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Y MEDIO AMBIENTE

CONFEDERACIÓN  
HIDROGRÁFICA  
DEL JÚCAR

# **INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN SPAIN: SOME CASE STUDIES IN JUCAR RIVER BASIN DISTRICT**

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**Water Commissariat**

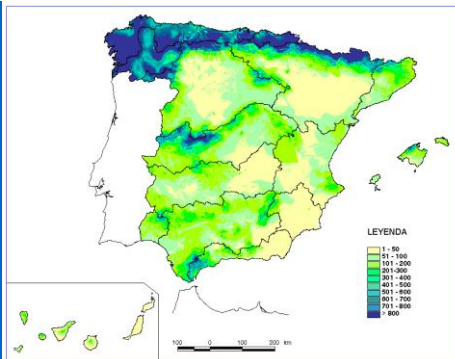


- Introduction
- Basin Management & Spanish River Basin Districts
- Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approach
- IWRM Case Studies:
  - Vinalopó – Alacantí area
  - Mancha Oriental aquifer

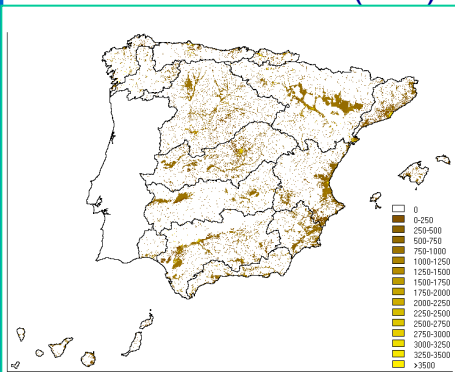


## Water is a scarce resource in Spain

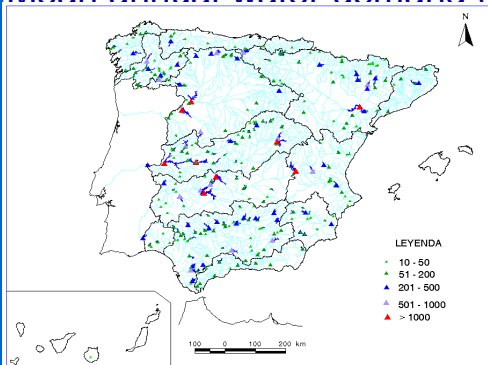
- High irregularity in time and space
- Limited water resource: conflicts among water demands
- Use of conventional and non conventional water resources



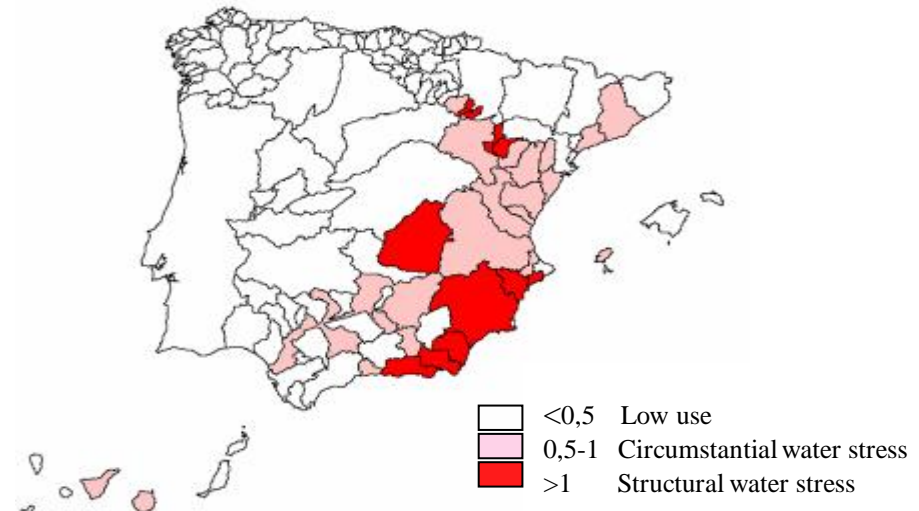
Mean annual runoff (mm)



Mean annual water demand (mm)



