



englishman river  
WATER SERVICE



REGIONAL  
DISTRICT  
OF NANAIMO

## ***Englishman River Program Status Update***

**Prepared For:  
Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Technical Advisory Committee  
February 14, 2012**

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AWS / ERWS Program Manager

# Program Status

- April 2011, completed Phase 1 Planning Study

## The Study Objectives:

- Review prior work and determine future water supply needs for the AWS communities
- Determine the site and development concept for a new intake and water treatment plant on the Englishman River
- Determine how the surface water (also termed bulk water) and groundwater resources can best be managed over the next 40 years

# The Study Activities

- Population Growth Trends
- Water Demands
- Groundwater Management
- Water Intake and Treatment Plant Locations
- Water Supply Infrastructure
- Water Supply Strategic Plan

*Fourteen discussion papers. Draft Summary Report was issued December 2010. Final report issued April 26, 2011*

[www.arrowsmithwaterservice.ca](http://www.arrowsmithwaterservice.ca)

# Planning Study Conclusions:

## Conclusion 1:

Climate changes will lead to more extreme events – both drought conditions and flood events.



*During extreme drought conditions, there may be insufficient water in the Englishman River to meet current fisheries release and domestic water license extraction quantities.*

# Planning Study Conclusions:

## Conclusion 2:

Water supply over the next 40 years will be a combination of groundwater supply and surface water supply from the Englishman River.

- Existing groundwater wells will continue to be operated. Any increased usage will be managed to not exceed sustainable aquifer yield
- By 2050, about 50% of the overall annual water supply will come from the Englishman River

# Planning Study Conclusions:

## Conclusion 3:

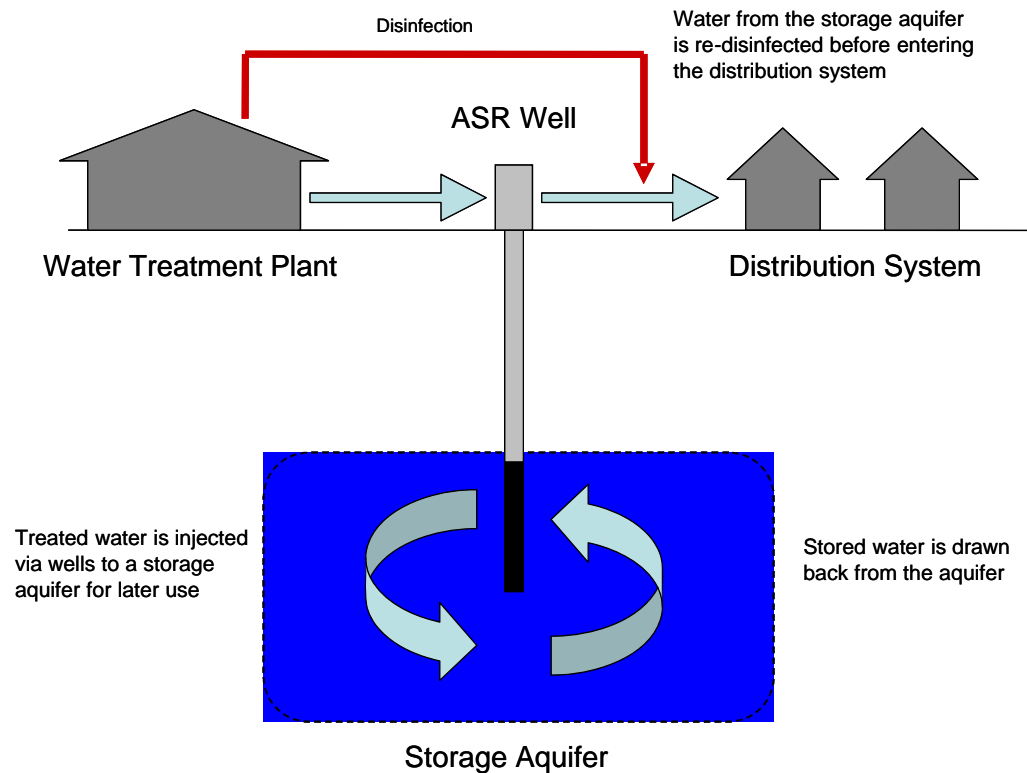
Service areas will require differing quantities of bulk water at different times over the 40 years.

<b>Service Area</b>	<b>When is Bulk Water Needed?</b>	<b>Projected Need in 2050</b>
City of Parksville	2016	54%
RDN Nanoose	2016	22%
RDN French Ck	Timing is to be determined	18%
Town of Qualicum Beach	About 2030-2040	6%

# Planning Study Conclusions:

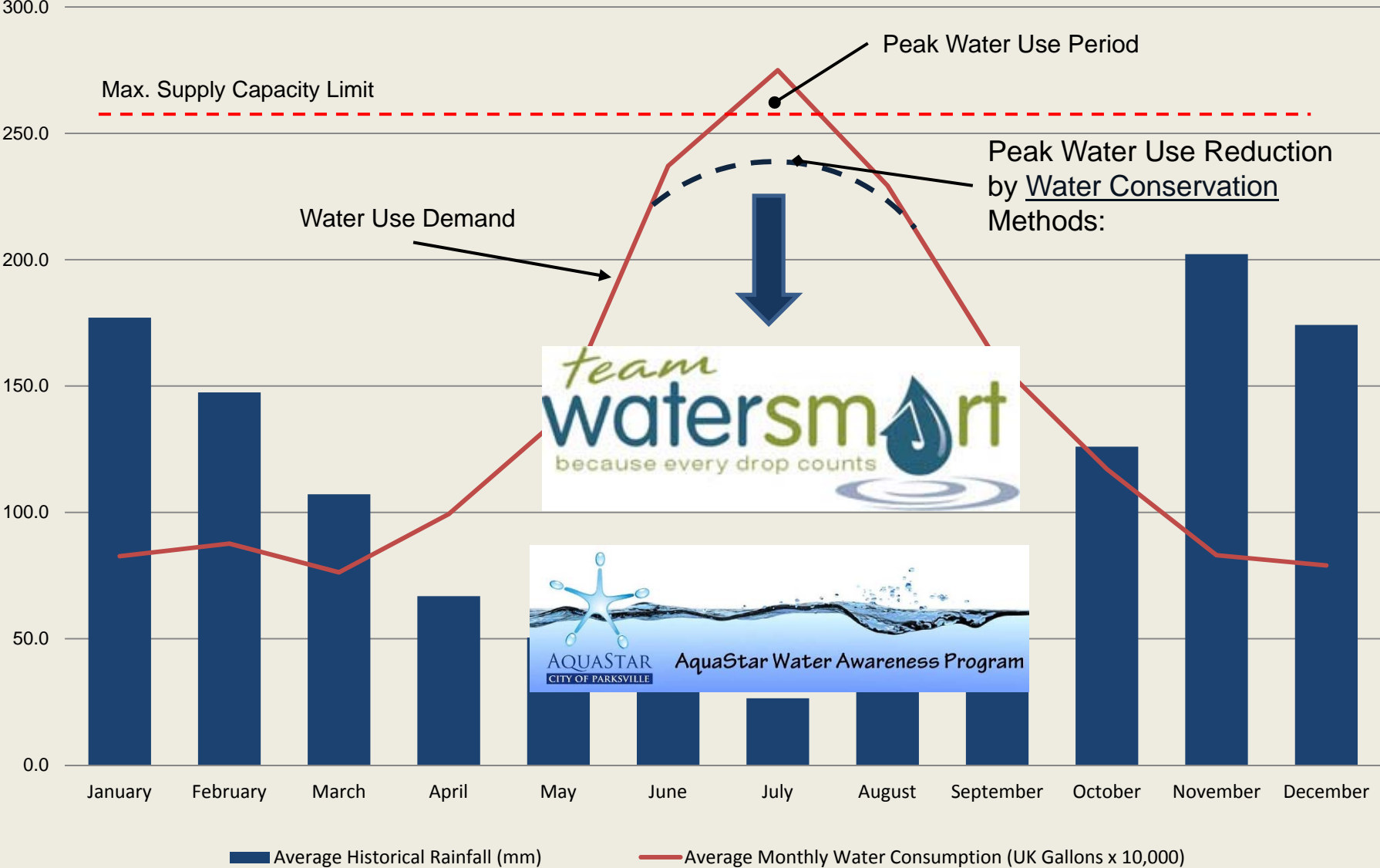
## Conclusion 4:

Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) could play a major role as a “third water source”.



