



City of St. Helena
Active Transportation and Sustainability
Committee
Regular Meeting
1088 College Avenue, St. Helena, CA 94574
Wednesday, January 7, 2026 @ 5:00 PM

PLEASE NOTE: Any person who wishes to speak regarding an item on the agenda or make a comment under the "Oral Communication" portion of the agenda may do so, but please observe the time limit of four minutes.

Members of the public and other parties are welcome to email their comments to the Staff Liaison Rebecca White at rwhite@cityofsthenena.gov. All public comments must be received three hours prior to the meeting. Public comments received after the deadline will be attached to the item the next business day or soon thereafter. Public comments will not be read out loud but will be publicly available and attached to the online agenda.

Page

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
Chair: Jeff Farmer
Vice Chair: John Zimmerman
Members: Shannon Nolan, Richard Sieferheld and Glenn Smith
Alternate Members: Emma Leggat and Tony Rabin
Staff Liaison: Rebecca White, Administrative Assistant
3. PUBLIC FORUM:
An opportunity for the public to directly address the Committee on items of interest to the public that are not listed on the agenda. Any person addressing the Committee should provide his or her name and address, and limit comments to four minutes. **Because of restrictions imposed by the Brown Act, the Committee may not engage in substantive discussion, nor take action on matters not described on the agenda.**
4. REPORTS BY STAFF AND COMMITTEE:
Reports by staff and/or committee on items of general interest. ***Brief questions for clarification may be posed and answered, and Committee may request that items be placed on a future agenda. Except under certain circumstances, the Brown Act prohibits any other discussion or action by the Active Transportation & Sustainability Committee.***
5. CONSENT CALENDAR:
Members of the Active Transportation Committee or the public may ask that any items be considered individually for purposes of considering alternative action, for extended discussion, or for public comment. Unless that is done, on motion may be used to adopt all recommendation actions.
 - 5.1. Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes of December 3, 2025.
[Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee - 03 Dec 2025 - Minutes](#)

3 - 4

6. SCHEDULED MATTERS:
- 6.1. Discussion on New Edwards Street Pedestrian Crossing and Preliminary Design for Pedestrian Crossing at Spring Street and Hwy 29 5 - 14
Prepared By: Mario Traverso, Project Manager
[Pedestrian Crossing Presentation](#)
- 6.2. PFAS Status in the City's Water and Wastewater Systems 15 - 26
Prepared By: Eric Janzen, Assistant Public Works Director
[PFAS Presentation](#)
- 6.3. PFAS and Farmland Risk: An Overview of the Risks Associated with PFAS, How Agricultural Land is Vulnerable to Contamination, the Regulatory Responses Emerging, and an Opportunity for Our Community to Proactively Reduce Risk by Testing Wastewater Prior to Agricultural Reuse Through Future Purple Pipe Systems. 27 - 35
Prepared By: Shannon Nolan
[PFAS ATSC Presentation](#)
7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:
1. Review open trails/open spaces programs/engagement with Vine Trail: TBD
 2. Revisit Pedestrian Safety Improvements: TBD
 3. Spring Street Striping West of Valley View: Tentatively February 2026
 4. Discussion of Potential Bike Path Through Public Cemetery: TBD
 5. Discussion of Landscaping for Wine Train Owned Property: TBD
 6. Review of Draft Streets Master Plan: February 2026
 7. Final Review of Streets Master Plan: March 2026
8. ADJOURNMENT
- The next regular Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2026, at 5:00 p.m., City Hall, 1088 College Avenue, St. Helena.

This agenda was posted at City Hall, 1088 College Avenue, St. Helena on December 23, 2025.

Rebecca White, Administrative Assistant

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the meeting, please contact City Hall at (707) 967-2792. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (28 CFR35.102-35.104 ADA Title II). However, City staff will attempt to assist at any time with accessibility.

MINUTES
City of St. Helena
Active Transportation and Sustainability
Committee Meeting
Wednesday, December 3, 2025 @ 5:00 PM
City Hall, 1088 College Avenue, St. Helena
465 Main Street, St. Helena

1 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Farmer called the meeting to order at 5:00p.m.

2 ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Jeff Farmer, Member Richard Seiferheld, Member Glenn Smith, Member Emma Leggat, Member Tony Rabin (arrived 5:02p.m.).

Absent: Vice Chair John Zimmerman, Member Shannon Nolan

3 PUBLIC FORUM:

Public comment was opened and no comments were received.

Public comment was closed.

4 REPORTS BY STAFF AND COMMITTEE:

Assistant Director of Public Works, Eric Janzen, provided a brief report on upcoming PFAS presentation.

Member Smith reported that the City is in need of a representative on the Active Transportation Advisory Committee to the Napa Valley Transportation Authority.

5 CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a) Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes of November 5, 2025.

Member Nolan moved to approve the consent calendar.

Member Rabin seconded the motion.

All voted in favor of approving the consent calendar.

6 SCHEDULED MATTERS:

- a) Pavement Management Plan Update
Prepared By: Mario Traverso, Project Manager

Mario Traverso presented the updated Pavement Management Plan.

Member Smith made a motion to acknowledge the work staff has done to put the Pavement Management Plan together and recognize it as a valuable opportunity to achieve a high PCI index.

Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee
December 3, 2025

Member Rabin seconded the motion.

All voted in favor of the motion.

- b) Streets Master Plan Status Update and Project Disposition
Prepared By: Joseph Leach, Assistant City Manager/Director of Public Works/City Engineer

Public Works Director, Joe Leach, and Anju Palta from Toole Design provided an update on the Streets Master Plan and advised they would bring the plan back to the committee in March 2026 for comments.

7 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Review open trails/open spaces programs/engagement with Vine Trail: TBD
2. Revisit Pedestrian Safety Improvements: TBD
3. Spring Street Striping West of Valley View: TBD
4. Discussion of Potential Bike Path Through Public Cemetery: TBD
5. Discussion of PFAS in Wastewater Systems: Tentatively January
6. Discussion of Landscaping for Wine Train Owned Property: TBD

8 ADJOURNMENT

Chair Farmer adjourned the meeting at 6:09p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

