



# District Court Order, White Bear Lake Water Levels, & the East Metro Conceptual Drinking Water Supply Plan

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# White Bear Lake – Court Timeline

- In November 2012, the White Bear Lake Homeowners Association and White Bear Lake Restoration Association filed a suit in Ramsey County District Court alleging the DNR permitted too much groundwater use near White Bear Lake, causing the lake water levels to drop unacceptably.
- 2017 District Court ruled in favor of Plaintiffs, the DNR appealed.
- December 2020 Court of Appeals affirmed 6 of 7 issues in the District Court ruling and remanded for administrative proceedings
- 2021 - Implementation of the Court Order

# Key Elements of Court Order

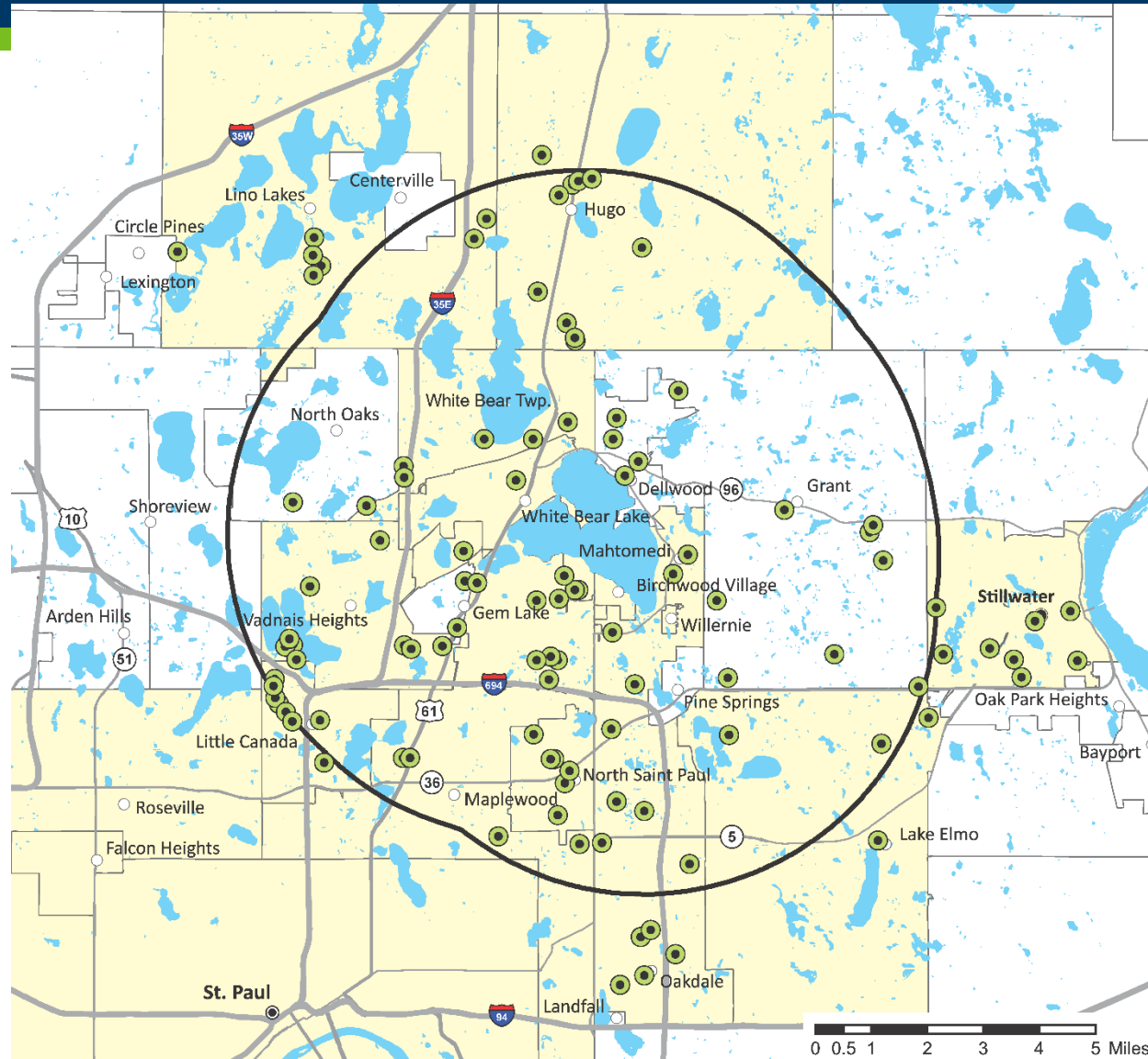
- DNR prohibited from issuing new permits or increases within 5 miles
- Residential irrigation ban at 923.5 lake elevation
- Residential per capita water use to 75 gpd and total per capita water use to 90 gpd
- Requires public water suppliers to develop a contingency plan to shift their source of water from groundwater to surface water
- No groundwater permits can be issued unless the DNR has sufficient hydrologic data to understand the impact on White Bear Lake and the Prairie du Chien-Jordan aquifer
- DNR to set a collective annual withdrawal limit for White Bear Lake

