

Mississippi River

Local Comprehensive Water Plan



Table of Contents

	<u>Page:</u>
Introduction	2
Watershed Approach	3
Land Cover	5
Geologic Context	6
Implementation:	
Groundwater	7
Catchment Classification & Prioritization	8
Outstanding Surface Water Resources	15
Mississippi River Implementation Priority Maps	16

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Individual Catchment Maps

Appendix 2: Water Quality Report



INTRODUCTION

The Mississippi River begins as a trickle flowing out of Lake Itasca in northern Minnesota. From there the river flows 2,348 miles until it pours into the Gulf of Mexico below New Orleans. The Mississippi River drains 33 states and its catchment covers one-half of the United States. It fosters cities and commerce, transports people and goods, provides habitat for fish, plants, and wildlife, and enriches human life with natural and recreational opportunities.

North America's longest river percolates out of a mixed hardwood and conifer forest as it begins its descent to the Gulf of Mexico. It is a humble stream fed by underground springs, the moist climate and countless lakes, marshes, bogs. The Mississippi River at its source bears little resemblance to the mighty river it becomes. It is nonetheless the defining water feature of northern Minnesota.

The Mississippi River is protected from its headwaters at Lake Itasca in Clearwater County, to the southern boundary of Morrison County, near Little Falls by the Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB). Formed in 1980 as an alternative to designation of the river into the National Wild and Scenic River System, the Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB) is a joint powers board of Clearwater, Beltrami, Cass, Hubbard, Itasca, Aitkin, Crow Wing and Morrison Counties that is mandated by Minnesota Statutes 103F.361-377 to enhance and protect the natural, cultural, historic, scientific and recreational values of the headwaters region.

MHB achieves its goal of river protection through cooperative land use planning in the eight counties, in conjunction with the Chippewa National Forest and the Leech Lake Indian Reservation. The MHB also promotes water quality monitoring, education and stewardship activities among its partners along the corridor.

This section of the water plan was developed by an MHB project designed to prioritize conservation implementation projects at the sub-watershed level. By analyzing the available GIS and water quality information, the MHB and the member counties can cooperatively develop strategies for targeted, coordinated, and effective implementation of conservation practices and take advantage future Clean Water Land and Legacy funding opportunities.

WATERSHED APPROACH

The first 400 miles of the Mississippi River flows through 3 of the state's 81 major watersheds and has 3 other major watershed empty into it. Each major watershed is divided into a number of smaller, minor watersheds that collectively contribute water to the major watershed. Within these minor watersheds are smaller, sub-watershed units called *catchments*. 113 catchments are found along the first 400 miles of the Mississippi River. All of these watershed levels are delineated by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The DNR Level 8 Catchment is a slightly smaller catchment unit than the DNR Level 7 minor watersheds and was the level chosen for the Mississippi River analysis because it allowed for the finest level of geographic analysis at a watershed-based scale.

Developing water resource protection strategies within a catchment context is a logical, scientific approach because it acknowledges what water users have known for years: that upstream activities affect those downstream. Although a major watershed can be analyzed and modeled, it is difficult to manage since they typically cross municipal, county, and/or state boundaries. Planning at a smaller watershed level is much easier because trends and priorities are easier to determine and cause-and-effect relationships are more readily identifiable. Implementation is also easier since many catchments are within a single jurisdiction and strategies can be better targeted and designed for optimal success and cost efficiencies. This approach will in turn ultimately result in healthy major watersheds in the most efficient manner.

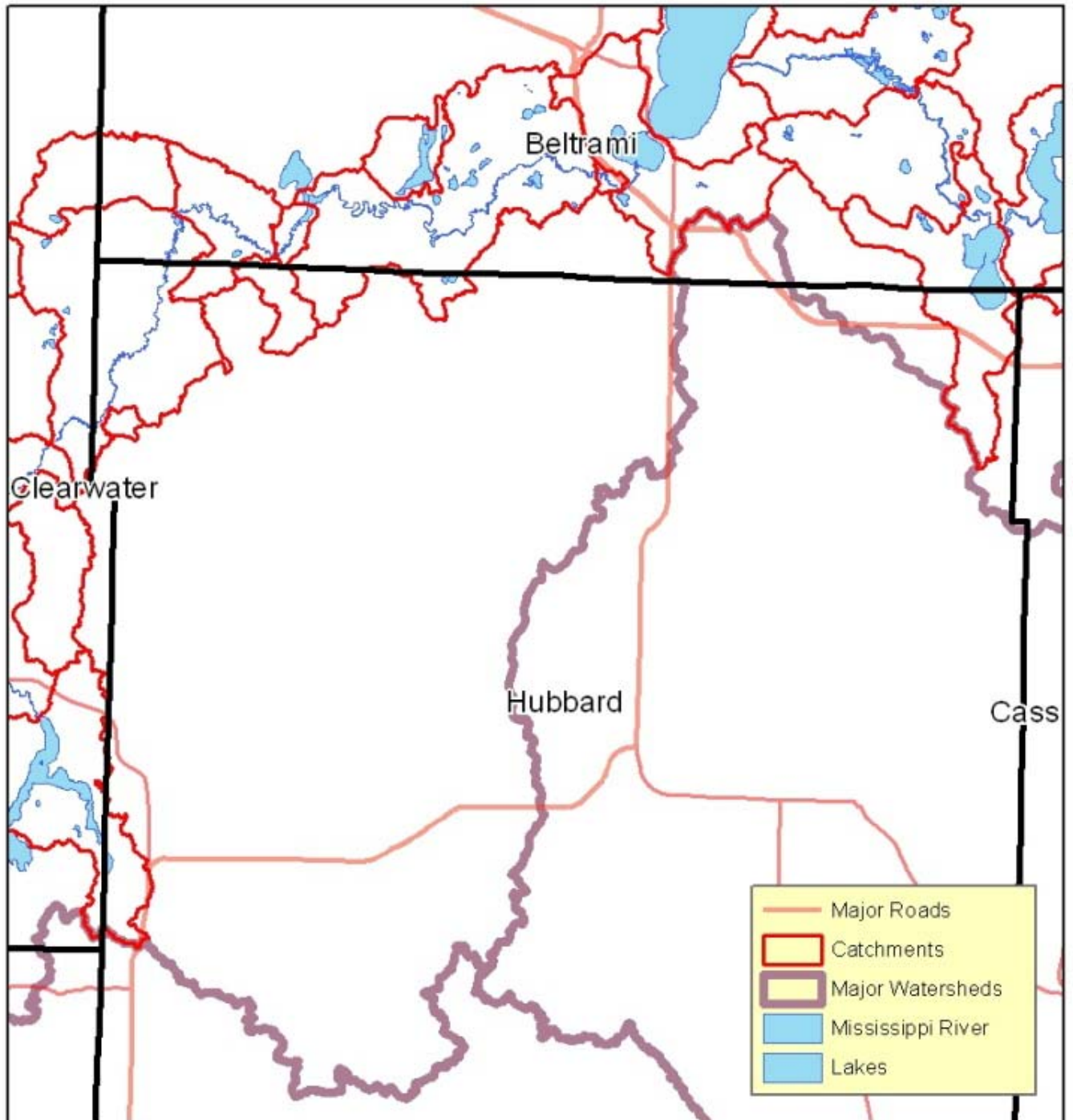
For this section of the plan, the MHB took readily available spatial data that related to common water plan priority concerns from various local, state, federal, and non-governmental sources and summarized it by catchment. Each data component was sorted individually from highest to lowest and mapped accordingly. In addition, top ranked or highly occurring elements were identified and used to craft specific targeted implementation strategies in the catchments where they occurred, such as a focus on agricultural BMPs in a catchment with a high number of animal units or a focus on development in high population areas.

The MPCA is also conducting assessments of all of these major watersheds on a 10-year cycle. This intensive watershed monitoring schedule will provide comprehensive assessments of all of the state's major watersheds on a ten-year cycle. This schedule provides intensive monitoring of streams and lakes within each major watershed to determine overall health of the water resources, to identify impaired waters, and to identify those waters in need of additional protection to prevent future impairments. Biology, chemistry, and fish contaminant information is collected and analyzed. Based on results of intensive watershed monitoring, MPCA staff and its partners conduct a rigorous process to determine whether or not water resources meet water quality standards and designated uses. Water resources that do not meet water quality standards are listed as impaired waters. Based on the watershed assessment, a TMDL study and/or Watershed Restoration and Protection (WRAP) report is completed. Along the MHB corridor, the MPCA has the most data on the Crow Wing River Watershed (which includes Gull Lake) and has started work on the Pine River, Leech Lake River, and Mississippi Headwaters major watersheds.

The Mississippi River in Hubbard County is part of the Mississippi River Headwaters Major Watershed. More information this major watershed as well as MPCA's intensive watershed monitoring can be found at: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/water/water-types-and-programs/watersheds/watershed-overview-map.html>

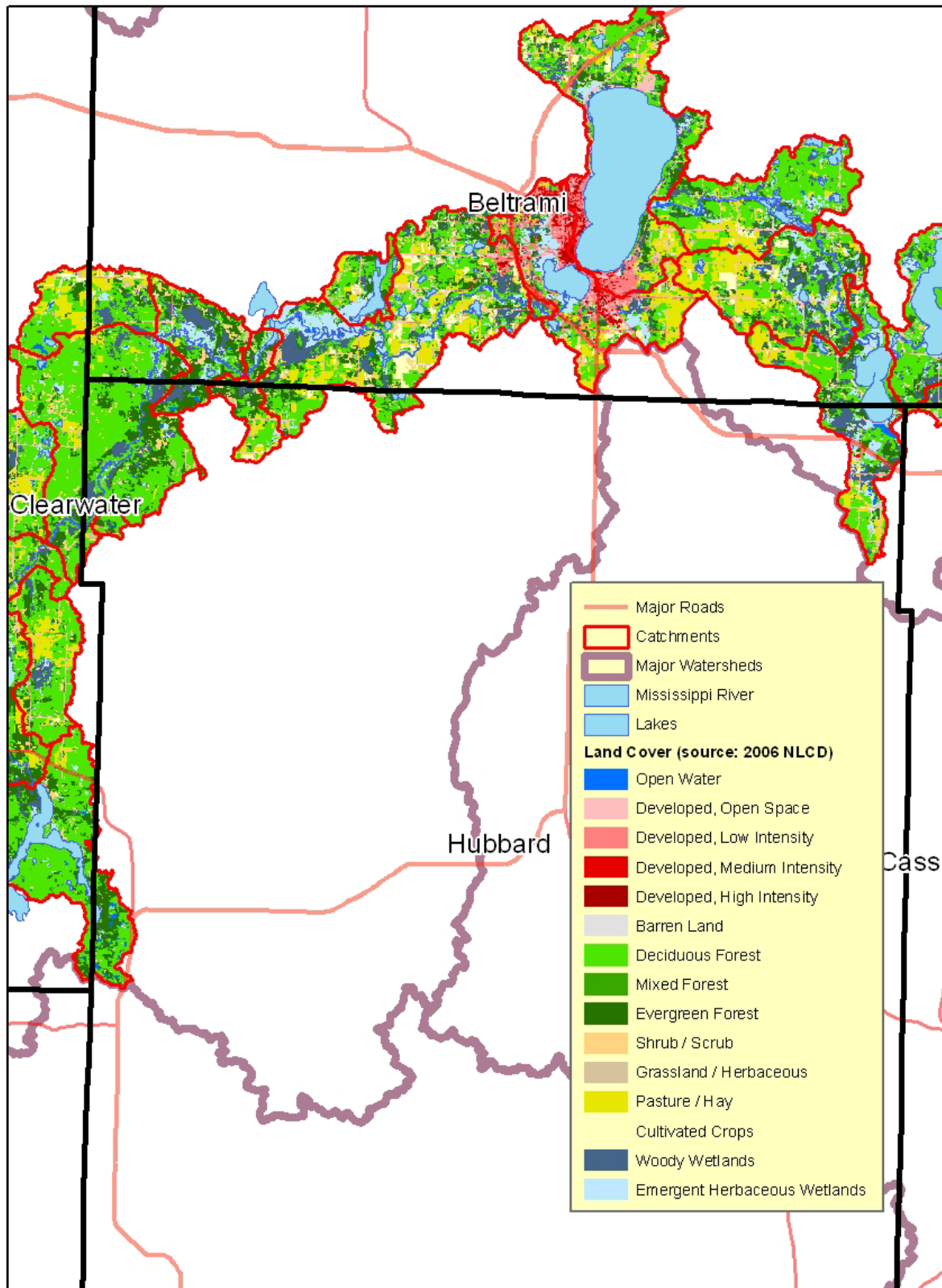
In Hubbard County, only the far northwestern and northeastern portions of the County are included in this report.

Figure 1. Catchments along MHB Corridor



LAND COVER:

Figure 2. Land Use Cover (from National Land Cover Dataset, 2006)



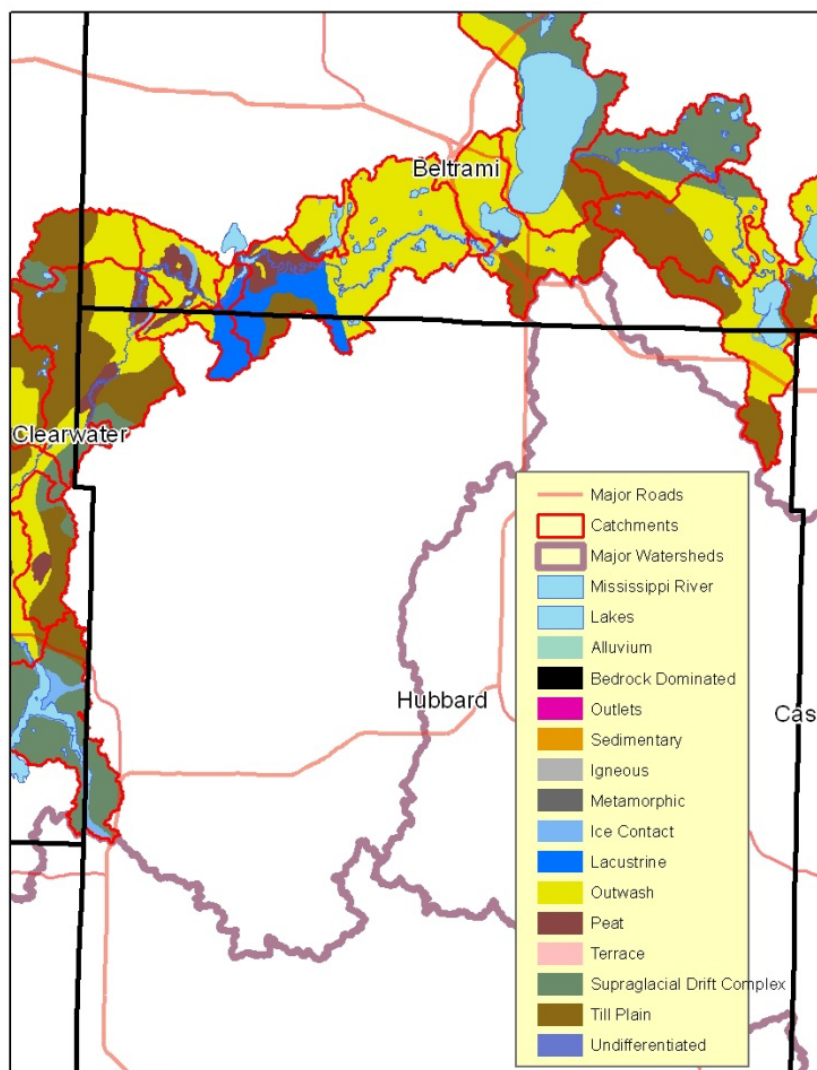
GEOLOGIC CONTEXT

There are many geomorphic regions (landforms) of Hubbard County, all which were formed by various glacial actions which led to the surficial geology of today's landscape. Glacial deposits on the landscape can generally be sorted into two categories: *till* (heavier loams and clay soils that were deposited directly by the glacier) and *outwash* (sands & gravels deposited by flowing glacial melt water). A map showing the generalized surficial geology of Hubbard County is shown below.

Geomorphology and surficial geology are critical drivers of watershed health for a number of reasons. For example, Hubbard County is blessed with a large amount of outwash areas that allow better infiltration for both groundwater recharge and stormwater management than till. However, these areas are also more erodible and can also be more difficult to stabilize. The heavier till soils shed more water and when eroded can contribute sediment further downstream.

The relationship between geomorphology and stream characteristics, forest cover, and watershed storage (lakes & wetlands) in relation to peak flow events, such as spring snow melt and high rain events is significant. Retired US Forest Service Hydrologist, Sandy Verry, has provided a model for determining risk from these peak flow events based on the amount of forest cover and catchment storage for excessive water during these events. Fortunately, the because of the amount of intact forests and wetlands in the catchments along the Mississippi River in Hubbard County, there is a low risk for causing any stream degradation from peak flow events.

Figure 3. Surficial Geology



IMPLEMENTATION FOCUS: GROUNDWATER

Outwash areas with a surficial geology of sands or gravels are the most critical areas to focus on in terms of both groundwater recharge and potential contamination. Many residents rely on this surficial aquifer for their source of drinking water. Since there is a direct connection from the surface to this aquifer, any contamination from human uses at the surface could have a direct effect. In addition, any disruptions to the recharge capacity of this aquifer could affect water levels in the groundwater and lakes / streams.

Nitrates

While all agricultural areas have some potential to contribute to elevated nitrate levels in the groundwater, the County is generally more focused on nitrates in agricultural areas that have a sandy aquifer at the surface and also a high number of landowners with wells in these areas. The limited amount of available data suggests that the catchments along the Mississippi River in Hubbard County are not high in nitrates.

Septic Systems & Well head Protection Areas

These areas with sandy soils at the surface are important focus areas for proper septic system maintenance. Wellhead protection and drinking water source areas in these sandy soils are also especially critical to focus on. In the catchments along the Mississippi River in Hubbard County, there are very few septic systems and no community water supplies as mapped by the Minnesota Department of Health.

IMPLEMENTATION: CATCHMENT CLASSIFICATION & PRIORITIZATION

The eight Mississippi headwaters counties are blessed with abundant water resources. Because of this sheer quantity, sorting these resources and prioritizing implementation strategies in light of available funding is one of the biggest water planning challenges. Because very few of the water resources in this region are impaired and need to be restored, the focus of this section of the plan is on which catchments along the Mississippi River could benefit from water *protection* strategies, rather than *restoration* strategies. For most of the Mississippi Headwaters counties with an abundance of natural resources and relatively low land values, a well-designed *protection* approach is much more efficient and cost-effective than a *restoration* approach.

This plan suggests a water protection model which analyzes all catchments in the first 400 miles of the Mississippi River and determines which catchments are already in good condition (class: *vigilance*), which could use more protection (classes: *protection*, *enhance-protection*), and which would likely need restoration strategies (*enhancement*).

When prioritizing which catchments to focus implementation strategies on, the distinction between public and private lands is important. From a planning perspective, catchments with a high percentage of public land are not as at-risk for future water quality impacts and do not require the same level of focus as catchments with a smaller percentage of public land. For purposes of this plan, public land is considered to be already in a “protected” state. Public water bodies, such as lakes and streams, are also “protected” in that they cannot generally be filled or drained. Wetlands on private lands are also protected by the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA), which also generally prohibits draining or filling of wetland areas. The County also currently has lands with perpetual conservation easements, which are also considered to be protected. These “protected” areas added together form one of the critical foundations of this plan’s catchment classification system.

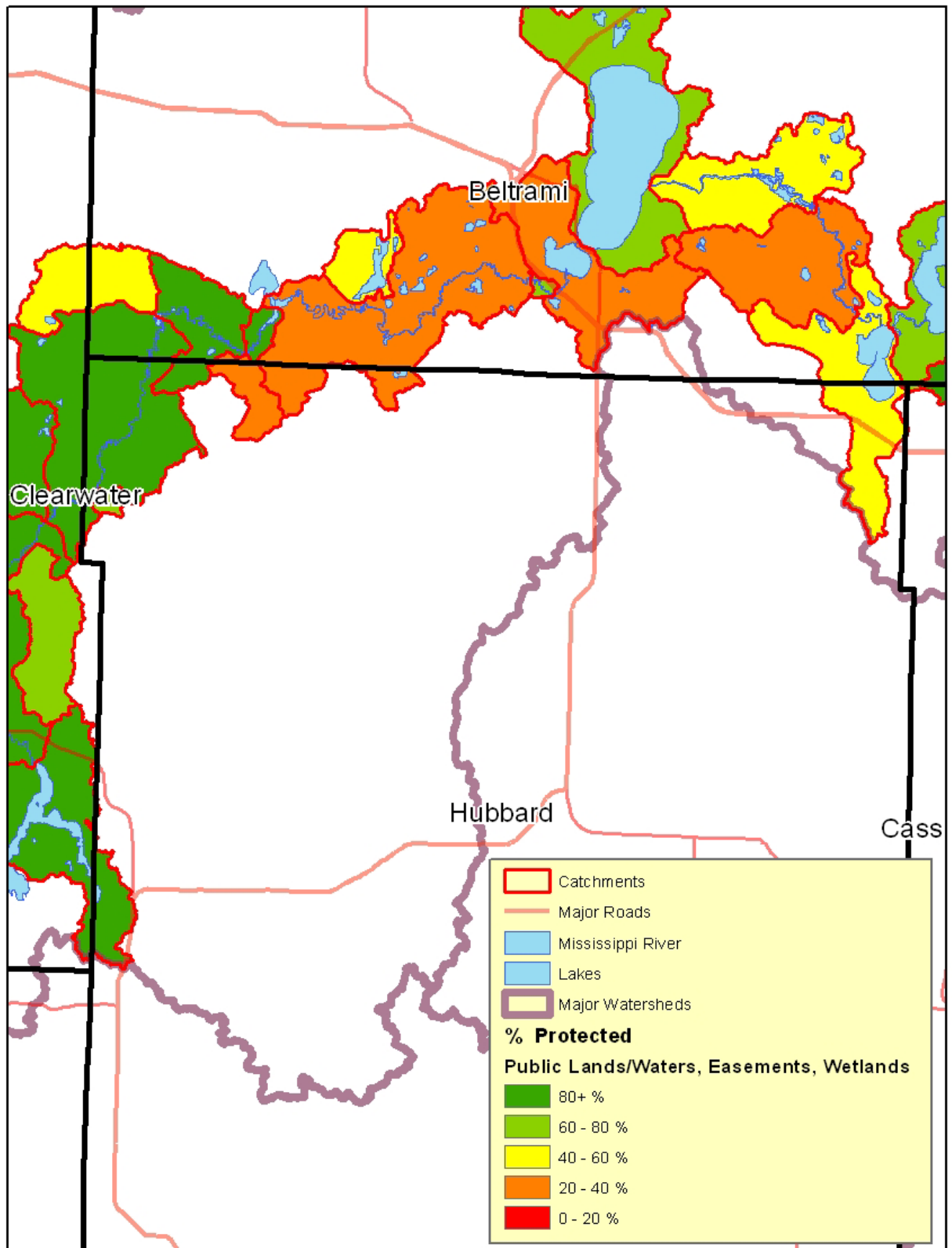
In addition to the amount of these protected lands/waters, each catchment was classified and mapped by the amount of land use disturbance, water quality trends, and various risk factors.

Sandy Verry and others have determined that the amount of mature forest cover on the landscape is a driving factor in sediment and nutrient delivery to downstream water bodies. Minimizing these changes in land use is important to maintaining high water quality. For this portion of the plan, land use disturbance includes land cover classes that are converted from a natural, forested state to man-altered classes such as: developed, cultivated, pasture, or grassland.

In addition to protected areas and land use disturbance, catchment health is also influenced by the water quality of the lands / streams that they contain. For this plan, catchments with a declining trend in water quality were classified lower simply because of the declining trend.

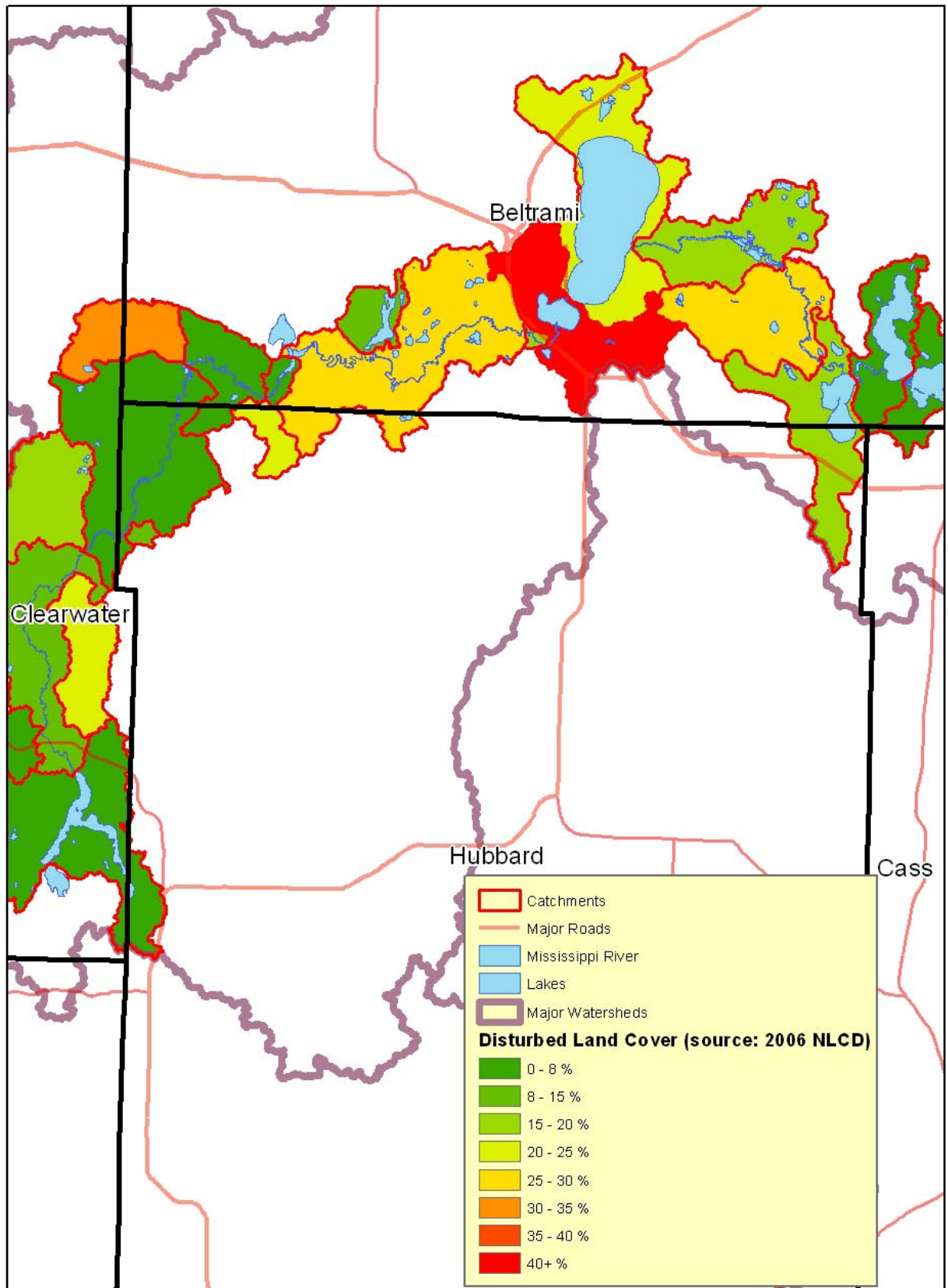
Water plan priority concerns such as aquatic invasive species prevention, stormwater management, shoreline buffers, private forest management, and agricultural best management practices were also incorporated in this catchment analysis and were prioritized by minor catchment in order to better to craft implementation programs that achieve the highest return on conservation investment.

Figure 4. Existing "Protected" Areas (by Catchment)



"Protected" = % Public Land, % Public Waters (Lakes & Rivers), % Easements, % Wetlands on Private Lands

Figure 5. Land Cover Disturbance (by Catchment)

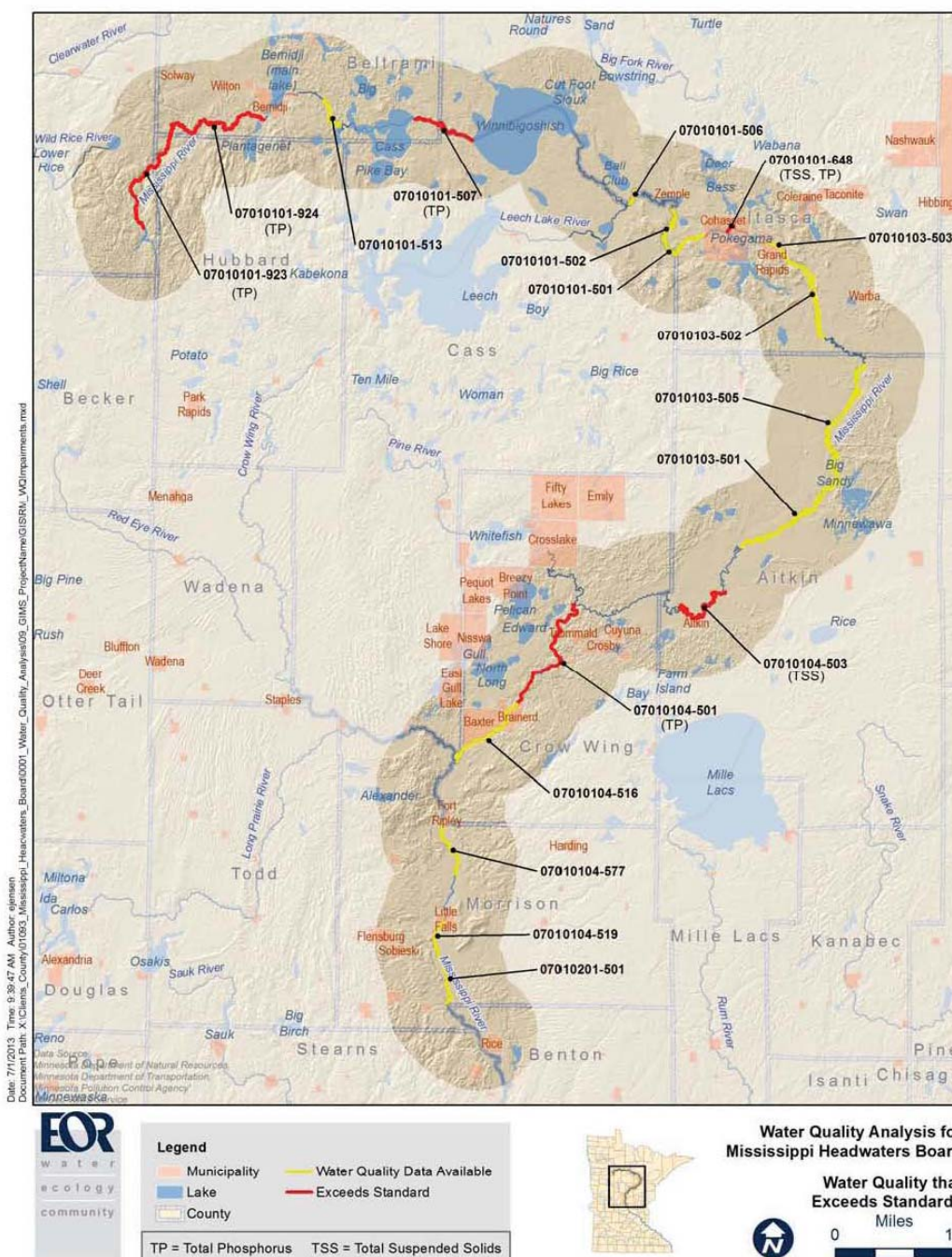


"Disturbed" = Developed, Cultivated, Pasture, & Grassland

Water Quality

Available water quality data for the Mississippi River and the lakes that it flows through was collected from all available sources within the last ten years and analyzed for a number of parameters, including total suspended solids, phosphorous, e-coli bacteria, etc. For analysis purposes, the river was divided into a number of different stretches (or AUIDs). The first AUID along the River (Lake Itasca through NW Hubbard County) exceeded state water quality standards for total phosphorous, which is most likely due to natural causes. Detailed water quality data is available in Appendix 2 of this report.

Figure 6. Water Quality by AUID (red stretches exceed state water quality standards, non-colored stretches did not have enough data to assess).



Mississippi River Catchment Risk Classifications

Protected lands, land cover disturbance, and water quality information along with potential risk factors were used to separate each catchment into one of four classifications:

Vigilance

These catchments have a high percentage of protected lands (> 50%), low amount of disturbed land cover classes (<8 %) and have no other potential threats to water quality, such as development, agriculture, drainage, or extractive uses. While all catchments have some risk for negative impacts, “vigilance” catchments have the least amount of risk and thus warrant the least amount of implementation focus.

Protected

These catchments generally have a percentage of protected lands that is > 40% but also have some potential risk factors that could negatively impact the surface water (and / or groundwater) systems of the catchment. Low to moderate amounts of impervious surfaces, development pressures (existing or potential), disturbed land cover classes (8 – 30 %), animal units, extractive uses, and/or drainage systems are likely within the catchment. These catchments are generally in good condition and have no lakes with a declining trend in water quality or river stretches that exceed state water quality standards. However, these catchments have the potential to be better protected with strategies such as private forest stewardship, stormwater management, shoreline buffers, and conservation easements in ecologically sensitive areas.

Enhance-Protection

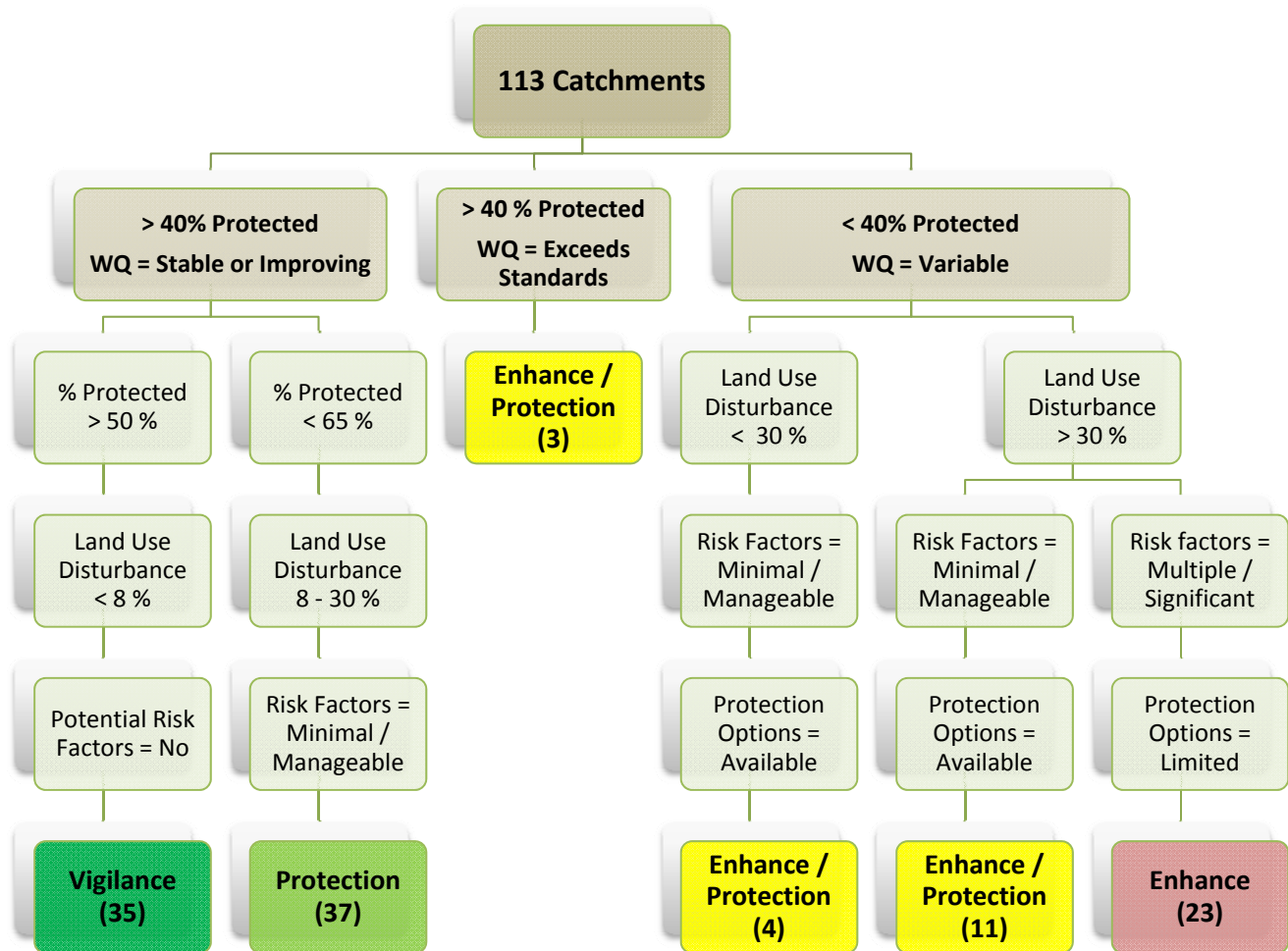
These catchments generally have a percentage of protected lands that is generally less than 40% but also have many potential risk factors that could negatively impact the surface water (and / or groundwater) systems of the catchment. Moderate amounts of impervious surfaces, development pressures (existing or potential), disturbed land cover classes, animal units, extractive uses, and/ or drainage systems are likely within the catchment. In addition, lakes or streams that exceed state standards in water quality may also be present in these catchments. These catchments are in fair condition but have great opportunities for project implementation and further protection efforts.

Enhance

These catchments generally have a percentage of protected lands that is < 40 % but also have numerous potential risk factors that could negatively impact the surface water (and / or groundwater) systems of the catchment. High amounts of impervious surfaces, development pressures (existing or potential), disturbed land cover classes (>30%), animal units, extractive uses, and/or drainage systems are likely within the catchment. In addition, lakes or streams that exceed state water quality standards or that are impaired are also typically present in these catchments. These catchments are in fair to poor condition and while there are limited opportunities for protection or restoration strategies, many projects would likely be required to make a meaningful difference.

The risk classification for each catchment is based on the best available data and is subject to change should better data become available. The classification and recommendations for each catchment is not exhaustive with respect to all the water protection strategies that could be employed in a given catchment. This plan is intended to stimulate conversation about water plan priorities but is not intended to deter the Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB), landowners, lake associations, or Local Units of Government from developing their own water protection priorities or initiating projects that are outside the recommendations of this plan.

Figure 7. Catchment Risk Classification Decision Tree (data for all 113 catchments in the project area)

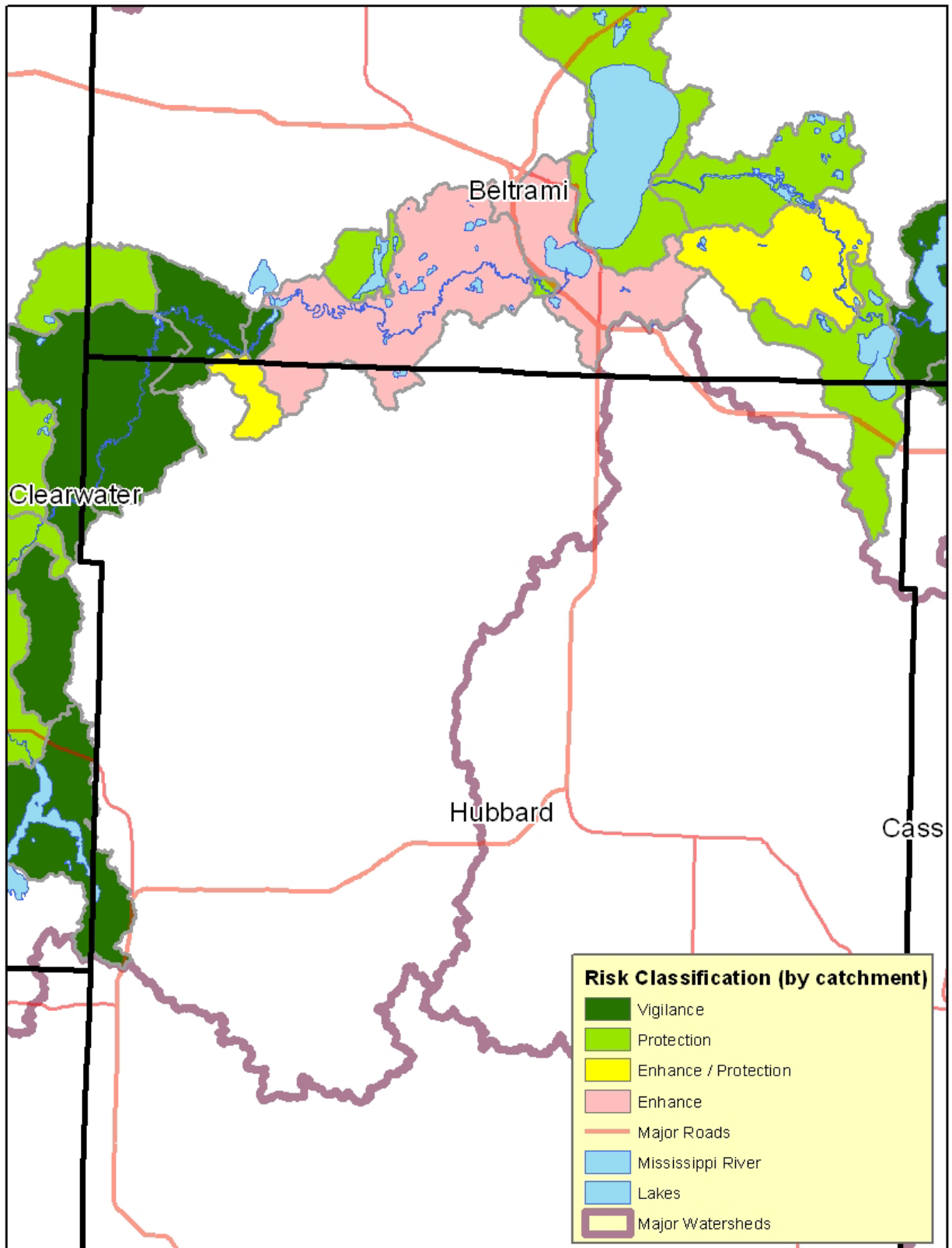


Protected = Total % of public ownership, permanent conservation easements, lakes, rivers, wetlands (private property)

Land Use Disturbance = Source 2006 National Land Cover Dataset (includes: *development, cultivated, pasture, grassland*)

Possible Risk Factors Include = Agriculture (measured by # of animal units), development, ditching / drainage, extractive use

Figure 8. Catchment Risk Classification Map



Risk Classification is a composite index of protected lands, land use disturbance, and water quality data

IMPLEMENTATION: OUTSTANDING SURFACE WATER RESOURCES

The Mississippi River corridor interacts with a number of surface water resources that have outstanding characteristics and implementation focuses that are often independent of the catchment in which they reside. These include: lakes with outstanding water quality with deep, clear water capable of supporting cisco / tullibee and trout or shallow lakes that support vast areas of wild rice critical for maintaining healthy wildlife and waterfowl populations. These features are shown on the individual catchment maps in appendix 1.

Wild Rice

Minnesota is the epicenter of the world's natural wild rice. Although once found throughout most of the state, it is now concentrated in north-central Minnesota. Wild rice is typically found in shallow lakes and rivers and in shallow bays of deeper lakes and provides some of the most important habitat for wetland-dependent wildlife species in Minnesota, especially migrating and breeding waterfowl. Wild rice is Minnesota's state grain and provides unique recreation opportunities and has cultural significance to Native Americans.

With funding from the Clean Water Land & Legacy Amendment, the Board of Water & Soil Resources, Department of Natural Resources, Soil & Water Conservation Districts, and Ducks Unlimited have partnered to acquire shoreline properties on priority wild rice lakes and the Mississippi River within the Mississippi Headwaters Counties.

Cisco / Tullibee

Cisco (also known as tullibee or lake herring) is a coldwater fish that live in many of the nicest lakes in Minnesota. They provide excellent forage for trophy walleye, northern pike, muskellunge, and lake trout. A requirement for cold, well-oxygenated water allows them to primarily live in deep lakes that have good water quality. In the summer, tullibee live in the cold water below the thermocline in most Minnesota lakes. Unfortunately, oxygen concentrations below the thermocline decline throughout the summer in many lakes, especially in more eutrophic systems, which can be caused by a loss of water quality from increased nutrient levels. Increased nutrients generate more algal cells, which eventually die and settle into the deeper portion of the lake where they decompose and consume oxygen, thereby causing a decline in oxygen levels in the water below the thermocline. As the upper layers of the lake warm, tullibee can experience a "squeeze" as they move up in the water column to avoid low oxygen concentrations and encounter the warmer water. In some summers, the squeeze is so great that some tullibee will die as they get forced into lethally warm temperatures.

Fortunately, many deep lakes with good water quality maintain adequate oxygen conditions below the thermocline all summer long, even in warm summers. The Minnesota DNR Fisheries Research Unit, in conjunction with the University of Minnesota, have identified 176 lakes that are deep and clear enough to sustain tullibee in warm conditions. Although only one of these Lakes (Elk Lake in Itasca State Park) was identified in the catchments along the Mississippi River, the majority of these lakes are found within the 8 Mississippi Headwater Board counties.

Trout

Trout lakes and streams require cool, well oxygenated water and their presence in a lake or stream is often a result of the overall quality of that water body as well as suitable groundwater and substrate. Minnesota has hundreds of trout streams and lakes managed for trout by the Department of Natural Resources. Natural shorelines as well as cover and spawning habitat within the water body are critical to the long term health of trout lakes and streams.

Rare Species / Habitats (from Natural Heritage / MCBS data)

Several lakes in the Mississippi Headwaters Counties as well as stretches of the Mississippi River have rare species that are unique to aquatic ecosystems as identified by the Department of Natural Resources' Minnesota County Biological Survey (MCBS) and Natural Heritage database. The number and type of species present varies along the first 400 miles of the Mississippi River.

Stream Confluences

Confluences of streams (i.e. watershed outlets) are important areas for habitat, water quality, and conservation. In addition to smaller confluences, the Leech Lake River, Pine River, and Crow Wing River confluences with the Mississippi River are important focal points.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER IMPLEMENTATION PRIORITY MAPS

In addition to the protected status, land cover disturbance, and water quality information that led to the risk classification, each Mississippi River catchment was also mapped by implementation priorities that can be incorporated into a *protection* strategy or used to manage various risk factors.

<u>Map:</u>	<u>Figure #:</u>
• Catchment Protection Categories	
○ % Public Land	9
○ % Lakes	10
○ % Wetlands	11
○ Easements	12
• Catchment Implementation Priorities	
○ Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)	13
○ Agricultural BMPs	14
○ Bluff & Steep Slope Protection	15
○ Growth & Development	16
○ Private Forest Management	17
○ Drinking Water Protection	18
○ Wild Rice	19
○ Shallow, Wildlife Lakes	20
○ Unique Native Plant Communities	21
○ Bald Eagle Areas	22
○ Unique Bird Habitat	23
○ Native Mussel Habitat	24

Note: Detailed catchment maps showing the location of public land, transportation systems, water features, drinking water protection areas, feedlots, recreational features, etc. are included in Appendix 1 of this report.

