

Meeting of the Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee

Wednesday, February 5, 2025, 1:00 PM

Patterson City Council Chambers, 1 Plaza Circle, Patterson, CA

Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee Members and Alternates Present

Adam Scheuber, Alternate – Del Puerto Water District (DPWD)
Vince Lucchesi, Member – Patterson Irrigation District (PID)
Lacey McBride, Member – Merced County
Christy McKinnon, Member – Stanislaus County
Maria Encinas, Member – City of Patterson

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) Representative Present

Scott Petersen

Others Present

Caleb Stearns – West Stanislaus Irrigation District (WSID)
Larissa Camara – City of Patterson

Others Present via Zoom

Robert Kostlivi – Stanislaus County
Lea Emmons – City of Tracy
Lauren Viers – SLDMWA
Lauren Layne – Baker Manock & Jensen (BMJ)
Kevin Bursey – Ellison Schneider Harris & Donlan
Margaret Caligaris – Trihydro
Ryan Athey – Trihydro
John Brodie – Water & Land Solutions
Meredith Durant – EKI Environment & Water (EKI)
Leslie Dumas – Woodard & Curran (W&C)

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Vince Lucchesi/PID called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM.

2. Committee to Consider Corrections or Additions to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.

There were no corrections or additions to the agenda of items.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comment was provided.

4. **Committee to Review and Take Action on Consent Calendar, Lucchesi**
 - a. Minutes for the January 8, 2025 Meeting of the Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee
 - b. Budget-to-Actual Report

Adam Scheuber/DPWD provided the motion to approve the Consent Calendar and Maria Encinas/City of Patterson seconded. The motion was passed unanimously by those present.

5. **Committee to Review and Consider Taking Action to Appoint Officers, Layne**

The Committee discussed maintaining Bobby Pierce/WSID as Chair, with Vince Lucchesi serving as Vice Chair. In the future, the Committee Secretary position will be filled by the Program Management consultant, but until that firm is selected and retained, Scott Petersen/SLDMWA will provide those services to the Committee.

Adam Scheuber provided the motion to approve the Committee Officers and Maria Encinas seconded. The motion was passed unanimously by those present.

6. **Report of the Representative to the Coordination Committee, Lucchesi/Petersen**

Vince Lucchesi reported that during its January 2025 meeting, the Coordination Committee approved the proposed FY2026 budget for Fund 63. For the next year, Joe Hopkins of Provost & Pritchard/Aliso Water District will serve as Chair and Steve Stadler/San Luis Water District will serve as Vice Chair. The Coordination Committee also discussed the status of the several Pumping Reduction Plans (PRPs). Scott Petersen noted that Steve Stadler subsequently indicated that he plans to retire in early 2026, so future leadership of the Coordination Committee will need to be revisited.

Leslie Dumas/W&C requested that Committee members transmit their completed PRPs for summary and inclusion in the WY2024 Annual Report.

7. **Report on the Delta-Mendota Coordinated Activities Accounting True-up, Petersen/Viers**

Scott Petersen summarized the results of a budget true-up analysis performed by SLDMWA. A copy of the resulting packet including a summary page was shared with in-person attendees. Scott encouraged member agencies with questions to contact him.

The Committee thanked Lauren Viers/SLDMWA for her efforts to navigate through several cost allocation formulas and timelines to prepare the true-up of budgets and past expenditures for SGMA support services provided by SLDMWA.

8. **Report on Technical Communications with SWRCB Staff, Petersen**

Scott Petersen reported that the SWRCB requirement regarding mitigation of domestic water supply wells for water quality impacts remains an unresolved issue. A designated Subbasin representative is meeting with SWRCB staff, and additional information should be available during the Coordination Committee meeting scheduled for February 6, 2025.

9. **Committee to Discuss Request for Proposals for Program Management Support Services, Petersen**

Scott Petersen reported that a draft Request for Proposals (RFP) for Program Management Services was prepared and circulated for review and comment by designated Subbasin representatives. The RFP was issued to seven consultants on February 3, 2025, with consultant proposals due on February 21, 2025. Scott noted that the earliest that the SLDMWA Board may

be able to formally take action to approve the contracts for the selected consultant(s) is at its April meeting.

Vince Lucchesi requested that the Subbasin's Program Management proposal review team include at least one representative from the Northern Management Committee, one representative from the Central Management Committee, and one representative from other members of the Coordination Committee.

10. Committee to Discuss GSP Implementation, Dumas

- a. Status of WY2024 Annual Report**
 - b. Update on Modifications of SGMA Round 1 Grant Funding Program**
 - c. Update on ISW Monitoring Well Construction Contracting, Petersen**
- a. Leslie Dumas reported that W&C is continuing to collect information for inclusion in the WY2024 Annual Report. W&C is transmitting weekly emails to GSA representatives noting due dates and past due items. The water surface point elevation maps were provided to KDSA for contouring. Provost & Pritchard is estimating the change in groundwater storage. W&C is revising the format to be consistent with the single GSP as well as the DWR Annual Report guidance document. In Leslie's opinion, the several Pumping Reduction Plans will provide important documentation regarding recent GSP implementation progress.
- b. Leslie Dumas reported that Amendment No. 2 to the SGMA Round 1 Grant has been fully executed. The completion date of April 2026 cannot be revised, which means that all work must be completed no later than March 2026, with invoices submitted to DWR, to be eligible for grant reimbursement.

The Committee discussed the Data Gap component of the Grant, which included funds for both installation of ISW monitoring wells and additional subsidence monitoring locations within the Subbasin. The continuous GPS recording devices appear to be more affordable and will provide wider geographic coverage. To prevent damage, these devices should be installed within a secure area, and therefore installation within public property (e.g., along the Delta-Mendota Canal) may be efficient and practical. The Committee discussed locations within the Northern Delta-Mendota region where subsidence monitoring data gaps have been previously identified but noted that additional discussion will occur at the next Subbasin Coordination Committee meeting.

Depending upon the procurement policies of the owning member agency, competitive bidding for installation of the continuous GPS devices may be necessary.

