

Natural Resources Department

FEBRUARY 2023

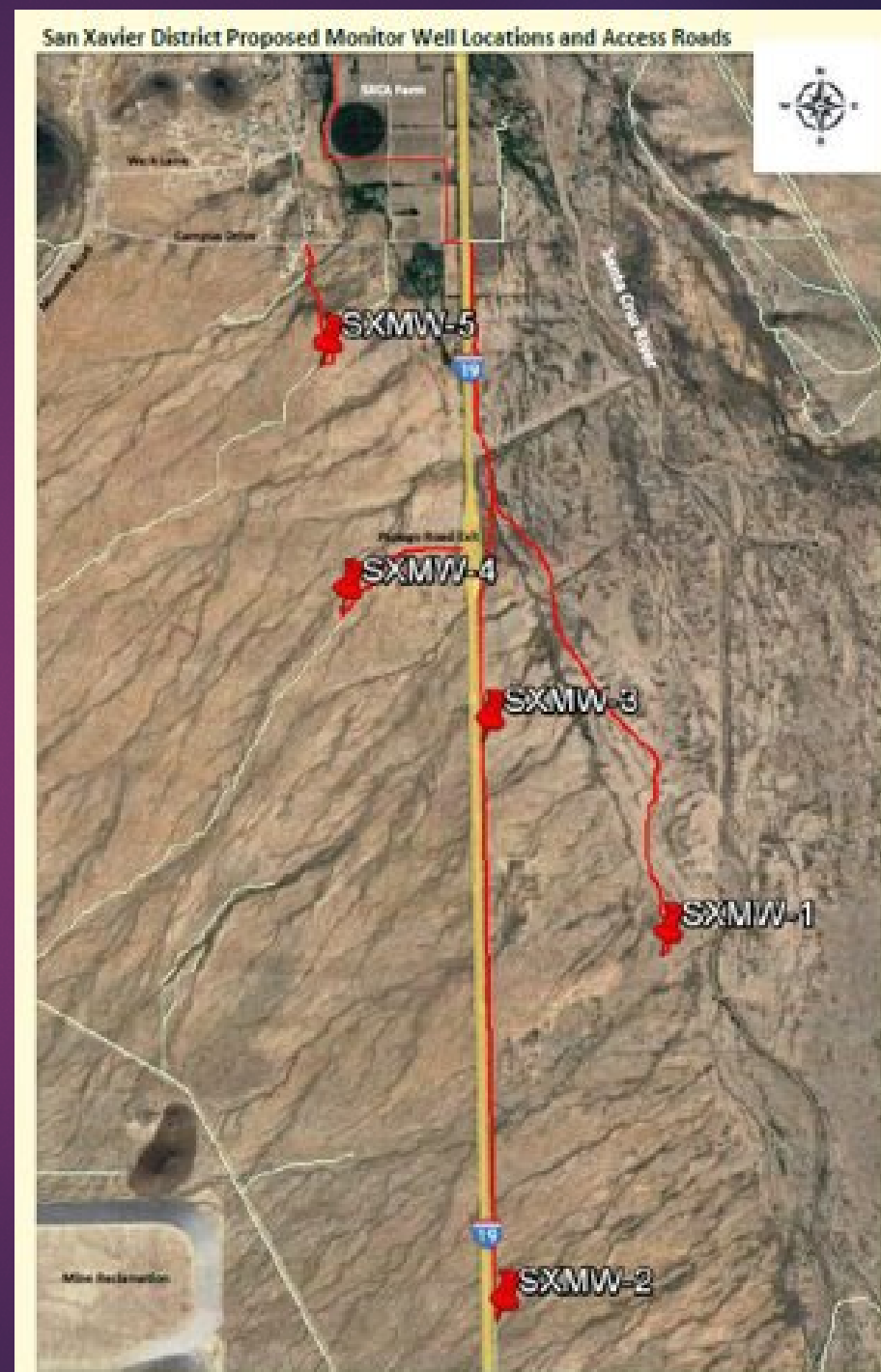
Natural Resources Department

- ▶ Water Resources
- ▶ Mine Reclamation
- ▶ Cemetery Wash
- ▶ Invasive Species
- ▶ Rainwater Harvesting



