

# Promoting water-use efficiency with Responsible AI

**Blake Vernon**

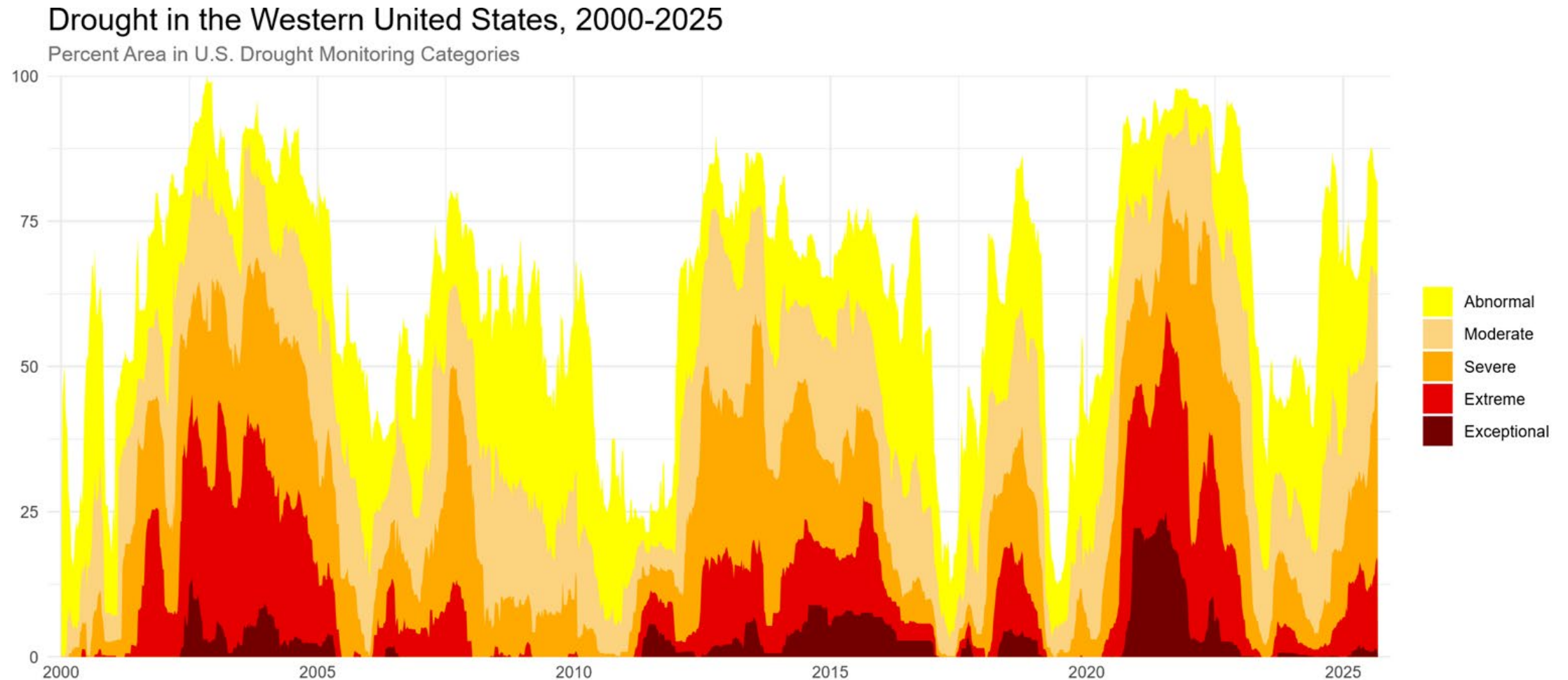
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# Problem & Stakes

