

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Court Appointed Technical Group Releases Spring 2021 Index  
Area Groundwater Remains in Severe Water Shortage Condition**

The Nipomo Mesa Management Area (NMMA) Technical Group has confirmed the Spring 2021 groundwater basin conditions after receiving well level measurements from the San Luis Obispo County Public Works Department.

The area saw lower than average rainfall this past winter. The 2021 KWI value (7.8 feet mean sea level [ft msl]) has decreased from the previous year (8.7 ft msl), and remains within the Severe Water Shortage Conditions (below 16.5 ft msl). This is the eighth consecutive year the KWI value is in Severe Water Shortage Conditions, which signifies a Stage IV NMMA Water Shortage Response.

For more information and to review the NMMA's full statement, please visit the District's website [www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov) or contact the District at [info@ncsd.ca.gov](mailto:info@ncsd.ca.gov).

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**Established in 1965 to meet the health and sanitation needs of the local community, Nipomo Community Services is pleased to provide a wide variety of services throughout its district including the provision of water, sewer, and waste management services as well as lighting and drainage in limited areas. The mission of Nipomo Community Services District is: Provide our customers with reliable, quality, and cost-effective services now and in the future.**

# Nipomo Mesa Management Area 2022 Key Wells Index

## Severe Water Shortage Conditions

The Nipomo Mesa Management Area Technical Group ("NMMA TG") established groundwater level and groundwater quality criteria to track overall basin conditions within the NMMA. The criteria include the Key Wells Index ("KWI"), which combines groundwater level data from eight selected wells distributed throughout the inland portion of the Management Area. Water level measurements are made in NMMA groundwater wells representing the basin as a whole and are used to compute the KWI during the spring of each year.

The TG uses the KWI to help identify trends in basin groundwater levels and has compiled KWI data for the period from 1975 to the present. Groundwater levels have changed in the NMMA over time, and in the last nine years are at levels that are lower than at any other time from 1975 (Figure 1).

One of the NMMA TG's court-required duties is to determine when conditions of "Potentially Severe Water Shortage Conditions" or "Severe Water Shortage Conditions" have been reached. The 2022 KWI value (7.8 feet mean sea level [ft msl]) has decreased from the previous year (8.7 ft msl) and remains within the Severe Water Shortage Conditions (below 16.5 ft msl). This is the eighth consecutive year the KWI value is in Severe Water Shortage Conditions, which signifies a Stage IV NMMA Water Shortage Response.

Details of the KWI, as well as the agreed upon responses to Potentially Severe Water Shortage Conditions and Severe Water Shortage Conditions, are explained in further detail in the NMMA TG's annual report of groundwater conditions. The report's attachments include a response plan to groundwater shortage and an associated well management plan, including the NMMA Water Shortage Response Stages. The NMMA annual report for calendar year 2021, including these attachments, is available as a digital document at <http://ncsd.ca.gov/resources/reports-by-subject/#nmma>.

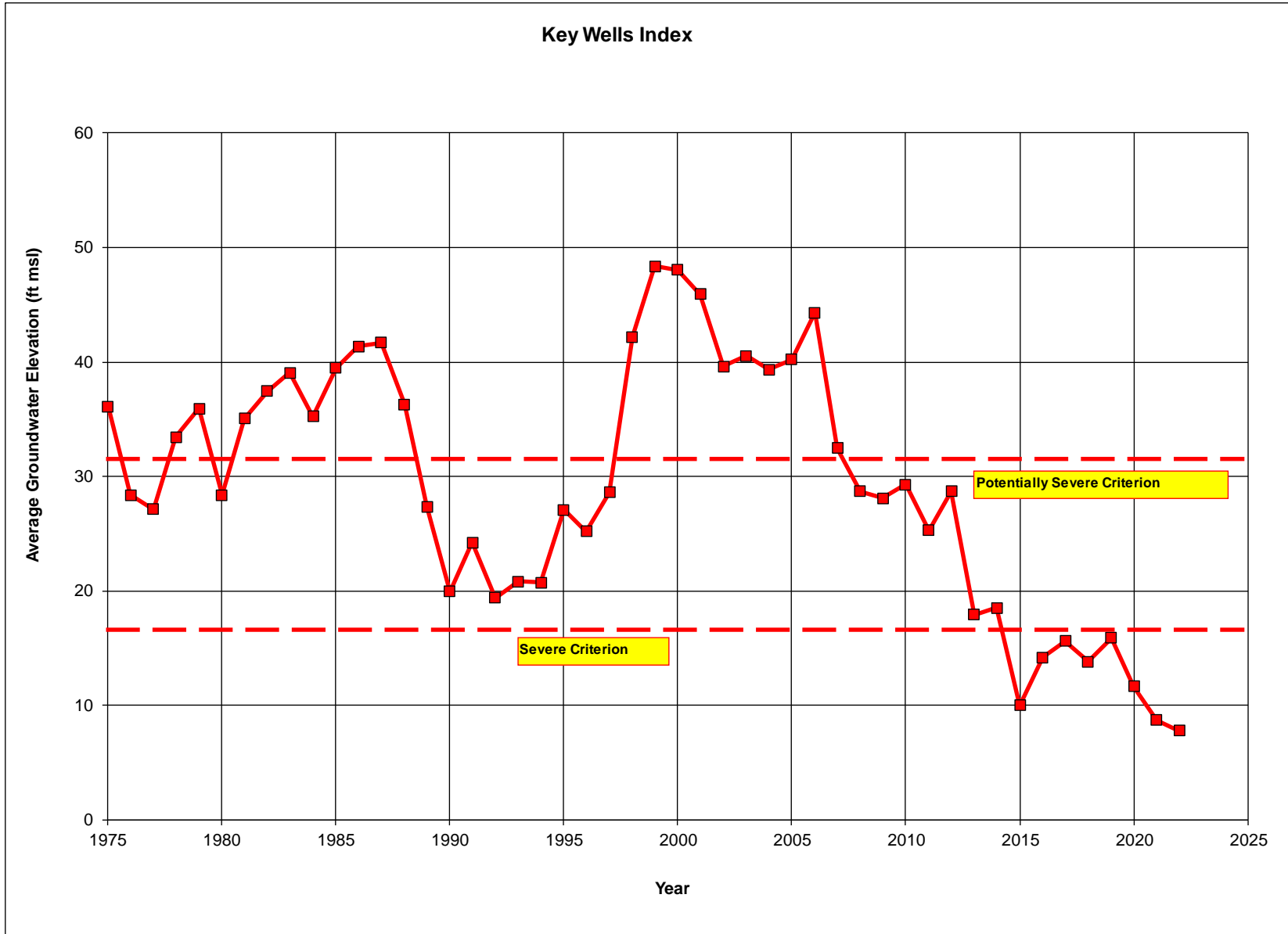


Figure 1