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Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

Watershed Management Division

Winooski River

TACTICAL BASIN PLAN



The Winooski Basin Water Quality Management Plan (Basin 8) was prepared in accordance with 10 VSA § 1253(d), the Vermont Water Quality Standards, the federal Clean Water Act and 40 CFR 130.6, and the Vermont Surface Water Management Strategy.

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Executive Summary

The Vermont Clean Water Act requires the development of Tactical Basin Plans for each of Vermont's 15 river basins to be adopted on a five-year recurring cycle. These plans integrate watershed modeling, water quality monitoring, sector-specific pollution source assessments, and stakeholder input to document geographically explicit actions necessary to protect, maintain, enhance, and restore surface waters. The Agency of Natural Resources is assisted in the implementation of plan through a combination of State and federal funding sources, partner support (Appendix A) and for certain protection efforts, the public rulemaking process.

The Winooski River (Basin 8) Tactical Basin Plan focuses on the watershed of the Winooski River. [DEC Basin 8 Water Quality Assessment Report](#) provides background to support the Plan's actions including assessments of wetlands, lakes and rivers. The Plan's goal for Winooski River Basin and all of the surface waters in its drainage basin is the sustained ecological health and human use by meeting or exceeding Vermont Water Quality Standards.

The Plan also includes the Phase II content (Chapter 3) for the Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL, including setting of targets for phosphorus loading from the Winooski River to Lake Champlain. The Lake Champlain Phase I Implementation Plan and the TMDL both point to issuance of these plans as components of the accountability framework.

The Phase II content includes high-resolution phosphorus load modeling and projected phosphorus reductions for smaller sub-watersheds as well as by types of sources (waste water treatment plants, developed lands stormwater, roads, forestry and agricultural).

The plan also describes strategies relating to the development of new regulations associated with the Vermont Clean Water Act. Future iterations of the Basin 8 Tactical Basin Plan will provide augmented specificity in regards to phosphorus reductions achieved, reductions planned, costs, and as appropriate, success stories documenting incremental water quality improvement.

The surface waters in Basin 8 provide recreational opportunities, drinking water and support for wildlife habitat and plant communities. The health of the surface water is directly connected to these uses. Pollutants associated with basin 8 waterbodies include phosphorus, sediment, pathogens and toxins as well as aquatic invasive species.

The main sources of the elevated phosphorus, sediment and pathogen levels include agricultural, urban and road runoff, and eroding river channels due to a lack of

equilibrium in the river system. Many of the actions to address these stressors in the basin will also achieve required reductions in phosphorus loading to Lake Champlain (Phase II content in Chapter 3).

In Chapter 4, the plan also describes management goals for basin 8 surface waters and includes new classifications or candidates for reclassification (see Summary of Classification Opportunities below).

The heart of this plan is Chapter 5 and the [Watershed Projects Database](#), which includes geographically explicit actions to protect or restore surface waters in the basin. The actions are supported by the following top objectives and strategies for priority watershed (and associated towns):

Top Objectives and Strategies

Protect river corridors and floodplains to increase flood resilience and allow rivers to reach equilibrium through protection of river corridors with conservation easements and municipal adoption of appropriate bylaws, focusing on assisting towns to adopt corridor protection as well as implement VDEC river corridor plans.

Increase knowledge of water quality conditions in the basin, including the identification of high quality lakes through the establishment and/or continuation of short-term intensive and long-term monitoring programs.

Implement agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) in areas that are a significant source of phosphorus and where BMPs are best suited to conditions with a focus on areas of high phosphorus loading.

Resolve E. coli impairments in along Winooski between Plainfield and Cabot, Huntington, Mad Rivers and Allen Brook by addressing discernable bacteria sources from agriculture and residential sources to meet bacterial TMDL.

Manage stormwater from developed areas through the development and implementation of stormwater master plans and Flow Restoration Plans in MS4 communities (see Appendix C).

Improve littoral zone habitat along Lake Champlain, and ponds in the Kingsbury Branch through direct outreach with landowners to encourage participation in the Lake Wise Program that promotes implementation of lakeshore BMPs.

Inventory and prioritize municipal road erosion features that discharge into surface water and implement high priority actions in existing road erosion inventoried sites

Provide technical and as available, financial assistance to wastewater treatment facilities in meeting Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL goals

Prioritize wetland and floodplain restoration projects in appropriate locations for phosphorus retention and sediment attenuation with a focus on the watersheds X

Prioritize remediation of forest roads and log landings with high erosion risks, including sugaring operations and areas of high phosphorus loading.

Assist municipalities in identifying areas of landslide hazards for benefit of future development including Jericho, Williston, Essex, Duxury, Plainfield, Marshfield, and Barre Town.

In addition to the actions supported by priority objectives and the classification opportunities, the basin plan also includes actions for addressing stressed and impaired waters listed in Table 4 and actions relating to monitoring and assessment in Table 11.

The Vermont Agency of Natural Resources has prepared an online mapping tool, the [ANR Natural Resources Atlas](#), that allows the reader to identify the locations of many Basin features.

Chapter 1 – Planning Process and Watershed Description

The Tactical Basin Planning Process

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation's (VDEC) tactical basin planning process identifies actions that will protect, maintain, and improve surface waters by managing the activities that cause the known stressor(s) and address the resulting pollutants. The [DEC Basin 8 Water Quality Assessment Report](#) provides background to support the Plan's actions including description of wetlands, lakes and rivers water and their health.

Using integrated watershed modeling (Appendix B), water quality monitoring, sector-specific pollution source assessments, and stakeholder input, these actions are strategically targeted to sub-basins (see Tables 4, 12 and 37,) and specific waters where their implementation would achieve the greatest benefit to water quality and aquatic habitat while being cost-effective.

For the purposes of assessing and reporting water quality information, the state is divided into [15 major drainage basins](#). Each basin includes one or more major river watersheds¹. The VDEC is responsible for preparing Tactical Basin Plans, a water quality management plan, for each of the basins and updating them every five years. The resulting plans meets the goals and objectives of the [Vermont Surface Water Management Strategy](#) (VSWMS) to protect, maintain and restore the biological, chemical, and physical integrity, and public use and enjoyment of Vermont's water resources, and to protect public health and safety. The tactical planning process is outlined in [Chapter 4](#) of the VSWMS.

The VDEC collaborates with State, federal and municipal organizations, local conservation groups, businesses, and a variety of landowners and interested citizens to develop and implement the Tactical Basin Plan (see Appendix A). Partners have played multiple roles, including funder, technical resource (see resources in the VSWMS) or project manager as well as providing guidance during the planning process.

In 2015, the passage of Act 64, the [Vermont Clean Water Act](#), strengthened multiple statutes related to water quality in Vermont. Act 64 was passed specifically to set in

¹ A watershed is a distinct land area that drains into a particular waterbody through either channelized flow or surface runoff. Preparing a plan at a watershed level allows for the consideration of all contributing sources of runoff to the surface waters.

place statewide requirements necessary to achieve the phosphorus reduction targets in USEPA's [Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL](#), and to establish the regulatory authorities necessary to implement the [Lake Champlain Phase I Plan](#). This Tactical Basin Plan is the tool for establishing five-year goals and actions related to the implementation of Act 64 directives.

