

# Facilitating Interdepartmental Meetings within the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority

NRLI Class XVII

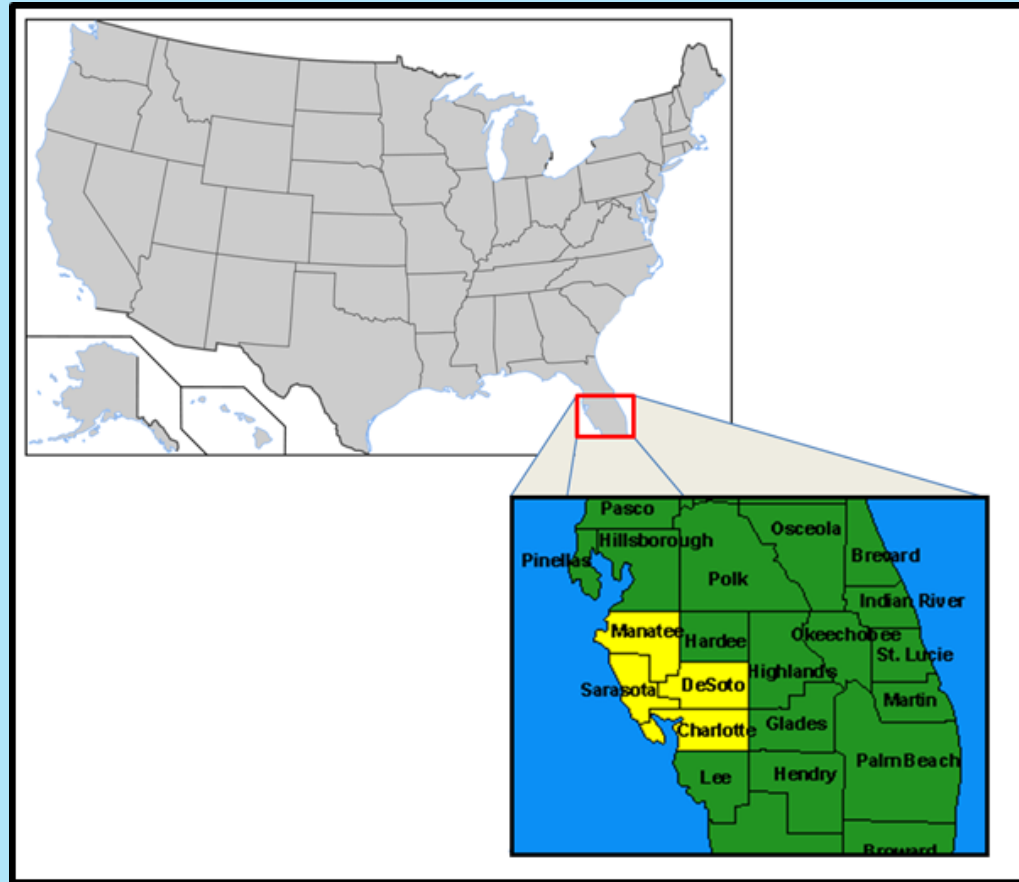
Practicum Presentation

Kevin Morris

# Background on the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority

# Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority

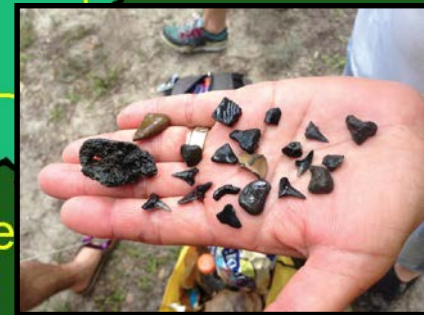
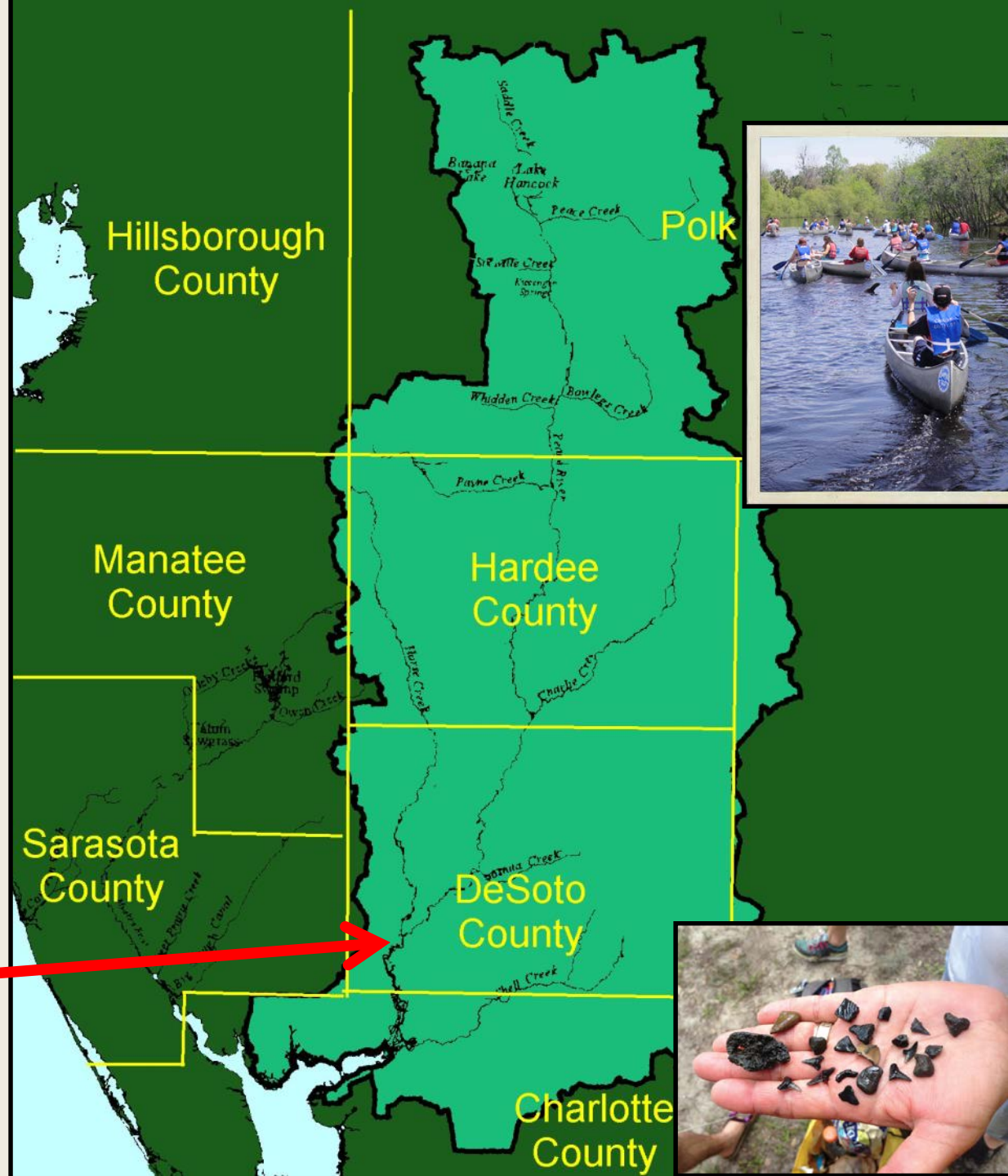
- 4 member counties
- We are a wholesale potable water supplier to local governments



