



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
Energy Program

Least-Conflict Solar Siting on Washington's Columbia Plateau

Gathering 3

April 12, 2023



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



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



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.

The background is a watercolor painting of a landscape. It features rolling hills in shades of blue and purple, with patches of yellow and orange. A large, billowing cloud in shades of yellow and white dominates the upper half of the image. In the foreground, there are silhouettes of people standing on a grassy hill with colorful flowers. The overall style is artistic and atmospheric.

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

Karen Janowitz
Washington State University Energy Program

Least-Conflict Solar Siting

Least-Conflict Solar Siting

Aims to answer the question:

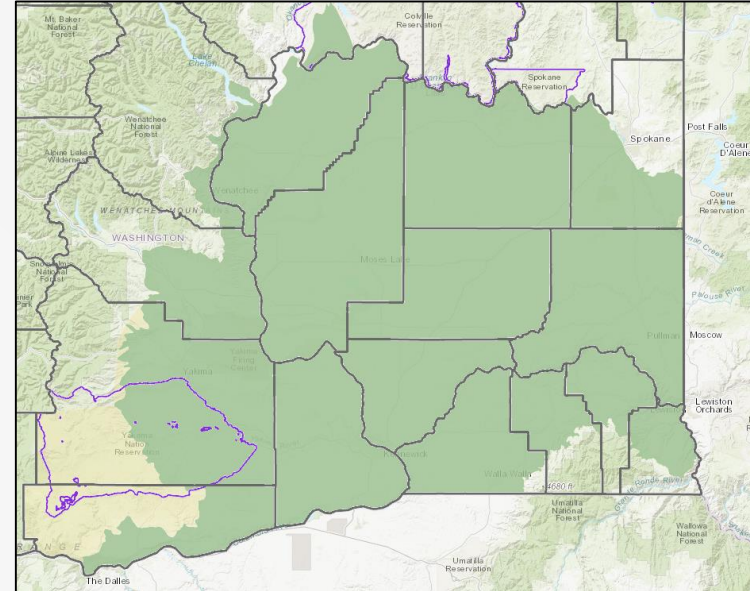
Where can large-scale solar be developed in the Columbia Plateau region while also ensuring that important habitat, productive farmlands and ranchlands, and Tribal rights and cultural resources are protected?



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

Least-Conflict Process

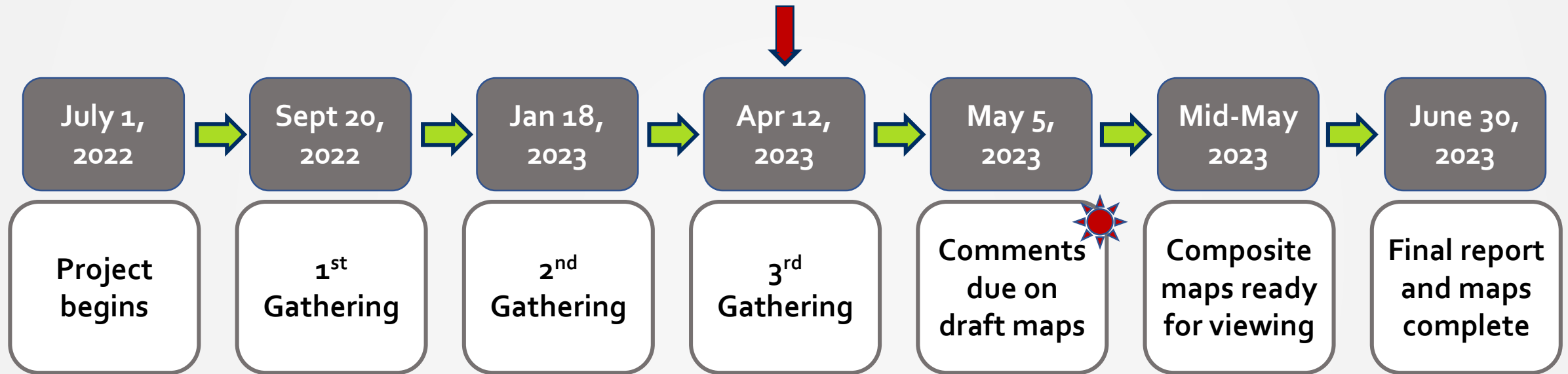
- Landscape-based (pixels are 500 meters to a side)
- Map-based
- Not site-specific
- Non-regulatory
- People-oriented collaborative process
- A tool to be used by planners, developers, agencies, and others
- Developers must continue to do due diligence with Tribes and with all site assessments



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://lawfilesexternal.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



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/>



Energy Program
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Washington Columbia Plateau
Least-Conflict Solar Siting Gateway

Search by keyword or location



powered by DATA BASIN

Get Started

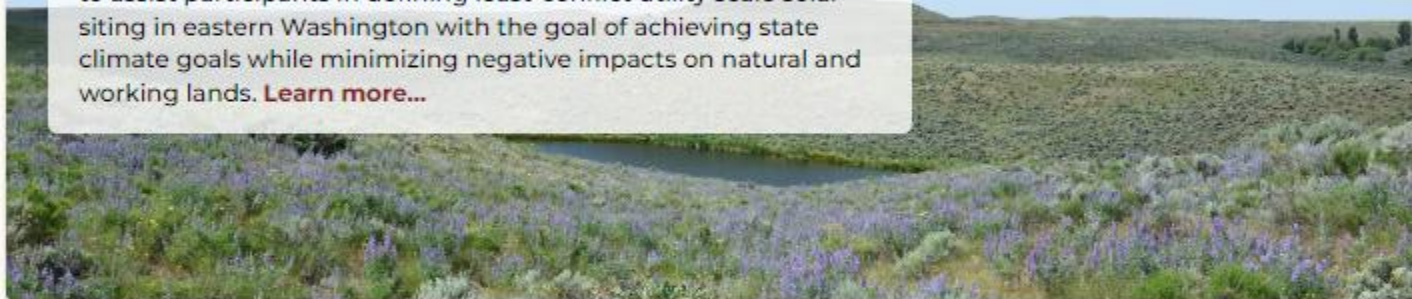
Explore

Create

Community

Workspace

Led by Washington State University Energy Program, this gateway contains geospatial information and collaboration tools to assist participants in defining least-conflict utility scale solar siting in eastern Washington with the goal of achieving state climate goals while minimizing negative impacts on natural and working lands. [Learn more...](#)



Project Description

The Least-Conflict Solar Siting Gateway was created to support a

Quick Start Map



Featured Content



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/>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Washington Columbia Plateau Least-Conflict Solar Siting Gateway. The header includes the Washington State University Energy Program logo and the project title. A navigation bar contains tabs for 'Get Started', 'Explore', 'Create', 'Community', and 'Workspace'. The main content area features a large introductory text box, a row of five thumbnail images with labels: 'Columbia Plateau Solar', 'Columbia Plateau Conservation', 'Columbia Plateau Ranchlands', 'Columbia Plateau Farmlands', and 'Columbia Plateau Popular Datasets'. Below this are three columns: 'Project Description' with a detailed text paragraph, 'Quick Start Map' with a map and a brief description, and 'Featured Content' with a 'Ranchland Value Map for Public Review'. At the bottom, there are three buttons: 'Download the Fact Sheet', 'Watch Tutorial Videos', and 'Follow the Progress'. The footer contains 'About Data Basin | Terms of Use | Contact Us' and '© 2023 Conservation Biology Institute'.

New Community Energy
Efficiency Program
Projects

Community Solar
Program

Least-Conflict Solar
Siting

Green Transportation
Program

Energy Code

Home Energy Raters

Energy Questions?

Home

About Us

Information Centers

Publications and Tools

Newsbriefs

Events & Trainings

I'm Looking For...?

Renewable Energy

Community Solar

Least-Conflict Solar Siting

Gateway

The Least-Conflict Solar Siting Gateway is a unique customized space that contains geospatial information and collaboration tools to assist mapping group participants in defining least-conflict utility scale solar siting in the Columbia Plateau region of eastern Washington.

Access the Gateway [here](#)

The Gateway is located within Data Basin, a science-based mapping and analysis platform that supports learning, research, and sustainable environmental stewardship.

To work in a mapping group, participants must join Data Basin by signing up on the Gateway. Once signed up, send your user name and group/s you wish to participate in to Karen at janowitzk@energy.wsu.edu.

Tutorials on how to use Data Basin were given by Conservation Biology Institute, the project's GIS and mapping consultant, in September 2022. If new to Data Basin or needing a refresher, please view the [recordings of these tutorials](#) which have been separated into short clips by topic.

[Least-Conflict Solar Siting](#)

[Gatherings](#)

[Mapping Groups](#)

[Least-Conflict Solar Siting
Gateway](#)

[News Blog](#)

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

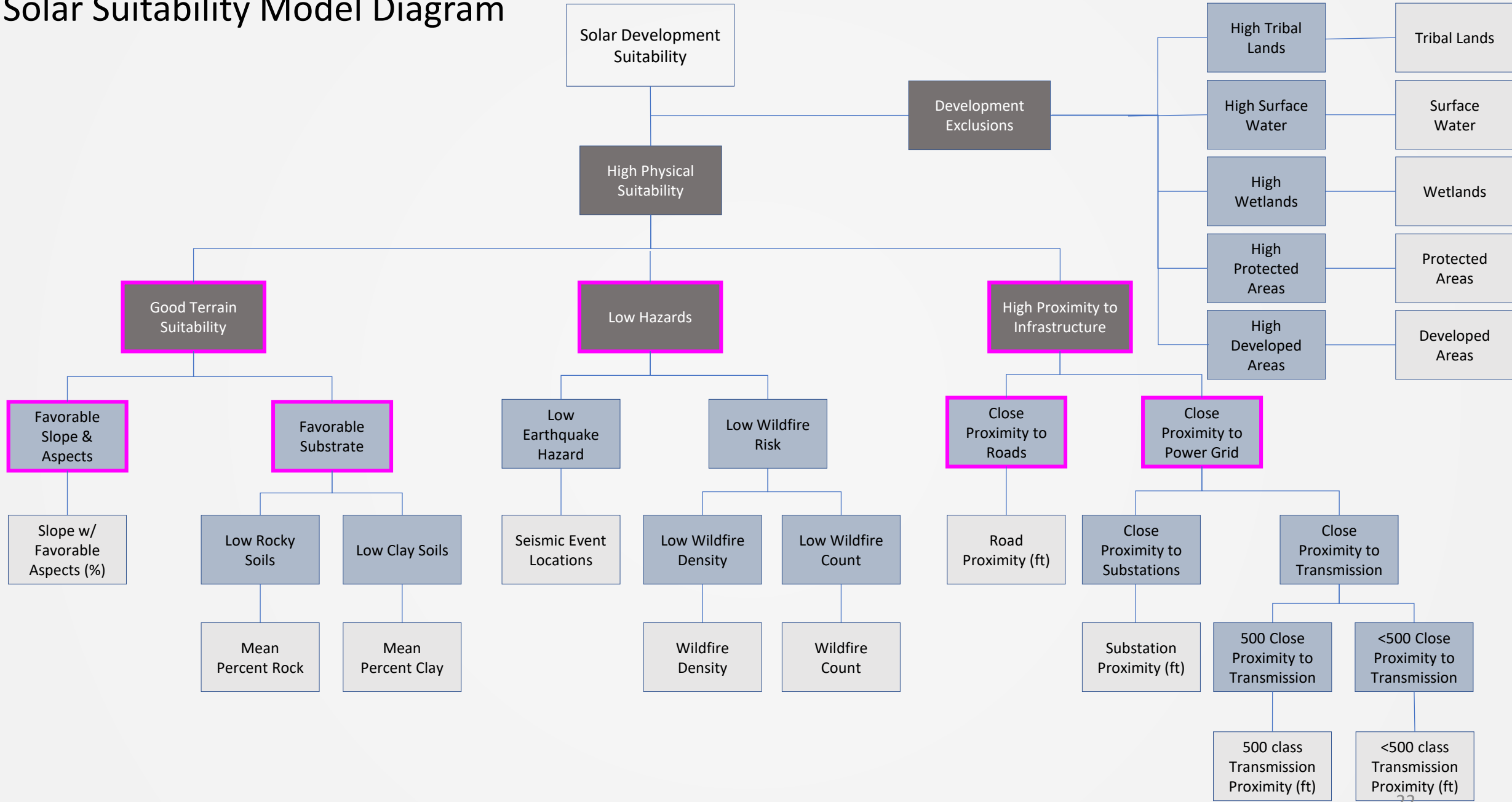
Solar Development Mapping Group Update

Presented by Emily Griffith, Strategic Engagement Manager, Renewable Northwest

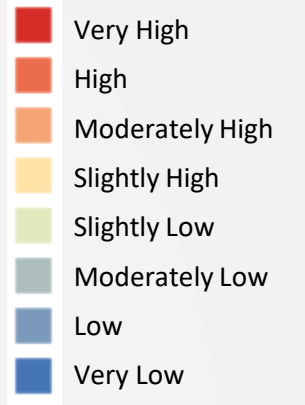
Goal: Produce a map that illustrates the relative suitability of lands for utility scale solar development based on general, mappable criteria.



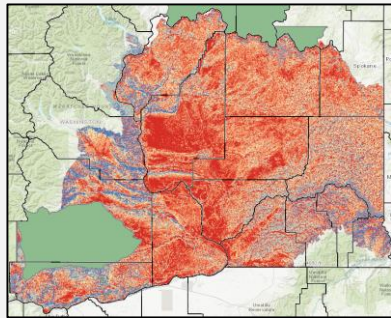
Solar Suitability Model Diagram



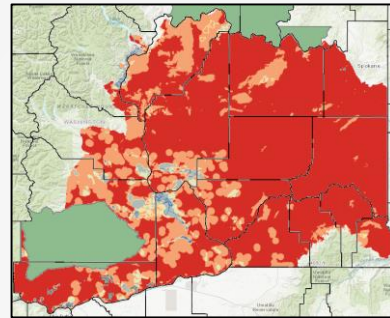
Solar Development Suitability



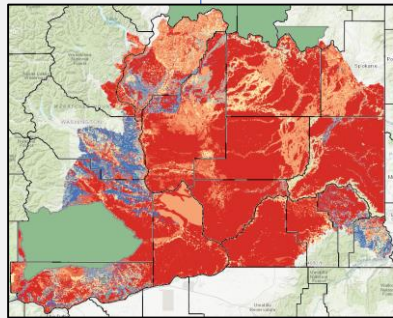
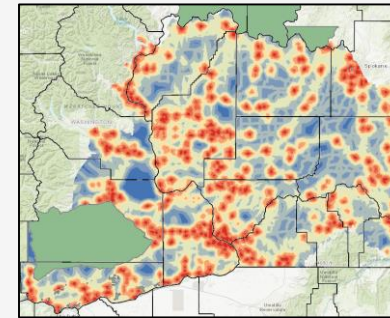
Good Terrain



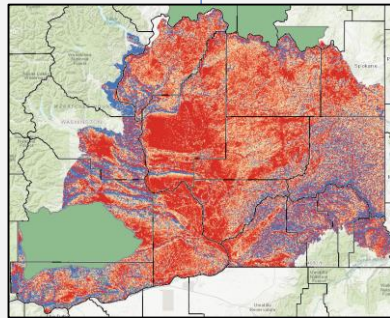
Low Hazards



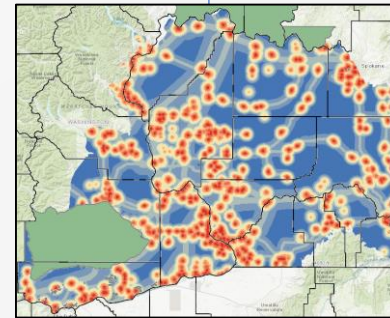
Proximity to Infrastructure



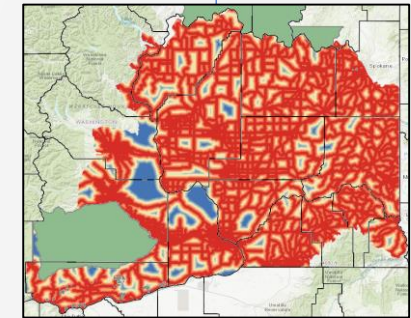
Favorable Substrate



Favorable Slope/Aspect

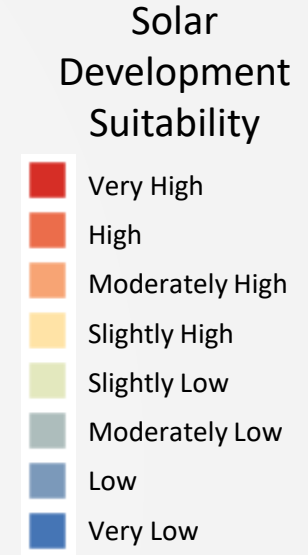
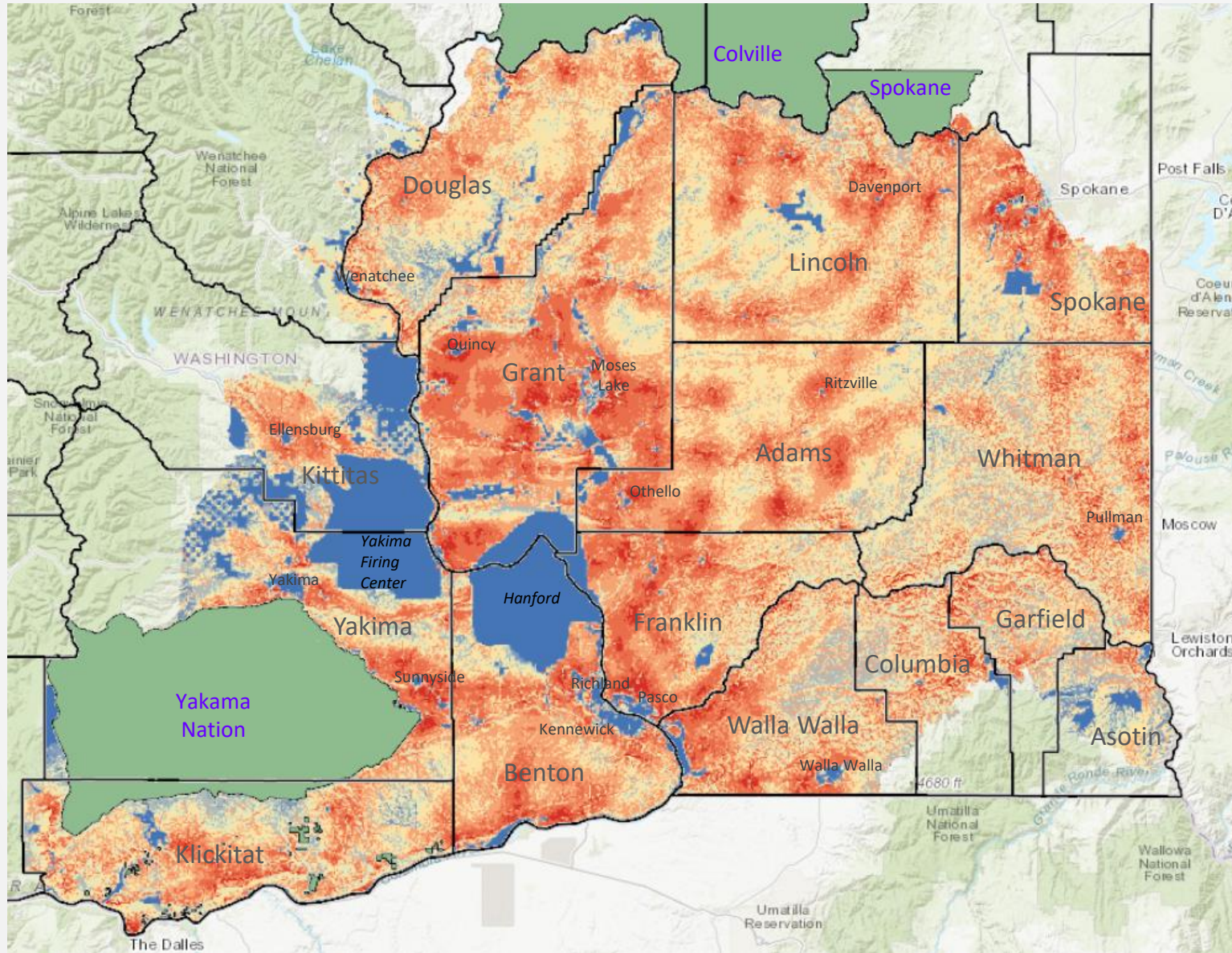


Proximity to Power Grid



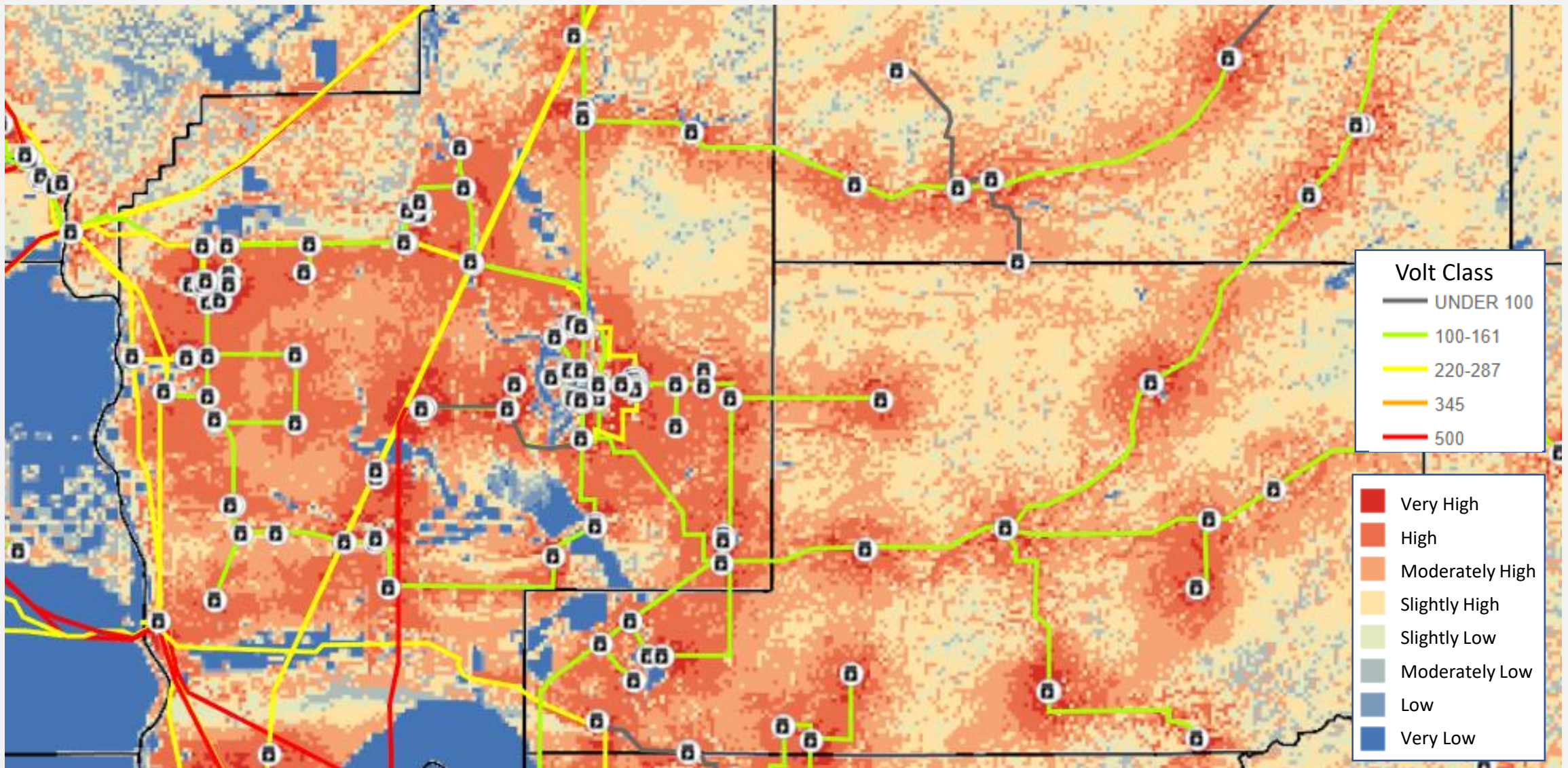
Proximity to Roads

Solar Development Suitability Review Draft



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



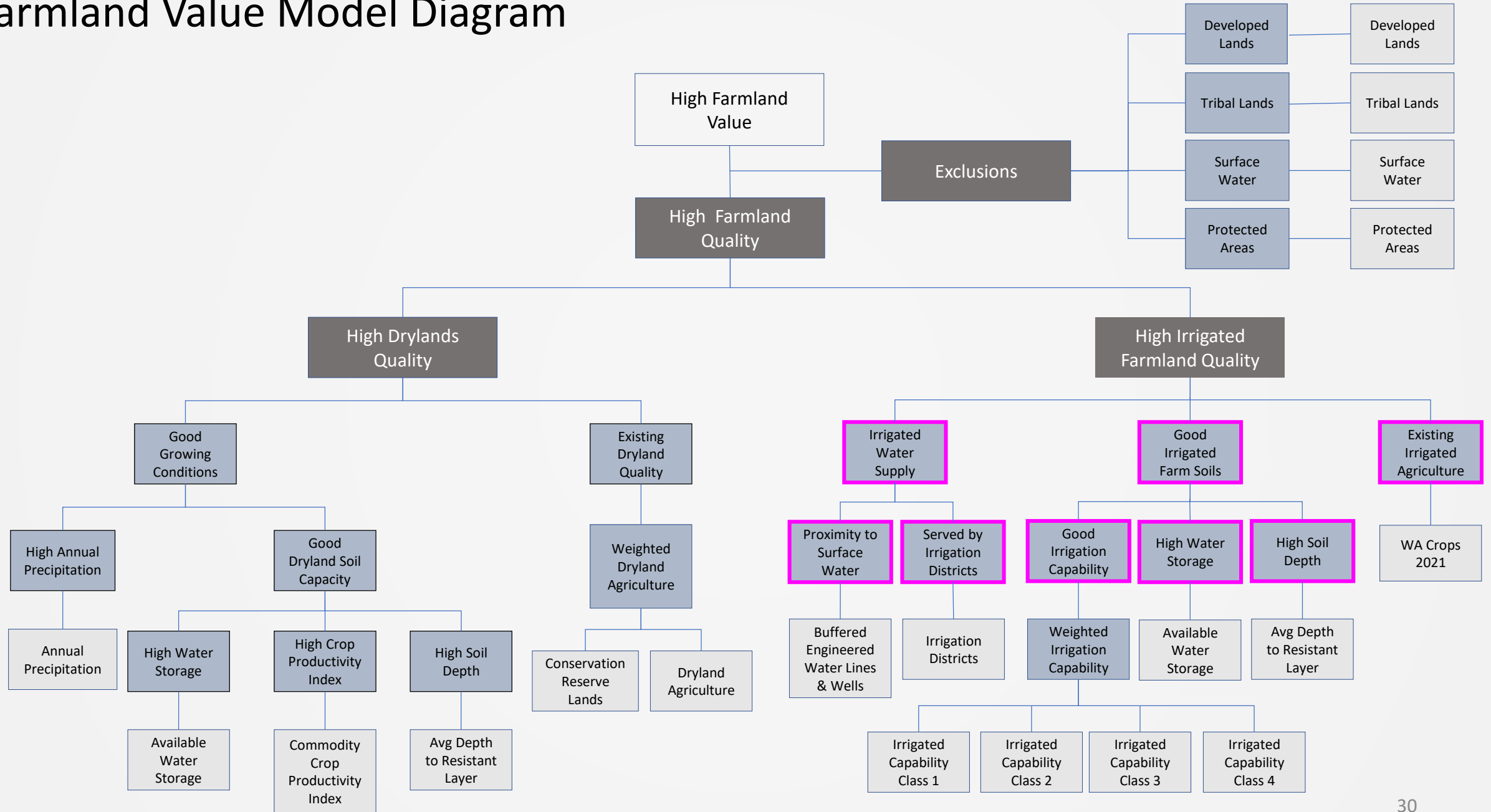
Farming Mapping Group Update

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

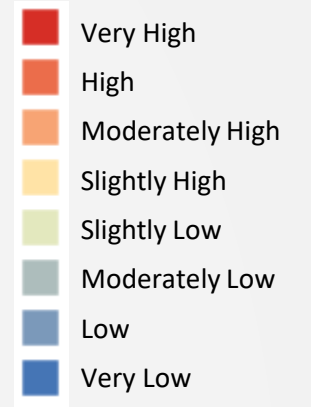
Goal: Produce a map that illustrates the relative value of irrigated and dryland farming lands based on available spatial data.



