: \$1.8 million

Current Grants: \$1.6 million

City Bond Funds paid for initial design and EIR.

For More Information:

Tracey Perkosky, Grants Manager

City of Saint Helena

(707) 968-2627

tperkosky@cityofstheleena.org



November 12, 2015

ITEM 6: Discussion and possible action to appoint an ad hoc subcommittee of the WICC to participate in a facilitated workshop focused on developing website strategies and features that would help the Council achieve its Strategic Plan goals (Staff) (10 min)

GOAL: Development of Targeted Web Strategies and Features to Support WICC Strategic Plan Objectives

Appointed ad hoc subcommittee members will participate in a two hour facilitated workshop with other key website users and administrators in early December. The workshop will be focused on identifying website improvements and actions that further the WICC mission by supporting priority objectives identified in the WICC Strategic Plan. A summary of website findings and recommendations will be presented to the full Council in January for further discussion consideration.

Workshop topics will include:

- Background on the history of the WICC website, its relationship to the WICC mission and strategic goals and objectives,
- An overview of website site analytical metrics,
- Identification of website gaps and achievements,
- Generation of website ideas for new site features and improvements to existing features,
- Discussion of website performance indicators to measure and track site progress, and
- A summary key subcommittee findings and recommendations for full WICC discussion.