- c. Several Committee members reported on the status of permitting and contracting for ISW monitoring wells within their jurisdictions.

11. **Next Steps**

- Scott Petersen will work with Subbasin and Committee representatives to review the received proposals for program management services and to recommend consultants.
- GSAs should provide requested information for inclusion in the WY2024 Annual Report.
- Additional discussion regarding locations for installation of additional subsidence monitoring equipment in the Subbasin will occur at the upcoming Coordination Committee meeting.
- Member agencies should continue progress on easements, permitting, and contracting for installation of ISW monitoring wells.

12. **Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (1 case)**

The Committee went into closed session at 1:59 PM to confer with legal counsel pursuant to Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9.

California Sportfishing Protection Alliance v. All Persons Interested in the Matter of the Validity of the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Regions Groundwater Sustainability Plan, et al., Stanislaus County Superior Court, Case No. CV-20-001748, Merced County Superior Court, Case No. 21CV-01691.

13. **Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation (1 case)**

The Committee met in closed session to confer with legal counsel on significant exposure to anticipated litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9: (1 case).

14. **Report from Closed Session**

The Committee came out of closed session at 2:20 PM with no reportable action.

15. **Future Meetings**

a. **Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee**

- i. Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 1:00 PM
- ii. Wednesday, April 2, 2025 at 1:00 PM

b. **Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee**

- i. Thursday, February 6, 2025 at 1:00 PM
- ii. Monday, March 10, 2025 at 1:00 PM

16. **Reports Pursuant to Government Code 54954.2(a)(3)**

No reports were discussed under this item.

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

Vince Lucchesi adjourned the meeting at 2:21 PM.

SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY
MARCH 1, 2024 - FEBRUARY 28, 2025
SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT SERVICES AGREEMENT
ACTIVITY AGREEMENTS BUDGET TO ACTUAL
NORTHERN DELTA-MENDOTA REGION (FUND 64)

Report Period 3/1/24 - 01/31/25
Northern DM Meeting 03.05.25

EXPENDITURES	Annual Budget	Paid/ Expense	Amount Remaining	% of Amt Remaining	Expenses Through
<u>Legal:</u>					
Baker Manock & Jensen	\$ 27,600	\$ 20,728	\$ 6,872	25%	1/3/25
<u>Other Professional Services:</u>					
Contracts	\$ 352,066	\$ 210,400	\$ 141,666	40%	1/27/25
<u>Other:</u>					
Executive Director	\$ 456	\$ -	\$ 456	100%	
General Counsel	\$ 6,696	\$ 41	\$ 6,655	99%	9/30/24
Water Policy Director	\$ 9,802	\$ 4,590	\$ 5,212	53%	1/31/25
Water Resources Program Manager	\$ 51,629	\$ 44,126	\$ 7,503	15%	11/30/24
Accounting	\$ 4,576	\$ 443	\$ 4,133	90%	1/31/25
Hydrotech 3	\$ 23,712	\$ 14,745	\$ 8,967	38%	1/31/25
License & Continuing Education	\$ 250		\$ 250	100%	
Conferences & Training	\$ 1,250	\$ -	\$ 1,250	100%	
Travel/Mileage	\$ 2,500	\$ 345	\$ 2,155	86%	
Group Meetings	\$ 500		\$ 500	100%	
Telephone	\$ 1,250		\$ 1,250	100%	
Total Expenditures	\$ 482,287	\$ 295,418	\$ 186,869	39%	



NORTHERN DELTA-MENDOTA REGION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE PUMPING REDUCTION PLAN

5 FEBRUARY 2025

PRP STATUS

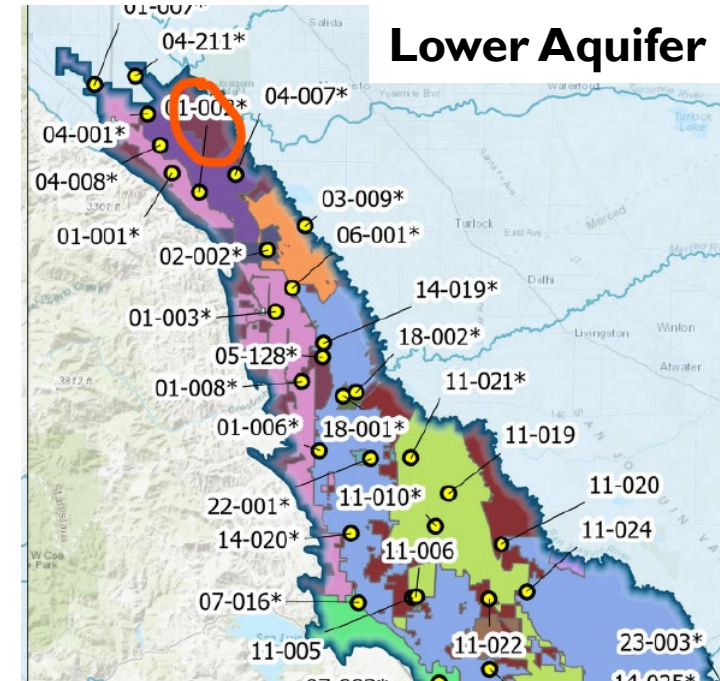
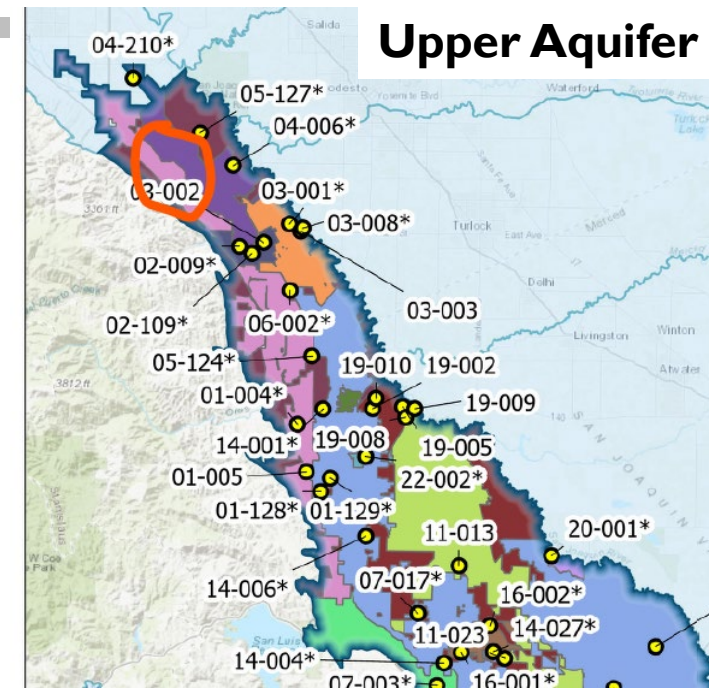
- PRP was adopted in October 2024
- PRP implementation was required starting January 2025.
- EKI has performed the analysis using WY 2024 data to support NDM Group's PRP implementation.
- Project Status:
 - Technical attachment to facilitate PRP implementation is being finalized and will be shared prior and discussed at NDM March meeting.
 - Project is on track and within budget to deliver on both proposal schedules of deliverables without the need for the additional proposed budget.

