

# Implementing a Watershed Approach for Stormwater: A User's Manual

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2017 UDFCD Annual Seminar



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Project Manager  
Stream Services Program

# User's Manual

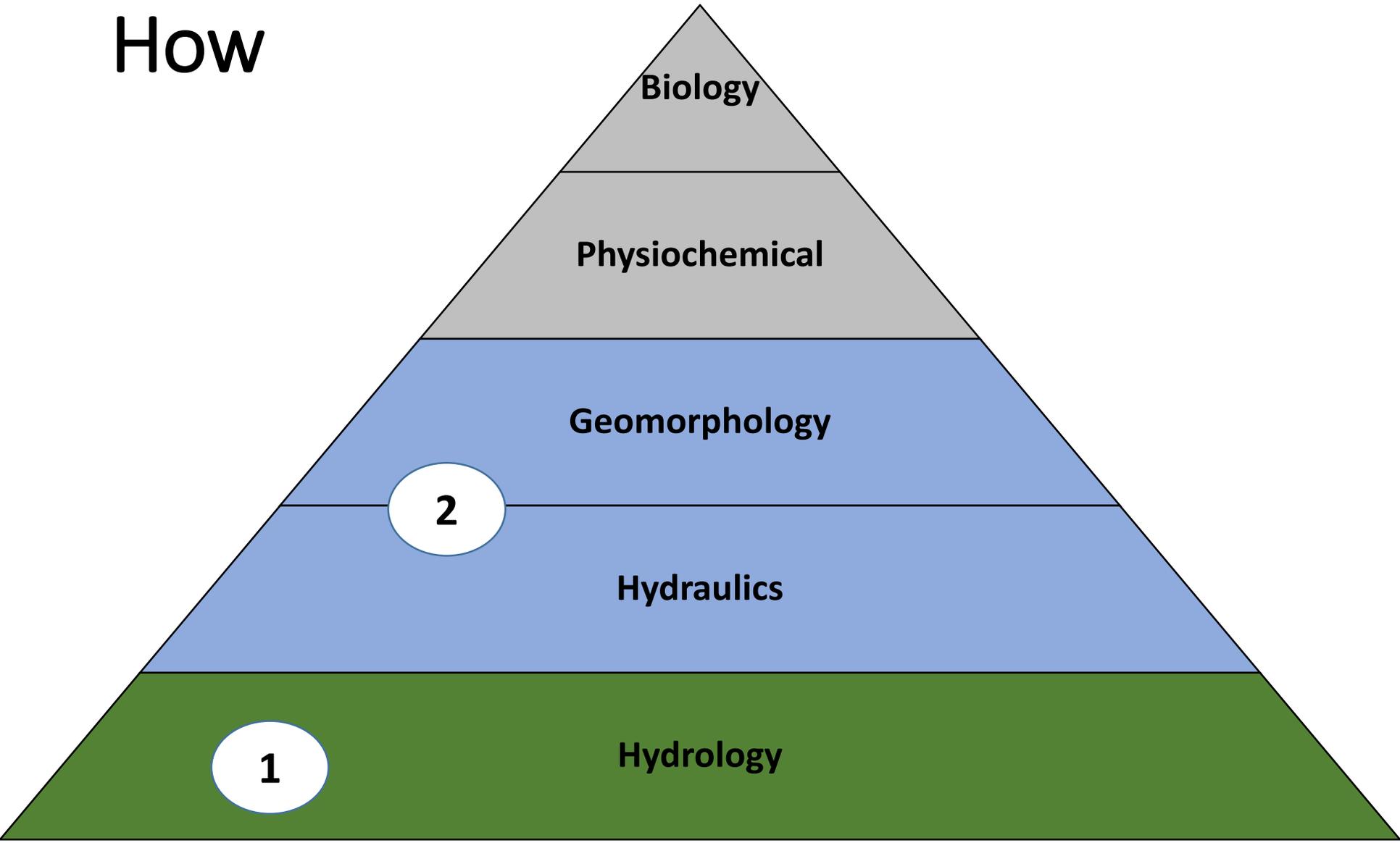
## How to

- **Develop** the watershed with **a win-win mental model**
- **Convey rainfall** through the watershed **to reduce runoff**
- **Convey runoff** through streams **to reduce risk and costs**

