WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
Energy Program

Least-Conflict Solar Siting on Washington's Columbia Plateau

Gathering 3

April 12, 2023

Photo credit: WDFW

Welcome and a few reminders…

- The meeting is being recorded.
- Mute your microphone while others are speaking.
- Raise your virtual hand to contribute to the conversation.
- During presentations, feel free to chat questions to be answered during Q&A time.
- Please be respectful of this process. Allow everyone the chance to speak and listen actively to understand others' views.
- Chat directly to **Angela Cruz** or **Tess Wendel** if you need technical assistance.

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
Energy Program

Least-Conflict Solar Siting on Washington's Columbia Plateau

Gathering 3

April 12, 2023

Photo credit: WDFW

WSU Energy Program

- Self-supporting department within WSU
- Based in Olympia, with remote locations
- Energy efficiency program management, on-site assessments, energy analysis, training, knowledge transfer
- Community solar program, Washington state energy codes (residential) support, efficiency systems training, workforce development, green transportation education and outreach, resource conservation manager support

https://www.energy.wsu.edu

Project Team

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
Energy Program

Conservation
Biology Institute

ross
STRATEGIC

Gathering 3 Objectives

- Understand the draft least-conflict maps and how to interpret them
- Learn how to review and give feedback on the draft maps after the gathering
- Discuss observations and insights about the draft maps with colleagues and peers
- Consider potential uses for the least-conflict maps
- Learn about other efforts and their connections to this least-conflict mapping work

Agenda Overview

9:30 – 10:00 AM	**Welcome and Project Overview/Updates**
10:00 – 11:30 AM	**Draft Least-conflict Maps**
11:30 – 11:35 AM	**5-minute Break**
11:35 – 12:25 PM	**Small Group Discussions: Observations and Insights**
12:25 – 12:30 PM	**Preview of the Afternoon**
12:30 – 1:00 PM	**30-minute Lunch Break**
1:00 – 1:15 PM	**Reflections on the Morning and Impromptu Networking**
1:15 – 1:50 PM	**How the Least-conflict Maps May Be Used**
1:50 – 2:40 PM	**Small Group Discussions: Participant Use Cases**
2:40 – 3:00 PM	**Meeting Wrap Up and Next Steps**
3:00 PM	**Adjourn**

Impromptu Networking

Introduce yourself to a few other people here by sharing:

1. Your name
2. Your affiliation
3. What brings you to today's meeting?

Zoom will automatically move you into a breakout room with three or four other attendees.

There will be two rounds.

Columbia Plateau Trail
Photo credit: WA State Parks Foundation

Project Updates: Least-Conflict Solar Siting on the Columbia Plateau

Karen Janowitz
Washington State University Energy Program

Painting of Columbia Plateau by Sarah Gilman

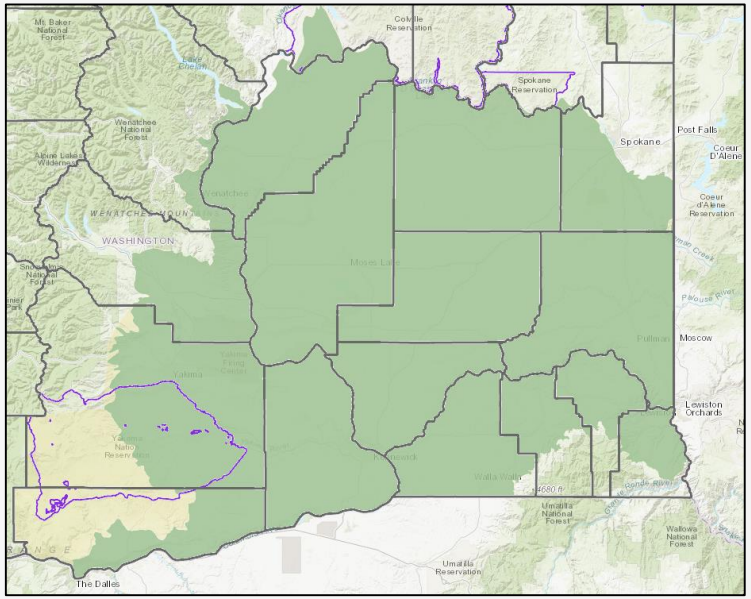
Least-Conflict Solar Siting

Aims to answer the question:

Where can large-scale solar be developed in the Columbia Plateau region while also ensuring that important habitat, productive farmlands and ranchlands, and Tribal rights and cultural resources are protected?

Spiva Butte Chelan-Douglas Land Trust property in Douglas County
photo credit: Ferdi Businger

Least-Conflict Process

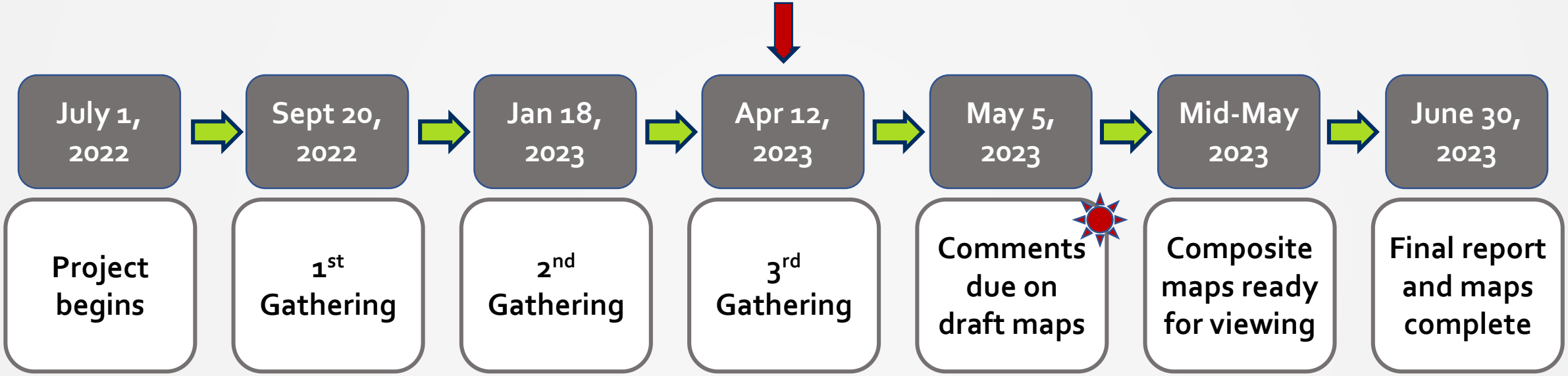


- Landscape-based (pixels are 500 meters to a side)
- Map-based
- Not site-specific
- Non-regulatory
- People-oriented collaborative process
- A tool to be used by planners, developers, agencies, and others
- Developers must continue to do due diligence with Tribes and with all site assessments

Washington State Legislative Directive

- Identify areas where there is the least amount of potential conflict in the siting of utility scale PV solar in the Columbia Basin
- Develop a map highlighting these areas
- Summarize process and findings into a report
- Compile information on opportunities for dual-use and colocation of PV solar with other land values
- July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023
- Budget Proviso – ESSB 5092, Sec. 607 (19), p. 460. 2021 session https://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2021-22/Pdf/Bills/Senate%20Passed%20Legislature/5092-S.PL.pdf

Project Timeline



Mapping groups met early Oct 2022 to early spring 2023, with one more meeting in May

Meetings with Tribes April through May 2023

Farmland
Ranchland
Conservation
Solar Industry

Mapping Groups

Farmlands

Ranchlands

Environmental Conservation

Solar Industry

Produce a map that illustrates least conflict lands based on available spatial data.

Produce a map that illustrates suitability for solar based on available spatial data

Mapping Process

- Identify and collect existing data
- Determine criteria that creates the highest value and other relative values with available data
- Create tree-based logic model based on criteria and input spatial data
- Create intermediate and apex maps from logic model

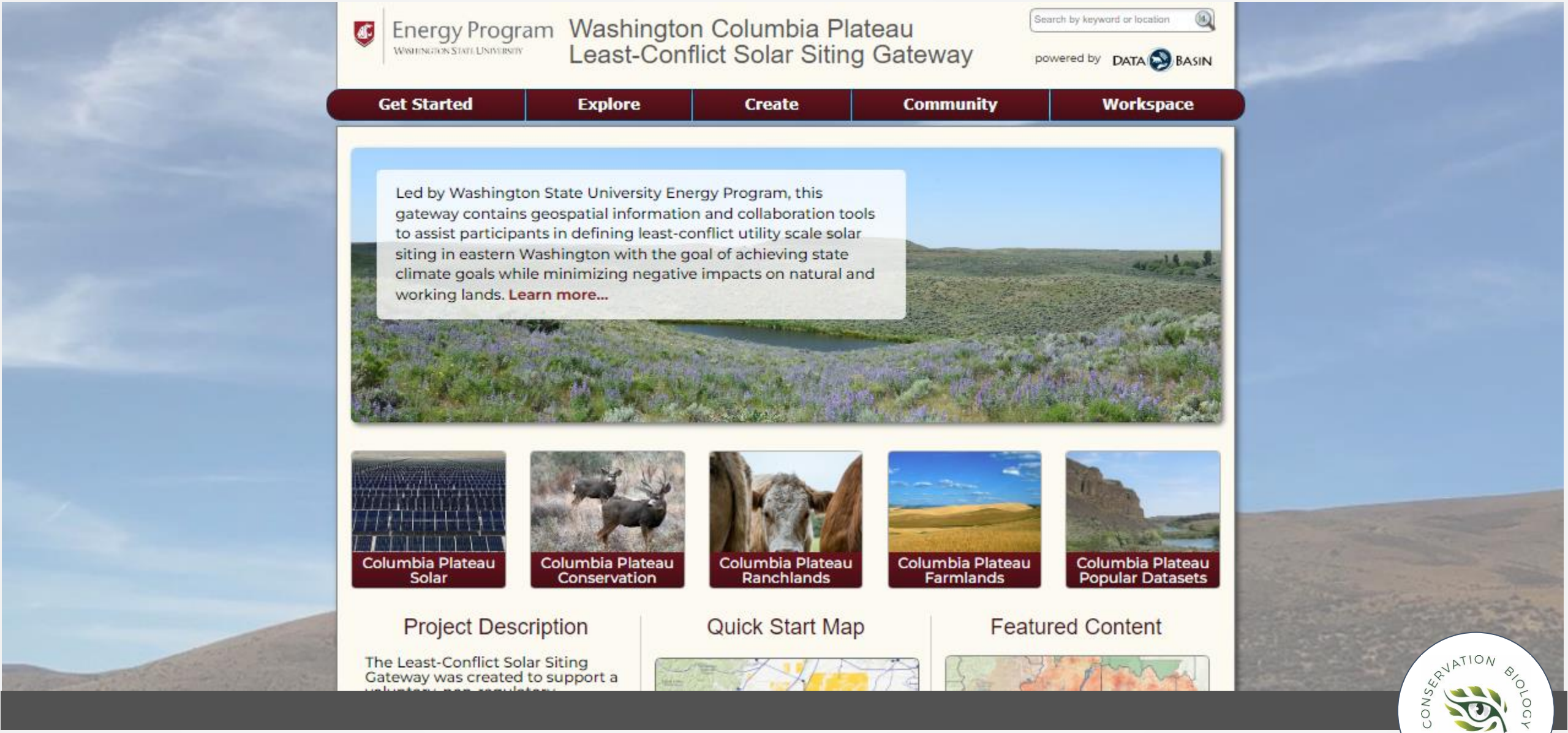
Models are transparent

Highest relative values on map = highest potential conflict (not solar industry map)

Lowest relative values on map = lowest potential conflict **(least conflict)**

Washington Columbia Plateau Gateway

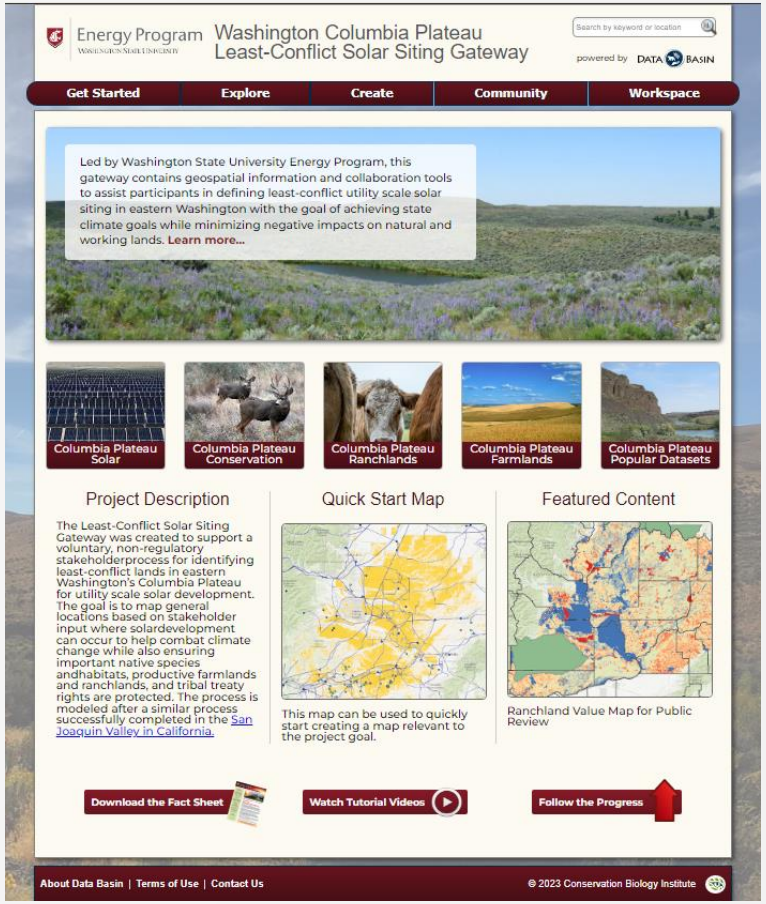
https://wsuenergy.databasin.org/

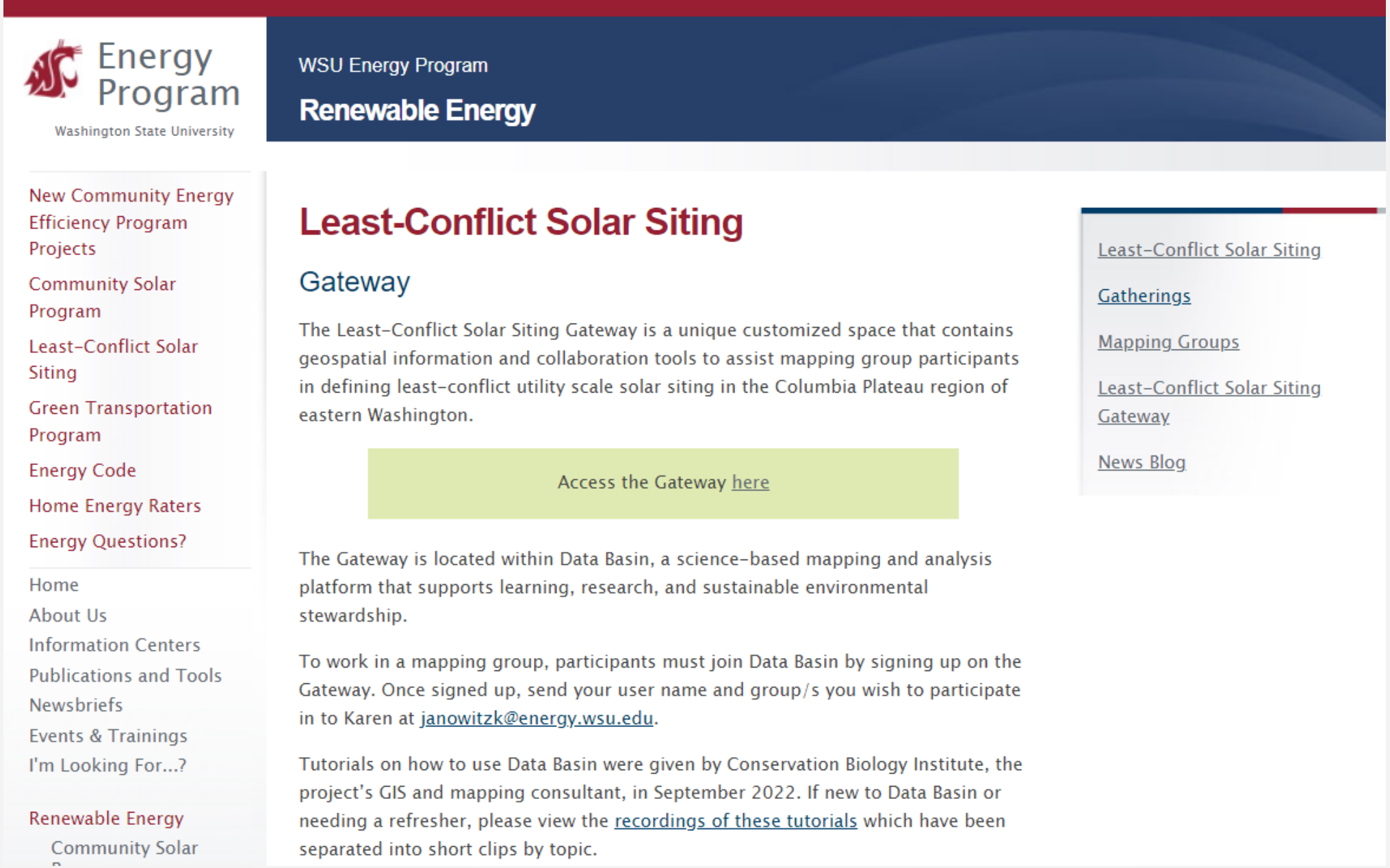


Least-Conflict Solar Siting Gateway

- All project info is situated here
  - Maps
  - Final report
  - Gathering summaries and slides
- Uses Data Basin Technology
- A living tool!
  - Update, revise, grow
- Free

https://wsuenergy.databasin.org/





https://www.energy.wsu.edu/RenewableEnergy/LeastConflictSolarSiting.aspx

Next Steps

- Review and comment – by May 5, 2023
- Keep track of progress of E2SHB1216
- View the final report with maps on June 30, 2023
- Use the Gateway!

Sinlahekin Wildlife Area
WA Dept of Fish & Wildlife

Draft Least-conflict Maps

Jim Strittholt
Conservation Biology Institute

Emily Griffith
Solar Development
Mapping Group Representative

Jay Kehne
Farmland Mapping Group
Representative

Jesse Ingels
Ranchland Mapping Group
Representative

Michael Ritter
Environmental Conservation
Mapping Group Representative

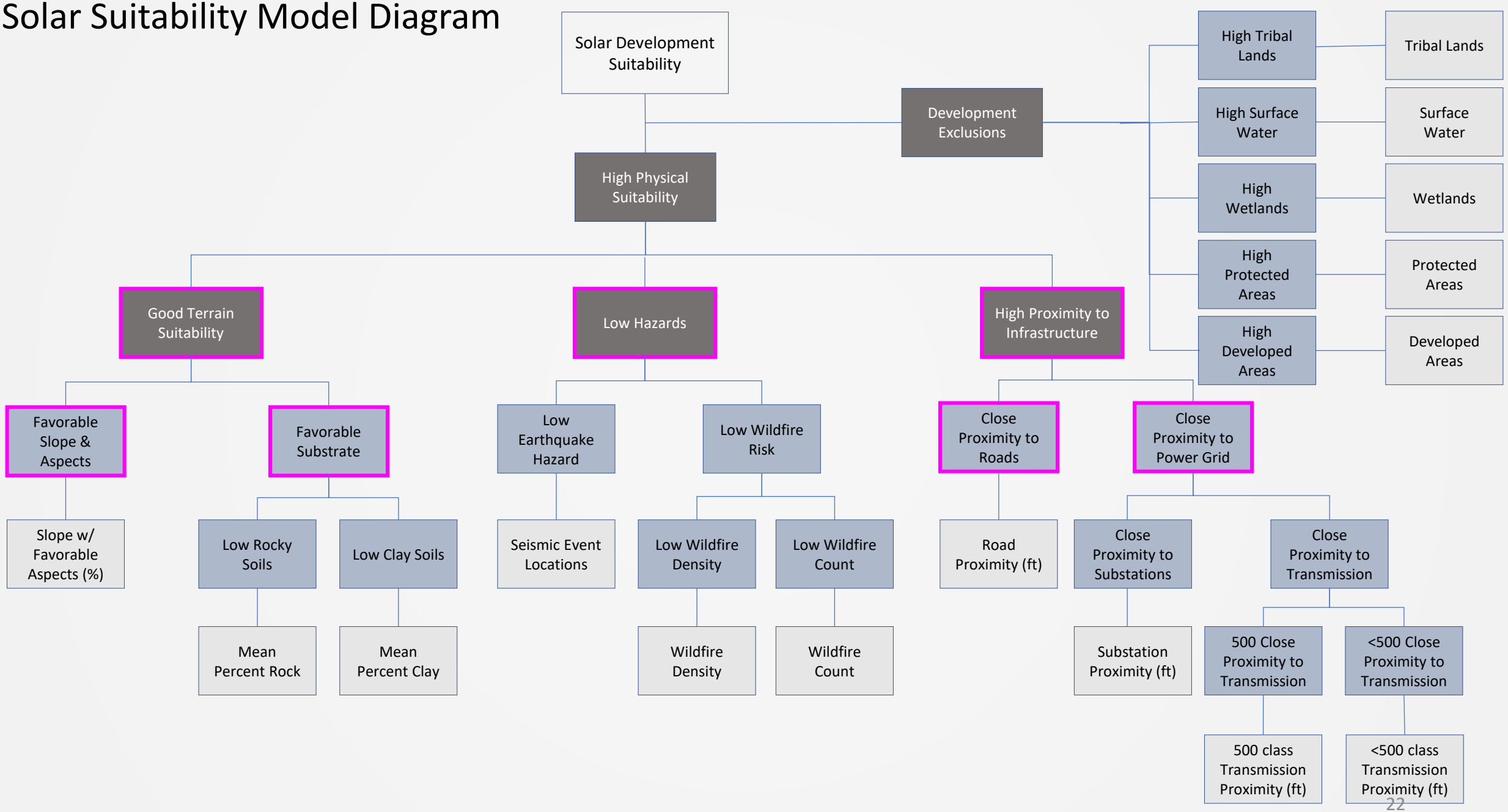
Painting of Columbia Plateau by Sarah Gilman

Solar Development Mapping Group Update

Presented by Emily Griffith, Strategic Engagement Manager, Renewable Northwest

Goal: Produce a map that illustrates the relative suitability of lands for utility scale solar development based on general, mappable criteria.

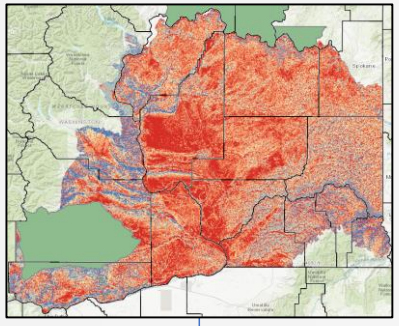
Solar Suitability Model Diagram



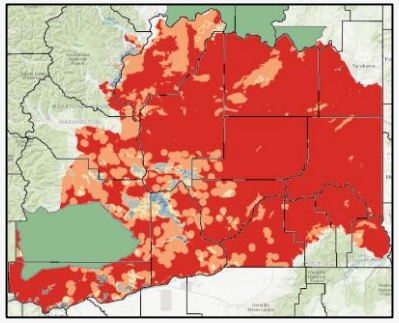
Solar Development Suitability

Very High
High
Moderately High
Slightly High
Slightly Low
Moderately Low
Low
Very Low

