



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

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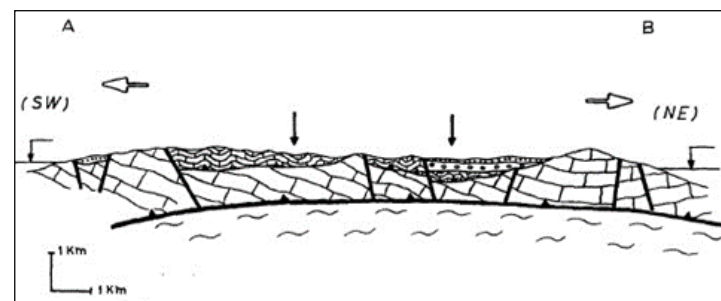
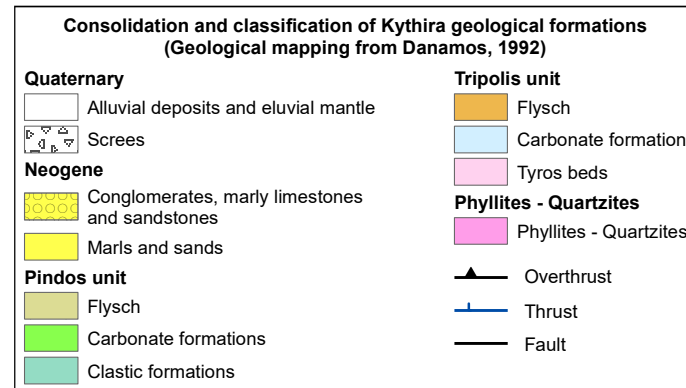
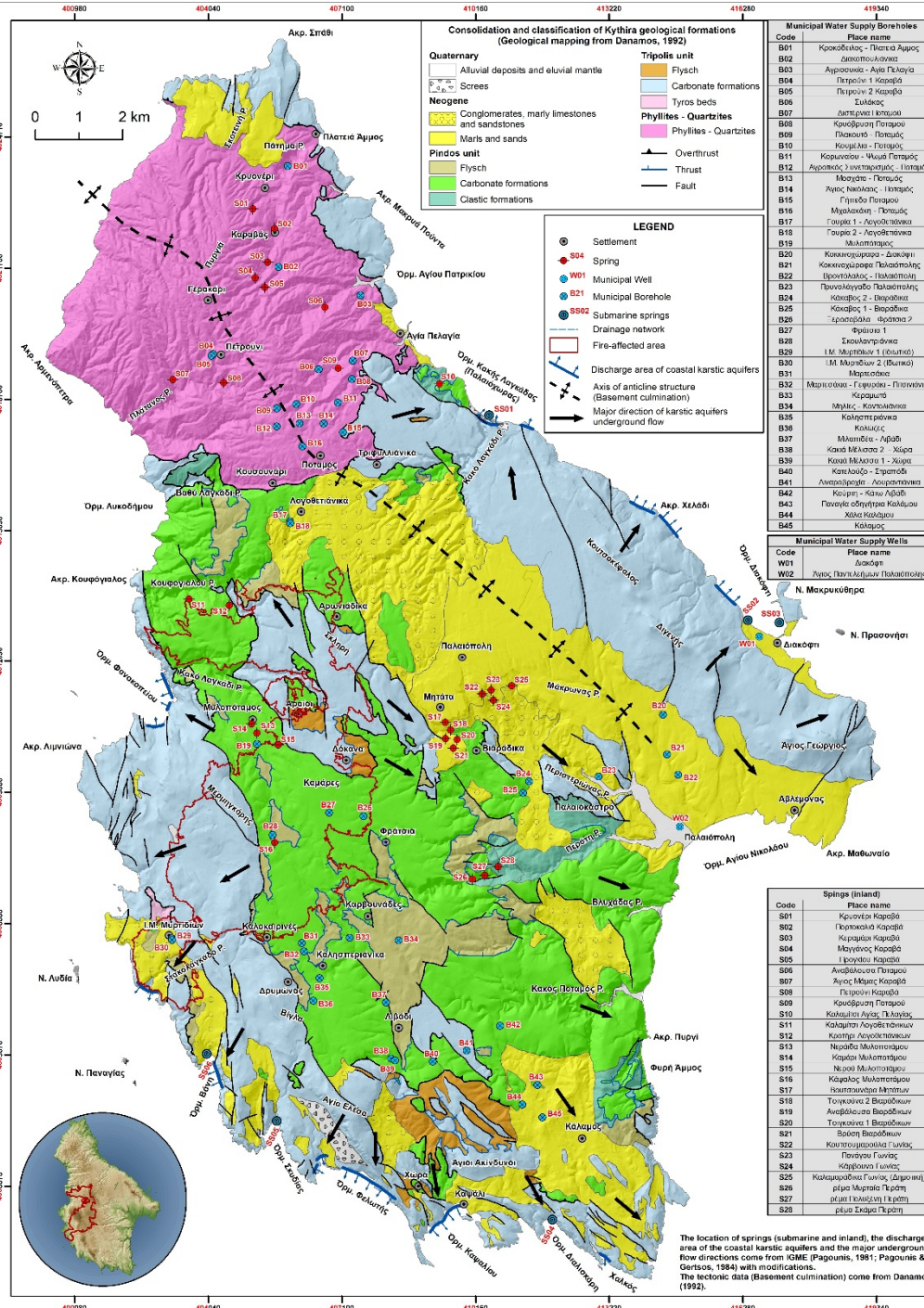