# Why

**Get **more** benefits from what we build  
and  
**Spend less** building**

# How



Biology

Physiochemical

Geomorphology

Hydraulics

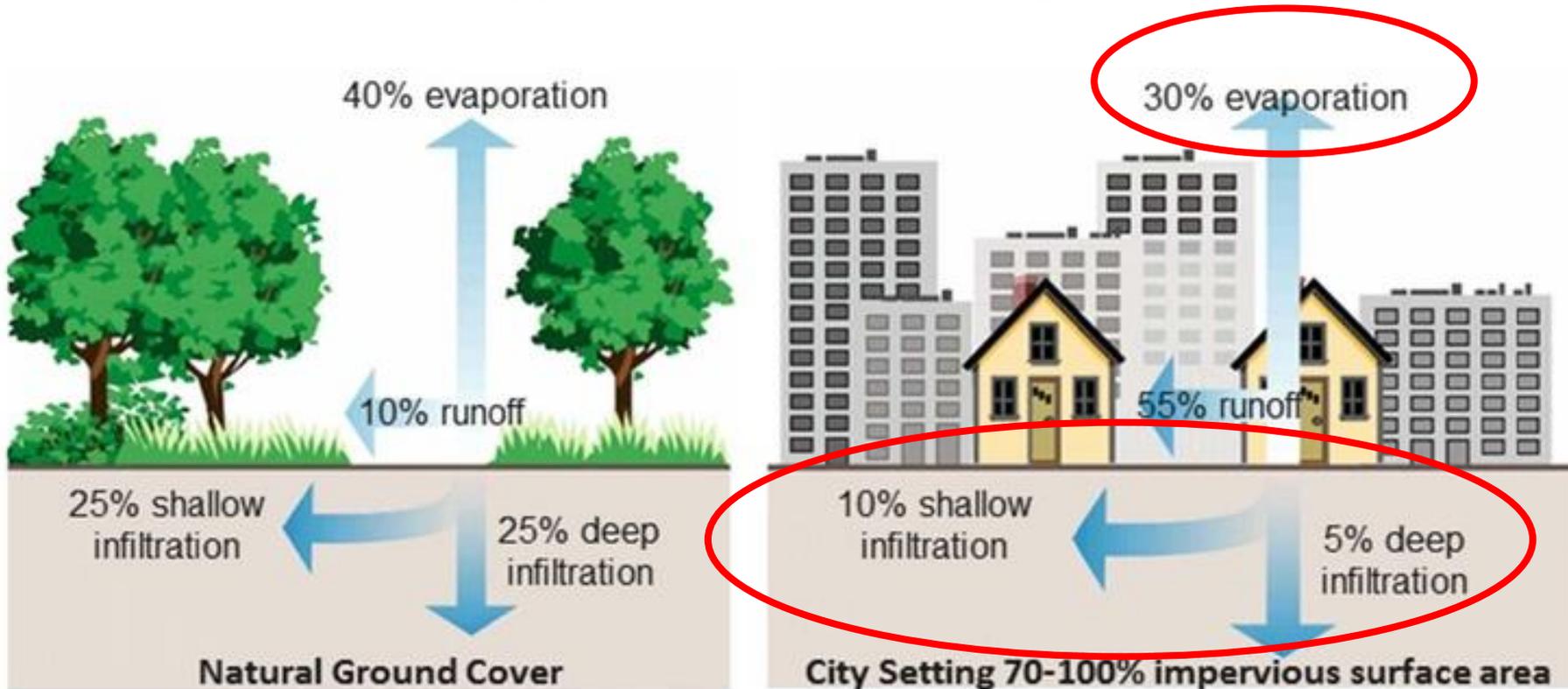
Hydrology

2

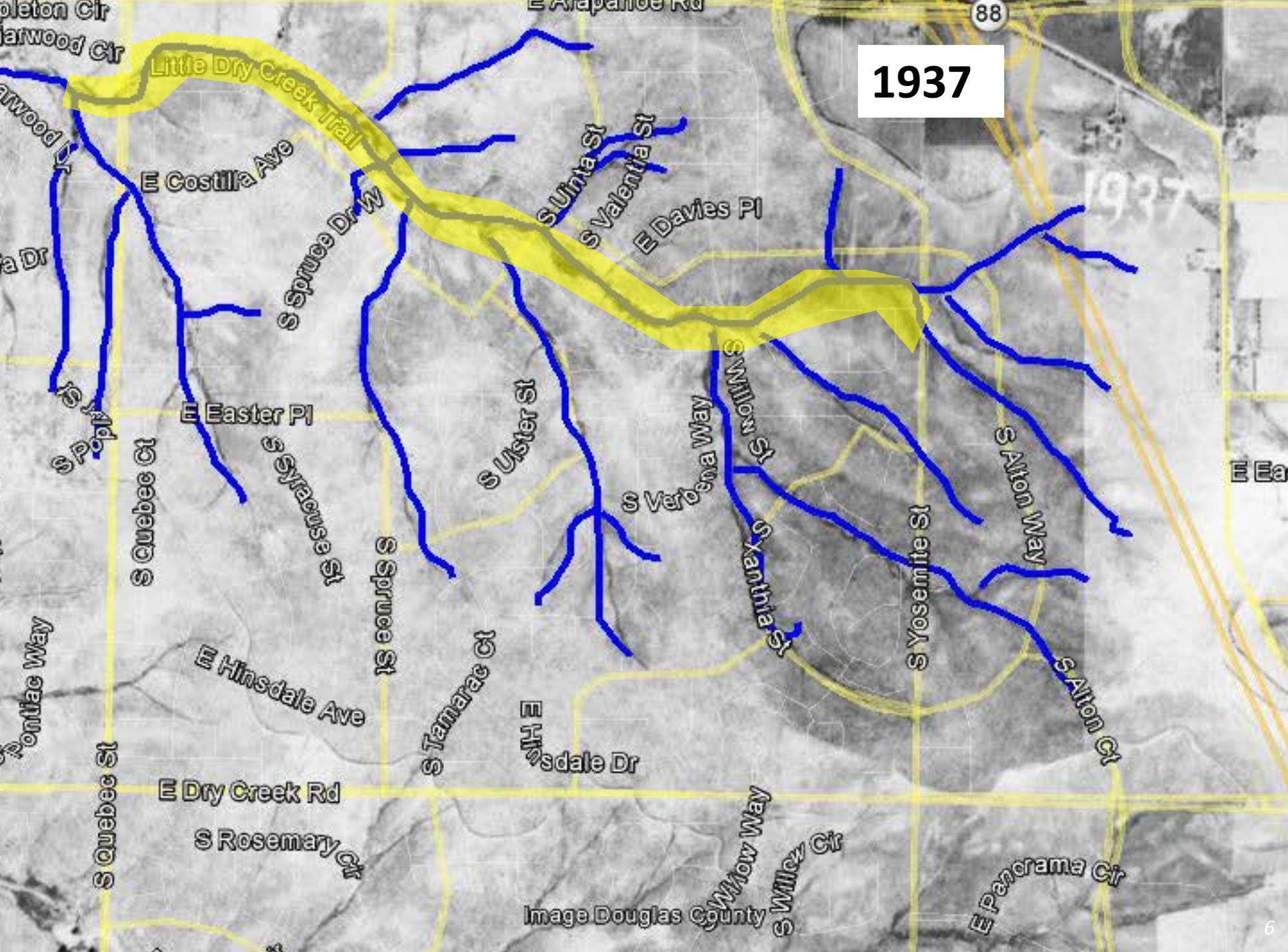
1

# Hydrology

## NATURAL vs. URBAN STORMWATER DRAINAGE



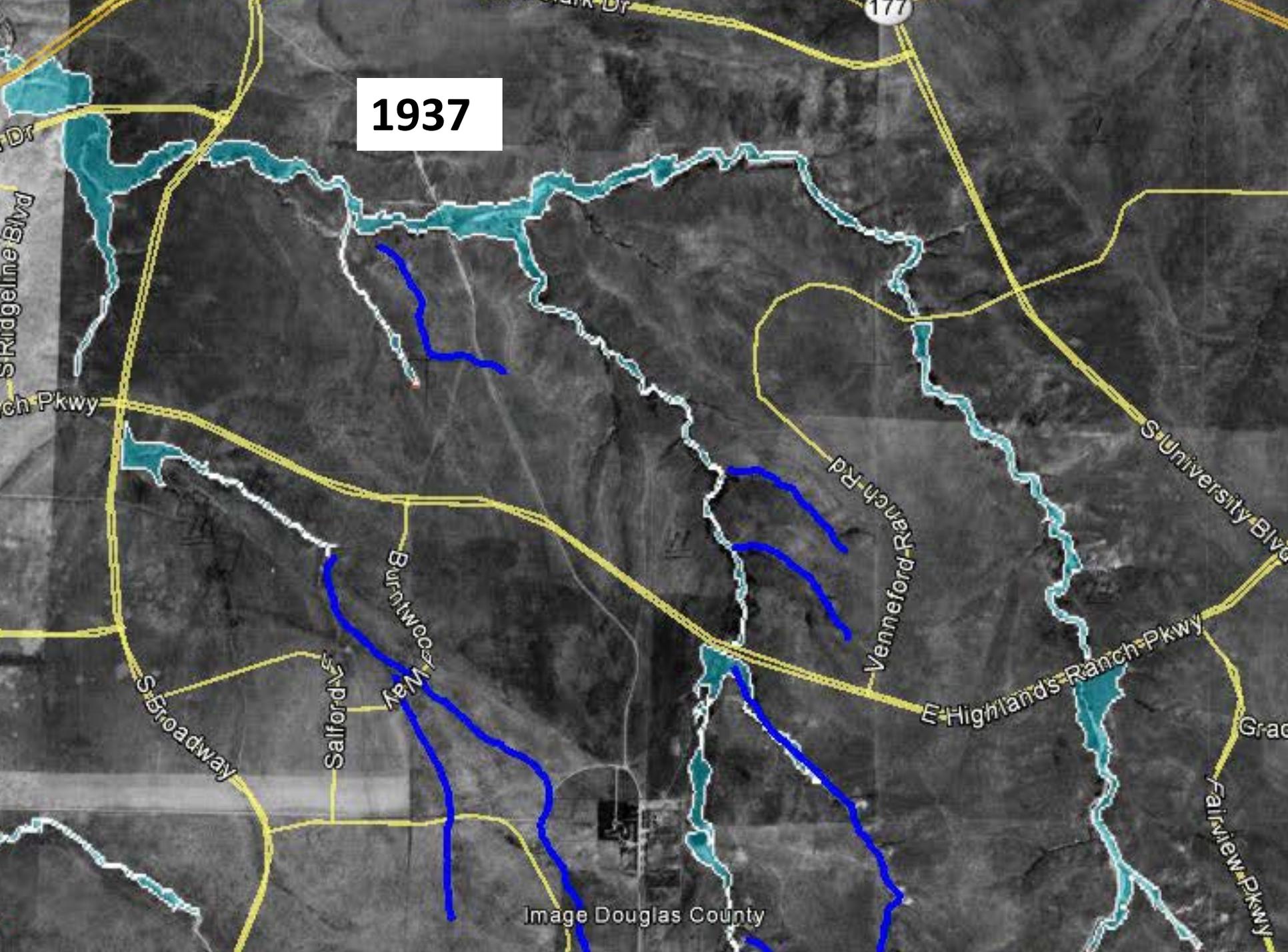
1937



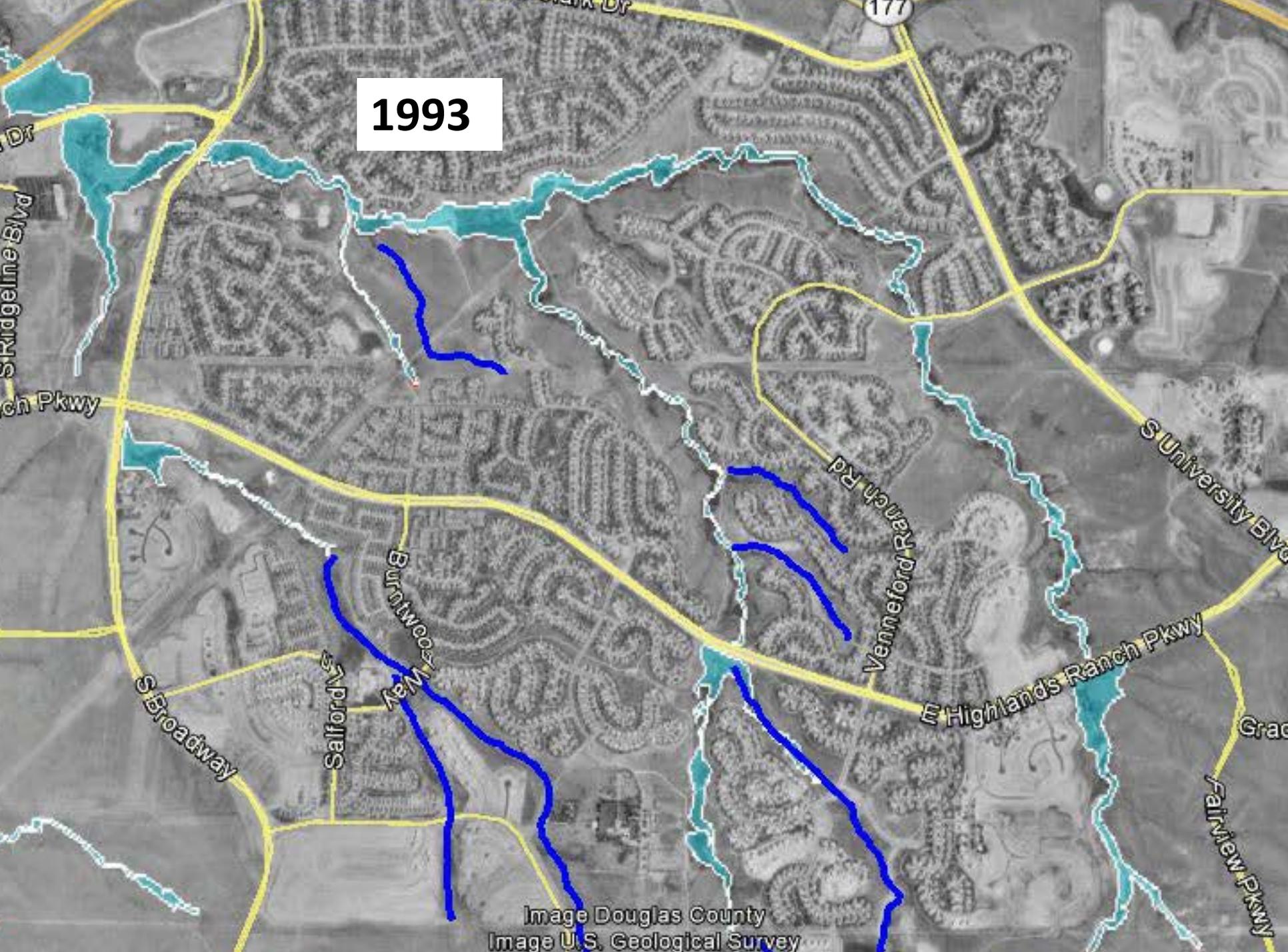
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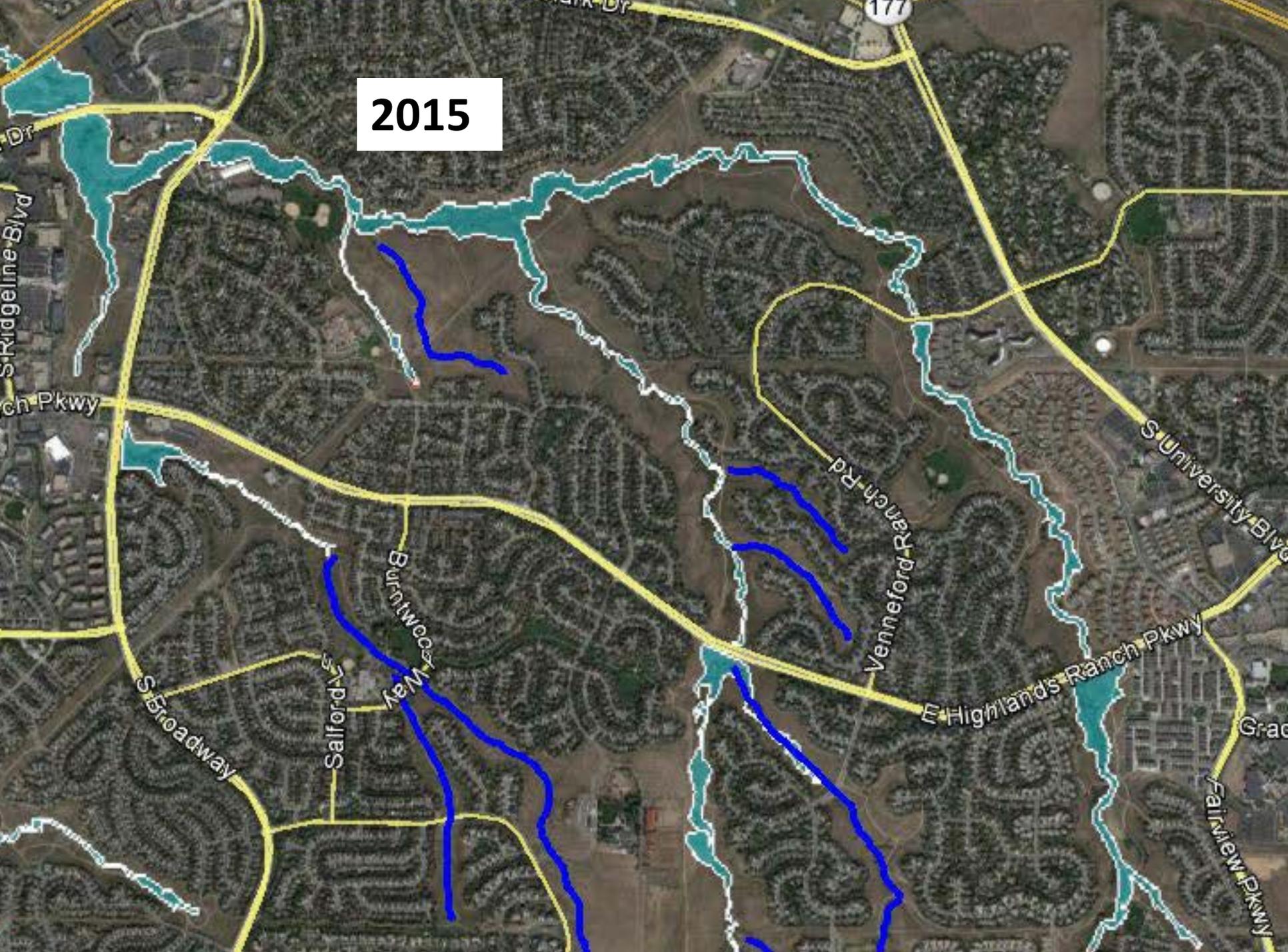
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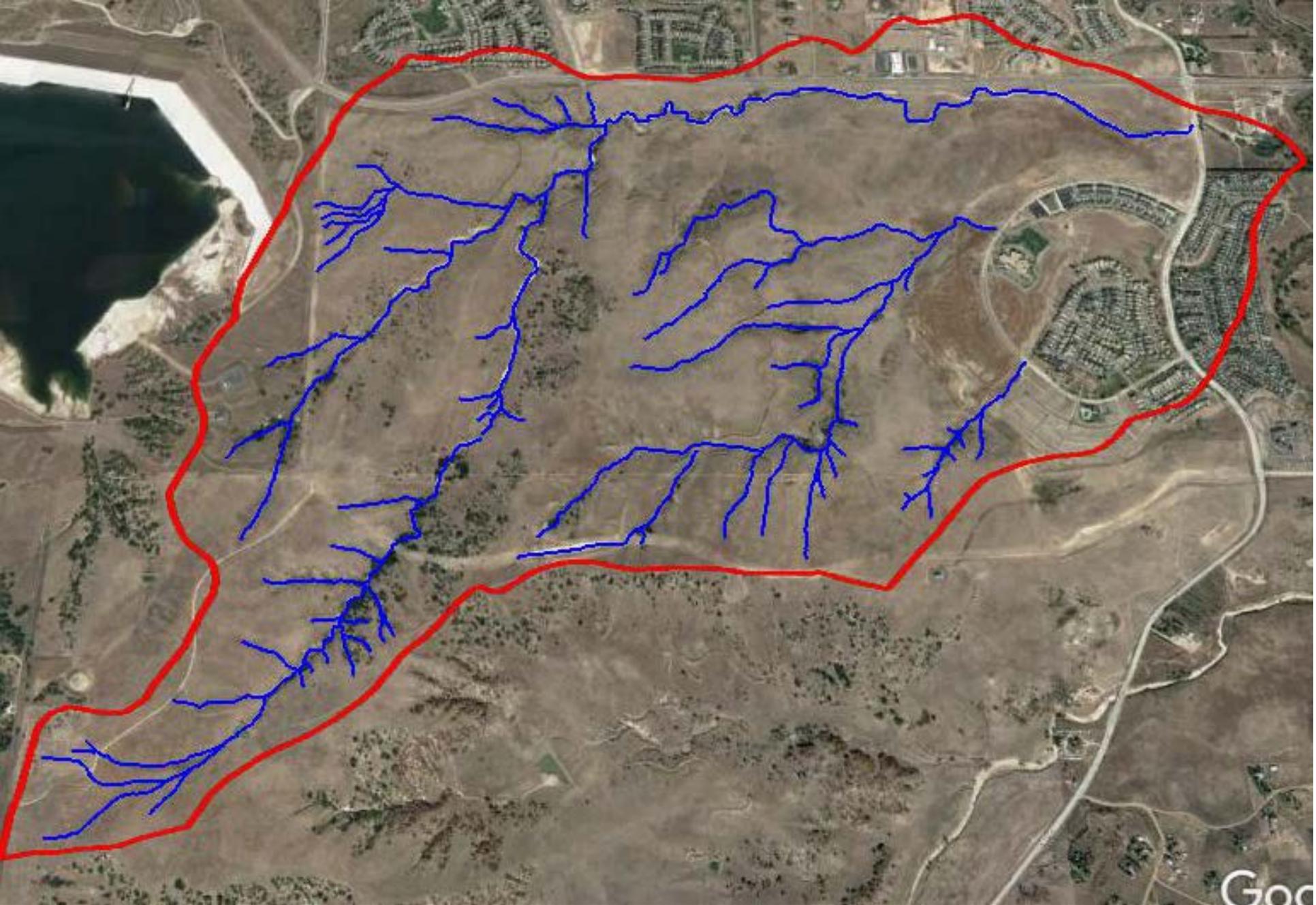