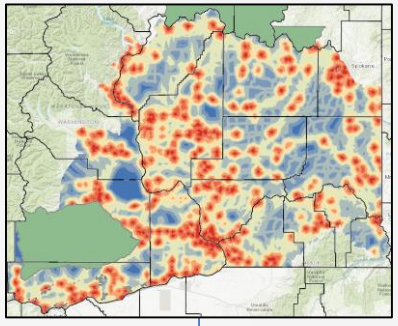
Good Terrain

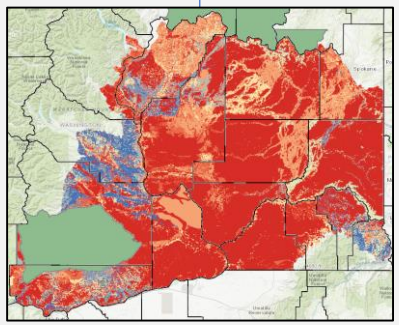


Low Hazards

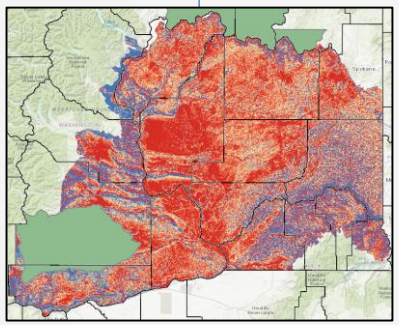


Proximity to Infrastructure

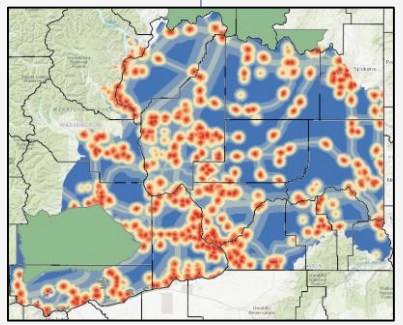




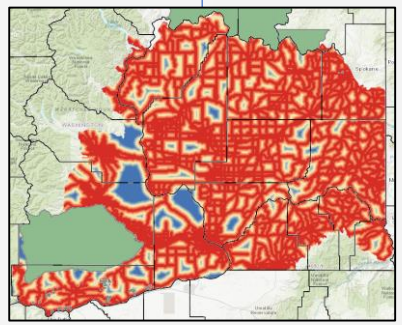
Favorable Substrate



Favorable Slope/Aspect

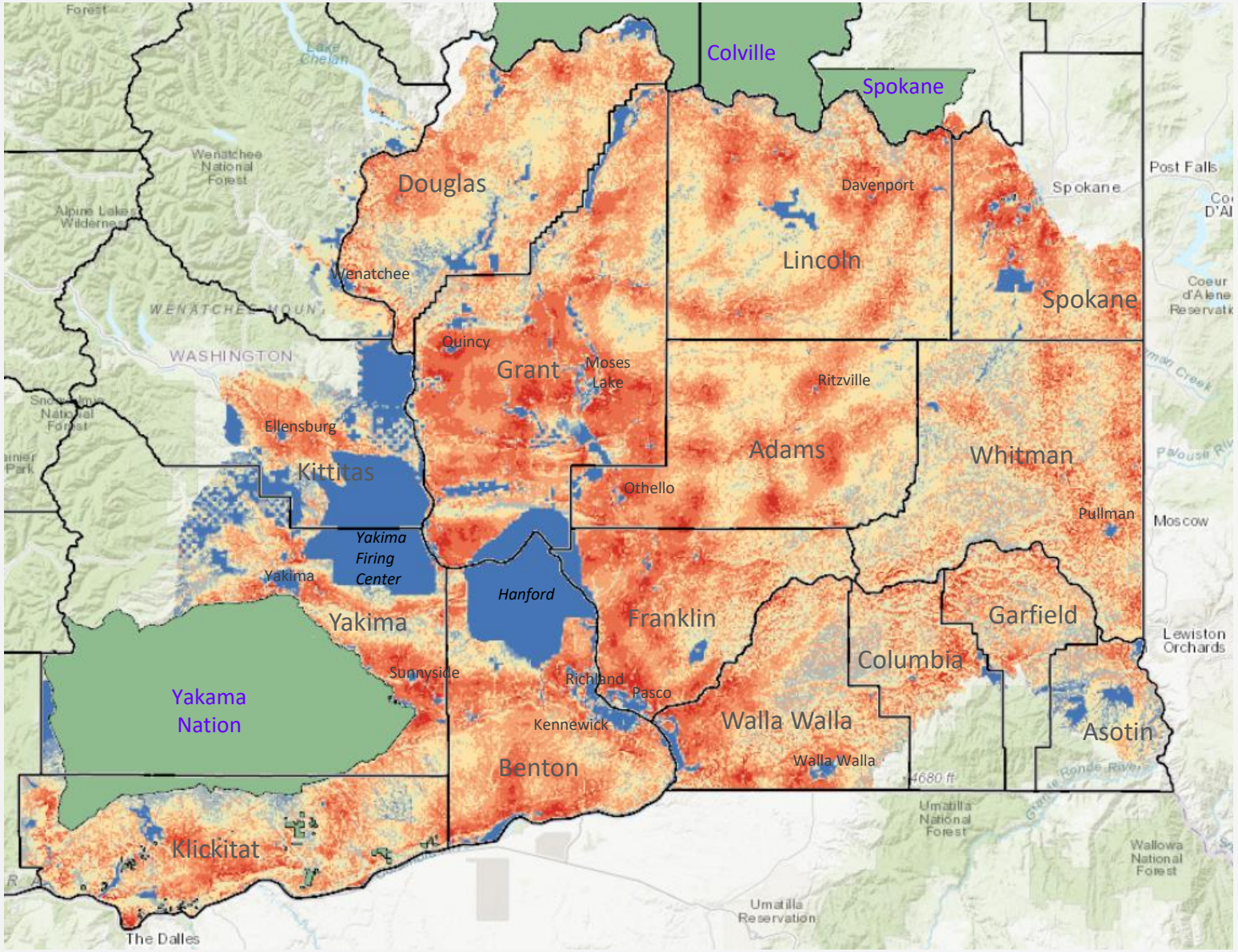


Proximity to Power Grid



Proximity to Roads

Solar Development Suitability Review Draft

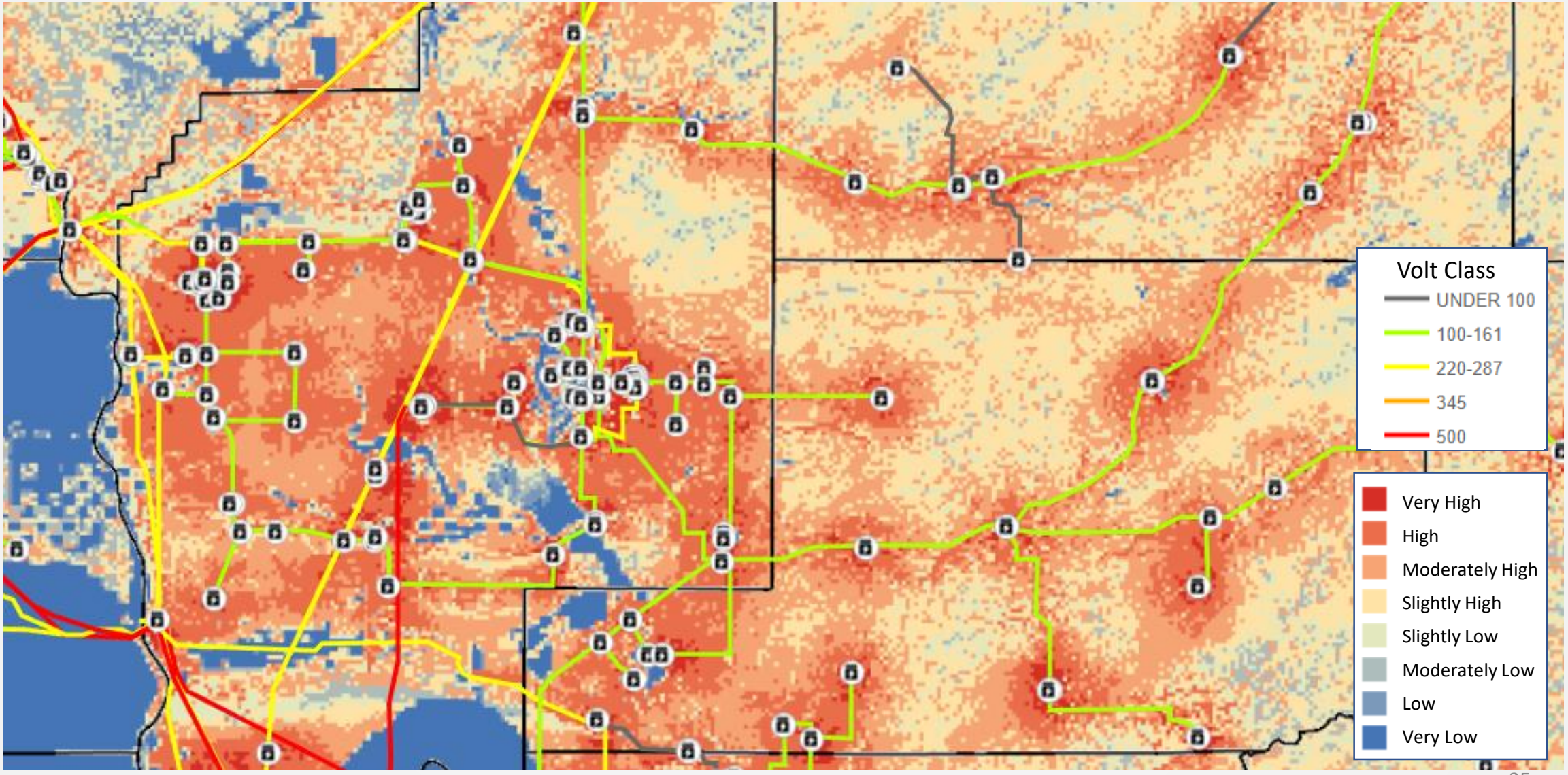


Solar Development Suitability

- Very High
- High
- Moderately High
- Slightly High
- Slightly Low
- Moderately Low
- Low
- Very Low

Dev Suitability	Acres	Percent
Very High	429,098	3.01%
High	2,519,544	17.69%
Moderately High	3,854,282	27.06%
Slightly High	3,207,238	22.52%
Slightly Low	1,906,044	13.38%
Moderately Low	861,161	6.05%
Low	286,148	2.01%
Very Low	1,178,506	8.27%

Solar Suitability Review Draft



Other Considerations

- Environmental Constraints/Concerns
- Department of Defense Concerns
- Tribal Considerations Outside of Reservations
- Socioeconomic Considerations

Next Steps

- Share with colleagues and others for review and comment
- Make final model refinements

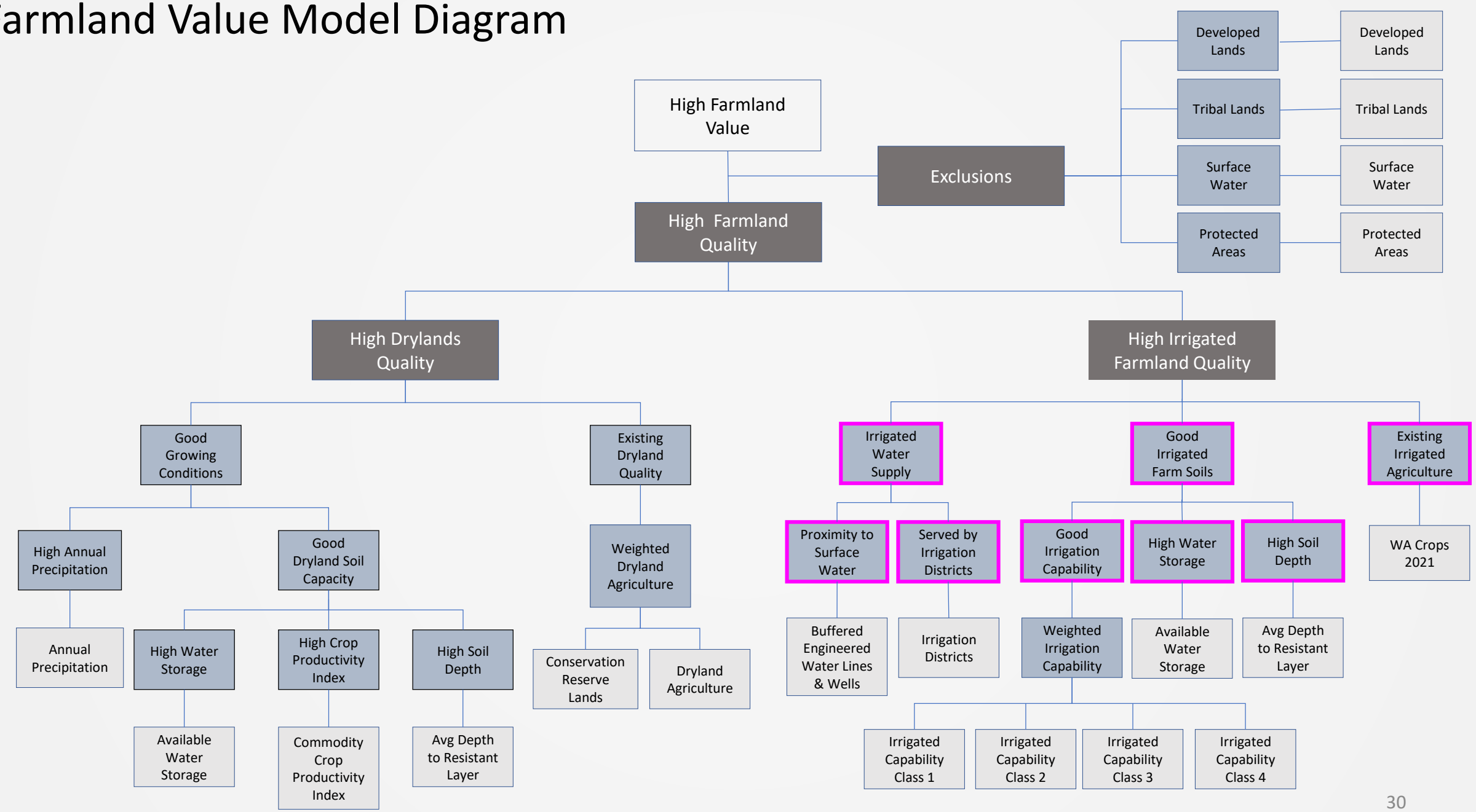
Questions

Farming Mapping Group Update

Presented by Jay Kehne, Sagelands Heritage Program Lead, Conservation Northwest

Goal: Produce a map that illustrates the relative value of irrigated and dryland farming lands based on available spatial data.

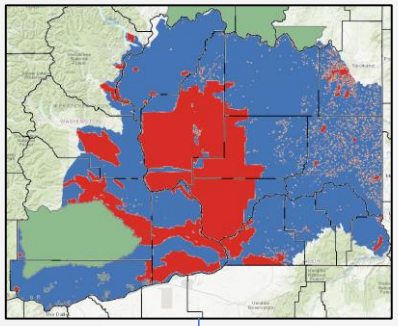
Farmland Value Model Diagram



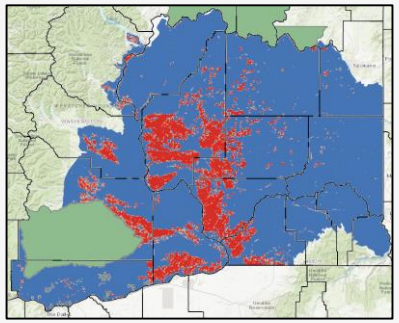
High Irrigated Farmland Quality

Very High
High
Moderately High
Slightly High
Slightly Low
Moderately Low
Low
Very Low

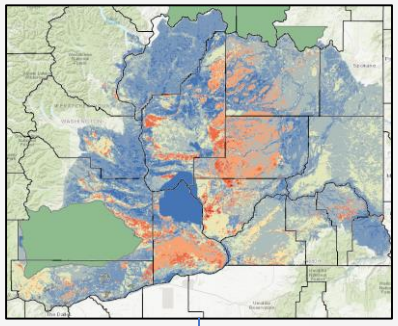
Irrigated Water Supply

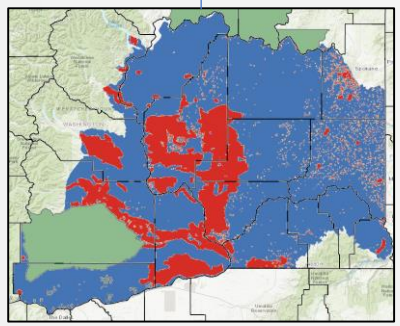


Existing Irrigated Farmland

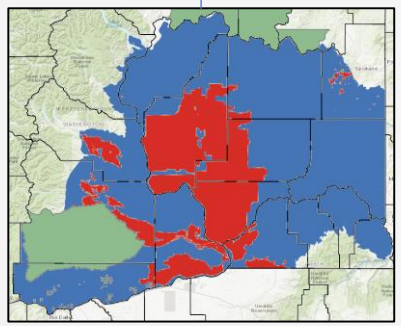


Good Irrigated Farm Soils

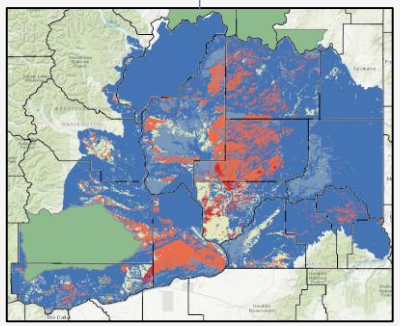




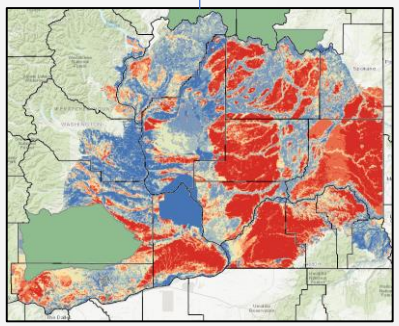
Engineered Water Access



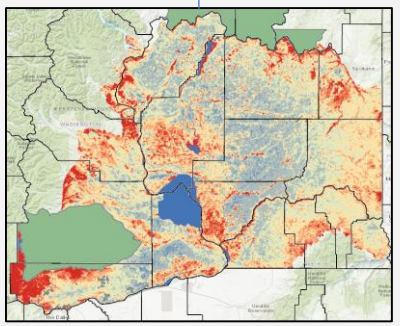
Irrigation Districts



Good Capacity

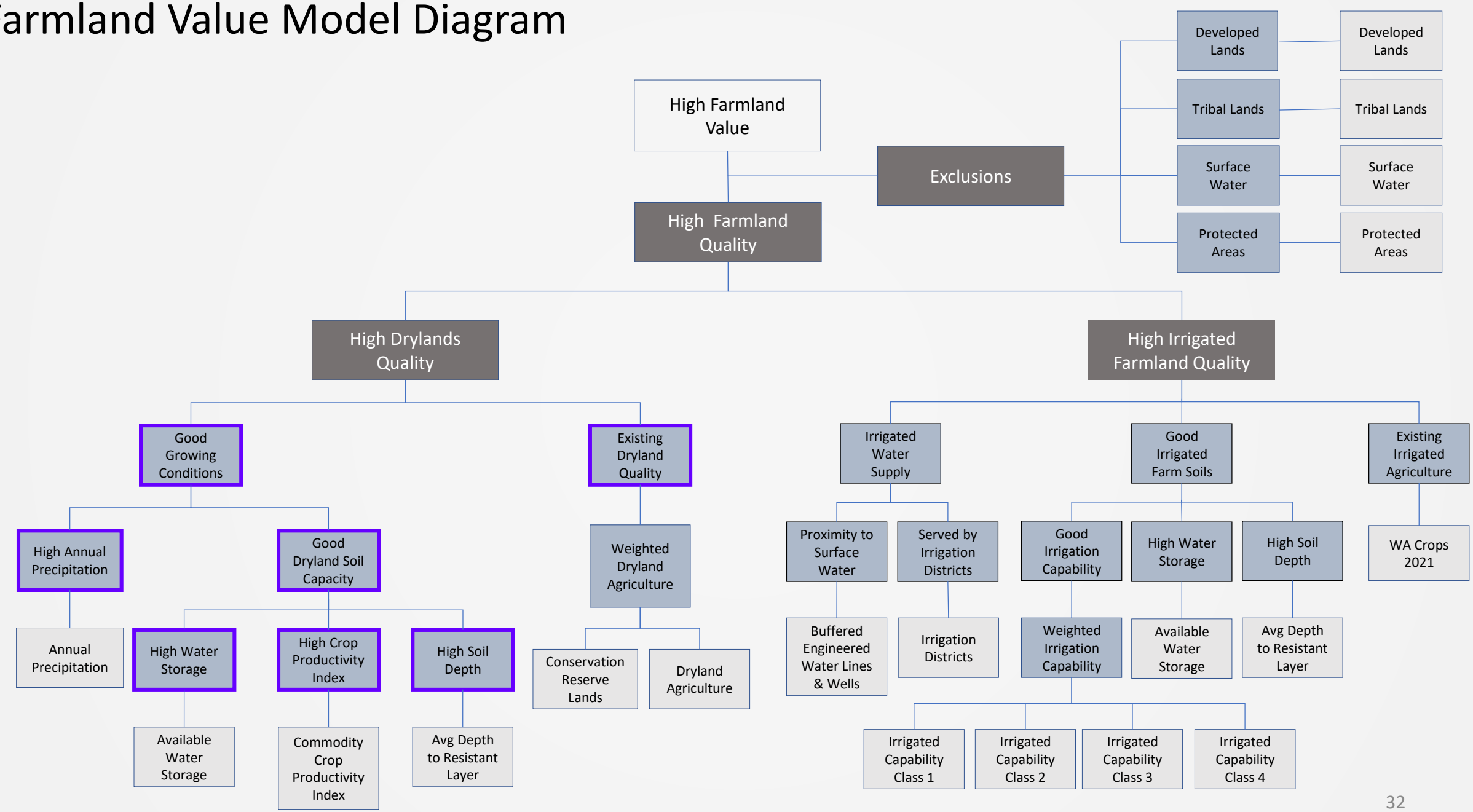


High Water Storage



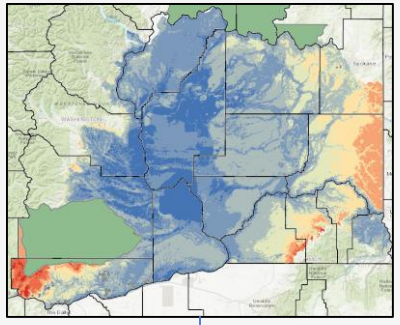
High Soil Organic Matter

Farmland Value Model Diagram

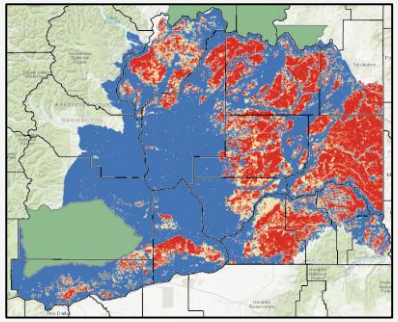


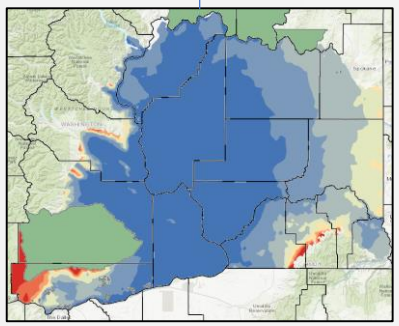
High Drylands Quality

Good Growing Conditions



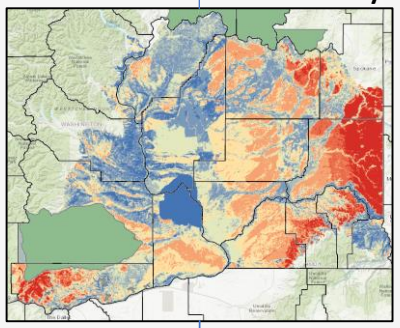
Existing Drylands

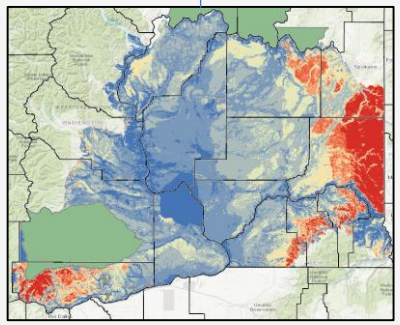




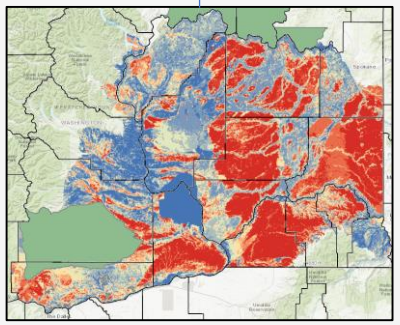
Annual Precipitation

Good Dryland Soils

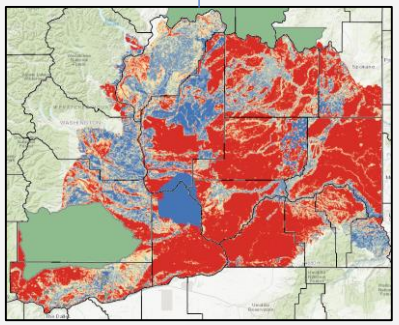




High Crop Productivity



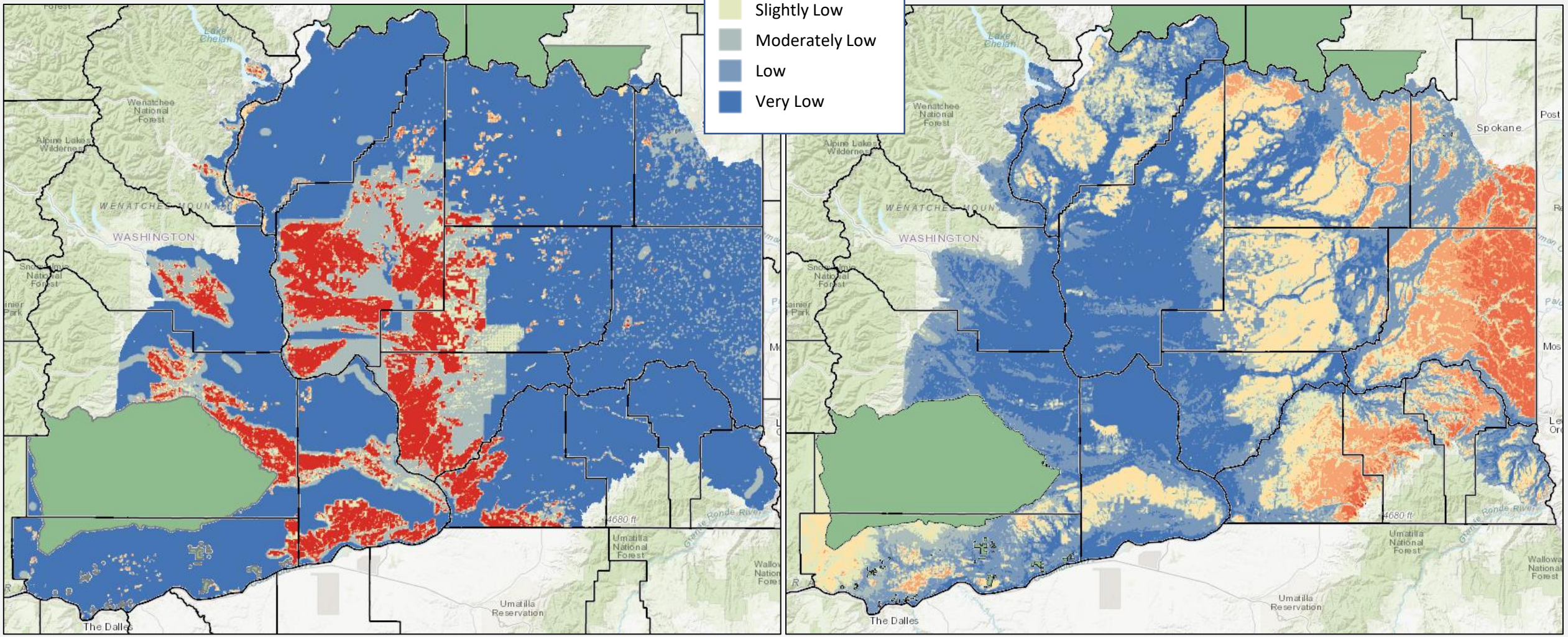
High Water Storage



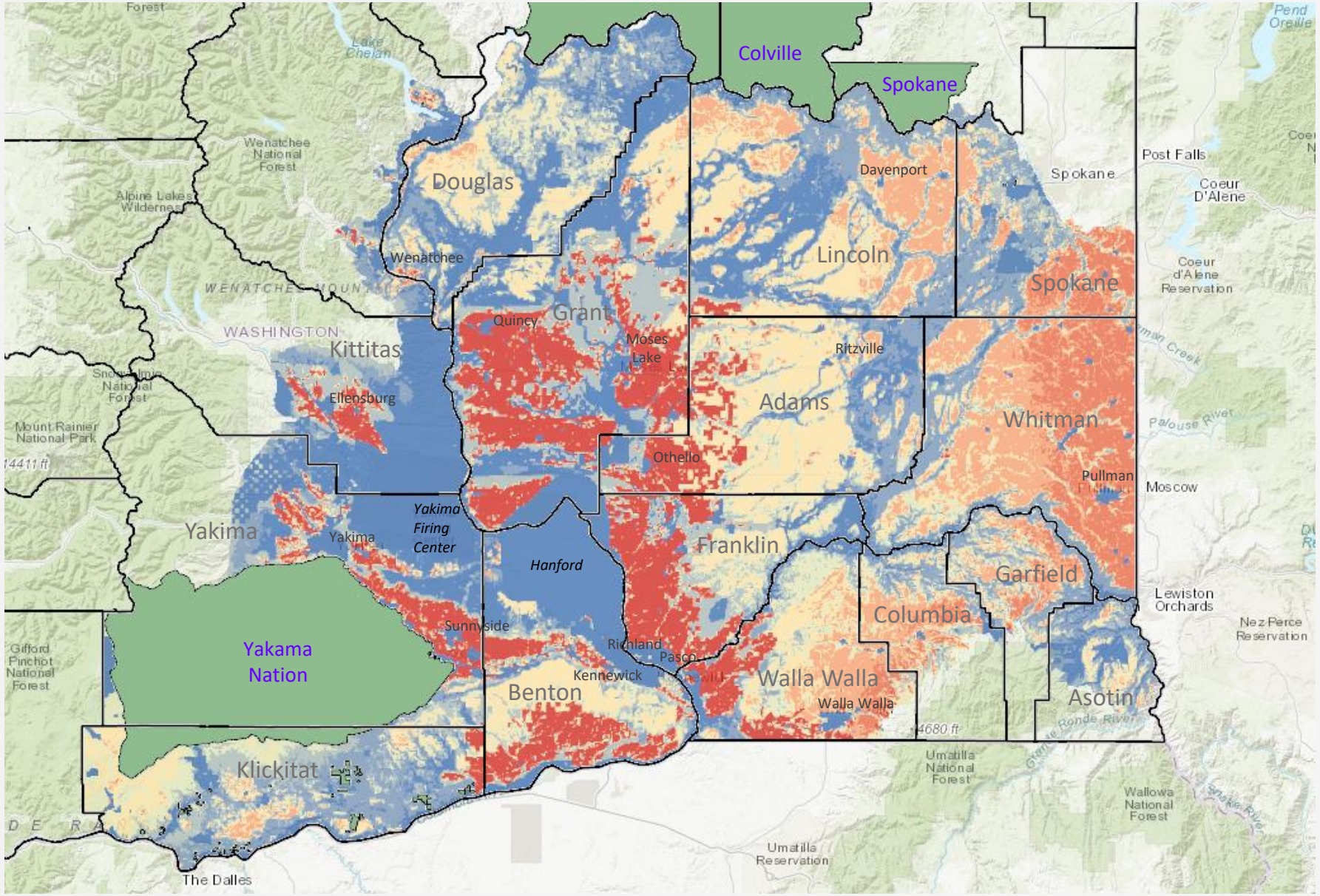
High Soil Depth

Irrigated Agriculture

Dryland Agriculture



Farmland Value Review Draft

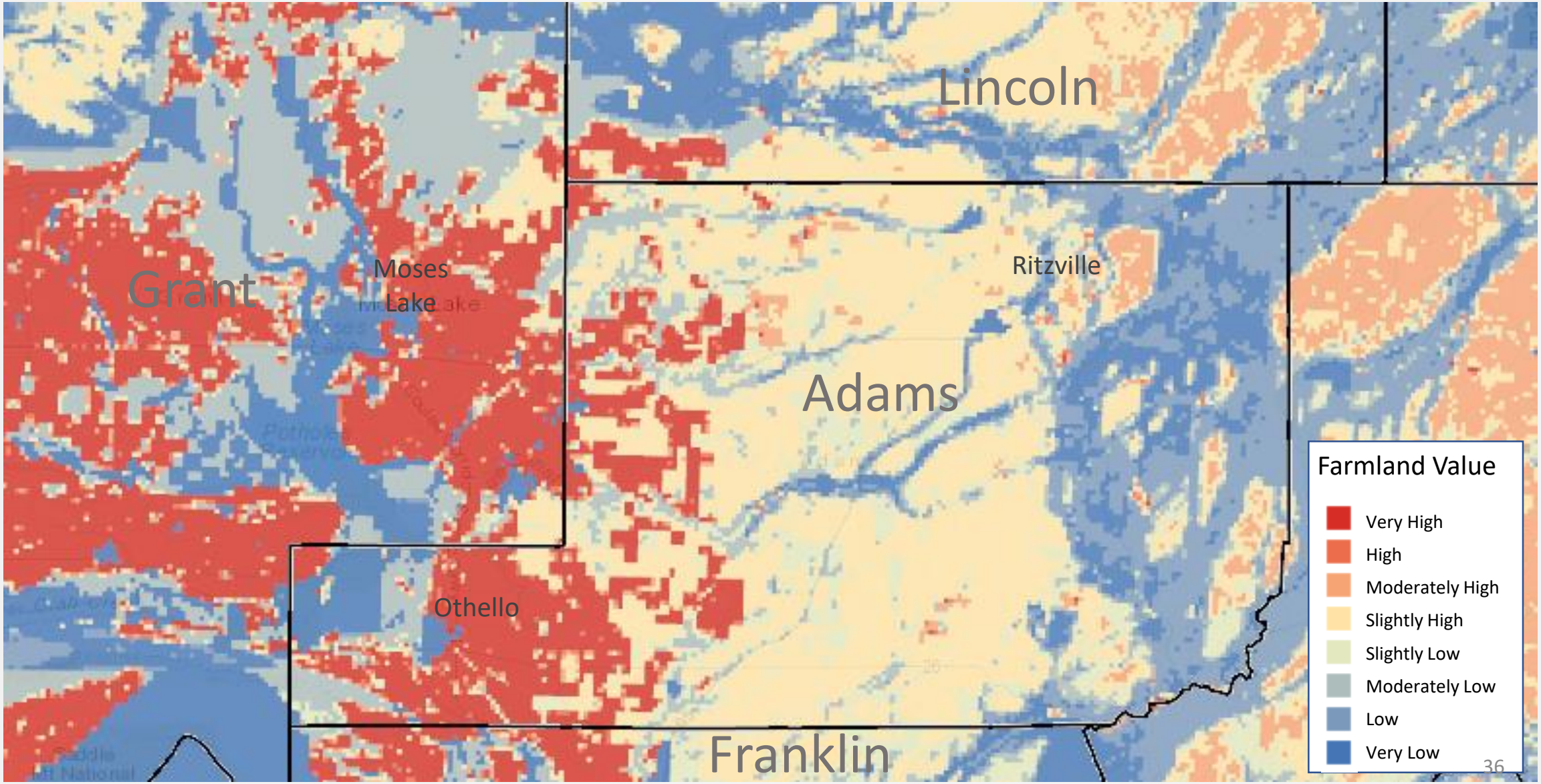


Farmland Value

- Very High
- High
- Moderately High
- Slightly High
- Slightly Low
- Moderately Low
- Low
- Very Low