# White Bear Lake

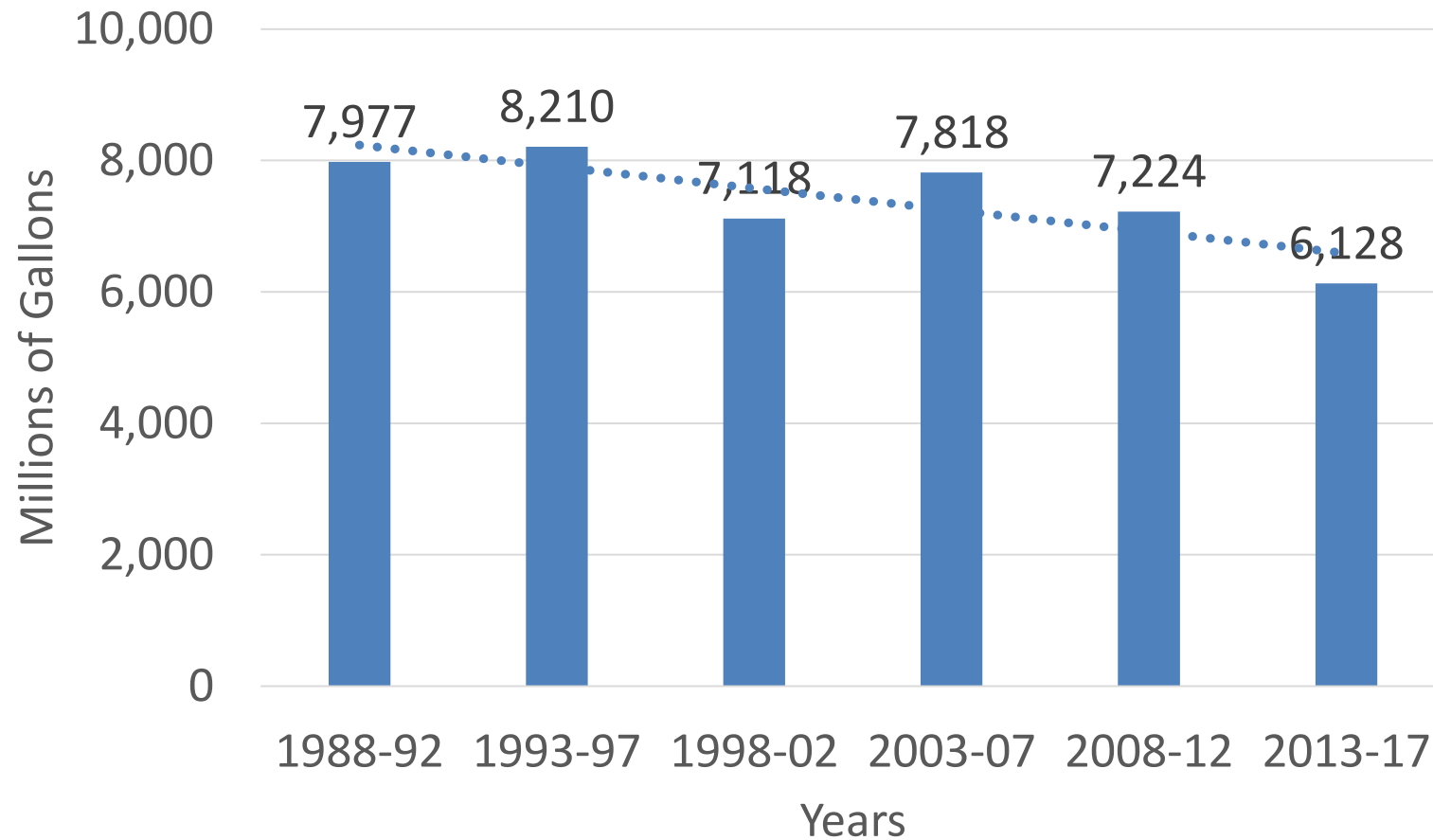
Recorded Water Levels  
2011-3-12 to 2021-3-12



