

**Joint Council Meeting #1 – Eastern Councils  
Thursday, June 23, 2016**

**Dubose Porter Center  
Oconee Fall Line Technical College  
560 Pinehill Road  
Dublin, GA 31021**



**Groundwater Availability Slides – This package includes the following slides presented by Dr. Kennedy:**

- Groundwater Availability Resource Assessment
- Slides on Task 1, Task 2 and Task 3, including:
  - Task 1: Claxton Node (Altamaha Council)
  - Task 2: Eden/Kings Ferry Nodes (Coastal Council)
  - Task 3: Cretaceous Aquifer (Middle Ocmulgee Council)



# *Groundwater Availability Resource Assessment*



## Georgia's State Water Plan

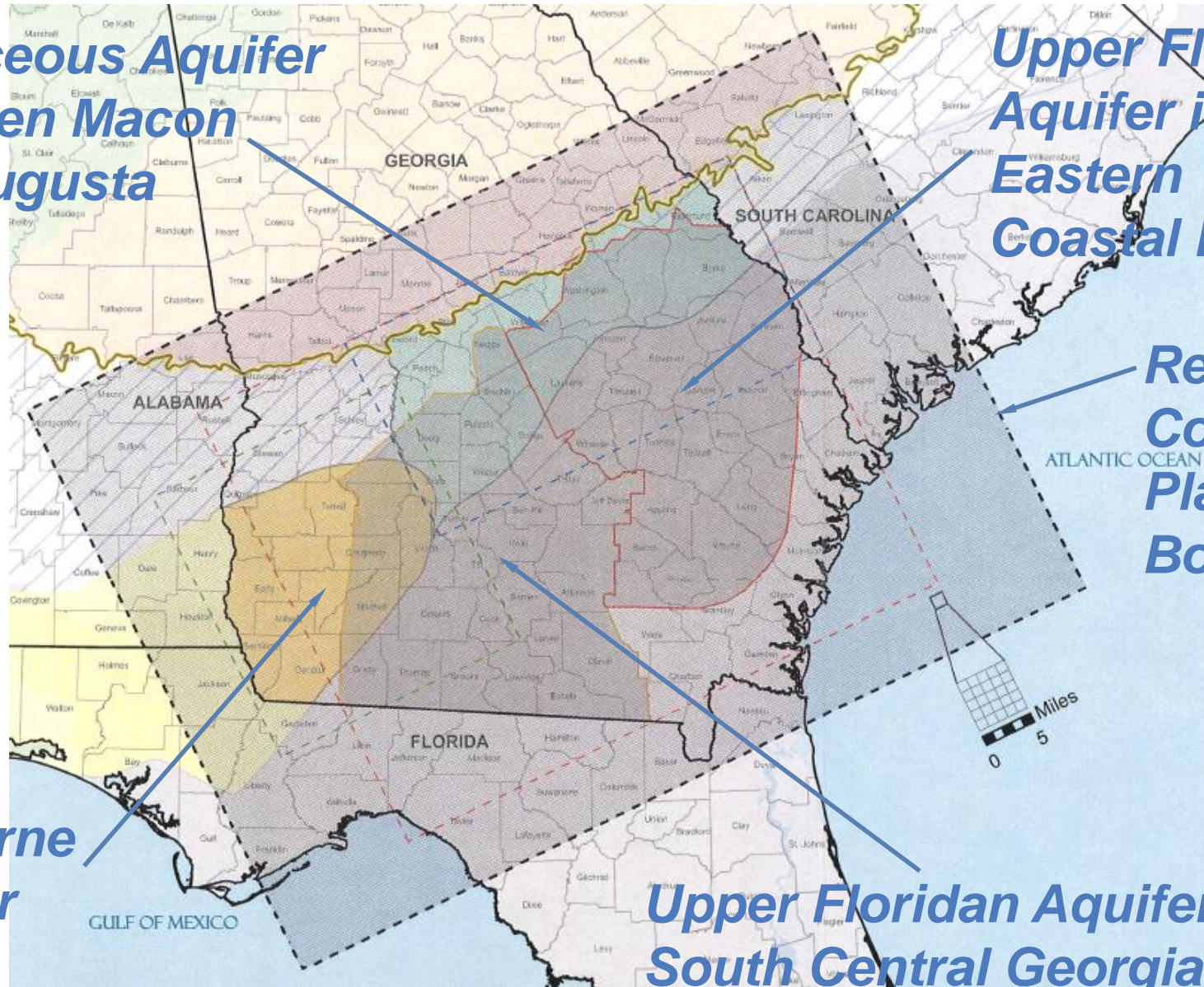
[www.georgiawaterplanning.org](http://www.georgiawaterplanning.org)

# Regional Coastal Plain Model and Aquifers Prioritized to Determine Sustainable Yield

**Cretaceous Aquifer  
Between Macon  
and Augusta**

**Upper Floridan  
Aquifer in the  
Eastern  
Coastal Plain**

**Regional  
Coastal  
Plain Model  
Boundary**



**Claiborne  
Aquifer**

**Upper Floridan Aquifer in  
South Central Georgia**



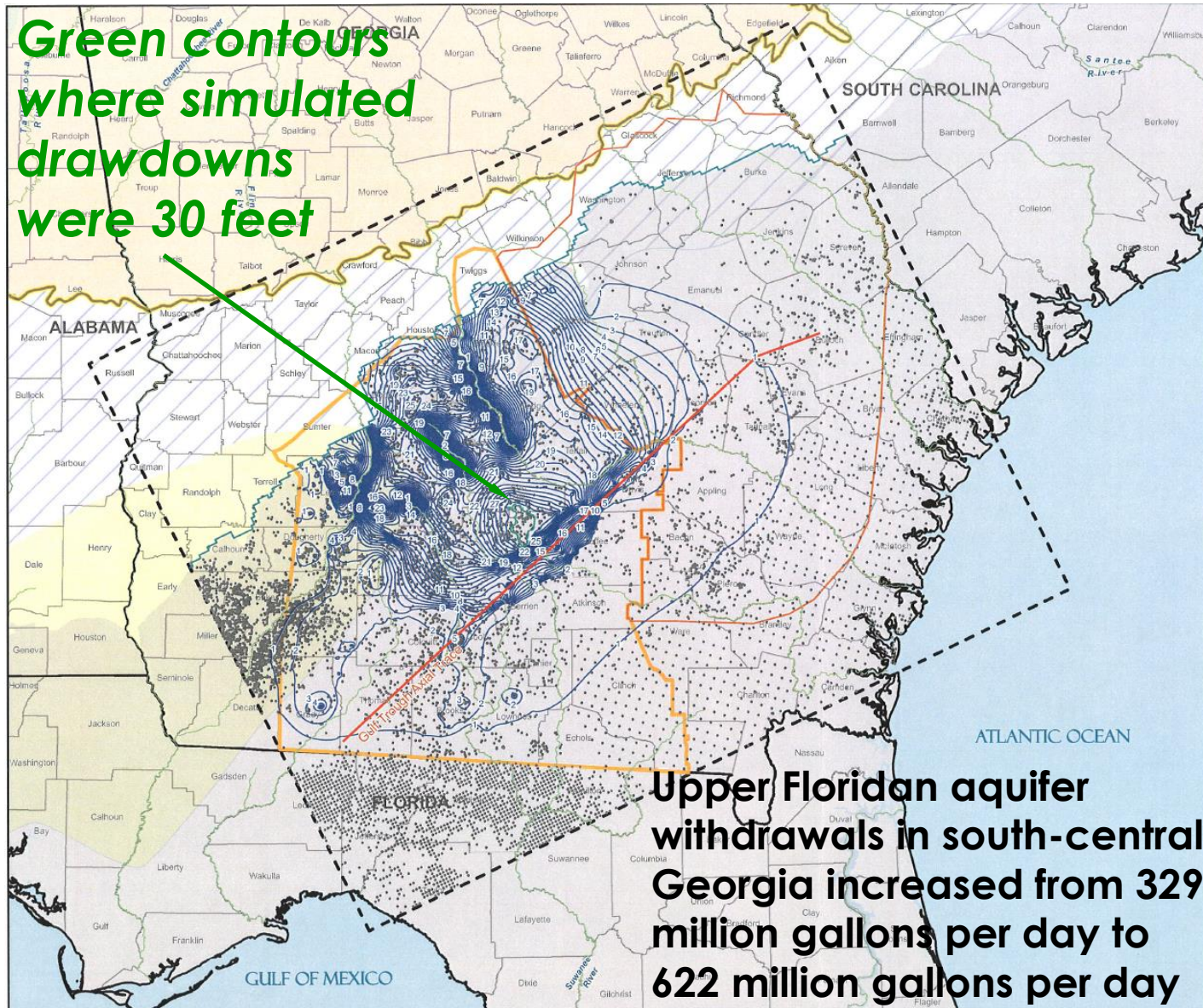
# *Model Simulations Used to Determine Sustainable Yields*

- Increased withdrawals from existing wells in individual prioritized aquifers
- Increased withdrawals from existing and hypothetical new wells in individual prioritized aquifers
- Determined ranges of aquifer sustainable yields
- Simultaneously increased withdrawals from existing wells in all prioritized aquifers in the regional model



# Simulated Drawdown in the Upper Floridan Aquifer of South-Central Georgia Due to Increased Withdrawals

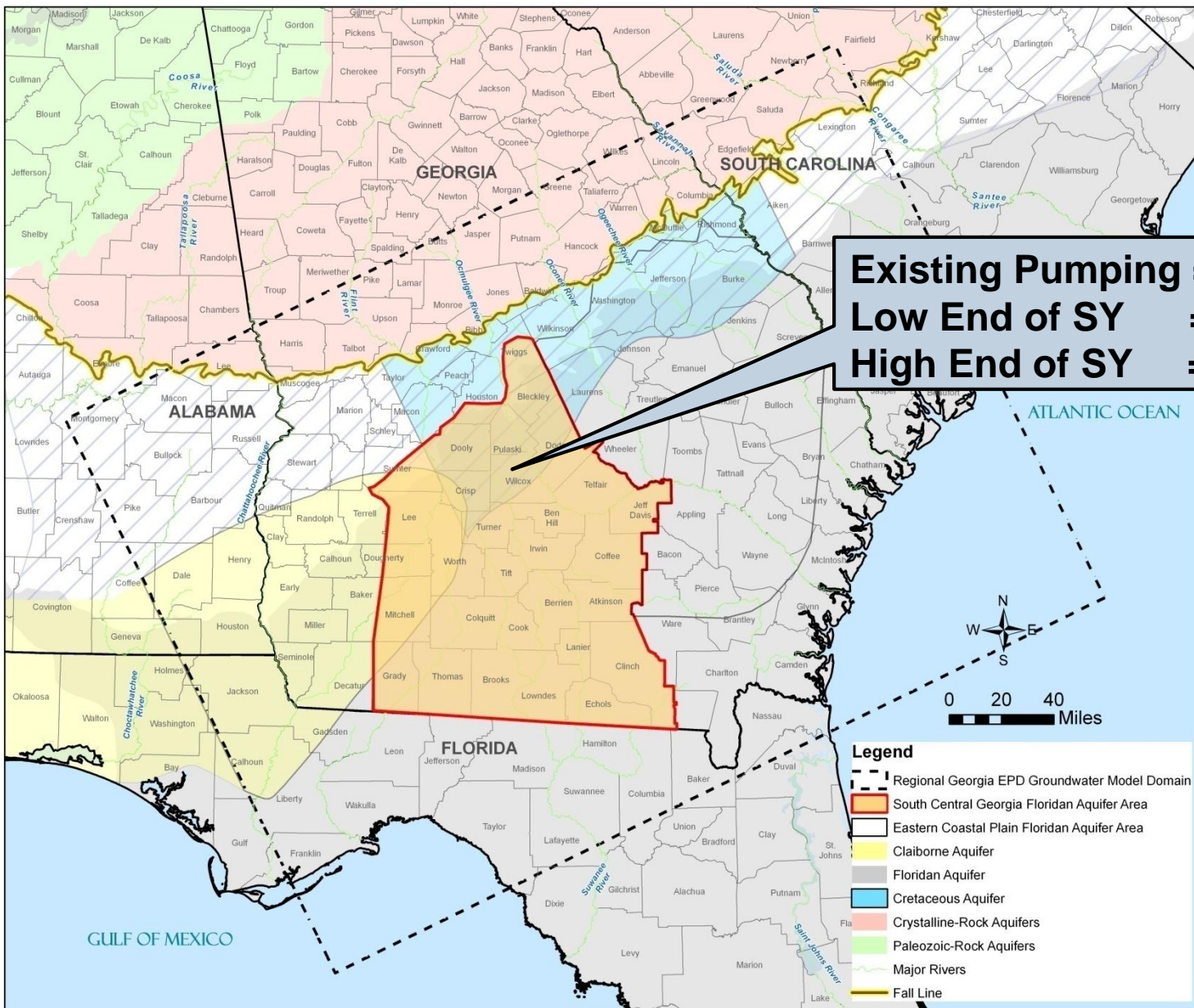
**Green contours  
where simulated  
drawdowns  
were 30 feet**





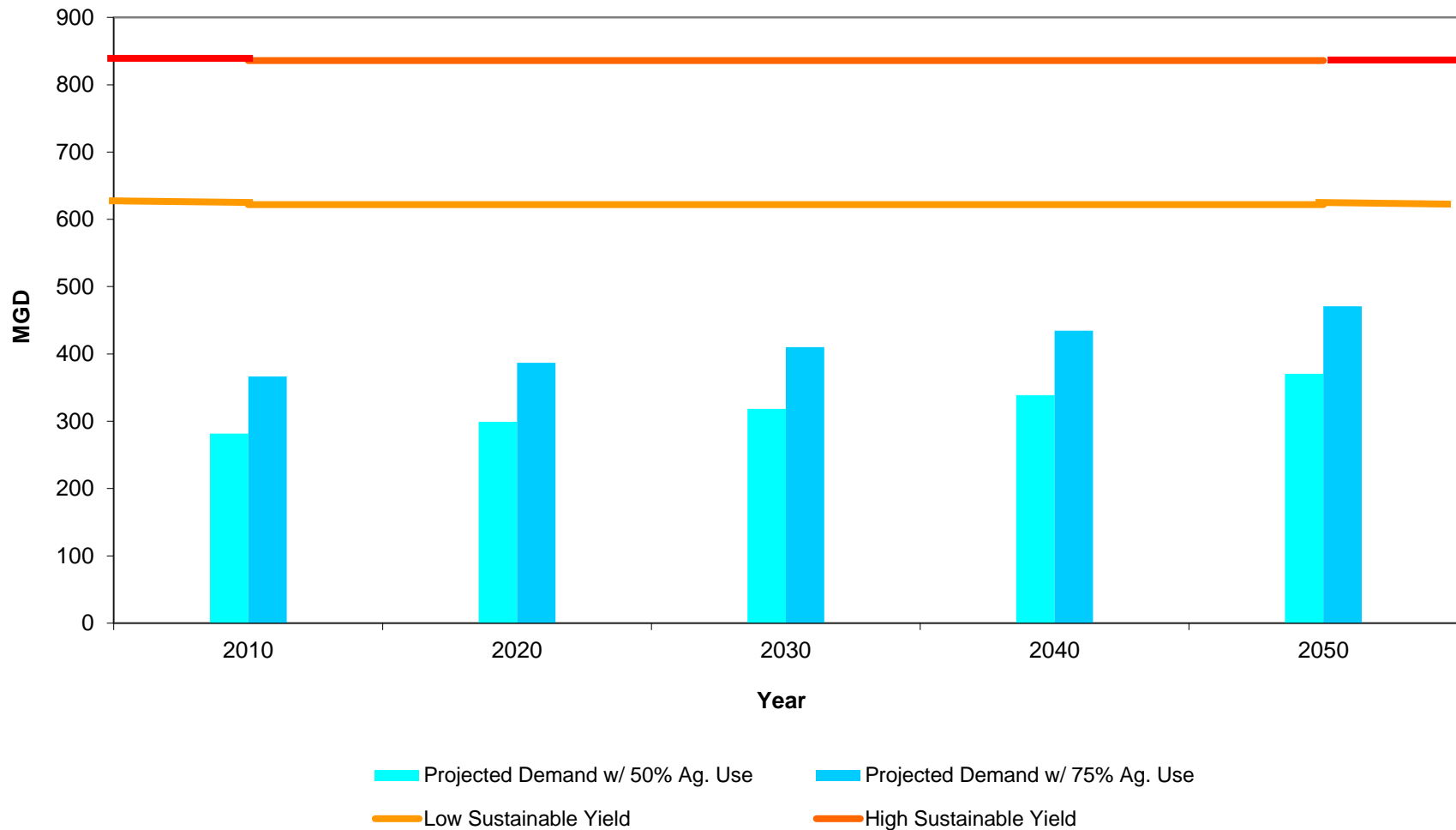
# Range of Sustainable Yield

## Upper Floridan Aquifer - South Central Georgia



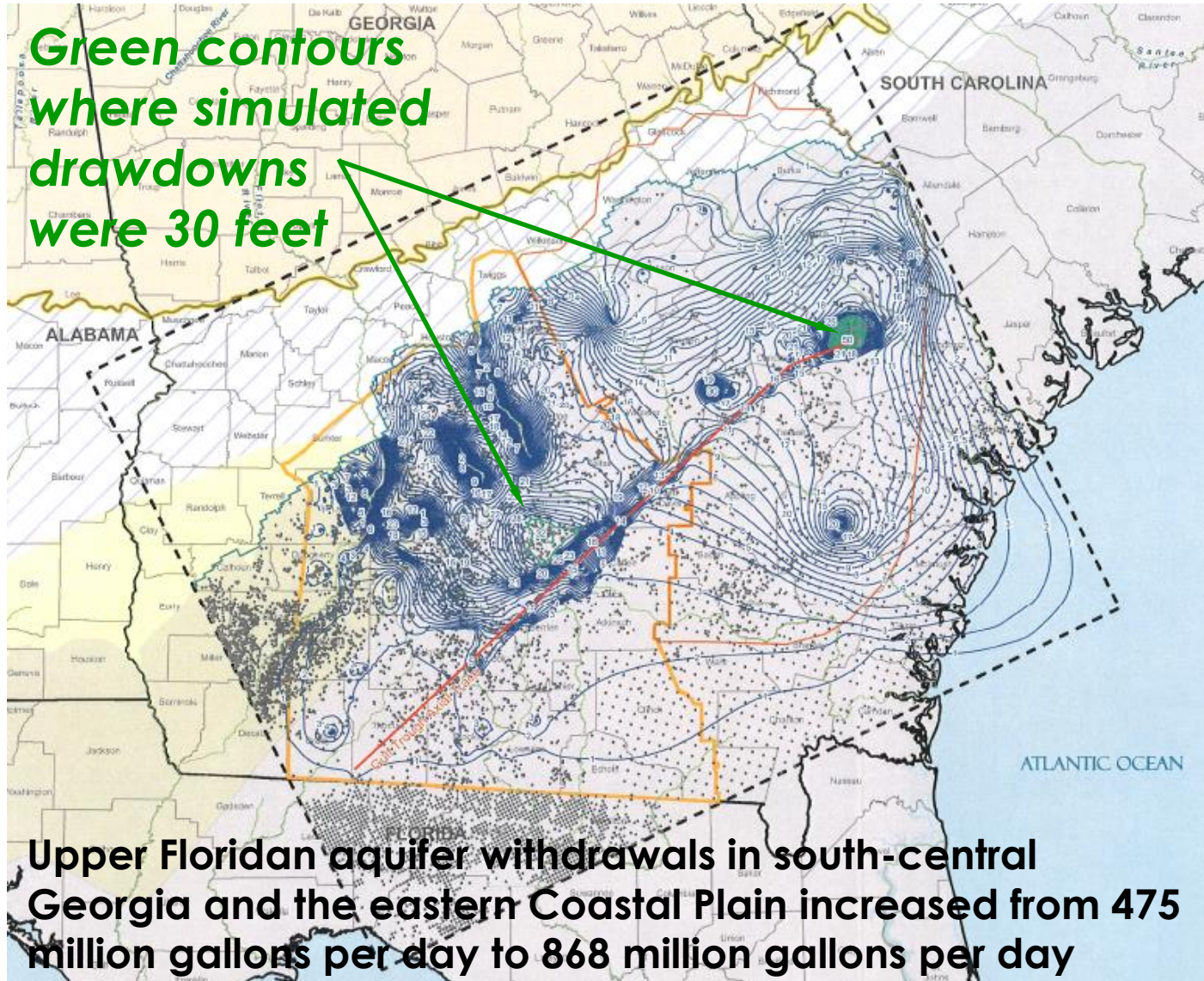
**Existing Pumping = 329 mgd**  
**Low End of SY = 622 mgd**  
**High End of SY = 836 mgd**

