

# Leveraging Earth Observations and Machine Learning for Sustainable Groundwater Management

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Brigham Young University*



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**SERVIR**

# West Africa Project Objectives

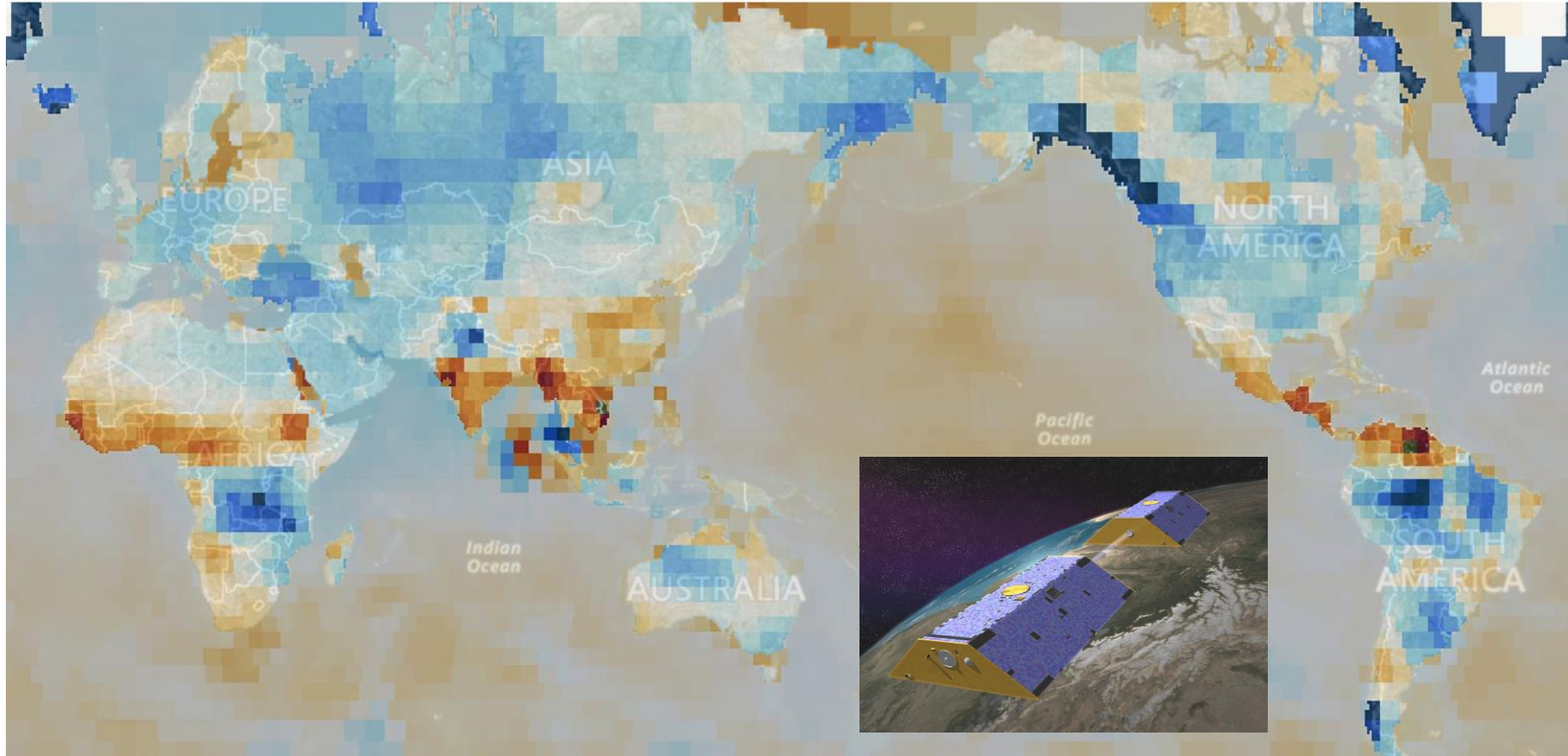
Assist stakeholders and water managers in West Africa to assess, characterize, and sustainably manage **groundwater resources** for **economic development** and **drought resilience**.



Focus areas/deliverables:

- 1) GRACE regional subsetting tool
- 2) Groundwater Data Mapping application
- 3) Regional groundwater model development

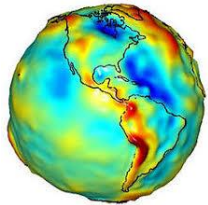
# GRACE Water Storage Anomaly



# Calculating Groundwater

## GRACE

Total Water  
Storage Anom.



## GLDAS

Total Surface Water  
Storage Anom.



## GLDAS

Total Soil Moisture  
Storage Anom



Total Groundwater Storage  
Anomaly



### App Navigation

Home

Global Map

### Select Signal Processing Method

CSR Solution

### Select Storage Component

Groundwater Storage (Calculated)

