



A Groundwater-Dynamic Simulation Decision Support System: Application to the Upper San Pedro Basin

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The Nature Conservancy



SAHRA

Sustainability of semiArid Hydrology and Riparian Areas

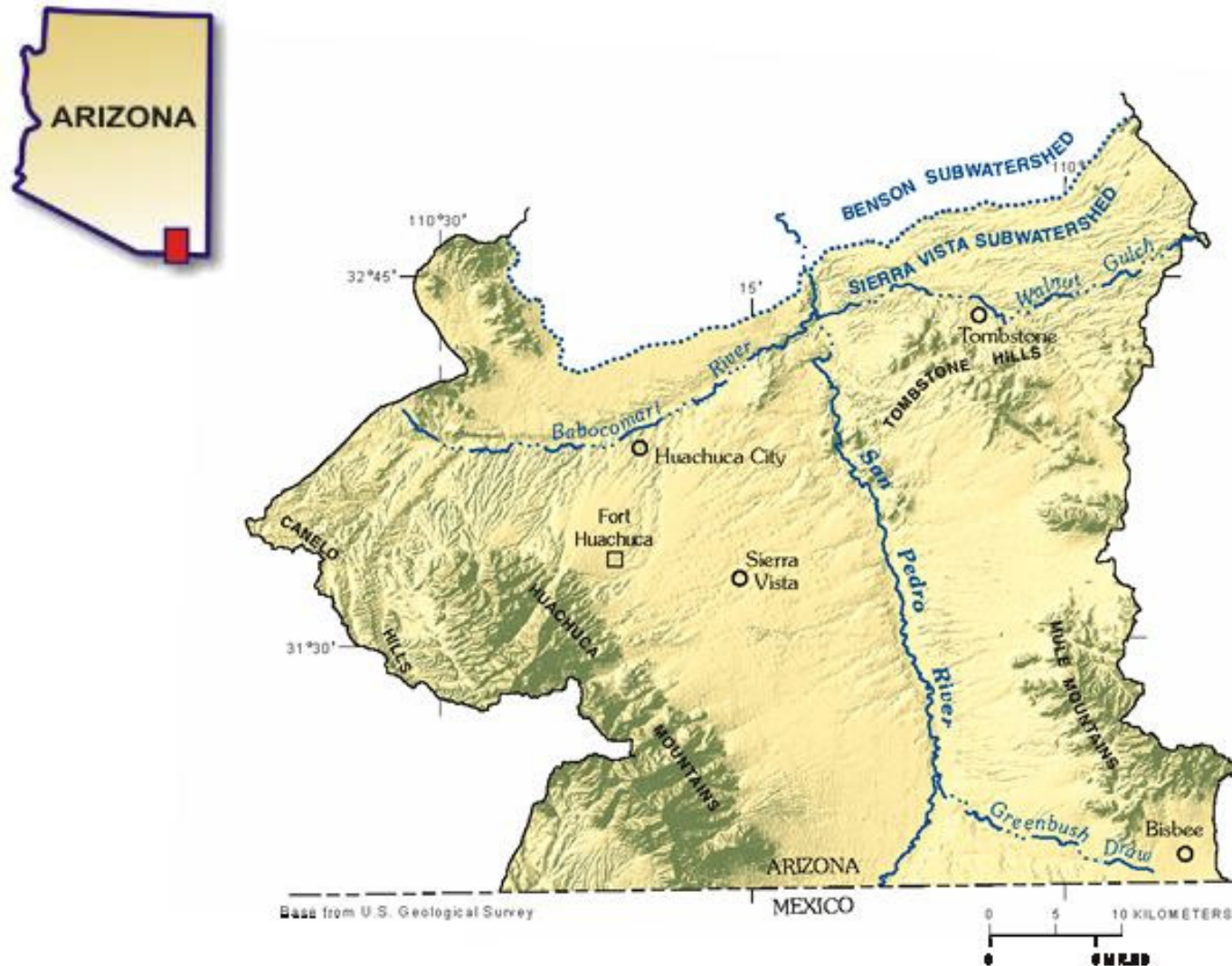
Types of Decision Support Systems

Goal: To provide decision makers information to improve their choices

- 1) Presentation/visualization of information, particularly spatial data, to understand present and potential future conditions.
- 2) Prediction of future conditions resulting from a set of decisions and display of one or more evaluation criteria
- 3) Select decisions to optimize one or more criteria – compare solutions and objective function values



Location

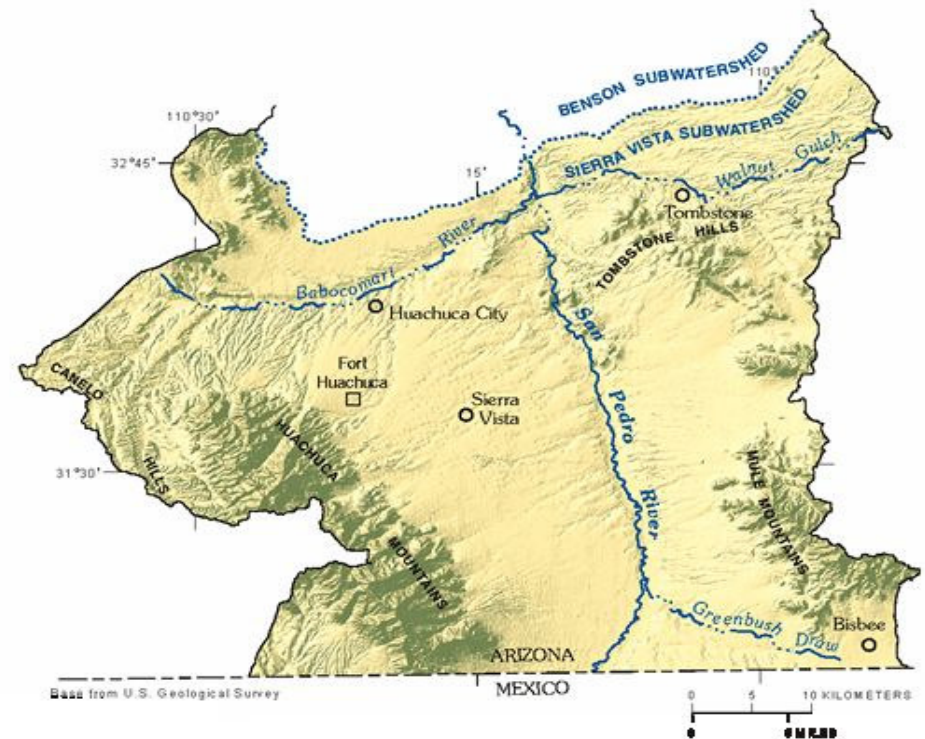


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Sustainability of semiArid Hydrology and Riparian Areas

Background

- Five municipalities plus unincorporated county
- Ft. Huachuca military base
- Total population ~ 68000 people (about half in Sierra Vista)
- San Pedro National Conservation Area
- Estimated annual recharge
~ 21500 acre-ft
- Groundwater overdraft
~ 8400 acre-ft/yr
- SPRNCA requirements
~ 7,700 acre-ft/yr



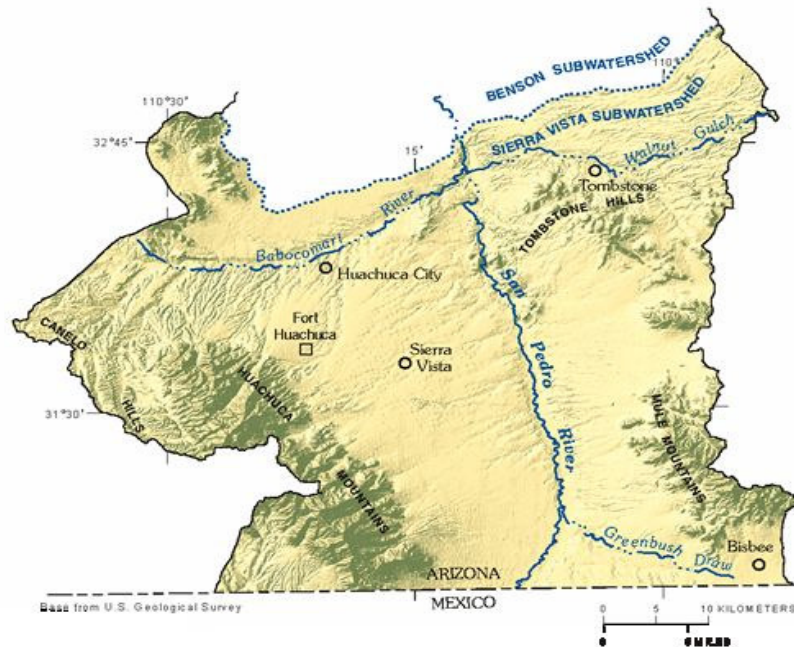
Challenge

- The San Pedro River supports riparian forests that is home to many bird and plant species.
- Freshwater resources in the valley are also shared by nearby cities, a diverse and growing community of users.
- Supplying water needs for the public as well as ensuring the sustainability of the San Pedro River given the wide spectrum of social, cultural and economic values.
- Satisfy recent federal mandate to provide a “sustainable” system



