

Targeting High Impact Farm Fields Using Nutrient Management Models to Reduce Phosphorus Discharge and Decrease HAB Production

Presented By:
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Institute of Water Research
Michigan State University

**Region 5 Harmful Algal Bloom Clean Water Act/Safe Drinking Water Act
Workshop and Public Meeting**
April 27, 2016

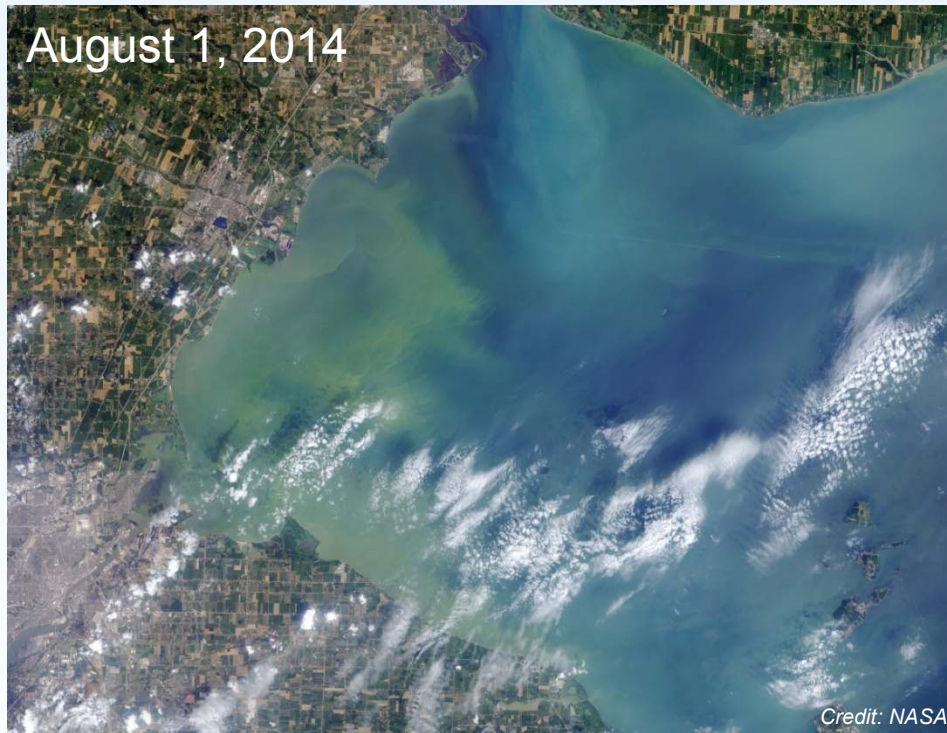


Outline

- The Problem
- The Goal
- The Actions: From Specific to Broad
 - The set of players
 - Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) - NRCS
 - CWA, SDWA, GLRI-EPA
 - MAEAP, Oneida, Army Corp, States
 - Agribusiness, Farm Organizations, and ect.
 - 4Rs of Nutrient Stewardship
 - The Assessment of Actions for Integration of Phosphorus Reduction
 - The Pulse of Progress



Harmful Algae Blooms



Lake Erie Algae Bloom



City of Toledo Water Intake



Harmful Algae Blooms



Fish Kills



Beach Warnings



WLEB Phosphorus Targets

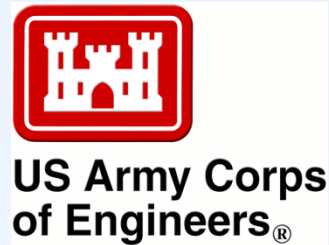


RECOMMENDED BINATIONAL PHOSPHORUS TARGETS TO COMBAT LAKE ERIE ALGAL BLOOMS

GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY AGREEMENT NUTRIENTS ANNEX SUBCOMMITTEE

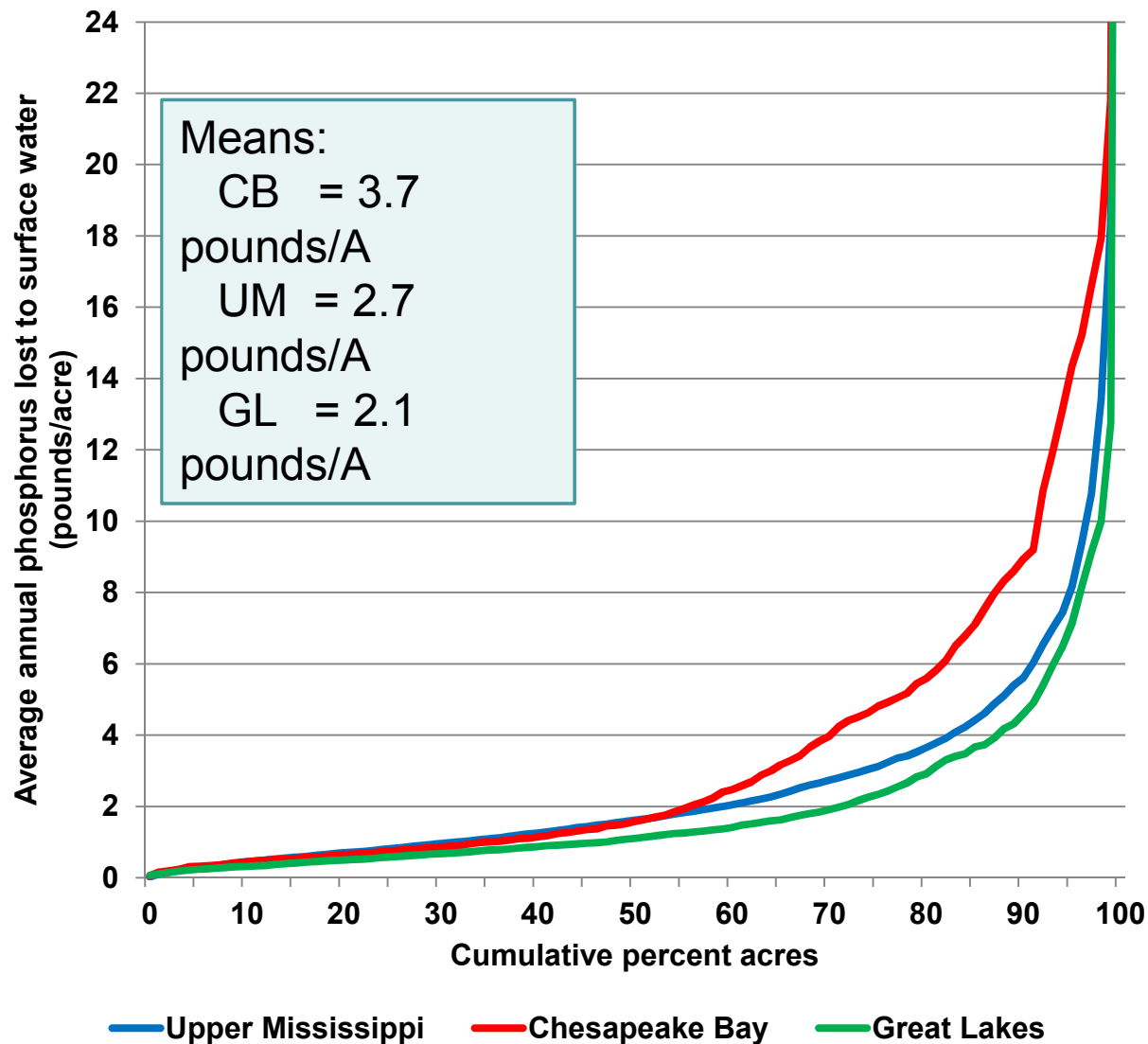
JUNE 2015

Multi-Scale Partnerships



And many more....

