

Portland Water Bureau

A Multi-Jurisdictional Approach to Transboundary Groundwater Protection

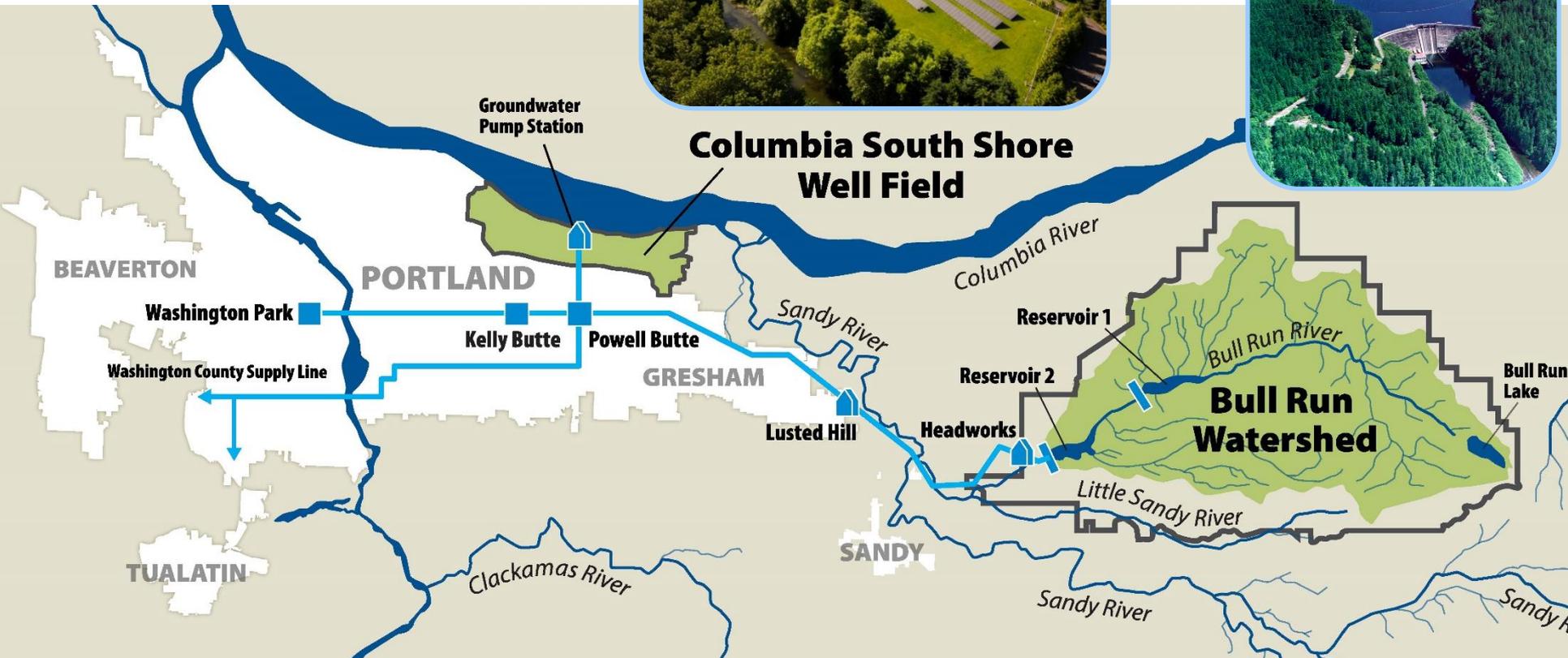


May 3, 2019

Amanda Fritz, Commissioner | Michael Stuhr, PE, Administrator



Portland Water System Overview



Bull Run Supply Challenges – Summer, Sediment, and Uncertainty



Winter Turbidity / Emergencies

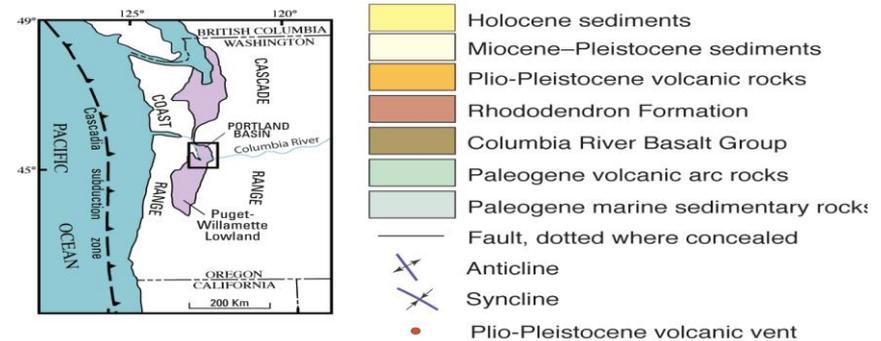
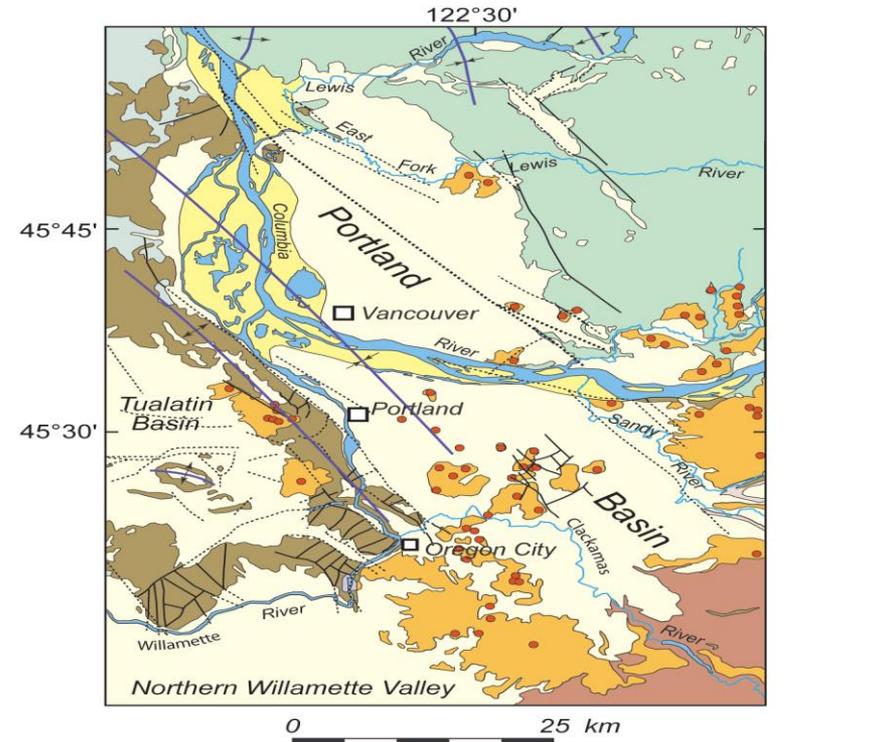
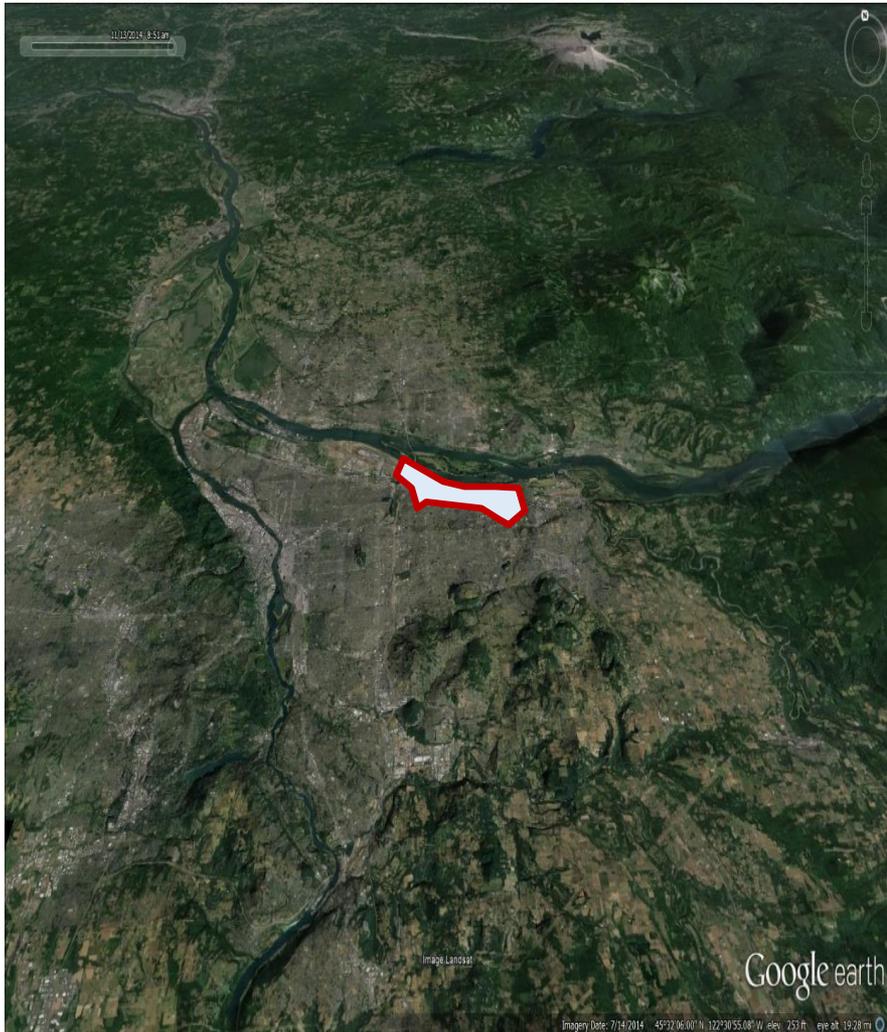
- 15 Events
- 191 Days
- 11.4 BG Groundwater
- Supply is 100% Groundwater