# Peace River Drainage Basin



Location of  
Peace River  
Facility





# 120 MGD River Intake Pump Station

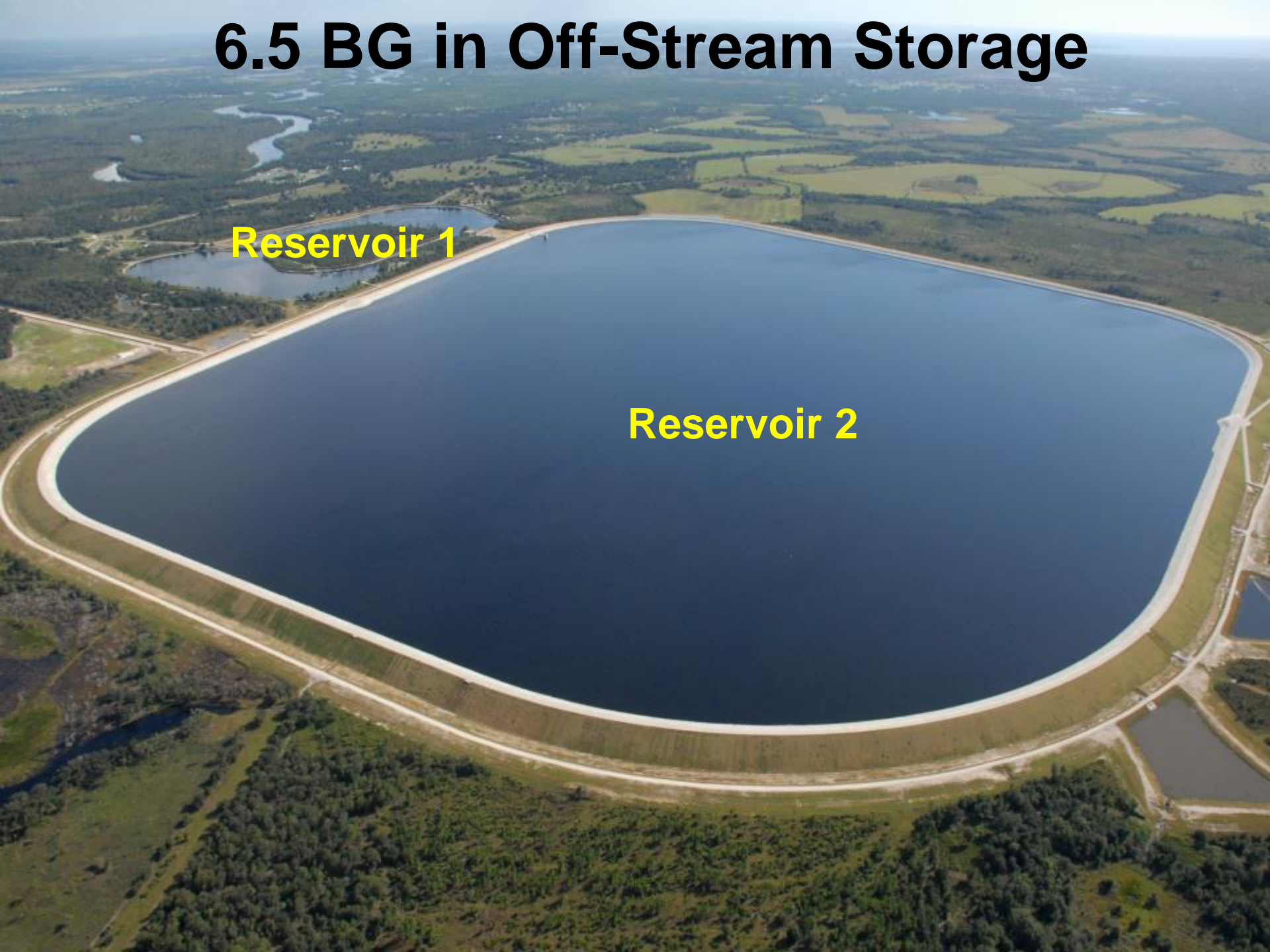