Act 64 addresses agricultural water quality on small, medium and large farms through the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. It establishes water quality requirements for stormwater discharges from new and existing development, industrial and municipal stormwater discharges, and runoff from municipal roads through the Department of Environmental Conservation. In addition, through the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, the Act addresses water quality runoff from silvicultural activities.

Act 64 also establishes the requirement that all water quality improvement actions undertaken by the State be integrated by means of Tactical Basin Plans (TBP), and establishes partnerships with Regional Planning Commissions, Natural Resource Conservation Districts, and other organizations to support this work. Lastly, Act 64 establishes a cleanup fund to dedicate resources towards the highest priority water quality remediation actions.

Regarding work with the Regional Planning Commissions, the Agency of Natural Resources (Agency) will work with the applicable regional planning commissions to develop an analysis and formal recommendation on conformance with the goals and objectives of applicable regional plans, see 10 V.S.A 1253(d)(2)(G). The overall role of the TBPs is not to determine where development should happen. This Tactical Basin Plan encourages communities to take protective measures that will restore, maintain and enhance water quality in all areas that in turn protect human health, ecological integrity, and water-based recreational uses. The TBP does not preclude any development that is consistent with municipal zoning, regional and municipal plans and with applicable State and federal regulations.

The Tactical Basin Plans are also consistent with the U.S EPA's framework for developing watershed-based plans. EPA's framework consists of nine key elements that ensure that the contributing causes and sources of nonpoint source pollution are identified, key stakeholders are involved in the planning process and restoration and protection strategies, addressing water quality concerns are identified. The resulting tactical basin plan uses adaptive management, has strong implementation sections, is an

effective plan for restoration or protection, and identifies projects that are eligible for federal and State funding.

In order to implement the high priority actions required to protect, enhance, maintain and restore water quality, the TBP spells out clear attainable goals and targeted strategies to achieve goals laid out in Act 64, the Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL and EPA's nine elements. The [Watershed Projects Database](#) is a tool by which progress can be tracked with regard to measurable indicators of each major goal. In addition, the database will be revisited periodically, and be modified accordingly to best address newly emerging information, unanticipated events, and new requirements such as are anticipated by legislative acts, including Acts 110² and 64.

The Tactical Basin Plan builds upon the Agency's previous Winooski River Tactical Basin Plan, signed in 2012 (VDEC 2012). That plan contains strategies that addressed river corridor protection, stormwater management, drinking water protection, aquatic invasive species management, and installation of agricultural Best Management Practices. Through efforts of the Agency and its watershed partners, many of these have been implemented or are in progress. This plan builds upon those original plan recommendations by providing additional geographically explicit actions in areas of the basin identified for intervention based on monitoring and assessment data, and high-resolution phosphorus modeling.

The Tactical Basin Plan actions are described in Chapter 5's implementation table summary and the [Watershed Projects Database](#) and will be addressed over the five-year life of the Winooski Basin Tactical Basin Plan. The plan will not be a static document. It is expected that the Agency and its partners will have to develop adaptive management techniques as new natural and anthropogenic events present themselves.

Successes and challenges in implementing actions will be reviewed in biannual meetings with watershed partners. In addition, the implementation table will be modified accordingly to best address newly emerging information, unanticipated events, and new requirements such as are anticipated by the Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL (see Chapter 3 for additional information on the TMDL).

² Act 110 directed the Secretary of Natural Resources to establish a river corridor management program and a shoreland management program, effective February 1, 2011, to provide municipalities with maps of designated river corridors and develop recommended best management practices for the management of river corridors, shorelands, and buffers.

Contributing Planning Processes

Complementary planning processes in the watershed also direct resources towards surface water protection and remediation strategies. The strategies, associated resources and partnerships identified in these plans contributed to the development and implementation of actions in Chapter 5. These planning processes can be further explored through the links provided below:

- Lake Champlain Basin Program's 2017 - [Opportunities for Action](#)
- *A Framework for Action on Stormwater – Ridge to River Phase I Report* for [Ridge to River](#)

The Winooski River Basin

The Winooski River begins in Cabot, a town in the northeast corner of Washington County, and then courses northwesterly for approximately 90 miles before flowing into Lake Champlain just north of Burlington. Its drainage area of about 1,080 square miles covers 11.9 percent of Vermont. The basin occupies all of Washington County, a little less than half of Chittenden County and small parts of Lamoille and Orange Counties.

The Winooski River has seven important tributaries. Three of the tributaries enter from the north: the Little River joining below the village of Waterbury; the North Branch joining at the city of Montpelier; and Kingsbury Branch joining in East Montpelier. The four remaining tributaries flow from the south: the Huntington River coming in at the village of Jonesville; the Mad River, joining in Middlesex; the Dog River entering just west of the city of Montpelier and the Stevens Branch entering just north of Montpelier.

In addition, 55 State-inventoried lakes and ponds are scattered throughout the basin with a concentration in the Calais, East Montpelier and Woodbury area.

The health of a waterbody is dictated for the most part by the landuse or landcover in its watershed. A forested watershed provides the best protection as it absorbs or detains the precipitation that in a developed or agricultural landscape will pick up pollutants as stormwater runoff and carry it to waterbodies.

Almost three quarters of the watershed benefits from forest and wetland cover, most of it located in the higher elevations or upper half of the watershed (Table 1 and 2). The agricultural and urban (developed land and roads) land use comprise only 12% and 9%

of the landscape respectively, a distant second and third. Agriculture is predominantly concentrated along the wide flood plains of the main stem and narrower valleys of its tributaries. The developed or urban areas are concentrated in Chittenden County, but also include small cities and towns located adjacent to the main stem and tributaries. A small percentage of the developed land includes four ski areas and resorts on the slopes of the Green Mountains. The water quality problems identified in the basin later in this chapter tend to be associated with decreasing amounts of natural landcover. See [Vermont Surface Water Management Strategy](#) (VSWMS) for a more in depth explanation of pollution sources.

A more detailed description of the basin along with its water-based resources is contained in VDEC's Basin 8 - Winooski River Watershed Water Quality and Aquatic Habitat Assessment Report, date April 28, 2008³ and [Water Quality Assessment Maps](#).

Table 1. Land Use and Land Cover for the Winooski River Watershed¹

Land Use	Acres	% of Total
Forested	492,480.9	72.4
Agriculture	78,841.9	11.6
Surface Water	33,544.8	4.9
Transportation	32,004.1	4.7
Developed Land ²	30,021.6	4.4
Wetlands	12,451.7	1.8
Old Field & Barren	1,036.6	0.2
Total:	680,381.6	100.0

¹ Vermont Land Cover Classification Project, 1997 (based on satellite photographs from 1991 - 1993).