Spatial Distribution of Sources



Informing Lake Erie Agriculture Nutrient Management via Scenario Evaluation

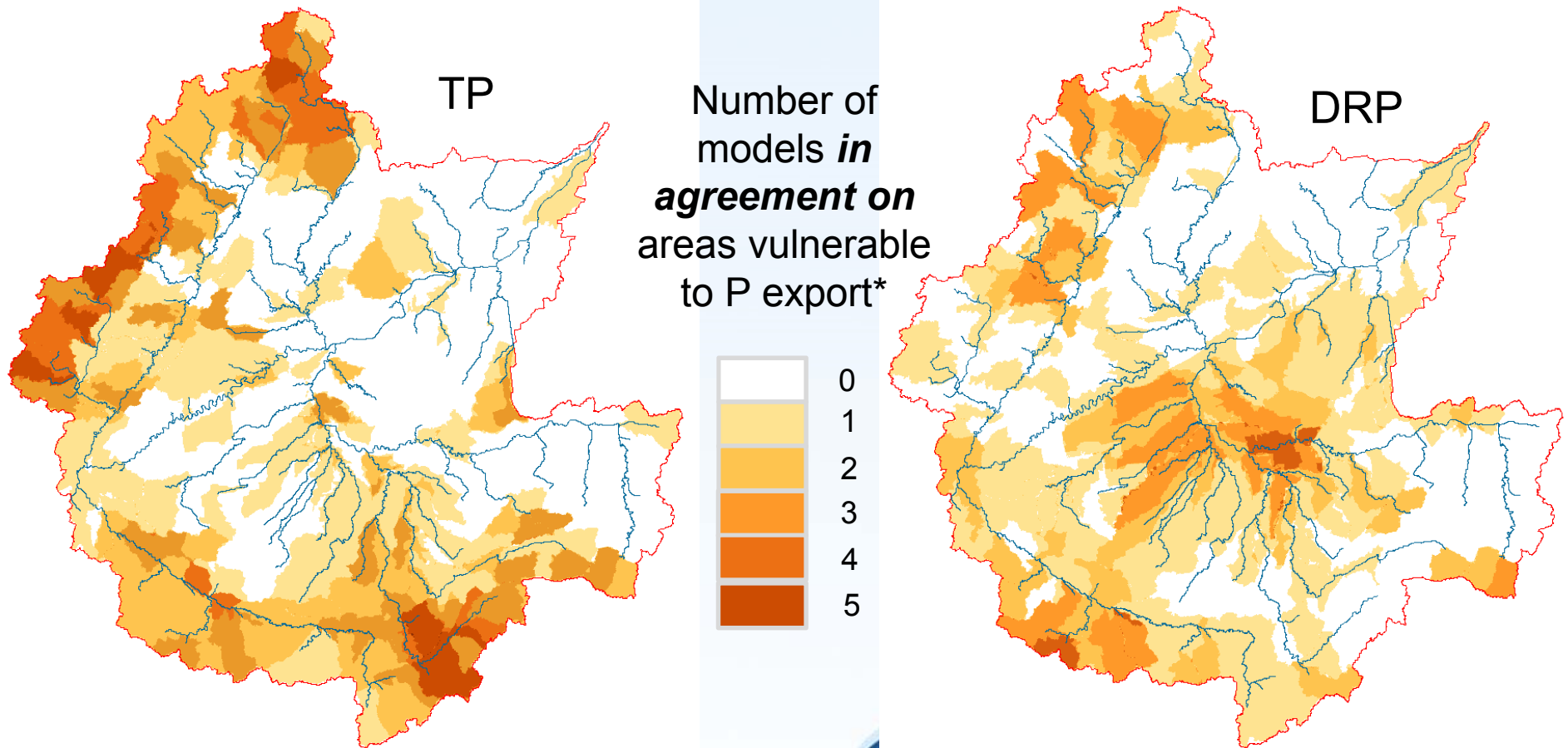
WBLE Multi-Model Project Briefing

This is a project supported by the Erb Family Foundation and led by
Don Scavia at the University of Michigan.

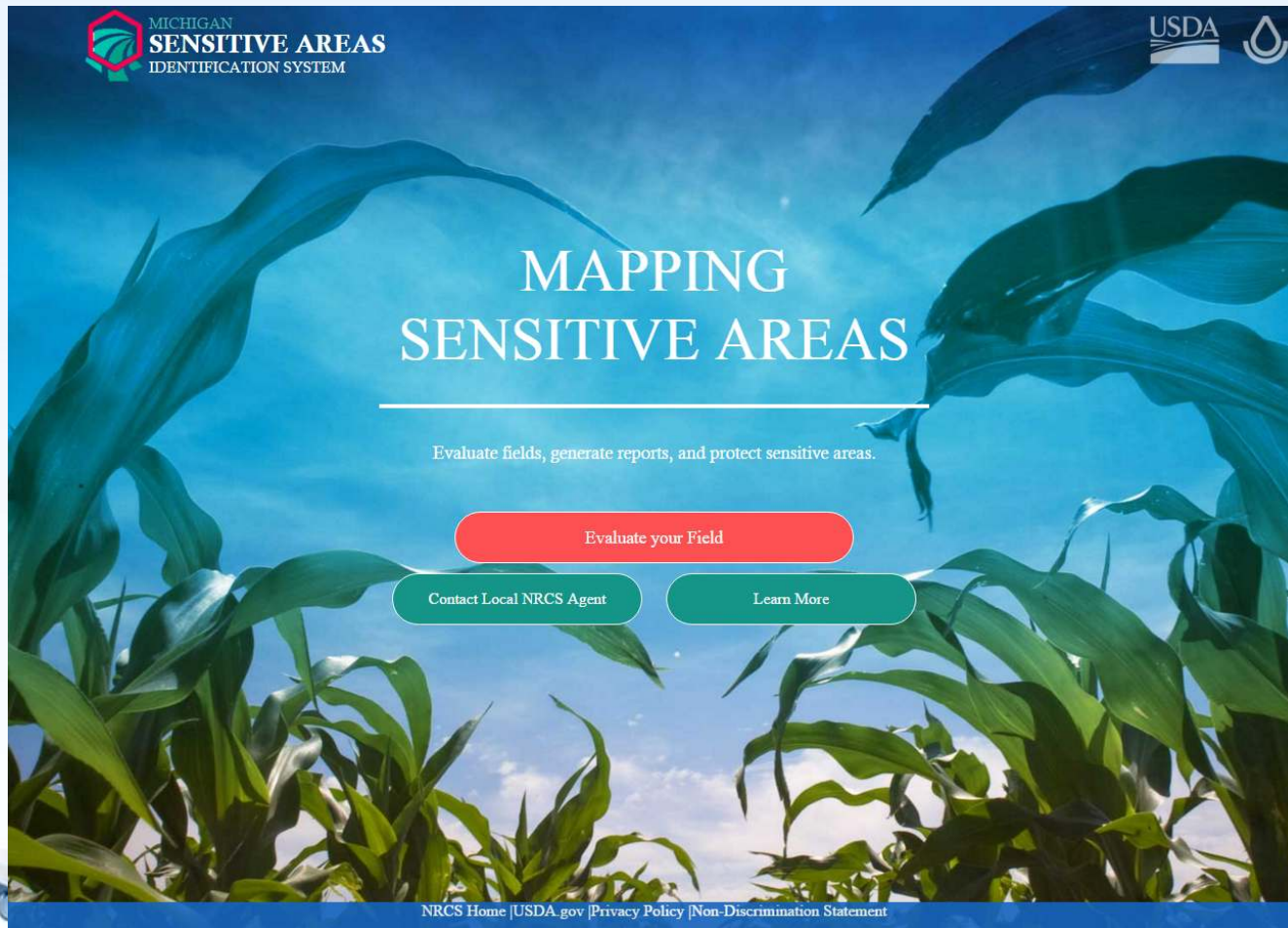


Fred A. and Barbara M.
Erb Family Foundation

Combined Estimate of Potential P Delivery to Lake Erie



Sensitive Areas Identification System



Sensitive Areas Identification System

- Report Contains:
 - Identified Risks
 - Michigan Phosphorus and Manure Risk Index
 - Soil Information
 - Recommended Practices
 - Field-specific maps of identified risks
 - NRCS Practice Guidelines for recommended practices



Michigan Sensitive Areas Identification System Report

Identified Risks

Water Erosion Wind Erosion Concentrated Flow Manure Runoff Phosphorus Runoff

Michigan Phosphorus Risk Assessment

Assessed value: 38

Explanation: Phosphorus application risk is HIGH.