# 6.5 BG in Off-Stream Storage

**Reservoir 1**

**Reservoir 2**





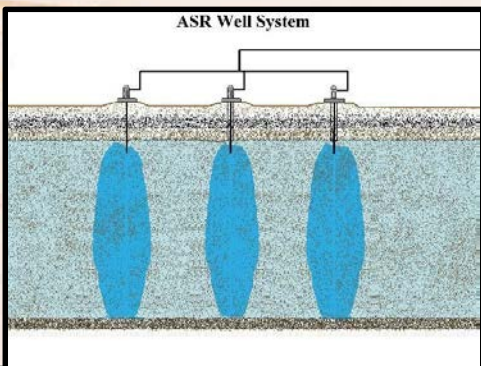


**51 MGD  
Treatment  
Capacity**



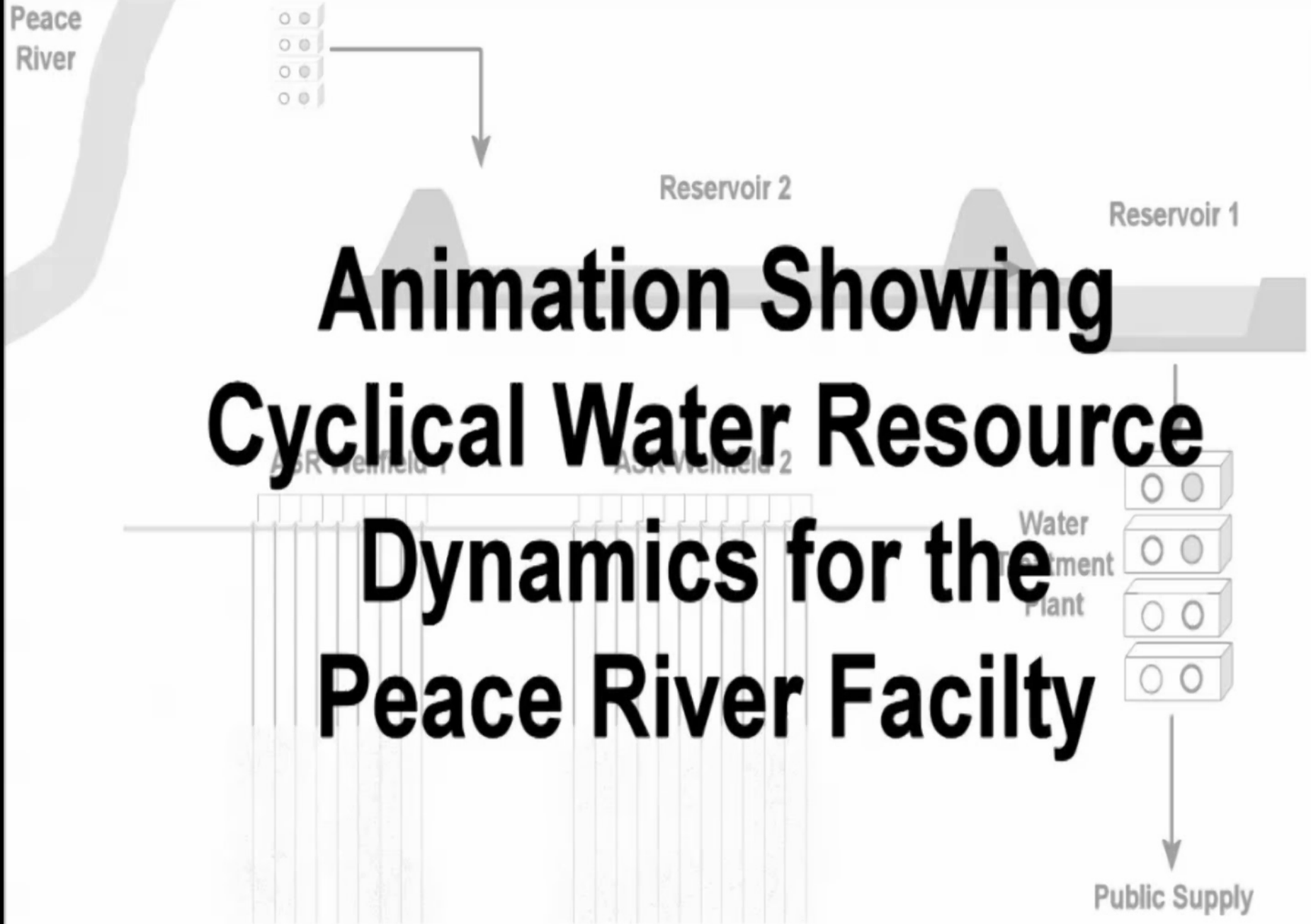
# 7 BG in Underground Storage

## 21 Finished Water ASR Wells

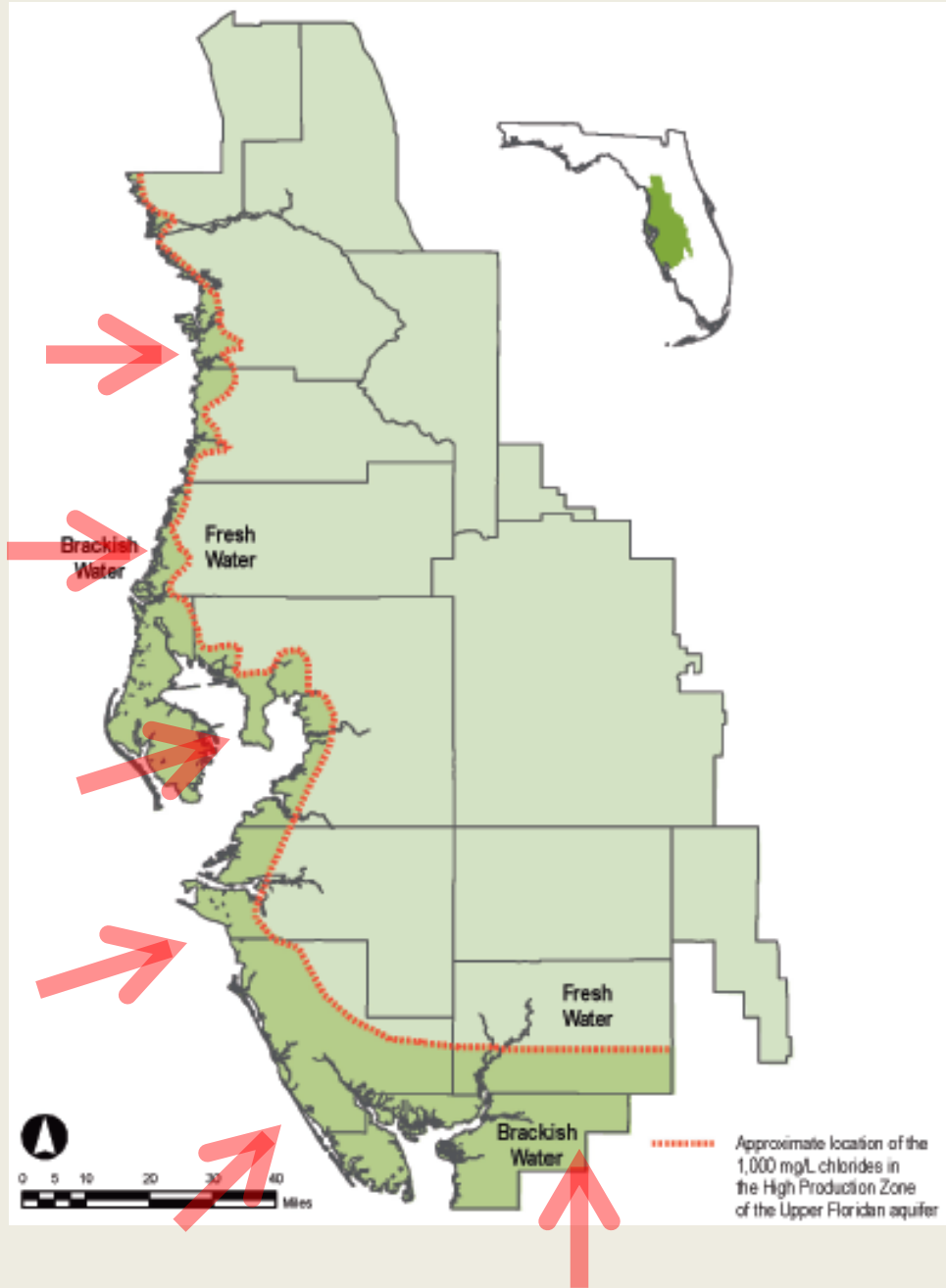