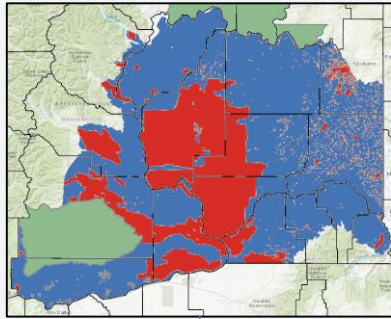
Farmland Value Model Diagram



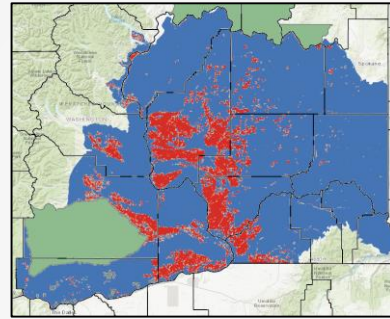
High Irrigated Farmland Quality



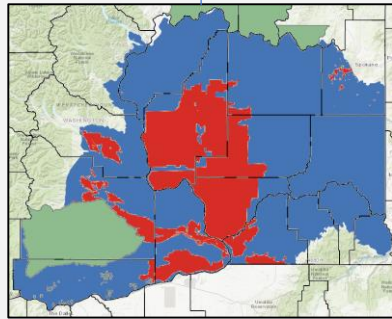
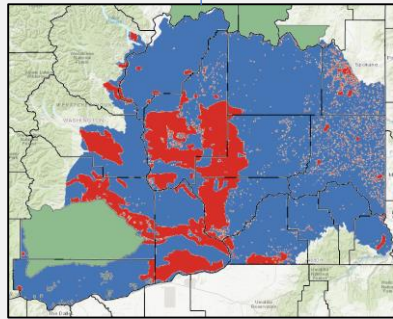
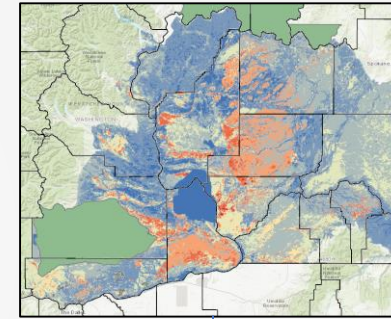
Irrigated Water Supply



Existing Irrigated Farmland

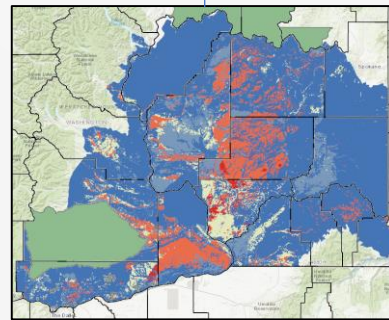


Good Irrigated Farm Soils

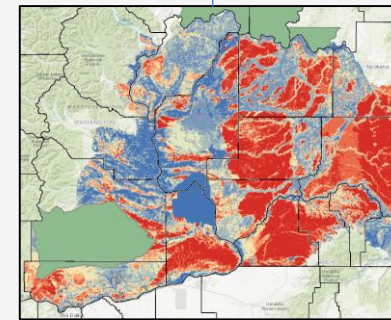


Engineered Water Access

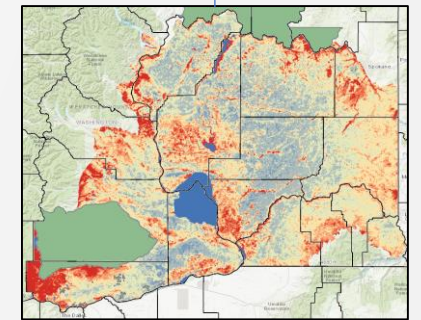
Irrigation Districts



Good Capacity

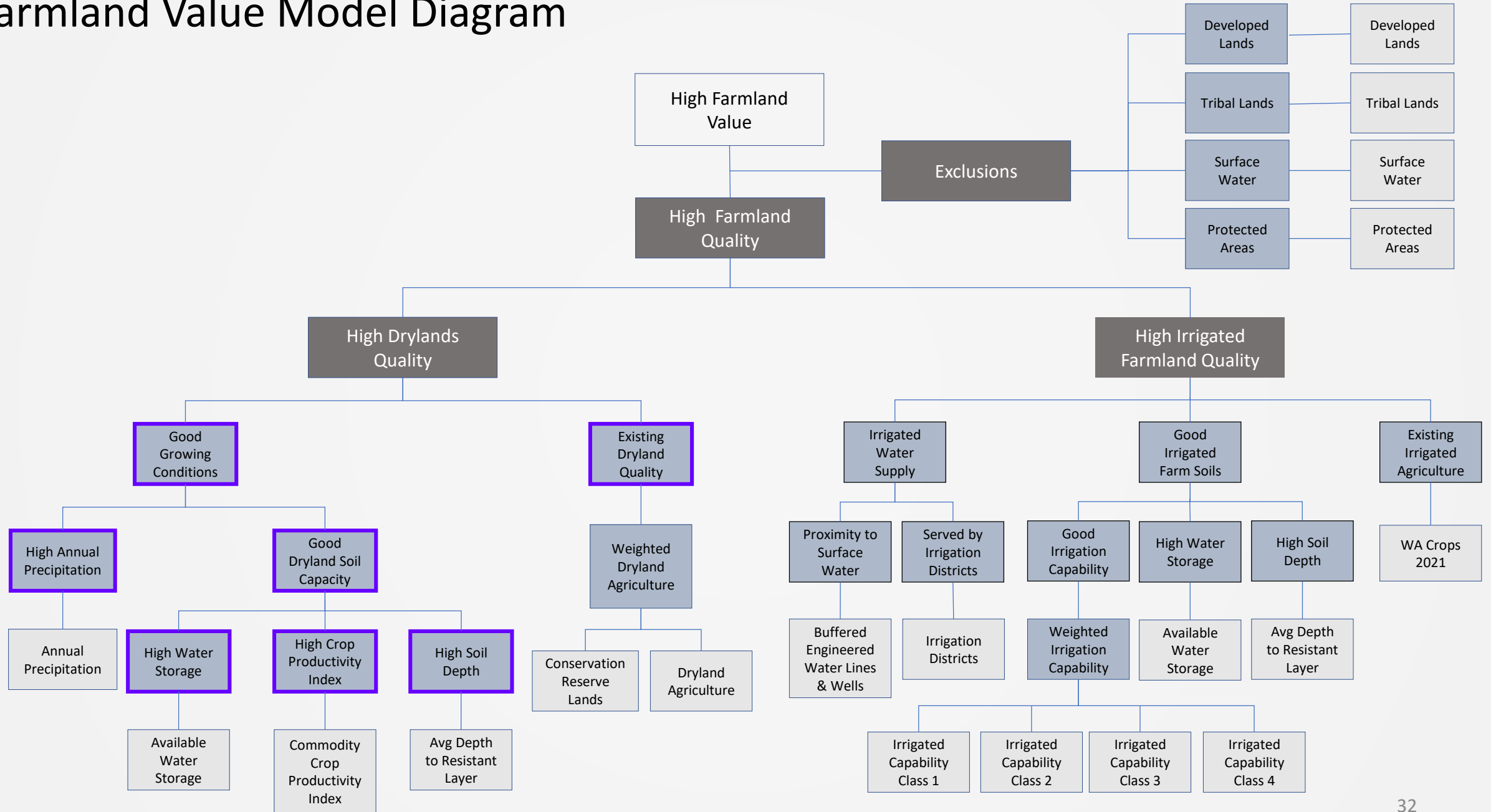


High Water Storage



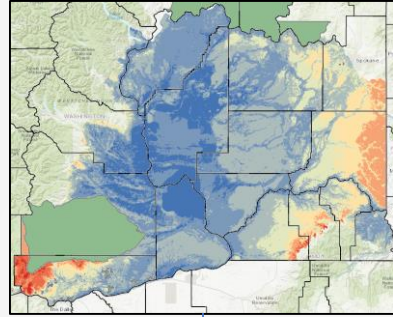
High Soil Organic Matter

Farmland Value Model Diagram

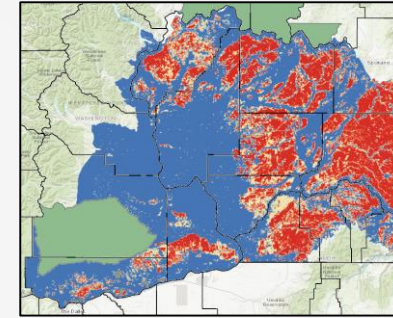


High Drylands Quality

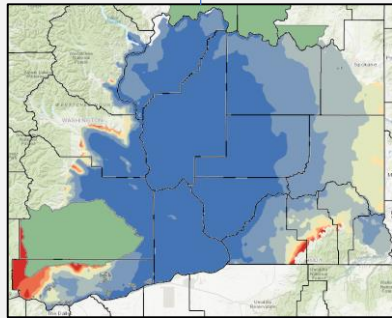
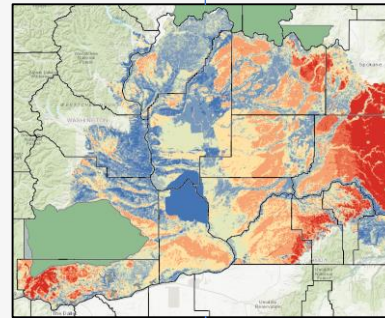
Good Growing Conditions



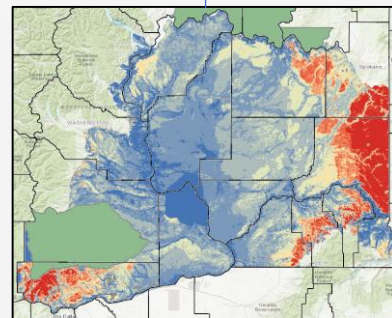
Existing Drylands



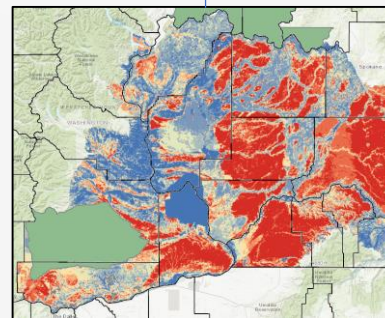
Good Dryland Soils



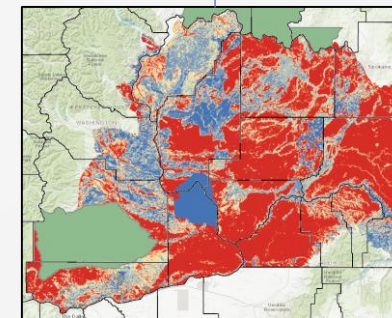
Annual Precipitation



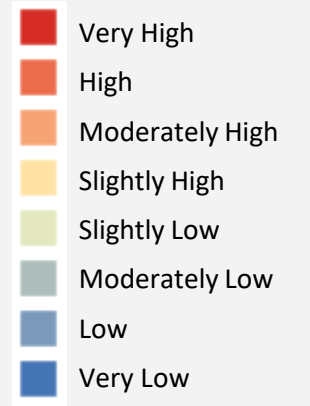
High Crop Productivity



High Water Storage

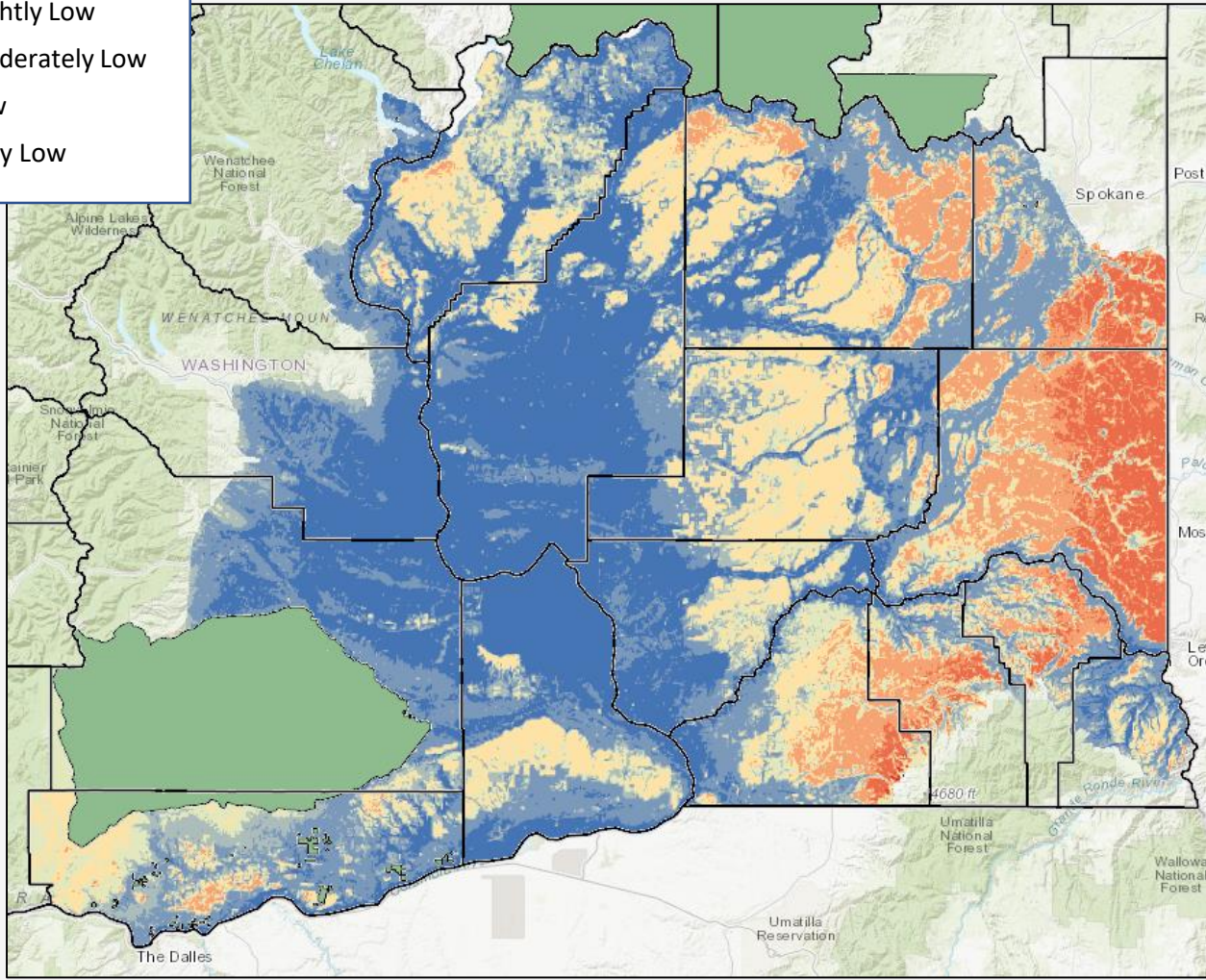
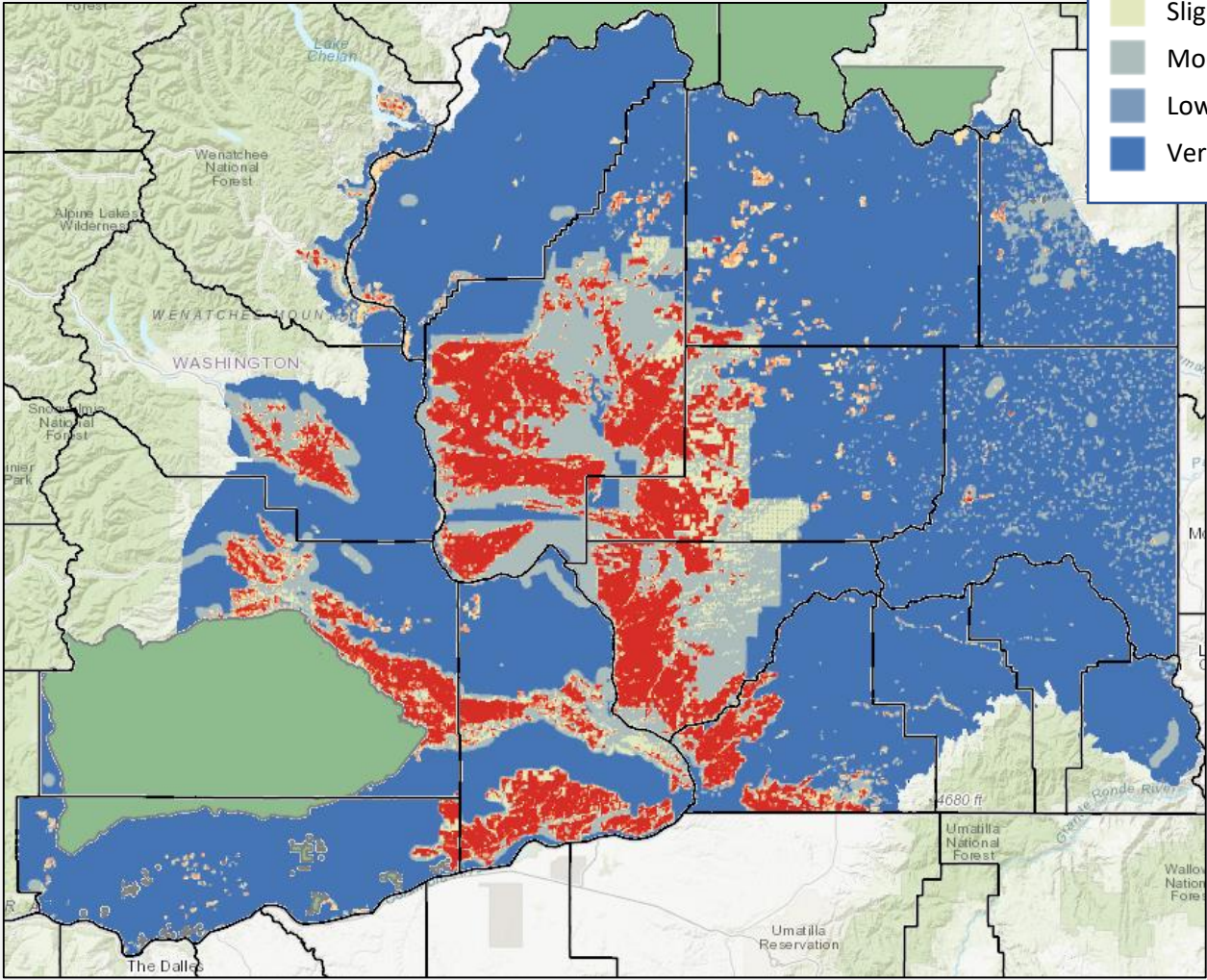
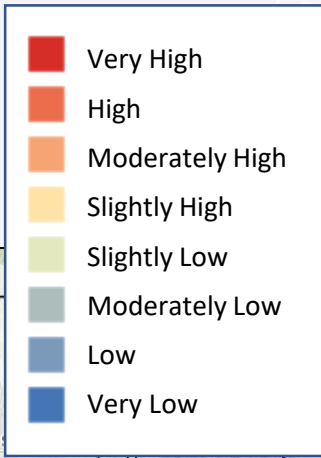