Manure Application Risk Assessment

Assessed value: 49

Explanation:

MEDIUM potential for manure movement from the field. The chance of organic material and nutrients getting to surface water is likely. Buffers, setbacks, lower manure rates, cover crops, crop residues, etc. in combination may reduce impact. These fields have limited potential for winter spreading and only a partial area of the field may be acceptable.

Hydrologic Soil Groups Breakdown

Unknown: 0.1% C: 6.1% B: 50.8% B/D: 43.1%

Recommended Practices

Agrichemical Handling Facility
Waste Storage Facility
Conservation Crop Rotation
Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till
Critical Area Planting
Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till
Filter Strip
Grassed Waterway
Nutrient Management
Vegetated Treatment Area
Water and Sediment Control Basin

Sensitive Areas Identification System

SAIS

Find address or place

Draw Field Clear Field

Display Questions

Harper Rd

Harper Rd

Harper Rd

Dennis Rd

Is there subsurface drainage (tile drainage) in the area?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Back



From Headwaters to Mouth: A Top-Down Model for Successful Watershed Restoration

J.L. Snitgen, S.A. Gilmore and M.J Melchior



Methods

- Addressed largest impact to stream first
- Formed partnerships
- Conducted Fluvial Geomorphic survey of entire system to identify hierarchy of stressors to be addressed
 - Lack of habitat
 - Temperature
 - Flow
 - Sediment loading



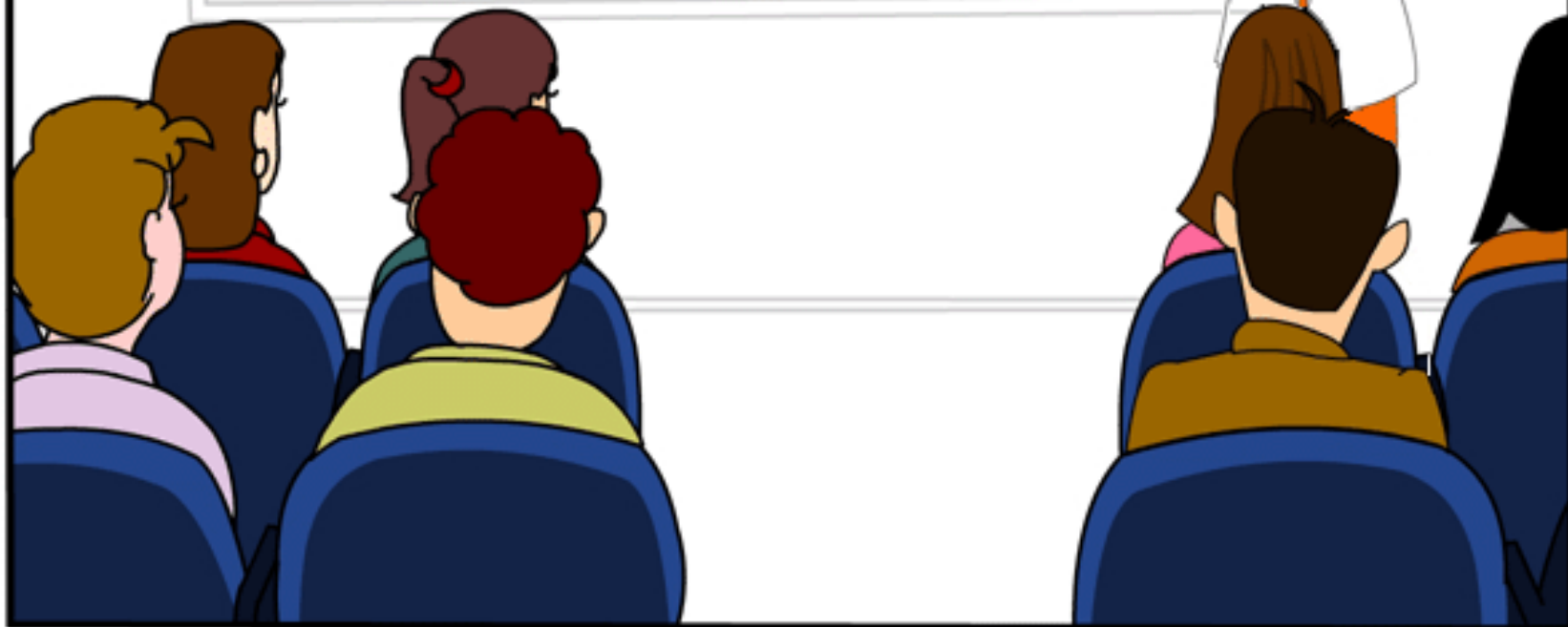
Methods *continued*

- Began implementing BMPs in headwaters
- Conducted water quality and biological monitoring to gauge efficacy of BMPs (performance indicators)
- Working our way downstream implementing BMPs, gaining constituency along the way
- Trout Management Plan/Reintroduction of Brook Trout



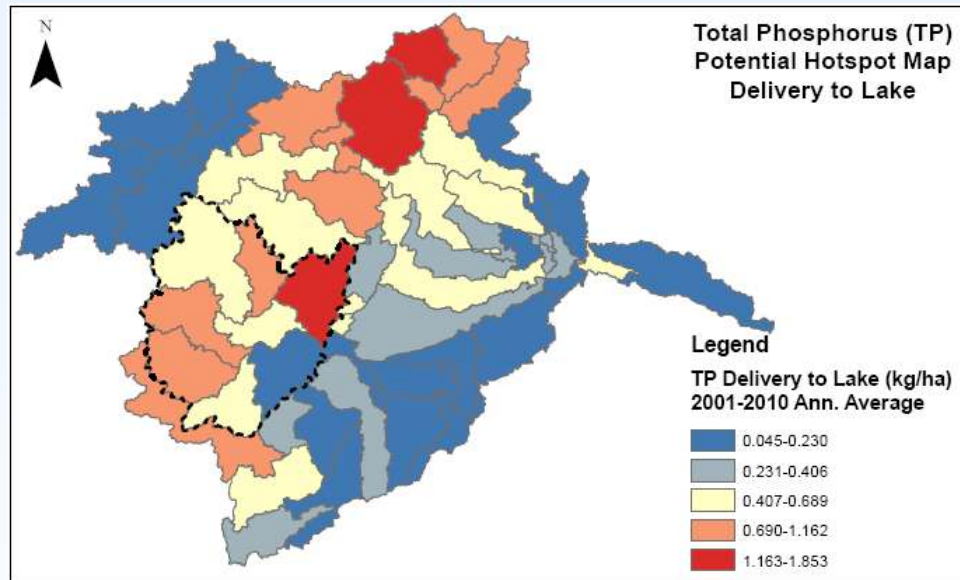
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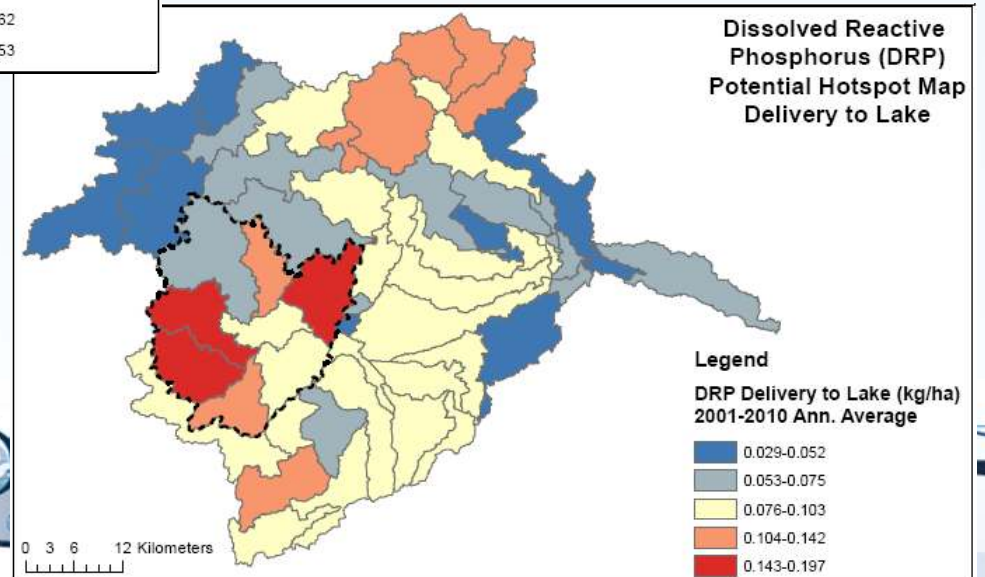


