

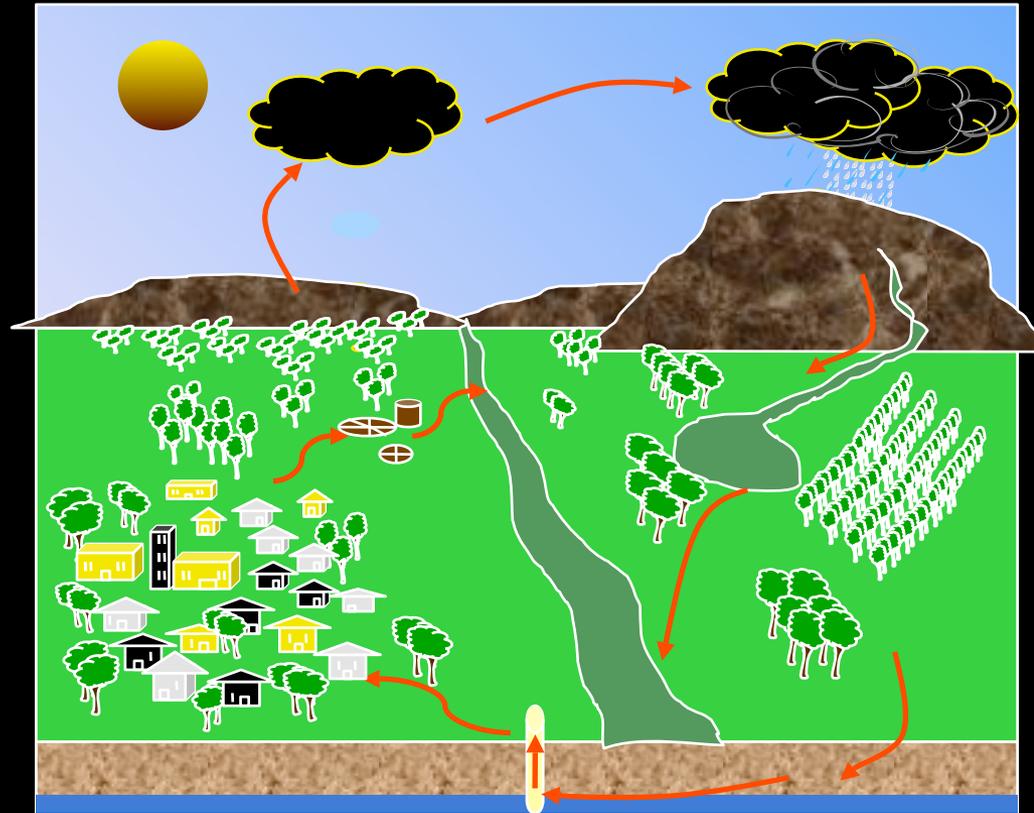
Paso Robles Water

(Existing Challenges)

- Paso Robles currently relies entirely on groundwater to satisfy the water demands of the City.
- Increasing demands on our groundwater have resulted in significant groundwater level declines, reduced well production, and diminishing water quality.
- The City is unable to produce enough water to satisfy summertime demands.
- The shortfalls in production are taken from emergency and fire storage. This creates a serious health and safety situation for City residents.
- The City does not own any of its current water supply.