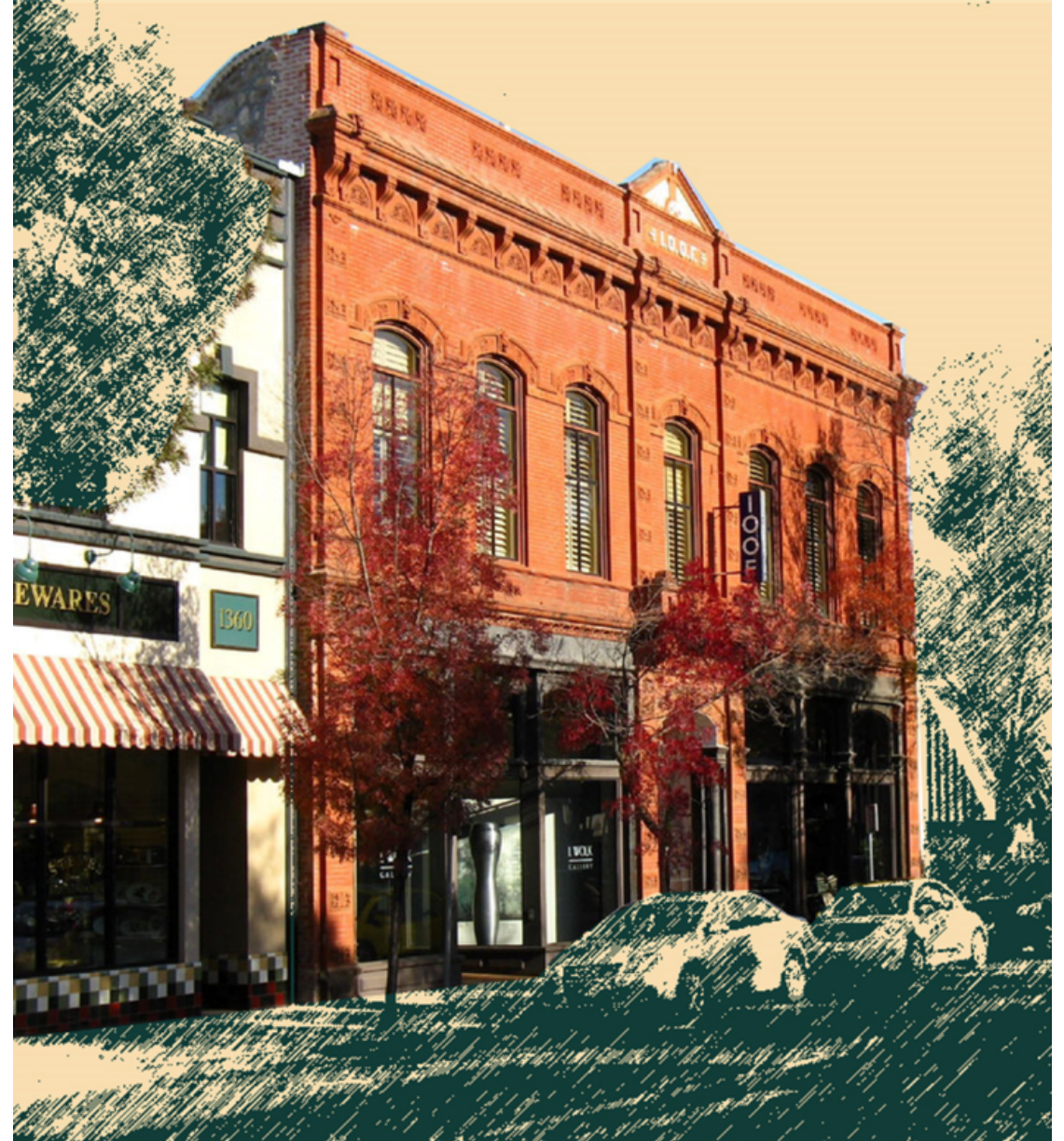
Jeff Farmer, Chair

Rebecca White, Staff Liaison



Pedestrian Safety Update

January 7, 2026





POPE AND EDWARDS CROSSING

- **Ramps are completed**
- **New Striping**
- **RRFBs**
- **New Sidewalk to the South**



POPE AND EDWARDS CROSSING





POPE AND EDWARDS CROSSING





POPE AND EDWARDS CROSSING



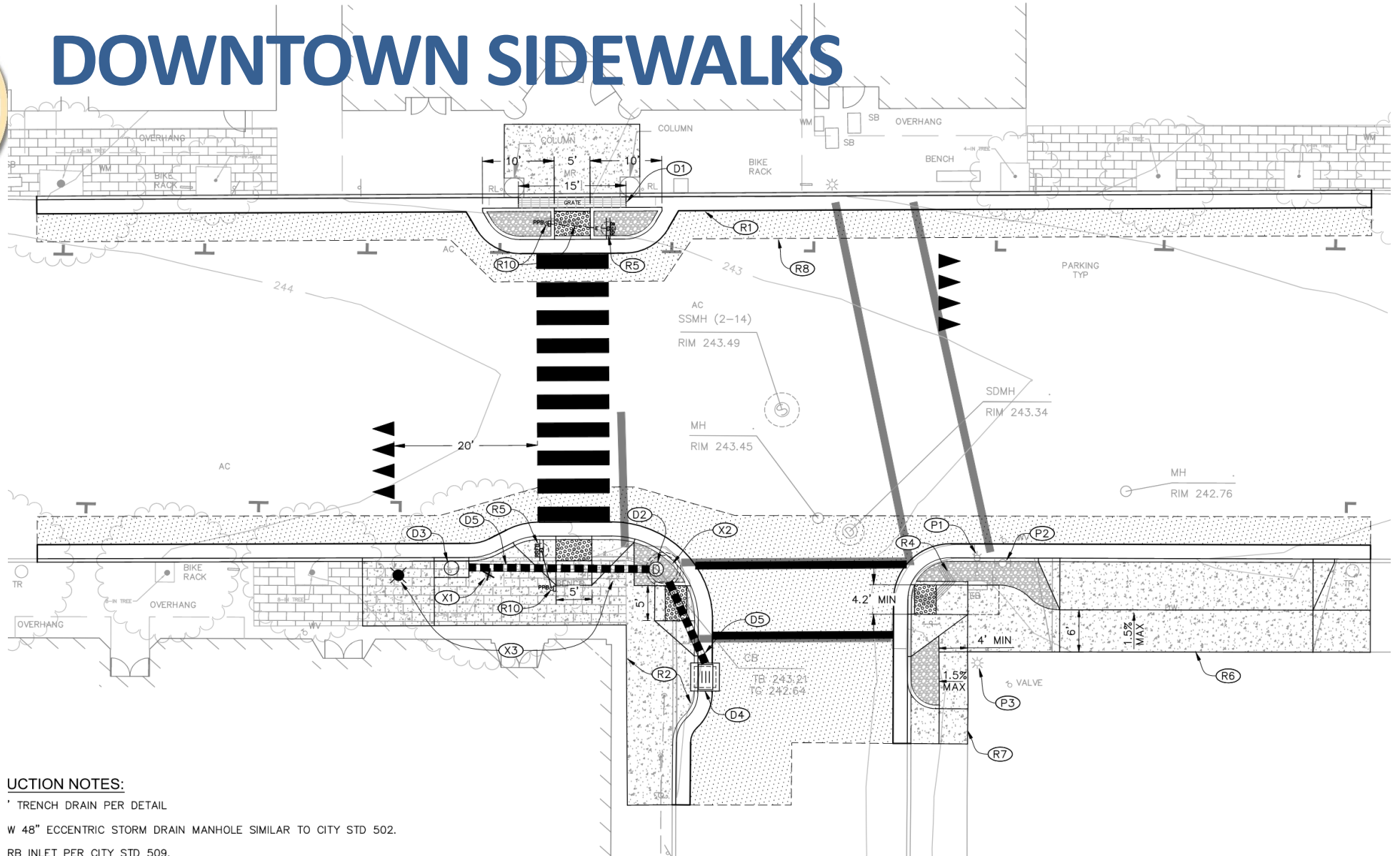


DOWNTOWN SIDEWALKS

- **Started Design for Spring Street Crossing**
- **Including All Sidewalks from Adams to Mitchell**
- **Telegraph Alley**
- **Sidewalks on Hunt Street**



DOWNTOWN SIDEWALKS



SECTION NOTES:

* TRENCH DRAIN PER DETAIL

W 48" ECCENTRIC STORM DRAIN MANHOLE SIMILAR TO CITY STD 502.

RB INLET PER CITY STD 509.



SPEED HUMPS

- **South Crane – 2021 ATSC Design Recommendation**
- **Spring Street – SRTS/ATP, ATSC Design Discussion**
- **Fulton Lane – Resident Coalition Request**
- **Pratt Avenue – Rumble Strips, Resident Coalition Request**
- **Spring Mountain Road – Multiple Safety Improvement Requests**