² Developed land = residential, commercial, industrial but not transportation, which is listed separately

³ http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/waterq/mapp/docs/mp_basin8.assessment_report.pdf

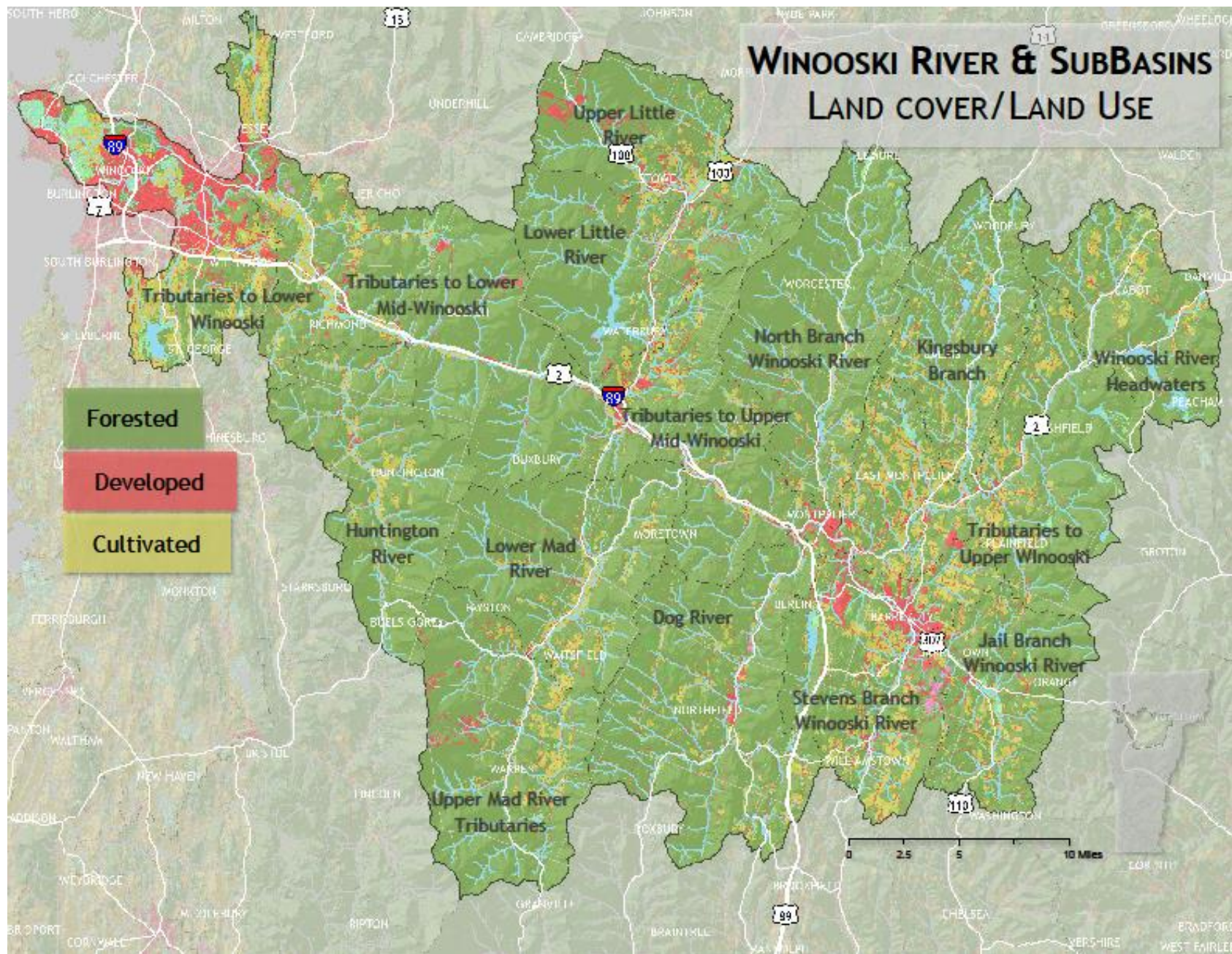


Figure 1. Winooski River Basin and sub basins with landuse and landcover identified

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Table 2. Subwatershed landuse and landcover

<i>Sub Watershed</i>	<i>Cultivated</i>	<i>Forested</i>	<i>Developed</i>
Tributaries to Lower Winooski	23.43	30.36	31.13
Tributaries to Lower Mid-Winooski	7.20	82.24	5.69
Tributaries to Upper Mid-Winooski	7.72	79.88	8.73
Tributaries to Upper Winooski	15.93	71.36	6.23
Winooski River Headwaters	9.60	77.01	4.19
Huntington River	7.30	88.21	2.51
Lower Little River	4.75	85.62	4.42
Upper Little River	7.51	79.55	8.18
North Branch Winooski River	3.85	88.36	3.38
Kingsbury Branch Winooski River	9.09	76.23	4.87
Jail Branch Winooski River	9.46	75.74	7.80
Stevens Branch Winooski River	18.07	58.36	16.17
Dog River	5.74	84.08	5.44
Lower Mad River tributaries	8.51	85.34	3.75
Upper Mad River tributaries	6.24	87.03	4.85

Subwatersheds

For tactical basin planning purposes, the Winooski River is further divided into 15 subwatersheds which include one or more of the tributaries and a section of the main branch (Table 2). The subbasins include a grouping of tributaries and/or sections of the main branch that encompass common characteristics associated with community, landscape, and/or physical features. A detailed description of these subwatersheds are contained in the [DEC Basin 8 Water Quality Assessment Report](#).

Chapter 2 - Water Resource Assessments










Assessment Methodology

The Agency's Watershed Management Division (WSMD) in the Department of Environmental Conservation (VDEC) assesses the health of a waterbody using biological, chemical and physical criteria. Most of this data can be accessed through the [Vermont Integrated Watershed Information System](#), online data portal.

The results of assessments are the basis for the biennial statewide 303(d) List of Impaired Waters and List of Priority Surface Waters Outside the Scope of 303(d) (Table 4). These priority waters lists also includes preliminary information on responsible pollutant and/or physical alterations to aquatic and riparian habitat, the stressor and if known, the source. [DEC Basin 8 Water Quality Assessment Report](#) and [Water Quality Assessment Maps](#) provide additional information about these waters. The waterbodies included on these lists are included as a focus for remediation efforts in this plan

The [Vermont Surface Water Management Strategy](#) (VDEC 2012) (VSWMS) lays out the goals and objectives of VDEC's Watershed Management Division for addressing pollutants and stressors that can negatively affect the designated uses of Vermont surface waters. The strategy discusses 10 major stressors (Table 3), and as of this writing is being updated to reflect new provisions of Act 64 and the Lake Champlain TMDL.

