The background of the slide features a photograph of a vineyard with rows of grapevines in the foreground and a small town in the distance. A semi-transparent map of California is overlaid on the right side of the image.

# SGMA Update and Discussion

*Update of On-going Activities*

**April 7, 2016**

*SGMA/Finance Subcommittee Meeting No. 8*

# Overview

1. Highlights of SCGA's Comments on Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Regulations
2. Discuss Basin Boundary Modification Request by Omochumne-Hartnell and Sloughhouse Resources Conservation District (OH/SRCD)
3. SCGA Groundwater Sustainability Agency Formation

The background features a scenic view of a vineyard with rows of grapevines in the foreground, leading to a small town or village in the distance. A semi-transparent map of South Carolina is overlaid on the right side of the image. The text is centered and reads:

# Highlights of SCGA Comments to Draft GSP Regulations

# SCGA Comment Highlights

- **Honoring and enhancing existing successful SB 1938-compliant groundwater management programs**
  - Minimize undermining of existing sustainability goal
  - Recognize existing groundwater management policies
  - Allow for adjustments to optimize available resources
- **Ensuring integration of the “alternative” plan process**
  - Alternative submittals to be evaluated on the basis of their:
    - historic success
    - capacity to develop and adapt
    - substantial compliance with the GSP Regulations’ Plan Contents

# SCGA Comment Highlights

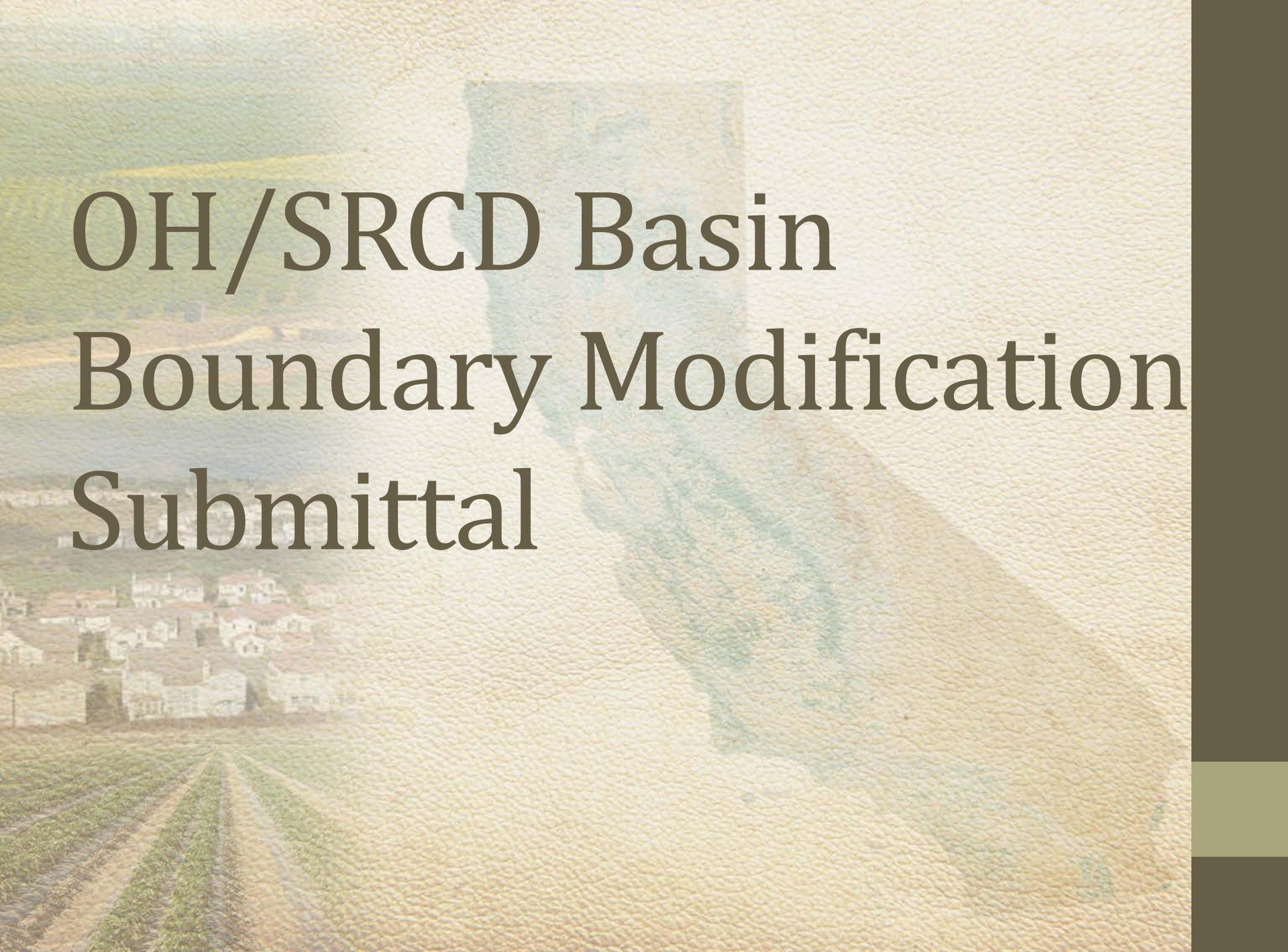
- **Clarifying the nature and extent of external agency coordination**
  - Require a communication agreement between intra-basin GSAs, local land use agencies, and affected water purveyors at the outset of GSP development processes
  - Conflict resolution through third-party mediation
- **Seeking opportunities for technical and financial assistance**
  - Requiring DWR assistance in state-wide communication and to promote coordination