High Soil Depth

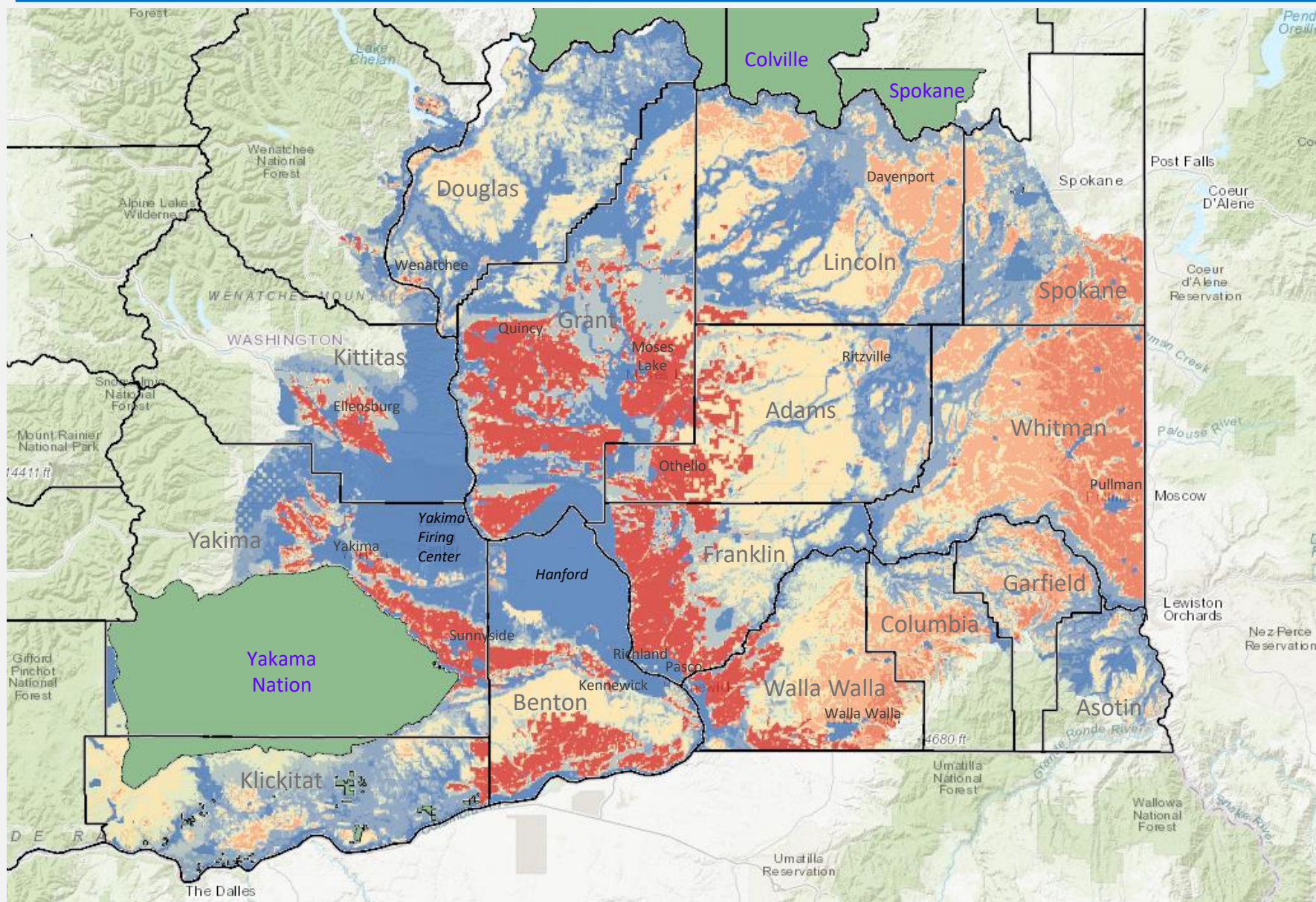


Irrigated Agriculture

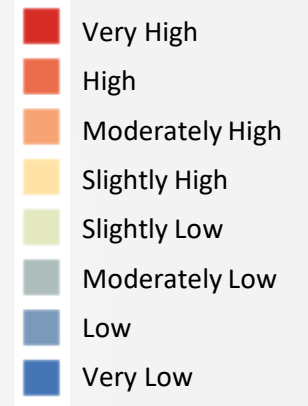
Dryland Agriculture



Farmland Value Review Draft

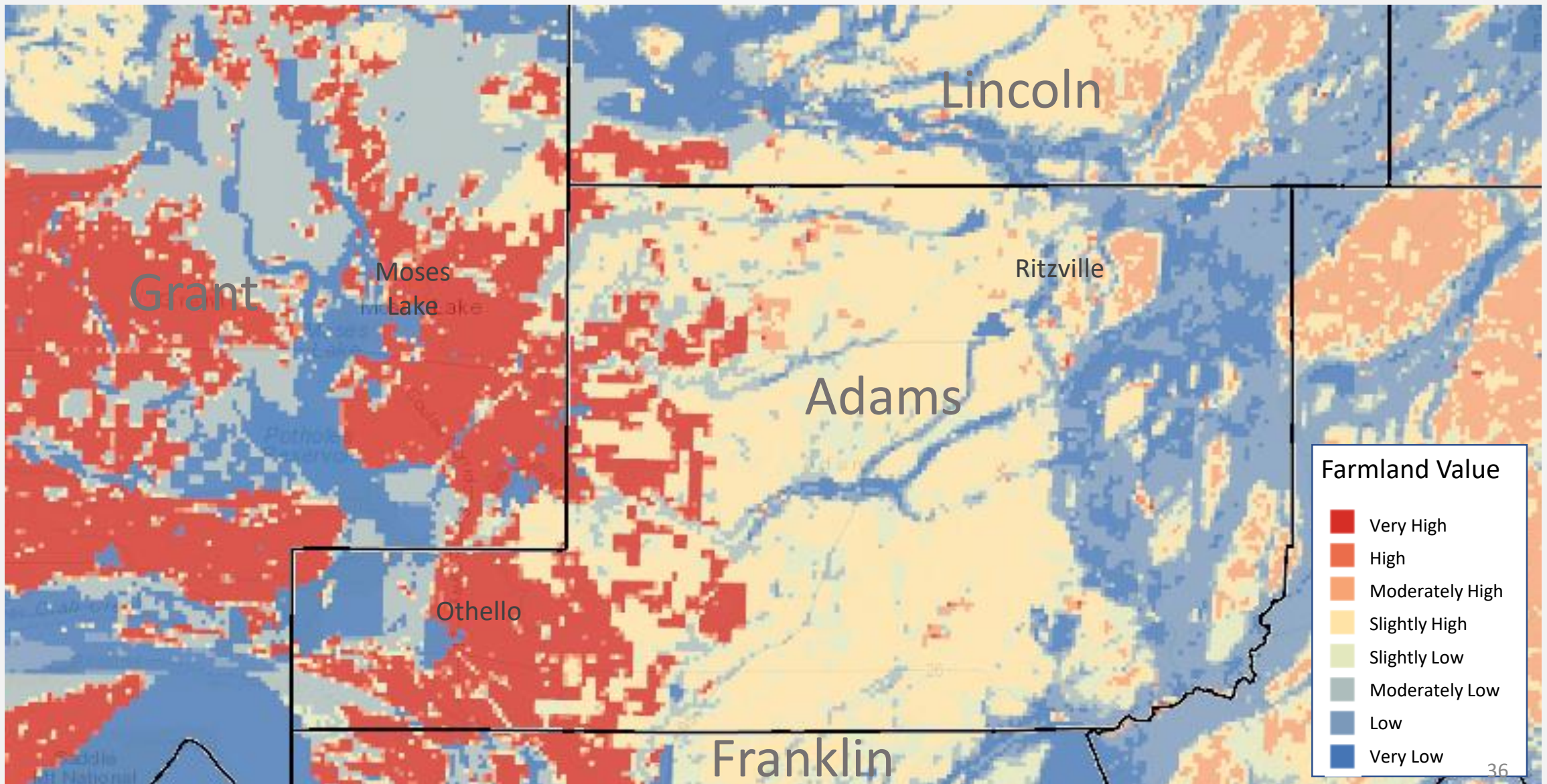


Farmland Value



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



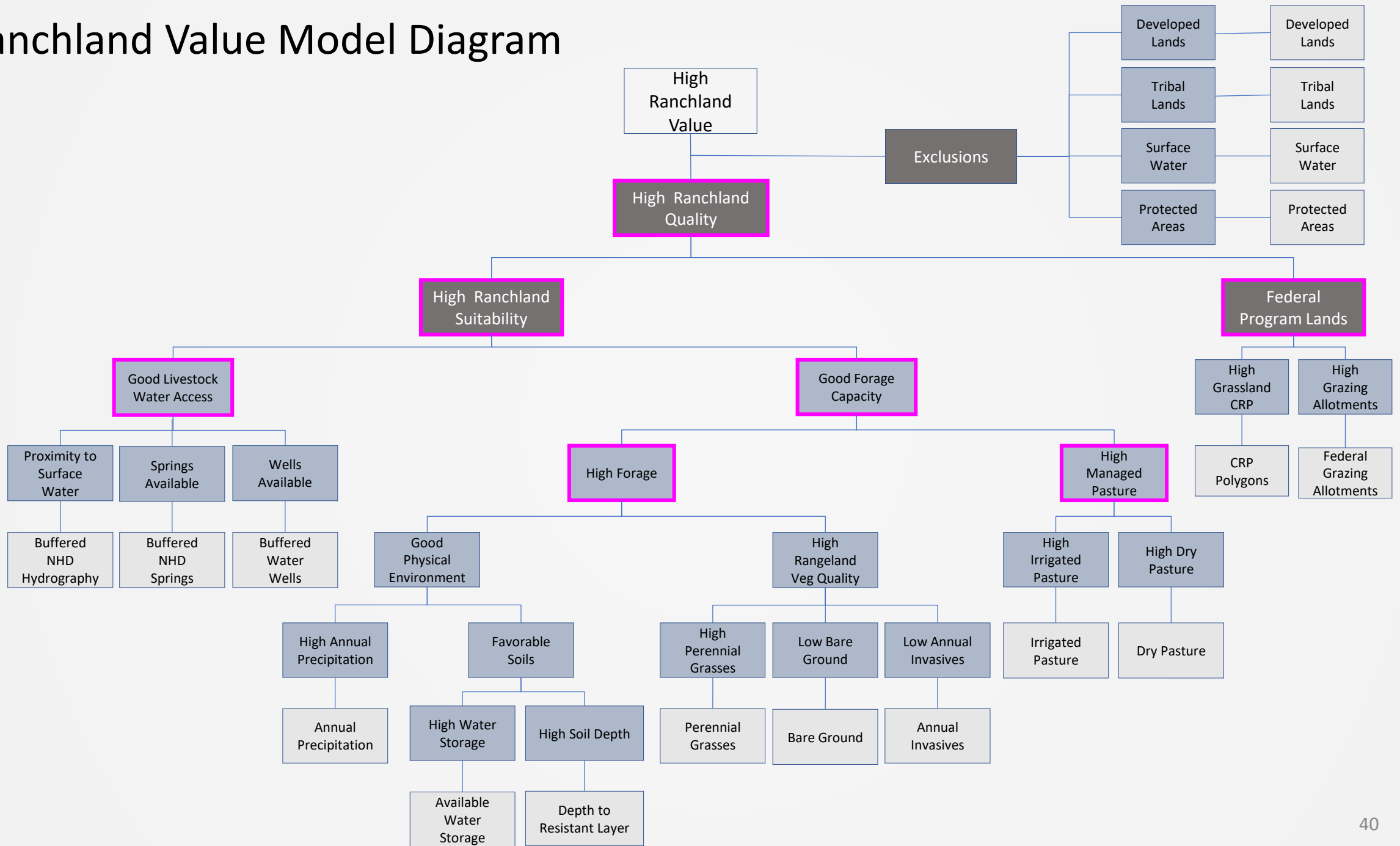
Ranchlands Mapping Group Update

Presented by Jesse Ingels, Land Broker

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

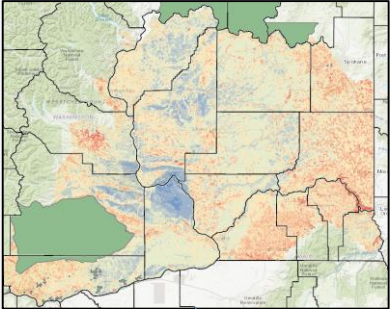


Ranchland Value Model Diagram

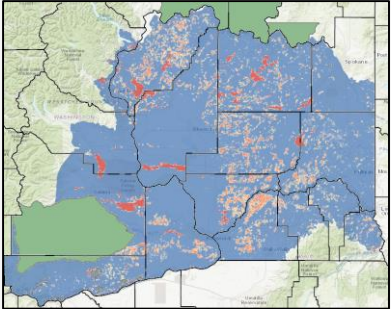


High Ranchland Value

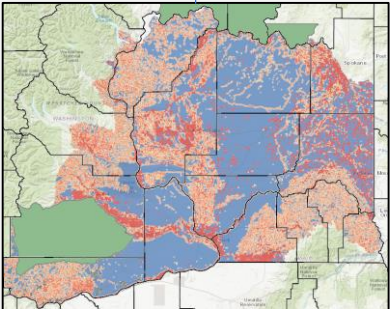
High Ranchland Quality



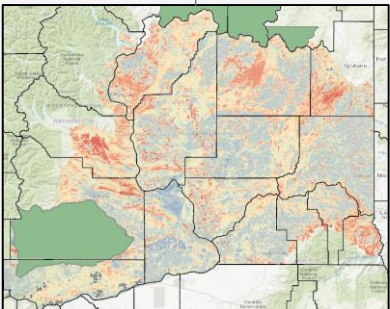
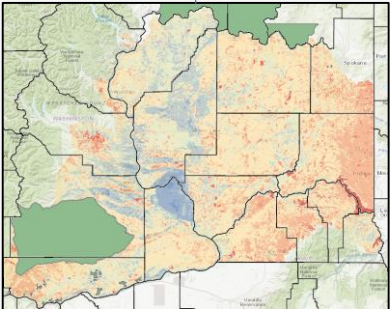
Federal Program Lands



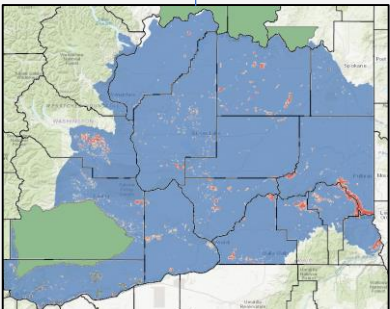
Livestock Water Access



Good Forage Capacity



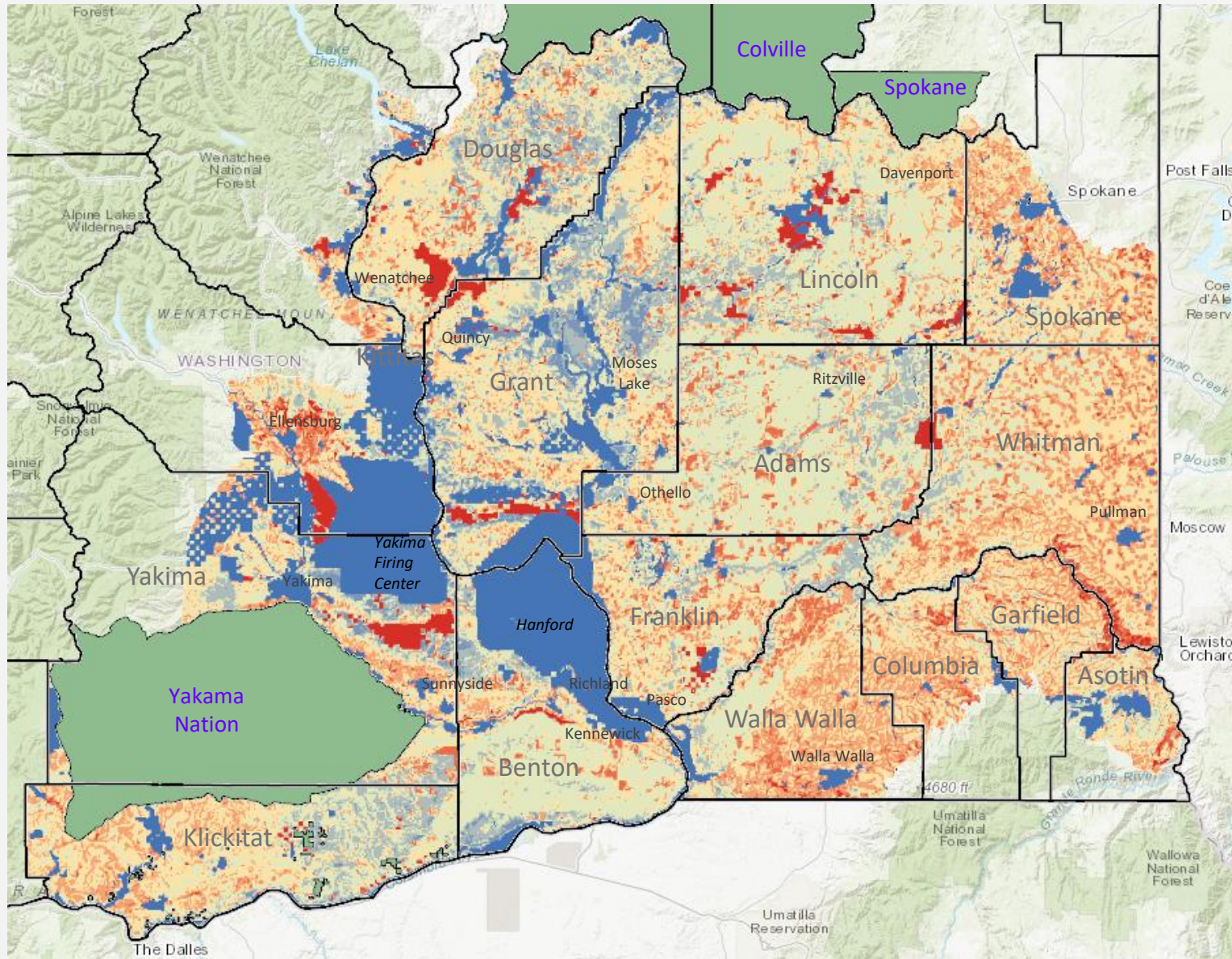
High Forage



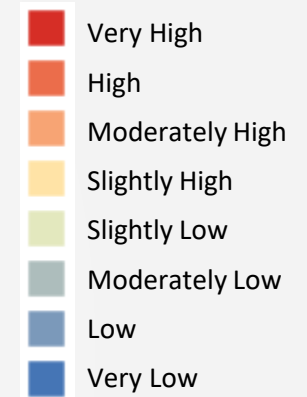
Managed Pasture



Ranchland Value Review Draft

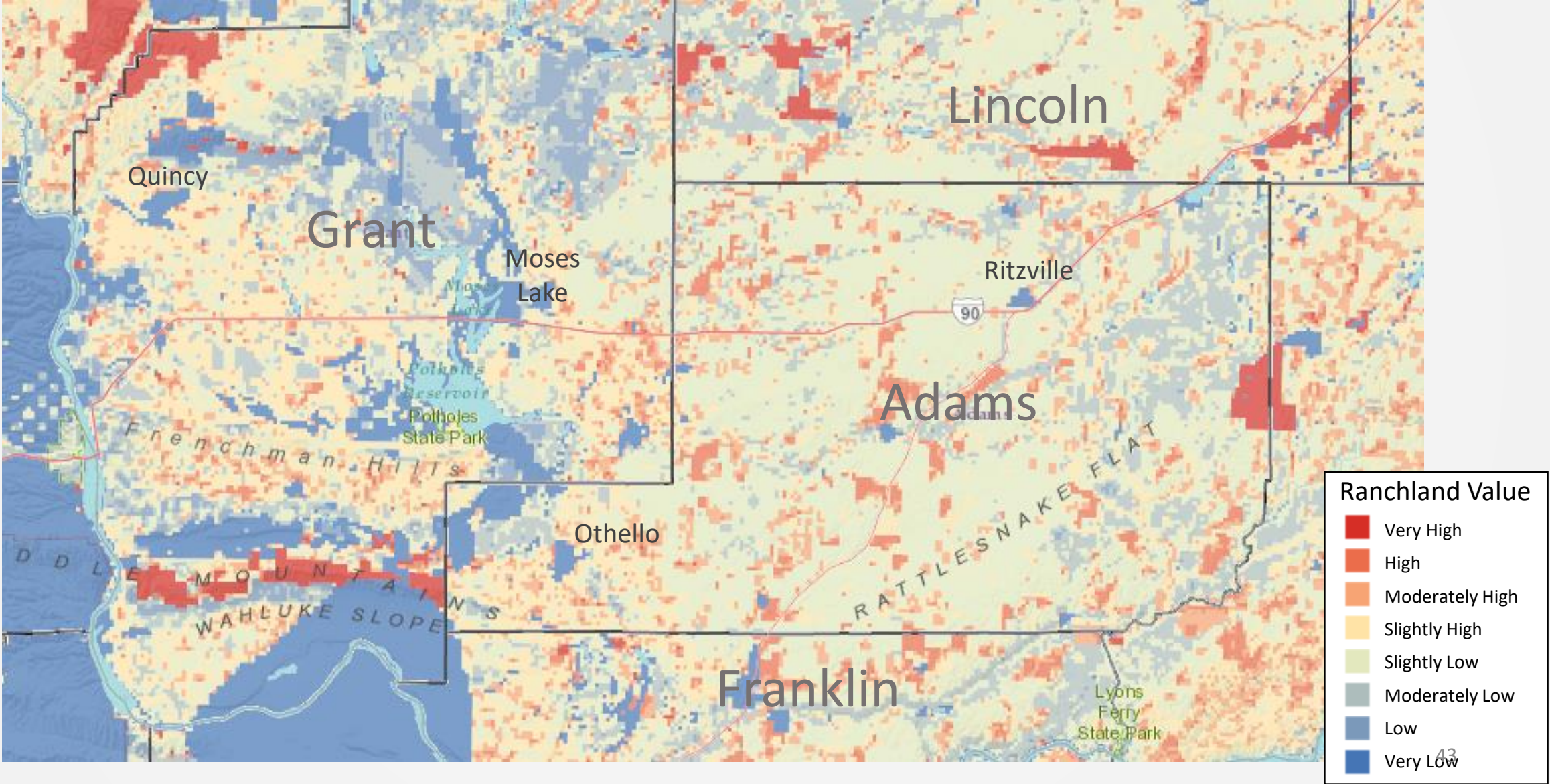


Ranchland Value



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

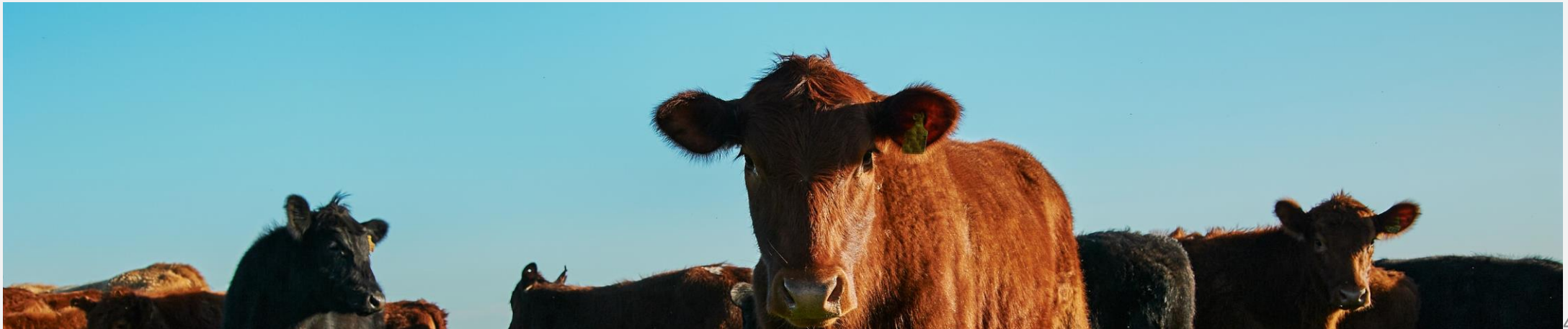


Next Steps

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



Questions



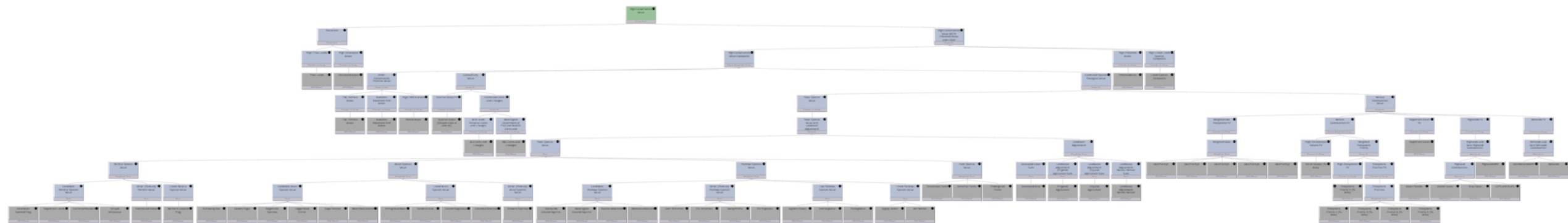
Conservation Mapping Group Update

Presented by Michael Ritter, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

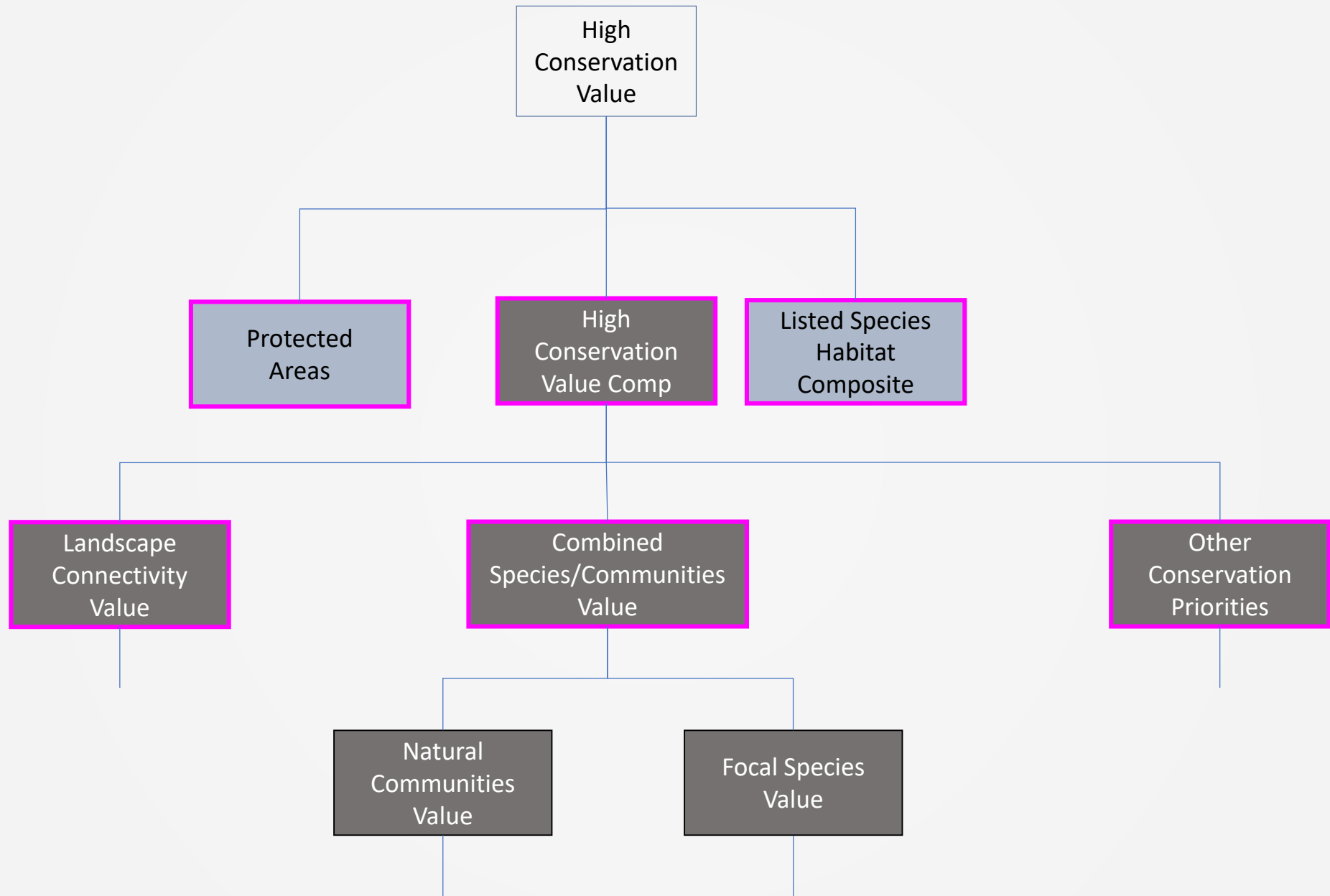
Goal: Produce a map that illustrates the relative value of conservation lands based on available spatial data.