Farmland Value	Acres	Percent
Very High	1,520,252	10.67%
High	796,358	5.59%
Moderately High	1,405,842	9.87%
Slightly High	2,157,721	15.15%
Slightly Low	1,409,487	9.90%
Moderately Low	1,838,894	12.91%
Low	1,851,187	13.00%
Very Low	3,262,280	22.91%

Farmland Value Review Draft



Next Steps

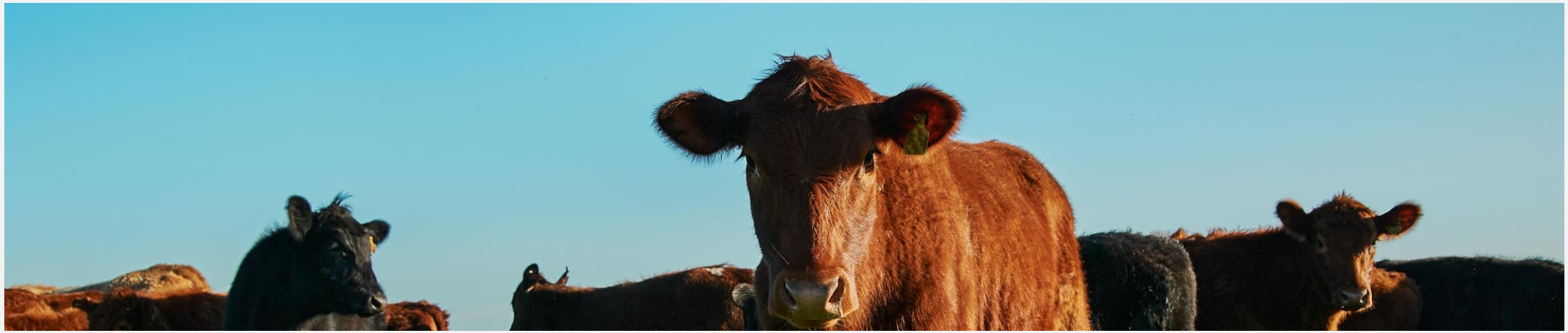
- Share with colleagues and others for review and comment
- Update Washington Department of Agriculture CROP dataset
- Make final model refinements

Questions

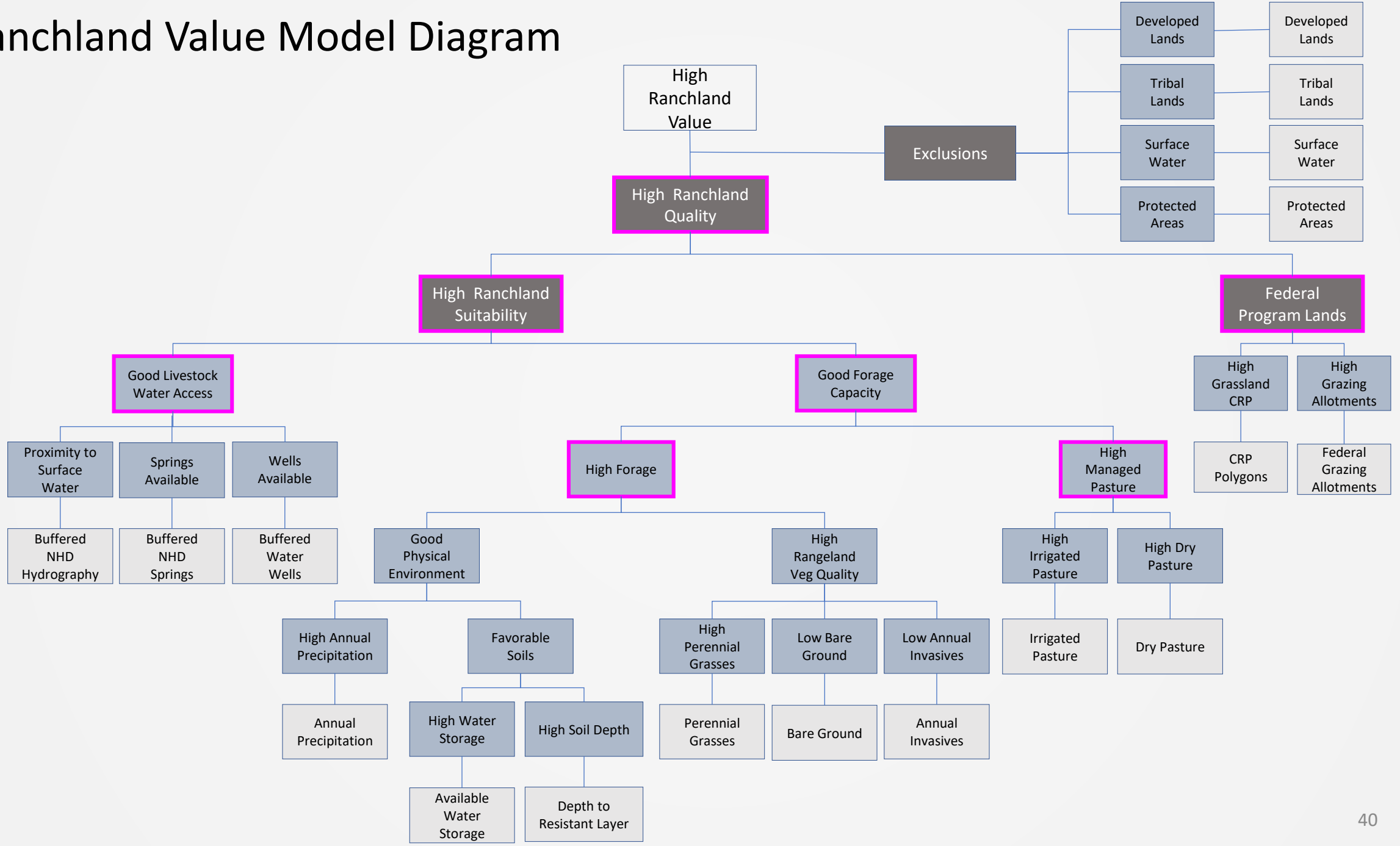
Ranchlands Mapping Group Update

Presented by Jesse Ingels, Land Broker

Goal: Produce a map that illustrates the relative value of ranchlands based on available spatial data.

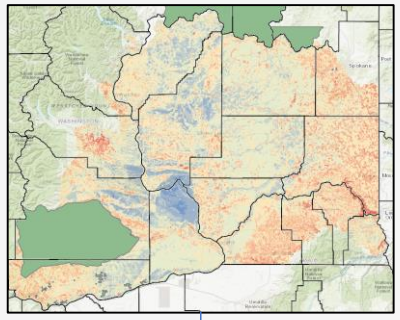


Ranchland Value Model Diagram

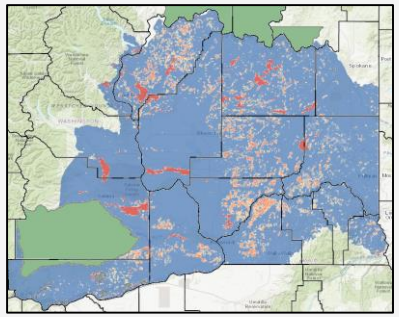


High Ranchland Value

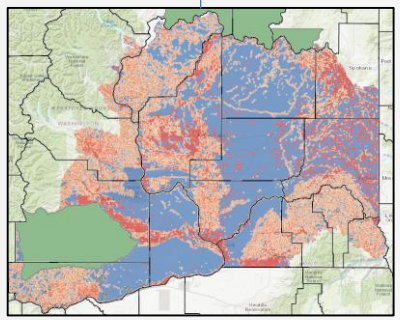
High Ranchland Quality



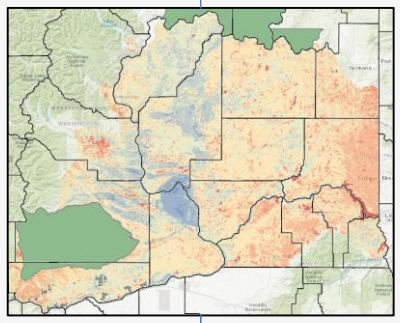
Federal Program Lands

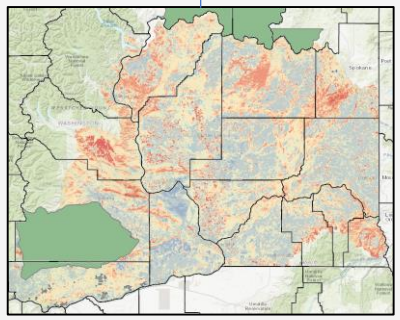


Livestock Water Access

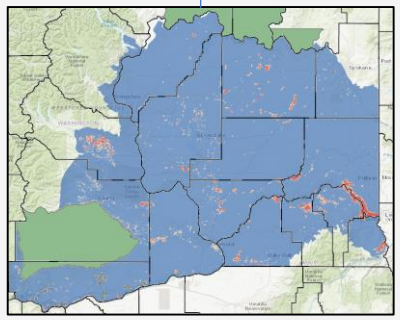


Good Forage Capacity





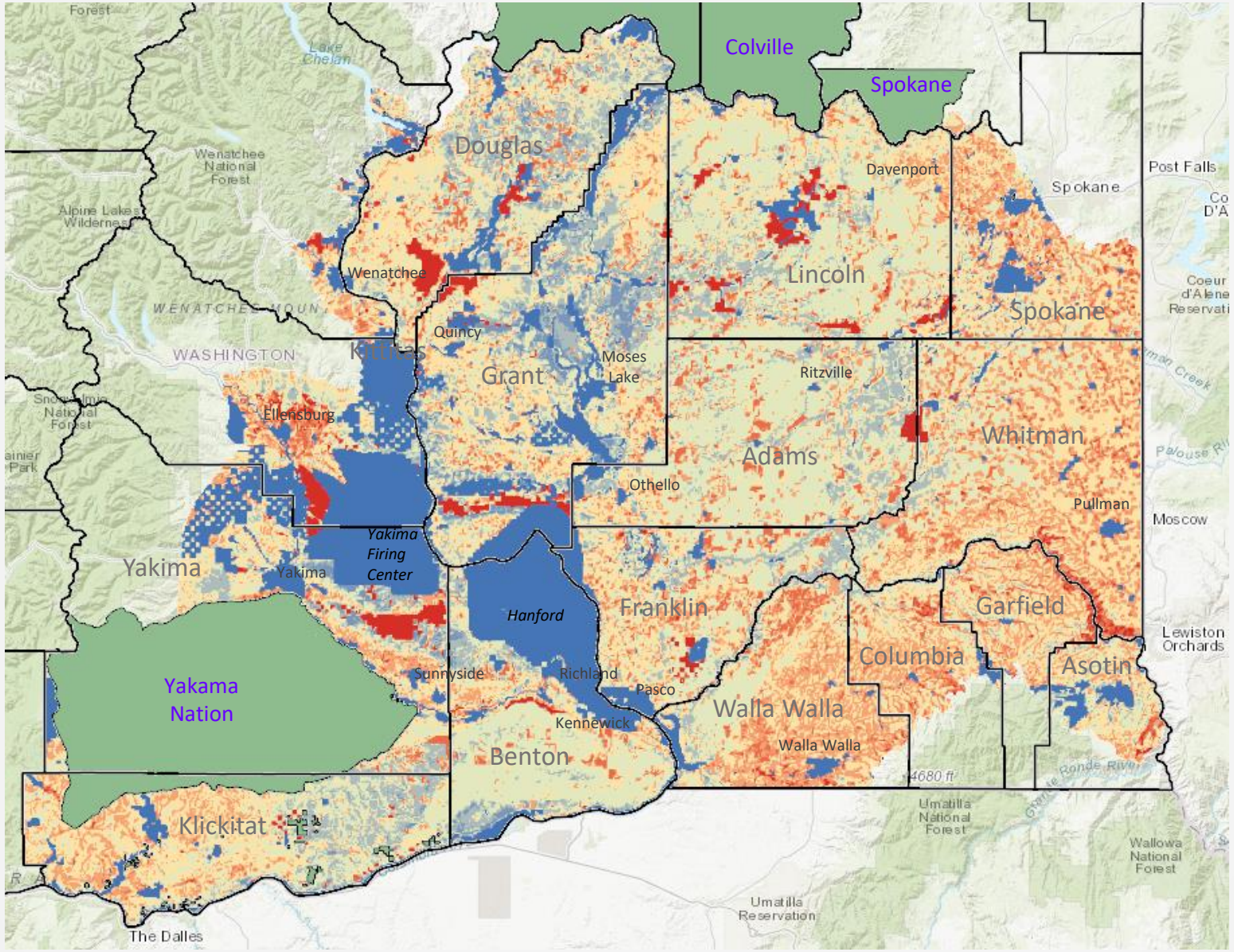
High Forage



Managed Pasture

- Very High
- High
- Moderately High
- Slightly High
- Slightly Low
- Moderately Low
- Low
- Very Low

Ranchland Value Review Draft

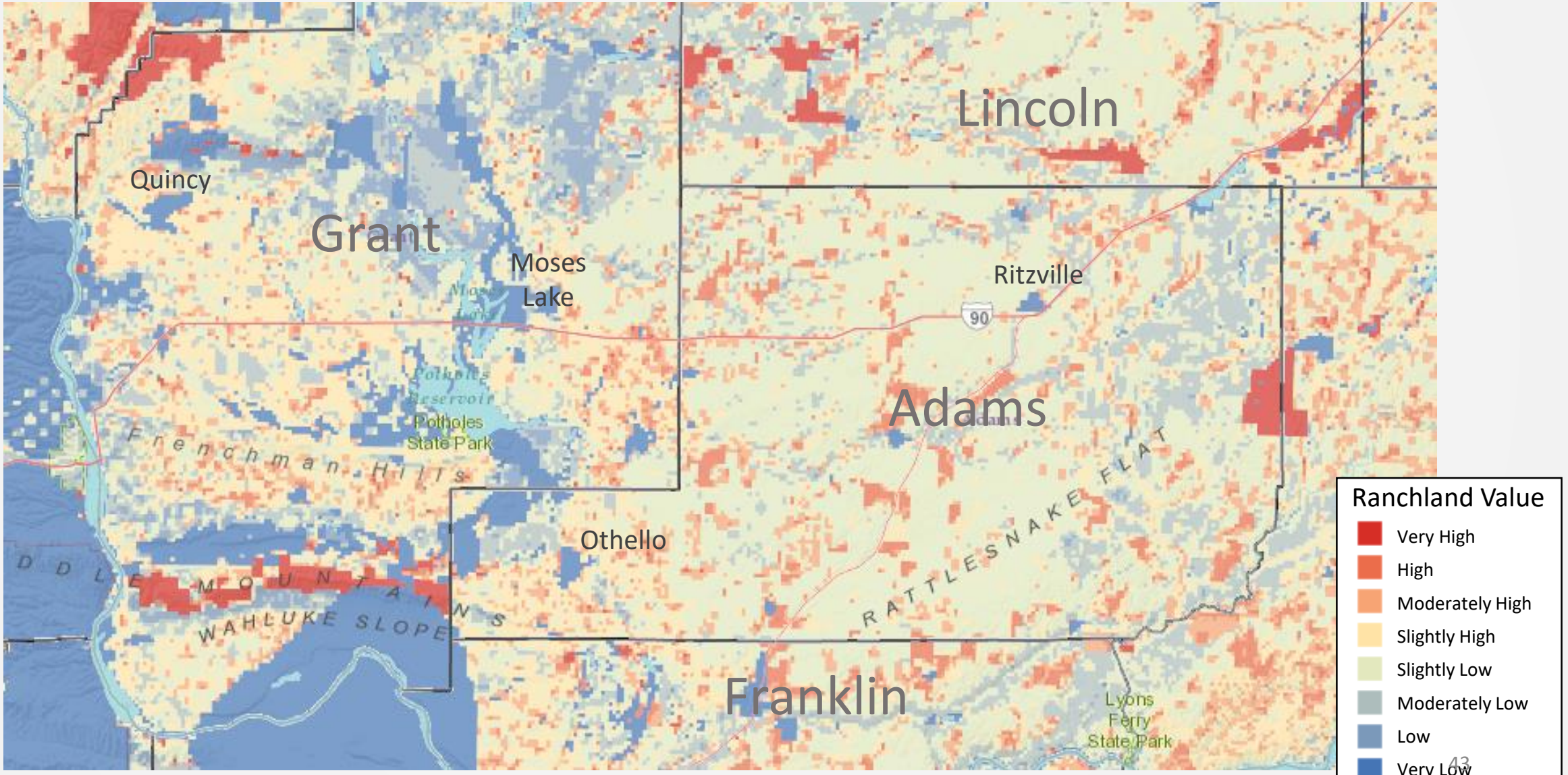


Ranchland Value

- Very High
- High
- Moderately High
- Slightly High
- Slightly Low
- Moderately Low
- Low
- Very Low

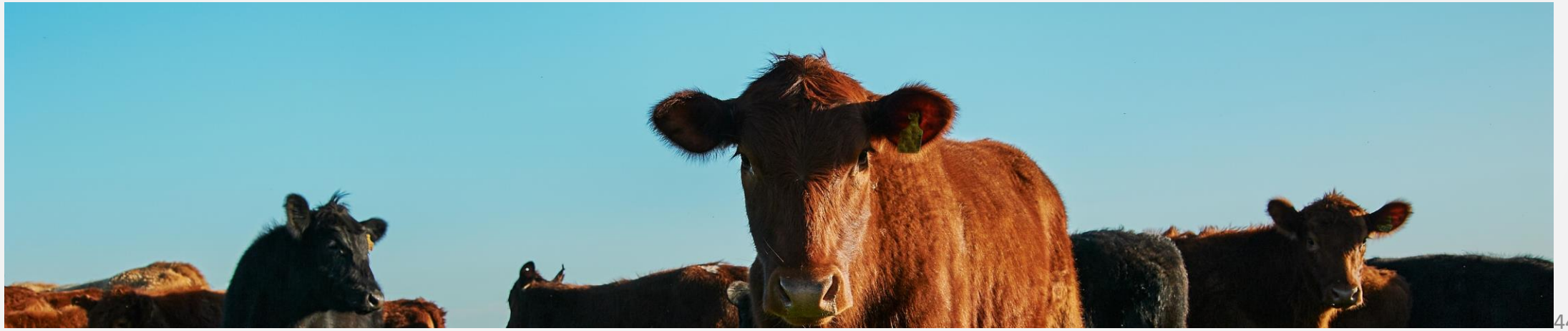
Ranchland Value	Acres	Percent
Very High	356,202	2.50%
High	664,774	4.67%
Moderately High	2,107,250	14.80%
Slightly High	3,384,103	23.76%
Slightly Low	4,077,541	28.63%
Moderately Low	1,316,884	9.25%
Low	209,730	1.47%
Very Low	2,125,535	14.92%

Ranchland Value Review Draft

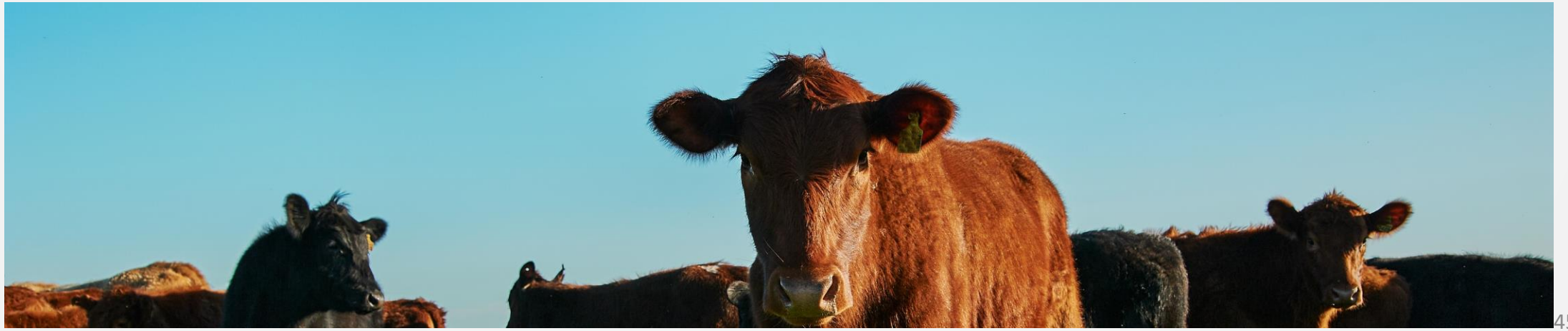


Next Steps

- Share with colleagues and others for review and comment
- Make final model refinements



Questions

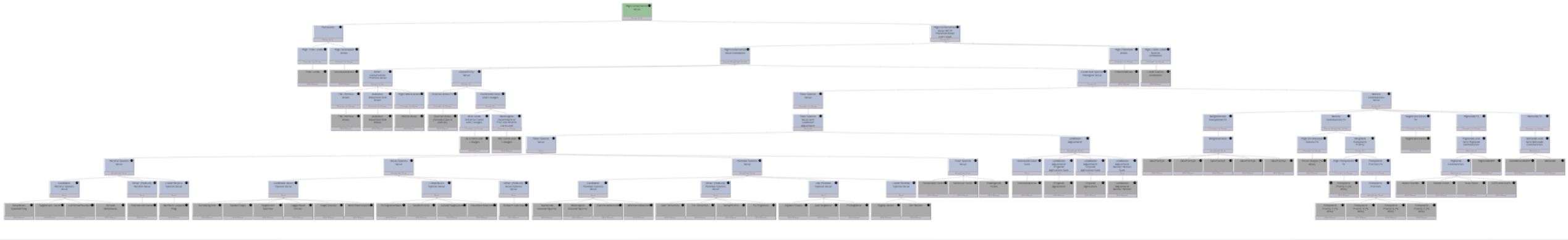


Conservation Mapping Group Update

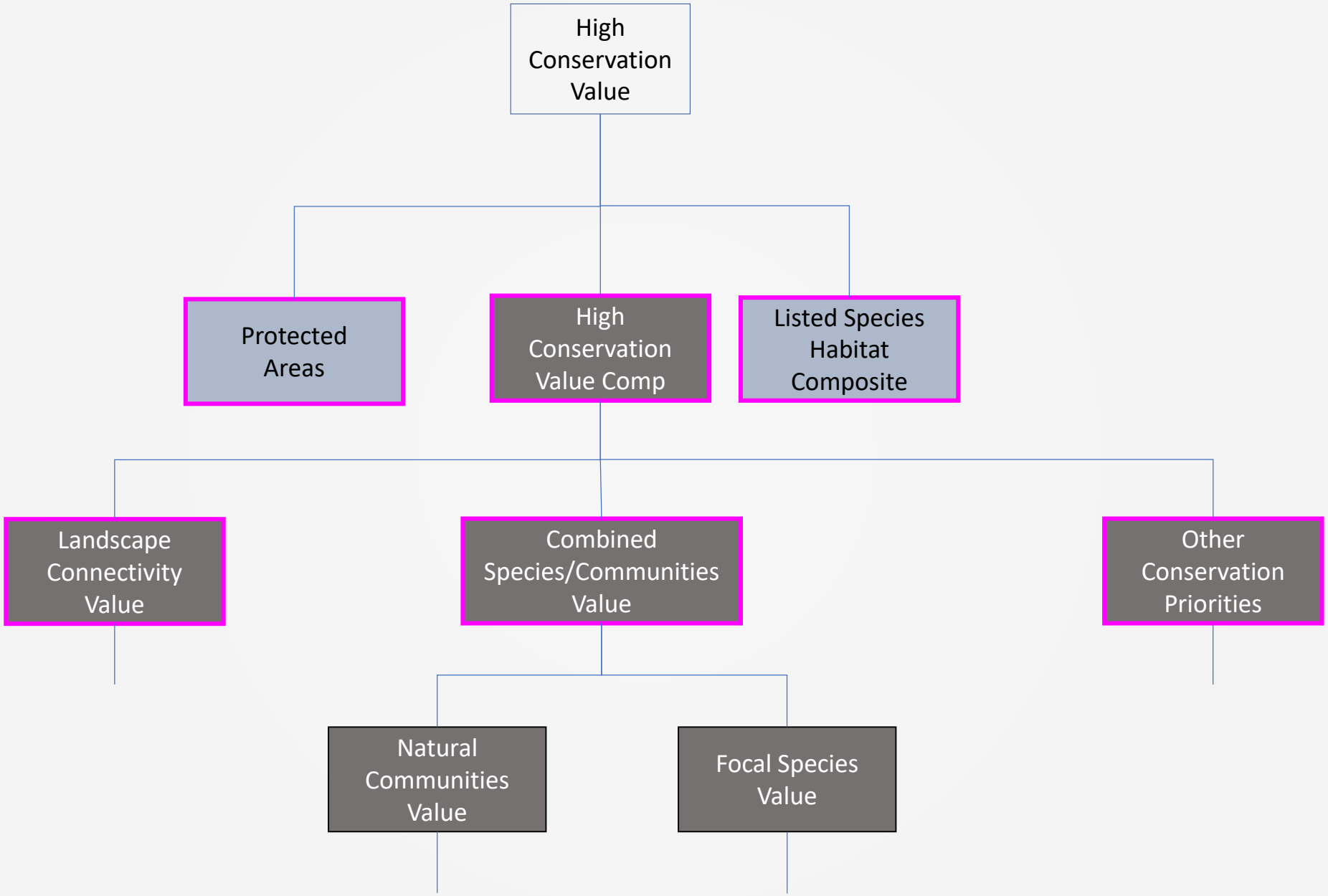
Presented by Michael Ritter, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Goal: Produce a map that illustrates the relative value of conservation lands based on available spatial data.