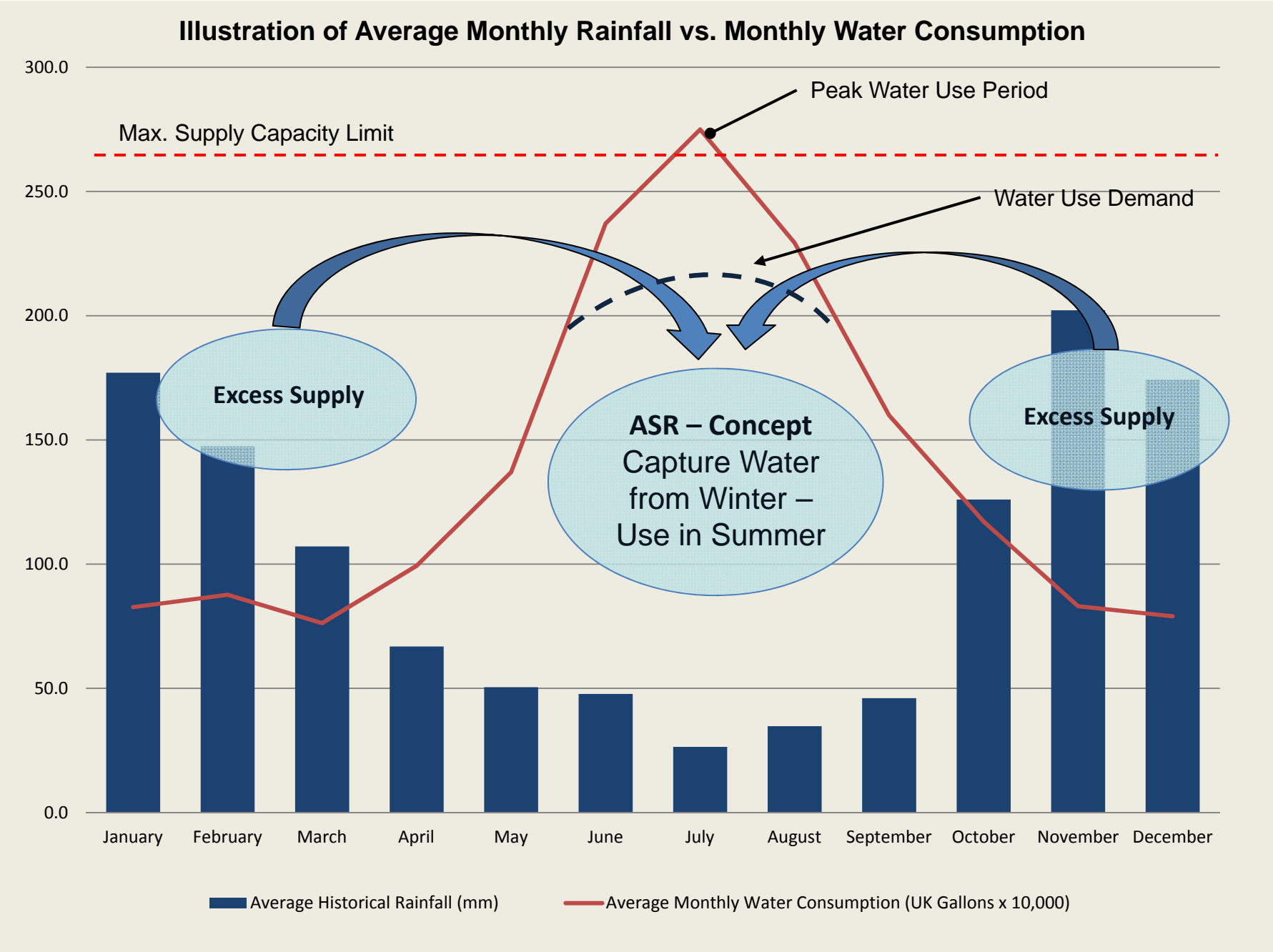
# Advantages of ASR.....

