

CALIFORNIA DREAMING

LEVERAGING WATER REUSE
INNOVATIONS INSPIRING PNW'S
SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

EVELYN CHOUDHARY & ANNIE SAUNDERS
WSP

MAY 3, 2024



Agenda

Water in the PNW, Washington State

Recycled Water

Tribes within Washington State

Case Study

Prediction of Future for Recycled Water in PNW



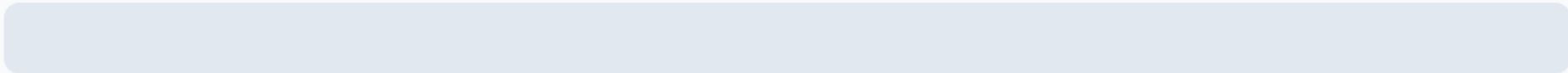


Water in the PNW

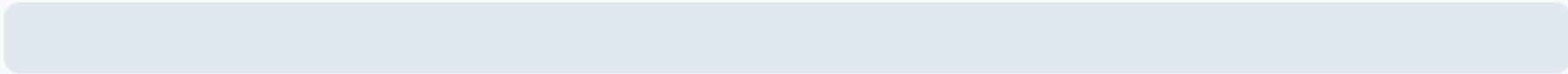
Question:
Which figure best reflects Washington State weather?



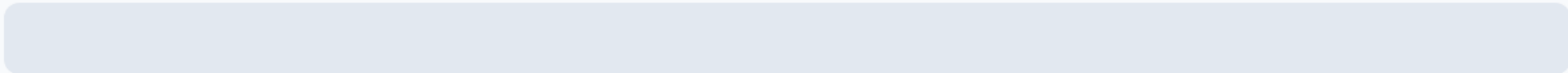
Which figure best reflects Washington State weather?



0%



0%



0%

Since January 1st, 2024 it has rained more in...

Seattle

Portland

Los Angeles

Since January 1st, 2024 it has rained more in...

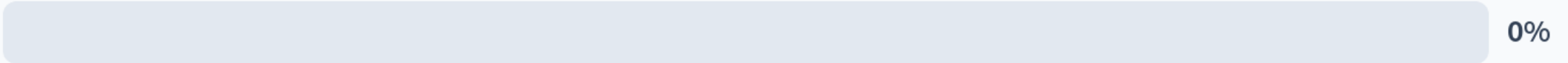
Seattle



Portland

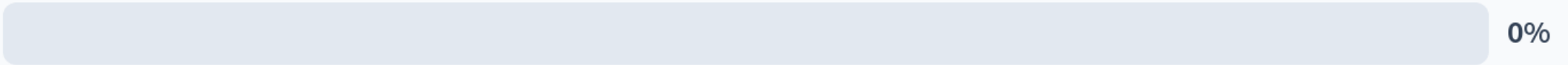


Los Angeles



Since January 1st, 2024 it has rained more in...