Reservoirs > 10 hm<sup>3</sup>



Water exploitation index: water consumption / available water resource



## Long tradition in basin management

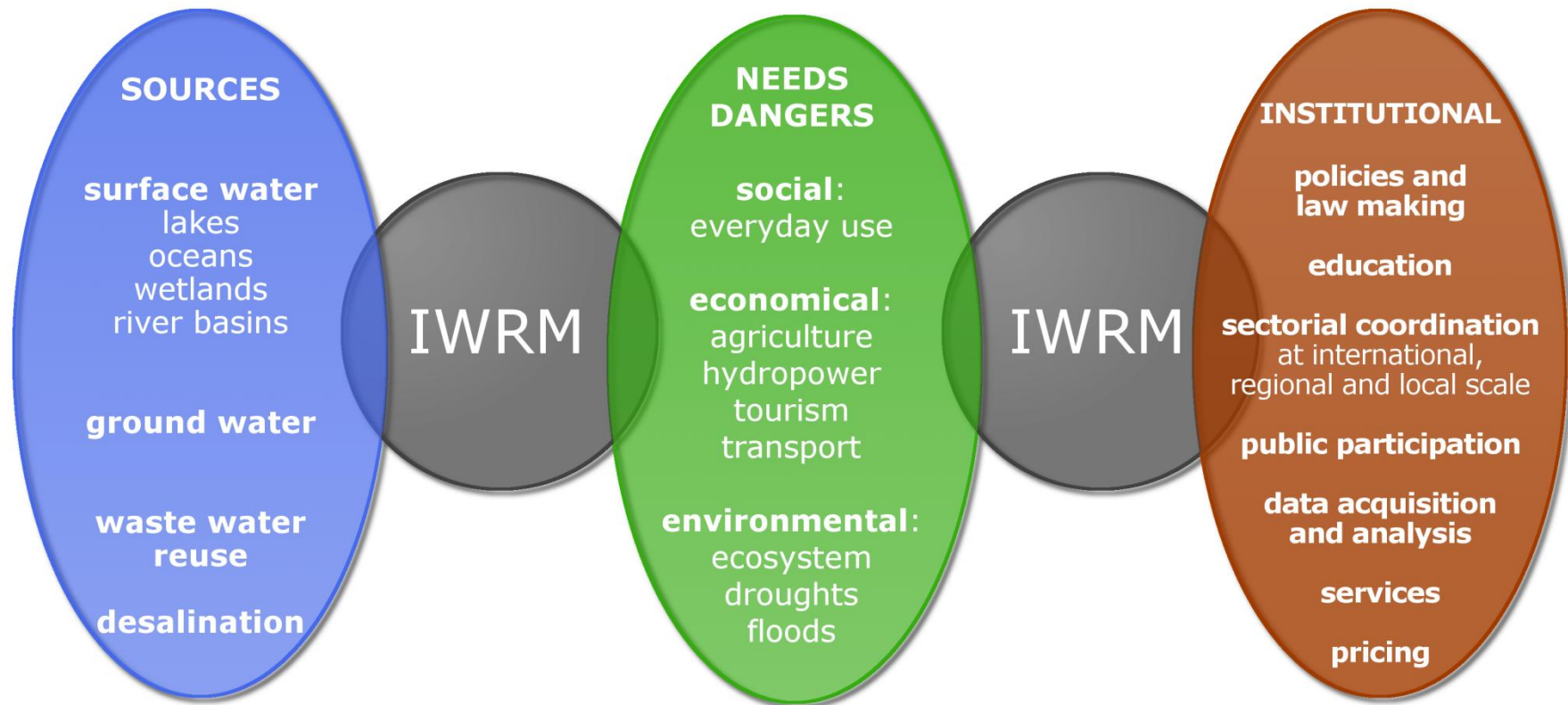
- Creation of the “Trading Hydrological Confederation of the Ebro river ” in 1926.
- Original associative formula between Administration and users to foster hydraulic works and water uses bearing in mind the river basin interests.



SPANISH RIVER BASIN DISTRICTS

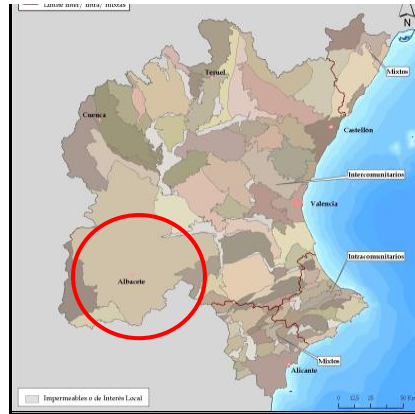


# Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Summary Chart

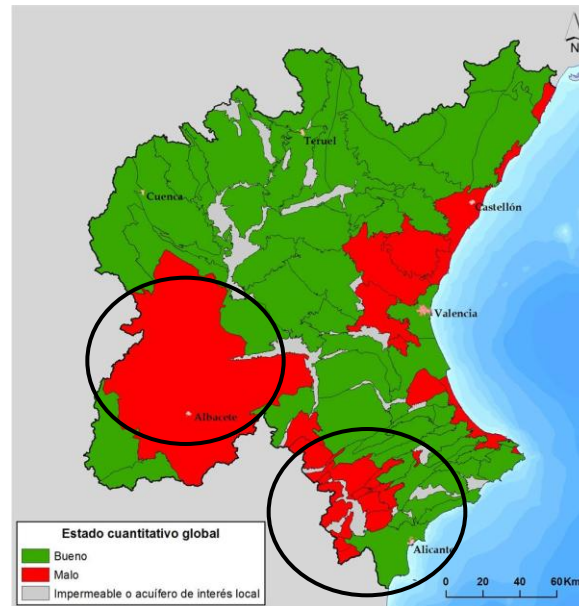
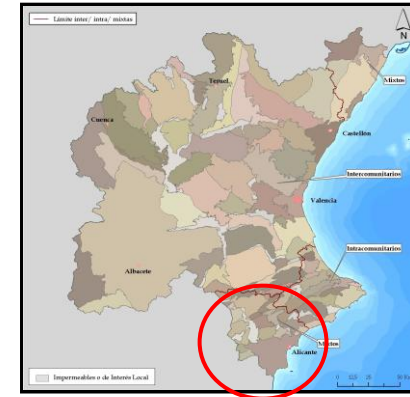