Forecasted Groundwater Demand - Upper Floridan Aquifer in South-Central Georgia



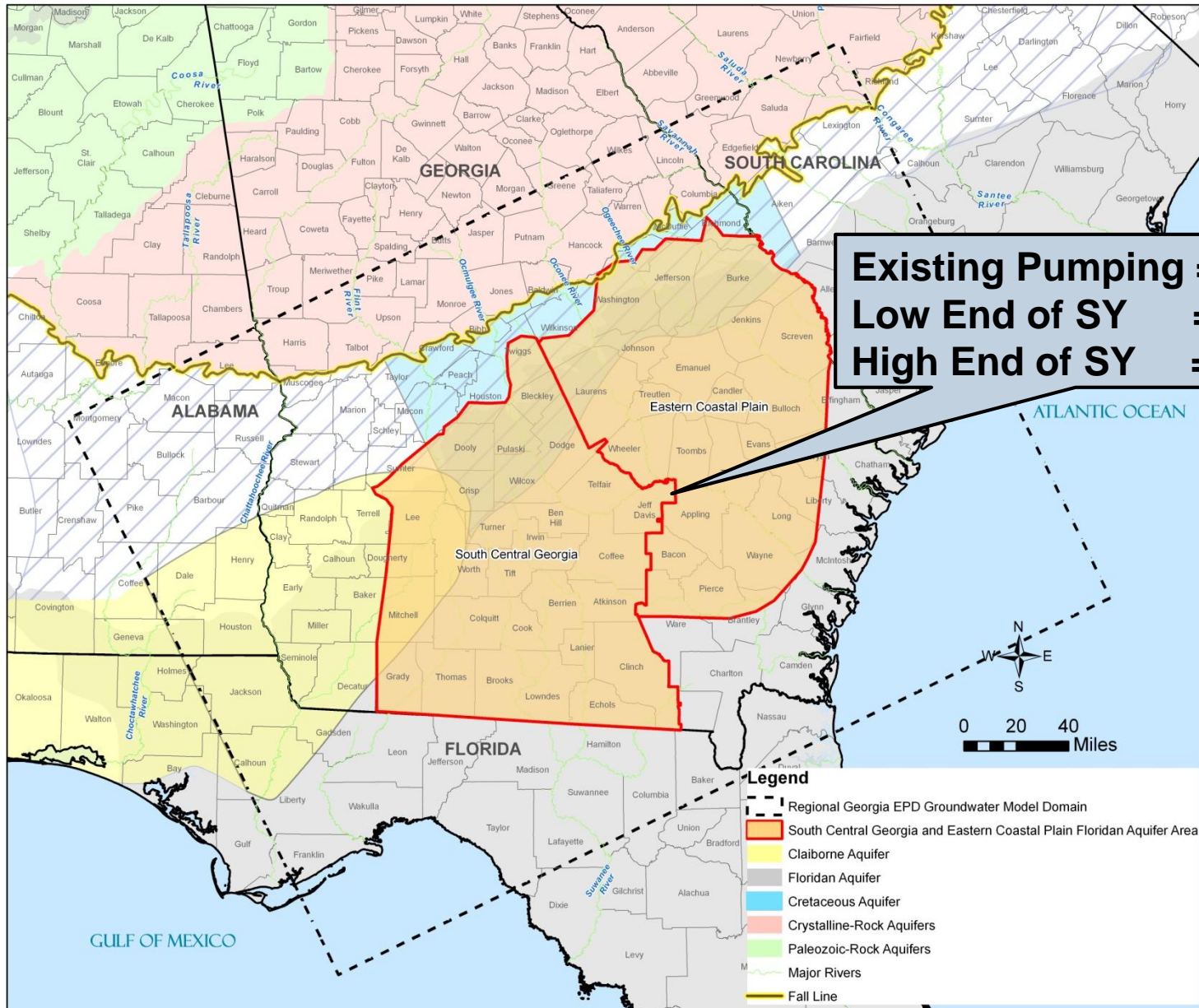


# Simulated Drawdown in the Upper Floridan Aquifer of South-Central Georgia and the Eastern Coastal Plain Due to Increased Withdrawals





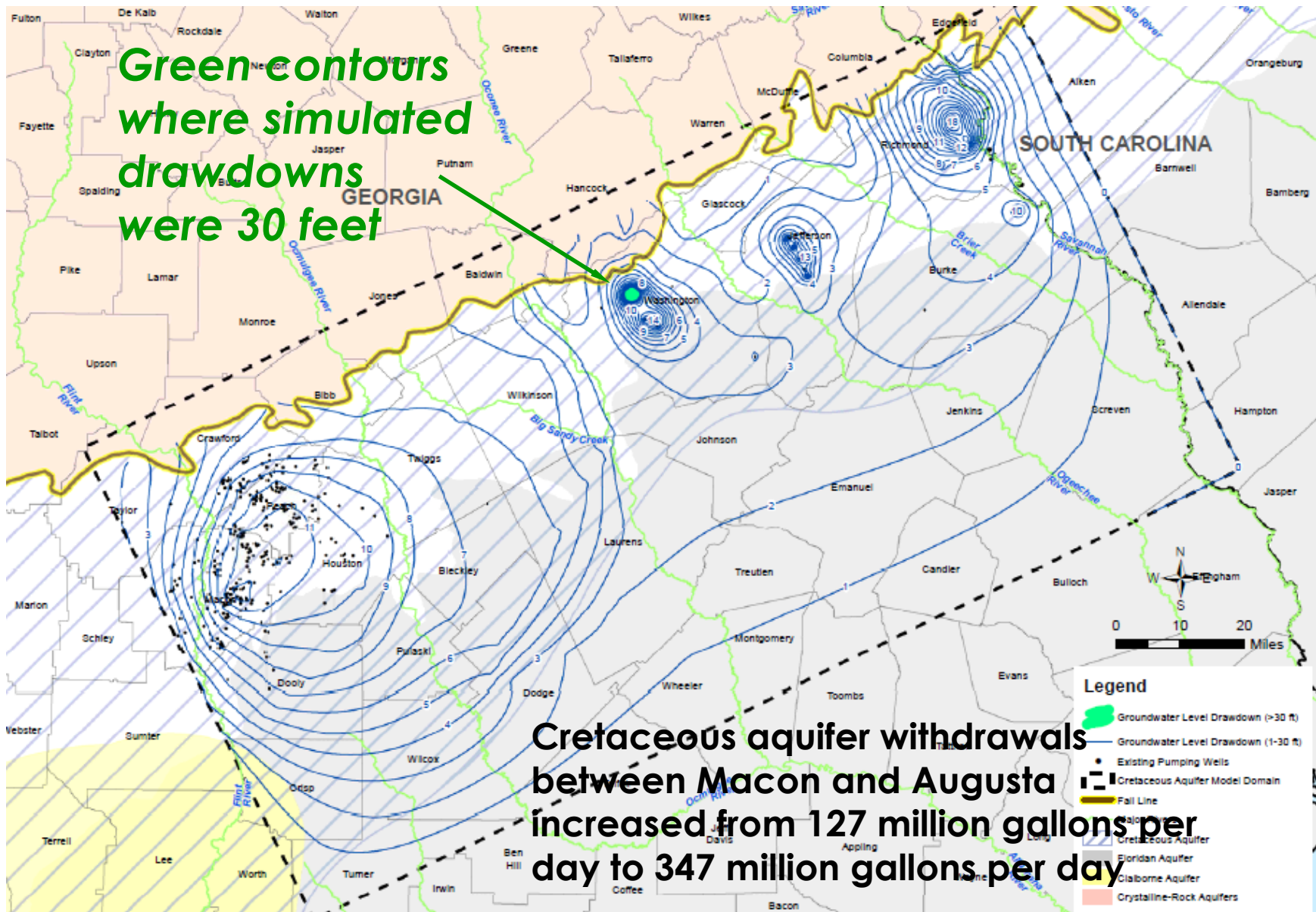
# Range of Sustainable Yield - Upper Floridan Aquifer in South Central Georgia & Eastern Coastal Plain



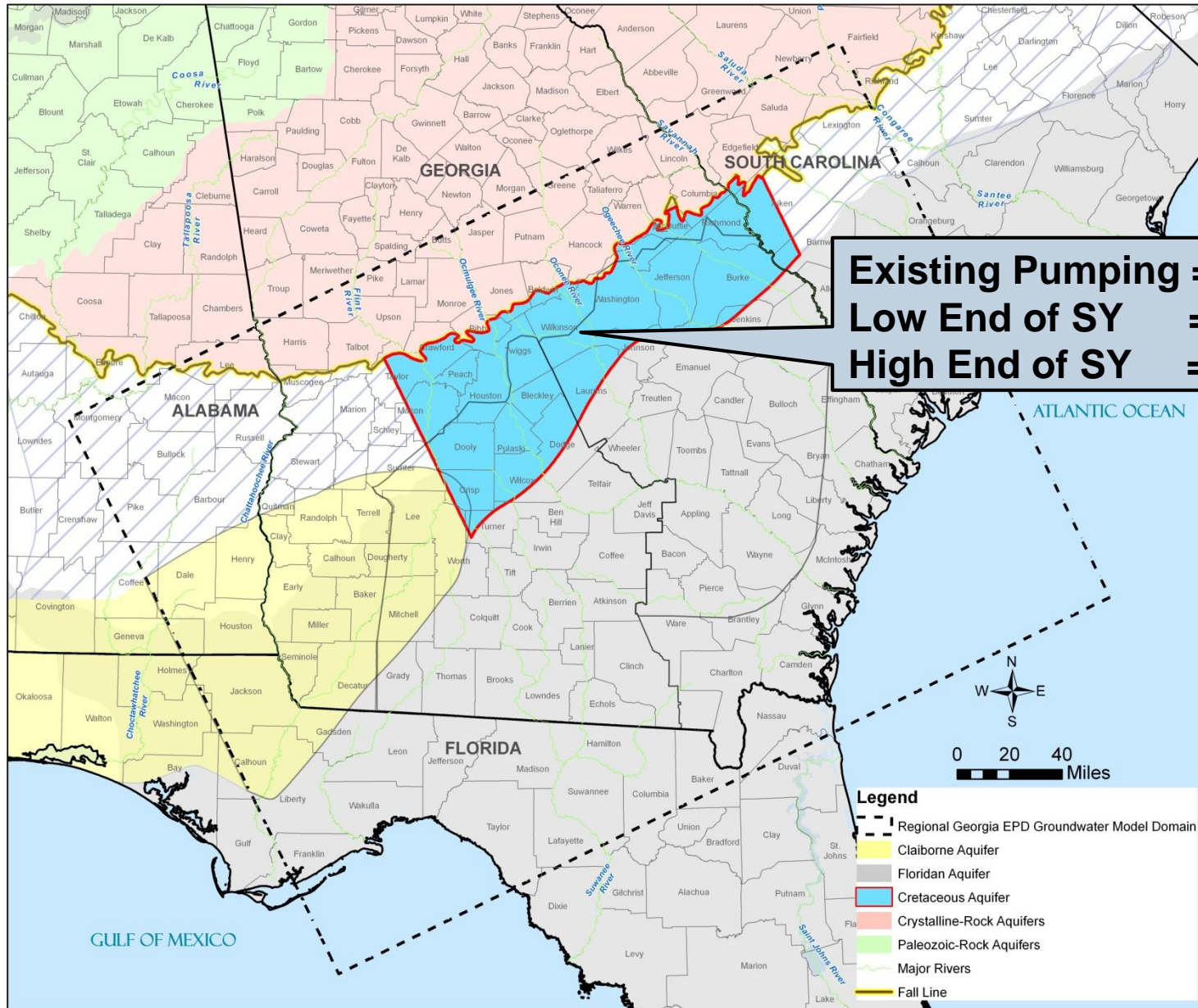




# Simulated Drawdown in the Cretaceous Aquifer Layer 6 Between Macon and Augusta Due to Increased Withdrawals



# Range of Sustainable Yield – Cretaceous Aquifer Between Macon and Augusta

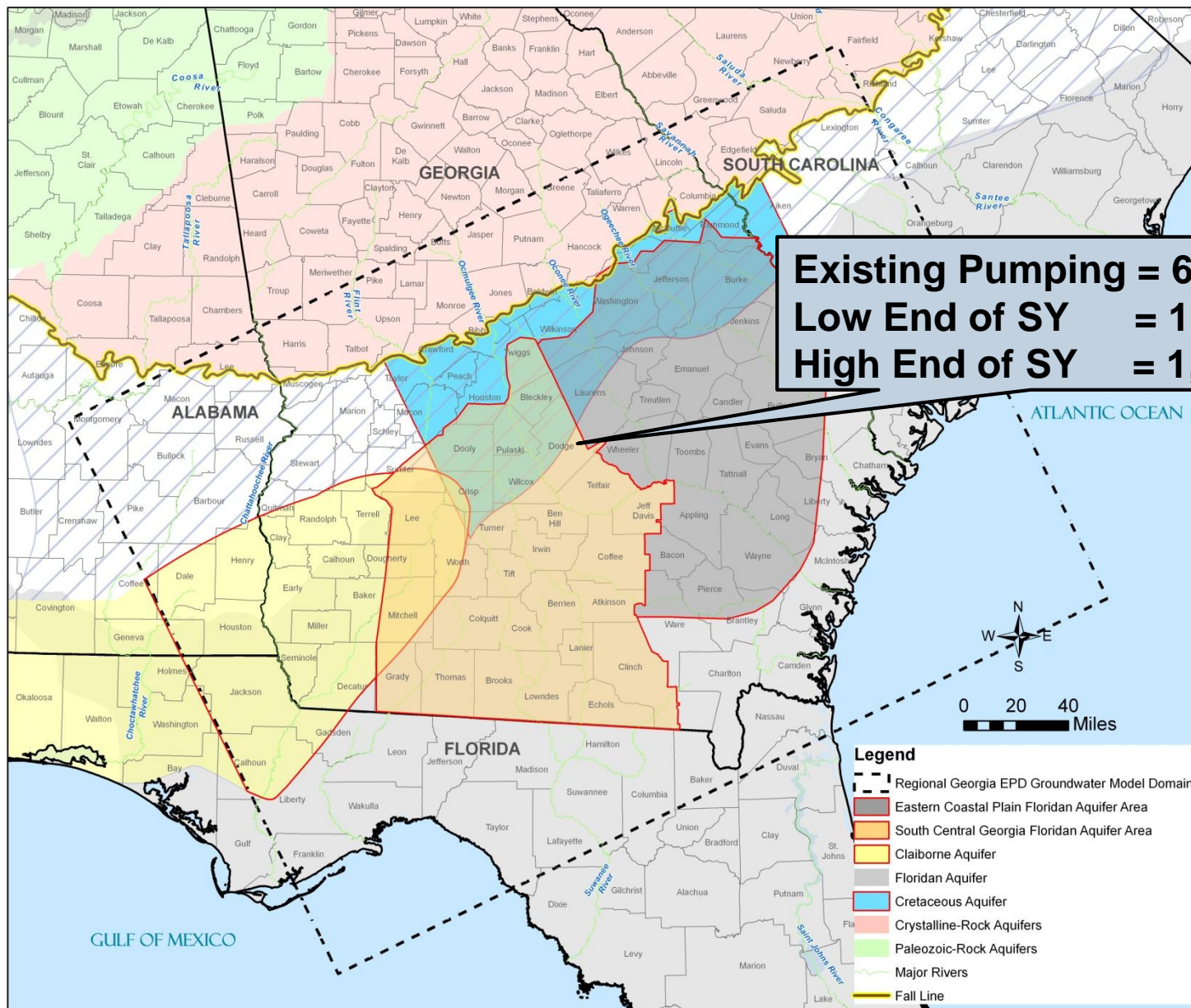


**Existing Pumping = 219 mgd**  
**Low End of SY = 347 mgd**  
**High End of SY = 445 mgd**





# Range of Sustainable Yield – Withdrawals from All Prioritized Coastal Plain Aquifers





# *Summary of Total Sustainable Yield of Coastal Plain Aquifers*

## *The Total Sustainable Yield of Prioritized Coastal Plain Aquifers is Smaller if Increased Withdrawals are Simulated Simultaneously for All Aquifers*

Total of Sustainable Yields of Individual Prioritized Aquifers with Aquifer Withdrawals Modeled Individually	Min	1,166 mgd
	Max	1,433 mgd
Total of Sustainable Yields of Individual Prioritized Aquifers with Aquifer Withdrawals Modeled Simultaneously	Min	1,055 mgd
	Max	1,240 mgd

