

Urban Design that functions like a forest



Generating value using
Governed & Engineered
Ecology

Canadian Urban Forestry Conference
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Aqua-Tex Scientific Consulting Ltd.
September, 2014

Life without oxygen,
but no life without water



The history (future) of the world is written not
in ink but in water

青山常在，綠水長流 (Chinese Proverb)

A satellite night view of Earth, showing the illuminated landmasses of North and South America against the dark background of the oceans. The lights from cities and towns are visible as bright yellow and white clusters.

Can we fix this?

**Do we have a
choice?**



Our Current Perspective Dates to 500 BC



The Roman Goddess of the sewers, *Cloacina*, carried wastes to the river - so began our modern perspective on waste management – *“solution to pollution is dilution”*.

“Problems can not be solved at the same level of awareness that created them.” Einstein

1900 = 1 bn

1910



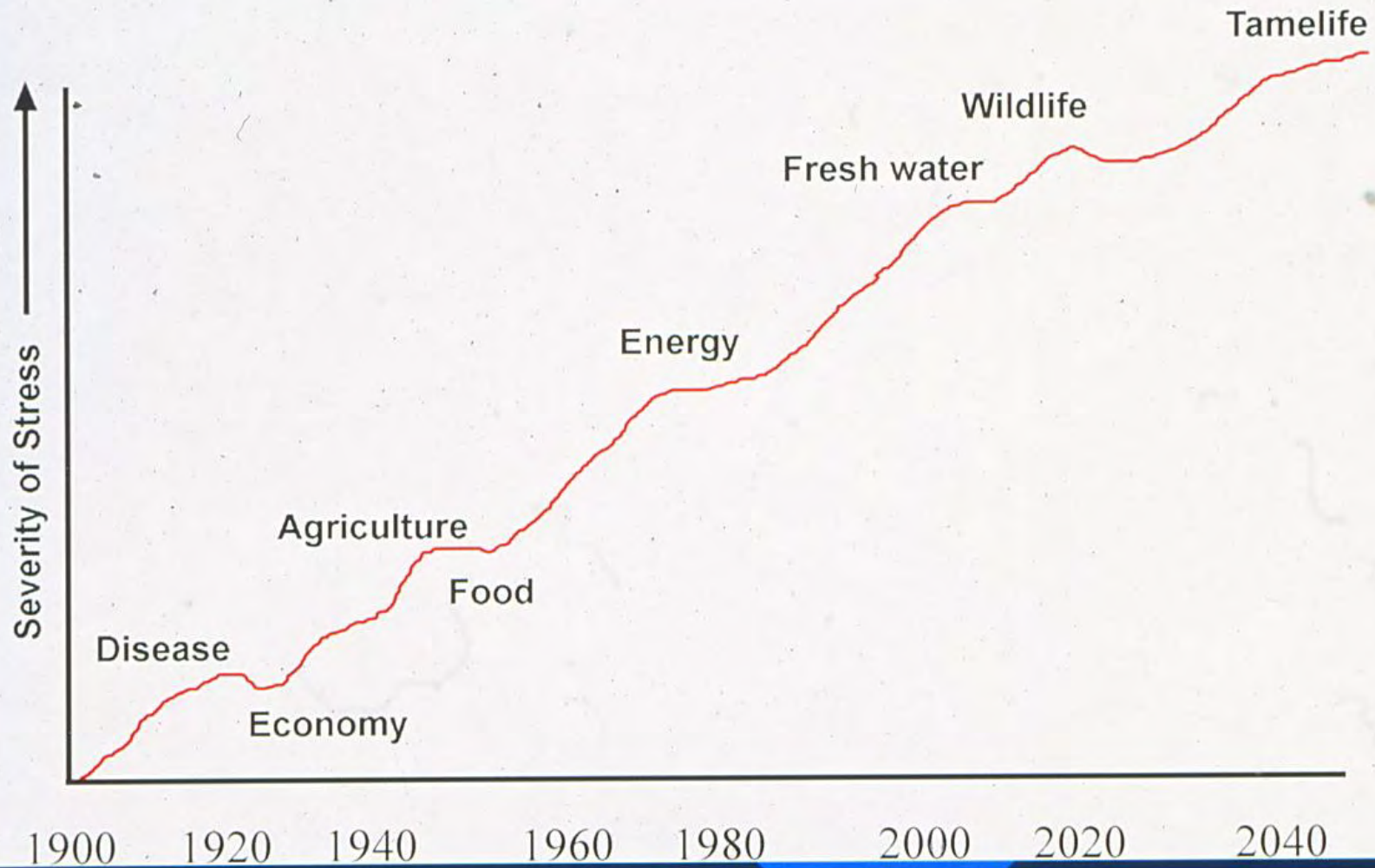
2014 = 7 bn

2045 = 9 bn

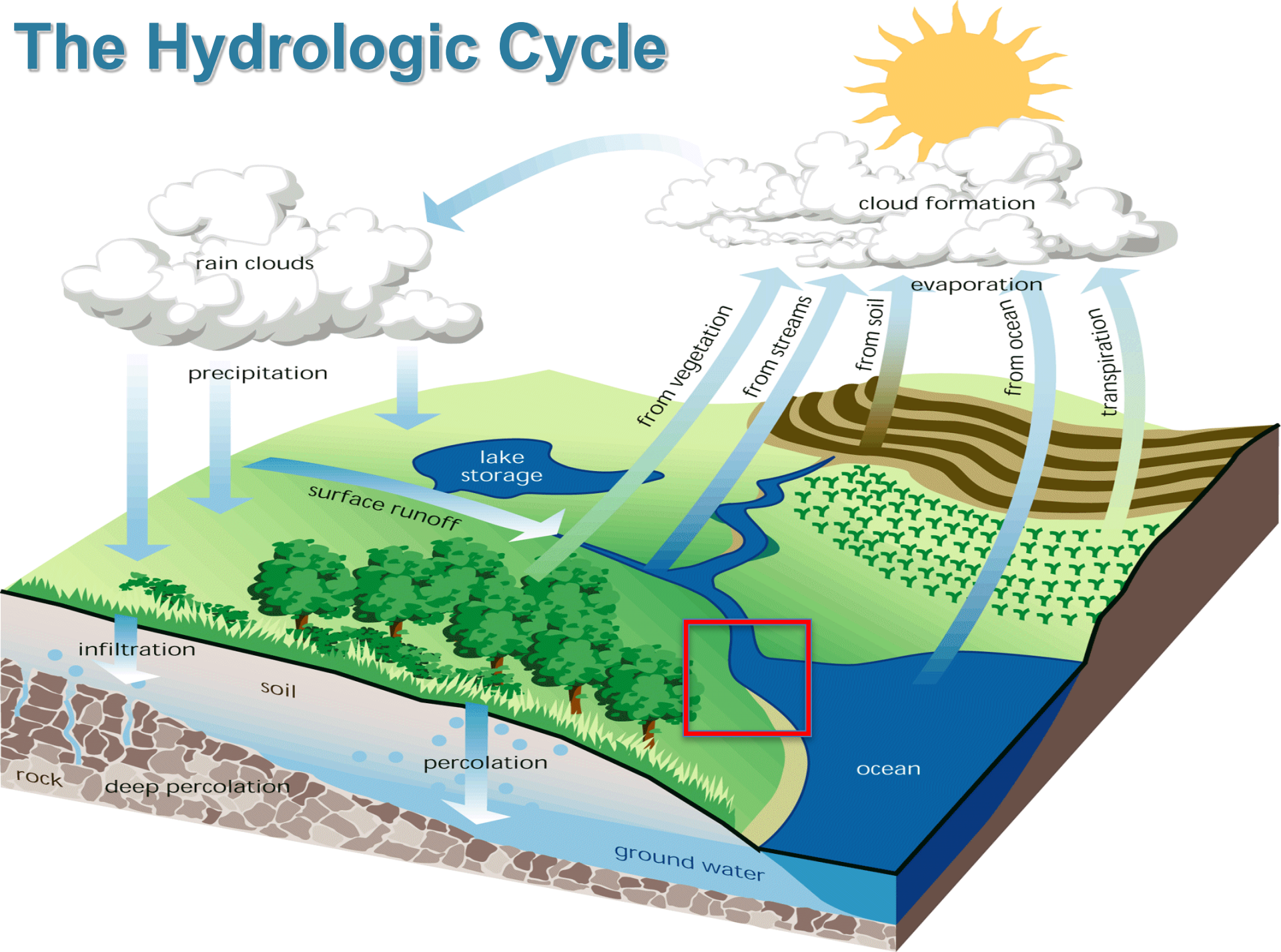
1,000 new
Vancouver's!!!

