

# INVESTIGATION FOR GROUNDWATER RESOURCES IN SARABURI LIMESTONES, THAILAND

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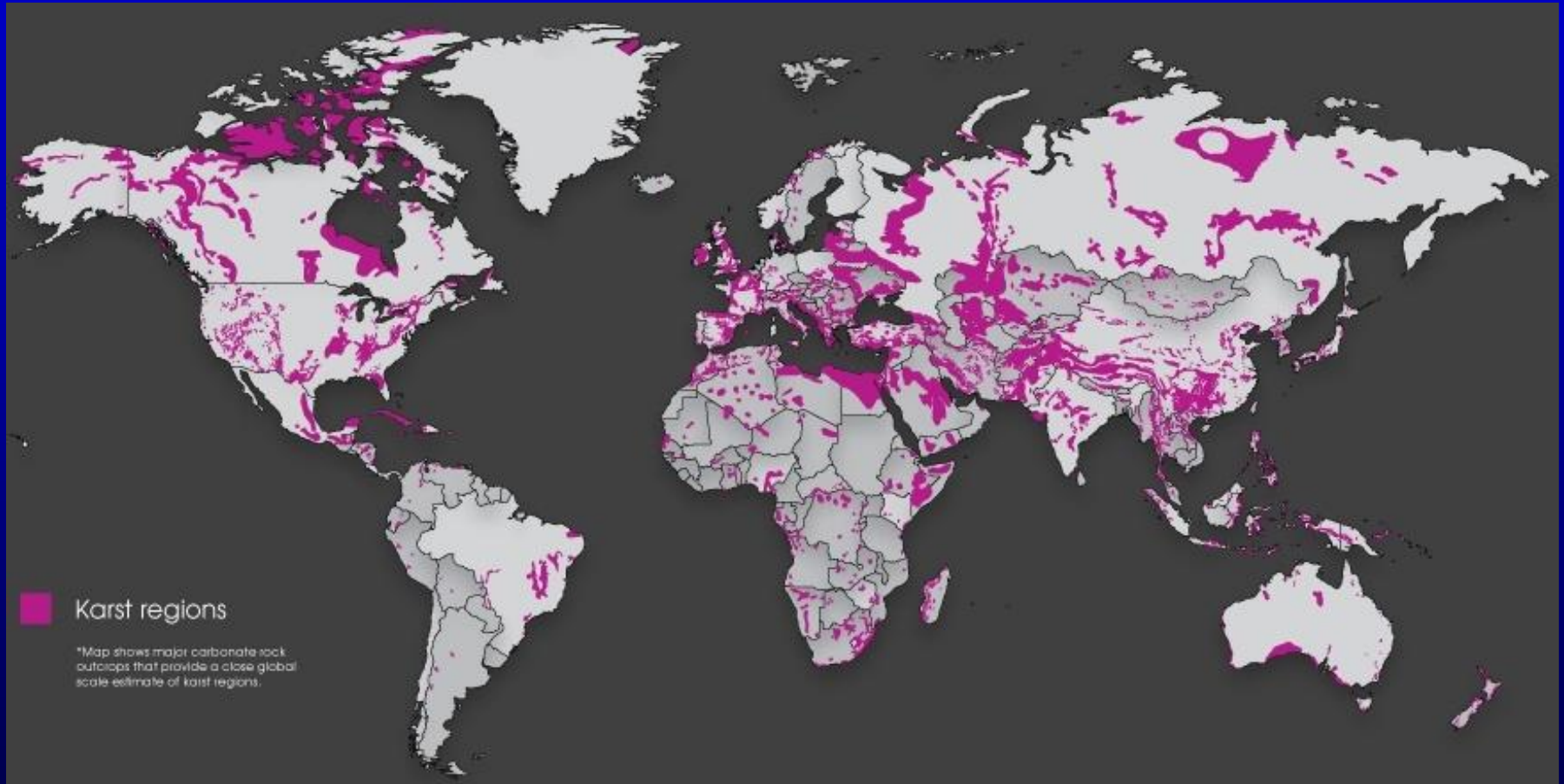
## INTRODUCTION TO KARST

## THAILAND INVESTIGATION

1. *Karst inventory*
2. *Surface geophysical investigation*
3. *Perform dye study to determine hydraulic connectivity within the aquifer*
4. *Drilling, well construction (15 pumping wells and 15 observation wells) and aquifer tests*
5. *Collect and analyze water samples for stable and radioactive isotopes to delineate the source of water*

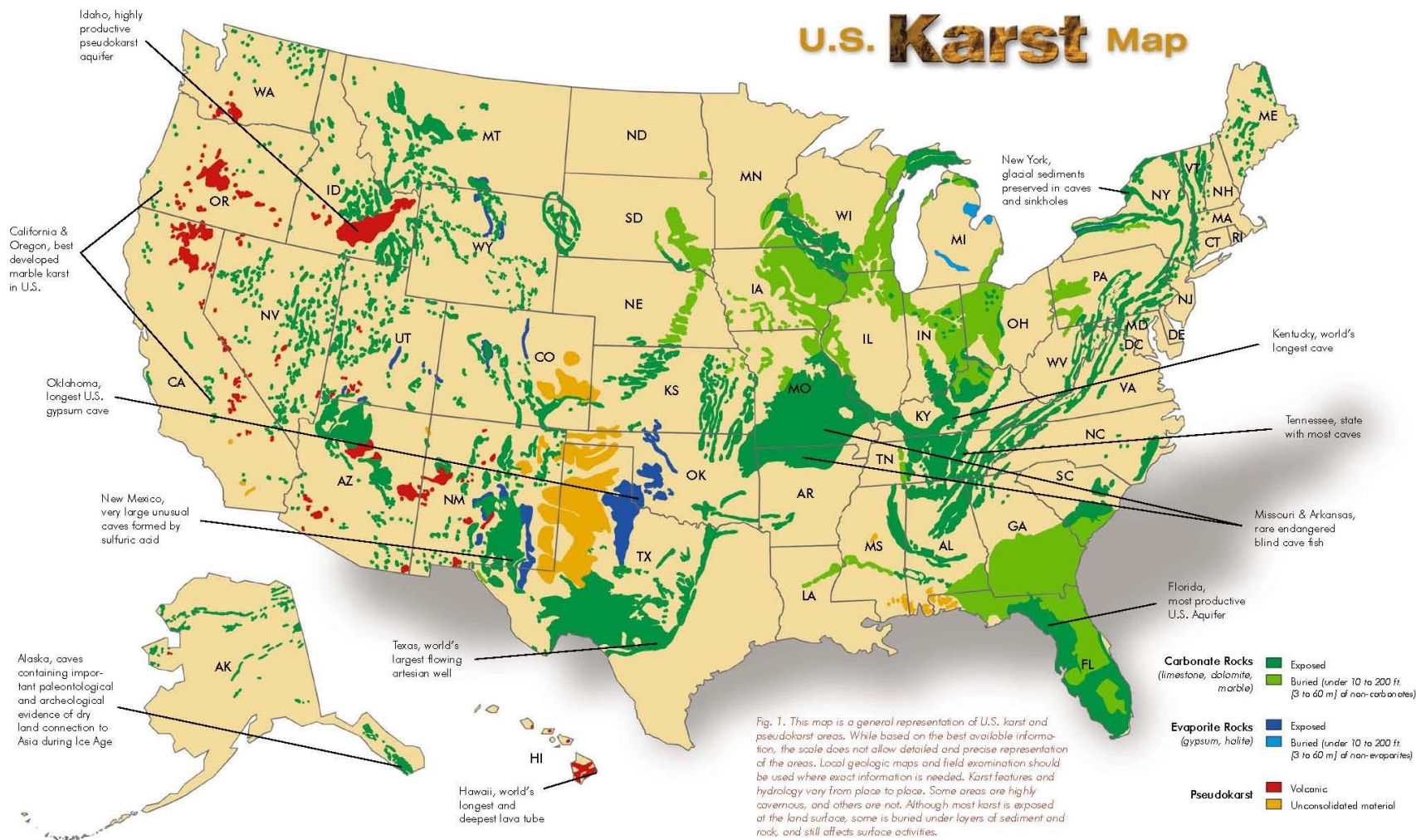


# Distribution of Major Outcrops of Carbonates Rocks in the World





# U.S. Karst Map





# What is Karst?



Karst terrane is characterized by surface and subsurface features such as sinkholes, karst windows, springs, caves and losing, sinking, or gaining underground streams.

Karst is formed on rocks that dissolve, rather than being eroded mechanically (rivers, waves, etc.). Dissolution is the basic karst process.

Streams/rivers are continuously interconnected with the aquifers in the geological units traversed, recharging or discharging into karst aquifers have a strong reaction to hydrological events.





# Principles of Karst Development

For karst landscape to form we have to have:

- Lithologic Conditions (rocks that dissolve)
- Hydrogeologic Conditions (surface, groundwater and precipitation)
- Structural Control







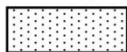
# Lithologic Conditions



## Definition and Classification of Limestone

Prepared by Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geology and Land Survey, 2011

### Academic, Geological Definition of Limestone (stipple pattern)



#### Sources for Nomenclature

American Society for Testing and Materials, 1966, ASTM C119-50 in Book of Standards, for definition of **calcite limestone** (pp.103-105)

Neendorf, K.K.E., Mehl, James P., Jr., and Jackson, Julia, 2005, Glossary of geology, 5th ed. American Geological Institute, Alexandria, Virginia, 779p., for **geological and commercial definitions of limestone** (p.371) and for definitions of **dolomitic limestone** (p.189), **calcitic dolomite** (p.92), **dolomite** (p.189) and **magnesian dolomite** (p.388)

Pettijohn, F.J., 1957, Sedimentary rocks, 2nd ed., Harper, New York, 718p., for definitions of **high-calcium limestone**, **magnesian limestone**, **dolomitic limestone**, **calcitic dolomite** and **dolomite** (p.417-18)

### 100% Other Rock Materials

(Chert, Quartz Sand & Silt, Clay, etc.)

### Practical, Commercial Definition of Limestone (yellow color)

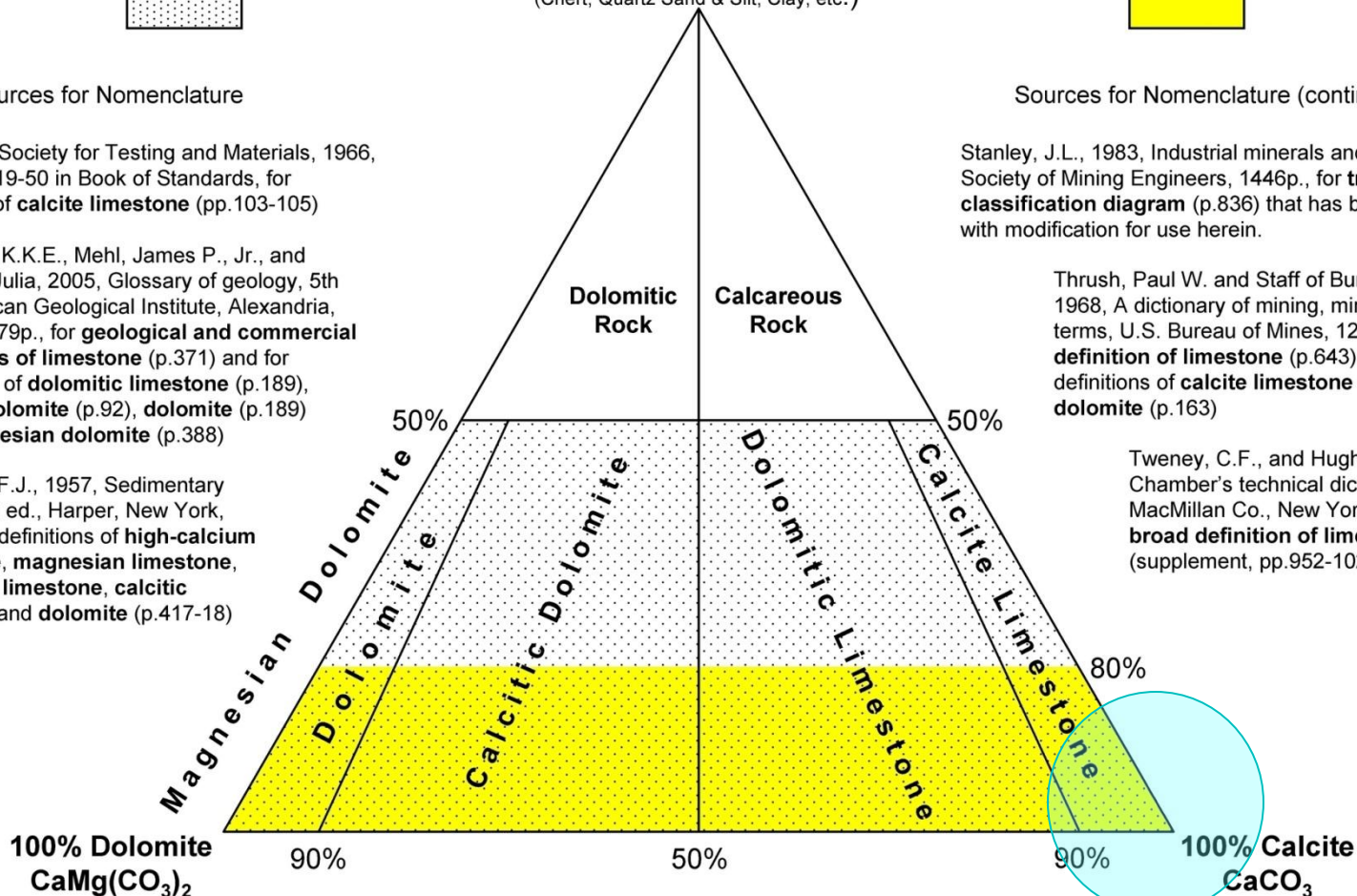


#### Sources for Nomenclature (continued)

Stanley, J.L., 1983, Industrial minerals and rocks, 5th ed., Society of Mining Engineers, 1446p., for **triangle classification diagram** (p.836) that has been adopted with modification for use herein.