# Permits and Wells w/in 5 Mile Area

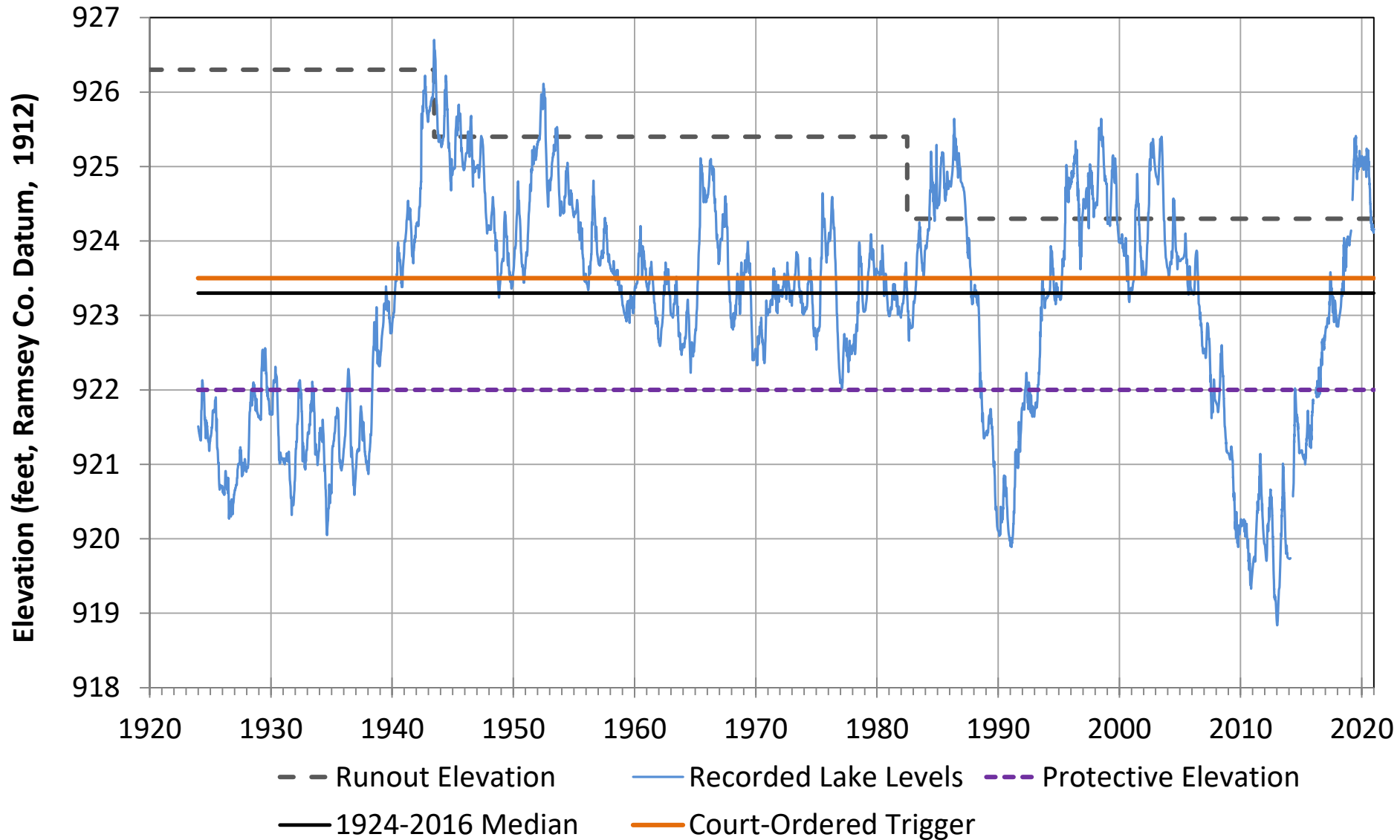


# 5 Yr Annual Avg Groundwater Use Within 5 Miles of WBL

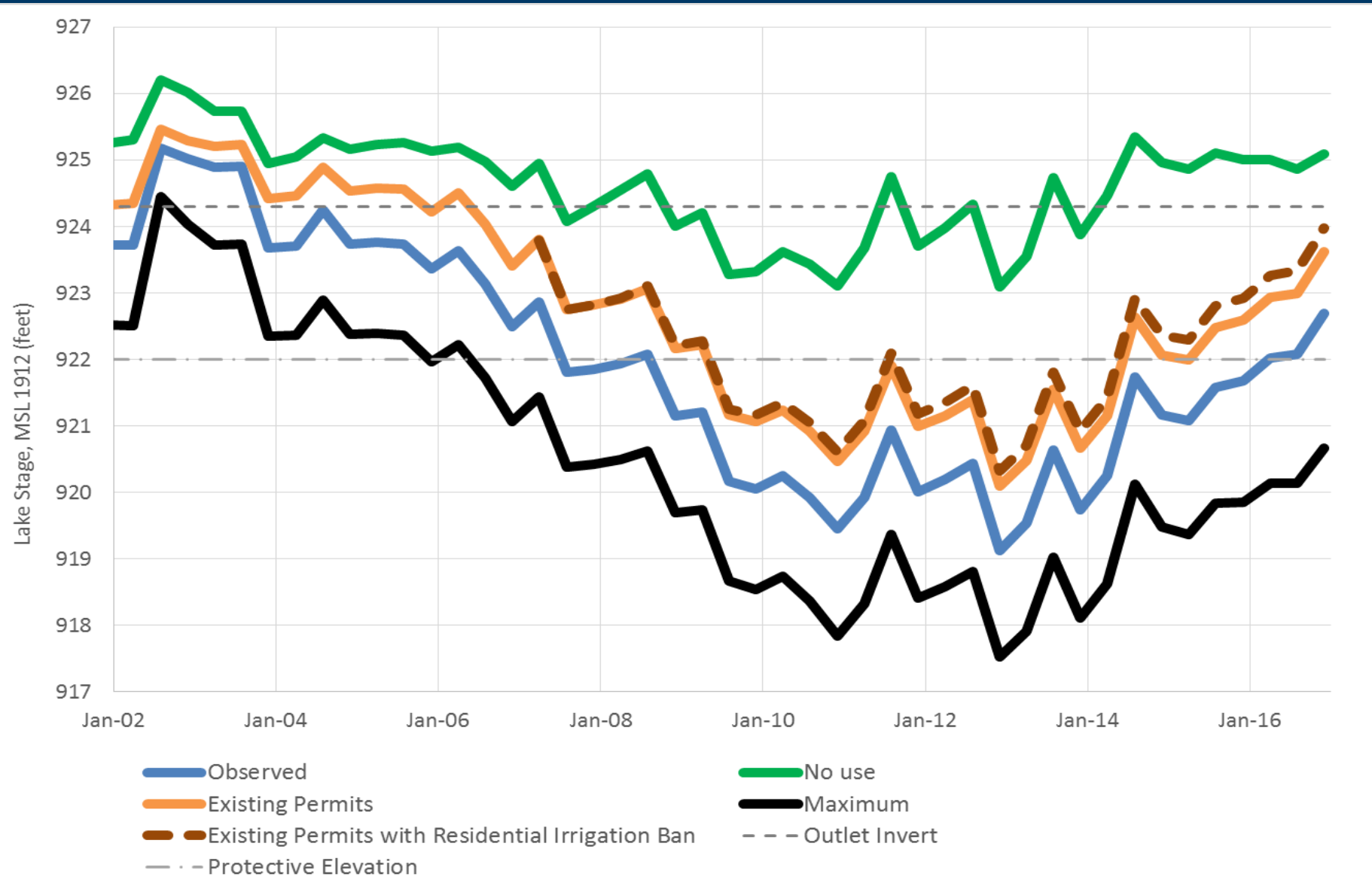


Note: St. Paul Regional Water Services no longer relying on groundwater

