



# CITY OF RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES Groundwater Atlas

# 2021



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CITY OF RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES  
Groundwater Atlas

2021









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# INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Groundwater Atlas is to report the water quality and quantity conditions of the groundwater basins that provide potable and non-potable water supplies to Riverside Public Utilities' (RPU) customers. This Atlas will support RPU's groundwater management strategies and activities related to managing water supplies in a sustainable and resilient manner.

RPU provides potable water, non-potable water, and recycled water to the City of Riverside (City). RPU currently serves water to a population of about 307,000 people through approximately 69,200 service connections within a service area of 75 square miles. In addition, RPU also provides surplus potable and non-potable water to Western Municipal Water District, which serves City residents outside of the RPU service area. A small amount of potable water is also supplied to the City of Norco via a wholesale agreement. Since 2009, all of the City's potable water demand has been supplied solely from local groundwater rights as established by the court's Western-San Bernardino 1969 Judgment.

The condition of the groundwater basins is dynamic and influenced by activities and changes outside of RPU's control, including groundwater contamination from past agricultural, industrial, and defense practices, natural variations in weather patterns, actions by other agencies, and evolving State and Federal regulations. These basins are shared with other water purveyors and their associated

water infrastructure, including well fields, groundwater recharge facilities, and wastewater treatment plants. The operation of these facilities combined with regional hydrologic variance adds to the complexity of managing these resources. This underscores the importance of remaining engaged at both the local and regional levels and for RPU staff to track annual changes in groundwater basins to ensure an adequate and sustainable water supply is available for current and future generations. All data updated in this 2021 Groundwater Atlas was generated from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

This 2021 Groundwater Atlas illustrates the current condition of the groundwater basins with respect to hydrology, production, recharge, groundwater levels, and groundwater quality. The purpose of this Groundwater Atlas is to:

- Characterize groundwater basin conditions and how they change over time.
- Provide readable and reliable data to customers, elected officials, executive management, and staff.
- Provide information and analysis to RPU staff for use in managing the City's water supply.
- Protect RPU's strong water supply position and financial stability.





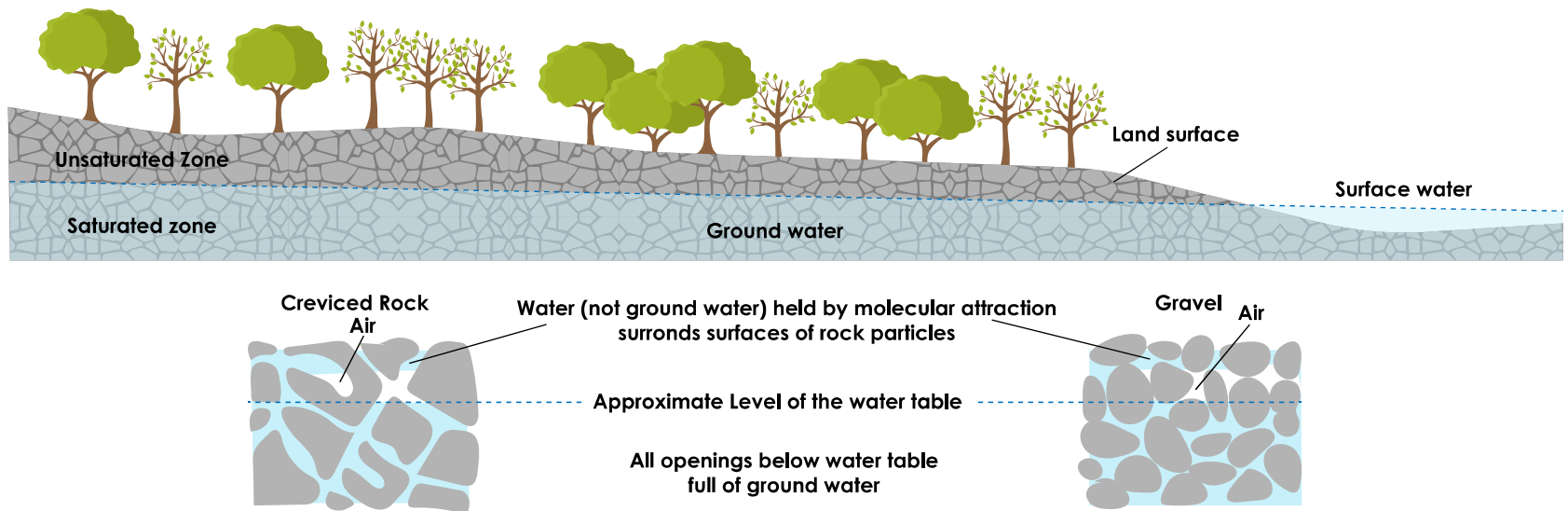
*City of Riverside Skyline.*



# ABOUT OUR GROUNDWATER BASINS

The City of Riverside was developed around the once prolific water supply of the Santa Ana River. Our groundwater basins are highly influenced by the tectonic forces of the San Andreas and San Jacinto faults. The San Jacinto fault limits the movement of groundwater and forces shallow groundwater to the surface. The San Jacinto Fault in conjunction with semi-confining clay zones helped to pressurize portions of the groundwater beneath the City of San Bernardino. As the surface waters of the Santa Ana River diminished from weather patterns and development in the region from the late 1800s, RPU took advantage of the seismically-influenced groundwater basins to drill and construct artesian wells. The artesian wells acted as a conduit, allowing pressurized water to escape freely from the ground. As these pressures and high groundwater levels decreased in the early 1900s, RPU began equipping these groundwater wells with pumps. Today, groundwater levels and pressures have subsided to some of the lowest levels in recent times. However, the aquifer remains a prolific and productive source for local groundwater.

RPU's water supplies come from groundwater basins consisting of underground geologic formations called aquifers that are fed by rain and snow melting in the San Bernardino Mountains and local foothills and is illustrated in the graphic below. RPU produces water from four groundwater basins adjacent to the Santa Ana River including the San Bernardino, Rialto-Colton, Riverside North and Riverside South Basins as shown in the figure on the adjacent page. Over the years, RPU has constructed facilities that have allowed for wise utilization of groundwater resources to become completely independent of imported water supplies.

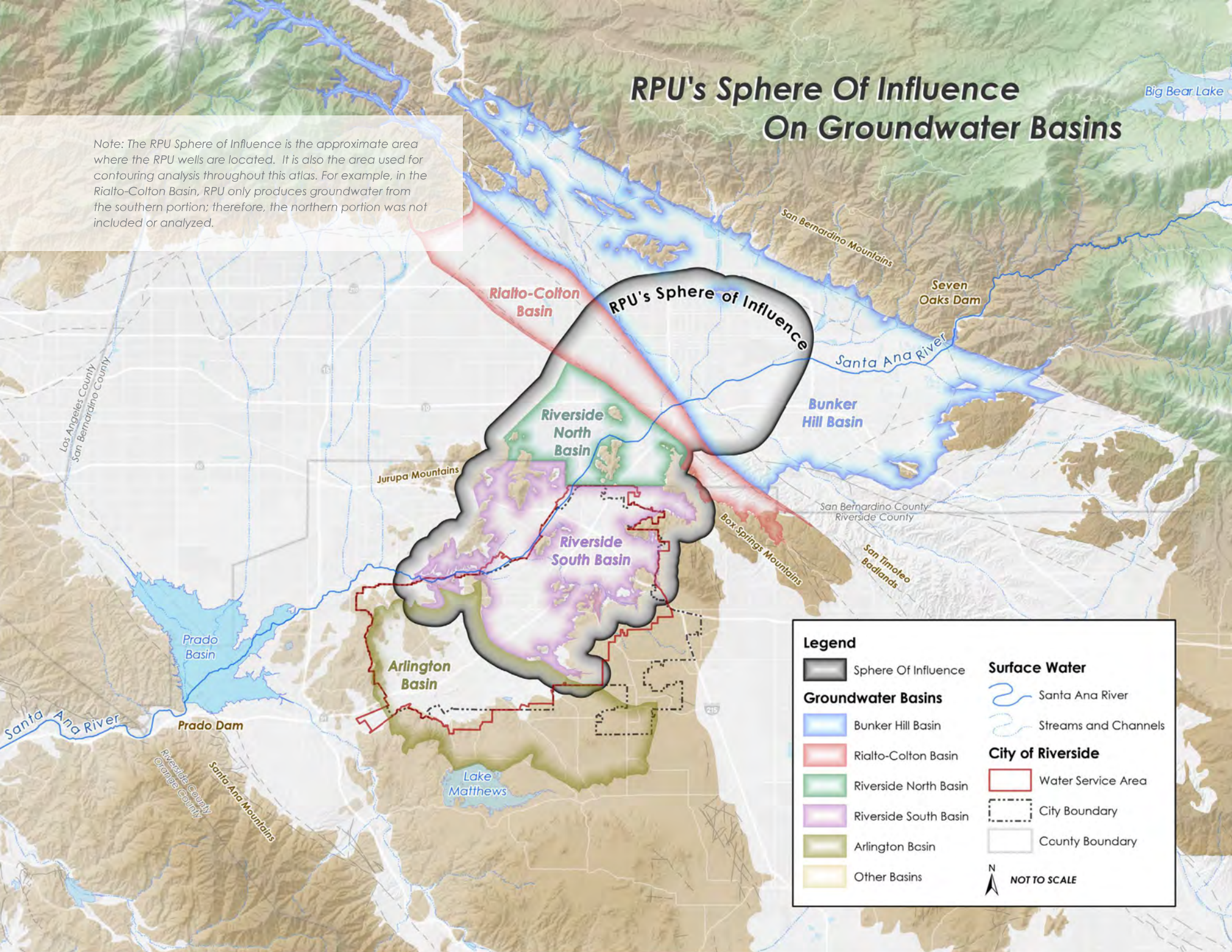




# RPU's Sphere Of Influence On Groundwater Basins

Big Bear Lake

Note: The RPU Sphere of Influence is the approximate area where the RPU wells are located. It is also the area used for contouring analysis throughout this atlas. For example, in the Rialto-Colton Basin, RPU only produces groundwater from the southern portion; therefore, the northern portion was not included or analyzed.



Legend			
	Sphere Of Influence		
<b>Groundwater Basins</b>	<b>Surface Water</b>		
	Bunker Hill Basin		Santa Ana River
	Rialto-Colton Basin		Streams and Channels
	Riverside North Basin	<b>City of Riverside</b>	
	Riverside South Basin		Water Service Area
	Arlington Basin		City Boundary
	Other Basins		County Boundary
			N
			NOT TO SCALE





Enhanced Recharge on the Santa Ana River





1

# HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS

# 1

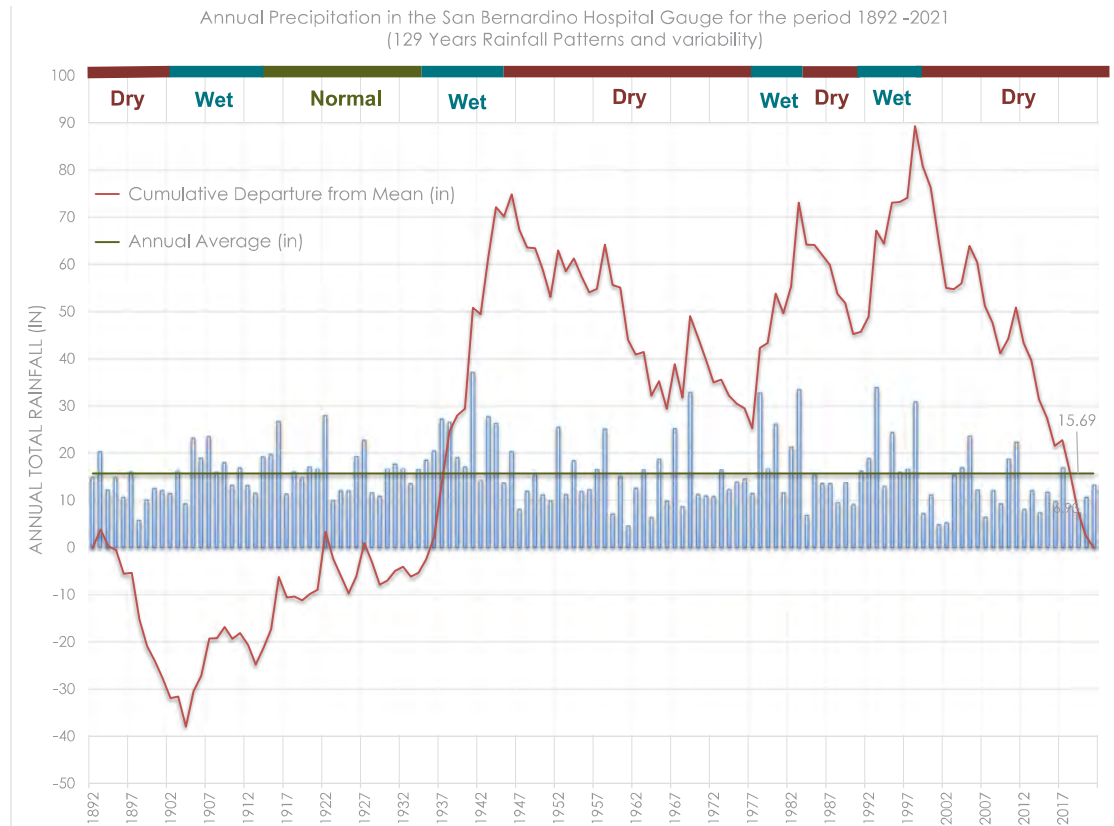
## HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS

**Both regional and local hydrologic conditions vary year to year and understanding the relationships between meteorological, surface water, groundwater, and biological factors that influence the flow, quality, and recharge of water in a groundwater basin is important and can have significant impacts on local water supplies.**

RPU participates in monitoring the hydrologic conditions of the region through measurements of precipitation and flow in the Santa Ana River and its tributaries. The primary source of recharge to the groundwater basins is precipitation. The region uses a precipitation gage of San Bernardino County to characterize long-term meteorological conditions. The average annual rainfall over historical record was about 15.69 inches and 10.6 inches in the last 10 years (2011 – 2021) during an extended dry period. The following chart shows the cumulative departure from mean (CDFM) precipitation. The CDFM plot characterize the occurrence and magnitude of wet upward trend), dry (downward trend), and normal periods (flat trend). These trends are labeled at the top of the chart. The period from 1999 until 2021 shows a 23 year dry period with six wet years during this period.

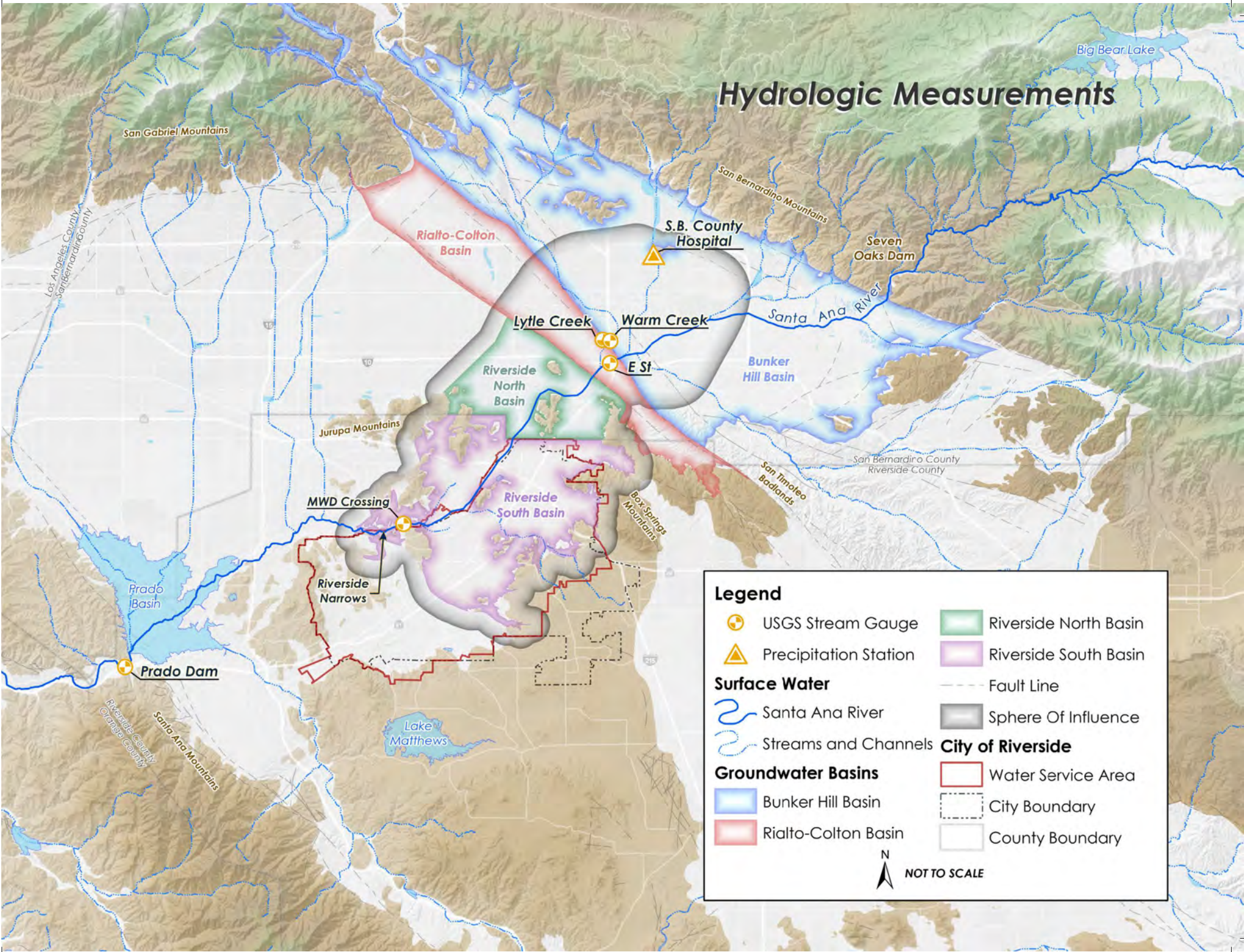
### Historical Annual Precipitation (San Bernardino County Hospital Gage)

San Bernardino's average annual precipitation over the last 129 years is 15.69 inches.