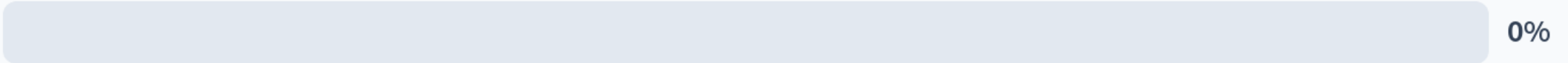
Seattle

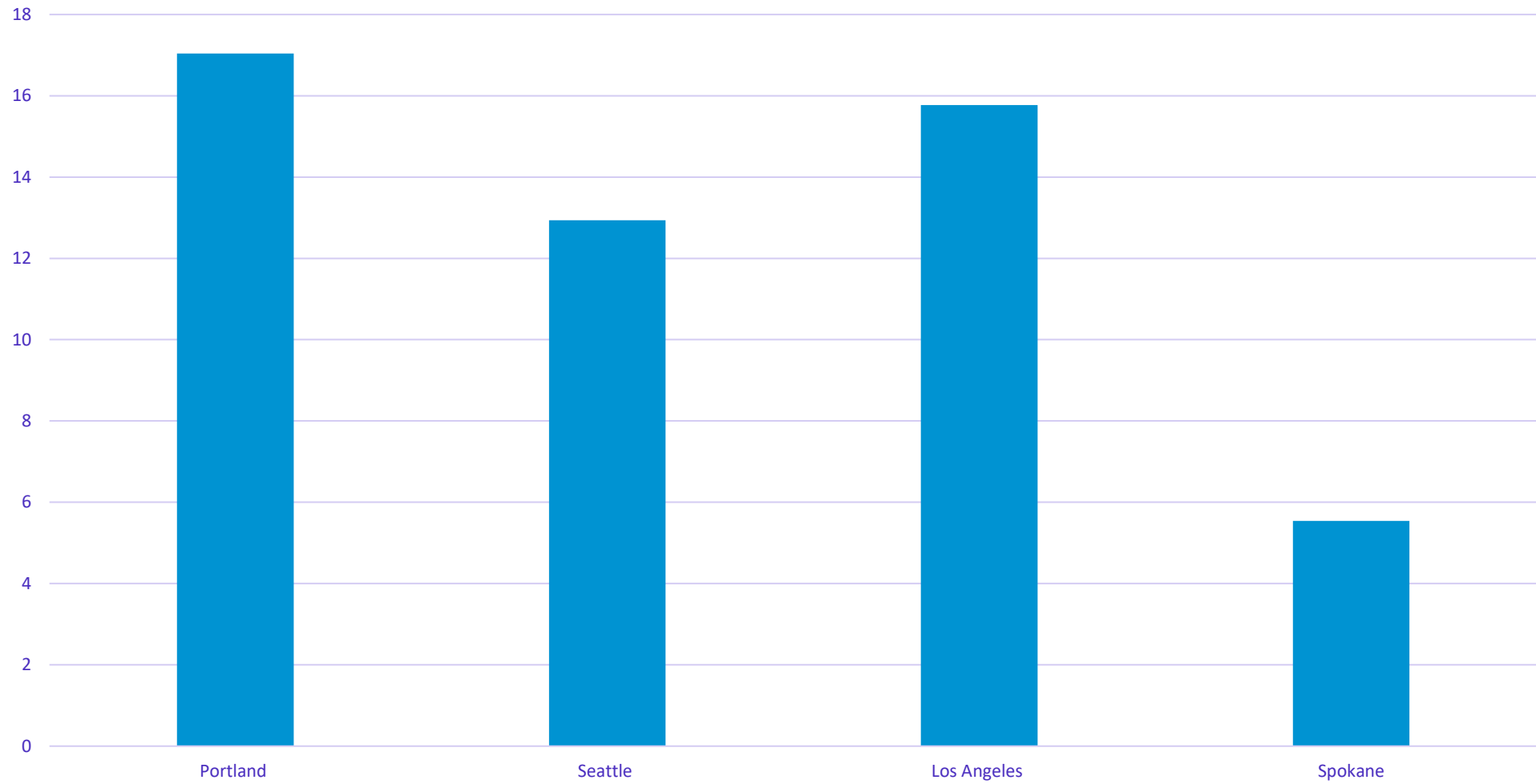


Portland



Los Angeles



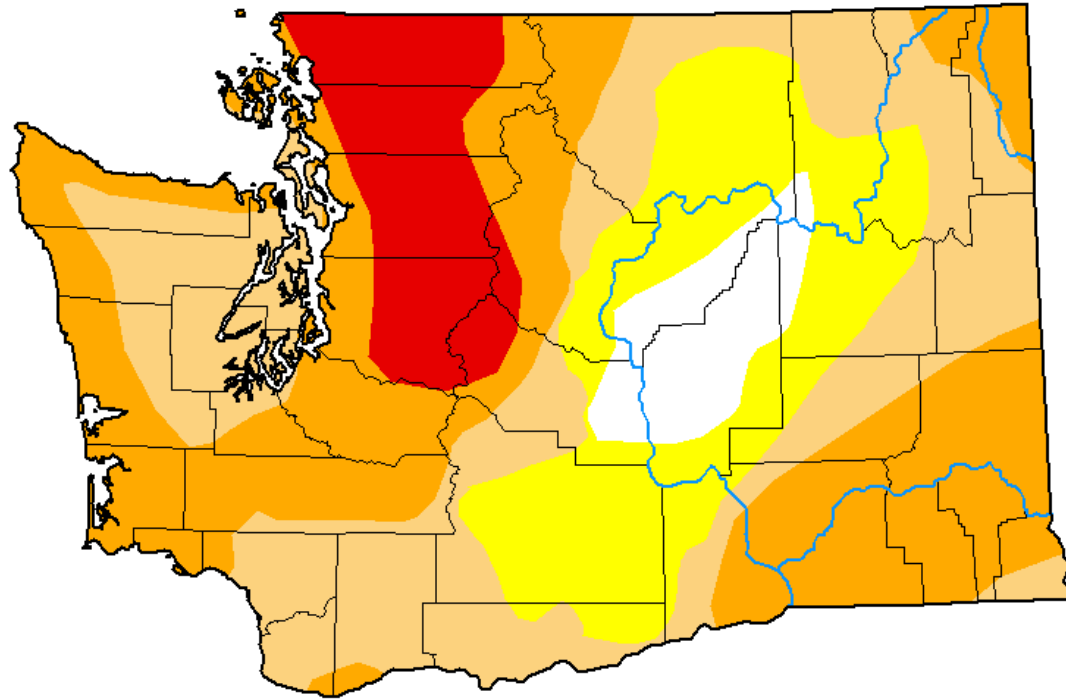


Mean Annual Precipitation (1991-2020)

Washington



2023 Drought Actual



Intensity

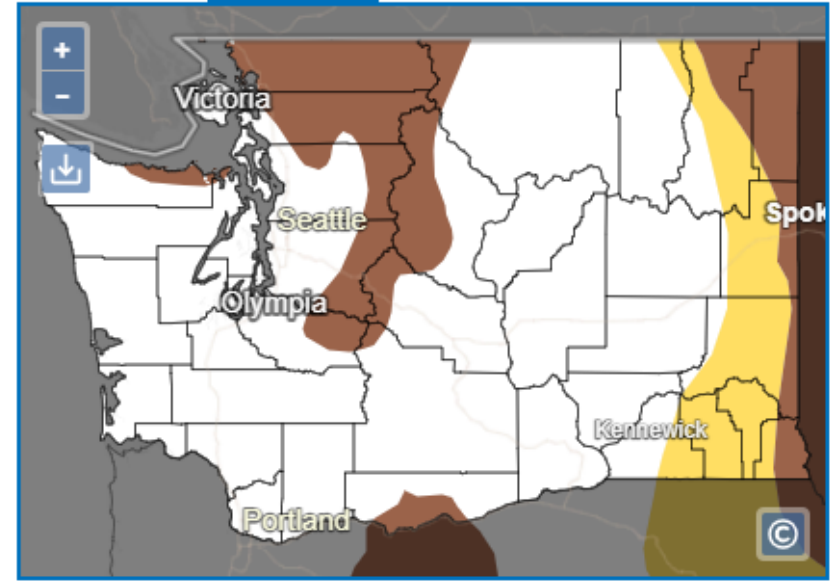
- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data

Source: <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?WA>

Drought Outlooks for Washington

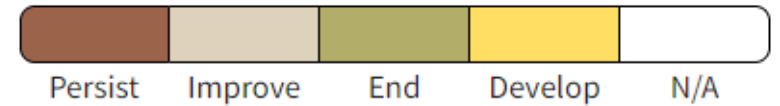
Monthly

Seasonal

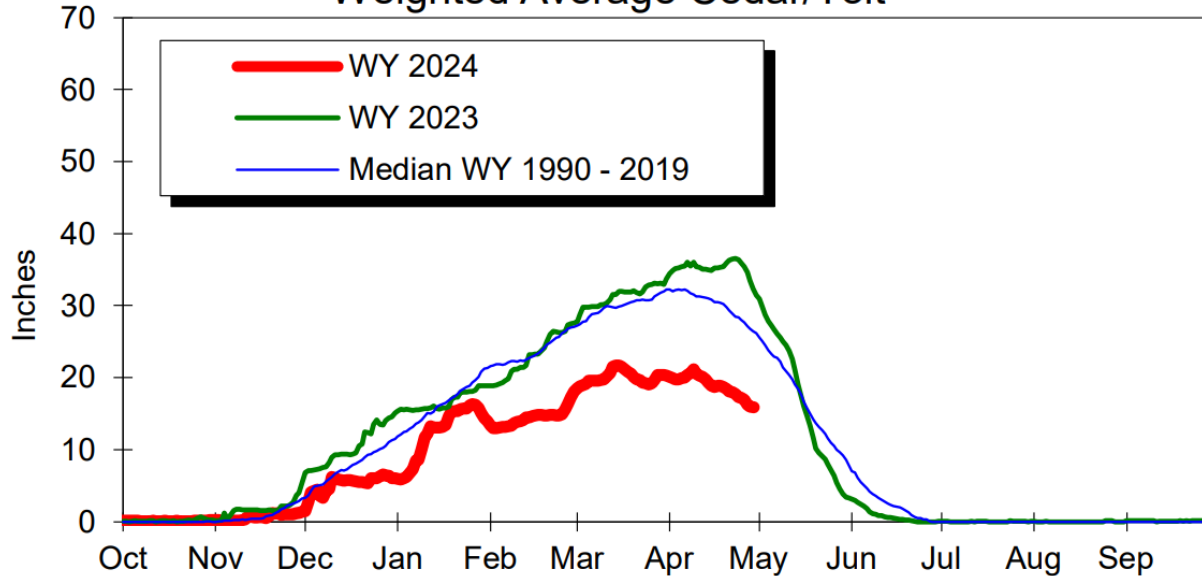


Legend

Drought Is Predicted To...



Snowpack (Snow Water Equivalent) Weighted Average Cedar/Tolt



The average snow accumulation across the sites SPU monitors is estimated to be about 15.9 inches which is below the long-term average for this time

- 75% of Washington State water supply comes from surface water
- Snowpack feeds surface water
- Drier conditions lead to minimized absorption to groundwater
- Region's snowpack has **shrunk by a third since 1955**
- Snowpack predicted to be **reduced by 70% more by the 2080's** depending on climate model & global emissions.

Water Will Impact Energy – And Outside of Washington State

- In 2022, hydroelectric power accounted for 67% of Washington's total electricity net generation
- Washington provides hydropower supply to other states during drought, future supply may be limited

Washington state drinking water, hydropower at risk as Pacific Northwest snowpack shrinks

By Conrad Swanson, The Seattle Times
Published: February 12, 2024, 6:00am

Share: [f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [p](#) [✉](#)

Business

Seattle City Light raises rates, cites weather impacting hydropower production

Elizabeth Ingram
10.17.2023

Share | [X](#) [f](#) [in](#) [✉](#) [@](#)



