

WELCOME!

Lakeside County Water
& Sewer District



Wastewater Treatment Facility
Upgrade Project

Open
House

Stay Informed

 Learn more about the project and why improvements are needed

 Share your comments and questions

 Visit the project website at:
www.rpa-hln.com/lcwsd



Contact:



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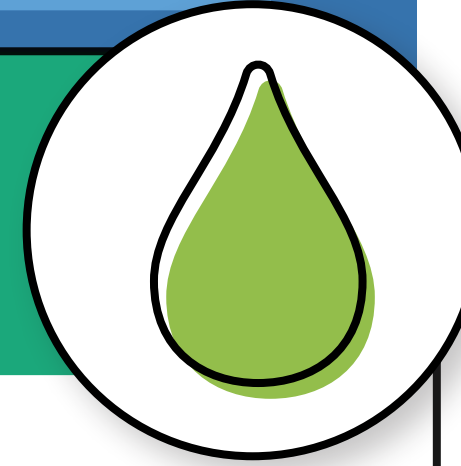
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SCAN ME

PROJECT

OVERVIEW



WHY IS LCWSD UPDATING ITS WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY (WWTF)?



- 💧 The original LCWSD system was constructed in the 1980s to reduce public health hazards and nutrient loading into Flathead Lake.
- 💧 After nearly 40 years of service, the system is nearing the **end of its useful life** and has very little capacity to accept additional wastewater from ongoing growth and development in the area.
- 💧 A Wastewater Treatment Facility system upgrade is now needed to transition to **modern, efficient treatment methods** and **expand wastewater treatment capacity** to responsibly serve the regional community while continuing to protect Flathead Lake and the surrounding natural environment.

HOW DOES THIS PROJECT BENEFIT LCWSD CUSTOMERS?



- 💧 In addition to providing safeguards for human health and the natural environment, the project will enable LCWSD to maintain a **stable rate structure** for its customers.
- 💧 Grant funding from federal and state programs will enable the design and construction of facility upgrades while **keeping fees affordable** for ratepayers.

WHY IS LCWSD PARTNERING WITH FLATHEAD COUNTY TO PROVIDE SEPTAGE TREATMENT?



- 💧 The need for treatment of septage (or septic tank waste) has increased with an increasing population. Untreated septage is currently applied to the surface of undeveloped lands. There is an increasing shortage of land available for this purpose as uses are changing within the valley.
- 💧 Flathead County originally planned to construct a stand-alone County facility near Lakeside and deliver semi-treated water to LCWSD.
- 💧 However, LCWSD and Flathead County agreed to partner on a single combined facility for the following reasons:
 - 💰 **Cost:** Constructing and managing a single facility is more economical and efficient than two separate facilities.
 - 🌱 **Environment:** A single facility minimizes disturbance to the land and environment.
 - 👥 **Community Growth:** The combined project will efficiently and economically serve current residents and businesses while also accommodating anticipated future residential and commercial growth, both within the District and Flathead County.

HOW MUCH WILL THE NEW FACILITIES COST?



- 💧 The project is estimated to cost approximately **\$26-30 million** to construct.
- 💧 LCWSD and Flathead County have received grant funding from multiple sources, including the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