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MONITORING AND DATA COLLECTION PLAN

- Regular monitoring network(s) assessment !
 - Currently exceeding the minimum of 4 wells per 100 sq. mi.
 - There are gap areas in both aquifers to be covered.
 - Adjustment to current wells should be done in a timely manner to avoid gaps in data.
- Conduct Monitoring: !
 - Quarterly groundwater level monitoring
 - Semiannual water quality monitoring
- Well registration policy ✓
- Well metering policy !
- Well extraction reporting policy !
- Provide well construction information for all monitoring wells ✓
- Replacing composite/production wells in the monitoring network with dedicated monitoring wells by 2030 !



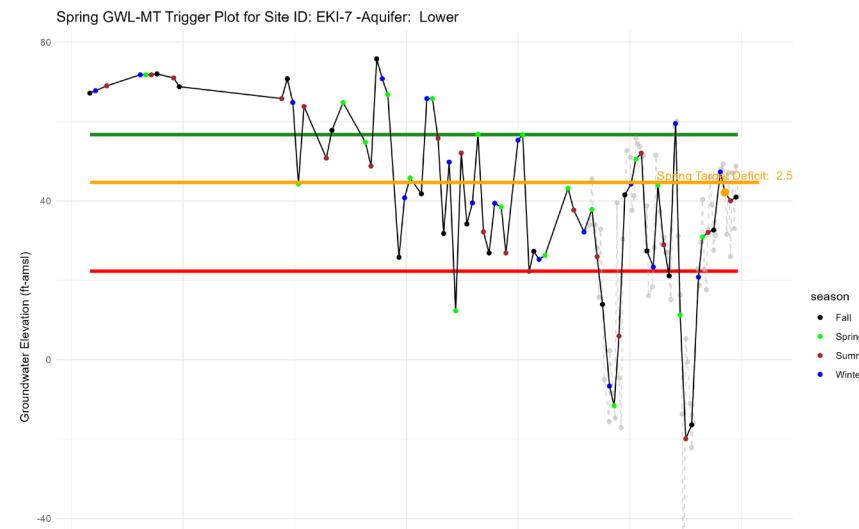
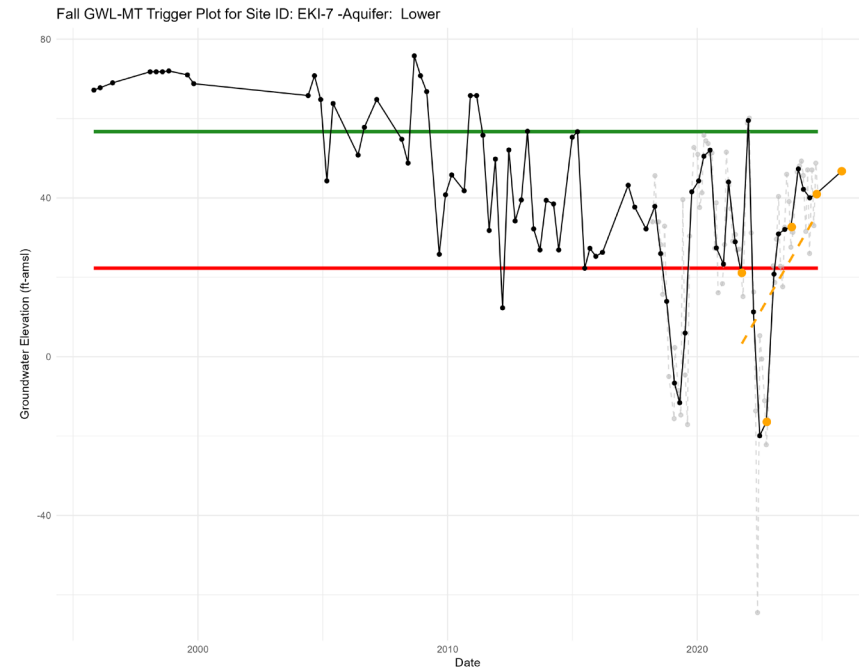
OVERDRAFT MITIGATION PLAN

- Annual 20% reduction in pumping for all GSAs is required from WY 2026.
- No actions required for this year.
- Recommendation:
 - Prepare for next year’s reduction under dry scenarios.
 - Gather and process extraction data to inform your plan.

Member GSA	Annual Pumping Reduction Starting in 2026 (AFY)
City GSA	92
DM-II GSA	1,100
NW-DM GSA	194
PID GSA	83
WSID GSA	336
Total	1,805

GWL-MT AVOIDANCE

- Two wells previously subjected to PRP, showed recovered Fall levels.
- Spring 2024 levels were below target. Spring 2025 levels should be monitored to determine likely actions.



GWL-MT AVOIDANCE

- No actions required per PRP currently and based on available WY 2024 Fall levels.
- Recommendations:
 - 01-003 and 01-007 should be watch for spring levels to determine if any actions is required.
 - We recommend more frequent GWL measurements at these two wells in the meantime, but it is not required.

