# Colorado Signs on to the National Ground-Water Monitoring Network





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Hydrogeology Section



#### National Ground-Water Monitoring Network (NGWMN)

- Voluntary, Cooperative, Integrated System
  - Data Collection, Management, and Reporting

- Aggregation of select sites from Data Providers
- Assess Baseline Conditions and Long-Term Trends
  - Water Levels and Water Quality
  - Regional, Multistate, and National Scales

#### **NGWMN** Organization

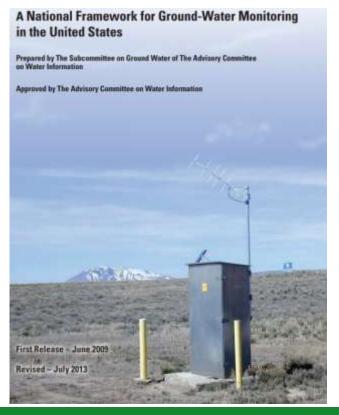
- Federal Advisory Committee on Water Information (ACWI)
  - Represent interests of water information users and professionals
  - Advise the Federal Government related to Federal water information programs and their effectiveness
- Subcommittee on Ground Water (SOGW)
  - Develop and encourage implementation of nationwide, long term groundwater quantity and quality monitoring framework
  - Planning, management, and development of groundwater supplies to meet current and future needs and ecosystem requirements

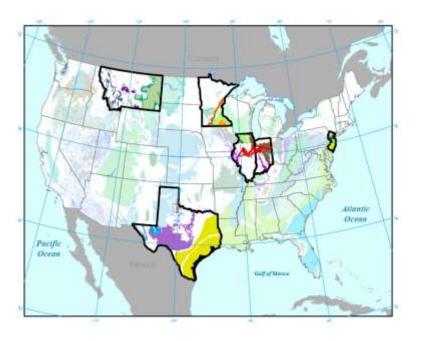
#### NGWMN Structure

- USGS NGWMN Management and Operations Group
  - Day to day network management
- NGWMN Program Board
  - Network growth, development and operation, evaluate proposals
  - M&O Group, SOGW, Data Providers
- NGWMN Data Providers
  - Federal, Tribal, State, or Local Agencies
  - Collect groundwater (quality or quantity) data and agree to provide

#### Early Formation

 NGWMN Pilot Project and Initial Framework - 2009

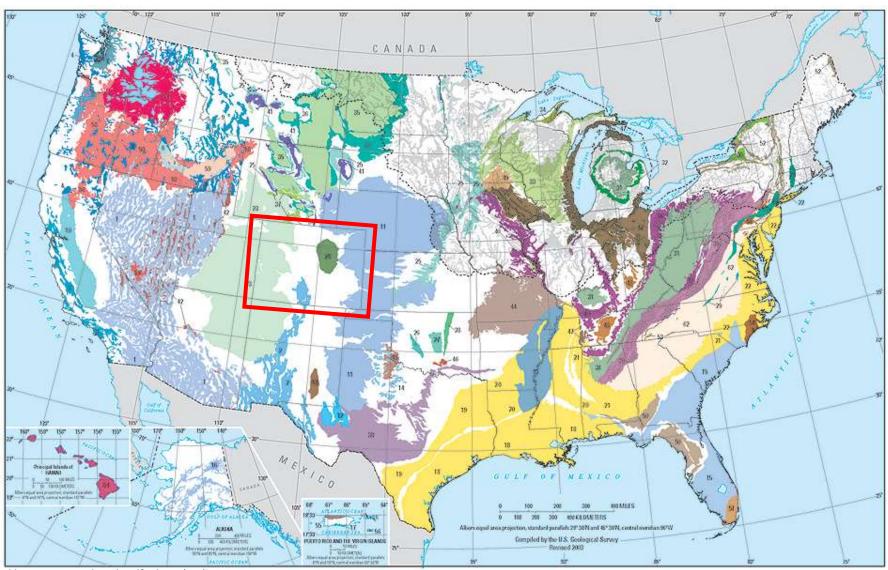




#### Revised Framework - 2013

https://acwi.gov/sogw/ngwmn\_ framework\_report\_july2013.pdf

## Principal Aquifers of the United States



(https://water.usgs.gov/ogw/aquifer/map.html)

#### Colorado Division of Water Resources

- An agency of Department of Natural Resources
- Also known as Office of the State Engineer
  - Administer water rights
  - Issue well permits
  - Represent Colorado in interstate compacts
  - Monitor streamflow, water use, and groundwater
  - Approve construction/repair of dams/dam safety
  - Issue licenses for well drillers, ensure safe and proper construction of wells
  - Maintain databases of Colorado water information