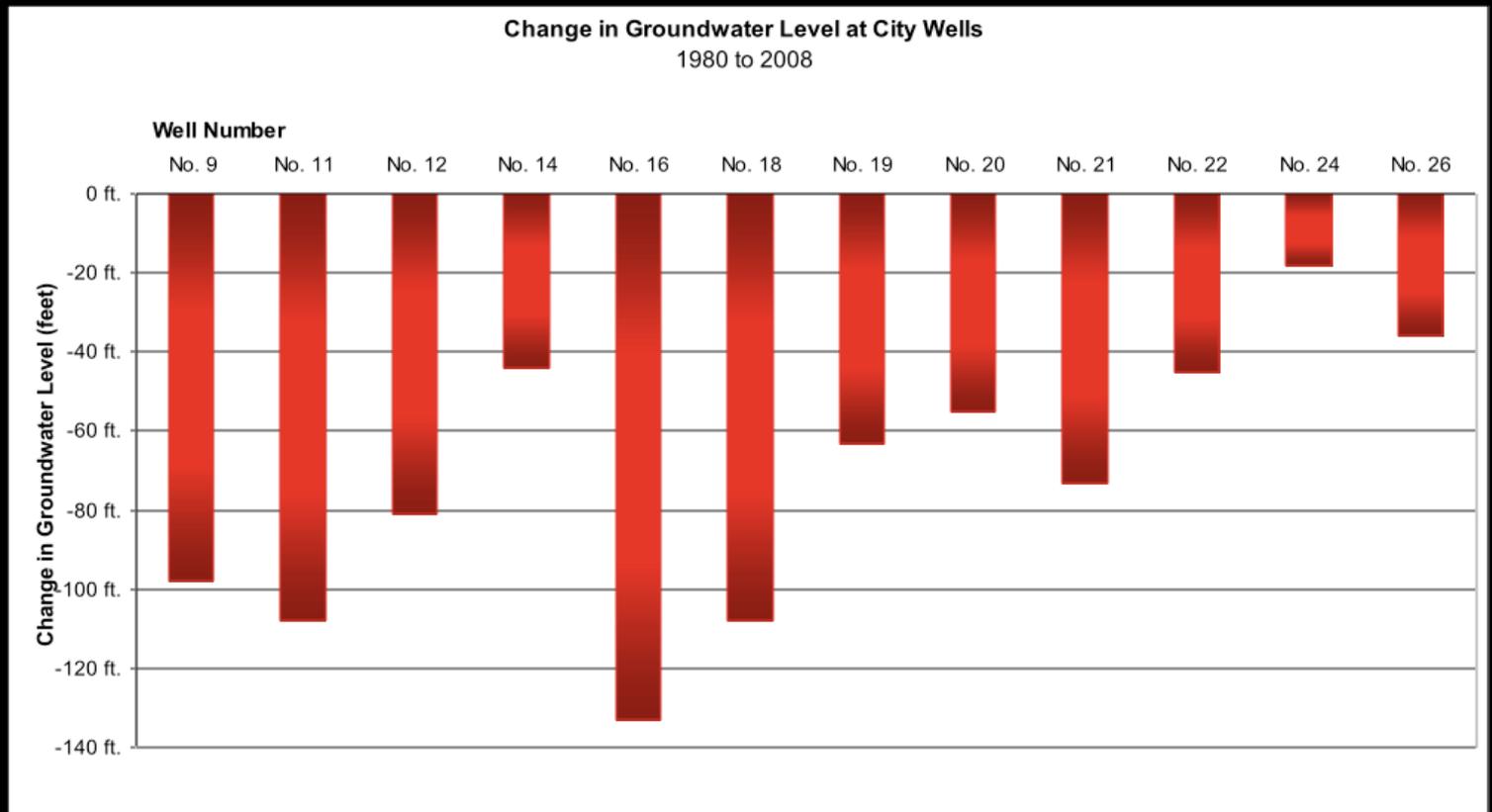
Water Sources

- Precipitation falls from the sky and percolates into the groundwater basin, recharging groundwater storage.
- Water is pumped from City wells and delivered throughout the community.
- Roughly half of the water pumped from the ground makes its way to the City's wastewater treatment plant (the majority of the remainder is used for irrigation).
- Water exiting the wastewater treatment plant then percolates back into the ground and recharges groundwater.
- Water in surface depressions, on plant life, waterbodies, and soli will evaporate. Plants also pass water vapor from tiny pores and leaves into the atmosphere. This process is known as evapotranspiration. This water will eventually fall from the sky in the form of precipitation completing the water cycle.



