

Chehalis Basin Strategy Informing the Plan through Implementation

Taking Early Reach Scale Action and Securing Landowner Willingness

Introduction



- How to secure landowner willingness for large scale restoration in the face of planning/programmatic uncertainty?
- How to integrate what we've learned into a better plan that has broad community support?

Presentation Outline



1. Reach Scale Restoration
 - Outreach
 - Roles in Design Team
 - Factors in Success Securing Landowner Willingness
2. Targeted Community Listening Sessions
 - Lessons Learned
3. Incorporating feedback/ Taking Action
 - Importance of Landowner Willingness
 - Regional Ag Viability
4. Key Lessons Learned

Conservation District Basic Principles



- Conservation should be led by local citizens.
- Where private land ownership connects to natural resources, that is where conservation districts are.
- Final responsibility for conservation lies with the landowner.
- Landowners have legitimate operating goals.
- Responsive to both landowners and operators, and the community as a whole.

Conservation District Basic Principles



- Non-Regulatory
- Voluntary
- Incentive-Based Programs

Reach Scale Restoration Outreach



- Lewis, Thurston and Grays Harbor Conservation Districts contacted landowner around the basins
- Conducted follow up site visits with interested landowners
 - What are your concerns? How do you use your land? What's your history on this land?
- Contacted neighbors to build up 2-3 mile reaches with willing landowners

Reach Scale Restoration Outreach



Landowners...

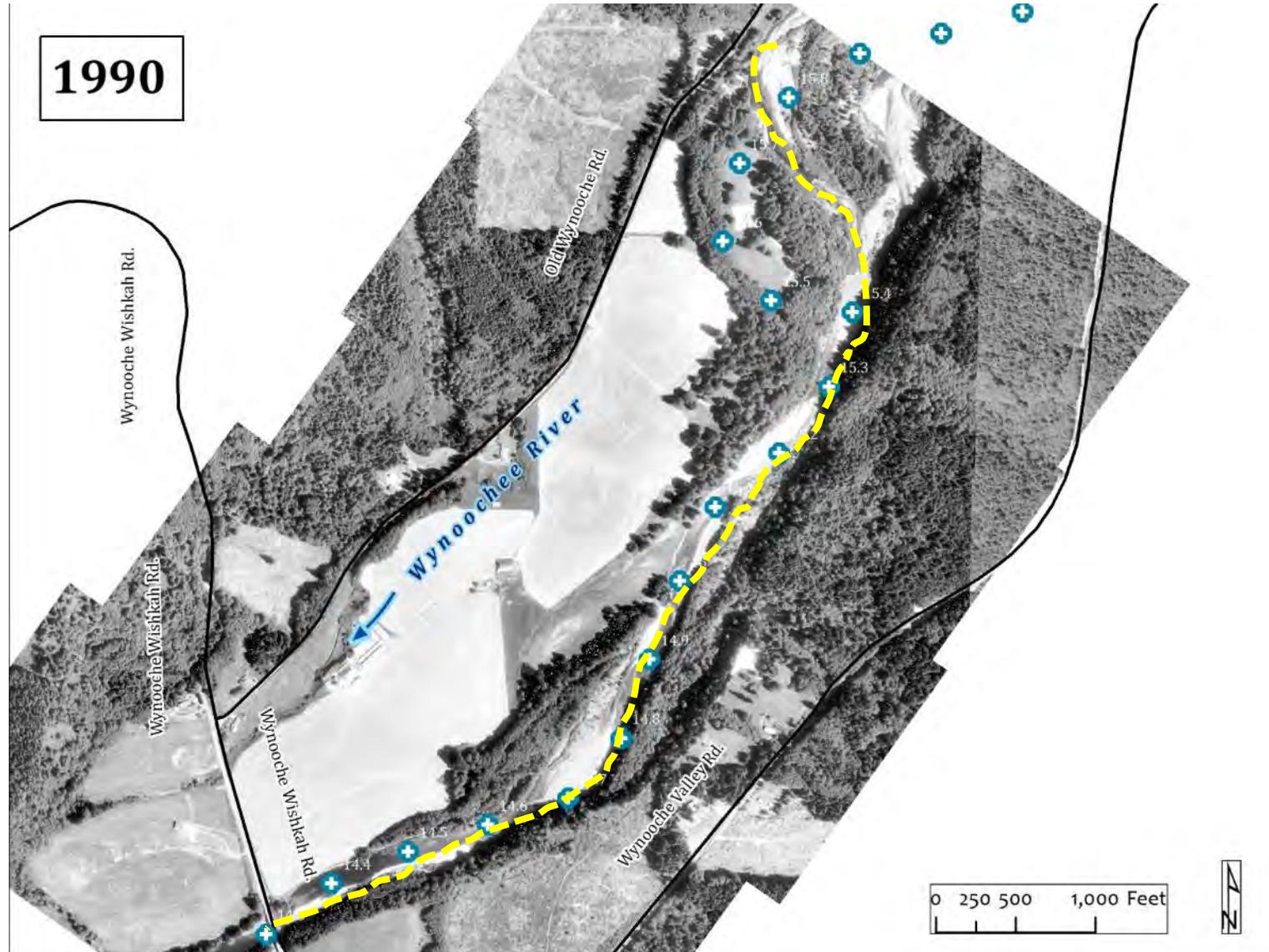
- Have valuable historical knowledge about their landscape
- Want to help salmon
- Need to make productive use of their land
- Most more concerned with erosion than flooding
- Some distrust building log jams in the river

