



WHY DO WE ASK YOU TO SIGN IN?

The Maryland Department of the Environment is posting this sign-in sheet so that we may generate a mailing list of concerned citizens, organizations and other members of the public for this permit application. You are not required to provide information on the sign-in sheet, but if you do, you may receive further information about the subject of this public hearing from the Maryland Department of the Environment.

As the Maryland Department of the Environment is a public agency subject to the Maryland Public Information Act, the sign-in sheet becomes part of the public record available for inspection by other members of the public. The permit applicant, the county or municipality, and elected officials may also receive copies, upon request, of this or any part of the public record.

If you have any questions about this, please contact the Water Supply Program at (410) 537-3590.



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

Public Informational Hearing

**Water Appropriation and Use Permit
Application No. KE2021G001/01**

**Applicant: Harborview Farms Partnership
Use: Crop irrigation**

May 17, 2023 5:00pm

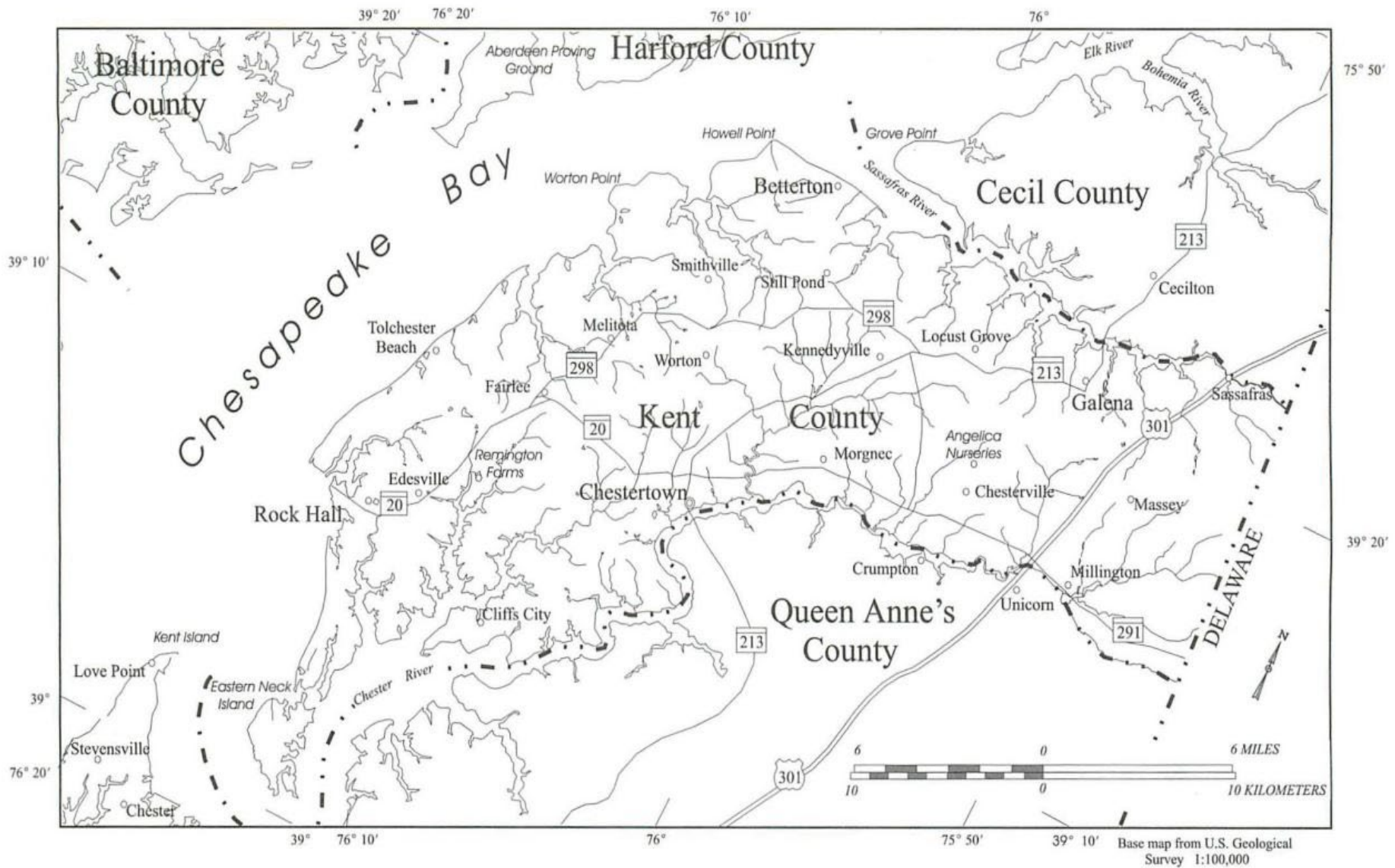
Chestertown, MD



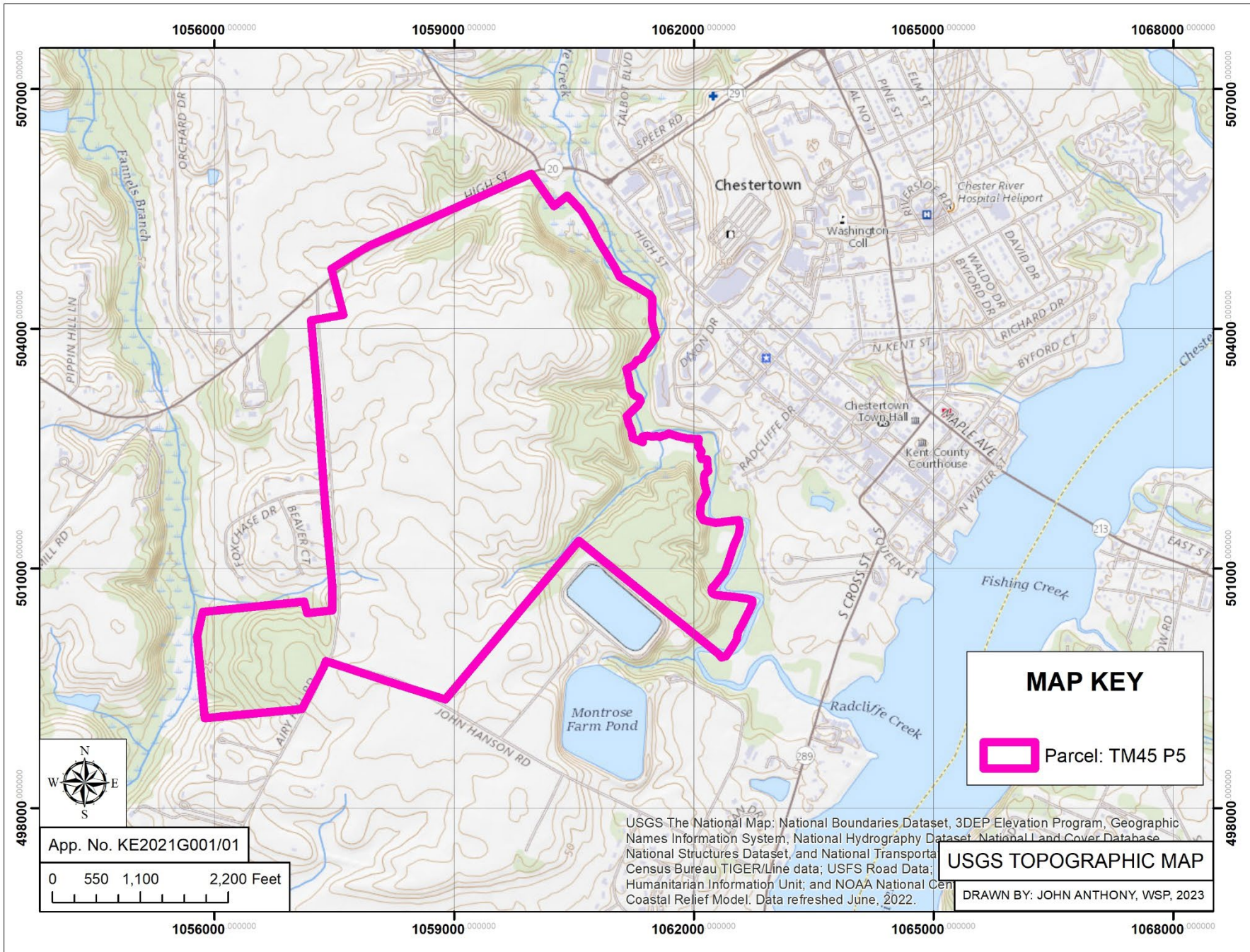
REASONABLE USE DOCTRINE

Basis of Maryland water law

- All landowners have the right to make a reasonable use of the water associated with their property.
- Their rights are limited by the rights of other landowners and the ability of the resource to sustain the request.