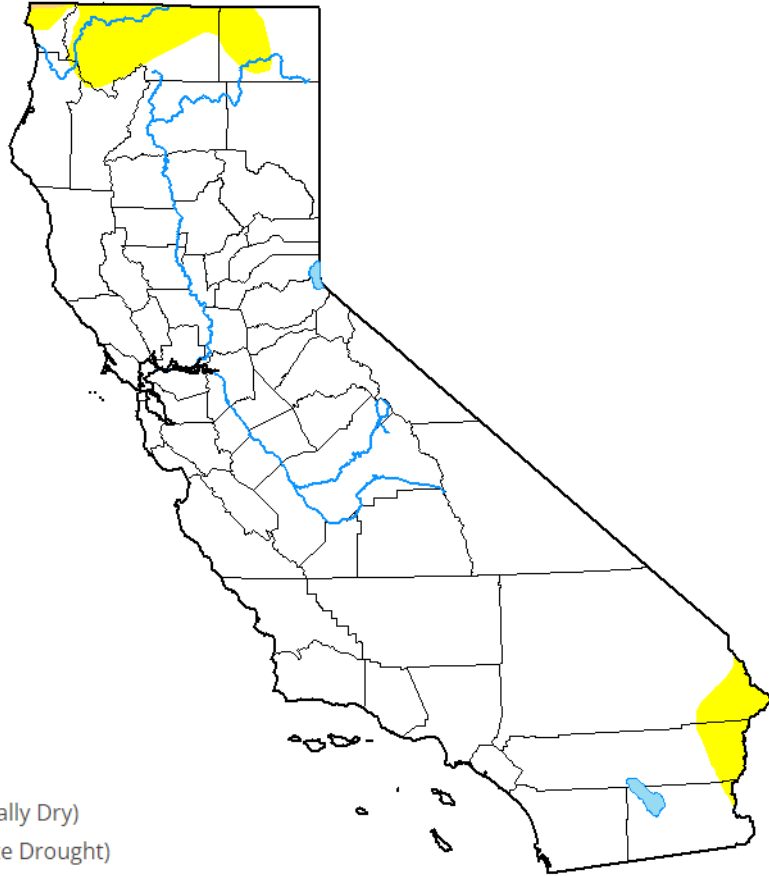
HYDRO
REVIEW

GET
CURATED
CONTENT








Water in California



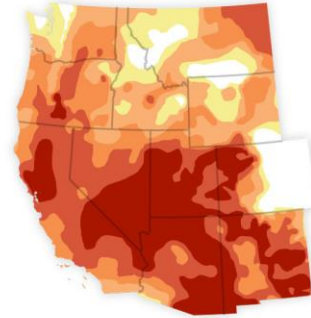
September 26, 2023



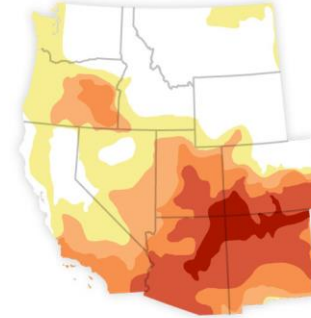
Intensity

-  None
-  D0 (Abnormally Dry)
-  D1 (Moderate Drought)
-  D2 (Severe Drought)
-  D3 (Extreme Drought)
-  D4 (Exceptional Drought)
-  No Data

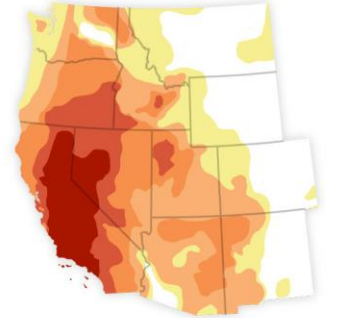
June 2021



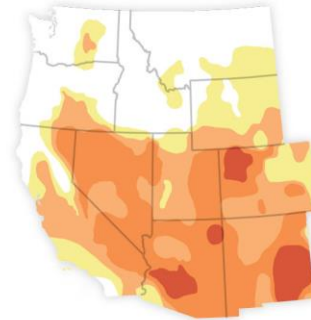
June 2018



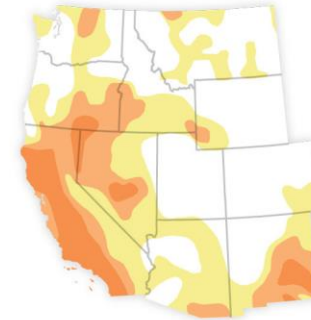
June 2015



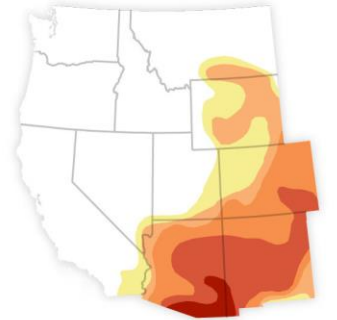
June 2012



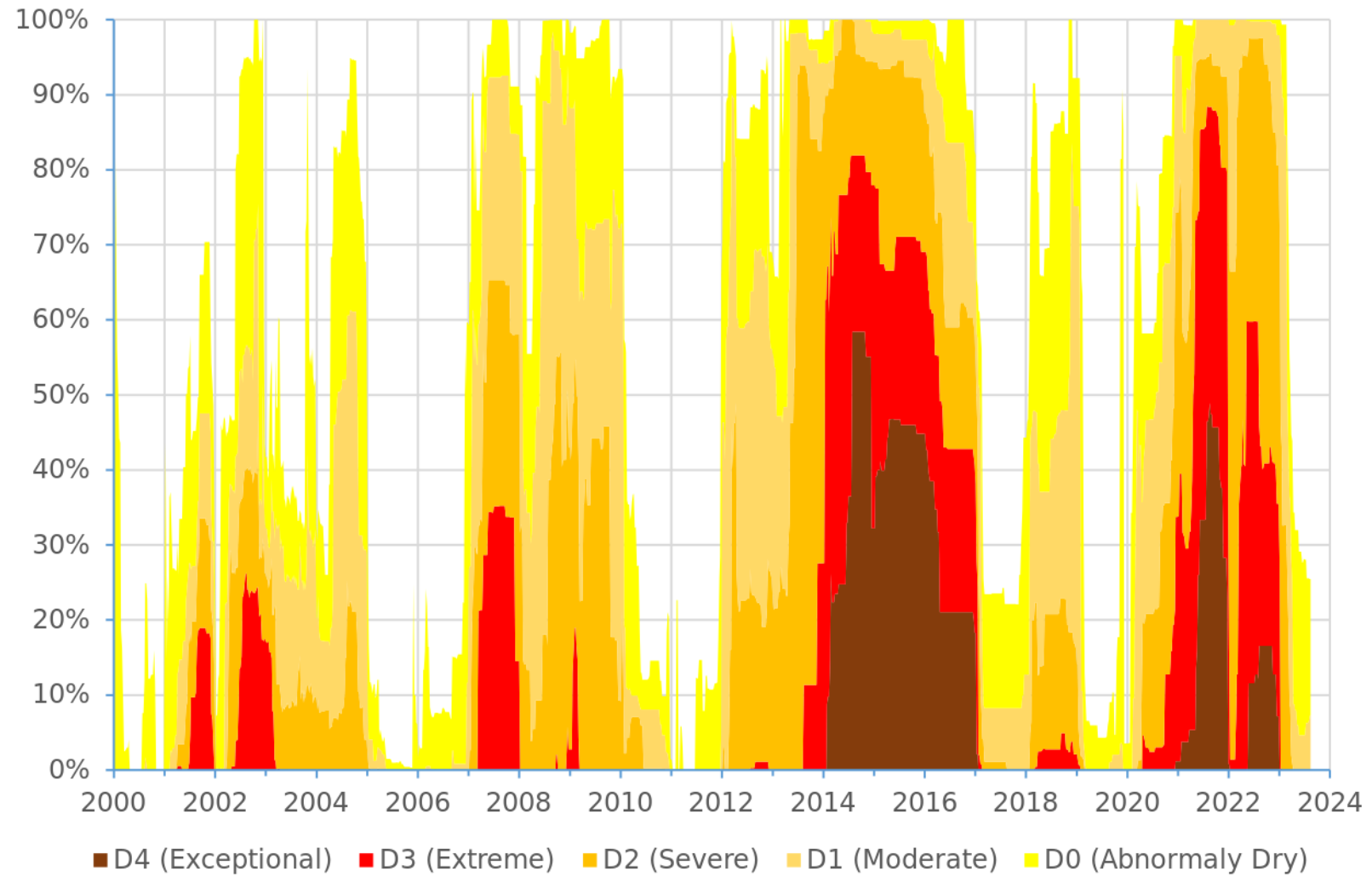
June 2009



June 2006



Drought area in California



1891

Water Right Statute allows making claim to water, influenced by mining law

1917

Washington Water Code; First law to recognize need to protect water, establish regulations, ensure adequate water supplies for future generations

1945

Legislature passed 90.44 RCW: Regulation of Public Groundwater

1992

Reclaimed Water Act, Chapter 90.46 of the Revised Code of Washington

2011

Chapter 246-274 WAC sets requirements for using greywater for subsurface irrigation

2018

WA State Department of Ecology completed and adopted rules

State of Washington

Water Reuse Timeline

State of California

1851

Appropriative right system "first in time, first in right" principle

1910

35 farms use recycled water for agriculture

1918

CA develops first USA regulations to address use of recycled water for agricultural irrigation

1991

CA Recycled Water Policy is adopted providing guidelines for recycled water

2010

State Water Board adopts regulations for on-site treatment and reuse

2017

State Water Board Division of Drinking Water tasked for creating direct potable reuse criteria

