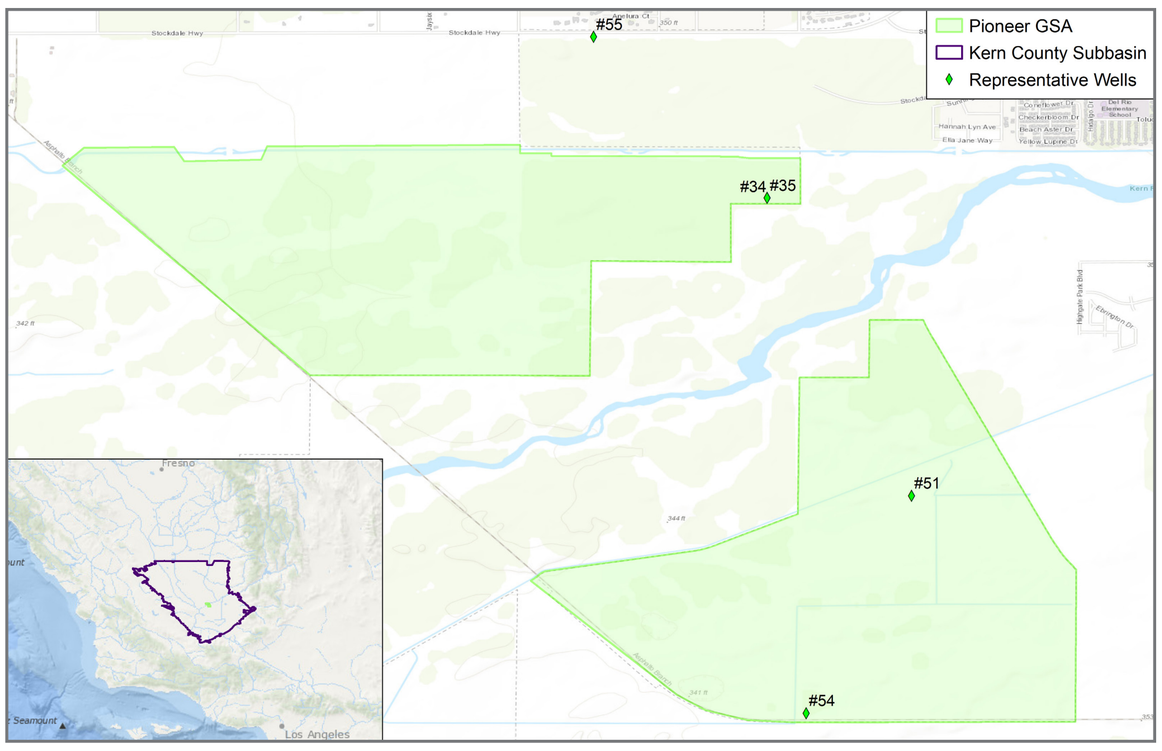