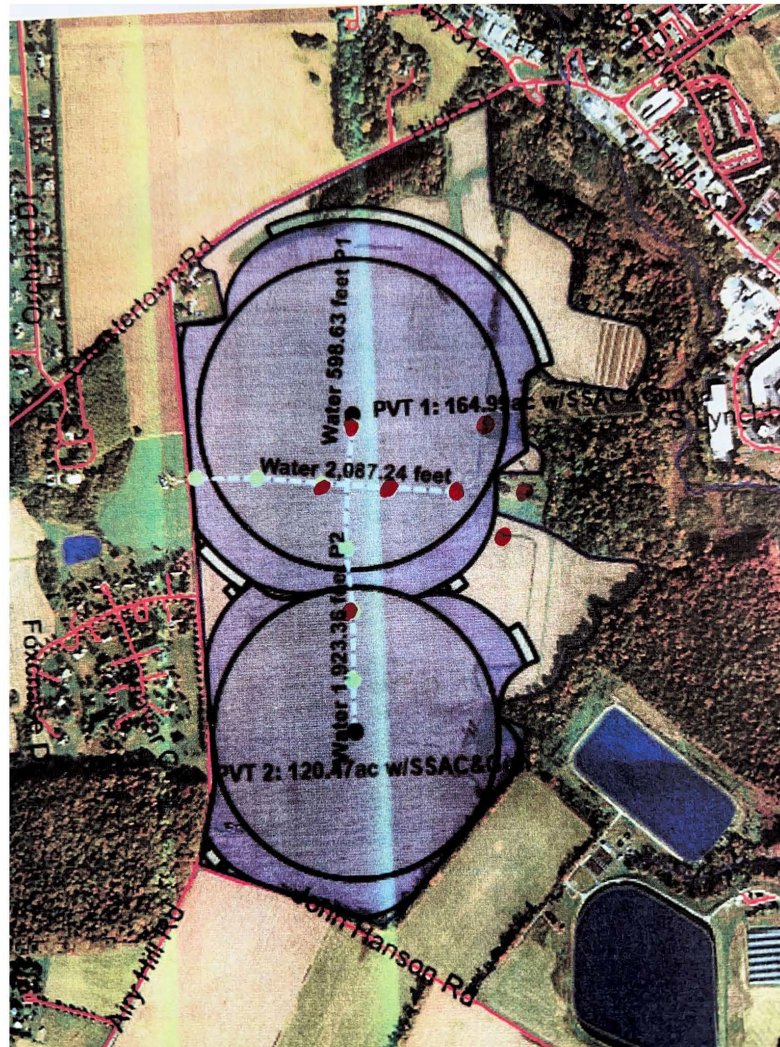


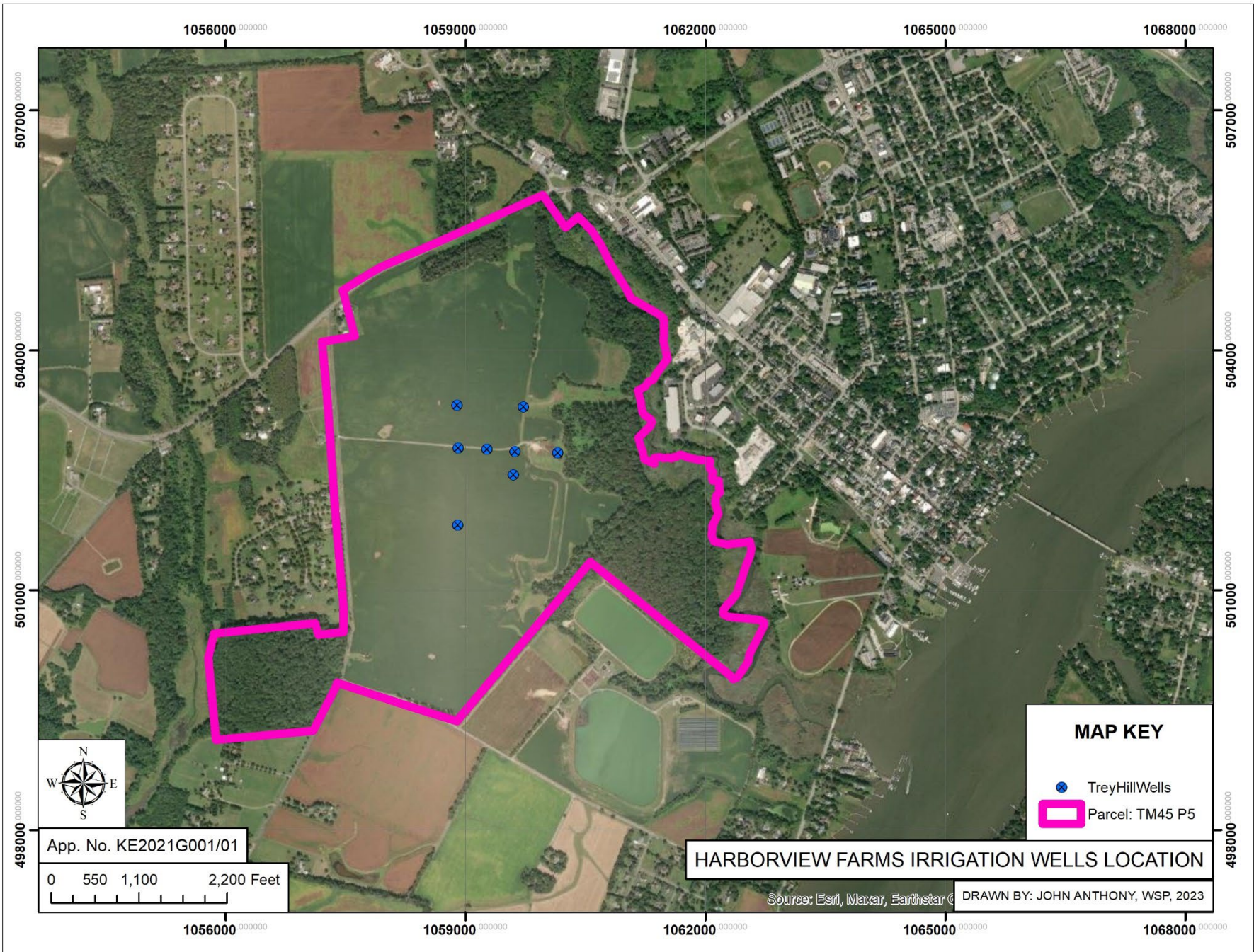
Source: RI-68, Maryland Geological Survey, Drummond, 1998

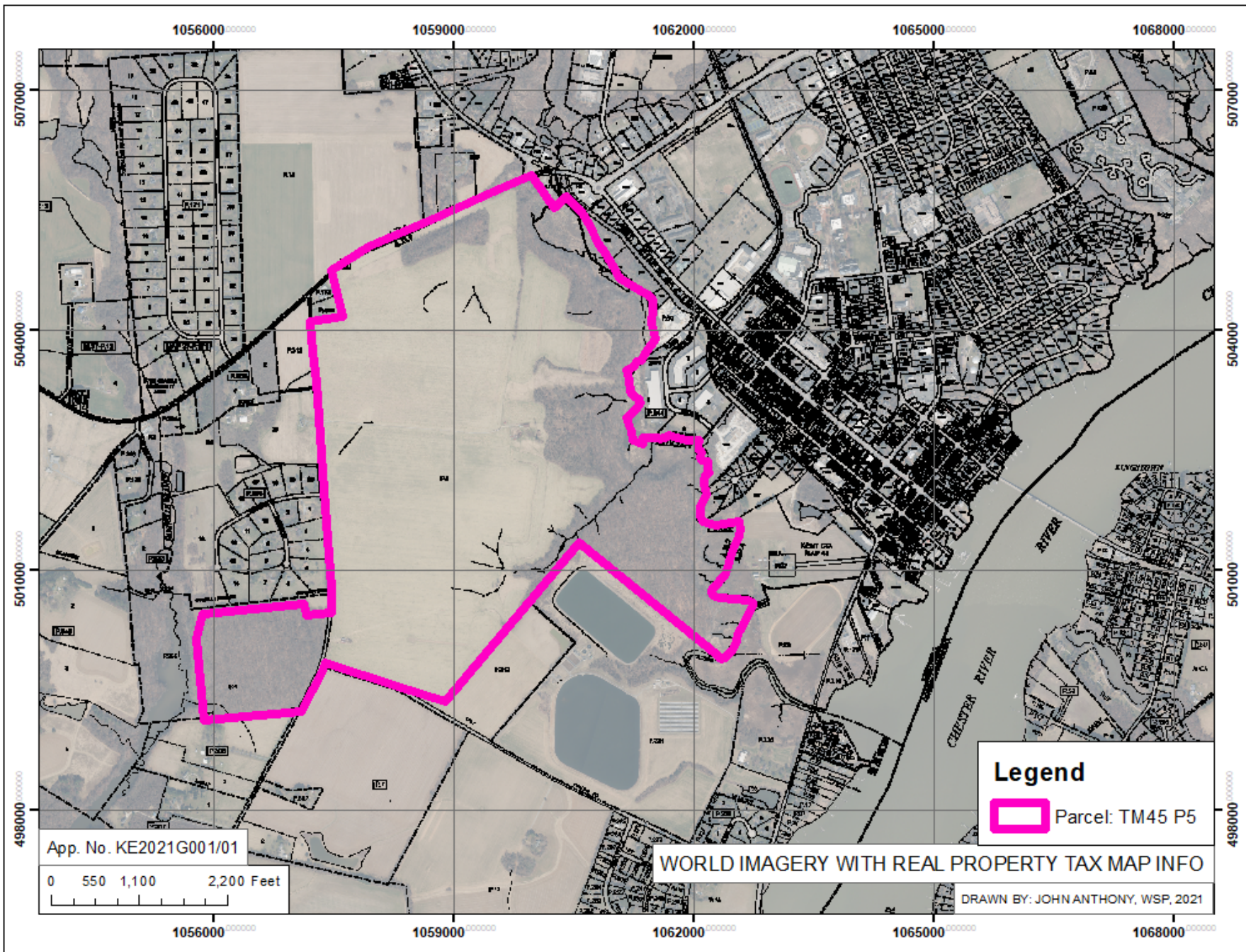




Harborview Farms Irrigation Layout









Reasonableness of use :The 3 R's

1. The reasonableness of the requested quantity of water.
2. The reasonableness of the withdrawal on the resource.
3. The reasonableness of the withdrawal on other users of the resource.



