

Proposed Investment in Irrigation Efficiency in Tributaries

Presented by
Dan Haller & Jon Culp
Washington State Department of Ecology



Creating an Open-Enrollment Funding Program through Conservation Districts

- **Dedicating fixed program funding from the Columbia River Account**
- **Program administered through conservation districts and conservation commission**
- **Fixed program criteria**
- **Open enrollment, if you meet criteria, you get funded**



What are the Policy Ramifications of this Proposal?

- Policy Choice 1:** Accept that conservation projects will primarily meet instream use objectives in RCW 90.90 and few permits would be issued.
- Policy Choice 2:** Be open to “retiming of return flows” potential considered for pilot in CSRIA VRA.
- Policy Choice 3:** Accept that conservation for conservation’s sake is a staple of the program, even if marginal fish benefit is achieved or new permits won’t issue.



Municipal Conservation Policy Discussion

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Municipal Conservation Policy Discussion

- How large is the conservation potential?
- What “public interest” policy should Ecology consider when issuing new permits?
- What legal mechanism would Ecology use to make such decisions?



How Large is the Conservation Potential?

2007 DOH Water Use Efficiency Rule

- Metering & Reporting
- Leakage Standards
- Individualized conservation goals
- What is DOH seeing? Conservation goals are modest.

2006 Water Supply & Demand Forecast

- >1 million people in Columbia River Basin Counties (OFM)
- 2006 public water system use is about 200,000 ac-ft, or 170 gpcd
- What if 10% was conserved? \approx 20,000 ac-ft
- Consumptive / Nonconsumptive considerations

What "Public Interest" Policy should Ecology use?

Historic Allocation Practice - Reasonable Beneficial Use

New Allocation Practice - What should it be for State funded supply?

Hypothetical Example - What allocation is not detrimental to the public interest?

- **Town of Kumquat files 1990 application requesting 500 connections at 600 gpd/ERU**
- **2007 Kumquat Water System Plan identifies current use as 500 gpd/ERU**
- **2007 Kumquat Water System Plan identifies conservation goal of 400 gpd/ERU**
- **Kumquat inhouse domestic use is 200 gpd/ERU**
- **Kumquat only needed 500 connections in 1990 but needs 1000 through 2027**



What Legal Mechanism would Ecology use to make such Decisions?

- **Case-by-Case evaluations could be done in permit decisions, or covered by policy.**
- **Rule required if Ecology chose a single number or method.**
- **Must consider legislative intent in 2003 Municipal Water Law – not fixed standard for conservation.**



Columbia-Snake River Irrigators Association VRA Update

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CSRIA VRA Update

- **Public Comments**
- **Public Meetings**
- **Schedule of Completion**

"Themes" in Public Comments

- **Statutory performance standard for mitigation in RCW 90.90.030.**
- **Market value of water versus \$10/ac-ft/year mitigation payment.**
- **Fate of water saved during recalibration process.**
- **Pilot projects - who, what, where, how and when?**
- **Process issues – how will it really work? First VRA growing pains.**



Public Meetings on VRA -- Drought Applications due July 1st

CSRIA-sponsored meetings for its membership

- April 22nd in Kennewick
- April 24th in Brewster

Ecology-sponsored meeting for VRA commenter's and the public

- May 29th in Yakima
- In-depth discussion of comments



Schedule for Completion of the VRA

May 29th: Public comment meeting

June: Final VRA language negotiated

June: Draft funding list provided, including TAG-projects, non-Tag projects, CSRIA pilots

July 1st: Drought applications due

July: Sign VRA

July: Final funding list provided by Ecology

Fall 2008: Negotiate funding contracts, including CSRIA pilot projects

Fall 2008: Finalize BMP process (may include CD's)

Winter 2008: Begin working on drought permits

Operations Updates

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Metering Update

	% of Metered Use	# of Water Rights Metered & Reporting	Quantity (cfs)
Goal	90%	~300	21,000
Current Status	69%	124	16,100

Phase 1

- Voluntary outreach successful, only 3 orders issued
- Data on the Columbia River webmap starting in 2009

Phase 2

- Repeat Phase 1, voluntary outreach
- Move time earlier by a few months to allow greater flexibility for winter installations
- Target another 5-10% of water use
- Data to Columbia River webmap by 2010

