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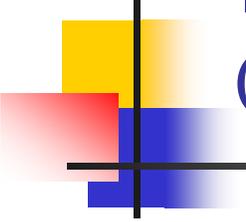
AMERICAN WATERWORKS ASSOCIATION
PACIFIC NORTHWEST SECTION

Some Considerations Regarding Water Right Permitting in Idaho

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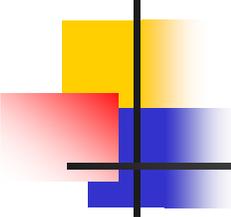
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Idaho Perspectives – Two New Considerations for Municipal Water Rights

1. Conjunctive Administration is Coming
2. Other water users provide out-of-the-box opportunities for municipalities



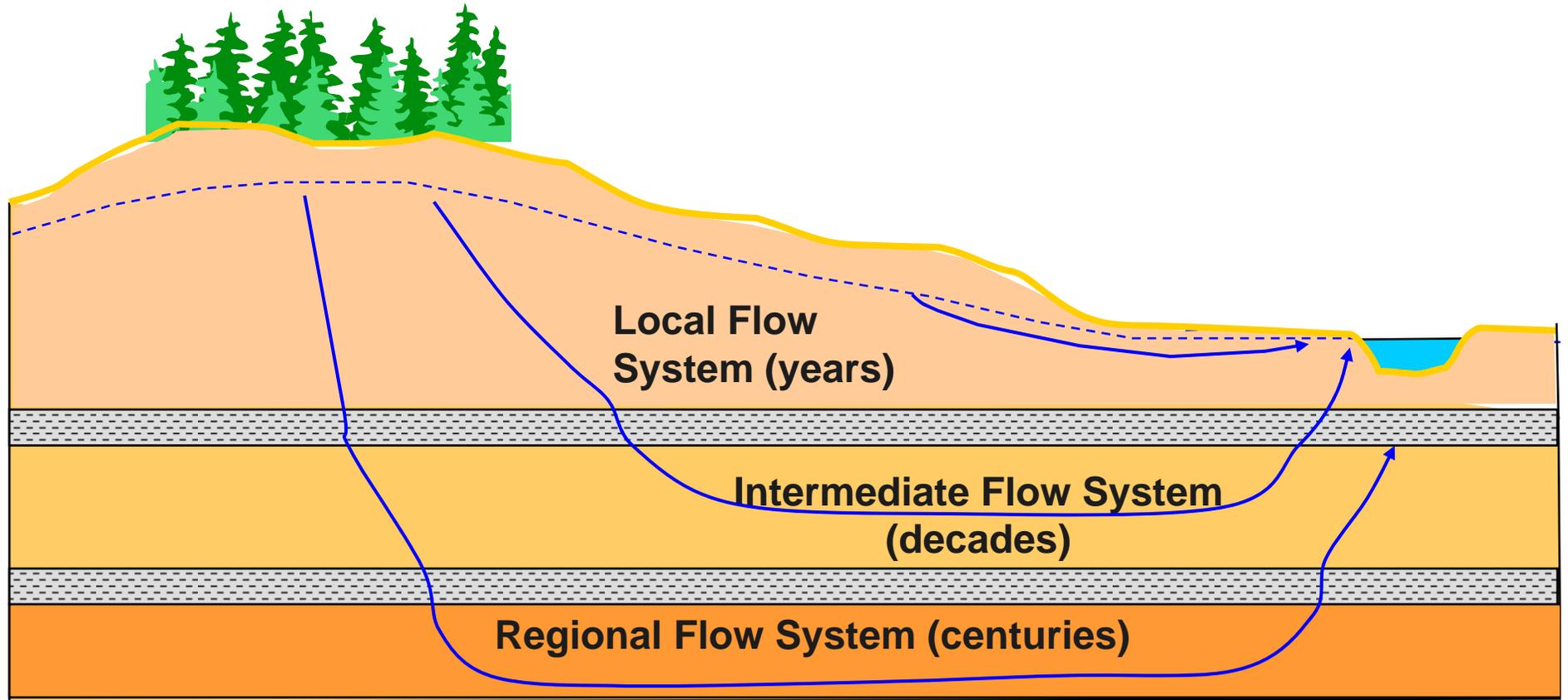
Prediction...

Relative to water delivery in many basins in Idaho...

