Scatter Creek Aquifer Area Septic System Management Project

2nd Community Workshop April 23, 2014 6:30-8:30 pm Rochester Middle School

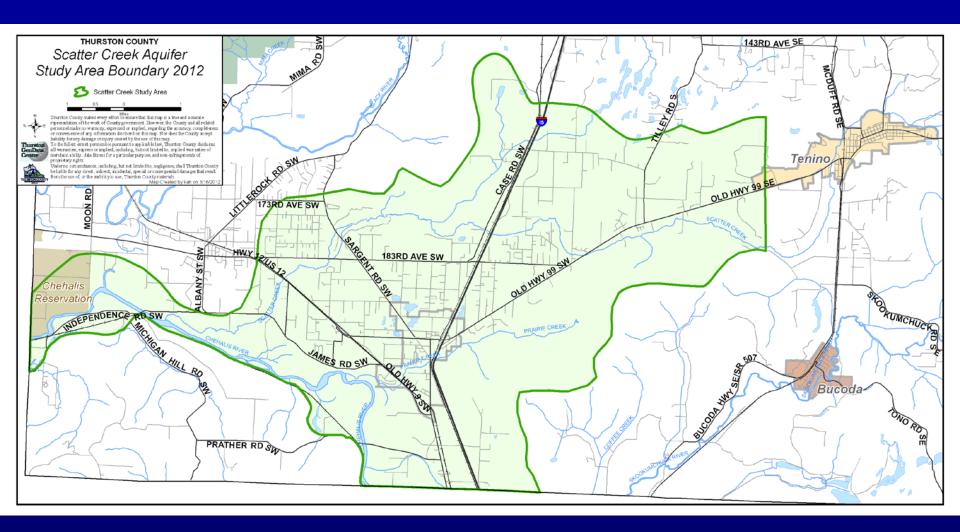


Scatter Creek Citizen's Committee

- ❖ Sandra Adix
- Tom Budsberg
- Dave Dafoe
- Karen Deal
- Lowell Deguise
- ❖ Marlene Hampton

- Chanele Holbrook
- ❖ Roger Max
- Bruce Morgan
- ❖ Amanda Neice
- ❖ Maureen Pretell
- Gene Weaver







Scatter Creek Aquifer

- Very vulnerable groundwater supply
- ❖Sole source of water for more than 1,000 public water systems and single family wells
- Over 18,000 people rely on the water

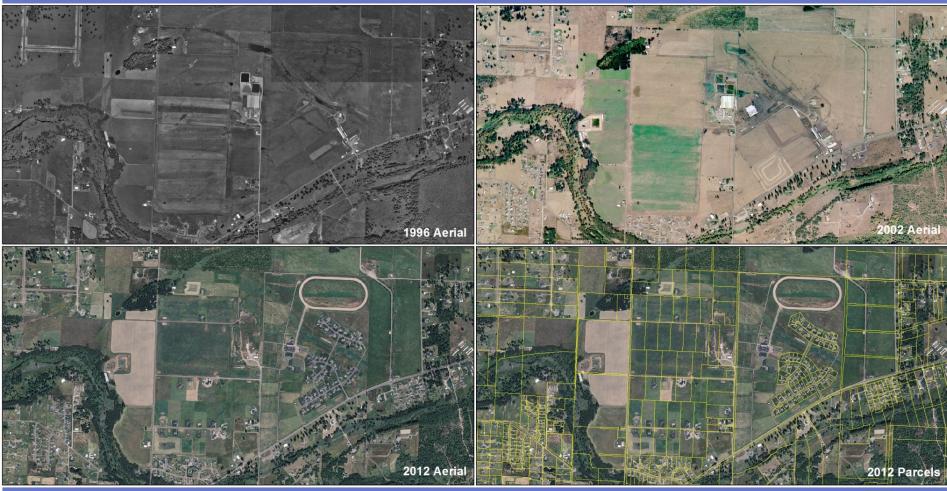


- *Areas in the aquifer have been contaminated by land uses in past
- Policies and regulations put in place have helped protect water
- The area is transitioning from agricultural to rural residential