## **Karst springs in small islands: The Kamari spring (Mylopotamos) in Kythira Island, Greece**

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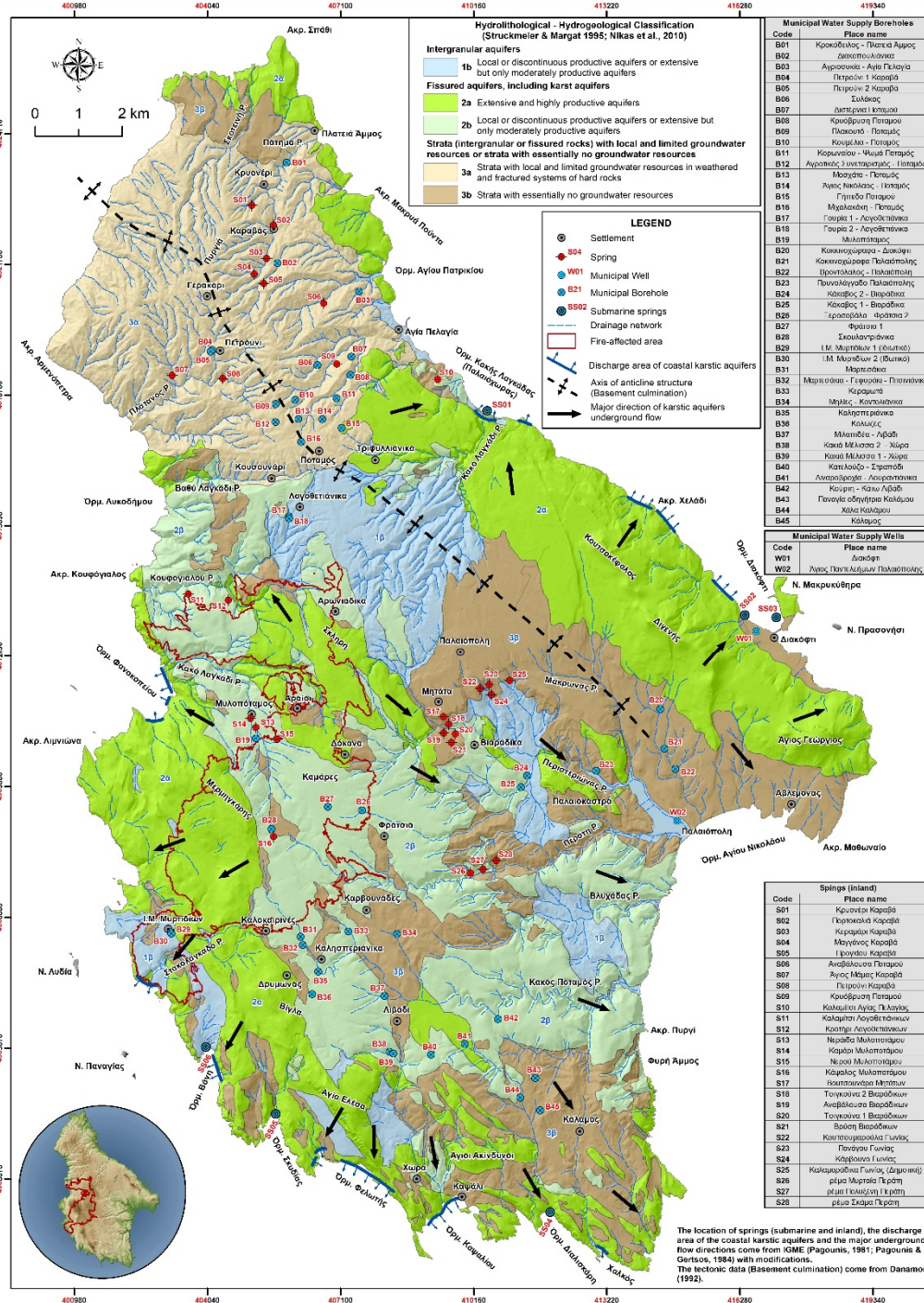