# White Bear Lake - Long-term Record

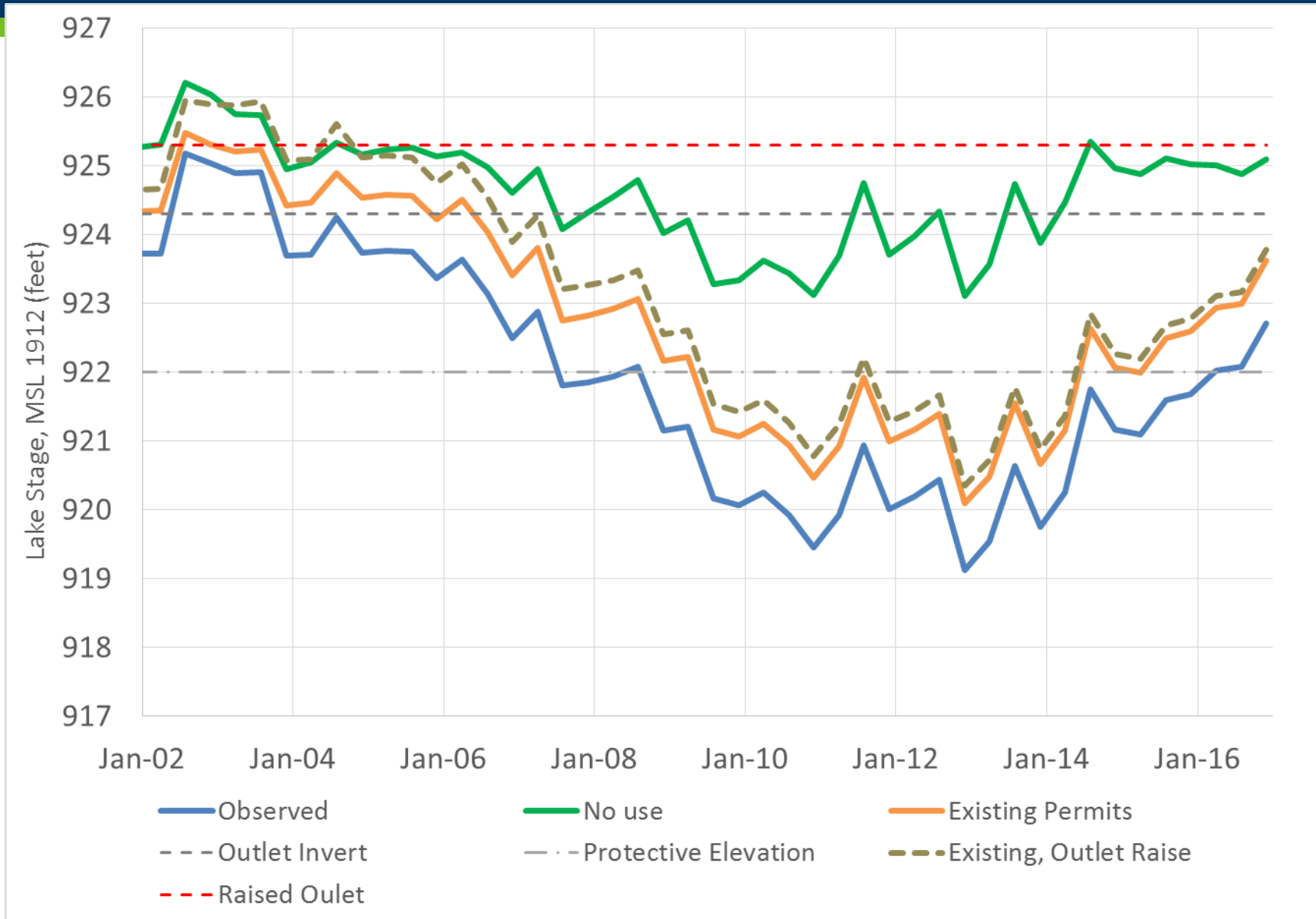


# White Bear Lake – Groundwater Model Results for Permits Within 5 miles of White Bear Lake

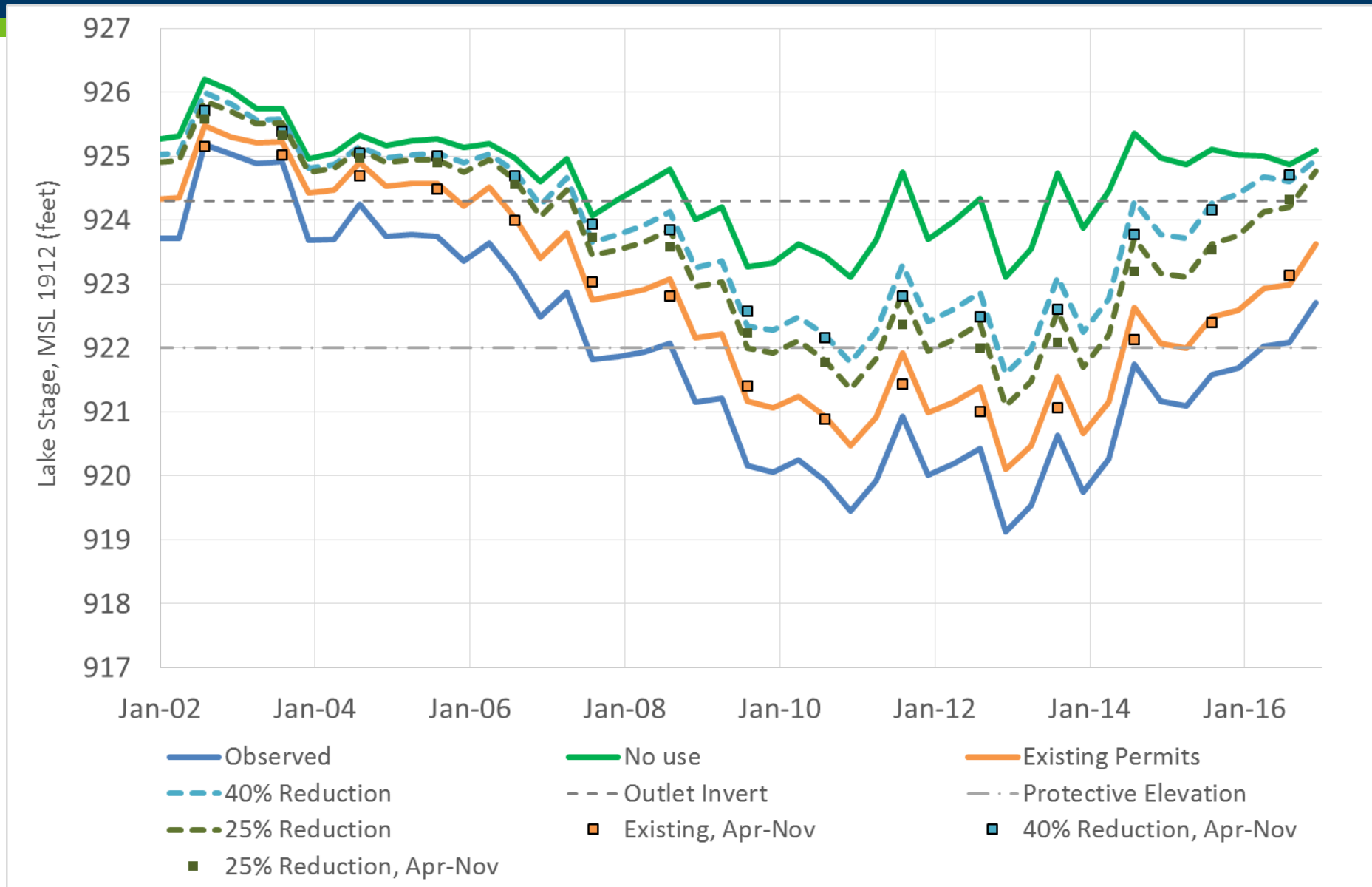