# Piedmont and Blue Ridge Water Budget Basins

## Legend

Physiographic Province

Appalachian Plateaus

Blue Ridge

Valley & Ridge

Piedmont

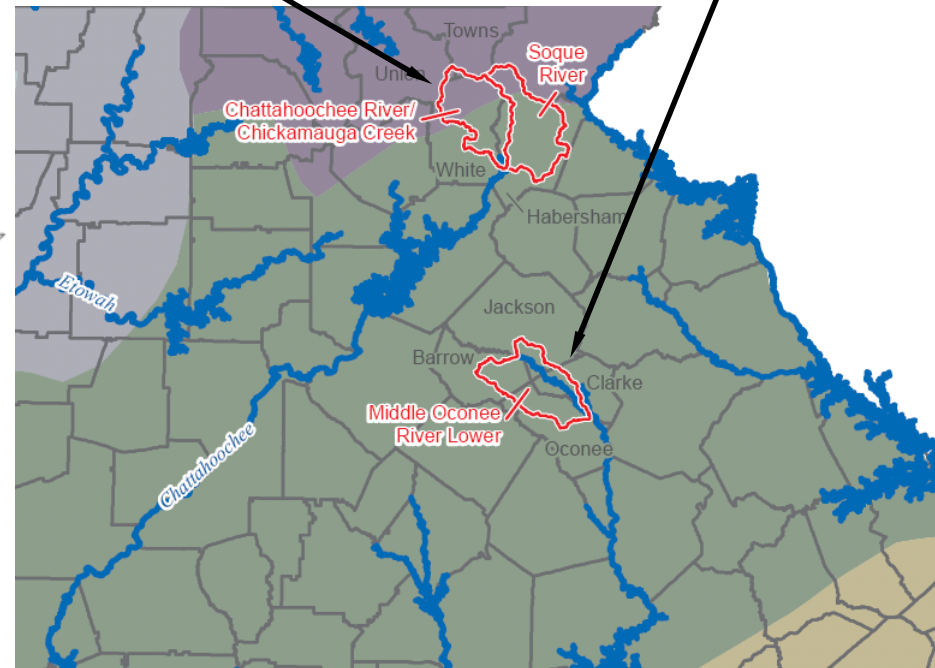
Coastal Plain

Selected Basin

Rivers & Lakes

**Blue Ridge Basin**  
315 mi<sup>2</sup>

**Piedmont Basin**  
163 mi<sup>2</sup>





## *Sustainable Yield of the Crystalline Rock Aquifer is Related to Streamflow*

- September is usually the month of lowest streamflow in Georgia
- Constraining groundwater recharge from surface water sources to mean September streamflow minus a percentage of the mean annual streamflow would maintain opportunities for surface water use during a month of low streamflow
- Mean September streamflow minus 60 to 40 percent of the mean annual flow is a streamflow metric that can be considered the top end of the range of sustainable yield of the crystalline rock aquifer
- Others managing groundwater resources in crystalline rock aquifers of the eastern United States with hydrogeology similar to the Georgia Piedmont and Blue Ridge have used 20% of the top-end streamflow metric as a sustainable yield





# Sustainable Yield of Crystalline Rock Aquifer in the Study Basins

Basin Location	Study Basin Area (mi <sup>2</sup> )	Dry Year Groundwater Use (mgd)	Net Groundwater Available for Use Based On Mean September Flow Minus Percentage of Mean Annual Flow			Increase in Net Groundwater Available (mgd)
			(in/yr)	(mgd)	(mgd/mi <sup>2</sup> )	
Piedmont	163	1.2	2.7	21.0	0.129	19.8
Blue Ridge	315	2.4	3.4	51.0	0.162	48.6
Basin Provenance	Study Basin Area (mi <sup>2</sup> )	Dry Year Groundwater Use (mgd)	Net Groundwater Available for Use Based On Mean September Flow Minus Percentage of Mean Annual Flow x 20%			Increase in Net Groundwater Available
			(in/yr)	(mgd)	(mgd/mi <sup>2</sup> )	
Piedmont	163	1.2	0.5	4.2	0.026	3.0
Blue Ridge	315	2.4	0.7	10.2	0.032	7.8



# *Sustainable Yield of the Crystalline Rock Aquifer*

- More groundwater is available from the crystalline rock aquifer than is currently being withdrawn
- It might be difficult to find sufficient water-bearing fractures in the crystalline rock aquifer to develop the full range of sustainable yield
- Because it might be difficult to find sufficient water-bearing fractures planning for use of groundwater should focus on the lower-end of the sustainable yield range



# 2016 Estimate of 2015 Groundwater Use

## Upper Floridan Aquifer in South-Central Georgia

Year	Range of Suainable Yield (mgd)		Forecasted Groundwater Demand (mgd by use category)						Total Forecasted Demand (mgd)	
			Agricultural Use		Municipal	Industrial	Self-Supplied	Energy		
	Low	High	50%	75%						
2010	622	836	207.67	292.36	45.23	15.14	13.56	0.00	281.60	366.29
2020	622	836	215.13	302.90	51.37	17.40	15.11	0.00	299.00	386.77
2030	622	836	224.56	316.19	58.04	19.05	16.76	0.00	318.41	410.04
2040	622	836	234.99	330.86	64.66	20.72	18.28	0.00	338.64	434.51
2050	622	836	246.51	347.05	71.63	32.57	19.79	0.00	370.50	471.04
Year 2015 Estimated in 2016				283.07	44.65		18,92	0.00		

## Upper Floridan Aquifer in South-Central Georgia & Eastern Coastal Plain

Year	Range of Suatainable Yield (mgd)		Forecasted Groundwater Demand (mgd by use category)						Total Forecasted Demand (mgd)	
			Agricultural Use		Municipal	Industrial	Self-Supplied	Energy		
	Low	High	50%	75%						
2010	868	982	270.20	381.12	75.38	93.85	29.43	0.18	468.85	579.77
2020	868	982	279.01	393.68	86.62	101.49	33.47	0.18	500.59	615.26
2030	868	982	290.27	409.71	98.72	105.42	37.81	0.18	532.23	651.67
2040	868	982	302.74	427.42	110.49	108.88	41.89	0.18	564.00	688.68
2050	868	982	316.53	446.99	123.03	122.73	46.20	0.18	608.49	738.95
Year 2015 Estimated in 2016				405.29	80.95		34.79	0.01		

## Cretaceous Aquifer Between Macon and Augusta

Projected in 2010	Range of Suatainable Yield (mgd)		Forecasted Groundwater Demand (mgd by use category)						Total Forecasted Demand (mgd)	
			Agricultural Use		Municipal	Industrial	Self-Supplied	Energy		
	Low	High	50%	75%						
2010	347	445	95.69	128.97	43.84	64.25	8.95	0.84	213.57	246.85
2020	347	445	97.09	130.96	49.37	64.94	10.11	0.84	222.35	256.22
2030	347	445	98.78	133.38	55.13	77.46	11.26	0.84	243.48	278.08
2040	347	445	100.62	136.02	60.64	83.95	12.25	0.84	258.29	293.69
2050	347	445	102.63	138.89	66.65	83.72	13.22	0.84	267.06	303.32
Year 2015 Estimated in 2016				101.14	43.67		11.18	0.20		

# State Water Plan Future Work Tasks 1, 2, and 3

James Kennedy, Ph.D., P.G.  
State Geologist  
Georgia Environmental Protection Division

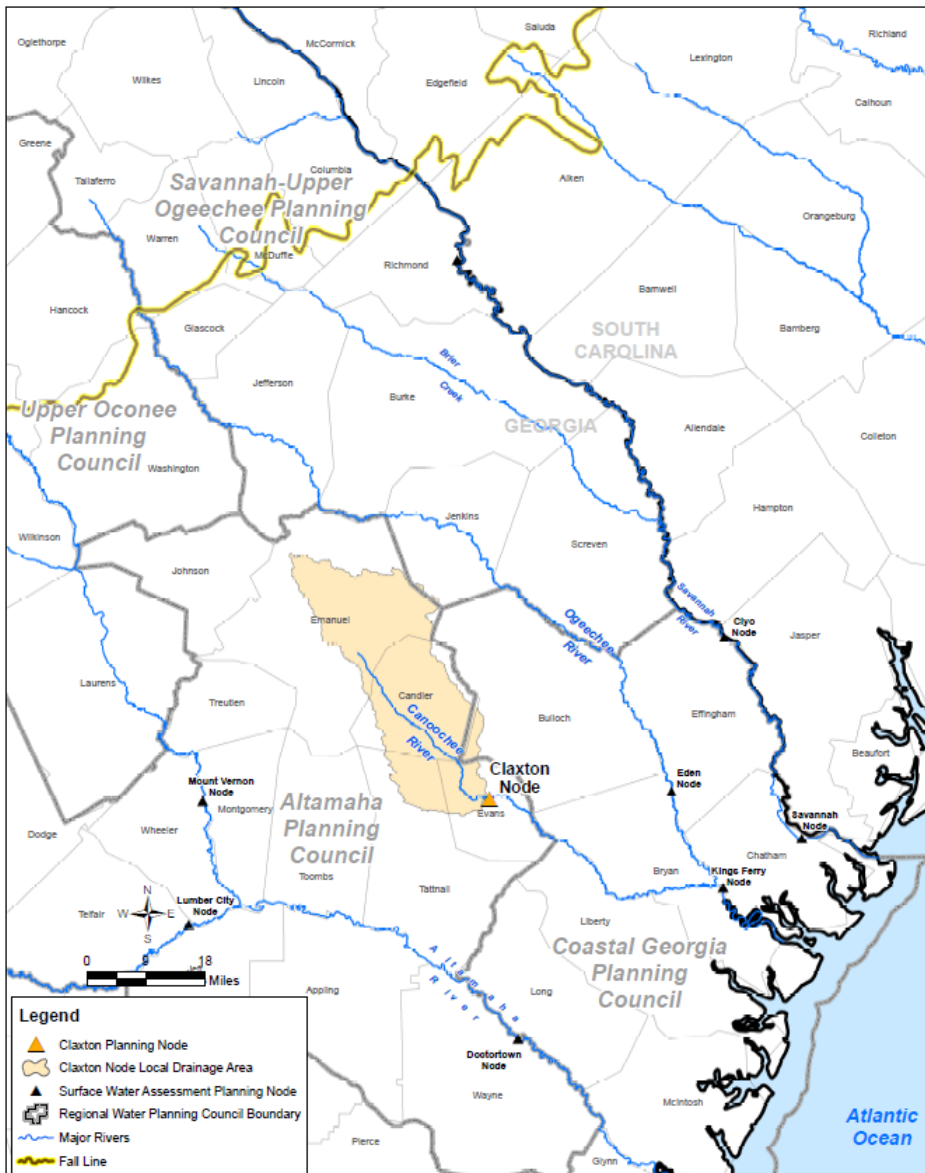




# *Council Concerns Addressed*

- Task 1: Claxton Node (Altamaha Council)
  - Evaluate capacity of Floridan aquifer to replace surface water withdrawals
- Task 2: Eden/Kings Ferry Nodes (Coastal Council)
  - Evaluate capacity of Floridan and Cretaceous aquifers to replace surface water withdrawals
- Task 3: Cretaceous Aquifer (Middle Ocmulgee Council)
  - Provide recommendations for long-term monitoring of Cretaceous aquifer to evaluate potential impacts of increased groundwater withdrawals

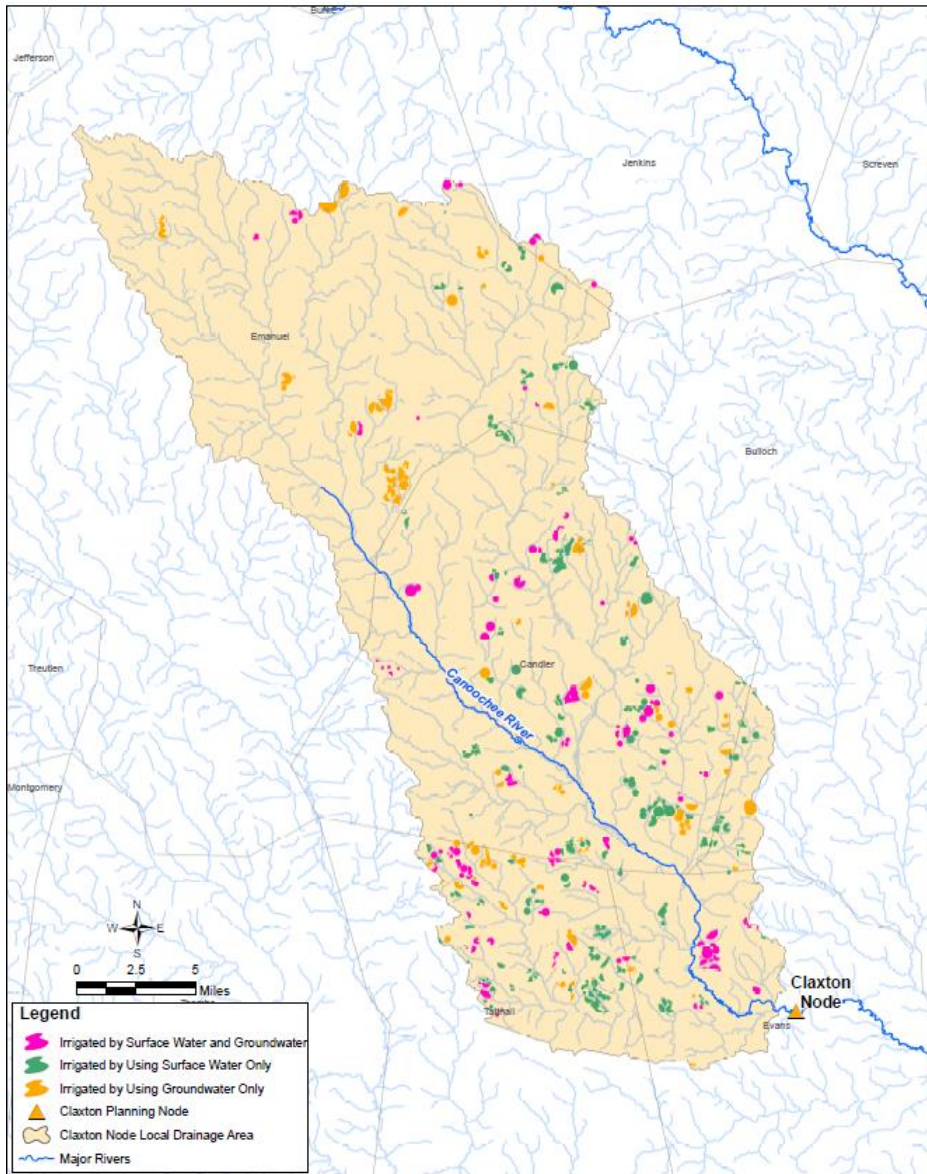
# Task 1: Claxton Planning Node



In 2010, the average shortfall at the Claxton Node was:

- Under 2010 demands:
  - 5 cfs (3.2 MGD)
- Under 2050 demands:
  - 11 cfs (7.1 MGD)

# Irrigated Areas Upstream of Claxton Node



- No permitted Municipal or Industrial surface water withdrawals in the watershed
- Focus on agricultural (surface water only) withdrawals



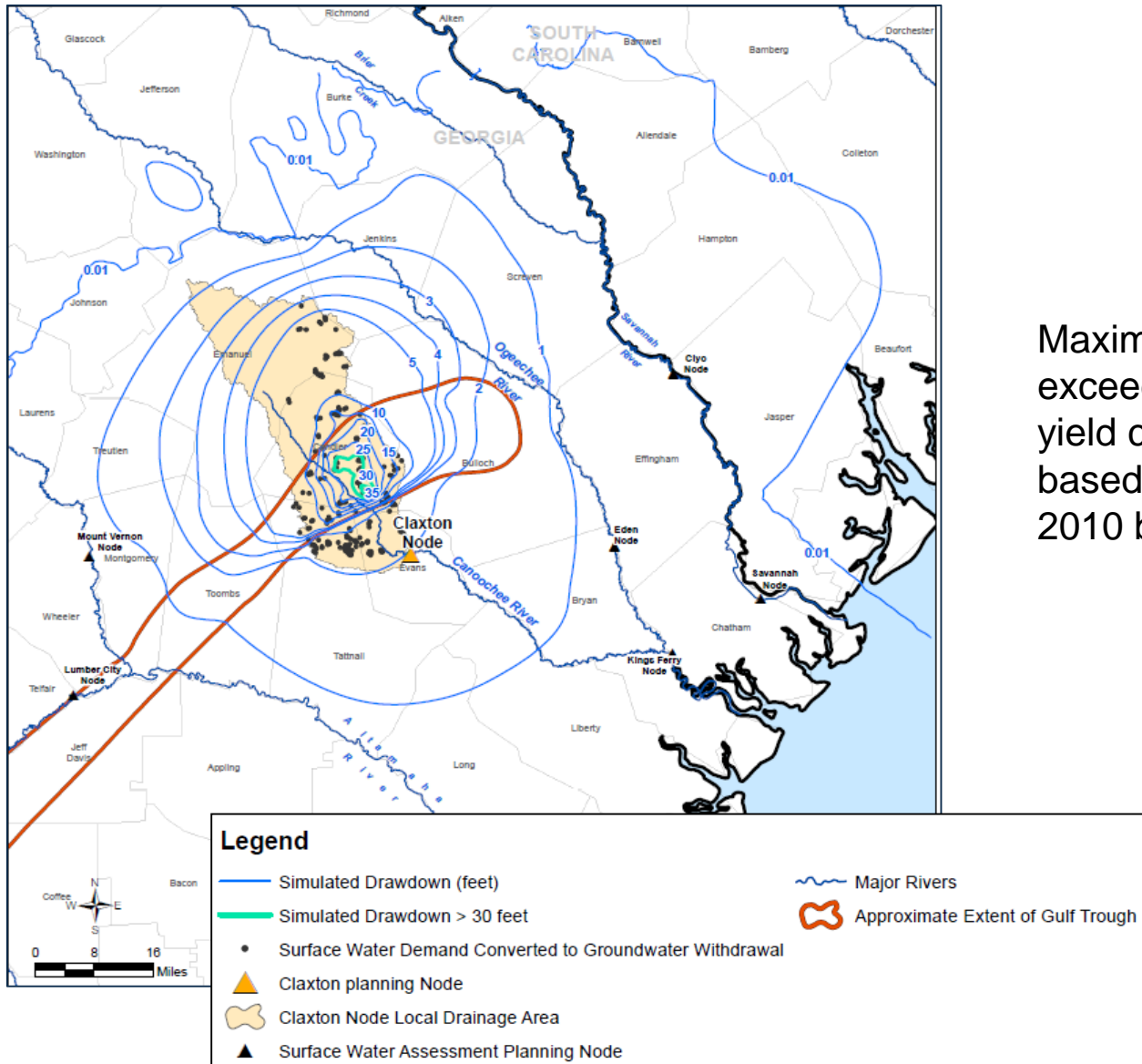
# Calculated Irrigation Demand of Surface Water Only Parcels – Claxton Node LDA