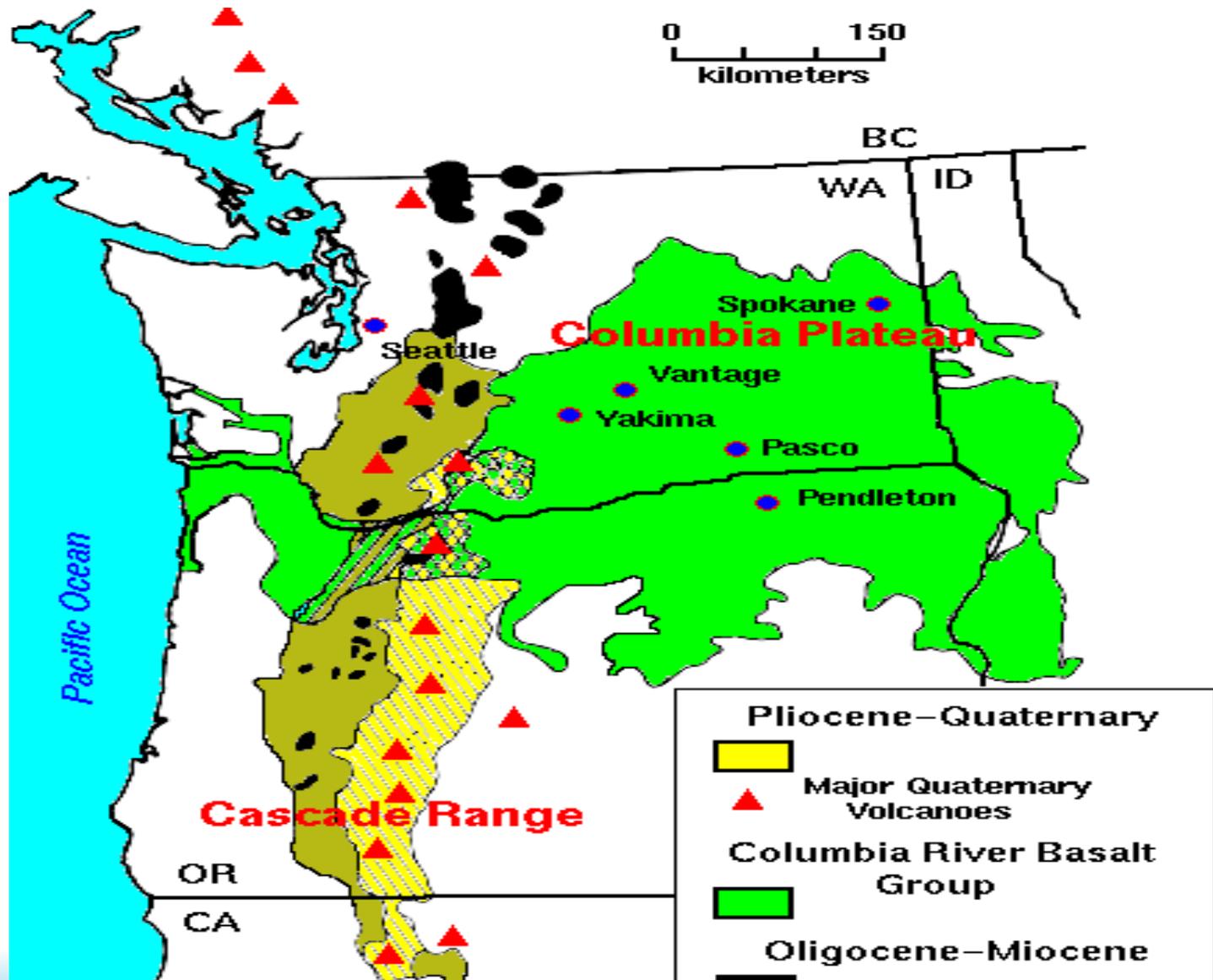
Summer Supply Augmentation

- 15 Events
- 829 Days
- 34 BG Groundwater
- Supply is Blended GW/SW

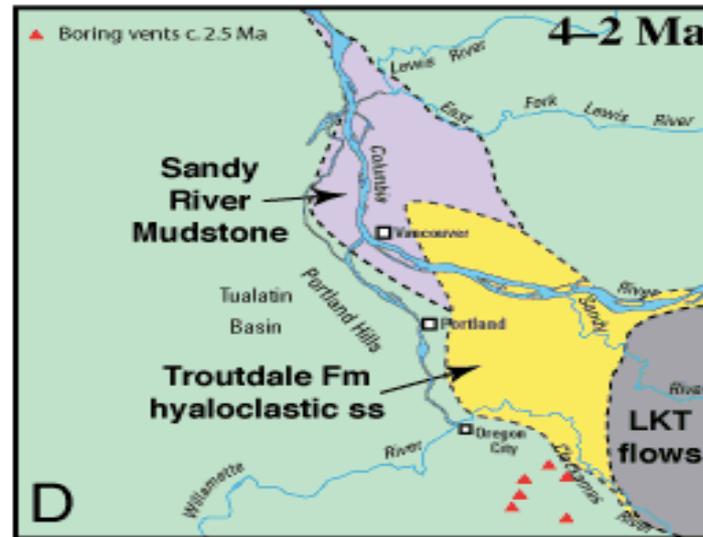
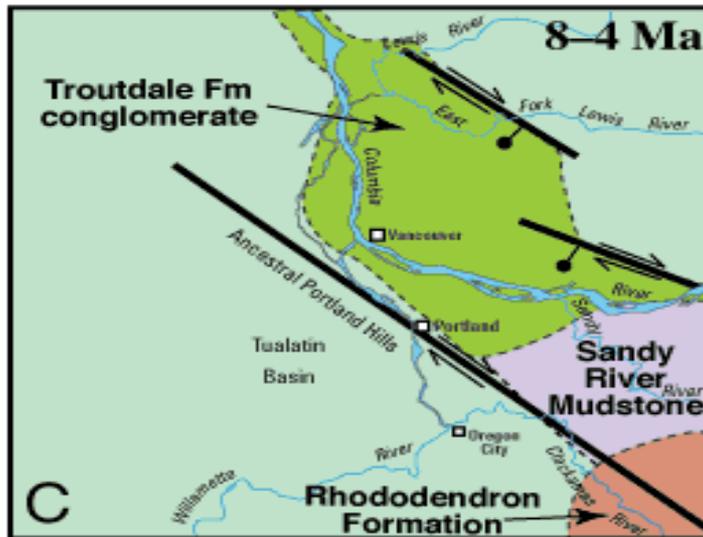