Reach Scale Restoration Outreach

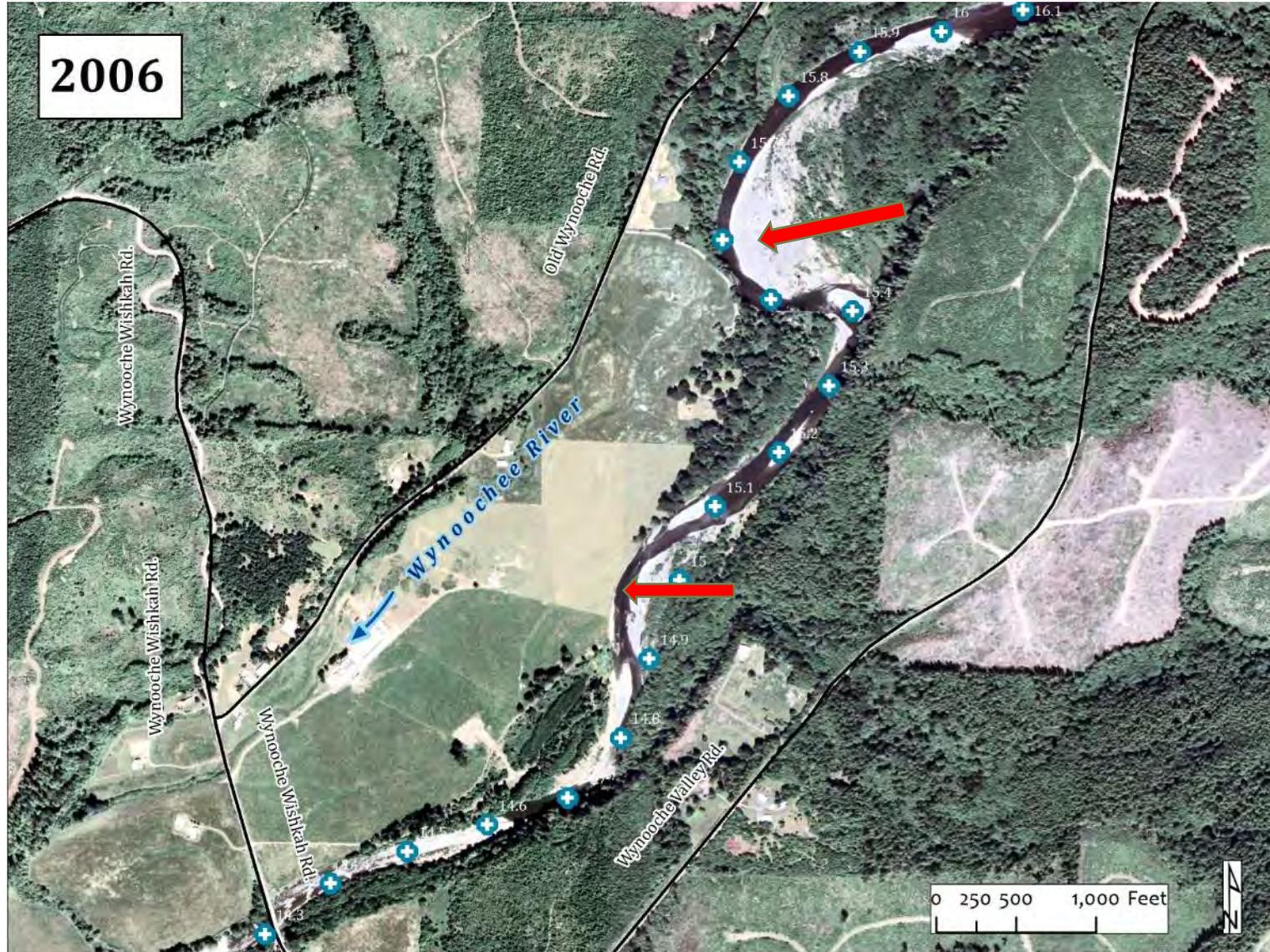


- Follow up meetings to develop common understanding about...
 - What are the problems with the way the river functions for people and for fish.
 - How can engineered log jams and other process-based solutions help both sets of issues
- Socially adept restoration consultants are critical!