Same graph as the last year, but now I have an additional dot.

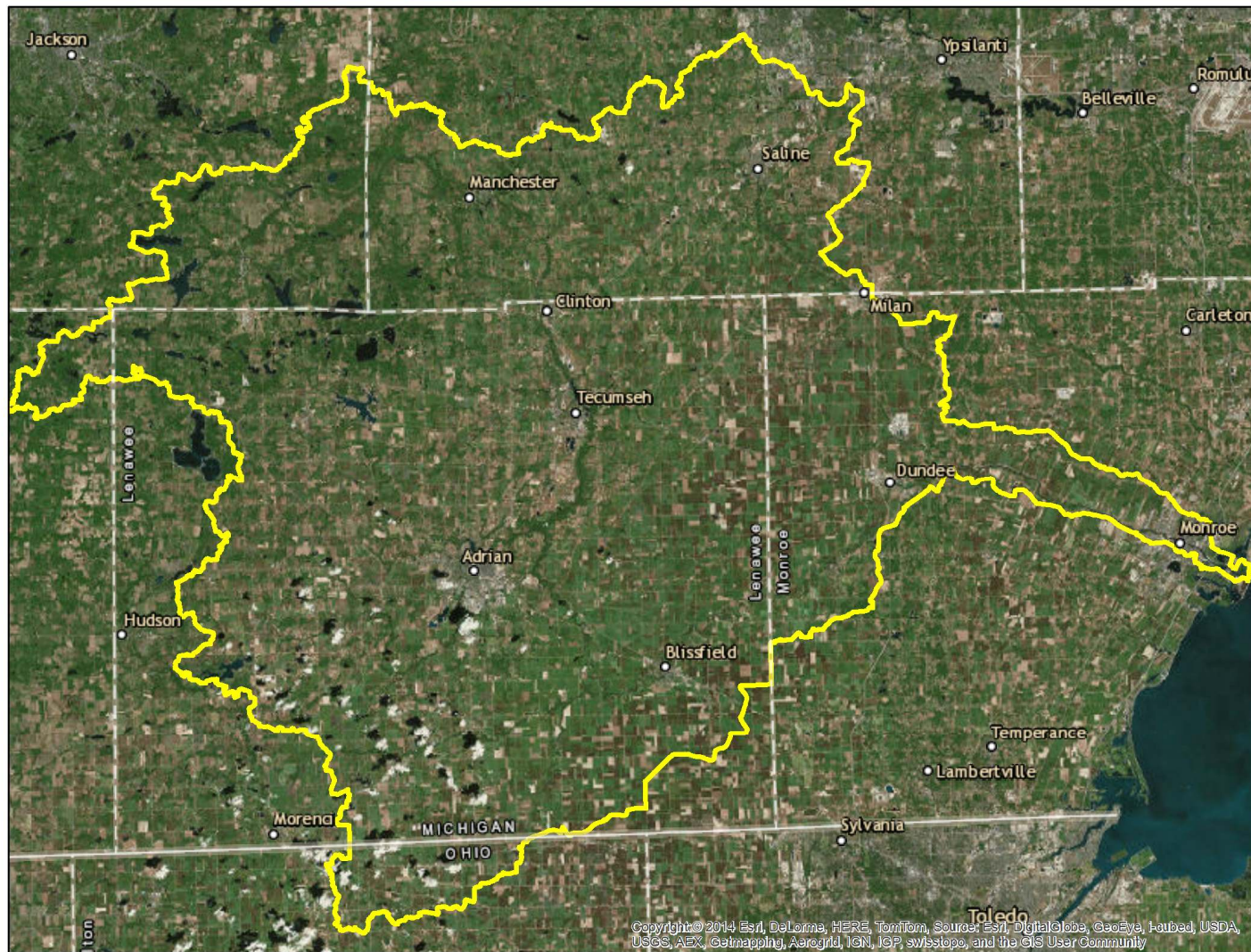
SWAT Modeling in Michigan



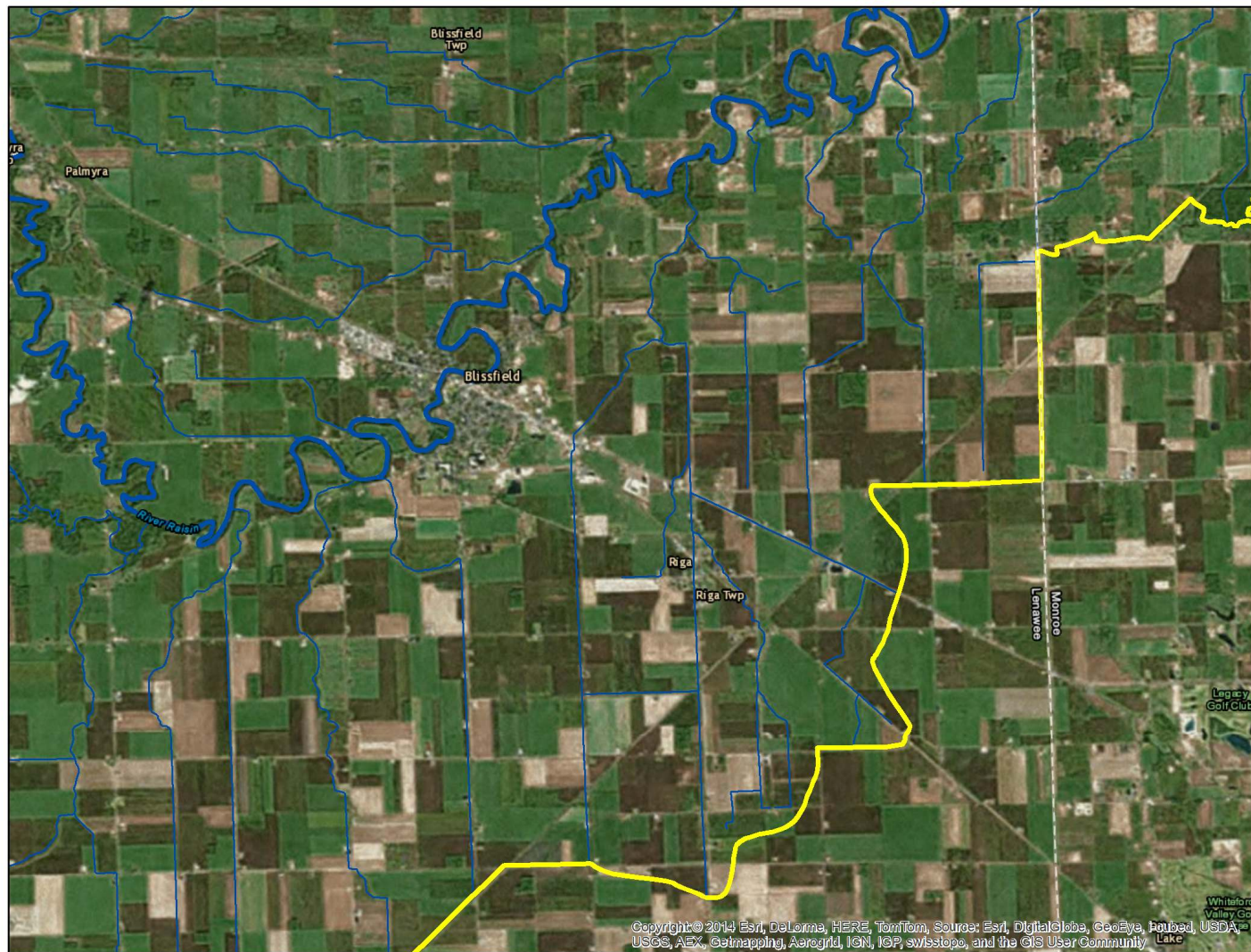
Note: River Raisin watershed hotspot maps were developed based on the University of Michigan Water Center's Soil and Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) model. The SWAT model uses soils, land use, elevation, climate, and land management information to model hydrology and nutrient processes. These maps are considered potential hotspots because not every conservation practice on the land is represented, as some practice information is not publicly available. The South Branch basins of the River Raisin are noted by the dashed black line.



