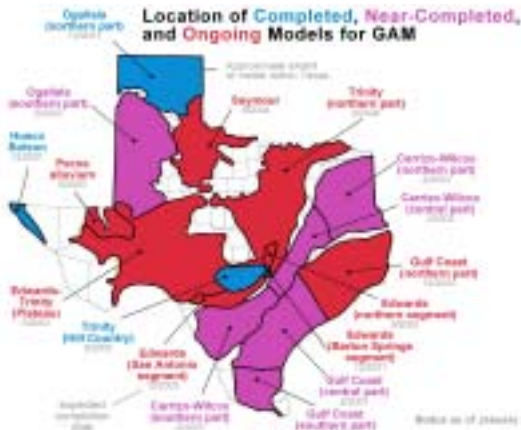


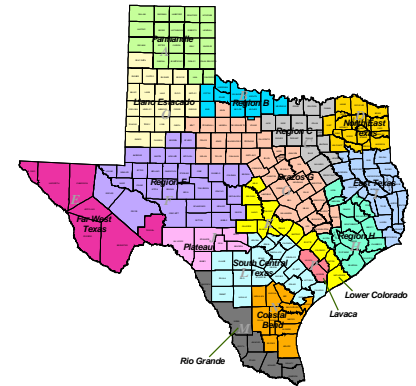
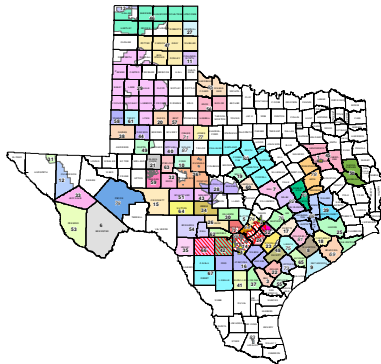


texas water development board

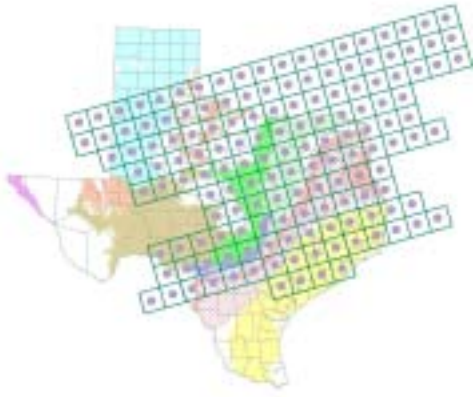
# Groundwater Availability Modeling



Cindy Ridgeway  
Contract Manager



Texas Water Development Board

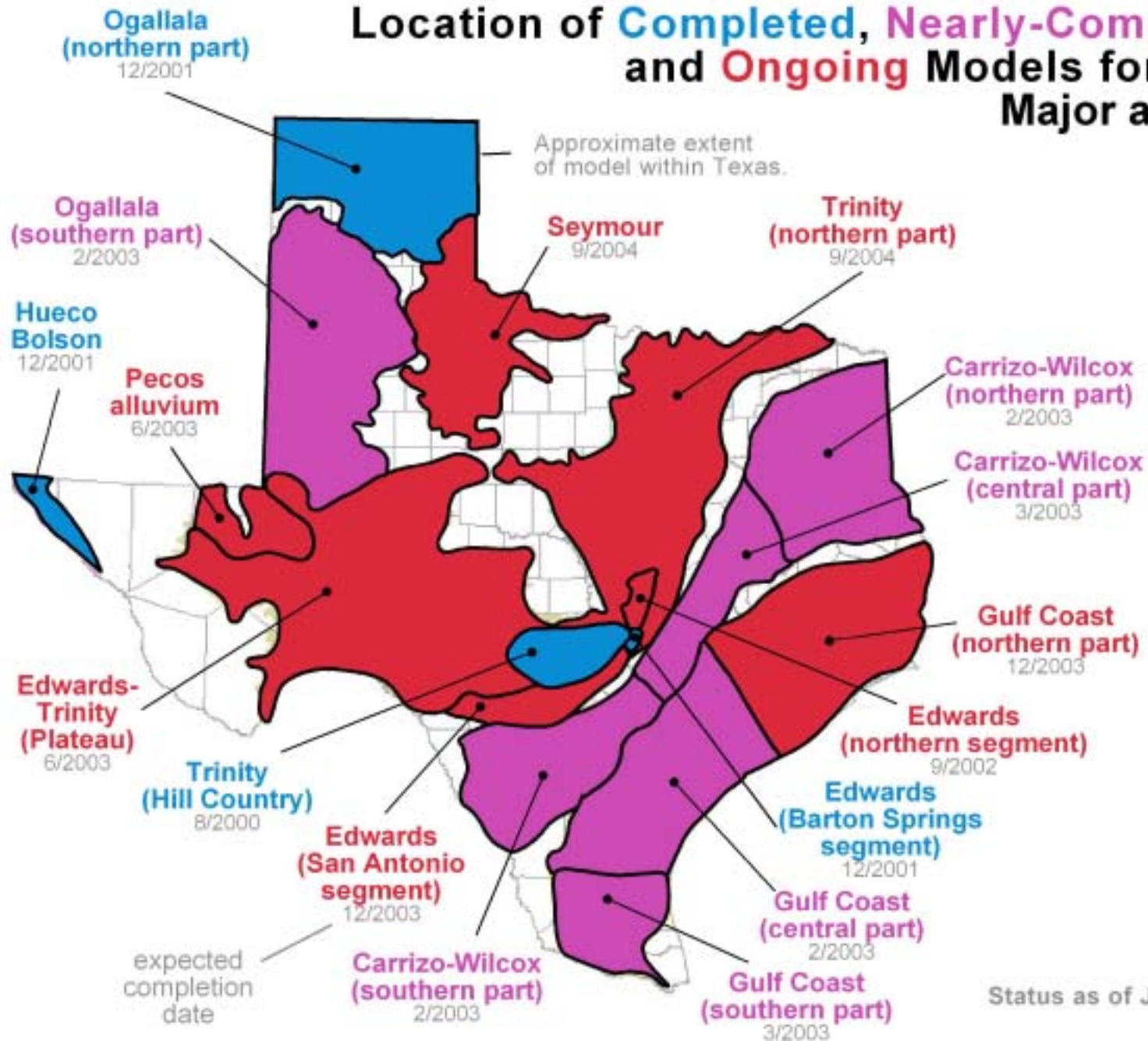


# GAM

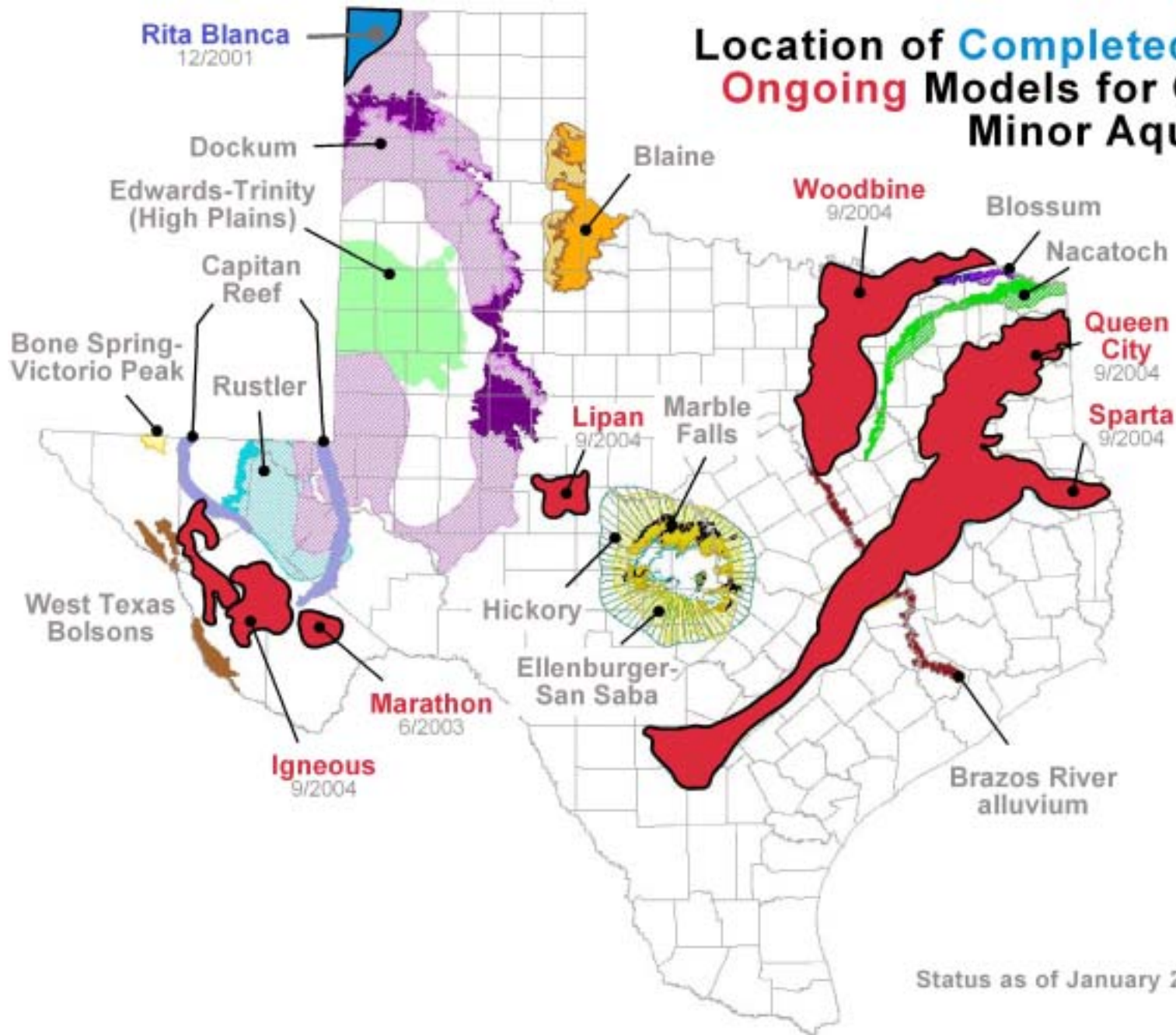
- Purpose: to develop the best possible groundwater availability model with the available time and money.
- Public process: you get to see how the model is put together.
- Freely available: standardized, thoroughly documented, and available over the internet.
- Living tools: periodically updated.



# Location of Completed, Nearly-Completed, and Ongoing Models for GAM: Major aquifers

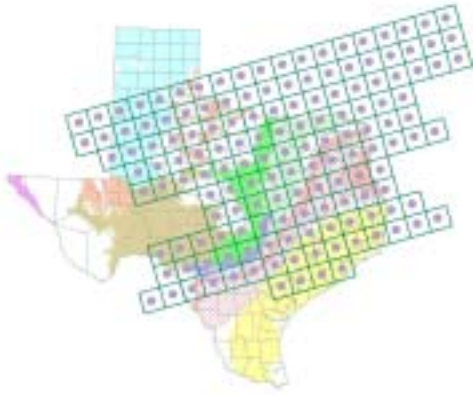


# Location of Completed and Ongoing Models for GAM: Minor Aquifers

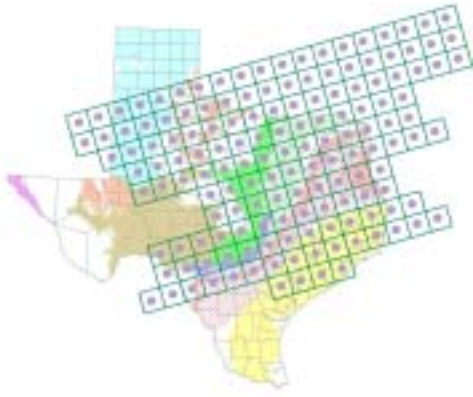


Status as of January 2003

# What is groundwater availability?



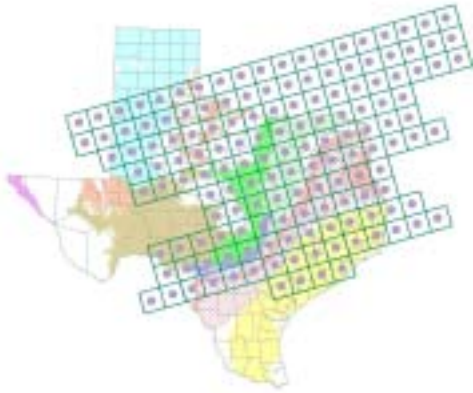
- ...the amount of groundwater available for use.
- The State does not decide how much groundwater is available for use: GCDs and RWPGs decide.
- A GAM is a tool that can be used to assess groundwater availability once GCDs and RWPGs decide how to define groundwater availability.



# Do we have to use GAM?

- Water Code & TWDB rules require that GCDs use GAM information. Other information can be used in conjunction with GAM information.
- TWDB rules require that RWPGs use GAM information unless there is better site specific information available

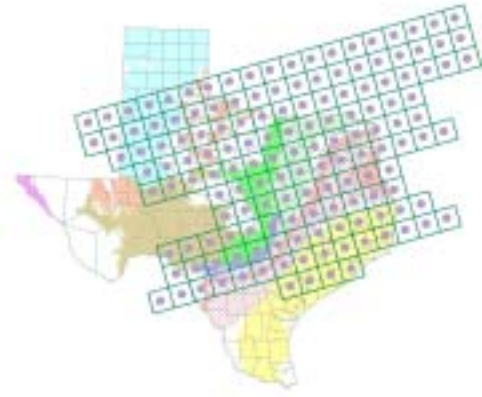




# How do we use GAM?

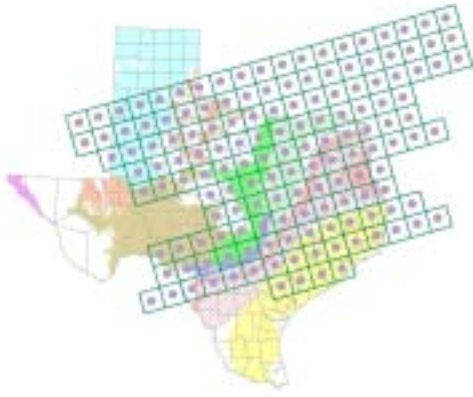
- The model
  - predict water levels and flows in response to pumping and drought
  - effects of well fields
- Data in the model
  - water in storage
  - recharge estimates
  - hydraulic properties
- GCDs and RWPGs can request runs





# Living tools

- GCDs, RWPGs, TWDB, and others collect new information on aquifer.
- This information can enhance the current GAMs.
- TWDB plans to update GAMs every five years with new information.
- Please share information and ideas with TWDB on aquifers and GAMs.



# Participating in the GAM process

- SAF meetings
  - hear about progress on the model
  - comment on model assumptions
  - offer information (timing is important!)
- Report review
  - at end of project
- Contact TWDB
  - Robert Mace (512) 936-0861
  - Cindy Ridgeway (512) 936-2386

# Comments:

**Contract Manager**

**cindy.ridgeway@twdb.state.tx.us**

**(512)936-2386**

**[www.twdb.state.tx.us/gam](http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/gam)**

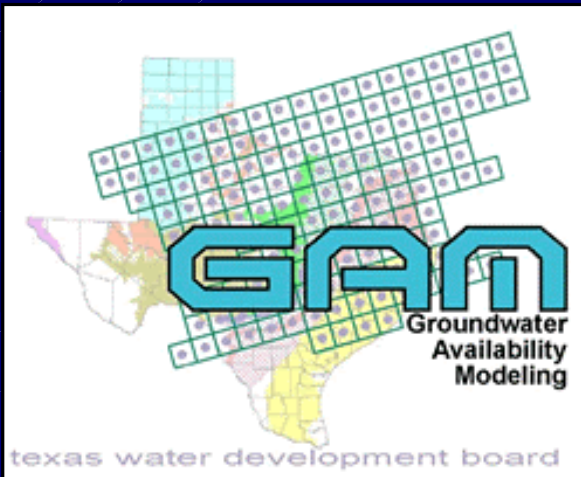


# Groundwater Availability Modeling (GAM) for the Seymour Aquifer

Stakeholder Advisory Forum (SAF#2)

Seymour, Texas

June 30, 2003





# Outline

- SAFs
- Introduction to Seymour aquifer and GAM
- Preliminary approach to model implementation
  - Model design – layers & boundaries
  - Geology/structure
- Status of data source review & data base development
  - Hydraulic properties
  - Recharge
  - Streams
  - Water levels
  - Springs
  - Pumping
- GAM schedule
- Scope for next SAF

# Stakeholder Advisory Forums - SAFs

- Held on 4 month schedule
- First SAF introduced basic information and requested data for the model
- Today's meeting and future meetings will:
  - provide updates on progress
  - provide an opportunity to offer feedback
- SAF presentations and questions & responses from meetings will be posted at <http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/gam/symr/symr.htm>

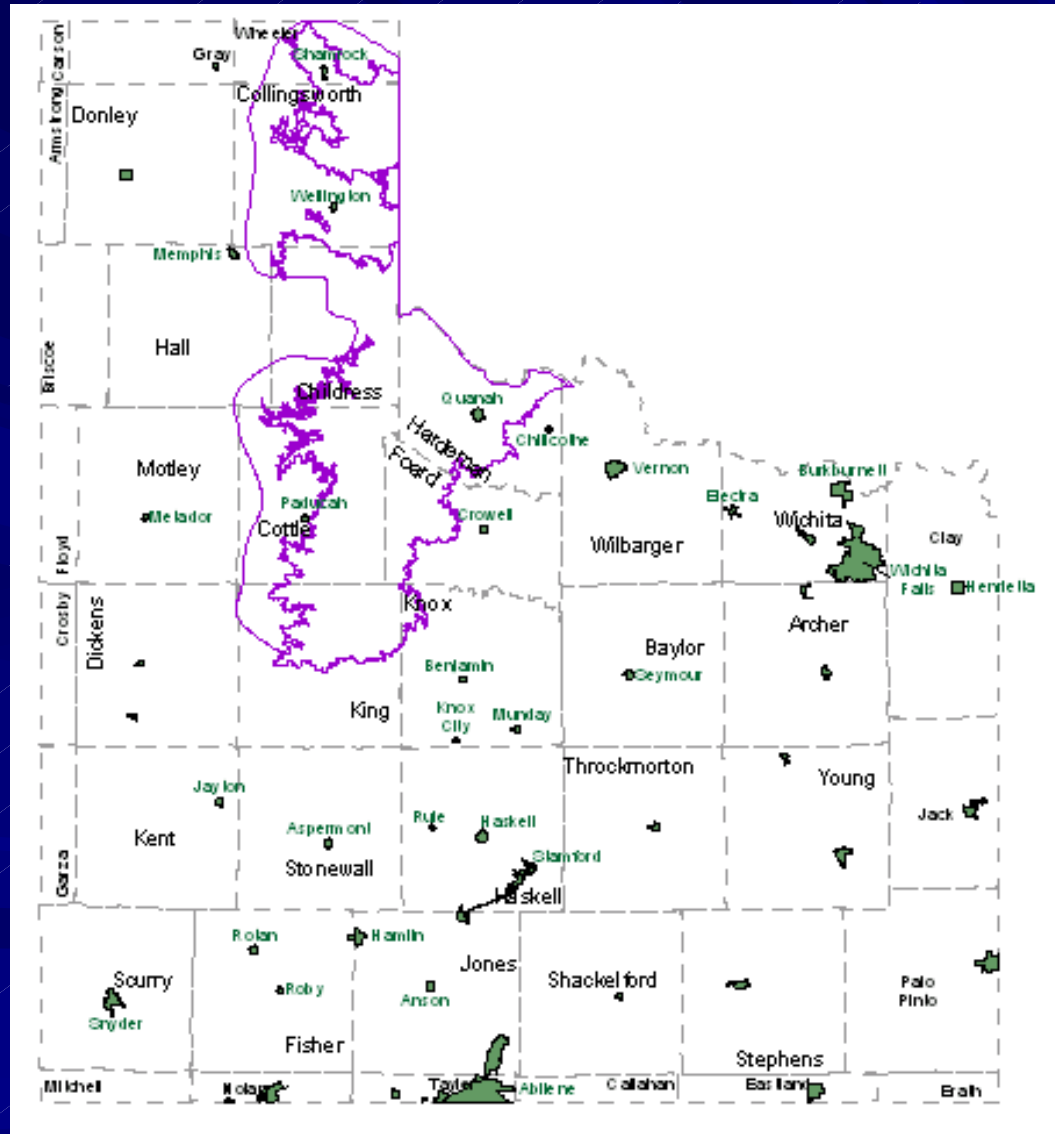
# Seymour Aquifer

- Seymour aquifer is composed of clay, silt, sand, and gravel. Sands & gravels occur primarily at base.
- For some of the model areas, it includes alluvial deposits in the river valleys.
- Thickness of Seymour aquifer is up to 100 feet, with a saturated thickness typically less than 60 feet.
- Model will represent the Seymour and alluvium as a single layer.
- Blaine aquifer is modeled as a second layer.





