

**REDMOND CITY HALL**

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**COCO
WATER SUMMIT**

May 16, 2024
Civic Room 208 • 411 SW 9th Street

**COCO
MEMBERS**

Bend
Culver
La Pine
Madras
Maupin
Metolius
Prineville
Redmond
Sisters

MAY 16, 2024**AGENDA****1:00 PM**

- I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Ed Fitch (10 minutes)**
- II. OPENING REMARKS / LEGISLATIVE GOALS: Ken Helm / Mark Owens (virtual) (5 minutes)**
- III. WHY WE ARE HERE (at the Summit): Ed Fitch (3 minutes)**
- IV. HISTORY OF WATER COLLABORATION AND COCO'S ROLE: Doug Riggs (7 minutes)**
- V. PRESENTATIONS**
 - A. Overview of the Deschutes Basin and Emerging Challenges: Owen McMurtrey, GSI (15 Minutes)
 - B. Topics for Discussion: COCO Members (15 minutes)
 - i. Land Use Obligations: Ed Fitch
 - ii. Mitigation Program: Melanie Kebler
 - iii. Mitigation Credits: Mike Buettner
 - iv. Density and Water Use: Josh Wedding
 - v. Alternative Capital Investments: Josh Wedding
 - vi. Shared Responsibilities: Doug Riggs
- VI. FACILITATED DISCUSSION (2 hours, 20 minutes)**
 - A. Part 1: Facilitator Jim McCauley, League of Oregon Cities
 - i. Positioning the Deschutes Basin for success in the face of current challenges.
 - B. Part 2: Facilitator, Doug Riggs
 - i. How do we achieve our collective policy goals?
What does a Deschutes Basin-specific groundwater allocation rule process look like? Timing, funding, and successful outcomes?
 - ii. Responsible Use and Responsible Growth
- VII. NEXT STEPS / CLOSING COMMENTS / PATHWAYS (15 minutes)**

The City of Redmond encourages all citizens to participate in its programs and activities. This meeting location is accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for accommodation may include sign language interpreter service, assistive listening devices, materials in an alternate format or any other accommodation. If any accommodations are needed, please contact the ADA Coordinator at 541-504-3036 or access@redmondoregon.gov. Requests should be made as soon as possible, but at least 3 business days prior to the scheduled meeting.

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WHY WE ARE HERE

The current Deschutes Basin mitigation plan, that has been in place for the past 25 years, is scheduled to sunset in 2029. Our Central Oregon cities have relied upon this program to access additional groundwater to meet the challenges each city faces with the growth we have had and will continue to have in the future.

Every city in Central Oregon has its own unique characteristics. Redmond is the second fastest growing city in Oregon. We have the third busiest commercial airport in the state and by next year Redmond will be home to the second largest fairgrounds in the United States. Together with the planned training center at CORE 3, Redmond will be the primary relief center for the Cascadia event which is now 83 years overdue based upon historical averages. Redmond has also been entrusted with over 900 acres of industrial and commercial land owned by the Department of State Lands which are to be developed and sold for the benefit of the common school fund.

The new groundwater rule now being considered by the water resources commission will present significant challenges and perhaps an insurmountable obstacle for cities in the Deschutes basin to comply with a myriad of state and federal mandates imposed upon cities and most importantly compliance with the statewide planning goals and our own acknowledged comprehensive plans.

From the city's perspective the new rule fails to take into account the unique characteristics of the Deschutes basin. The new rule, as a practical matter, may have

the effect of a moratorium prohibiting cities from accessing additional groundwater for our rapidly growing communities. This approach also fails to recognize that 80% of our county residents live within our four urban areas and 87% of our human economic and social activity occurs within our cities.

25 years ago, the Central Oregon cities, along with our other partners in the Deschutes basin and our legislative delegation, worked together to institute the current groundwater mitigation plan. By exchanging surface water rights for groundwater permits cities have returned a substantial amount of water back into the middle Deschutes River. We believe the time now is come to reengage with our partners and legislative delegation to shape the best path forward for our communities vis a vis the limited water resources we have.

We hope that such a path can be based upon the following principles:

1. Using a holistic approach toward our basin's groundwater so that all users of groundwater participate in conservation and regulation regarding our water resources.
2. That current and future access to groundwater within the basin be coupled with a strong conservation standard with set goals and measured outcomes.

We fully understand that there are a number of issues that need to be discussed in light of these principles. The purpose of the summit today is to start those discussions so that a Deschutes basin-based groundwater plan can be pursued and implemented.

Deschutes Basin
Water
Seeking
Collaborative
Solutions & Success





CENTRAL OREGON CITIES ORGANIZATION

BEND, CULVER, LA PINE, MADRAS, MAUPIN
METOLIUS, PRINEVILLE, REDMOND, SISTERS

Introduction

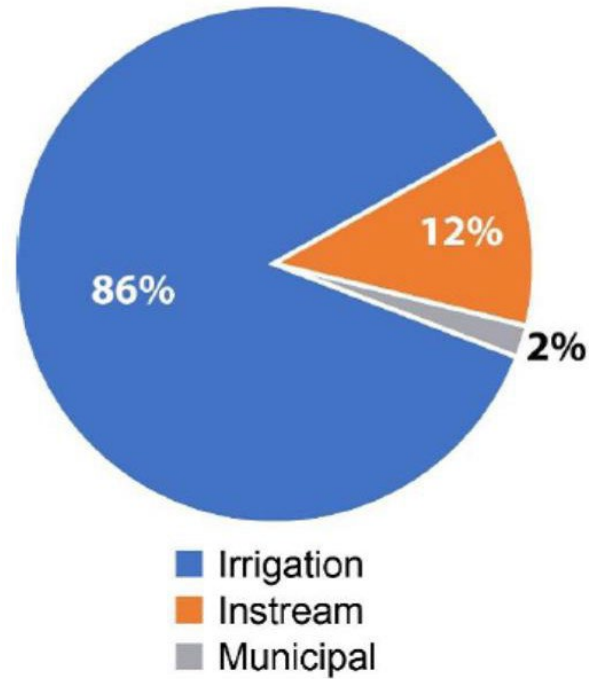
- 1995 *USGS* Conclusion: All water in the basin is hydraulically connected.
- Result: All water rights/transfers put on hold
- Challenge Faced the Region = conservation / reallocation of existing water



Why Are Cities Engaged?



