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2007 - Salinas Valley Hydrologic Subareas, 4th Quarter Water Conditions

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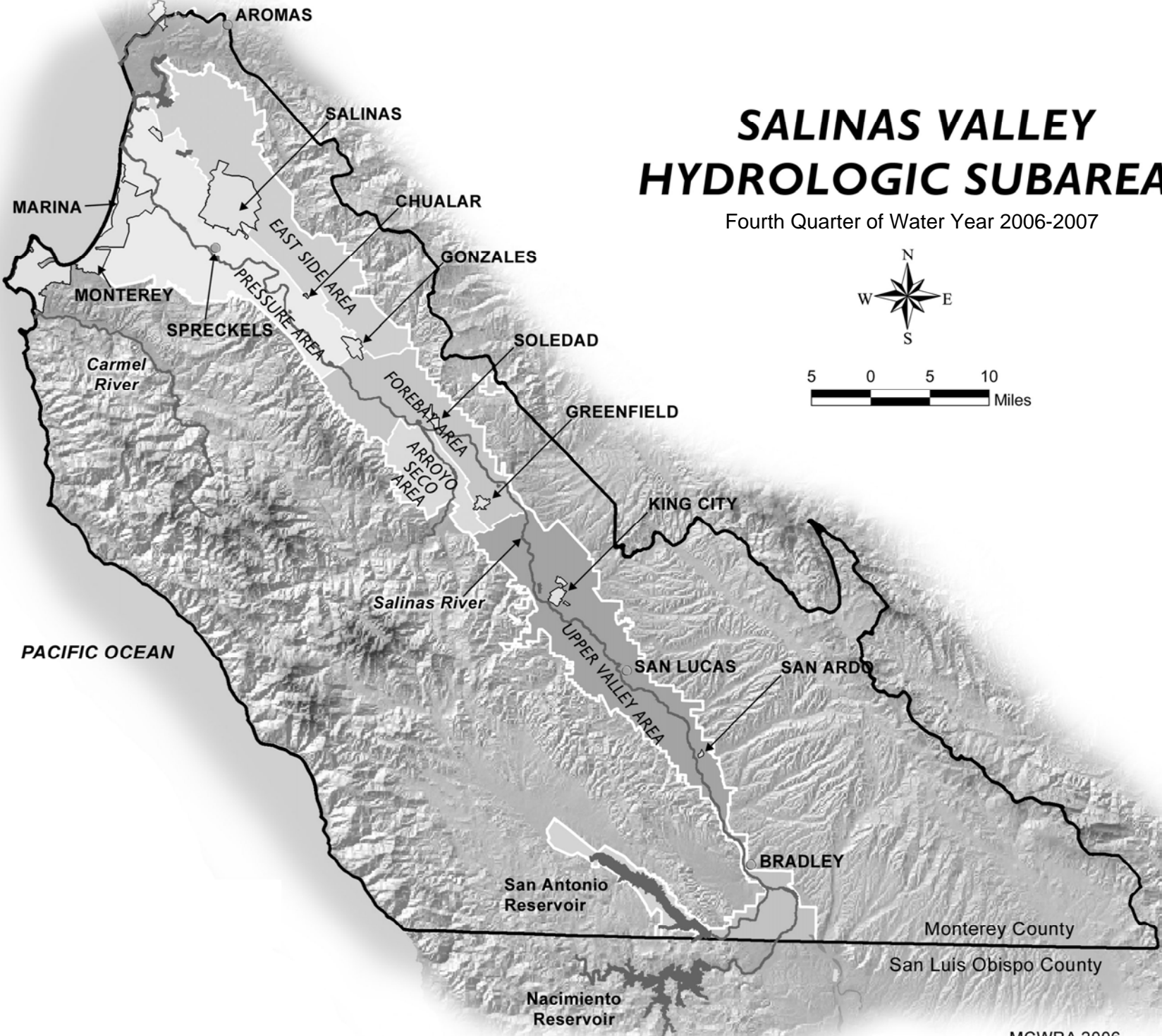
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SALINAS VALLEY HYDROLOGIC SUBAREAS

Fourth Quarter of Water Year 2006-2007



**MONTEREY COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

MEETING DATE:	October 22, 2007	AGENDA ITEM:	
AGENDA TITLE:	RECEIVE REPORT ON SALINAS VALLEY WATER CONDITIONS FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF WATER YEAR 2006-2007		
Consent (X)		Action ()	
Information ()			
SUBMITTED BY:	ROBERT JOHNSON	PREPARED BY:	PETER KWIEK, JOHN ROITZ
PHONE:	755-4860	PHONE:	755-4860
DEADLINE FOR BOARD ACTION:	October 22, 2007		

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION:

Receive report on Salinas Valley water conditions for the fourth quarter of Water Year 2006-2007.

PRIOR RELEVANT BOARD ACTION:

A report was last presented to the Board on July 23, 2007, covering the third quarter of Water Year 2006-2007.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

This report covers the fourth quarter of Water Year 2006-2007 (WY07), July through September 2007. It provides a brief overview of water conditions in the Salinas Valley with discussion on precipitation, reservoir storage, and ground water level trends. Data for each of these components are included as graphs and tables in Attachments A through J.

Precipitation – The Salinas Airport received little rainfall for the months of July, August or September. For reference, long term rainfall averages for these months are 0.02, 0.03, and 0.23 inches, respectively. No measurable rain fell in the months of July and August, and 0.45 inches were recorded in September. The total rainfall for water year 2006-2007 at the Salinas Airport was 10.26 inches or approximately 76 percent of the total rainfall for a normal water year.