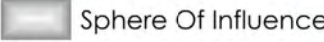


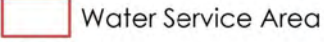
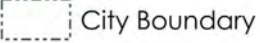
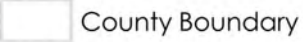




# Hydrologic Measurements



## Legend

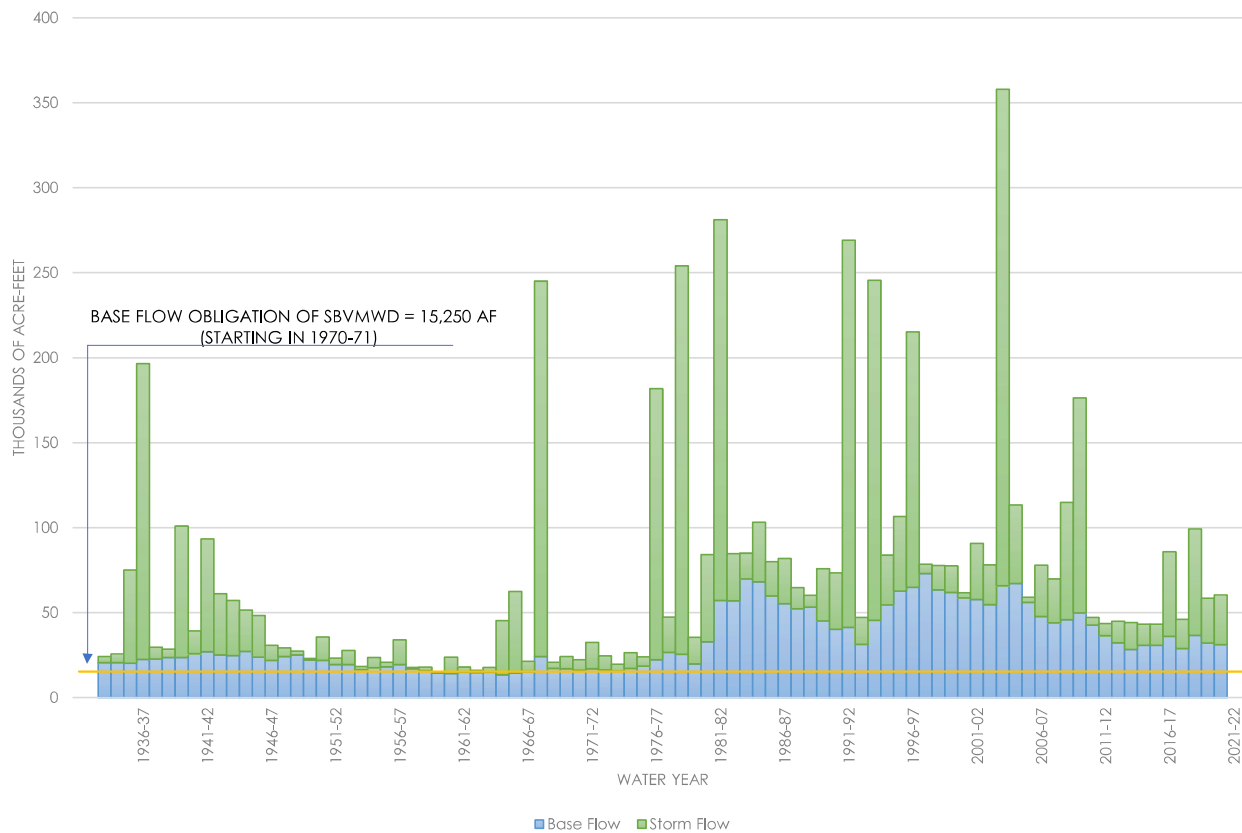
-  USGS Stream Gauge
-  Precipitation Station
-  Riverside North Basin
-  Riverside South Basin
-  Surface Water
-  Santa Ana River
-  Streams and Channels
-  Fault Line
-  Sphere Of Influence
- Groundwater Basins**
-  Bunker Hill Basin
-  Rialto-Colton Basin
-  Water Service Area
-  City Boundary
-  County Boundary

N  
NOT TO SCALE



The Santa Ana River Watermasters characterize the hydrology in the region by quantifying the flow in the Santa Ana River at Riverside Narrows, and RPU monitors the data. The flow is measured by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) at a gaging station named Santa Ana River at MWD Crossing (USGS-11066460) near the Riverside narrows. The chart below shows the annual time series of the baseflow and stormwater flow at the MWD Crossing station. Baseflow is the portion of streamflow that is sustained between precipitation events and primarily consists of effluent from municipal wastewater treatment plants located along the river as well as groundwater rising to the surface due to shallow bedrock. Minimum baseflow discharges were identified by water managers in the 1960s to ensure that everyone along the Santa Ana River had enough water supplies for beneficial uses. The data is utilized to measure compliance with water rights, ensuring that the Orange County agencies have the quantity and quality that was agreed to in the 1969 Judgment.

### Discharge of Santa Ana River at Riverside Narrows starting with 1934-35







*Santa Ana River looking downstream*





Gage Canal



A photograph of a dirt road, a utility pole, and palm trees under a clear blue sky. The utility pole is on the left side of the road, and there are palm trees in the background. The sky is clear and blue.

# 2

## GROUNDWATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT



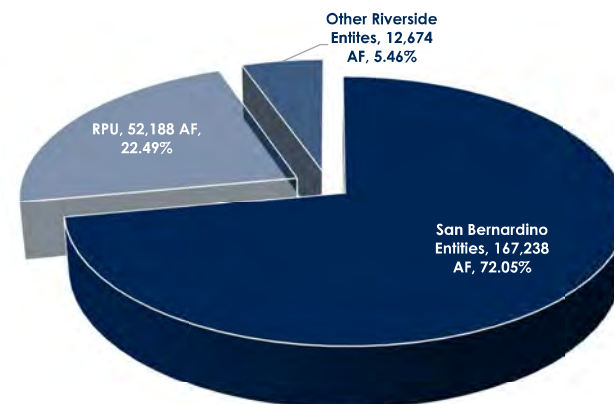
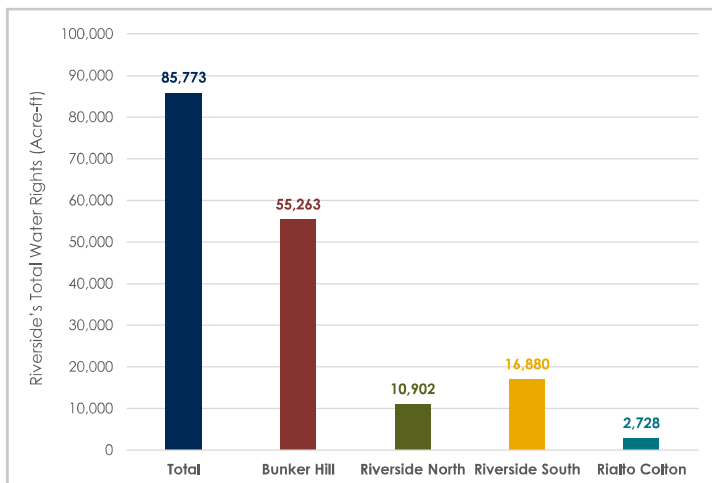
# 2

## GROUNDWATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

The City started developing water supplies from the region in the 1870s. Since this time, RPU and its customers/owners have continually improved its water conveyance system and have strategically and cost-effectively developed the City's water supply from key locations within the groundwater basins.

RPU has continued to keep its customers and decision-makers informed with the best available data and best management practices that have led to strong regional water rights and superior water quality by holding responsible parties accountable. The City actively defends its water rights, which were clearly defined "through the adjudication process of" the 1969 Judgment. RPU management maintains a close dialog with the Western-San Bernardino Watermaster to ensure groundwater compliance with the Judgment is maintained. As the groundwater conditions continue to change and new challenges emerge, RPU continues to assess the groundwater conditions and inform its customers and public representatives of the conditions and the best management practices to move the City forward with a reliable water supply portfolio of local water supplies. As a plaintiff party to the Western-San Bernardino Judgment, the City's total water right and base period production is 85,773 AF.

The City of Riverside Total Water Right and Base Period Production (in acre-feet) by Basin



The original division of water resources in the San Bernardino Basin Area.

Source: Physical Solution Western-San Bernardino Watermaster



# RPU Ground Water Extraction Or Export Rights

Area Name	Extraction or Export Rights
Bunker Hill	55,263 AFY
Rialto-Colton	2,728 AFY
Riverside North	16,880 AFY
Riverside South	10,902 AFY
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>85,773 AFY</b>

**Legend**

**Surface Water**

- Santa Ana River
- Streams and Channels

**RPU Groundwater Extraction Rights**

- Bunker Hill
- Rialto-Colton
- Riverside North
- Riverside South
- Arlington

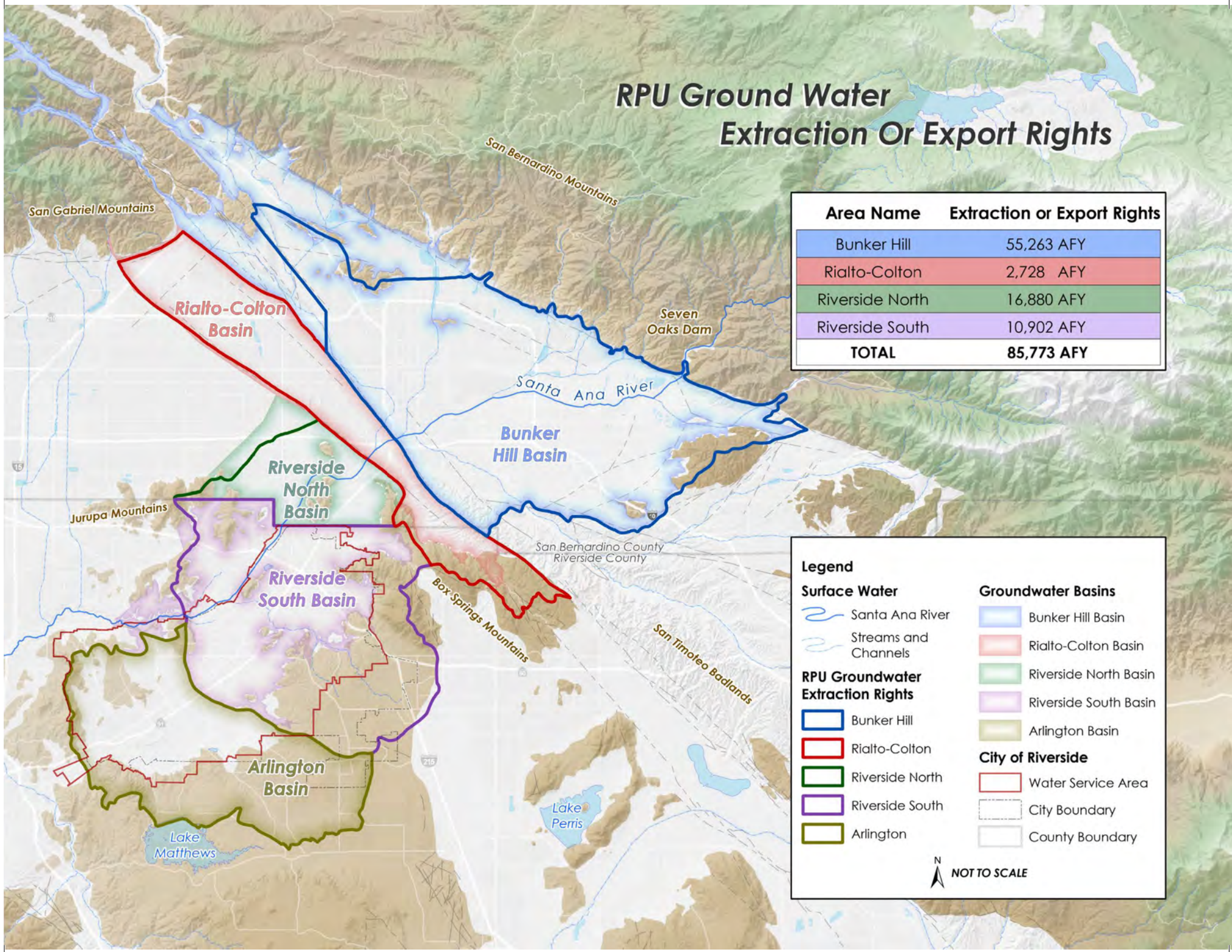
**Groundwater Basins**

- Bunker Hill Basin
- Rialto-Colton Basin
- Riverside North Basin
- Riverside South Basin
- Arlington Basin

**City of Riverside**

- Water Service Area
- City Boundary
- County Boundary

NOT TO SCALE







*Sets of new well wire wrap screen prior to installation into a borehole. The well screen provides a connection from the ground surface to the subsurface aquifers to extract water from the ground.*



3

# GROUNDWATER PRODUCTION



# 3

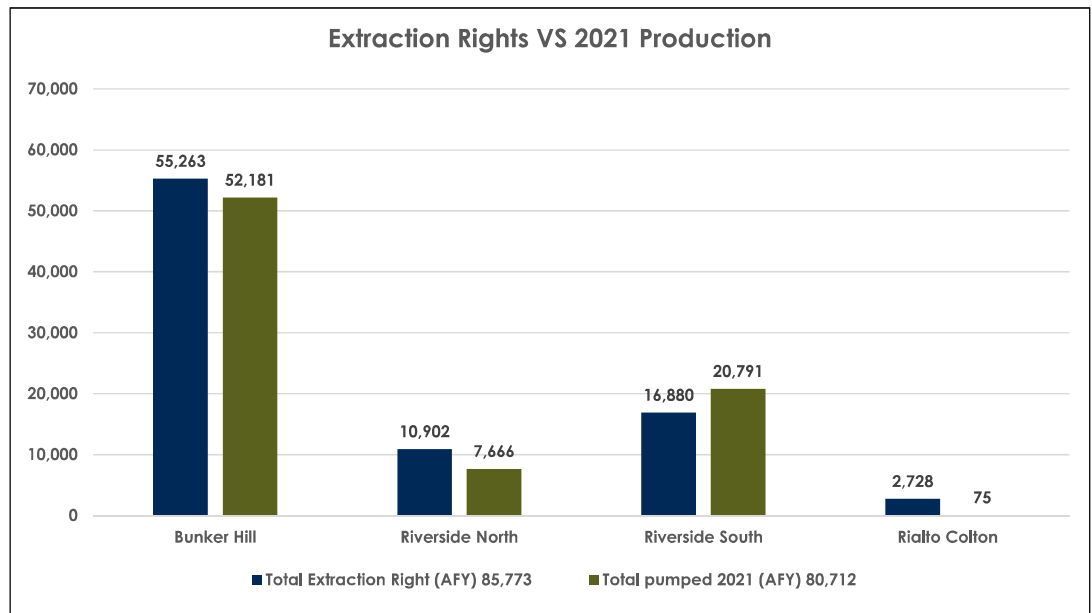
## GROUNDWATER PRODUCTION

**RPU has over 53 active wells located in five well fields that produce groundwater from the Bunker Hill, Rialto-Colton Basin, Riverside North, and Riverside South groundwater basins. The majority of groundwater is produced from the Waterman and Gage well field located in the Bunker Hill Basin.**

Groundwater extracted from the groundwater basins is conveyed via pipeline to RPU's potable or non-potable distribution system based on the well location and demand. Raw groundwater from all of RPU's wells receives some form of treatment prior to entering the potable distribution system. In 2021, RPU operated 46 active potable water wells and 7 active non-potable water wells, for a total of 53 active wells. In addition, a portion of the treated potable water produced along the Gage pipeline is used for irrigation purposes by Gage Canal Company (GCC) customers located within Riverside's "Greenbelt".

Since 2009, 100% of RPU's water supplies have mainly originated from the groundwater basins, Flume, Gage, North Orange, Rialto-Colton, and Waterman well fields. RPU's wells are generally located in the section of the basin with the greatest thickness of water-bearing layers in which 80,712 AF were pumped in 2021 under the City's water right and the rest 4,727 AF were wheeled to WMWD under their water right. Approximately 85,439 acre-feet, which equal to 27.84 billion gallons, of water were extracted from aquifers in 2021 to supply water to the RPU service area and wheeled water to WMWD. The Western-San Bernardino Watermaster prepares an annual report presenting groundwater production data, while the Santa Ana River Watermaster prepares an annual report on the surface water flows along the Santa Ana River. These annual Watermaster reports are issued and submitted to the court annually to comply with the 1969 Judgment, which set surface water and groundwater rights for the region.

### Groundwater Production by Basin in 2021



# Production By Basin

**Rialto-Colton Basin**  
1 Well: 75 AFY

**Riverside North Basin**  
7 Wells: 7,666 AFY

**Bunker Hill Basin**  
32 Wells: 52,181 AFY

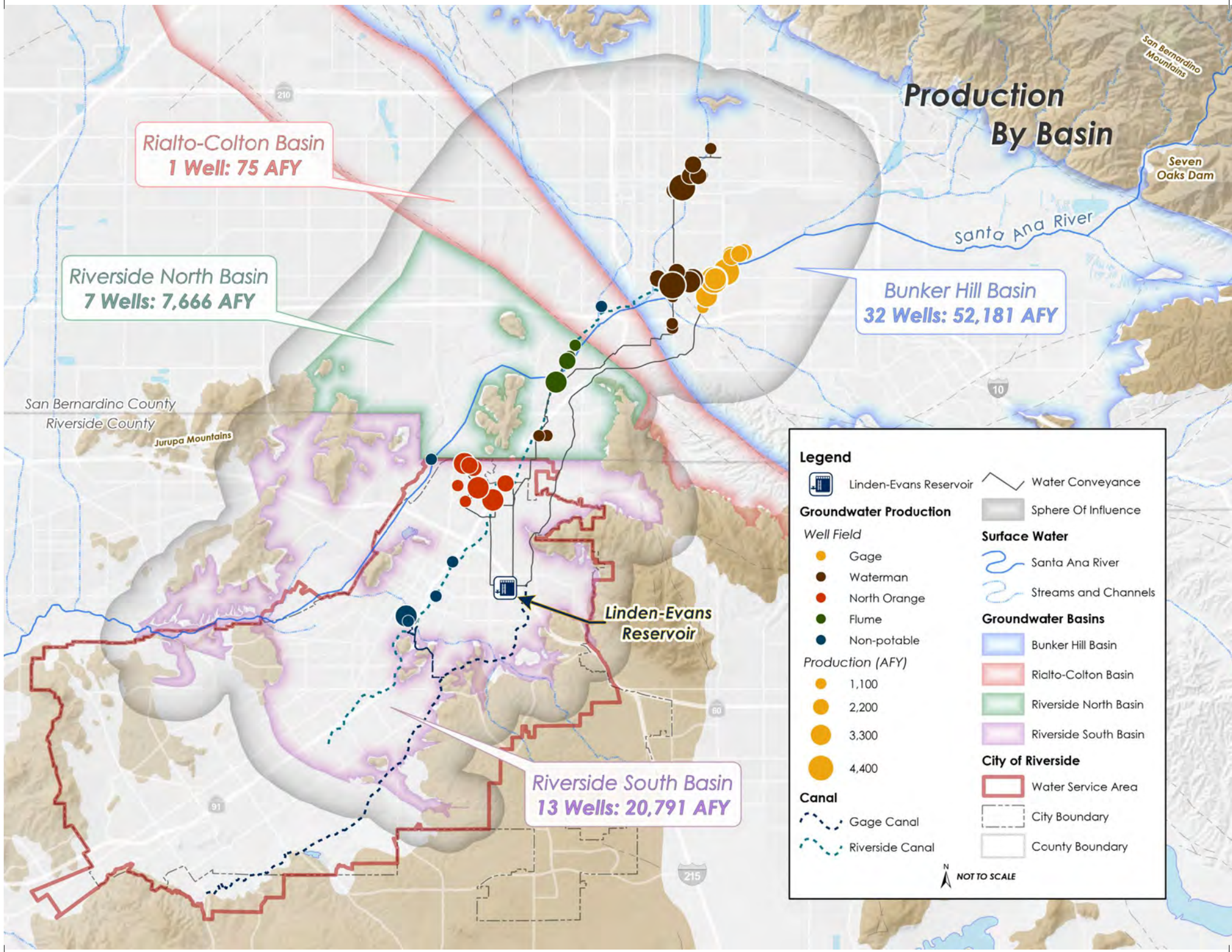
**Riverside South Basin**  
13 Wells: 20,791 AFY

Linden-Evans Reservoir

**Legend**

	Linden-Evans Reservoir		Water Conveyance
<b>Groundwater Production</b>			
<b>Well Field</b>			
	Gage		
	Waterman		
	North Orange		
	Flume		
	Non-potable		
<b>Production (AFY)</b>			
	1,100		
	2,200		
	3,300		
	4,400		
<b>Canal</b>			
	Gage Canal		
	Riverside Canal		
			<b>Surface Water</b>
			Santa Ana River
			Streams and Channels
<b>Groundwater Basins</b>			
	Bunker Hill Basin		
	Rialto-Colton Basin		
	Riverside North Basin		
	Riverside South Basin		
<b>City of Riverside</b>			
	Water Service Area		
	City Boundary		
	County Boundary		

NOT TO SCALE







Linden Reservoir





4

# GROUNDWATER FACILITIES



# 4

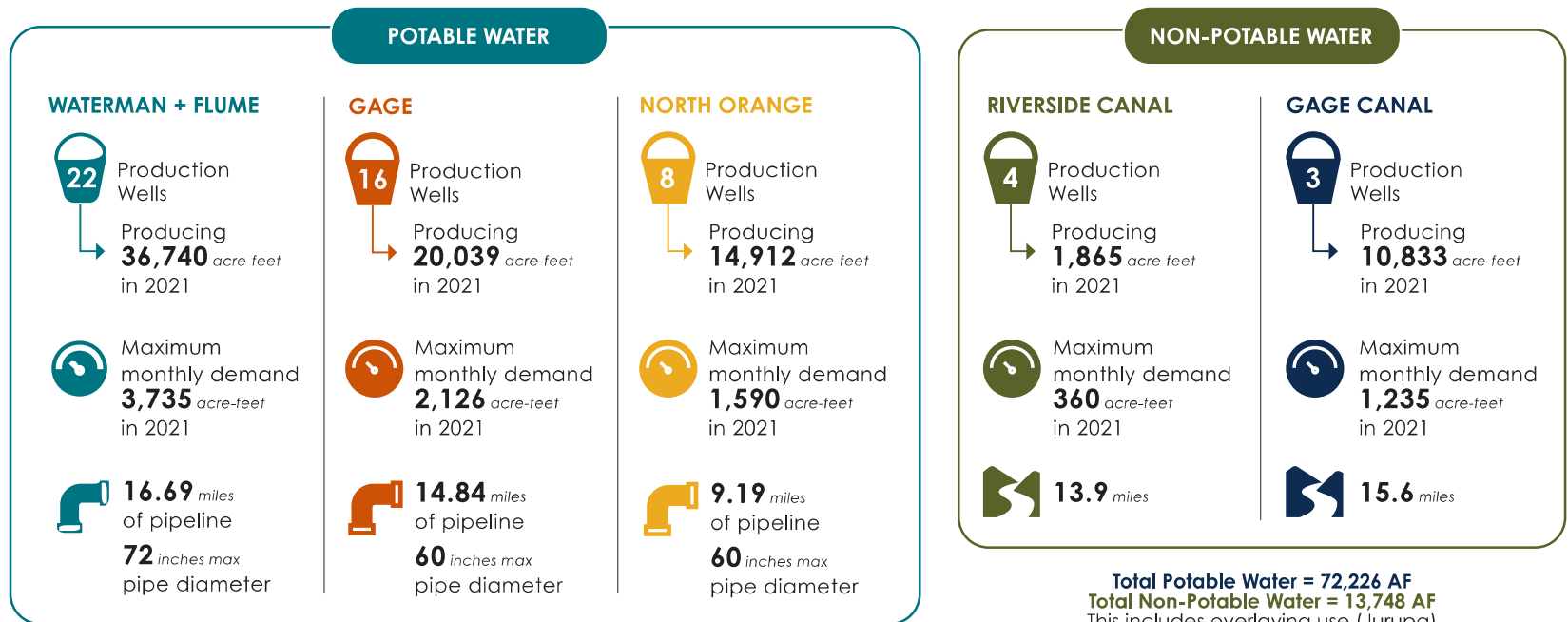
## GROUNDWATER FACILITIES

RPU has a vast network of conveyance facilities to deliver the groundwater produced from the basins to its customers through wells, treatment facilities, pipelines, reservoirs, and canals. RPU relies on these facilities and maintains them to ensure a reliable water supply throughout every season of the year.