# Blaine Aquifer Boundaries



# Key Data Sources

- TWDB website: Seymour/alluvium (approx. 5000 wells)
- County reports by TWDB & predecessors
- U.S. Geological Survey reports
- UT Bureau of Economic Geology reports
- Oklahoma WR Board & GS reports
- TCEQ drillers logs
- Brune (1975) spring locations & flows

# Key Data Sources (cont'd)

- Additional websites:
  - U.S. Geological Survey
    - topography
    - stream flows
    - stream gain/loss studies
  - U.S. EPA
    - stream characteristics
    - land use / land cover
    - soil type
  - National Climatic Data Center - precipitation

# General Stratigraphy

Seymour/Alluvium

Quarter Master – Ochoa Group

Whitehorse – Artesia Group

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Pease River  
Group

Dog Creek Shale

Blaine Formation

Flowerpot Shale

San Angelo Sandstone

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Clear Fork Grp

Choza Formation

Vale Formation

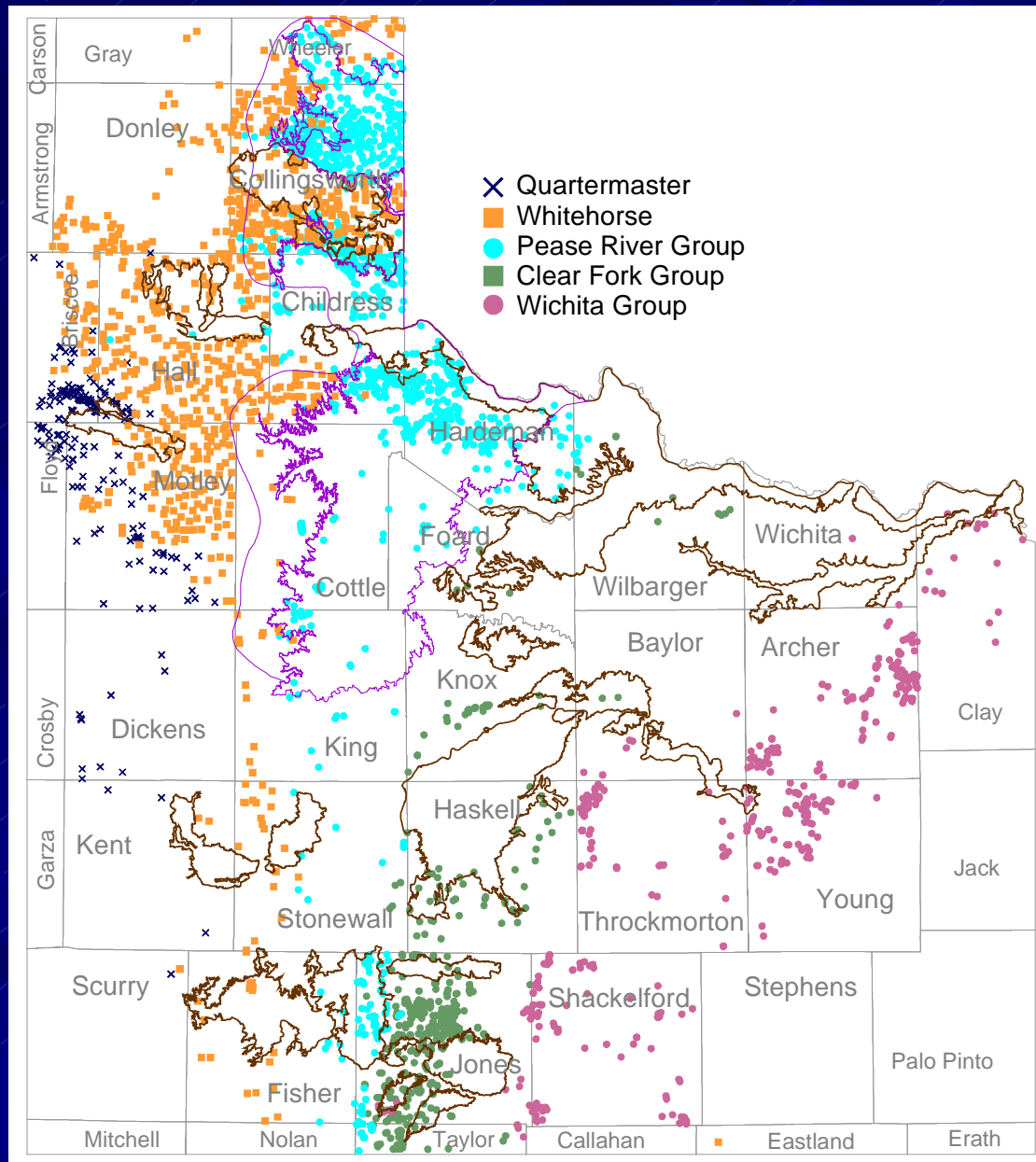
Arroyo Formation

---

Wichita Group

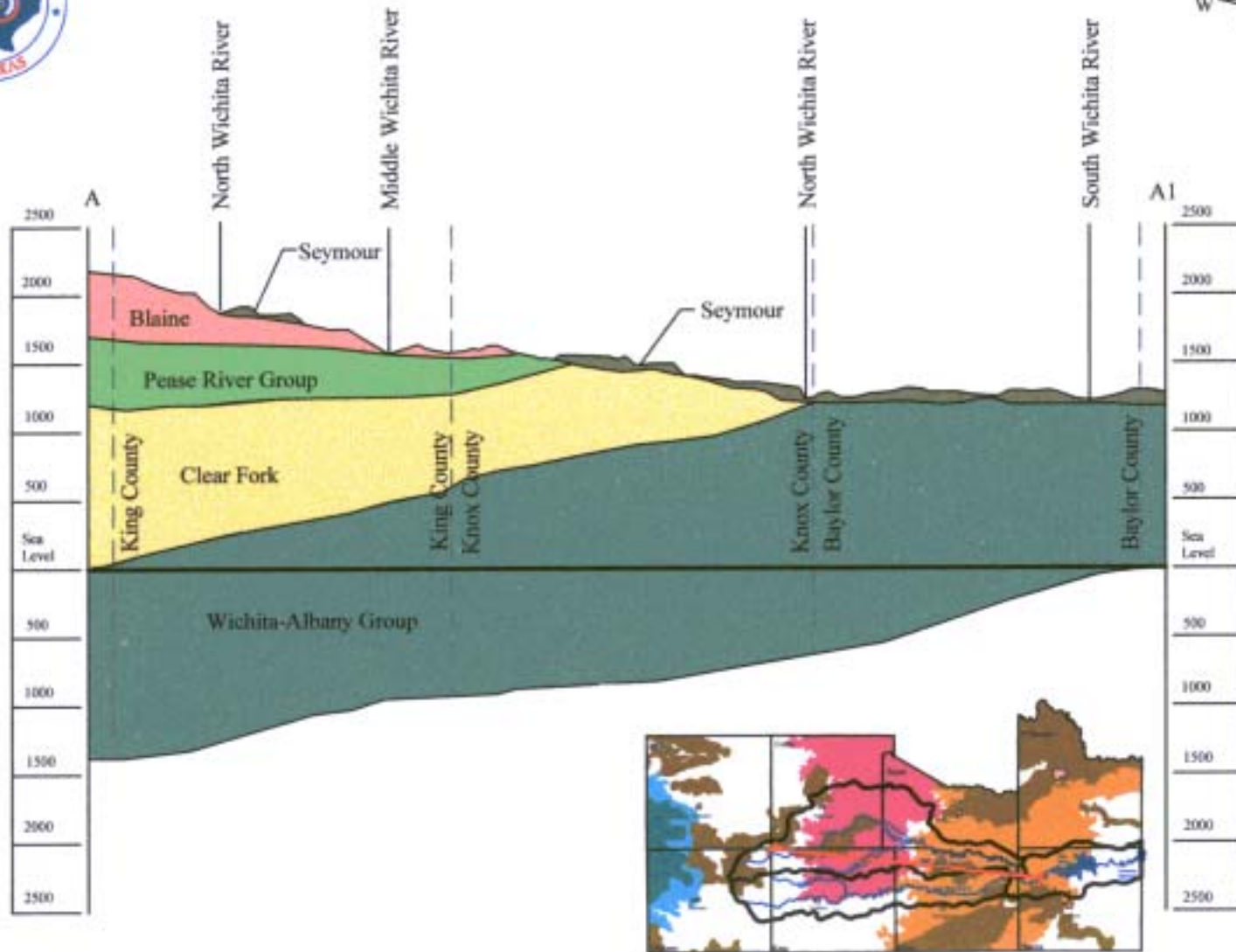


# Stratigraphic Units Underlying Seymour Aquifer





# Geologic Cross-Section



Taken from the website of the Red River Authority.

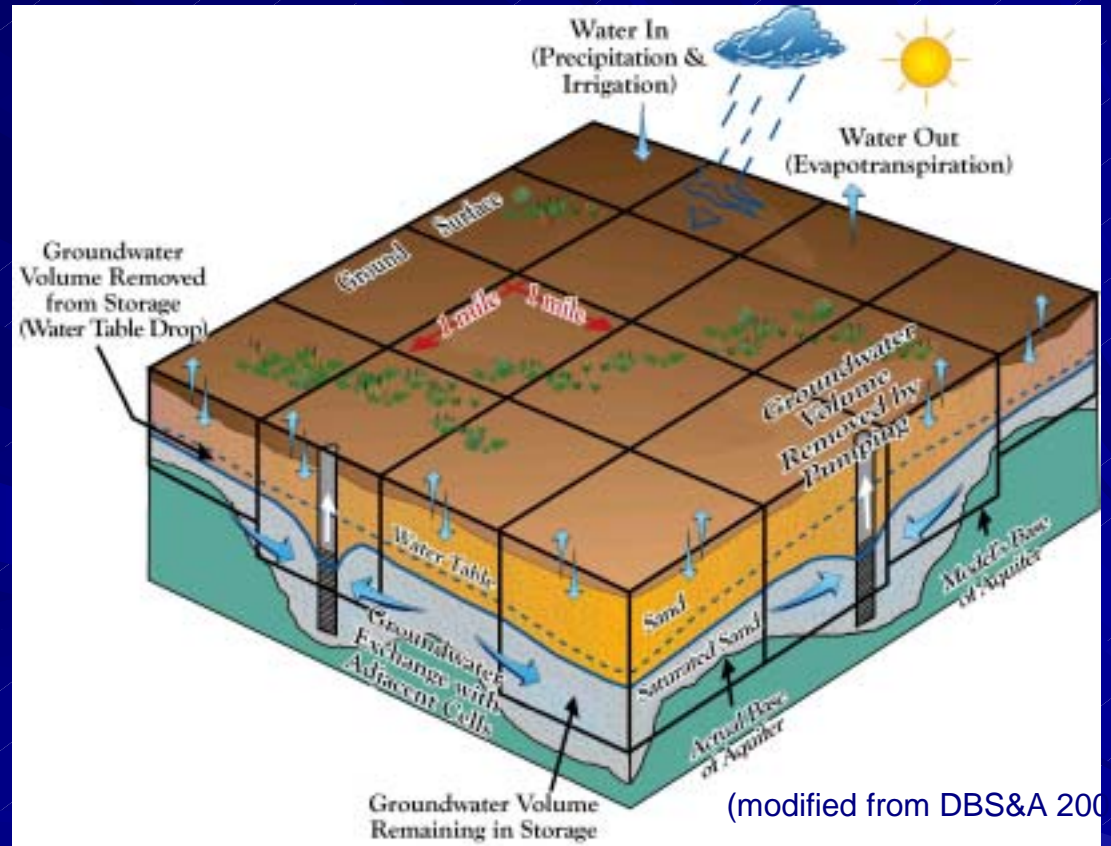
# Definition of a Model

**Domenico (1972) defined a model as a representation of reality that attempts to explain the behavior of some aspect of reality and is always less complex than the real system it represents.**

**Wang & Anderson (1982) defined a model as a tool designed to represent a simplified version of reality.**

# A Model is a Tool

- Model heads are calculated based upon:
  - Recharge
  - Aquifer properties
  - Pumping
  - Natural Discharge
- Model heads are compared to observed water levels
- The tool is used to predict future water levels



# GAM Model Specifications

- **Three dimensional (MODFLOW-96)**
- **Regional scale (1000's of square miles)**
- **Grid spacing of 1 square mile**
- **Implement**
  - recharge
  - groundwater/surface water interaction
  - pumping
- **Calibration to observed water levels**



# Hydrogeologic Setting

- Study area
- Hydrostratigraphy
- Hydraulic properties
- Regional groundwater flow
- Recharge
- Discharge
  - Pumping
- Streams

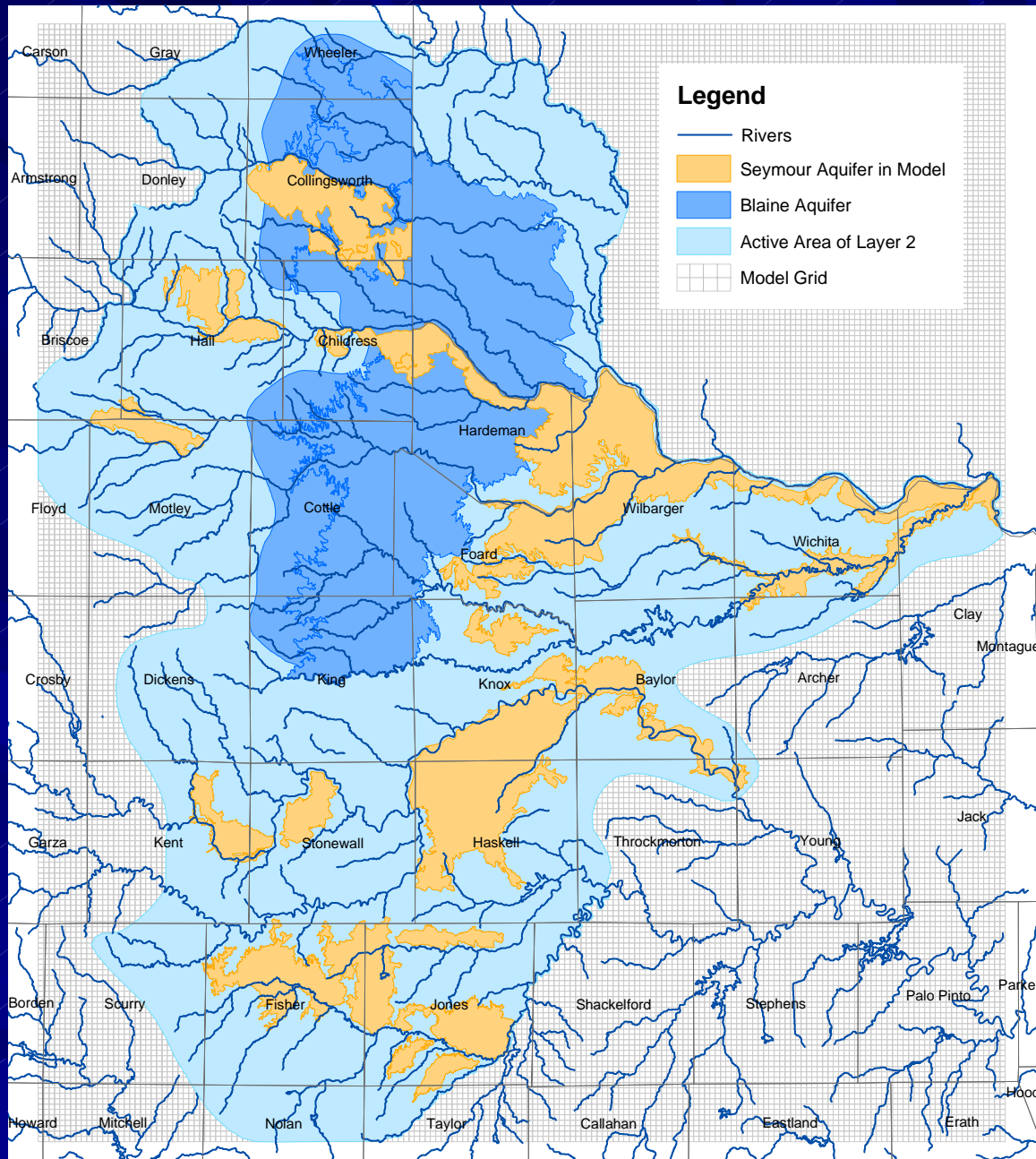


# Model Grid Design

- No single directional trend in the Seymour aquifer segments
- General west-to-east topographical trend
- Model grid oriented orthogonal to north
- Model grid shifted in  $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile increments to determine best fit overall with Seymour outline

# Model Domain and Model Grid

208 Rows



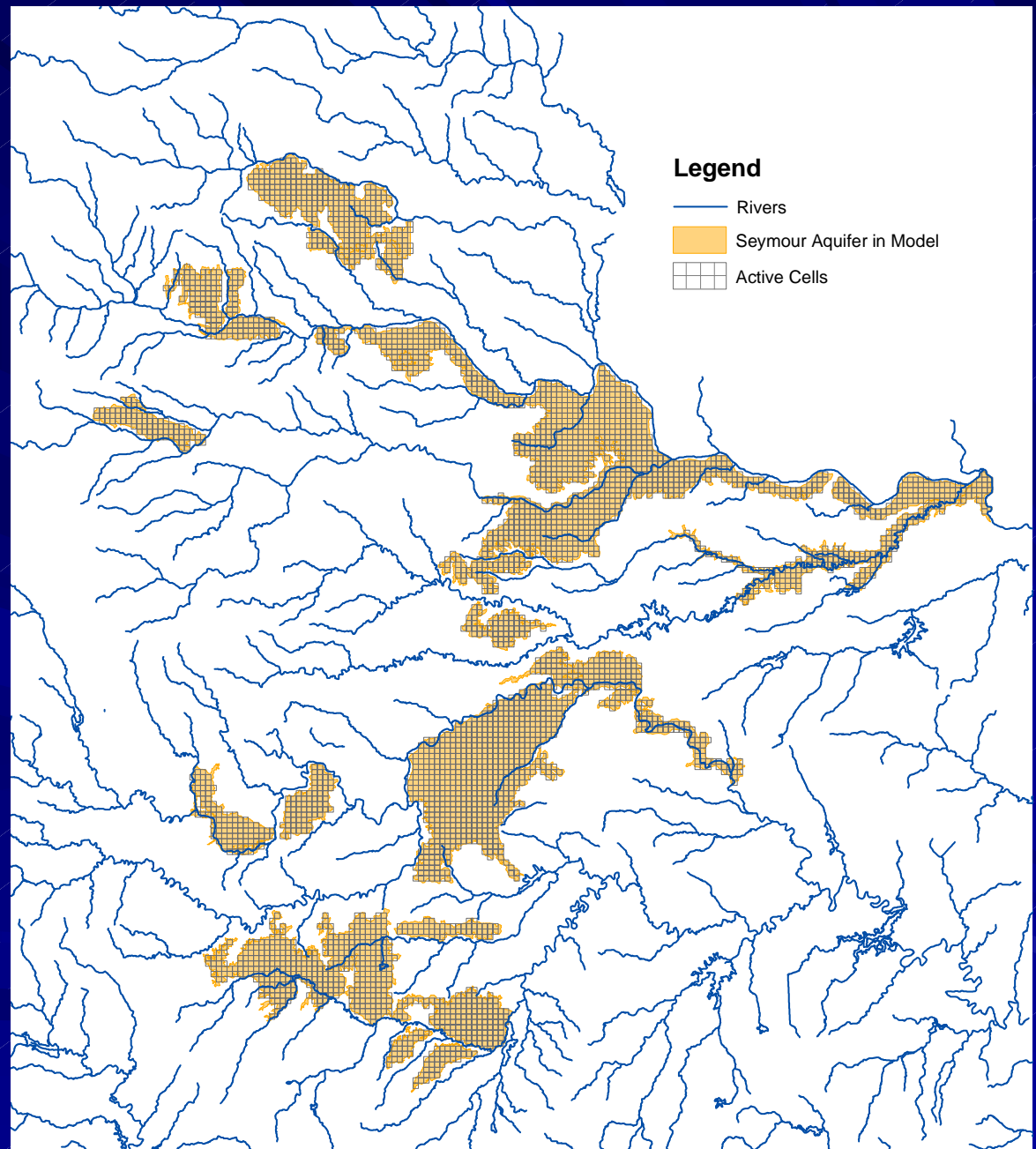
180 Columns

# Active Cells in Layer 1

Seymour Aquifer  
3391 mi<sup>2</sup>

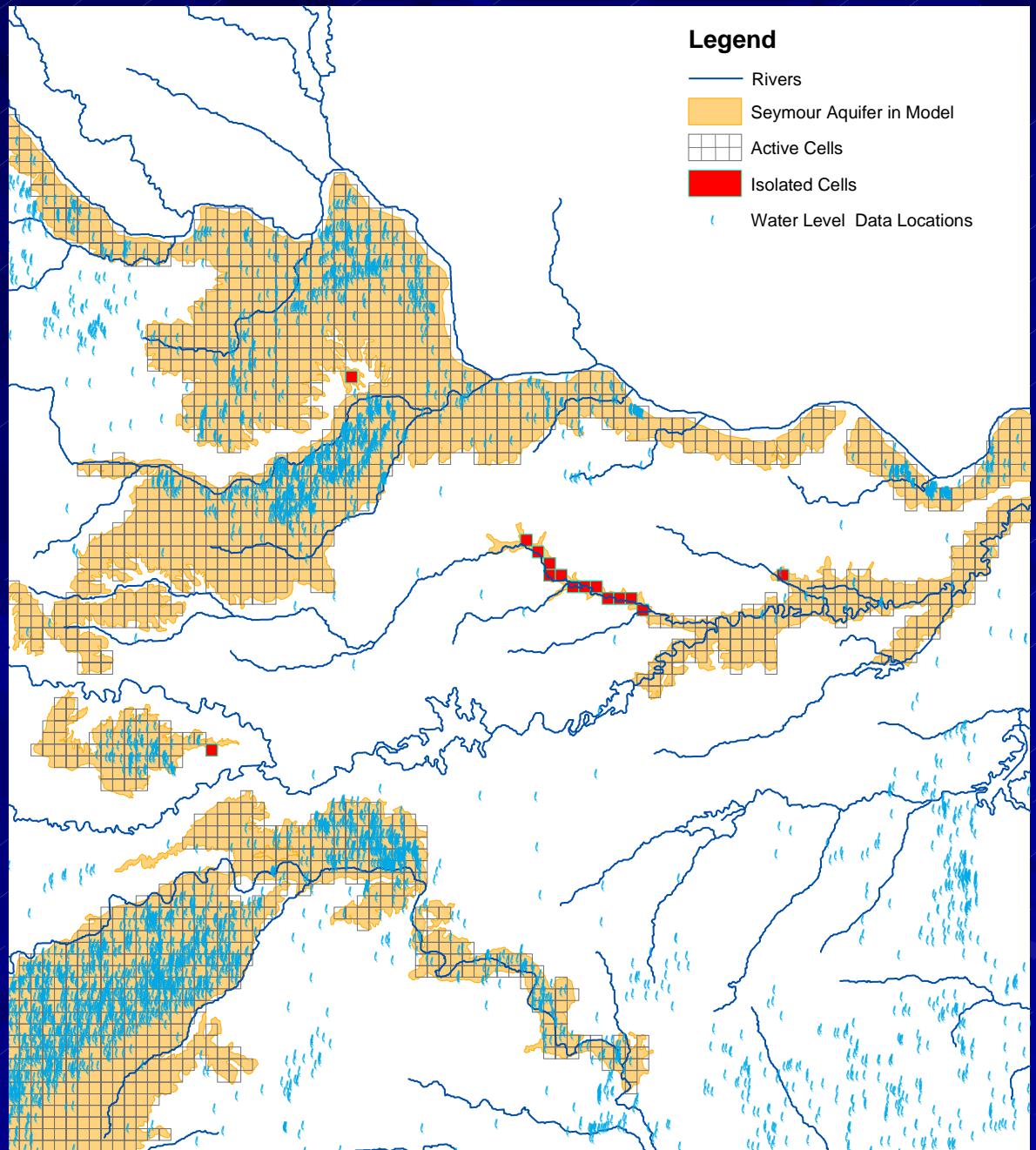
Active Cells with  
>50% coverage  
3400 mi<sup>2</sup>