**Illustration of Average Monthly Rainfall vs. Monthly Water Consumption**

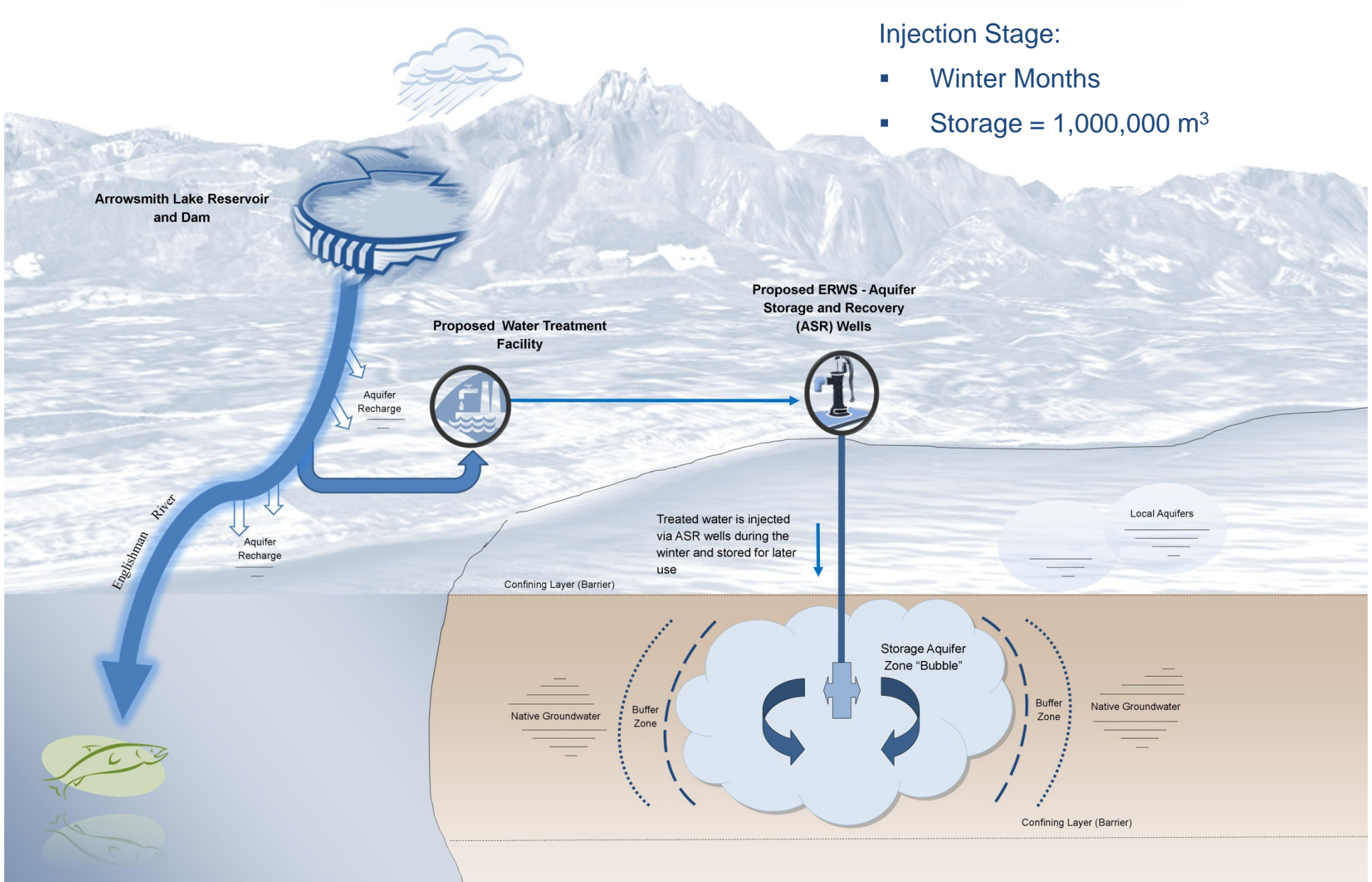




# Advantages of ASR.....



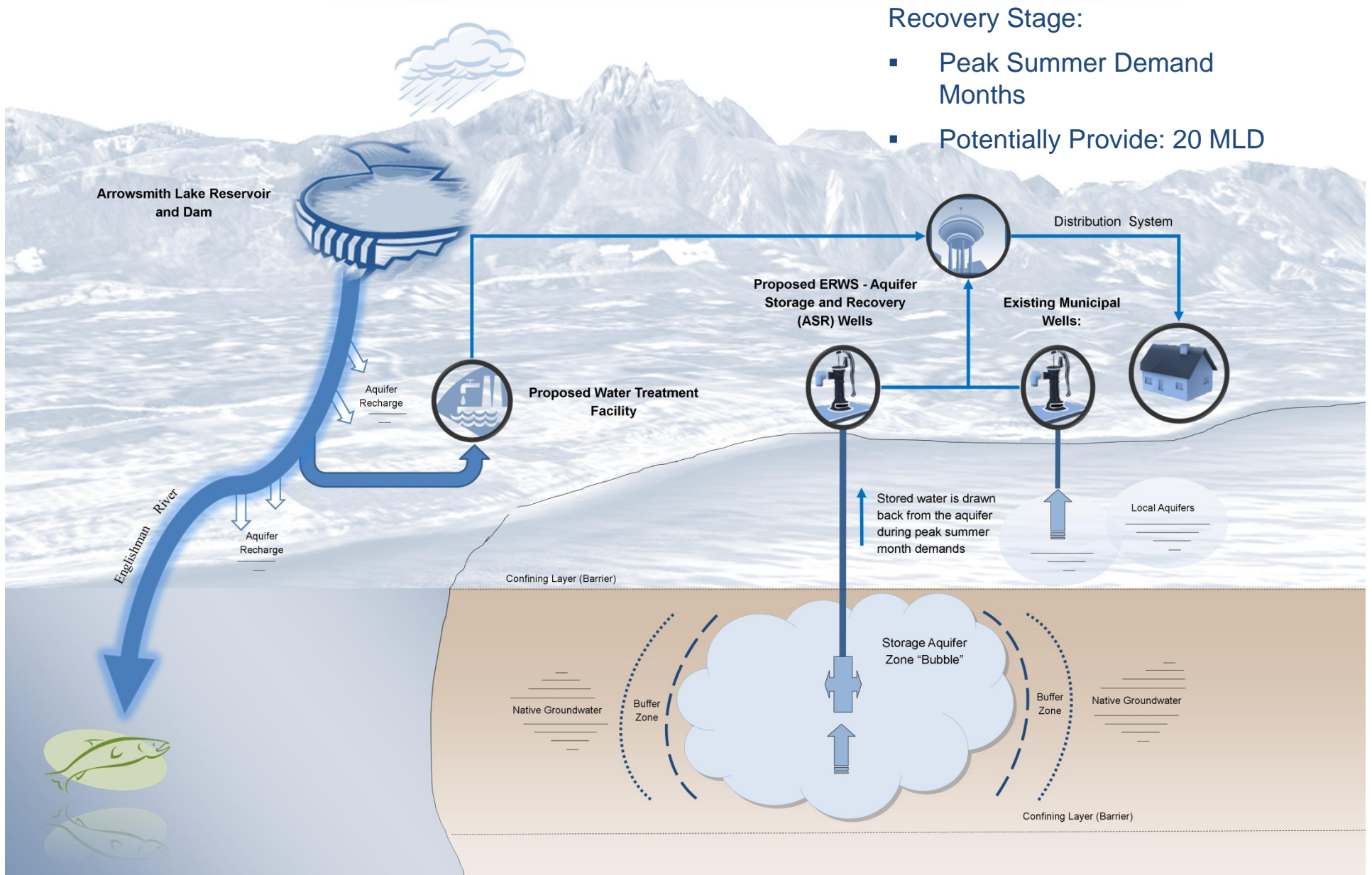
- Aquifer Storage Recovery (ASR)..how it works



Injection Stage:

- Winter Months
- Storage = 1,000,000 m<sup>3</sup>

- Aquifer Storage Recovery (ASR).....how it works



Recovery Stage:

- Peak Summer Demand Months
- Potentially Provide: 20 MLD

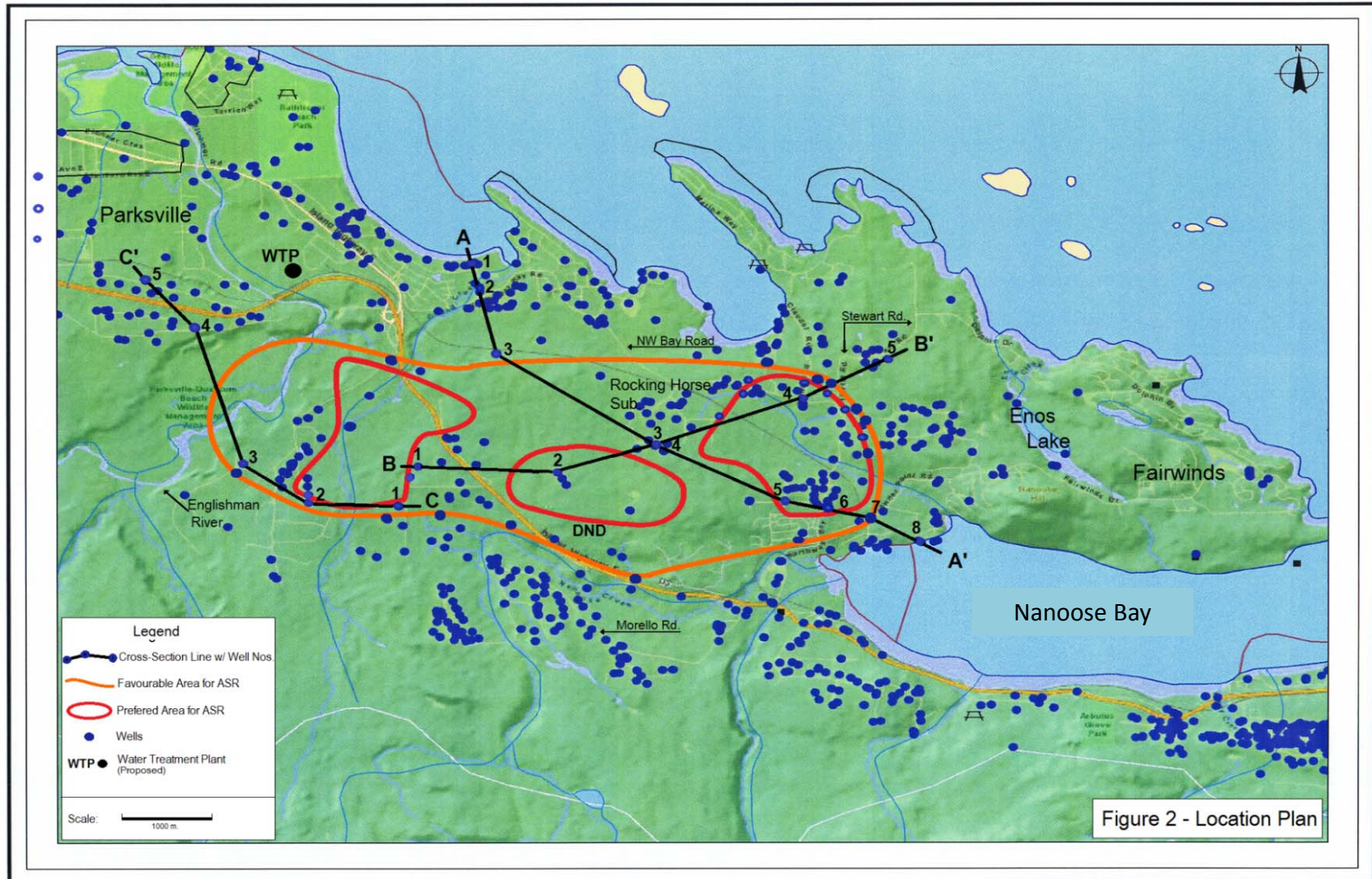
## ■ Aquifer Storage Recovery (ASR)

- All 13 Aquifers within the region were analyzed and rated.
- Aquifer No. 219 Nanoose Creek was the top rated aquifer in the region.