Since 2009, all the City's water demand has been supplied mainly from local groundwater sources in the Bunker Hill and Riverside basins.

RPU's potable water is conveyed via the Waterman, Gage, and North Orange distribution main pipelines to RPU customers. RPU's non-potable water is delivered by the Riverside and the Gage Canal to the WMWD and GCC respectively. Reports are prepared annually presenting groundwater production data and water quality.

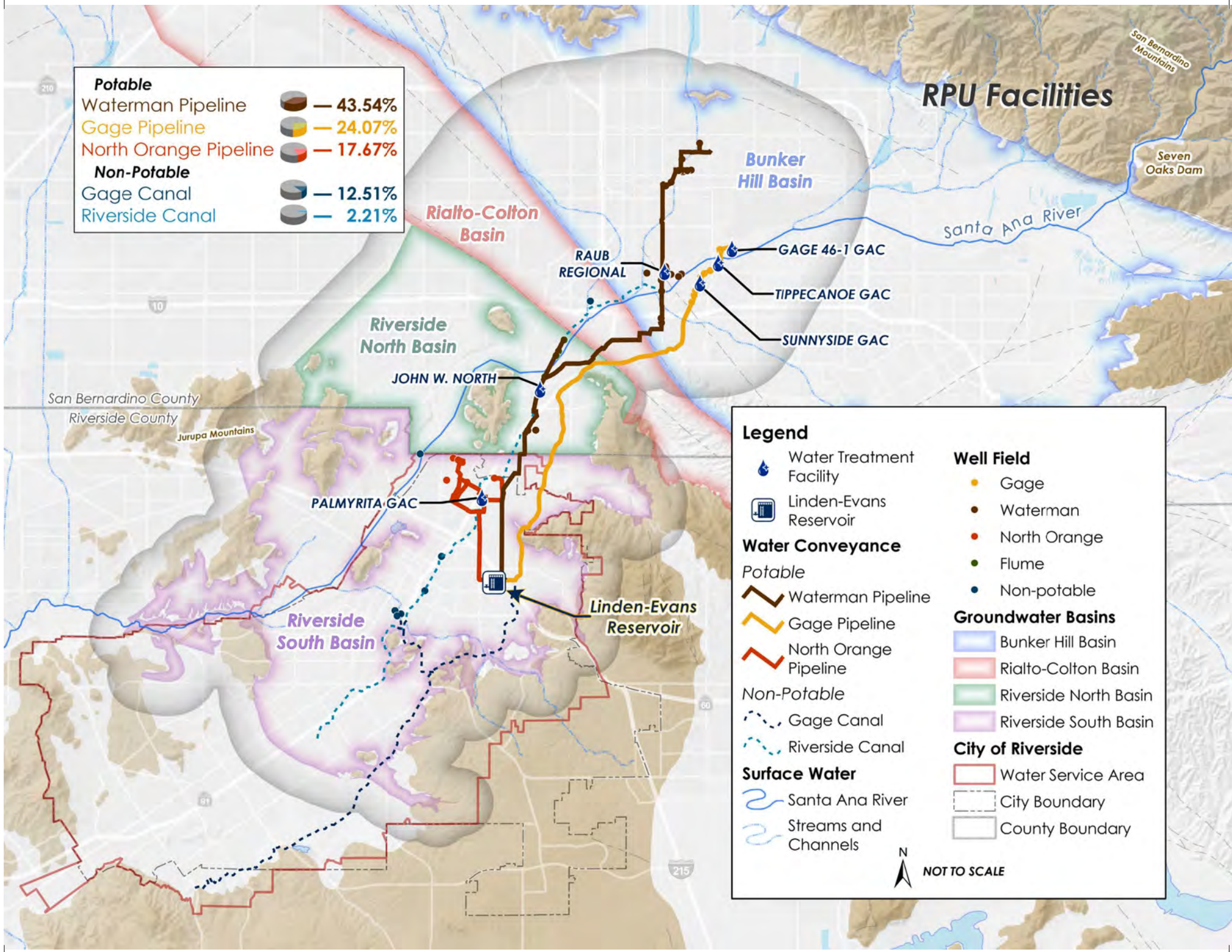
### Groundwater Well Production and Pipes





# RPU Facilities

<b>Potable</b>		
Waterman Pipeline		— 43.54%
Gage Pipeline		— 24.07%
North Orange Pipeline		— 17.67%
<b>Non-Potable</b>		
Gage Canal		— 12.51%
Riverside Canal		— 2.21%



**Legend**

- Water Treatment Facility
- Linden-Evans Reservoir
- Water Conveyance**
- Potable**
- Waterman Pipeline
- Gage Pipeline
- North Orange Pipeline
- Non-Potable**
- Gage Canal
- Riverside Canal
- Surface Water**
- Santa Ana River
- Streams and Channels
- Well Field**
- Gage
- Waterman
- North Orange
- Flume
- Non-potable
- Groundwater Basins**
- Bunker Hill Basin
- Rialto-Colton Basin
- Riverside North Basin
- Riverside South Basin
- City of Riverside**
- Water Service Area
- City Boundary
- County Boundary

**NOT TO SCALE**





Warren 4R Groundwater Well Project





5

# GROUNDWATER LEVELS

# 5

## GROUNDWATER LEVELS

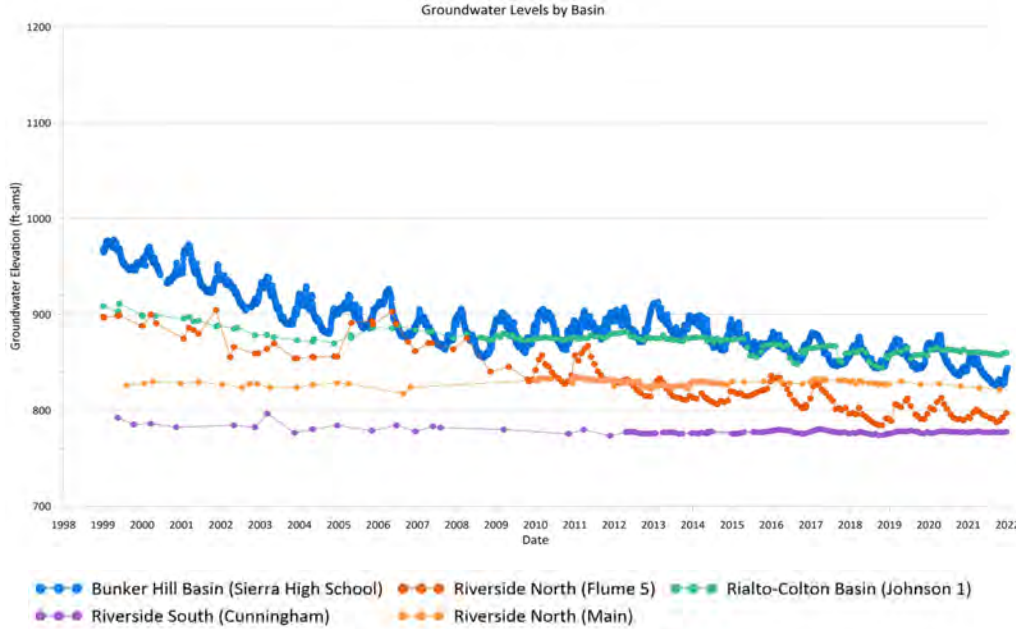
**Overall groundwater conditions—specifically water levels—are unique to each basin. Tracking water levels throughout a basin can be used to understand how water levels respond to varying conditions (i.e., drought, groundwater pumping, recharge). RPU routinely measures water levels from their wells and uses this data to evaluate both short- and long-term trends. By collecting and evaluating this data and understanding what is driving the changing conditions, RPU can be environmental stewards and better plan, work collaboratively with other local water agencies, and focus future investments to ensure a reliable groundwater supply for the future.**

In 2021, RPU obtained over 100 water level measurements to determine the depth-to-water, flow direction, and gradient of groundwater in each basin. Groundwater elevations are calculated by subtracting the water level measurement from the surface elevation at each well. This information is then compared to historical data to identify trends in recharge and groundwater usage. Groundwater elevations are also contoured to identify pumping depressions, flow directions, areas of higher gradient, or areas that may be lower at depths to groundwater than anticipated. Over the last 20 years, average groundwater elevations have dropped over 100 feet in the Bunker Hill Basin with some areas having 200 feet in groundwater elevation change.

This section displays a series of maps showing the groundwater levels in 2020 and 2021 and the change in groundwater levels from 2020 to 2021. To illustrate the change in groundwater levels over the last 10 years, corresponding to the most recent drought, groundwater elevation contours were generated for 2011 and 2021 and the change in water levels.



## Groundwater Levels by Basin



The figure above shows a time series of groundwater levels from representative wells located in Riverside's sphere of influence, overlying the groundwater basins from 1999 to the end of 2021. Each dot represents a groundwater level measurement and is plotted over time to identify trends. The chart shows how groundwater basins respond to hydrologic conditions and groundwater pumping. The groundwater levels in the Bunker Hill Basin represent a lowering trend of groundwater levels. For example, Sierra High School located in the Bunker Hill Basin shows groundwater level declines of about 5.6 ft/yr, Flume 5 located in the Riverside North Basin shows groundwater level declines of about 4.6 ft/yr, Johnson 1 located in the Rialto-Colton basin shows groundwater level declines of about 2.2 ft/yr, and Cunningham located in the Riverside South has been relatively stable with water level declines of less than 1 ft/yr over a 23-year time period.

## Rate of Groundwater Level Decline from 1999 to 2021 within RPU's Sphere of Influence



### BUNKER HILL

Decline of about 5.6 ft/yr



### RIALTO-COLTON

Decline of about 2.2 ft/yr



### RIVERSIDE NORTH

Decline of about 4.6 ft/yr

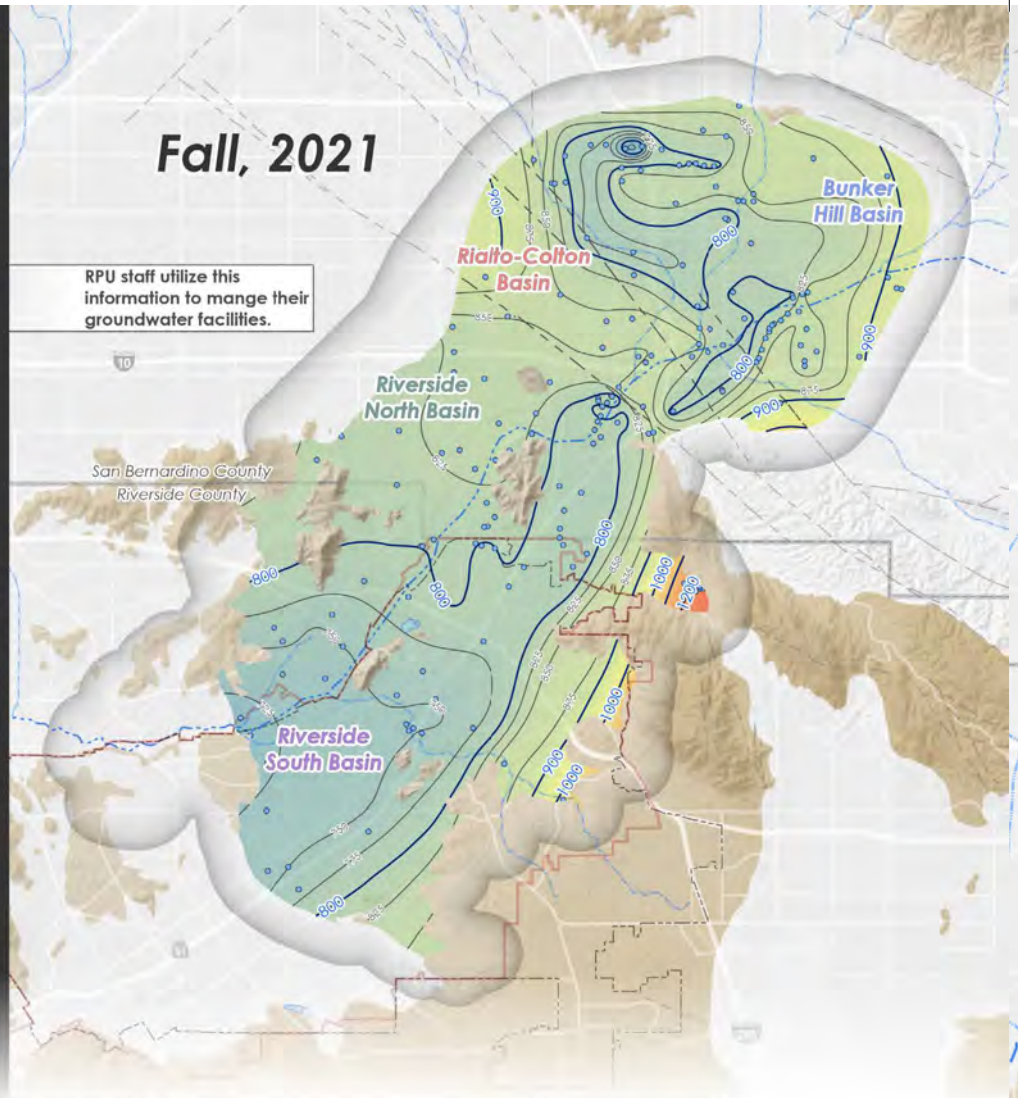
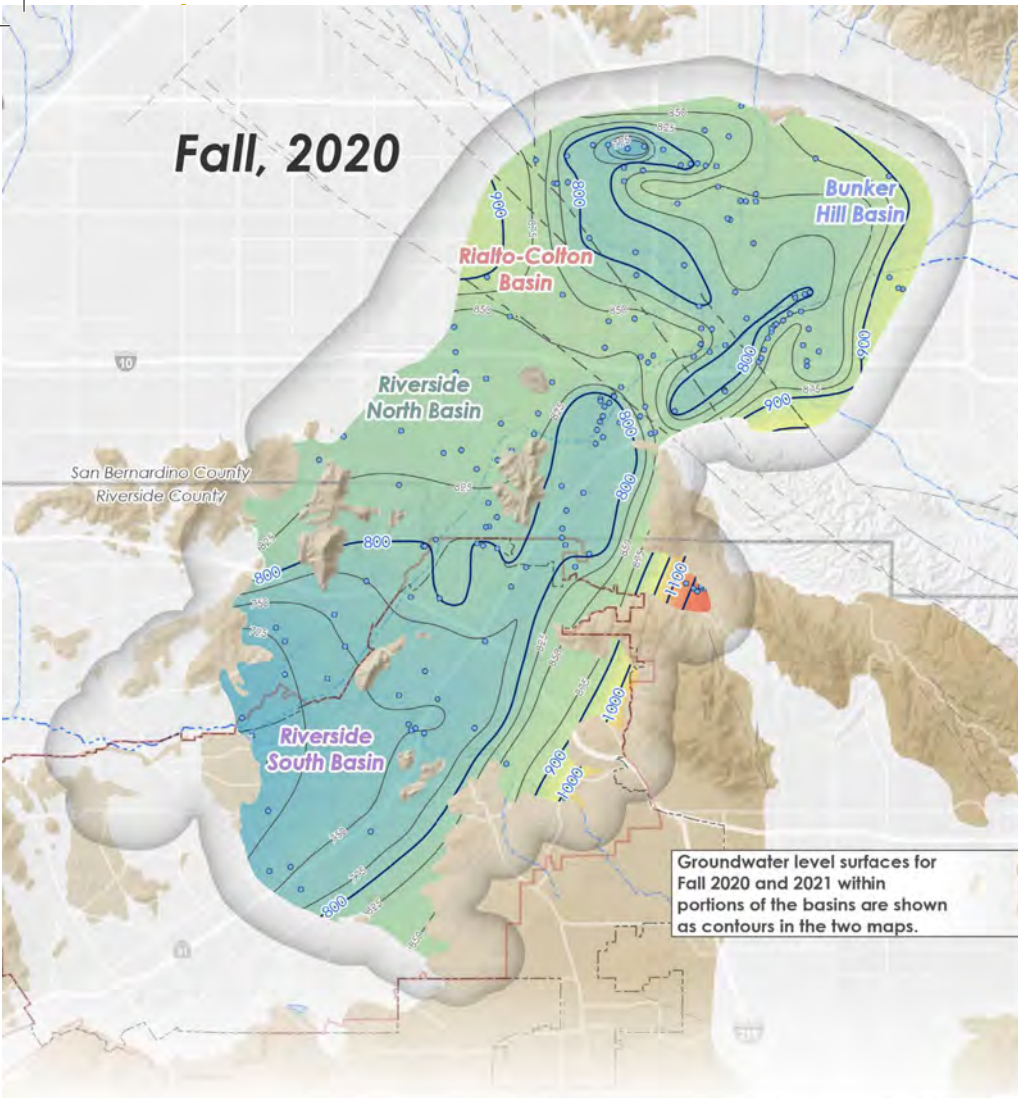


### RIVERSIDE SOUTH

Decline of about 0.7 ft/yr

Fall, 2020

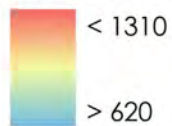
Fall, 2021



### 1-Year Change (Water Level)

#### Groundwater Elevation (ft-amsl)

(feet above mean sea level)



#### Surface Water

- Santa Ana River
- Streams and Channels

#### Groundwater Levels

- Groundwater Elevation Point (Regional Wells)
- Groundwater Elevation Contour (25 ft-amsl)
- Groundwater Elevation Contour (100 ft-amsl)

