



## Columbia Basin Sustainable Water Coalition

### ANNUAL MEETING

**Date:** Thursday, November 16, 2023

**Time:** 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

**Location:** Moses Lake City Council Chambers, 401 S Balsam St, Moses Lake / Zoom

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://wastatecommerce.zoom.us/j/82679748388?pwd=UTFpQjN5NE1GWUtPT2ZjM1FSS0RsZz09>

Meeting ID: 826 7974 8388

Passcode: 749897

Dial by your location: +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

**Purpose:** Provide relevant groundwater information, networking, and Coalition updates for municipal and small water purveyors and other stakeholders.

**Outcomes:** Increased stakeholder knowledge and understanding of relevant groundwater issues and potential solutions.

**Description of Meeting Topic(s)/Presentation(s):** Presentation of draft watershed management plan, election results announced, and celebration of accomplishments

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### Annual Meeting Minutes:

**To view the recording of the meeting, please visit the following link:**

[https://wastatecommerce.zoom.us/rec/share/k5uTF88w0WIJWYviHFSypEBtjIKnrm5epAvxbm\\_wmOD37Cv0A5Ozg5K4hwZc3iR.S2WnL8632SDeIDzF?startTime=1700159418000](https://wastatecommerce.zoom.us/rec/share/k5uTF88w0WIJWYviHFSypEBtjIKnrm5epAvxbm_wmOD37Cv0A5Ozg5K4hwZc3iR.S2WnL8632SDeIDzF?startTime=1700159418000)

**Passcode:** \*Vn?vm78

*CBSWC's Mission is to address potable groundwater supply issues by creating locally-driven recommendations that influence water management and policy that will direct resources to create sustainable water solutions.*

# PRELIMINARY WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

## DRAFT

### COLUMBIA BASIN SUSTAINABLE WATER COALITION

Stakeholder Meeting

November 16, 2023



**CBSWC**  
columbia basin sustainable water coalition

**LANDAU**  
ASSOCIATES

**GEOENGINEERS** 

# // Preliminary Watershed Management Plan

## Purpose:

- ▲ Document water supply challenges in project area
- ▲ Recommend solutions for sustainable water supplies for CBSWC municipalities



# // Preliminary Watershed Management Plan

## Agenda:

- ▲ CBSWC Background and Project Area
- ▲ Hydrogeologic Setting
- ▲ Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends
- ▲ Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration
  - Projects
  - Tools
  - Planning
- ▲ Preferred Alternatives



# // Preliminary Watershed Management Plan

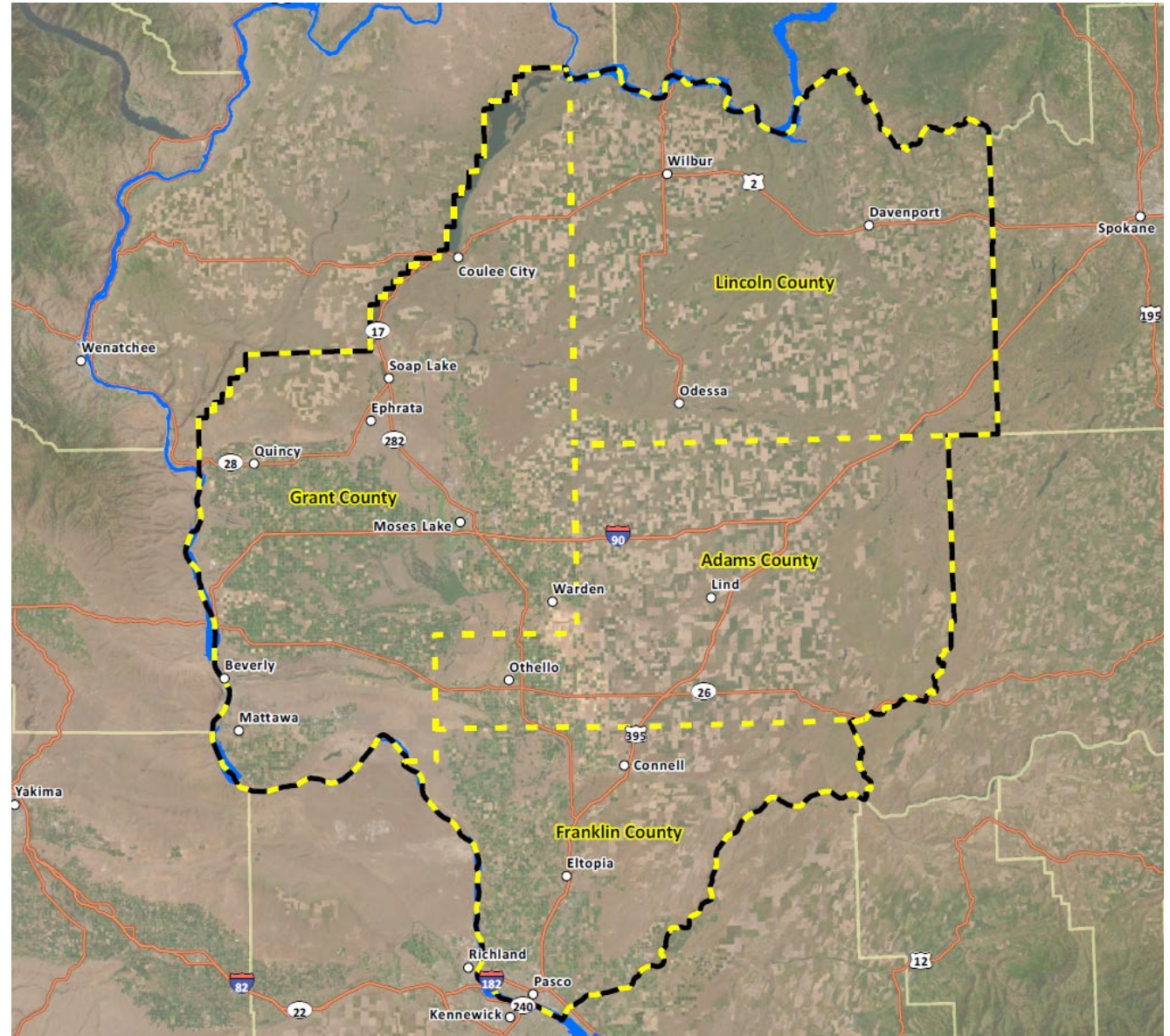
## Agenda:

- ▲ **CBSWC Background and Project Area**
- ▲ Hydrogeologic Setting
- ▲ Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends
- ▲ Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration
  - Projects
  - Tools
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- ▲ Preferred Alternatives



# // CBSWC Background and Project Area

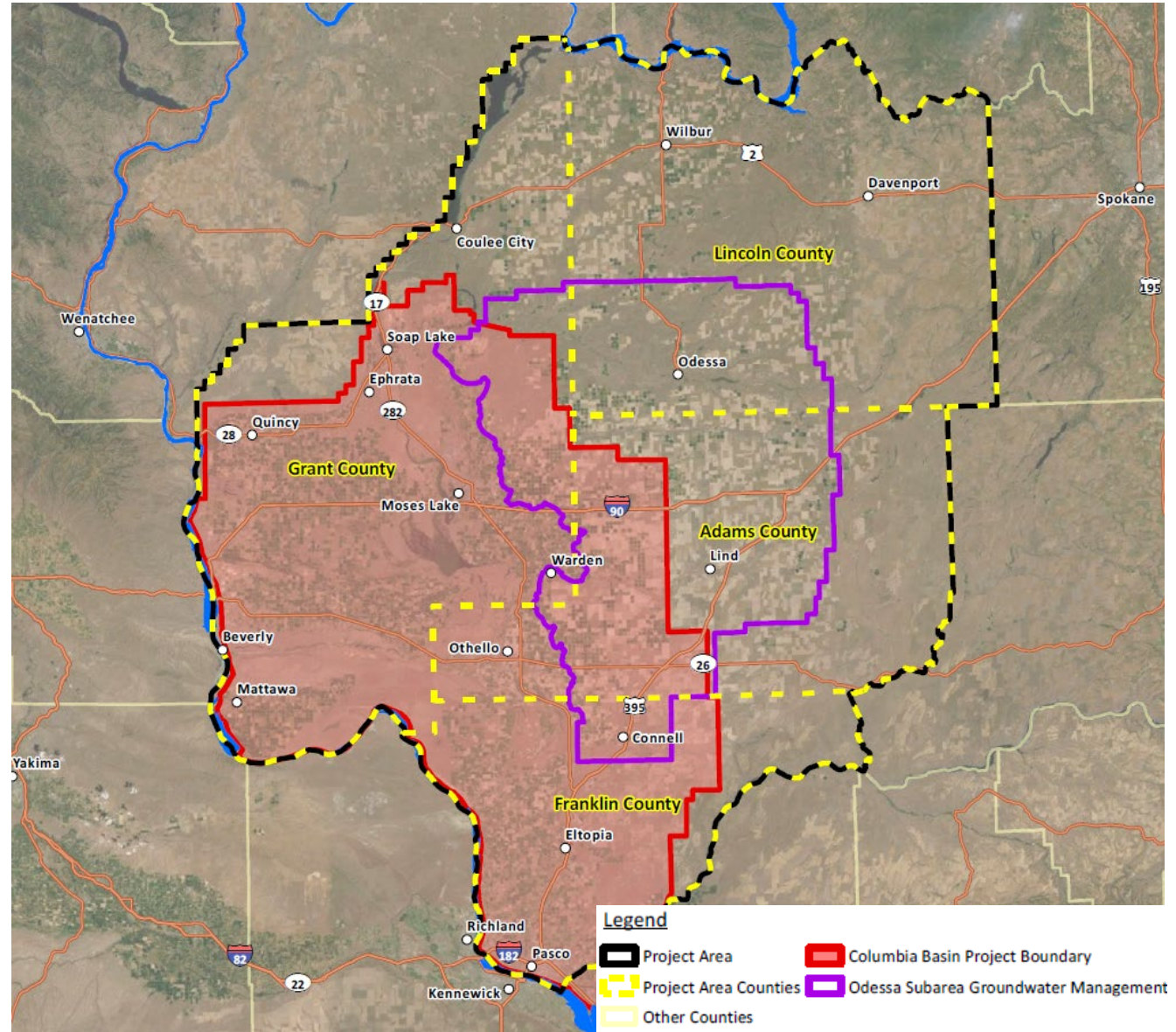
- ▲ Project Area = FLAG Counties
- ▲ ~137 Groundwater-Reliant Group A Water Systems
- ▲ ~90,000 residents
- ▲ 2018: CBSWC beginnings (coordination from WDOH, Commerce)
- ▲ 2021: USBR WaterSMART Grant for Formalization



# // CBSWC Background and Project Area

Significant Influence from:

- ▲ USBR Columbia Basin Project
- ▲ Odessa Subarea Groundwater Pumping



# // Preliminary Watershed Management Plan

## Agenda:

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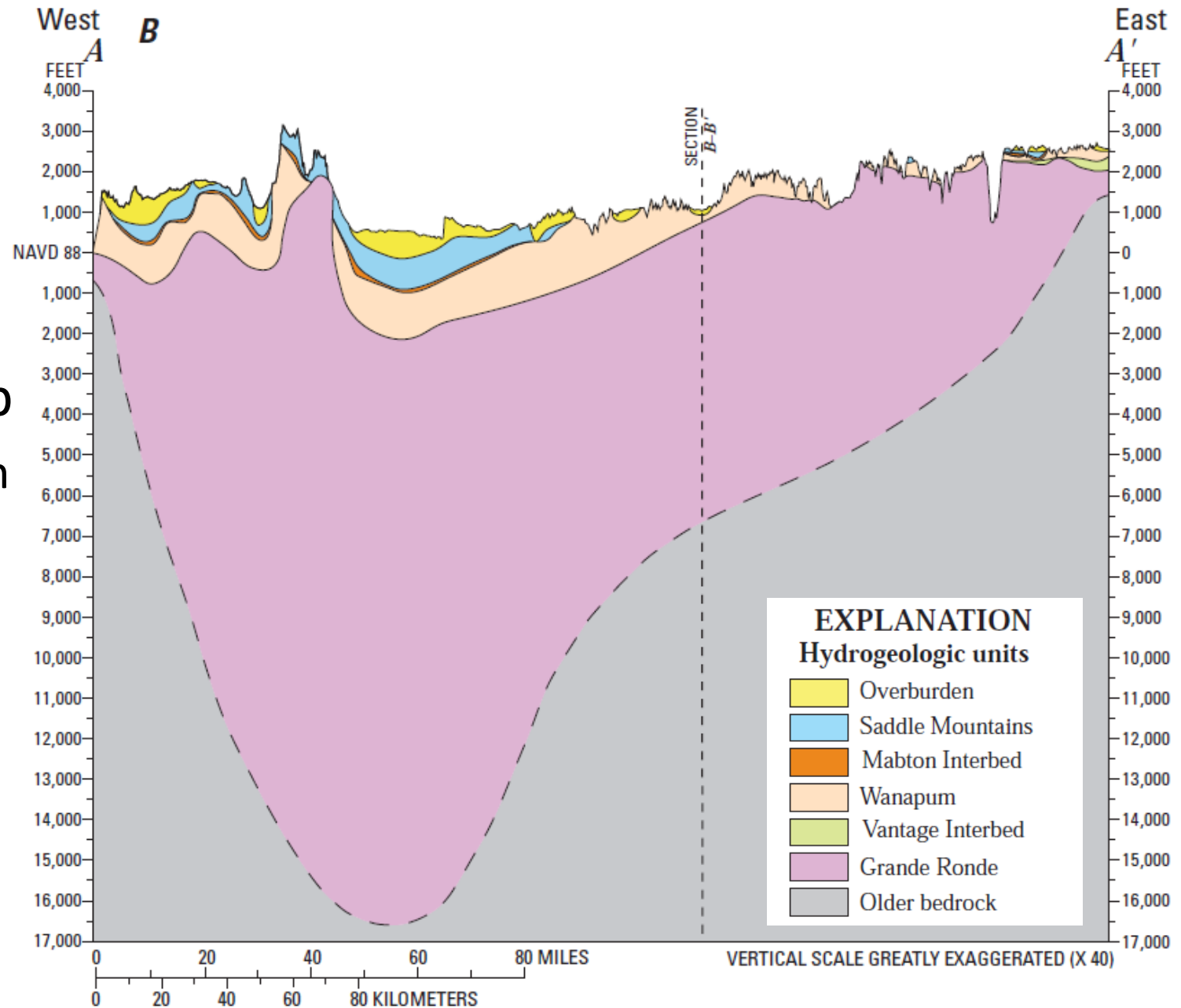




# // Hydrogeologic Setting

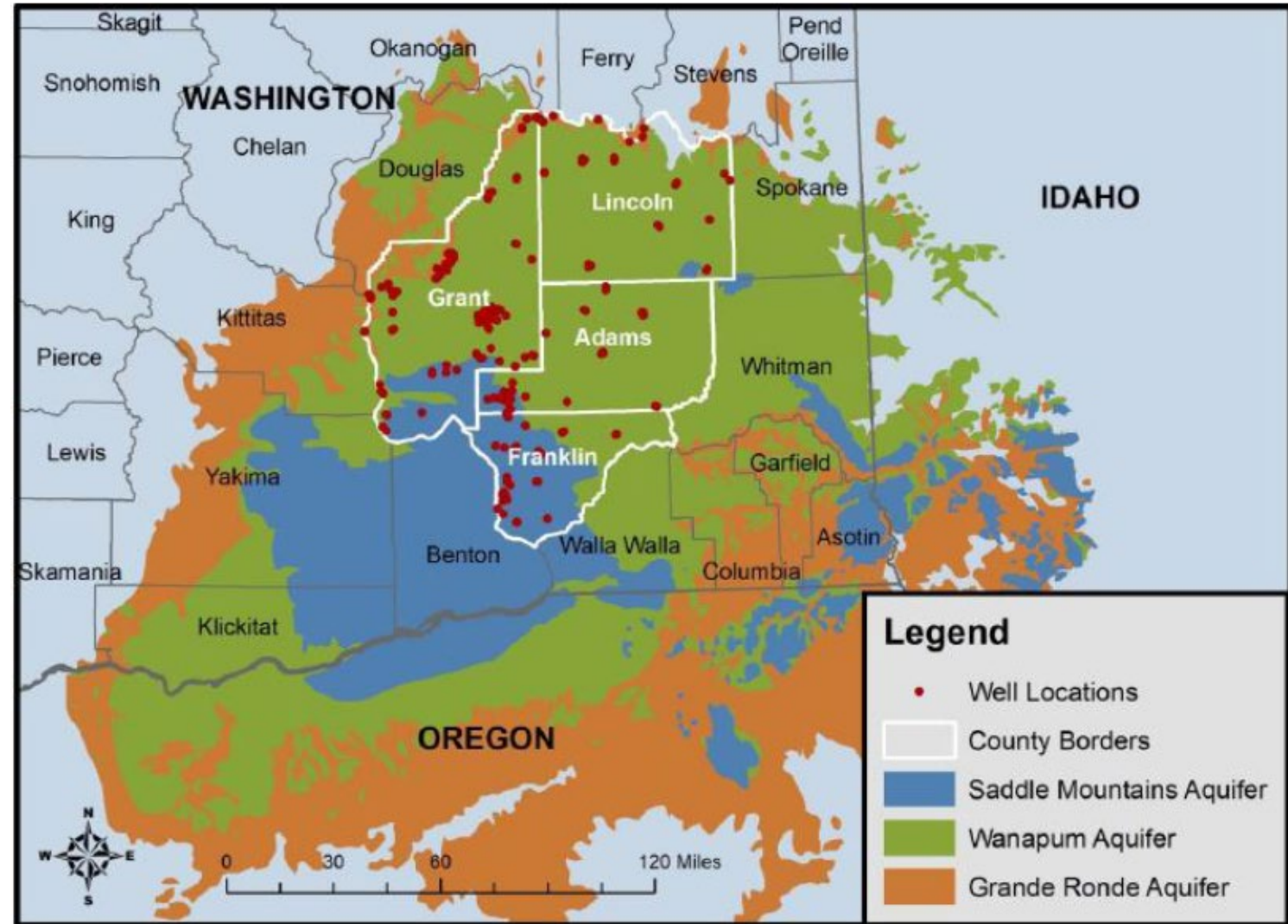
## Primary HG Units:

- ▲ Overburden
- ▲ Columbia River Basalt Group
  - Saddle Mountains Formation
  - Wanapum Formation
  - Grande Ronde Formation



# // Hydrogeologic Setting

## CRBG Extent and Near-Surface CRBG Formations



From: WA Commerce 2019



# // Hydrogeologic Setting

## Conceptual Groundwater Flow within CRBG Formations

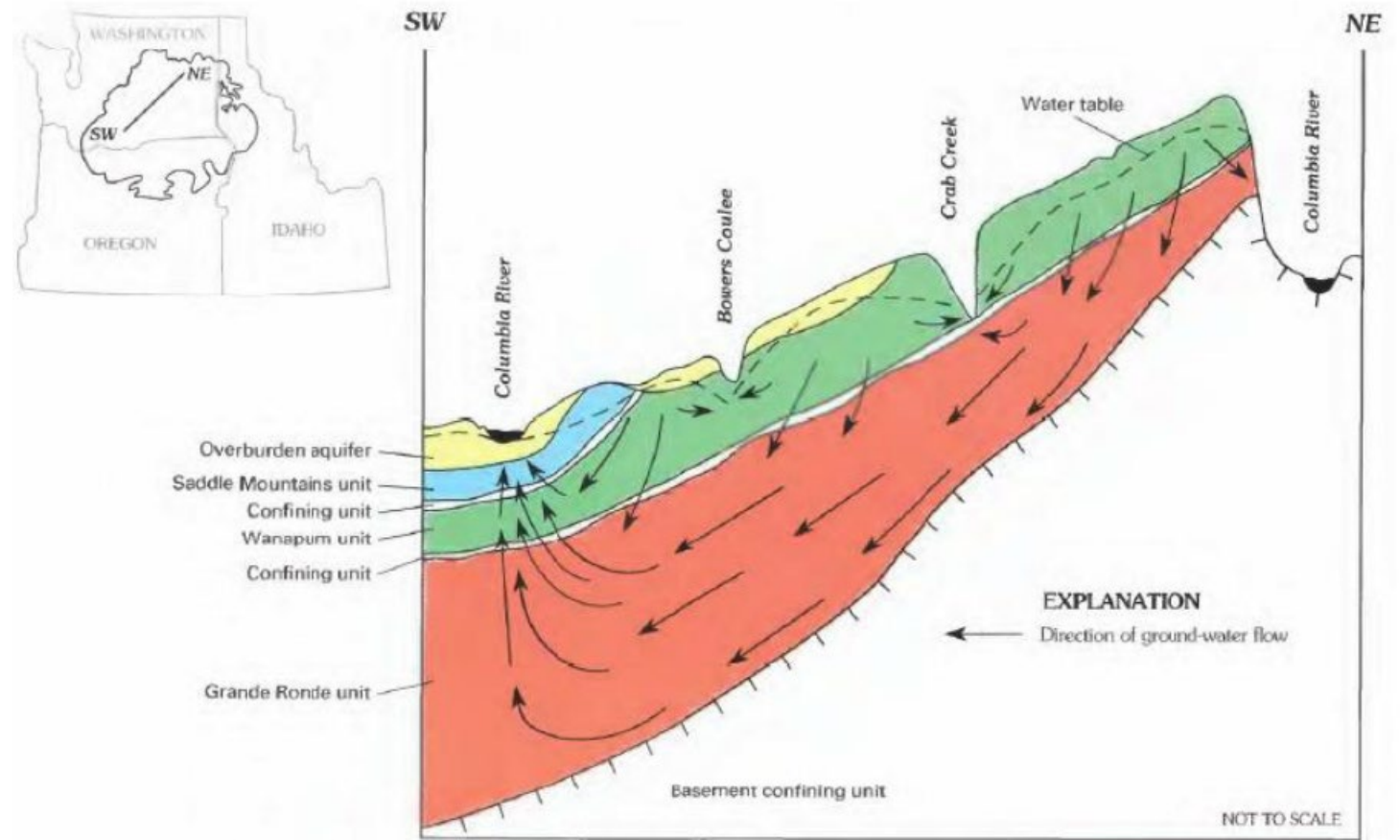


FIGURE 21.—Generalized ground-water-flow pattern in the Columbia Plateau aquifer system.

