Drought Indicators Report

Georgia Environmental Protection Division

November 2016

Background

Pursuant to the Rules for Drought Management, Section 391-3-3-.04 Drought Indicators and Triggers, the Director of EPD monitors climatic indicators and water supply conditions to assess drought occurrence and severity, and its impact upon the ability of public water systems to provide adequate supplies of water. These indicators and conditions may include, but not be limited, to the following:

- U.S. Drought Monitor;
- Precipitation;
- Streamflow;
- Groundwater;
- Reservoir levels;
- Short term climate predictions;
- Soil moisture; and
- Water supply conditions.

Background

- The Rules require EPD to report on current climatic indicators at least semi-annually or monthly when any part of the state has experienced at least two consecutive months of severe drought.
- This reports compare current conditions to historical levels (and/or reservoir rule curves) for each of the following indicators:
  - Precipitation during the prior 3, 6, and 12 months;
  - Streamflow at the select United States Geological Survey gages;
  - Groundwater levels at select United States Geological Survey monitoring wells; and
  - Reservoir levels at Allatoona Lake, Lake Hartwell, Clarks Hill Lake, and Lake Lanier.
- The following sections of this presentation provide the data and information sources analyzed by EPD in developing this drought indicators report for conditions as of October 13, 2016.

Drought Indicator Analysis Summary (slide 1 of 2)

- **U.S. Drought Monitor** - Exceptional or Extreme drought now covers more than two-thirds of the state, with exceptional drought (D4, the most intense level) in all or portions of 52 counties and extreme drought in all or parts of 76 counties in the remainder of the state north of the line from Early to Lincoln County. Severe drought is now confined to a narrow band about one county wide and to the south of this line. This week marks the 25th week of continuous severe (or more intense) drought in northwest Georgia, the 23rd week for the Atlanta metro area, the 22nd week in parts of the northeast, the 16th week in central Georgia and the 5th week in the southern reaches of the ACF Basin.

- **Precipitation** - 3 month records show considerable deficits in the majority of the state, particularly in much of the northern half and parts of southwest Georgia. The 6 month precipitation deficit indicates increasing dryness in the majority of the state, with less than 50% of normal precipitation in the northern and central portions of the state, with increasing dryness spreading southward along I-75 and spreading into southwest Georgia and southeast toward the coast. The 12 month records now show a majority of the state with below normal precipitation, with near normal rainfall in parts of southwest and southeast Georgia.

- **Soil Moisture** – The majority of the state continues to show deficits, with the greatest severity in northwestern, northeastern, east of the metro Atlanta area, and much of central Georgia. Soil moisture conditions are rapidly declining south and west of a line from Macon to Valdosta, and also spreading into southeast Georgia.

- **Streamflows** - Persistently low flows continue to drop, with a majority of observation sites at or below 2007 and/or 2011 levels. Nearly three quarters of the gages show flows in the 20th percentile or lower. Twenty one of the gages show flows at or lower than the 5th percentile. The number of locations experiencing flows lower than the 10th percentile continue to grow.

Drought Indicator Analysis Summary (slide 2 of 2)

- **Groundwater** – All 14 of the monitoring wells EPD uses to track drought conditions are below median levels. Six are above the 20th percentile and two are below the 5th percentile of the historical record.

- **Reservoir Levels** – A majority of the state's major reservoirs are experiencing low inflows. In the ACT, Allatoona is in zone 1, Carters Lake is in zone 2. Both are forecasted to continue declining. ACF inflows remain low and the Corps continues to rely on storage to meet the 5000cfs low flow requirement at Woodruff Dam. In the ACF, Lanier is in zone 3, WestPoint is in zone 1 and George is in zone 2. ACF composite basin storage is in zone 2 and is forecasted to continue drop into zone 3 by mid-December. In the Savannah Basin, both Hartwell and Thurmond are in level 3 and remain in Corps drought level 2 operations.

- **Short Term Climate Prediction** -- Drought conditions in the entire Southeastern United States are predicted to persist or intensify.

- **Water Supplies** –An increasing number of water systems are reporting impacts. All water systems in drought impacted areas, including those that rely on large reservoirs and rivers, are closely watching their drought contingency plan triggers and are expressing concern about dropping water levels. An increasing number of systems are utilizing secondary water sources. A total of seven drought variances have been granted to date.

US Drought Monitor

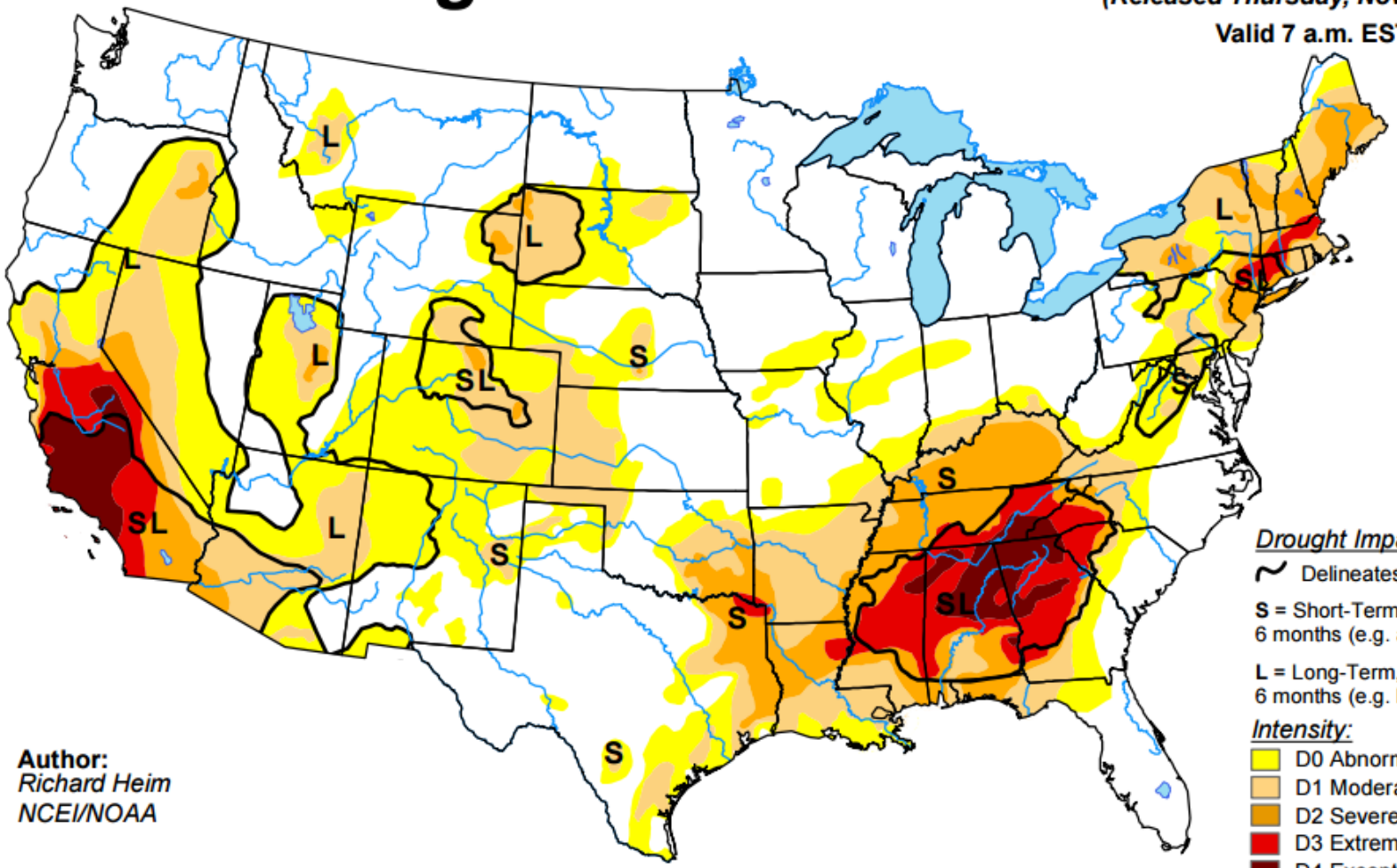
Data Source:
http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

U.S. Drought Monitor

November 15, 2016

(Released Thursday, Nov. 17, 2016)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Author:
Richard Heim
NCEI/NOAA

Drought Impact Types:

Delineates dominant impacts

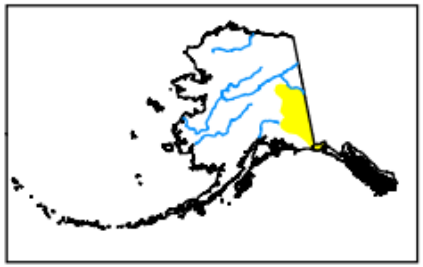
S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)

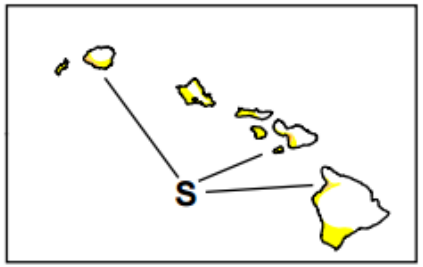
L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

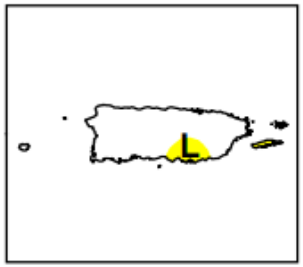
Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.







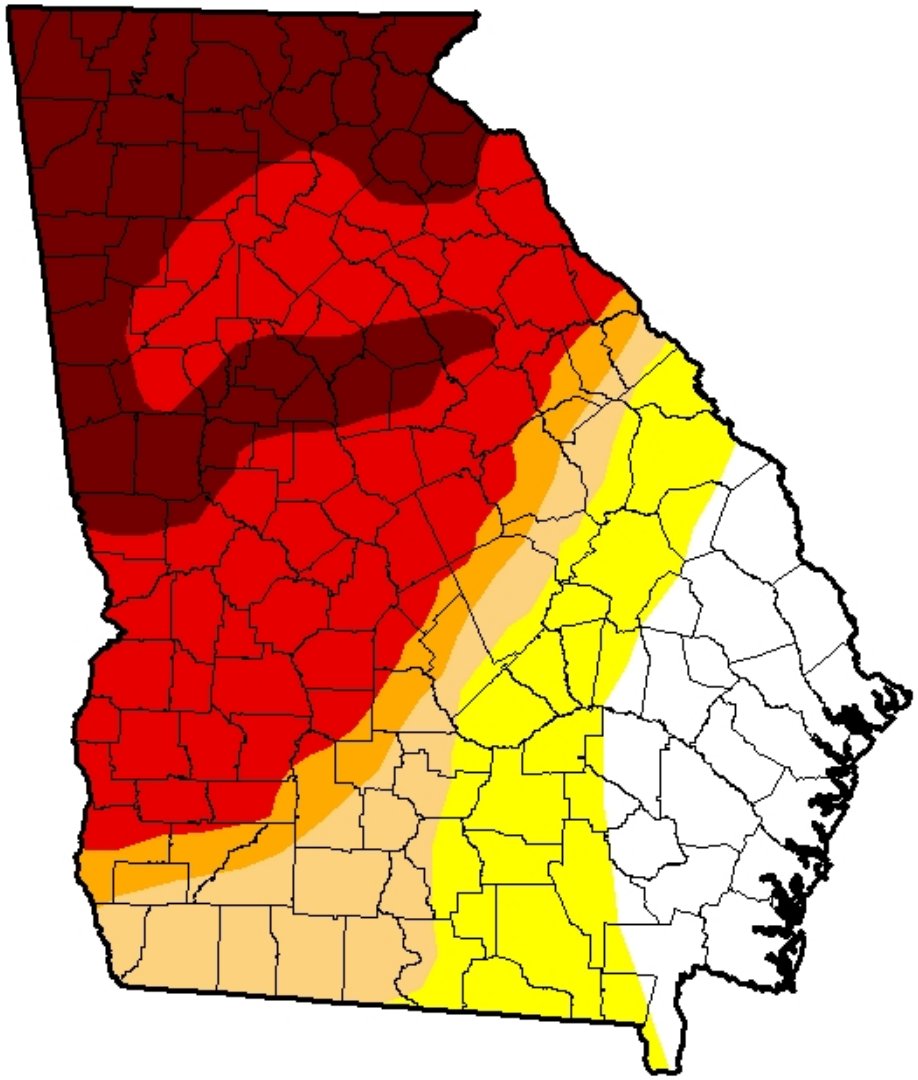
USDA

National Drought Mitigation Center

NOAA

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

U.S. Drought Monitor
Georgia



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Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	15.69	84.31	69.18	58.03	52.39	22.25
Last Week 11/8/2016	15.69	84.31	64.43	50.53	42.02	17.22
3 Months Ago 8/16/2016	29.24	70.76	45.09	29.79	9.34	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 12/29/2015	87.36	12.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 9/27/2016	35.37	64.63	45.84	34.50	14.67	1.58
One Year Ago 11/17/2015	88.91	11.09	1.73	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:
Richard Heim
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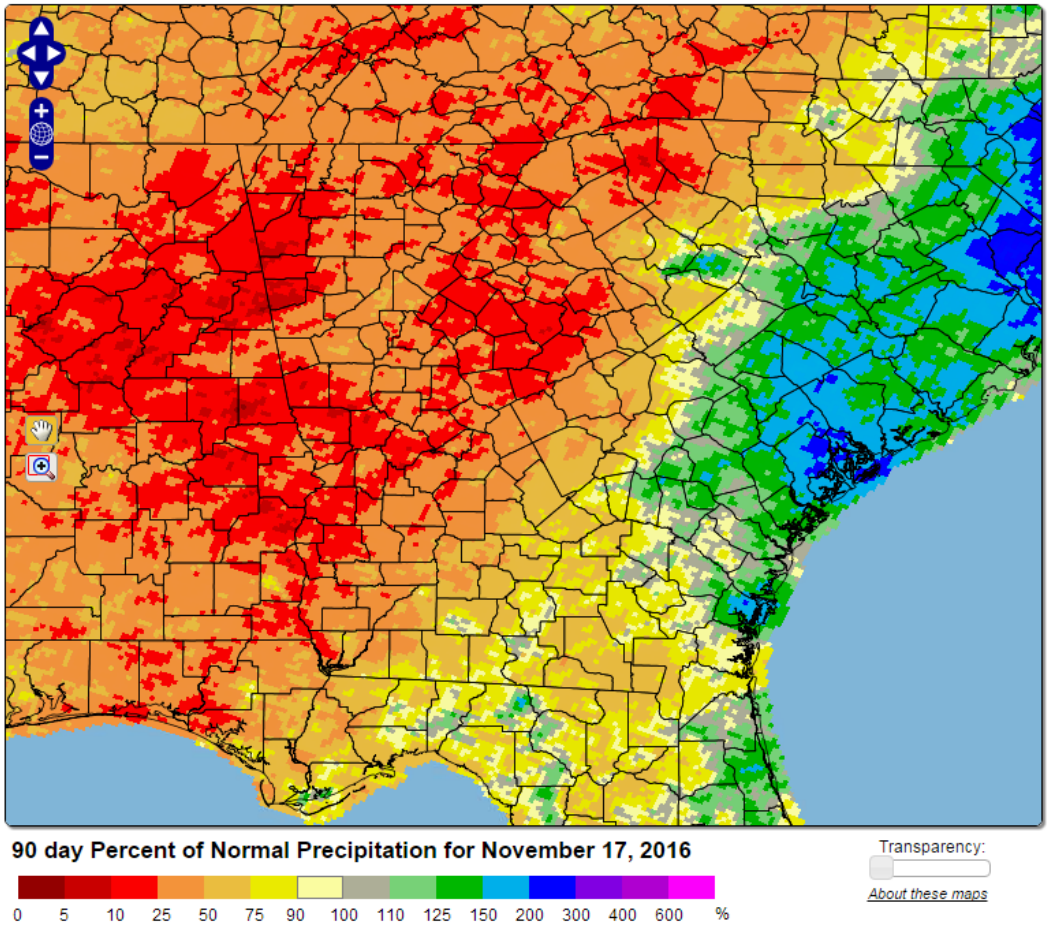
http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

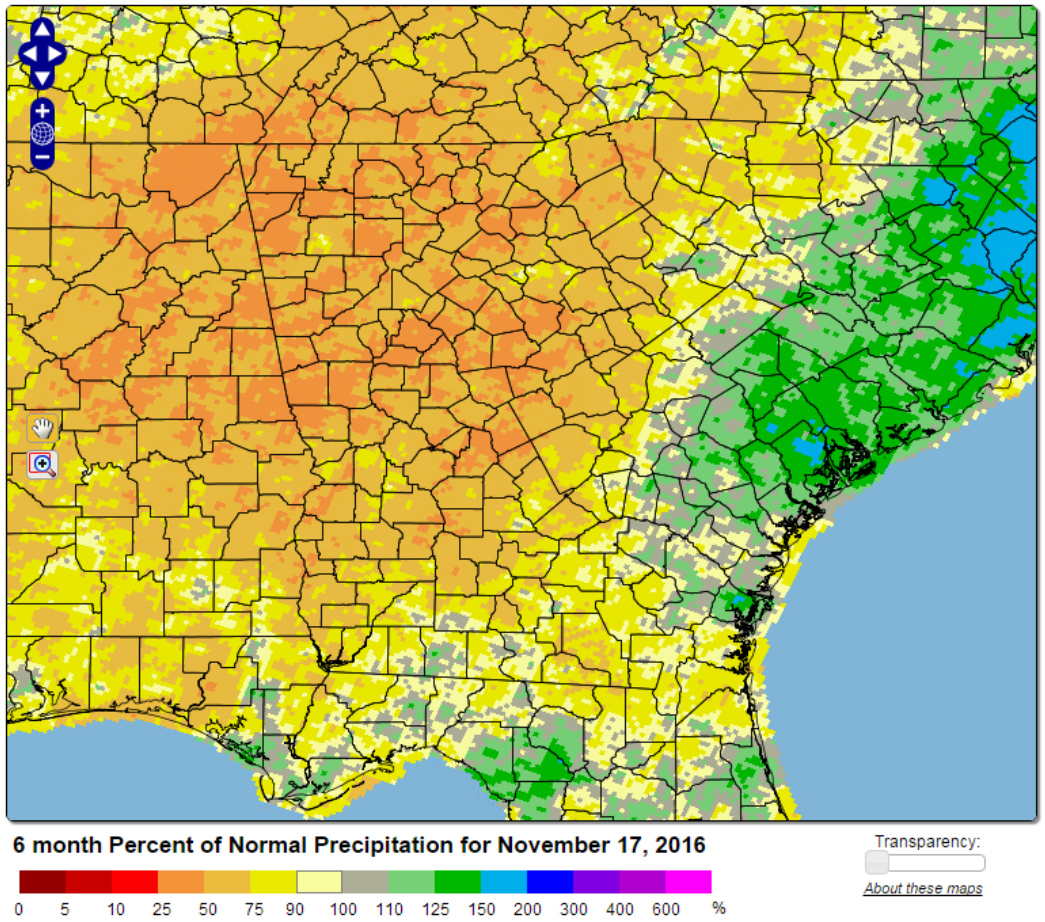
3, 6, and 12 Month
Percent of Normal Precipitation

Data Source:
http://climate.ncsu.edu/drought

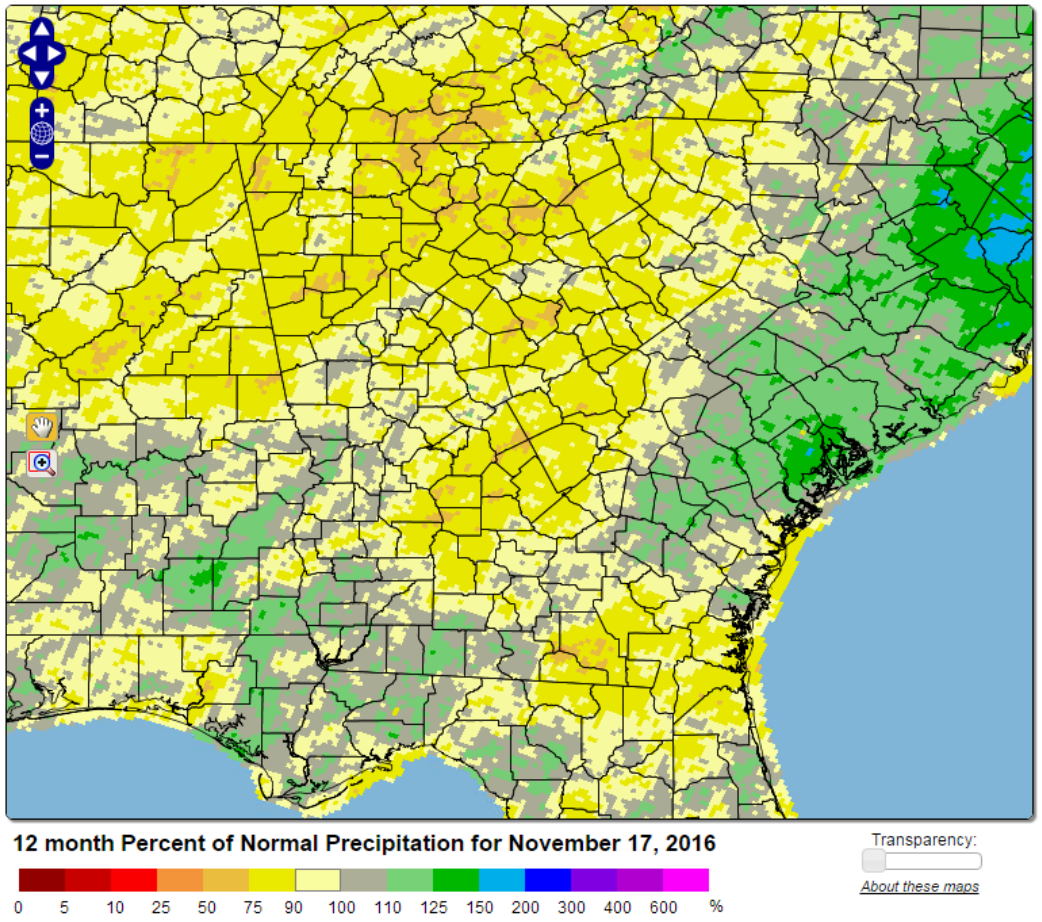
3 Month Percent of Normal Precipitation



6 Month Percent of Normal Precipitation

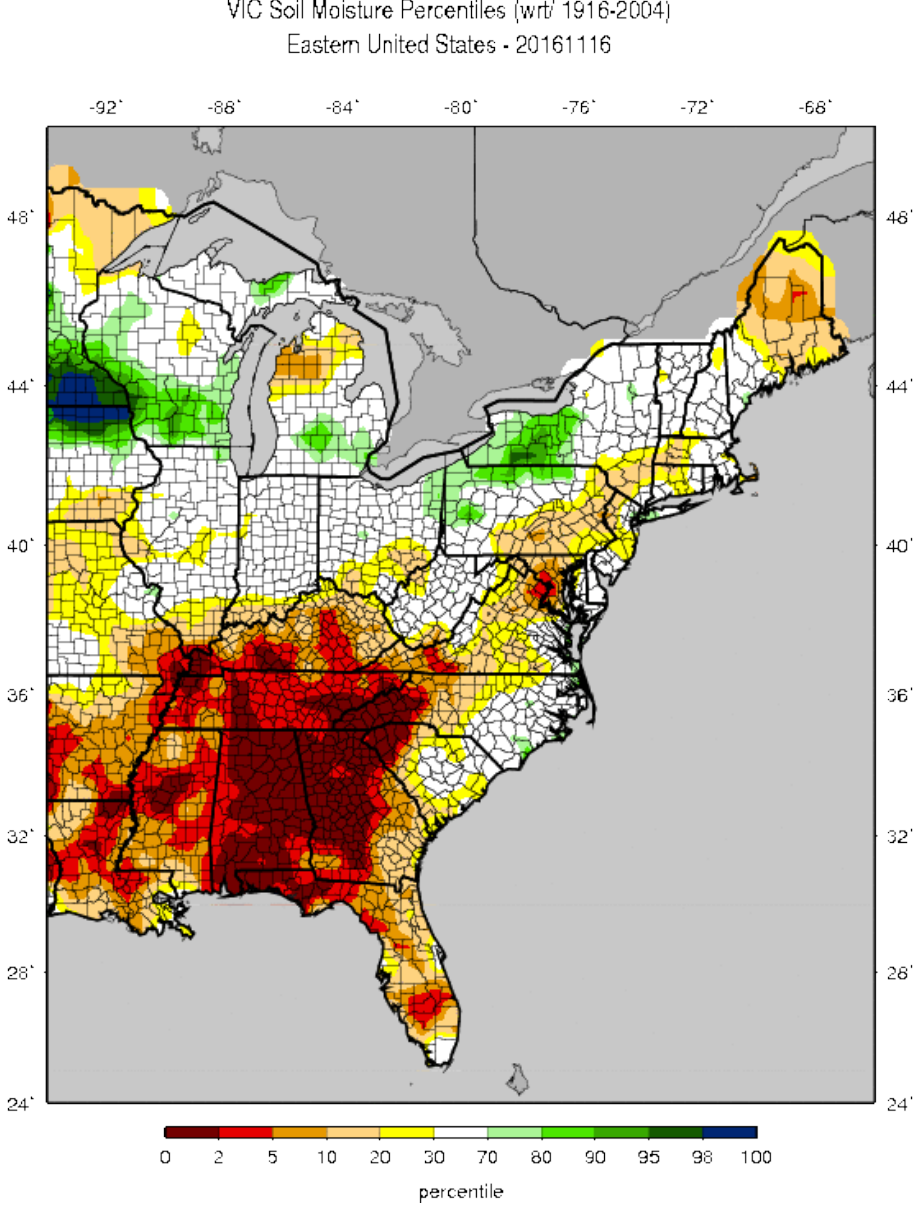


12 Month Percent of Normal Precipitation



Soil Moisture Conditions

Data Source:
http://www.hydro.washington.edu/forecast/monitor/curr/conus.mexico/east.vic.sm_qnt.gif



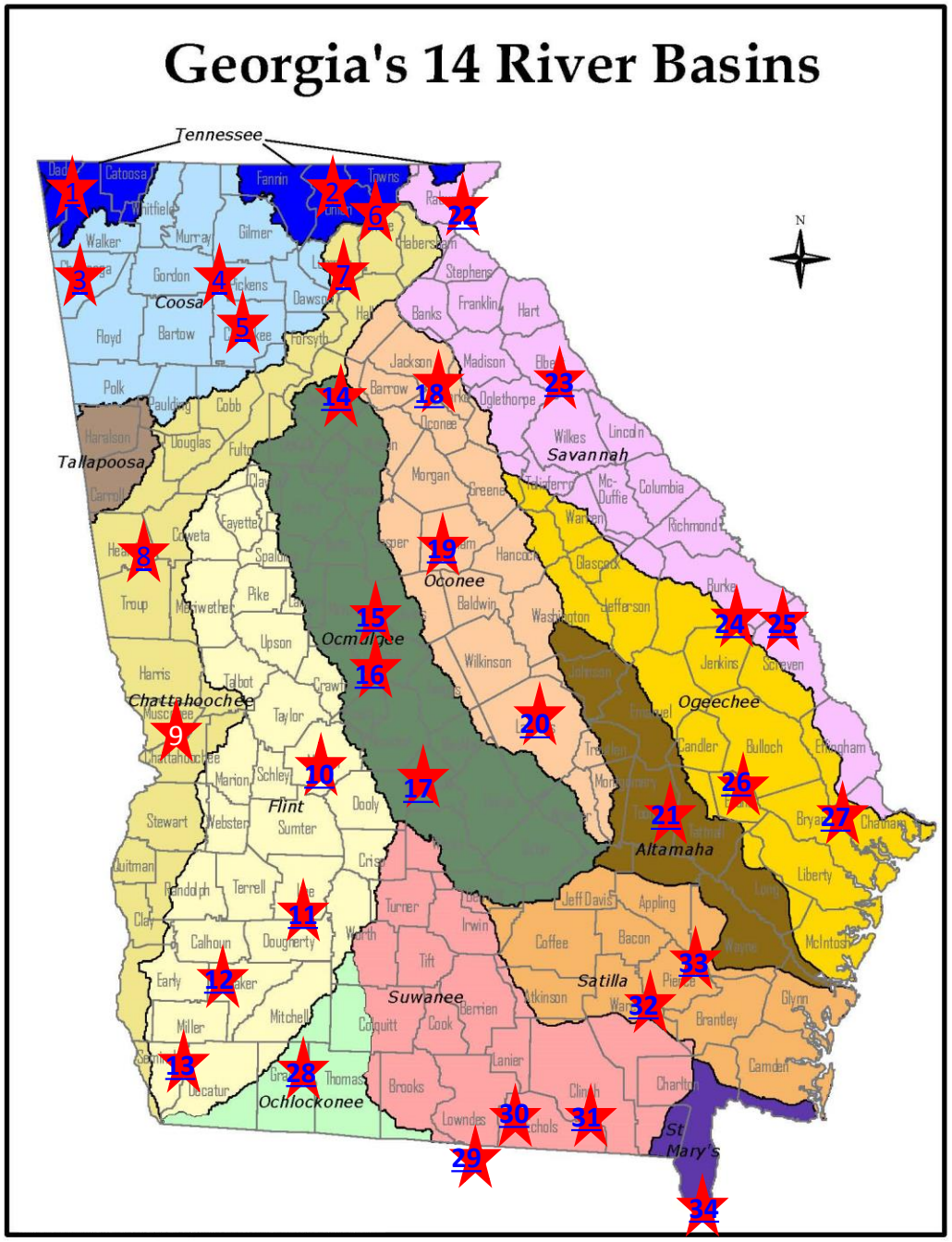
Current (daily updated) percentiles for soil moisture (SWE) with respect to the climatological period (1916-2004).

Streamflow Conditions

Data Source: USGS

Streamflow Monitoring

- As shown on the following slide, EPD Monitors 34 USGS stream gages in 13 of the State's major river basins to assess drought conditions.
- These gages were selected because each has:
  - Long-term and relatively complete records for recent decades; and
  - Relatively low consumptive water use implications and streamflows are not heavily influenced by dams.
- Note: Hydrologic conditions of major rivers with streamflows that are heavily influenced by dams can be assessed by reviewing status of major storage reservoirs



USGS Stream Gages Monitored by EPD to Assess Drought Conditions

GAGE#	BASIN	GAGE NAME
1	TENNESSEE	LOOKOUT CREEK NEAR NEW ENGLAND
2	TENNESSEE	NOTTELY RIVER NEAR BLAIRSVILLE
3	COOSA	CHATTOOGA RIVER AT SUMMERVILLE
4	COOSA	TALKING ROCK CREEK NEAR HINTON
5	COOSA	ETOWAH RIVER AT CANTON
6	CHATTAHOOCHEE	CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER AT CORNELIA
7	CHATTAHOOCHEE	CHESTATEE RIVER NEAR DAHLONEGA
8	CHATTAHOOCHEE	NEW RIVER AT GA 100 NEAR CORINTH
9	CHATTAHOOCHEE	UPATOI CREEK AT COLUMBUS
10	FLINT	FLINT RIVER AT GA26 NEAR MONTEZUMA
11	FLINT	FLINT RIVER AT ALBANY
12	FLINT	ICHAWAYNOCHAWAY CREEK AT MILFORD
13	FLINT	SPRING CREEK NEAR IRON CITY
14	OCMULGEE	ALCOVY RIVER ABOVE COVINGTON
15	OCMULGEE	OCMULGEE RIVER AT MACON
16	OCMULGEE	TOBESOFKEE CREEK NEAR MACON
17	OCMULGEE	TUCSAWHATCHEE CREEK NEAR HAWKINSVILLE
18	OCONEE	MIDDLE OCONEE RIVER NEAR ATHENS
19	OCONEE	LITTLE RIVER NEAR EATONTON
20	OCONEE	OCONEE RIVER AT DUBLIN
21	ALTAMAHA	OHOOPEE RIVER NEAR REIDSVILLE
22	SAVANNAH	CHATTOOGA RIVER NEAR CLAYTON
23	SAVANNAH	BROAD RIVER NEAR BELL
24	SAVANNAH	BEAVERDAM CREEK NEAR SARDIS
25	SAVANNAH	BRIER CREEK AT MILLHAVEN
26	OGEECHEE	CANOOCHEE RIVER NEAR CLAXTON
27	OGEECHEE	OGEECHEE RIVER NEAR EDEN
28	OCHLOCKONEE	OCHLOCKONEE RIVER NEAR THOMASVILLE
29	SUWANEE	WITHLACOOCHEE RIVER NEAR PINETTA FL
30	SUWANEE	ALAPAHA RIVER AT STATENVILLE
31	SUWANEE	SUWANNEE RIVER AT US 441, AT FARGO
32	SATILLA	SATILLA RIVER NEAR WAYCROSS
33	SATILLA	LITTLE SATILLA RIVER NEAR OFFERMAN
34	ST MARY	ST MARYS RIVER NEAR MACCLENNY FL

Streamflow Graphs

- For each of the 34 gages, EPD has prepared a graph that shows monthly average streamflow from January, 2016 through October, 2016;
- To help put these streamflow conditions into perspective, for comparison purposes, each graph also shows:
  - Monthly average streamflows for the years 2007 and 2011 when streamflows were at or near recorded low levels across much of the state; and
  - A statistical composite of historical conditions showing the “driest” 50, 20, 10, and 5 percent of all recorded monthly average stream flows at the same gage.