Columbia River Webmap Update

Phase 1 (2007) Webmap

- Mapped water rights, water right info, aerials, images, metering requirement (Y/N)

Phase 2 (2008) Webmap

- Reporting Module

- Sum water rights / data over Columbia River pools
- Trust/Permit water-balance

- Inventory Module

- Online queries, download and reporting of storage/conservation projects
- Online storage/conservation project submittal

- County Parcel Data

- Ownership information, water marketing
- Participating counties to-date (Chelan, Douglas, Franklin, Grant, Klickitat)



"Quantity Reports" Query Page

Columbia River Webmap



Pools:

-- All --
Lake Bonneville (Bonneville Dam)
Lake Celilo (The Dalles Dam)
Lake Umatilla (John Day Dam)

WRIAs:

-- All --
Alkali-Squilchuck (40)
Chelan (47)
Colville (59)

Source Types:

-- All --
Groundwater
Reservoir
Surface water

Document Types:

-- All --
Adjudicated Certificate
Certificate
Certificate of Change

Purpose Types:

-- All --
Commercial & indust
Cooling for indust process
Dairy

Provision Types:

-- All --
Col. Basin/subj USBR rights
Col. Rv Instream Flws
Family Farm

Assignment Groups:

-- All --
508-14
Adams Cnty Conserv. Brd
Benton Cnty Conserv. Brd

From Priority Date (mm/dd/yyyy):

[calendar](#)

To Priority Date (mm/dd/yyyy):

[calendar](#)

Run Report

Reset

- Export to Comma Separated Values format
 Export to tab delimited text format

"Quantity Reports" Results Page (partial)

Columbia River Webmap

Columbia River Mainstem

Water Resources Information System



Search Criteria

Pools: n/a
WRIs: n/a
Source Types: n/a
Document Types: n/a
Purpose Types: n/a
Provision Types: Col. Rv Instream Flws
Assignment Groups: n/a
Priority From Date: n/a
Priority To Date: n/a

Search Results

Total Number of Records: 307
Total Maximum Instantaneous Quantity in Cubic Feet per Second: 1,800
Total Maximum Instantaneous Quantity in Gallons Per Minute: 807,698
Total Annual Quantity in Acre-Feet: 496,596
Total Irrigated Acres: 44,376

[View Detailed Results As List](#)