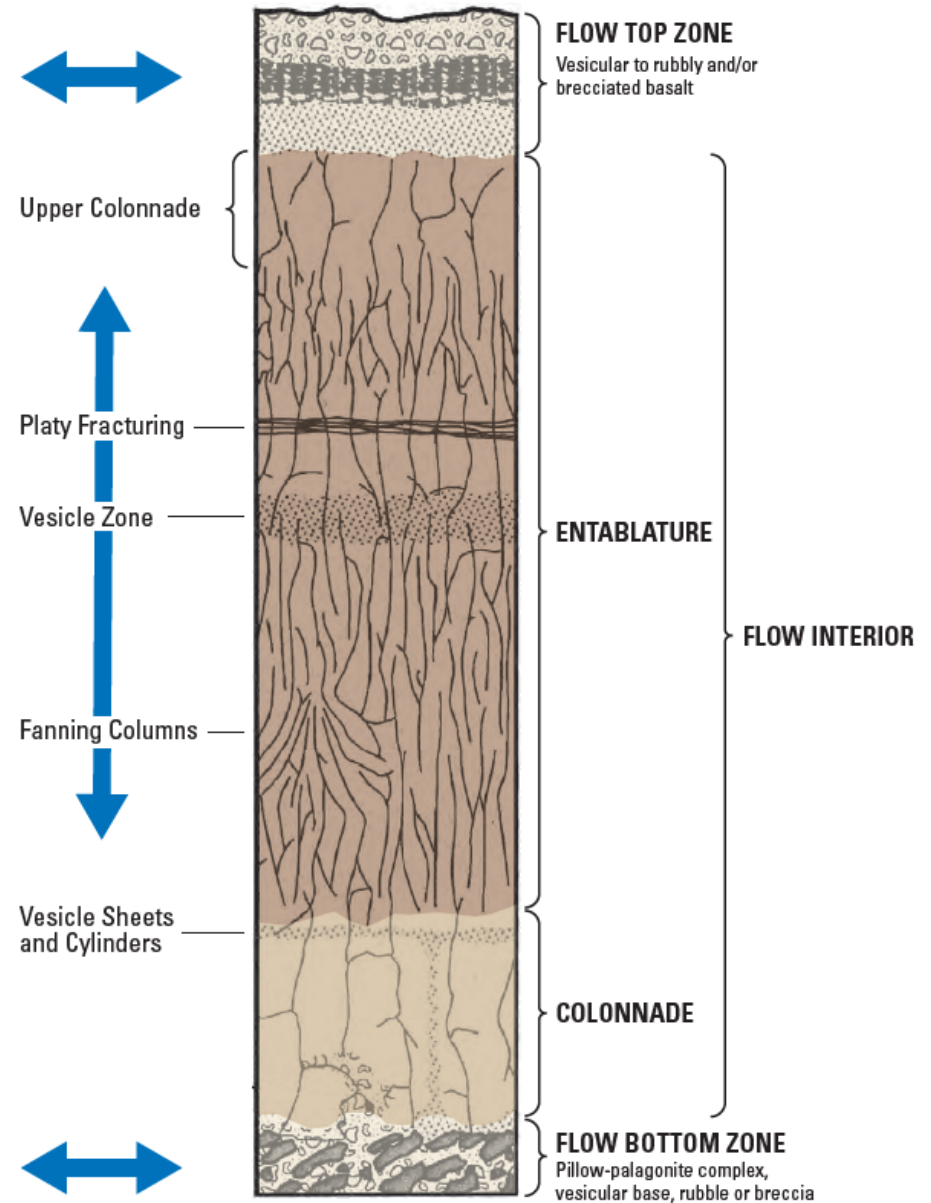
From: USGS Professional Paper 1413-B



# // Hydrogeologic Setting

Lateral groundwater movement through basalt “Interflow Zones” at top/bottom of individual flow members

Limited groundwater movement through basalt “Flow Interiors”



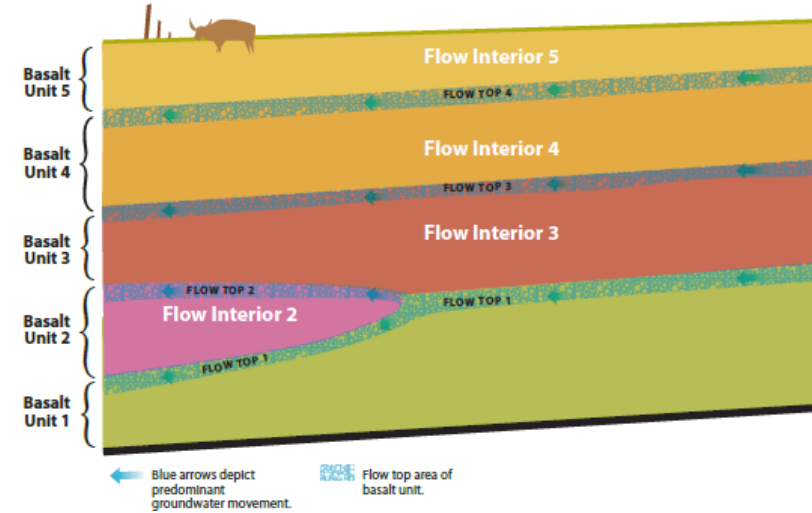
From: USGS SIR 2011-5124



# // Hydrogeologic Setting

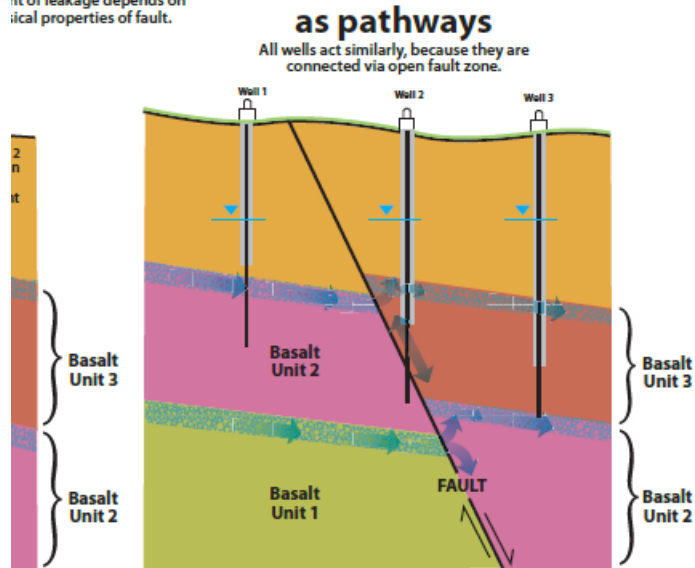
## Conceptual groundwater movement through Interflow Zones

### Basalt Flow Pinchouts

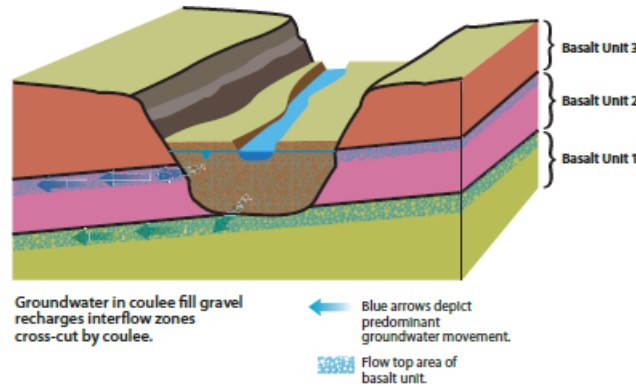


### Faults

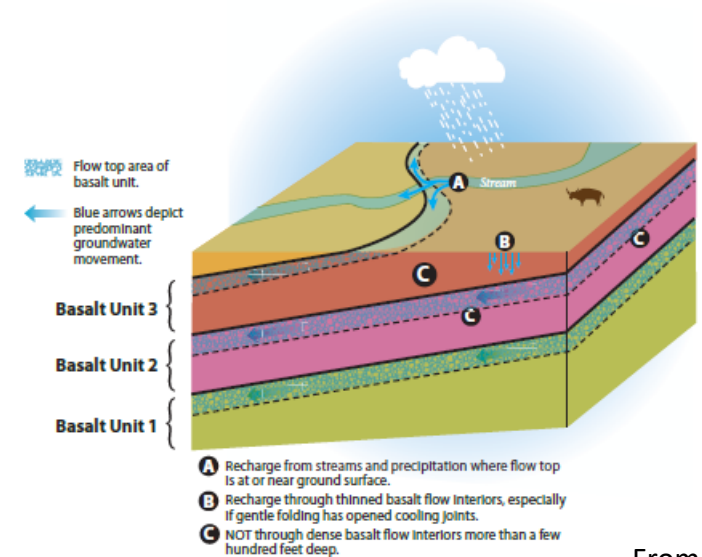
Amount of leakage depends on physical properties of fault.



### Potential Recharge Pathways Coulees containing water

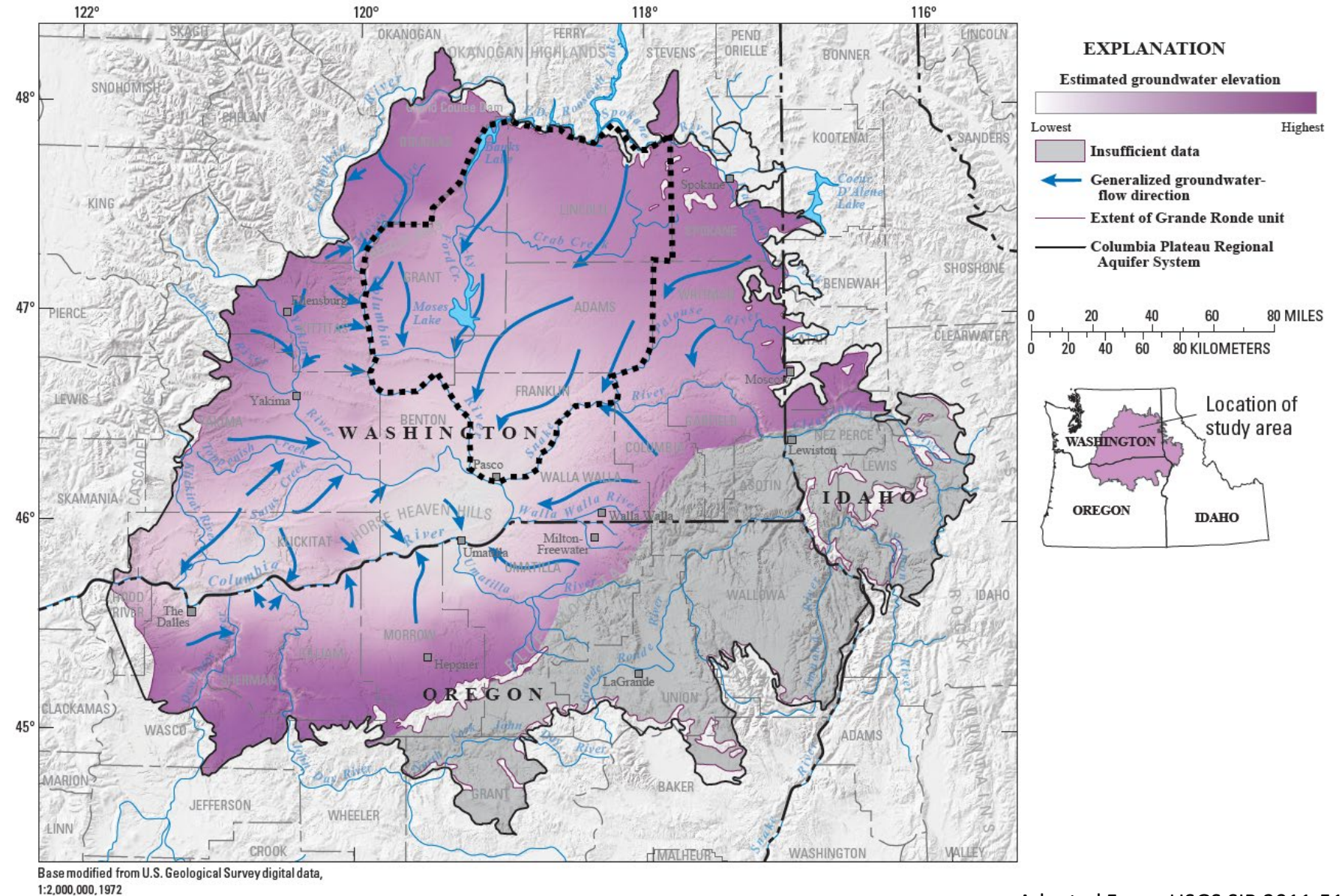


### Potential Recharge Pathways From ground surface where water is present



# // Hydrogeologic Setting

## Regional Groundwater Flow Patterns



# // Preliminary Watershed Management Plan

## Agenda:

- ▲ CBSWC Background and Project Area
- ▲ Hydrogeologic Setting
- ▲ **Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends**
- ▲ Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration
  - Projects
  - Tools
  - Planning
- ▲ Preferred Alternatives



# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends

## Objectives:

- ▲ Document current and historical conditions
- ▲ Provide data to support decision making for current and future water resource management
- ▲ Add to existing knowledge





# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends

## CBSWC Monitoring Well Criteria:

- ▲ Open to CRBG Basalt
- ▲ Not Currently Monitored (avoid redundancy with others)
- ▲ Accessible
- ▲ Owner Willingness to Participate
- ▲ Not Regularly Pumped



# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends

## CBSWC Monitoring Well Selection:

- ▲ Reviewed 45 Prospective Wells (25 Municipalities)
- ▲ Contacted 17 Municipalities
- ▲ Conducted Select Site Visits



# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends

## CBSWC Monitoring Wells:

### ▲ CBSWC Data Collection and Processing

- Connell Well #5. Open interval: 420 to 990 ft bgs (Wanapum and Grande Ronde)
- Mattawa Well #2. Open interval: 526 to 993 ft bgs (Wanapum)
- Quincy Well #6. Open interval: 110 to 241 ft bgs (Wanapum)
- Quincy ASR Well. Open interval: 615 to 786 ft bgs (Grande Ronde)

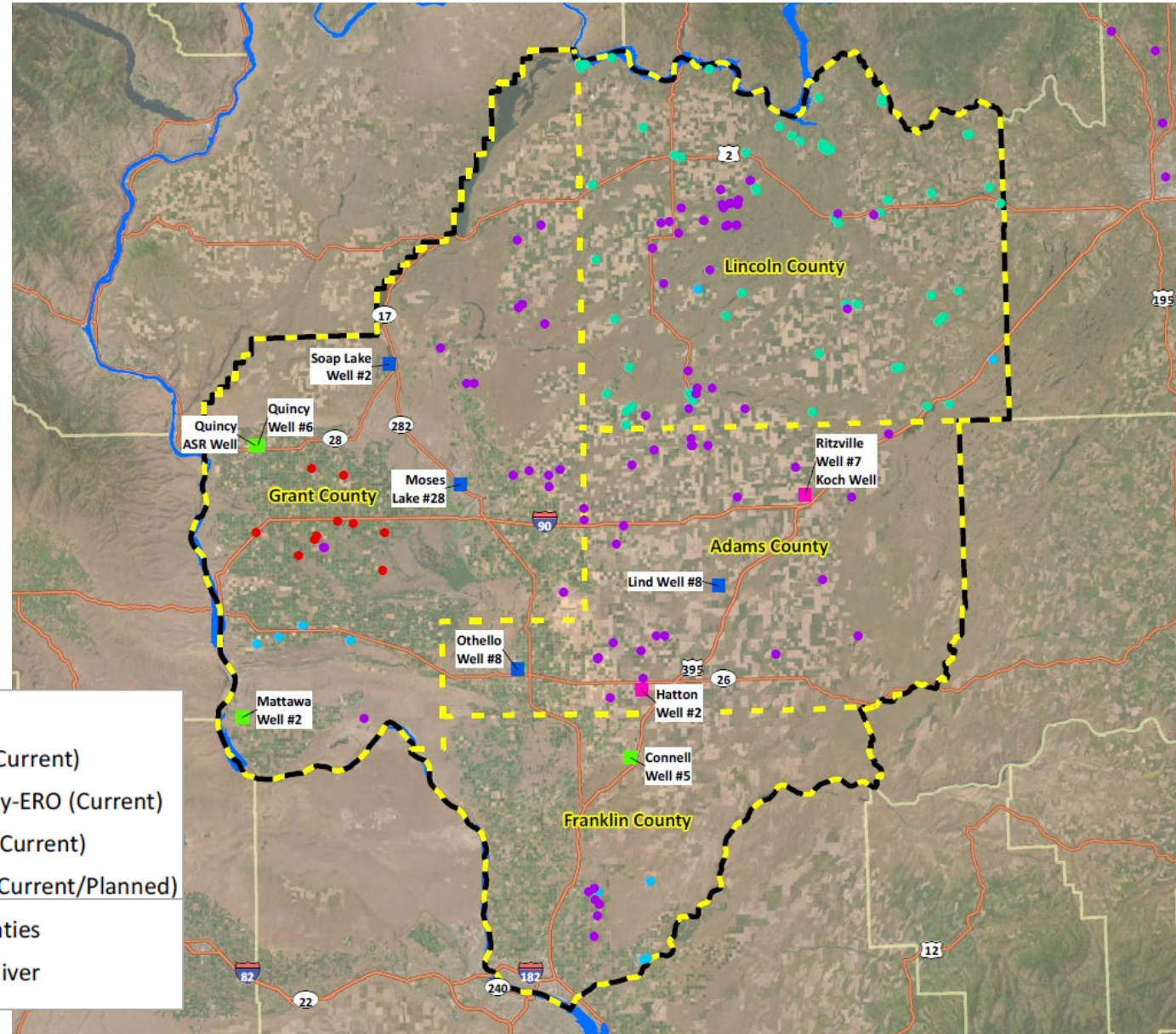
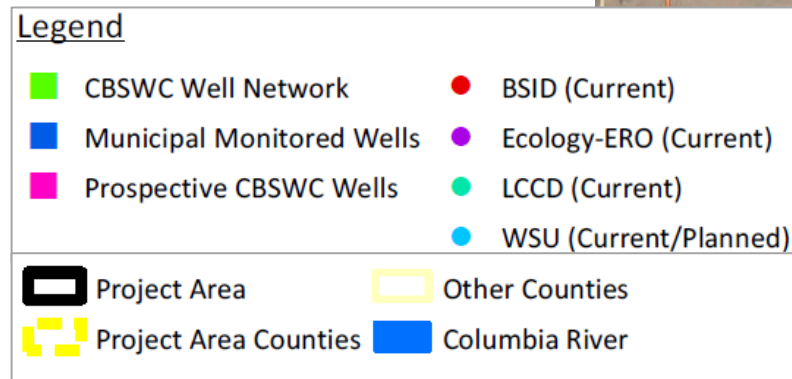
### ▲ Muni-Led Data Collection and CBSWC Data Processing

- Moses Lake Well #28. Open interval: 259 to 750 ft bgs (Wanapum and Grande Ronde)
- Othello Well #8. Open interval: 204 to 853 ft bgs (Saddle Mountains and Wanapum)
- Lind Well #8. Open interval: 720 to 2,034 ft bgs (Grande Ronde)
- Soap Lake Well #2. Open interval: 95 to 435 ft bgs (Grande Ronde)