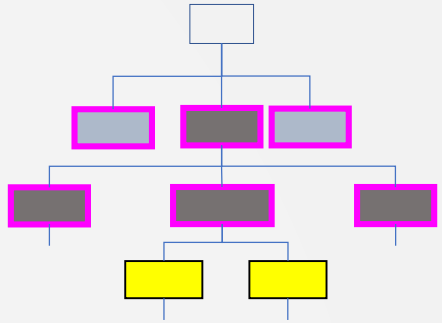
Conservation Value Model Overview



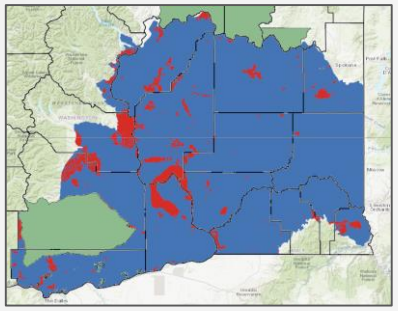
- 66 data inputs (some made by combining multiple data sources) (gray boxes)
- 54 intermediate maps (light blue boxes)


High Conservation Value
Protected Areas
High Conservation Value Comp
Listed Species Habitat Composite
Landscape Connectivity Value
Combined Species/Communities Value
Other Conservation Priorities
Natural Communities Value
Focal Species Value

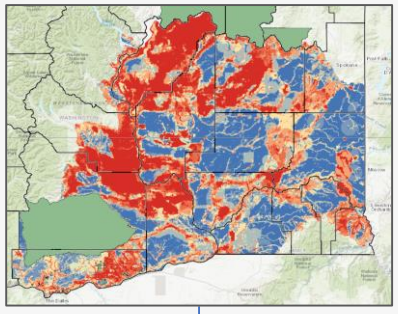
High Conservation Value



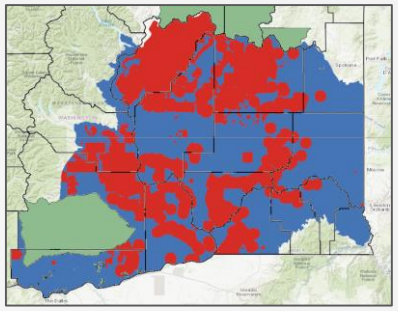
High Protected Areas

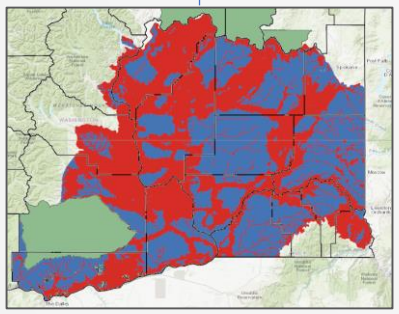


High Conservation Value Composite

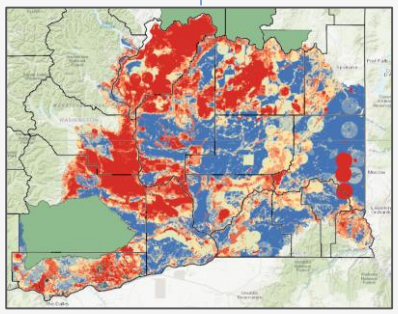


Listed Species Composite

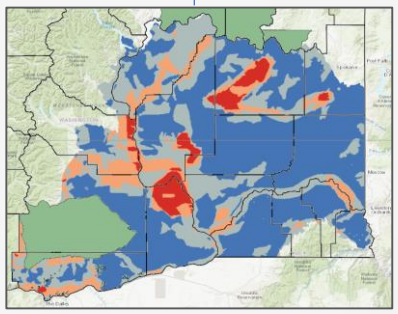




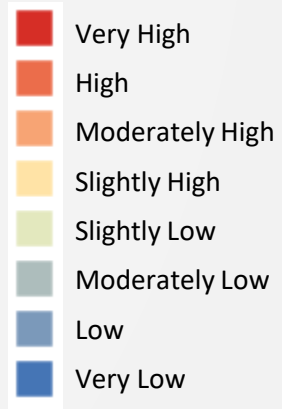
Connectivity Value



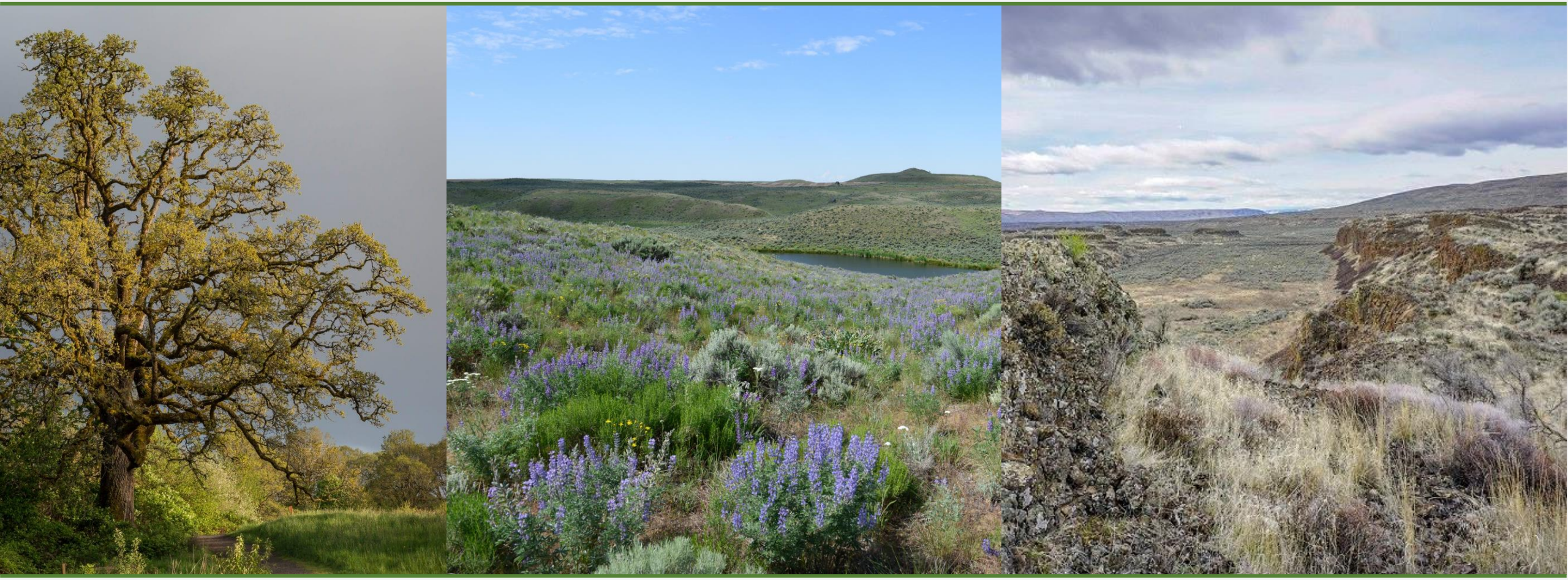
Combined Species/ Ecosystems Value

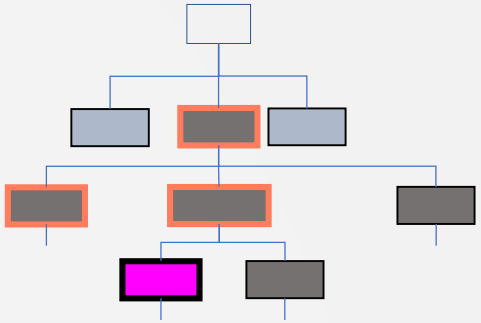


Other Conservation Priorities



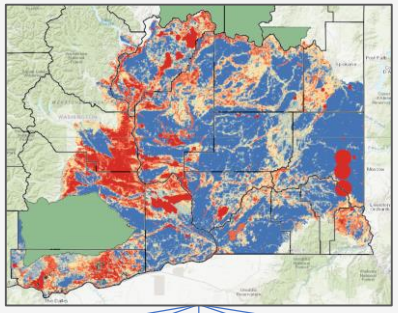
Natural Communities

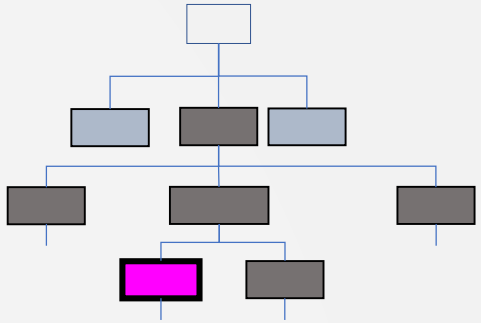




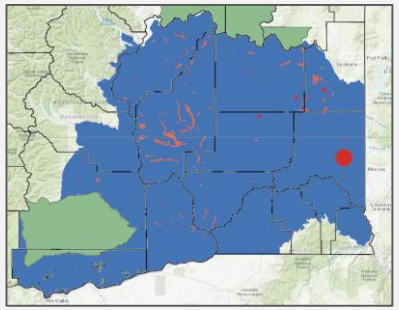
- High Conservation Value Comp
  - Landscape Connectivity Value
    - High Riparian Linkages
      - Riparian Areas
    - Combined Cores & Linkages
      - High ALI Cores & Linkages
        - Arid Land Initiative Cores & Linkages
      - High WDFD Cores & Linkages
        - WDFW Cores & Linkages
  - Combined Species/Communities Value
    - (see next diagram)
    - Natural Communities Value
      - High Wetland Value
        - Max Wetland
          - Rare Wetlands
          - Wetlands
      - High Weighted Oaks
        - Weighted Oaks
          - Oak Priority 1
          - Oak Priority 2
          - Oak Priority 3
          - Oak Priority 4
          - Oak Priority 5
      - High Natural Rare Communities
        - High Ecosystem Priorities
          - Status 1z
            - Status 1 Priorities
          - High Status 2-4 Priorities
            - Status 2-4 Priorities
              - Status 2
              - Status 3
              - Status 4
        - High Shrubsteppe Area
          - Shrubsteppe Area
      - High Rare Highlands Value
        - Max Highlands
          - Highlands NHP
          - Highland Communities
            - Aspen Stands
            - Inland Dunes
            - Talus Slopes
            - Cliffs & Bluffs
      - High Sagebrush Core Restoration Areas
        - Sagebrush Core Restoration Areas

Natural Communities Value

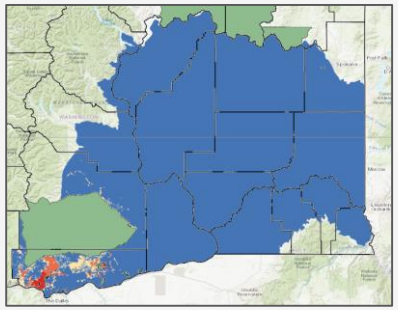




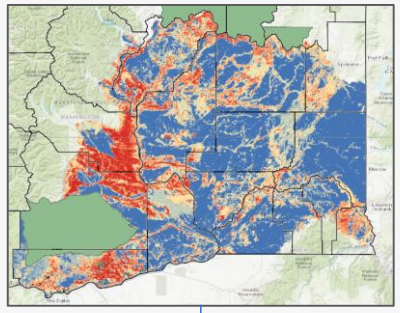
High Wetland Value



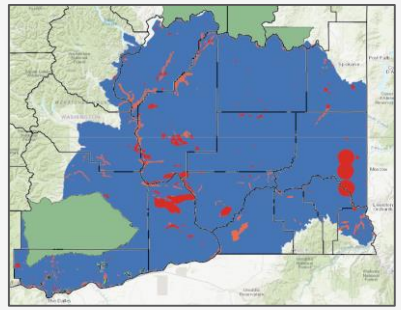
High Weighted Oaks



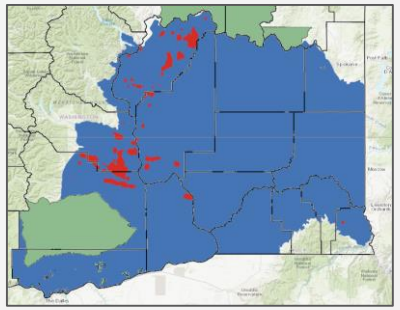
Natural Rare Communities

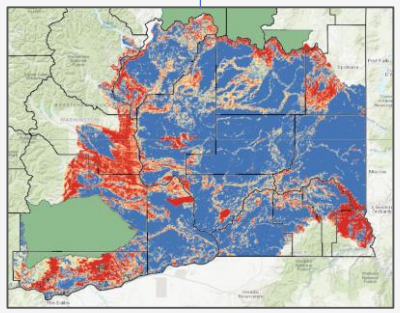


High Rare Highlands

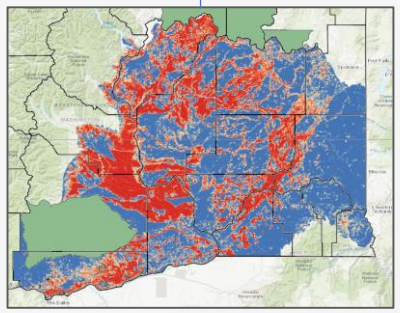


High Sagebrush Cores



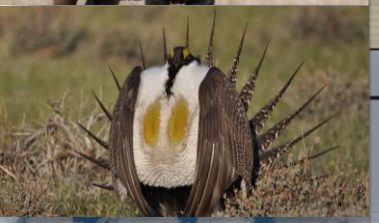


High Ecosystem Priorities



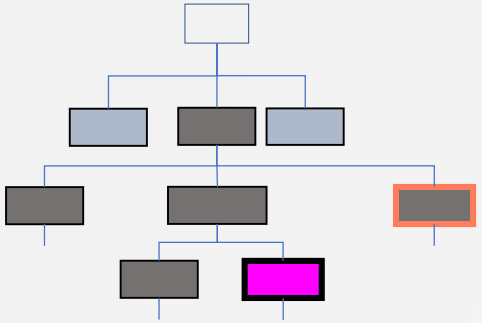
High Shrubsteppe Area






Vertebrate Focal Species

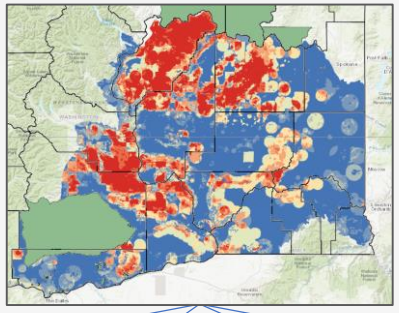
Listed Species	Candidate Species	Other Species of Interest (Med)	Other Species of Interest (Low)
Mammals			
Pygmy Rabbit	Washington Ground Squirrel	Deer Parturition	Bighorn Sheep
Bat Habitat	Townsends Ground Squirrel	Elk Parturition	Deer Regular Occurrence
	Blacktailed Jackrabbit	Rocky Mountain Elk	Elk Regular Occurrence
	Whitetailed Jackrabbit	Elk Migration	
Birds			
Greater Sage Grouse	Burrowing Owl	Brewers Sparrow	
Columbian Sharptailed Grou	Golden Eagle		
Ferruginous Hawk	Sagebrush Sparrow		
Sandhill Crane	Loggerhead Shrike		
	Sage Thrasher		
	Waterfowl Concentrations		
Herptiles			
Nothern Leopard Frog	Columbian Spotted Frog	Sharp-tailed Snake	
	Sagebrush Lizard		
	California Mountain Kingsnake		
	Striped Whipsnake		

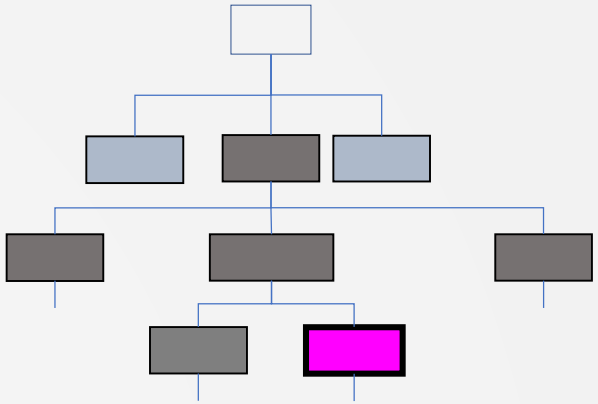


(see previous model page)

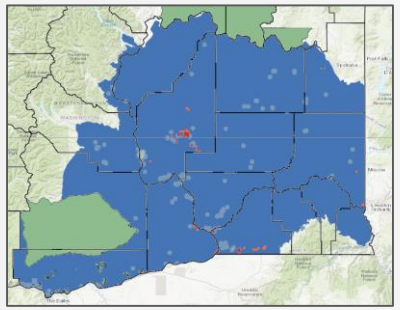
- Focal Species Value
  - Adjusted Focal Species
    - **Focal Species Value**
      - Plant Species Value
        - Endangered Plants
          - Threatened Plants
            - Sensitive Plants
      - Herptile Species Value
        - Candidate Herps
          - Columbian Spotted Frog
          - Sagebrush Lizard
          - CA Mountain Kingsnake
          - Striped Whipsnake
        - Listed Herps
          - Leopard Frog
        - Other (Med) Herps
          - Sharptailed Snake
      - Bird Species Value
        - Listed Birds
          - Greater Sage Grouse
          - Columbian Sharptailed Grouse
          - Ferruginous Hawk
          - Sandhill Crane
        - Candidate Birds
          - Burrowing Owl
          - Golden Eagle
          - Sagebrush Sparrow
          - Loggerhead Shrike
          - Sage Thrasher
          - Waterfowl Concentration
        - Other (Med) Birds
          - Brewers Sparrow
      - Mammal Species Value
        - Listed Mammals
          - Pygmy Rabbit
          - Bat Habitat
        - Candidate Mammals
          - Washington Ground Squirrel
          - Townsends Ground Squirrel
          - Blacktailed Jackrabbit
          - Whitetailed Jackrabbit
        - Other (Med) Mammals
          - Deer Parturition
          - Elk Parturition
          - Rocky Mtn. Elk
          - Elk Migration
        - Other (Low) Mammals
          - Bighorn Sheep
          - Deer Reg Occurrence
          - Elk Reg Occurrence
    - Landcover Adjustment
      - Developed Cover
      - Dryland Farm Cover
      - Irrigated Farm Cover
      - Natural Cover
        - Natural Cover
          - CRP Lands
- Other Conservation Priorities
  - High TNC Portfolios
    - TNC Portfolios
  - High Audubon IBAs
    - Audubon Important Bird Areas
  - High PARCA Areas
    - PARCA Areas

Focal Species Value

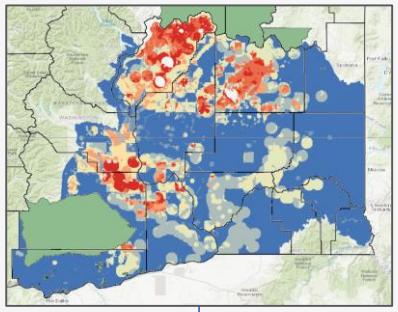




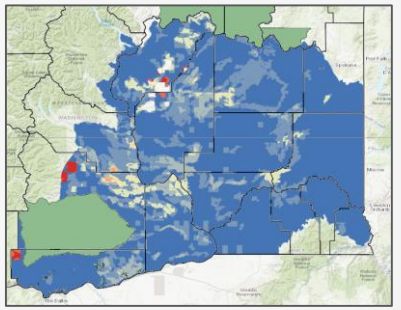
Herptile Species Value



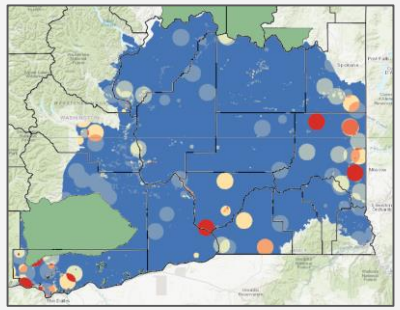
Avian Species Value

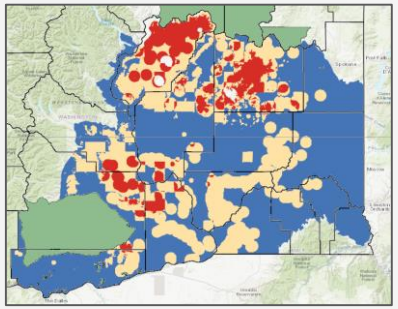


Mammal Species Value

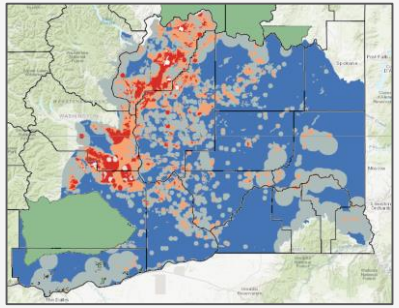


Plant Species Value

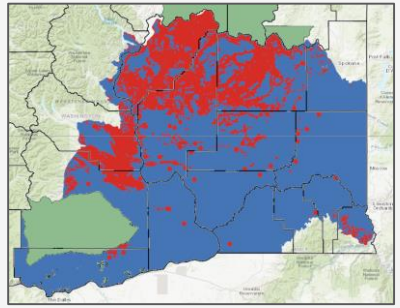




Avian Listed Species

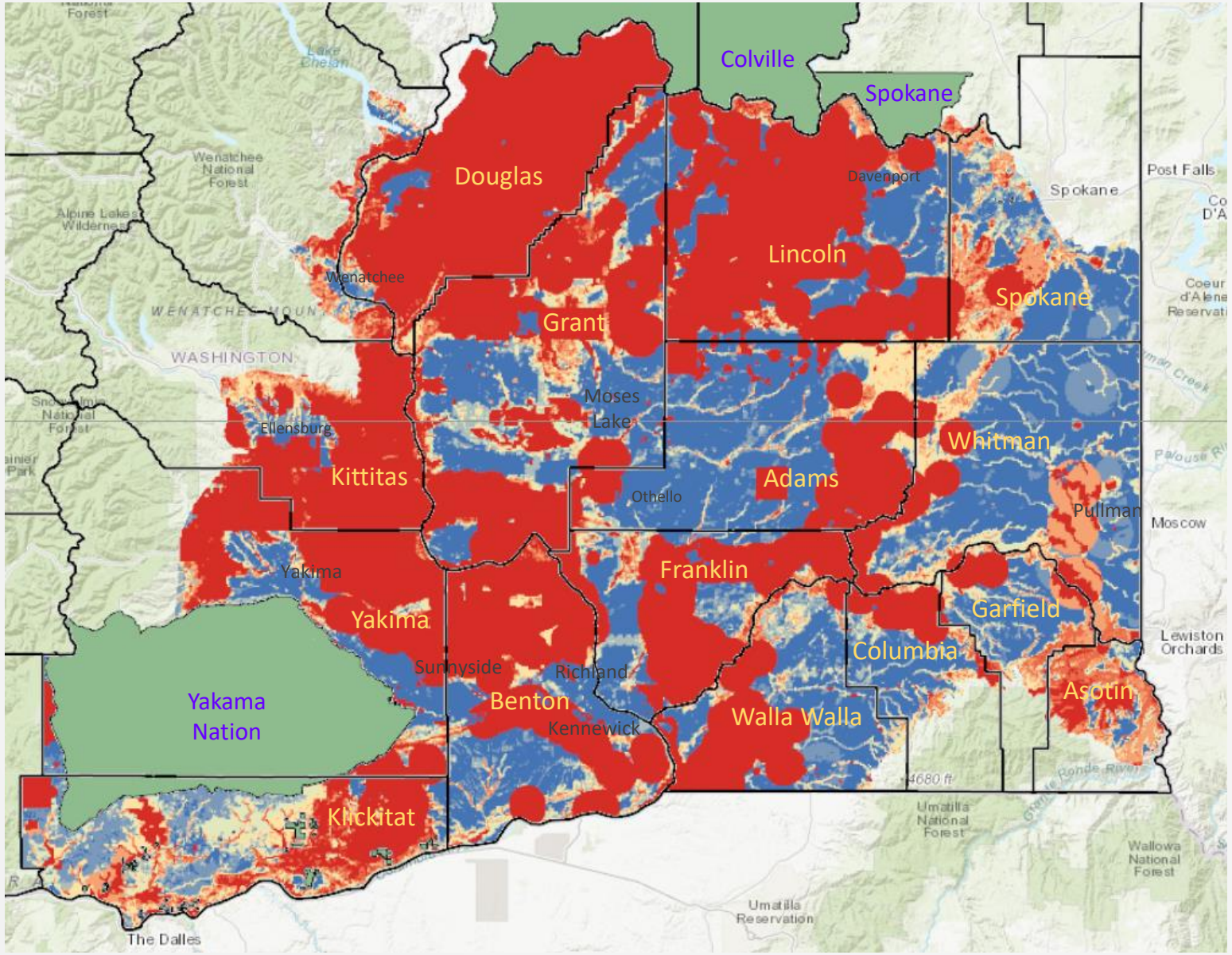


Avian Candidate Species



Avian Other Species

Conservation Value Review Draft

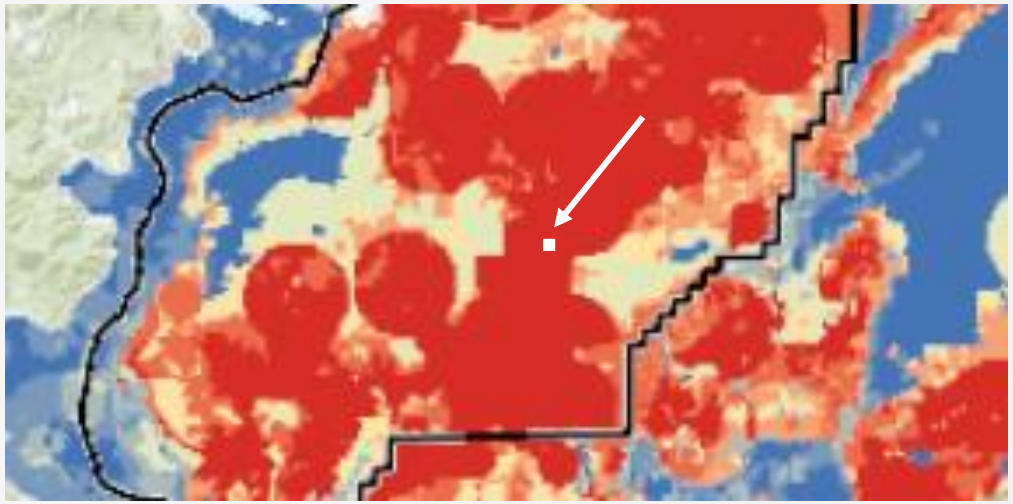


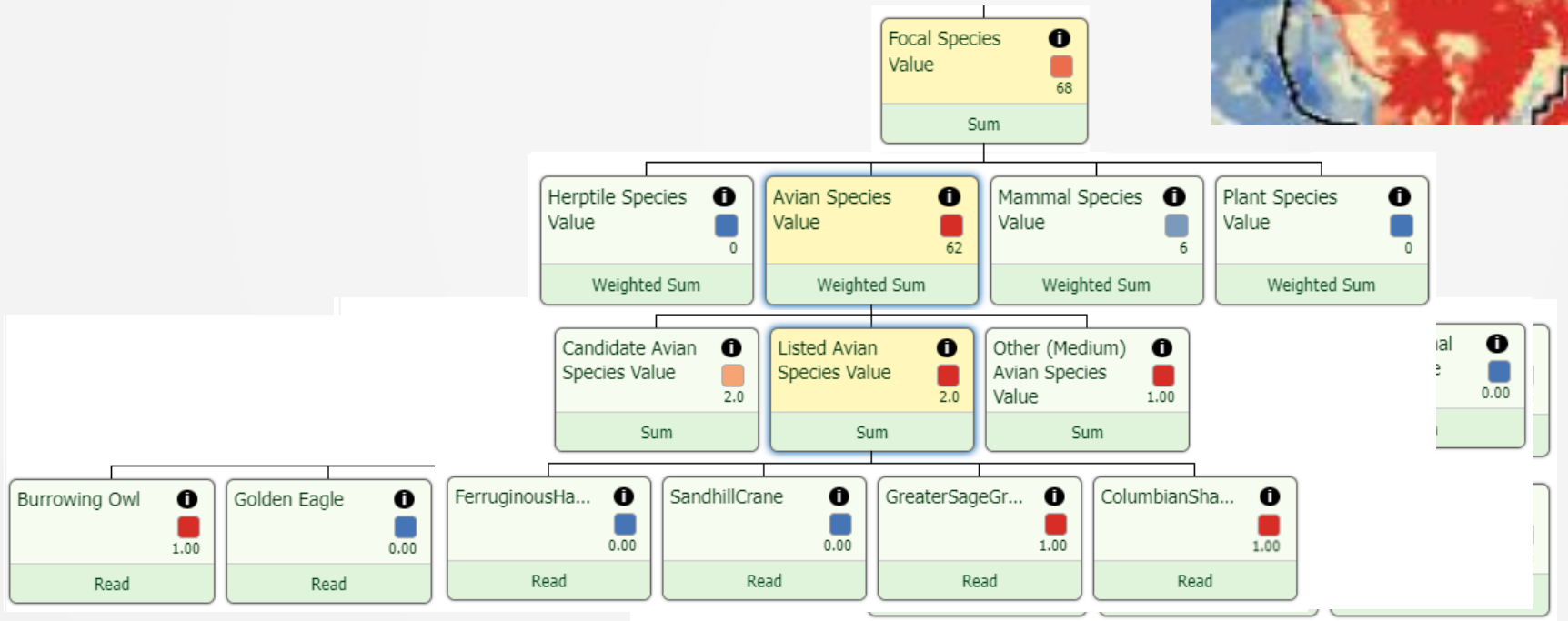
Conservation Value

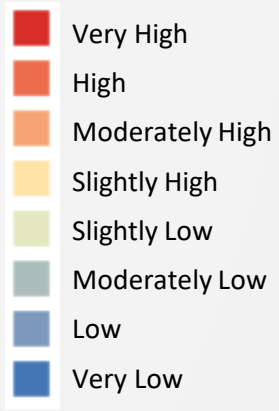
- Very High
- High
- Moderately High
- Slightly High
- Slightly Low
- Moderately Low
- Low
- Very Low

Conservation Value	Acres	Percent
Very High	6,988,191	49.07%
High	418,102	2.94%
Moderately High	641,176	4.50%
Slightly High	645,500	4.53%
Slightly Low	692,388	4.86%
Moderately Low	535,662	3.76%
Low	805,253	5.65%
Very Low	3,515,748	24.69%
Totals	14,242,020	100.00%

Conservation Model Transparency







Next Steps

- Share with colleagues and others for review and comment
- Add a few more species
- Make final model refinements