Figure 9. % Public Ownership (Local, State, Federal)

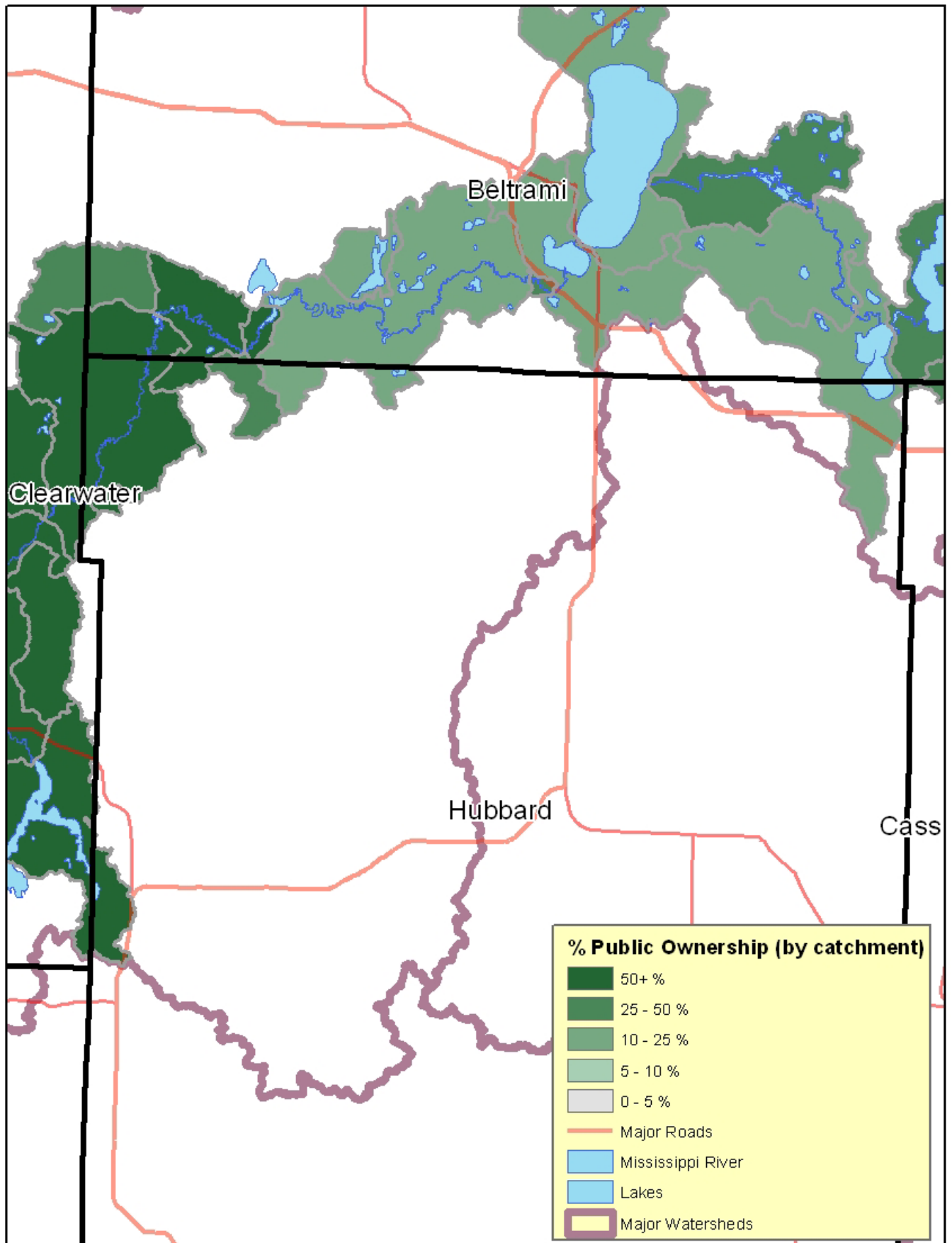


Figure 10. % Lakes

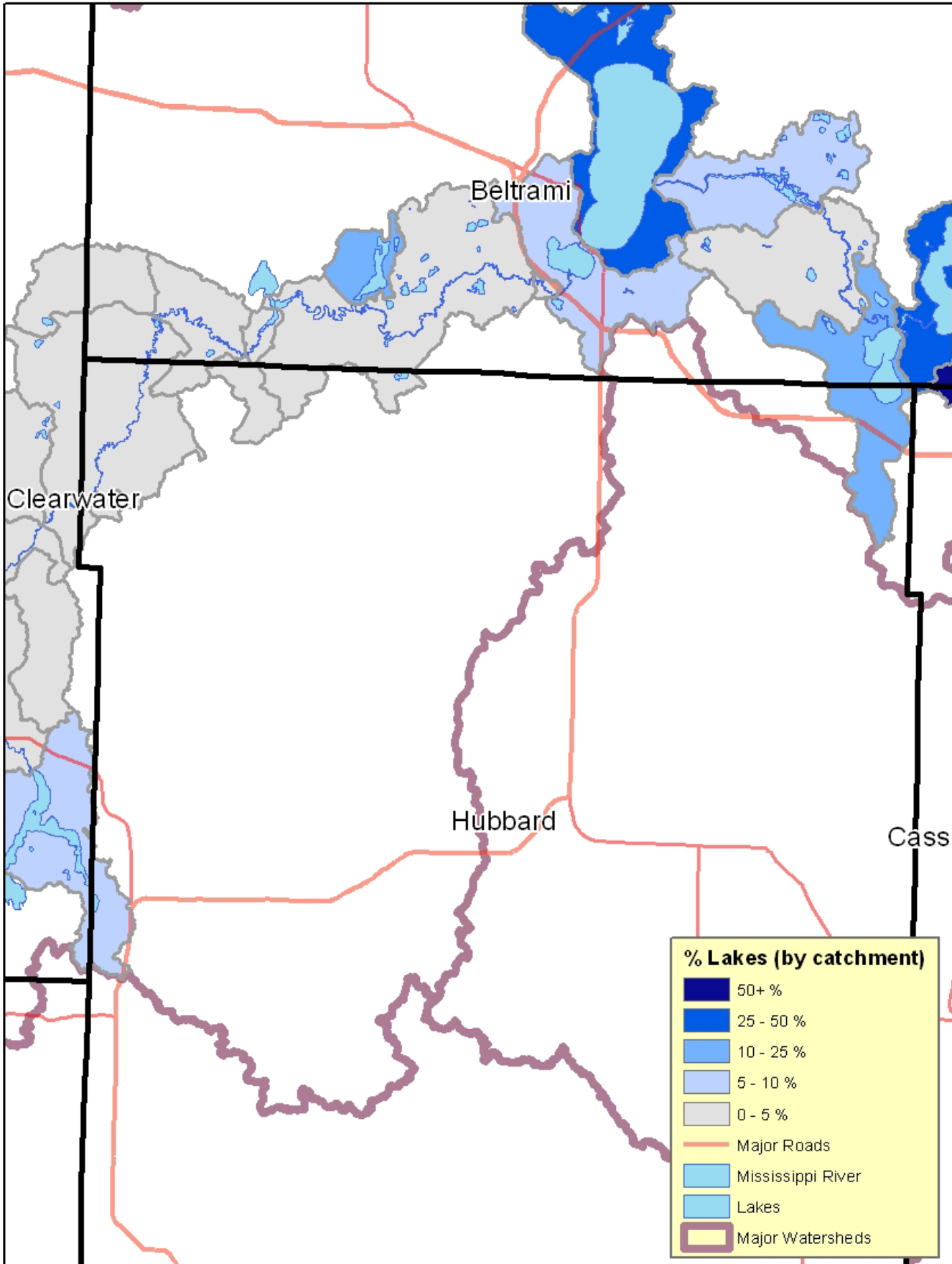


Figure 11. % Wetlands

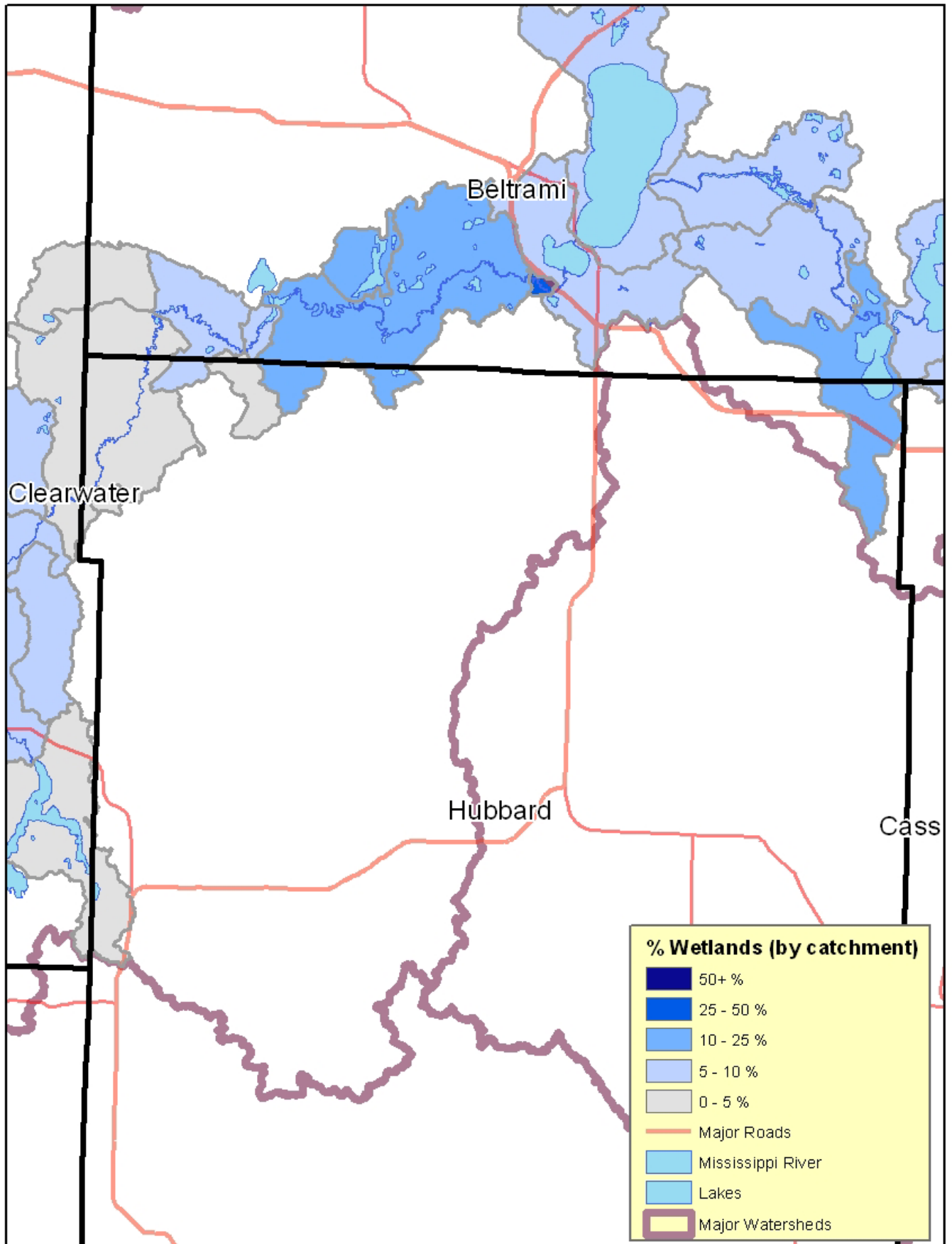


Figure 12. Easements

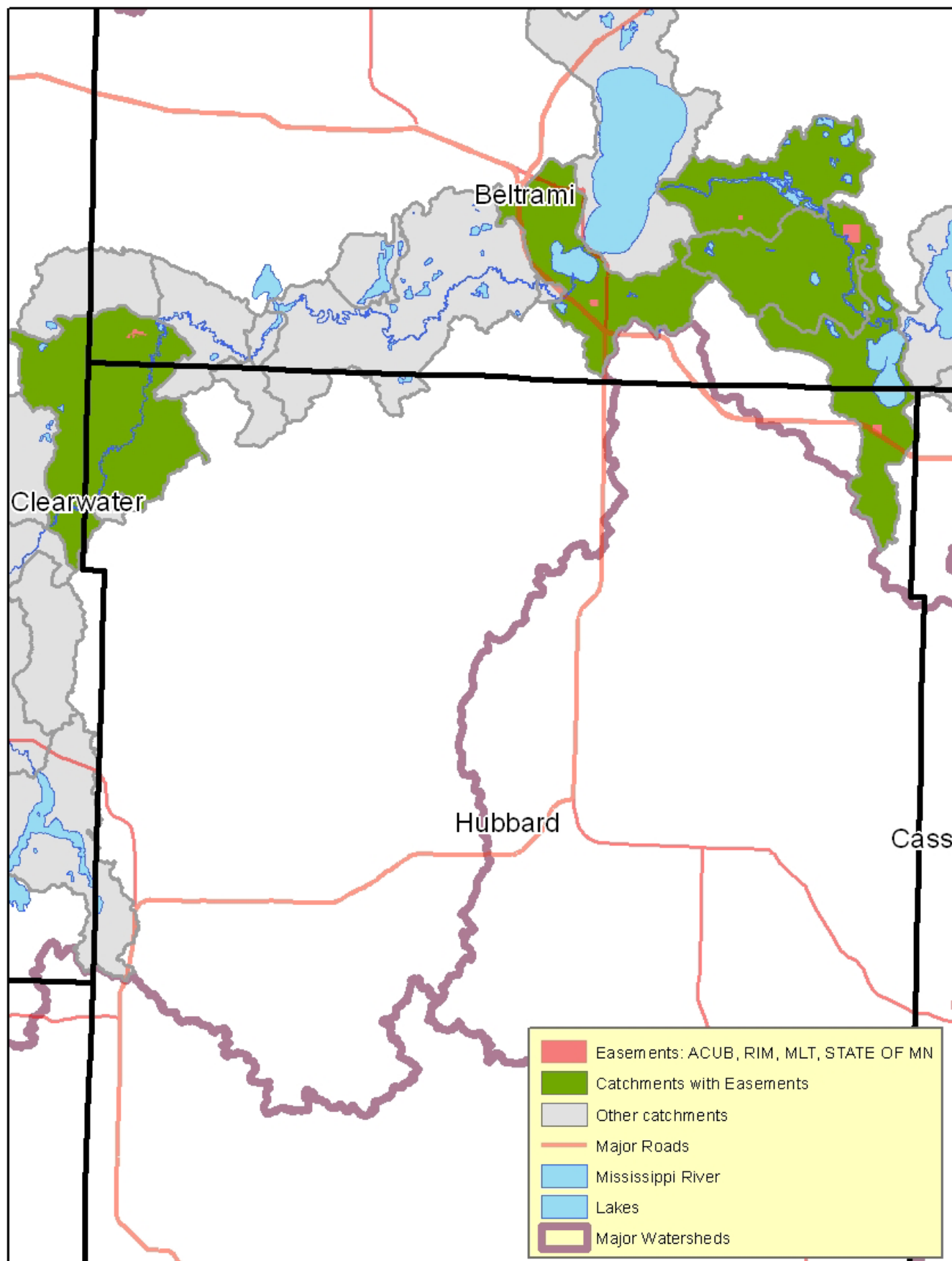


Figure 13. Implementation Priority: Aquatic Invasive Species

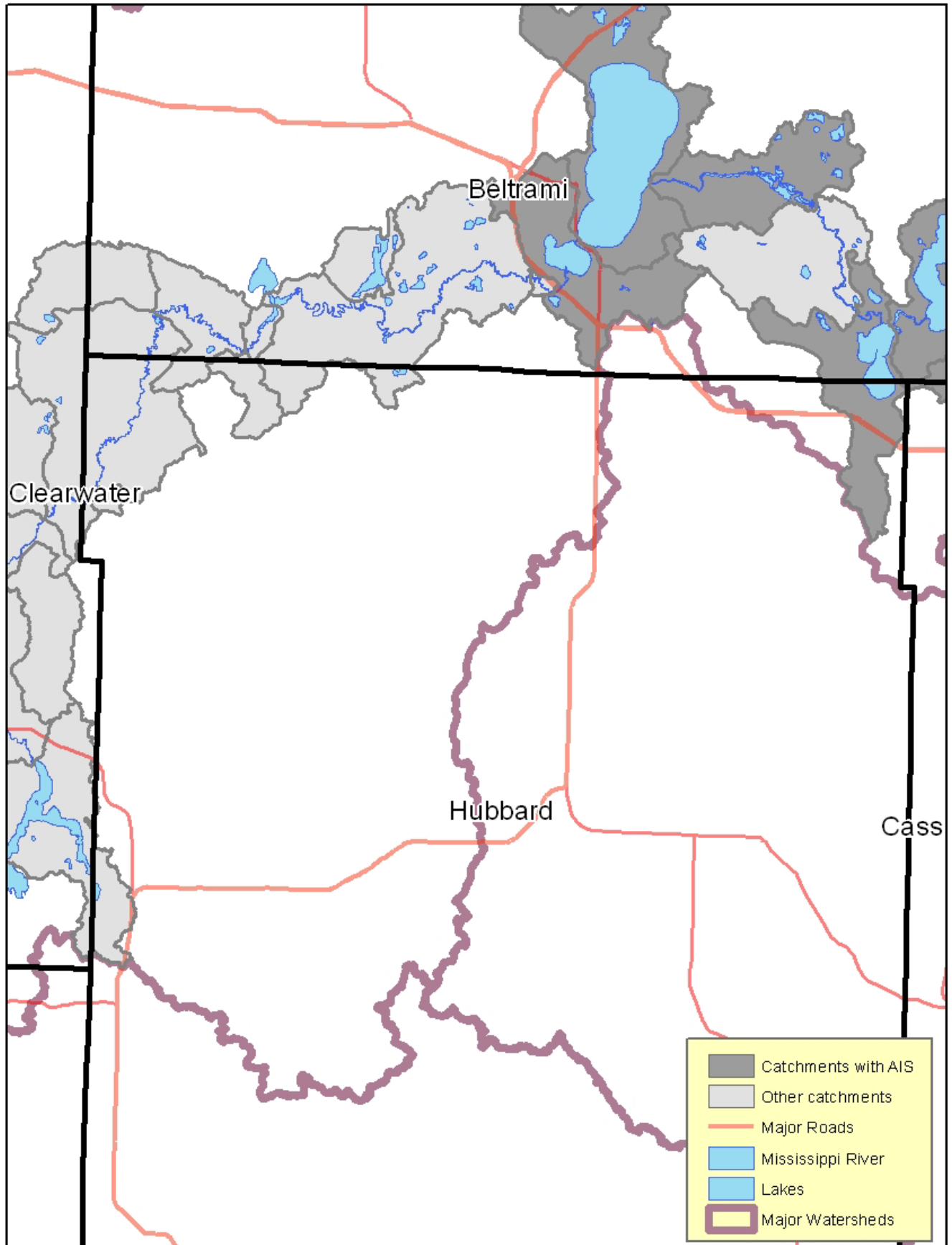


Figure 14. Implementation Priority: Agricultural BMPs

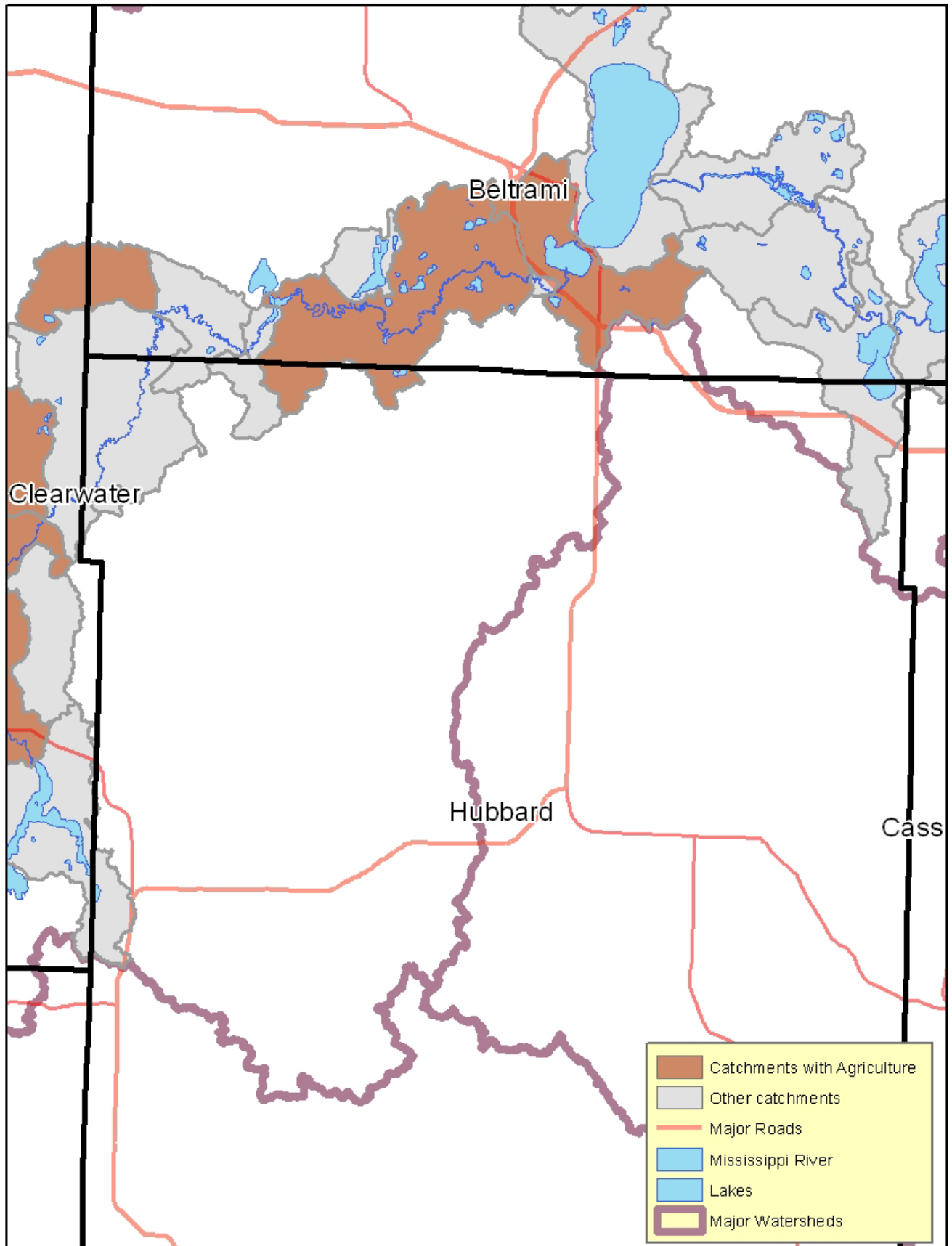


Figure 15. Implementation Priority: Bluff and Steep Slope Protection

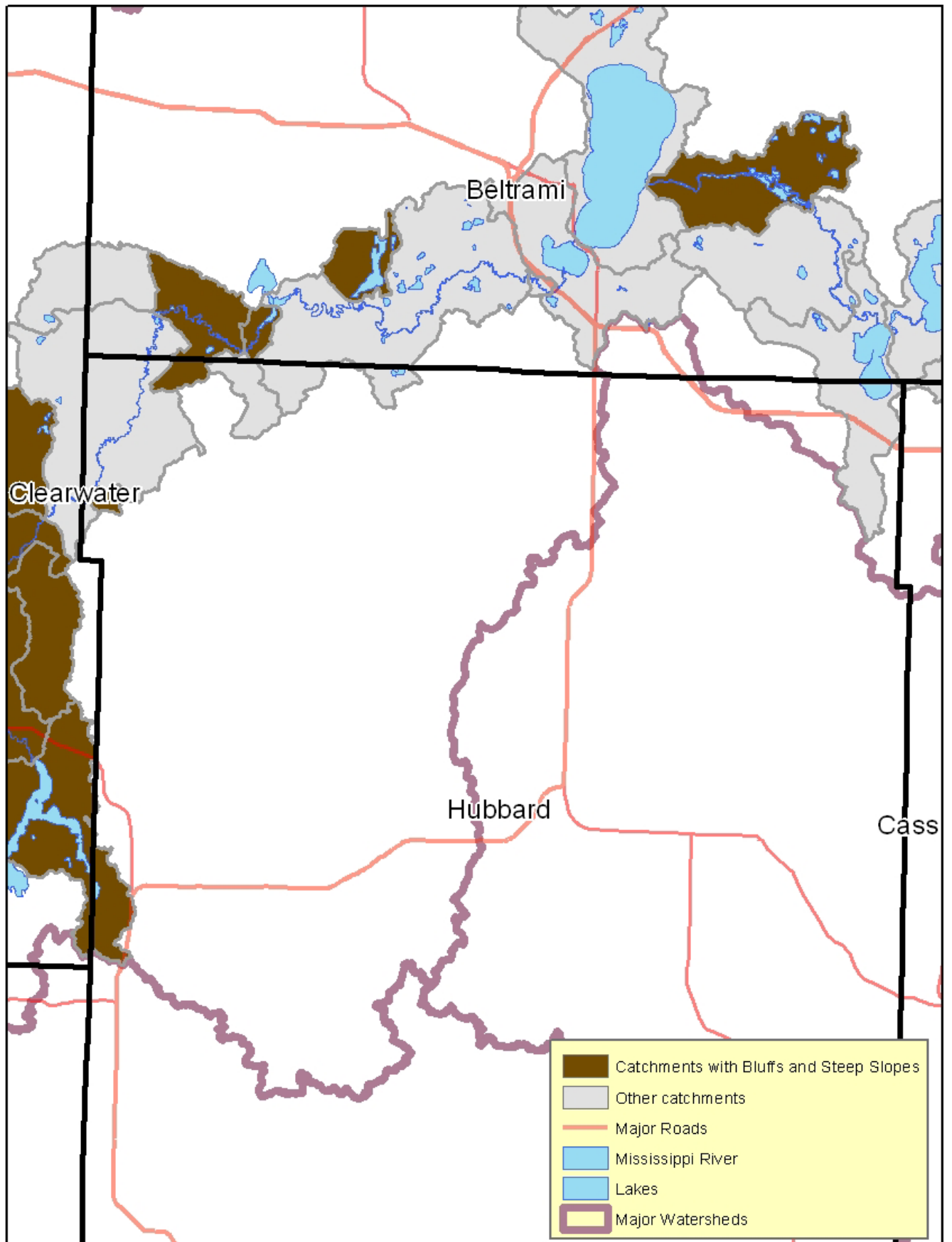


Figure 16. Implementation Priority: Growth & Development

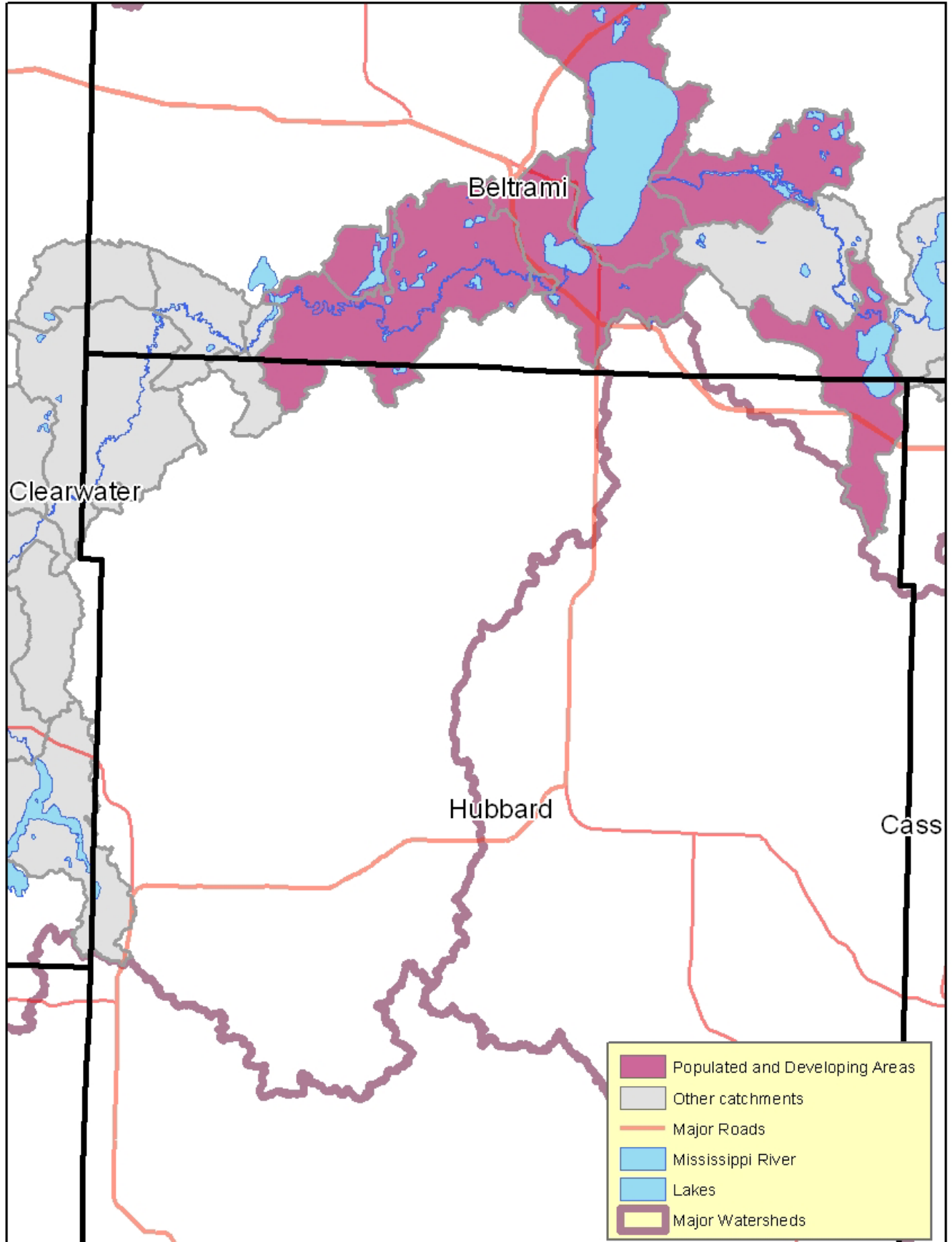


Figure 17. Implementation Priority: Private Forest Management

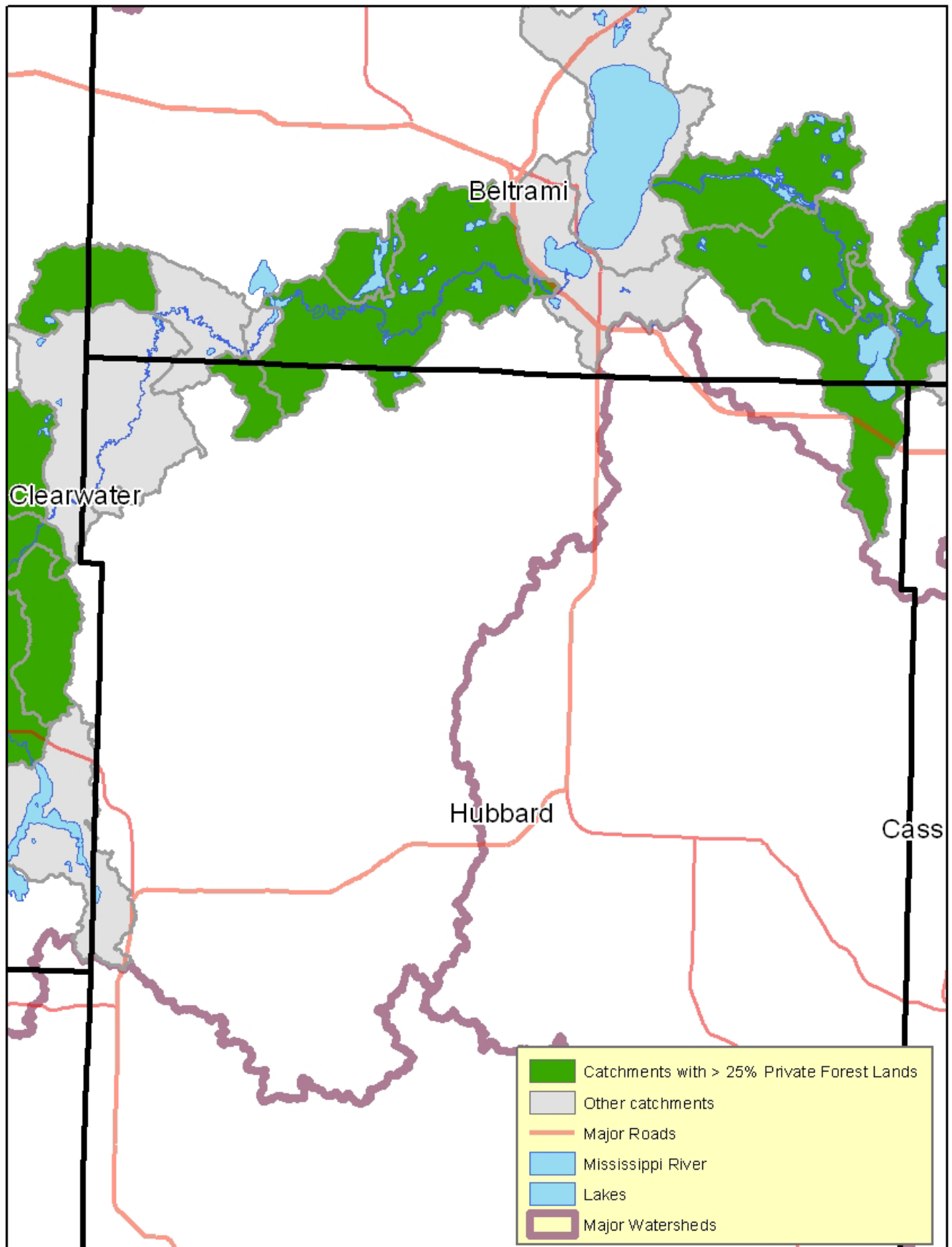


Figure 18. Implementation Priority: Drinking Water Protection

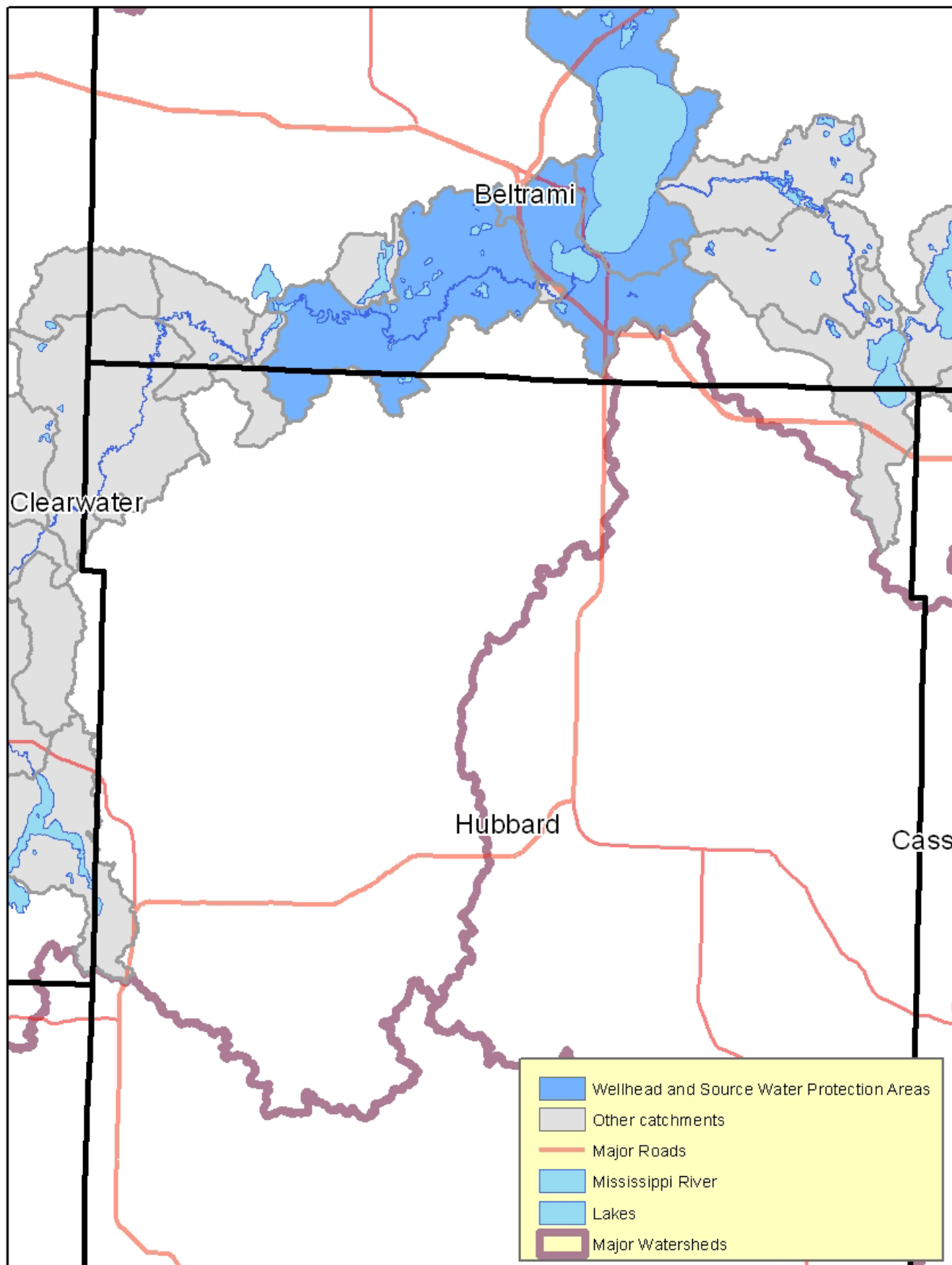


Figure 19. Implementation Priority: Wild Rice

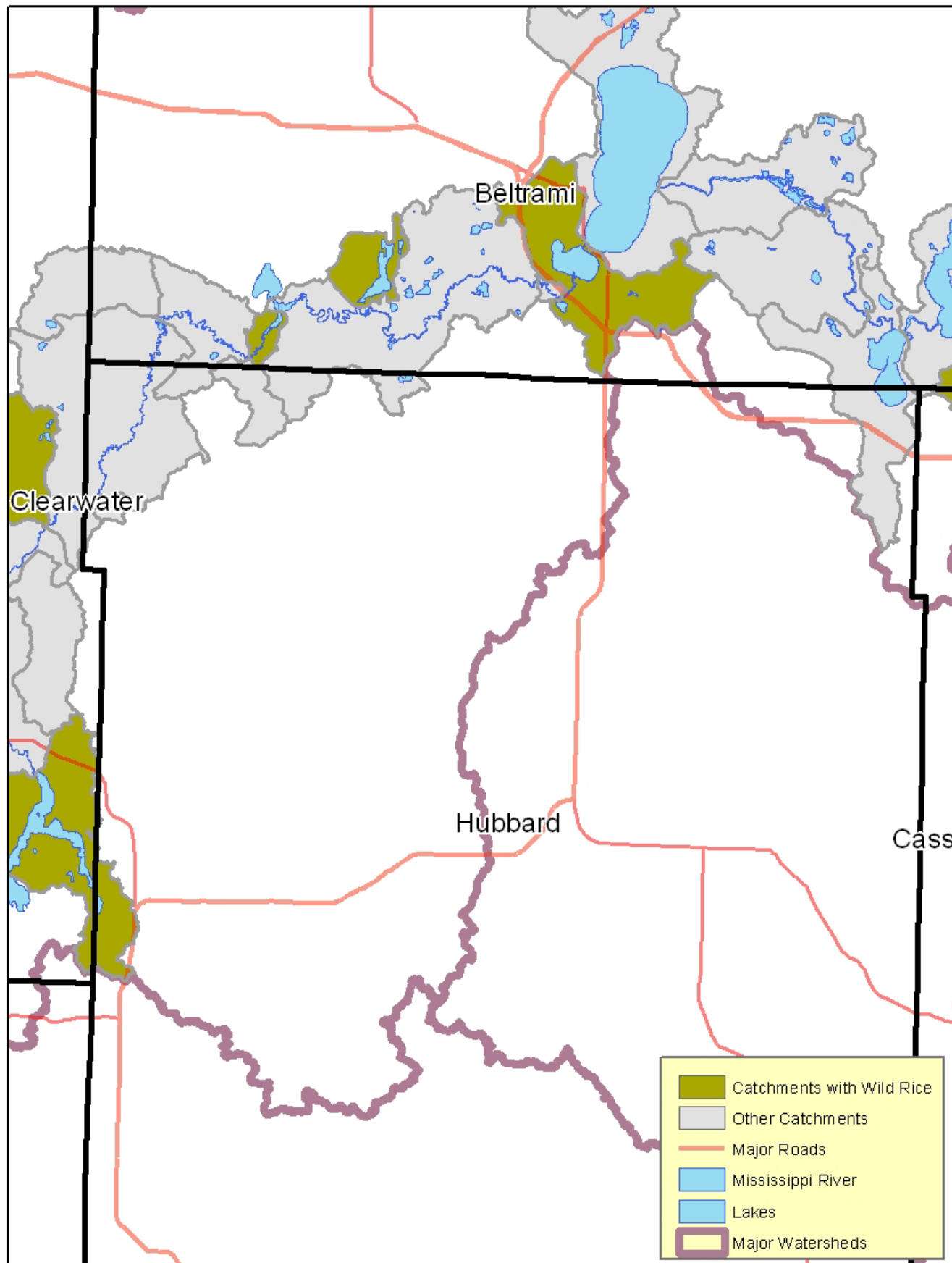


Figure 20. Implementation Priority: Shallow Wildlife Lakes

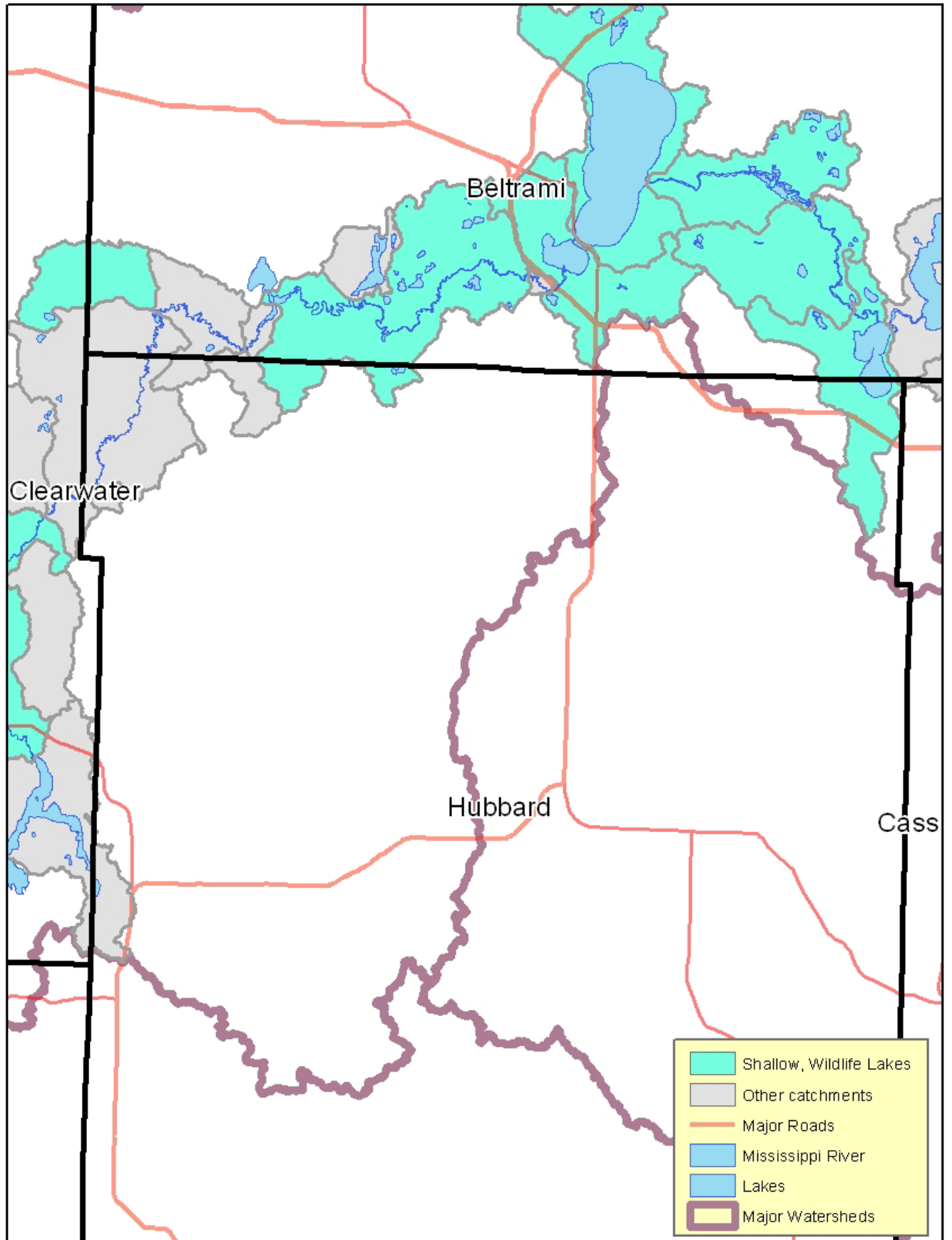
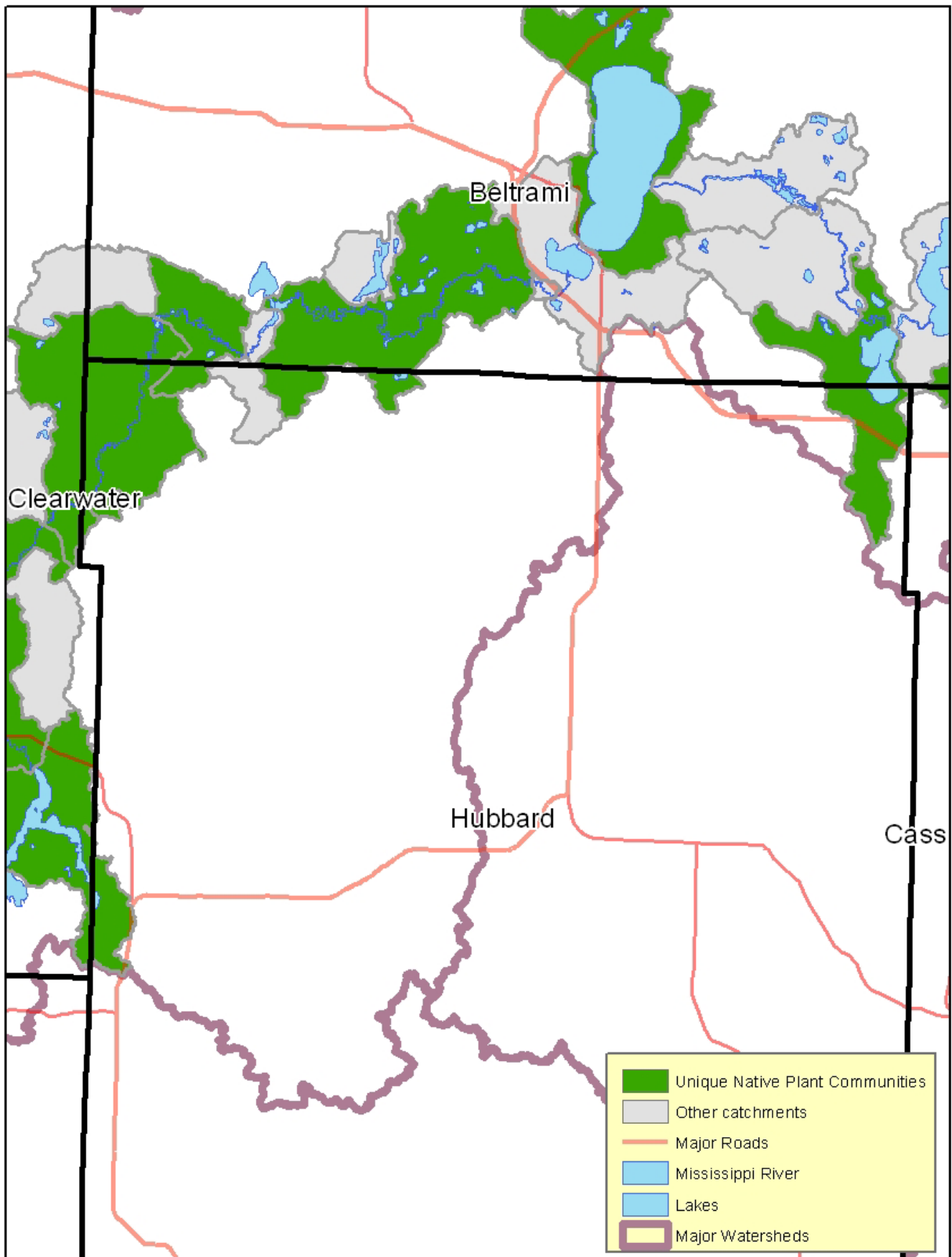
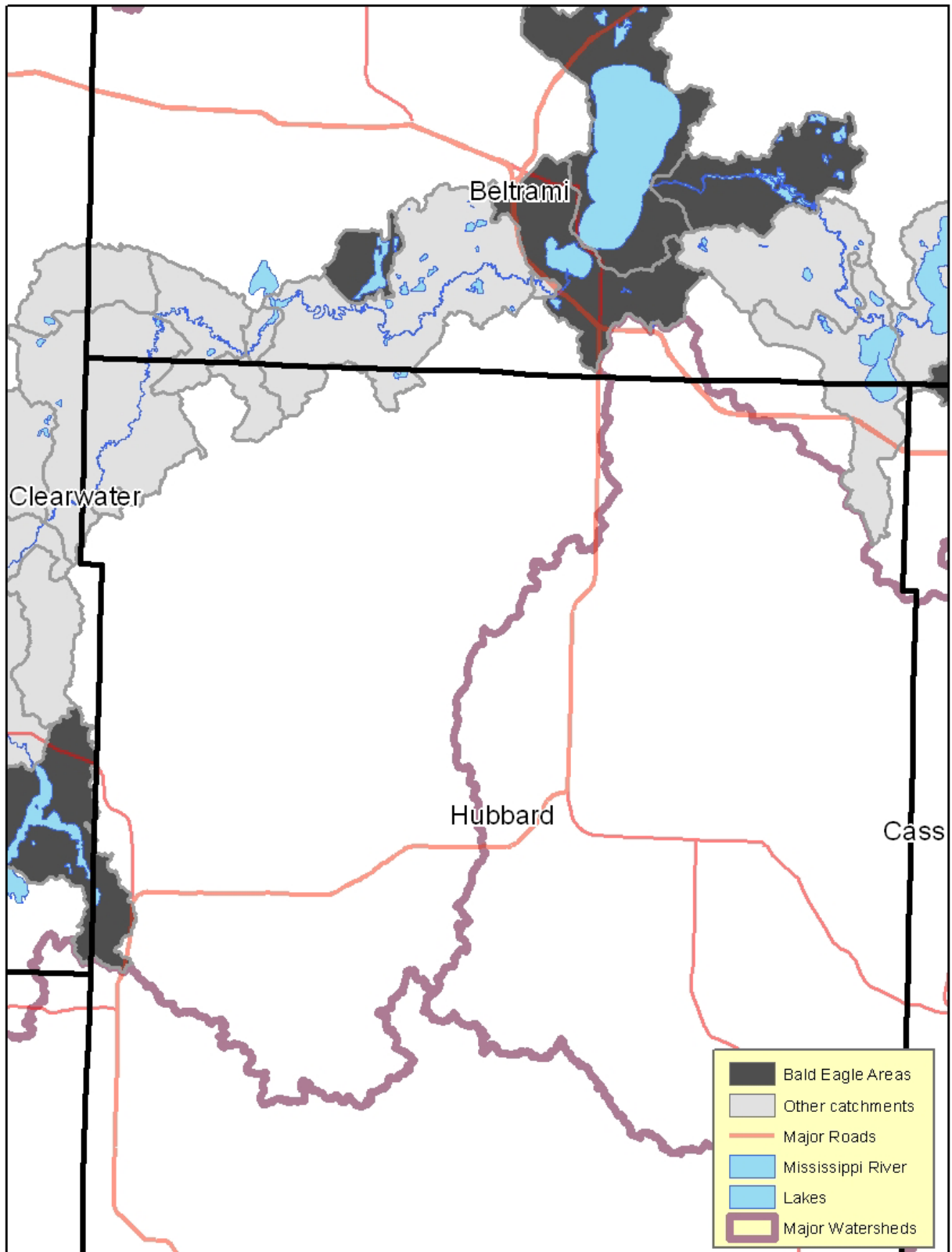


Figure 21. Implementation Priority: Unique Native Plant Communities



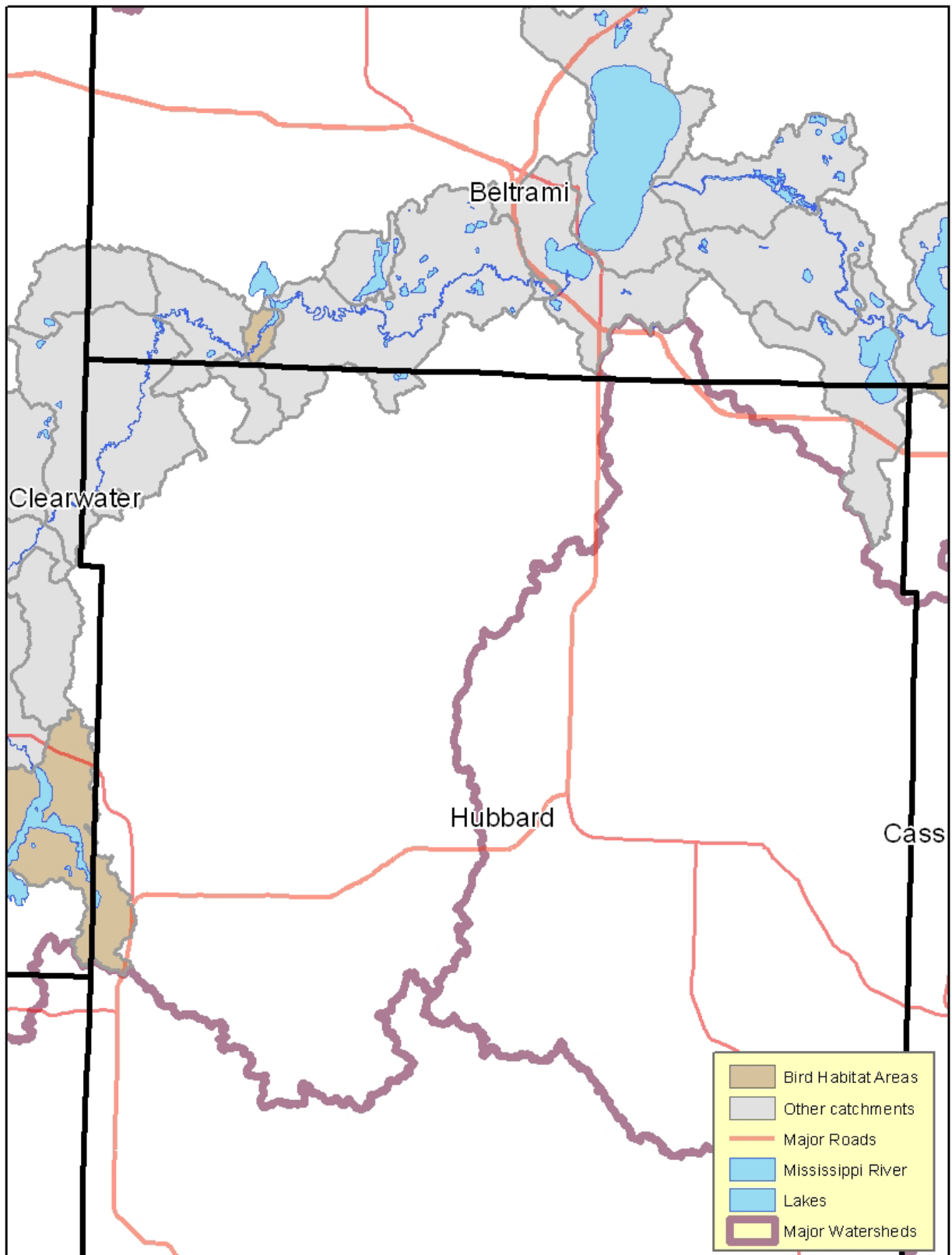
Source: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage Database

Figure 21. Implementation Priority: Bald Eagle Areas



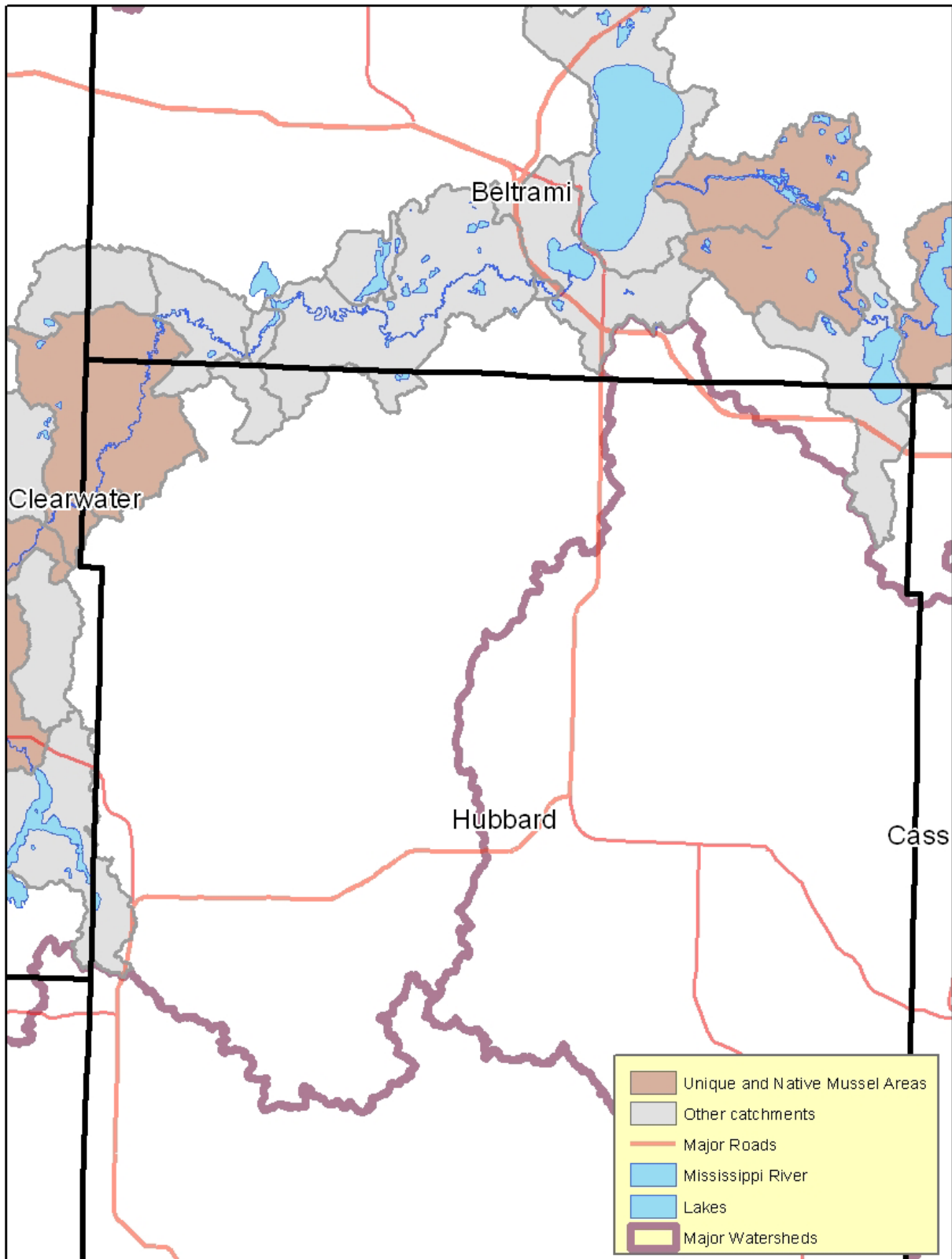
Source: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage Database