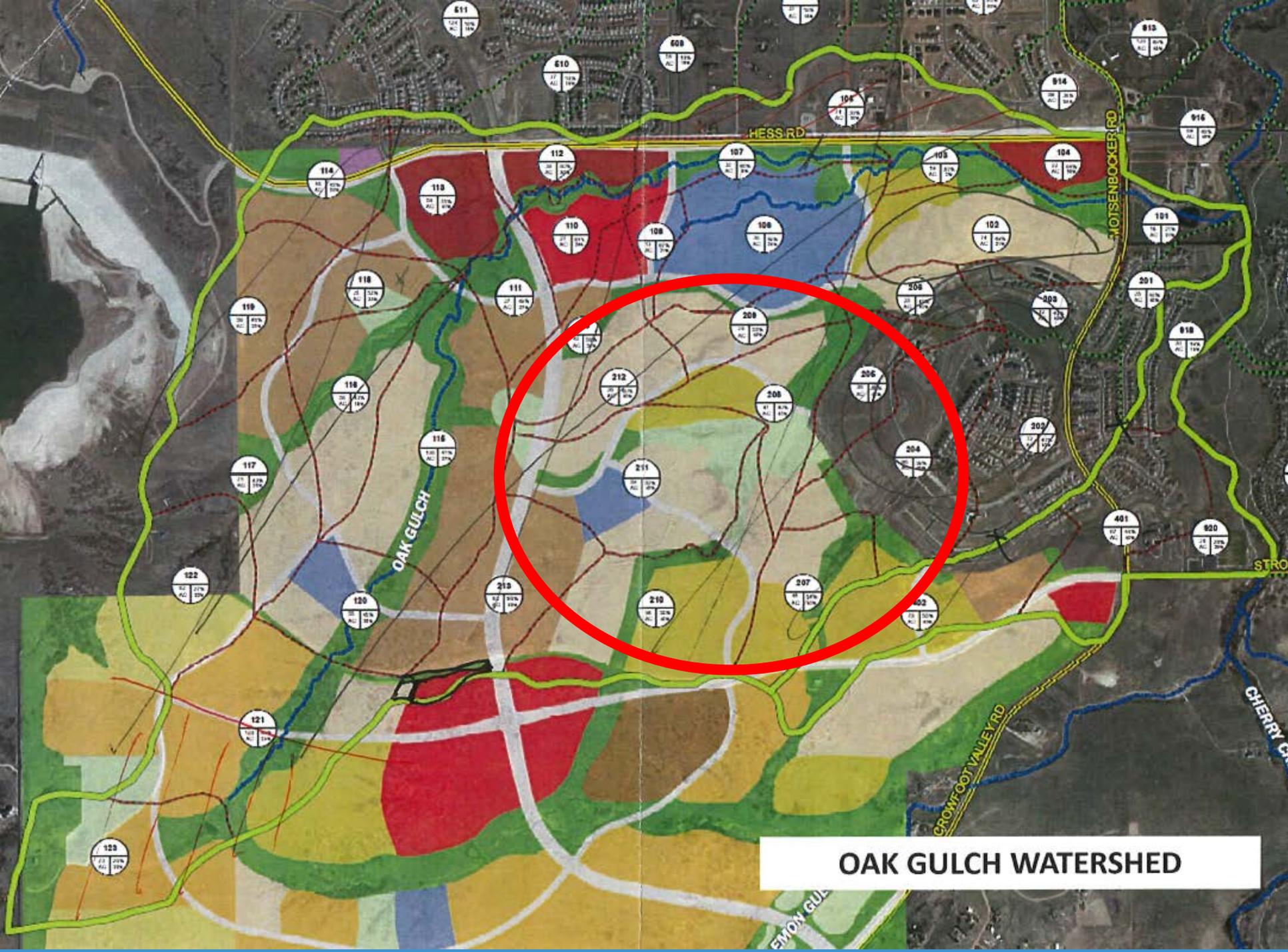
1993



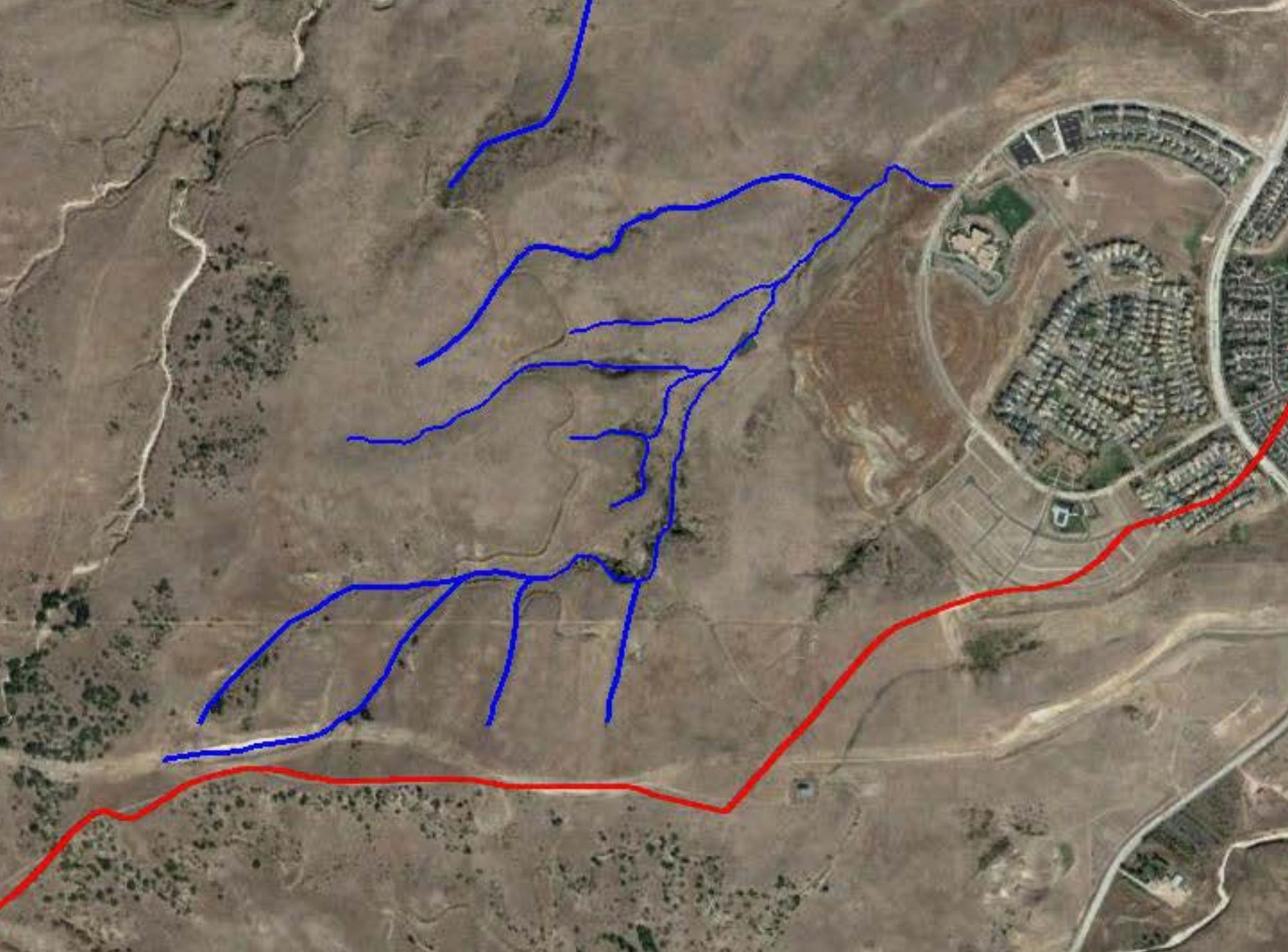
2015



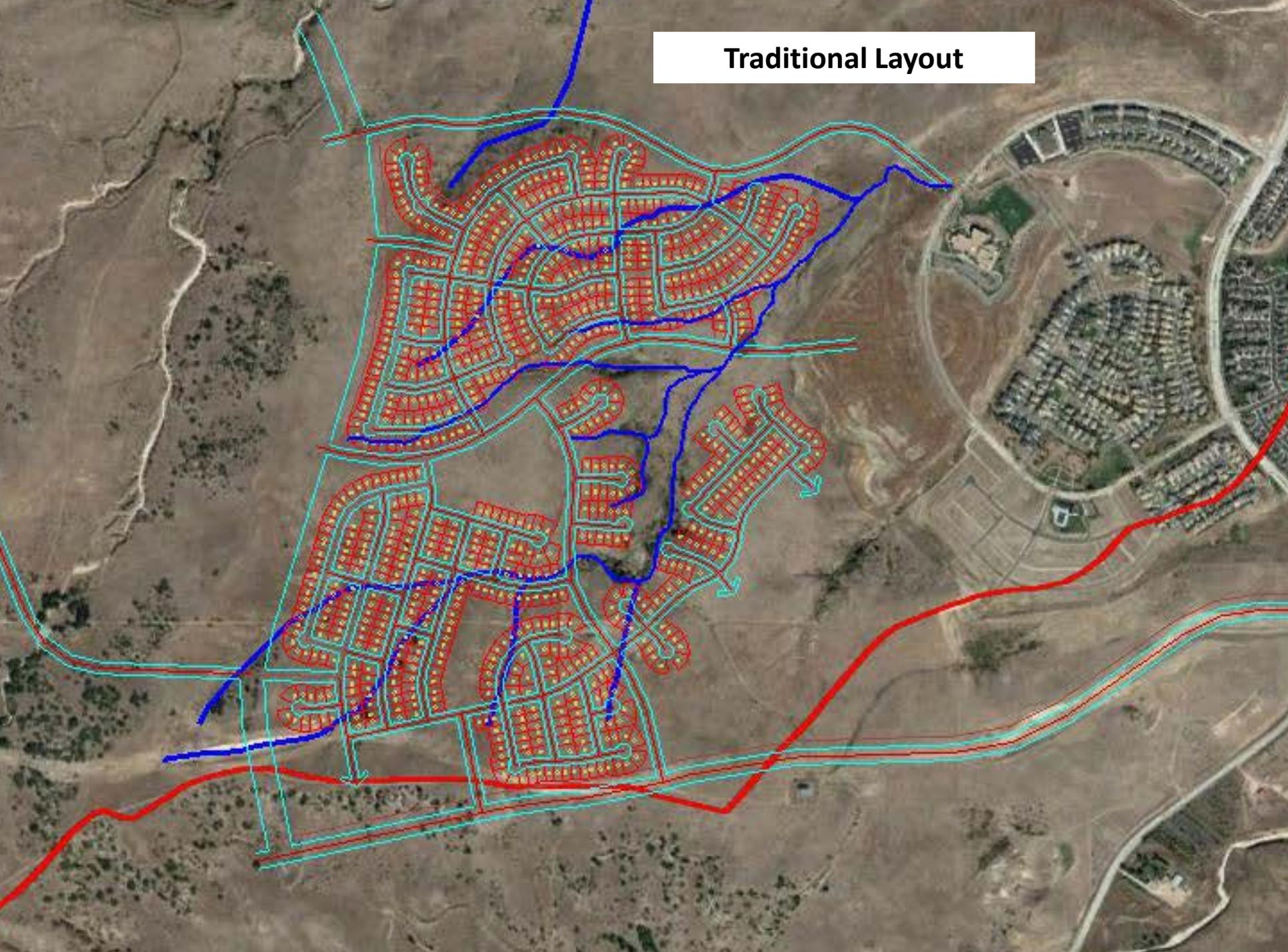




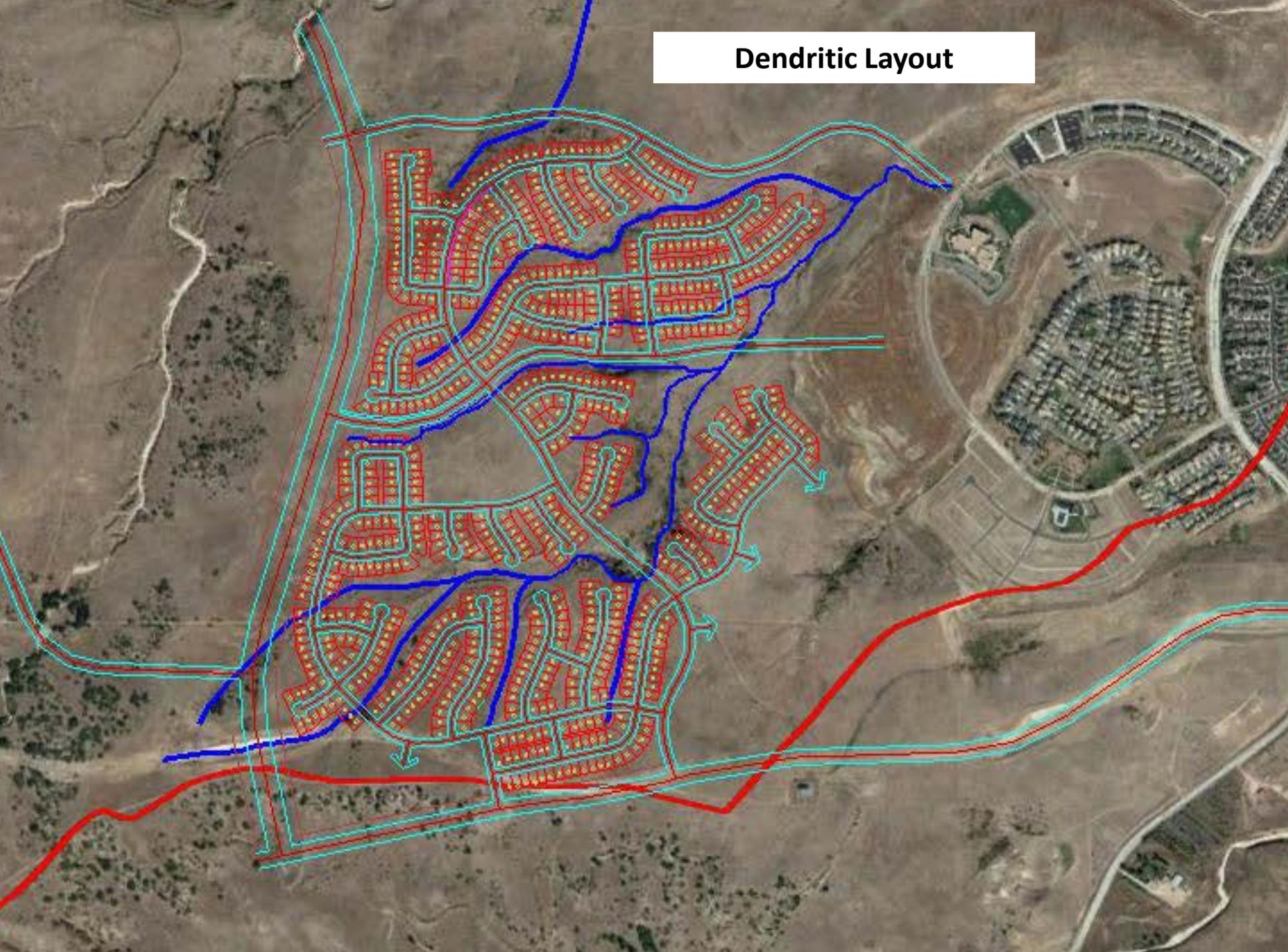
OAK GULCH WATERSHED



# Traditional Layout



# Dendritic Layout

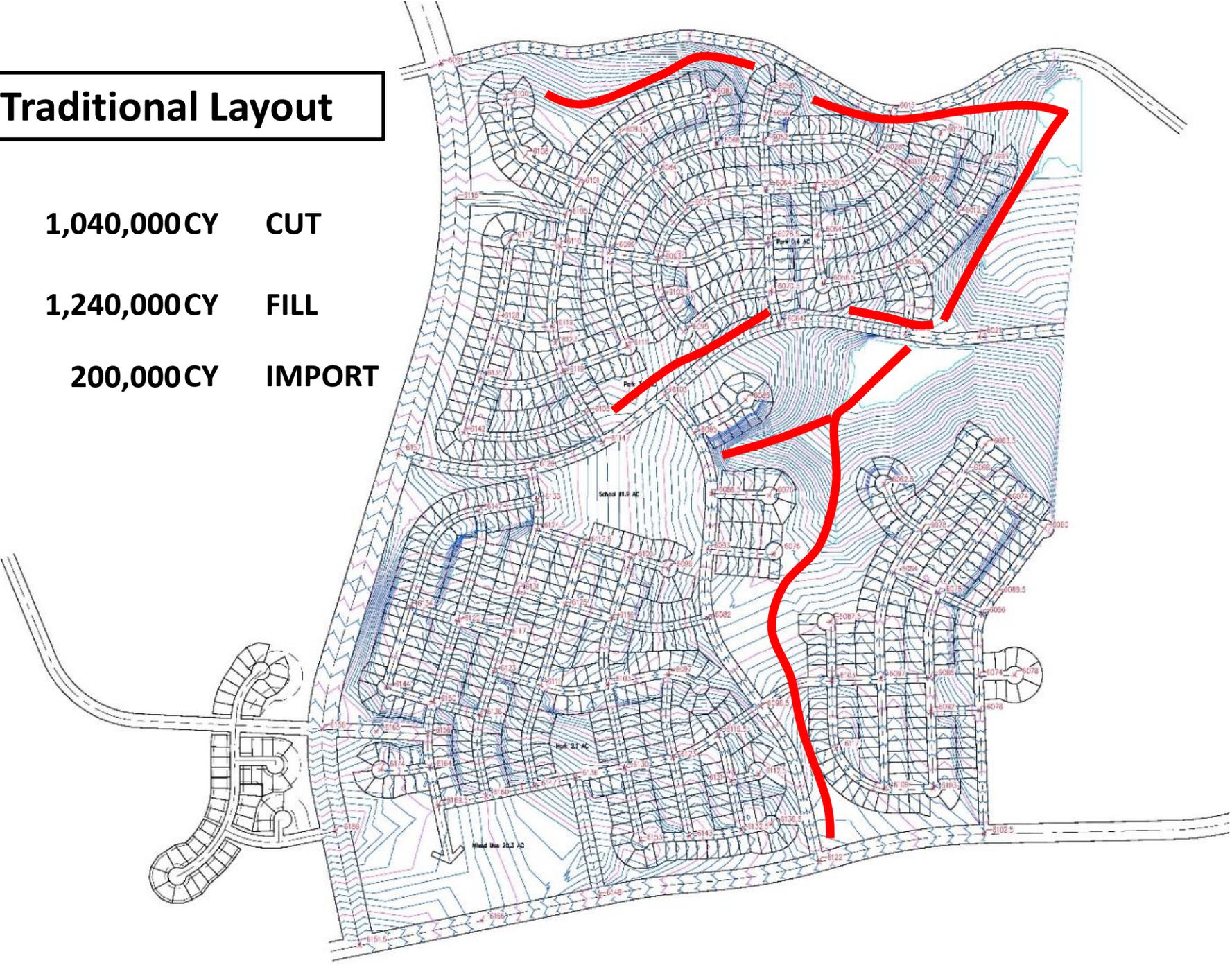


# Traditional Layout

1,040,000 CY CUT

1,240,000 CY FILL

200,000 CY IMPORT

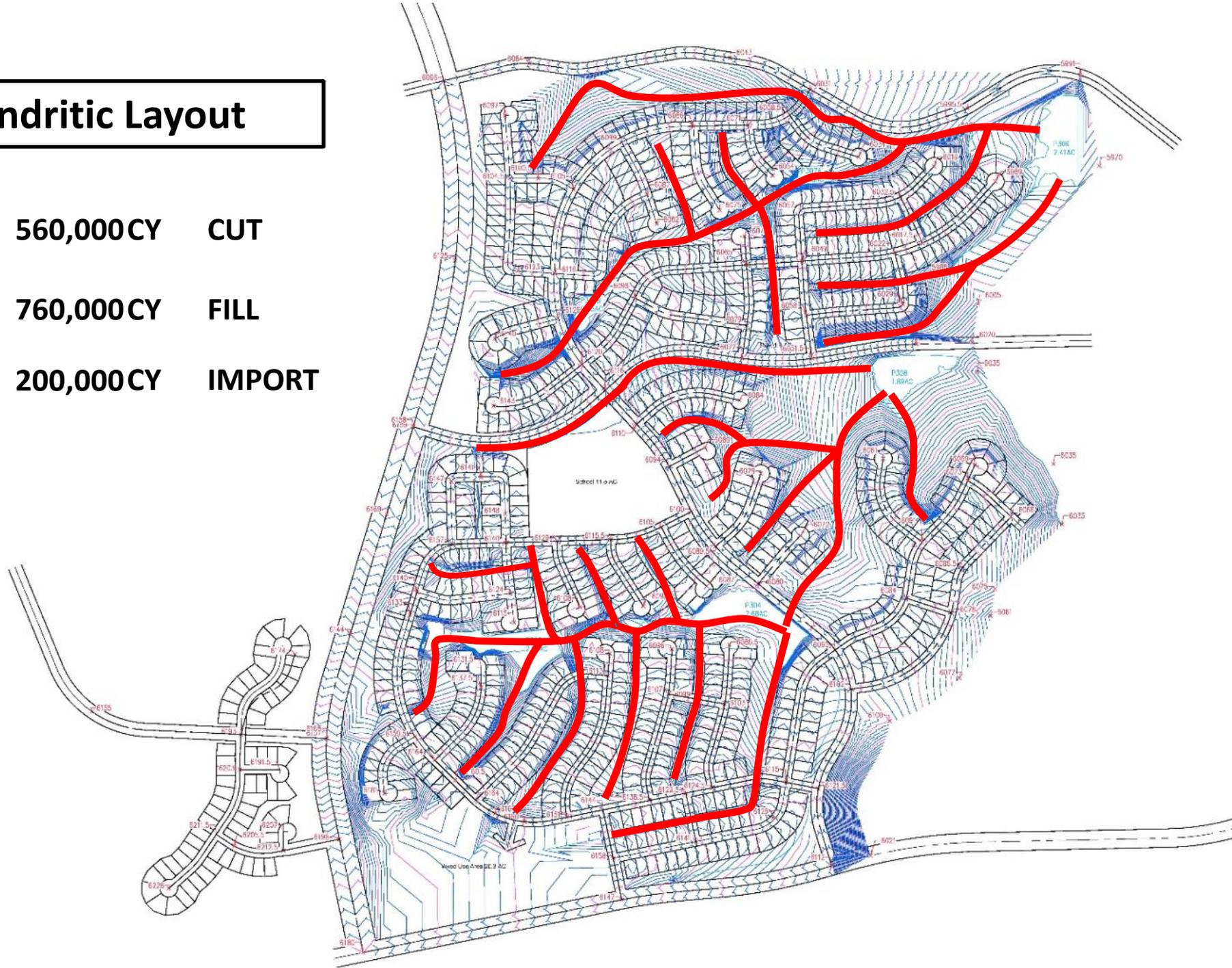


# Dendritic Layout

560,000 CY CUT

760,000 CY FILL

200,000 CY IMPORT





# Summary of Development Metrics

## Traditional Layout

<b>878 Lots</b>
320 (AC) Total Boundary
5.6 (AC) Park
11.9 (AC) School
20.3 (AC) Mixed Use
2.7 Gross Density (Units/Acre)

## Dendritic Layout

<b>797 Lots</b>
320 (AC) Total Boundary
5.6 (AC) Park
11.9 (AC) School
20.4 (AC) Mixed Use
2.5 Gross Density (Units/Acre)



# Mental Models

## TRADITIONAL LAYOUT

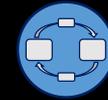
### ENGINEERS OPINION OF CONSTRUCTION COSTS

EARTHWORK / EROSION CONTROL	\$	<b>13,228,725</b>
PUBLIC ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS	\$	<b>23,141,006</b>
PARKS, TRAILS, AND RECREATION	\$	1,271,334
SIGNAGE & STRIPING	\$	512,039
DRAINAGE AND STORMWATER	\$	1,011,200
SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS	\$	3,092,015
WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS	\$	9,381,008
Public Improvements Total	\$	<b>67,128,524</b>
Cost Per Lot	\$	<b>76,456</b>

## DENDRITIC LAYOUT

### ENGINEERS OPINION OF CONSTRUCTION COSTS

EARTHWORK / EROSION CONTROL	\$	<b>8,237,200</b>
PUBLIC ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS	\$	<b>21,556,033</b>
PARKS, TRAILS, AND RECREATION	\$	1,271,334
SIGNAGE & STRIPING	\$	503,706
DRAINAGE AND STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS	\$	1,005,200
SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS	\$	3,779,383
WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS	\$	8,325,552
Public Improvements Total	\$	<b>58,081,931</b>
Cost Per Lot	\$	<b>72,876</b>



# Mental Models

## TRADITIONAL LAYOUT

## DENDRITIC LAYOUT

### ENGINEERS OPINION OF COI

### OPINION OF CONSTRUCTION COSTS

EARTHWORK / EROSION CONTROL	[REDACTED]	CONTROL	\$ 8,237,200
PUBLIC ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS	[REDACTED]	MENTS	\$ 21,556,033
PARKS, TRAILS, AND RECREATION	[REDACTED]	ION	\$ 1,271,334
SIGNAGE & STRIPING	[REDACTED]		\$ 503,706
DRAINAGE AND STORMWATER	[REDACTED]	ER IMPROVEMENTS	\$ 1,005,200
SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS	[REDACTED]		\$ 3,779,383
WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS	[REDACTED]	NTS	\$ 8,325,552
Public Improvements		Improvements total	\$ 38,081,931
Cost Per Lot	\$ 76,456	Cost Per Lot	\$ 72,876

TRADITIONAL LAYOUT					
	Lot Type	Number of Lots	Lot Premium	Total	
	Standard	837	\$ -	\$ -	
	Walk Out	23	\$ 8,000	\$ 184,000	
	Garden	18	\$ 3,000	\$ 54,000	
	Total	878			
				<b>\$ 238,000</b>	

DENDRITIC LAYOUT					
	Lot Type	Number of Lots	Lot Premium	Total	
	Standard	649	\$ -	\$ -	
	Walk Out	112	\$ 8,000	\$ 896,000	
	Garden	36	\$ 3,000	\$ 108,000	
	Total	797			Potential
				<b>\$ 1,004,000</b>	76% Increase
					Revenue