- Fault Line
- Sphere Of Influence
- City of Riverside**
- Water Service Area
- City Boundary
- County Boundary



NOT TO SCALE

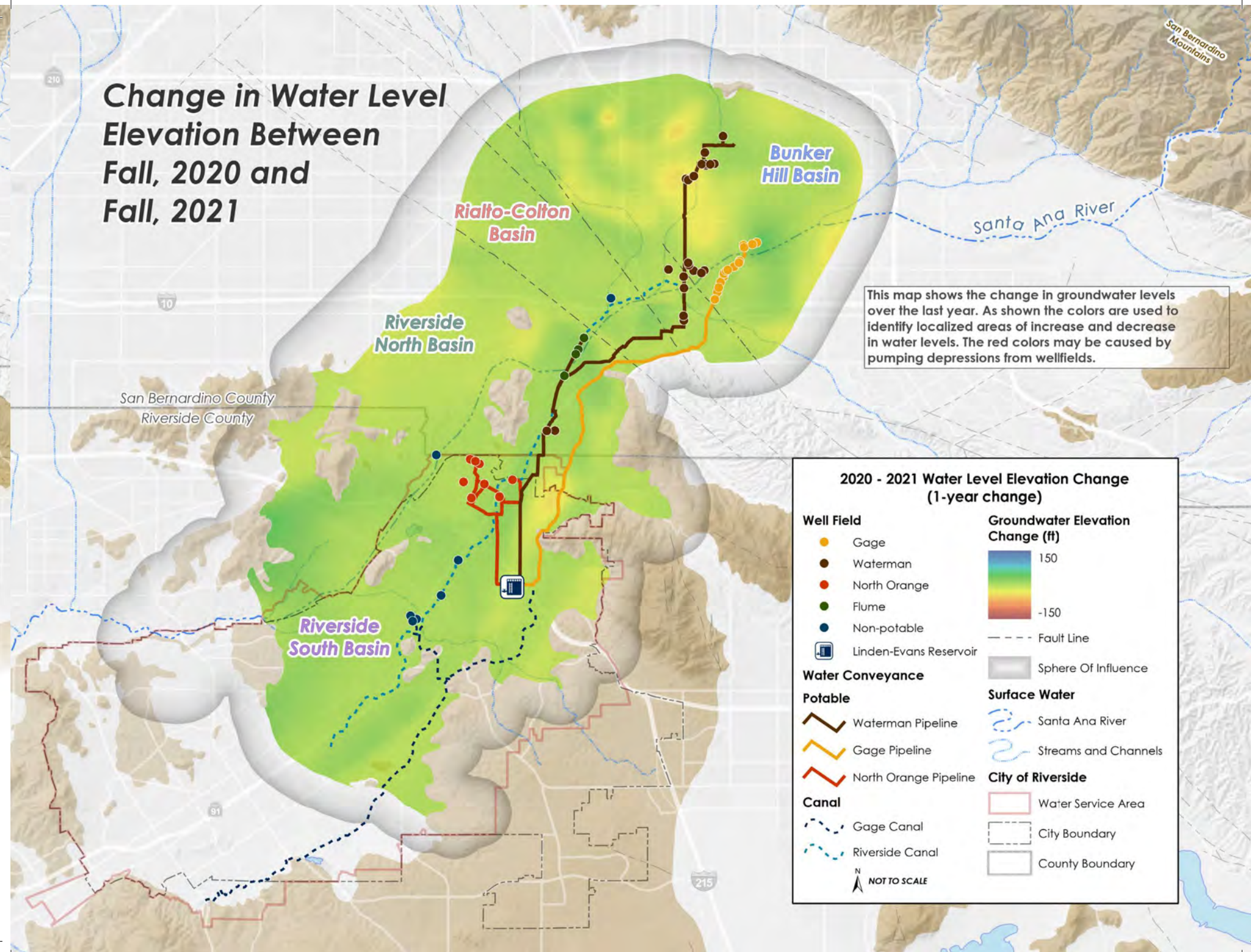


# Change in Water Level Elevation Between Fall, 2020 and Fall, 2021

This map shows the change in groundwater levels over the last year. As shown the colors are used to identify localized areas of increase and decrease in water levels. The red colors may be caused by pumping depressions from wellfields.

**2020 - 2021 Water Level Elevation Change (1-year change)**

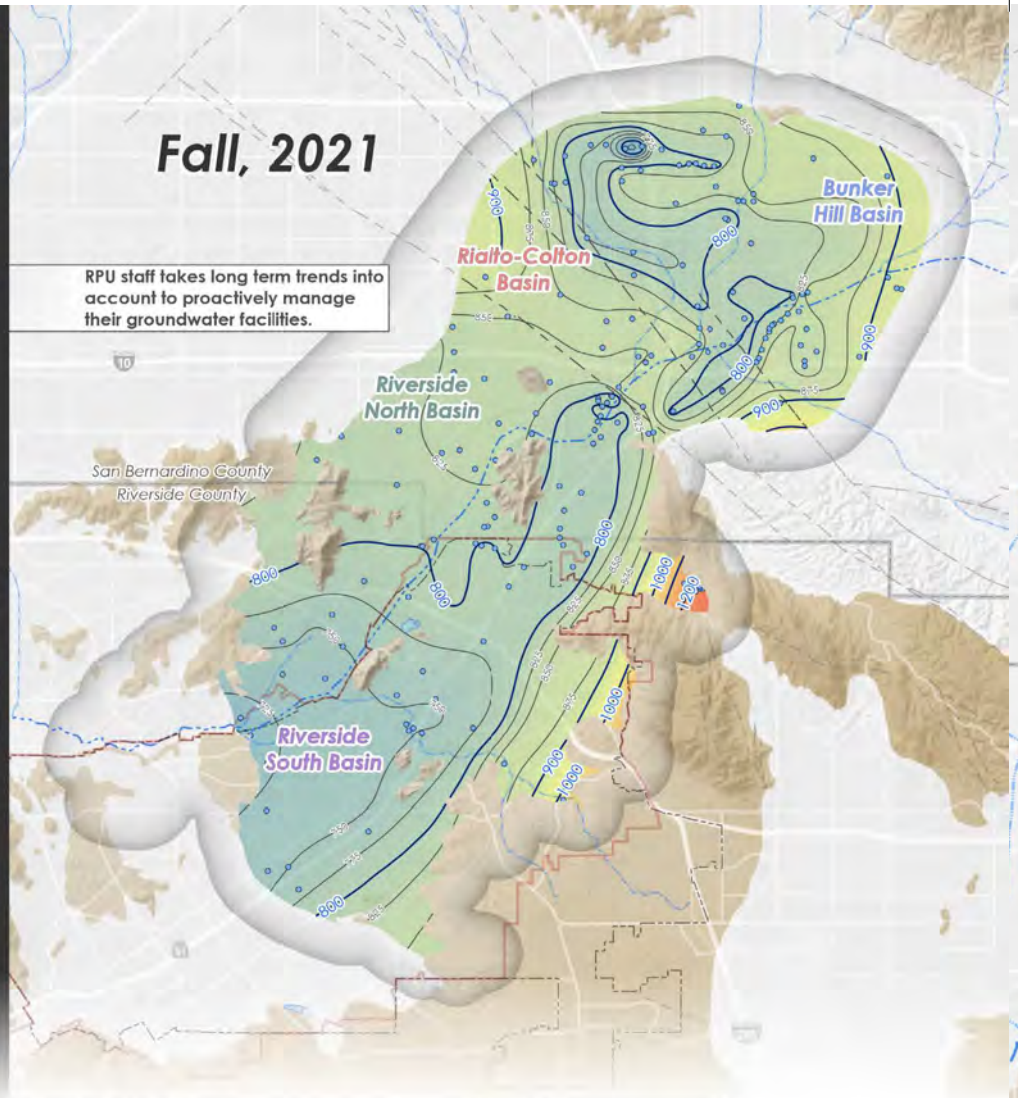
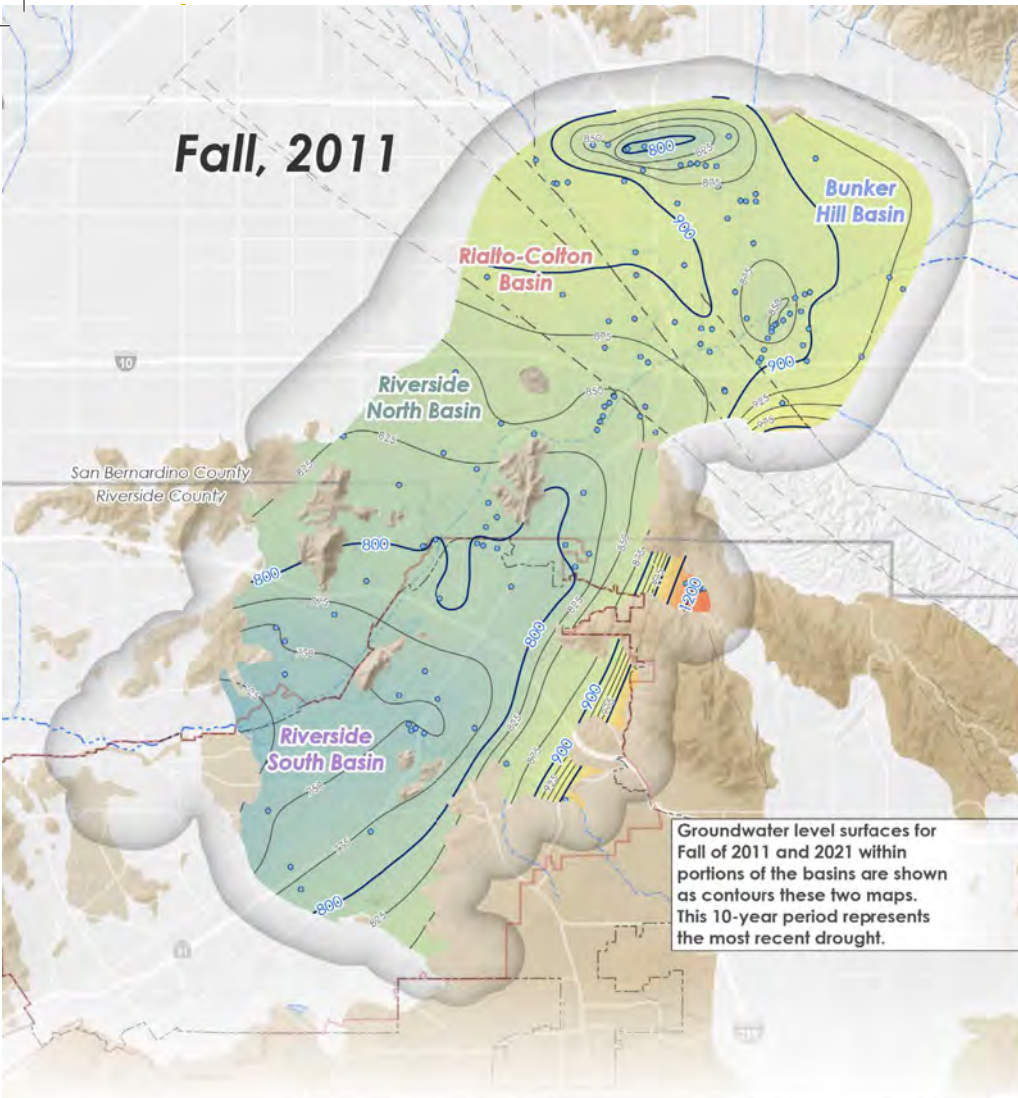
<b>Well Field</b>	<b>Groundwater Elevation Change (ft)</b>
Gage	150
Waterman	-150
North Orange	---
Flume	---
Non-potable	---
Linden-Evans Reservoir	---
<b>Water Conveyance</b>	---
<b>Potable</b>	<b>Surface Water</b>
Waterman Pipeline	Santa Ana River
Gage Pipeline	Streams and Channels
North Orange Pipeline	<b>City of Riverside</b>
<b>Canal</b>	Water Service Area
Gage Canal	City Boundary
Riverside Canal	County Boundary
NOT TO SCALE	





Fall, 2011

Fall, 2021



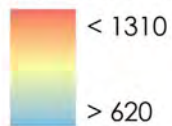
Groundwater level surfaces for Fall of 2011 and 2021 within portions of the basins are shown as contours these two maps. This 10-year period represents the most recent drought.

RPU staff takes long term trends into account to proactively manage their groundwater facilities.

**10-Year Change (Water Level)**

**Groundwater Elevation (ft-amsl)**

(feet above mean sea level)



**Surface Water**

- Santa Ana River
- Streams and Channels

**Groundwater Levels**

- Groundwater Elevation Point (Regional Wells)
- Groundwater Elevation Contour (25 ft-amsl)
- Groundwater Elevation Contour (100 ft-amsl)

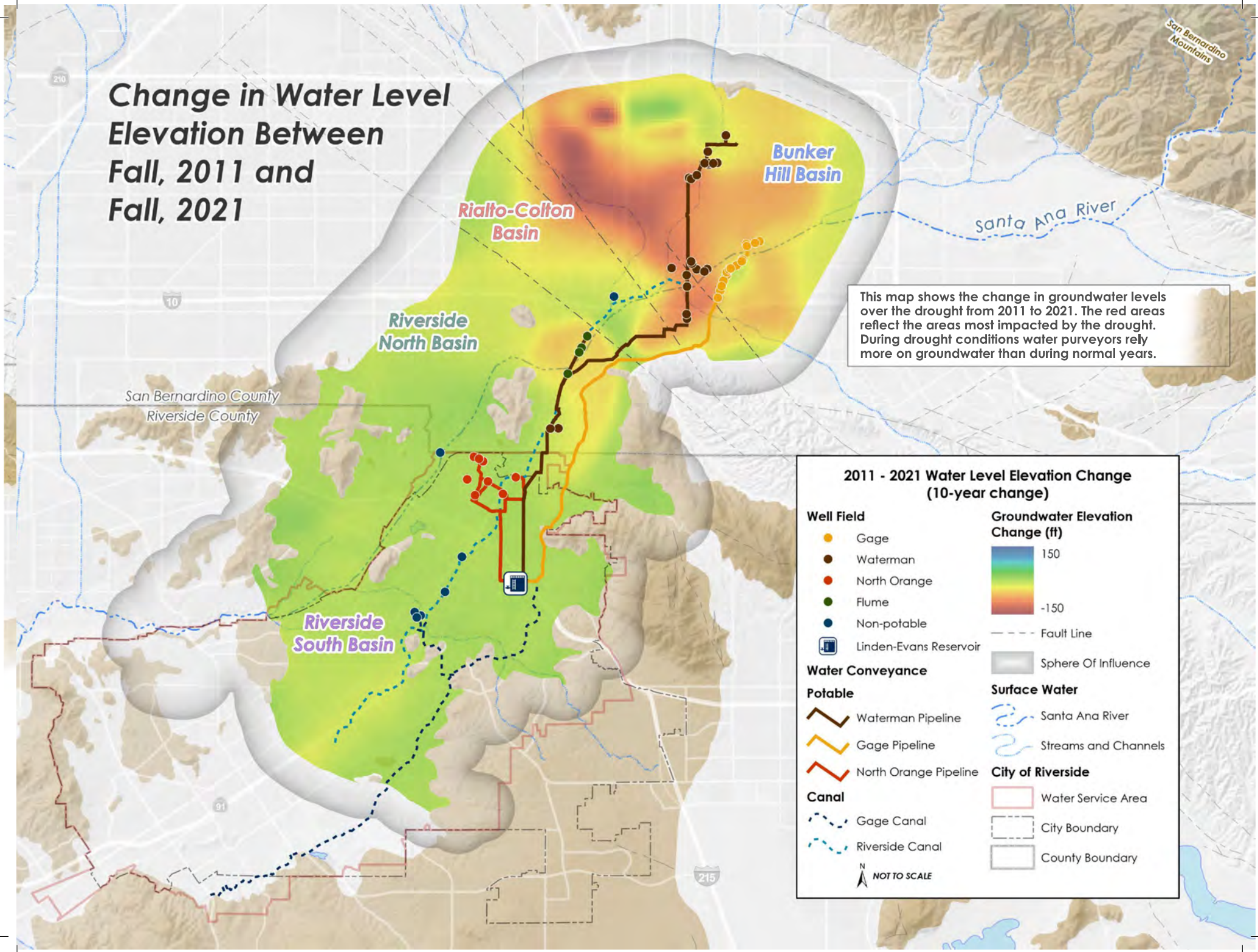
- Fault Line
- Sphere Of Influence
- City of Riverside**
- Water Service Area
- City Boundary
- County Boundary



NOT TO SCALE



# Change in Water Level Elevation Between Fall, 2011 and Fall, 2021



This map shows the change in groundwater levels over the drought from 2011 to 2021. The red areas reflect the areas most impacted by the drought. During drought conditions water purveyors rely more on groundwater than during normal years.

**2011 - 2021 Water Level Elevation Change (10-year change)**

<b>Well Field</b>	<b>Groundwater Elevation Change (ft)</b>
● Gage	
● Waterman	--- Fault Line
● North Orange	☐ Sphere Of Influence
● Flume	<b>Surface Water</b>
● Non-potable	~ Santa Ana River
☐ Linden-Evans Reservoir	~ Streams and Channels
<b>Water Conveyance</b>	<b>City of Riverside</b>
<b>Potable</b>	☐ Water Service Area
— Waterman Pipeline	☐ City Boundary
— Gage Pipeline	☐ County Boundary
— North Orange Pipeline	
<b>Canal</b>	
~ Gage Canal	
~ Riverside Canal	

N  
NOT TO SCALE

San Bernardino County  
Riverside County

Riverside South Basin

Riverside North Basin

Rialto-Colton Basin

Bunker Hill Basin

Santa Ana River

San Bernardino Mountains

210

10

91

215





Seven Oaks Dam





# 6

## GROUNDWATER IN STORAGE



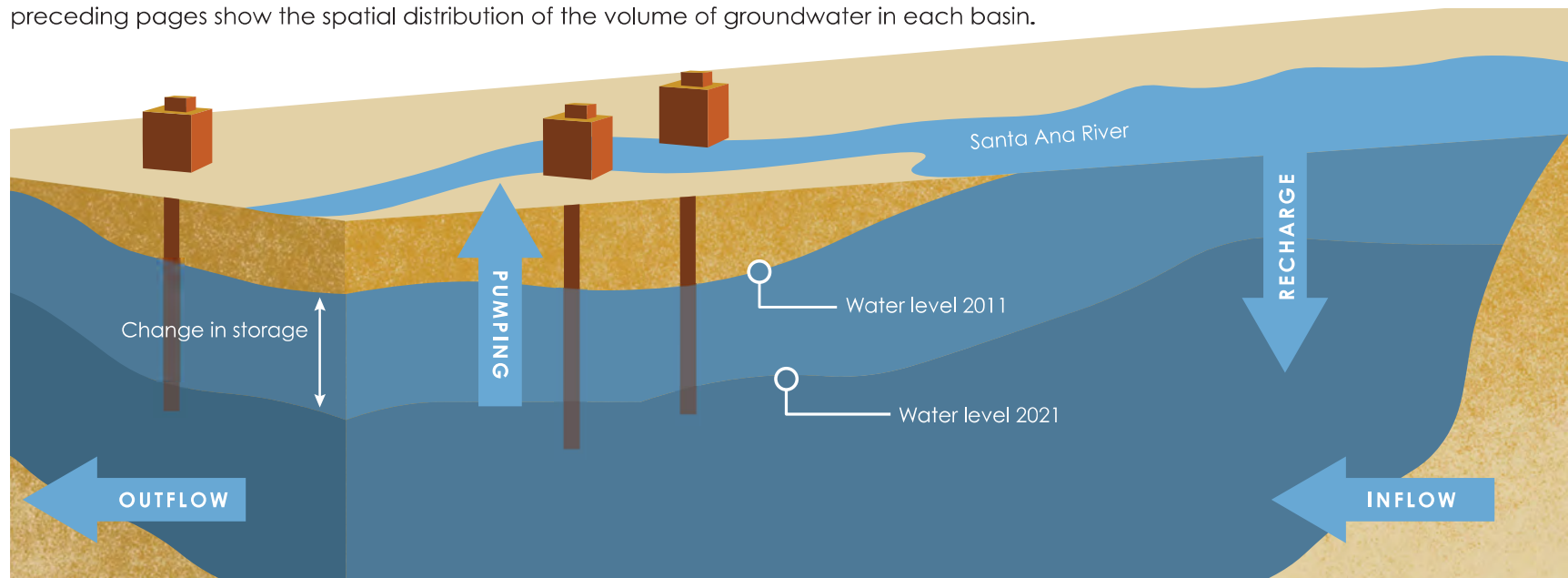
# 6

## GROUNDWATER IN STORAGE

**RPU tracks the quantity of groundwater in storage in each basin area as another tool to monitor groundwater conditions. Changes in storage can be used to better understand groundwater production and demands from each of RPU's wellfields distributed across the groundwater basins, and to make future decisions on where to replace and locate groundwater wells.**

The change in storage over a time period is calculated by multiplying the change in groundwater level, by the specific yield of the aquifer materials over which the water-level change occurred, and by the area where the change occurred. The graphic below is a 3D representation of what a groundwater basin such as the Bunker Hill Basin may look like when comparing the change in storage that occurred over the 10-year period corresponding to drought conditions. Water levels decreased possibly due to a combination of items such as urbanization, cultural conditions, changes in pumping patterns from other agencies, lower amounts of recharge, and less rainfall in general.