Dry conditions also prevailed at King City throughout the fourth quarter, in accordance with long-term average rainfall data. No rain fell there in July and August, and 0.21 inches were recorded in September. King City’s total rainfall for water year 2006-2007 was 5.22 inches or approximately 48 percent of the total rainfall for a normal water year.

Attachments A and B are graphs showing cumulative monthly precipitation data for both stations. Current data is plotted and compared with last year and with normal conditions.

Rainfall data for King City and Salinas should be considered preliminary until verified by National Weather Service data at a later date.

Reservoirs - The following table compares fourth quarter storage at Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs for the past two years. Storage in Nacimiento Reservoir is 163,830 acre feet lower than September 2006 while storage in San Antonio Reservoir is 74,195 acre feet lower than last year.

Reservoir	September 30, 2007 (WY07) Storage in acre feet	September 30, 2006 (WY06) Storage in acre feet	Difference in acre feet
Nacimiento	115,340	279,170	-163,830
San Antonio	246,880	321,075	-74,195

Graphs for each reservoir showing end-of-month storage for the last ten years are included as Attachments C and D.

Ground Water Levels – More than 80 wells are measured monthly throughout the Salinas Valley to monitor seasonal ground water level fluctuations. Data from approximately 50 of these wells is used in the preparation of this report. The measurements are categorized by hydrologic subarea and then averaged and plotted on graphs to compare current water levels with selected past conditions. These conditions include the prior year (WY06), dry conditions (WY91), and near normal conditions (WY85). Each of these comparisons is shown in Attachments E through I, along with a summary of the comparisons shown in Attachment J.

Fourth quarter monthly ground water level measurements indicate that water levels in all hydrologic subareas continued to decline in July with the exception of the Upper Valley where levels increased by less than one foot. In August, water levels decreased in all subareas with the exception of the East Side where water levels began to recover. By September, water levels were recovering in all subareas.

The change in average water levels over the previous month ranged from no change in the Forebay Subarea to a five foot increase in the East Side Subarea.

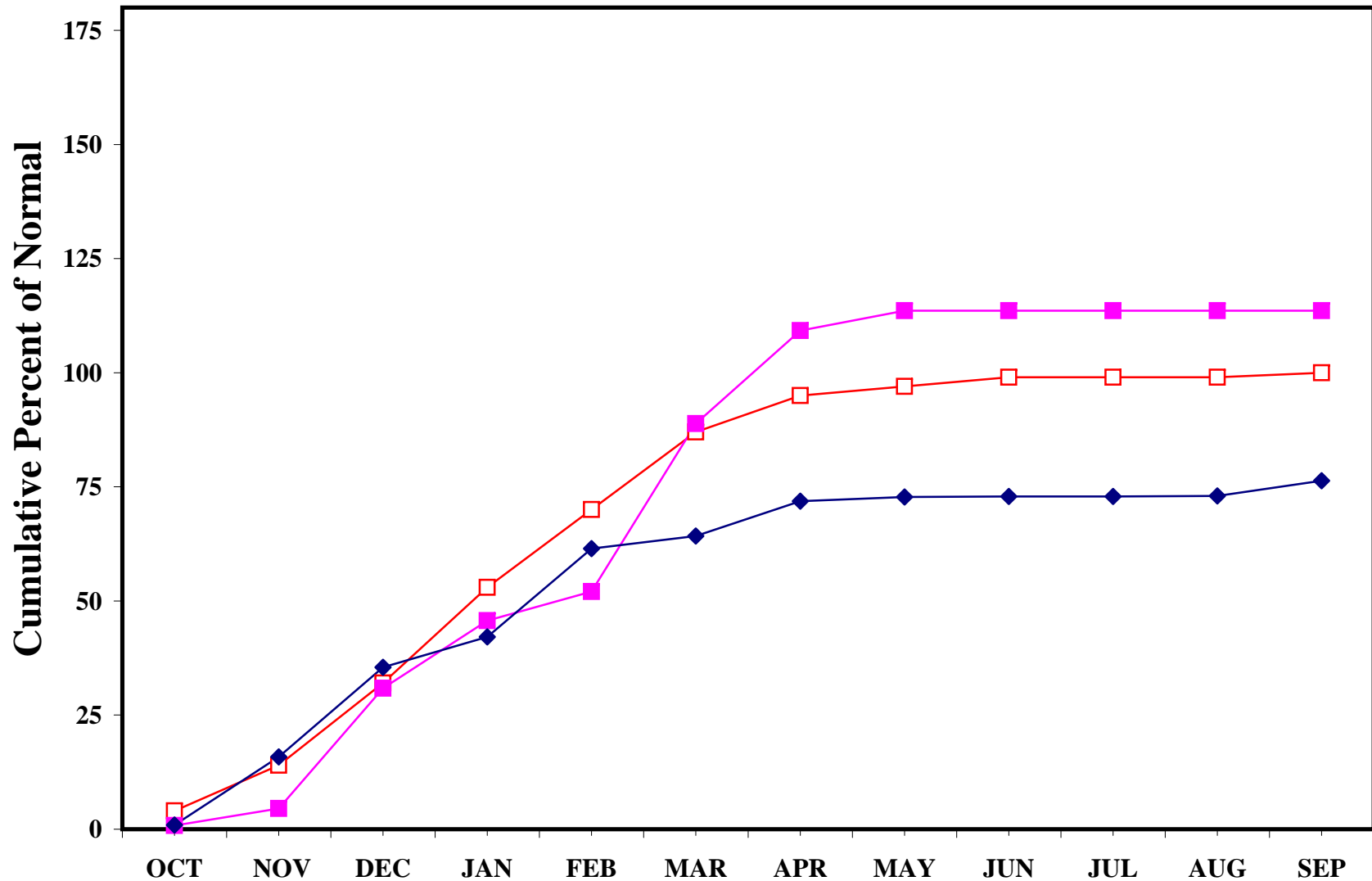
Compared to September 2006, average ground water levels decreased by one foot in the Upper Valley Subarea, three feet in the Pressure 180-Foot and Pressure 400-Foot Aquifers, five feet in the Forebay Subarea, and seven feet in the East Side Subarea.