# Substantial Compliance

- Provide reasonable compliance timeframes, determined by GSAs
- State to support (not require) data sharing
- Promote effective partnerships (i.e., GSA/land use agency(s)/water provider(s))
- Realities of implementing new funding programs
- Consider local experience, data, and management policies of interconnected surface water systems and groundwater-dependent ecosystems

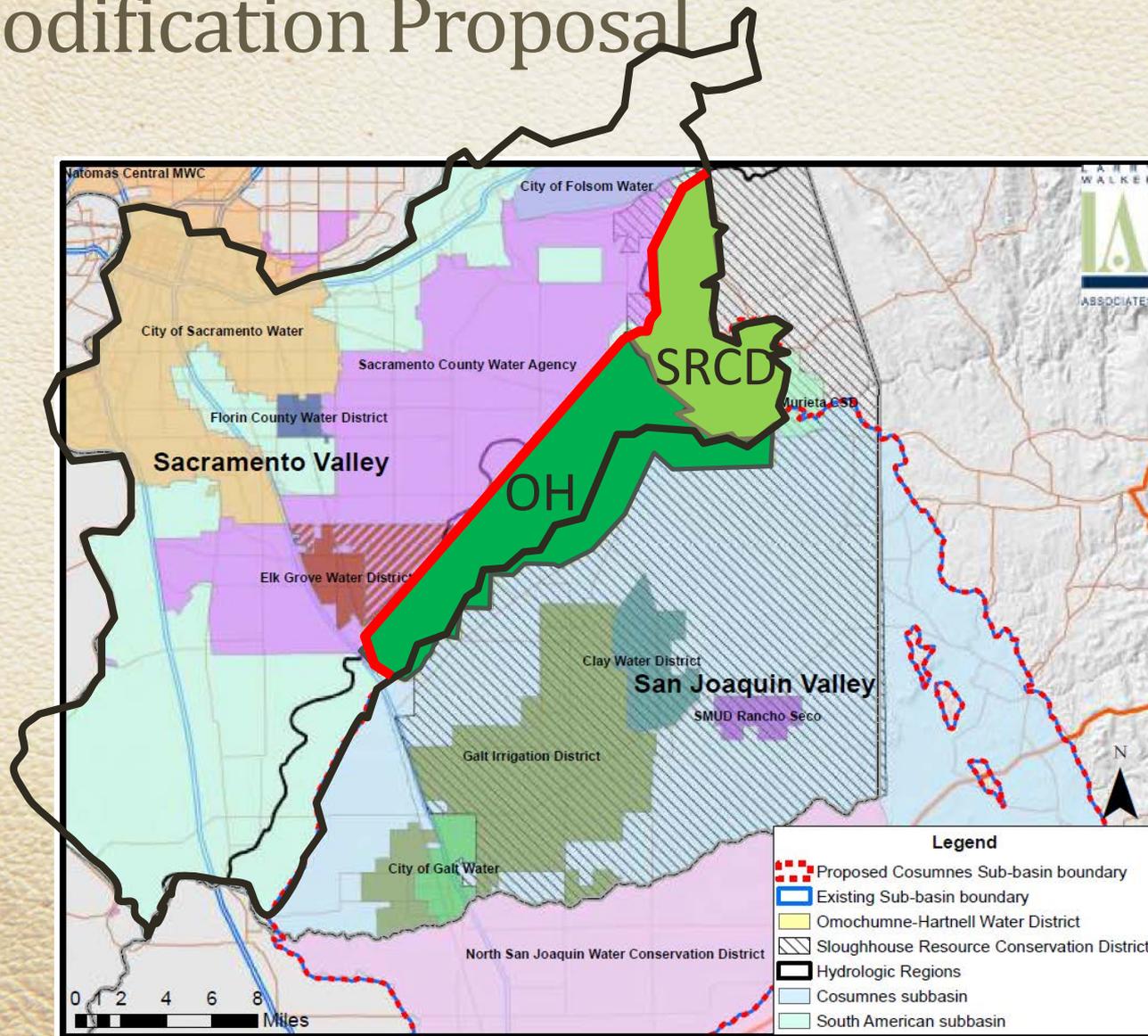
# April Board Presentation

- ***Agenda as Information Item***
- Provide Current Status of Draft GSP Regulations
- SCGA concurs with the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) proposed “General Principles”
- Noteworthy comments from Member organizations?
  - Golden State
  - County of Sacramento
  - Others?
- Request Staff to:
  - Monitor next draft at California Water Commission
  - Prepare for next round of comments or water commission hearing