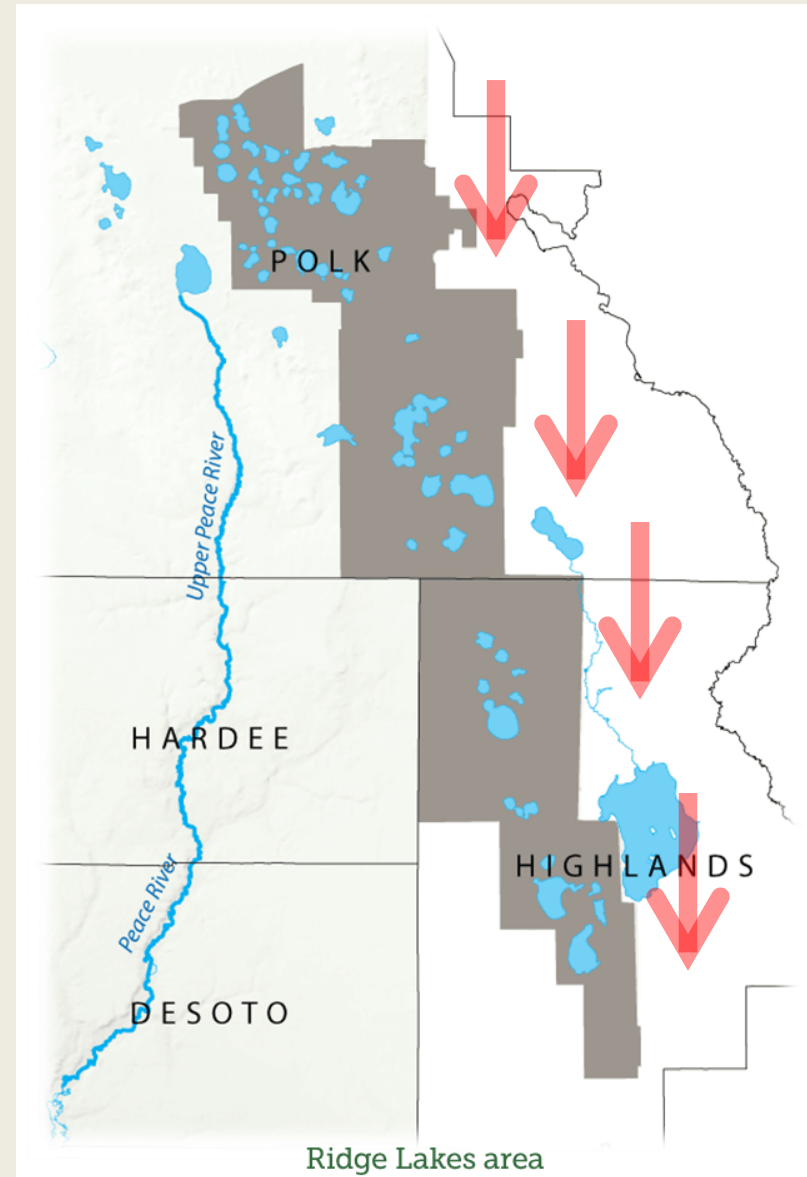
# Animation Showing Cyclical Water Resource Dynamics for the Peace River Facility