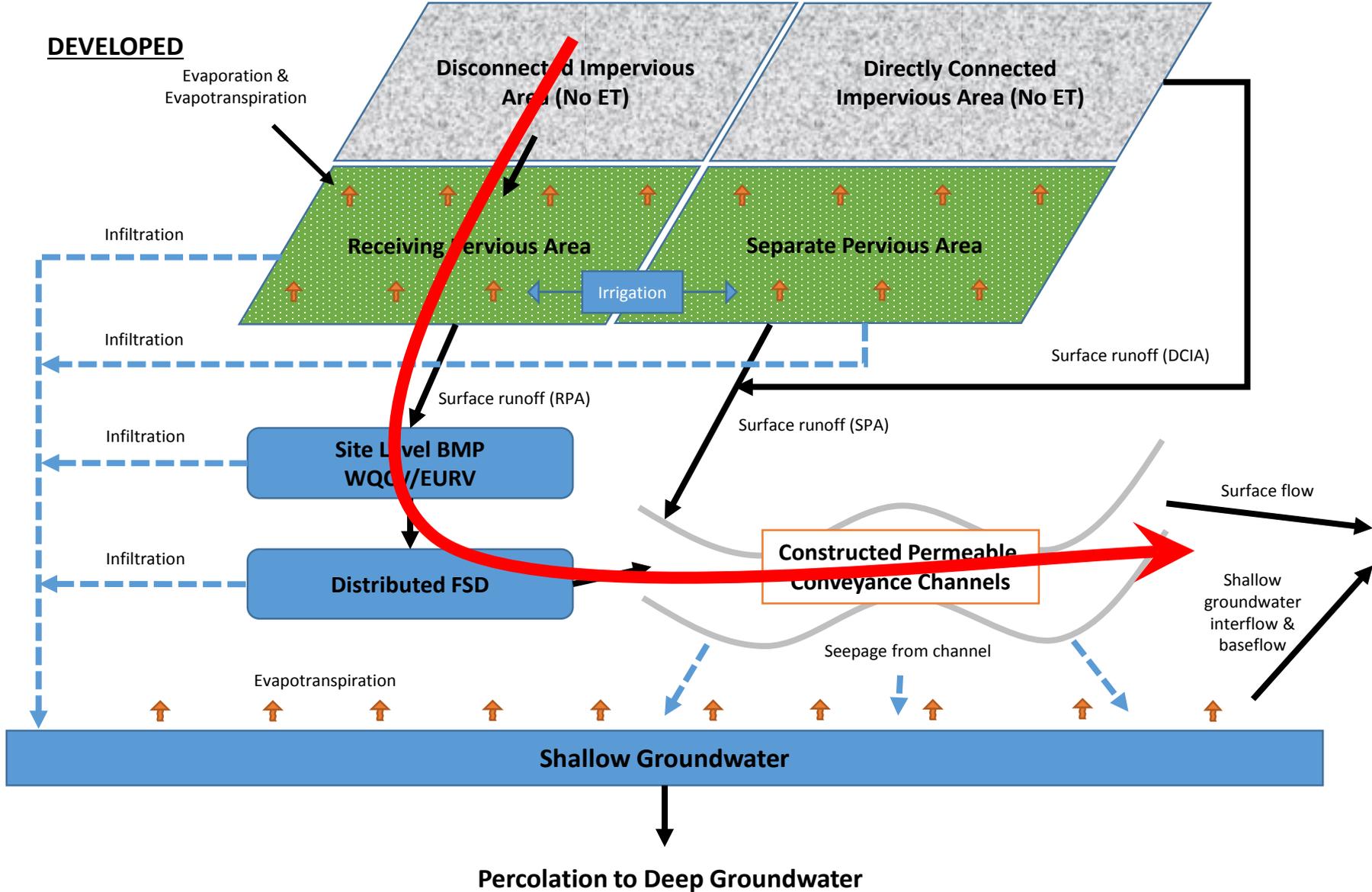
## TRADITIONAL LAYOUT

	Lot Type	Number of Lots	Lot Premium	Total	
	Standard	837	\$ -	\$ -	
	Walk Out	23	\$ 8,000	\$ 184,000	
	Garden	18	\$ 3,000	\$ 54,000	
	Total	878			

Premium Lots  
Increase by 70%

	Lot Type	Number of Lots	Lot Premium	Total	
	Standard	649	\$ -	\$ -	
	Walk Out	112	\$ 8,000	\$ 896,000	
	Garden	36	\$ 3,000	\$ 108,000	
	Total	797			Potential
				\$ 1,004,000	76% Increase
					Revenue

# Continuous and Design Rainfall Modeling



**Storm Pipe Areas**

P1

S1

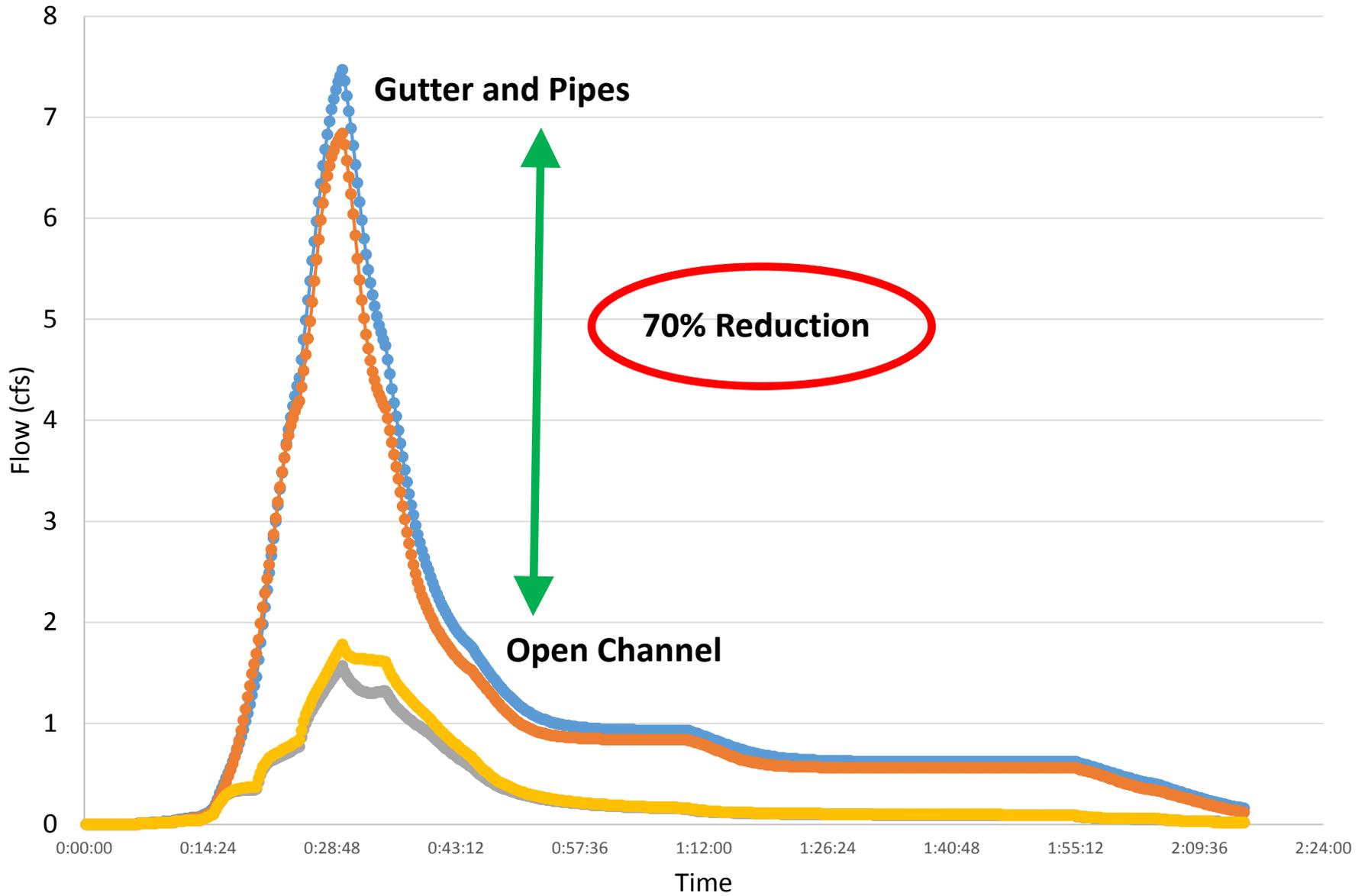
P2

**Tributary Areas**

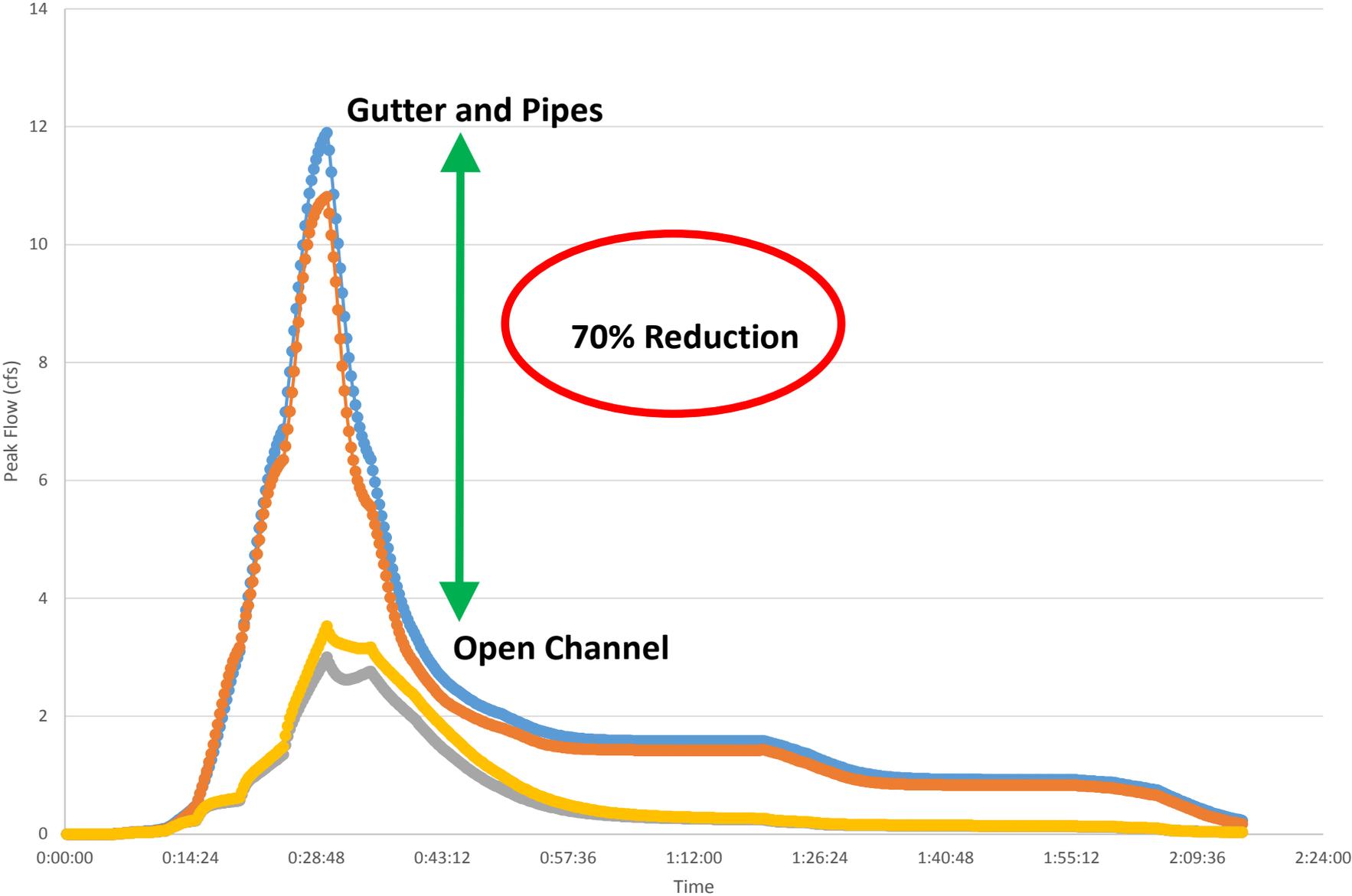
**Network of Vegetated Swales**

S2

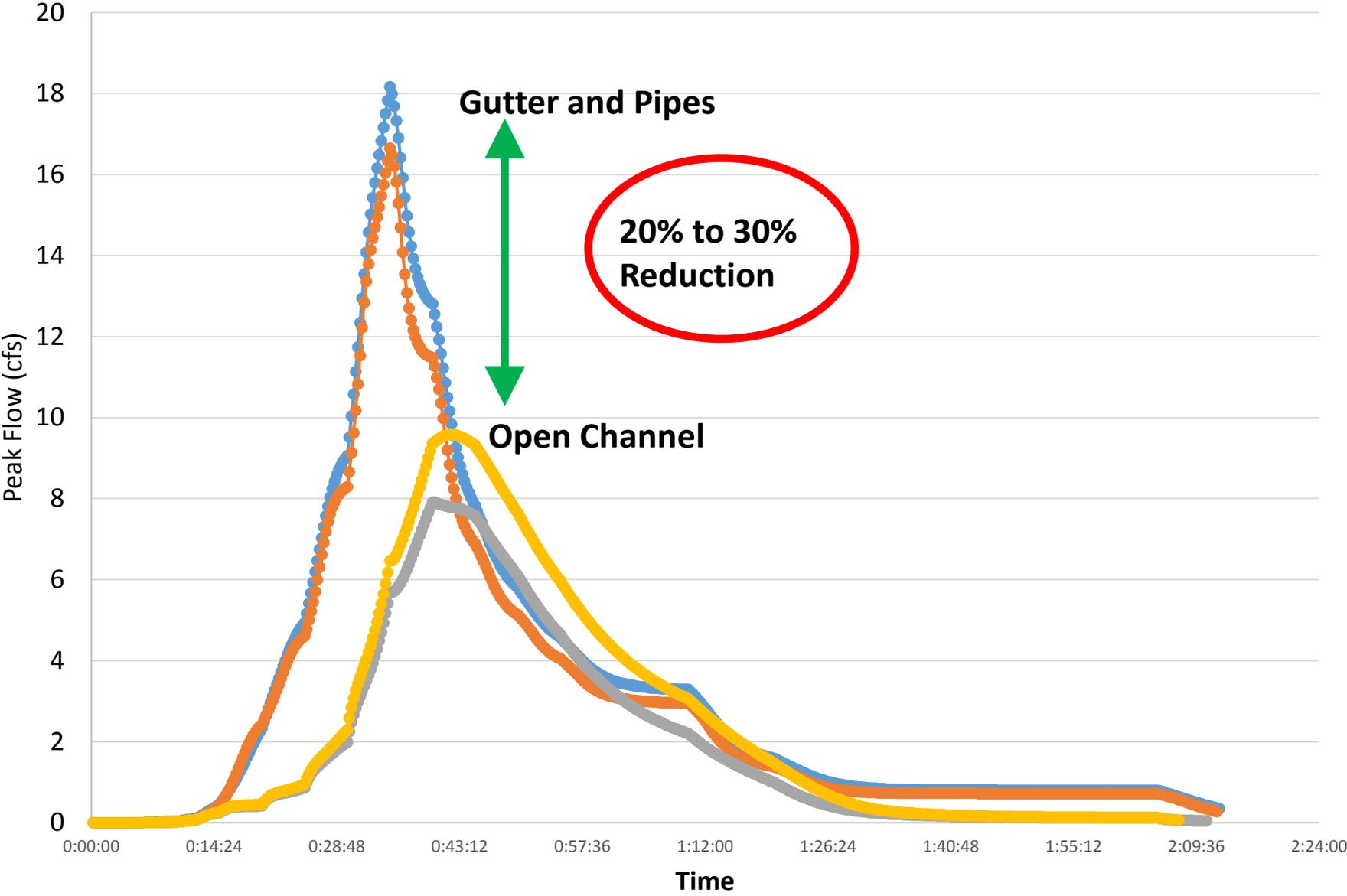
# Gutter & Swale Peak Flow (2-Year)