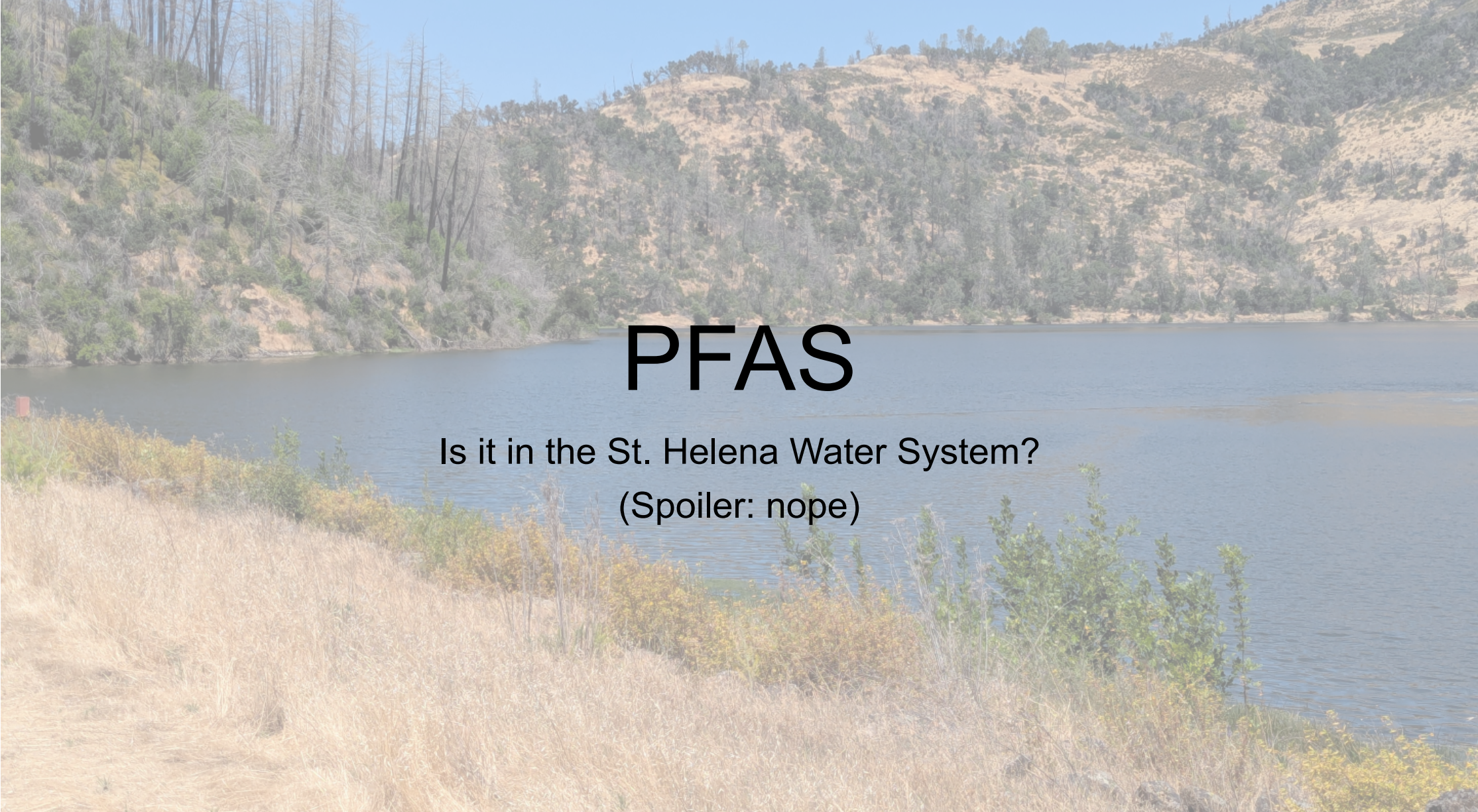
SPEED HUMPS





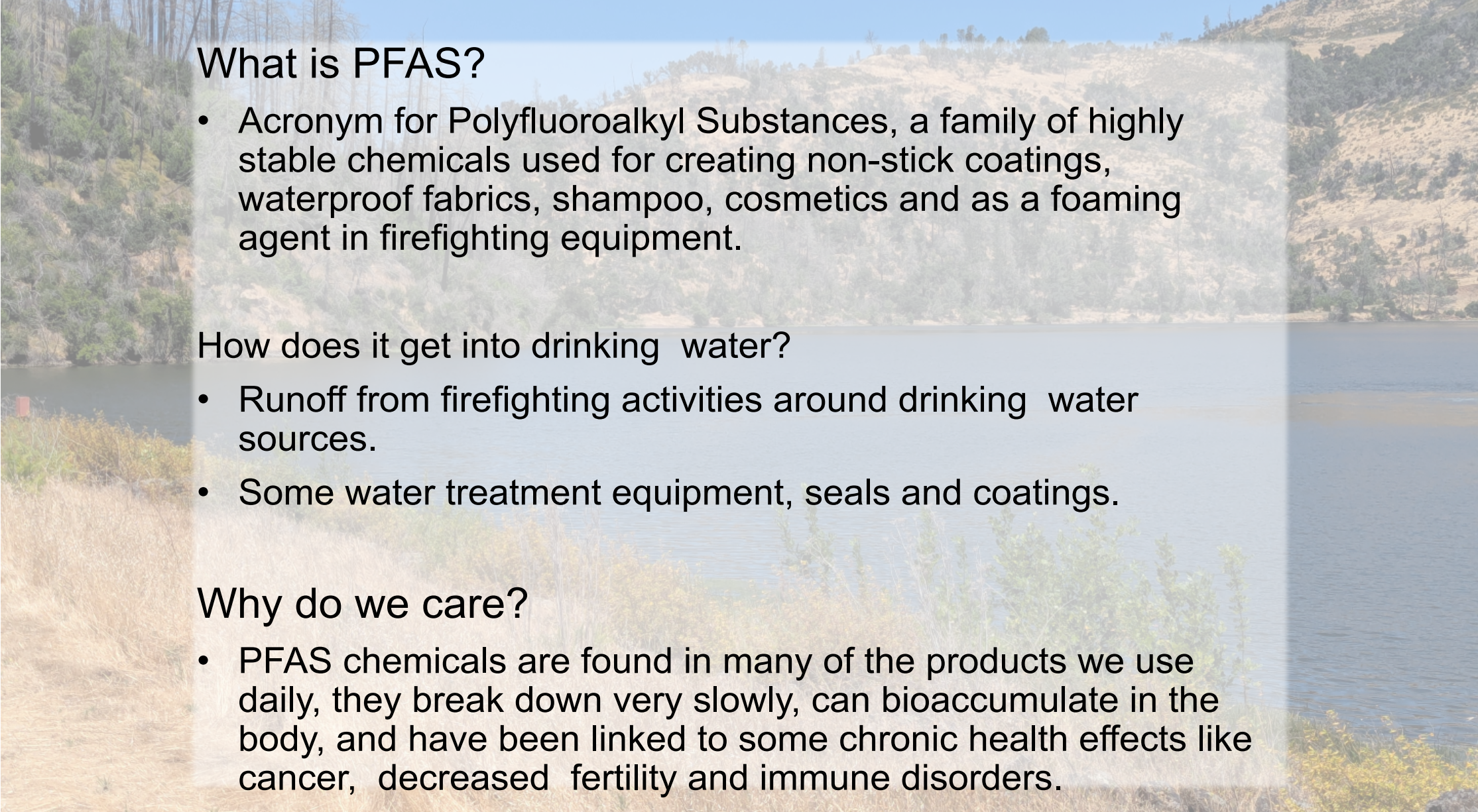
DISCUSSION

- Oak Avenue Project
- PGE Sylvaner Project
- Oak Parking Lot Project
- Sewer Project

A landscape photograph showing a calm lake in the middle ground. In the background, a steep hill rises, covered with a mix of green trees and large areas of bare, light-brown soil, suggesting a fire impact. The foreground is filled with tall, dry, yellowish-brown grass. The sky is clear and blue.

PFAS

Is it in the St. Helena Water System?
(Spoiler: nope)



What is PFAS?

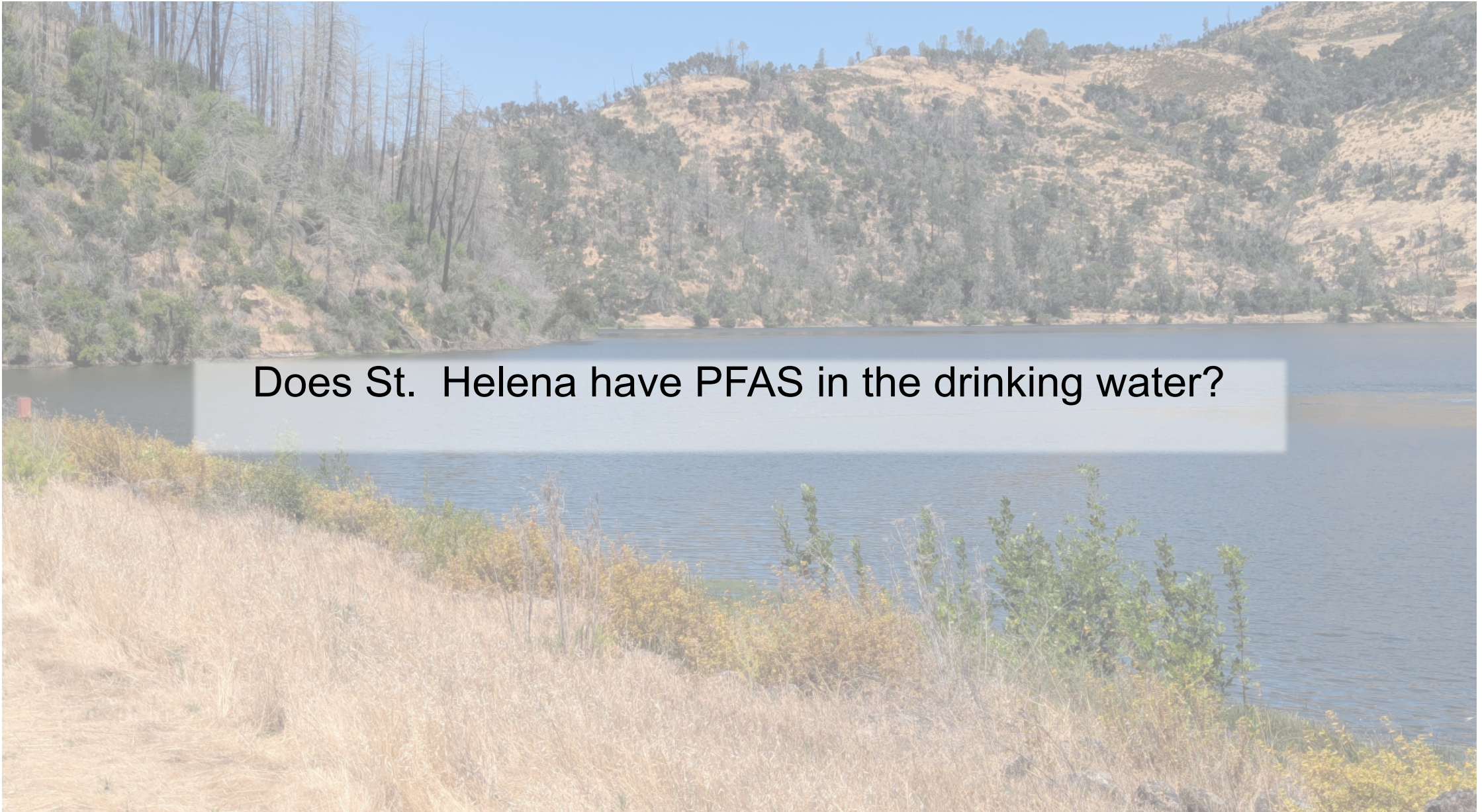
- Acronym for Polyfluoroalkyl Substances, a family of highly stable chemicals used for creating non-stick coatings, waterproof fabrics, shampoo, cosmetics and as a foaming agent in firefighting equipment.

