

# FALLON FLATS IRRIGATION PROJECT

November 29, 2021

Presented by:



# TOPICS OF DISCUSSION



FLOWS AND  
SYSTEM  
OVERVIEW



DISTRIBUTION  
ASSUMPTIONS



DISTRIBUTION  
MODEL



INTAKE / PUMP  
STATION



COST  
CONSIDERATIONS



DAWSON CO  
PRAIRIE CO

Fallon



# FLOWS AND SYSTEMS OVERVIEW

- Irrigable Acres: 15,200 Acres
- Application Rate: 8 gpm/acre (0.42in/day)
- Run time: 24 hr/day
- Irrigation Season: 145 Days (April 15 to Sept 7)
- Split up into four initial flow rates based on the % of the system that would operate at one time

Pivot Operations	GPM	CFS
100%	121,610	270.9
50%	60,805	135.5
33%	40,537	90.3
25%	30,403	67.7



# WATER RIGHTS

## Instantaneous Pivots Operations

50% Pivots

38,447 acre feet/year

33% Pivots

24,029 acre feet/year

- Estimated Based on a 145-day Irrigation Season
- Point of Withdrawal needs to be in Prairie County



# DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

## Key Hydraulic Modeling Assumptions

- Water pumped out of the river at essentially the same rate as the system is running at which is maintained by automated controls
- Pond size not significant in water delivery
- Three inches of evaporation per week assumed from Ponds
- Scenario 3 excludes ponds and assumes direct connection to pivots

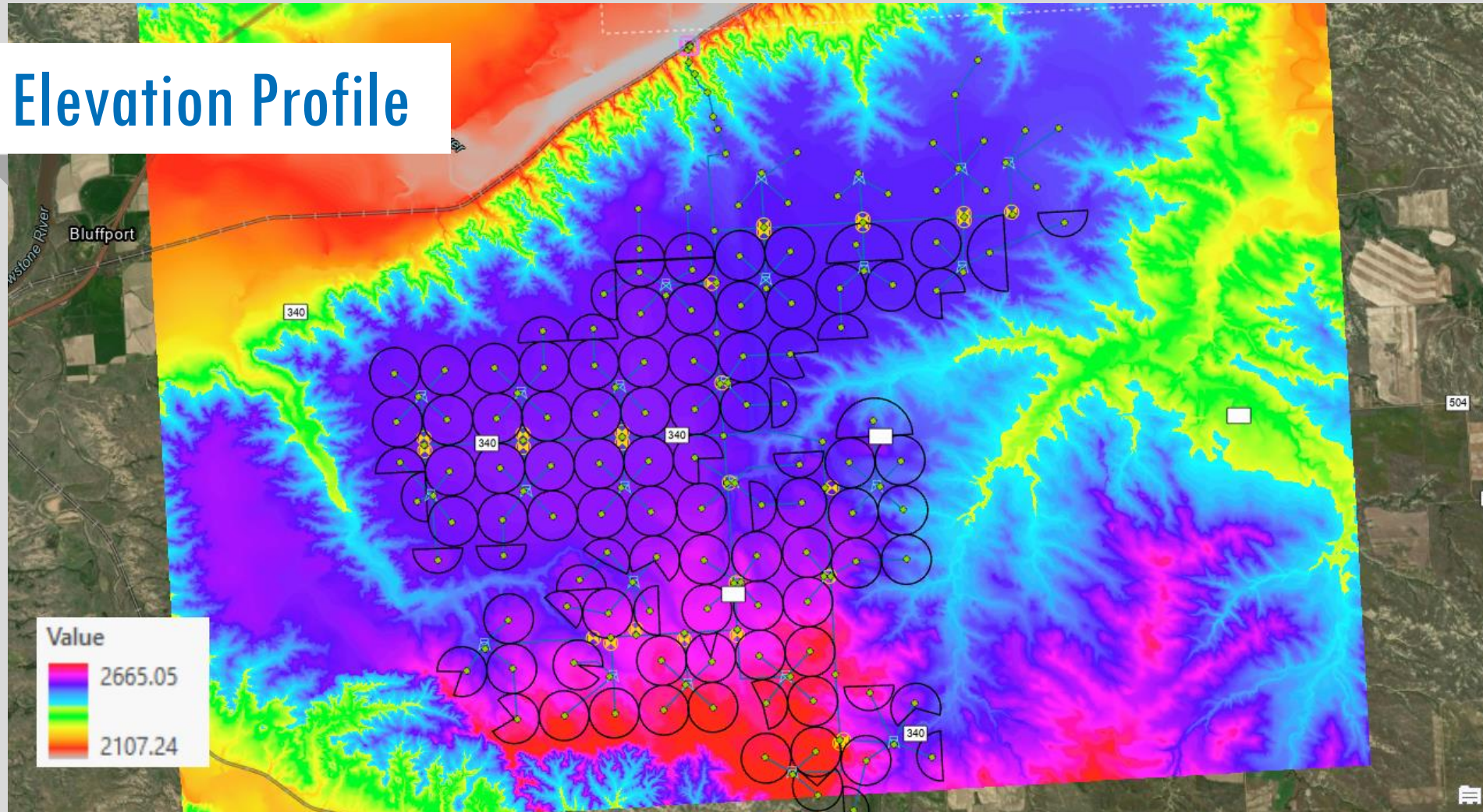


# DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

## Key Hydraulic Modeling Assumptions

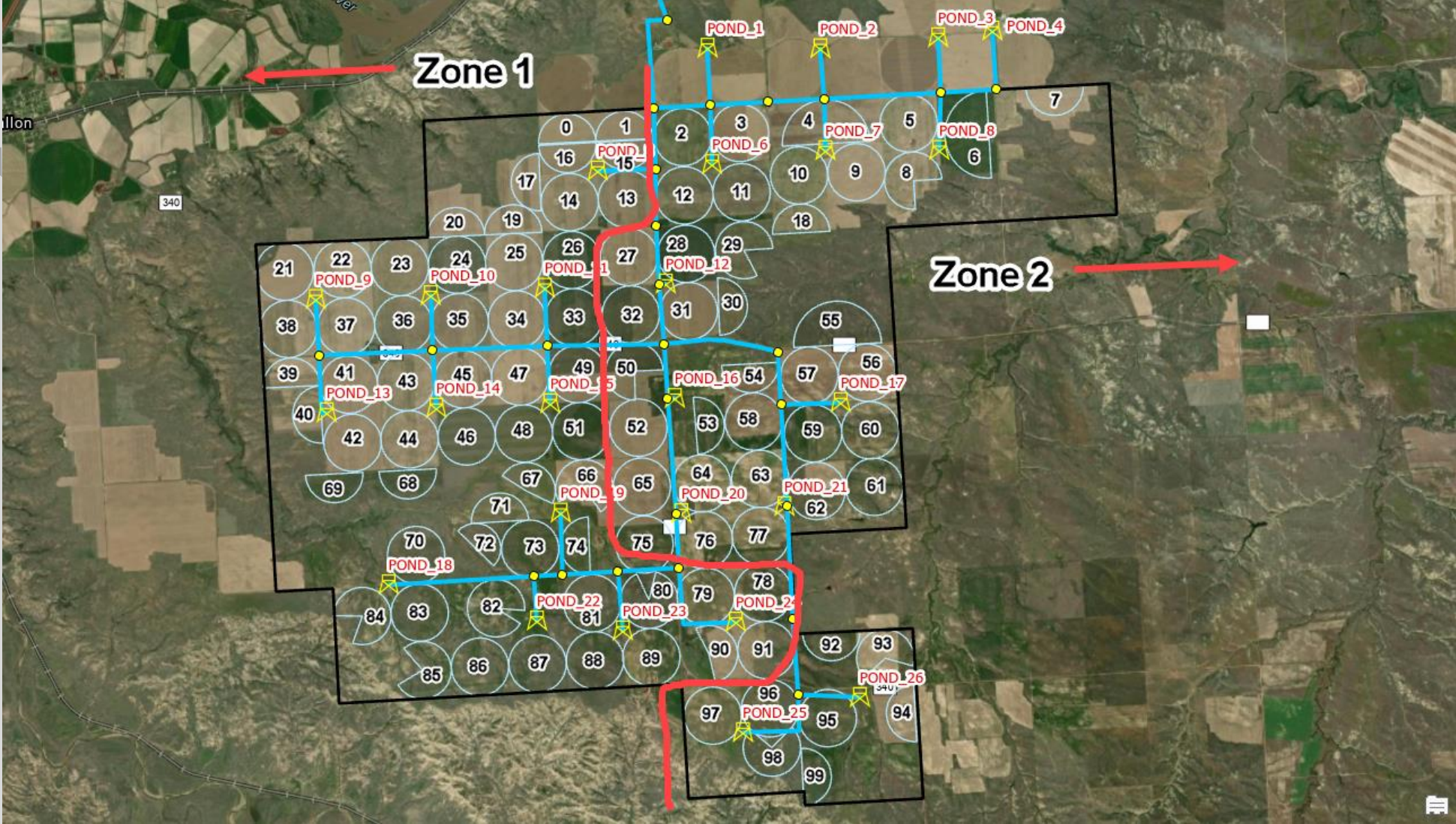
- Operations for both scenarios is:
  - 50% of the pivots irrigated at 8 gpm/acre (based on circular pivot area) for one-day to one-week intervals, then alternating with the other 50% at the selected time interval.
- Additional flow capacity allowed for leakage, and inefficiencies with automated controls.