2010





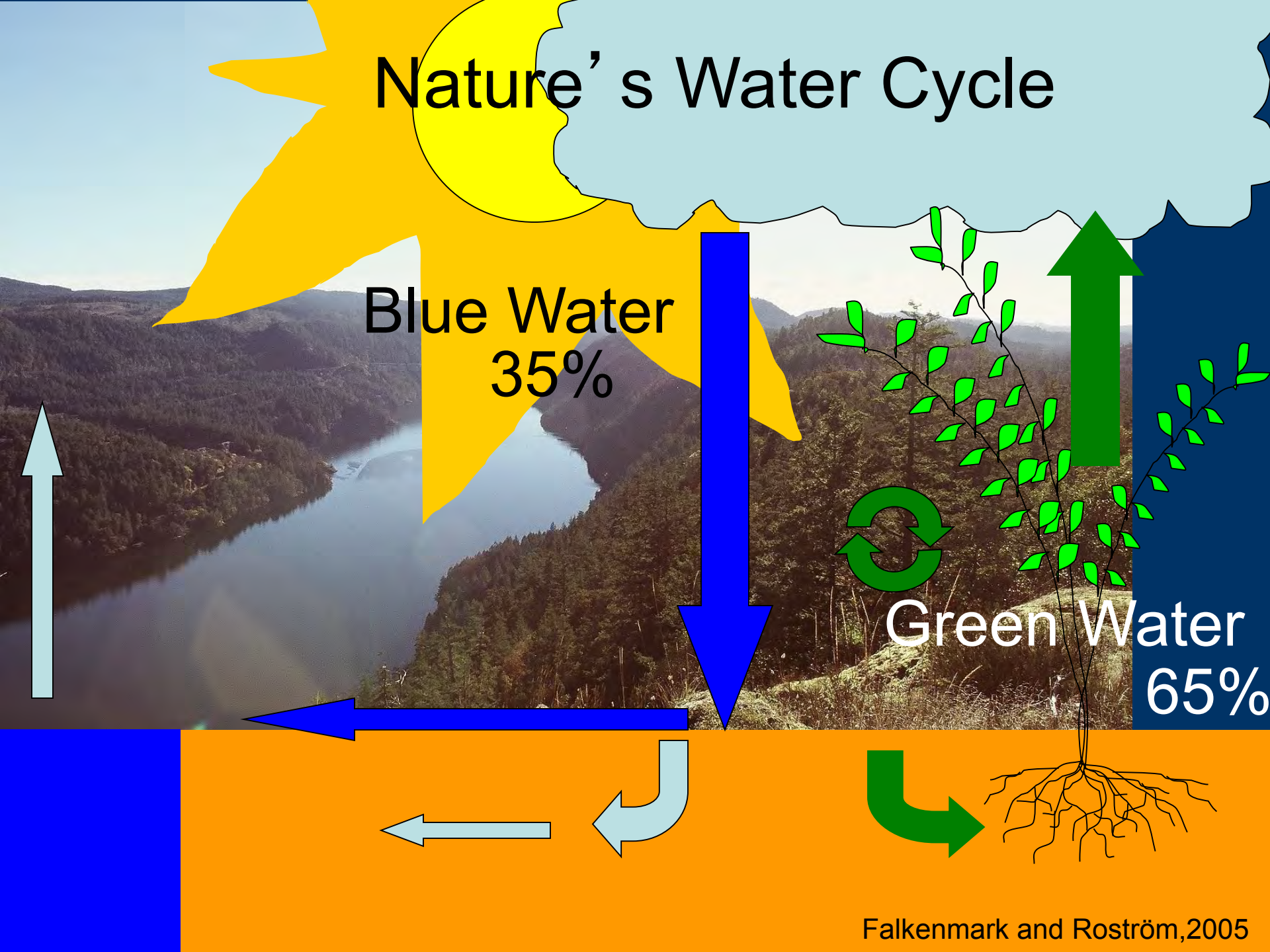
The Hydrologic Cycle



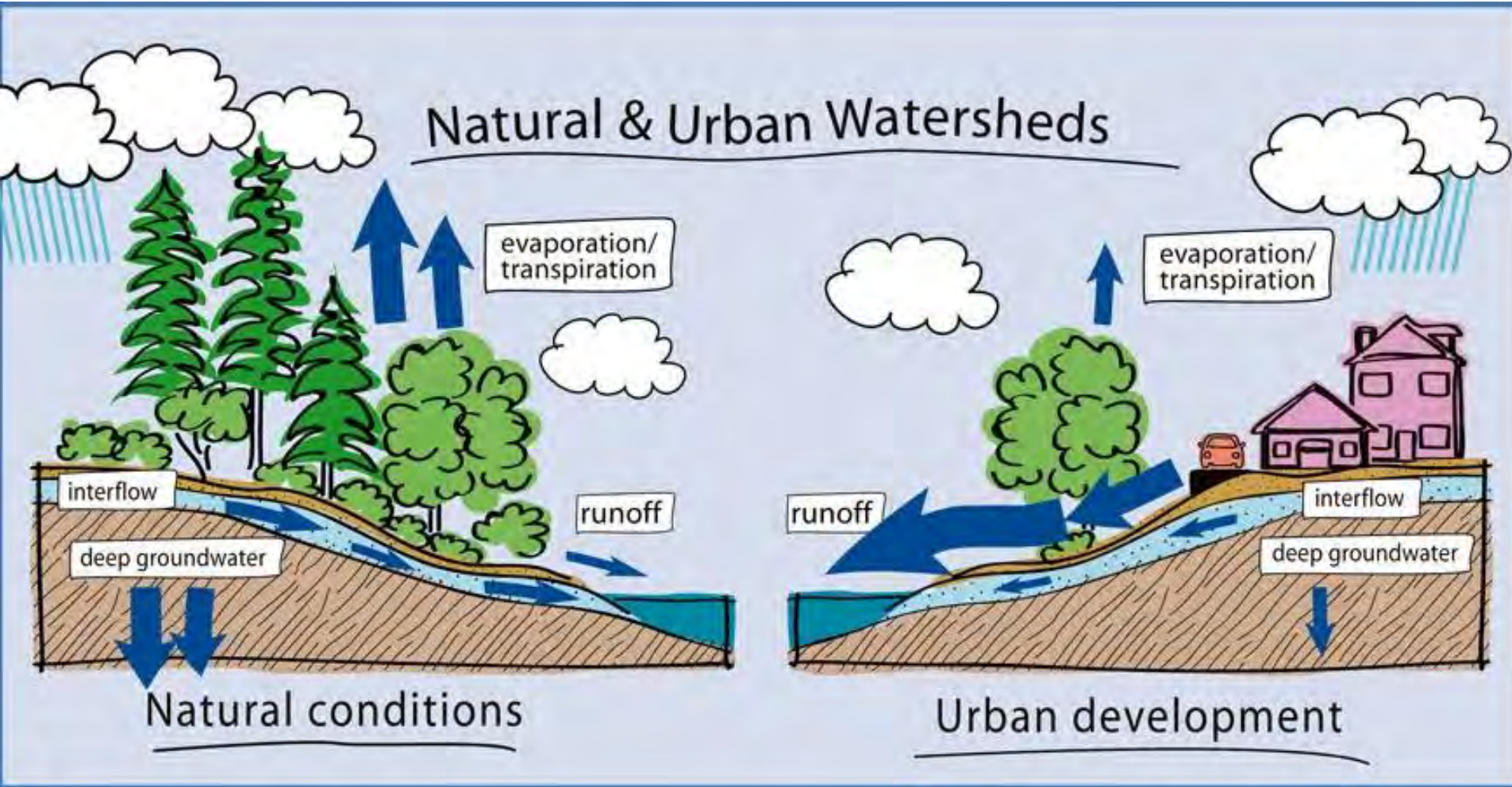
Nature's Water Cycle

Blue Water
35%

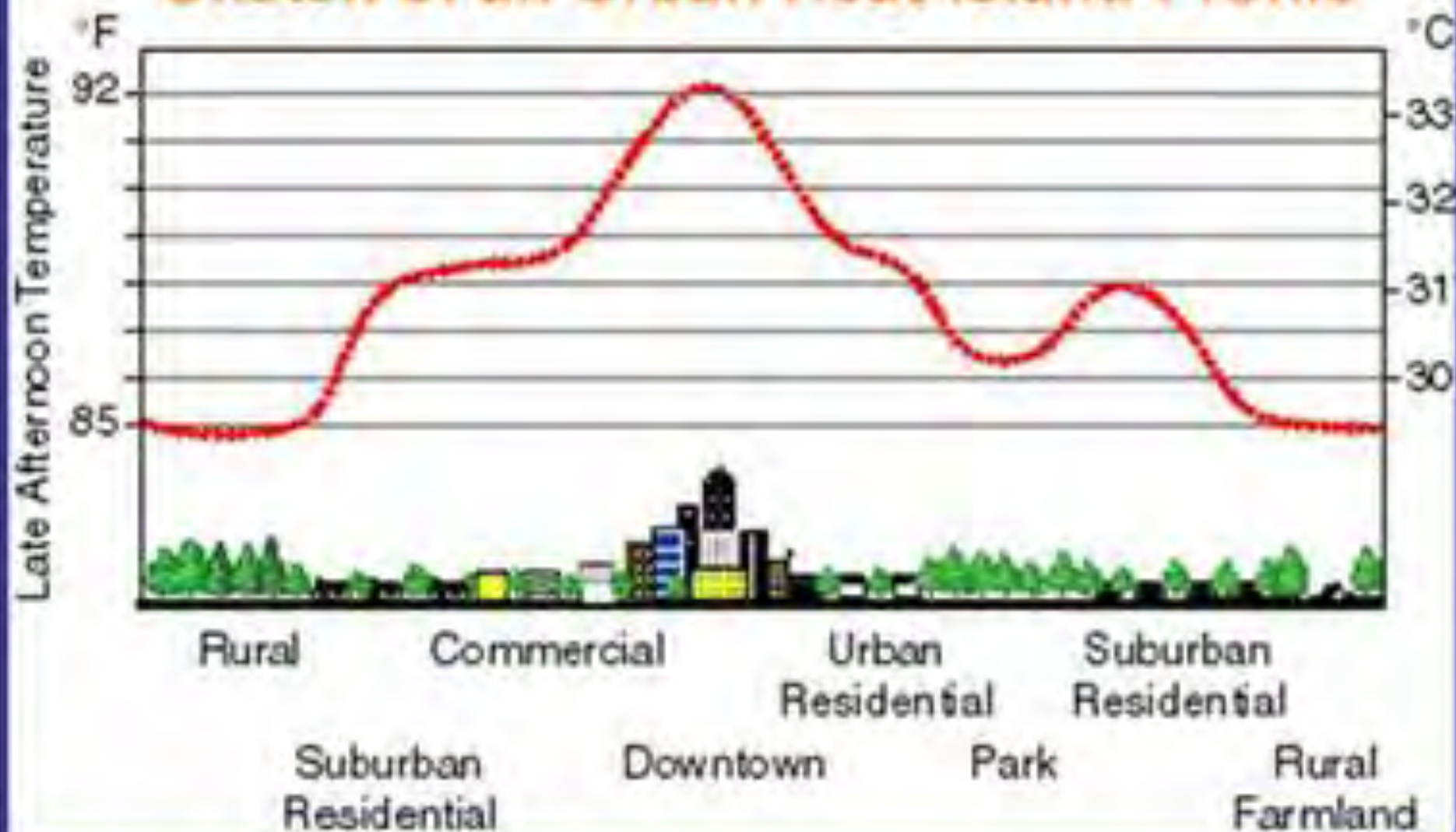
Green Water
65%



Altered Hydrological Cycle