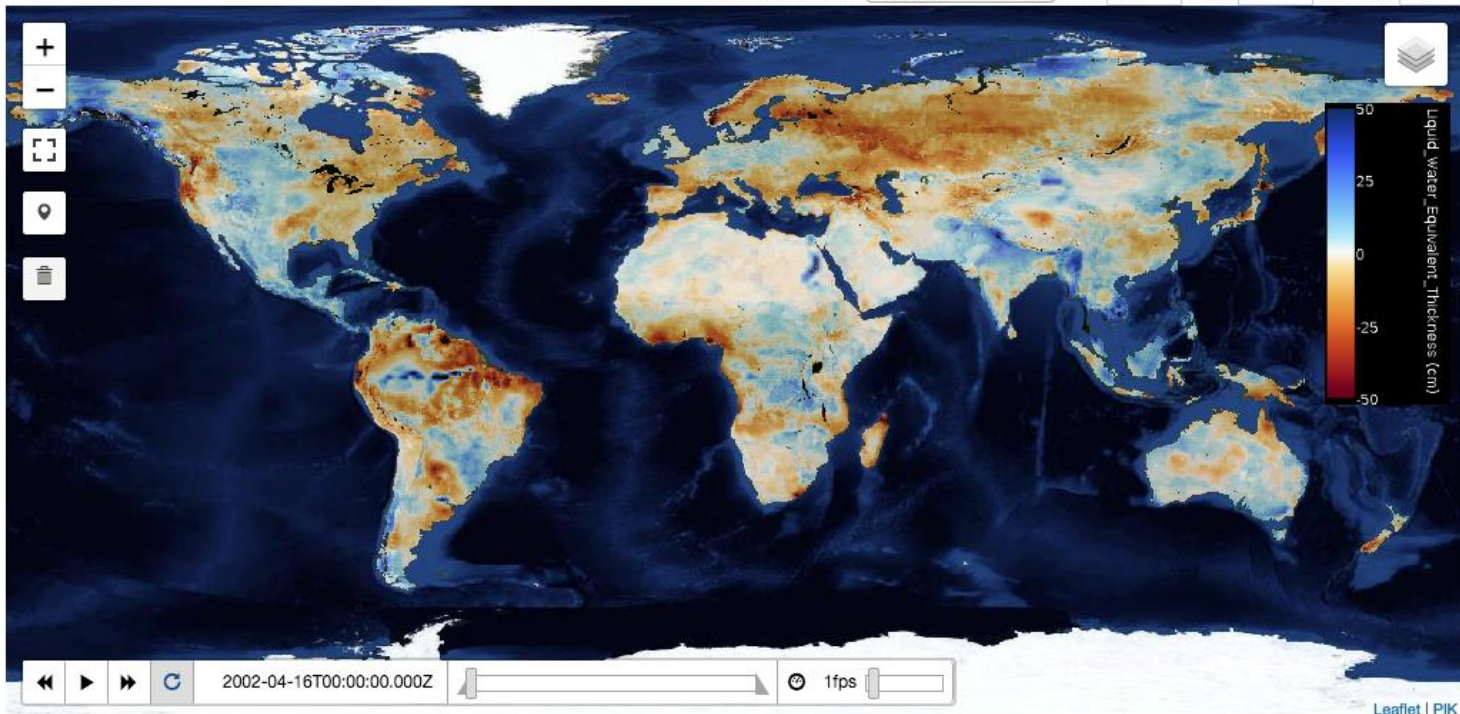
### Select a day

2002 April 16

### Time Series Generator ?

To generate a time series for a specific location, click on the **Marker Icon** on left side of the map. Then place the marker at the location for which you wish to extract a time series from the current map layer.

Select Symbology: Grace Min: -50 Max: 50 Opacity: 0.7



Leaflet | PIK

# GRACE Data Visualization Application

La Plata

Home

Global Map

Regional Map

Select Signal Processing Method

CSR Solution

Select Storage Component

Groundwater Storage (Calculated)

Select a day

2002 April 16

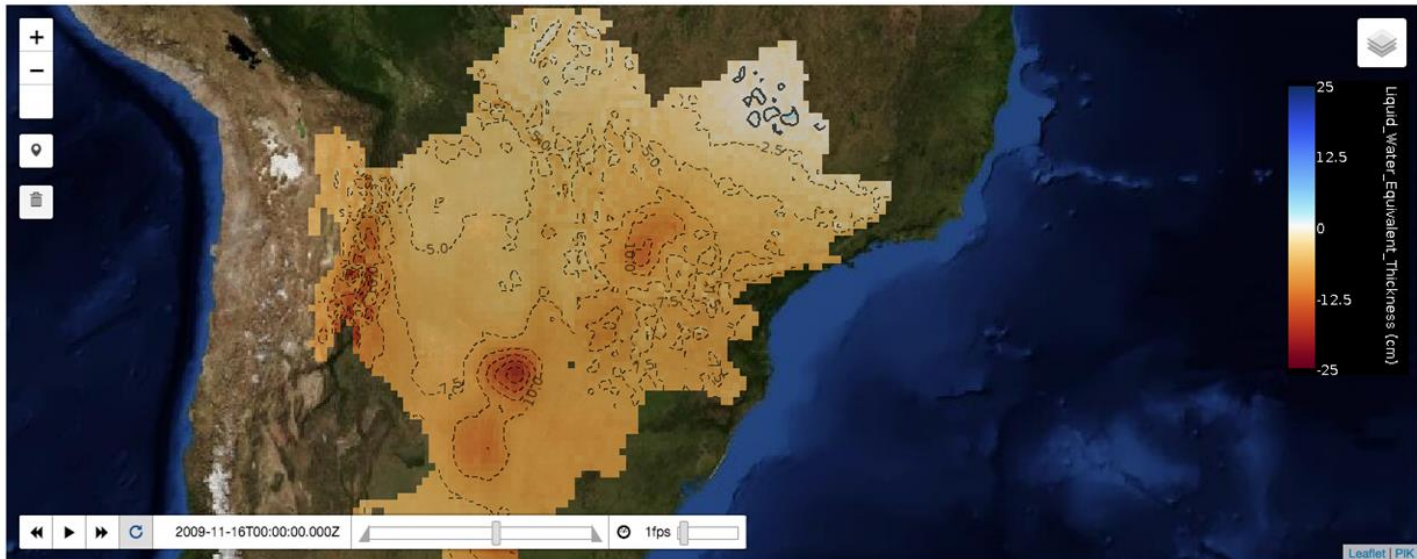
Time Series Generator

To generate a time series for a specific location, click on the Marker Icon on left side of the map. Then place the marker at the location for which you wish to extract a time series from the current map layer.