# Coastal Salt Water Intrusion

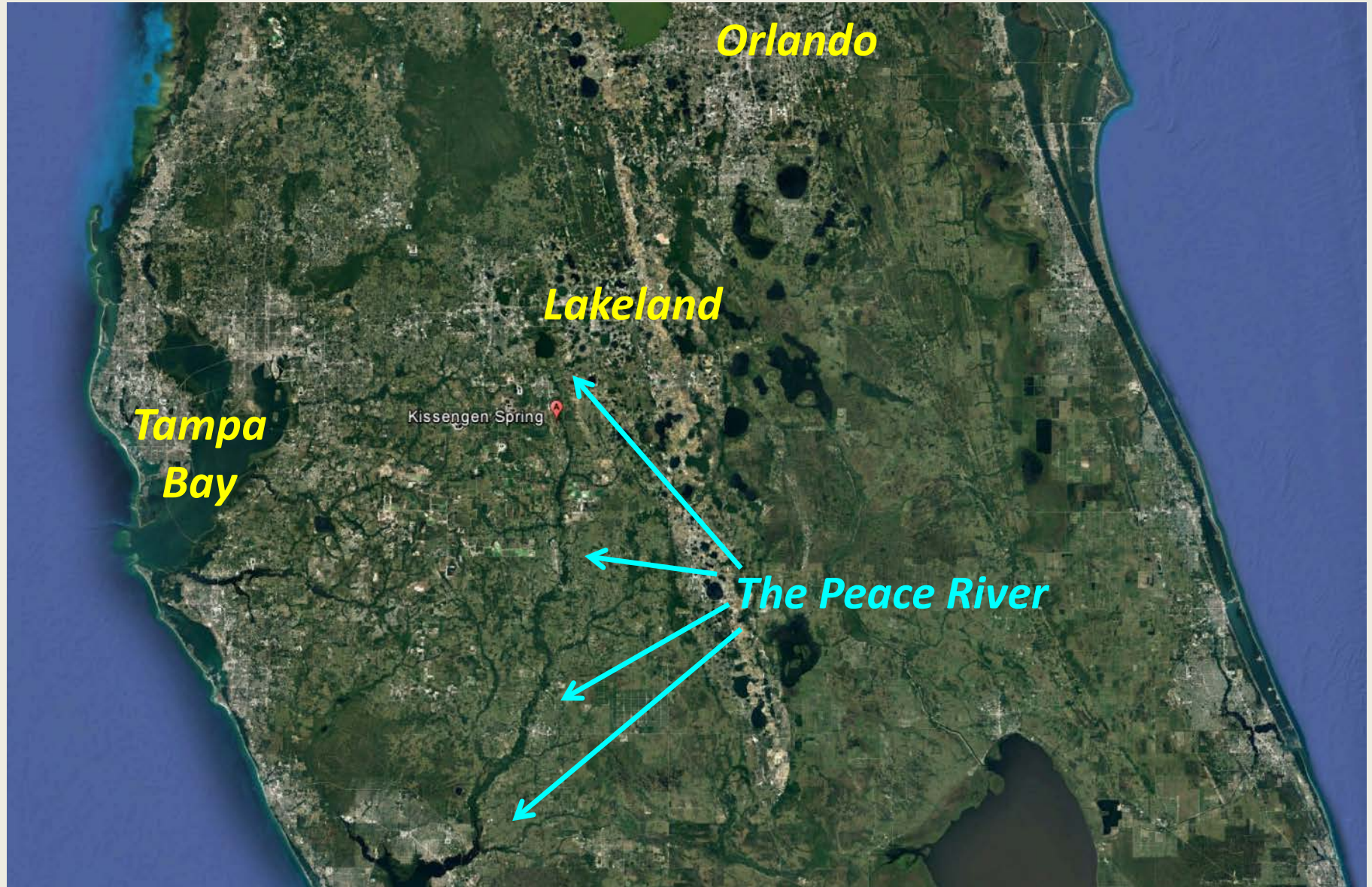


# Declining Lake Levels Inland





# Kissengen Spring Used to Flow Into the Peace River





# Kissingen Spring Bartow, FL



- 2<sup>nd</sup> magnitude
- 200' wide pool
- 17' deep



*a corner of Kissingen Spring 1894*



# Kissingen Spring today





# **Karst Features Hydraulically Connect Surface and Ground Waters along the Peace River.**





**In the Past these Karst Features would supplement river flow during times of drought.**







**But because groundwater levels are lowered, during droughts the upper Peace River can go completely dry**

*Picture from FDEP's "Florida's Water" webpage*



*Picture by Sam Stone during 2000-1 drought*





**Figure 7-17.**  
Peace River flowing into  
sinkhole near Bartow  
Wastewater Treatment  
Plant, May 2001.



**Figure 7-5.**  
Excessive groundwater  
withdrawals and  
hydrologic alteration  
from urban, agricultural  
and industrial  
development in the  
upper Peace River  
watershed have resulted  
in the river often  
completely disappearing  
into sinkholes or not  
flowing at all.