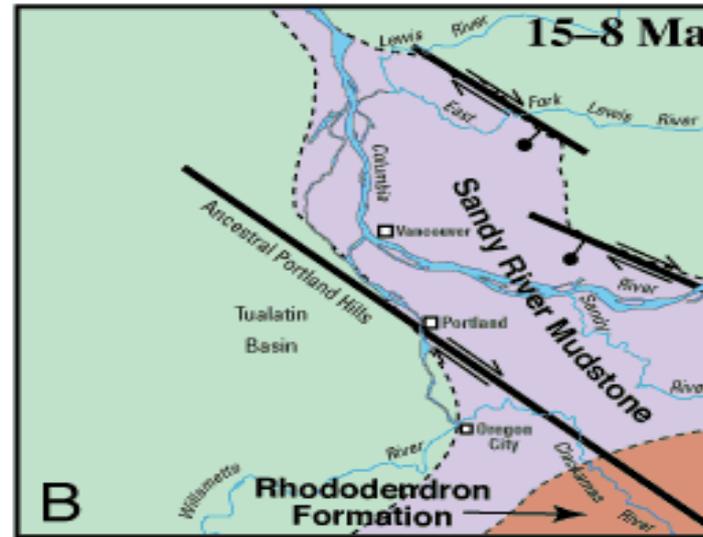
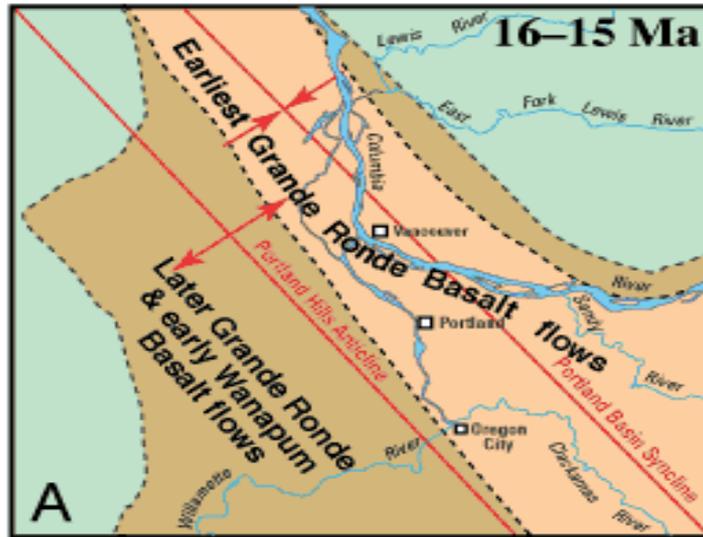
The Portland Basin Forms (20-14 MYA)



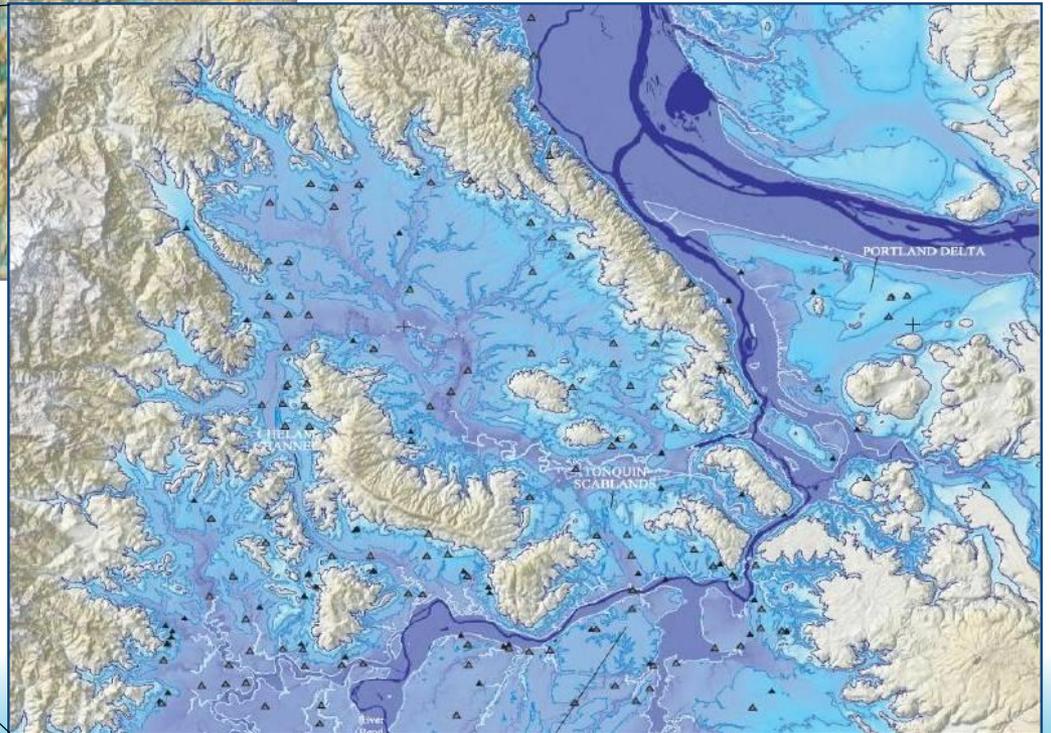
Columbia River Basalts (17-15 MYA)