Table 3. Stressors relating to water resource degradation with links to in-depth information
(Click on a stressor to learn more)

The Vermont Surface Water Management Strategy identifies 10 major stressors that impact surface waters.									
	Channel Erosion		Encroachment		Land Erosion		Pathogens		Thermal Stress
	Acidity		Flow Alteration		Invasive Species		Nutrient Loading		Toxics

Stressors, Pollutants and Physical Alterations to Aquatic and Riparian Habitat

A stressor is defined as a phenomenon with quantifiable damaging effects on surface waters resulting from the delivery of pollutants to a waterbody, or an increased threat to public health and safety. For the most part, stressors result from human activity on

the landscape; however, when landscape activities are appropriately managed, stressors are reduced or eliminated.

Table 3 provides links to the stressor chapters of the VSWMS that describe in detail the stressor, its causes and sources, and VDEC's approach to addressing the stressor through monitoring, technical assistance, regulations and funding.

In this plan, the stressors responsible for the impaired, altered and stressed waterbodies in the basin are listed next to the waterbody in Table 4. In addition to the stressor, Table 4's priority waters lists also identify the pollutant or physical alteration responsible for degraded water quality or physical condition of each priority water.

Pollutants enter surface waters either as a point source, a discrete source from a pipe, or as non-point source, carried in precipitation that runs off the landscape (i.e., stormwater runoff). Physical alterations result from the inadvertent introduction of aquatic invasive species (AIS), or with a change in surface water levels because of dams or water withdrawal. The landuse and other activities that are responsible for non-point source pollutants as well as VDEC's remediation strategies, are described in detail in the [Vermont Surface Water Management Strategy](#) (VSWMS).

Climate Change: increasing pollutant loads and impacts to waterbodies

Climate change predictions for Vermont are expected to intensify stressors, leading to increased pollutant loads from the landscape as well as loss of native species.

Predictions include increased intensity of storms and resulting increases in stormwater flows. In response, management of landscape activities will need to intensify to effectively address stressors that are intensified with additional flows. These stressors include channel and land erosion, nutrient loading and thermal stress.

Increased temperatures are also predicted, which will increase thermal stress to waterbodies. In addition, warmer temperatures will also allow invasive species to gain a competitive edge, requiring changes in management strategies to better protect native species. The Lake Champlain TMDL was developed with consideration of the effects of climate change, and the Lake Champlain Phase I Implementation Plan has a dedicated chapter as well.

Overview of Water Resources

The following is an overview of water resource health in Basin 8. Information on the condition of specific water bodies is included in Table 4.

Rivers

Sediment and nutrients are the most prevalent pollutants in Basin 8⁴ streams and rivers. Prominent stressors responsible include land erosion, channel erosion, and nutrient loading. Physical alterations are also present throughout the watershed, ranging from habitat alteration to general stream channel and slope instability. In addition, development has encroached into the flood hazard zone (river corridors and floodplains). The next most prevalent stressors are thermal modification and pathogens. More isolated stressors specific to particular reaches⁵ include toxics from hazardous waste sites, chlorides from winter maintenance of roads and flow alteration associated with dams.

The Winooski River Basin contains a diversity of fish species, many of which support popular recreational fisheries. Wild populations of native brook trout flourish in the colder, higher elevation streams. Lower reaches of some tributaries and much of the mainstem also support naturalized populations of wild rainbow and brown trout.

Most of the tributary streams of the Winooski River basin are managed as wild trout waters (i.e. are not stocked with hatchery-reared trout). Naturally reproducing populations of trout have been observed in the upper mainstem of the Winooski as far downstream as Duxbury. Increasing temperatures in main stem and some tributaries limit brook trout distribution.

Landlocked Atlantic salmon is also present, with 100 to 200 returning from Lake Champlain in recent years to spawn in the Winooski River with highest numbers around Richmond ball fields (pers. Communications Nick Staats, USFWS). A federal program supports the lifting of salmon over three Winooski River dams to allow access from mouth up to Bolton dam. The predominantly forested watershed of the tributaries

⁴ Definition of these pollutants can be found in VSWMS
http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/waterq/wqd_mgtplan/swms_appB.htm.

⁵ The waters and associated problems are listed in the EPA and state lists (see Table 2)

that feed this stretch of the main stem protects water temperatures that support salmon habitat.

Although dams along the river and tributaries are partly responsible for stressors to fish habit, including thermal modification and barriers to fish movement, dam owners are improving management as dams regulated by federal law are relicensed and in some cases, owners are working with partners to remove dams.

In addition, fisheries habitat was reduced in complexity and diversity when removal of woody habitat and alteration of stream channels followed tropical storm Irene. Within the Winooski watershed it was estimated that major impact to instream habitat occurred along roughly 15,425 feet of stream following Tropical Storm Irene (Kirn 2012). Projects are ongoing to restore fisheries habitat. Additional information can be found in VFWD's [Upper Winooski Watershed Fisheries Summary](#)

The excellent water quality in many of the tributaries along with striking, geologic formations support popular swimming holes. Huntington Gorge may be the best example and is a natural candidate for Outstanding Resource Water (see Chapter 4) in consideration of spectacular aesthetic value and swimming use.

Lakes and ponds

The basin includes 46 lakes or ponds, 10 acres or larger. Encroachment, by way of shoreland development, is the greatest stressor to Vermont lakes, as recently reported in the National Lake Survey study (USEPA, 2012). In Basin 8, almost half the lakes are threatened by shoreland development. Other threats to aquatic habitat and water quality in the lakes include sedimentation and increased eutrophication due to nutrient loading-related stressors. While nutrient loading in other northwest lakes has resulted in regular algal blooms with intense cyanobacteria blooms (blue-green algae) becoming seasonal occurrences, the majority of lakes in the Winooski still meet nutrient criteria and overall have good water quality (Table 5). A small group of lakes show poor to fair water quality trend based on nutrient concentrations, including Blueberry, North Montpelier, Peacham and Sabin.

Additional stressors include flow alterations (e.g, water level fluctuations) and Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) threat. Acidity is a stressor for 13 lakes, and leads to impairment in 2 lakes (see Tables 4 and 5).

All of the Basin 8 lakes, along with all but one other lake in Vermont, are under a Vermont Department of Health Fish Consumption Advisory for exceeding the USEPA

mercury limits in fish. Mercury is a chemical that becomes toxic at high concentrations. As big fish eat smaller fish, the mercury concentrations increase in the fish tissues, and through this process of bioaccumulation, mercury levels become unsafe for human consumption of the fish.

With excellent water quality, intact shoreline, high biodiversity, and scenic features, the best lakes include Buck and Pigeon at top 5% of all Vermont lakes, Turtlehead at the top 10%, Coits at the top 20% and Berlin making the top 25%.

Wetlands

The Winooski River Basin contains a great diversity of wetlands, ranging from rich forested swamps to peat accumulating fens, with Half Moon Cove, Richmond Flood plain forest and Chickering Fen (see x for more description). Wetlands of interest for further study to determine Class 1 potential include: Shelburne Pond, Essex Alder Brook (Essex and Milton), Upper Gleason (Duxbury), Berlin Pond (Berlin), Kettle Pond south (Marshfield and Groton), Lanesboro Bog (Marshfield) and Mud Pond (Williston).