## Including Pumping from the Gulf Trough Area

	Number of Parcels	Total Irrigated Area	Mean Irrigation Depth		Total Irrigation Demand	
			(May - August)	(September - April)	(May - August)	(September - April)
Units	-	(acres)	(inches/month)	(inches/month)	(MGD)	(MGD)
Surface Water Only Parcels that will be Replaced by Groundwater	214	6,080	1.39	0.35	7.44	1.90



# Simulated Drawdown in Floridan Aquifer Heads – Pumping 7.44 MGD



Maximum drawdown exceeds sustainable yield criterion (30 feet), based on simulated 2010 baseline



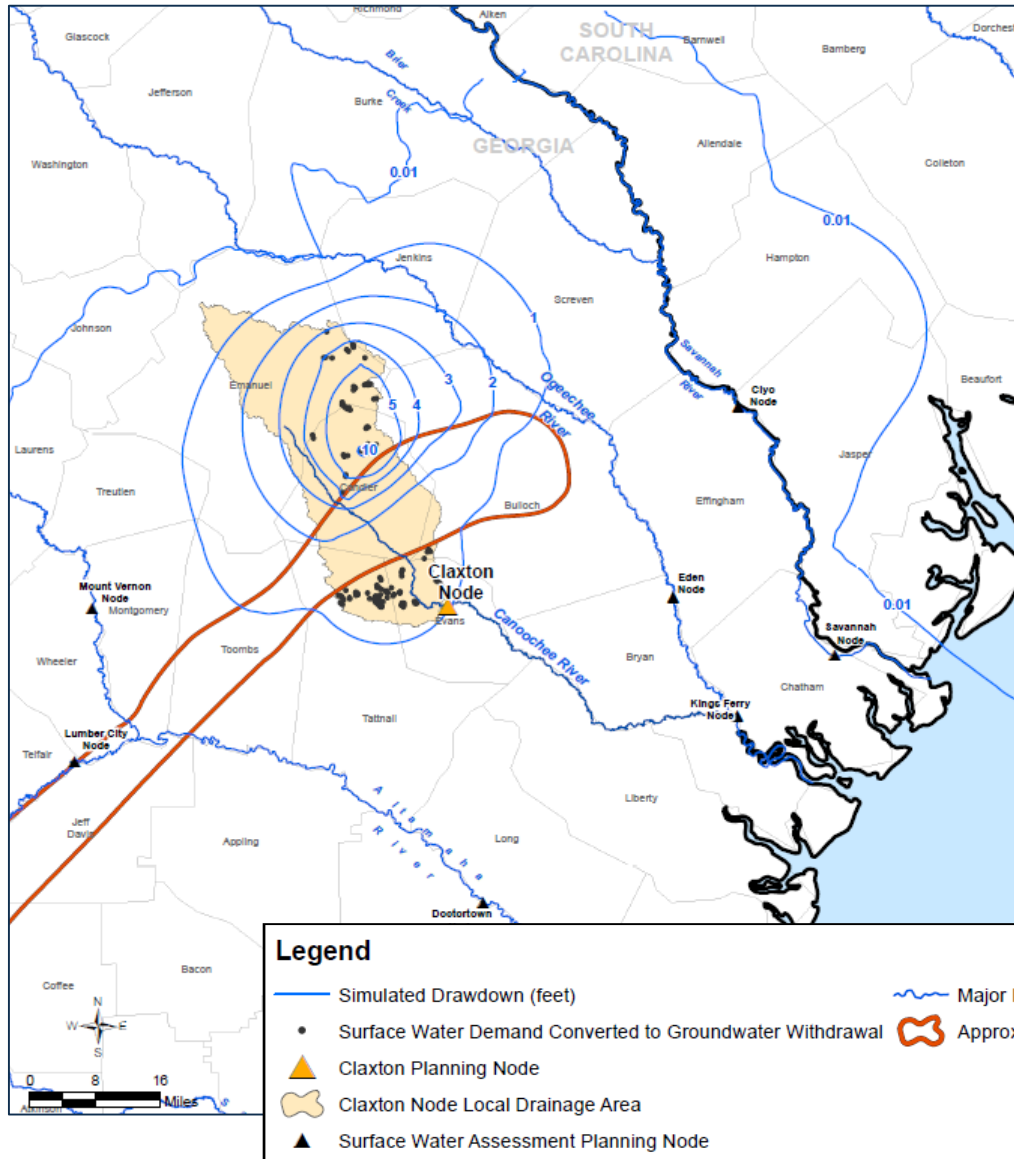
# Calculated Irrigation Demand of Surface Water Only Parcels – Calxton Node LDA

## Excluding Pumping from the Gulf Trough Area

	Number of Parcels	Total Irrigated Area	Mean Irrigation Depth		Total Additional Groundwater Demand	
			(May - August)	(September -April)	(May - August)	(September - April)
Units	-	(acres)	(inches/month)	(inches/month)	(MGD)	(MGD)
Surface Water Only Parcels that will be Replaced by Groundwater	121	2,980	1.39	0.35	3.65	0.93



# Simulated Drawdown in Floridan Aquifer Heads – Pumping 3.65 MGD

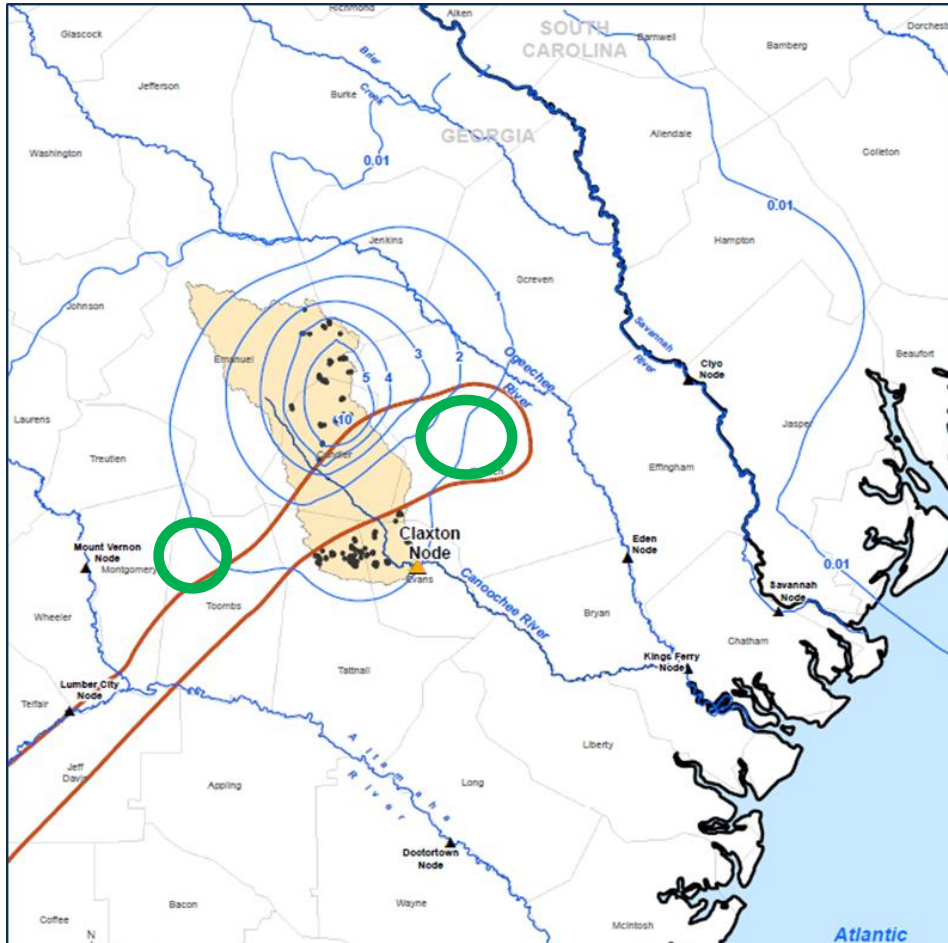


## Excluding Pumping from the Gulf Trough Area

Maximum drawdown does not exceed sustainable yield criterion (30 feet), based on 2010 baseline condition

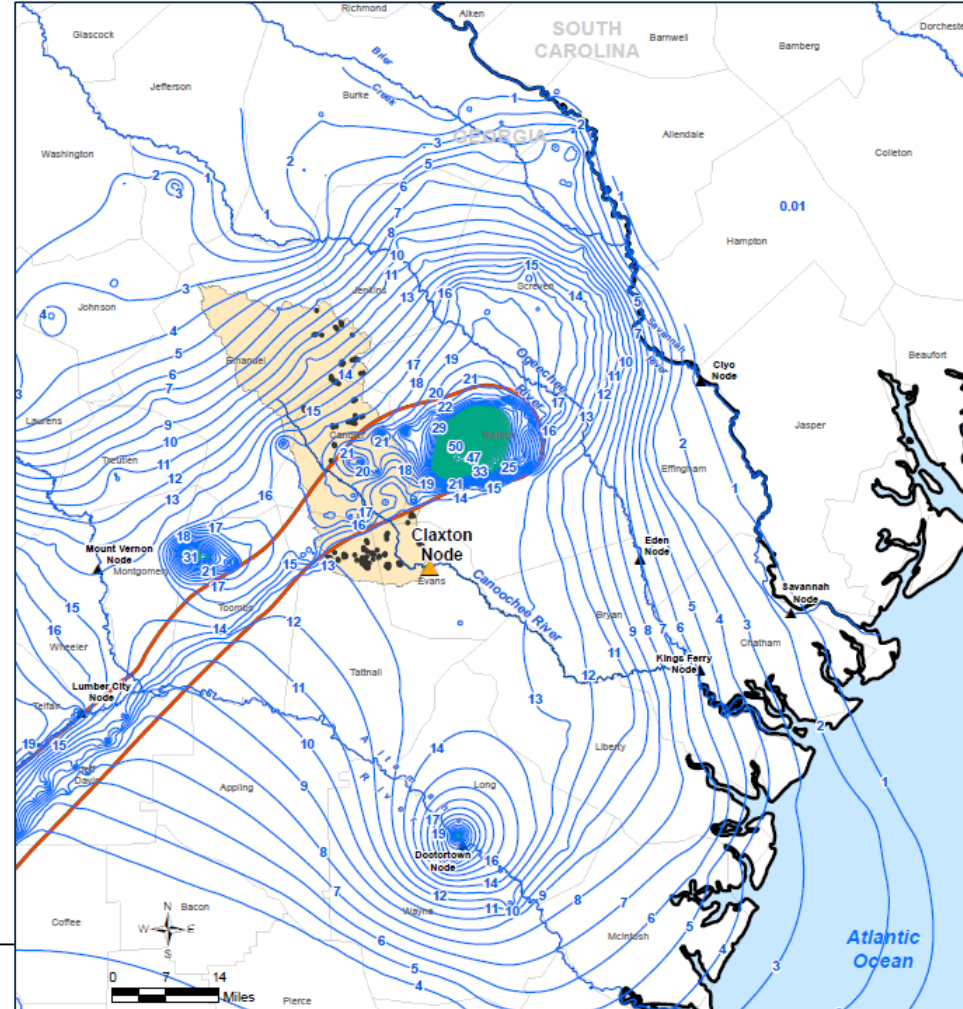


# Simulated Drawdown in Floridan Aquifer Heads – Pumping 3.65 MGD



## Legend

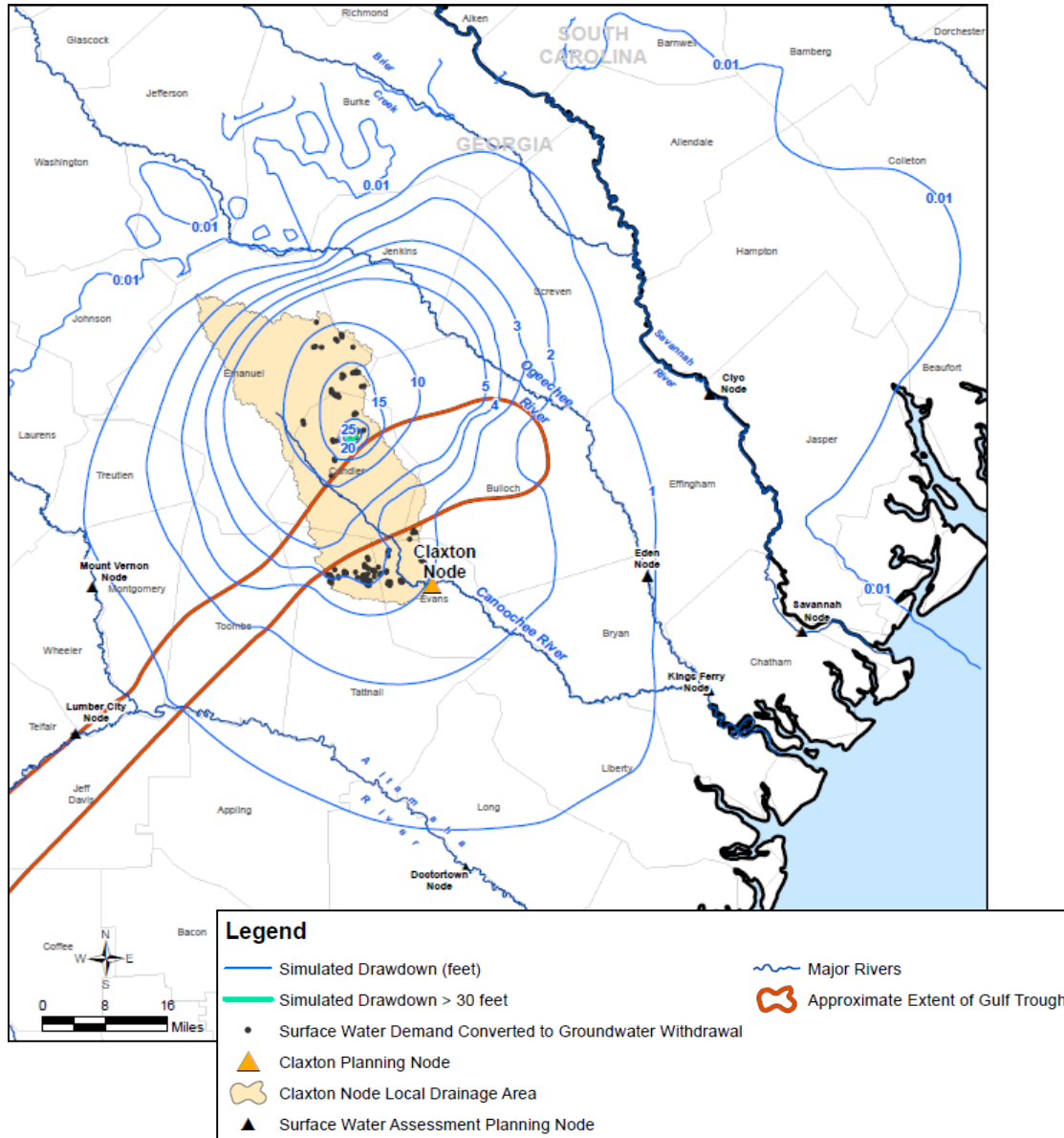
- Simulated Drawdown (feet)
- Surface Water Demand Converted to Groundwater Withdrawal
- ▲ Claxton Planning Node
- Claxton Node Local Drainage Area
- ▲ Surface Water Assessment Planning Node
- Major Rivers
- Approximate Extent of Gulf Trough



Potential minor incremental drawdown increase, when added to sustainable yield simulated drawdown



# Simulated Drawdown in Floridan Aquifer Heads – Pumping 10.51 MGD

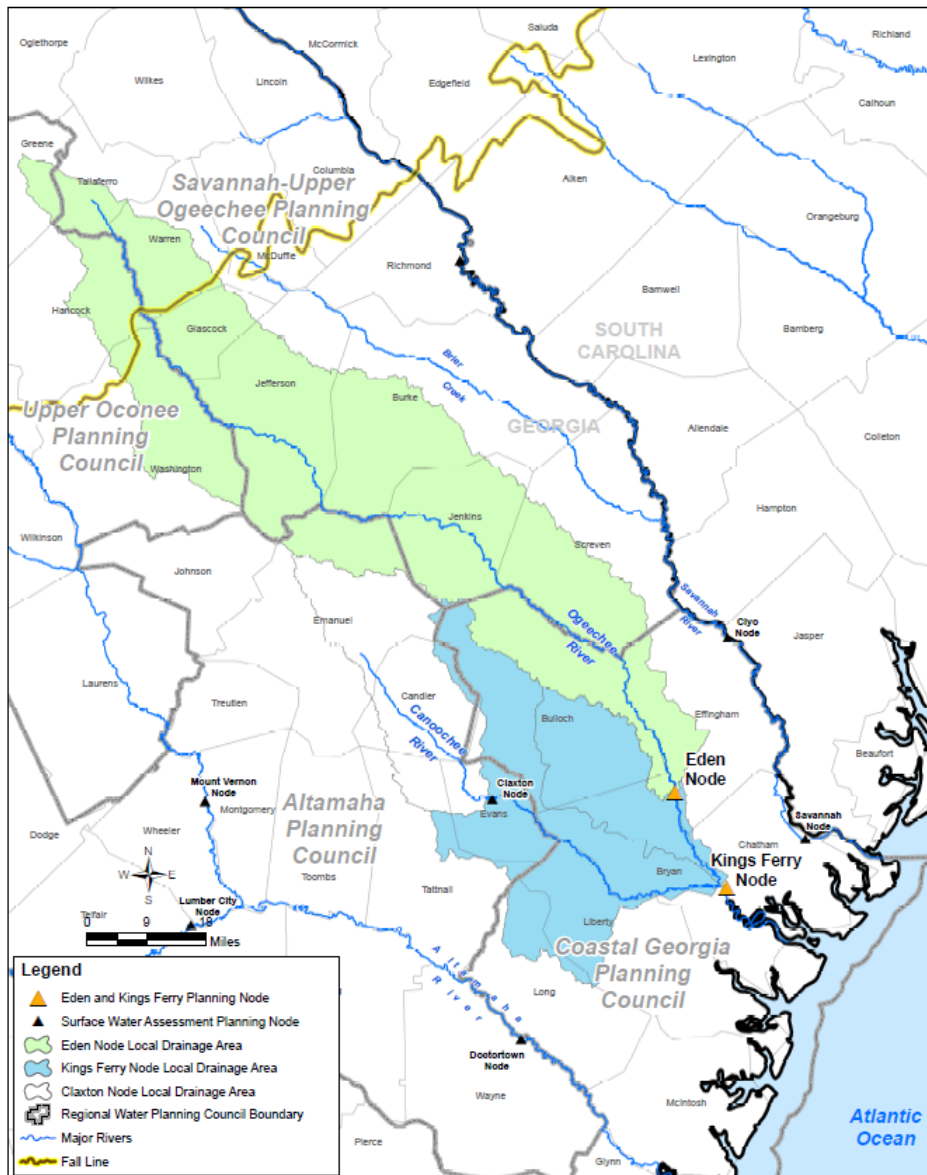


## Excluding Pumping from the Gulf Trough Area

Maximum drawdown at sustainable yield criterion (30 feet) based on 2010 baseline condition