The volume of groundwater for each basin is summarized in the graphic to the right. The preceding pages show the spatial distribution of the volume of groundwater in each basin.





## Summary of Groundwater in Storage by Basin within RPU's Sphere of Influence *(Acre-Feet)*



### BUNKER HILL

Fall 2011 Total Volume: 2,098,000  
 Spring 2020 Total Volume: 2,021,000  
 Fall 2020 Total Volume: 1,966,000  
 Spring 2021 Total Volume: 1,978,000  
 Fall 2021 Total Volume: 1,959,000  
 Spring 2020-2021 Volume Change: -43,000  
 Fall 2020-2021 Volume Change: -7,000  
 Fall 2011 to 2021 Volume Change: -139,000



### RIALTO-COLTON

Fall 2011 Total Volume: 493,000  
 Spring 2020 Total Volume: 468,000  
 Fall 2020 Total Volume: 468,000  
 Spring 2021 Total Volume: 469,000  
 Fall 2021 Total Volume: 468,000  
 Spring 2020-2021 Volume Change: 1,000  
 Fall 2020-2021 Volume Change: 0  
 Fall 2011 to 2021 Volume Change: -24,000



### RIVERSIDE NORTH

Fall 2011 Total Volume: 443,000  
 Spring 2020 Total Volume: 436,000  
 Fall 2020 Total Volume: 433,000  
 Spring 2021 Total Volume: 437,000  
 Fall 2021 Total Volume: 438,000  
 Spring 2020-2021 Volume Change: 1,000  
 Fall 2020-2021 Volume Change: +5,000  
 Fall 2011 to 2021 Volume Change: -5,000



### RIVERSIDE SOUTH

Fall 2011 Total Volume: 368,000  
 Spring 2020 Total Volume: 351,000  
 Fall 2020 Total Volume: 351,000  
 Spring 2021 Total Volume: 349,000  
 Fall 2021 Total Volume: 345,000  
 Spring 2020-2021 Volume Change: 2,000  
 Fall 2020-2021 Volume Change: -6,000  
 Fall 2011 to 2021 Volume Change: -23,000

### TOTAL VOLUME

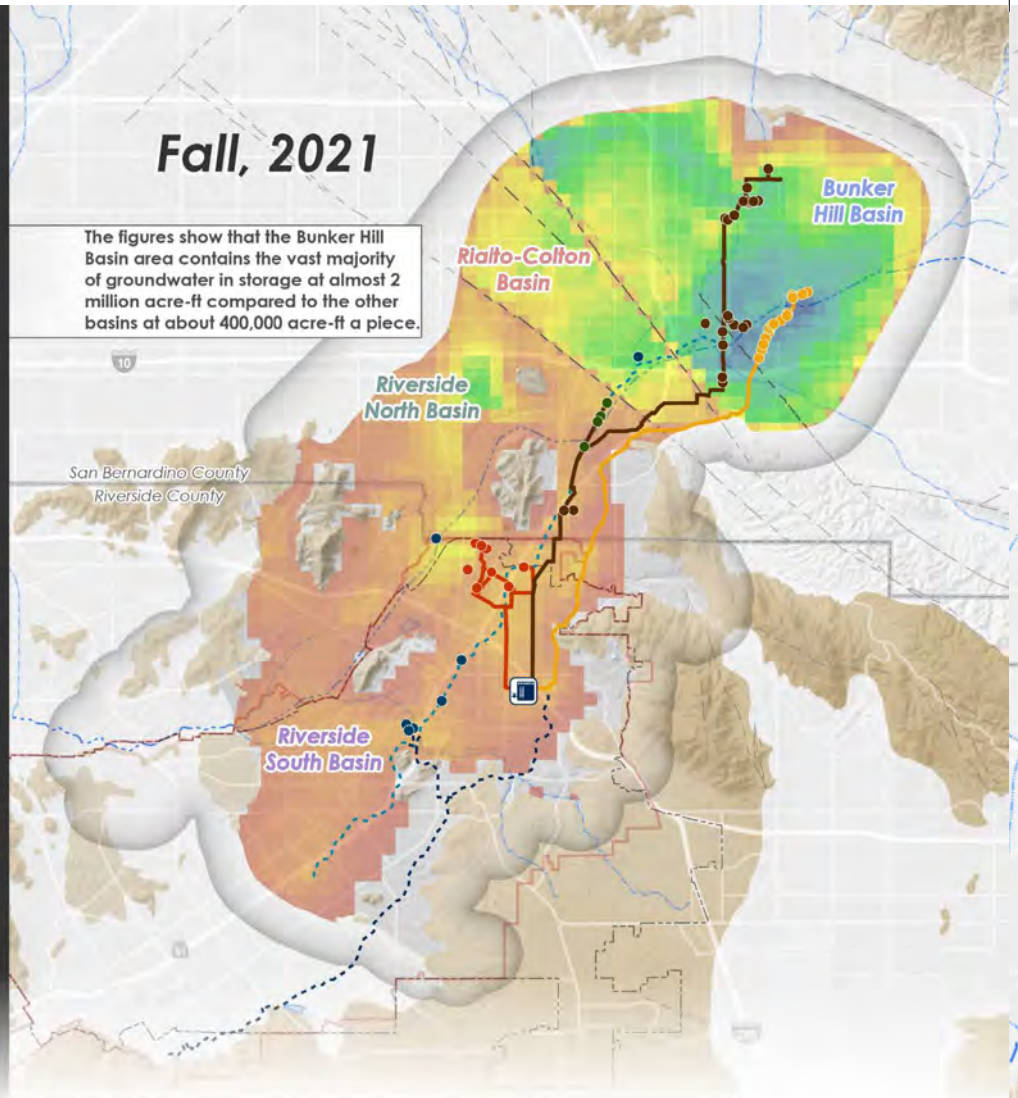
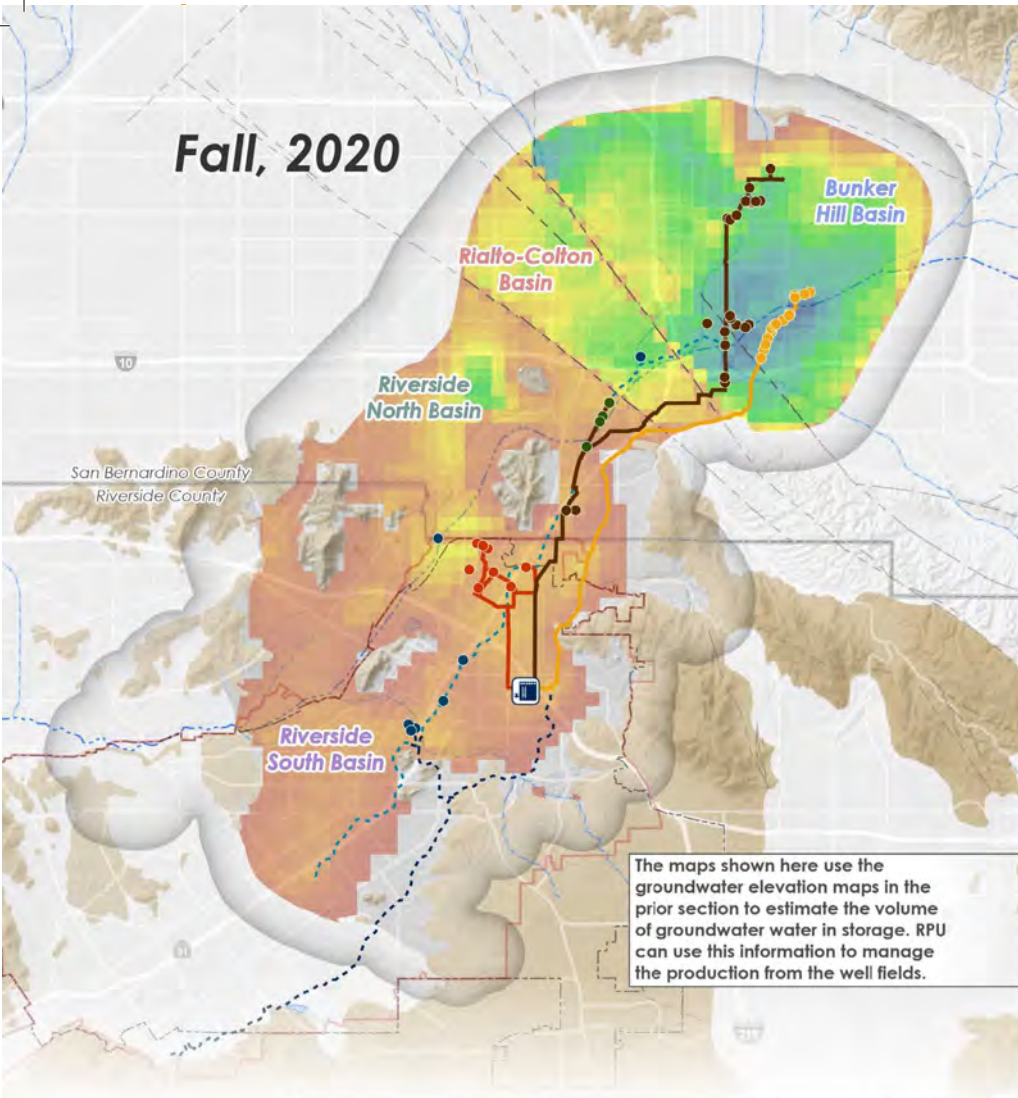
Fall 2011 Total Volume: 3,402,000  
 Spring 2020 Total Volume: 3,277,000  
 Fall 2020 Total Volume: 3,219,000  
 Spring 2021 Total Volume: 3,234,000  
 Fall 2021 Total Volume: 3,209,000  
 Spring 2020-2021 Total Volume Change: -43,000  
 Fall 2020-2021 Total Volume Change: -10,000  
 Fall 2011 to 2021 Total Volume Change: -193,000



Note: The groundwater basin boundaries used in the storage calculations represent only a portion of each basin in the vicinity of RPU's well fields.

Fall, 2020

Fall, 2021



**1-Year Change (Storage)**

<b>Volume of Groundwater Storage</b> per 400x400 meter grid cell	● Waterman	— North Orange Pipeline	--- Fault Line
< 7,300 acre-ft	● North Orange	<b>Canal</b>	■ Sphere Of Influence
> 0 acre-ft	● Flume	--- Gage Canal	<b>City of Riverside</b>
Linden-Evans Reservoir	● Non-potable	--- Riverside Canal	□ Water Service Area
<b>Well Field</b>	<b>Potable</b>	<b>Surface Water</b>	□ City Boundary
● Gage	— Waterman Pipeline	— Santa Ana River	□ County Boundary
	— Gage Pipeline	— Streams and Channels	

N  
NOT TO SCALE



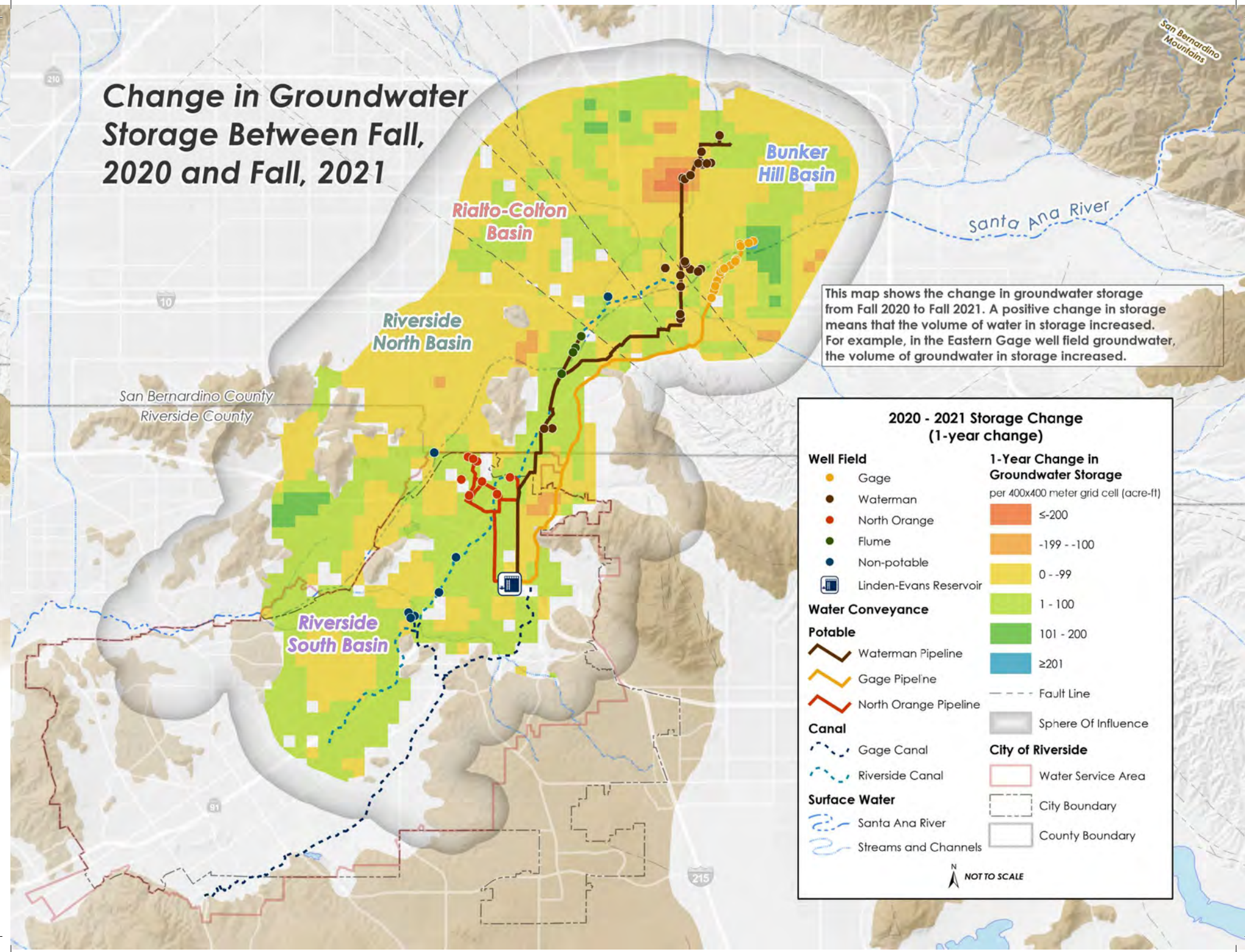
# Change in Groundwater Storage Between Fall, 2020 and Fall, 2021

This map shows the change in groundwater storage from Fall 2020 to Fall 2021. A positive change in storage means that the volume of water in storage increased. For example, in the Eastern Gage well field groundwater, the volume of groundwater in storage increased.

### 2020 - 2021 Storage Change (1-year change)

Well Field		1-Year Change in Groundwater Storage per 400x400 meter grid cell (acre-ft)	
●	Gage	■	≤-200
●	Waterman	■	-199 - -100
●	North Orange	■	0 - -99
●	Flume	■	1 - 100
●	Non-potable	■	101 - 200
■	Linden-Evans Reservoir	■	≥201
Water Conveyance		---	Fault Line
—	Waterman Pipeline	■	Sphere Of Influence
—	Gage Pipeline	□	City of Riverside
—	North Orange Pipeline	□	Water Service Area
Canal		---	City Boundary
---	Gage Canal	---	County Boundary
---	Riverside Canal		
Surface Water			
---	Santa Ana River		
---	Streams and Channels		