River Raisin From Above



River Raisin From Above

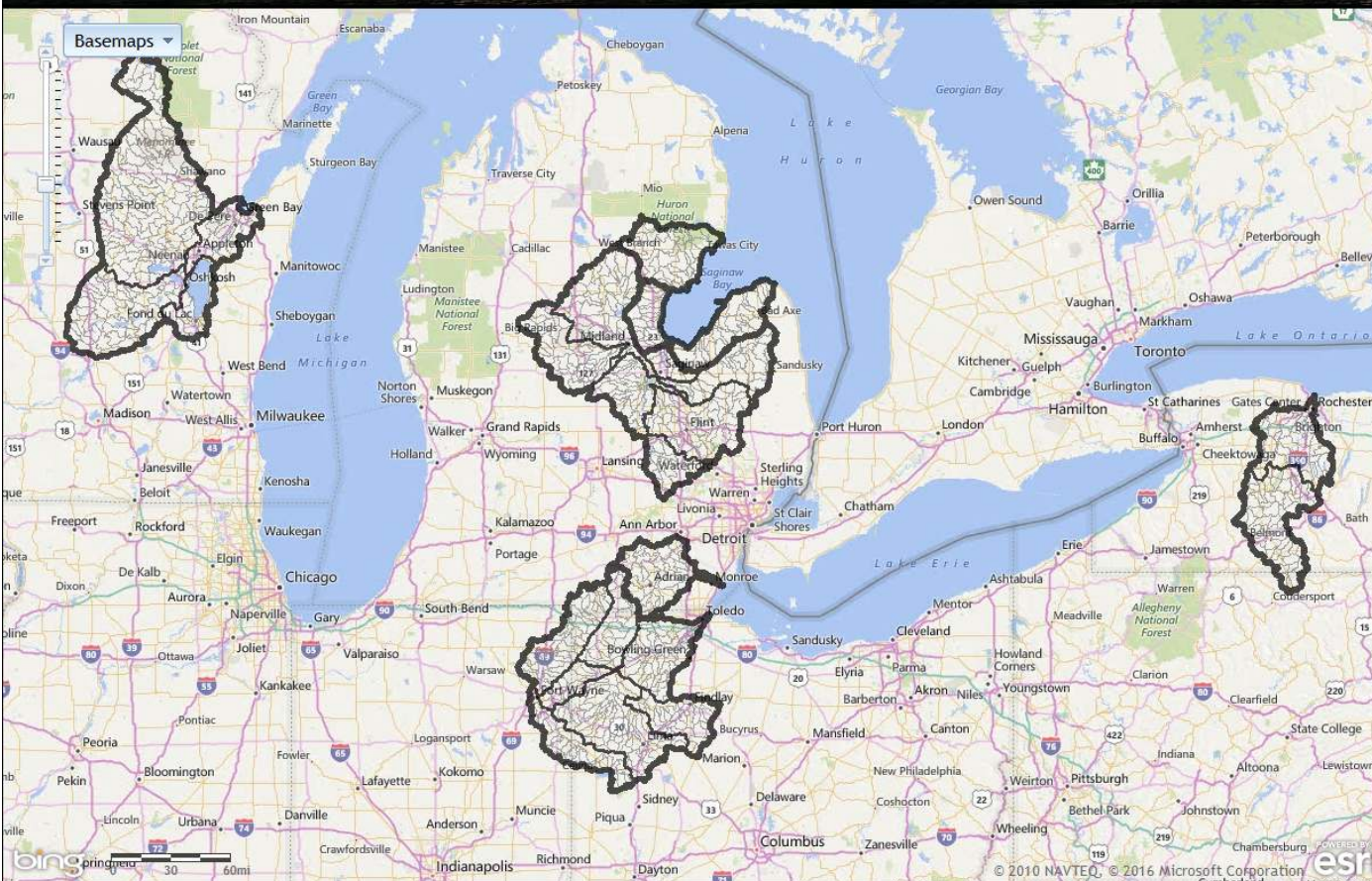


The Great Lakes Watershed Management System (GLWMS)

- An online tool to prioritize locations within GLRI priority basins for water quality.
- Users can prioritize at watershed and field scales.
- Users can evaluate land cover change and BMP scenarios at field scales.
- Results can be saved to an account, and cumulative reductions in pollutant loading viewed in auto-generated reports.

Great Lakes Watershed Management System

login/logout



Introduction

The Great Lakes Watershed Management System (GLWMS) is an on-line tool that allows users to evaluate non-point source (NPS) pollution model estimates at watershed and field scales. The system links two water quality models, [High Impact Targeting \(HIT\)](#) from the [Institute of Water Research at Michigan State University](#), and the [Long Term Hydrologic Impact Assessment \(L-THIA\)](#) from [Purdue University's Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering](#). HIT estimates sediment loading from agricultural lands to nearby streams; L-THIA estimates run-off volumes and pollutant loads.

The GLWMS allows users to view HIT and L-THIA estimates at watershed scales, and conduct field scale scenario evaluations of land cover changes or best management practices (BMPs).

The system is currently available for the priority basins of the [EPA's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative](#): the Fox River Basin of Wisconsin, the Saginaw River Basin of Michigan, the Maumee River Basin of Ohio, and the Genesee River Basin of New York.

Zoom to an area of interest and utilize the tabs below to get started.