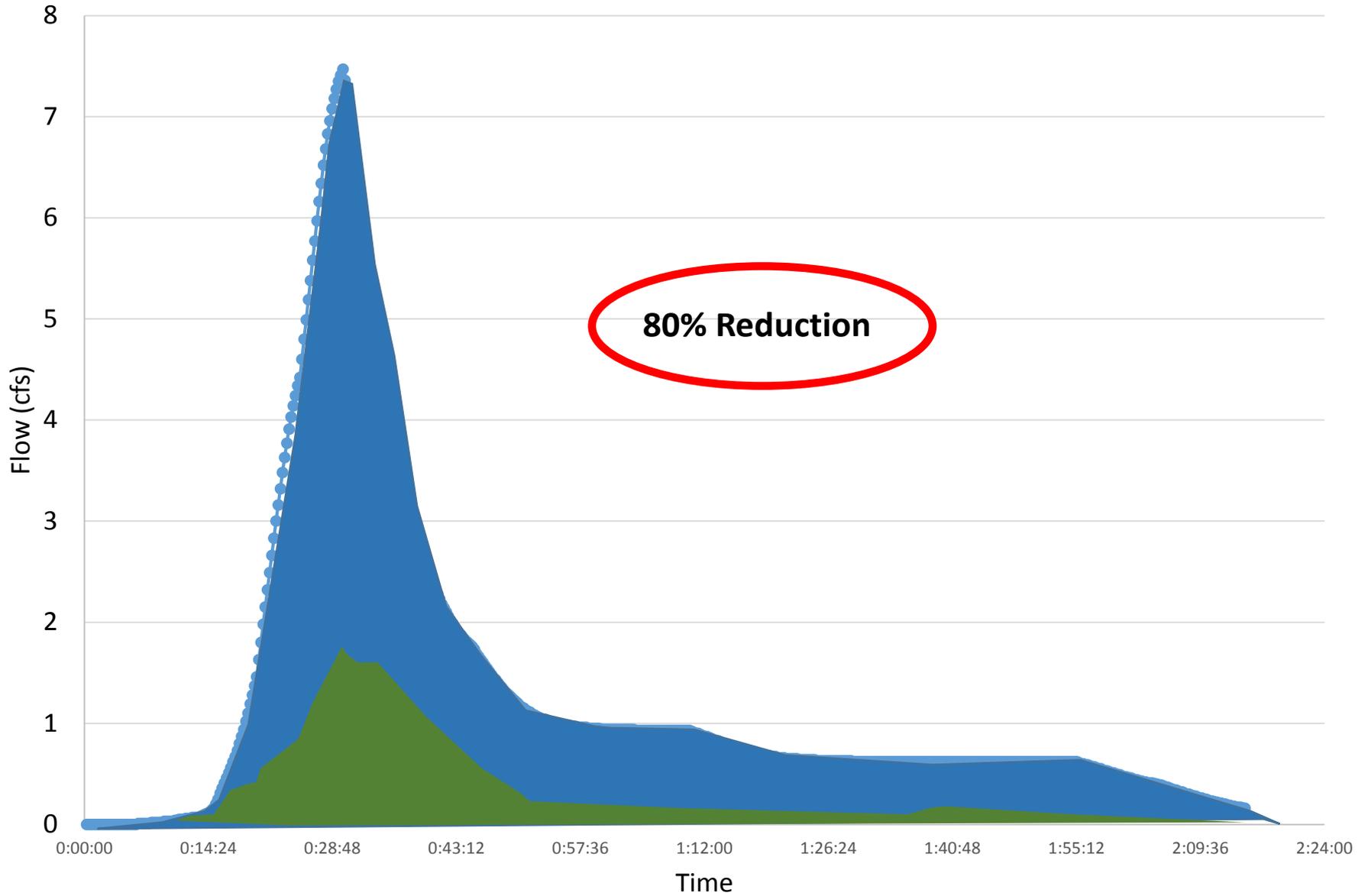
# Gutter & Swale Flows (10-Year)



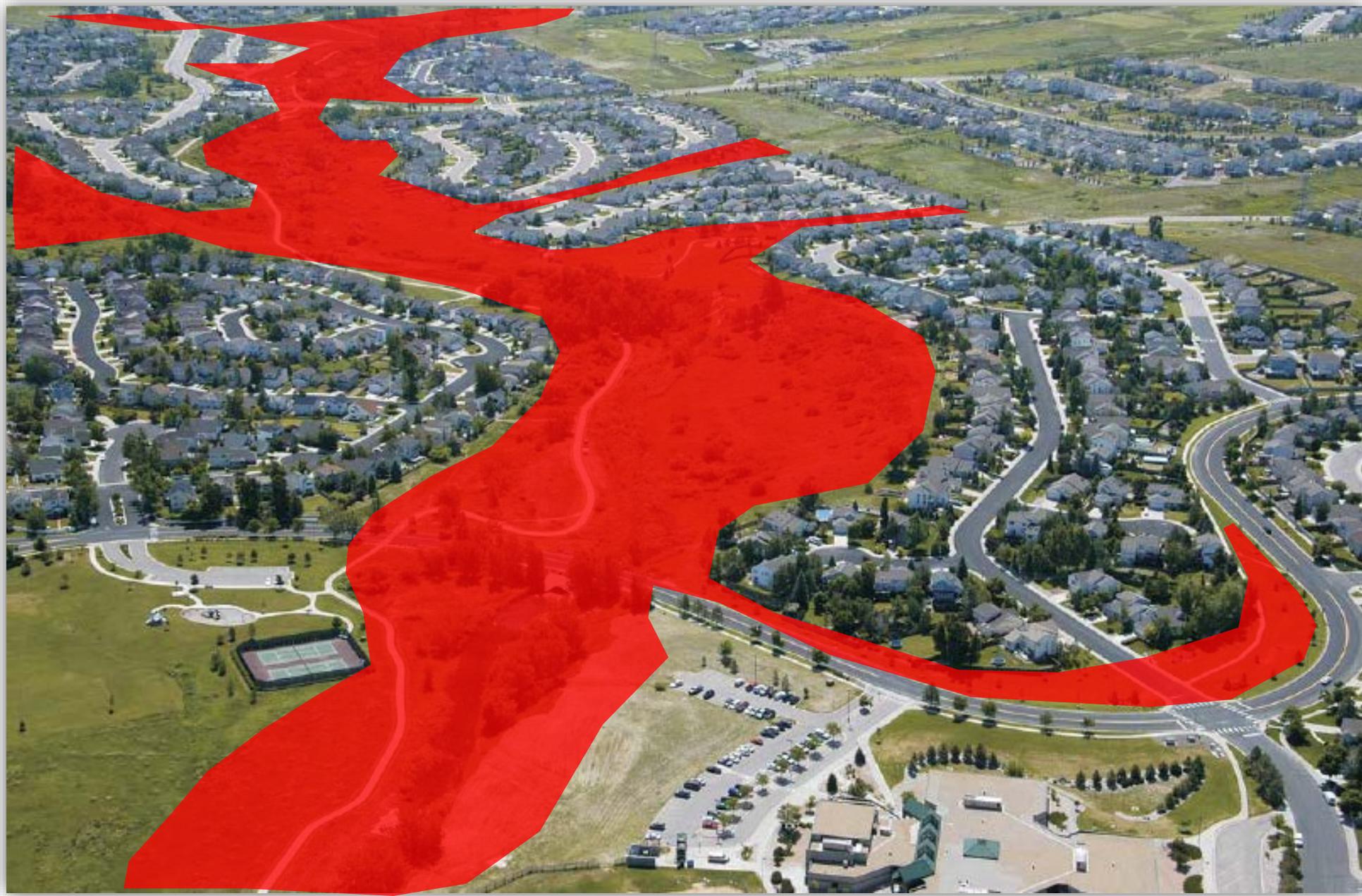
# Gutter & Swale Flows (100-Year)



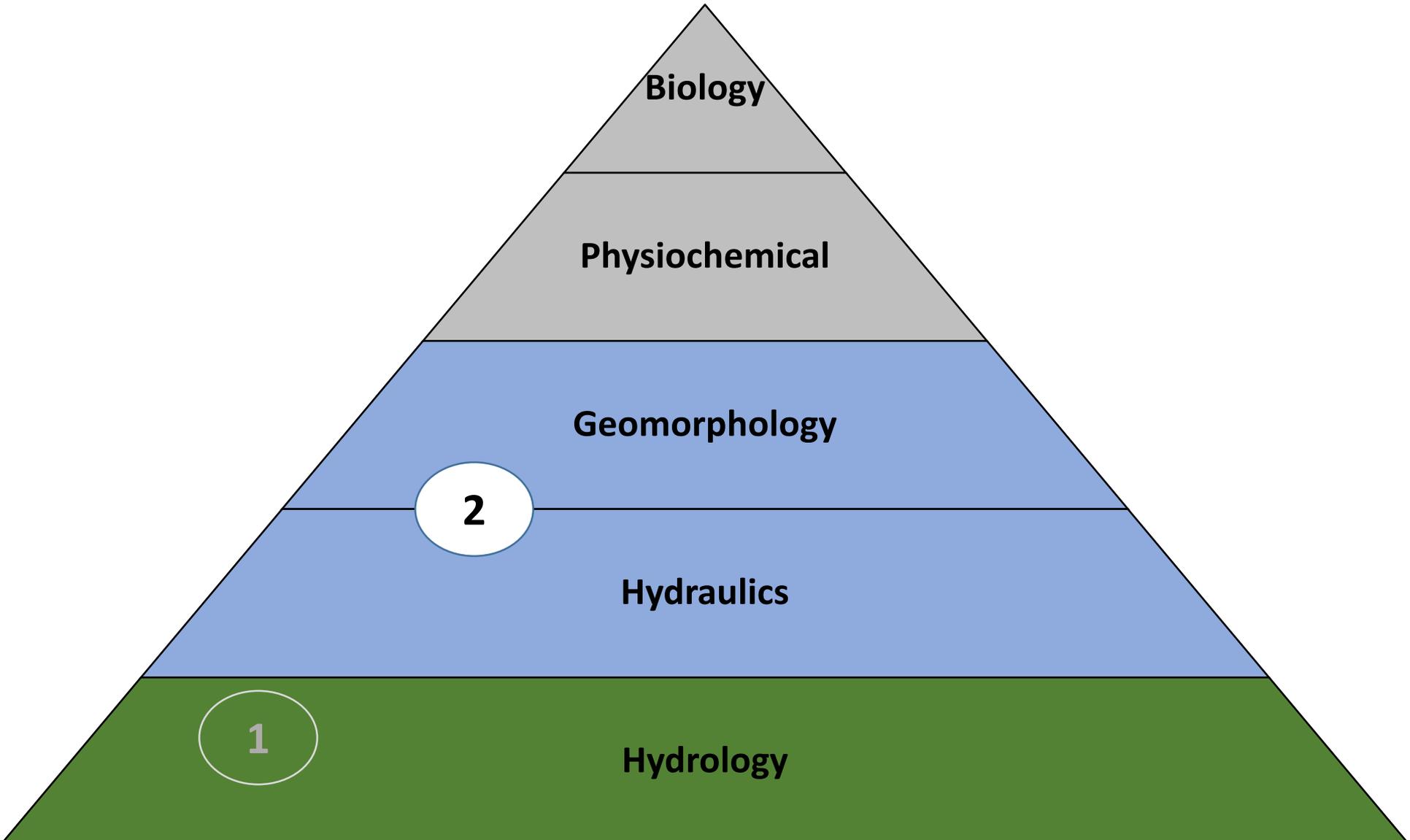
# Gutter & Swale Volumes (2-Year)



# Maintain a dendritic open channel system



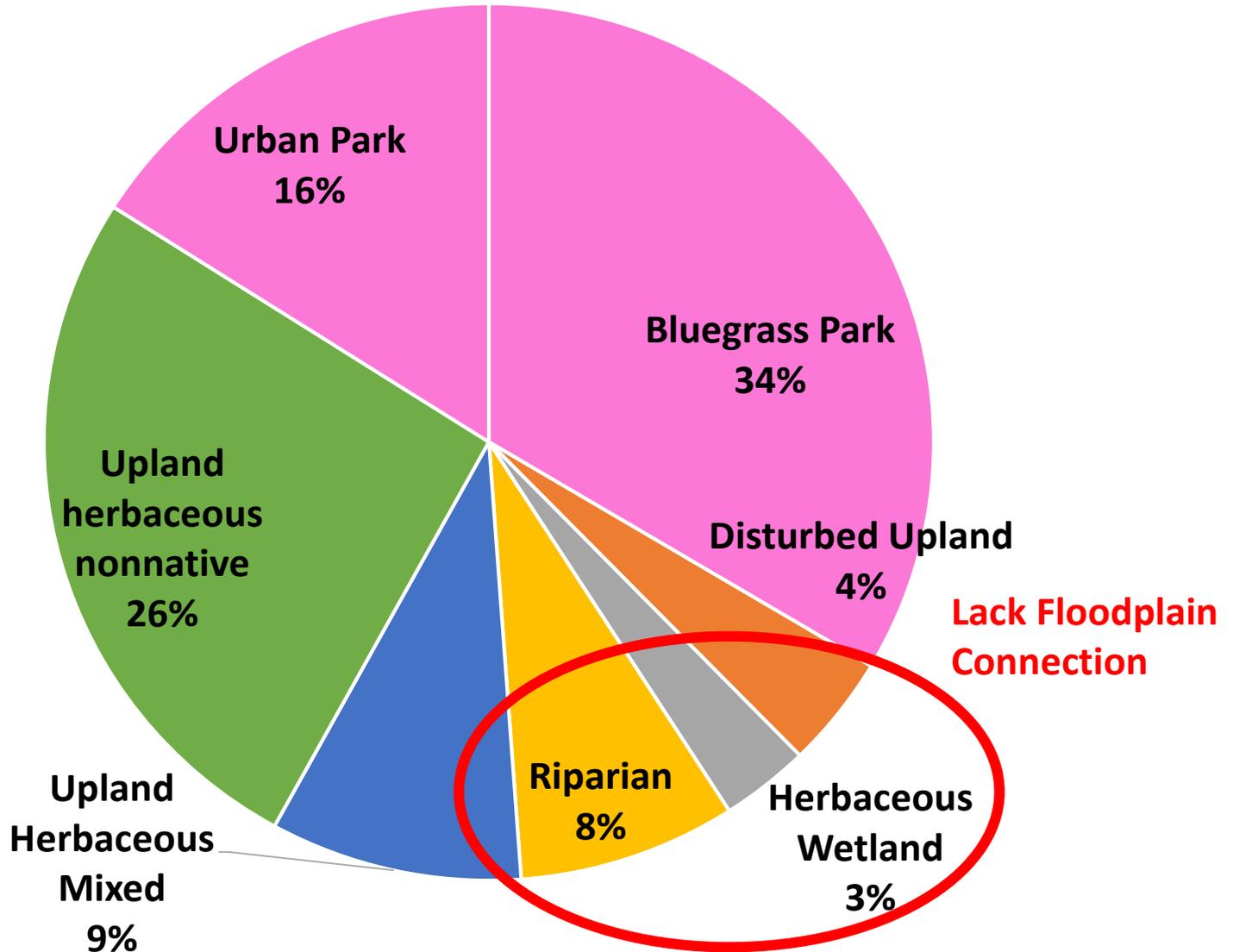
# Stream Works

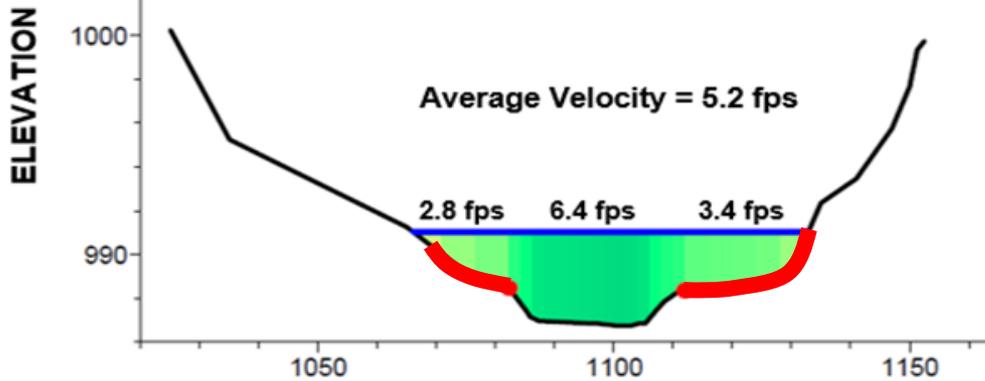
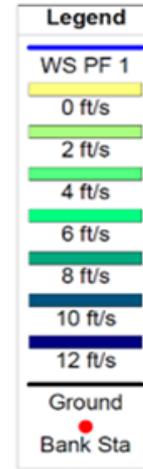
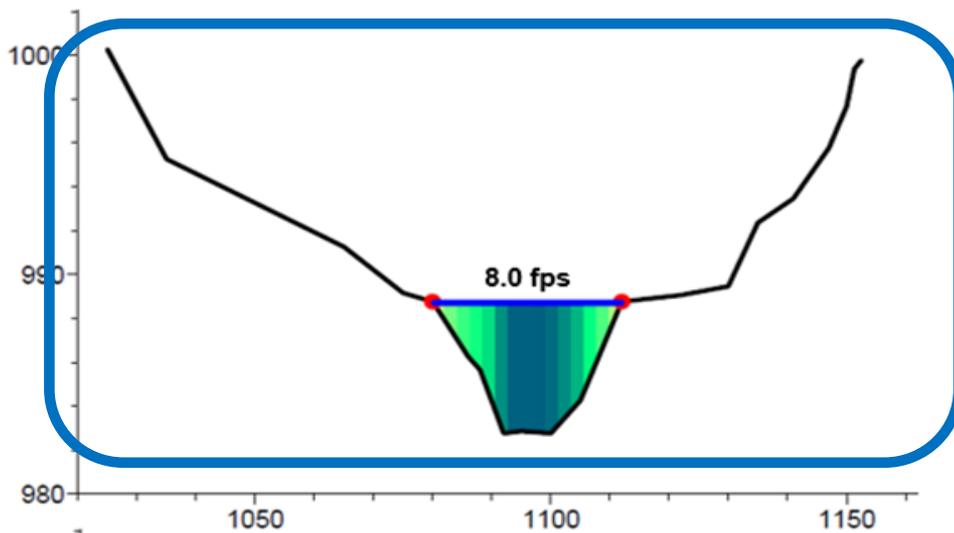