## Mancha Oriental aquifer



## Vinalopó – Alacantí Area



## Groundwater bodies quantitative status



## CASE STUDY



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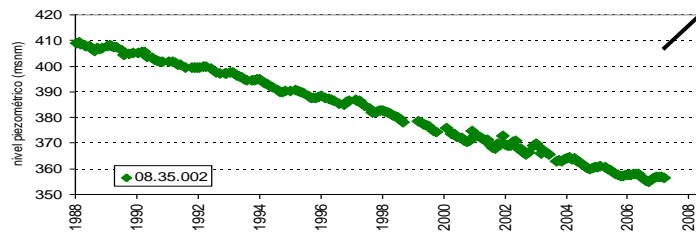
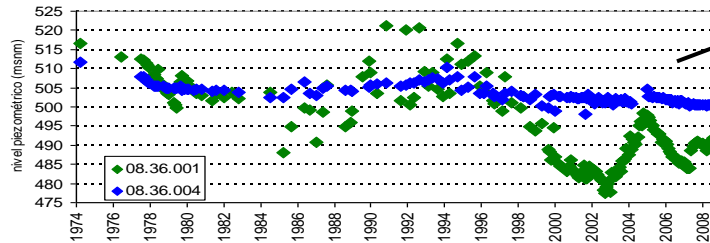
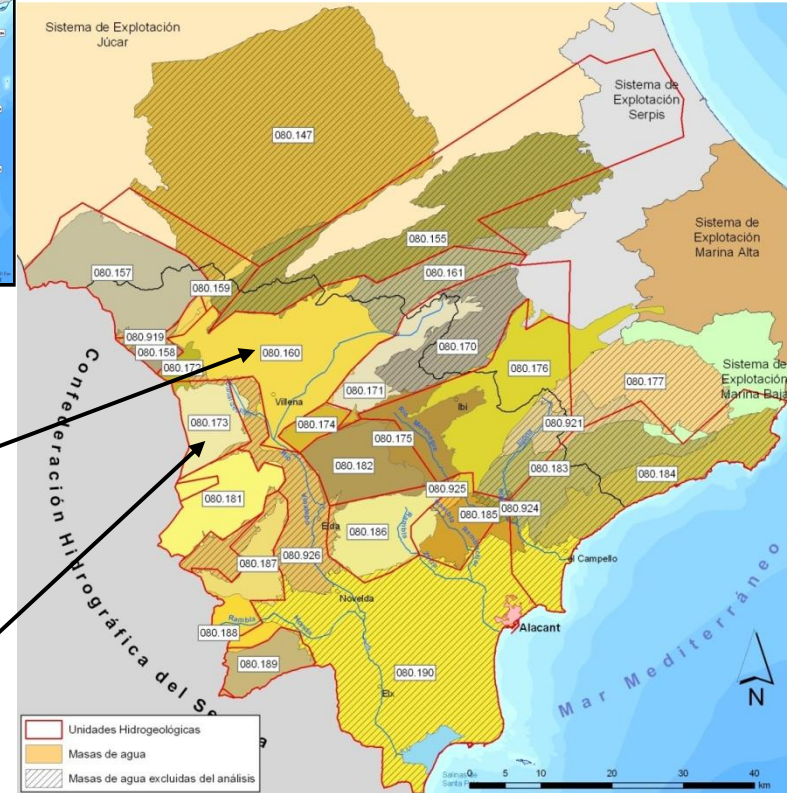
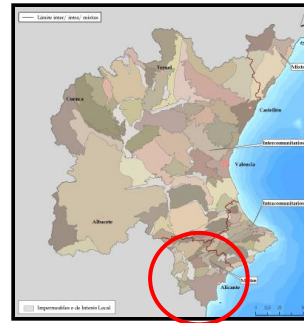
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# Vinalopó – Alacantí Area



# Vinalopó – Alacantí area

Severe decreases in aquifer water levels have occurred as a consequence of an intensive ground water exploitation for urban and agricultural uses