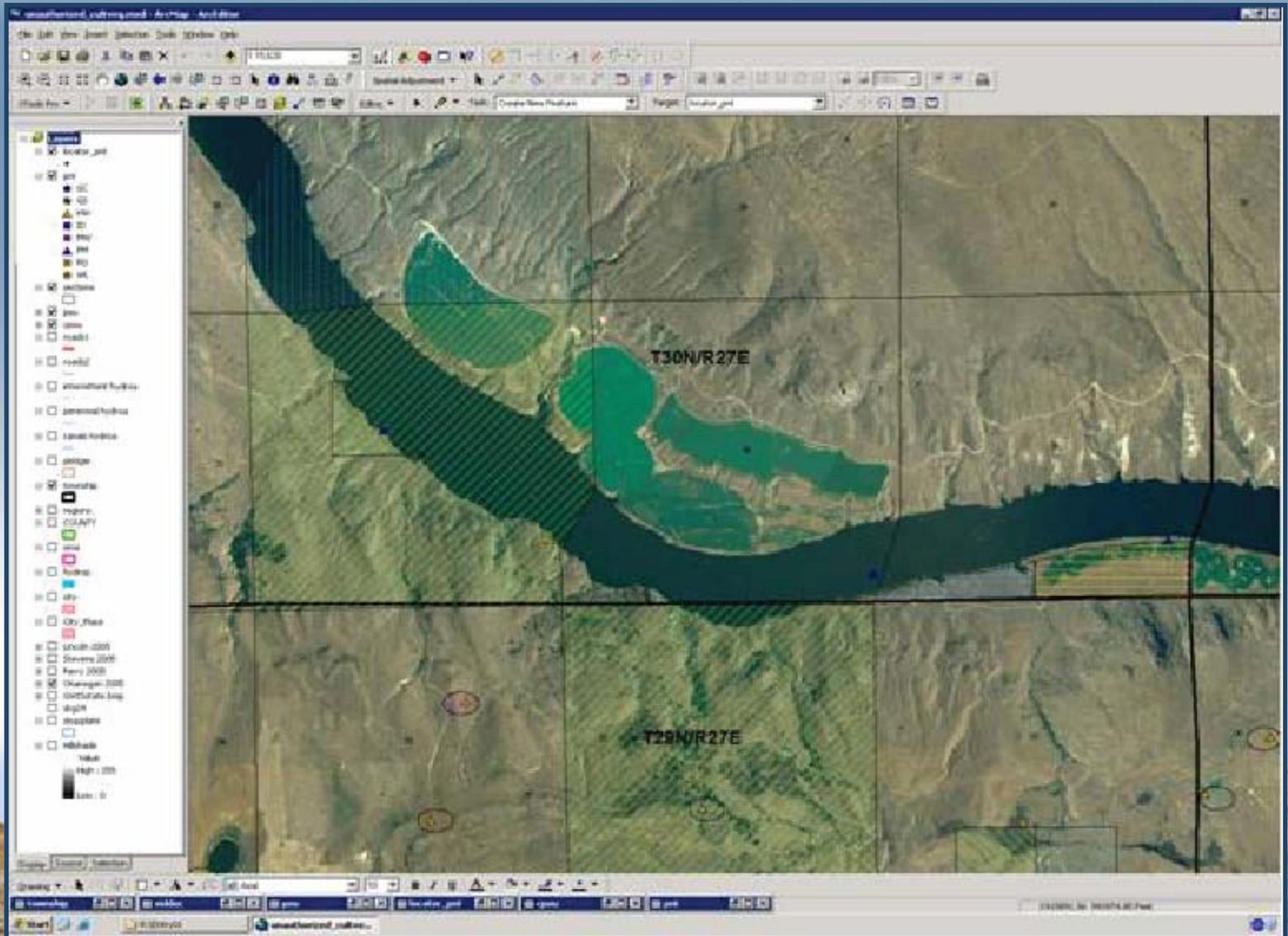
File Number	Name of Record	Document Type	Water Right Class	Priority Date	Purposes	CFS	GPM	ACRE FEET	ACRES IRR
S4-30053(P)	John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co	Permit	Surface water	08/11/1989	IR	8.7000	3904.8210	1424.800	356.20
S4-30206	Munn, Robert O	Certificate	Surface water	04/02/1990	IR	5.3000	2378.7990	1024.000	256.00
S4-30053(O)	Columbia Ridge Orchards LLC	Permit	Surface water	08/11/1989	FP, IR	0.2450	109.9633	58.890	10.00
S4-30053(I)	McBride, Karl	Permit	Surface water	08/11/1989	IR	0.2450	109.9633	40.000	10.00
S4-30053(E)	Derrick, John	Permit	Surface water	08/11/1989	FP, IR, ST	0.0980	43.9853	23.556	4.00
S4-30053(F)	Blankenship, Phillip	Permit	Surface water	08/11/1989	FP, IR, ST	0.1225	54.9817	29.445	5.00
S4-30053(G)	Palengat Vineyard LLC	Permit	Surface water	08/11/1989	FP, IR	0.1225	54.9817	29.445	5.00
S4-30053(H)	Blankenship, Mickey L	Permit	Surface water	08/11/1989	FP, IR, ST	0.1225	54.9817	29.445	5.00
S4-30053(J)	Champoux, Paul & Judy	Permit	Surface water	08/11/1989	IR	0.1225	54.9817	20.000	5.00
S4-30053(K)	Mercer, Robert T	Permit	Surface water	08/11/1989	FP, IR	0.4900	219.9267	117.780	20.00
S4-30053(L)	Rasmussen, Russ	Permit	Surface water	08/11/1989	IR	0.2450	109.9633	40.000	10.00
S4-30053(M)	Mercer, Donald & Linda A	Permit	Surface water	08/11/1989	IR	0.8575	384.8717	140.000	35.00
S4-30053(N)	Bruce, Linda	Permit	Surface water	08/11/1989	FP, IR	0.2450	109.9633	58.890	10.00
CS4-29183C	Reeves, Randall & Robin	Change/ROE	Surface water	07/27/1998	IR	80.7600	36247.5108	19.600	4.90