# OH/SRCD Basin Boundary Modification Submittal

# OH/SRCD Cosumnes Boundary Modification Proposal

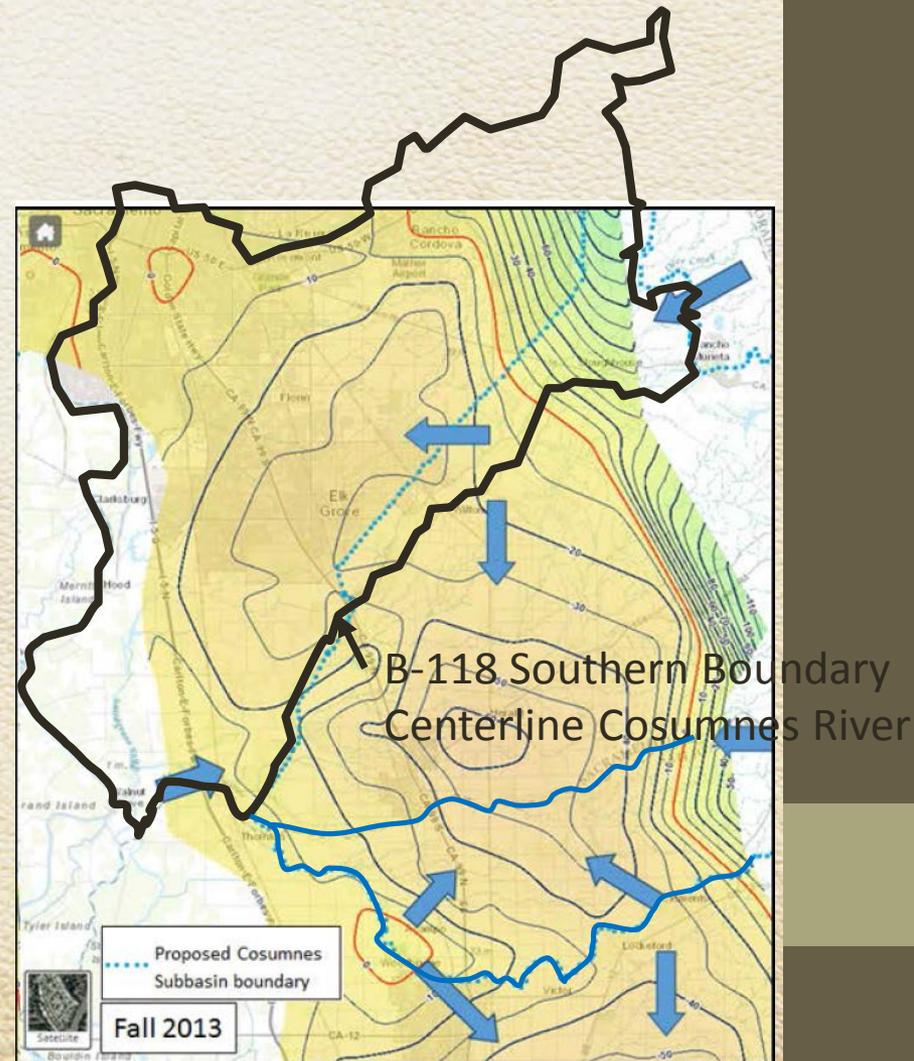


# Discussion of OH/SRCD Applications

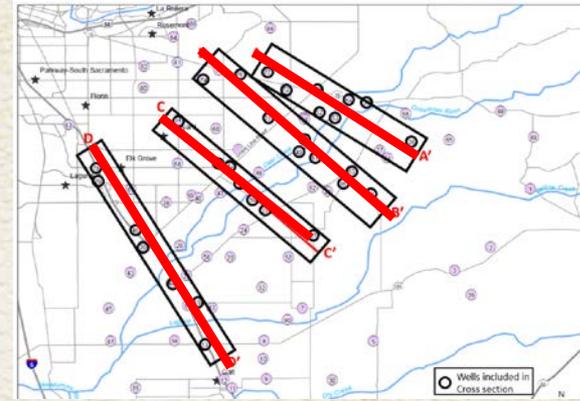
- Status and Review of Basin Boundary Modification
  - State deemed to be “Completed” on April 6, 2016
  - No comments on file with State as of April 6<sup>th</sup>
  - Insufficient time for Staff to evaluate full application for Today