## CASE STUDY

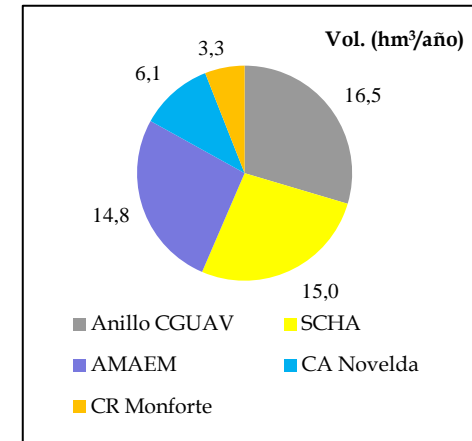


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# Main water distribution water pipes in the Vinalopó-Alacantí system

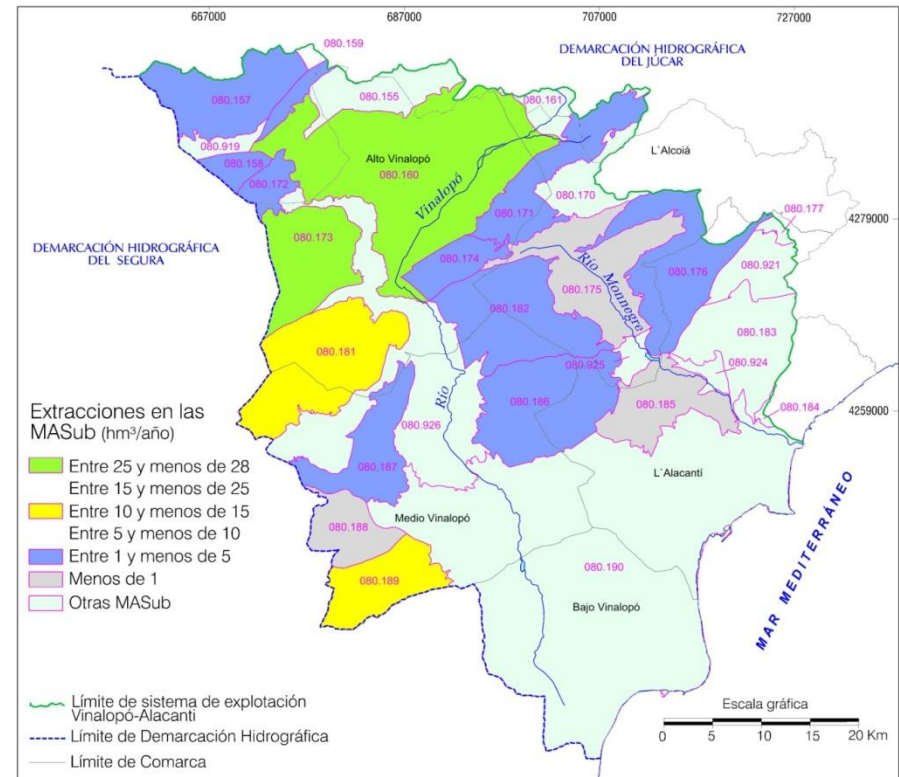
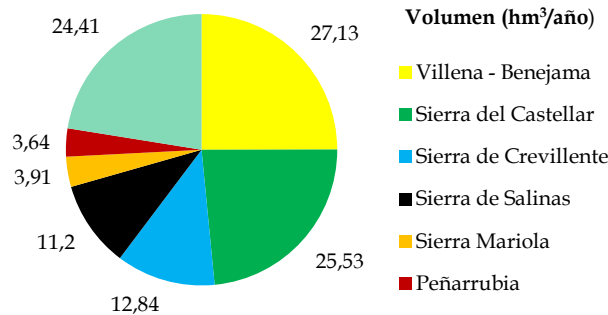
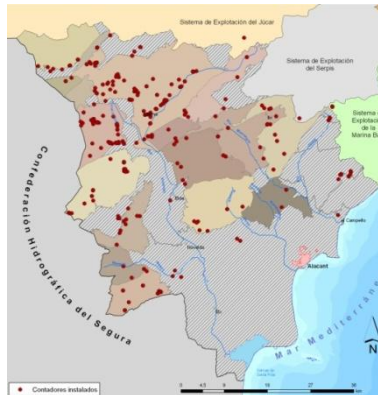


**Distributed water volumes**



## Groundwater abstractions

- Total groundwater abstractions: 113 Mm<sup>3</sup>/year
  - agriculture: 73 Mm<sup>3</sup>/year
  - urban use : 40 Mm<sup>3</sup>/year
- 243 points for abstractions control (78% of total abstraction is measured)