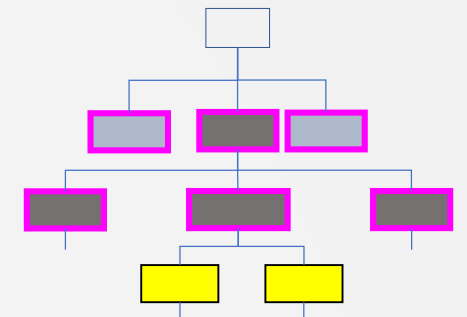
Conservation Value Model Overview



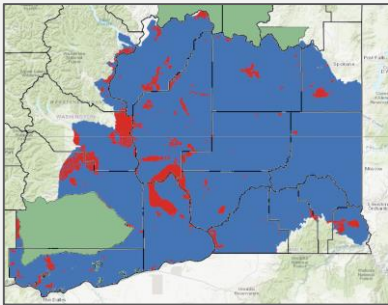
- 66 data inputs (some made by combining multiple data sources) (gray boxes)
- 54 intermediate maps (light blue boxes)



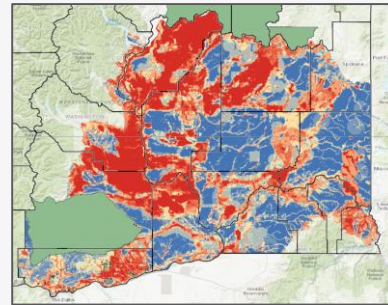
High Conservation Value



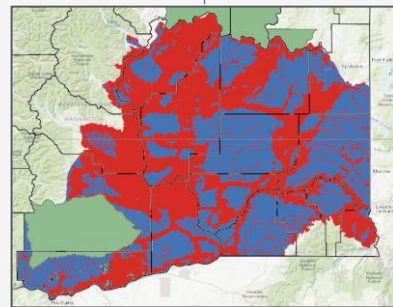
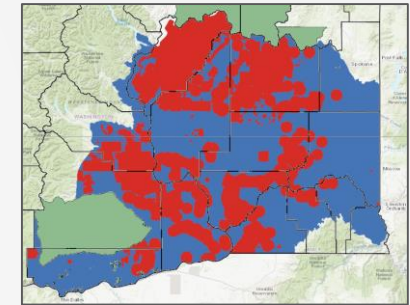
High Protected Areas



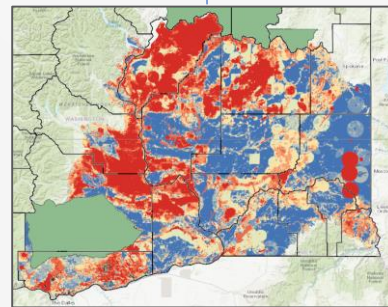
High Conservation Value Composite



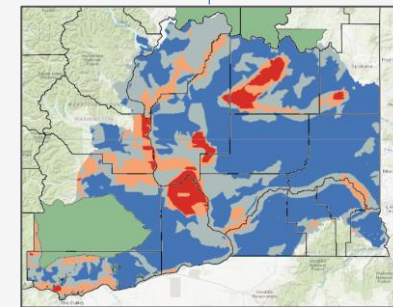
Listed Species Composite



Connectivity Value



Combined Species/
Ecosystems Value

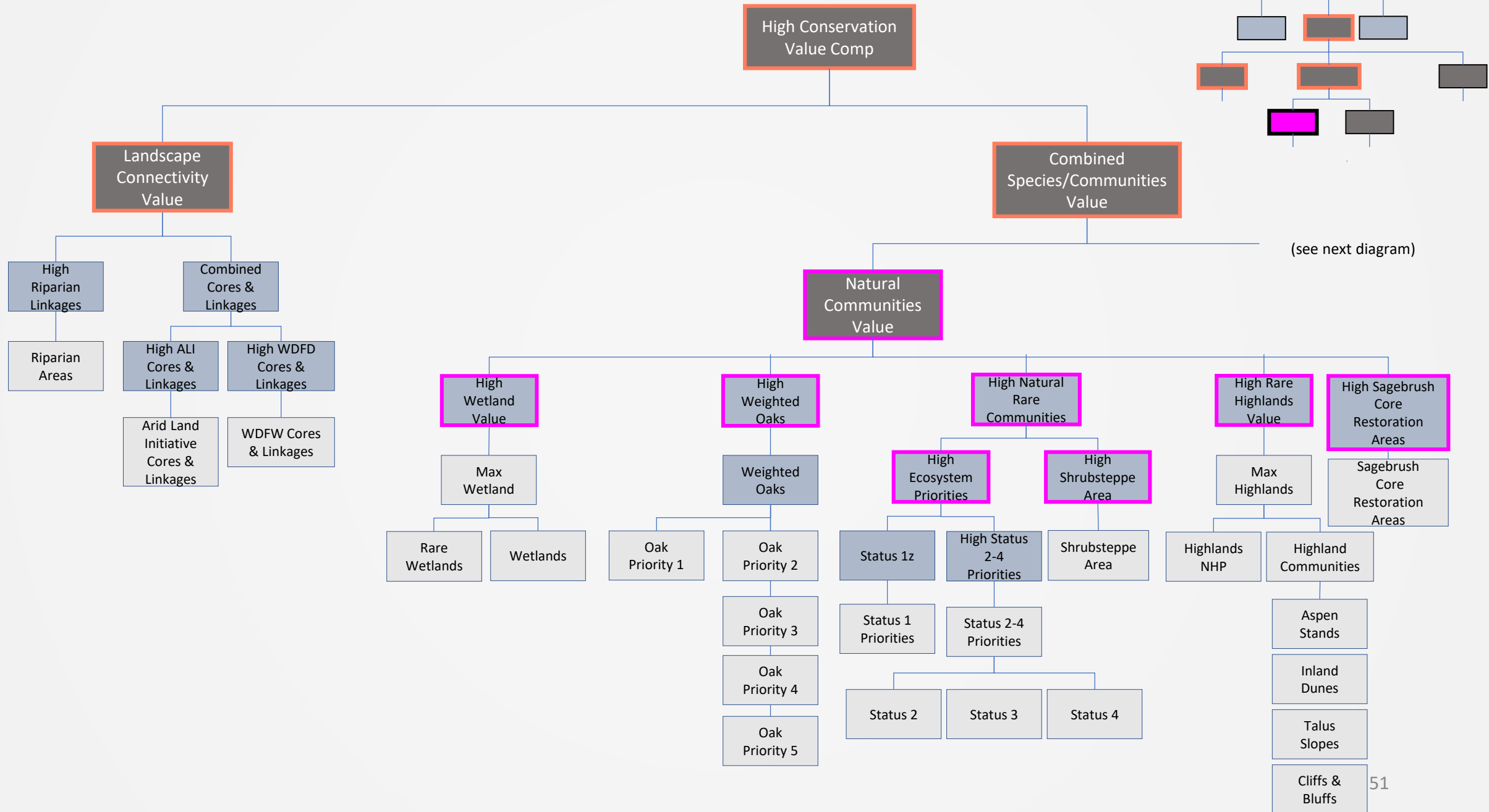


Other Conservation Priorities

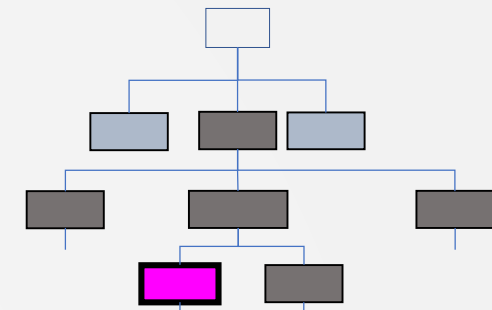
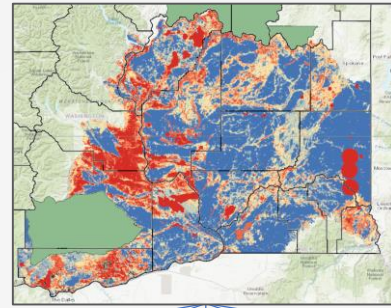


Natural Communities

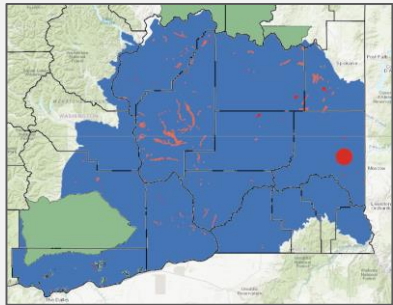




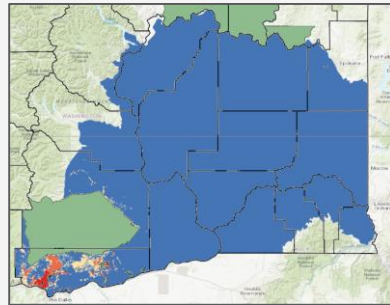
Natural Communities Value



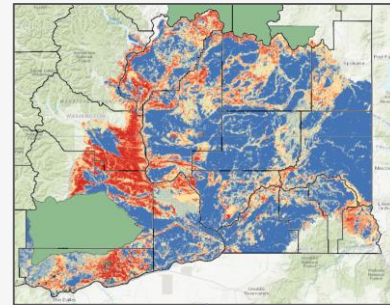
High Wetland Value



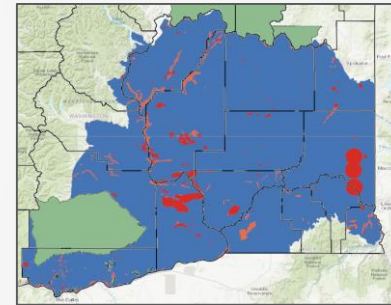
High Weighted Oaks



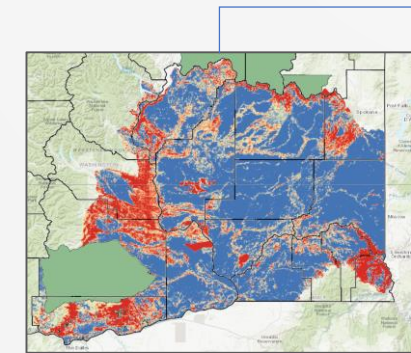
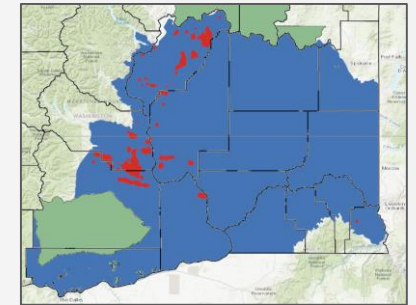
Natural Rare Communities



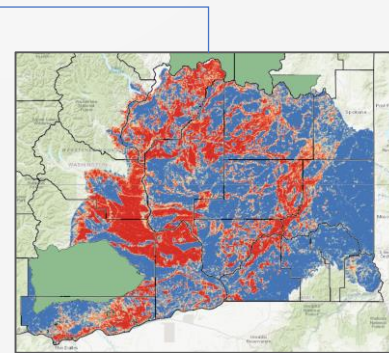
High Rare Highlands



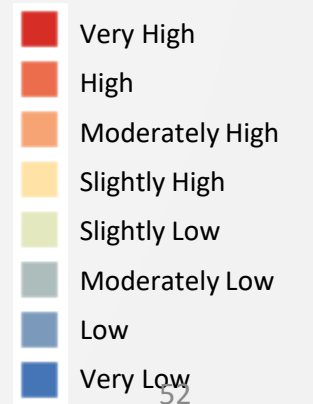
High Sagebrush Cores



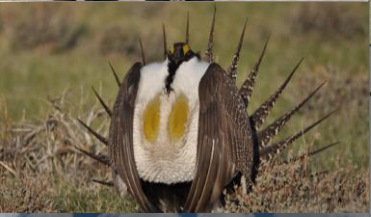
High Ecosystem Priorities



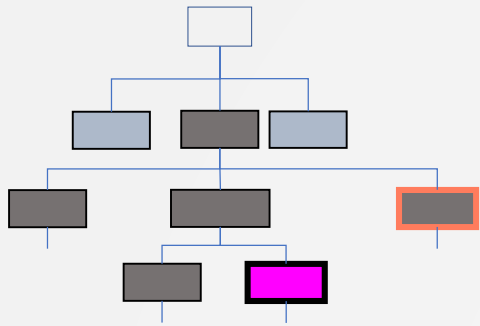
High Shrubsteppe Area



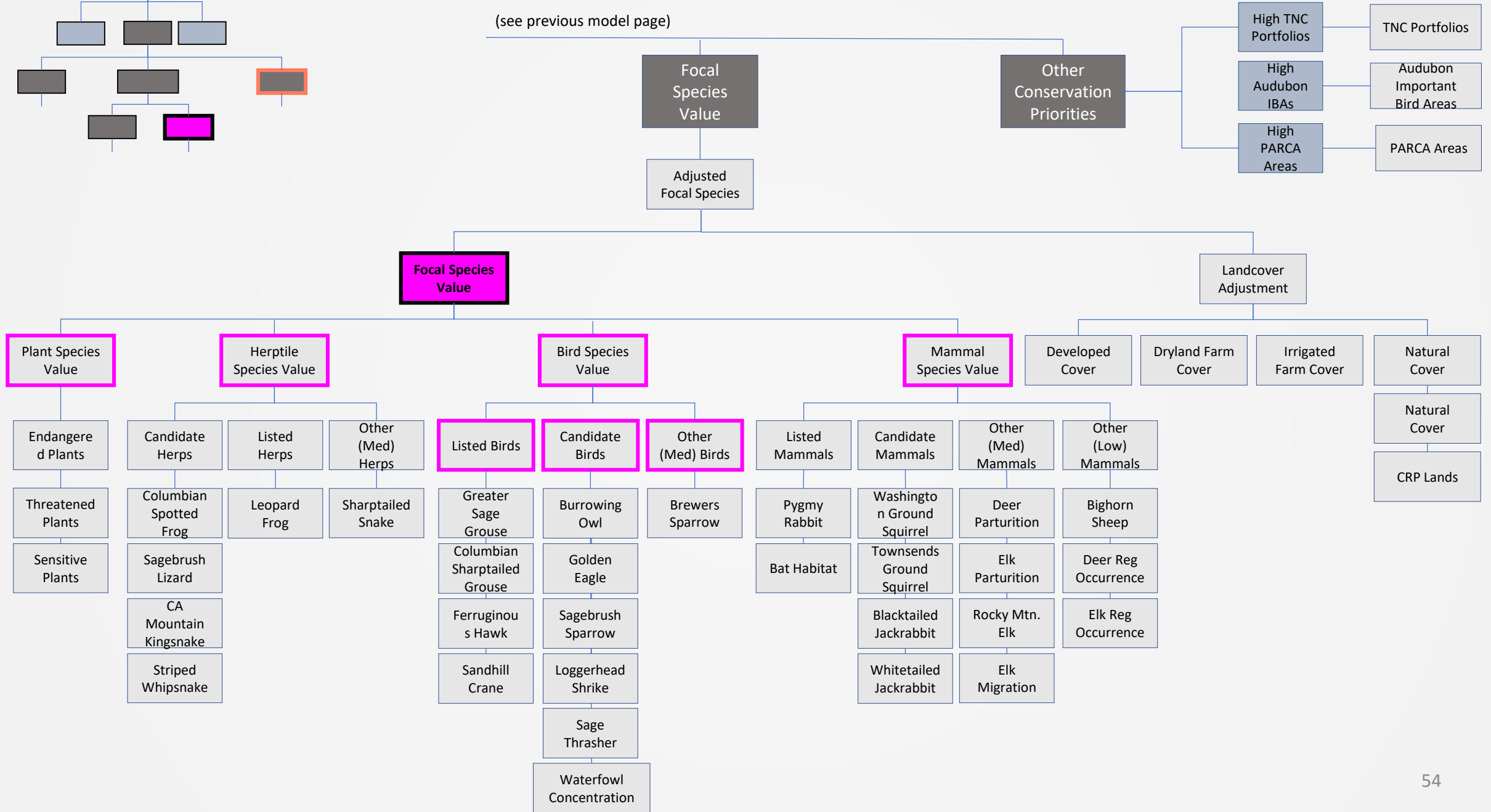
Vertebrate Focal Species



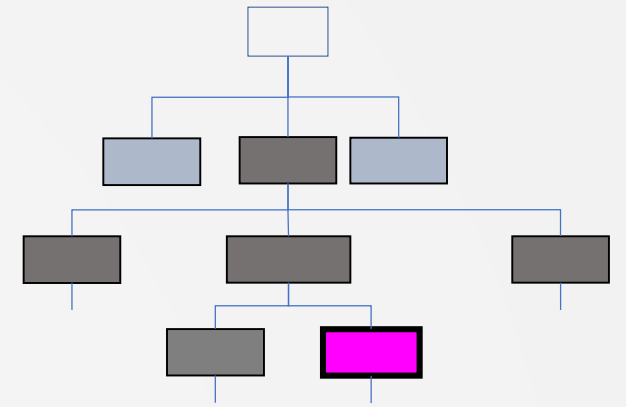
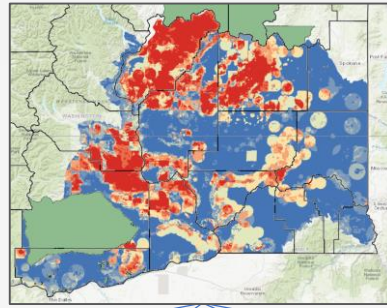
Listed Species	Candidate Species	Other Species of Interest (Med)	Other Species of Interest (Low)
Mammals			
Pygmy Rabbit Bat Habitat	Washington Ground Squirrel Townsend's Ground Squirrel Blacktailed Jackrabbit Whitetailed Jackrabbit	Deer Parturition Elk Parturition Rocky Mountain Elk Elk Migration	Bighorn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



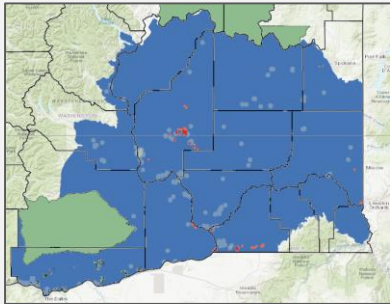
(see previous model page)



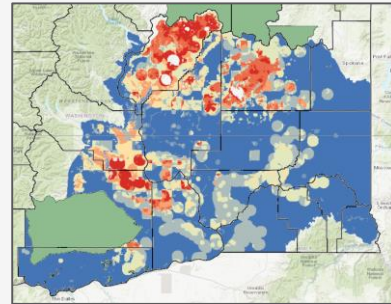
Focal Species Value



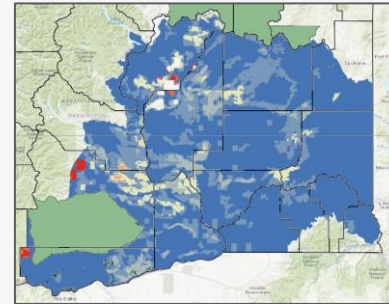
Herptile Species Value



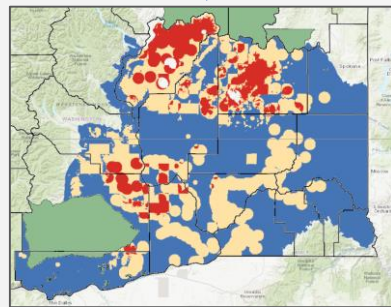
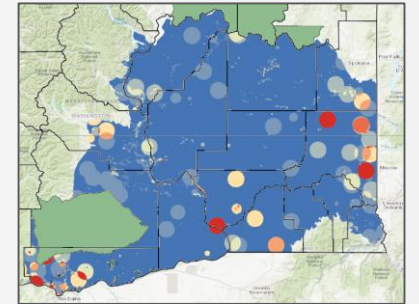
Avian Species Value