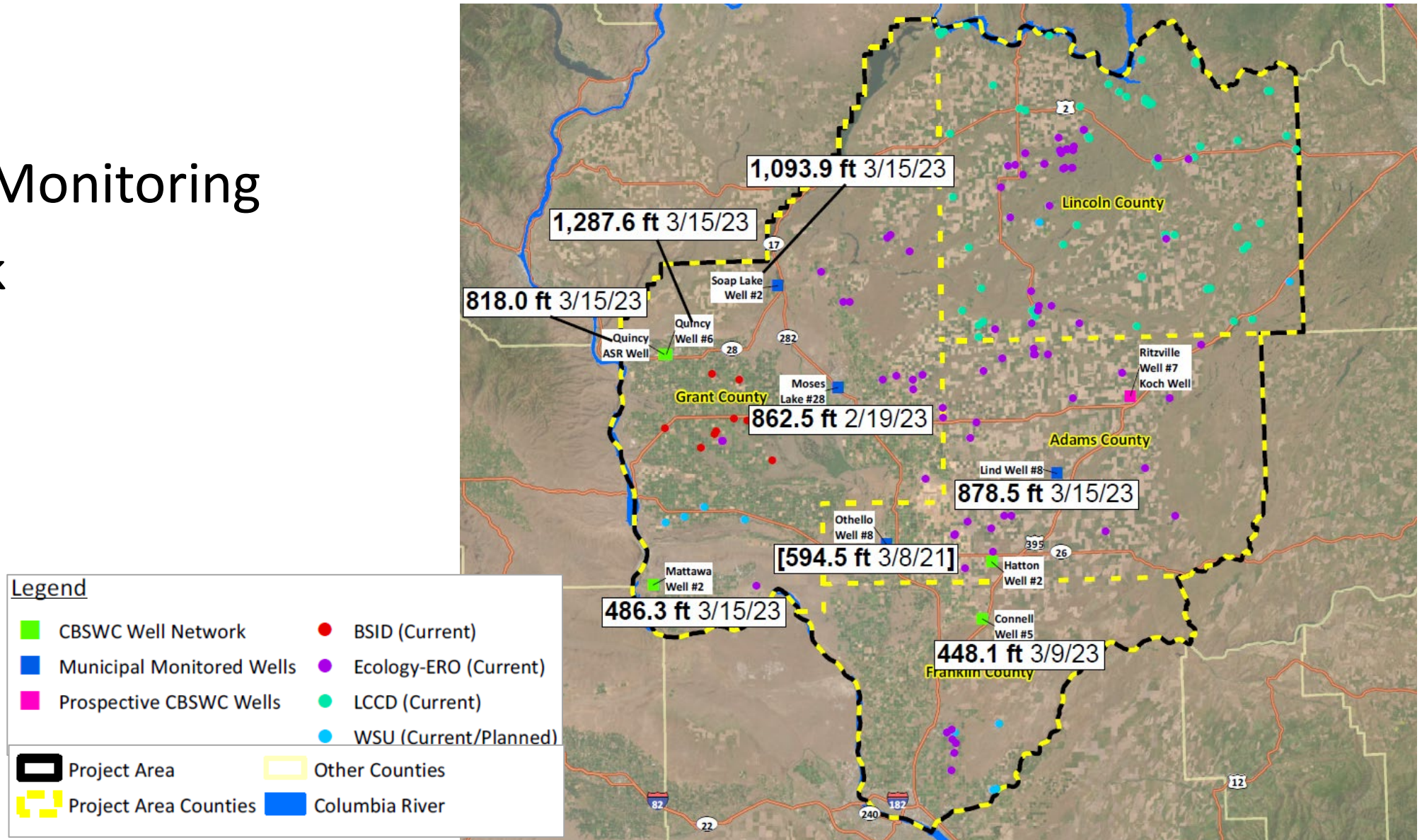
# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends

## CBSWC Monitoring Network with Other Entity Monitoring Programs



# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends

## CBSWC Monitoring Network



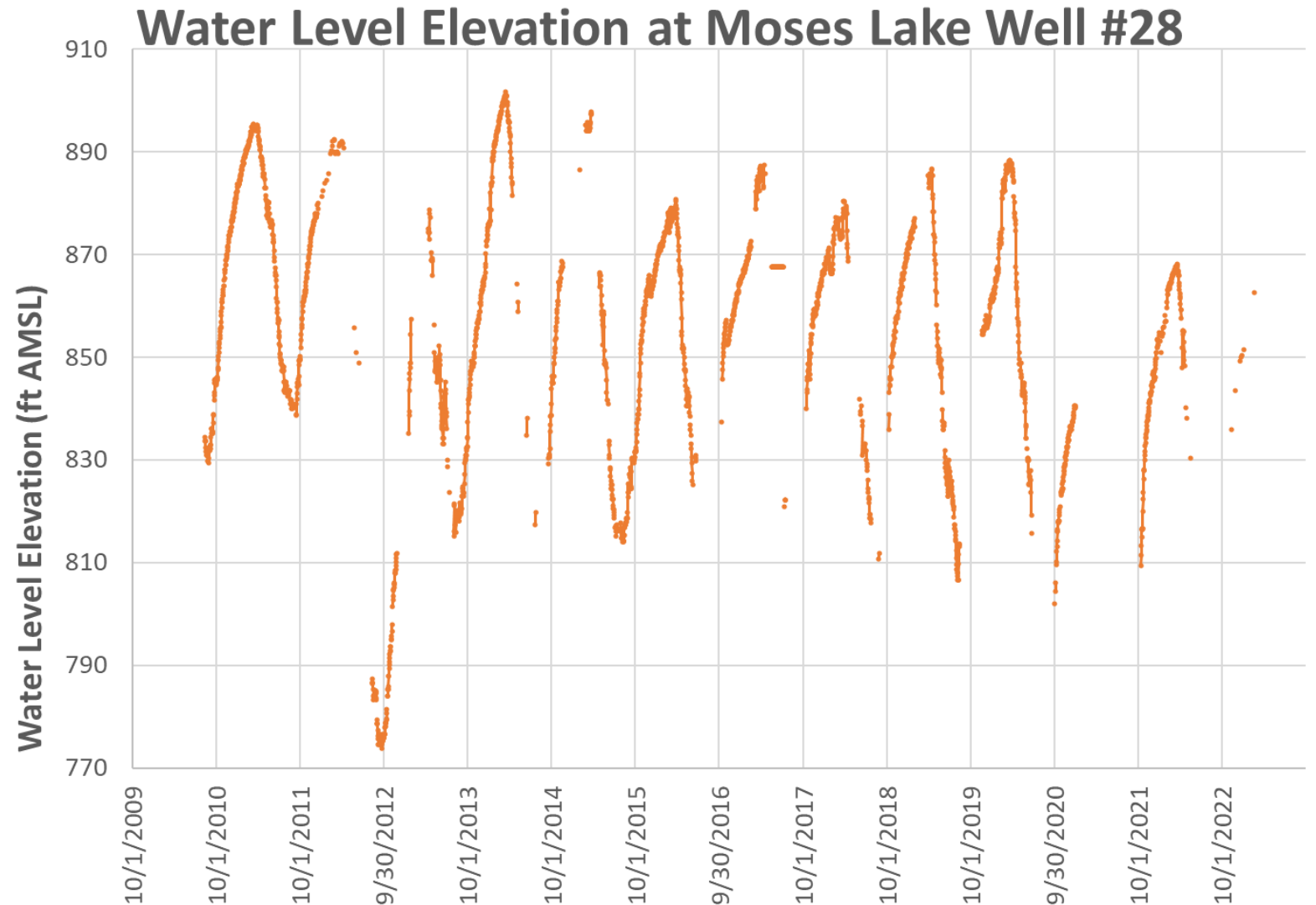
# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends – CBSWC Data

City of Moses Lake

Well #28

▲ 2010 to Present

▲ ~1.5 ft per year decline



Note: Graph excludes water level elevations recorded while pump is on.

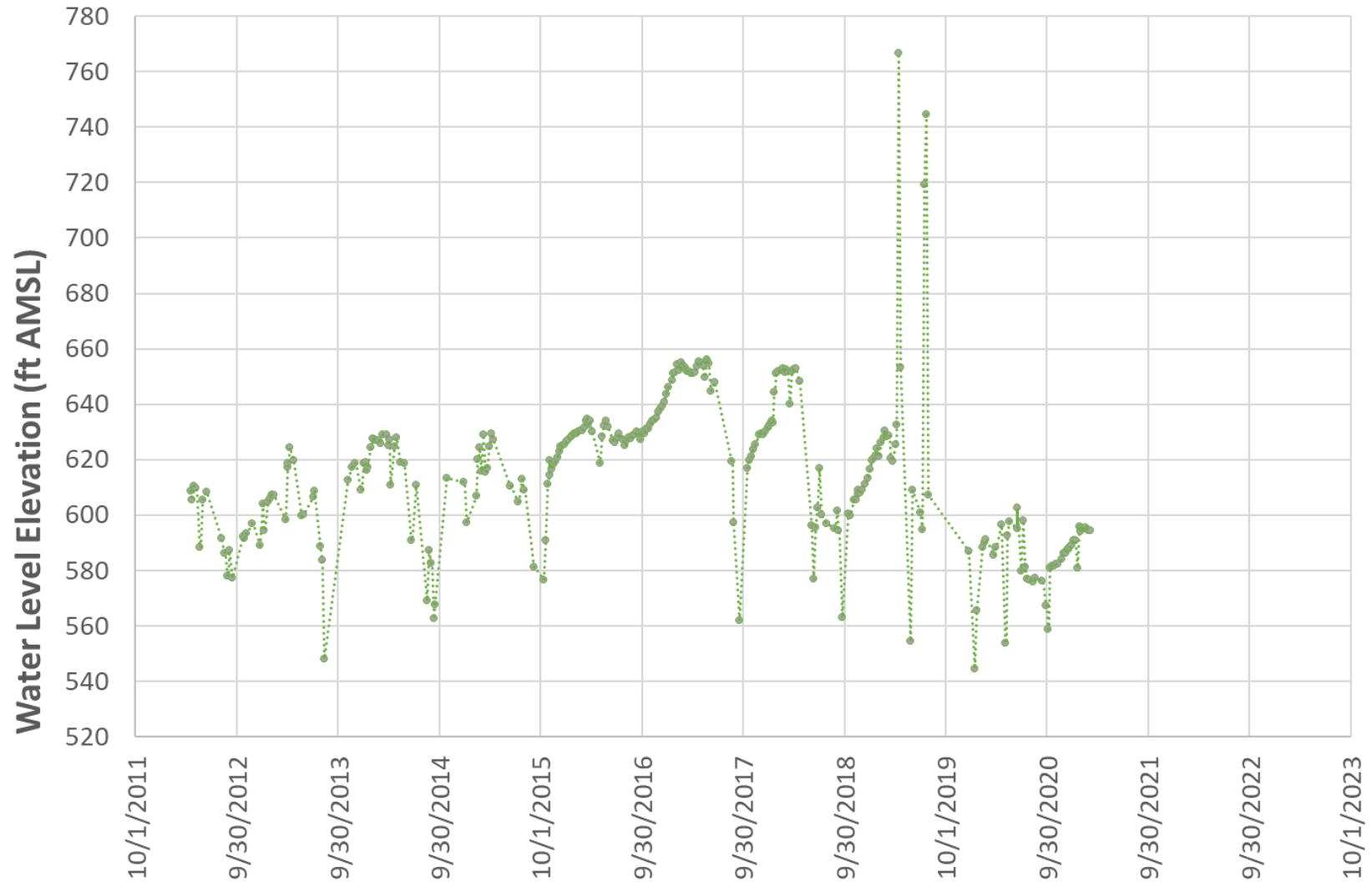


# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends – CBSWC Data

## City of Othello Well #8

- ▲ 2012 to Present
- ▲ ~7 ft per year increase from 2012 to 2017
- ▲ ~15 ft per year decline from 2017 to 2020

### Water Level Elevation at Othello Well #8



Note: Graph excludes water level elevations recorded while respective pumps are on.



# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends – CBSWC Data

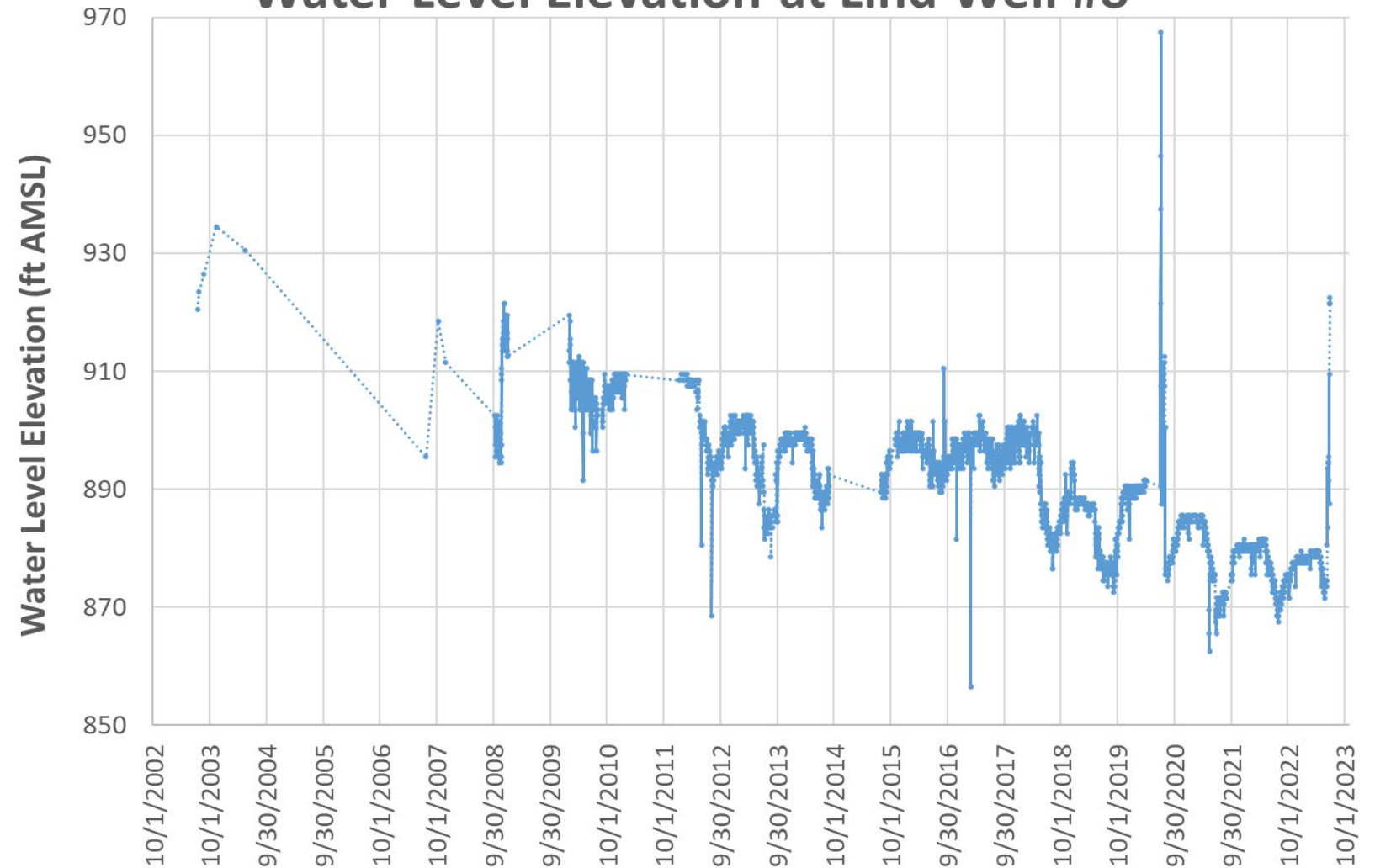
Town of Lind

Well #8

▲ 2003 to Present

▲ ~2.7 ft per year decline

## Water Level Elevation at Lind Well #8



Note: Graph excludes water level elevations recorded while pump is on.

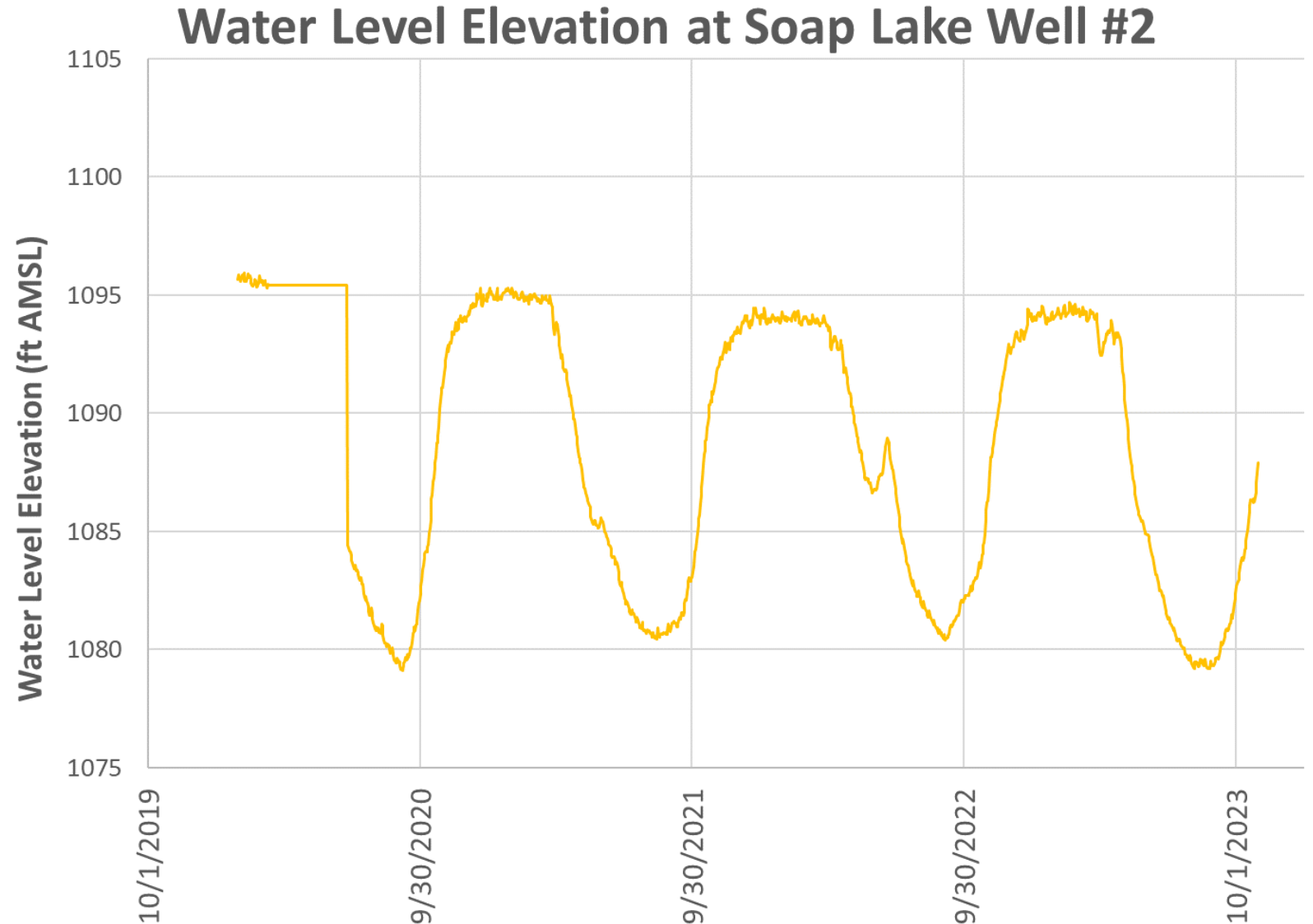




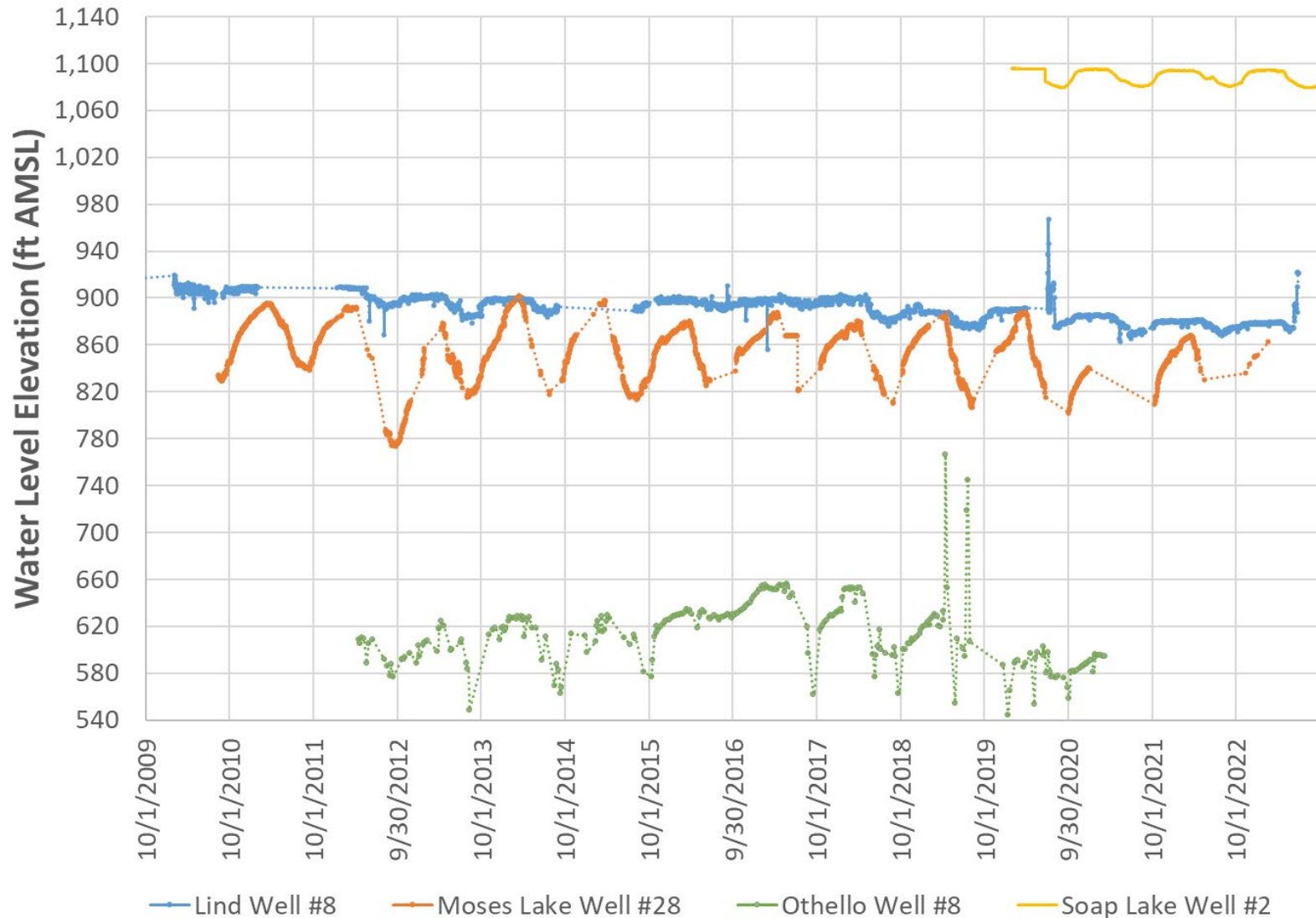
# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends – CBSWC Data