Basin Water Rights
Distribution



City Responsibilities for Residents & Region

- Supply drinking water – duty to serve
- Meet housing needs for citizens - - statutory requirement
- Meet Regulatory Compliance – ESA, CWA
- Comprehensive Plans: Goals related to water, river health, environment,
- Maintain and strengthen environmental priorities, river assets

Citizens expect:

Certainty of process to meet 20 year land use goals in state law. But, also protection of key resources.



Background and History

- Challenge = **Balance environmental and economic interests in the basin.**
- 1998: Central Oregon Cities Organization

**BEND, CULVER, LA PINE, MADRAS, MAUPIN
METOLIUS, PRINEVILLE, REDMOND, SISTERS**



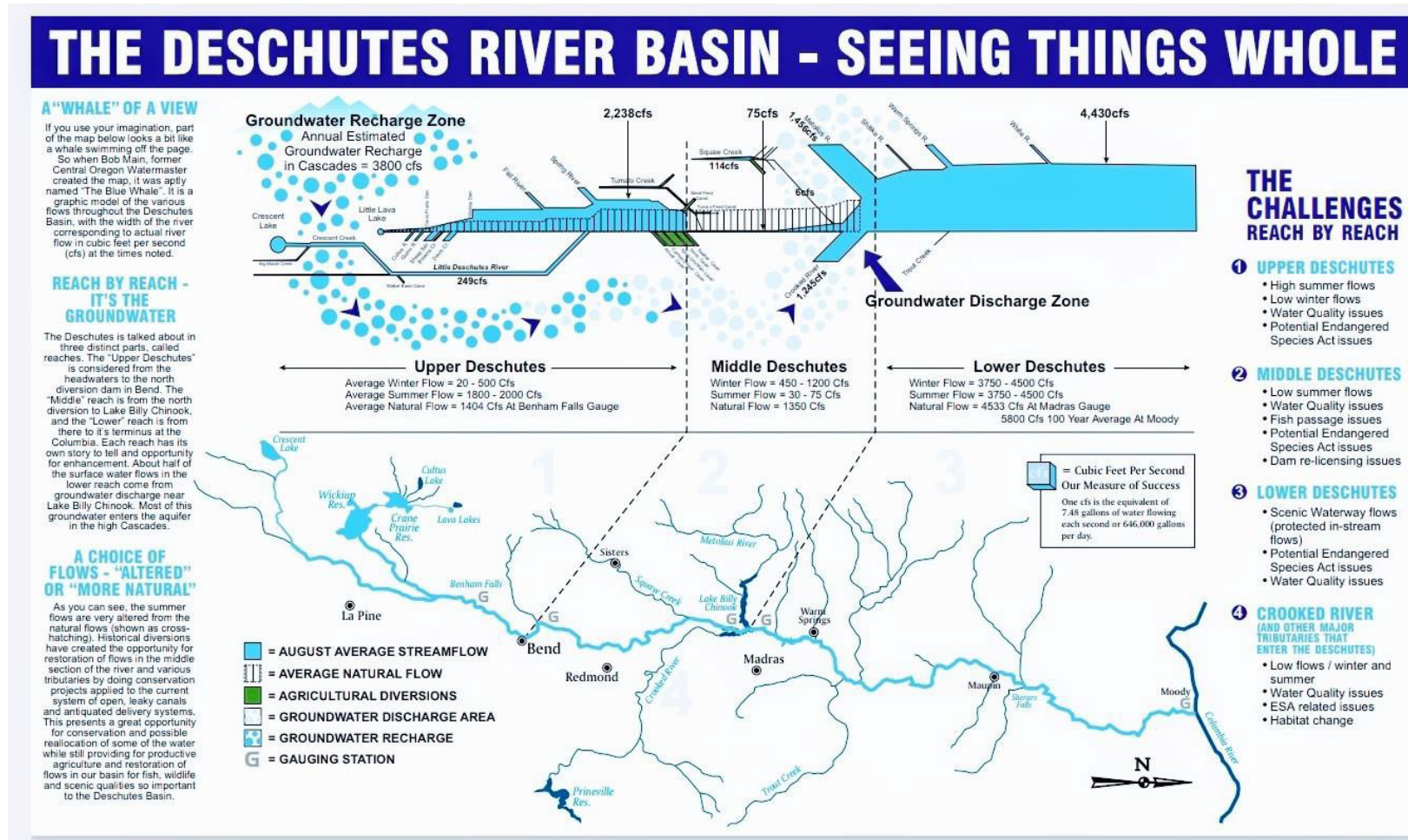
Role of Elected City Councils/Mayors

Larger than simply inside the UGB

The voice for progress in the State Capital



The Whole Picture



Collaboration over 25 years



- Central Oregon Irrigation District
- North Unit Irrigation District
- Arnold Irrigation District
- Swalley Irrigation District
- Lone Pine Irrigation District
- Tumalo Irrigation District
- Ochoco Irrigation District
- Three Sisters Irrigation District
- City of Bend
- Avion
- City of Madras
- City of Redmond
- City of LaPine
- City of Prineville
- USDA Forest Service
- Department of Environmental Quality
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
- Deschutes County
- Coalition for the Deschutes
- Crooked River Watershed Council
- Upper Deschutes Watershed Council
- Sunriver Anglers
- Central Oregon Flyfishers
- Deschutes River Conservancy
- Trout Unlimited
- Native Reintroduction Network
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Oregon Water Resources Department
- Oregon Land and Water Alliance
- Oregon Department of Agriculture
- Deschutes Soil and Water Conservation District
- Portland General Electric
- WaterWatch
- Deschutes Water Alliance
- Bend Paddle Trail Alliance

History of Collaboration and Solutions

- DWA –SB 839, secured basin study
- Basin Study Work Group (BSWG) formed for basin study
- Today: Deschutes Basin Water Collaborative (replaces BSWG / DWA governance group)



Legislation Leads to Outcomes

1995 Session

Water Mitigation Standards/In-Stream Flows (SB1033)

2001 Session:

Water Mitigation Bank/Conservation Efforts (HB2184)

2003 Session

Surface to Groundwater Transfers (HB3215 via SB820)

Temporary Leasing of Agriculture Rights to Municipalities (HB3217 via SB820)

2005 Session

Mandatory Conservation & Management Plans for Cities (HB3038) Extension of the program to ensure its success.