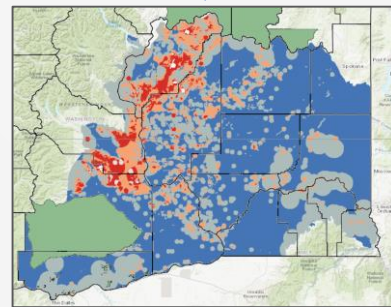
Mammal Species Value



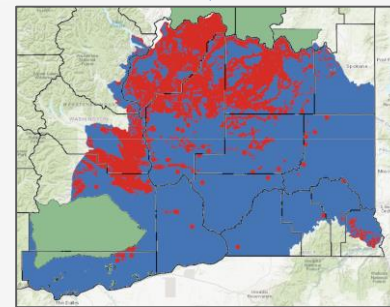
Plant Species Value



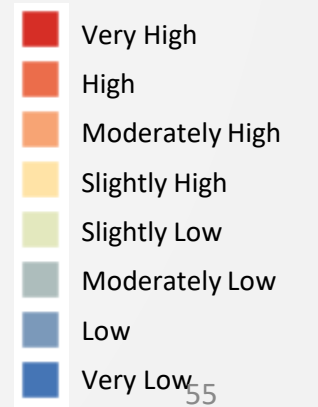
Avian Listed Species



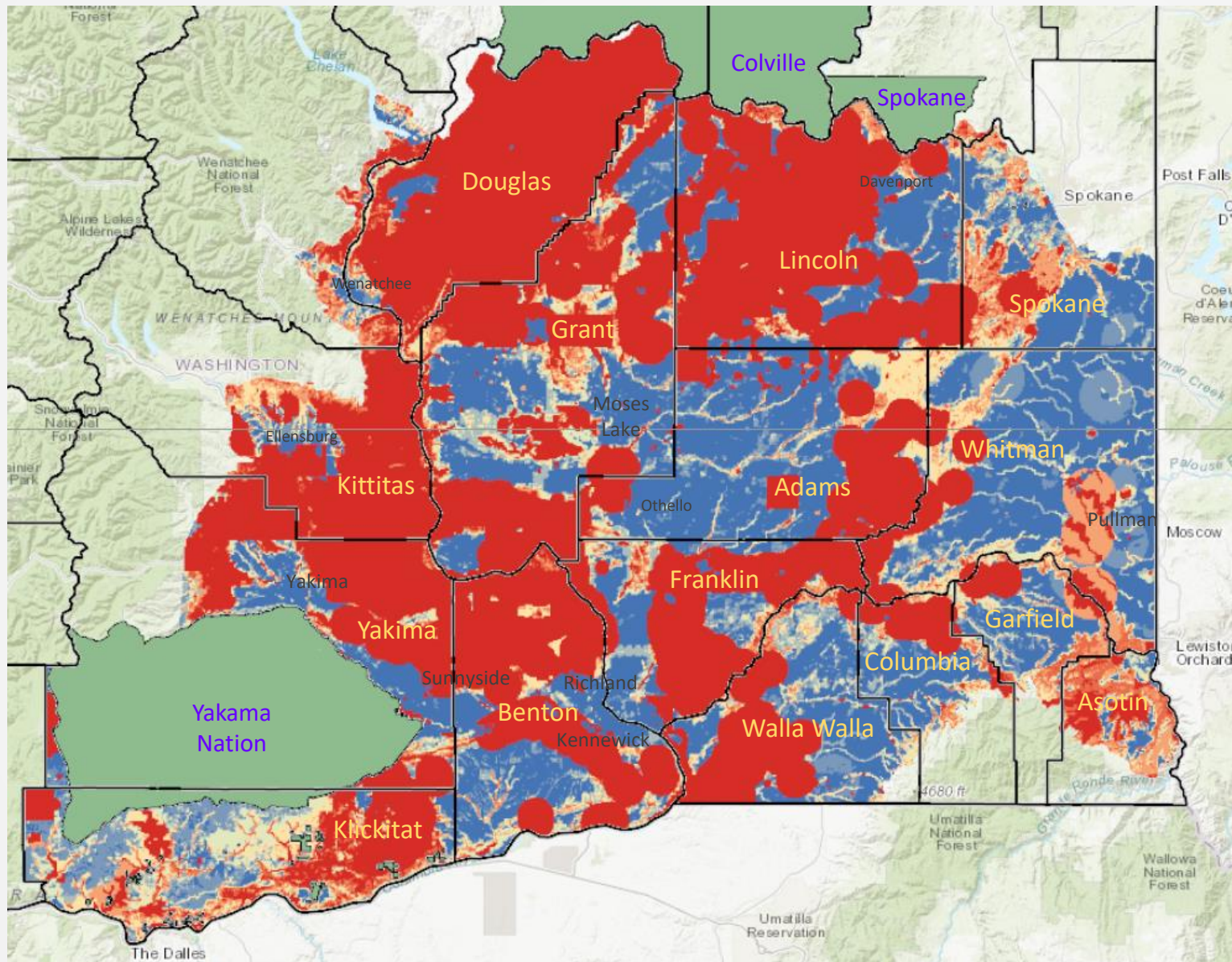
Avian Candidate Species



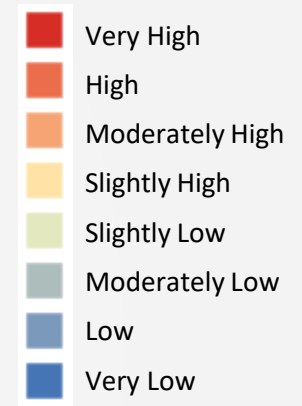
Avian Other Species



Conservation Value Review Draft

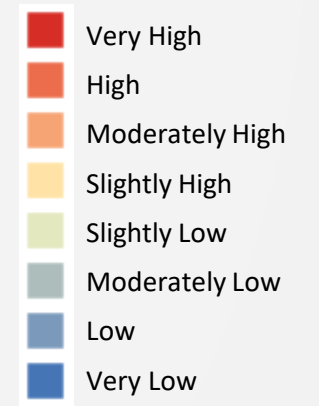
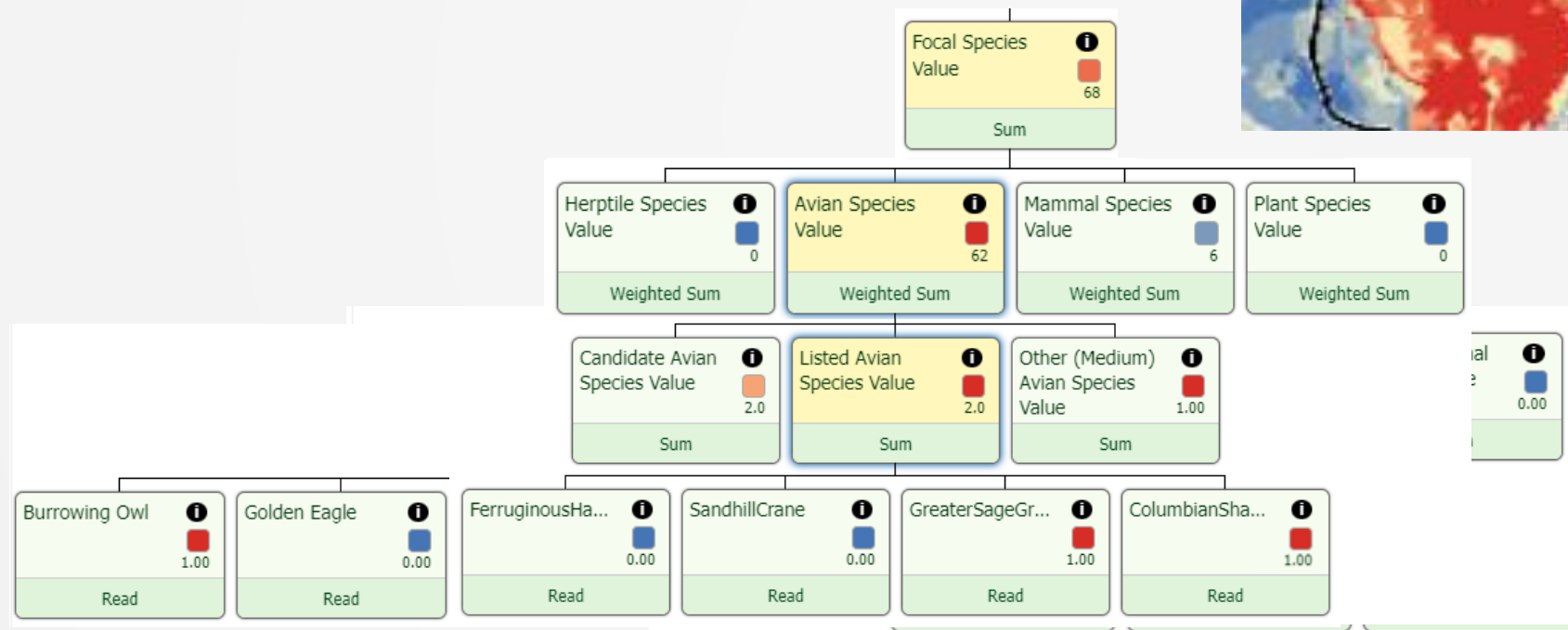
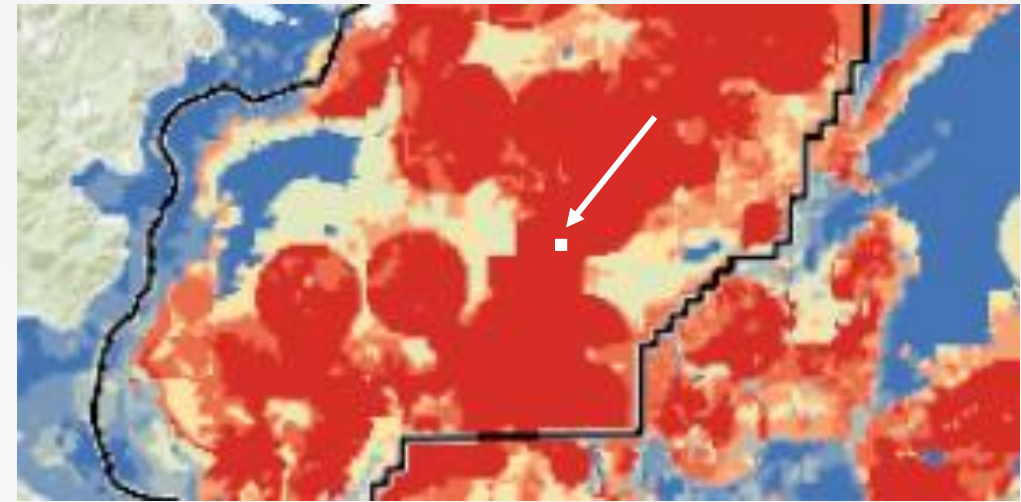


Conservation Value



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

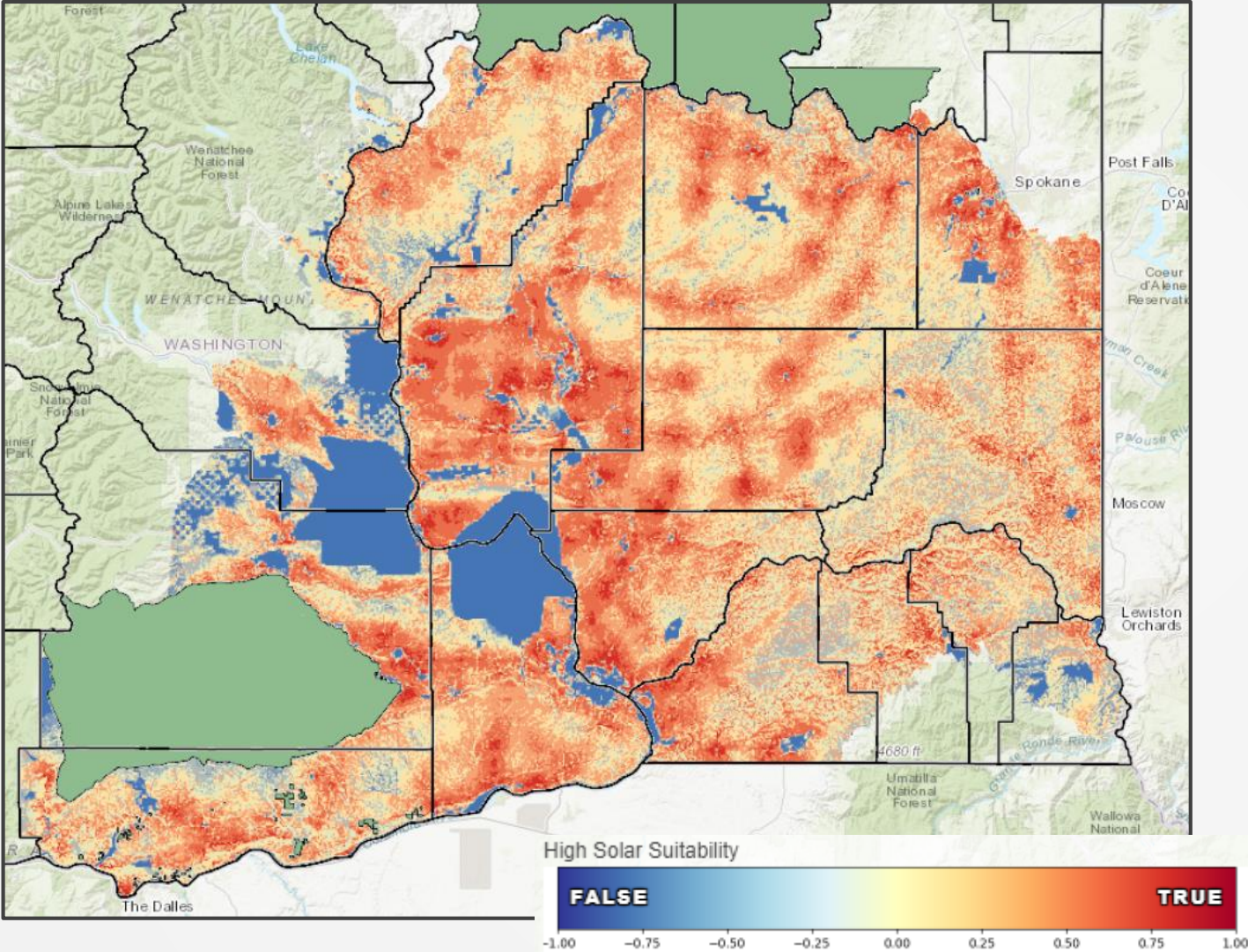
Jim Strittholt
Conservation Biology Institute

Mapping Least-Conflict

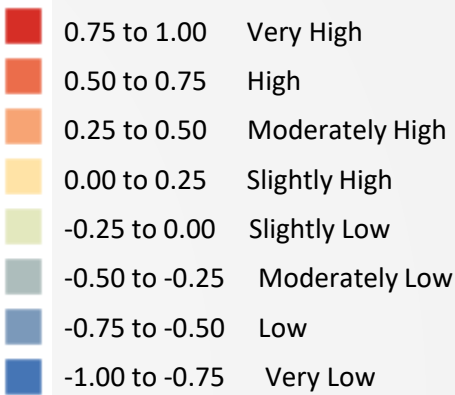
Goal: Produce a map-based product that allows for easy access and high level of transparency with the focus on reducing solar energy development conflicts in the Washington Columbia Plateau.



Solar Development Suitability



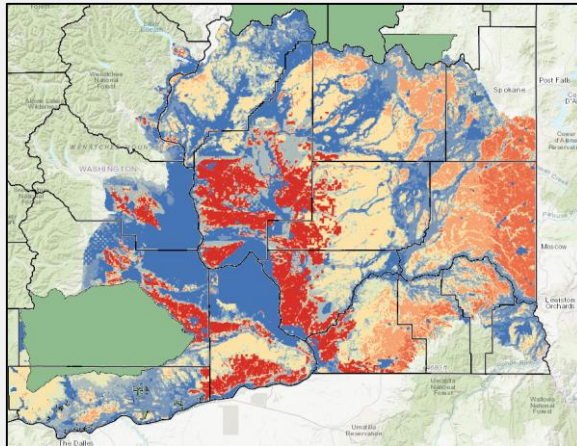
Solar Development Suitability



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%

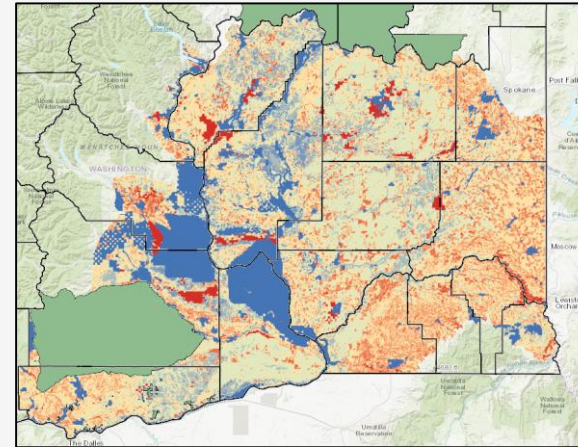
Resource Value/Conflict Models

Farmland Value/Conflict



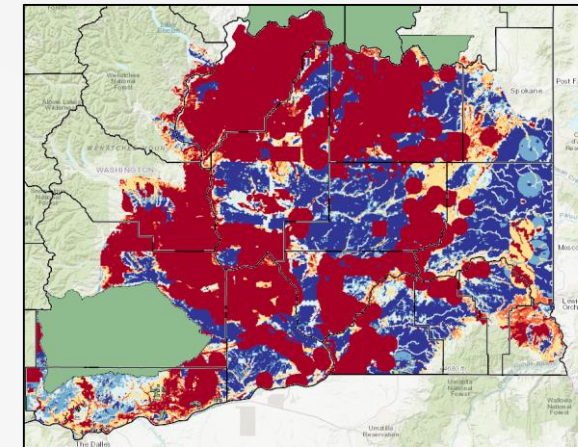
Farmland Value	Acres	Percent
Very High	1,520,252	10.67%
High	796,358	5.59%
Moderately High	1,405,842	9.87%
Slightly High	2,157,721	15.15%
Slightly Low	1,409,487	9.90%
Moderately Low	1,838,894	12.91%
Low	1,851,187	13.00%
Very Low	3,262,280	22.91%
Totals	14,242,020	100.00%

Ranchland Value/Conflict

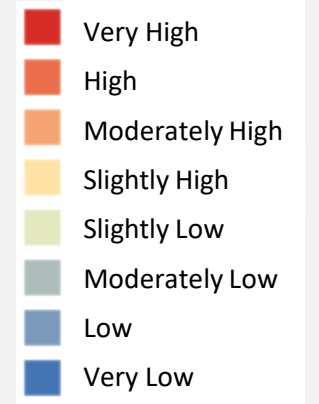


Ranchland Value	Acres	Percent
Very High	356,202	2.50%
High	664,774	4.67%
Moderately High	2,107,250	14.80%
Slightly High	3,384,103	23.76%
Slightly Low	4,077,541	28.63%
Moderately Low	1,316,884	9.25%
Low	209,730	1.47%
Very Low	2,125,535	14.92%
Totals	14,242,020	100.00%

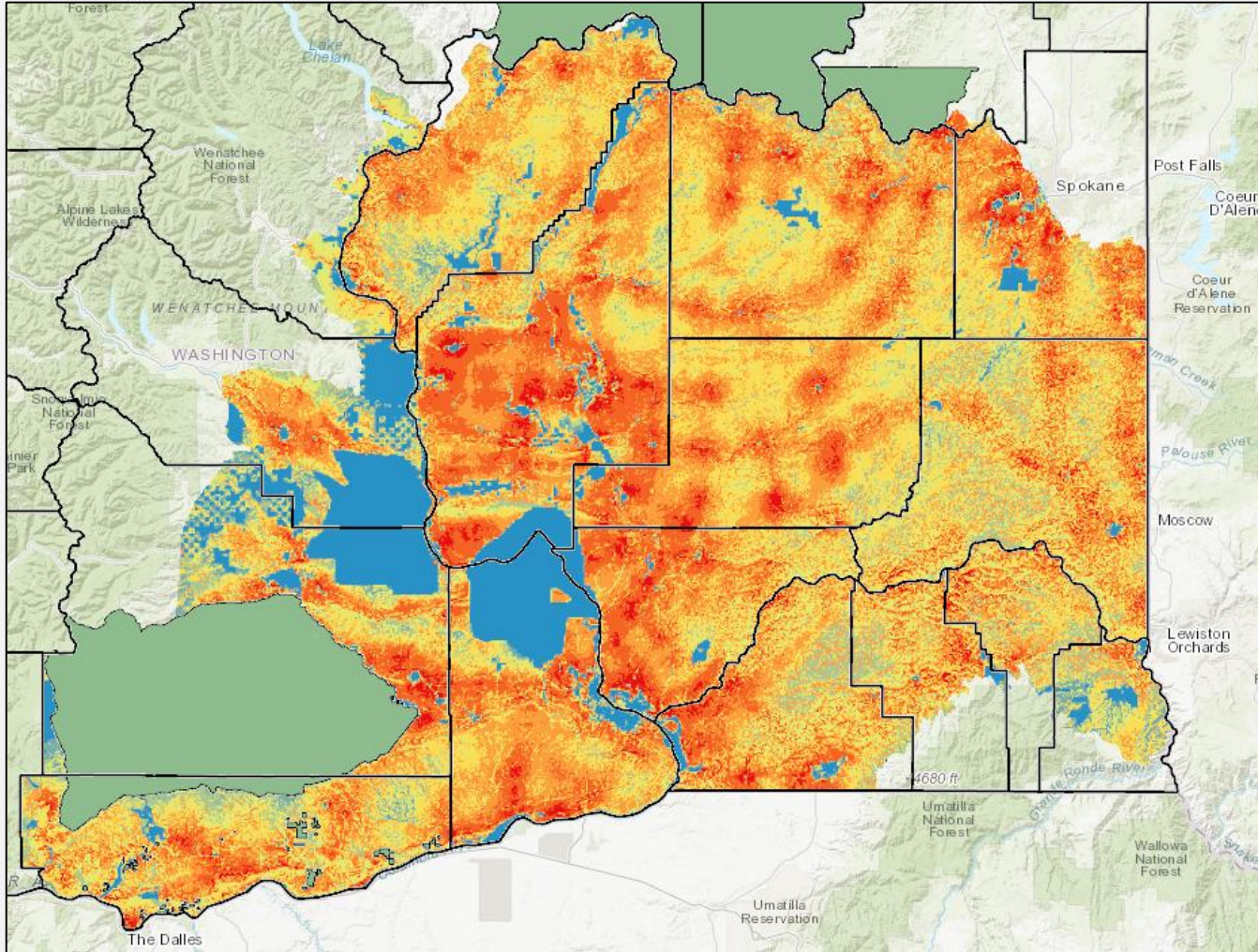
Conservation Value/Conflict



Conservation Value	Acres	Percent
Very High	6,988,191	49.07%
High	418,102	2.94%
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Very Low	3,515,748	24.69%
Totals	14,242,020	100.00%

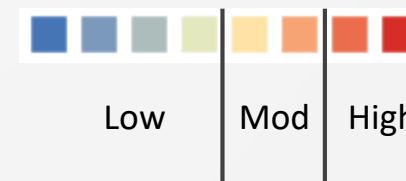


Solar Development Suitability Composite

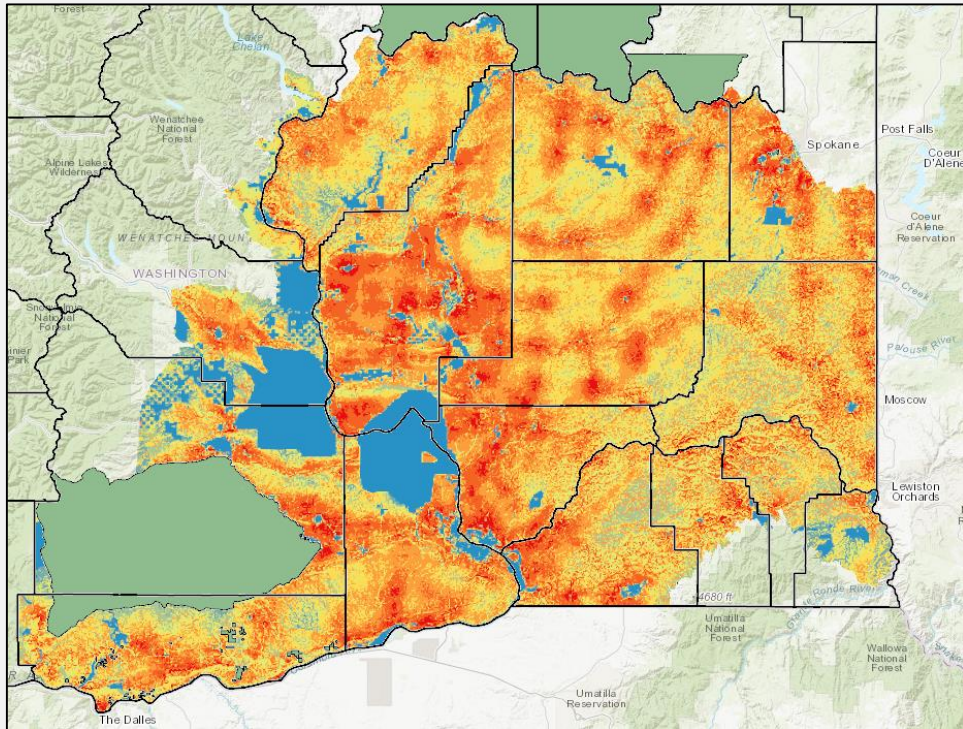


- Solar Development Suitability Score
- Solar Development Suitability Rank
- Conservation Value Score
- Conservation Value Rank
- Conservation Value Conflict Level
- Farmland Value Score
- Farmland Value Rank
- Farmland Value Conflict Level
- Ranchland Value Score
- Ranchland Value Rank
- Ranchland Value Conflict Level

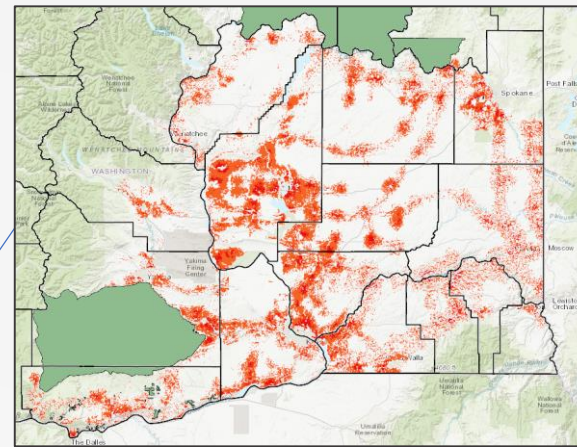
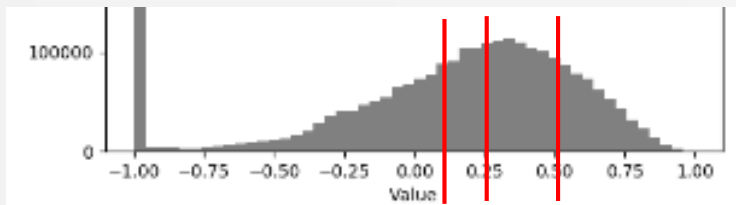
Conflict Level



