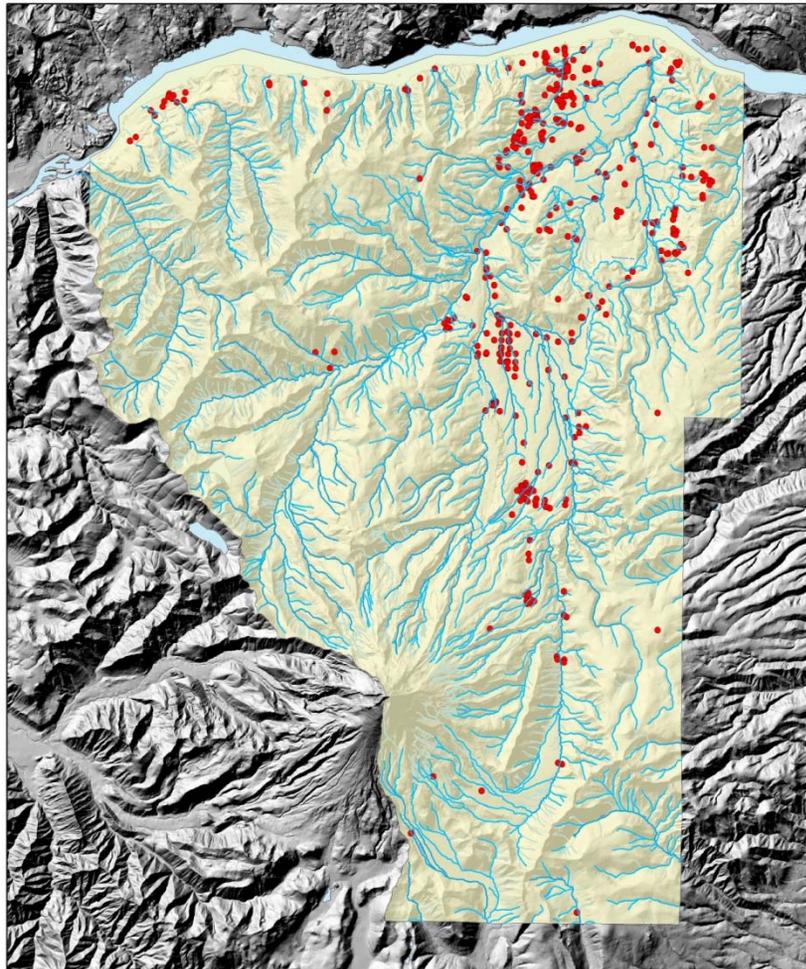


Establishing a Well Monitoring Program in Hood River County

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Background



Wells in Hood River County

0 2.5 5 7.5 10 Miles



- Currently there are 450 registered wells in HRC.
- Approximately 80 percent of those wells are domestic and the remaining 20 percent are industrial, agricultural, or other uses.
- OWRD currently monitors groundwater levels in 14 wells across the County.



Why does HRC need a well monitoring program?

- Besides Cascade Locks, other communities of HRC rely solely on spring or surface water.
- As a result, little data has been collected to determine the available groundwater resources in the basin.
- Enhancing an understanding of the groundwater resources will improve the County's ability to plan for any future water resources crisis.
- More data will also help facilitate sustainable development of these resources in the future for agriculture, industrial, domestic, or in-stream purposes.



Well Selection Criteria

- Wells selected uniformly across basin to represent changes in geology.
- Focus on wells completed within the last 10 to 15 years to facilitate ease of monitoring.
- Wells selected to represent a range of different kinds of aquifers (alluvium, CRB, volcanics, ect...)
- Wells selected to represent recharge (uplands) and discharge areas (springs and surface water).



Next Steps...

- Select 200 wells for monitoring using the criteria described on previous slide.
- Mail letter to well owners in mid-February describing the program and soliciting interest in participating. (ideally would like 80-100 wells)
- Add an additional 20 wells in March to the 14 wells OWRD currently monitors.
- Prepare a report in the coming months which would describe the feasibility of and steps required for developing a volunteer monitoring program.



Cooperation with Well Owners

- Cultivating a positive relationship with well owners is essential to the success of the monitoring program.
- Data collected from the program **would not** be used for any regulatory action or restrict any well owner's water rights.



Questions?

If you are a well owner and would like to participate,
please contact me:

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