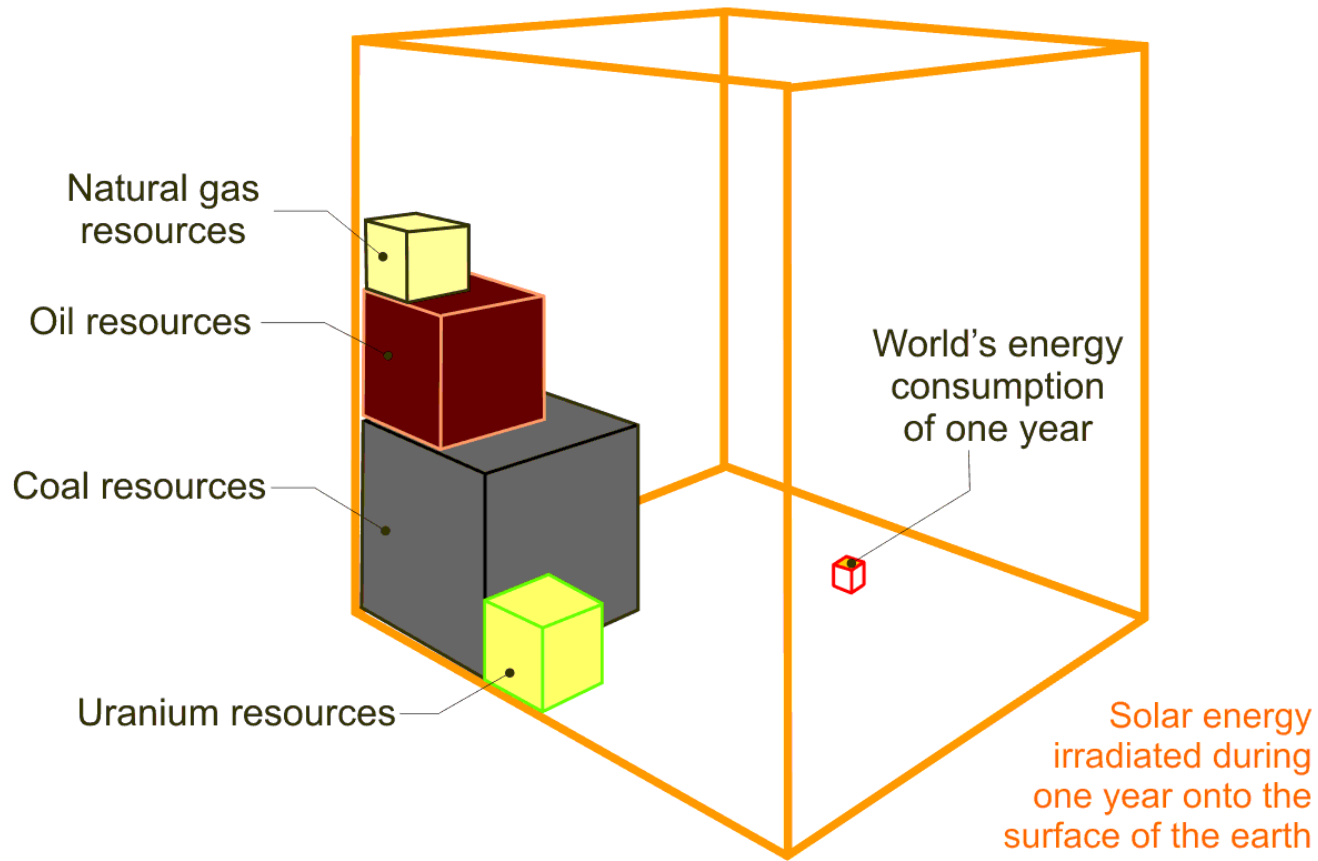


Sketch of an Urban Heat-Island Profile

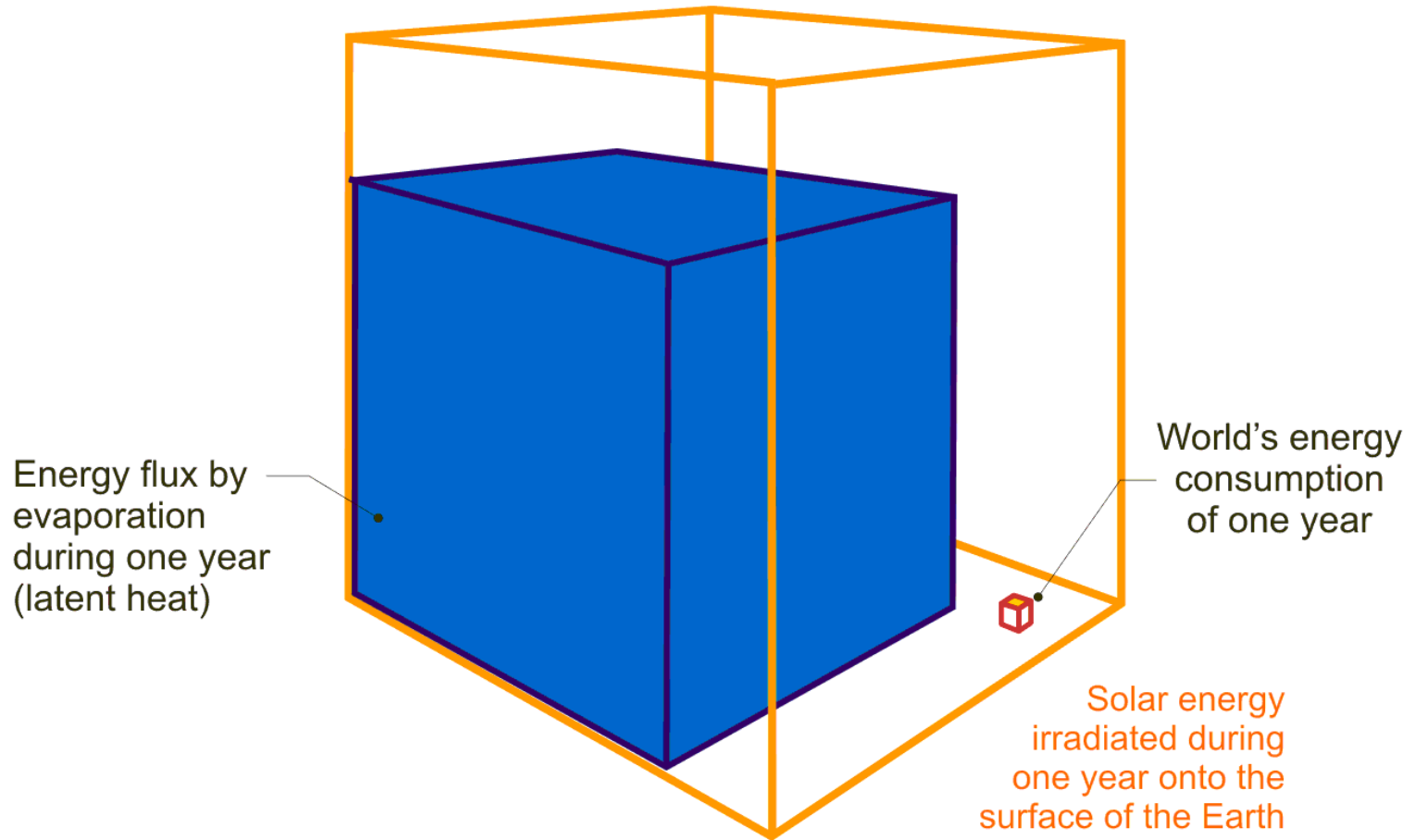


World's Energy Consumption

Consumption and Resources of Energy



Global Radiation in Relation of Evaporation (Latent Heat Flux)