- Application is based on both scientific and jurisdictional justifications
- On February 10, 2016, the SCGA Board directed staff to file a letter in opposition to the OH/SRCD proposed boundary adjustment in accordance with the requirements of SGMA

# Justification

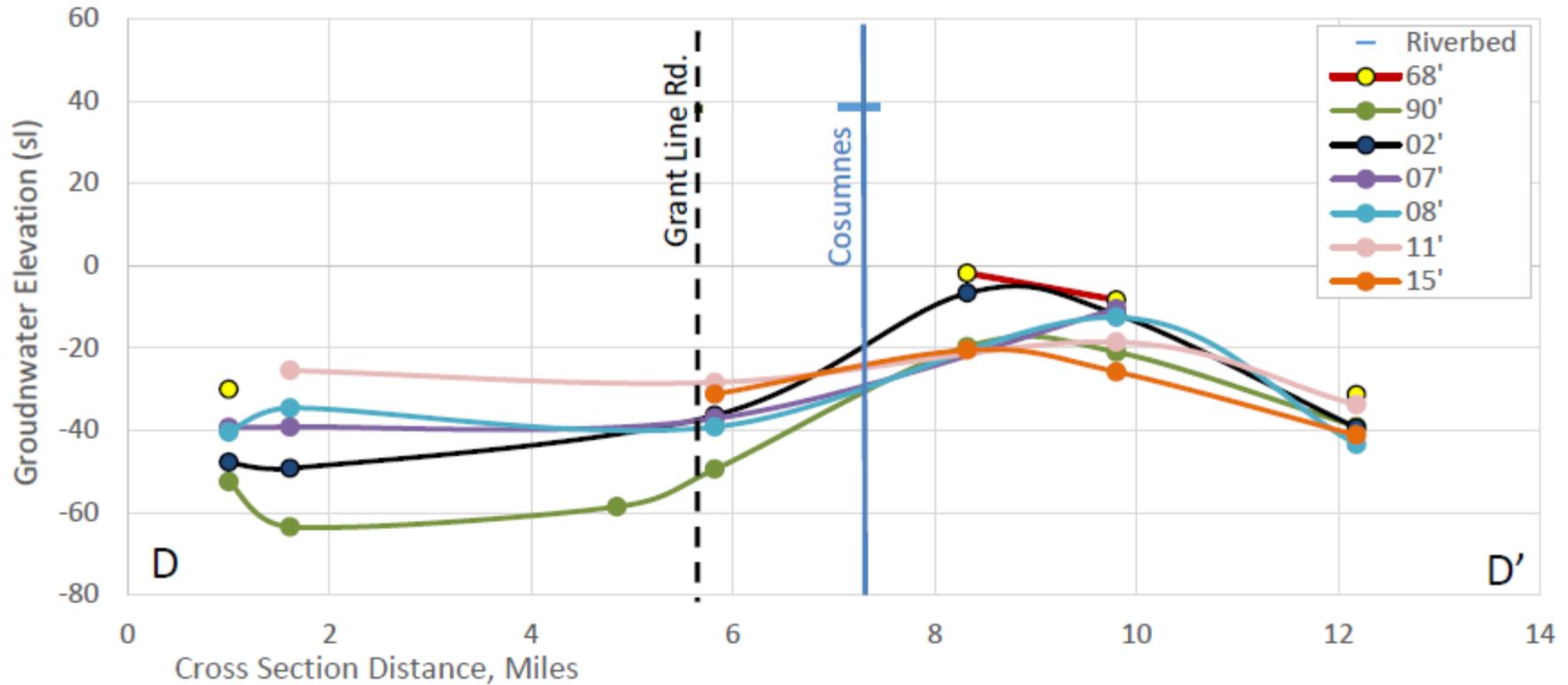
- Scientific Conclusion:  
*“There appears to be a scientific justification...that the Cosumnes Subbasin does not stop at the Cosumnes River centerline...extends northward to the edge of the Cosumnes watershed.”*