Figure 22. Implementation Priority: Unique Bird Habitat



Source: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage Database

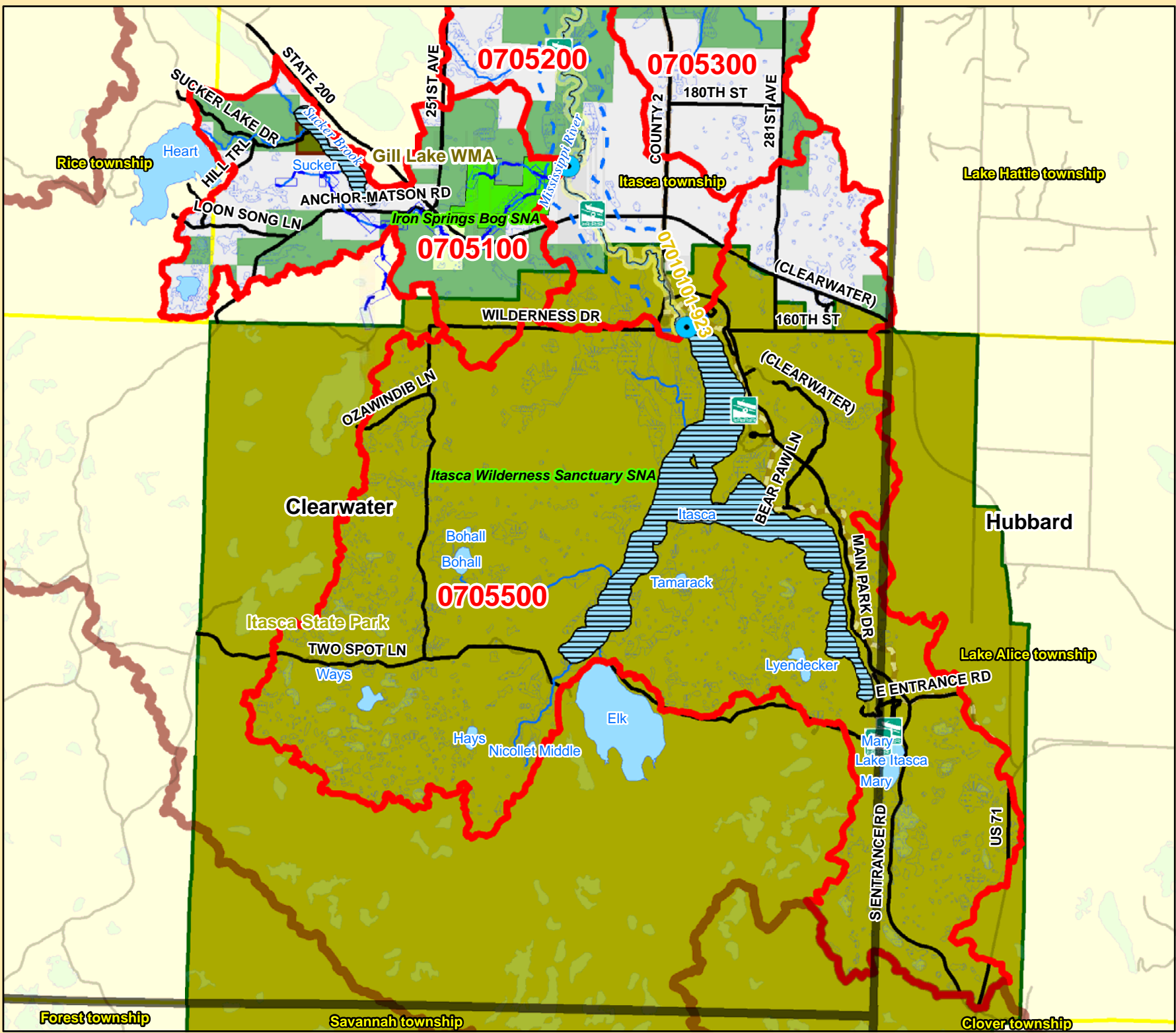
Figure 23. Implementation Priority: Native Mussel Habitat



Source: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage Database

Appendix 1: Individual Catchment Maps

Mississippi River Catchment Map: Itasca Park



Catchment #	0705500
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-923
Area (sq. miles)	23
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	1
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	0
Surficial Geology	Supraglacial Drift Complex
Topography	Hummocky
% Slope (avg.)	17
% Forested (private)	5
% Disturbed Land Cover	2
% Developed	1
# of Animal Units	0
% Public Land	100
% Easements	0
% Lakes	8
% Mississippi River	0
% Wetlands (private)	1
% Protected	100

Risk Classification **Vigilance**

Implementation Priorities

Surface Water	
Aquatic Invasive Species	
Development (existing and potential)	
Agricultural BMPs	
Lake Focus:	x
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	x
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	
Private Forest Stewardship	
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	x
Bald Eagle Territory	x
Critical Bird Habitat	x
Rare Native Plants / Communities	x
Native Mussel Habitat	

Ground Water	
Wellhead Protection	

Catchment #	0705100
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-923
Area (sq. miles)	5
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	3
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	0
Surficial Geology	Supraglacial Drift Complex
Topography	Steep
% Slope (avg.)	16
% Forested (private)	33
% Disturbed Land Cover	5
% Developed	3
# of Animal Units	0
% Public Land	74
% Easements	2
% Lakes	3
% Mississippi River	0
% Wetlands (private)	8
% Protected	87

Risk Classification **Vigilance**

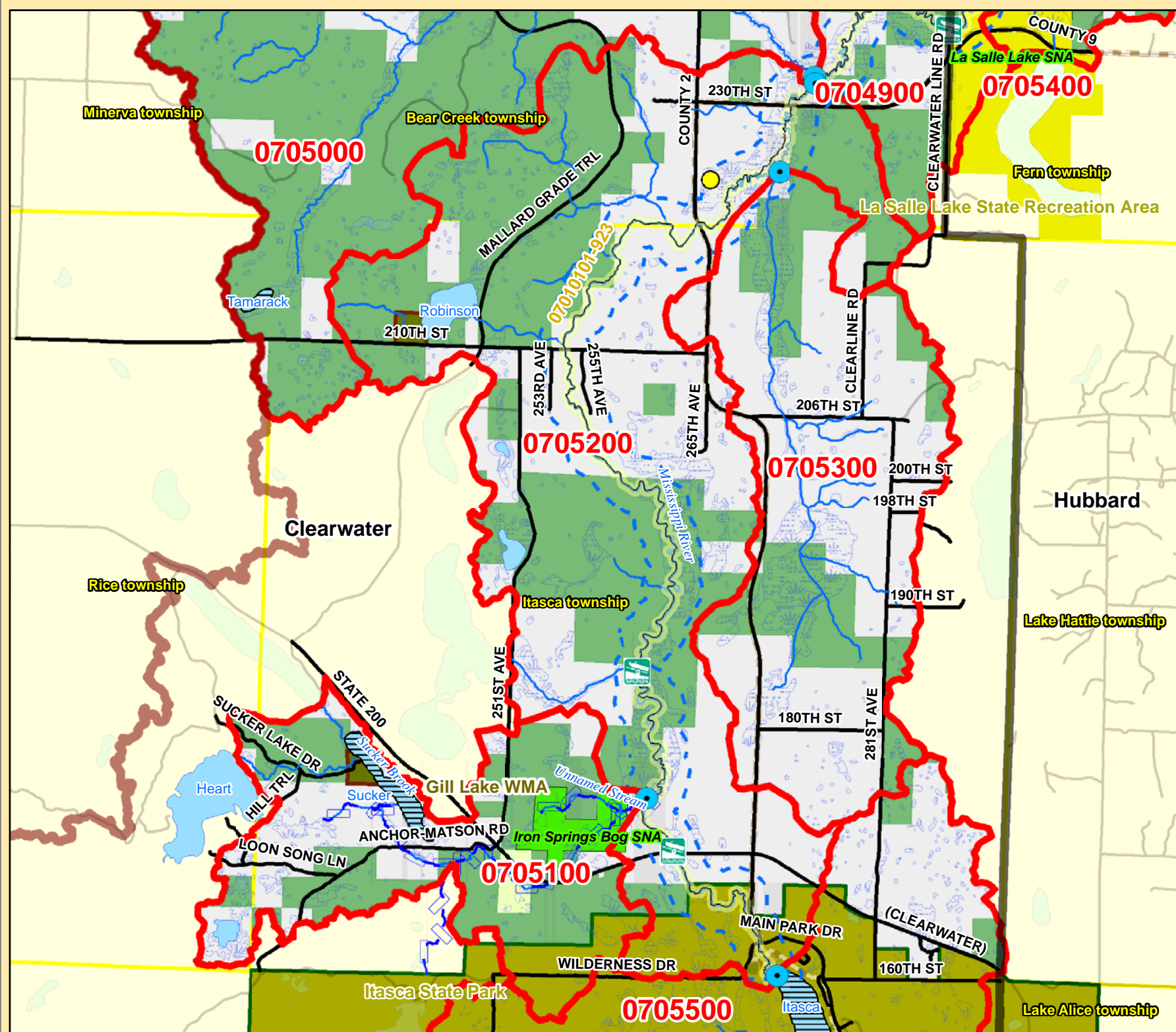
Implementation Priorities

Surface Water	
Aquatic Invasive Species	
Development (existing and potential)	
Agricultural BMPs	
Lake Focus:	
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	x
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	x
Private Forest Stewardship	x
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	x
Bald Eagle Territory	
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	x
Native Mussel Habitat	

Ground Water	
Wellhead Protection	



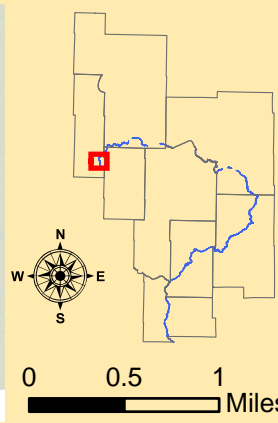
- Public Waterworks
- Water Use: Air Conditioning
- Water Use: Industrial Processing
- Irrigation: Crop
- Irrigation: Non Crop
- Water Use: Special Categories
- MPCA Permitted Sites
- Drinking Water Source Protection Areas
- Wellhead Protection Areas
- Dams
- Active Gravel Pits
- Water Access Sites
- Feedlots (by primary animal)**
- BIRDS
- BOVINES
- HORSES
- PIGS
- Wetlands (from NWI)
- Wild Rice
- Zebra Mussels
- Eurasian W. Milfoil, Faucet Snail, Zebra Mussels
- Lakes
- Zebra Mussels (Miss R.)
- Faucet Snail (Miss R.)
- Mississippi River
- Trout Streams
- Streams
- River Stretches (AUIDs) w/ Water Quality Data
- River Stretches (AUIDs) w/out Water Quality Data
- Outlet - Major Watershed
- Outlet - Catchment
- Catchments (DNR Level 8)
- Major Watersheds
- Conservation Easements
- Public Lands
- Cities / Townships
- County Boundaries
- Roads
- Proposed Mississippi River Trail (MRT) Route
- Taconite State Trail
- Paul Bunyan State Trail
- Heartland State Trail
- State Park Boundaries
- State Recreation Area Boundaries
- Scientific and Natural Areas
- Wildlife Management Areas
- Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB) - Corridor



Mississippi River Catchment Map: North of Itasca Park

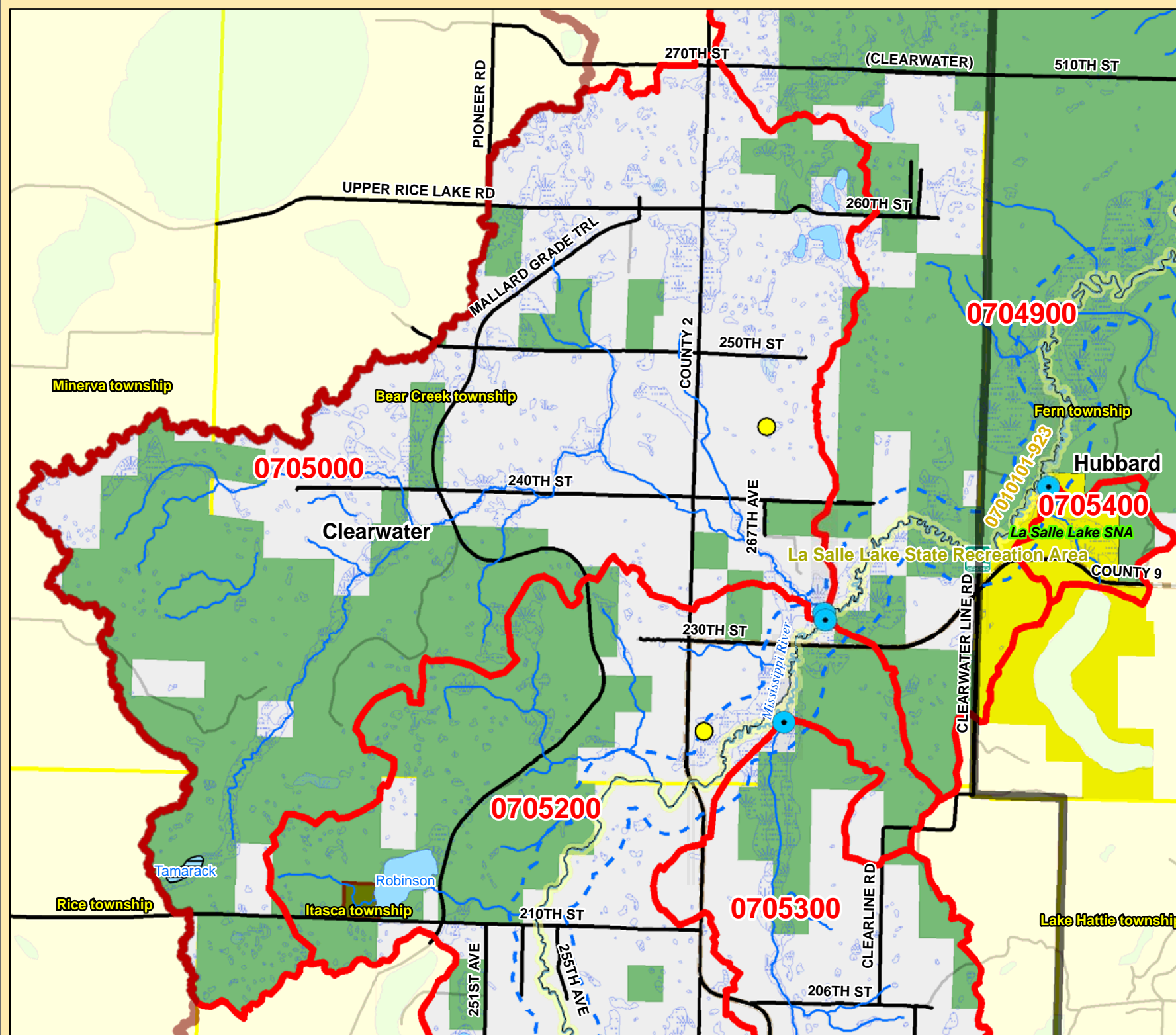
Catchment #	0705200
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-923
Area (sq. miles)	15
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	4
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	1
Surficial Geology	Outwash
Topography	Gently Rolling
% Slope (avg.)	14
% Forested (private)	33
% Disturbed Land Cover	12
% Developed	3
# of Animal Units	62
% Public Land	51
% Easements	0
% Lakes	1
% Mississippi River	0
% Wetlands (private)	7
% Protected	58
Risk Classification	Protection
Implementation Priorities	
<i>Surface Water</i>	
Aquatic Invasive Species	
Development (existing and potential)	
Agricultural BMPs	x
Lake Focus:	
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	x
Private Forest Stewardship	x
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	x
Bald Eagle Territory	
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	x
Native Mussel Habitat	x
<i>Ground Water</i>	
Wellhead Protection	

Catchment #	0705300
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-923
Area (sq. miles)	7
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	6
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	-1
Surficial Geology	Till Plain
Topography	Gently Rolling
% Slope (avg.)	16
% Forested (private)	46
% Disturbed Land Cover	23
% Developed	4
# of Animal Units	0
% Public Land	53
% Easements	0
% Lakes	0
% Mississippi River	0
% Wetlands (private)	8
% Protected	61
Risk Classification	Vigilance
Implementation Priorities	
<i>Surface Water</i>	
Aquatic Invasive Species	
Development (existing and potential)	
Agricultural BMPs	
Lake Focus:	
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	
Private Forest Stewardship	x
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	x
Bald Eagle Territory	
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	
Native Mussel Habitat	
<i>Ground Water</i>	
Wellhead Protection	



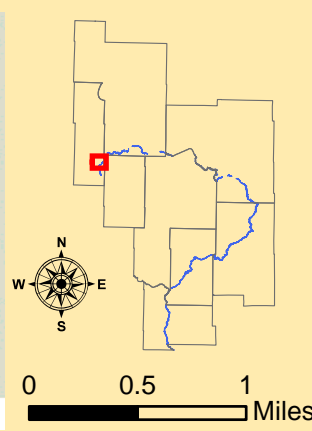
- Public Waterworks
- Water Use: Air Conditioning
- Water Use: Industrial Processing
- Irrigation: Crop
- Irrigation: Non Crop
- Water Use: Special Categories
- MPCA Permitted Sites
- Drinking Water Source Protection Areas
- Wellhead Protection Areas
- Dams
- Active Gravel Pits
- Water Access Sites
- Feedlots (by primary animal)**
- BIRDS
- BOVINES
- HORSES
- PIGS
- Wetlands (from NWI)
- Wild Rice
- Zebra Mussels
- Eurasian W. Milfoil, Faucet Snail, Zebra Mussels
- Lakes
- Zebra Mussels (Miss R.)
- Faucel Snail (Miss R.)
- Mississippi River
- Trout Streams
- Streams
- River Stretches (AUIDs) w/ Water Quality Data
- River Stretches (AUIDs) w/out Water Quality Data
- Outlet - Major Watershed
- Outlet - Catchment
- Catchments (DNR Level 8)
- Major Watersheds
- Conservation Easements
- Public Lands
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- County Boundaries
- Roads
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Mississippi River Catchment Map: LaSalle Lake



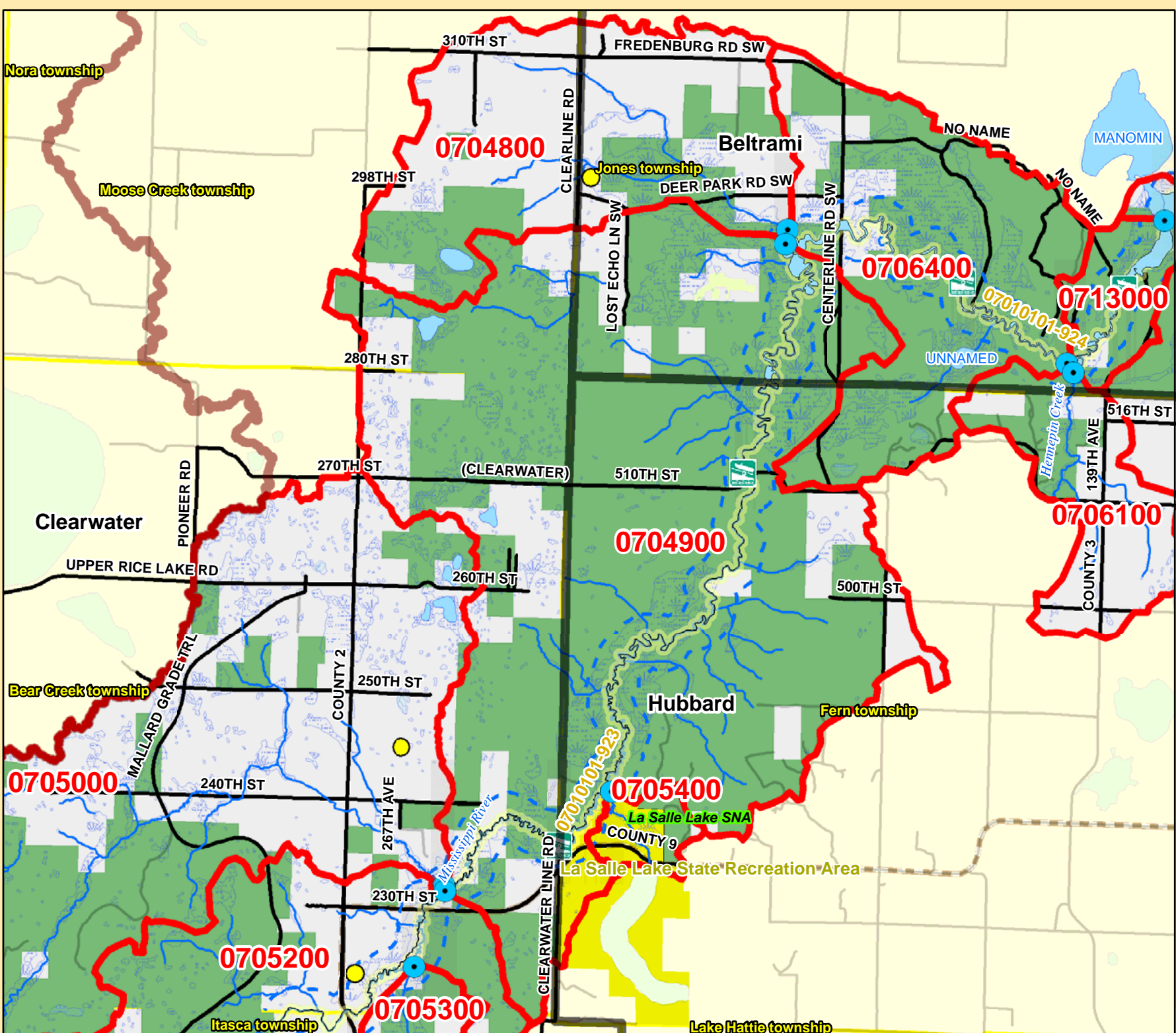
Catchment #	0705000
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-923
Area (sq. miles)	17
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	4
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	0
Surficial Geology	Till Plain
Topography	Steep
% Slope (avg.)	10
% Forested (private)	37
% Disturbed Land Cover	16
% Developed	3
# of Animal Units	71
% Public Land	46
% Easements	0
% Lakes	1
% Mississippi River	0
% Wetlands (private)	9
% Protected	56
Risk Classification	Protection
Implementation Priorities	
<i>Surface Water</i>	
Aquatic Invasive Species	
Development (existing and potential)	
Agricultural BMPs	x
Lake Focus:	
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	x
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	
Private Forest Stewardship	x
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	x
Bald Eagle Territory	
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	
Native Mussel Habitat	
<i>Ground Water</i>	
Wellhead Protection	

Catchment #	0705400
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-923
Area (sq. miles)	1
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	0
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	0
Surficial Geology	Ice Contact
Topography	Steep
% Slope (avg.)	23
% Forested (private)	17
% Disturbed Land Cover	10
% Developed	3
# of Animal Units	0
% Public Land	79
% Easements	0
% Lakes	0
% Mississippi River	0
% Wetlands (private)	0
% Protected	79
Risk Classification	Vigilance
Implementation Priorities	
<i>Surface Water</i>	
Aquatic Invasive Species	
Development (existing and potential)	
Agricultural BMPs	
Lake Focus:	
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	
Private Forest Stewardship	
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	x
Bald Eagle Territory	
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	x
Native Mussel Habitat	x
<i>Ground Water</i>	
Wellhead Protection	



- Public Waterworks
- Water Use: Air Conditioning
- Water Use: Industrial Processing
- Irrigation: Crop
- Irrigation: Non Crop
- Water Use: Special Categories
- MPCA Permitted Sites
- Drinking Water Source Protection Areas
- Wellhead Protection Areas
- Dams
- Active Gravel Pits
- Water Access Sites
- Feedlots (by primary animal)**
 - BIRDS
 - BOVINES
 - HORSES
 - PIGS
- Wetlands (from NWI)
- Wild Rice
- Zebra Mussels
- Eurasian W. Milfoil, Faucet Snail, Zebra Mussels
- Lakes
- Zebra Mussels (Miss R.)
- Faucel Snail (Miss R.)
- Mississippi River
- Trout Streams
- Streams
- River Stretches (AUIDs) w/ Water Quality Data
- River Stretches (AUIDs) w/out Water Quality Data
- Outlet - Major Watershed
- Outlet - Catchment
- Catchments (DNR Level 8)
- Major Watersheds
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- Public Lands
- Cities / Townships
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Mississippi R. Catchment Map: Beltrami, Hubbard, Clearwater Bndy



Catchment #	0704800
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-923
Area (sq. miles)	7
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	5
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	1
Surficial Geology	Till Plain
Topography	Rolling to Undulating
% Slope (avg.)	6
% Forested (private)	31
% Disturbed Land Cover	32
% Developed	3
# of Animal Units	218
% Public Land	47
% Easements	0
% Lakes	1
% Mississippi River	0
% Wetlands (private)	4
% Protected	51

Risk Classification: Protection

Implementation Priorities

Surface Water	
Aquatic Invasive Species	
Development (existing and potential)	
Agricultural BMPs	x
Lake Focus:	
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	x
Private Forest Stewardship	x
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	
Bald Eagle Territory	
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	
Native Mussel Habitat	

Ground Water

Wellhead Protection	
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Catchment #	0704900
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-923
Area (sq. miles)	24
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	1
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	0
Surficial Geology	Till Plain
Topography	Steep
% Slope (avg.)	9
% Forested (private)	14
% Disturbed Land Cover	5
% Developed	1
# of Animal Units	0
% Public Land	90
% Easements	0
% Lakes	0
% Mississippi River	1
% Wetlands (private)	3
% Protected	94

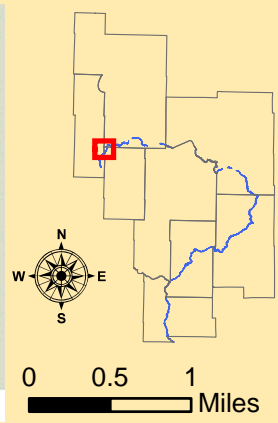
Risk Classification: Vigilance

Implementation Priorities

Surface Water	
Aquatic Invasive Species	
Development (existing and potential)	
Agricultural BMPs	
Lake Focus:	
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	
Private Forest Stewardship	
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	
Bald Eagle Territory	
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	x
Native Mussel Habitat	x

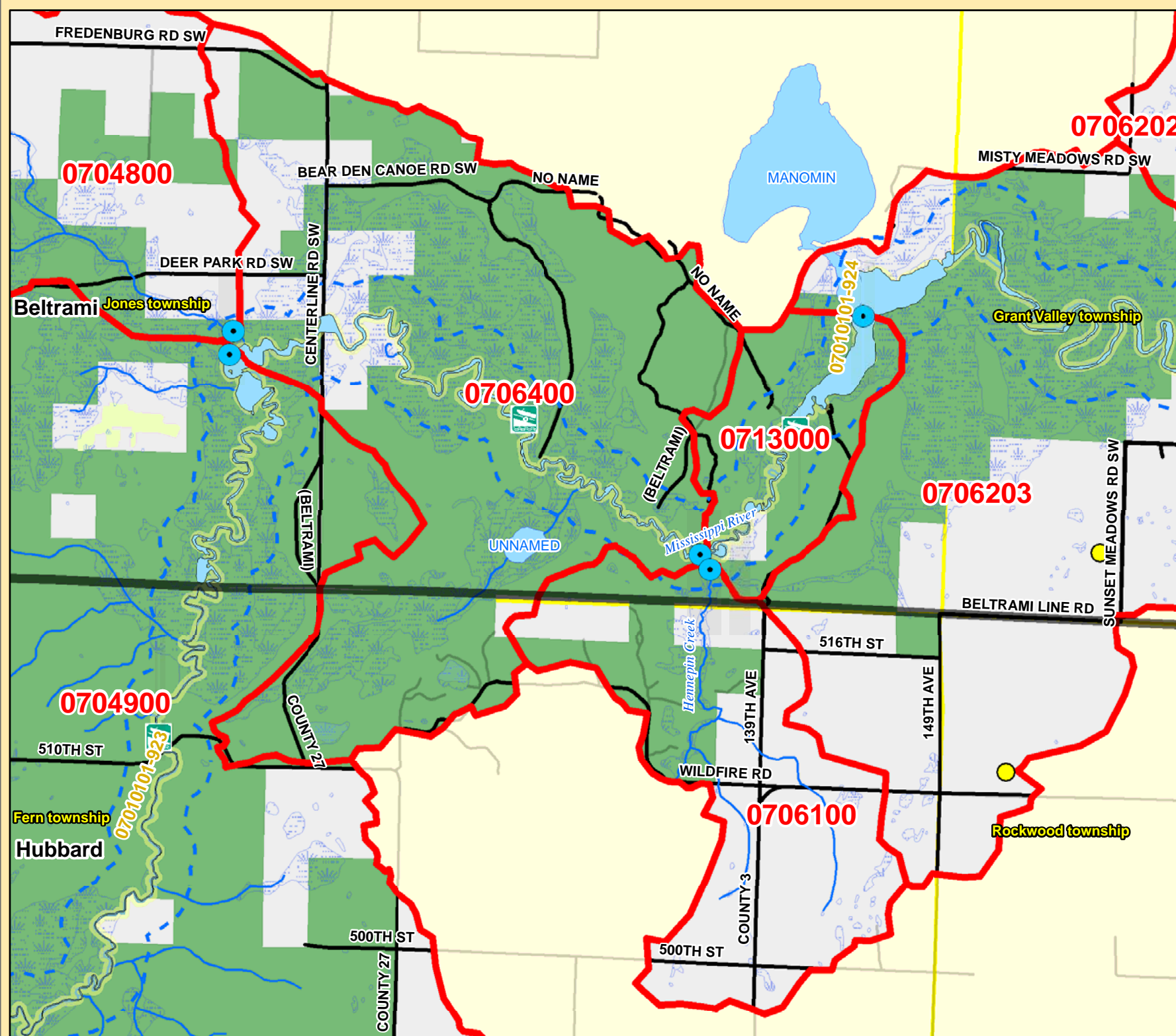
Ground Water

Wellhead Protection	
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- Public Waterworks
- Water Use: Air Conditioning
- Water Use: Industrial Processing
- Irrigation: Crop
- Irrigation: Non Crop
- Water Use: Special Categories
- MPCA Permitted Sites
- Drinking Water Source Protection Areas
- Wellhead Protection Areas
- Dams
- Active Gravel Pits
- Water Access Sites
- Feedlots (by primary animal)**
- BIRDS
- BOVINES
- HORSES
- PIGS
- Wetlands (from NWI)
- Wild Rice
- Zebra Mussels
- Eurasian W. Milfoil, Faucet Snail, Zebra Mussels
- Lakes
- Zebra Mussels (Miss R.)
- Faucel Snail (Miss R.)
- Mississippi River
- Trout Streams
- Streams
- River Stretches (AUIDs) w/ Water Quality Data
- River Stretches (AUIDs) w/out Water Quality Data
- Outlet - Major Watershed
- Outlet - Catchment
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- Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB) - Corridor

Mississippi River Catchment Map: Beltrami, Hubbard Bndy

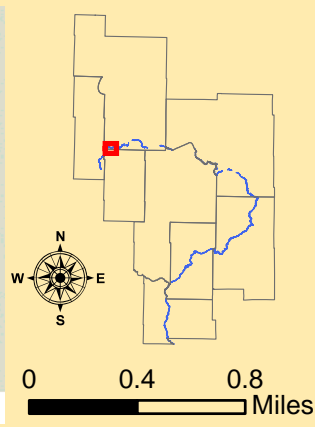


Catchment #	0706100
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-924
Area (sq. miles)	3
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	9
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	2
Surficial Geology	Lacustrine
Topography	Gently Rolling
% Slope (avg.)	7
% Forested (private)	39
% Disturbed Land Cover	24
% Developed	4
# of Animal Units	0
% Public Land	29
% Easements	0
% Lakes	0
% Mississippi River	0
% Wetlands (private)	3
% Protected	32
Risk Classification	Enhance / Protection

Catchment #	0706400
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-924
Area (sq. miles)	7
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	1
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	0
Surficial Geology	Outwash
Topography	Gently Rolling
% Slope (avg.)	10
% Forested (private)	8
% Disturbed Land Cover	6
% Developed	1
# of Animal Units	0
% Public Land	84
% Easements	0
% Lakes	0
% Mississippi River	1
% Wetlands (private)	6
% Protected	92
Risk Classification	Vigilance

Implementation Priorities	
Surface Water	
Aquatic Invasive Species	
Development (existing and potential)	
Agricultural BMPs	
Lake Focus:	
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	
Private Forest Stewardship	x
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	
Bald Eagle Territory	
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	
Native Mussel Habitat	
Ground Water	
Wellhead Protection	

Implementation Priorities	
Surface Water	
Aquatic Invasive Species	
Development (existing and potential)	
Agricultural BMPs	
Lake Focus:	
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	
Private Forest Stewardship	
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	x
Bald Eagle Territory	
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	x
Native Mussel Habitat	
Ground Water	
Wellhead Protection	

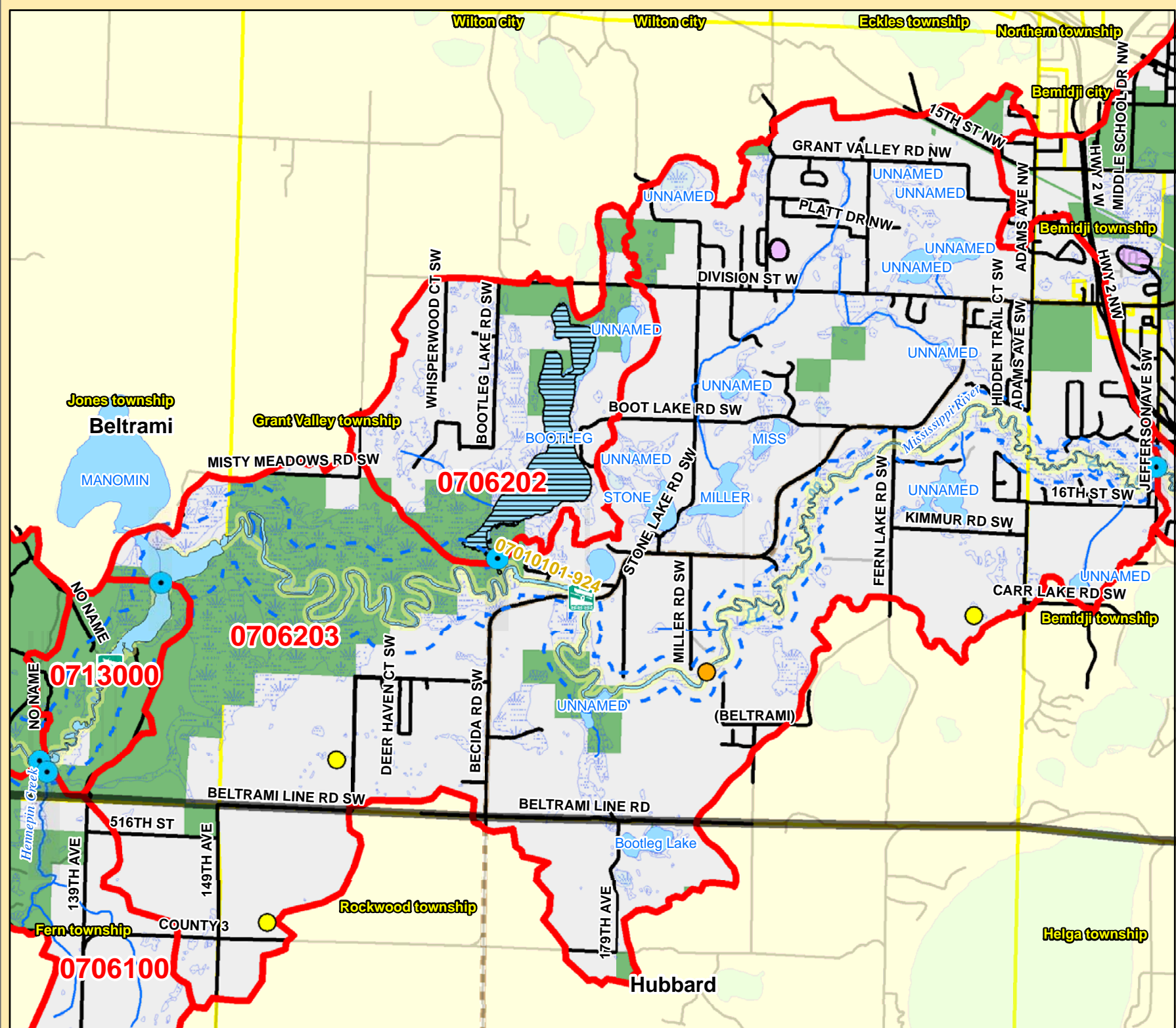


- Public Waterworks
- Water Use: Air Conditioning
- Water Use: Industrial Processing
- Irrigation: Crop
- Irrigation: Non Crop
- Water Use: Special Categories
- MPCA Permitted Sites
- Drinking Water Source Protection Areas
- Wellhead Protection Areas

- Dams
- Active Gravel Pits
- Water Access Sites
- Feedlots (by primary animal)**
- BIRDS
- BOVINES
- HORSES
- PIGS

- Wetlands (from NWI)
- Wild Rice
- Zebra Mussels
- Eurasian W. Milfoil, Faucet Snail, Zebra Mussels
- Lakes
- Zebra Mussels (Miss R.)
- Faucet Snail (Miss R.)
- Mississippi River
- Trout Streams
- Streams

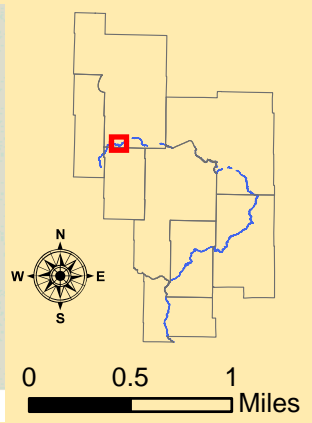
- River Stretches (AUIDs) w/ Water Quality Data
- River Stretches (AUIDs) w/out Water Quality Data
- Outlet - Major Watershed
- Outlet - Catchment
- Catchments (DNR Level 8)
- Major Watersheds
- Conservation Easements
- Public Lands
- Cities / Townships
- County Boundaries
- Roads
- Proposed Mississippi River Trail (MRT) Route
- Taconite State Trail
- Paul Bunyan State Trail
- Heartland State Trail
- State Park Boundaries
- State Recreation Area Boundaries
- Scientific and Natural Areas
- Wildlife Management Areas
- Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB) - Corridor



Mississippi River Catchment Map: Bemidji West

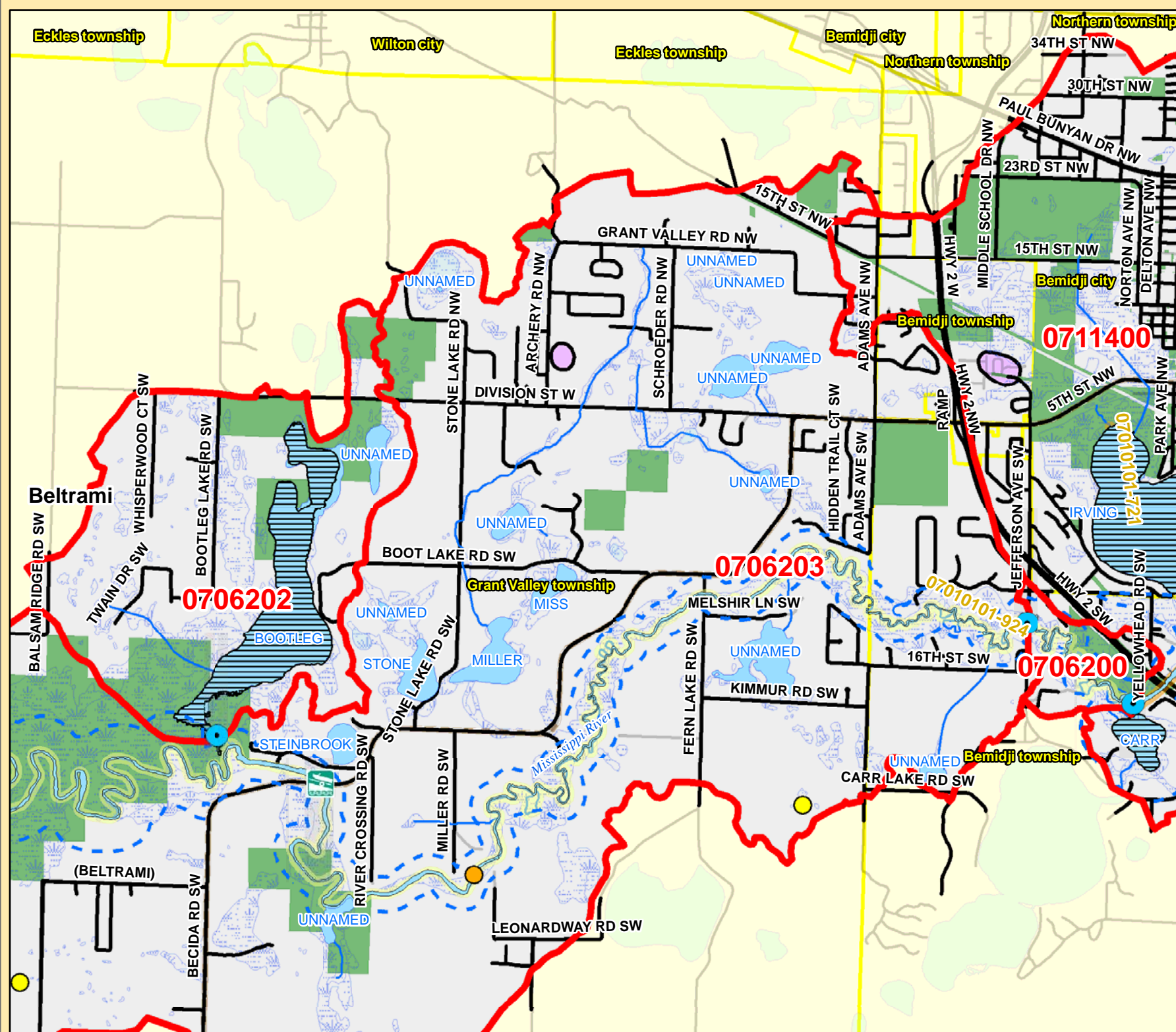
Catchment #	0706203
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-924
Area (sq. miles)	26
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	71
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	17
Surficial Geology	Outwash
Topography	Steep
% Slope (avg.)	8
% Forested (private)	38
% Disturbed Land Cover	28
% Developed	6
# of Animal Units	147
% Public Land	15
% Easements	0
% Lakes	2
% Mississippi River	1
% Wetlands (private)	11
% Protected	30
Risk Classification	Enhance
Implementation Priorities	
<i>Surface Water</i>	
Aquatic Invasive Species	
Development (existing and potential)	x
Agricultural BMPs	x
Lake Focus:	
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	x
Private Forest Stewardship	x
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	
Bald Eagle Territory	
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	x
Native Mussel Habitat	
<i>Ground Water</i>	
Wellhead Protection	x

Catchment #	0713000
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-924
Area (sq. miles)	1
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	2
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	0
Surficial Geology	Lacustrine
Topography	Level
% Slope (avg.)	12
% Forested (private)	5
% Disturbed Land Cover	7
% Developed	0
# of Animal Units	0
% Public Land	93
% Easements	0
% Lakes	0
% Mississippi River	10
% Wetlands (private)	8
% Protected	100
Risk Classification	Vigilance
Implementation Priorities	
<i>Surface Water</i>	
Aquatic Invasive Species	
Development (existing and potential)	
Agricultural BMPs	
Lake Focus:	
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	x
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	
Private Forest Stewardship	
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	x
Bald Eagle Territory	
Critical Bird Habitat	x
Rare Native Plants / Communities	
Native Mussel Habitat	
<i>Ground Water</i>	
Wellhead Protection	



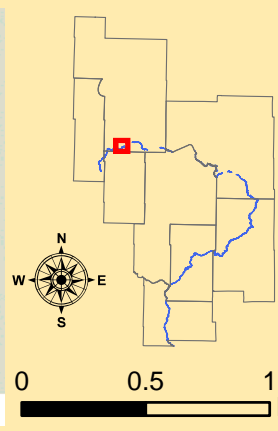
- Public Waterworks
- Water Use: Air Conditioning
- Water Use: Industrial Processing
- Irrigation: Crop
- Irrigation: Non Crop
- Water Use: Special Categories
- MPCA Permitted Sites
- Drinking Water Source Protection Areas
- Wellhead Protection Areas
- Dams
- Active Gravel Pits
- Water Access Sites
- Feedlots (by primary animal)**
- BIRDS
- BOVINES
- HORSES
- PIGS
- Wetlands (from NWI)
- Wild Rice
- Zebra Mussels
- Eurasian W. Milfoil, Faucet Snail, Zebra Mussels
- Lakes
- Zebra Mussels (Miss R.)
- Faucel Snail (Miss R.)
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- Streams
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- River Stretches (AUIDs) w/out Water Quality Data
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- Outlet - Catchment
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Mississippi River Catchment Map: NW of Carr Lake, Bootleg Lake



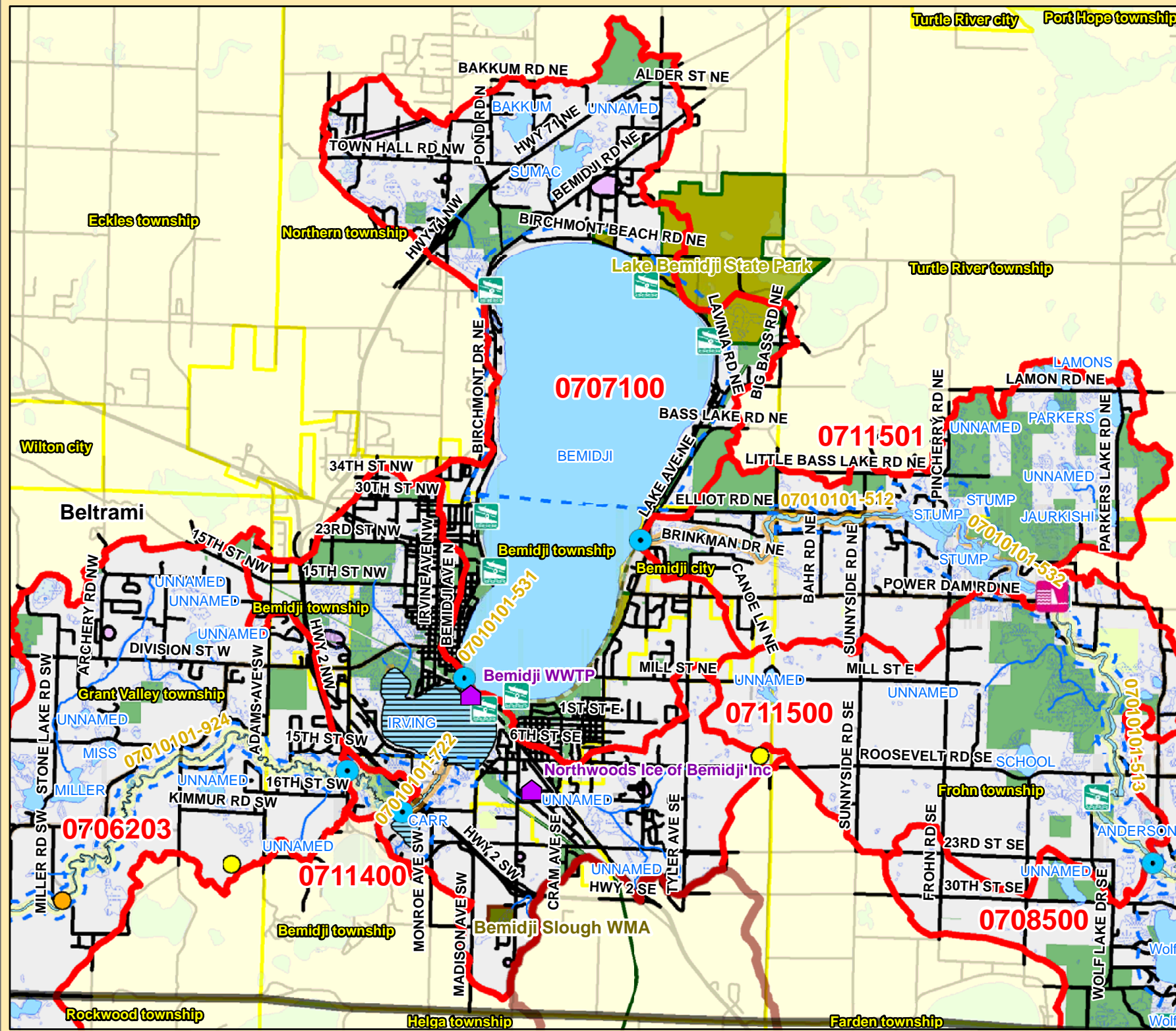
Catchment #	0706200
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-924
Area (sq. miles)	0
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	121
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	13
Surficial Geology	Alluvium
Topography	Level
% Slope (avg.)	8
% Forested (private)	32
% Disturbed Land Cover	17
% Developed	13
# of Animal Units	0
% Public Land	32
% Easements	0
% Lakes	0
% Mississippi River	4
% Wetlands (private)	28
% Protected	64
Risk Classification	Protection
Implementation Priorities	
<i>Surface Water</i>	
Aquatic Invasive Species	
Development (existing and potential)	x
Agricultural BMPs	
Lake Focus:	
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	
Private Forest Stewardship	x
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	
Bald Eagle Territory	
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	
Native Mussel Habitat	
<i>Ground Water</i>	
Wellhead Protection	

Catchment #	0706202
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-924
Area (sq. miles)	4
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	25
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	7
Surficial Geology	Outwash
Topography	Steep
% Slope (avg.)	11
% Forested (private)	38
% Disturbed Land Cover	15
% Developed	2
# of Animal Units	0
% Public Land	20
% Easements	0
% Lakes	16
% Mississippi River	0
% Wetlands (private)	15
% Protected	51
Risk Classification	Protection
Implementation Priorities	
<i>Surface Water</i>	
Aquatic Invasive Species	
Development (existing and potential)	x
Agricultural BMPs	
Lake Focus:	
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	x
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	
Private Forest Stewardship	x
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	x
Bald Eagle Territory	x
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	
Native Mussel Habitat	
<i>Ground Water</i>	
Wellhead Protection	



- Public Waterworks
- Water Use: Air Conditioning
- Water Use: Industrial Processing
- Irrigation: Crop
- Irrigation: Non Crop
- Water Use: Special Categories
- MPCA Permitted Sites
- Drinking Water Source Protection Areas
- Wellhead Protection Areas
- Dams
- Active Gravel Pits
- Water Access Sites
- Feedlots (by primary animal)**
- BIRDS
- BOVINES
- HORSES
- PIGS
- Wetlands (from NWI)
- Wild Rice
- Zebra Mussels
- Eurasian W. Milfoil, Faucet Snail, Zebra Mussels
- Lakes
- Zebra Mussels (Miss R.)
- Faucel Snail (Miss R.)
- Mississippi River
- Trout Streams
- Streams
- River Stretches (AUIDs) w/ Water Quality Data
- River Stretches (AUIDs) w/out Water Quality Data
- Outlet - Major Watershed
- Outlet - Catchment
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Mississippi River Catchment Map: Bemidji

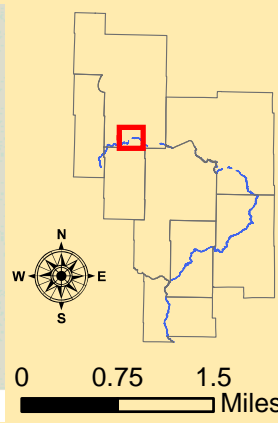


Catchment #	0707100
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-924
Area (sq. miles)	25
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	309
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	62
Surficial Geology	Supraglacial Drift Complex
Topography	Hummocky
% Slope (avg.)	5
% Forested (private)	19
% Disturbed Land Cover	23
% Developed	14
# of Animal Units	0
% Public Land	12
% Easements	0
% Lakes	43
% Mississippi River	0
% Wetlands (private)	9
% Protected	64
Risk Classification	Protection