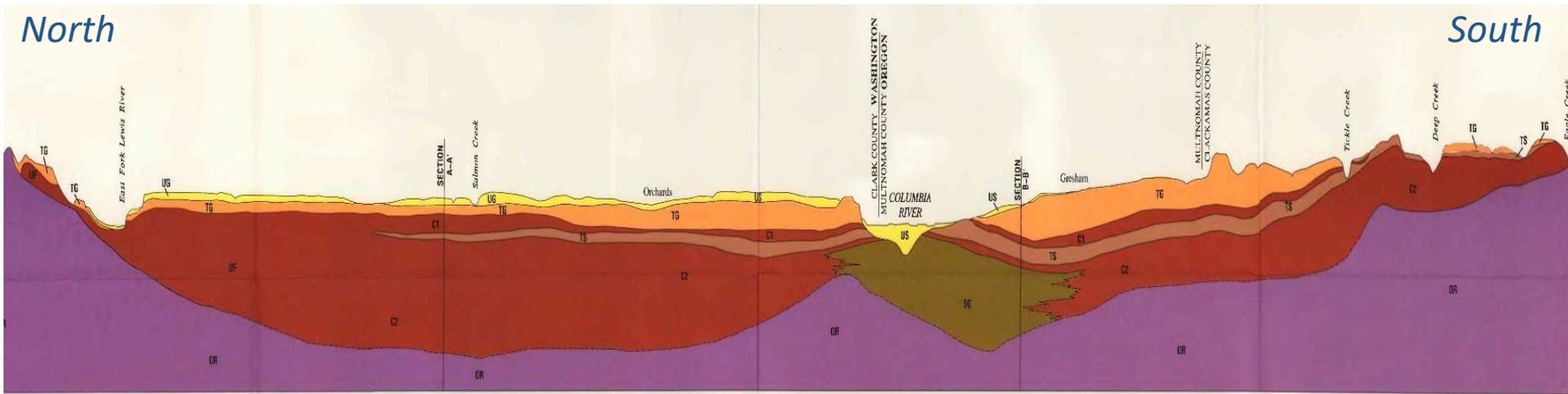
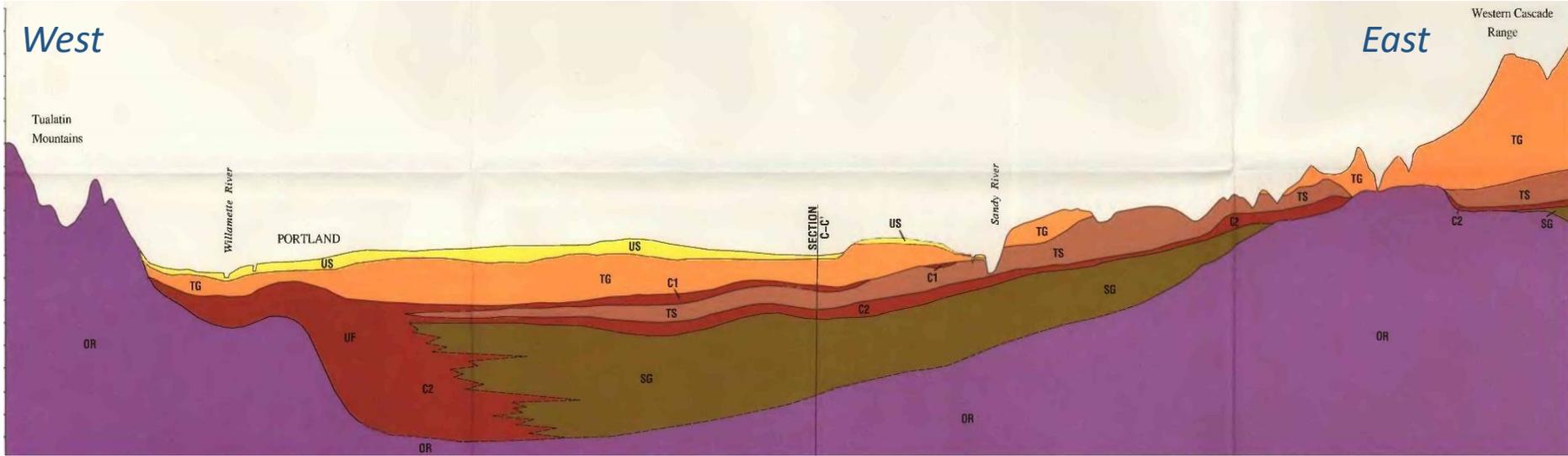
Portland Basin fills in with ancestral Columbia River deposits



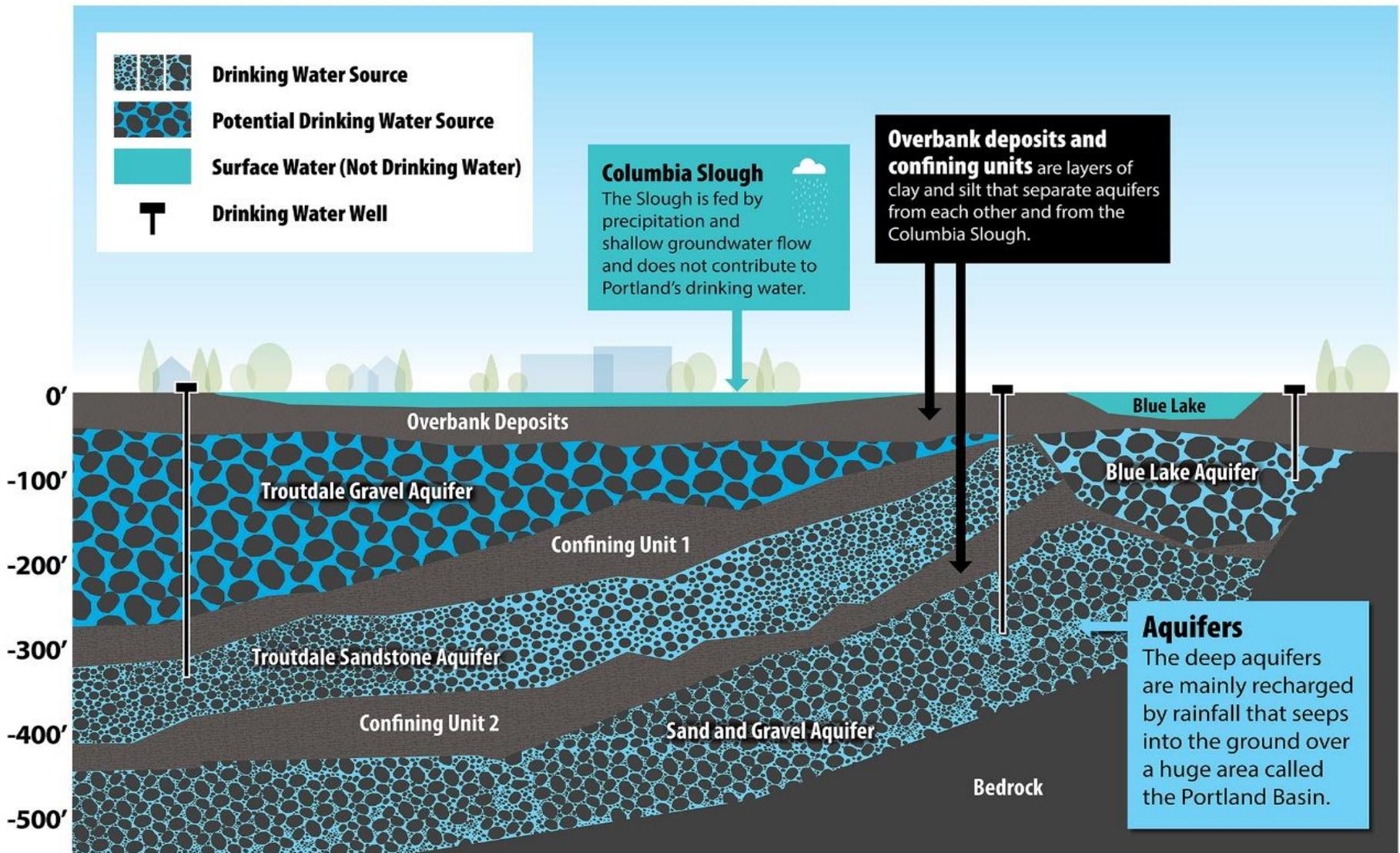
Missoula Floods (15,000 – 20,000 YA)