How does it get into drinking water?

- Runoff from firefighting activities around drinking water sources.
- Some water treatment equipment, seals and coatings.

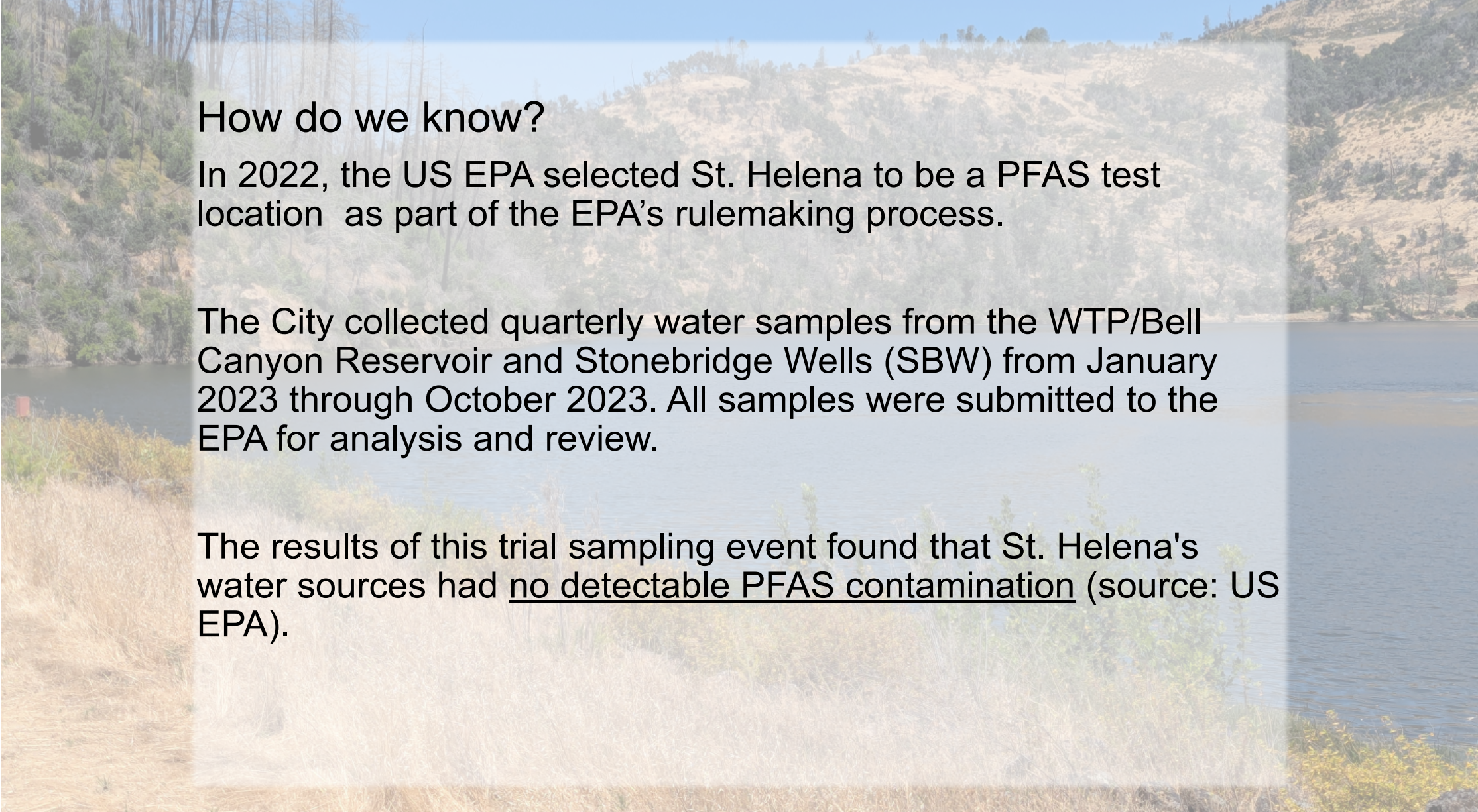
Why do we care?

- PFAS chemicals are found in many of the products we use daily, they break down very slowly, can bioaccumulate in the body, and have been linked to some chronic health effects like cancer, decreased fertility and immune disorders.



Does St. Helena have PFAS in the drinking water?



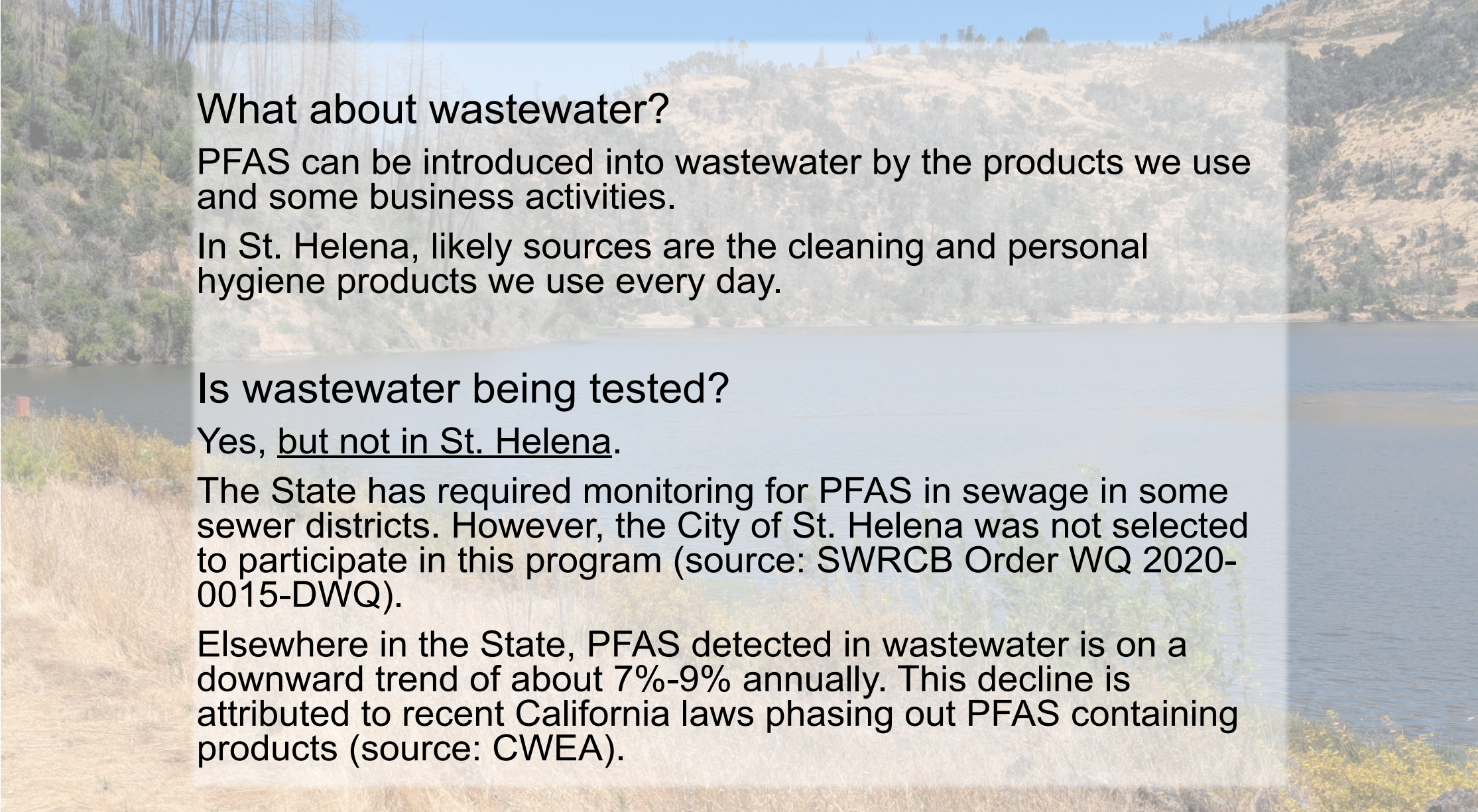
The background of the slide is a photograph of a large body of water, likely a reservoir, surrounded by dry, hilly terrain with sparse vegetation. The sky is clear and blue. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the image, containing the text.

