



## THE ENTERPRISE

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## The Enterprise Record

# Dry wells, sold water

Whether there's a connection between the two situations sparks a hot controversy pitting farmer against farmer

## Is Butte being sucked dry?

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DURHAM  
1994





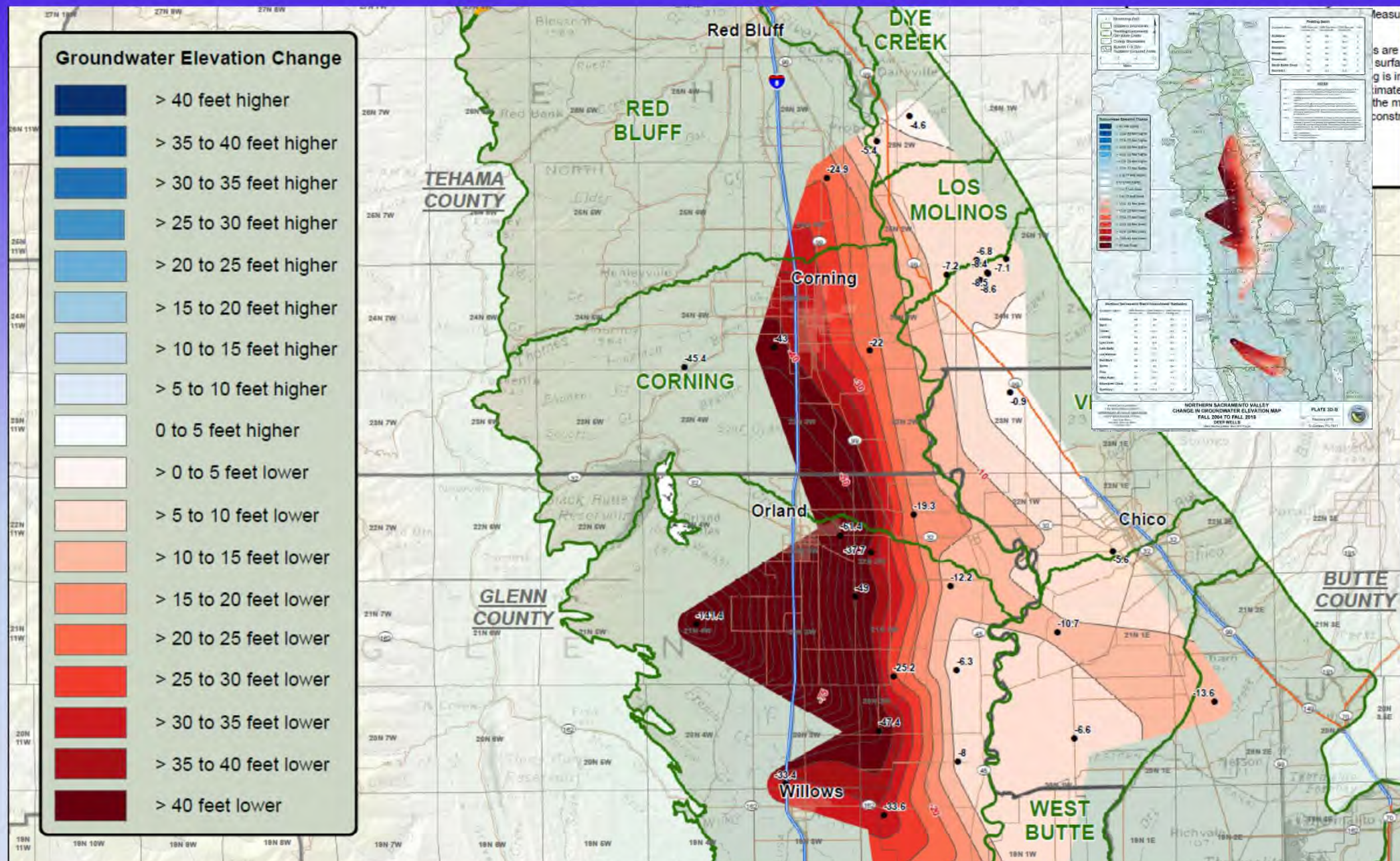
“The purpose is to examine whether and how groundwater production from the **Lower Tuscan Aquifer** and related deep aquifers in the Sacramento Valley can be **integrated** with the operations of existing surface water reservoirs to produce additional water **to satisfy unmet agricultural demands in the Valley or south of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta (Delta).**”