How to Read the Streamflow Graphs
Example #1: **Etowah River at Canton**

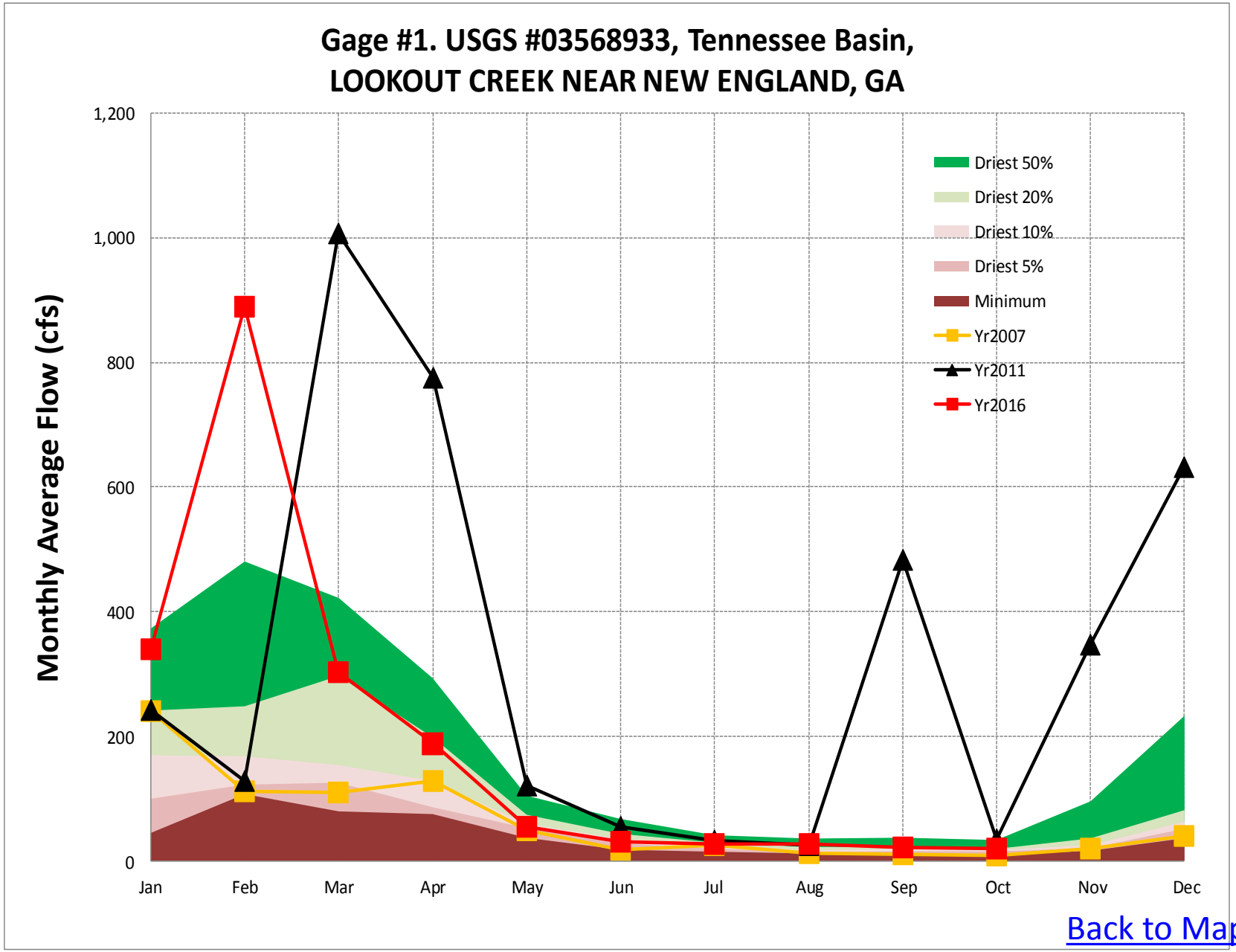
The streamflow graph for Gage #5, USGS Etowah River gage at Canton shows :

- Average stream flow for October 2016 was 155 cfs. The statistical composite of all historical data for this gage shows that average streamflow in October has historically been lower than October 2016 about 20% of the time; about 80% of the time in October it has been higher.
- Average stream flow in October 2011 was 236 cfs. The statistical composite of all historical data for this gage shows that average streamflow for October has historically been lower than October 2011 only 10% of the time; 90% of the time in October it has been higher.
- Average stream flow in October 2007 was 150 cfs. The statistical composite of all historical data for this gage shows that average streamflow for October has historically been lower than October 2007 only 5% of the time; 95% of the time in October it has been higher.
- The lowest recorded average stream flow for October was 149 cfs.

How to Read the Streamflow Graphs
Example #2: **Flint River at Albany**

The streamflow graph for Gage #11, USGS Flint River gage at Albany shows:

- Average stream flow for October 2016 was 876 cfs. The statistical composite of all historical data for this gage shows that average streamflow in October has historically been lower than October 2016 about 20% of the time; about 80% of the time in October it has been higher.
- Average stream flow in October 2011 was 976 cfs. The statistical composite of all historical data for this gage shows that average streamflow for October has historically been lower than October 2011 about 10% of the time; about 90% of the time in October it has been higher.
- Average stream flow in October 2007 was 1104 cfs. The statistical composite of all historical data for this gage shows that average streamflow for October has historically been lower than October 2007 about 10% of the time; about 90% of the time in October it has been higher.


Gage #1. USGS #03568933, Tennessee Basin,
LOOKOUT CREEK NEAR NEW ENGLAND, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
1,200
1,000
800
600
400
200
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Driest 50%
Driest 20%
Driest 10%
Driest 5%
Minimum
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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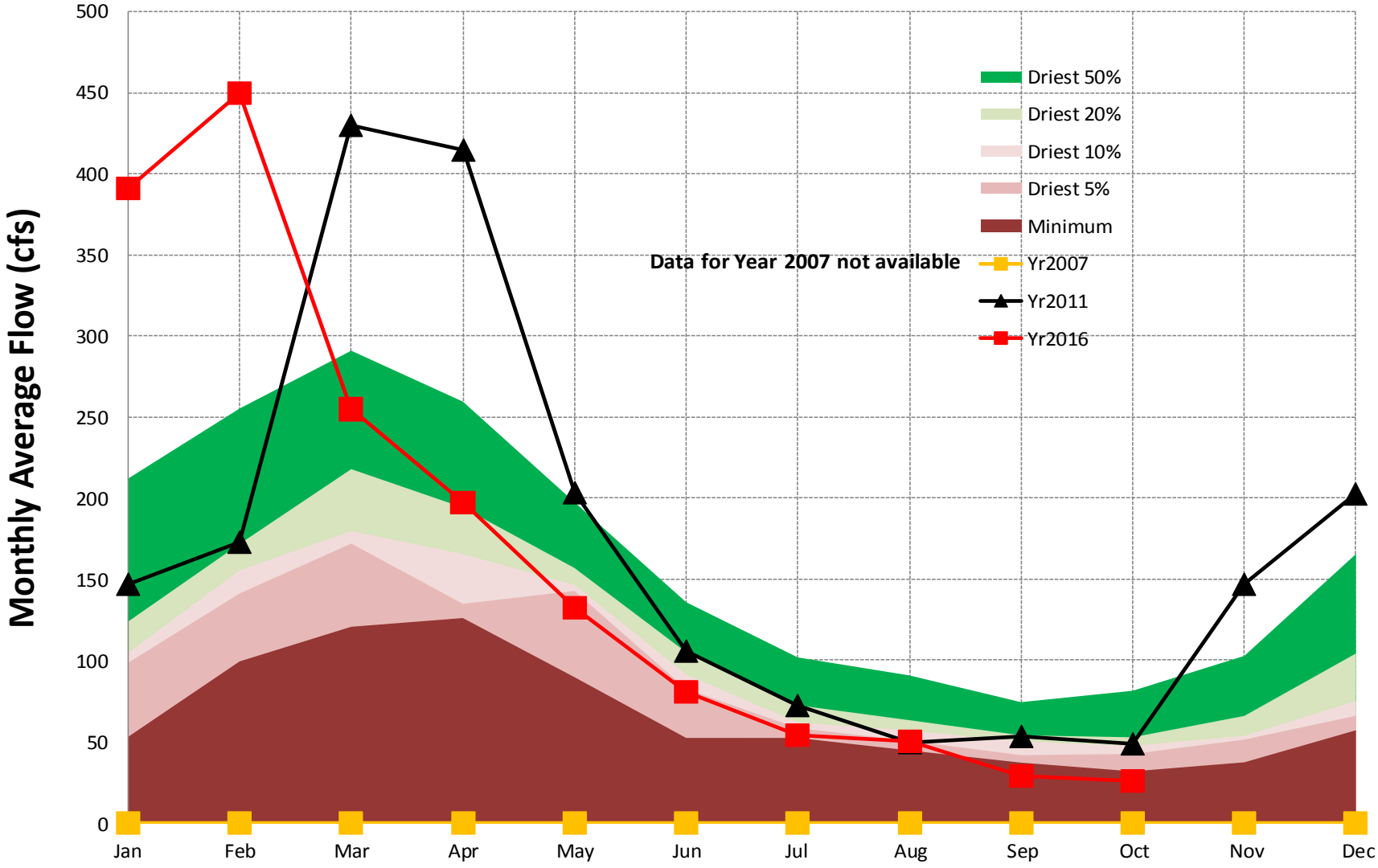
Gage #2, USGS #03550500, Tennessee Basin, NOTTELY RIVER NEAR BLAIRSVILLE, GA



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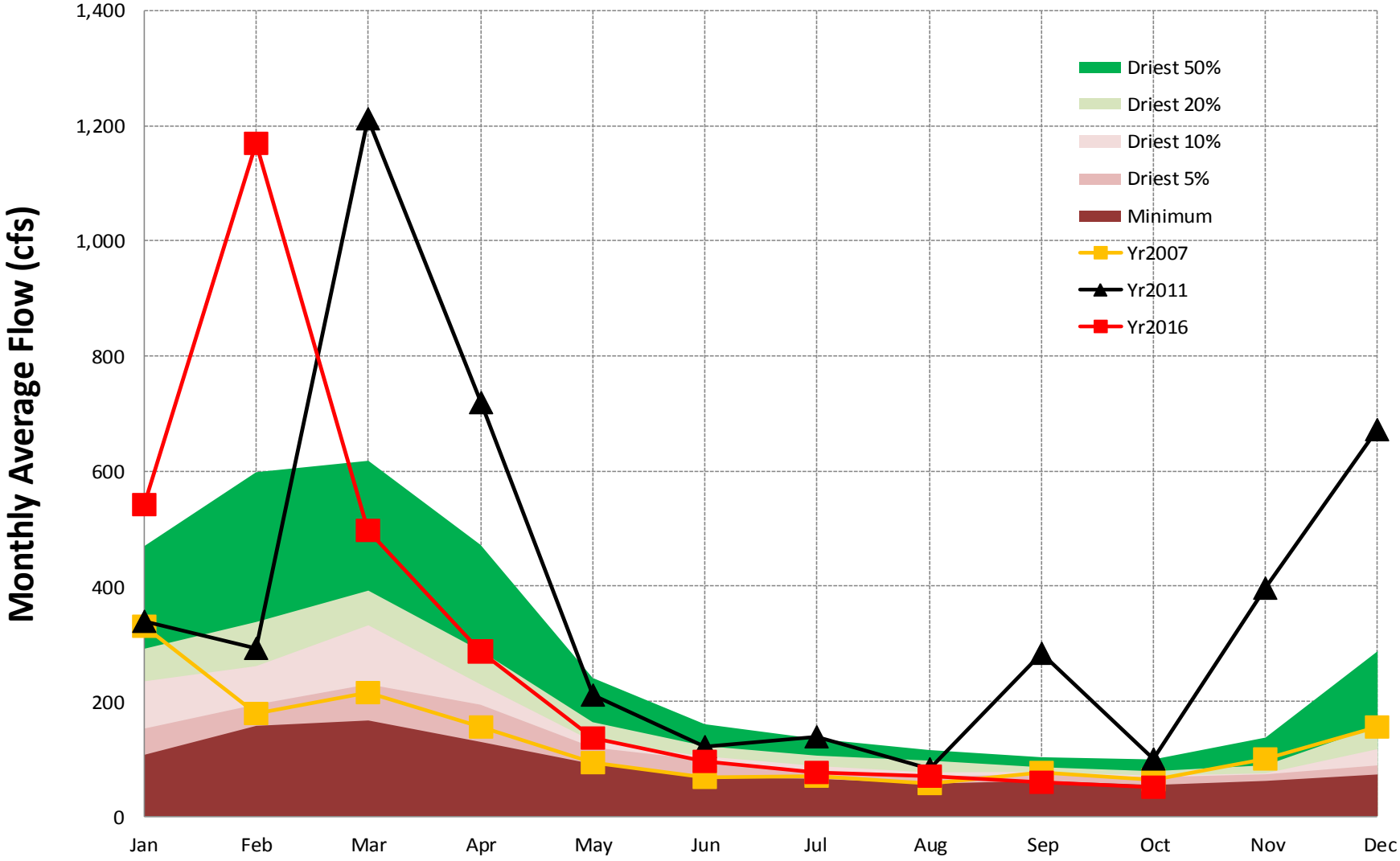
Gage #3. USGS #02398000, Coosa Basin, Chattooga River at Summerville, GA



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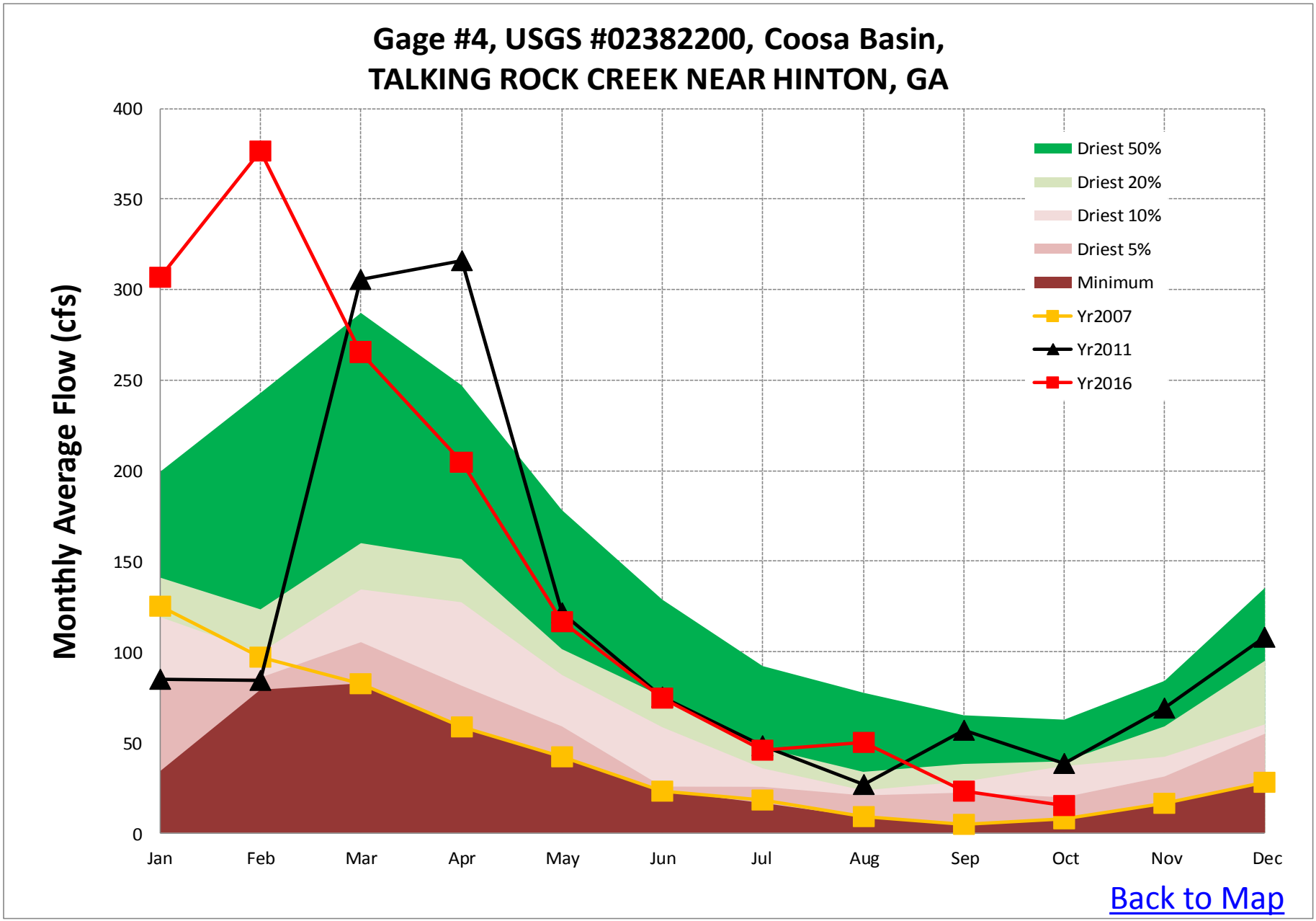
Gage #4, USGS #02382200, Coosa Basin,
TALKING ROCK CREEK NEAR HINTON, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Driest 50%
Driest 20%
Driest 10%
Driest 5%
Minimum
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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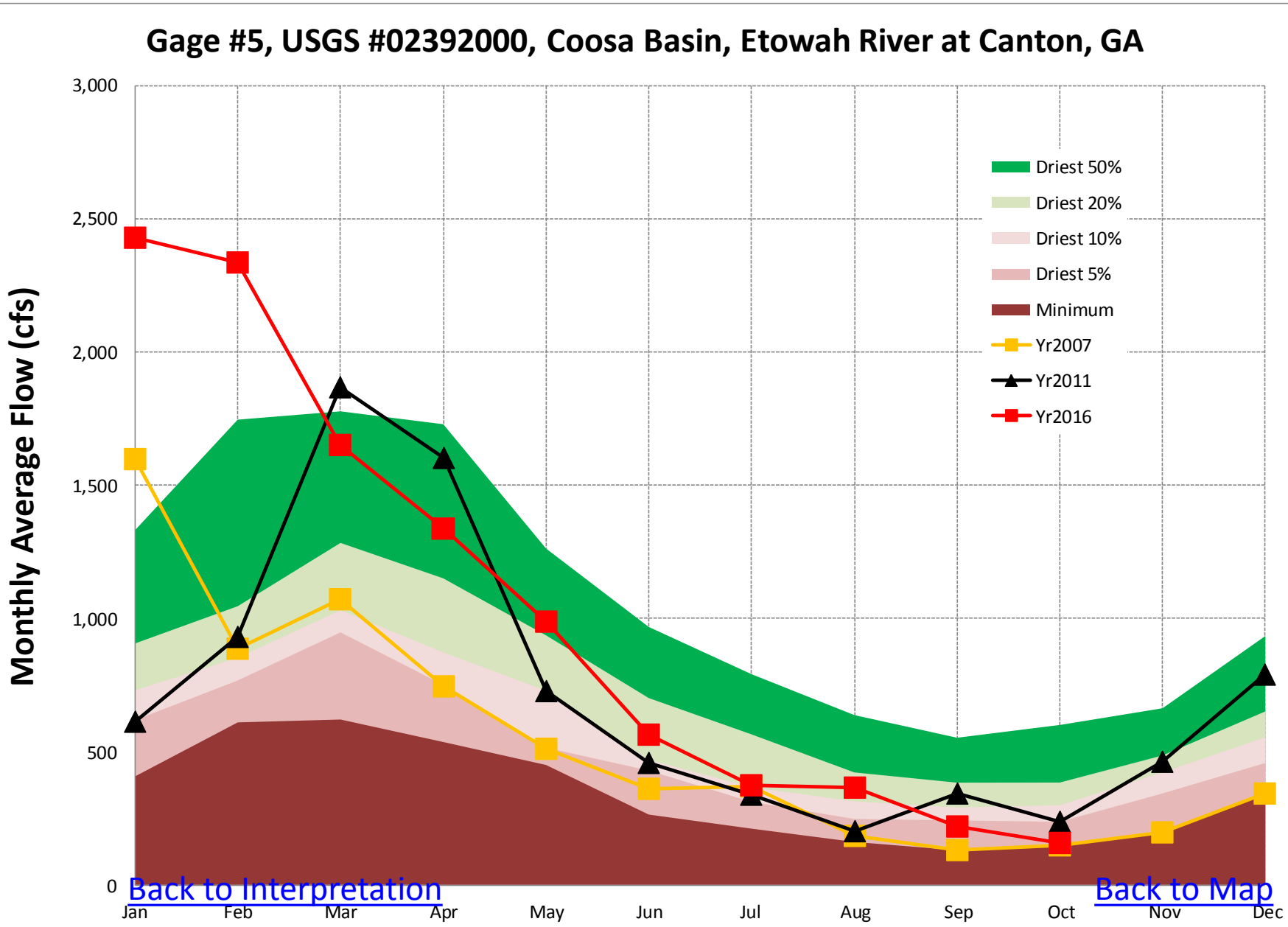
Gage #5, USGS #02392000, Coosa Basin, Etowah River at Canton, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
3,000
2,500
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Driest 50%
Driest 20%
Driest 10%
Driest 5%
Minimum
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016
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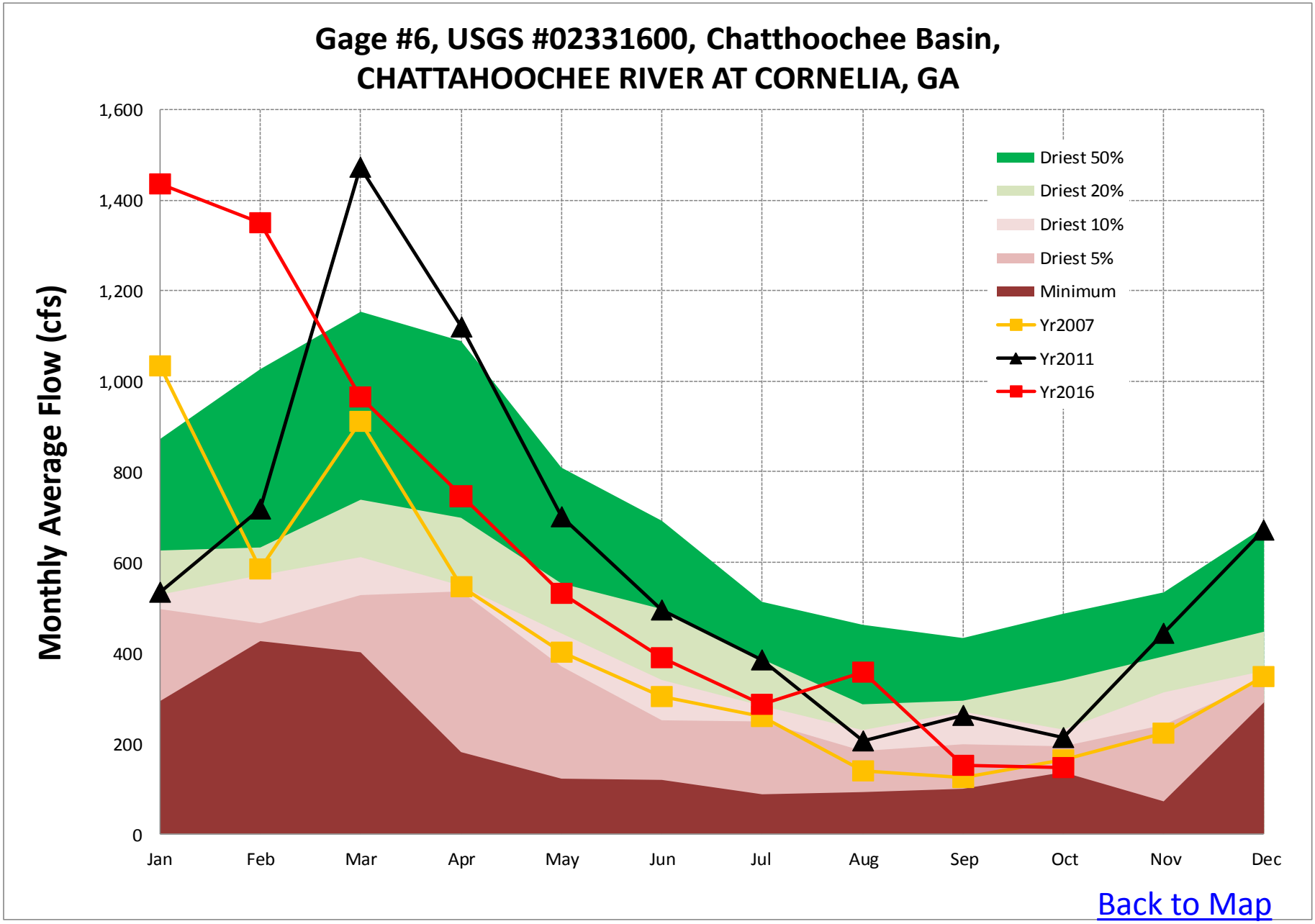
Gage #6, USGS #02331600, Chatthoochee Basin,
CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER AT CORNELIA, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
1,600
1,400
1,200
1,000
800
600
400
200
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Driest 50%
Driest 20%
Driest 10%
Driest 5%
Minimum
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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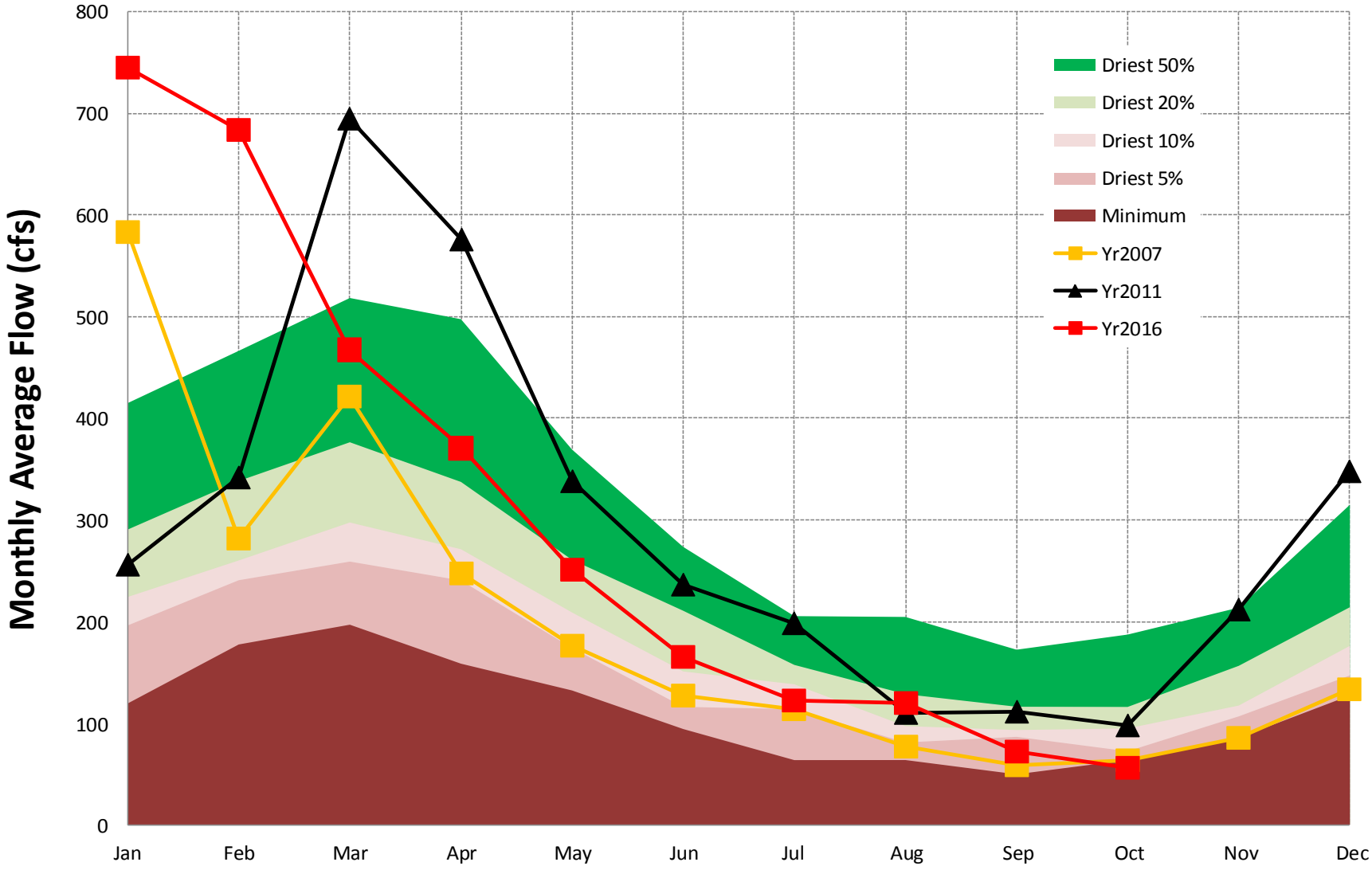
Gage #7, USGS #02333500, Chatahoochee Basin, CHESTATEE RIVER NEAR DAHLONEGA, GA



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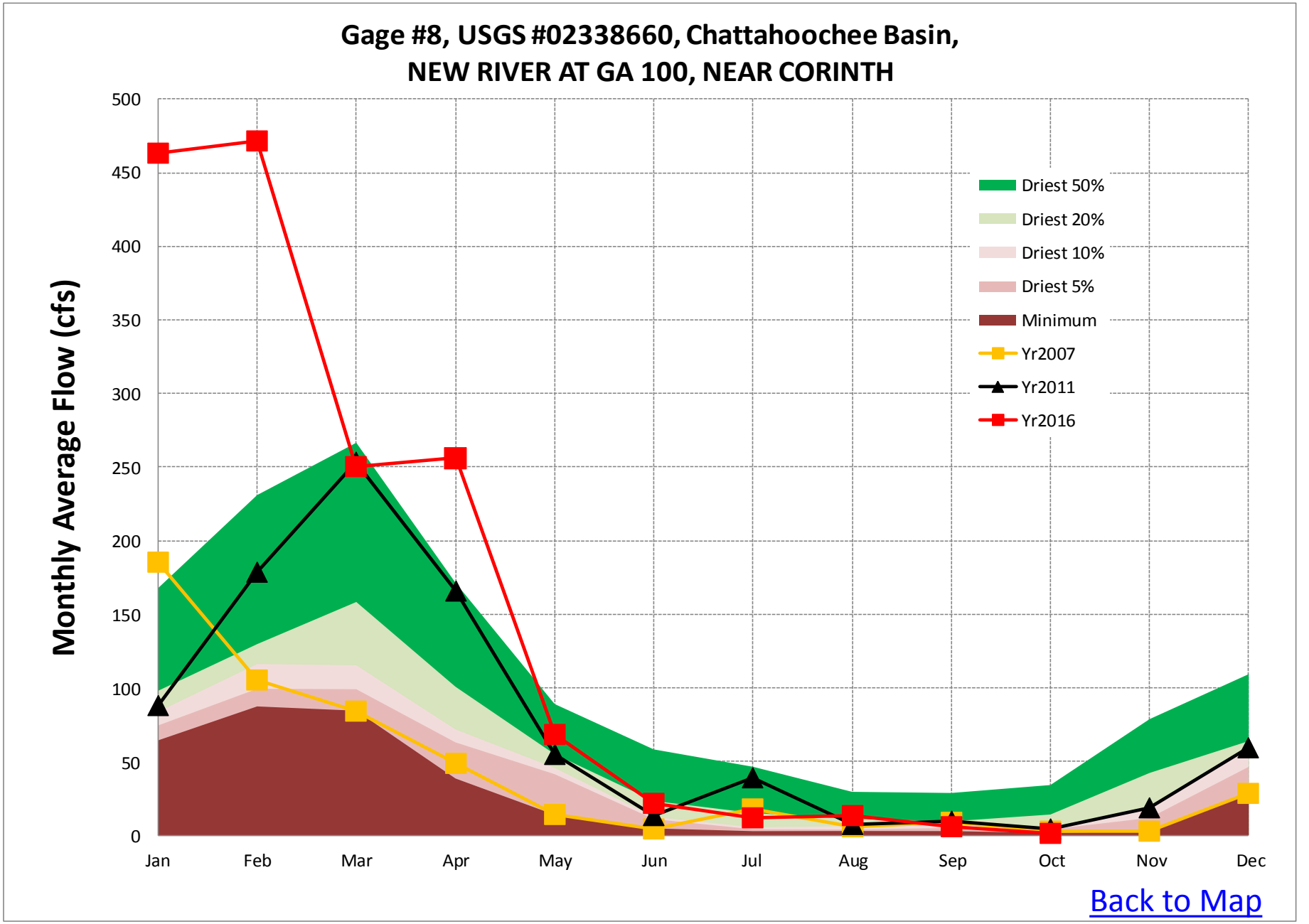
Gage #8, USGS #02338660, Chattahoochee Basin,
NEW RIVER AT GA 100, NEAR CORINTH
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
500
450
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Driest 50%
Driest 20%
Driest 10%
Driest 5%
Minimum
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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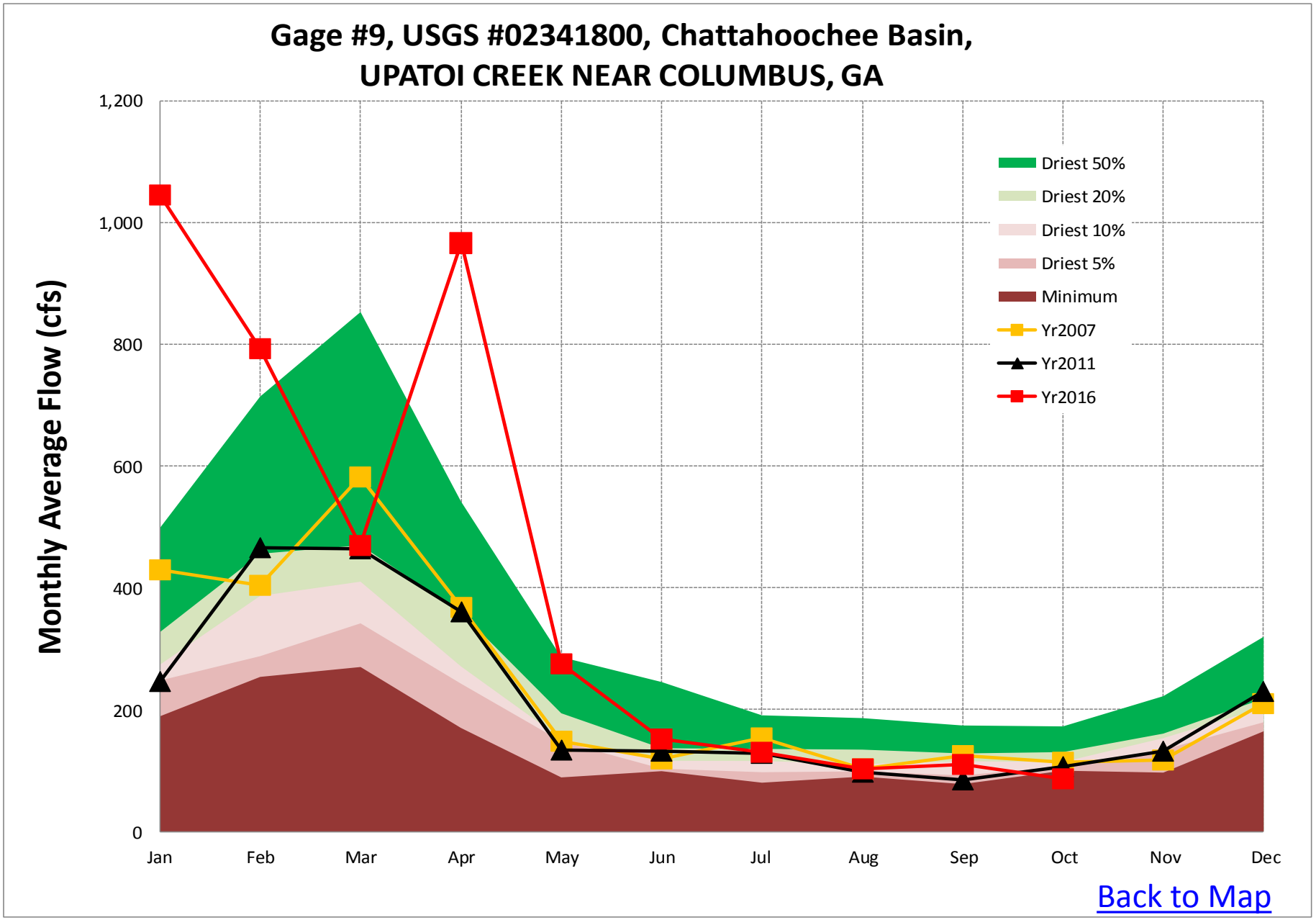
Gage #9, USGS #02341800, Chattahoochee Basin,
UPATOI CREEK NEAR COLUMBUS, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
1,200
1,000
800
600
400
200
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Driest 50%
Driest 20%
Driest 10%
Driest 5%
Minimum
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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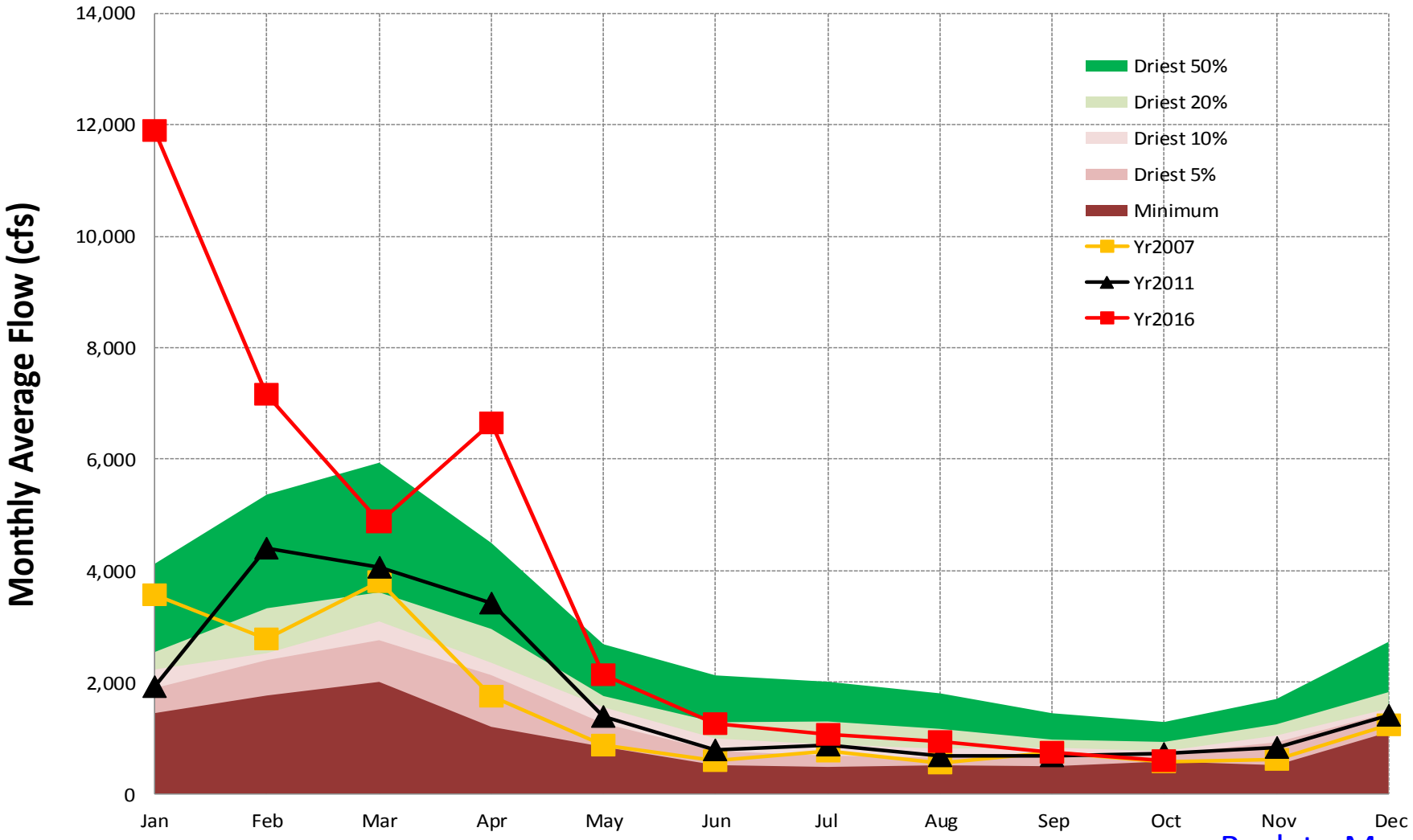
Gage #10. USGS #02349605, Flint Basin, FLINT RIVER AT GA26 NEAR MONTEZUMA, GA



