



# NHDPlus Support of the Open Water Data Initiative

NHDPlus News Session  
ESRI International User Conference  
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Al Rea, USGS National Geospatial Program

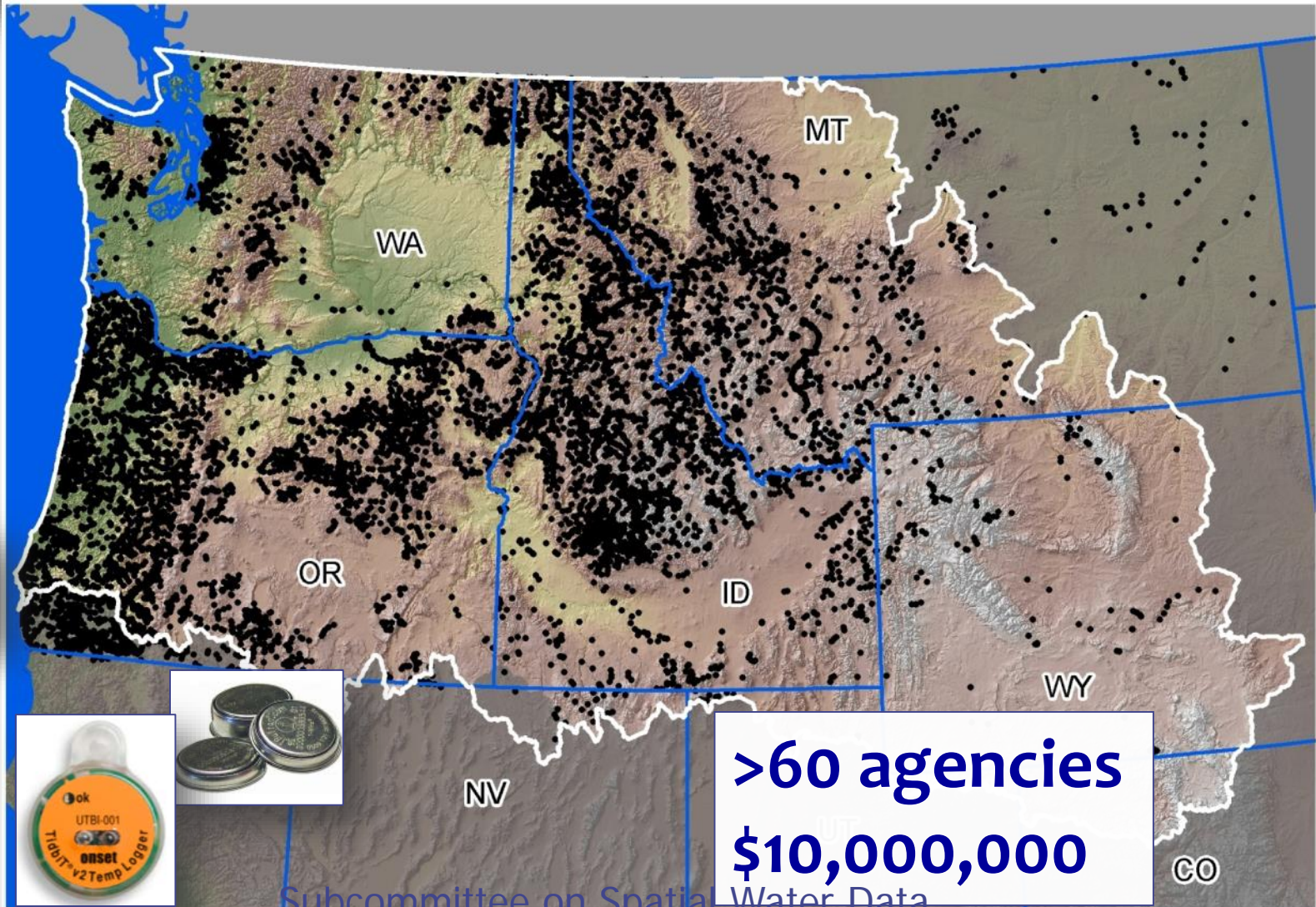
Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data