THURSTON COUNTY

Violet Prairie



0 600 1,200 2,400 Feet

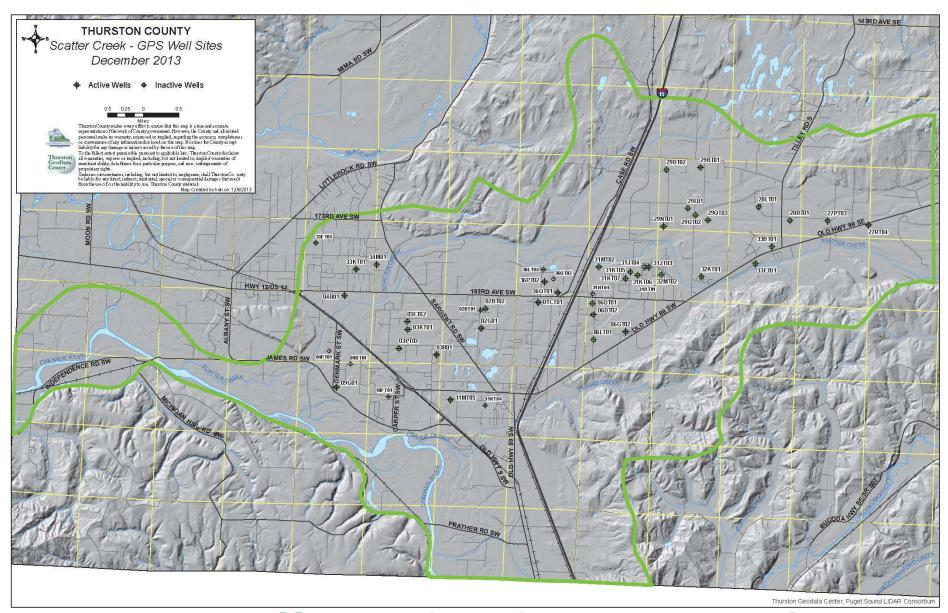


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Septic System Management

- Focus of this project is looking at the impacts of septic systems on the aquifer.
- Have opportunity to examine future impacts and take action to protect safe drinking water



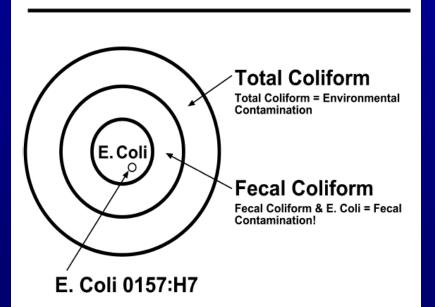


Well Monitoring Network

Health Effects

Coliform Bacteria

TOTAL COLIFORM, FECAL COLIFORM AND E. COLI



Nitrates

- Infants
- Pregnant women
- Immune-compromised
- ❖ Standard 10 mg/l
- Precautions at 5 mg/l



Indicators

Other contaminants could be present

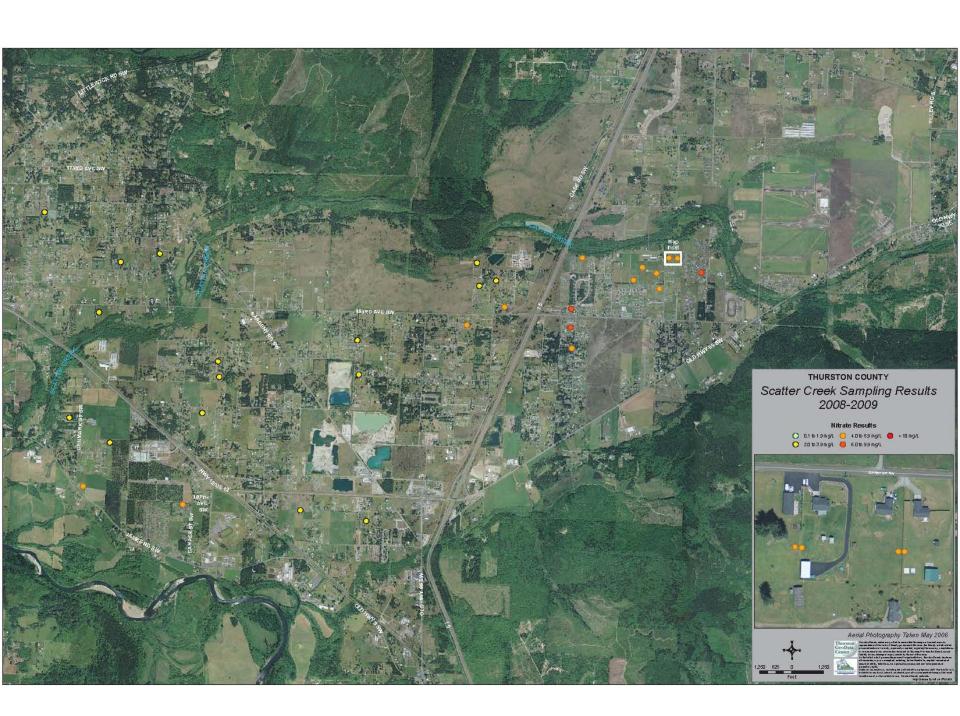
- Viruses
- Pharmaceuticals
- Pesticides