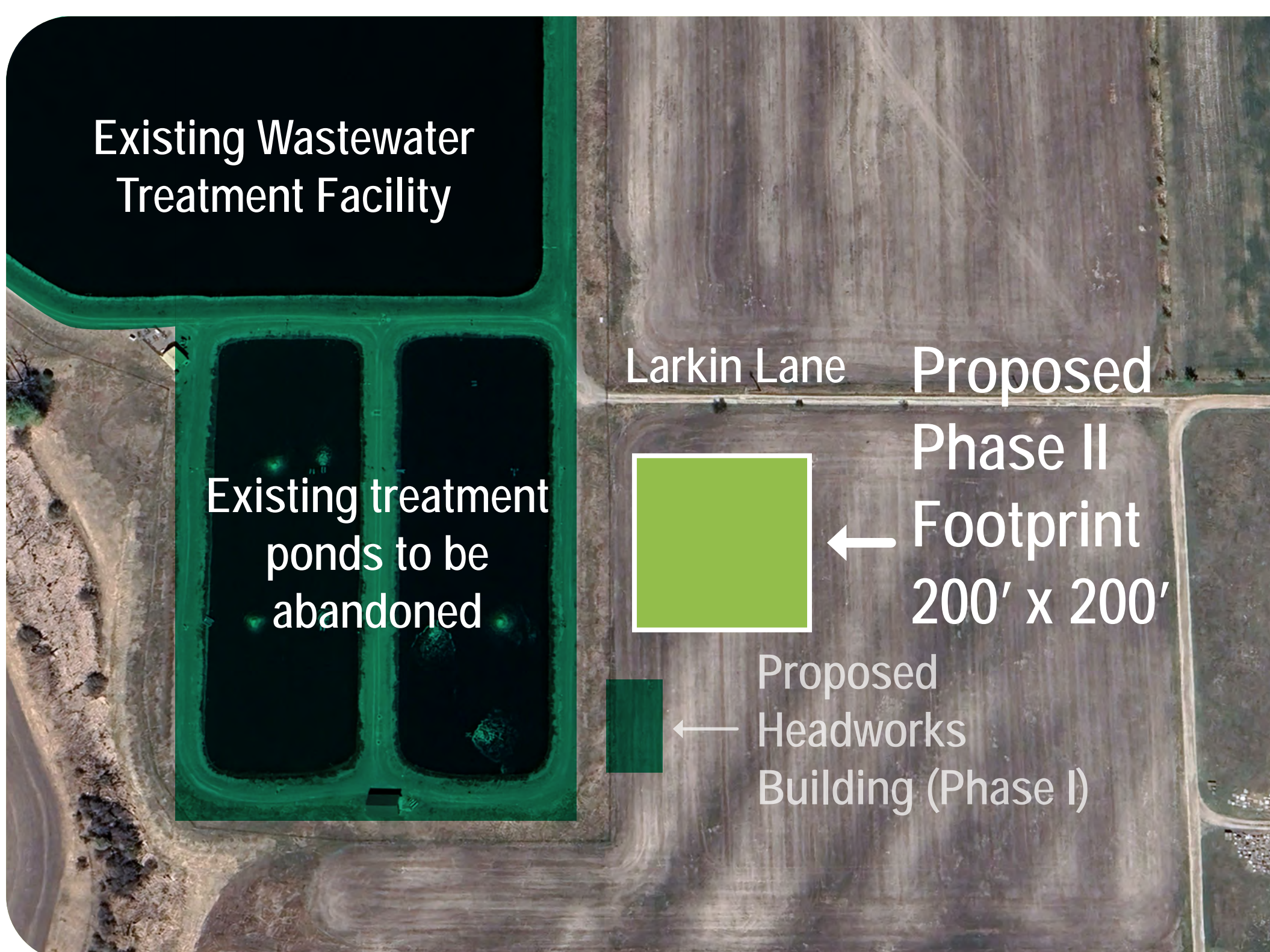
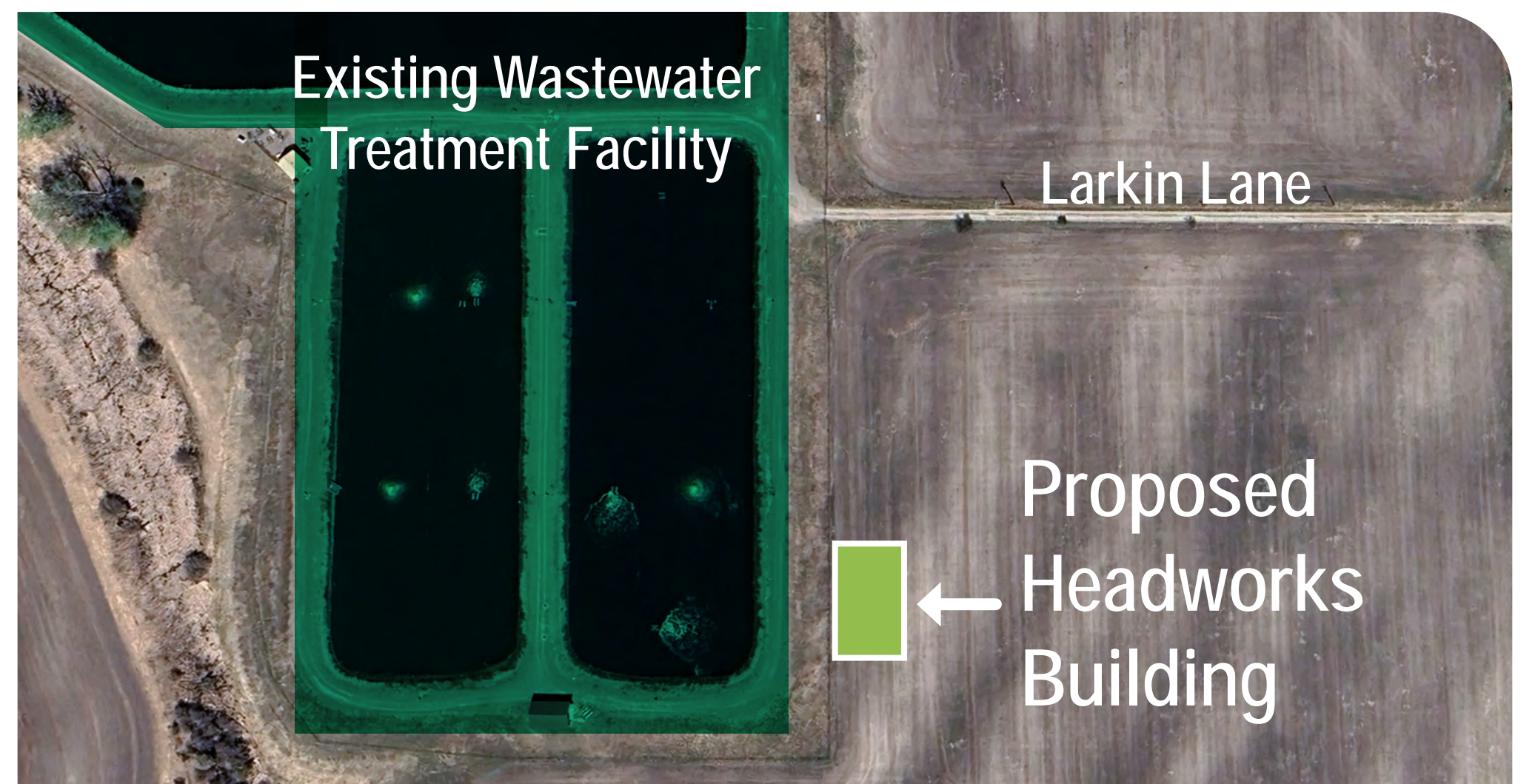
THE LCWSD WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY UPGRADE PROJECT CONSISTS OF TWO PHASES