Questions

Draft Composite Map Results

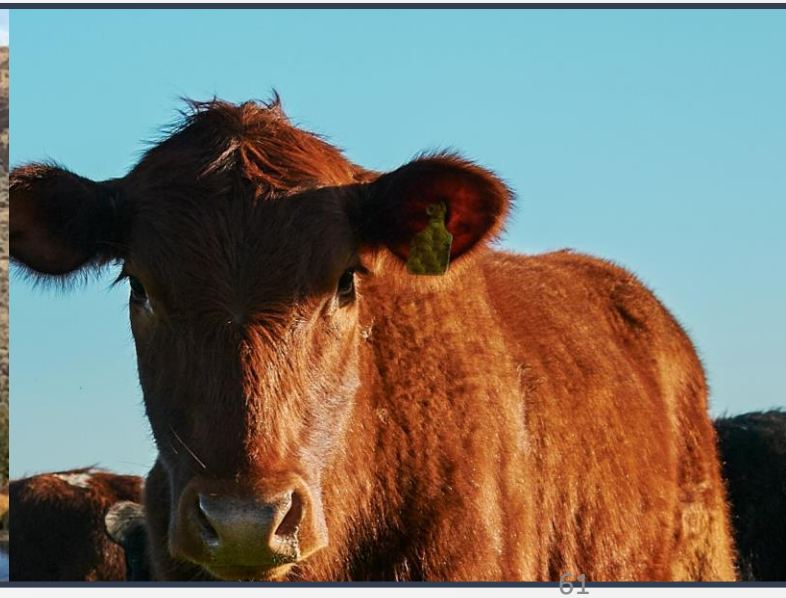
Jim Strittholt
Conservation Biology Institute

Painting of Columbia Plateau by Sarah Gilman

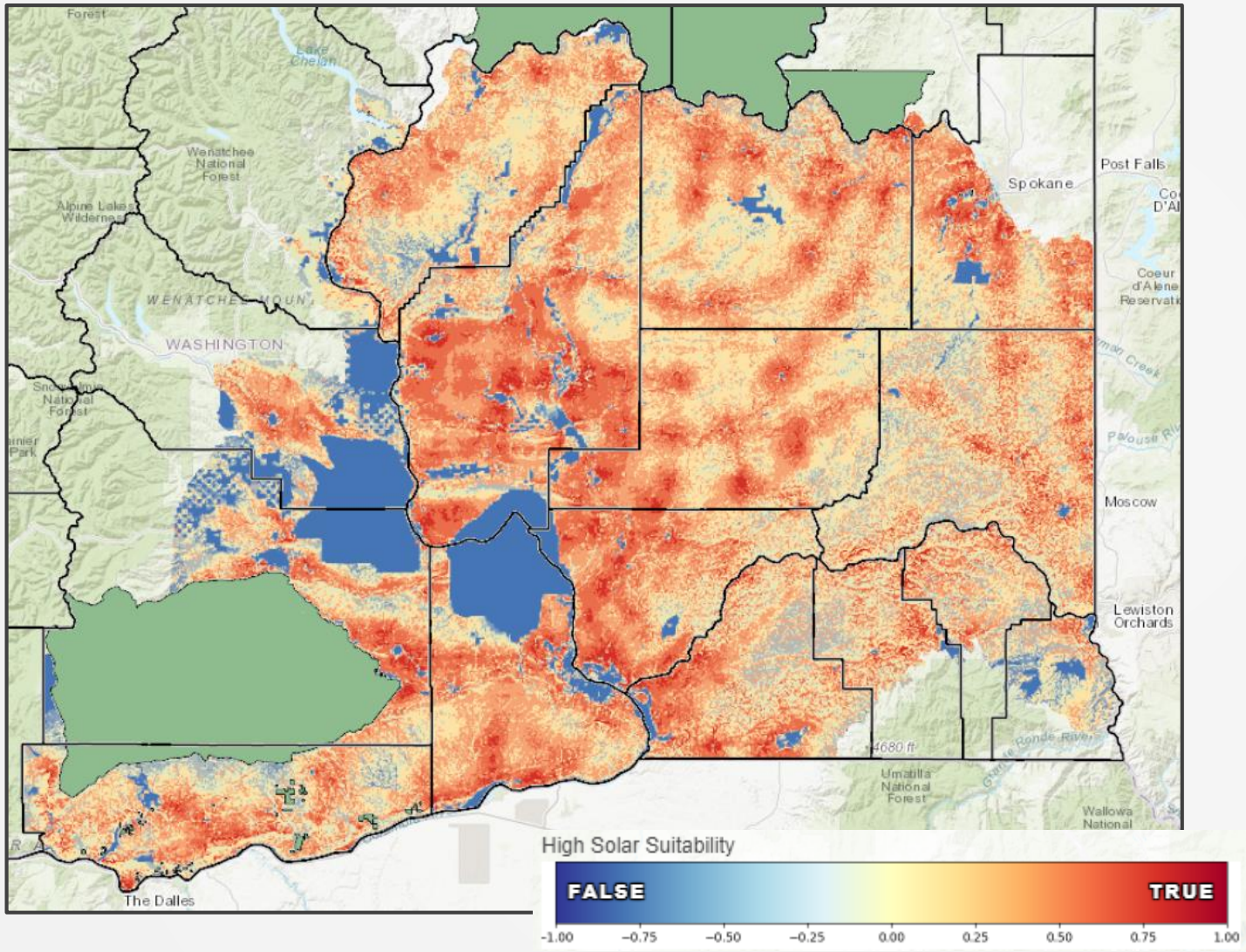
Mapping Least-Conflict

Goal: Produce a map-based product that allows for easy access and high level of transparency with the focus on reducing solar energy development conflicts in the Washington Columbia Plateau.





Solar Development Suitability



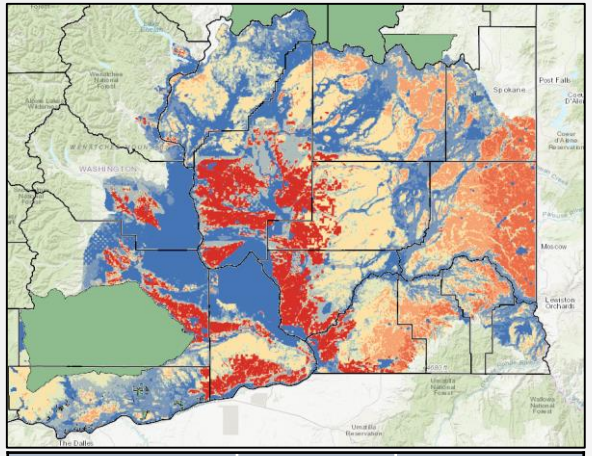
Solar Development Suitability

0.75 to 1.00	Very High
0.50 to 0.75	High
0.25 to 0.50	Moderately High
0.00 to 0.25	Slightly High
-0.25 to 0.00	Slightly Low
-0.50 to -0.25	Moderately Low
-0.75 to -0.50	Low
-1.00 to -0.75	Very Low

Solar Suitability	Acres	Percent
Very High	429,098	3.01%
High	2,519,544	17.69%
Moderately High	3,854,282	27.06%
Slightly High	3,207,238	22.52%
Slightly Low	1,906,044	13.38%
Moderately Low	861,161	6.05%
Low	286,148	2.01%
Very Low	1,178,506	8.27%
Totals	14,242,020	100.00%

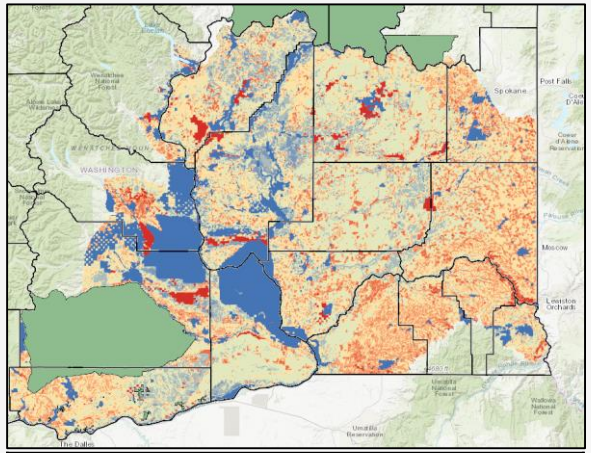
Resource Value/Conflict Models

Farmland Value/Conflict



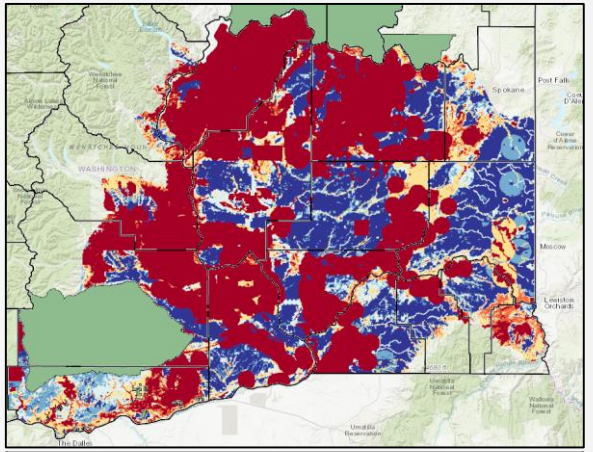
Farmland Value	Acres	Percent
Very High	1,520,252	10.67%
High	796,358	5.59%
Moderately High	1,405,842	9.87%
Slightly High	2,157,721	15.15%
Slightly Low	1,409,487	9.90%
Moderately Low	1,838,894	12.91%
Low	1,851,187	13.00%
Very Low	3,262,280	22.91%
Totals	14,242,020	100.00%

Ranchland Value/Conflict



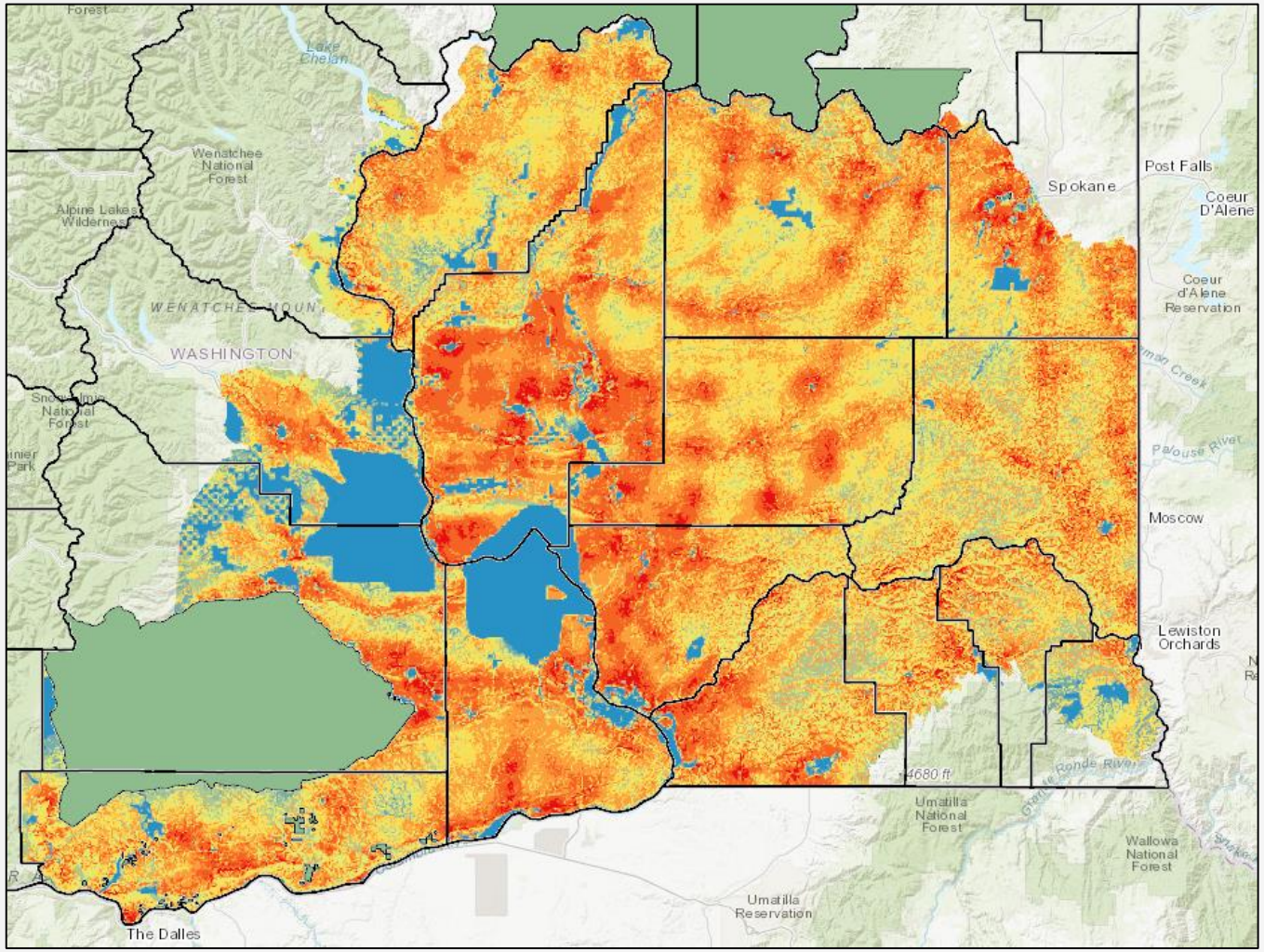
Ranchland Value	Acres	Percent
Very High	356,202	2.50%
High	664,774	4.67%
Moderately High	2,107,250	14.80%
Slightly High	3,384,103	23.76%
Slightly Low	4,077,541	28.63%
Moderately Low	1,316,884	9.25%
Low	209,730	1.47%
Very Low	2,125,535	14.92%
Totals	14,242,020	100.00%

Conservation Value/Conflict



Conservation Value	Acres	Percent
Very High	6,988,191	49.07%
High	418,102	2.94%
Moderately High	641,176	4.50%
Slightly High	645,500	4.53%
Slightly Low	692,388	4.86%
Moderately Low	535,662	3.76%
Low	805,253	5.65%
Very Low	3,515,748	24.69%
Totals	14,242,020	100.00%

Solar Development Suitability Composite



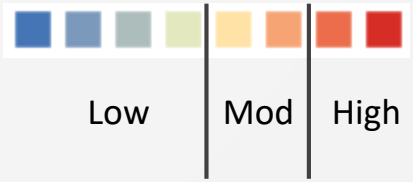
- Solar Development Suitability Score
- Solar Development Suitability Rank

- Conservation Value Score
- Conservation Value Rank
- Conservation Value Conflict Level

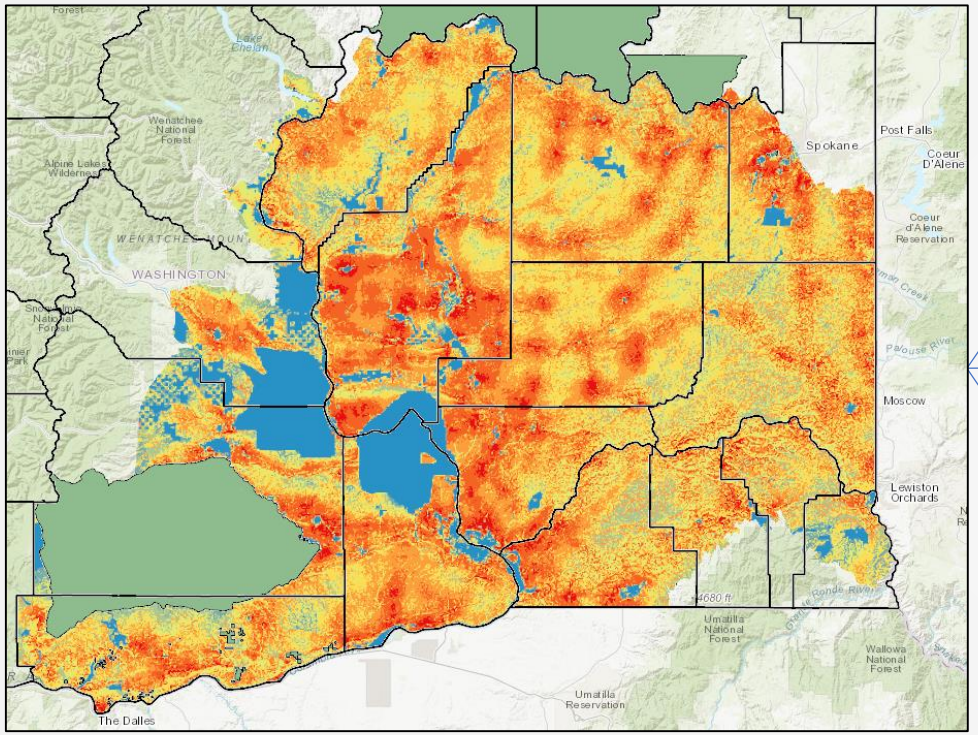
- Farmland Value Score
- Farmland Value Rank
- Farmland Value Conflict Level