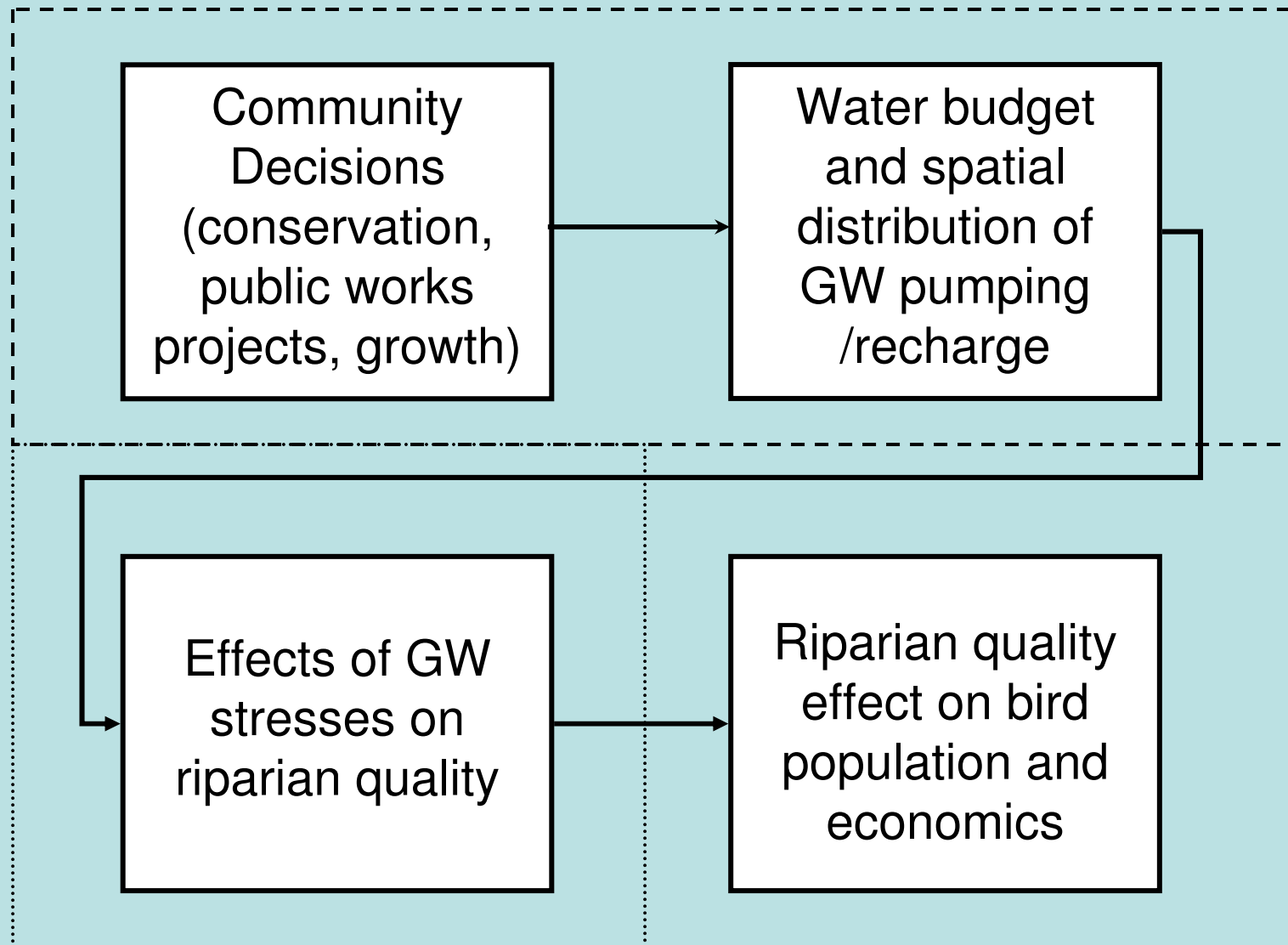
Challenge

- Mountain front recharge from Huachuca Mtns is primary long term water supply
- Sierra Vista pumping occurs between source and river
- Pumping drawdown will eventually affect river flows and GW levels near the San Pedro. However, long travel time from mountains to river and large area.



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Sustainability of semiArid Hydrology and Riparian Areas



San Pedro Subwatershed Decision Support System

OBJECTIVE:

- To provide a decision making tool for water budget in the subwatershed.
 - Provide basis for understanding impacts of alternative decisions for decision makers and general public
 - Identify cost effective alternative water conservation measures
- Allows users to select among many alternative conservation measures.
- Easy to examine different combinations and to determine if water balance is achieved.



Limitations/cautions

DSS modeling: Generally uses available information and science to develop relationships and model input and presents in way decision makers can use the information

- 1) DSS computes water demands, consumptive use, and return flows based on demographic data that is calibrated to local records (e.g., turf areas and private well use)
- 2) Riparian water use taken from Water Needs study
- 3) Natural recharge agreed upon based on Water Needs and other sources.
- 4) GW responses developed using recently completed USGS model



San Pedro Subwatershed Decision Support System

MODEL OVERVIEW

- Dynamic simulation software - Powersim
- Simple interfaces
- Web accessible
- Spreadsheet connections
- Public education benefits



San Pedro Subwatershed Decision Support System

PHASE I - AGGREGATED MODEL USING POWERSIM

- Model will include
 - Water demands
 - Population growth
 - Conservation measures
 - Available surface and groundwater resources
 - Development of water use/consumption from micro-level (households) to macro-scale (community)
 - Economic costs of alternative conservation measures



San Pedro Subwatershed Decision Support System

HOW DOES THE MODEL WORK?

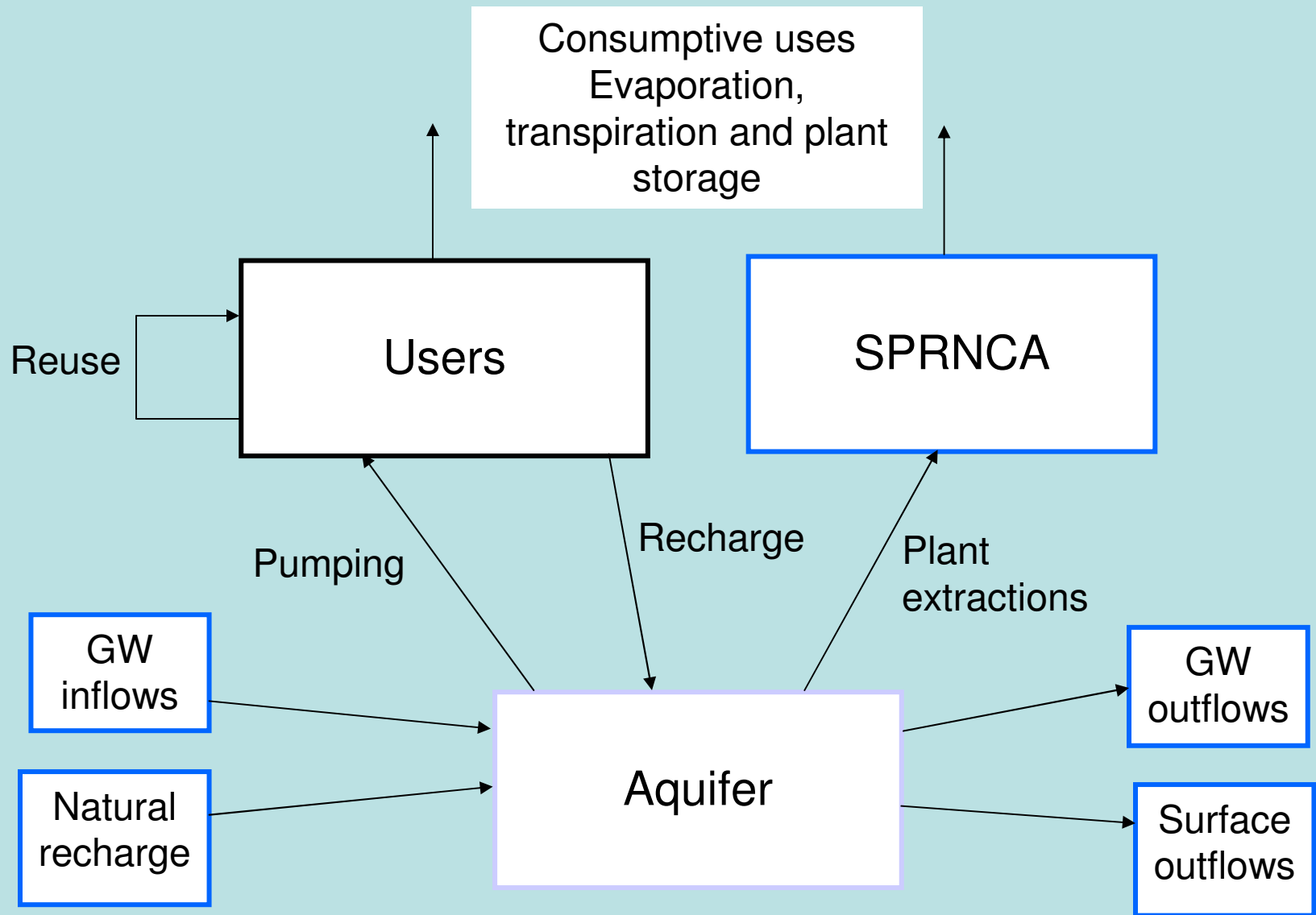
- Model divided into several components:
 - Surface water supply
 - Groundwater storage

} **SUPPLY**

 - Residential uses in each city
 - Commercial uses
 - Irrigated agriculture uses
 - Recreational uses
 - San Pedro National Conservation Area (SPRNCA)

