INTRODUCTION

Groundwater supplies in Goodhue County are derived from 10 to 11 unconfined and 11 to 12 confined aquifers. The groundwater supplies are divided into two primary categories: bedrock-confined and water table-confined. The bedrock-confined aquifers are the most important sources of groundwater supply in the county, as they provide a large portion of the county's water supply. The water table-confined aquifers are also important, as they provide a significant portion of the county's water supply, particularly in the western part of the county. The bedrock-confined aquifers are separated from the water table-confined aquifers by the county's bedrock outcrops.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WATER TABLE CONFINED AQUIFERS

The water table-confined aquifers are generally less permeable than the bedrock-confined aquifers, and they are typically shallower. The water table-confined aquifers are also less saline than the bedrock-confined aquifers, which can be affected by salt water intrusion. The water table-confined aquifers are also more likely to be impacted by surface water contamination, as they are closer to the surface.

WATER TABLE DEPTH MODEL

The water table depth model is used to map the position of the water table in the county. This model is based on a combination of hydrogeological and topographic data. The model is used to identify areas where the water table is shallow, which can be important for groundwater supply and recharge.

REFERENCES CITED


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