## City of Soap Lake Well #2

- ▲ 2020 to Present
- ▲ ~0.6 ft per year decline (based on non-pumping period)



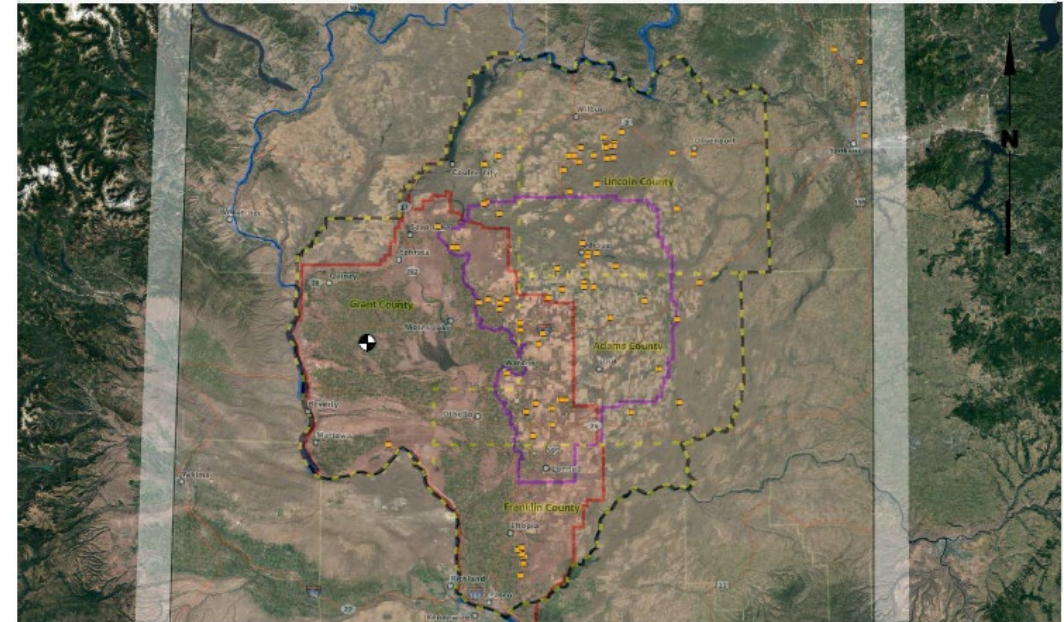
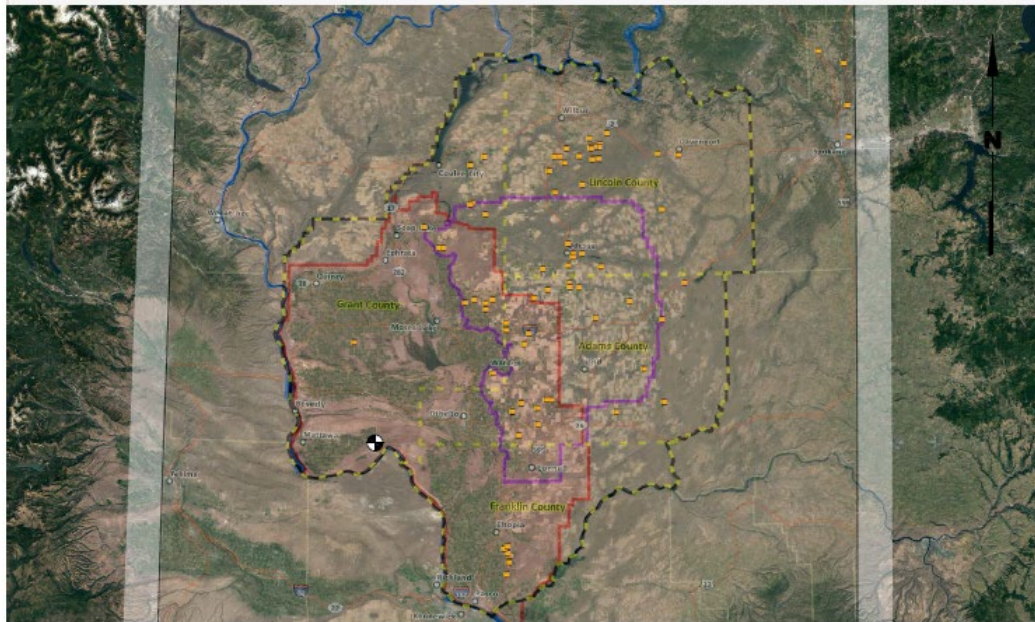
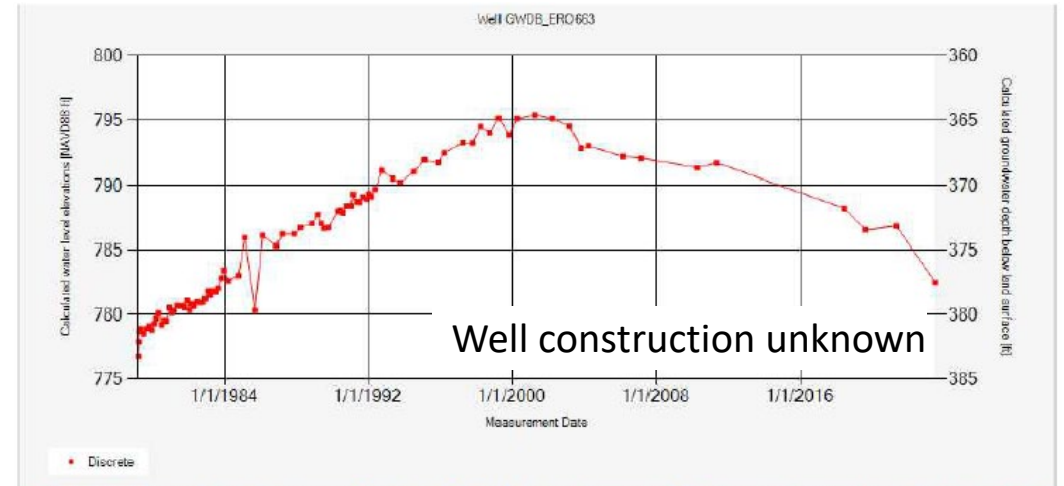
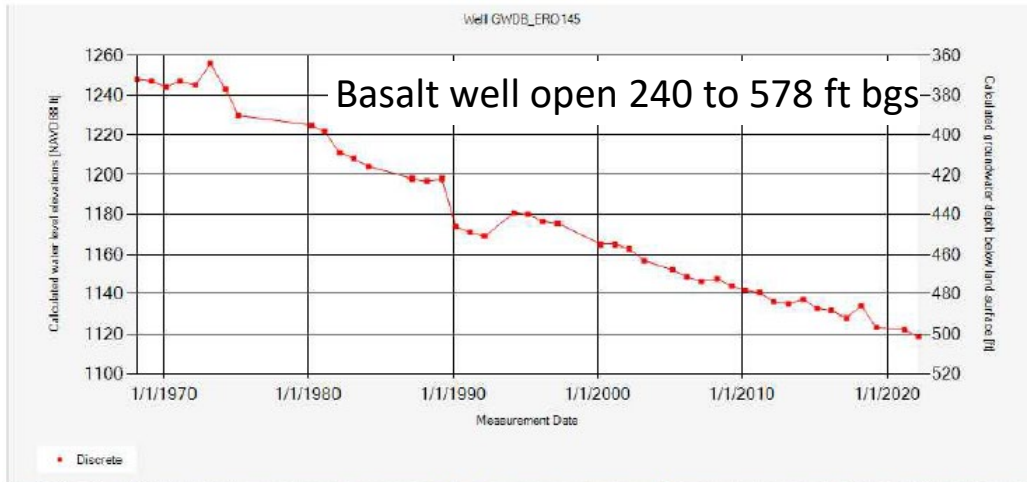
# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends – CBSWC Data



Note: Graph excludes water level elevations recorded while respective pumps are on.



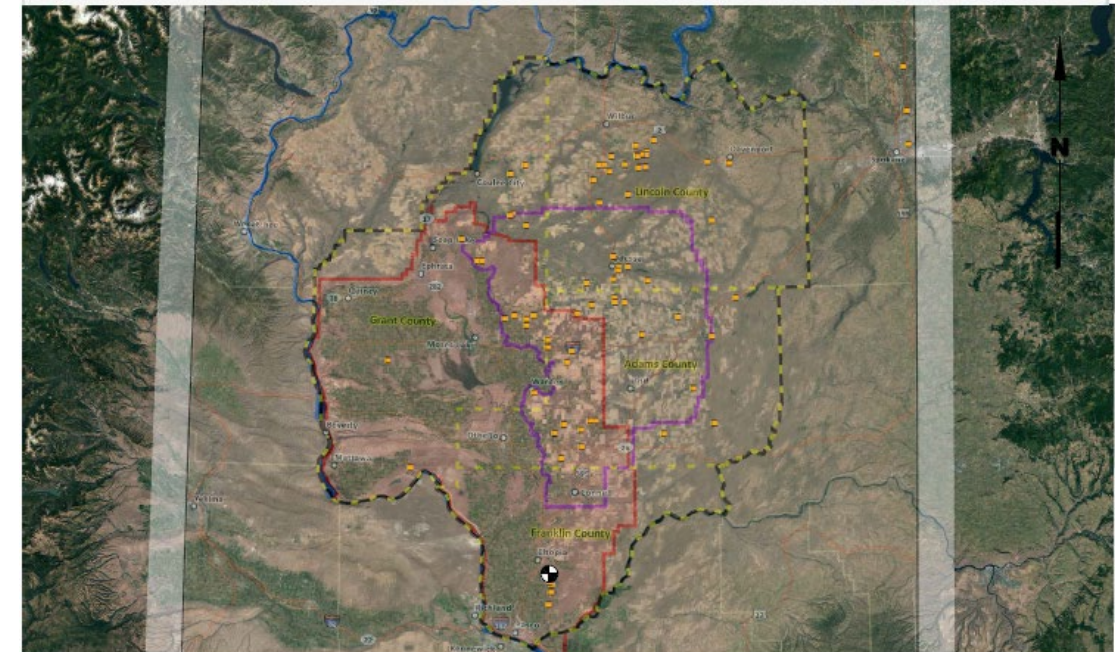
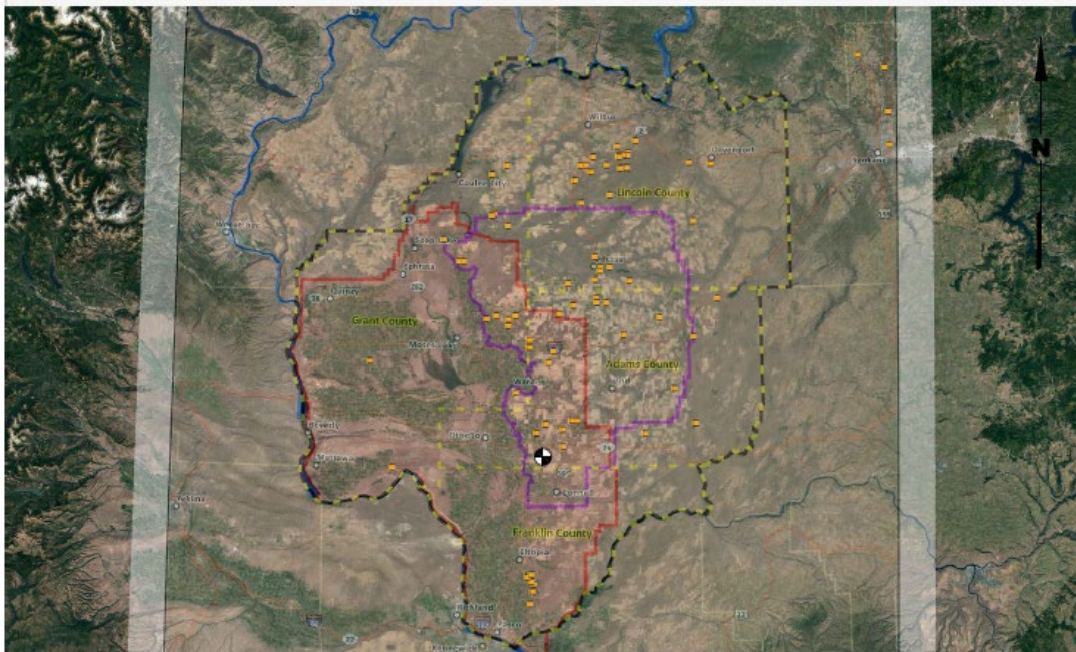
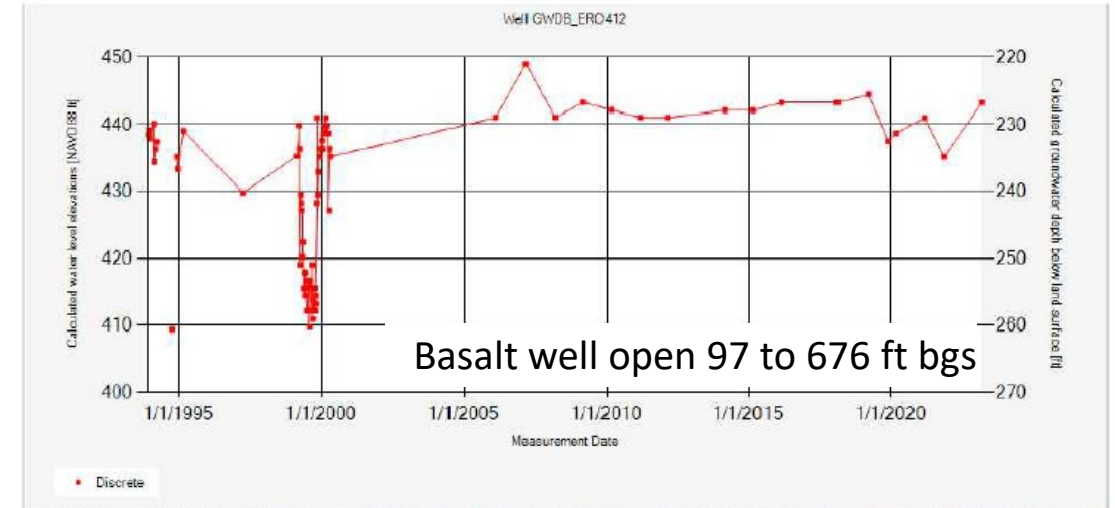
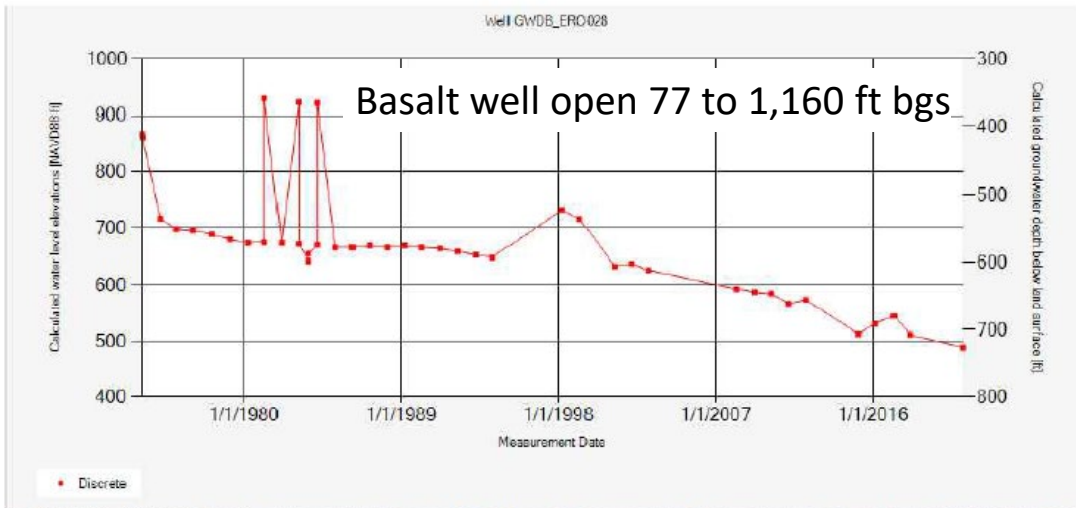
# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends – Ecology ERO Data



~2.5 ft per year decline (140 ft overall)

~0.8 ft per year increase, then ~0.9 ft per year decline

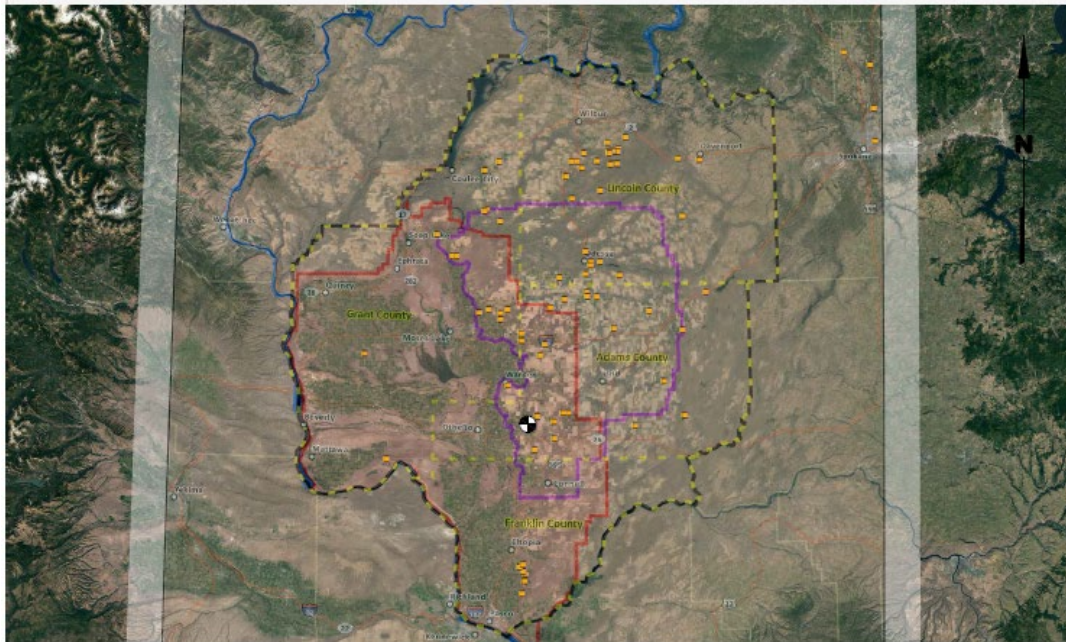
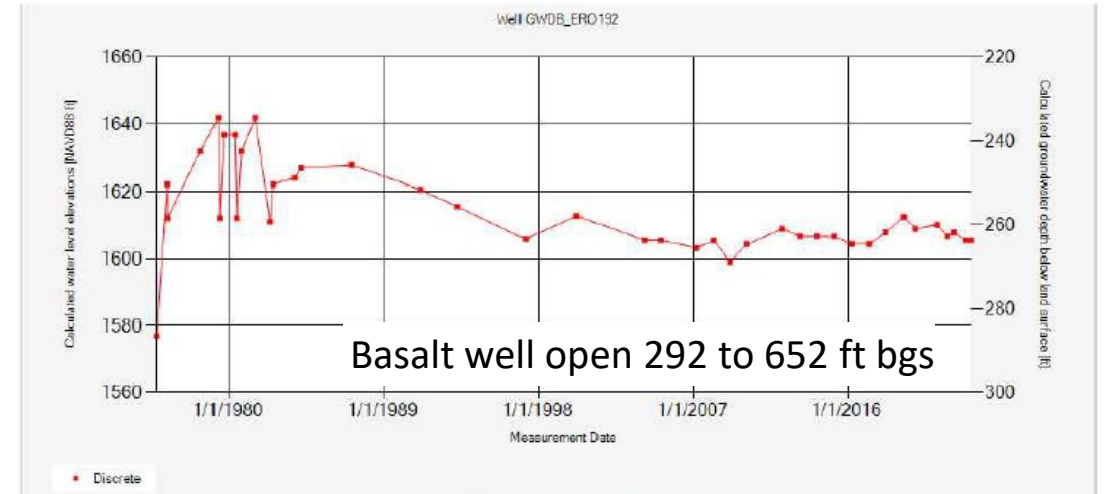
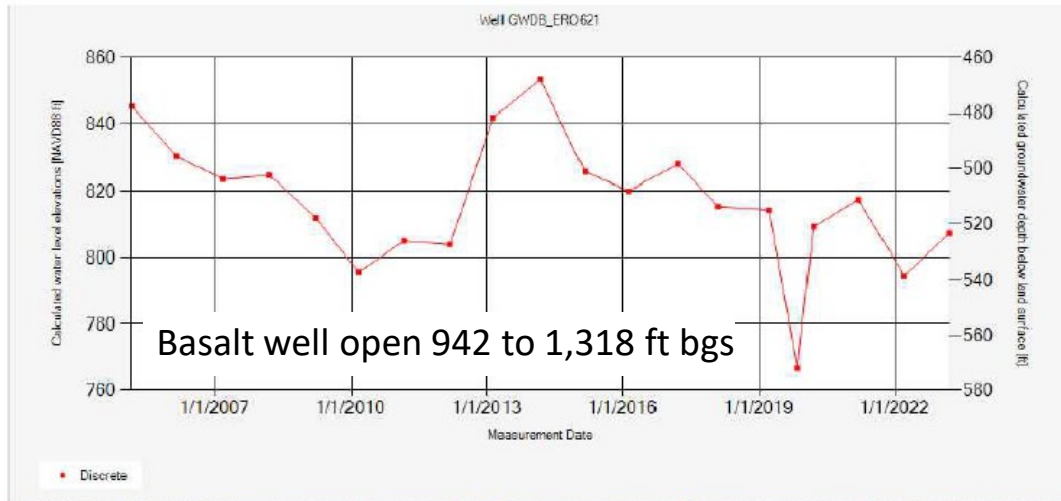
# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends – Ecology ERO Data



