

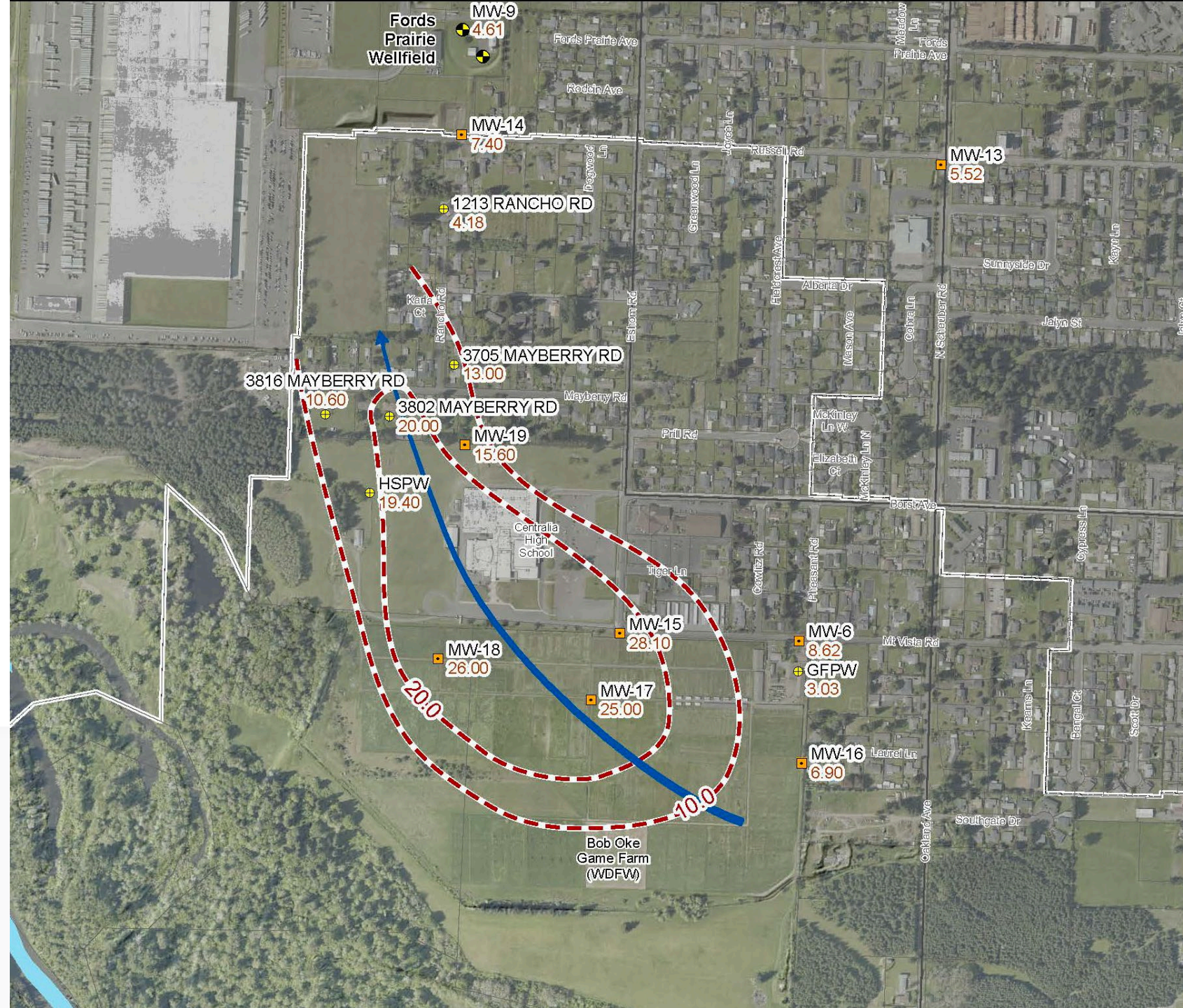
CENTRALIA'S NITRATE REDUCTION:

