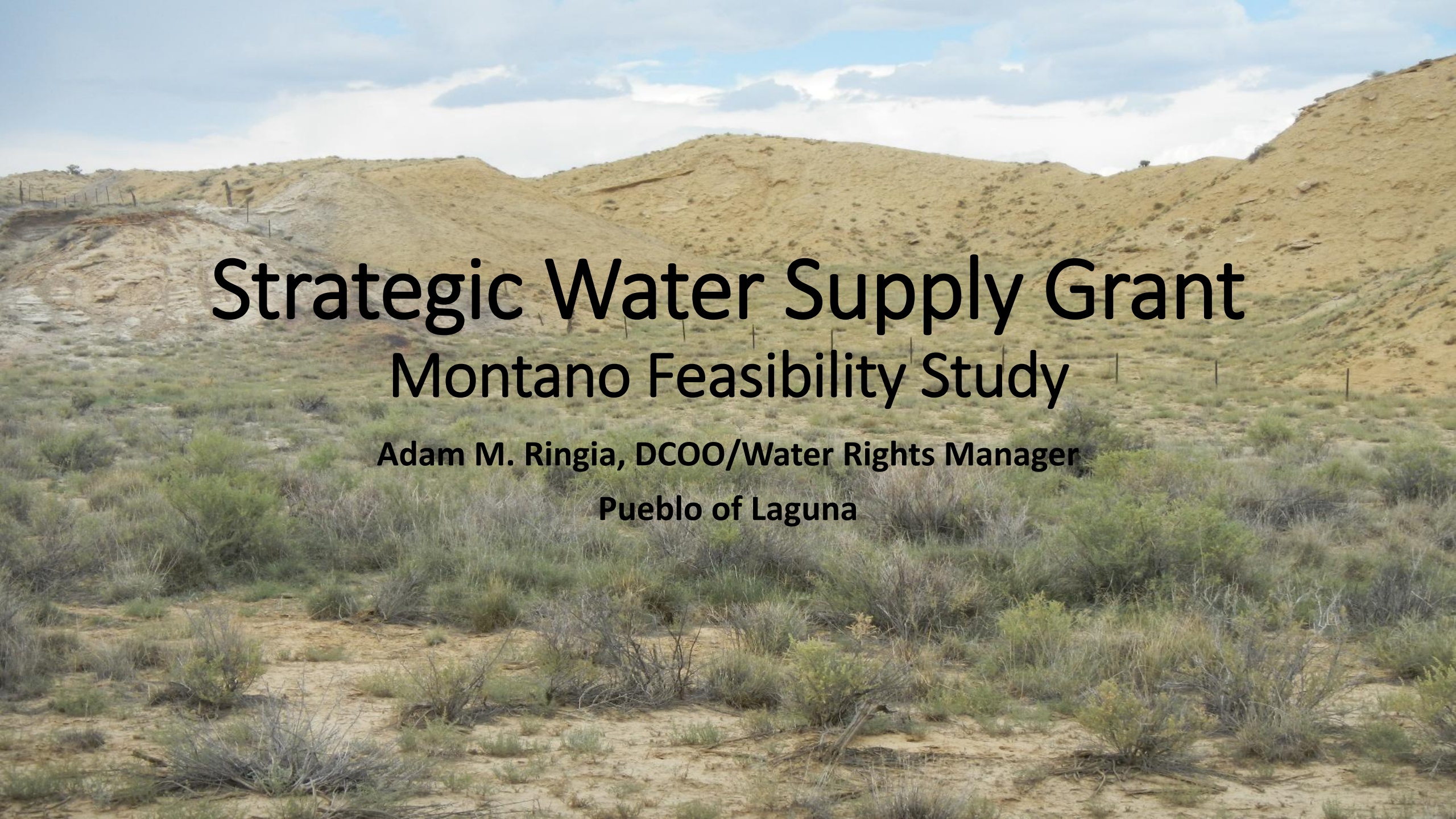


The background of the slide is a photograph of a desert landscape. It features rolling, arid hills with a yellowish-brown hue. The foreground and middle ground are covered with sparse, low-lying green and grey shrubs. A thin wire fence is visible on the left side of the image. The sky is filled with soft, white and grey clouds, suggesting an overcast day.