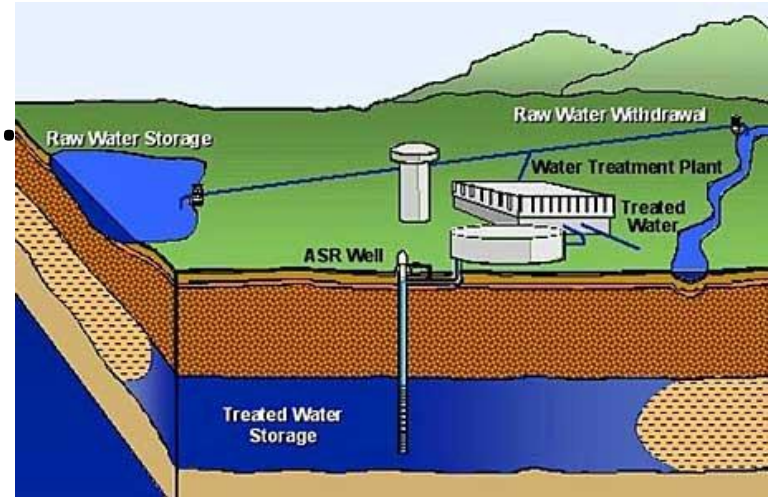
Aquifer Number	Aquifer Location / Name	Confinement	Water Quality	Depth	Hydraulic Gradient	Depth to Water	Transmissivity	Storage	Multi-Layer	WTP * Large Pipes Distance	End of System Location	Development	Total Scores
664	Little Qualicum River	0	10	0	5	0	10	0	0	0	10	5	40
663	Upper Whiskey Creek	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	0	0	5	10	30
217	Qualicum	5	5	5	10	5	10	5	0	0	10	10	65
212	Parksville	10	10	5	5	5	0	0	0	5	0	5	45
216	Parksville	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	0	10	0	5	50
220	Errington	10	5	10	5	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	35
209	Errington	10	10	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	35
<b>219</b>	<b>Nanoose Creek</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>
221	Parksville	5	10	0	10	0	5	0	0	5	0	10	45
214	Madrona Point	5	5	5	10	0	0	0	0	10	5	10	50
218	Nanoose Hill	5	10	10	5	0	0	0	0	0	10	10	50
210	Nanoose Bay	5	10	10	5	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	40
213	Lantzville	5	0	10	0	5	0	5	0	0	10	10	45
* WTP - Water Treatment Plant													

## ■ Aquifer Storage Recovery (ASR)

- Further investigation is required to determine if the concept of ASR is feasible and that a confined aquifer is available



# Advantages of ASR.....



## Aquifer Storage Recovery (ASR)

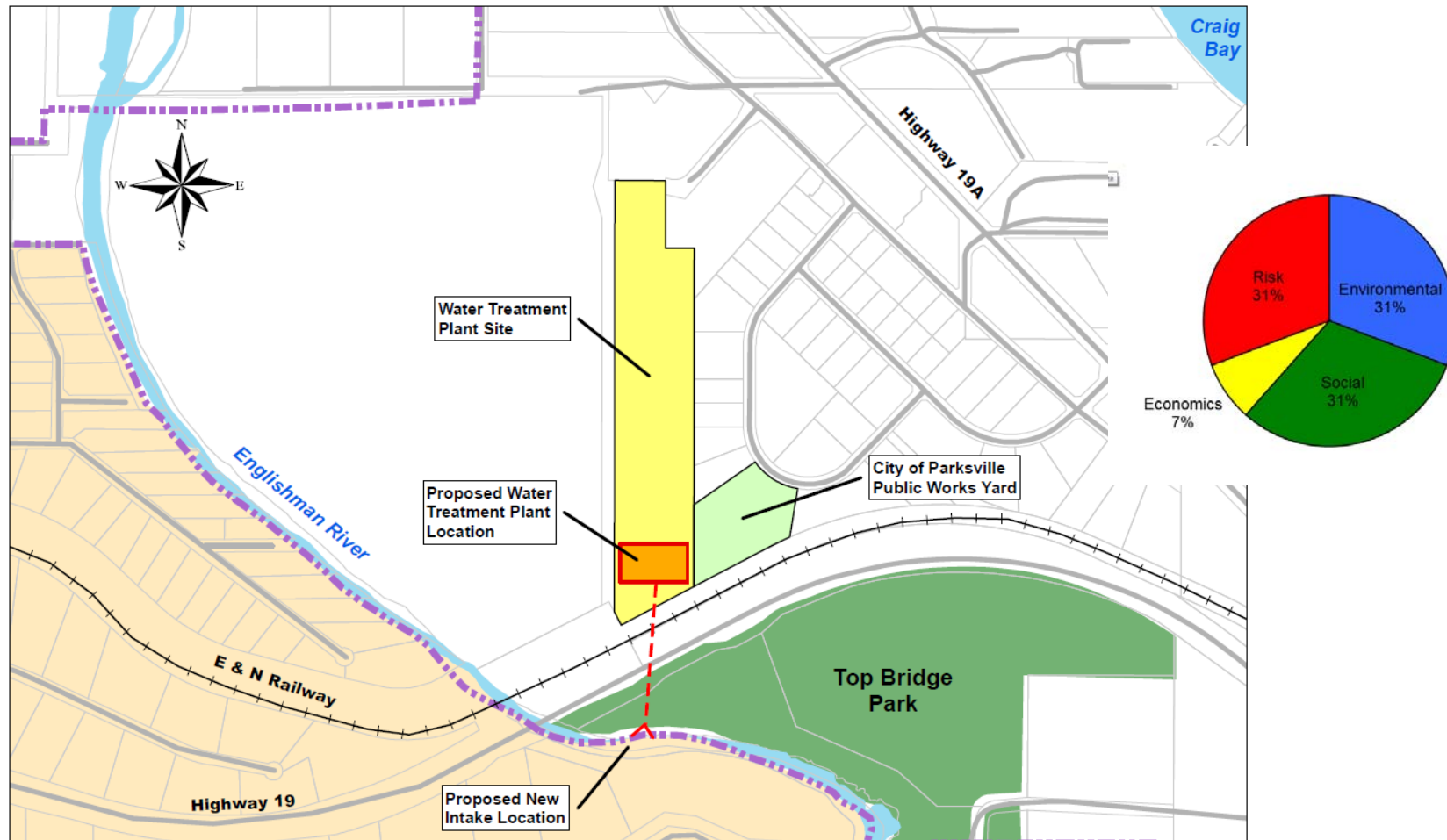
- Third Source of Water Supply
- Reduce Water Treatment Plant size
- Allows a balanced water supply
- Provides cooler water to consumers in the summer months
- More feasible than conventional above ground potable water storage
- Allows treated water from the winter months to be stored for use in the summer
- Less Surface Water Use during Peak Summer Demands - up to 50 % (Environmental – more water available for fish)
- Existing Aquifer Benefits  
(groundwater improvements through displacement of native groundwater, may also prevent influx of seawater)
- Defer or Reduce Infrastructure Expansion

## ASR Challenges:

- Uncertainties, require thorough engineering review and well drilling, piloting and investigation (up front engineering costs)
- Currently no groundwater regulation – Water Act.
- Health Authority regulations / approvals – first in BC

# Planning Study Conclusions:

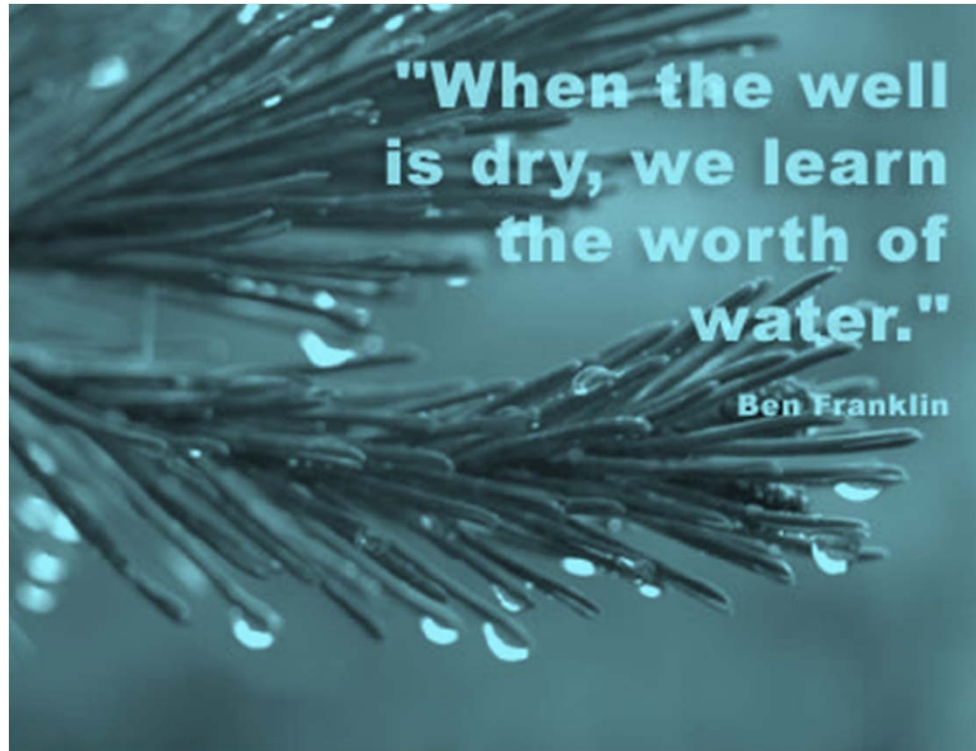
## Conclusion 5:



Proposed Water Treatment Plant



## Why are we planning for future water supply ?



Proactive Sustainable Approach, knowing that.....