} **DEMAND**
- Possible water conservation methods are modeled within each component (60 potential alternatives)





ATMOSPHERE

Recreational
(Parks,
swimming
pools)

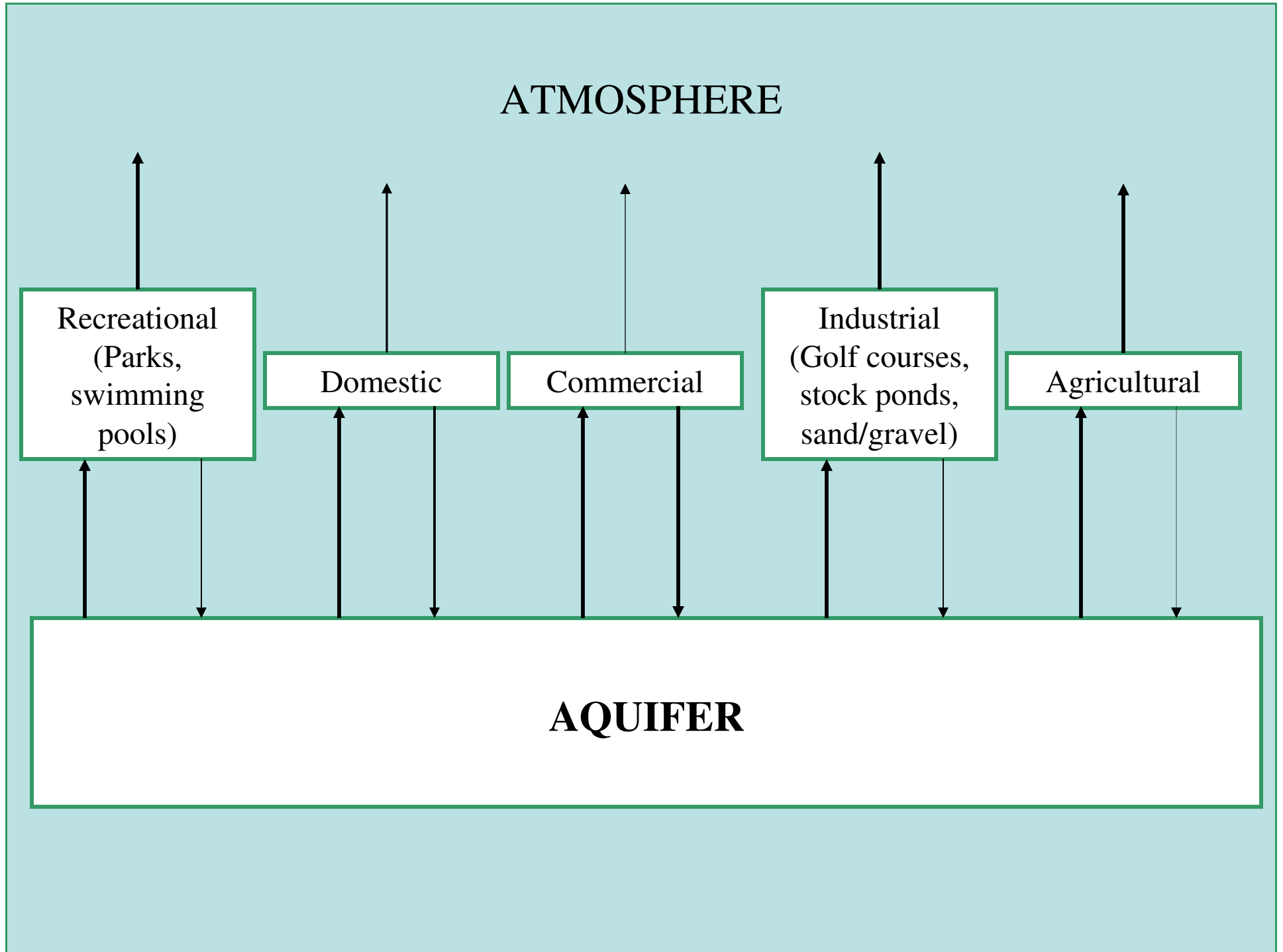
Domestic

Commercial

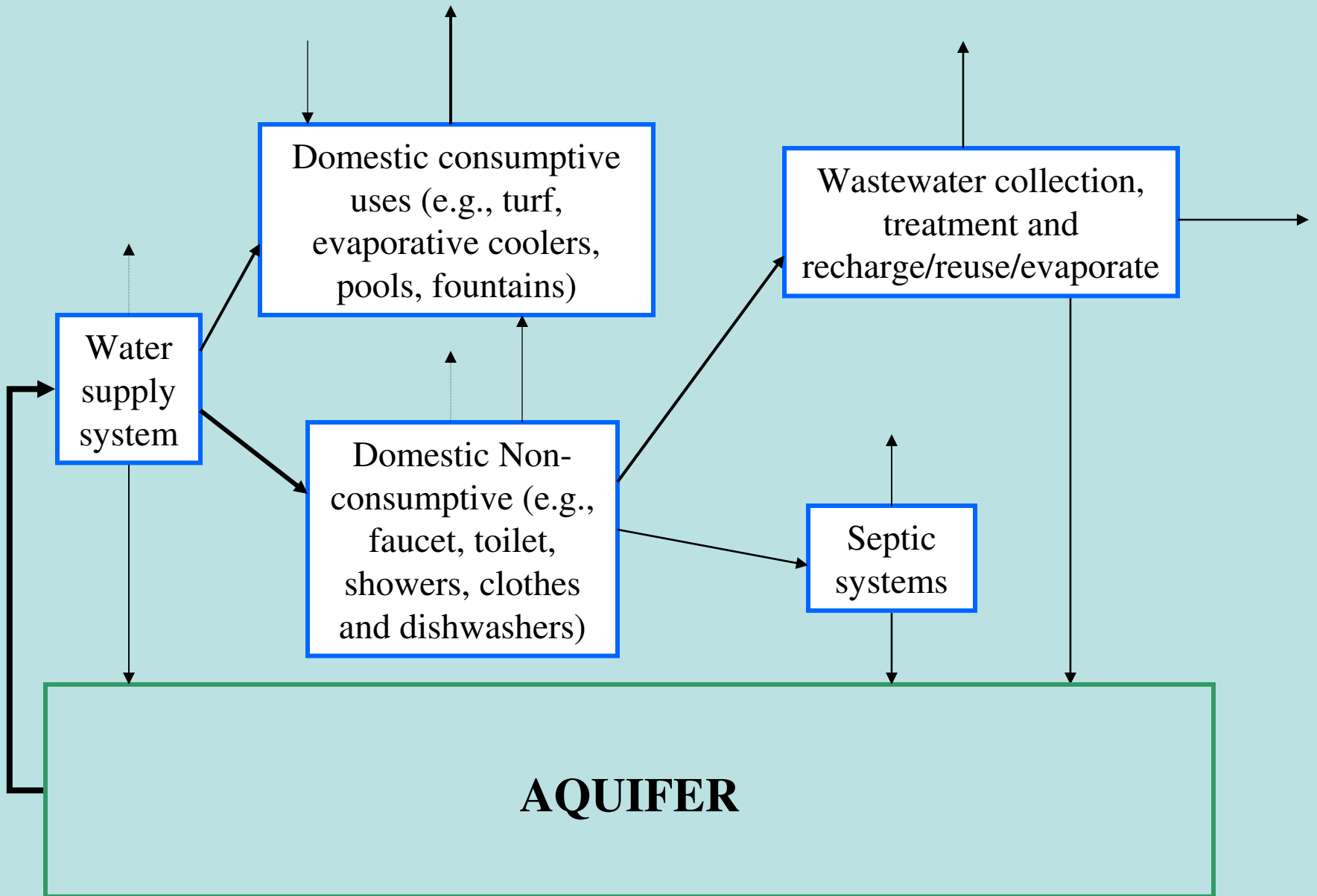
Industrial
(Golf courses,
stock ponds,
sand/gravel)