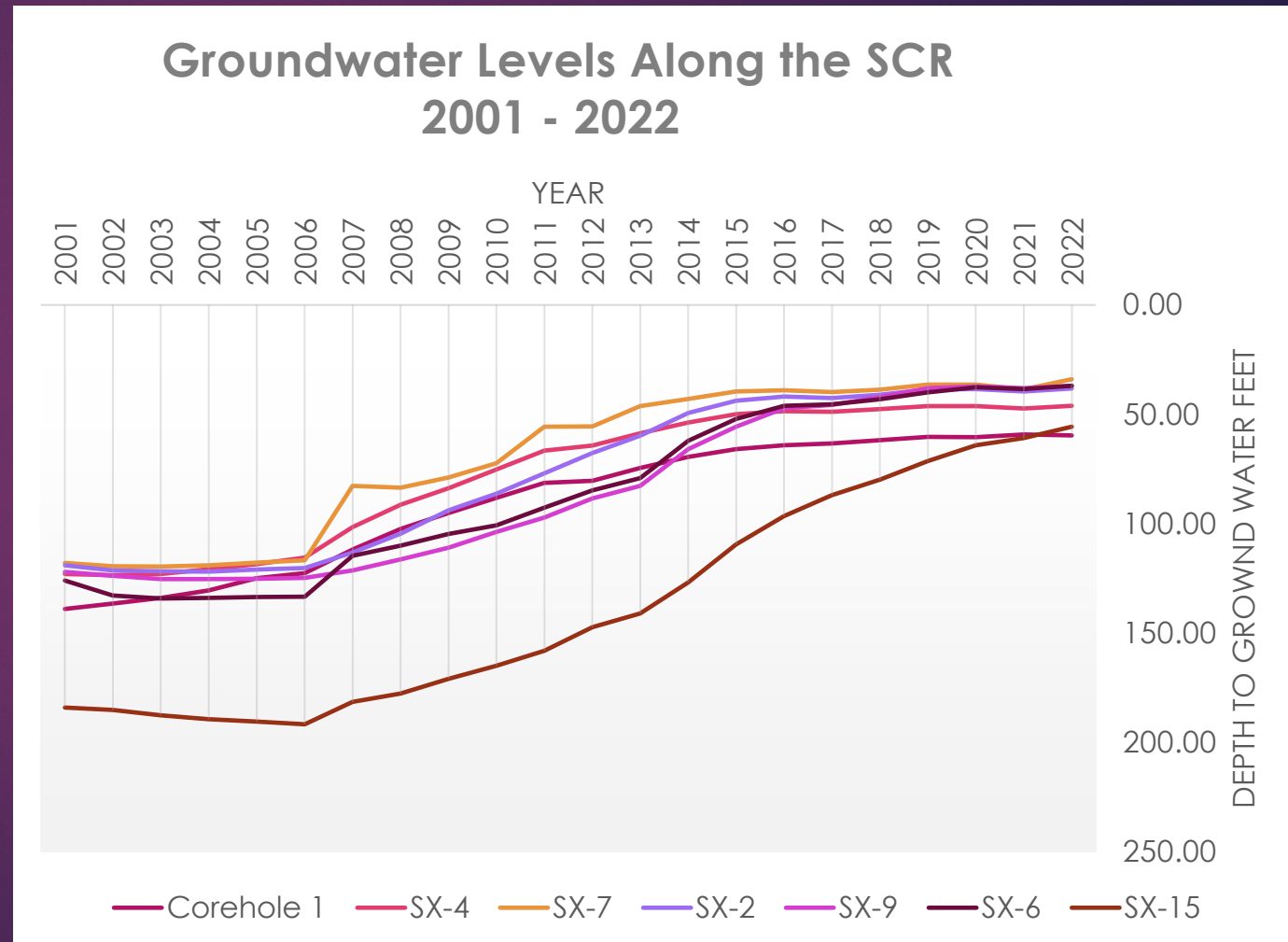
Water Resources

- ▶ New Monitoring Wells
 - ▶ Survey work done
 - ▶ Next step
 - ▶ Appraisals
 - ▶ ROW Access Roads

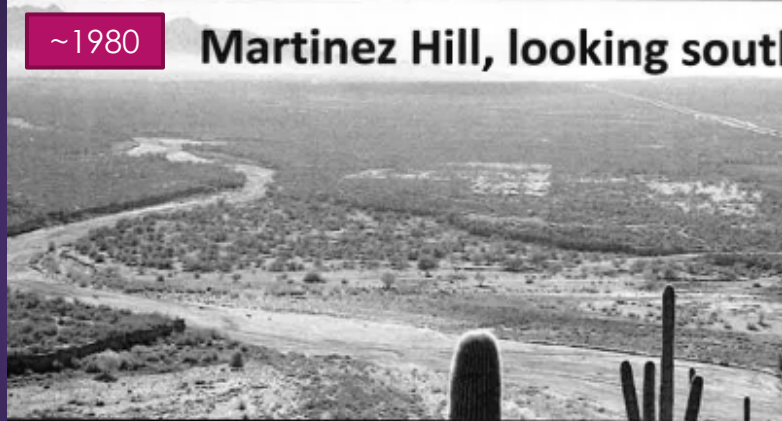


Water Resources

- ▶ Groundwater Level Monitoring Annually
 - ▶ ~50 wells around the District
 - ▶ Entered into Database