*Drinking water is the public's biggest natural resource and ensures our best security for the future.*

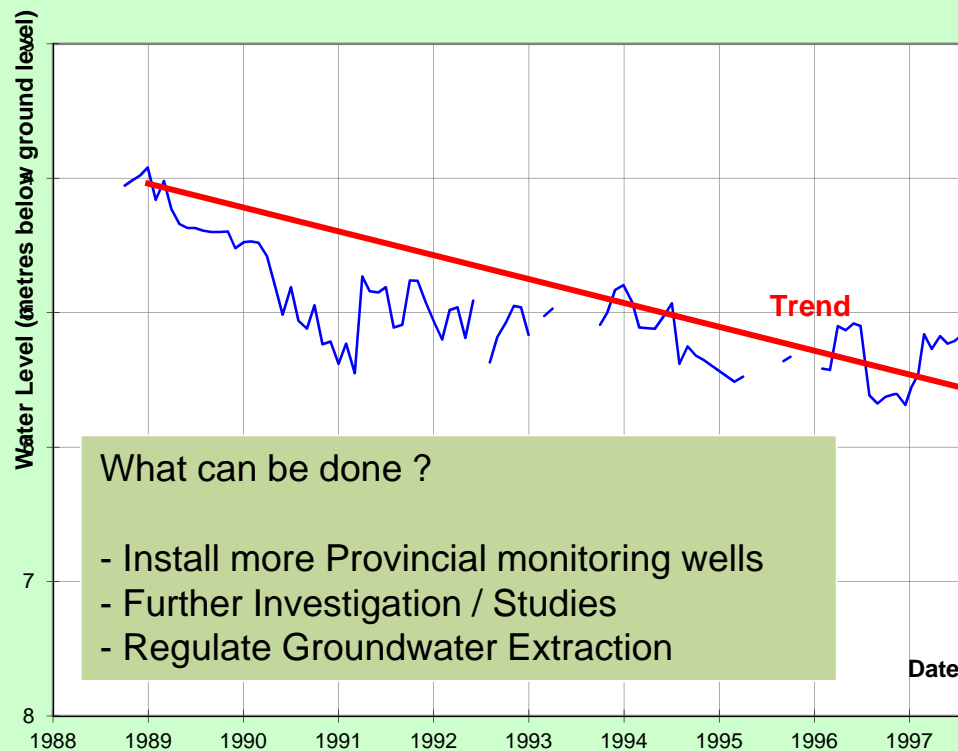


# Why do we need a New Intake ?

## ■ Declining Aquifer Levels (Parksville)

Hydrograph of Observation Well No. 304 Springwood Well, Parksville

Note: This information is from only one observation well located in the Parksville aquifer. The AWS service area region consists of 13 individual aquifers.



What can be done ?

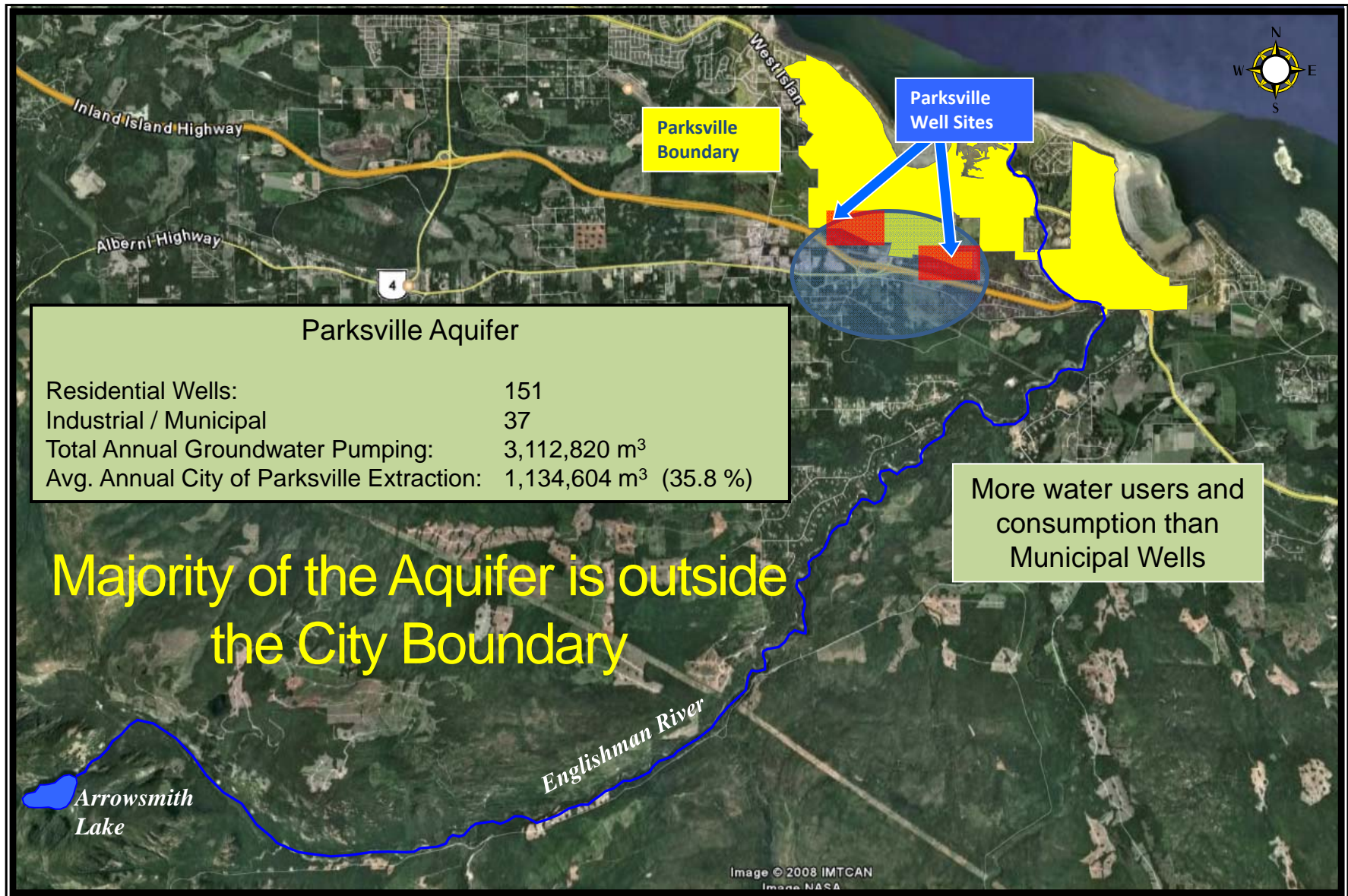
- Install more Provincial monitoring wells
- Further Investigation / Studies
- Regulate Groundwater Extraction



What has changed?

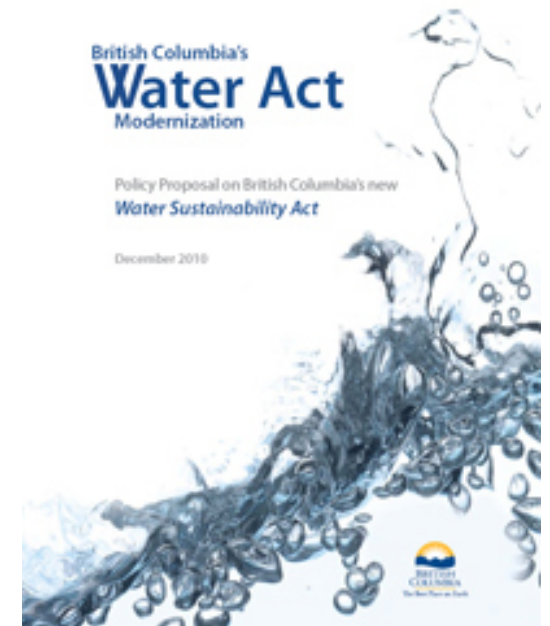
- Provincial Highway (Hwy 19)
- Development
- Private Water System (more wells)
- Climate

# Why do we need Water Treatment and a New Intake ?



# Why do we need a New Intake ?

- No Formal Control over Aquifer Area
  - The Current Water Act does not regulate groundwater extraction
  - The Province Considers our area at High Risk for Quality
  - The Majority of the Aquifer re-charge area is Outside City Boundaries
  - Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm Act) ?
  - Water Act is Being Modernized (.....2012) to :
    - Protect In-Stream Flows (Water License)
    - Regulate Groundwater Use
    - Require more Efficient Use of Water