Portland Basin Cross Sections

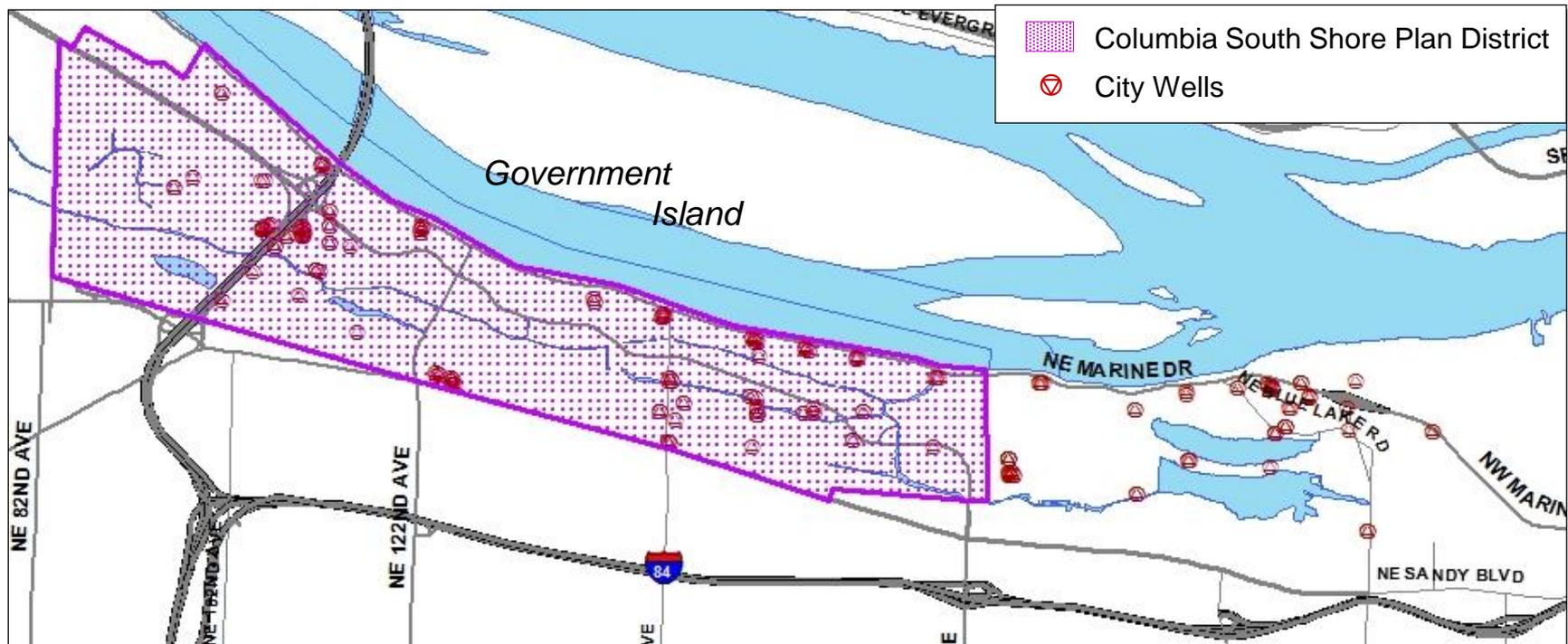


Columbia South Shore Well Field Aquifers



1988 - Early Groundwater Protection Planning-Driven Approach

- Columbia South Shore Plan District Amended
 - Prohibited some uses (e.g. gas stations)
 - Affected new and re-development only
 - High risk uses required special review



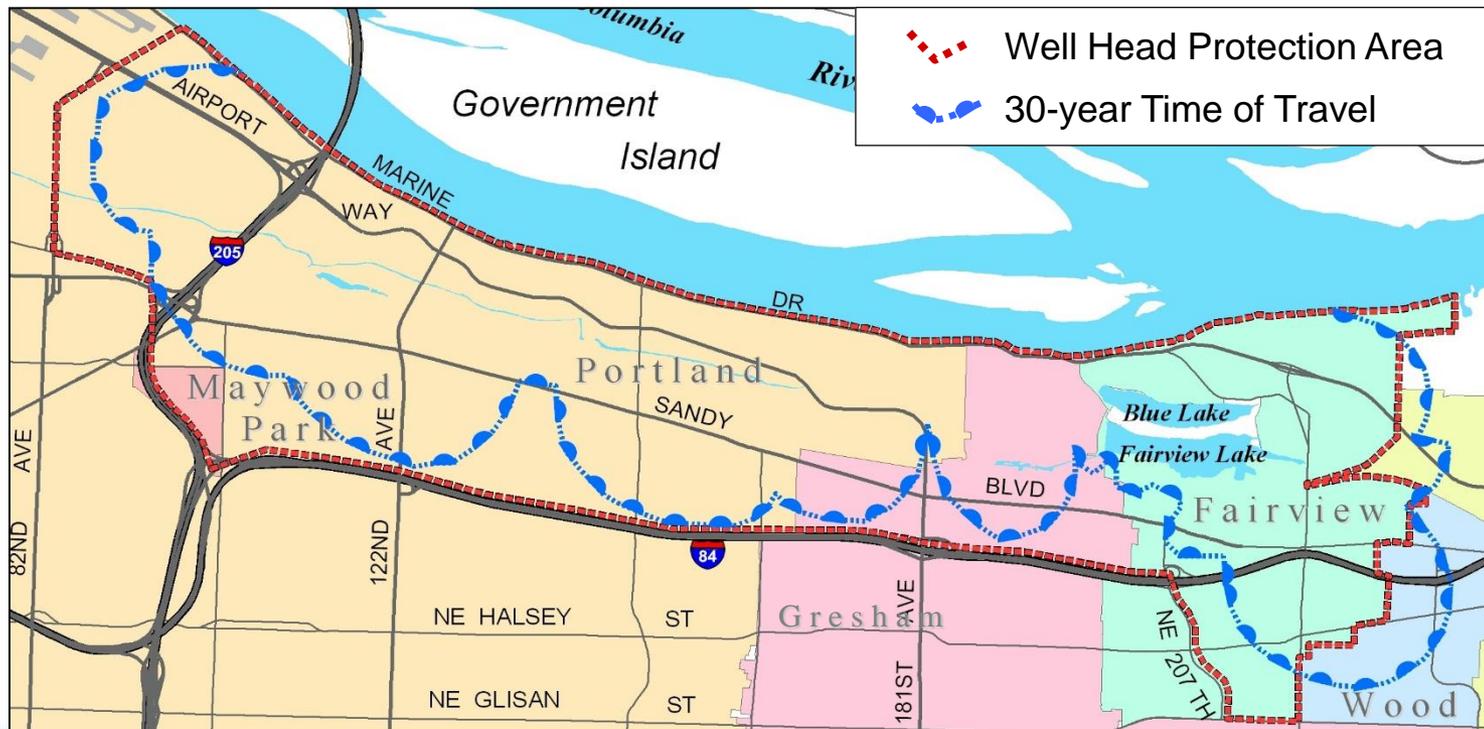
Limitations of Original Program

- Political boundary, not science-based
- Exempted existing facilities
- No on-going reporting, inspection or enforcement