The wetlands in the basin are identified on the Vermont Wetlands Inventory Map (up to 39% of Vermont wetlands may not be mapped). More than 35% of the original wetlands in Vermont have been lost. In recent years, residential, commercial and industrial development have been the primary causes of wetland loss.

The USEPA's [National Wetland Condition Assessment 2011](#) survey included Vermont wetlands with assistance from the WSMD Wetlands Program. The assessment of Eastern Mountains wetlands, including Vermont's, estimated that 52% of the estimated wetland area is in good condition; 11% is in fair condition, and 37% is in poor condition.

Condition of Specific Water Resources

Impaired Waters and Priority Surface Waters

The Department of Environmental Conservation (VDEC) uses monitoring and assessment data⁶ to assess individual surface waters in relation to Vermont Water Quality Standards as outlined in the [2016 DEC Assessment and Listing Methodology](#). The four categories used in Vermont's surface water assessment are **full support**, **stressed**, **altered** and **impaired**. Waters that support designated and existing uses and

⁶ (see Appendix A of the [Vermont DEC Water Quality Monitoring Strategy 2011-2020](#)

meet water quality standards are placed into the full support or stressed categories. Waters that do not support uses and do not meet standards are placed into the altered or impaired category (See page 13 [2016 DEC Assessment and Listing Methodology](#)).

Table 4 lists the known stressed, impaired or altered waterbodies in Basin 8. These priority waters comprise the 303(d) and the state priority surface waters lists. Maps A, B and C also identify location of these waters. For a more detailed description of monitoring results use the [Vermont Integrated Watershed Information System](#), online data portal. The goals of the Tactical Basin Plan include addressing the stressors or pollutants degrading the listed waters in Table 4 through geographically specific actions (see Chapter 5 Implementation Table). The types of actions prescribed are based on the stressor specific practices outlined in the [Vermont Surface Water Management Strategy](#). Additional monitoring and assessment needs are outlined in Tables 4, 6 and 11.

Table 4. Basin 8 2016 priorities waters list and stressed waters list and planned management interventions. See also Winooski Basin Water Quality Assessment maps.

Waterbody or River Segment	Status	Pollutant /Stressor	Source	Planned actions, see also actions associated with Stressors⁷⁸
VT08-01 Winooski River, mouth to Winooski dam	10.5 miles Impaired Part A List	E. coli/Pathogens	Burlington CSOs	See Vermont CSO policy
VT08-02 Sunnyside Brook (Trib 8 to Sunderland Brook)	1.2 miles Impaired Part A List	Chloride/Toxics	From industrial and commercial land runoff	Developing Chloride TMDL
VT08-02 Muddy Brook Trib#4 & Trib to Trib#4	0.9 miles Impaired Part A List	Chloride/Toxics	From industrial and commercial land runoff	MS4 permit condition will require Chloride reduction plan
VT08-02L01 Shelburne Pond	452 acres Impaired Part A List	Phosphorus/Land erosion	Landuse	See Lake Champlain P TMDL
VT08-05 Winooski River above Montpelier WWTF discharge	2.0 miles Impaired Part A List	E. coli/Pathogens	Montpelier CSOs	See Vermont CSO policy
VT08-07 Winooski River, Plainfield	0.7 miles Impaired Part A List	E. coli/Pathogens		Work with landowners to identify sources and continue to support water quality monitoring
VT08-07 Winooski River, Marshfield, rm	10.0 miles Impaired	E. coli/Pathogens		Work with landowners to identify sources and

⁷ The ANR's strategy for addressing each stressor is described in the Vermont Surface Water Management Strategies, at this [link](#)

⁸ Also [See Lake Champlain P TMDL](#)

Waterbody or River Segment	Status	Pollutant /Stressor	Source	Planned actions, see also actions associated with Stressors⁷⁸
72.8 up to Mollys Brook	Part A List			continue to support water quality monitoring
VT08-09 Winooski River, Cabot, Mollys Falls Brook up to rm 83.8	1.0 miles Impaired Part A List	E.coli/Pathogens		EPA approved TMDL March 8, 2001 - 2013 IDDE in Cabot found no source. Monitor for E. coli
VT08-11L02_02 Waterbury Reservoir littoral area	100 acres Impaired Part A List	Sediment/flow alteration	Flucuation of water levels	401 Water Quality Certification issued in 2014 but awaiting full implementation. See Flow Alteration section for more information
VT08-12 Inn Brook	0.3 miles Impaired Part A List	Iron/Toxics	Iron seeps from soils disturbed during development	Parent material is iron rich. Stream runs under parking lot, nothing planned until redevelopment of area occurs
VT08-12 Big Spruce Brook	0.5 miles Impaired Part A List	Iron/Toxics	Iron seeps from soil disturbance during development	Outside of Stowe Mt water quality remediation plan because in steep ravine with limited access for remediation.
VT08-13 Lower North Branch Winooski River	1.0 miles Impaired Part A List	E. coli/Pathogens	Montpelier wwtf collection system passes combined sewer overflows	See Vermont CSO policy
VT08-16 Gunner Brook, below Farwell St. Dump	0.5 miles Impaired Part A List	sediment, metals, nutrients, storm-water in lower section/land erosion	Farwell st. Landfill leachate, surface runoff from developed area	Refer to Waste Management. Talk to them about moving upper site but check with Sean
VT08-20 Clay Brook	0.5 miles Impaired Part A List	stormwater, iron/Land Erosion	Ski area development: stormwater runoff, erosion from construction activities & gravel parking lot; increased peak stormwater flows	Stream buried in culvert. Difficult remediation until redevelopment of area
VT08-02 Tributary to Winooski River	0.4 miles Impaired Part B List	Metals/Toxics	South Burlington landfill leachate	Active monitoring. VDEC ordered landfill facility closed and capped. Capping occurred in 1992. The facility's post-closure court order requires water quality monitoring and maintenance of the site. Water quality sampling is conducted semi annually

Waterbody or River Segment	Status	Pollutant /Stressor	Source	Planned actions, see also actions associated with Stressors ⁷⁸
				to determine effectiveness of treatment. Water quality improvement is expected over time as water quality treatment & site management continues.
VT08-08 Muddy Brook in East Montpelier	0.1 miles Impaired Part B List	Iron/Toxics	Central Vermont landfill leachate	VDEC ordered landfill closed and capped in 1993. Due to the slumping of the capping soils in 2001, the original clay cap was removed, the landfill was re-graded and a synthetic cap was installed along with a new toe drain and gas collection system. The landfill's post-closure court order requires water quality monitoring & maintenance of the site. Currently volume of water collected in the drains is significantly less than previously reported.
VT08-12 BIG SPRUCE BROOK, RM 0.2 TO RM 0.3	RM 0.2 TO RM 0.3 Impaired Part B List	Sediment, Iron/Land Erosion	SEDIMENT IMPACTS, IRON SEEPS	Stowe Mt. Resort WQRP and Big Spruce Iron Seep Remediation Plan (changes to 2018 ⁹ list will move this out of Part B and added to the other reach noted above)
VT08-12 West Branch Little River, rm 7.5 to 8.0	0.5 miles Impaired Part B List	sediment, stormwater runoff/Land Erosion	Ski area development, road	Stowe Mt. Resort WQRP
VT08-16 Trib #23 to Stevens Branch below Williamstown WWTF outfall	0.5 miles Impaired Part B List	Nutrients/Nutrient Loading	Williamstown WWTF discharge to small receiving water	Outfall to be moved to the Stevens Branch with WWTF refurbishment. Will monitor wq
VT08-01 Winooski River, mouth to Winooski Dam	10.5 miles Impaired Part D List	Mercury/Toxics	Atmospheric deposition	EPA approved regional mercury tmdl on

⁹ The WSMD will release a draft 2018 303(d) and the State priority surface waters lists in late spring. This table will be revised at that time to reflect changes from the 2016 list.