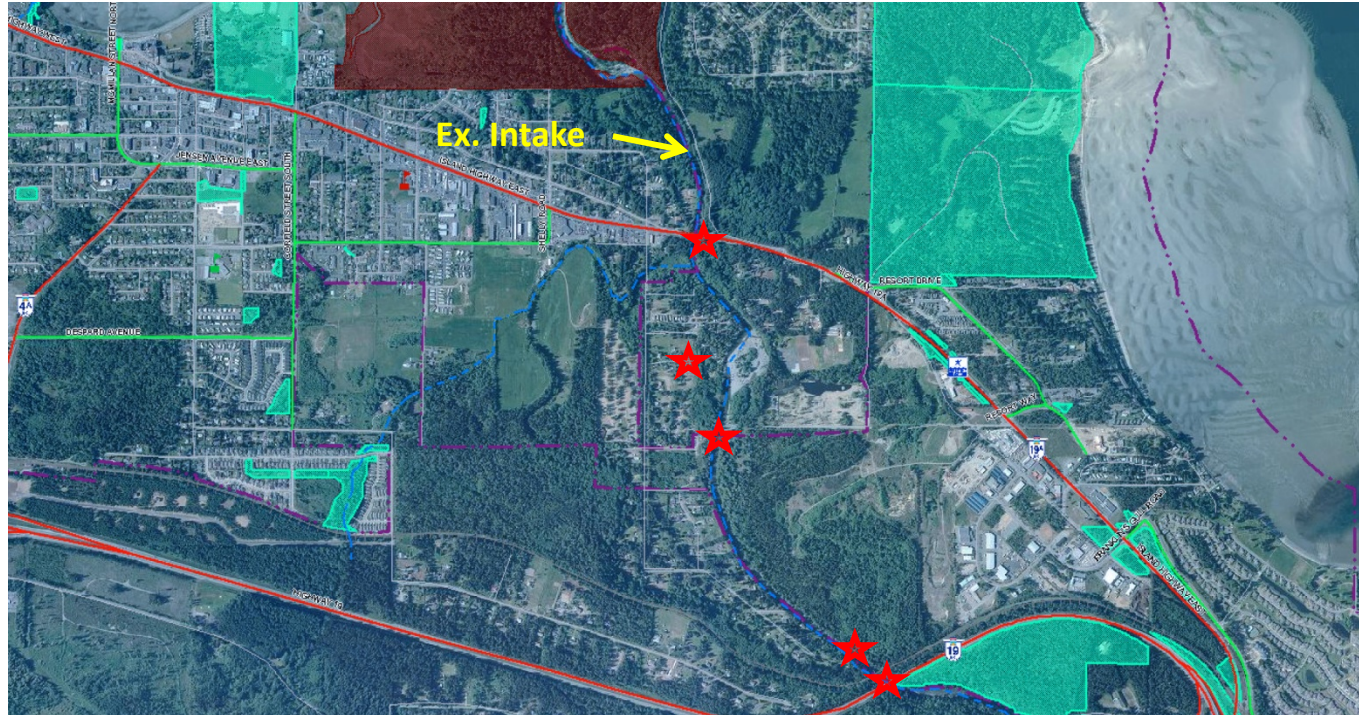


# Why do we need a New Intake ?

## Existing / Interim Intake Location

Location (risk of contamination):

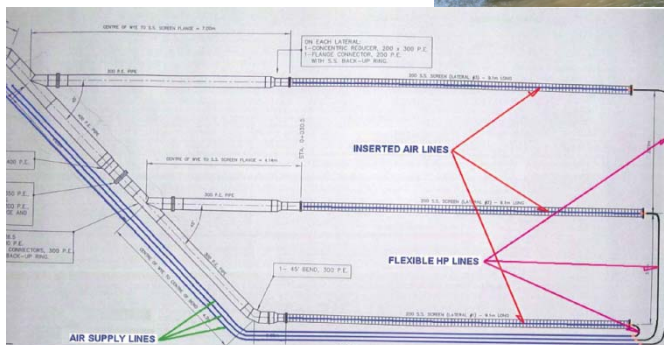
- ★ Below two Highways.....fuel spill
- ★ Below one Railway / Septic Fields / Oil Tanks
- ★ Below Flood Plain Area
- ★ Below Sanitary Sewer Crossing



# Why do we need a New Intake ?

## Deficiencies in current Parksville water intake (Three Horizontal Well Screens)

- Becoming increasingly difficult to operate due to the age of the existing infrastructure and the current location being adjacent to a single family residential neighbourhood.
- Only two of the three infiltration gallery legs are operational
- The intake gallery is under the Englishman River gravel bed and current maintenance procedures implicate fish habitat
- In flood plain and therefore becomes inaccessible during flood events
- Type of intake does not lend itself for future expansion



# Why do we need Water Treatment and a New Intake ?

- Climate Change

- Indication of more extreme events (wetter) and drier summers – both drought and flood events
- Sea Level Rise – will it make the existing intake tidal ?
- Salt Water intrusion into foreshore aquifers ?

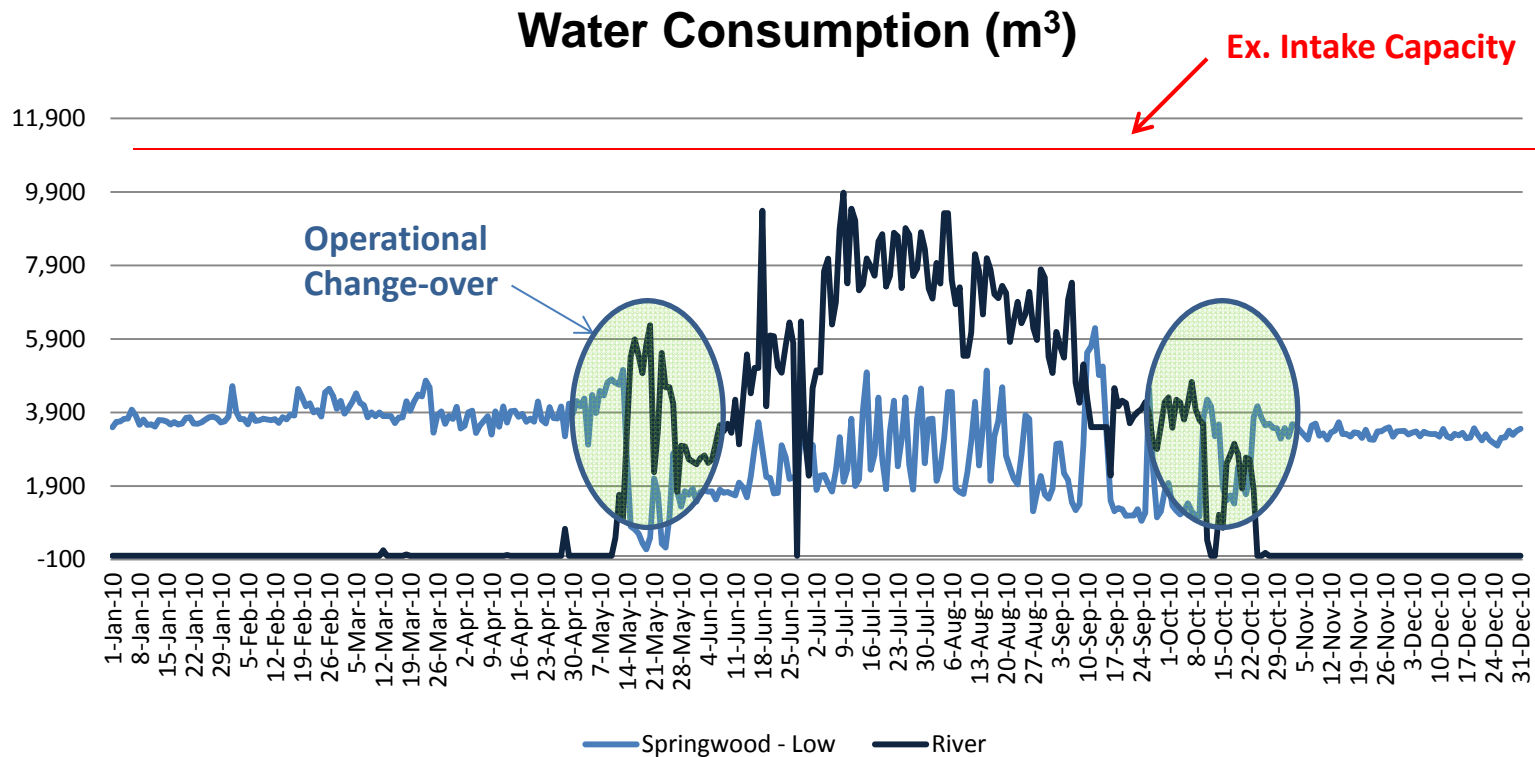


# Why do we need Water Treatment ?

- New VIHA Water System Operating Conditions



Our Operating Permit previously allowed us to extract water from the Englishman River below 5 NTU. This requirement has now changed to below 1 NTU. This has reduced the time that we can draw water from the Englishman River and therefore need to take from the wells.