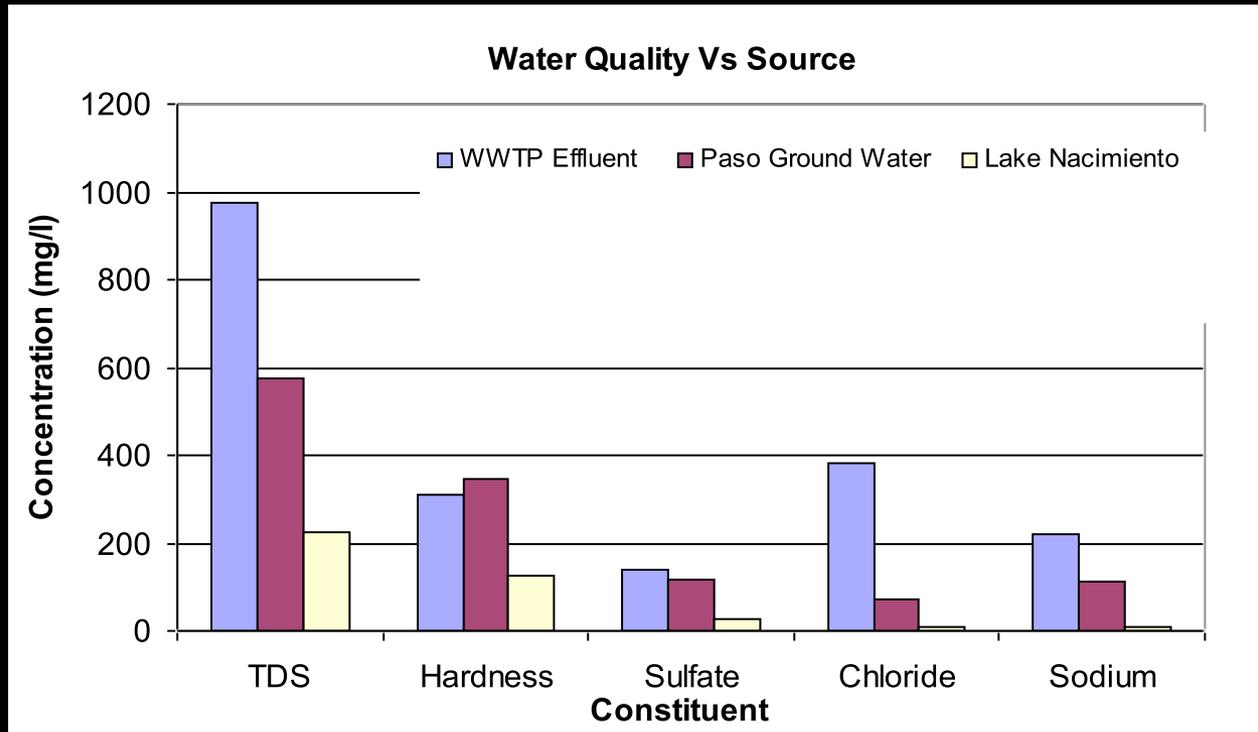
Groundwater Basin Decline

- When the amount of water that is being pumped from the ground exceeds the recharge, groundwater levels fall.
- The graphic below depicts how much City wells have been impacted due to excessive pumping since 1980. This magnitude of decline greatly reduces the quantity of water produced and results in lower quality water.
- It is becoming increasingly difficult for the City to maintain the current level of production (which already falls short during periods of hot weather) in the wake of falling groundwater levels.