#### Groundwater Data and Information

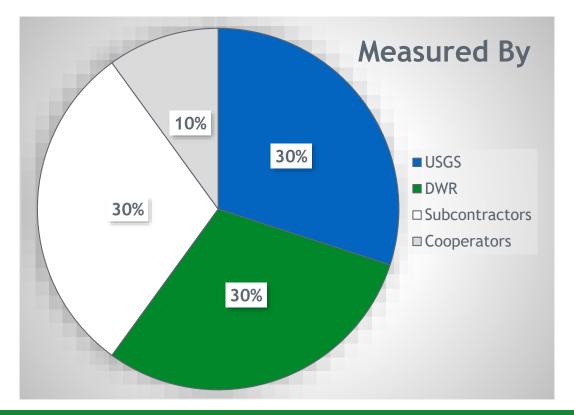
- SB 87-200 Groundwater Management Cash Fund
  - Create and maintain groundwater information management system
    - HydroBase
    - Water Information Team
  - Conduct groundwater related activities deemed necessary by the State Engineer
    - Hydrogeology Section
    - Water-level monitoring programs

Northern High Plains Designated Basin (NHP)
Southern High Plains Designated Basin (SHP)
Upper Black Squirrel Designated Basin
Kiowa-Bijou Designated Basin
Camp Creek Designated Basin

Lost Creek Designated Basin
Upper Big Sandy Designated Basin
Denver Basin Bedrock Aquifers
Lower South Platte Alluvial Aquifer
West Slope Bedrock and Alluvial Aquifers

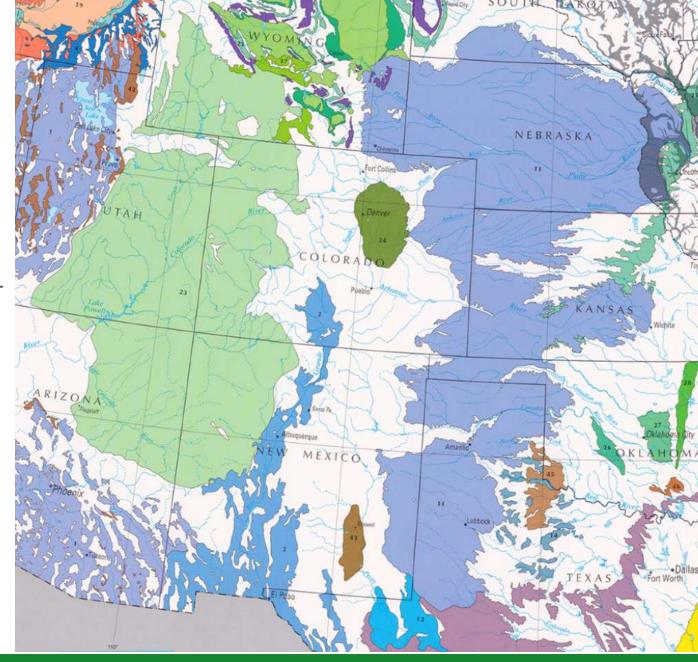
#### HydroBase - Water Level Database

- More than 22,500 wells
- Mostly USGS data populated through web services
- ~2,000 active water-level sites



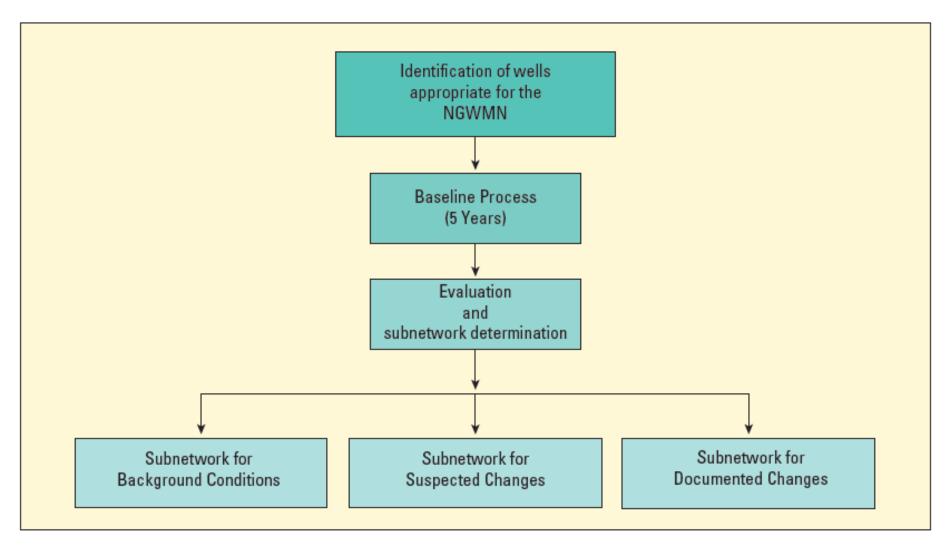
## Principal Aquifers

- 2 Rio Grande aquifer system
- 11 High Plains aquifer
- 23 Colorado Plateaus aquifers
- 24 Denver Basin aquifer system