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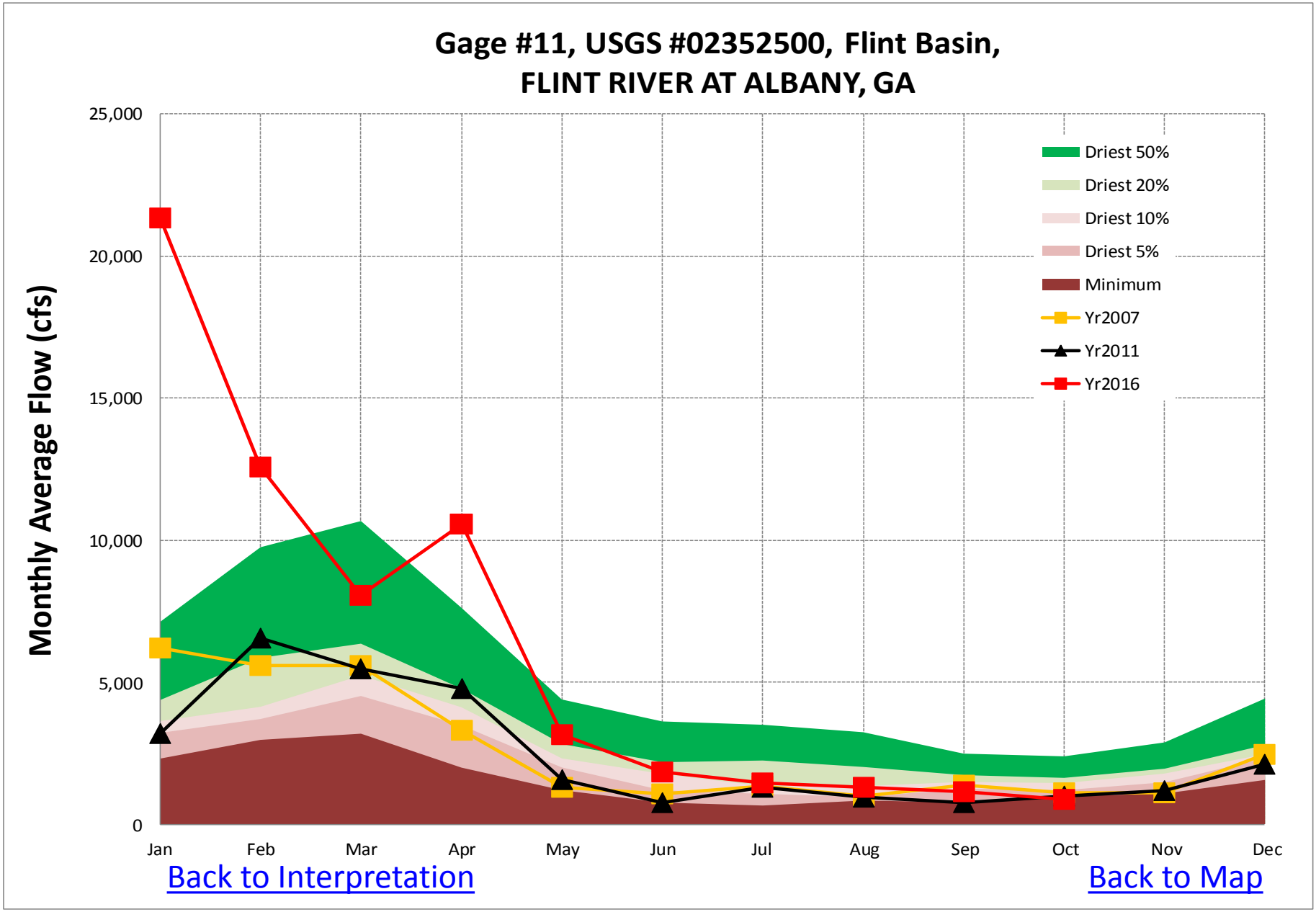

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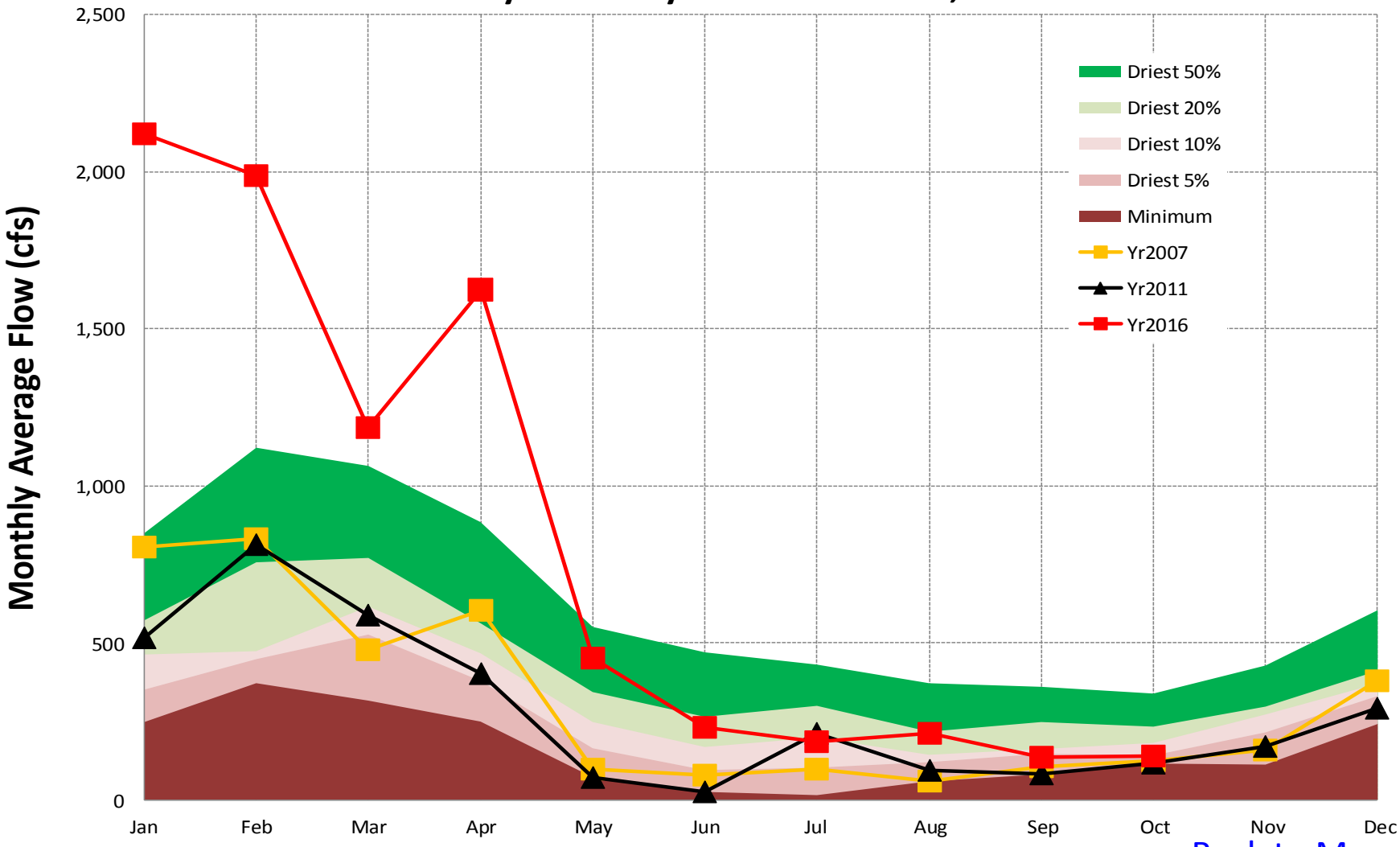
Gage #12. USGS #02353500, Flint Basin, Ichawaynochaway Creek at Milford, GA



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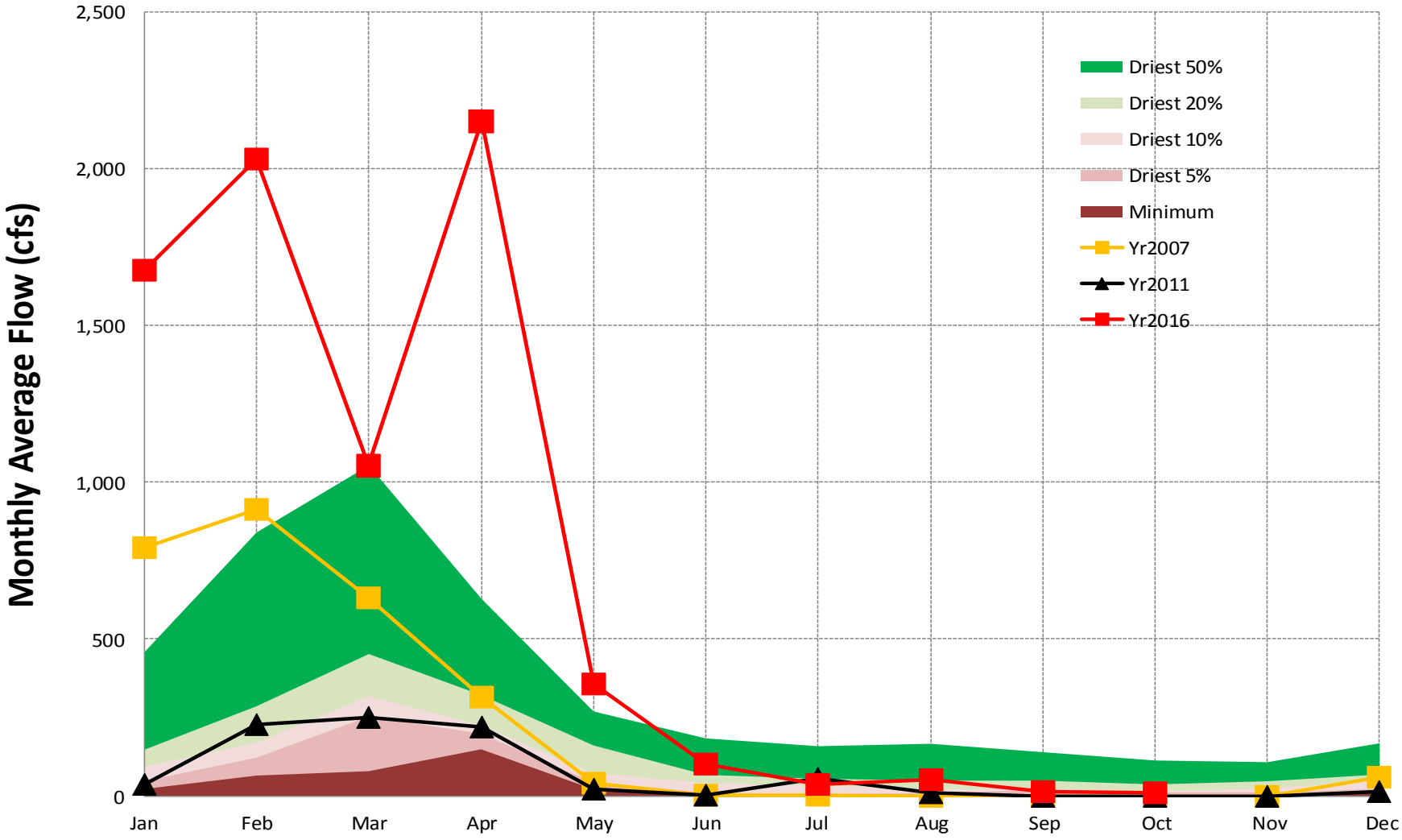
Gage #13. USGS #02357000, Flint River, Spring Creek near Iron City, GA



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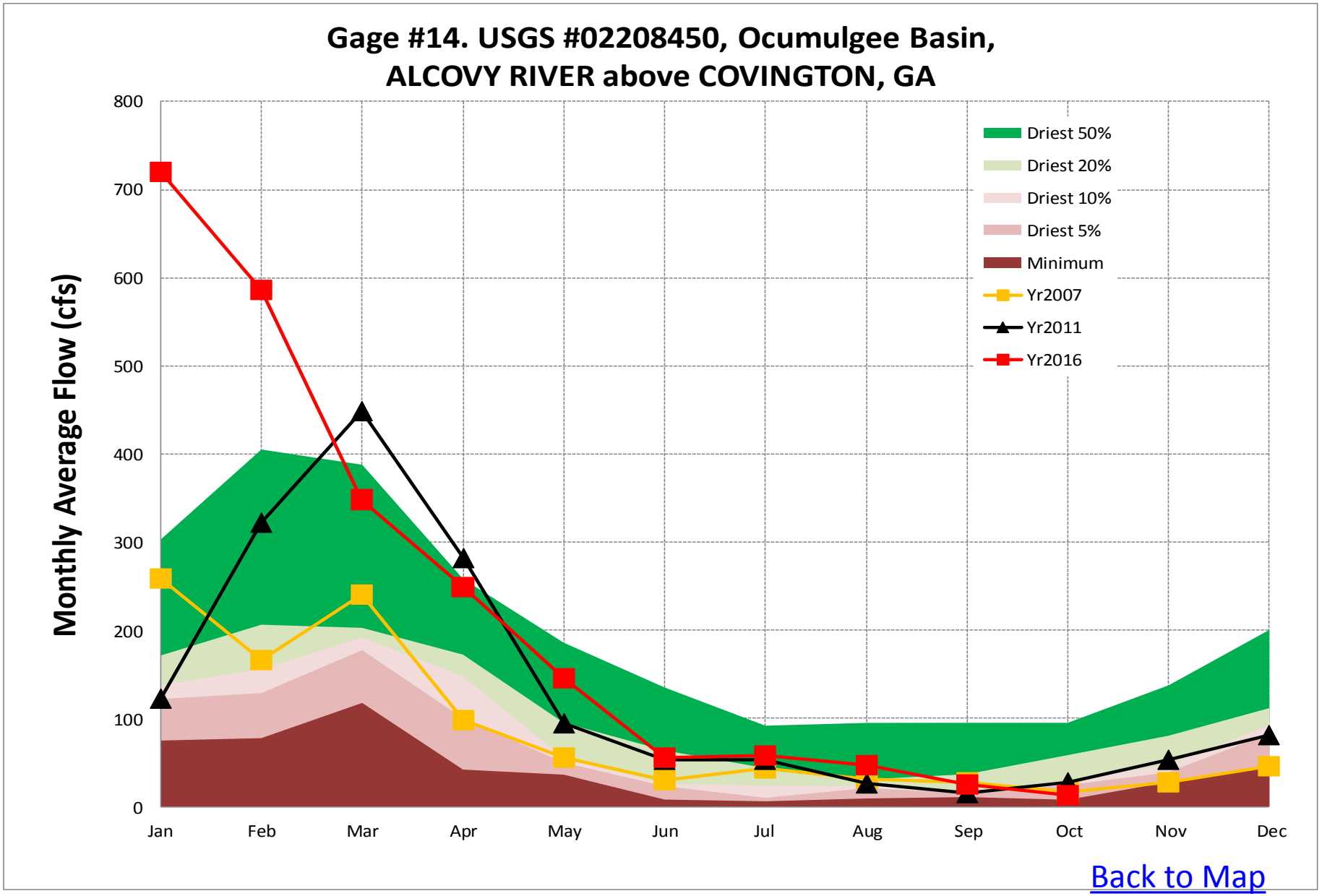
Gage #14. USGS #02208450, Ocumulgee Basin,
ALCOVY RIVER above COVINGTON, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
800
700
600
500
400
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Driest 50%
Driest 20%
Driest 10%
Driest 5%
Minimum
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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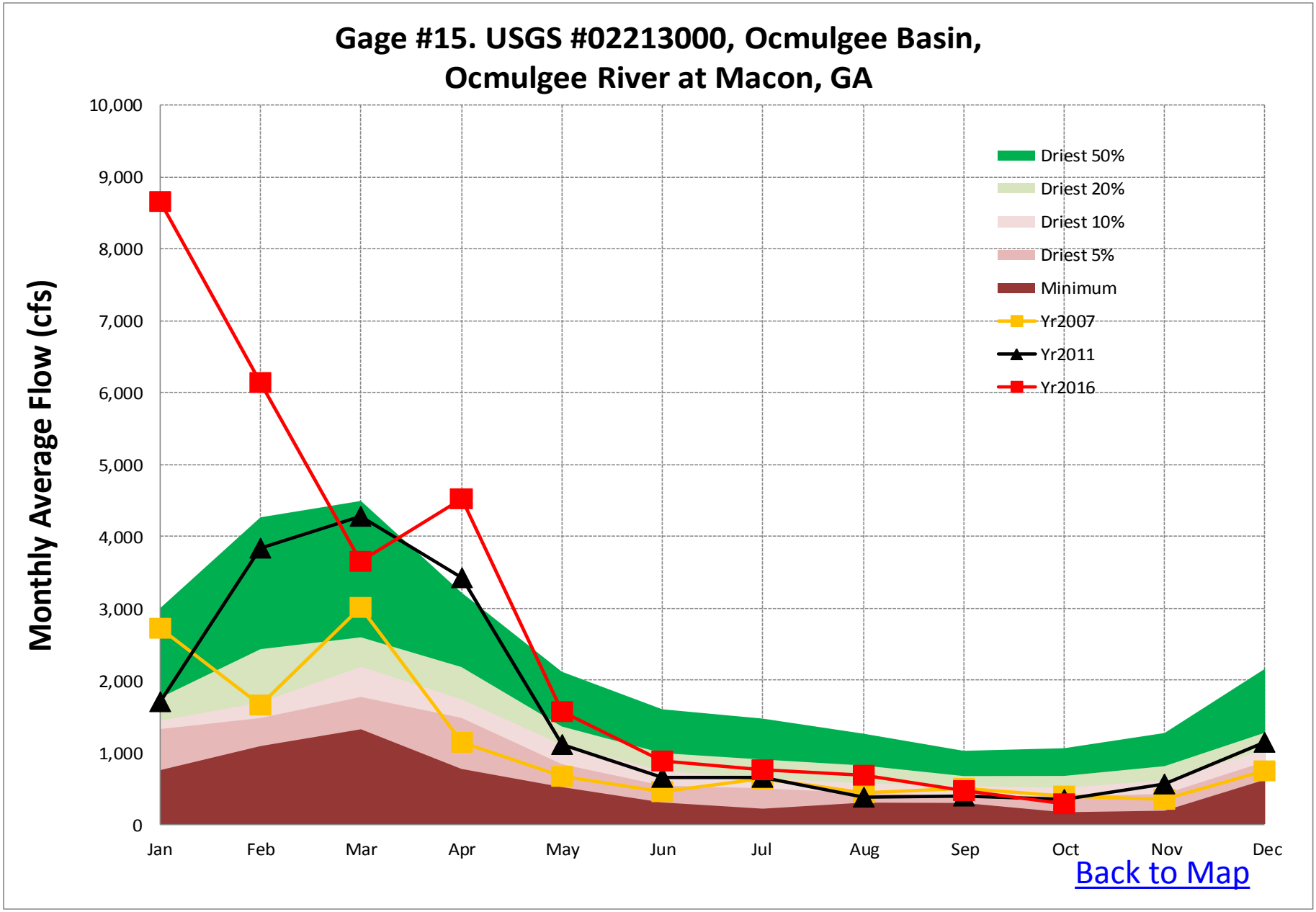
Gage #15. USGS #02213000, Ocmulgee Basin,
Ocmulgee River at Macon, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
10,000
9,000
8,000
7,000
6,000
5,000
4,000
3,000
2,000
1,000
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Driest 50%
Driest 20%
Driest 10%
Driest 5%
Minimum
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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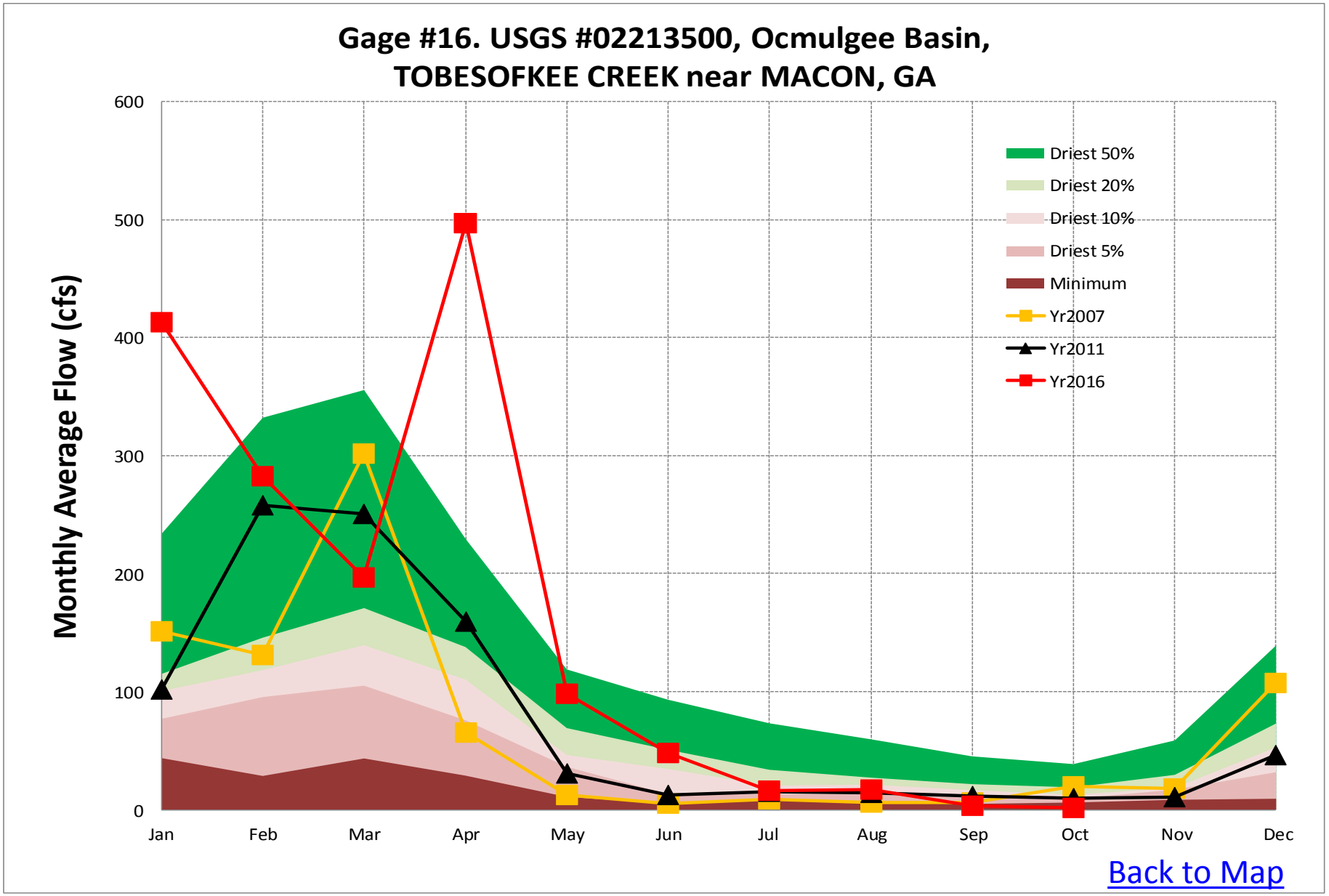
Gage #16. USGS #02213500, Ocmulgee Basin,
TOBESOFKEE CREEK near MACON, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
600
500
400
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Driest 50%
Driest 20%
Driest 10%
Driest 5%
Minimum
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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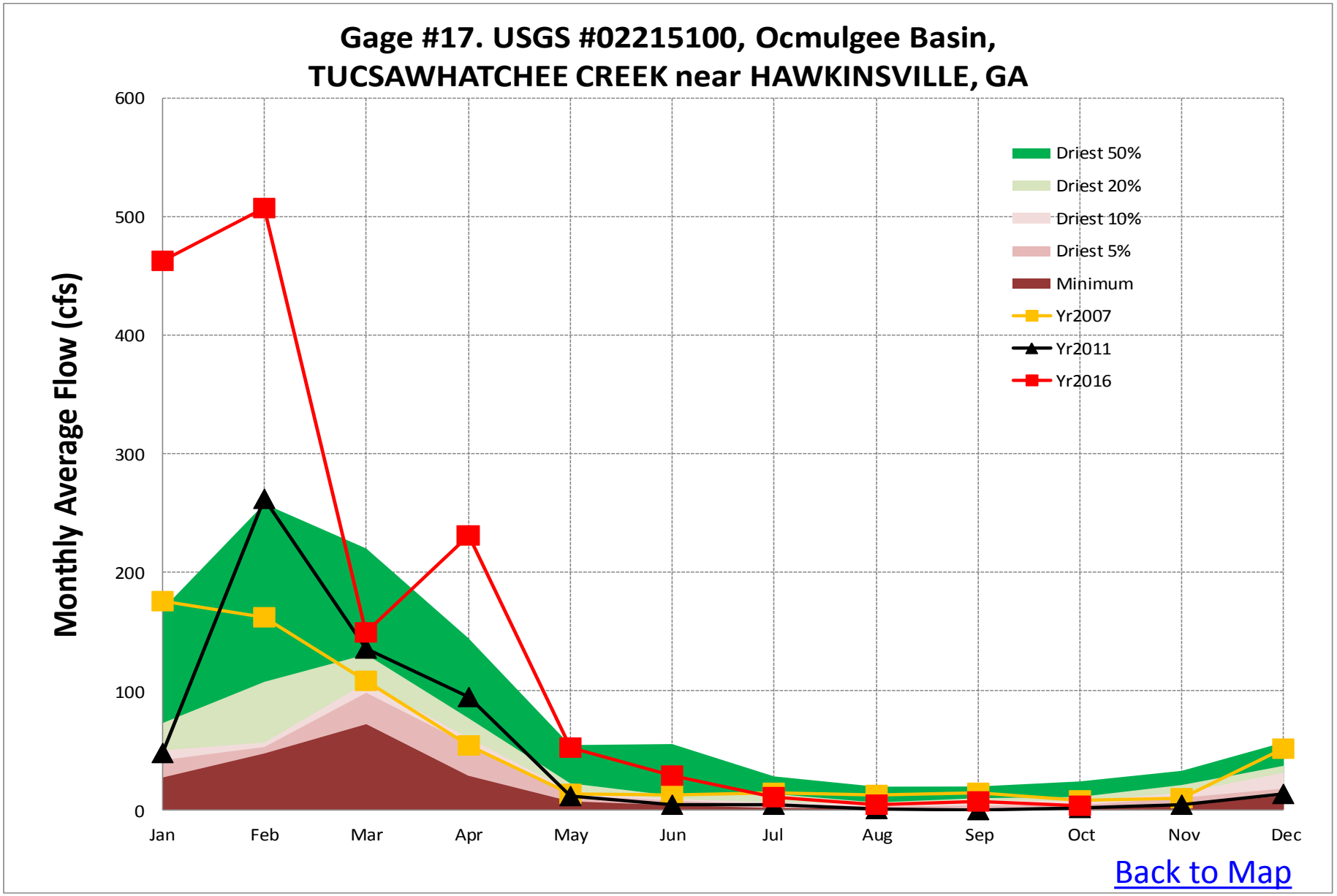
Gage #17. USGS #02215100, Ocmulgee Basin,
TUCSAWHATCHEE CREEK near HAWKINSVILLE, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
600
500
400
300
200
100
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Driest 50%
Driest 20%
Driest 10%
Driest 5%
Minimum
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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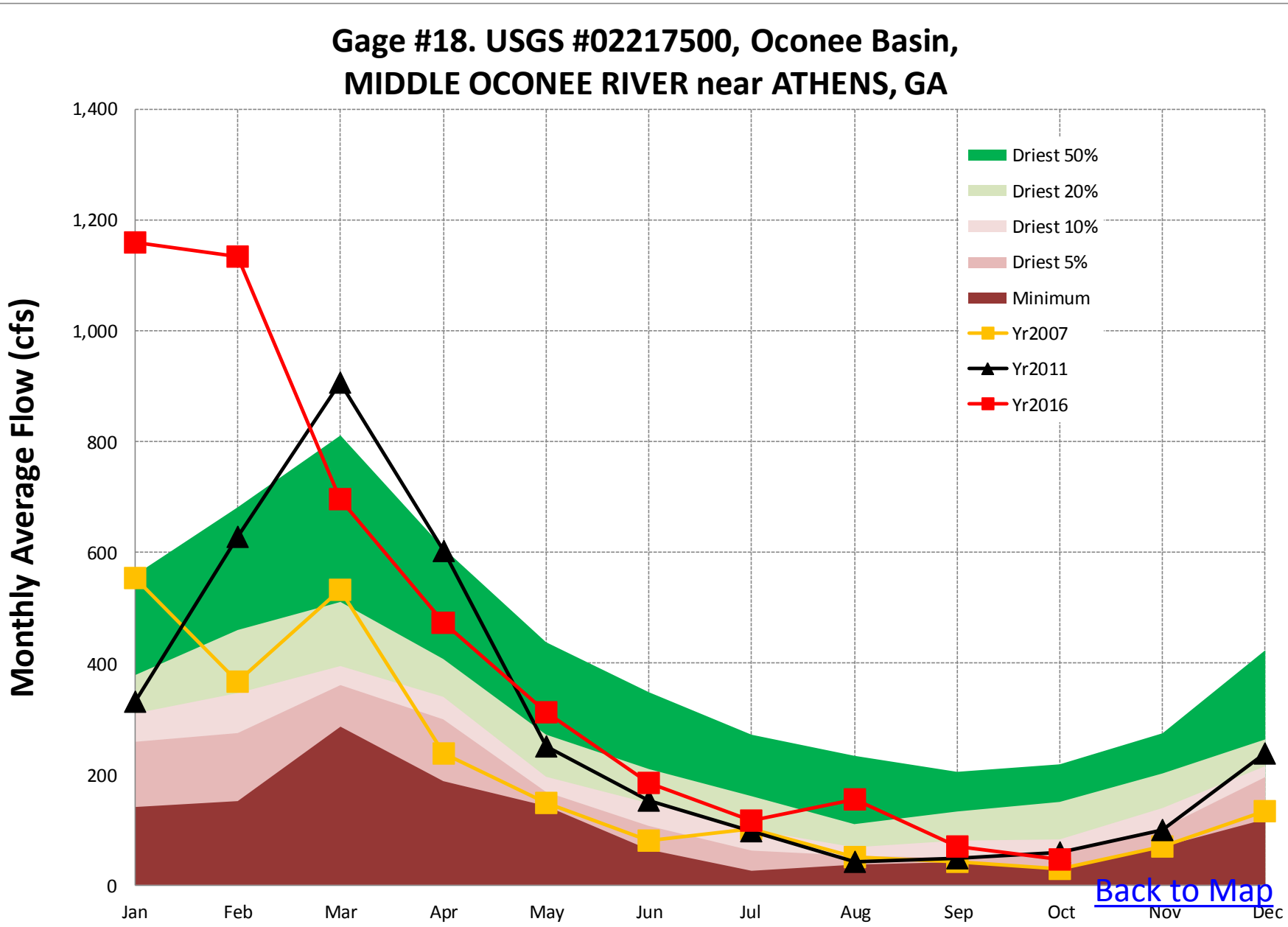
Gage #18. USGS #02217500, Oconee Basin,
MIDDLE OCONEE RIVER near ATHENS, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
1,400
1,200
1,000
800
600
400
200
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Driest 50%
Driest 20%
Driest 10%
Driest 5%
Minimum
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016
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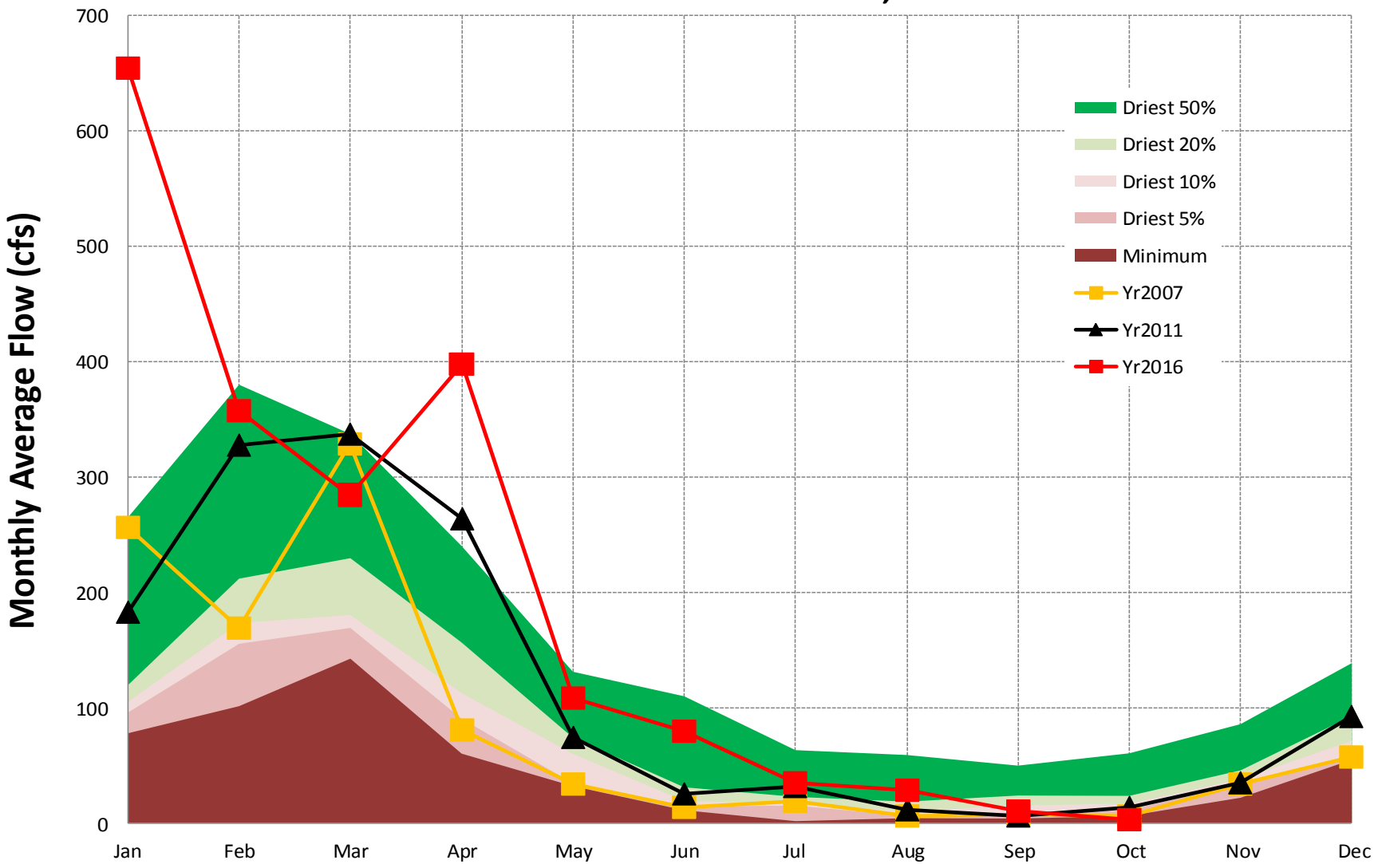
Gage #19. USGS #02220900, Oconee Basin, LITTLE RIVER near EATONTON, GA