# Elevation Profile





# Pivot Zone Operations Concept





# MODELING SCENARIOS

## SCENARIO 1

Larger Pipes and  
Smaller HP Pumps

## SCENARIO 2

Larger HP Pumps  
and Smaller Pipes

- Both scenarios evaluated effect on pond sizes, operational approaches (zonal flows), and pond fill rates



# MODELING SCENARIOS

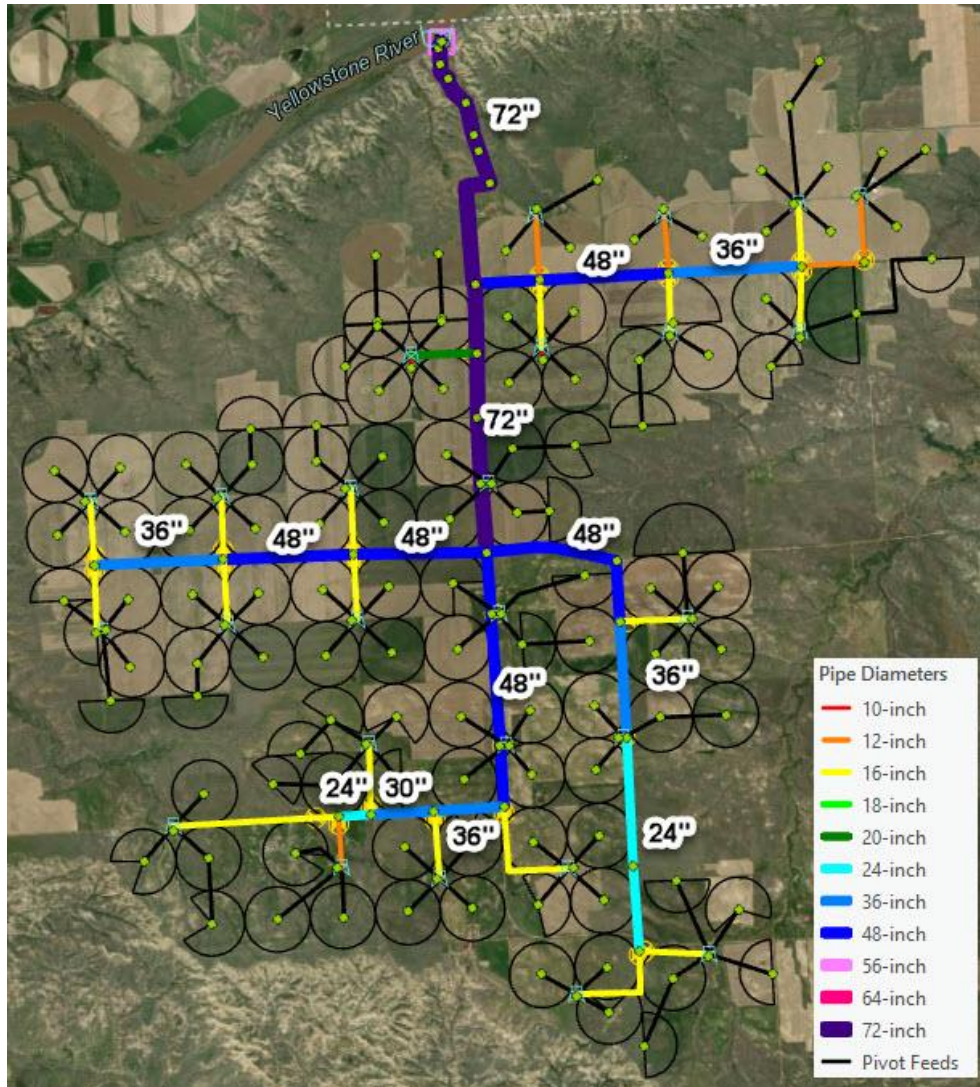
## SCENARIO 3

Smaller Pipes and  
Larger HP Pumps

- Assumes direct connection to pivots for operation, operational approaches (zonal flows), and pivot rotation
- Different pump station location upstream of Haidle Intake
- Longer pipeline distance to Fallon Flats



# SCENARIO 1 LARGER PIPES AND SMALLER PUMPS

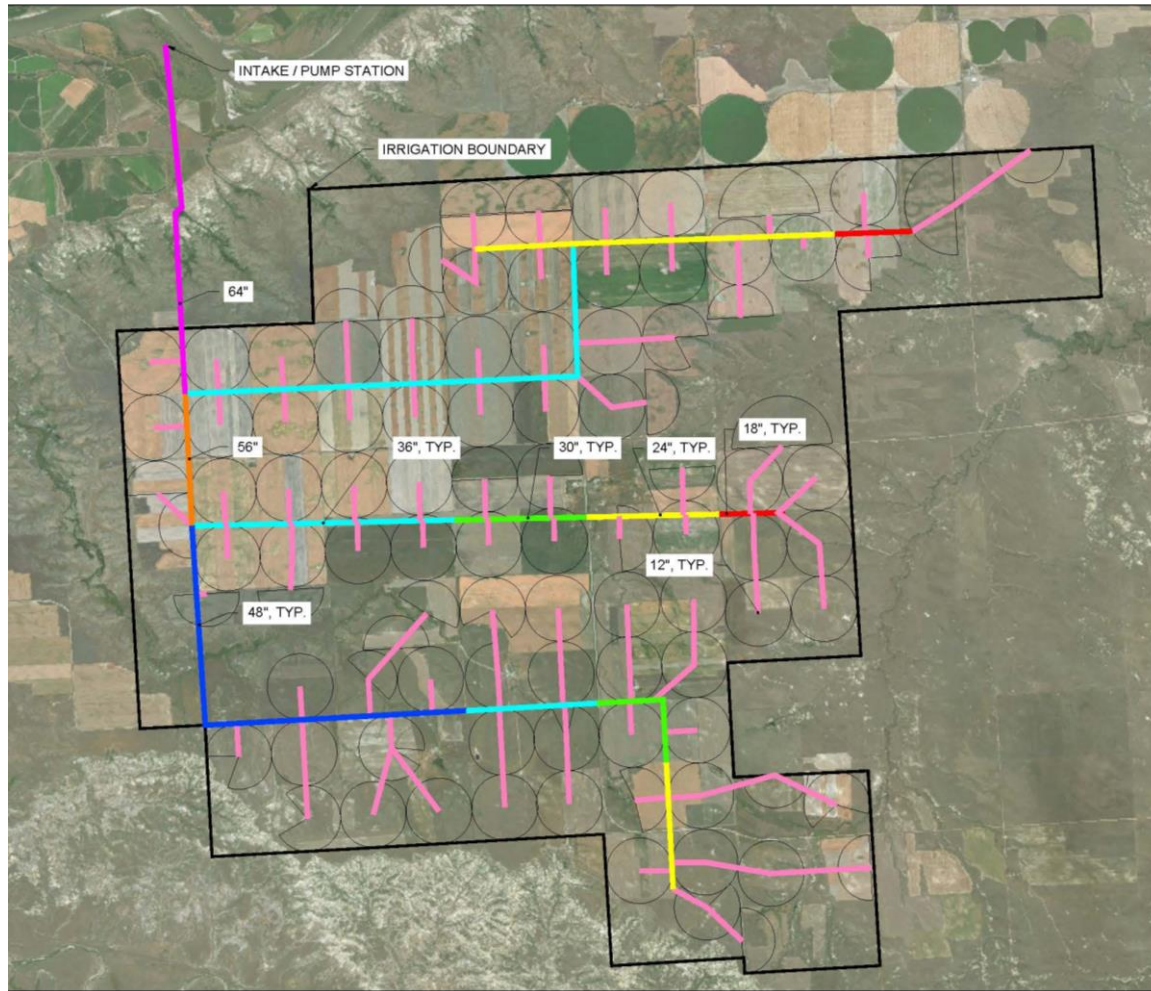


Pipe Size (inches)	Pipe Length (feet)
72	21,957
48	36,622
36	18,130
30	2,571
24	10,010
20	2,977
16	54,232
12	12,302