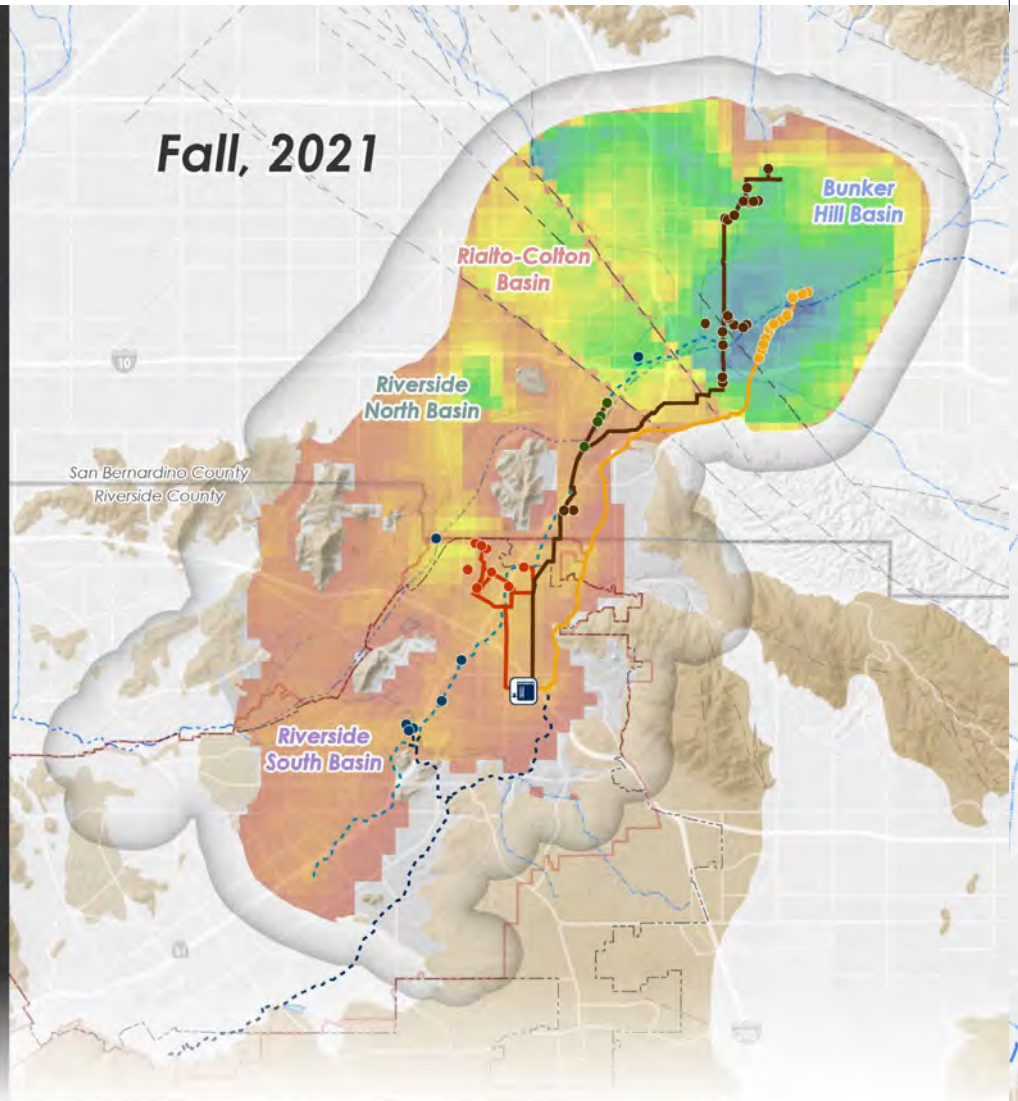
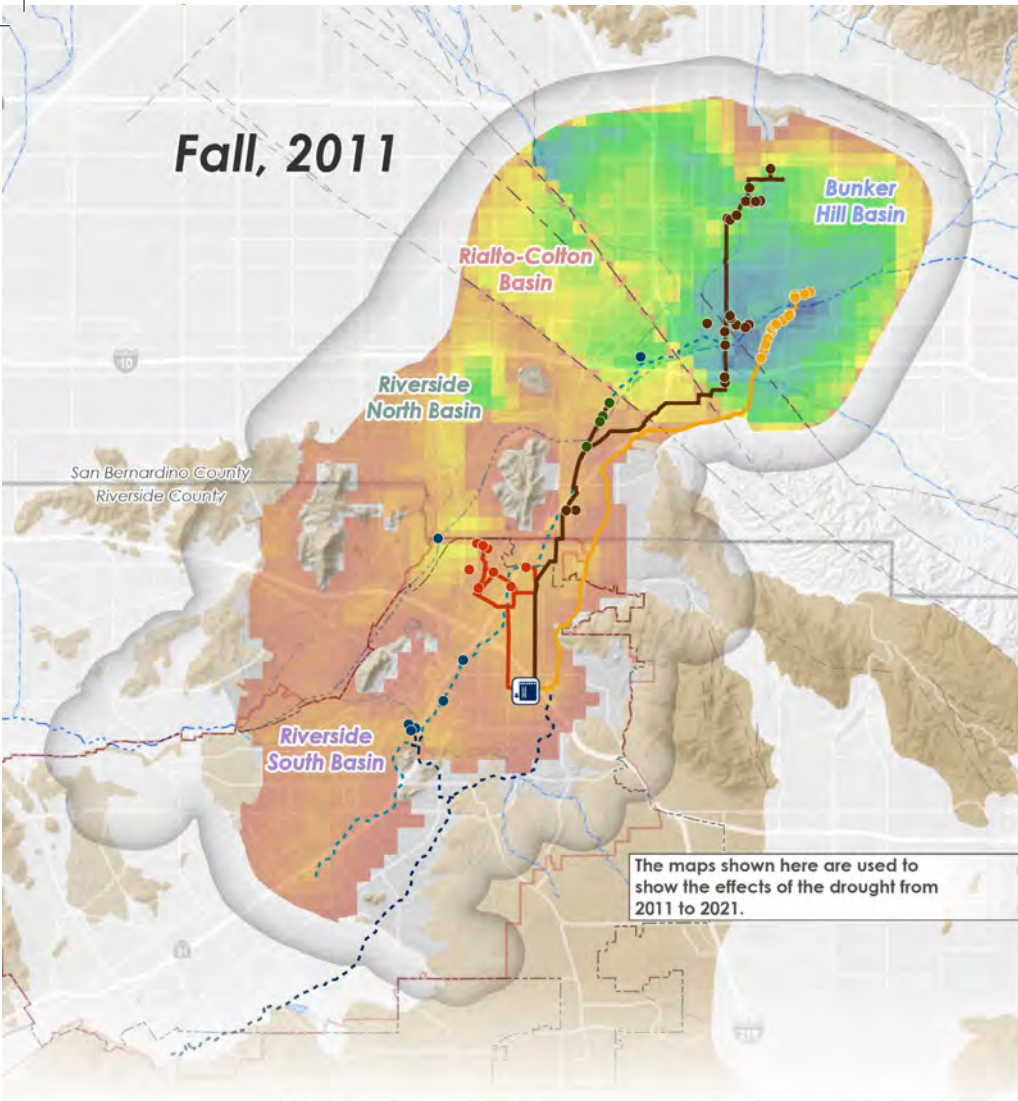
NOT TO SCALE





Fall, 2011

Fall, 2021



The maps shown here are used to show the effects of the drought from 2011 to 2021.

**10-Year Change (Storage)**

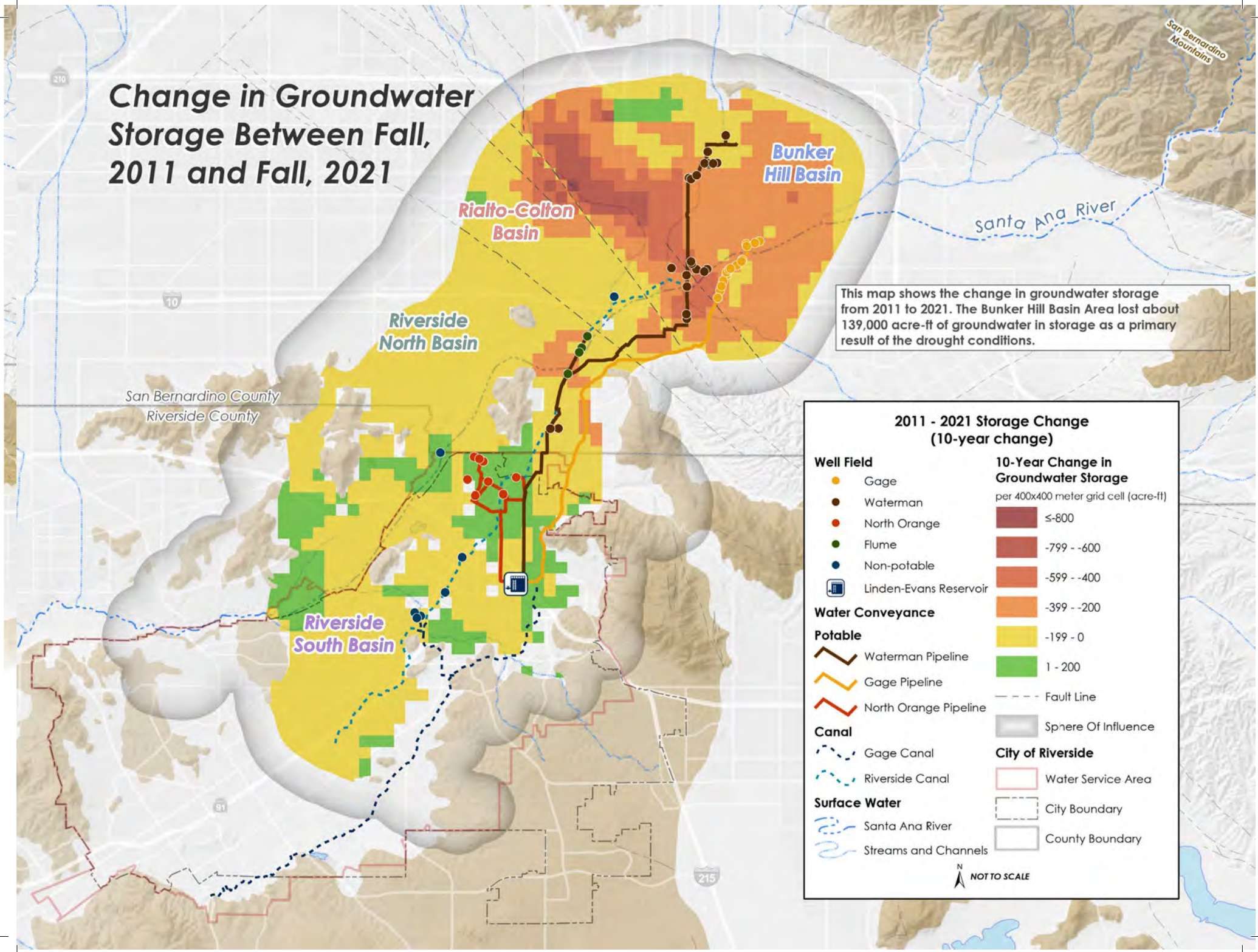
<p><b>Volume of Groundwater Storage</b> per 400x400 meter grid cell</p> <p> &lt; 7,600 acre-ft &gt; 0 acre-ft</p> <p> Linden-Evans Reservoir</p> <p><b>Well Field</b></p> <p> Gage</p>	<p> Waterman</p> <p> North Orange</p> <p> Flume</p> <p> Non-potable</p> <p><b>Water Conveyance</b></p> <p><b>Potable</b></p> <p> Waterman Pipeline</p> <p> Gage Pipeline</p>	<p> North Orange Pipeline</p> <p><b>Canal</b></p> <p> Gage Canal</p> <p> Riverside Canal</p> <p><b>Surface Water</b></p> <p> Santa Ana River</p> <p> Streams and Channels</p>	<p> Fault Line</p> <p> Sphere Of Influence</p> <p><b>City of Riverside</b></p> <p> Water Service Area</p> <p> City Boundary</p> <p> County Boundary</p>
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**NOT TO SCALE**



# Change in Groundwater Storage Between Fall, 2011 and Fall, 2021

This map shows the change in groundwater storage from 2011 to 2021. The Bunker Hill Basin Area lost about 139,000 acre-ft of groundwater in storage as a primary result of the drought conditions.



2011 - 2021 Storage Change (10-year change)	
<b>Well Field</b>	<b>10-Year Change in Groundwater Storage</b> per 400x400 meter grid cell (acre-ft)
● Gage	≤-800
● Waterman	-799 -- -600
● North Orange	-599 -- -400
● Flume	-399 -- -200
● Non-potable	-199 -- 0
🏠 Linden-Evans Reservoir	1 - 200
<b>Water Conveyance</b>	
<b>Potable</b>	
— Waterman Pipeline	— Fault Line
— Gage Pipeline	— Sphere Of Influence
— North Orange Pipeline	
<b>Canal</b>	
— Gage Canal	<b>City of Riverside</b>
— Riverside Canal	— Water Service Area
<b>Surface Water</b>	— City Boundary
— Santa Ana River	— County Boundary
— Streams and Channels	

N  
NOT TO SCALE





John W North Treatment Plant





7

# GROUNDWATER QUALITY



# 7

## GROUNDWATER QUALITY

**Most groundwater produced throughout the southern and inland California region requires treatment. RPU continuously monitors the water quality of its drinking water wells to ensure the water it serves meets both federal and state drinking water standards. This proactive approach allows RPU to quickly identify changes in groundwater quality conditions so we may pursue additional investigations, communicate with stakeholders, and take remedial action if necessary.**

The Safe Drinking Water Act was originally passed by Congress in 1974 to protect public health by regulating public drinking water supplies. Since then, additional amendments and measures have been implemented by Federal and State Officials to ensure public water supply systems deliver safe and reliable drinking water for public consumption. Historical waste disposal practices and chemical application of now-banned chemicals that were once legally and regularly used, have created localized contaminant plumes that have impacted the region's groundwater basins and at times, the City's supply. The City of Riverside has actively litigated against known entities that have impacted Riverside's groundwater supplies and has successfully obtained funding for construction and maintenance of facilities used to remove the constituents of concern from its groundwater supply. RPU has developed mutually beneficial relationships with some of the known entities to work collaboratively to intentionally capture a plume with select wells to limit the spread of the plume and protect downstream wells, and to provide treatment at the capture wells to remove the constituents of concern. Extensive monitoring occurs in areas of known plumes to ensure plume containment is always maintained. In addition, RPU strategically locates and constructs new wells to extract water from deeper, cleaner zones within the groundwater basin. The following figures depict some of the constituents RPU closely tracks.

### 2021 RPU Groundwater Sampling



**50**  
wells sampled  
46 potable  
4 non-potable



**150+**  
constituents



**29,100**  
water quality samples

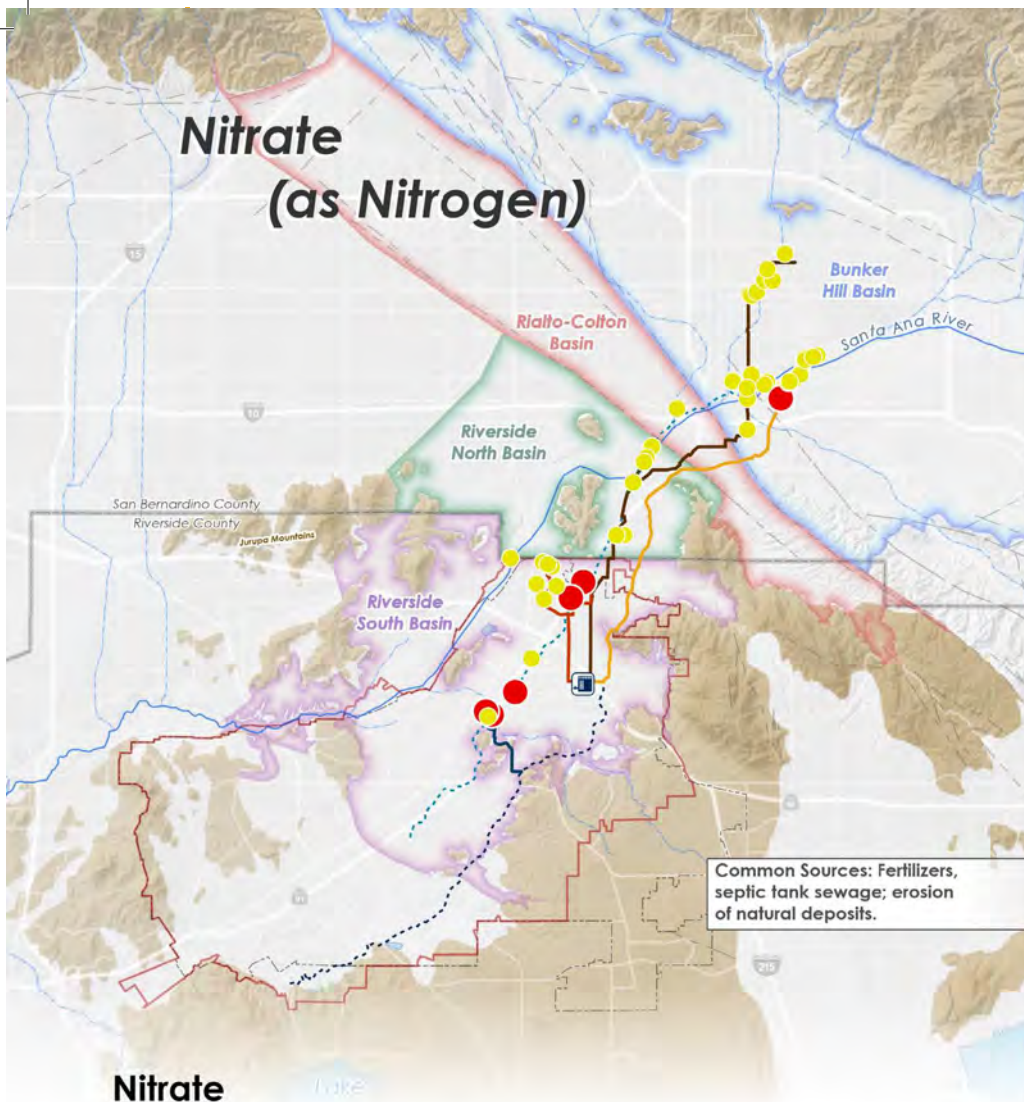




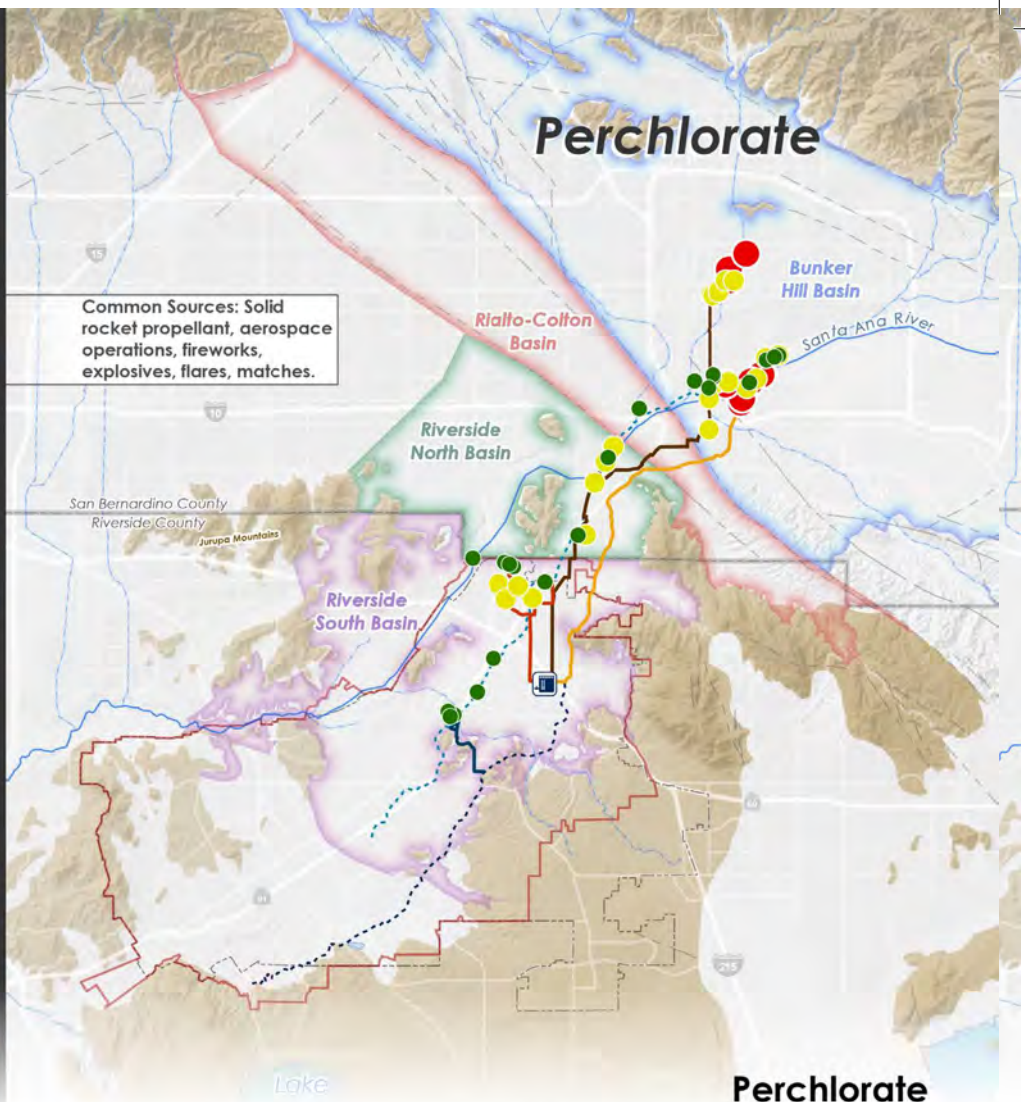
Mission Inn Booster Station



# Nitrate (as Nitrogen)



# Perchlorate



Common Sources: Solid rocket propellant, aerospace operations, fireworks, explosives, flares, matches.