How do we know?

In 2022, the US EPA selected St. Helena to be a PFAS test location as part of the EPA's rulemaking process.

The City collected quarterly water samples from the WTP/Bell Canyon Reservoir and Stonebridge Wells (SBW) from January 2023 through October 2023. All samples were submitted to the EPA for analysis and review.

The results of this trial sampling event found that St. Helena's water sources had no detectable PFAS contamination (source: US EPA).

The background of the slide is a photograph of a calm lake surrounded by dry, hilly terrain with sparse vegetation under a clear blue sky. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the text.

What about wastewater?

PFAS can be introduced into wastewater by the products we use and some business activities.

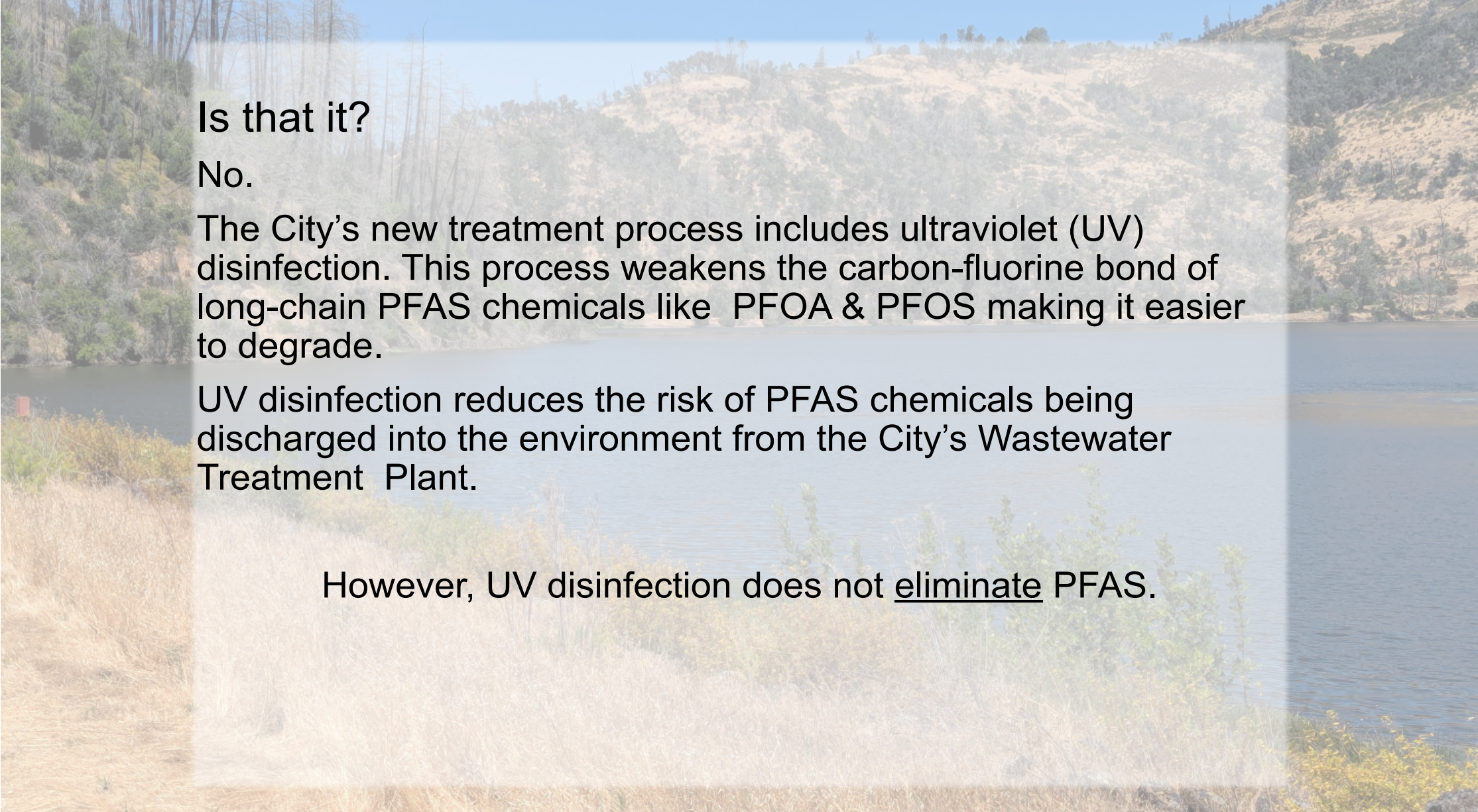
In St. Helena, likely sources are the cleaning and personal hygiene products we use every day.

Is wastewater being tested?

Yes, but not in St. Helena.

The State has required monitoring for PFAS in sewage in some sewer districts. However, the City of St. Helena was not selected to participate in this program (source: SWRCB Order WQ 2020-0015-DWQ).

Elsewhere in the State, PFAS detected in wastewater is on a downward trend of about 7%-9% annually. This decline is attributed to recent California laws phasing out PFAS containing products (source: CWEA).



Is that it?

No.

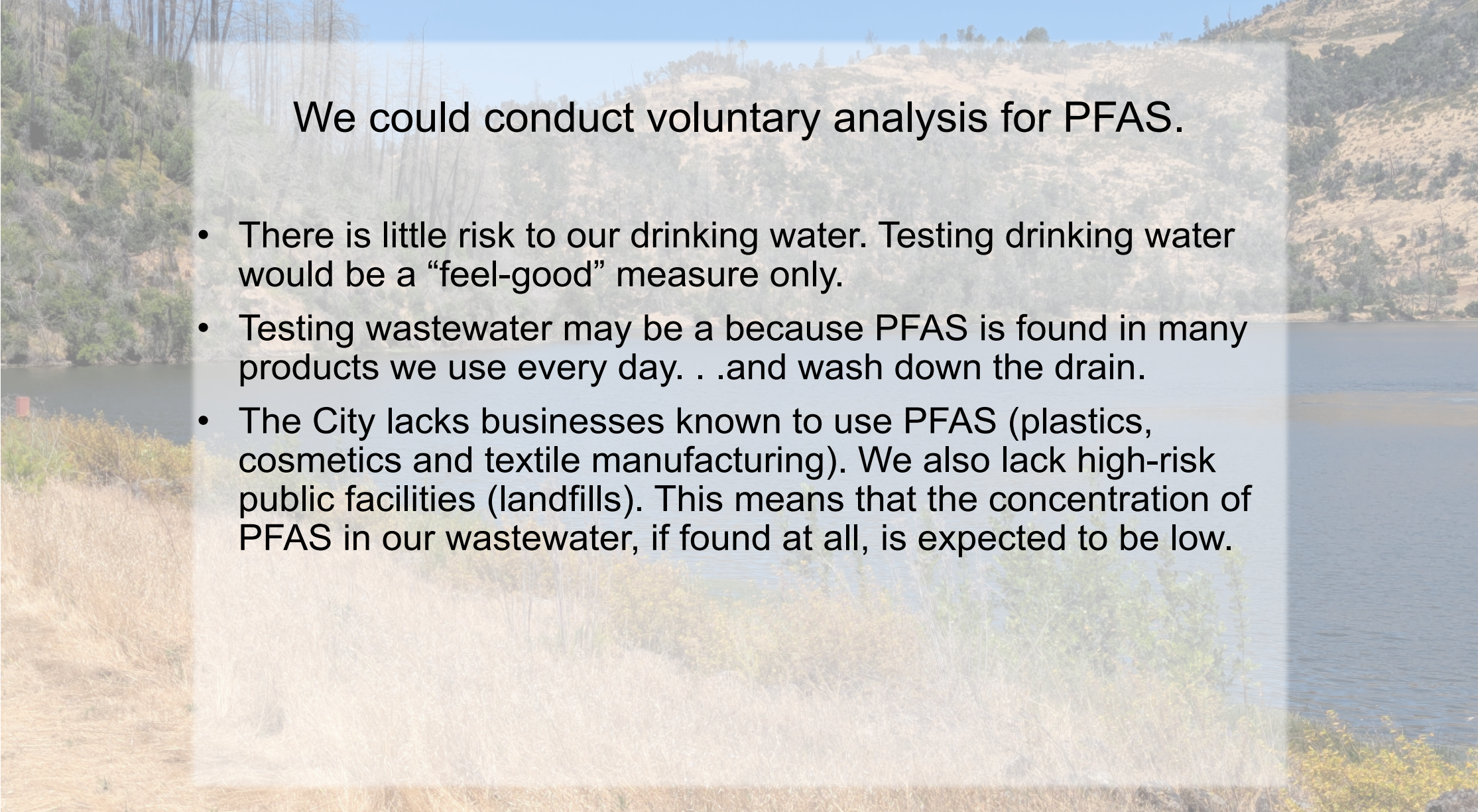
The City's new treatment process includes ultraviolet (UV) disinfection. This process weakens the carbon-fluorine bond of long-chain PFAS chemicals like PFOA & PFOS making it easier to degrade.