(nationalatlas.gov)

#### Site Selection and Classification



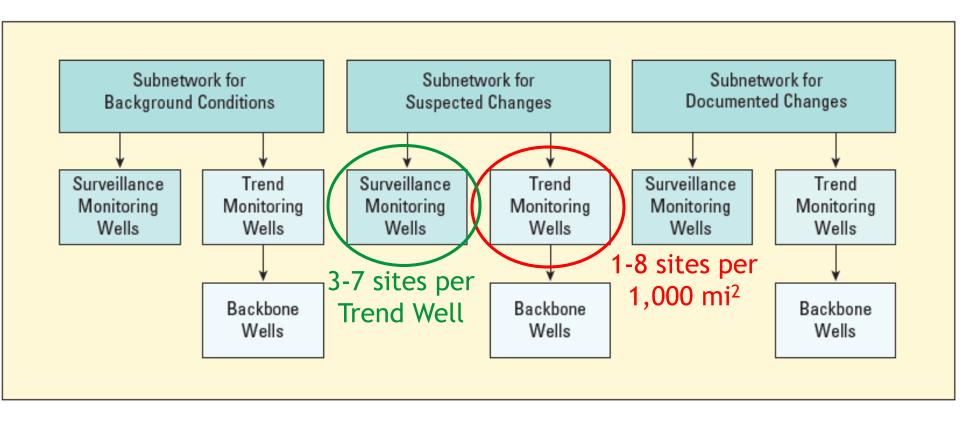
(https://cida.usgs.gov/ngwmn/)

#### NGWMN Subnetworks

- Background Conditions
  - No (or minimal) anthropogenic effects, past and future
- Suspected Changes
  - May have been affected by humans
  - Anticipated changes
- Documented Changes
  - Known anthropogenic effects
  - Heavily pumped or substantial recharge
  - Managed groundwater resources
  - Declining water levels or known water quality issues



#### Subnetwork Classification

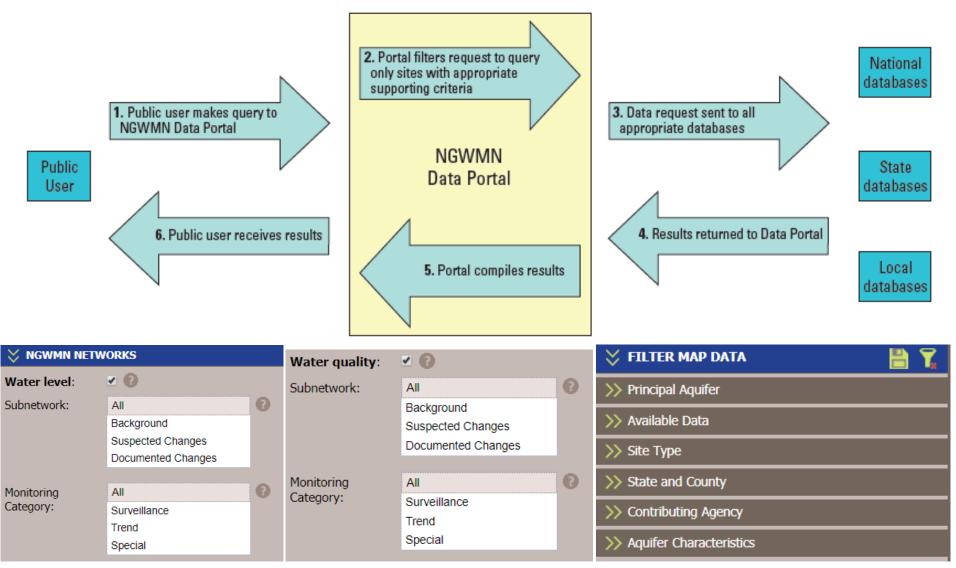


## Monitoring Categories

		Nearby Long-Term Aquifer Withdrawals			
Monitoring Category	Aquifer Type	Small Withdrawals	Moderate Withdrawals	Large Withdrawals	
Trend Monitoring	Unconfined				
Category	"low" recharge (<5 in/yr)	Once per quarter	Once per quarter	Once per month	
	"high" recharge (>5 in/yr)	Once per quarter	Once per month	Once per day	
	Confined				
	"low" hydraulic conductivity (<200 ft/d)	Once per quarter	Once per quarter	Once per month	
	"high" hydraulic conductivity (>200 ft/d)	Once per quarter	Once per month	Once per day	
Surveillance Monitoring	Unconfined				
Category	"low" recharge (<5 in/yr)	Every three years	Once per year	Twice per year	
	"high" recharge (>5 in/yr)	Every three years	Twice per year	Once per quarter	
	Confined				
	"low" hydraulic conductivity (<200 ft/d)	Every three years	Every two years	Once per year	
	"high" hydraulic conductivity (>200 ft/d)	Every three years	Every two years	Once per year	