Solar Development Suitability Composite



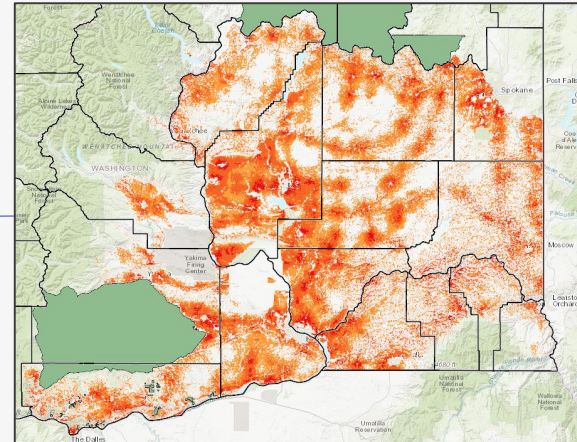
14,242,020 acres



very high & high solar rank

2.95 M acres

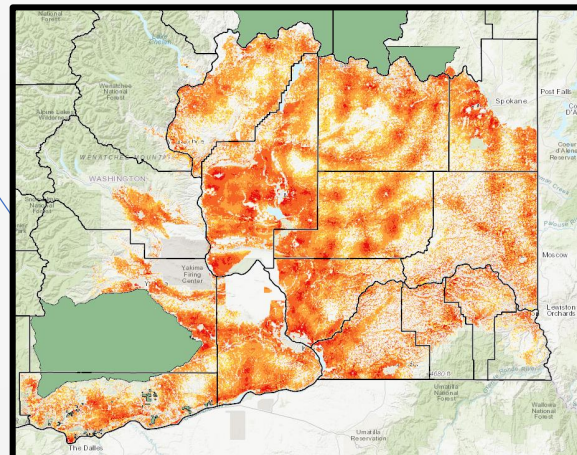
~21%



very high to moderately high solar rank

6.80 M acres

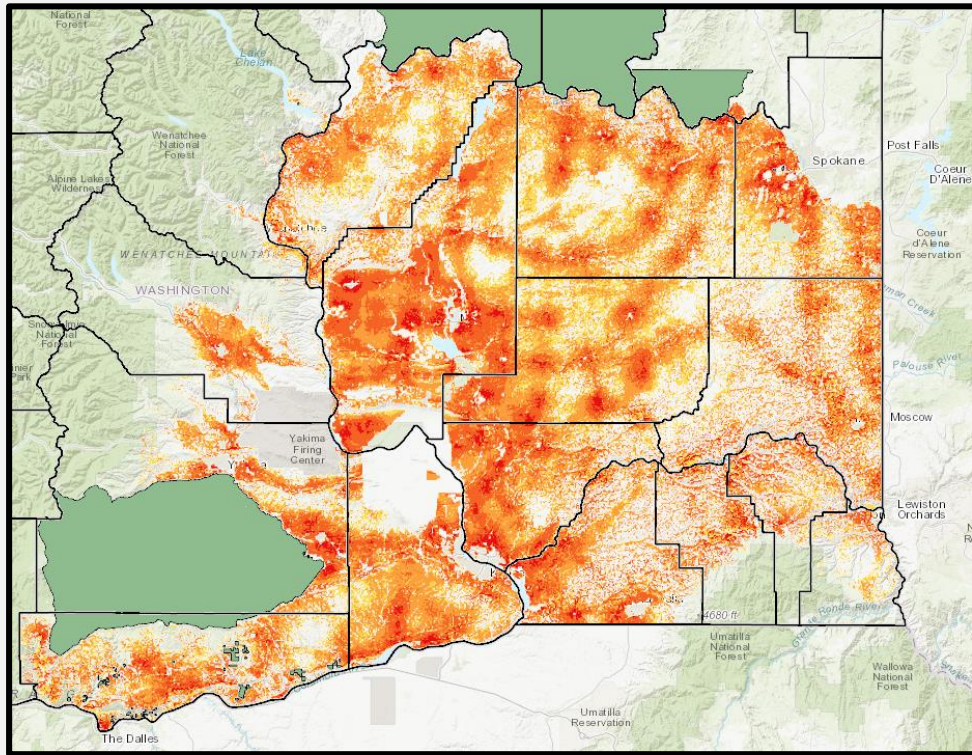
~48%



Suitability Score GT 0.1000

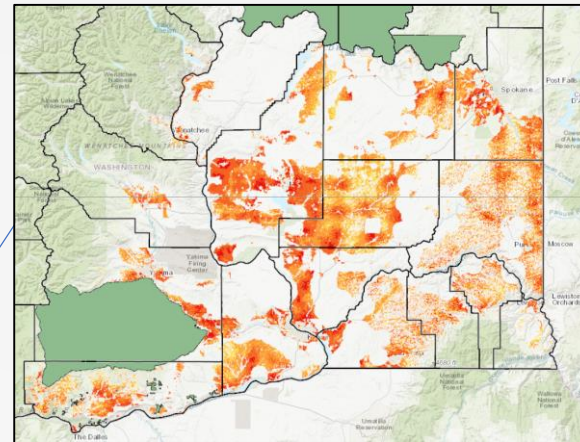
8.90 M acres

~62%



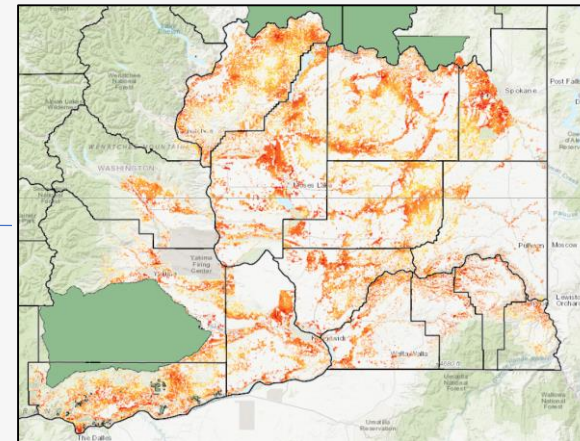
Very high to slightly high suitability

8.90 M acres



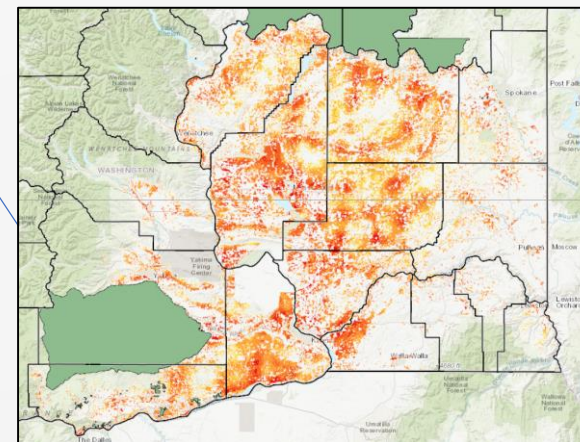
Conservation Low Conflict

4.09 M acres
~46%



Farmland Low Conflict

4.15 M acres
~47%

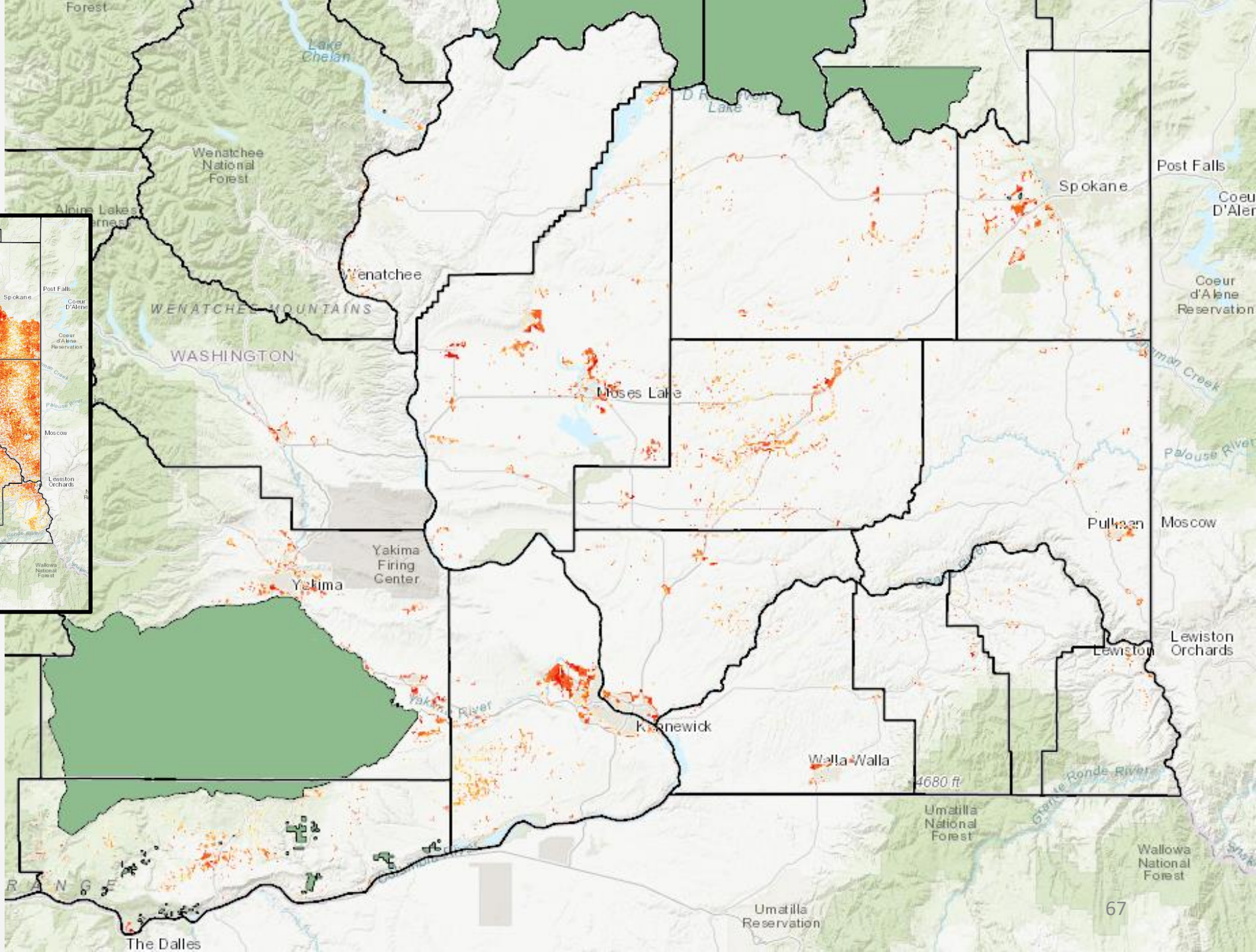
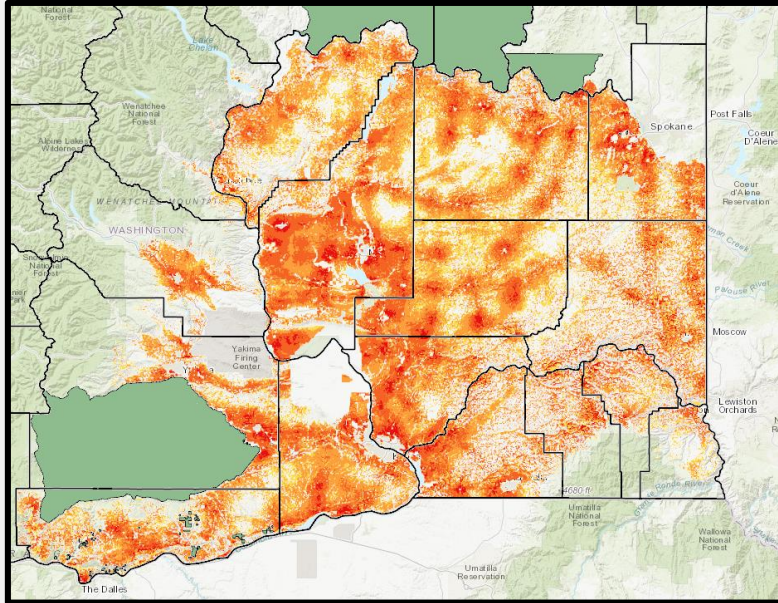


Ranchland Low Conflict

4.36 M acres
~49%

Solar Development Suitability

Score GT 0.10000



Conservation Low Conflict
Farmland Low Conflict
Ranchland Low Conflict

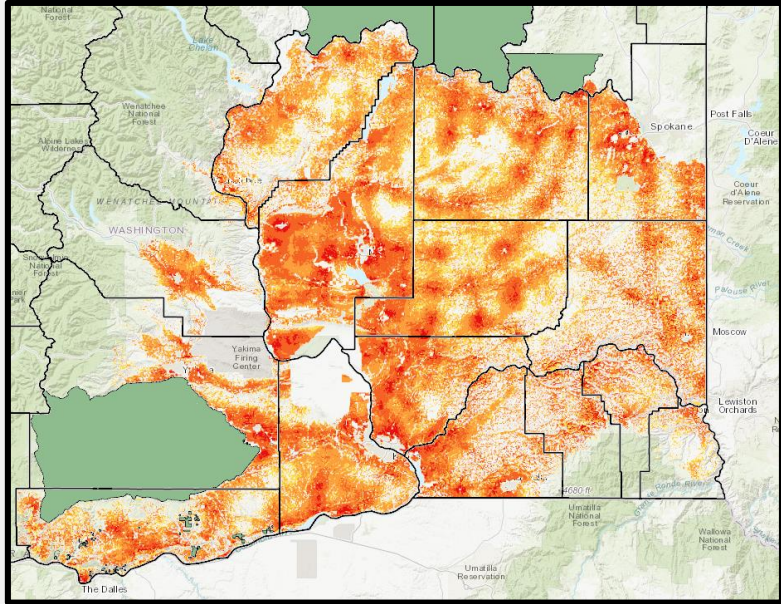
355,769 acres

~4%

2.5% of the Region

Solar Development Suitability

Score GT 0.10000

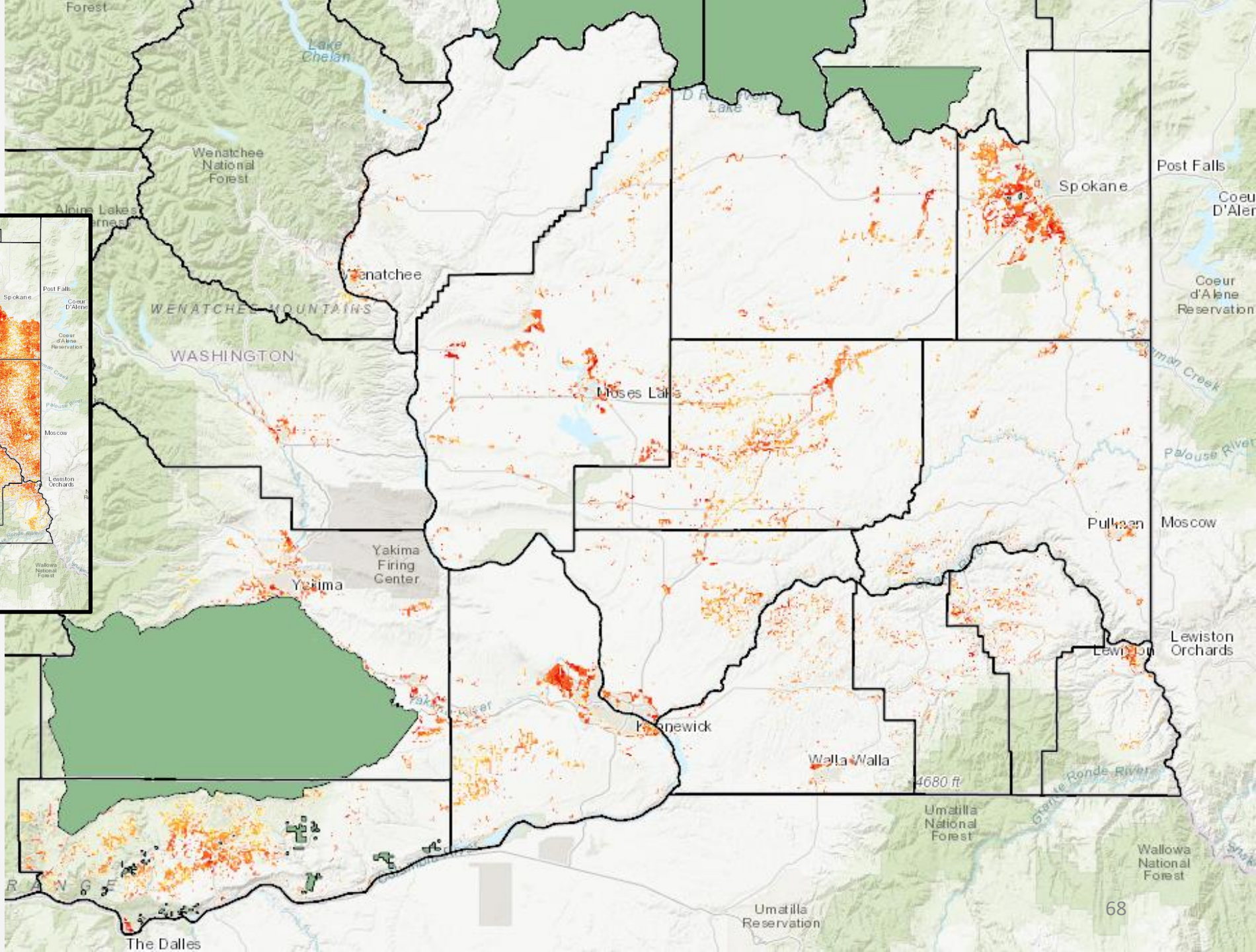


Conservation Low Conflict
Farmland Low Conflict
Ranchland Moderate Conflict

749,593 acres

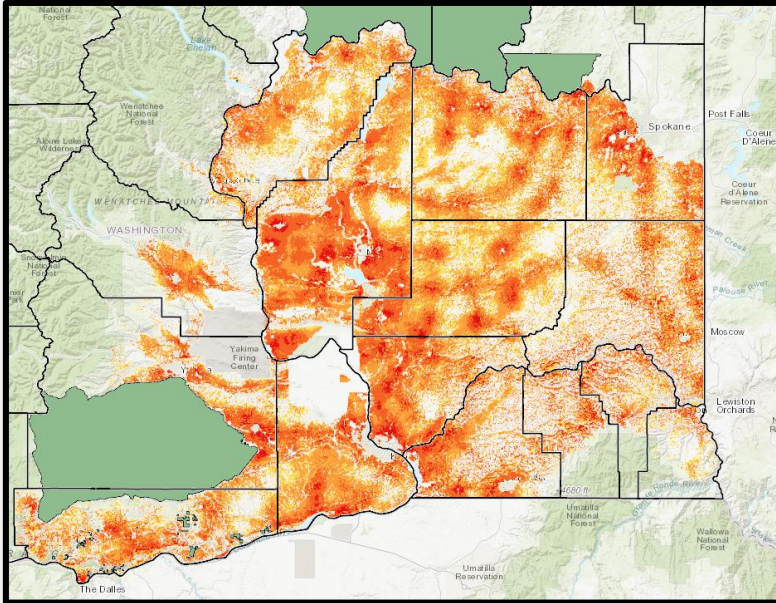
~8.5%

5.3% of the Region



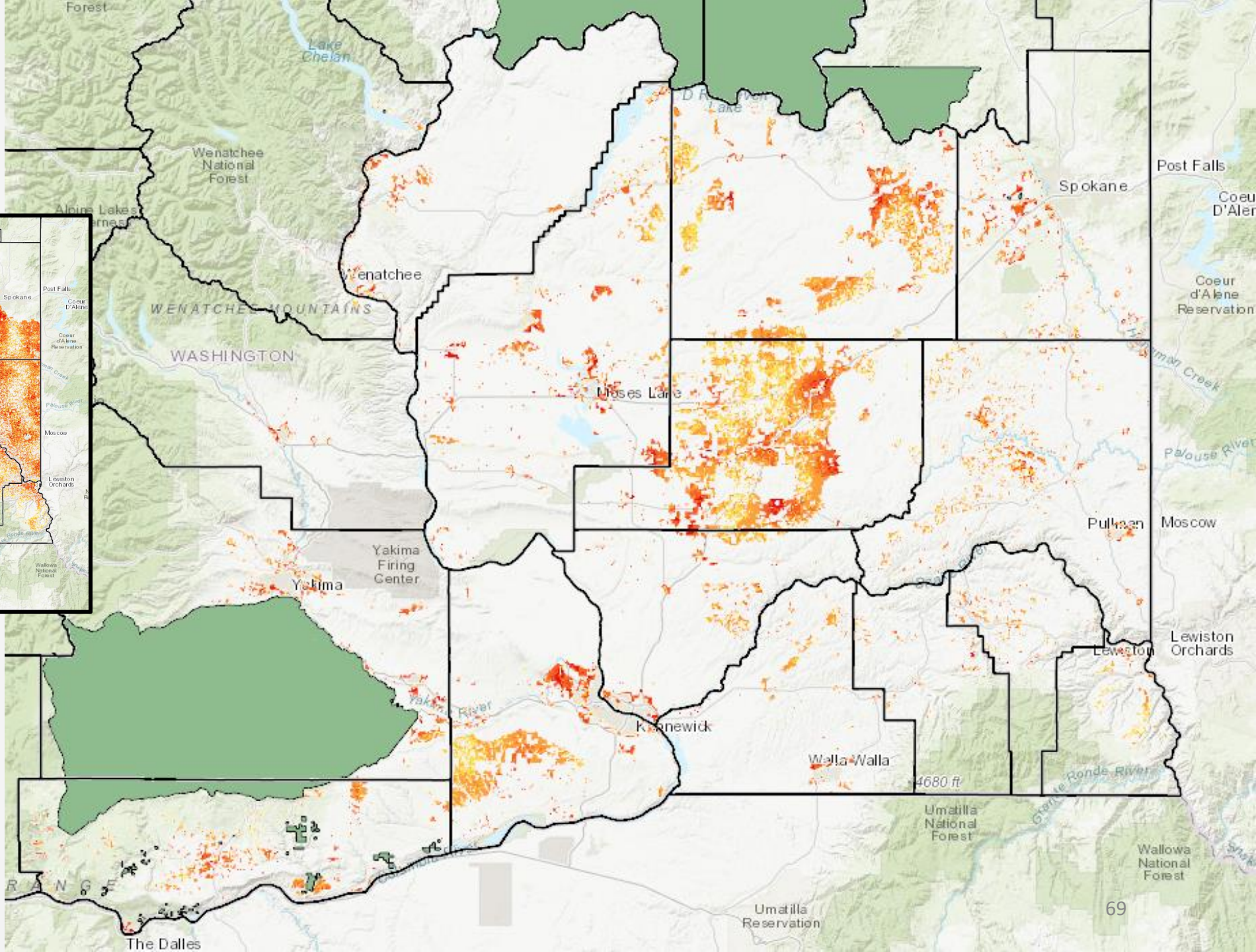
Solar Development Suitability

Score GT 0.10000



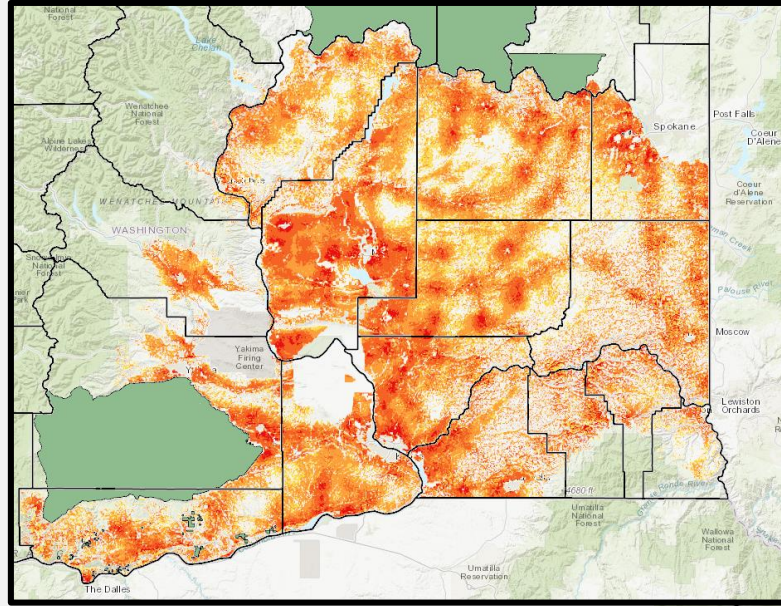
Conservation Low Conflict
Farmland Moderate Conflict
Ranchland Low Conflict