# Geological setting



The location of springs (submarine and inland), the discharge area of the coastal karstic aquifers and the major underground flow directions come from IGME (Pagounis, 1981; Pagounis & Gertsos, 1984; Danamos, 1992; Koumantakis et al., 2006) with modifications. The tectonic data (Basement culmination) come from Danamos (1992).

# Hydrolithological – Hydrogeological setting



**Hydrolithological - Hydrogeological Classification**  
(Struckmeier & Margat 1995; Nikas et al., 2010)

**Intergranular aquifers**

- 1b Local or discontinuous productive aquifers or extensive but only moderately productive aquifers

**Fissured aquifers, including karst aquifers**

- 2a Extensive and highly productive aquifers
- 2b Local or discontinuous productive aquifers or extensive but only moderately productive aquifers

**Strata (intergranular or fissured rocks) with local and limited groundwater resources or strata with essentially no groundwater resources**

- 3a Strata with local and limited groundwater resources in weathered and fractured systems of hard rocks
- 3b Strata with essentially no groundwater resources

**1b** Local or discontinuous productive aquifers or extensive but only moderately productive aquifers

Alluvial deposits and eluvial mantle

Screens

Conglomerates, marly limestones and sandstones

**2a** Extensive and highly productive aquifers

Tripolis unit carbonate formations

**2b** Local or discontinuous productive aquifers or extensive but only moderately productive aquifers

Pindos unit carbonate formations

**3a** Strata with local and limited groundwater resources in weathered and fractured systems of hard rocks

Phyllites - Quartzites

**3b** Strata with essentially no groundwater resources

Marls and sands

Pindos unit flysch

Pindos unit clastic formations

Tripolis unit flysch

Tyros beds

**LEGEND**

- Settlement
- S04 Spring
- W01 Municipal Well (2)
- B21 Municipal Borehole (46)
- SS02 Submarine springs
- Drainage network
- Fire-affected area
- Discharge area of coastal karstic aquifers
- Axis of anticline structure (Basement culmination)
- Major direction of karstic aquifers underground flow

**Three main aquifer systems developed on Kythira Island** (Greece) include (Pagounis, 1981; Pagounis & Gertsos, 1984, Danamos, 1992; Koumantakis *et al.*, 2006; Filis *et al.*, 2019):

- The **porous aquifer system** in Neogene and Quaternary formations.
- The **karst aquifer system** in the carbonate formations of the Pindos and Tripolis Units.
- The **aquifer system** (both shallow and deep) in the **fractured hard rocks** mainly of the Phyllites – Quartzites Unit.

The **main discharge of the aquifer systems takes place in coastal and submarine brackish springs around the island**, except for its northern part where the Phyllites – Quartzites Unit outcrops and its **central part where springs of small capacity discharge the carbonate formations of the Pindos Unit**.

**Precipitation is the direct recharge** of the three aforementioned aquifer systems while **indirectly lateral discharge** occurs in places between **adjacent and tangential aquifer systems** and from the **streams runoff** as well.