When compared to Water Year 1985, which is considered to be a year of near-normal ground water conditions, current water level changes range from an increase of six feet in the Pressure 400-Foot Aquifer to a decrease of thirteen feet in the East Side Subarea. Water levels in the Pressure 180-Foot Aquifer are 3 feet lower, while in the Upper Valley and Forebay subareas they are one foot and three feet higher, respectively, than in WY85.

Average ground water levels remain well above WY91 values in all hydrologic subareas including the East Side, where water levels declined in July to values approaching those recorded in WY91.

SALINAS AIRPORT RAINFALL

Water Year 2006-07



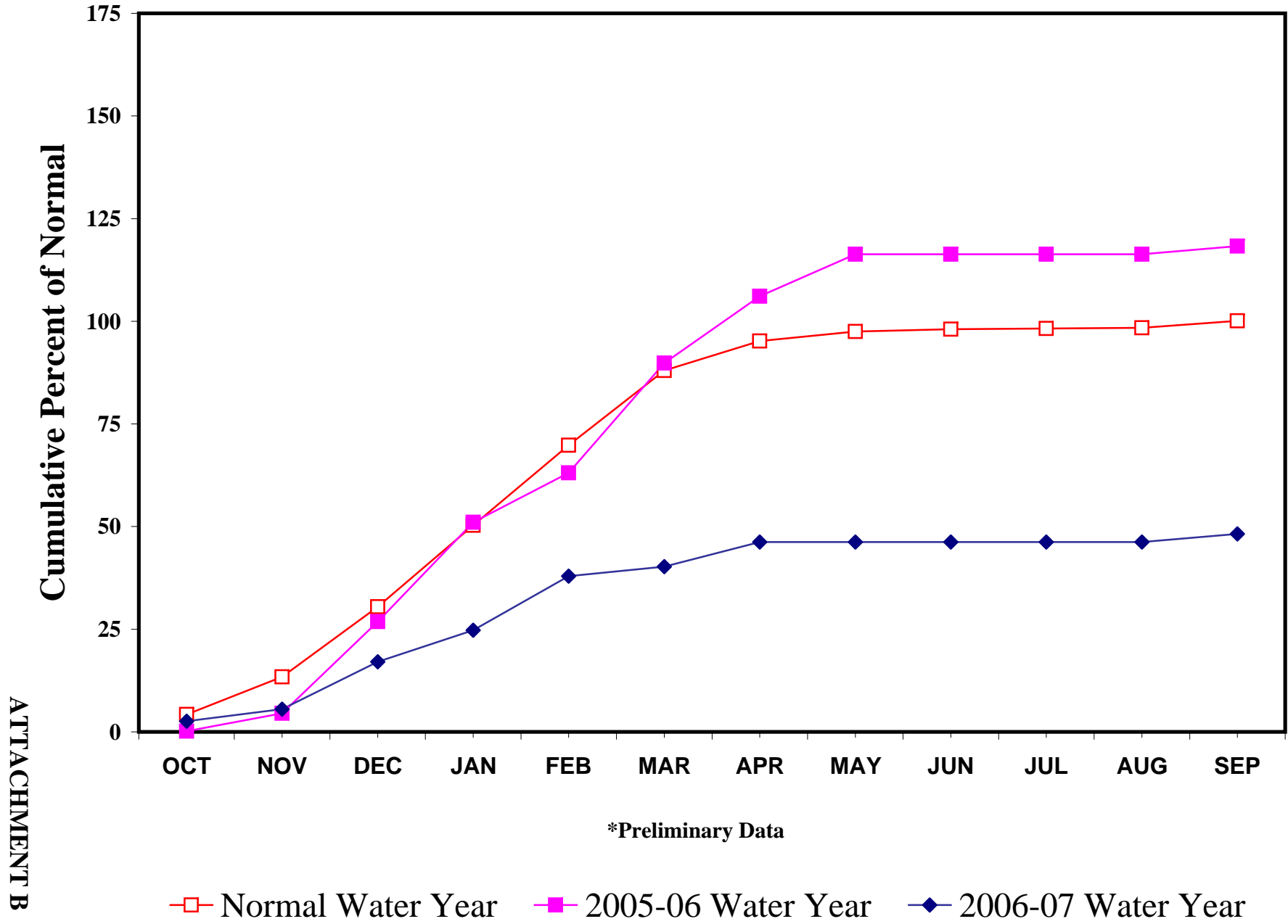
*Preliminary Data