Error = 0.28%



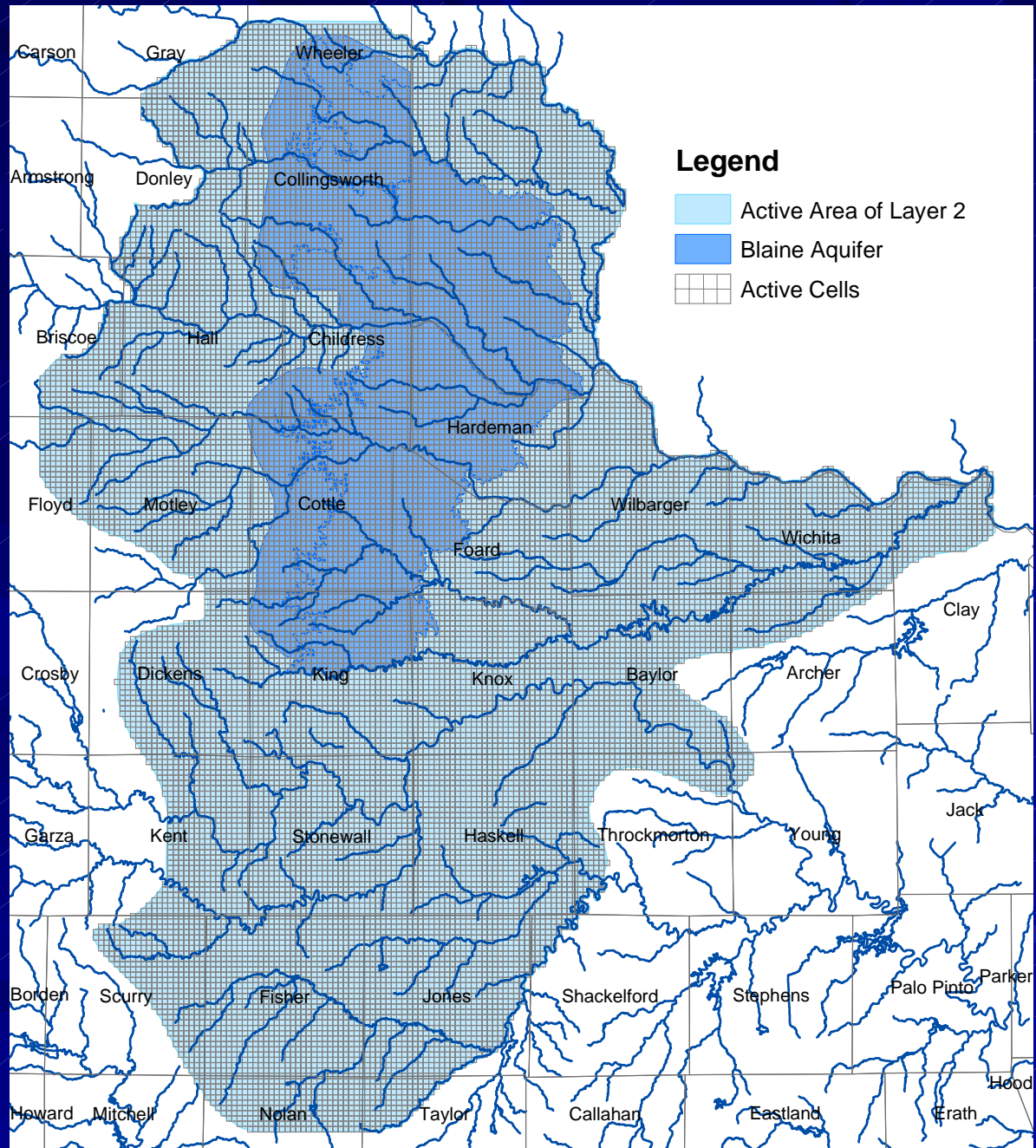
# Examples of Isolated Cells of Layer 1

Finite-Difference Model where flow occurs only through cell faces





# Active Cells in Layer 2



# Well Record Information

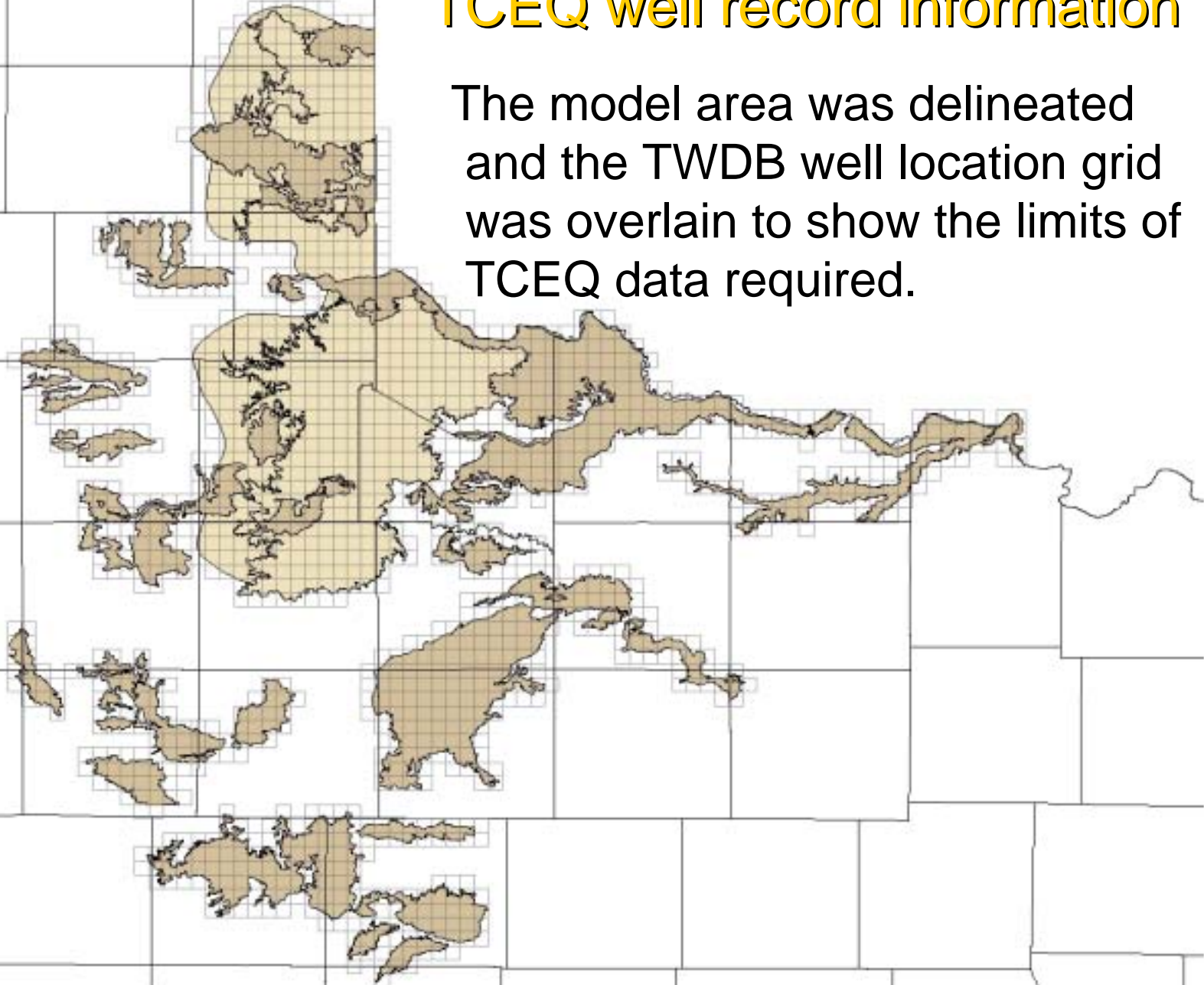
The following data sources were evaluated:

- TWDB water well database
- TCEQ central records water well drilling files
- Existing Groundwater Conservation District files
- Agricultural Extension Service Files and communications
- Local Well Drillers personal communications
- Existing County and State reports



## TCEQ well record information

The model area was delineated and the TWDB well location grid was overlain to show the limits of TCEQ data required.



# TCEQ data

Identification		Well Information							Well Tests				Level	Geology	
Well ID (Owner)	TWDB ID.	Latitude	Longitude	Date Drilled	Diameter (in)	Depth (ft)	Screen (ft)	Estimated Elevation	GPM	Drawdown (ft)	Time (hrs)	Specific Capacity	Water Level	gravel / sand layer 1 base	gypsum top
H.P. Bradley	05-61-8			6/28/1983	12	40			5				31.0	26	
R.M. Standridge	12-04-3			11/5/1975	12	200	160-200							174	
W.H. Cooke	12-04-3	*		5/28/1984	9.875	70	38-58		20	0.5			18.0	60	
W.H. Cooke	12-04-3			5/28/1984	10	80	50-70		20	0.5			21.0	70	
Jim Cabbell	12-04-3			3/16/1989	26	150	70-150							150	
Jim Cabbell	12-04-3			3/28/2000	20	208	161-201		400	22	24	18	113.0	199	
Catherine Mary Ford	12-04-3	*		9/20/1991	9	100	80-100		16	0	1		86.0	97	
James Doneghy	12-04-6			10/14/1972	10	195			20	40	2	1		172	
W.R. Peggram	12-04-6			11/9/1979	12	200	180-200								
Jim Cabbell, Jr.	12-04-6			12/24/1984	8.375	175	75-110, 130-175						78.0	147	
Alfred McMurtry	12-05-1			5/23/1967	10	47	32-47		9	23	24	0	12.0		
Neil Davis	12-05-1			7/20/1968	10	135			20	10	2	2	96.0	134	
Neil Davis	12-05-1			4/3/1972	10	150			10	45		0	70.0	130	

- All the data files available within the Central Records, within the targeted areas, were recorded into the database. Over 3300 well files were compiled.
- The aim was to create as comprehensive a database as possible, with all the known well data from the area.
- Since the TCEQ block is a 2.5 minute by 2.5 minute area, the data becomes relatively coarse. However, the data is intended to be used by using averages of all the available data at the centroid location of each of the TCEQ grid blocks.

# QA/QC and Structure Assessment

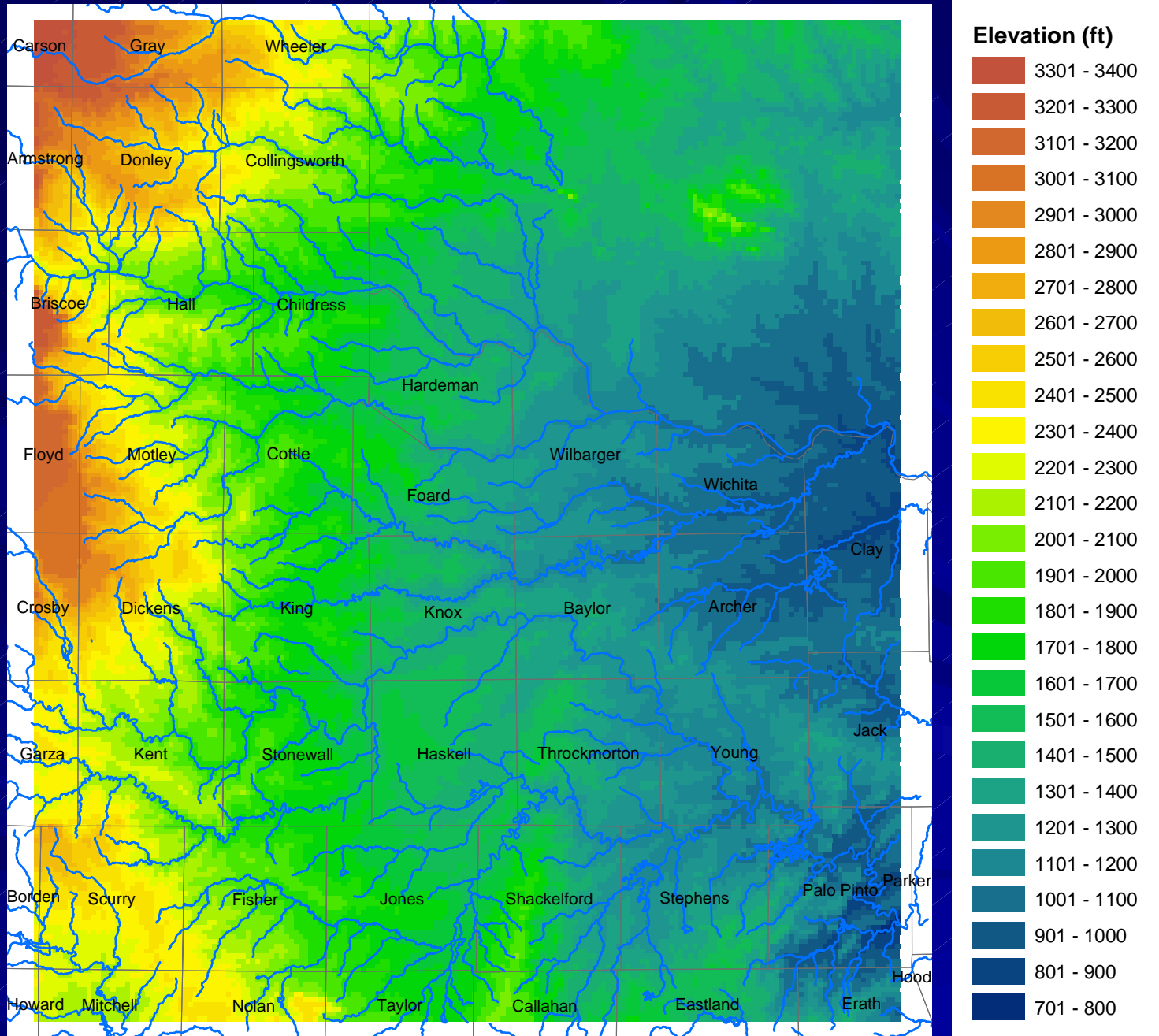
- QA/QC 1: Review of every data record for data accuracy
- QA/QC 2: Flag obvious anomalies in data
- QA/QC 3: Interpretation of geology

Structure Assessment				
Data assessment	Likely Surface Formation	Likely Aquifer Formation	Seymour	Blaine
1	Symr	Symr	26	
1	Symr	Symr	174	
0	Symr	Symr		
0	Symr	Symr		
1	Symr	Symr	15	
1	Symr	Symr	199	
0	Symr	Symr		
1	Symr	Symr	172	
0	Symr	Symr		
1	Symr	Symr	147	
0	Symr	Symr		
1	Symr	Symr	134	
1	Symr	Symr	13	

# Structure

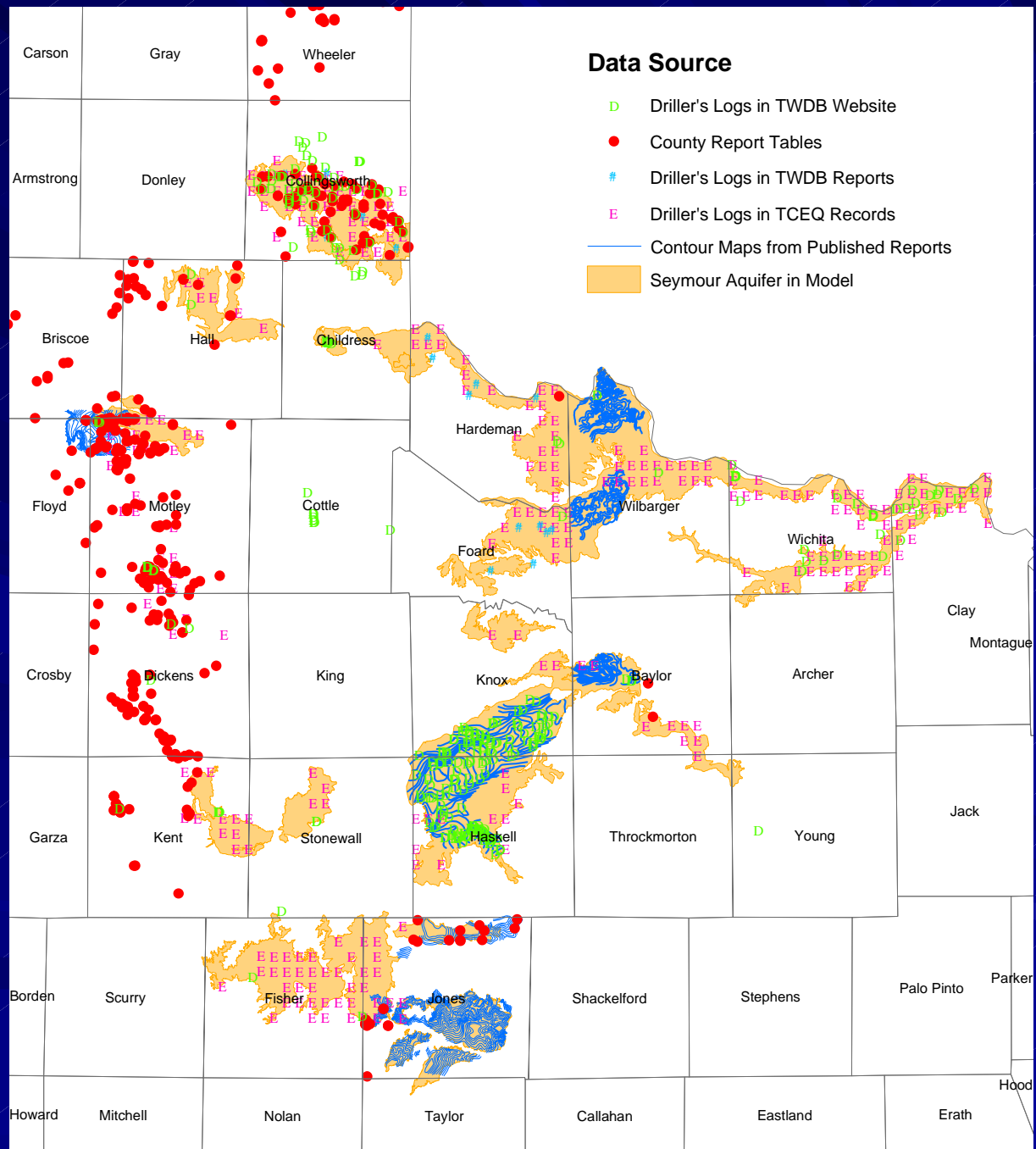
- Land surface from 30-meter DEM
- Data sources for Seymour aquifer (Layer 1)
  - Point data from TWDB and TCEQ driller's logs and county report tables
  - Contour maps from published reports
  - Water level data at wells without logs
  - Seymour outline
- Data sources for Blaine aquifer (Layer 2)
  - Limited point data from driller's logs
  - Contour map for Oklahoma
  - Blaine outcrop coverage
- Remainder of Layer 2
  - Assumed arbitrary thickness of 500 ft

# Land Surface from DEM





# Data Sources for Base of Seymour

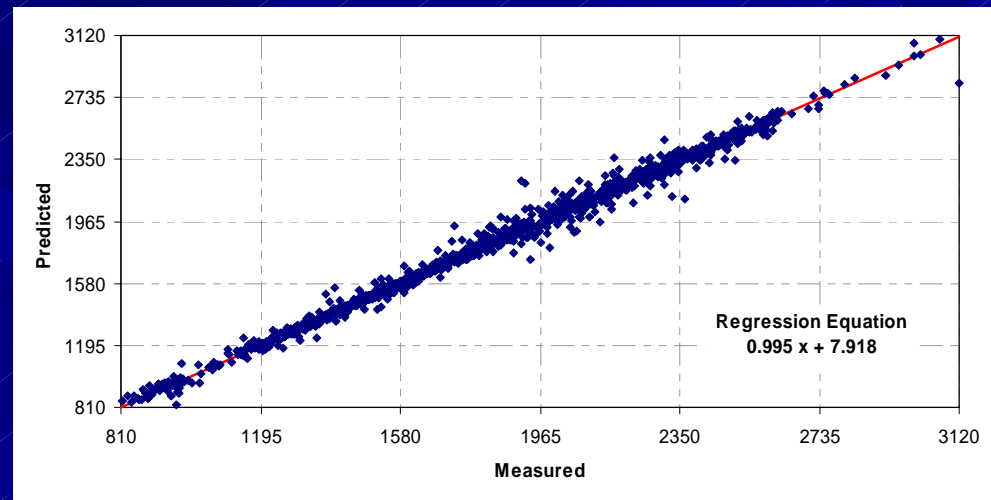




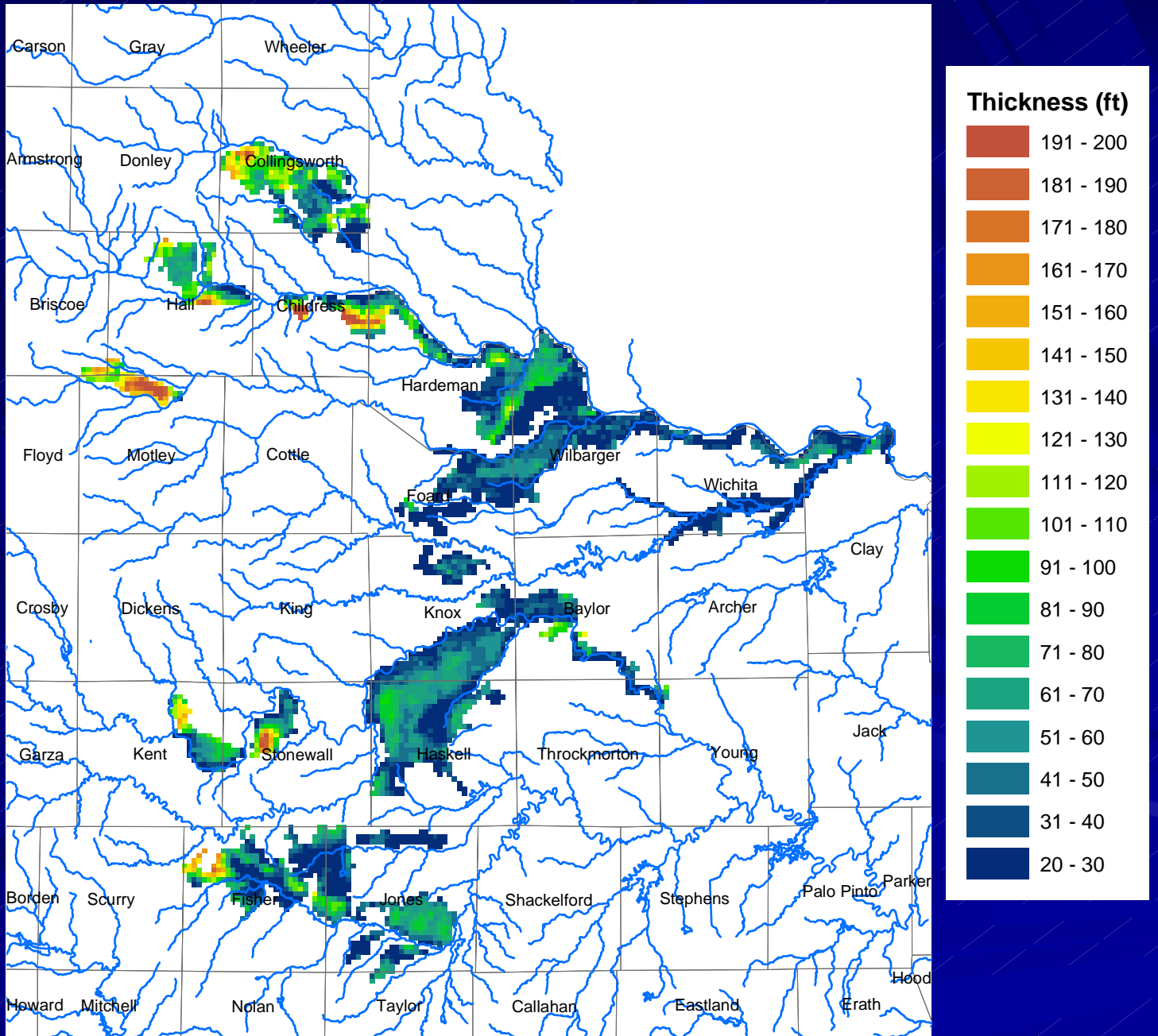
# Seymour Basal Elevation

- Assumed Seymour basal elevation to be continuous prior to river incisement
- Kriged using all data over entire domain
- Used linear trend removal (50% global)
- Used zero nugget