Reasonableness of use :The 3 R's

1. The reasonableness of the requested quantity of water.



Reasonableness of requested quantity

Water Demand calculation is based on:

- Crop type
- Number of irrigated acres
- Dominant soil type
- Irrigation system type (water loss factor)
- Drought-year water demand for crops (acre inches)



KE2021G001/01 water demand:

- Crop type: grain corn
- Irrigated acreage: 258 acres
- Soil type: silty loam (USDA Web Soil Survey)
- Water loss factor: 1.15 (15%) (low-pressure center pivot system)
- Water demand: 11.7 inches for “high yield”



Calculated water demand

- **Annual average:** Total seasonal quantity / 365 days (one year)

$$3,471 \text{ acre inches} / 365 = \mathbf{258,500 \text{ gallons per day}}$$

- **Average in the month of maximum use:** (critical growing period) assumes all water used will be pumped 60 days

$$3,471 \text{ acre inches} / 2 / 30 \text{ days} = \mathbf{1,571,000 \text{ gallons per day}}$$

- Quantities are based on a drought year water demand
- Note: WSP records show that long-term water use is about 50% to 60% of the total permitted quantities



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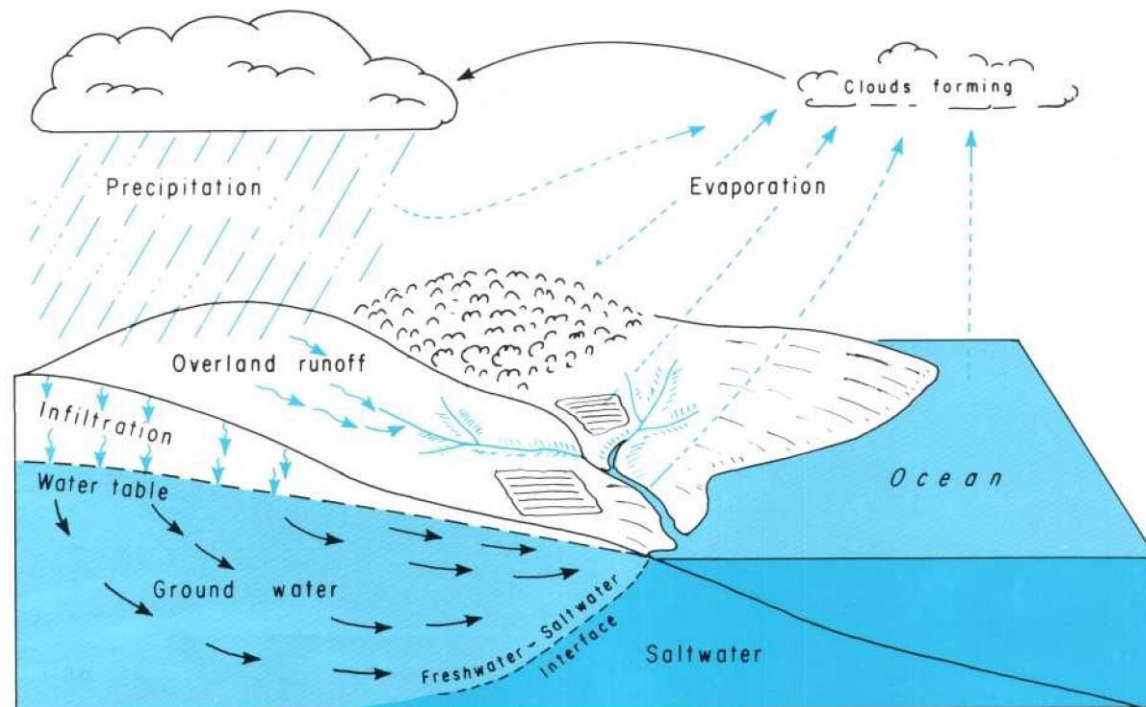