Condition 6.

**To be constructed by December 31, 2016**

In accordance with VIHA 4321 treatment policy for the Englishman River water source, provide finished water quality using technology that will achieve the following performance standard; a 4-log removal/inactivation of viruses, a 3-log removal/inactivation of Giardia cysts and Cryptosporidium oocysts, provide two treatment processes and produce finished water with less than 1 NTU turbidity.

In consultation with, and in reference to the City of Parksville letter dated February 4, 2009 (Your file 5600-10-AWS), the City of Parksville is required to meet the following implementation plan:

May, 2009: Obtain the services of a professional engineering firm to develop a conceptual plan and preliminary design for a water intake and treatment facility.

November, 2010: Conceptual plan and preliminary design is completed.

December, 2013: Detailed design of the new intake and treatment facility is completed.

January, 2015: Construction for the water intake and treatment facility commences with completion scheduled for **December 31, 2016.**

Date:

April 24, 2009

B. W. Weirall



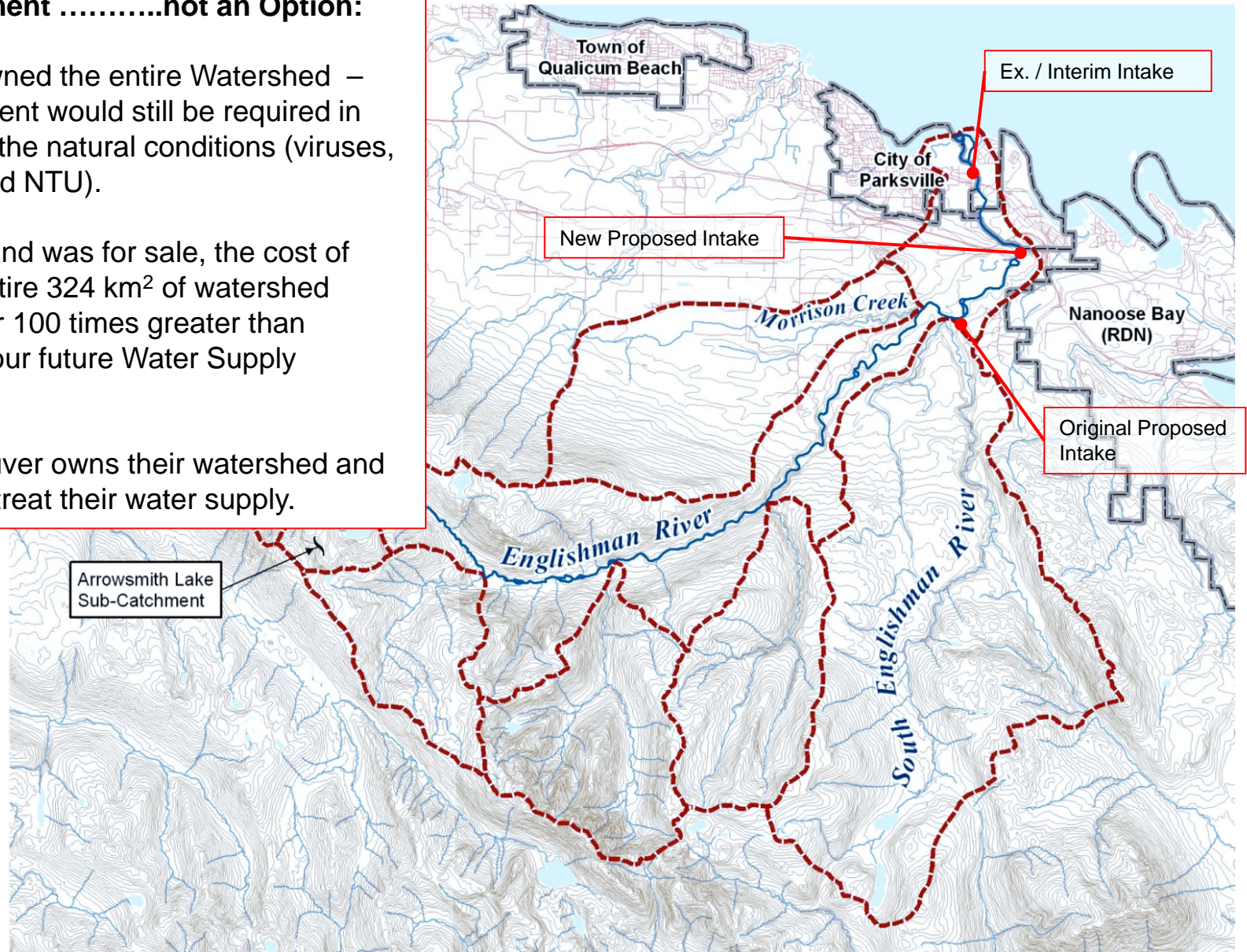
# Why do we need Water Treatment ?

## Water Treatment .....not an Option:

Even if we owned the entire Watershed – Water Treatment would still be required in order to treat the natural conditions (viruses, pathogens and NTU).

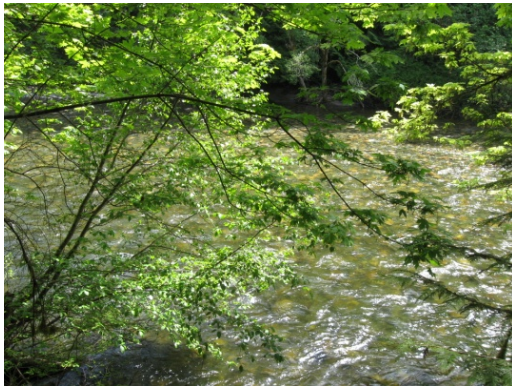
Given if the land was for sale, the cost of buying the entire 324 km<sup>2</sup> of watershed would be over 100 times greater than constructing our future Water Supply upgrades.

Metro Vancouver owns their watershed and still needs to treat their water supply.



# Program Status

- AWS / ERWS governance Models complete – executed on July 1, 2011
- Financial Budgets (Current Year & Five Year Plan)
- ASR Grant Application (UBCM Innovative Fund – GAS Tax Rebate) 1.3 Million (Phase 2 investigation)
- Water Quality Analysis – Year Program, started in September 2011



## Daily:

- Temperature
- NTU
- True Colour
- PH
- Conductivity
- UVT
- DOC / TOC



## Monthly:

- Full Spectrum Analysis

## Quarterly:

- THM & HAA (disinfection by-products)

# Water Treatment Property

- Property Purchased: June 2011
- WTP Property Work – Community Work Program with Corrections BC
- Interim use for Training: Backhoe Certification & Trench Shoring



# Engineering – Next Phases

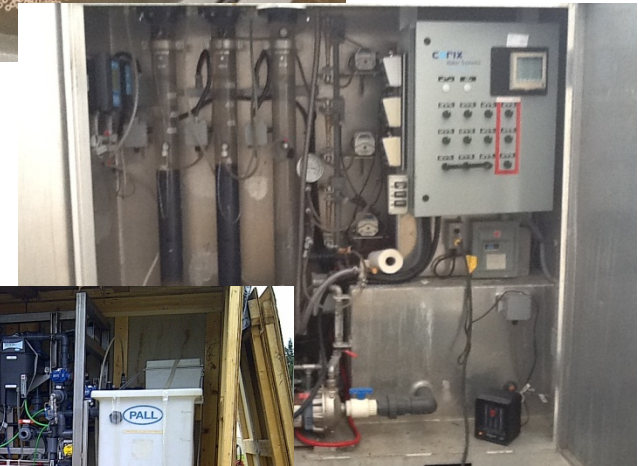
Water Treatment Plant – Pilot Testing, Fall 2011 to March 2012

Capture extreme winter events in an effort to determine the best treatment option for the Englishman River source water.