Common Sources: Fertilizers, septic tank sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

## Nitrate (parts per million)

California DLR = 0.4 ppm  
(Detection Level Report)

California MCL = 10 ppm  
(Maximum Contaminant Level)

RPU Wells Above MCL = 6

Highest Detection = 17 ppm

## Perchlorate (parts per billion)

California DLR = 2 ppb  
(Detection Level Report)

California MCL = 6 ppb  
(Maximum Contaminant Level)

RPU Wells Above MCL = 11

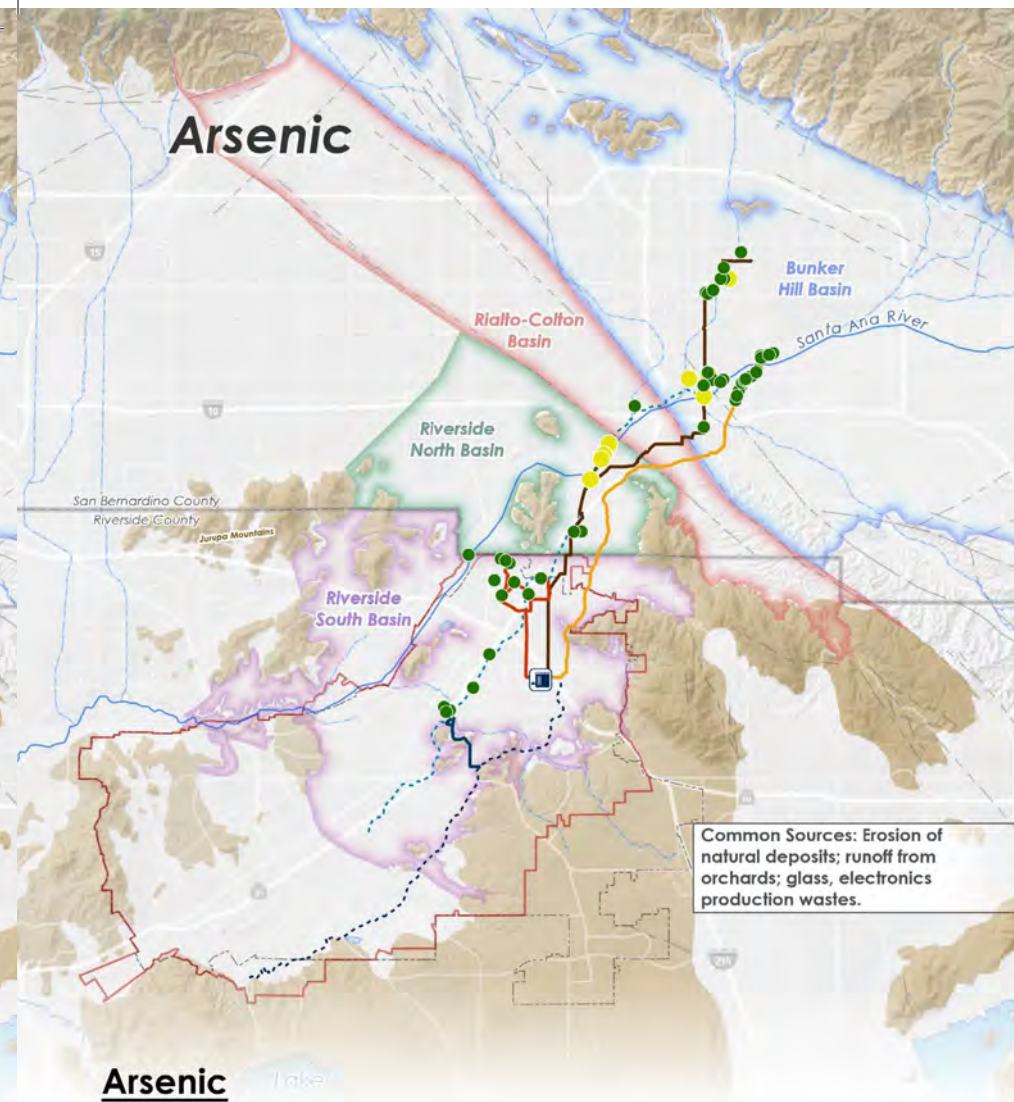
Highest Detection = 44 ppb

Legend			
<b>Well Contaminate Level</b>	<b>Water Conveyance</b>	<b>Canal</b>	<b>Groundwater Basins</b>
● < Detection Level Reporting	— Waterman Pipeline	— Gage Canal	■ Bunker Hill Basin
● > Detection Level Reporting & ≤ Maximum Contaminant Level	— Gage Pipeline	— Riverside Canal	■ Rialto-Colton Basin
● > Maximum Contaminant Level	— North Orange Pipeline	— Santa Ana River	■ Riverside North Basin
■ Linden-Evans Reservoir	— Flume Pipeline	— Streams and Channels	■ Riverside South Basin
	— Non-potable	— Fault Line	■ City of Riverside
			■ Water Service Area
			■ City Boundary

NOT TO SCALE Data shown in the figures above shows raw groundwater prior to treatment and delivery to RPU customers.



# Arsenic



**Arsenic**  
(parts per billion)

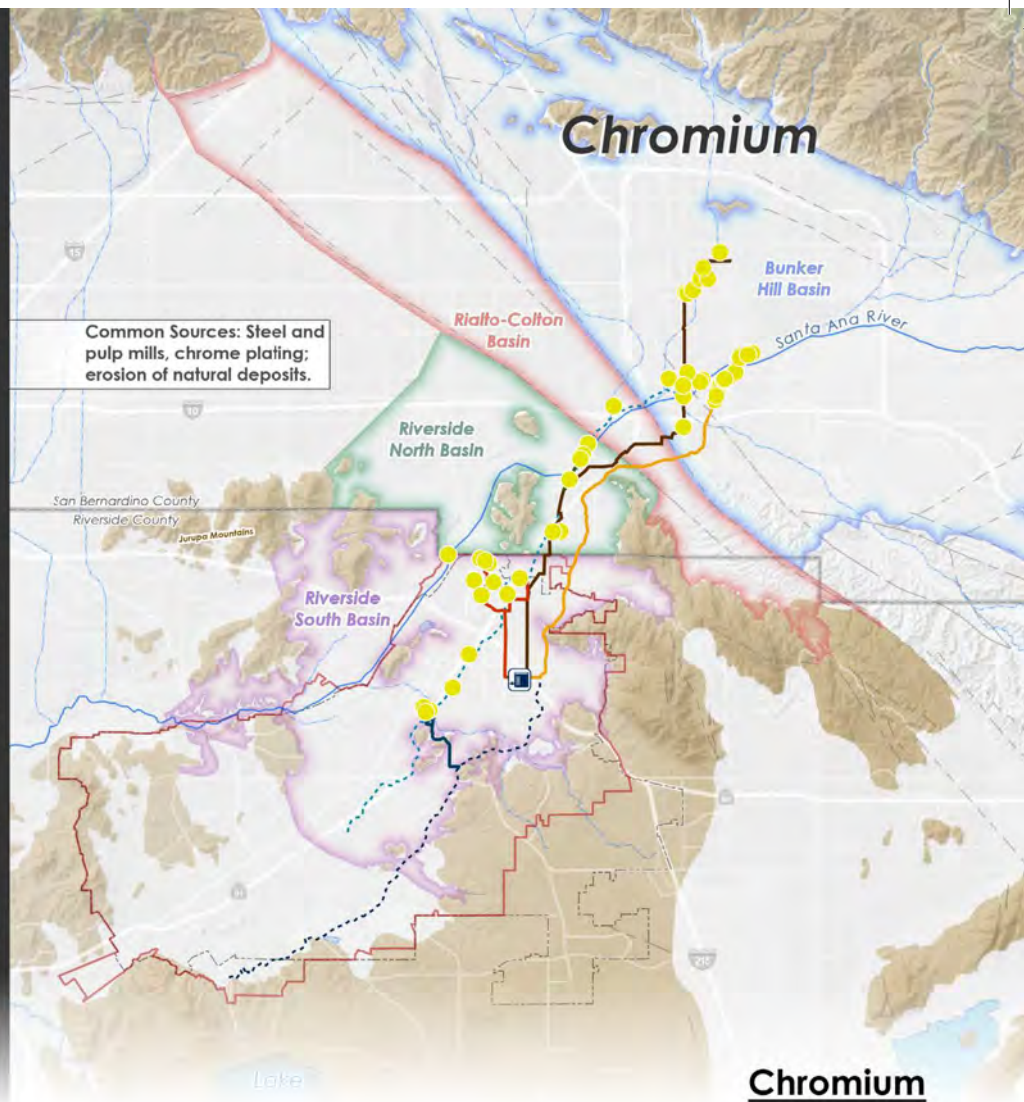
**California DLR = 2 ppb**  
(Detection Level Report)

**California MCL = 10 ppb**  
(Maximum Contaminant Level)

**RPU Wells Above MCL = 0**

**Highest Detection = 7.5 ppb**

# Chromium



Common Sources: Steel and pulp mills, chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits.

Common Sources: Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass, electronics production wastes.

**Chromium**  
(parts per billion)

**California DLR = 10 ppb**  
(Detection Level Report)

**California MCL = 50 ppb**  
(Maximum Contaminant Level)

**RPU Wells Above MCL = 0**

**Highest Detection = 5.2 ppb**

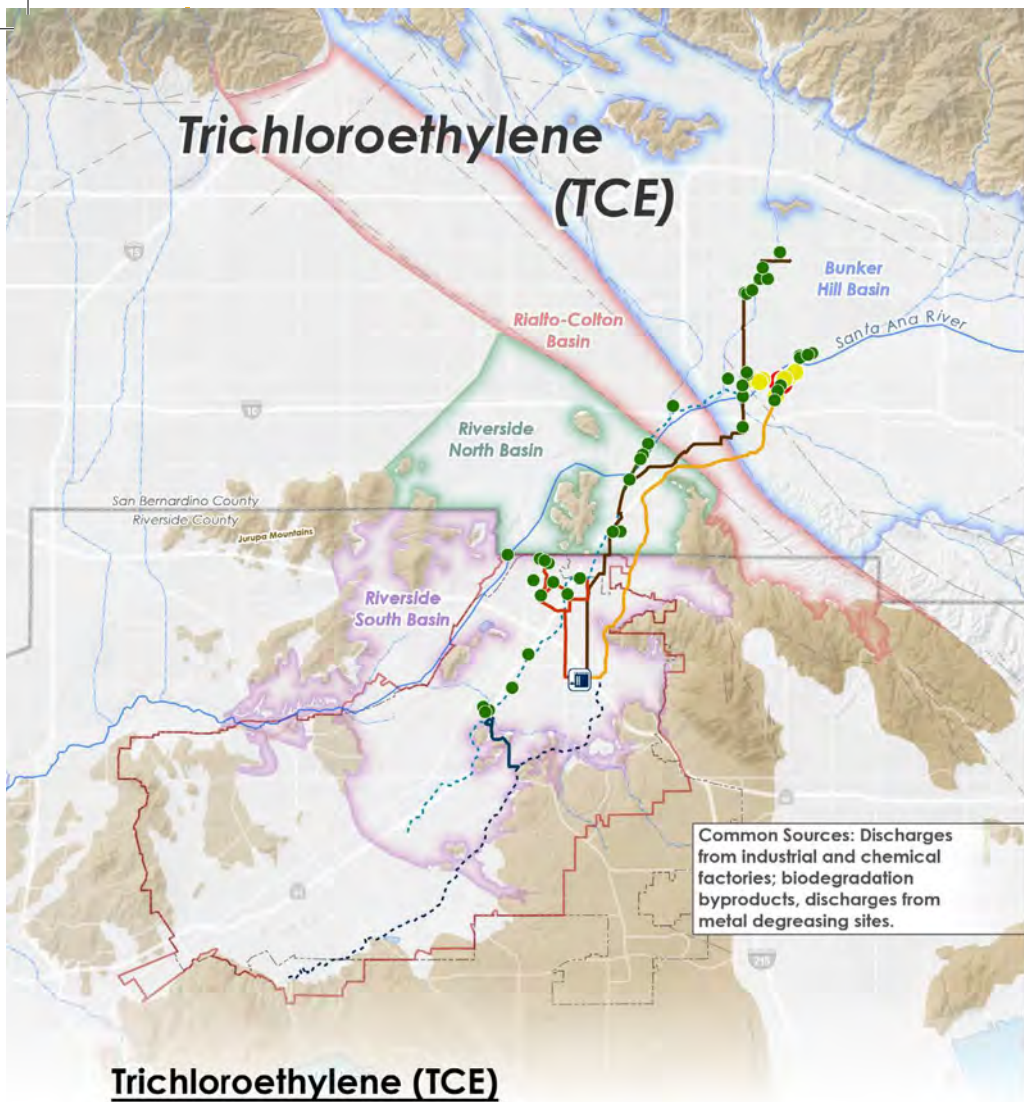
**Legend**

<p><b>Well Contaminate Level</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> &lt; Detection Level Reporting</li> <li><span style="color: yellow;">●</span> &gt; Detection Level Reporting &amp; ≤ Maximum Contaminant Level</li> <li><span style="color: red;">●</span> &gt; Maximum Contaminant Level</li> <li> Linden-Evans Reservoir</li> </ul>	<p><b>Water Conveyance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Waterman Pipeline</li> <li> Gage Pipeline</li> <li> North Orange Pipeline</li> <li> Flume Pipeline</li> <li> Non-potable</li> </ul>	<p><b>Canal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Gage Canal</li> <li> Riverside Canal</li> </ul> <p><b>Surface Water</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Santa Ana River</li> <li> Streams and Channels</li> <li> Fault Line</li> </ul>	<p><b>Groundwater Basins</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Bunker Hill Basin</li> <li> Rialto-Colton Basin</li> <li> Riverside North Basin</li> <li> Riverside South Basin</li> </ul> <p><b>City of Riverside</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Water Service Area</li> <li> City Boundary</li> </ul>
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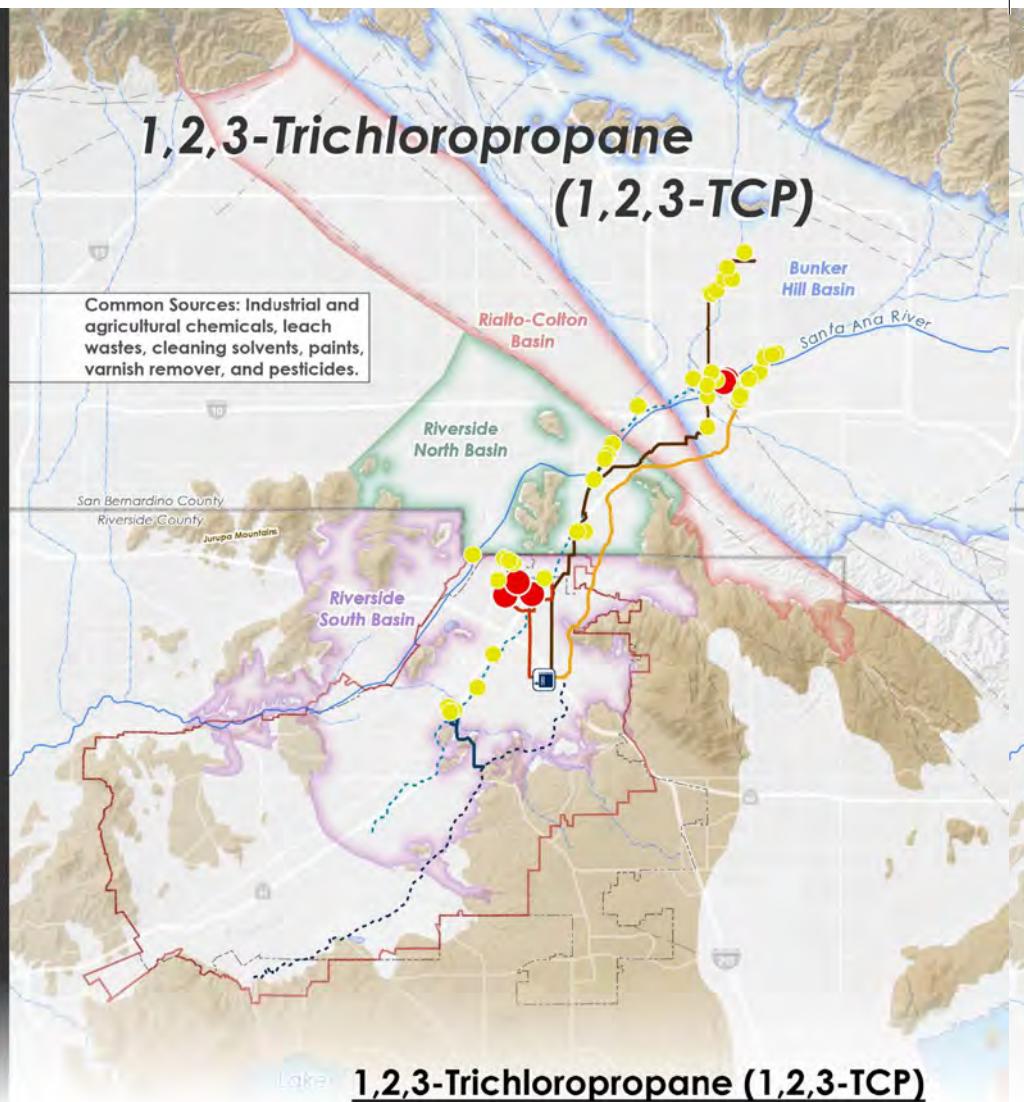
**NOT TO SCALE**     Data shown in the figures above shows raw groundwater prior to treatment and delivery to RPU customers.



# Trichloroethylene (TCE)



# 1,2,3-Trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP)



## Trichloroethylene (TCE)

(parts per billion)

**California DLR = 0.5 ppb**  
(Detection Level Report)

**California MCL = 5 ppb**  
(Maximum Contaminant Level)

**RPU Wells Above MCL = 1**

**Highest Detection = 12 ppb**

## 1,2,3-Trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP)

(parts per trillion)