## Quantitative Groundwater body status

### Renewable water resources

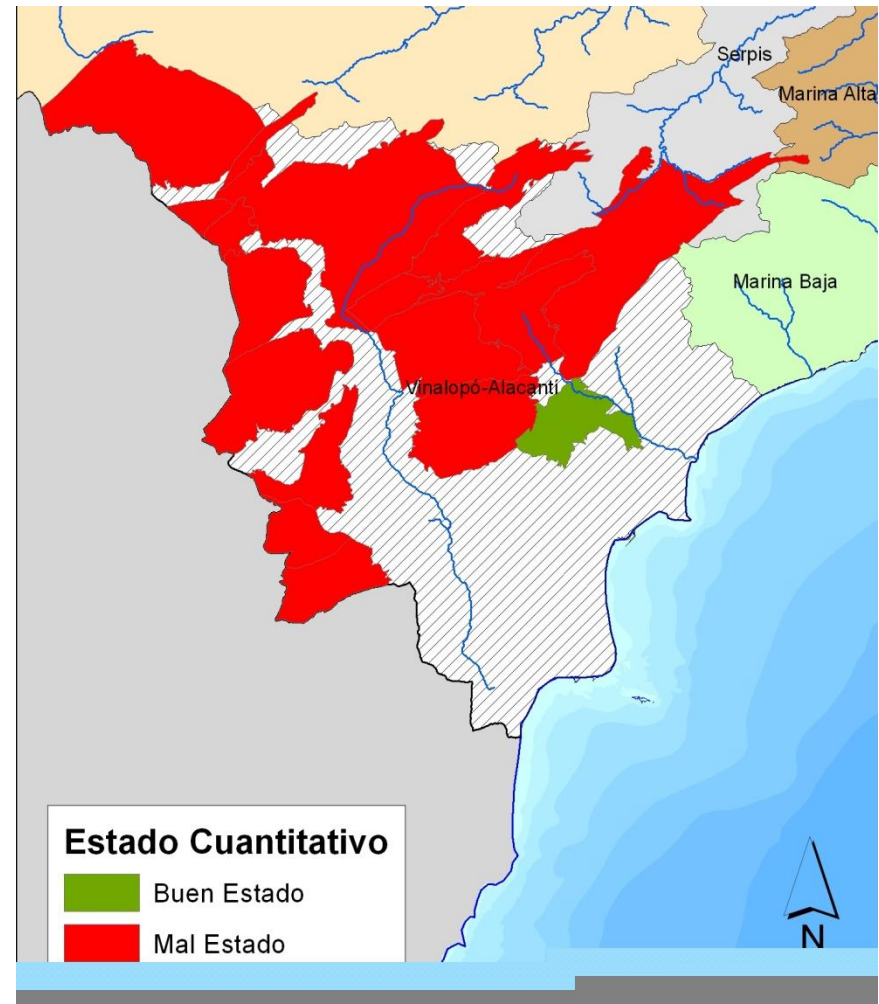
- Total resources 48 Mm<sup>3</sup>/year
- Main resources are concentrated in the upper side of the basin

### Quantitative Groundwater body status

- 16 GB in bad status
- only 1 GB in good status (Agost)
- Deficit groundwater abstractions: 65 Mm<sup>3</sup>/year

### Environmental Objectives (FWD):

- Good status in 2027

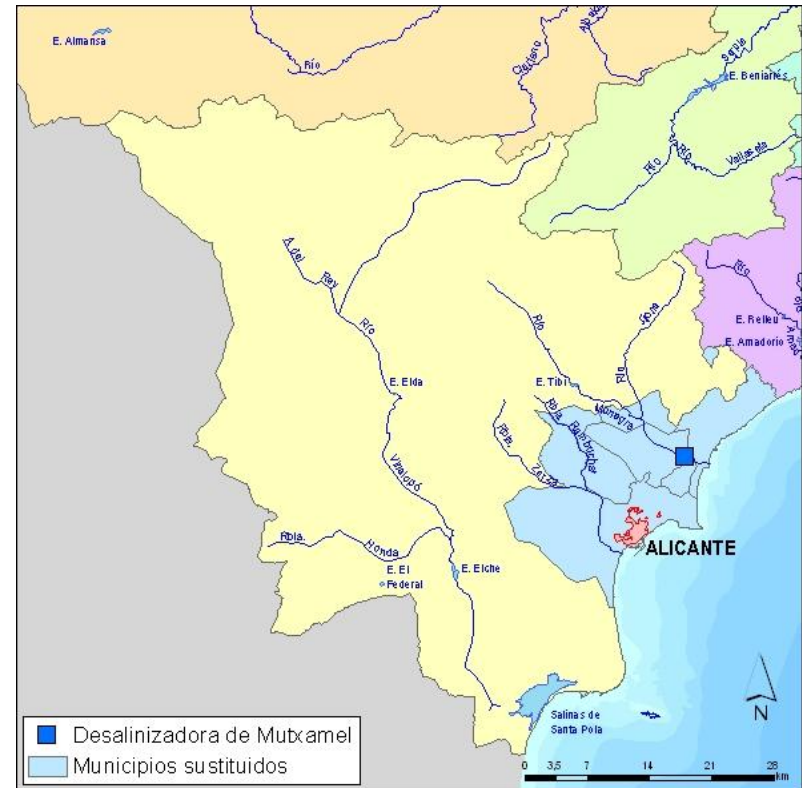




# Programme of Measures: Substitution of groundwater abstractions

Júcar- Vinalopó Water Transfer: 80 Mm<sup>3</sup>

Mutxamel desalination Plant: 18 Mm<sup>3</sup>



Importance of users 's association: Junta Central de Usuarios del Vinalopó-Alacantí y Marina Baja (JCUVAMB)