2007 Session:

Conservation Measures (SB3623)

2013 Session:

Extension of Mitigation & Conservation Program (HB3494)

2023 Session:

Juniper Management & Stream Restoration Implementation Projects (HB3142)



Community Responsibility & Actions

- Metering / Alternate day watering
- Xeriscaping
- Building standards
- Mitigation = \$ for lining/piping
- Legislative changes / Deschutes Laws
- Participation in DWA, BSWG, DBWC, etc.
- Formation of COCO Water Sub
- Non-city projects: Juniper mitigation / stream restoration
- Responding to State Policy for water requirements

34% growth, 8%
increase



Successes:

- Restored streamflow for fish and wildlife, provided water supply for growing communities and firmed-up water supply for agricultural needs.
For instance:

- Flows in the middle-Deschutes increased by 400%
- Sub-basins have been restored and re-opened (Wychus Creek, etc)
- Municipal needs were addressed and water conservation plans implemented
- 50% + savings from lining / piping projects, and draws federal funding
- Federal HCP addressed



Contact:

Doug Riggs, COCO
doug@nwpolicy.com



COCO Water Summit

Overview of Deschutes Basin Hydrology and
Emerging Challenges



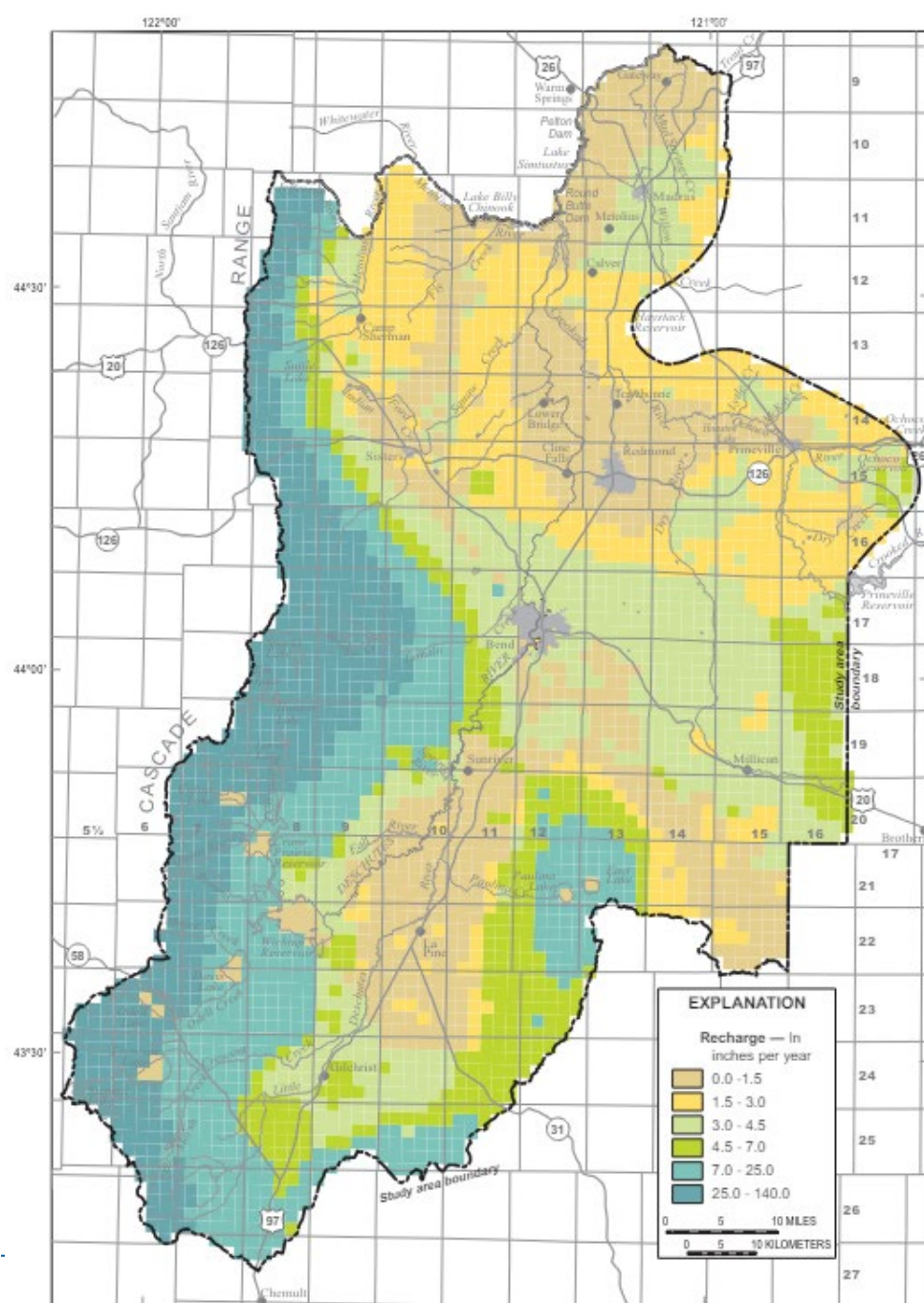


Figure 6. Deep Percolation Model grid and estimated recharge from infiltration of precipitation, 1993–95.