Strategic Water Supply Grant Montano Feasibility Study

**Adam M. Ringia, DCOO/Water Rights Manager
Pueblo of Laguna**

Presentation Summary

- The water supply challenge and opportunity
- The Montaña brackish groundwater resource
- Technical feasibility study activities
- Potential service area and regional benefits
- Infrastructure and treatment concepts
- Environmental, economic, and community benefits
- Project timeline
- Legislative value and regional impact

Why This Project Matters

- Long-term water security
- Support growth in Rio Puerco Valley/Rio Rancho
- Develop local drought-resilient supply
- Potential Economic Resource

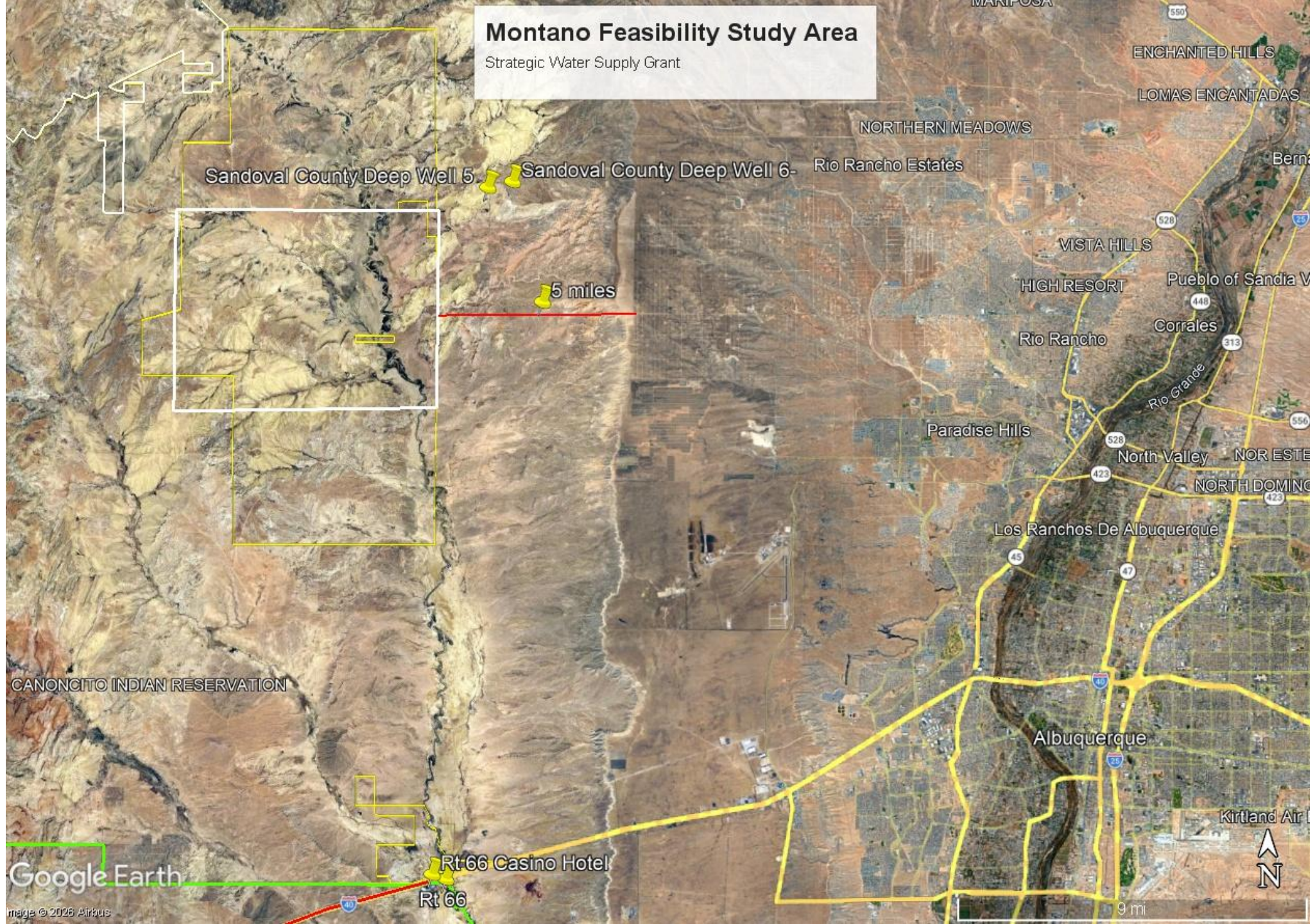


Project Concept