Phase I includes construction of a **new headworks/screening facility and grit removal facility**, which will be located

at the LCWSD's existing wastewater treatment facility site to screen raw wastewater and remove inorganic materials such as plastics and grit.

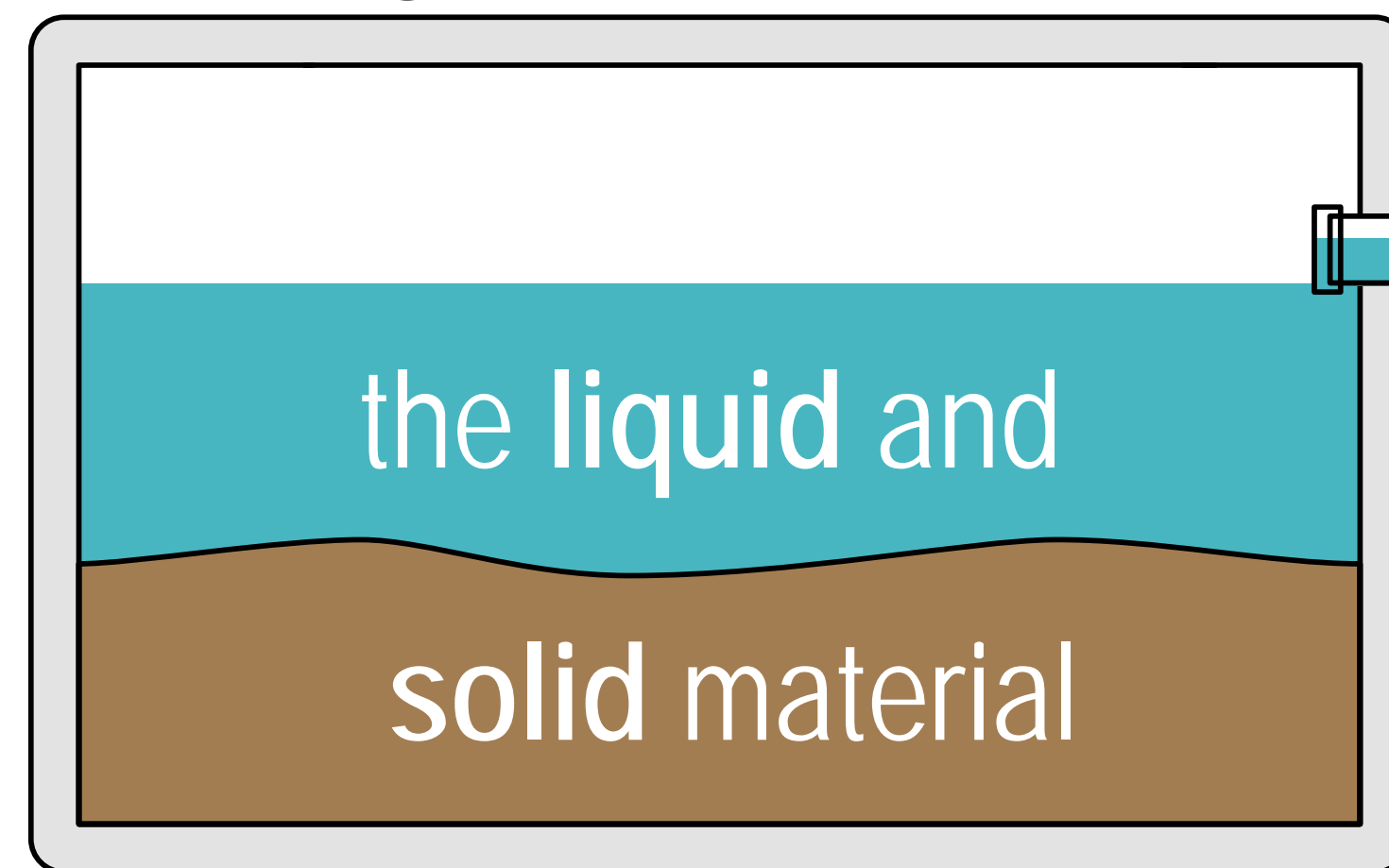
Additionally, a **new Septage Receiving and Treatment Facility (SRTF)** will be constructed at the LCWSD's existing land application site. The septage facility will include a septage unloading site where septage pumped from septic tanks within Flathead County can be disposed. The septage facility will not be operational until Phase II is completed.



Phase II will include construction of a **specialized wastewater treatment facility** that will treat LCWSD's normal wastewater flows along with septage. This facility will provide **higher levels of treatment** than what is possible today by the current treatment facility. It will have **special design features** to handle the new septage volume and concentration. Relatively, the septage will be a small proportion of wastewater received by LCWSD daily.