—□— Normal Water Year —■— 2005-06 Water Year —◆— 2006-07 Water Year

ATTACHMENT A

KING CITY RAINFALL

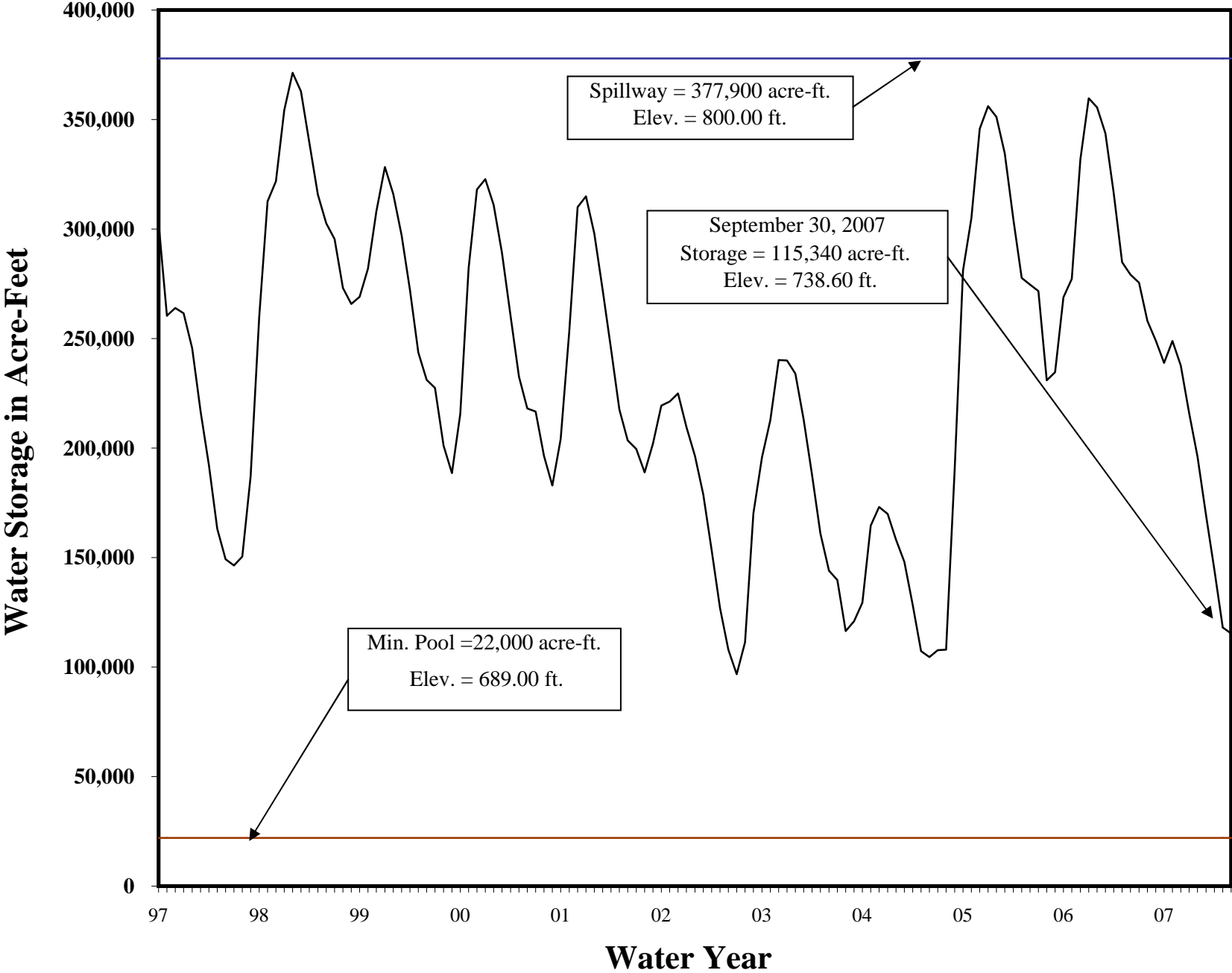
Water Year 2006-07



ATTACHMENT B

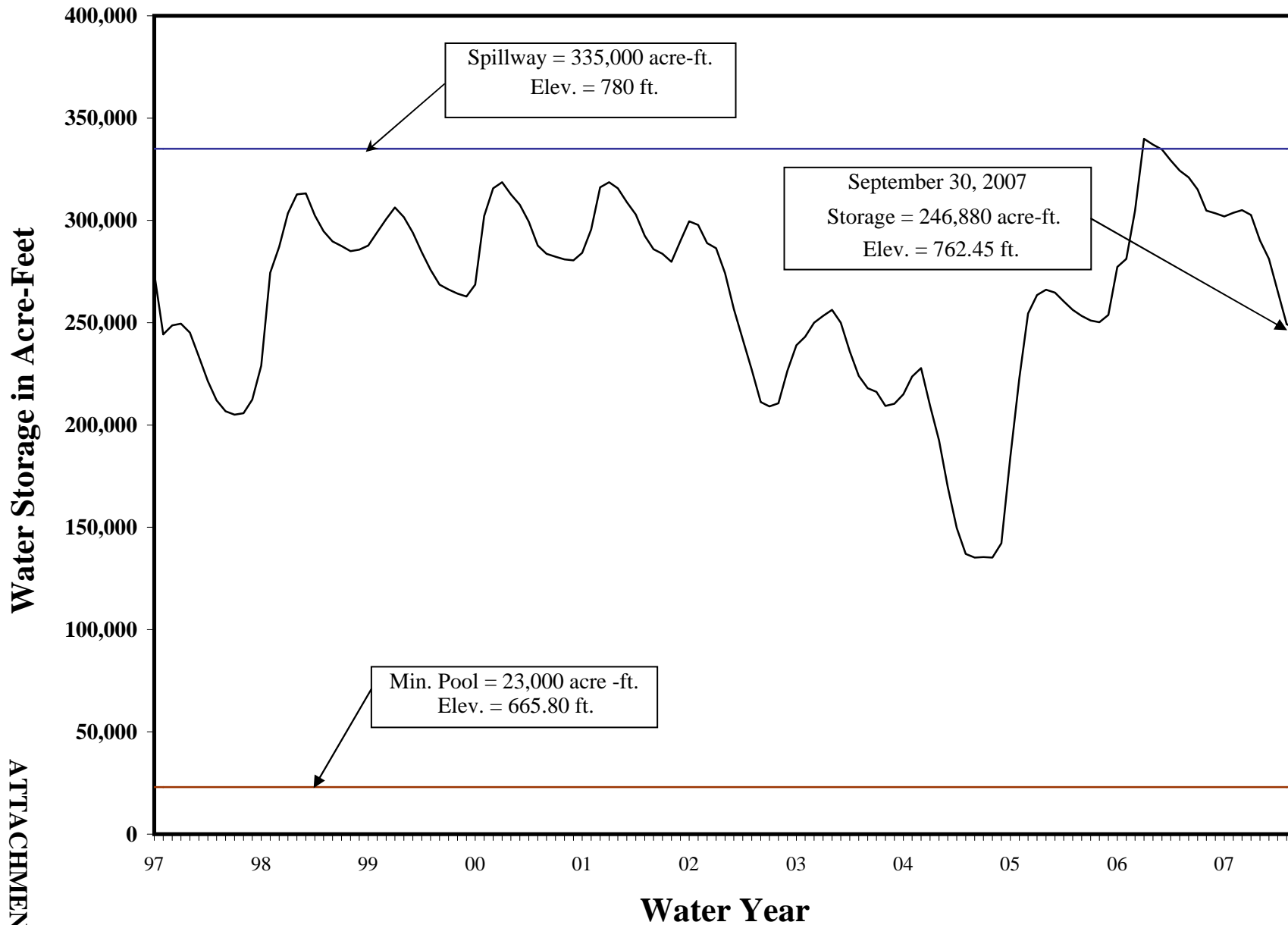
NACIMIENTO RESERVOIR

END OF MONTH STORAGE



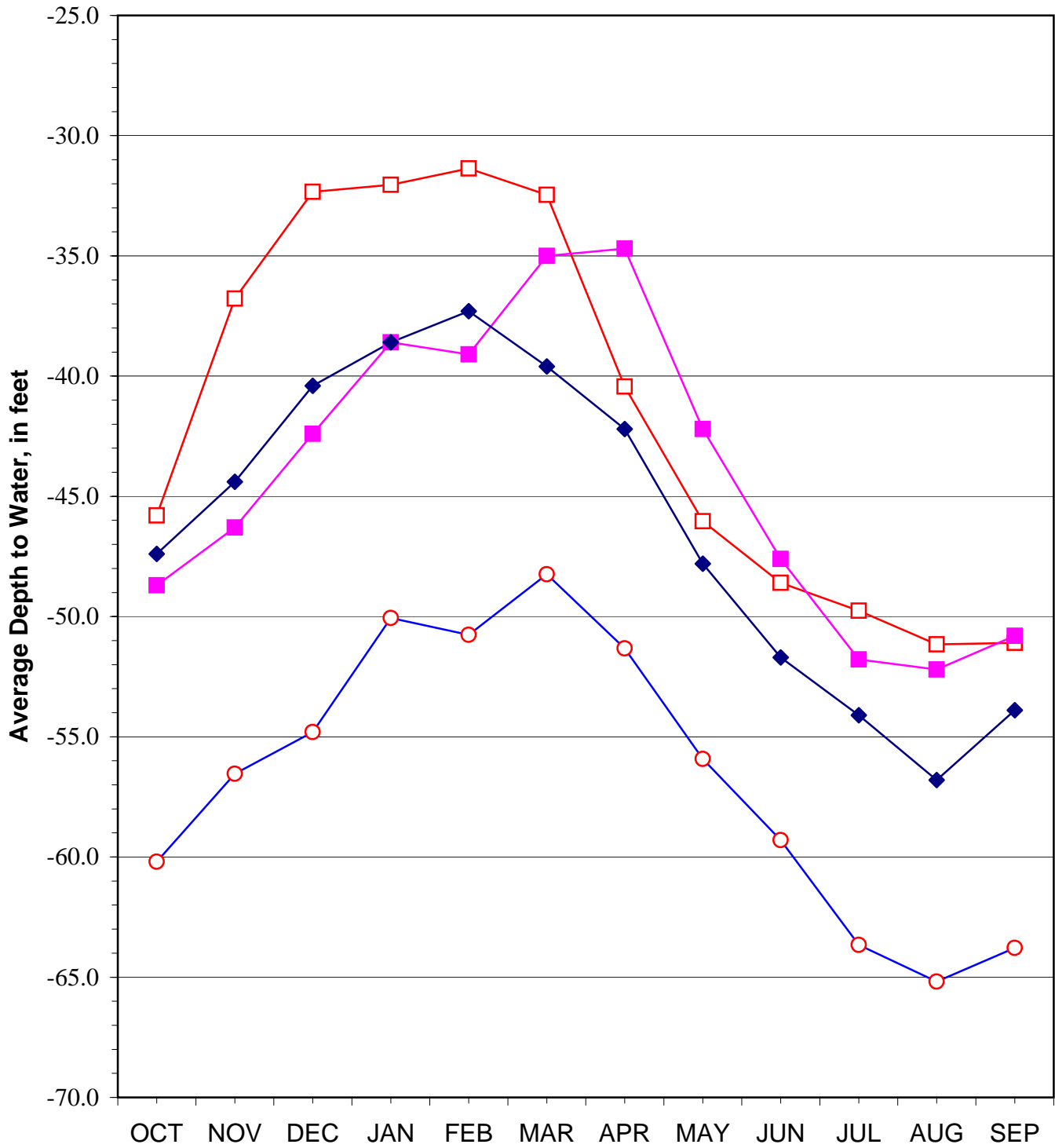
SAN ANTONIO RESERVOIR

END OF THE MONTH STORAGE



HISTORIC GROUND WATER TRENDS PRESSURE AREA-180 FOOT AQUIFER