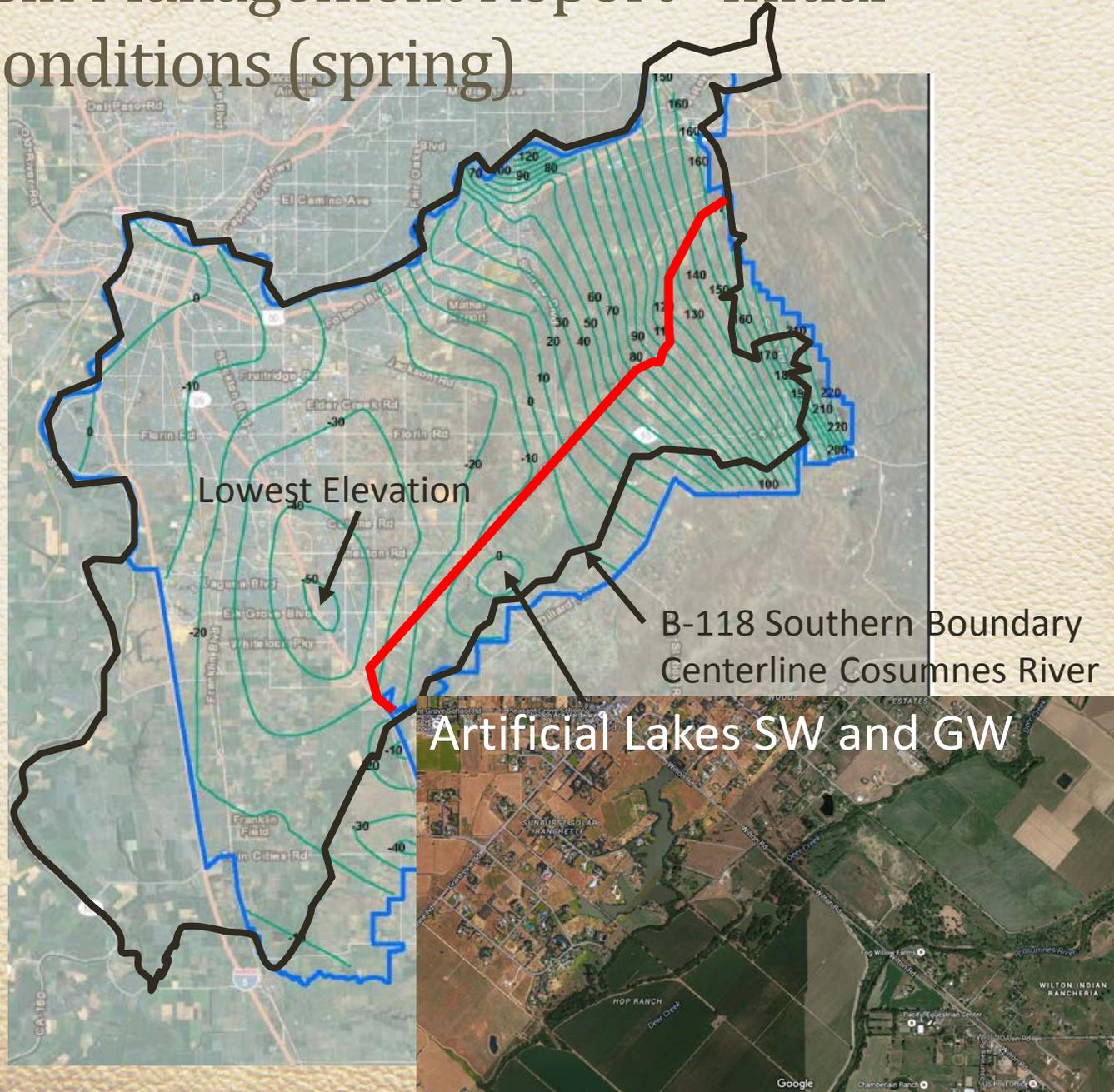
# Cross Section Analyses



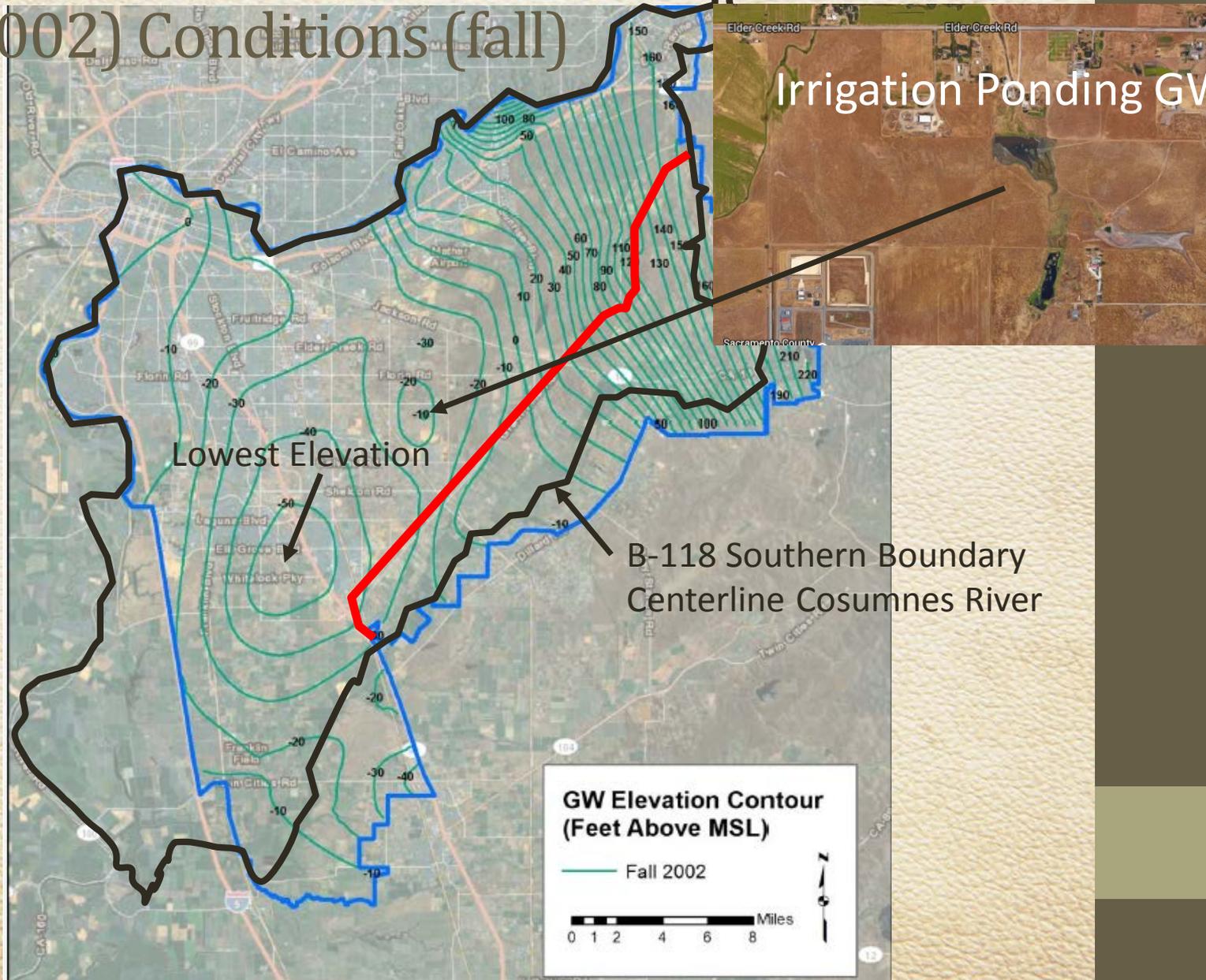
Spring Groundwater Elevation (D - D')