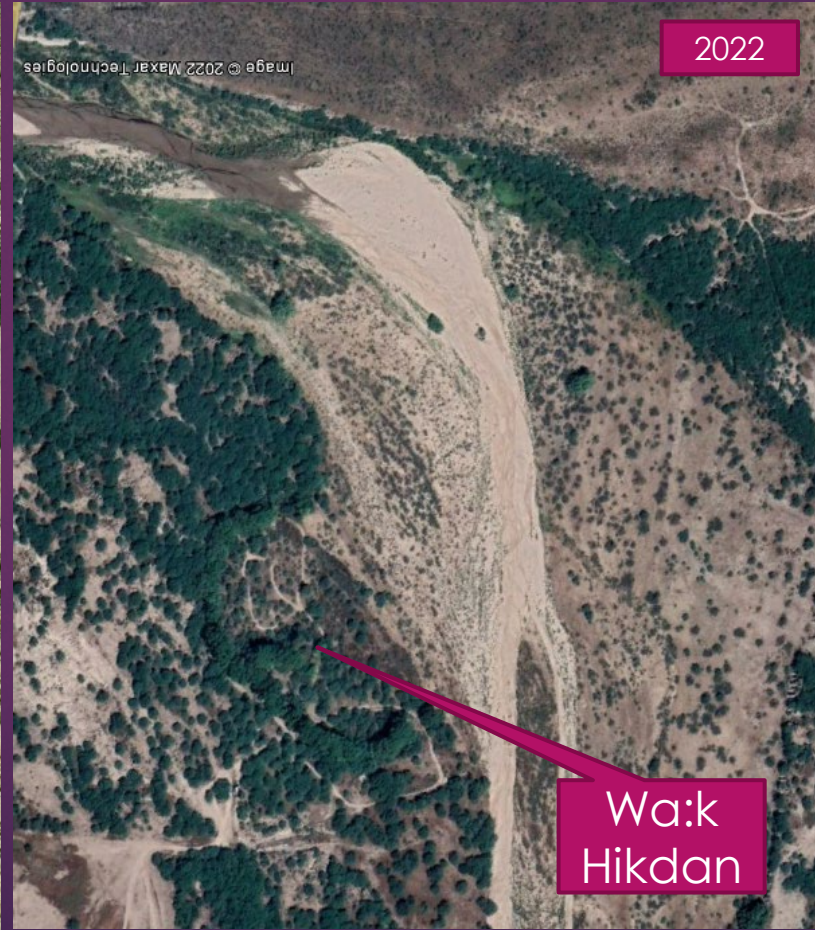
Water Resources



▶ Santa Cruz River

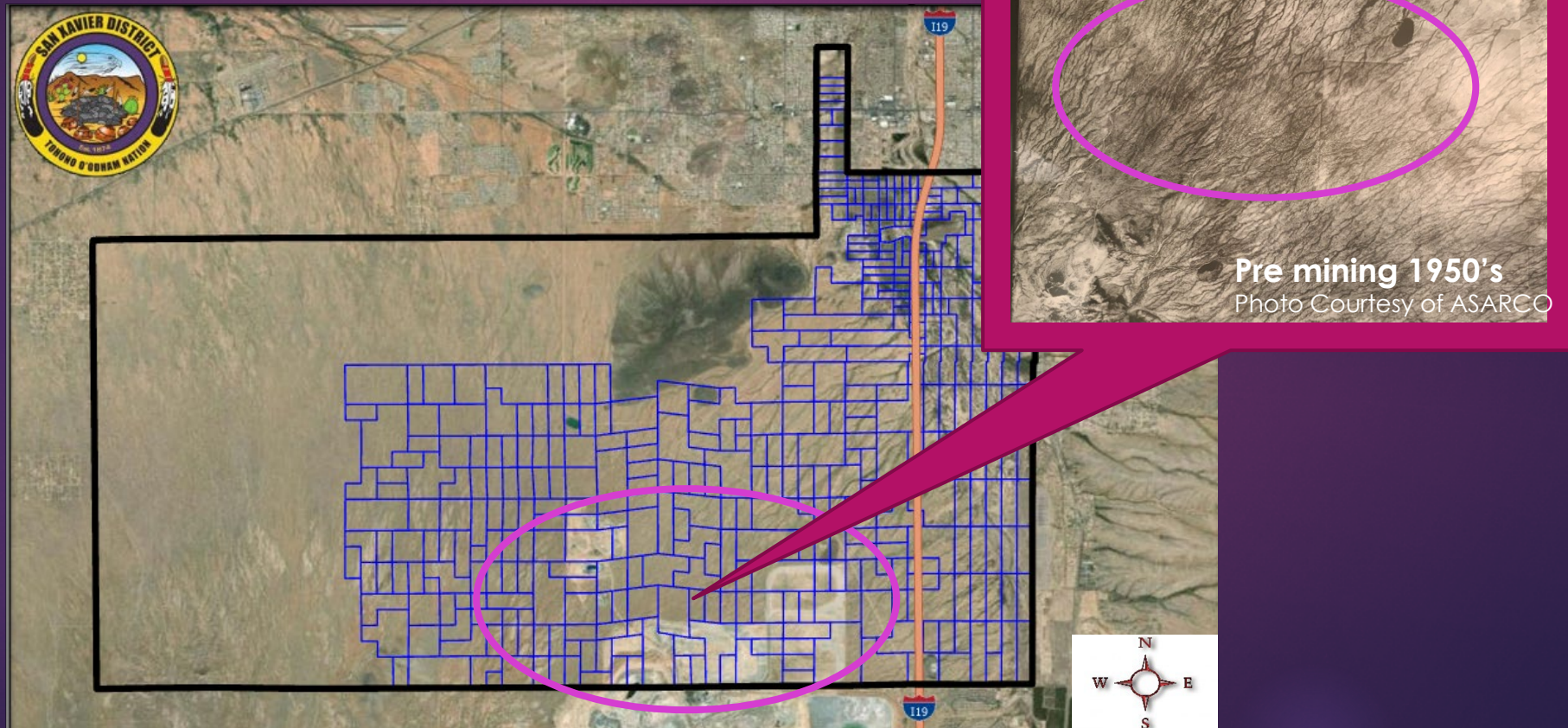


Wa:k Hikdan and Ali Akamel



Mine Reclamation

- ▶ Vegetation Monitoring
- ▶ Erosion Monitoring
- ▶ Storm Water Controls



Mine Tailings Reclamation

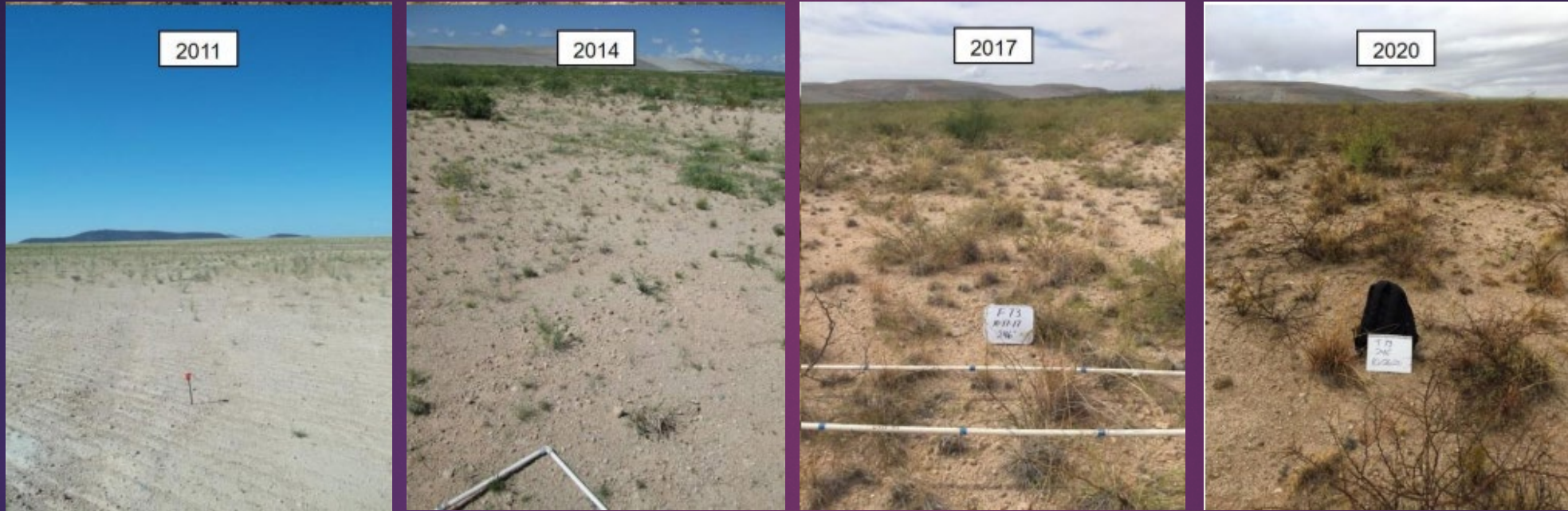
- ▶ Covered tops of tailings with alluvium and seeded with native vegetation
- ▶ Re-graded slopes, covered with alluvium, and then covered with rock