Agricultural

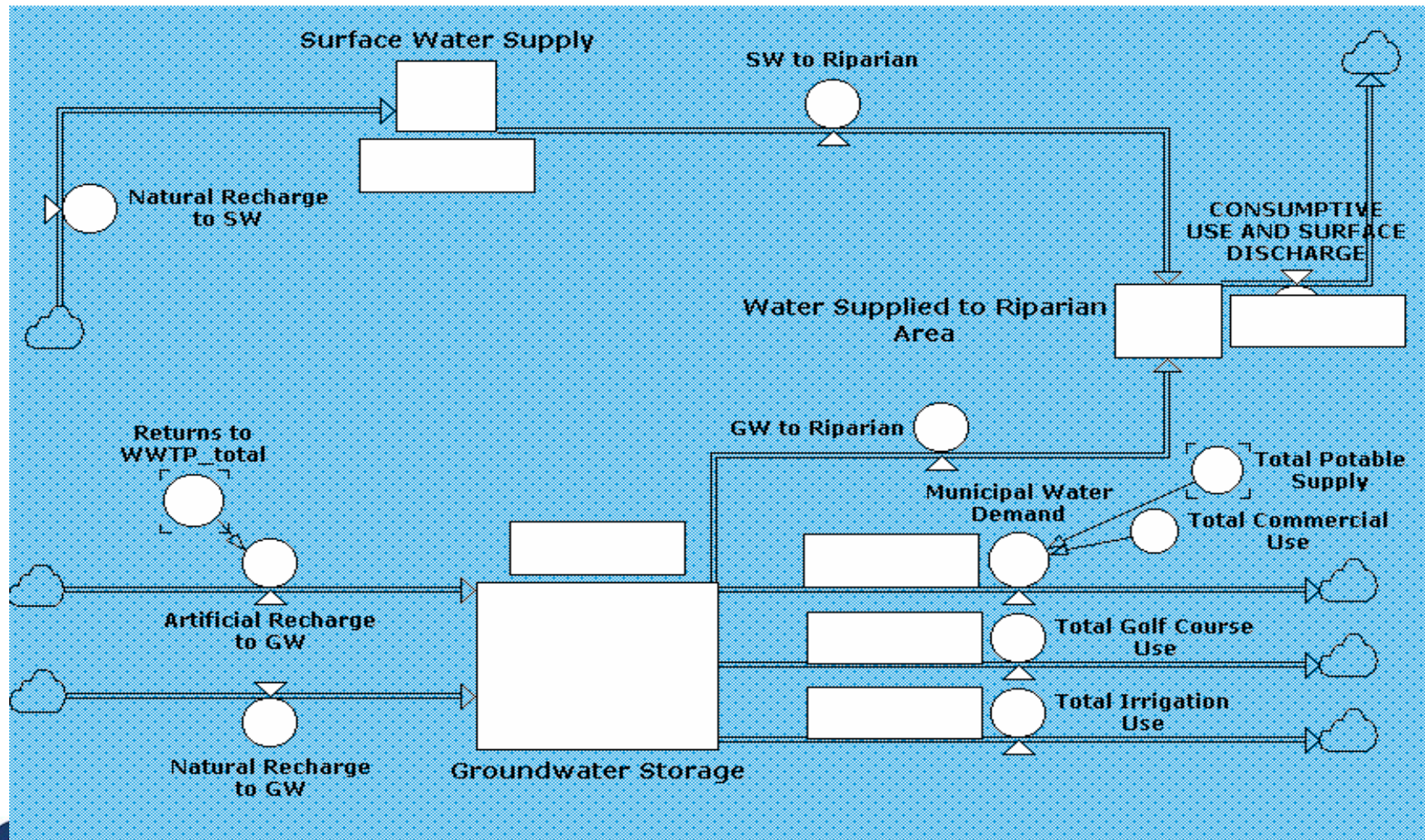
AQUIFER



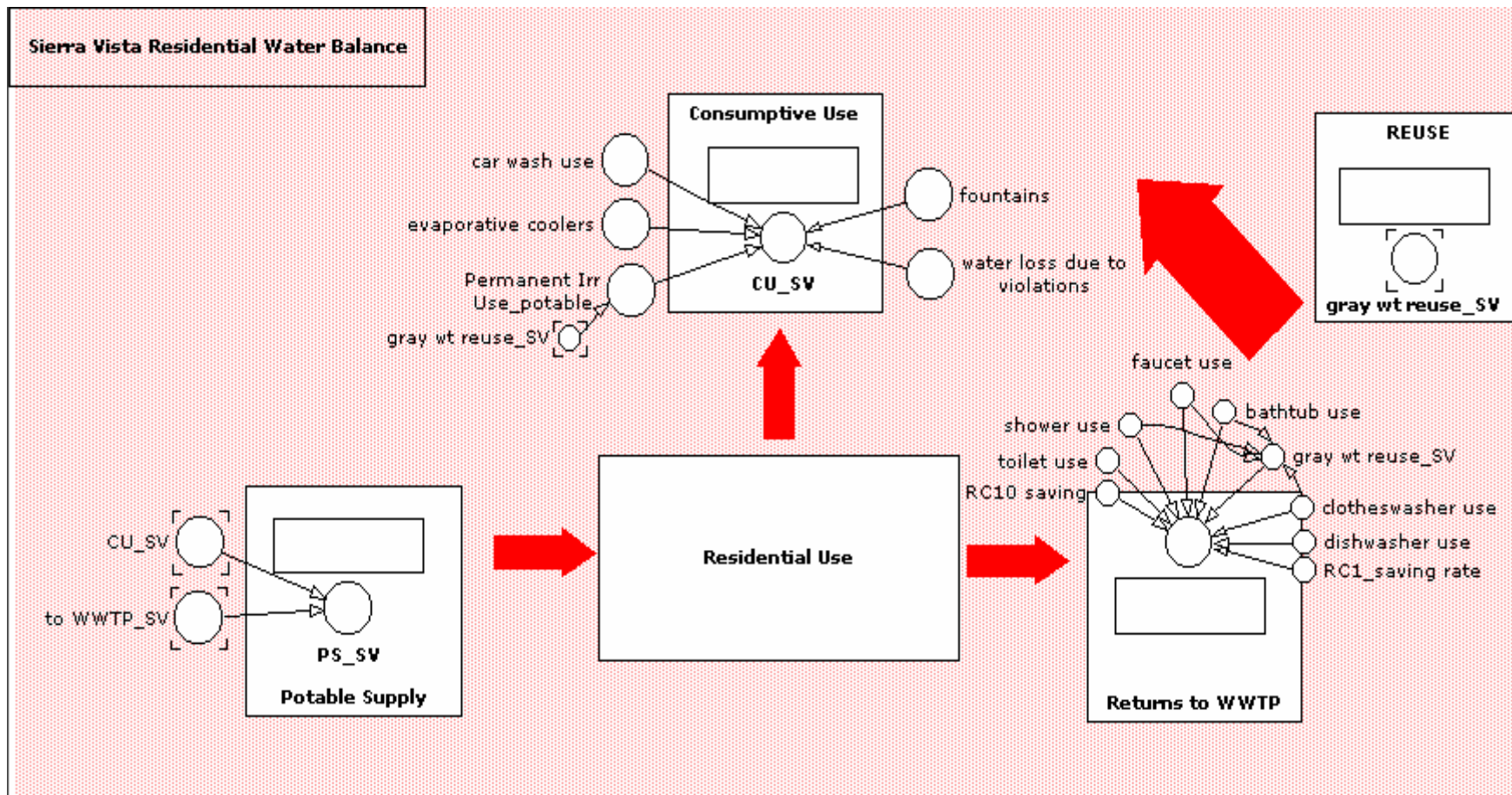
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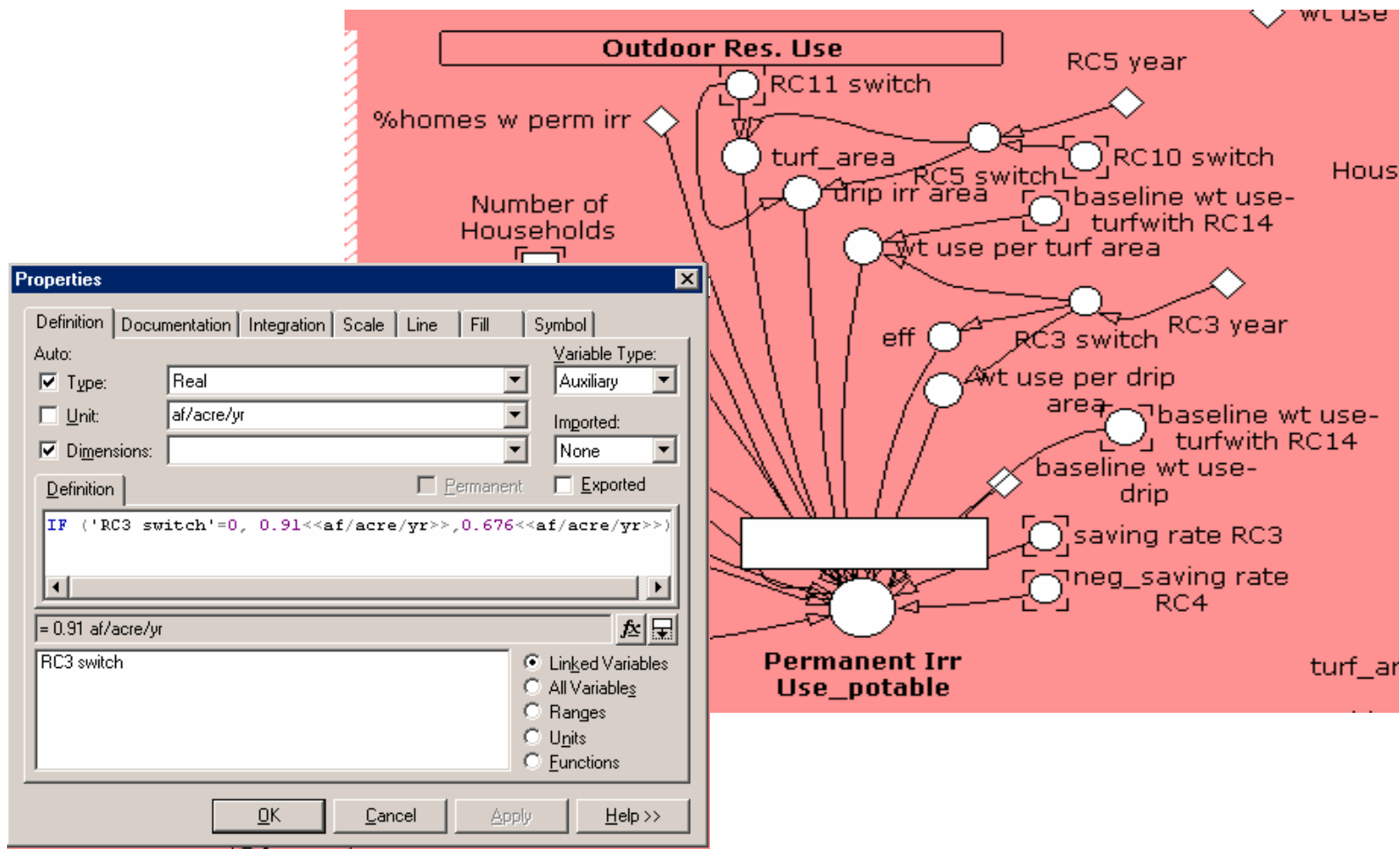
San Pedro Subwatershed Decision Support System



San Pedro Subwatershed Decision Support System



San Pedro Subwatershed Decision Support System



San Pedro Subwatershed Decision Support System

HOW DOES THE MODEL WORK?