2023

Direct Potable Reuse regulation passed

Non-Potable Reuse – Ventura

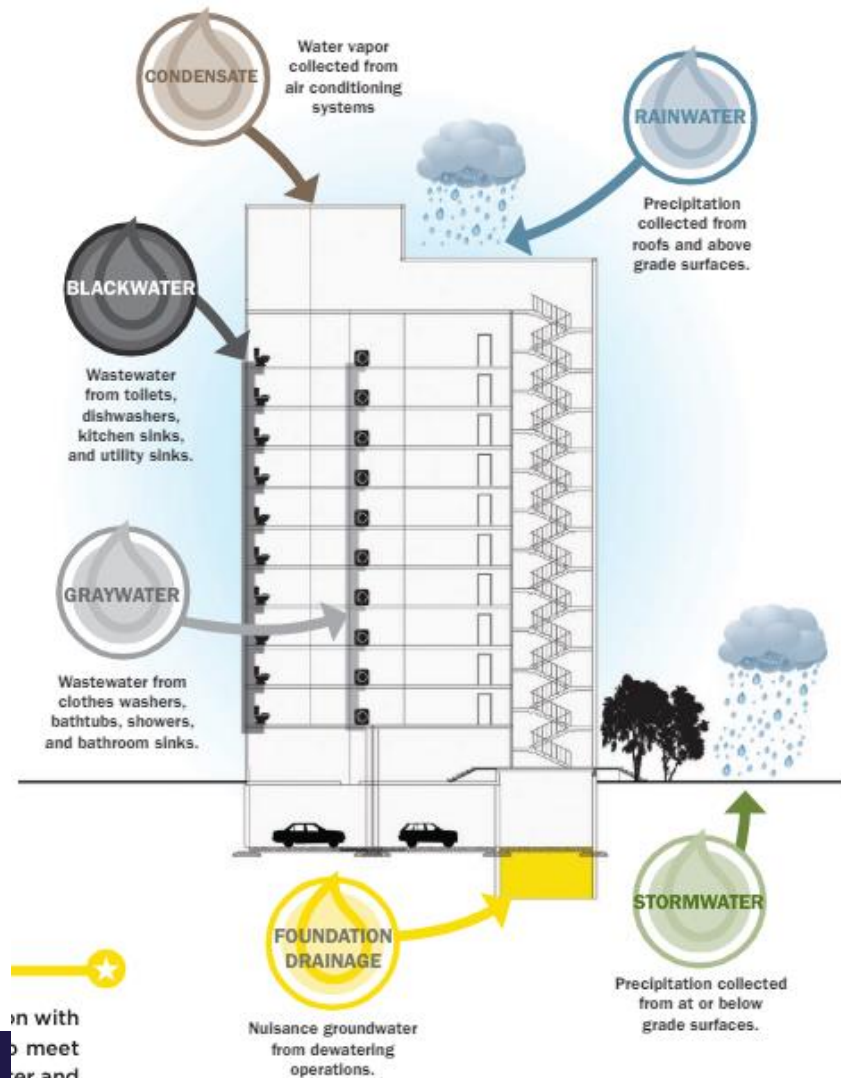


- Agricultural irrigation through a non-potable system (& ASR)
- Distribution system to offset groundwater pumping using treated wastewater



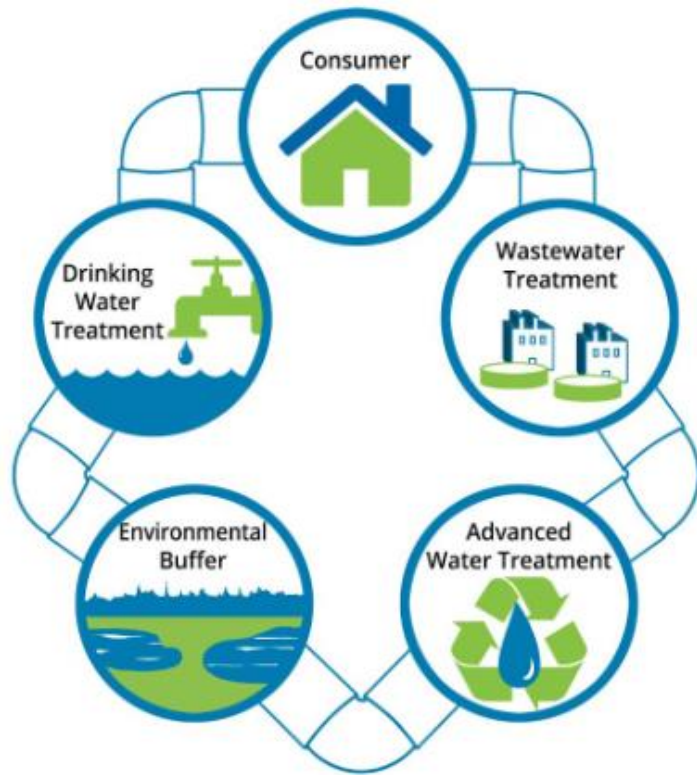
Onsite Non-Potable Reuse – San Francisco

- New developments 250,000 sq ft or greater must install onsite non-potable reuse systems
- Water budgets required 40,000 – 250,000 sq ft buildings



on with
to meet
ter and

Indirect Potable Reuse – City of Santa Monica



- Treats wastewater & stormwater for up to 10% of City's water demand
- Sustainable Water Infrastructure Project
- Reuse of 1.5 MGD



Direct Potable Reuse – San Diego



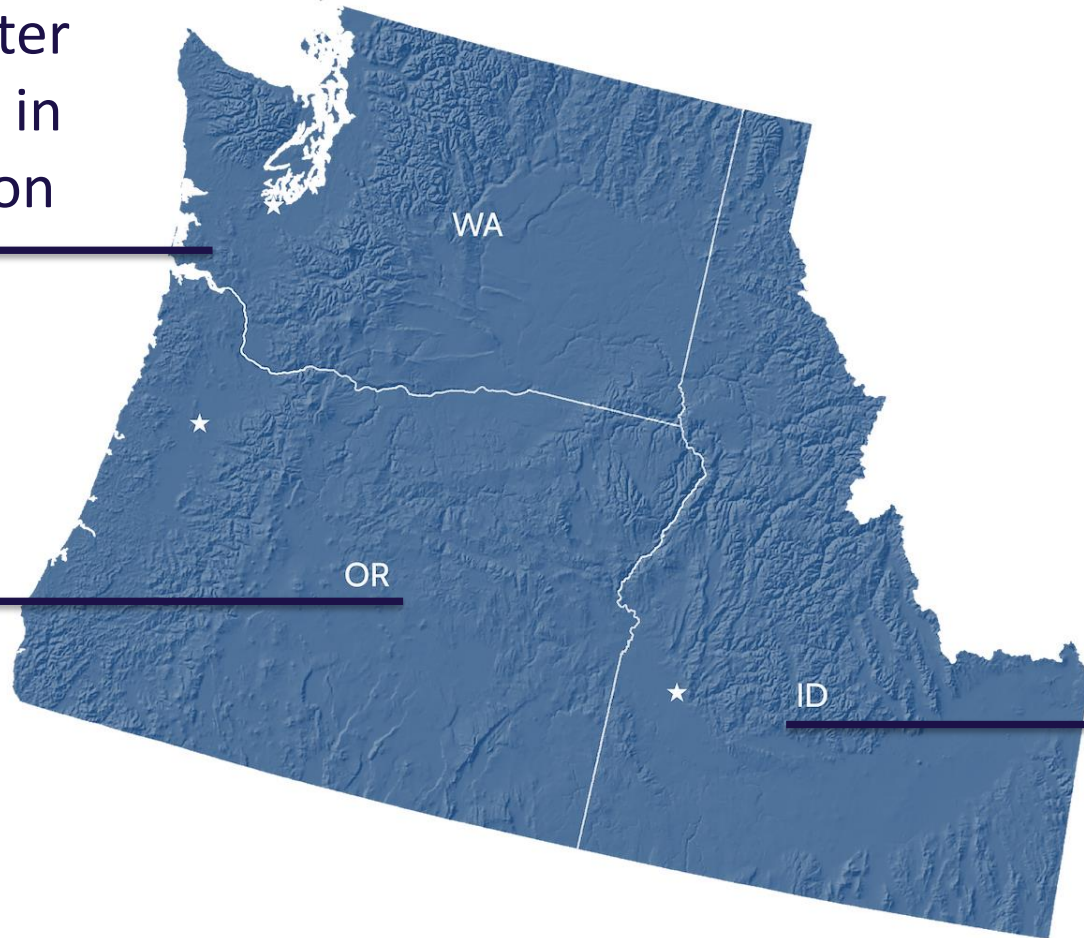
- December 2023 CA passed DPR regulations
- Purification of wastewater through ozonation, BAC filters, membrane filtration, RO, UV and advanced oxidation
- By 2035 will produce 83 Million Gallons of purified water