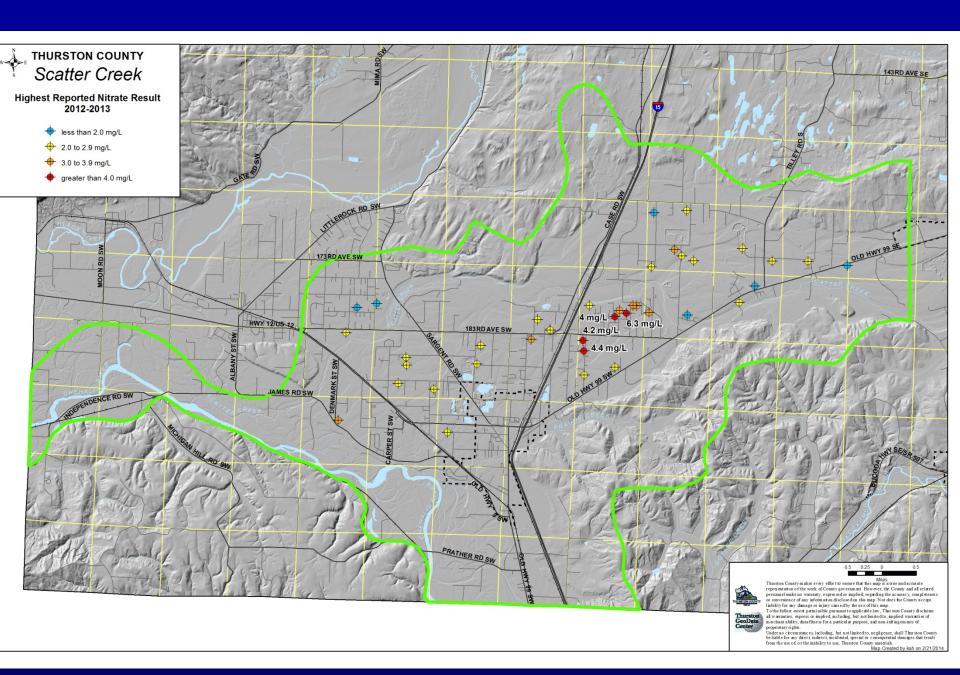


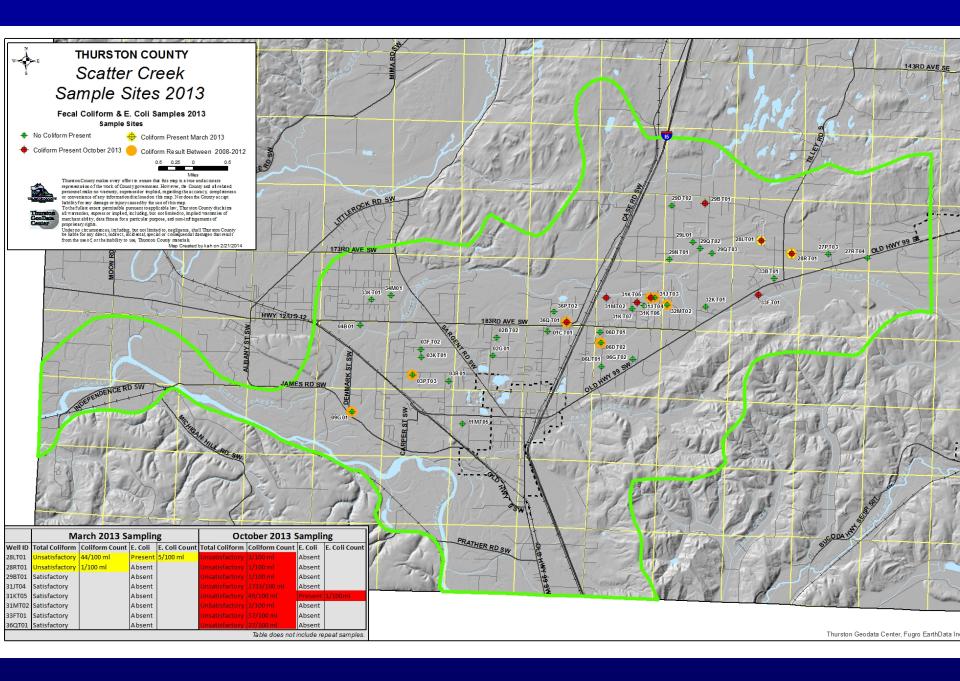
Monitoring Resultsgood news and bad news

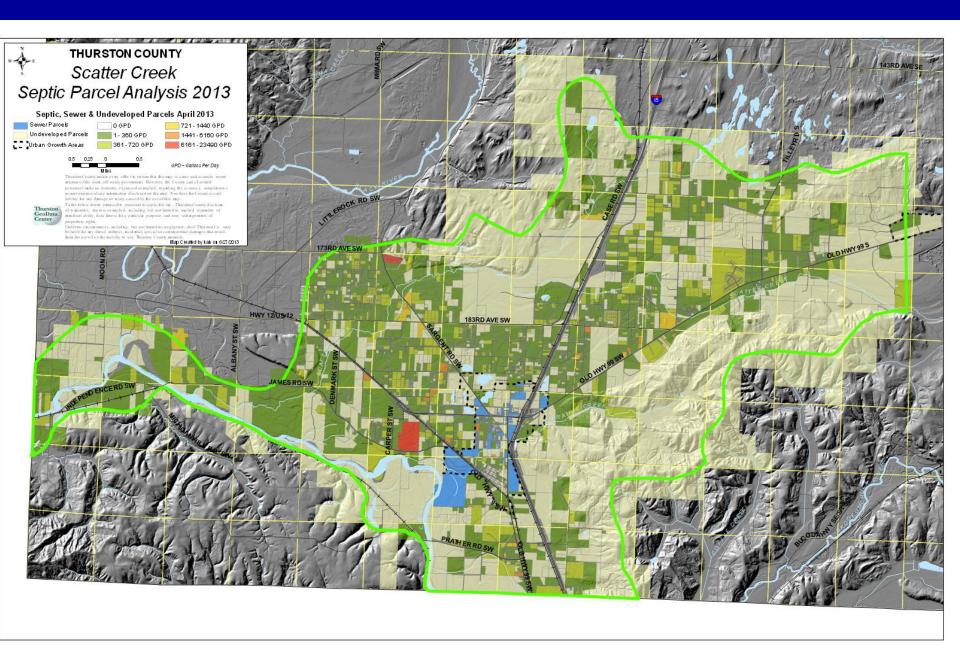
- Since 2008 nitrate levels have dropped throughout the aquifer
- Oct 2013 sampling saw increases in nitrates and some unsatisfactory coliform bacteria samples