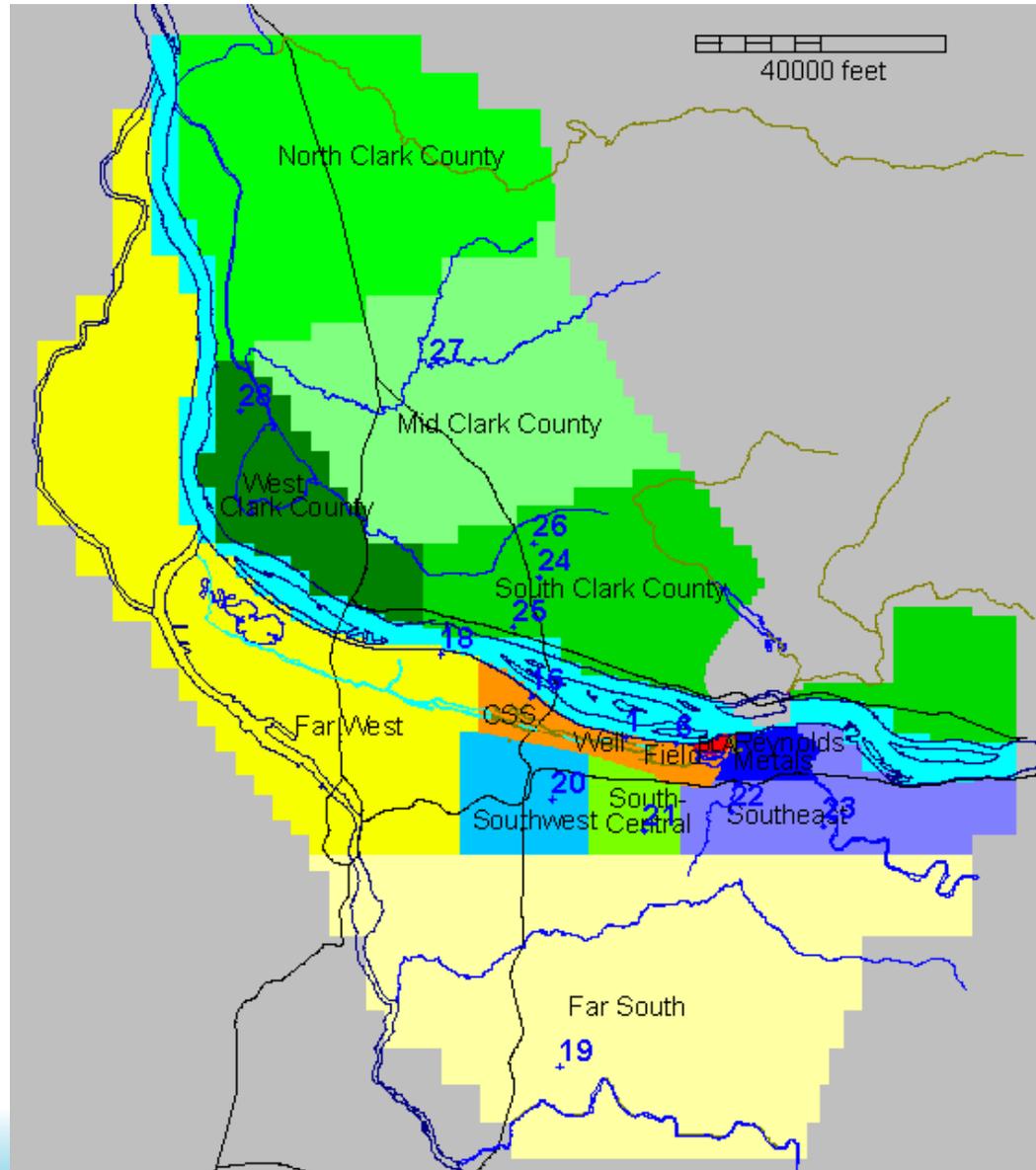


2000 - Groundwater Protection Source Water Assessment Approach

- Delineate protection area based on time of travel
- Inventory potential contamination sources
- Develop requirements to address risks



CSSWF MODFLOW Model: Basin-Scale Domain Needed



Risk Assessment & Source Inventory

- Zoning/Land Use
- DEQ Information
 - Hazardous Waste, Underground Storage Tanks, Cleanup Sites
- Other Agency Data
 - State Fire Marshall, City stormwater programs, (1,000 sites!)
- Public Information
 - Business listings, windshield surveys



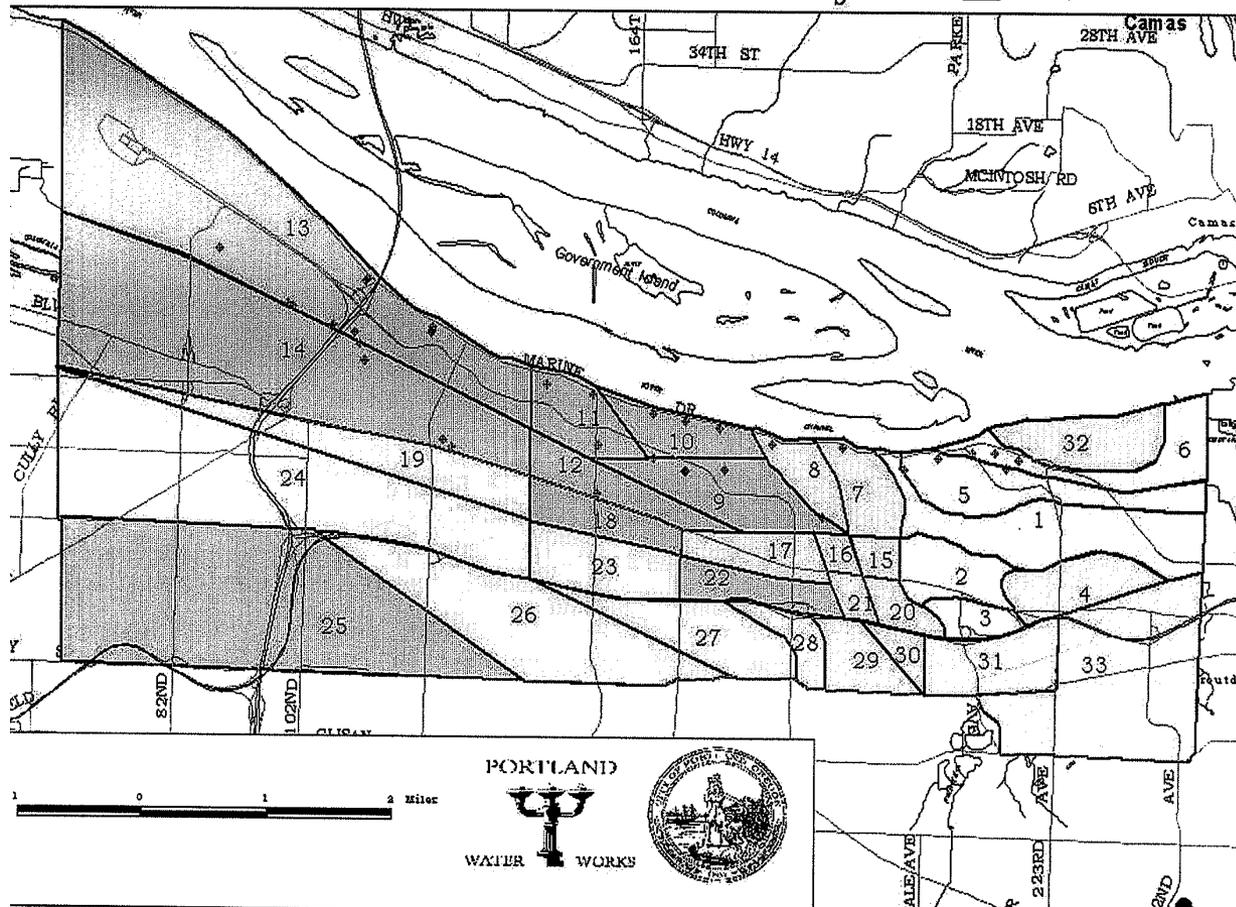
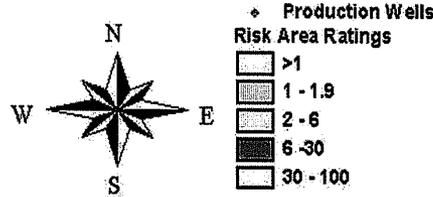
Risk Modeling

Risk Areas

Projection: Oregon State Plane

North Zone (International Feet)

Datum: NAD 83



- Quantitative risk assessment
 - Hydrogeology + Chemical Uses
- Greatest risk of groundwater impacts determined to be:
 - Solvent Spills
 - Activities in Facilities
 - Non-Conforming Uses

Groundwater Protection Program

Where

1. Protection area in 3 cities

What

2. Regulation of specific chemicals

- Threshold quantities determine if regulations apply

How

3. Functional area requirements

- Both structural & operational
- Employee Training

4. Inspections & enforcement

Why

5. Education & technical assistance

Regulated Chemical Thresholds

Wellhead protection regulations apply if a facility handles more than these amounts:



Halogenated Solvents – 10 gal



DEQ Hazardous Wastes – 30 gal



EPA's 'List-of-Lists' Substances – 50 gal

(There is a searchable version on our website)



Petroleum-Based Liquid Fuels – 50 gal

(reporting only for non-fuel petroleum)

Perspective

How many gallons of water can be contaminated by ONE gallon of trichloroethylene (TCE)?