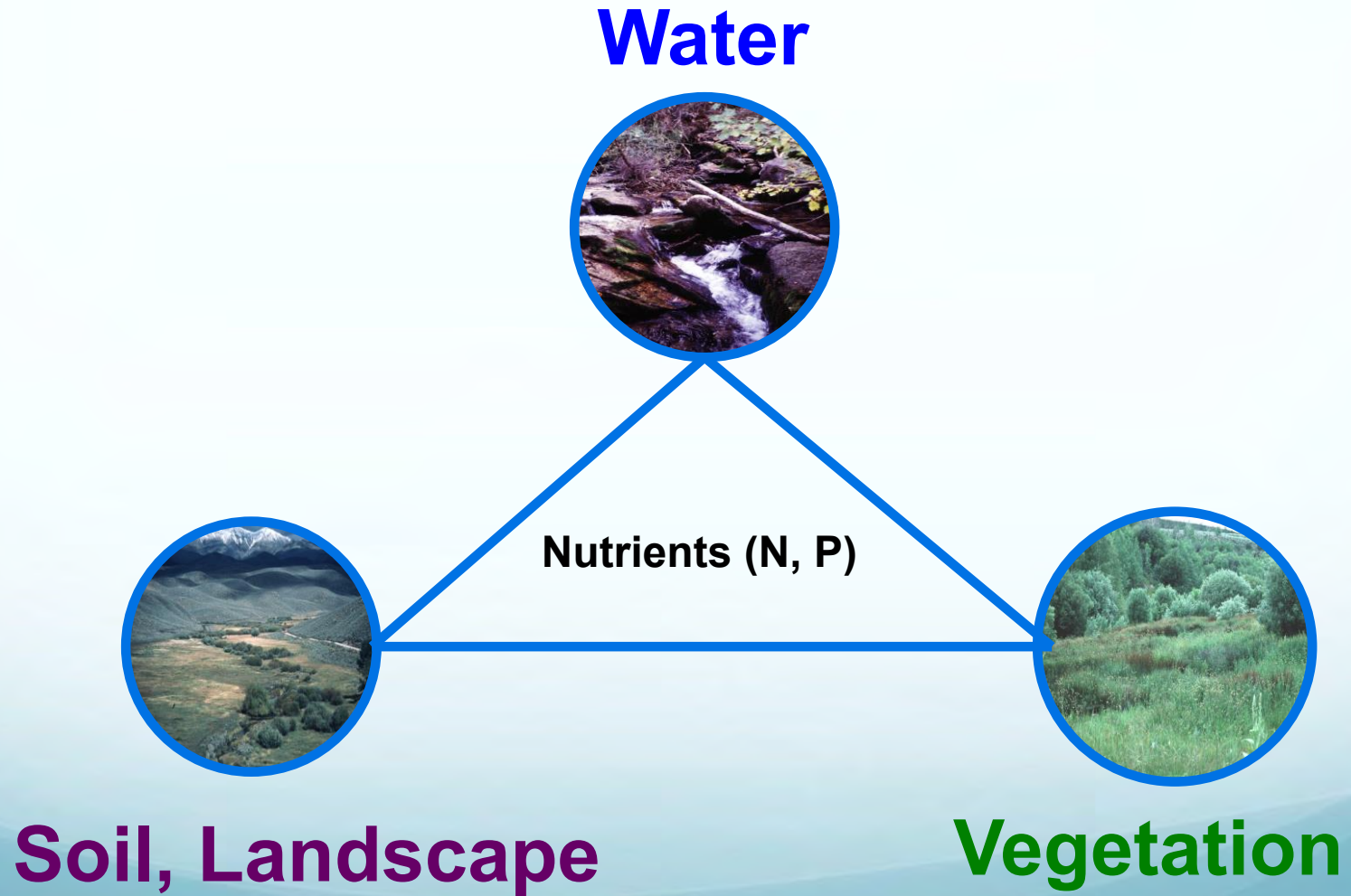
after Greenpeace / S. Krauter 2006



Keep water on the land longer

Capture, Store, Beneficial Use

Natural Riparian Resources



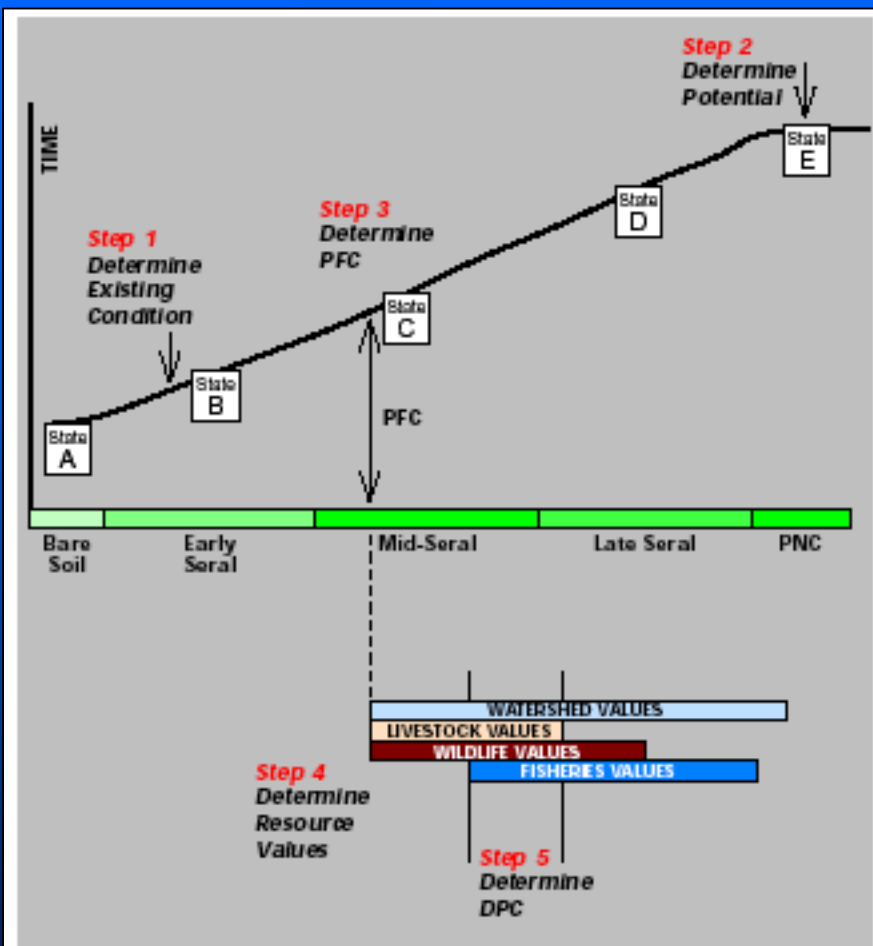


Figure 3. Succession for stream recovery.

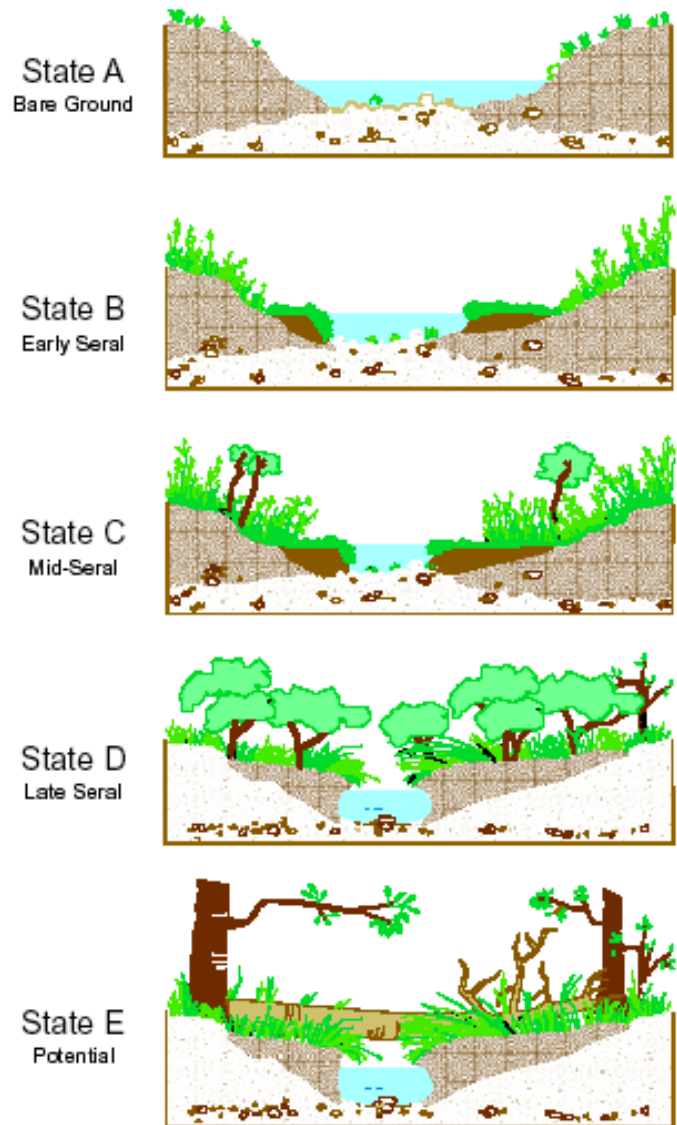


Figure 4. Stream cross sections.