- Evaluate deep brackish groundwater in Morrison Formation
- Test production potential
- Assess treatment and delivery infrastructure

Montano Feasibility Study Area

Strategic Water Supply Grant



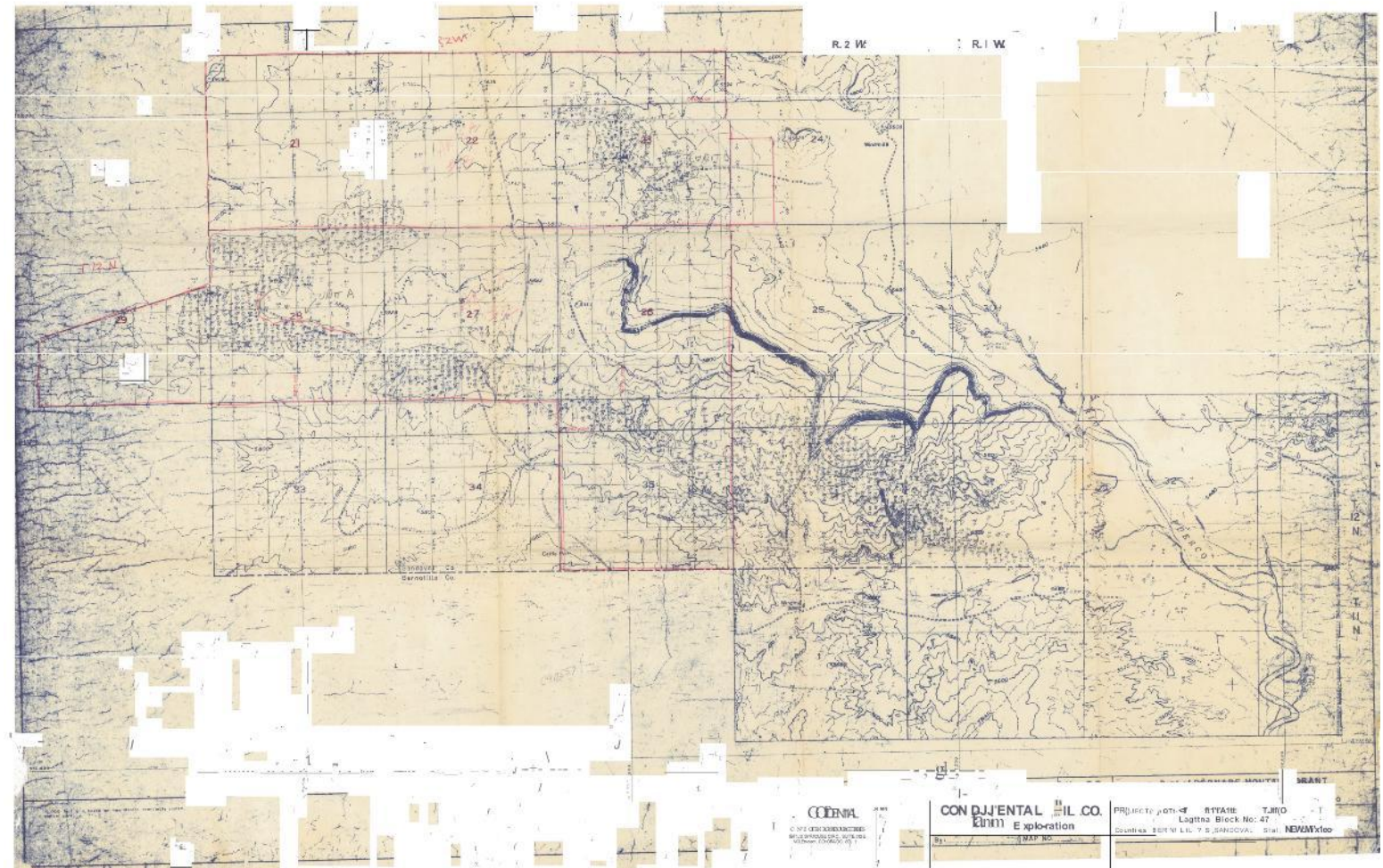
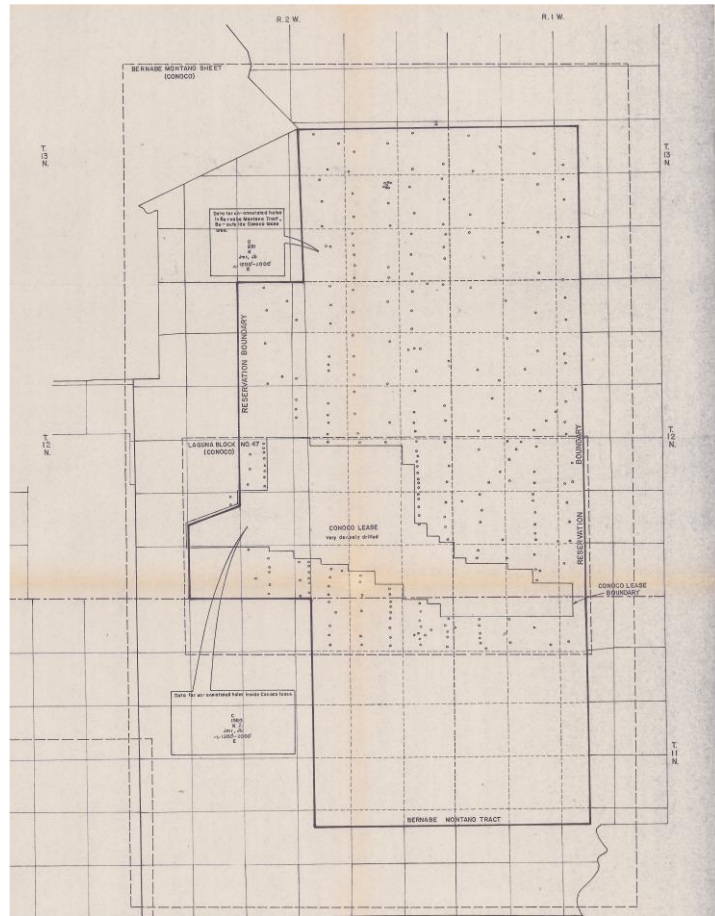
Google Earth

Image © 2026 Airbus

Technical Study Program

- Review historic 1970s wells
- Geologic mapping and modeling
 - Existing data
 - Geophysics
- Drill 2 test wells (~1,800 ft)
- Pumping tests and water quality analysis

Historical Uranium Drilling



Resource Potential

- Historic well yields up to 1,212 gpm
- Flowing artesian conditions observed
- Large-scale resource evaluation planned



Service Area Benefits

- Eastern Reservation Area
- Laguna developments
- Rio Rancho
- Other Unserved/Underserved Bernalillo and Sandoval areas
- Potential regional partnerships

Infrastructure Vision

- Production wells
- Water treatment/desalination
- Utility services and pipelines
- Distribution to users
- Data Center potential?
- Solar?



Environmental & Community Benefits

- Reduce pressure on freshwater sources
- Support economic development
- Livestock and community water reliability
- Tribal-led stewardship

Feasibility Study Timeline

- 24-month program
- Field work and drilling
- Groundwater model
- Engineering and final report



Partners

- Pueblo of Laguna
- State of New Mexico
- John Shomaker and Associates
- EPCOR
- DOWL
- NMSU



Questions?