# SCGA Basin Management Report- Initial (2002) Conditions (spring)

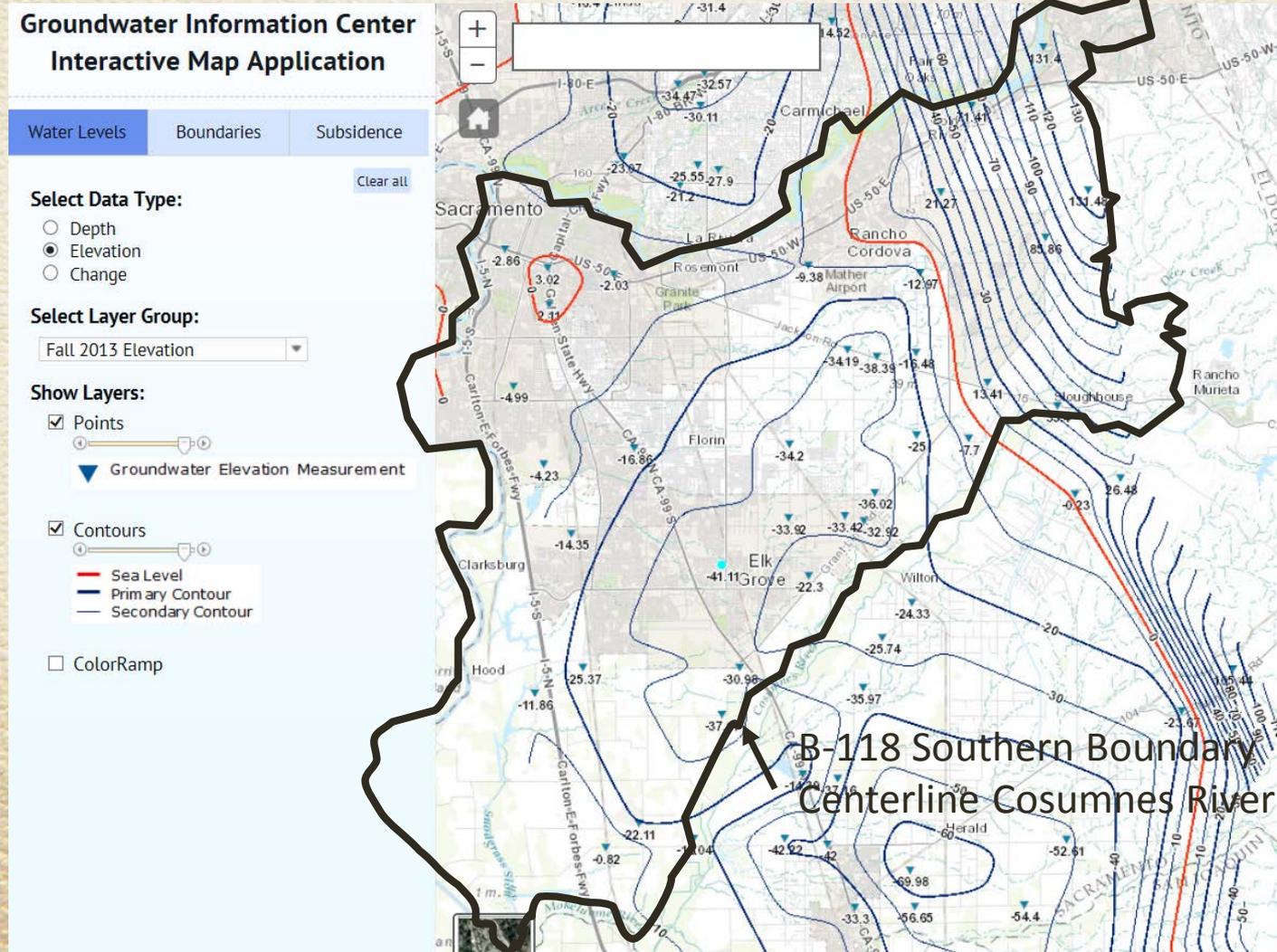


# 2011-12 SCGA Basin Management Report – Initial (2002) Conditions (fall)





# Contouring



# Change in Storage

## Groundwater Information Center Interactive Map Application

Water Levels

Boundaries

Subsidence

Clear all

### Select Data Type:

- Depth
- Elevation
- Change

### Select Layer Group:

F2015 F2005 Change

### Show Layers:

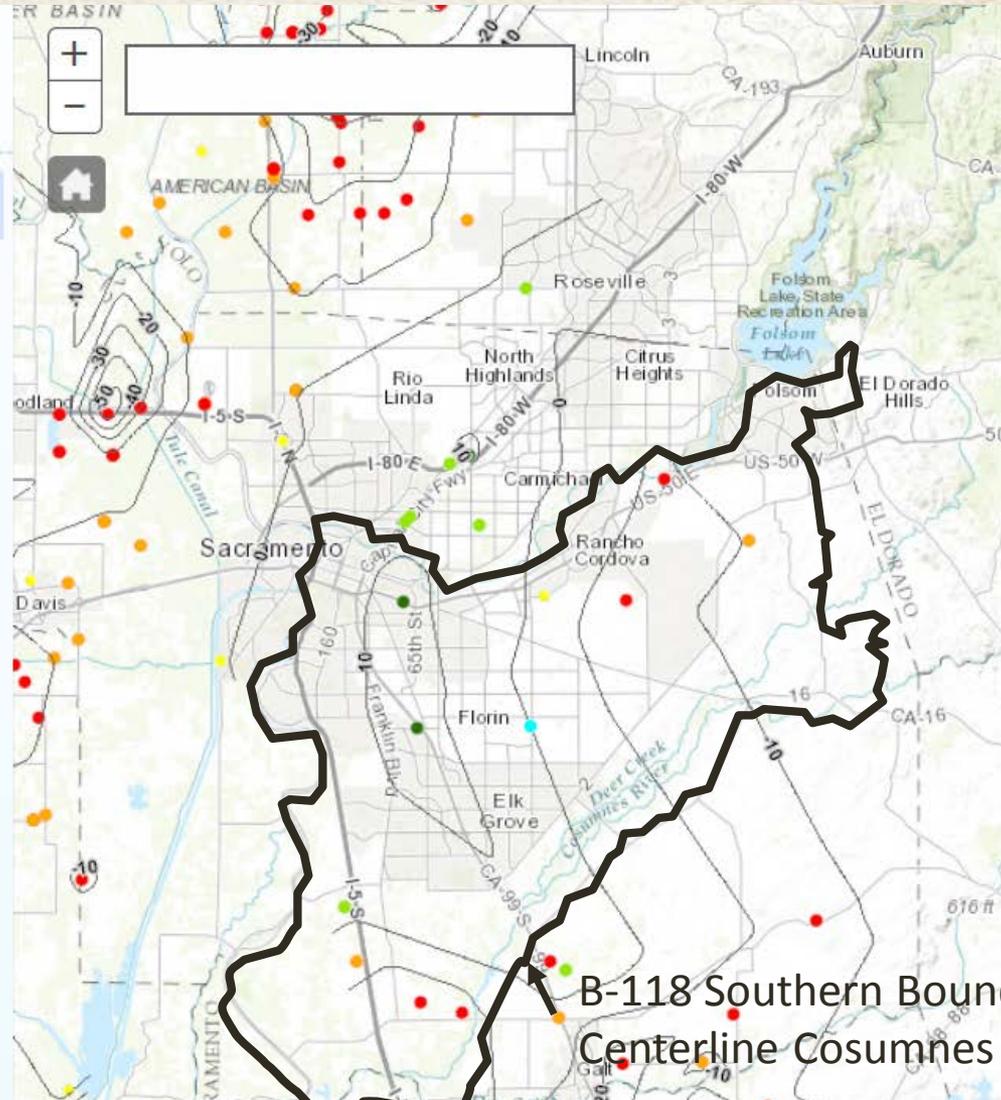
Points

- Increase > 10 feet
- Increase 10 to 2.5 feet
- Change +/- 2.5 feet
- Decrease 2.5-10 feet
- Decrease > 10 feet