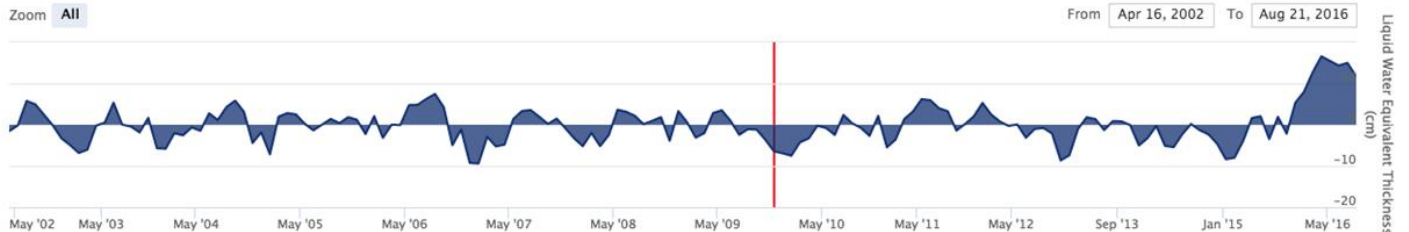
\*\*\*NOTE: The point time series will

Switch Region: La Plata

Select Symbology: Grace Min: -25 Max: 25 Opacity: 0.7



La Plata Regional Average Water Storage Anomaly



Regional  
Subsetting  
Analysis

Home

Global Map

Regional Map

Select Signal Processing Method

CSR Solution

Select Storage Component

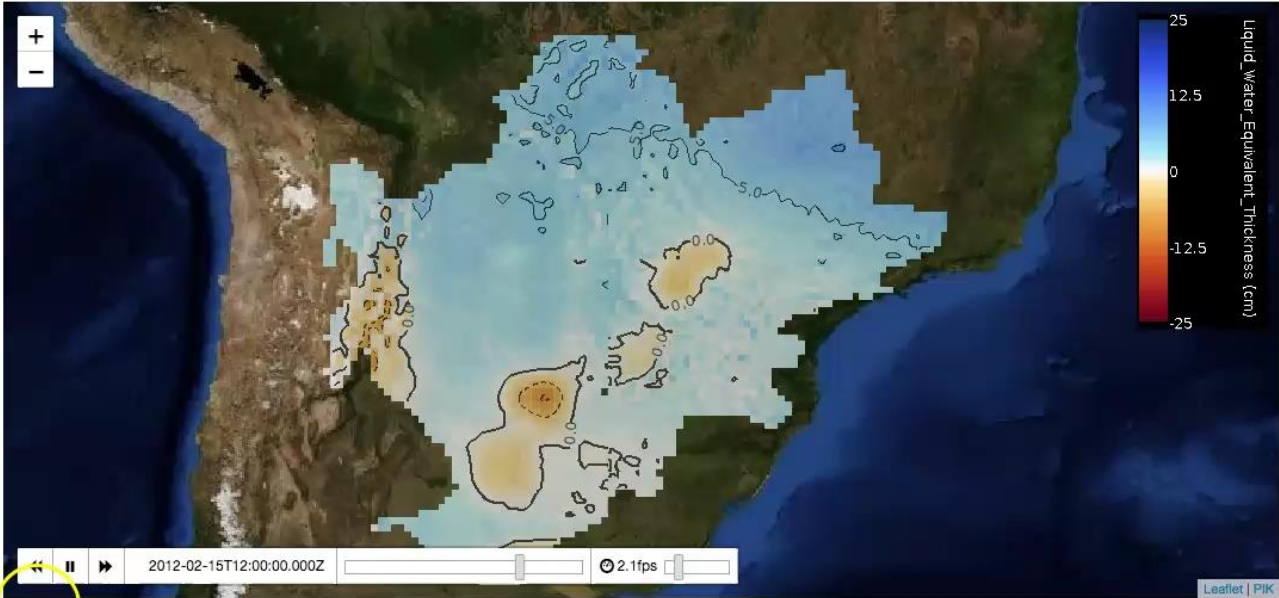
Groundwater Storage (Calculated)

Select a day

2002 April 16

Switch Region: La Plata

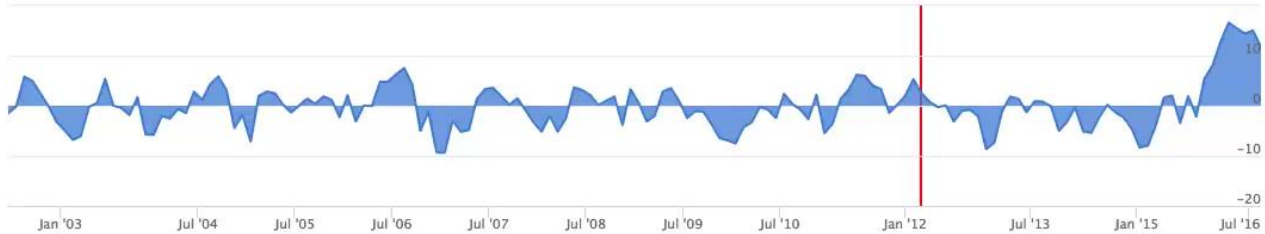
Select Symbology: Grace -25 Max: 25 Opacity: 0.7



laplata Regional Average Liquid Water Equivalent Thickness (cm)

Zoom All

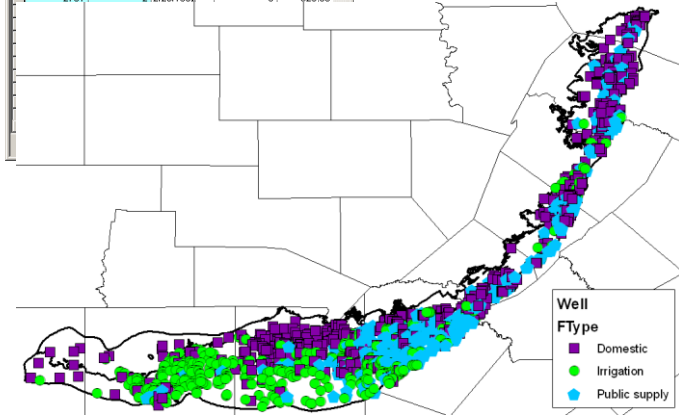
From Apr 16, 2002 To Aug 21, 2016



# Groundwater Data Mapping App

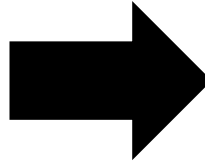
FeatureID	VariableID	IsTime	UTCOffset	TeVale
2791	2	3/30/1982	-6	625.75
2791	2	12/15/1981	-6	626.67
2791	2	12/30/1981	-6	626.57
2791	2	1/15/1982	-6	626.35
2791	2	1/30/1982	-6	626.27
2791	2	2/15/1982	-6	626.01
2791	2	2/30/1982	-6	623.7
2791	2	3/15/1982	-6	625.76
2791	2	3/30/1982	-6	624.37
2791	2	4/15/1982	-6	625.42
2791	2	4/30/1982	-6	625.34
2791	2	5/15/1982	-6	626.1
2791	2	5/30/1982	-6	626.35
2791	2	6/15/1982	-6	625.74
2791	2	4/15/1983	-6	624.63
2791	2	2/28/1982	-6	625.88