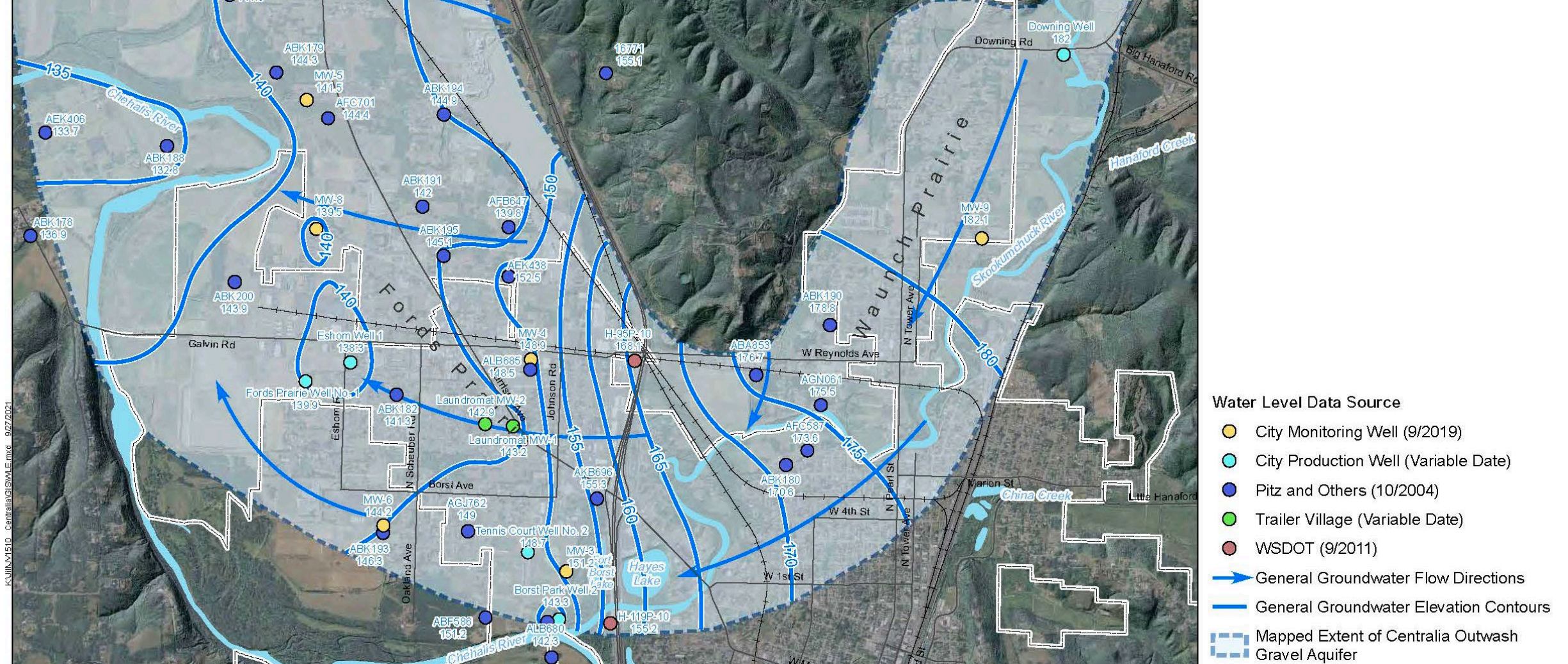
ACHIEVING SAFER AND CLEANER DRINKING WATER

FORDS PRAIRIE NITRATE CONTAMINATION

OUTER CIRCLE = 10+PPM =
UNSAFE TO DRINK

INNER CIRCLE = 20+PPM = MORE
THAN DOUBLE THE MAXIMUM
CONTAMINANT LEVEL





CENTRALIA OUTWASH GRAVEL AQUIFER

EXTREMELY POROUS AND HIGH YIELDING = VULNERABLE

Centralia's Nitrate Reduction



Ambitious Nitrate Reduction

Centralia aims to reduce nitrate levels in the aquifer by removing septic systems from the aquifer, including stormwater upgrades in the City's stormwater plan that support the health of our natural resources, and relocating CAFO facilities that are currently contaminating the aquifer.



Health and Environmental Commitment

This goal protects public health, especially infants and pregnant women, and promotes environmental sustainability.



Community and Policy Collaboration

Success depends on coordinated efforts in infrastructure, policy, and community engagement for clean water. Infrastructure improvement examples; reducing of nitrates from farming, extending sewer into unsewered neighborhoods, improving stormwater systems, and continuing to monitor and learn about the problem.



Nitrate Levels and Sources

Nitrate Contamination in Aquifer

Certain areas of the Centralia aquifer exceed safe nitrate limits, posing health risks due to accumulation over time.

Primary Nitrate Sources

Bob Oke Game Farm is the primary contributor of nitrogen compounds entering groundwater, followed by septic systems and aging stormwater infrastructure.

Need for Intervention

Persistent contamination trends highlight the urgency for measures like infrastructure upgrades and regulatory policies.



Environmental Impacts

Nitrate in Groundwater

Nitrate in groundwater is persistent and does not readily break down; travel time is slow within the aquifer. After successful reduction measures problem does not immediately go away.

Environmental Disruption

Nitrates fuel algal blooms that deplete oxygen, harming fish and disrupting aquatic ecosystems.