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



Solar Development Suitability

Score GT 0.10000

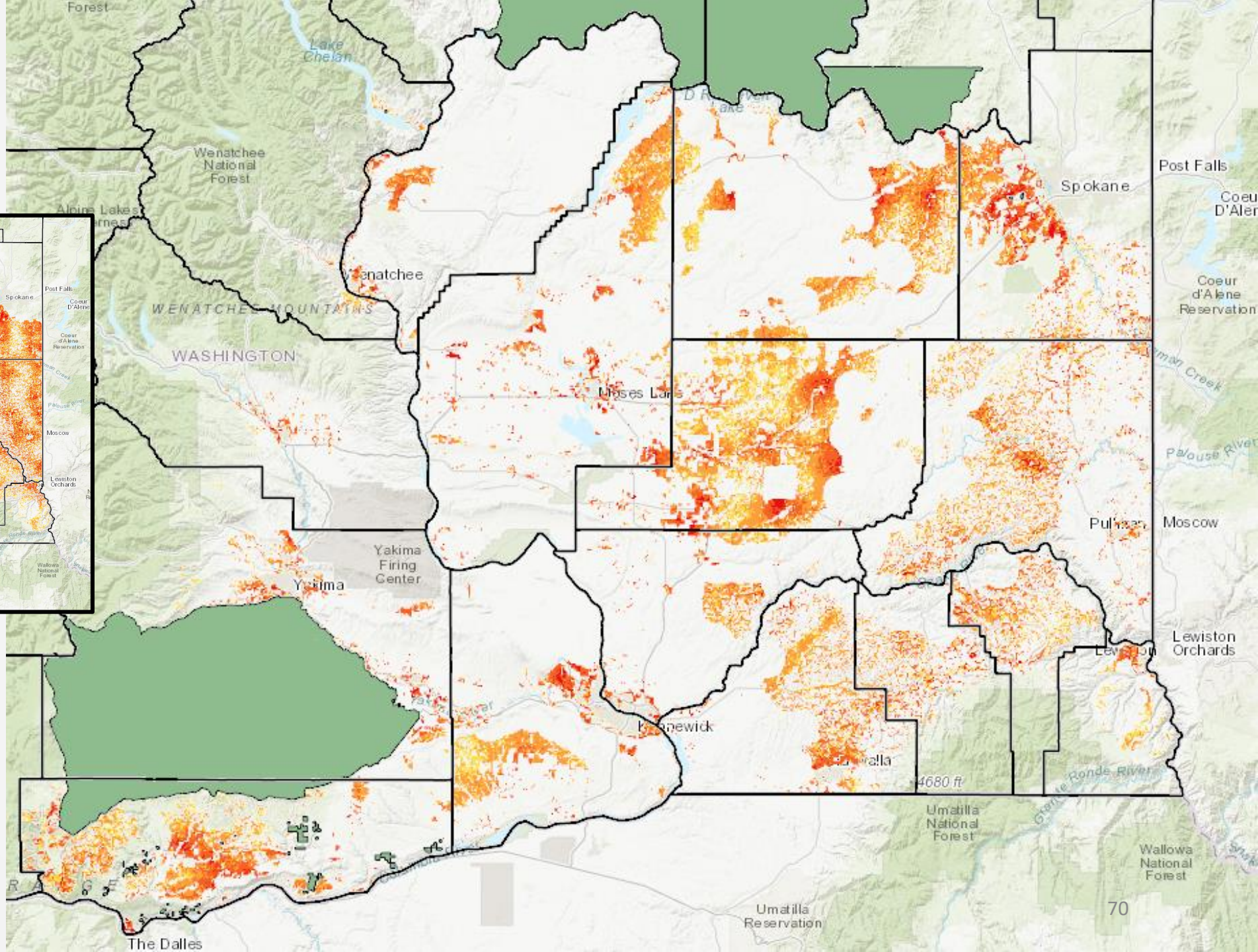


Conservation Low Conflict
Farmland Moderate Conflict
Ranchland Moderate Conflict

2,314,632 acres

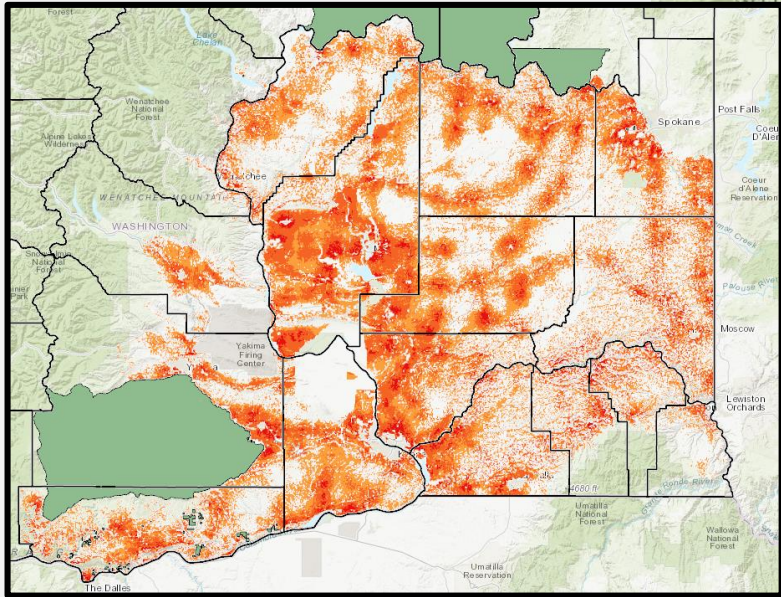
~26%

16.3% of the Region



Solar Development Suitability

Very High to Moderately High

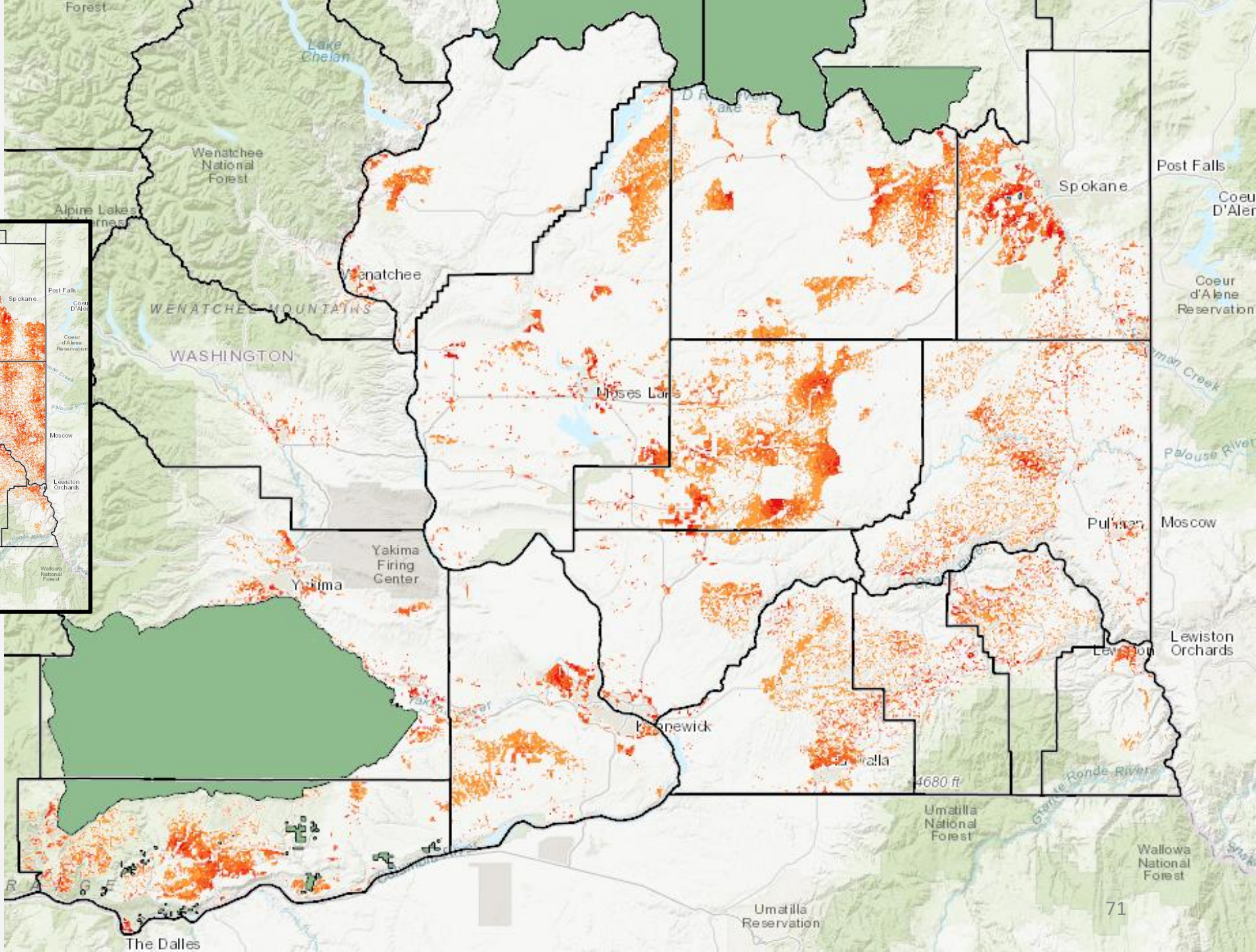


Conservation Low Conflict
Farmland Moderate Conflict
Ranchland Moderate Conflict

1,734,615 acres

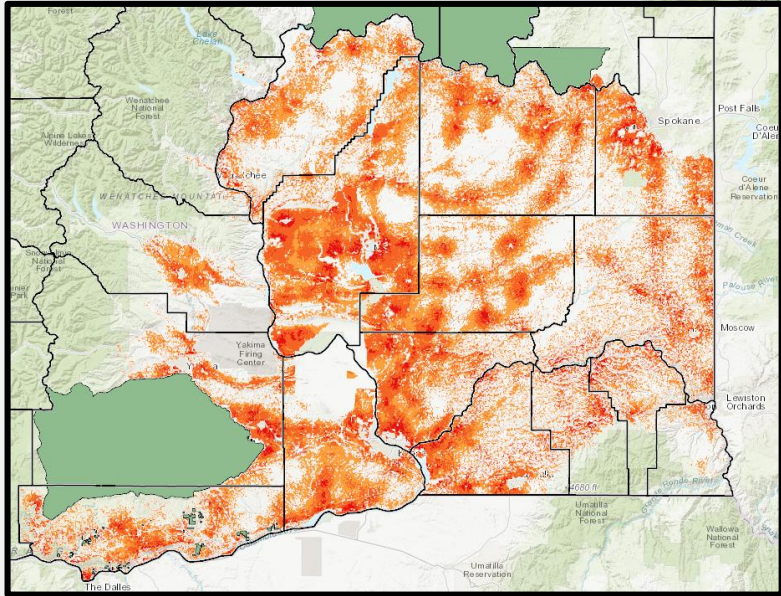
~26%

12.2% of the Region



Solar Development Suitability

Very High to Moderately High

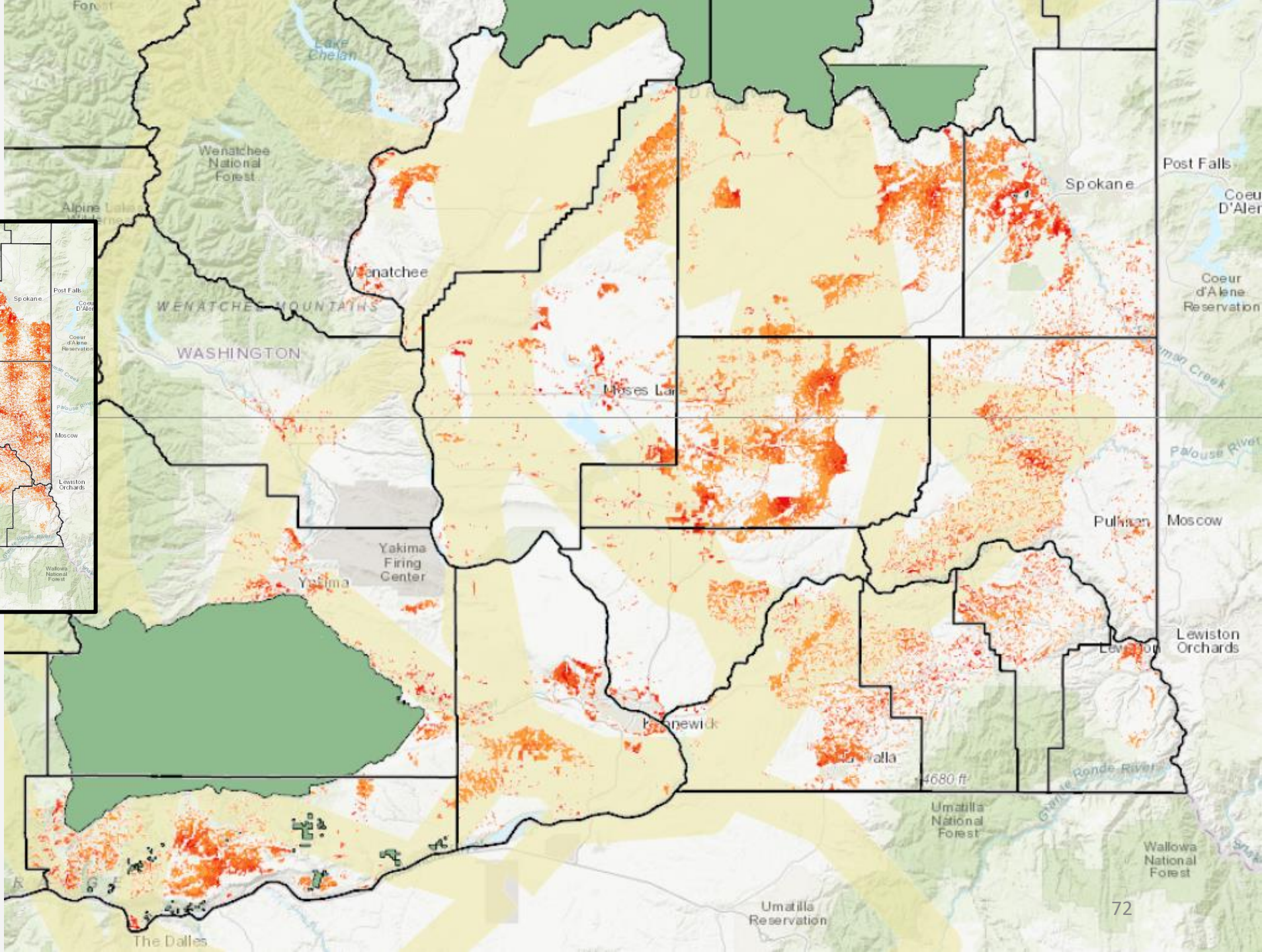


Conservation Low Conflict
Farmland Moderate Conflict
Ranchland Moderate Conflict

1,734,615 acres

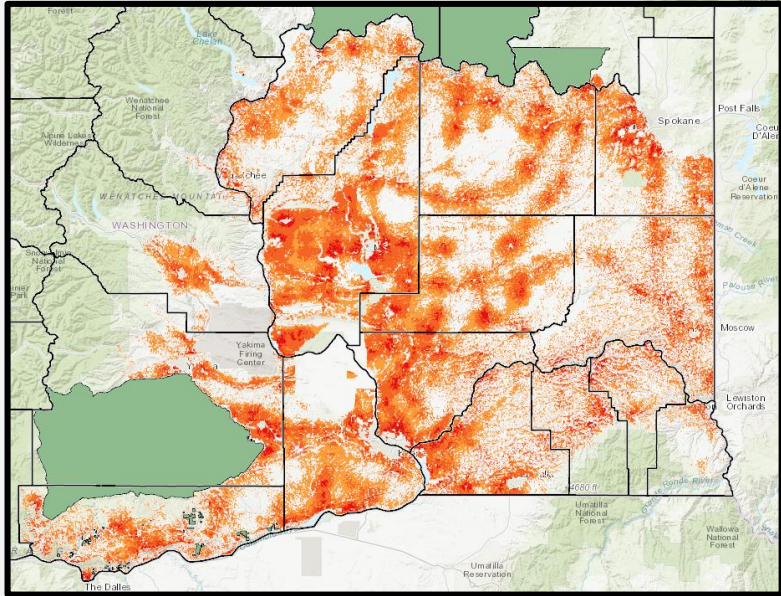
~26%

12.2% of the Region



Solar Development Suitability

Very High to Moderately High

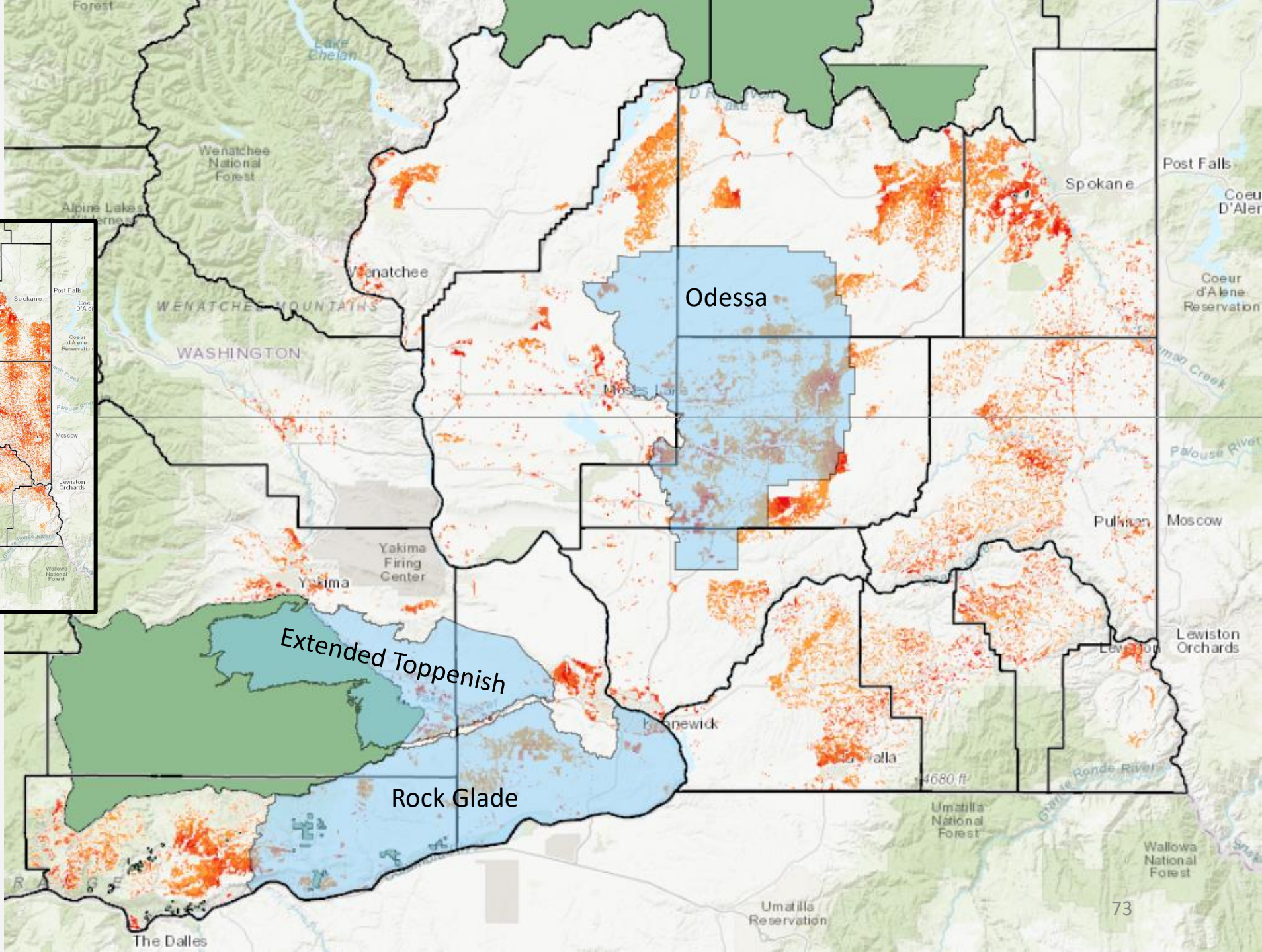


Conservation Low Conflict
Farmland Moderate Conflict
Ranchland Moderate Conflict

1,734,615 acres

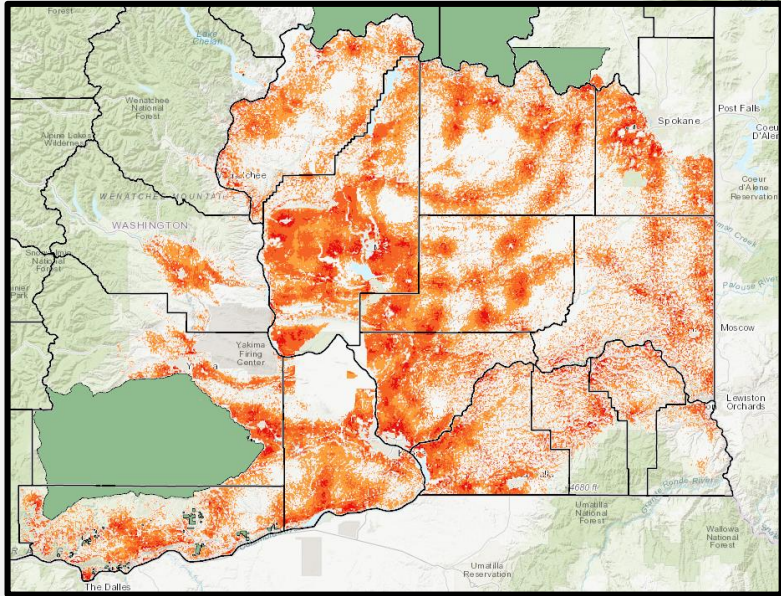
~26%

12.2% of the Region



Solar Development Suitability

Very High to Moderately High

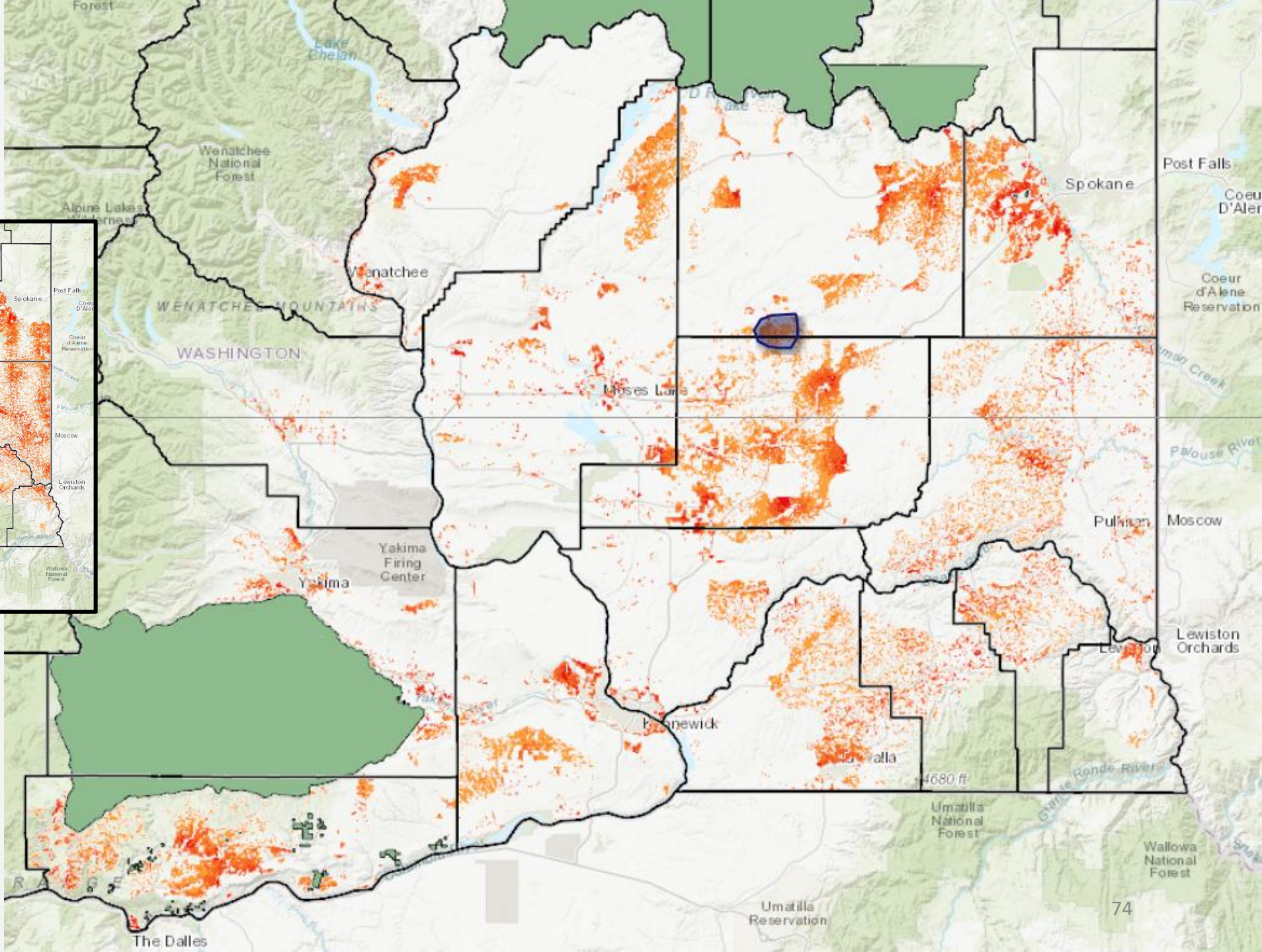


Conservation Low Conflict
Farmland Moderate Conflict
Ranchland Moderate Conflict

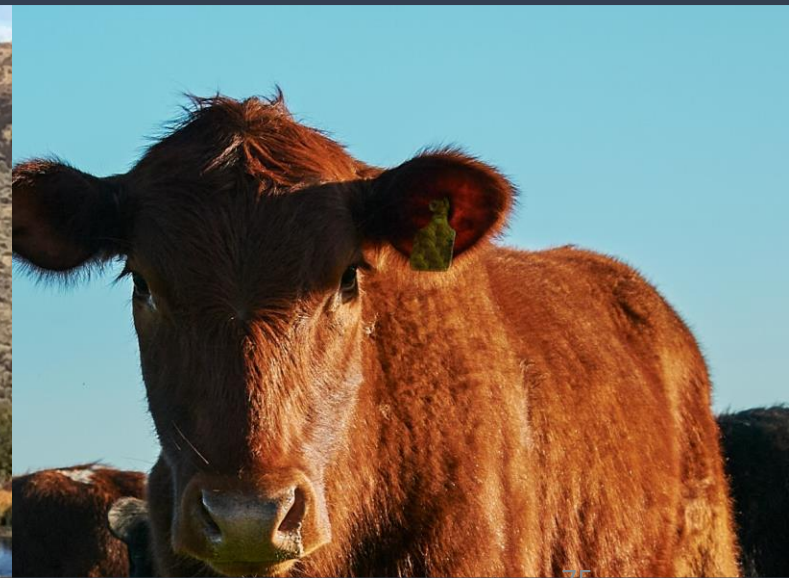
1,734,615 acres

~26%

12.2% of the Region



Go Live



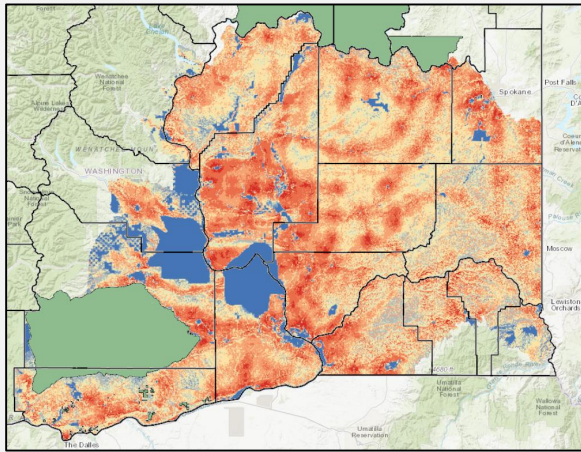
A watercolor-style painting of a landscape. The sky is a deep teal color with a large, billowing cloud in shades of yellow and white. Below the cloud, rolling hills are depicted in dark blue and purple tones, with patches of yellow and orange. In the foreground, there are silhouettes of people standing on a grassy hill with colorful flowers. The overall style is artistic and atmospheric.

Reviewing the Draft Maps

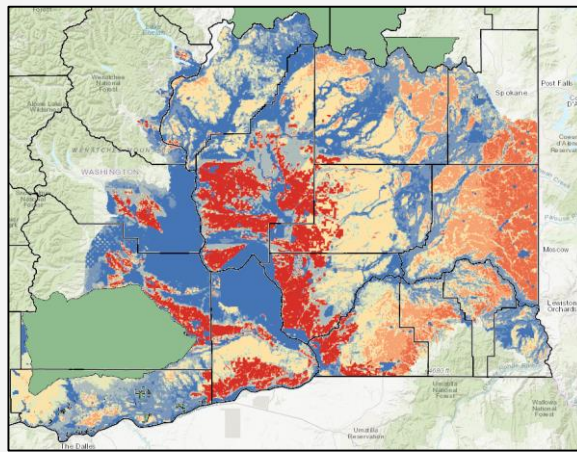
Jim Strittholt
Conservation Biology Institute

How to Review the Models and Maps

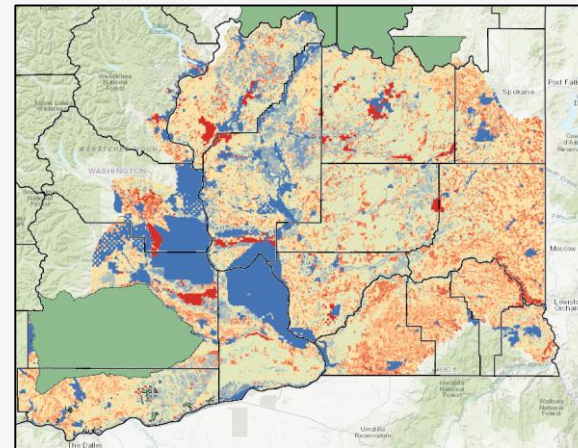
Solar Development Suitability



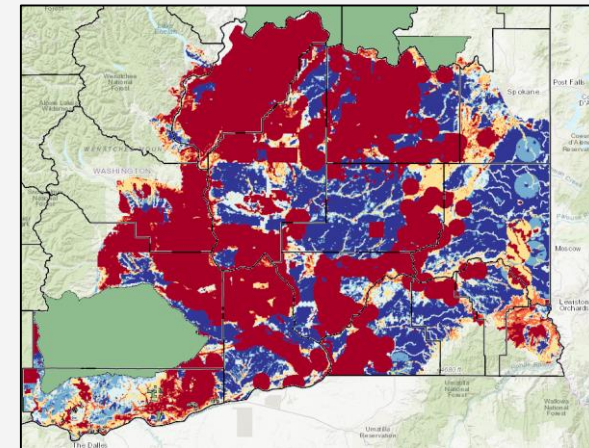
Farmland Value



Ranchland Value



Conservation Value



Washington Columbia Plateau Least-Conflict Solar Siting Gateway

<https://wsuenergy.databasin.org/>



Energy Program
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Washington Columbia Plateau
Least-Conflict Solar Siting Gateway

Search by keyword or location

powered by DATA BASIN

Get Started

Explore

Create

Community

Workspace

Led by Washington State University Energy Program, this gateway contains geospatial information and collaboration tools to assist participants in defining least-conflict utility scale solar siting in eastern Washington with the goal of achieving state climate goals while minimizing negative impacts on natural and working lands. [Learn more...](#)



Energy &
Transmission



Environmental
Conservation



Land Use &
Socioeconomics




Agriculture &
Ranchlands



Physical
Environment



Step 1: Create Your Private Data Basin Account



Energy Program
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Washington Columbia Plateau
Least-Conflict Solar Siting Gateway

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LEAST-CONFLICT SOLAR SITING

Creating a Data Basin membership account is **free**. Your account will connect you with networks of spatially inspired people, expansive and scientifically-credible datasets, tools to support your exploration, customization, & communication, and educational resources & materials.