# SCENARIO 3 – UPSTREAM INTAKE LARGER PUMPS AND SMALLER PIPES



Pipe Size (inches)	Pipe Length (feet)
64	14,195
54	5,330
48	18,752
36	37,055
30	10,511
24	24,964
18	5,743
12	159,907



# FLOW SCENARIO NUMBERS

Scenario	Pivot Operations	Total Head (ft)	No. of Pumps	Total GPM	Total CFS	Total HP
1, Large pipe	50%	625	3	60,000	133.7	12,000
1, Large pipe	33%	625	3	37,500	83.6	7,500
2, Small pipe	50%	725	3	60,000	133.7	15,000
2, Small pipe	33%	725	3	37,500	83.6	9,000
3, Small pipe	50%	625	3	60,000	133.7	12,000
3, Small pipe	33%	625	3	37,500	83.6	7,500

- Scenario 1, 2 and 3 are looked at with 50% or 33% of the pivots running at a time



# PUMP STATION LOCATIONS AND ROUTING

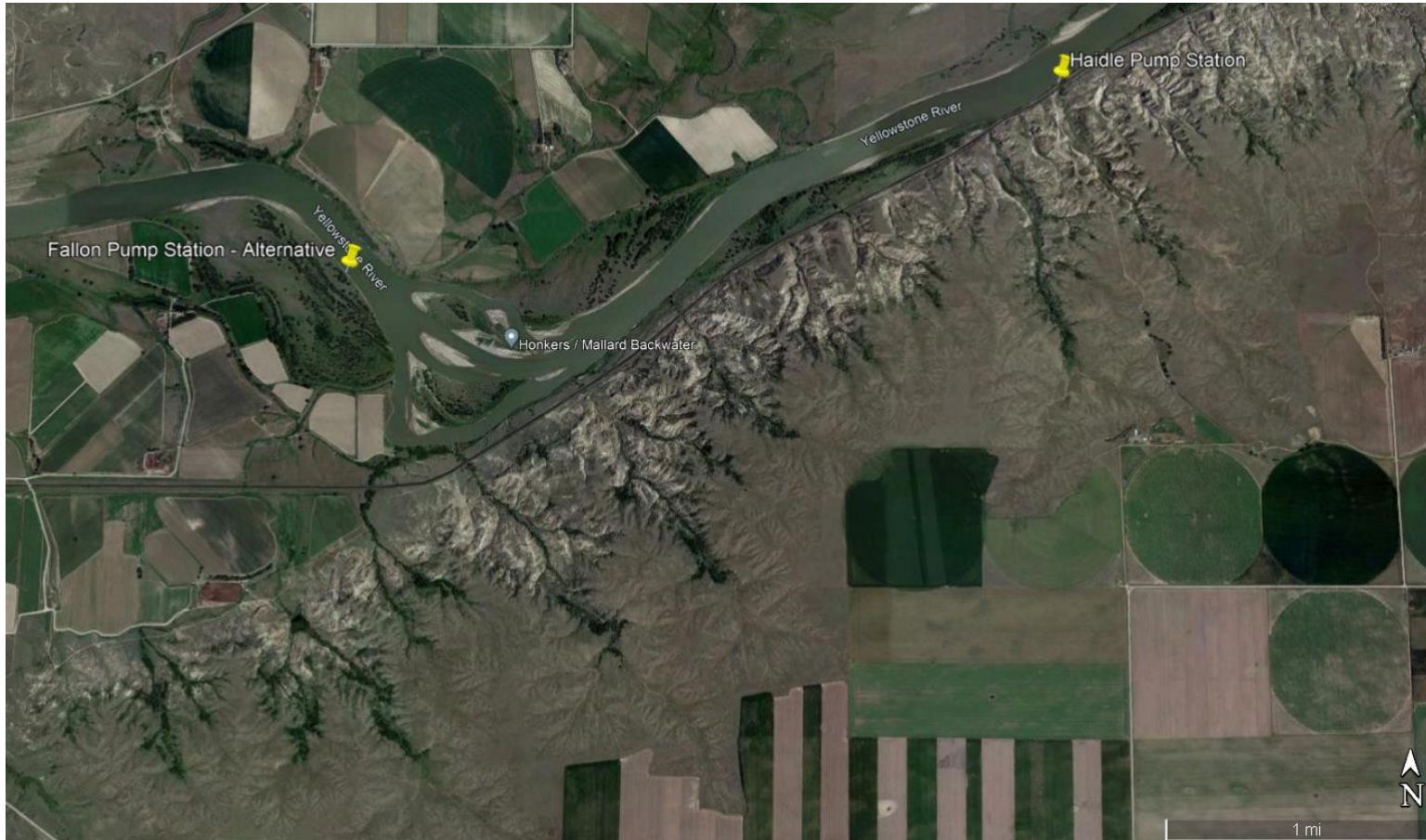


- Pump Station Location Alternatives
- Route 1
  - Shortest
  - Road Access
  - Permitting Benefits
  - Site Concerns
- Route 3
  - Longest
  - Access Concerns
  - More Permitting
- Same Pumping Requirements





# PUMP STATION LOCATIONS AND ROUTING



- Alternative 4
  - Longer overall
  - Easier Road Access
  - Permitting Benefits
  - Easier Construction
- Same Pumping Requirements



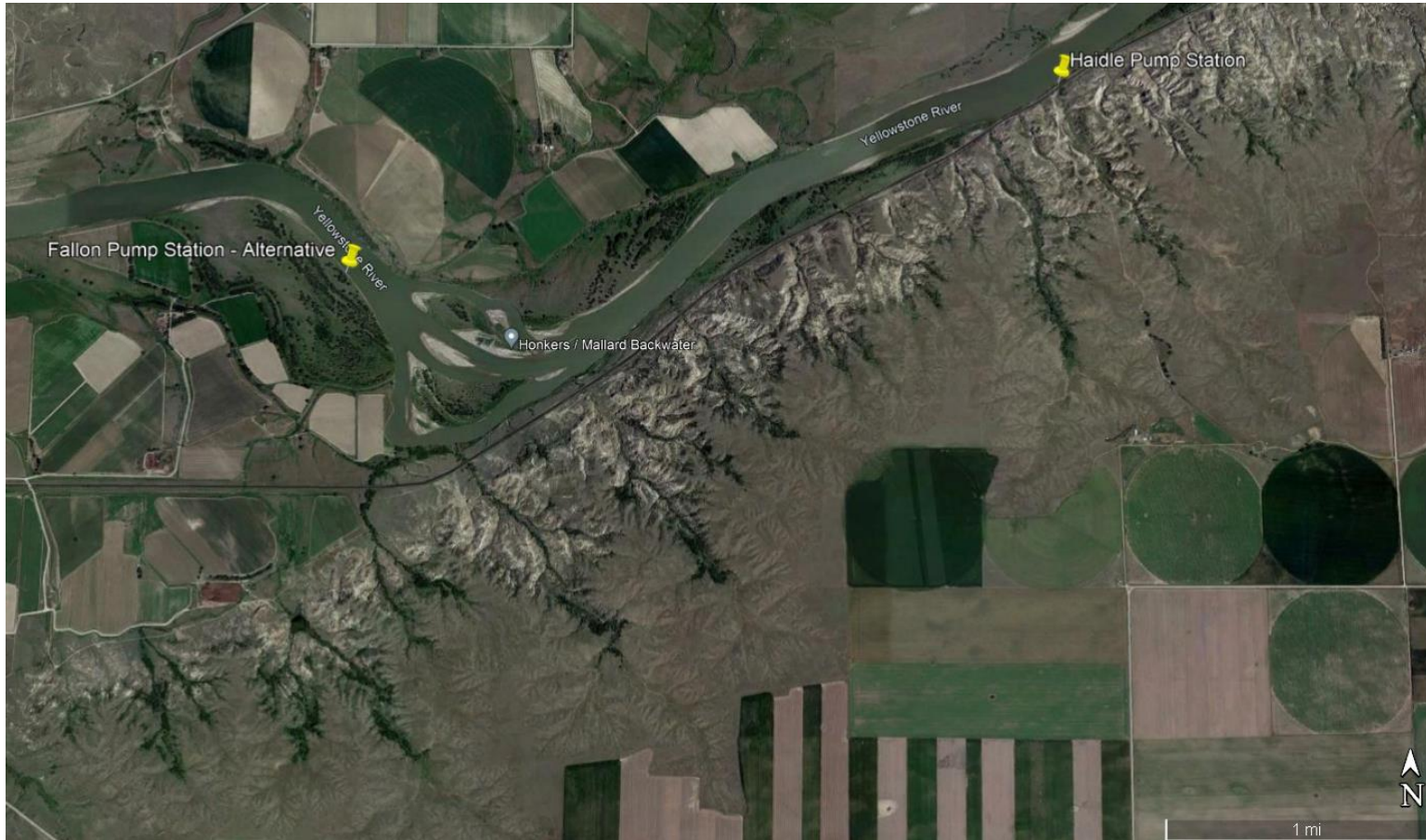
# PUMP STATION LOCATIONS AND ROUTING



- FEMA has no flood data for the area
- All routes have practically the same elevation gain
- The first 400 ft. of elevation gain takes about 55-64% of the pumping power