- ▶ Seeded all rock slopes



TAILINGS PONDS 2 & 3 FROM NORTH DUMP

Mine Reclamation Vegetation Monitoring

(Top of Tailings)



- Meeting goals of the reclamation
- Continue monitoring and maintenance plan
- Address cattle and invasive species issues
- May continue monitoring on a 5-year cycle instead of 3 as funding permits

Mine Reclamation Maintenance

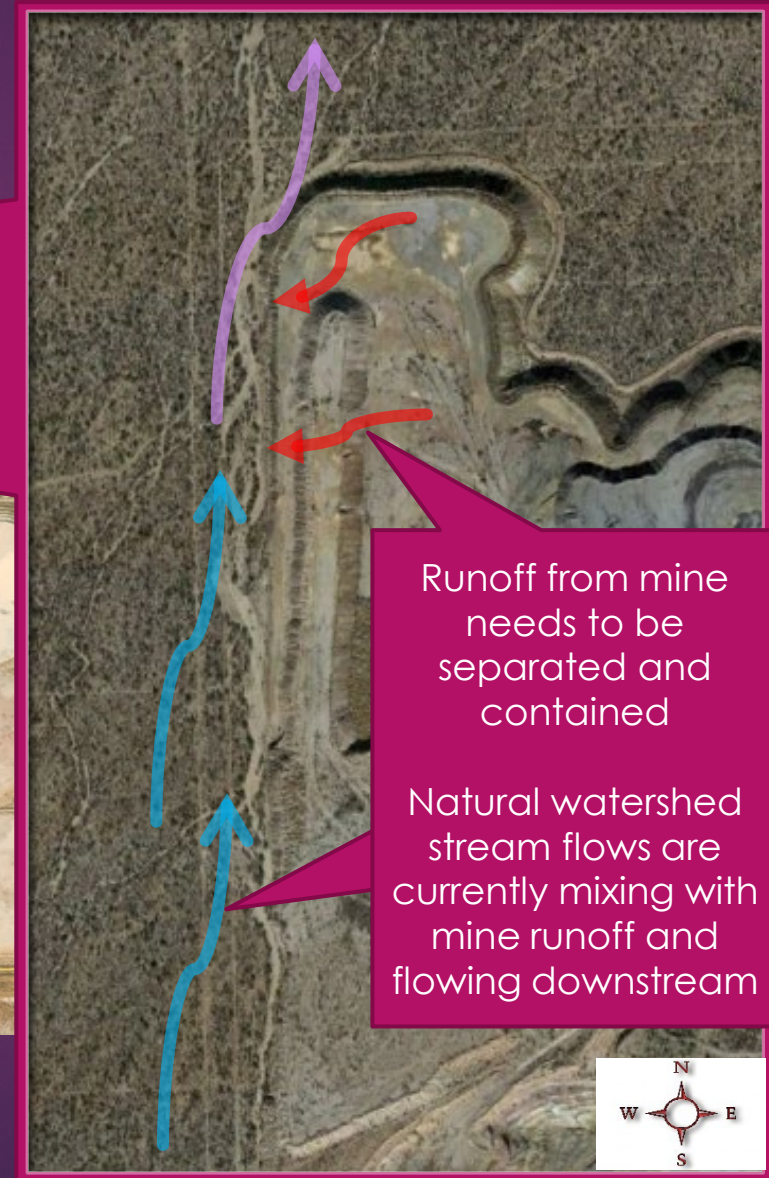
- ▶ Annual Erosion Monitoring
- ▶ Technical Team hires contractor for repair.