WHAT IS SEPTAGE?

Septage is..



pumped from septic tanks.



Septic tanks should be pumped every **three-five** years.

There are approximately **30,000** septic tanks in the Flathead Valley, with **hundreds** more added each year.

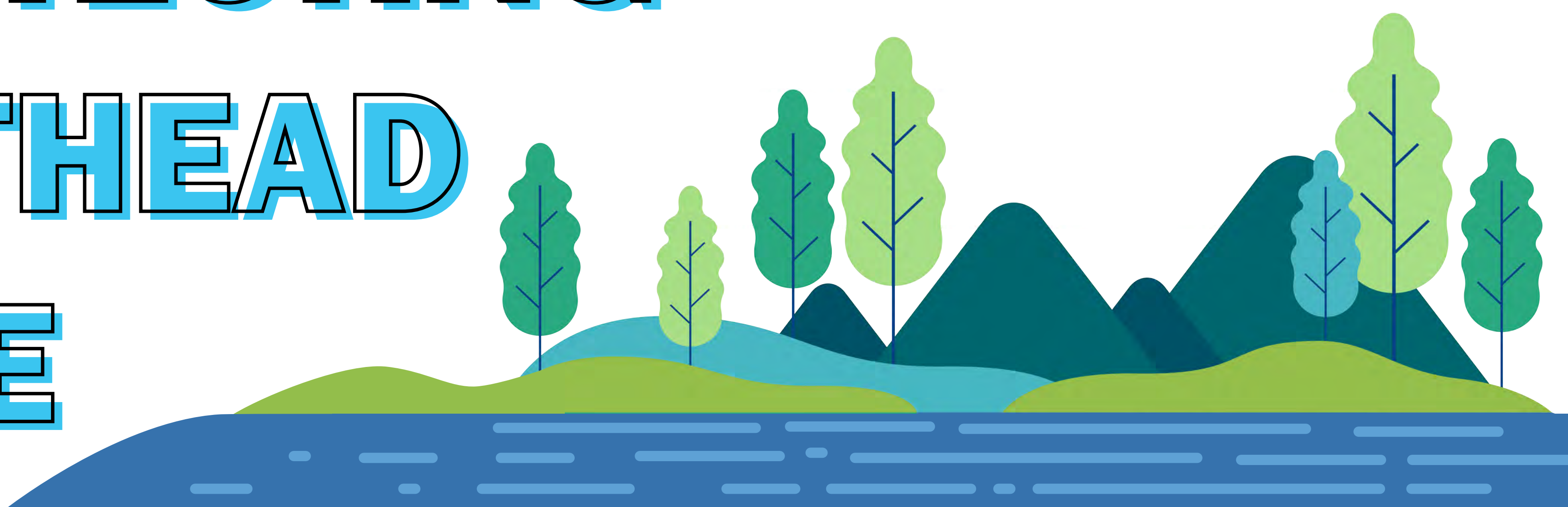


It is estimated that **30,000-40,000** gallons of septage is pumped every day in the Flathead Valley.



Where does septage currently go?
The majority of septage is **land applied** directly to **agricultural fields**.

PROTECTING FLATHEAD LAKE



STEWARDSHIP OF FLATHEAD LAKE

- 💧 The original LCWSD facility was constructed using U.S. EPA funding in 1987 to install a wastewater collection and treatment system as a means to protect Flathead Lake.
- 💧 Providing this service remains the goal of the District today.
- 💧 The District intends to continue its environmental stewardship by effectively collecting and treating wastewater within the District's service area.

2019 LEAKAGE TEST

In response to claims that the LCWSD treatment ponds were leaking, the *Lakeside Wastewater System Pond Seepage Test Analysis* was completed by Jackola Engineering in 2019.

How was the test conducted?

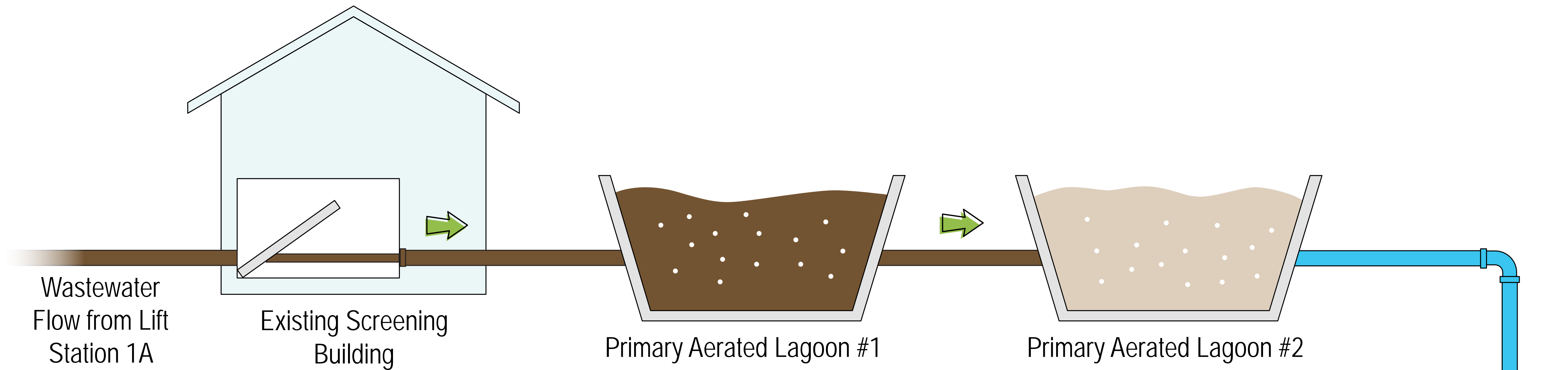
The WWTF pond levels were monitored over a 6-day period.