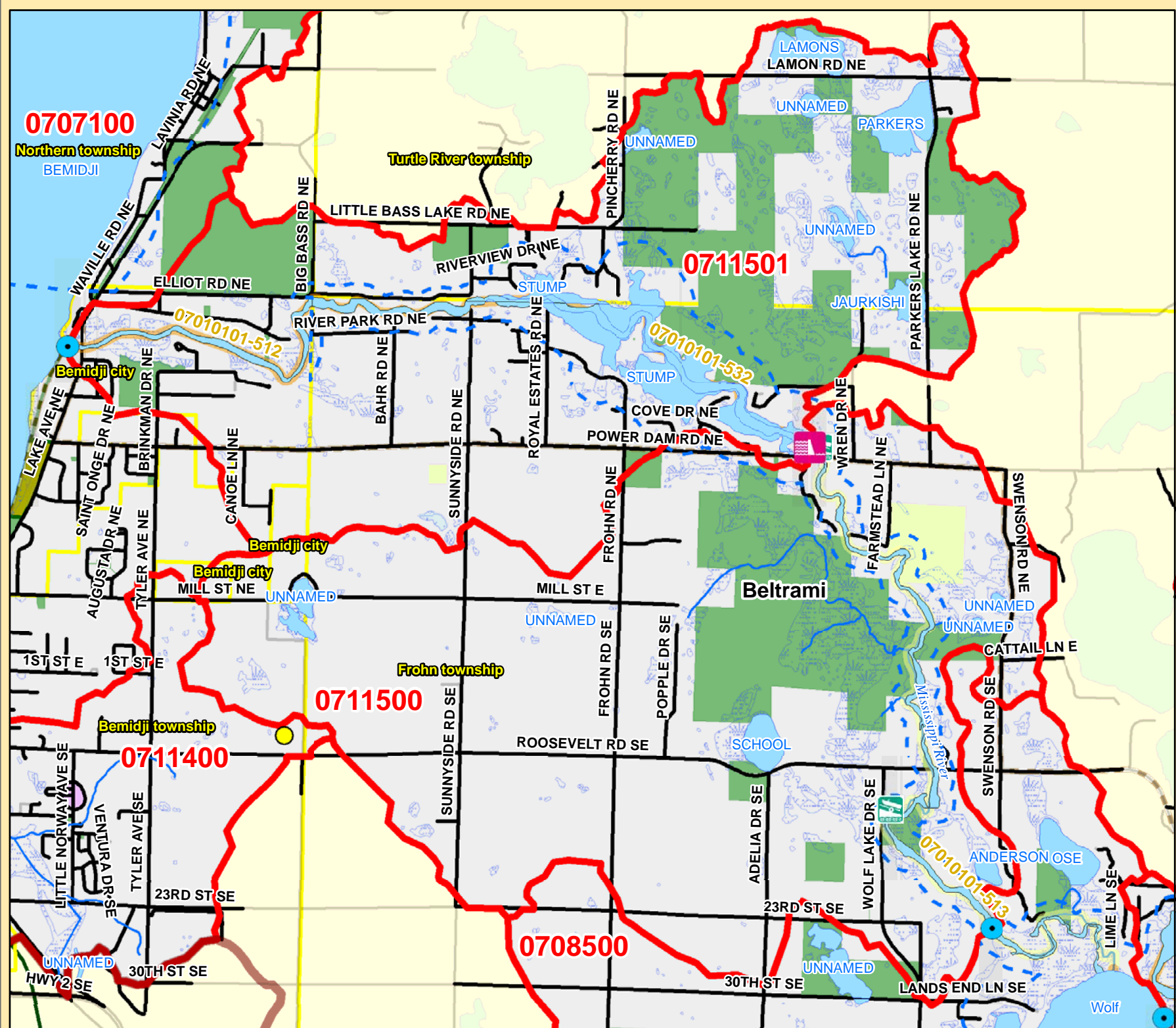
Catchment #	0711400
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-924
Area (sq. miles)	14
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	628
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	60
Surficial Geology	Outwash
Topography	Level
% Slope (avg.)	6
% Forested (private)	18
% Disturbed Land Cover	55
% Developed	36
# of Animal Units	297
% Public Land	13
% Easements	0
% Lakes	8
% Mississippi River	0
% Wetlands (private)	9
% Protected	30
Risk Classification	Enhance

Implementation Priorities	
Surface Water	
Aquatic Invasive Species	x
Development (existing and potential)	x
Agricultural BMPs	
Lake Focus:	x
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	x
Private Forest Stewardship	
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	
Bald Eagle Territory	x
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	x
Native Mussel Habitat	
Ground Water	
Wellhead Protection	x

Implementation Priorities	
Surface Water	
Aquatic Invasive Species	x
Development (existing and potential)	x
Agricultural BMPs	x
Lake Focus:	x
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	x
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	x
Private Forest Stewardship	
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	
Bald Eagle Territory	x
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	
Native Mussel Habitat	
Ground Water	
Wellhead Protection	x



- Public Waterworks
- Water Use: Air Conditioning
- Water Use: Industrial Processing
- Irrigation: Crop
- Irrigation: Non Crop
- Water Use: Special Categories
- MPCA Permitted Sites
- Drinking Water Source Protection Areas
- Wellhead Protection Areas
- Dams
- Active Gravel Pits
- Water Access Sites
- Feedlots (by primary animal)**
- BIRDS
- BOVINES
- HORSES
- PIGS
- Wetlands (from NWI)
- Wild Rice
- Zebra Mussels
- Eurasian W. Milfoil, Faucet Snail, Zebra Mussels
- Lakes
- Zebra Mussels (Miss R.)
- Faucet Snail (Miss R.)
- Mississippi River
- Trout Streams
- Streams
- River Stretches (AUIDs) w/ Water Quality Data
- River Stretches (AUIDs) w/out Water Quality Data
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- County Boundaries
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- Proposed Mississippi River Trail (MRT) Route
- Taconite State Trail
- Paul Bunyan State Trail
- Heartland State Trail
- State Park Boundaries
- State Recreation Area Boundaries
- Scientific and Natural Areas
- Wildlife Management Areas
- Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB) - Corridor



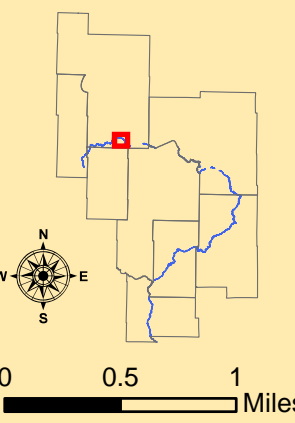
Mississippi River Catchment Map: Stump Lake

Catchment #	0711500
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	N/A
Area (sq. miles)	13
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	32
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	-1
Surficial Geology	Till Plain
Topography	Gently Rolling
% Slope (avg.)	8
% Forested (private)	37
% Disturbed Land Cover	29
% Developed	4
# of Animal Units	0
% Public Land	15
% Easements	2
% Lakes	1
% Mississippi River	1
% Wetlands (private)	8
% Protected	27
Risk Classification	Enhance / Protection

Catchment #	0711501
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-513
Area (sq. miles)	12
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	77
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	0
Surficial Geology	Supraglacial Drift Complex
Topography	Hummocky
% Slope (avg.)	10
% Forested (private)	39
% Disturbed Land Cover	17
% Developed	4
# of Animal Units	0
% Public Land	27
% Easements	0
% Lakes	6
% Mississippi River	2
% Wetlands (private)	7
% Protected	42
Risk Classification	Protection

Implementation Priorities	
<i>Surface Water</i>	
Aquatic Invasive Species	
Development (existing and potential)	
Agricultural BMPs	
Lake Focus:	
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	x
Private Forest Stewardship	x
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	
Bald Eagle Territory	
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	
Native Mussel Habitat	x
<i>Ground Water</i>	
Wellhead Protection	

Implementation Priorities	
<i>Surface Water</i>	
Aquatic Invasive Species	x
Development (existing and potential)	x
Agricultural BMPs	
Lake Focus:	x
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	x
Private Forest Stewardship	x
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	x
Bald Eagle Territory	x
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	
Native Mussel Habitat	x
<i>Ground Water</i>	
Wellhead Protection	



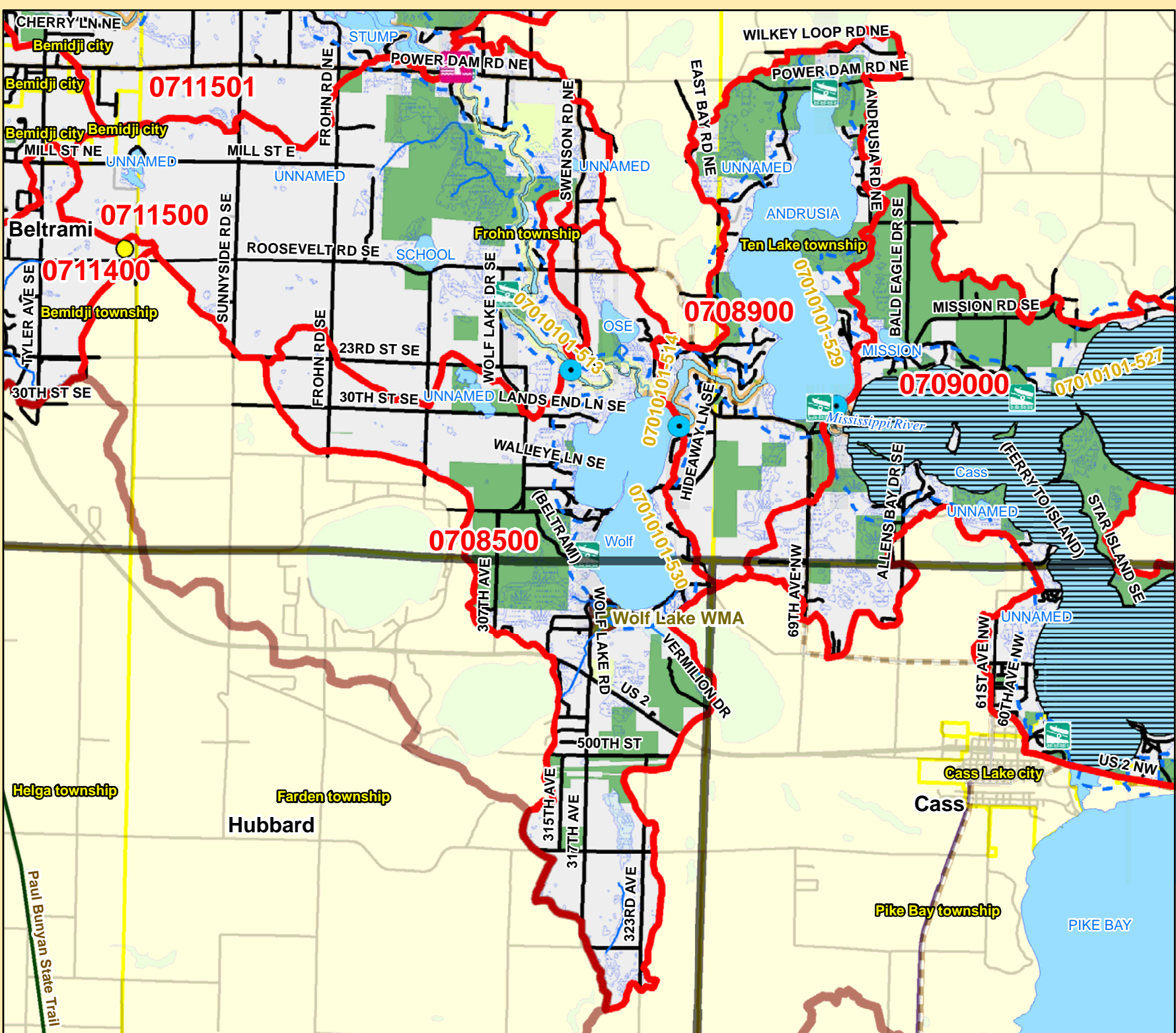
- Public Waterworks
- Water Use: Air Conditioning
- Water Use: Industrial Processing
- Irrigation: Crop
- Irrigation: Non Crop
- Water Use: Special Categories
- MPCA Permitted Sites
- Drinking Water Source Protection Areas
- Wellhead Protection Areas

- Dams
- Active Gravel Pits
- Water Access Sites
- Feedlots (by primary animal)**
- BIRDS
- BOVINES
- HORSES
- PIGS

- Wetlands (from NWI)
- Wild Rice
- Zebra Mussels
- Eurasian W. Milfoil, Faucet Snail, Zebra Mussels
- Lakes
- Zebra Mussels (Miss R.)
- Faucet Snail (Miss R.)
- Mississippi River
- Trout Streams
- Streams

- River Stretches (AUIDs) w/ Water Quality Data
- River Stretches (AUIDs) w/out Water Quality Data
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- Conservation Easements
- Public Lands
- Cities / Townships
- County Boundaries
- Roads
- Proposed Mississippi River Trail (MRT) Route
- Taconite State Trail
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Mississippi River Catchment Map: Wolf & Andrusia Lakes



Catchment #	0708500
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-513
Area (sq. miles)	13
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	47
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	4
Surficial Geology	Outwash
Topography	Gently Rolling
% Slope (avg.)	7
% Forested (private)	32
% Disturbed Land Cover	17
% Developed	5
# of Animal Units	0
% Public Land	20
% Easements	0
% Lakes	14
% Mississippi River	0
% Wetlands (private)	10
% Protected	45

Risk Classification Protection

Implementation Priorities

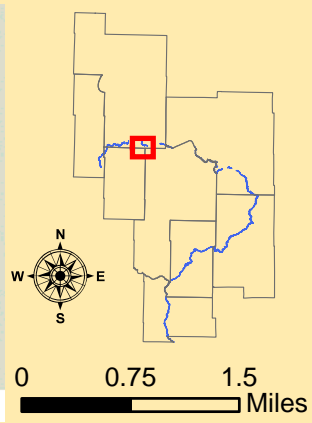
Surface Water	
Aquatic Invasive Species	x
Development (existing and potential)	x
Agricultural BMPs	
Lake Focus:	x
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	x
Private Forest Stewardship	x
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	
Bald Eagle Territory	
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	x
Native Mussel Habitat	
Ground Water	
Wellhead Protection	

Catchment #	0708900
River Stretch(es) (AUIDs)	07010101-514
Area (sq. miles)	9
Population 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	27
Population Change 2000 to 2010 (persons per sq. mile)	0
Surficial Geology	Outwash
Topography	Gently Rolling
% Slope (avg.)	9
% Forested (private)	30
% Disturbed Land Cover	3
% Developed	2
# of Animal Units	0
% Public Land	28
% Easements	0
% Lakes	29
% Mississippi River	1
% Wetlands (private)	7
% Protected	65

Risk Classification Vigilance

Implementation Priorities

Surface Water	
Aquatic Invasive Species	x
Development (existing and potential)	
Agricultural BMPs	
Lake Focus:	x
Lake Focus: Wild Rice	
Lake Focus: Shallow /Wildlife	
Private Forest Stewardship	x
Bluffs & Steep Slopes	
Bald Eagle Territory	
Critical Bird Habitat	
Rare Native Plants / Communities	
Native Mussel Habitat	x
Ground Water	
Wellhead Protection	



- Public Waterworks
- Water Use: Air Conditioning
- Water Use: Industrial Processing
- Irrigation: Crop
- Irrigation: Non Crop
- Water Use: Special Categories
- MPCA Permitted Sites
- Drinking Water Source Protection Areas
- Wellhead Protection Areas
- Dams
- Active Gravel Pits
- Water Access Sites
- Feedlots (by primary animal)**
- BIRDS
- BOVINES
- HORSES
- PIGS
- Wetlands (from NWI)
- Wild Rice
- Zebra Mussels
- Eurasian W. Milfoil, Faucet Snail, Zebra Mussels
- Lakes
- Zebra Mussels (Miss R.)
- Faucet Snail (Miss R.)
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- Cities / Townships
- County Boundaries
- Roads
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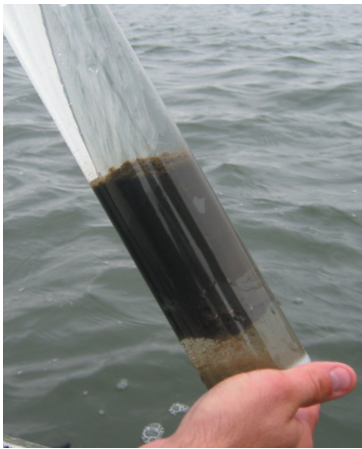
Appendix 2: Water Quality Report



Emmons & Olivier Resources, Inc.
for the Mississippi Headwaters Board

Including: Clearwater, Beltrami, Cass, Hubbard,
Itasca, Aitkin, Crow Wing, and Morrison Counties

400-Mile Mississippi Headwaters Water Quality Analysis: 2003-2012



Cover Images

Left Image: Water Quality Sampling

Right Image: EOR staff at the Mississippi Headwaters, Itasca State Park - MN

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Table of Contents

1. Introduction.....	10
A. <i>Project Purpose</i>	10
B. <i>Report Organization</i>	10
C. <i>Study Area</i>	11
2. Data Assessment.....	19
A. <i>Data Inventory</i>	19
Data Gaps	19
Monitoring Recommendations.....	19
B. <i>Water Quality</i>	27
Summary	27
C. <i>Biology</i>	37
Clearwater and Beltrami Counties.....	37
Itasca and Cass Counties	37
Aitkin County	37
Crow Wing County.....	38
Morrison County	38
D. <i>Stream Flow</i>	39
E. <i>Pollutant Sources and Loading</i>	44
NPDES Permitted Sources of Phosphorus	44
Phosphorus Loading	45
F. <i>Flow-Through Lakes and Reservoirs</i>	52
Stump Lake	52
Cass Lake.....	52
G. <i>Future Study Recommendations</i>	54
Consolidated HSPF Model	54
Mississippi River Channel Erosion	54
3. Clearwater County.....	56
A. <i>07010101-923 (Headwaters to Unnamed Creek)</i>	57
Data Inventory and Trends.....	57
Biological Data.....	59
4. Beltrami County.....	60
A. <i>07010101-924 (Unnamed Creek to Schoolcraft River)</i>	61
Data Inventory and Trends.....	61
B. <i>07010101-513 (Stump Lake to Wolf Lake)</i>	63
Data Inventory and Trends.....	63
C. <i>07010101-507 (Cass Lake to Lake Winnibigoshish)</i>	64
Data Inventory and Trends.....	64
5. Cass County.....	66
A. <i>07010101-506 (Leech Lake River to Ball Club River)</i>	67
Data Inventory and Trends.....	67
B. <i>07010101-502 (deer River to Vermillion River)</i>	68
Data Inventory and Trends.....	68
6. Itasca County.....	69
A. <i>07010101-501 (Vermillion River to Blackwater/ Pokegama Lake)</i>	70
Data Inventory and Trends.....	70
Biological Data.....	70
B. <i>07010101-648 (Blackwater Lake to Bass Lake)</i>	73
Data Inventory and Trends.....	73
C. <i>07010103-503 (Grand Rapids Dam to Prairie River)</i>	74

Data Inventory and Trends.....	74
D. 07010103-502 (<i>Prairie River Split Hand Creek</i>).....	75
Data Inventory and Trends.....	75
7. Aitkin County	76
A. 07010103-505 (<i>Swan River to Sandy River</i>).....	77
Data Inventory and Trends.....	77
B. 07010103-501 (<i>Sandy River to Willow River</i>).....	78
Data Inventory and Trends.....	78
C. 07010104-503 (<i>Rice River to Little Willow River</i>).....	80
Data Inventory and Trends.....	80
Biological Data.....	82
8. Crow Wing County	84
A. 07010104-501 (<i>Pine River to Brainerd Dam</i>).....	85
Data Inventory and Trends.....	85
B. 07010104-516 (<i>Brainerd Dam to Crow Wing River</i>).....	87
Data Inventory and Trends.....	87
9. Morrison County.....	88
A. 07010104-577 (<i>Crow Wing/Morrison County border to Fletcher Creek</i>).....	89
Data Inventory and Trends.....	89
B. 07010104-519 (<i>Little Falls Dam to Swan River</i>).....	90
Data Inventory and Trends.....	90
C. 07010201-501 (<i>Swan River to Two River</i>).....	91
Data Inventory and Trends.....	91
10. Appendices	92
A. <i>Clearwater County</i>	93
AUID 07010101-923 (<i>Headwaters to Unnamed Creek</i>) Temporal Trends.....	93
B. <i>Beltrami County</i>	97
AUID 07010101-924 (<i>Unnamed Creek to Schoolcraft River</i>) Temporal Trends.....	97
AUID 07010101-513 (<i>Stump Lake to Wolf Lake</i>) Temporal Trends.....	99
AUID 07010101-507 (<i>Cass Lake to Lake Winnibigoshish</i>) Temporal Trends.....	103
C. <i>Cass County</i>	107
AUID 07010101-506 (<i>Leech Lake River to Ball Club River</i>) Temporal Trends.....	107
AUID 07010101-502 (<i>Deer River to Vermillion River</i>) Temporal Trends.....	108
D. <i>Itasca County</i>	109
AUID 07010101-501 (<i>Vermillion River to Blackwater Lake</i>) Temporal Trends.....	109
AUID 07010103-503 (<i>Grand Rapids Dam to Prairie River</i>) Temporal Trends.....	113
AUID 07010103-502 (<i>Prairie River to Split Hand Creek</i>) Temporal Trends.....	116
E. <i>Aitkin County</i>	121
AUID 07010103-505 (<i>Swan River to Sandy River</i>) Temporal Trends.....	121
AUID 07010103-501 (<i>Sandy River to Willow River</i>) Temporal Trends.....	122
AUID 07010104-503 (<i>Rice River to Little Willow River</i>) Temporal Trends.....	123
F. <i>Crow Wing County</i>	127
AUID 07010104-501 (<i>Pine River to Brainerd Dam</i>) Temporal Trends.....	127
AUID 07010104-516 (<i>Brainerd Dam to Crow Wing River</i>) Temporal Trends.....	128
G. <i>Morrison County</i>	131
AUID 07010104-577 (<i>Crow Wing/Morrison County border to Fletcher Creek</i>) Temporal Trends ...	131
AUID 07010104-519 (<i>Little Falls Dam to Swan River</i>) Temporal trends.....	135
AUID 07010201-501 (<i>Swan River to Two River</i>) Temporal Trends.....	136

List of Figures

Figure 1. Map of the Mississippi River Headwaters.....	12
Figure 2. Mississippi Headwaters River Mile Map – Clearwater & Beltrami Counties.....	15
Figure 3. Mississippi Headwaters River Mile Map – Cass & Itasca Counties	16
Figure 4. Mississippi Headwaters River Mile Map – Aitkin, Crow Wing & Morrison Counties.....	17
Figure 5. Mississippi River Headwaters monitoring stations with 2003-2012 available data	22
Figure 6. Mississippi River Headwater reaches with water quality data that exceed state standards	23
Figure 7. Mississippi River Headwaters mean ammonia concentration trends by river mile	29
Figure 8. Mississippi River Headwaters mean chloride concentration trends by river mile.....	30
Figure 9. Mississippi River Headwaters mean dissolved oxygen concentration trends by river mile.....	31
Figure 10. Mississippi River Headwaters mean <i>E. coli</i> trends by river mile	32
Figure 11. Mississippi River Headwaters mean inorganic nitrogen concentration trends by river mile.....	33
Figure 12. Mississippi River Headwaters mean total phosphorus concentration trends by river mile.....	34
Figure 13. Mississippi River Headwaters mean sulfate concentration trends by river mile.....	35
Figure 14. Mississippi River Headwaters mean total suspended solids concentration trends by river mile	36
Figure 15. Mississippi River Headwaters and Crow Wing River median annual flows (2003-2012).....	40
Figure 16. Median, 5 th and 95 th percentiles of Mississippi River flow at Bemidji (2003-12).....	40
Figure 17. Median, 5 th and 95 th percentiles of Mississippi River flow at Ball Club (2003-12).....	41
Figure 18. Median, 5 th and 95 th percentiles of Mississippi River flow at Grand Rapids (2003-12)	41
Figure 19. Median, 5 th and 95 th percentiles of Mississippi River flow at Aitkin (2003-12).....	42
Figure 20. Median, 5 th and 95 th percentiles of Mississippi River flow at Brainerd (2003-12).....	42
Figure 21. Median, 5 th and 95 th percentiles of Mississippi River flow at Royalton (2003-12).....	43
Figure 22. Median, 5 th and 95 th percentiles of Crow Wing River flow (2003-12)	43
Figure 23. NPDES permitted facilities discharging TP directly to the Mississippi River.....	46
Figure 24. Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network Total Phosphorus Flow Weighted Mean Concentration by Monitoring Site Watershed (2007-2009).....	47
Figure 25. MPCA Total Phosphorus Loads as a Percentage of the Load Measured at Lock and Dam #3 (2007-2009).....	48
Figure 26. MPCA Total Suspended Solid Loads as a Percentage of the Load Measured at Lock and Dam #3 (2007-2009).....	49
Figure 27. MPCA Nitrate-Nitrite Loads as a Percentage of the Load Measured at Lock and Dam #3 (2007-2009).....	50
Figure 28. MPCA Total Nitrogen Loads as a Percentage of the Load Measured at Lock and Dam #3 (2007-2009).....	51
Figure 29. Mississippi River mainstem reaches located in Clearwater County	56
Figure 30. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year on 07010101-923 (Headwaters to Unnamed Creek). The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).....	58
Figure 31. Mississippi River mainstem reaches in Beltrami County.....	60
Figure 32. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per month in 2003 on 07010101-924 (Unnamed Creek to Schoolcraft River). The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).	62
Figure 33. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year on 07010101-507 (Cass Lake to Lake Winnibigoshish). The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).....	65
Figure 34. Mississippi River mainstem reaches in Cass County	66
Figure 35. Mississippi River mainstem reaches in Itasca County.....	69
Figure 36. Mainstem Mississippi River reaches in Aitkin County	76
Figure 37. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per year. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L).	79
Figure 38. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per year on 07010104-503 (Rice River to Little Willow River). The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L).	81

Figure 39. Mississippi River mainstem stream reaches located in Crow Wing County.....	84
Figure 40. Growing season mean (\pm SE) of total phosphorus for 07010104-501 (Pine River to Brainerd Dam). Dotted line indicates proposed water quality standard (MPCA 2013).	86
Figure 41. Mississippi River mainstem reaches in Morrison County.	88
Figure 42. Mean \pm SE ammonia concentration per year on 07010101-923. The water quality standard is for unionized ammonia (0.04 mg/L), which is a fraction of the total ammonia above.....	93
Figure 43. Mean \pm SE chloride concentration per year on 07010101-923. The water quality standard for chloride is 230 mg/L.	93
Figure 44. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen per year on 07010101-923 (. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L).	94
Figure 45. Growing season (Apr-Oct) mean <i>E. coli</i> concentration per year on 07010101-923 (. The water quality standard for <i>E. coli</i> is 126 organisms/ mL.	94
Figure 46. Mean \pm SE inorganic N concentration per year on 07010101-923. The water quality standard for inorganic N is 10 mg/L.	95
Figure 47. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year on 07010101-923. The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).....	95
Figure 48. Mean \pm SE sulfate concentration per year. The water quality standard for sulfate is 250 mg/L.	96
Figure 49. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per year. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L).	96
Figure 50. Mean \pm SE ammonia concentration per year on 07010101-924. The water quality standard is for unionized ammonia (0.04 mg/L), which is a fraction of the total ammonia above.....	97
Figure 51. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen concentration per month in 2003 on 07010101-924. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5 mg/L).	97
Figure 52. Mean \pm SE inorganic N concentration per month in 2003 on 07010101-924. The water quality standard for inorganic N is 10 mg/L.	98
Figure 53. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per month in 2003 on 07010101-924. The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).....	98
Figure 54. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per month in 2003 07010101-924. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L).....	99
Figure 55. Mean \pm SE ammonia concentration per year on 07010101-513. The water quality standard is for unionized ammonia (0.04 mg/L), which is a fraction of the total ammonia above.....	99
Figure 56. Mean \pm SE chloride concentration per year on 07010101-513. The water quality standard for chloride is 230 mg/L.	100
Figure 57. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen concentration per year on 07010101-513. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L).	100
Figure 58. Growing season (Apr-Oct) mean <i>E. coli</i> concentration per year on 07010101-513. The water quality standard for <i>E. coli</i> is 126 organisms/100mL.	101
Figure 59. Mean \pm SE inorganic N concentration per year on 07010101-513. The water quality standard for inorganic N is 10 mg/L.	101
Figure 60. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year on 07010101-513. The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).....	102
Figure 61. Mean \pm SE sulfate concentration per year 07010101-513. The water quality standard for sulfate is 250 mg/L.	102
Figure 62. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per year on 07010101-513. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L).....	103
Figure 63. Mean \pm SE ammonia concentration per year on 07010101-507. The water quality standard is for unionized ammonia (0.04 mg/L), which is a fraction of the total ammonia above.....	103
Figure 64. Mean \pm SE chloride concentration per year on 07010101-507. The water quality standard for chloride is 230 mg/L.	104
Figure 65. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen per year on 07010101-507. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L).	104
Figure 66. Mean \pm SE inorganic N concentration per year 07010101-507. The water quality standard for inorganic N is 10 mg/L.	105
Figure 67. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year 07010101-507. The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).	105

Figure 68. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per year 07010101-507. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L).....	106
Figure 69. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen concentration per year on 07010101-506. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L).....	107
Figure 70. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per month in 2009 on 07010101-506. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L).....	107
Figure 71. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen concentration per year on 07010101-502. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L).....	108
Figure 72. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per month in 2008 on 07010101-502. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L).....	108
Figure 73. Mean \pm SE ammonia concentration per year on 07010101-501. The water quality standard is for unionized ammonia (0.04 mg/L), which is a fraction of the total ammonia above.....	109
Figure 74. Mean \pm SE chloride concentration per year on 07010101-501. The water quality standard for chloride is 230 mg/L.....	109
Figure 75. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen concentration per year on 07010101-501. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L).....	110
Figure 76. Growing season (Apr-Oct) mean <i>E. coli</i> concentration per year on 07010101-501. The water quality standard for <i>E. coli</i> is 126 organisms/100mL.....	110
Figure 77. Mean \pm SE inorganic N concentration per year on 07010101-501. The water quality standard for inorganic N is 10 mg/L.....	111
Figure 78. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year on 07010101-501. The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).....	111
Figure 79. Mean \pm SE sulfate concentration per year on 07010101-501. The water quality standard for sulfate is 250 mg/L.....	112
Figure 80. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per year on 07010101-501. The water quality standard for total suspended solids is 15 mg/L.....	112
Figure 81. Mean \pm SE ammonia concentration per month in 2009 on 07010103-503. The water quality standard is for unionized ammonia (0.04 mg/L), which is a fraction of the total ammonia above.....	113
Figure 82. Mean \pm SE chloride concentration per month in 2009 on 07010103-503. The water quality standard for chloride is 230 mg/L.....	113
Figure 83. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen concentration per year on 07010103-503. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L).....	114
Figure 84. Mean \pm SE inorganic N concentration per year on 07010103-503. The water quality standard for inorganic N is 10 mg/L.....	114
Figure 85. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year on 07010103-503. The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).....	115
Figure 86. Mean \pm SE sulfate concentration per month in 2009 on 07010103-503. The water quality standard for sulfate is 250 mg/L.....	115
Figure 87. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per year on 07010103-503. The water quality standard for total suspended solids is 15 mg/L.....	116
Figure 88. Mean \pm SE ammonia concentration per year on 07010103-502. The water quality standard is for unionized ammonia (0.04 mg/L), which is a fraction of the total ammonia above.....	116
Figure 89. Mean \pm SE chloride concentration per year on 07010103-502. The water quality standard for chloride is 230 mg/L.....	117
Figure 90. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen concentration per year on 07010103-502. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L).....	117
Figure 91. Growing season (Apr-Oct) mean <i>E. coli</i> concentration per year on 07010103-502. The water quality standard for <i>E. coli</i> is 126 organisms/100mL.....	118
Figure 92. Mean \pm SE inorganic N concentration per year on 07010103-502. The water quality standard for inorganic N is 10 mg/L.....	118
Figure 93. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year on 07010103-502. The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).....	119
Figure 94. Mean \pm SE sulfate concentration per year on 07010103-502. The water quality standard for sulfate is 250 mg/L.....	119
Figure 95. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per year on 07010103-502. The water quality standard for total suspended solids is 15 mg/L.....	120

Figure 96. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen concentration per year on 07010103-505. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L).	121
Figure 97. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per year on 07010103-505. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L).	121
Figure 98. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen concentration per year on 07010103-501. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L).	122
Figure 99. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per year on 07010103-501. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L).	122
Figure 100. Mean \pm SE ammonia concentration per year on 07010104-503. The water quality standard is for unionized ammonia (0.04 mg/L), which is a fraction of the total ammonia above.	123
Figure 101. Mean \pm SE chloride concentration per year on 07010104-503. The water quality standard for chloride is 230 mg/L.	123
Figure 102. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen concentration per year on 07010104-503. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L).	124
Figure 103. Growing season (Apr-Oct) mean <i>E. coli</i> concentration per year on 07010104-503. The water quality standard for <i>E. coli</i> is 126 organisms/ mL.	124
Figure 104. Mean \pm SE inorganic N concentration per year on 07010104-503. The water quality standard for inorganic N is 10 mg/L.	125
Figure 105. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year on 07010104-503. The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).	125
Figure 106. Mean \pm SE sulfate concentration per year on 07010104-503. The water quality standard for sulfate is 250 mg/L.	126
Figure 107. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per year on 07010104-503. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L).	126
Figure 108. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen concentration per year on 07010104-501. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L).	127
Figure 109. Mean \pm SE inorganic N concentration per year 07010104-501. The water quality standard for inorganic N is 10 mg/L.	127
Figure 110. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year 07010104-501. The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).	128
Figure 111. Mean \pm SE ammonia concentration per year on 07010104-516. The water quality standard is for unionized ammonia (0.04 mg/L), which is a fraction of the total ammonia above.	128
Figure 112. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen concentration per year on 07010104-516. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L).	129
Figure 113. Mean \pm SE concentration of inorganic N per year on 07010104-516. The water quality standard for inorganic N is 10 mg/L.	129
Figure 114. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year on 07010104-516. The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05mg/L).	130
Figure 115. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per year on 07010104-516. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L).	130
Figure 116. Mean \pm SE ammonia concentration per year on 07010104-577. The water quality standard is for unionized ammonia (0.04 mg/L), which is a fraction of the total ammonia above.	131
Figure 117. Mean \pm SE chloride concentration per year on 07010104-577. The water quality standard for chloride is 230 mg/L.	131
Figure 118. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen concentration per year on 07010104-577. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L).	132
Figure 119. Growing season (Apr-Oct) mean <i>E. coli</i> concentration per year on 07010104-577. The water quality standard for <i>E. coli</i> is 126 organisms/100mL.	132
Figure 120. Mean \pm SE inorganic N concentration per year on 07010104-577. The water quality standard for inorganic N is 10 mg/L.	133
Figure 121. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year on 07010104-577. The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).	133
Figure 122. Mean \pm SE sulfate concentration per year on 07010104-577. The water quality standard for sulfate is 250 mg/L.	134
Figure 123. Growing season mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per year on 07010104-577. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L).	134

Figure 124. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen concentration per year on 07010104-519. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L)..... 135

Figure 125. Growing season (Apr-Oct) mean *E. coli* concentration per year on 07010104-519. The water quality standard for *E. coli* is 126 organisms/100mL..... 135

Figure 126. Mean \pm SE ammonia concentration per year on 07010201-501. The water quality standard is for unionized ammonia (0.04 mg/L), which is a fraction of the total ammonia above..... 136

Figure 127. Mean \pm SE chloride concentration per year on 07010201-501. The water quality standard for chloride is 230 mg/L..... 136

Figure 128. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen concentration per year on 07010201-501. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L)..... 137

Figure 129. Growing season (Apr-Oct) mean *E. coli* concentration per year on 07010201-501. The water quality standard for *E. coli* is 126 organisms/100mL..... 137

Figure 130. Mean \pm SE inorganic N concentration per year on 07010201-501. The water quality standard for inorganic N is 10 mg/L..... 138

Figure 131. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year on 07010201-501. The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L)..... 138

Figure 132. Mean \pm SE sulfate concentration per year on 07010201-501. The water quality standard for sulfate is 250 mg/L..... 139

Figure 133. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per year on 07010201-501. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L)..... 139

List of Tables

Table 1. Major watersheds of the Mississippi River Headwaters	11
Table 2. Lakes, cities, and counties of the Mississippi River Headwaters	11
Table 3. Cities of the Mississippi River Headwaters.....	11
Table 4. Mississippi River Headwaters stream reach segment information	13
Table 5. Mississippi River Headwaters stream segments	19
Table 6. Mississippi River Headwaters monitoring stations by stream segment.....	20
Table 7. Mississippi River Headwaters data inventory by stream segment from 2003-2012.....	24
Table 8. Water quality standards for Class 2B waters (Minnesota Rules 7050.0220)	28
Table 9. Mississippi River Headwaters 10-year average of annual flows (2003-2012).....	39
Table 10. Mississippi River Headwaters tributary 10-year average of annual flows (2003-2012).....	39
Table 11. NPDES permitted facility average annual TP loads to the Mississippi River (2005-2012).....	44
Table 12. Phosphorus load estimates along the Mississippi River using FLUX32.....	45
Table 13. Total Phosphorus Loads as a Percentage of the Load Measured at Lock and Dam #3	45
Table 14. Comparison of phosphorus (mg/L) in Stump Lake and the downstream stream segment	52
Table 15. Comparison of phosphorus (mg/L) in Cass Lake and the downstream stream segment.....	52
Table 16. Data inventory for 07010101-923 (Headwaters to Unnamed Creek)	57
Table 17. Summary of water quality data for 07010101-923 (Headwaters to Unnamed Creek).....	57
Table 18. Attributes of invertebrates sampled at 07010101-923 (Headwaters to Unnamed Creek).....	59
Table 19. Data inventory for 07010101-924 (Unnamed Creek to Schoolcraft River).....	61
Table 20. Summary of water quality data for 07010101-924 (Unnamed Creek to Schoolcraft River).	61
Table 21. Data inventory for 07010101-513 (Stump Lake to Wolf Lake).	63
Table 22. Summary of water quality data for 07010101-513 (Stump Lake to Wolf Lake).....	63
Table 23. Data inventory for 07010101-507 (Cass Lake to Lake Winnibigoshish).....	64
Table 24. Summary of water quality data for 07010101-507 (Cass Lake to Lake Winnibigoshish).....	64
Table 25. Data inventory for 07010101-506 (Leech lake to Ball Club River).	67
Table 26. Summary of water quality data for 07010101-506 (Leech lake to Ball Club River).....	67
Table 27. Data inventory for 07010101-502 (Deer River to Vermillion River).	68
Table 28. Summary of water quality data for 07010101-502 (Deer River to Vermillion River).....	68
Table 29. Data inventory for 07010101-501 (Vermillion River to Blackwater/ Pokegama Lake).....	70
Table 30. Summary of water quality data for 07010101-501 (Vermillion River to Blackwater/ Pokegama Lake).....	70
Table 31. Attributes of fish sampled on 07010101-501 (Vermillion River to Blackwater/ Pokegama Lake).....	71
Table 32. Fish species observed on 07010101-501 (Vermillion River to Blackwater/ Pokegama Lake) in 2010.	71
Table 33. Attributes of invertebrates on 07010101-501 (Vermillion River to Blackwater/ Pokegama Lake).....	72
Table 34. List of invertebrates on 07010101-501 (Vermillion River to Blackwater/ Pokegama Lake).....	72
Table 35. Data inventory for 07010101-648 (Blackwater Lake to Bass Lake).	73
Table 36. Summary of water quality data for 07010101-648 (Blackwater Lake to Bass Lake).....	73
Table 37. Data inventory for 07010103-503 (Grand Rapids dam to Prairie River).....	74
Table 38. Summary of water quality data for 07010103-503 (Grand Rapids dam to Prairie River).	74
Table 39. Data inventory for 07010103-502 (Prairie River Split Hand Creek).....	75
Table 40. Summary of water quality data for 07010103-502 (Prairie River Split Hand Creek).....	75
Table 41. Data inventory for 07010103-505 (Swan River to Sandy River).....	77
Table 42. Summary of water quality data for 07010103-505 (Swan River to Sandy River).	77
Table 43. Data inventory for 07010103-501 (Sandy River to Willow River).	78
Table 44. Summary of water quality data for 07010103-501 (Sandy River to Willow River).....	78
Table 45. Data inventory for 07010104-503 (Rice River to Little Willow River).....	80
Table 46. Summary of water quality data for 07010104-503 (Rice River to Little Willow River).	80
Table 47. Attributes of fish sampled on 07010104-503 (Rice River to Little Willow River).	82
Table 48. Fish species observed on 07010104-503 (Rice River to Little Willow River).	82
Table 49. Attributes of invertebrates sampled on 07010104-503 (Rice River to Little Willow River).	83

Table 50. List of invertebrates on 07010104-503 (Rice River to Little Willow River)..... 83
 Table 51. Data inventory for 07010104-501 (Pine River to Brainerd Dam)..... 85
 Table 52. Water quality data summary for reach 07010104-501 (Pine River to Brainerd Dam). 85
 Table 53. Data inventory for 07010104-516 (Brainerd Dam to Crow Wing River)..... 87
 Table 54. Water quality data summary for 07010104-516 (Brainerd Dam to Crow Wing River)..... 87
 Table 55. Data inventory for 07010104-577 (Crow Wing/Morrison County Border to Fletcher Creek). 89
 Table 56. Water quality summary for 07010104-577 (Crow Wing/Morrison County Border to Fletcher Creek)..... 89
 Table 57. Data inventory for 07010104-519 (Little Falls Dam to Swan River). 90
 Table 58. Summary of water quality data for 07010104-519 (Little Falls Dam to Swan River)..... 90
 Table 59. Data inventory for 07010201-501 (Swan River to Two River). 91
 Table 60. Water quality summary for 07010201-501 (Swan River to Two River). 91

Abbreviations

AUID	Assessment Unit Identification
DNR	Department of Natural Resources
DO	Dissolved Oxygen
<i>E. coli</i>	<i>Escherichia coli</i>
FWMC	Flow-weighted mean concentration
HUC	Hydrologic Unit Code
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
TN	Total Nitrogen
TP	Total Phosphorus
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
MPCA	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
USGS	United States Geological Survey
WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant

1. INTRODUCTION

A. Project Purpose

The Mississippi Headwaters Board is working in cooperation with member counties to develop implementation plans and strategies that will be incorporated into individual County Comprehensive Local Water Plans. The goal of this report is to gather and present information that will help identify areas of concern along the river where water quality is degrading, and areas that are critical to long-term water quality protection.

B. Report Organization

This report is organized into four major components:

1. **Section 2: Data Assessment:** Overall assessment of data collected for the entire Mississippi River Headwaters, including summaries of:
 - a. **Data inventory** from 2003-2012, identifying data gaps and future monitoring recommendations
 - b. **Water quality data** and major trends, identifying river segments that exceed state water quality standards
 - c. **Fish and invertebrate data** collected by the MPCA, and 2007 DNR fisheries survey of the Mississippi River headwaters.
 - d. **Flow data** monitored by the USGS at six stations along the Mississippi River headwaters and one major tributary (Crow Wing River)
 - e. **Pollutant sources and loads**, specifically NPDES permitted sources of phosphorus, flow weighted mean concentrations and loads of total phosphorus, and the relative contribution of TP, TSS, nitrate-nitrite, and TN of the Mississippi River Headwaters to the Mississippi River at Lock and Dam #3
 - f. **In-lake and downstream water quality** of Stump and Cass Lakes, with monitoring recommendations to expand this analysis to other flow-through lakes and reservoirs
 - g. **Recommendations for future studies** based on data gaps identified in this study and other general water quality concerns for the Mississippi River Headwaters.
2. **Sections 3 – 9:** Water quality trends and fish and invertebrate community descriptions for each river reach with recent (2003-2012) water quality data, organized by county.
3. **Section 10:** Appendices of average annual water quality figures for each river reach with recent (2003-2012) water quality data, organized by county.
4. **Attachment:** Graphical summary sheets for each river reach with recent (2003-2012) water quality data.

C. Study Area

The Mississippi Headwaters encompasses the first 400-miles of the Mississippi River, beginning in Lake Itasca in Clearwater County and extending to the Morrison/Benton County line (Figure 1). Along this 400-mile route, the Mississippi River flows through 6 major watersheds, 9 lakes and 8 cities (Table 1, Table 2, Table 3).

Table 1. Major watersheds of the Mississippi River Headwaters

Name	Major Watershed 8-digit Hydrologic Unit Code
Mississippi River (Headwaters)	07010101
Leech Lake River	07010102
Mississippi River (Grand Rapids)	07010103
Mississippi River (Brainerd)	07010104
Pine River	07010105
Mississippi River (Sartell)	07010201

Table 2. Lakes, cities, and counties of the Mississippi River Headwaters

Name	DNR ID	Area (acres)	Depth (feet)
Irving	04-0140-00	613	19
Bemidji	04-0130-00	6,580	76
Stump	04-0130-01	323	24
Wolf	04-0079-00	1,073	57
Andrusia	04-0038-00	1,590	60
Cass	04-0030-00	15,958	120
Winibigoshish	11-0147-00	56,471	70
Little Winibigoshish	31-0850-00	945	28
Blackwater	31-0561-00	674	72

Table 3. Cities of the Mississippi River Headwaters

Name	2010 Population (US Census)
Bemidji	13,431
Cohasset	2,698
Grand Rapids	10,869
Palisade	167
Brainerd	13,590
Baxter	7,610
Fort Ripley	69
Little Falls	8,343

Figure 1. Map of the Mississippi River Headwaters

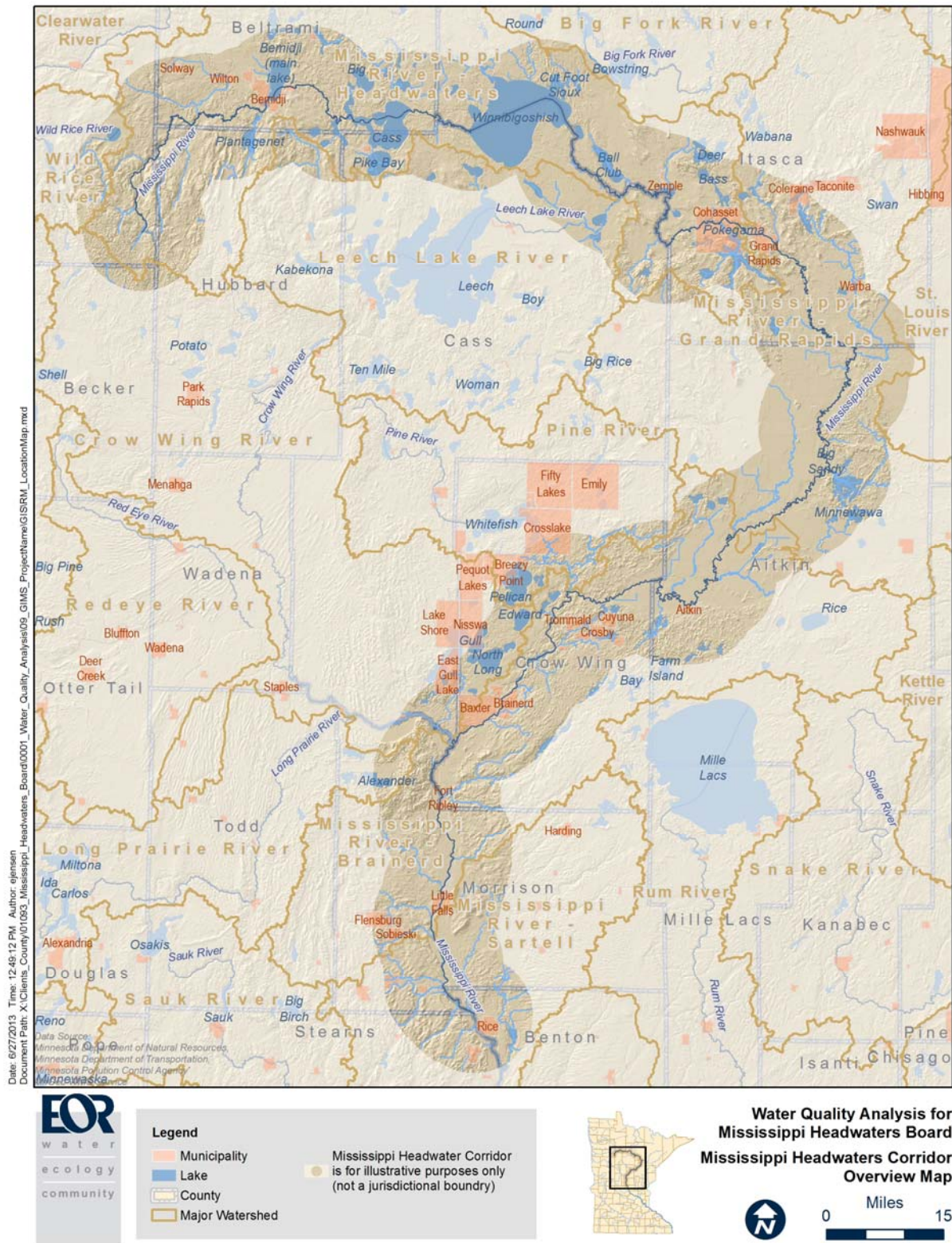


Table 4. Mississippi River Headwaters stream reach segment information

Lake reaches are highlighted in blue

AUID/DNR ID	REACH DESCRIPTION	CITIES	COUNTIES	LENGTH (MILES)	USE CLASS
07010101-923	Headwaters to Unnamed Creek		Clearwater, Hubbard	29.57	2B, 3C
07010101-924	Unnamed Creek to Schoolcraft River		Beltrami	28.60	2B, 3C
07010101-722	Schoolcraft River to Lake Irving		Beltrami	0.81	2B, 3C
04-0140-00	Lake Irving	Bemidji	Beltrami	2.11	2B, 3C
07010101-720	Lake Irving to Lake Bemidji	Bemidji	Beltrami	0.17	2B, 3C
04-0130-00	Lake Bemidji	Bemidji	Beltrami	11.69	2B, 3C
07010101-512	Lake Bemidji to Stump Lake	Bemidji	Beltrami	3.78	2B, 3C
04-0130-01	Stump Lake		Beltrami	2.36	2B, 3C
07010101-513	Stump Lake to Wolf Lake		Beltrami	6.27	2B, 3C
04-0079-00	Wolf Lake		Beltrami, Hubbard	3.30	2B, 3C
07010101-514	Wolf Lake to Andrusia Lake		Beltrami	1.98	2B, 3C
04-0038-00	Lake Andrusia		Beltrami	5.30	2B, 3C
07010101-515	Andrusia Lake to Cass Lake		Beltrami	0.63	2B, 3C
04-0030-00	Cass Lake		Beltrami, Cass	15.32	2B, 3C
07010101-507	Cass Lake to Lake Winnibigoshish		Beltrami	10.95	2B, 3C
11-0147-00	Lake Winnibigoshish		Cass, Itasca	61.07	2B, 3C
07010101-723	Lake Winnibigoshish to Little Winnibigoshish Lake		Cass, Itasca	1.67	2B, 3C
31-0850-00	Little Winnibigoshish Lake		Itasca	0.60	2B, 3C
07010101-725	Little Winnibigoshish Lake to Leech Lake River		Cass, Itasca	14.40	2B, 3C
07010101-506	Leech Lake River to Ball Club River		Cass	2.61	2B, 3C
07010101-693	Artificial Path Connects loop of 506 & 503		Cass, Itasca	0.38	2B, 3C
07010101-503	Ball Club River to Deer River		Cass, Itasca	11.11	2B, 3C
07010101-502	Deer River to Vermillion River		Cass	10.73	2B, 3C
07010101-501	Vermillion River to Blackwater Lake		Itasca	8.11	2B, 3C

AUID/DNR ID	REACH DESCRIPTION	CITIES	COUNTIES	LENGTH (MILES)	USE CLASS
31-0561-00	Blackwater Lake	Cohasset	Itasca	7.20	2B, 3C
07010101-648	Blackwater Lake to Bass Brook	Cohasset	Itasca	1.27	2B, 3C
07010103-511	Bass Brook to Cohasset Dam	Cohasset	Itasca	2.08	2B, 3C
07010103-510	Cohasset Dam to Grand Rapids Dam (31-0533-00)	Cohasset, Grand Rapids	Itasca	3.26	2B, 3C
07010103-503	Grand Rapids Dam to Prairie River	Grand Rapids	Itasca	2.82	2B, 3C
07010103-502	Prairie River to Split Hand Creek		Itasca	23.47	2B, 3C
07010103-507	Split Hand Creek to Swan River		Itasca, Aitkin	13.72	2B, 3C
07010103-505	Swan River to Sandy River		Aitkin	32.33	2B, 3C
07010103-501	Sandy River to Willow River	Palisade	Aitkin	27.80	2B, 3C
07010104-512	Willow River to Rice River		Aitkin	12.17	2B, 3C
07010104-503	Rice River to Little Willow River		Aitkin	16.41	2B, 3C
07010104-517	Little Willow River to Pine River		Aitkin, Crow Wing	25.81	2B, 3C
07010104-501	Pine River to Brainerd Dam	Brainerd	Crow Wing	20.32	2B, 3C
07010104-516	Brainerd Dam to Crow Wing River	Brainerd, Baxter	Crow Wing	13.49	2B, 3C
07010104-515	Crow Wing River to Nokasippi River	Fort Ripley	Crow Wing, Morrison	8.41	2B, 3C
07010104-576	Nokasippi River to Crow Wing/Morrison County border	Fort Ripley	Morrison, Crow Wing	1.67	2B, 3C
07010104-577	Crow Wing/Morrison County border to Fletcher Creek		Morrison	8.21	1C, 2Bd, 3C
07010104-513	Fletcher Creek to Little Elk River		Morrison	4.27	1C, 2Bd, 3C
07010104-520	Little Elk River to Little Falls Dam	Little Falls	Morrison	2.54	1C, 2Bd, 3C
07010104-519	Little Falls Dam to Swan River	Little Falls	Morrison	4.35	1C, 2Bd, 3C
07010201-501	Swan River to Two River		Morrison	7.58	1C, 2Bd, 3C
07010201-509	Two River to Spunk Creek		Morrison, Benton	3.71	1C, 2Bd, 3C
07010201-508	Spunk Creek to Platte River		Morrison, Benton	1.86	1C, 2Bd, 3C
07010201-606	Platte River to Morrison/Stearns County border		Morrison, Benton	0.52	1C, 2Bd, 3C

*All waters, whether designated with a specific beneficial use classification or not, are also classified as 3C, 4A, 4B, 5, and 6 waters. For waters with multiple classifications, the more restrictive standards apply.

The following figures are provided to illustrate the location and relative size of each of the stream reaches and lakes in the Headwaters area and whether they are included in the analysis.