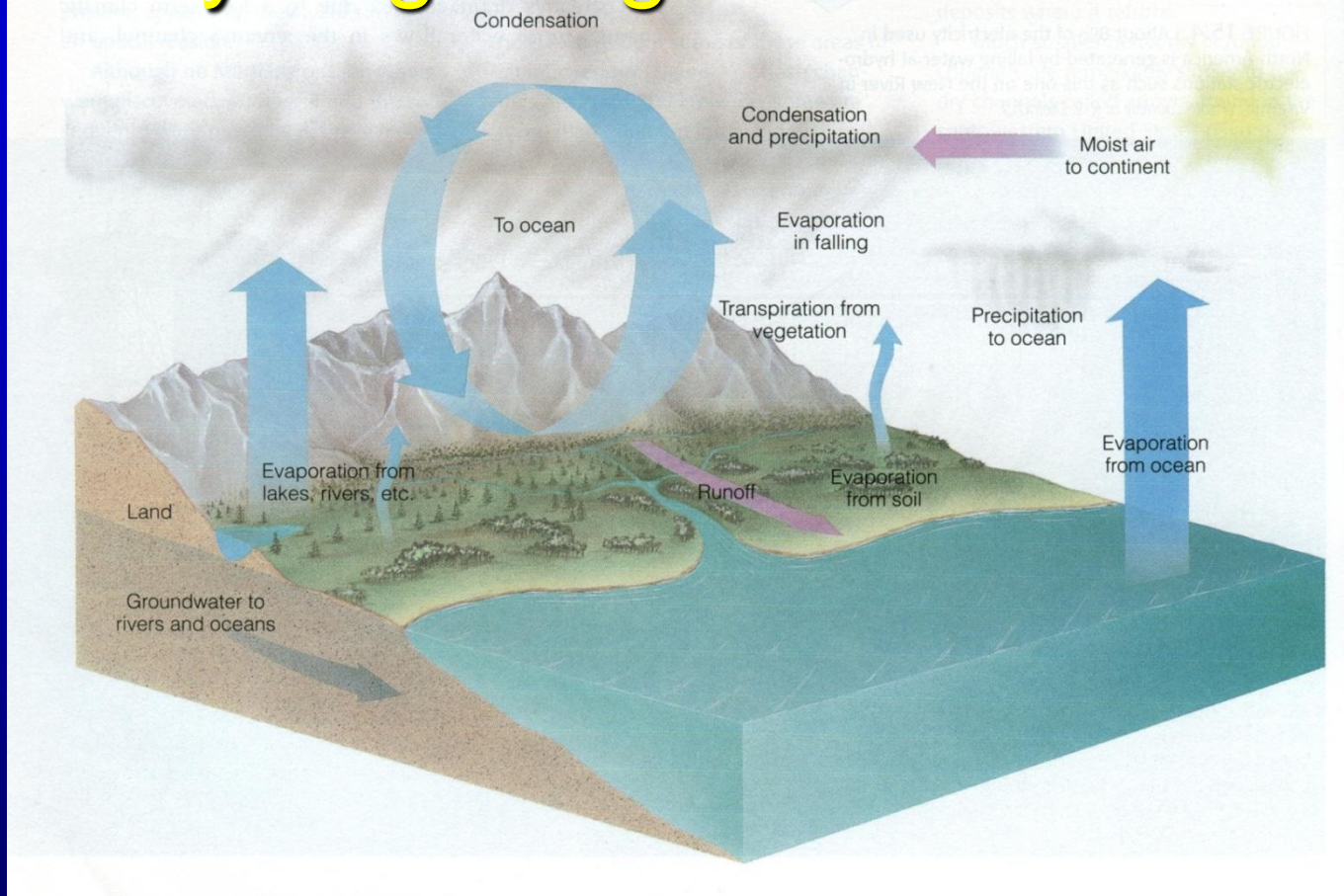
Thrush, Paul W. and Staff of Bureau of Mines, 1968, A dictionary of mining, mineral, and related terms, U.S. Bureau of Mines, 1269p., for **broad definition of limestone** (p.643) and for definitions of **calcite limestone** and **calcitic dolomite** (p.163)

Tweney, C.F., and Hughes, L.E.C., 1958, Chamber's technical dictionary, 3rd ed., MacMillan Co., New York, 1028p., for **broad definition of limestone** (supplement, pp.952-1028)





# Hydrogeologic Conditions



During the hydrologic cycle, water evaporates from the oceans and rises as water vapor to form clouds that release precipitation over oceans or land. Much of the precipitation falling on land returns to the oceans by surface runoff, thus completing the cycle.

(source: Monroe and Wicander 1997)



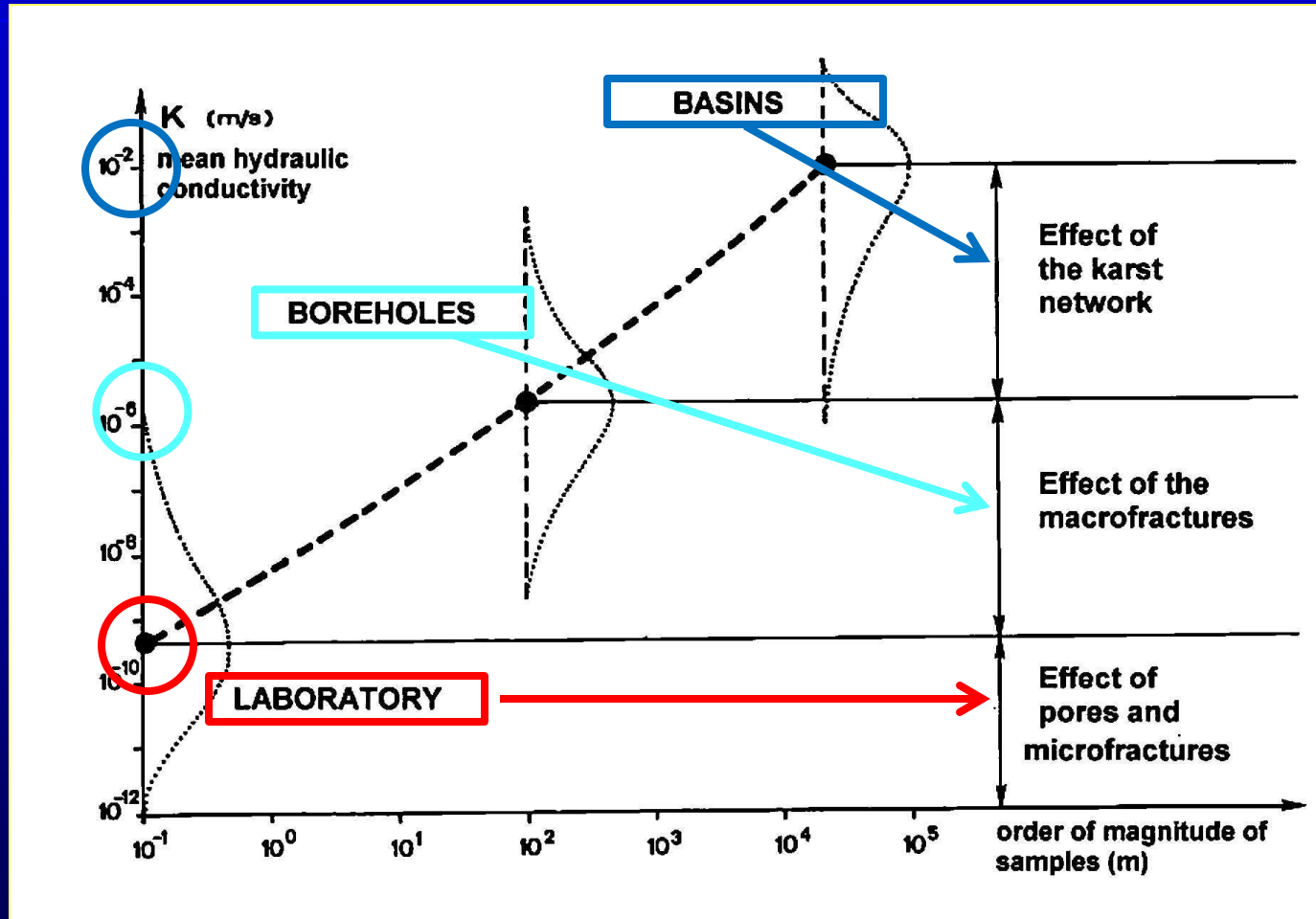
# Structural Control

- Limestone has low primary permeability.
- Water flows through limestone along fractures, cracks/joints or bedding planes.
- Because the rock dissolves, the fractures are widened by dissolution, predominantly near the rock surface and less with depth.





# Methods for Characterization of Karst Aquifers and Scale Effects



(from Kiraly, 2003)

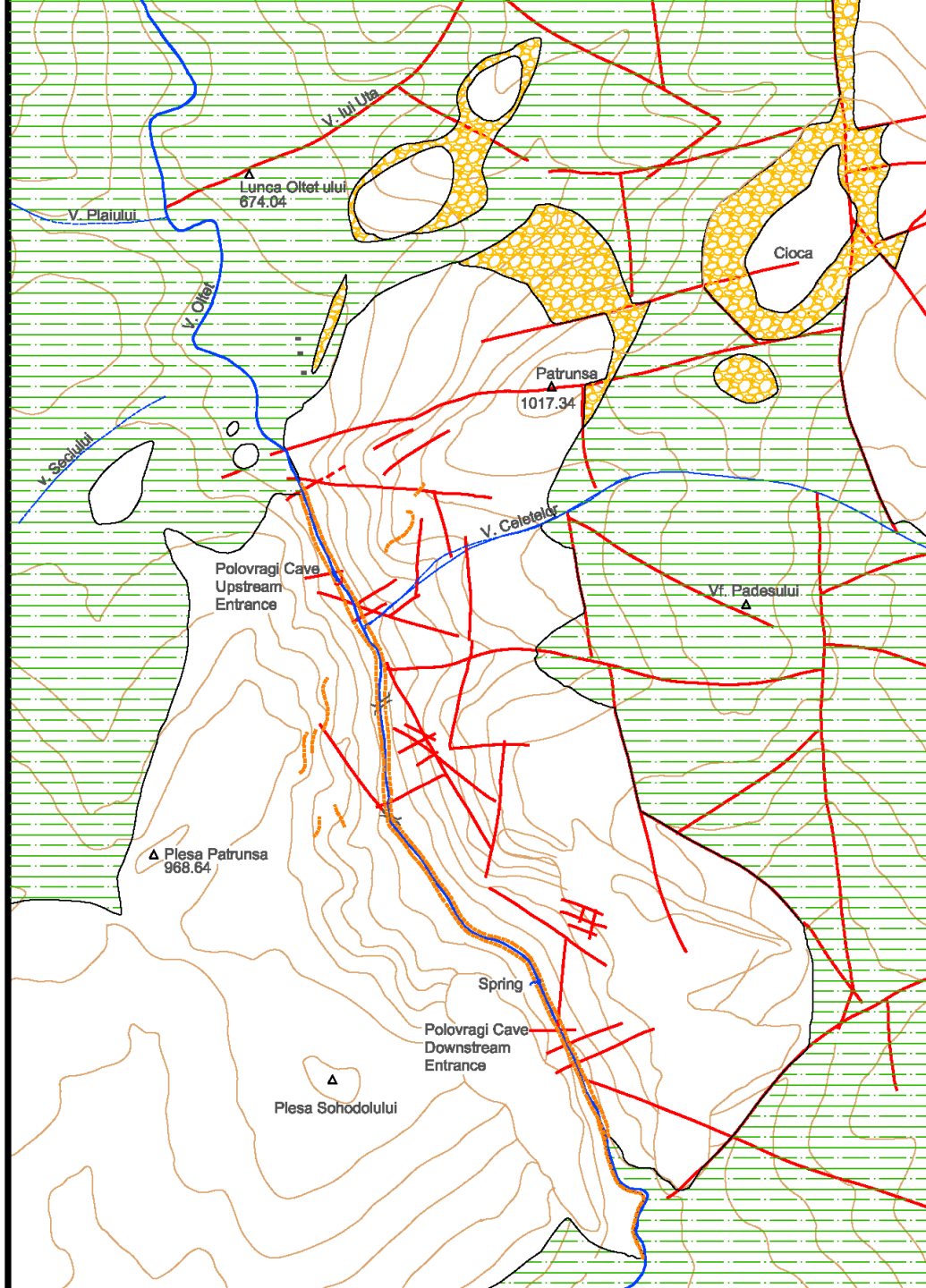
Carbonate aquifer systems are highly heterogeneous and strongly anisotropic! The characterization of aquifer properties is usually not possible by one single method.







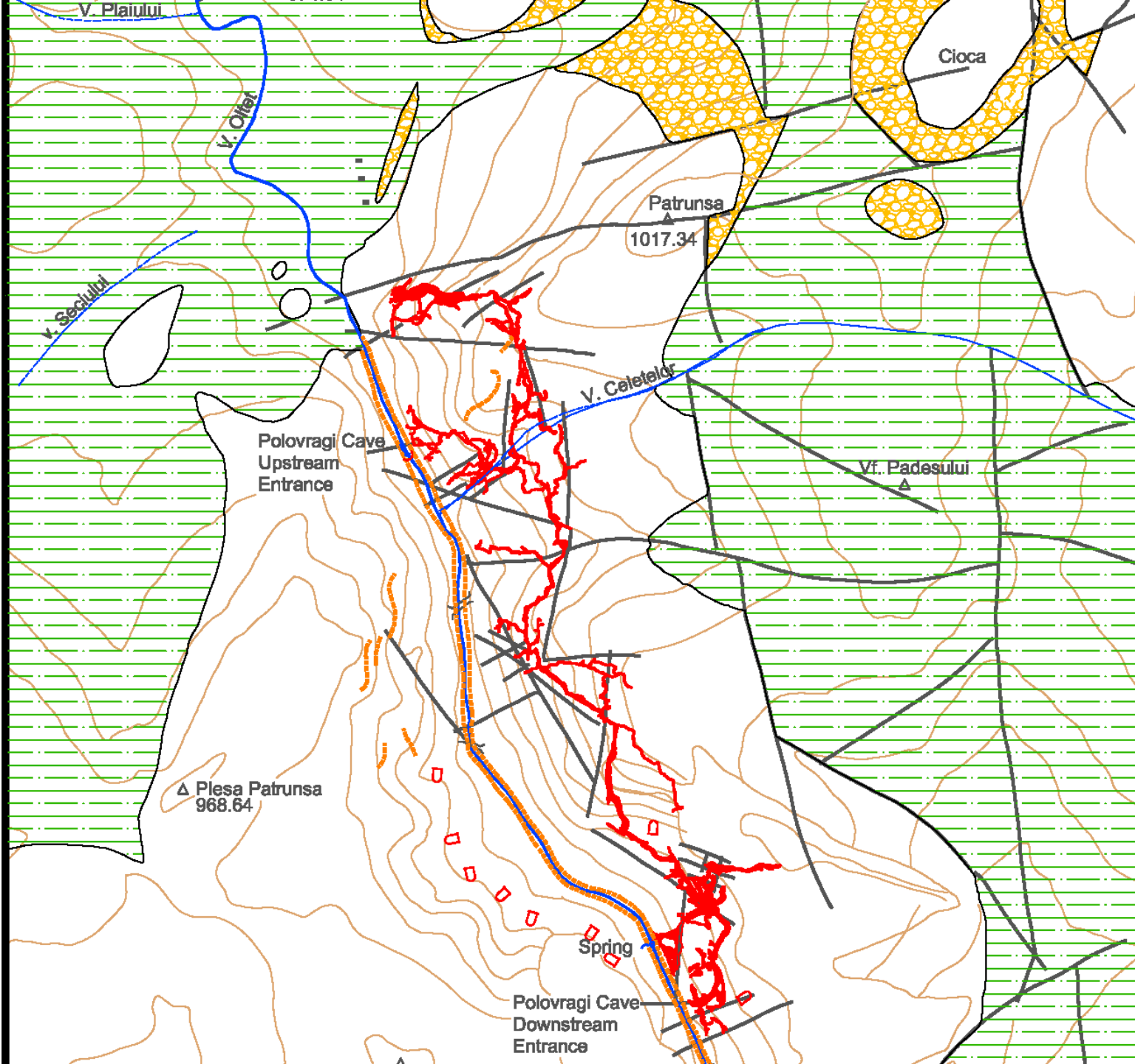
# Karst Fracture Control



## LEGEND

- Stream
- Temporary Stream
- Spring
- Swallow-Hole
- Cliffs & Gorges
- Fault
- Peak
- Building
- Bridge





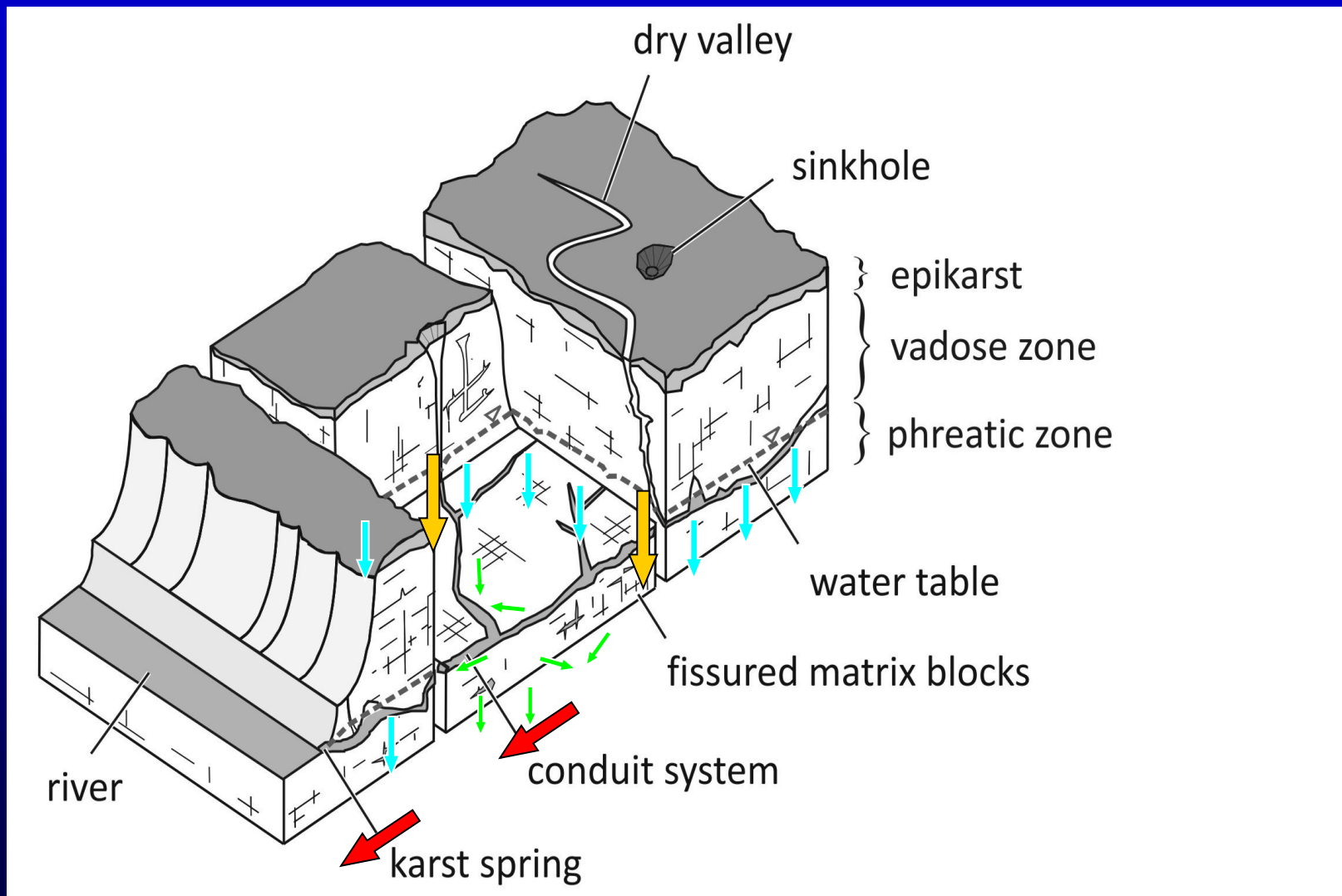
# Components of the Karst Drainage System

- A. Unconsolidated, mantling sediment (cover or **overburden** - soil)
- B. The development of internal drainage produces the unique weathered zone characteristic of karst - **the epikarstic zone**
- C. Drainage shafts (**vadose zone**); and
- D. A deeper, cavernous network of solution channels transporting water (and sediment) laterally to exit points (springs) (**phreatic zone**).