PNW Existing Reuse Projects

~30 reclaimed water facilities, with 1/3 in Eastern Washington



~140 recycled water systems



~140 Reuse permits
Reuse began in 1988



Tribes Within Washington State

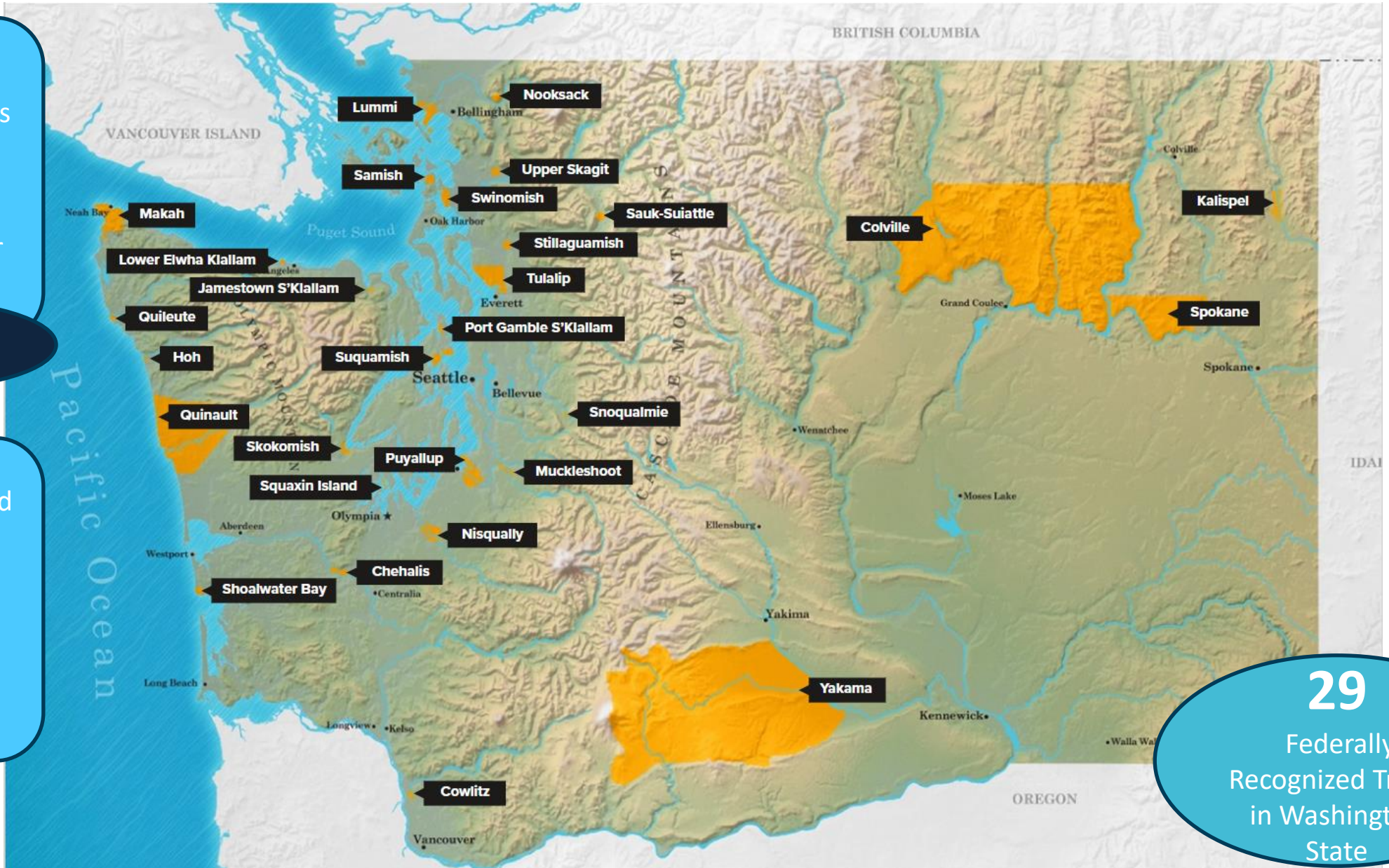


In 2019,
Washington Tribes
were the
7th

Largest Employer
in the State

*Larger than
Starbucks & Costco,
combined!*

Tribal Economic
Activity Accounted
for
\$5.6
billion
in Washington
State



29
Federally
Recognized Tribes
in Washington
State

Treatment as a State (TAS)

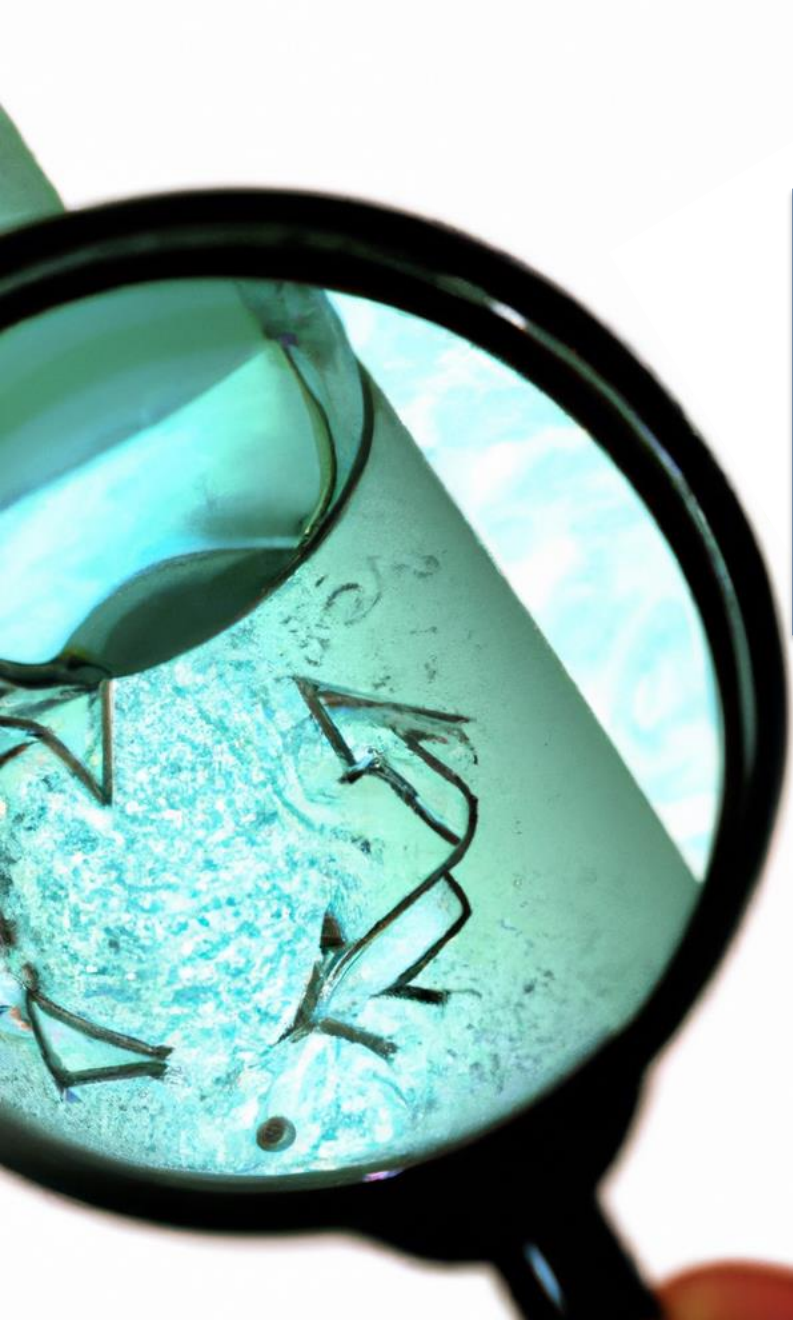
- Clean Water Act 1970
 - Powers Delegated to the State did not include Tribal Nations
- 1987 Congress passed Treatment as a State (TAS) allowing tribes to set own water quality standards, similar to states
- Of the 29 federally recognized tribes in Washington State, only 11 Tribes have TAS provisions

Sovereignty

“Sovereignty means tribes inherently possess governmental (legal) power to regulate people and things within their territories for the benefit of tribal citizens.”