Figure 2. Mississippi Headwaters River Mile Map – Clearwater & Beltrami Counties

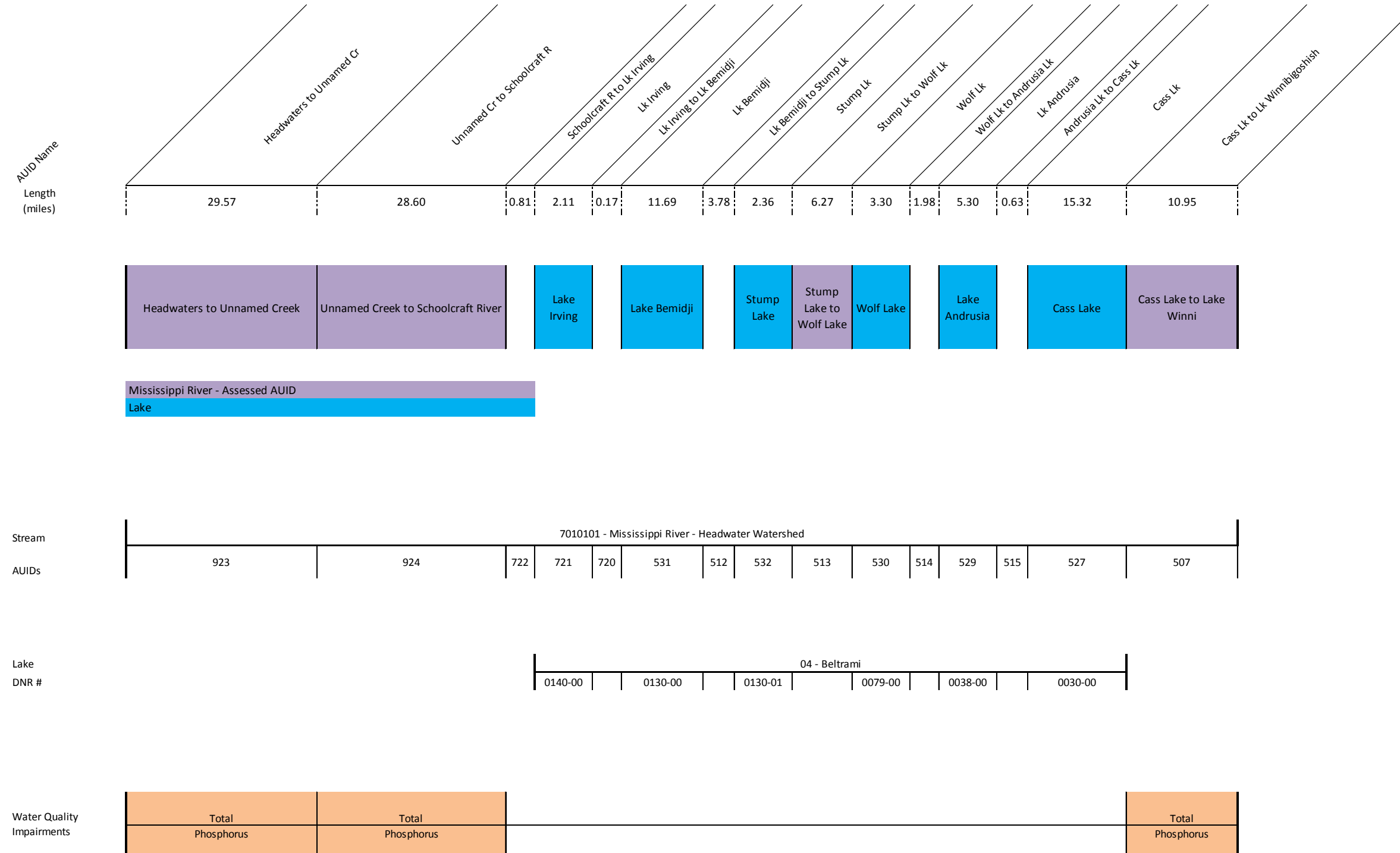


Figure 3. Mississippi Headwaters River Mile Map – Cass & Itasca Counties

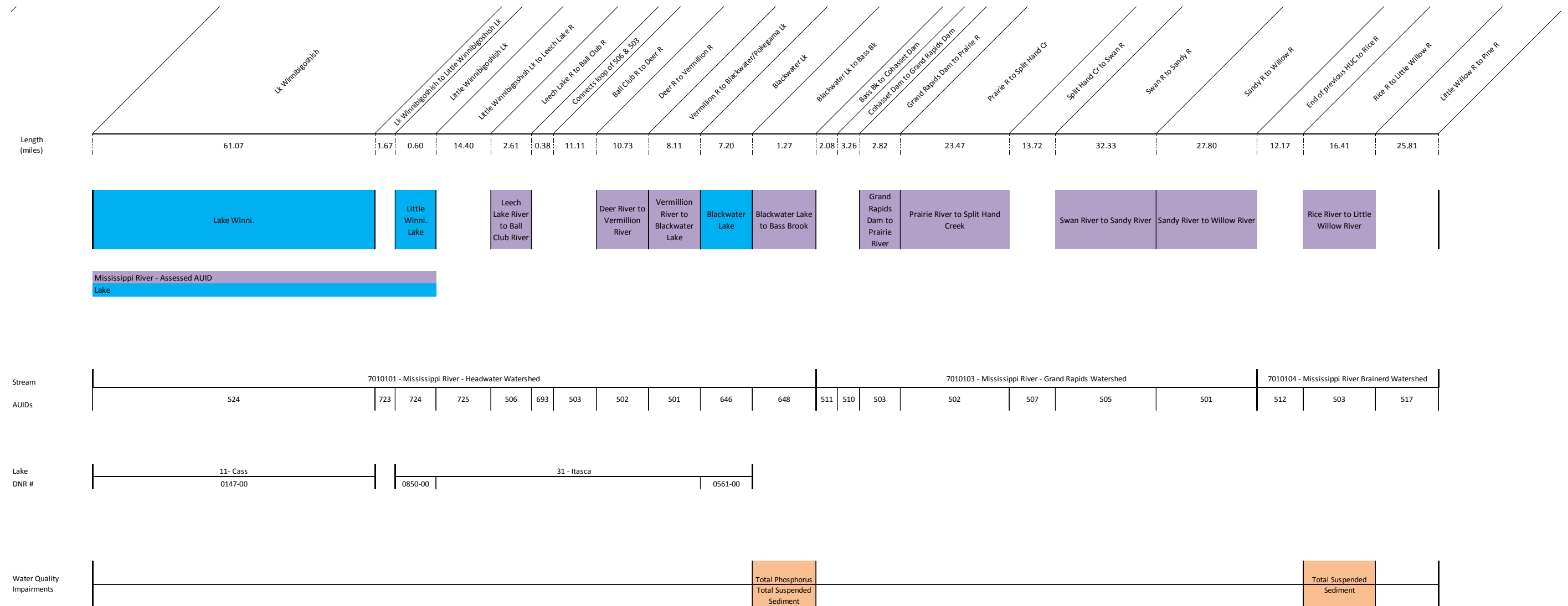
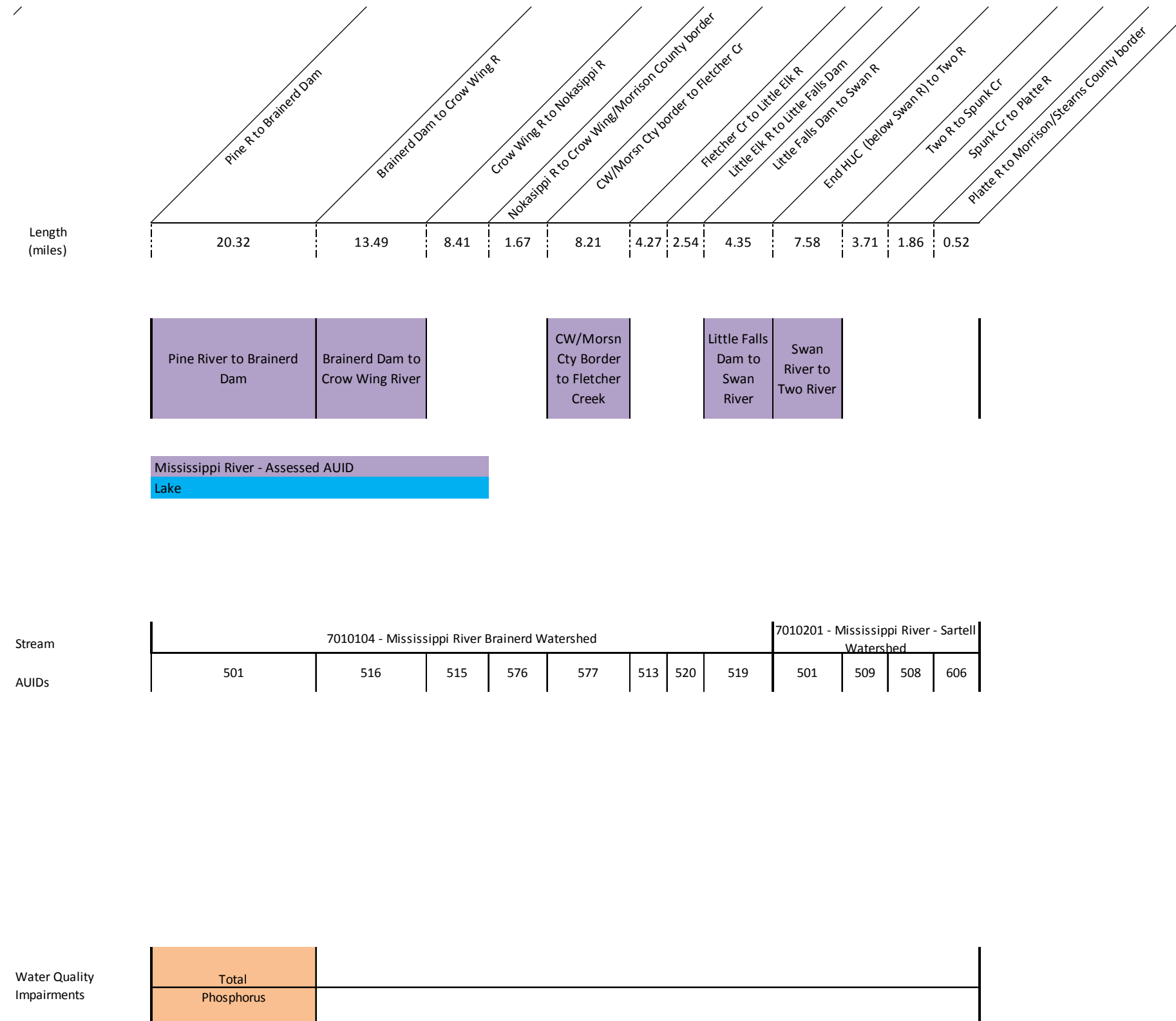


Figure 4. Mississippi Headwaters River Mile Map – Aitkin, Crow Wing & Morrison Counties



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2. DATA ASSESSMENT

A. Data Inventory

Water quality, flow and biological data from 2003-2012 were gathered from MPCA, DNR, and USGS. These data were collected at monitoring stations on a subset of all the stream segments and lakes within the Mississippi Headwaters, summarized in Table 6 and Figure 5. An inventory of all available monitoring data collected for this study is summarized in Table 7.

Data Gaps

The project area consists of 48 stream segments (listed by MPCA assessment unit identification numbers, or AUIDs) of which 30 stream segments lack data from the most recent 10 years (2003-2012). Stream segments with data available from the most recent 10 years are shown in Figure 5.

Monitoring Recommendations

In order to move toward a more comprehensive data set for future analysis of the Mississippi Headwaters, additional monitoring efforts are needed for the stream segments identified in Table 3. The stream segments in bold were found to have at least one parameter exceeding the water quality standards and should be evaluated further to determine the source of the impairment. The other stream segments are lacking in data and/or either directly upstream or downstream of a flow-through lake or a stream segment that is not meeting water quality standards. It is recommended that during the growing season (June through September) bi-weekly sampling take place for a minimum of 2 consecutive years. Sampling should be conducted at one to three stations per AUID depending on the length of the AUID. At a minimum, the following parameters should be sampled: dissolved oxygen, total phosphorus, total suspended solids, and nitrate. Sampling on all stream segments and flow-through lakes should be conducted during the same growing seasons to facilitate comparisons between stream reaches.

Table 5. Mississippi River Headwaters stream segments

AUID/DNR ID	Location (by upstream identifier)	County
07010101-923	Headwaters	Clearwater
07010101-924	Unnamed Creek	Beltrami
07010101-722	Schoolcraft River	Beltrami
07010101-720	Lake Irving	Beltrami
07010101-512	Lake Bemidji	Beltrami
07010101-514	Wolf Lake	Beltrami
07010101-515	Andrusia Lake	Beltrami
07010101-507	Cass Lake	Beltrami
07010101-723	Lake Winnibigoshish	Cass
07010101-725	Little Winnibigoshish	Cass

AUID/DNR ID	Location (by upstream identifier)	County
07010101-648	Blackwater Lake	Itasca
07010103-501	Sandy River	Aitkin
07010104-512	Willow River	Aitkin
07010104-503	Rice River	Aitkin
07010104-517	Little Willow River	Aitkin

Table 6. Mississippi River Headwaters monitoring stations by stream segment

Segments with two or more water quality, biological, or flow station types are highlighted in bold font.

AUID/DNR ID	Location (by upstream identifier)	Length (miles)	MPCA Water Quality Station ID	MPCA Biological Station ID	USGS Flow Station ID
07010101-923	Headwaters	29.57	S000-105 S001-893 S001-895 S001-900 S001-902	10EM113	
07010101-924	Unnamed Creek	28.60	S001-896 S001-897 S001-903		
07010101-722	Schoolcraft River	0.81			
04-0140-00	Lake Irving	2.11			
07010101-720	Lake Irving	0.17			
04-0130-00	Lake Bemidji	11.69			
07010101-512	Lake Bemidji	3.78			
04-0130-01	Stump Lake	2.36			
07010101-513	Stump Lake	6.27	S000-155		05200510
04-0079-00	Wolf Lake	3.30			
07010101-514	Wolf Lake	1.98			
04-0038-00	Andrusia Lake	5.30			
07010101-515	Andrusia Lake	0.63			
04-0030-00	Cass Lake	15.32			
07010101-507	Cass Lake	10.95	S002-283		
11-0147-00	Lake Winnibigoshish	61.07			
07010101-723	Lake Winnibigoshish	1.67			
31-0850-00	Little Winnibigoshish	0.60			
07010101-725	Little Winnibigoshish	14.40			
07010101-506	Leech Lake River	2.61	S003-654		05207600
07010101-693	Artificial Path	0.38			
07010101-503	Ball Club River	11.11			
07010101-502	Deer River	10.73	S003-655		

AUID/DNR ID	Location (by upstream identifier)	Length (miles)	MPCA Water Quality Station ID	MPCA Biological Station ID	USGS Flow Station ID
07010101-501	Vermillion River	8.11	S000-154 S007-163	10EM082	
31-0561-00	Blackwater Lake	7.20			
07010101-648	Blackwater Lake	1.27	S000-400 S006-923		
07010103-511	Bass Brook	2.08			
07010103-510	Cohasset Dam	3.26			
07010103-503	Grand Rapids Dam	2.82	S002-635 S003-656		05211000
07010103-502	Prairie River	23.47	S000-220		
07010103-507	Split Hand Creek	13.72			
07010103-505	Swan River	32.33	S000-153 S004-514		
07010103-501	Sandy River	27.80	S003-663 S004-515		
07010104-512	Willow River	12.17			
07010104-503	Rice River	16.41	S002-010	10EM136	05227500
07010104-517	Little Willow River	25.81			
07010104-501	Pine River	20.32	S000-169 S000-572 S004-623 S004-624 S007-205 S007-232		
07010104-516	Brainerd Dam	13.49	S002-957		05242300
07010104-515	Crow Wing River	8.41			
07010104-576	Nokasippi River	1.67			
07010104-577	Crow Wing/Morrison	8.21	S000-151		
07010104-513	Fletcher Creek	4.27			
07010104-520	Little Elk River	2.54			
07010104-519	Little Falls Dam	4.35	S002-643		
07010201-501	Swan River	7.58	S000-150		05267000
07010201-509	Two River	3.71			
07010201-508	Spunk Creek	1.86			
07010201-606	Platte River	0.52			

Figure 5. Mississippi River Headwaters monitoring stations with 2003-2012 available data

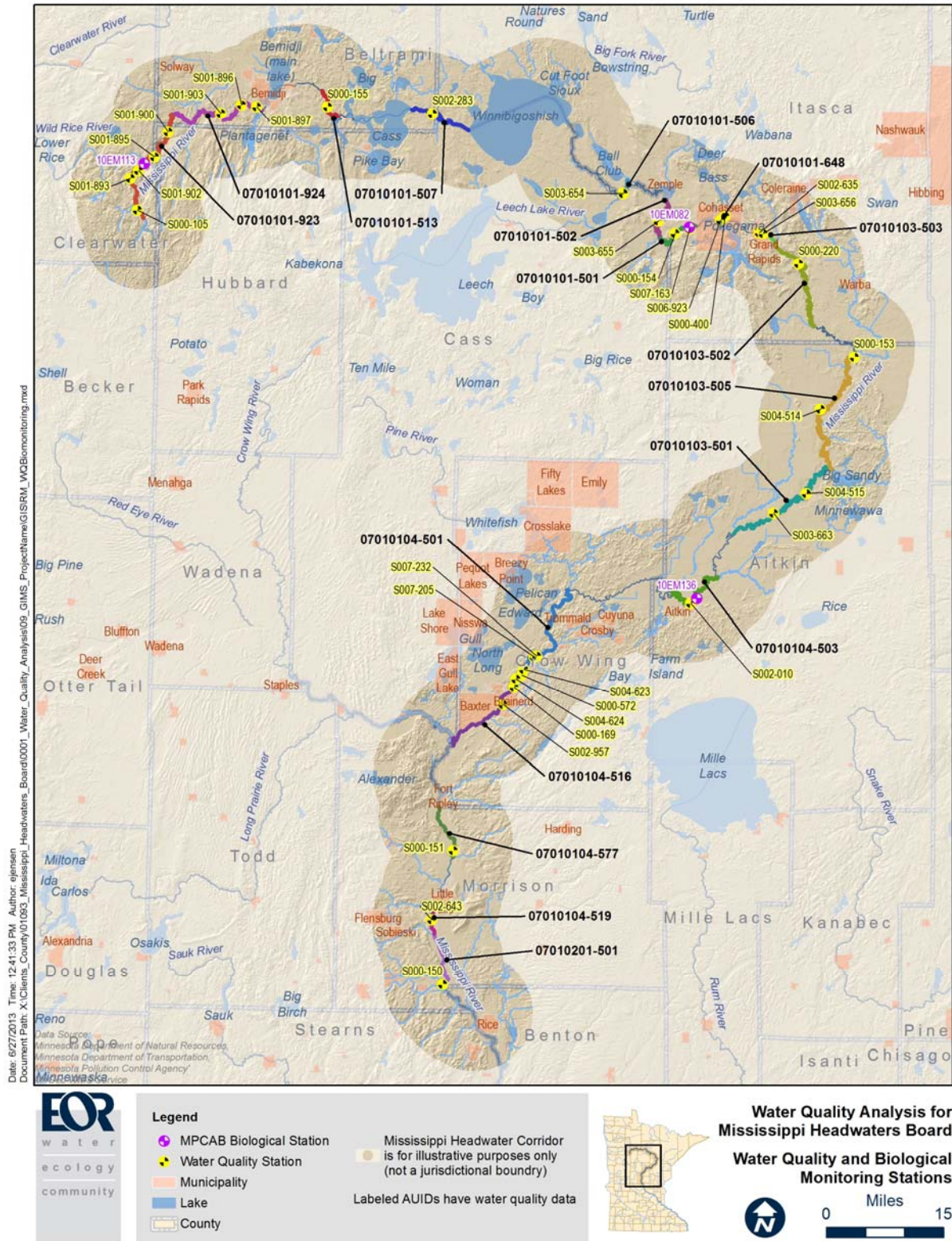
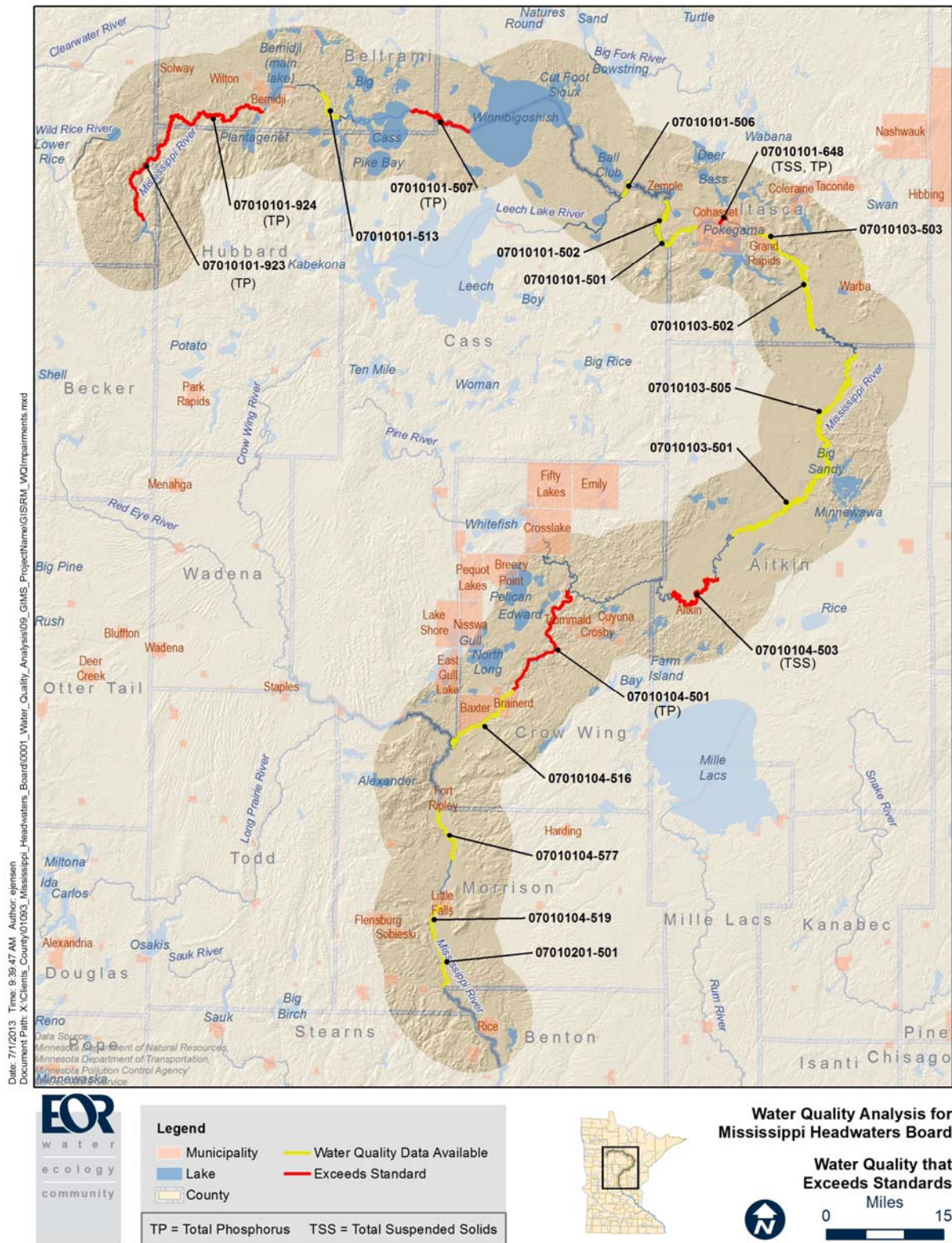


Figure 6. Mississippi River Headwater reaches with water quality data that exceed state standards



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Data Sources:
 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
 Minnesota Department of Transportation
 Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
 Minnesota Statewide GIS

Table 7. Mississippi River Headwaters data inventory by stream segment from 2003-2012

● = >3 years of data, ○ = 1-2 years of data, and blank indicates no data are available. Most recent year of survey data shown.

AUID/ DNR ID	Location (by upstream identifier or lake)	Length (miles)	Number of Stations	Stream Data Parameters										Lake Data Parameters					
				Ammonia	Chloride	DO	E. coli	pH	Sulfate	TP	TSS	Flow	MPCA Bio Survey	TP	Chl- <i>a</i>	Secchi depth	Lake Level	DNR Fish Survey	DNR Plant Survey
07010101-923	Headwaters	29.57	5	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	✓						
07010101-924	Unnamed Creek	28.60	3	○		○		○		○	○								
07010101-722	Schoolcraft River	0.81																	
04-0140-00	Lake Irving	2.11												●	●	●		'01	'11
07010101-720	Lake Irving	0.17																	
04-0130-00	Lake Bemidji	11.69												○	○	●	●	'06	'11
07010101-512	Lake Bemidji	3.78																	
04-0130-01	Stump Lake	2.36												●	●	●	●	'11	
07010101-513	Stump Lake	6.27	1	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●							
04-0079-00	Wolf Lake	3.30												●	●	●	●	'09	'11
07010101-514	Wolf Lake	1.98																	
04-0038-00	Andrusia Lake	5.30												●	●	●	●	'09	'11
07010101-515	Andrusia Lake	0.63																	
04-0030-00	Cass Lake	15.32												○	○	●	●	'11	'11
07010101-507	Cass Lake	10.95	1	○	○	○		○		○	○								
11-0147-00	Lake Winnibigoshish	61.07												○	○	●	●	'12	'01
07010101-723	Lake Winnibigoshish	1.67																	
31-0850-00	Little Winnibigoshish	0.60												○	○	○	●	'07	'01
07010101-725	Little Winnibigoshish	14.40																	

AUID/ DNR ID	Location (by upstream identifier or lake)	Length (miles)	Number of Stations	Stream Data Parameters										Lake Data Parameters						
				Ammonia	Chloride	DO	E. coli	pH	Sulfate	TP	TSS	Flow	MPCA Bio Survey	TP	Chl- <i>a</i>	Secchi depth	Lake Level	DNR Fish Survey	DNR Plant Survey	
07010101-506	Leech Lake River	2.61	1			●		●			○	●								
07010101-693	Artificial Path	0.38																		
07010101-503	Ball Club River	11.11																		
07010101-502	Deer River	10.73	1			●		●			○									
07010101-501	Vermillion River	8.11	2	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		✓							
31-0561-00	Blackwater Lake	7.20															○		'03	
07010101-648	Blackwater Lake	1.27	2	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○									
07010103-511	Bass Brook	2.08																		
07010103-510	Cohasset Dam	3.26																		
07010103-503	Grand Rapids Dam	2.82	2	○	○	●	○	●	○	●	●	●								
07010103-502	Prairie River	23.47	1	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●									
07010103-507	Split Hand Creek	13.72																		
07010103-505	Swan River	32.33	2			○		○			○									
07010103-501	Sandy River	27.80	2			●		●			●									
07010104-512	Willow River	12.17																		
07010104-503	Rice River	16.41	1	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	✓							
07010104-517	Little Willow River	25.81																		
07010104-501	Pine River	20.32	6	○	○	●		●	○	●										
07010104-516	Brainerd Dam	13.49	1	●		○		●		●	●	●								
07010104-515	Crow Wing River	8.41																		
07010104-576	Nokasippi River	1.67																		

AUID/ DNR ID	Location (by upstream identifier or lake)	Length (miles)	Number of Stations	Stream Data Parameters										Lake Data Parameters						
				Ammonia	Chloride	DO	E. coli	pHo	Sulfate	TP	TSS	Flow	MPCA Bio Survey	TP	Chl- <i>a</i>	Secchi depth	Lake Level	DNR Fish Survey	DNR Plant Survey	
07010104-577	Crow Wing/Morrison	8.21	1	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●								
07010104-513	Fletcher Creek	4.27																		
07010104-520	Little Elk River	2.54																		
07010104-519	Little Falls Dam	4.35	1			○	○	○												
07010201-501	Swan River	7.58	1	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●								
07010201-509	Two River	3.71																		
07010201-508	Spunk Creek	1.86																		
07010201-606	Platte River	0.52																		

B. Water Quality

Several analyses were performed for each stream segment AUID of the Mississippi River Headwaters based on availability of data from the study period from 2003 through 2012. Only data collected from stations located directly on the mainstem of the Mississippi River were analyzed. Mean concentrations of pollutants in the following sections were calculated using data available from all years. Data for total phosphorus, total suspended solids, and E. coli were only analyzed for the growing season according to the notes in Table 8. Data for the remaining pollutants were analyzed for the entire period of record from which data was collected.

All surface waters in Minnesota, including lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands, are protected for aquatic life and recreation where these uses are attainable (Minnesota Rule 7050). The beneficial use classes listed in Table 4 are associated with a specific numeric water quality standard for pollutants that sets the limit for a safe concentration of this pollutant in water (see Table 8).

Summary

Only 7 of the 18 AUIDs assessed had water quality standard exceedances when samples were averaged over the most recent 10 years. Total phosphorus and total suspended solids were the only two of the eight parameters assessed that did not meet water quality standards. Total phosphorus exceedances occurred on 5 reaches, and TSS exceedances occurred on 3 reaches.

Available water quality data varies widely among reaches and across counties. Two of three AUIDs in Beltrami County exceeded the draft phosphorus standard, and two of three AUIDs in Aitkin County had TSS exceedances. Water quality data in Cass County is limited to only dissolved oxygen and pH between 2003 and 2008, and no water quality data from the most recent 5 years was available. In general, all other counties had at least one AUID with adequate sample sizes for the most recent 10 year period. According to the data, Morrison County and Itasca County had the best water quality, as all AUIDs met the water quality standards, with the exception of 07010101-648 in Itasca County, which had very low sample sizes. Morrison County, however, seems to be at higher risk for water quality exceedances, as four WWTPs occur along the mainstem of the Mississippi River. Similarly, the Grand Rapids WWTP in Itasca County has the highest phosphorus loading of all WWTPs (Table 11).

River mile water quality figures were constructed to illustrate water quality trends along the entire mainstem of the Mississippi River within the Mississippi Headwaters Board jurisdiction (Figure 7 through Figure 14). All data from the most recent 10 years for each parameter were averaged for each individual MPCA water quality monitoring station to provide a spatial trend in water quality data. The river route within the jurisdiction of the MHB is approximately 400 miles long, and is represented on the x-axis; 0 is the headwaters at Lake Itasca. In general, water quality was best in the middle reaches of the mainstem of the Mississippi River between AUIDs 07010101-506 and 07010103-505, as all water quality standards were met.

Table 8. Water quality standards for Class 2B waters (Minnesota Rules 7050.0220)

Pollutant	Standard	Units	Notes
Ammonia	0.04	mg/L	As un-ionized N, calculated from temperature and pH.
Chloride	230	mg/L	
Dissolved Oxygen	5	mg/L	Daily minimum. Compliance required for 50% of 7Q ₁₀ flows.
E. coli	126	organisms/ 100 mL	Geometric mean* of not less than 5 samples per calendar month. April 1 – October 31.
pH	> 6.5, < 9.0	unitless	
Phosphorus	0.05	mg/L	June 1 – September 30.
Sulfate	10: (wild rice present) 250: (wild rice not present)	mg/L	Standard applies only to Class 1B or 4A waters.
Total Suspended Solids	15	mg/L	May not be exceeded more than 10% of the time. April 1 – September 30.

*To measure *E. coli*, the geometric mean is used in place of arithmetic mean in order to measure the central tendency of the data, dampening the effect that very high values have on arithmetic means. The geometric mean differs from the arithmetic mean in that it uses multiplication rather than addition in its calculation. Since bacteria data sets often contain a few very high values, the geometric mean more appropriately characterizes the central tendency of the data.

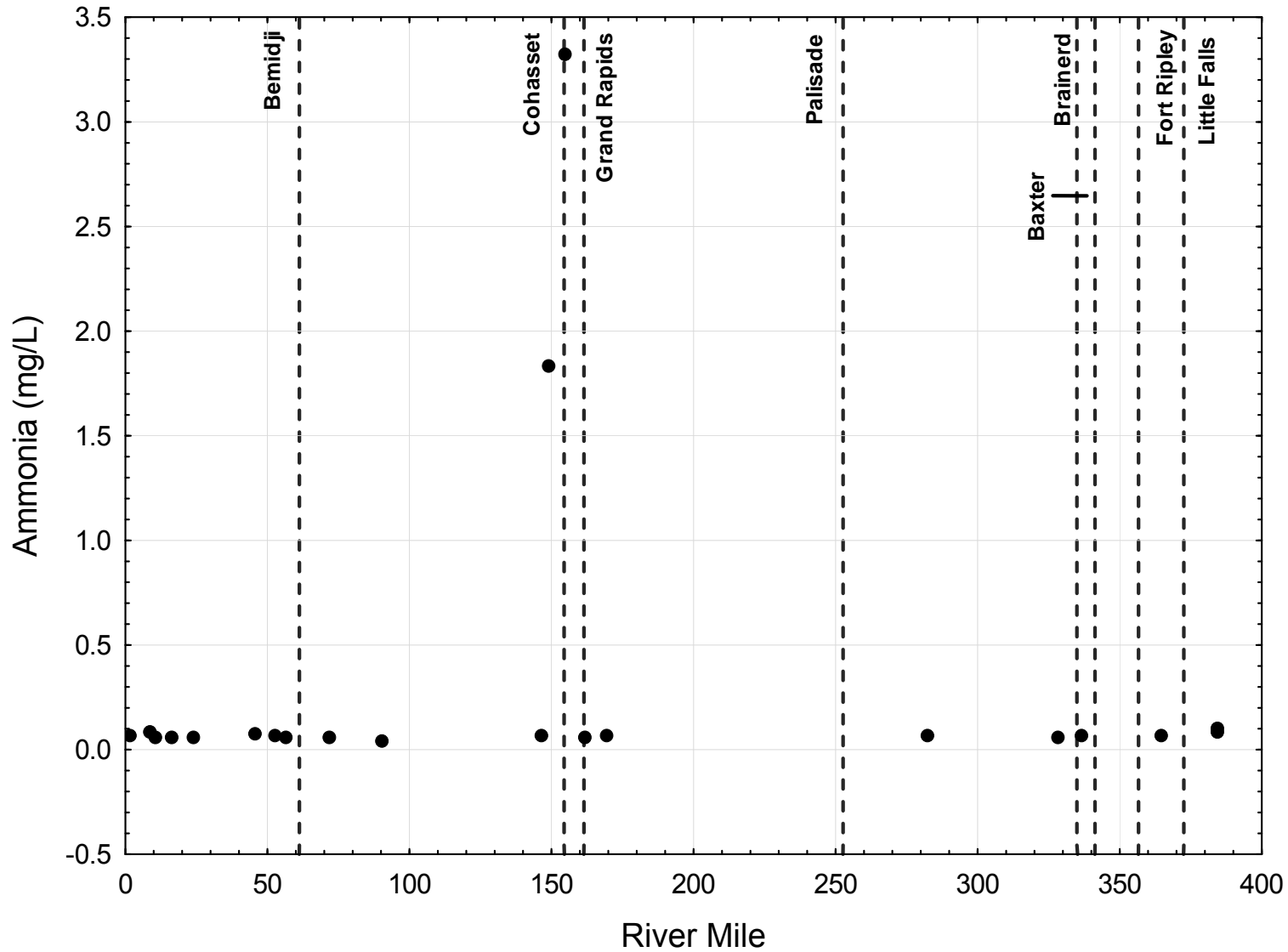


Figure 7. Mississippi River Headwaters mean ammonia concentration trends by river mile

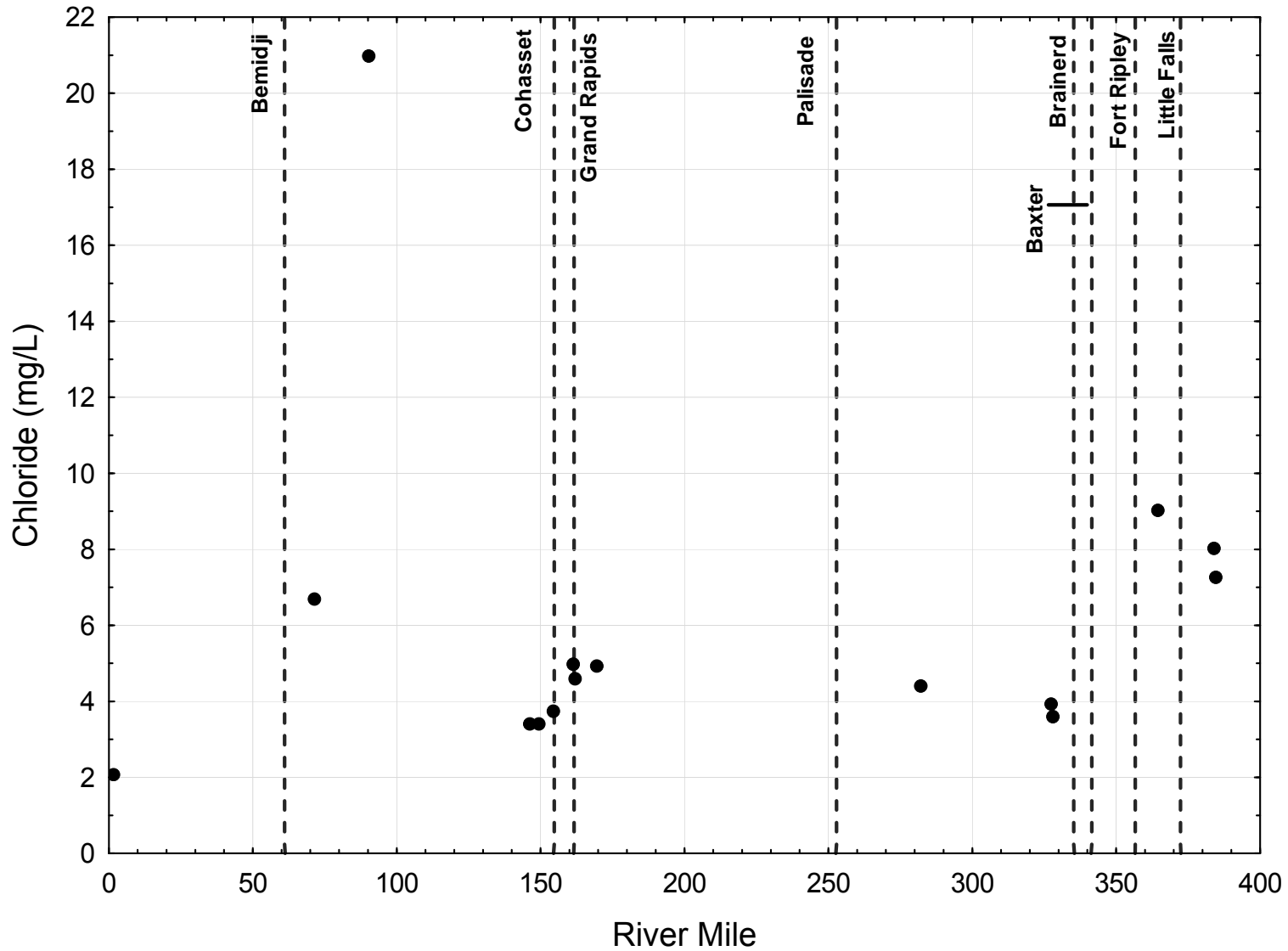


Figure 8. Mississippi River Headwaters mean chloride concentration trends by river mile

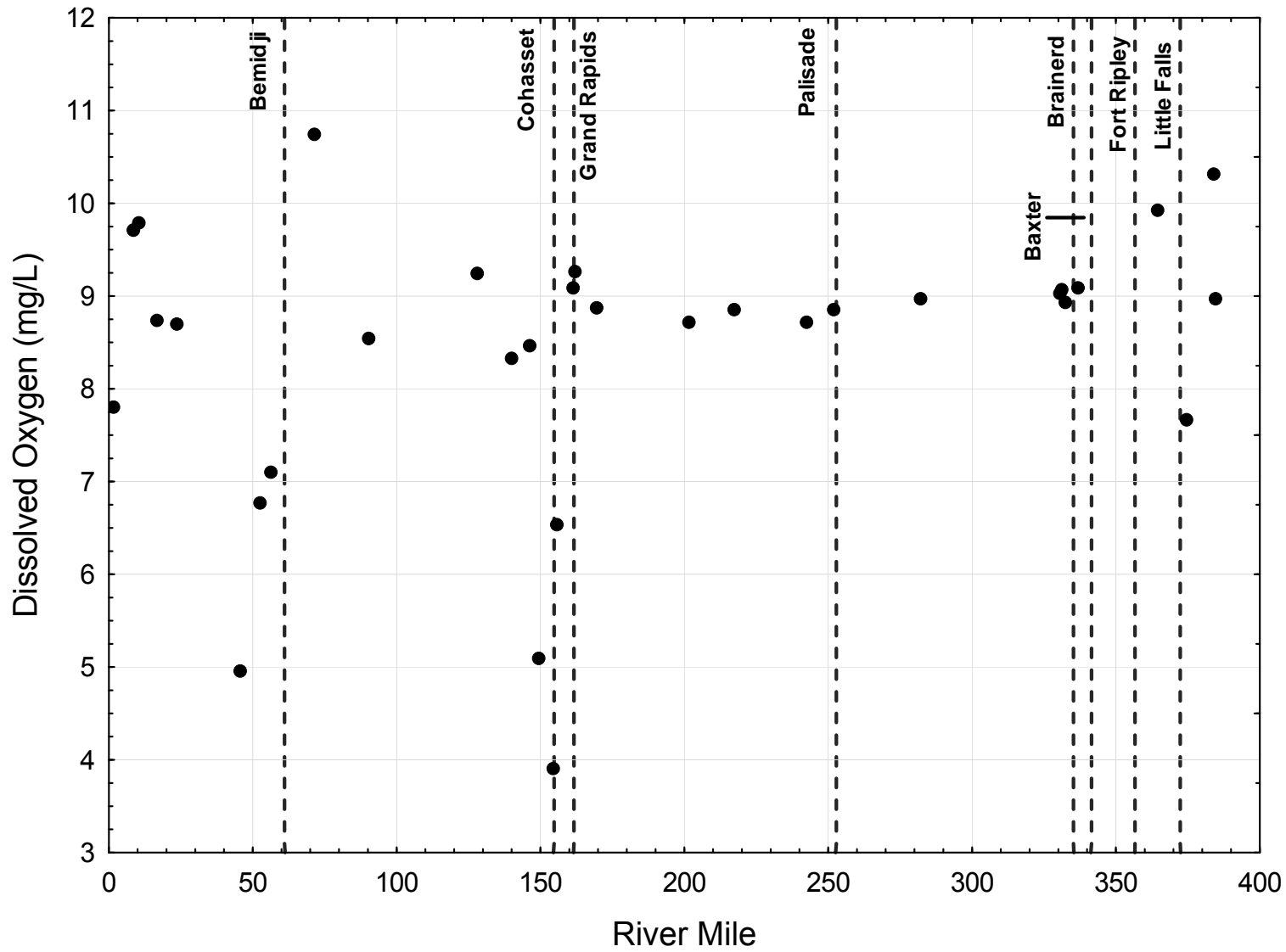


Figure 9. Mississippi River Headwaters mean dissolved oxygen concentration trends by river mile

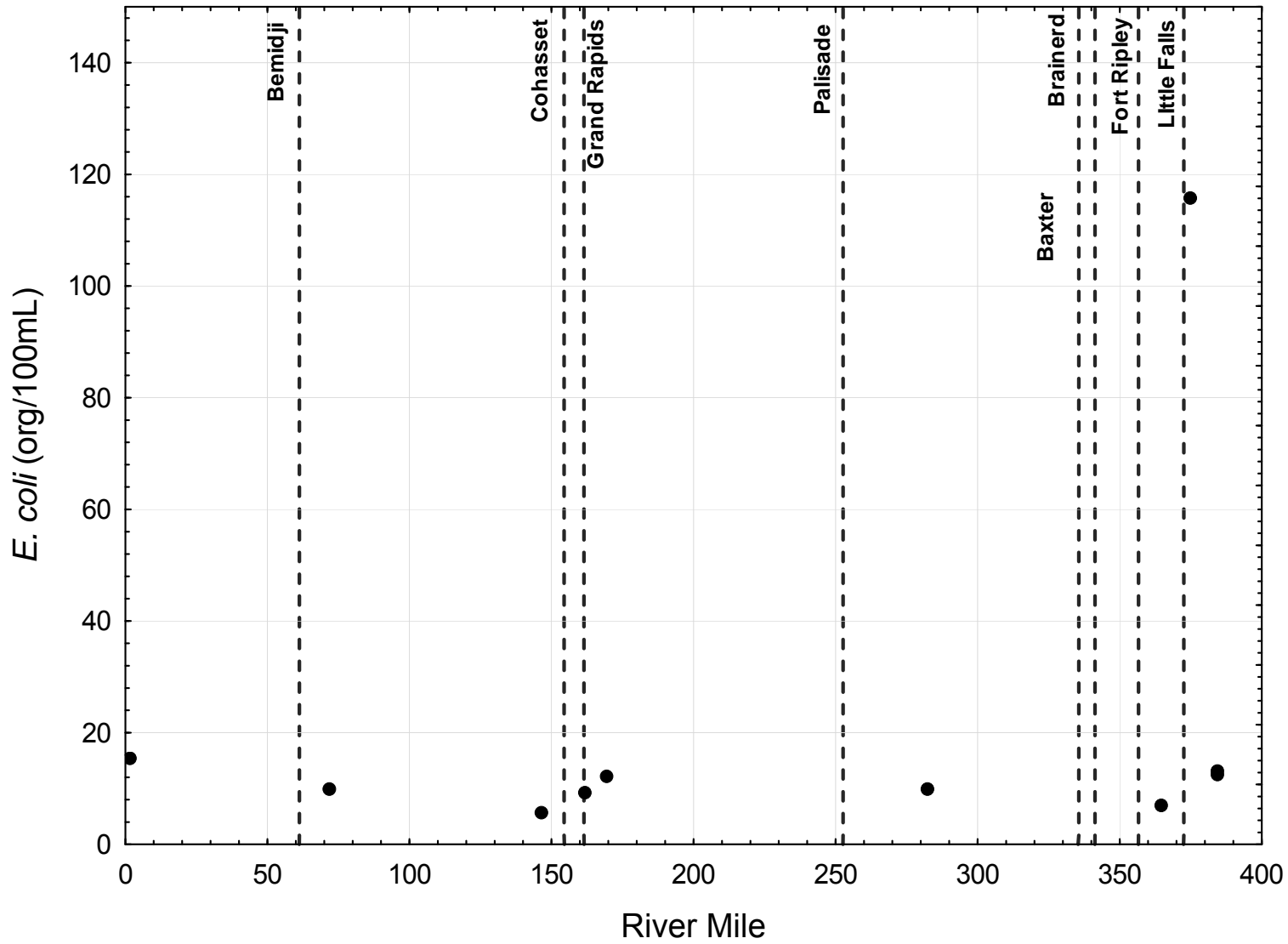


Figure 10. Mississippi River Headwaters mean *E. coli* trends by river mile

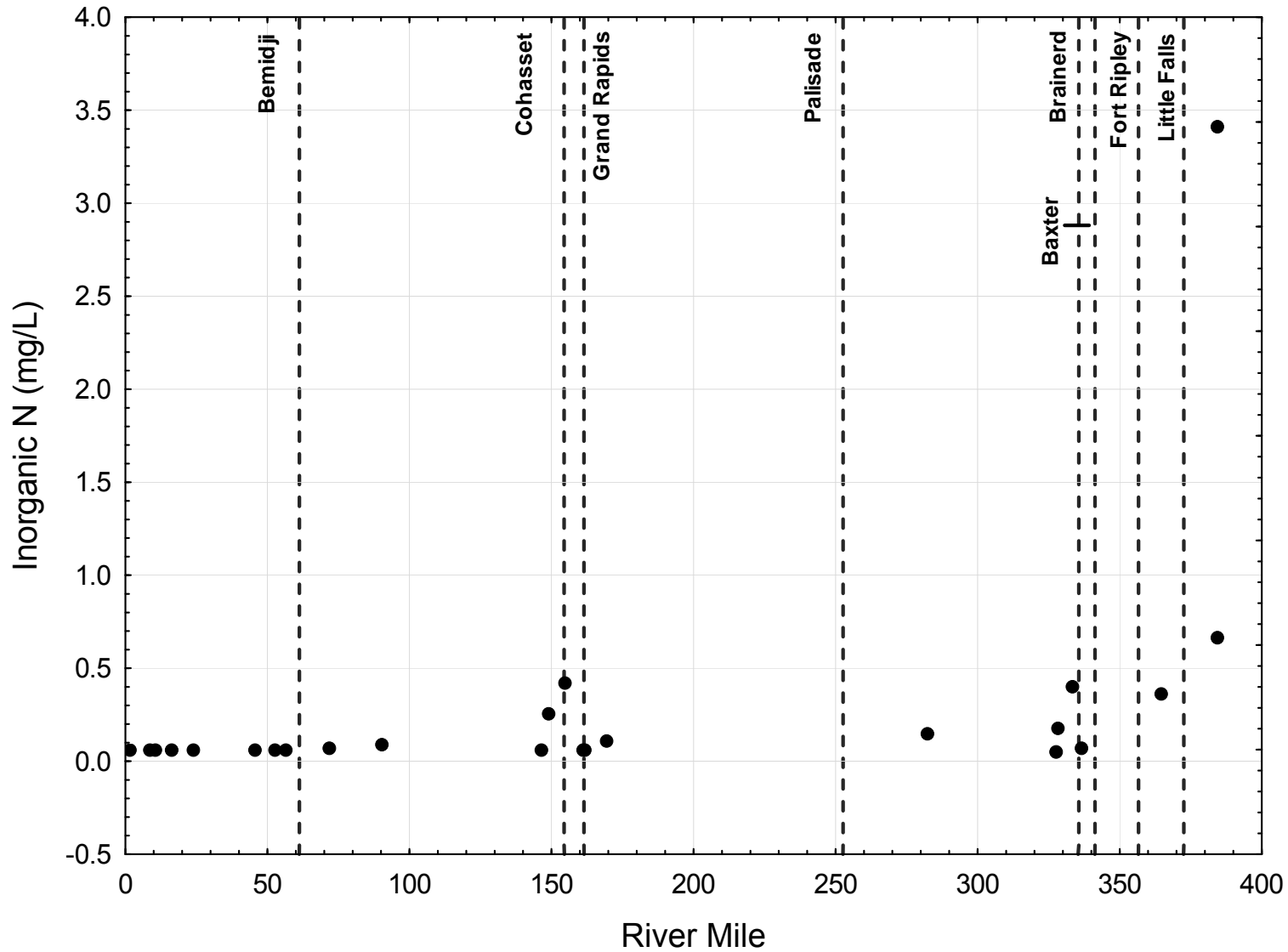


Figure 11. Mississippi River Headwaters mean inorganic nitrogen concentration trends by river mile

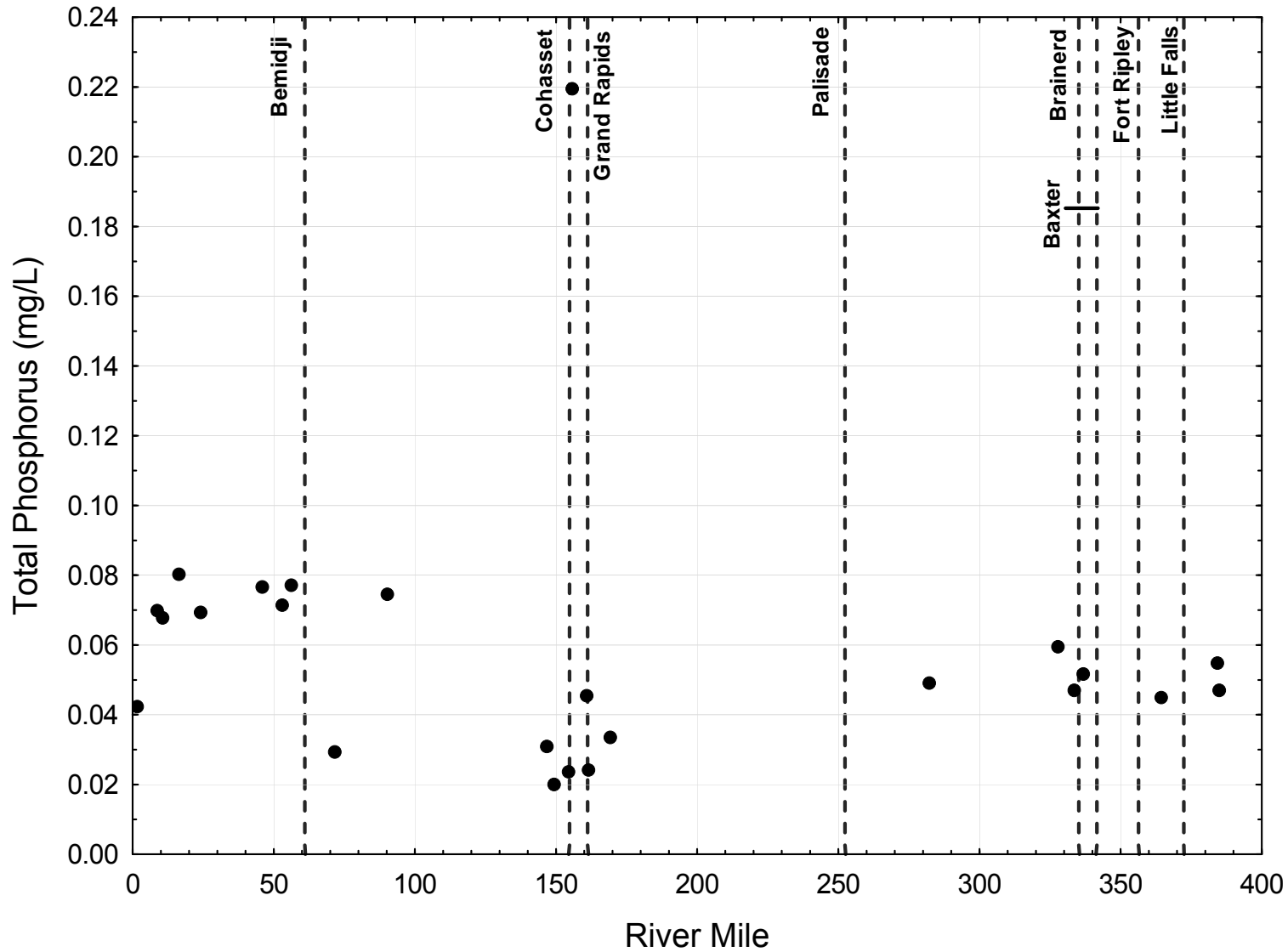


Figure 12. Mississippi River Headwaters mean total phosphorus concentration trends by river mile