# Conceptual Model of a Karst Aquifer







# Characteristics of Karst

- Carbonate Rock
- Irregular Bedrock Surface
- Sinkholes
- Caves
- Springs/Seeps
- Disappearing Streams





# Characteristics of Karst Carbonate Rock





# Characteristics of Karst

## Irregular Bedrock Surface







# Characteristics of Karst Sinkholes







# Characteristics of Karst Caves





# Characteristics of Karst

## Springs







# Characteristics of Karst

## Sinking (Disappearing) Streams







# Why is Karst a Special Problem?



Limestone is dissolved by groundwater flowing through fractures in the rock.







# Why is Karst a Special Problem?



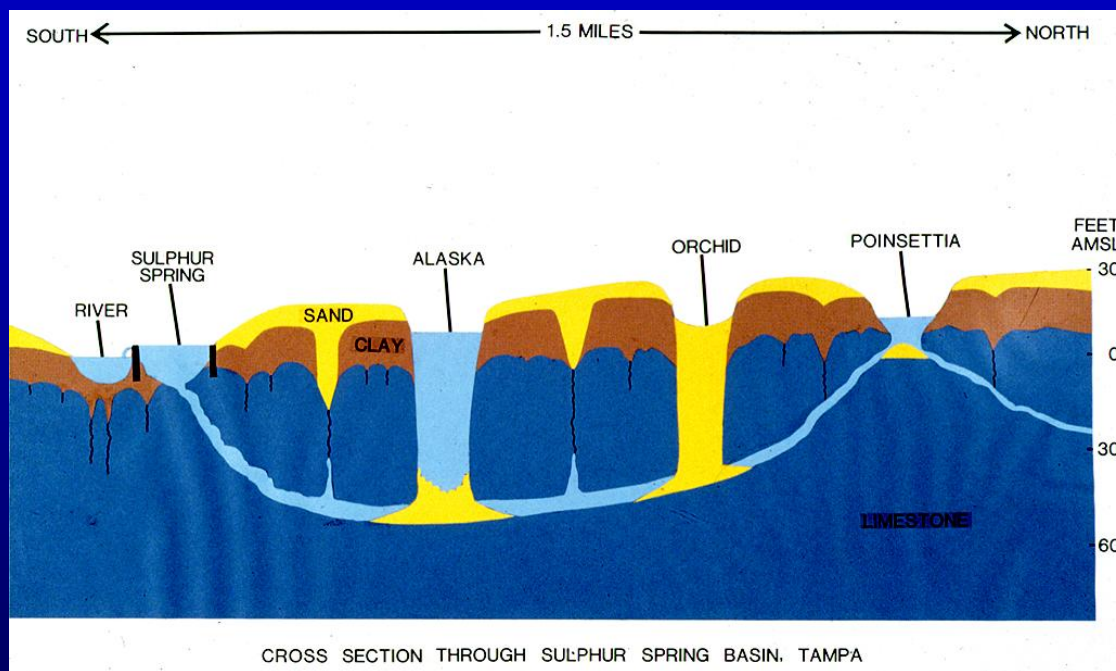
Over time, groundwater dissolves cavernous pathways through the rock.





# Why is Karst a Special Problem?

These cavernous pathways form integrated networks transmitting water through the ground.

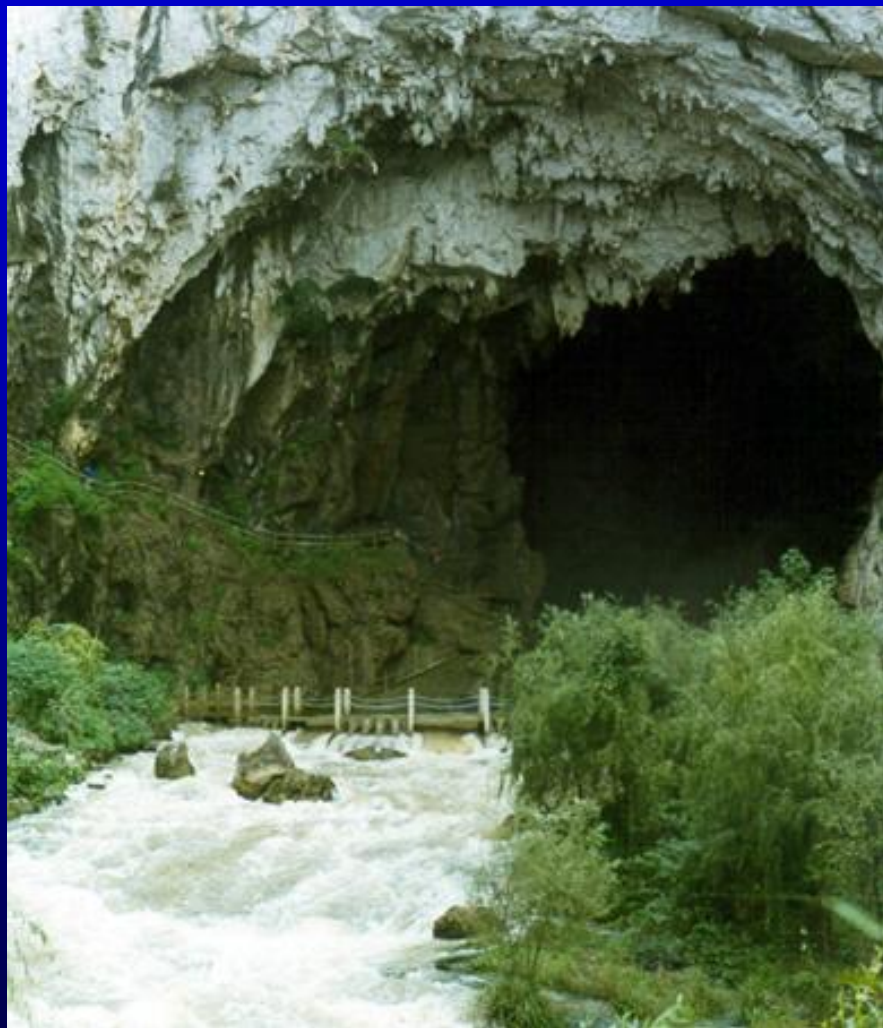


CROSS SECTION THROUGH SULPHUR SPRING BASIN, TAMPA





# Why is Karst a Special Problem?



In some cases very large volumes of water may be transmitted along preferential flow patterns.







# Why is Karst a Special Problem?

Cavernous systems may have cultural resources associated with them.







# Why is Karst a Special Problem?



Pollutants may be transported rapidly, for great distances, with little dilution or natural clean-up.





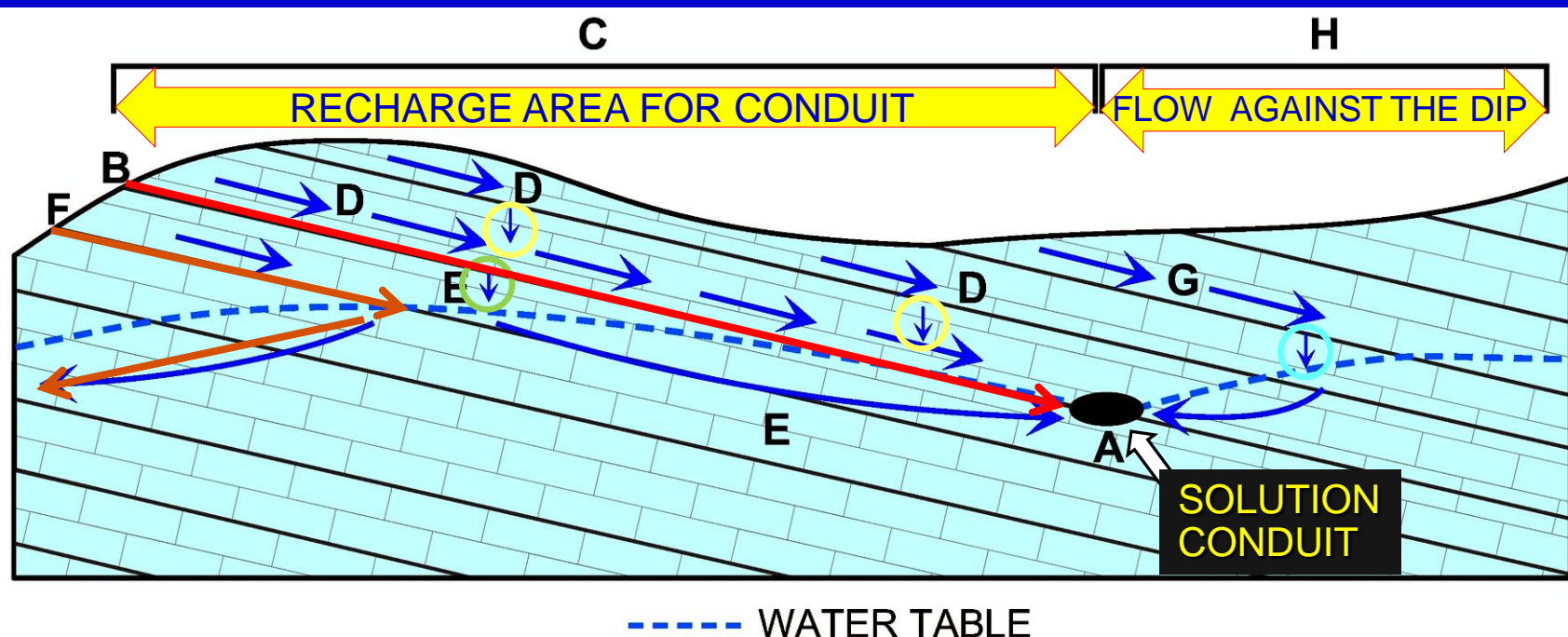
# Karst Aquifers

- Karst aquifers require specific investigation techniques because they are different from other hydrogeological environments such as fractured and granular aquifers.
- They evolve with time as the  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$  in the flowing water dissolves the carbonate rocks.
- If a well is drilled into a sand or gravel aquifer, water always will be encountered, whereas the extreme heterogeneity of karst makes it difficult to drill a successful well (Goldscheider et al., 2007).





# Groundwater Flow in Carbonates



Cross section through a typical capture zone, view is in the direction of strike (strike is into/out of the diagram).

Modified from Ginsberg and Palmer, 2002

A – Main **SOLUTION CONDUIT** that drains to spring (not shown)

B – Capture zone for the spring includes region updip from the **SOLUTION CONDUIT**

D – Major flows form conduits tributary to the **SOLUTION CONDUIT**

E – Minor seepage

F – Zone beyond estimated capture zone

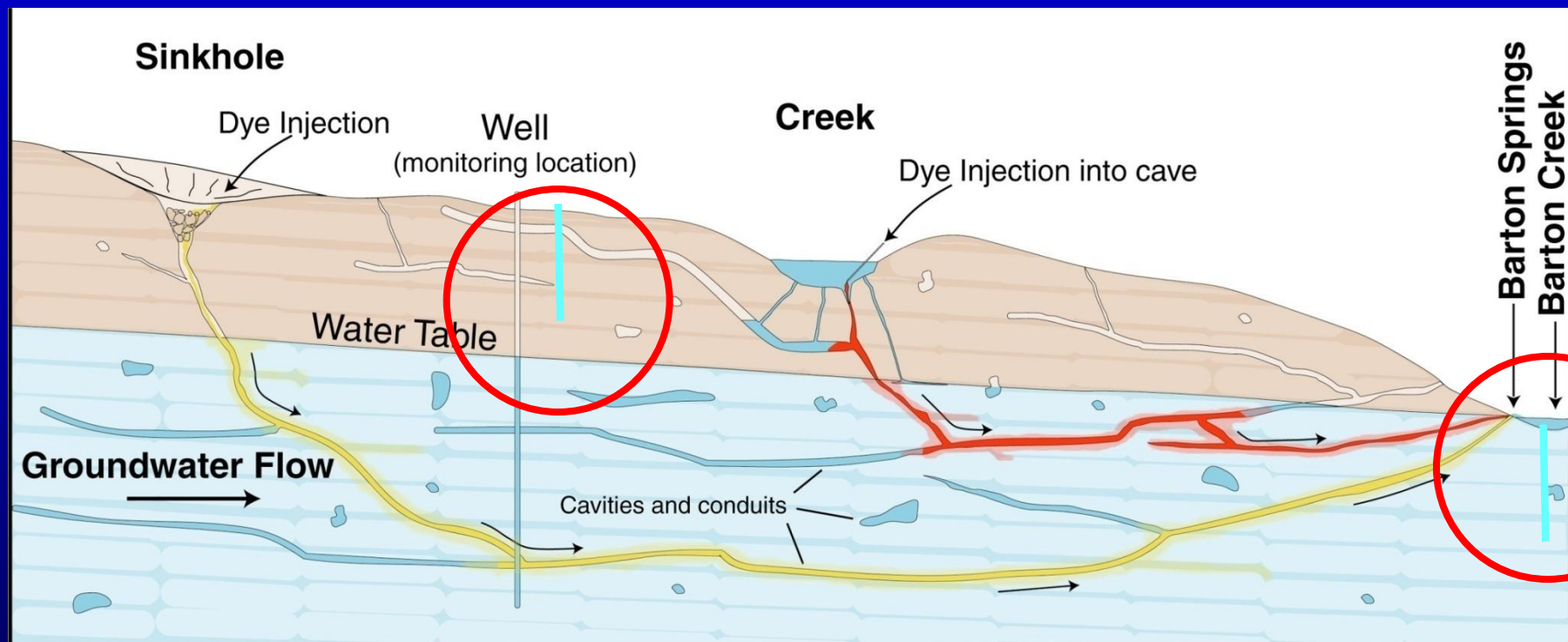
G – Some vadose zone may pass above the strike-oriented **SOLUTION CONDUIT**







# Karst Aquifers







# Karst Aquifers

It is difficult to draw potentiometric maps on the basis of water-level measurements in wells in karst aquifers, and then to use these maps to predict the direction and velocity of groundwater flow unless there are measurements from a large number of wells. Other methods, such as tracer tests, are thus more appropriate to determine flow direction and velocity (Goldscheider et al., 2007).