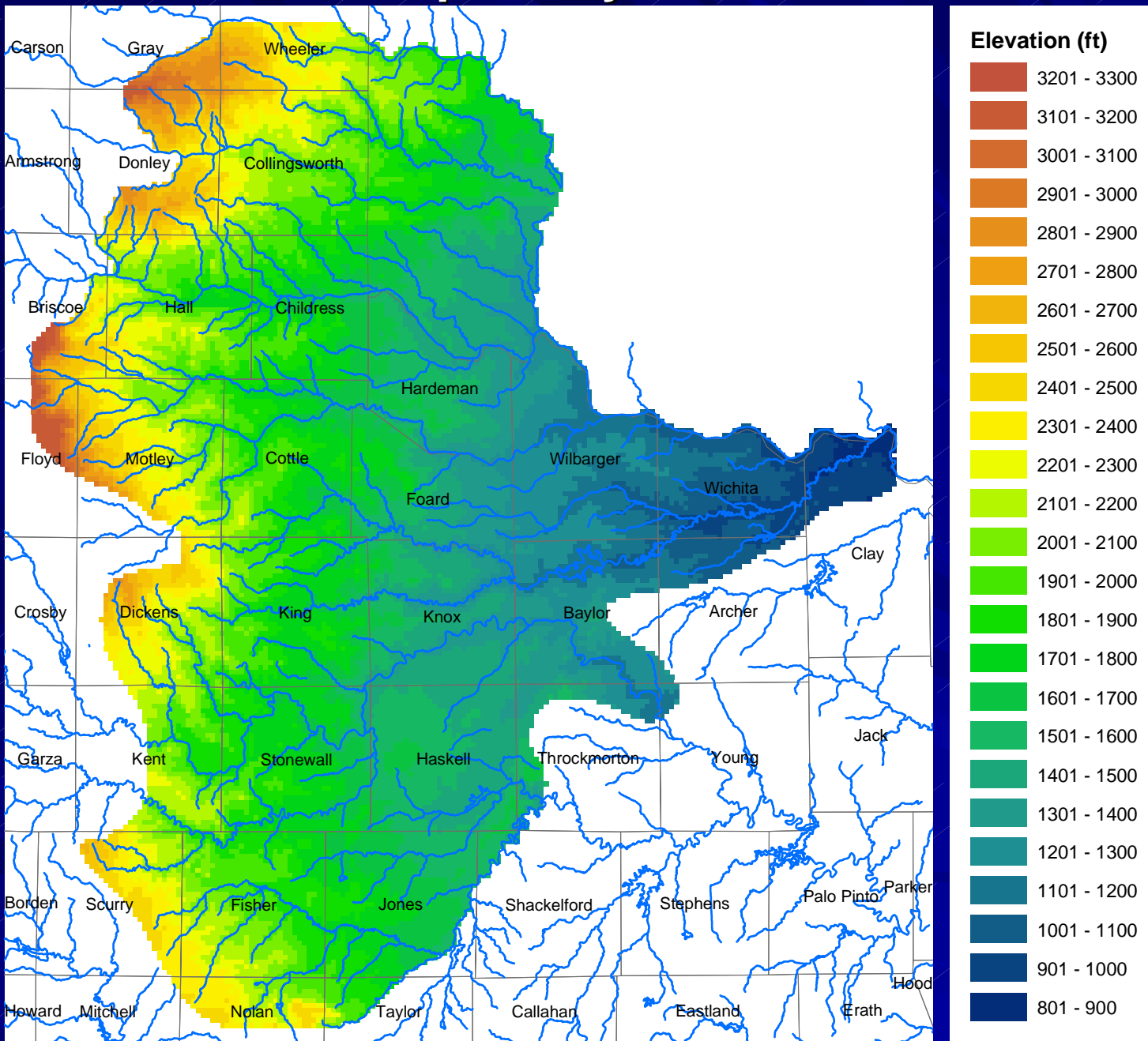
## Cross-Validation



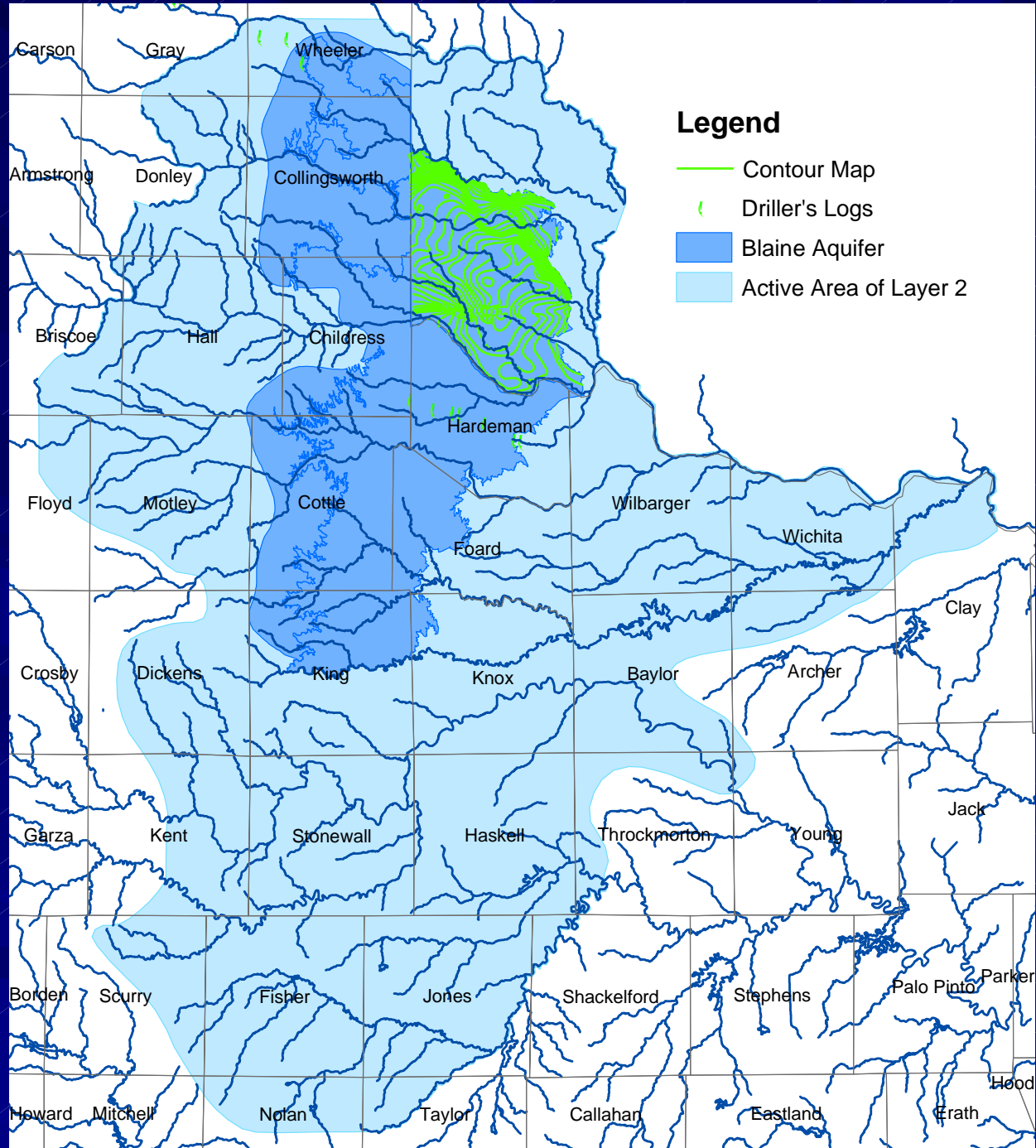
# Layer 1 (Seymour) Isopach



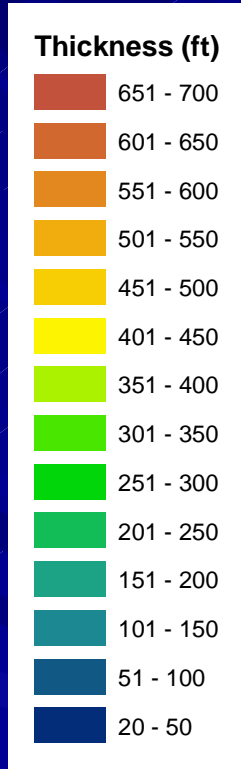
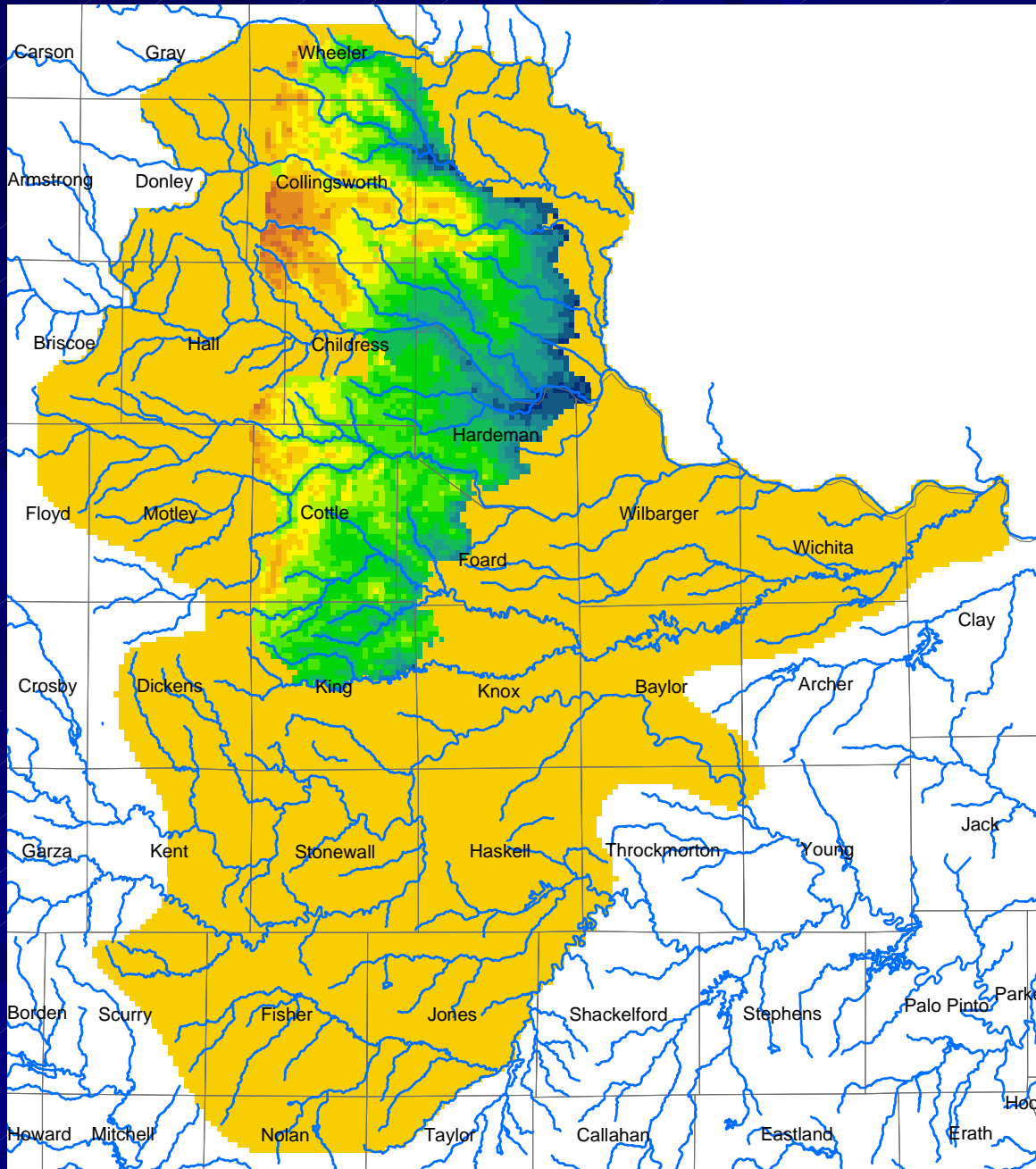
# Top of Layer 2



# Data Sources for Base of Blaine

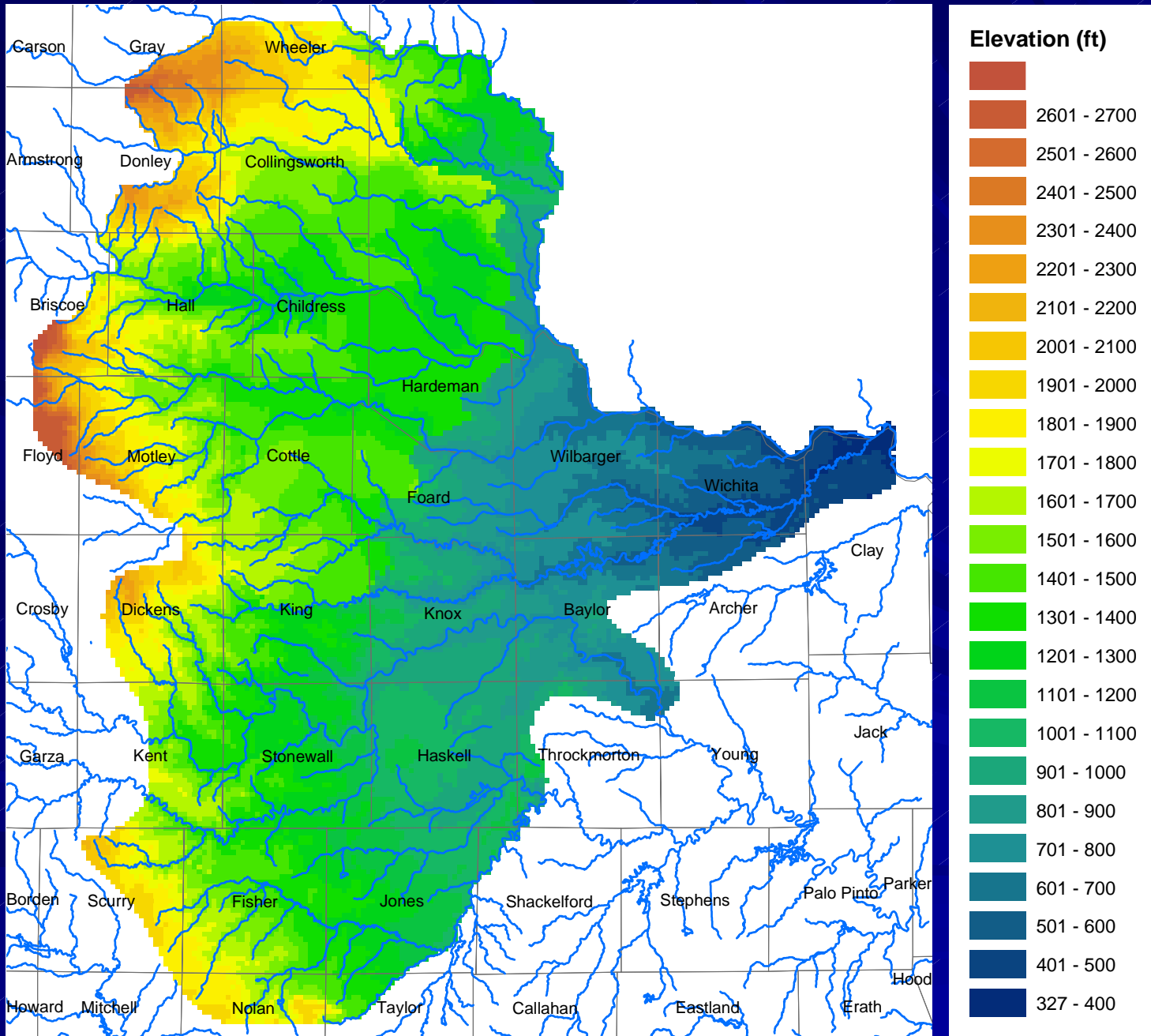


# Layer 2 Isopach





# Base of Layer 2

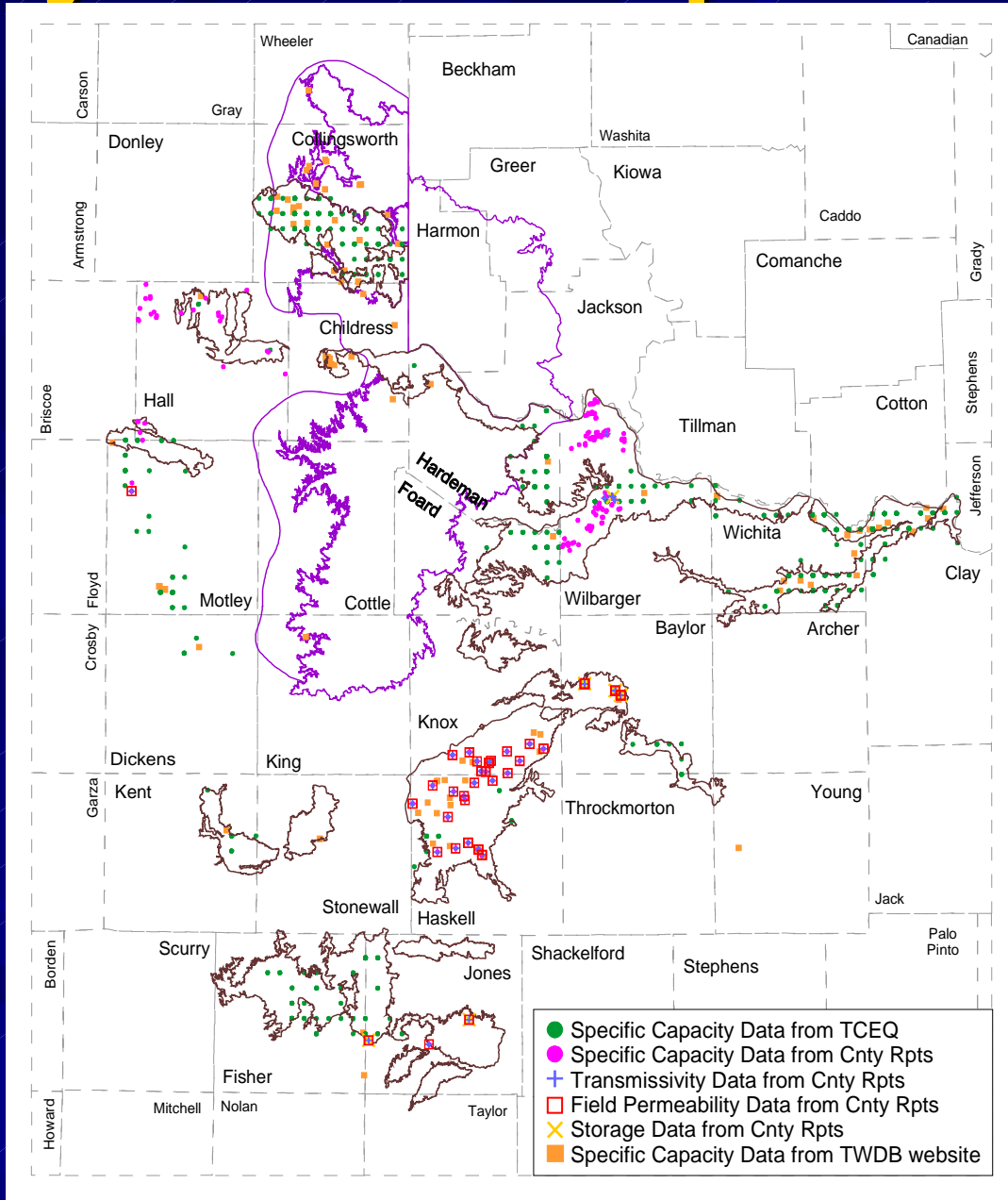




# Hydraulic Property Sources

- TCEQ Records
  - Specific capacity
- TWDB Website
  - Specific capacity
- TWDB County Reports
  - Specific capacity
  - Transmissivity
  - Field Permeability
  - Storage

# Hydraulic Properties



# Hydraulic Properties

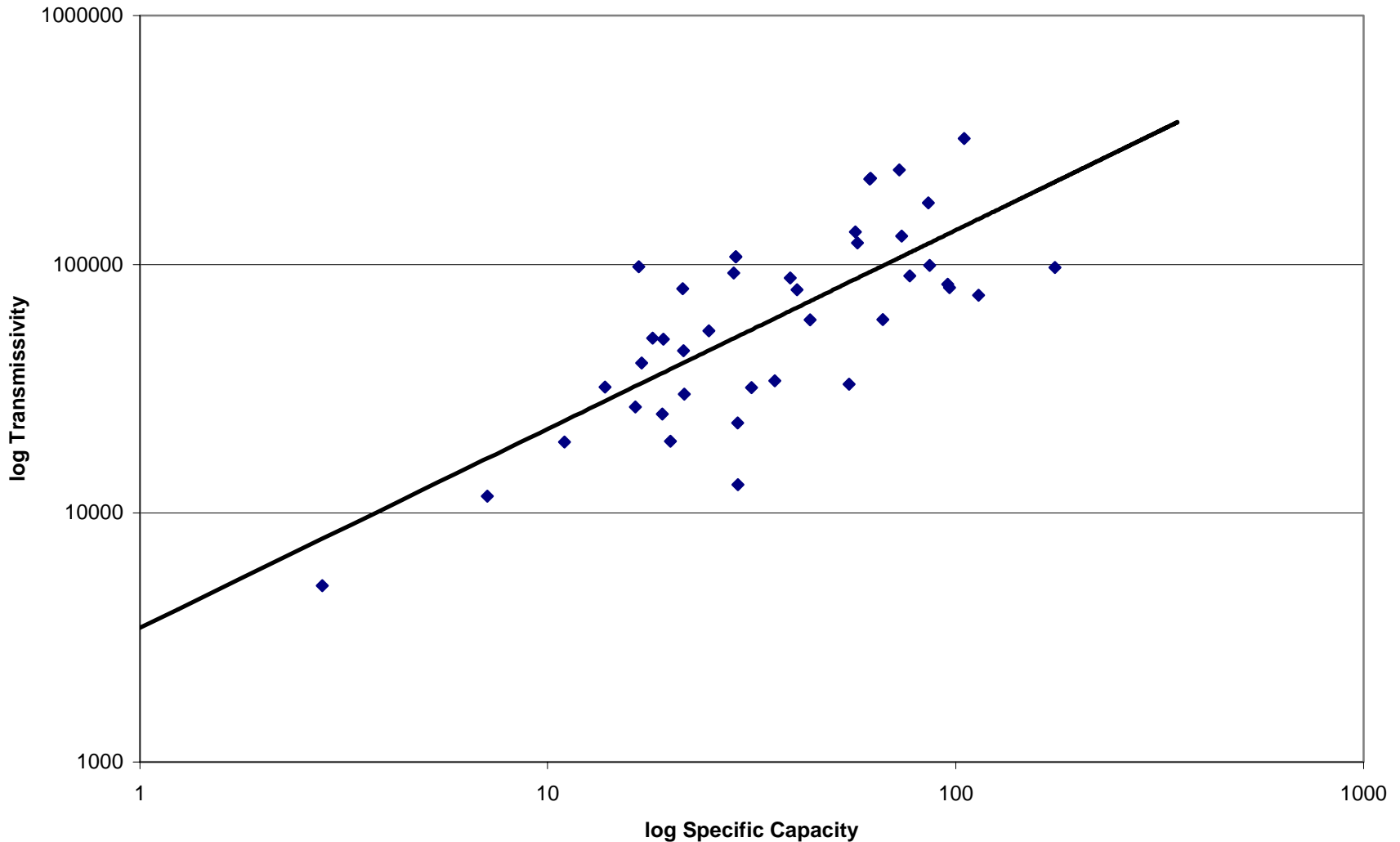
- Empirical relationship of  $S_c$  and  $T$
- Calculation of  $T$  for all relevant TCEQ wells
- 6 methods of calculation used
- Use saturated thickness to calculate  $K$  from  $T$

# Seymour Aquifer Empirical Sc to T Relationship

Seymour SC vs T

$$T = 3467.2(\text{Sc})^{0.7985}$$

$R^2 = 0.5582$   
 $n = 40$







# Recharge

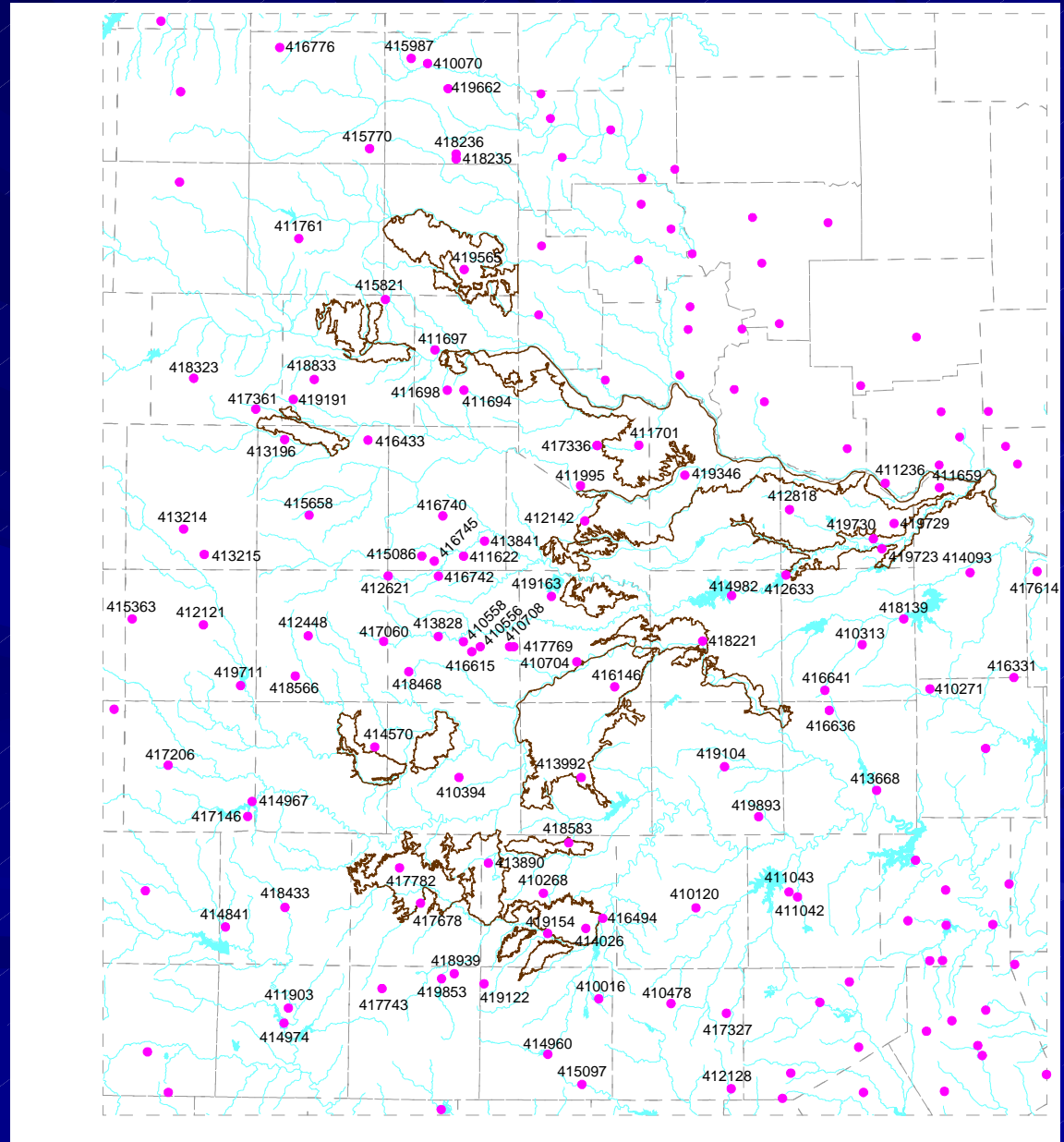
- Recharge – The addition of water to the water table. Recharge equals water inputs at ground surface (precipitation + irrigation + stream loss) minus water losses (runoff + evapotranspiration)
- Recharge is a complex function of
  - Precipitation (rate, volume, distribution),
  - Evapotranspiration (ET)
  - Runoff
  - Soil moisture, soil type
  - Runoff
  - Depth to water
- **Recharge is not directly measurable on a model scale**
- **Recharge varies as a function of time and location**