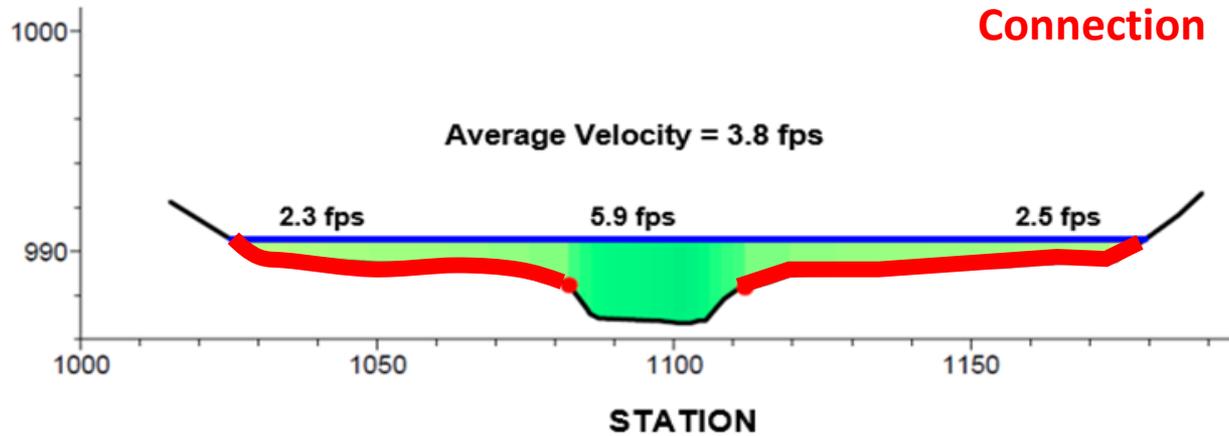
Lakewood Gulch at Tennyson Street, July 2013

# Vegetation Communities, All Streams in Denver





**Floodplain  
Connection**



ACER TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM NO. 11  
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER - ENGINEERING AND RESEARCH  
DENVER, COLORADO

# DOWNSTREAM HAZARD CLASSIFICATION GUIDELINES

# Are we reducing risk?

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Bureau of Reclamation  
1988



# Are we reducing risk?

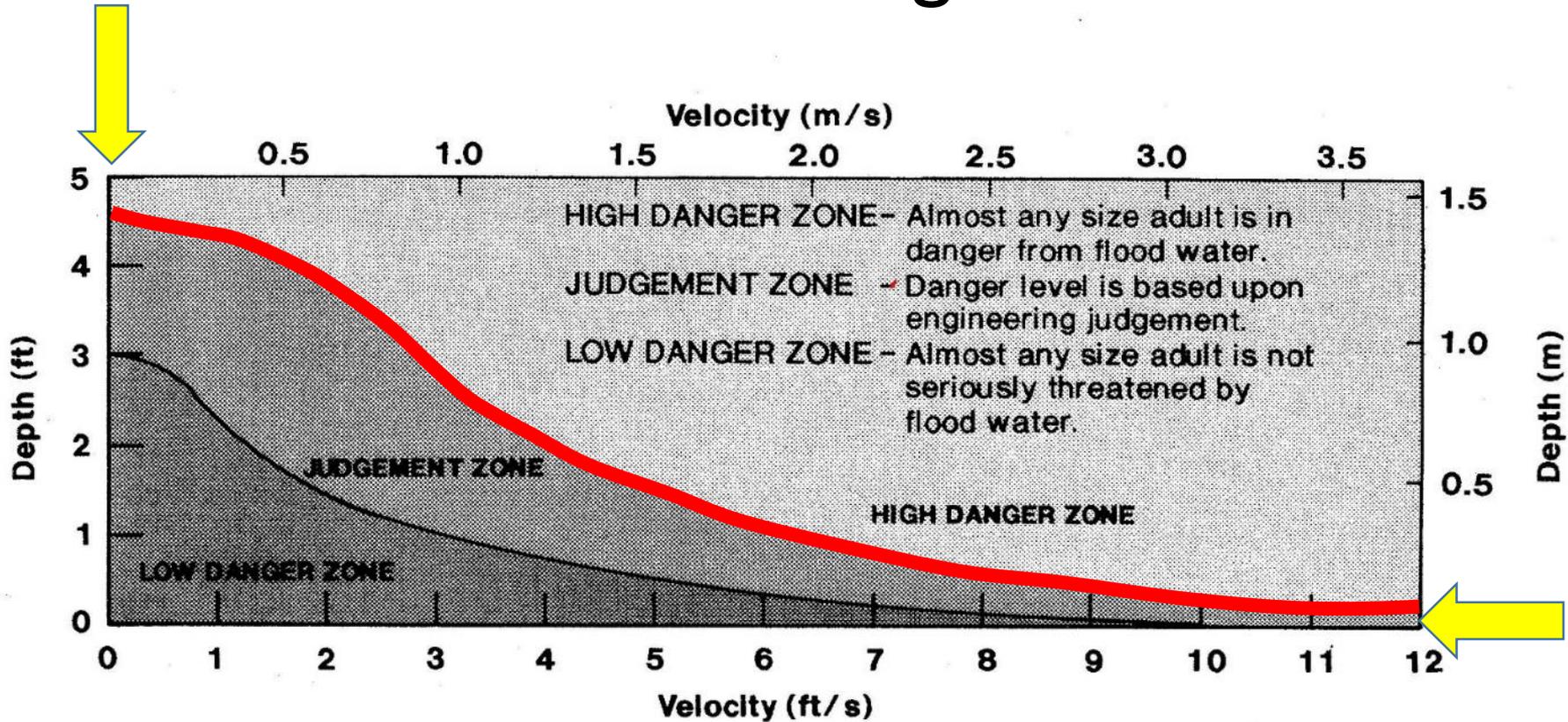
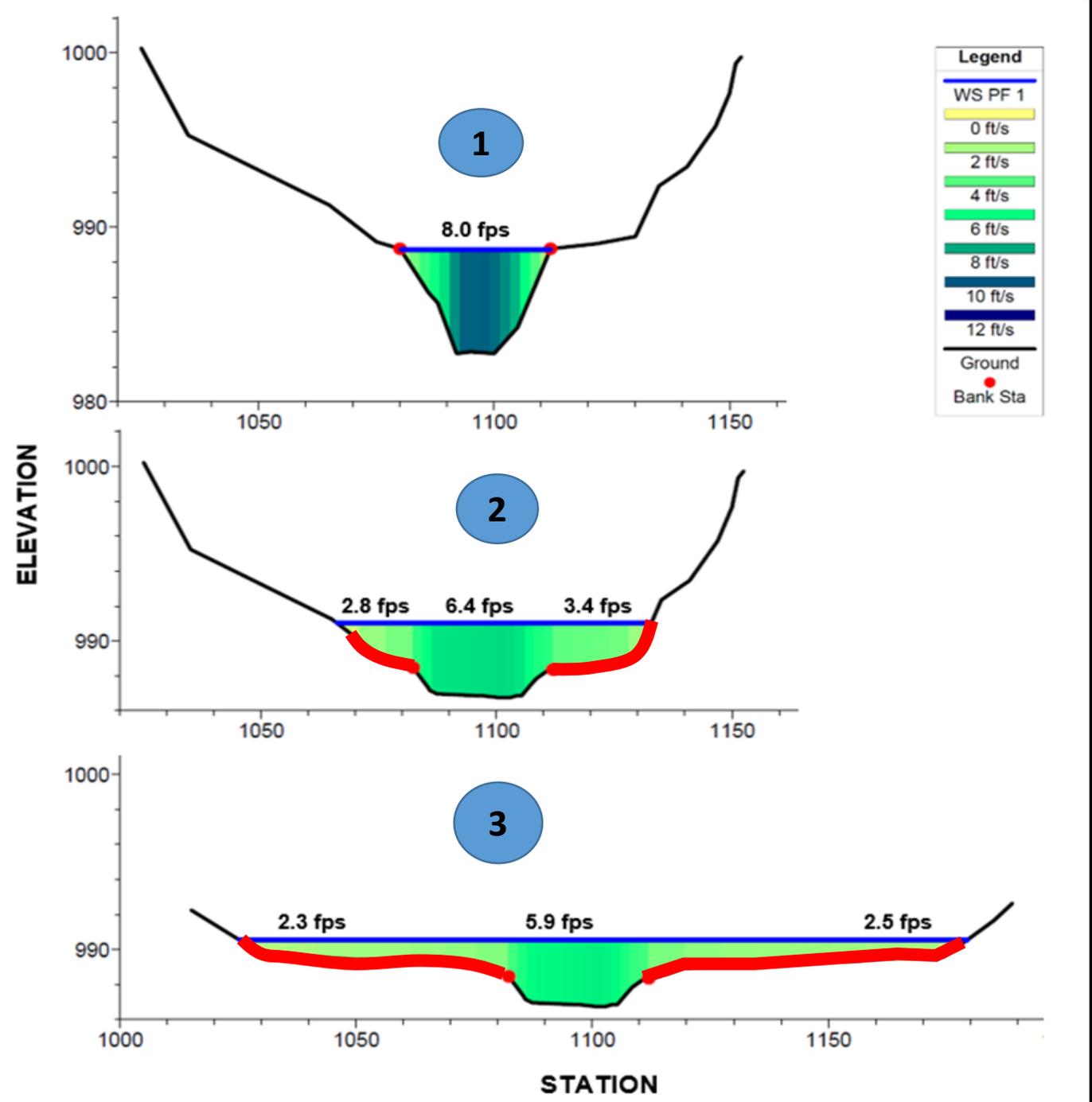


Figure 5. - Depth-velocity flood danger level relationship for adults.



# Are we reducing risk?

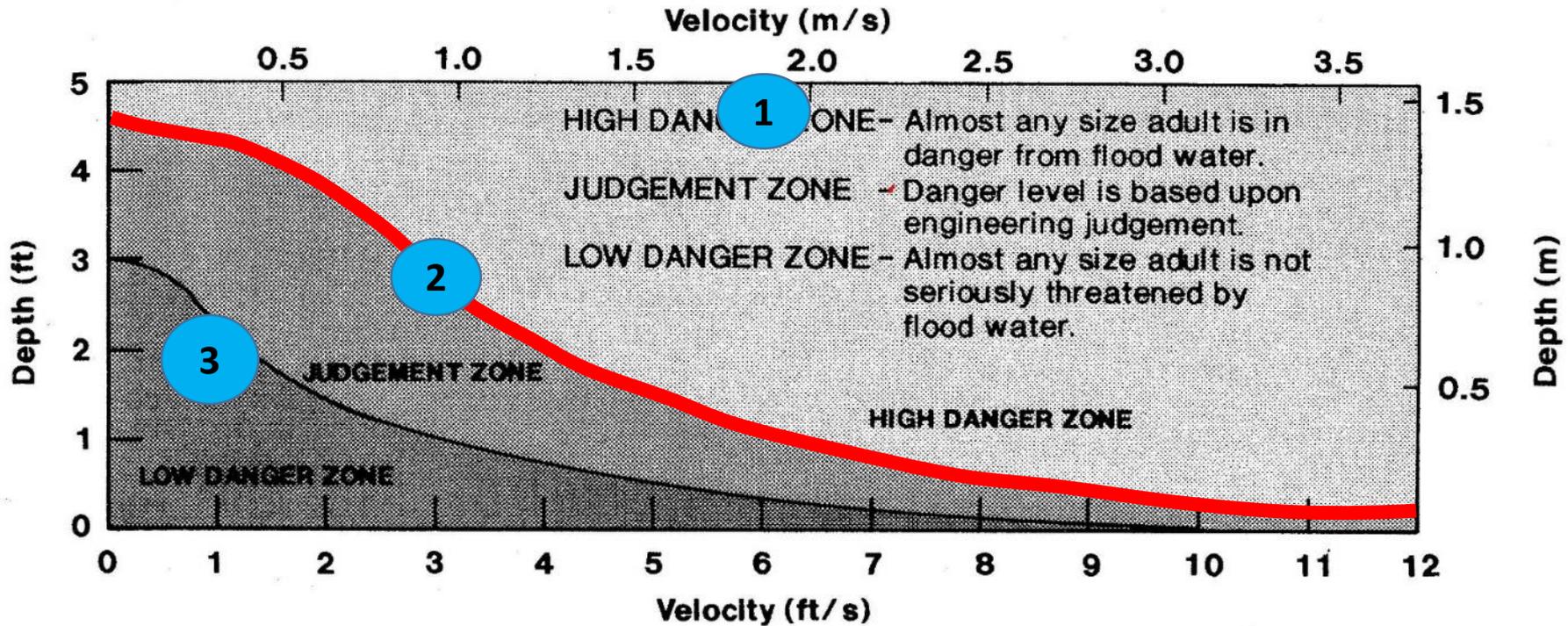
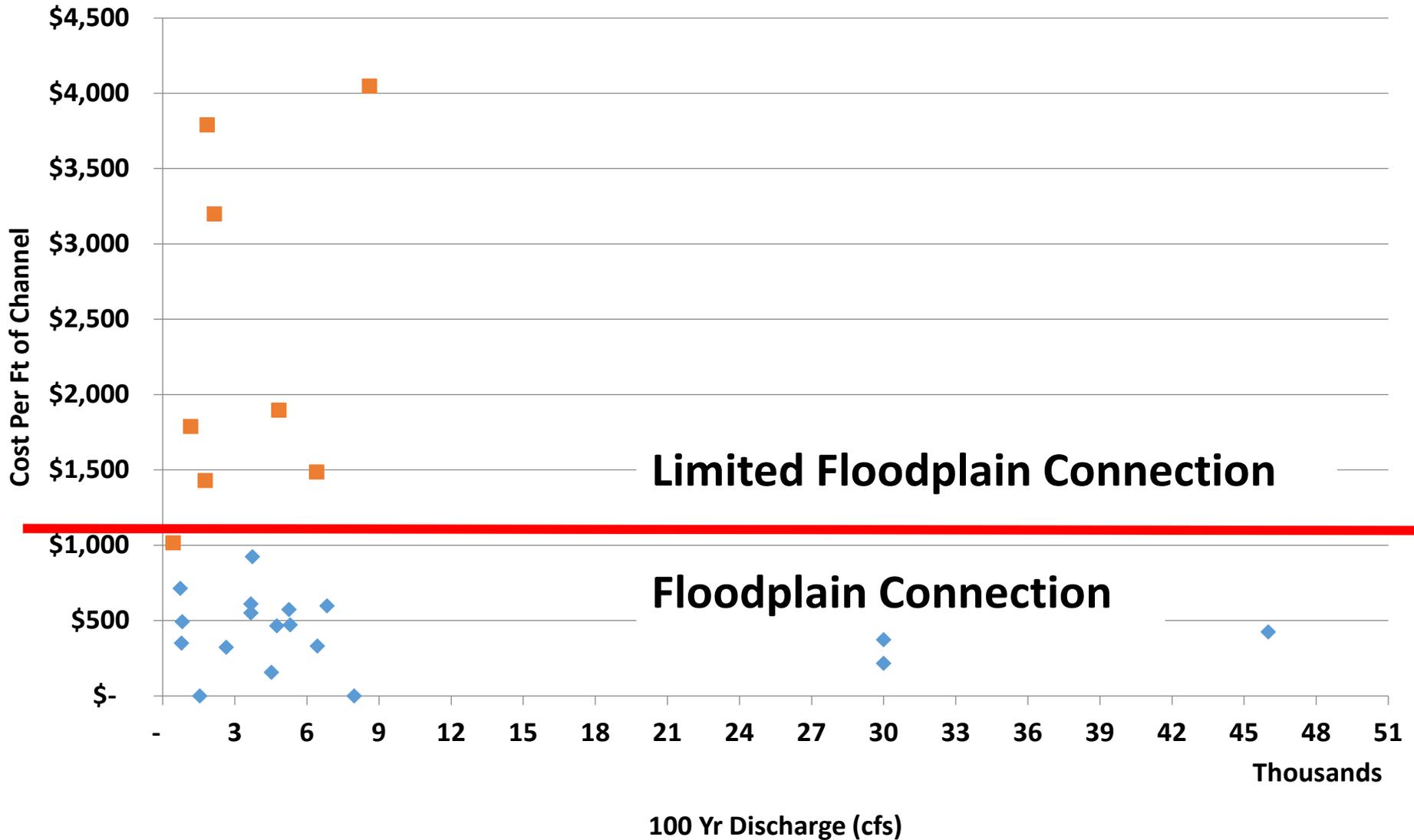
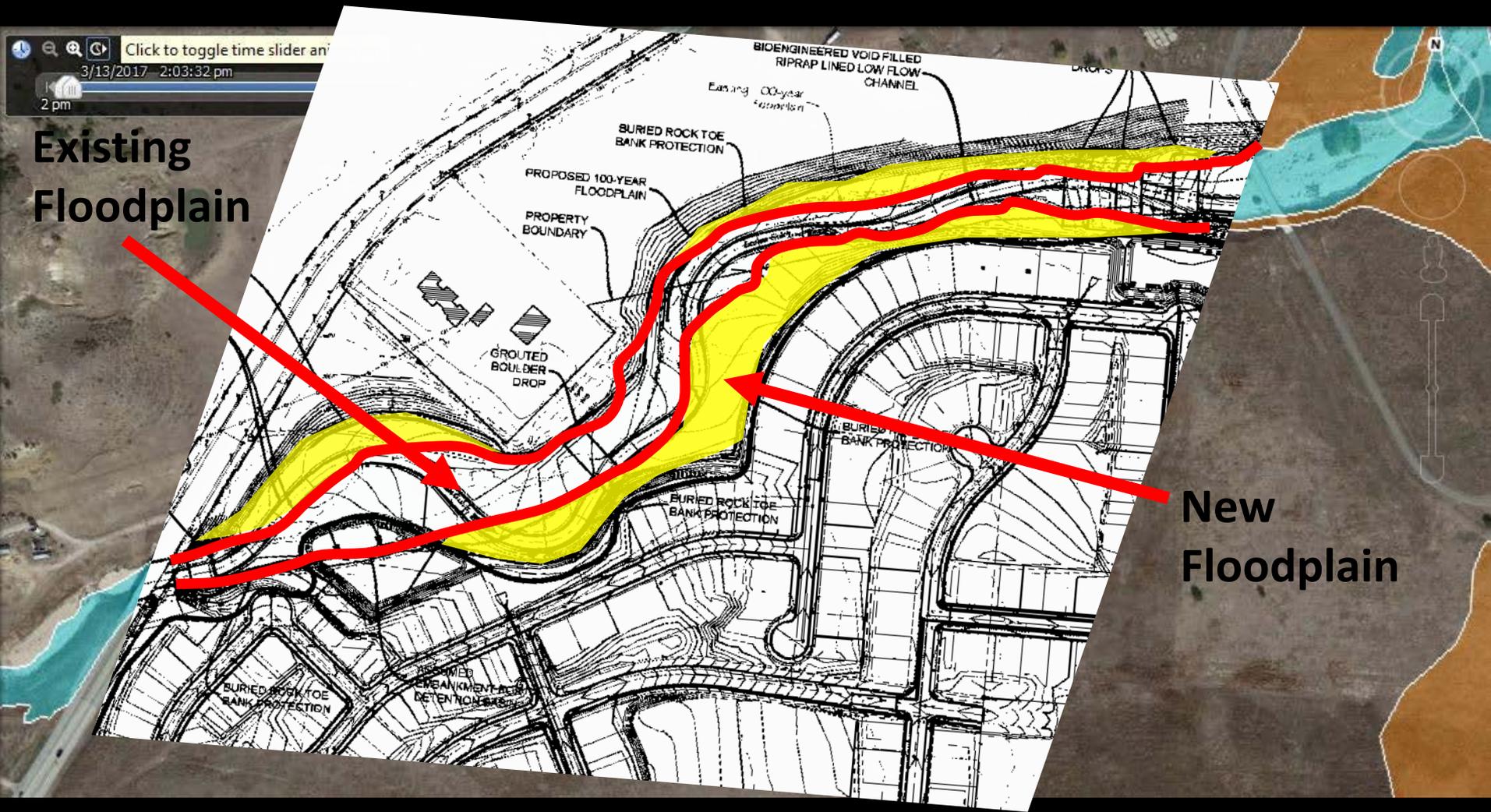


Figure 5. – Depth–velocity flood danger level relationship for adults.