# Karst Aquifers

- The primary objective of a public/private water-supply system is to provide the consumer with a safe, dependable supply of drinking water.
- Karst groundwater supplies are particularly vulnerable to contamination because of the relatively direct connection to surface activities and the rapid transport of surface runoff and contaminants to the karst ground-water system.
- Occurrence and orientation of solution conduits, fractures, and bedding planes can complicate delineation of recharge areas.





# Karst Aquifers

In karst terrane it is necessary to have a detailed understanding of the extent of the aquifer recharge area, and an understanding of how pollutants move through the system.





# OBJECTIVES OF THAILAND INVESTIGATION

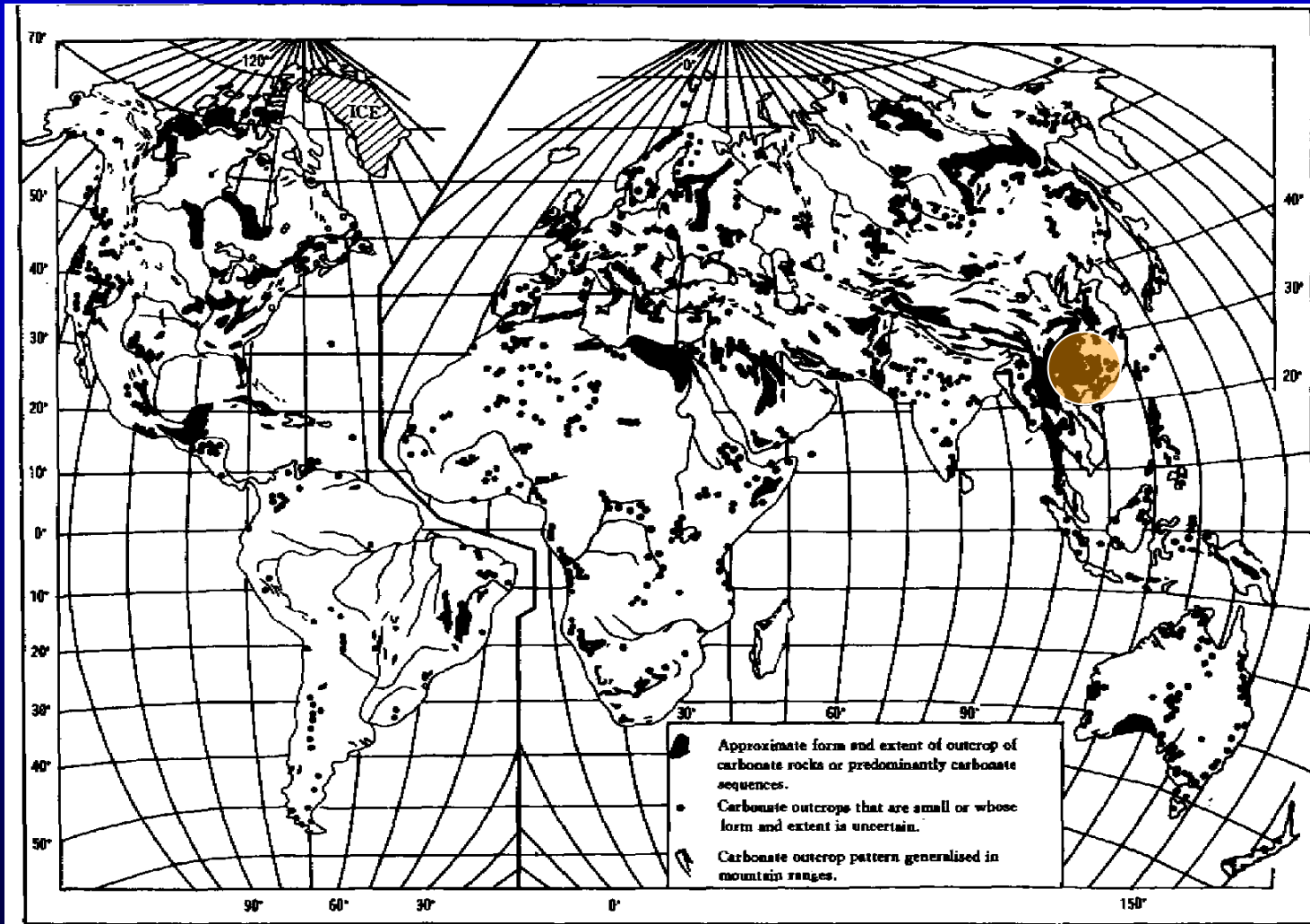
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# Distribution of Major Outcrops of Carbonates Rocks in the World



(source: Ford and Williams 2007)

# Why is Karst a Special Problem?

Because 25% of Thailand is underlain by carbonate rocks and millions of people are using karst waters on a daily basis.









## CLIMATE

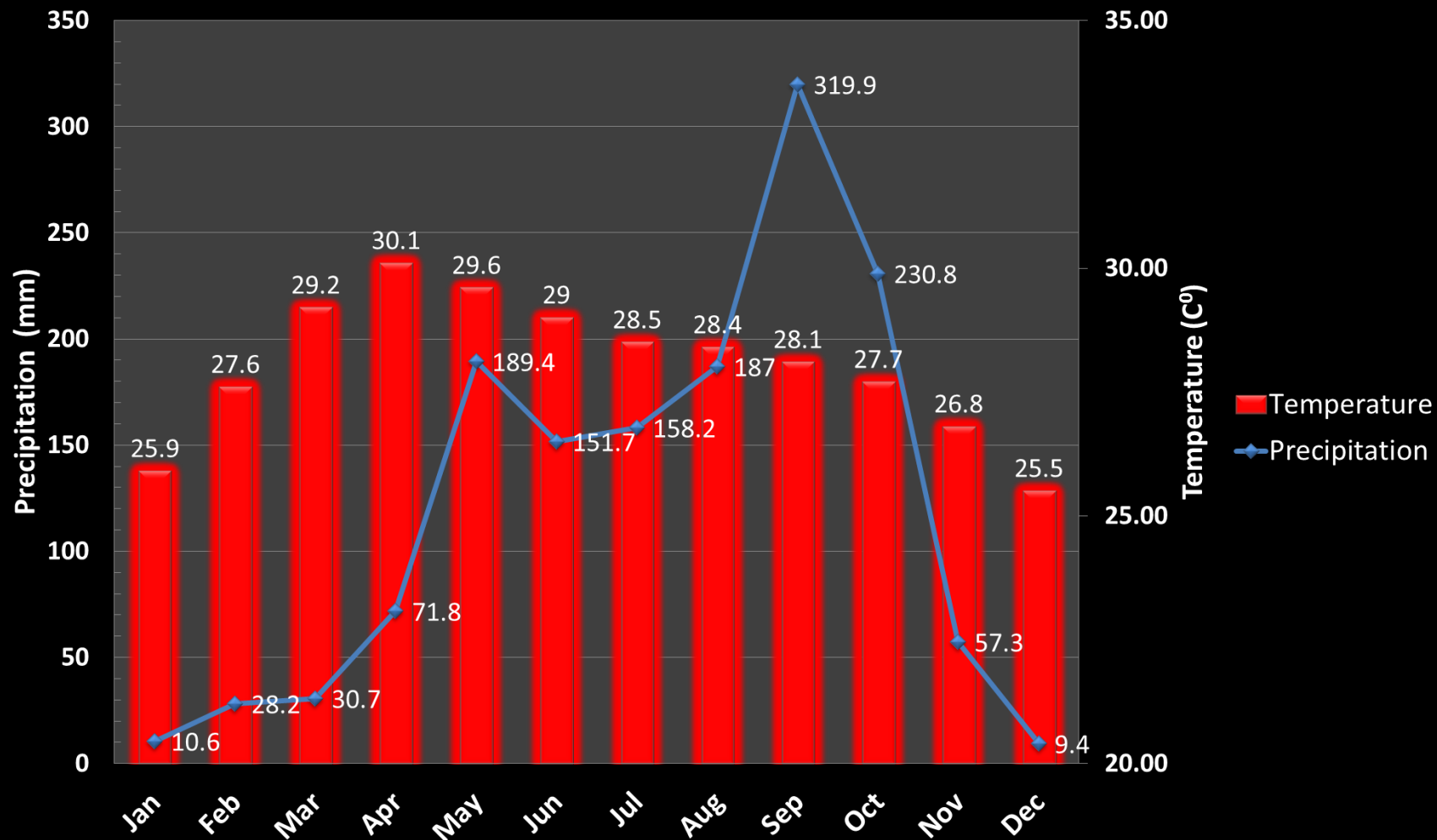
- Tropical climate (monsoon type) with two distinct seasons is characteristic of the project area.
- The dry season begins in October and ends in May.
- Annual rainfall ranges between 1,500 and 2,000 mm and temperature between 20.0°C and 40.7°C.

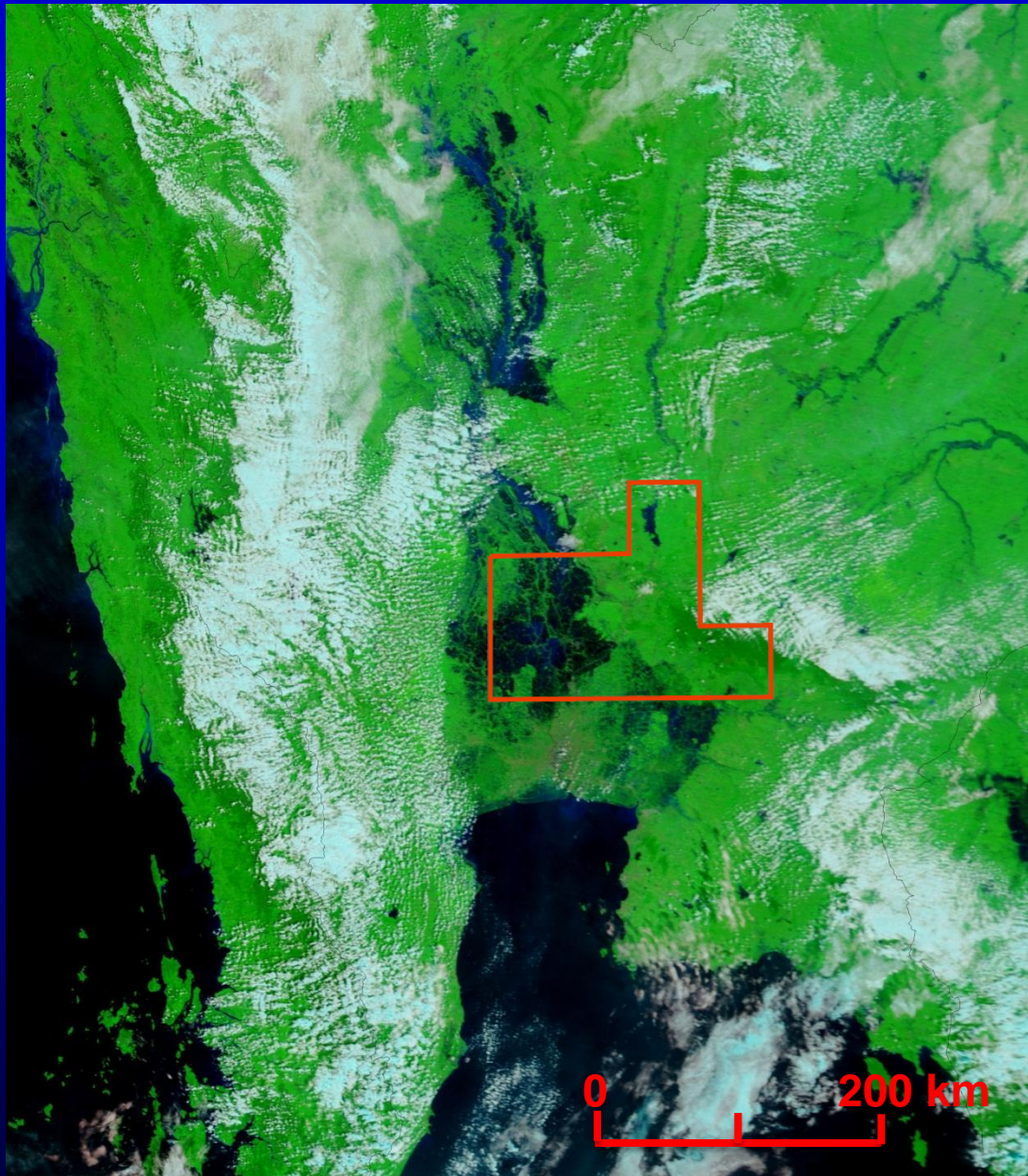




## Temperature versus Rainfall

(Average derived from 1146 months between 1840 - 1990)





False-color satellite image showing extent of flooding on 19 October 2011; water is shown in dark blue.













*Three weeks after the flood, dry period begins.*











## WATER SOURCES AND STORAGE IN THE PROJECT AREA



*Rainwater is preserved in cisterns.*







## *WATER SOURCES AND STORAGE IN THE PROJECT AREA*



*Water supply well and storage tank.*





## WATER SOURCES AND STORAGE IN THE PROJECT AREA



*Industrial well*

*TD = 29.5 m, 12 inches diameter well*

*Q = 28 l/s or 100 m<sup>3</sup>/hour*

บ่อบาดาล <b>P10</b>	ความลึกของบ่อ	29.5 เมตร
	ขนาดของบ่อ	12 นิ้ว
	ขนาดท่อส่งน้ำ	6 นิ้ว
	ขนาดท่อส่งน้ำผิวดิน	6 นิ้ว
	Motor Horse Power	100 HP
ผู้รับผิดชอบ โรงงาน 2 โทร.3358,3311	Capacity Pump	200 M <sup>3</sup>
	ความลึกของ Pump	24 เมตร
	แรงดันของ Pump	6.0 Bar
	Motor Power	3.8 Volt
	Motor Power	8.7 Amp.
ข้อมูลวันที่	Capacity Pump	ที่ทำเต 9.0 M <sup>3</sup>







## WATER SOURCES AND STORAGE IN THE PROJECT AREA



*Mu Si Spring ( $Q = 150$  l/s)*







# WATER SOURCES AND STORAGE IN THE PROJECT AREA



*Man-made ponds*





# WATER SOURCES AND STORAGE IN THE PROJECT AREA



*Small dams*







# *WATER SOURCES AND STORAGE IN THE PROJECT AREA*



*Large dams (Pasak Dam)*







# WATER SOURCES AND STORAGE IN THE PROJECT AREA



Caves or large cavities intercepted during drilling activities could be potential storage for water.





## GEOLOGY

- The project area is underlain by the limestone of the Saraburi Group of Permian age (Ridd et al., 2011).
- In stratigraphic order from oldest to youngest, the rock units are the: Phu Phe, Khao Khwang, Nong Pong, Pang Asok, Khao Khad and Sap Bon formations.