# Recharge - Implementation

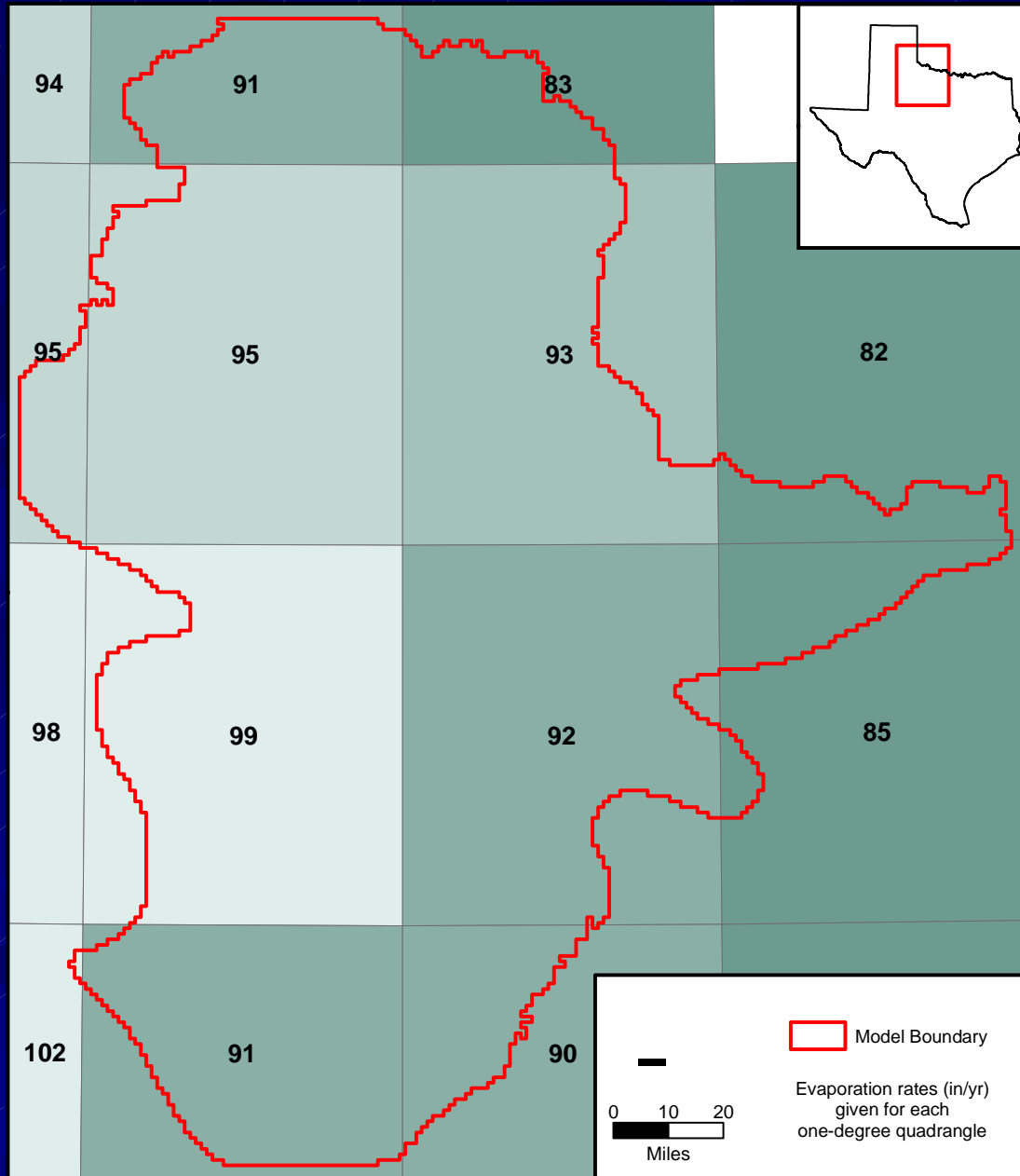
- **Proposed Approach:**
  - Complete SWAT simulations
  - Analyze what is driving SWAT results
  - Develop calibration methodology based on our analyses and previous estimates
  - Compare results to BEG field study estimates

# Precipitation Gage Station Locations

Average annual precipitation ranges from 18 in/yr in the western portion of the model to 30 in/yr in the eastern portion

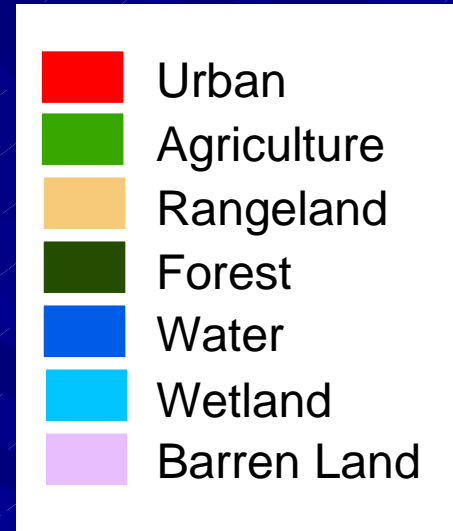
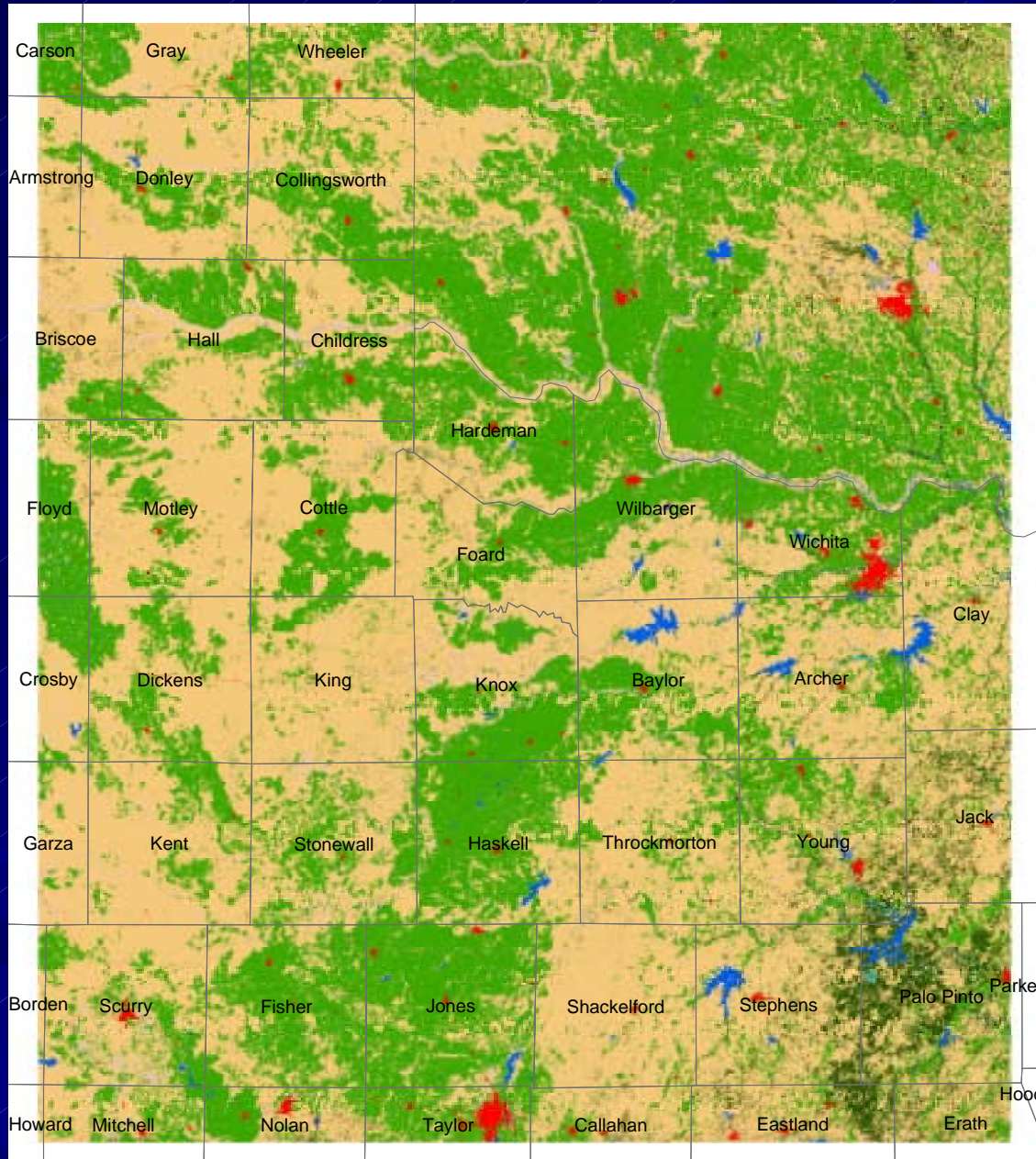


# Average Pan Evaporation Rates (in/yr)



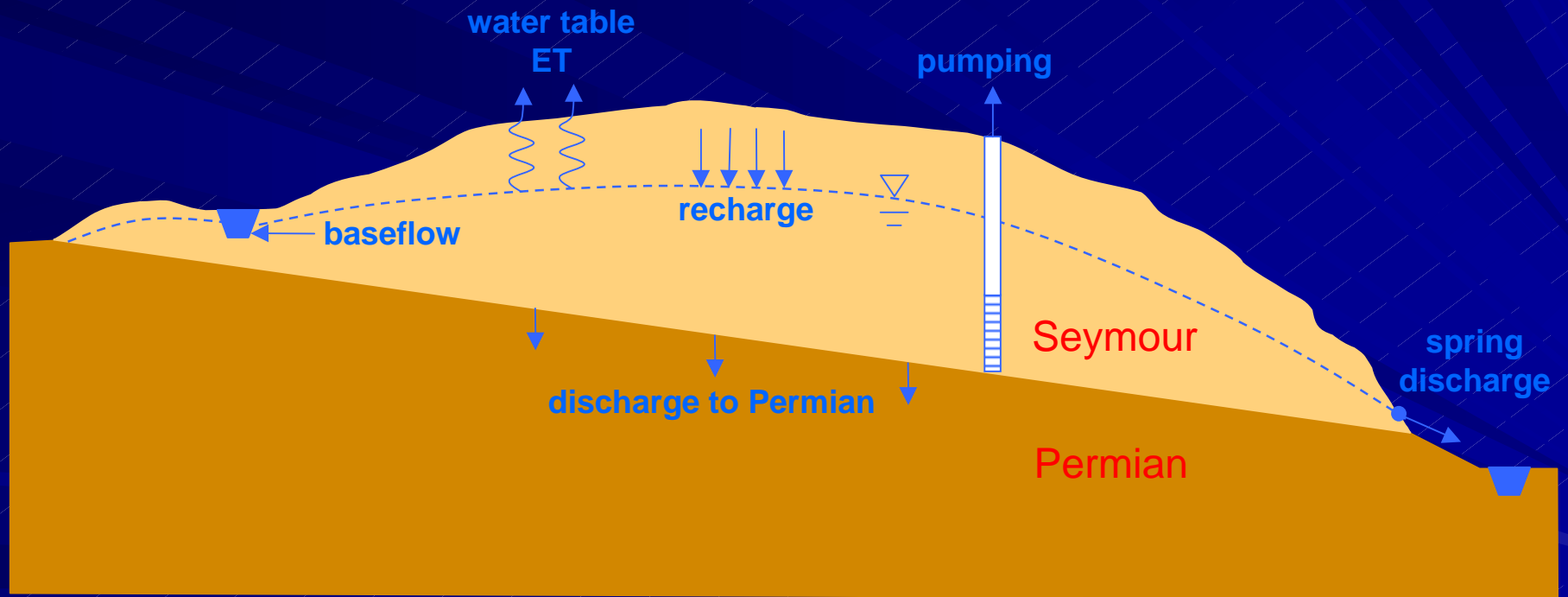


# Land Use/Land Cover





# Where does recharge go?

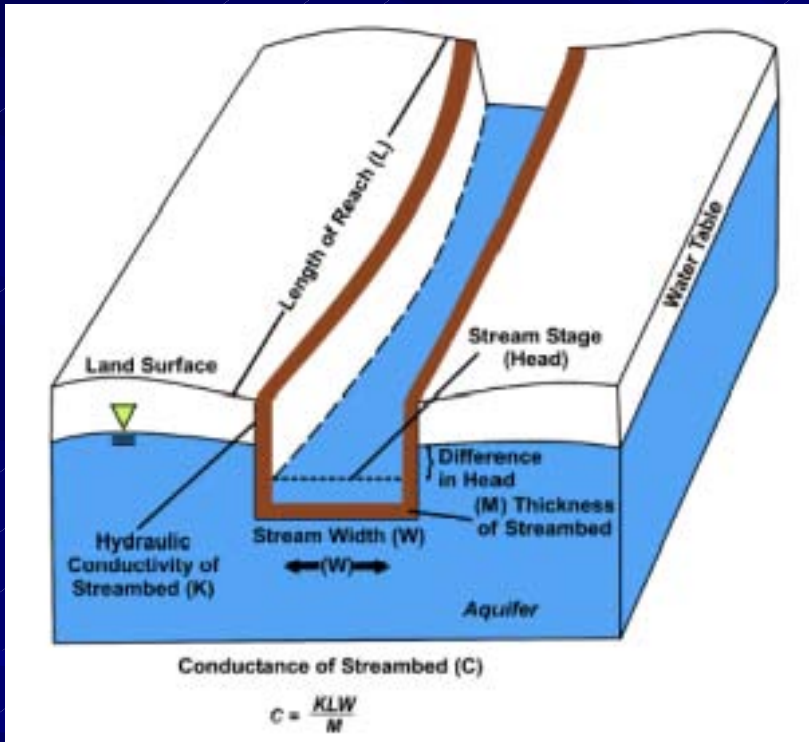


# MODFLOW Implementation

- Stream package to handle baseflow
- ET package to handle water table ET
- Well package to handle pumping
- Drain package to handle springs and seeps

# Streams – Prudic (1991)

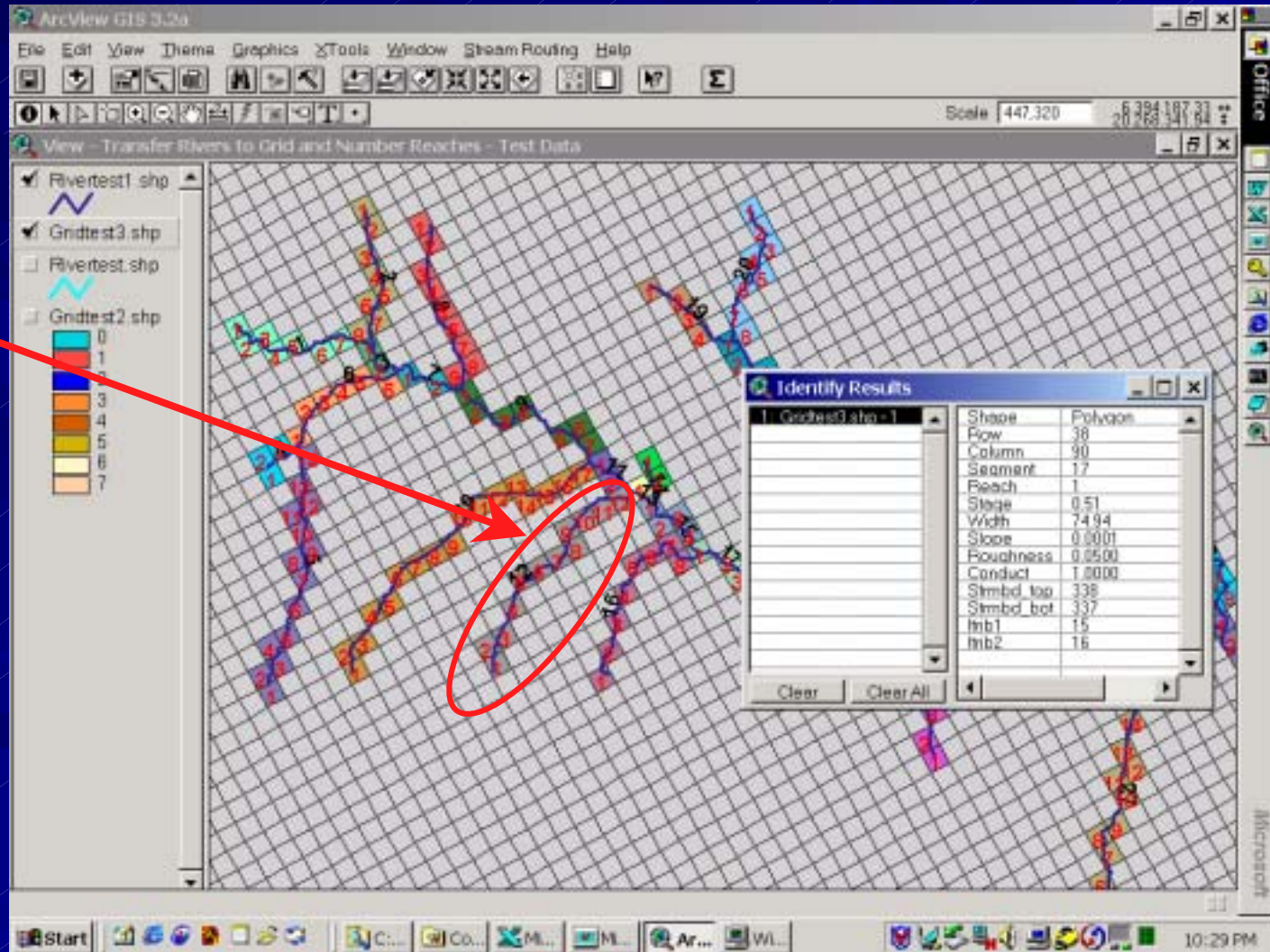
- Stream length (1 mile)
- Stream width
- Streambed thickness
- Streambed hyd. K
- Streambed elevation
- Streambed slope
- Manning's roughness
- Headwater reach Q for every stress period
- Segment connections



# Streams

Queen City Sparta GAMS will require the addition of very few new reaches

- Each cell is a reach
- Reaches make up segments



# Streams – Calibration

- Calibrate streambed conductivities to match losses/gains
- Calibration targets:
  - Stream Gage Analysis (base flow)
  - Stream gage data – upper bound



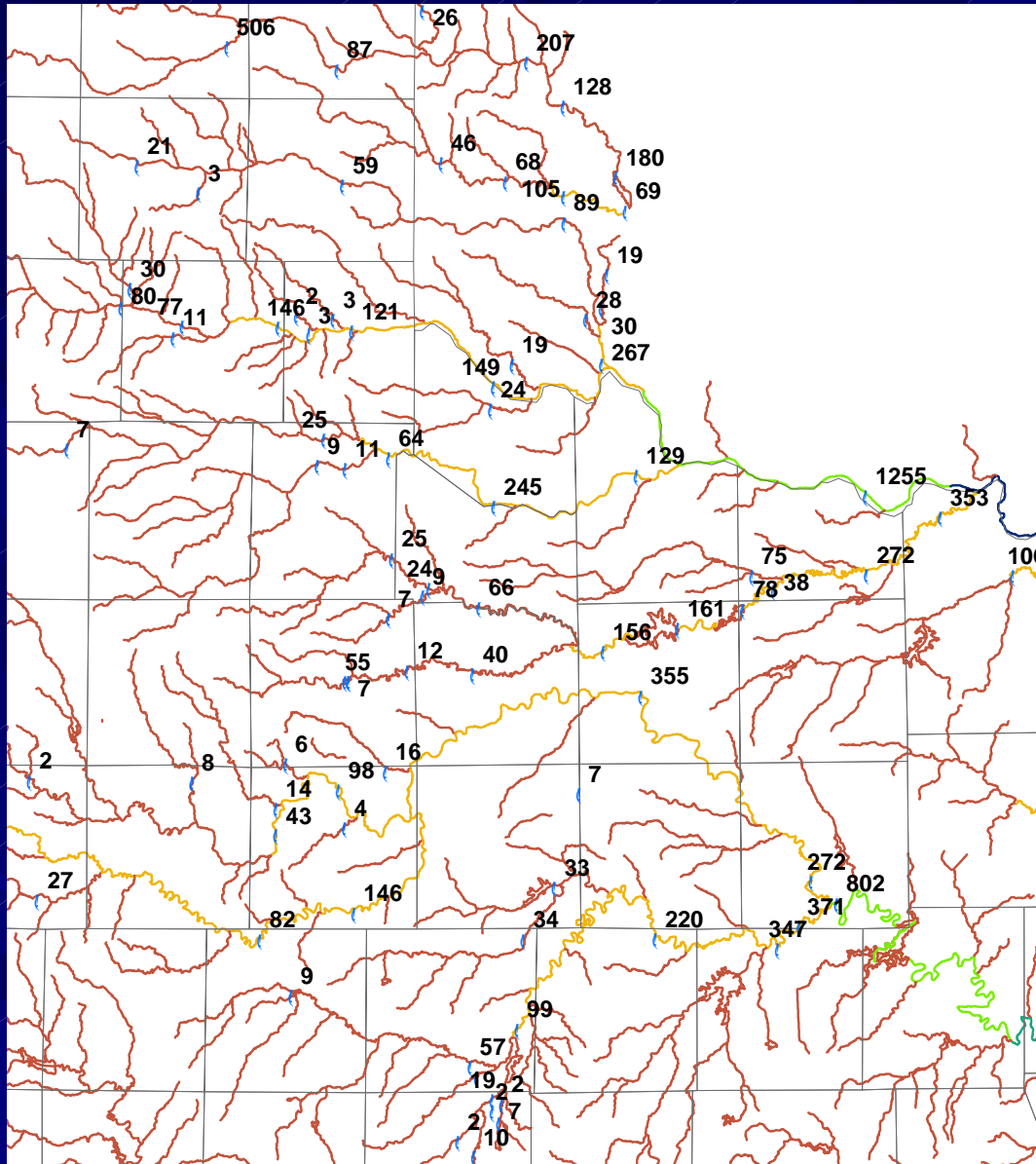
# Ongoing Efforts – Stream Routing

- Review the method(s) used to assign stream flow rates to ungaged headwaters and provide recommendations for improvement.
- Review of the calibration targets used to characterize stream/aquifer interaction.
- Development of additional gain/loss estimates (surface water calibration targets).
- Review and provide recommendations regarding approach for initialization and calibration of stream bed conductance