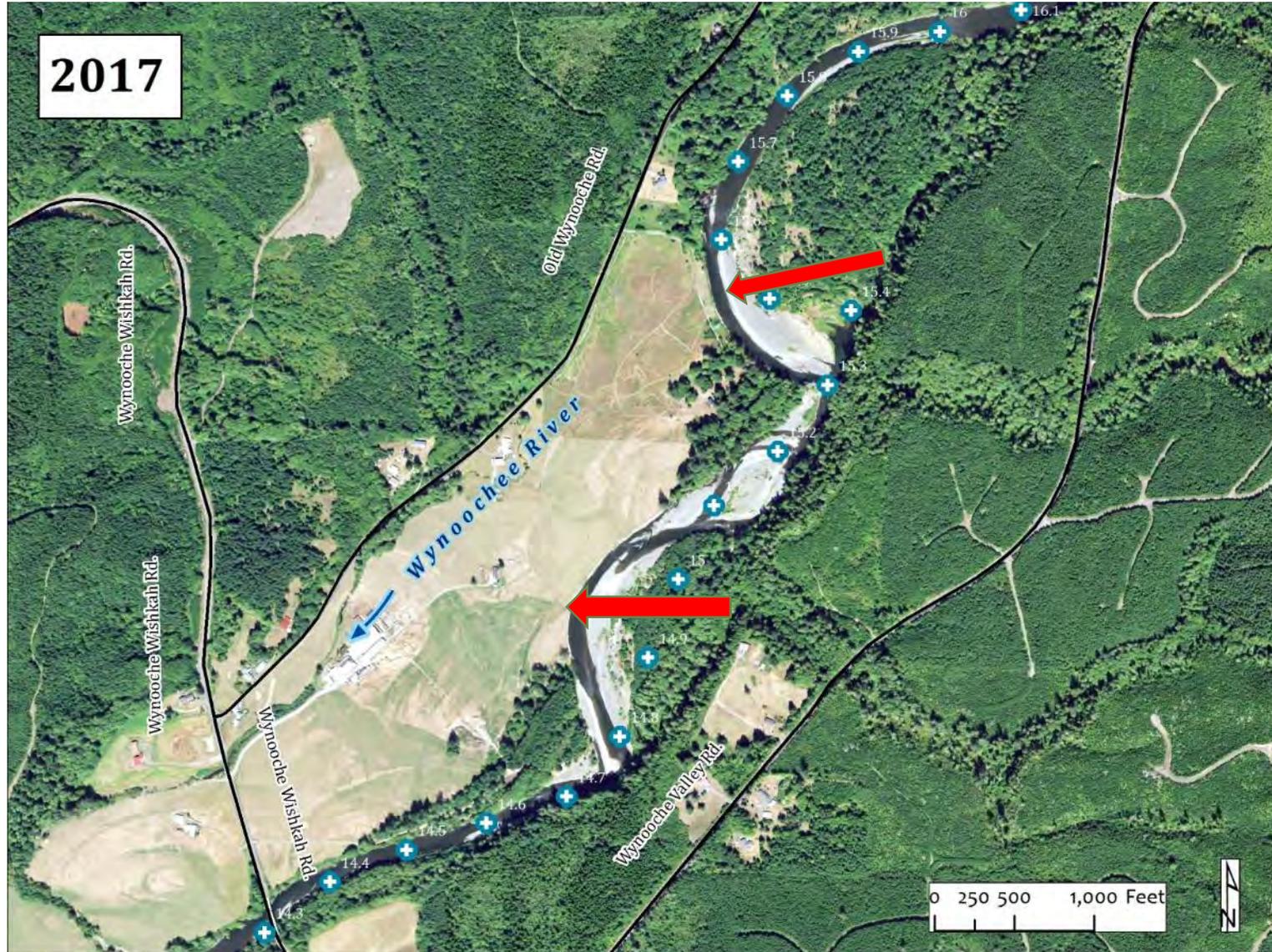
Wynoochee River – RM 14 - 16



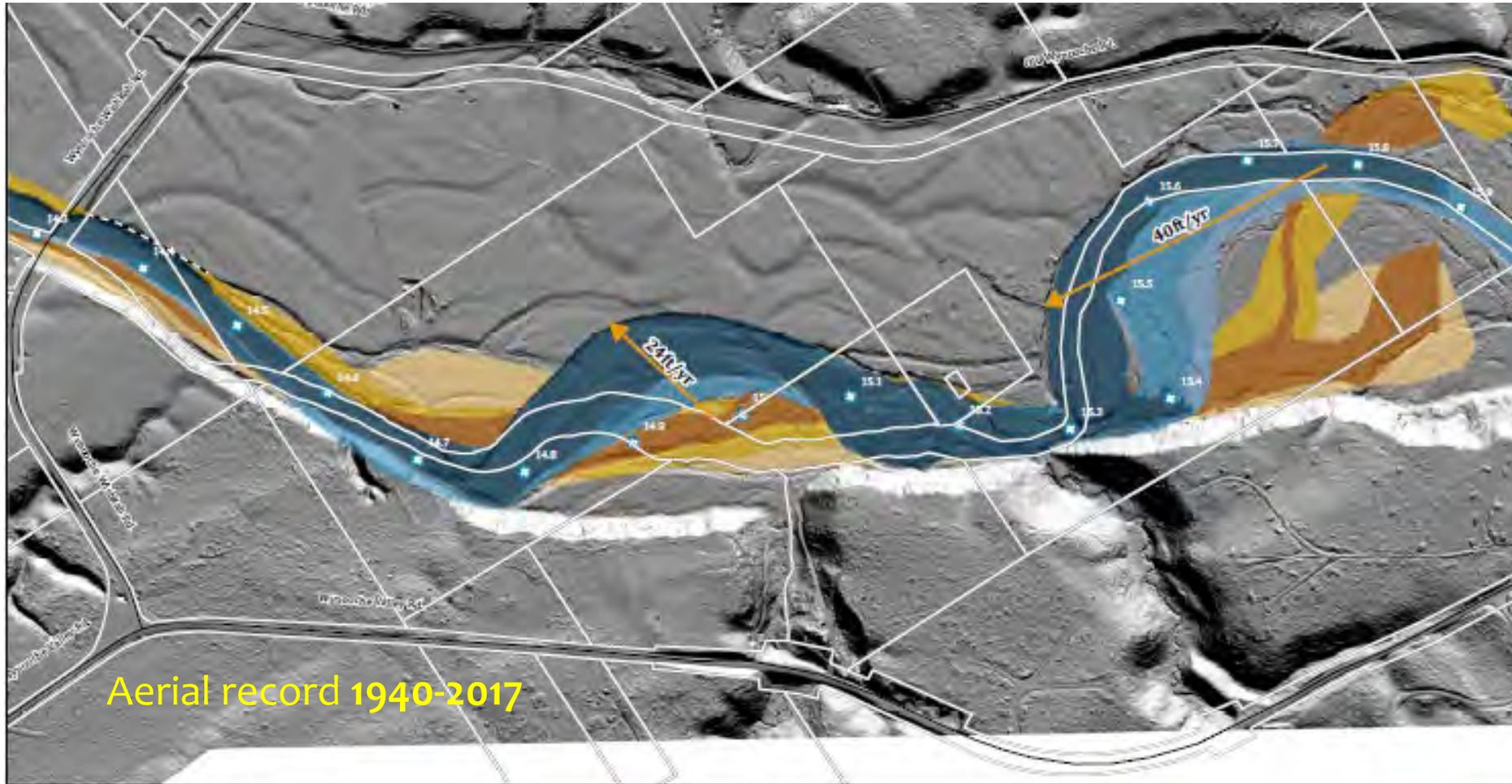
Wynoochee River – RM 14 - 16



Wynoochee River – RM 14 - 16



Wynoochee River RM 14 – 16 Historical Channel Occupation Zone



Aerial record 1940-2017

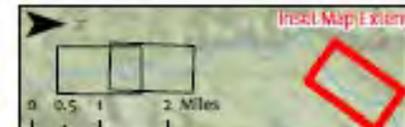
ASRP Chehalis Early Action Plan
Wynoochee River - RM 14 - Sheet 3
Historical Channel Locations