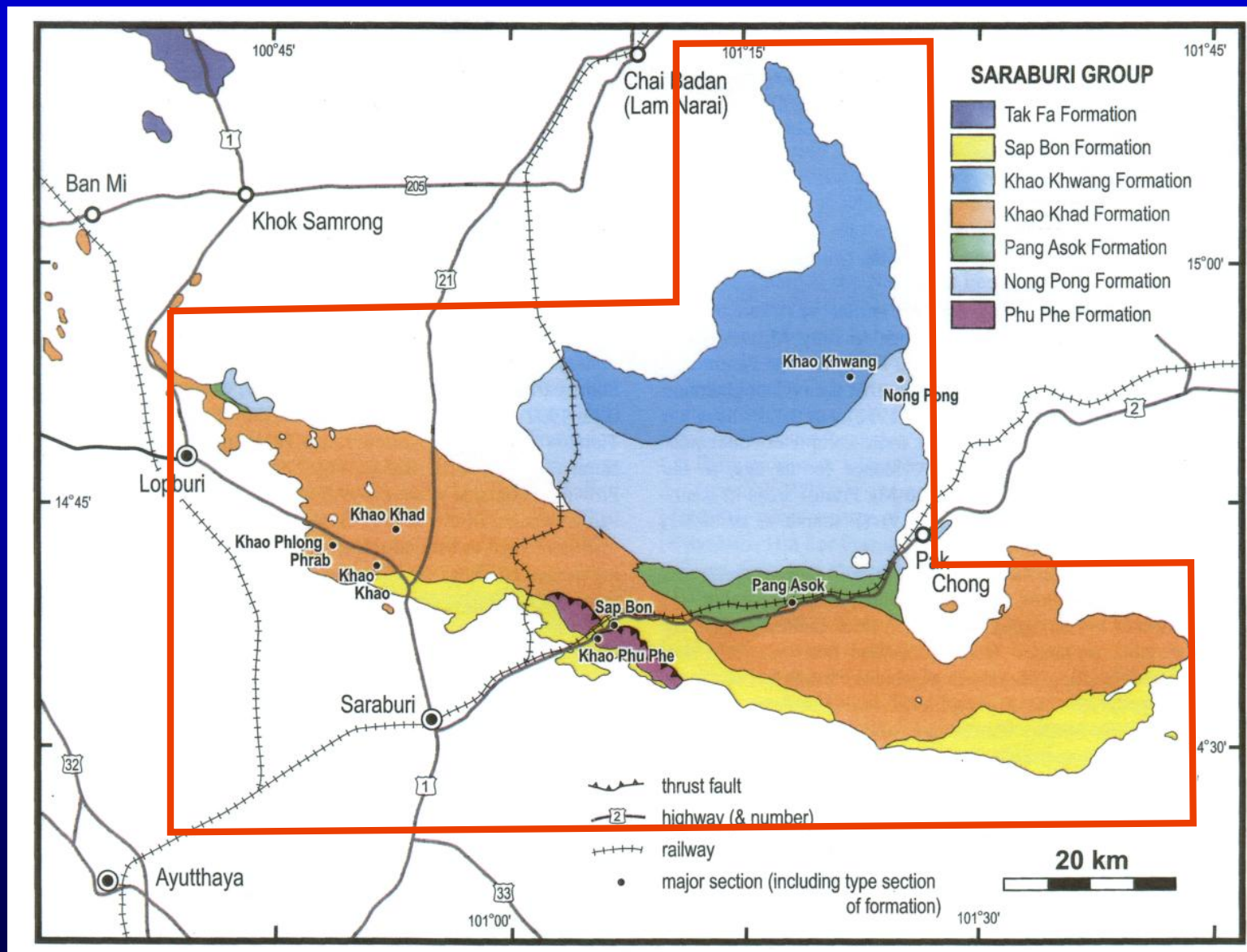


ERA	PERIOD, SUBPERIOD		EPOCH	MILLIONS OF YEARS
Cenozoic	Quaternary		Holocene	11,477 ±85 yr
			Pleistocene	1.806±0.005
	Tertiary	Neogene	Pliocene	5.332±0.005
			Miocene	
		Paleogene	Oligocene	23.03±0.05
			Eocene	33.9±0.1
			Paleocene	55.8±0.2
Mesozoic	Cretaceous	Upper / Late		
		Lower / Early	99.6±0.9	
	Jurassic	Upper / Late	145.5±4.0	
		Middle	161.2±4.0	
		Lower / Early	175.6±2.0	
	Triassic	Upper / Late	199.6±0.6	
		Middle	228.0±2.0	
		Lower / Early	245.0±1.5	
Paleozoic	Permian			251.0±0.4
			Lopingian	260.4±0.7
			Guadalupian	270.6±0.7
			Cisuralian	
	Carboniferous	Pennsylvanian	Upper / Late	299.0±0.8
			Middle	306.5±1.0
			Lower / Early	311.7 ±1.1
		Mississippian	Upper / Late	318.1±1.3
			Middle	326.4±1.6
			Lower / Early	345.3±2.1
	Devonian	Upper / Late	359.2±2.5	
		Middle	385.3±2.6	
		Lower / Early	397.5±2.7	
			416.0±2.8	
	Silurian	Wenlock	418.7±2.7	
		Ludlow	422.9±2.5	
Wenlock		428.2±2.3		
Llandovery		443.7±1.5		
Ordovician	Upper / Late	460.9±1.6		
	Middle	471.8±1.6		
	Lower / Early	488.3±1.7		
Cambrian	Upper / Late	501.0±2.0		
	Middle	513.0±2.0		
	Lower / Early	542.0±1.0		
PRECAMBRIAN				

U.S. Geological Survey Geologic Names Committee, 2007, Divisions of geologic time—Major chronostratigraphic and geochronologic units: U.S. Geological Survey Fact Sheet 2007-3015, 2 p.

## Limestone Project Karst





*Geological map of the project area (from Ridd et al., 2011)*



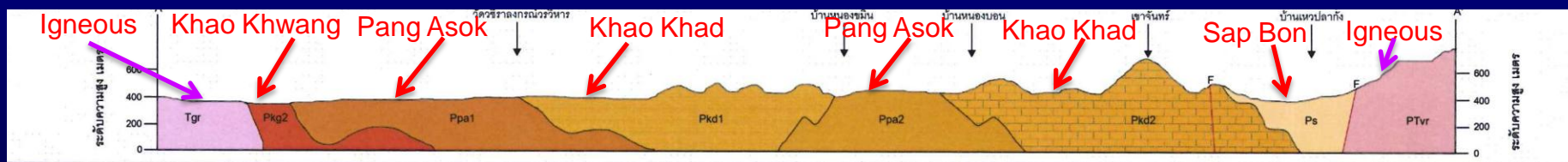
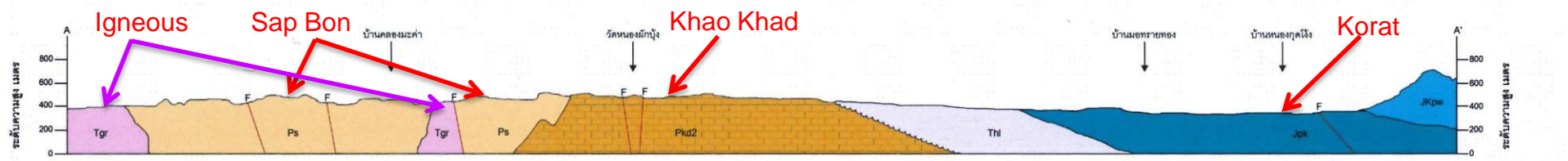
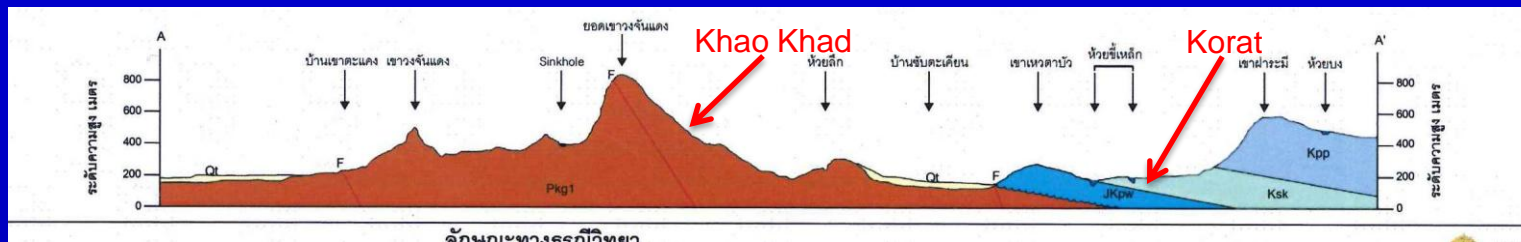


## LEGEND (PERMIAN)

	SAP BON (sandstone, shale, limestone)	}	Upper Permian	] RATBURI (SARABURI GROUP)	
	KHAO KHAD 2 (limestone, bedded chert)				
	KHAO KHAD 1 (limestone, shale, sandstone)	}	Lower-Middle Permian		
	PANG ASOK 2 (shale, sandstone, shale)				
	PANG ASOK 1 (shale, sandstone, shale)				
	NONG PONG (limestone, bedded chert, shale)	}	Lower Permian		
	KHAO KHWANG 2 (limestone with chert, shale)				
	KHAO KHWANG 1 (limestone with chert, shale)				
	PHU PHE (limestone with chert bands, shale)	}	Lower Permian		













































# OBJECTIVES OF THAILAND INVESTIGATION

## 1. *Karst inventory*

### *Karst Landforms*

#### 1. *Karren*

##### 1. *Circular plan forms*

a. *Rain Pits*

b. *Kamenitza*

##### 2. *Linear forms*

a. *Karren fields*

##### 3. *Depressions*

a. *Sinkholes (dolines)*

b. *Closed depressions*

#### 3. *Springs*

#### 4. *Sinking Streams*

#### 5. *Waterfalls*







## *Karst landforms*

### *1. Karren*

#### *1. Circular plan forms*

*a. Rain Pits*

*b. Kamenitza*

#### *2. Linear forms*

*a. Karren fields*

























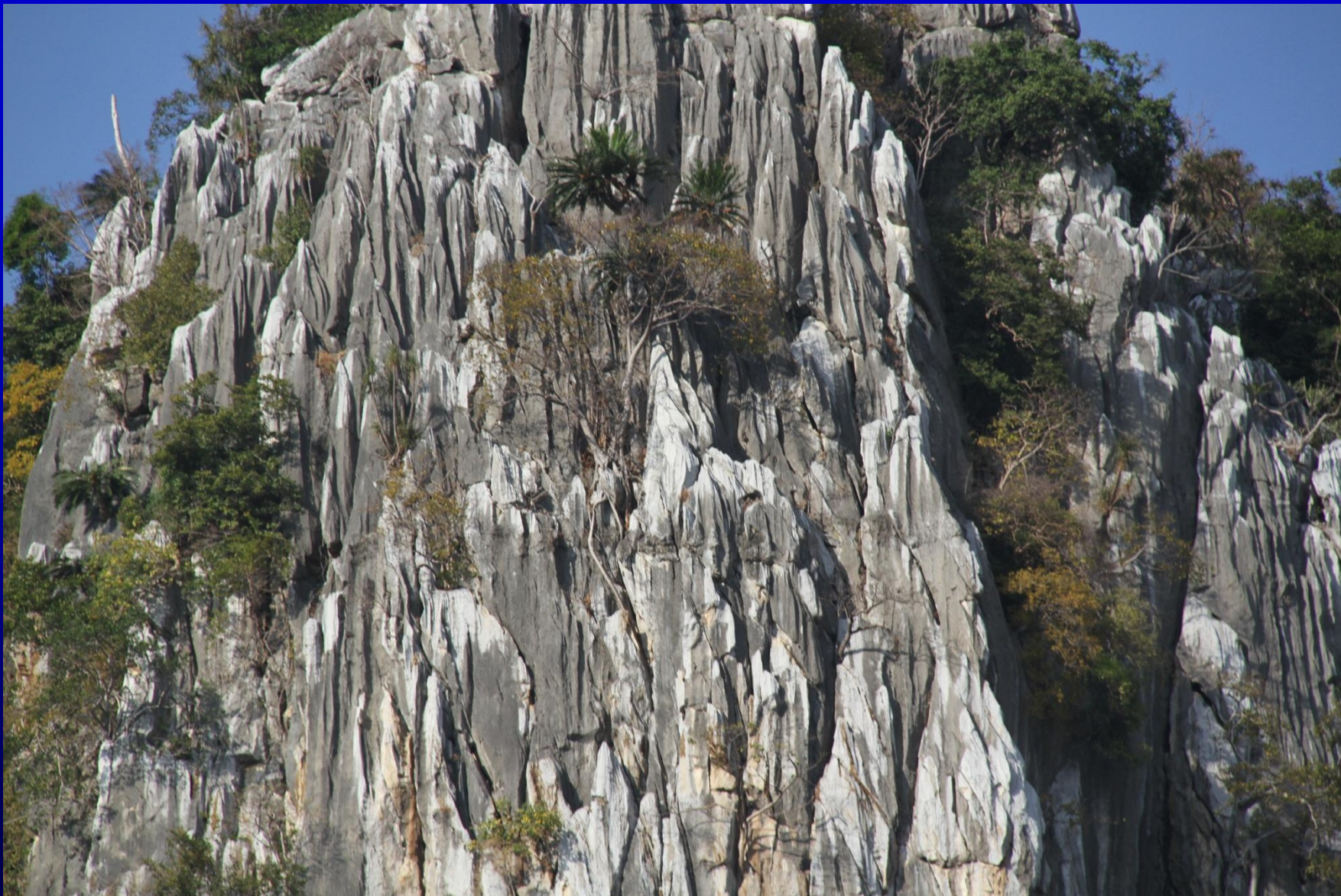
















# *Karst landforms*

## *1. Karren*

### *1. Circular plan forms*

*a. Rain pits*

*b. Kamenitza*

### *2. Linear forms*

*a. Karren fields*

### *3. Depressions*

*a. Sinkholes (dolines)*

*b. Closed depressions*

.



