- Conventional Treatment
- Membrane Treatment

Establish:

- Future Capital & Operating Costs
- Optimal Treatment Process for the E.R. source water



# ASR - Investigation

## Phase 2 Works Program:

- Geology / Hydrogeology Field Work
- GPS Elevations
- Bedrock Geology Review
- Geologic Cross Sections
- Site Selection
- Exploration Drill Site Selection / Observation Wells
- Environmental Considerations
- Well Drilling / Pump Testing
- Prepare ASR Feasibility Report

### Legend

#### Owners

- CROWN FEDERAL
- CROWN PROVINCIAL
- NANAIMO (REGIONAL DIST)
- PARKSVILLE (CITY)
- BLANK
- ASRFavourable
- ASRPreferred

1 0.5 0 1  
Kilometers



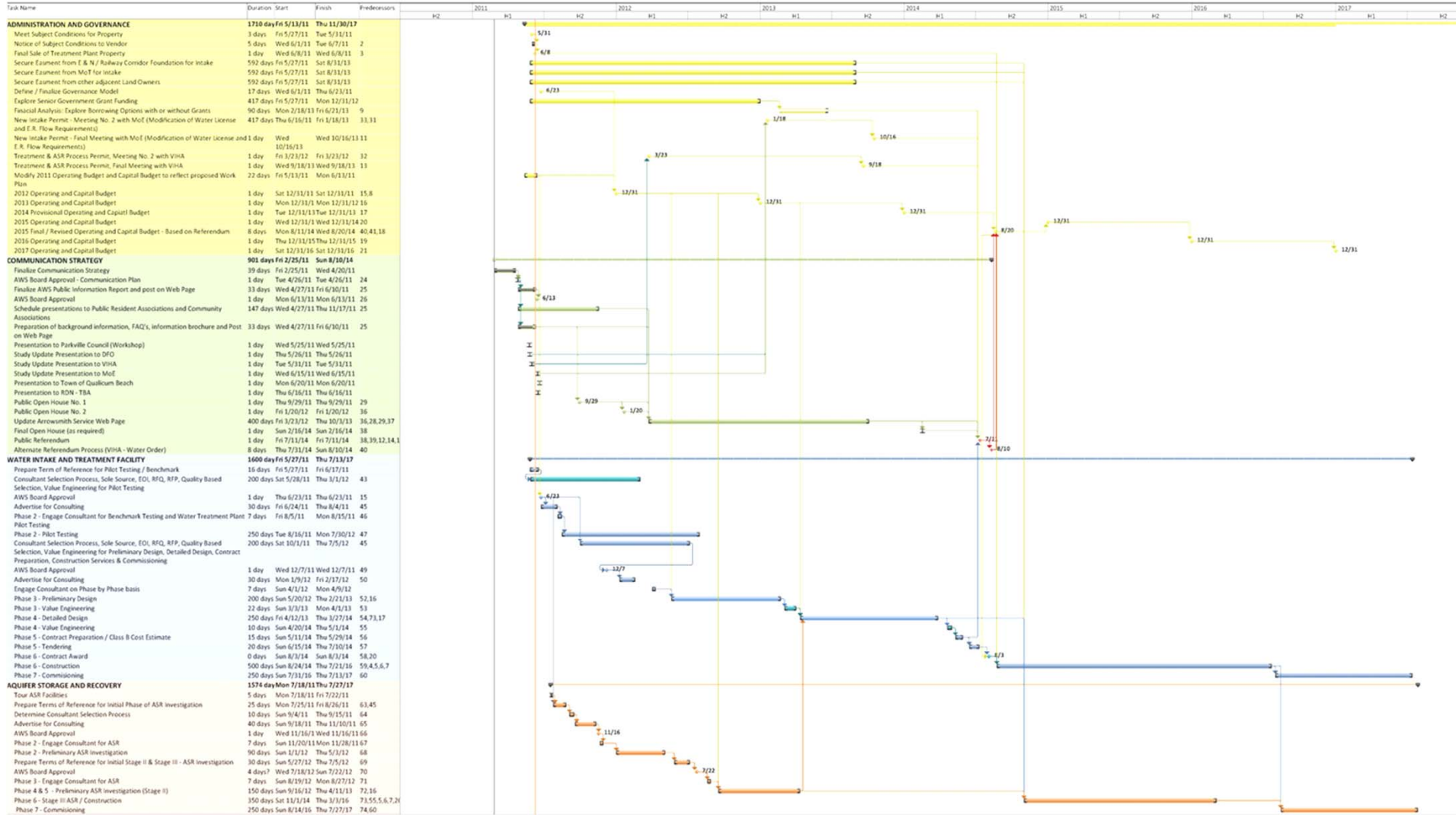


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# AWS – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (CRITICAL PATH)



AWS - Implementation Plan



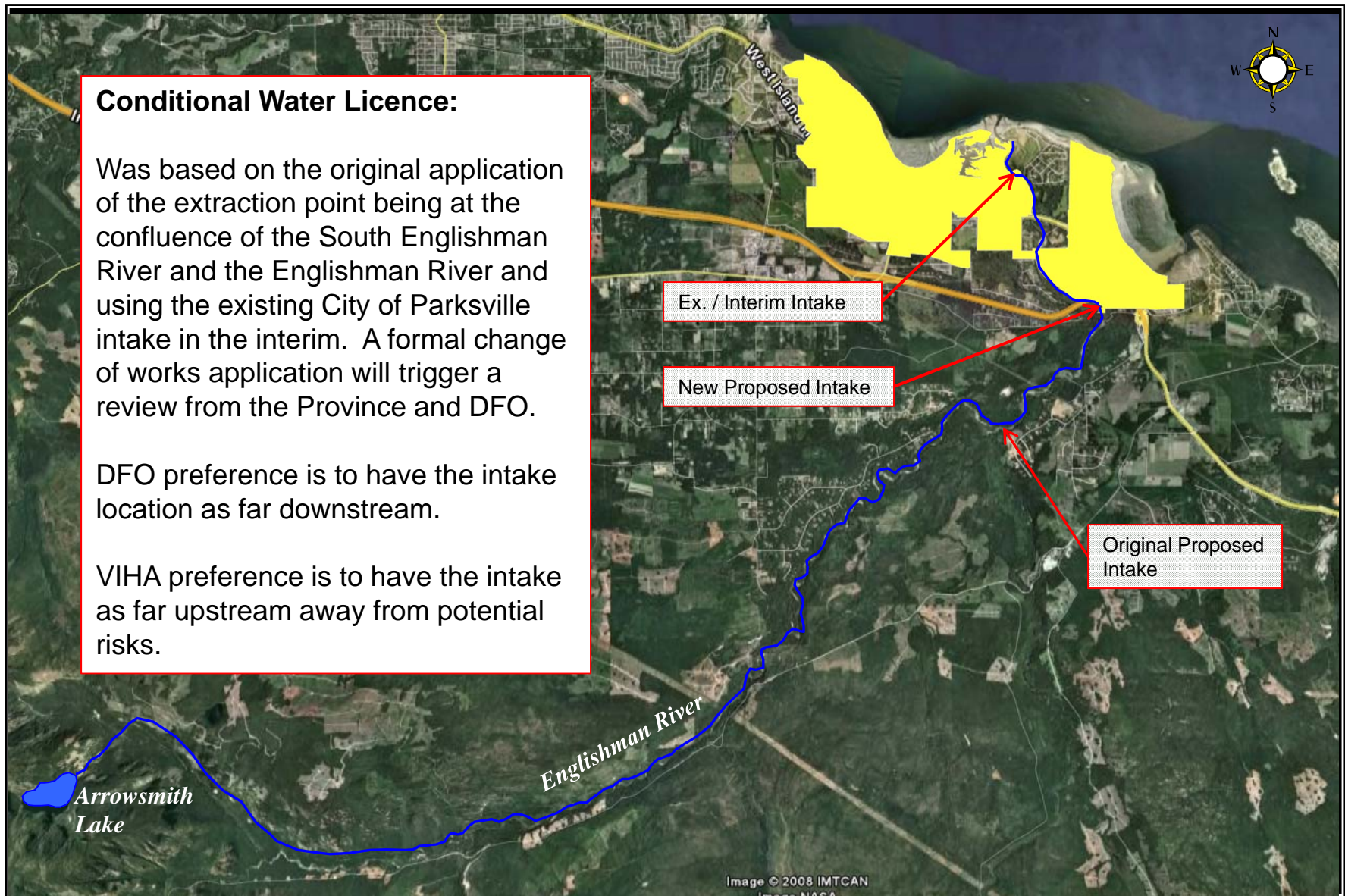
# Change of Works Application

## Conditional Water Licence:

Was based on the original application of the extraction point being at the confluence of the South Englishman River and the Englishman River and using the existing City of Parksville intake in the interim. A formal change of works application will trigger a review from the Province and DFO.

DFO preference is to have the intake location as far downstream.

VIHA preference is to have the intake as far upstream away from potential risks.





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## ***Englishman River Program Status Update***

***THANK YOU....***

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