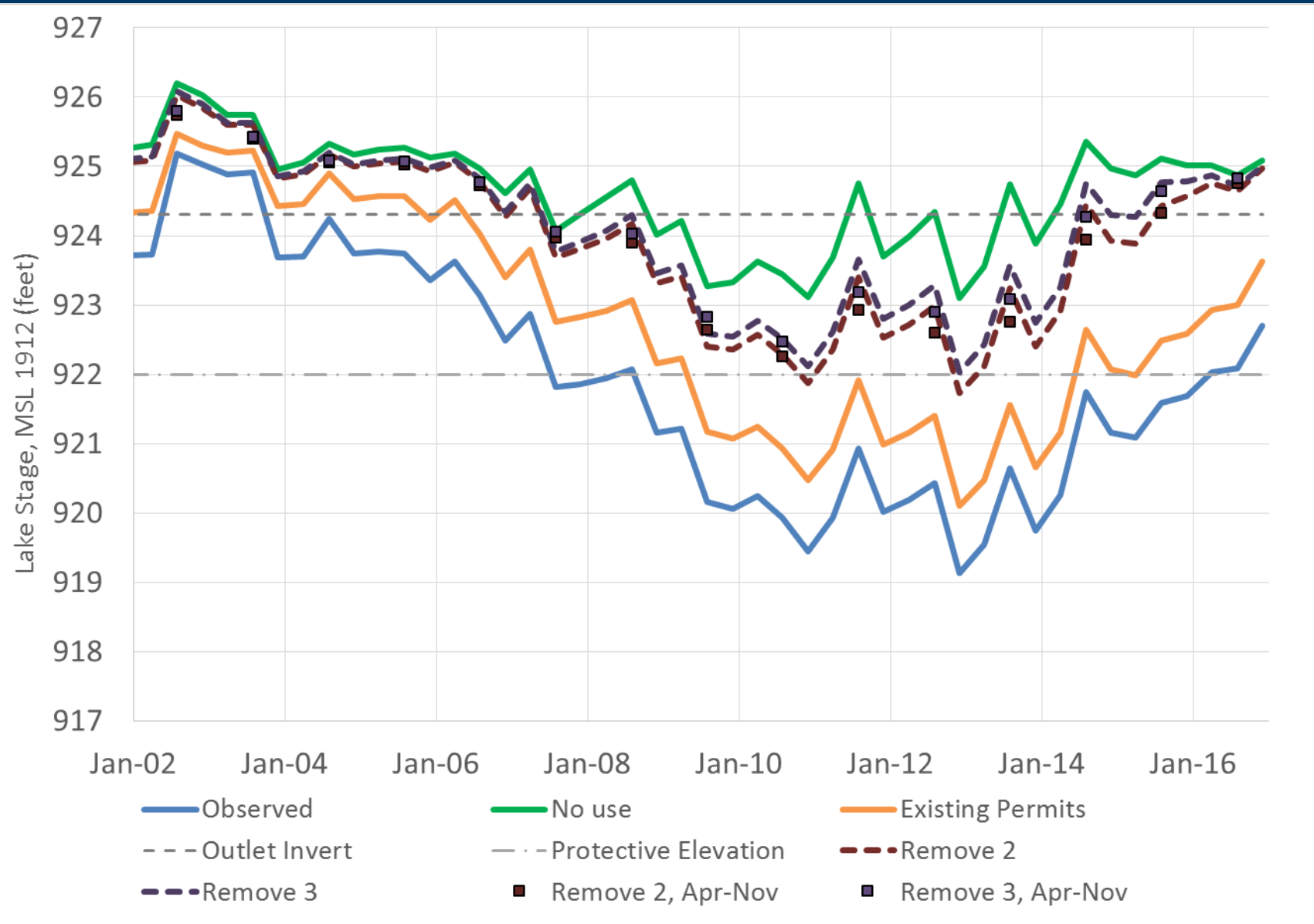
# White Bear Lake – Results of Raising the Lake Outlet Elevation One Foot



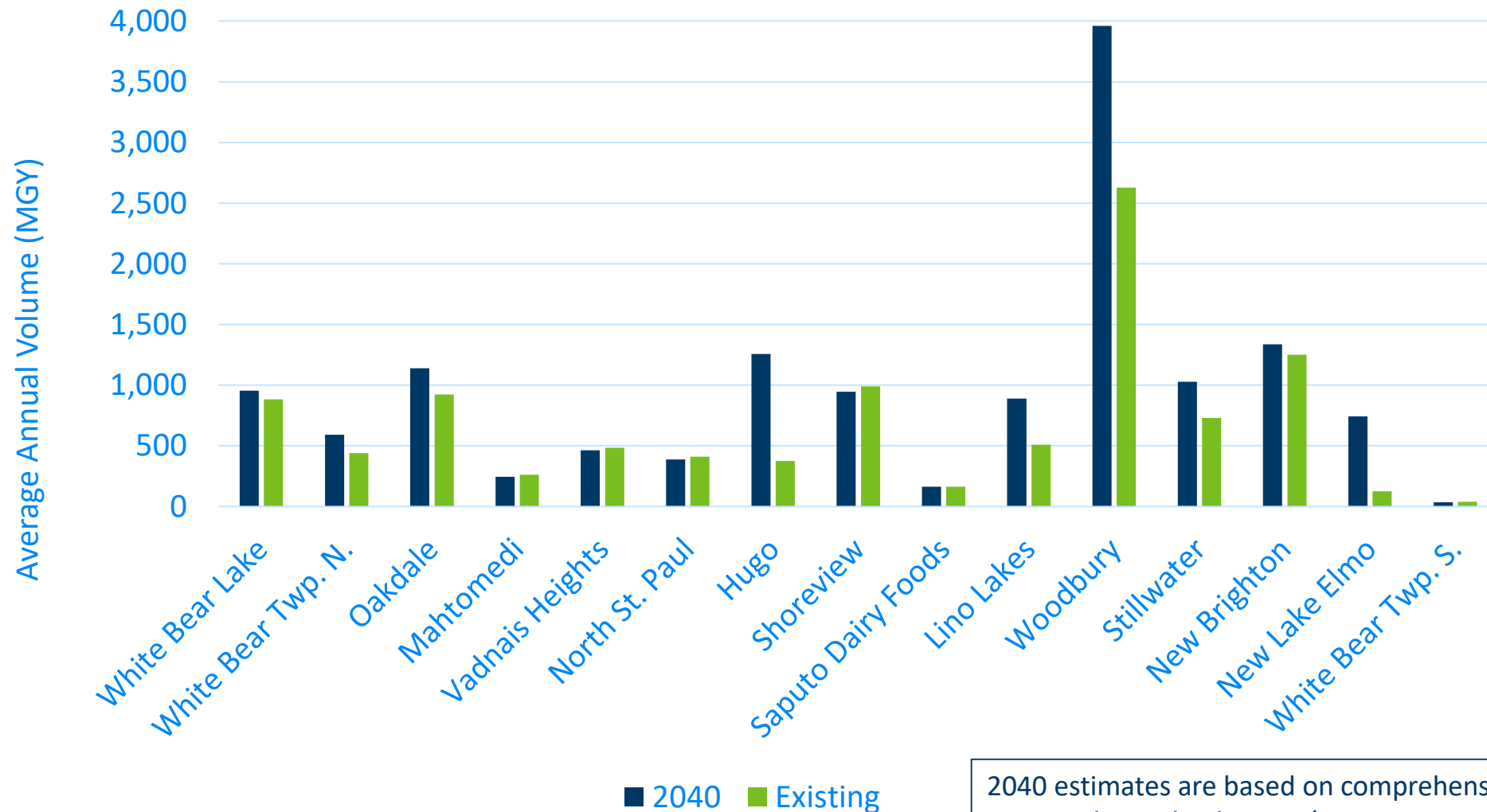
# White Bear Lake – Results of Uniform % Reduction of All Permits Within 5 Miles