Figure 28. Erosion feature distribution and severity

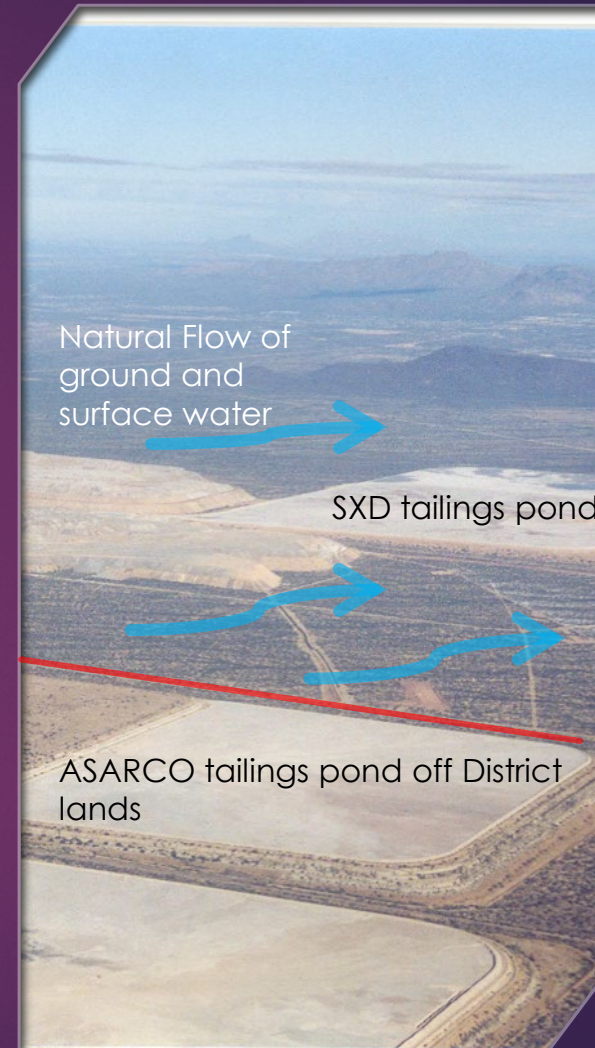
North Pit Stormwater controls

▶ ASARCO Responsibility



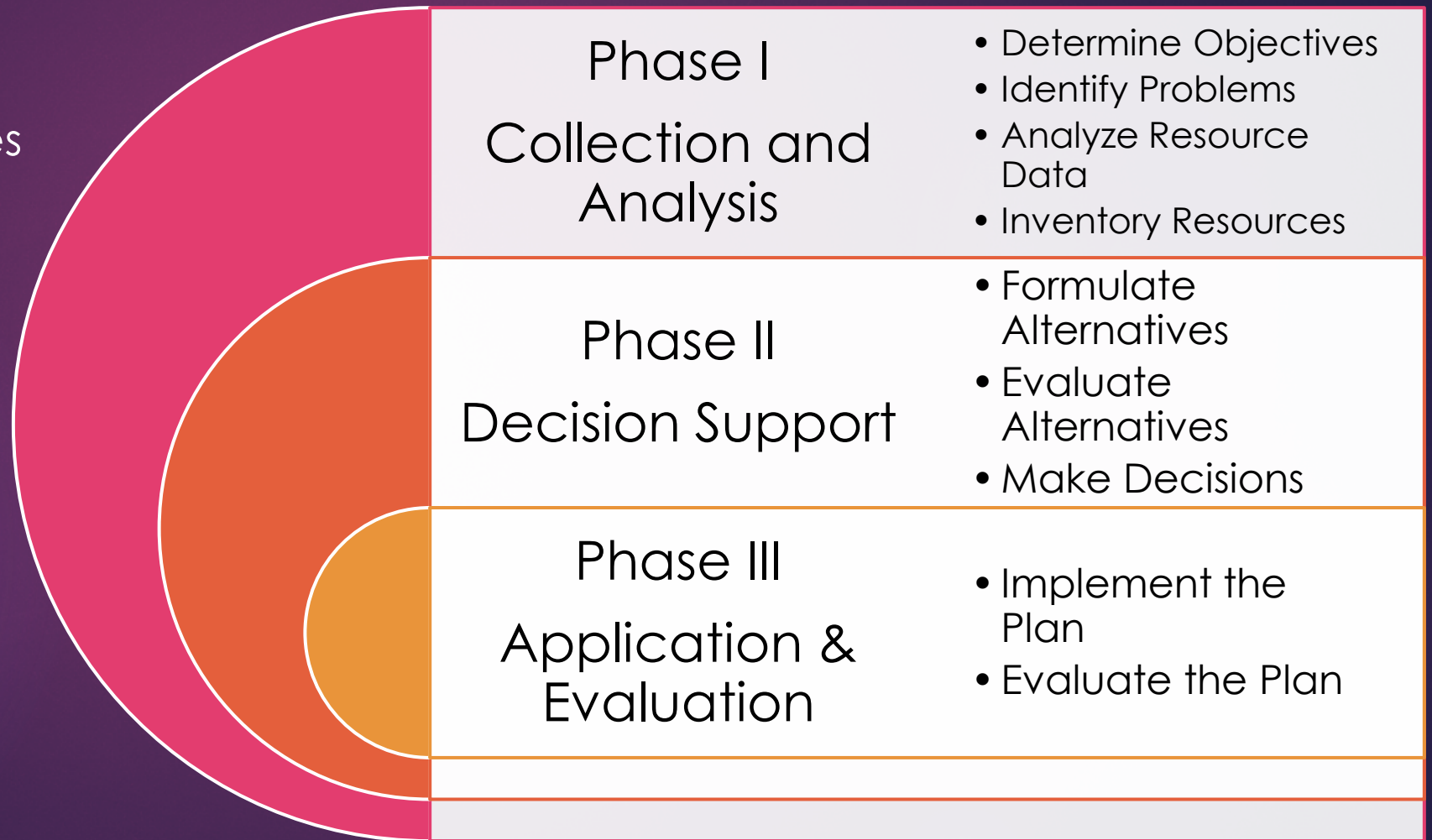
Ground and Surface water Issues From Mines