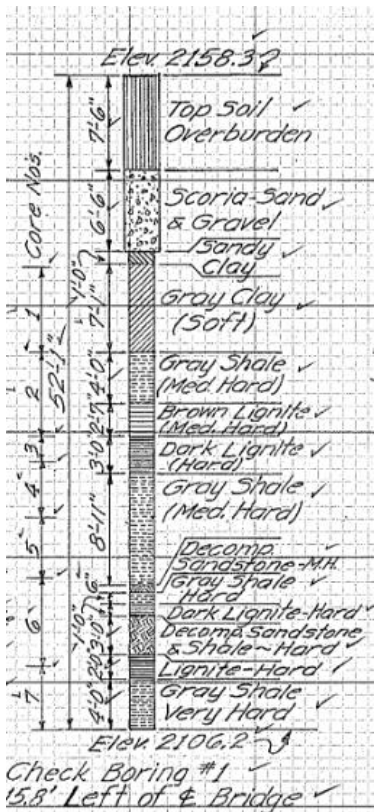
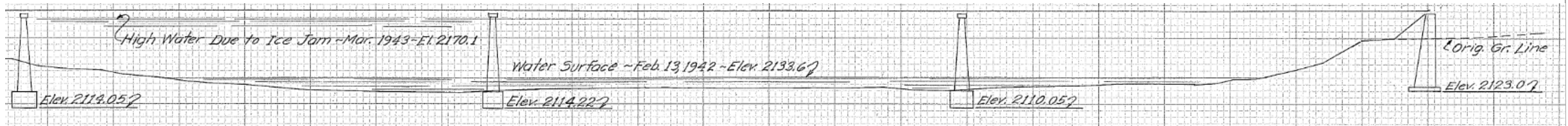
# PUMP STATION LOCATIONS AND ROUTING



- BLM owned land will add permitting difficulty with ESA
- FEMA has no flood data for the area
- Similar elevation gain to Scenarios 1 and 2
- The first 400 ft. of elevation gain takes about 55-64% of the pumping power



# RIVER INTAKE – River Bed Profile



MDT Bridge Cross Section

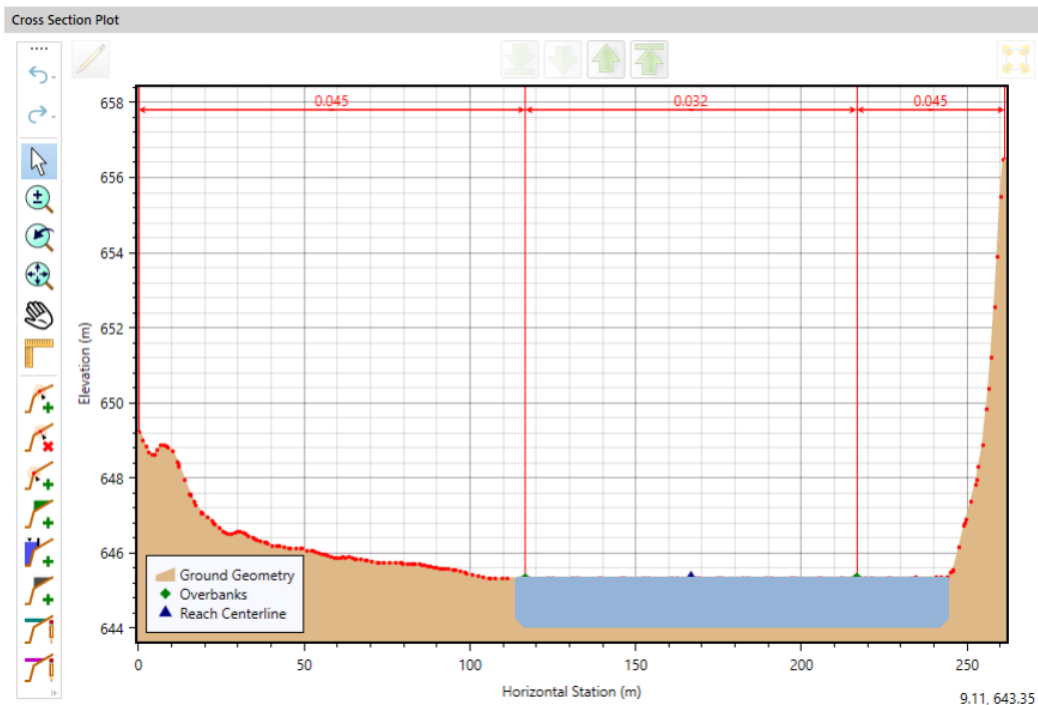
## River Conditions

- The Cross Section is looking upstream at the Yellowstone Rive Bridge north of Fallon
- The River is wider here than at the proposed intake location
- A depth of 10' or more is expected at the proposed intake location
- Sandstones and Shales are common in the area
- The Montana State Library / Yellowstone River Conservation District says that the south bank in the area is confined by sandstone

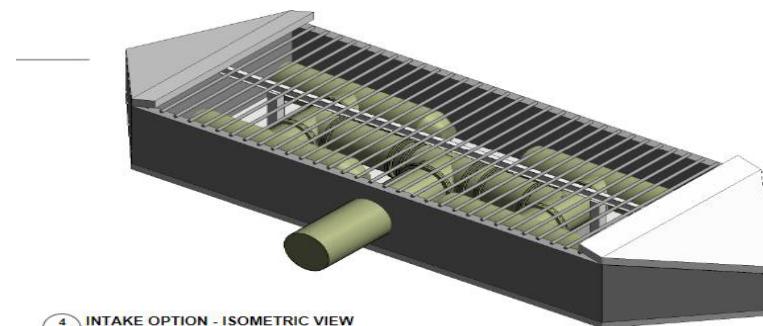


# RIVER INTAKE SCENARIOS 1 & 2

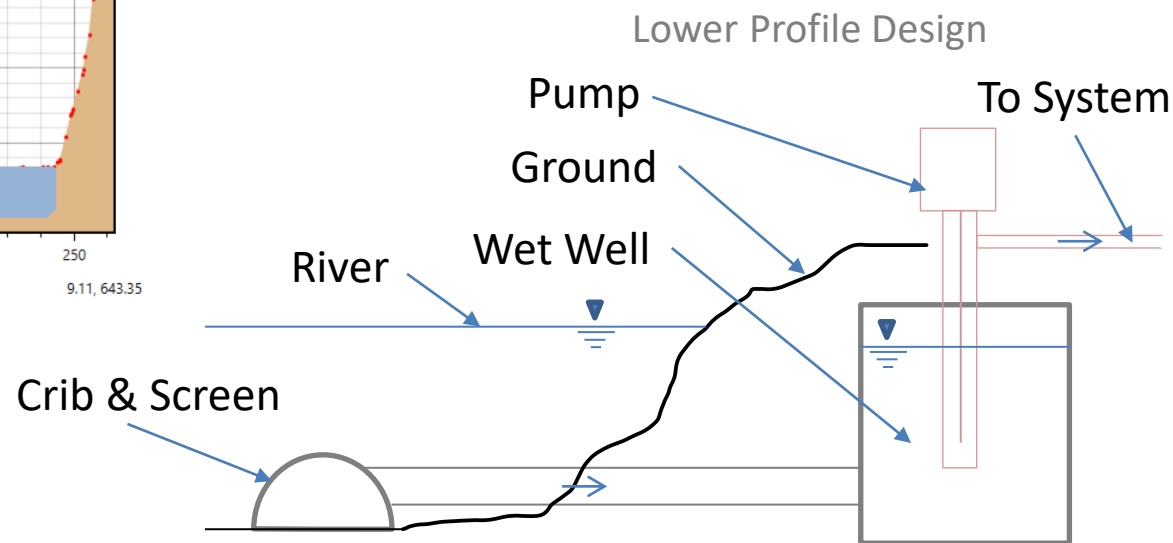
## PROPOSED CONCEPT



- Permanently installed on the riverbed in an ice flow resistant crib
- Won't pull in things floating on the surface of the river