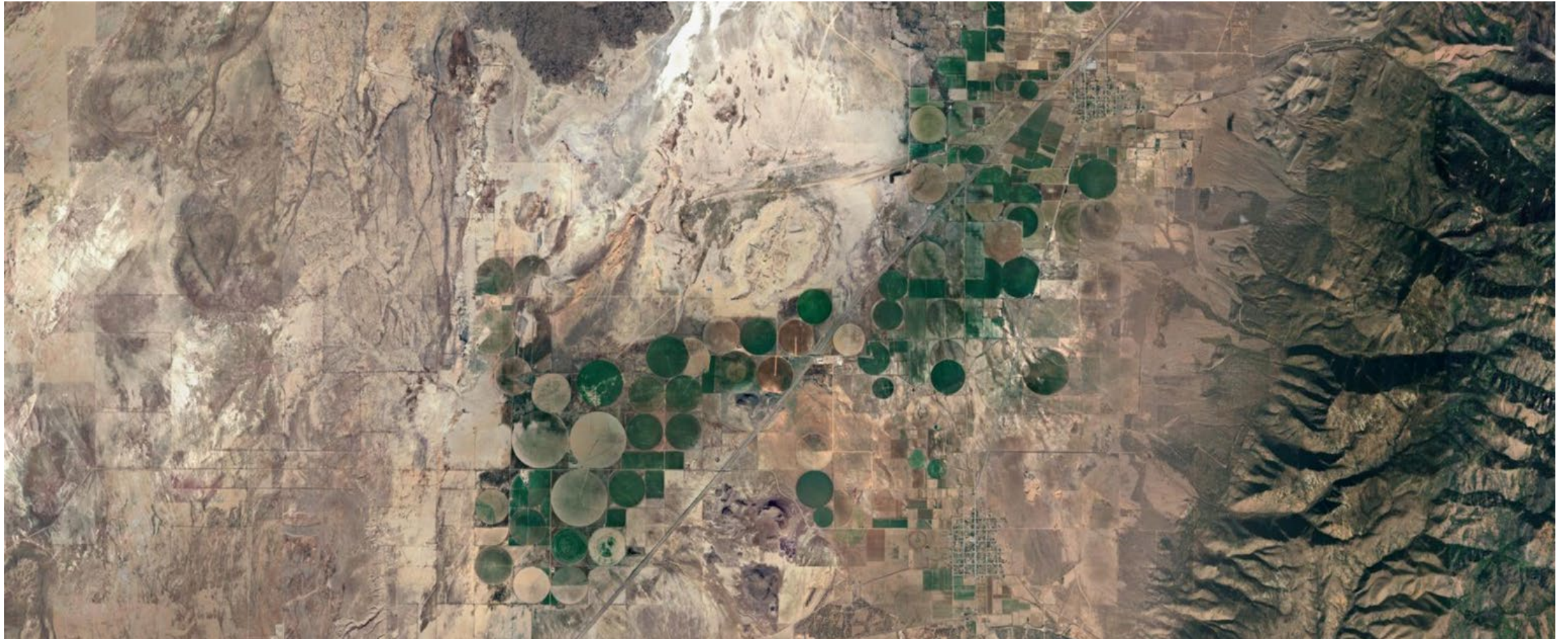
**Goal:** use **Responsible AI** to **estimate soil moisture** and **support efficient irrigation** in agriculture.



Source: NOAA National Integrated Drought Information System

# Data & Context

**Sources:** Federally funded **monitoring stations** and **orbiting satellites**.

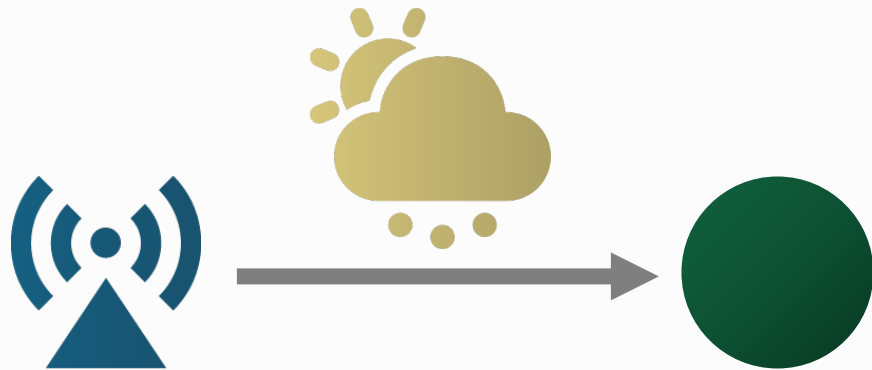


Farm land near Meadow, UT, from Google Earth.