Water Level  
Measurements

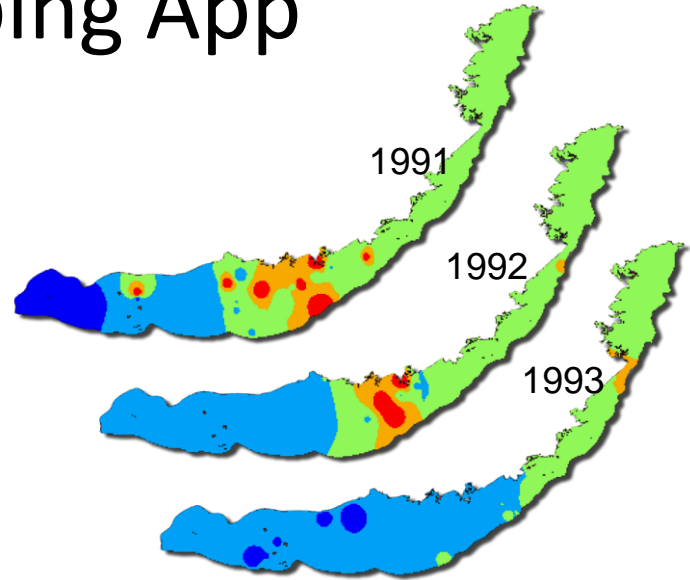


Well Locations

Time and  
Space  
Interpolation  
Algorithms



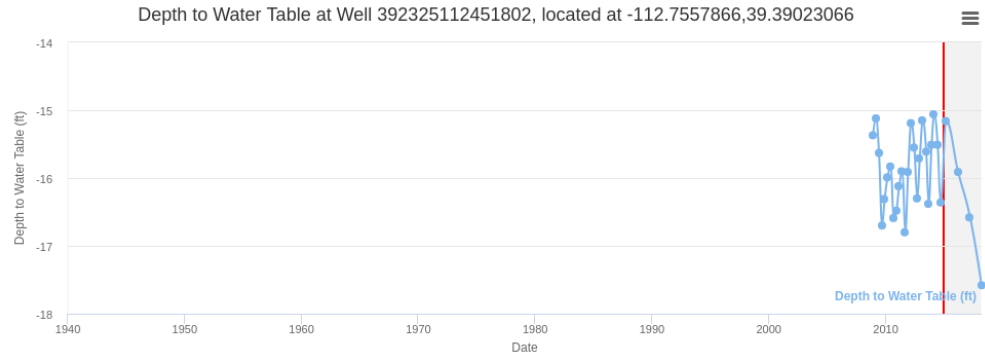
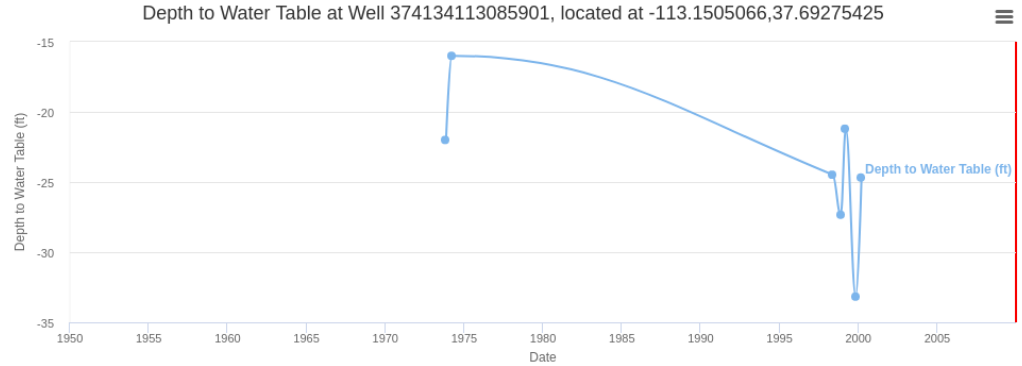
Earth Observations



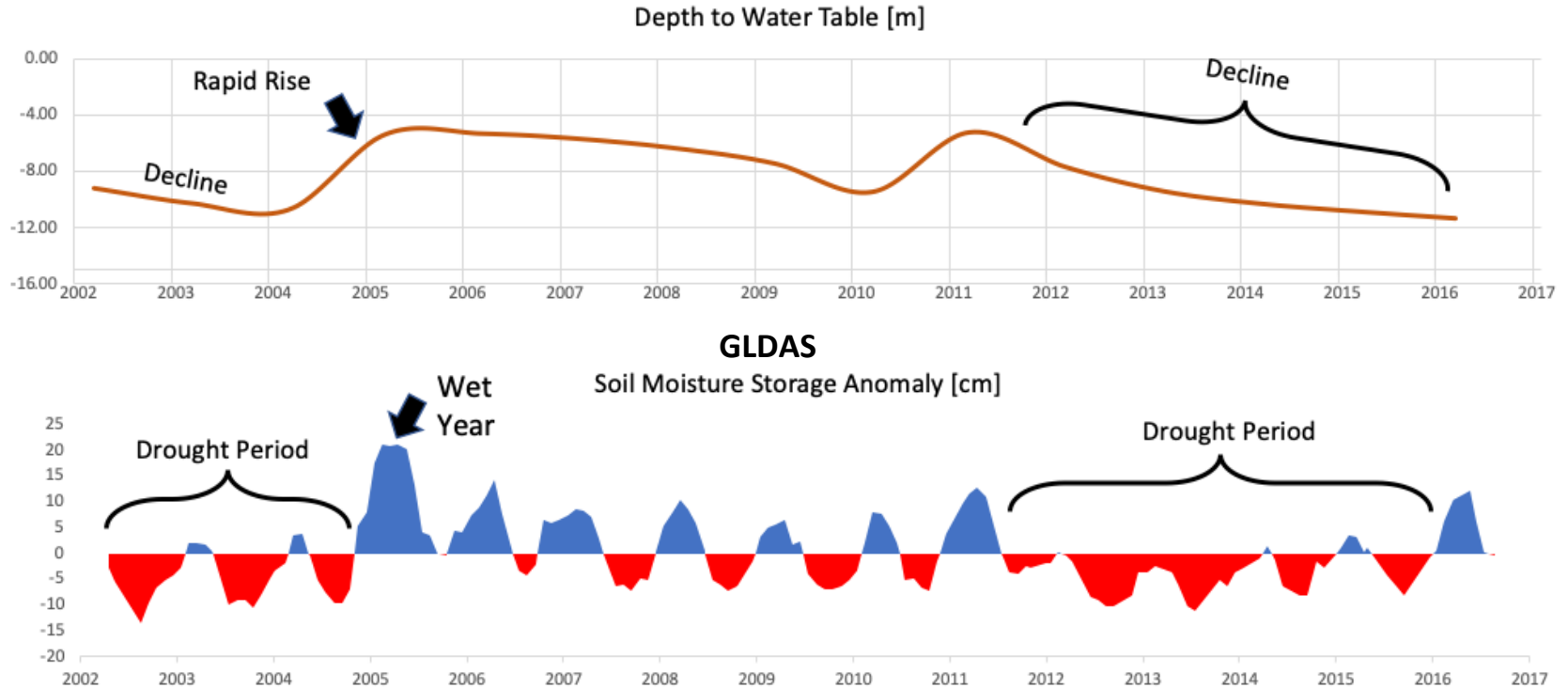


# Temporally Sporadic Data

- Well Time series often include large gaps in collected data
- Some wells may only have data for one or two years



