

Exercise 02
Exploring QGIS
Feb. 2, 2018

I've placed the Suquamish map data on the class web page http://geofaculty.uwyo.edu/rhowell/classes/gis_intro/ where you should be able to access it. Copy that zip file to your own H: drive (or a local temporary folder on the computer you are using) and "extract" it. Local folders will allow faster loading of data, but will be erased when you log off.

Before class on next Friday make a personal copy of the data described below, look through the QGIS Manual which you can reach via the "Reference Material and Links" page on the class web site and use that and the following instructions to examine the Suquamish map I showed in class.

Use the Windows Start menu to show all programs then start **QGIS Desktop 2.18 (Las Palmas)**. In QGIS click on the "Project" menu (at the left) and select "Open" then navigate to your own copy of the **suquamish_map_for_qgis** directory and select the **qgis_exercise_02_suquamish_map.qgs** file. That is a "project" file which in turn tells QGIS which data sets are included in this project, and how to display them.

You should see a display similar to what I showed in class. Explore how to use it, including the following:

- 1) Learn how to zoom to different parts of the image -- using the "View" menu and the various zoom and pan tools in the menubar. For example activate the "Magnify" tool in the toolbar (the magnifying glass with the + sign) by clicking on that icon. Then click on part of the map, or drag a box around the region of interest. Note that you can also use the mouse scroll-wheel to zoom in and out.
- 2) Turn on and off the display of various layers by using the checkmarks in the "Layers" panel on the left.
- 3) Turn on and select the GM_OrientationPoints layer in the Layers panel. Then activate the "Identify" tool in the toolbar (the arrow pointing to a circled "i") by clicking on that icon in the toolbar. Next click on one of the Orientation points and examine the information window which pops up.
- 4) Open the "Attribute Table" for all the Orientation Points by right clicking on that entry in the Layer panel. Examine the spreadsheet that opens. Next, activate the

"Select Single Feature" tool which looks like a yellow square with gray rectangles on the bottom and right. Notice how when you then click on each orientation point in the map, that point's line in the spreadsheet becomes selected. You may have to scroll through the spreadsheet to see the selected line.

5) Try exploring some of the other features in QGIS -- for example the "ruler" tool. You can also change the way layers appear by right clicking on the that layer in the "layers" panel, choosing "Properties", then "Style". If you do not "Save" the project, then those changes will be temporary.