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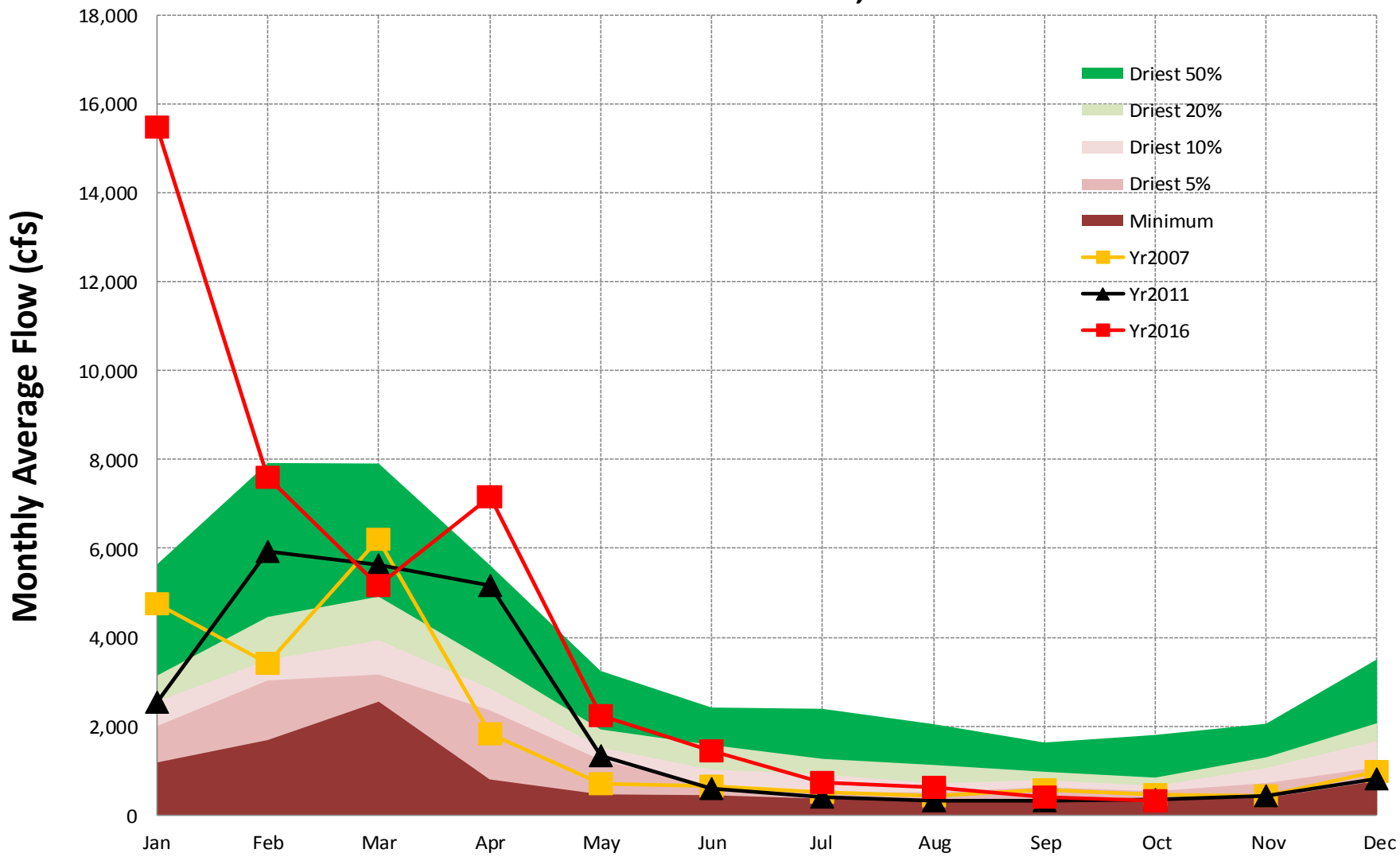
Gage #20. USGS #02223500, Oconee Basin, Oconee River at Dublin, GA



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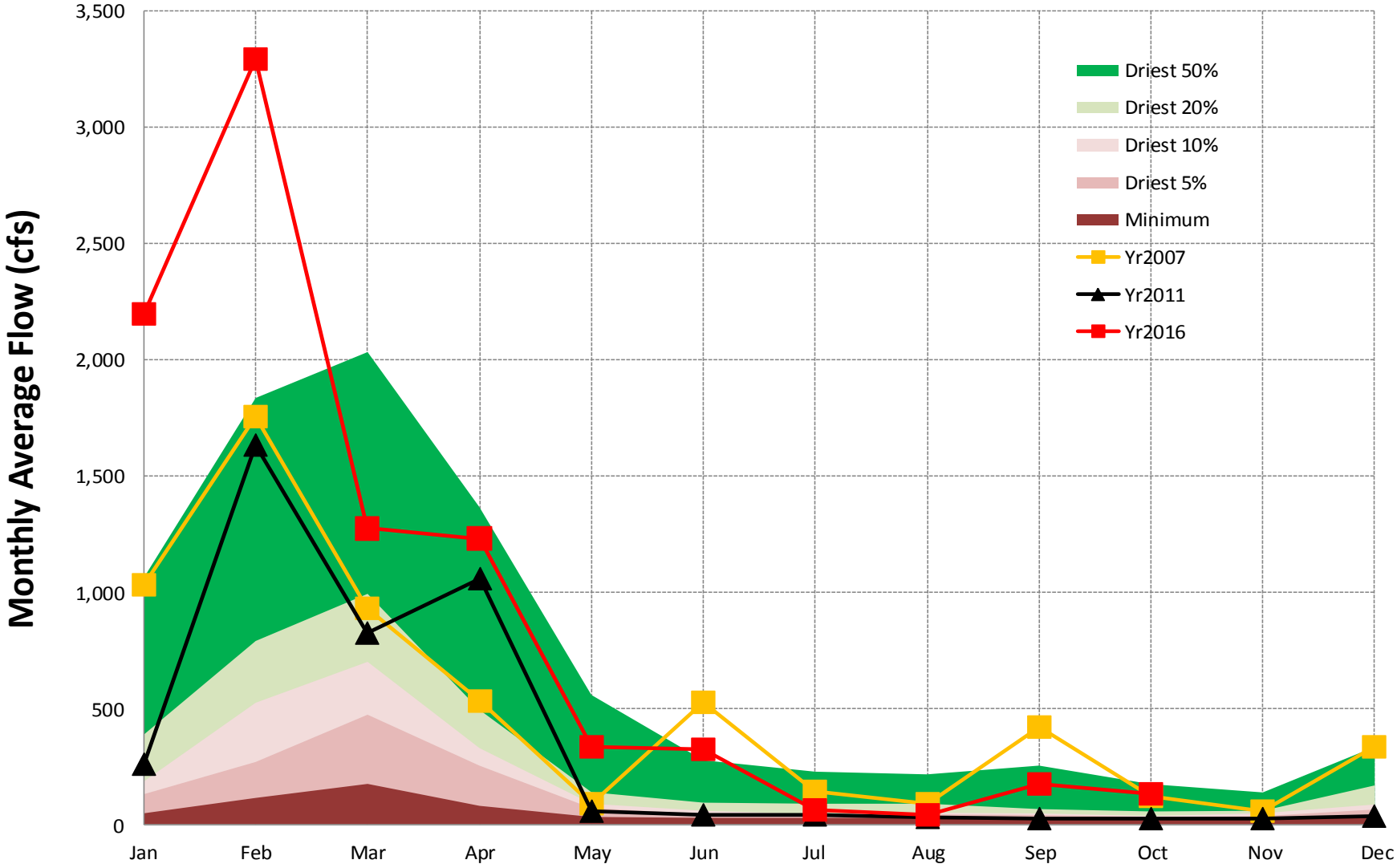
Gage #21. USGS #02225500, Altamaha Basin, OHOOPEE RIVER near REIDSVILLE, GA



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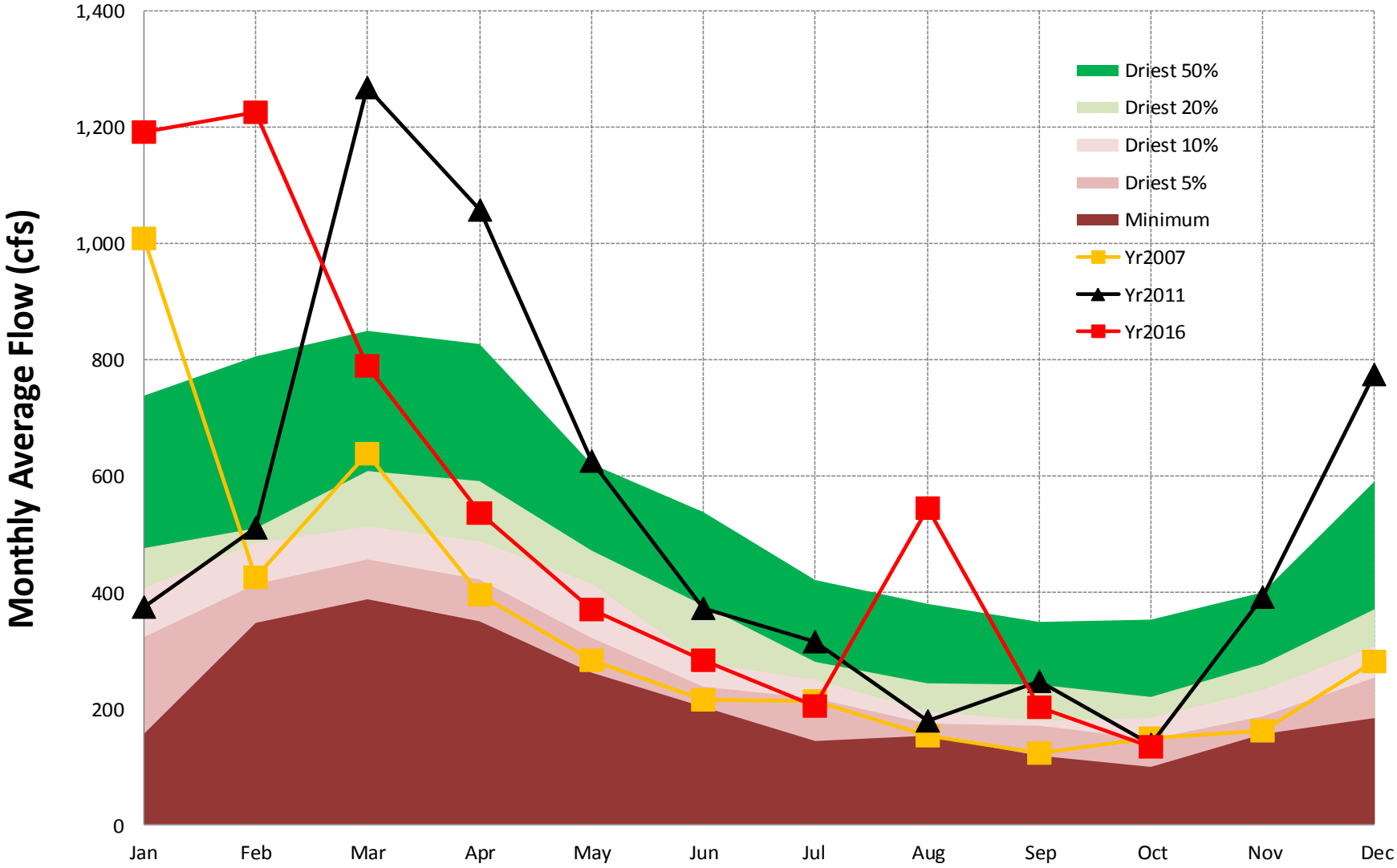
Gage #22. USGS #02177000, Savannah Basin, CHATTOOGA RIVER near CLAYTON, GA



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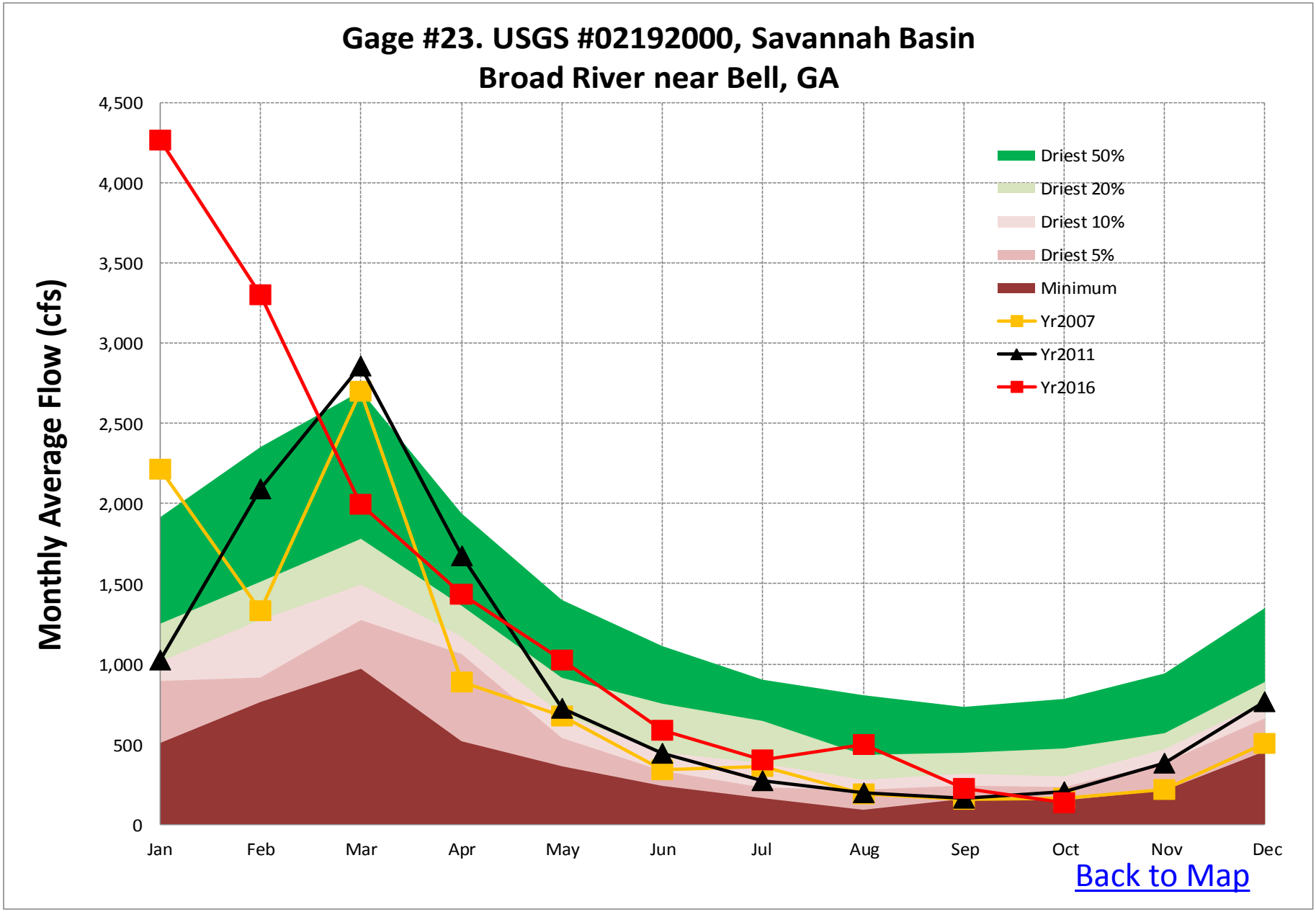
Gage #23. USGS #02192000, Savannah Basin
Broad River near Bell, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
4,500
4,000
3,500
3,000
2,500
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Driest 50%
Driest 20%
Driest 10%
Driest 5%
Minimum
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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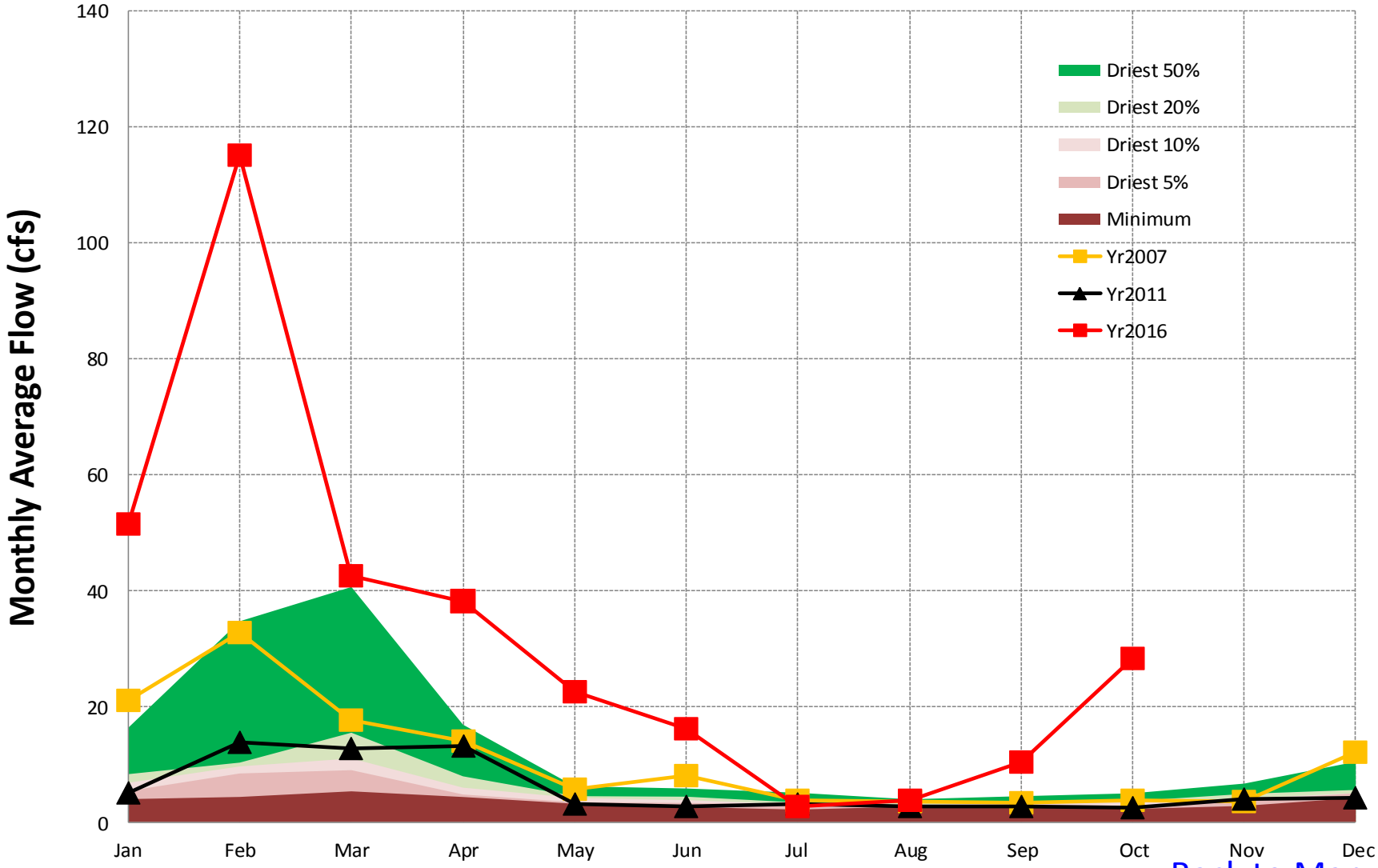
Gage #24. USGS #02198100, Savannah Basin, BEAVERDAM CREEK near SARDIS, GA



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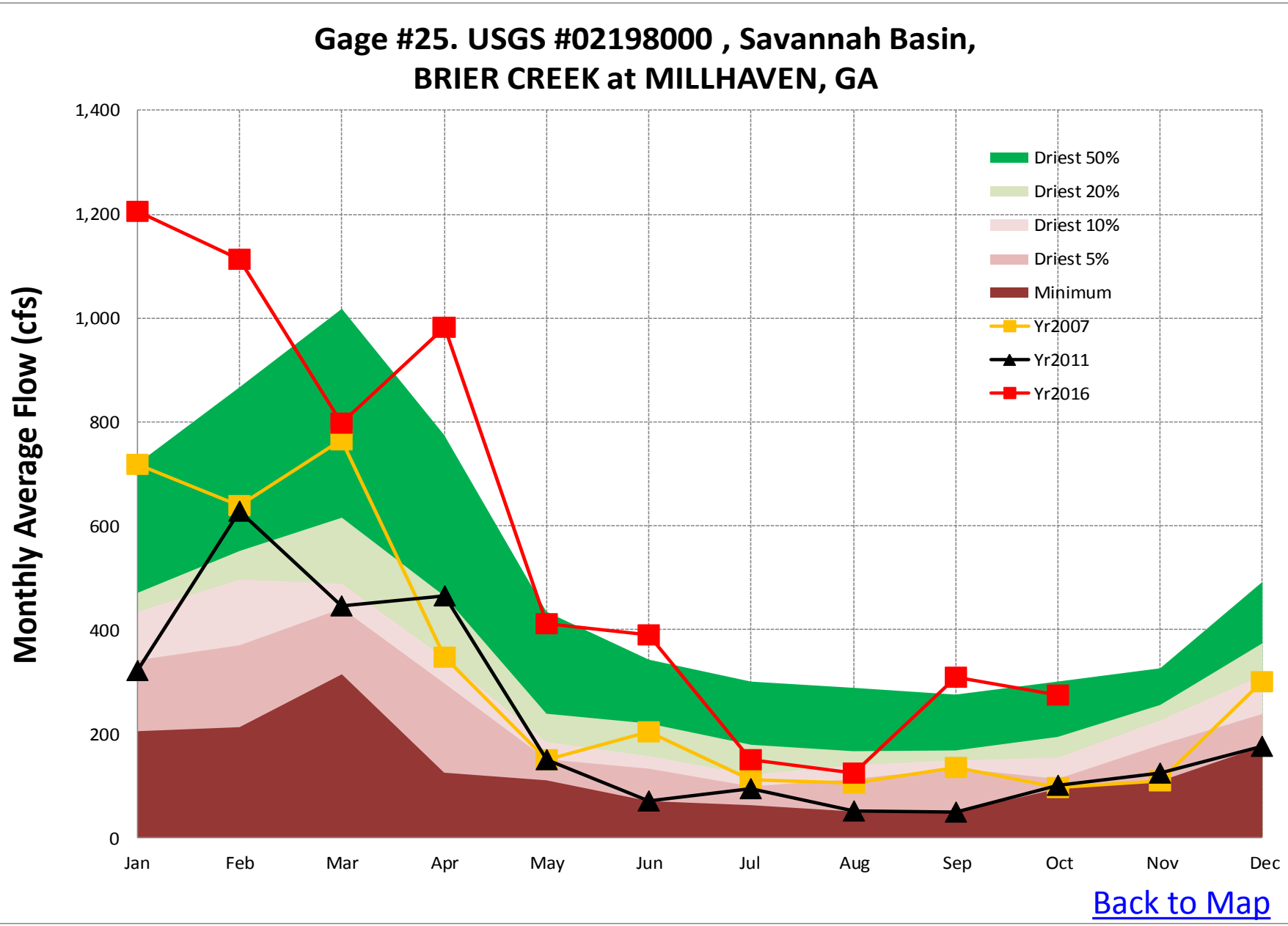
Gage #25. USGS #02198000 , Savannah Basin,
BRIER CREEK at MILLHAVEN, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
1,400
1,200
1,000
800
600
400
200
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Driest 50%
Driest 20%
Driest 10%
Driest 5%
Minimum
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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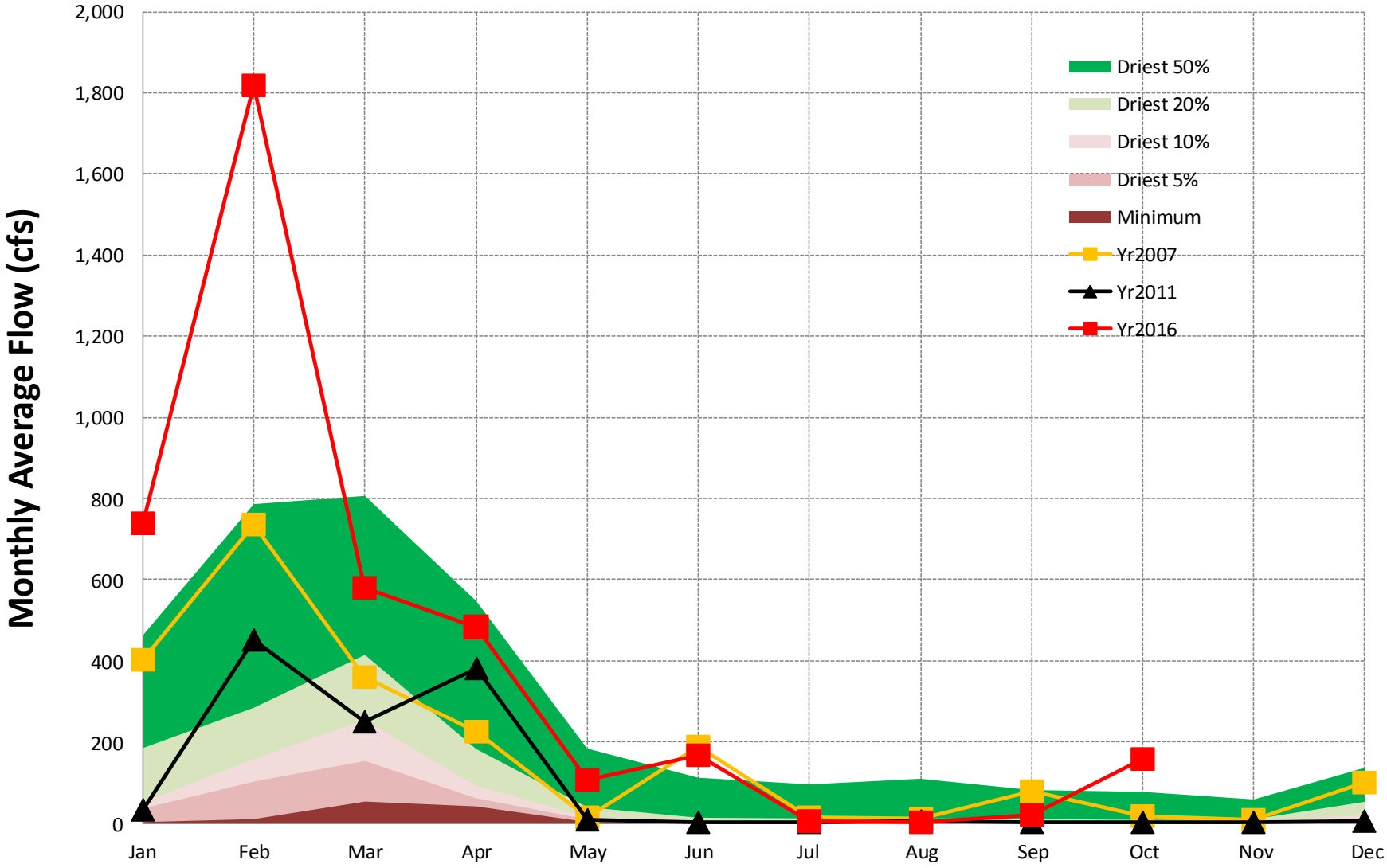
Gage #26. USGS #02203000, Ogeechee Basin, CANOOCHEE RIVER near CLAXTON, GA