# *Karst landforms*

## *1. Karren*

### *1. Circular plan forms*

*a. Rain Pits*

*b. Kamenitza*

### *2. Linear forms*

*a. Karren fields*

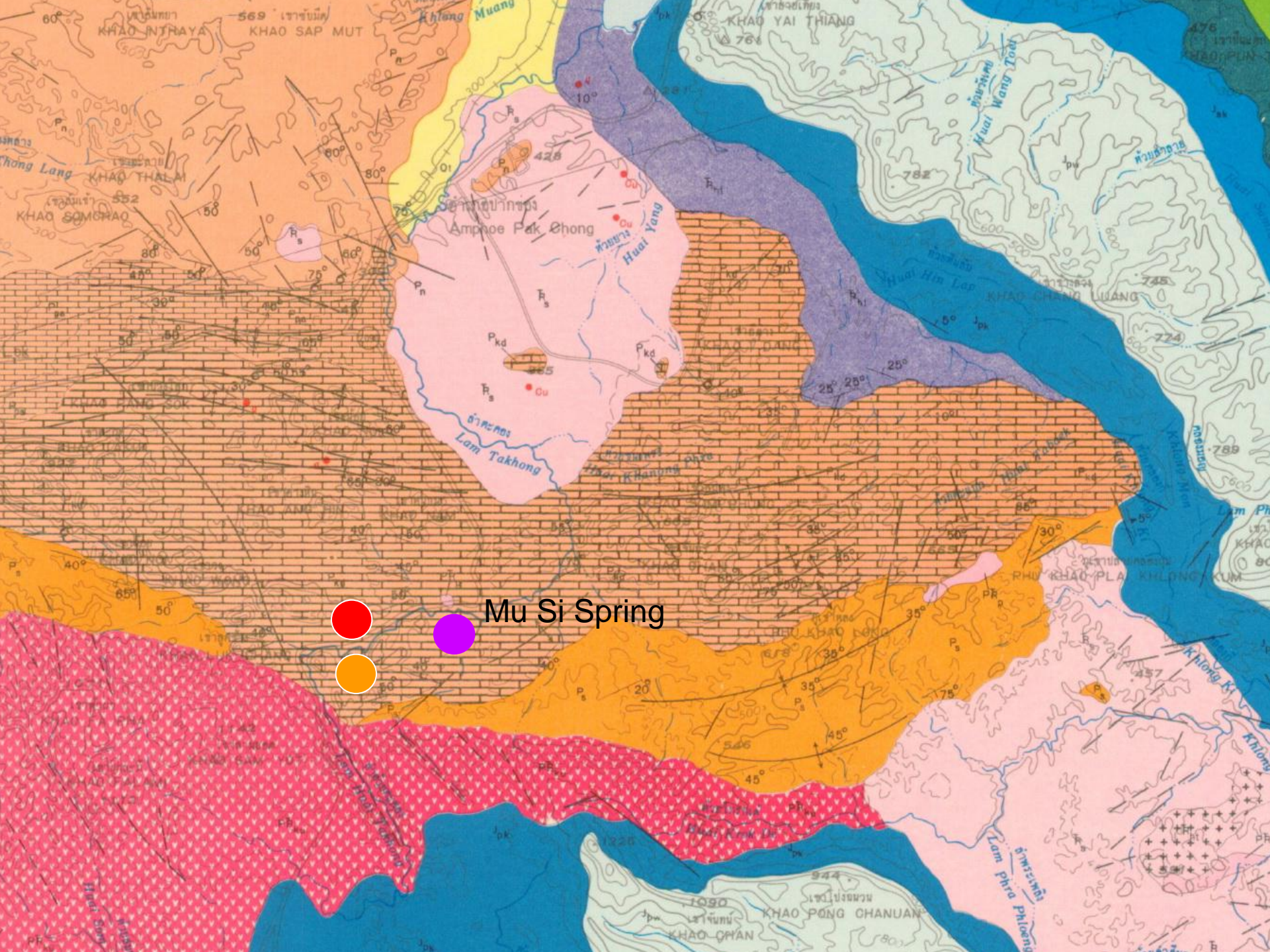
### *3. Depressions*

*a. Sinkholes (dolines)*

*b. Closed depressions*

## *3. Springs*





Mu Si Spring



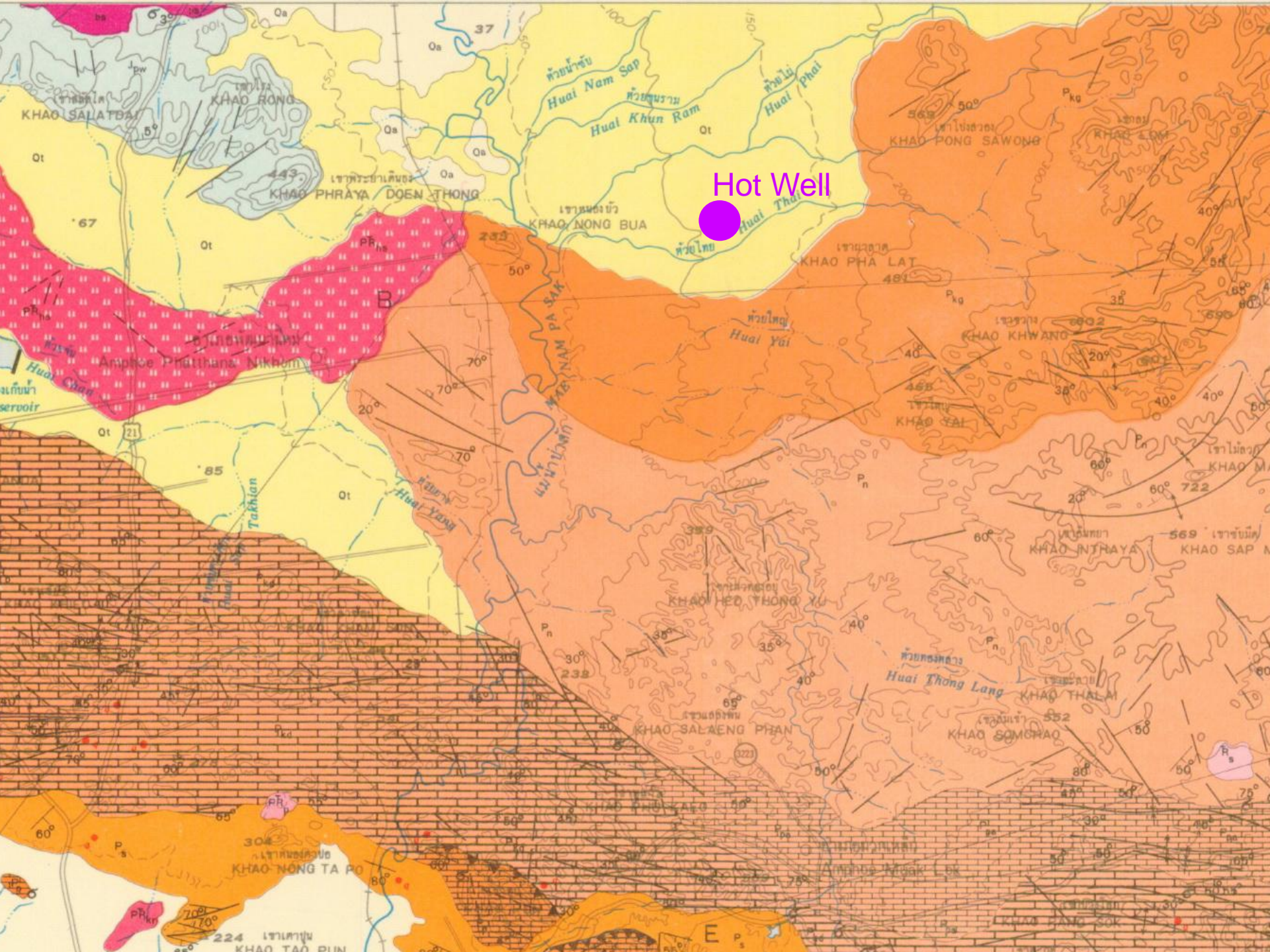


*Mu Si Spring ( $Q = 150$  l/s)*







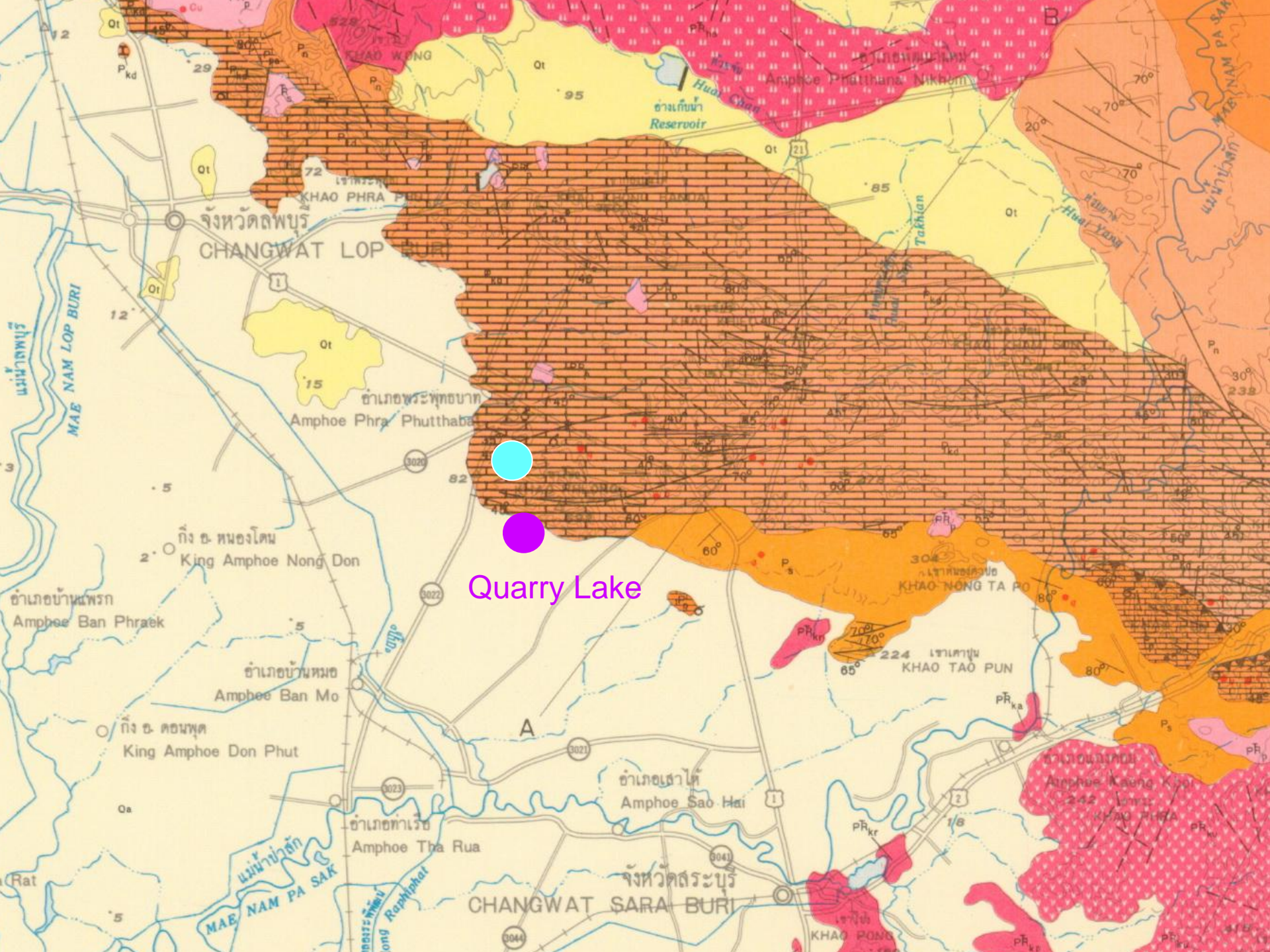






*Hot Well ( $Q = 400$  l/s)*













$Q = 1.50 \text{ l/s}$





# *Karst landforms*

## *1. Karren*

### *1. Circular plan forms*

*a. Rain pits*

*b. Kamenitza*

### *2. Linear forms*

*a. Karren fields*

### *3. Depressions*

*a. Sinkholes (dolines)*

*b. Closed depressions*

## *3. Springs*

## *4. Sinking Streams*



















# *Karst landforms*

## *1. Karren*

### *1. Circular plan forms*

*a. Rain pits*

*b. Kamenitza*

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## *3. Springs*

## *4. Sinking Streams*

## *5. Waterfalls*



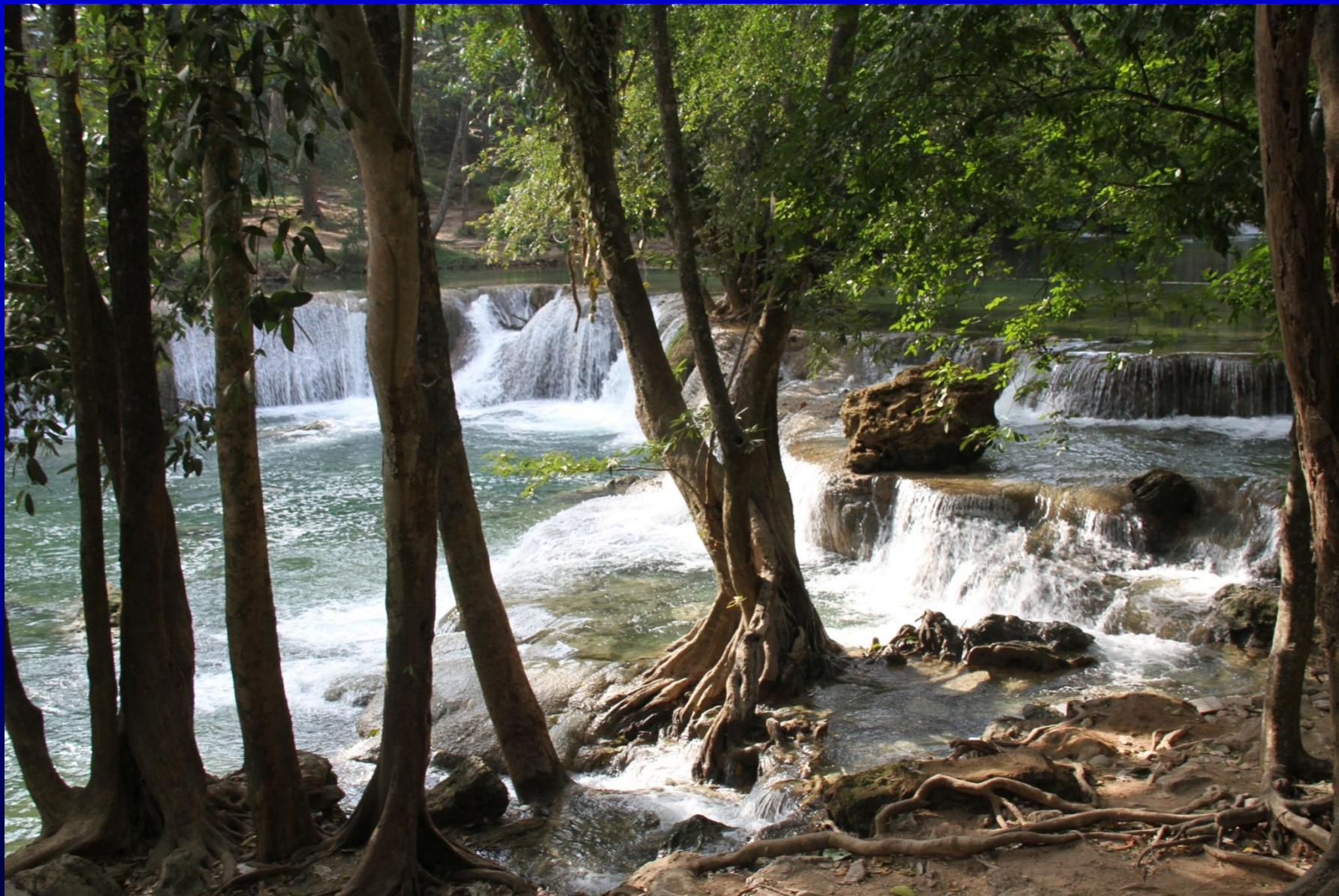














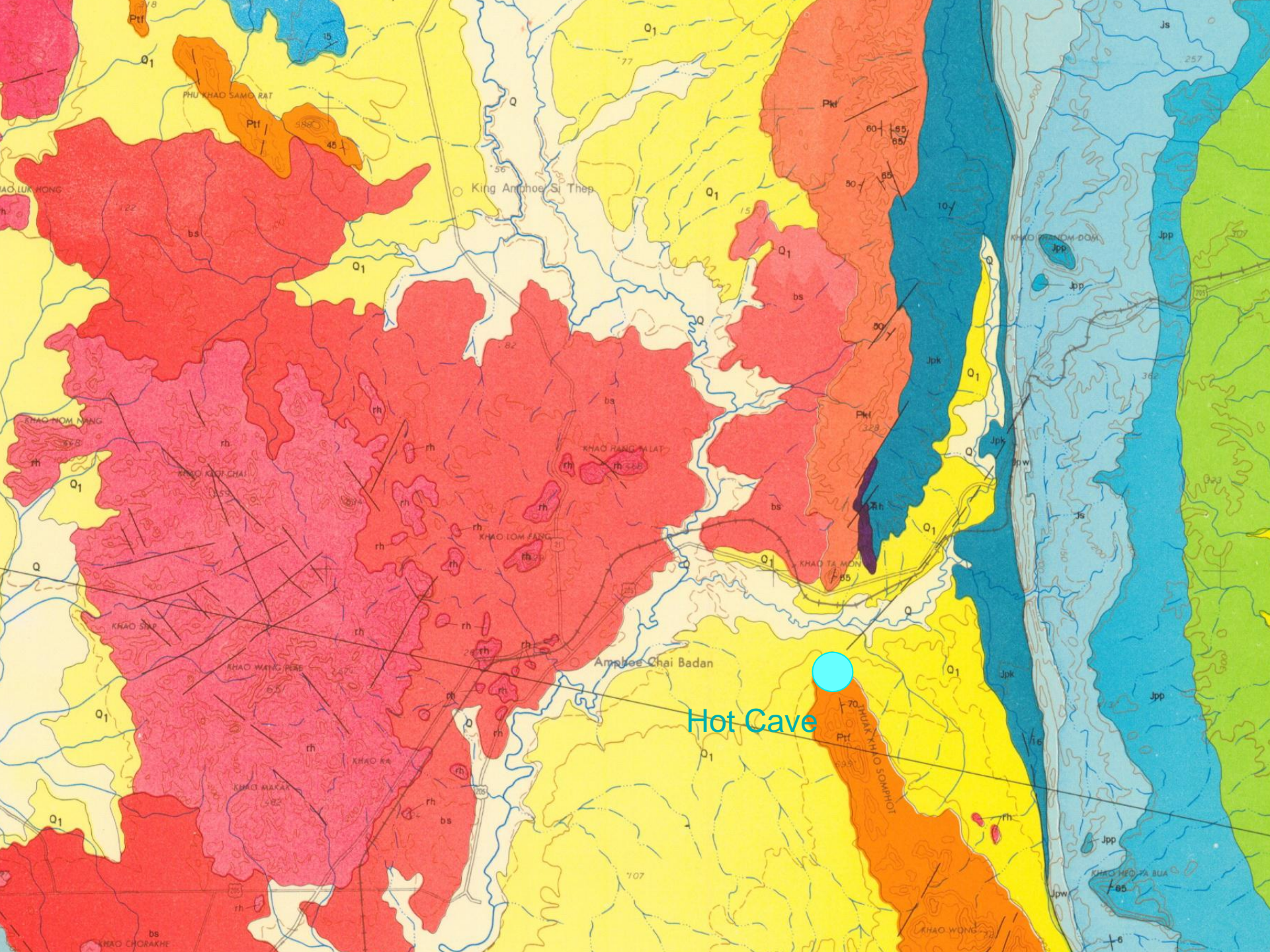






# GEOHERMAL ANOMALY









**Hypogenic cave** - A cave formed by water rising up from below and dissolving the rock, usually as the result of two different kinds of water mixing together.