# OWDI as a Challenge

- ◆ Access to water data is difficult
  - Collected by hundreds of organizations
  - No common infrastructure
  - WaterML2 new exchange standard (O&M)
- ◆ Understanding connections requires a geospatial framework
  - Landscape to stream
  - Stream to stream



>45,000,000 hourly records  
>15,000 unique stream sites



## ***Open Water Data Initiative***

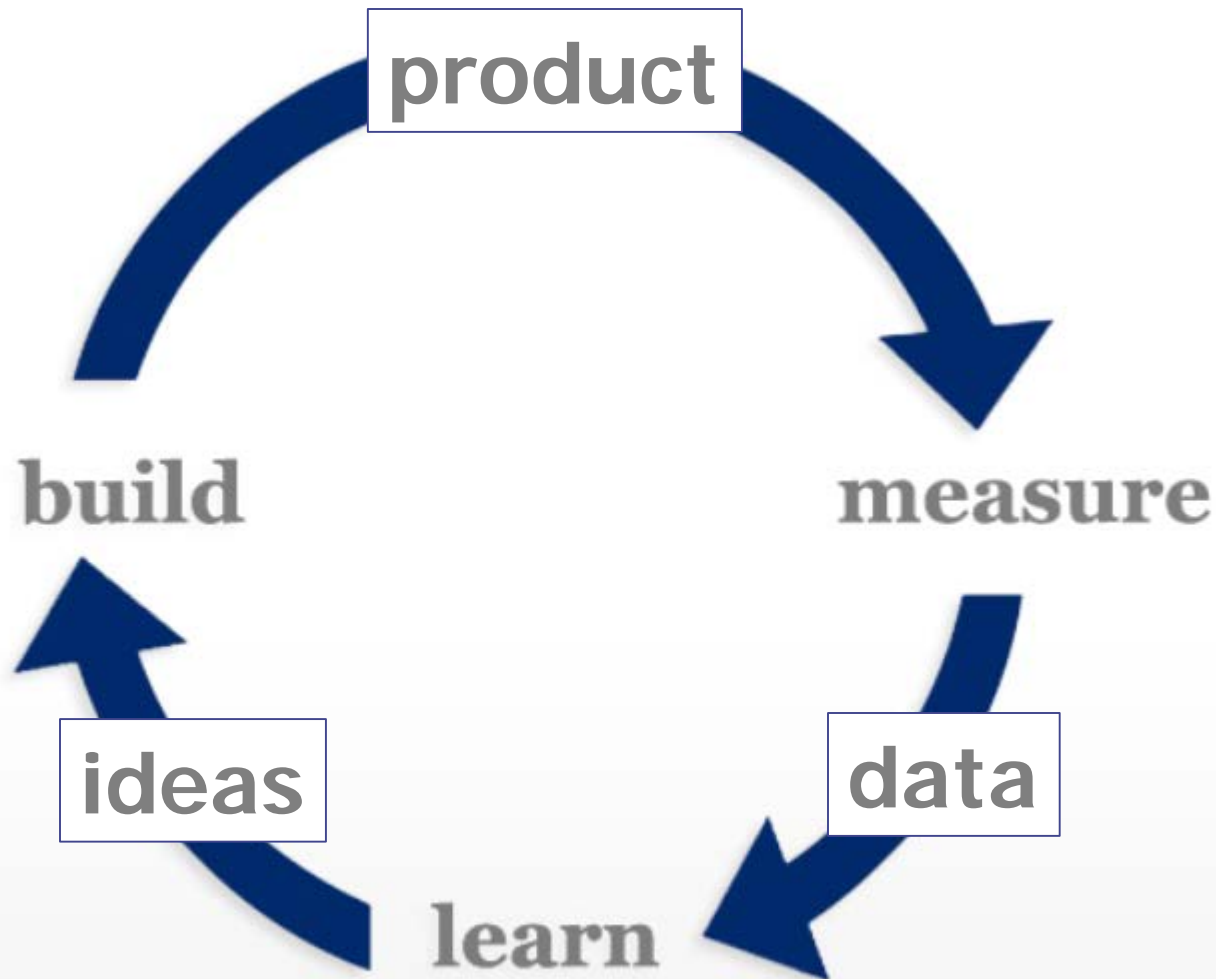
<b>Water Data Catalog</b>	<b>Water Data As a Service</b>	<b>Enriching Water Data</b>	<b>Water Data and Tools MarketPlace</b>
Find Source Data	Consensus standards	River routing	Community exercise of tools & data
Create water & climate themes	Water Map Themes	Coupling with models	Data usage tracking
Recruit/engage partners	High performance data delivery	Grounded to geofabric	Community-built extensions