~ National Tribal Water Council

- Sovereignty and sustainability with climate change is a priority for many tribes

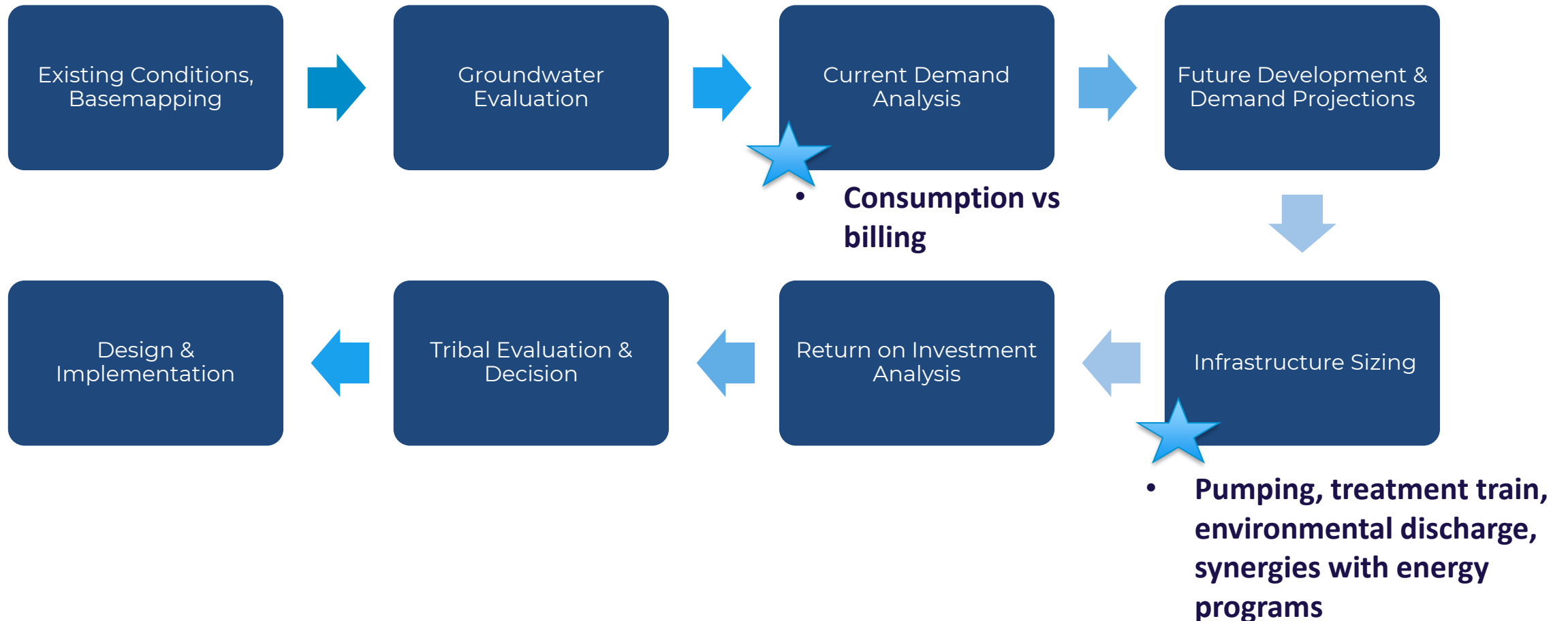


Case Study: Water Reuse on Tribal Lands

Case Study

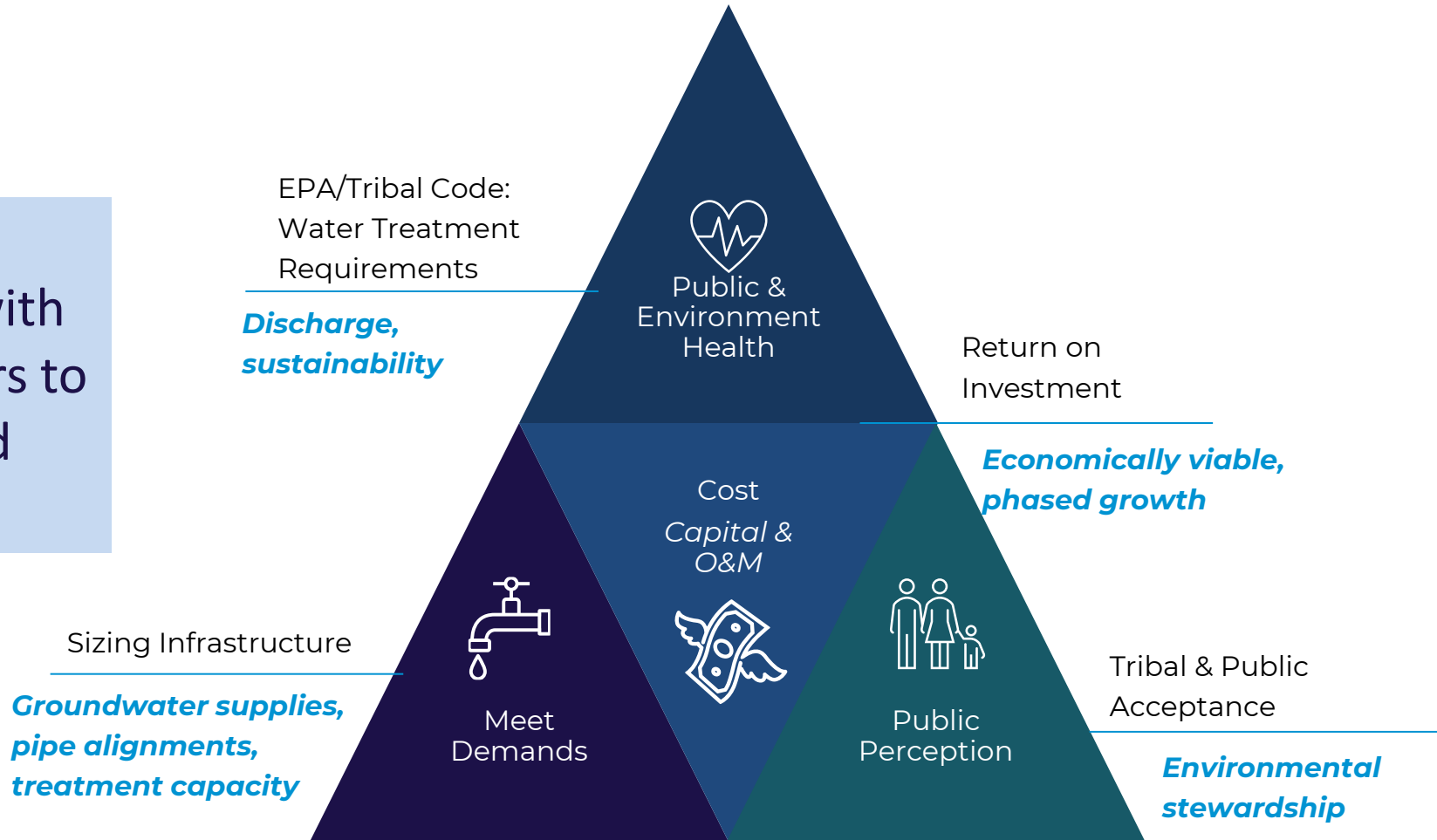
- Tribal Organization in Washington State
- Project originated as an evaluation of the feasibility to establish an independent water/sewer utility
 - ***Water Sovereignty***
 - ***Self Sufficient for Future Generations***
 - ***Support & growth of industrial, economic & recreational facilities***
- Phased Approach Evaluation
- Reuse **not** part of the initial project

Project Progression



Opportunities & Challenges for Reuse

Facilitated discussions with Tribal members to understand priorities



Method of Evaluating Reuse Options



<p>Guiding Questions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is water currently being used? • How much wastewater is being produced? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How could water be managed in the future? • How could biosolids be managed in the future? • How might demand and supply change? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the estimated total cost to construct & operate? • What is the estimated return on investment?
<p>Evaluation</p>	<p>Meter Records, Water Bills, Demand Fluctuation, Largest Water Consumers</p>	<p>Existing Technologies, Public Health, Future Water Demand, Tribal values</p>	<p>Water Bills, Sewer Bills, Engineer Cost Estimate, Inflation, Loans & Grants</p>