#### NGWMN Data Portal



(https://cida.usgs.gov/ngwmn/index.jsp)



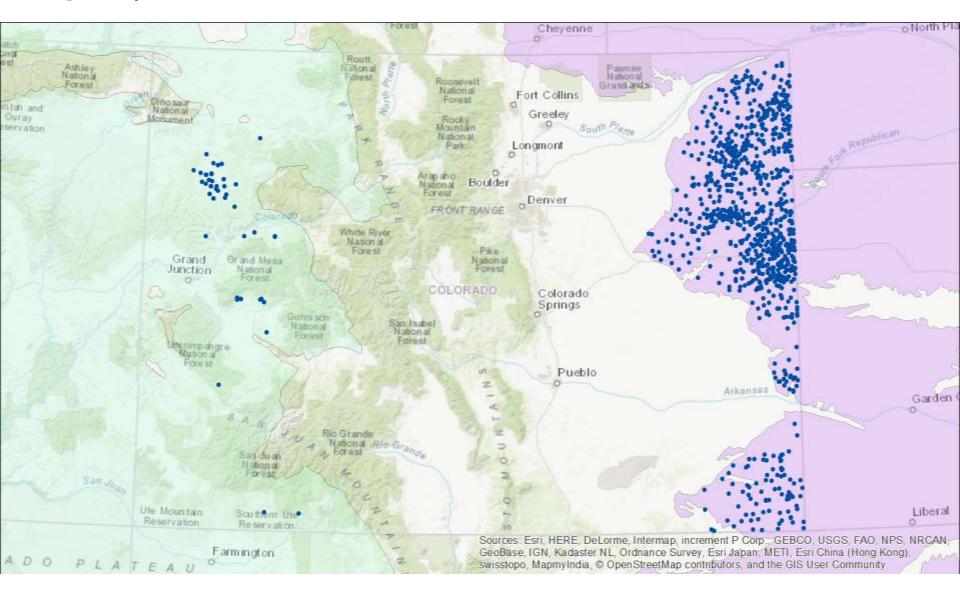
#### Colorado in the NGWMN



(https://cida.usgs.gov/ngwmn/index.jsp)



#### Qualified Baseline Wells



#### Initial Selection for All Wells

- Drop any abandoned or inaccessible wells
- Higher measurement frequency relative to nearby
- Long monitoring record relative to nearby
- Complete lithology and/or well construction info

#### A Tale of Two Networks...

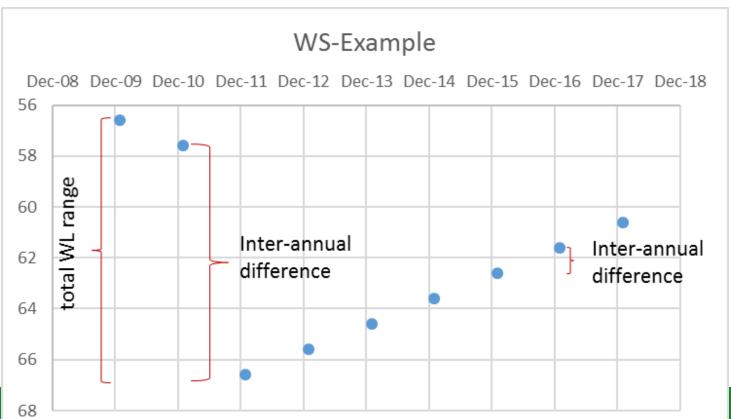
- Colorado Plateaus (West Slope)
  - Vast geographic extent, Four major aquifers/locally more
  - Sparse well spatial coverage and uneven distribution
  - Little groundwater development and spotty well records
  - Easy Selection, Difficult Classification
- High Plains (Eastern Plains)
  - Vast geographic extent, one aquifer
  - Too many wells, too dense
  - Extreme groundwater development, complicated well records
  - Difficult Selection, Easy Classification