**California DLR = 5 ppt**  
(Detection Level Report)

**California MCL = 5 ppt**  
(Maximum Contaminant Level)

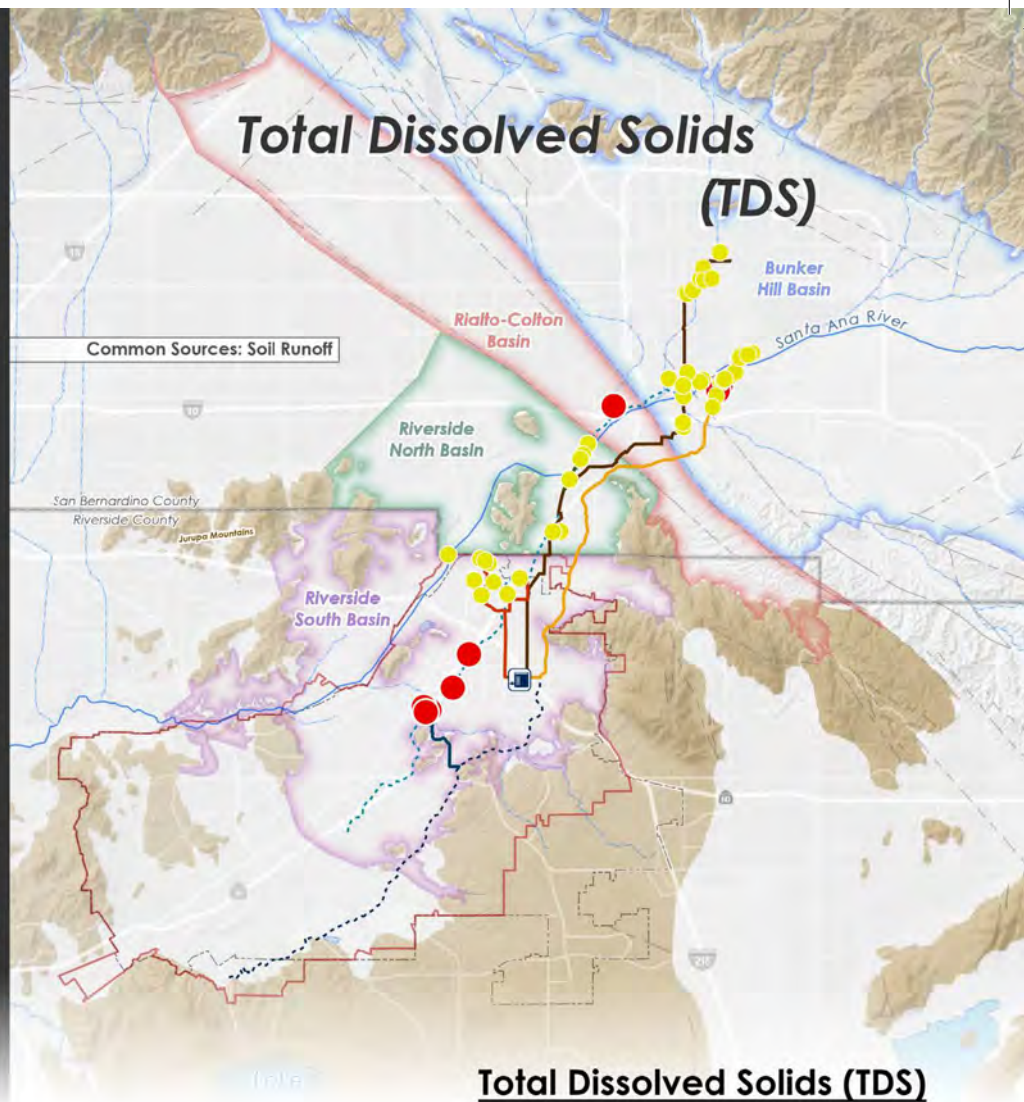
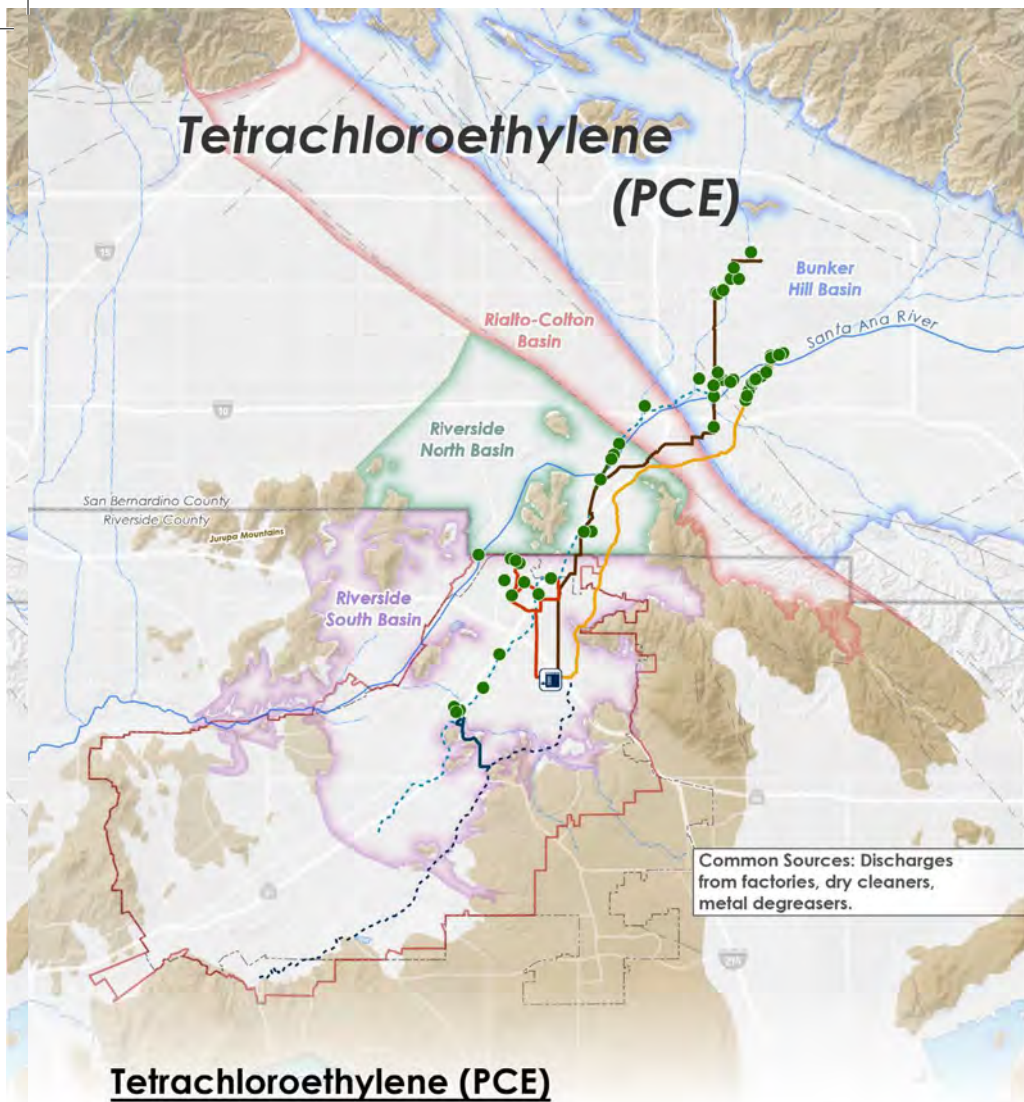
**RPU Wells Above MCL = 5**

**Highest Detection = 46 ppt**

Legend			
<b>Well Contaminate Level</b>	<b>Water Conveyance</b>	<b>Canal</b>	<b>Groundwater Basins</b>
● < Detection Level Reporting	— Waterman Pipeline	— Gage Canal	■ Bunker Hill Basin
● > Detection Level Reporting & <= Maximum Contaminant Level	— Gage Pipeline	— Riverside Canal	■ Rialto-Colton Basin
● > Maximum Contaminant Level	— North Orange Pipeline	— Santa Ana River	■ Riverside North Basin
■ Linden-Evans Reservoir	— Flume Pipeline	— Streams and Channels	■ Riverside South Basin
	— Non-potable	— Fault Line	■ City of Riverside
			■ Water Service Area
			■ City Boundary

NOT TO SCALE Data shown in the figures above shows raw groundwater prior to treatment and delivery to RPU customers.





### Tetrachloroethylene (PCE)

(parts per billion)

**California DLR = 0.5 ppb**  
(Detection Level Report)

**California MCL = 5 ppb**  
(Maximum Contaminant Level)

**RPU Wells Above MCL = 0**

**Highest Detection < 0.5 ppb**

### Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)

(parts per million)

**California U-SMCL = 1,000 ppm**  
(Upper Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level)

**California SMCL = 500 ppm**  
(Recommended Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level)

**RPU Wells Above U-SMCL = 0**  
**RPU Wells Above SMCL = 8**

**Highest Detection = 870 ppm**

Legend			
<b>Well Contaminate Level</b>	<b>Water Conveyance</b>	<b>Canal</b>	<b>Groundwater Basins</b>
● < Detection Level Reporting	Waterman Pipeline	⋯ Gage Canal	■ Bunker Hill Basin
● > Detection Level Reporting & ≤ Maximum Contaminant Level	Gage Pipeline	⋯ Riverside Canal	■ Rialto-Colton Basin
● > Maximum Contaminant Level	North Orange Pipeline	<b>Surface Water</b>	■ Riverside North Basin
■ Linden-Evans Reservoir	Flume Pipeline	~ Santa Ana River	■ Riverside South Basin
	Non-potable	~ Streams and Channels	<b>City of Riverside</b>
		--- Fault Line	□ Water Service Area
			□ City Boundary

NOT TO SCALE Data shown in the figures above shows raw groundwater prior to treatment and delivery to RPU customers.





Riverside Water Quality Control Plant Fuel Cell





8

# GROUNDWATER TREATMENT

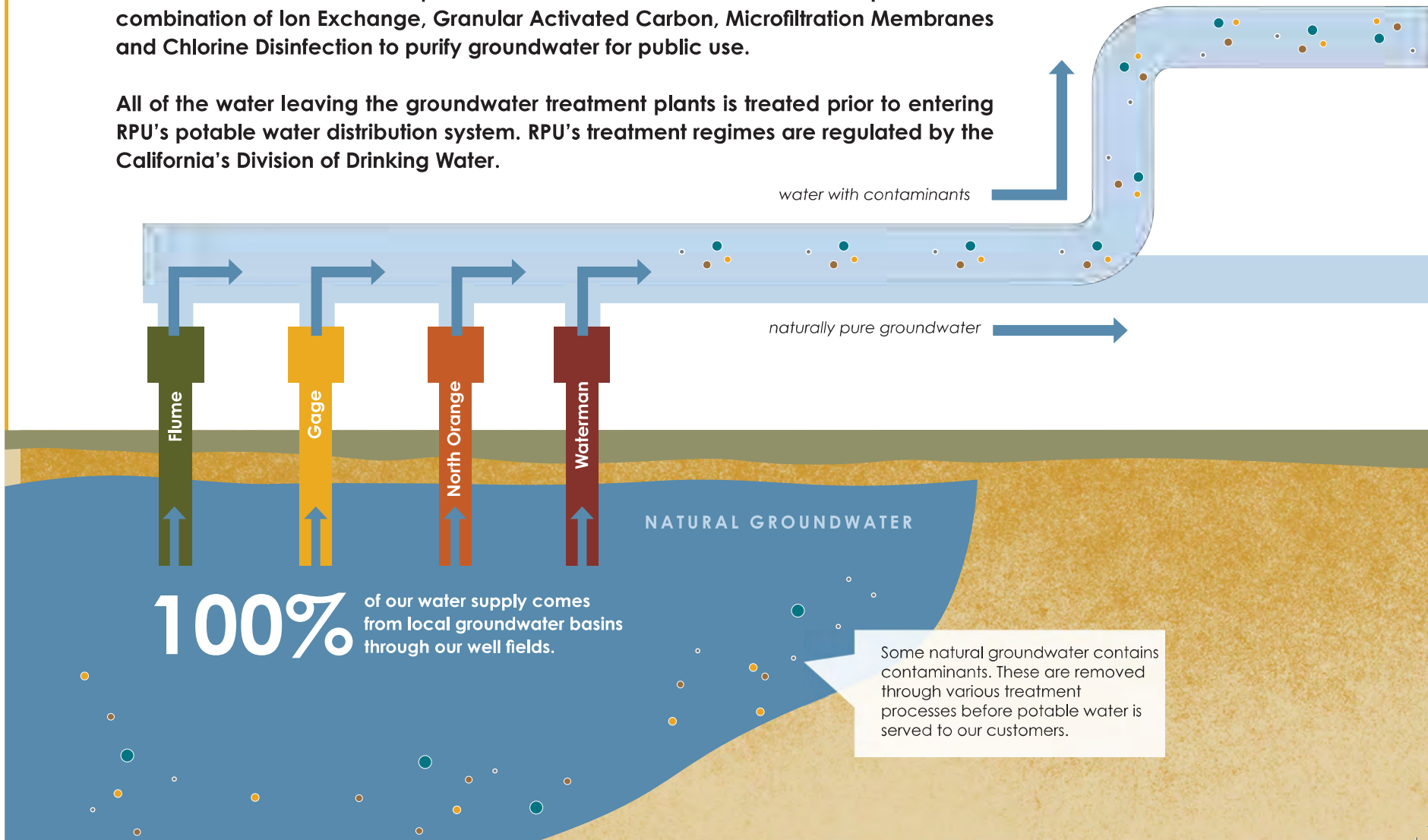


# 8

## GROUNDWATER TREATMENT

To ensure the City's drinking water is of highest quality, RPU operates 6 treatment facilities and 7 Disinfection facilities to produce safe, clean water. RPU's treatment plants use a combination of Ion Exchange, Granular Activated Carbon, Microfiltration Membranes and Chlorine Disinfection to purify groundwater for public use.

All of the water leaving the groundwater treatment plants is treated prior to entering RPU's potable water distribution system. RPU's treatment regimes are regulated by the California's Division of Drinking Water.

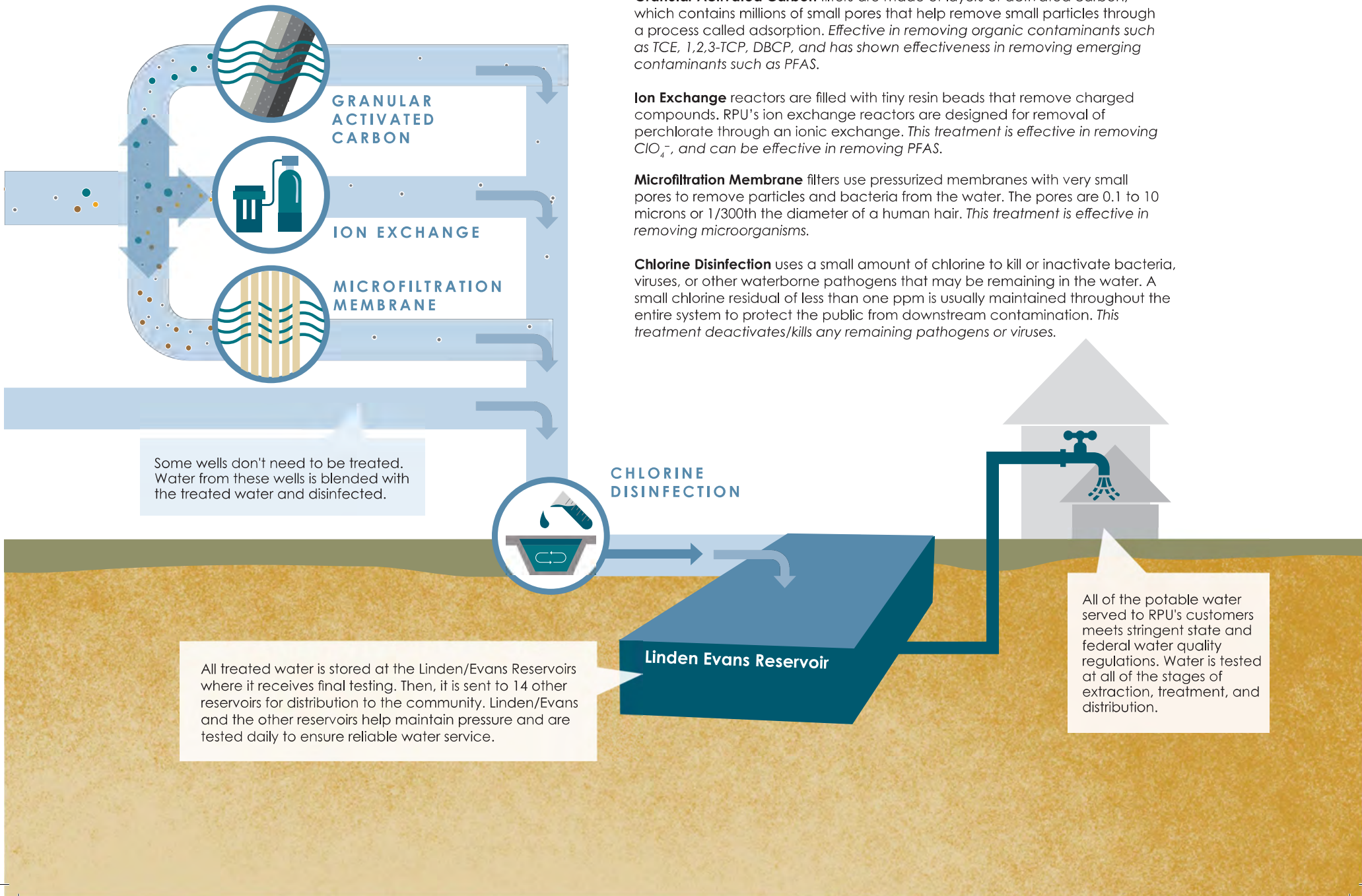


**100%** of our water supply comes from local groundwater basins through our well fields.

Some natural groundwater contains contaminants. These are removed through various treatment processes before potable water is served to our customers.



RPU routinely monitors each groundwater well for contaminants and provides targeted treatment.



## GROUNDWATER TREATMENT

**Granular Activated Carbon** filters are made of layers of activated carbon, which contains millions of small pores that help remove small particles through a process called adsorption. Effective in removing organic contaminants such as TCE, 1,2,3-TCP, DBCP, and has shown effectiveness in removing emerging contaminants such as PFAS.

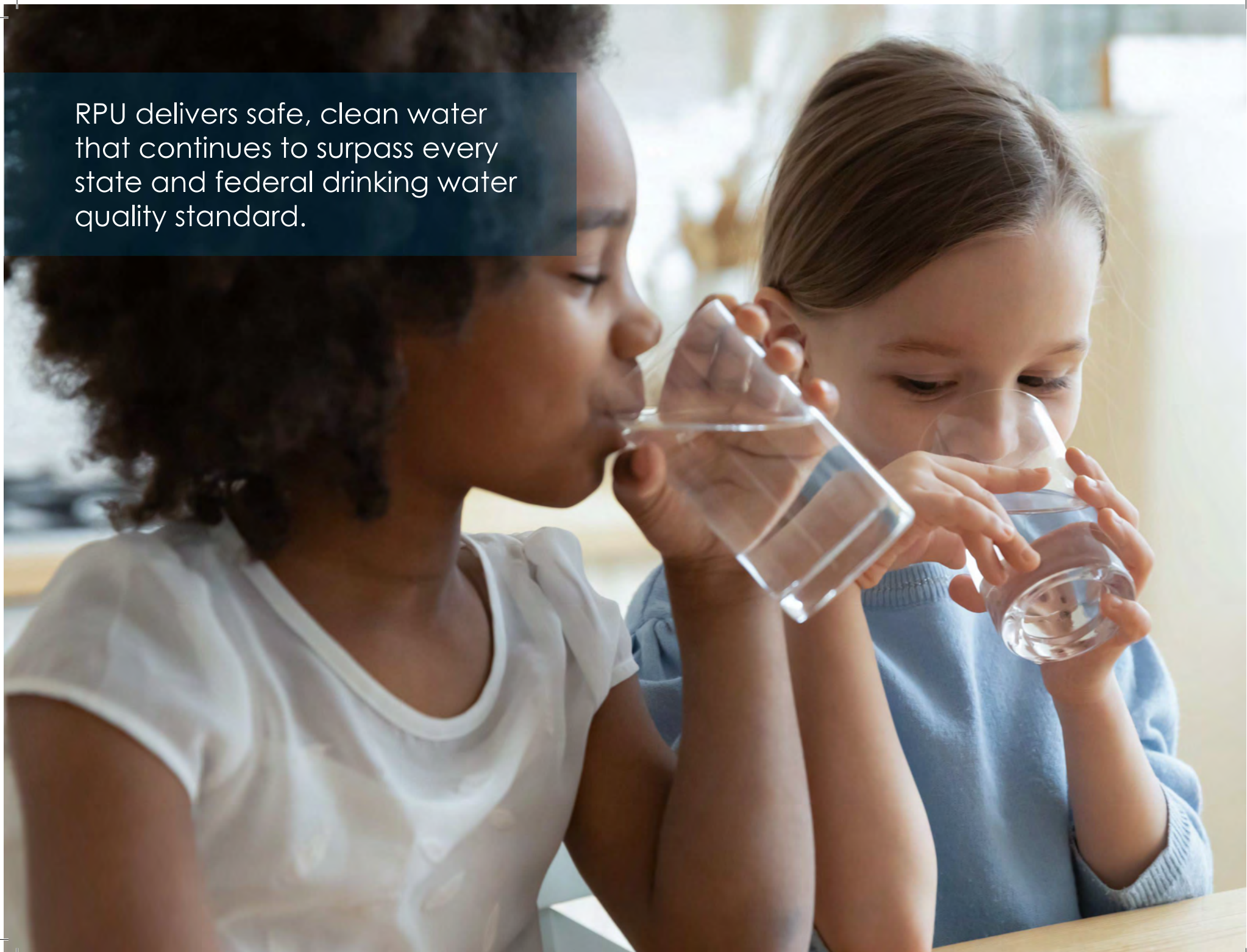
**Ion Exchange** reactors are filled with tiny resin beads that remove charged compounds. RPU's ion exchange reactors are designed for removal of perchlorate through an ionic exchange. This treatment is effective in removing  $\text{ClO}_4^-$ , and can be effective in removing PFAS.

**Microfiltration Membrane** filters use pressurized membranes with very small pores to remove particles and bacteria from the water. The pores are 0.1 to 10 microns or 1/300th the diameter of a human hair. This treatment is effective in removing microorganisms.

**Chlorine Disinfection** uses a small amount of chlorine to kill or inactivate bacteria, viruses, or other waterborne pathogens that may be remaining in the water. A small chlorine residual of less than one ppm is usually maintained throughout the entire system to protect the public from downstream contamination. This treatment deactivates/kills any remaining pathogens or viruses.



RPU delivers safe, clean water that continues to surpass every state and federal drinking water quality standard.





# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

## Riverside Public Utilities Board of Directors:

David M. Crohn (Board Chair), Ward 1  
Rebeccah A. Goldware (Board Vice-Chair), Ward 2  
Nipunjeet Gujral, Ward 3  
Gary Montgomery, Ward 4  
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Gil Ocegüera, Ward 7  
Peter Wohlgemuth, Citywide/Ward 1

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Daniel E. Garcia, Deputy General Manager  
Carlie Myers, Assistant General Manager I  
Business Systems and Customer Service  
Daniel Honeyfield, Assistant General Manager I  
Energy Delivery  
David A. Garcia, Assistant General Manager I  
Water Delivery

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