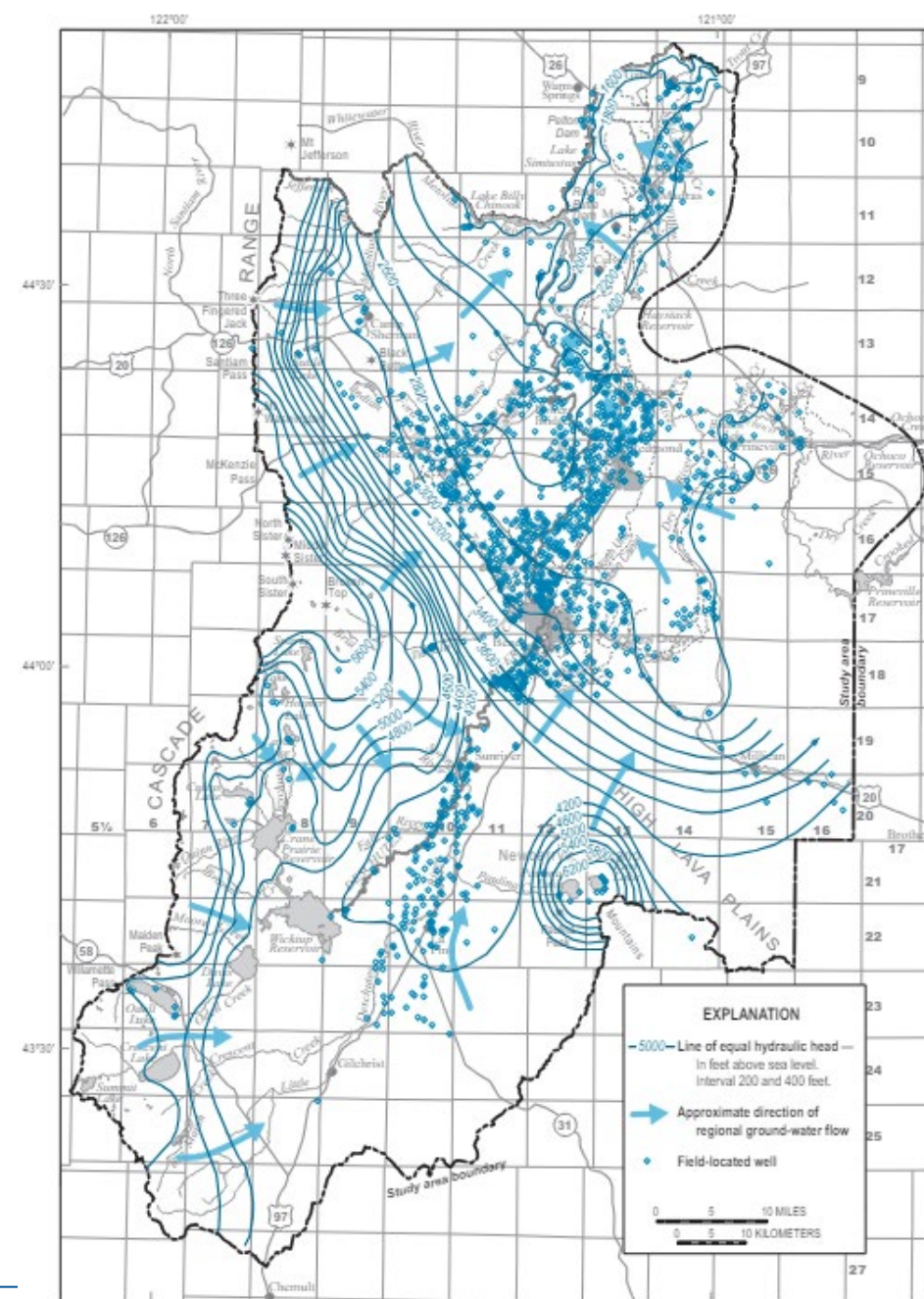
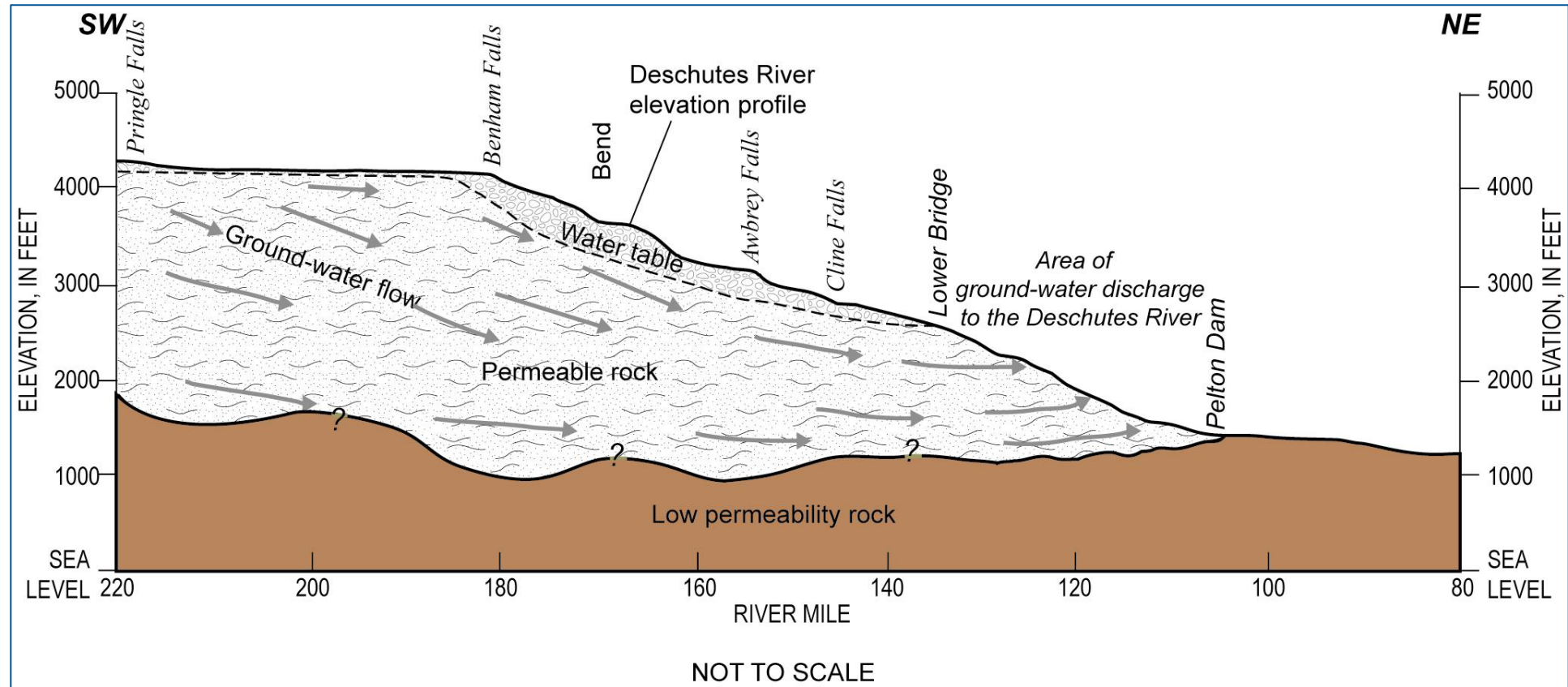


Figure 28. Generalized lines of equal hydraulic head and ground-water flow directions in the upper Deschutes Basin, Oregon. (This map does not reflect shallow, local saturated zones caused by canal and stream leakage. Arrows show approximate direction of regional ground-water flow.)