What were the results?

- 💧 All pond seepage values were determined to be negative, suggesting pond evaporation exceeded pond seepage per wastewater standards outlined in DEQ Circular 2. As such, the analysis concluded: **there is no seepage.**
- 💧 The District has no reason to believe the ponds leak as they all hold water year-round with no indication of leakage.

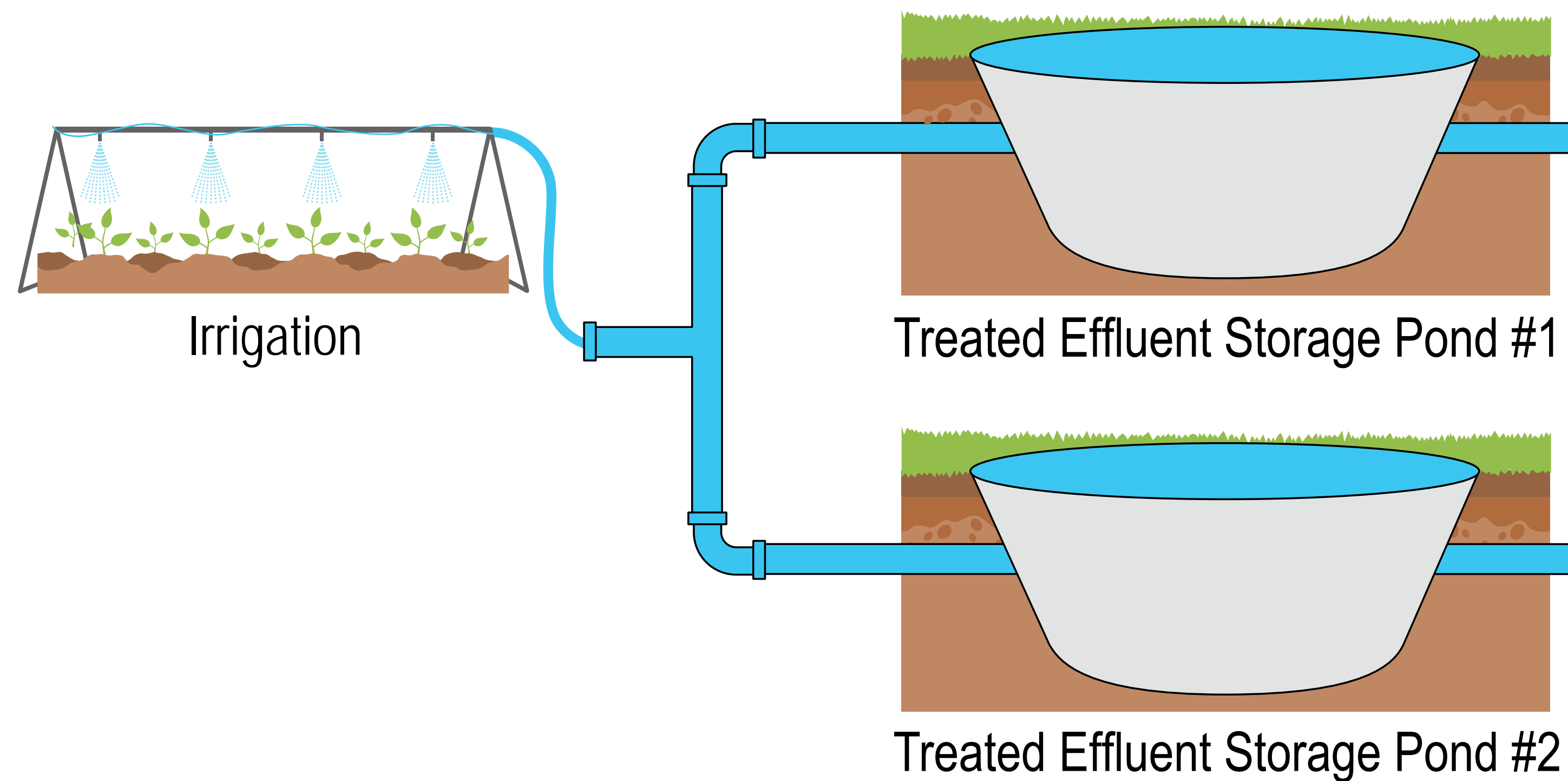


EXISTING WASTEWATER TREATMENT FLOW PATH

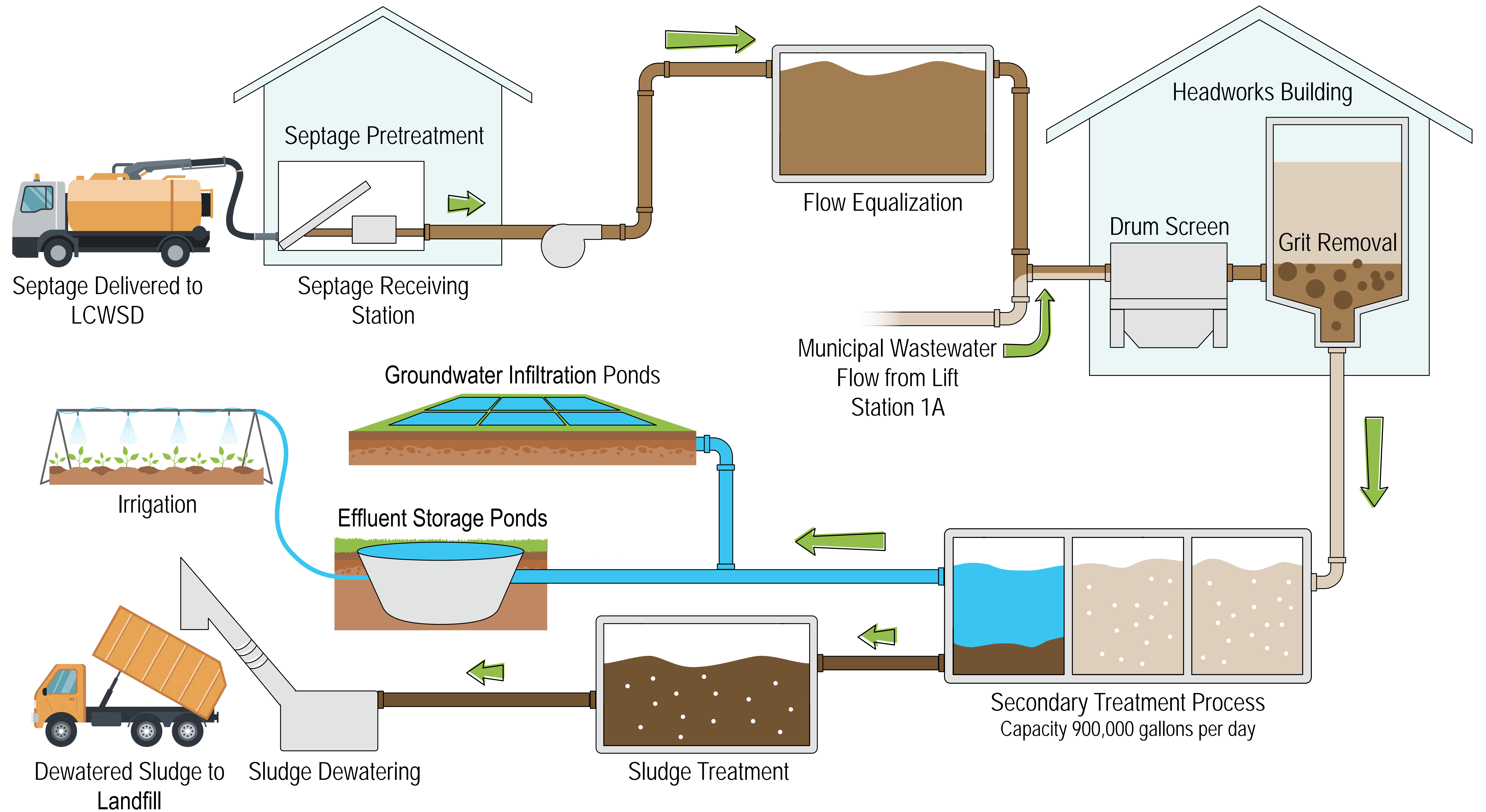


LCWSD WASTEWATER EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS

	Existing Effluent (mg/L)	Existing % Removal	Proposed Effluent (mg/L)	Proposed % Removal
TSS	30	85	10	95
BOD	30	85	10	95
TP	8	Negligible	1.5	75
TN	35	Negligible	8	80



HYDRAULIC PROFILE



TIMELINE

The original LCWSD facility was constructed using U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) funding in 1987 to install a wastewater collection and treatment system as a means to protect Flathead Lake. Providing this service remains the goal of the District today. The District intends to continue its environmental stewardship by effectively collecting and treating wastewater within the District's service area.

2021
LCWSD began planning to upgrade its WWTF to process municipal wastewater using modern treatment methods to protect the surrounding environment and water quality.