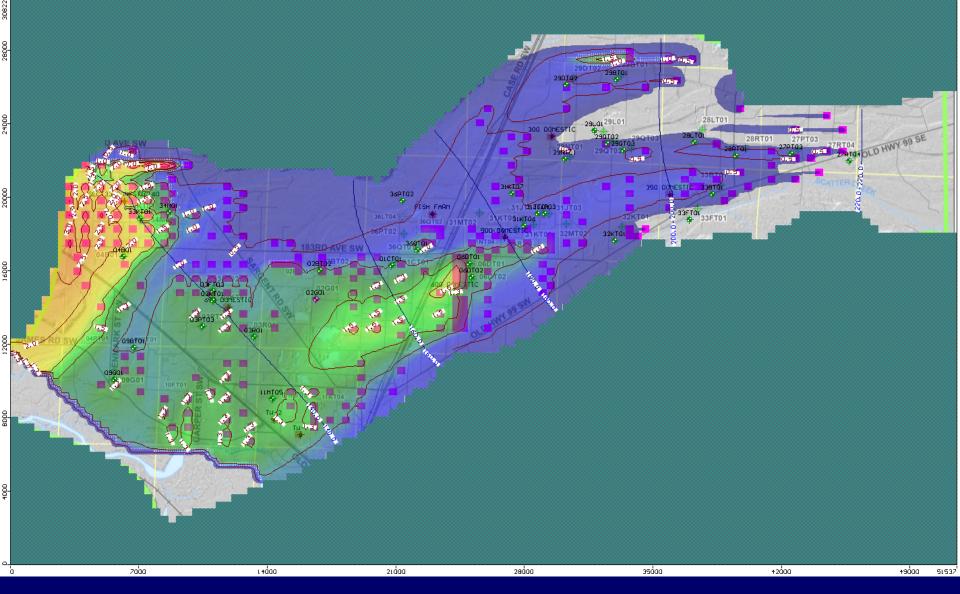






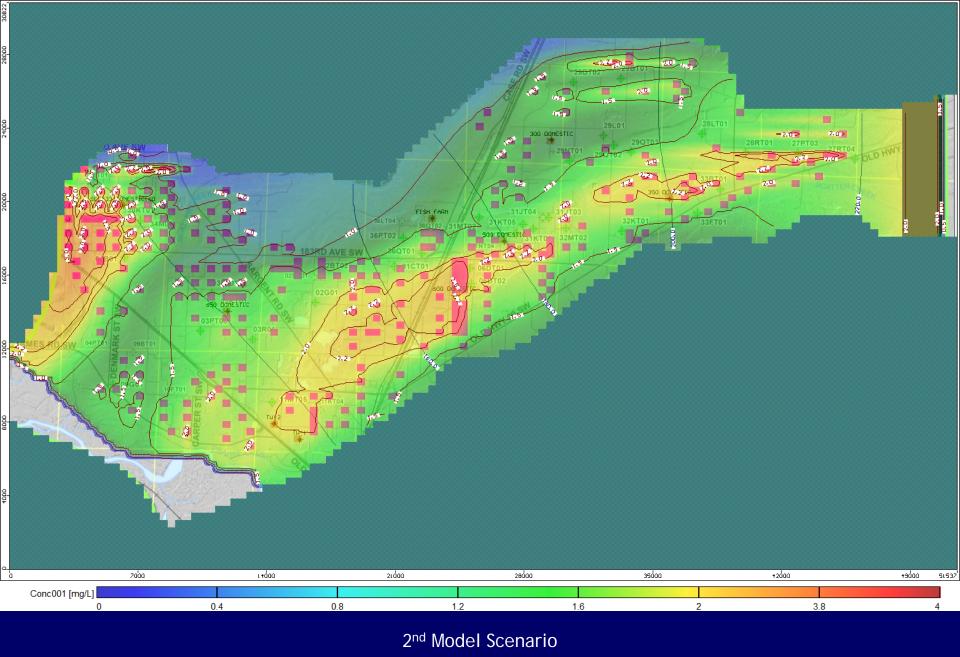




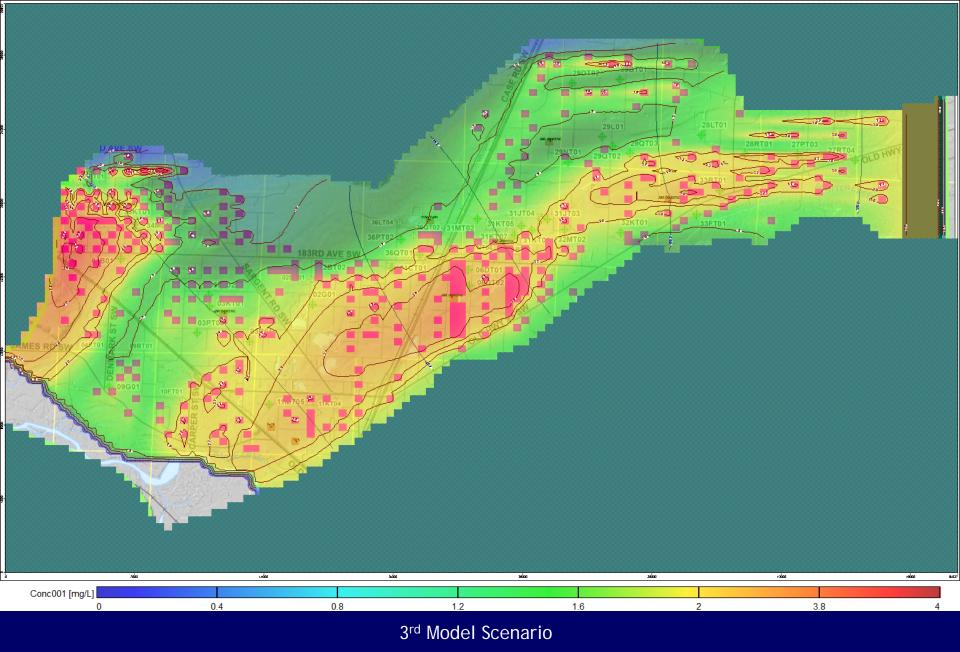