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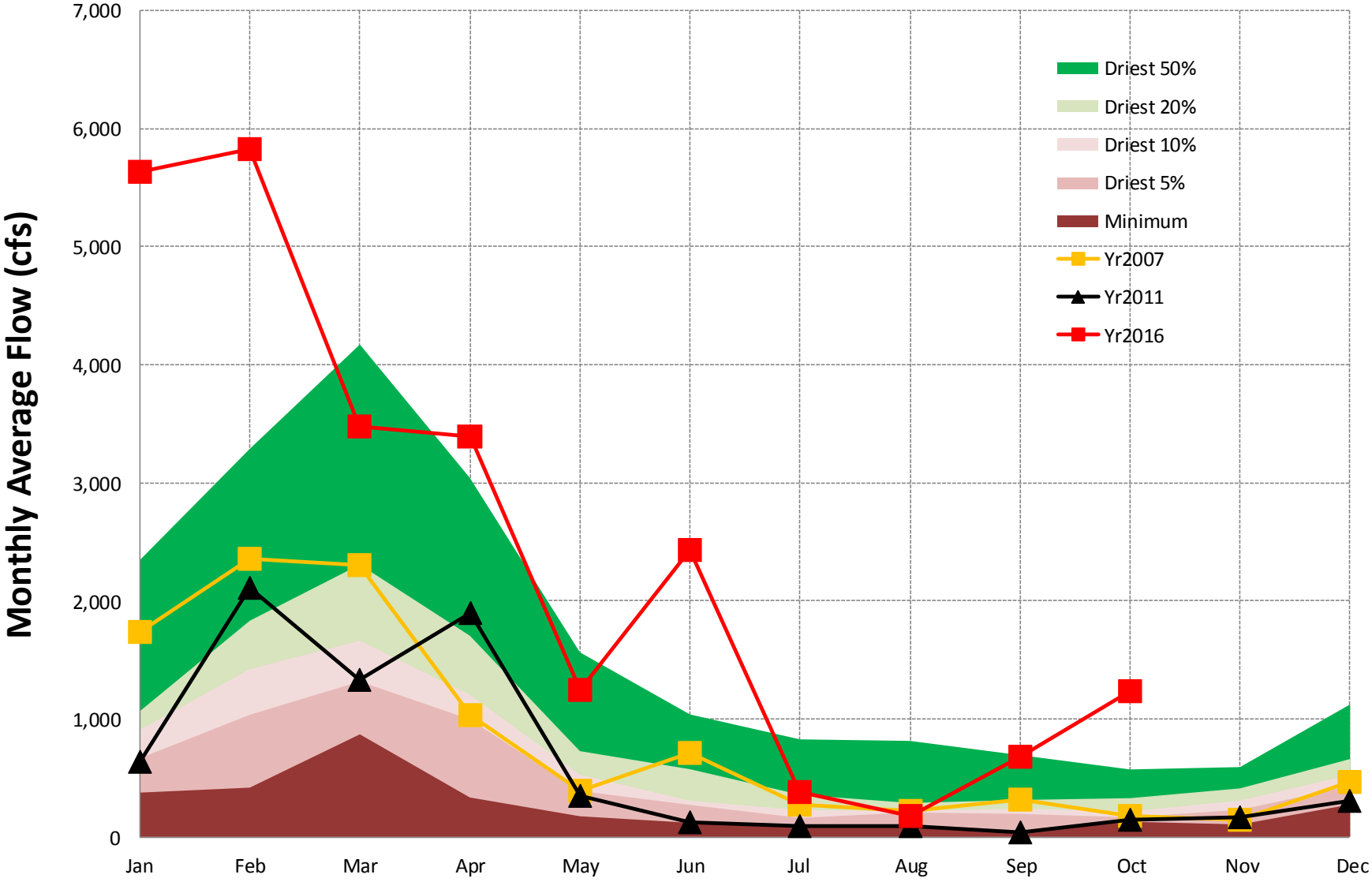
Gage #27. USGS #02202500, Ogeechee Basin, Ogeechee River near Eden, GA



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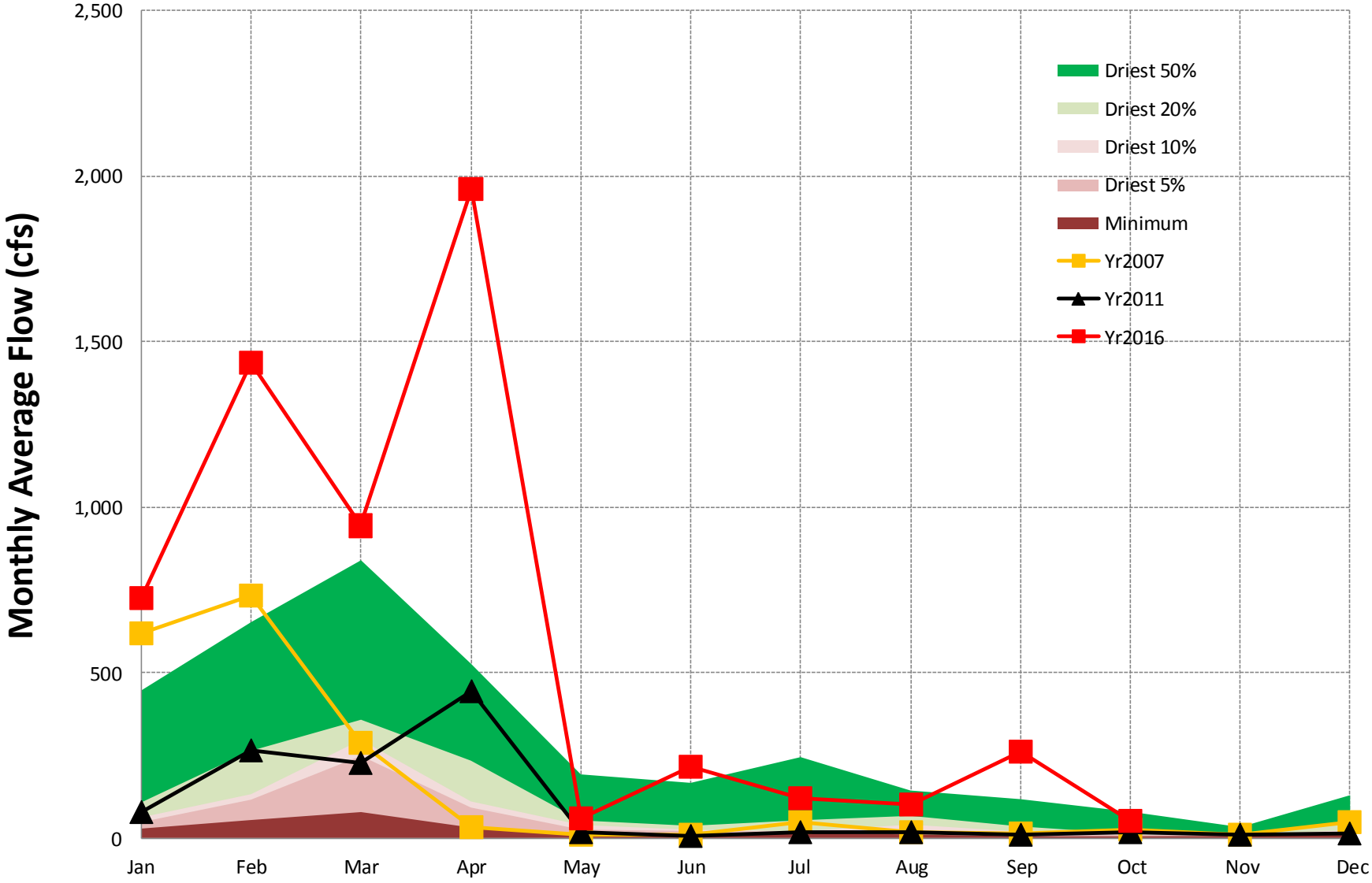
Gage #28. USGS #02327500, Ochlockonee Basin, OCHLOCKONEE RIVER near THOMASVILLE, GA



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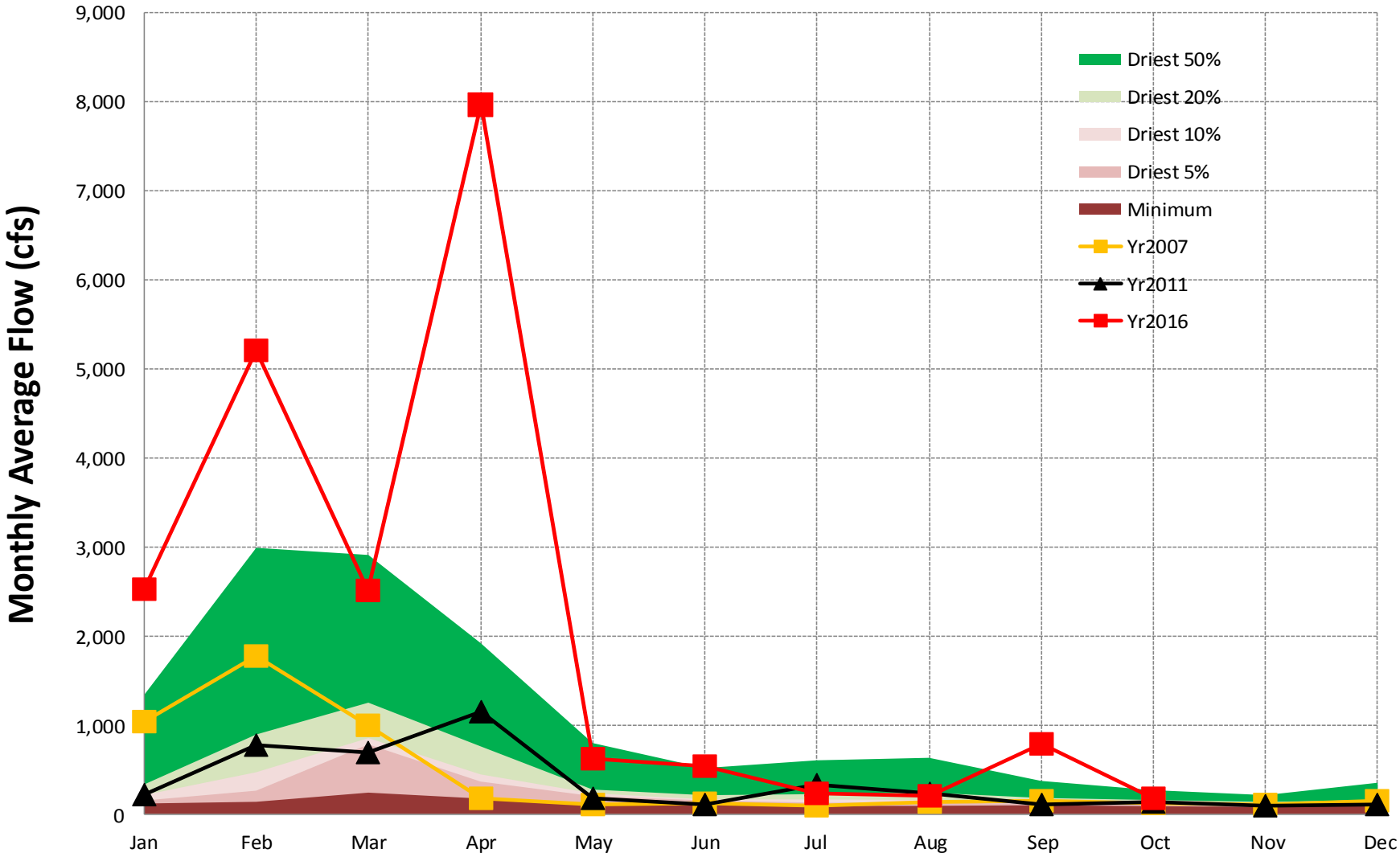
Gage #29. USGS #02319000, Suwanee Basin, WITHLACOOCHEE RIVER near PINETTA, FL



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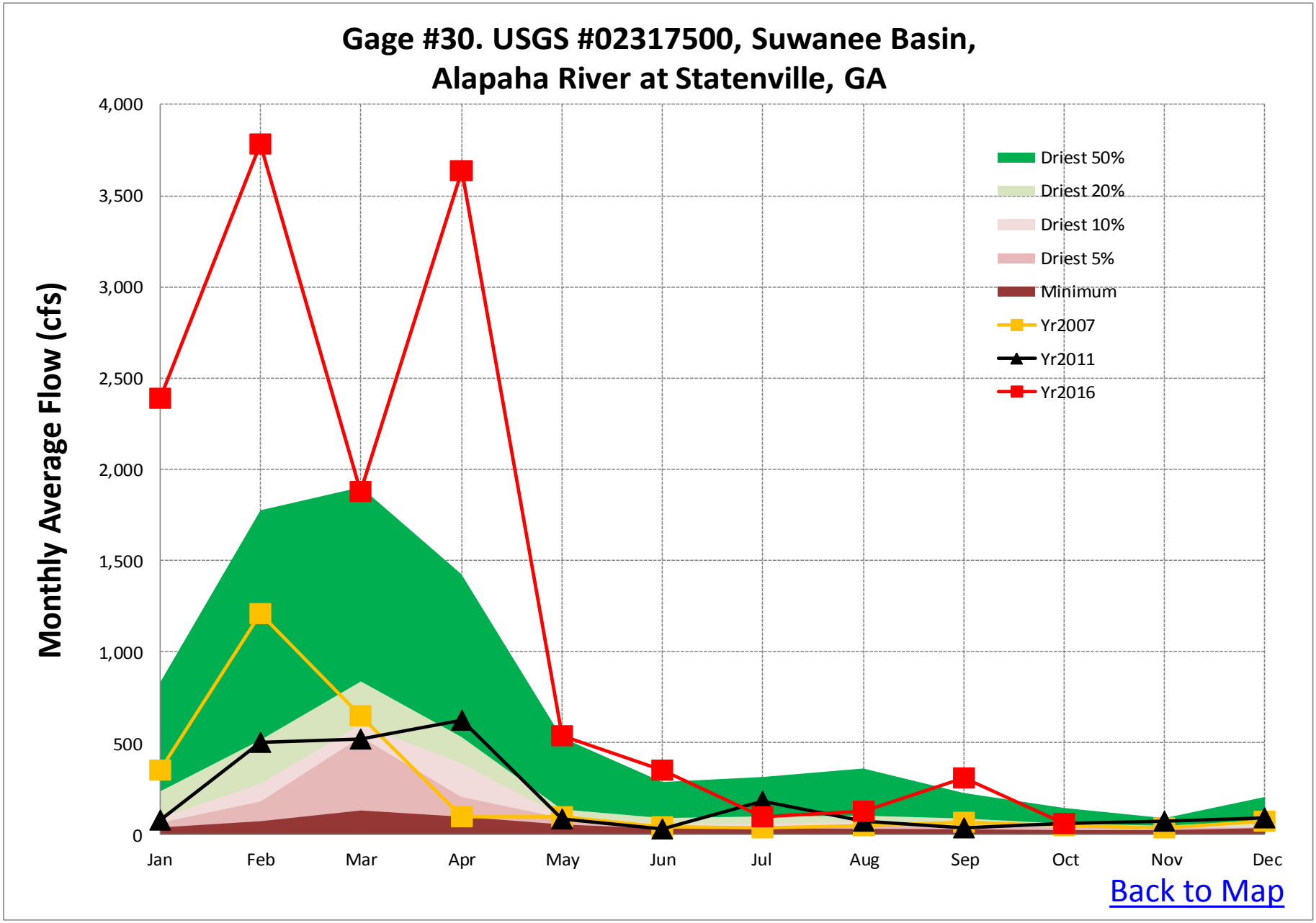
Gage #30. USGS #02317500, Suwanee Basin,
Alapaha River at Statenville, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
4,000
3,500
3,000
2,500
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Driest 50%
Driest 20%
Driest 10%
Driest 5%
Minimum
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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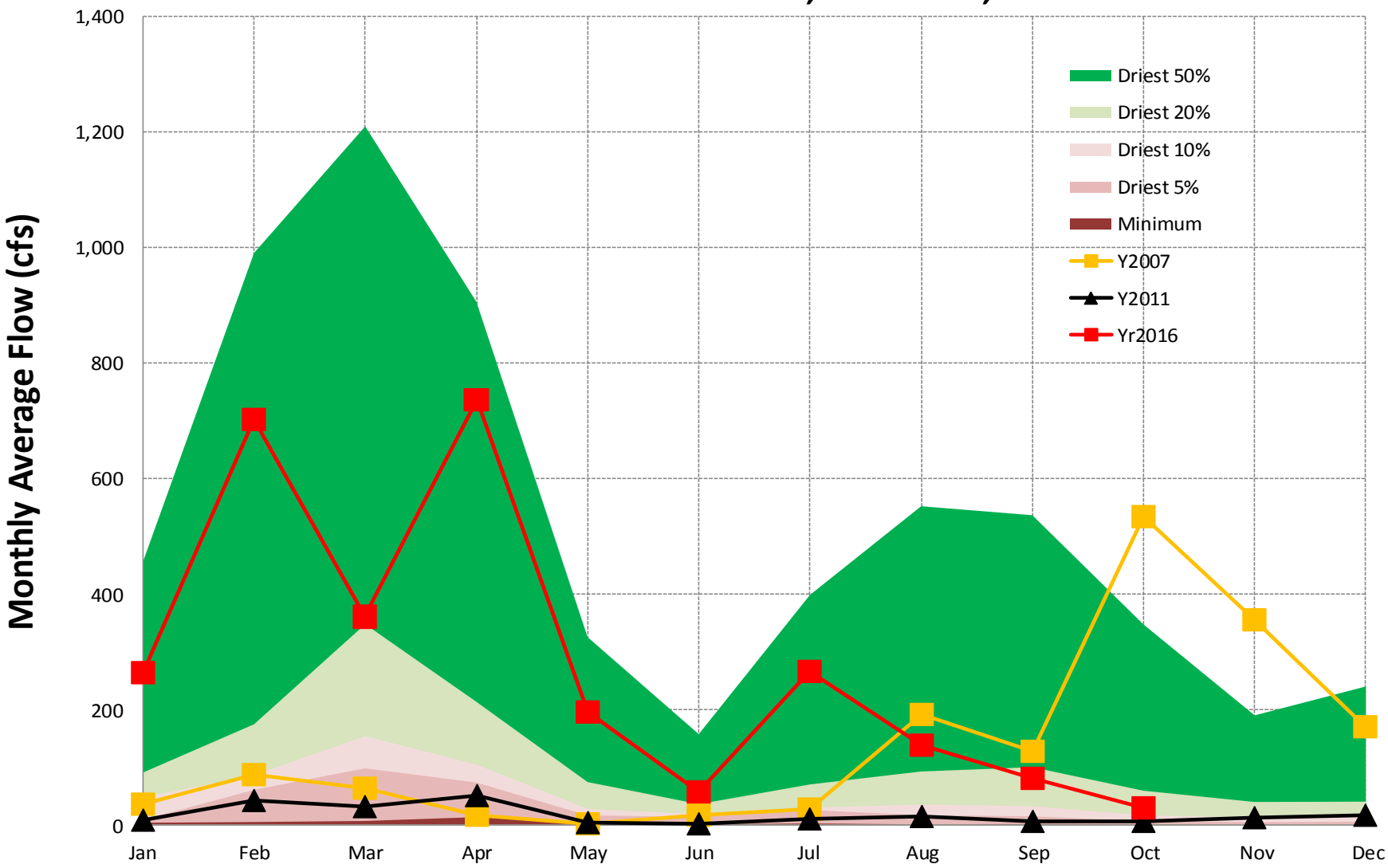
Gage #31. USGS #02314500, Suwanee Basin, SUWANNEE RIVER AT US 441, AT FARGO, GA



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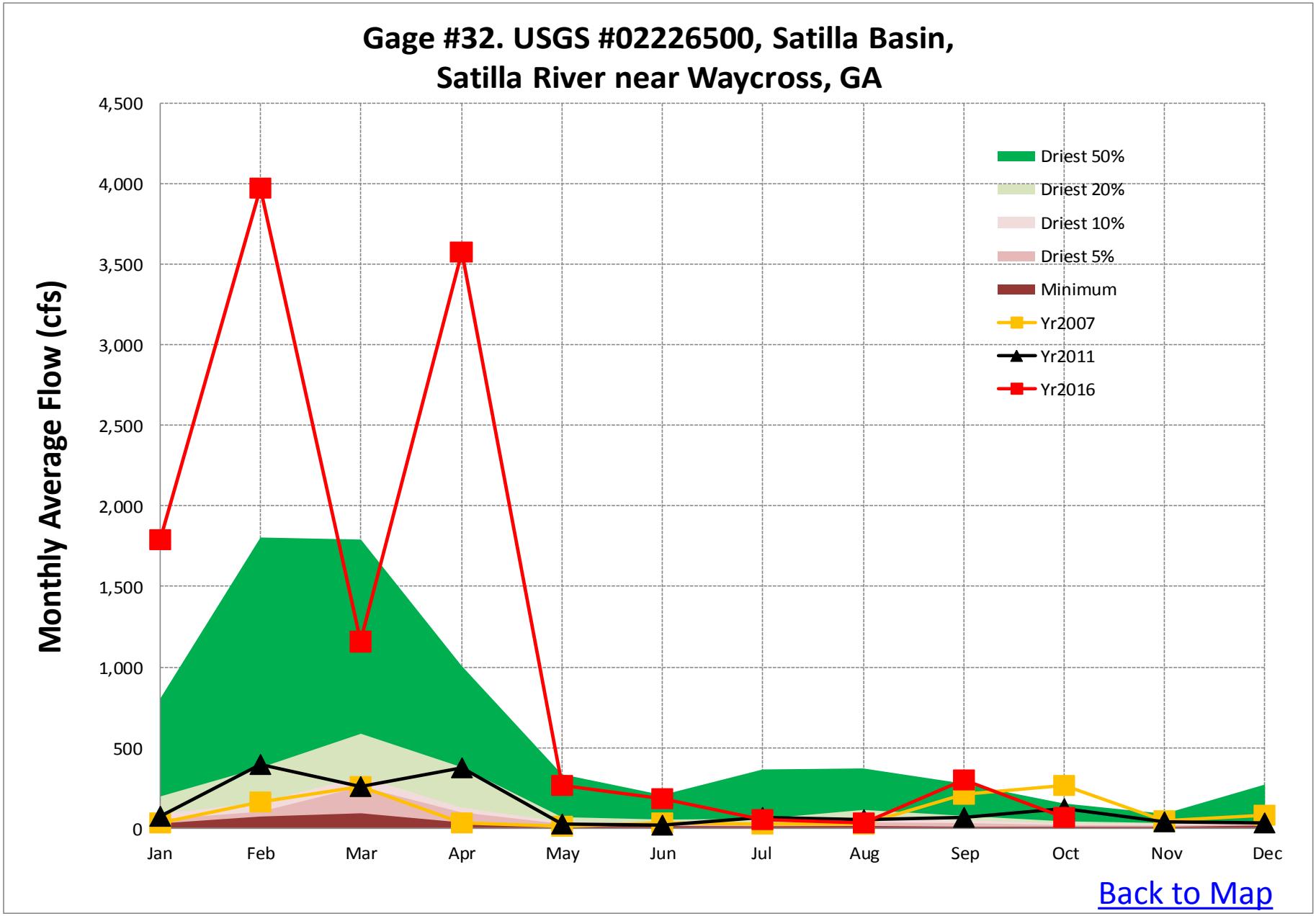
Gage #32. USGS #02226500, Satilla Basin,
Satilla River near Waycross, GA
Monthly Average Flow (cfs)
4,500
4,000
3,500
3,000
2,500
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
0
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Driest 50%
Driest 20%
Driest 10%
Driest 5%
Minimum
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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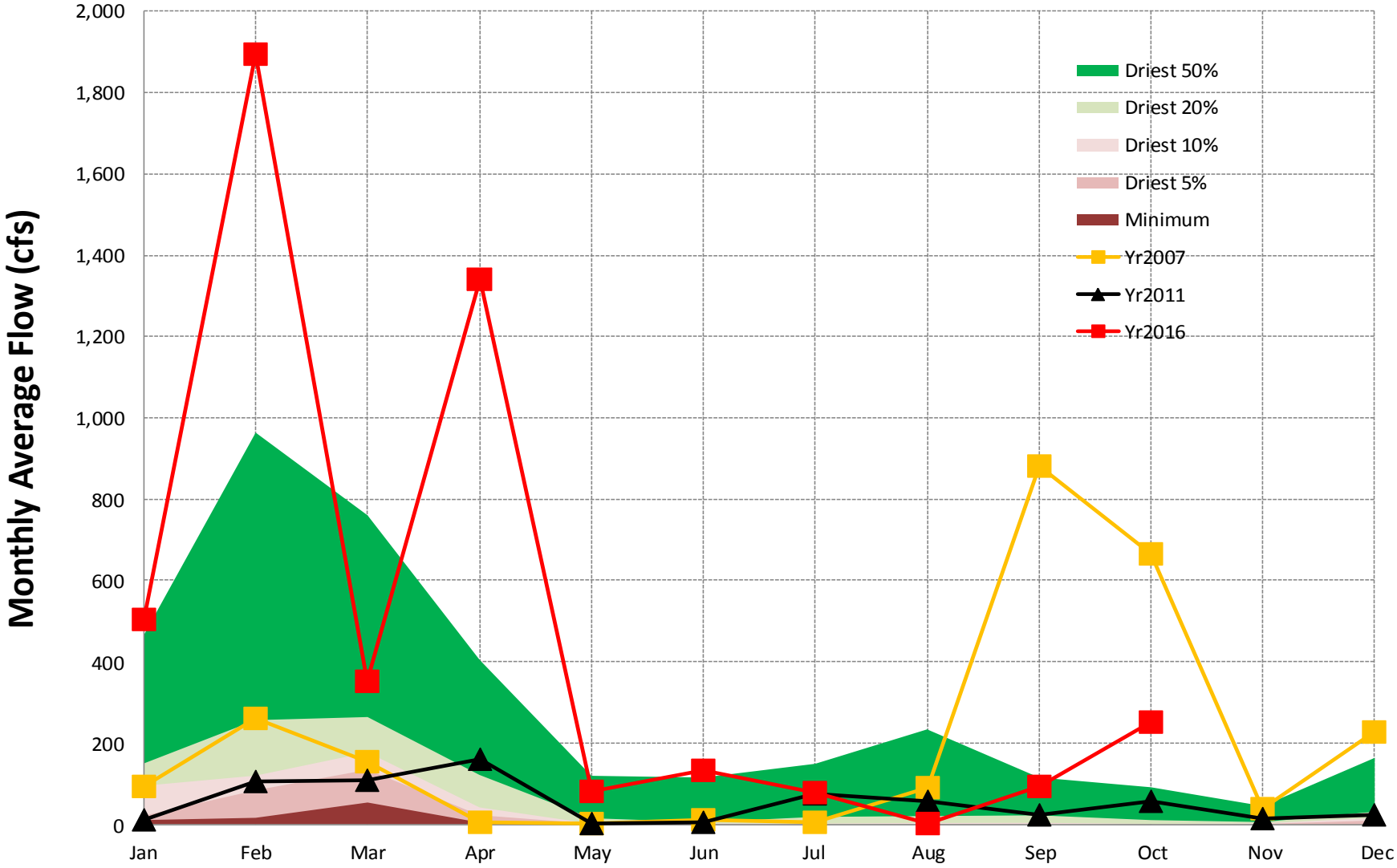
Gage #33. USGS #02227500, Satilla Basin, LITTLE SATILLA RIVER near OFFERMAN, GA



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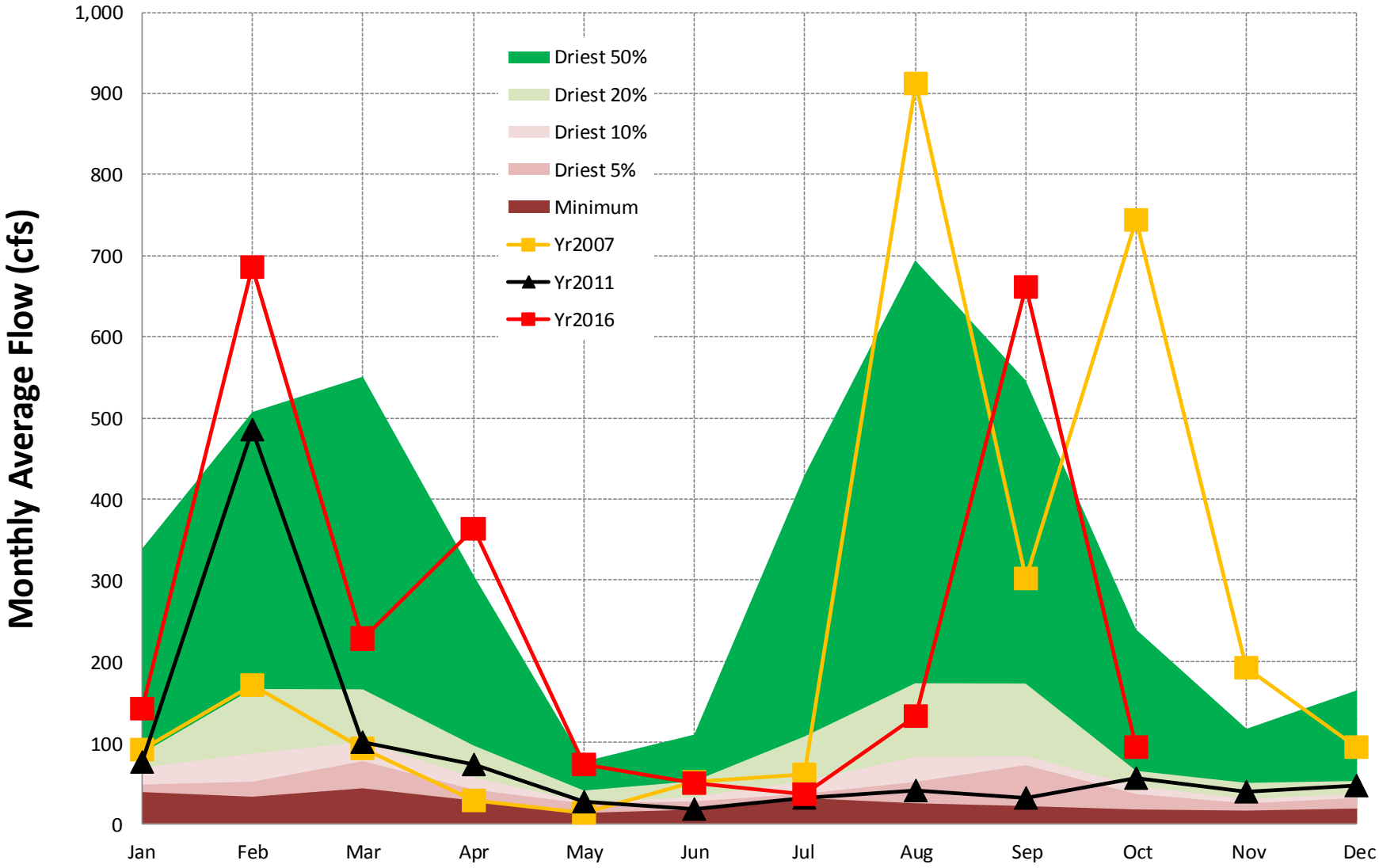
Gage #34. USGS #02231000, St Mary Basin, ST. MARYS RIVER near MACCLENNY, FL



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Groundwater Levels

Data Source: USGS

Rationale for Choosing USGS Monitoring Wells

EPD monitors 14 groundwater USGS monitoring wells shown on the following slide to assess drought conditions. These wells were selected for monitoring because they have:

- Long-term monitoring records consisting of three decades or more of data; and
- Real-time monitoring that represents the most up-to-date conditions.

USGS Wells Monitored by EPD to Assess Drought Conditions

Savannah Basin
1. 30AA04

Flint Basin
2. 11AA01
3. 13L180
4. 12M017
5. 08K001
6. 11K003
7. 12K014
8. 13J004
9. 08G001
10. 10G313
11. 09F520

Oconee Basin
12. 21T001

Altamaha Basin
13. 26R001

Suwanee Basin
14. 19E009

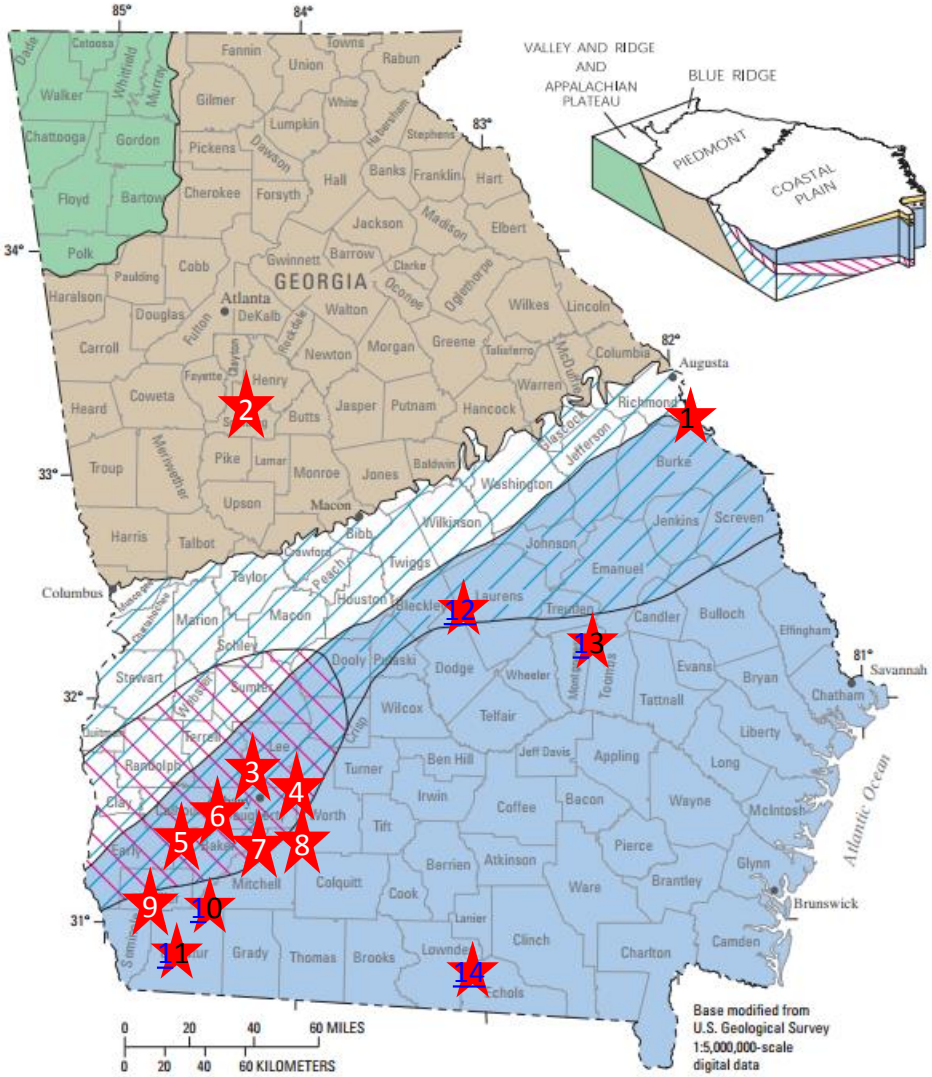


Figure 2. Area of use of principal aquifers and physiographic provinces in Georgia (modified from U.S. Geological Survey, 2006).