#### Colorado Plateaus Well Selection

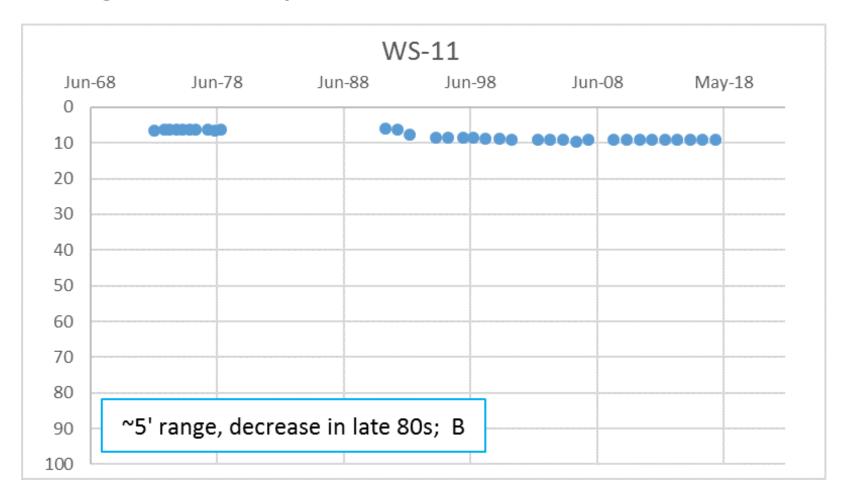
- So few wells
- Any well still accessible and currently measured

- Background Conditions (all three attributes)
  - No reported water withdrawal or use
  - Minimal short- and long-term water level changes
  - Inter-annual change <5 feet, Total water level range <15 feet



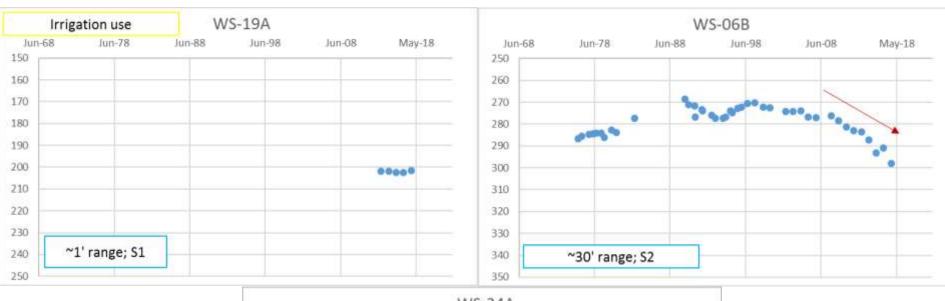


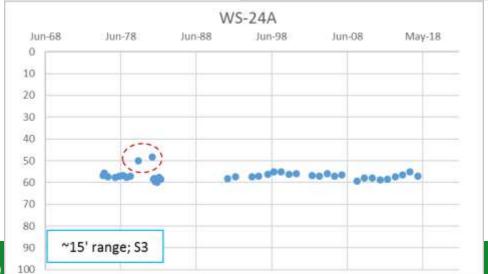
Background Example



- Suspected/Anticipated Changes (any one attribute)
  - Permitted or noted in file for water allowable withdrawals
     or
  - More than one inter-annual change >5 feet
  - 3. Total water level range 15-50 feet

