The background of the slide is a light gray gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered across it. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

# **WATER POLICY AND CODE CHANGES**

## **TOPIC: SEWER REQUIREMENTS**

COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

AUGUST 13, 2019

# STUDY SESSION SCHEDULE

Date	Topic
June 11, 2019	Overview of all Code and Policy Changes, and Conservation Rebates
June 25, 2019	Policy Changes
July 9, 2019	Water Service Outside of City Limits
July 23, 2019	Other Code Changes
<b>August 13, 2019</b>	<b>Sewer Requirements</b>
August 27, 2019	Review of Code and Policy Changes
September 10, 2019	Adoption of Code and Policy Changes

# HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE?

- Attend Council Study Sessions
- View Video of Proposed Policy Discussion On City Website
  - [WWW.PRESCOTT-AZ.GOV/WATER-SEWER/WATER-MANAGEMENT/WATER-POLICY/](http://WWW.PRESCOTT-AZ.GOV/WATER-SEWER/WATER-MANAGEMENT/WATER-POLICY/)
- Send Written Comments To:
  - [WATER.POLICY@PRESCOTT-AZ.GOV](mailto:WATER.POLICY@PRESCOTT-AZ.GOV)
  - OR
  - Water Policy Comments  
201 S. Cortez Street  
Prescott, AZ 86301

# BACKGROUND

- Beginning in 1998, some new construction was required to connect to sewer.
- There is currently no requirement to connect to sewer in City Code.
- Many properties still develop with septic systems.

# UNSEWERED OVERVIEW

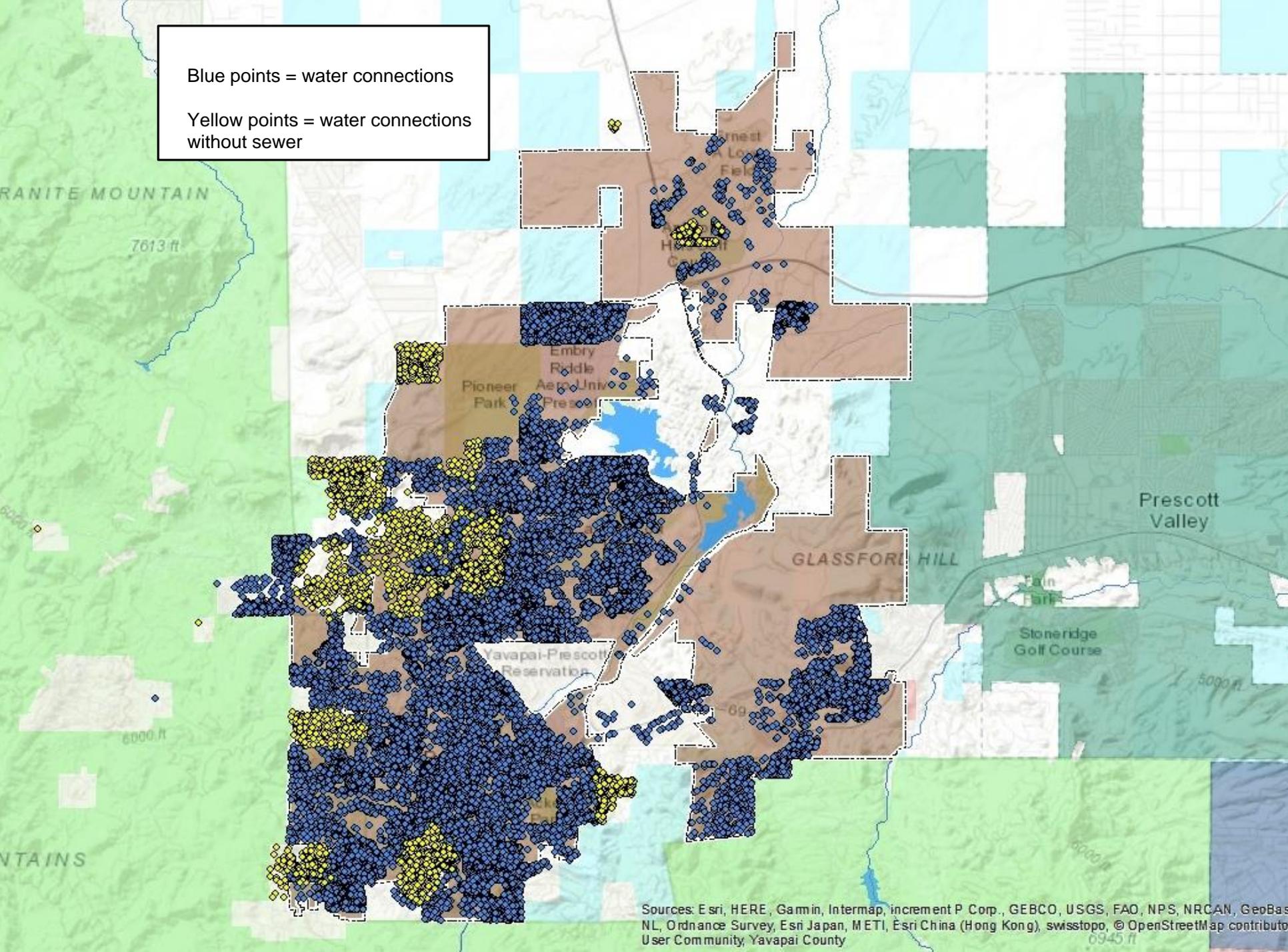
- Approximately 1,200 existing utility accounts, within City limits, are not connected to sewer.