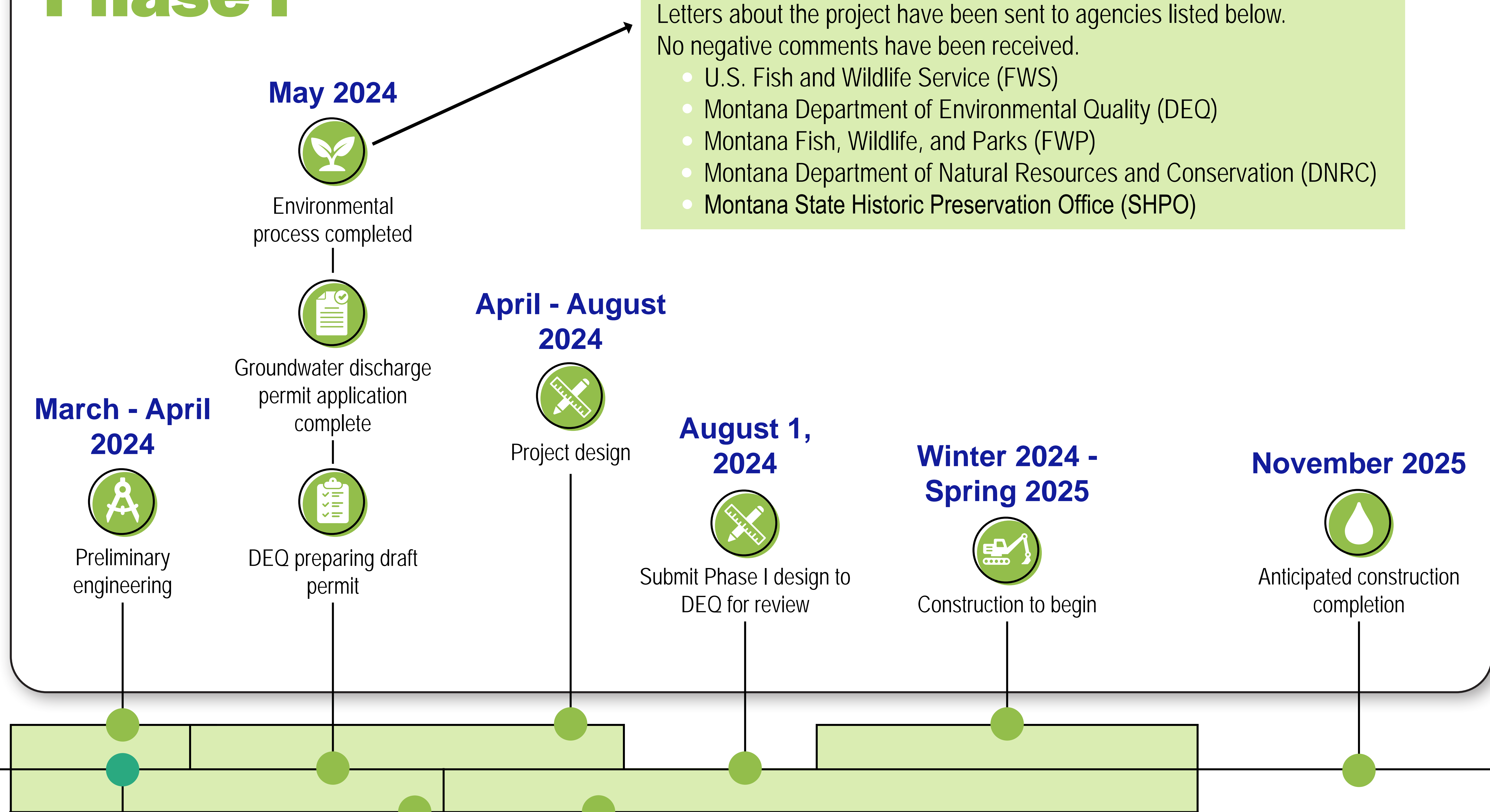
2022/2023
LCWSD and Flathead County discussed potential opportunities to combine wastewater treatment efforts.

September 14, 2023
Flathead County entered into an Interlocal Agreement with LCWSD, under which the County planned to build, own, and operate a stand-alone facility to treat septage down to residential strength before delivering it to LCWSD for further treatment.

September 15, 2023
Flathead County closed on the purchase of property at 305 Wiley Dike Road in Kalispell where the new County WWTP was intended to be located.