- Ranchland Value Score
- Ranchland Value Rank
- Ranchland Value Conflict Level

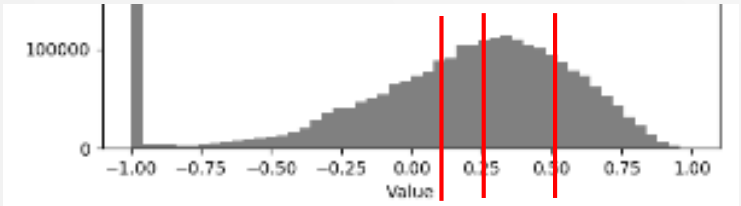
Conflict Level

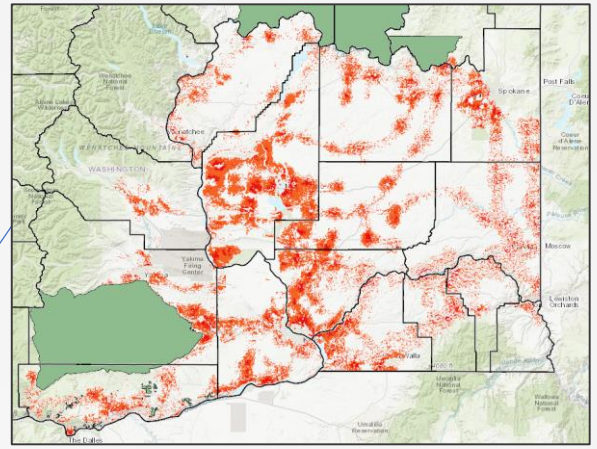


Solar Development Suitability Composite



14,242,020 acres

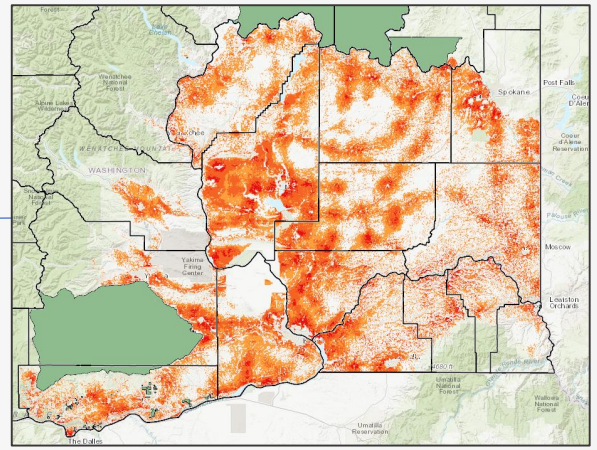




very high & high solar rank

2.95 M acres

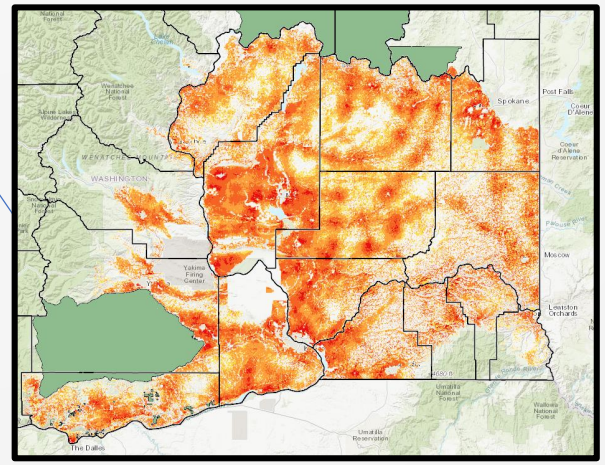
~21%



very high to moderately high solar rank

6.80 M acres

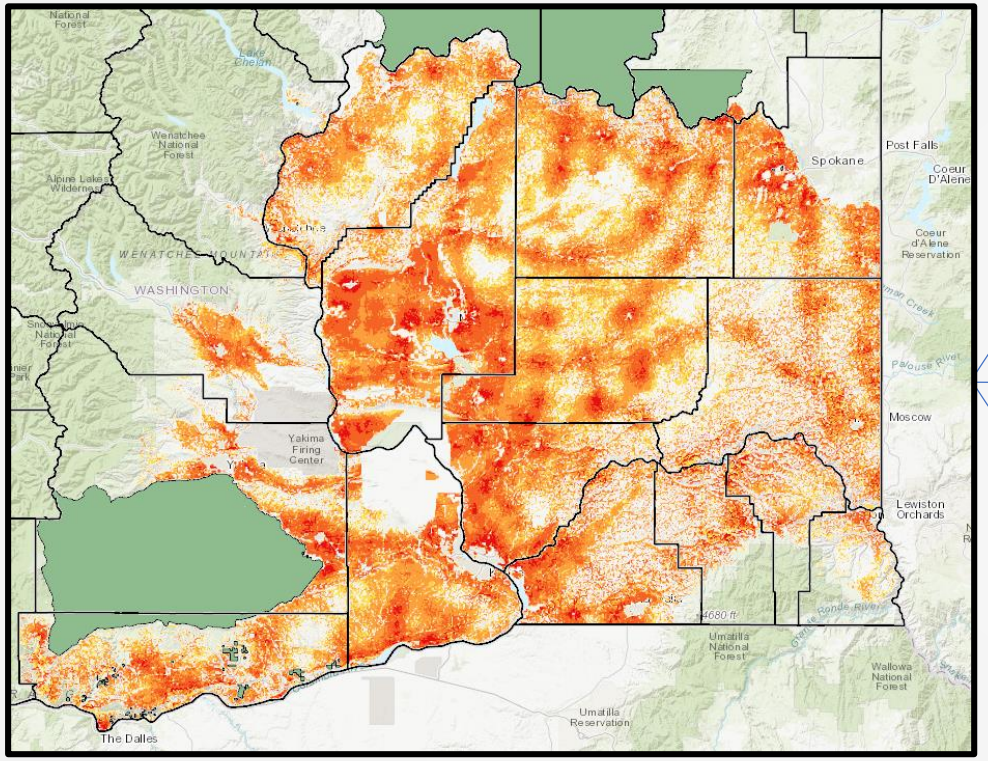
~48%



Suitability Score GT 0.1000

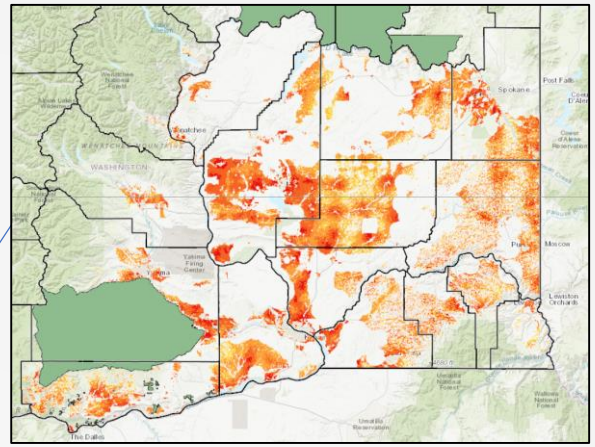
8.90 M acres

~62%



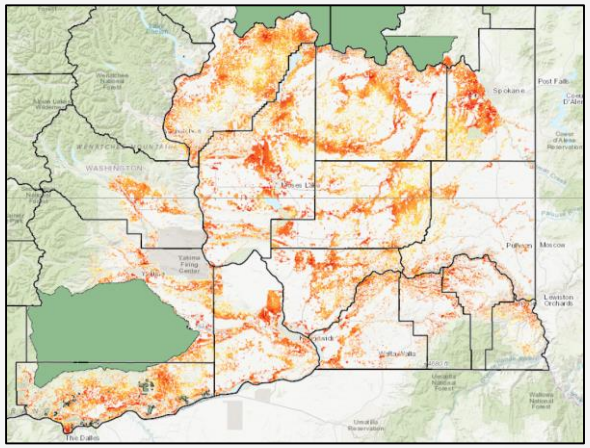
Very high to slightly high suitability

8.90 M acres



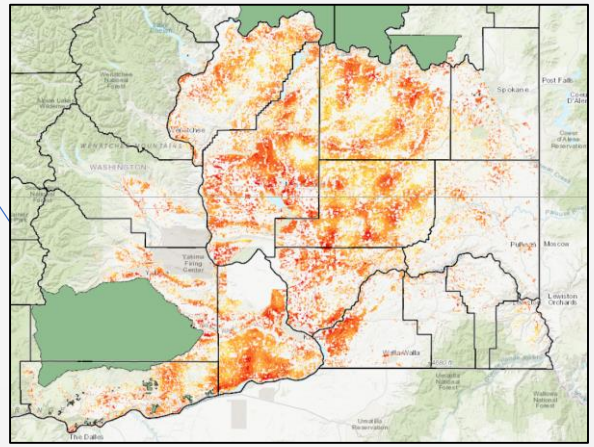
Conservation Low Conflict

4.09 M acres
~46%



Farmland Low Conflict

4.15 M acres
~47%

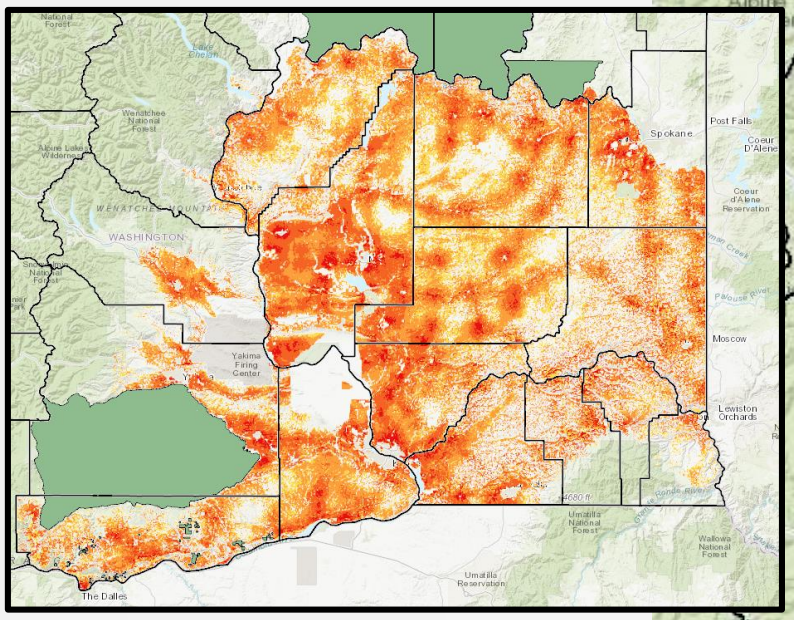


Ranchland Low Conflict

4.36 M acres
~49%

Solar Development Suitability

Score GT 0.10000

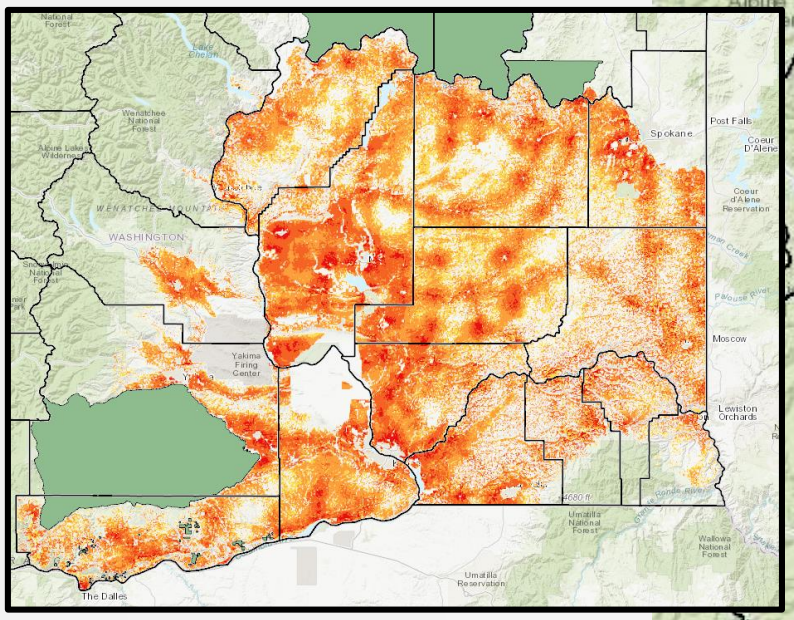


Conservation Low Conflict
Farmland Low Conflict
Ranchland Low Conflict

355,769 acres
~4%
2.5% of the Region

Solar Development Suitability

Score GT 0.10000

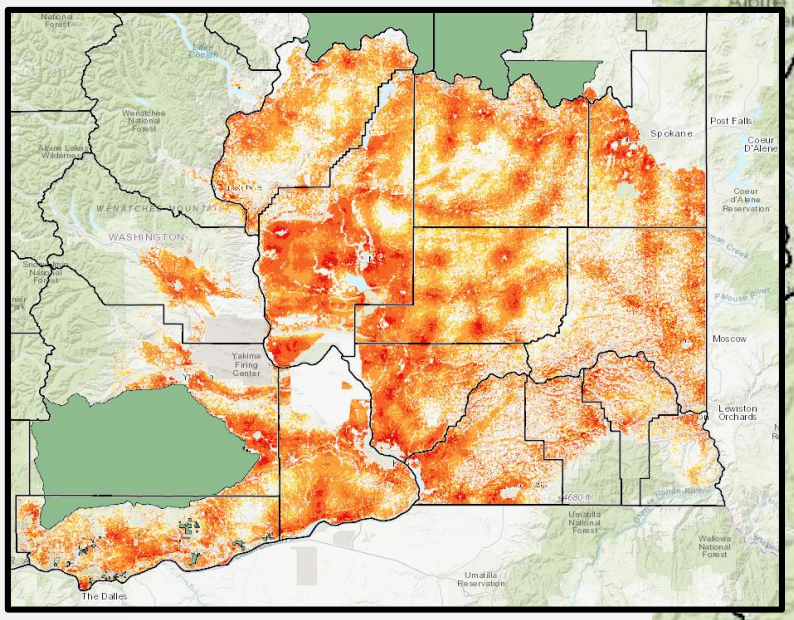


Conservation Low Conflict
Farmland Low Conflict
Ranchland Moderate Conflict

749,593 acres
~8.5%
5.3% of the Region

Solar Development Suitability

Score GT 0.10000

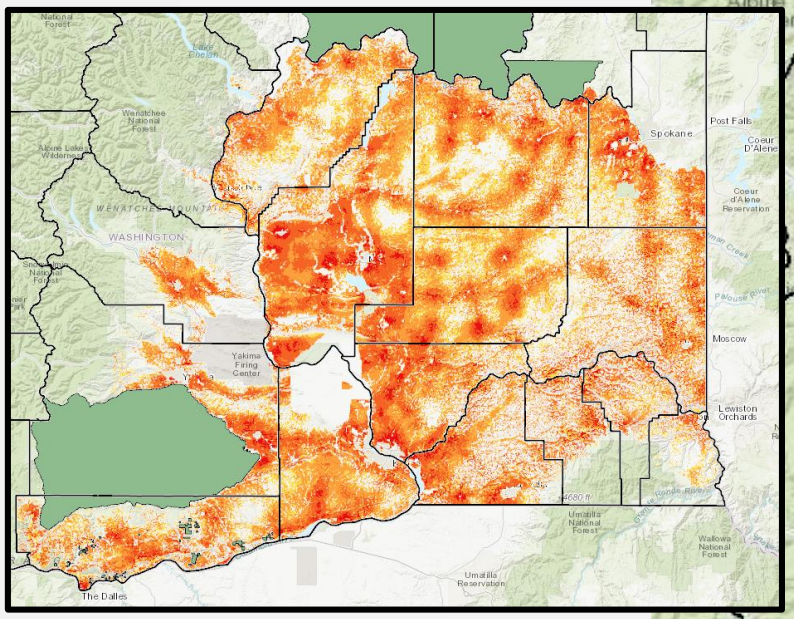


Conservation Low Conflict
Farmland Moderate Conflict
Ranchland Low Conflict

1,133,201 acres
~12.8%
8% of the Region

Solar Development Suitability

Score GT 0.10000

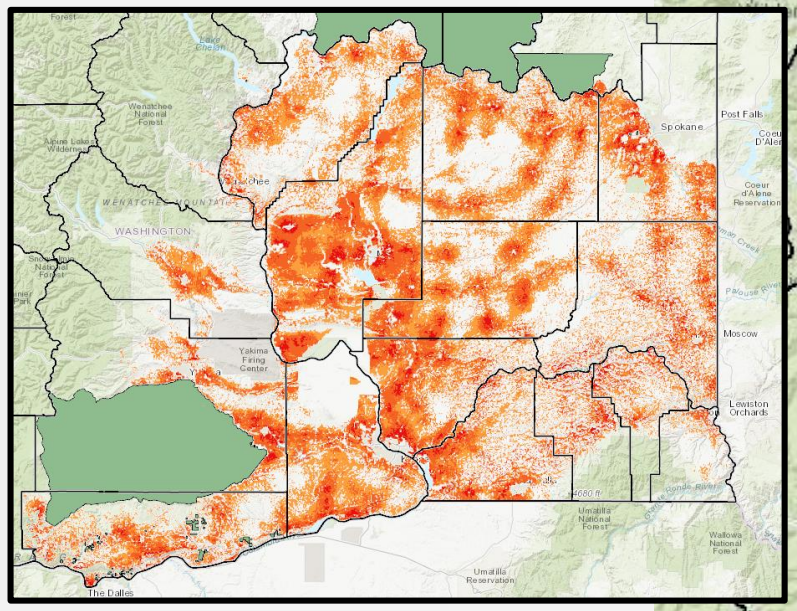


Conservation Low Conflict
Farmland Moderate Conflict
Ranchland Moderate Conflict

2,314,632 acres
~26%
16.3% of the Region

Solar Development Suitability

Very High to Moderately High

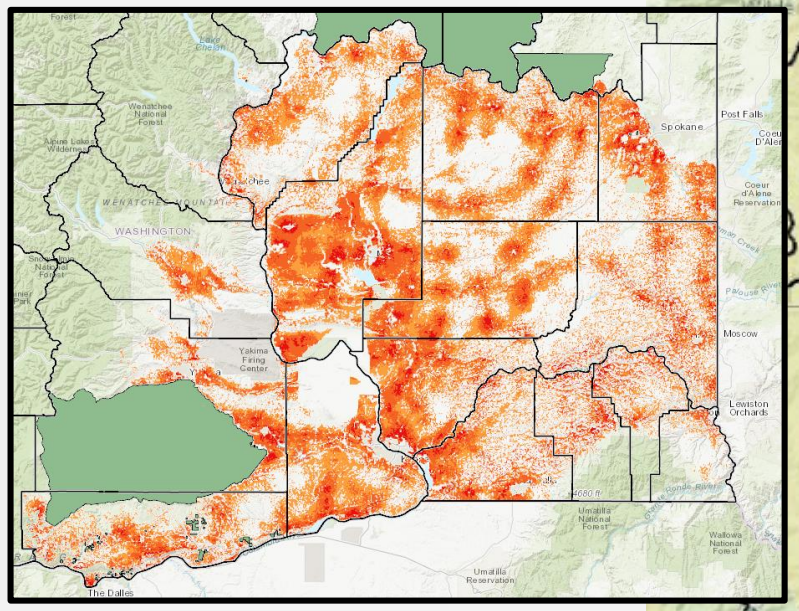


Conservation Low Conflict
Farmland Moderate Conflict
Ranchland Moderate Conflict

1,734,615 acres
~26%
12.2% of the Region

Solar Development Suitability

Very High to Moderately High

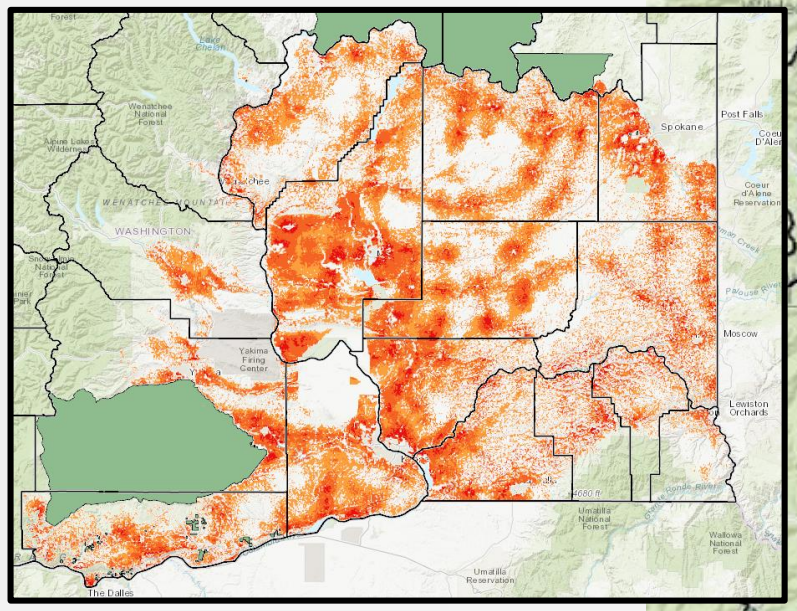


Conservation Low Conflict
Farmland Moderate Conflict
Ranchland Moderate Conflict

1,734,615 acres
~26%
12.2% of the Region

Solar Development Suitability

Very High to Moderately High

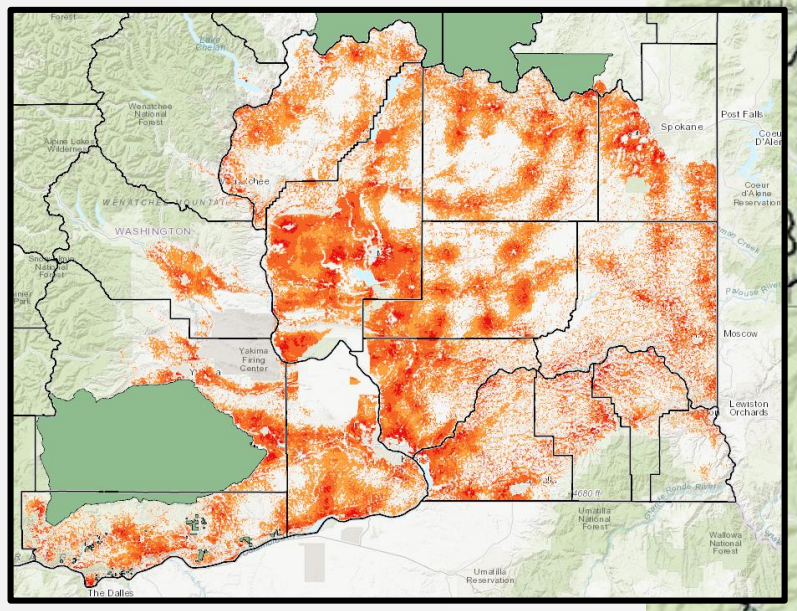


Conservation Low Conflict
Farmland Moderate Conflict
Ranchland Moderate Conflict

1,734,615 acres
~26%
12.2% of the Region

Solar Development Suitability

Very High to Moderately High

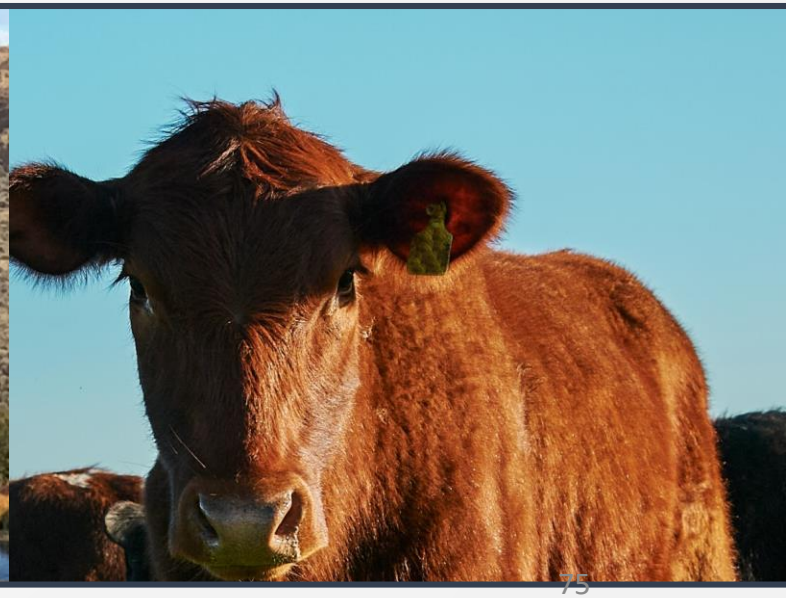


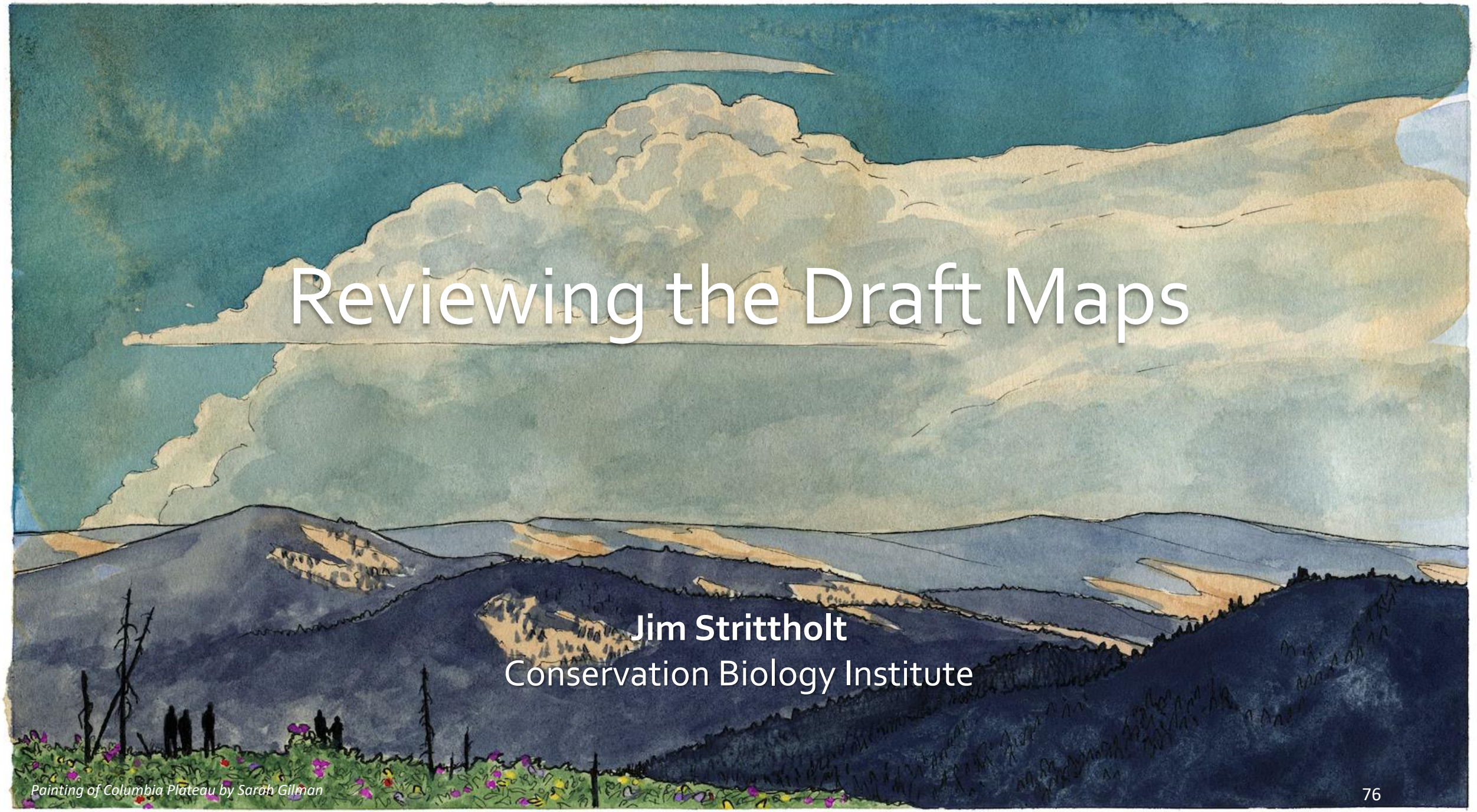
Conservation Low Conflict
Farmland Moderate Conflict
Ranchland Moderate Conflict

1,734,615 acres
~26%
12.2% of the Region

Go Live







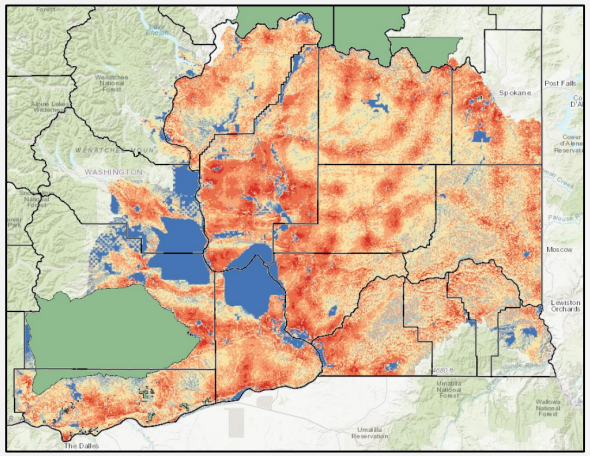
Reviewing the Draft Maps

Jim Strittholt
Conservation Biology Institute

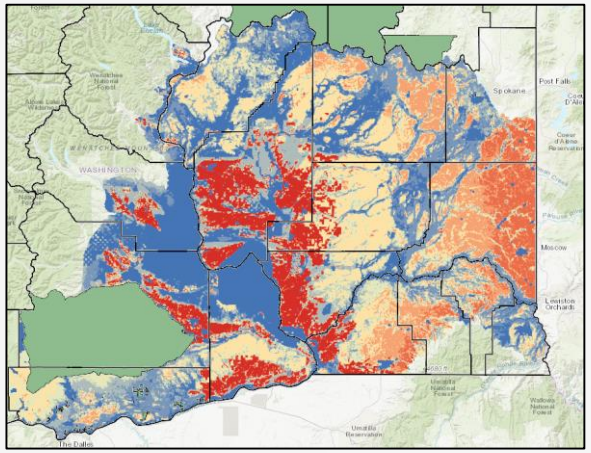
Painting of Columbia Plateau by Sarah Gilman

How to Review the Models and Maps

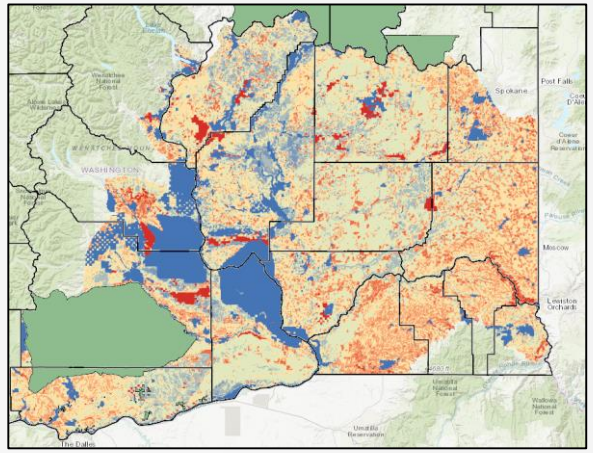
Solar Development Suitability



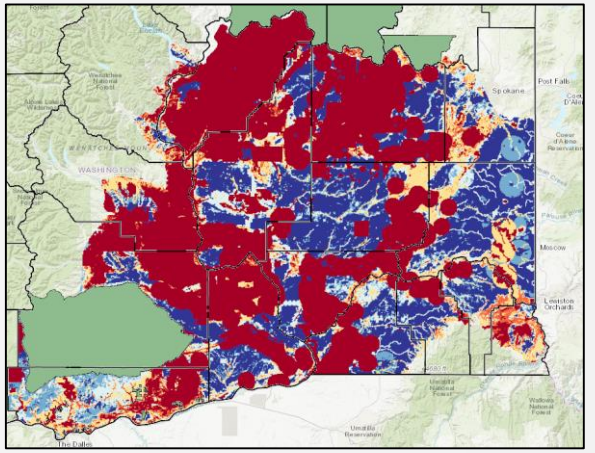
Farmland Value



Ranchland Value

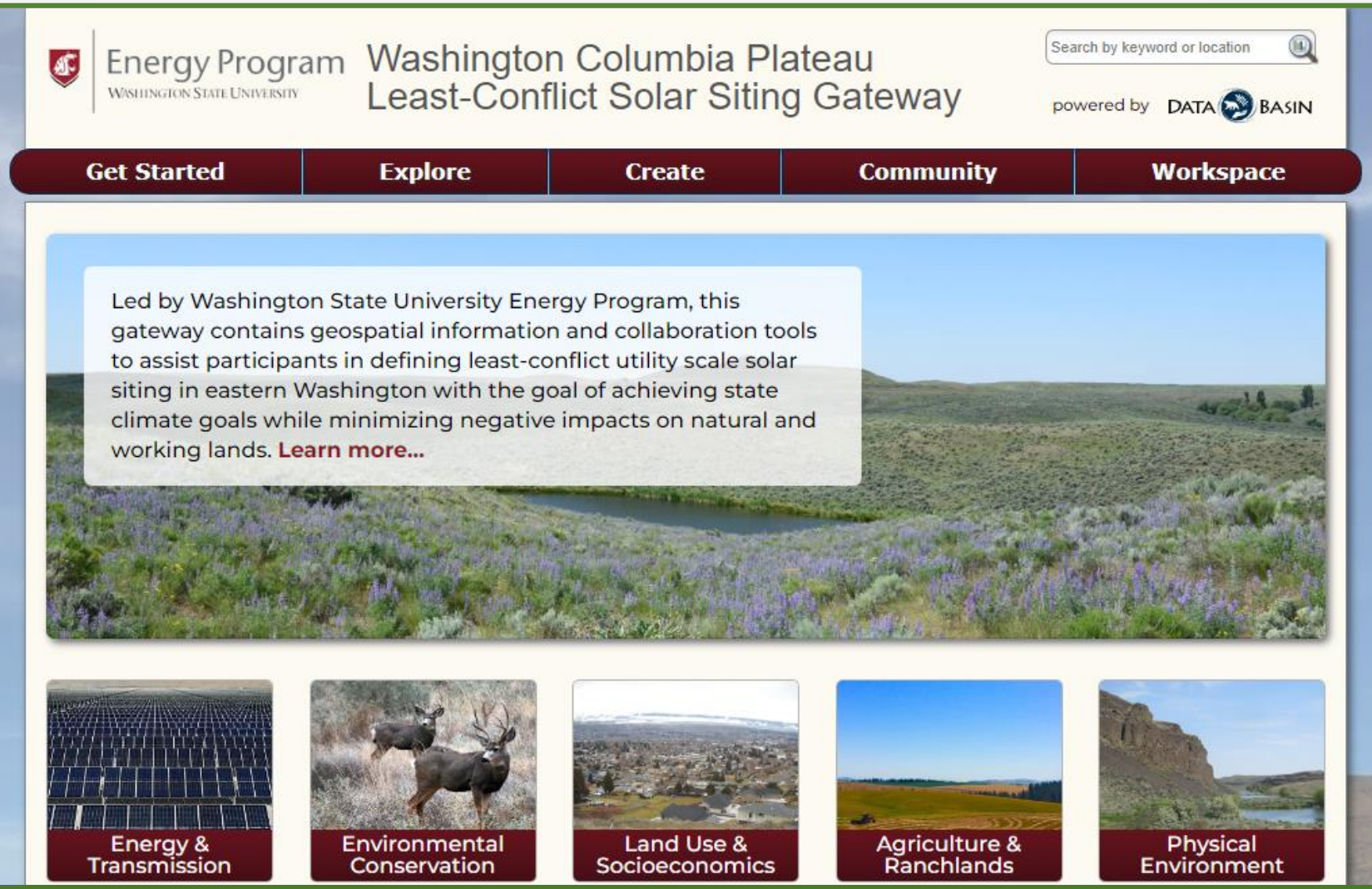


Conservation Value



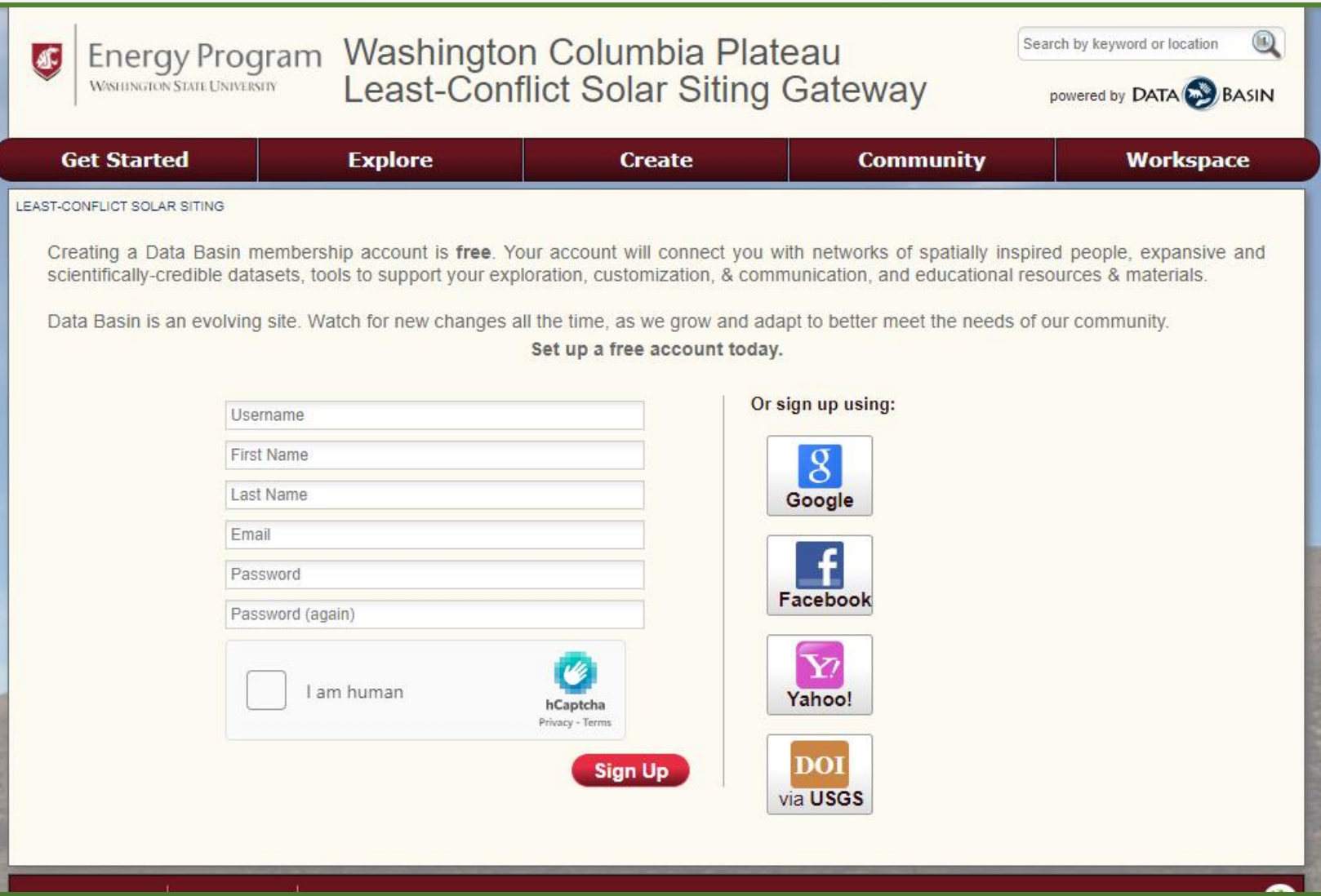
Washington Columbia Plateau Least-Conflict Solar Siting Gateway

https://wsuenergy.databasin.org/



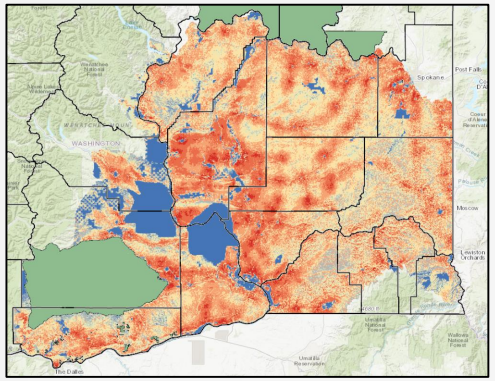
CONSERVATION BIOLOGY INSTITUTE

Step 1: Create Your Private Data Basin Account



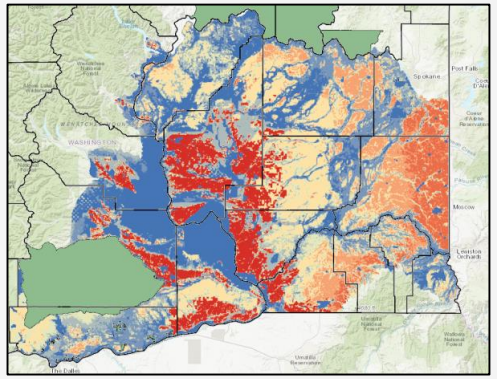
Step 2: Select the Map You Wish to Review

