

DEPARTMENT OF **ECOLOGY** State of Washington  

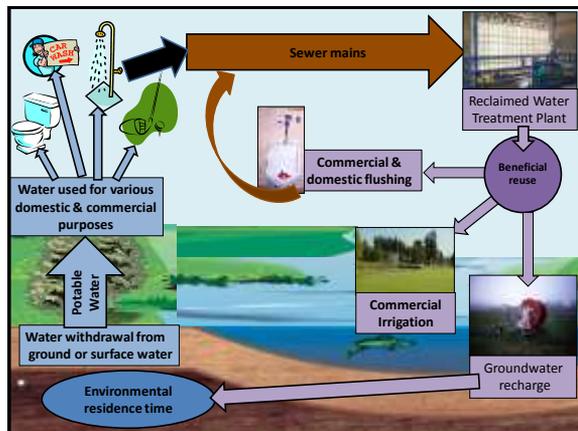
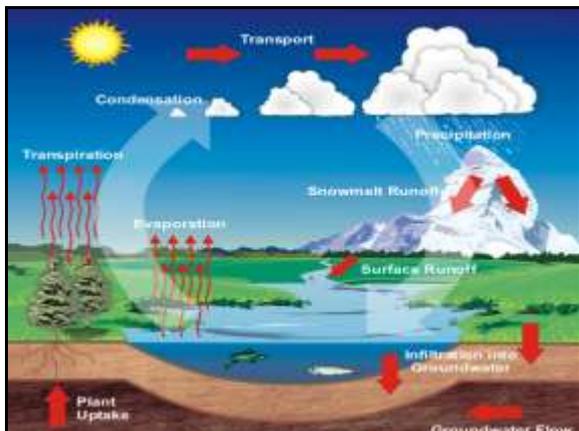
New Reclaimed Water Rule Opportunities & Challenges

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Today's Presentation

- History
- Rule Making Process
- Opportunities & Challenges
- Summary – Q&A

Reclaimed Water Use

1912 Project
The first small urban reuse system begins with the irrigation of Golden Gate Park in San Francisco.
A Thirsty Plant - History




1977 Project
The City of St. Petersburg, Florida, builds the first large urban reuse system in the United States



Washington Rulemaking History



- 1992** – Washington Legislature passes RCW 90.46 Reclaimed Water Use Act
- 1997** – Ecology & Health publish *Water Reclamation and Reuse Standards*
- 2006** – Ecology with DOH directed to develop Reclaimed Water Rule (WAC 173-219) & Guidance Manual
- 2010** – Governor Suspends Rulemaking for 2-Years
- 2014** – Rulemaking resumes

What is Reclaimed Water?

Water derived in any part from wastewater with a domestic wastewater component that has been adequately and reliably treated, so that it can be used for beneficial purposes.



Chapter 90.46 RCW

Reclaimed Water Beneficial Uses

Recreational Field Irrigation 	Agricultural Irrigation (Food Crops/Livestock) 	Golf Courses 
Impoundments (Landscaping/Snowmaking) 	Environmental (Wetlands/Streams) 	Industrial 
Ground Recharge 		

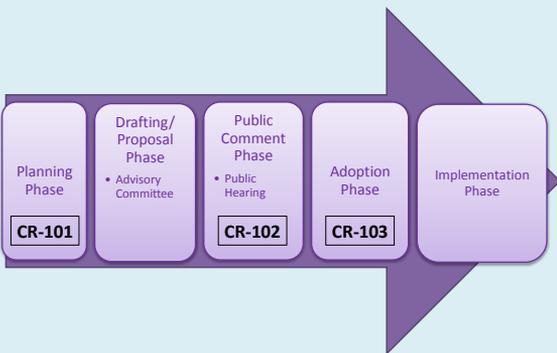
Water Management Tool

- Legislature Plan to Address:
 - Water supply shortage
 - Water resource preservation
 - Water quality improvements (TMDLs)
 - Shellfish or sediment protection
 - Environmental enhancement (stream and wetlands augmentation)
 - Population growth

Using Reclaimed Water

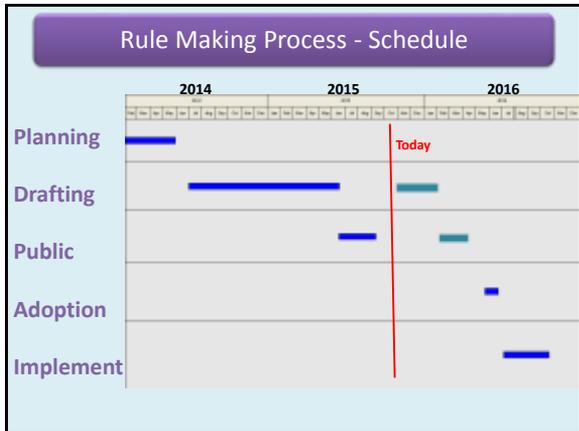
- Legislature Directed Development of a Rule
- Promote Reclaimed Water as a “Water Resource”
- Augment Potable Water for Beneficial Uses
- Protect Water Quality and Public Health
- Protect Existing Water Rights