Groundwater Flow



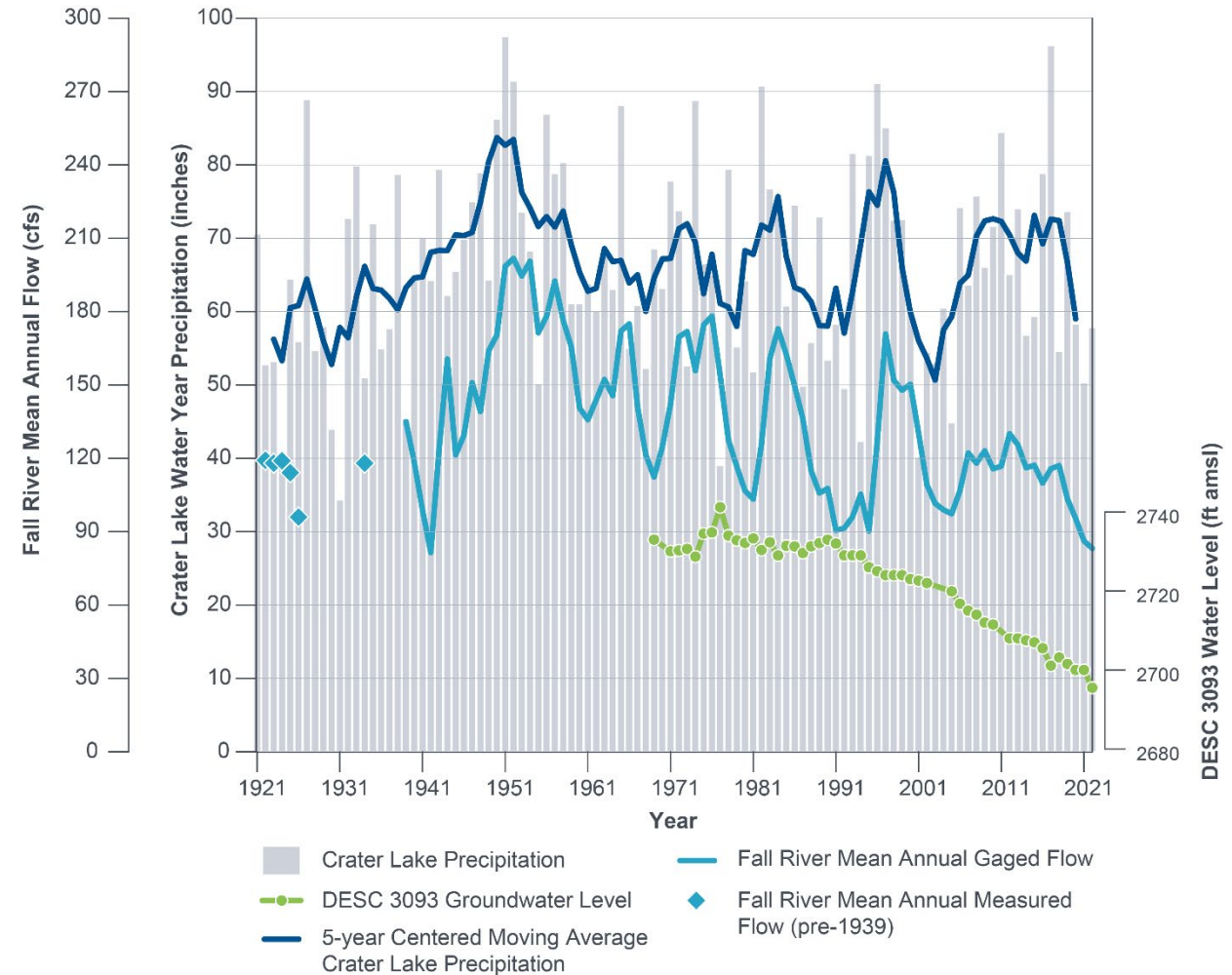
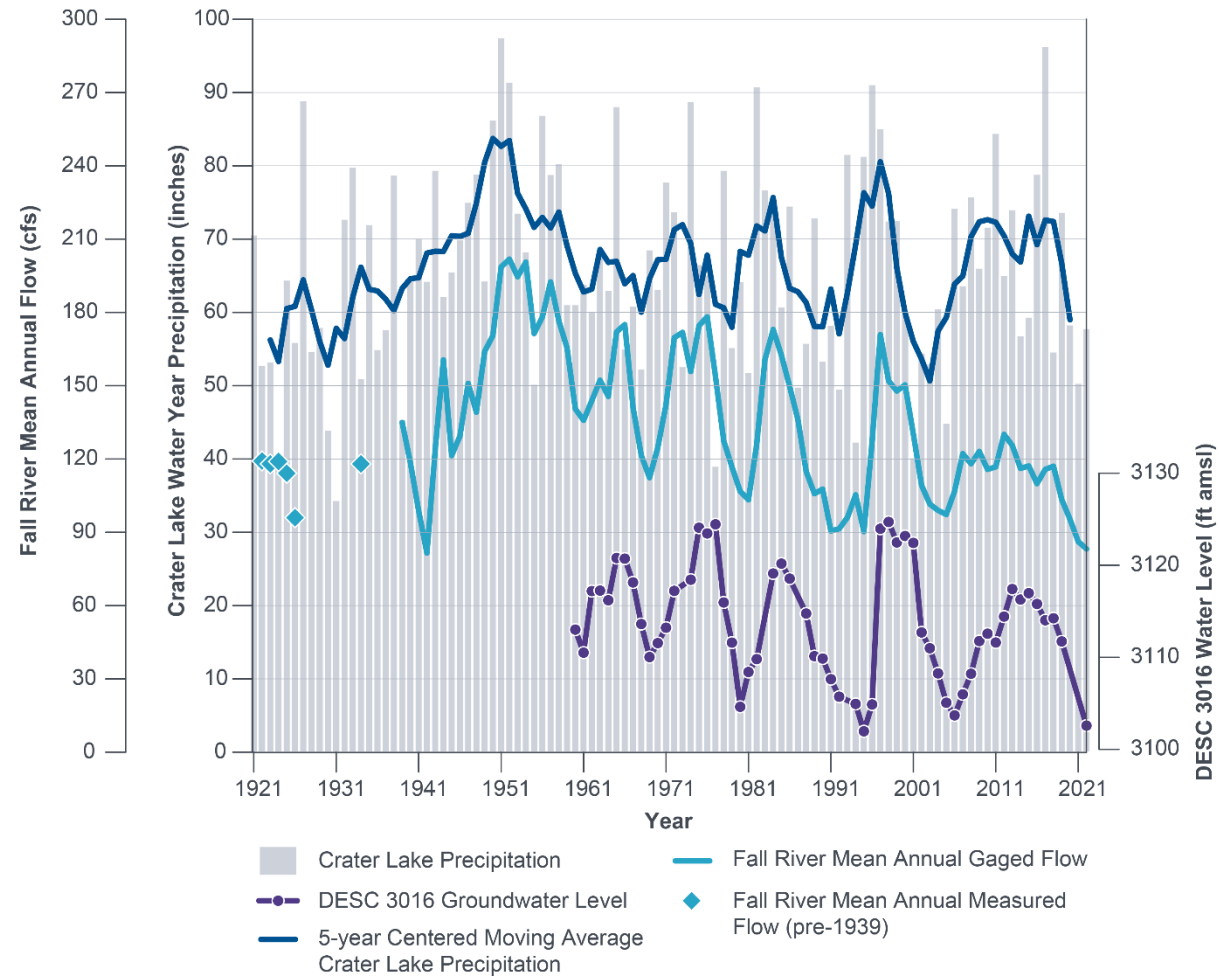
Deschutes Groundwater Overview