# River Basins



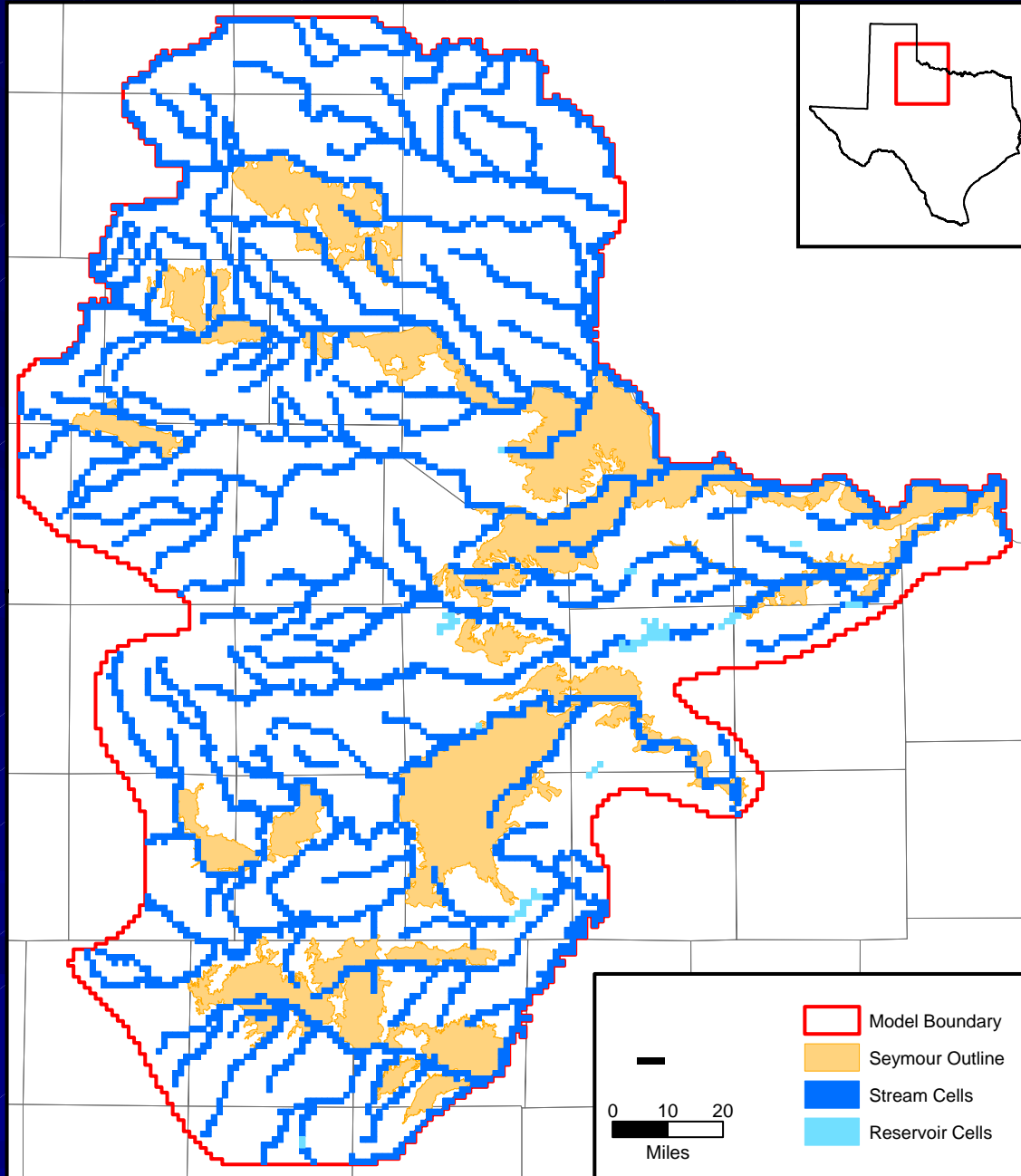
# Streamflows



## Mean Streamflow (cfs)

- 0 - 100
- 101 - 500
- 501 - 1000
- 1001 - 1500
- 1501 - 2000

# Stream and Reservoir Cells in Model



# Springs

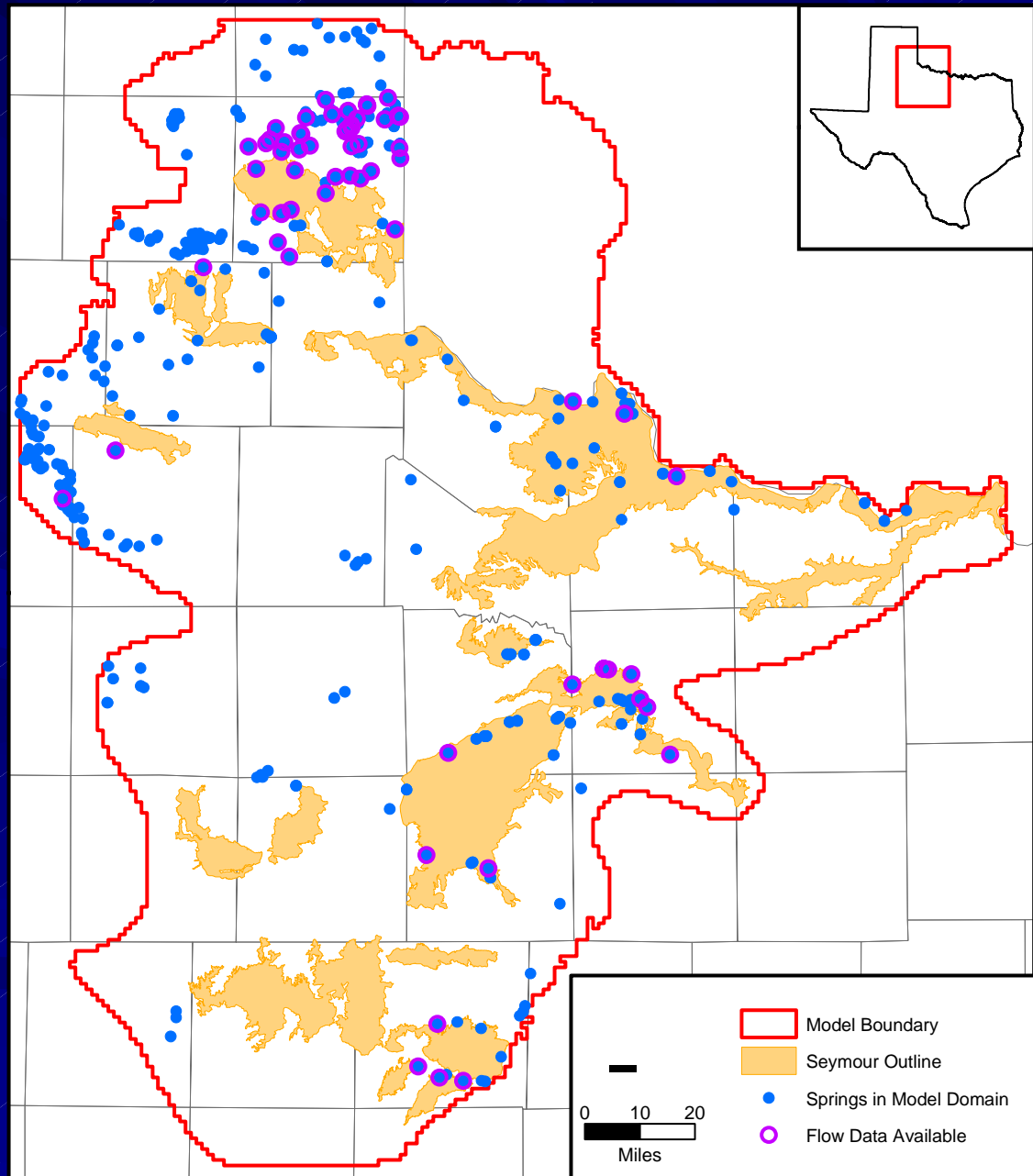
- Sources
  - TWDB County Reports
  - Brune (1975)
  - USGS Database
- Some flow data for calibration



# Springs

66 springs with flow rates available and not intersecting stream cell

5 springs with flows greater than 0.5 cfs



# Regional Groundwater Flow

- Each patch of Seymour aquifer acts as an individual flow system
- Too few data are present in some patches (such as in Kent and Stonewall counties) to determine regional flow

# Water Levels

- Objectives

- Develop water-level elevation contours of predevelopment conditions
- Develop water-level elevation contours for
  - The start of model calibration (1980)
  - The end of model calibration (1990)
  - The end of model verification (1999)
- Evaluate transient water-level conditions and select hydrographs for use as calibration targets
- Evaluate cross-formational flow

# Water Levels (cont'd)

- Challenges

- Identification of predevelopment conditions

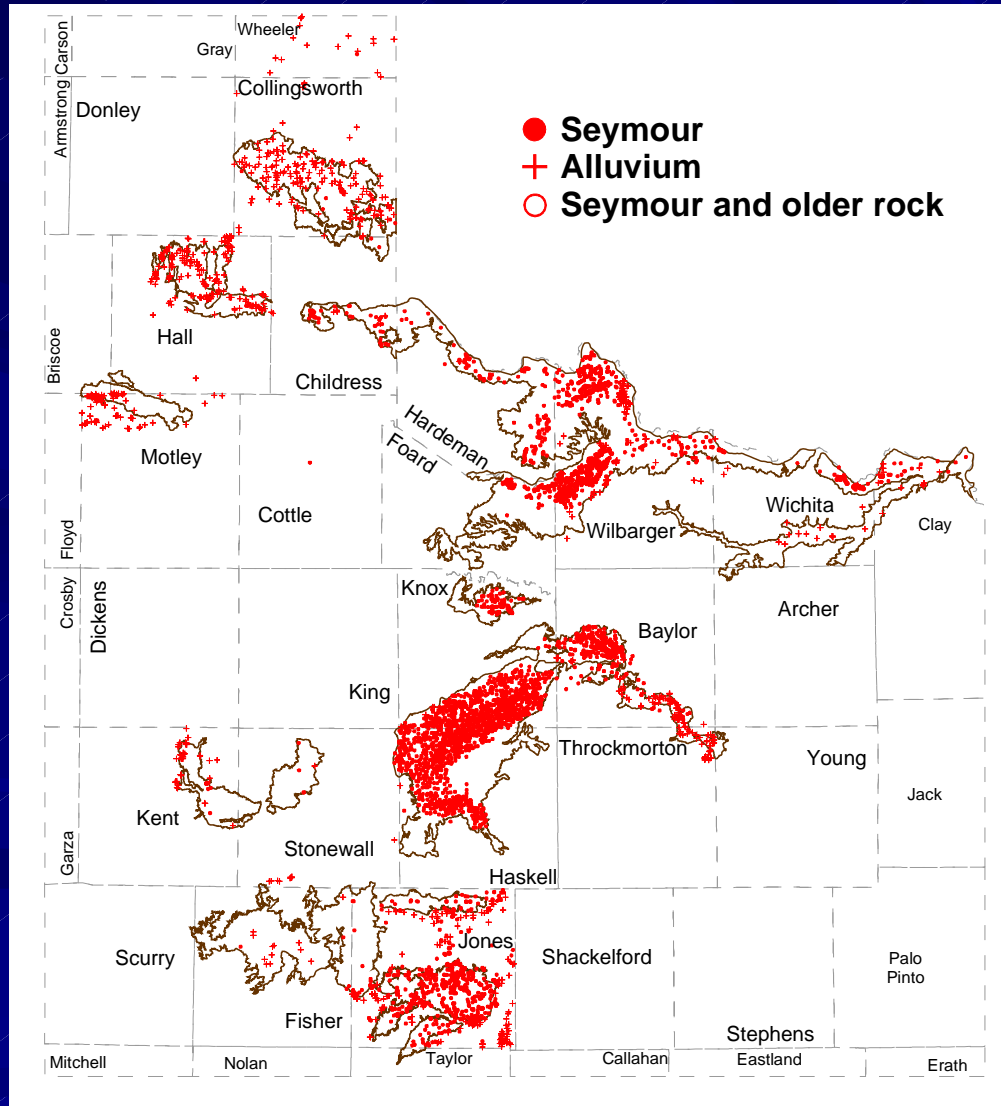
- In many locations, Seymour was dry in early 1900s (e.g., Haskell and Knox counties)
- Clearing of phreatophytes and development of land for cultivation resulted in increased recharge and the aquifer began to fill up
- Assumed predevelopment corresponds to maximum water-level elevation regardless of time

# Water Levels (cont'd)

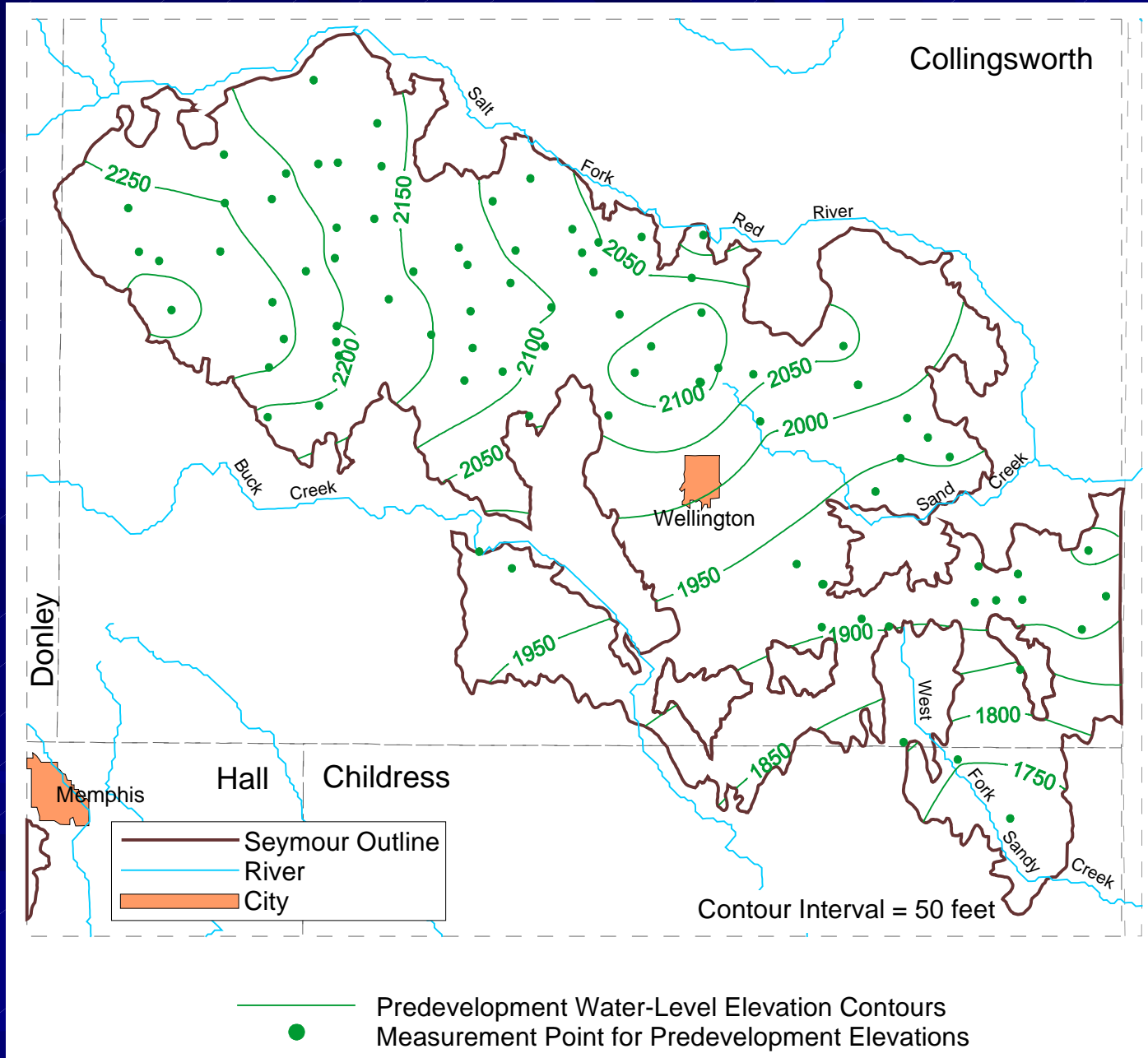
- Challenges (continued)
  - Inconsistent data coverage from year to year and county to county
  - The Seymour is not a continuous aquifer but rather a series of hydraulically isolated patches