***Technical: National Water Data Infrastructure***

***Social: Open Water Web***



# Lean Startup Methodology



# Use Case Concepts

- ◆ Define use cases that respond to societal needs and cover broad range of water resources issues
- ◆ Identify critical data inputs — focus on these first
- ◆ Our emphasis is on the data, not the full solution
- ◆ Measure and learn — like steering a car



# OWDI Working Groups



## Work Group 1:

National Flood Interoperability Experiment

- ◆ Identify flood data including stream-flow observations, forecasts and impacts
  - ◆ Developing *Hydrofabric*\* v 0.1 and exploring data conflation
- \*Supported by 3 sub-teams



## Work Group 2:

Drought Decision Support System

- ◆ Identify water resources data including natural flow, reservoir storage and drought impacts
- ◆ Explore visualization of drought in Lower Colorado



## Work Group 3:

Spill Response Tool

- ◆ Identify water quality data including potential points sources and impacts
- ◆ Exploring requirements for new/additional data (e.g. velocity forecasts and reservoir residence times)

# Common Data Needs

- ◆ NHDPlus V2.1
  - National in single file geodatabase
  - Denormalized (flattened) data model
  - Available for download and as services
- ◆ Sites indexed to NHDPlus V2.1 network
  - Gages, NWS river forecast points
  - Dams
  - Large diversions and return flows
  - ...and many others





# Status: Water Data as a Service

- ◆ NWS forecasts and NWIS data as WML2
- ◆ Robust serving capacity is necessary
- ◆ Slow services aren't used
- ◆ Measurement of service usage is key
- ◆ Repackaged seamless NHDPlus data for download—useful variation
- ◆ Metadata, sensor calibration info
- ◆ Machine readable ontologies



# Status: Enriching Water Data

- ◆ Linking data to a standardized geospatial framework (e.g. NHDPlus)
  - Sites with observations and measurements
  - Better integration of geospatial layers (e.g. WBD linked to NHDPlus network)
  - Modeling parameters for catchments
- ◆ Network trace (upstream/downstream) capability is key



# Status: Water Data and Tools Marketplace (Community)

- ◆ Community dialogue (SSWD, AWRA, etc.)
- ◆ Web-based forum needed (wiki or similar)
- ◆ Code/tool/procedure open source repositories (e.g. GitHub)
  - Many agencies/teams already have
  - Open forum or curated?
  - Challenges:
    - ◆ Keeping current
    - ◆ Discoverability, accessibility



# OWDI Examples:

- ◆ ArcGIS Online web map showcasing some OWDI data services:

<http://arcg.is/1CvFY6W>

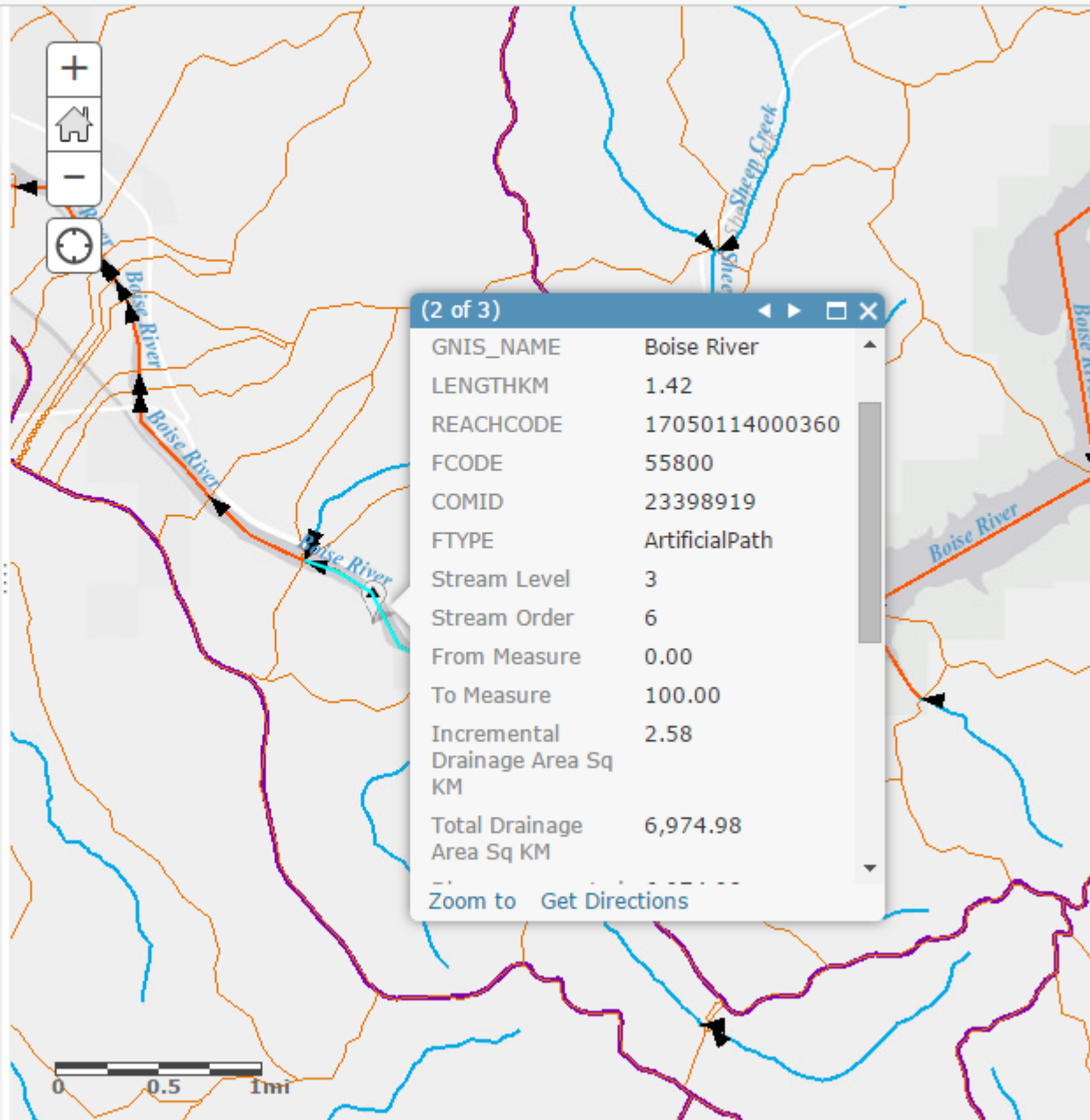
- ◆ National denormalized NHDPlus V2.1 download:

<ftp://ec2-54-227-241-43.compute-1.amazonaws.com/NHDplus/OWDI/>



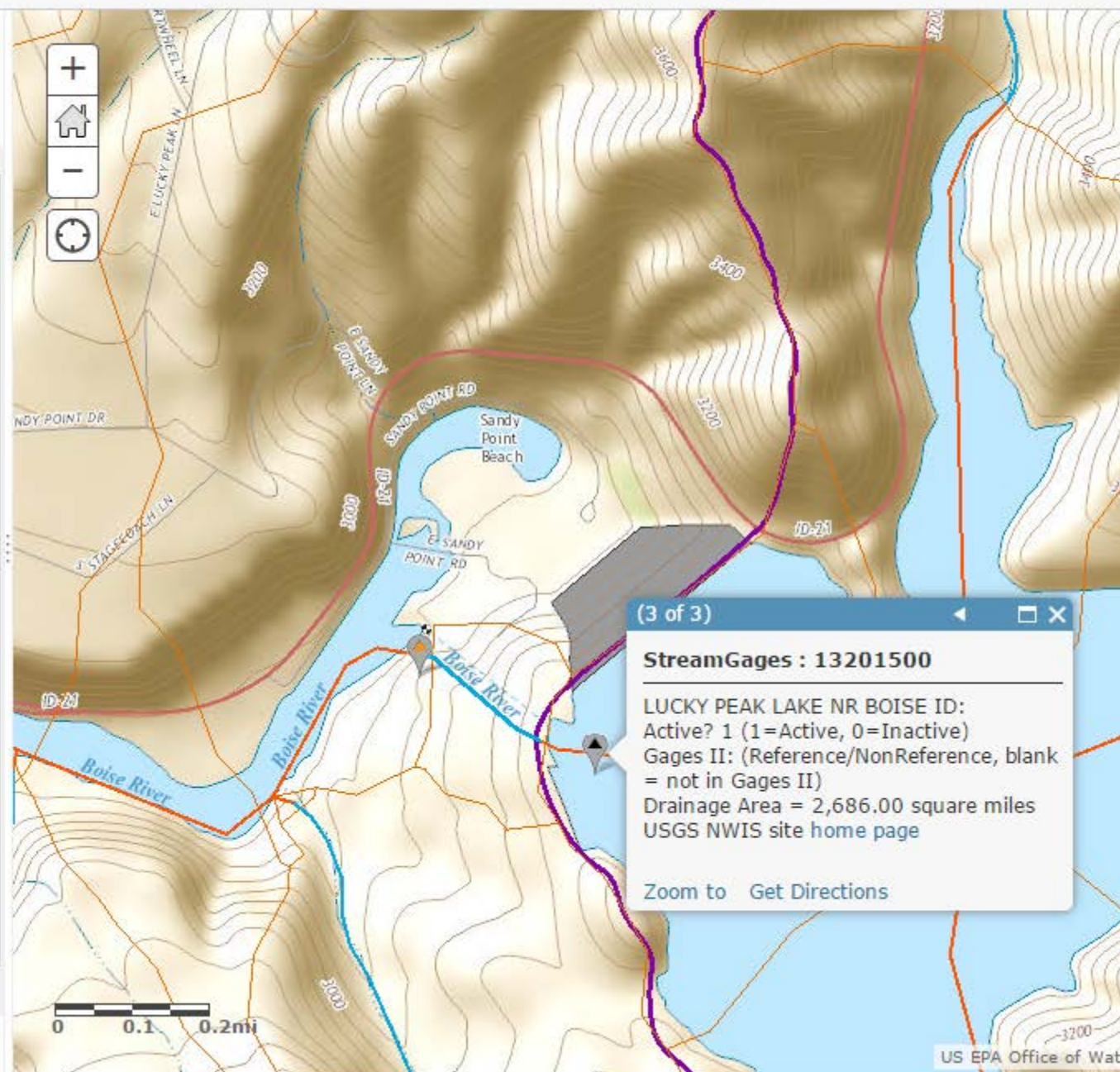
Contents

- ▶  FEMA National Flood Hazard Layer
- ▶  Streamgages Linked to NHDPlus V2.1
- ▶  NHDPlus V2.1
  - Flow Direction
  - Network Flowline
  - Non-Network Flowline
  - Waterbody
  - NHD Point
  - NHD Line
  - NHD Area
  - Catchment
  - Subwatershed (HUC12)
- Light Gray Canvas





- Content Legend
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(3 of 3)

**StreamGages : 13201500**

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LUCKY PEAK LAKE NR BOISE ID:  
 Active? 1 (1=Active, 0=Inactive)  
 Gages II: (Reference/NonReference, blank = not in Gages II)  
 Drainage Area = 2,686.00 square miles  
[USGS NWIS site home page](#)

[Zoom to](#) [Get Directions](#)