Contours

- Groundwater Level Change (ft)

ColorRamp



B-118 Southern Boundary  
Centerline Cosumnes River

# Justification

## Jurisdictional Conclusion:

*“...proposed modification would promote the likelihood of sustainable management (SM) and the establishment of a GSP in the Cosumnes Subbasin by providing leadership...focused local control...decreasing the isolation of regions with limited economic and staff resources, and creating better integration between SW and GW boundaries.”*

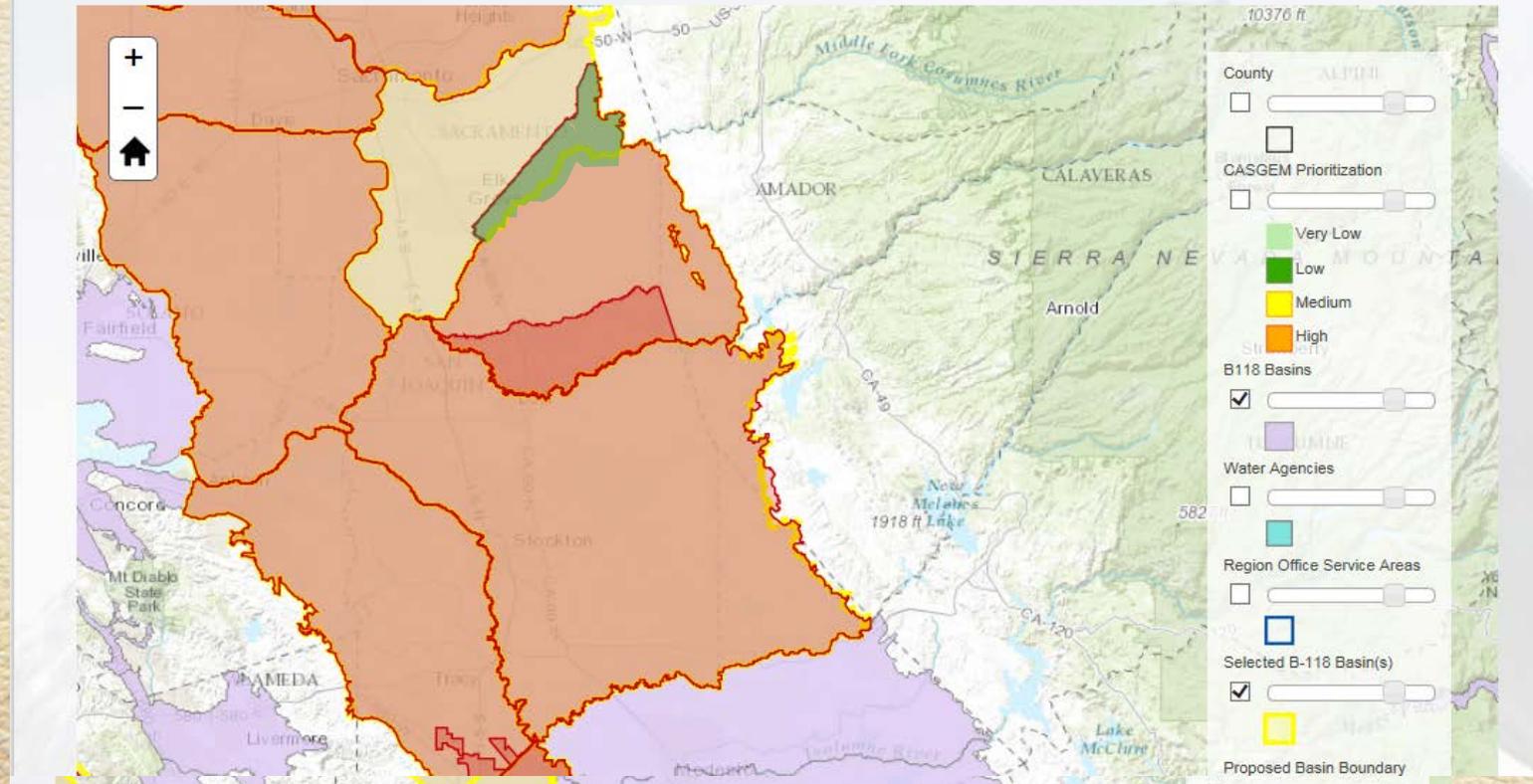
# Justification

- Reason why boundary modification does not limit SCGA's SM:

*“Because ...the South American Subbasin is not dependent on the participation of OHWD or this region to maintain sustainability, and because of the strong funding and infrastructure in that region...not expected to diminish a GSP or SM in S. American Subbasin.”*

# Resource Ripple Effect

## Statewide Map Viewer Basin Modification Requests



An aerial photograph of a vineyard with rows of grapevines stretching into the distance. In the background, there is a small town with white buildings and red roofs. A semi-transparent map of California is overlaid on the right side of the image, showing the state's outline in a light blue color. The text "GW Sustainability Agency Formation" is centered over the image in a dark, serif font.