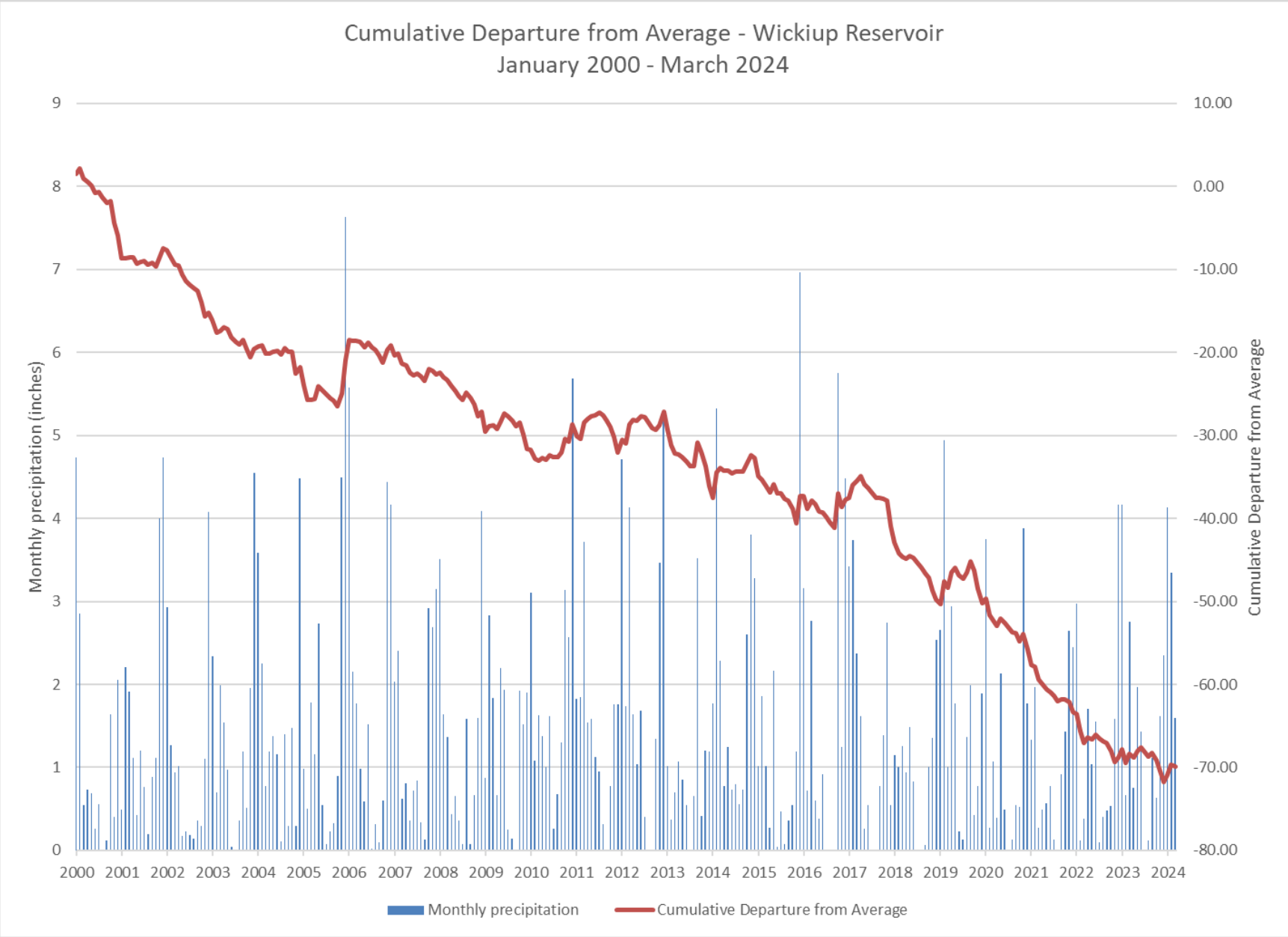
- Late 1990s: USGS-OWRD hydrologic study.
- Area of substantial ground-water discharge in area of confluence.
- Saturated thickness of 800 to 1200 feet in the central part of the basin.
- **New groundwater permits must mitigate for impact to surface water.**

Emerging Challenges

- Groundwater levels declining in areas of the basin.
- Largely dependent on climate and drought.
- Other contributing factors.
 - Per Gannet and Lite 2013, within central area of basin (Benham Falls to Lower Bridge; East of sisters to Powell Butte), 1994 through 2008 contribution to water level changes were:
 - 60 to 70 percent variation in climate
 - 20 to 30 percent increase in groundwater pumping
 - 10 percent canal piping and lining