Maximum drawdown will exceed criterion when added to simulated sustainable yield drawdown

# Task 2: Eden and Kings Ferry Planning Nodes



In 2010, the average shortfall at the Eden Node was:

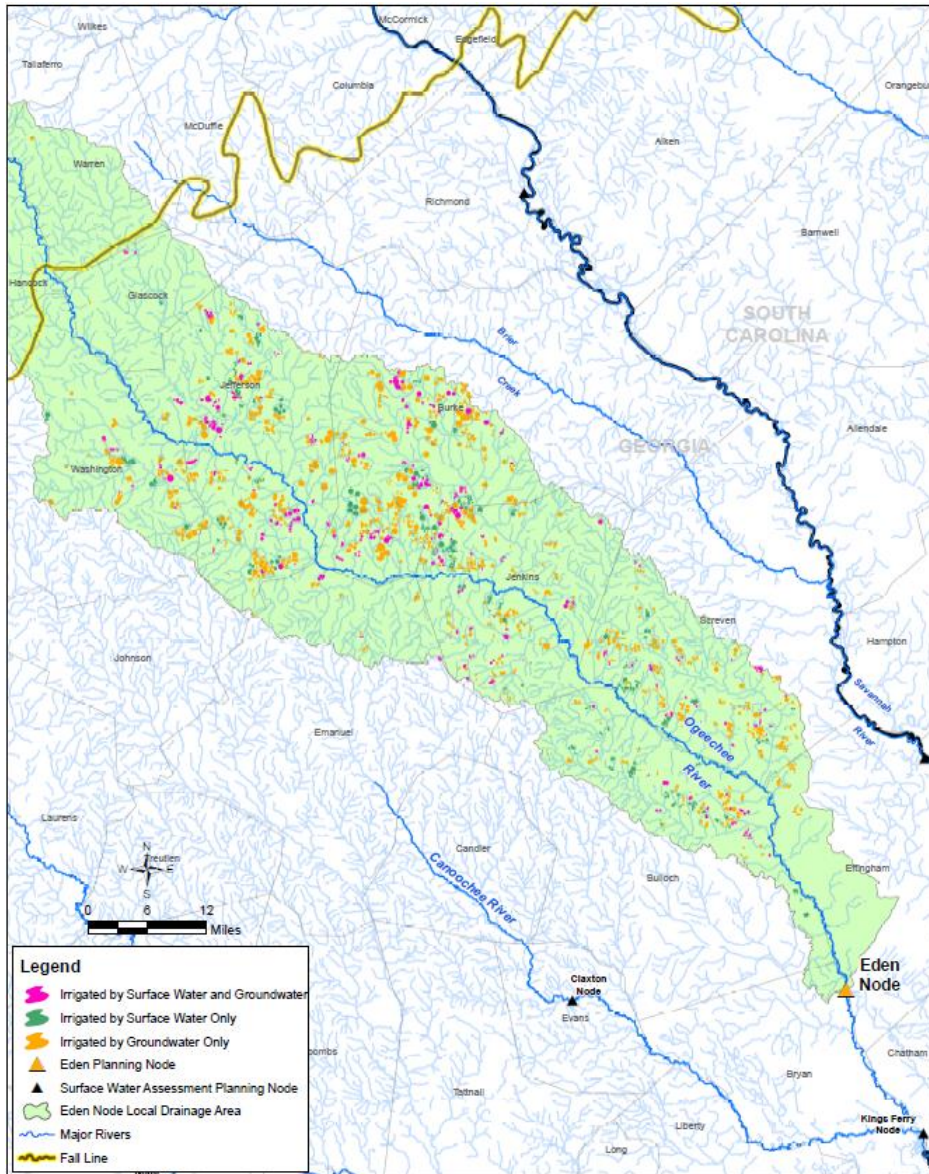
- Under 2010 demands:
  - 19 cfs (12.3 MGD)
- Under 2050 demands:
  - 31 cfs (20 MGD)

In 2010, the average shortfall at the Kings Ferry Node was:

- Under 2010 demands:
  - 35 cfs (22.6 MGD)
- Under 2050 demands:
  - 47 cfs (30.4 MGD)

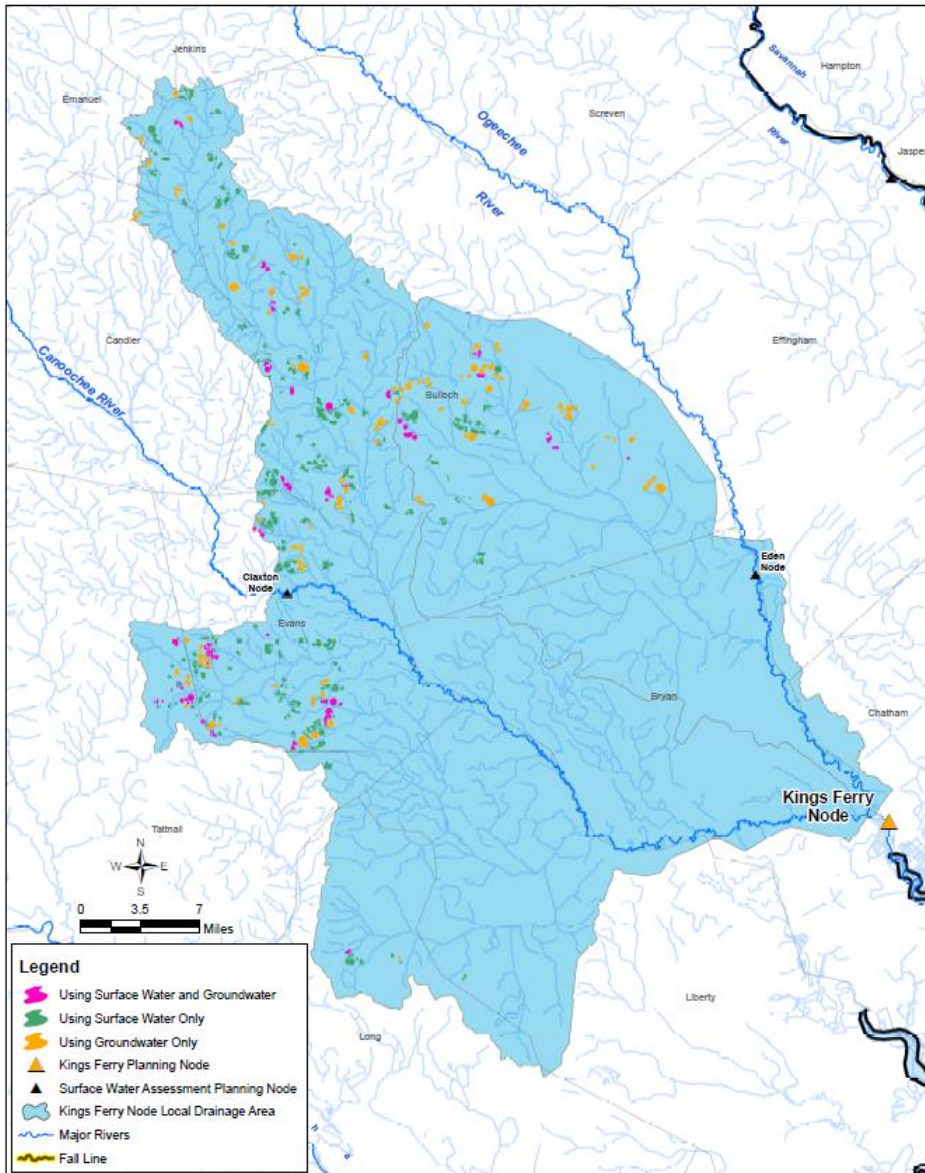


# Irrigated Areas Upstream of Eden Node



- No permitted Municipal or Industrial surface water withdrawals in the watershed
- Focus on agricultural (surface water only) withdrawals

# Irrigated Areas Upstream of Kings Ferry Node



- No permitted Municipal or Industrial surface water withdrawals in the watershed
- Focus on agricultural (surface water only) withdrawals

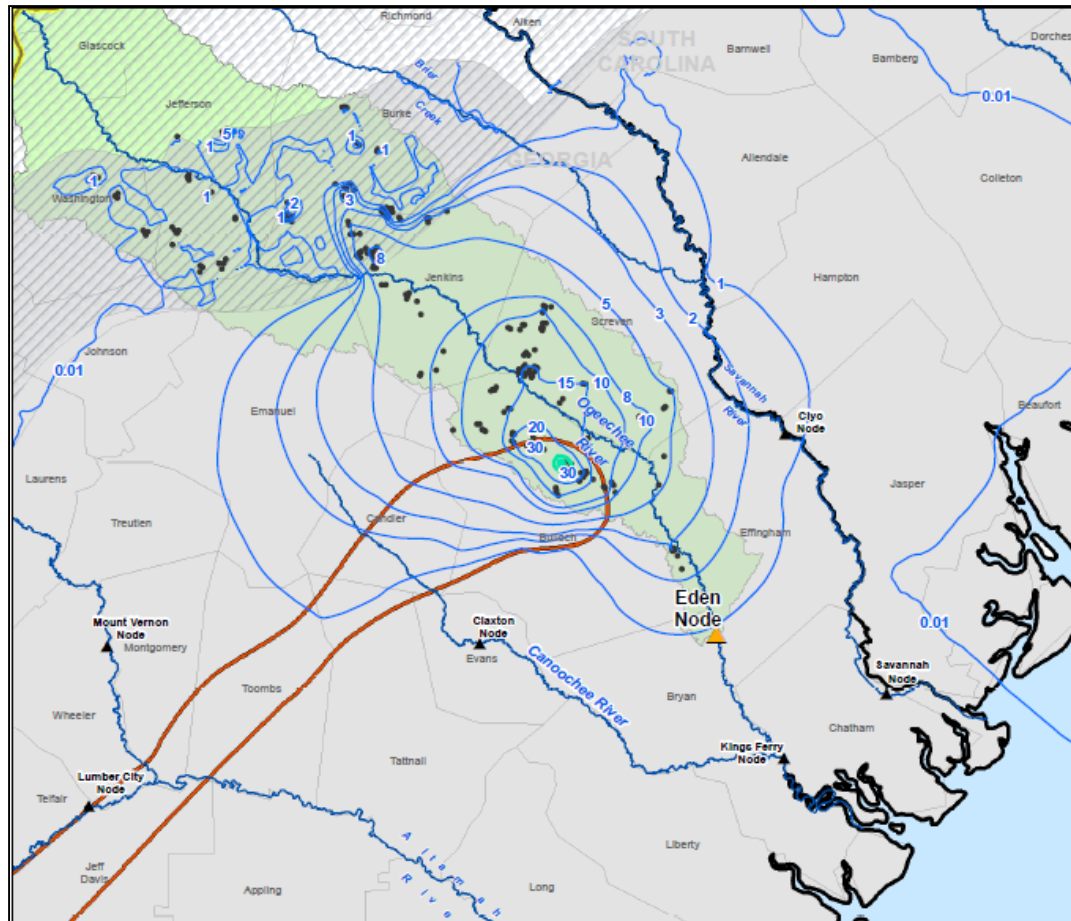


# Calculated Irrigation Demand of Surface Water Only Parcels – Eden Node LDA

	Number of Parcels	Total Irrigated Area	Mean Irrigation Depth		Total Irrigation Demand	
			(May - August)	(September - April)	(May - August)	(September - April)
Units	-	(acres)	(inches/month)	(inches/month)	(MGD)	(MGD)
Surface Water Only Parcels that will be Replaced by Groundwater from the Floridan Aquifer	242	12,030	1.39	0.35	14.71	3.76
Surface Water Only Parcels that will be Replaced by Groundwater from the Cretaceous Aquifer	35	1,740	1.39	0.35	2.13	0.54
<b>Total</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>13,770</b>	<b>1.39</b>	<b>0.35</b>	<b>16.84</b>	<b>4.30</b>



# Simulated Drawdown in Floridan Aquifer Heads – Pumping 14.7 MGD



Maximum drawdown exceeds sustainable yield criterion (30 feet), based on simulated 2010 baseline

## Legend

— Simulated Drawdown > 30 feet

— Simulated Drawdown (feet)

• Surface Water Demand Converted to Groundwater Withdrawal, Floridan Aquifer

▲ Eden Planning Node

▲ Surface Water Assessment Planning Node

Eden Node Local Drainage Area

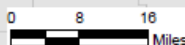
Approximate Extent of Gulf Trough

Cretaceous Aquifer Area of Use

Floridan Aquifer Area of Use

Major Rivers

Fall Line







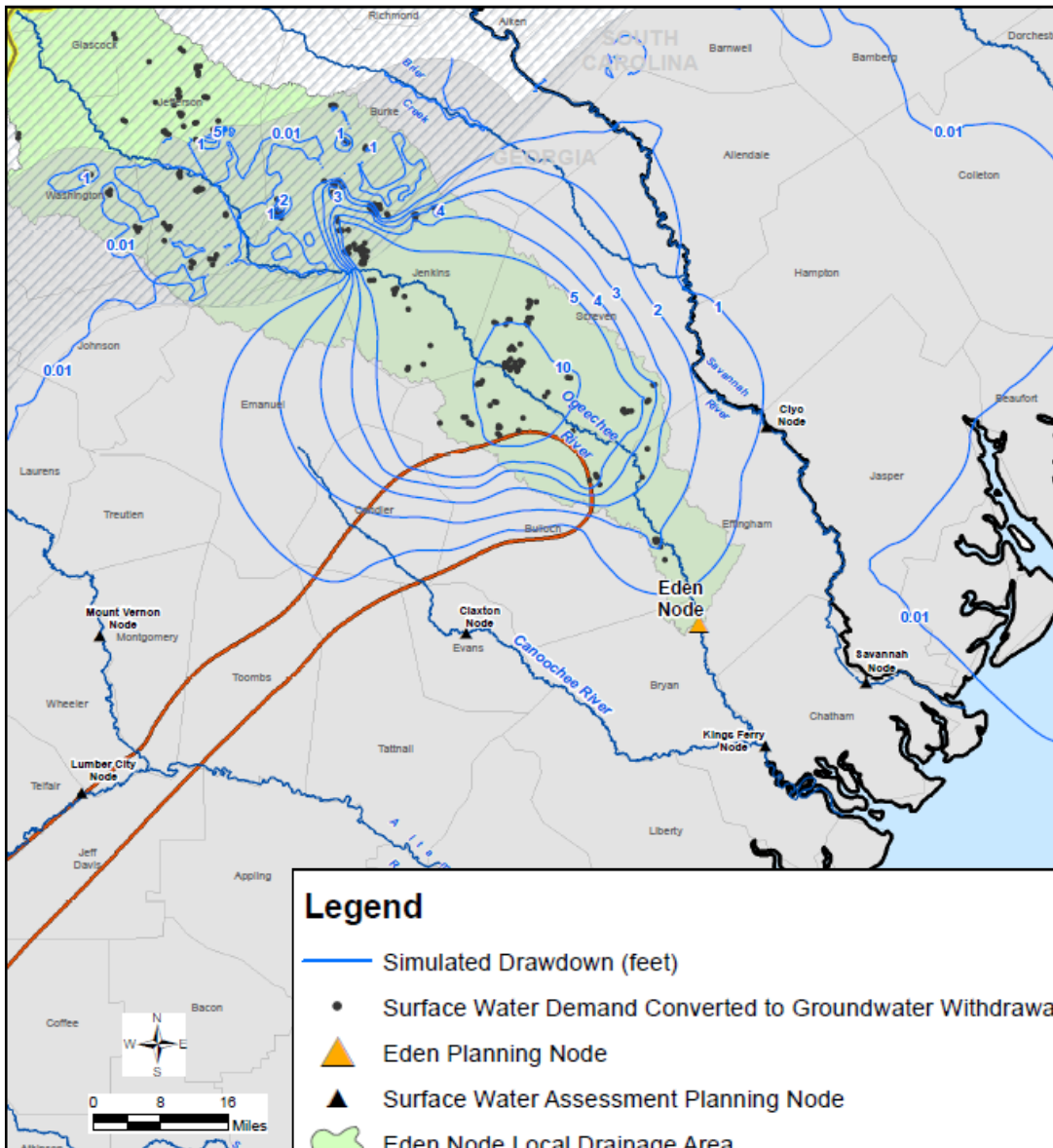
# Calculated Irrigation Demand of Surface Water Only Parcels – Eden Node LDA

## Excluding Pumping from the Gulf Trough Area

	Number of Parcels	Total Irrigated Area	Mean Irrigation Depth		Total Additional Groundwater Demand	
			(May - August)	(September - April)	(May - August)	(September - April)
Units	-	(acres)	(inches/month)	(inches/month)	(MGD)	(MGD)
Surface Water Only Parcels that will be Replaced by Groundwater from Floridan Aquifer	207	10,910	1.39	0.35	13.34	3.41
Surface Water Only Parcels that will be Replaced by Groundwater from Cretaceous Aquifer	35	1,740	1.39	0.35	2.13	0.54
<b>Total</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>12,650</b>	<b>1.39</b>	<b>0.35</b>	<b>15.47</b>	<b>3.95</b>