- Components are tied to each other to form the water balance in the subwatershed.
- The selection of each conservation measure can be done within a 20 or 50-year simulation period (annual time step).
- Once a scenario is created, the model performs a water balance for 20 or 50 years and a cost analysis.



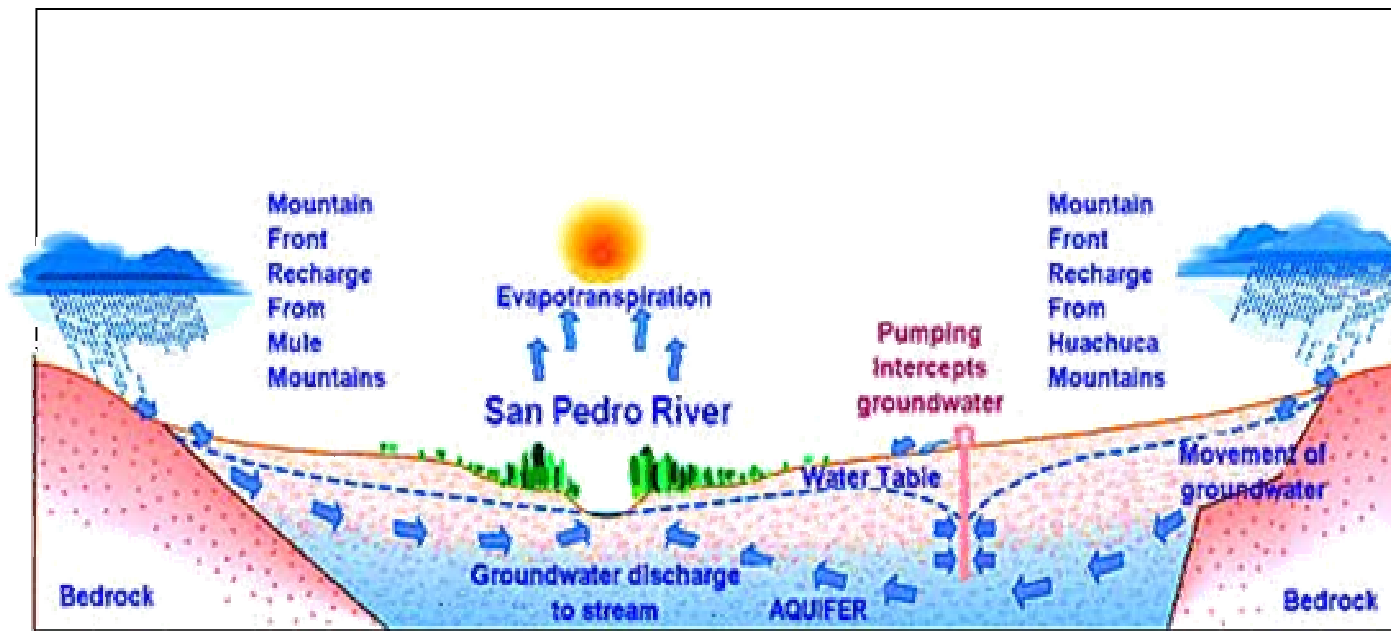
San Pedro Subwatershed Decision Support System

- Model application



San Pedro Subwatershed Decision Support System

PHASE II MODELING



Incorporate groundwater responses within model to provide spatial impacts



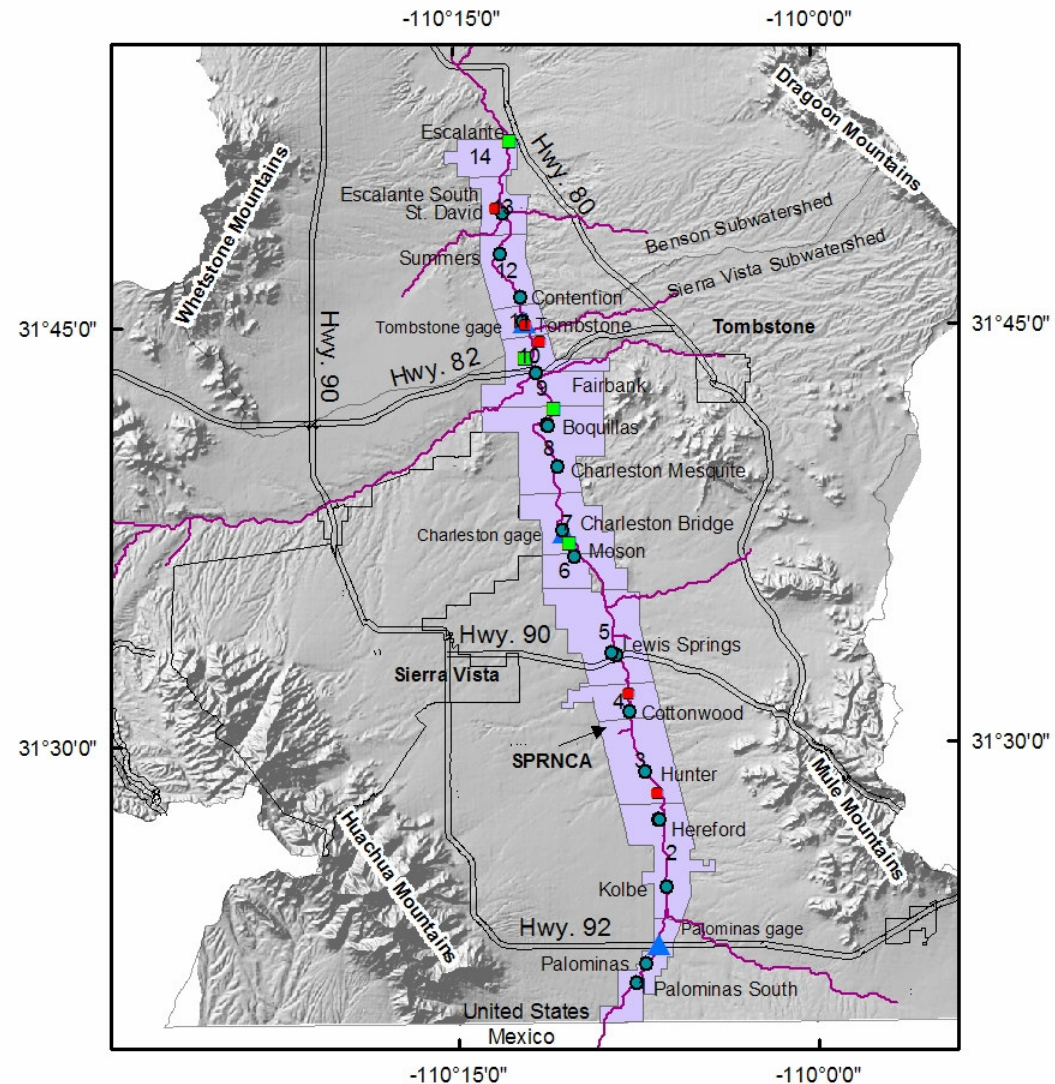
San Pedro Subwatershed Decision Support System

PHASE II MODELING

- Use MODFLOW to develop linear response functions for one or more groundwater models
- Scale functions by extractions or recharge to provide estimate of impact of public works projects within Powersim on a seasonal time step
- Perform more detailed GW modeling off-line