Emerging Challenges





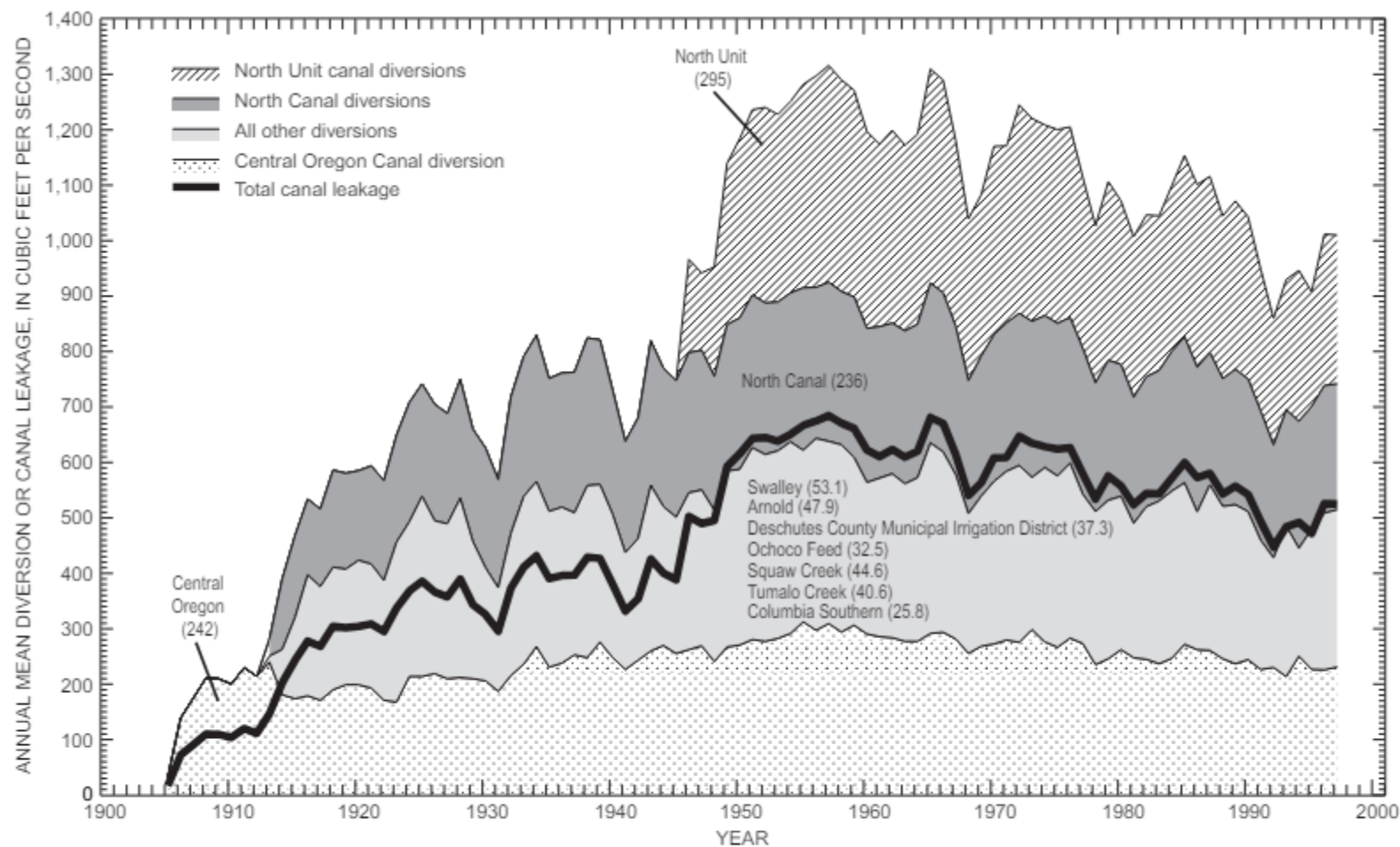


Figure 10. Annual canal diversions and estimated annual mean canal leakage in the upper Deschutes Basin, Oregon, 1905–97. (Mean annual discharge, in cubic feet per second, is shown in parentheses for the period of record for each diversion.)

Emerging Challenges

- Directives from Governor and Legislature to increase housing supply.
 - Increased density is not a panacea for water demands.
- Mitigation program cap of 200 cfs.
- Mitigation program sunset on January 2nd, 2029.
- Impact of transfers on CTWS treaty reserved water rights.
 - How will transfer review process in the Deschutes basin change?
- **How can cities have certainty of water supply to support growth?**

Allocation **Cap** Summary as of 2/13/2024

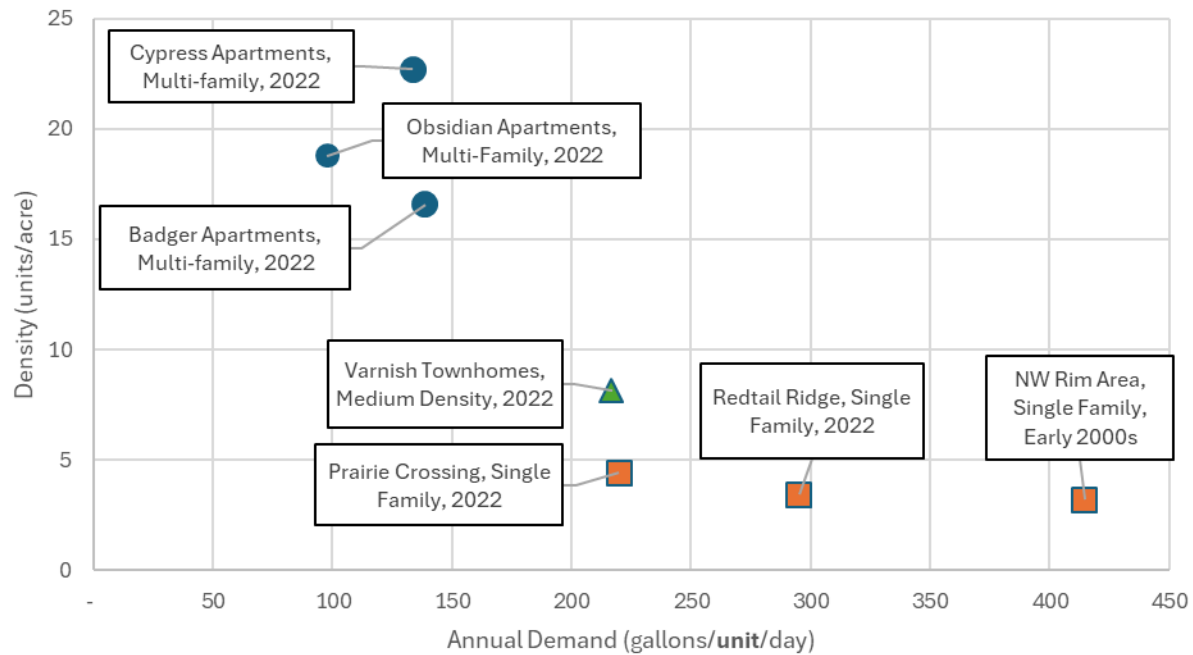
Total CFS Appropriated Under Cap (permit & FO) =	160.3405
200 CFS Allocation Cap remaining =	39.6595
Pending Applications not deducted yet from Cap =	39.9757
Difference between Pending and 200 CFS remaining =	-0.3162