# White Bear Lake – Results of Using an Alternate Source of Water for Several Public Water Suppliers

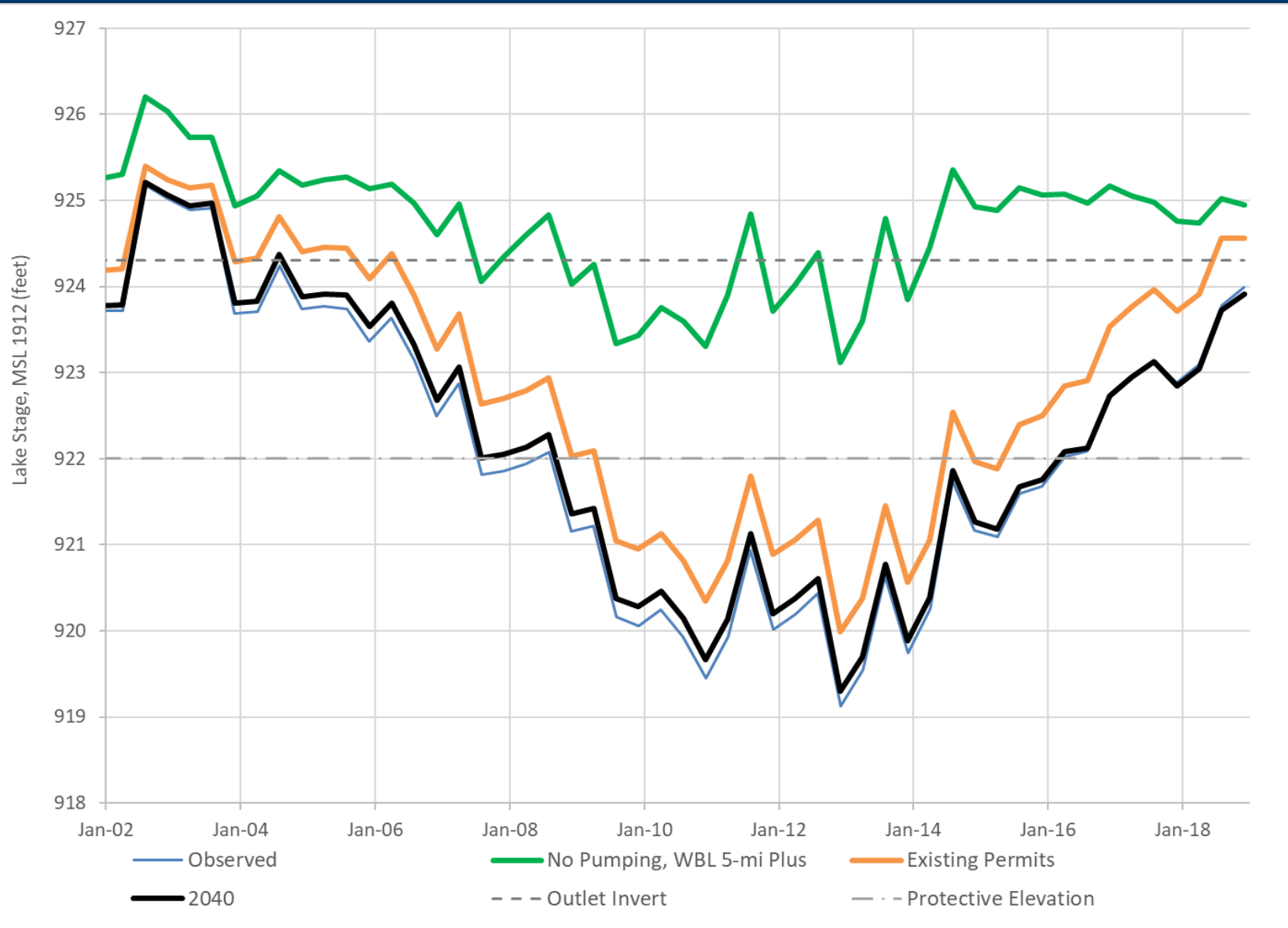


# Average Annual Volume of Water Use – Existing and Projected for 2040

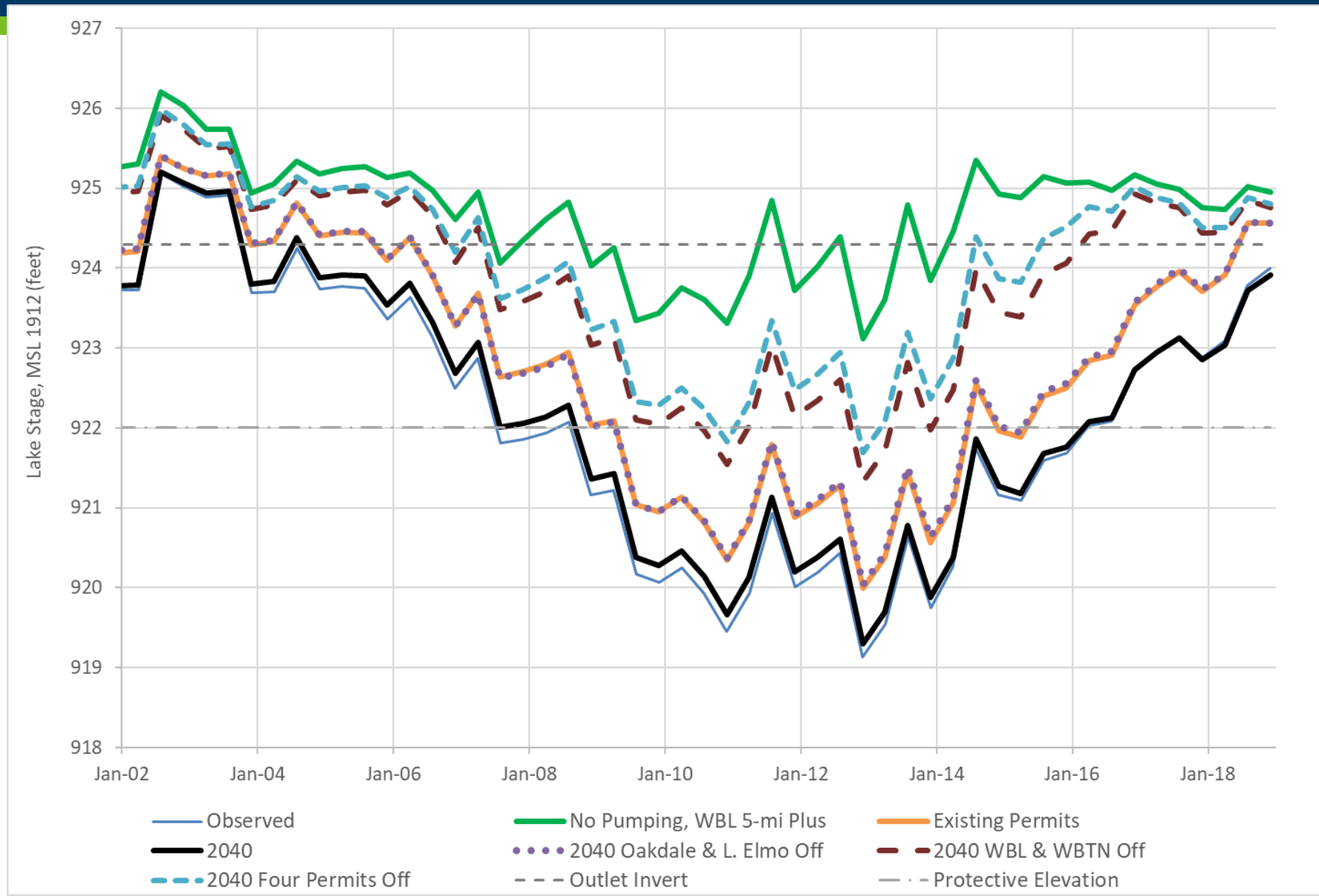


2040 estimates are based on comprehensive plans and community projections and may not necessarily reflect ongoing efforts at water conservation