- Sacramento Valley Water Conjunctive Water Management Technical Investigation Report, 2010

## Full aquifers in Sacramento Valley

- Export surface water
- Irrigate local land with groundwater—  
called groundwater substitution
- (Aquifers are emptied)
- Recharge with future surface water
- May affect existing surface water rights
- Must maintain adequate flow in the Delta

Source:  
Carl  
Hauge  
DWR  
2011



Groundwater abuse  
2004-2018.

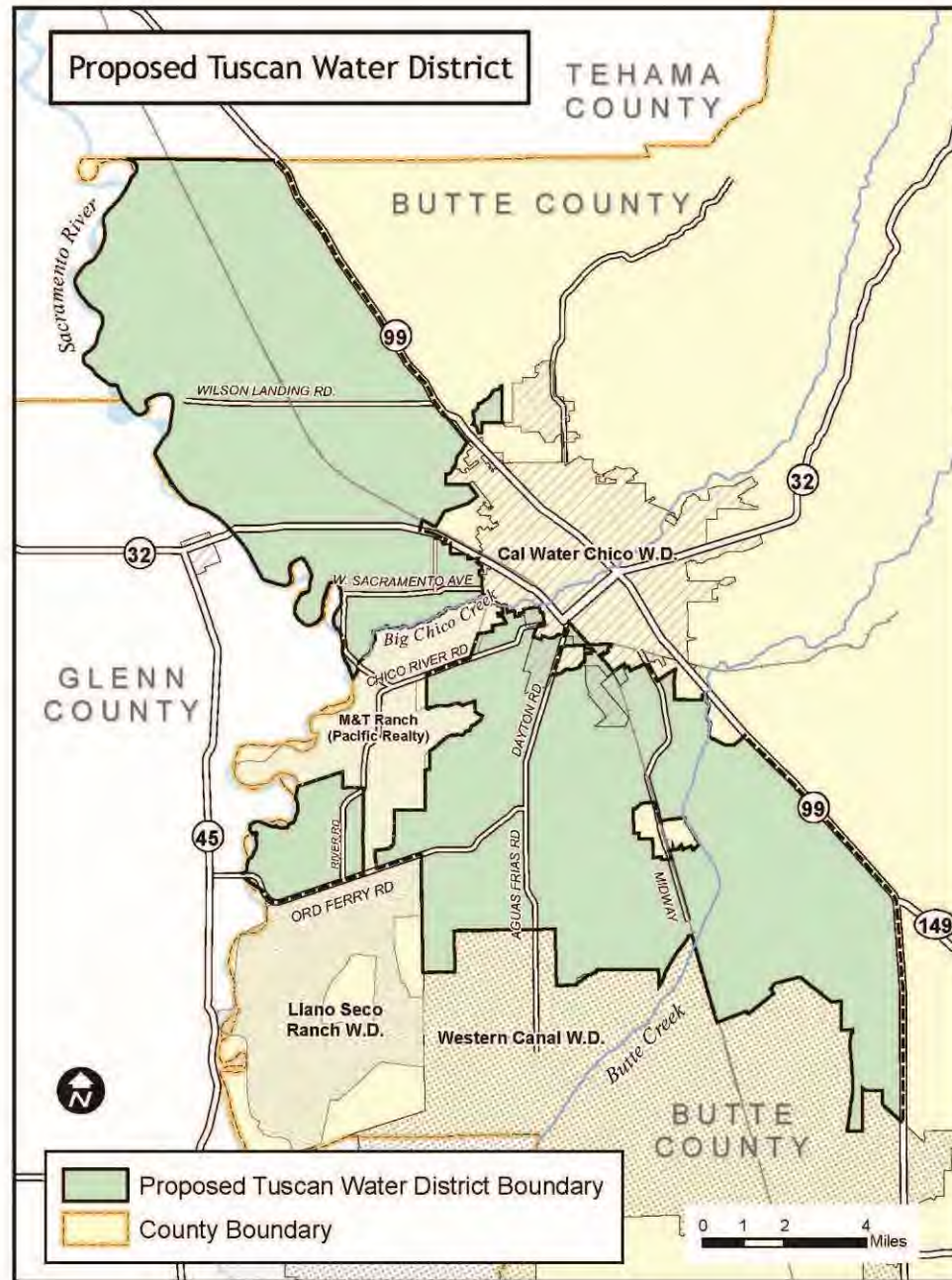


## 2. Tuscan Water District

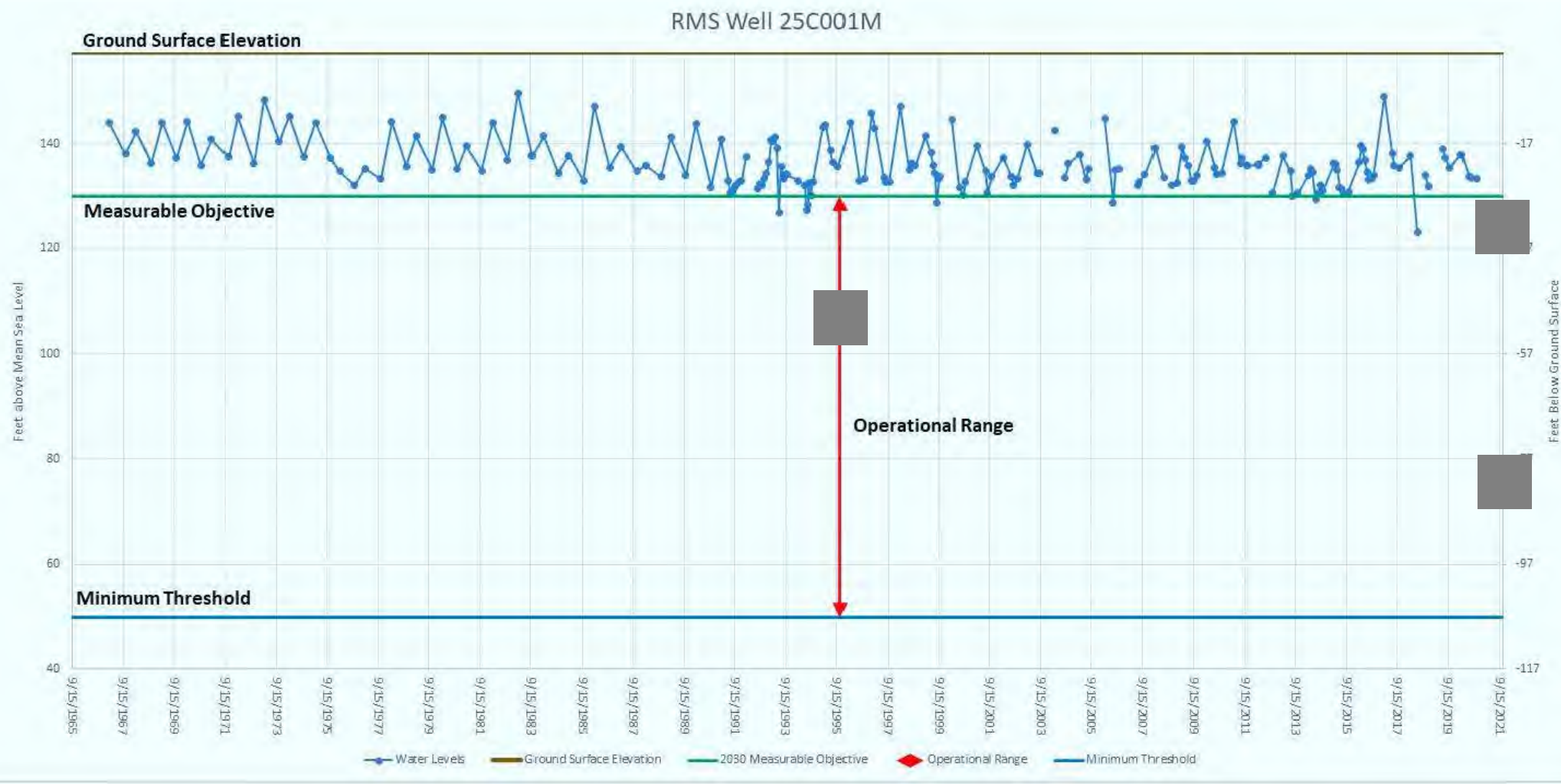
### Opening the Door to Aquifer Privatization