Navigation

Map Layers

Legend

Analysis

About the Models

About the Tool / Contacts

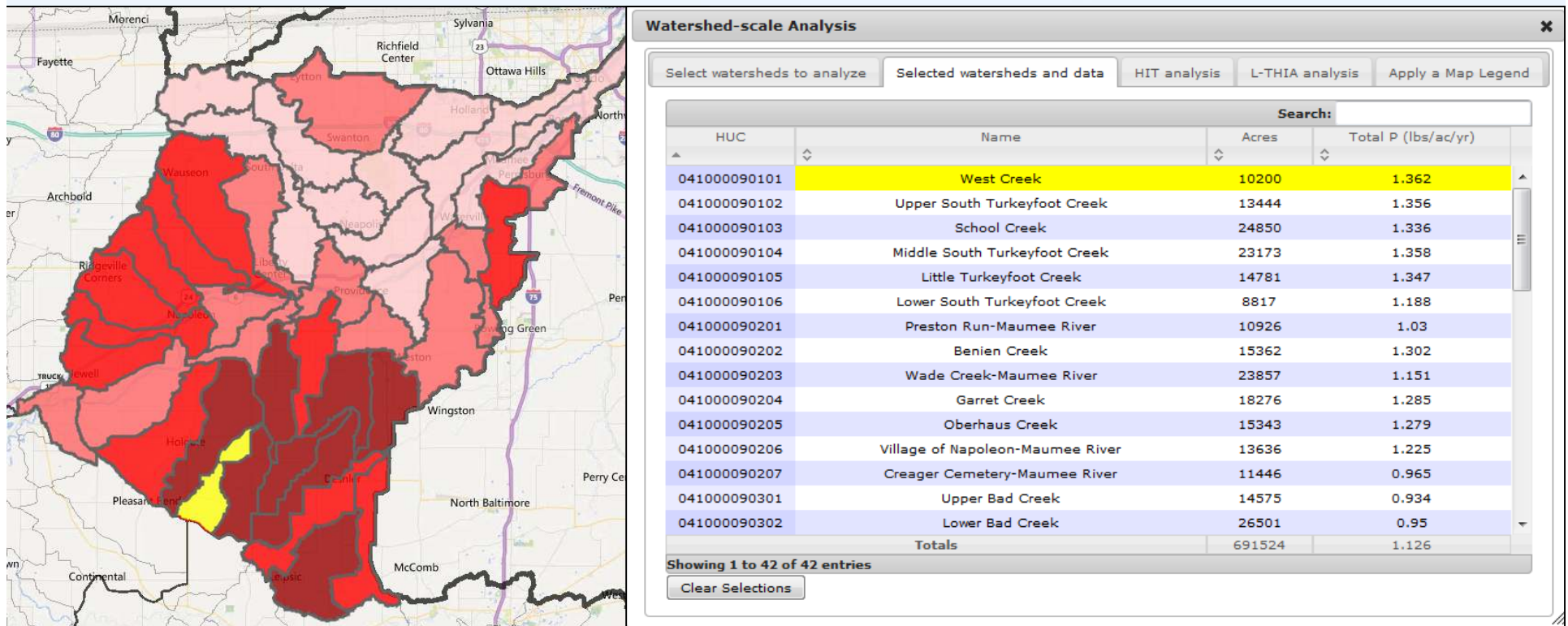
Active Map Tool: Identify features on-click

Banner photograph credit: [Cynthia A. Jones](#)

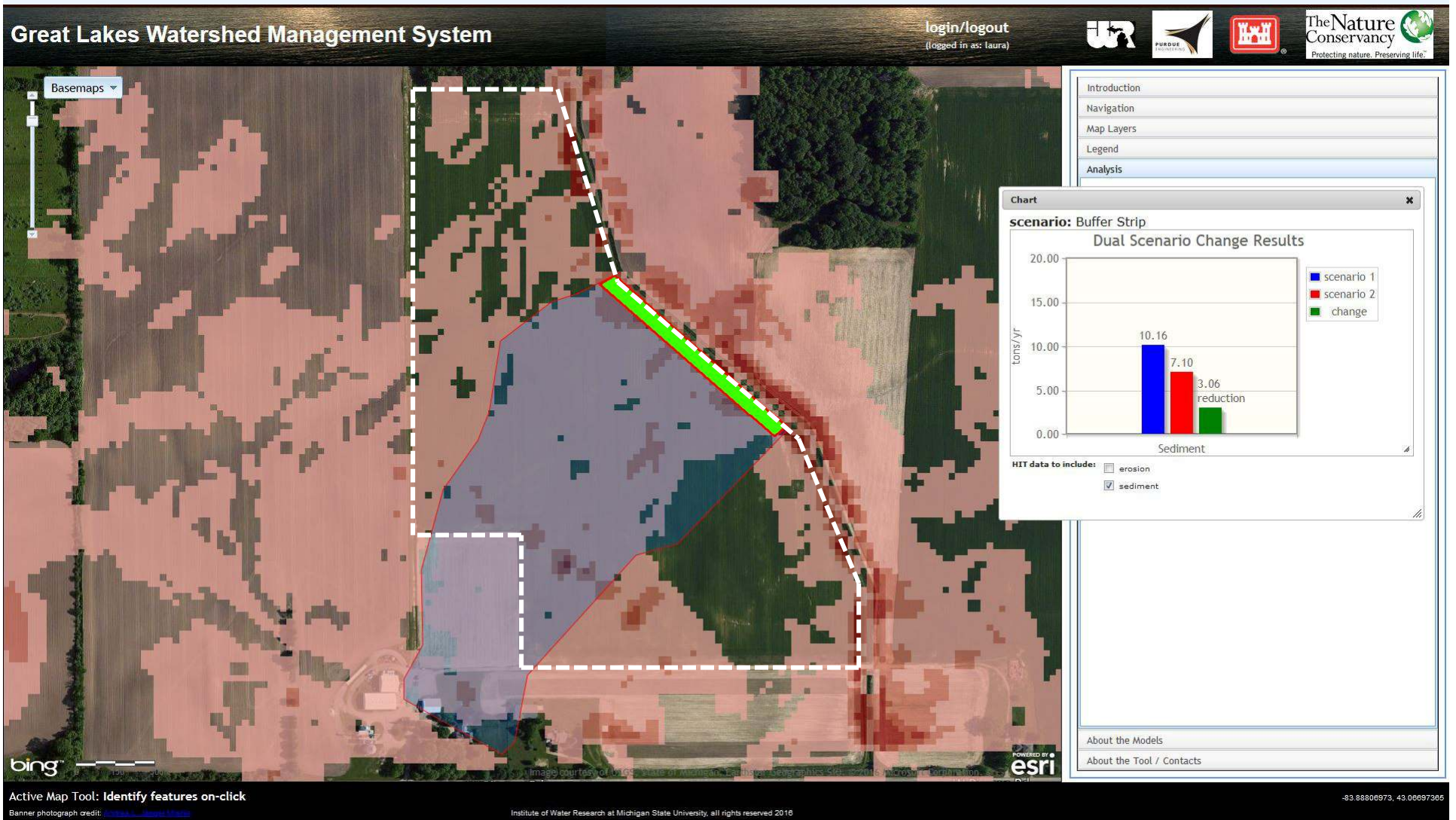
Institute of Water Research at Michigan State University, all rights reserved 2016

The Great Lakes Watershed Management System (GLWMS)

- Total annual Phosphorus loading rates in the Lower Maumee Watershed (lbs./acre).