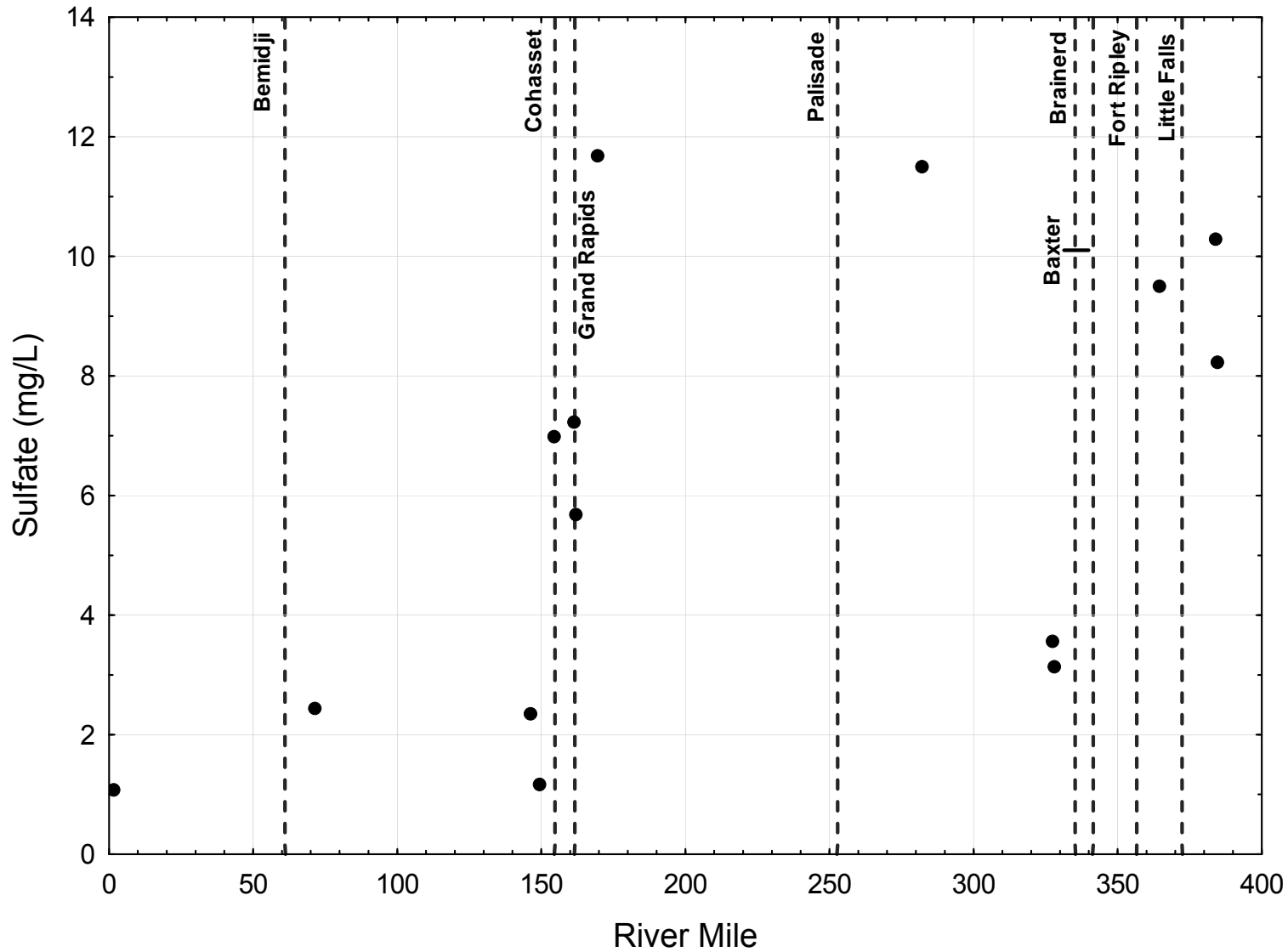


Figure 13. Mississippi River Headwaters mean sulfate concentration trends by river mile

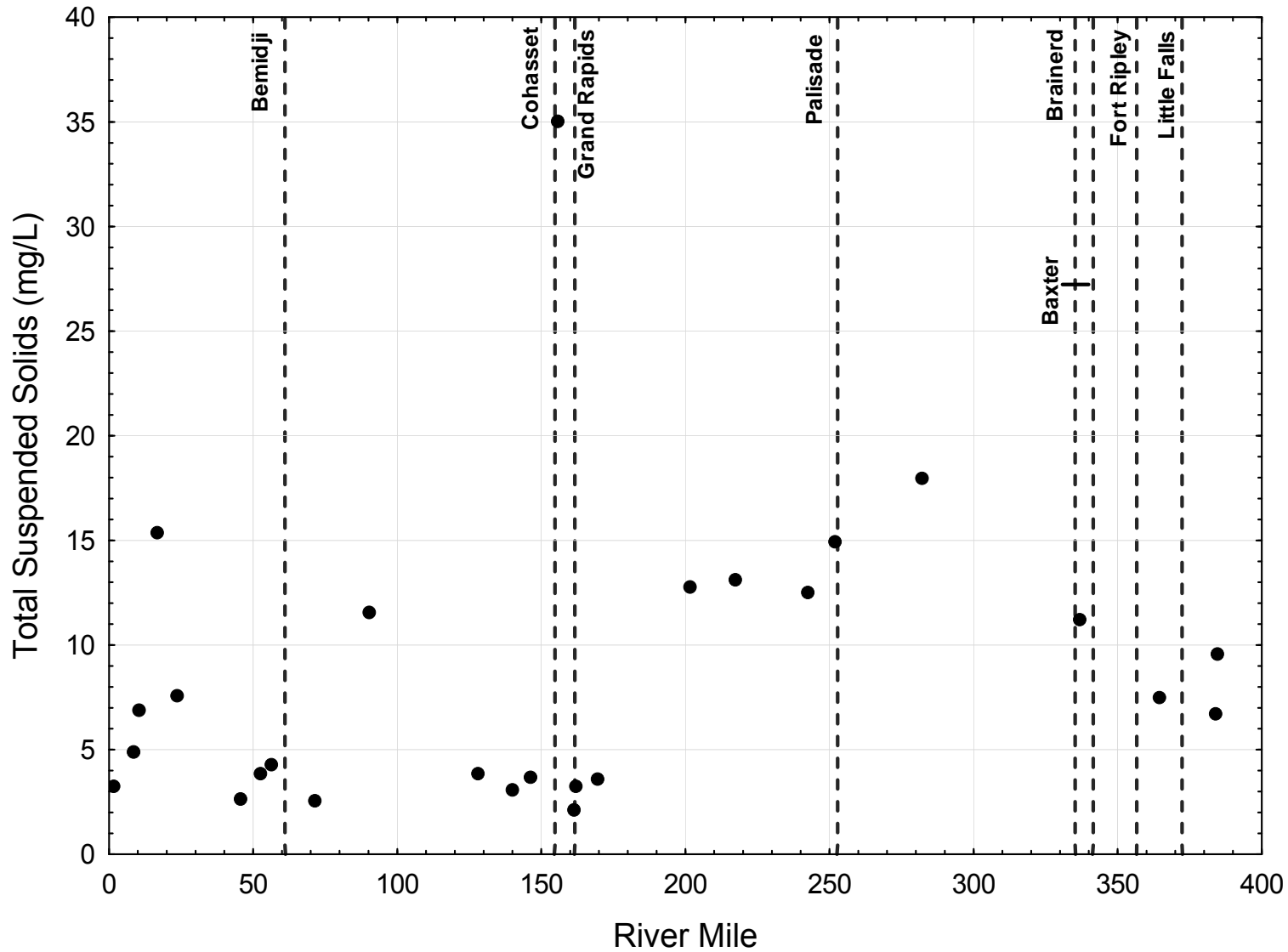


Figure 14. Mississippi River Headwaters mean total suspended solids concentration trends by river mile

C. Biology

The MPCA sampled fish and invertebrate communities at three stations along the mainstem of the Mississippi River within the MHB jurisdiction in the most recent 10 years. The stations occurred on AUID 07010101-923 in Clearwater County, AUID 07010101-501 in Itasca County, and AUID 07010104-503 in Aitkin County. Fish communities were only sampled in Itasca and Aitkin County, but were considered healthy, within an average IBI of 71. Invertebrate communities were sampled on all three reaches, and the IBI scores varied between 73 in Clearwater County and 31 in Aitkin County, indicating the invertebrate communities are healthier upstream.

In June of 2007, a statewide, coordinated, comprehensive survey of the Mississippi River headwaters (between Lake Itasca and the Coon Rapids dam) was initiated. Seven MN DNR Area Fisheries offices sampled a total of 49 reaches along the Mississippi River. A summary of the results from each county are below.

Clearwater and Beltrami Counties

In June and July 2007, the MN DNR Bemidji Area Fisheries office sampled 97 miles of the Mississippi River from the headwaters at Lake Itasca to Lake Winnibigoshish for water depth, water quality, fish community, and geomorphology. The sample area was divided into 10 reaches that occurred in Clearwater, Hubbard, and Beltrami Counties. Fish were sampled at 19 stations. A total of 11,587 individuals were caught, representing 44 species. Yellow perch was the most common species encountered, and bluegill, northern pike, rock bass, and white sucker were caught in all 10 reaches. The fish IBI Scores were inversely related to the distance downstream from Lake Itasca, with the highest scores at the headwaters, and the lowest scores near Lake Winnibigoshish. There was no indication of invasive species encountered in the report. Overall, the results of the study suggested the fish community in the Mississippi River in Clearwater and Beltrami County is healthy and has not experienced significant habitat degradation.

Itasca and Cass Counties

Eleven reaches along 85 miles of the Mississippi River on the border of Itasca and Cass Counties between Winnibigoshish Dam and the Aitkin County border were sampled for fish communities. A total of 3,736 individuals were caught, representing 32 species. Yellow perch were the most abundant species representing 38% of all fish sampled. Largemouth bass and black bullhead were also abundant, representing another 20% of all fish sampled (Table 5). Northern pike and rock bass were found in all reaches and largemouth bass, bluegill, and white sucker were found in 10 of 11 reaches. Fish IBI scores varied between 39 to 71, and ratings varied from poor to good,

Aitkin County

In June of 2007, 104 miles of the Mississippi River that flows through Aitkin County were surveyed for fish communities. Fish communities were sampled in 7 of 8 reaches. A total of 23 species were sampled, and the most common species were shorthead and silver redhorse.

Bluegill, northern pike, rock bass and shorthead redhorse were found in all seven similar reaches. Fish IBI scores were relatively low, with the highest being only 60, which occurred near the center of Aitkin County.

Crow Wing County

A fish survey was conducted along the Mississippi River in Crow Wing County by the MN DNR Fisheries Brainerd Office in 2007. Sampling was conducted using boat and backpack electrofishers and trotlines. Thirty-four species of fish were recorded, with seven species of fish found at all sampling points. The invasive common carp was found near the Brainerd Dam area. According to the MN DNR, the Brainerd Dam has an effect on the fish community; above the dam the Fish IBI score was 55, while below the dam Fish IBI score was 72.

Morrison County

The Little Falls Area Fisheries Office conducted sampling on the 66.8 miles of river from the Confluence of the Crow Wing River to the St. Cloud Dam. Seven reaches were sampled, but only five of these reaches occur within the jurisdiction of the Mississippi Headwaters Board. Along the 66.8 miles, 4,032 individuals were caught, with a total of 42 species. Invasive common carp were caught in the four most downstream reaches. Hornyhead chub (N=811) was the most abundant species comprising, followed by bluegill (N=526), rock bass (N=356), smallmouth bass (N=276) and logperch (N=266). IBI scores ranged from fair to good (51 to 79).

D. Stream Flow

Long-term daily USGS flow records were available at six stations on the Mississippi River Headwaters mainstem (Table 9 and Figure 5). The USGS also monitors flow at the outlet of one of the major tributaries (Crow Wing River), which enters the Mississippi River below the City of Brainerd (Table 10). Year-round daily mean discharge was quantified at all of these sites except at the station near Bemidji and at Ball Club. Figure 15 summarizes the median annual flows for all stations from 2003 through 2012. Average, 5th percentile (representing baseflow conditions), median/50th percentile (representing typical conditions), and 95th percentile (representing flood conditions) flows were calculated for each station and are shown in Table 9 and Figure 16 through Figure 22.

Based on median flows at all stations over the most recent ten years, dry years occurred in 2003, 2007, and 2012, and wet years occurred in 2005, 2010, and 2011. Annual variability in median flow was more pronounced at flow stations further downstream (Figure 15). This variability was dampened upstream of Grand Rapids where there are numerous flow-through lakes and reservoirs, large expanses of wetlands, and several dams.

Table 9. Mississippi River Headwaters 10-year average of annual flows (2003-2012)

County	AUID	USGS ID	Location	10-year average of annual flows (cfs)			
				Average	Q5	Q50	Q95
Beltrami	07010101-513	05200510	Near Bemidji	286	97	228	635
Cass	07010101-506	05207600	At Ball Club	922	313	817	1,890
Itasca	07010103-503	05211000	At Grand Rapids	1,105	344	1,024	2,172
Aitkin	07010104-503	05227500	At Aitkin	2,388	637	1,805	6,436
Crow Wing	07010104-516	05242300	At Brainerd	2,940	858	2,194	7,882
Morrison	07010201-501	05267000	Near Royalton	5,003	1,635	3,565	13,112

Q5 = 5th percentile (representing baseflow conditions)
 Q50 = 50th percentile (representing typical conditions) or median
 Q95 = 95th percentile (representing flood conditions)

Table 10. Mississippi River Headwaters tributary 10-year average of annual flows (2003-2012)

County	AUID	USGS ID	Tributary	10-year average of annual flows (cfs)			
				Average	Q5	Q50	Q95
Cass/ Morrison	07010101-513	05247500	Crow Wing River	1,628	600	1,127	4,062

Q5 = 5th percentile (representing baseflow conditions)
 Q50 = 50th percentile (representing typical conditions) or median
 Q95 = 95th percentile (representing flood conditions)

Figure 15. Mississippi River Headwaters and Crow Wing River median annual flows (2003-2012)

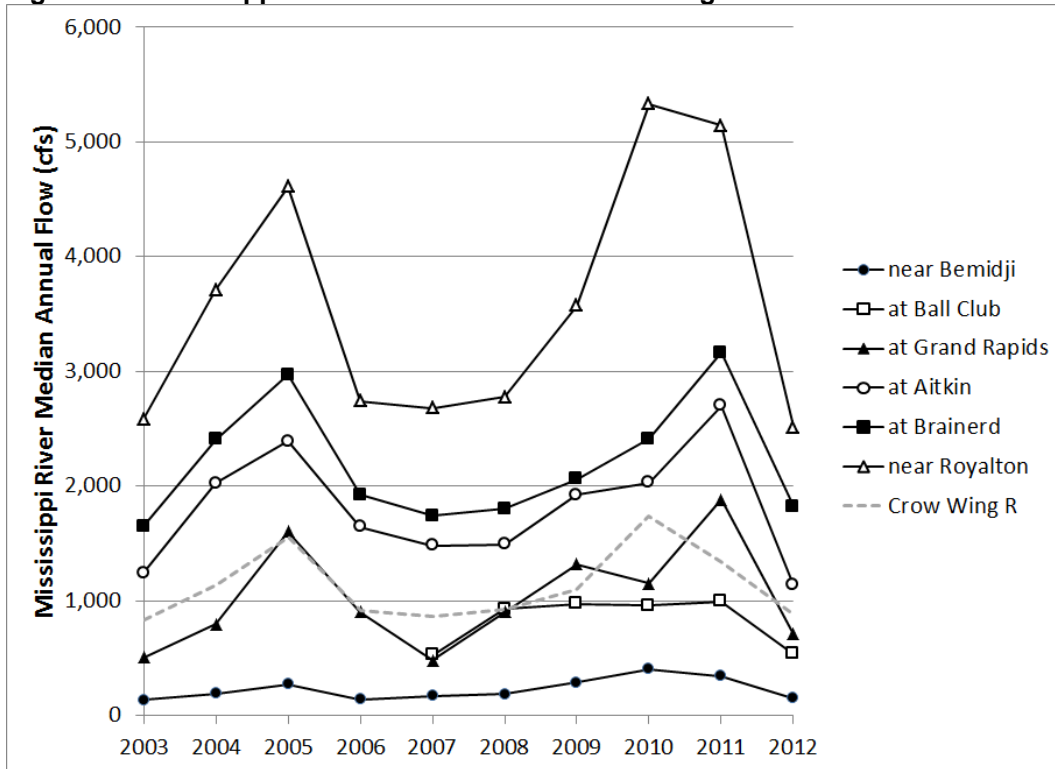


Figure 16. Median, 5th and 95th percentiles of Mississippi River flow at Bemidji (2003-12)

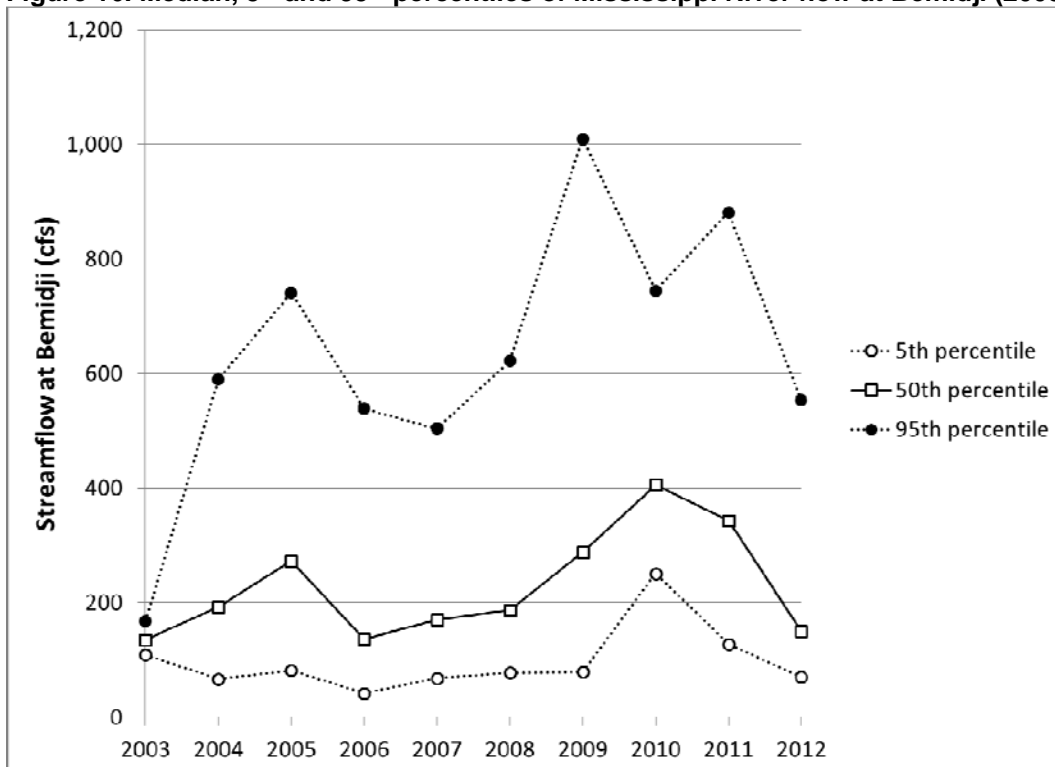


Figure 17. Median, 5th and 95th percentiles of Mississippi River flow at Ball Club (2003-12)

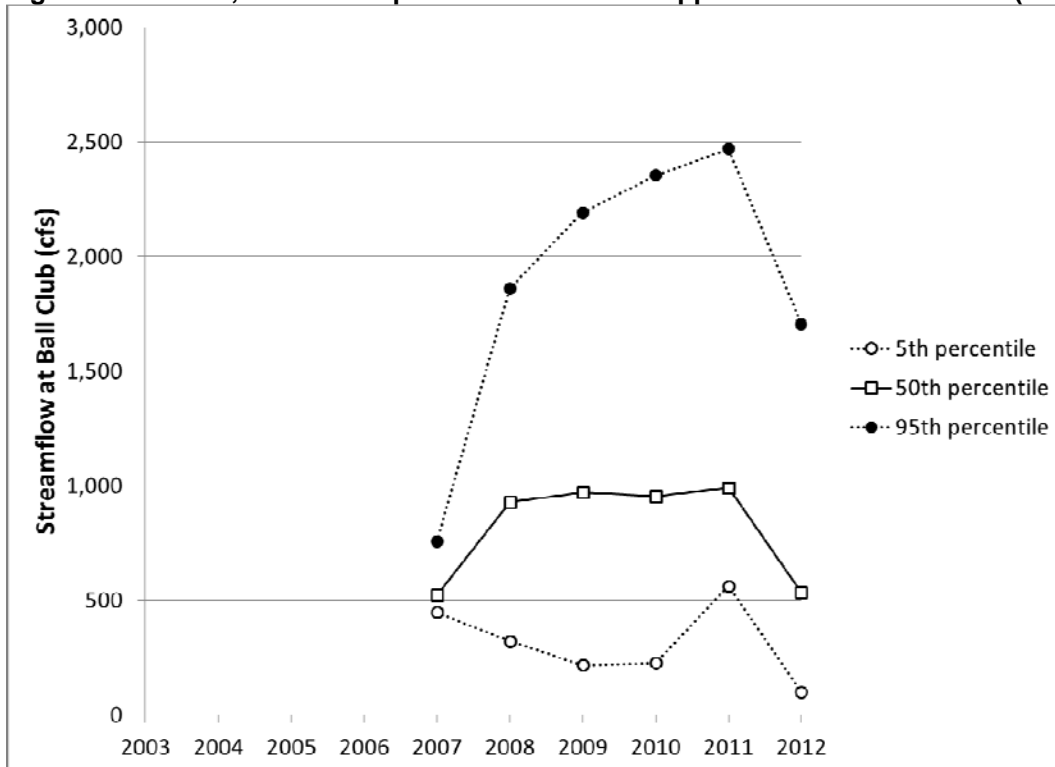


Figure 18. Median, 5th and 95th percentiles of Mississippi River flow at Grand Rapids (2003-12)

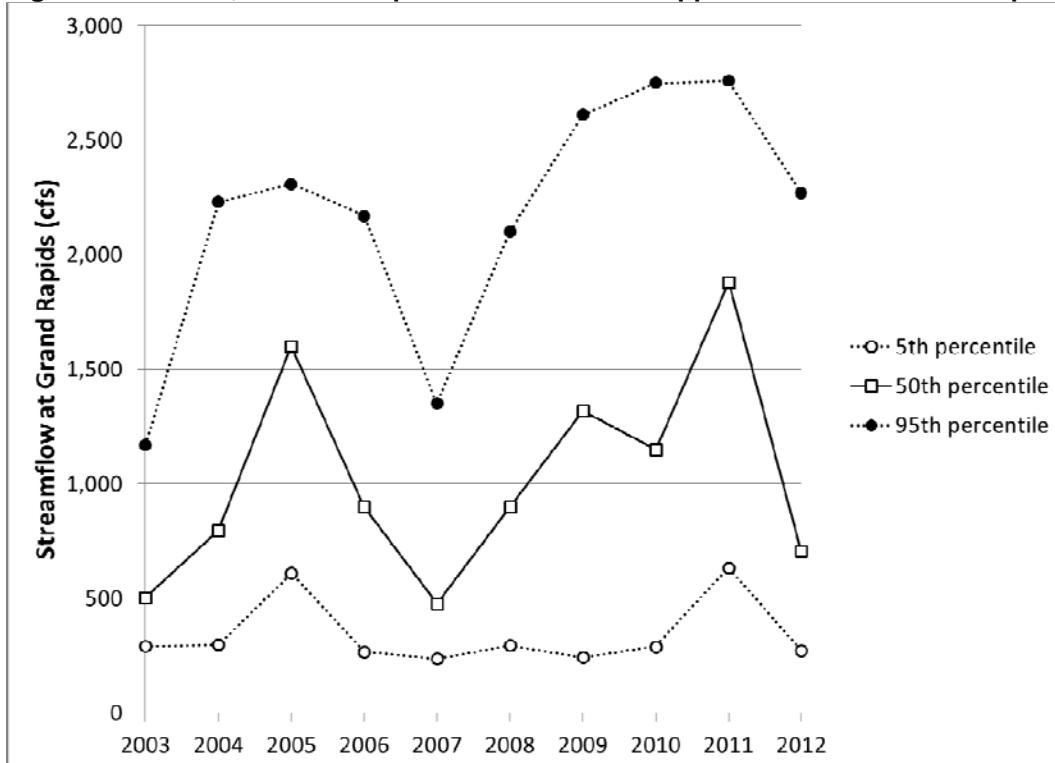


Figure 19. Median, 5th and 95th percentiles of Mississippi River flow at Aitkin (2003-12)

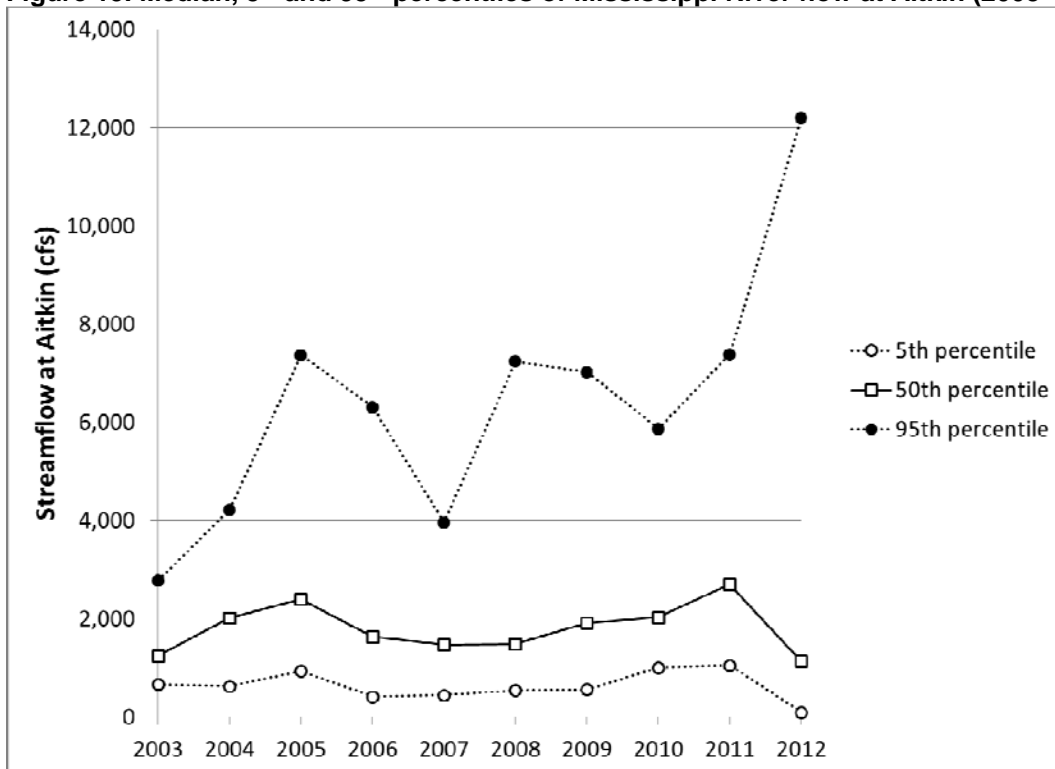


Figure 20. Median, 5th and 95th percentiles of Mississippi River flow at Brainerd (2003-12)

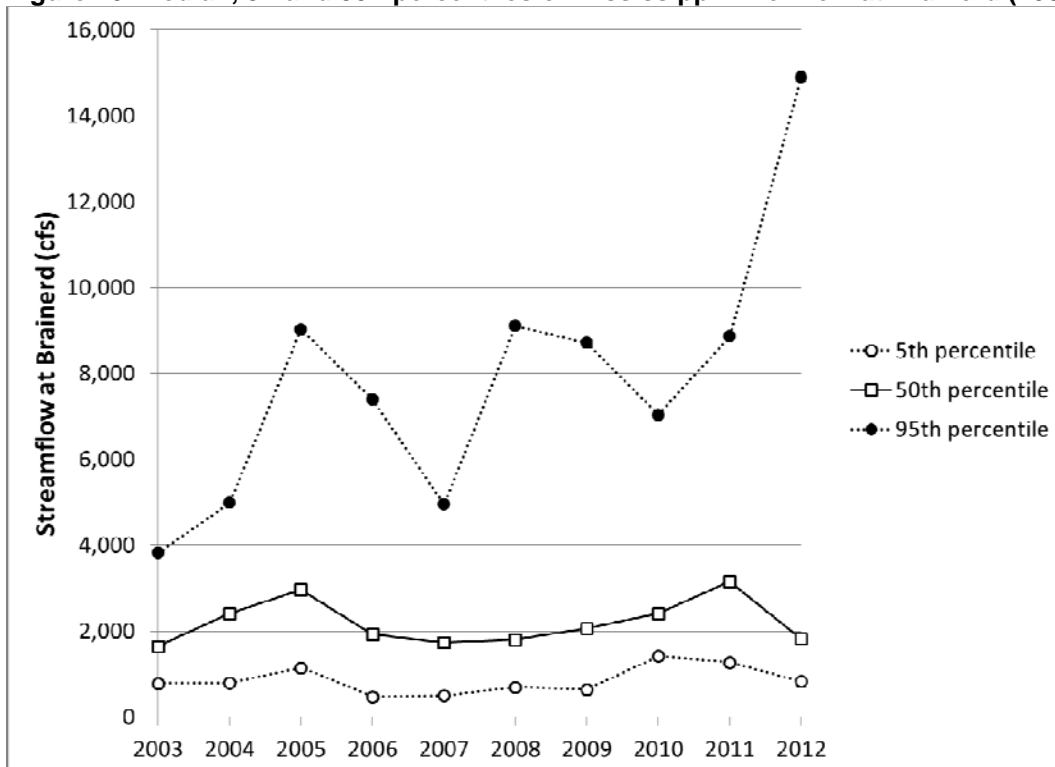


Figure 21. Median, 5th and 95th percentiles of Mississippi River flow at Royalton (2003-12)

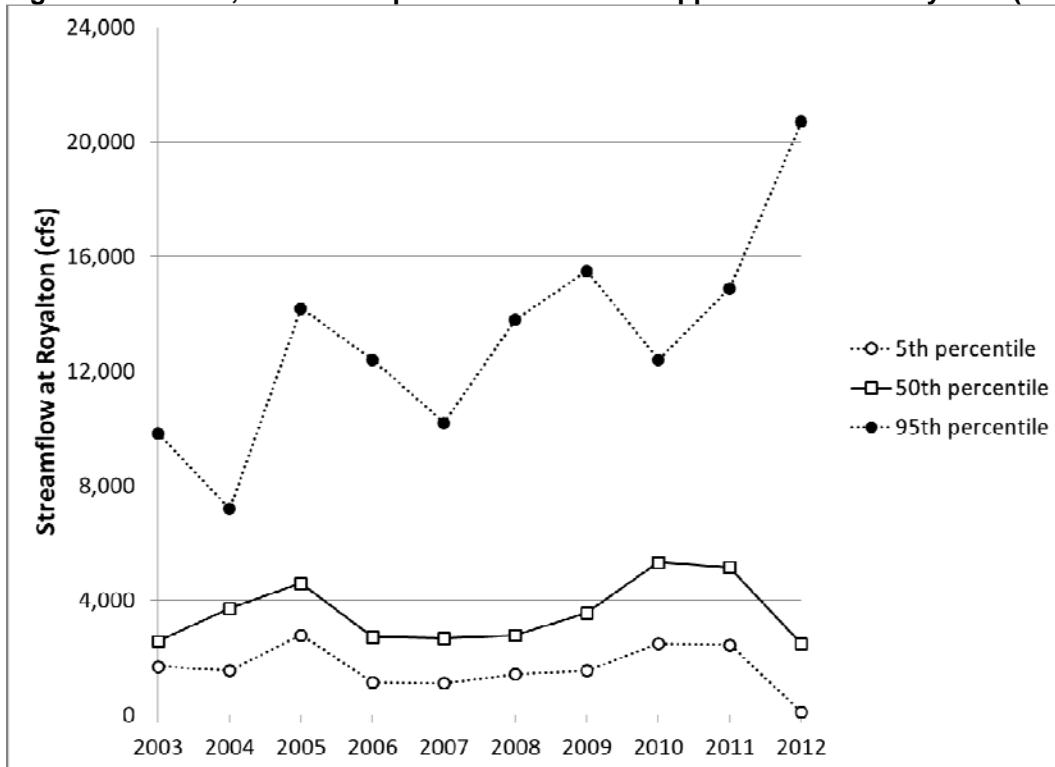
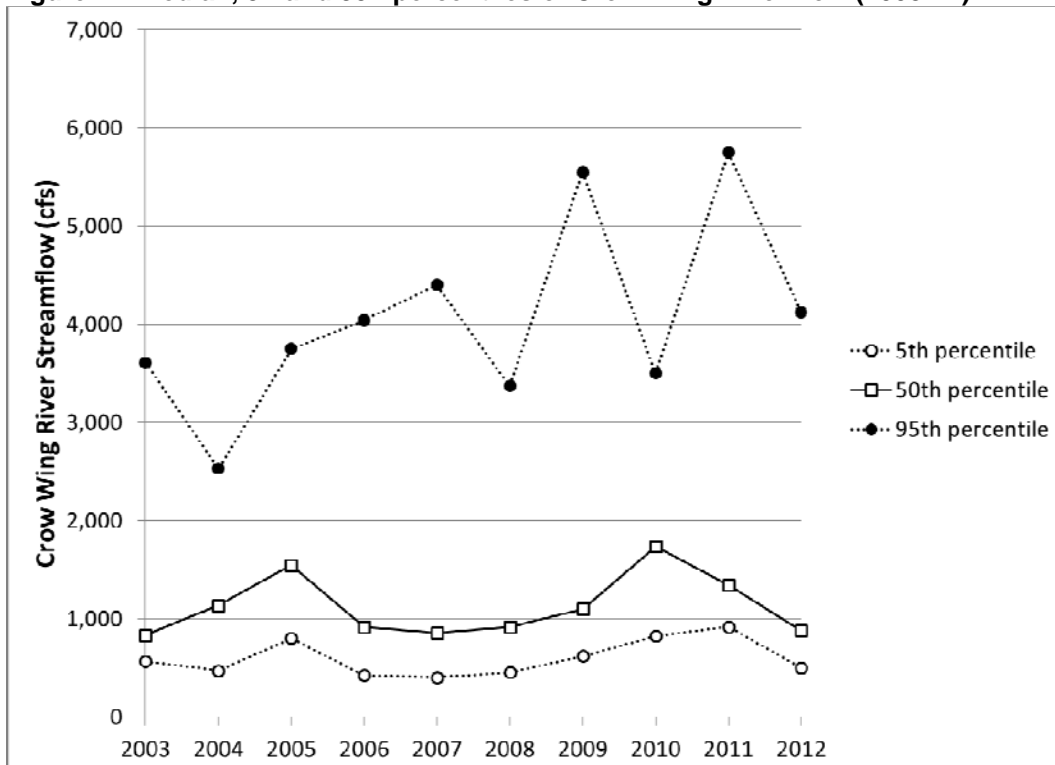


Figure 22. Median, 5th and 95th percentiles of Crow Wing River flow (2003-12)



E. Pollutant Sources and Loading

The following section summarizes the total phosphorus loading from known National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) point sources discharging directly to the Mississippi River mainstem and flow-through lakes, and total phosphorus flow-weighted mean concentrations and loads at several stations along the Mississippi River headwaters. NPDES point sources discharging to tributaries of the Mississippi River were excluded from this analysis, but could be major and potentially important sources of total phosphorus. Non-point sources of phosphorus from watershed runoff and sources of other pollutants (e.g., total suspended solids, nitrate, ammonia, and *E. coli*) were considered beyond the scope of this study and were also excluded.

NPDES Permitted Sources of Phosphorus

Based on a review of MPCA records, there are 15 NPDES permitted facilities that discharge total phosphorus (TP) directly into the Mississippi River Headwaters (Table 11). The majority of these sources are municipal wastewater treatment plants (WWTP).

Table 11. NPDES permitted facility average annual TP loads to the Mississippi River (2005-2012)

County	AUID	Permit ID	Facility
Beltrami	07010101-721	MNG250027	Northwoods Ice of Bemidji Inc.
		MN0022462	Bemidji WWTP
Itasca	07010101-646	MN0001007	Minnesota Power - Boswell Energy Center
	07010103-510	MN0022080	Grand Rapids WWTP
Aitkin	07010103-501	MN0050997	Palisade WWTP
	07010104-503	MN0057533	Sampson Farms
	07010104-517	MN0020095	Aitkin WWTP
Crow Wing	07010104-501	MN0001422	Wausau Paper Mills LLC
	07010104-516	MN0049328	Brainerd WWTP
Morrison	07010104-520	MN0024562	Randall WWTP
		MN0063070	Camp Ripley - Area 22 Washrack
		MN0025721	Camp Ripley WWTP
	07010104-519	MNG580016	Flensburg WWTP
		MN0020761	Little Falls WWTP
		MNG255005	Anderson Custom Processing Inc.

Phosphorus Loading

Total phosphorus flow-weighted mean concentrations (FWMCs) and average annual loads were estimated in the program FLUX₃₂ using USGS flow data and corresponding MPCA water quality data from 2003-2012 collected at five stations on the Mississippi River and one tributary (Crow Wing River; Table 12). These were compared to TP FWMC and loads calculated by the MPCA using data collected from 2007-2009 as part of a state-wide Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network. TP FWMCs are low through Grand Rapids, then double by Aitkin and remain stable until Royalton. The Mississippi River Headwaters mainstem TP FWMCs are lower than the TP FWMC of the Crow Wing River tributary. The Mississippi River Headwaters TP FWMCs are relatively low compared to southern and western Minnesota major watersheds (Figure 24). The corresponding TP loads increased from upstream to downstream stations on the Mississippi River due to increasing contributing watershed area and point sources. Even so, the Mississippi River near Royalton contributes just 12% of the TP load measured at Lock and Dam #3, and less than 10% of the TSS and nitrogen (Table 13. Total Phosphorus Loads as a Percentage of the Load Measured at Lock and Dam #3 Table 13, Figure 25 – Figure 28).

Table 12. Phosphorus load estimates along the Mississippi River using FLUX32
2003-2012 estimates from this study; 2007-2009 estimates from MPCA Load Monitoring Network

USGS ID	Location	Flow-weighted mean TP concentration (mg/L)		Average TP Load (lb/yr)	
		2003-2012	2007-2009	2003-2012	2007-2009
05200510	Mississippi River near Bemidji	0.029	N/A	17,020	N/A
05211000	Mississippi River at Grand Rapids	0.025	0.032	54,903	58,874
05227500	Mississippi River at Aitkin	0.053	0.048	248,807	204,751
05247500	Crow Wing River near Pillager	0.069	0.069	221,886	210,436
05242300	Mississippi River at Brainerd	0.054	N/A	314,528	N/A
05267000	Mississippi River near Royalton	0.059	0.059	587,122	538,570

Table 13. Total Phosphorus Loads as a Percentage of the Load Measured at Lock and Dam #3

Location	Total Phosphorus Loads as a Percentage of the Load Measured at Lock and Dam #3			
	TP	TSS	Nitrate-nitrite	TN
Mississippi River at Grand Rapids	1%	1%	0%	1%
Mississippi River at Aitkin	5%	6%	1%	4%
Mississippi River near Royalton	12%	5%	3%	8%

For more information on the **MPCA Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network**, visit:
<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/water/water-types-and-programs/surface-water/streams-and-rivers/watershed-pollutant-load-monitoring-network.html>

Figure 23. NPDES permitted facilities discharging TP directly to the Mississippi River

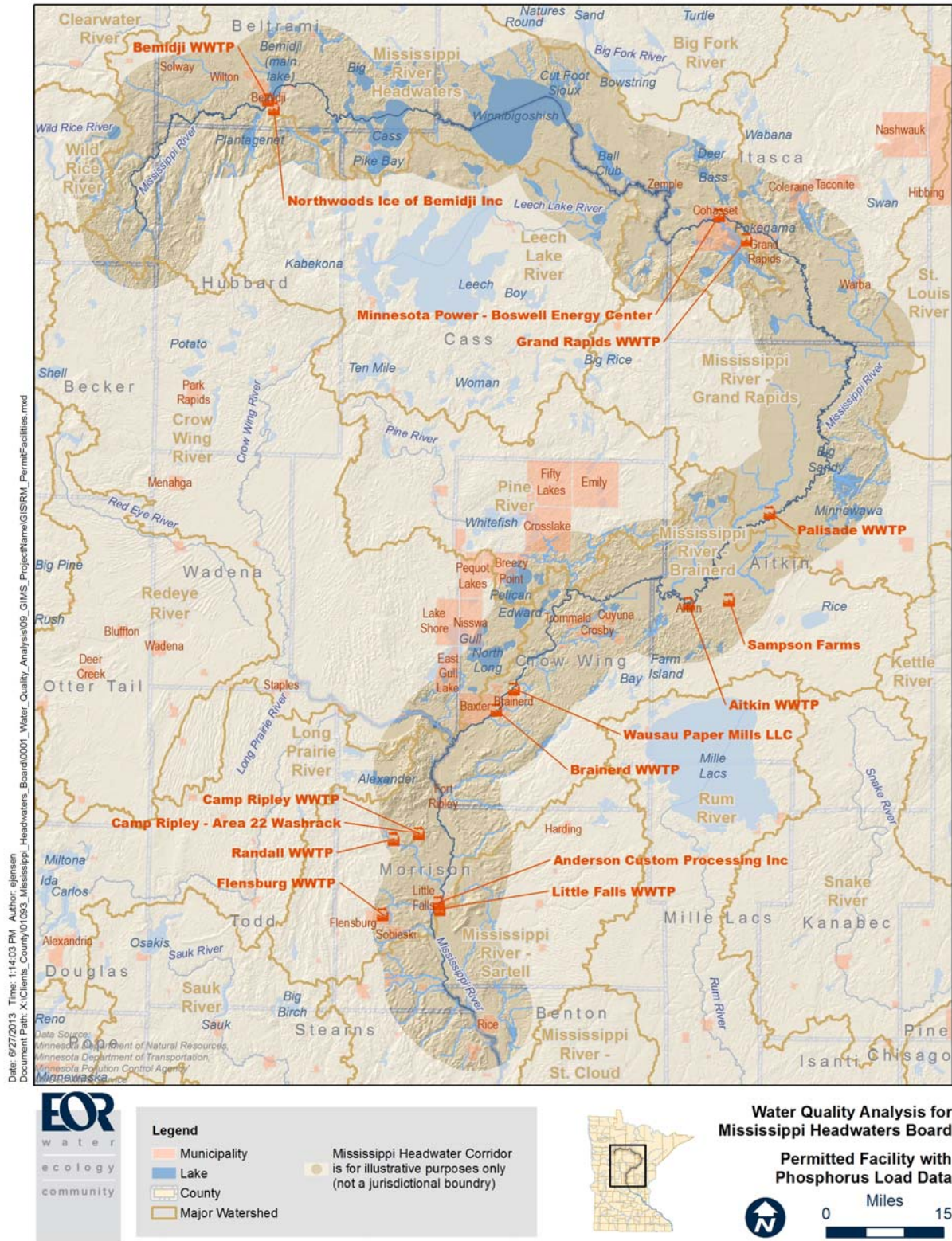


Figure 24. Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network Total Phosphorus Flow Weighted Mean Concentration by Monitoring Site Watershed (2007-2009)

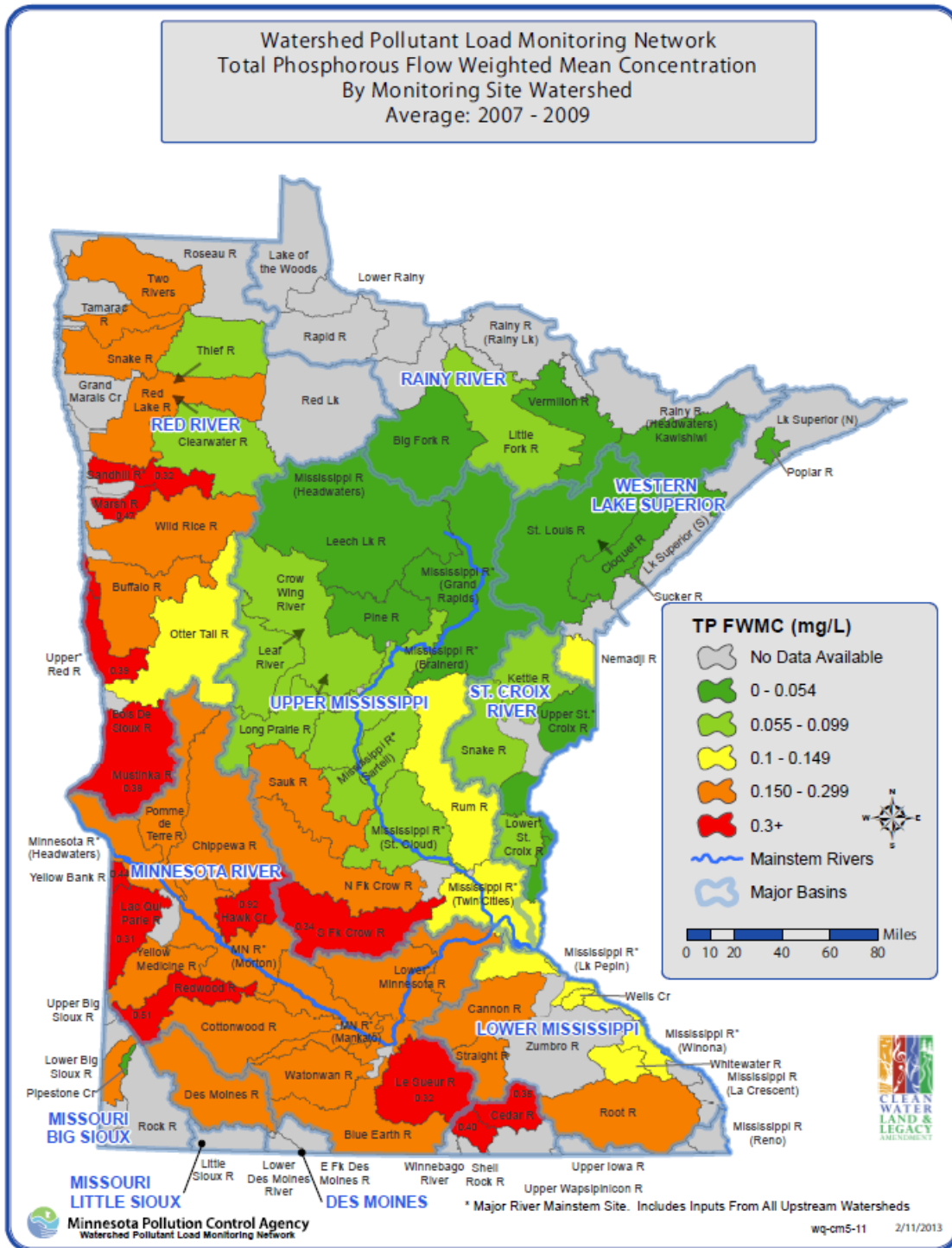


Figure 25. MPCA Total Phosphorus Loads as a Percentage of the Load Measured at Lock and Dam #3 (2007-2009)

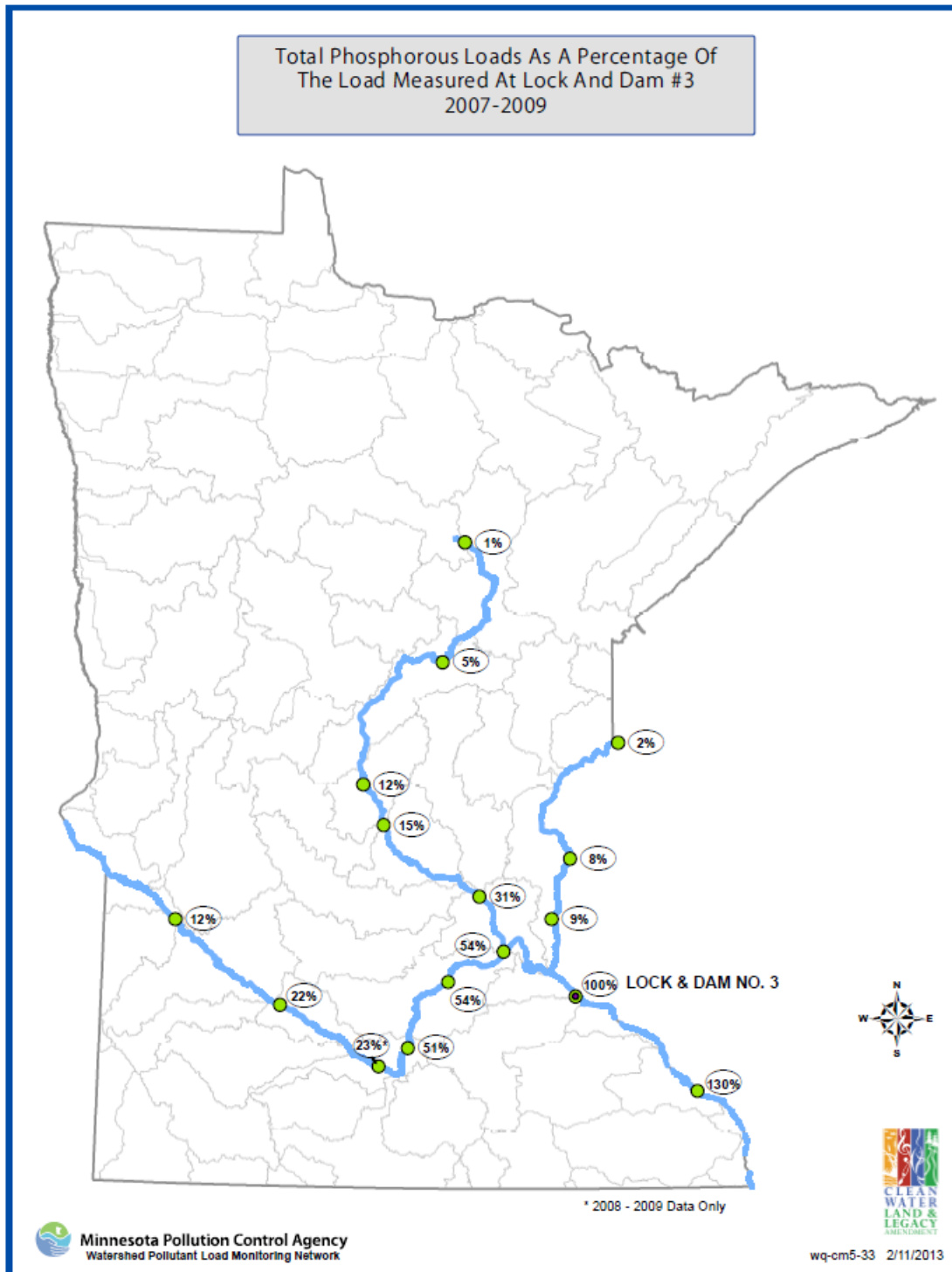


Figure 26. MPCA Total Suspended Solid Loads as a Percentage of the Load Measured at Lock and Dam #3 (2007-2009)