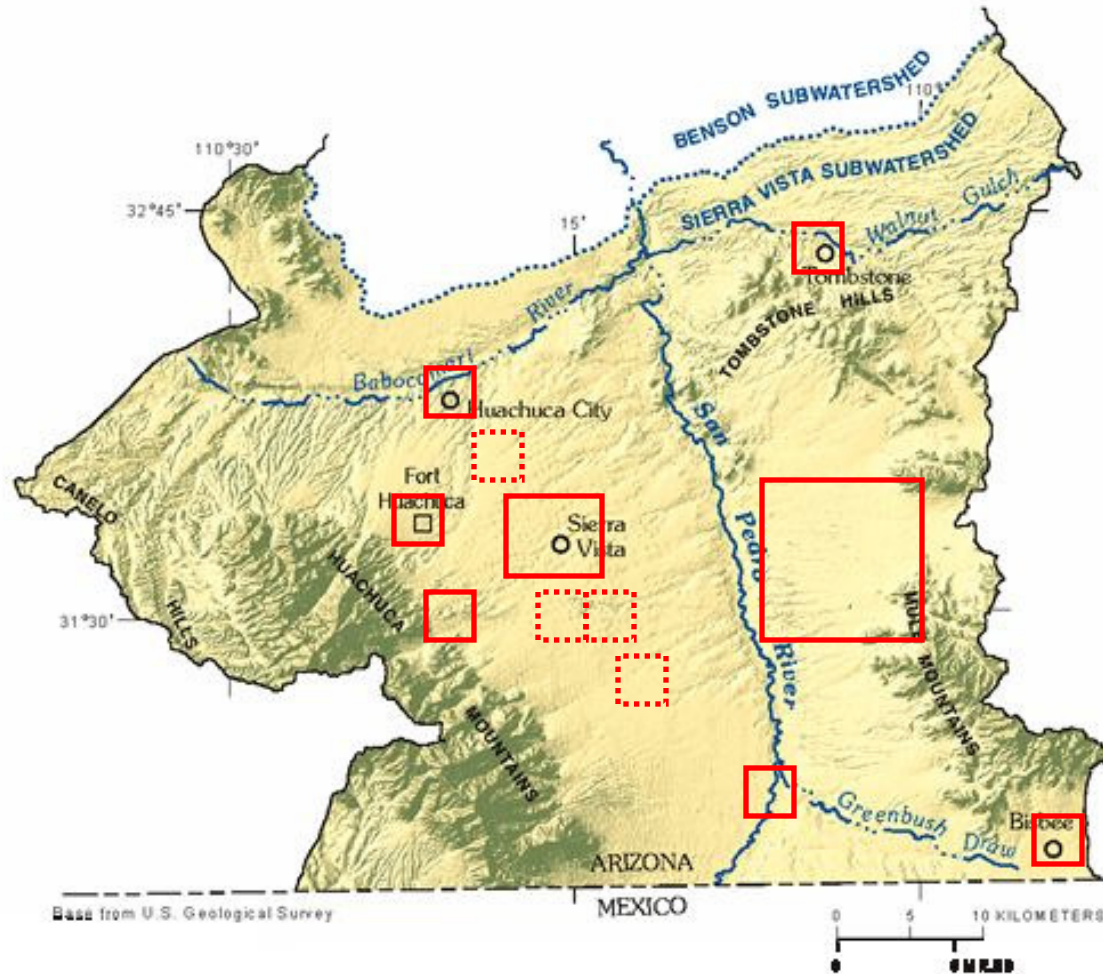
SAHRA



Sustainability of semiArid Hydrology and Riparian Areas

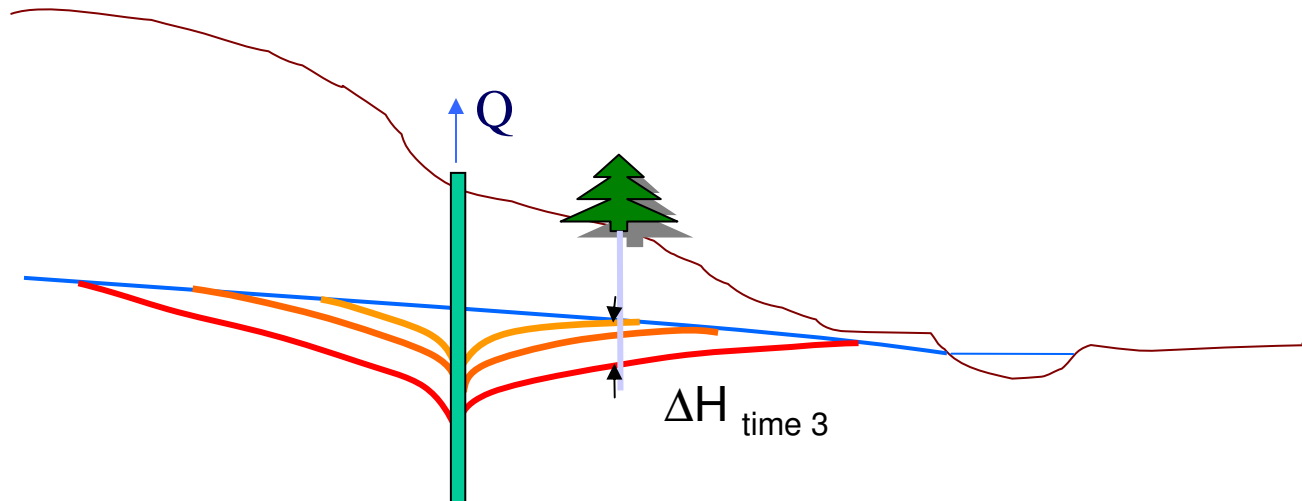
Effects on Groundwater Levels

- Extraction locations



Effects on Groundwater Levels

- Incorporate groundwater responses within model to provide spatial impacts



Effect of pumping at well location on tree location

- Time 1 – very small effect
- Time 2 – some effect
- Time 3 – larger effect

Q: Pumping Rate



Effects on Groundwater Levels

- Change in GW level with respect to a change in extraction rate

$$\frac{\Delta H (\text{response time, response location})}{\Delta Q_{ext} (\text{pumping time, pumping location})}$$

- Use MODFLOW to develop linear response functions for one or more groundwater models
- Assuming the response for each pumping time is constant, accumulate effects for all pumping locations and pumping times
- Scale functions by extractions or recharge to provide estimate of impact of public works projects within Powersim

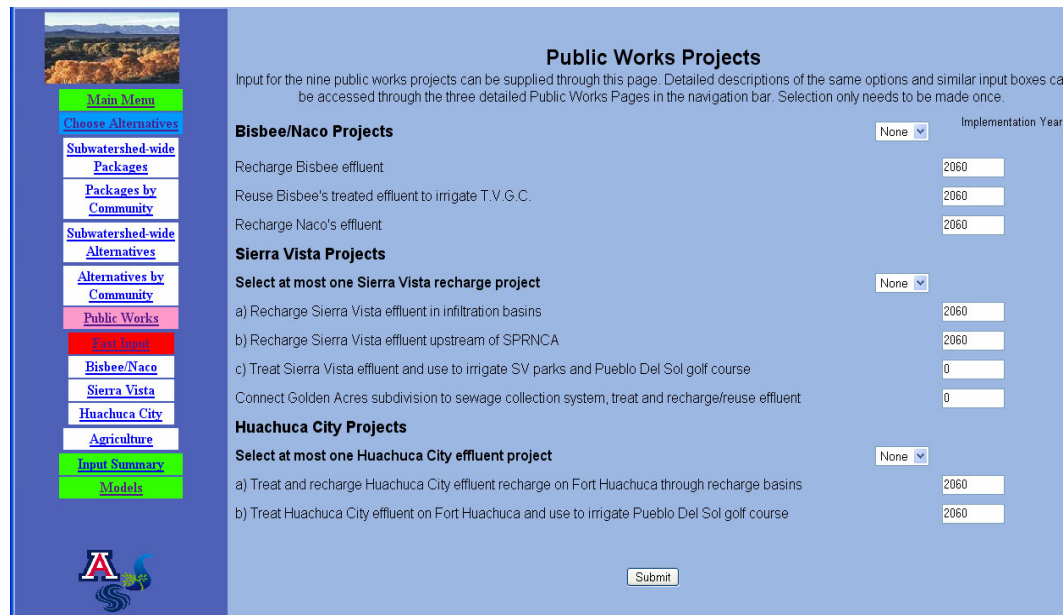
$$\frac{\Delta H (\text{response time, response location})}{\Delta Q_{ext} (\text{pumping time, pumping location})} Q_{ext}$$

- Perform more detailed GW modeling off-line



San Pedro Subwatershed DSS – Scenario Analysis

- To evaluate impact of alternative water transfer scenarios or water conservation measures, (1) define timing and magnitude through interface pages



The screenshot shows the 'Public Works Projects' interface of the San Pedro Subwatershed DSS. On the left is a navigation menu with options: Main Menu, Choose Alternatives, Subwatershed-wide Packages, Packages by Community, Subwatershed-wide Alternatives, Alternatives by Community, Public Works (highlighted), Fort Grant, Bisbee/Naco, Sierra Vista, Huachuca City, Agriculture, Input Summary, and Models. The main content area is titled 'Public Works Projects' and includes a descriptive paragraph. It is divided into three sections: 'Bisbee/Naco Projects', 'Sierra Vista Projects', and 'Huachuca City Projects'. Each section has a 'Select at most one' dropdown menu and a list of project options with corresponding 'Implementation Year' input boxes (set to 2060). A 'Submit' button is located at the bottom right.

Public Works Projects

Input for the nine public works projects can be supplied through this page. Detailed descriptions of the same options and similar input boxes can be accessed through the three detailed Public Works Pages in the navigation bar. Selection only needs to be made once.

