

History Tacoma Water



Tacoma's System

- **Tacoma Water Facts**
 - 97,652 Service Connections
 - 1,366 Miles of Main
 - ▶ 2" to 96" Diameter
 - 11,000 Hydrants
 - Max available supply of 168 MGD.
 - 240 Employees

History

- Early Tacoma had plenty of locally available drinking water.



Downtown Tacoma – 1880's

The town keeps growing

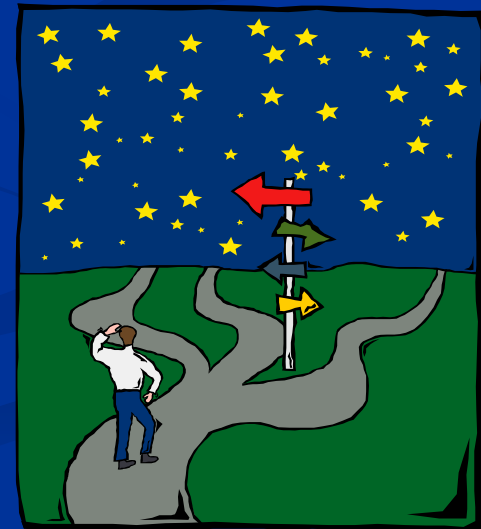


You are on your own

- Small water systems began serving localized areas of town
- None of these systems adequately met drinking water or fire protection needs
- Typhoid was common
- Fires regularly destroyed groups of wooden structures (fire of 1873)
- Citizens demanded a real water system

A Snapshot of Local Water History...

- Through the late 1800's, Tacoma's suffered with unreliable, unsafe water. Typhoid was common.
- In 1893, dissatisfied Tacoma's voted to buy the largest privately operated water system.
 - Problems remained, and worsened, as little money was available to upgrade the system.
 - There was also indecision about choosing a new source.