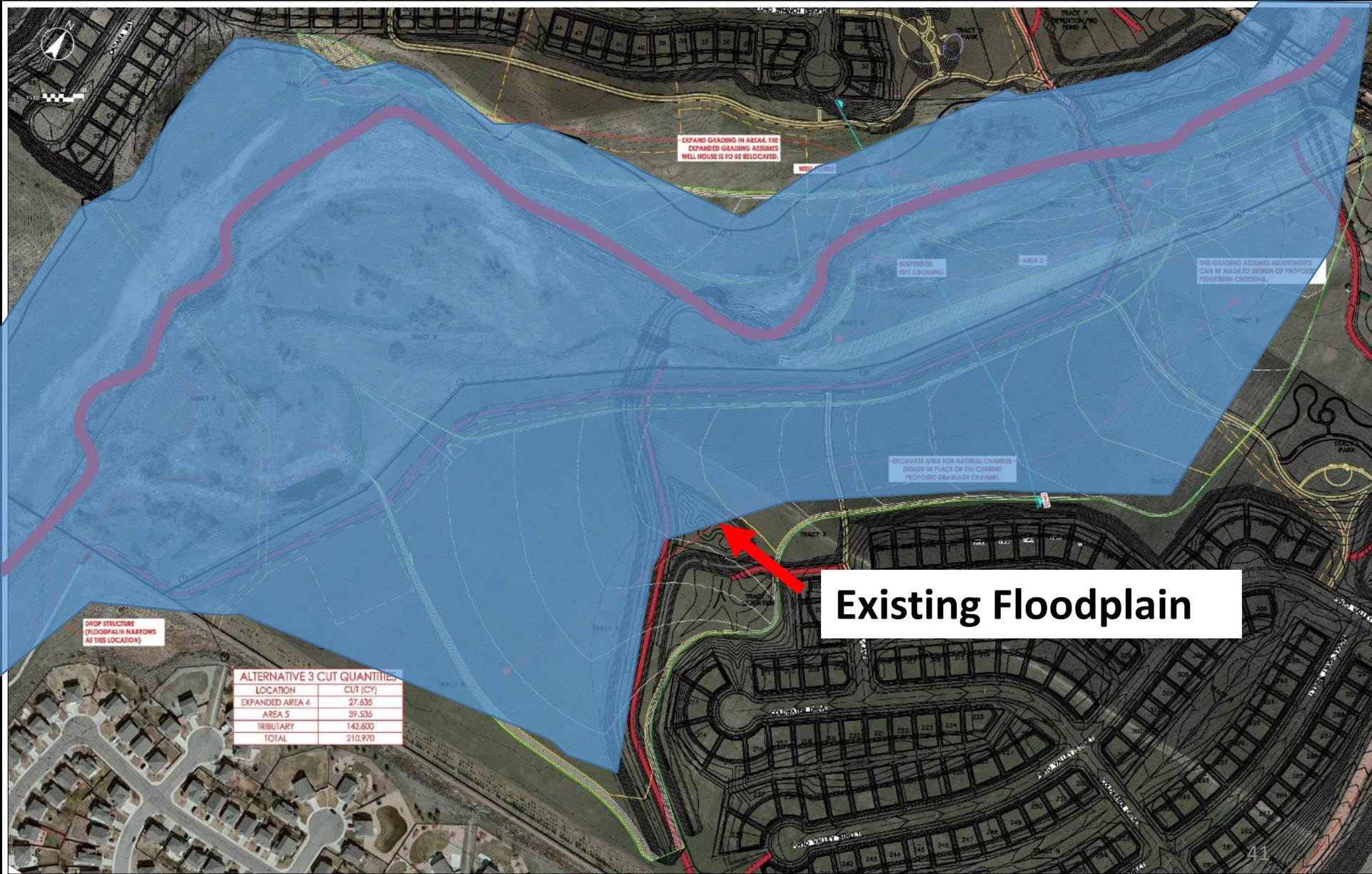
# Are we reducing costs?



# Flirt with the *Floodplain*



# Reconnect with an old *Floodplain*



EXPAND GRADING IN AREA 4, THE EXPANDED GRADING ASSUMES WELL HOUSE IS TO BE RELOCATED.

WELL HOUSE

SUSPENDED PPE CROSSING

AREA 5

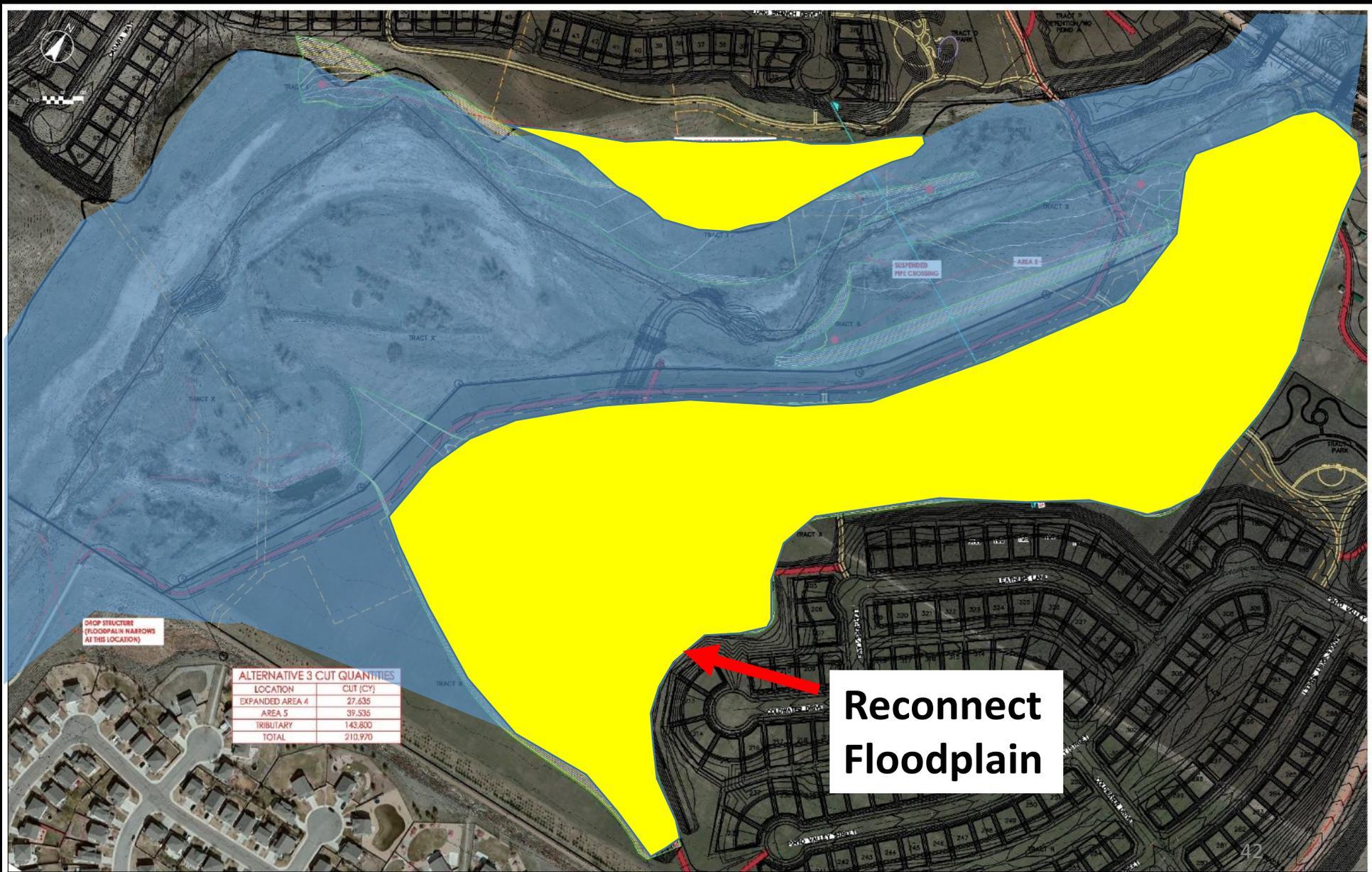
THIS GRADING ASSUMES ADJUSTMENTS CAN BE MADE TO DESIGN OF PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING.

EXCAVATE AREA FOR NATURAL CHANNELS - DESIGN IN PLACE OF THE CURRENT PROPOSED DRAINAGE CHANNEL

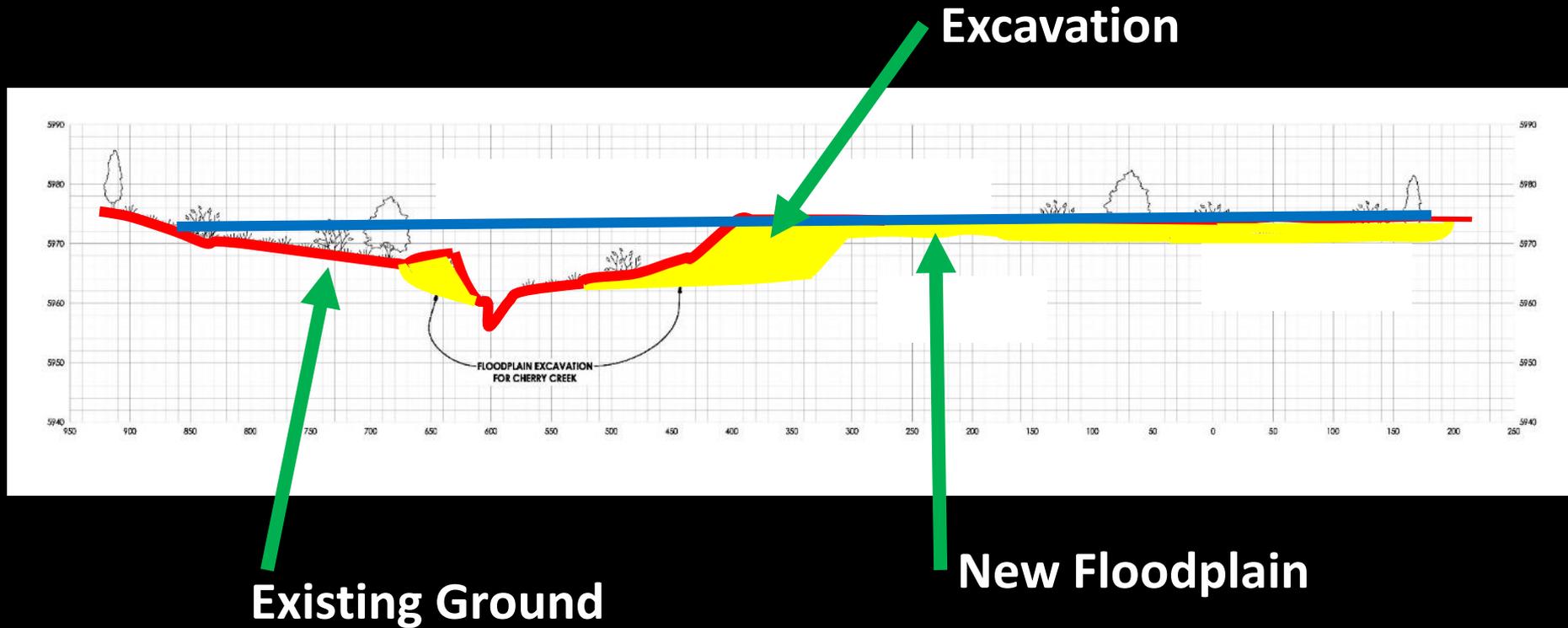
**Existing Floodplain**

DROP STRUCTURE (FLOODPLAIN NARROWS AT THIS LOCATION)