# Method & Guardrails

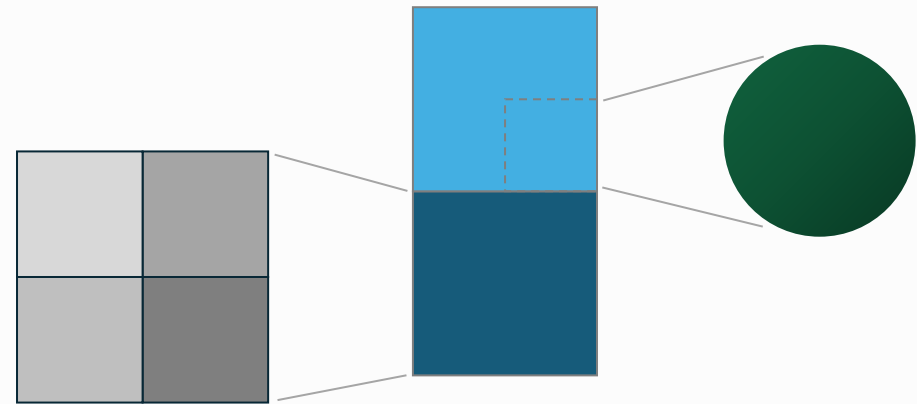
## Model 1: Universal Deep Kriging

Estimate soil moisture at a **farm plot** as a function of **weather** and **distance** from **soil monitoring stations**.



## Model 2: Image Translation

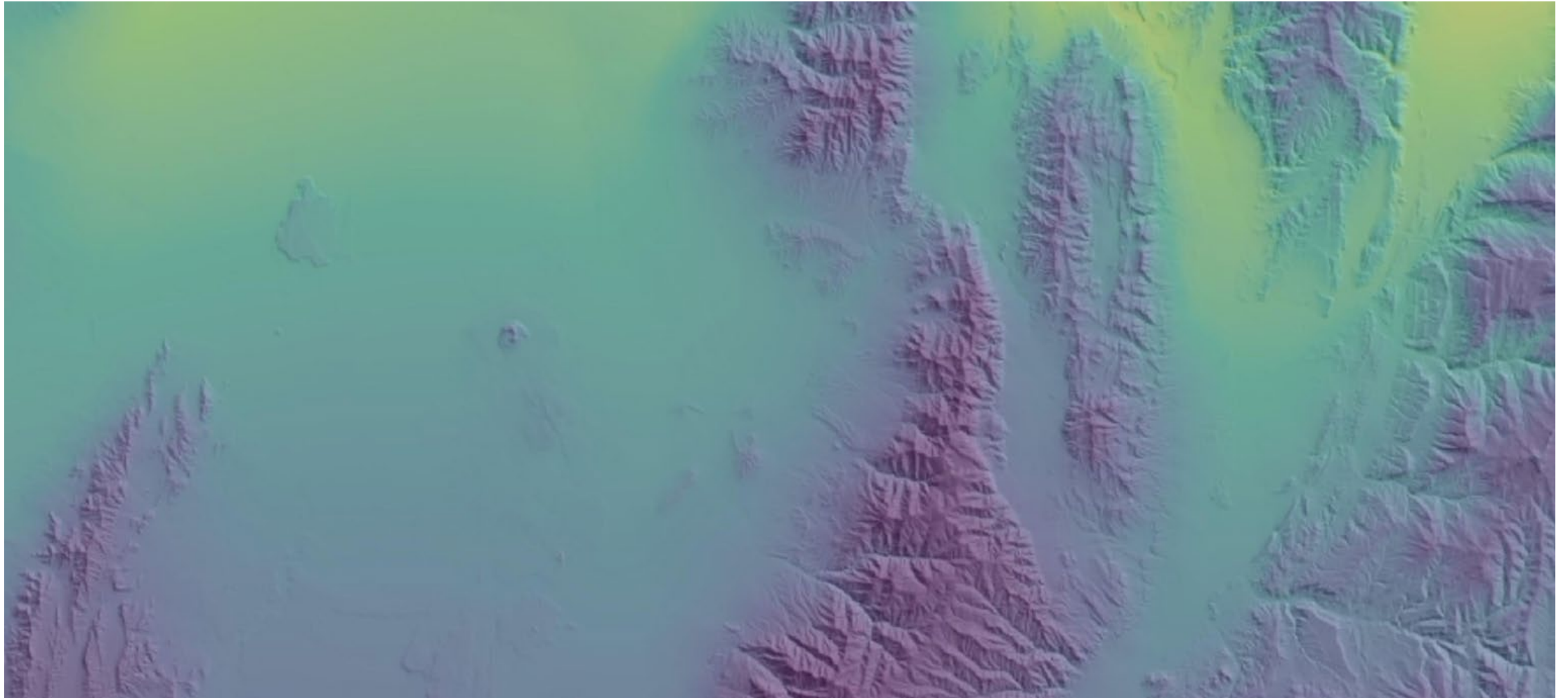
Down-scale **soil moisture forecasts** to a resolution relevant to irrigating a **farm plot** using **terrain imagery** as a guide.