Reasonableness of use :The 3 R's

2. The reasonableness of the withdrawal on the resource.

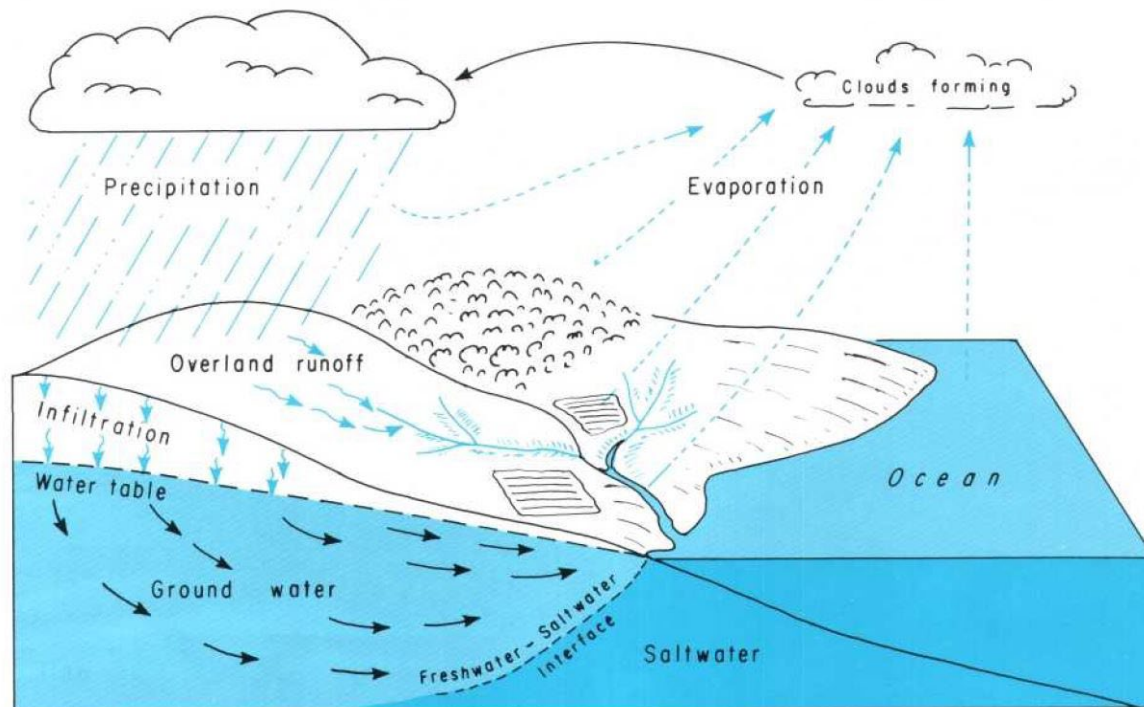


Reasonableness of the withdrawal on the resource: (Aquia aquifer)



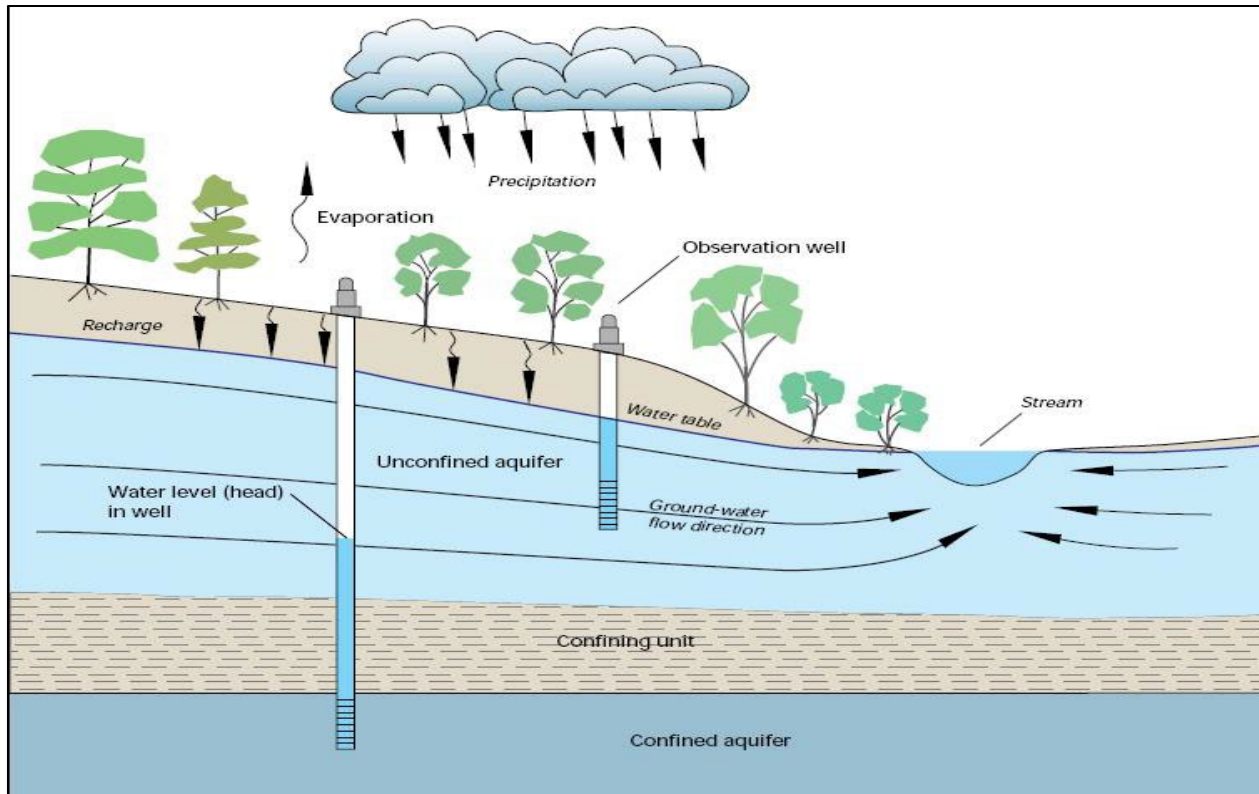


The Hydrologic Cycle





The Groundwater System



Source: U.S. Geological Survey, 1998, Circular 1139



Reasonableness of withdrawal on the resource (Aquia aquifer):

- Annual rainfall = 47.4 inches
- Groundwater recharge = 24.4 in. (51.5% of AR)
- Drought year recharge = 16.5 in. (68% of GWR)
- Base flow maintenance = 1.4 in.
- Available drought year recharge = 15.1 in (16.5-1.4)



Reasonableness of withdrawal on the resource (Aquia aquifer):

- Property area: 503 acres
- Available drought recharge = 7,595 acre inches (15.1 in * 503 ac)
- Seasonal water use = 3,471 acre inches
- Surplus recharge = 4,124 acre inches
- Infiltration recharge = 520 acre inches (15% of 3,471)
- Excess recharge on property = 4,644 acre inches
- Applicant's water use approx. 39% of available drought year recharge (2,951 consumptive/7,595 available)