## CASE STUDY



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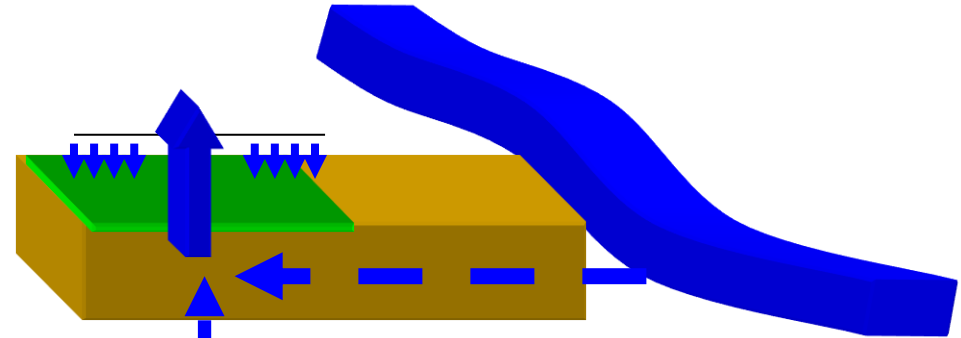
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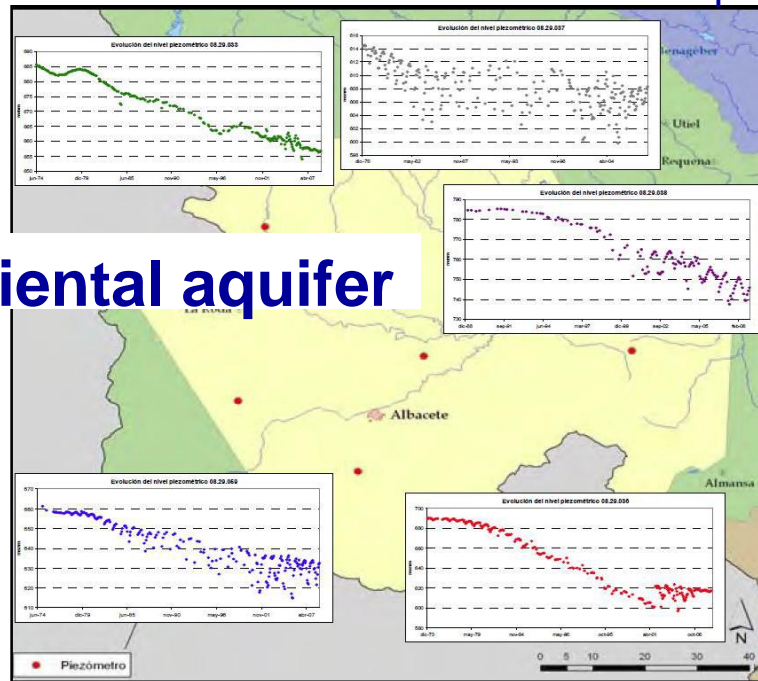
# Mancha Oriental acuífero



- Severe decreases in aquifer levels, have caused affections to water surface, and difficulties to guarantee water supply in existing exploitations, both urban and agricultural.