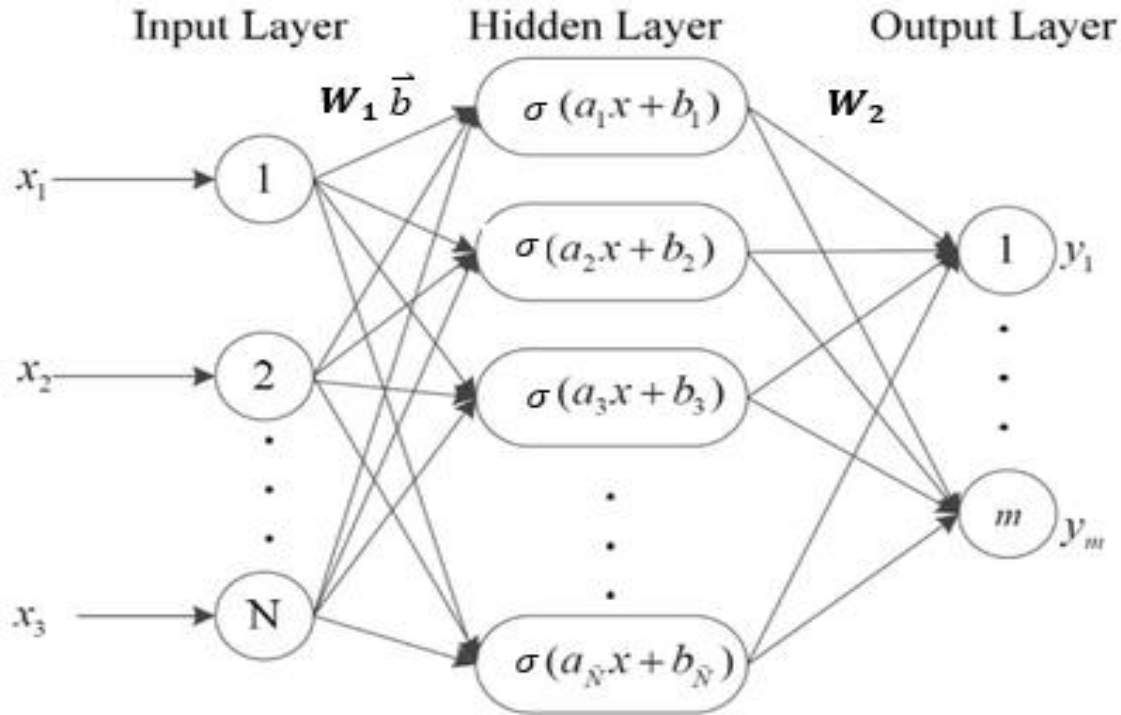
# Correlation with Earth Observations



# Earth Observations

- Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI)
- Global Land Data Assimilation (GLDAS) Root Zone Soil Moisture
- Climate Prediction Center (CPC) Soil Moisture
- Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (GRACE) Total Water Storage

# Extreme Learning Machine

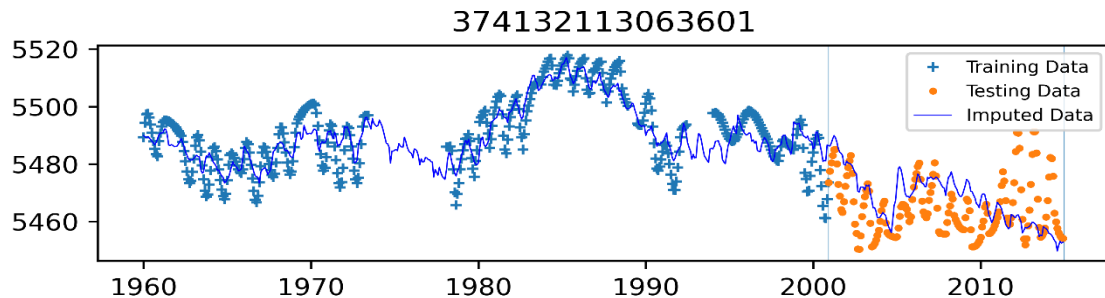
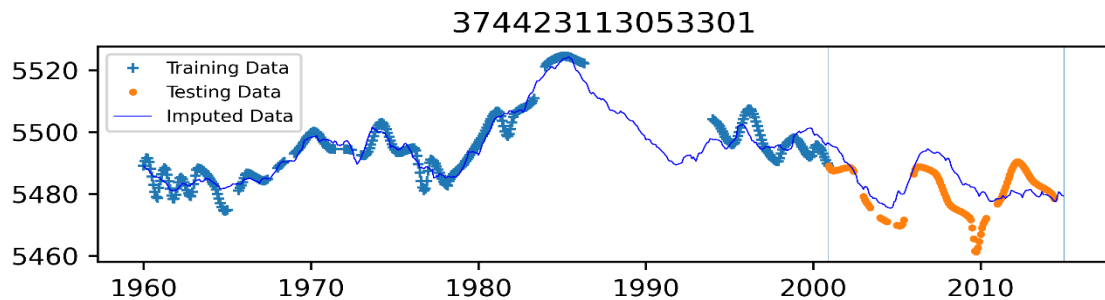
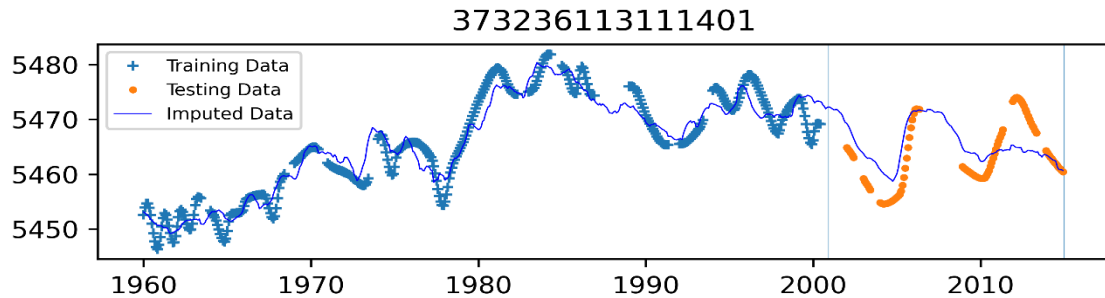