Reasonableness of use :The 3 R's

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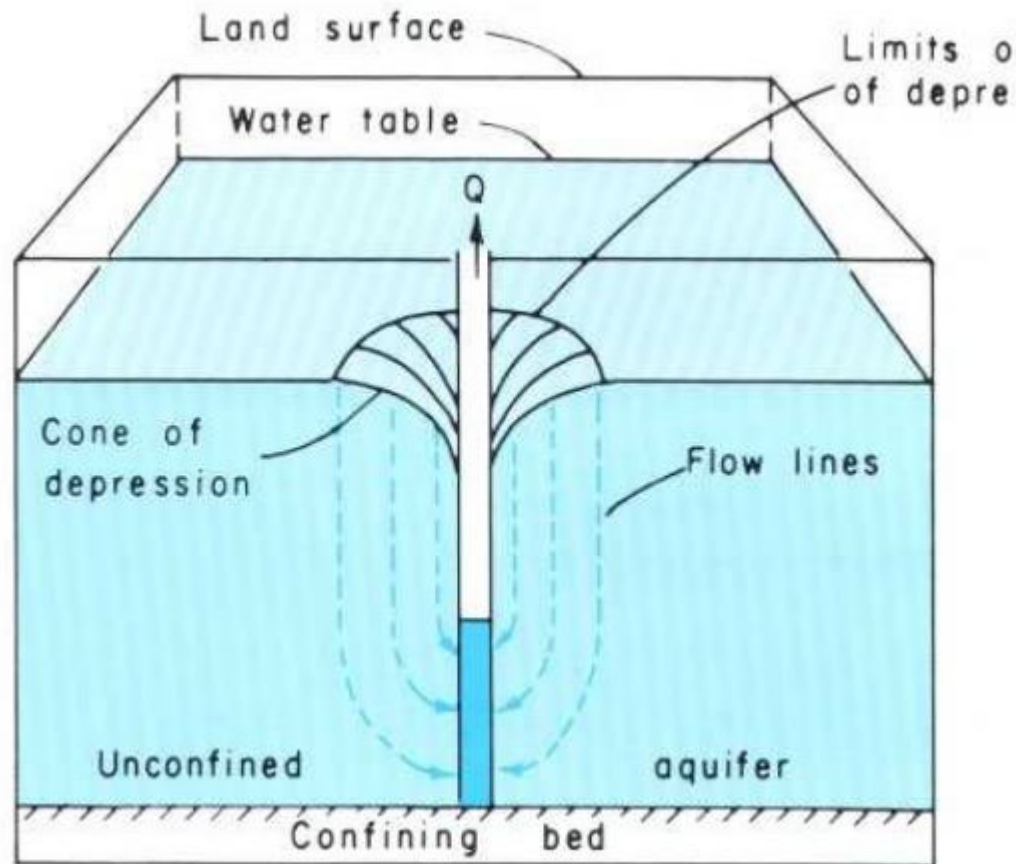


Reasonableness of use :The 3 R's

3. The reasonableness of the withdrawal on other users of the resource.



Reasonableness of the withdrawal on other users of the resource: cone of depression





Drawdown Modeling

- To determine the water level drop (drawdown) at a specified distance due to a well pumping:
 - Aquifer characteristics needed: (Transmissivity, Storativity)
 - Pumping rate (gallons per minute)
 - Pumping duration (days)
 - Theis nonequilibrium equation is used (Theis, 1935)