Emerging Challenges

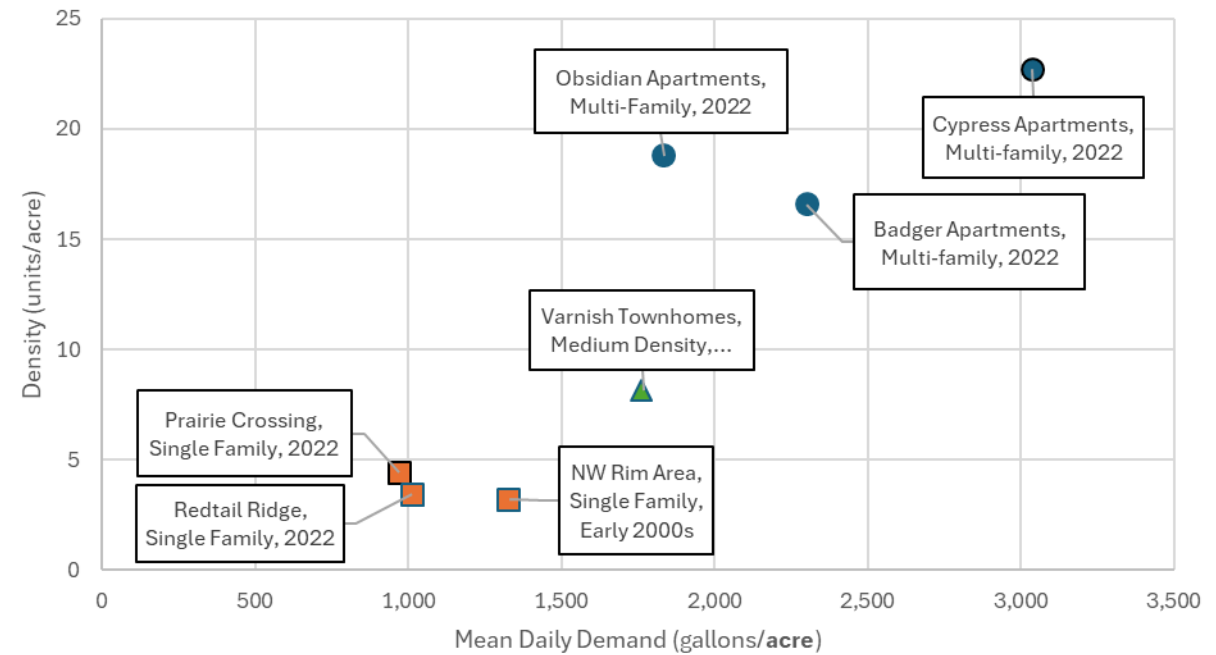
- Proposed New Groundwater Allocation Rules – Basin Program ‘Off Ramp’ requires consideration of:
 - Number of wells that may go dry
 - Character and function of springs and groundwater dependent ecosystems
- **How does this discussion relate to collaborative work already underway in the basin?**

Increased Density is Not a Panacea

Increased Density Means Lower Water Use *Per Capita*...

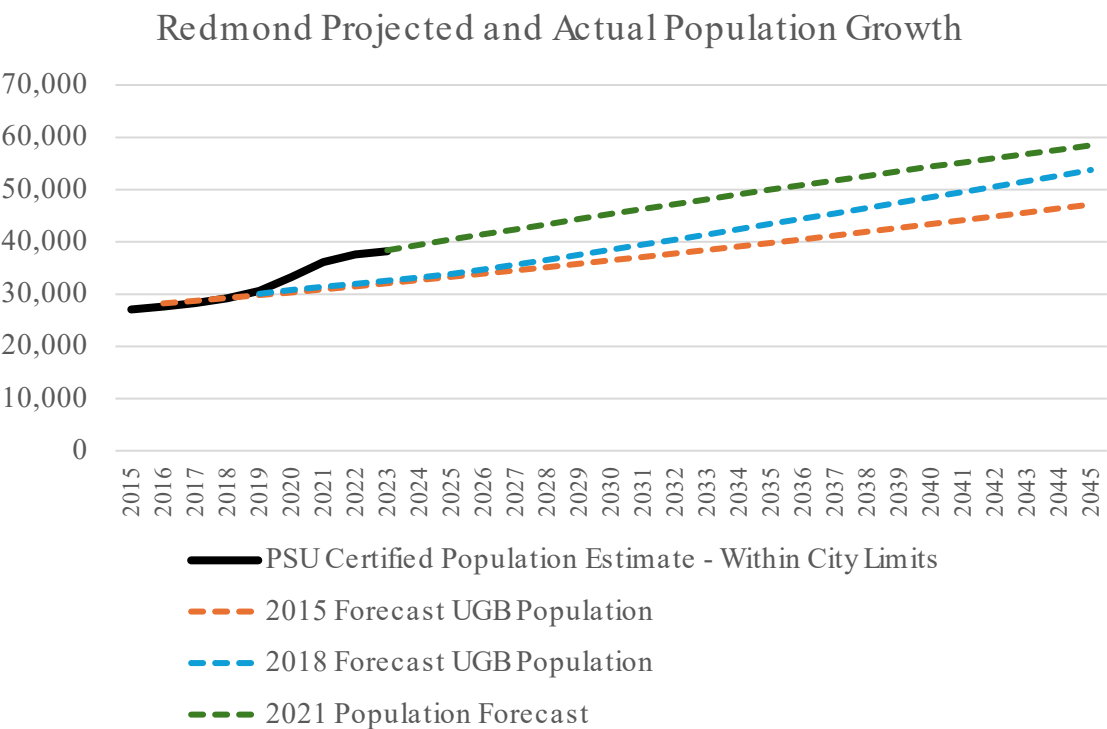


...But Increased Density Means Higher Water Use *Per Acre*



Population and Water Demand Growth

2023 Population within City Limits equal to Originally forecast 2033 UGB Population. Lots of housing demand to absorb with faster buildout.



	Total Annual Demand (MG)	Estimated Service Population	Gallons Per Capita Per Day (gpcd)
2014	2093.7	26,770	214
2023	2439.1	38,208	175
Annualized Growth Rate (%)	1.70%	5.08%	-2.90%

If You Build It, They Will Come