Tribe's Criteria for Evaluation of Reuse



Capital & O&M Cost



Treatment Requirements



Ability to Offset Demands



Public Opinion

Decision Matrix for Evaluation of Water Reuse Options

- Scenario Evaluation
 - DPR, IPR, Non-potable reuse, 3 onsite reuse options

Facilitated scoring with Tribal members to identify favorable options

System Type	Evaluation Criteria				Total	Ranking
	Capital/O&M Cost	Treatment Requirements for Public Health	Ability to Offset Water/Sewer Demands	Public Opinion		
DPR	2	1	5	1	9	5
IPR with Groundwater Augmentation	2	3	3	4	12	2
Non-Potable Recycled Water	1	4	2	3	10	4
Onsite Non-Potable Reuse	1	2	4	2	9	5
Onsite Non-Potable Reuse	4	2	4	2	12	2
Onsite Non-Potable Reuse	4	4	1	5	14	1

Evaluation Criteria Scale



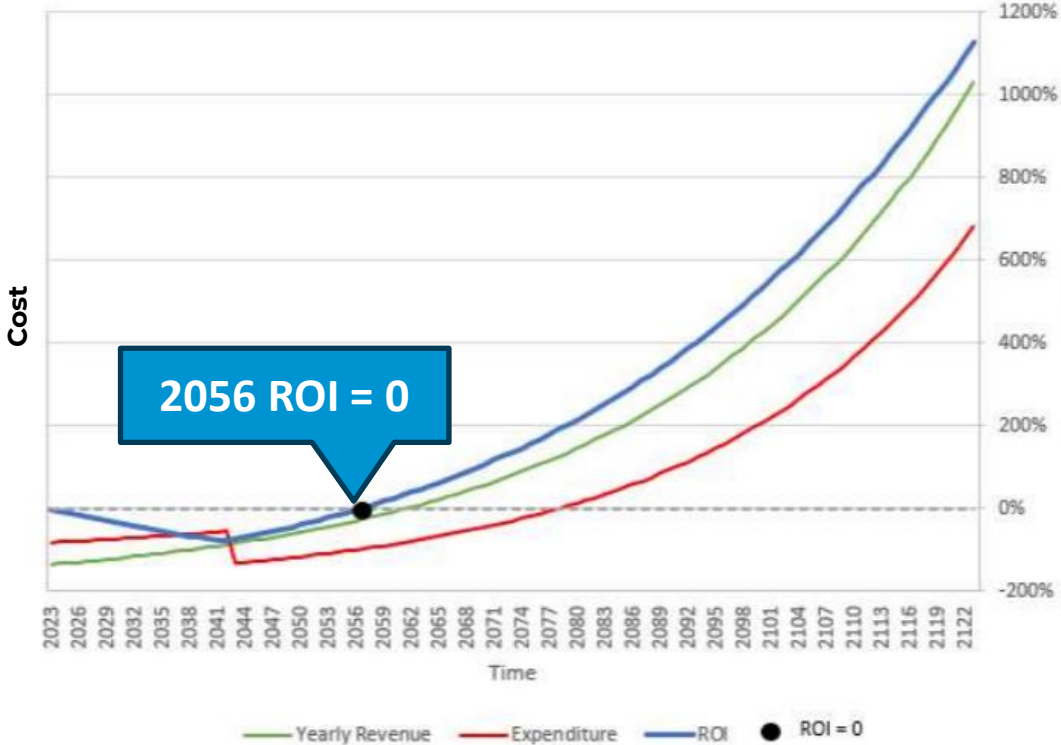
Ranking Scale



Evaluation of Return on Investment

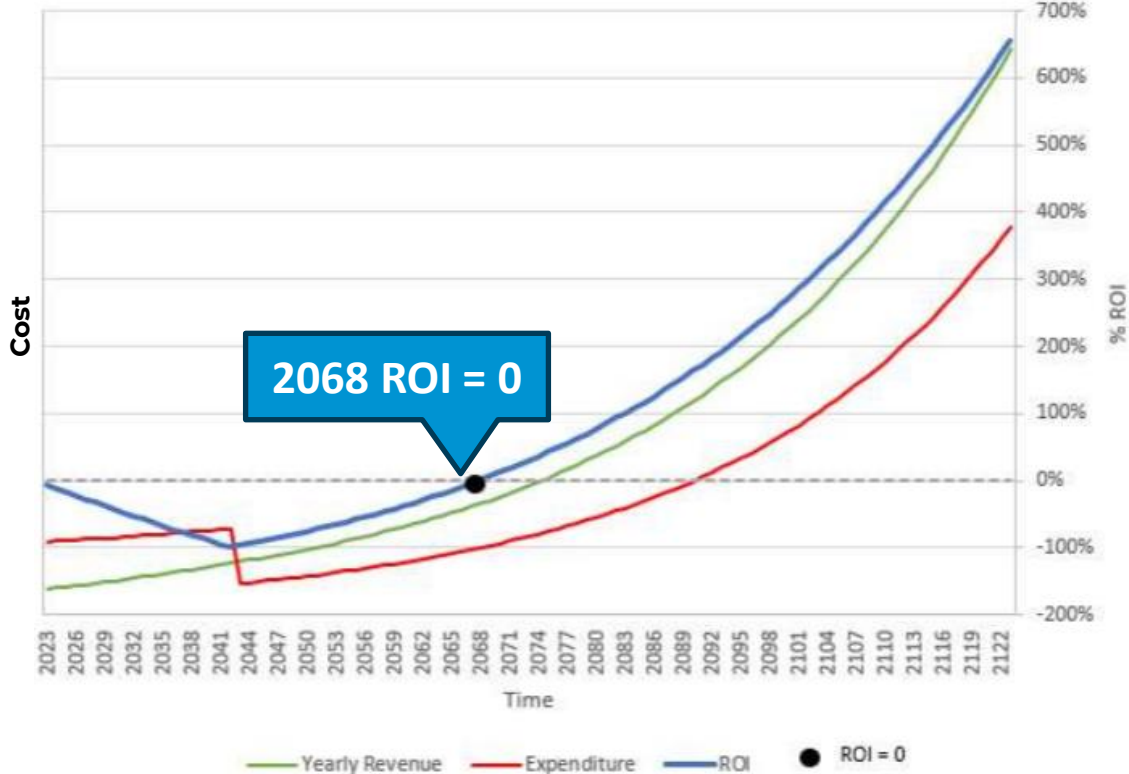
Phase 1 Implementation

- Smaller Project
- Smaller Investment
- Earlier ROI , Less Financial Risk

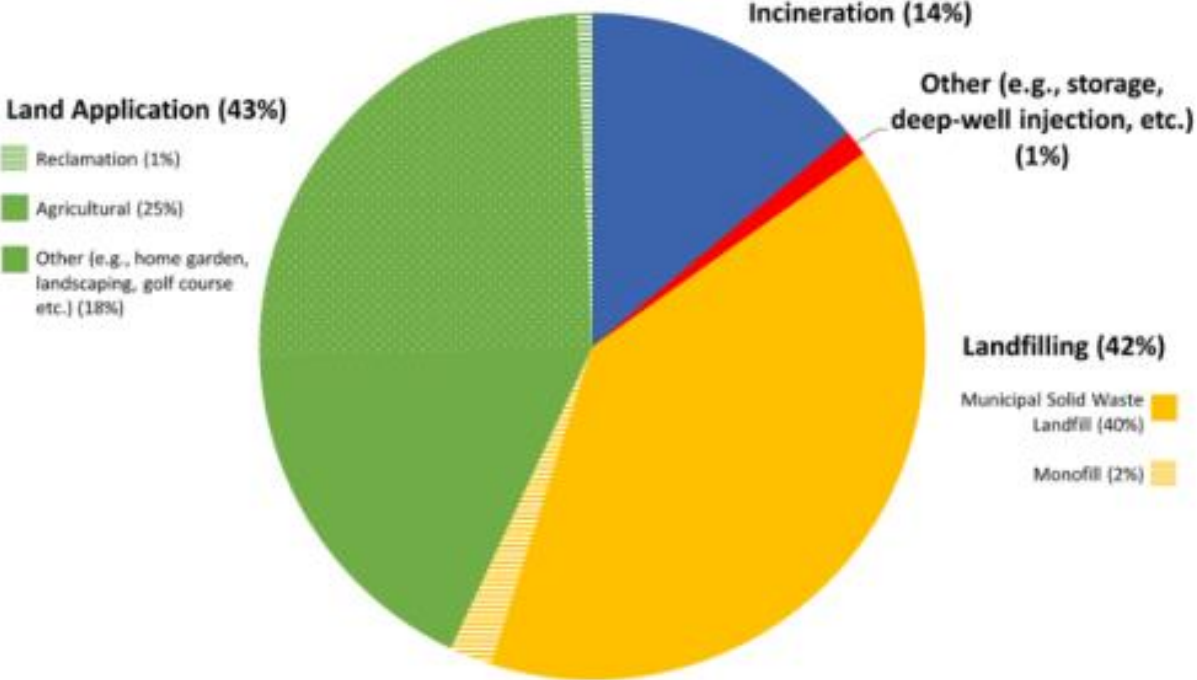


Phase 1 + Phase 2 Implementation

- Larger Project
- Larger Investment
- Later ROI , More Financial Risk



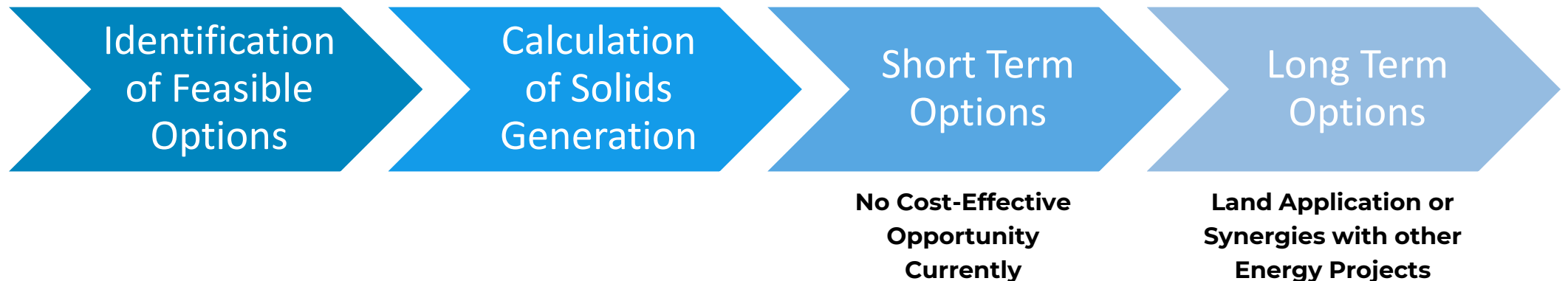
Biosolid Reuse Across the USA



Source: EPA, 2021

Biosolid Reuse Evaluation

- Self-Land Application
 - Class A Biosolids
 - Class B Biosolids
- Partnered Land application
 - Farmer Partnership
 - Bagged Biosolids
- Energy Generation by Incineration
- Energy Generation by Anerobic Digestion



What's Next for the Tribe?



Water Portfolio Development

Meter Data Collection & Analysis
Negotiation with local entity on rates



Tribal Council Evaluation

Water Quality Public Health
Synergies with Future Project & Development
Reuse Framework



Engineering Design

Project Phasing
Groundwater Supply Analysis
Wastewater Treatment Train

Looking to the Future