- ▶ Sulfate contamination of groundwater from Asarco tailings ponds
- ▶ Possible uranium contamination from tailings and waste rock
- ▶ ADEQ has no jurisdiction on Tribal lands and Federal government has no program to monitor groundwater on mined lands
- ▶ Waters of the US (WOTUS) rule change – TON has no set standard for surface waters



Cemetery Wash NRCS Plan/EA

- ▶ Public Scoping meeting to identify areas of concern
- ▶ Develop Alternatives



Cemetery Wash



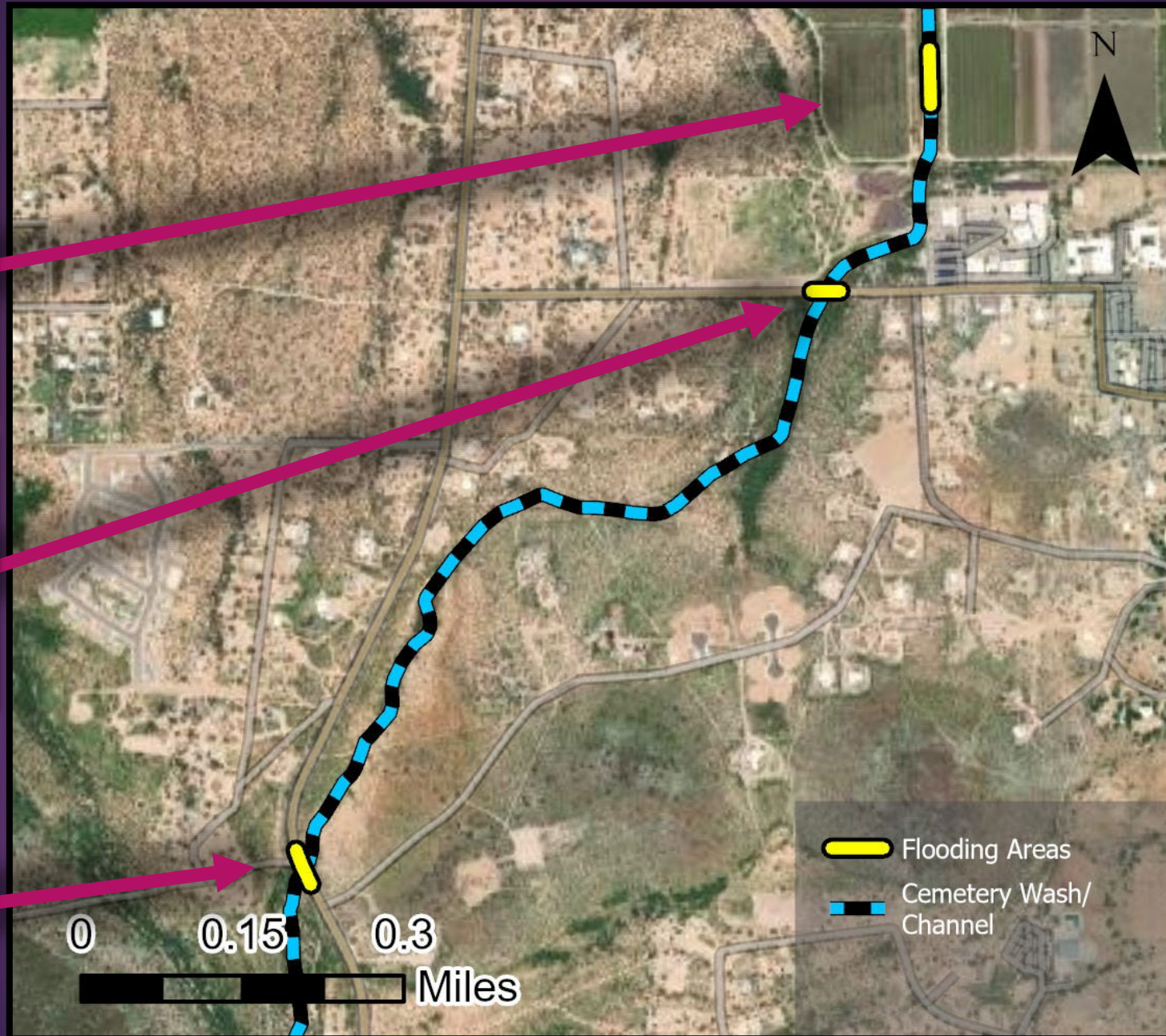
SXCA Farm Channels



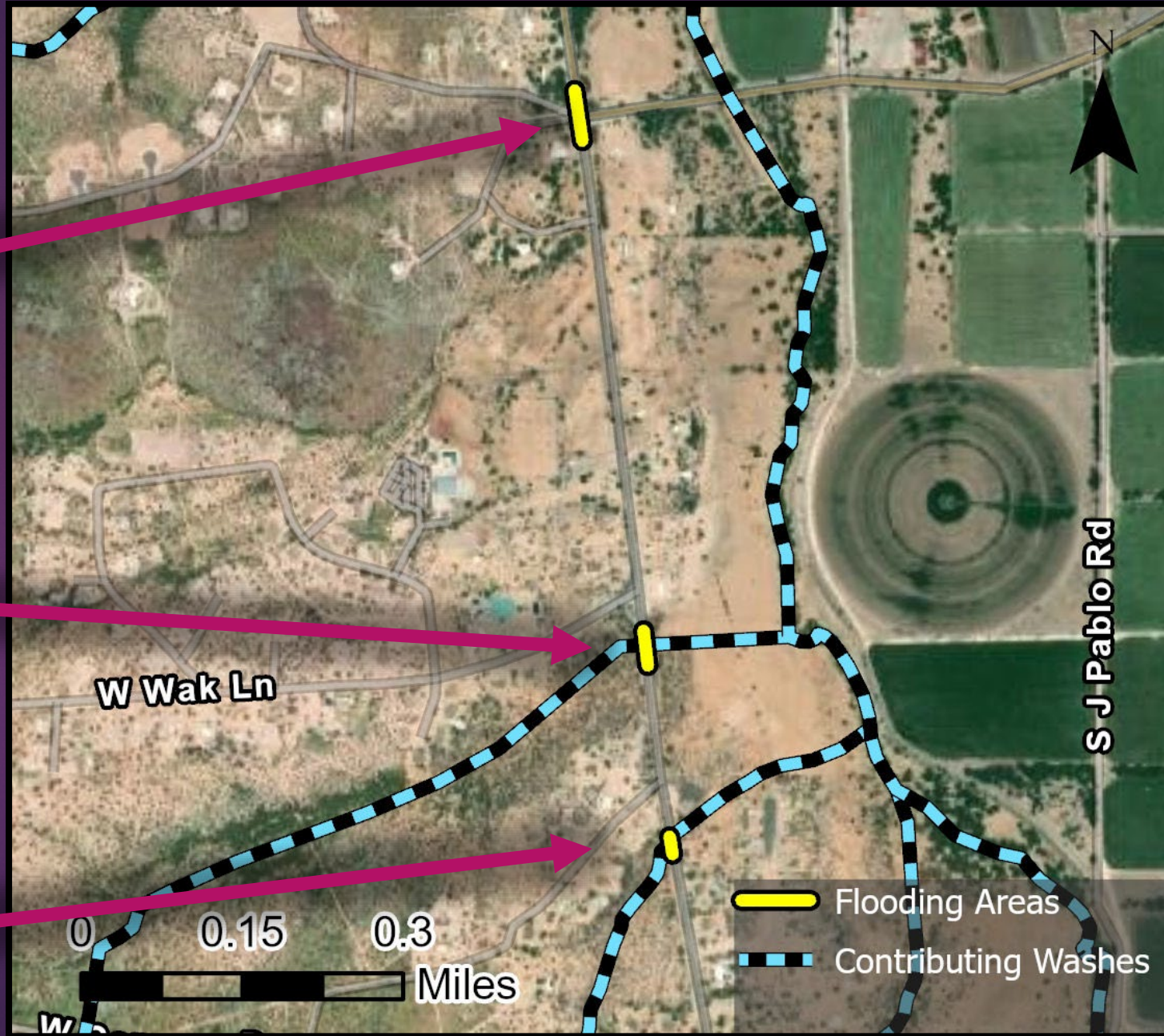
San Xavier Road



Mission Road

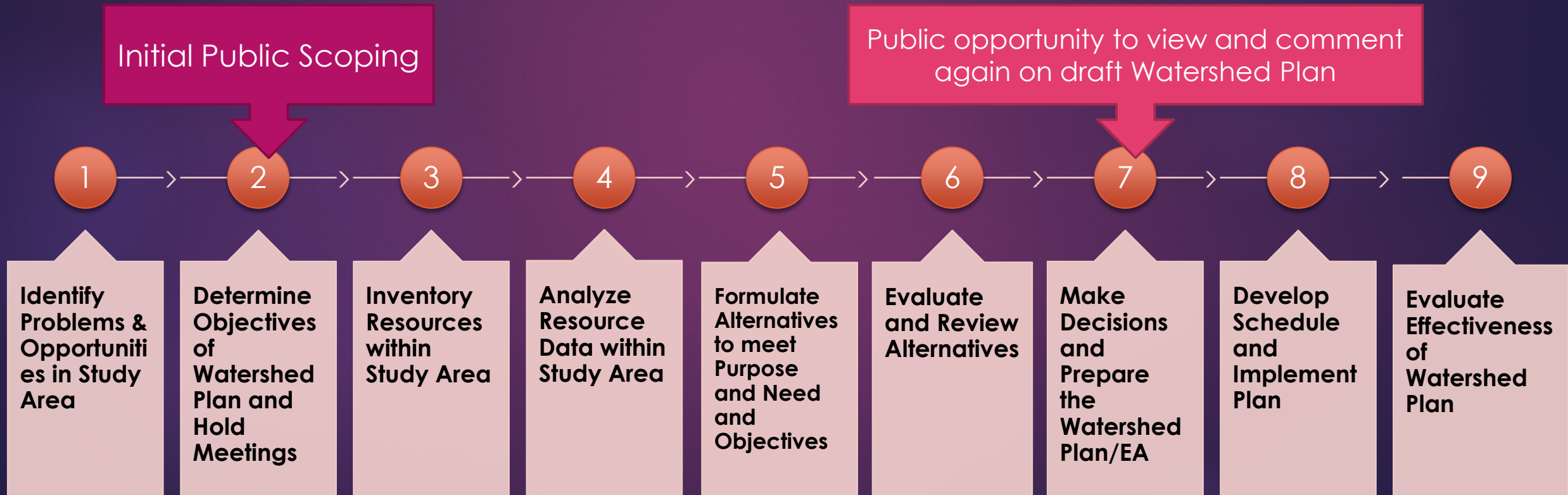


Additional Flooding Areas identified – Little Nogales Drive



Cemetery Wash Next Steps

- ▶ District and Cooperative Agency Review of Cost/Benefit of each alternative.
- ▶ Public Scoping meeting to review alternatives and finalize a plan of action.