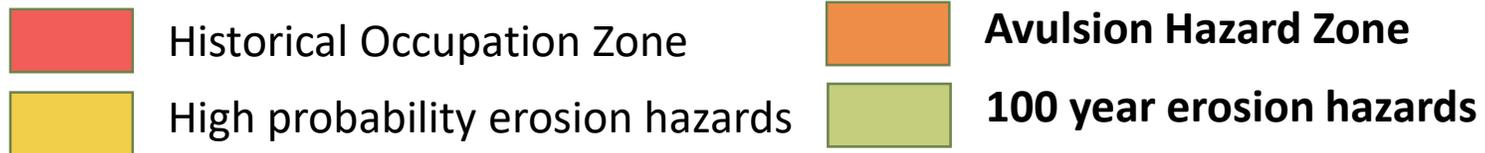
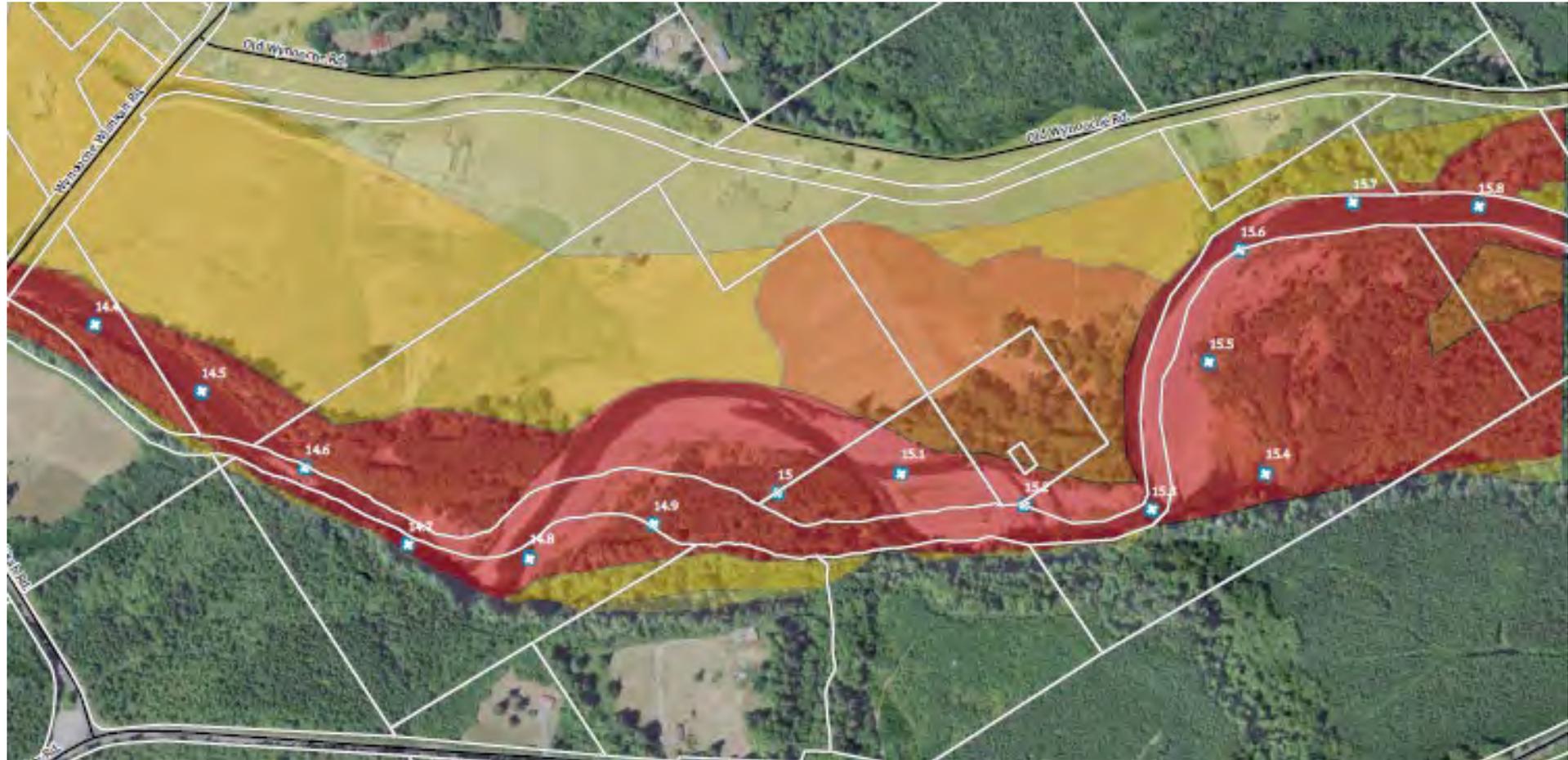
Channel Migration Rates by land cover



Topography: 2017 LIDAR DEM
River Miles are from the National Hydrography Dataset
Channel locations were digitized from historical aerial imagery