Rule-Making Process



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    graph LR
      A[Planning Phase  
CR-101] --> B[Drafting/Proposal Phase  
• Advisory Committee]
      B --> C[Public Comment Phase  
• Public Hearing  
CR-102]
      C --> D[Adoption Phase  
CR-103]
      D --> E[Implementation Phase]
  
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Public Participation

Drafting/Proposal Phase

- Advisory Committee
- Rule Language
- Manual

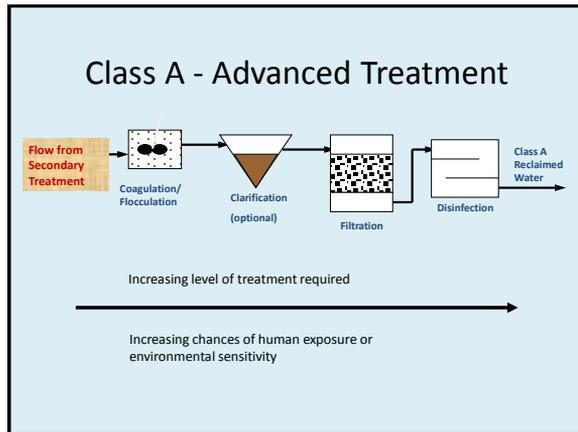
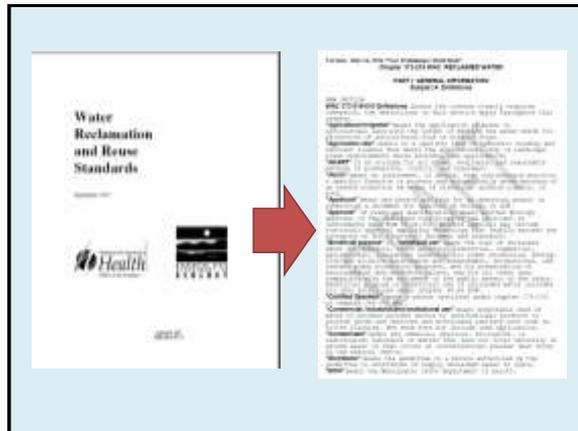


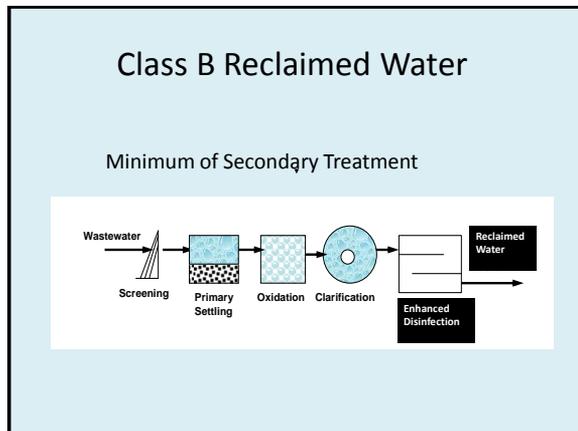
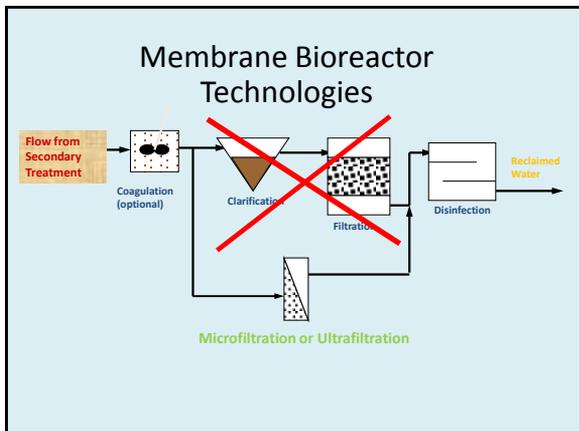
Public Comment Phase