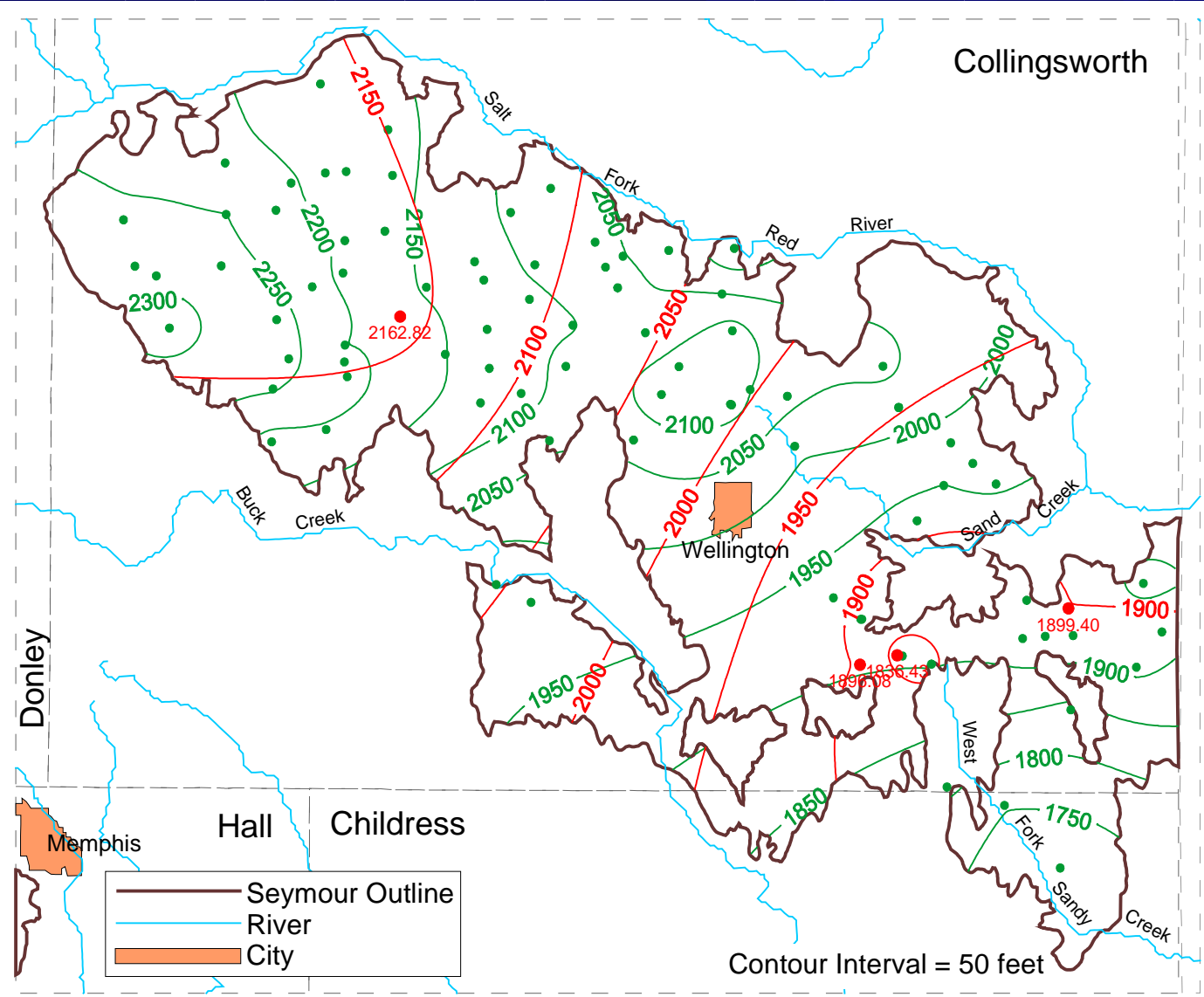
# Seymour – Water-Level Locations



# Collingsworth County – Predevelopment Water-Level Elevations

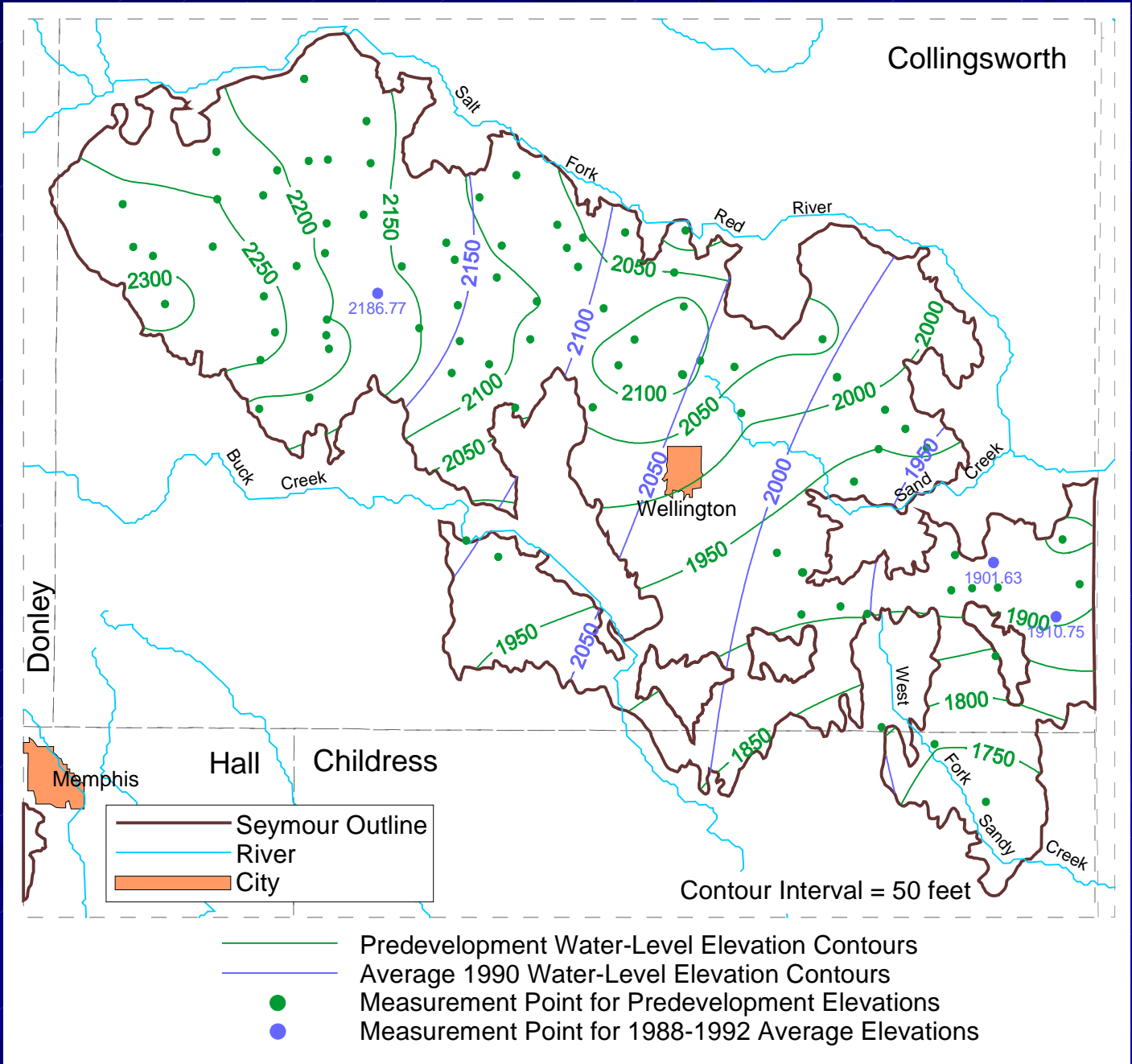


# Predevelopment & 1978-1982 Average Water-Level Elevations

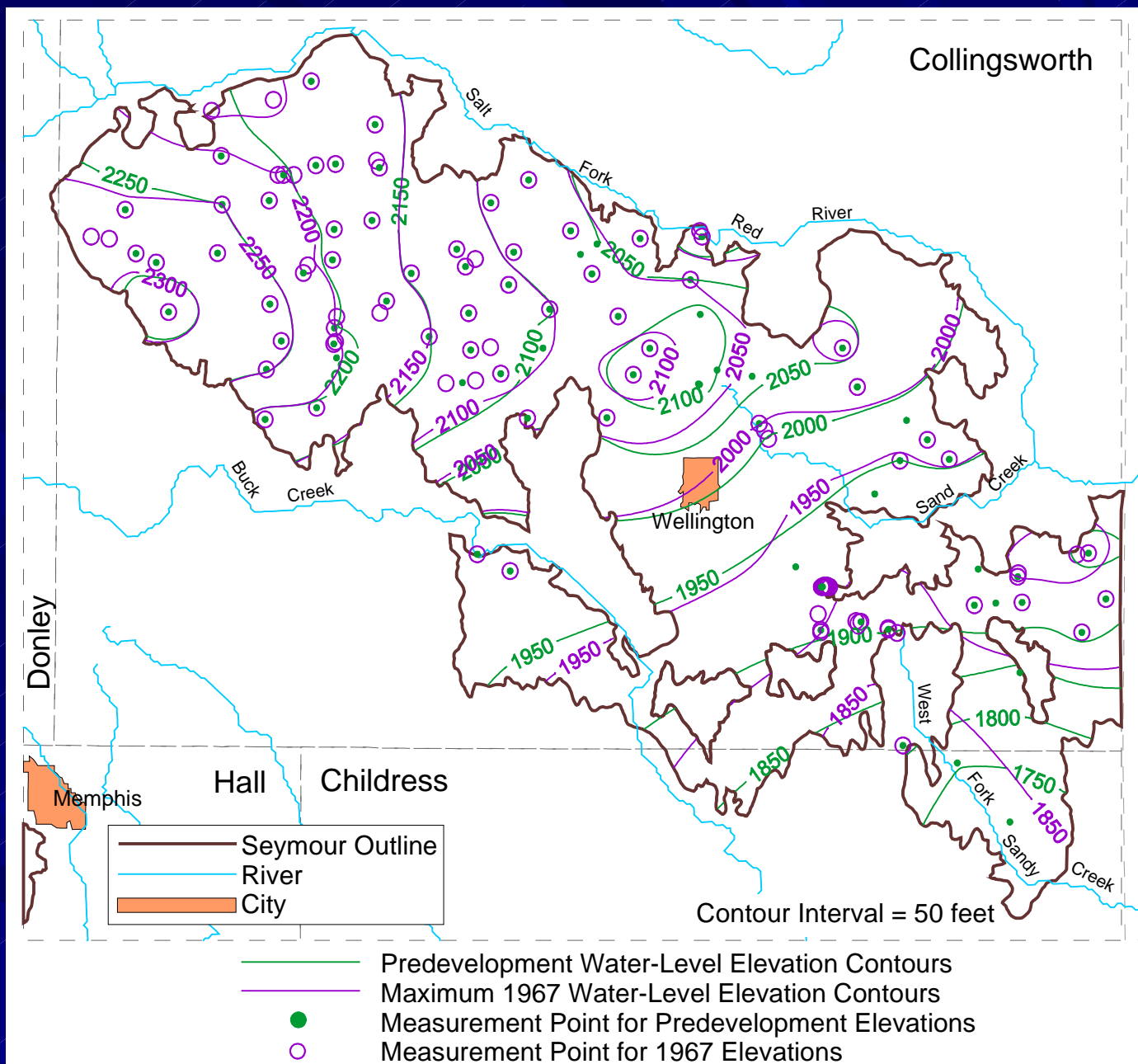


- Predevelopment Water-Level Elevation Contours
- Average 1980 Water-Level Elevation Contours
- Measurement Point for Predevelopment Elevations
- Measurement Point for 1978-1982 Average Elevations

# Predevelopment & 1988-1992 Average Water-Level Elevations

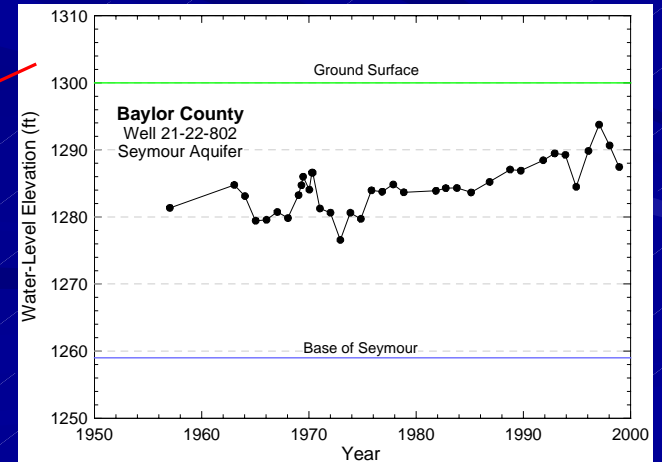
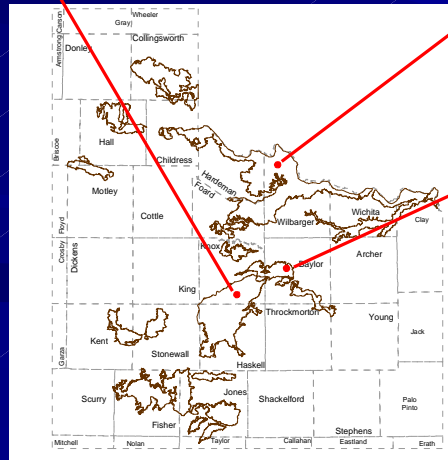
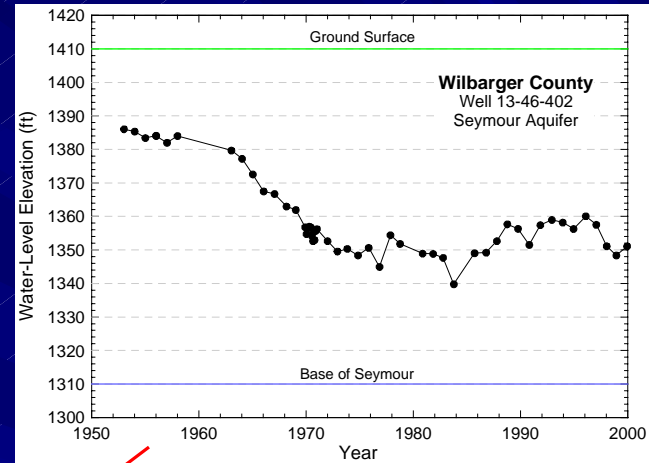
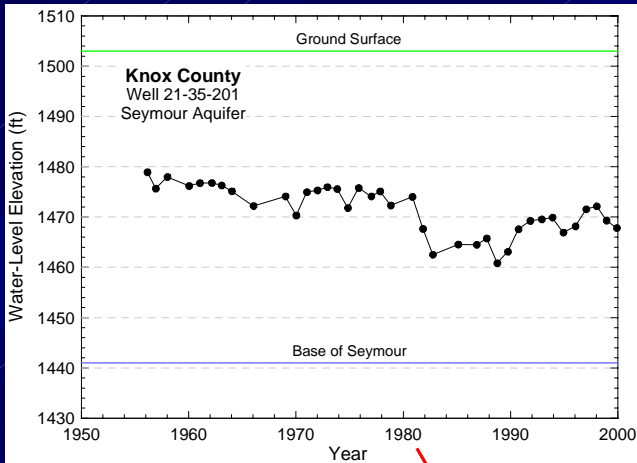


# Predevelopment & 1967 Water-Level Elevations

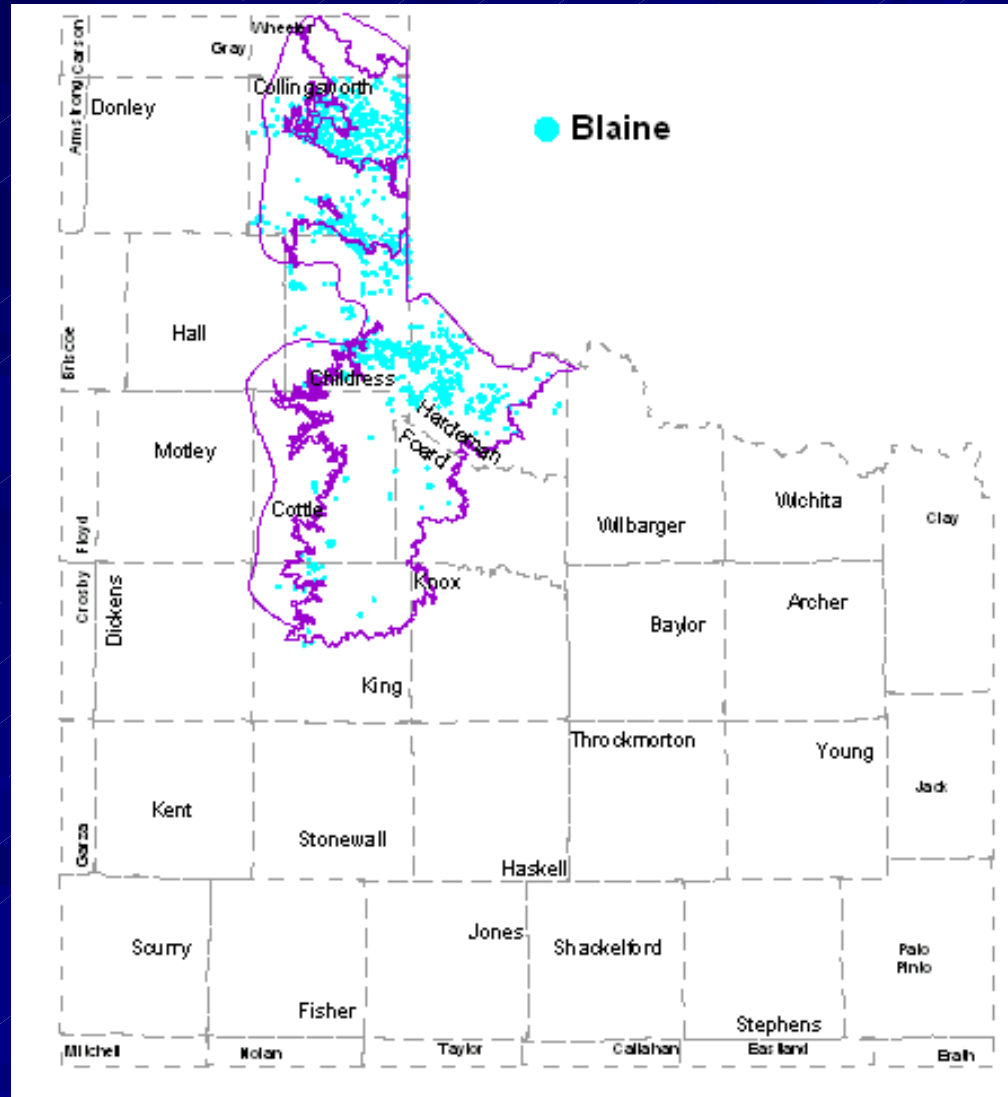




# Seymour Wells – Hydrograph Examples



# Blaine – Water-Level Locations

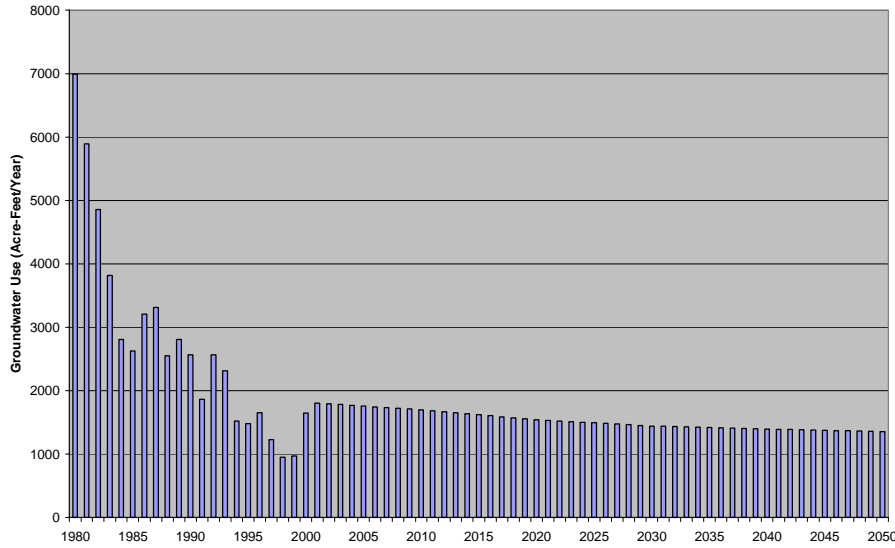


# Pumping

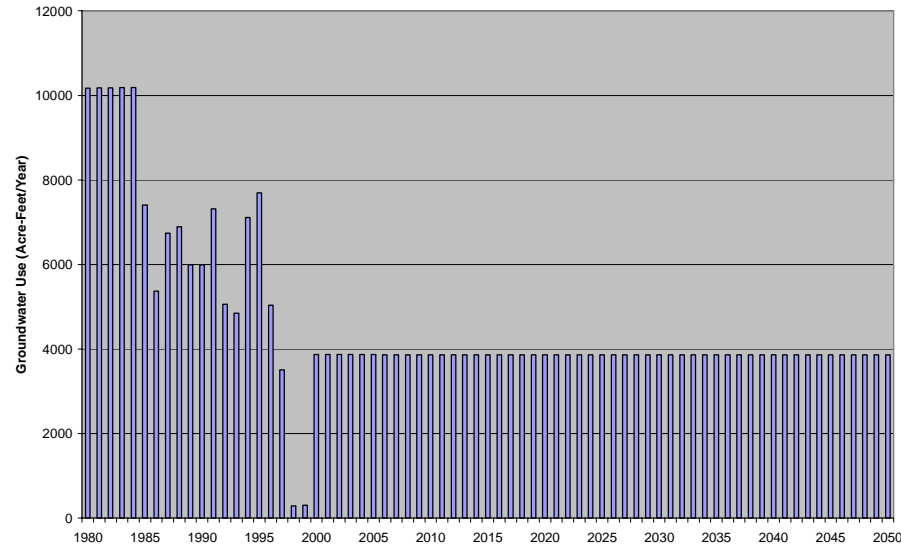
- Technical Memorandum 02-02 posted on TWDB website
- Historical groundwater pumpage (1980 – 2000)
- Predictive groundwater pumpage (2000 – 2050)