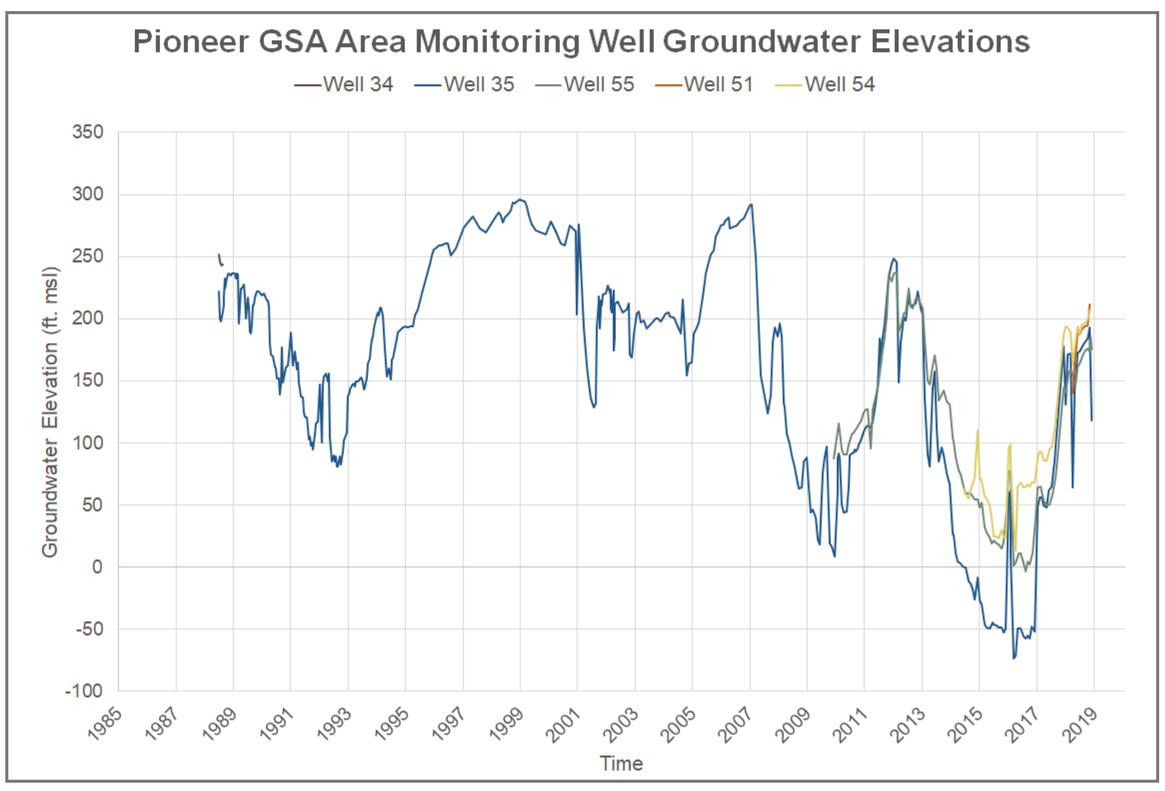
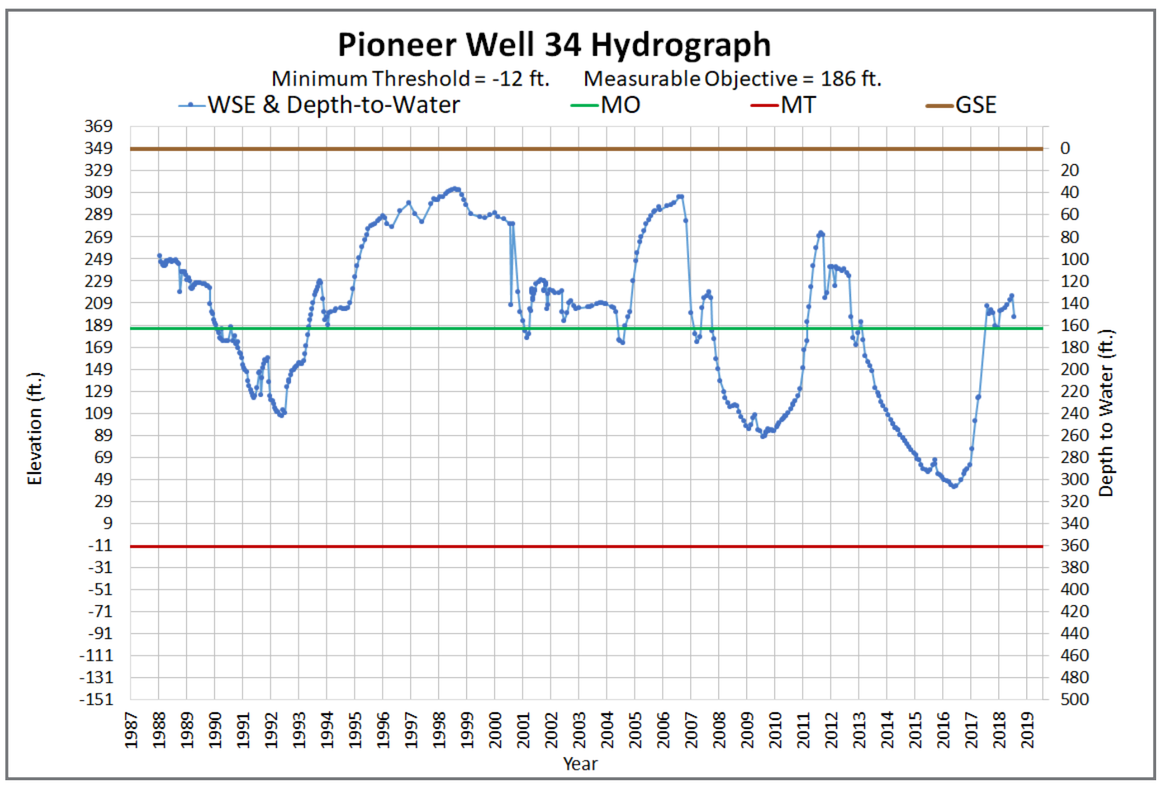