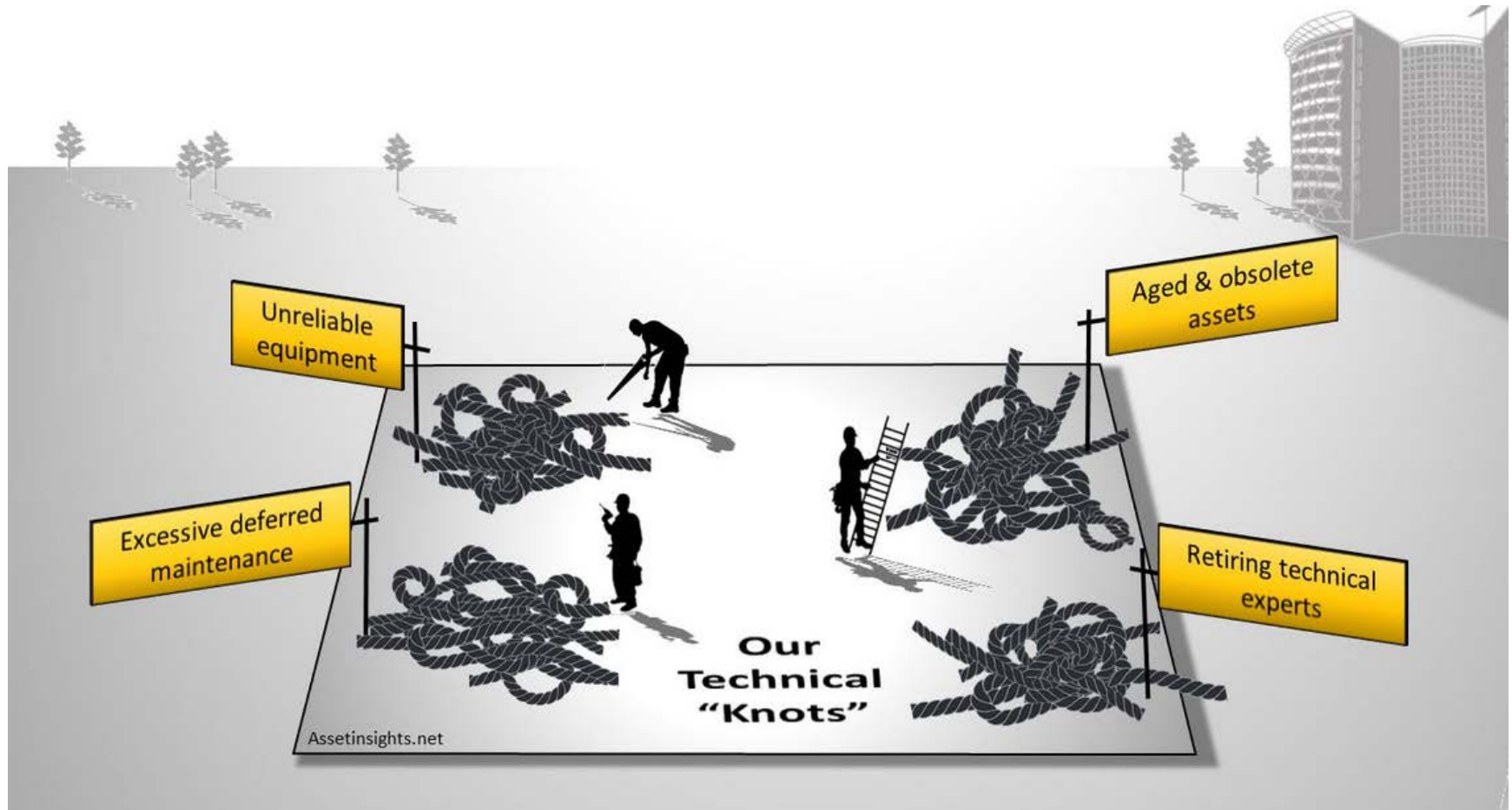


# Issue Summary

- Resistance to Collaborative Effort Created by Strong Departmental Boundaries and Rigid Home Group Allegiance
- Vertical/Functional Silos Lead to Sense of Rivalry and Unnecessary Inefficiency during Budget Preparation Process



# Major Challenges Utilities Face



# 7 Stakeholders



Accounting

Engineering

Construction

Water Resources

Operations

Maintenance

Land Management



# 7 Stakeholders



**Land Management**

Needs/Interests:

1. Wants project ideas validated/supported
2. Wants to know what others are doing/thinking, needs to feel connected

# 7 Stakeholders



**Maintenance**

Needs/Interests:

1. To be recognized for the value of the truth only they can provide
2. To insure all elements of life cycle costs are considered



# 7 Stakeholders



**Operations**

Needs/Interests:

1. To be recognized for the value of the truth only they can provide
2. To schedule major projects so that we minimize production impacts

# 7 Stakeholders



Needs/Interests:

1. Wants project ideas validated/supported
2. Wants to know what others are doing/thinking, needs to feel connected

**Water Resources**



# 7 Stakeholders



**Construction**



Needs/Interests:

1. Wants to transfer knowledge
2. Pride - close to retirement but does not want to coast, wants to feel involved

# 7 Stakeholders



**Engineering**



Needs/Interests:

1. Wants engineering challenges
2. Seeks to understand others' priorities



# 7 Stakeholders



**Accounting**



Needs/Interests:

1. Understanding how the budget is derived ensures a better defense of it
2. Seeks contextual understanding of the types of projects we do

# Techniques

- Agenda Developed
- Venue Setup
- Hard Breaks every Hour
- Snacks provided (nutritious & not so much)
- Brainstorming Encouraged
- Creativity Exercise Purposefully Programmed
- Queueing Used
- Parking Lot Used
- Active Listening Used



# Outcome

- \$60 Million Tentative Budget for FY 2019
- Process
  - Satisfy public expectations for government spend
  - Granular detail makes it more defensible
  - Cross functional team/inclusive process improves accuracy
  - Prioritized needs - fix the most important things first
- 306 individual projects identified/prioritized
- Over the next 20 years:
  - \$ 22M in R&R Projects identified
  - \$525M in CIP Projects identified

# Lessons Learned

- Automation alarms were distracting
- Should have tested new Projector bulb in advance
- Several expressed gratitude for the opportunity to talk shop with other Departments – fostered teambuilding
- Collaboration was genuinely helpful, broke down silos just a bit



# Next Steps

- Mindfully practice NRLI skills
- Look for opportunities to facilitate

The end.

Thankyou and Questions?