5 Wells

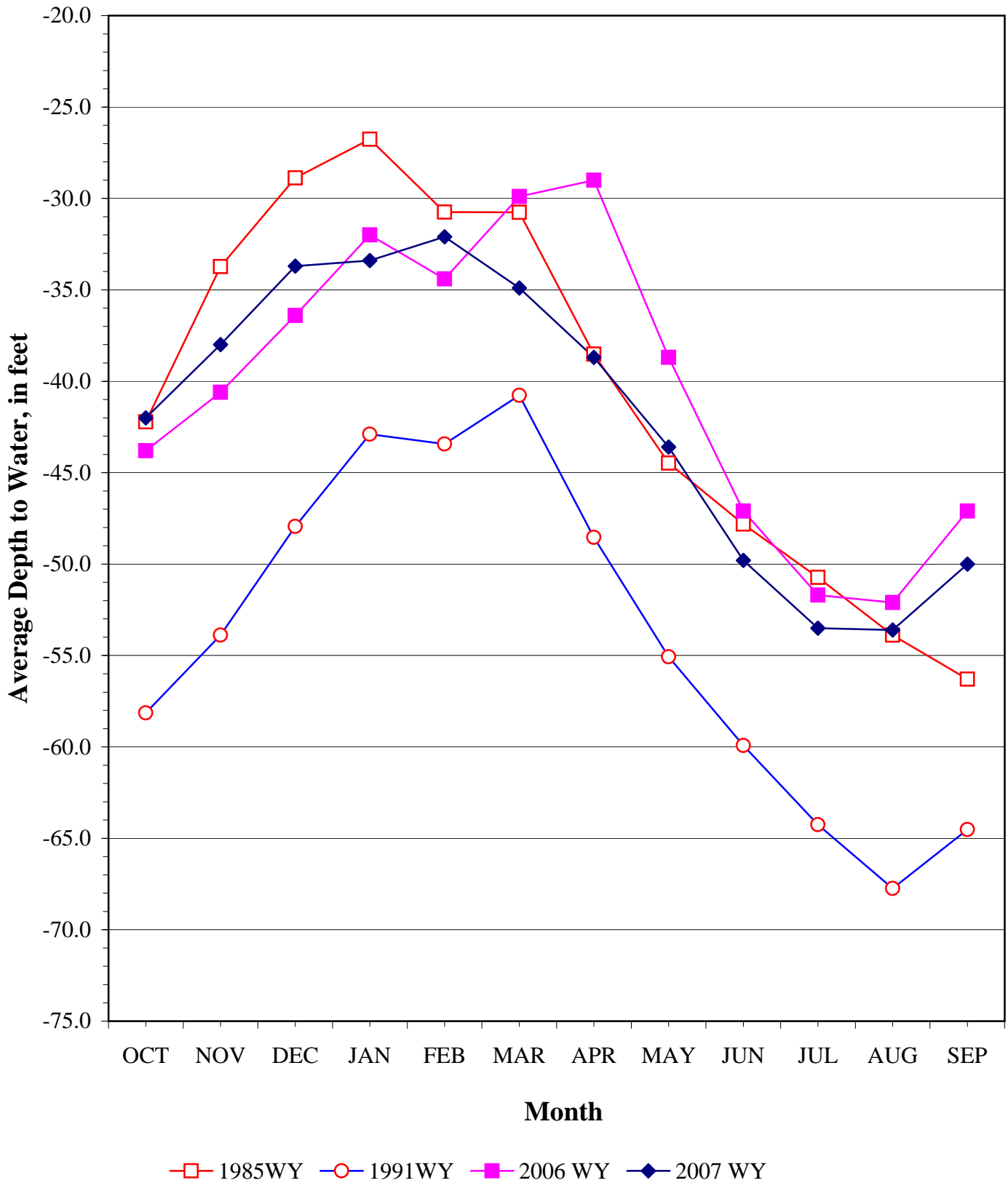


—□— 1985 WY —○— 1991 WY —■— 2006 WY —◆— 2007 WY

HISTORIC GROUND WATER TRENDS

PRESSURE AREA-400 FOOT AQUIFER

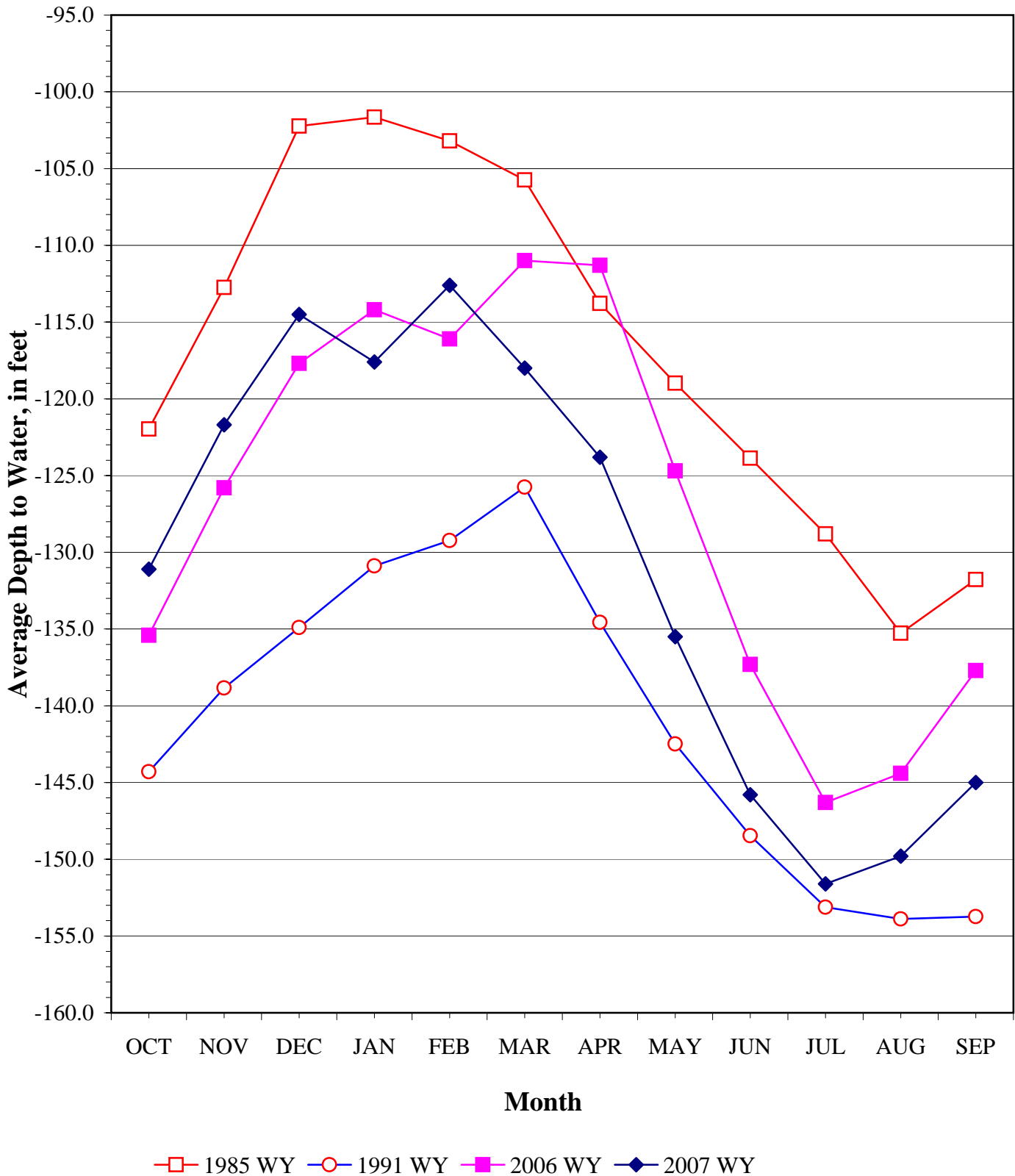
11 Wells



HISTORIC GROUND WATER TRENDS

EAST SIDE AREA

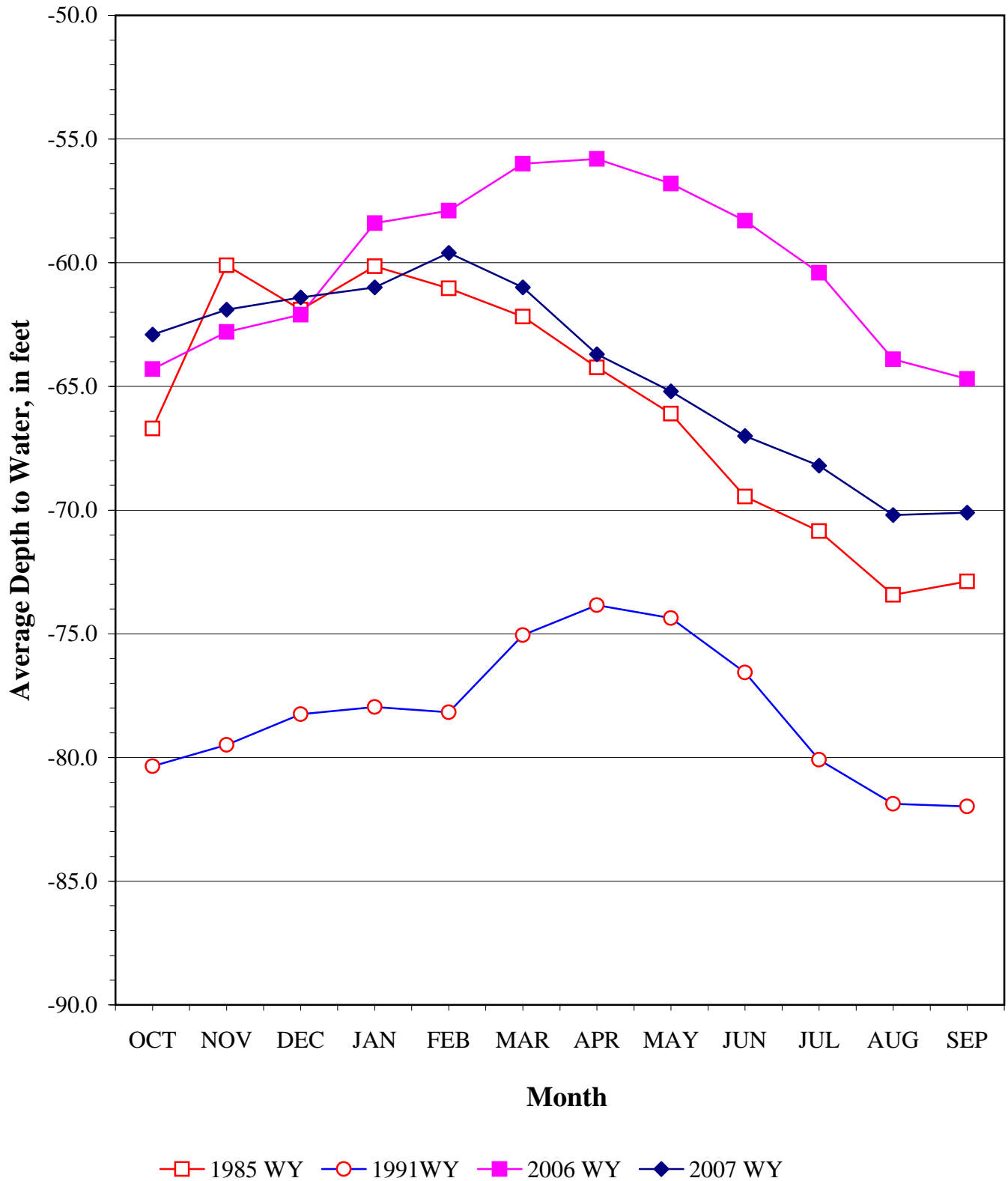
11 Wells



HISTORIC GROUND WATER TRENDS

FOREBAY AREA