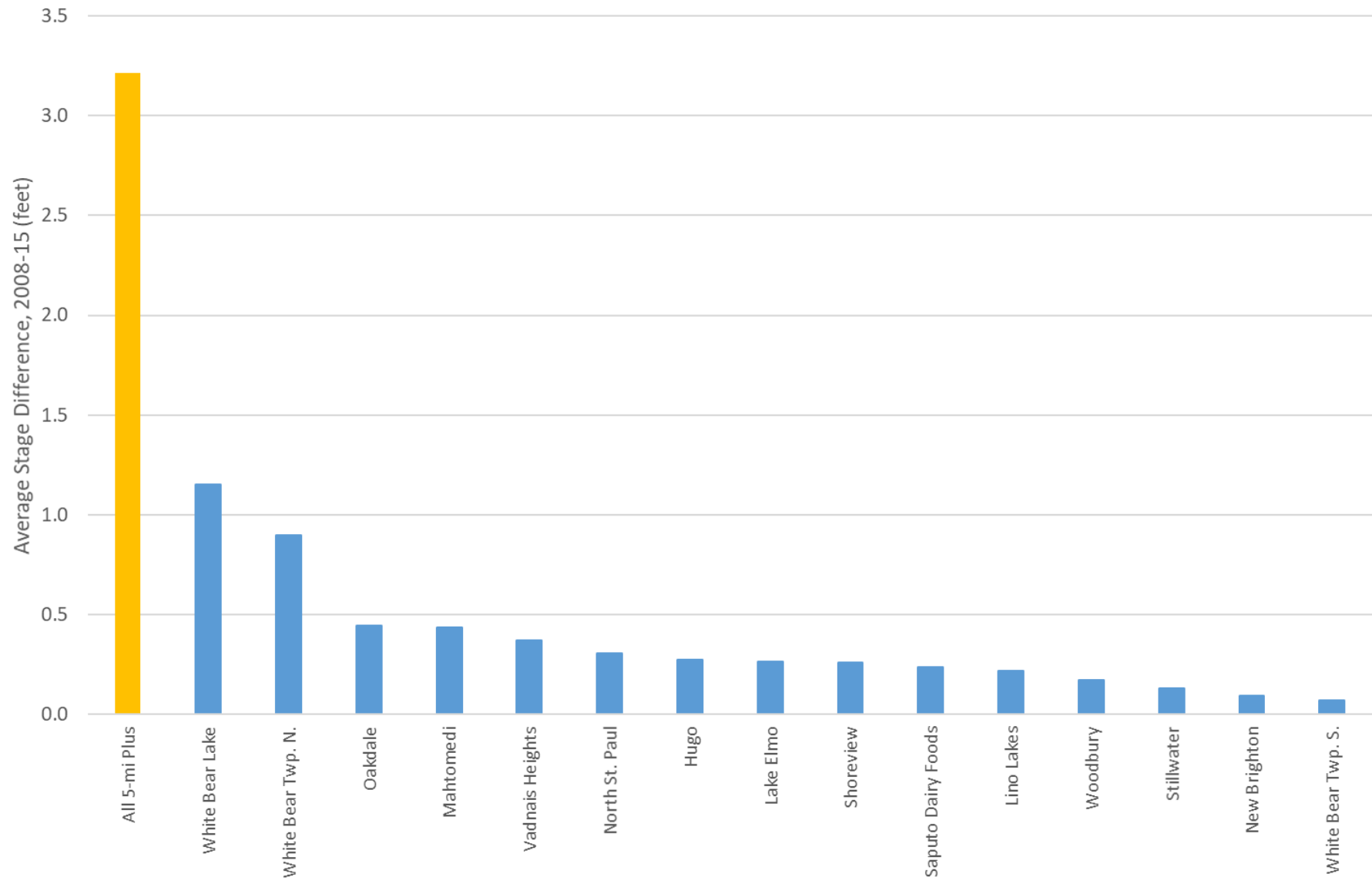
# White Bear Lake – Projected Lake Levels Under Average 2040 Water Use in North and East Metro Area



# White Bear Lake – Projected Lake Levels Under Average 2040 Water Use in North and East Metro Area with Alternate Source for Several Communities