Bisbee/Naco Projects

Recharge Bisbee effluent 2060

Reuse Bisbee's treated effluent to irrigate T.V.G.C. 2060

Recharge Naco's effluent 2060

Sierra Vista Projects

Select at most one Sierra Vista recharge project

a) Recharge Sierra Vista effluent in infiltration basins 2060

b) Recharge Sierra Vista effluent upstream of SPRNCA 2060

c) Treat Sierra Vista effluent and use to irrigate SV parks and Pueblo Del Sol golf course 0

Connect Golden Acres subdivision to sewage collection system, treat and recharge/reuse effluent 0

Huachuca City Projects

Select at most one Huachuca City effluent project

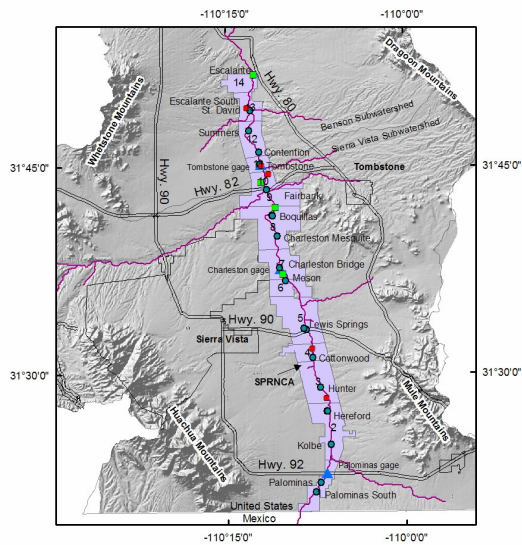
a) Treat and recharge Huachuca City effluent recharge on Fort Huachuca through recharge basins 2060

b) Treat Huachuca City effluent on Fort Huachuca and use to irrigate Pueblo Del Sol golf course 2060

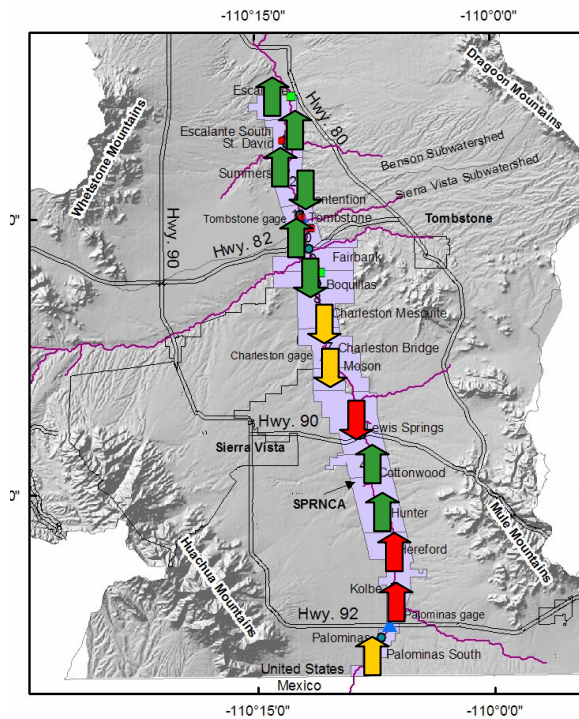
Submit

- (2) DSS computes the magnitude and spatial distribution of pumping and recharge.

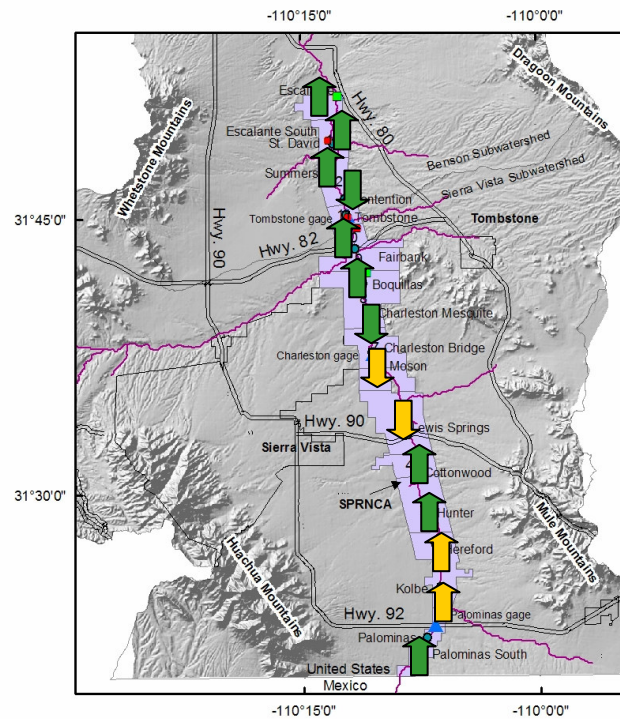




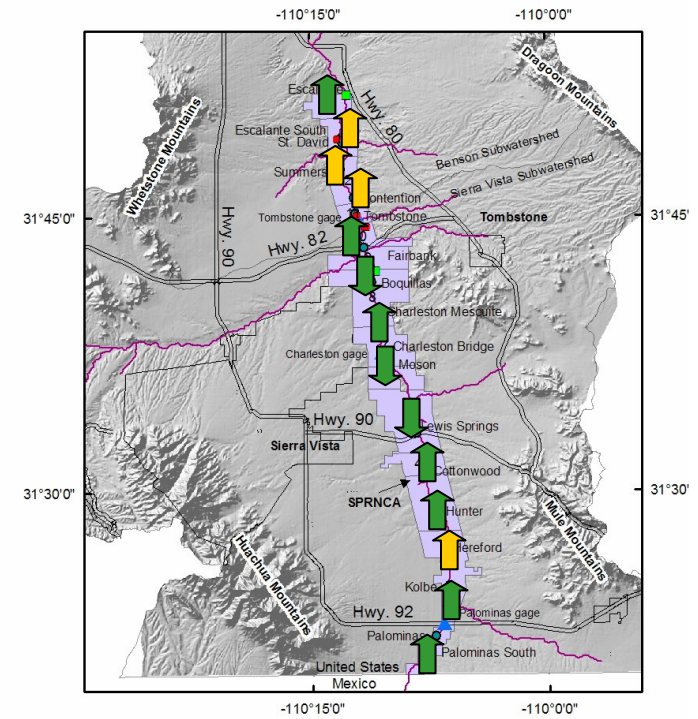
- (3) Using GW response functions developed from full USGS MODFLOW model computes changes in GW levels for stream segments
- (4) Display can be plots of water level hydrographs or summary page
- (5) If needed, complete full MODFLOW simulation



2010



2030



2050

Application Benefits

- Captures physical system
- Rapid alternative evaluation
- Assists in identifying critical factors for decision makers
- Can enhance public awareness possible through web based platform
- Transparent model
 - No hidden numbers/equations
 - Easy to change values
- Collaborative development





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Sustainability of semiArid Hydrology and Riparian Areas

Run Management - M...


Upper San Pedro Partnership Decision Support System - Mozilla Firefox

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Go

http://uspp.ce.arizona.edu/webapplication1/model/page_1.aspx




[Main Menu](#)

[Choose Alternatives](#)

[Input Summary](#)




[Models](#)

[Help](#)



Upper San Pedro Partnership Decision Support System

Model's Purpose: To provide decision makers with the technical information needed to assist in selecting the set of conservation measures for long term sustainability of the San Pedro system. This model supports the goal of the partnership -- to ensure an adequate long-term groundwater supply to meet the reasonable needs of area residents and property owners (current & future), and the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area (SPRNCA).



Slide 2 of 9

Default Design

English (U.S.)

Microsoft Word

Upper San Pedro Part...

start

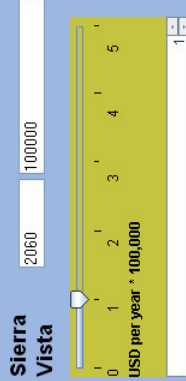
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Individual Alternative Analyses - Most feasible alternatives - Set 1

Residential Conservation - Conservation programs can be selected for Sierra Vista or the remainder of the county

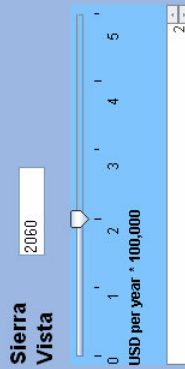
Toilet replacement program

This incentive program provides \$100 per toilet replaced with a low flow unit. Low flow fixtures will reduce the amount of water pumped from the aquifer but have a limited affect on consumptive use.



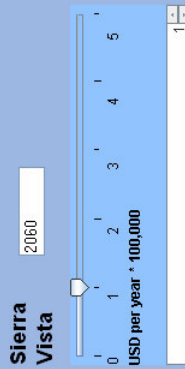
Fixture replacement program

This incentive program will provide homeowners funding to replace fixtures with low water use fixtures. The cost per home of fixture replacement is \$70. Low flow fixtures will reduce the amount of water pumped from the aquifer but have a limited affect on consumptive use.



Front loading clothes washer program

This incentive program will provide homeowners \$100 toward the purchase of a front loading clothes washing machine. Front loading machines require about 10 gal/load less than top loaders. This will reduce the amount of water pumped from the aquifer and have a smaller effect on consumptive use.



Input for the nine public works projects can be supplied through this page. Detailed descriptions of the same options and similar input boxes can be accessed through the three detailed Public Works Pages in the navigation bar. Selection only needs to be made once.