Another assessment of unsewered conditions is by parcel (not by account)

- Approximately 3,850 lots with an existing building, within City limits, are not connected to sewer. Of those lots, 1,836 are within 0-50 feet of an existing sewer line.

Blue points = water connections

Yellow points = water connections  
without sewer



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBas, NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, © OpenStreetMap contributors, User Community, Yavapai County

# PROPOSED SEWER POLICY

## New Construction

All new construction must connect to the City sewer system.



# POTENTIAL SEWER POLICY

## **Existing Construction**

All existing construction that is not connected to the City sewer system must connect when the infrastructure is available for that property.

***Sewer is considered available when any part of the City's sewer system borders any part of the property.***

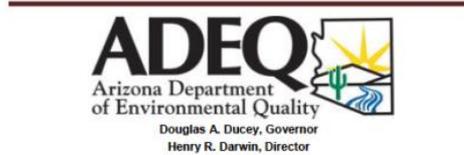
# WHY IS CONNECTION TO SEWER IMPORTANT?

- Reclaimed water is an important part of the City's water portfolio.
- Surface and ground water quality can be improved and protected
- Ensure city investments are worthwhile

# RECLAIMED AND RECHARGED WATER

- Reclaimed water is used to offset pumped groundwater
- More reclaimed water to the water reclamation facility = less net groundwater use
- An important action in helping the AMA to reach safe-yield

# WATER QUALITY



Watson Lake TMDL:  
Total Nitrogen, DO, pH  
& Total Phosphorus Targets

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality  
Supported by NAU, UofA, and Tetra Tech, Inc.