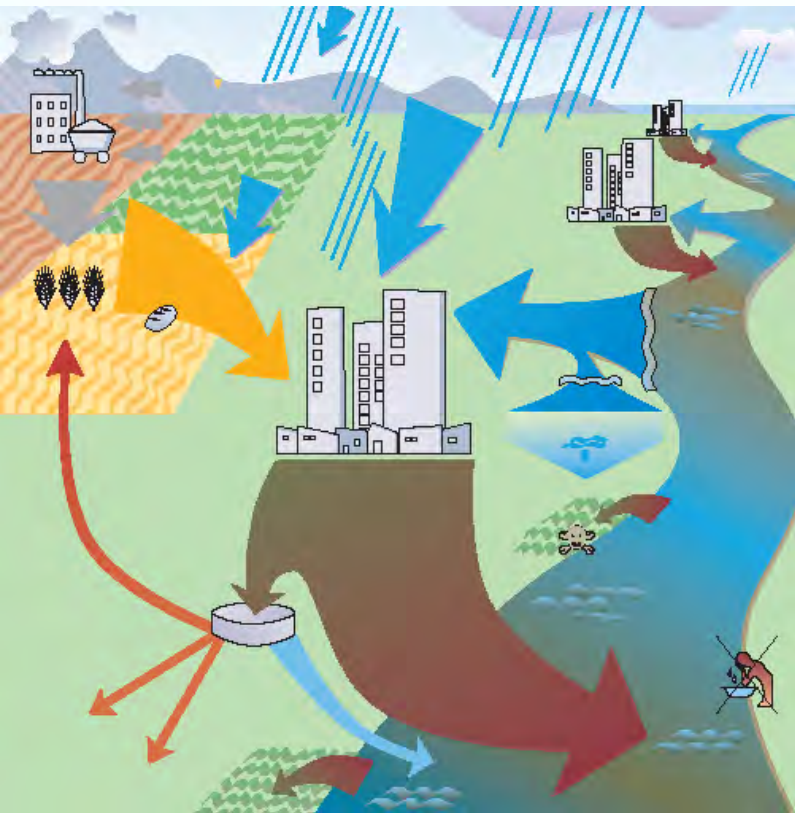


21st Century Challenge

Water + **Energy** + **Natural Capital** =
Adaptation to a Changing Climate +
Nutritional Self-Sufficiency

We need a cultural shift

Current: use resources once & dispose of it (tax payer costs)



Open linear system

Integrated Resource Recovery (tax payer revenues)



Closed loop system



Q –can ecosystem services (Natural Capital) be valued in a free market economy?

[Bruce Sampson, VP of BC Hydro; World Business Council on Sustainable Development]

Valuing Nature's Infrastructure



Conventional
(Engineering)



"Green"
(Environmental
Engineering)

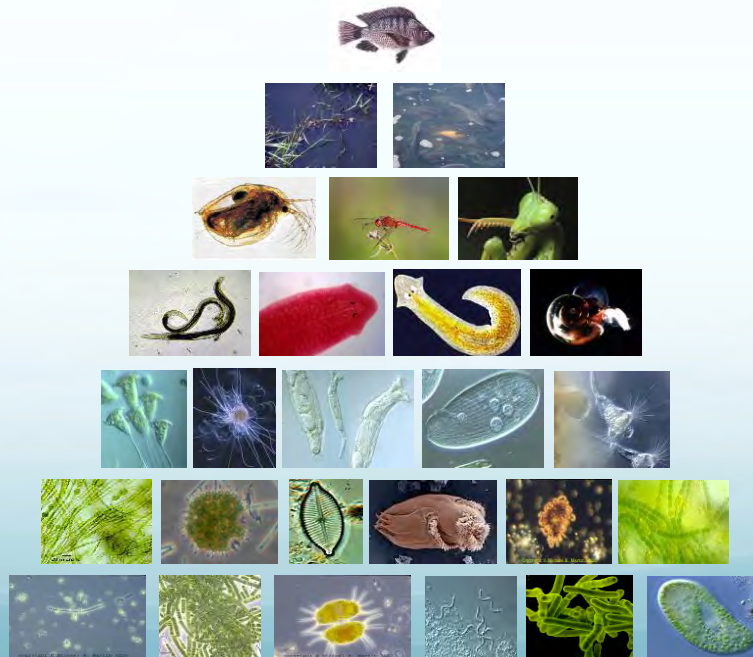


Ecological Approach
(Governed & Engineered
Ecology™)
Resource Recovery



Integrated Resource Management

Balance
development
on ecological
stability

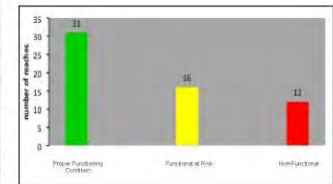
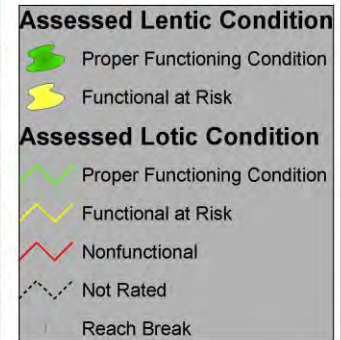


When we focus on the
foundation we expand the
capability of the values

Accelerating Cooperative Riparian Restoration and Management: Proper Functioning Condition and Watershed Health The Colquitz River Watershed



Special Demonstration Management Zone
"Rule intent met, by alternative means"
Watershed-scale planning:
Site Selection
[partnership with USDI BLM, USDA FS, 1996]



Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) is both a state of health and an investment tool for riparian-watershed areas developed jointly by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The PFC assessment provides a consistent approach for assessing the physical functioning of riparian-watershed areas through consideration of hydrology, vegetation, and soil/bankline conditions. It synthesizes information that is fundamental to determining the overall health of a riparian-watershed area.

The Colquitz River is a third order stream found within the boundaries of the District of Saanich in Victoria British Columbia. Flowing for a length of approximately 9.5 km from its headwaters in Elk/Brown Lake south to its outlet at Portage Island, it passes through areas of forest, agriculture, and increasingly urban regions. The Colquitz River watershed drains an area of approximately 40 km², collecting water from the Blekenup, Sooty Lake, Vindict, and Thornhill sub-watersheds.

The purpose of this map is to identify the overall health and functionality of lotic (cell water bodies) and link lotic (cell water bodies) systems within the Colquitz River watershed. The result is a framework that aids in identifying areas in need of restoration and protection on a reach by reach basis.

Funding Provided by:



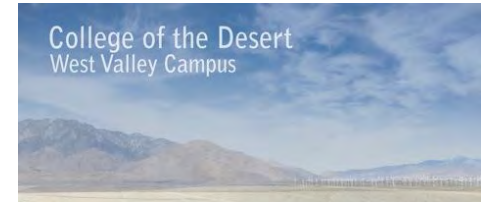
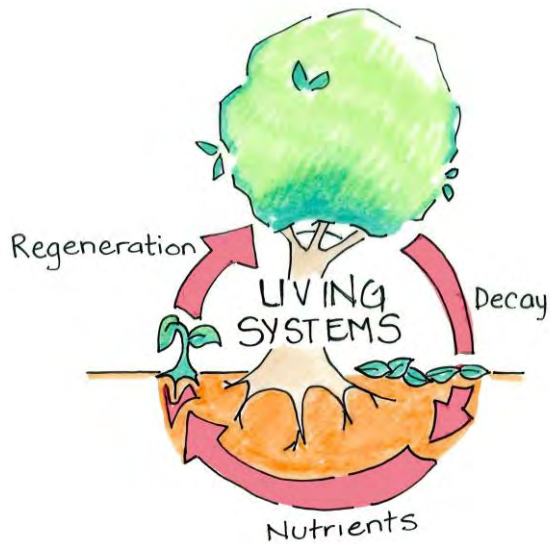
Scaling Up