# CAVES IN THE PROJECT AREA















































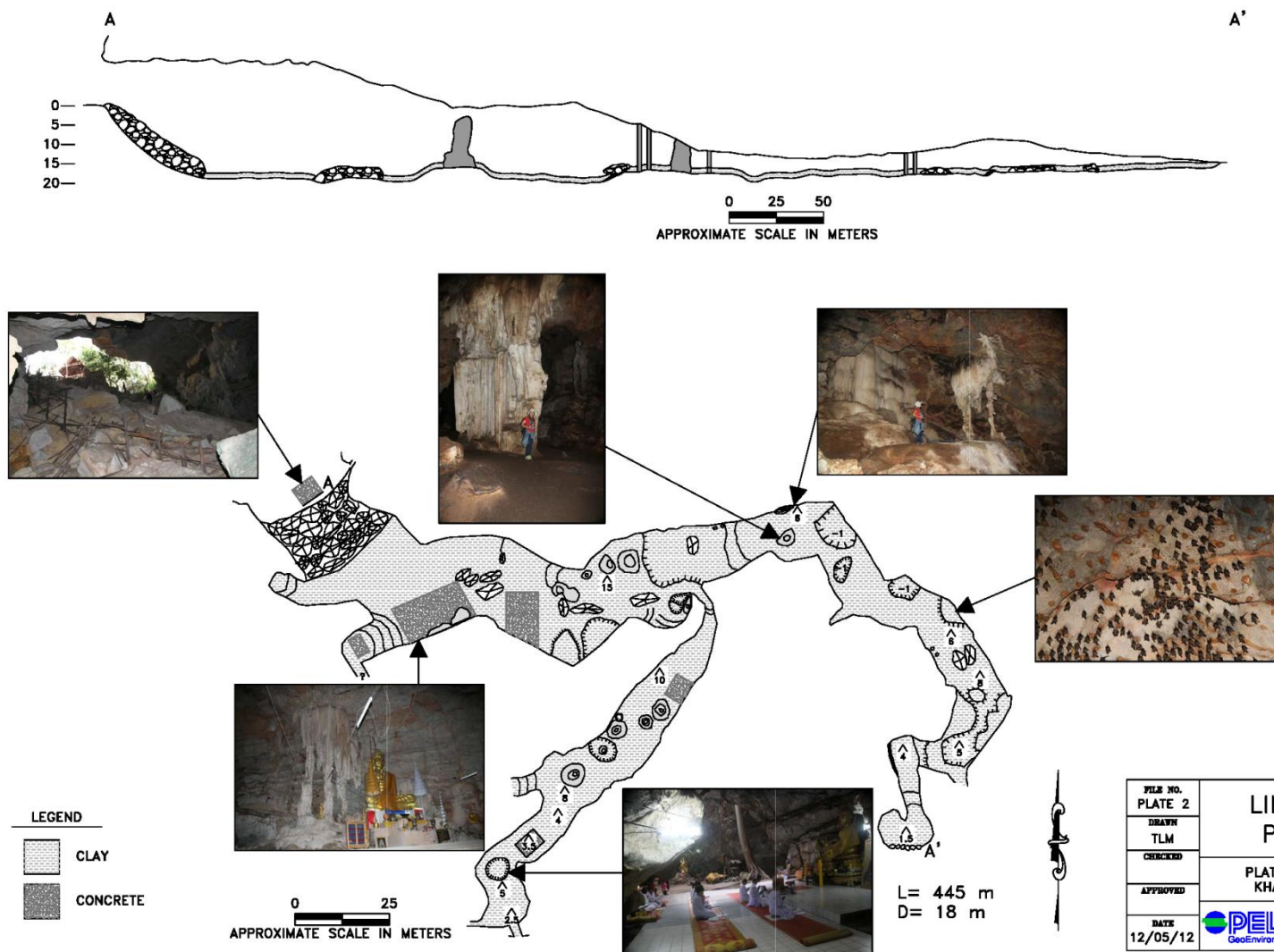
















# OBJECTIVES OF THAILAND INVESTIGATION

1. *Karst inventory*
2. *Surface geophysical investigation*





# SURFACE GEOPHYSICAL INVESTIGATIONS

- To identify favorable locations for groundwater exploration in the Saraburi Group karstified aquifer system and characterize groundwater resources, an extensive resistivity geophysical survey was performed.
- Direct-current (DC) electrical resistivity was performed along 67 profiles distributed throughout Saraburi Province.
- The dipole-dipole array was used so that lateral variations in electrical resistivity indicative of karst features could be resolved.



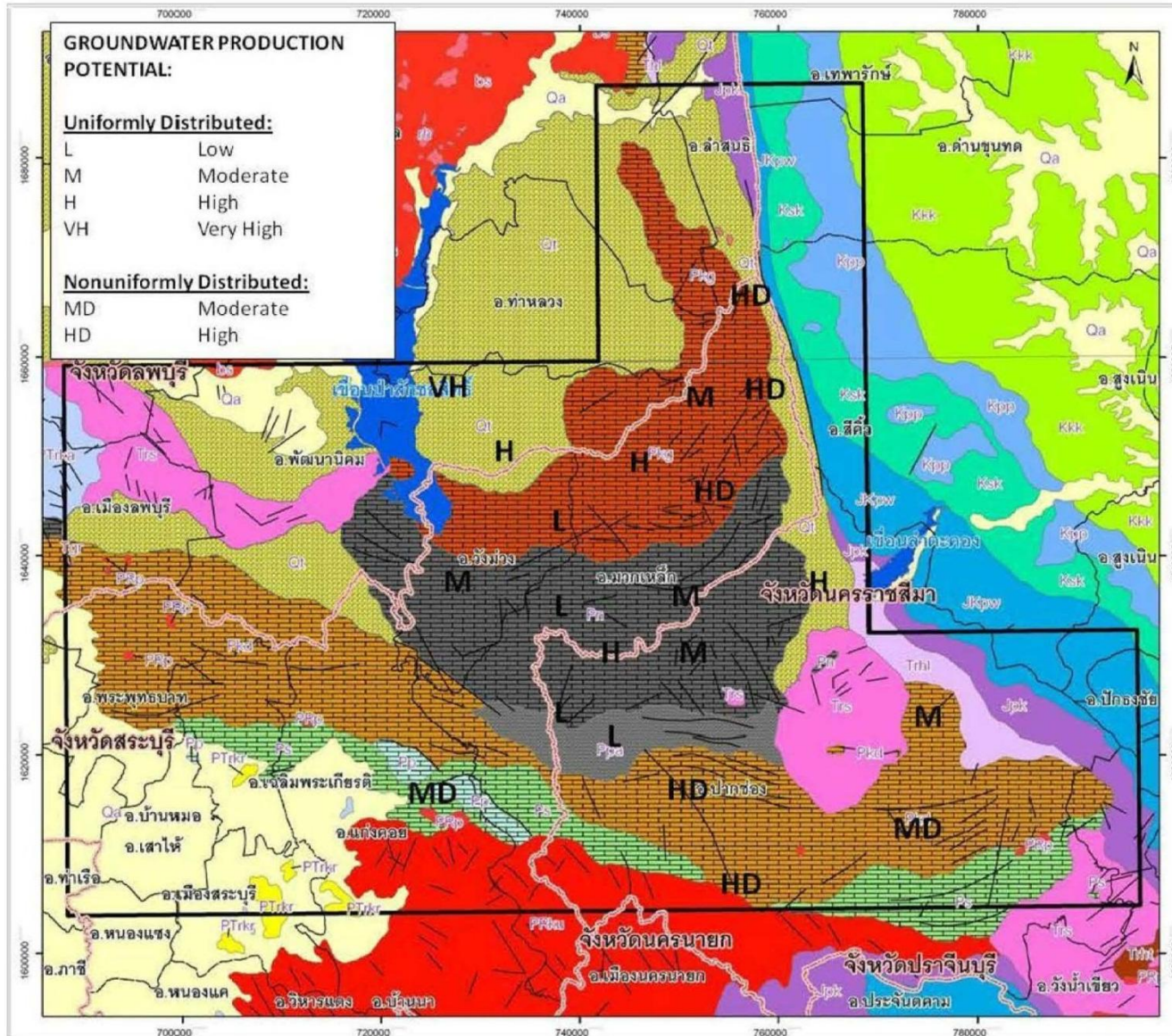




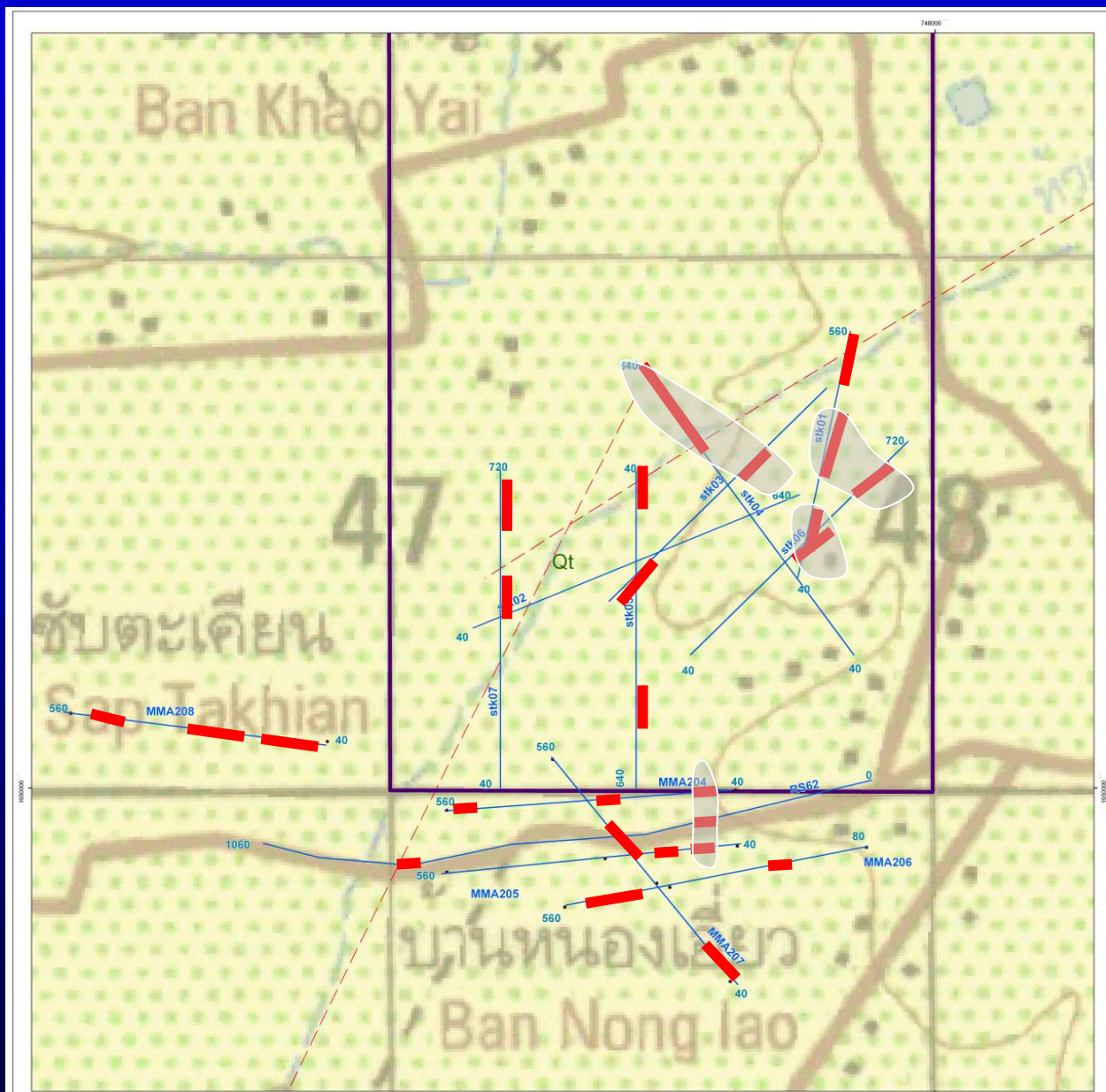
# SURFACE GEOPHYSICAL INVESTIGATIONS

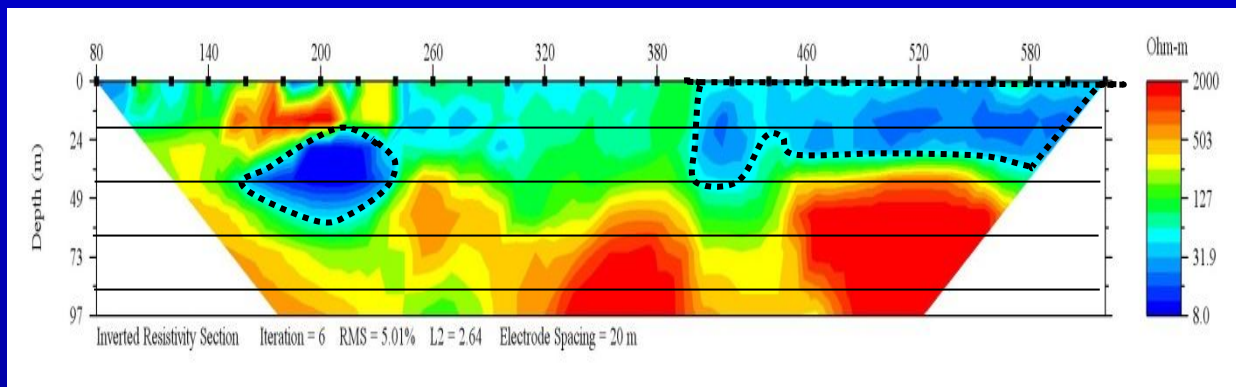
- Numerous deep (>50 m) low-resistivity anomalies were found along various inverted resistivity profiles. These anomalies were detected in all 67 profiles. Two profiles are included for illustration.
- The geologic map shows areas of groundwater potential, as low (L), moderate (M), high (H) and very high (VH). These anomalies may correspond to accumulations of groundwater in karst features within the limestone.