# Historical & Predictive Groundwater Pumpage (by County)

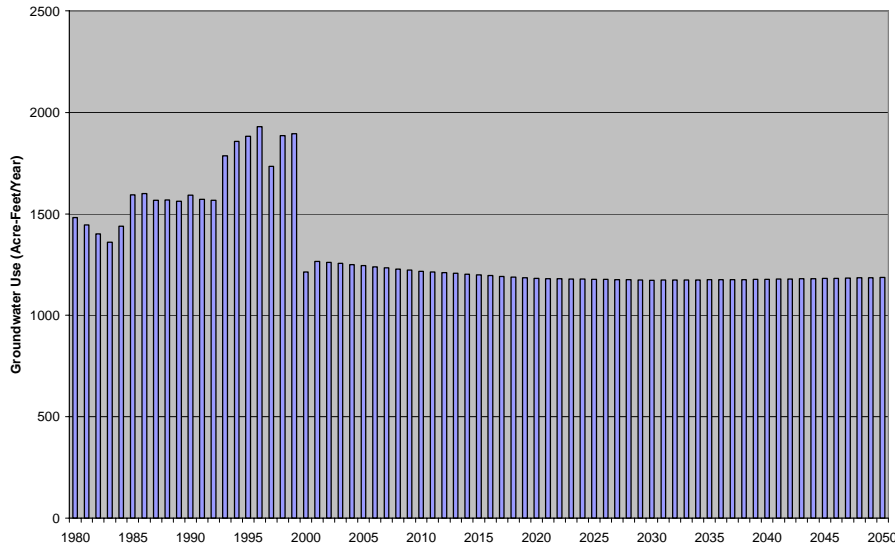
BAYLOR



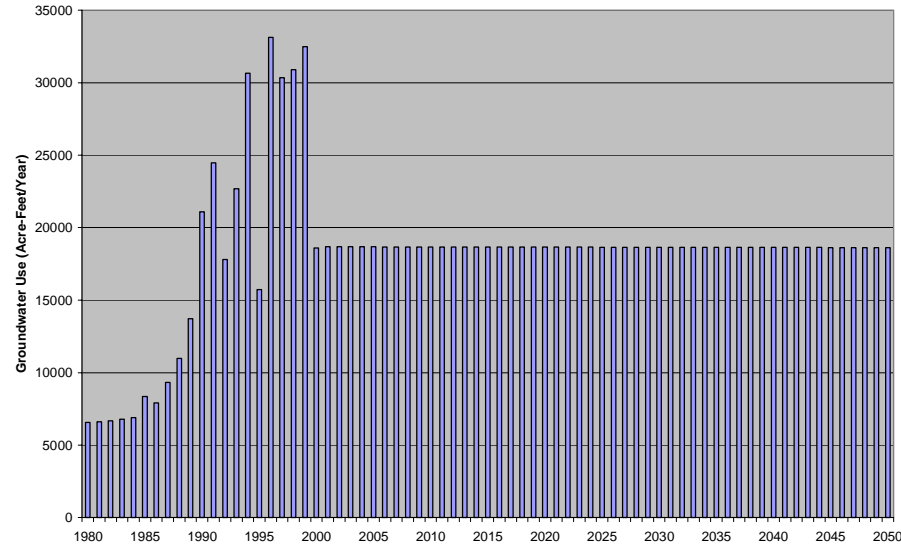
CHILDRESS



CLAY

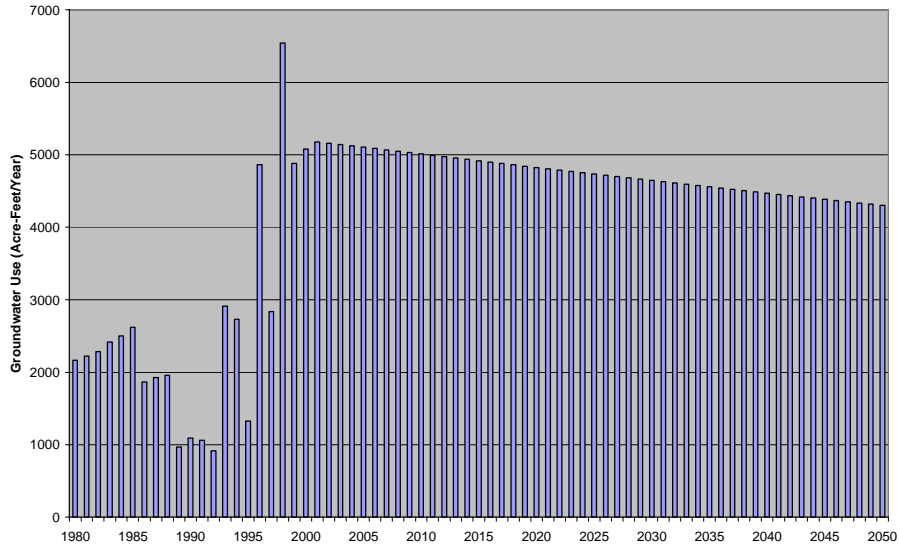


COLLINGSWORTH

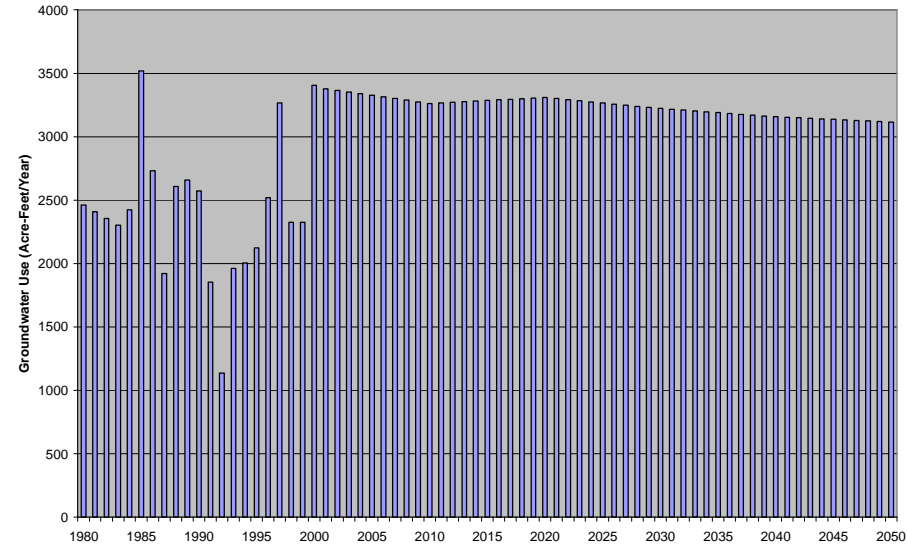


# Historical & Predictive Groundwater Pumpage (by County)

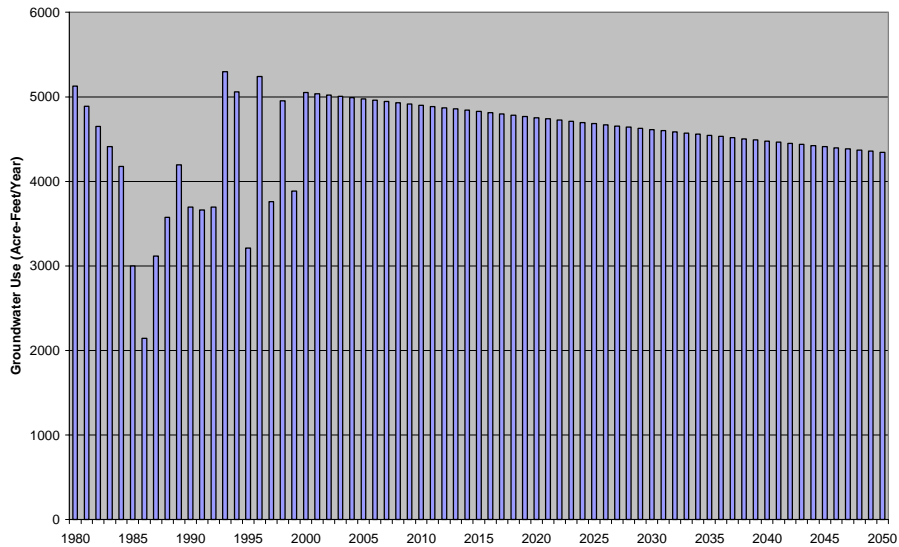
COTTLE



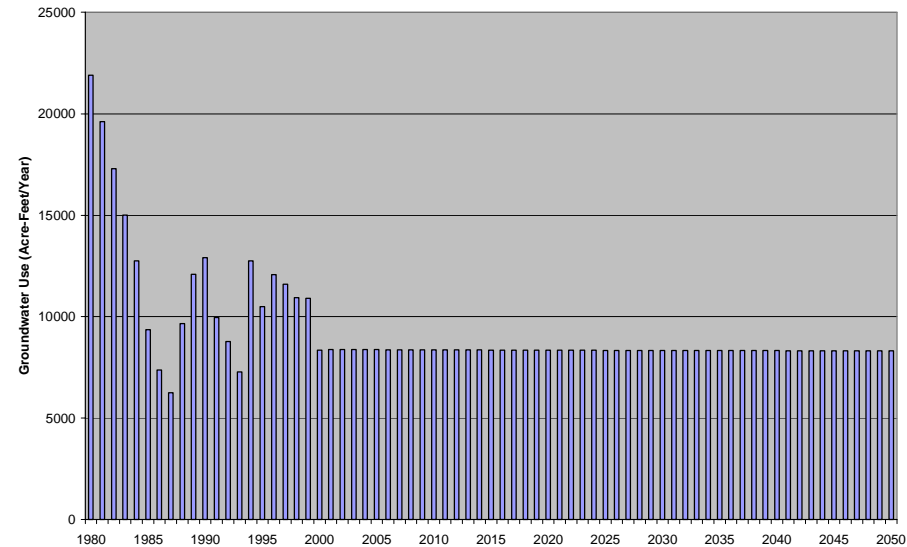
FISHER



FOARD



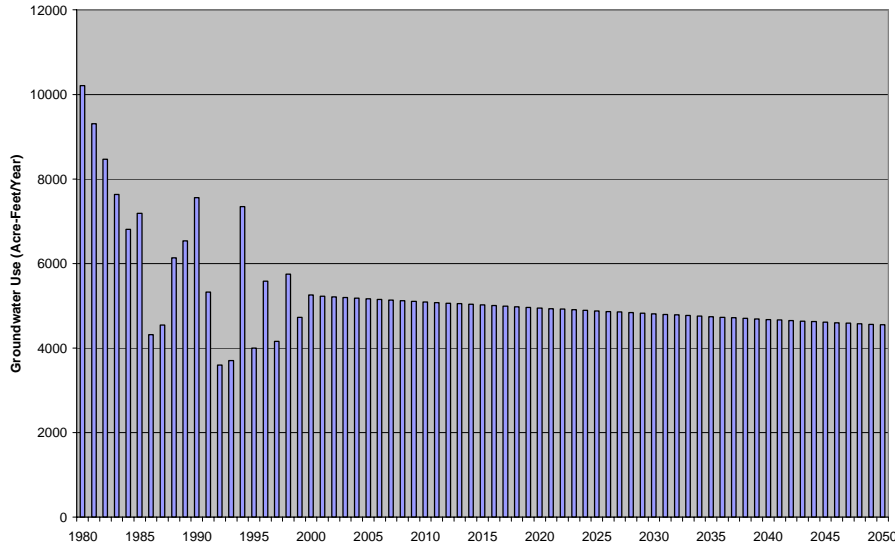
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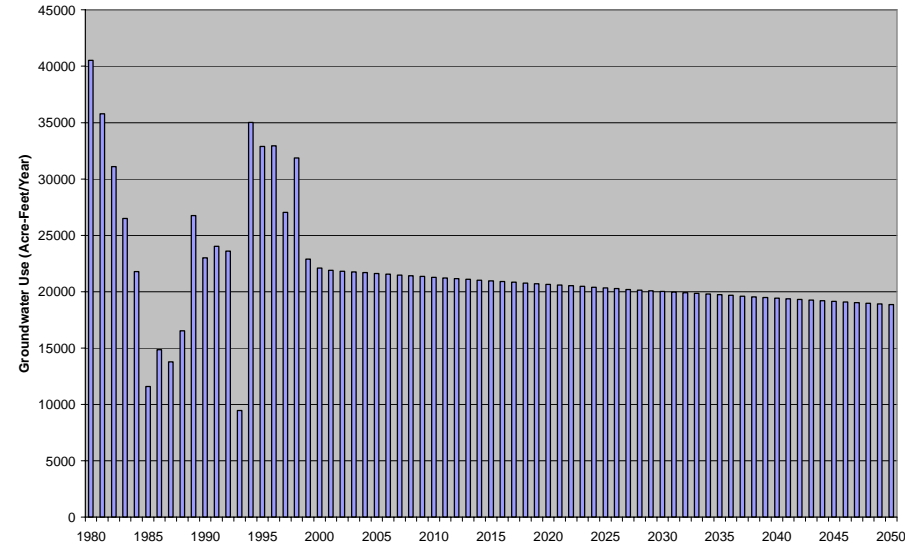


# Historical & Predictive Groundwater Pumpage (by County)

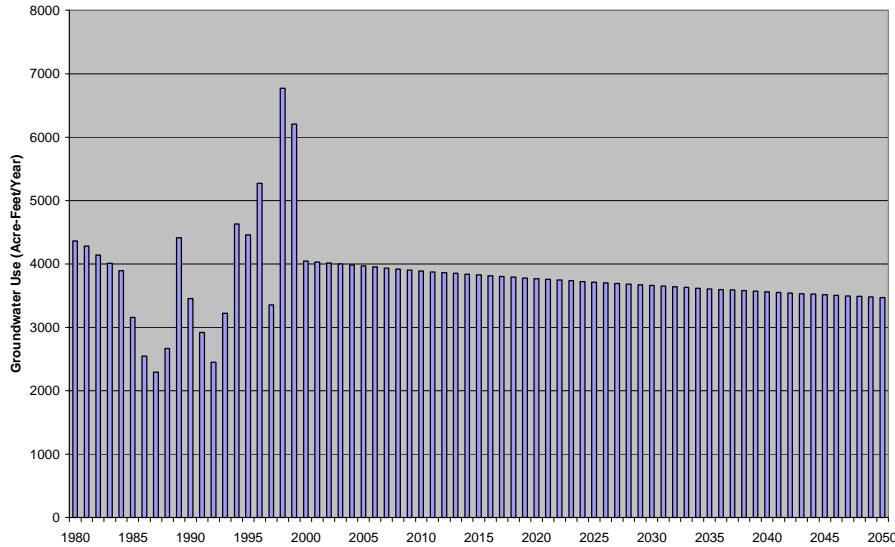
HARDEMAN



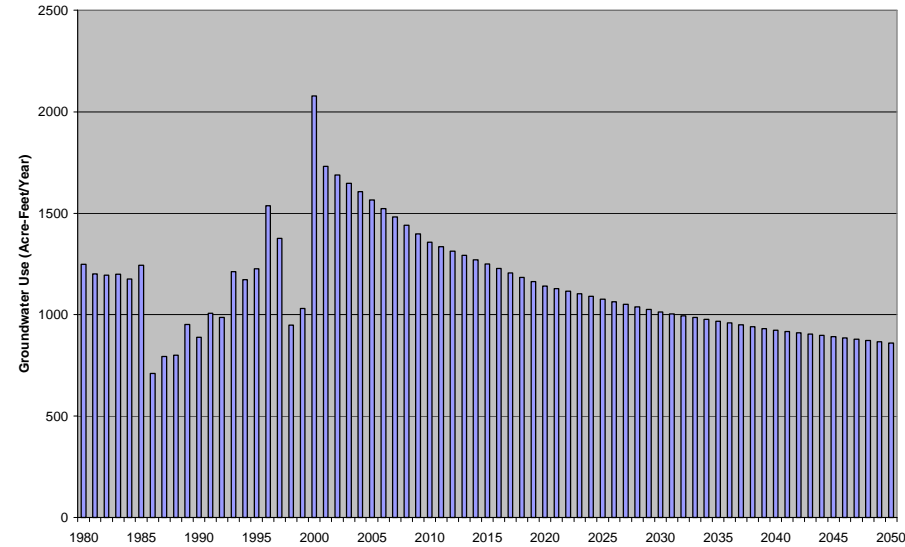
HASKELL



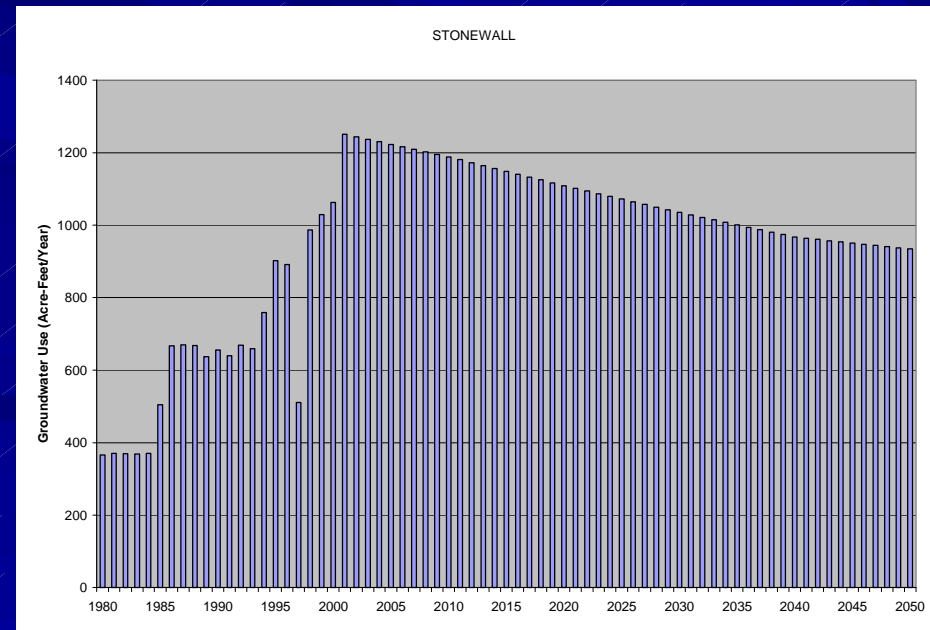
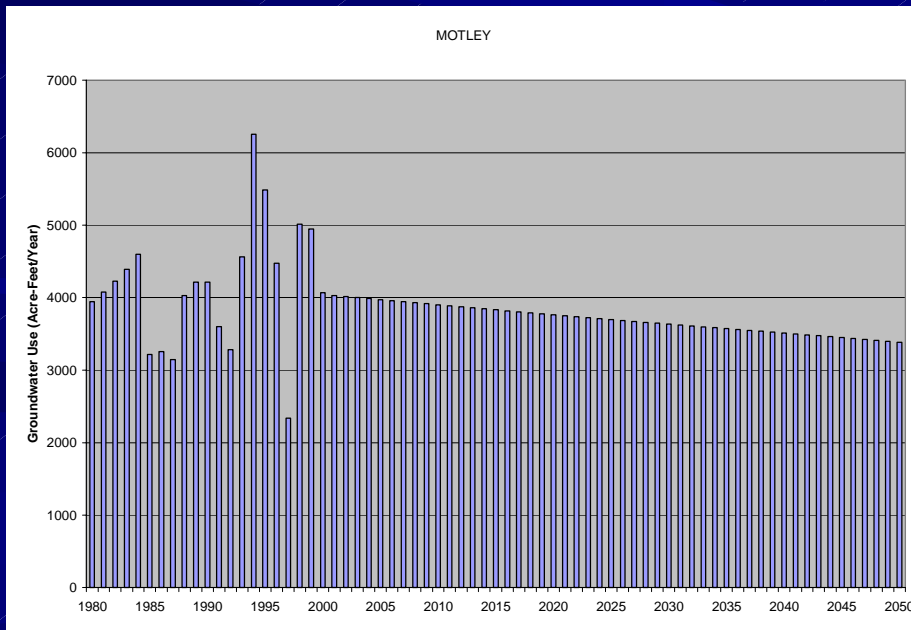
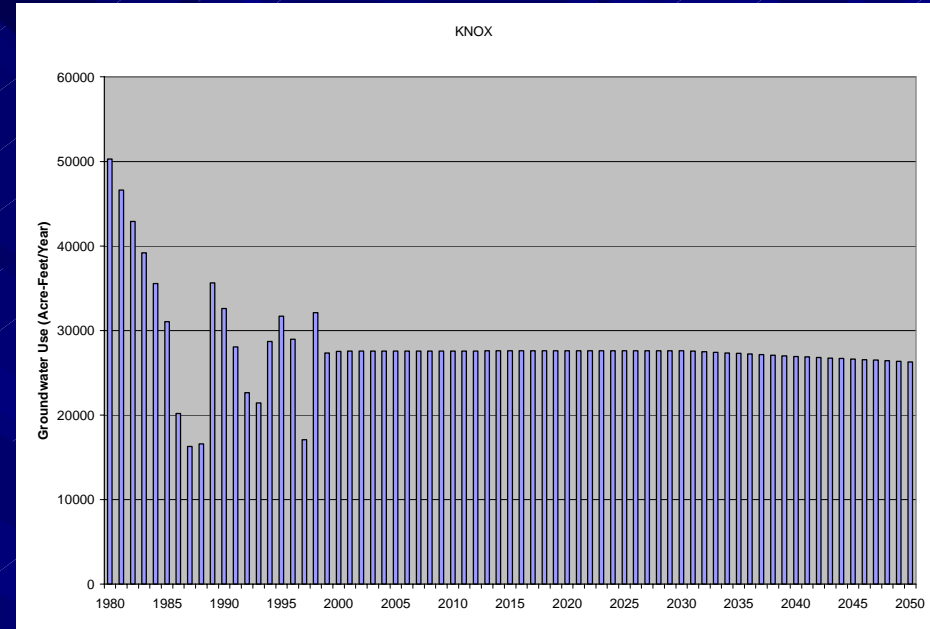
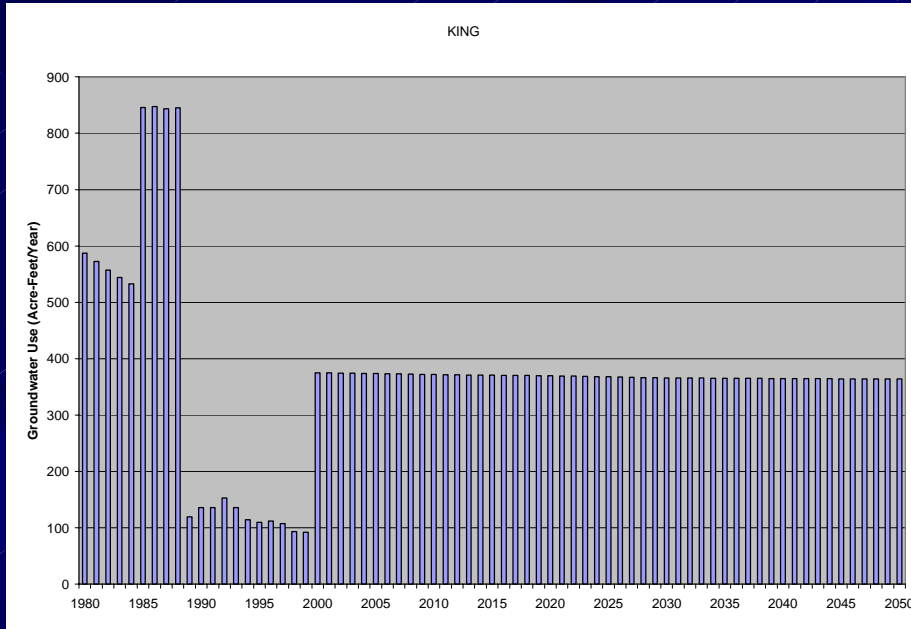
JONES



KENT

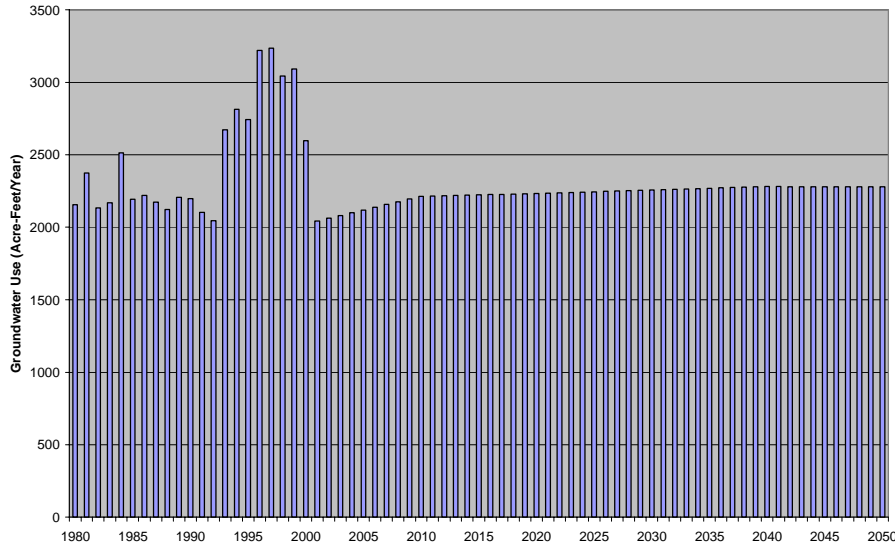


# Historical & Predictive Groundwater Pumpage (by County)

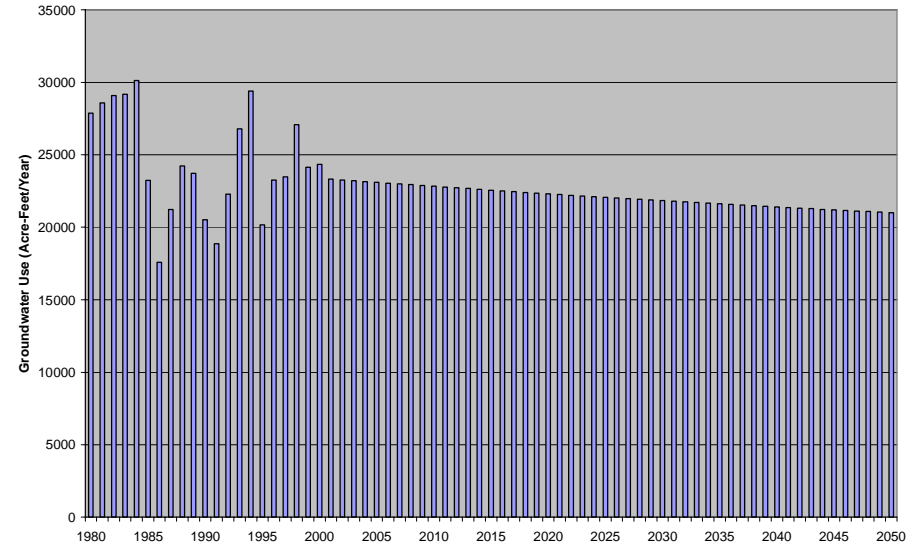


# Historical & Predictive Groundwater Pumpage (by County)

WICHITA



WILBARGER



# GAM Schedule

- Project start – Nov. 2002
  - Draft concept. model – July 31, 2003\*
  - Draft conceptual model report – Aug. 31, 2003
  - Steady-state model calibration – Nov. 2003\*
  - Transient calibration & verification – Jan. 2004\*
  - Predictions – Feb. 2004\*
  - Draft Model Report to TWDB – Mar. 1, 2004
  - TWDB feedback on Draft Report – April 2004\*
  - Model Training Seminar – Apr. 2004
  - Final Model Report to TWDB – Jun. 30, 2004
  - Note: SAFs are scheduled at about 4 month intervals
- Note: \* means technical review meeting scheduled with the TWDB

# Feedback

- Comments/discussion



# Scope for Next SAF

- Next meeting – October/November
  - Final conceptual model review
  - Model implementation
  - Pumping distribution
  - Water quality
  - Draft steady-state model calibration

# Who to Contact?

- John Pickens  
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[jpickens@intera.com](mailto:jpickens@intera.com)
- Cindy Ridgeway  
Texas Water Development Board  
P.O. Box 13231  
Austin, TX 78711  
(512) 936-2386  
[cindy.ridgeway@twdb.state.tx.us](mailto:cindy.ridgeway@twdb.state.tx.us)

**SEYMOUR GAM STAKEHOLDERS ATTENDANCE LIST**  
**Stakeholders Advisory Forum**  
**Held**  
**June 30, 2003 in Seymour, Texas**

NAME	AFFILIATION
Cindy Ridgeway	TWDB
John Ewing	Intera
Andrew Chastain-Howley	WPRC
Dan C. Choate	Enprotec
Thomas Powell	Collingsworth UWCD
Glenn Ray Howell	Rolling Plains Water District
Brenda Miller	Private
Joe Shephard	City of Seymour
J. Colthon	Baylor County
Mike McGuire	Rolling Plains GCD
Cynthia Laney	City of Seymour

**Summary Memorandum Report  
Seymour Aquifer GAM  
SAF Meeting #2, Seymour, Texas  
June 30, 2003**

**PRESENTATION**

The second Stakeholder Advisory Forum was held on Monday June 30, 2003 at 1.30 p.m. at the Portwood Arts and Civic Center, 800 East Morris Street, Seymour, Texas.

The presentation topics for this forum included:

- (1) GAM objectives, expectations, and schedule
- (2) Using GAM and participating in the GAM process
- (3) Seymour aquifer location and stratigraphy
- (4) Model grid design
- (5) Well record information and structure assessment
- (6) Hydraulic properties
- (7) Recharge
- (8) Streams and streamflows
- (9) Water levels
- (10) Pumping (by County)

A summary of questions, answers, and other discussion is listed below.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

Q: Will there be any costs associated with requesting model runs?

A: Cindy Ridgeway: There will be no charge to water planning groups or groundwater conservation districts. All the model runs are currently being conducted in-house (within the TWDB) and so there may come a time when there is a backlog of requests, however this is not foreseen in the near future.

Info: Andrew Chastain-Howley and Cindy Ridgeway: There will be a training workshop held at the end of the modeling contract to teach stakeholders how to run the models at a basic level.

Q: Mike McGuire: What dates will be used for input into the model?

A: John Ewing: Pre-development, 1980, 1990 and 1999-2000.

Q: Mike McGuire: There have been significant changes in water levels from 1999 to present, at least in the Knox, Haskell, Baylor County area. Will these be put into the model?

A: Cindy Ridgeway, John Ewing, Andrew Chastain-Howley: The new data will probably not be directly put into the model. However, the model should be able to predict these reductions in water levels depending upon the accuracy of the input data. These models should be updated on approximately a five-year cycle, so this new data can be

incorporated at this time and the model re-calibrated if necessary. This is the first stage of a continuing GAM process.

Info: Mike McGuire reported that he had acquired 30 rain gauges for use around the Rolling Plains GCD. This would over time improve the level of detail used for recharge calculations in this tri-county area. Mr. McGuire also reported that the BEG has started a monitoring program in Knox and Haskell Counties to analyze the water levels and quality in the main recharge zone.

Q: Joe Shephard: Have there been any discussion of aquifer recharge of reuse water in rural areas?

A: Dan Choate, Andrew Chastain-Howley, Cindy Ridgeway: Work was conducted in 2001, in Jones County near Abilene. This was a basic feasibility for aquifer storage and recovery (ASR). Reuse is a very hot topic around the state and especially in the Dallas-Fort Worth area where over 30% of the new water sources for the next 50 years are slated to be from reuse. This appears to be viable but local study would be needed.

Info: Cindy Ridgeway: It was also mentioned that grants are available for this research (from the TWDB), but that the money is hard to find at this time.

Q: County Judge: Will there be any water quality modeling with this GAM process?

A: Water quality will be reviewed, but only at a basic level and it will not be modeled at this stage. The most important thing is to get a working flow model (which is required for a water quality model anyway).

Info: Dan Choate reported that he had worked on the Jones County ASR project. He reported that it had not as yet been proven to be a viable alternative using excess water from Lake Possum Kingdom.

Info: Mike McGuire stated that he had developed a new list of contact names and numbers for the Seymour area groundwater conservation districts. He provided details for the Tri-County district and will furnish updated details for the other GCD's at a later date.

Prepared by: Andrew Chastain-Howley

Date: July 7, 2003