4 INTAKE OPTION - ISOMETRIC VIEW  
SCALE: NONE





# PUMP STATION AND HYDRAULICS

## Pump Station Preliminary Design/ Concepts

- Wet well pump station
- Raised wet well pump station



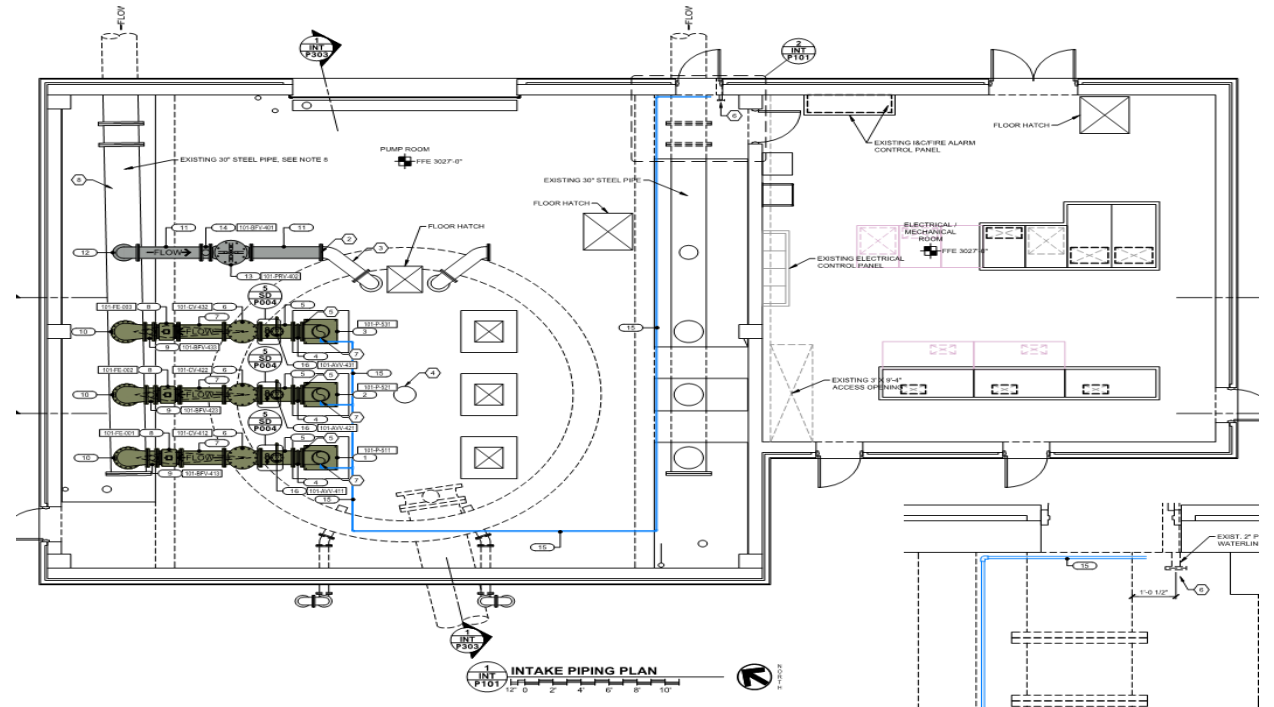
35 MGD Wet Well Pump Station Chester, MT



# PUMP STATION AND HYDRAULICS

## Pump Station Layout

- Pump house on wet well caisson
- Separate electrical rooms
- O&M benefits (bridge cranes, roof access, automation)