Final - February 2015  
Open File Report OFR-14-03

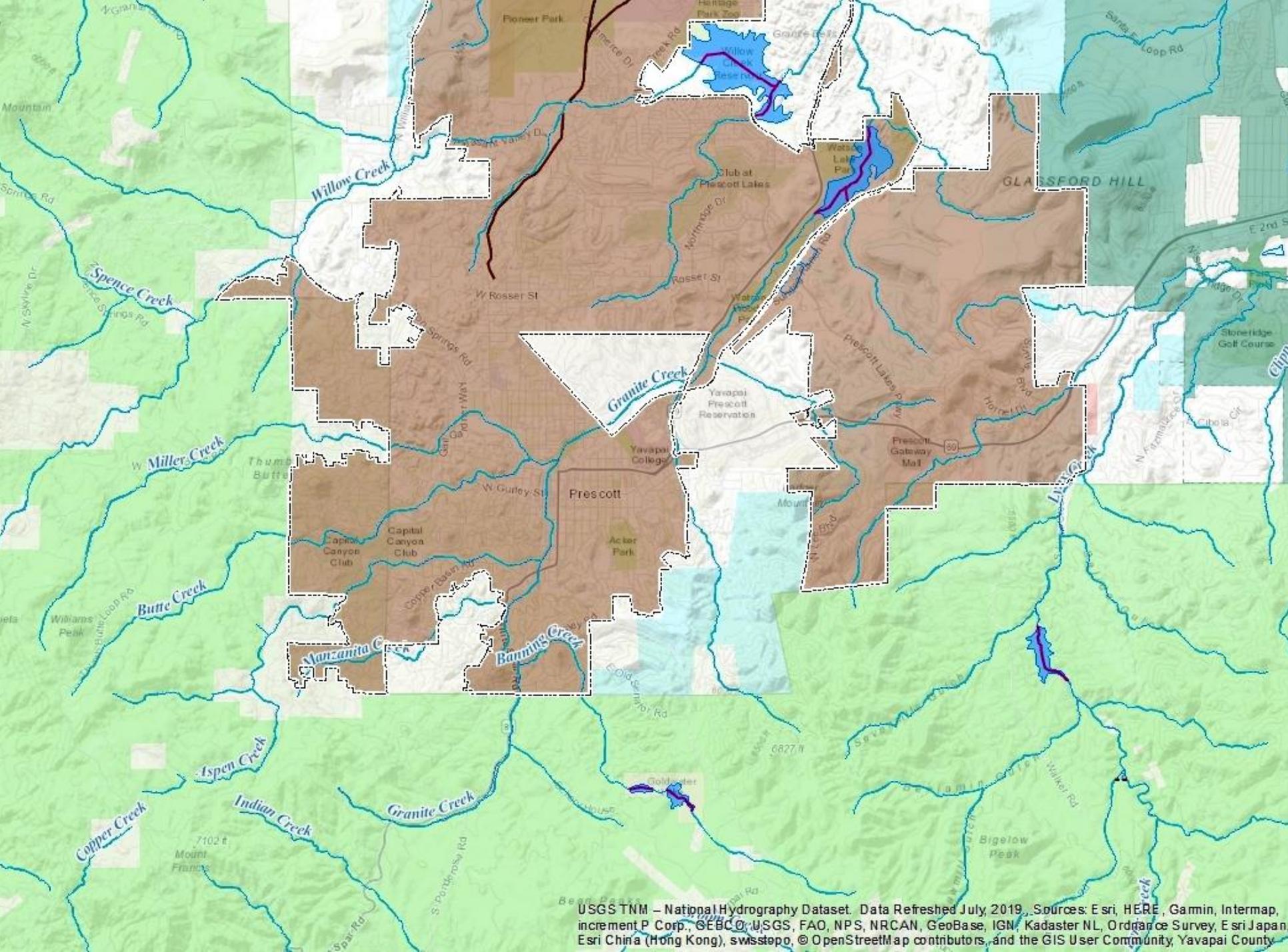


Final  
Upper Granite Creek Watershed *E. coli* TMDL

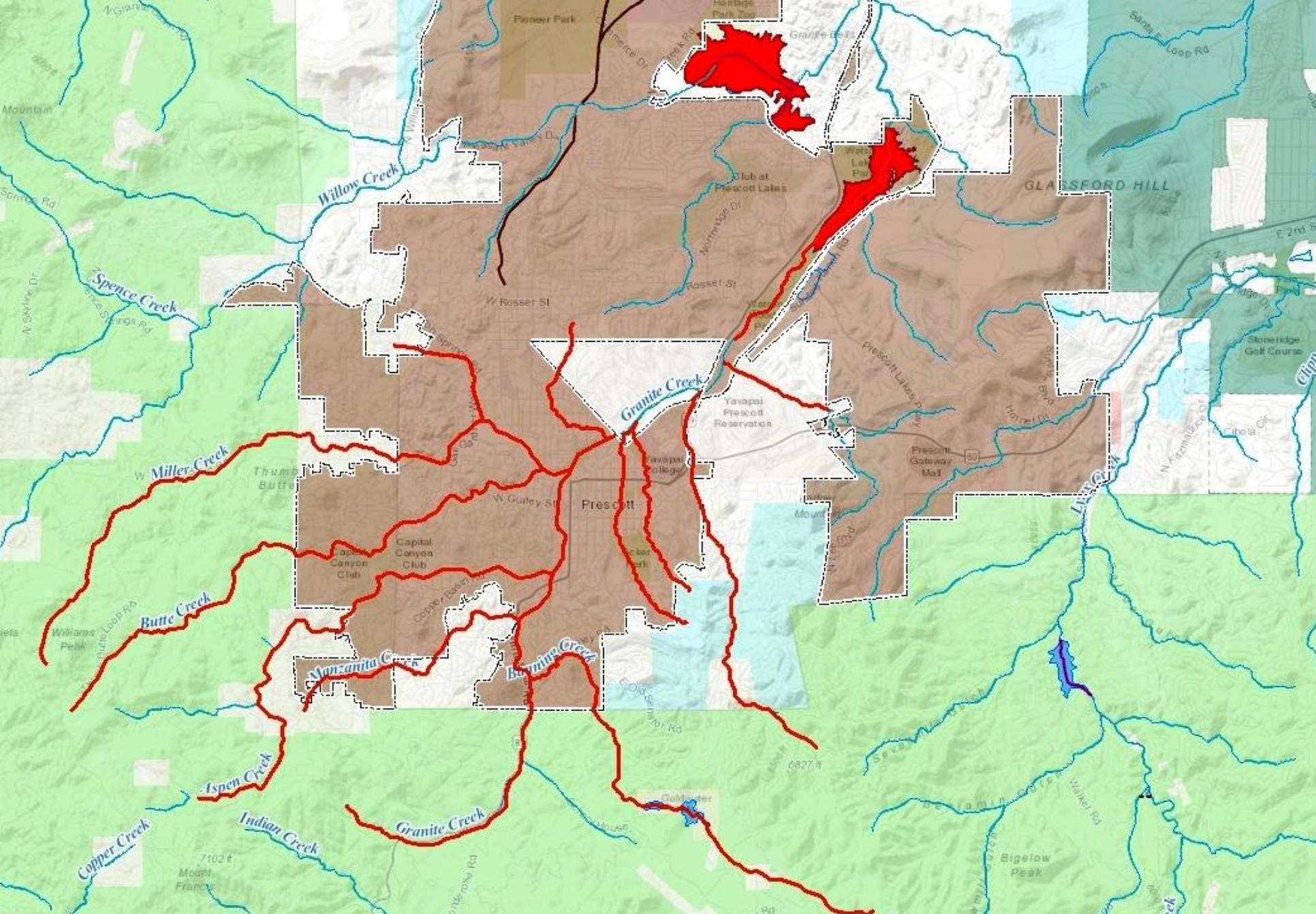
November 2015  
Open File Report 14-08

ADEQ continues to pursue **projects that remove sources** rather than treat their symptoms.

...potential sources of pollution were identified as: aging and degraded municipal sewer infrastructure; **failing or ill-maintained septic systems...**



USGS TNM - National Hydrography Dataset. Data Refreshed July, 2019. Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Yavapai County



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# SEPTIC SYSTEM IMPACTS

SEPTIC DISCHARGES A LOAD OF 19 LBS/YR OF NITRATE

$$109 \text{ Septic Systems} \times \frac{19 \text{ lbs Nitrogen}}{1 \text{ year}} \times \frac{1 \text{ year}}{365 \text{ days}} = \frac{5.67 \text{ lbs Nitrogen}}{\text{Day}}$$

Ownership	Watershed Area (%)	Waste Load Allocation TN (lbs/day)
Unallocated WLA		0.80
City of Prescott	17.56	5.66
Yavapai County	10	1.42
Total WLA	49	7.88

*Watson Lake TMDL*, “**Permittees can demonstrate compliance with the WLA by either direct sampling of outfall discharges or demonstration that best management practices quantitatively reduce the discharge of pollutants**”

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# FUTURE ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- Policy
- Impacts
- Penalties
- Assistance Options
- Infrastructure

# SUMMARY

This is an important issue:

- Protects City water supplies
- Protects and promotes health of AMA
- Improves the health of creeks, lakes, and aquifers
- Ensures City investment in infrastructure is worthwhile

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