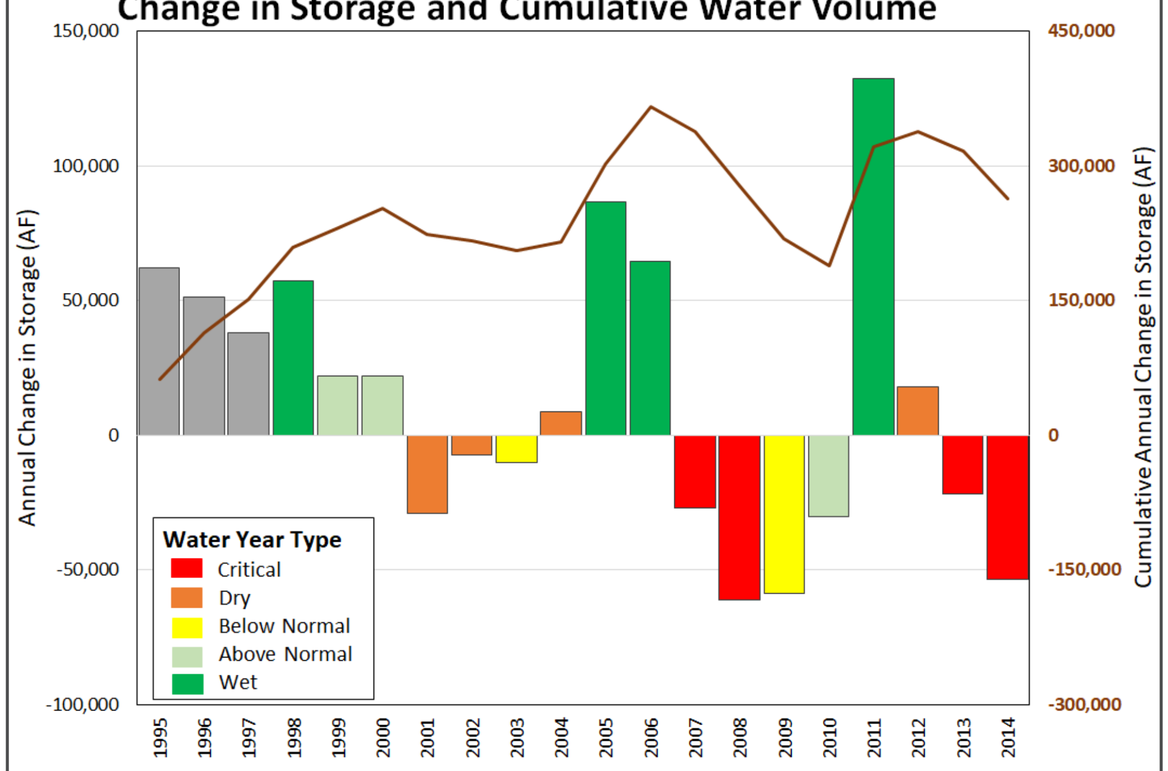
PIONEER