Groundwater Level Graphs

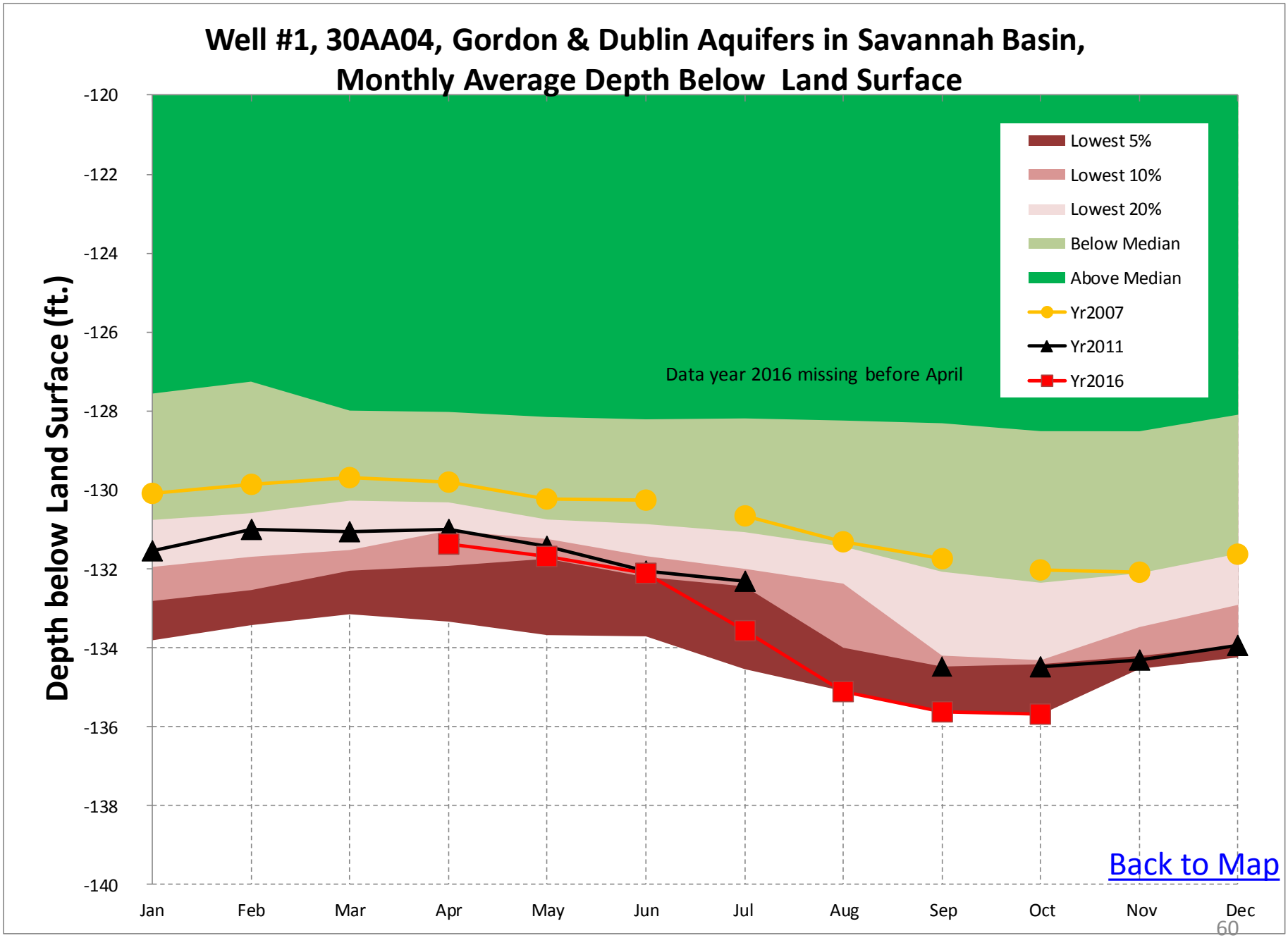
- For each of the 15 groundwater wells, EPD has prepared a graph that shows monthly average groundwater levels from January, 2016 through October, 2016;
- To help put these levels into perspective, for comparison purposes, each graph also shows:
  - Monthly average levels at that same well for the years 2007 and 2011 when groundwater levels were at or near recorded low levels across much of the state; and
  - And a statistical composite of historical conditions at that same gage showing the "lowest" 50, 20, 10, and 5 percent of all recorded monthly average levels at the same well.

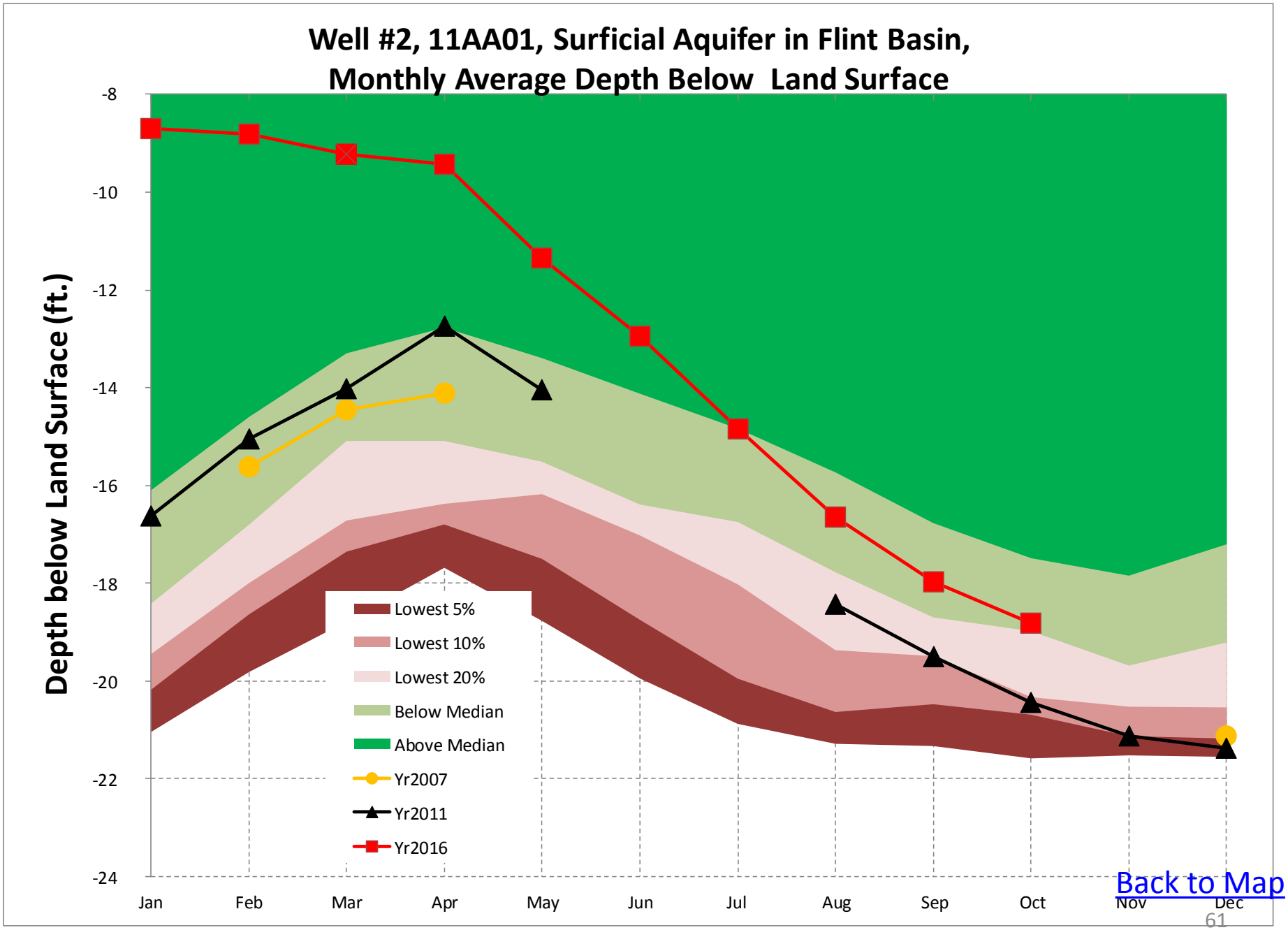
How to Read the Groundwater Level Graphs

Example: **Well #11, 09F520, Flint River Basin**

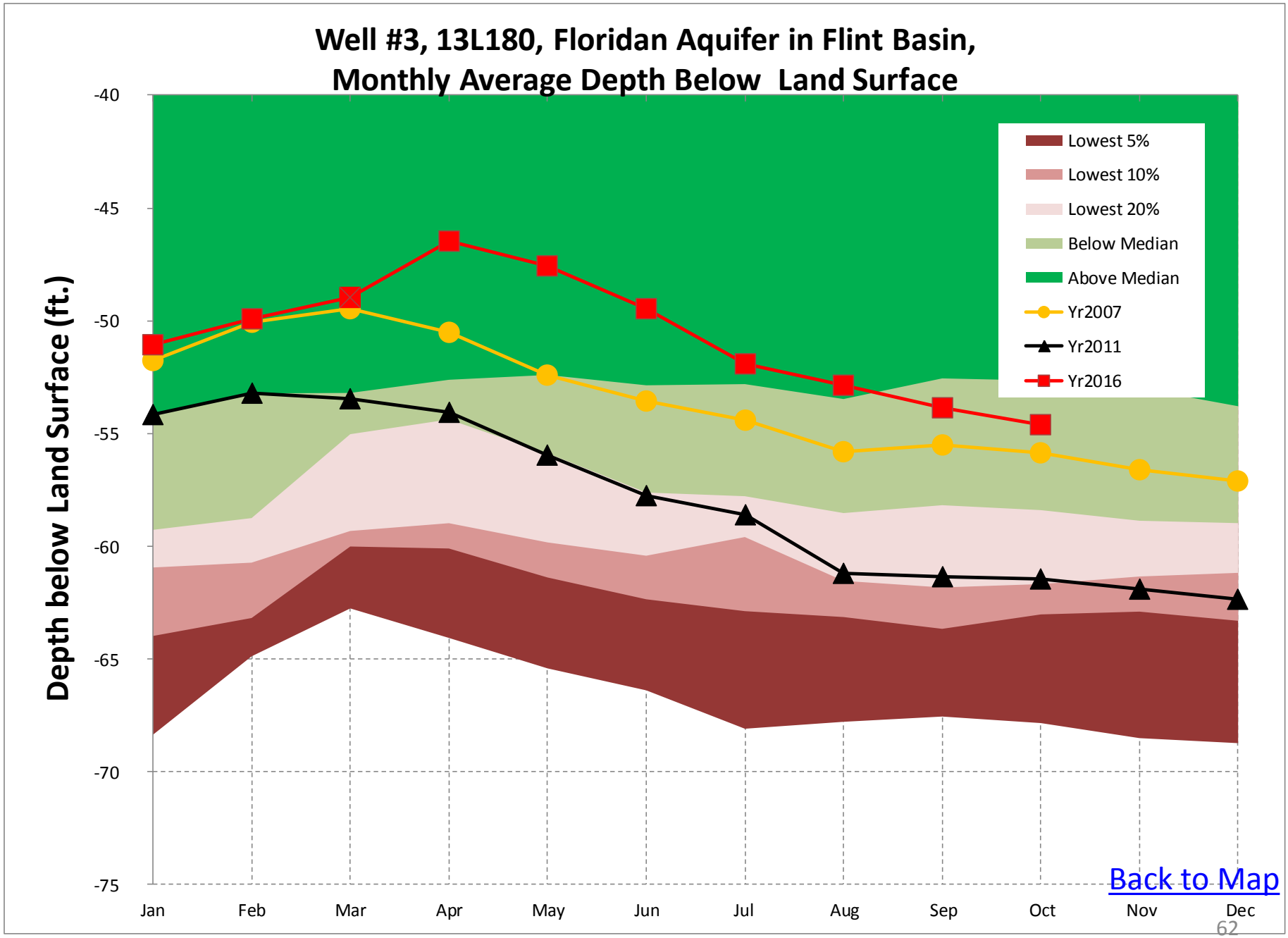
The groundwater level graph for Well #11, USGS 09F520 shows:

- The average monthly groundwater level for October 2016 was 48ft below land surface. The statistical composite of all historical data for this well shows that monthly average groundwater levels in July have historically been lower than October 2016 about 50% of the time; about 50% of the time in October they have been higher.
- The average monthly groundwater level in October 2011 was 51ft below land surface. The statistical composite of all historical data for this well shows that average monthly groundwater elevation levels for October equal to the historically lowest recorded average elevation for October.
- The average monthly groundwater level in October 2007 was 51ft below land surface. The statistical composite of all historical data for this well shows that average monthly groundwater elevation levels for October higher than to the historically lowest recorded average elevation for October.
- The lowest recorded average monthly groundwater level for October was 51ft below land surface.

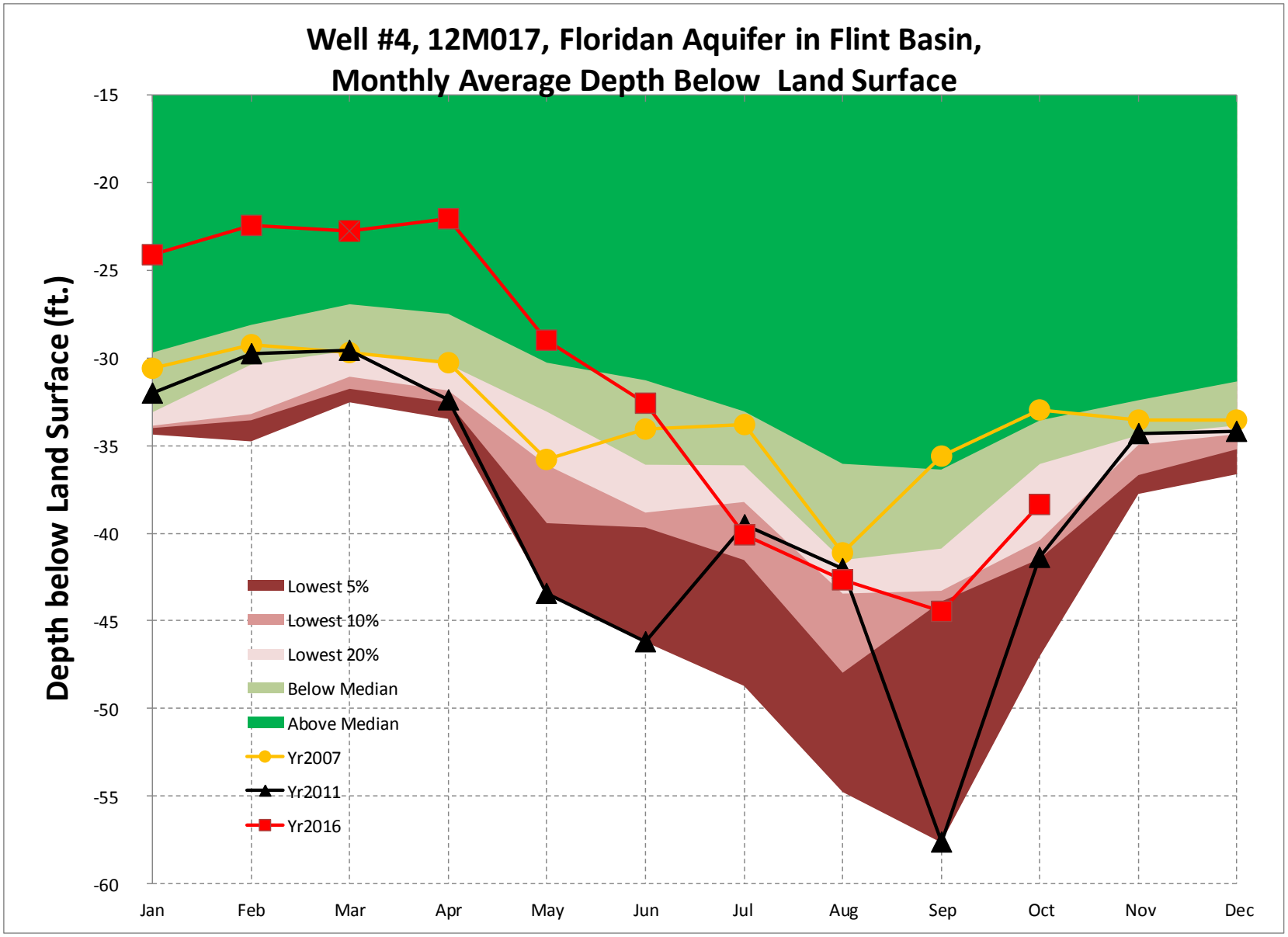

Well #1, 30AA04, Gordon & Dublin Aquifers in Savannah Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-120
-122
-124
-126
-128
-130
-132
-134
-136
-138
-140
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5%
Lowest 10%
Lowest 20%
Below Median
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016
Data year 2016 missing before April
Back to Map


Well #2, 11AA01, Surficial Aquifer in Flint Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-8
-10
-12
-14
-16
-18
-20
-22
-24
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5%
Lowest 10%
Lowest 20%
Below Median
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

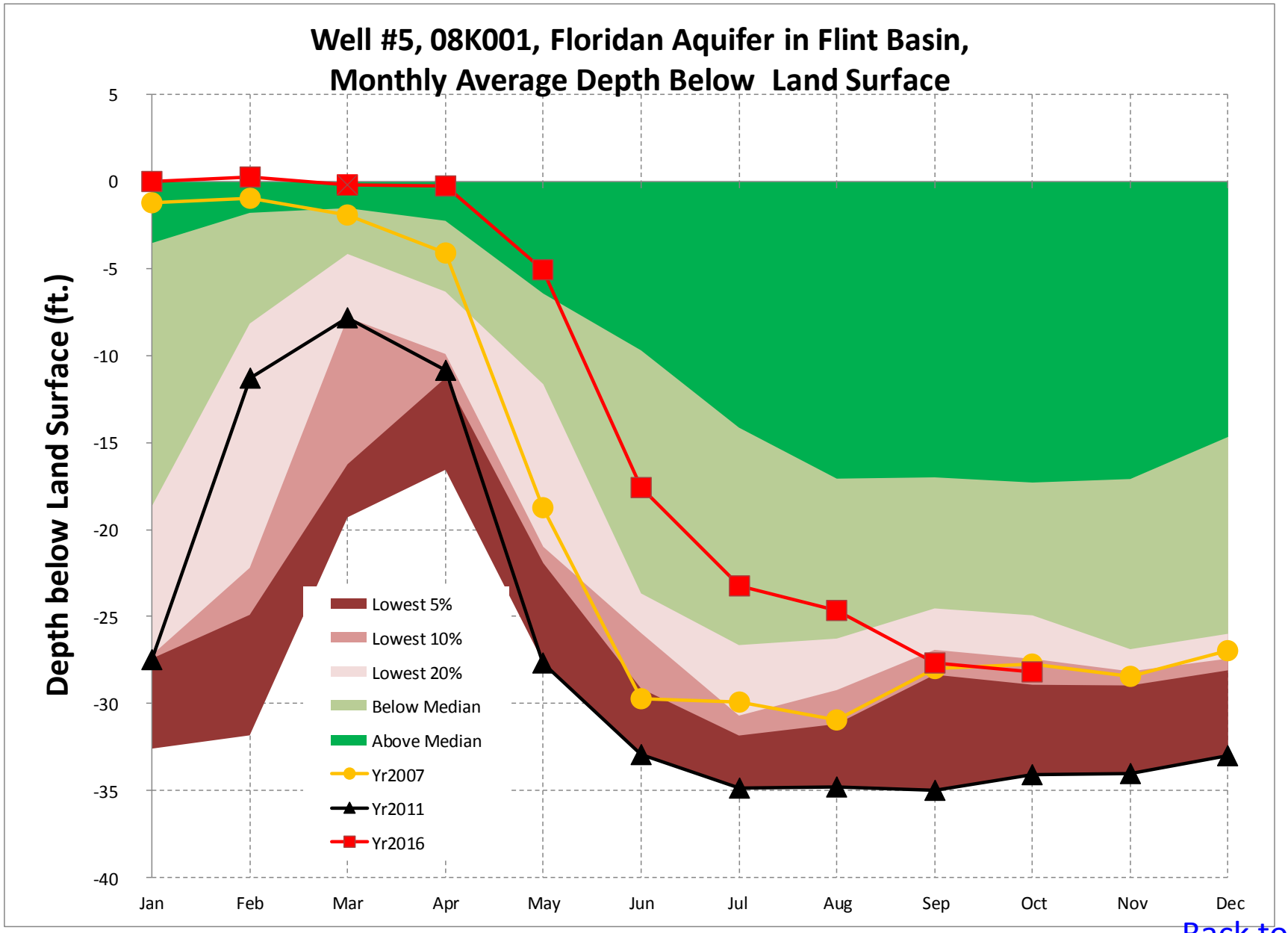
Back to Map


Well #3, 13L180, Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-40
-45
-50
-55
-60
-65
-70
-75
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5%
Lowest 10%
Lowest 20%
Below Median
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

Back to Map


Well #4, 12M017, Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-15
-20
-25
-30
-35
-40
-45
-50
-55
-60
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5%
Lowest 10%
Lowest 20%
Below Median
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

Back to Map


Well #5, 08K001, Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
5
0
-5
-10
-15
-20
-25
-30
-35
-40
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5%
Lowest 10%
Lowest 20%
Below Median
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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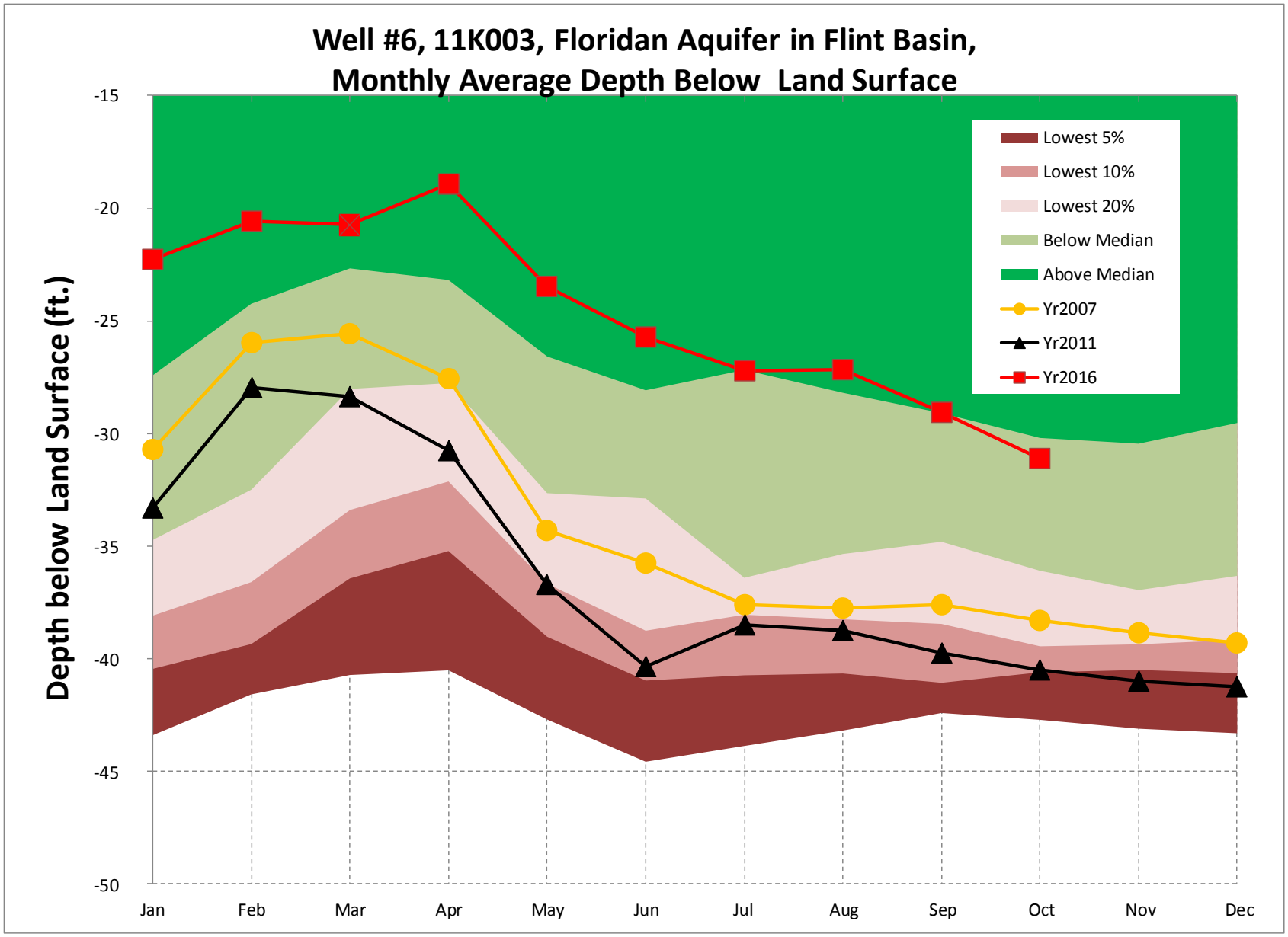
Well #6, 11K003, Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-15
-20
-25
-30
-35
-40
-45
-50
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5%
Lowest 10%
Lowest 20%
Below Median
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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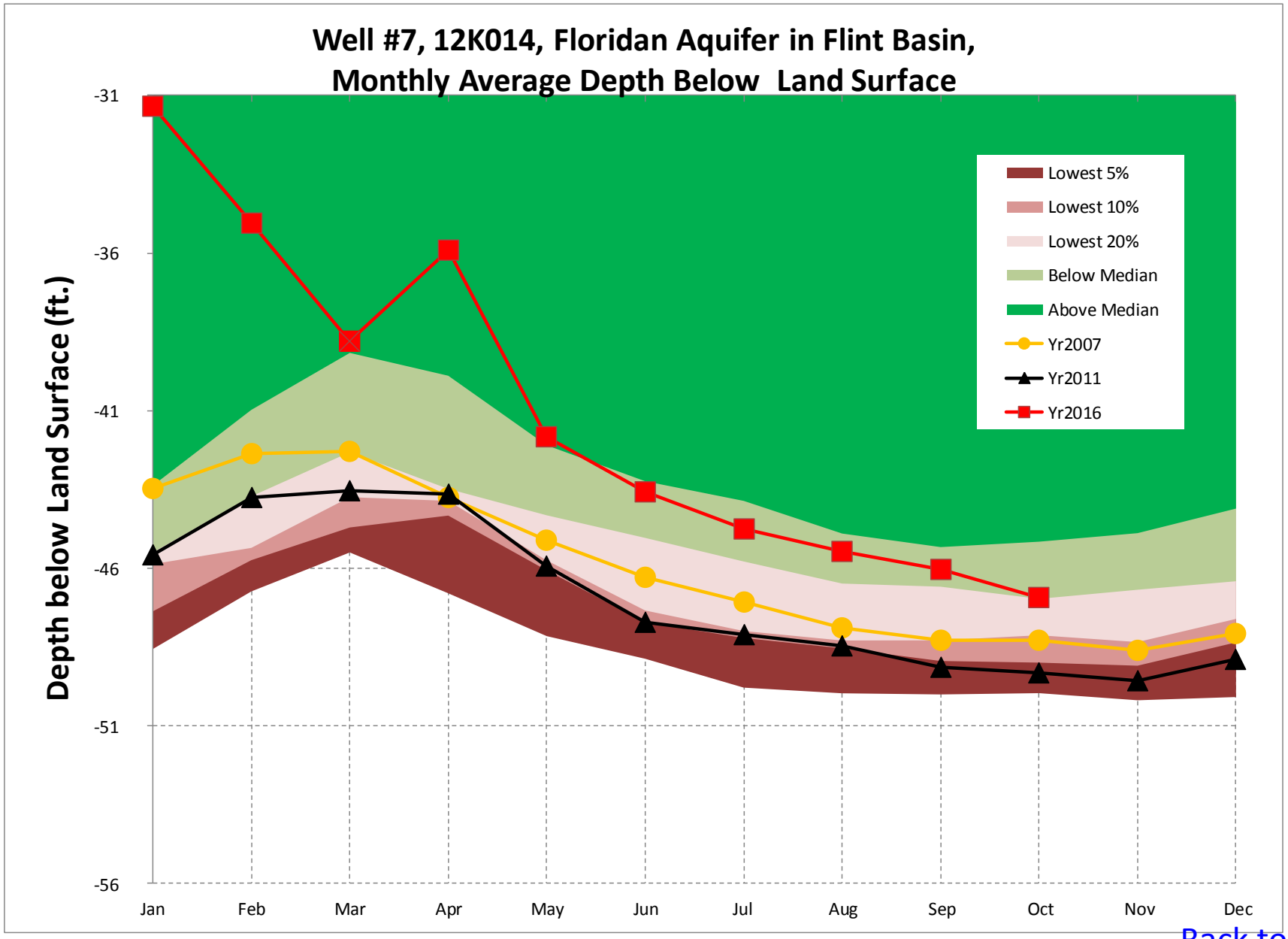
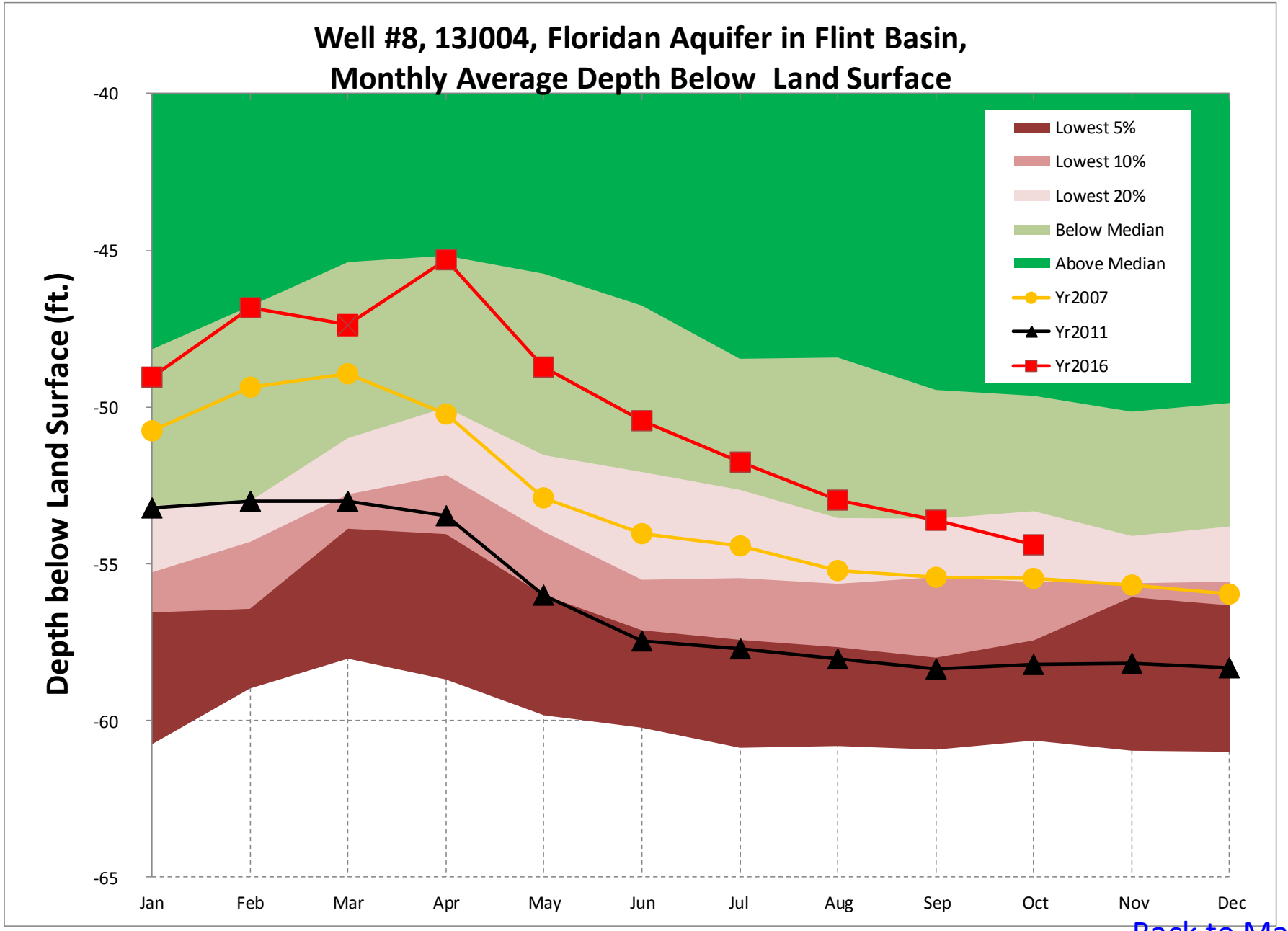

Well #7, 12K014, Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-31
-36
-41
-46
-51
-56
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5%
Lowest 10%
Lowest 20%
Below Median
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