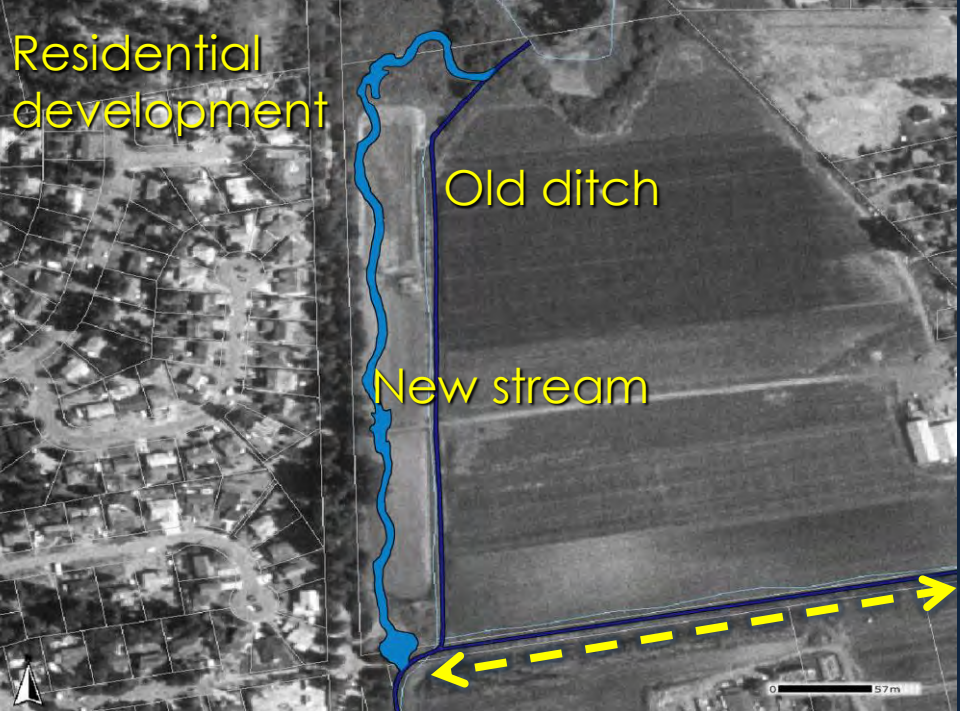
Education

City

Neighbourhood

Site





Blenkinsop Valley: Green Valuation

Galey Farm Financial Summary

(PV= present value; red text =negative)

Blenkinsop (Traditional)	Municipality	Farmer
Installation of Ditch		(\$5,200.00)
PV of Ditch O&M		(\$6,631.69)
PV of Vandalism		(\$1,409,394.46)
Total Present Value	\$0.00	(\$1,421,226.14)

Blenkinsop (Sustainable)	Municipality	Farmer
Cost of Restoration		(\$375,000.00)
Cost of Connector Trail	(\$500,000.00)	
PV of the Cost of Financing		(\$26,607.17)
PV of Pesticide Savings (adjusted for the cost of integrated pest management)		\$497,657.18
Increased Value of the Land		\$75,000.00
PV of Potable Water Savings		\$8,548.33
PV of Flood Cost Avoidance to the Municipality	\$765,484.59	
PV of Ecological Benefit	\$12,006.19	
PV of Value of Carbon Stored and Sequestered	\$496.13	
PV of Trail Connector Benefit	\$3,302,784.65	
Total Present Value	\$3,580,771.55	\$179,598.34

	Municipality	Farmer
Net BENEFIT	\$3,580,771.55	\$1,600,824.48

Engineered Ecology™ - Urban In-fill Subdivision

1999

2006

2010



Willowbrook: the benefits



- 17% green space
- Restored stream/wetland
- Trail network expanded
- Linked to 3 schools
- Walkable, livable
- Wildlife habitat restored
- Rainwater treatment
- More Profitable \$\$\$
- 2 linked watershed modules

Nature's Revenue Streams (NRS): Willowbrook Subdivision

Willowbrook/Glanford (Traditional)

Cost of the Traditional Stormwater System

PV of Ditch Maintenance

PV of Costs for Future Capital Replacement
of Stormwater Infrastructure

Total Present Value

Municipality

(\$7,651.95)

(\$9,908.03)

(\$17,559.97)

Developer

(\$260,000.00)

(\$260,000.00)

Willowbrook/Glanford (Sustainable)

Cost of Restoration

Increased Lot Yield

PV of Wetland Maintenance

PV of Educational Value

PV of Ecological Benefit

PV of Value of Carbon Stored

Total Present Value

Municipality

(\$4,057.28)

\$34,344.83

\$12,470.09

\$515.30

\$43,272.94

Developer

(\$120,000.00)

\$825,000.00

\$705,000.00

Net BENEFIT

\$60,832.91

\$965,000.00



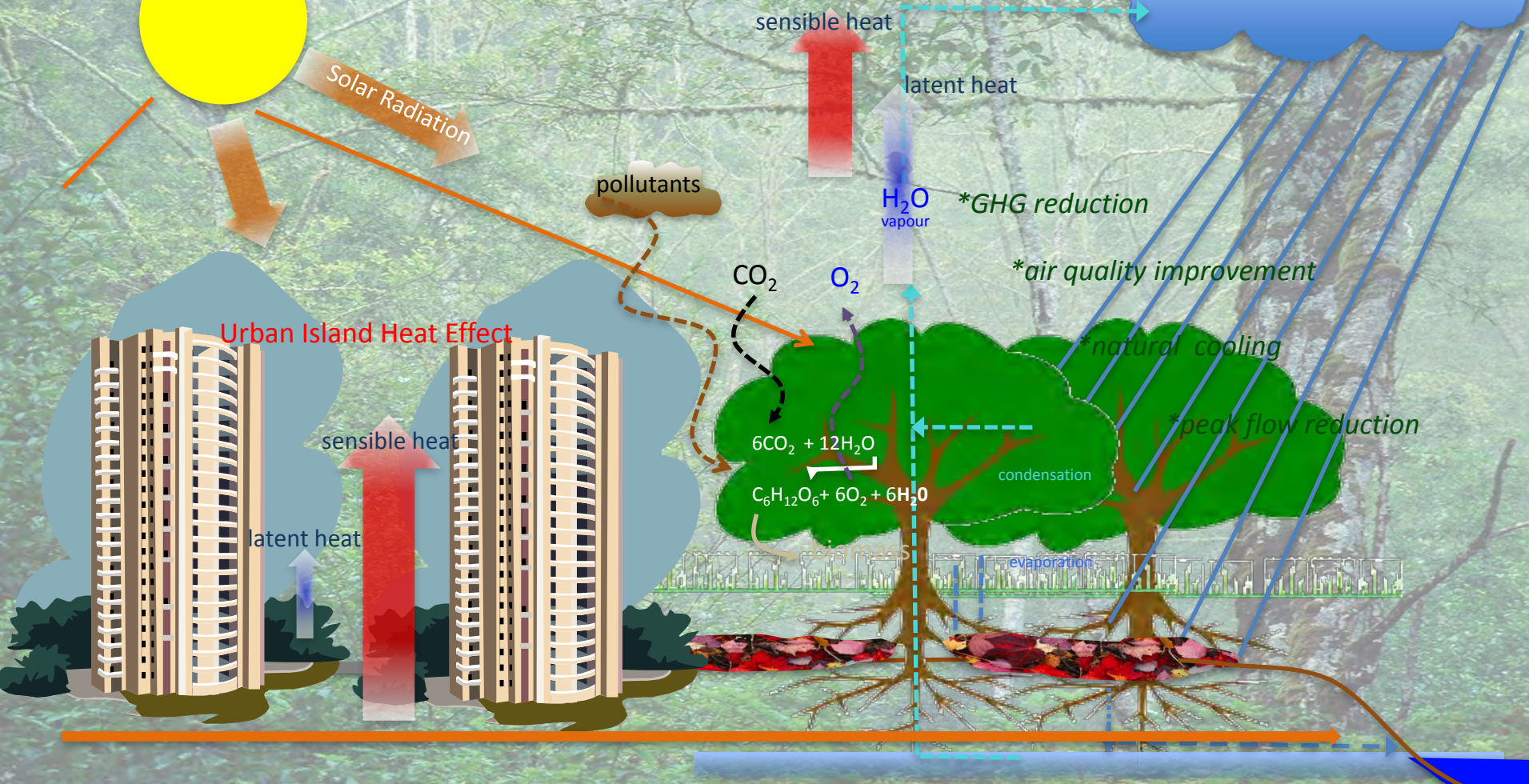
May 2006

Potential



Benefit	1858
Carbon Stored (tonnes)	105,964
Carbon Sequestered (tonnes per year)	825
Evapotranspiration/Cooling Effect: Number of Air Conditioners - Equiv.	458,653
Pollution Abatement	--
Fisheries	- In progress -
Value	--

Current Values* of Swan Lake Watershed 2008



Benefit	2008	Difference (1858-2008)	Value of Lost Services
Carbon Stored (tonnes)	29,565	76,399	\$1,610,496
Carbon Sequestered (tonnes per year)	230	595	\$12,538
Evapotranspiration/Cooling Effect: Number of Air Conditioners - Equiv.	322,948	135,705	\$21,663,918
Pollution Abatement	\$589,522	\$589,522	--
Fisheries	\$-	\$\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$\$
Value	\$52,824,145		\$23,286,952

Swan Lake Nature Sanctuary - Overview (48 ha)