(TCE is a solvent typically used to clean metal parts)

292 million gallons

Maximum
Contaminant
Level Standard

5 ug/l (ppb)



Maximum
Contaminant
Level GOAL

0

Reference Manual & P.I.G.

Columbia South Shore Well Field Wellhead Protection Area

Reference Manual

June 25, 2003
Amended March, 2017

City of Portland
Portland Water Bureau



City of Gresham



City of Fairview



**GROUNDWATER
PROTECTION PROGRAM**
COLUMBIA SOUTH SHORE

Columbia South Shore Groundwater Protection Program



**GROUNDWATER
PROTECTION PROGRAM**
COLUMBIA SOUTH SHORE

Program Implementation Guidance

May 2006
Revised July 2013

CITY OF PORTLAND
WATER BUREAU



CITY OF GRESHAM
ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES

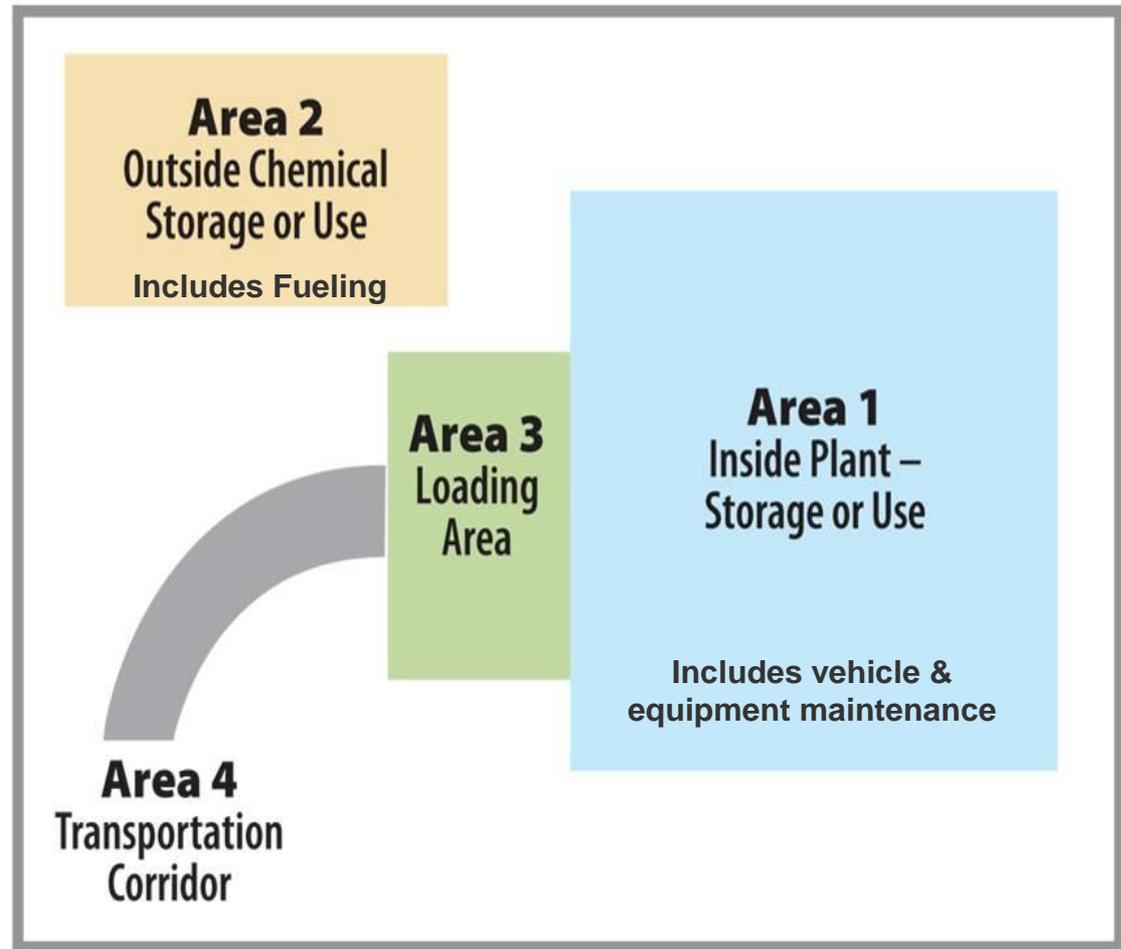


CITY OF FAIRVIEW
PUBLIC WORKS
DEPARTMENT



Structural Requirements

- Impervious Surfaces
- Secondary Containment
- Spill Control



Area 5 - Public Right-of-Way

Operational Requirements

- Pollution Prevention Team
- Good Housekeeping
- Spill Prevention & Clean-up
- Inspections
- Record Keeping
- Employee Training
- Annual Reporting
- Site Plan

IN THE EVENT OF A SPILL

1. Cover and isolate nearby drains
or turn off drain valve located at _____
2. Call the supervisor _____
3. If a spill reaches a drain, water or soil, call **503-823-7180** anytime.
For Police, Fire or Medical Emergencies call 911

If you are cleaning up a spill:

- Wear protective gear
- Keep unauthorized vehicles and people out of spill
- Use the spill kit:
 - Seal off drains
 - Set up a berm to contain the spill
 - Cleanup with absorbent materials



GROUNDWATER PROTECTION PROGRAM
COLUMBIA SOUTH SHORE



HELP PROTECT DRINKING WATER. You are standing over Portland's Columbia South Shore Well Field - a regional drinking water source from groundwater.

Chemical Transfer Procedures

Refer to the unloading procedures located _____

Inspection and Enforcement

- Portland: Fire Bureau, bi-annual compliance inspections for all businesses
- Gresham & Fairview: Shared environmental inspector
- Planning and Permit Review