Solar Development Suitability



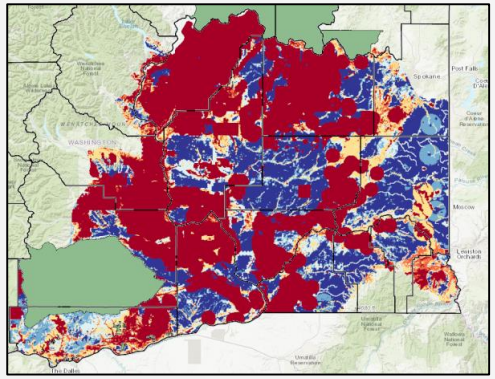
https://wsuenergy.databasin.org/maps/726e6e26f5f54a9c9b99aacf6de23538/active/

Farmland Value



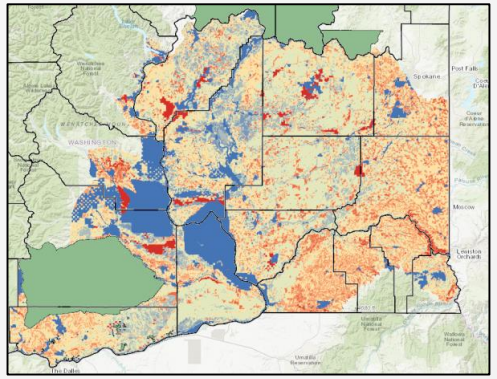
https://wsuenergy.databasin.org/maps/6b45a1560c3640e388f18626b7e8810d/active/

Conservation Value



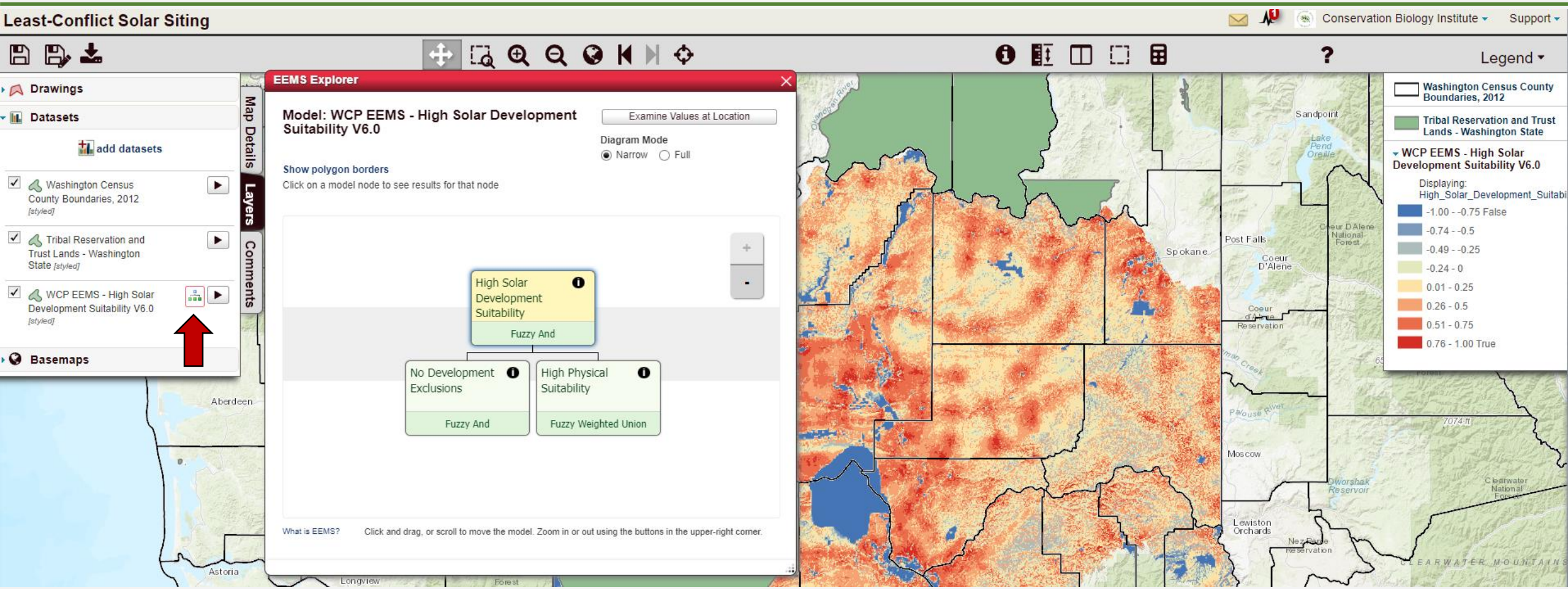
https://wsuenergy.databasin.org/maps/7e53d20236b548f28902fda9c1327113/active/

Ranchland Value

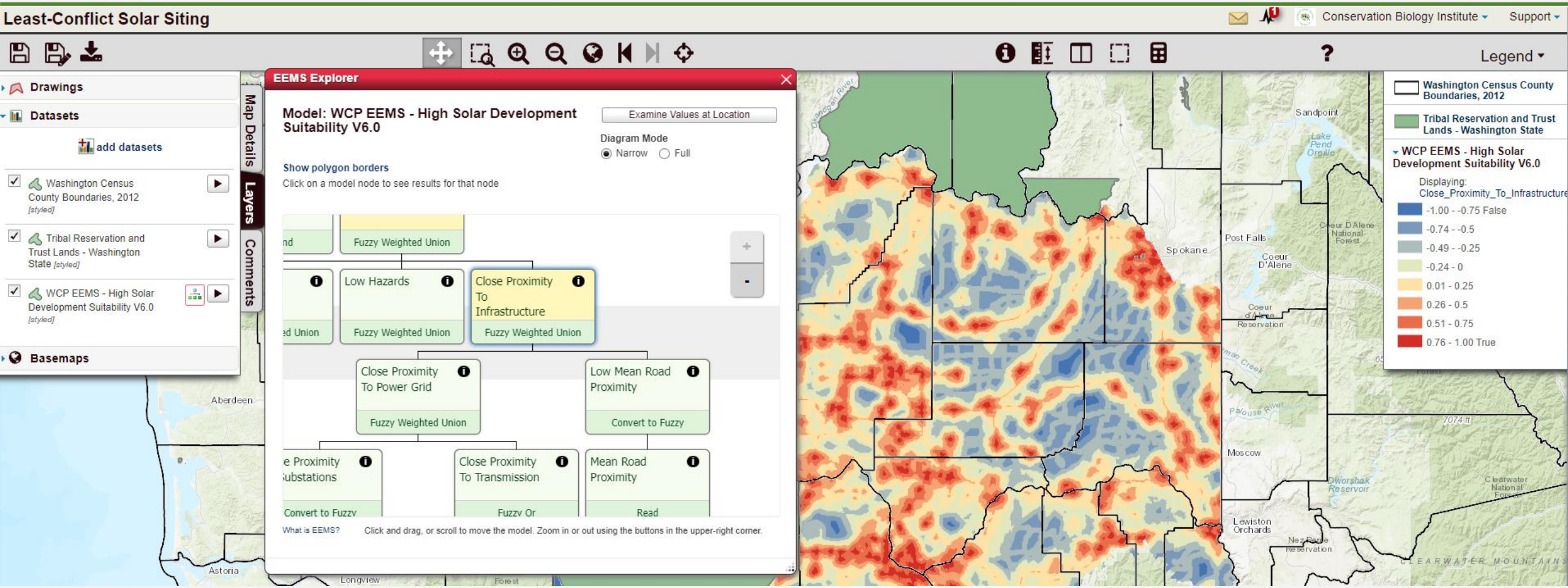


https://wsuenergy.databasin.org/maps/7df95c3bb97749e9bdd63fb81d524fdc/active/

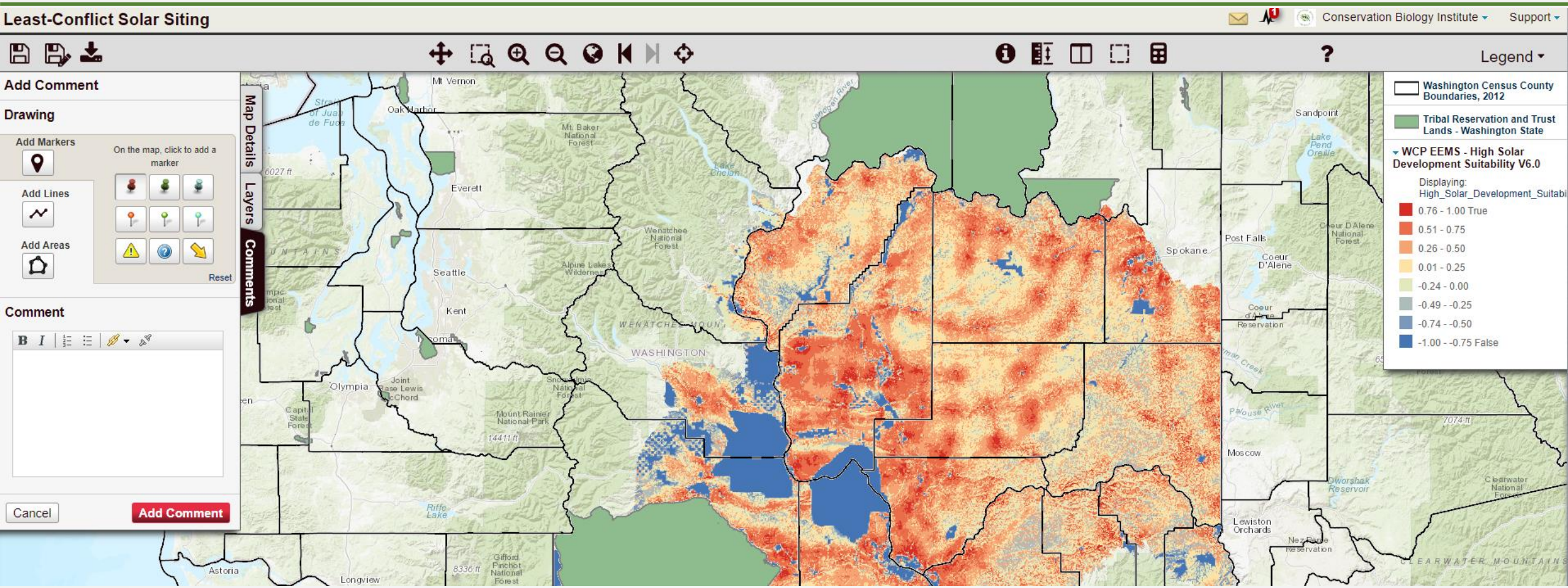
Step 3: Open EEMS Explorer Window



Step 4: Review the Components that Make Up the Map



Step 5: Make General or Spatially Specific Comments



Step 6: Guidance Questions

1) Based on your first impression, does the map seem to generally reflect reality?

2) Reviewing the model components, does it include the most important considerations? Is anything missing?

3) Based on your knowledge of the region, are there specific locations on the map that you feel are overvalued or undervalued according to the model results? Please explain.

COMPLETE COMMENTS BY FRIDAY, MAY 5th

5-minute Break

Please return at 11:35 am

Yakima Canyon
Photo credit: Victoria Ditovsky

Small Group Discussions: Observations and Insights

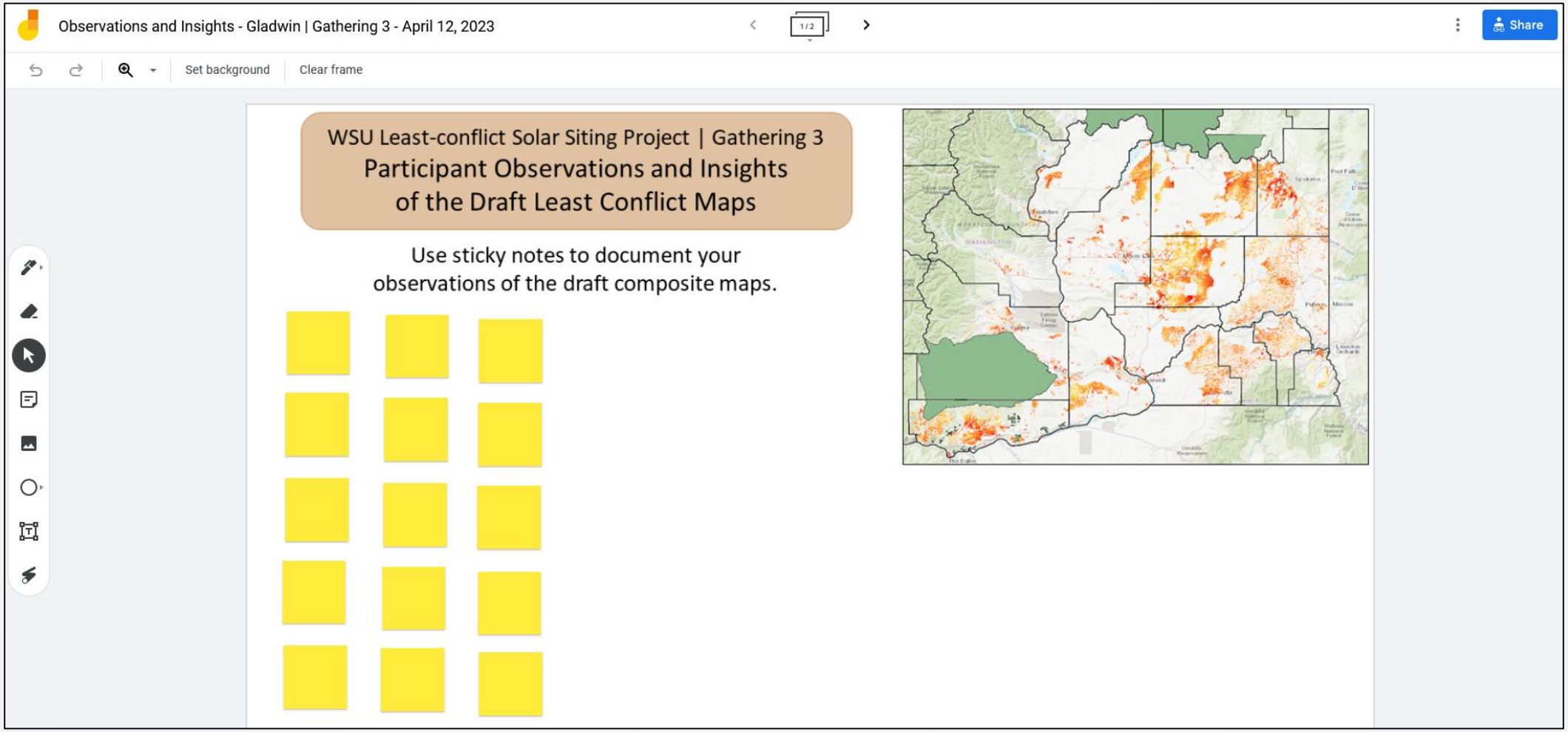
Painting of Columbia Plateau by Sarah Gilman

Small Group Discussion Prompts

1. What are your observations of the draft maps?
2. What issues or questions about solar siting do the maps suggest?

Your small group will address these prompts
using Jamboard (a virtual whiteboard).

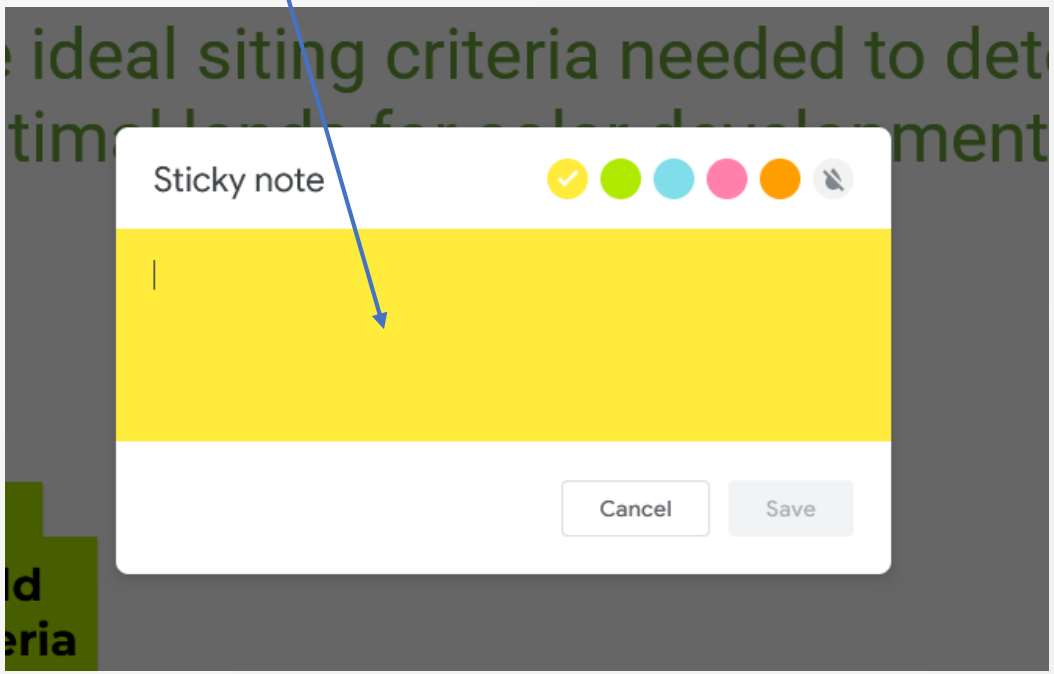
Bird's-eye View of Jamboard



Adding Notes in Jamboard

1. Click on the sticky note icon on the left of your screen

2. Type your thoughts into the field, select your sticky color (optional), and click 'Save'



Using Jamboard

A few things to keep in mind:

- Your small group facilitator will provide your group with its own Jamboard link.
- When you click the link, a browser window will open that's separate from your Zoom screen.
- If you experience technical difficulties, you can type your thoughts into the Zoom chat instead of using Jamboard.

Discussion Norms

- You are all experts—all ideas are welcome
- Allow everyone the chance to speak; listen actively to understand others' views
- Please honor the process and other participants with respectful language and interactions
- Please don't attribute statements to individuals or organizations outside these discussions

Afternoon Preview

Tom Beierle
Ross Strategic

Painting of Columbia Plateau by Sarah Gilman

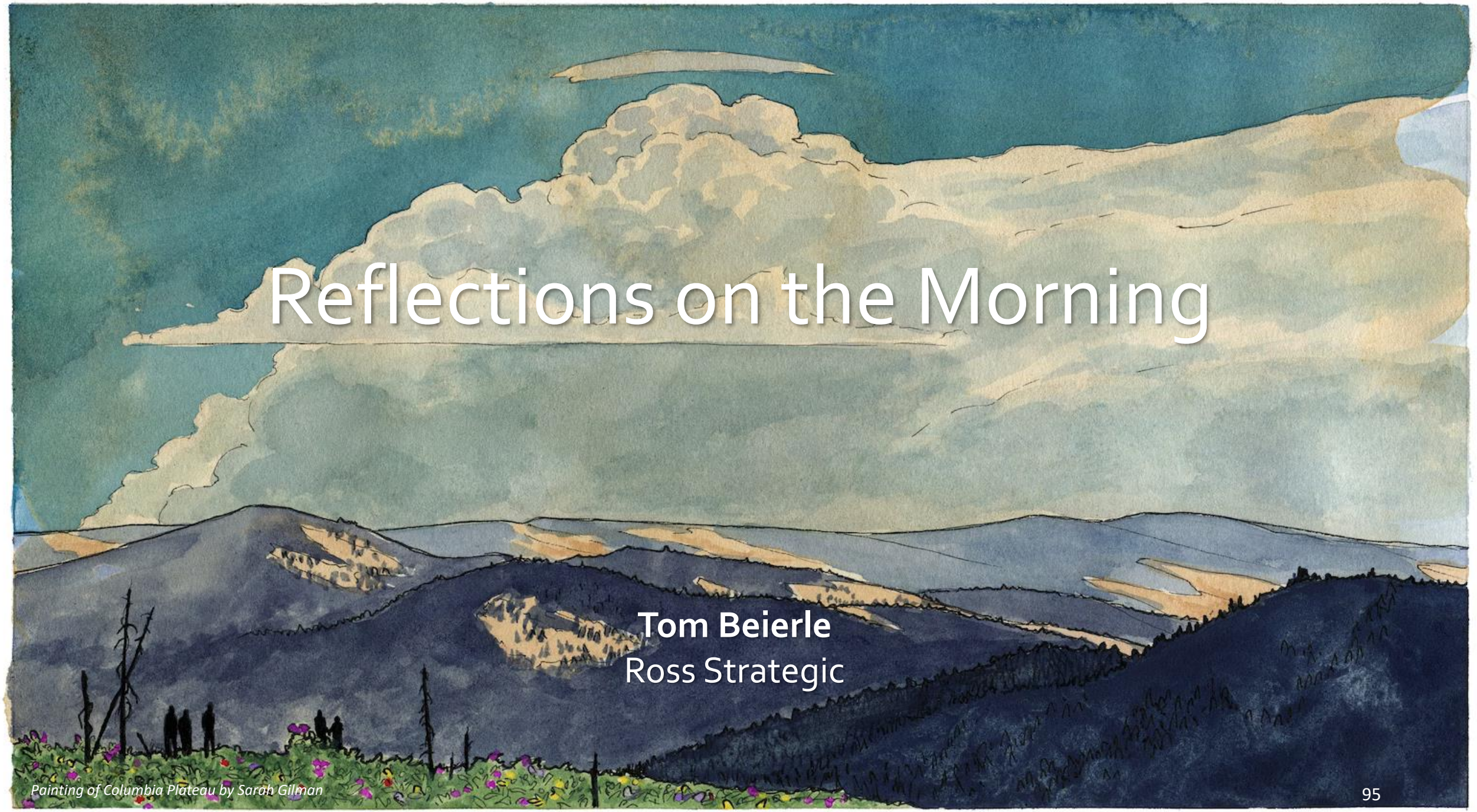
Afternoon Agenda

1:00 – 1:15 PM	**Reflections on the Morning and Impromptu Networking**
1:15 – 1:50 PM	**How the Least-conflict Maps May Be Used**
1:50 – 2:40 PM	**Small Group Discussions: Participant Use Cases**
2:40 – 3:00 PM	**Meeting Wrap Up and Next Steps**

30-minute Lunch Break

Please return at 1:00 pm

Photo: Tri-City Herald



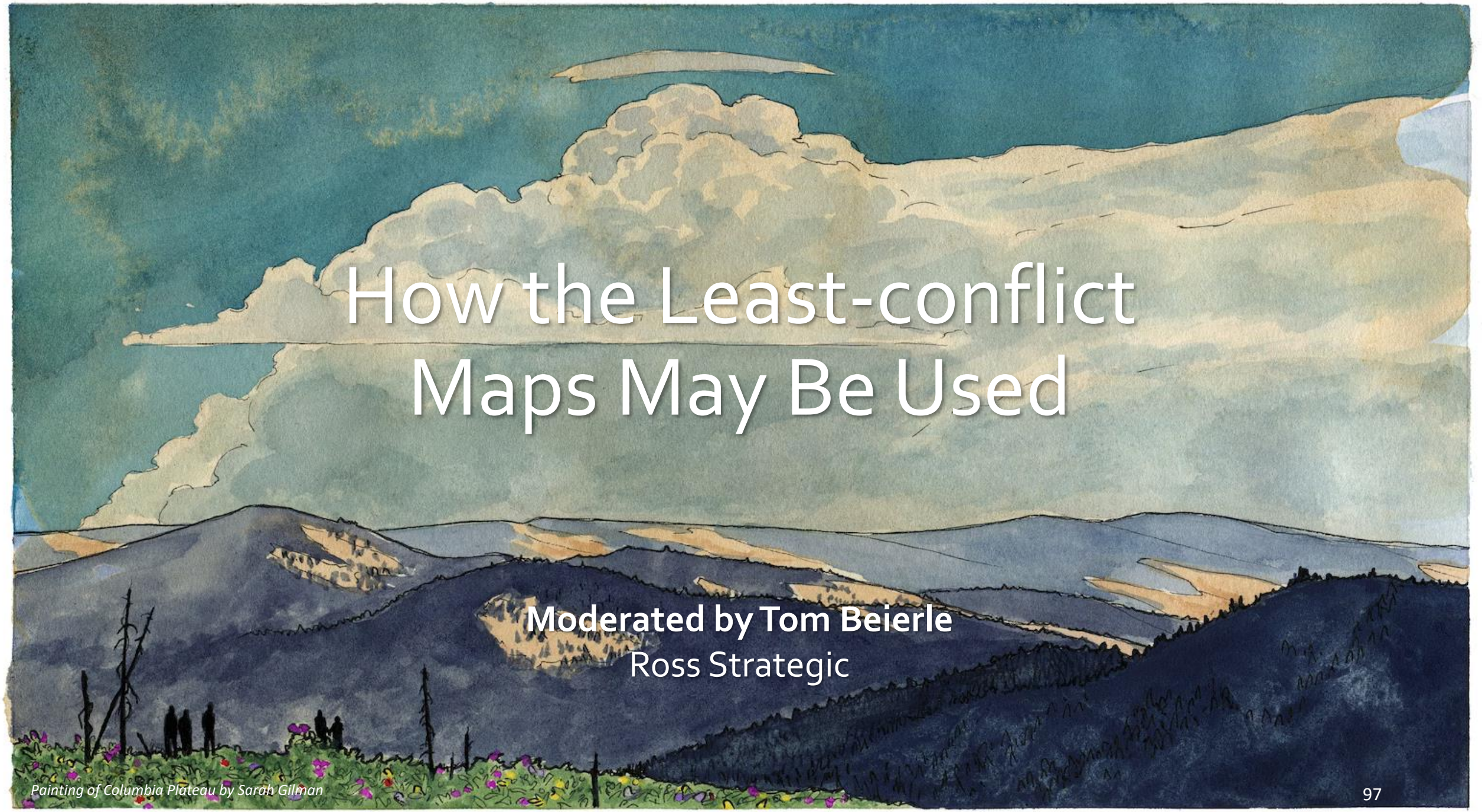
Reflections on the Morning

Tom Beierle
Ross Strategic

Painting of Columbia Plateau by Sarah Gilman

Afternoon Agenda

1:00 – 1:15 PM	**Reflections on the Morning and Impromptu Networking**
1:15 – 1:50 PM	**Least-conflict Mapping Use Cases**
1:50 – 2:40 PM	**Small Group Discussions: Participant Use Cases**
2:40 – 3:00 PM	**Meeting Wrap Up and Next Steps**



How the Least-conflict Maps May Be Used

Moderated by Tom Beierle
Ross Strategic

Painting of Columbia Plateau by Sarah Gilman

In your position, how do you think the maps can be used?

Speakers:

1. **Adam Maxwell**, Audubon Washington
2. **Diane Butorac**, Washington Department of Ecology
3. **Maddy Sym**, Cypress Creek Renewables
4. **Jay Kehne**, Conservation Northwest
5. **Dani Madrone**, American Farmland Trust
6. **Mark Nielson**, Franklin County Conservation District
7. **Mike Ritter**, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
8. **Christine Golightly**, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
9. **Nora Hawkins/Aaron Peterson**, Washington Department of Commerce

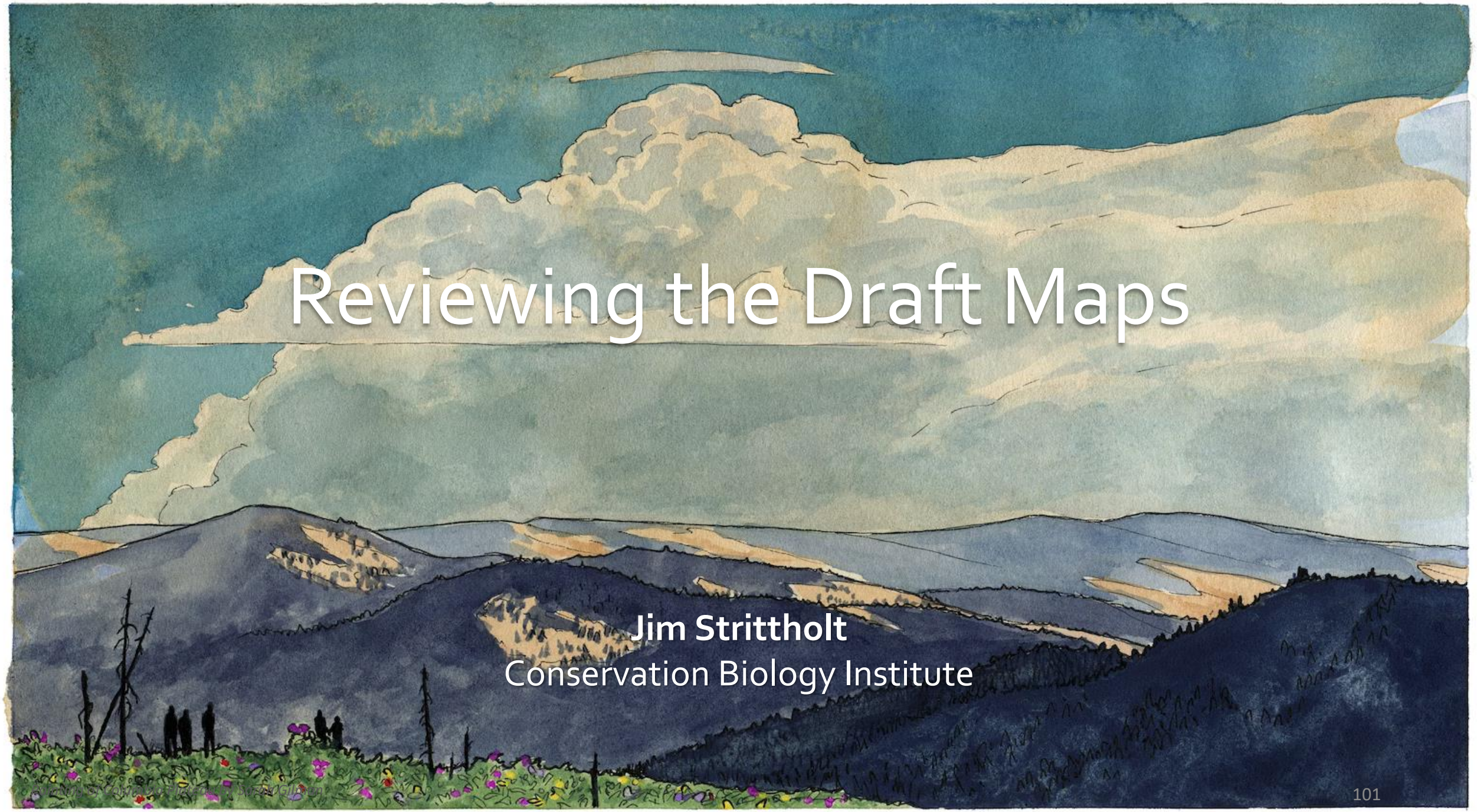
Small Group Discussions: Participant Use Cases

Painting of Columbia Plateau by Sarah Gilman

How can the least-conflict maps be used in your work?