GLWMS: Quantifying Benefits I



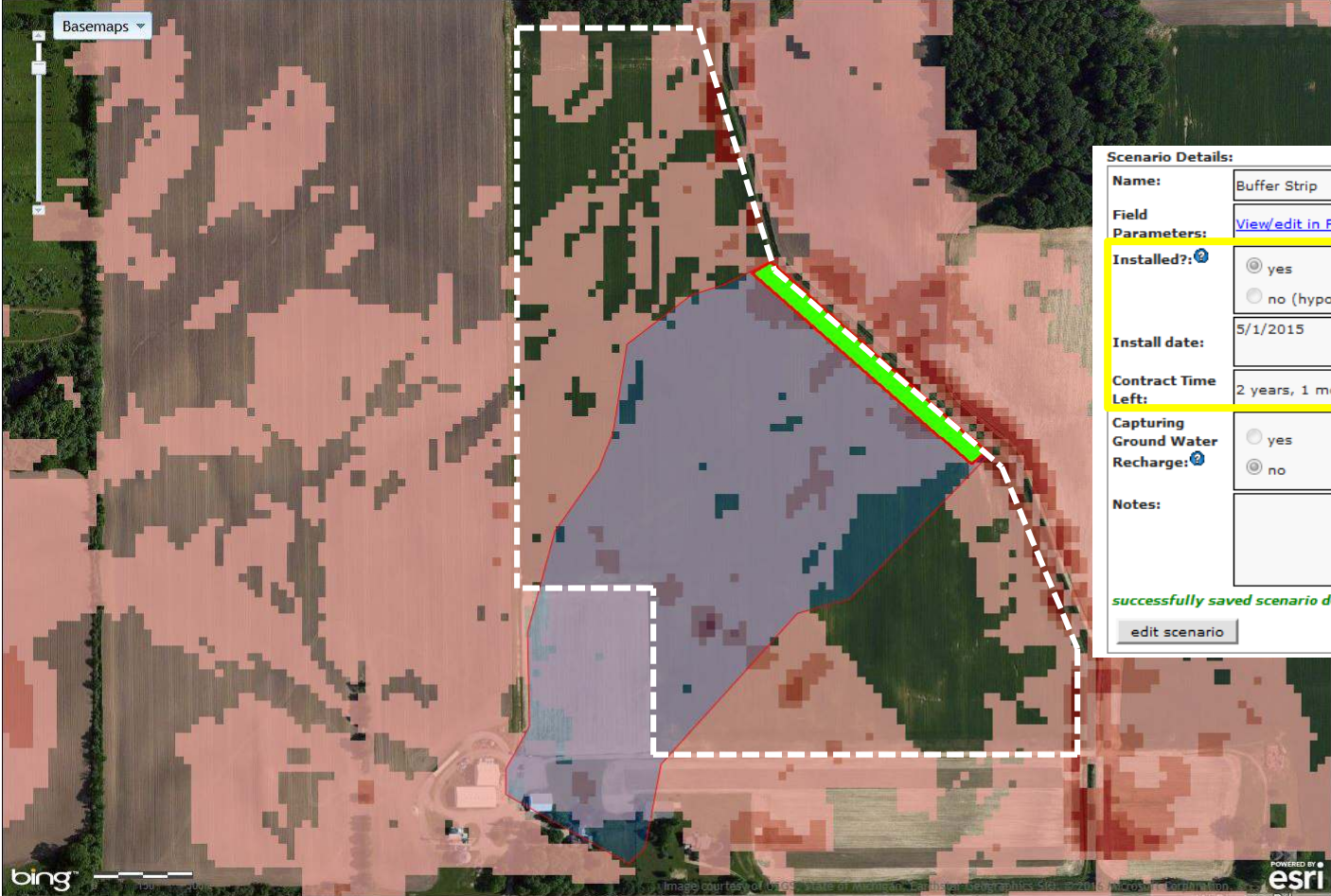
GLWMS: Quantifying Benefits II

Great Lakes Watershed Management System

[login/logout](#)
(logged in as: laura)



Basemaps ▾



[Introduction](#)
[Navigation](#)
[Map Layers](#)
[Legend](#)
[Analysis](#)


Scenario Details:

Name:		Buffer Strip	
Field Parameters:		View/edit in Field-scale Analysis window.	
Installed?: [?]	<input checked="" type="radio"/> yes <input type="radio"/> no (hypothetical)	Installation Program: [?]	Farm Bill ▾
Install date:	5/1/2015	Contract end date:	5/1/2018
Contract Time Left:	2 years, 1 months		
Capturing Ground Water Recharge: [?]	<input type="radio"/> yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no	Ground Water Recharge Offsets Credited To: [?]	▾
Notes: <div></div>			
successfully saved scenario details			
edit scenario		delete scenario	

[About the Models](#)
[About the Tool / Contacts](#)

bing

Image courtesy of USGS, State of Michigan, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Michigan Department of Environment and Natural Resources

POWERED BY 

Active Map Tool: **Identify features on-click**

Banner photograph credit: [Jesse L. Brown / iStock](#)

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-83.88806973, 43.0669735

The Great Lakes Watershed Management System (GLWMS)

- BMP locations and modeled results can be saved to a private account.
- Results within that account can be included in a report listing cumulative benefits across projects

Great Lakes Watershed Management System Report		
Report name:	Unspecified	
Report period:	Annual	
Scenarios included:	HIT BC 1, HIT DSC 1, LTHIA BC1, baseline_change_test1	
Acreage:	Total acres (upland): ?	417.3 (875.5)
	Acres by scenario type:	Baseline Change - 295.8
		Dual Scenario Change - 121.5
	Acres by HIT LC/BMP: ?	no-till 225
		no-till with cover crop 121.5
	Acres by LTHIA LC/BMP: ?	Mixed Forest 70.8
Non-point Source Pollution:	Acres (upland) with expiring contracts within reporting period:	0
	sediment loading (tons): ?	24.38
	sediment loading saved by LC/BMPs (tons): ?	13.42
	per LC/BMP:	no-till 8.84
		no-till with cover crop 4.58
	soil erosion (tons): ?	160.24
	soil erosion saved through LC/BMPs (tons): ?	63.46
	per LC/BMP:	no-till 36.48
		no-till with cover crop 26.98
	total runoff (acre-ft.): ?	0
	total runoff saved through LC/BMP (acre-ft.): ?	10.18
	by LC/BMP:	Mixed Forest 10.18
	total Nitrogen (lbs.): ?	0
	Nitrogen saved through LC/BMP (lbs.): ?	180.28
	by LC/BMP:	
	total Phosphorus (lbs.): ?	0
	Phosphorus saved through LC/BMP (lbs.): ?	58.96
	by LC/BMP:	Mixed Forest 58.96

RCPP Prescreening and Scoring

Use the GREAT LAKES WATERSHED MANAGEMENT SYSTEM at www.iwr.msu.edu/glwms

Watershed Management System login/logout

The Nature Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.

If Priority Status is "LOW", find a new field to analyze. If Priority Status is "HIGH" or "MEDIUM", proceed to next steps.

Results:

Project 1(Thu Aug 27 19:01:24) - remove save scenario

Calculation type: Estimate of baseline NPS
digitized acres: 18.2 (green area on map)
total acres (including contributing area): 35.6 (blue area on map)

RCPP Pre-screening Results:

RCPP Priority Status: **HIGH**
Rationale: Majority of acres are in an eligible watershed and water quality is moderately to severely impacted.