1st Model Scenario

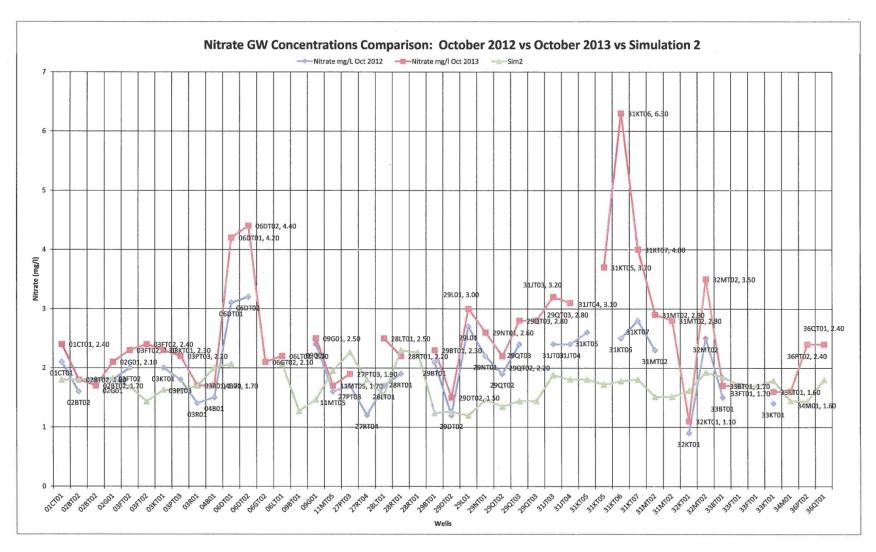
Current septic systems only

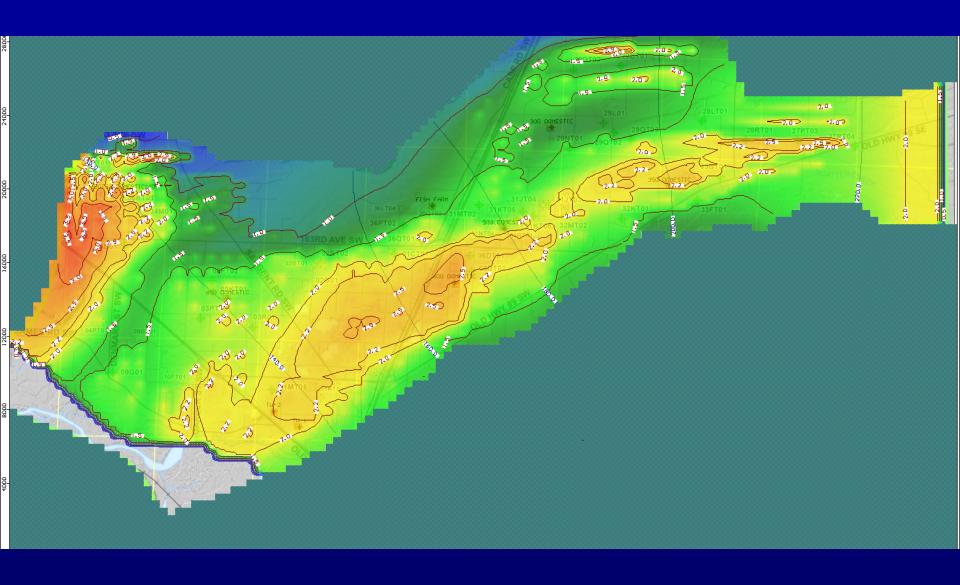