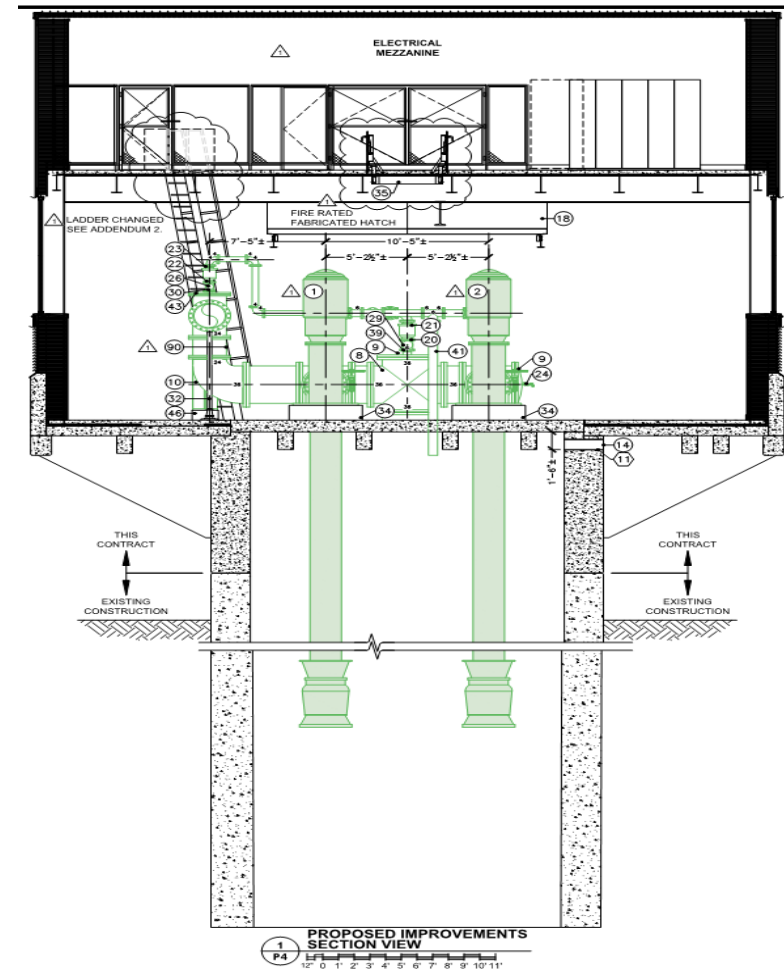
Wet Well Pump Station Layout



# PUMP STATION AND HYDRAULICS

## Pump Station Layout

- Pump house on wet well caisson
- Raised electrical rooms
- Reduced footprint

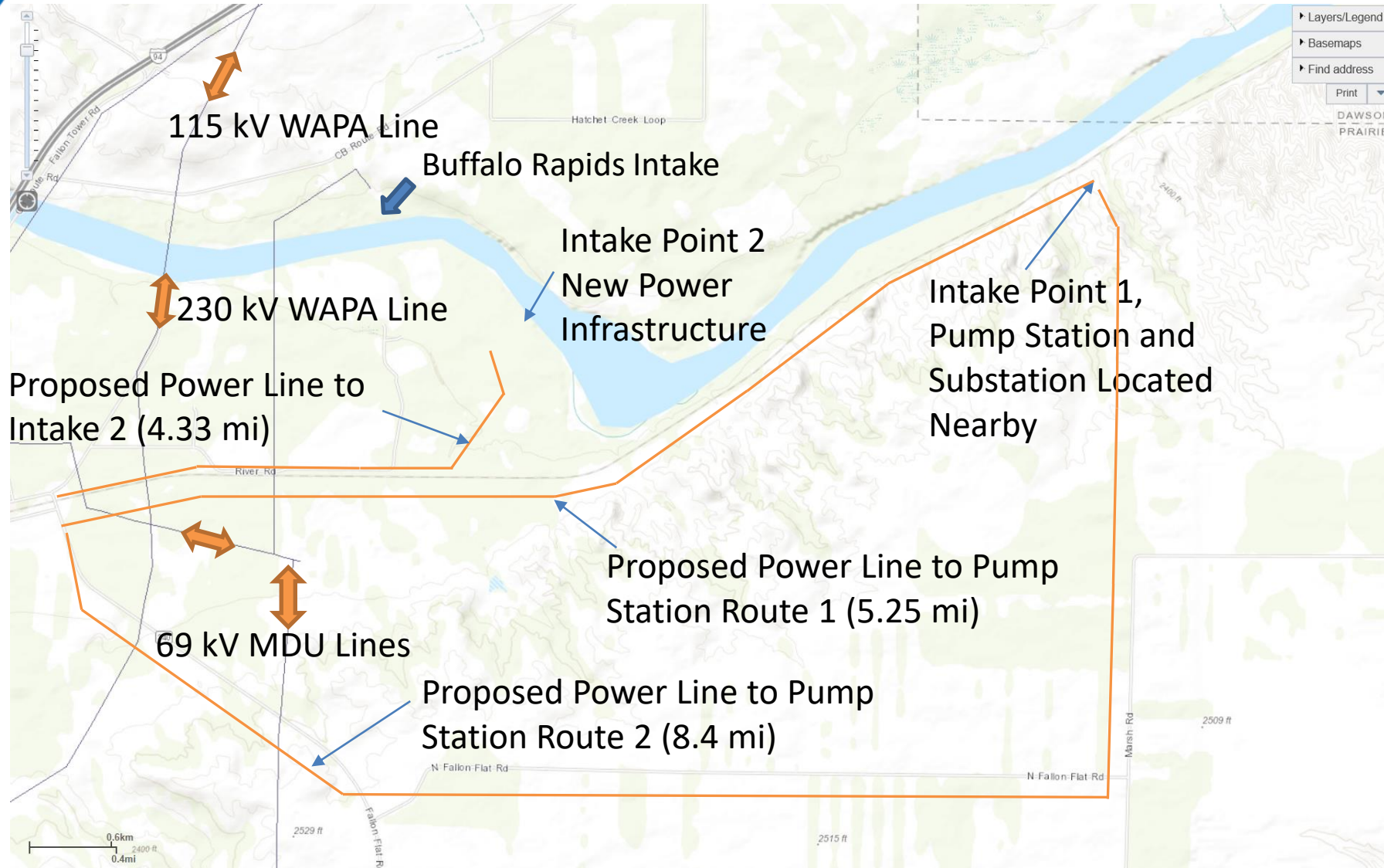


Flood Protected Wet Well Pump Station – Bismarck HCW





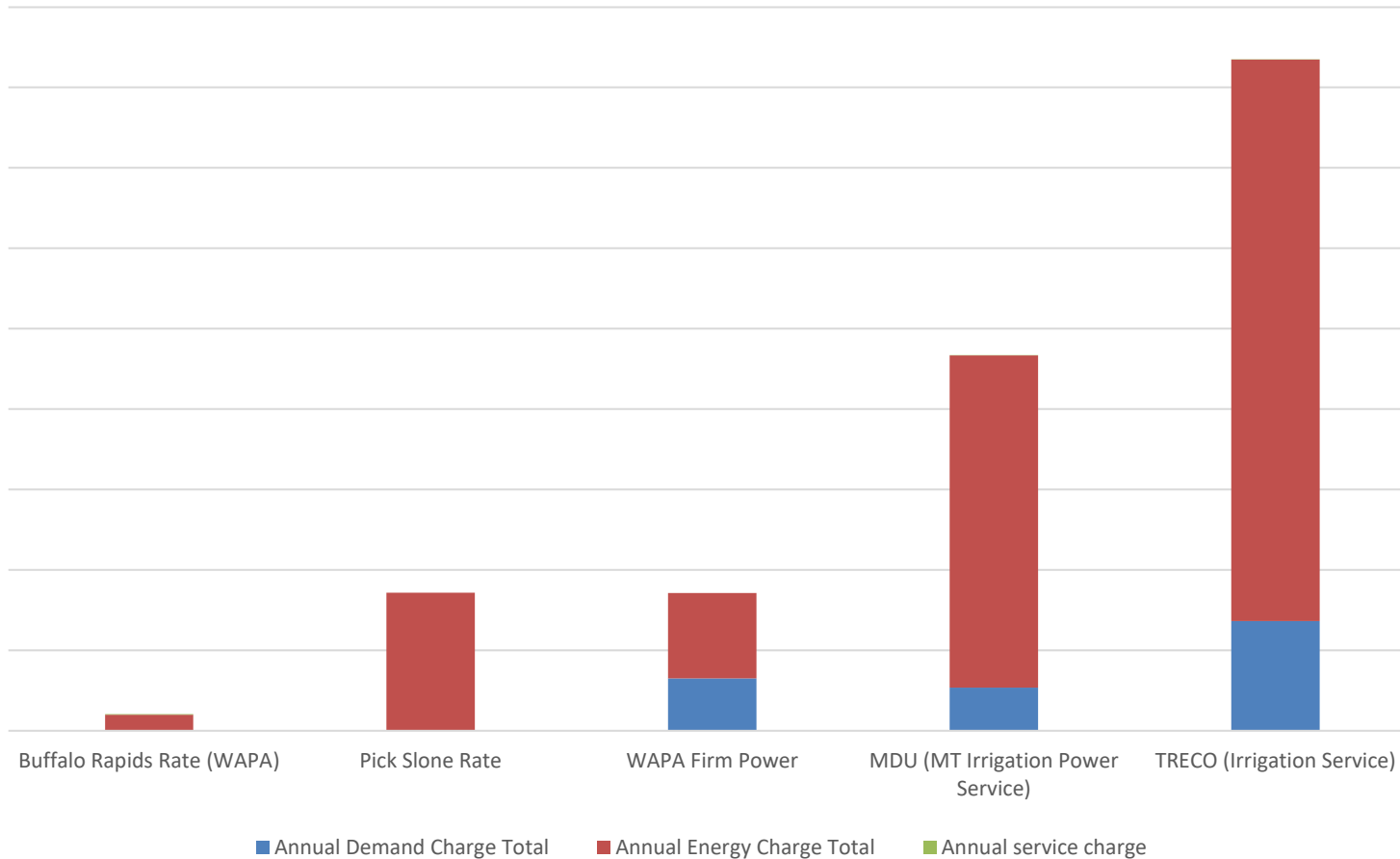
# ELECTRICAL SITE OVERVIEW





# ELECTRICAL RATE COST IMPACTS

Total Annual Electric Cost Comparison (133.7 CFS)



- All scenarios are similar for annual cost
- Scenarios 1 & 3 become more significant in operation cost savings without WAPA Firm Power contract
- If a low-cost contract could be negotiated it would result in substantial long-term savings



# COST ESTIMATE

- Preliminary Cost Estimate Range
  - Scenario 1 = \$96-135M
  - Scenario 2 = \$85-120M
  - Scenario 3 = \$79-114M
- On farm vs off farm
- Formation of new irrigation district
- O&M costs will vary based on power consumption per scenario

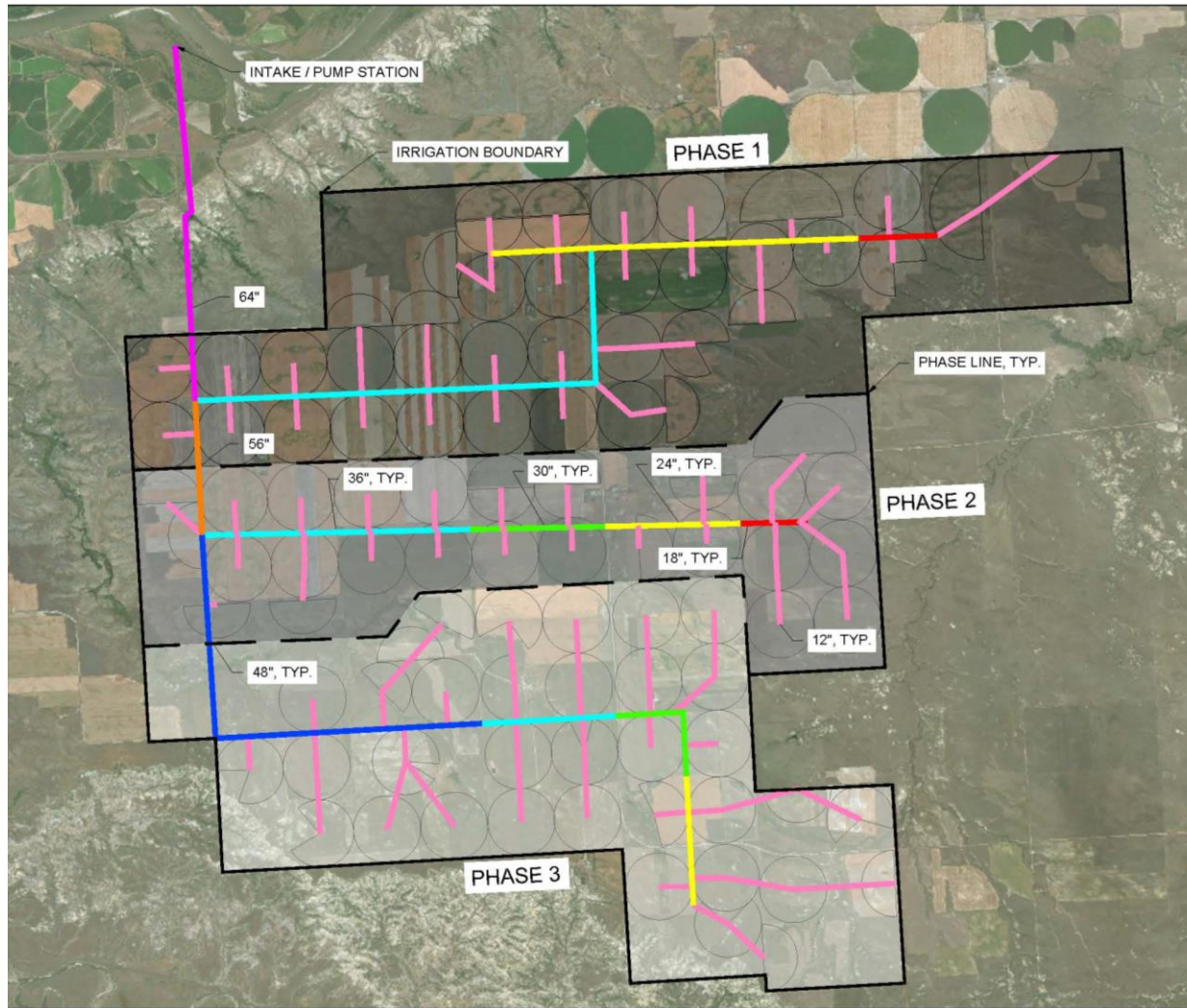
**DRAFT**

PERFORMANCE ENGINEERING  
FALLON FLATS IRRIGATION PROJECT  
PRELIMINARY OPINION OF TOTAL PROBABLE PROJECT COST  
FALLON MT  
SCENARIO 1: LARGER PIPES AND SMALLER HP PUMPS AT 133.7 CFS  
November 18, 2020