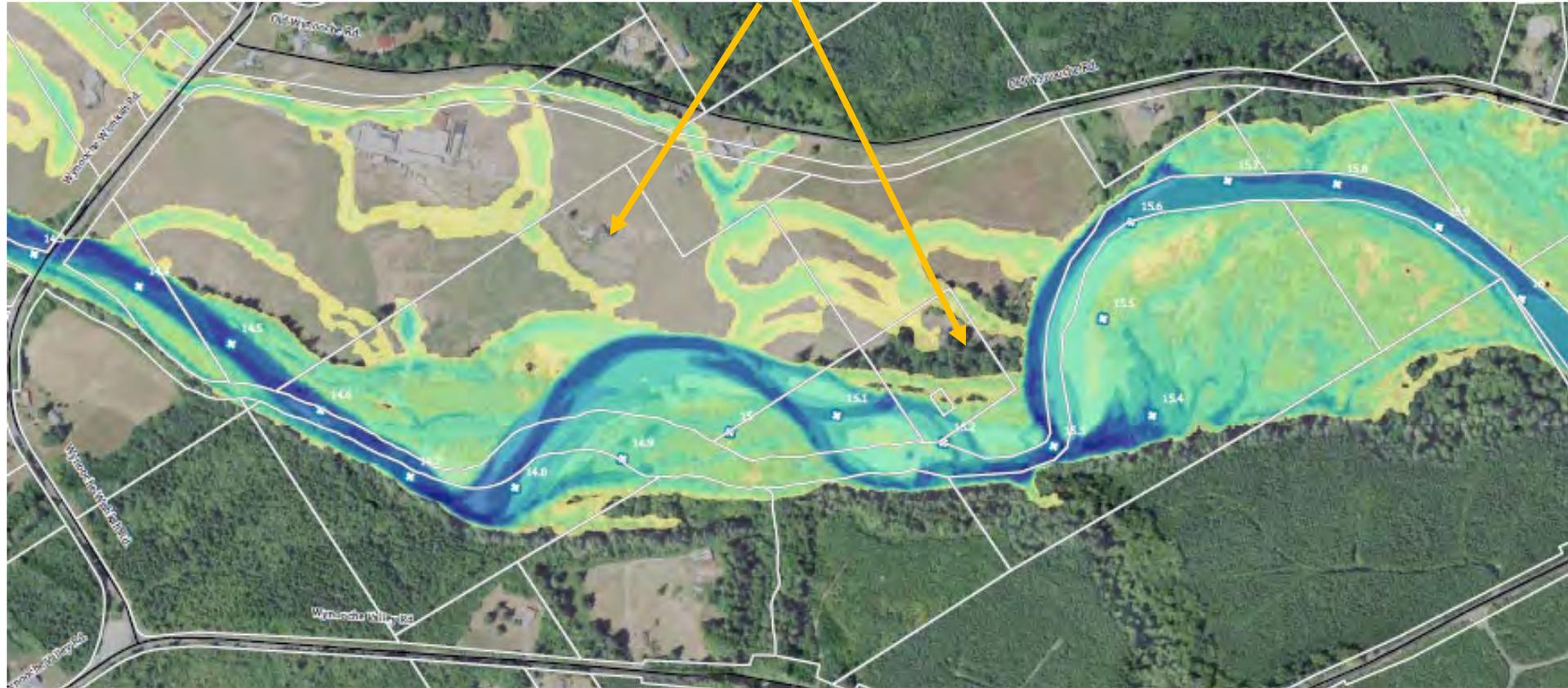
Wynoochee River RM 14 – 16 Erosion Risk Analysis



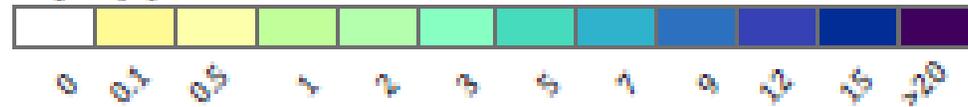
RM 14 - 16

2-Year Flood

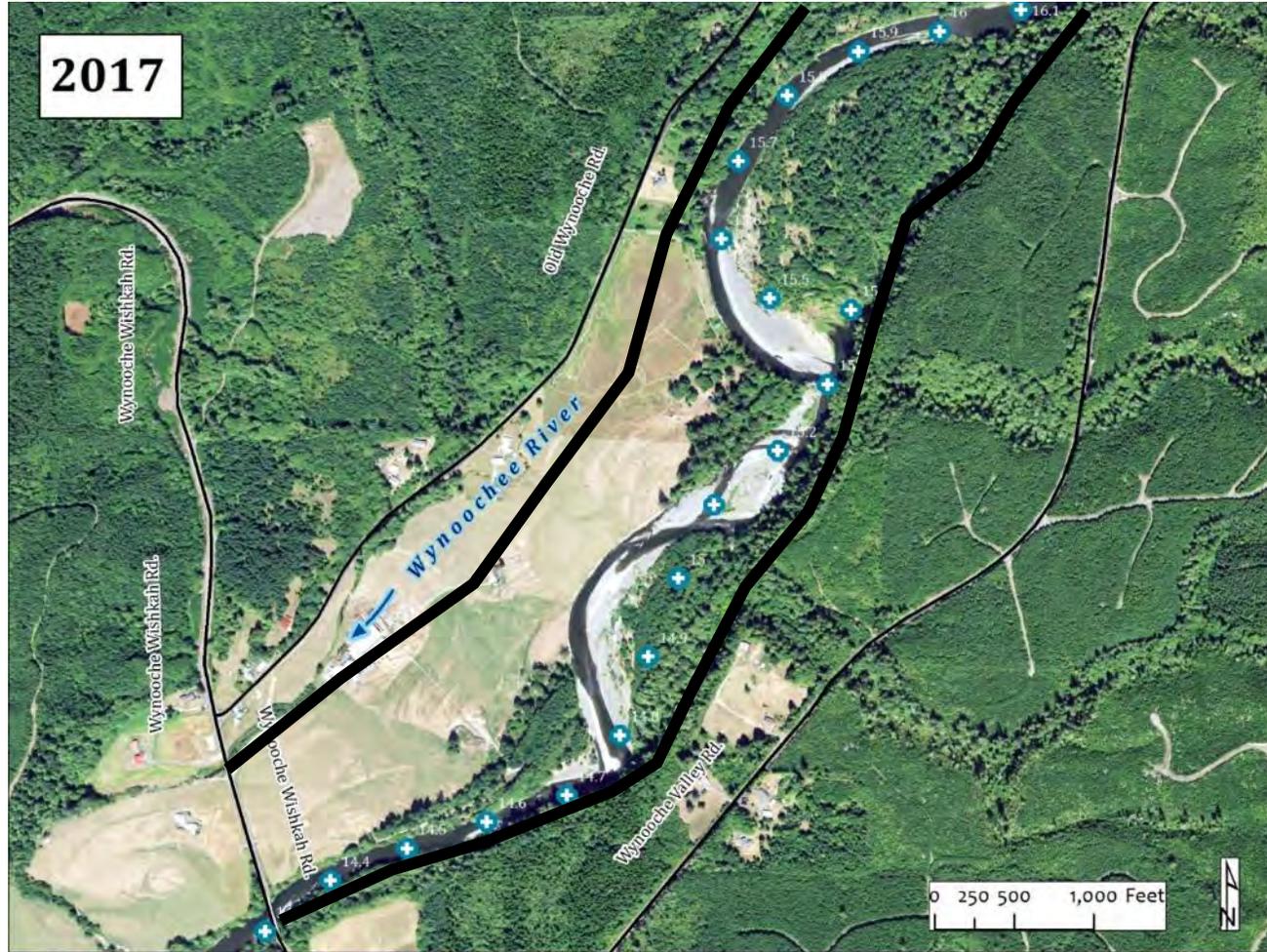
Existing Homes



Depth (ft)