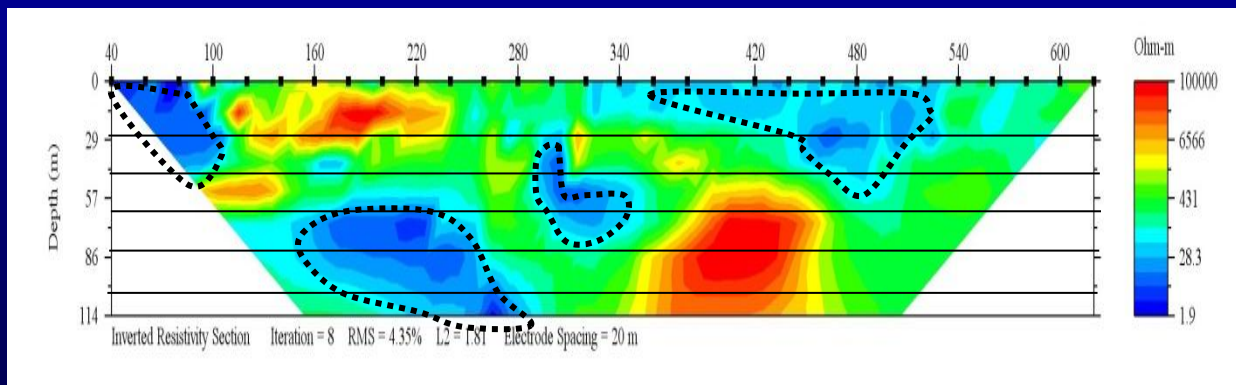








Southeast←STK04→Northwest



North←STK05→South







# OBJECTIVES IN THAILAND INVESTIGATION

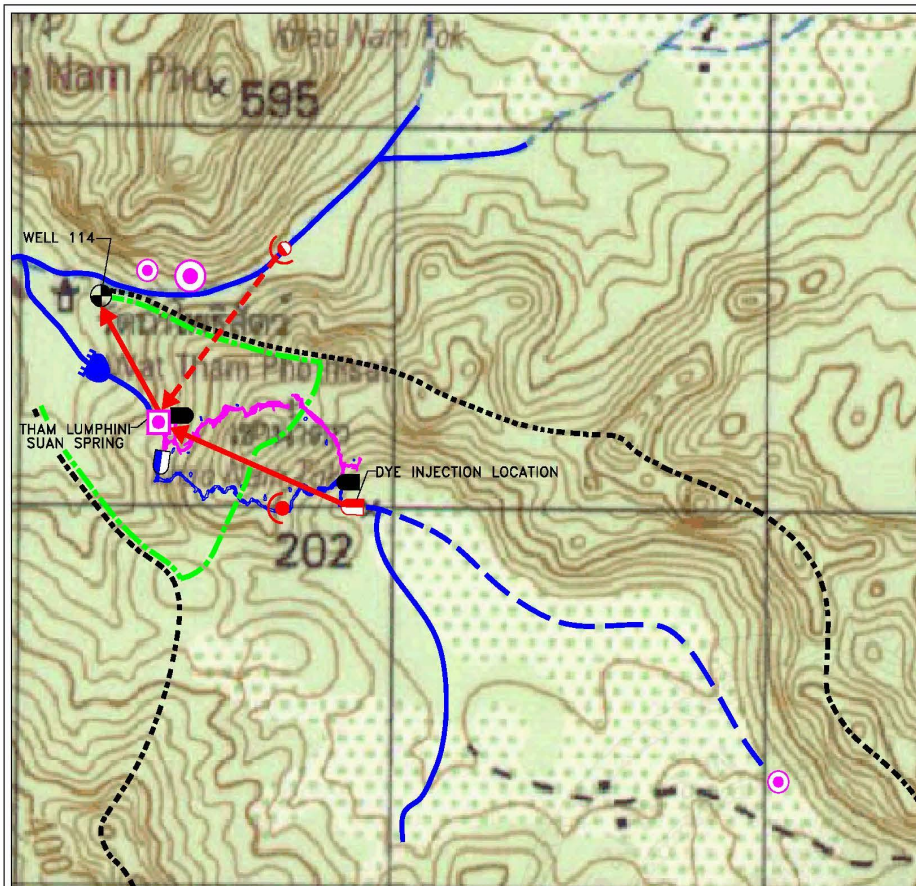
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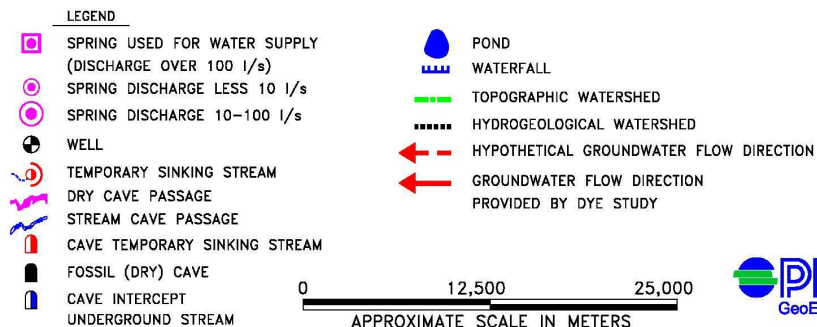
# Tham Lumphini Suan Spring

# Sinking Streams

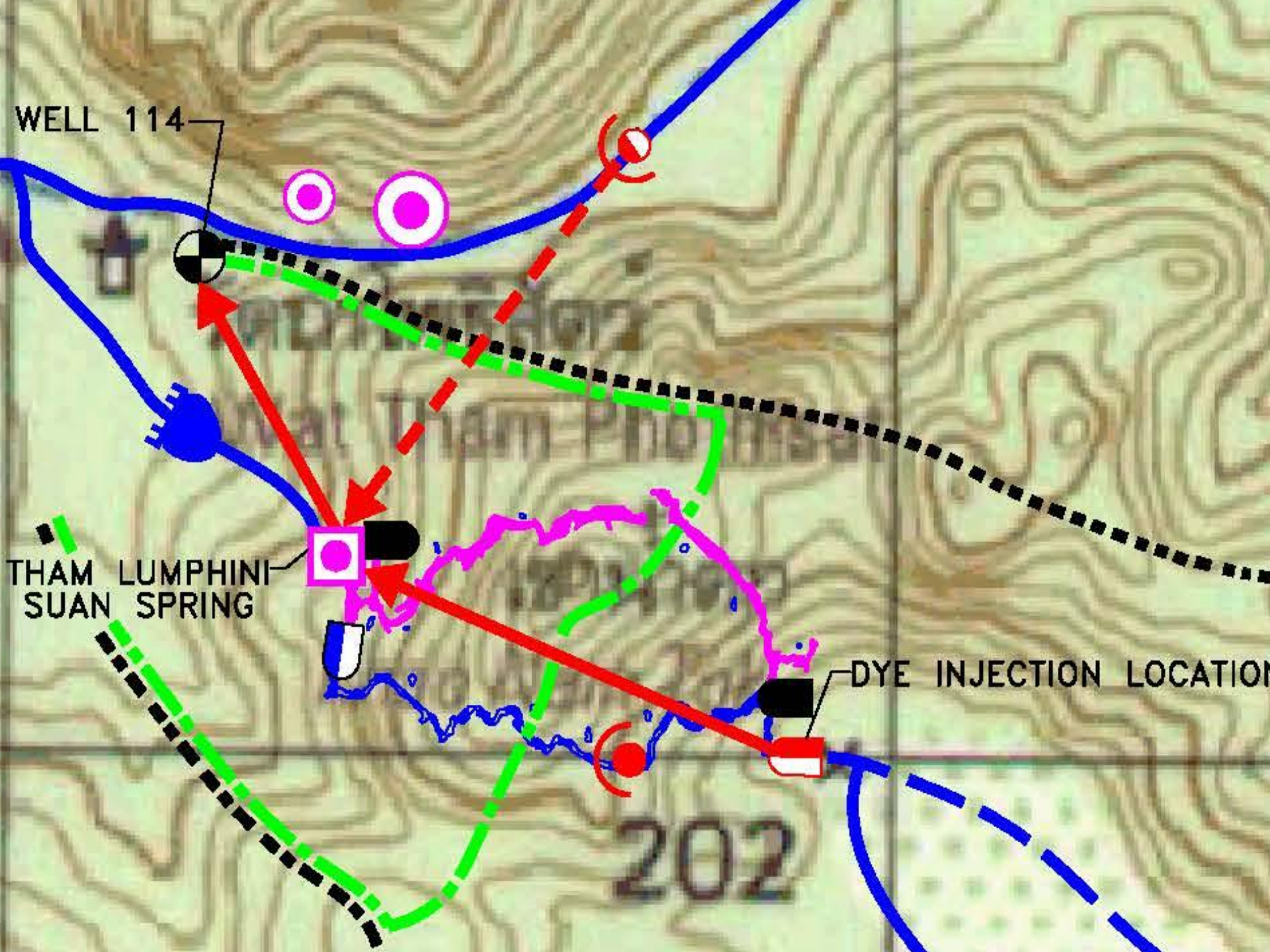




SOURCE: THAM LUMPHINI SUAN HIN CAVE SURVEYED BY THAILAND CAVE & KARST GROUP, 1998













Sinking stream October 2012















*Tham Lumphini Suan Hin Sinking Stream  $Q = 8$  l/s*









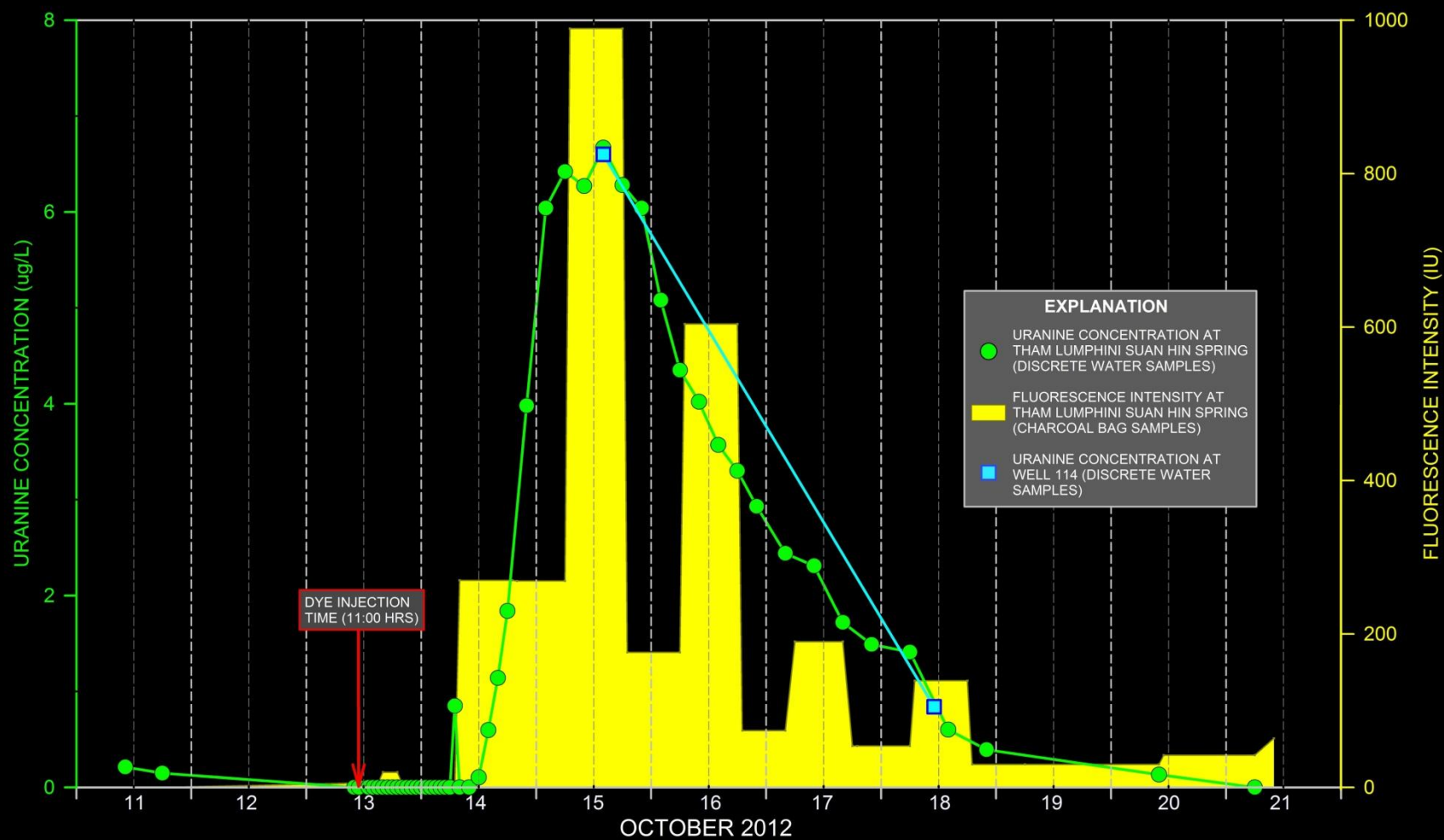
*Tham Lumphini Suan Hin Spring  $Q = 117$  l/s)*













# OBJECTIVES IN THAILAND INVESTIGATION

1. *Karst inventory*
2. *Surface geophysical investigation*
3. *Perform dye study to determine hydraulic connectivity within the aquifer*
4. *Drilling, well construction (15 pumping wells and 15 observation wells) and aquifer tests*







# OBJECTIVES IN THAILAND INVESTIGATION

- 1. Drilling, well construction (15 pumping wells and 15 observation wells) and aquifer tests*

Pumping wells - Diameter 200 mm	Observation wells - Diameter 100 mm
1. Depth 80 m - 5 wells	Depth 80 m - 5 wells
2. Depth 150 m - 5 wells	Depth 150 m - 5 wells
3. Depth 250 m - 5 wells	Depth 250 m - 5 wells









































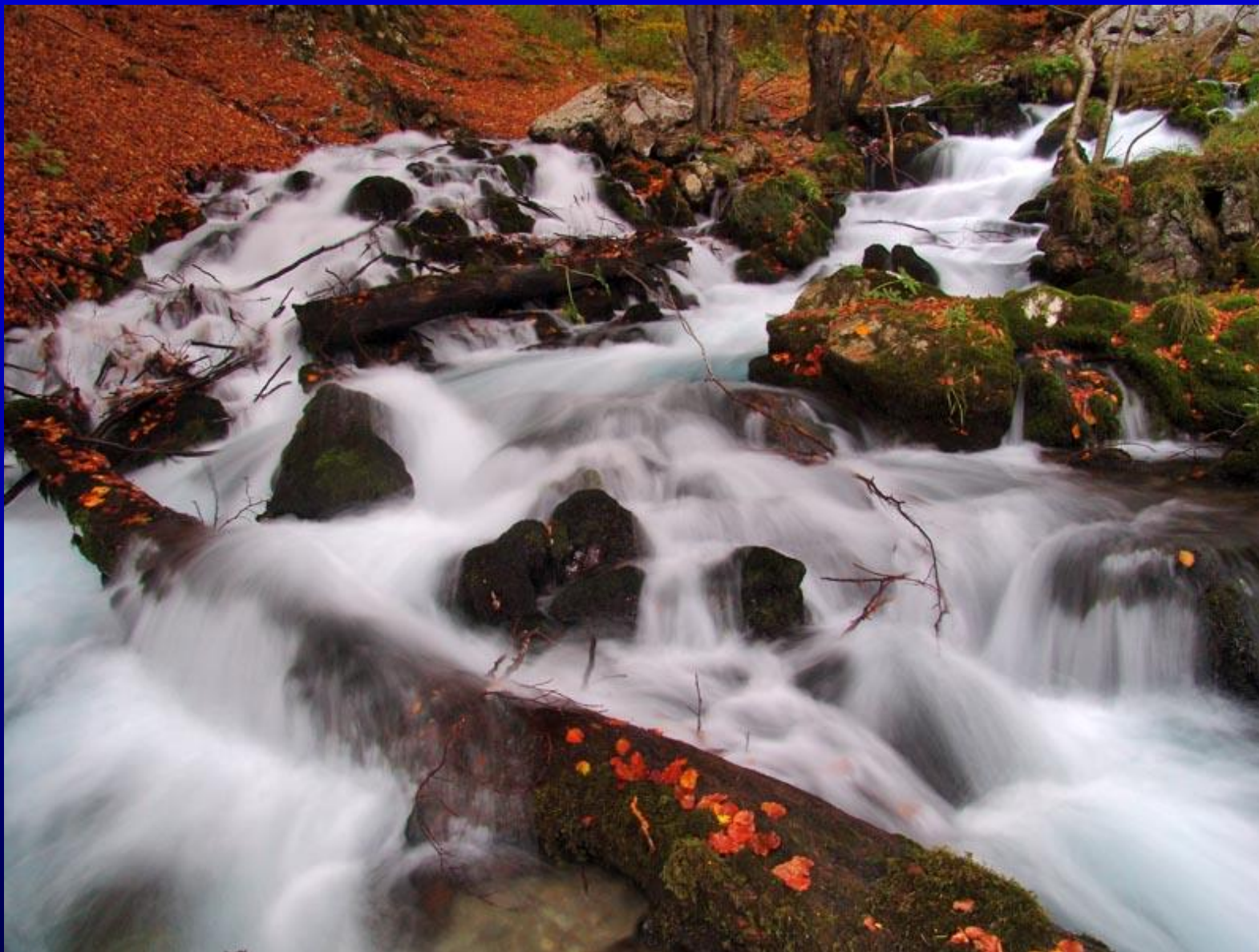


# CONCLUSIONS/PROJECT STATUS

1. *Karst inventory*
2. *Surface geophysical investigation*
3. *Perform dye study to determine hydraulic connectivity within the aquifer*
4. *Drilling, well construction (15 pumping wells and 15 observation wells) and aquifer tests*
5. *Collect and analyze water samples for stable and radioactive isotopes to delineate the source of water*







**THANK YOU!**



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