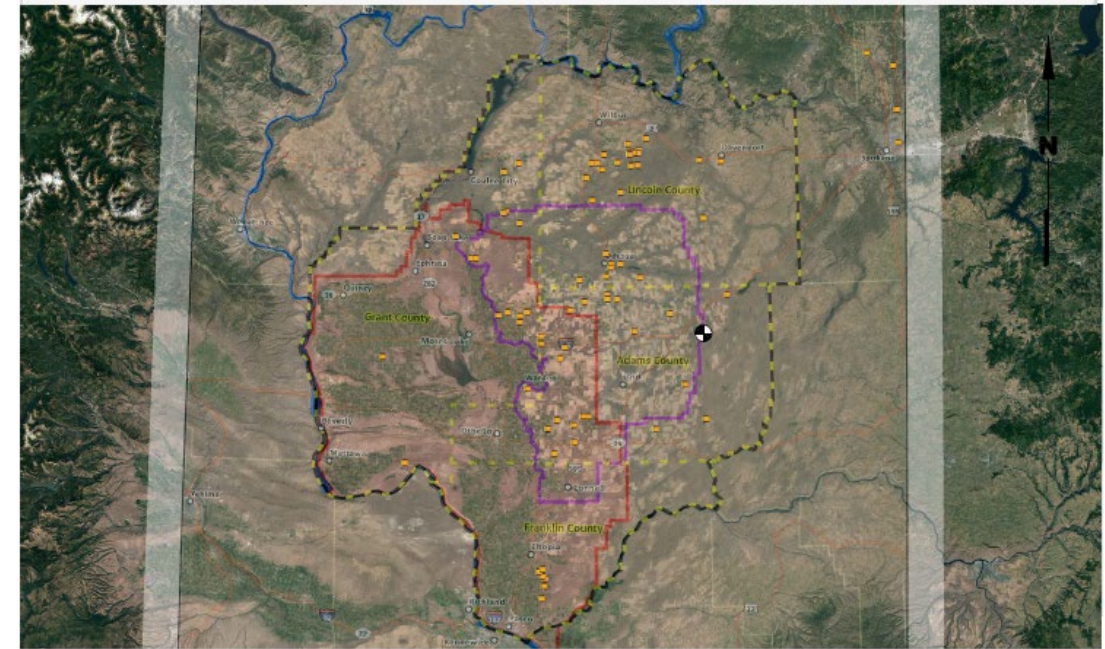
~6.2 ft per year decline (200-300 ft overall)

~Steady

# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends – Ecology ERO Data



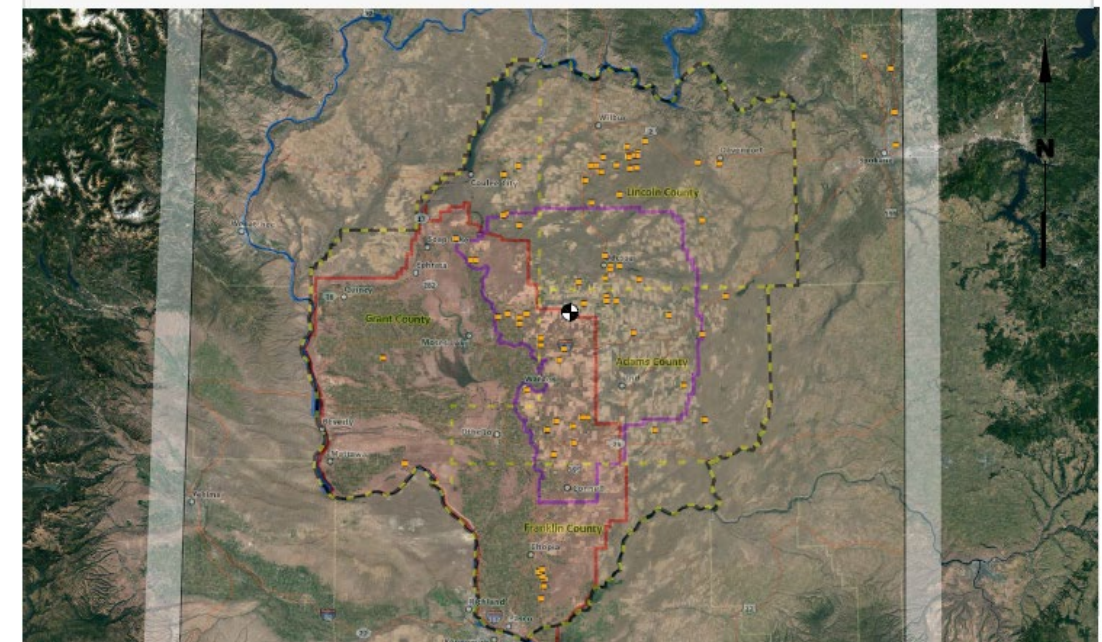
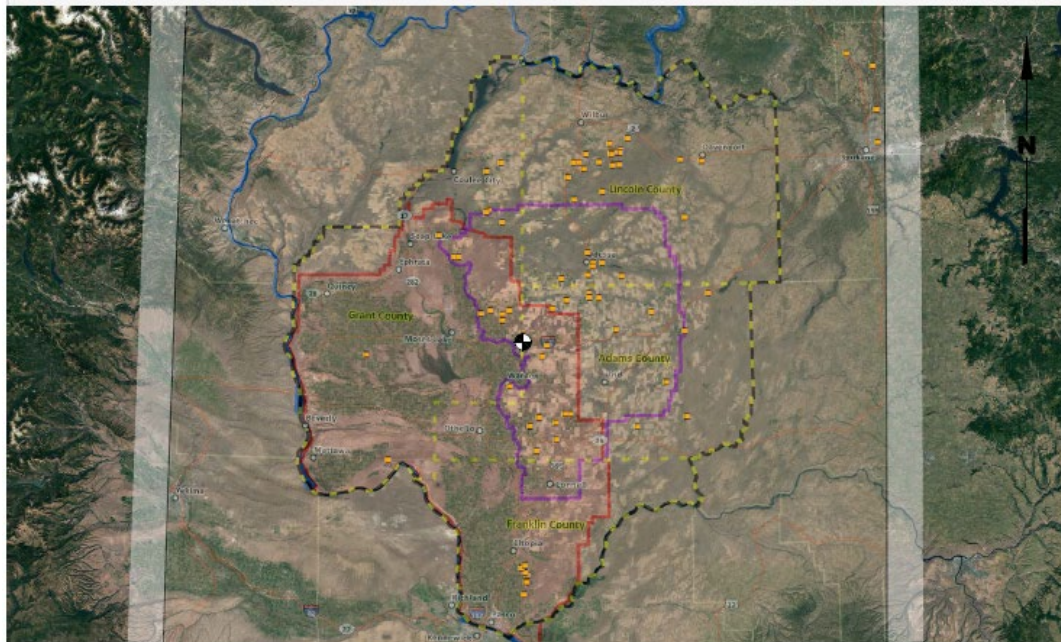
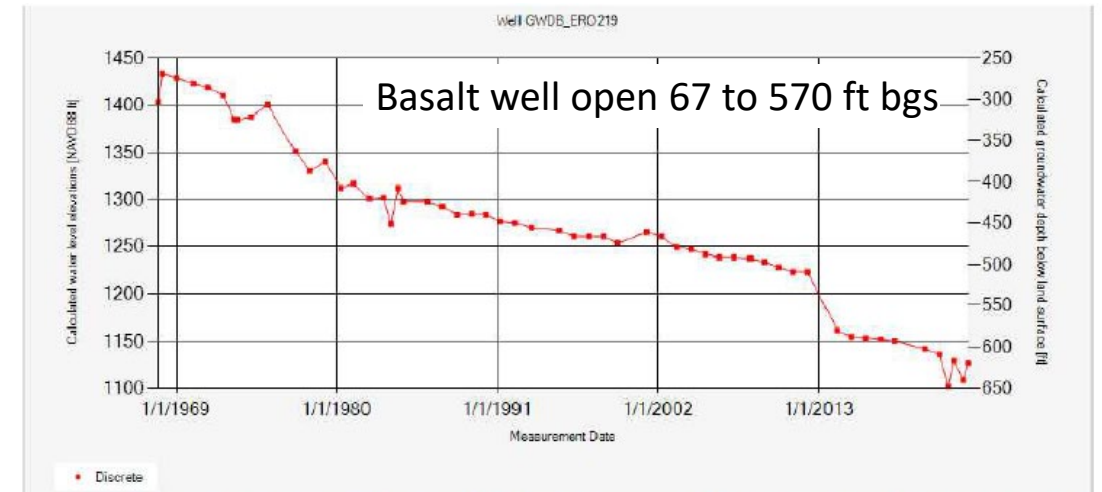
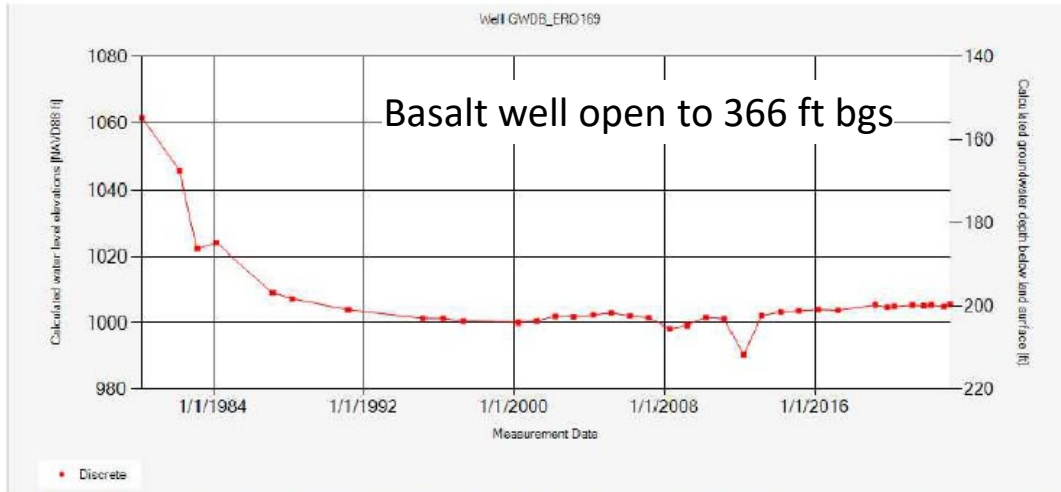
~2.0 ft per year decline



~0.6 ft per year decline



# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends – Ecology ERO Data

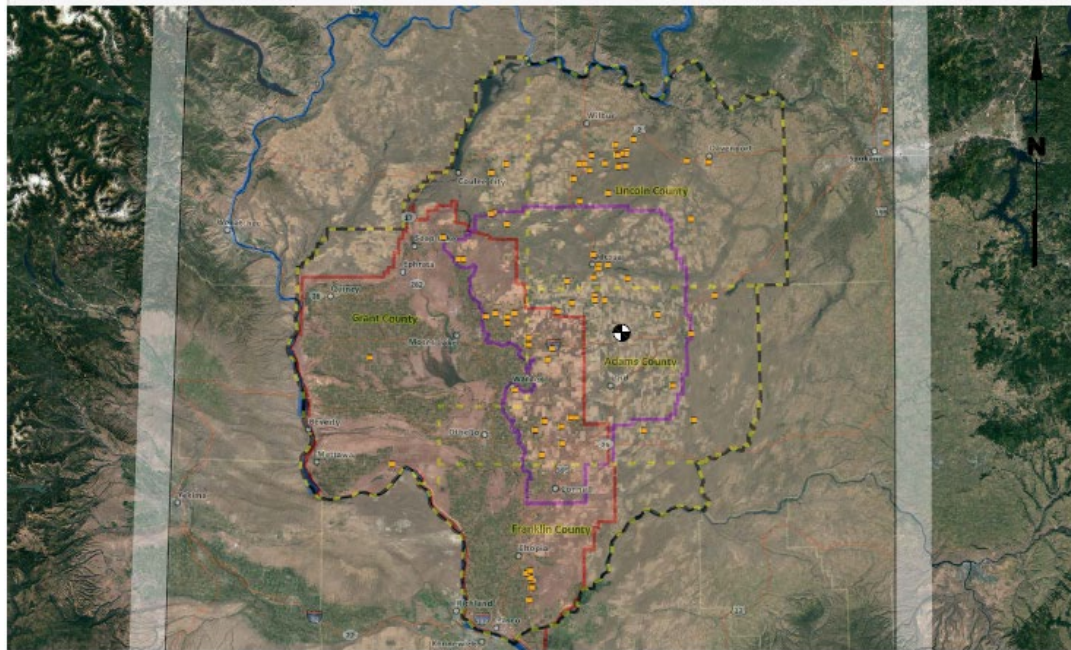


~60 ft drop in 12 years, then steady

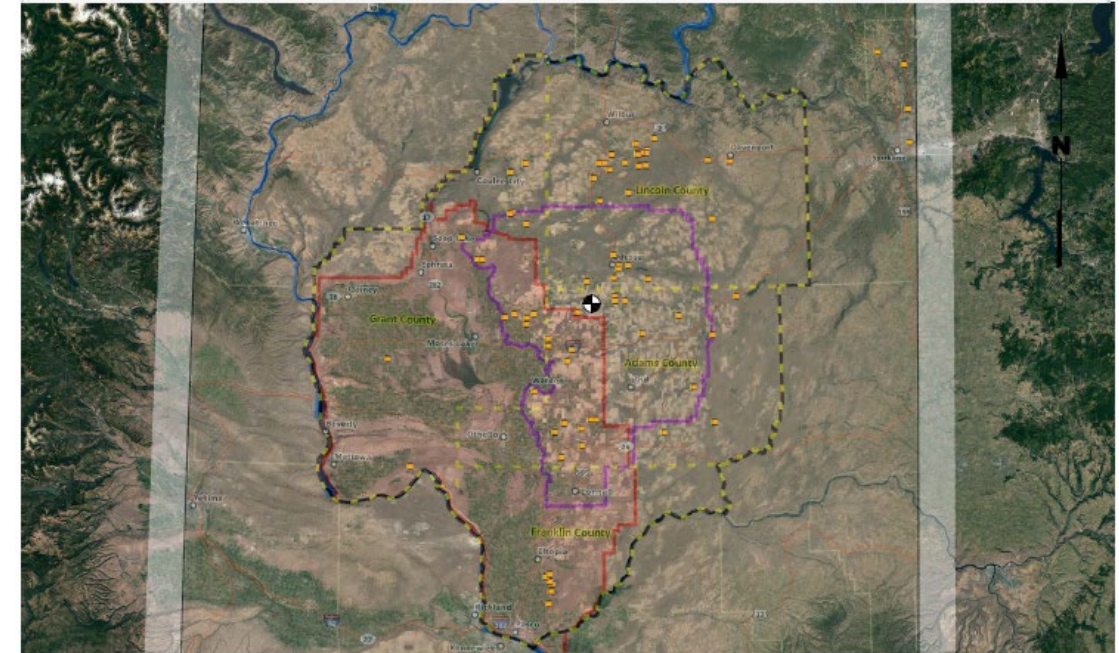
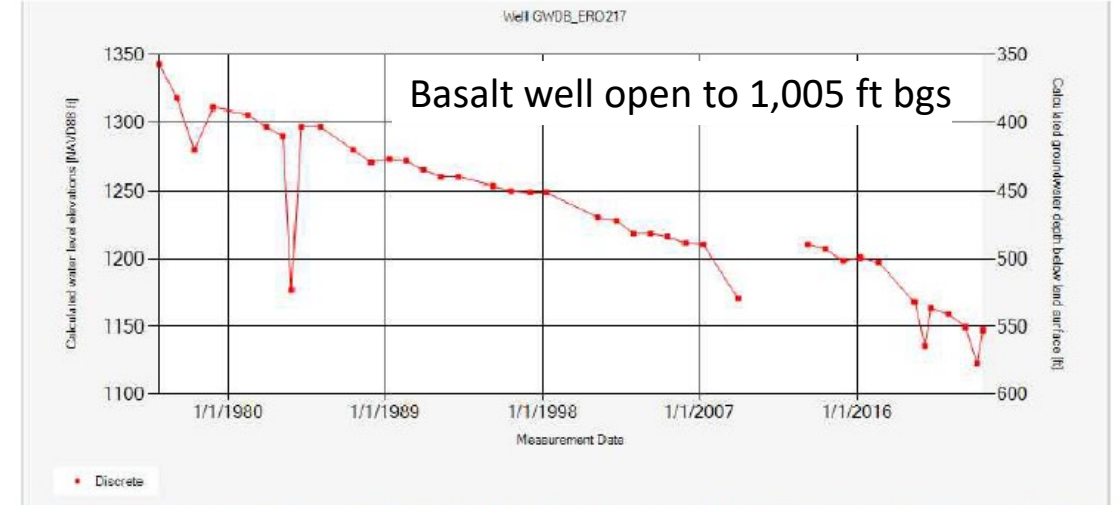
~5.7 ft per year decline (300 ft overall)



# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends – Ecology ERO Data



~2.6 ft per year decline (120 ft overall)