Swan Lake Nature Sanctuary	Dollars
Carbon Stored (Tonnes)	1,784 tonnes
Carbon Sequestered (Tonnes)	\$3,699
Transpiration (Cooling Effect)	\$3,603,578
Pest Control Benefit	\$793,634
Air Pollution Abatement Benefit	\$313,423
Flood Benefit	\$72,740
Stormwater Benefit	\$384,694
Wildlife/Trail Benefit	\$187,039
Operating and Maintenance Expenses	\$(425,000)
Volunteer Time Expense	\$(125,000)
Total Annual Net Value	\$4,808,806

**CAMF must include Natural
Capital (ecosystem services)
Institute “Municipal Ecologist”**

Legend

 Swan Lake Nature Sanctuary

0 50 100 150 200



Metres

Dockside Green: Before (Brownfield)



Dockside Green: After (Concept) LEED™ Platinum Redevelopment



Resource Integration
Water, Energy, Natural Capital

Regenerative, Adaptive Design





2010 Winter Olympic Village

FALSE CREEK



CAMBIE BRIDGE

**COMMUNITY
ENERGY CENTRE**

Neighbourhood Energy Utility
Rainwater capture
**Regenerate marine & terrestrial
ecosystem function**





Southeast False Creek
Olympic Athlete's Village
Vancouver, BC



09/30/2011 13:50

Regeneration of Ecosystem Services & Natural Capital



Parcel 10



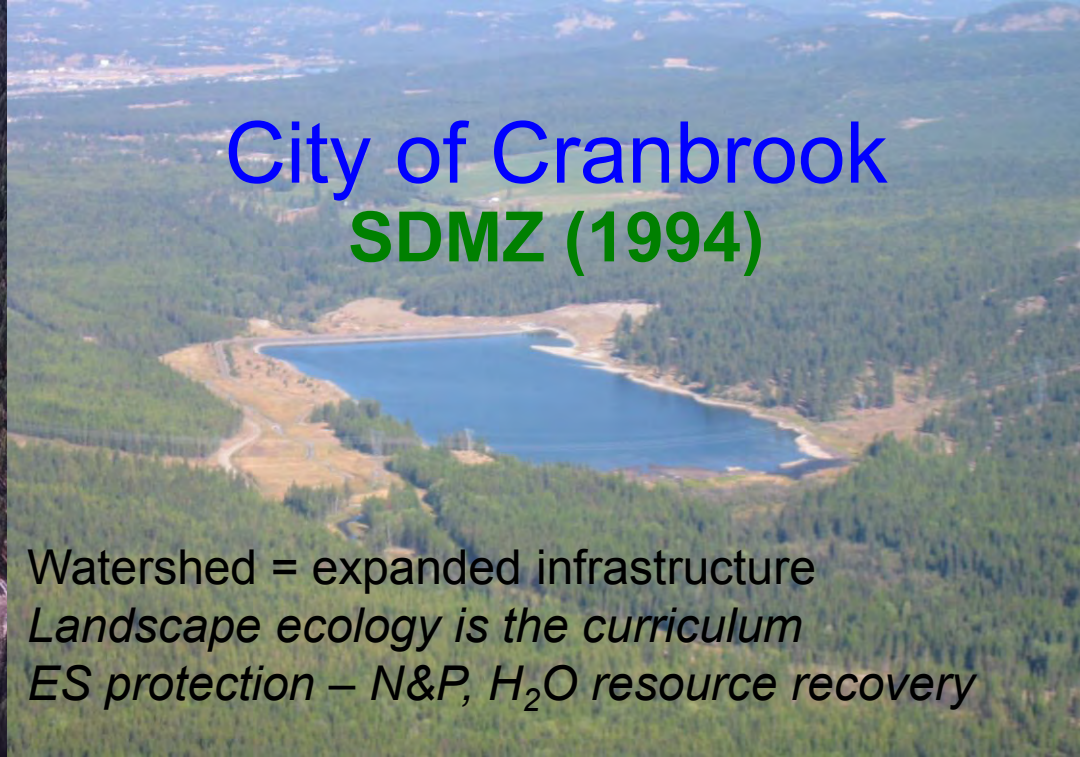


Potable water supply
Municipal infrastructure

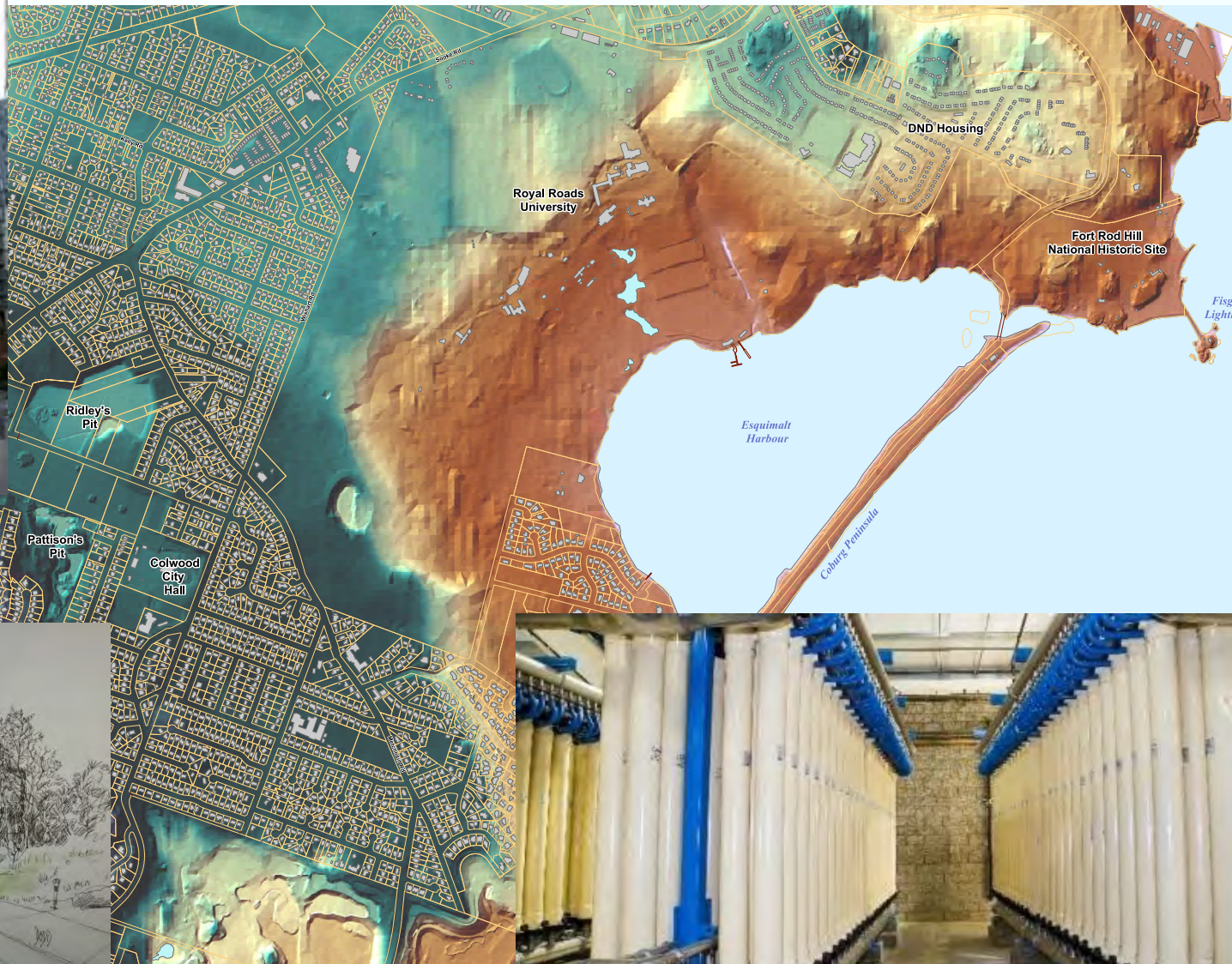


City of Cranbrook SDMZ (1994)

Watershed = expanded infrastructure
Landscape ecology is the curriculum
ES protection – N&P, H₂O resource recovery