2020 TWD District Formation Application:

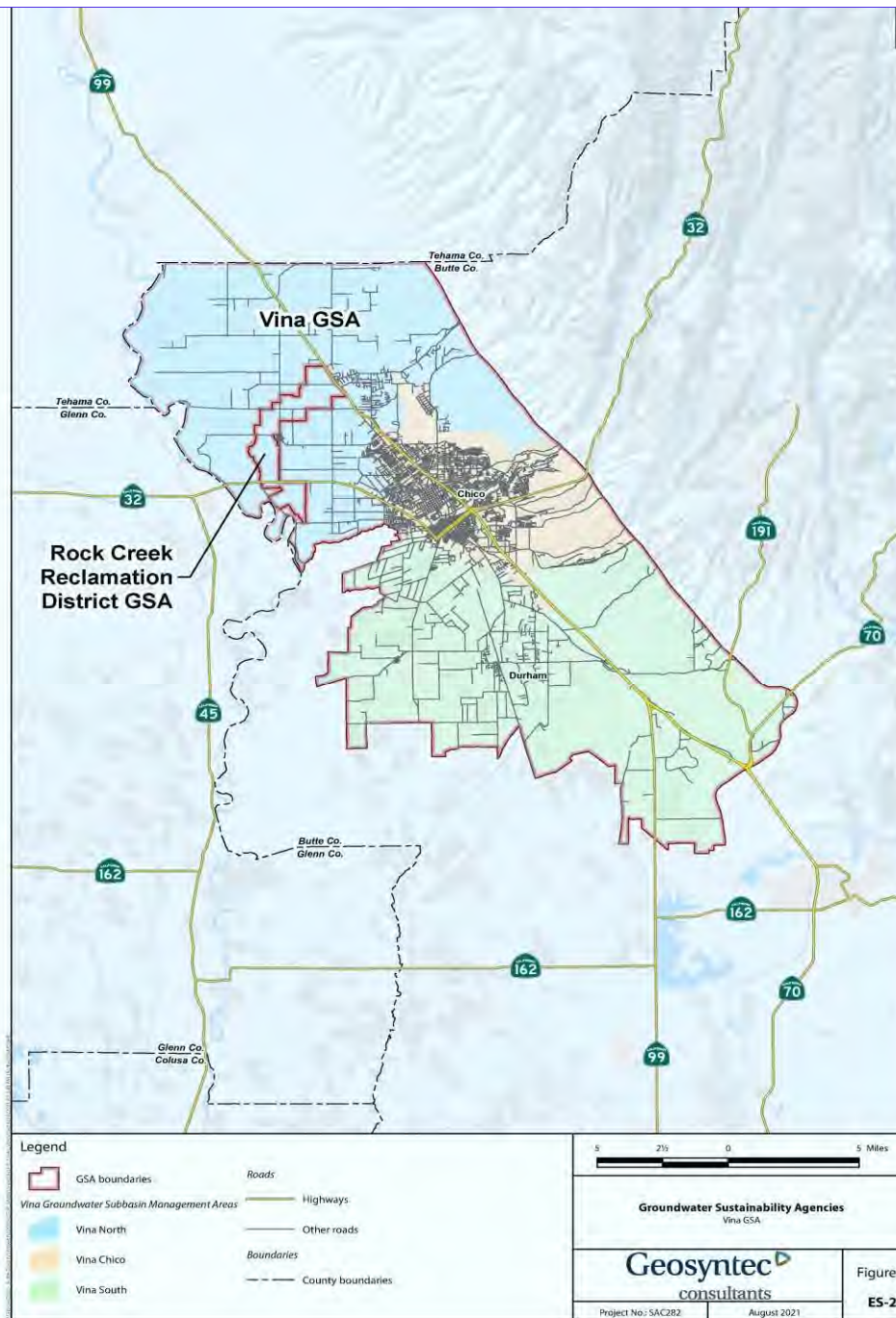
*“Formation of a new, basin-wide landowner water district with the primary purpose, power, and ability to work with other local agencies to provide, **import, transfer and recharge water within the Vina and a portion of the Butte Sub-basins.**”*