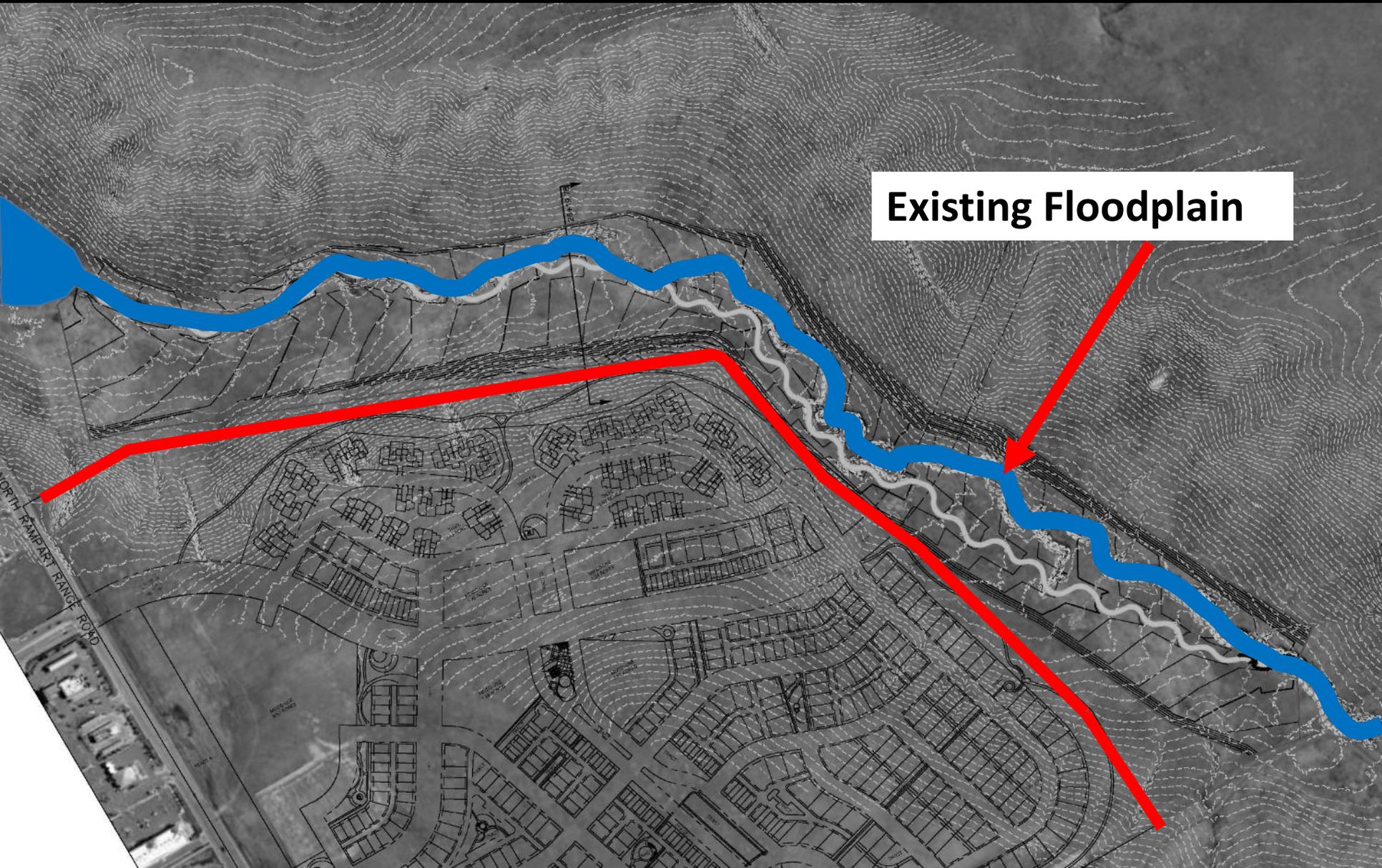
# Reconnect with an old *Floodplain*



# Reconnect with an old *Floodplain*



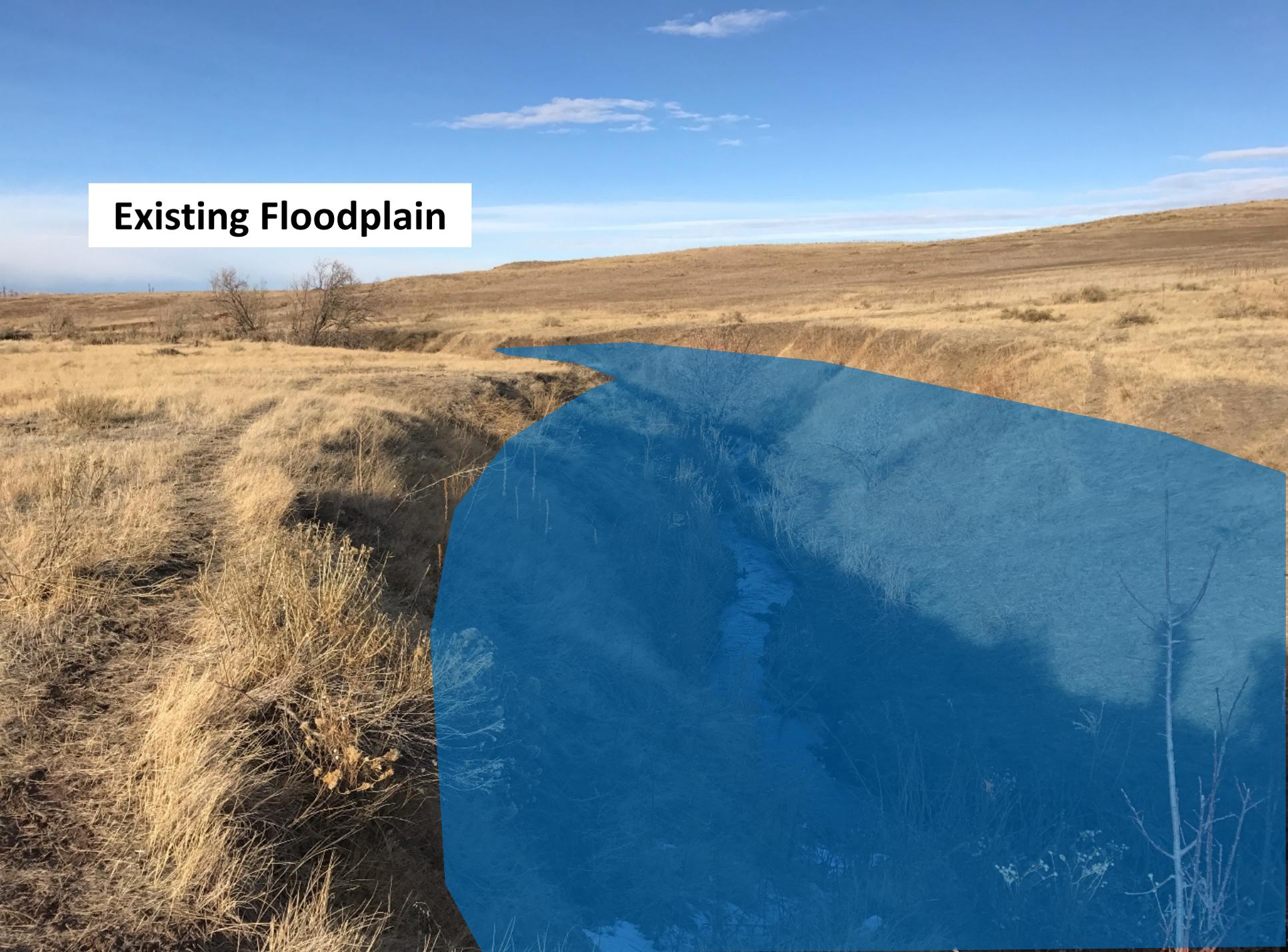
# Engage a New Floodplain



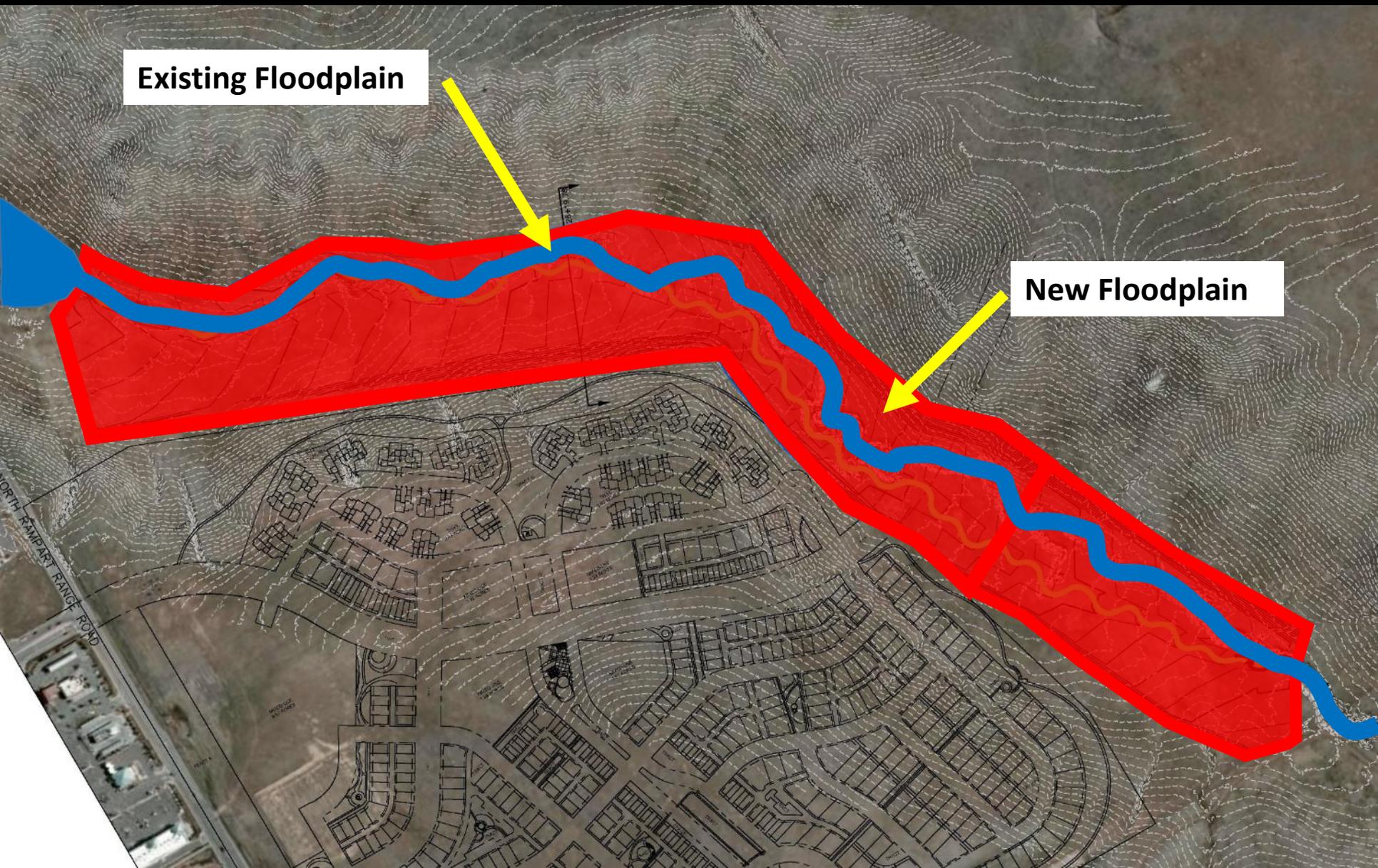
**Existing Floodplain**

NORTH RAMPART RANGE ROAD

# Existing Floodplain



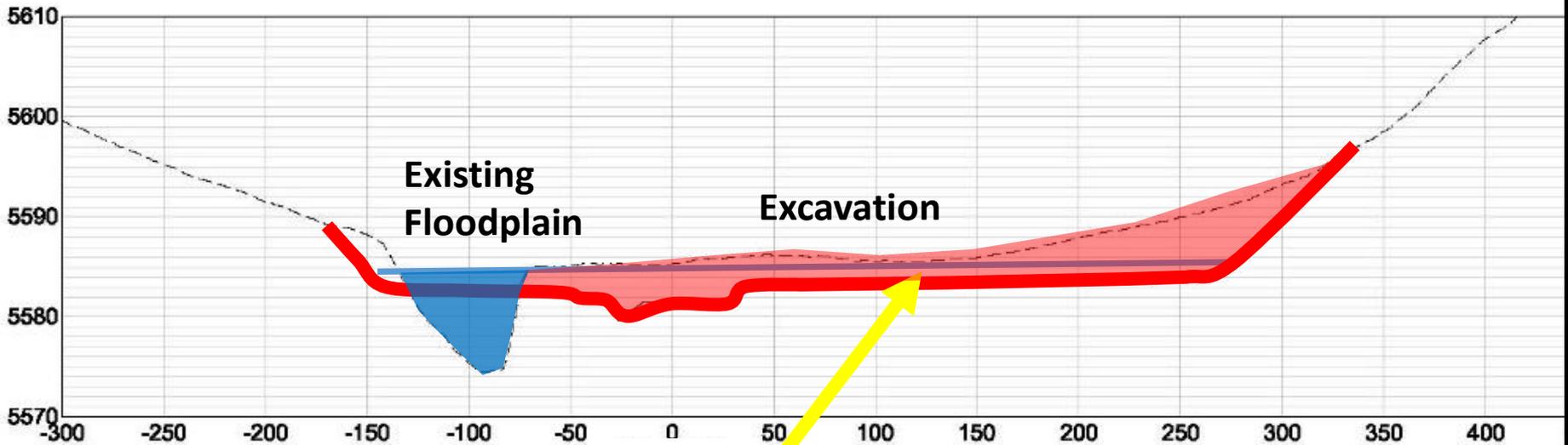
# Engage the floodplain



**Existing Floodplain**

**New Floodplain**

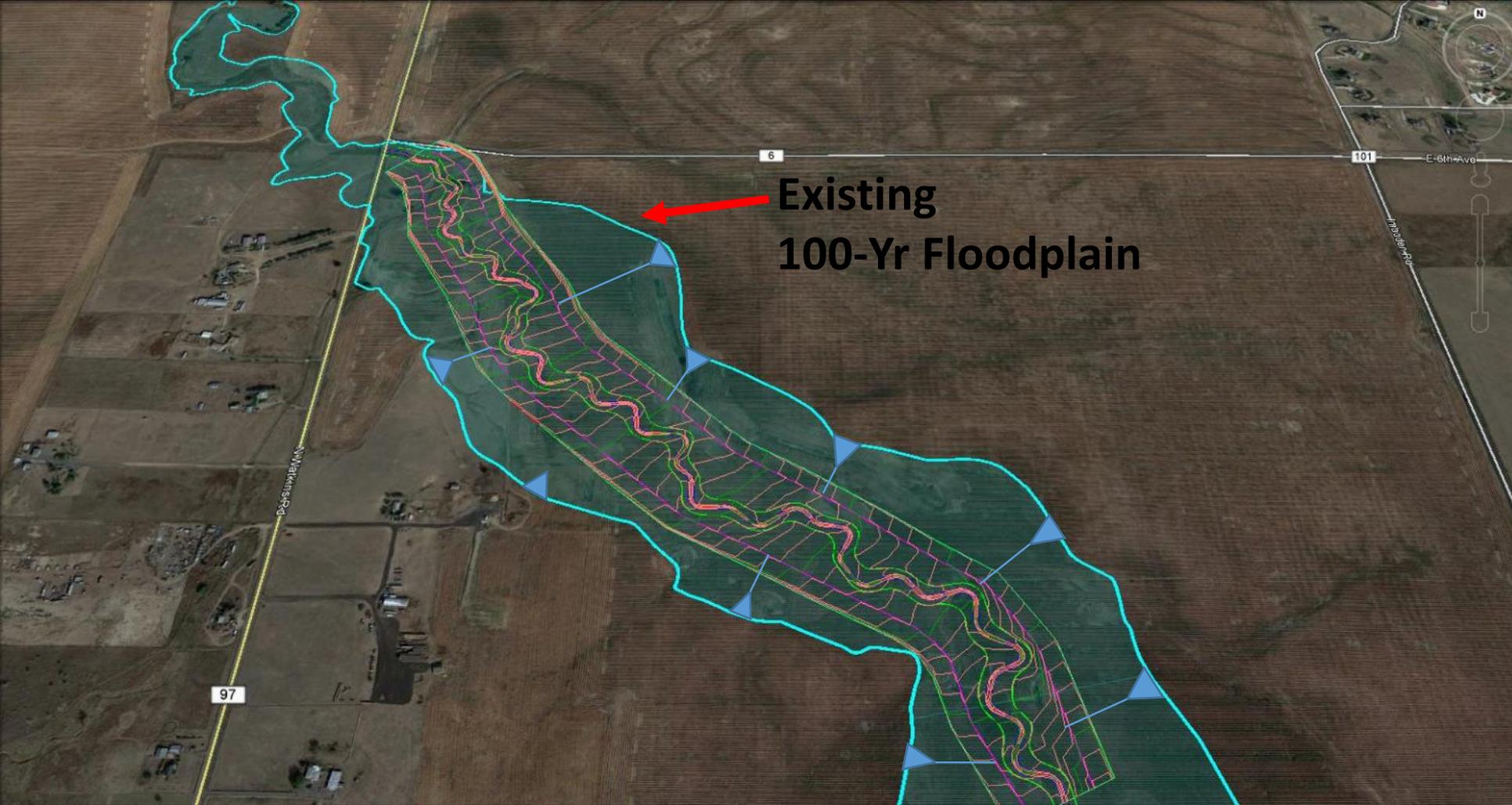
# Engage the floodplain



Depth in Floodplain = 3 feet

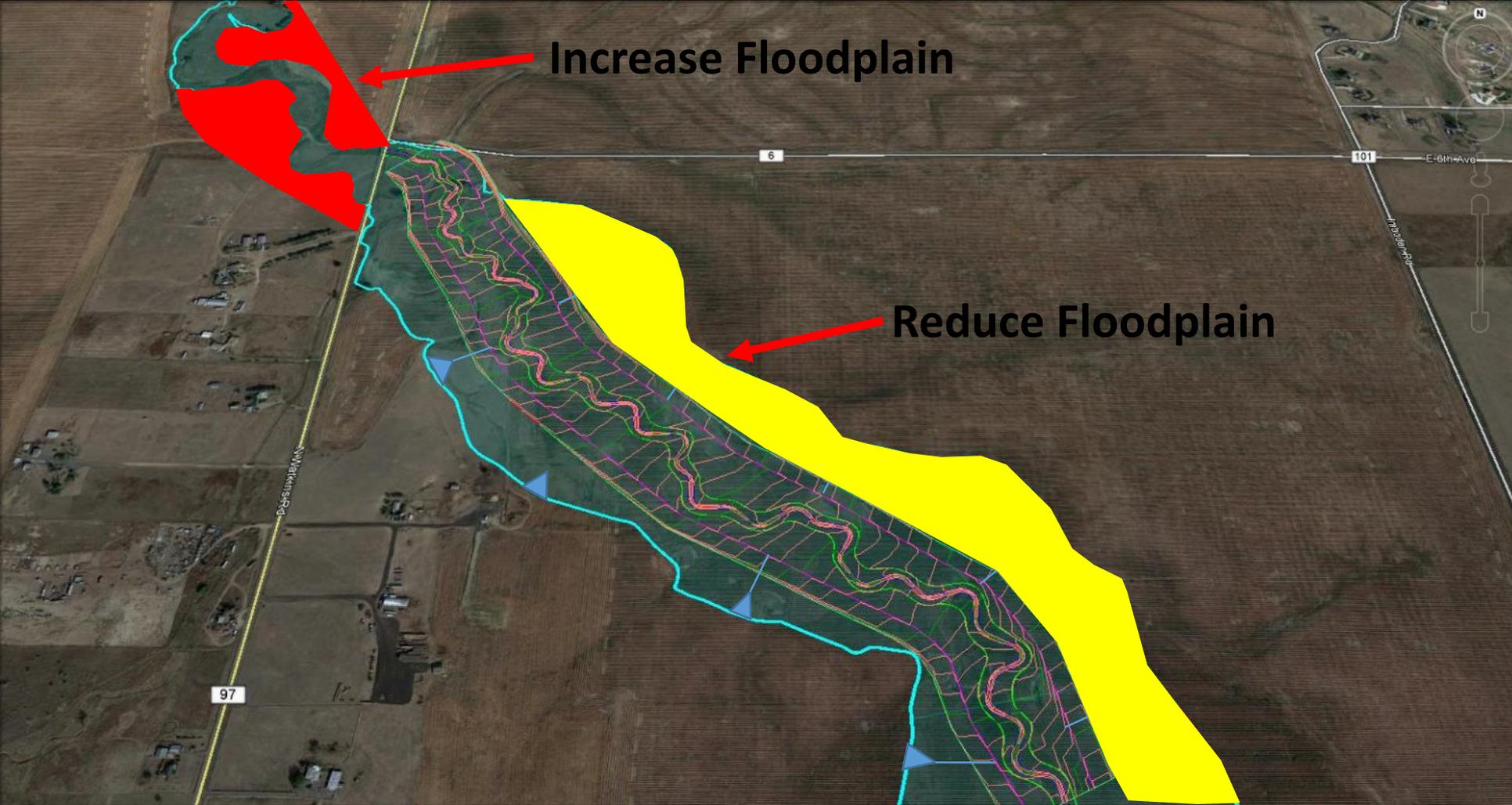
Shear Stress < 1 lbs/ ft<sup>2</sup> , vegetation for armoring sufficient

# Floodplain Banking



Existing  
100-Yr Floodplain

# Floodplain Banking



# Take Aways

- **Partner with Development** with a win-win mental model
- Maintain a **network of open channels**
- **Engage the floodplain using a three stage channel**

# How will this be useful to YOU

- Criteria
- Masterplan
- Maintenance Eligibility
- Stream Management
- On-Line Community Resource Center