# Findings & Case Study

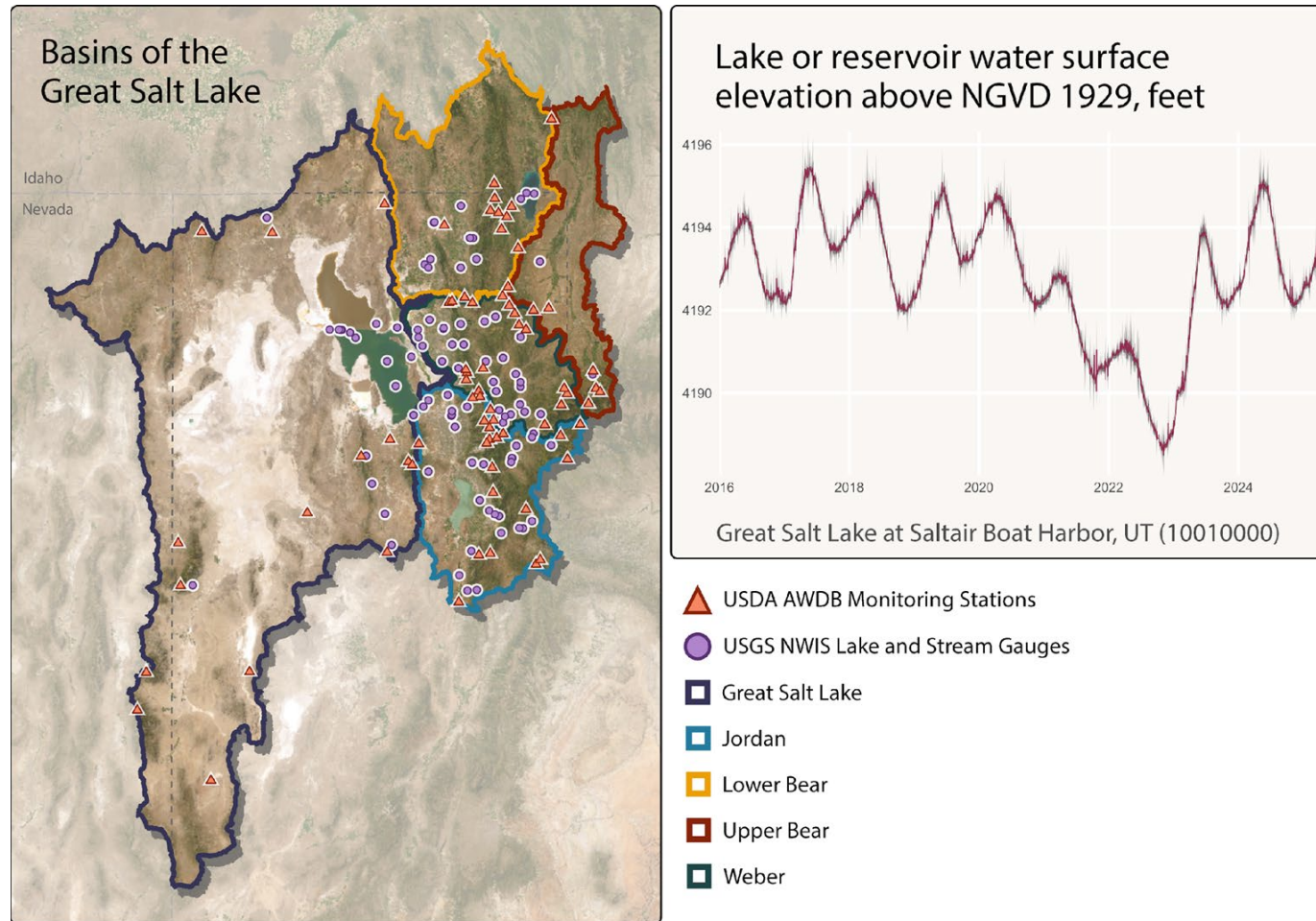
Model 1: Universal Deep Kriging.

Soil Moisture: ■ Low ■ High



# Path to Impact

**NSF Proposal: CAIG:** An AI-based framework for soil-moisture modeling and decision making



Source: Figure made for NSF proposal.