WQ-MT AVOIDANCE

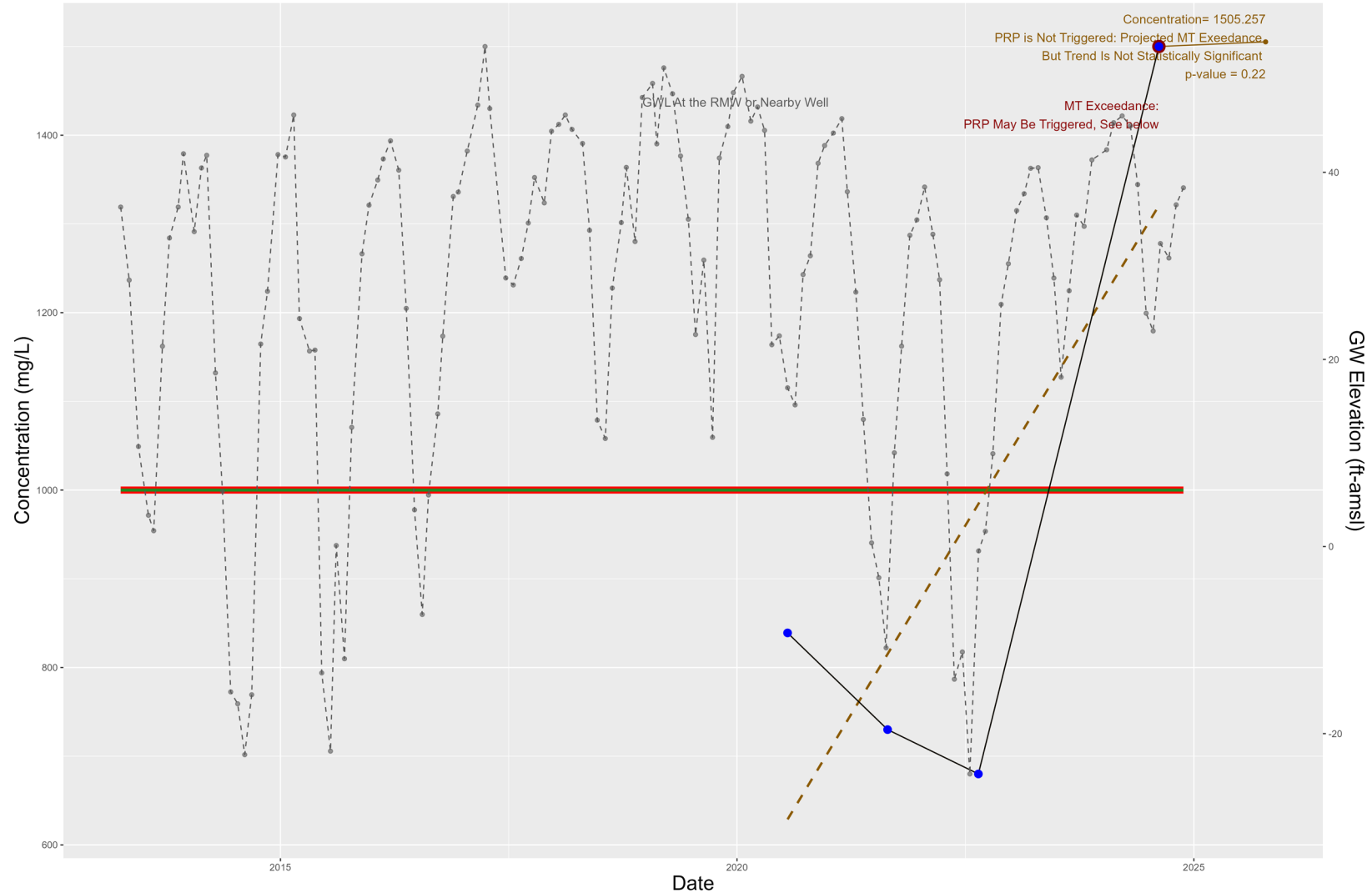
- Data gaps still exist that hinder PRP analysis and setting MTs/Mos at some wells.
- No well with recent monitoring data met PRP criteria for further actions.
- Recommendation:
 - Continue monitoring at all wells as scheduled.
 - Increase monitoring, voluntarily and if feasible, at the wells included in the watchlist.

- Watchlist:

DMS_Site Name	Constituent	GSA
03-007	TDS	PID
02-009	TDS	City of Patterson
02-009	Nitrate	City of Patterson
01-004	Nitrate	DM-II
06-001	Nitrate	Northwestern DM
06-002	Nitrate	Northwestern DM