# Relative Influence of Individual Permits on Lake Levels Under 2040 Water Use Projections - Top 15 Influencers

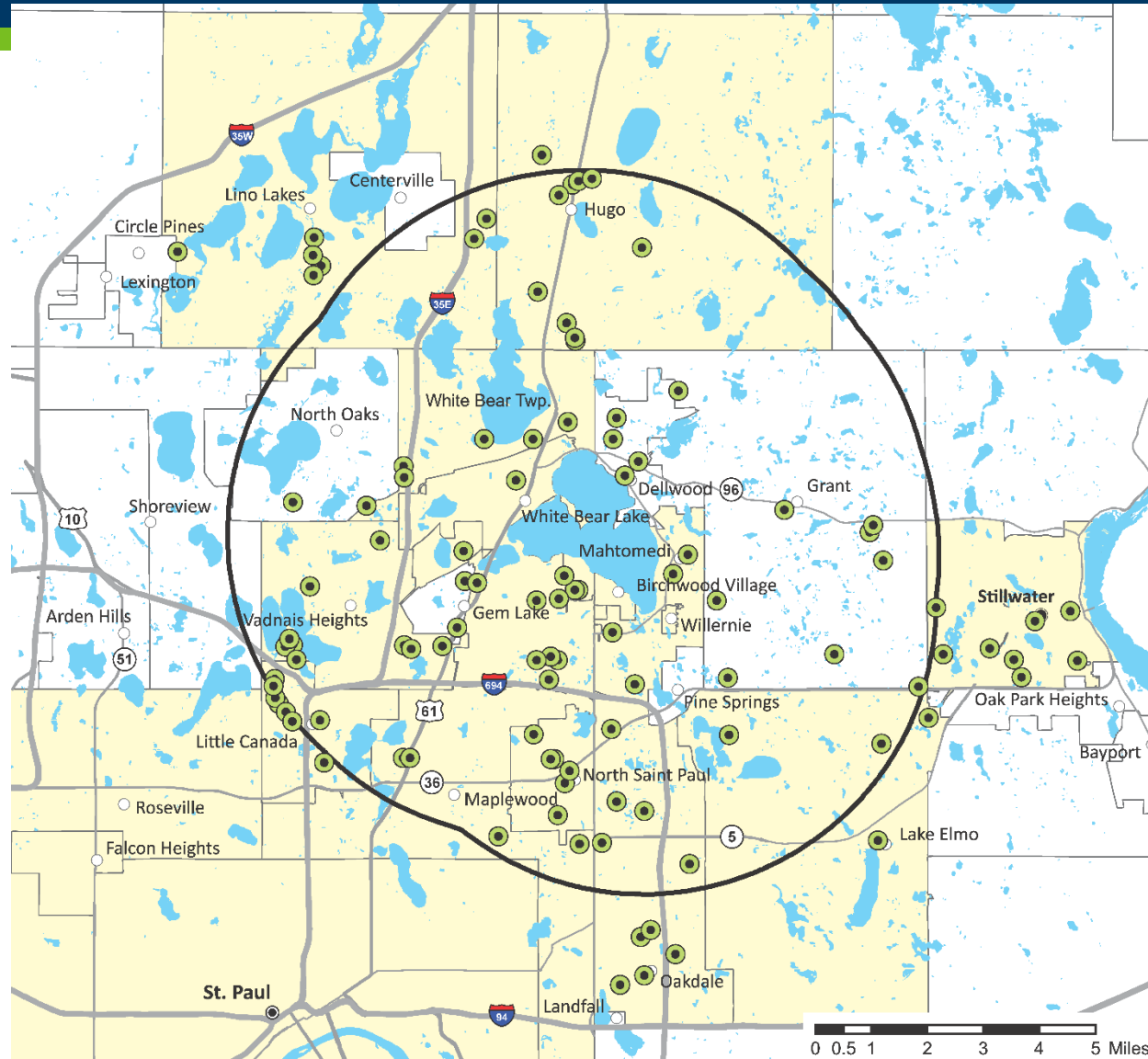


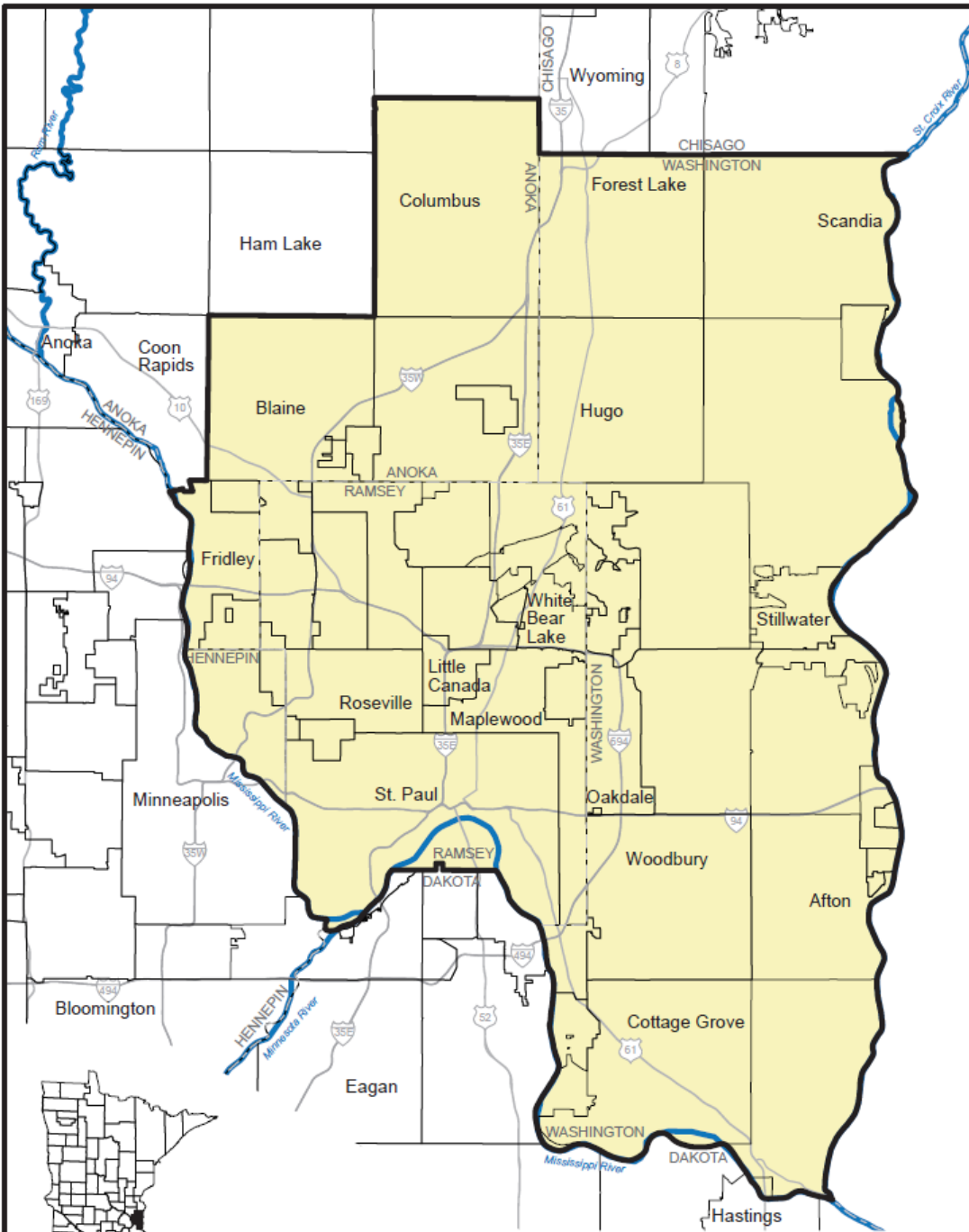
# What does this mean for the Conceptual Plan?

- The three options are based on some cities water plans that are in flux or may not be possible
  - Do not want to build projects that may not be used in the future
- Priority one is about safe and sustainable drinking water for East Metro communities
  - Projects need to address quality and quantity issues at same time
- Moving forward with Conceptual Plan that provides flexibility to adjust as needed based on WBL process
- DNR is scheduling meetings with affected communities and legislators to work on the White Bear Lake water challenges



# 1 Permits and Wells w/in 5 Mile Area





# North and East Metro Groundwater Management Area