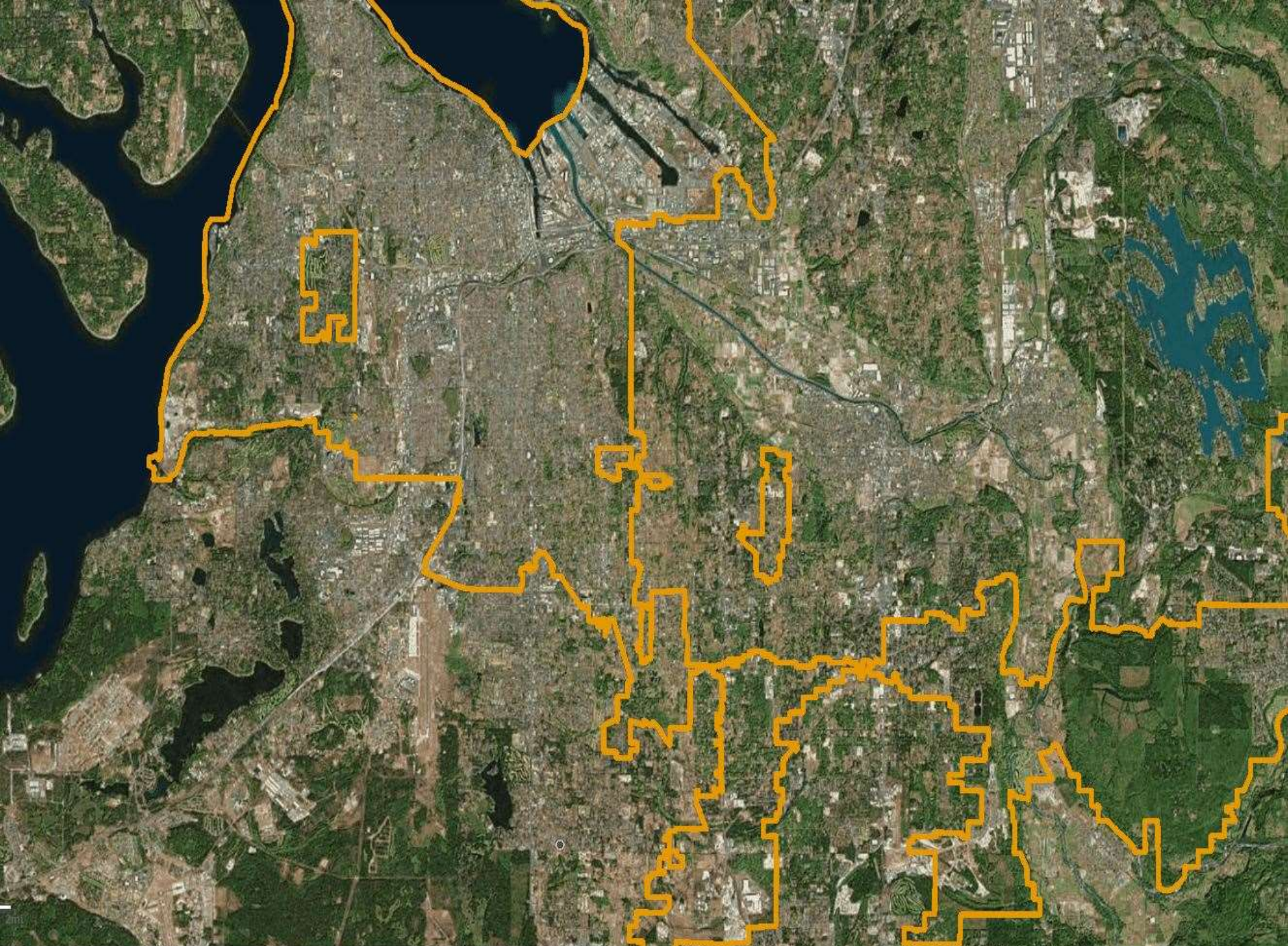


- In 1893, dissatisfied Tacomans voted to buy the water system. (Tacoma Light & Water)
\$1,750,000
- Problems remained, and worsened.
- Hired first Superintendent