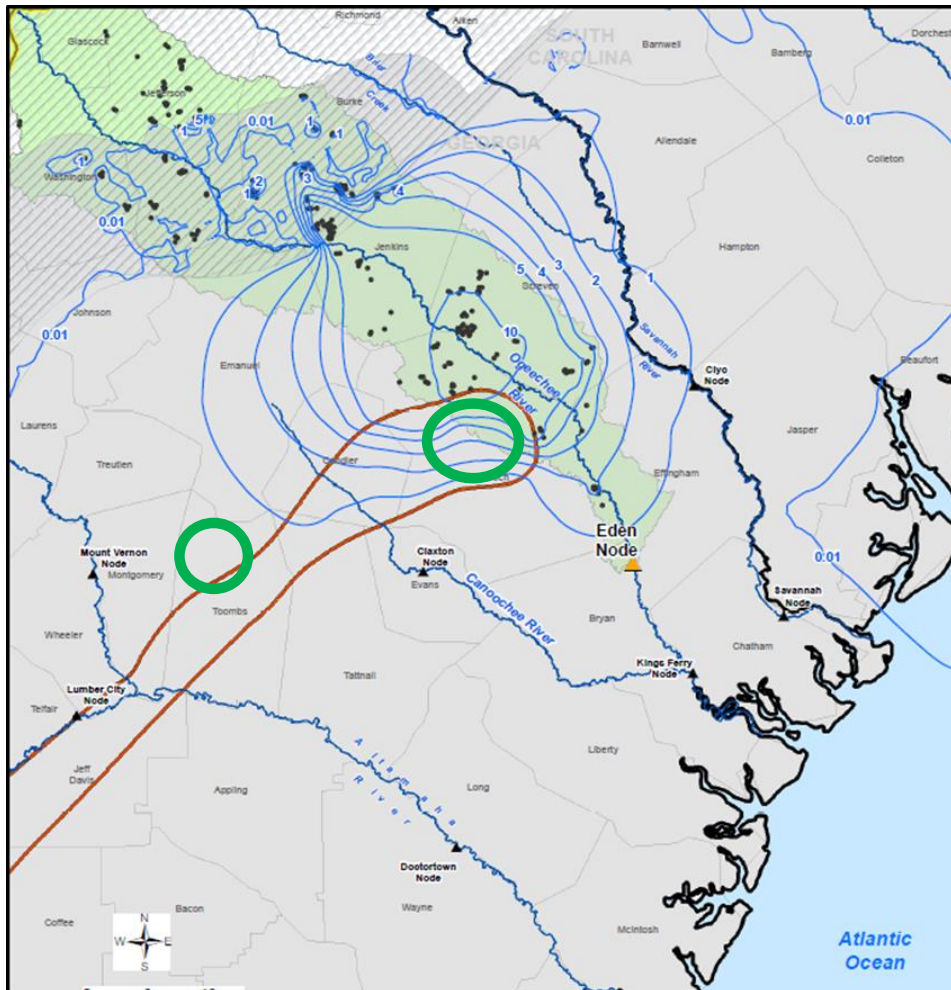
# Simulated Drawdown in Floridan Aquifer Heads – Pumping 13.3 MGD



Maximum drawdown does not exceed sustainable yield criterion (30 feet), based on 2010 baseline condition

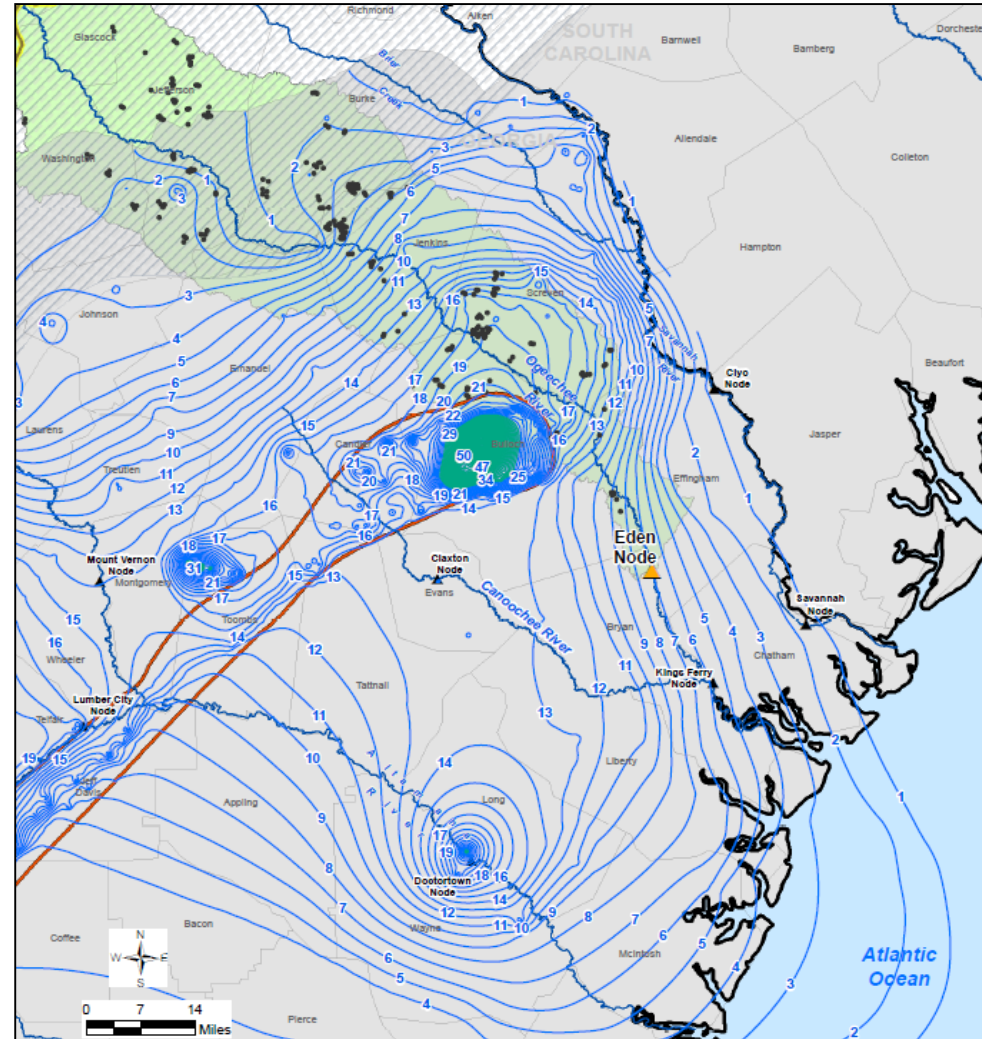


# Simulated Drawdown in Floridan Aquifer Heads – Pumping 13.3 MGD



## Legend

- Simulated Drawdown (feet)
- Surface Water Demand Converted to Groundwater Withdrawal, Floridan Aquifer
- ▲ Edén Planning Node
- ▲ Surface Water Assessment Planning Node
- Edén Node Local Drainage Area
- Approximate Extent of Gulf Trough
- ▨ Cretaceous Aquifer Area of Use
- ▨ Floridan Aquifer Area of Use
- Major Rivers
- Fall Line



Potential 1 to 10 ft incremental drawdown increase, when added to sustainable yield simulated drawdown

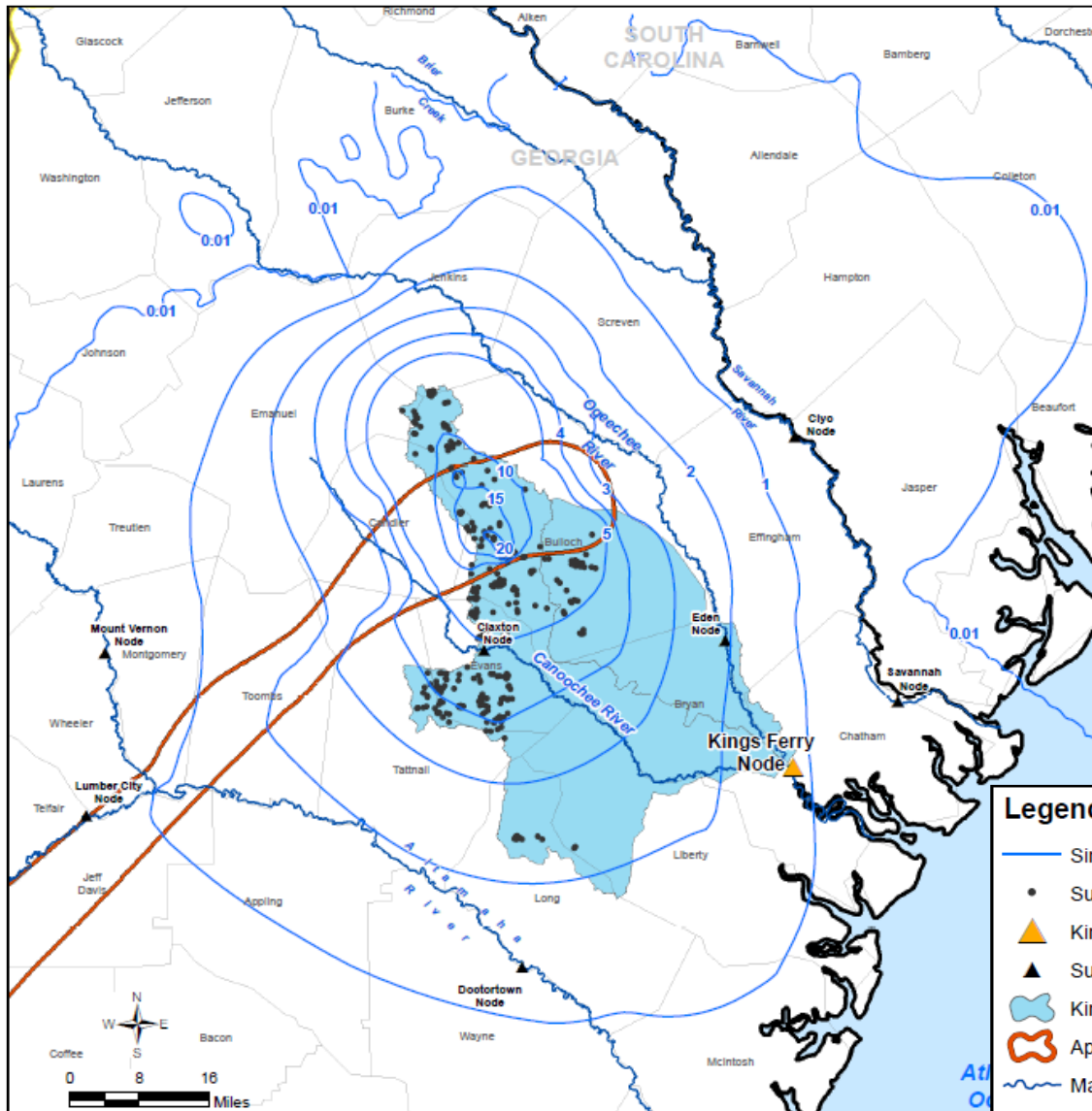


# Calculated Irrigation Demand of Surface Water Only Parcels – Kings Ferry Node LDA

	Number of Parcels	Total Irrigated Area	Mean Irrigation Depth		Total Irrigation Demand	
			(May - August)	(September - April)	(May - August)	(September - April)
Units	-	(acres)	(inches/month)	(inches/month)	(MGD)	(MGD)
Surface Water Only Parcels that will be Replaced by Groundwater from Floridan Aquifer	274	9,790	1.39	0.35	11.97	3.06



# Simulated Drawdown in Floridan Aquifer Heads – Pumping 12.0 MGD



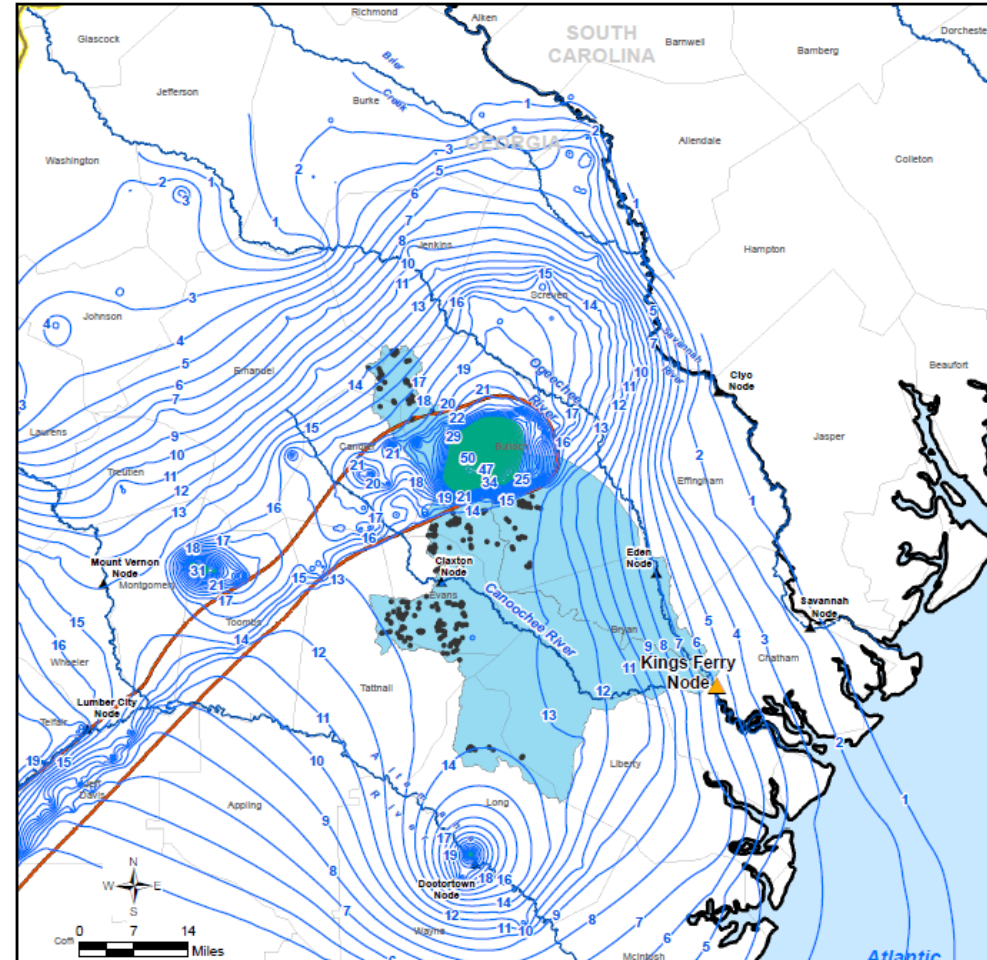
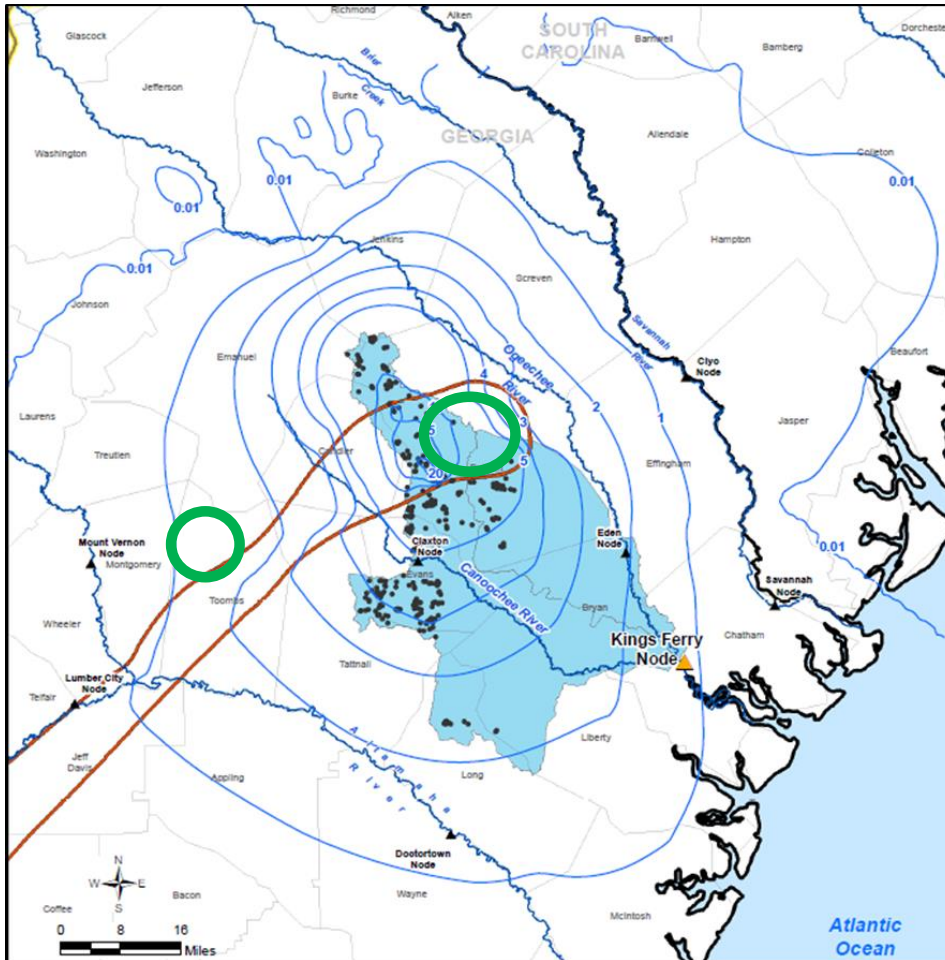
Maximum drawdown does not exceed sustainable yield criterion (30 feet), based on 2010 baseline condition

## Legend

- Simulated Drawdown (feet)
- Surface Water Demand Converted to Groundwater Withdrawal, Floridan Aquifer
- ▲ Kings Ferry Planning Node
- ▲ Surface Water Assessment Planning Node
- 🟦 Kings Ferry Node Local Drainage Area
- 🔴 Approximate Extent of Gulf Trough
- 🌊 Major Rivers
- 🟡 Fall Line



# Simulated Drawdown in Floridan Aquifer Heads – Pumping 12.0 MGD



Potential 5 to 10 ft incremental drawdown increase, when added to sustainable yield simulated drawdown