Wenatchee Water Master

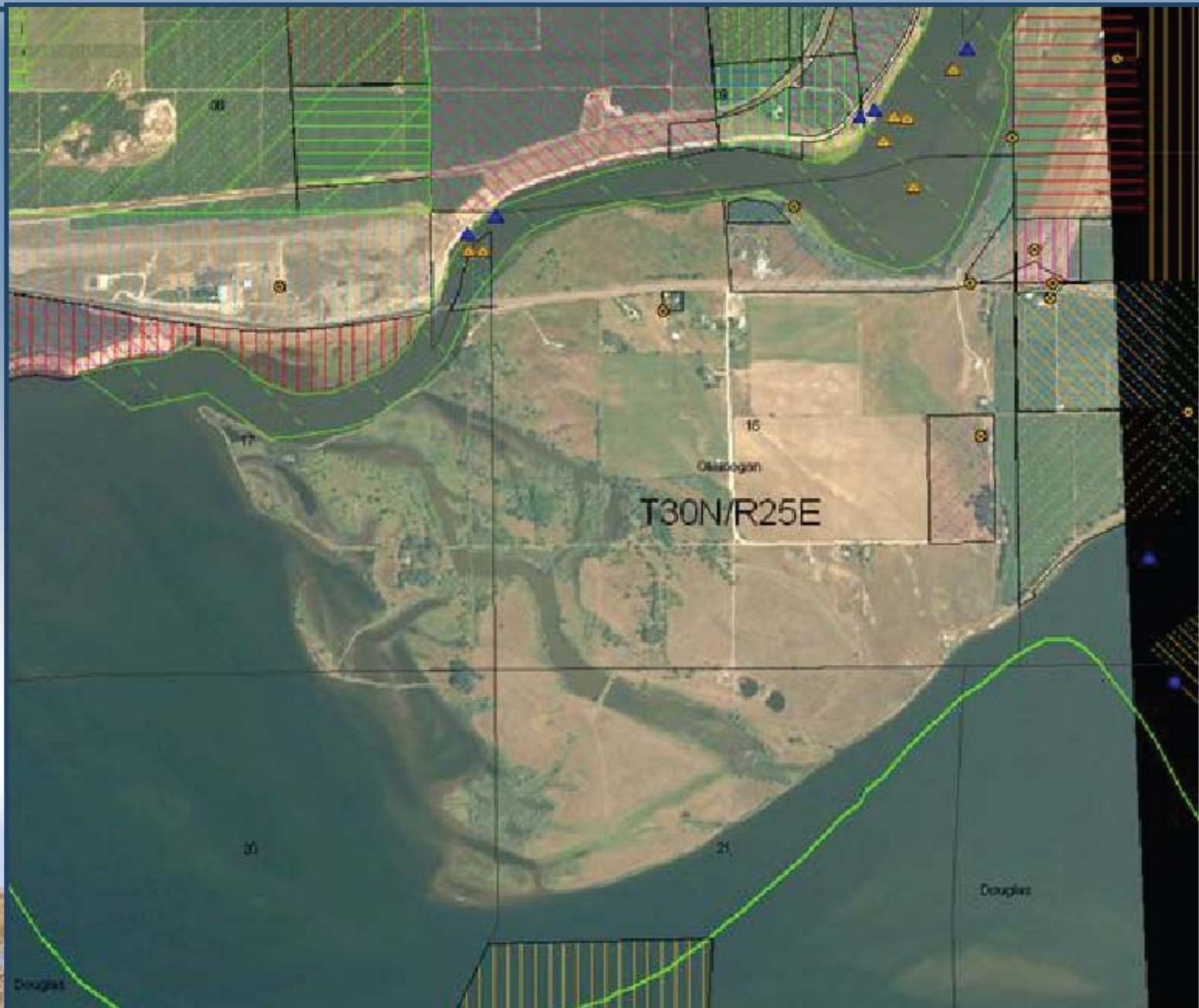
- **First water master started in April 2008**
- **Focus in diversions from Bonneville to Canada within 1-mile of the river and areas without existing water masters**
- **Prioritizing issues identified during mapping of 8000 water rights**