Groundwater Sustainability Agency









Responsible Stewardship

The Pioneer Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) is committed to responsible stewardship of groundwater in the Kern County Subbasin. Responsible stewardship of groundwater in the Pioneer GSA primarily consists of coordination, monitoring, and balanced imported supplies.

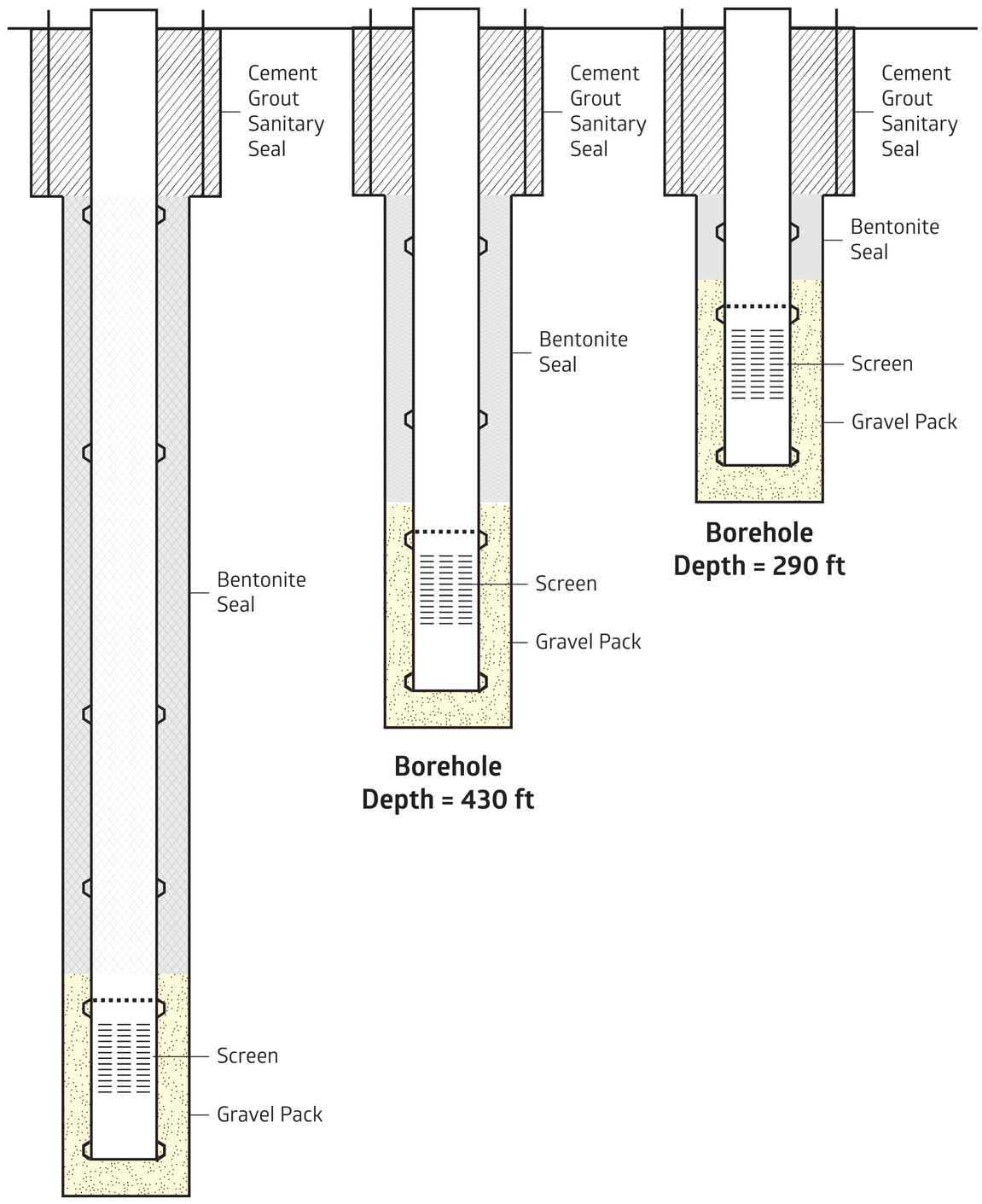
The Pioneer GSA coordinates management directly with its neighbors, including the Kern Water Bank, Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, and the Kern River GSA, as well as continuing membership in the Kern Groundwater Authority (KGA).

Groundwater monitoring is a key component of sustainability in the Pioneer GSA. By monitoring groundwater levels at multiple depths throughout the GSA, the Pioneer GSA can identify if overdraft conditions are occurring. Pioneer GSA has five dedicated monitoring wells, and is currently installing a new cluster of monitoring wells to improve monitoring coverage. Pioneer GSA water quality is monitored regularly as it enters the California Aqueduct during Pump-In operations. Water quality is also measured during regular sampling at the individual well sites.

The Pioneer GSA imports surface water into the GSA area for recharge into the subsurface using percolation ponds. The Pioneer GSA has imported 601,920 AF over the last 20 years, and recovered 338,658 AF over the same period, and when combined with other assets and transfers has resulted in an increase of water in storage by 200,988 AF.

Management Actions and Descriptions

The Pioneer GSA has identified a number of projects and management actions to maintain sustainability in the GSA:

- Ongoing coordination with neighbors, the KGA, and the Kern River GSA
- Expansion of the monitoring network to provide groundwater level monitoring that spatially covers the GSA. This includes the current installation of a dedicated multi-ple completion monitoring well in the northwest portion of the GSA
- Annual reporting and five year updates
- Continued balance of pumping and recharge

Three Clustered Monitoring Wells Diagram