Short-Term Gains

- Cost savings
- Sustainable initiatives
- Manageable growth; using similar projects as guide

Long-Term Gains

- Sovereignty & self-reliance
- Long-term economic benefit to tribe
- Strengthen governance





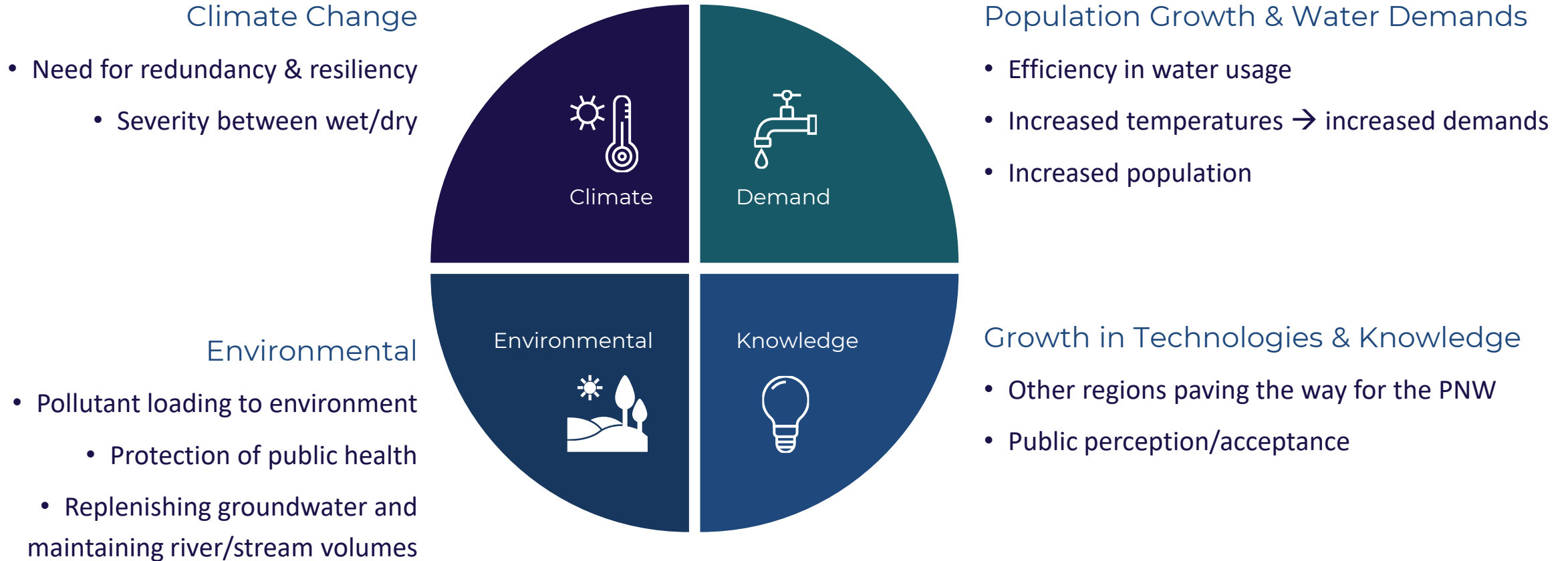
Prediction of Future for Recycled Water in the Pacific Northwest

In 1-2 words, what do you think will be the driver of recycled water projects in Water Abundant Regions?

Nobody has responded yet.

Hang tight! Responses are coming in.

Our Prediction of Drivers for the Future of Recycled Water in the PNW



Resources for Water Reuse

- Water Reuse Association, Pacific Northwest Chapter
- EPA REUSExplorer Tool
 - <https://www.epa.gov/waterreuse/regulations-and-end-use-specifications-explorer-reuseexplorer>
- National Water Reuse Action Plan (WRAP)
 - <https://www.epa.gov/waterreuse/national-water-reuse-action-plan-online-platform>
- National Blue Ribbon Commission
- Washington
 - WA Department of Ecology
 - <https://ecology.wa.gov/water-shorelines/water-quality/reclaimed-water>
 - WA Department of Health
 - <https://doh.wa.gov/community-and-environment/wastewater-management/water-reclamation>
- Oregon
 - <https://www.epa.gov/waterreuse/summary-oregons-water-reuse-guideline-or-regulation-agriculture>
 - Oregon DEQ
 - <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/programs/pages/water-reuse.aspx>
- Idaho
 - [https://www.epa.gov/waterreuse/summary-idahos-water-reuse-guideline-or-regulation-centralized-non-potable-reuse#:~:text=Idaho%20approves%20the%20reuse%20of,17\)](https://www.epa.gov/waterreuse/summary-idahos-water-reuse-guideline-or-regulation-centralized-non-potable-reuse#:~:text=Idaho%20approves%20the%20reuse%20of,17)).

Questions?

Evelyn Choudhary, PE

Evelyn.Choudhary@wsp.com

Annie Saunders, PE

Annie.Saunders@wsp.com