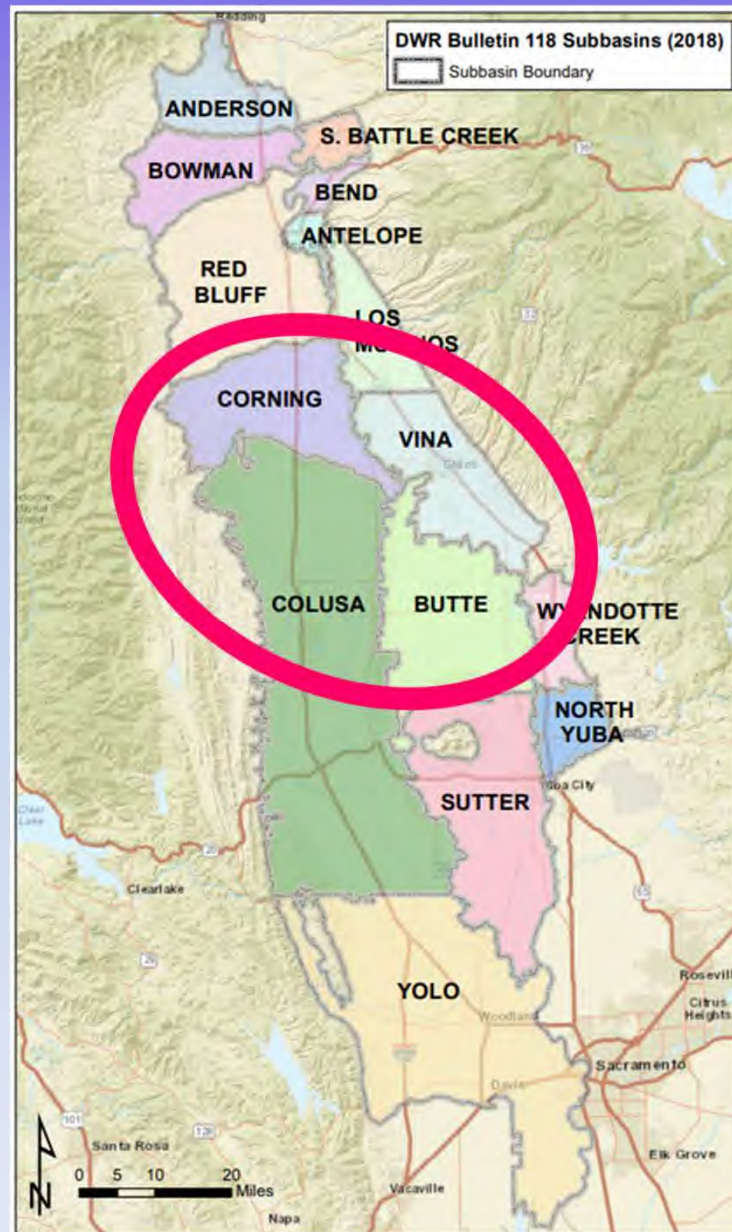
# **3. Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSA's)**







# Inter-basin Coordination?





# Business Continues As Usual

The 2026-2027 North to South Water Transfer program created by the Bureau of Reclamation and San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority estimates senior NorthState irrigation districts may sell 250,000 A/F of surface water per year to junior CVP districts south of the Delta, but continue to grow rice by pumping an equivalent amount of groundwater (called groundwater substitution).

Should you trust the agency that supplies \$\$\$\$ for so-called groundwater sustainability plans, but fails to take care of its “crown jewel” infrastructure?





February 2017



February 2017





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# What AquAlliance Will Continue to Do on Behalf of NorthState

- Lead in all legal challenges to stop sellers shipping water outside the NorthState (transfers).
- Continue three SGMA lawsuits against the Butte, Colusa, and Vina subbasins. A 4<sup>th</sup> may be added.
- Litigate against DWR's contract renewals that allow more transfers.
- Continue reactivated 2009 lawsuit against the State Water Resources Control Board challenging Paper Water (Problem #1).
- Challenge the massive Tunnel in all venues.