Adds all current legal lots + 2 mg/l nitrate from Tenino



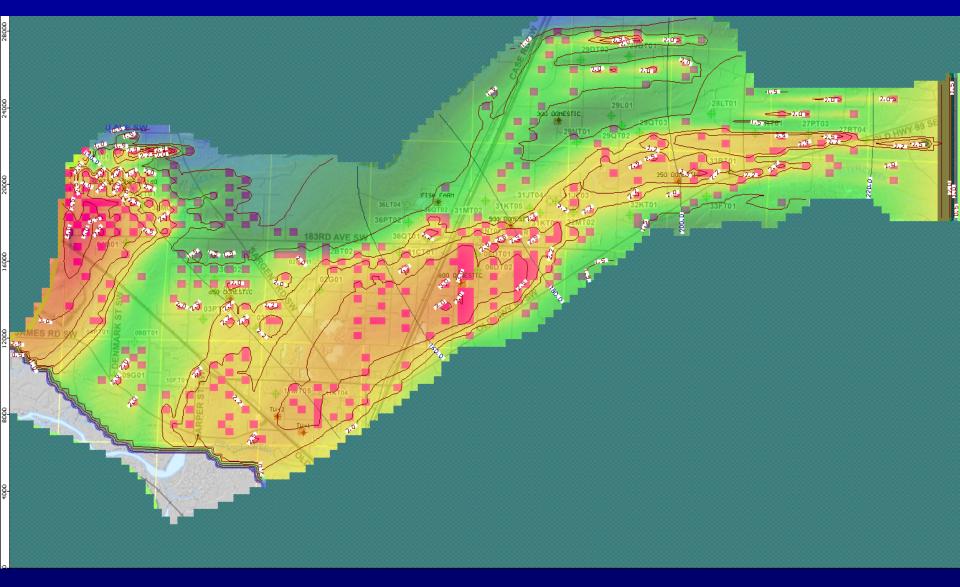
Assumes full build-out + 2 mg/l nitrate from Tenino