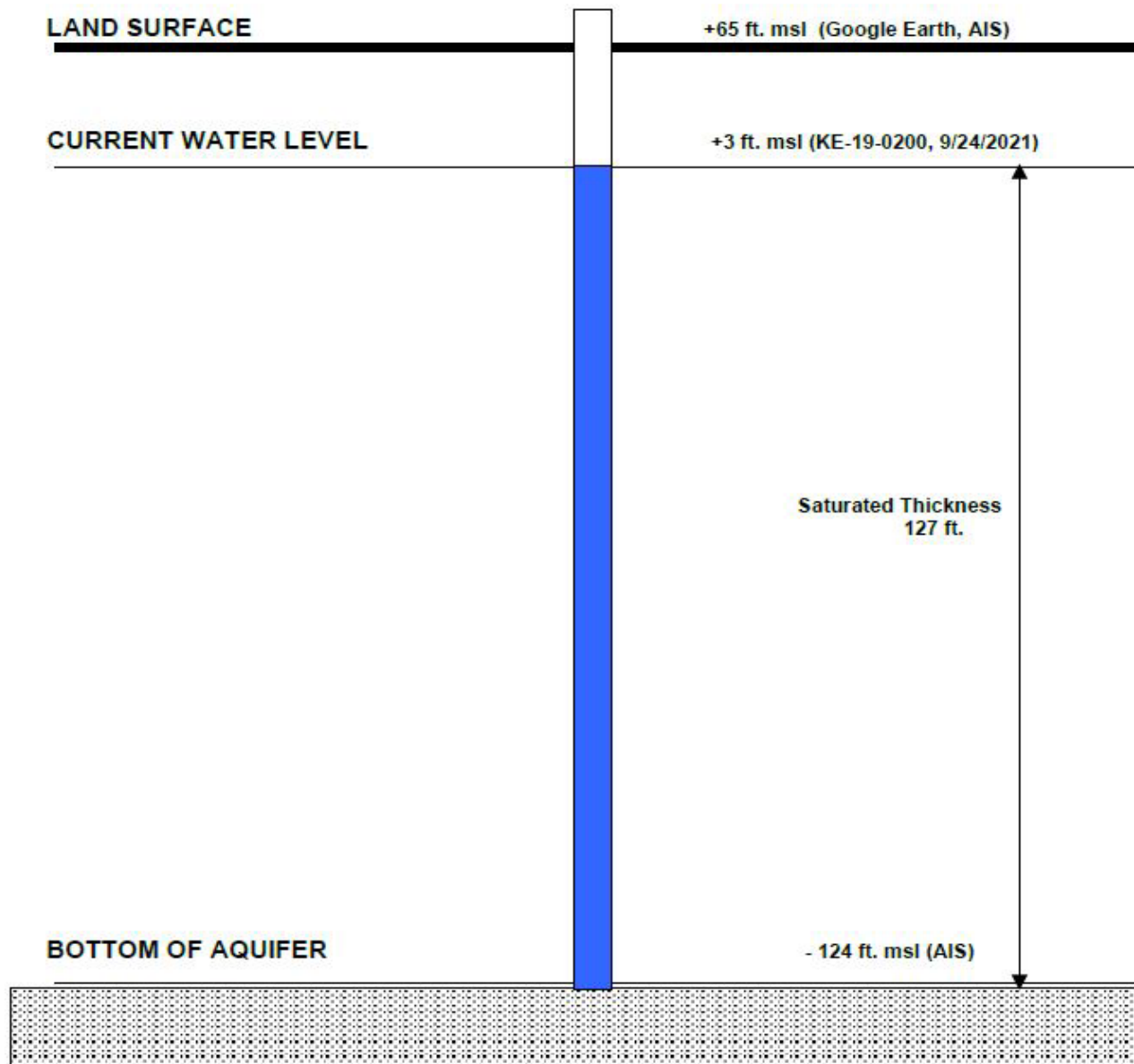


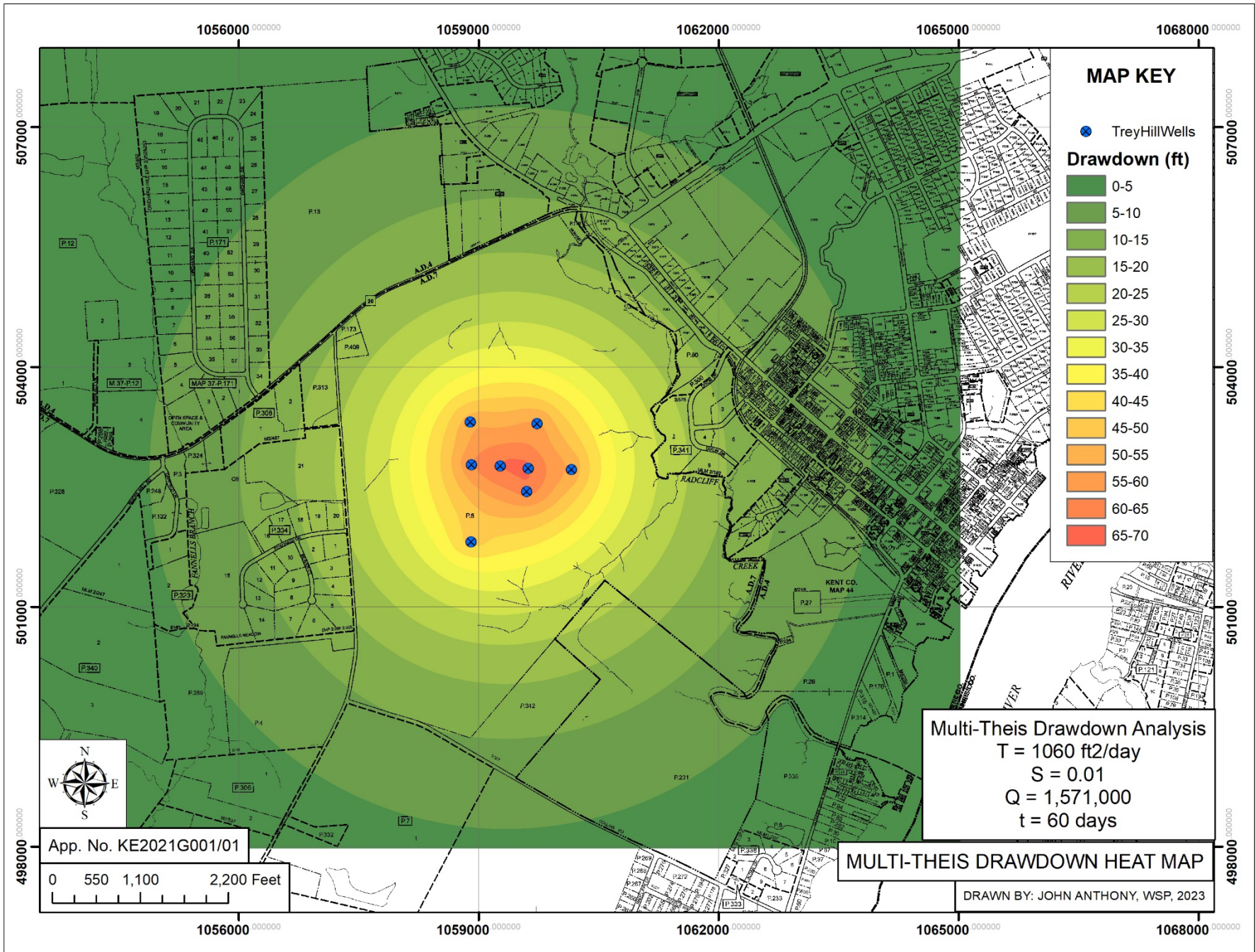
Drawdown Modeling

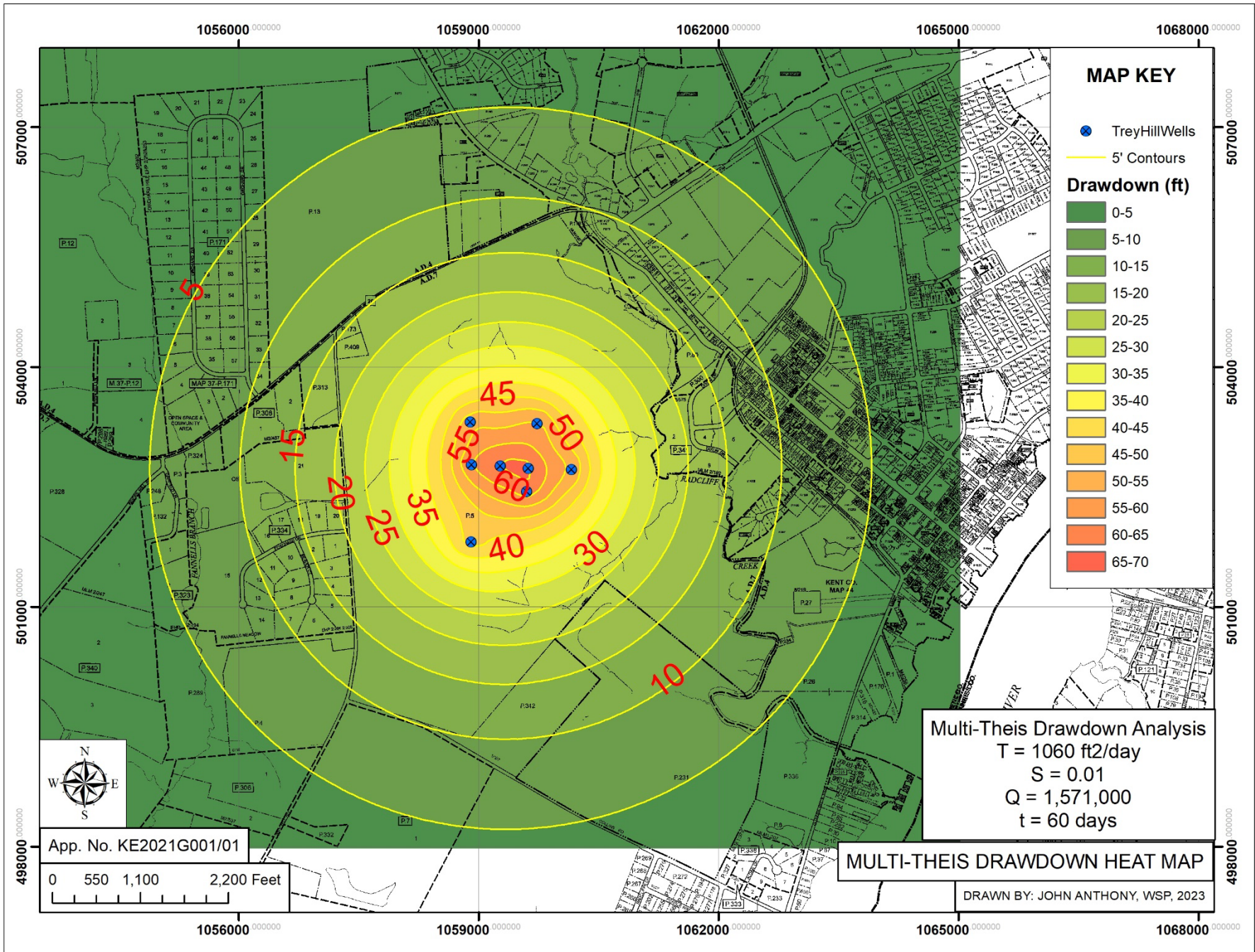
- Aquifer characteristics are from published geological reports, maps, well completion reports, and an on-site aquifer test.
- Key aquifer data used in the modeling:
 - Transmissivity (T) = 1,060 ft²/day
 - Storativity (S) = 0.01
 - Pumping rate = 1,571,000 gpd
 - Duration: 60 days
 - Assume there is no recharge
- The projected drawdown is 22' at a distance of 2,000' (property boundary) from the pumping center.