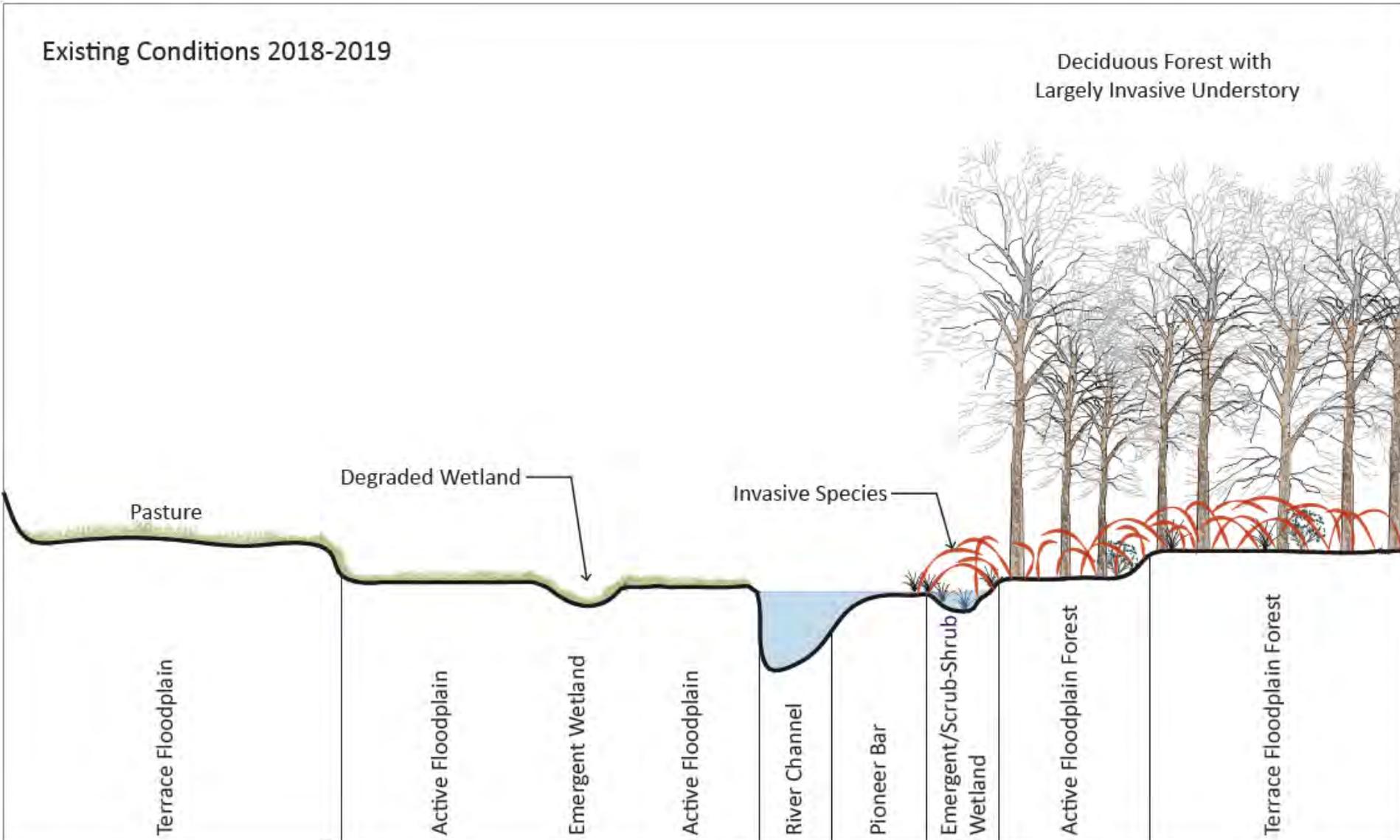
Restoration Corridor



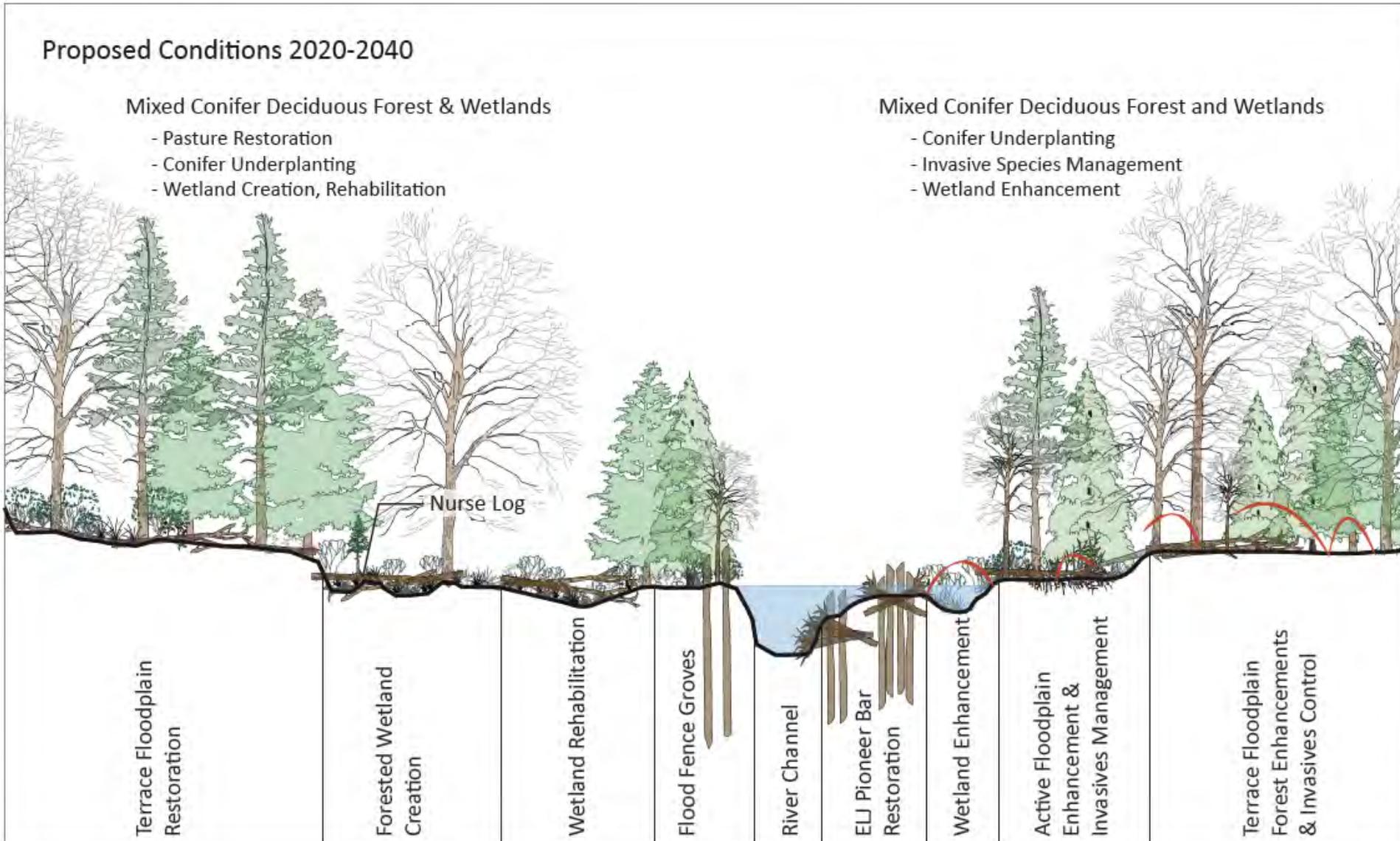
Restoration Corridor

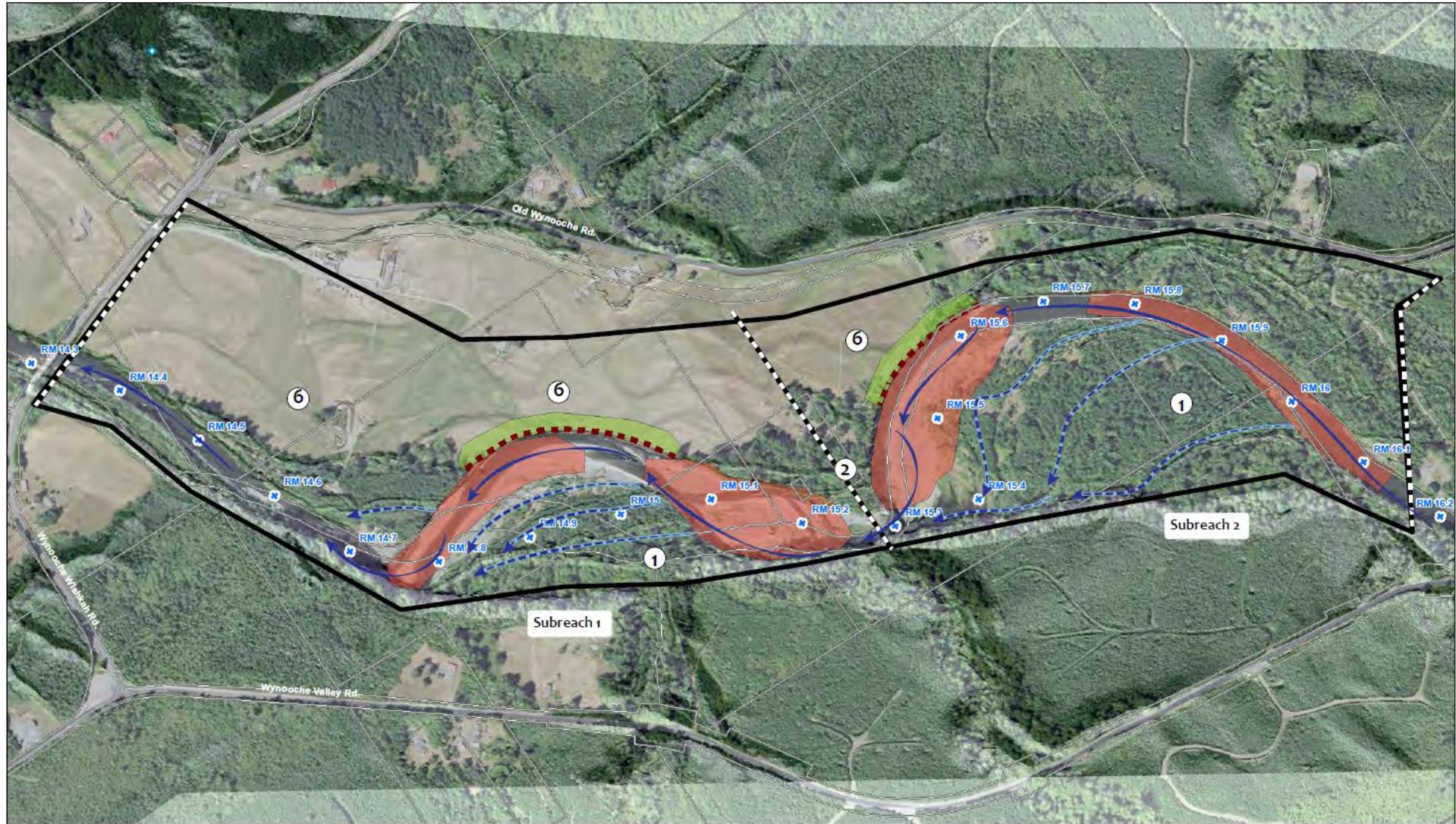


Wynoochee River Corridor – Existing Condition



Wynoochee River Corridor – Desired Future Condition



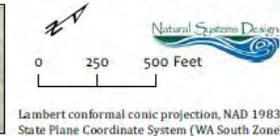
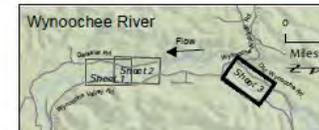