% area at high risk for sediment loading: **11.3%**

Watershed(s): Middle Beaver Creek (040802030308)
Watersheds eligible for RCPP are in **bold**: Bad River (040802030313)
Bad River (0408020303)
Shiawassee (04080203)

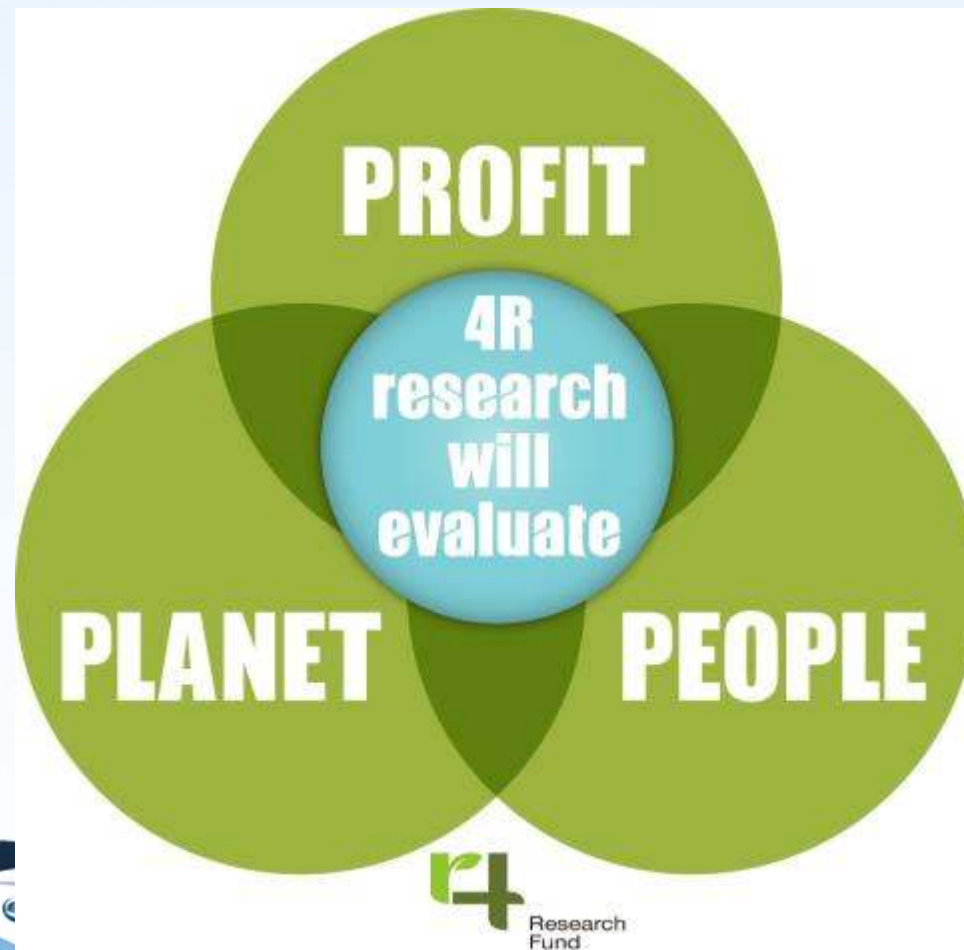
Predicted Water Quality: **Very Impacted**

Image courtesy of USGS, State of Michigan

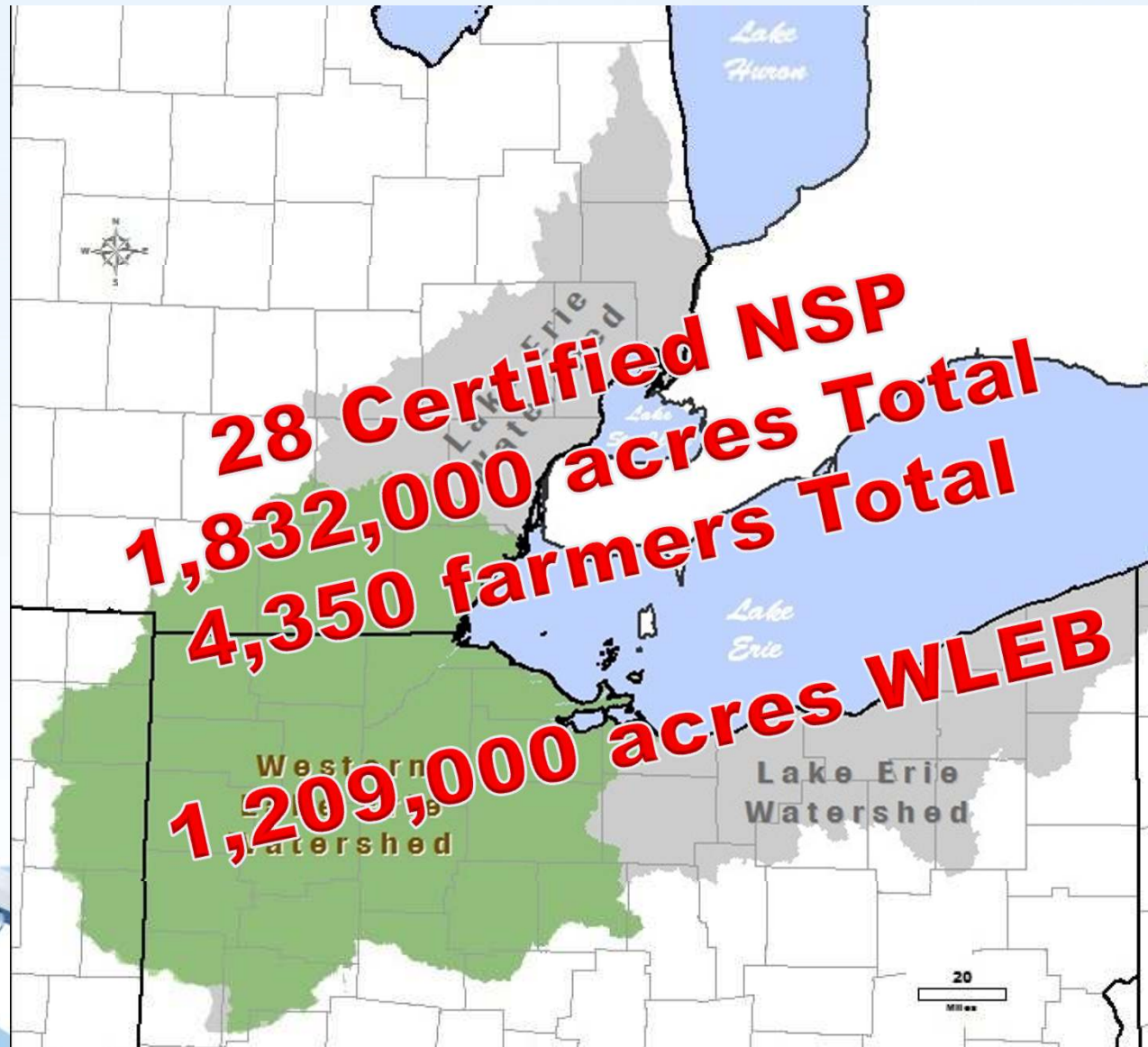
Image courtesy of USGS, State of Michigan

areas of land cover change

Continual Research & Innovation



Success of the 4Rs



Accumulating and Reporting Benefits

Great Lakes Watershed Management System Report		
Report name:	Unspecified	
Report period:	Annual	
Scenarios included:	Compare 2 RCA to NTL, Compare_CTL_to_NCC, Denver and Vandecar No Till and Cover Crop, Buffer Strip	
Acreage:	Total acres (upland): ?	159.7 (250.4)
	Acres by scenario type:	Dual Scenario Change - 159.7
	Acres by HIT LC/BMP: ?	no-till 53.1 no-till with cover crop 105.4 buffer strip 1.2
	Acres (upland) with expiring contracts within reporting period:	0
Non-point Source Pollution:	sediment loading (tons): ?	33.59
	sediment loading saved by LC/BMPs (tons): ?	94.02
	per LC/BMP:	no-till 17.09 no-till with cover crop 73.87 buffer strip 3.06
	soil erosion (tons): ?	225.91
	soil erosion saved through LC/BMPs (tons): ?	451.65
	per LC/BMP:	no-till 73.44 no-till with cover crop 369.19 buffer strip 9.02

Summary

- Phosphorus is a major part of the problem
- We're aiming to reduce phosphorus delivery to Lake Erie by 40%.
- There are a great number of efforts and activities underway
- We need a system to better assess the progress we are making together.
- Meeting and working together is critically important



Questions?

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