- Home
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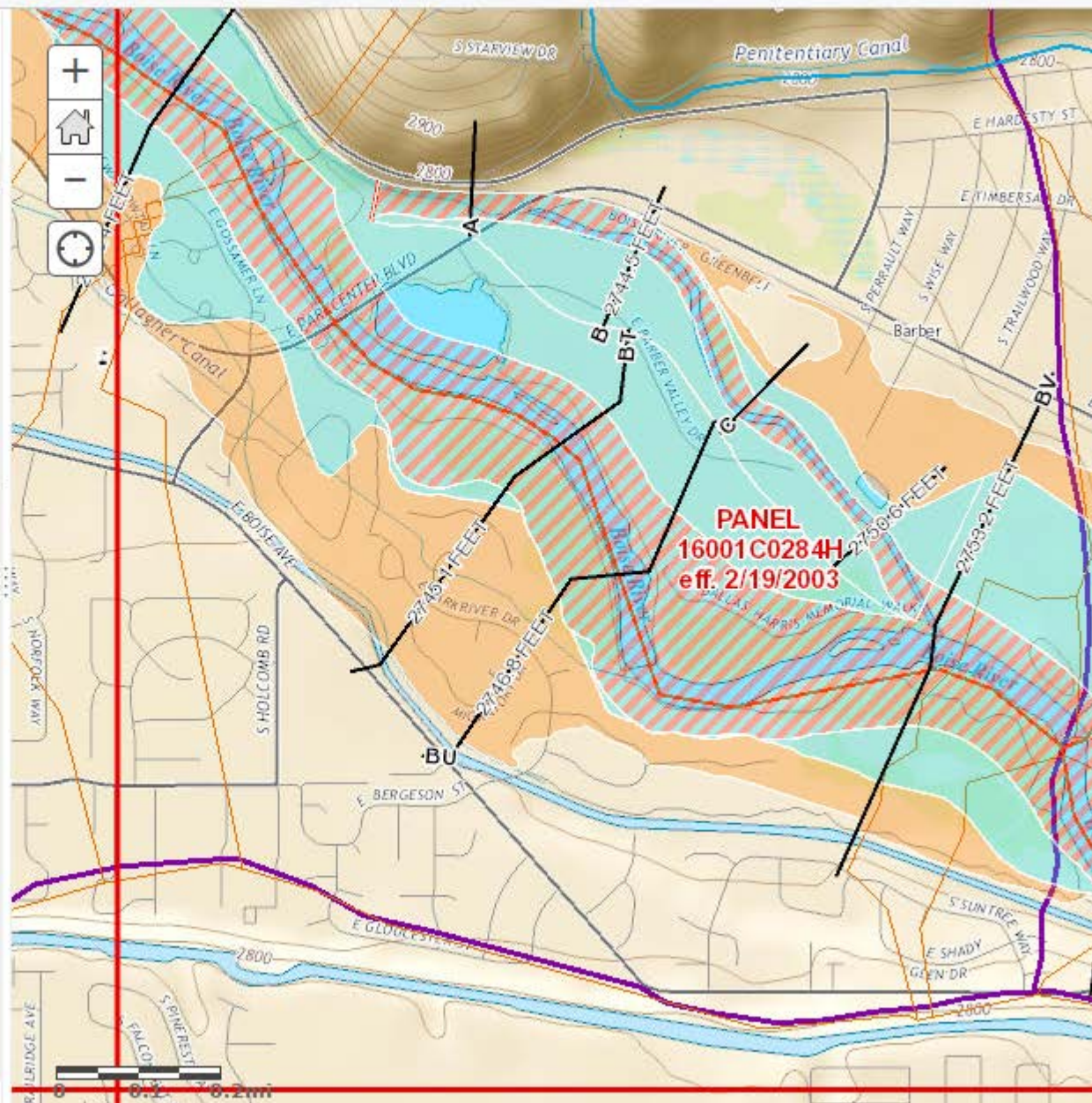
Basemap | Analysis

Save ▾ | Share | Print | Directions | Measure

Legend

Layer

- LOMRs
- LOMAs
- FIRM Panels
  - 
  - 
  - 
  - 
  -
- Base Index
- PLSS
- Topological Low Confidence Areas
- River Mile Markers
- Datum Conversion Points
- Coastal Gages
- Gages
- Nodes



# For more information:

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