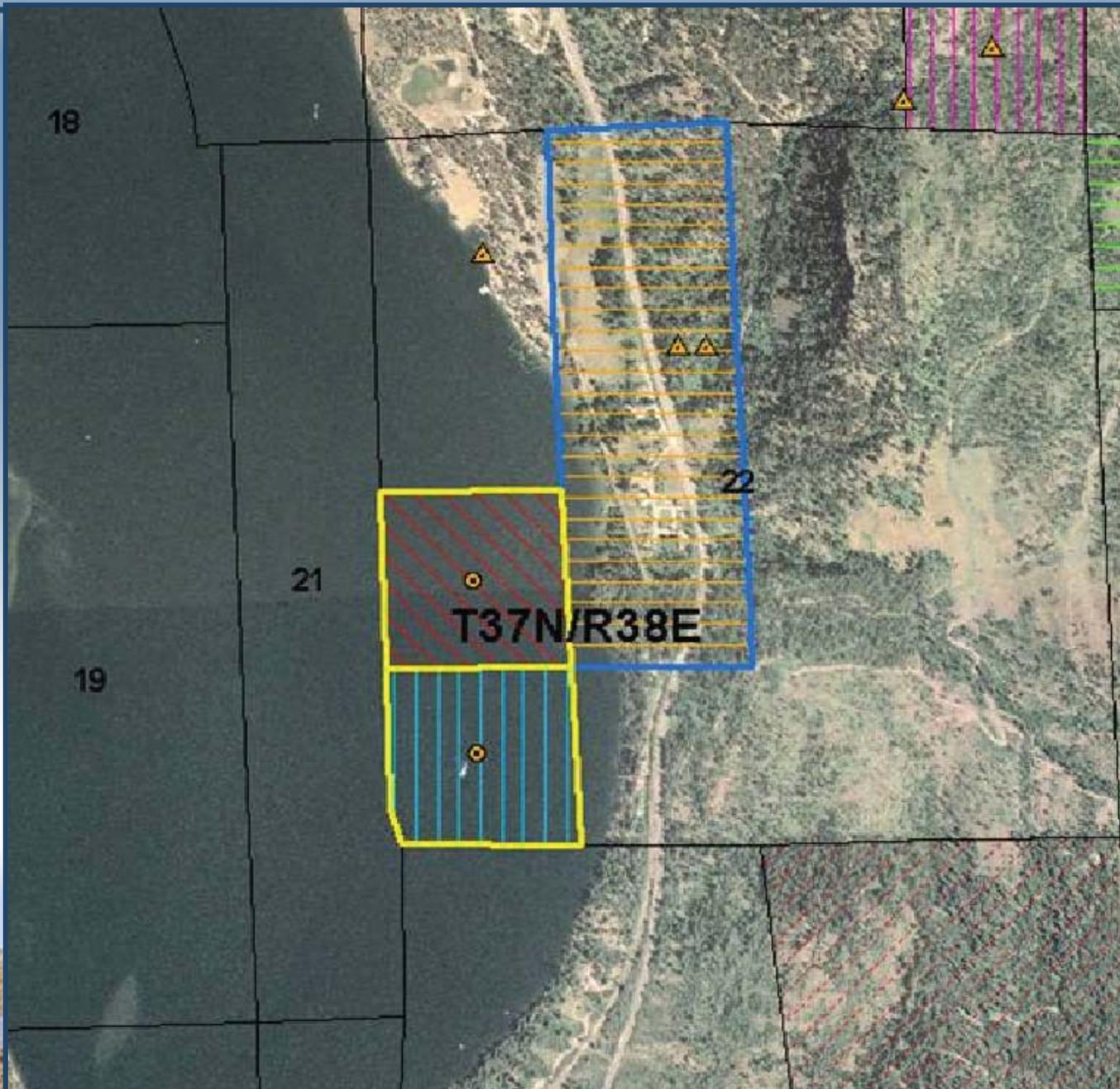
Water Master Examples



Water Master Examples



Water Master Examples



Water Master Examples



Questions?