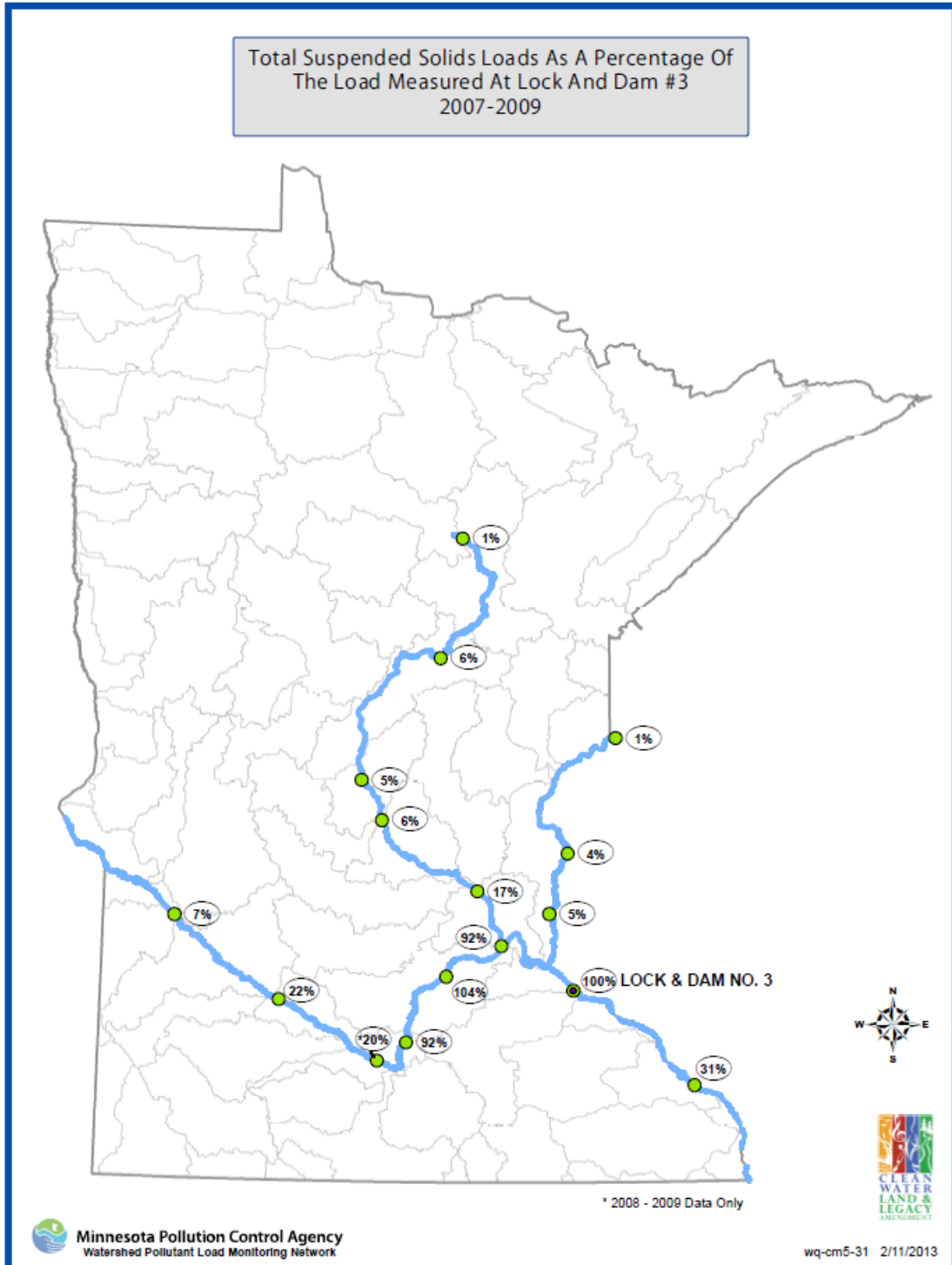


Figure 27. MPCA Nitrate-Nitrite Loads as a Percentage of the Load Measured at Lock and Dam #3 (2007-2009)

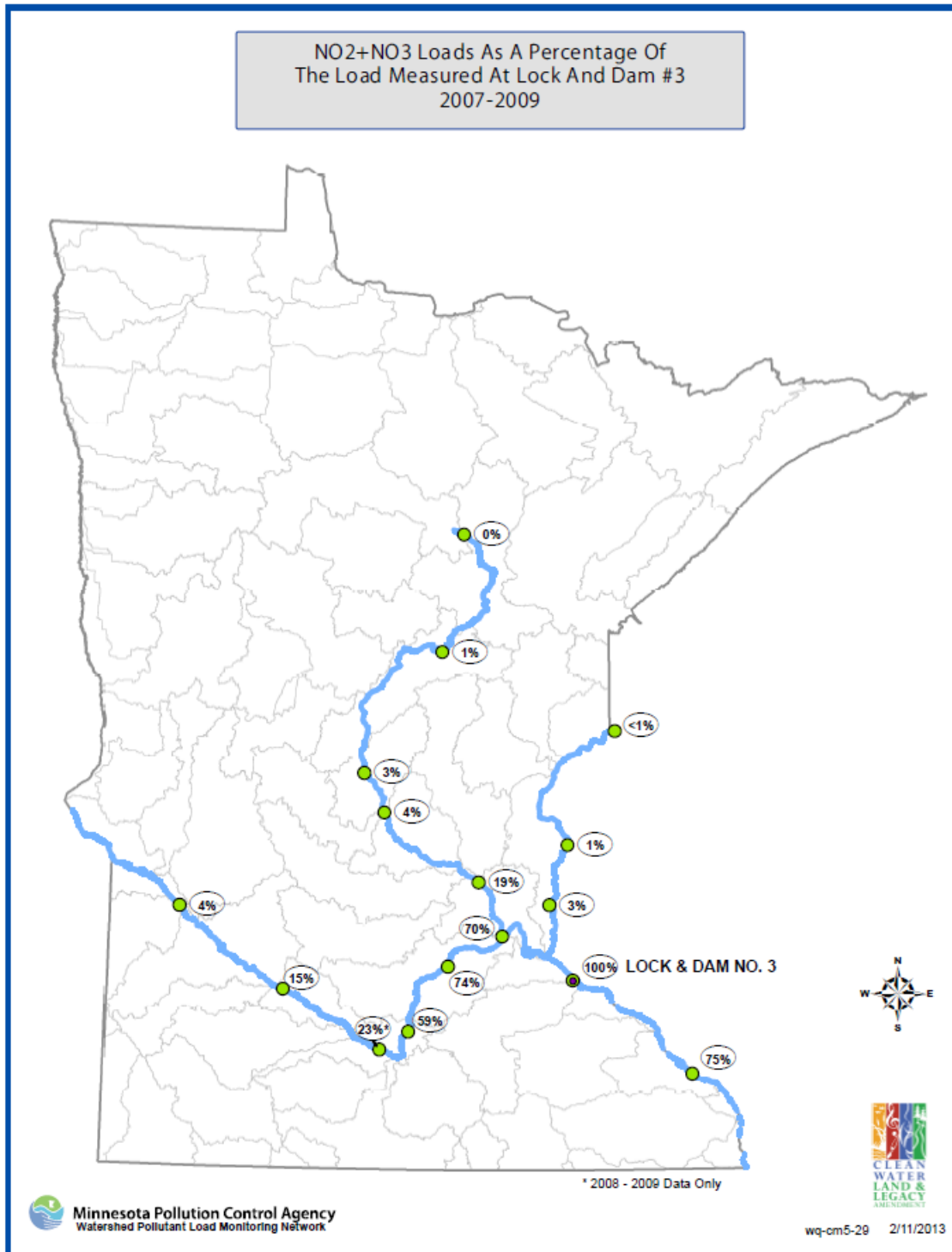
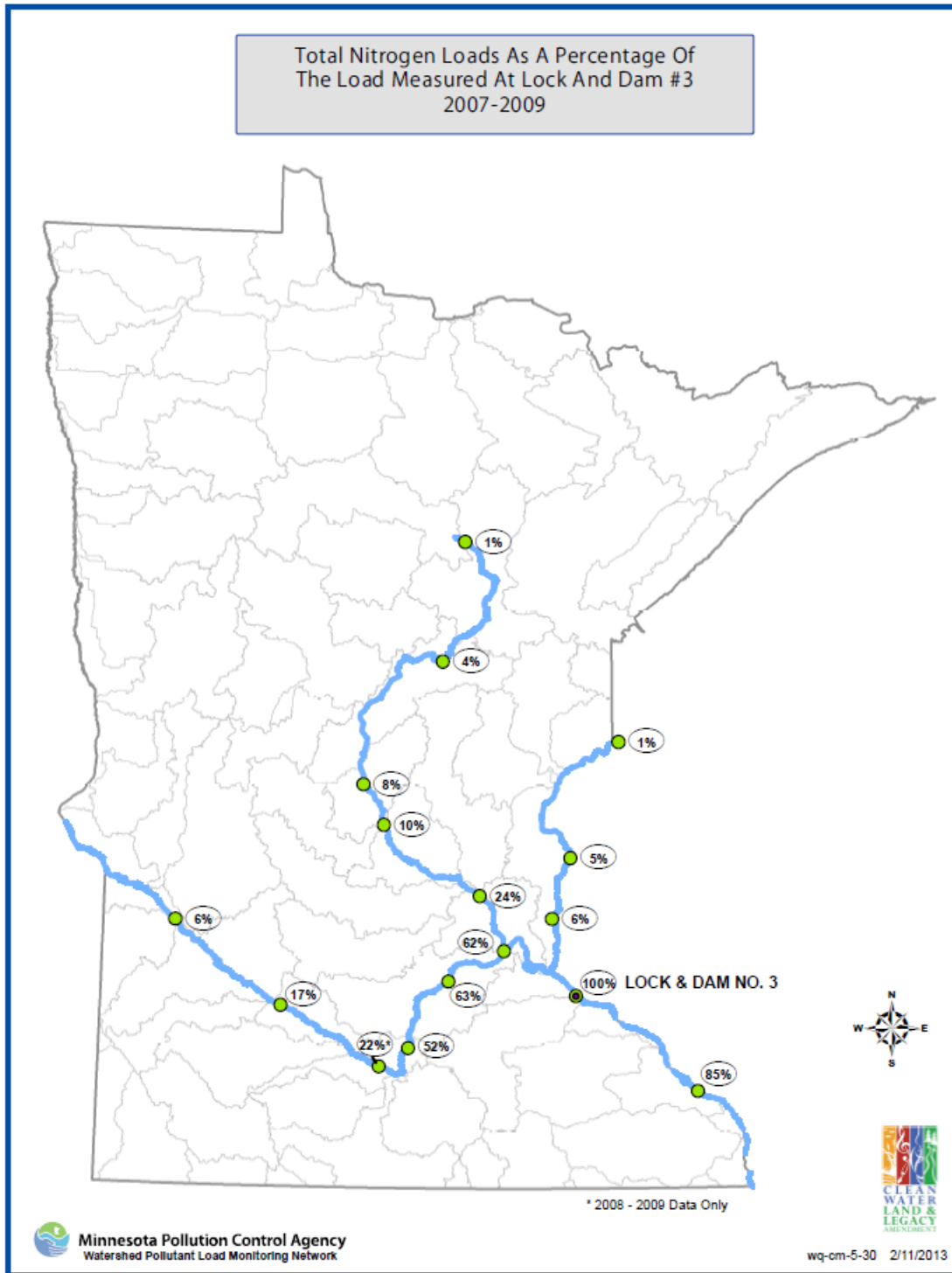


Figure 28. MPCA Total Nitrogen Loads as a Percentage of the Load Measured at Lock and Dam #3 (2007-2009)



F. Flow-Through Lakes and Reservoirs

To evaluate the effects the flow-through lakes and reservoirs have on Mississippi River water quality, a comparison was conducted between the average annual growing season water quality in the lake or reservoir and the next downstream Mississippi River monitoring site. Only two lakes had both in-lake data and corresponding downstream data: Stump Lake and Cass Lake, summarized below.

Stump Lake

Stump Lake is a 323-acre impoundment on the Mississippi River controlled by a dam operated by Ottertail Power. In-lake and stream data were available in 2005. The in-lake annual growing season mean TP concentration was slightly greater than the TP concentration at the downstream sampling site (S000-155) in the stream segment 07010101-513. This indicates that Stump Lake may have potentially acted as a source of TP to the Mississippi River in 2005.

Table 14. Comparison of phosphorus (mg/L) in Stump Lake and the downstream stream segment

AUID/Lake	YEAR	Phosphorus (mg/L)					
		N	Mean	Std. Dev.	25th Quartile	Median	75th Quartile
Stump Lake	2005	4	0.037	0.005	0.034	0.038	0.040
07010101-513	2005	4	0.032	0.009	0.025	0.031	0.040

Cass Lake

Cass Lake is a 15,958-acre reservoir on the Mississippi River controlled by the Knutson Dam operated by U.S. Forest Service. In-lake and stream data were available in 2004. The in-lake annual growing season mean TP concentration was less than the TP concentration at the downstream sampling site S002-283 in the stream segment 07010101-507. This indicates that Cass Lake may have potentially acted as a sink of TP from the Mississippi River in 2004.

Table 15. Comparison of phosphorus (mg/L) in Cass Lake and the downstream stream segment

AUID/Lake	YEAR	Phosphorus (mg/L)					
		N	Mean	Std. Dev.	25th Quartile	Median	75th Quartile
Cass Lake	2004	4	0.015	0.002	0.014	0.016	0.016
07010101-507	2004	8	0.042	0.016	0.029	0.038	0.057

Additional monitoring is needed to more thoroughly understand what impact flow-through lakes and reservoirs are having on Mississippi River water quality. We recommend that phosphorus and turbidity (Secchi depth in lakes, TSS in rivers) data be collected in the AUID immediately upstream of each of the lakes, in-lake, and at several monitoring sites along the AUID

immediately downstream of the lake. In lakes located in wetland areas (e.g., Cass), dissolved oxygen fluxes should also be monitored.

G. Future Study Recommendations

Consolidated HSPF Model

Over the next several years the MPCA will be constructing HSPF watershed loading and water quality models for the entire Mississippi River Headwaters watershed. These models will be used to predict flows and pollutant loadings in support of watershed-wide total maximum daily load (TMDL) studies and watershed restoration and protection planning. Listed below are the HUC-8 watersheds in the Headwaters area along with the year the MPCA plans to begin their intensive watershed monitoring. The HSPF model will be built in the 1-3 year period following the intensive monitoring so it is assumed that the entire Headwaters area will have HSPF modeling completed by around 2018.

1. Mississippi River (Headwaters) – 2013
2. Leech Lake River – 2012
3. Pine River – 2012
4. Mississippi River (Grand Rapids) – 2014
5. Crow Wing River – 2010
6. Mississippi River (Brainerd) – 2015
7. Mississippi River (Sartell) – 2016

As currently proposed, each of the HSPF models will be separate tools built at the HUC 8 level. The Headwaters Board could take advantage of this modeling effort by consolidating the various models and adding in the unique resources of the river system. The consolidated HSPF model could then be used to predict the impact that various land use scenarios throughout the region may have on each of the lakes and river reaches in the system.

Mississippi River Channel Erosion

The watershed for the Headwaters of the Mississippi River has gone through a number of man influenced hydraulic changes since the pre-settlement times. In the northern stretch of the Mississippi Headwaters the land cover is primarily forested with small amounts of agricultural and urban uses. These forests were originally old growth stands but are now comprised of young stands that regenerated after the initial logging of the area and are now managed for timber production. This is significant because the hydrology of young and middle aged forests behave differently than old growth forests. In portions of the watershed the pre-settlement streams feeding to the Mississippi were also modified to convey logs harvested to the mills, create water sources for hydro-powered mills, and in some areas to provide drainage to post-logging agriculture. After the initial logging and during the settlement of the area, dams were constructed for power generation and the creation of reservoirs.

As a result of the hydraulic changes to the watershed of the Headwaters of the Mississippi River, the channel is experiencing greater stress. A higher volume of water is entering the Mississippi from feeder streams and dam operations of the impounded waters are in some areas causing the Mississippi to flow at near bank-full conditions for extended periods of time. The result of the stress of extended bank flow on the Mississippi River channel is larger amounts of erosion and channel meandering adding nutrients and sediment to the load carried by the river.

Utilizing the channel assessment work already done by the DNR Fisheries, an in-depth analysis of reservoir dam operation plans and agricultural operation plans (wild rice farming) a hydrologic model for the 400 miles of the Headwaters could be constructed. Coupled with the effects of the changing climate and changes in landuse, the developed hydrologic model would be used to test scenarios of water release to reduce conditions that cause stream channel instability in the Mississippi River. The results of this analysis could then be used to update dam and field operation management plans for the protection of the Mississippi River.

For identification of potential areas of erosion adding to the nutrient and sediment load in the Mississippi River a terrain and stream channel analysis of the sub-watersheds for the contributing to the Mississippi River could be conducted. The sub-watershed analysis would use the available LIDAR data, soils data, landuse data and data sets from the USGS to identify areas highly susceptible to erosion. These areas could then be targeted for restoration activities if high amounts of erosion are taking place or restoration efforts to prevent future erosion problems.

3. CLEARWATER COUNTY

The headwaters of the Mississippi River are located in Clearwater County at Lake Itasca. Only one AUID (07010101-923) occurs within this county; water quality and biological data are summarized below. Figures for all water quality data are located in Appendix A.

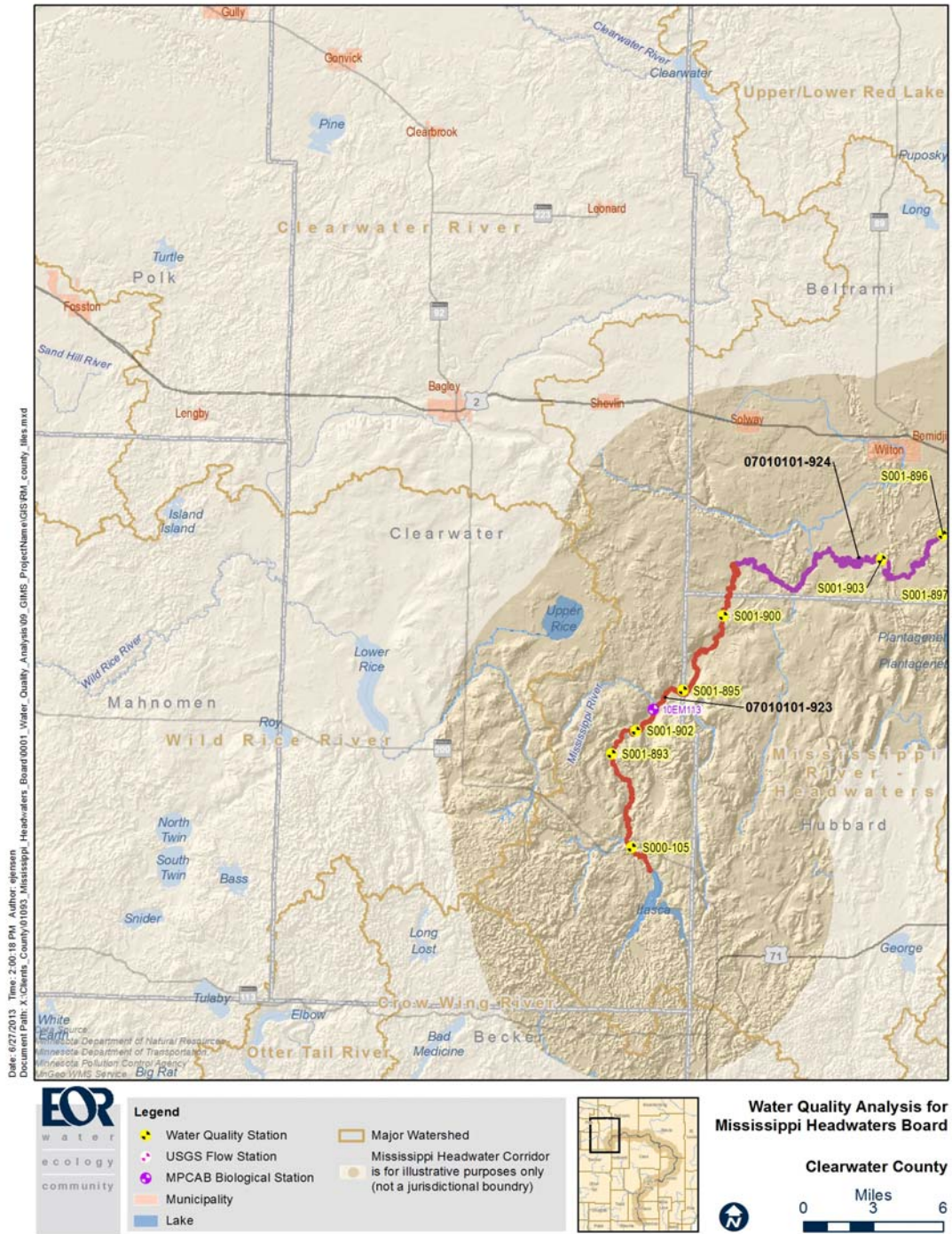


Figure 29. Mississippi River mainstem reaches located in Clearwater County

A. 07010101-923 (Headwaters to Unnamed Creek)

Data Inventory and Trends

Water quality data was collected from 5 stations on 07010101-923 between 2003 and 2010 (Table 16). Data was collected for all parameters for several years, but none in the most recent two years. Phosphorus slightly exceeded the draft water quality standard when averaged across all years (Table 17), but met the standard in 2010 (Figure 30).

Table 16. Data inventory for 07010101-923 (Headwaters to Unnamed Creek)

Year	Ammonia	Chloride	Dissolved oxygen	<i>E. coli</i>	Inorganic Nitrogen	pH	Total Phosphorus	Sulfate	Total Suspended Solids
2003	61		61		61	62	61	1	61
2004	2		2	1	2	2	2		2
2005	9		8	6	9	12	9	1	8
2006	2		7	8	2	9	2	1	2
2007	8	7	7	6	8	11	8	7	8
2009	2	2	2		2	2	2	2	2
2010	8	7	8		8	8	8	8	8

Table 17. Summary of water quality data for 07010101-923 (Headwaters to Unnamed Creek)

Pink lines indicate a water quality standard exceedance.

Pollutant	Standard	N	Mean	SE	Min	25th Quartile	Median	75th Quartile	Max
Ammonia (unionized) ¹	0.04 mg/L	92	0.06	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.26
Chloride	230 mg/L	16	2.03	0.21	1.40	1.51	1.70	2.22	4.70
DO	>5 mg/L	95	8.52	0.29	0.86	7.30	8.85	10.25	14.38
<i>E. coli</i> (geometric mean)	Geometric mean 126 org/ 100mL (Apr-Oct)	21	15.11	36.65	1.00	8.00	20.00	24.00	130.00
Inorganic N	10 mg/L	92	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.11
pH	>6.5, <9.0	106	7.90	0.03	6.73	7.69	7.98	8.12	8.64
Phosphorus	0.05 mg/L (June-Sept)	57	0.06	0.00	0.03	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.15
Sulfate	250 mg/L	20	1.07	0.06	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	2.05
TSS	15 mg/L (Apr-Sept)	68	7.07	1.55	1.00	2.00	3.60	7.60	98.00

¹ Standard of 0.04 mg/L is for unionized ammonia. The mean concentration is total ammonia.

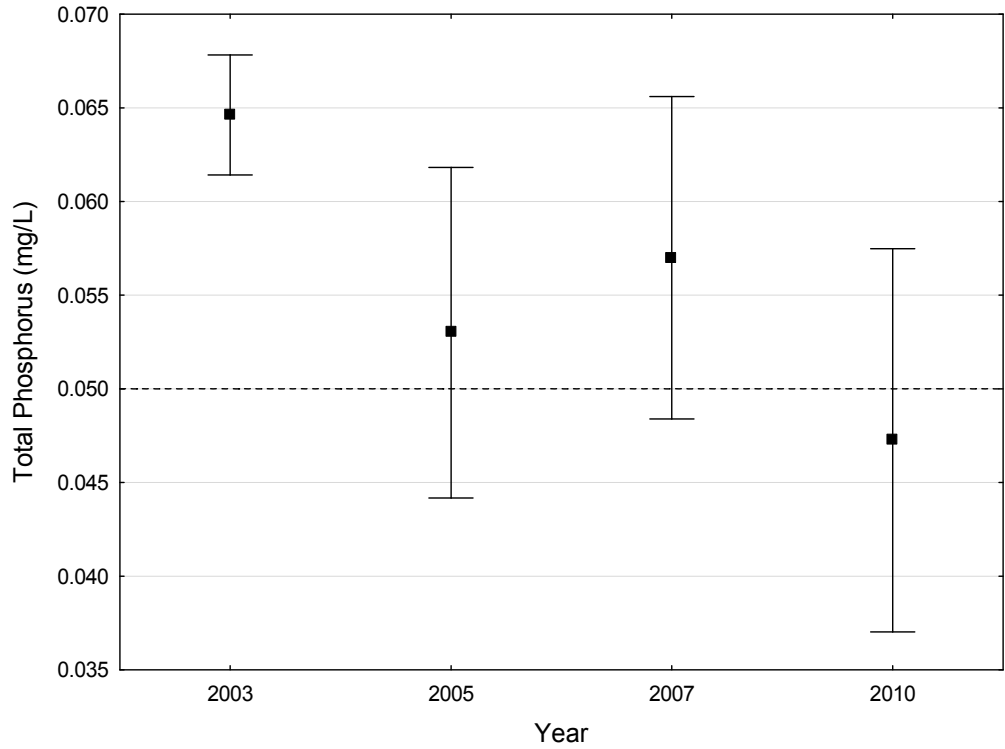


Figure 30. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year on 07010101-923 (Headwaters to Unnamed Creek). The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).

Biological Data

Three biological monitoring stations occur on reach 07010101-923, but only one station has data from the most recent ten years. Station 10EM113 was sampled for invertebrates in 2011 (Table 18). Twenty-five families were documented, and the IBI score was 73.

Table 18. Attributes of invertebrates sampled at 07010101-923 (Headwaters to Unnamed Creek)

Attribute	Count/ percent
EPT Taxa	12
Ephemeroptera Taxa	4
Hilsenhoffs Biotic Index (HBI)	4.2
Intolerant Families	5
Percent Pollution Tolerant	1
Percent Chironomidae	8.4
Percent Diptera	20
Percent Dominant Taxa	55.2
Percent Dominant Two Taxa	66.5
Percent Filterers	16.5
Percent Gatherer	74.2
Percent Hydropsychidae	2.3
Percent Scraper	4.8
Plecoptera Families	3
Trichoptera Families	5
Total Families	25

4. BELTRAMI COUNTY

Ten AUIDs occur in Beltrami County, but only three AUIDs have water quality data within the most recent 10 years. None of the three AUIDs have biological monitoring data within the most recent 10 years. Figures for all water quality data are located in Appendix B.

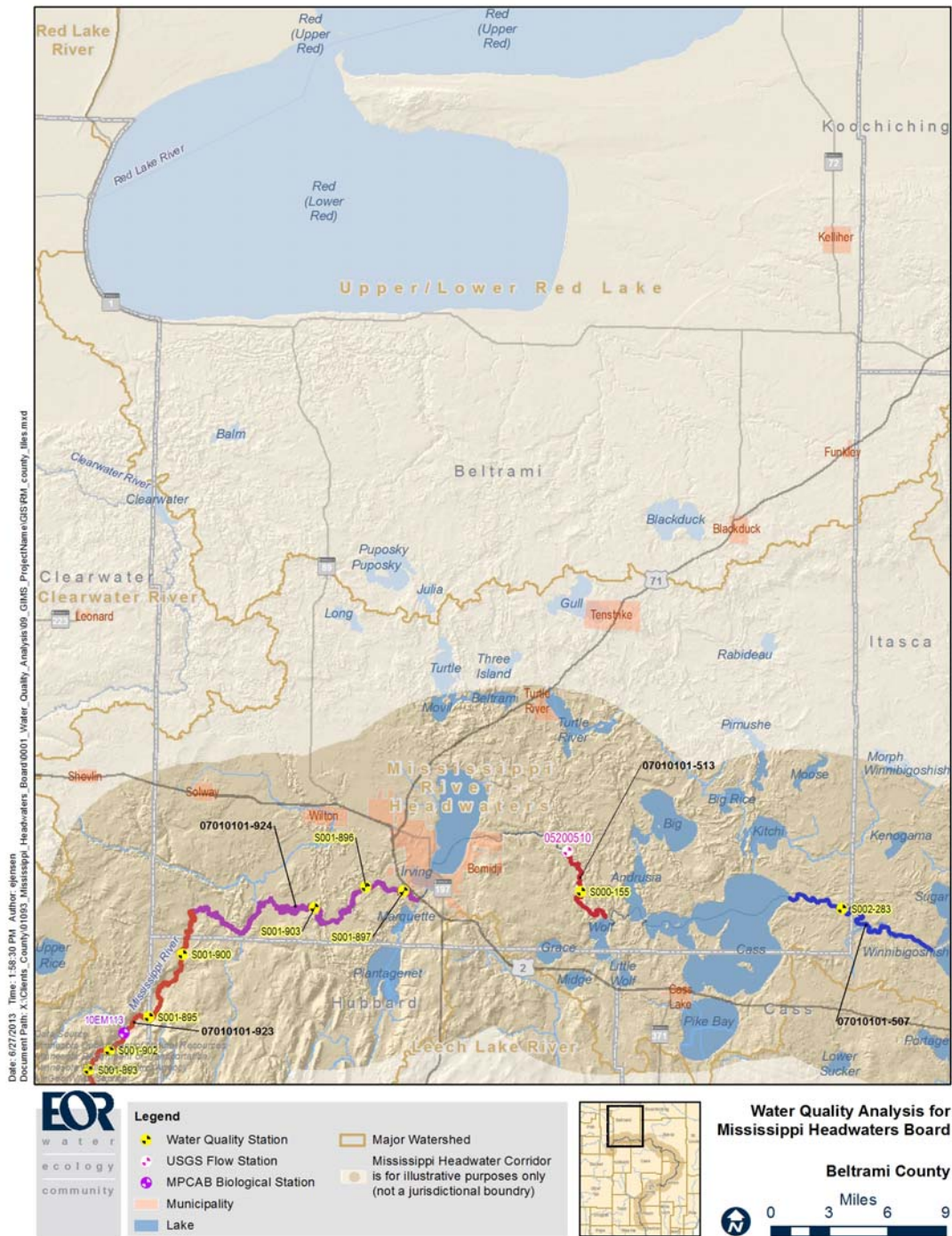


Figure 31. Mississippi River mainstem reaches in Beltrami County.

A. 07010101-924 (Unnamed Creek to Schoolcraft River)

Data Inventory and Trends

Water quality data was collected from three stations in 2003 on 07010101-924. No data was collected for chloride, *E. coli*, or sulfate (Table 19). Phosphorus slightly exceeded the water quality standard in 2003. All other water quality parameters met the water quality standards.

Table 19. Data inventory for 07010101-924 (Unnamed Creek to Schoolcraft River).

Year	Ammonia	Chloride	Dissolved oxygen	<i>E. coli</i>	Inorganic Nitrogen	pH	Total Phosphorus	Sulfate	Total Suspended Solids
2003	36		36		36	36	36		36

Table 20. Summary of water quality data for 07010101-924 (Unnamed Creek to Schoolcraft River).
Pink lines indicate a water quality standard exceedance.

Pollutant	Standard	N	Mean	SE	Min	25th Quartile	Median	75th Quartile	Max
Ammonia (unionized)	0.04 mg/L	36	0.06	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.07	0.19
Chloride	230 mg/L								
DO	>5 mg/L	36	6.27	0.43	0.90	4.32	6.45	8.25	10.33
<i>E. coli</i>	126 org/100mL (Apr-Oct)								
Inorganic N	10 mg/L	36	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.08
pH	>6.5, <9.0	36	7.67	0.06	6.80	7.45	7.70	7.94	8.36
Phosphorus	0.05 mg/L (June-Sept)	27	0.08	0.01	0.05	0.07	0.08	0.09	0.16
Sulfate	250 mg/L								
TSS	15 mg/L (Apr-Sept)	30	3.71	0.47	1.00	1.60	3.00	4.40	9.60

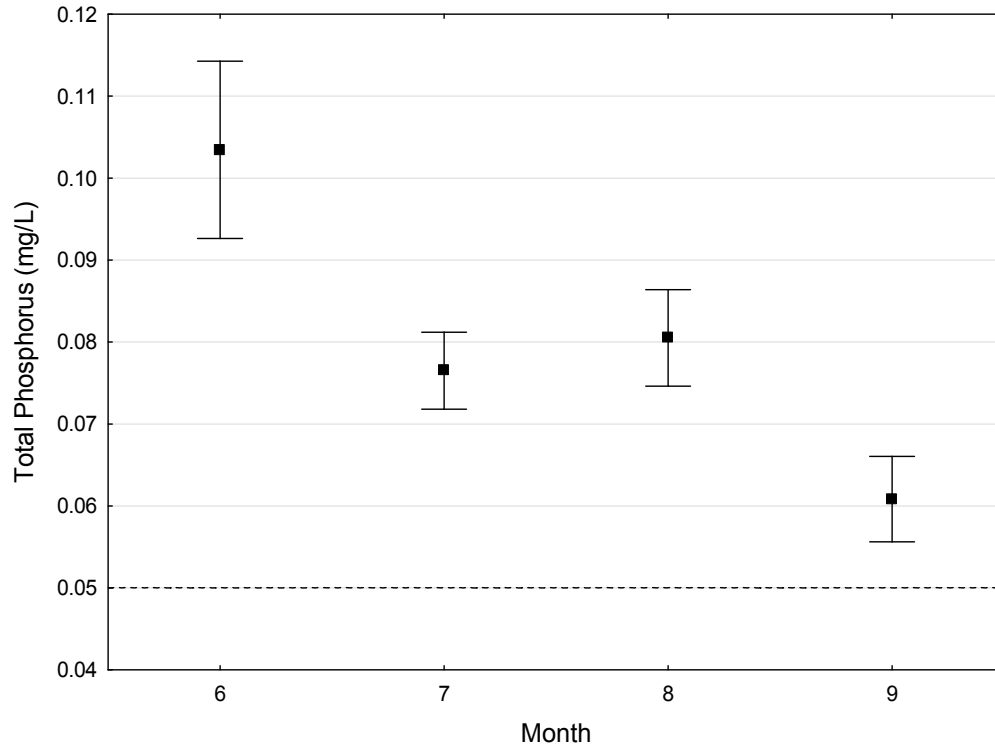


Figure 32. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per month in 2003 on 07010101-924 (Unnamed Creek to Schoolcraft River). The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).

B. 07010101-513 (Stump Lake to Wolf Lake)

Data Inventory and Trends

Water quality data was collected from one station on 07010101-513 between 2004 and 2010, but no data was collected in 2008 (Table 21). No *E. coli* data has been collected in the most recent 5 years. All water quality parameters met the standards for all when averaged over the past 10 years (Table 22).

Table 21. Data inventory for 07010101-513 (Stump Lake to Wolf Lake).

Year	Ammonia	Chloride	Dissolved oxygen	<i>E. coli</i>	Inorganic Nitrogen	pH	Total Phosphorus	Sulfate	Total Suspended Solids
2004	2		2	1	2	2	2		2
2005	8		8	6	8	12	8		8
2006	2		8	8	2	9	2	1	2
2007	8	7	7	6	8	11	8	7	8
2008									
2009	2	2	2		2	2	2	2	2
2010	8	7	8		8	8	8	8	8

Table 22. Summary of water quality data for 07010101-513 (Stump Lake to Wolf Lake).

Pollutant	Standard	N	Mean	SE	Min	25th Quartile	Median	75th Quartile	Max
Ammonia (unionized)	0.04 mg/L	30	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
Chloride	230 mg/L	16	6.66	0.18	5.30	6.20	6.60	6.90	8.57
DO	>5 mg/L	35	10.74	0.40	6.79	9.05	10.16	12.86	15.07
<i>E. coli</i>	126 org/100mL (Apr-Oct)	21	9.79	1.00	32.55	4.00	12.00	28.00	140.00
Inorganic N	10 mg/L	30	0.07	0.01	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.30
pH	>6.5, <9.0	44	8.42	0.04	7.75	8.30	8.40	8.58	8.88
Phosphorus	0.05 mg/L (June-Sept)	12	0.03	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.05
Sulfate	250 mg/L	18	2.41	0.12	1.65	1.78	2.60	2.76	3.25
TSS	15 mg/L (Apr-Sept)	18	2.63	0.59	1.00	1.20	1.60	3.20	11.00

C. 07010101-507 (Cass Lake to Lake Winnibigoshish)

Data Inventory and Trends

Water quality data was collected from one station on 07010101-507 in 2004 and 2005. Data was not collected for *E. coli* or sulfate (Table 23). When averaged over the two years data was collected, phosphorus exceeded the draft standard (Table 24). Phosphorus met the standard in 2004, but exceeded the draft water quality standard in 2005 (Table 24).

Table 23. Data inventory for 07010101-507 (Cass Lake to Lake Winnibigoshish).

Year	Ammonia	Chloride	Dissolved oxygen	<i>E. coli</i>	Inorganic Nitrogen	pH	Total Phosphorus	Sulfate	Total Suspended Solids
2004	16	16	16		16	16	16		16
2005	18	18	18		18	17	18		18

Table 24. Summary of water quality data for 07010101-507 (Cass Lake to Lake Winnibigoshish).

Pollutant	Standard	N	Mean	SE	Min	25th Quartile	Median	75th Quartile	Max
Ammonia (unionized)	0.04 mg/L	34	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.25
Chloride	230 mg/L	34	20.95	0.77	11.10	17.49	20.99	24.49	27.10
DO	>5 mg/L	34	8.53	0.44	3.76	6.67	8.25	10.87	12.78
<i>E. coli</i>	126 org/100mL (Apr-Oct)								
Inorganic N	10 mg/L	34	0.08	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.08	0.46
pH	>6.5, <9.0	33	7.92	0.04	7.46	7.76	7.99	8.09	8.34
Phosphorus	0.05 mg/L (June-Sept)	18	0.07	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.06	0.09	0.15
Sulfate	250 mg/L								
TSS	15 mg/L (Apr-Sept)	28	11.63	2.17	0.50	3.00	7.54	18.50	40.00

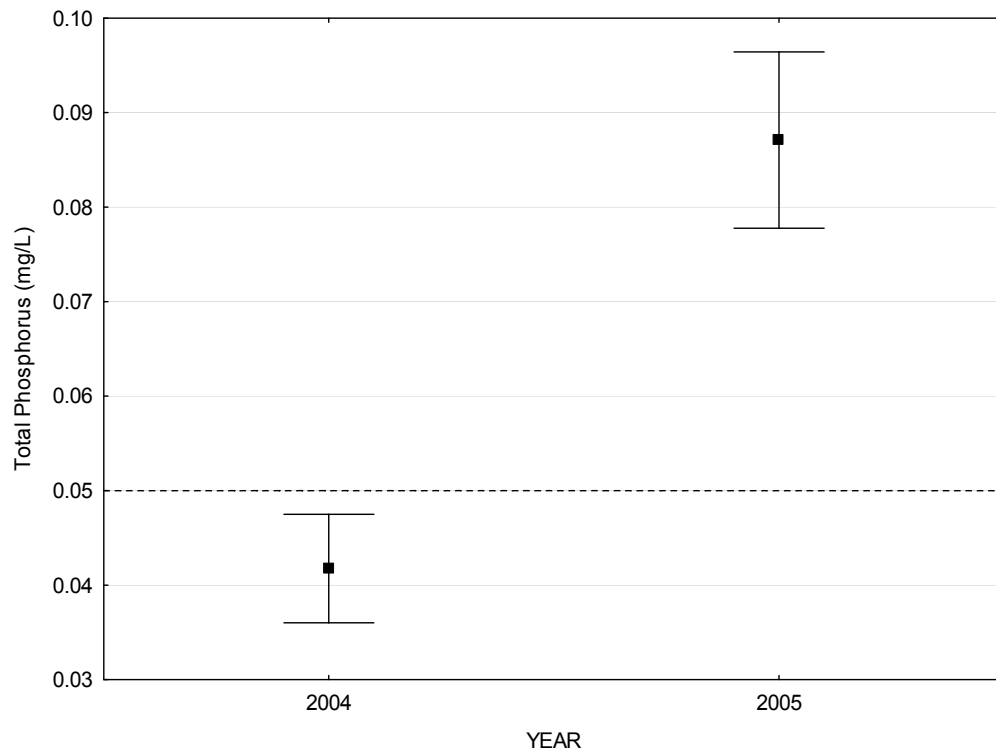


Figure 33. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year on 07010101-507 (Cass Lake to Lake Winnibigoshish). The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).

10. APPENDICES

Figures of available water quality data for ammonia, chloride, dissolved oxygen, *E. coli*, inorganic nitrogen, pH, sulfate, total phosphorus, and total suspended solids over the most recent ten years (2003-2012) are shown below for each Mississippi River reach, organized by county.

A. Clearwater County

AUID 07010101-923 (Headwaters to Unnamed Creek) Temporal Trends

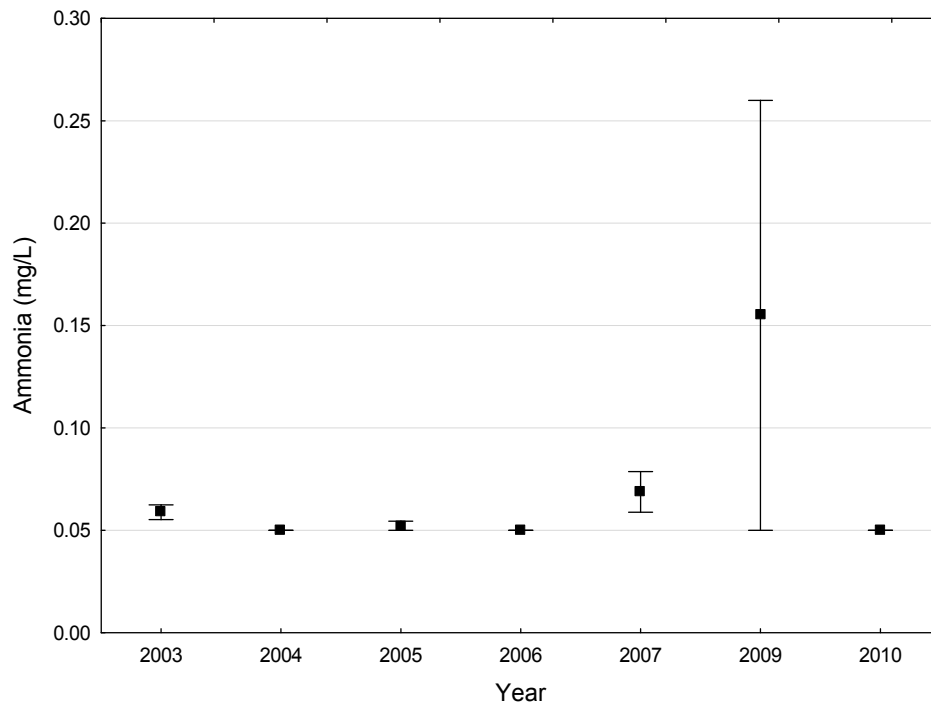


Figure 42. Mean \pm SE ammonia concentration per year on 07010101-923. The water quality standard is for unionized ammonia (0.04 mg/L), which is a fraction of the total ammonia above.

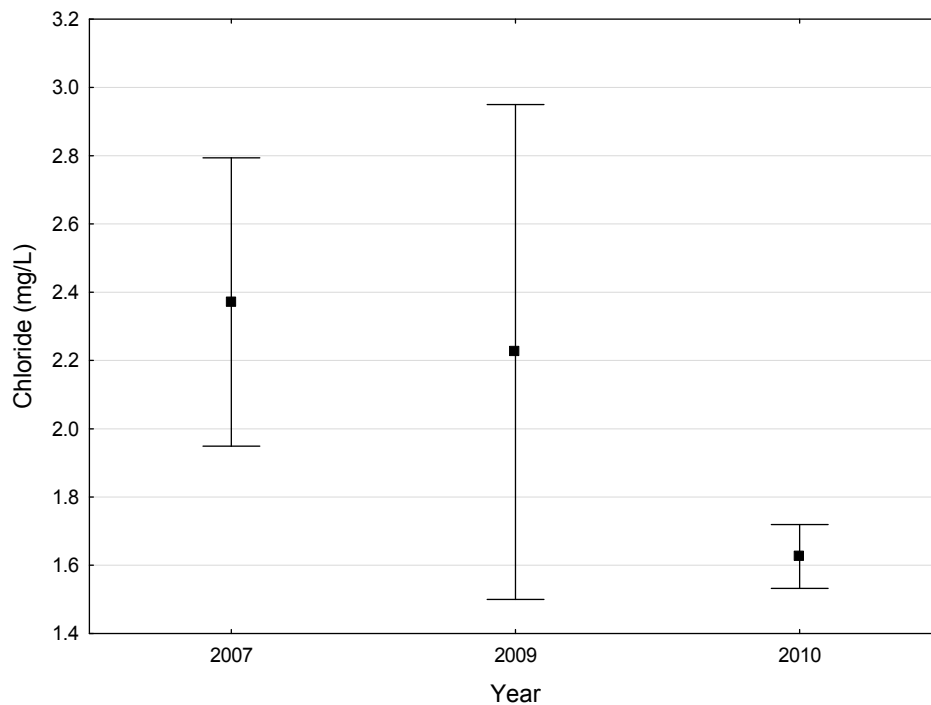


Figure 43. Mean \pm SE chloride concentration per year on 07010101-923. The water quality standard for chloride is 230 mg/L.

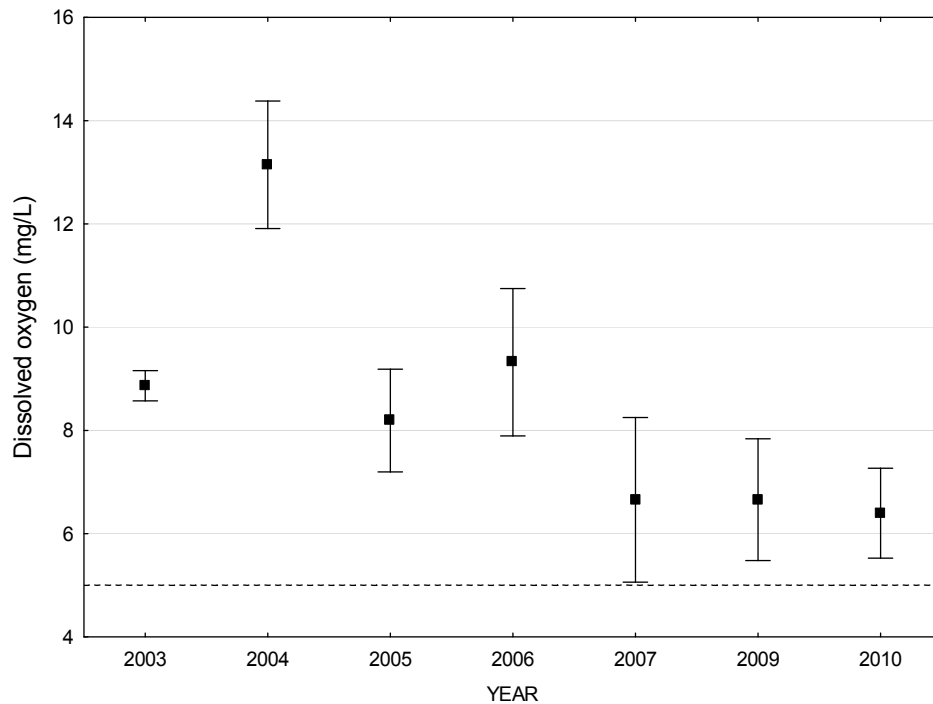


Figure 44. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen per year on 07010101-923 (. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L).

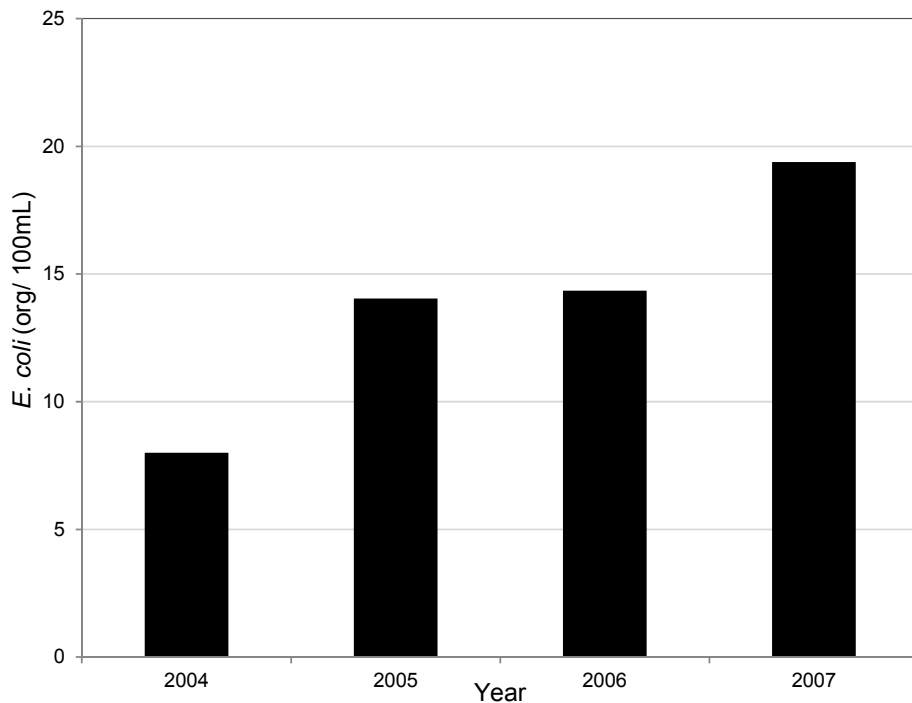


Figure 45. Growing season (Apr-Oct) mean *E. coli* concentration per year on 07010101-923 (. The water quality standard for *E. coli* is 126 organisms/ mL.

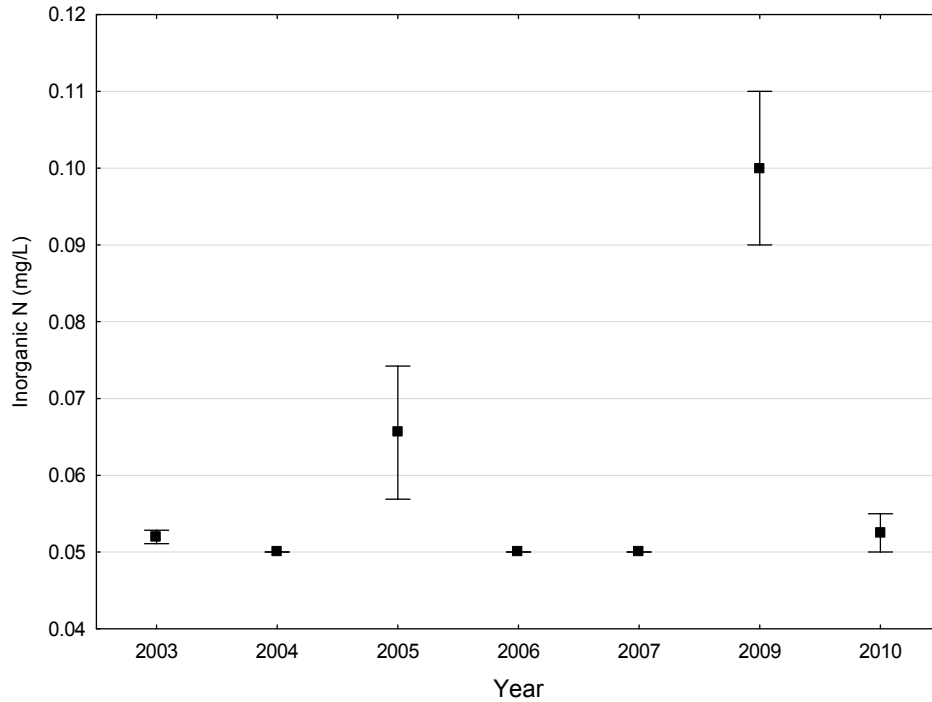


Figure 46. Mean \pm SE inorganic N concentration per year on 07010101-923. The water quality standard for inorganic N is 10 mg/L.

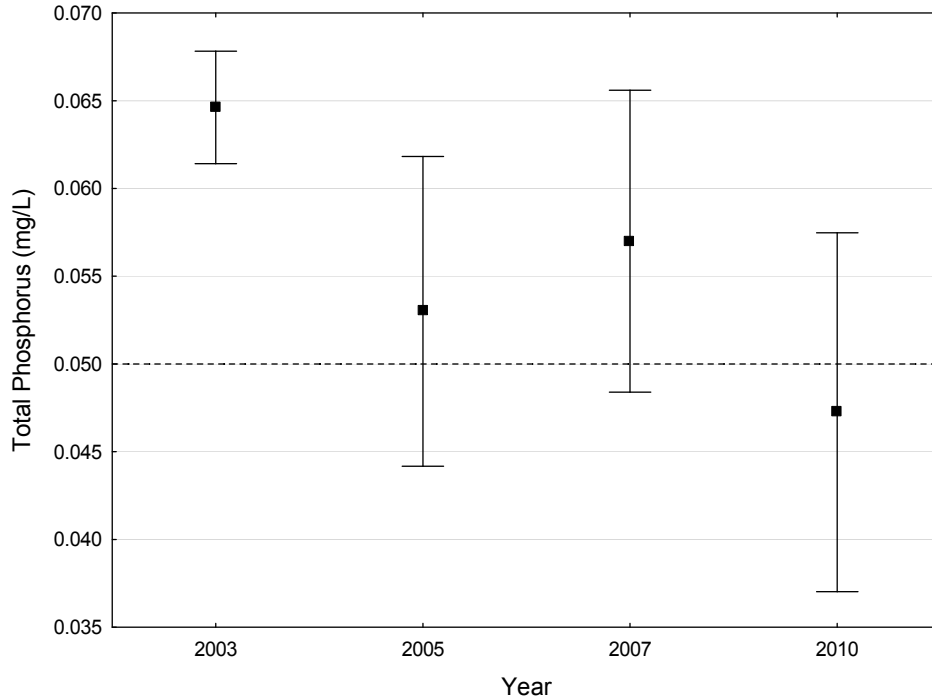


Figure 47. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year on 07010101-923. The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).

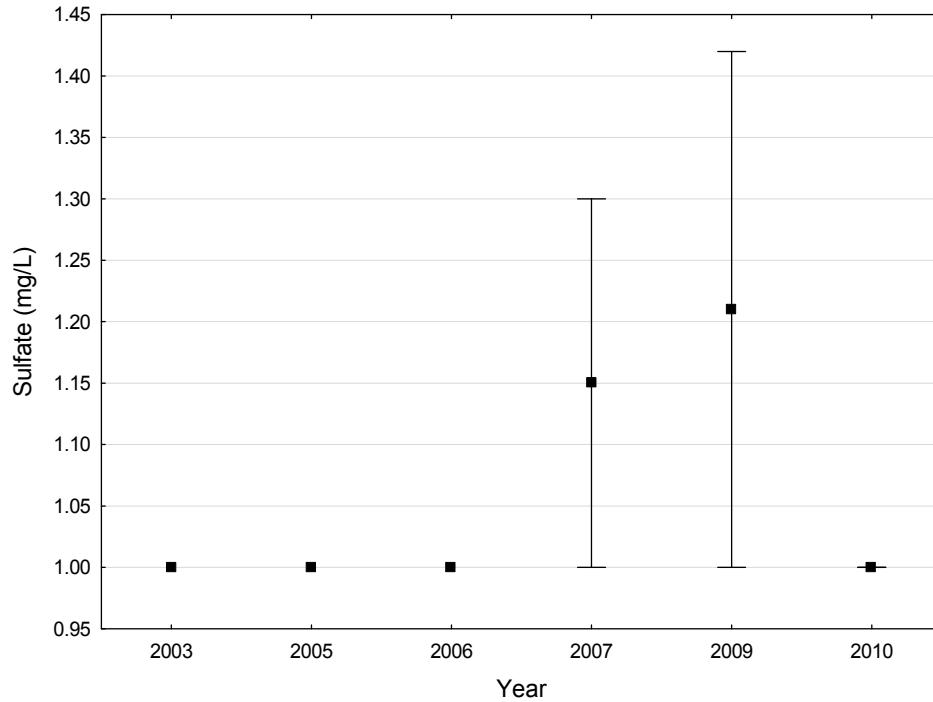


Figure 48. Mean \pm SE sulfate concentration per year. The water quality standard for sulfate is 250 mg/L.