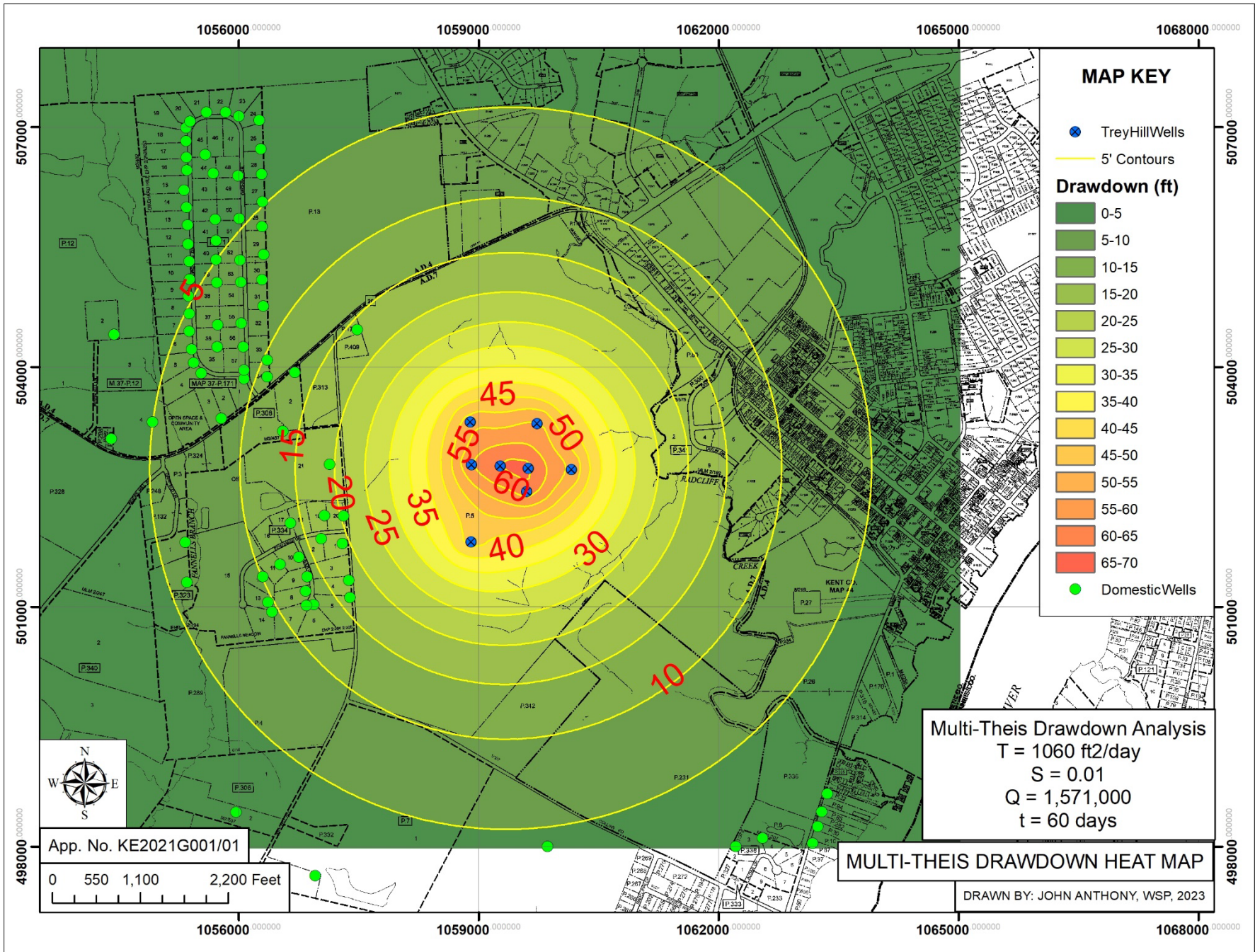


Simplified Aquia Aquifer Model











Summary – The 3R's

- KE2021G001/01 - proposed withdrawal of annual avg of 258,500 gpd and average of 1,571,000 gpd during the month of maximum use
- Total demand will NOT exceed the drought year recharge
- Nearest property line may see 22' fluctuation in groundwater levels due to maximum pumping
- Nearest well (farther than nearest property line) would see even less fluctuation (20') in groundwater levels



Questions Received before Hearing

- What are the permit conditions that will be in the permit to protect homeowners?
- What is the procedure should an issue occur?
- Would the guarantees/ permit conditions be transferred?
- Can we expect a change in water quality due to the withdrawal?



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Environment

Water Supply Program

410-537-3590