Aquatic Species Restoration Program (ASRP): Chehalis Basin Strategy Early Action Plan

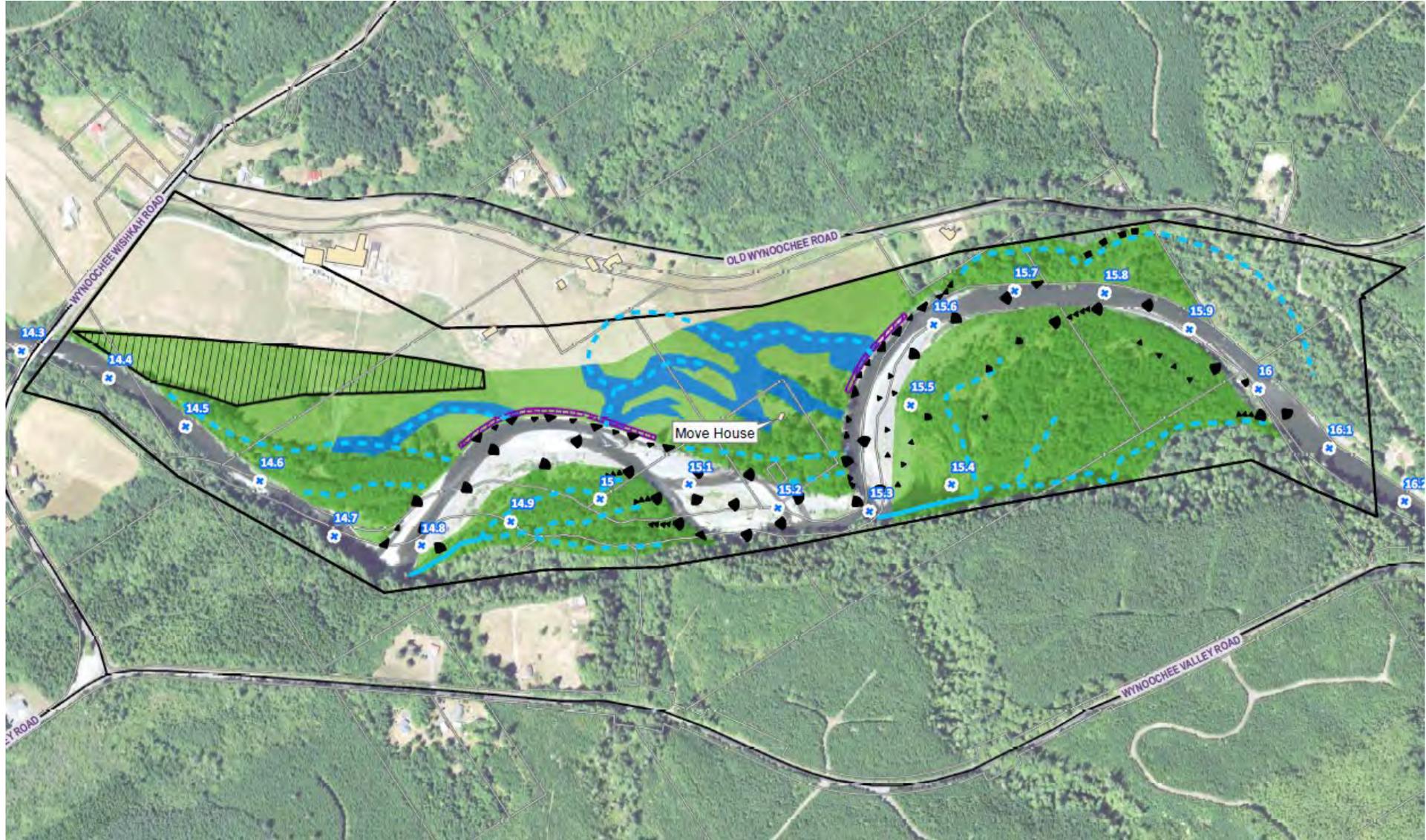
Concept Design: Wynoochee River - RM 14 - Sheet 3

Service Layer Credits: Content may not reflect National Geographic's current map policy. Sources: National Geographic, Esri, Garmin, HERE, UNEF-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, Increment P Corp.

- Restoration Corridor Extent
- Engineered Log Jam Installation Area
- Timber Revetment Planting Area
- Parcel Boundary
- Subreach Boundary
- River Mile (RM)
- Mainstem Flow
- Side Channel Flow
- 1 Increase conifer succession
- 2 Consider moving buildings
- 6 Potential riparian planting



Lambert conformal conic projection, NAD 1983 State Plane Coordinate System (WA South Zone)



Targeted Community Listening Sessions

- Basin-wide scale: Unprecedented level of effort
- Landowner and Basin community involvement is needed to ensure a successful plan is developed and implemented



Targeted Community Listening Sessions

- What would make it easier for you to participate in large scale enhancement projects?



Community Feedback



- Importance of Landowner Willingness
 - ‘Will anyone force us to do this?’
- Improving Agricultural Viability
 - Loss of National Foods
 - Development of better market access
 - Higher value crops
 - Water Rights certainty

Taking Action



Regional Ag Viability

Agriculture Business and Innovation Park

- Expand existing and develop new markets for agricultural goods
- Increase regional production of value-added food products
- Increase the viability of regional food and farm businesses
- Drive the success of existing, and creation of new, local businesses
- Provide educational, research, event and tourism opportunities
- Address identified regional infrastructure gaps and distribution needs

Taking Action



Regional Ag Viability

Grain Handling and Storage Facility

- Replace the loss of cannery crops with viable regional alternatives
- Enable the region's farmers to serve markets that currently cannot be accessed
- Provide marketing opportunities and incentive for existing grain production

Key Lessons Learned



Reach Scale Restoration

- Develop trust based relationships with landowners
- Pay attention to design consultant ability to work with landowners
- Build understanding with landowners slowly starting with areas of agreement

Targeted Community Listening Sessions/ Taking Action

- Ask what landowners need
 - Importance of voluntary program for Landowner Willingness
- Be ready to take actions outside the restoration realm
 - Regional Ag Viability

Questions?



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