$$\vec{Y} = W_2 * \sigma(W_1 X + \vec{b})$$

$$\sigma(x) = \max(0, x)$$

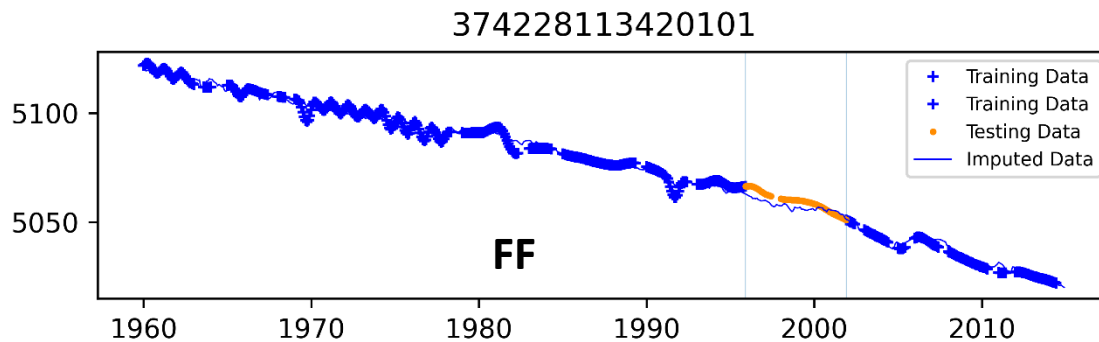
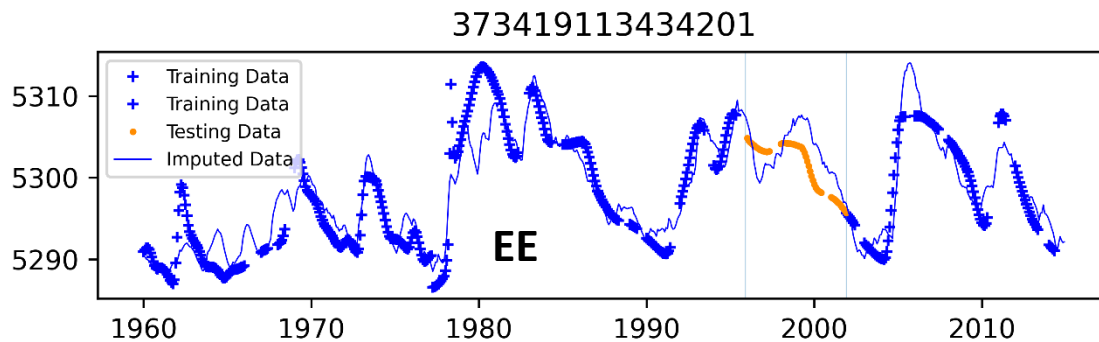
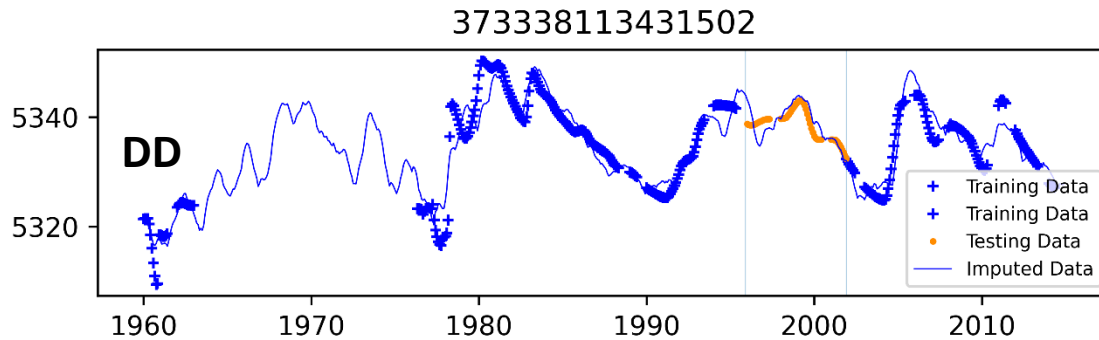
# Extrapolation

Cedar Valley Aquifer  
Utah, USA



# Imputation

Cedar Valley Aquifer  
Utah, USA



Home

Regional Map

Select Region

Texas

Select Aquifer

Edwards-Trinity

Select Data Type

Well Drawdown

Available Raster Animations

Edwards-Trinity IDW: 1950-2015 (5 ...)

Minimum Samples per Well

15

For selected aquifers, the app allows the users to create raster animations using machine learning algorithm. This illustrates how groundwater levels are changing over time.

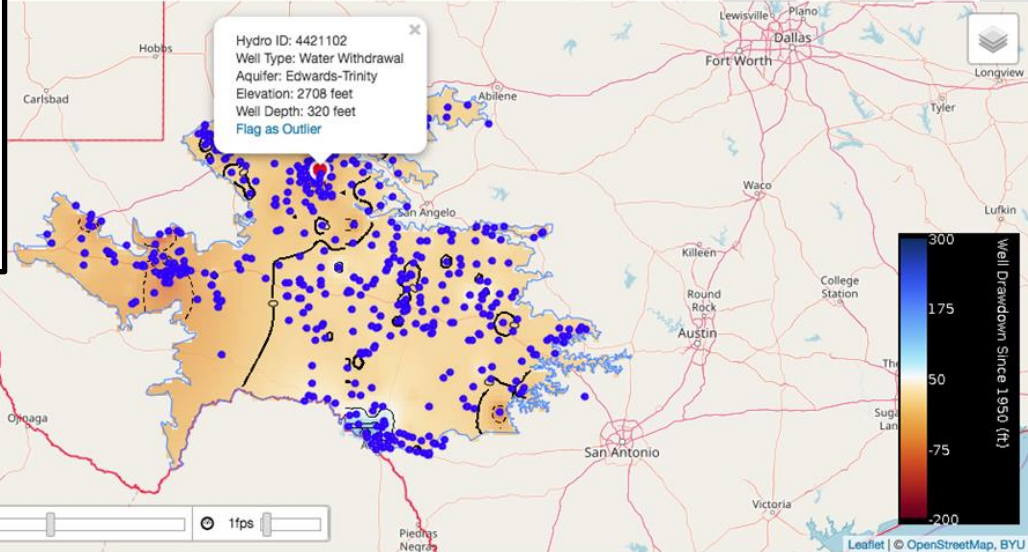
**Legend**

- Wells with Data spanning Time Period
- Wells with Data in Time Period
- Wells with no Data in Time Period
- Wells with Data Outliers

1974-12-30T00:00:00.000Z 1fps

Region Home

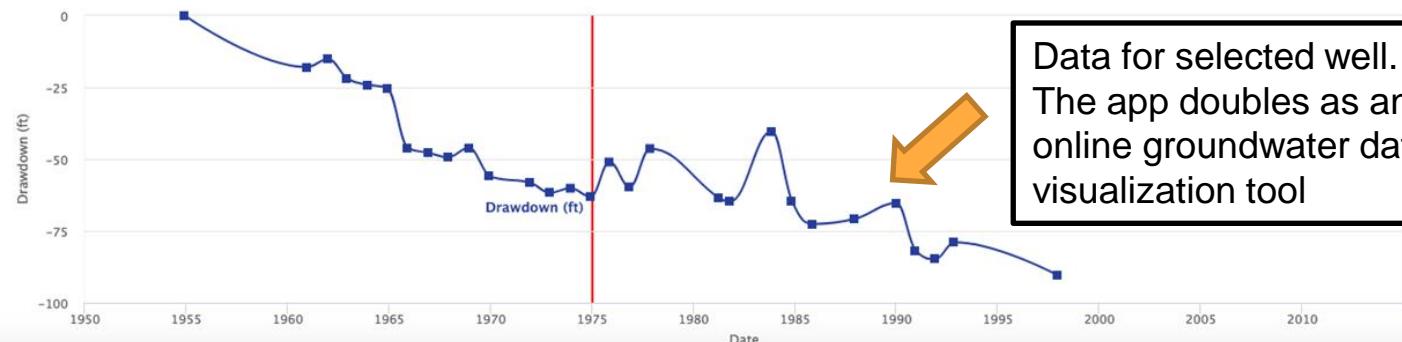
Select Symbology: GRACE Min: -200 Max: 300 Opacity: 0.7



Raster Animation Tools



Drawdown since December, 1954 at Well 4421102, located at -101.497499,31.742777



Data for selected well. The app doubles as an online groundwater data visualization tool