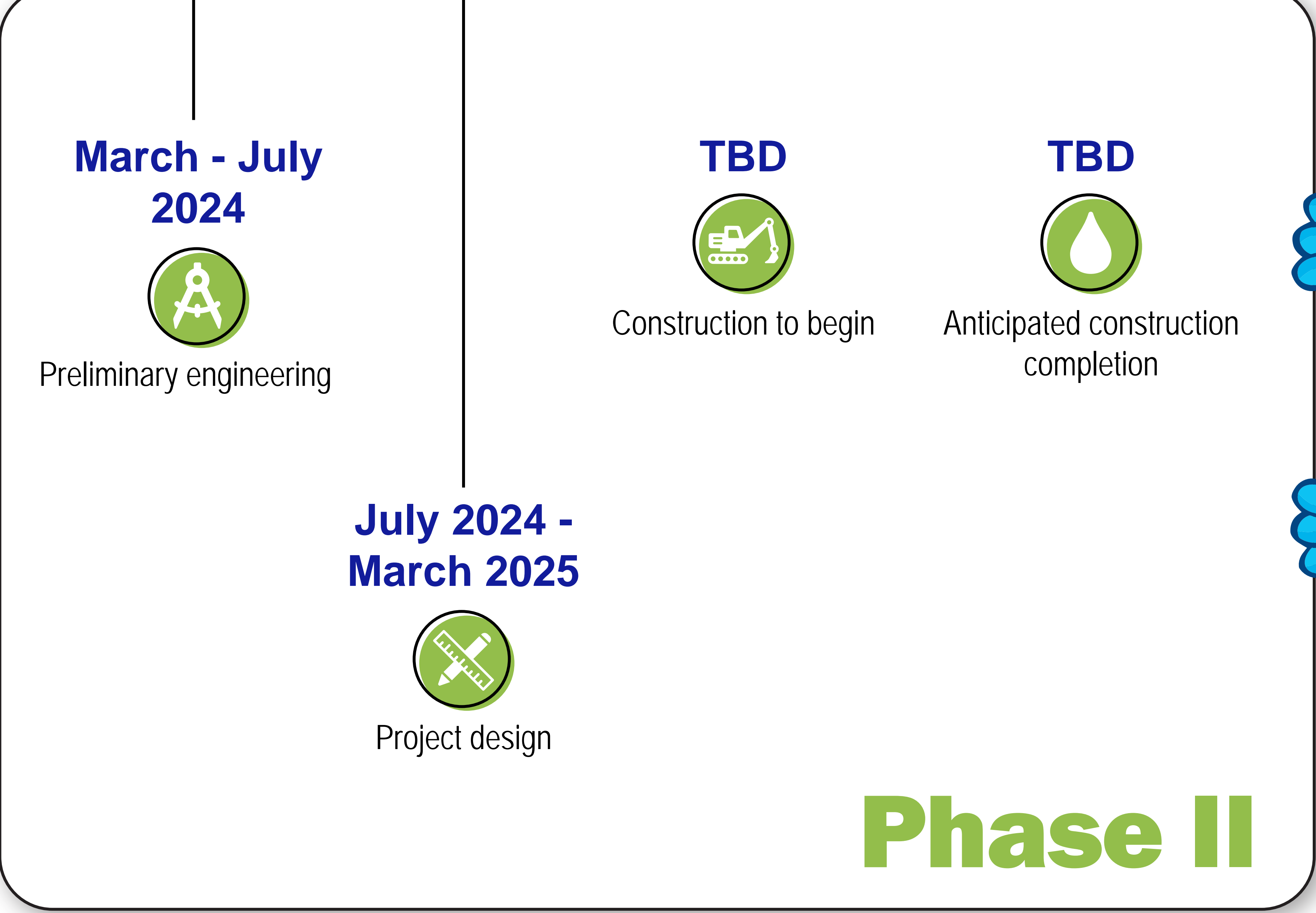
Since the initial interlocal agreement, the County and LCWSD determined that a more effective construction and management model would be to build a single facility that could treat septage and portable bathroom waste while simultaneously increasing wastewater treatment capacity for the LCWSD.

Phase I



March 19, 2024
The Flathead County Commissioners unanimously voted to enter into a new Interlocal Agreement with LCWSD to improve and expand wastewater treatment for the County.

March 28, 2024
The Flathead County Commissioners unanimously voted to sell the property located at 305 Wiley Dike Road in Kalispell to LCWSD.



Phase II



WHERE ARE

WE NOW?



GROUNDWATER PERMIT APPLICATION IS COMPLETE



- DEQ is currently preparing the draft groundwater discharge permit.

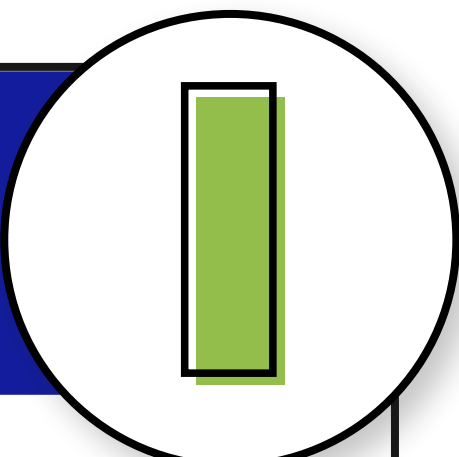
ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS IS COMPLETE



Letters about the project have been sent to agencies listed below. No negative comments have been received.

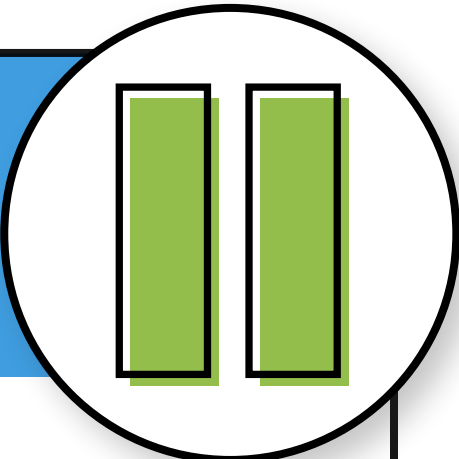
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
- Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
- Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)
- Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
- Montana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

PHASE I



- Design is currently underway.
- Design will adhere to LCWSD, Flathead County, and DEQ standards and regulations.

PHASE II



- Project planning is ongoing.
- Secondary treatment process to be decided by Fall 2024.
- Phase II design to follow.

PROPERTY AT 305 WILEY DIKE ROAD IN KALISPELL



- Flathead County initially purchased when there were plans for two separate facilities.
- On March 28, 2024, the Flathead County Commissioners voted to sell the property to LCWSD.
- LCWSD is determining future use of the land, options include agricultural (LCWSD would lease out), buffer zone, and possible wetland mitigation.



- No volume of wastewater exceeding the existing Wastewater Treatment Facility's capacity will be accepted until Phase II improvements are constructed.
- No septage will be accepted until construction Phase II is completed.