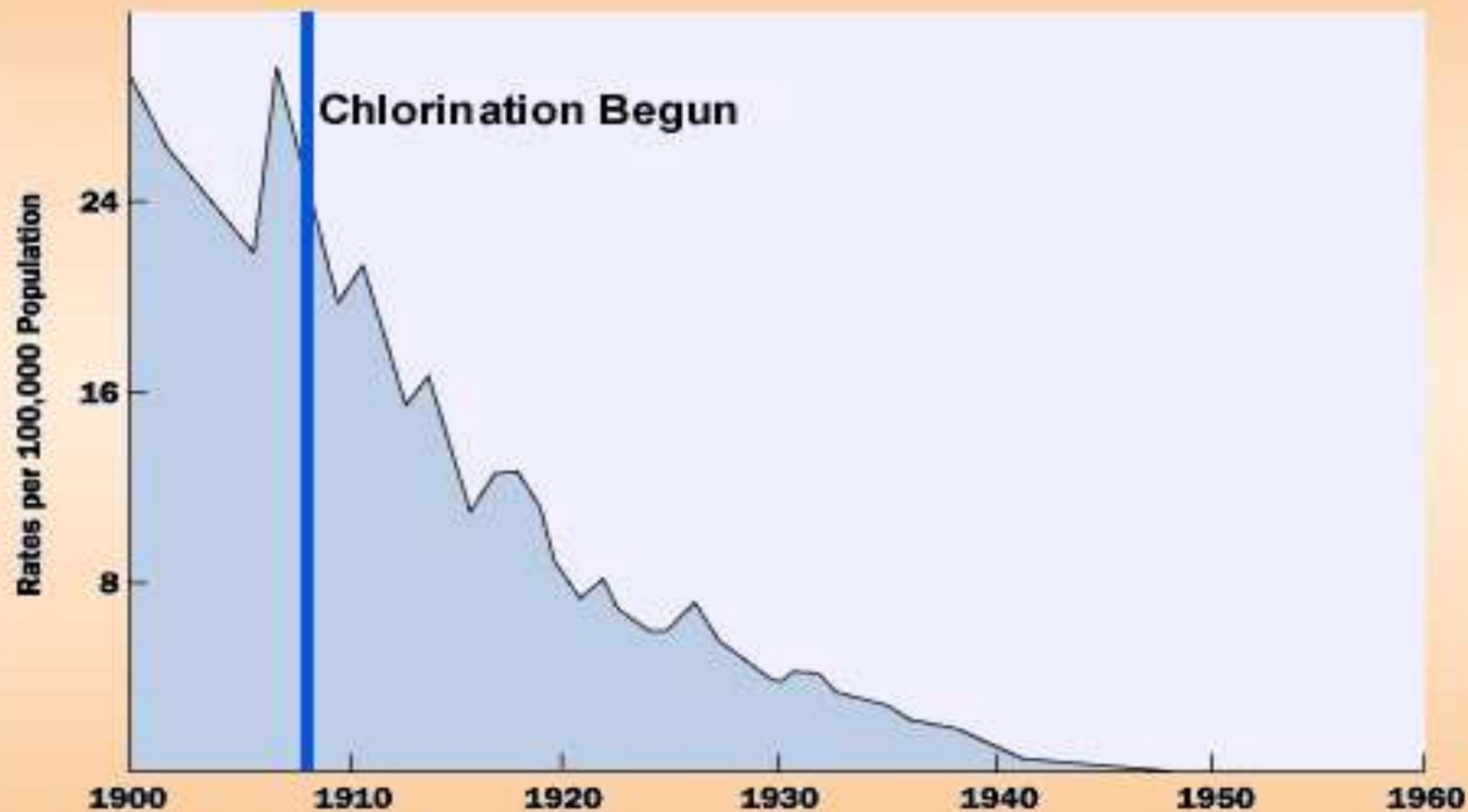
Original Hood Street Reservoir



- The new water system was not keeping up with Tacoma's growth
- The owners weren't doing what they promised
- By the early 1890's quality & quantity were both inadequate
- Typhoid was still common



Death Rate for Typhoid Fever United States, 1900-1960



Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Summary of Notifiable Diseases, 1997.





Refrigerating of Logs









The Green River Watershed

Tacoma The Latecomer

- The Green River watershed had considerable development by 1913
- Local and State Health rules allowed Tacoma some control
- Landowners were uncooperative
- Additional chlorination equipment installed









Replacing City of Tacoma
Gravity Pipe Line - 1924.











11-86

TACOMA GROWS
WHERE WATER GOES!



Foster-Kleiser



Laying Ditch for 20" C.I. Pipe on So. 7th St. w/



WATER

TACOMA

CITY OF



TACOMA MUNICIPAL WATER WORKS
SOUTH TACOMA PUMP STATION





26-Hallat - Well 5A - Discharge Flume

























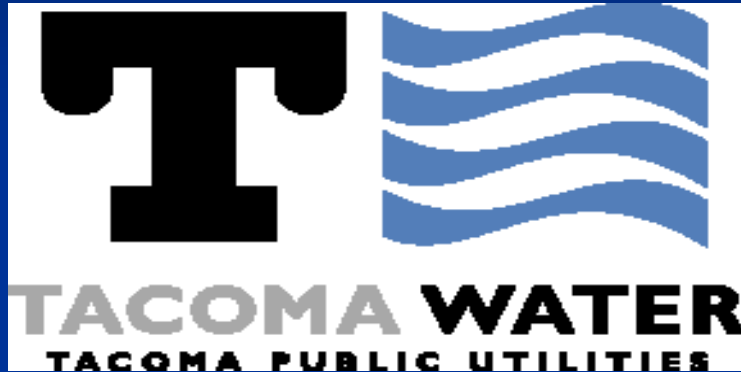
Green River Watershed (Now...)