In the area of **Mylopotamos village** four springs discharge the karst aquifer of the **Pindos Unit** within the channel of Kako Laghadi stream forming downstream the known “**Neraida or Fonissa waterfall**”. Moreover, along the dell of Kako Laghadi stream 22 watermills were built, among the plane trees and the ivy.



The **most significant** of the aforementioned springs is the **Kamari spring (+282.28 meters a.s.l.)** which emerge at the thrust fault between the overlying permeable carbonates and the underlying impermeable flysch formation of the Pindos Unit.

The **discharge of the Kamari spring** presents annual fluctuation which varies from app. **45-50 m<sup>3</sup>/h** (during winter) to **total recession** (during summer), due to **restriction of the precipitation** and the prolonged drought and **overpumping of its recharge area** mainly with boreholes.

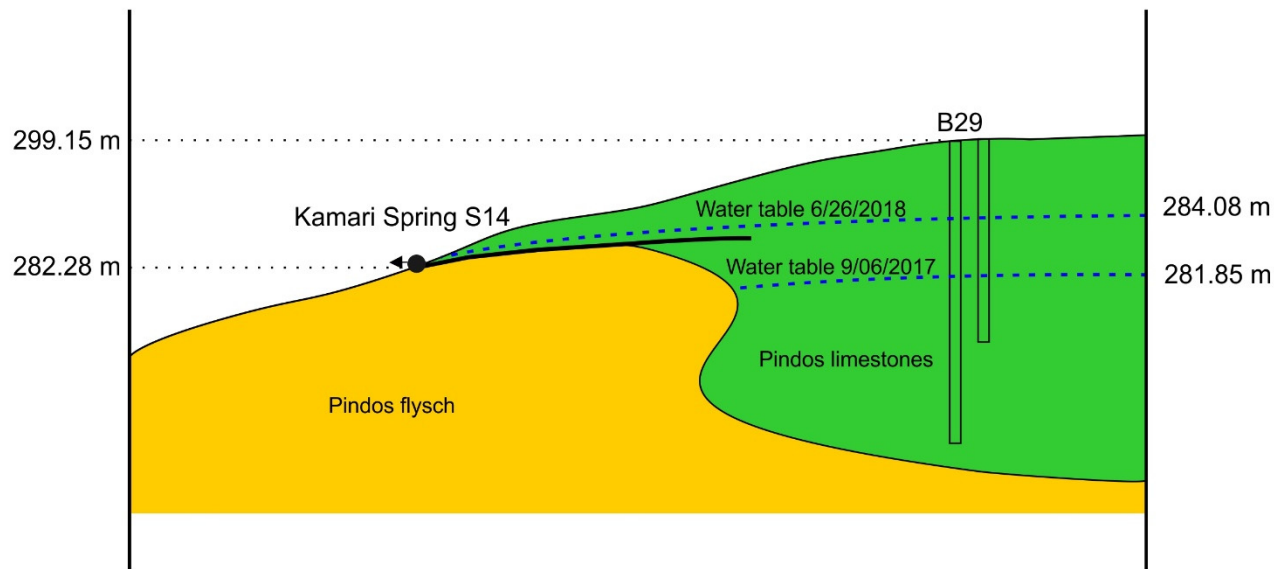


The **inactive municipal borehole of Mylopotamos village (+299.15 meters a.s.l.)** is located **app. 310 meters SSE of the Kamari spring within its recharge area** (karst aquifer of the Pindos Unit). This borehole of a total depth of 40 meters penetrates carbonates of the Pindos Unit which thickness exceeds 100 meters in that area.

**Monthly measurements of the Kamari spring discharge and the water table head in the inactive borehole demonstrate clear and direct hydraulic correlation between them.**

The **Kamari spring presents outflow only in the case when the water level head of the borehole exceeds +282.28 meters**. This means that the **water level head in the borehole should not exceed 16.87 meters from the earth surface**. Taking into account all the aforementioned, the **Kamari spring** is designated as an **overflow spring**.

Finally, **microbiological analysis from the Kamari spring** showed **qualitative degradation**, due to **human activities** in the wider area (Pagounis, 1981; Filis *et al.*, 2019).



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