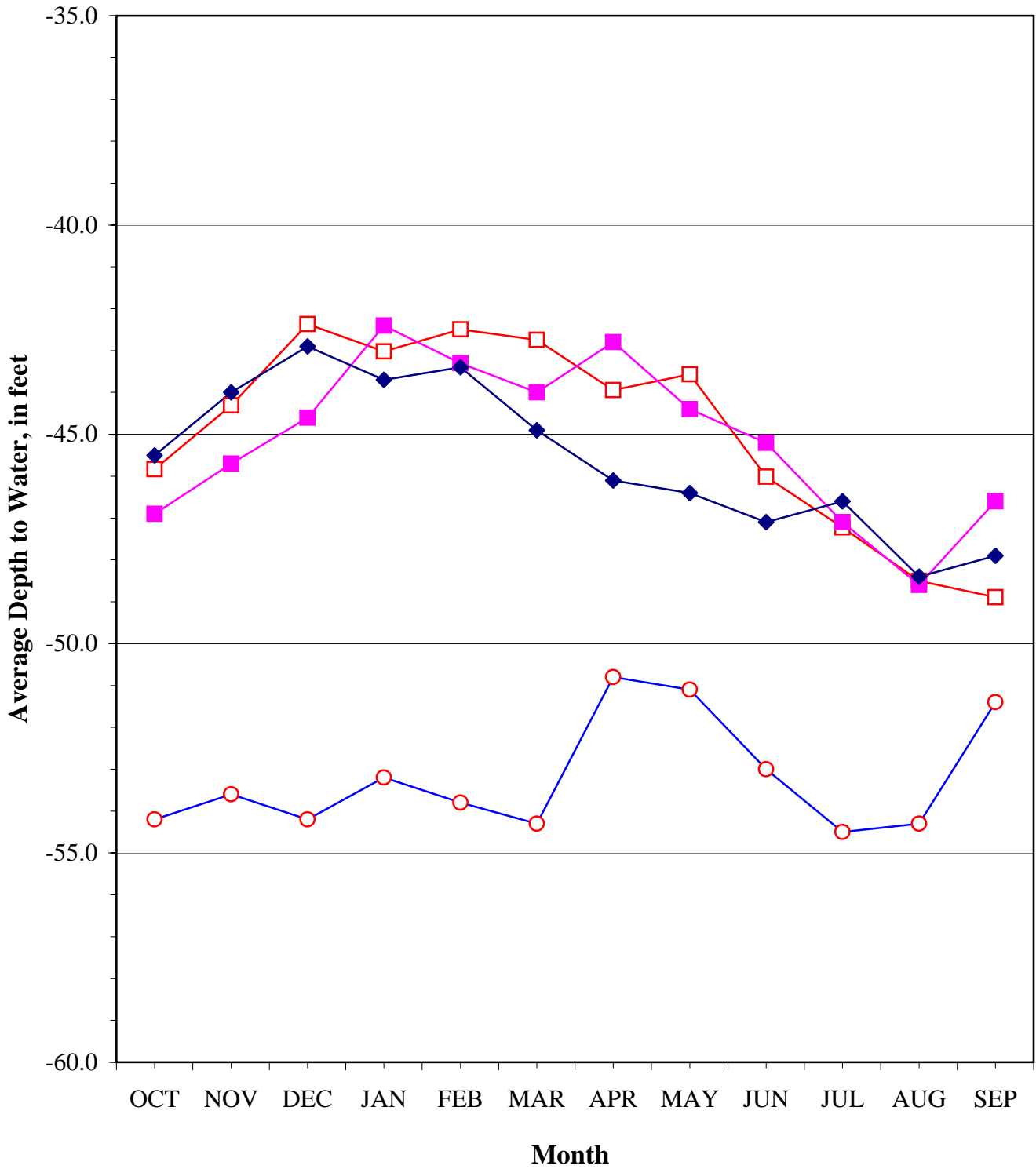
10 Wells



HISTORIC GROUND WATER TRENDS

UPPER VALLEY AREA

9 Wells



—□— 1985WY
 —○— 1991WY
 —■— 2006 WY
 —◆— 2007 WY

Generalized Ground Water Trends

September 2007

AREA	September 2007 Depth to Water	1 Year Change	Change From WY 1985	1 Month Change
180' Aquifer in Pressure Area	54'	down 3'	down 3'	up 3'
400' Aquifer in Pressure Area	50'	down 3'	up 6'	up 4'
East Side Area	145'	down 7'	down 13'	up 5'
Forebay Area	70'	down 5'	up 3'	no change
Upper Valley Area	48'	down 1'	up 1'	up 1'

September water levels, compared to last year, range 1' to 7' lower.

September water levels, compared to WY 1985, range from 13' lower to 6' higher.

September changes in water levels over the last month range from no change to 5' higher.