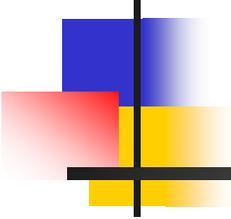
Change

is coming
between now and 2020

Ground Water Flow Systems



Why consider conjunctive relationships between ground water and surface water?



In Idaho the *appropriation doctrine*
is used for the delivery both
surface water rights and ground
water rights—

“first in time is first in right”

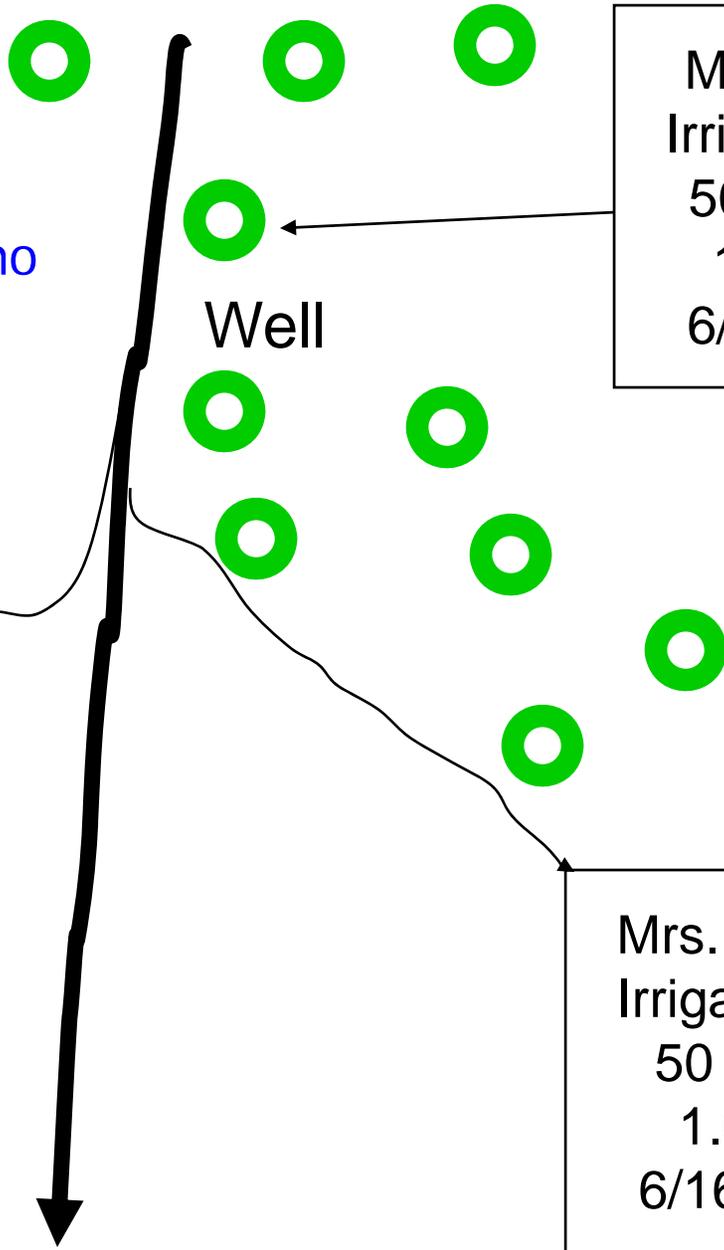
Administered by a State of Idaho
Water District
which hires a *Watermaster*

Mr. Black
Irrigation of
60 acres
1.2 cfs
6/17/1887

Mrs. Clark
Irrigation of
500 acres
10.0 cfs
6/16/1982

Mrs. Adams
Irrigation of
50 acres
1.0 cfs
6/16/1887

1 miner's inch = .02 cubic feet per second = 9 gallons per minute



Example – Which right is most likely to be curtailed?

- Scenario 1 – during 2010
- Scenario 2 – during 2015
- Scenario 3 – during 2020

1959 Water Right
Non-tributary
24 acres irrigation

1954 Water Right
Ground Water
City of Ketchum, Municipal

1956 Water Right
Ground Water
½ acre lawn irrigation

*Plus, if a water right is not used
for five consecutive years it can
be lost due to forfeiture*

1886 Water Right
Big Wood River
32 acres Irrigation



Automation

If irrigation uses can be automated so diversions are limited to only the amounts needed, water supplies can be made available to other water users such as municipalities.

The municipal user needs to provide an incentive to the irrigation user – and make a business case for change.



Thank You