# Calculated Irrigation Demand of Surface Water Only Parcels

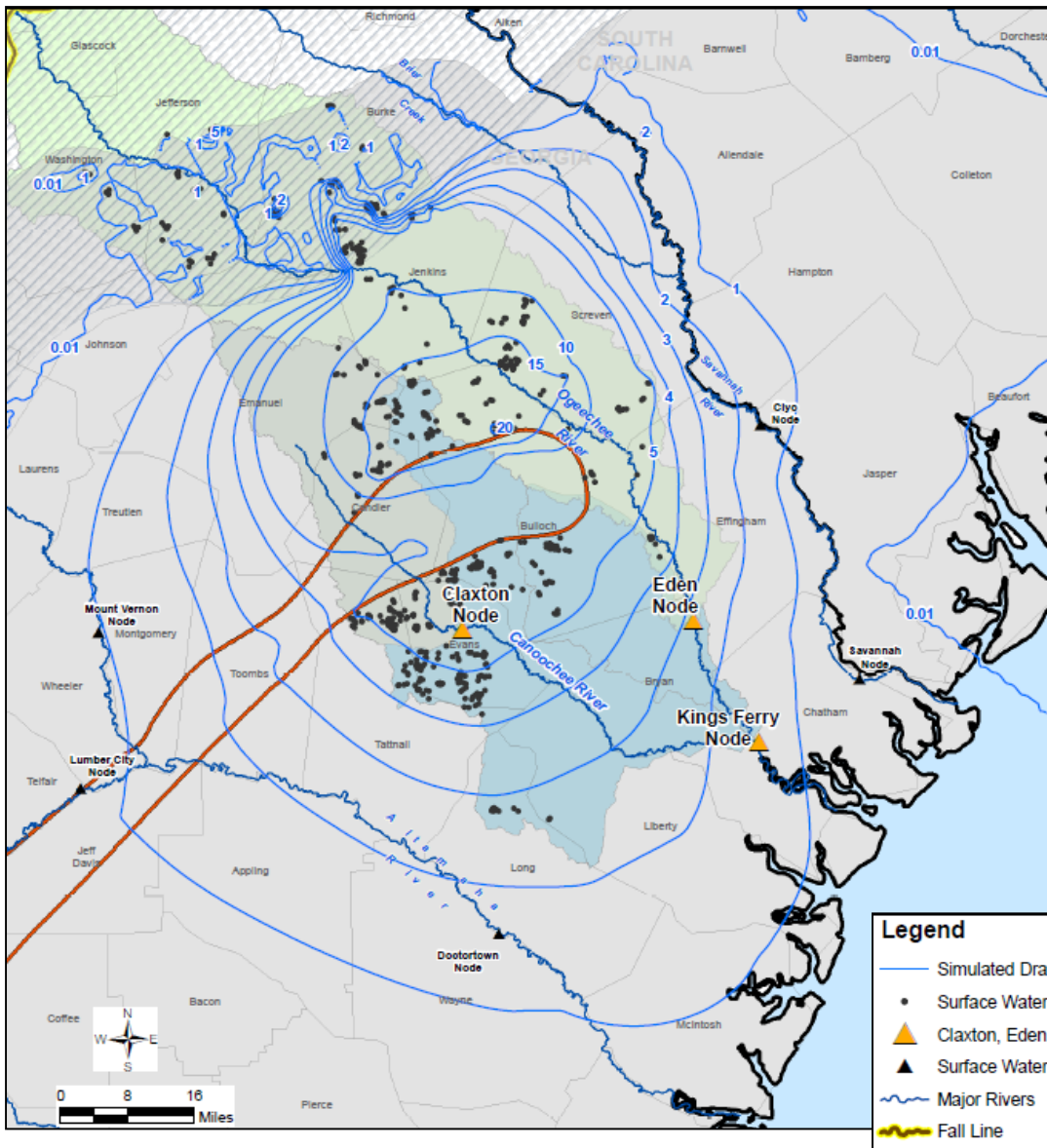
## Claxton, Eden, and Kings Ferry LDAs and Excluding Pumping from the Gulf Trough Area

	LDA	Number of Parcels	Total Irrigated Area	Mean Irrigation Depth	Total Additional Groundwater Demand
				(May - August)	(May - August)
Units	-	-	(acres)	(inches/month)	(MGD)
Surface Water Only Parcels that will be Replaced by Groundwater from Floridan Aquifer	<b>Eden</b>	207	10,910	1.39	13.34
	<b>Claxton</b>	121	2,980	1.39	3.65
	<b>Kings Ferry</b>	226	7,960	1.39	9.73
Surface Water Only Parcels that will be Replaced by Groundwater from Cretaceous Aquifer	<b>Eden</b>	35	1,740	1.39	2.13
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>589</b>	<b>23,590</b>	<b>1.39</b>	<b>28.85</b>

# Simulated Drawdown in Floridan Aquifer Heads – Pumping 26.7 MGD

## Claxton, Eden, and Kings Ferry Node LDAs – No Withdrawals in Gulf Trough Area

Maximum drawdown does not exceed sustainable yield criterion (30 feet), based on 2010 baseline condition

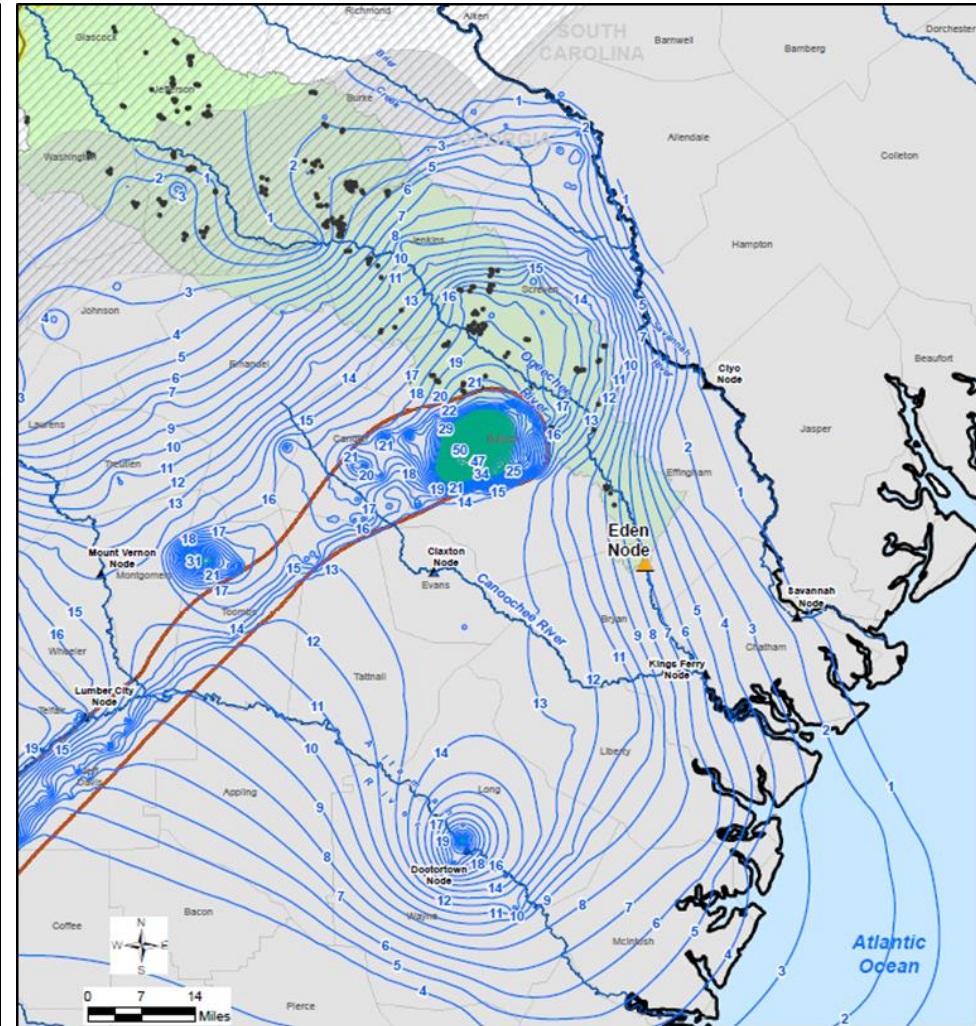
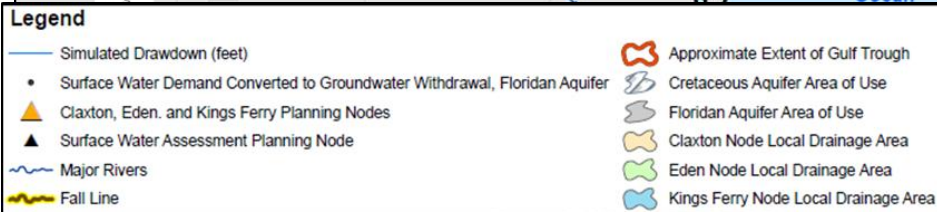
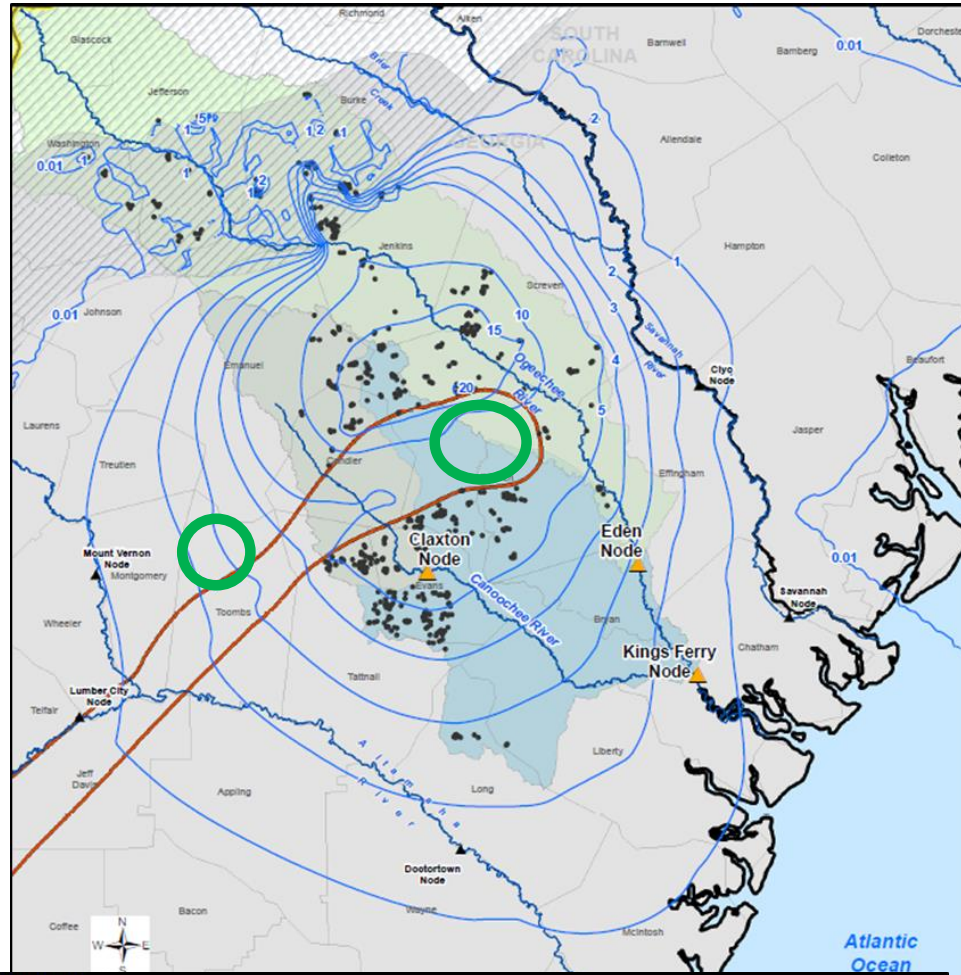


### Legend

- Simulated Drawdown (feet)
- Surface Water Demand Converted to Groundwater Withdrawal, Floridan Aquifer
- ▲ Claxton, Eden, and Kings Ferry Planning Nodes
- ▲ Surface Water Assessment Planning Node
- Major Rivers
- Fall Line
- Approximate Extent of Gulf Trough
- Cretaceous Aquifer Area of Use
- Floridan Aquifer Area of Use
- Claxton Node Local Drainage Area
- Eden Node Local Drainage Area
- Kings Ferry Node Local Drainage Area



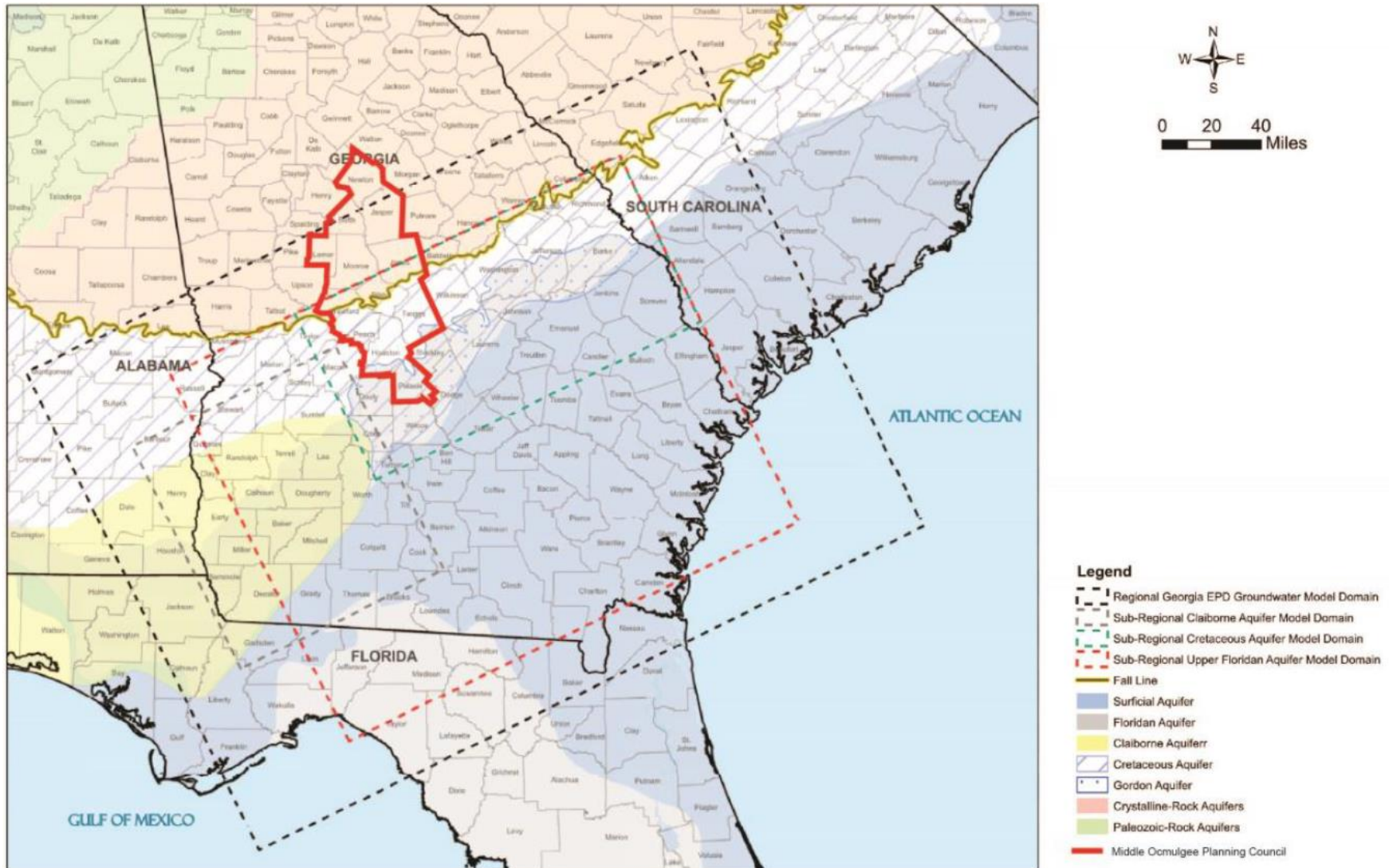
# Simulated Drawdown in Floridan Aquifer Heads – Pumping 26.7 MGD



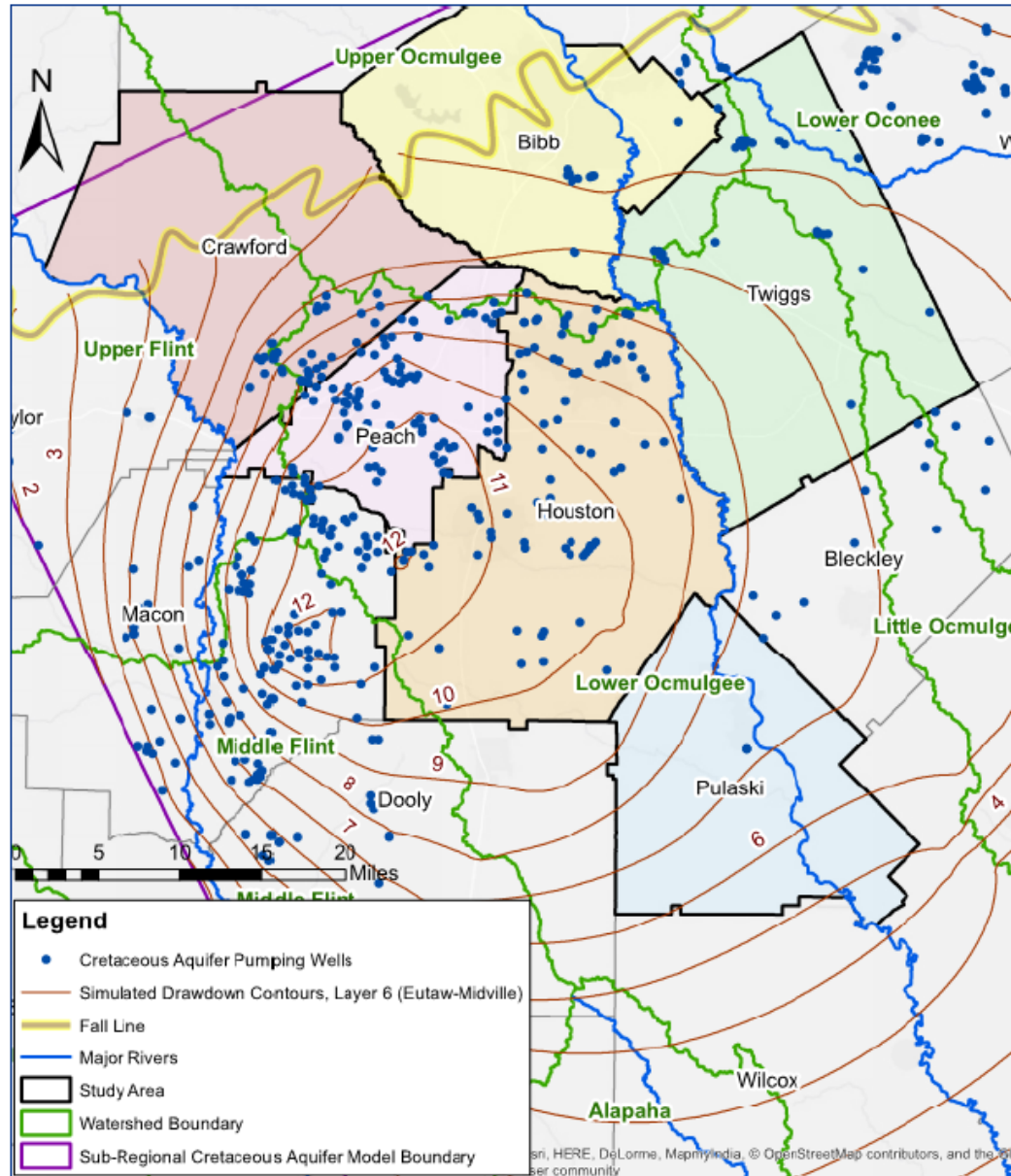
Potential 2 to 10 ft incremental drawdown increase, when added to sustainable yield simulated drawdown