Need for Control Measures

Stringent nitrate control is essential to protect public health, biodiversity, and water resource integrity.

Infrastructure Improvements and Funding



Infrastructure Upgrades

Upgrades include converting septic systems to sewers and improving stormwater management for better water quality.

Funding and Grants

Funding is secured from state grants supporting the infrastructure projects to minimize costs for residents.

Implementation Timeline

Planned implementation of wastewater and drinking water improvements will begin in 2026 for affected neighborhoods.

Environmental Benefits

Modern infrastructure integration is key to eliminating nitrate contamination and ensuring long-term water quality.

Key Actions

ACTION	DESCRIPTION
DOE Grant Application	Funding for septic-to-sewer conversions. (\$500,000)
Wellhead Protection Program	Including Septic and Stormwater upgrades
Governor Petition by Centralia	Relocate Bob Oke Game Farm
Dept. of Commerce Grant	Water and Sewer for affected neighborhoods. (\$5,000,000)
HB 2343 Legislation	Equal scrutiny for State-run farms
HB 2668 Legislation	Bob Oke Game Farm Relocation



Engagement and Responsibilities

Community Participation

Residents play a crucial role by testing wells and maintaining septic systems to prevent nitrate contamination.

Public Engagement

Active involvement in public meetings helps residents stay informed and contribute to nitrate reduction projects.

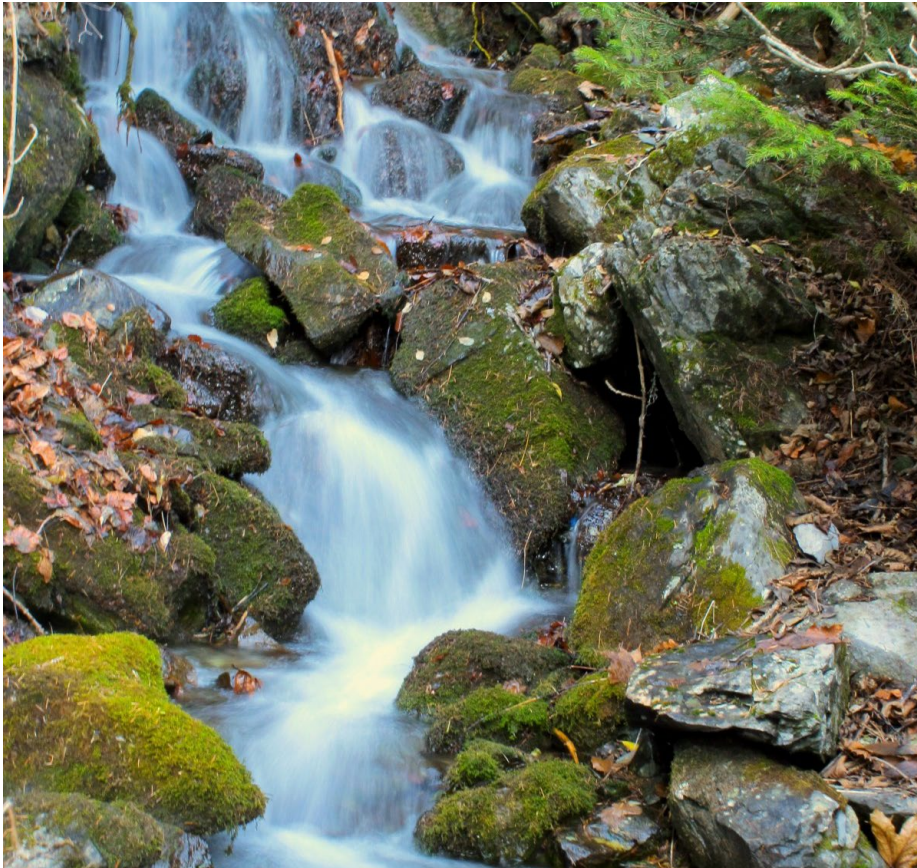
Educational Campaigns

Awareness efforts promote best practices for water conservation and pollution prevention in the community.

Collaborative Protection

A cooperative environment ensures all stakeholders work together to protect the aquifer and meet nitrate targets.

Health, Environmental, and Economic Gains



Public Health Improvement

Eliminating nitrate contamination reduces health risks and enhances community well-being.

Environmental Restoration

Everyone wins if Centralia's aquifer has improved water quality.

Economic Benefits

Reduced healthcare costs and increased property values support sustainable economic growth.

Community Resilience

Centralia benefits from clean drinking water and a healthy aquifer. City could avoid having to build a costly water treatment plant, and could continue utilizing minimal treatment.