Select Region

Texas

Select Aquifer

Edwards-Trinity

Select Data Type

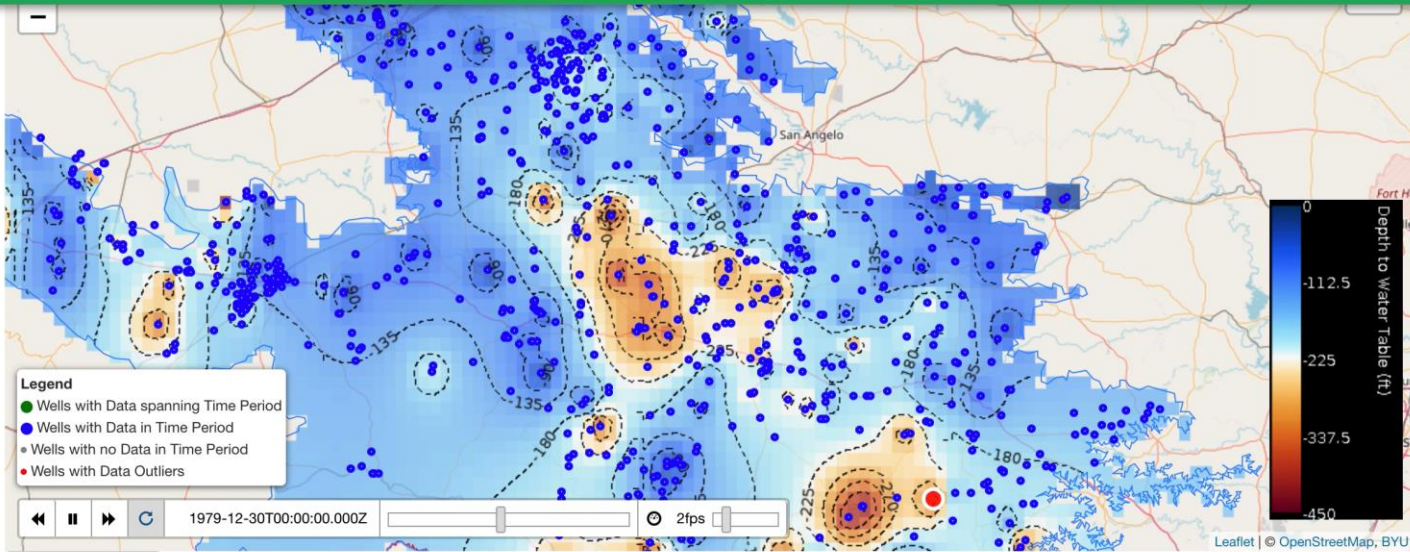
Depth to Groundwater

Available Raster Animations

Edwards-Trinity IDW: 1950-2015 (5 ...)

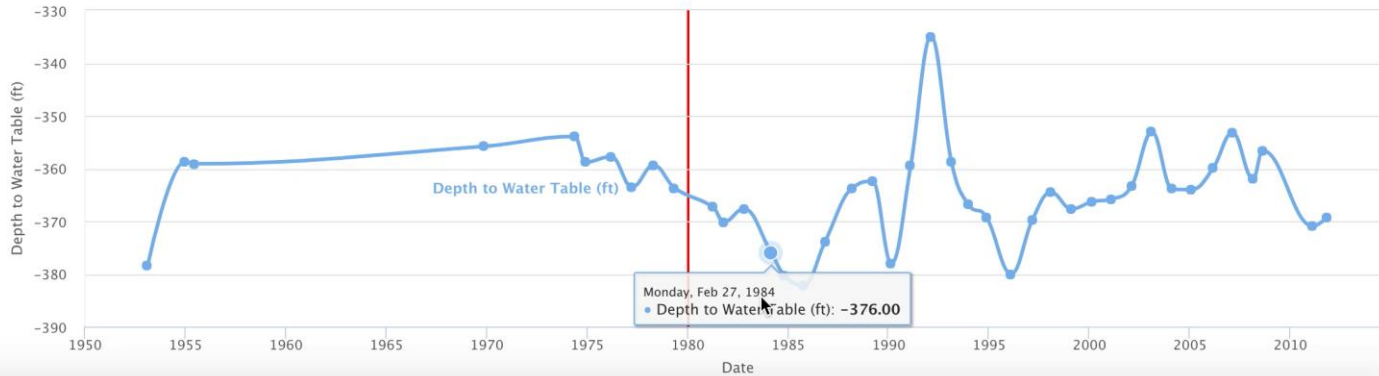
Minimum Samples per Well

5



Region Home

Depth to Water Table at Well 5657601, located at -99.890277,30.044166





Home

Regional Map

Select Region

Utah

Select Aquifer

Escalante Valley-Beryl-Enterprise

Select Data Type

Well Drawdown

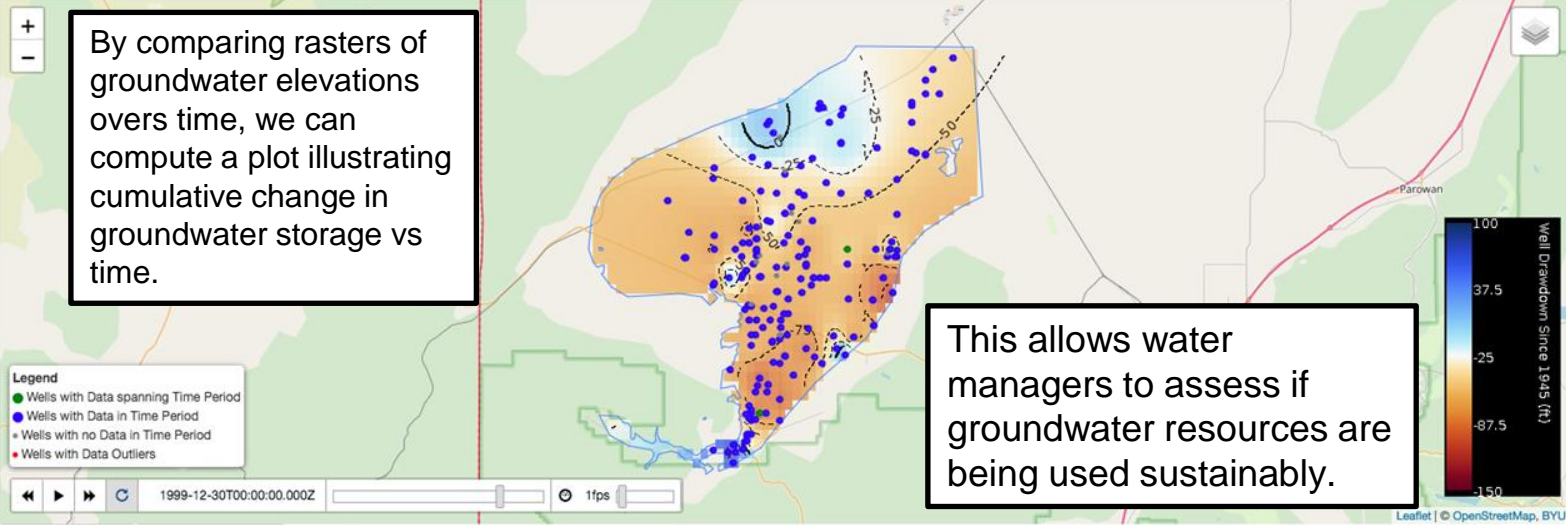
Available Raster Animations

Escalante Valley-Beryl-Enterprise ID...