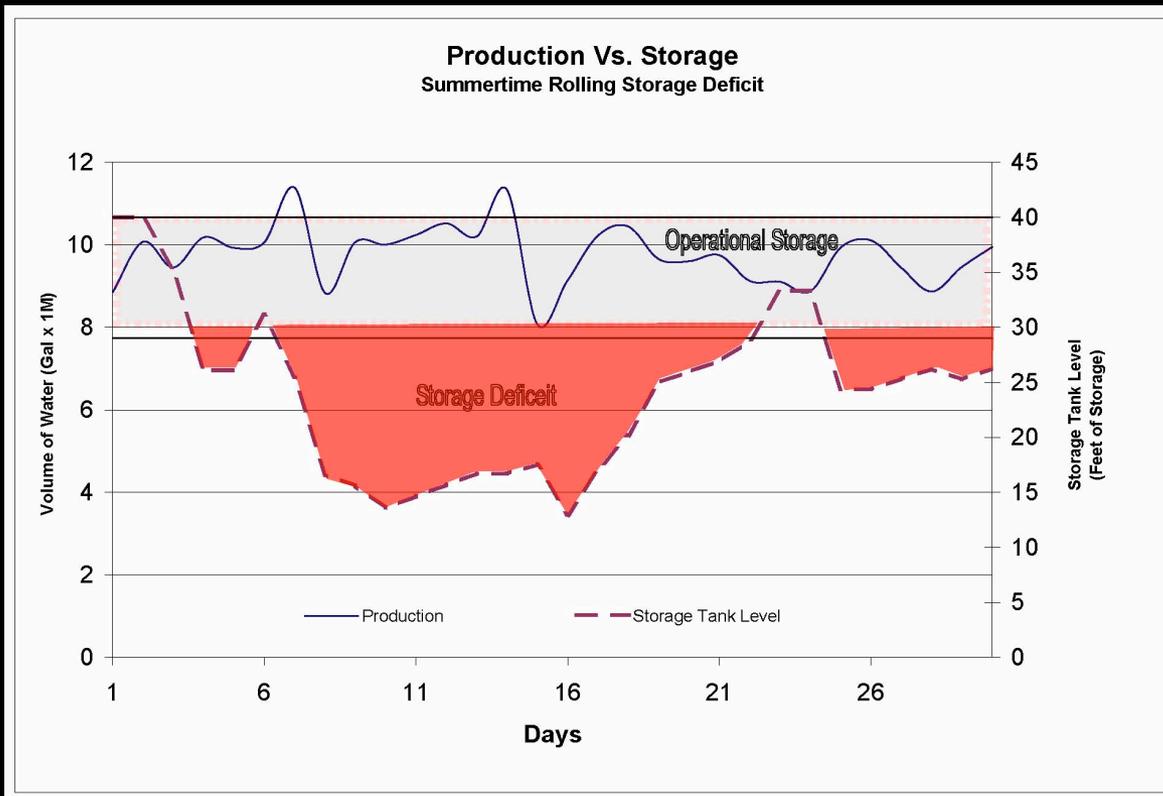


Water Quality Characteristics

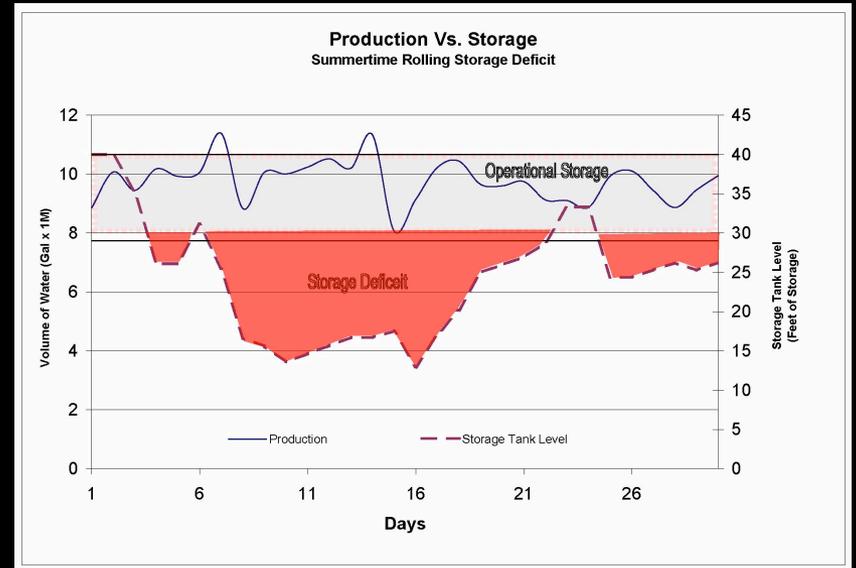
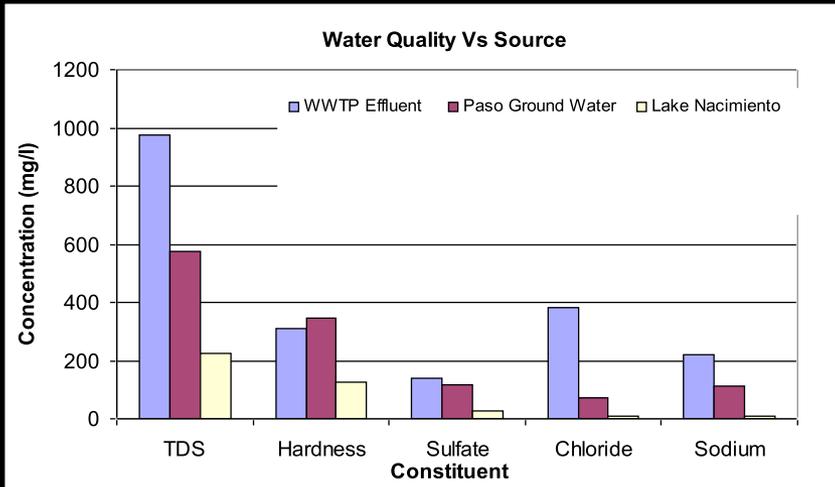
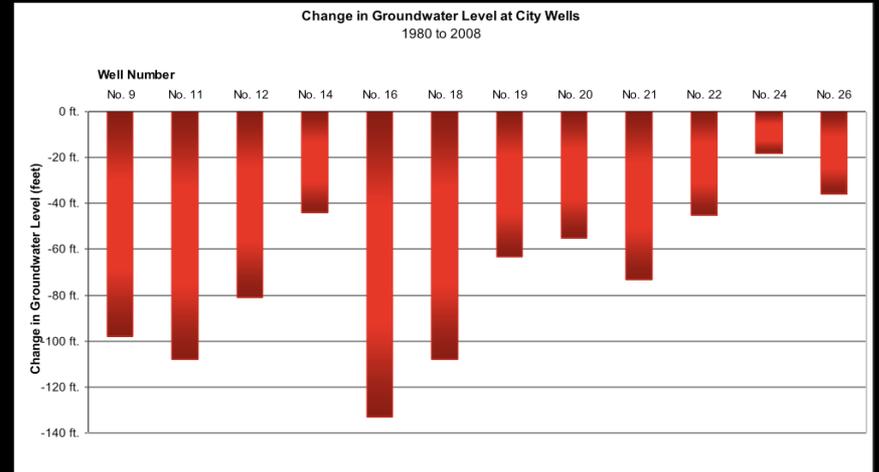
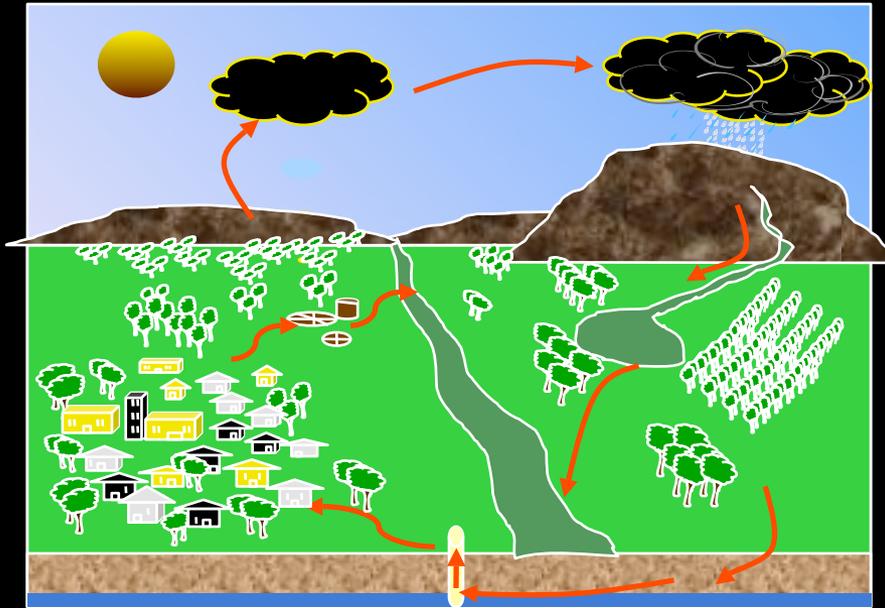
- Relatively hard water is pumped from the groundwater basin. As a result, the water is often treated with in-home water softeners.
- Industrial usage and in-home water softening greatly increase TDS, chloride, sulfate and sodium concentrations in the water. This increases the overall “salt loading” into the groundwater basin and degrades water quality over time.
- Nacimiento Water has low concentrations of hardness and salts and will improve the overall quality of the water that is delivered to City residents, as well as the water that leaves the wastewater treatment plant and is percolated back into the groundwater.



Production Shortfalls Result in Storage Deficits



- “Operational” storage is the tank volume allocated for normal water system operations.
- “Emergency and Fire-Flow” storage make up the remainder of the storage in our tanks. This allocated water is essential in maintaining a system capable of providing for the health and safety of City residents.
- Summertime demands often significantly exceed the current water system’s production capability, creating significant storage deficits. These deficits limit the City’s ability to provide water to residents in the event of a fire or other water emergency.



Paso Robles Water

(There is a Solution)

- **Luckily community leaders identified the pending need and began the arduous process of securing an extremely reliable and high quality water source over fifteen years ago.**
- **Nacimiento water will help relieve stress placed on the groundwater basin.**
- **Nacimiento water will satisfy summertime demands and allow the City to maintain adequate stores of water for emergency use.**
- **Nacimiento water will improve the quality of the water we put back into the ground, helping to preserve our water resources for our children and grandchildren.**
- **Nacimiento will provide the City with a new, fully independent source of water that is not impacted by local groundwater declines.**
- **Nacimiento water will be owned by the City, and can not be taken away.**