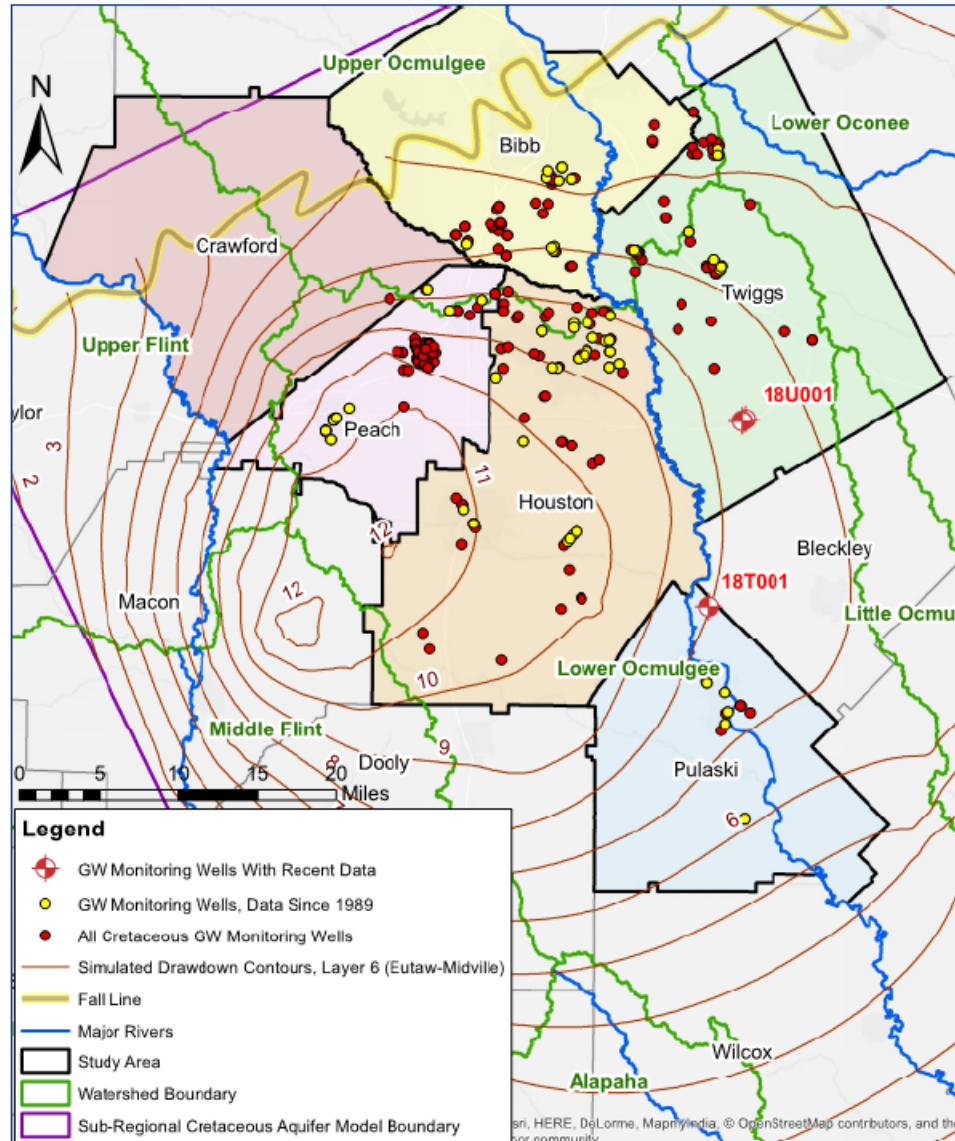
# Middle Ocmulgee Water Planning Region in the Existing Cretaceous Aquifer Model



# Cretaceous Aquifer Groundwater Pumping Well Locations

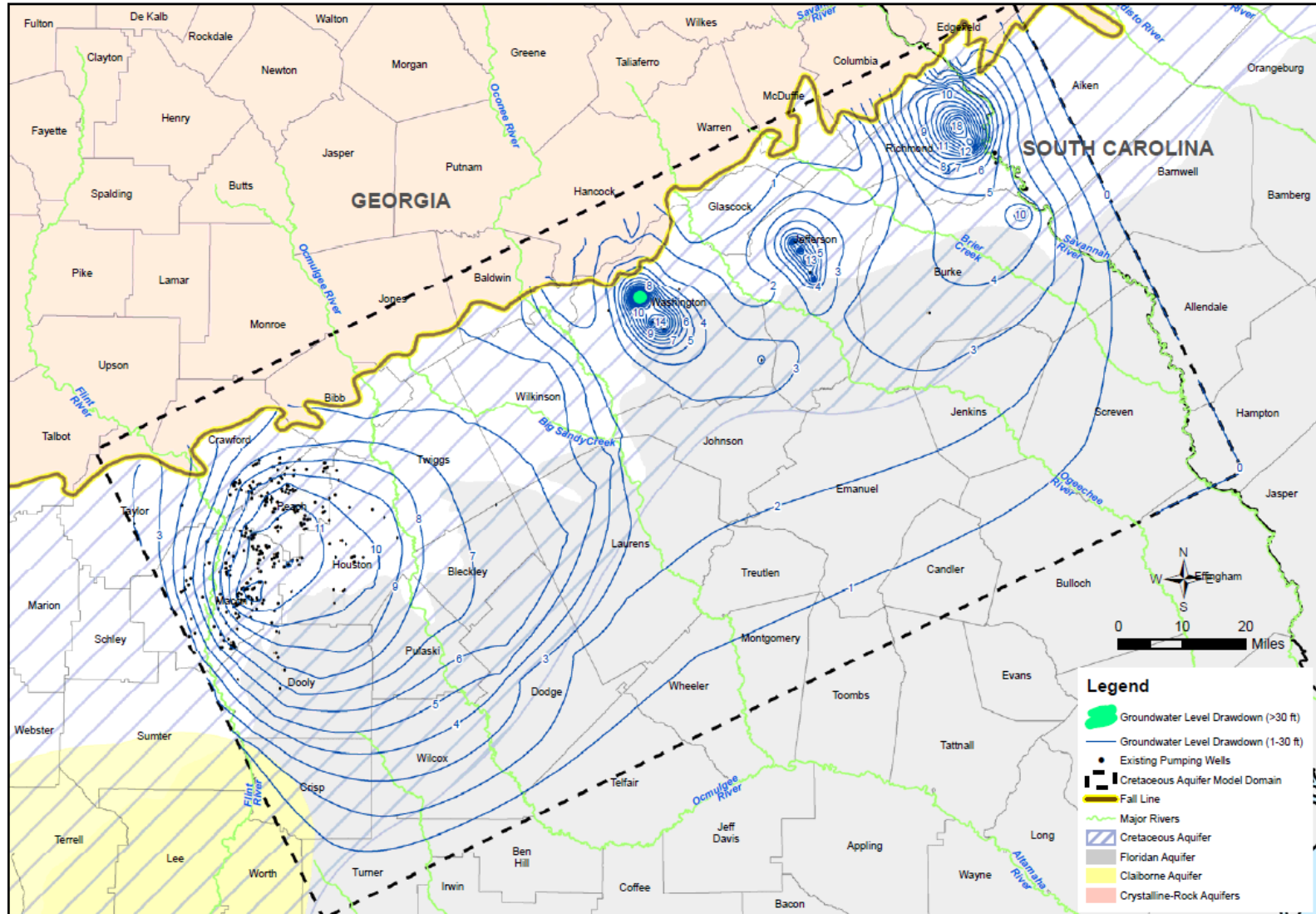


# Groundwater Monitoring Well Locations

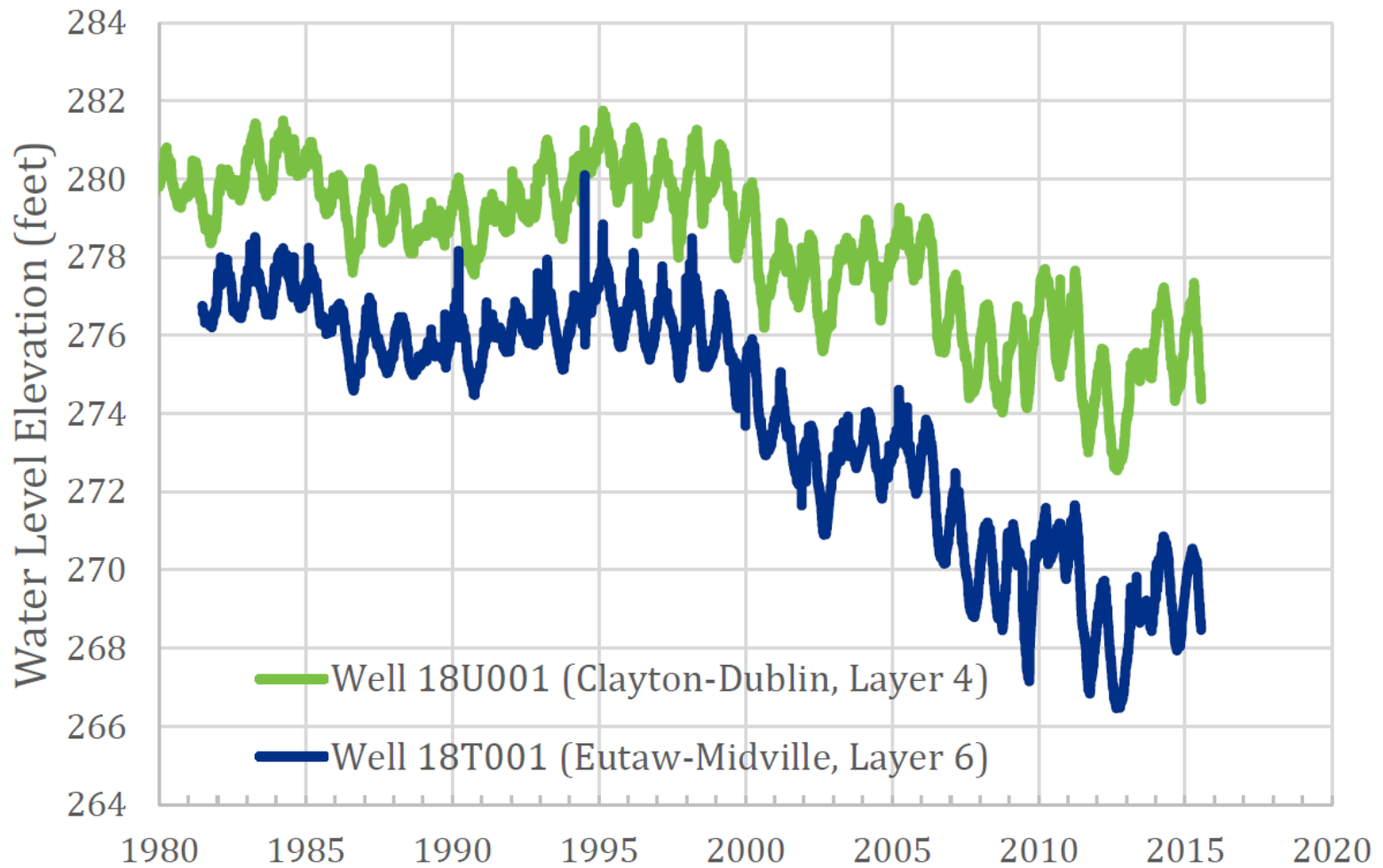




# State Water Plan Model of the Cretaceous Aquifer – Layer 6

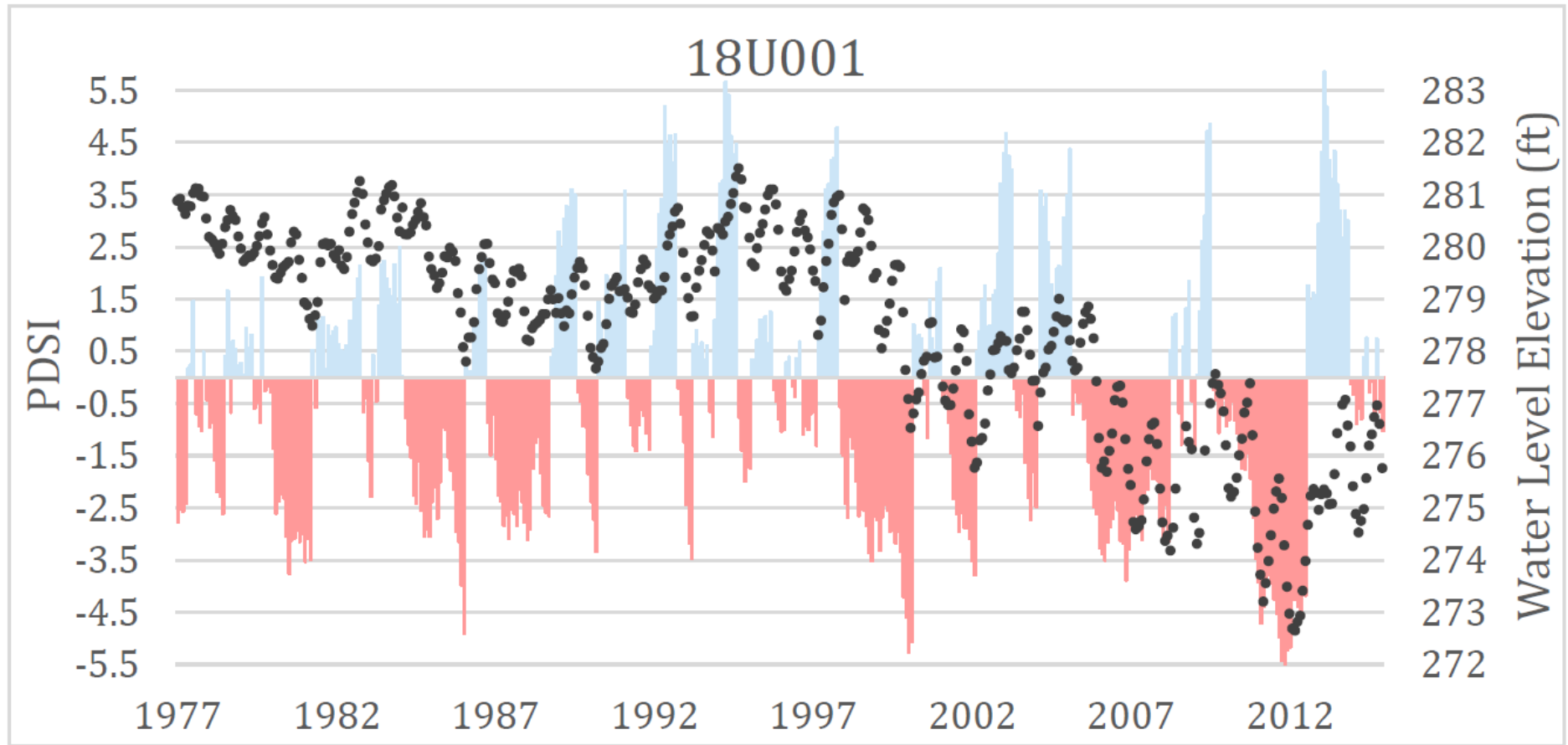


# USGS Monitoring Wells



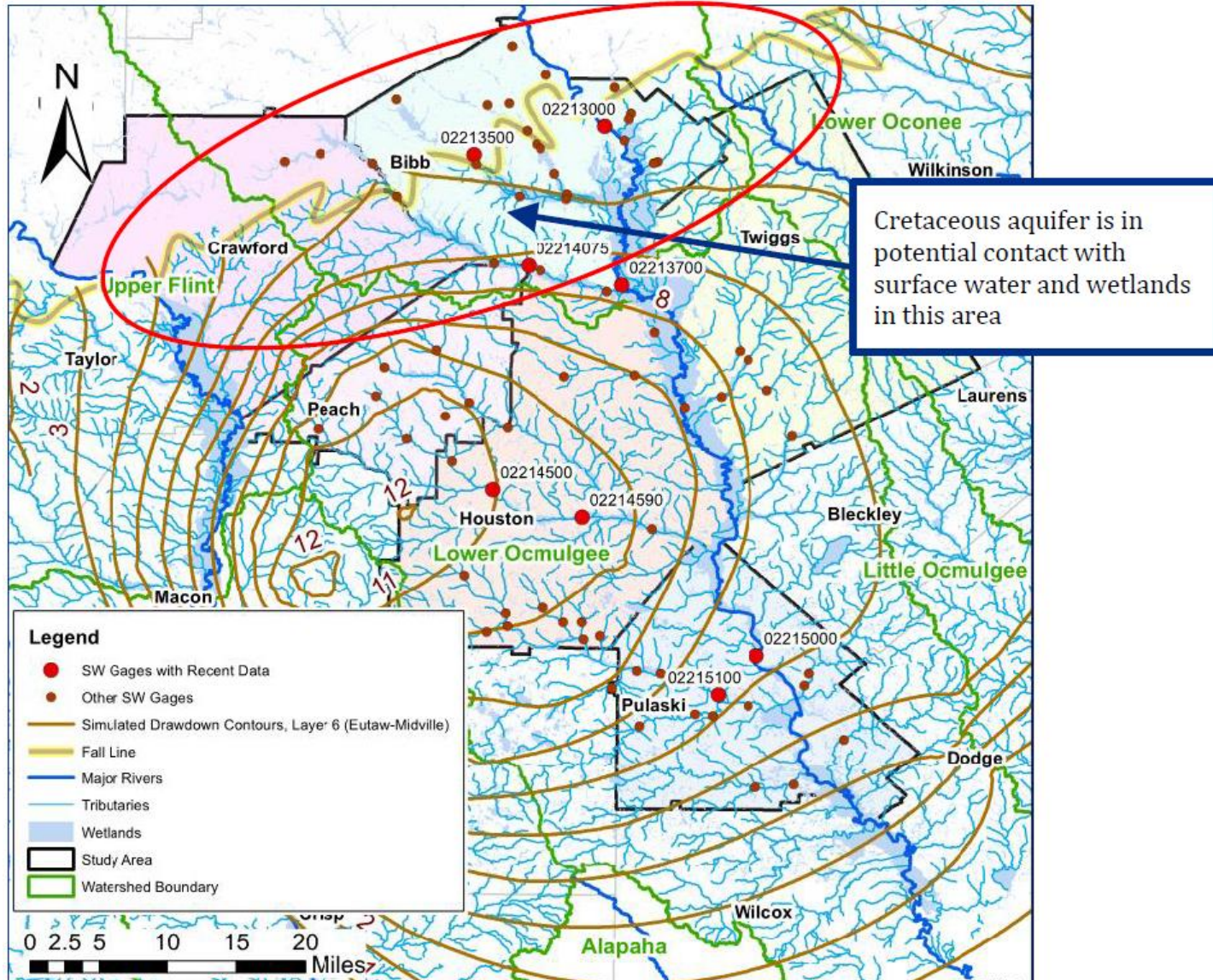


# Water Level Relationship to Palmer Drought Severity Index





# Surface Water Monitoring Locations





## *Task 3 Recommendations*

- Identified potential areas that may be more sensitive to increased groundwater withdrawals (based on currently available data)
- Recommendations regarding availability and suitability of existing monitoring locations (SW and GW) and other sources of data that may be useful for monitoring groundwater conditions in the Cretaceous aquifer
- Recommendations for long-term monitoring in the study area