- 231 square miles
- Uninhabited
- Landowners
 - Forest Service
 - State of Washington
 - Timber Companies
 - Army Corps of Engineers
 - BNSF Railroad
 - Bonneville Power
 - Tacoma Water

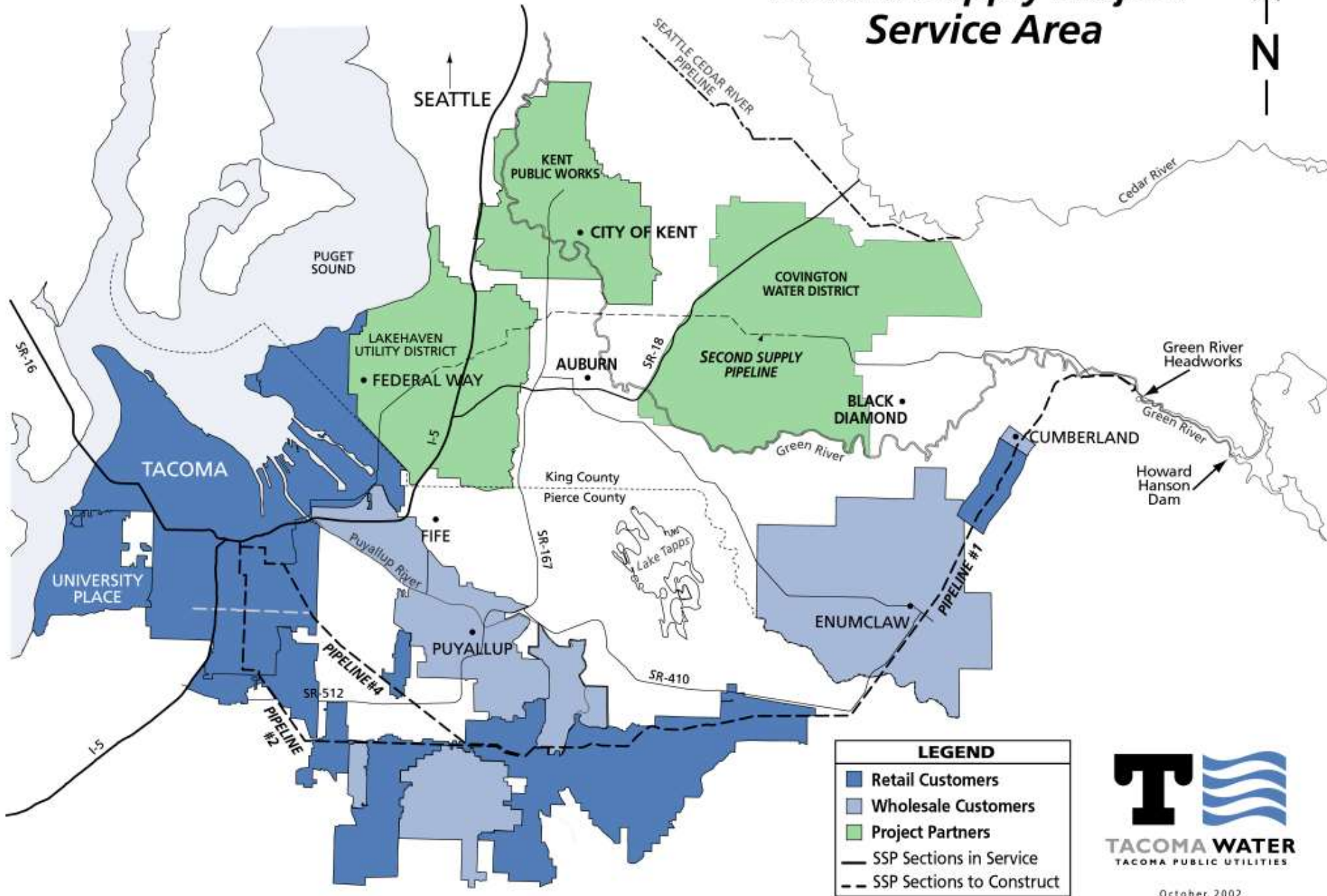




Second Supply Project Partners



Second Supply Project Service Area



Second Supply Project

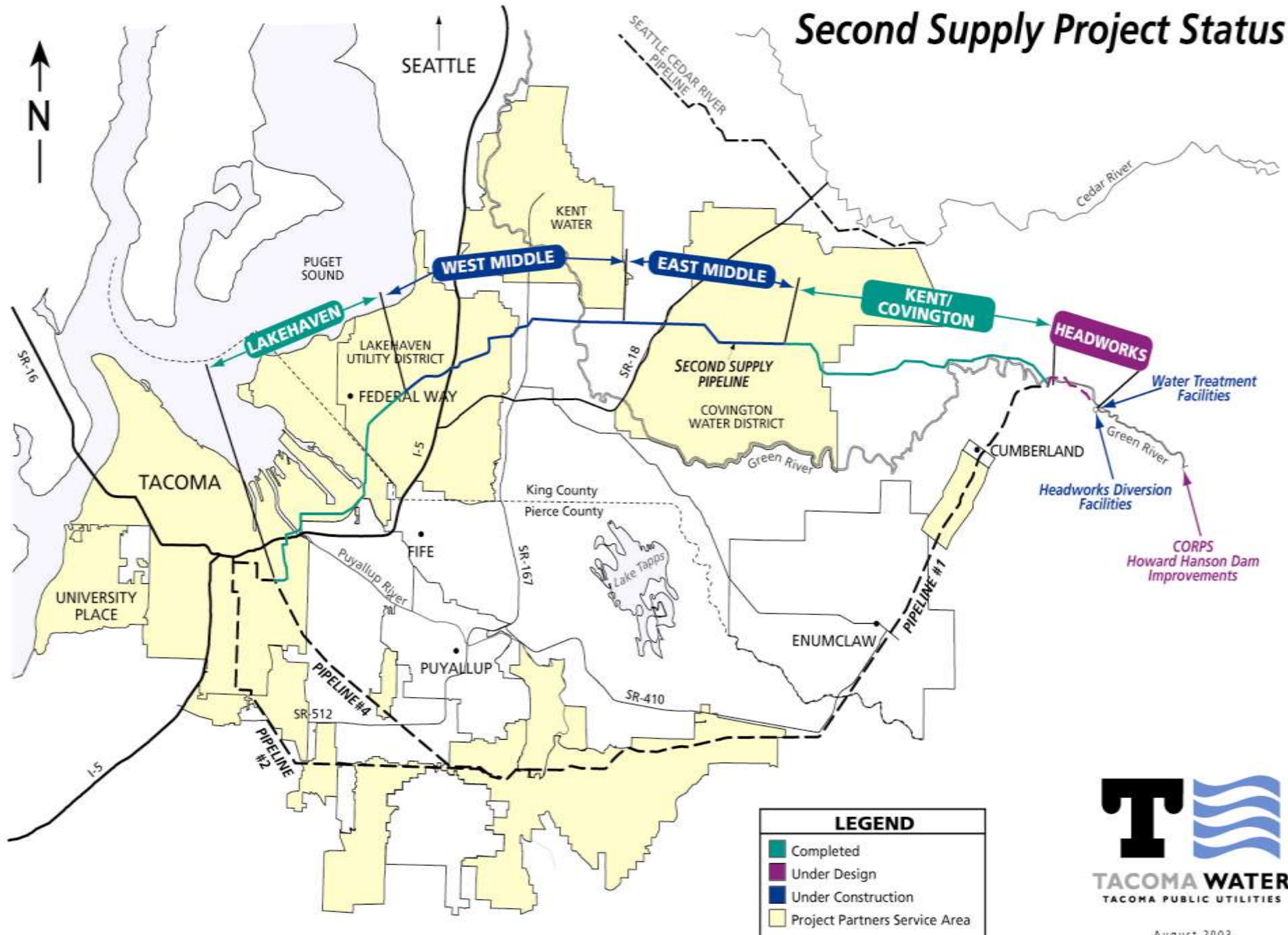
Project Description

A major regional water supply project that delivers additional water from the Green River to Tacoma and three South King County utilities. The value of environmental enhancements included in the project is over \$75 million. Principal project elements are:

- Green River Headworks Diversion improvements and additions
- Second Supply Pipeline (34 miles)
- Headworks water treatment facilities
- Howard Hanson Dam Additional Storage - Phase 1
- Numerous environmental enhancement projects

- Total Cost about \$221 million

Second Supply Project Status













The Story Continues