Fallon Flats Irrigation				
ITEM DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	SUBTOTAL
<b>A. Mobilization</b>				
Insurance, Bonds, Mobilization, Travel, Subsistence, Etc.			10%	\$8,389,317
<b>B. Raw Water Intake &amp; Pump Station</b>				
1.0 Improvements				
a. Yellowstone River Intake Structure including screens (86 MGD)	1	LS	\$3,640,000	\$3,640,000
b. Site Work, Dewatering Intake, Access Road Improvements and Slope Stability	1	LS	\$850,000	\$850,000
c. Pump Station and Wet Well (86 MGD) (3600 sq ft)	1	LS	\$10,640,869	\$10,640,869
d. Pumps (12,250 total hp)	1	LS	\$3,345,566	\$3,345,566
e. Process Piping, Valves, Surge Control	1	%	30%	\$1,003,670
f. WAPA Electrical Substation	1	LS	\$5,573,788	\$5,573,788
g. Pump Electrical Equipment	1	%	35%	\$4,895,252
h. Overhead Power Line Delivery	44,352	LF	\$44	\$1,933,680
<b>Subtotal Improvements</b>				<b>\$31,882,625</b>
<b>C. Pipelines</b>				
1.0 Improvements				
a. 72" Steel Pipeline Above Ground	8,870	LF	\$800	\$7,096,320
b. 72" Steel Pipeline	13,087	LF	\$735	\$9,618,651
c. 48" Steel Pipeline	36,622	LF	\$351	\$12,854,322
d. 36" Steel Pipeline	18,130	LF	\$291	\$5,275,930
e. 30" Steel Pipeline	2,571	LF	\$215	\$552,765
f. 24" PVC Pipeline	10,910	LF	\$72	\$729,720
g. 21" PVC Pipeline	2,977	LF	\$69	\$205,413
h. 15" PVC Pipeline	54,232	LF	\$34	\$1,843,888
i. 12" PVC Pipeline	12,302	LF	\$18	\$221,436
<b>Subtotal Improvements</b>				<b>\$38,389,345</b>
<b>D. Pivot system</b>				
1.0 Improvements				
a. Center Pivots	99	Each	\$125,000	\$12,375,000
b. Supply Ponds	26	Each	\$25,000	\$650,000
c. Instrumentation and Controls System	99	Each	\$4,000	\$396,000
<b>Subtotal Improvements</b>				<b>\$13,421,000</b>
<b>E. Contingency</b>				
Conceptual Level Contingencies (30%)			30%	\$25,107,951
<b>Subtotal - Construction Costs</b>				<b>\$117,170,438</b>
<b>F. Non-Construction Costs</b>				
1.0 Improvements				
a. Utility Easements	30.08	MI	\$8,000	\$240,608
b. Design & CM	1	LS	16%	\$14,729,997.92
c. Geotechnical	1	LS	0.5%	\$460,312.43
d. Environmental Permitting/ Administrative / Water District Formation / Legal	1	LS	2%	\$1,841,249.74
<b>Subtotal Improvements</b>				<b>\$17,272,168</b>
<b>Total Probable Project Costs</b>				<b>\$134,400,000</b>
<b>Total Probable Project Costs (With Pivots and Contingencies Removed)</b>				<b>\$96,900,000</b>
<b>Estimated Total Cost Range</b>				<b>\$96.9 to \$134.4 Million</b>



# SCENARIO 3 – PHASING PLAN



Project Phase	Irrigable Acres (ac)
1	5,800
2	4,200
3	5,200



# SCENARIO 3 - PHASING

- Phase I Preliminary Cost Estimate Range
  - W/Pivots = \$64.4M
  - W/O Pivots = \$47.6M
- Intake & Pump Station Costs Slight Reduction - \$18.8M
- Parallel 48-inch Mainlines Reduce Phase I Cost \$5M
- Large contingency included due to feasibility level analysis - \$12.2M

Fallon Flats Irrigation Feasibility Study  
 Preliminary Opinion of Probable Construction Costs  
 Scenario 3 - Phase I

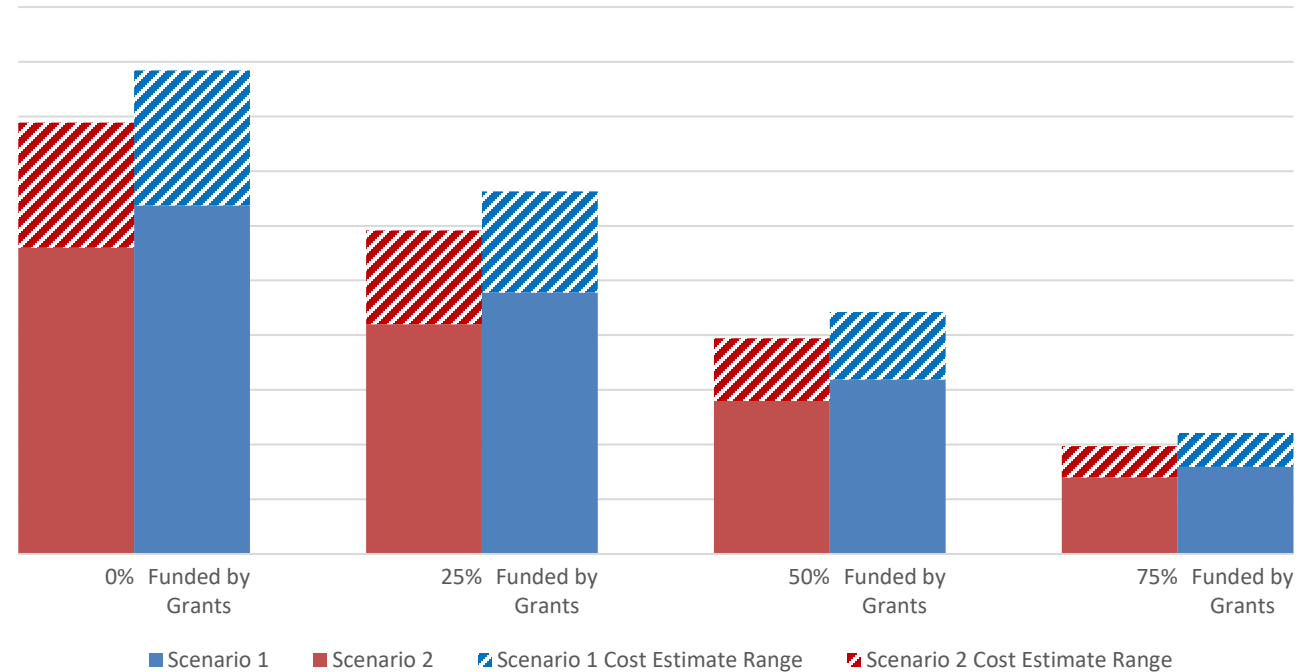
Item No.	Description	Estimated Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Total Price
11/24/2021					
<b>A. Mobilization</b>					
	Insurance, Bonds, Mobilization, Travel, Subsistence, Etc.	1	-	10%	\$4,058,155
<b>B. Raw Water Intake &amp; Pump Station</b>					
a	Yellowstone River Intake Canal (861MGD)	1	LS	\$250,000	\$250,000
b	Site Work, Dewatering Intake, and Access Road	1	LS	\$550,000	\$550,000
c	Pump Station and Wet Well (88 MGD) (2000 sqft Footprint)	1	LS	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000
d	Pumps (Phase I Only)	1	LS	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
e	Process Piping, Valves, Surge Control	1	LS	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
f	WAPA Electrical Substation	1	LS	\$5,573,788	\$5,573,788
g	Pump Electrical Equipment	1	LS	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
h	Overhead Power Line Delivery	22,900	LF	\$44	\$1,007,600
<b>Subtotal Improvement</b>					<b>\$16,861,388</b>
<b>C. Pipelines</b>					
a	54" Sewer Pipeline	14,195	LF	\$559	\$9,322,305
b	36" PVC Pipeline	20,400	LF	\$250	\$5,100,000
c	36" PVC Pipeline	14,000	LF	\$72	\$1,008,000
d	36" PVC Pipeline	3,100	LF	\$55	\$170,500
e	24" PVC Pipeline	47,562	LF	\$78	\$3,705,300
<b>Subtotal Improvement</b>					<b>\$17,056,105</b>
<b>D. Pivot System</b>					
a	Center Pivots	36	Ea	\$125,000	\$4,500,000
b	Instrumentation and Controls System	36	Ea	\$4,000	\$144,000
<b>Subtotal Improvement</b>					<b>\$4,644,000</b>
<b>E. Contingency</b>					
	Conceptual Level Contingencies (30%)	-	30%	-	\$1,174,466
<b>Subtotal - Construction Costs</b>					<b>\$56,814,174</b>
<b>F. Non-Construction Costs</b>					
a	Utility Easements	19	MI	\$9,000	\$150,228
b	Design C&M	1	LS	16%	\$6,493,048
c	Geotechnical	1	LS	0.50%	\$179,688
d	Environmental Permitting / Administrative / Water District Formation / Legal	1	LS	2%	\$911,631
<b>Subtotal Non-Construction Costs</b>					<b>\$7,634,693</b>
<b>Total Probable Project Costs</b>					<b>\$64,448,867</b>
<b>Total Probable Project Costs (w/Pivots and Contingencies Removed)</b>					<b>\$47,630,401</b>
<b>Estimated Total Cost Range</b>					<b>\$47.6 to \$64.4 Million</b>