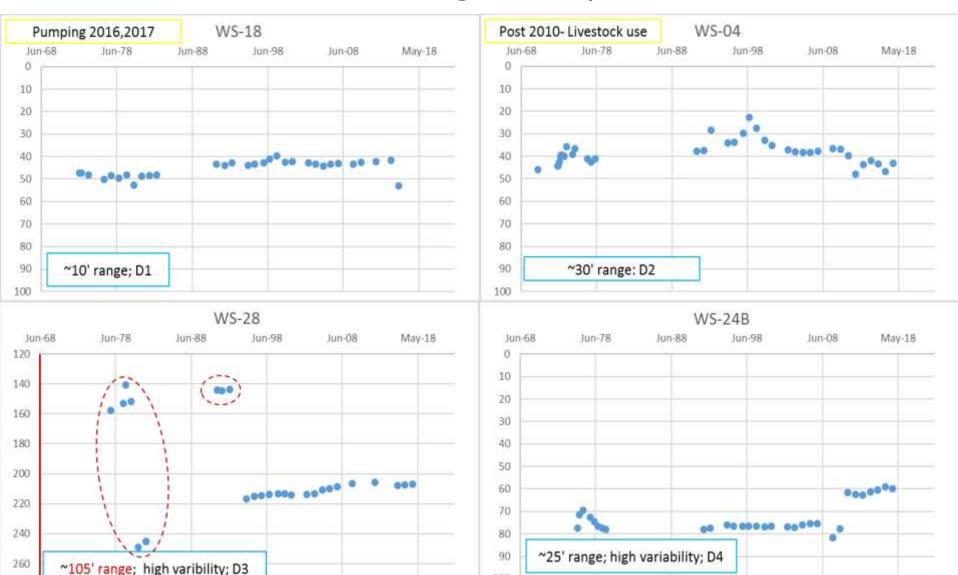
Suspected/Anticipated Changes Examples





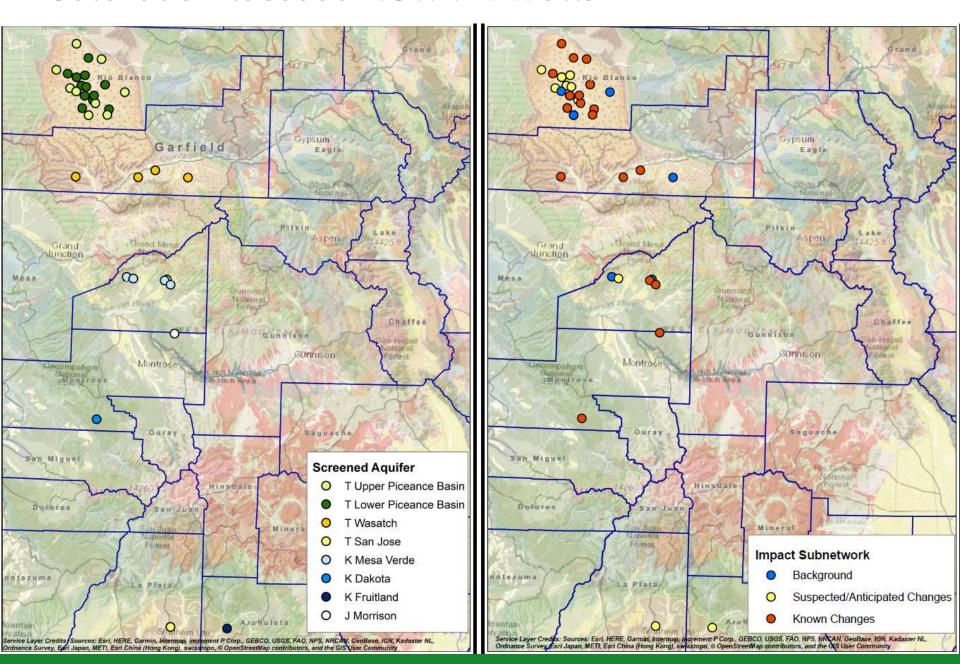
- Documented/Known Changes (any one of the four)
  - 1. Active pumping recorded in field notes or pumping records
  - 2. Permitted for water withdrawal AND EITHER
    - Inter-annual change >5 feet or
    - Total water level range 15-50 feet
  - 3. More than one inter-annual change >15 feet
  - 4. Total water level range >50 feet

Documented/Known Changes Examples



100

#### Colorado Plateaus NGWMN Wells



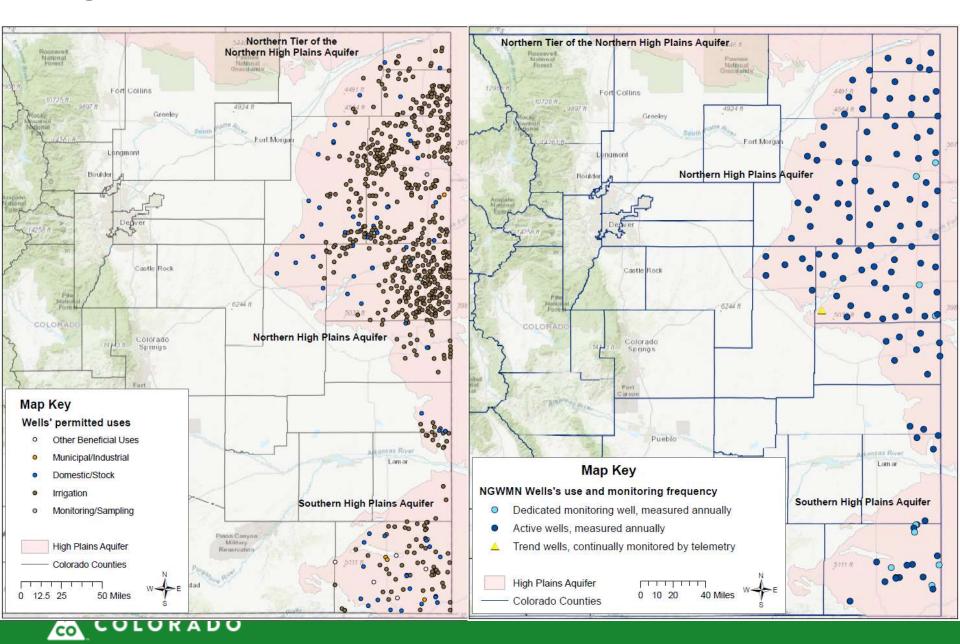
#### High Plains Well Selection

- Too many wells
- USGS previously selected ~125 wells for the NGWMN
  - Removed abandoned or inaccessible
  - Reviewed/updated well location, construction metadata
- Additional CODWR Monitoring Wells
  - Priority on overall length of monitoring period
  - Preferred wells with well permit/construction information
  - Spatial analysis for appropriate density

