The Yakima River Basin

Figure 2. Location and topography of the Yakima River Basin.

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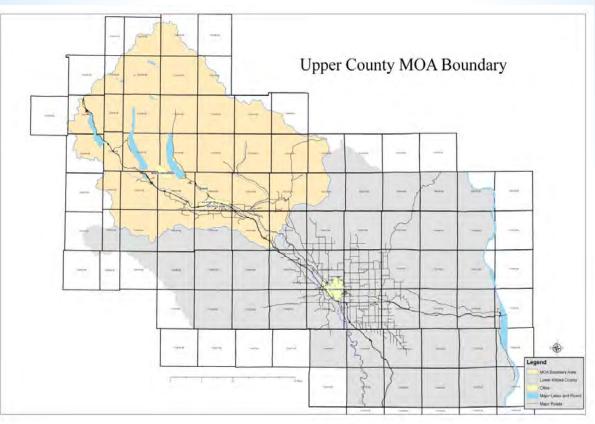
The Pertinent Facts: *Fully appropriated *Fully adjudicated (nearly) *Senior rights establish 5/10/1905 *All uses after 5/10/1905 are junior *Yakama Nation Treaty rights *USGS Study *Frequent droughts

The Yakima River Basin

Imposed July 16, 2009
*No new withdrawals of groundwater for any purpose unless mitigated with an appropriate senior water right.



Well Moratorium



The Upper Kittitas Moratorium

*Use existing water right
*Acquire a valid water right
*Purchase a water right from an established water bank

Mitigation Options

Our Experience

*Not established when the rule was imposed.

*Expensive.

*The Process is slow.

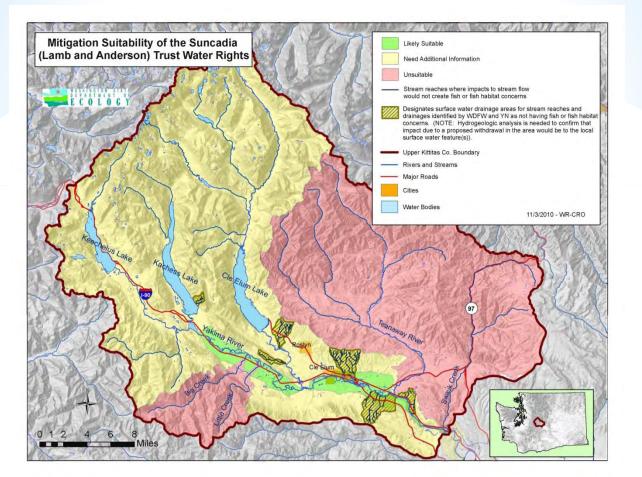
*Create a limited/finite resource that is not necessarily science-based.

*Monopolistic in Nature.

*Private control of rural water.

Water Bank Challenges

*In-time, in-place, in-kind challenges.



Geology of the region

*Economic Woes.

*Loss of property values and investments.

*Shifting tax burdens.

*Loss of predictability.

*Limited growth opportunity.

Moratorium Impacts



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