WQ-MT AVOIDANCE

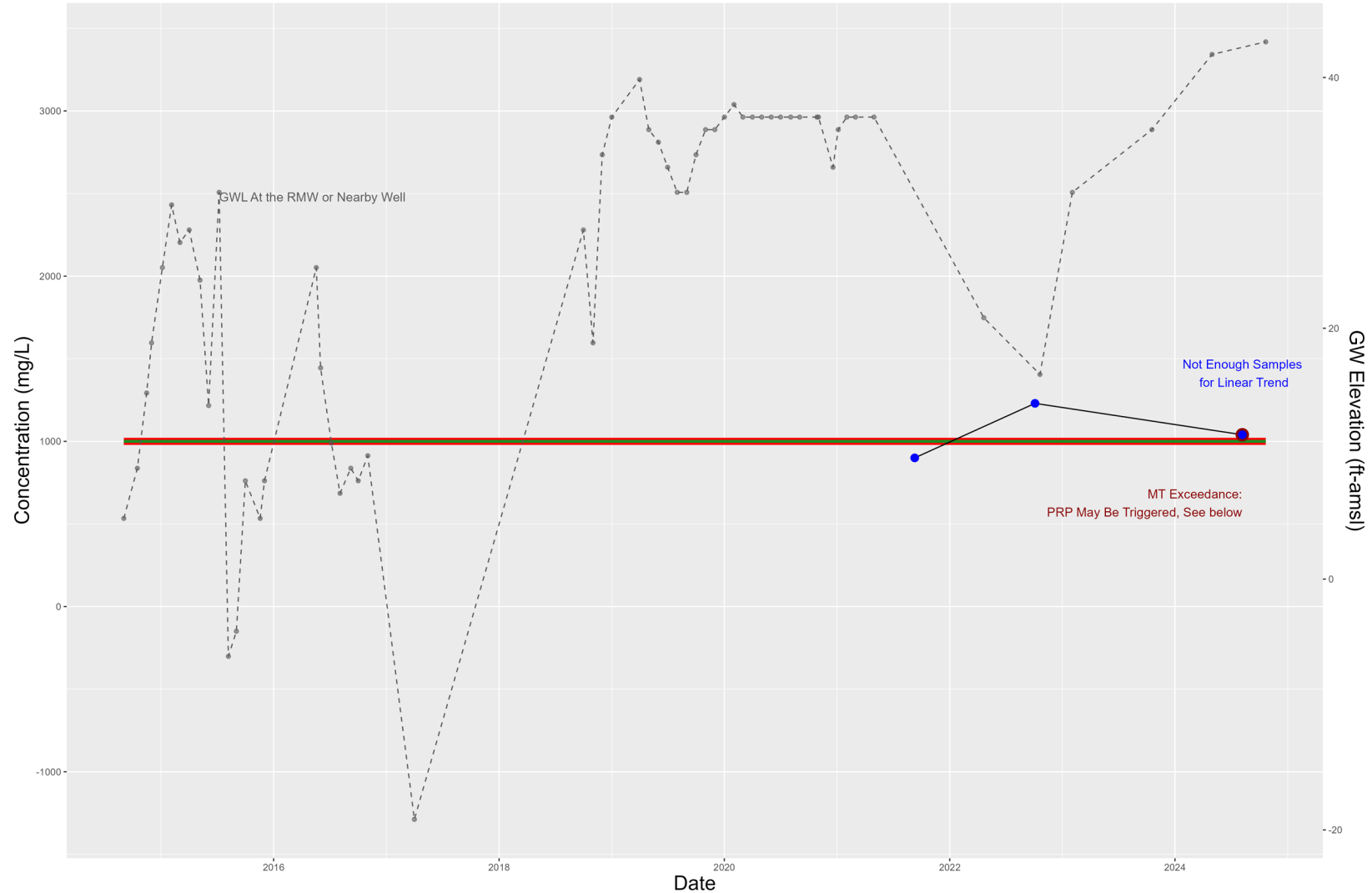
Fall TDS GWQ-MT Trigger Plot for Site ID: 03-007 in Upper Aquifer:



Not Enough Samples to Establish Correlation Between GWL and GWQ

WQ-MT AVOIDANCE

Fall TDS GWQ-MT Trigger Plot for Site ID: 02-009 in Upper Aquifer:

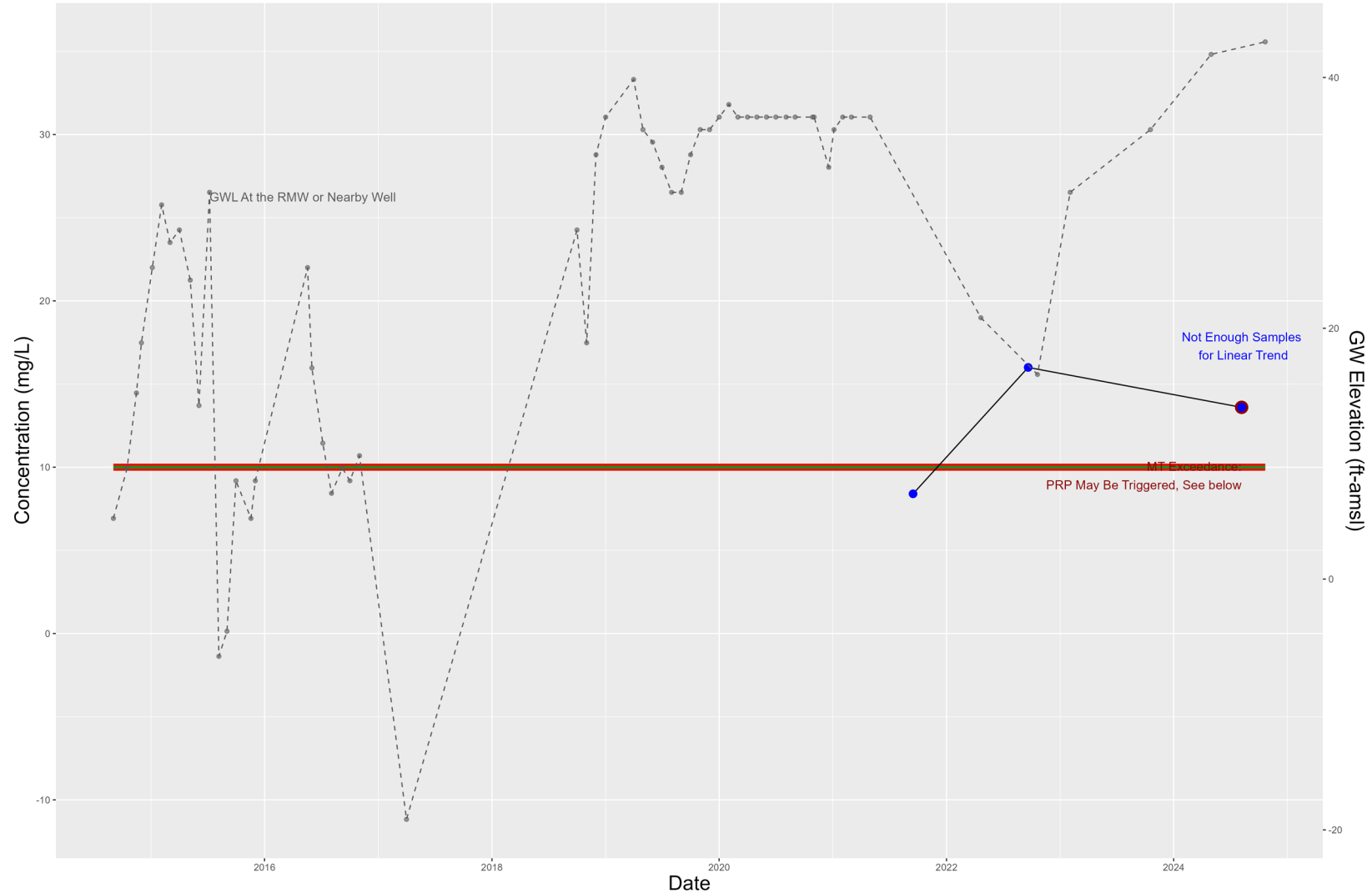


Not Enough Samples to Establish Correlation Between GWL and GWQ



WQ-MT AVOIDANCE

Fall NITRATE GWQ-MT Trigger Plot for Site ID: 02-009 in Upper Aquifer:

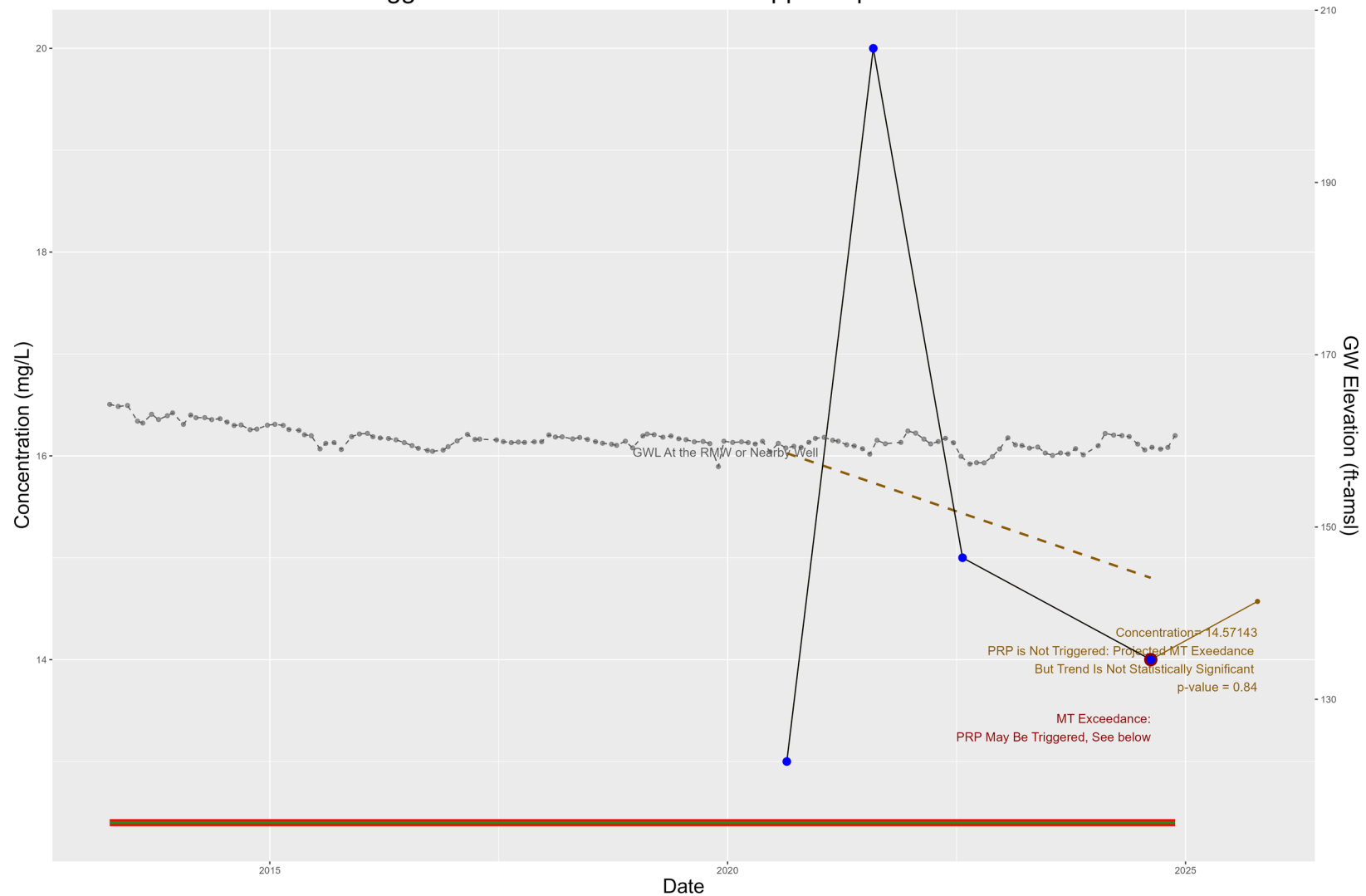


Not Enough Samples to Establish Correlation Between GWL and GWQ



WQ-MT AVOIDANCE

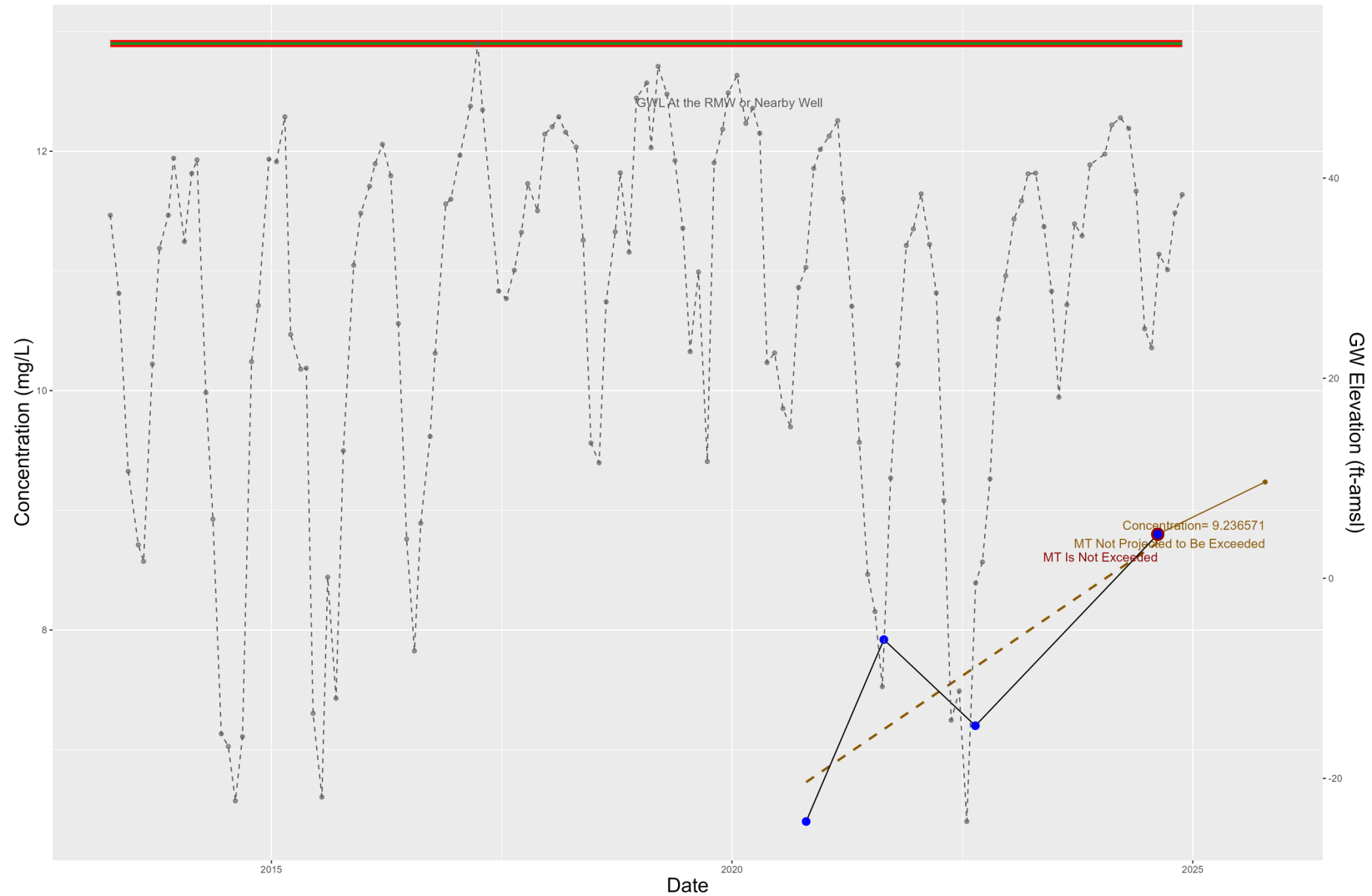
Fall NITRATE GWQ-MT Trigger Plot for Site ID: 01-004 in Upper Aquifer:



Not Enough Samples to Establish Correlation Between GWL and GWQ

WQ-MT AVOIDANCE

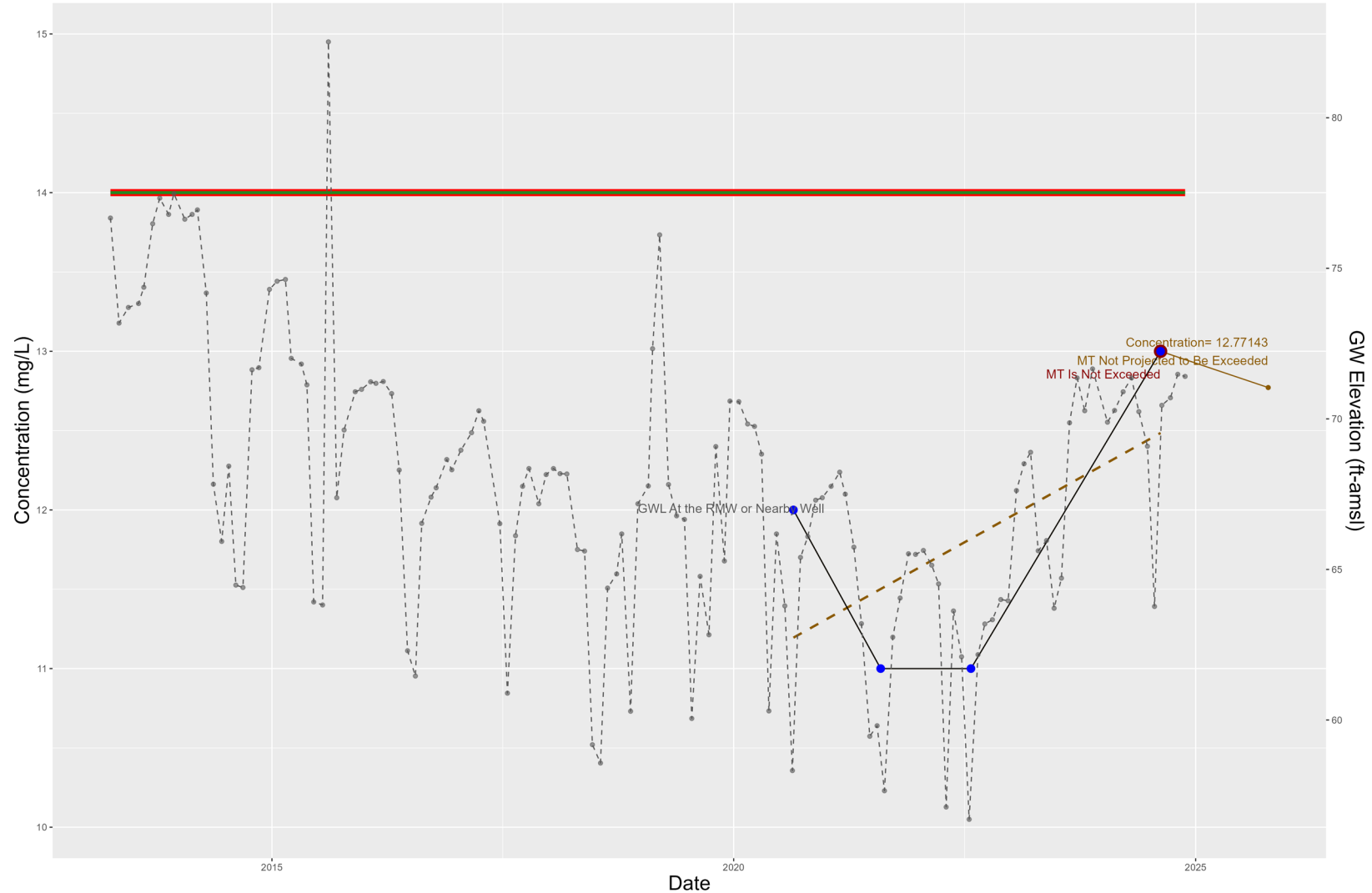
Fall NITRATE GWQ-MT Trigger Plot for Site ID: 06-001 in Lower Aquifer:



Not Enough Samples to Establish Correlation Between GWL and GWQ

WQ-MT AVOIDANCE

Fall NITRATE GWQ-MT Trigger Plot for Site ID: 06-002 in Upper Aquifer:

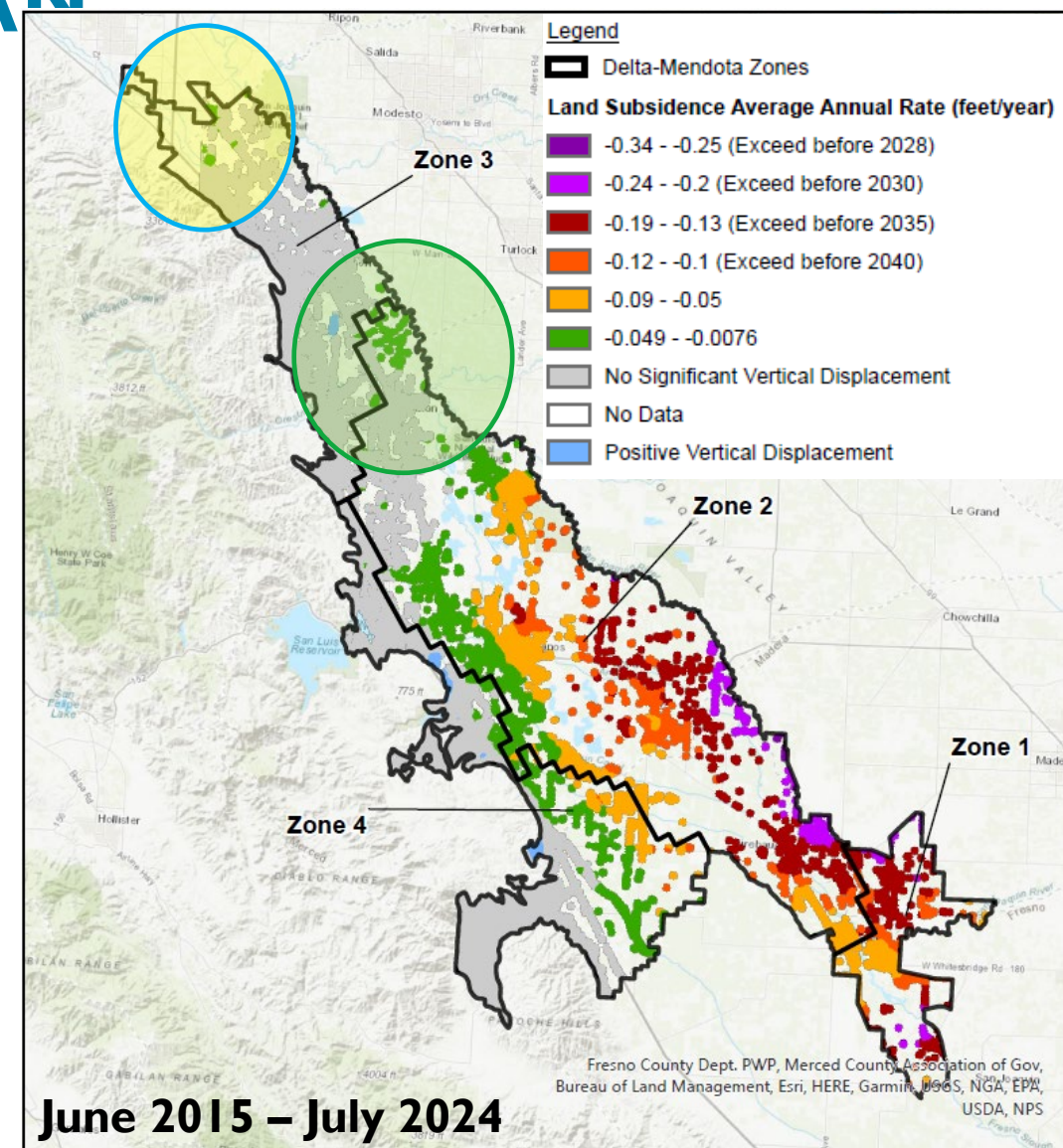


Not Enough Samples to Establish Correlation Between GWL and GWQ



SUBSIDENCE AVOIDANCE PLAN

- EKI used InSAR data to recalculate subsidence average annual rates.
- No actions yet needed per PRP requirements in WY 2025.
- Recommendation:
 - Monitor quarterly InSAR data published by DWR to check if any changes are highlighted
 - Analysis was not done using subsidence monitoring data (point measurements). Use such data if in possession to confirm.



GROUNDWATER ALLOCATION BACKSTOP

- Activated if GSA(s) do not meet their obligations under Overdraft Mitigation, GWL-MT, GWQ-MT, or Subsidence Avoidance Plan.
- Not applicable to WY 2025, and no further action needed per PRP.

Questions?