Recharge Naco's effluent

Connect Golden Acres subdivision to sewage collection system, treat and recharge/reuse effluent

b) Treat Huachuca City effluent on Fort Huachuca and use to irrigate Pueblo Del Sol golf course

Submit

show_runs - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

http://uspp.ce.arizona.edu/webapplication1/Results/show_runs.aspx

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Done

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Results Management

User Plans

test
test2
conservation plan
my do nothing

Load

System Plans

Do Nothing

Load

The Selected Plans are

Remove

Standard Plots

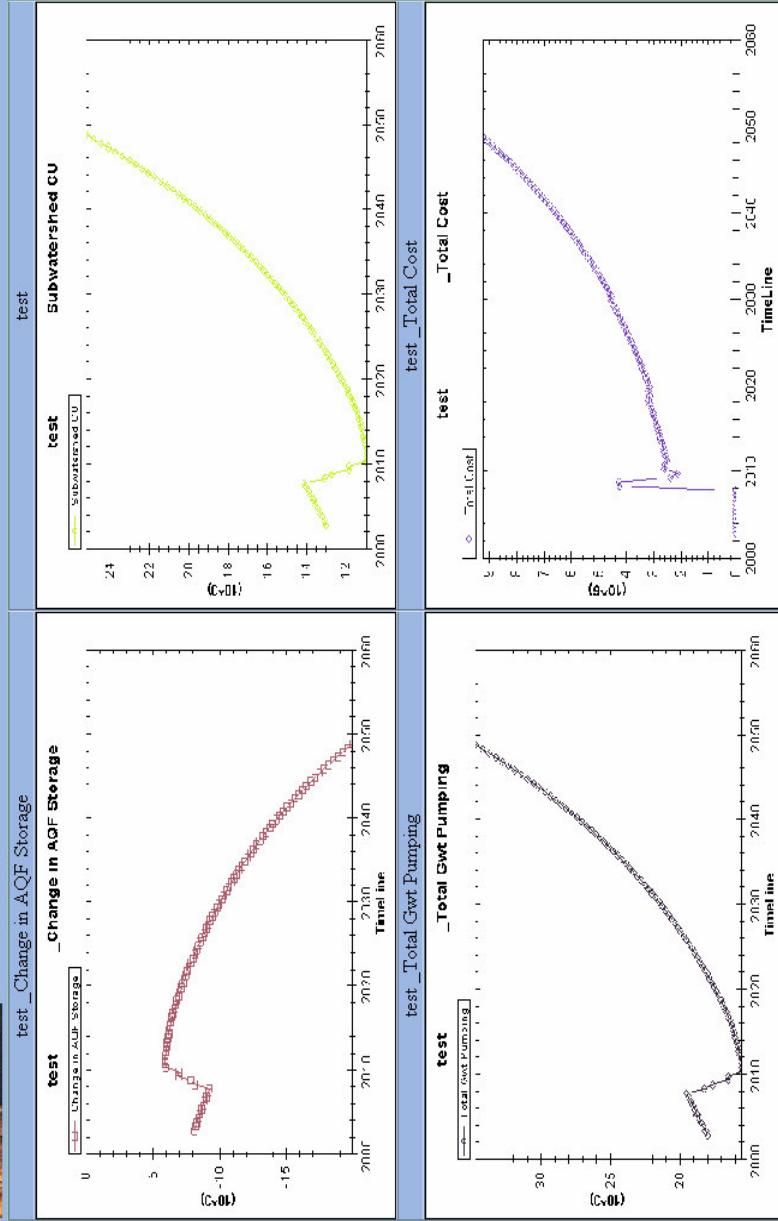
Standard Tables

Create Plots/Tables

Return to Run Management



Standard Plots



Line Plots/Tables Acre/FURY - Mozilla Firefox

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http://uspp.ce.arizona.edu/webapplication1/Results/line_plots1.aspx

Go

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Line Plots/Tables Acre/FURY

Select Communities to Display

☐ All Communities

☐ Total for Subwatershed

☐ Bisbee

☐ Huachuca City

☒ Sierra Vista

☐ Tombstone

☐ Unincorporated County

Select Results To Display

Values per community

☒ Pumping

☒ Consumptive Use

☐ Reuse = rainwater(new) + rainwater(existing) + parks effluent + GC effluent + grey water reuse

☐ Recharge

☐ Population

☐ Costs By Community

☒ Residential Withdrawn

☒ Commercial Withdrawn

☐ Groundwater Pumped for Agriculture

☐ Parks

☐ Golf Course

☐ Other Industrial

☐ Recreation (including parks) =parks + residential swimming pool use

Total Subwatershed Usage

☐ Residential Withdrawn

☐ Commercial Withdrawn

☐ Groundwater Pumped for Agriculture

☐ Parks

☐ Golf Course

☐ Other Industrial

☐ Recreation (including parks) =parks + residential swimming pool use

Please Click the 'Confirm Variables' button after Selection

Create Plots

Confirm Variables

Create Tables

Done

Slide 9 of 15

Default Design

English (U.S.)

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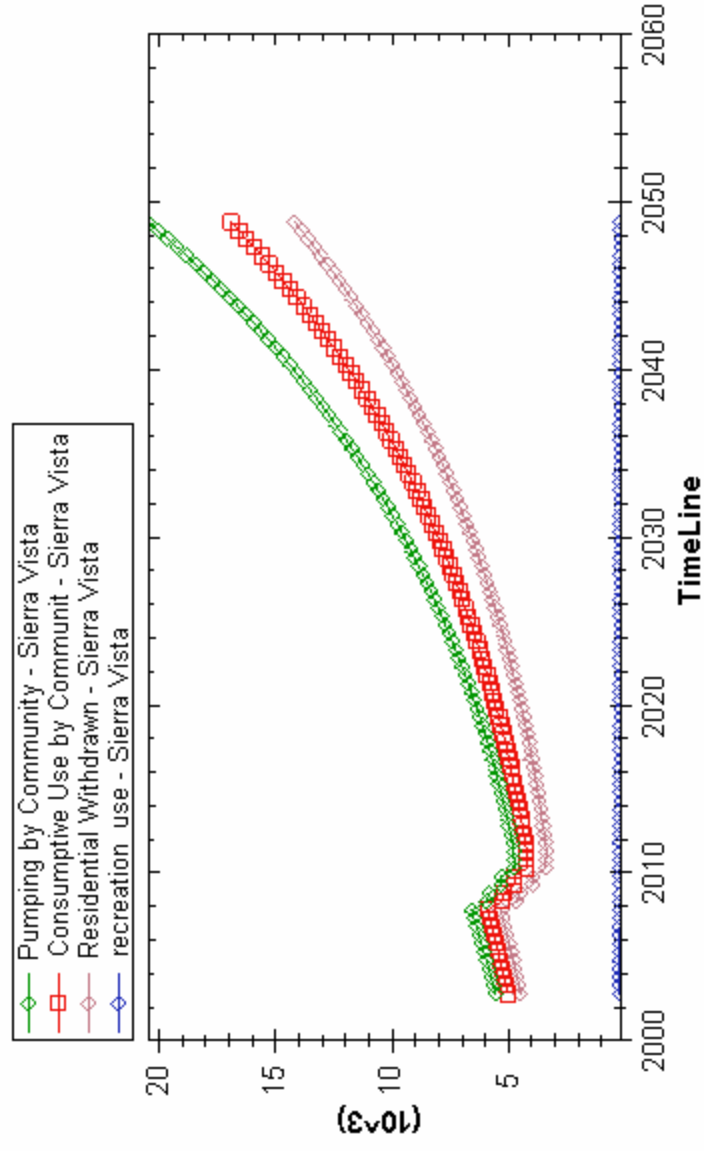
Presentation4

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Line Plots/Tables...

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test



General Tables - Mozilla Firefox


File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

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Go

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General Tables



Rm Name = test

Time	Pumping by Community - Sierra Vista	Consumptive Use by Community - Sierra Vista	Residential Withdrawn - Sierra Vista	Commercial Withdrawn - Sierra Vista
2003	5572.54246475213	5026.53326262987	4496.64151707969	861.616547672439
2004	5649.90783745025	5089.97778222288	4557.93320920502	877.69022824523
2004	5749.89455445619	5173.83563225464	4638.68287453594	896.927279920248
2005	5852.0767775978	5259.53453531577	4721.209032250415	916.583345093657
2005	5956.50280801007	5347.11499457292	4805.55076594765	936.667642062421
2006	6069.69047323918	5442.49882588626	4888.34050889401	967.065564345173
2006	6165.93099373873	5522.310829752	4973.35196015447	978.294633584258
2007	6267.72163230725	5606.99949613099	5060.27759267802	993.159639629232
2007	6375.12092372322	5696.61425198071	5149.15951845243	1011.67700527079
2008	6486.58959361749	5789.75198161107	5240.04077592923	1032.26441768826
2008	6601.38583595068	5885.73443374898	5332.96535040587	1054.13608554481
2009	5938.96936046658	5296.25264646568	4652.84850928563	1071.83645118095
2009	5813.13946754862	5196.91469142211	4503.74159065462	1095.113476894
2010	5315.38138657798	4760.99485328473	3982.08852088411	1119.00846569387
2010	5310.77657030978	4758.60019519576	3953.00911581418	1143.48305449561
2011	4762.22630467279	4237.89329340333	3421.51801668314	1126.42388798965
2011	4767.17984436825	4235.31888869341	3401.42471705592	1151.47072731232
2012	4773.41729245831	4233.73518176861	3382.06005023716	1177.07284222115
2012	4831.12934903934	4278.53817307491	3413.60574765237	1203.23920138697
2013	4909.05449876195	4341.44655627248	3464.78950427454	1229.98059448741
2013	4988.88252119975	4405.8939790808	3517.28926077873	1257.30886042102
2014	5070.65487362848	4471.91393134947	3571.13396916236	1285.23650446612
2014	5154.41412834593	4539.54082421571	3626.35321836676	1313.77650997916
2015	5240.20389572145	4608.80991811722	3682.97724829001	1342.94224743144
2015	5328.06879629302	4679.75729534903	3741.03696410791	1372.74743218511

Done

Slide 11 of 15

Default Design

English (U.S.)

start

Presentation4

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General Tables - ...

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