# Suisun Valley AVA Climate and Topography Characterization Study 

## Progress Report from Paul Skinner's Terra Spase

Suisun Valley, CA: In May of 2008, Suisun Valley Grape Growers Association hired Terra Spase of Napa, California, to begin the process of scientifically defining their terroir. Proprietor Paul Skinner and his staff immediately initiated Phase 1, which was to inventory and assess the conditions of the available climatic and topographic data for the Suisun Valley AVA.

On July 8, 2008, Terra Spase delivered Phase 2 to SVGGA, which included the data compilation phase consisting of the various datasets for analysis, including the following:
o Narrowing target climatic parameters
o Processing supplemental PRISM (Parameter-elevation Regression on Independent Slopes Model) weather dataset for analysis and mapping
o Extracting target parameters from PRISM and local climate datasets
o Target parameters summarizing for key time periods
o Processing of elevation data in preparation for mapping the GIS analysis
o Promising trends in data
With data from the following weather stations, much was demonstrated from the average monthly temperatures from March 2007 through July of 2007’s initial findings:

AB1 ~ Abernathy 1: southeast quadrant
AB3 ~ Abernathy 3: south, mid-valley
SSV ~ Suisun Valley: west, mid-valley WL2 ~ Williams 2: northwest

The coolest part of the valley is located in the southeast quadrant, with a climate paralleling Carneros in temperatures and relative humidity. The warmest part of the valley is on the Suisun | Napa County lines. Continuing scientific studies wil be shared with Suisun Valley Grape Growers Association, as they development.
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