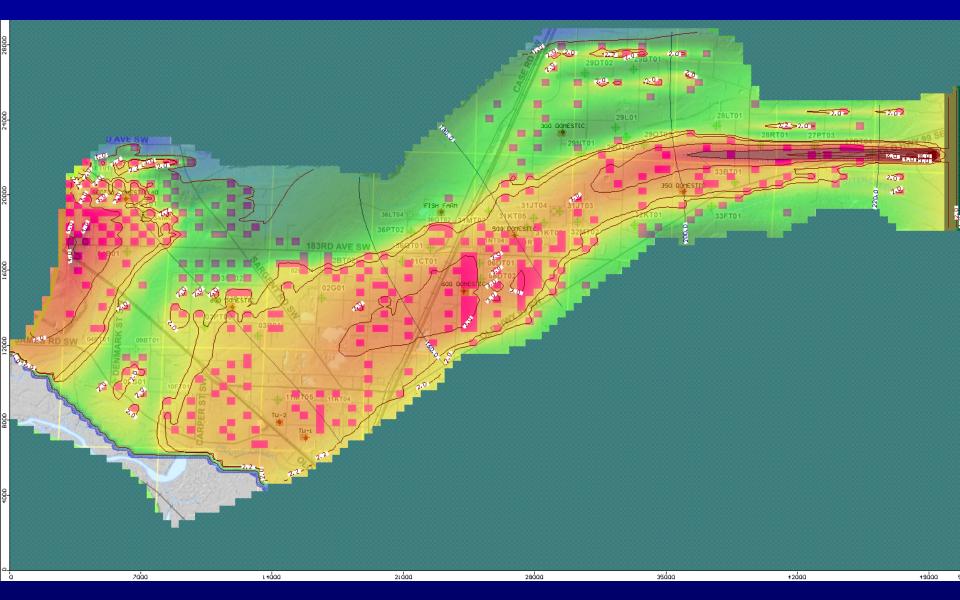
4th Model Scenario

Current & legal lots + 2 mg/l Tenino + lawn fertilizer



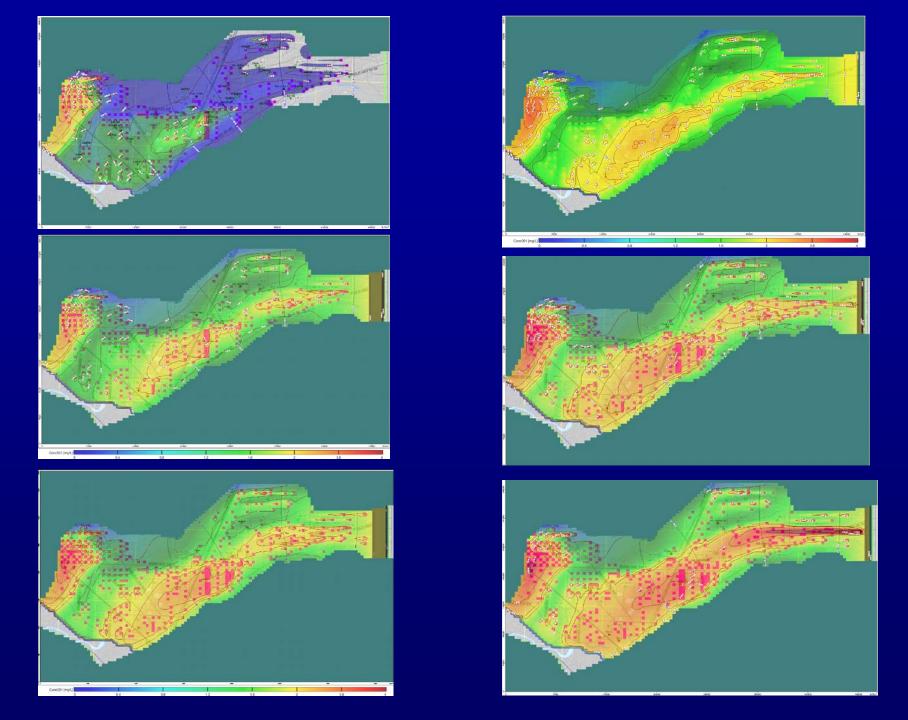
5th Model Scenario

All current & legal lots, lawn fertilizer, Tenino adj.



6th Model Scenario

Full build-out, lawn fertilizer, Tenino full capacity



Your Water, Your Neighbor's Water

Different perceptions of risk

- Are future conditions something that needs to be addressed?
- What issues/ideas/options should the committee consider?
- ❖ The best outcome will...





Community Input

Your Job:

- Help us be sure we consider all options
- Help us understand how each option will affect people
- Help us identify who and what else we need to include in the process

So that we can make the best responsible decision to protect drinking water.

Recommendations

Citizens Committee develops draft recommendations

- Shared with Board of Health and community
- Recommendations refined

If a policy change is recommended, it must go through its own public process before being adopted

- Notice
- Public hearing
- Formal adoption by Board



Coming Up

- Next community workshop anticipated in September - feedback on draft recommendations
- Expect final committee recommendations presented to Board of Health by Nov/Dec.



Project Website: www.co.thurston.wa.us/health/ehsc

360-867-2582