UV disinfection reduces the risk of PFAS chemicals being discharged into the environment from the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant.

However, UV disinfection does not eliminate PFAS.

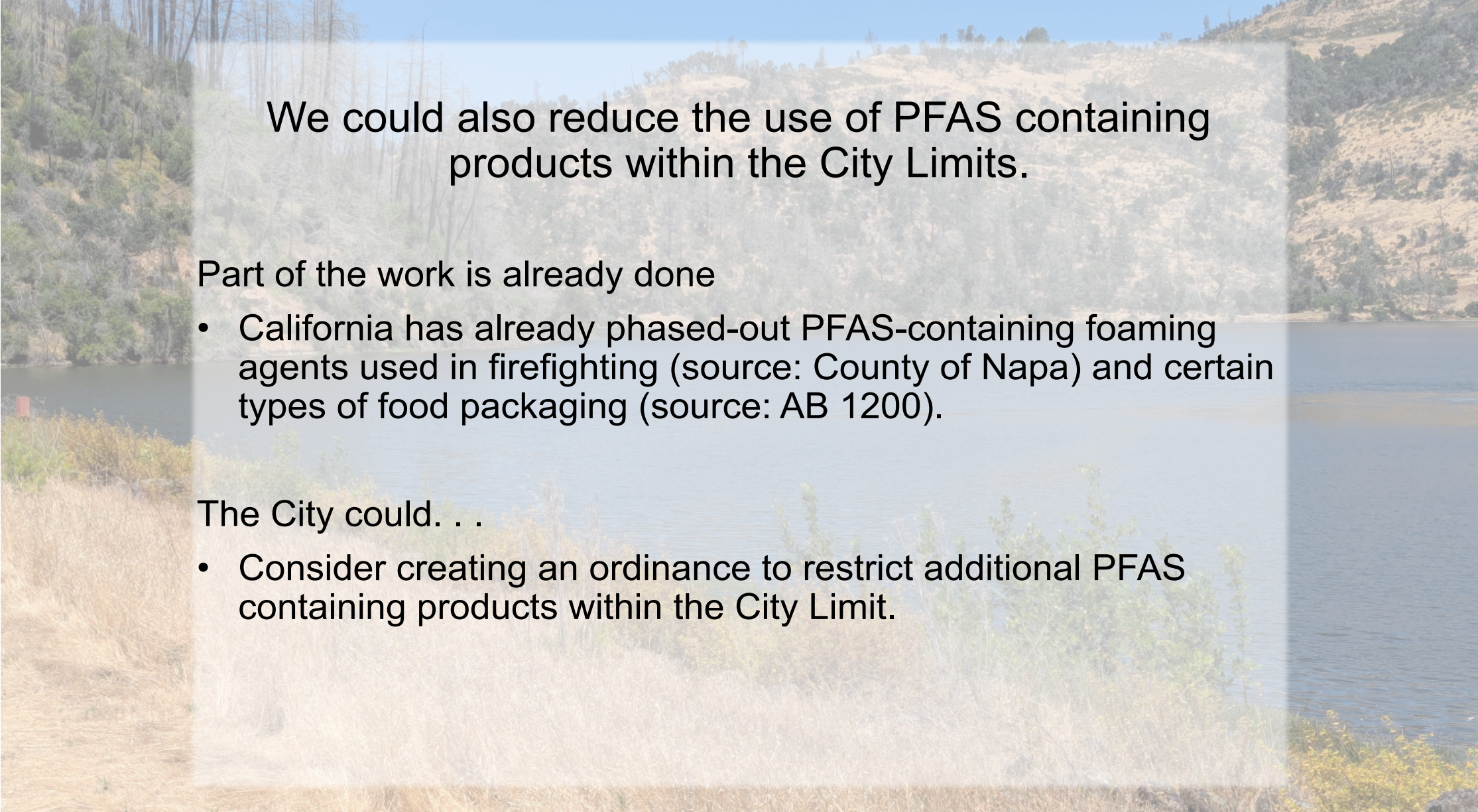


What else can we do?

The background of the slide is a photograph of a calm lake or reservoir. In the foreground, there is a grassy bank with some dry, yellowish grass. The water is still, reflecting the sky and the surrounding landscape. In the background, there are rolling hills with sparse vegetation, including some trees and shrubs. The sky is clear and blue.

We could conduct voluntary analysis for PFAS.

- There is little risk to our drinking water. Testing drinking water would be a “feel-good” measure only.
- Testing wastewater may be a because PFAS is found in many products we use every day. . .and wash down the drain.
- The City lacks businesses known to use PFAS (plastics, cosmetics and textile manufacturing). We also lack high-risk public facilities (landfills). This means that the concentration of PFAS in our wastewater, if found at all, is expected to be low.



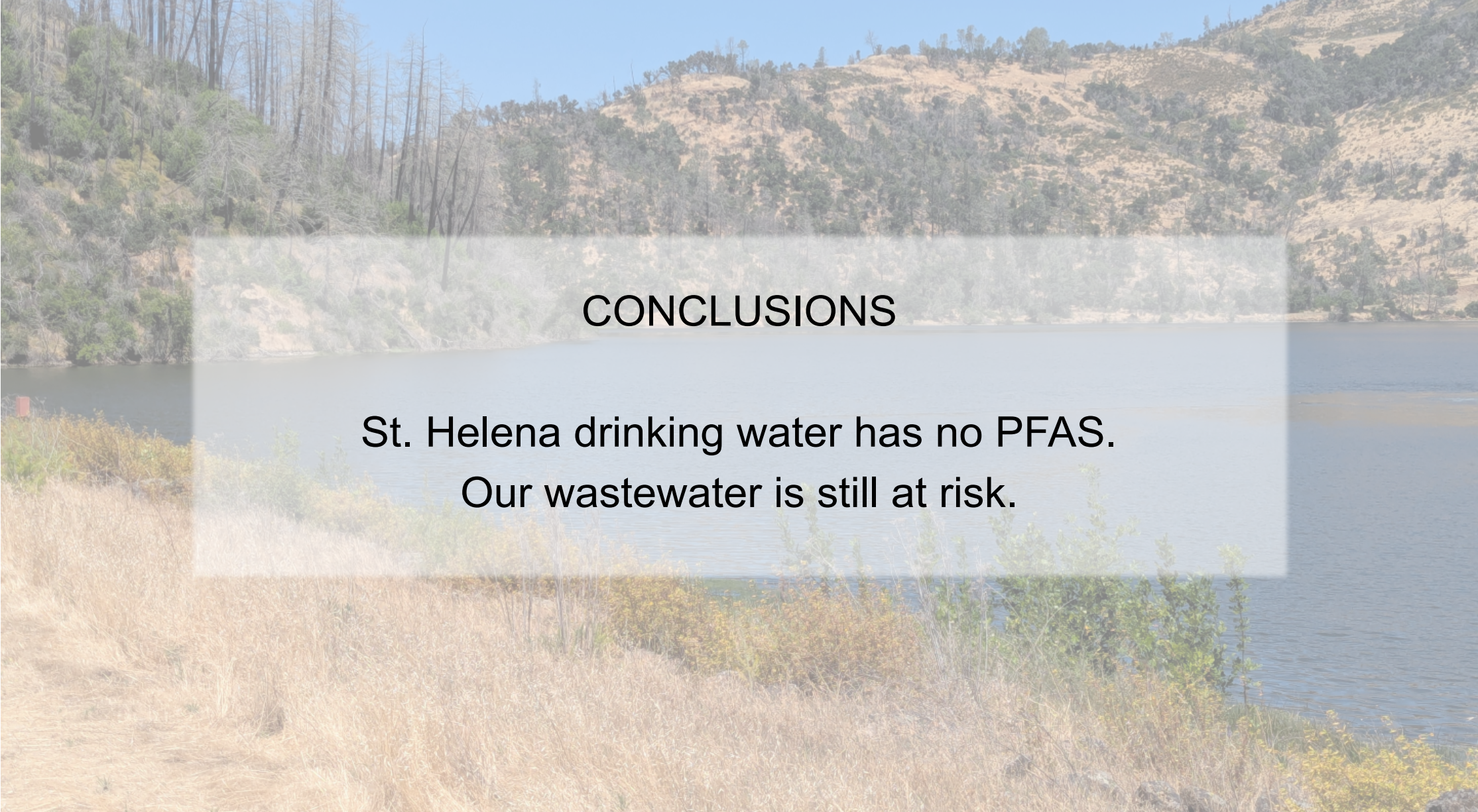
We could also reduce the use of PFAS containing products within the City Limits.