Data Basin is an evolving site. Watch for new changes all the time, as we grow and adapt to better meet the needs of our community.

Set up a free account today.





I am human



hCaptcha
Privacy - Terms

Sign Up

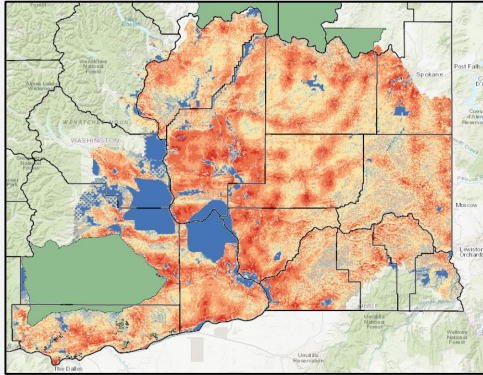
Or sign up using:

- 
Google
- 
Facebook
- 
Yahoo!
- 
via USGS



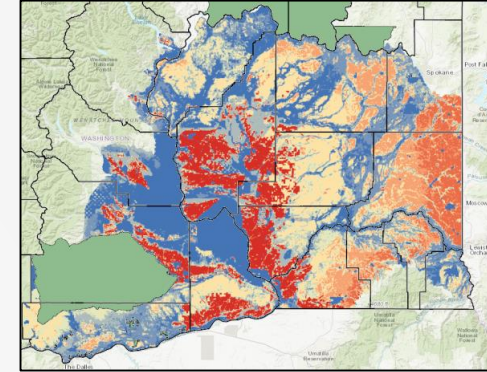
Step 2: Select the Map You Wish to Review

Solar Development Suitability



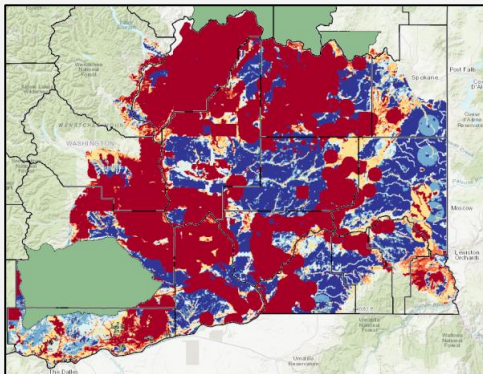
<https://wsuenergy.databasin.org/maps/726e6e26f5f54a9c9b99aac6de23538/active/>

Farmland Value



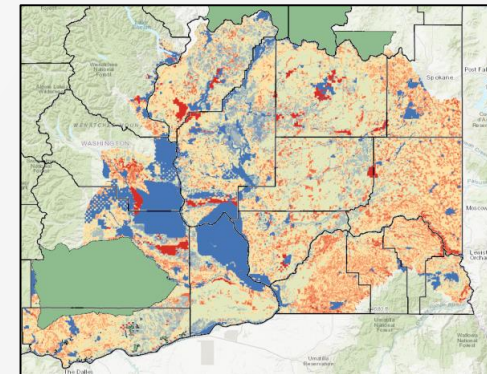
<https://wsuenergy.databasin.org/maps/6b45a1560c3640e388f18626b7e8810d/active/>

Conservation Value



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

Ranchland Value



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

Step 3: Open EEMS Explorer Window

The screenshot displays the EEMS Explorer software interface. The main window shows a map of Washington state with a suitability model overlay. The model is titled "Model: WCP EEMS - High Solar Development Suitability V6.0". The map uses a color scale to represent suitability values, ranging from -1.00 (False) to 1.00 (True). The legend on the right indicates the following categories:

- Washington Census County Boundaries, 2012
- Tribal Reservation and Trust Lands - Washington State
- WCP EEMS - High Solar Development Suitability V6.0
 - 1.00 -- -0.75 False
 - 0.74 -- -0.5
 - 0.49 -- -0.25
 - 0.24 -- 0
 - 0.01 -- 0.25
 - 0.26 -- 0.5
 - 0.51 -- 0.75
 - 0.76 -- 1.00 True

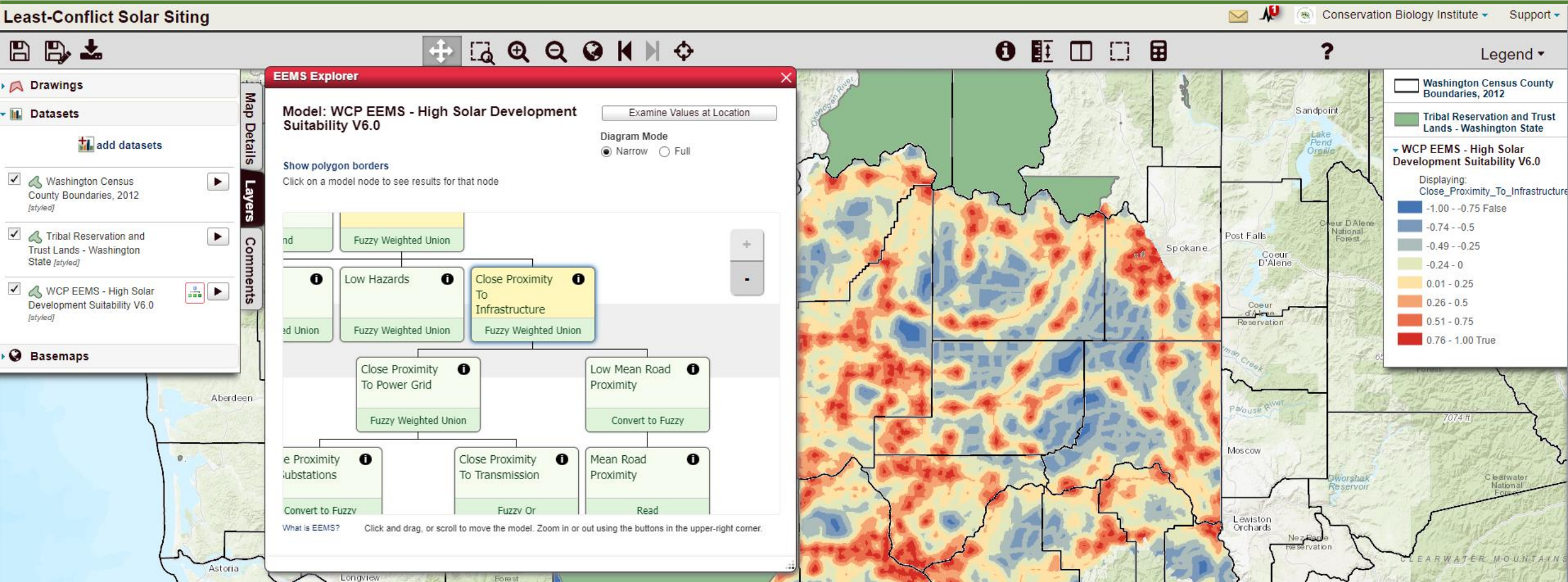
The EEMS Explorer window is open, showing a diagram of the model structure. The diagram consists of three nodes:

- High Solar Development Suitability (Fuzzy And)
- No Development Exclusions (Fuzzy And)
- High Physical Suitability (Fuzzy Weighted Union)

The diagram is titled "Diagram Mode" and has options for "Narrow" and "Full" views. The "Narrow" view is selected. The diagram is titled "Model: WCP EEMS - High Solar Development Suitability V6.0" and has a button "Examine Values at Location". Below the diagram, there is a text box that says "Show polygon borders" and "Click on a model node to see results for that node".

The interface also includes a "Basemaps" panel on the left with a red arrow pointing to the "WCP EEMS - High Solar Development Suitability V6.0" dataset. The top of the interface shows navigation and tool icons, and the bottom right corner features the Conservation Biology Institute logo.

Step 4: Review the Components that Make Up the Map



Step 5: Make General or Spatially Specific Comments

Least-Conflict Solar Siting

Conservation Biology Institute Support

Map Details Layers Comments

Add Comment

Drawing

Add Markers

Add Lines

Add Areas

Comment

Cancel Add Comment

Washington Census County Boundaries, 2012

Tribal Reservation and Trust Lands - Washington State

WCP EEMS - High Solar Development Suitability V6.0

Displaying: High_Solar_Development_Suitability

- 0.76 - 1.00 True
- 0.51 - 0.75
- 0.26 - 0.50
- 0.01 - 0.25
- 0.24 - 0.00
- 0.49 - -0.25
- 0.74 - -0.50
- 1.00 - -0.75 False



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



Least-Conflict Solar Siting

5-minute Break



Please return at 11:35 am



*Yakima Canyon
Photo credit: Victoria Ditovsky*

A watercolor painting of a landscape. The sky is a deep teal color with a large, billowing cloud in shades of yellow and white. Below the cloud, rolling hills are depicted in dark blue and purple tones, with patches of yellow and orange. In the foreground, there are green hills with purple and yellow flowers, and several small black silhouettes of people standing on a ridge. The overall style is expressive and artistic.

Small Group Discussions: Observations and Insights

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

Observations and Insights - Gladwin | Gathering 3 - April 12, 2023

1/2

Share

Set background Clear frame


**WSU Least-conflict Solar Siting Project | Gathering 3
Participant Observations and Insights
of the Draft Least Conflict Maps**

Use sticky notes to document your observations of the draft composite maps.

The Jamboard interface features a top navigation bar with a title, a page indicator (1/2), and a share button. Below the navigation bar is a toolbar with icons for navigation and editing. The main workspace contains a title box, a map of solar potential, and a grid of sticky notes. The map shows a geographic area with various solar potential zones, including a large green area in the west and several orange and red areas in the east. The sticky notes are arranged in a 5x3 grid.

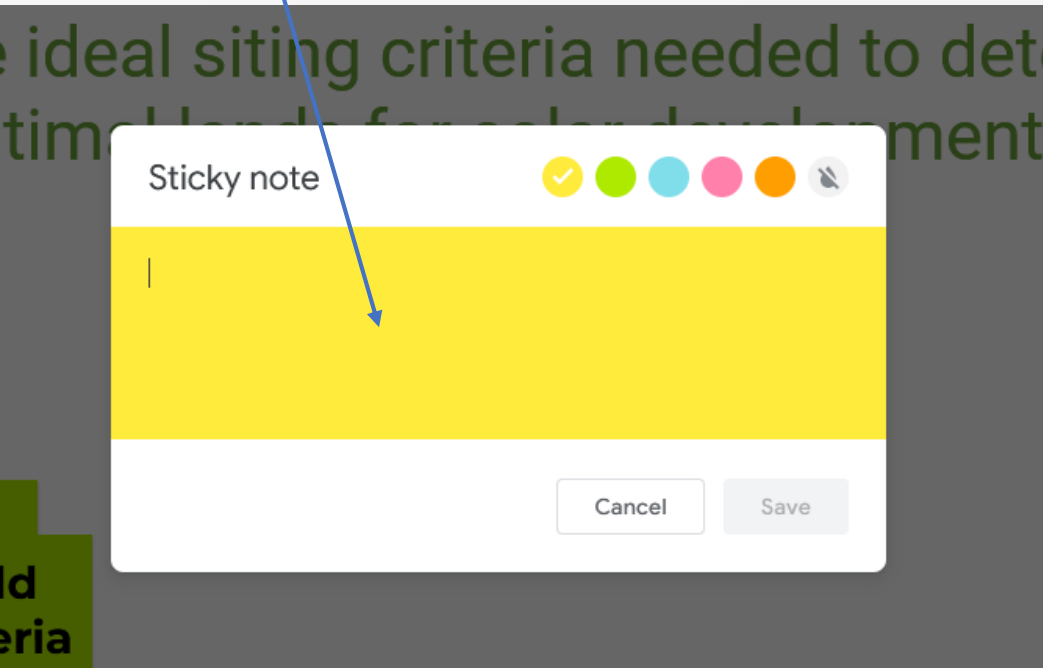
Adding Notes in Jamboard

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



The image shows a vertical toolbar on the left side of the screen. It contains several icons: a pencil, an eraser, a selection tool (arrow), a sticky note icon (a document with a folded corner), a photo icon, a circle icon, a text icon, and a zoom icon. The sticky note icon is highlighted with a blue circle, and a blue arrow points from a text box to it.

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



The image shows a 'Sticky note' dialog box. At the top, it says 'Sticky note' and has a checkmark icon and five colored circles (yellow, green, cyan, pink, orange). Below this is a large yellow rectangular area for text. At the bottom right, there are two buttons: 'Cancel' and 'Save'. A blue arrow points from the text box above to the yellow text area.

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

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

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 |

A watercolor-style painting of a landscape. The sky is a deep teal color with a large, billowing cloud in shades of yellow and white. Below the cloud, rolling hills are depicted in dark blue and purple tones, with some lighter patches of yellow and orange. In the foreground, there are silhouettes of people standing on a grassy hillside with small purple and yellow flowers. The overall style is soft and artistic.

How the Least-conflict Maps May Be Used

Moderated by Tom Beierle
Ross Strategic

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

A watercolor painting of a landscape. The sky is a deep teal color with a large, billowing cloud in shades of yellow and white. Below the cloud, rolling hills are depicted in dark blue and purple tones, with patches of yellow and orange. In the foreground, there are green hills with purple and yellow flowers, and several small black figures of people standing on a ridge. The overall style is soft and painterly.

Small Group Discussions: Participant Use Cases

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

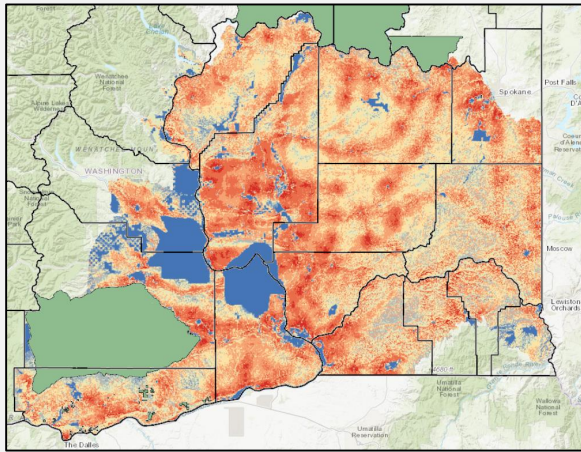


Reviewing the Draft Maps

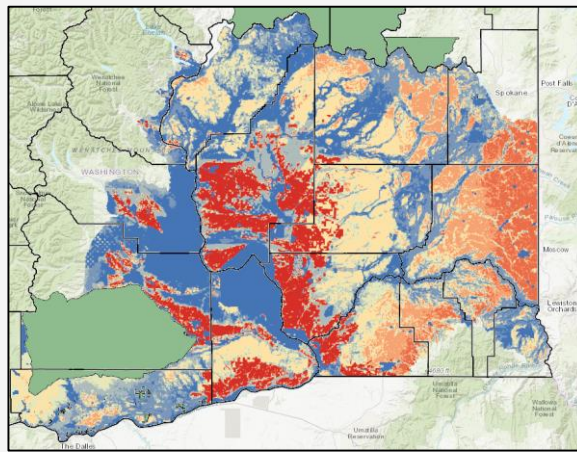
Jim Strittholt
Conservation Biology Institute

How to Review the Models and Maps

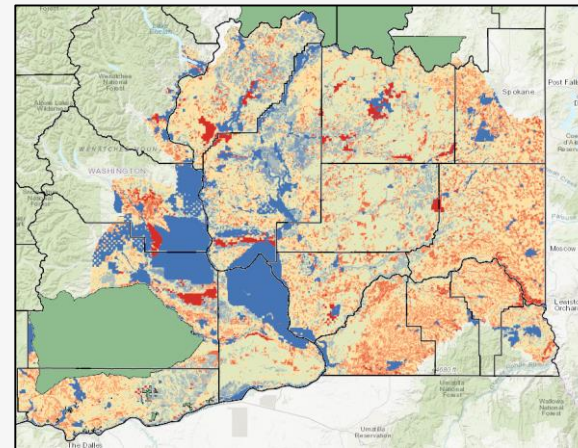
Solar Development Suitability



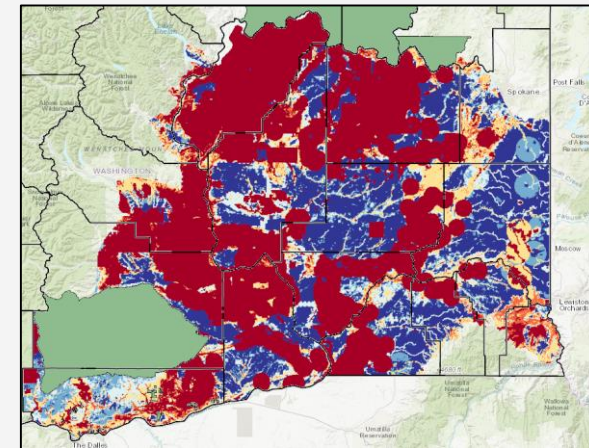
Farmland Value



Ranchland Value



Conservation Value



Washington Columbia Plateau Least-Conflict Solar Siting Gateway

<https://wsuenergy.databasin.org/>



Energy Program
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

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Data Basin is an evolving site. Watch for new changes all the time, as we grow and adapt to better meet the needs of our community.

Set up a free account today.

Username

First Name


Last Name

Email

Password

Password (again)


I am human





hCaptcha
Privacy - Terms


Sign Up

Or sign up using:


Google


Facebook

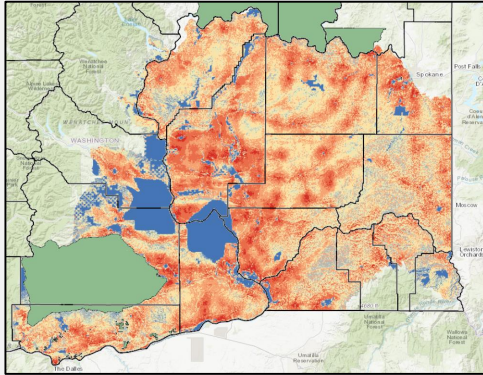

Yahoo!


via USGS



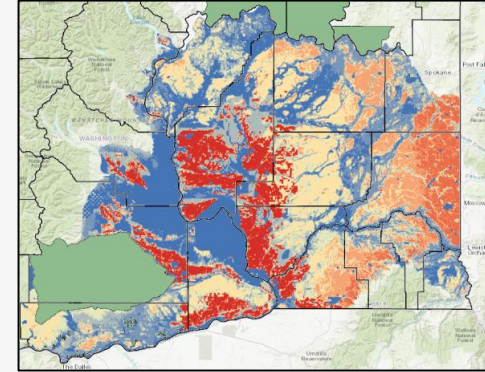
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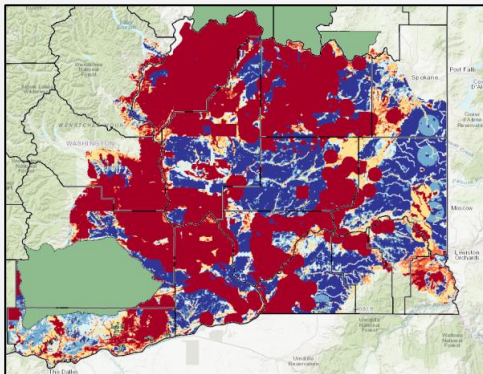
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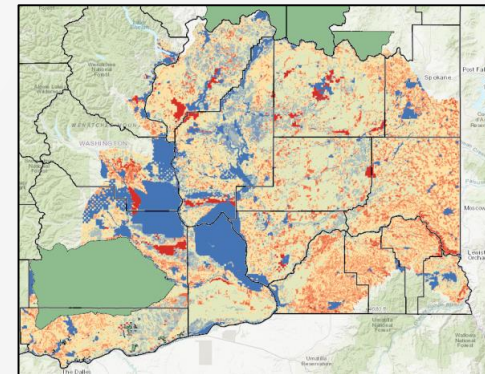
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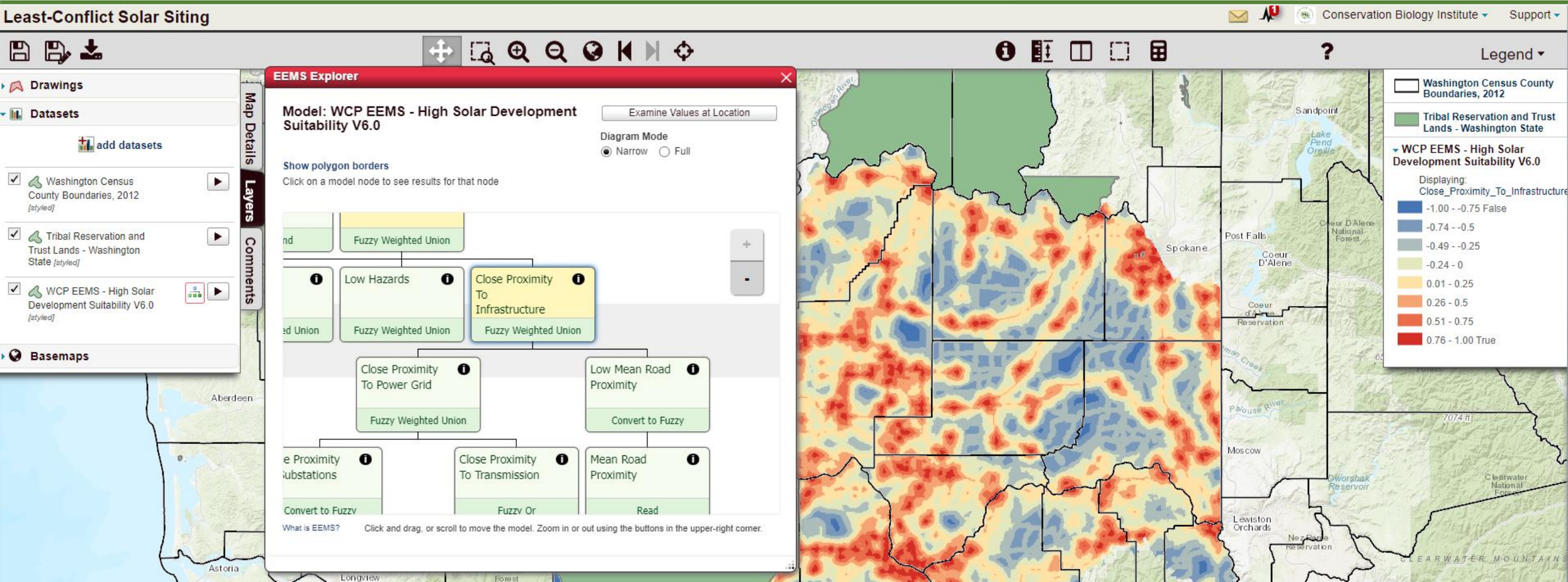
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COMPLETE COMMENTS BY FRIDAY, MAY 5th



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Meeting Wrap Up

Karen Janowitz
Washington State University Energy Program

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!

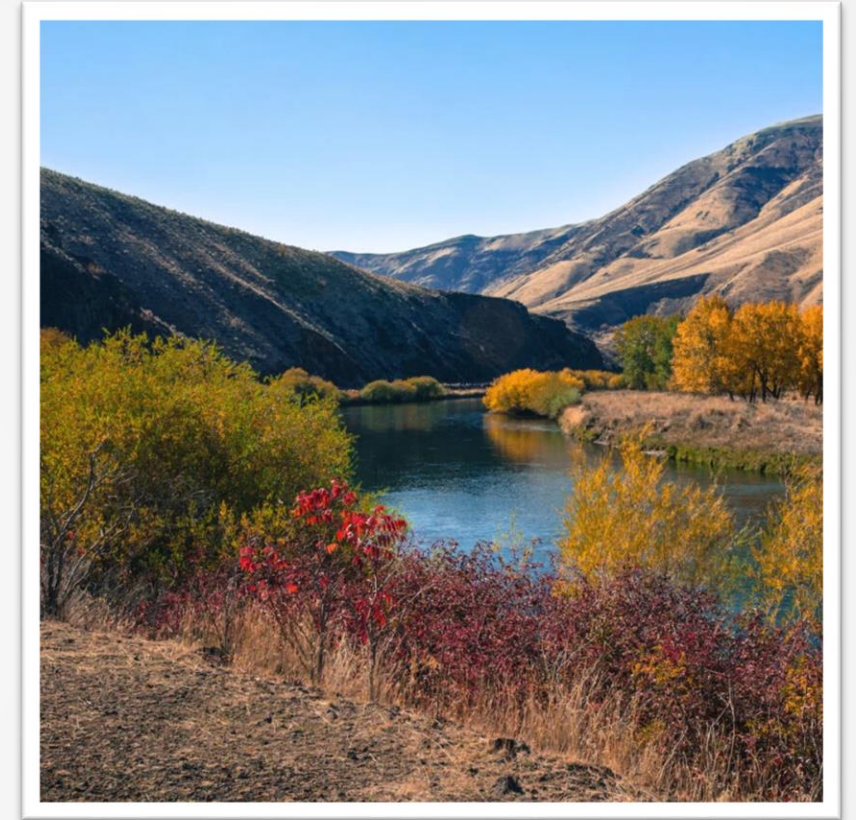
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Karen Janowitz

JanowitzK@energy.wsu.edu

Washington State University Energy Program



*Yakima Canyon
Photo credit: Victoria Ditovsky*



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
Energy Program



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
Energy Program

Least-Conflict Solar Siting on Washington's Columbia Plateau

Thank you for joining us today!