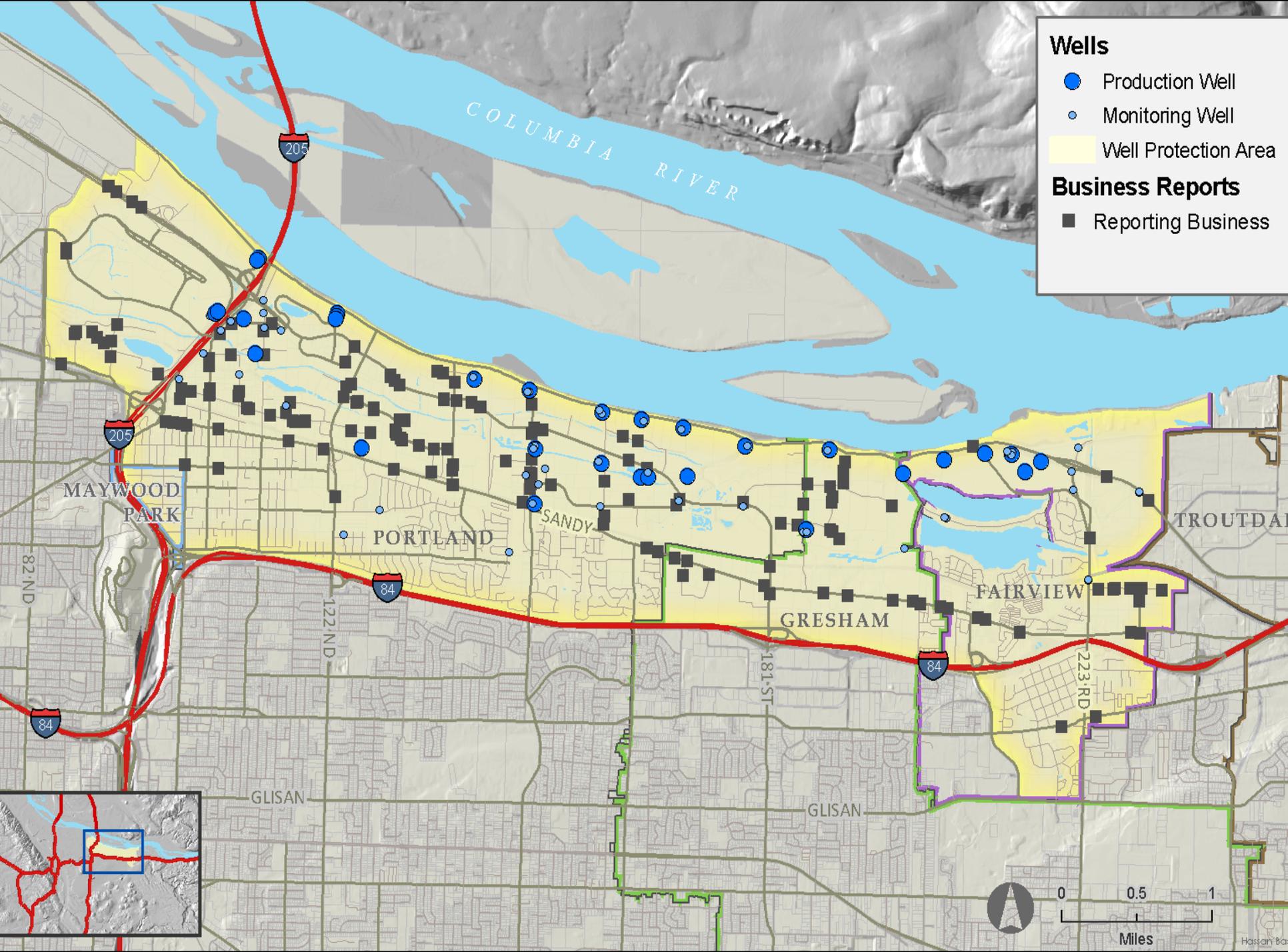


Technical Assistance, Outreach and Education

- Columbia Corridor Association
 - Technical assistance & training for businesses
- Cities of Portland, Gresham & Fairview
 - Inspections, technical assistance
- Columbia Slough Watershed Council
 - Family events, school education, classes



We reach thousands of people every year!

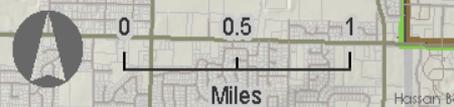


Wells

- Production Well
- Monitoring Well
- Well Protection Area

Business Reports

- Reporting Business



Groundwater Monitoring

- 80+ Active monitoring wells
- Timely warning of potential problems
- Allows use of well field for water supply with increased confidence
- Helps track progress of DEQ site cleanups
- Integral to policy of source water protection
- Zero detection goal for man-made contaminants



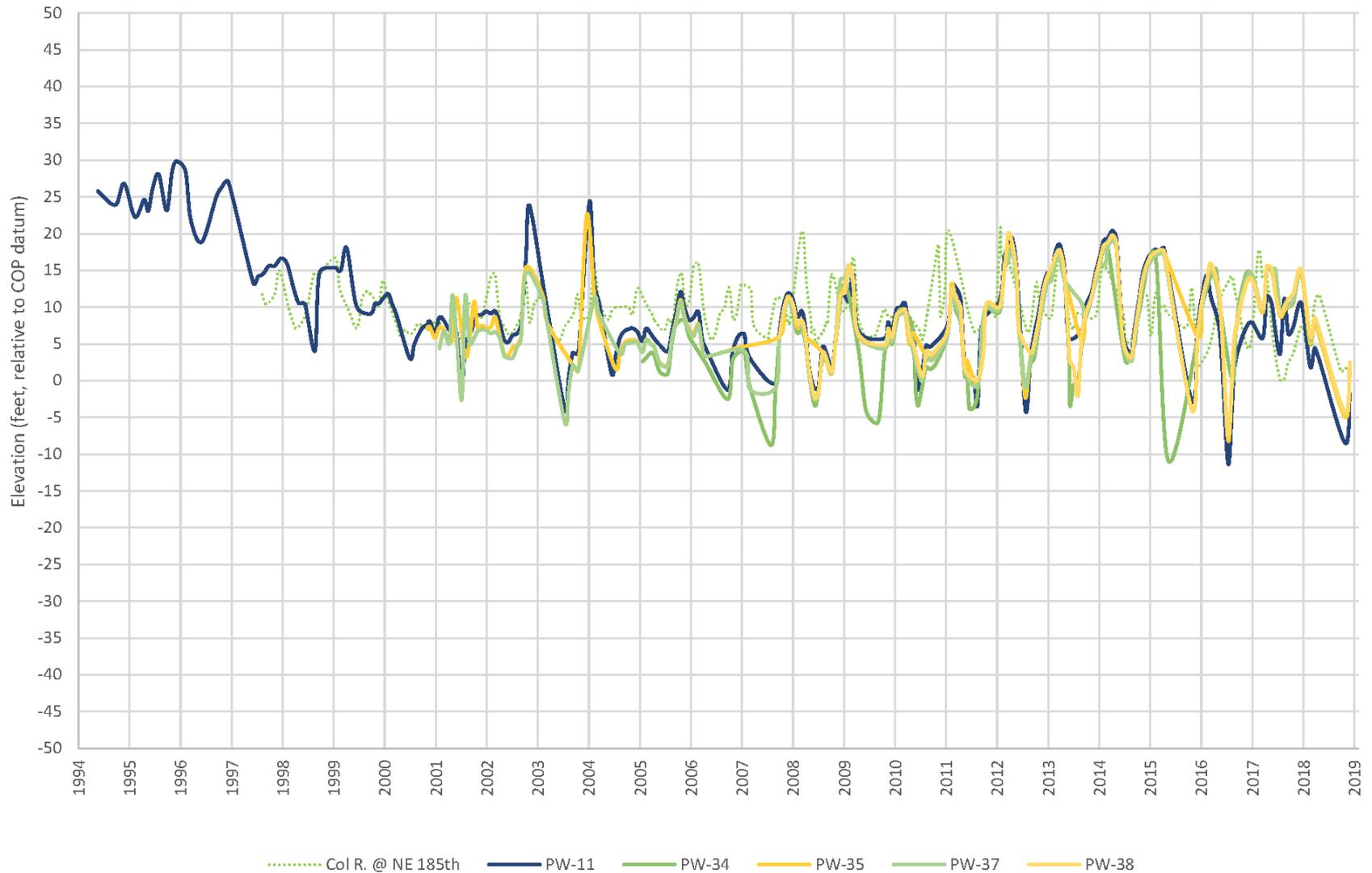
Monitoring Program Results

- Supply wells not affected: most instances of groundwater contamination are older, shallow and isolated; all active city production wells are negative for man-made contaminants
- Good natural geologic protection: fine-grained floodplain deposits and confining units between aquifers



Recent core of Confining Unit 2

Sand & Gravel Aquifer Levels



Expanding Regional Coordination