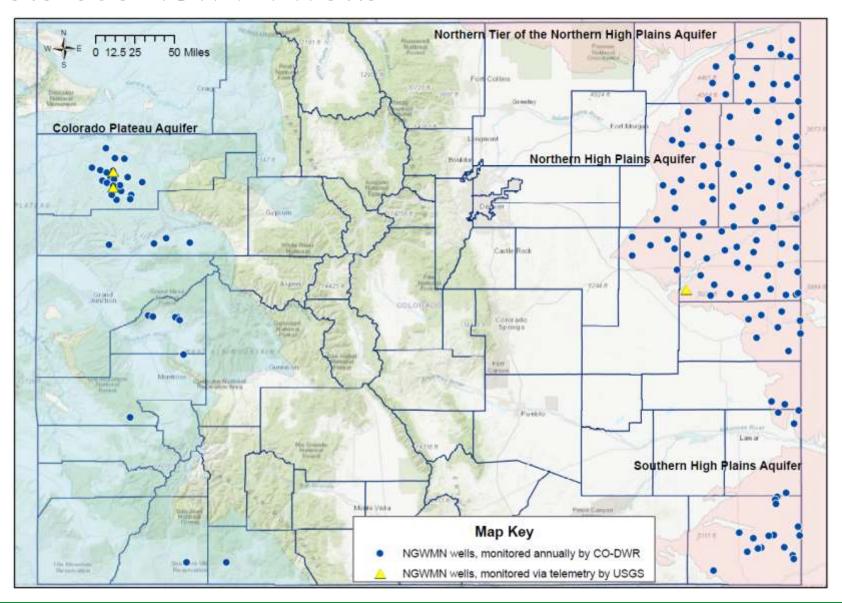
#### High Plains Well Classification

- Extreme groundwater development and management
- Drastic water level declines
- All wells classified as Documented/Known Changes

#### High Plains NGWMN Wells



#### Colorado NGWMN Wells



### Continued Work - Current Program Agreement

Depth cased to two	(f) (T) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X	COLORADO DIVISION O DIMITTED DIMPLETION BED HERE BLACK USUA  COLORADO DIVISION O 1313 Sherman Ser Denver, Colo WELL COMPLETION AND PUM PERMIT NUMBER	red - Room 818 rado 80203 MAR 09 78
Method (A) (B) (C) (D) (U) (J) (P) (P) Drilled: All hured, cable, dug, nod jutted, air perception,	(R) (T) (V) (M) (M) (M)	David Brown Wray Rt Box 3 Lyoke, Colc 80734	SW % of the NE % of Sec. 30
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Power F  [type]: diesel, elec, sas, geneller, Construction Seport Receipt  [type]: diesel, elec, sas, geneller, sas, general, sas, general, sas, general, sas, geneller, sas, general, sas,		€ Earling Requested	in from to ft.  in from to ft.  DRILLING METHOD Reverse rotary
Address:  Level (2), 5		Essting (utm v) Northing (utm y) Q40 Q160 Section Township Range PM William Method:	CASING RECORD: Plain Casing  Size 16 & kind Steel from 0 to 254 ft.  Size & kind from to ft.  Size & kind from to ft.
Sp. Conduct E s 10 Coning	d Casing OD Well Thickness Borehole Top Softom Grout Top	Grout Bottom   Grout Material   Grout Method	Size16. & kind Stee1 from254to354ft.  Size & kind from to ft.
Static Water Leveli	Filter Peck Interval Botts Distribution Performed  Measurement Date:  Measurement Date:	- 0 ×	Size & kind from to ft.
Analysis Description	Type # From Material: "To/file Outside Diameter Mate Wall Thickness: Meth From/Top To/Bottom: Bore Hole Diameter	orton;	
	See linds Co	ne.	

#### Continued Work - Future Programs

- Future Programs
  - Create Lithology Database & Connect Web Services
  - Add Denver Basin and Rio Grande Aquifer Systems
  - Lower South Platte Alluvial Aquifer Daily Telemetry

## Continued Work - Future Programs

THIS FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN 60 DAYS OF COMPLETION OF THE WORK DESCRIBED HERE-ON. TYPE OR PRINT IN BLACK

#### **COLORADO DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES**

1313 Sherman Street - Room 818 Denver, Colorado 80203

WELL COMPLETION AND PUMP INSTALLATION REPORT
PERMIT NUMBER 21627-F

MAR 09 7
WATER WESTERS
STATE ENGINE
COUL

LOCATION 300 ft, north of well

DRILLERS	TEST	LOG
----------	------	-----

RECEIVED

WELL OWNER		Brown				
	Wray	Rt Box 3				
ADDRESS	Holyoke	Cole 80	734			_
DATE COMPLE	TED	3×4/18/	June	24	. 19	77
DATE COMPLE						