Important relationship river-aquifer



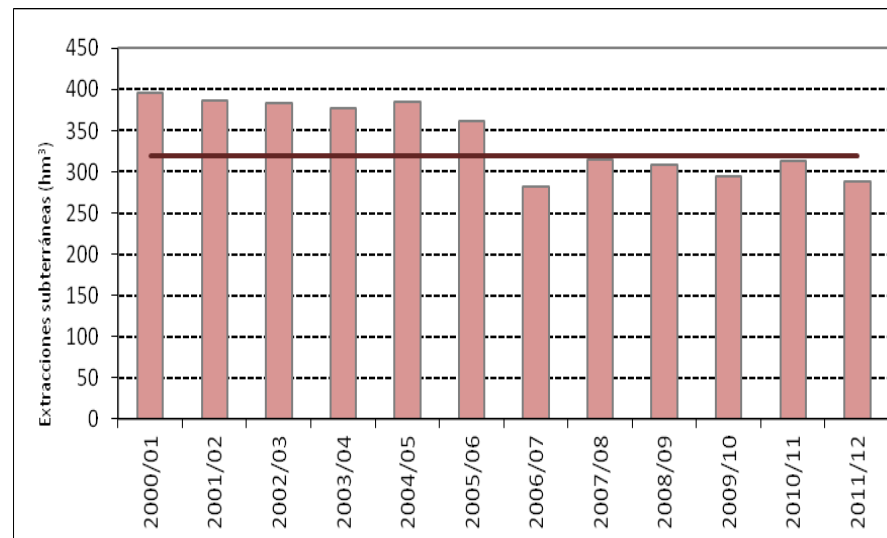
Júcar River: drought 1994-95

# Mancha Oriental aquifer



## Importance of controlling the groundwater irrigation abstractions

- Remote sensing analysis from 1996
- Water use criteria: Presidency of JRBA annual resolution
- Annual crop plan control by users (JCRMO)



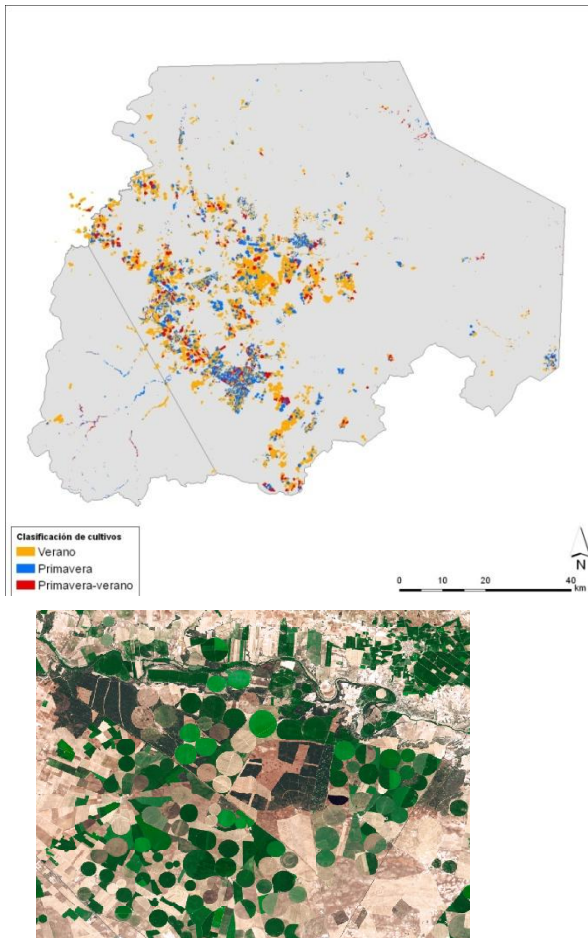
Evolution of Groundwater irrigation abstractions

Importance of users' association: Junta Central de Regantes de la Mancha Oriental (JCRMO)

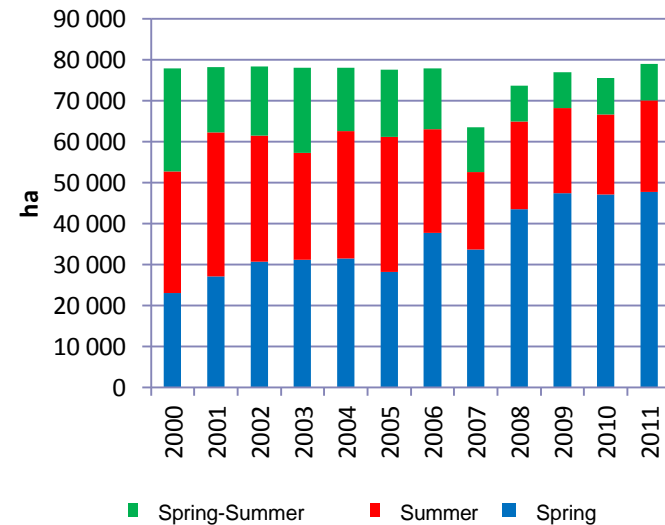


## Detailed studies with remote sensing

- Joint Commission: participation of the Administration, Users and of the Universities