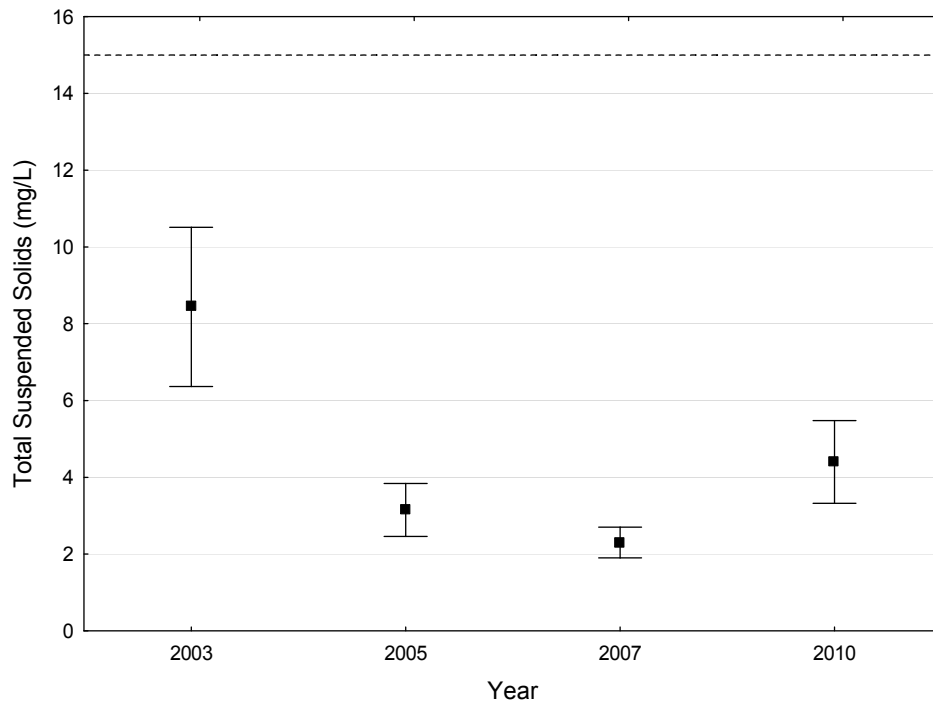


Figure 49. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per year. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L).

B. Beltrami County

AUID 07010101-924 (Unnamed Creek to Schoolcraft River) Temporal Trends

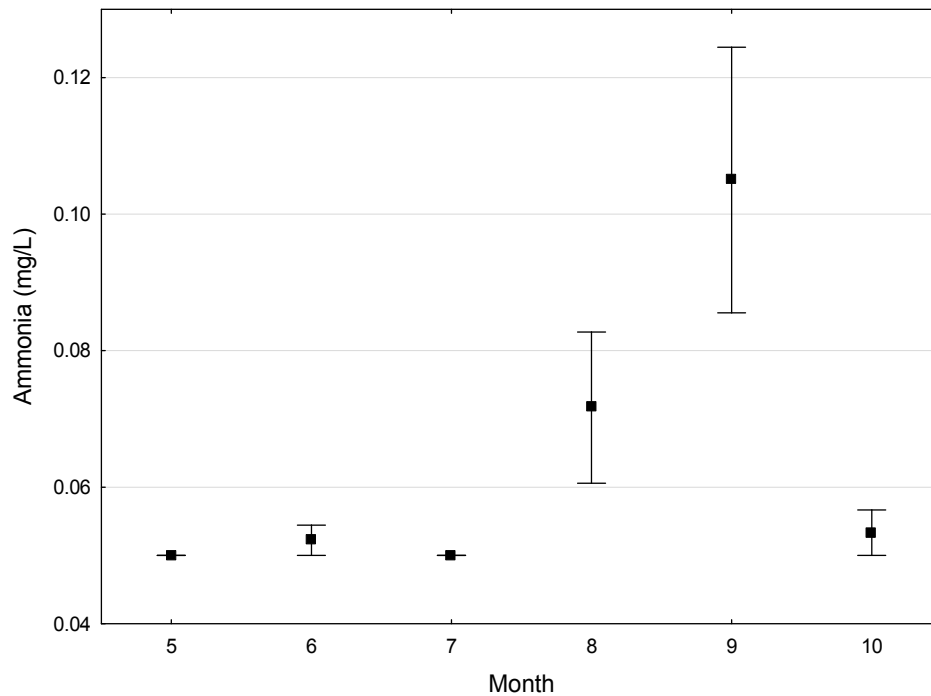


Figure 50. Mean \pm SE ammonia concentration per year on 07010101-924. The water quality standard is for unionized ammonia (0.04 mg/L), which is a fraction of the total ammonia above.

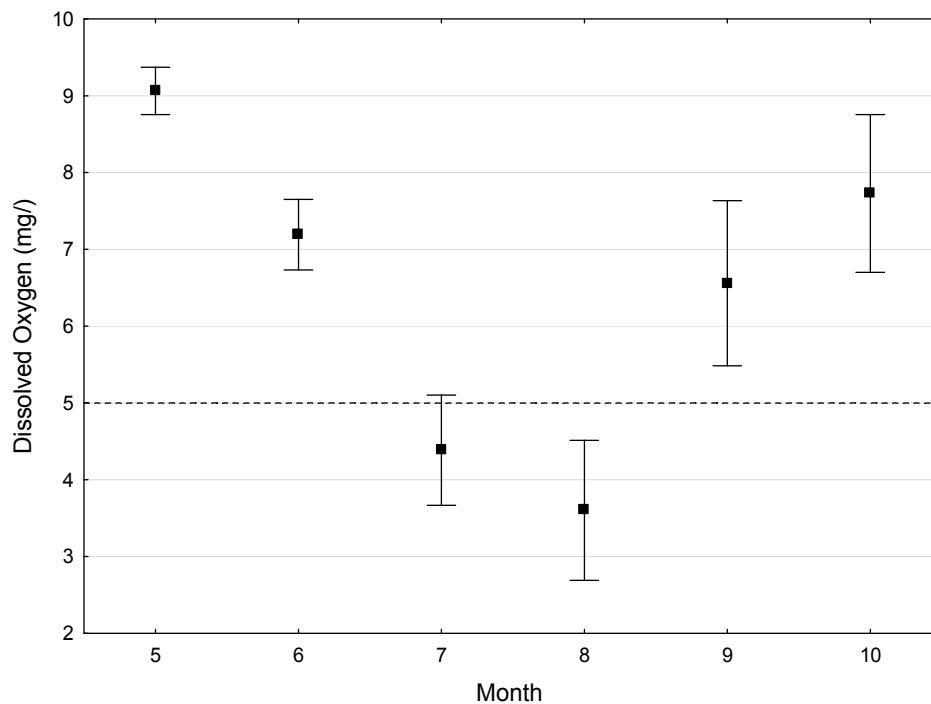


Figure 51. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen concentration per month in 2003 on 07010101-924. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5 mg/L).

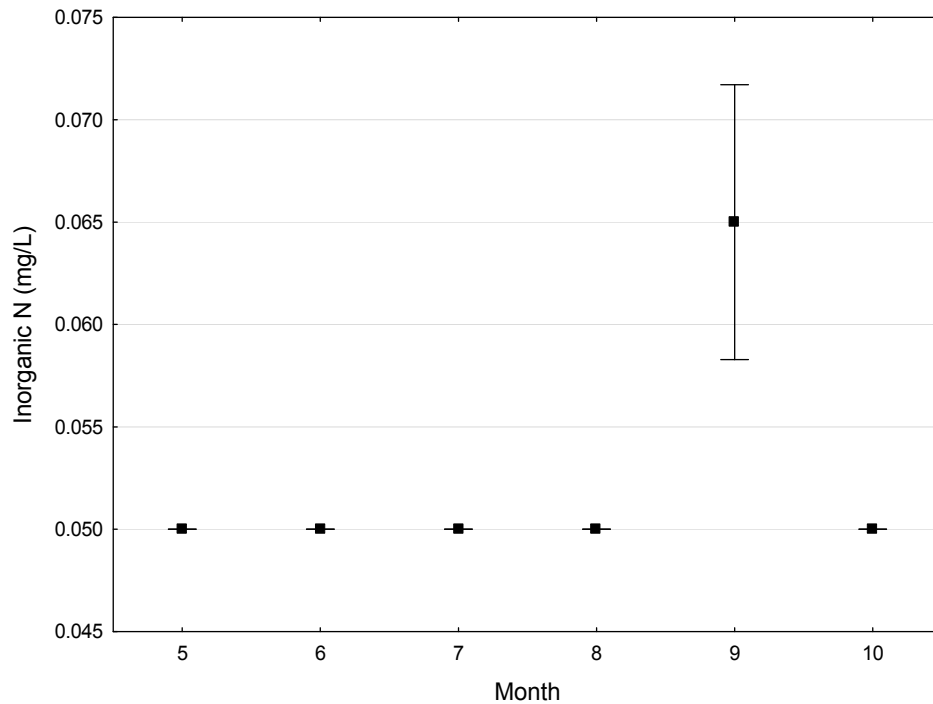


Figure 52. Mean \pm SE inorganic N concentration per month in 2003 on 07010101-924. The water quality standard for inorganic N is 10 mg/L.

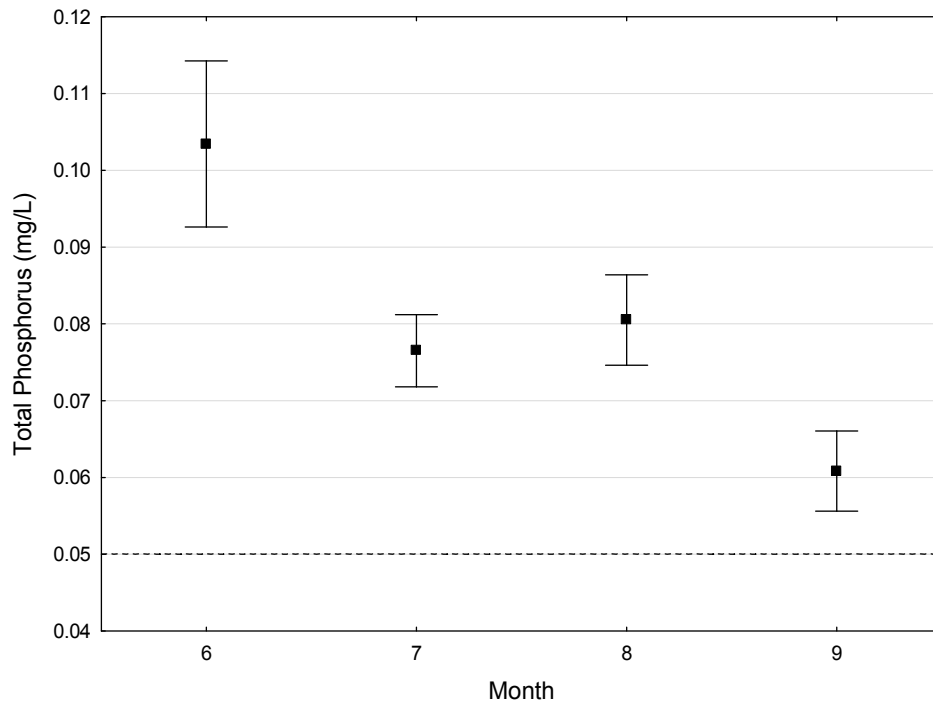


Figure 53. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per month in 2003 on 07010101-924. The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).

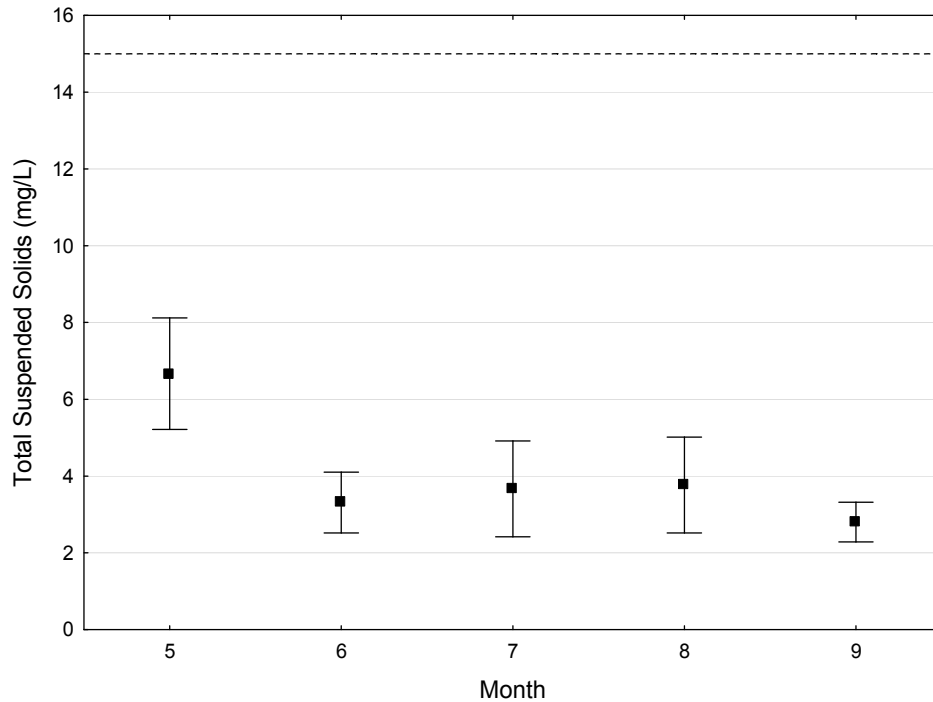


Figure 54. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per month in 2003 07010101-924. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L).

AUID 07010101-513 (Stump Lake to Wolf Lake) Temporal Trends

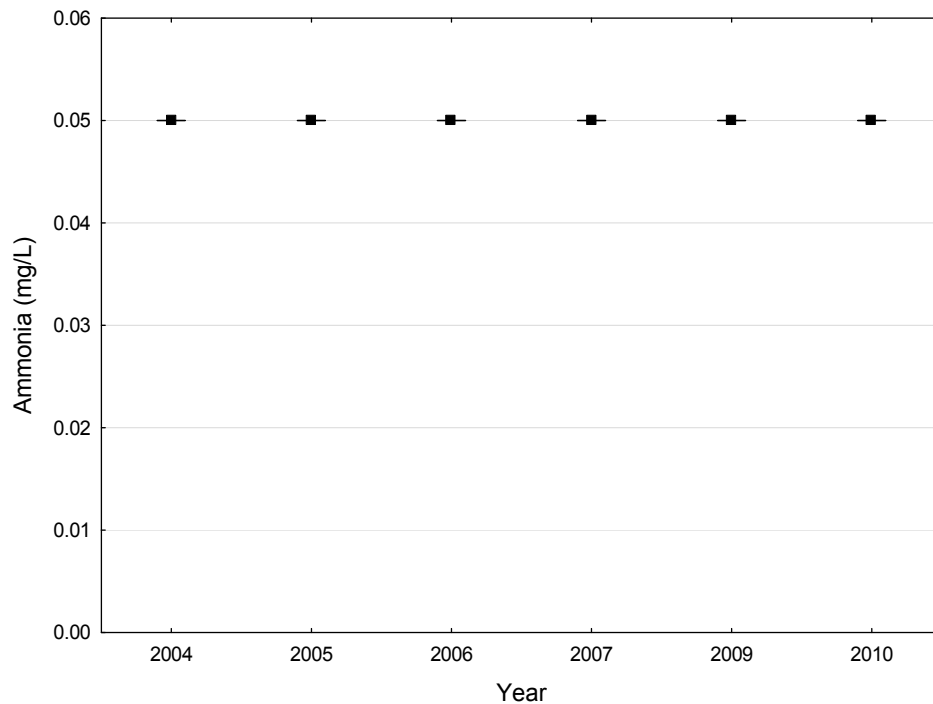


Figure 55. Mean \pm SE ammonia concentration per year on 07010101-513. The water quality standard is for unionized ammonia (0.04 mg/L), which is a fraction of the total ammonia above.

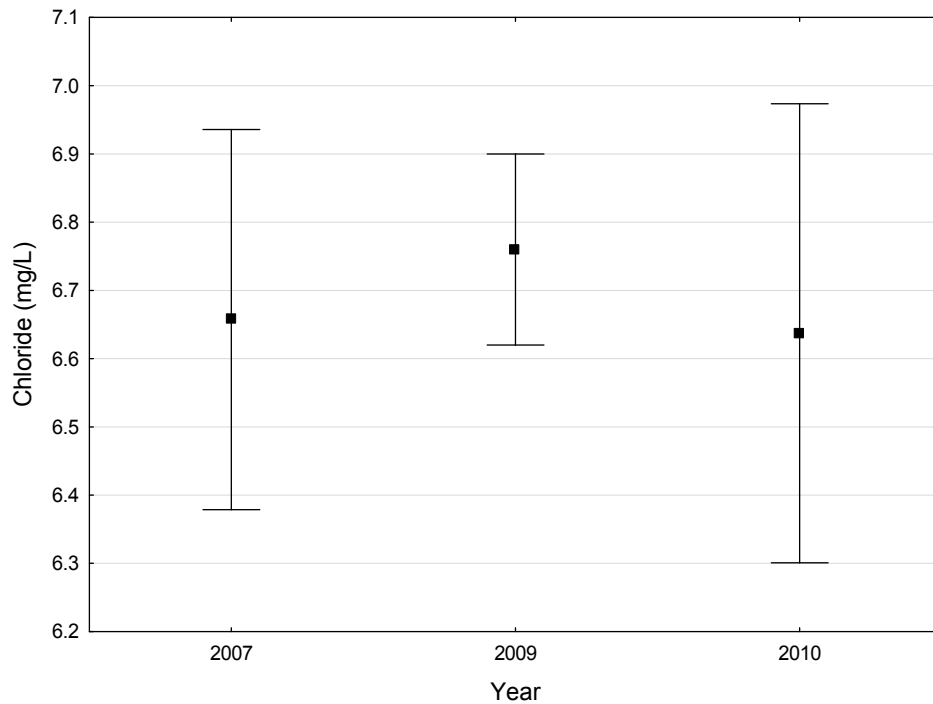


Figure 56. Mean \pm SE chloride concentration per year on 07010101-513. The water quality standard for chloride is 230 mg/L.

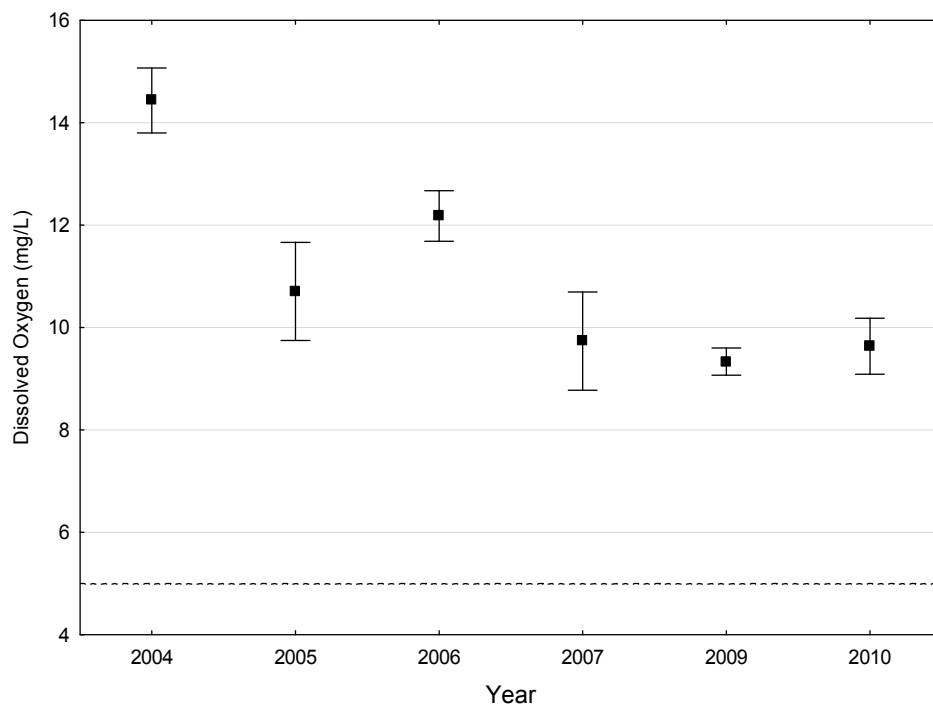


Figure 57. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen concentration per year on 07010101-513. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L).

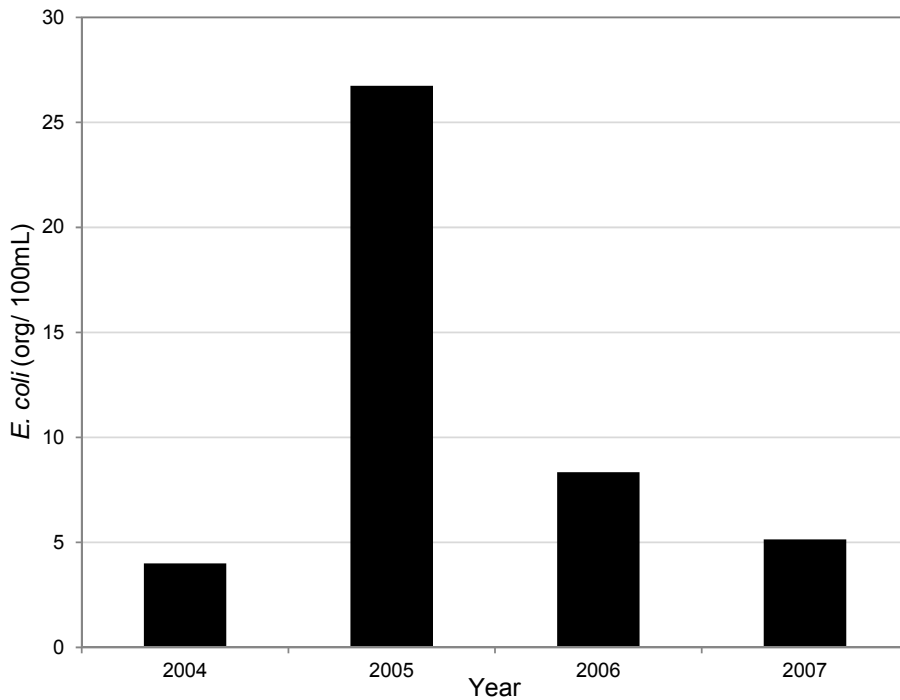


Figure 58. Growing season (Apr-Oct) mean *E. coli* concentration per year on 07010101-513. The water quality standard for *E. coli* is 126 organisms/100mL.

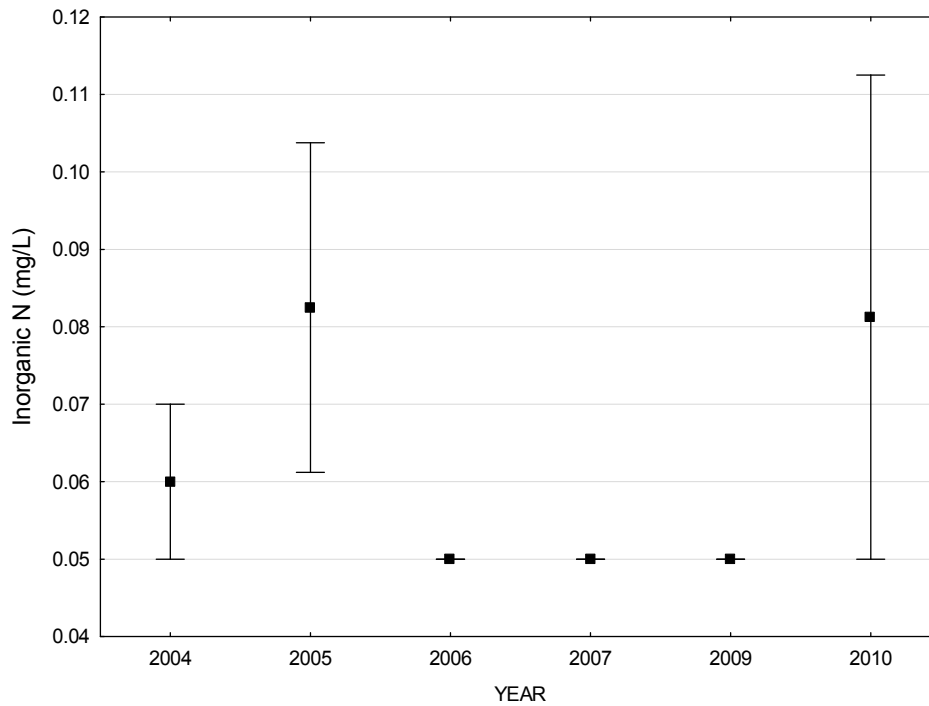


Figure 59. Mean \pm SE inorganic N concentration per year on 07010101-513. The water quality standard for inorganic N is 10 mg/L.

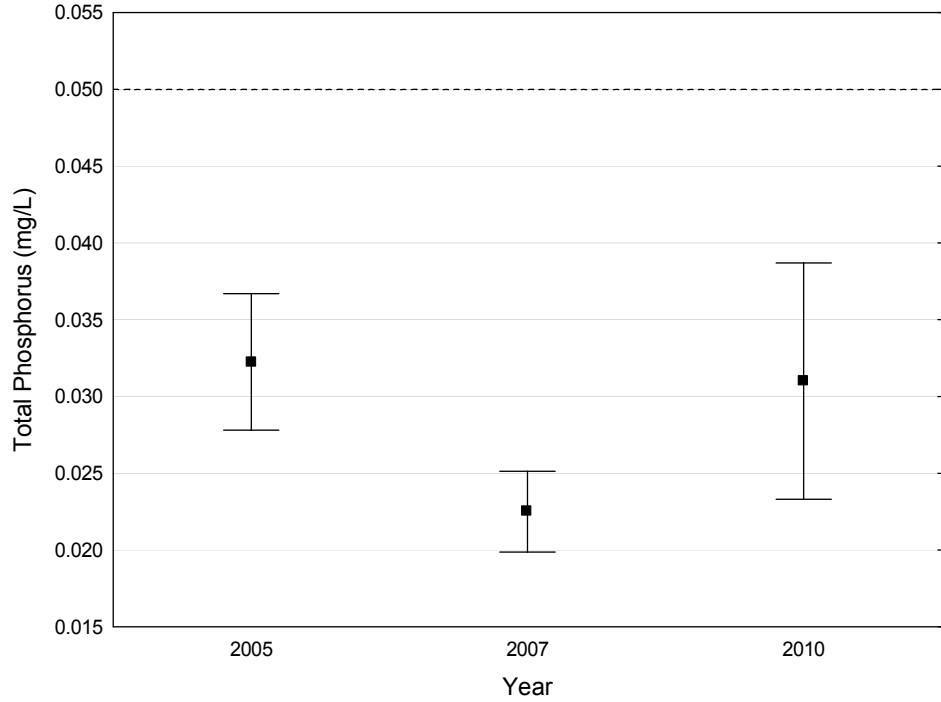


Figure 60. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year on 07010101-513. The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).

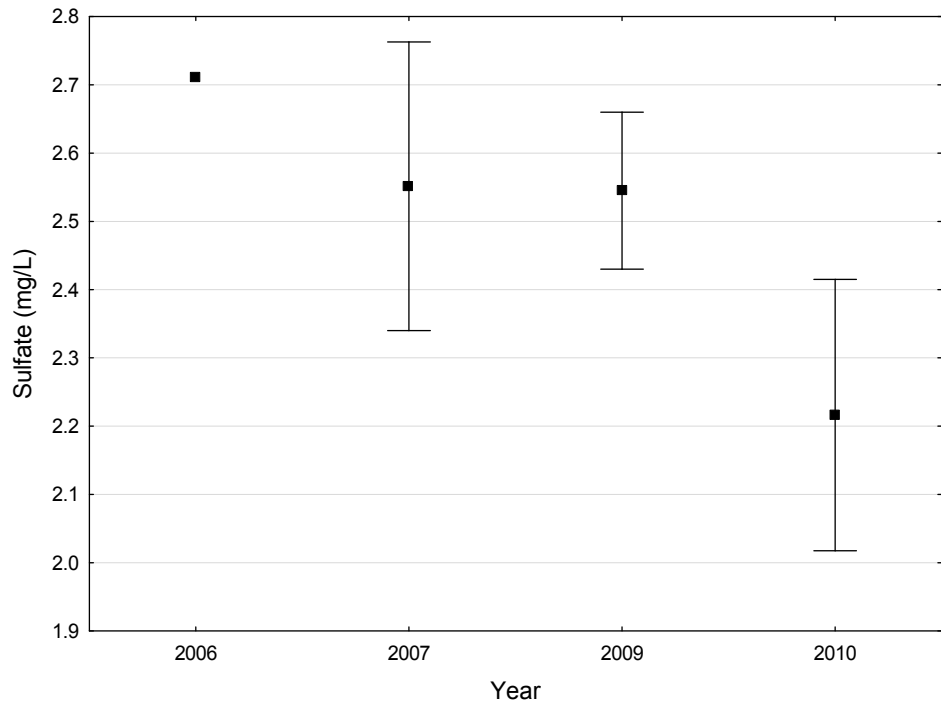


Figure 61. Mean \pm SE sulfate concentration per year 07010101-513. The water quality standard for sulfate is 250 mg/L.

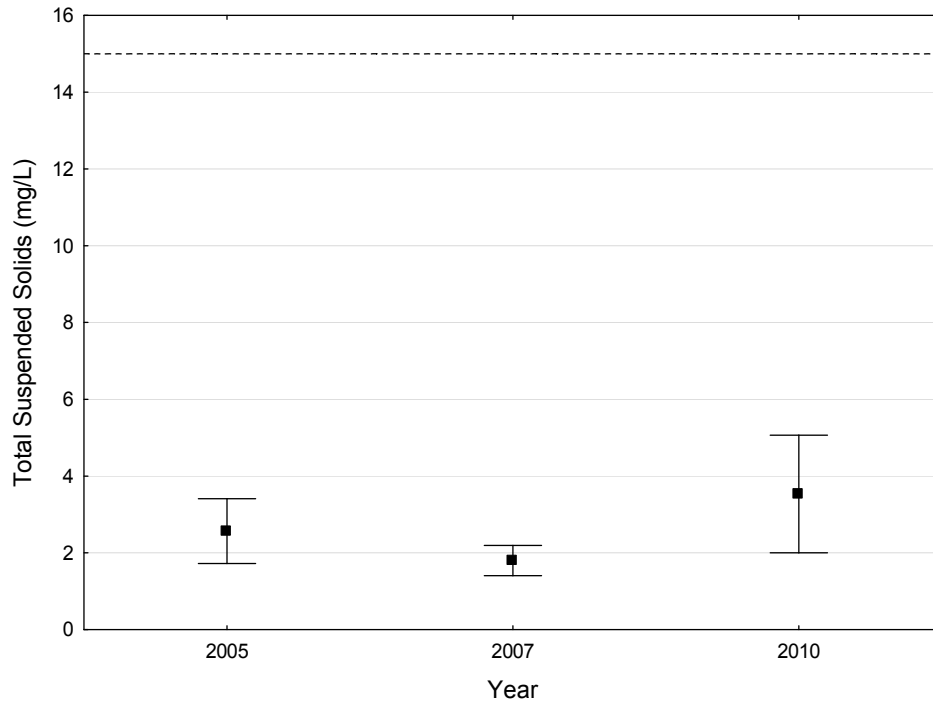


Figure 62. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per year on 07010101-513. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L).

AUID 07010101-507 (Cass Lake to Lake Winnibigoshish) Temporal Trends

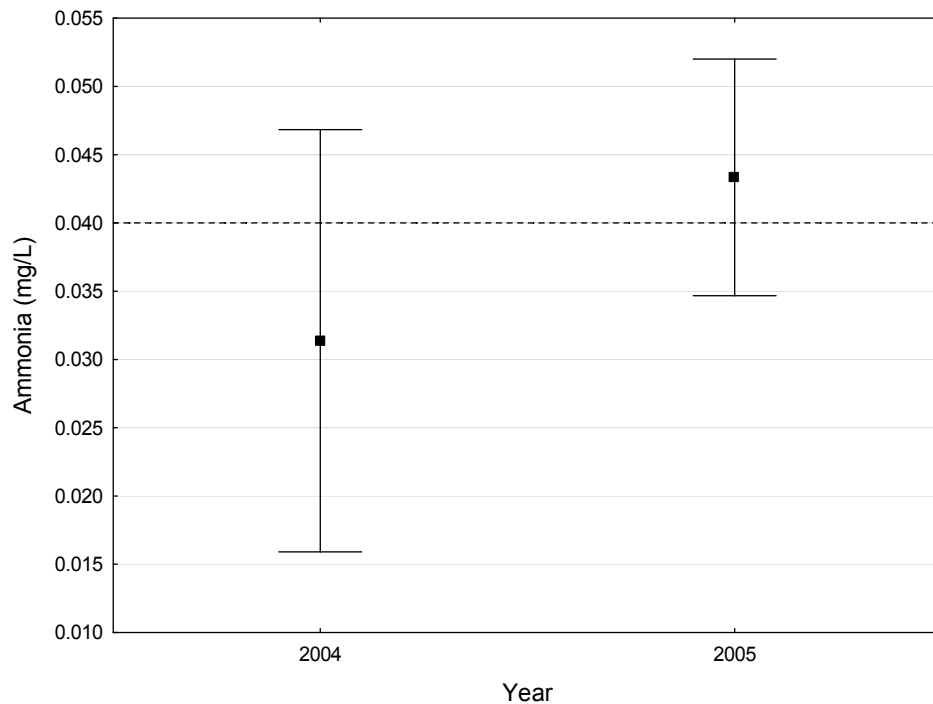


Figure 63. Mean \pm SE ammonia concentration per year on 07010101-507. The water quality standard is for unionized ammonia (0.04 mg/L), which is a fraction of the total ammonia above.

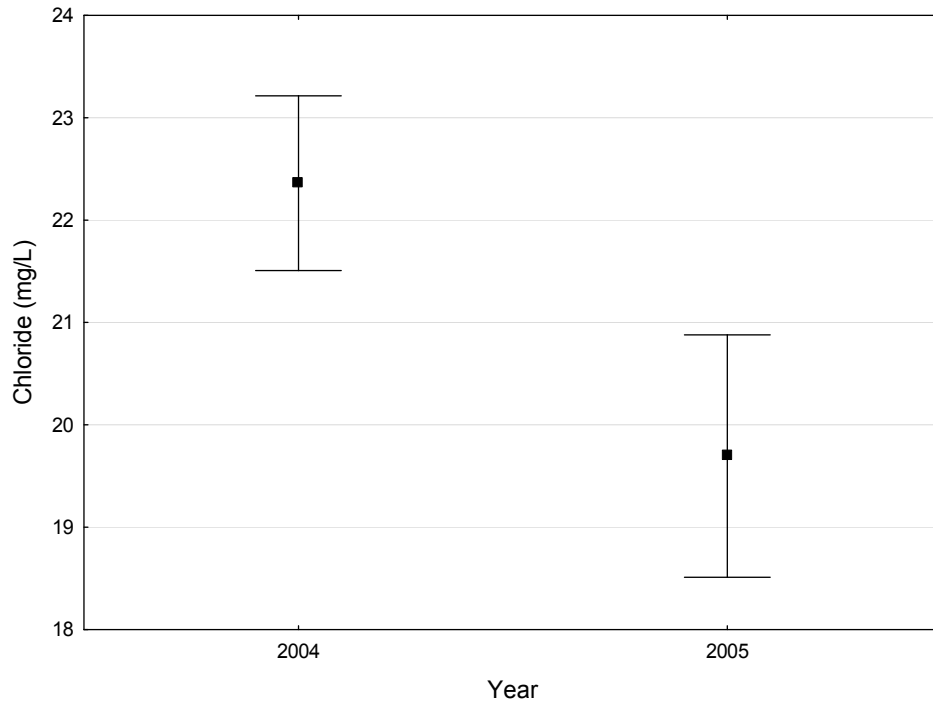


Figure 64. Mean \pm SE chloride concentration per year on 07010101-507. The water quality standard for chloride is 230 mg/L.

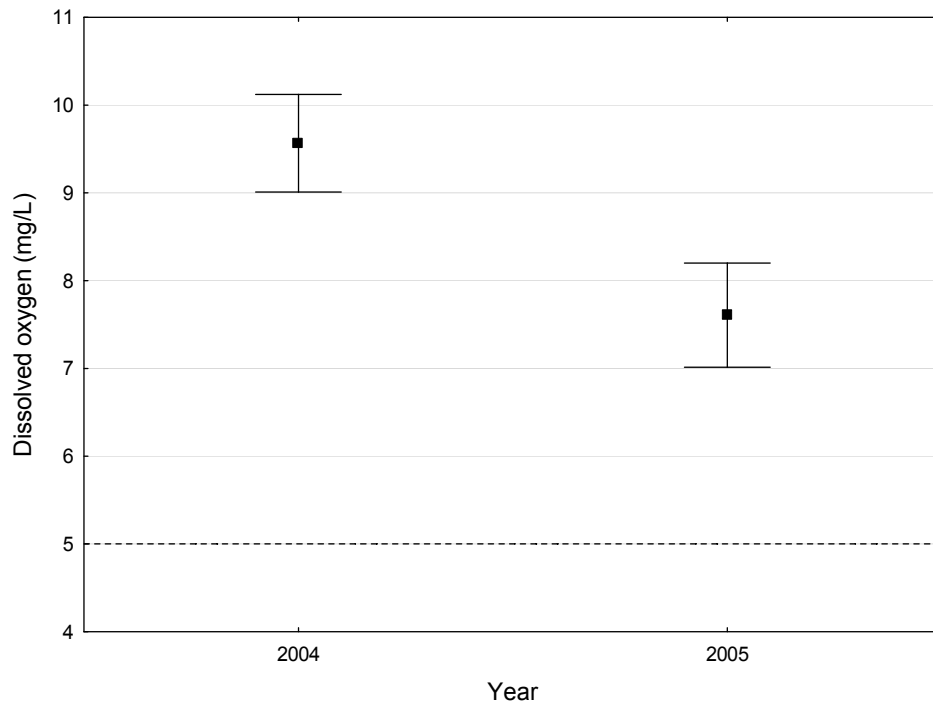


Figure 65. Mean \pm SE dissolved oxygen per year on 07010101-507. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard for dissolved oxygen (>5.0 mg/L).

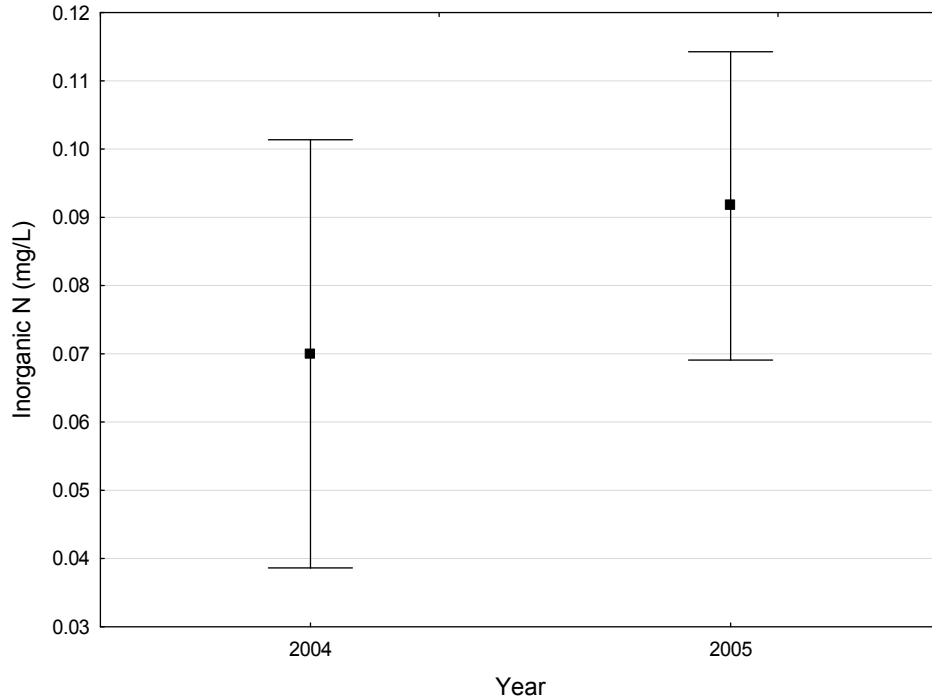


Figure 66. Mean \pm SE inorganic N concentration per year 07010101-507. The water quality standard for inorganic N is 10 mg/L.

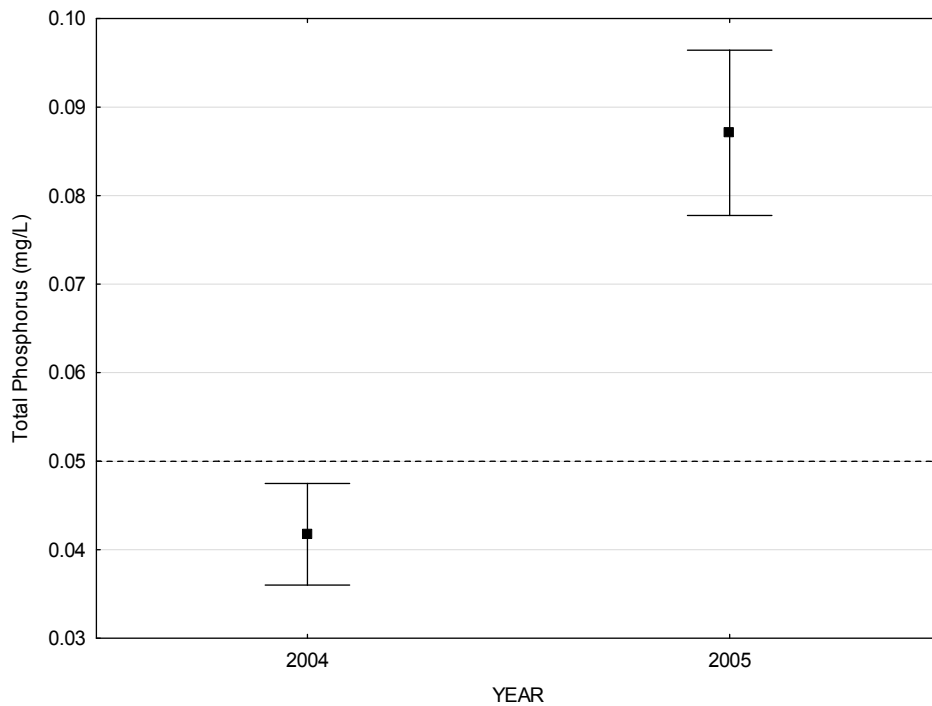


Figure 67. Growing season (June-Sept) mean \pm SE total phosphorus concentration per year 07010101-507. The dotted line indicates the proposed water quality standard (0.05 mg/L).

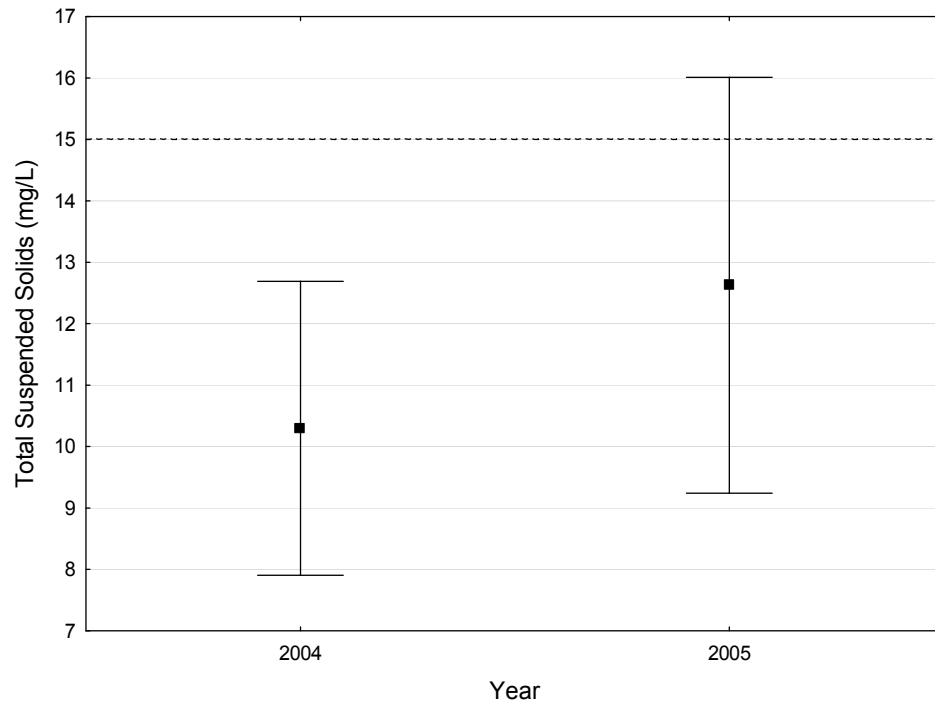
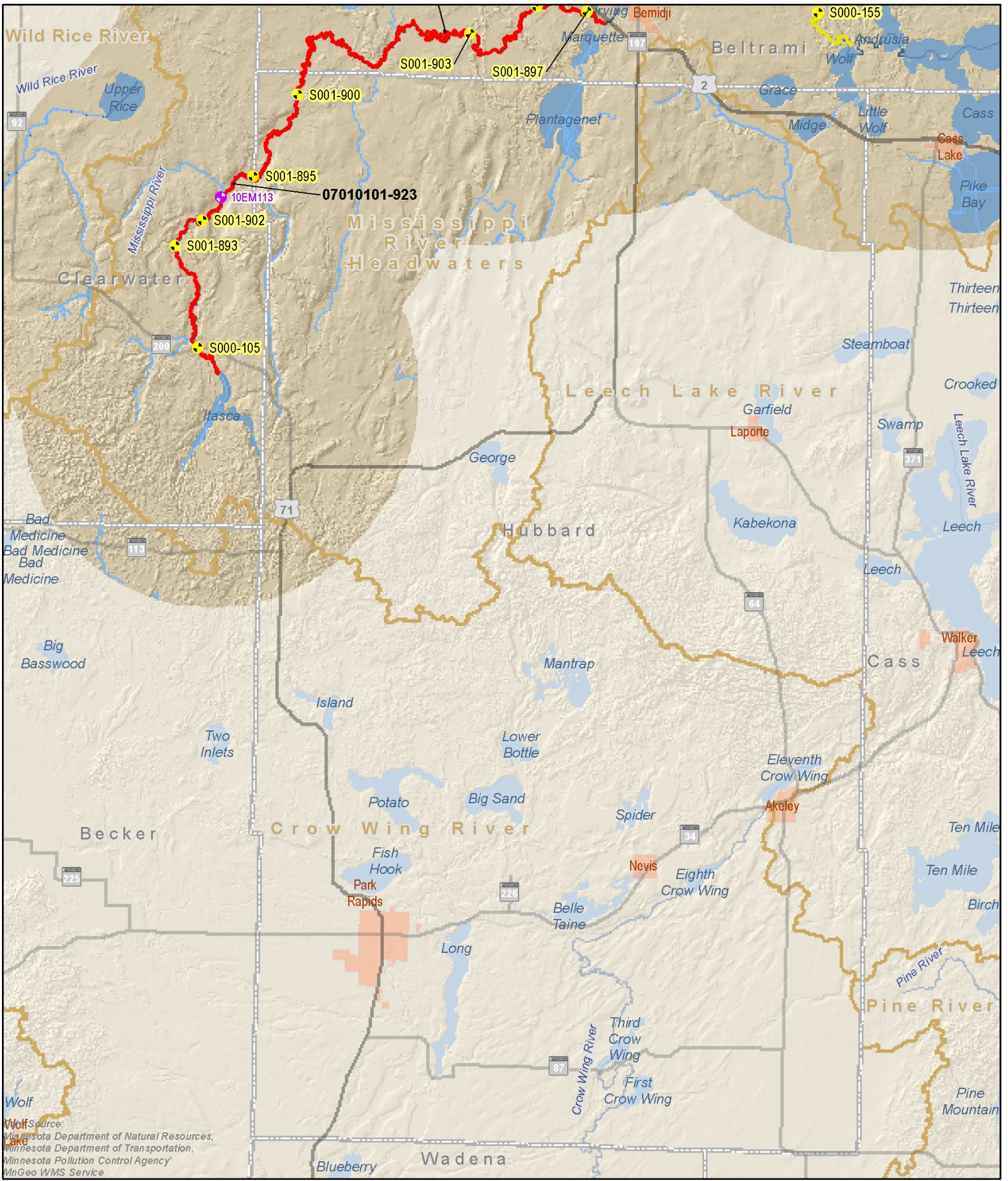
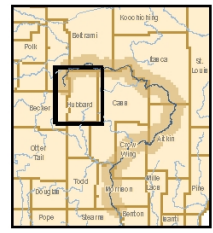


Figure 68. Growing season (Apr-Sept) mean \pm SE total suspended solids concentration per year 07010101-507. The dotted line indicates the water quality standard (15 mg/L).

Date: 7/23/2013 Time: 5:49:40 PM Author: ejensen
 Document Path: X:\Clients_County\01093_Mississippi_Headwaters_Board\0001_Water_Quality_Analysis\09_GIMS_ProjectName\GIS\SRM_county_files.mxd



- Legend**
- Water Quality Station
 - USGS Flow Station
 - MPCAB Biological Station
 - Municipality
 - Lake
 - Water Quality Data Available
 - Exceeds Standard
 - Major Watershed
 - Mississippi Headwater Corridor is for illustrative purposes only (not a jurisdictional boundary)



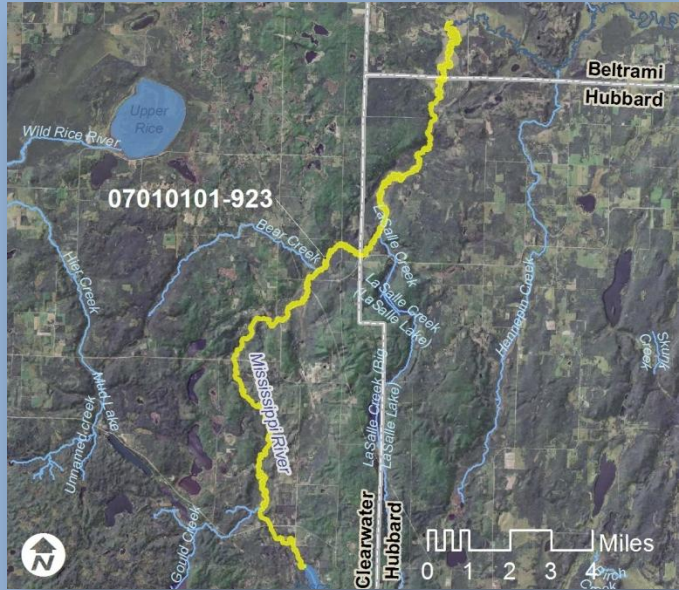
**Water Quality Analysis for
Mississippi Headwaters Board**

Hubbard County

Miles
0 3 6

07010101-923

Mississippi River – Lake Itasca to unnamed creek



- **Length:** 29.6 miles
- **Municipalities:** None
- **Tributaries:** Bear Cree, La Salle Creek

SUMMARY

- **Data gaps:** No flow data
- **Water quality:** TP exceeds standard
- **Biology:** Healthy fish and invertebrate communities
- **Concerns:**

WATER QUALITY + BIOLOGY

POLLUTANT	#	2003-12 Mean	Min.	Max.	Standard
Ammonia (mg/L)	92	0.06	0.05	0.26	0.04 ¹
Chloride (mg/L)	16	2.03	1.40	4.70	230
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	95	8.52	0.86	14.38	0.5 ²
Nitrate-nitrite (mg/L)	92	0.05	0.05	0.11	10
pH	106	7.90	6.73	8.64	6.5 – 9.0
Phosphorus (µg/L)	57	0.06	0.03	0.15	50 ³
Sulfate (mg/L)	20	1.07	1.00	2.05	N/A
Total suspended solids (mg/L)	68	7.07	1.00	98.00	15 ⁴
<i>E. coli</i> (organisms/100 mL)	21	15.11	1.00	130.0	126 ⁵

¹ Unionized N, ² Daily min., ³ June 1-Sept 30, ⁴ Apr 1-Sept 30, ⁵ Geometric mean, Apr 1 -Oct 31

- Water quality data available from 2003-2010 at 5 stations
- TP exceeds water quality standard, but decreases from 2003 to 2010
- Other parameters meet water quality standards
- Healthy fish community with high IBI score. Yellow perch most common, with bluegill, northern pike, rock bass, and white sucker also present.
- Good invertebrate community with IBI score of 73 in 2011

FLOW + PHOSPHORUS LOAD

- No NPDES permitted point sources discharge directly to mainstem