Back to Map


Well #8, 13J004, Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-40
-45
-50
-55
-60
-65
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5%
Lowest 10%
Lowest 20%
Below Median
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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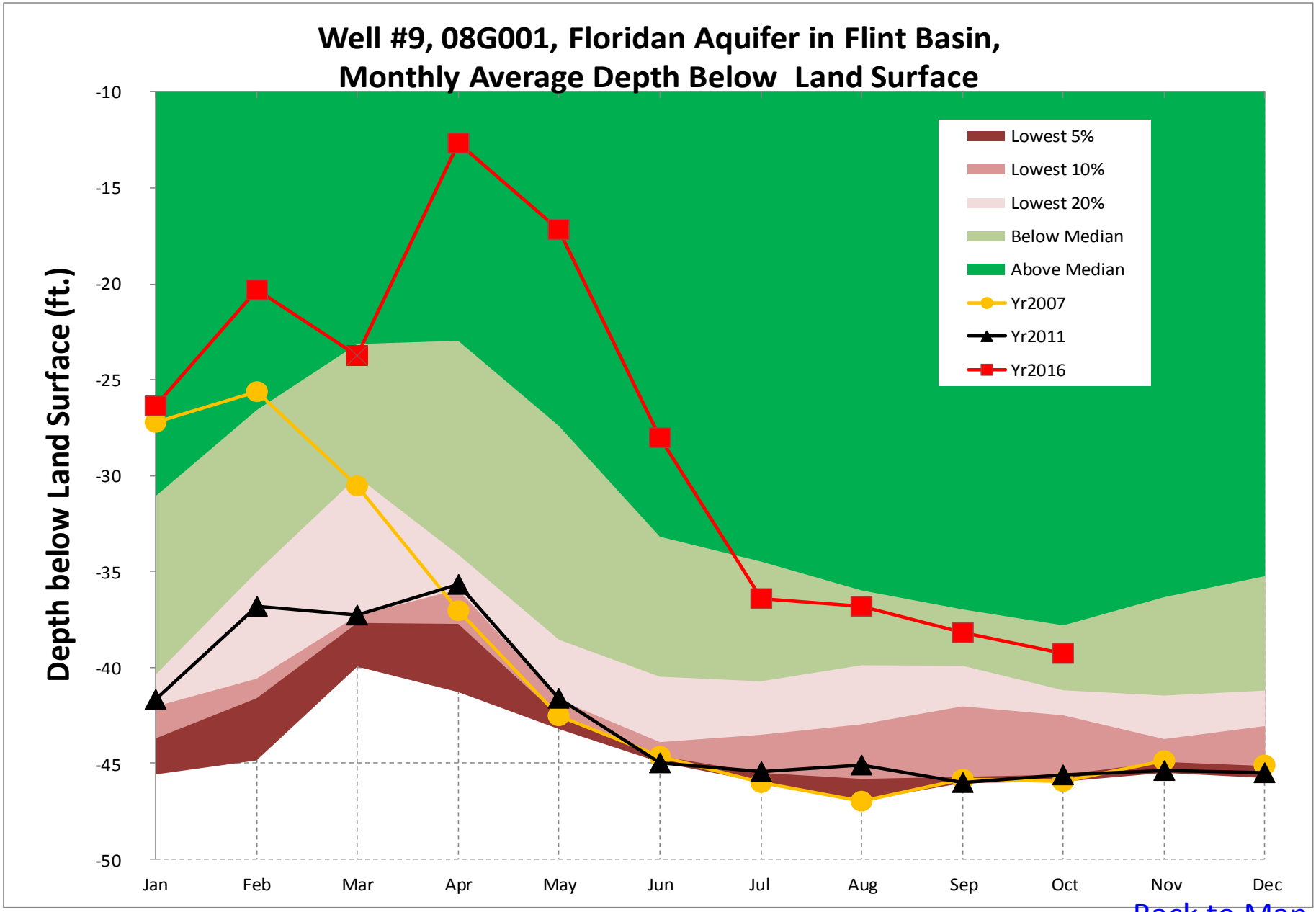
Well #9, 08G001, Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-10
-15
-20
-25
-30
-35
-40
-45
-50
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5%
Lowest 10%
Lowest 20%
Below Median
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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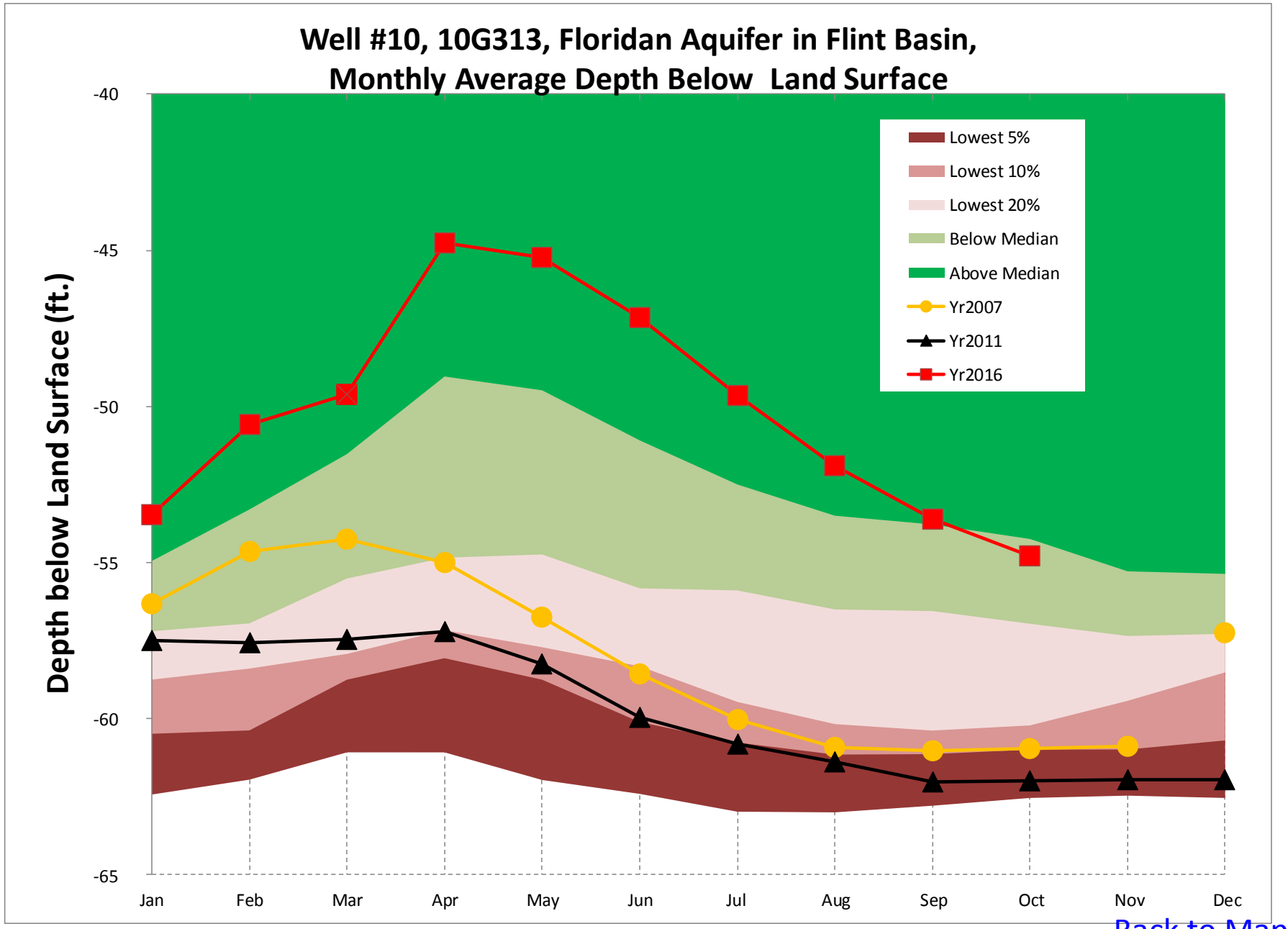
Well #10, 10G313, Floridan Aquifer in Flint Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-40
-45
-50
-55
-60
-65
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5%
Lowest 10%
Lowest 20%
Below Median
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

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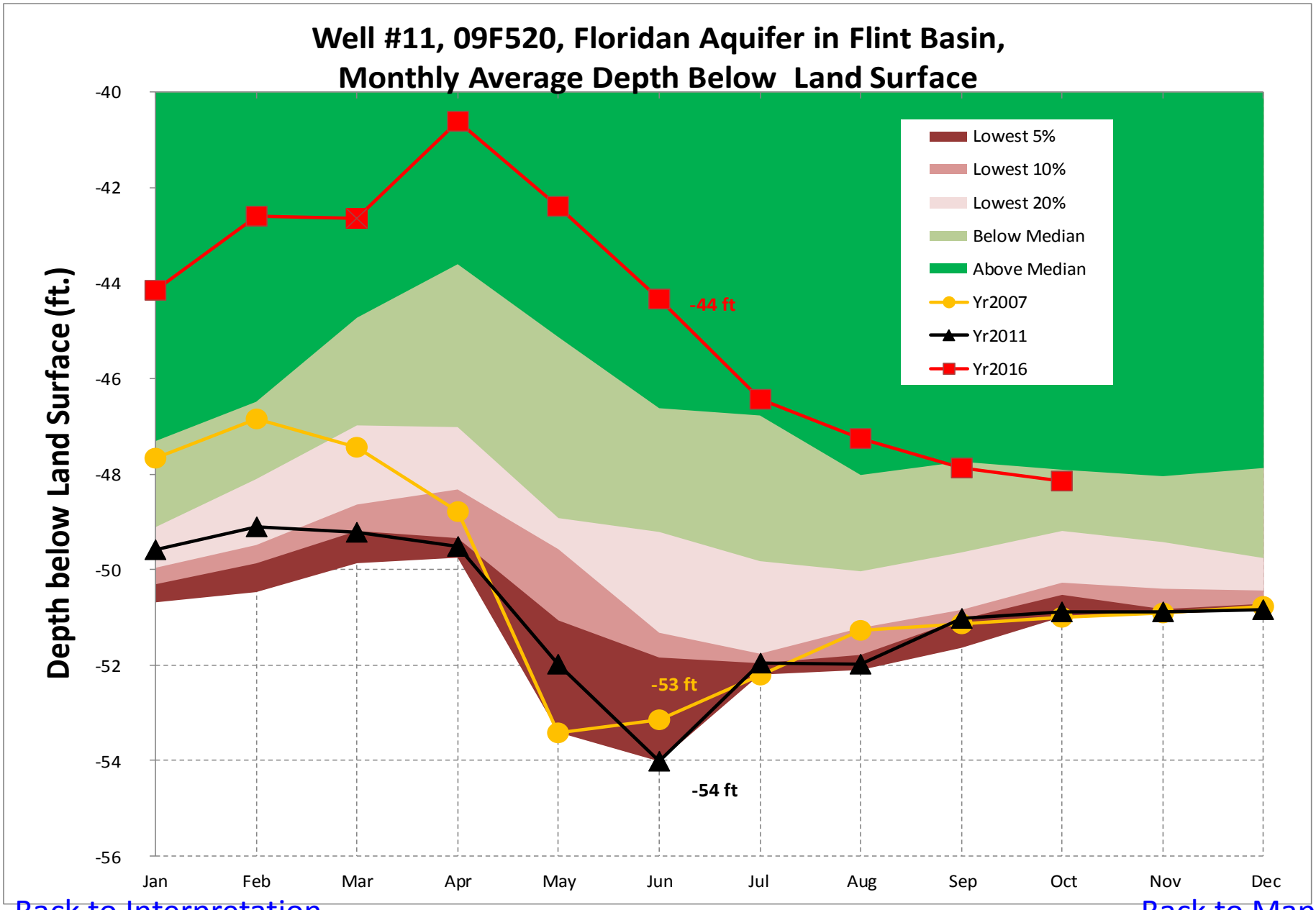

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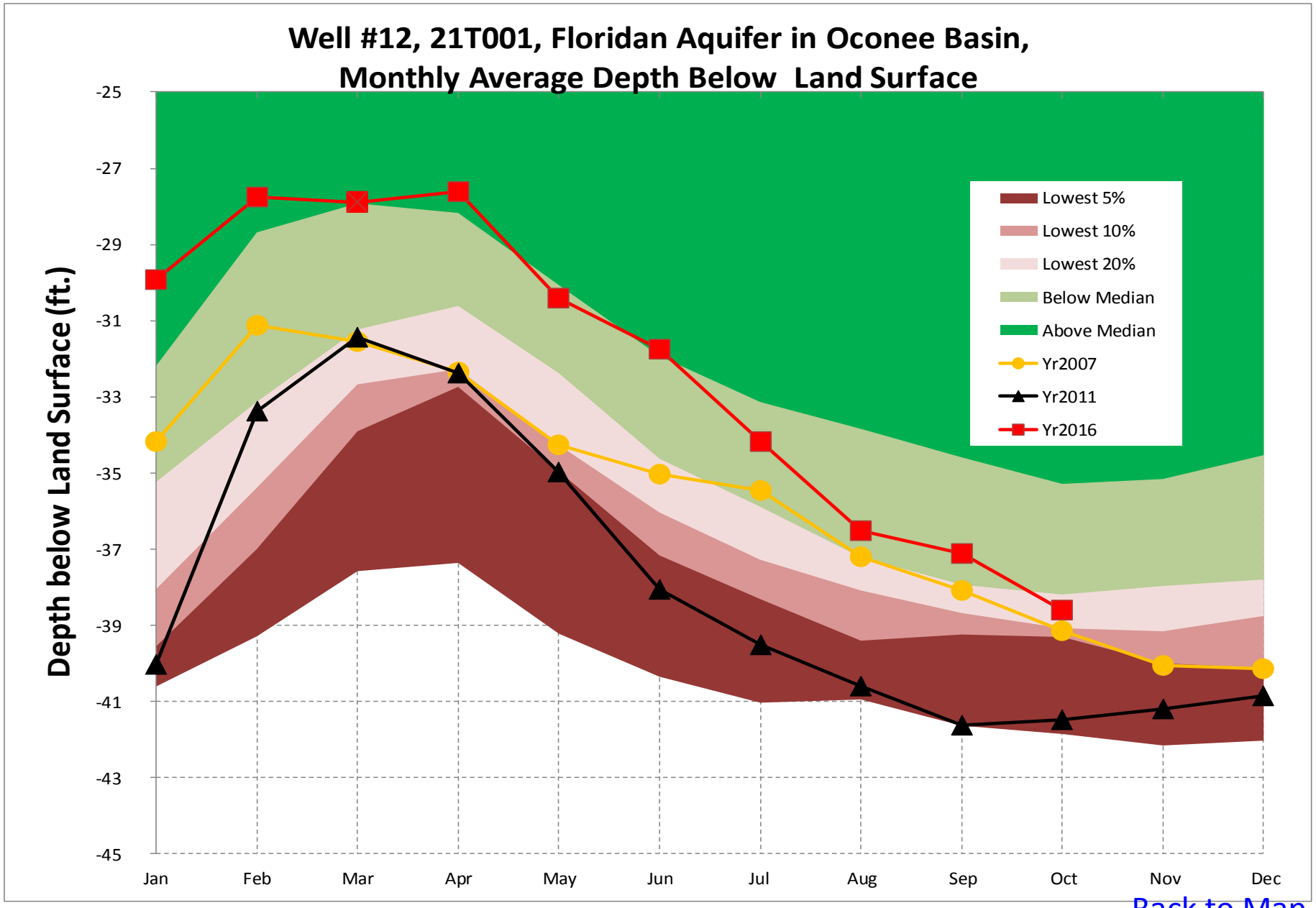
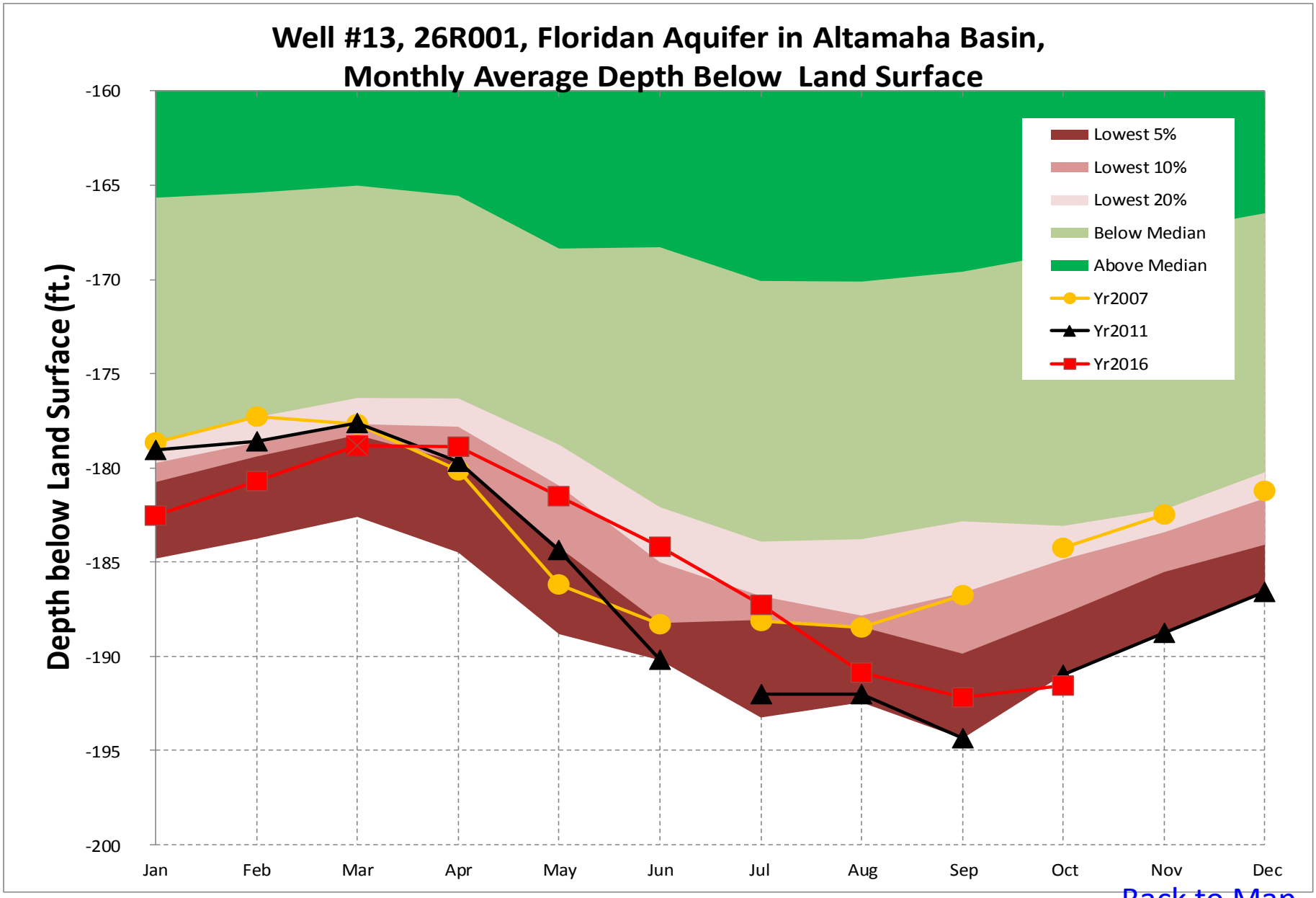
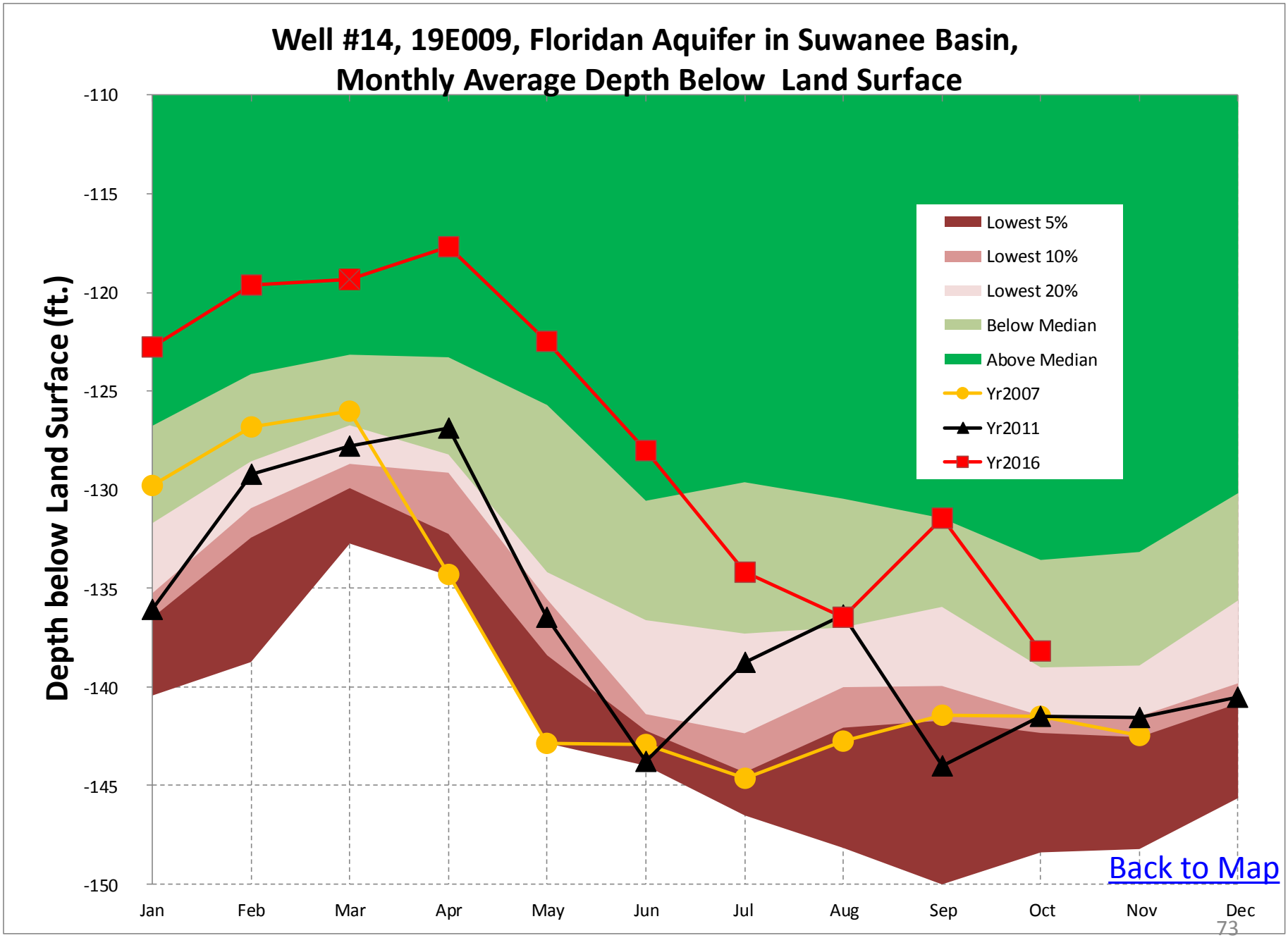

Well #12, 21T001, Floridan Aquifer in Oconee Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-25
-27
-29
-31
-33
-35
-37
-39
-41
-43
-45
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5%
Lowest 10%
Lowest 20%
Below Median
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

Back to Map


Well #13, 26R001, Floridan Aquifer in Altamaha Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-160
-165
-170
-175
-180
-185
-190
-195
-200
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5%
Lowest 10%
Lowest 20%
Below Median
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016

Back to Map


Well #14, 19E009, Floridan Aquifer in Suwanee Basin,
Monthly Average Depth Below Land Surface
Depth below Land Surface (ft.)
-110
-115
-120
-125
-130
-135
-140
-145
-150
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Lowest 5%
Lowest 10%
Lowest 20%
Below Median
Above Median
Yr2007
Yr2011
Yr2016
Back to Map

Reservoir Levels

Data Source:
US Army Corps of Engineers

Coosa Basin
1. Carters
2. Allatoona

Chattahoochee Basin
3. Lanier
4. West Point
5. W.F. George

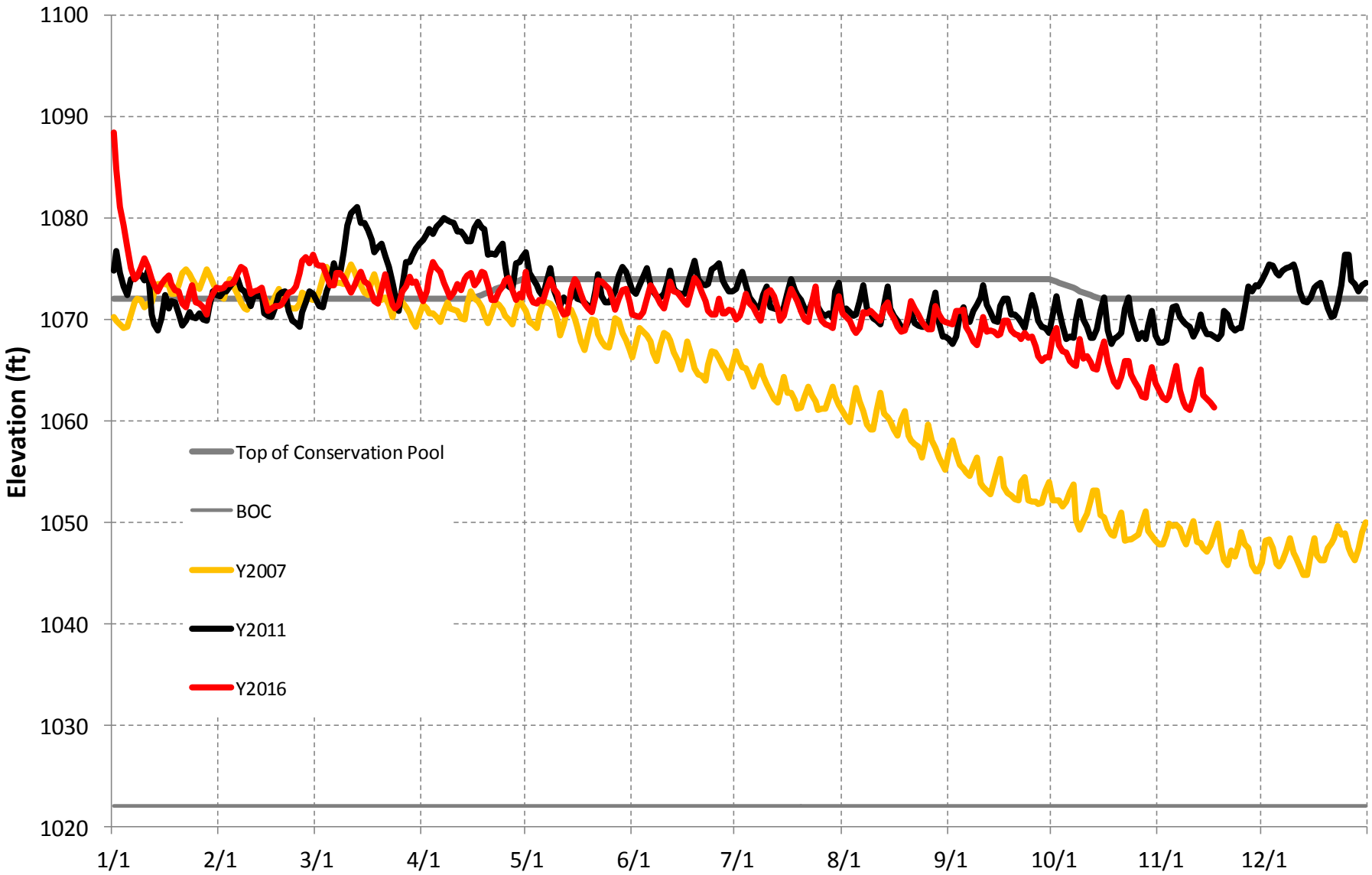
Savannah Basin
6. Hartwell
7. Thurmond

EPD monitors the water levels of seven reservoirs to assess drought conditions.

Reservoir Elevation Graphs

- The following graphs show the reservoir elevation curves for January, 2016 through October, 2016.
- Each graph also shows the Action Zone Divides (or Levels) for each reservoir
  - Zone 1 is the top layer of the conservation pool
  - Zone 2 is the layer below Zone 1
  - Zone 4 is the lowest layer in the conservation pool
  - There is no conservation storage below the bottom of Zone 4
- To put 2016 reservoir elevations into perspective, elevations for 2007 and 2011 are also shown.

CARTERS ELEVATION



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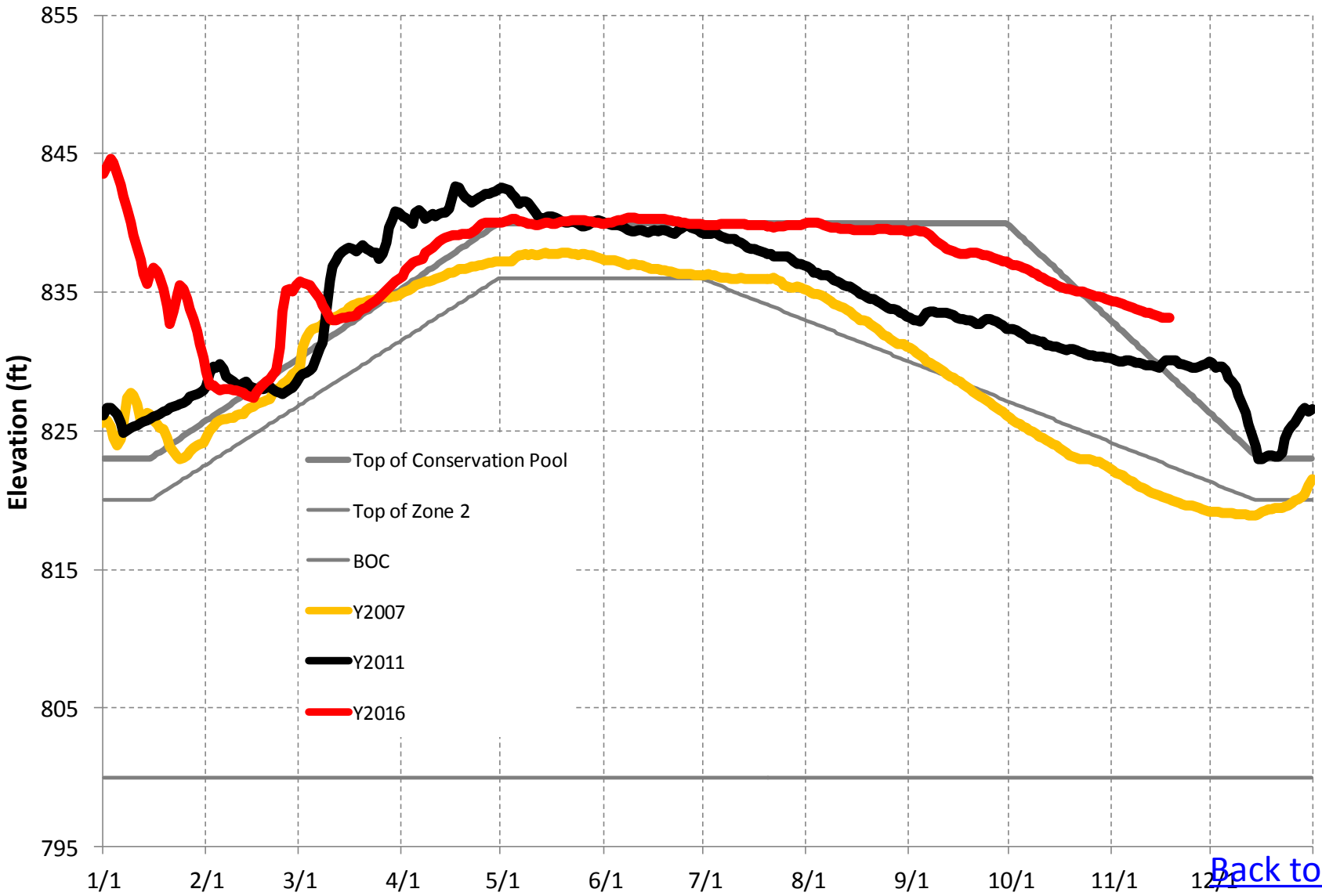
ALLATOONA ELEVATION