Minimum Samples per Well

15

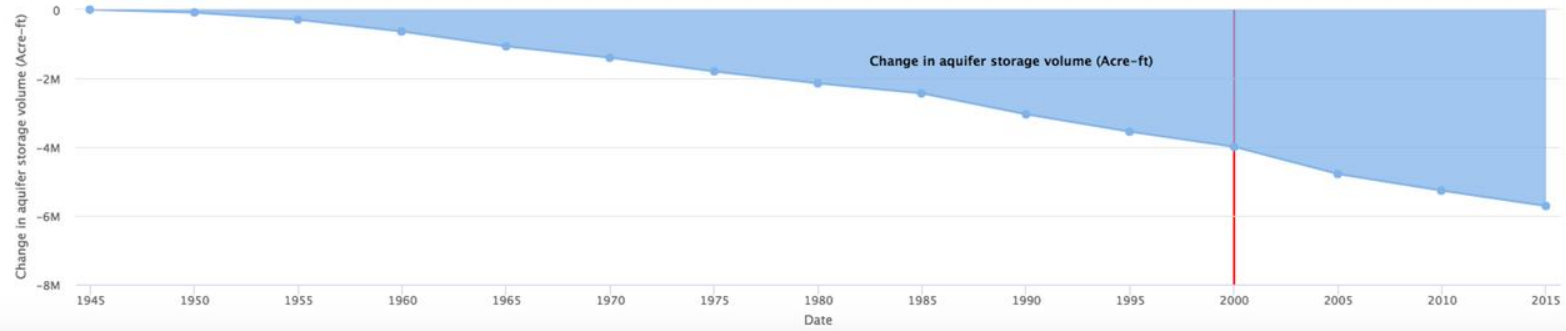
Select Symbology: GRACE Min: -150 Max: 100 Opacity: 0.7



Region Home

Aquifer Storage

Change in Aquifer Storage Volume since December, 1944 (Acre-ft)





# Geospatial Information Tools for Sustainable Groundwater Management in West Africa

NASA SERVIR Applied Science Team

Brigham Young University, Provo Utah, USA

The project is funded by the [NASA SERVIR](#) program. The objective of the SERVIR program is to assist developing countries in using Earth Observations to assess, analyze, and sustainably manage natural resources and to improve lives. SERVIR works with a set of regional "hubs" serving more than 30 countries. These hubs are located in Amazonia, West Africa, East and Southern Africa, Hindu Kush Himalaya, and Mekong. Every three years NASA forms an Applied Science Team that works with the regional hub to deliver science, data, training. Our project was funded in October, 2019 and will continue through October, 2022. We are working in Ghana, and Senegal. The hub is headquartered in an organization called AGRHYMET, located in Burkina Faso, and is funded by USAID.

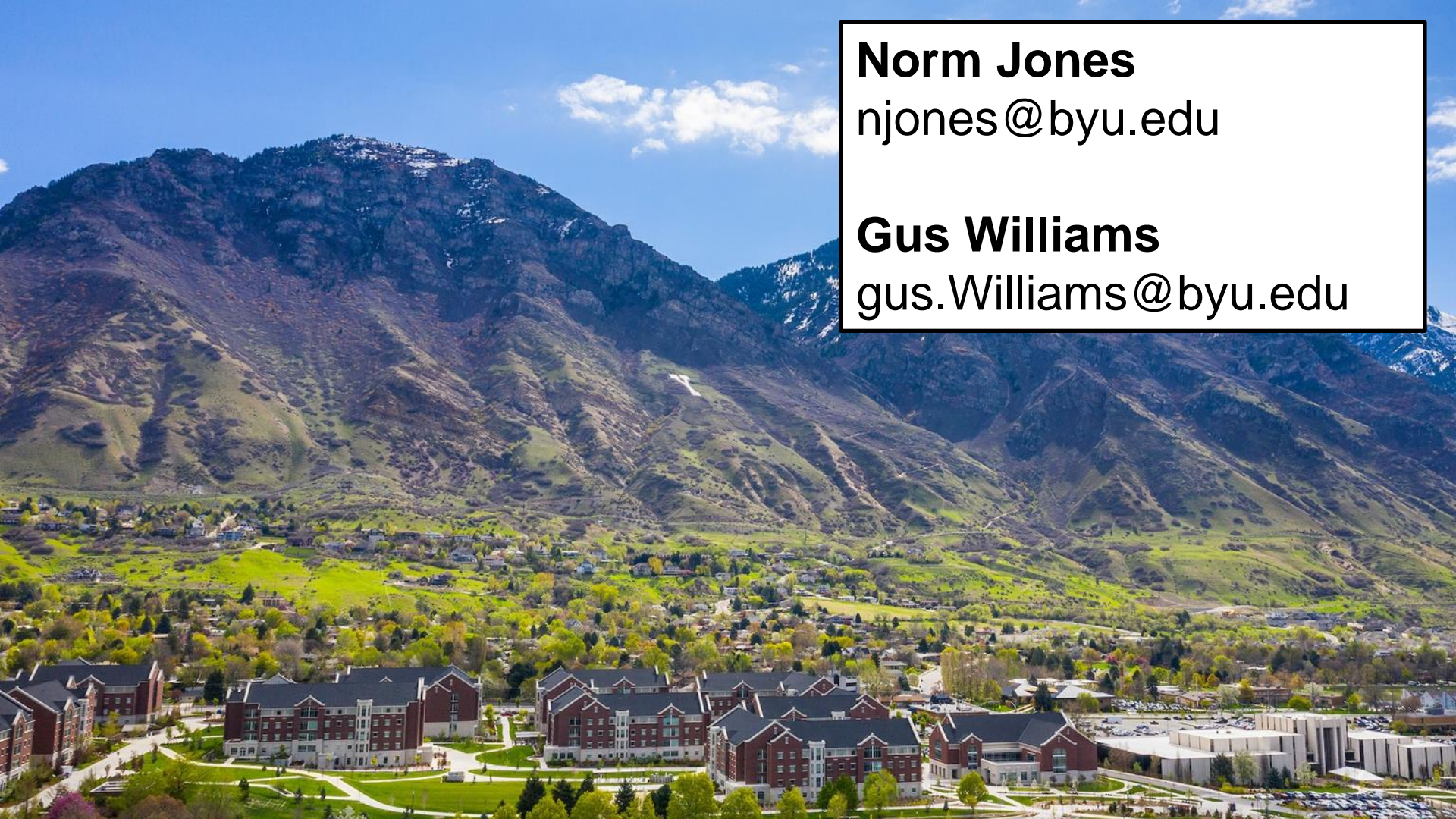
<http://hydroinf.groups.et.byu.net/servir-wa/>

The objective of this website is to provide a repository of information, links, training materials and other resources related to this project.



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