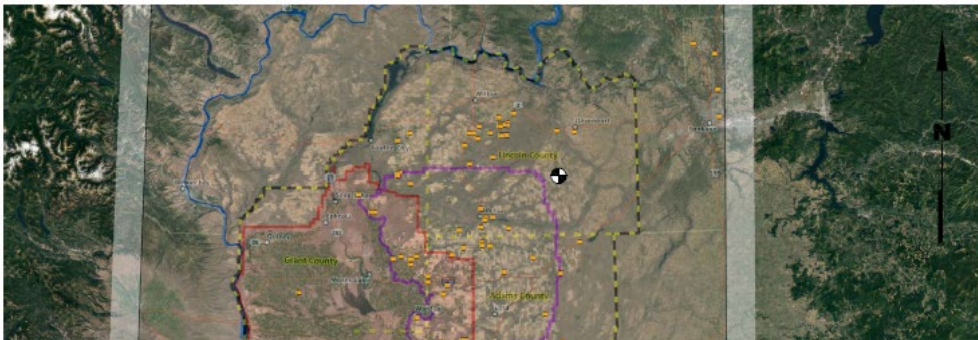
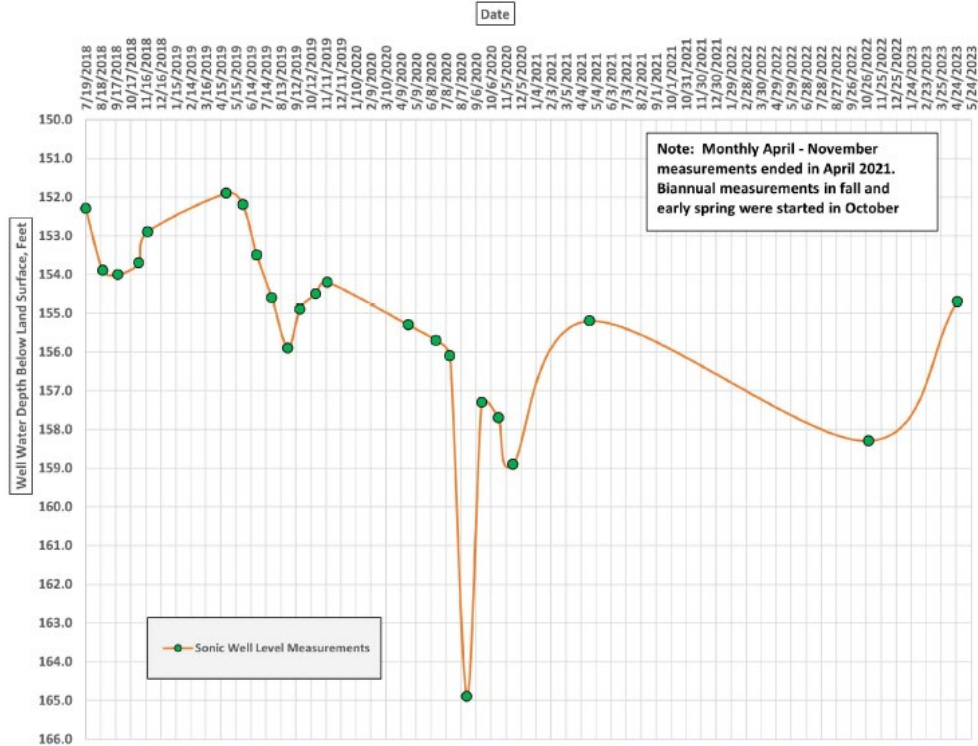


~3.9 ft per year decline (200 ft overall)



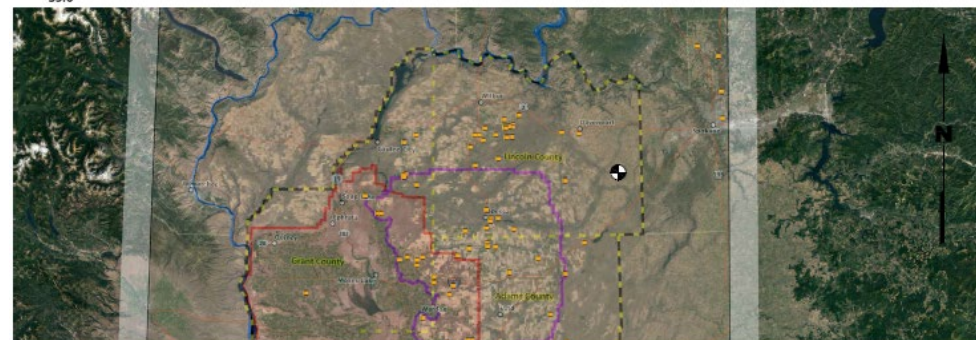
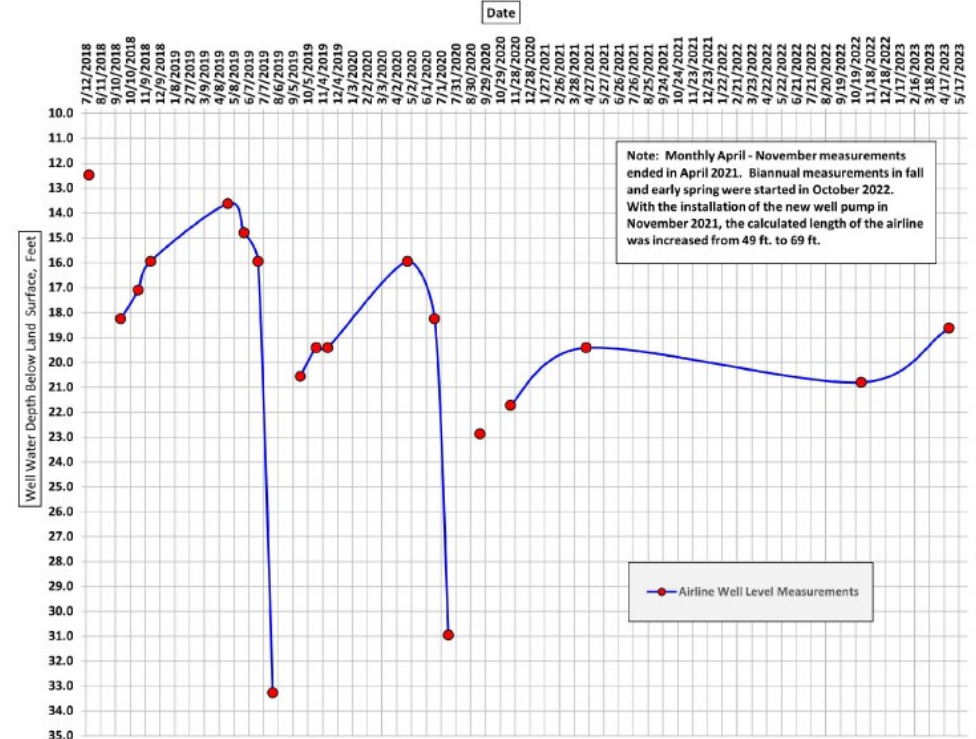
# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends – LCCD Data

Sonic Meter Well Level Measurements for Domestic Well ALR010 7/19/2018 - 04/27/2023



~0.9 ft per year decline

Airline Well Level Measurements for the Edwall #2 Municipal Well / APP852 7/12/2018 - 04/27/2023

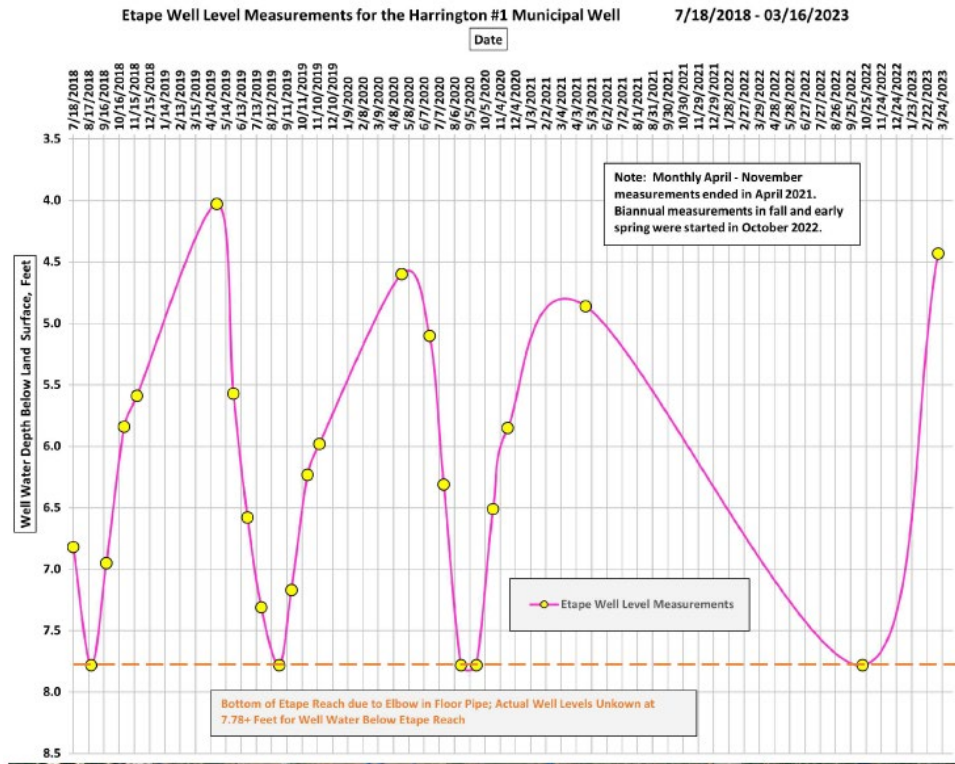


~1.3 ft per year decline

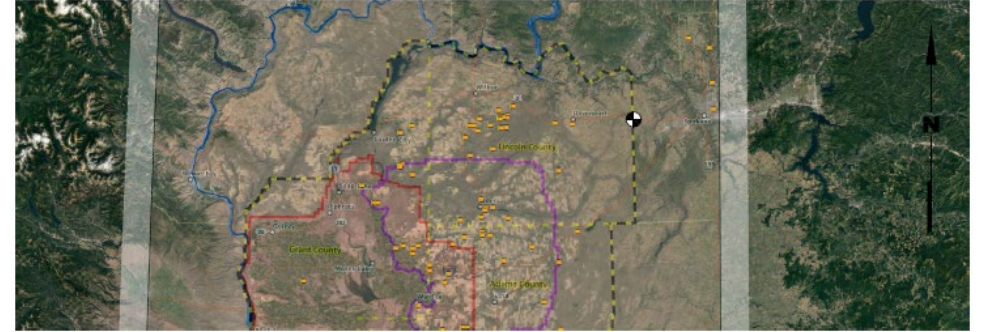
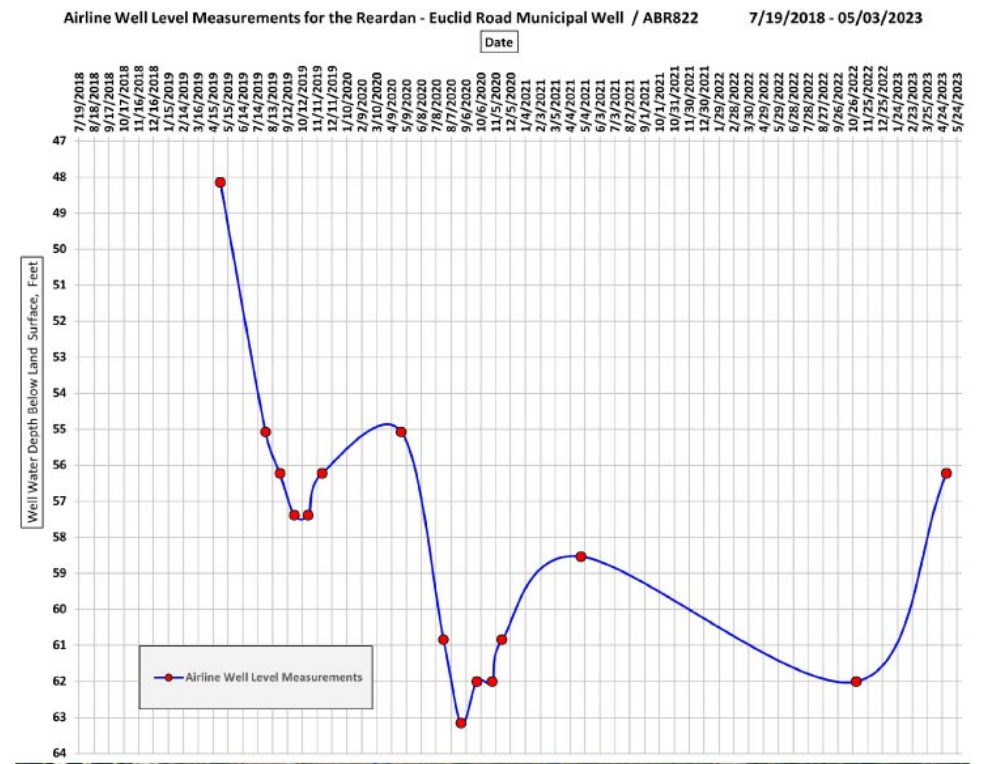




# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends – LCCD Data



~0.2 ft per year decline (?)



~0.9 ft per year decline (?)



# // Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends

## Summary:

- ▲ Aquifers are being depleted (flow out > flow in)
- ▲ Declines are common but location-specific
- ▲ Declining water levels between 1 and 5 ft per year is common
- ▲ Some wells show declines less than 1 ft per year
- ▲ Some wells show declines greater than 5 ft per year
- ▲ Consistent data collection is important to understand trends



# // Preliminary Watershed Management Plan

## Agenda:

- ▲ CBSWC Background and Project Area
- ▲ Hydrogeologic Setting
- ▲ Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends
- ▲ **Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration**
  - **Projects**
  - **Tools**
  - **Planning**
- ▲ Preferred Alternatives



## // Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration

Three Types of Water Resource Management Alternatives:

- ▲ Project Alternatives (Alternative Group A)
- ▲ Tool Alternatives (Alternative Group B)
- ▲ Planning Alternatives (Alternative Group C)



# // Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration – Project Alternatives

## Project Alternatives:

- ▲ A1: Odessa Groundwater Replacement Program
- ▲ A2: Full Columbia Basin Project Completion
- ▲ A3: Water Conservation
- ▲ A4: Aquifer Recharge by Passive Rehydration
- ▲ A5: Aquifer Recharge by Deep Well Injection Network
- ▲ A6: New Source Treatment and Regional Distribution



# // Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration – Project Alternatives

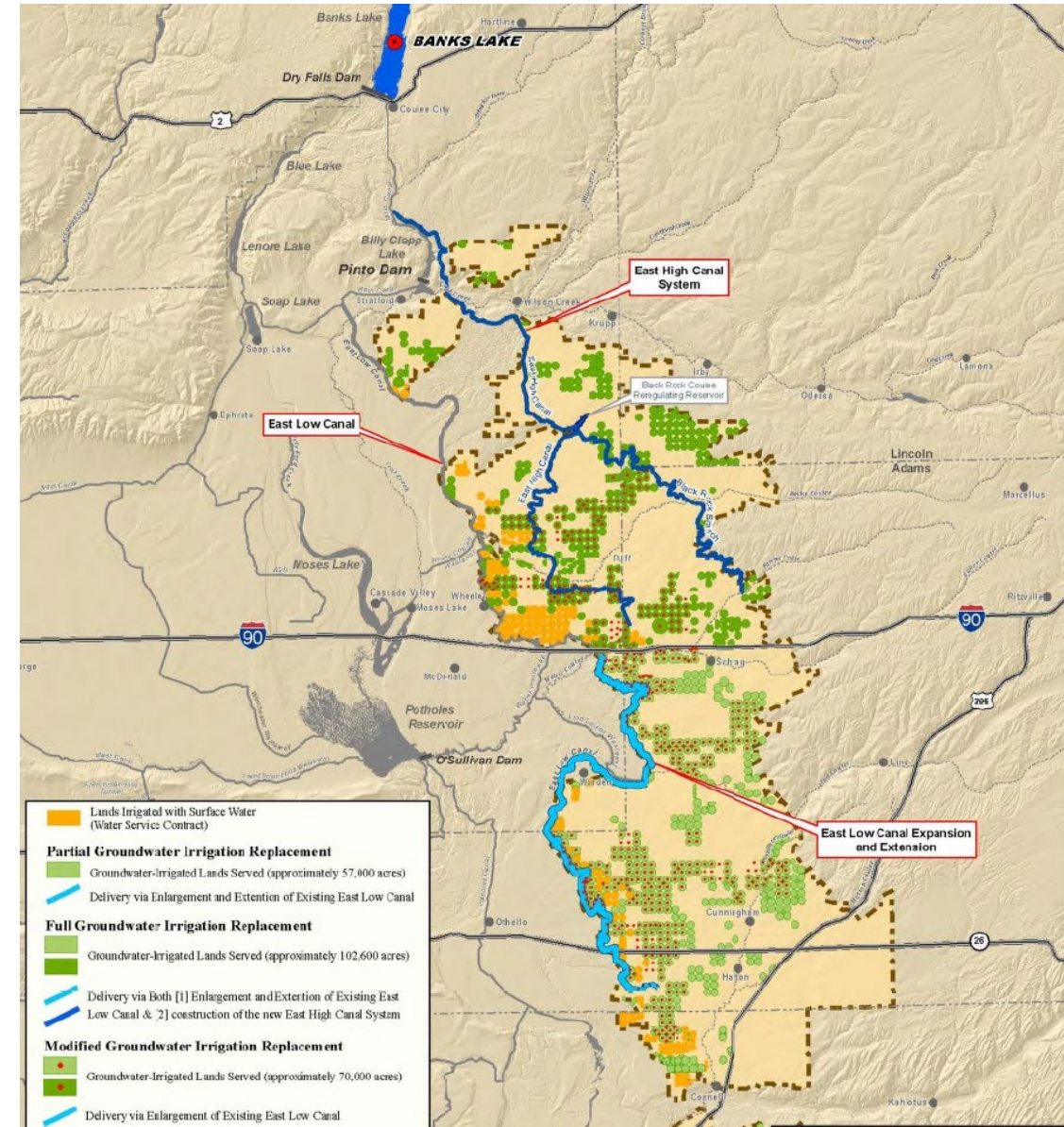
## A1: Odessa Groundwater Replacement Program (OGWRP)

### ▲ Benefits:

- Reduce groundwater pumping for irrigation of up to 80,000 acres
- Planned and permitted, partially funded
- Construction is in process

### ▲ Challenges:

- Limited to Odessa Subarea Special Study Area (western Odessa subarea)
- Requires multiple pump stations



# // Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration – Project Alternatives

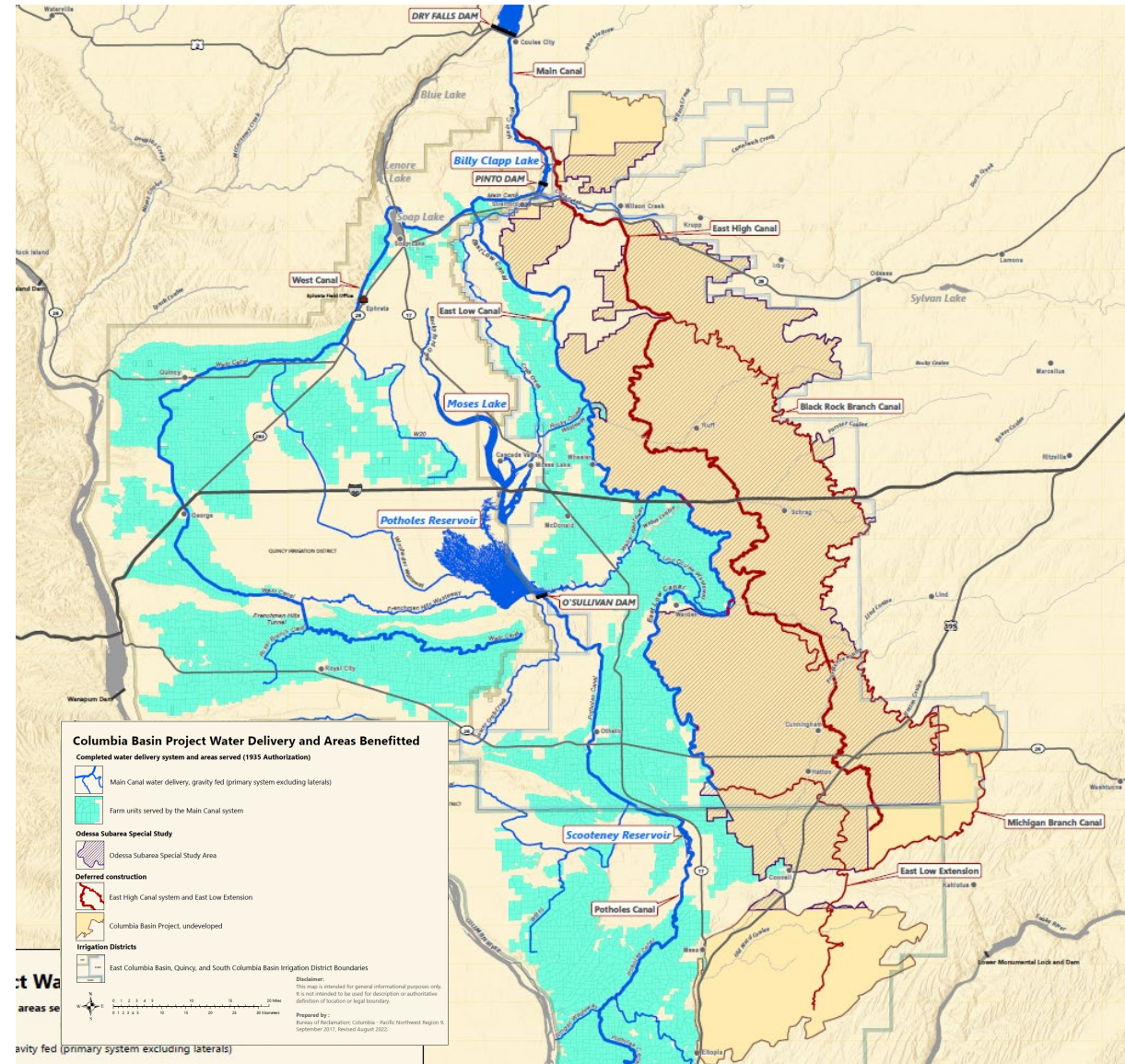
## A2: Full Columbia Basin Project Completion