Choose one of six breakout rooms for small group discussions:

1. Agriculture
2. Environmental Conservation
3. Tribal Considerations
4. Local Government and Communities
5. State and Federal Policies and Issues
6. Solar Industry

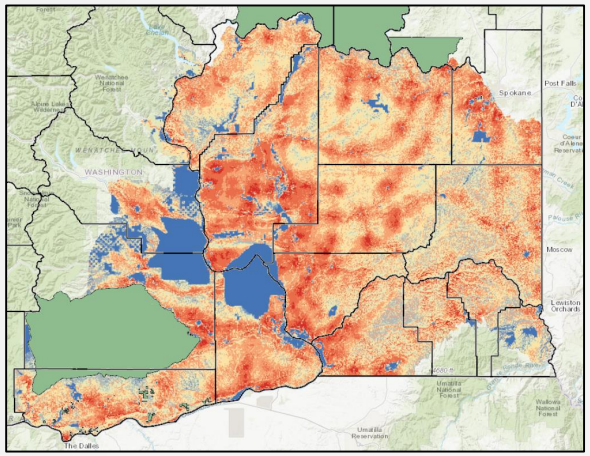


Reviewing the Draft Maps

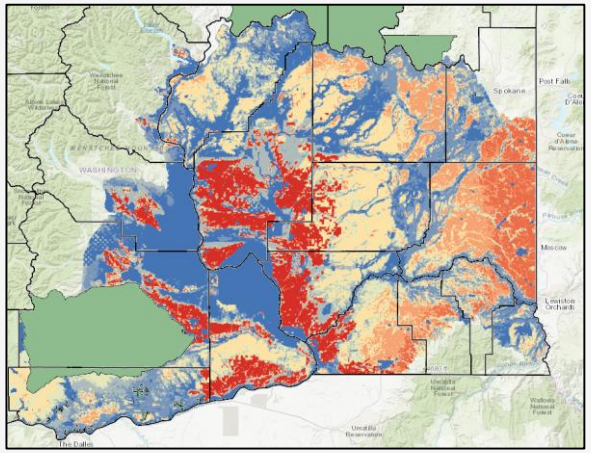
Jim Strittholt
Conservation Biology Institute

How to Review the Models and Maps

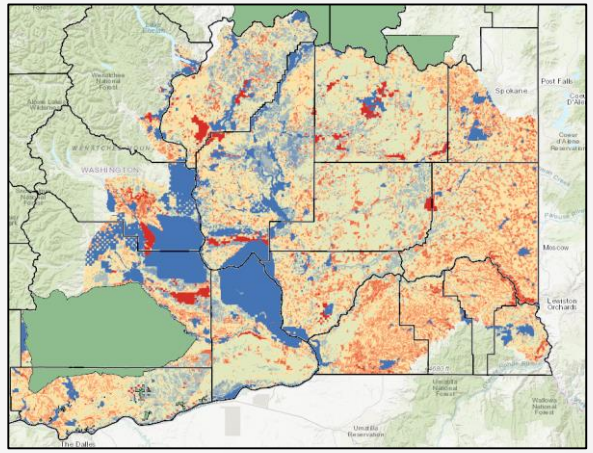
Solar Development Suitability



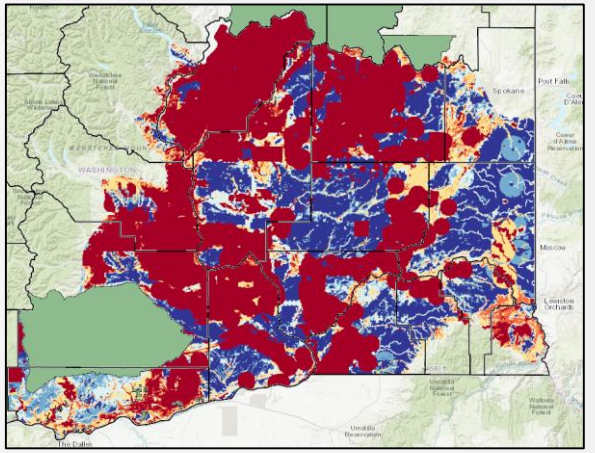
Farmland Value



Ranchland Value

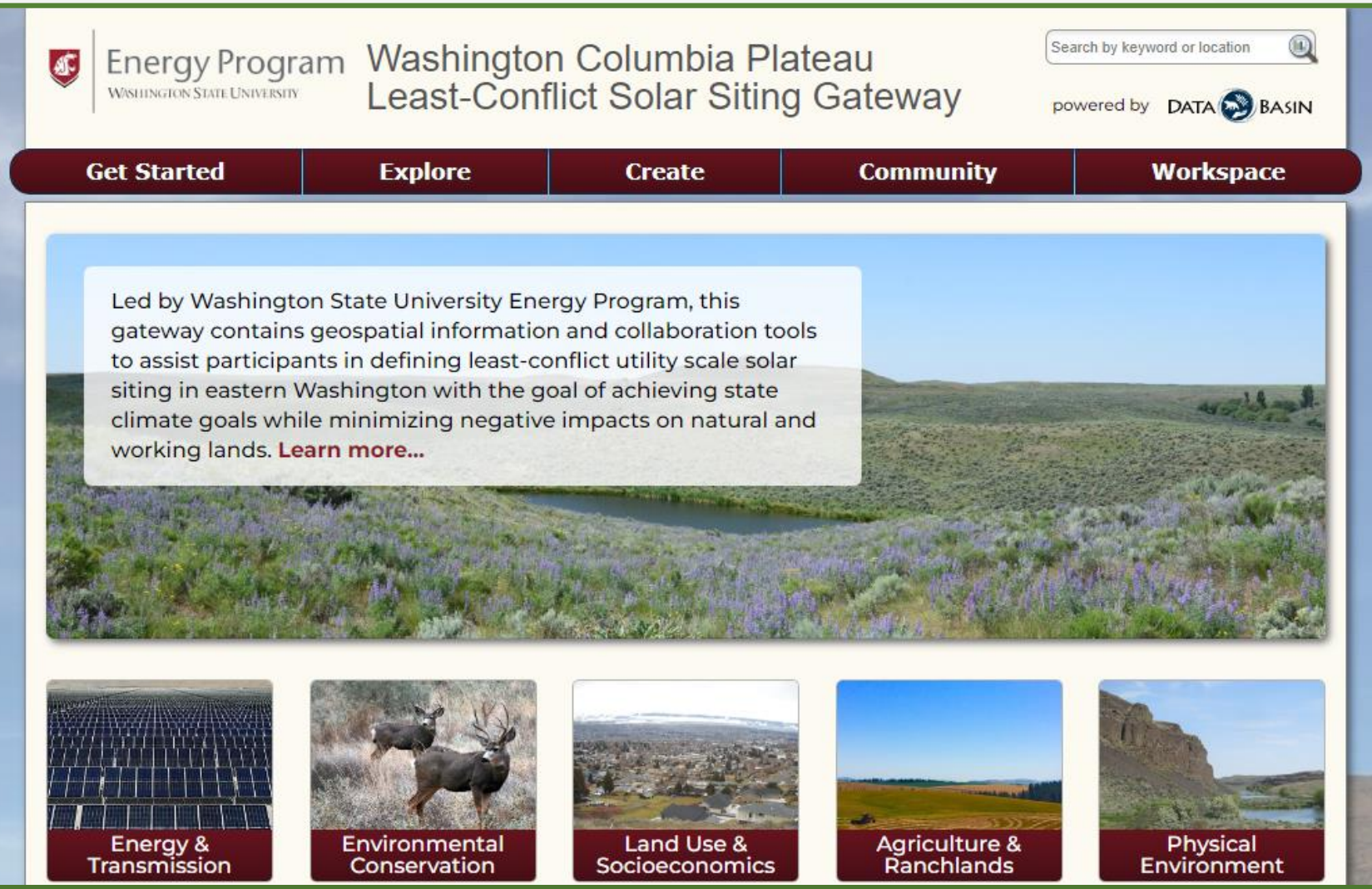


Conservation Value



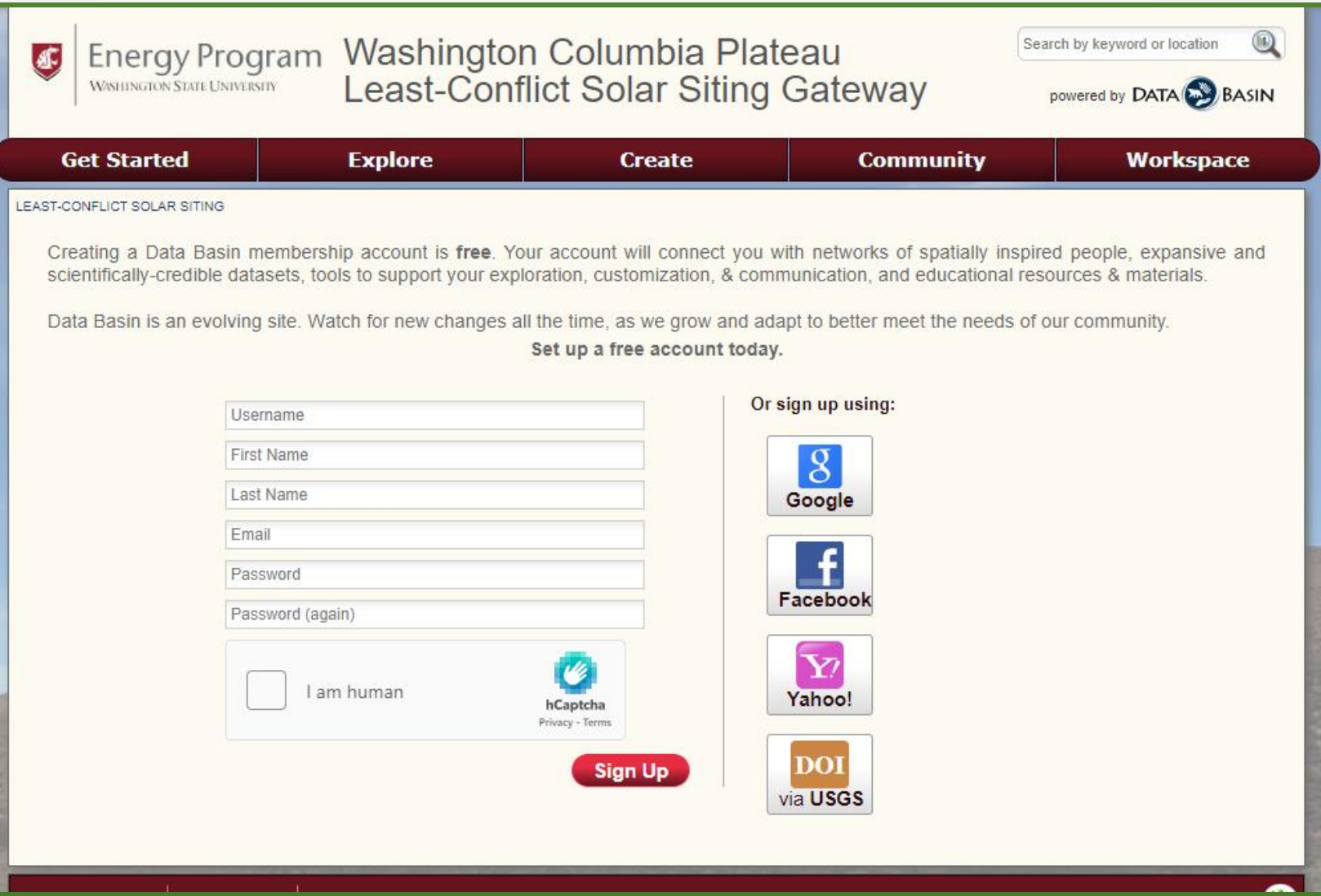
Washington Columbia Plateau Least-Conflict Solar Siting Gateway

https://wsuenergy.databasin.org/



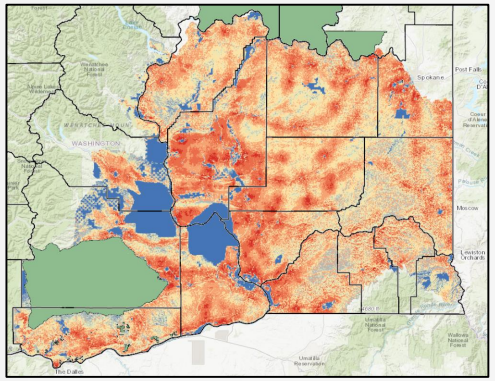
CONSERVATION BIOLOGY INSTITUTE

Step 1: Create Your Private Data Basin Account



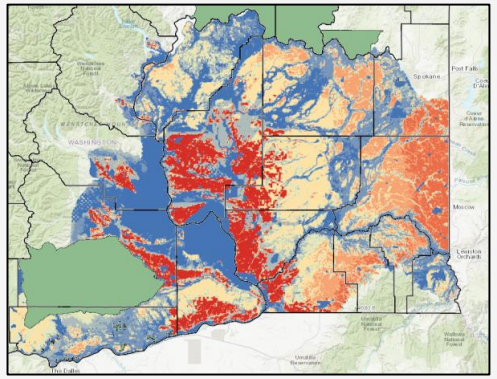
Step 2: Select the Map You Wish to Review

Solar Development Suitability



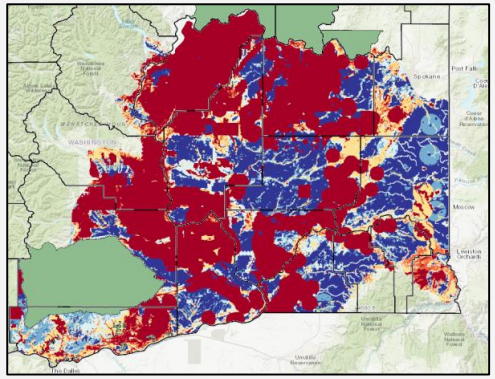
https://wsuenergy.databasin.org/maps/726e6e26f5f54a9c9b99aacf6de23538/active/

Farmland Value



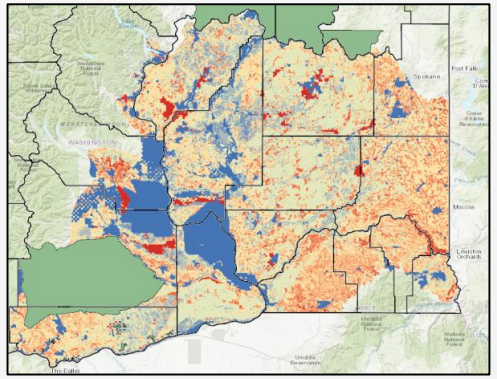
https://wsuenergy.databasin.org/maps/6b45a1560c3640e388f18626b7e8810d/active/

Conservation Value



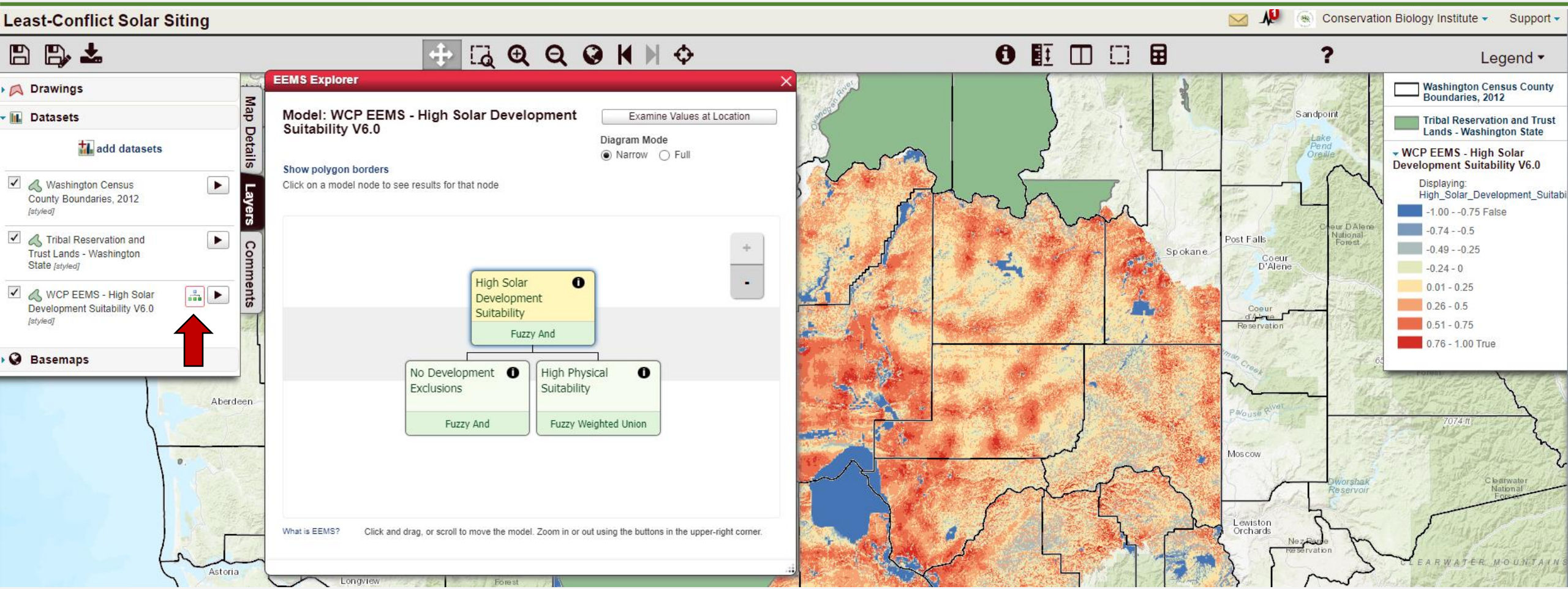
https://wsuenergy.databasin.org/maps/6b45a1560c3640e388f18626b7e8810d/active/

Ranchland Value

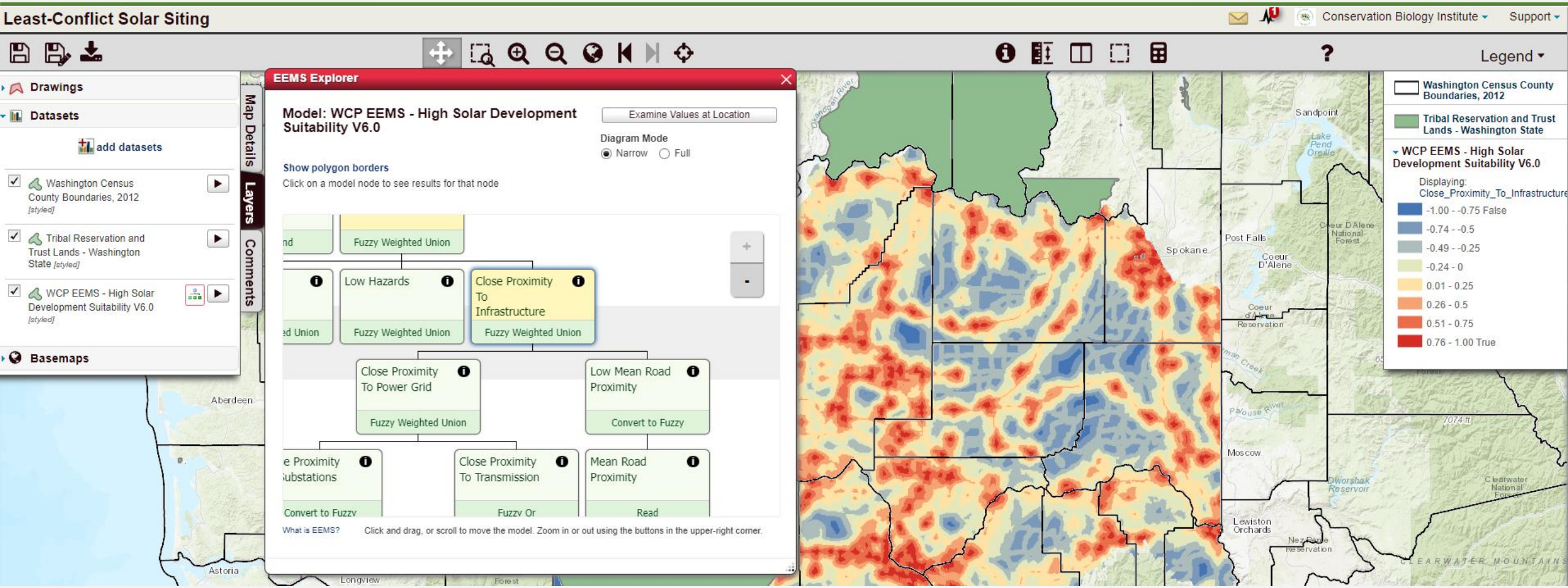


https://wsuenergy.databasin.org/maps/7df95c3bb97749e9bdd63fb81d524fdc/active/

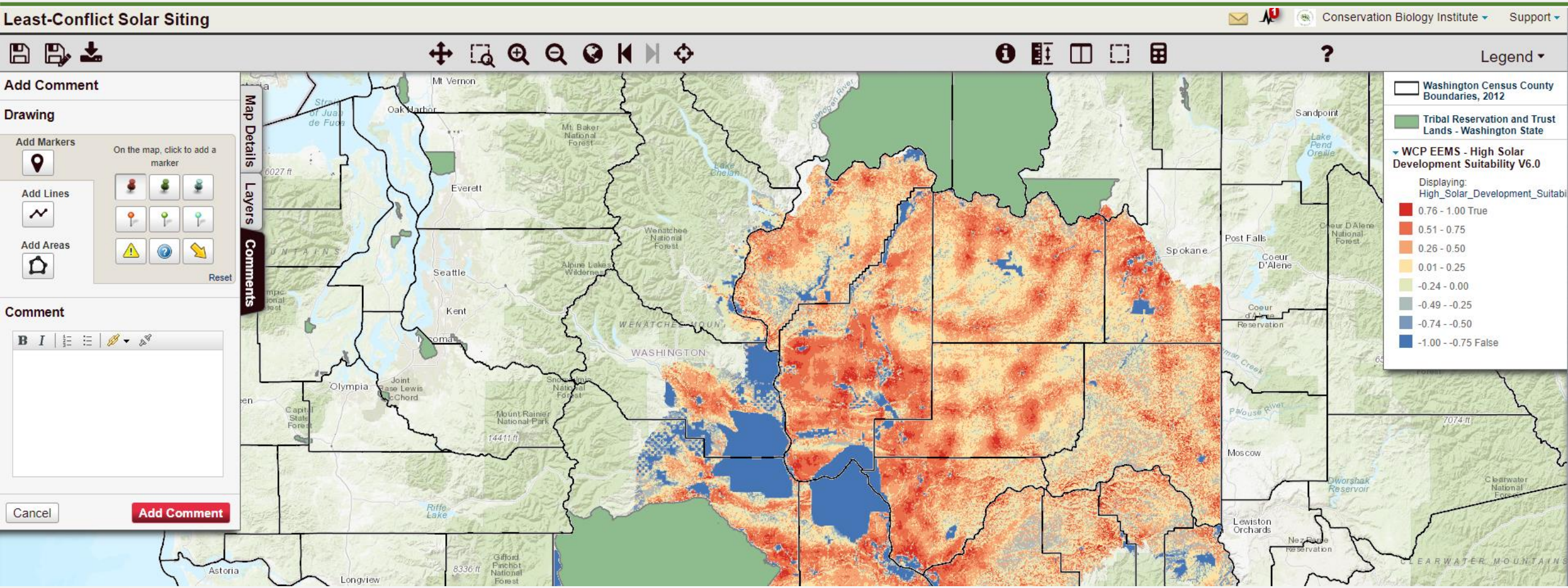
Step 3: Open EEMS Explorer Window



Step 4: Review the Components that Make Up the Map



Step 5: Make General or Spatially Specific Comments



Step 6: Guidance Questions

1) Based on your first impression, does the map seem to generally reflect reality?

2) Reviewing the model components, does it include the most important considerations? Is anything missing?

3) Based on your knowledge of the region, are there specific locations on the map that you feel are overvalued or undervalued according to the model results? Please explain.

COMPLETE COMMENTS BY FRIDAY, MAY 5th

Meeting Wrap Up

Karen Janowitz
Washington State University Energy Program

Painting of Columbia Plateau by Sarah Gilman

Next Steps

- Review and comment – by May 5, 2023
- Keep track of progress of E2SHB1216
- View the final report with maps on June 30, 2023
- Use the Gateway!

Sinlahekin Wildlife Area
WA Dept of Fish & Wildlife

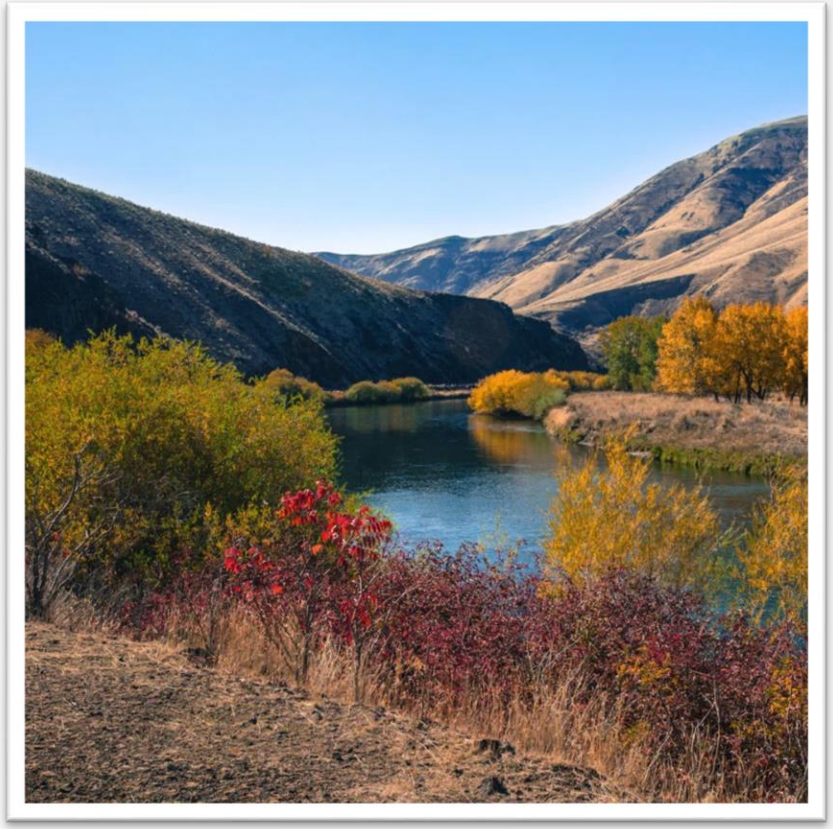
Thank you!

https://www.energy.wsu.edu/LeastConflictSolar

https://wsuenergy.databasin.org

Karen Janowitz
JanowitzK@energy.wsu.edu
Washington State University Energy Program

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
Energy Program



Yakima Canyon
Photo credit: Victoria Ditovsky

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
Energy Program

Least-Conflict Solar Siting on Washington's Columbia Plateau

Thank you for joining us today!

Lupines in bloom at Rattlesnake Ridge
Photo credit: John Thorpe