City of Colwood – Champion City



**Markets for
energy & water**



Special Demonstration Management Zone – adopt an IRM infrastructure model



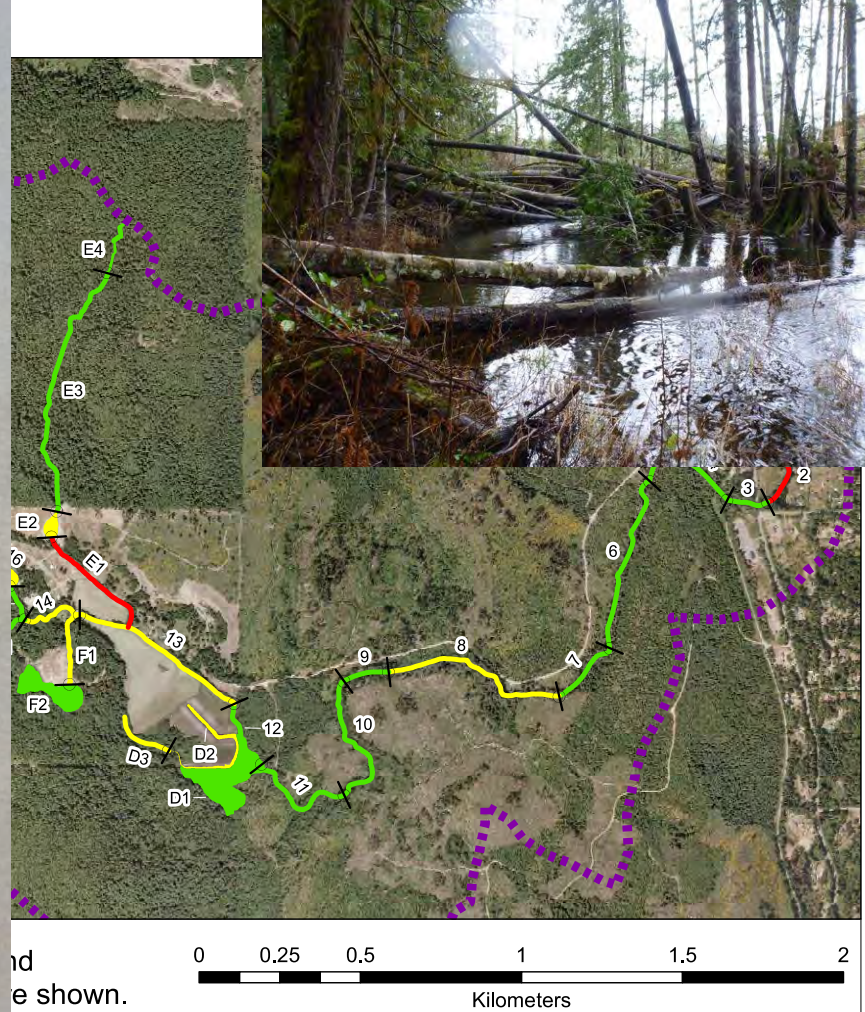
Shawnigan Lake Watershed

McGee Creek
Sub-catchment

Sooke Lake
Watershed

Leech River
Watershed





Legend

- Watershed Boundary
- Reach Break
- Farm Ditch

Stream Assessment Condition

- Proper Functioning Condition
- Functional-At Risk
- Nonfunctional

Pond/Wetland Assessment Condition

- Proper Functioning Condition
- Functional-At Risk
- Nonfunctional



Stream temperature can affect development of Chinook salmon. The salmon fry are from the same family, emerged on the same day but were exposed to different temperature treatments (degree days remained the same).

Habitat Banking

Regenerated riparian
function

Viable investment model
(ROI)

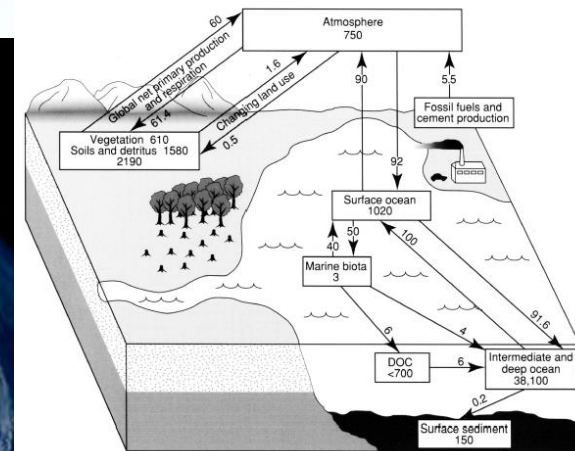
Regulator sanctioned

Lease ecosystem services?

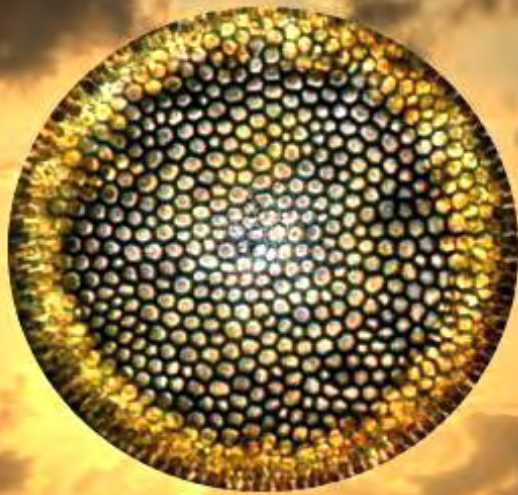




Houston – You have a problem



Depiction of the global carbon cycle
completely ignoring the active role of inland
waters and urban forests



Phytoplankton
Centric diatom
Azpeitia africana

**Dimethyl
Sulfide
Production**

O_2

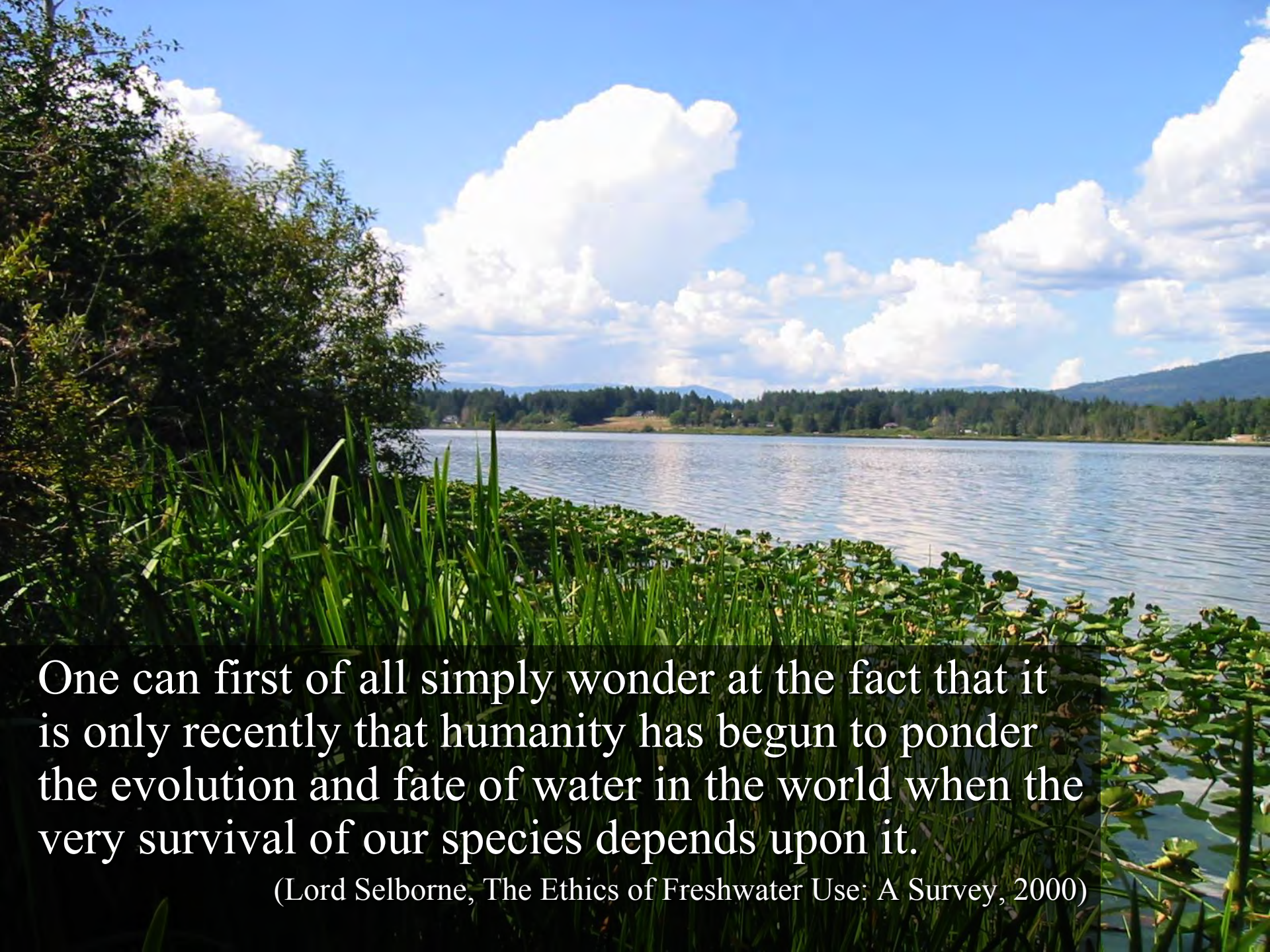


We need a 21st Century Moon-shot



Houston – we have a solution

A Regenerative Economy in a
“New Age of Governed &
Engineered Ecology”



One can first of all simply wonder at the fact that it is only recently that humanity has begun to ponder the evolution and fate of water in the world when the very survival of our species depends upon it.

(Lord Selborne, *The Ethics of Freshwater Use: A Survey*, 2000)

Cities of the Future

Towards integrated sustainable water and landscape management

Edited by Vladimir Novotny and Paul Brown



MOVING TOWARDS THE SUSTAINABLE CITY

Satisfies its needs, without diminishing the ability of future generations to meet their needs.



The **Problem** is Global



The **Solution** is Local
Champion Communities
Special Demonstration
Management Zones

Consent Decree by EPA – \$4-8
bn for traditional WWTP
13 community centers
200,000 popn.