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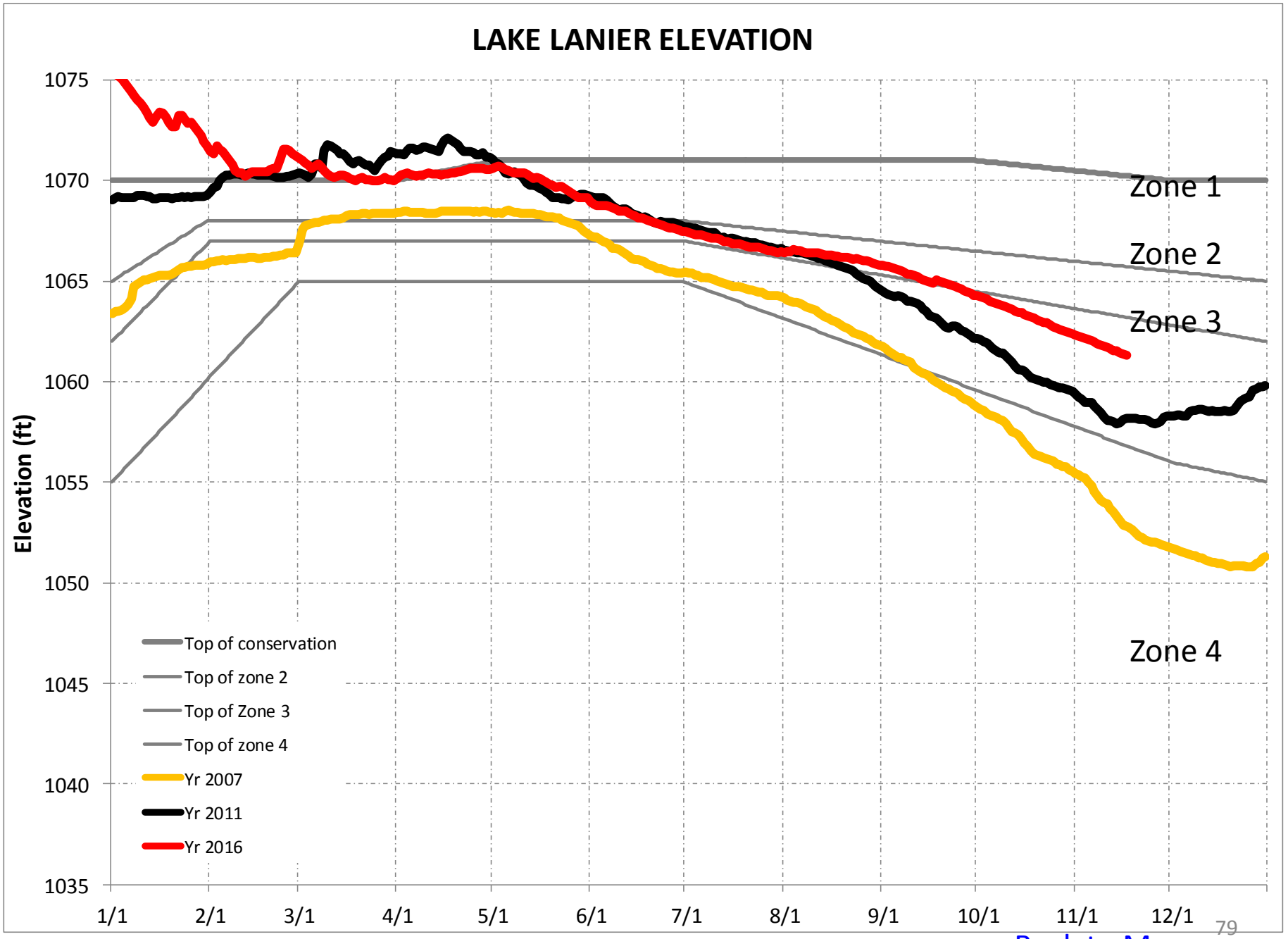
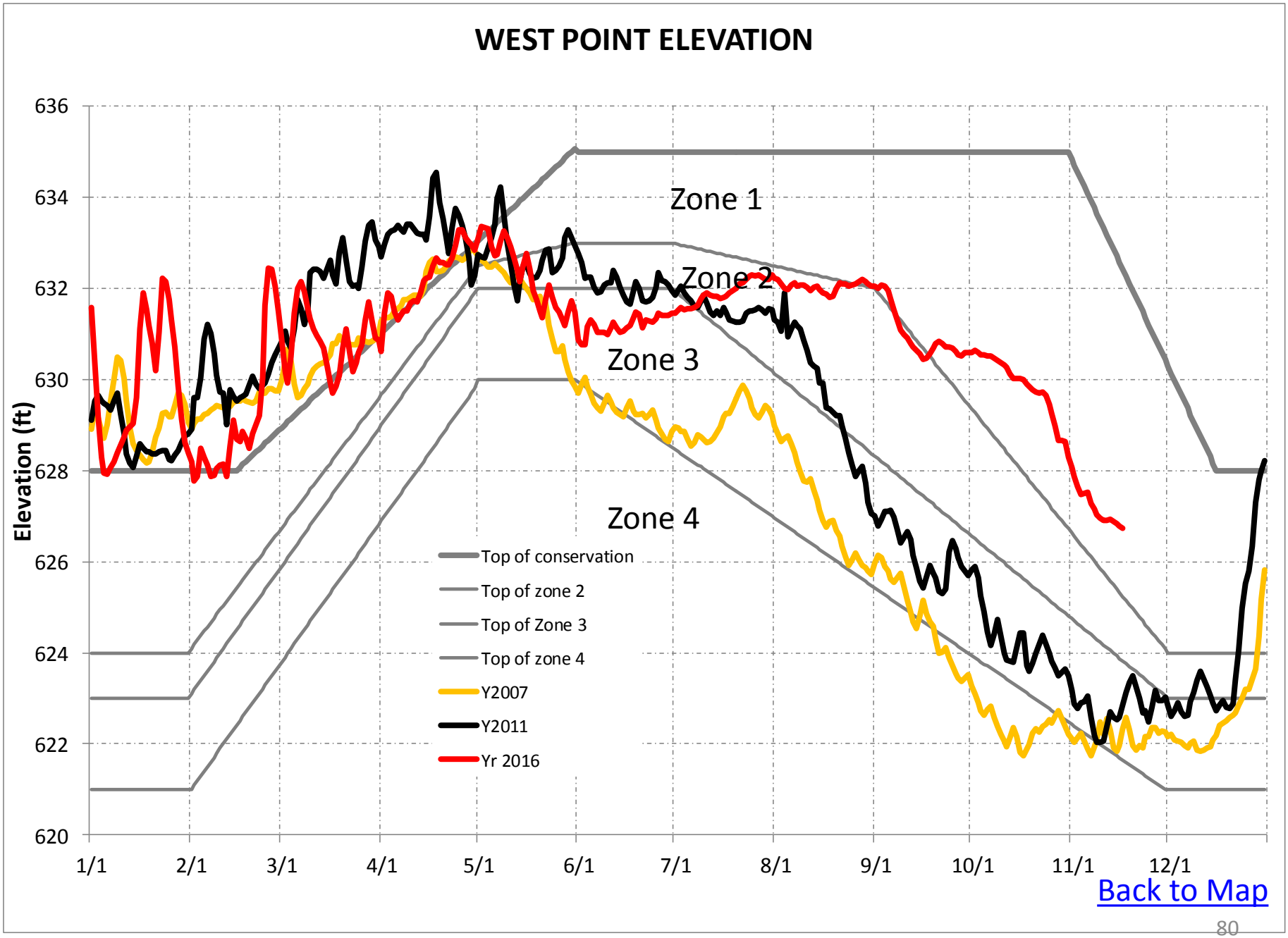
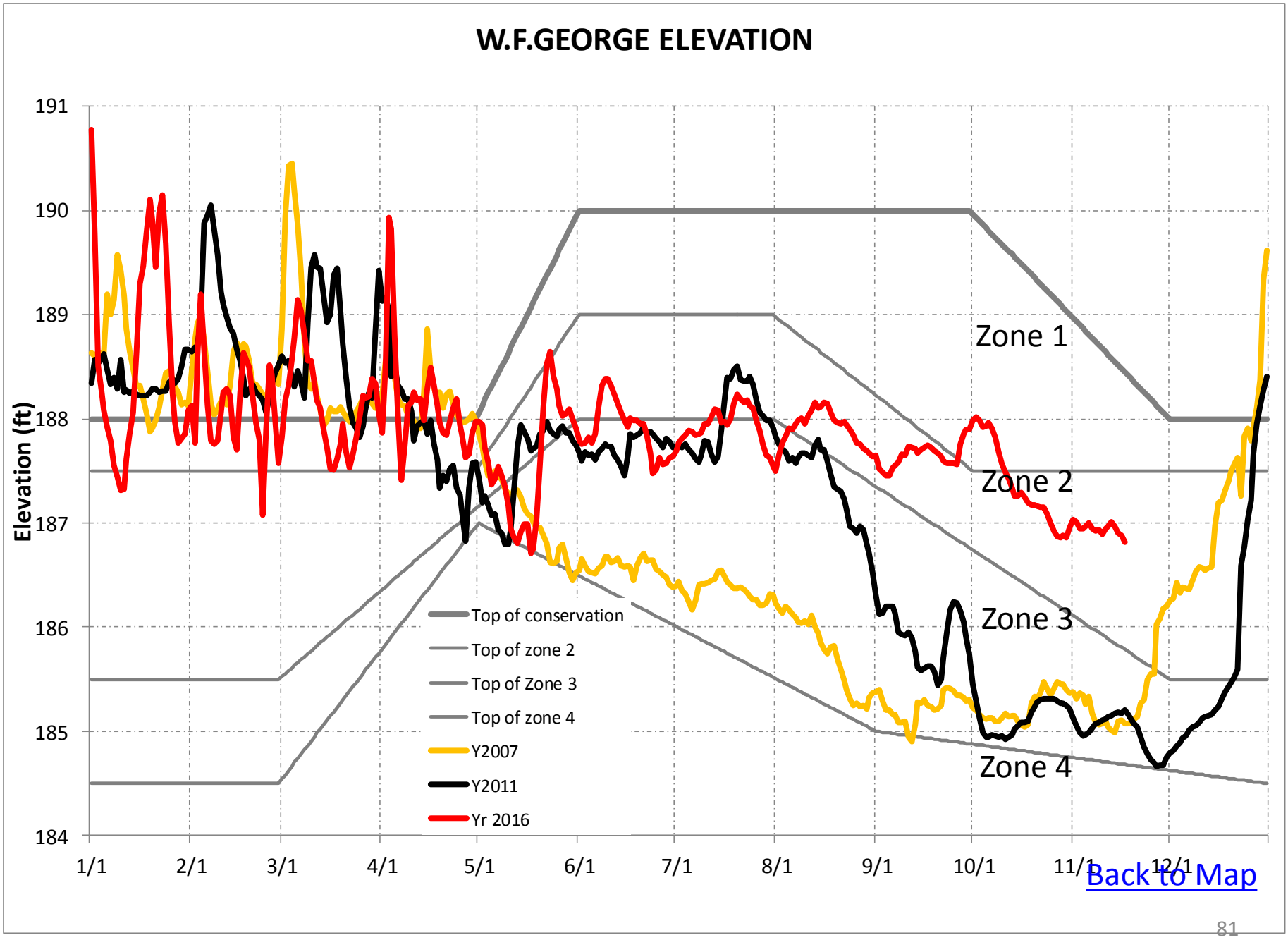

LAKE LANIER ELEVATION
Elevation (ft)
1075
1070
1065
1060
1055
1050
1045
1040
1035
1/1
2/1
3/1
4/1
5/1
6/1
7/1
8/1
9/1
10/1
11/1
12/1
Zone 1
Zone 2
Zone 3
Zone 4
Top of conservation
Top of zone 2
Top of Zone 3
Top of zone 4
Yr 2007
Yr 2011
Yr 2016

Back to Map


WEST POINT ELEVATION
Elevation (ft)
636
634
632
630
628
626
624
622
620
1/1
2/1
3/1
4/1
5/1
6/1
7/1
8/1
9/1
10/1
11/1
12/1
Zone 1
Zone 2
Zone 3
Zone 4
Top of conservation
Top of zone 2
Top of Zone 3
Top of zone 4
Y2007
Y2011
Yr 2016

Back to Map


W.F.GEORGE ELEVATION
Elevation (ft)
191
190
189
188
187
186
185
184
1/1
2/1
3/1
4/1
5/1
6/1
7/1
8/1
9/1
10/1
11/1
12/1
Zone 1
Zone 2
Zone 3
Zone 4
Top of conservation
Top of zone 2
Top of Zone 3
Top of zone 4
Y2007
Y2011
Yr 2016

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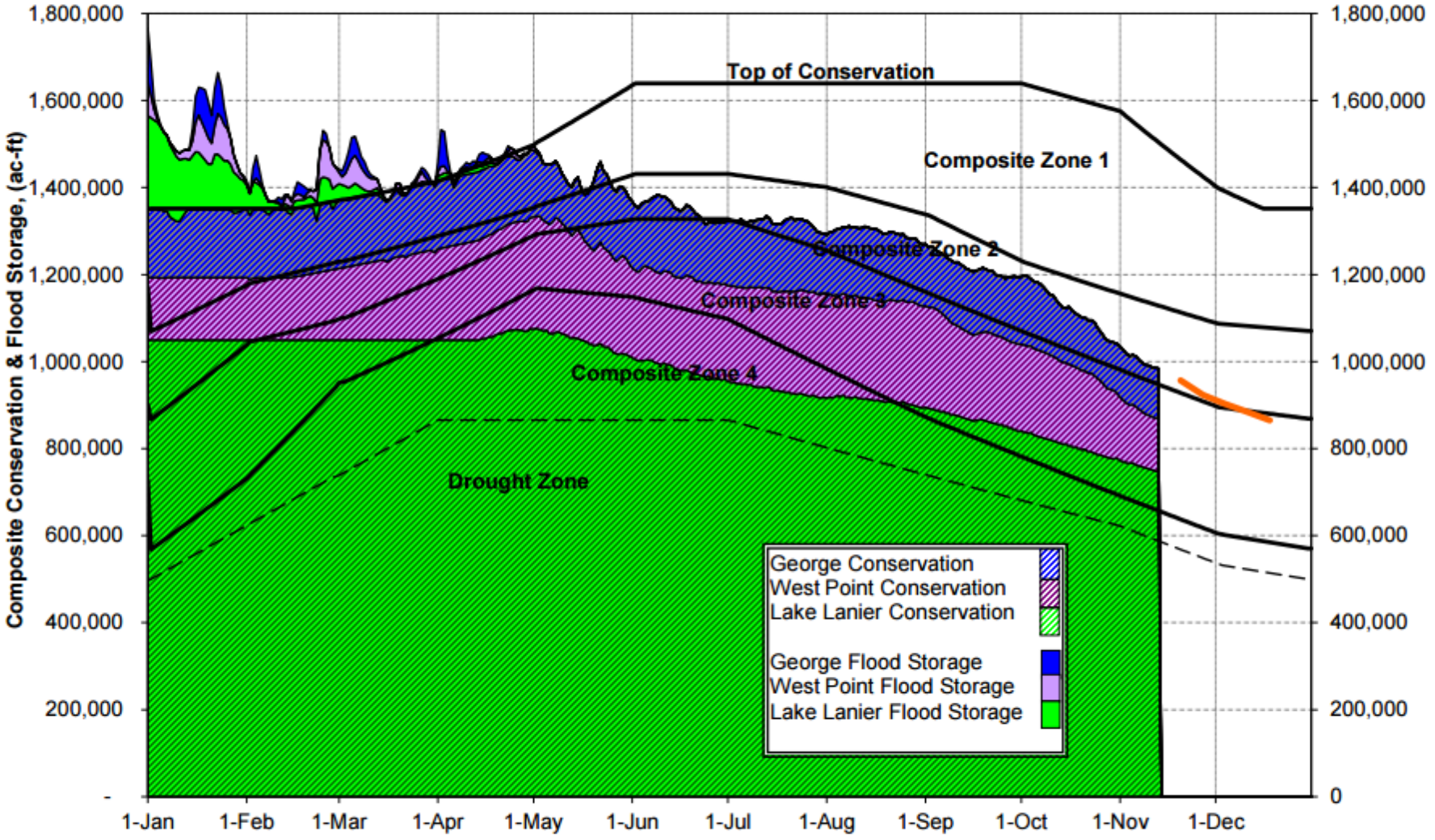
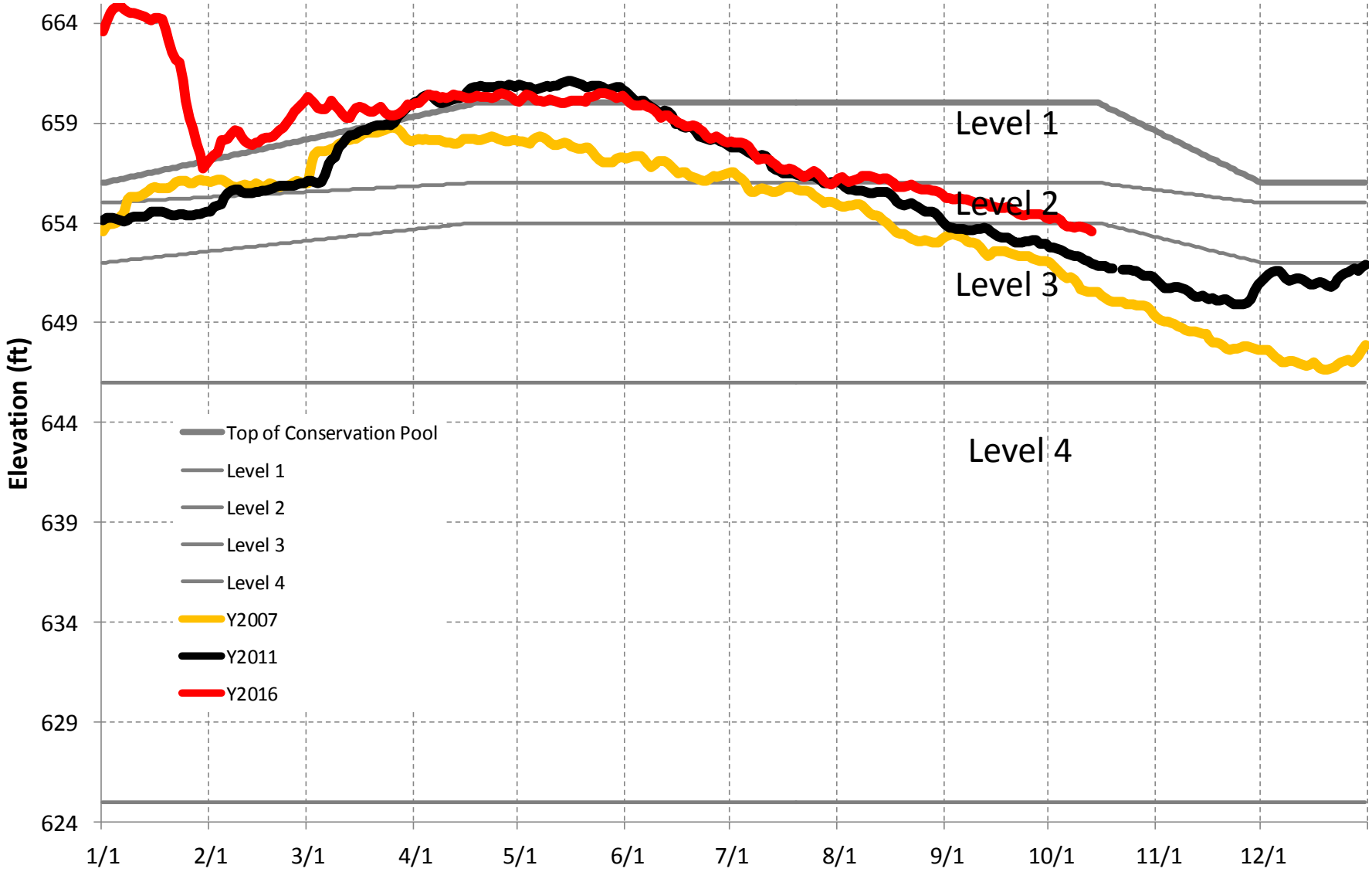
2016 ACF Basin Composite Conservation and Flood Storage



Actual data thru 11-15-2016

Add value of 1,856,000 acre-ft to include inactive storage.

Lake HARTWELL ELEVATION



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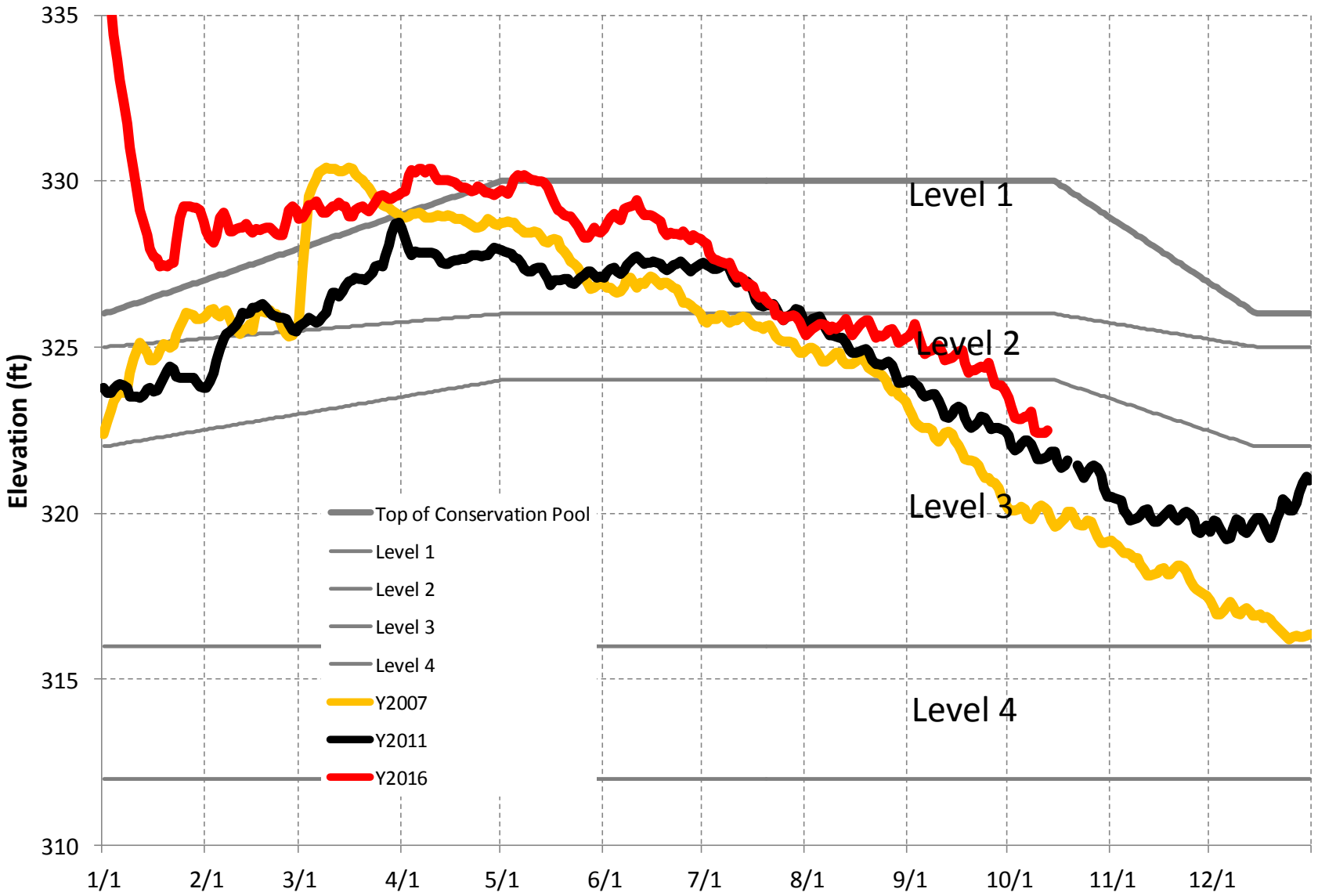
LAKE CLARK HILL (THURMOND) ELEVATION



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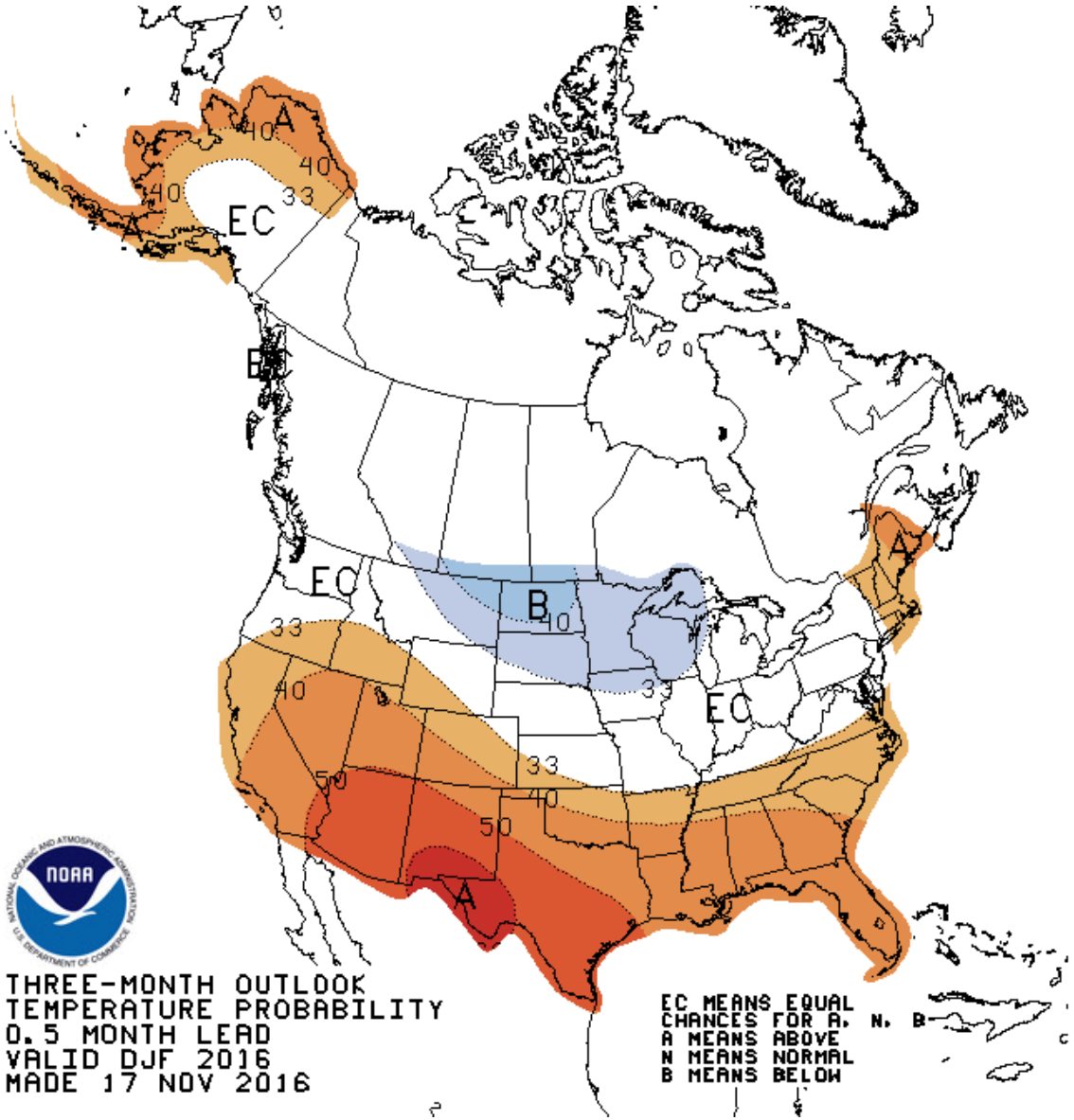
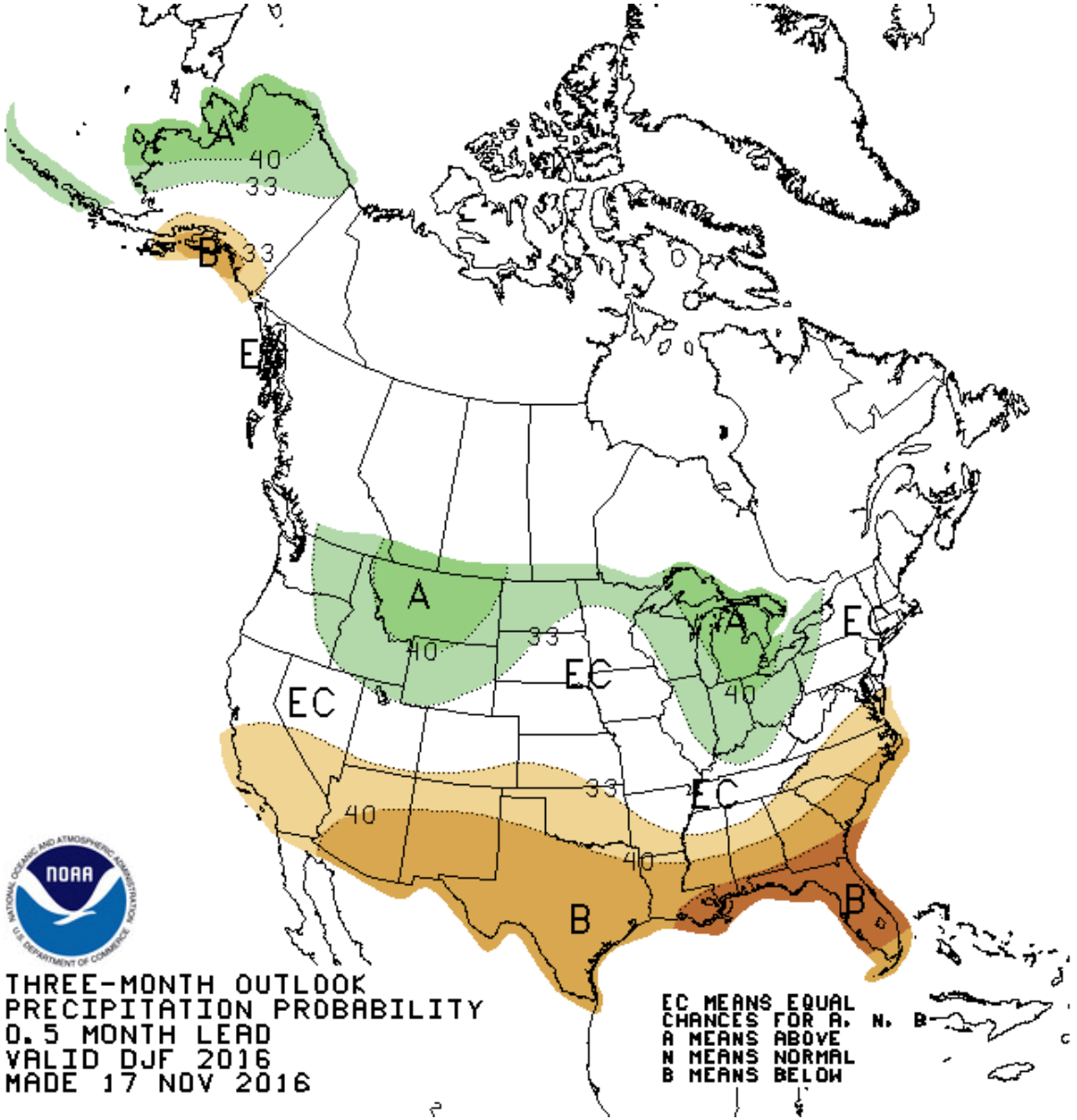
Climate Prediction Center 3-month Temperature and Precipitation Probability Outlook and Seasonal Drought Outlook

Data Source:
http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/

Temperature Outlook

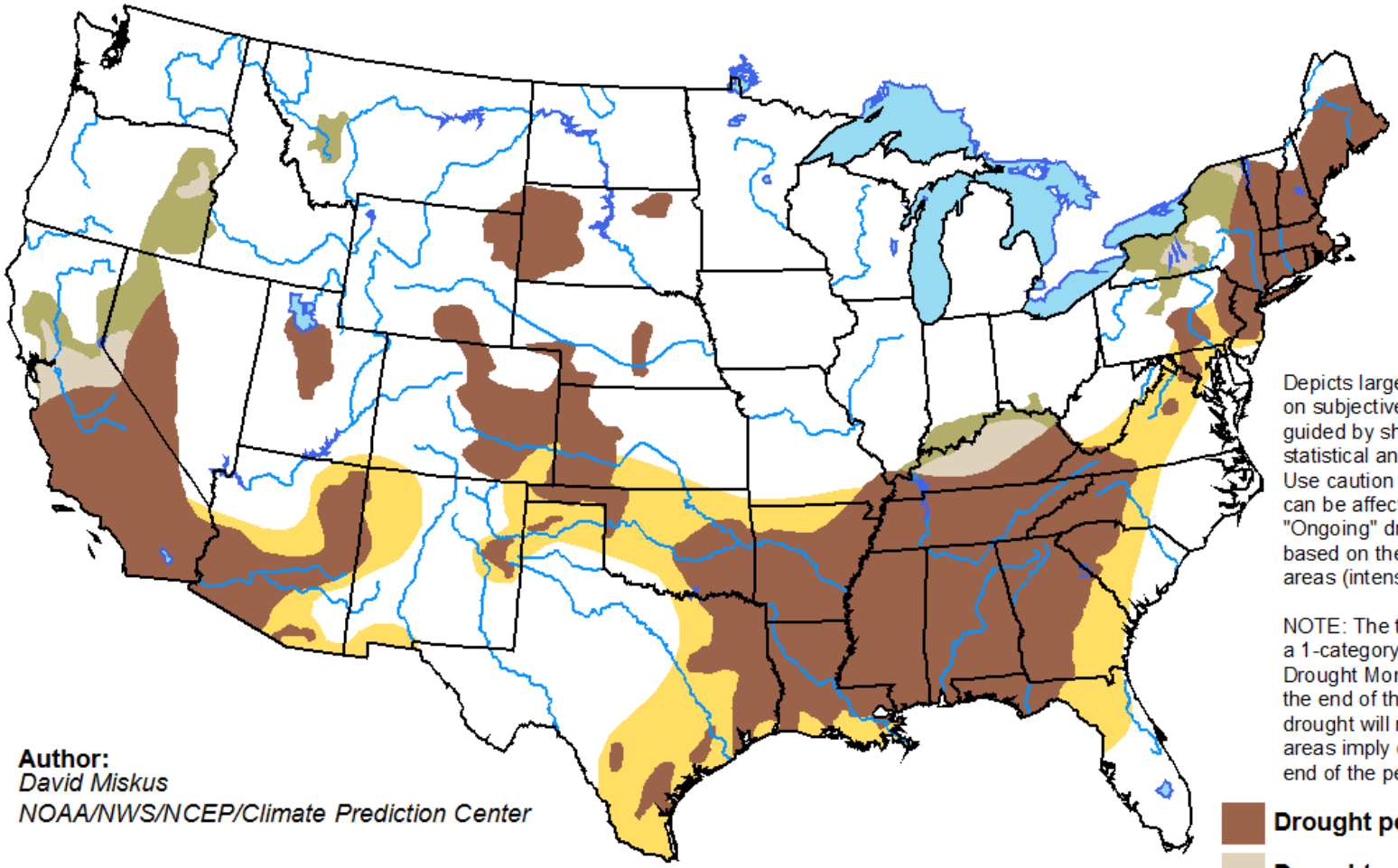


Precipitation Outlook



U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook *Valid for November 17 - February 28, 2017*

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period *Released November 17, 2016*



Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

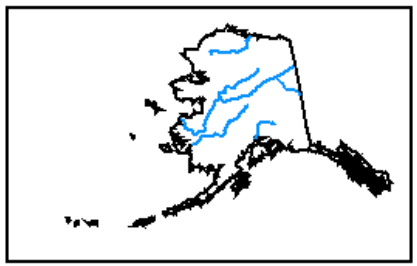
Drought persists

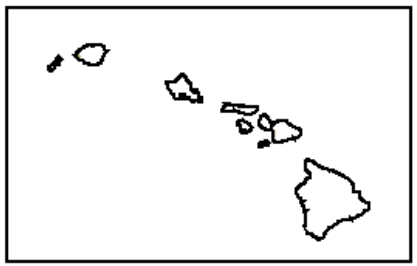
Drought remains but improves

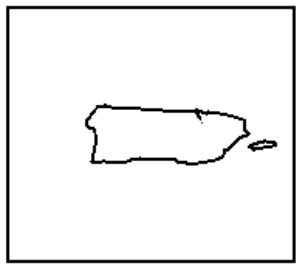
Drought removal likely

Drought development likely

Author:
David Miskus
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center







http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73