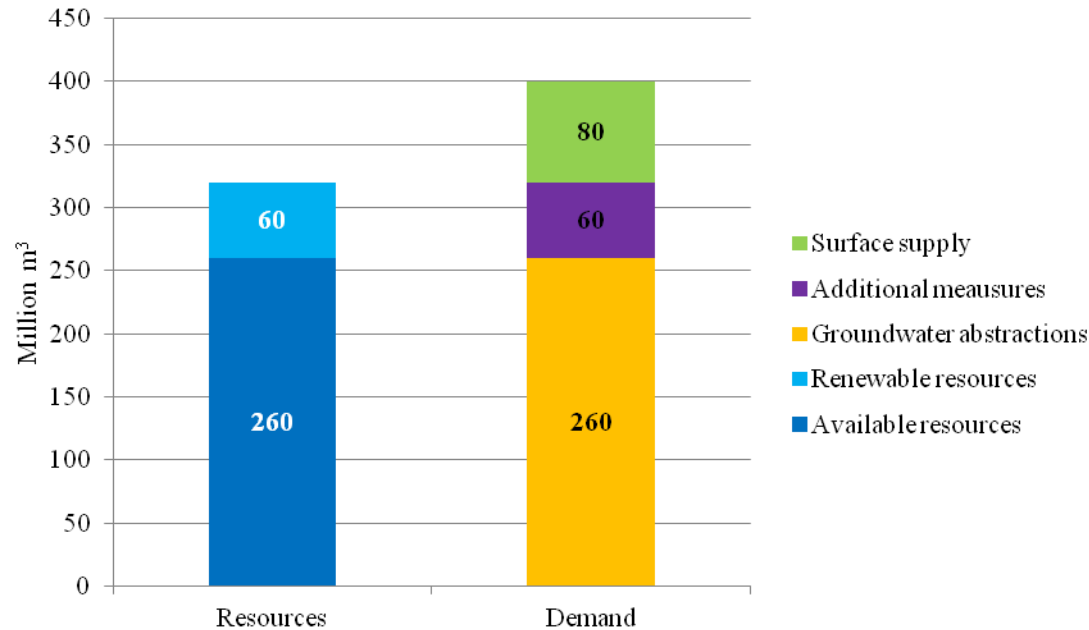
Evolution of irrigated surface







## Need of equilibrate the balance of aquifer (RBMP)



- Actual irrigation demand: 400 Mm<sup>3</sup>
- Renewable resources 320 Mm<sup>3</sup>
- Environmental restrictions 60 Mm<sup>3</sup>
- Available resources 260 Mm<sup>3</sup>
- Surface supply for irrigation 80 Mm<sup>3</sup>
- Additional measures for irrigation (2027): 60 Mm<sup>3</sup>
  - Additional surface supply
  - Water demand management measures



## CASE STUDY

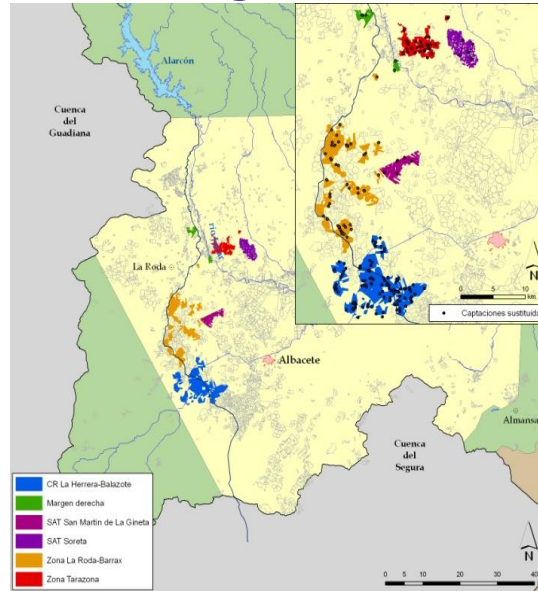


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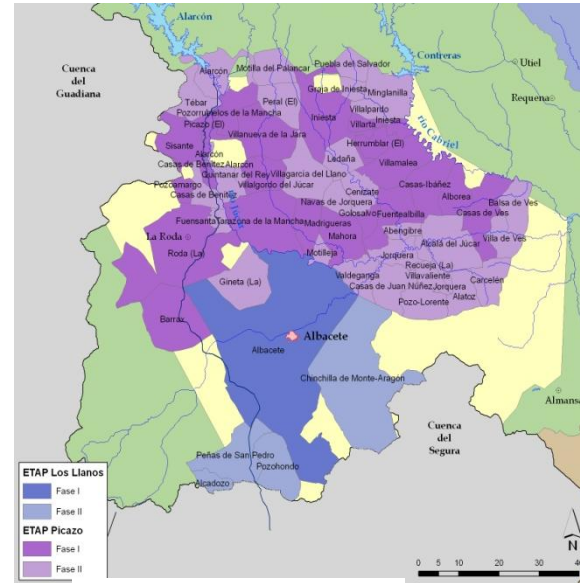
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# Programme of Measures



Irrigation



Urban

-Substitution of ground water resources by surface resources

- Urban: Albacete and its influence area (30 Mm<sup>3</sup>/year)
- Agriculture: volume maximum of 80 Mm<sup>3</sup>/year

-Modernisation of irrigated areas

-Exceptional measures for drought periods: acquisition of water right

- Measures for improving knowledge: groundwater modelling



## How to improve IWRM

- use of water supply increase and water demand management measures.
- reaching a good status: monitoring systems.
- RBMP: users' associations & stakeholder participation
- balance environmental protection and sustainable economic development.



Thank you very much for your attention!