- Public Hearing(s)
- Written Comments



Opportunities
& Challenges

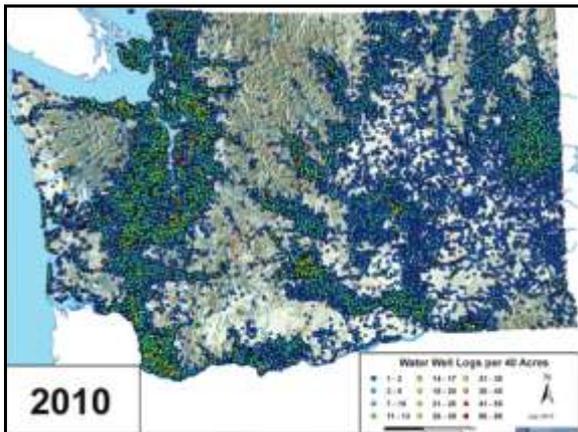
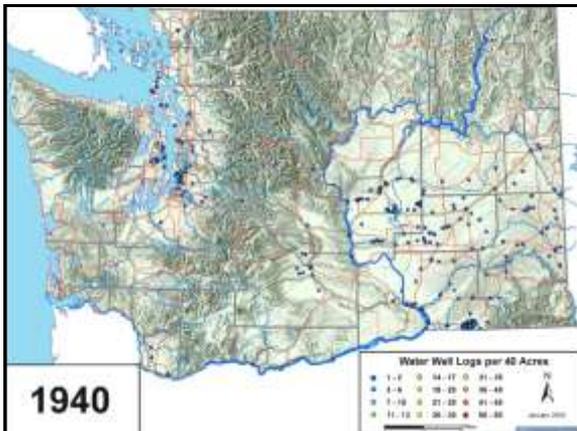
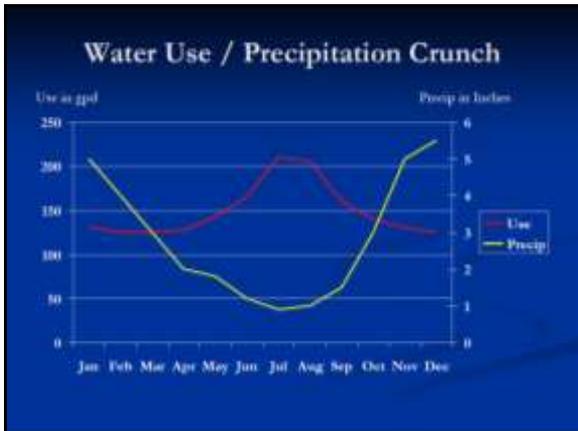
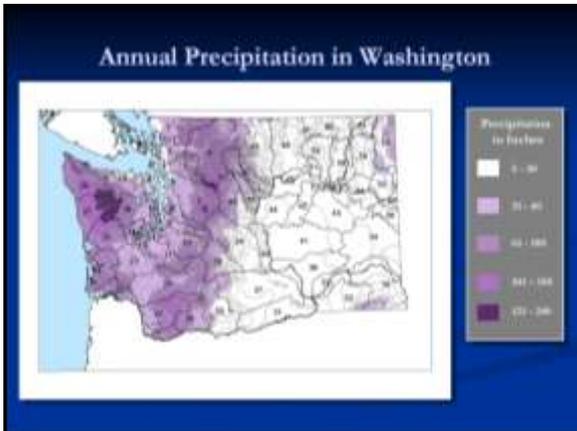




- ### Rule Flexibility
- Adaptability for Advances in Technology
 - Adaptable to Regional Differences
 - Recommendations on Case-By-Case Basis
 - Rule Effective and Compliance Dates
 - Water Right Impairment Process with option of Mitigation or Compensation

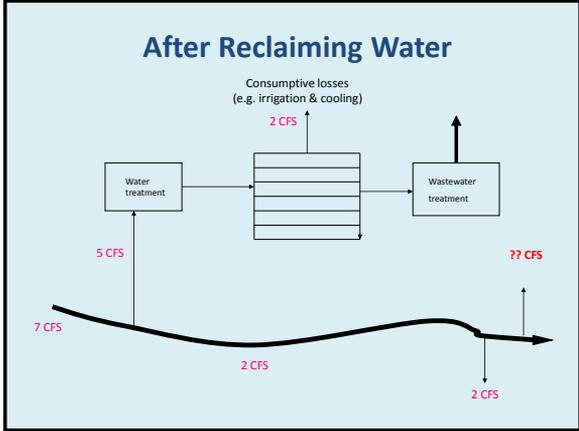
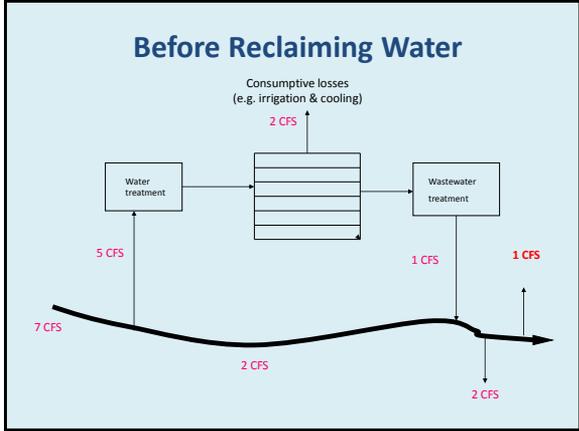


Opportunities & Challenges



Water Right Impairment

- ...facilities that reclaim water under this chapter shall not impair any existing water right downstream from any freshwater discharge points of such facilities unless compensation or mitigation for such impairment is agreed to by the holder of the affected water right. RCW 90.46.130



Washington's Reclaimed Water
Rule Making Process

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Reclaimed Water website:

• www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/reclaim/index.html