Invasive Species

- ▶ Buffel Grass throughout the District
 - ▶ Can burn fast causing damage to native vegetation.
 - ▶ Planned Pull on February 24th and 25th
- ▶ Tamarask In the River
 - ▶ Competes with native vegetation, water intensive and salts the soil below it.
 - ▶ Young Women's Gather in June



**Come Join
The Natural Resources
Dept. for**

BUFFEL GRASS PULL EVENT

February 24th & 25th, 2023
8am-12pm

San Xavier Community Building
Snacks and refreshments will
be provided

**Participants be sure to bring: a
hat, water bottle and wear closed
toed shoes**

Tools will be provided

Buffelgrass, is an invasive species harming
our community and natural systems.
This effects our Roadways, Mountains and
our River

**FOR MORE INFO.
CONTACT**

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Natural Resources
Specialist

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cschlaefliwaketnet.org



Rainwater Harvesting

- ▶ Funding through ARPA
 - ▶ Education Center
 - ▶ District Offices
 - ▶ 20 Home Sites – Application available soon
- ▶ Supports native vegetation and Habitat
- ▶ Can create a backup water source
- ▶ Reduce erosion and flooding around the District



ARPA Water Filters Available



PUR Plus Faucet Mount



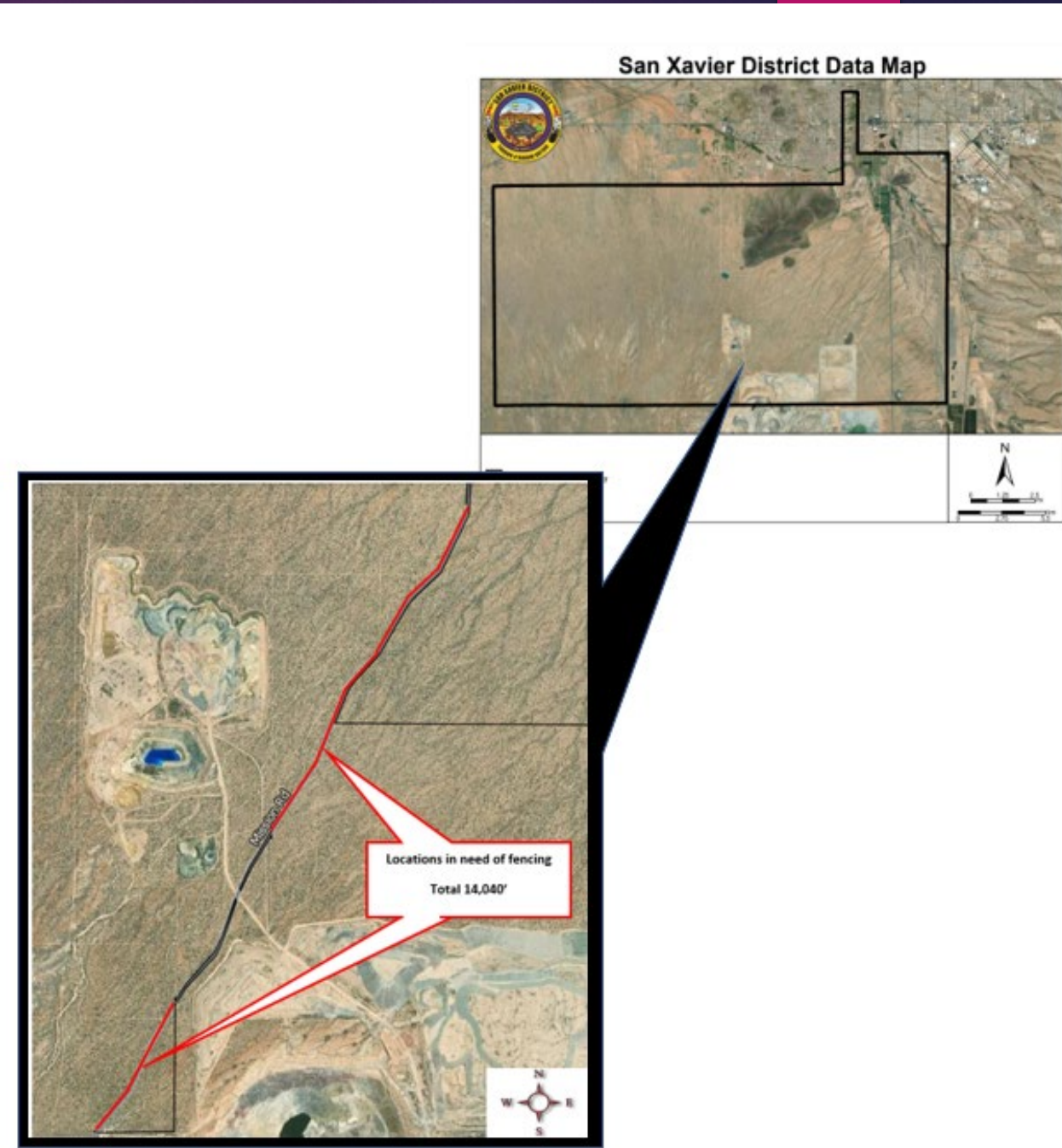
iSpring Countertop Water Filtration



Zero-Water 10 cup Pitcher

Mission Road Fencing

- ▶ Keep Cattle on the West Side
 - ▶ Traffic and animal safety
- ▶ Looking at ROW along Mission road that crosses several allotments





Thank you!

Contact:

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