Waterbody or River Segment	Status	Pollutant /Stressor	Source	Planned actions, see also actions associated with Stressors ⁷⁸
				12/20/20, 2007. Vermont DOH advisory
VT08-02 Allen Brook, rm 2.4 to rm 5.0 Talcott Rd	2.6 miles Impaired Part D List	Stormwater/urbans stressors ¹⁰	urban and suburban runoff	EPA approved TMDL in 8/2008, see Chapter 3.
VT08-02 Allen Brook,	2.6 miles Impaired Part D List	E. coli/Pathogens		EPA approved TMDL in 9/2011. See Chapter 3.
VT08-02 Sunderland Brook, rm 3.5 to rm 5.3	1.8 miles Impaired Part D List	Stormwater/Urban stressors	urban and suburban runoff	EPA approved TMDL in 8/2008 - see Chapter 3 for work planned
VT08-02 Centennial Brook, mouth to rm 1.2	1.2 miles Impaired Part D List	Stormwater/Urban Stressors	urban and suburban runoff	EPA approved TMDL in 9/2007- see Chapter 3.
VT08-02 Morehouse Brook, mouth to rm 0.6	0.6 miles Impaired Part D List	Stormwater/Urban Stressors	urban and suburban runoff	EPA approved TMDL in 9/2007- see Chapter 3
VT08-09 Winooski River Cabot village	1.0 miles Impaired Part D List	E. coli /Pathogens	Residential direct discharges &/or failed septic systems.	EPA approved TMDL 3/8/2001. Straight pipes eliminated, but LaRosa program sampling suggests another NPS. See Chapter 3.
VT08-10 Huntington River	0.5 miles Impaired Part D List	E. coli/Pathogens	Possible failing septic systems and other unknown sources;	EPA approved TMDL in 9/2011. see Chapter 3.
VT08-18 Mad River, mouth to Moretown	6.2 miles Impaired Part D List	E, coli/Pathogens	Possible failing septic systems and other unknown sources;	EPA approved TMDL in 9/2011. See Chapter 3.
VT08-01 Winooski River, lower section	x.x miles Altered Part E List	Locally abundant Eurasian watermilfoil growth/Invasive Species		No control
VT08-02L01 Shelburne Pond	452 acres Altered Part E List	Curly-leaf pondweed/Invasive Species		VFWD confirmed in 1996; no control
VT08-11L02_02 Waterbury Reservoir littoral area	100 acres Altered Part E List	Brittle naiad/Invasive Species		No Control.

¹⁰ Urban stressors that result in sedimentation, phosphorus or stormwater include: Land Erosion, Channel Erosion, Nutrient Loading

Waterbody or River Segment	Status	Pollutant /Stressor	Source	Planned actions, see also actions associated with Stressors⁷⁸
VT08-04 Joiner Brook	2.9 miles Altered Part F List	Artificial and insufficient flow/Flow Alteration	Bolton Valley water with-drawal	Non-supp 2.9 mi (5.7 mi total length). All flow altered waters should be more closely reviewed and steps identified to ensure protection of resource.
VT08-05 Winooski River at & above Middlesex 2 dam	2.0 miles Altered Part F List	De-watering of bypass, impoundment, fluctuation causing stream-bank erosion/ Flow Alteration	Middlesex #2 hydro	Unlicensed facility
VT08-06 Tyler Brook, below Waterbury Village waterwithdrawal	0.1 miles Altered Part F List	Artificial and inadequate flow/ Flow Alteration	Waterbury water supply withdrawal	Unlicensed facility (In 2018 list: Part E, F will be updated,
VT08-06 Merriam Brook below Waterbury Village waterwithdrawal	0.1 miles Altered Part F List	Artificial and inadequate flow/ Flow Alteration	Waterbury water supply withdrawal	WSID #5284 - Waterbury village water
VT08-09 Mollys Falls Brook	2.0 miles Altered Part F List	Artificial flow condition, bypass waterfall, temp/ Flow Alteration and Thermal Stress.	Mollys Falls Hydro	Unlicensed facility; A Public Utilities Commission Certificate of Public Good review is underway, with VTANR input to address flow, water level, and water temperature issues.
Sucker Brook below Peacham Pond	1.0 miles Altered Part F List	Artificial flow condition/ Flow Alteration	Mollys Falls Hydro	Unlicensed facility; A Public Utilities Commission Certificate of Public Good review is underway, with VTANR input to address flow, water level, and water temperature issues.

Waterbody or River Segment	Status	Pollutant /Stressor	Source	Planned actions, see also actions associated with Stressors ⁷⁸
VT08-09L05 Peacham Pond	340 acres Altered Part F List	Water level fluctuation/ Flow Alteration		Unlicensed facility; A Public Utilities Commission Certificate of Public Good review is underway, with VTANR input to address flow, water level, and water temperature issues.
VT08-09L05 Mollys Falls Reservoir	397 acres Altered Part F List	Water level fluctuation/ Flow Alteration		Unlicensed facility; A Public Utilities Commission Certificate of Public Good review is underway, with VTANR input to address flow, water level, and water temperature issues. Vermont Lay Monitoring program will adopt as a site in 2018
VT08-11 Lower Little below hydro dam	2.6 miles Altered Part F List	Artificial flow condition / Flow Alteration		Section 401 wq cert. Issued in 2014; FERC has yet to issue new license for the project which will delay construction until 2017
VT08-11L02 Waterbury Reservoir	839 acres Altered Part F List	Water level fluctuation / Flow Alteration		Section 401 wq cert. Issued in 2014; ferc has yet to issue new license for the project which will delay construction until 2017
VT08-16 Benjamin Falls Brook, from Berlin Pond to mouth	0.6 miles Altered Part F List	De-watering of brook/ Flow Alteration	Montpelier & Berlin water supply with-drawals	WSID #5272
VT08-20 Mill Brook	2.1 miles Altered Part F List	Artificial and insufficient flow/ Flow Alteration	Mad River Glen snow-making water withdrawal	Partial support 2.1 mi (5.9 mi total length)
VT08-20 Slide Brook	0.8 miles Altered Part F List	Artificial and insufficient flow/ Flow Alteration	Mount Ellen snowmaking water with-drawal	Non-support 0.8 mi (3.4 mi total length)
VT08-01 Winooski River, mouth to Alder Brook	21.2 miles Stressed	Sediments, nutrients, temp., stormwater, toxic	Developed land runoff, agriculture, industry	See Lake Champlain P TMDL