# FUNDING DEVELOPMENT

- Funding Programs
  - Private bonds
  - BOR (Electrical)
  - USDA-RD (low-cost loans)
  - RRGL (Planning from the state of MT)
  - Federal-Water Resources Development Act
  - New Market Tax Credits

Impacts of Potential Grant Funding on Estimated Capital Cost





# BOND RATES

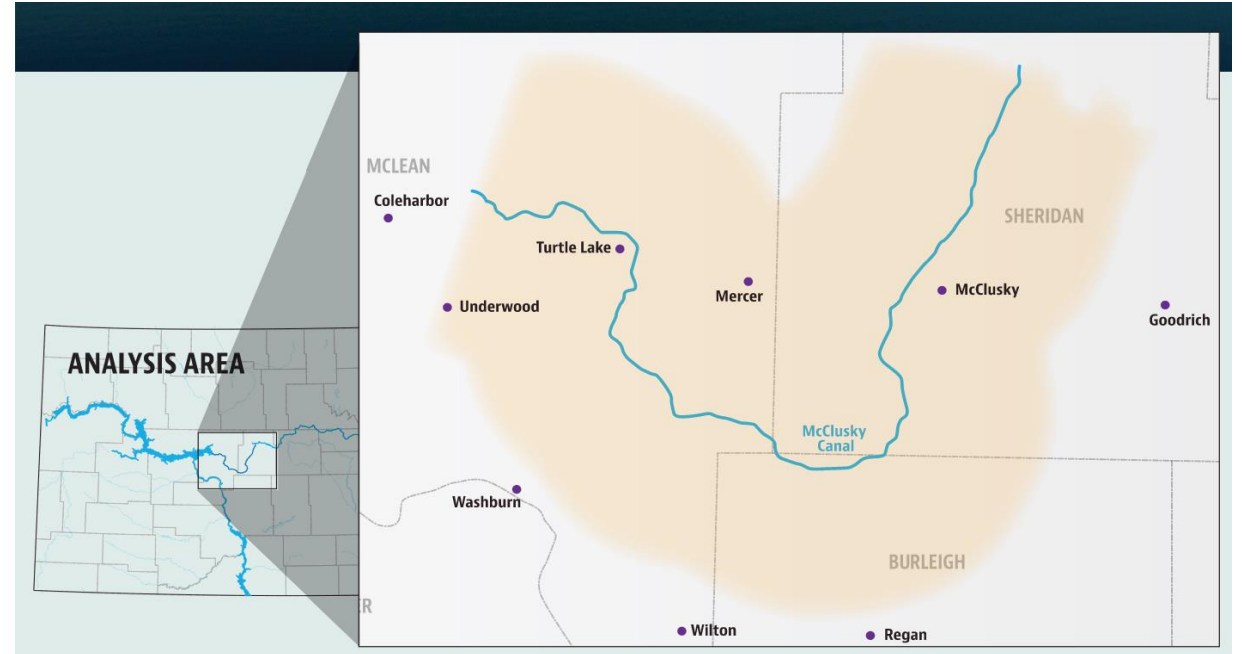
S&P Municipal Bond Index From 2015 to Present





# GARRISON DIVERSION-EXAMPLE

- An Irrigation project in ND
- 51,700 acers of land are authorized for irrigation form the McClusky Canal
- A study on the regional economic effects was done by AE2S & NDSU
  - Increased crop revenue
  - Other regional economic benefits





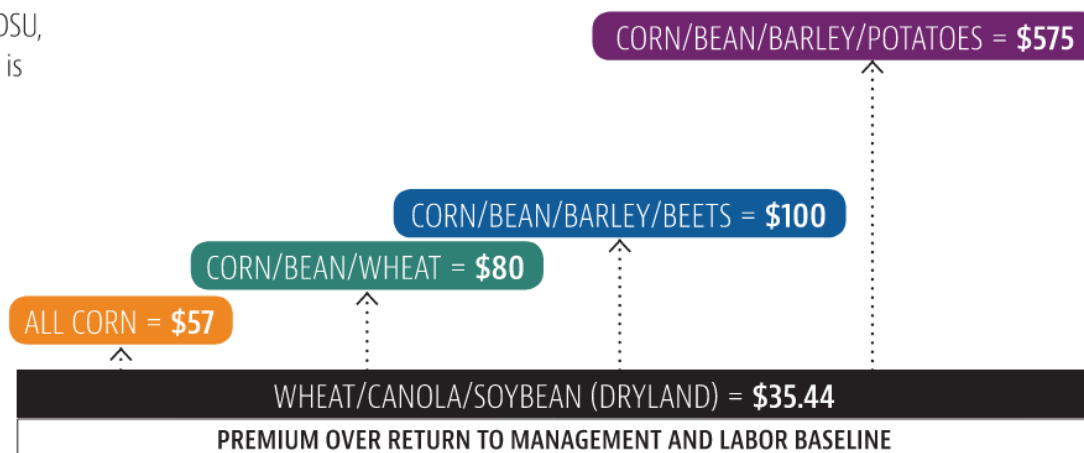


# GARRISON DIVERSION-EXAMPLE

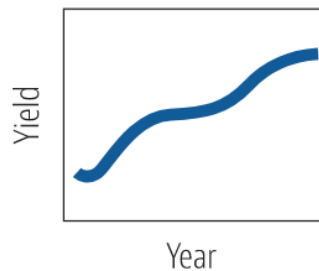
## NDSU STUDY RESULTS SHOW BENEFITS OF IRRIGATION

According to a 2014 analysis completed by NDSU, continued farm level investment in irrigation is expected to bring positive returns over select dryland crop rotations:

- Considering 2014 crop budgets, the average annual increased benefit over select dryland rotations from producing irrigated corn was estimated at \$57/acre.



- Applying this increased return over the entire authorized acreage along the canal, local producers would have seen a combined increase in crop sales of \$18.4M.



Examples of Changes in Yield and Price Variability

CHANGES IN GROSS REVENUE - ALL CORN ROTATION			
	\$3.00/Bushel	\$3.50/Bushel	\$4.00/Bushel
140 Bushels	-\$140.00	-\$70.00	\$0.00
160 Bushels	-\$80.00	\$0.00	\$80.00*
180 Bushels	-\$20.00	\$70.00	\$160.00
200 Bushels	\$40.00	\$140.00	\$240.00

\*2014 Irrigated Crop Budget Baseline



## KEY POINTS

- A system that can supply 133.7 CFS could be built on the site
- Site logistics = substantial capital cost
- Phasing possible but does not provide significant cost reduction initially
- Electricity rate has substantial impact on the operating costs
- O&M Cost - \$105/ac
- Capital Cost Range - \$7,400-\$9,000/acre