

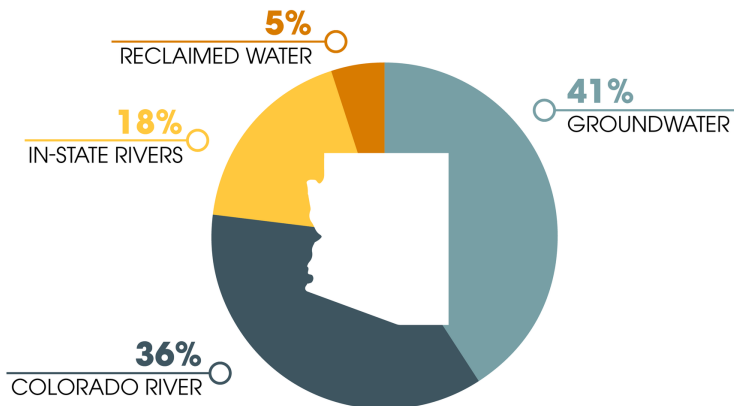
PROBLEM: RURAL GROUNDWATER INSTABILITY  
& UNLIMITED PUMPING

## Solution: Local Groundwater Stewardship Areas



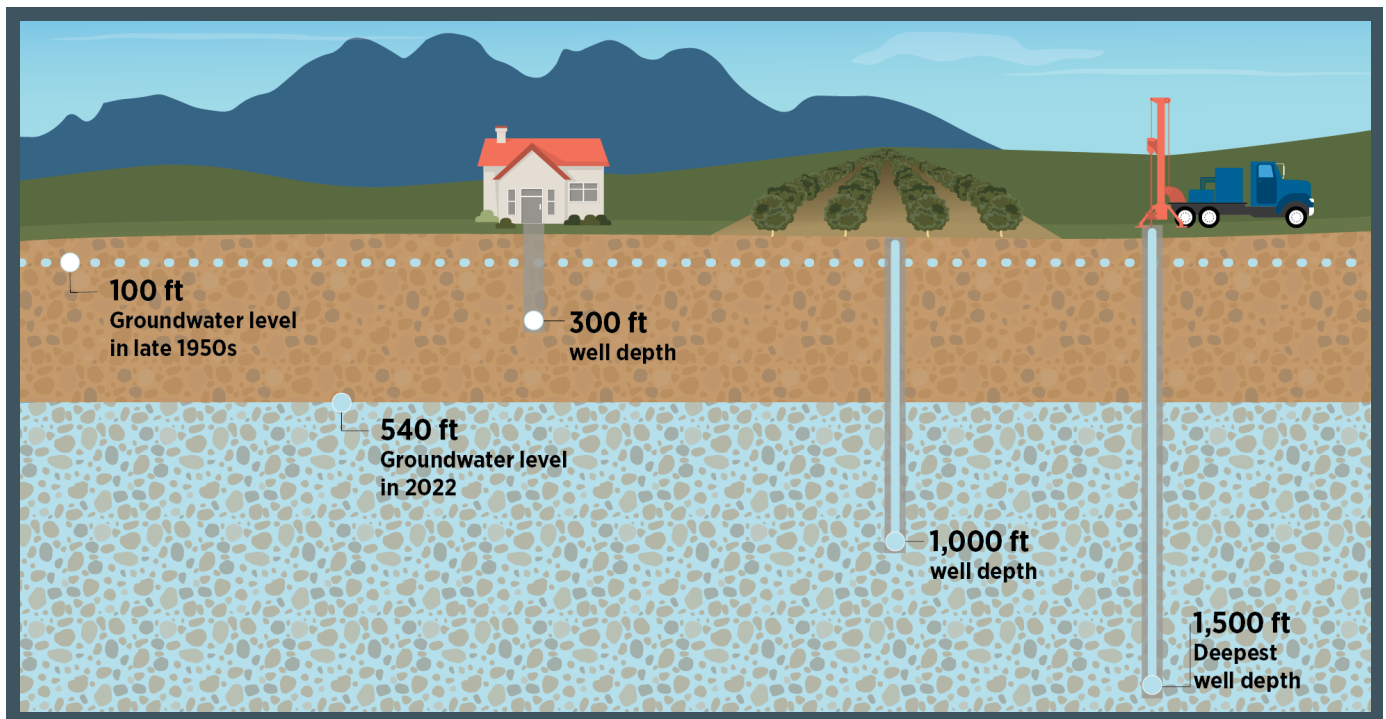
Water *for*  
Arizona

### Arizona's Water Supply



### GROUNDWATER IS ARIZONA'S LARGEST WATER SOURCE.

Our reliance on this finite resource will increase as the water available from the Colorado River shrinks.



Groundwater is essential for communities, farming, industry, and Arizona's way of life. Groundwater is also the source of year-round flow in most of the state's rivers and streams. Yet it is **unprotected in more than 80% of the state** and communities have very few options to address groundwater challenges.



# Groundwater instability has growing consequences...



UA Science Arizona Geological Survey Photographer: Brian Conway - ADWR



UA Science Arizona Geological Survey Photographer: Joseph Cook



## LAND SINKING | MORE WELLS DRYING UP | DEEP EARTH FISSURES

### LOCAL GROUNDWATER STEWARDSHIP AREAS

*A LOCAL, OPT-IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT TOOL*

County Board of Supervisors or community petition to opt-in to create a Local Groundwater Stewardship Area

Supervisors nominate & Governor appoints local water stakeholders to serve on a Council to develop local groundwater management plans

Transparent public process to comment on the Council's groundwater management plans

Council approves the plans with local tools and tailored solutions for groundwater protection and submits the plan to AZ Dept. of Water Resources to assist in implementation

Funds are made available to achieve the goals within the plan, support water users, and provide more value and stability for communities, agriculture, and industry

The creation of Local Groundwater Stewardship Areas are to be reviewed at least every 10 years, or sooner