Waterbody or River Segment	Status	Pollutant /Stressor	Source	Planned actions, see also actions associated with Stressors ⁷⁸
		compounds/Urban stressors,Thermal stress, Toxics		
VT08-04 Goose Pond Brook, mouth to head-waters	1.5 miles Stressed	Acidity	Atmospheric deposition	WSMD will confirm or update status as resources permit
VT08-05 Winooski River, below Middlesex dam & above Montpelier CSOs	11.0 miles Stressed	sediment, nutrients, storm-water runoff/ Urban Stressors	Developed land, transportation, channelization	See Lake Champlain P TMDL
VT08-06 Graves Brook, mouth upstream	0.3 miles Stressed	Sediment/Urban stressors, Encroachment	Residential, ag, riparian encroachment	See Lake Champlain P TMDL
VT08-06 Thatcher Brook	10.0 miles Stressed	Sediment/Channel Erosion	Morphological instability from past channelization, etc	See Lake Champlain P TMDL River corridor easements planned. See Mid Winooski River Corrdior Plan
VT08-07 Winooski River below Marshfield 6 hydro	10.0 miles Stressed	low d.o/Flow alteration.	Dissolved oxygen problems from hypolimnetic withdrawal of unlicensed hydro dam	See Flow Alteration section. Unlicensed facility; A Public Utilities Commission Certificate of Public Good review is underway, with VTANR input to address flow, water level, and water temperature issues.
VT08-07 Winooski River, Stevens Branch up to Mollys Falls Brook	20.4 miles Stressed	sediment, turbidity, nutrients, physical alterations, E. coli/land erosion, channel erosion, thermal stress	Streambank erosion, road runoff,channel instability	See Lake Champlain P TMDL
VT08-08 Blanchard Brook	0.3 miles Stressed	unknown		(in 2018 list: Will be moved to Impaired status and investigated for lack of buffer. Fish community “fair” and “poor” in 2013 and 2014)
VT08-09 Winooski River, from Mollys Falls Brook upstream	6.0 miles Stressed	Sediment/Channel erosion, Encroachment	Streambank erosion, lack of riparian vegetation, physical alterations	See Lake Champlain P TMDL

Waterbody or River Segment	Status	Pollutant /Stressor	Source	Planned actions, see also actions associated with Stressors ⁷⁸
VT08-11 Gold Brook, mouth to headwaters	5.0 miles Stressed	sediment, physical alterations/Land erosion, Channel erosion, Encroachment	Land development, roads, former mining	See Lake Champlain P TMDL
VT08-11 Little River, from West Branch down to Reservoir	5.5 miles Stressed	urban runoff, sediment/Urban Stressors	Channel instability, channel manipulation, urban/suburban development	See Lake Champlain P TMDL
VT08-12 Little River, upstream of the West Branch confluence	3.3 miles Stressed	sediments, nutrients, E. coli/Urban Stressors, Pathogens	Land development, agricultural runoff; morphological instability (west br upstream to sterling brook)	See Lake Champlain P TMDL
VT08-12 Little Spruce Brook	0.1 miles Stressed	sediment, physical alteration/Urban Stressors	Ski area development	Stowe Mt. Resort WQRP
VT08-12 Long Trail Tributary	0.1 miles Stressed	sediment, acidity/Urban stressors, y	development	Further assessment. pH shock in springtime
VT08-12 Sterling Brook	7.0 miles Stressed	acidity	Low alk conditions, acid rain	WSMD ABN will confirm or update status as resources permit
VT08-12 West Branch Little River, rm 7.0 to 7.5	0.5 miles Stressed	Sediment/Urban Stressors	Impacts may be related to past construction erosion	Continue monitoring and Stowe Mt. Resort WQRP benefits
VT08-12 West Branch Little River, rm 8.0 to headwaters	x.x miles Stressed	sediment, acidity/Urban Development		need further assessment; pH shock in springtime. WSMD ABN will confirm or update status as resources permit
VT08-13 Hancock Brook	4.0 miles Stressed	acidity	low ph shock in springtime	Biomonitoring planned
VT08-13 Minister Brook	3.0 miles Stressed	acidity	low springtime ph, gravel road runoff	Biomonitoring planned
VT08-14 Kingsbury Branch, from outlet of North Montpelier Pond to mouth	3.5 miles Stressed	elevated temperatures/Flow Alteration	Warm water discharges from pond	Unlicensed. Project is operated under a FERC exemption.
VT08-15 Jail Branch, Barre City and below	1.5 miles Stressed	Sediment, nutrients, E. coli/Urban Stressors	Land development; erosion/sedimentation; urban runoff	(Possible change to unstressed in 2018 list)
VT08-15 Jail Branch, Washington/Orange area	x.x miles Stressed	E. coli/Pathogens	Elevated bacteria levels; source(s) unknown	(Possible change to unstressed in 2018 list)

Waterbody or River Segment	Status	Pollutant /Stressor	Source	Planned actions, see also actions associated with Stressors ⁷⁸
VT08-16 Stevens Branch	5.8 miles Stressed	Sediment, nutrients, E. coli/Urban Stressors	Urban runoff including suspected floor drains from commercial buildings on river	See Lake Champlain P TMDL
VT08-17 Dog River, Riverton canoe access downstream ½ mile	0.5 miles Stressed	E.coli/Pathogens	Elevated e. Coli	Review with AAFM
VT08-18 Mad River, Warren dam up to Route 100	0.5 miles Stressed	Sediment/Land Erosion, Channel Erosion	Morphological instability; contributions from nearby gravel/sand pit	Continue monitoring. Talk to someone about gravel/sand pit