# GW Sustainability Agency Formation

# SCGA Formation of GSA

- On February 10, 2016, the SCGA Board directed staff to conduct [necessary] public outreach, notice, and hearing required to file a Notice of GSA Formation for SCGA's service area and submit said Notice of Formation to the State DWR in accordance with SGMA should SRCD's Board include any portion of the S. American Subbasin as part of their GSA filing
- SRCD has passed a resolution to form a GSA, but has not submitted their Notice of Formation

# Maintaining SCGA Status and Investments in S. American Sub-basin

- Preserve our management efforts and resources invested in this region at this time knowing we need to work with OH/SRCD going into the future
- SCGA does not fault OH/SRCD for having to take measures
- SCGA is obligated to go through the motions we are taking
- SCGA should not be faulted or be perceived as aggressive for making our decisions and taking measures
- How do we engage to work collaboratively moving forward

# Timing and Uncertainties

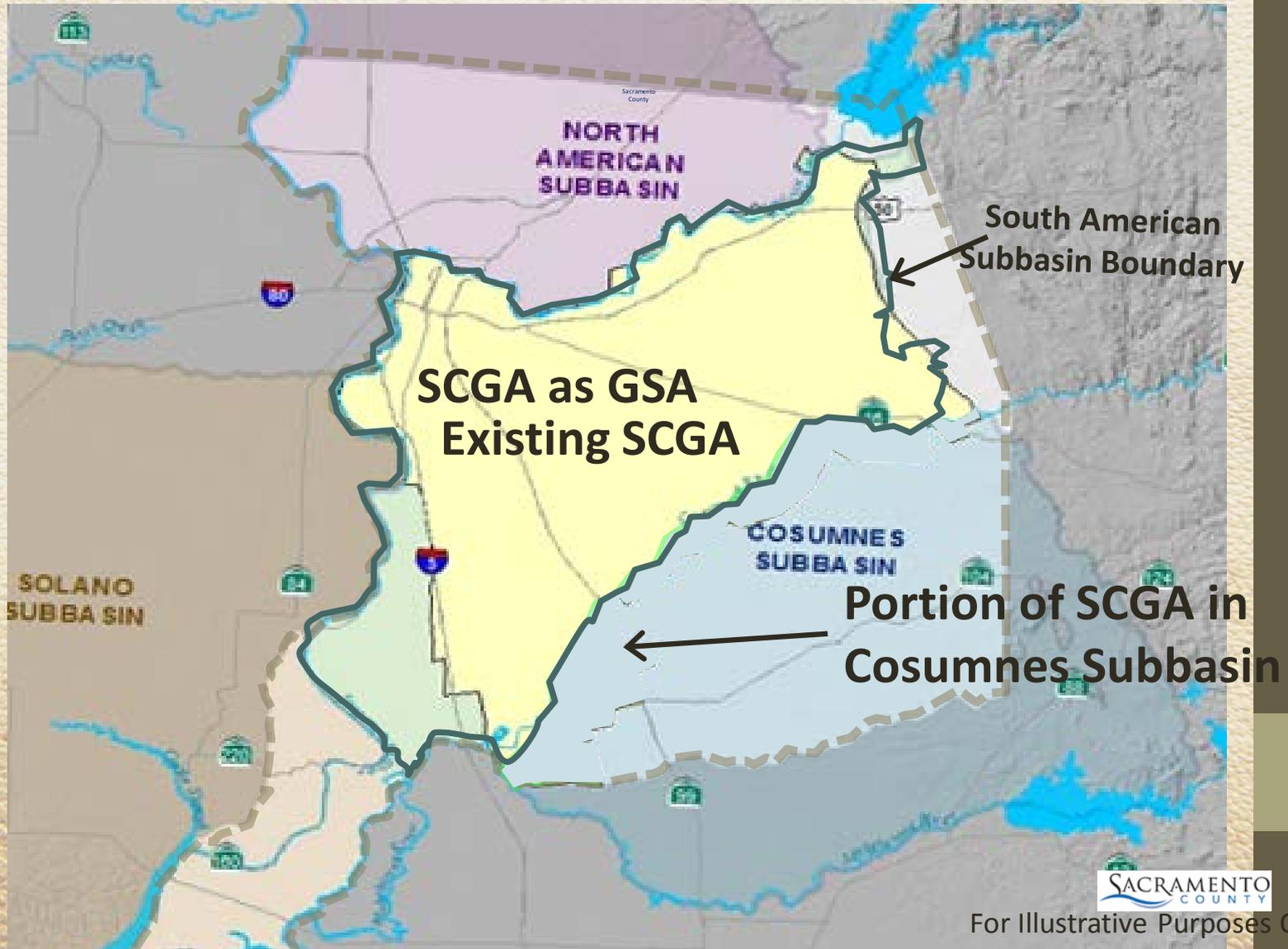
- ✓ Boundary Mods
- ✓ OH/SRCD GSA
- ✓ GSP Regulations
- ✓ Alternative
- ✓ SCGA GSA
- ✓ Desire to Collab



# Complications

- Given OH/SRCD boundary modification and GSA decisions, SCGA is faced with:
  - Potential movement of two Member Agency jurisdictions into Cosumnes Subbasin
  - Creating SM uncertainty in S. American Subbasin
  - Filing of overlapping GSA to maintain SCGA status and investments in S. American Sub-basin potentially viewed as competitive by DWR
  - Impact to Alternative Submittal
  - Complexity of Coordination Agreement

# GSA Formations





# Actions

- ***Action 1: Recommend the Board adopt a resolution stating SCGA's intent to move forward with an alternative submittal.***
- ***Action 2: Recommend the Board adopt a resolution commencing the SGMA GSA formation process relative to the proposed boundaries.***

# Next Steps

- Next Meeting

End of Presentation