#### WELL LOG

From To		Type and Color of Material	
0	30	Sand	
9 30	30 147	Clay, limestone, sand- stone & gravel	1
147	200	Sand & gravel, light clay streaks	10
200	210	Sand & gravel	10236
210		Clay	55
230		Sand & gravel	X
285	294	Clay	9
294	353	Sand & gravel	X
		<b>2</b> 0	

CUSTOMERS NAME	Dr. Earl Berens	DATE July 14, 1985
STREET ADDRESS _	48525 Hogan Dr.	TEST # 2 E. LOG yes
CITY & STATE	Burlington, CO, 80807	DRILLER Livingston
COUNTY Kit Carson	QUARTER NE SECTION 9 TOW	NSHIP 10 RANGE 46

%	FOOTAGE		-	Static Water Lovel
	From Pay To			DESCRIPTION OF STRATA Proposed Well Depth
	_ 0		2	Top soil
	2		41	Brown sandy clay and fine sand streaks
	41		61	Sand fine to medium, small gravel few clay and cemented streak
	61		80	Brown sandy clay, limerock cemented sand
	80		107	Sand fine to medium, cemented and clay streaks
100	107		121	Sand fine to medium, small gravel cemented
_	121	21 127	Brown sandy clay limerock	
	127		141	Sand fine to medium, coarse
1000	141		147	Cemented sand
	147		151	Sandy clay and sand streaks
	151		160	Sand fine to medium, and clay streaks
	160		187	Sand fine to medium, small gravel and few cemented streaks and
				clay streaks
	187		191	Cemented sand and clay streaks
60	191	09	200	Sand fine to medium, coarse, small gravel cemented ledges
70	200	25	225	Sand fine to medium, coarse, small gravel few medium gravel los
	225		232	Yellow soapstone
				Total Depth 230'
		_		Set up North
_				. Pit on the East



#### Benefits of joining NGWMN

- Well database information clean-up
  - Basic well metadata
  - Found well construction records
  - Permit associations & redrilled/replaced wells
- Better understanding of web services and data sharing
- Interagency cooperation within Colorado
- Relationships with USGS and other states
- Hired a temporary employee who is now permanent

#### Where Can I Sign Up?

https://www.usgs.gov/news/usgs-seeks-national-ground-water-monitoring-network-proposals-2019



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## USGS Seeks National Ground-Water Monitoring Network Proposals for 2019

Release Date: SEPTEMBER 4, 2018

The U.S. Geological Survey will award up to \$2 million in cooperative agreements to support participation in the National Ground-Water Monitoring Network (NGWMN)

The USGS is working with the Federal Advisory Committee on Water Information's (ACWI) Subcommittee on Ground Water (SOGW) to develop and administer the network. The NGWMN is designed as a cooperative groundwater data collection, management, and reporting system that will be based on data from selected wells in existing federal, state, tribal, and local groundwater monitoring networks. The network is envisioned as a long-term collaborative partnership among federal and non-federal data providers that will help address present and future groundwater management questions facing the nation. The NGWMN will provide the data needed to determine regional and national trends in groundwater levels and groundwater quality, and facilitate the evaluation of transboundary groundwater resources.

Cooperative agreements will provide support for both new and existing data providers in the NGWMN. The USGS will fund new data providers to select and classify sites within existing monitoring programs, to set up web services that will link the data to the NGWMN portal, and to produce a report describing this process. Existing data providers will receive funds to maintain web services and keep site information current. Existing data providers may also receive funding to collect data to improve site information, to maintain wells, and to drill new or replacement network wells. The maximum allowable funds for any data provider agency is \$150,000 per year.

#### Contacts

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#### Hydrologist

Daryll Pope

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#### Acknowledgements

- Daryll Pope
- Bill Cunningham
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- Bob Schreiber





- Helen Malenda
- Matt Sares
- Andy Flor
- Doug Stenzel
- John Rodgers



#### Questions?

Subcommittee on Ground Water <a href="https://acwi.gov/sogw/index.html">https://acwi.gov/sogw/index.html</a>

National Ground-Water Monitoring Network

https://cida.usgs.gov/ngwmn/

Colorado Division of Water Resources (DWR) Website <a href="http://water.state.co.us">http://water.state.co.us</a>

Colorado Decision Support Systems (CDSS) - aka HydroBase http://dnrweb.state.co.us/cdss/Ground Water/GroundWaterSearch

303-866-3581 x8221 Kevin.Donegan@state.co.us