Part of the work is already done

- California has already phased-out PFAS-containing foaming agents used in firefighting (source: County of Napa) and certain types of food packaging (source: AB 1200).

The City could. . .

- Consider creating an ordinance to restrict additional PFAS containing products within the City Limit.

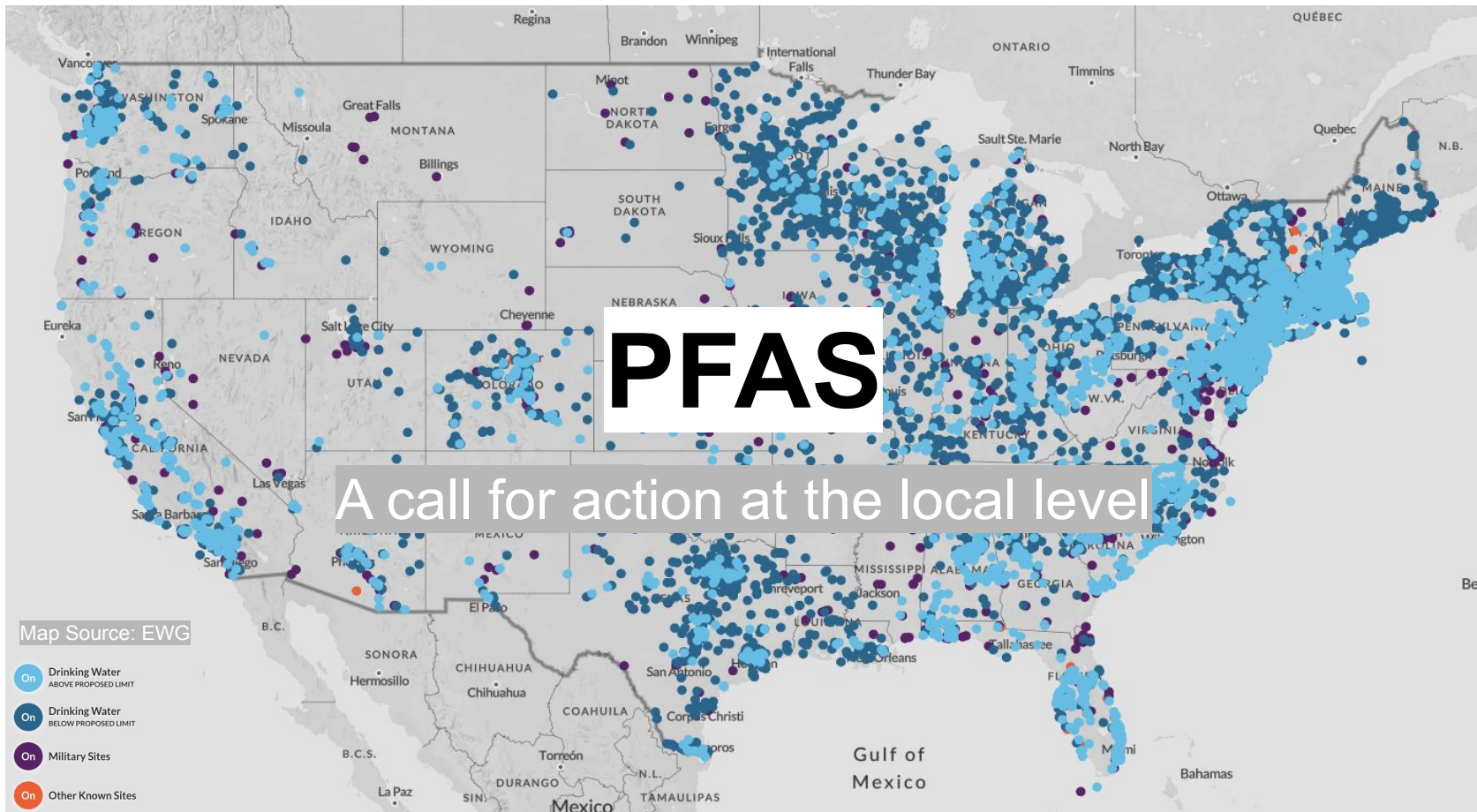


CONCLUSIONS

St. Helena drinking water has no PFAS.
Our wastewater is still at risk.



QUESTIONS?



PFAS are “Forever Chemicals”

What is PFAS?

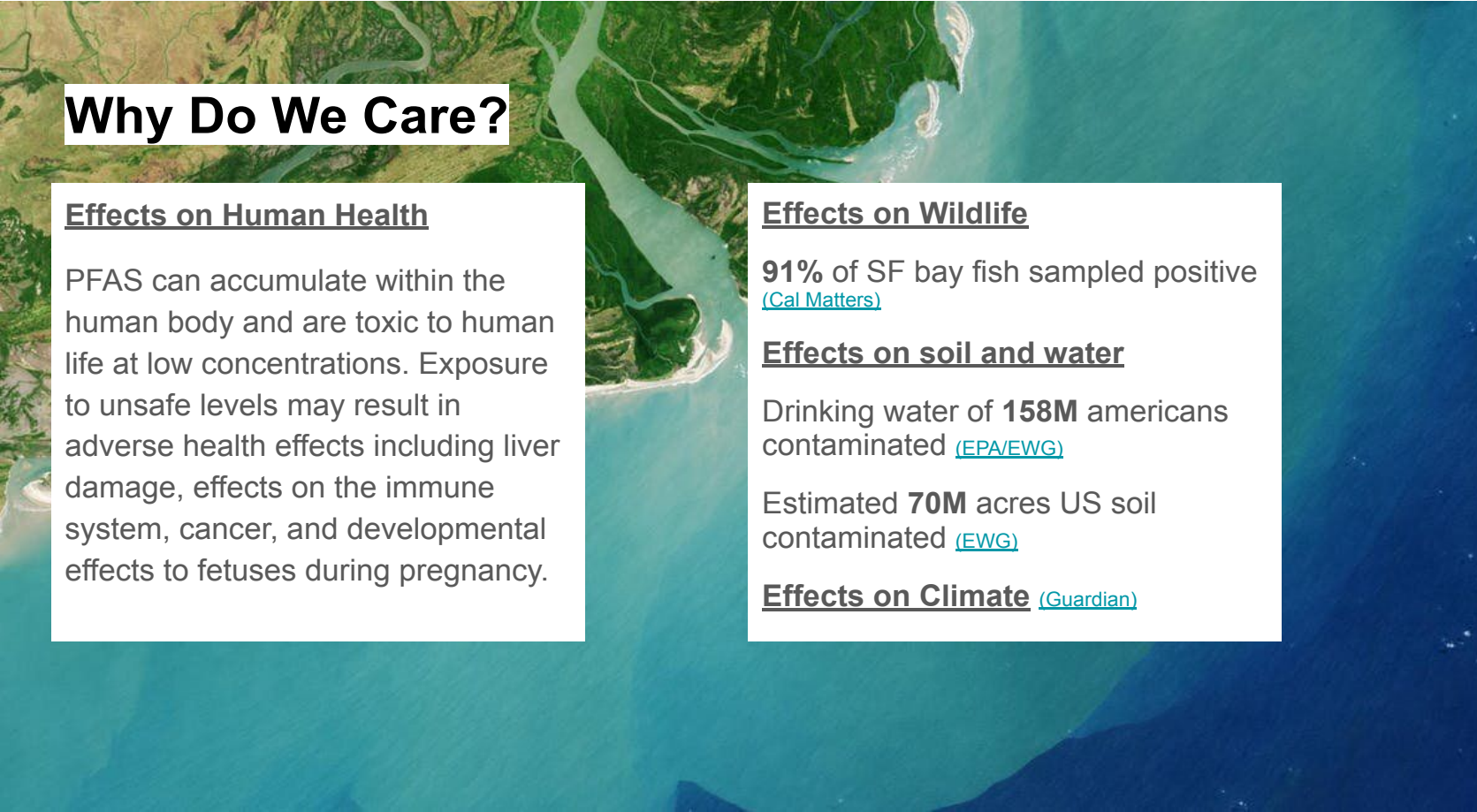
Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances ([PFAS](#)) are thousands of human-made substances that do not occur naturally in the environment and are resistant to heat, water, and oil.