### ▲ Benefits :

- Reduce groundwater pumping for irrigation of 100,000 acres
- Potential for serving irrigation and communities further east, compared to OGWRP
- Fewer pump stations, then gravity

### ▲ Challenges :

- High Cost
- Needs permitting (secondary use water rights, EIS, etc.)
- Long timeframe for completion



# // Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration – Project Alternatives

## A3: Water Conservation (widespread)

### ▲ Benefits :

- Can stretch existing supplies
- Can be implemented now

### ▲ Challenges :

- Public perception/ unpopular
- No current regional mechanism for coordinated conservation



Before



After





# // Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration – Project Alternatives

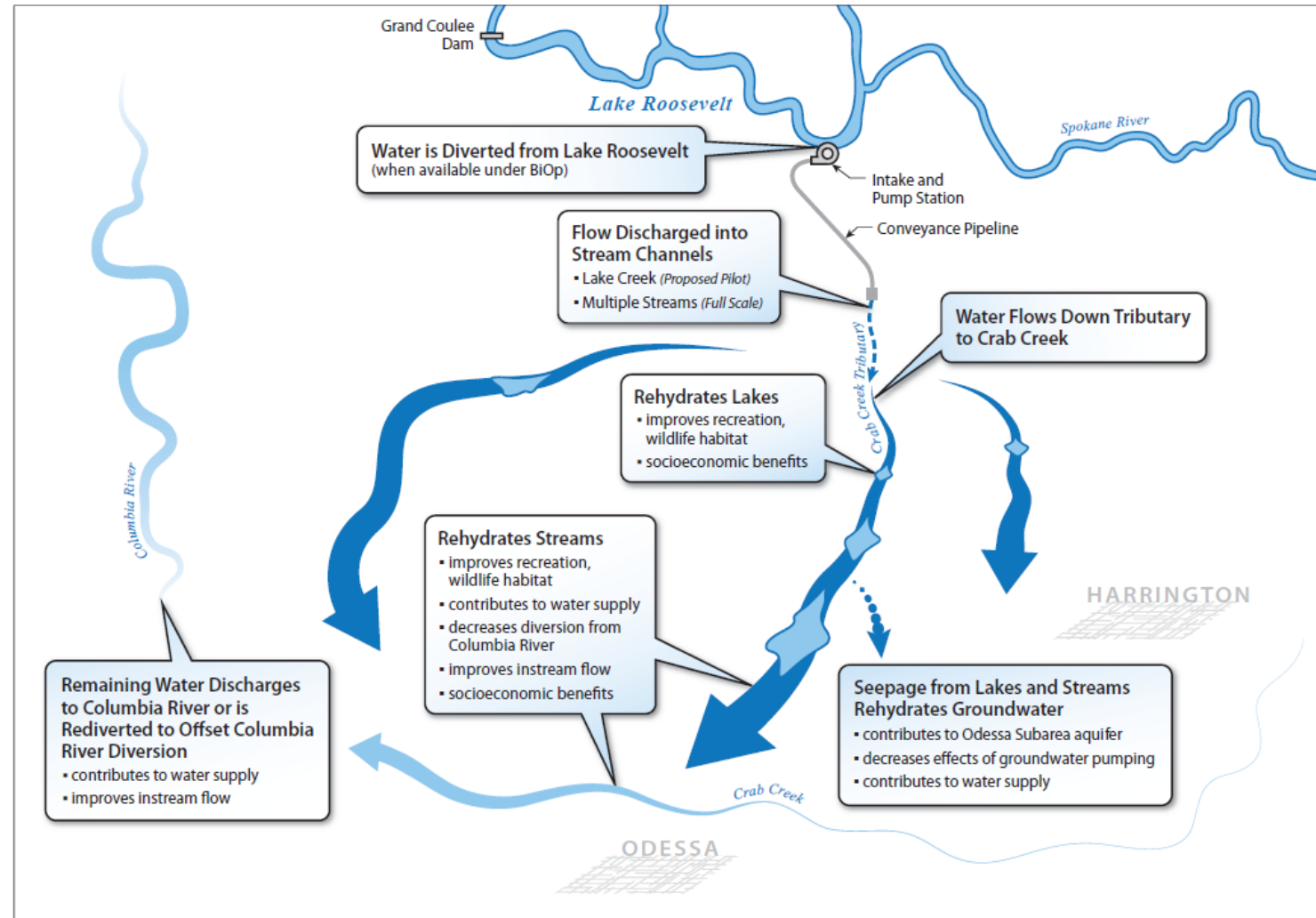
## A4: Aquifer Recharge by Passive Rehydration

### ▲ Benefits :

- Replenish aquifer over time
- Allow use of existing muni wells/pumps (when aquifer is recharged)
- Minimal water quality treatment

### ▲ Challenges :

- Long timeframe
- Not fully efficient (could be a benefit)
- Undefined source
- Studied preliminarily but needs additional study



From: LCCD/GSI/HDR/WNR 2011 – Prefeasibility Assessment Report

Lincoln County Passive Rehydration Project  
Conceptual Schematic Diagram



# // Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration – Project Alternatives

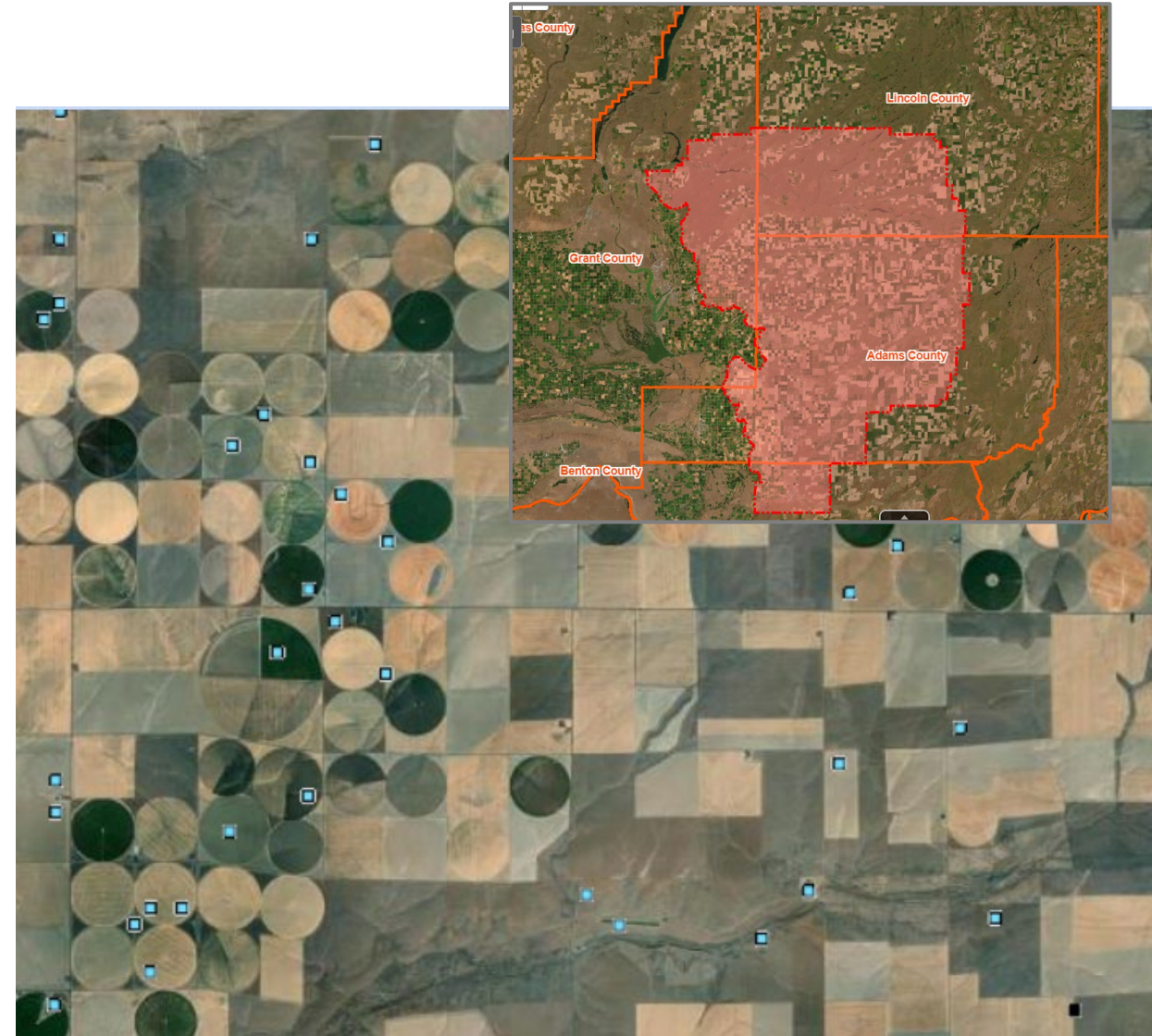
## A5: Aquifer Recharge by Deep Well Injection Network

### ▲ Benefits :

- Replenish aquifer over time
- Allow use of existing muni wells/pumps (when aquifer is recharged)
- Shorter timeframe (compared to passive rehydration)

### ▲ Challenges :

- Not fully efficient (could be a benefit)
- Undefined source
- Needs feasibility study
- Significant water quality treatment
- Permitting not defined



From: Ecology Online Well Log Viewer



# // Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration – Project Alternatives

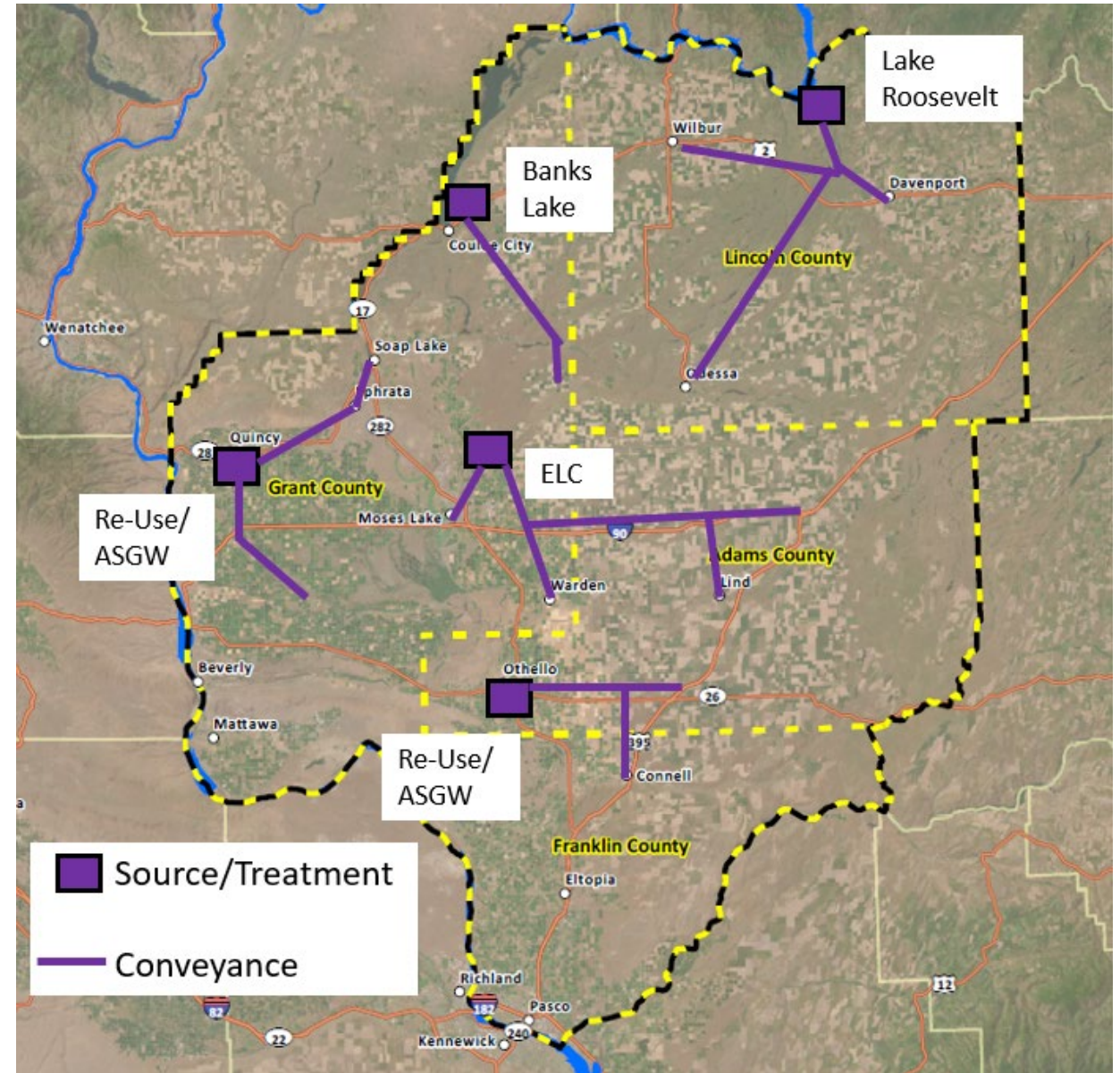
## A6: New Source Treatment and Regional Distribution

### ▲ Benefits :

- ~100% efficiency (piped direct)
- Some defined sources
- Technical and permitting pathways are known

### ▲ Challenges :

- Cost for new infrastructure
- Challenge serving eastern communities
- Needs feasibility study



# // Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration – Tool Alternatives

## Tool Alternatives:

- ▲ B1: Groundwater Level Monitoring
- ▲ B2: Numerical Groundwater Modeling



# // Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration – Tool Alternatives

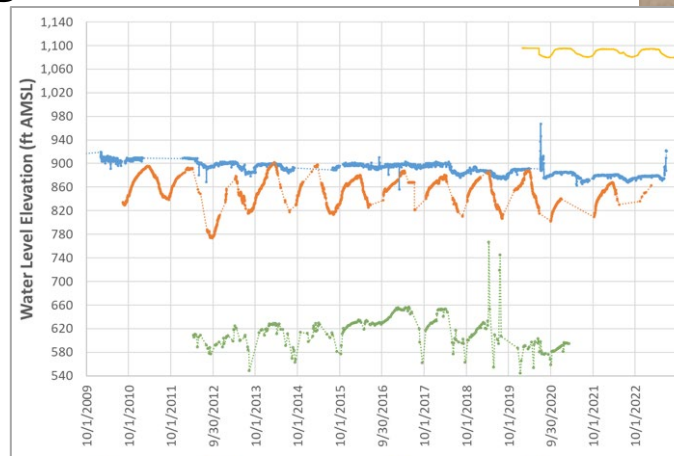
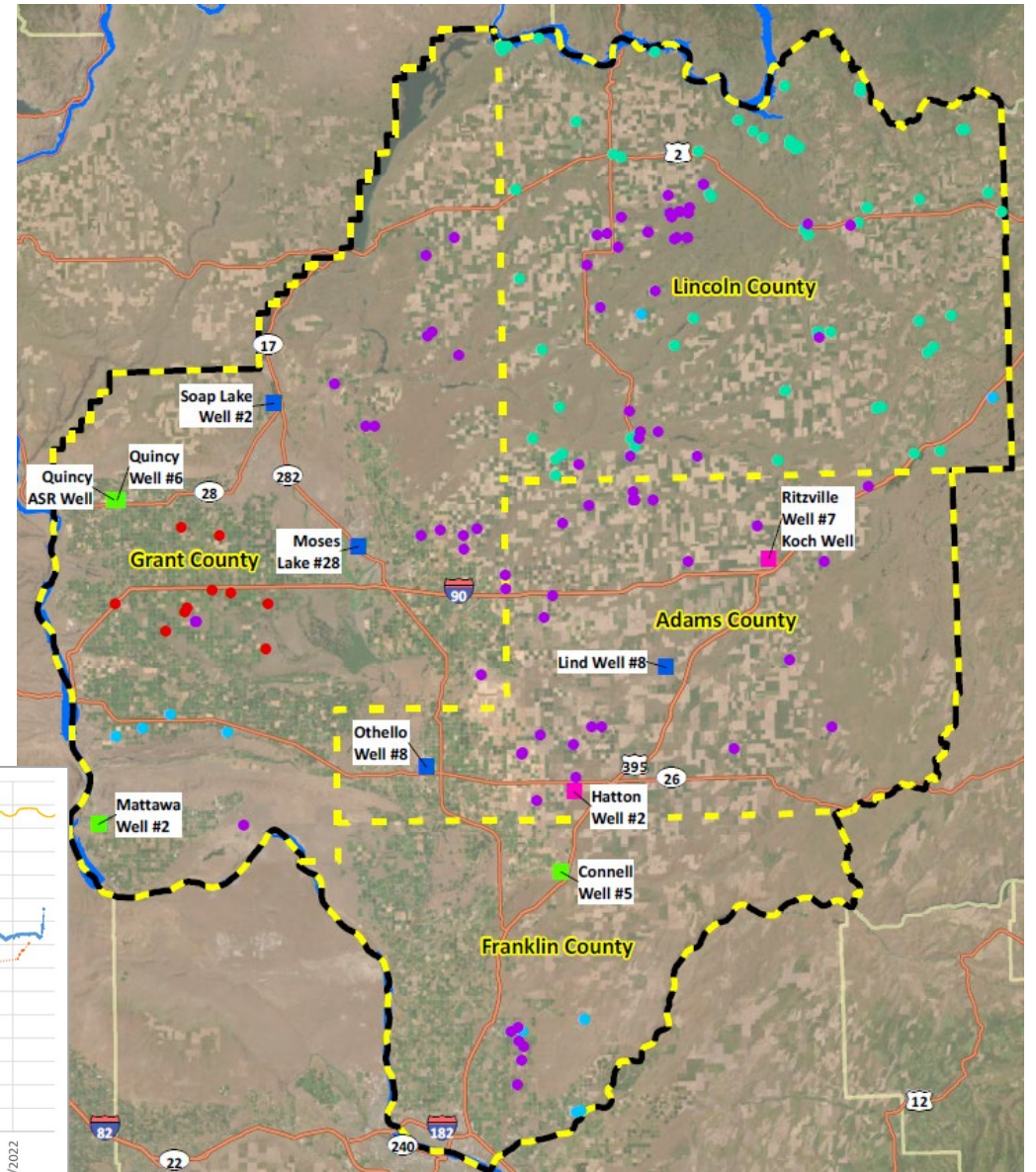
## B1: Groundwater Level Monitoring

### ▲ Benefits :

- Low Cost
- Direct measurements of current groundwater supplies and trends
- Helps focus resources

### ▲ Challenges :

- Long-term funding sources



# // Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration – Tool Alternatives

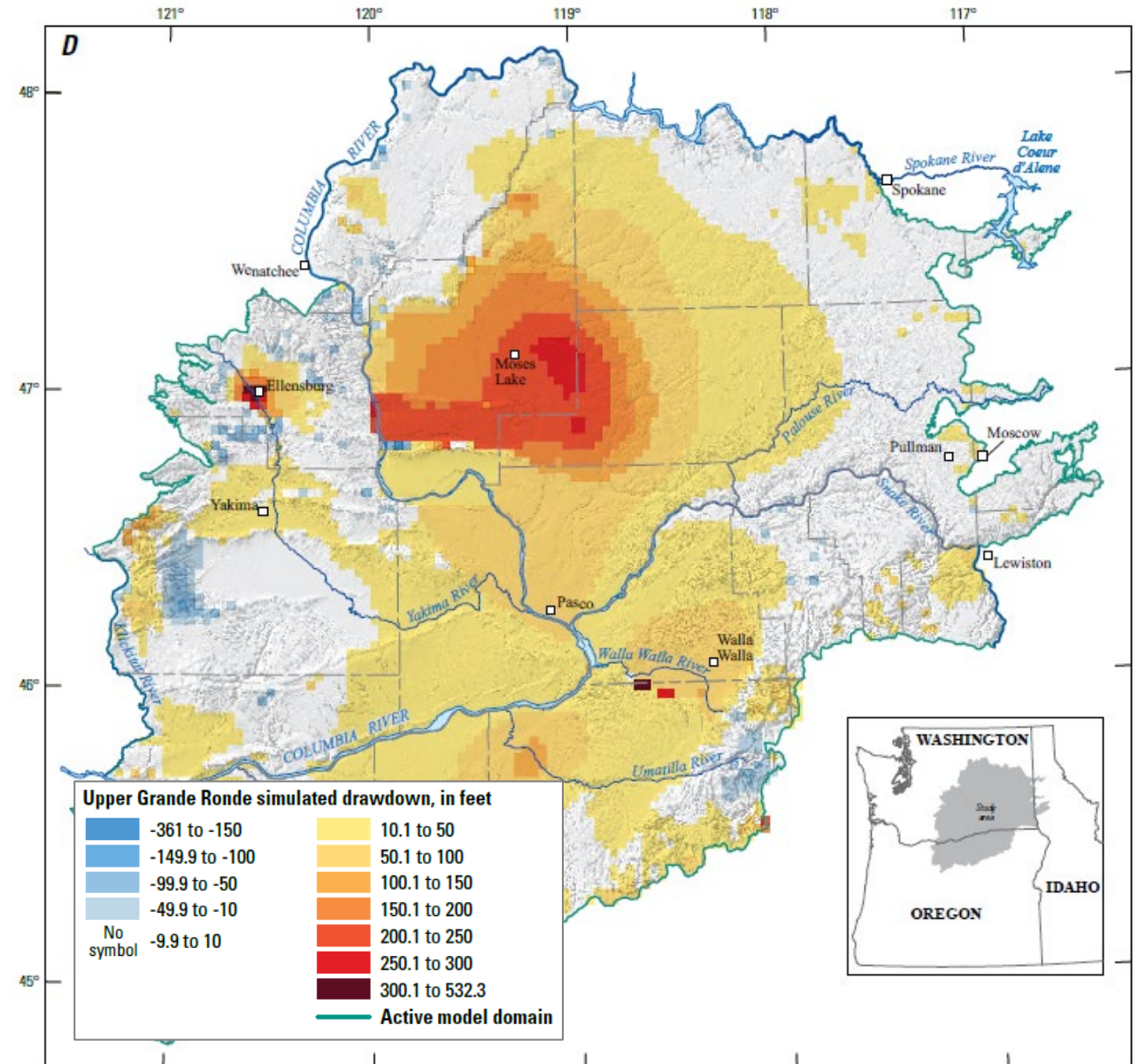
## B2: Groundwater Modeling

### ▲ Benefits :

- Future projections of changing conditions
- Existing models of project area

### ▲ Challenges :

- Cost
- Uncertainties



# // Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration – Planning Alternatives

## Planning Alternatives:

- ▲ C1: Coordinated Water System Planning
- ▲ C2: Groundwater Management Planning
- ▲ C3: Integrated Planning
- ▲ C4: US Bureau of Reclamation Basin Study



# // Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration – Planning Alternatives

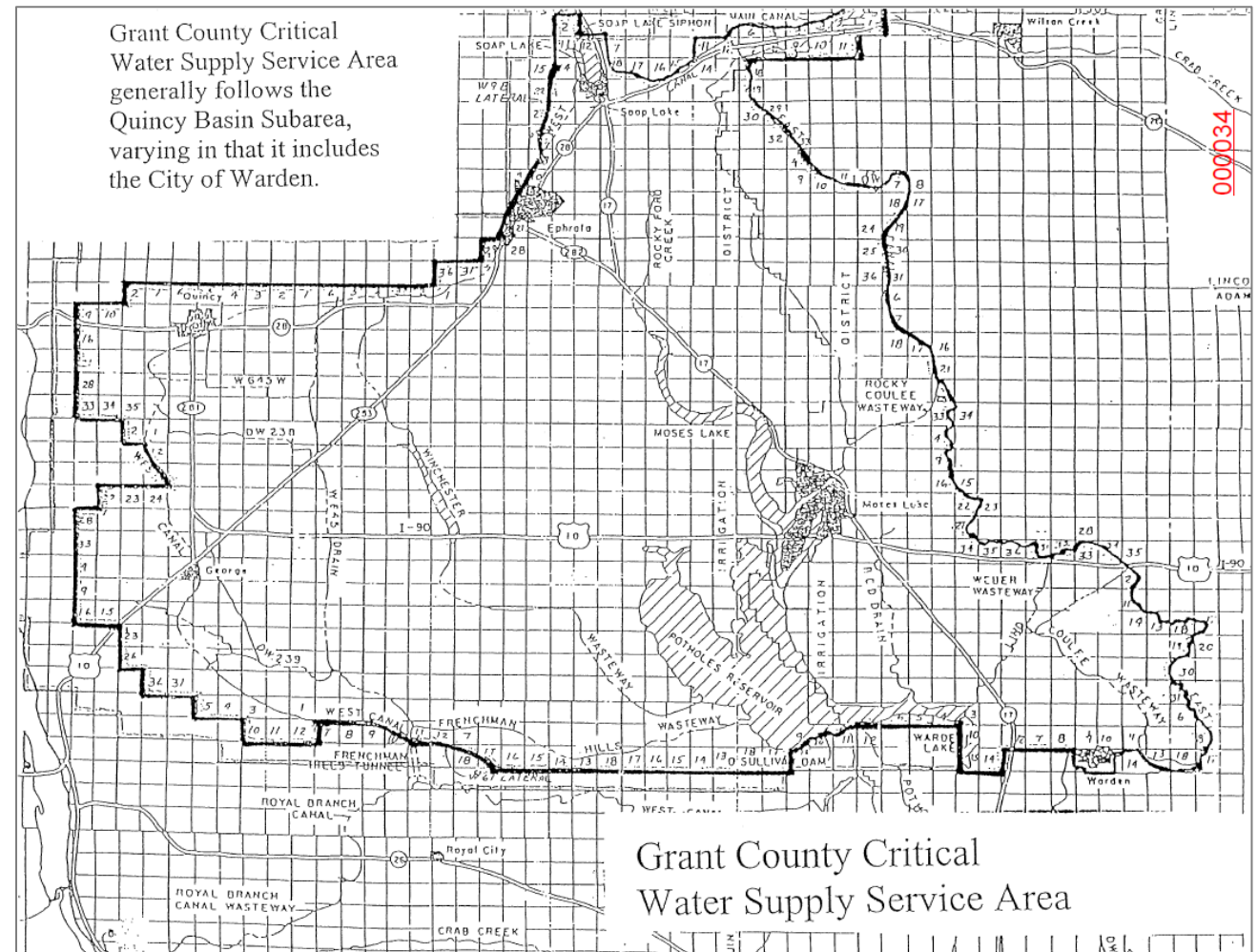
## C1: Coordinated Water System Planning

### Benefits :

- Can provide regulatory framework to limit additional groundwater withdrawals
- Opportunity for regional coordination

### Challenges :

- Not intended for project implementation (more water system focused)





# // Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration – Planning Alternatives

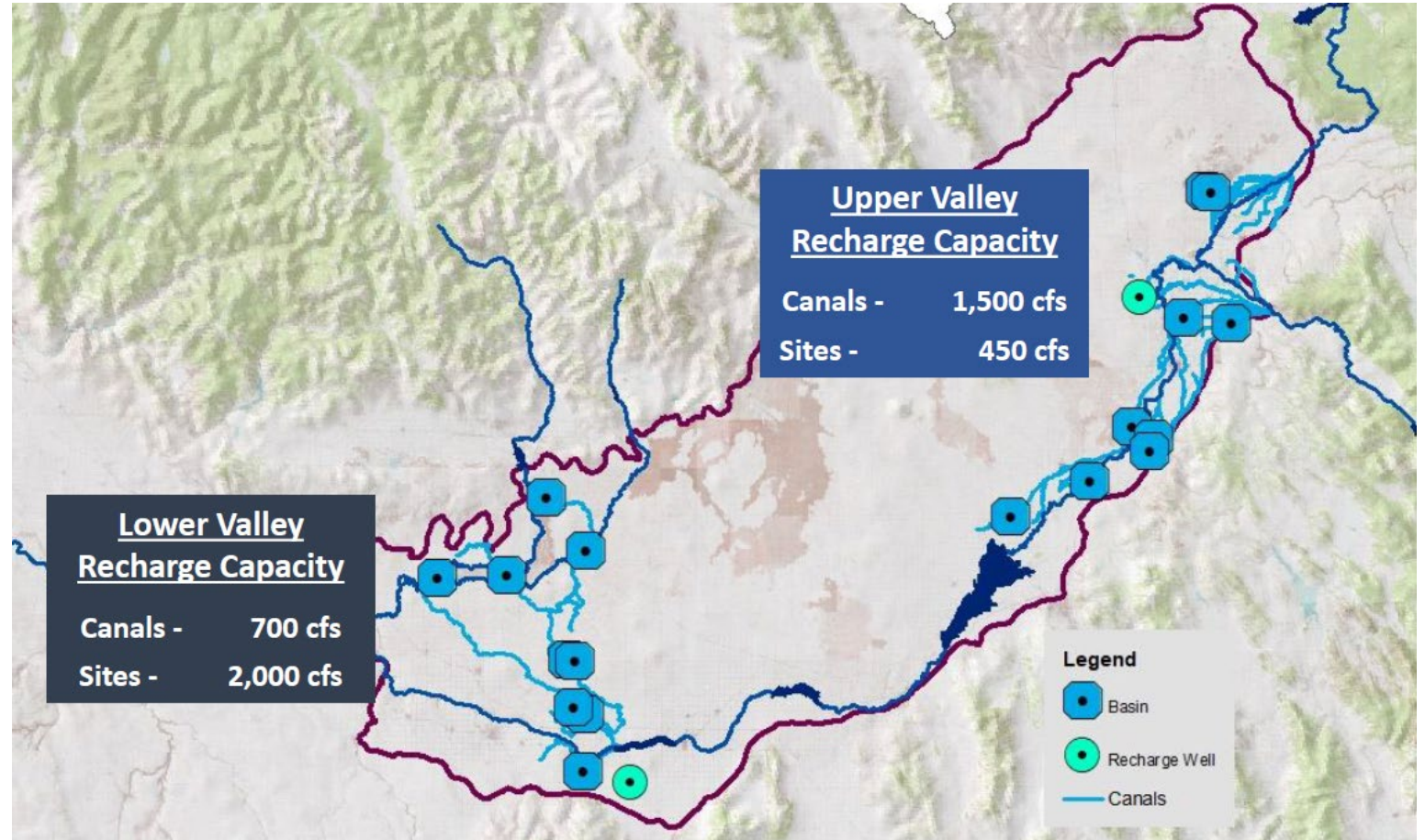
## C2: Groundwater Management Planning

### ▲ Benefits :

- Project-focused for groundwater supply maintenance/ augmentation
- Stakeholder-driven

### ▲ Challenges :

- Stakeholder participation may be limited



From: IDWR 2023



# // Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration – Planning Alternatives

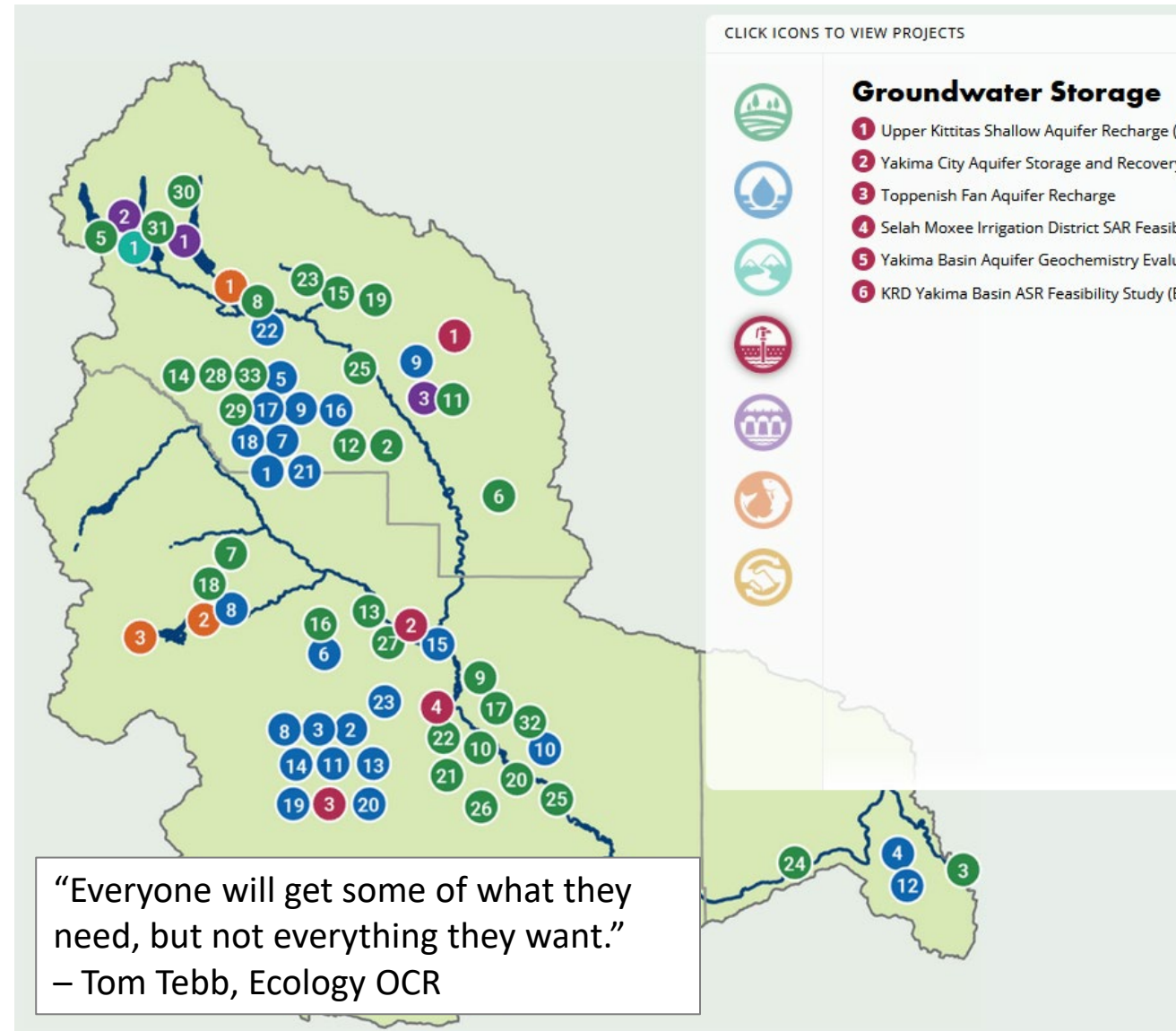
## C3: Integrated Planning

### ▲ Benefits :

- Stakeholder-driven (and diverse stakeholders)
- Creative solutions
- Successful models exist

### ▲ Challenges :

- Legislative funding required for agency participation and facilitation
- Long timeframe



# // Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration – Planning Alternatives

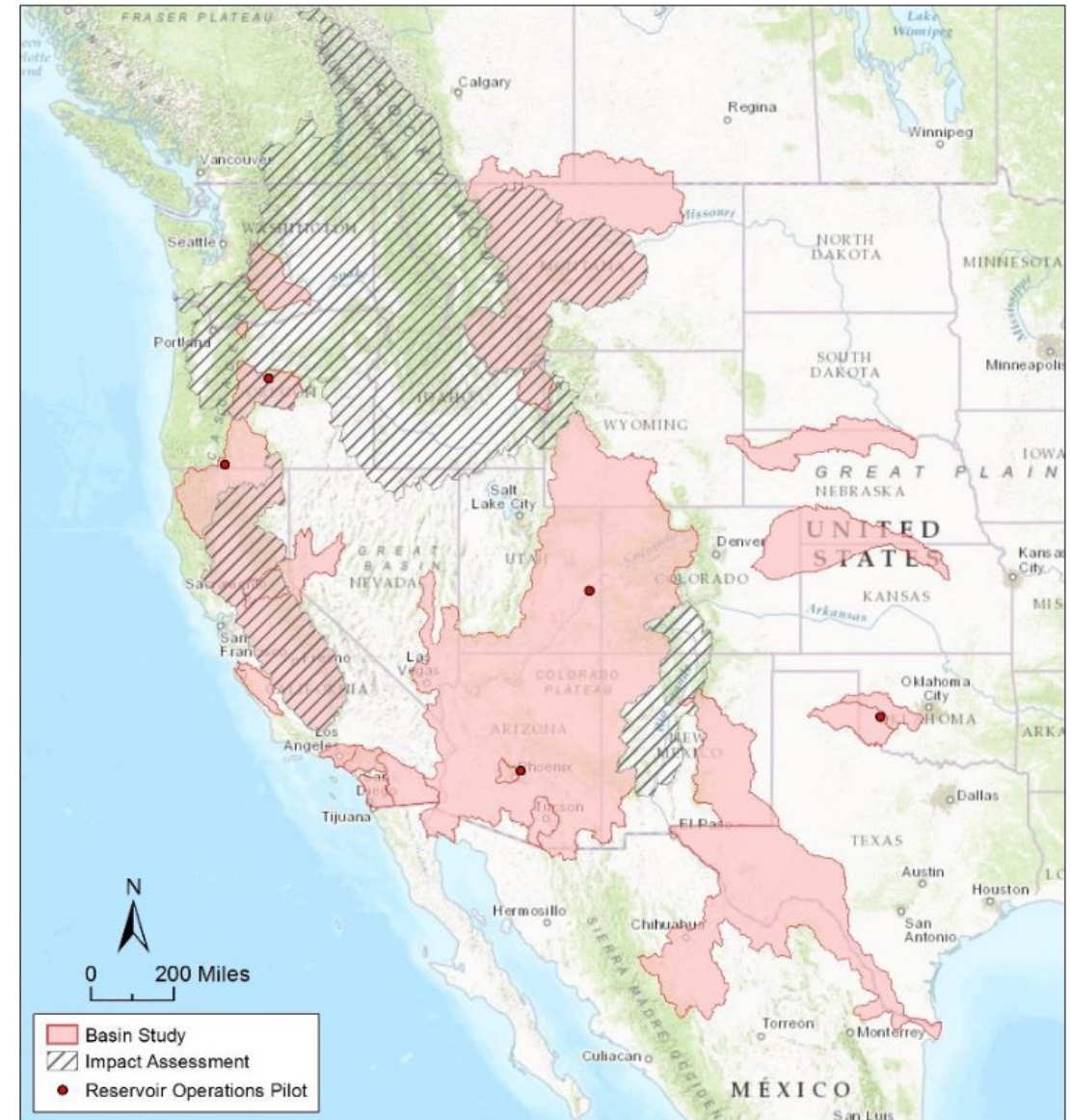
## C4: USBR Basin Study

### ▲ Benefits :

- Process for finding basin-wide solutions
- Stakeholder participation

### ▲ Challenges :

- Non-federal entity 50% matching funds required
- USBR-driven – stakeholder control in outcomes is uncertain



# // Preliminary Watershed Management Plan

## Agenda:

- ▲ CBSWC Background and Project Area
- ▲ Hydrogeologic Setting
- ▲ Groundwater Level Monitoring and Trends
- ▲ Alternatives for CBSWC Consideration
  - Projects
  - Tools
  - Planning
- ▲ **Preferred Alternatives**



## // Preferred Alternatives

### Preferred Alternative Selection Process:

- ▲ CBSWC Board and Working Group
- ▲ Criteria Categories
- ▲ Numerical Scoring of Each Alternative within Each Criteria Category
- ▲ Weighting Factor of Each Criteria Category



## // Preferred Alternatives

### Criteria Categories:

- ▲ Extent of Benefit (regional scores higher than local)
- ▲ Type of Benefit (tangible/physical scores higher than conceptual)
- ▲ Timing of Benefit (near-term realization scores higher than delayed)
- ▲ Certainty of Benefit (studied benefit scores higher than unstudied)
- ▲ Sustainability of Benefit (self-sustaining scores higher than short-term)
- ▲ Technical Implementability (technical feasible scores higher)
- ▲ Regulatory Implementability (known regulatory pathway scores higher)
- ▲ Cost (lower cost scores higher than greater cost)



## // Preferred Alternatives

### Numerical Alternative Scoring (within each Criteria Category):

▲ Used to designate CBSWC's level of preference for each Alternative within each Criteria Category

#### ▲ Scale:

- 1: Poor; Does not achieve CBSWC's objectives
- 2: Fair; Only achieves a small part of CBSWC's objectives
- 3: Good; Achieves some of the CBSWC's objectives
- 4: Very Good; Achieves most of CBSWC's objectives
- 5: Excellent; Achieves all of CBSWC's objectives



## // Preferred Alternatives

### Weighting Factors:

- ▲ Used to designated CBSWC's perspective on relative importance of each Criteria Category to emphasize or de-emphasize certain criteria
- ▲ Scale:
  - 1: Lower Importance
  - 2: Moderate Importance
  - 3: Higher Importance







## // Preferred Alternatives

### **Preferred Project Alternatives Ranking:**

1. Odessa Groundwater Replacement Program (A1)
2. New Source Treatment and Regional Distribution (A6)
3. Water Conservation (A3)
4. Columbia Basin Project Completion (A2)
5. Aquifer Recharge by Deep Well Injection (A5)
6. Aquifer Recharge by Passive Rehydration (A4)



## // Preferred Alternatives

### **Preferred Tool Alternatives Ranking:**

1. Groundwater Level Monitoring (B1)
2. Numerical Groundwater Modeling (B2)



## // Preferred Alternatives

### **Preferred Planning Alternatives Ranking:**

1. Integrated Planning (C3)
2. Groundwater Management Planning (C2)
3. US Bureau of Reclamation Basin Study (C4)
4. Coordinated Water System Planning (C1)



# // Preliminary Watershed Management Plan

## Next Steps:

- ▲ Finalize the Preliminary Watershed Management Plan
- ▲ Pursue Implementation of Preferred Project, Tool, and Planning Alternatives





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