PFAS have been used to make products stain proof, water-resistant and non-stick, like Teflon pans and waterproof coats.

PFAS do not naturally degrade in the environment over time.

What are potential sources of PFAS?





Why Do We Care?

Effects on Human Health

PFAS can accumulate within the human body and are toxic to human life at low concentrations. Exposure to unsafe levels may result in adverse health effects including liver damage, effects on the immune system, cancer, and developmental effects to fetuses during pregnancy.

Effects on Wildlife

91% of SF bay fish sampled positive
([Cal Matters](#))

Effects on soil and water

Drinking water of **158M** americans contaminated ([EPA/EWG](#))

Estimated **70M** acres US soil contaminated ([EWG](#))

Effects on Climate ([Guardian](#))

PFAS can enter the food supply in a variety of ways

- Biosolids (municipal sewage sludge)
- Wastewater (treated sewage water) “purple pipe”
- Synthetic pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides
 - 2.5 million pounds of PFAS pesticides are spread on California farmland annually ([EWG](#))
- Contaminated freshwater, drinking water
- Contaminants from the surrounding environment

Both plants and livestock uptake PFAS.



European PFAS Wine Scandal

Wines produced after 2010 are showing a steep increase in trifluoroacetic acid (a breakdown product of long-lasting PFAS).

Wines before 1988 showed no traces.



Tasting notes:
PFAS.

Research from the Pesticide Action Network Europe.
Read more [here](#).

Actions Being Taken

Testing drinking water & proposed legal limits.

Testing wastewater (a handful of municipalities like San Francisco's voluntary [program](#)).

Lawsuits against biosolids producers (Synagro, owned by Goldman Sachs).

Bans of PFAS in some consumer goods (Starting in 2023/2025 in CA, PFAS has been banned in food packaging, juvenile products, menstrual products, textiles and apparel, and cosmetics).

Maine bans use of biosolids in farmland (2022).

Livestock removal / operational halts at worst contaminated farms in Maine, Michigan, New Mexico, and Texas.



Saint Helena should consider PFAS testing in wastewater

City of Saint Helena future water supply hinges on recycled water to offset demand on freshwater.

St. Helena appellation has some of the highest ag land values in the country and a reputation for high-quality, distinct wines. St. Helena's local economy depends on this reputation.

PFAS testing of wastewater would add a layer of confidence in wastewater quality and safety.

Proposed Actions for Discussion

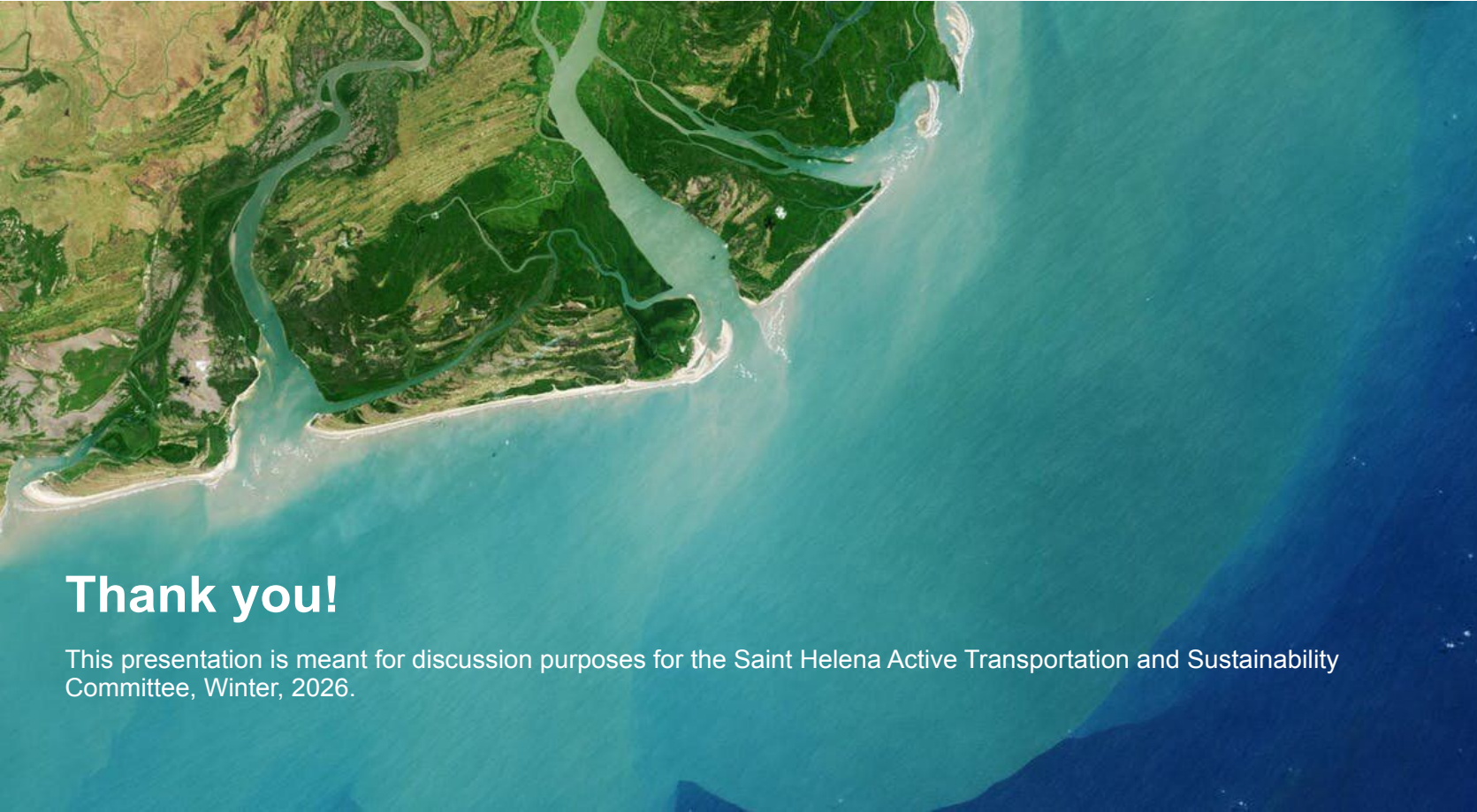
Would the city consider undertaking:

- Further analysis of the cost/benefit of PFAS testing of Saint Helena's wastewater?
- Further understanding of the legal landscape and how it may evolve?
- Further understanding of which municipalities voluntarily test their wastewater for PFAS and their decision-making process?

What's the best way to engage the city on the issue of PFAS contamination in wastewater?

Brainstorm: What are additional ways Saint Helena can prevent PFAS contamination in our environment?

What's the latest status at the Clover Flat Upper Valley Disposal facility and the possible contamination that has occurred there?

An aerial photograph of a coastal area. A river with a complex delta system flows from the top left towards the center, emptying into a large body of turquoise water. The land is covered in green vegetation and some brownish patches. A narrow strip of land separates the river delta from the open water. The water transitions from a light turquoise near the shore to a deeper blue further out.

Thank you!

This presentation is meant for discussion purposes for the Saint Helena Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee, Winter, 2026.