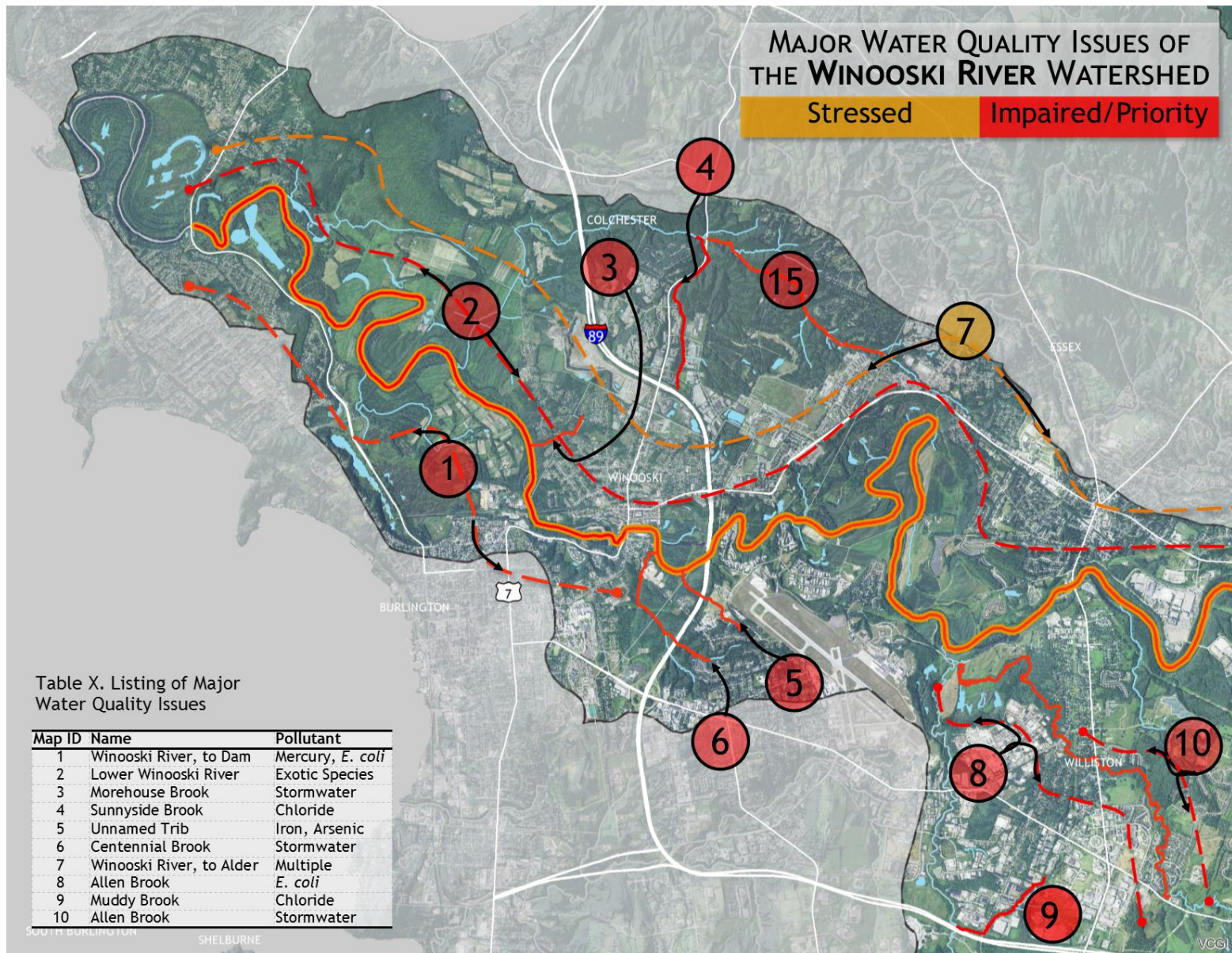


Figure 2 Stressed and impaired/altered surface waters on the 303d or state lists in Lower Winooski River Basin

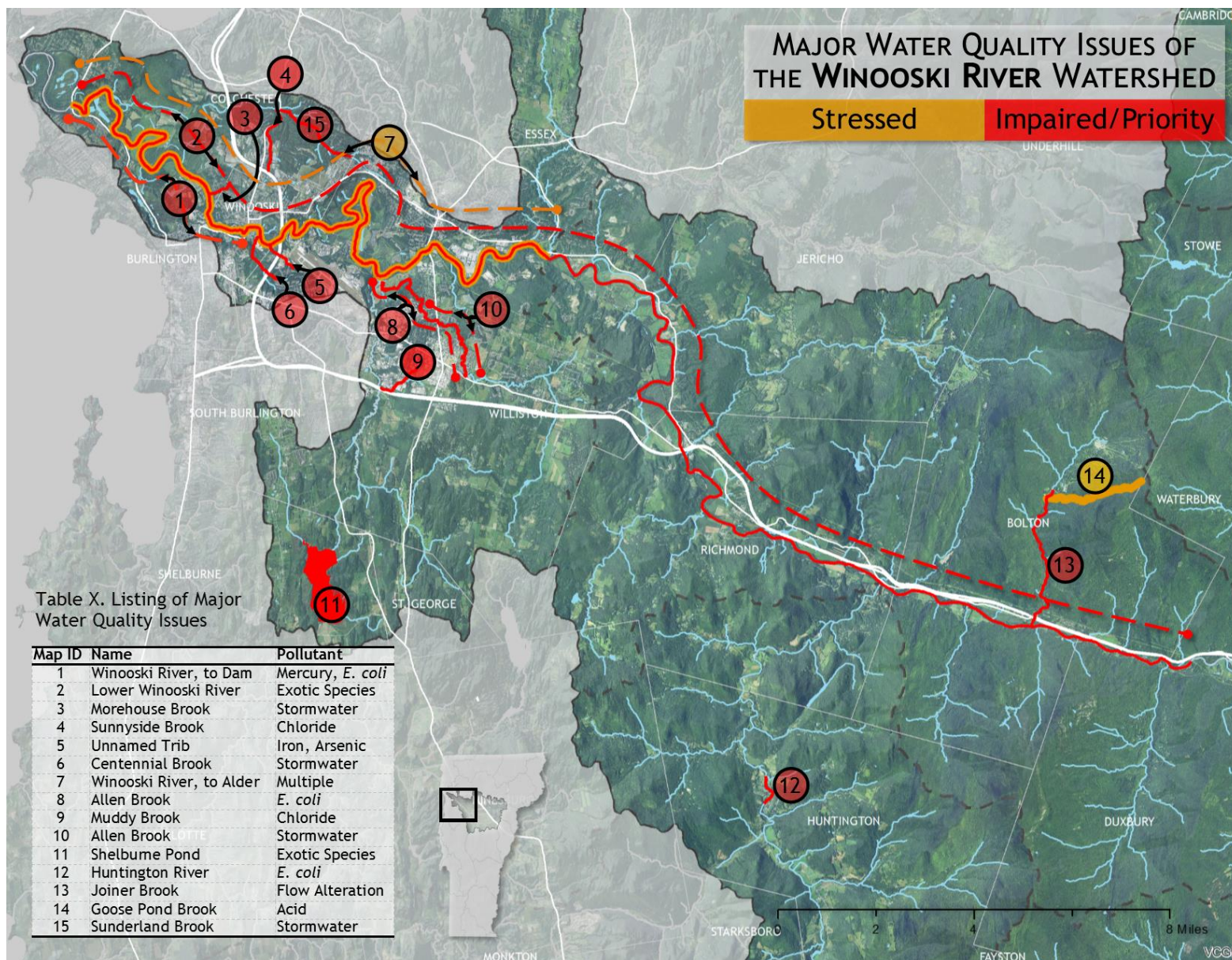


Figure 3. Stressed and impaired/alterd surface waters on the 303d or state lists in Lower and Mid-Winooski River Basin

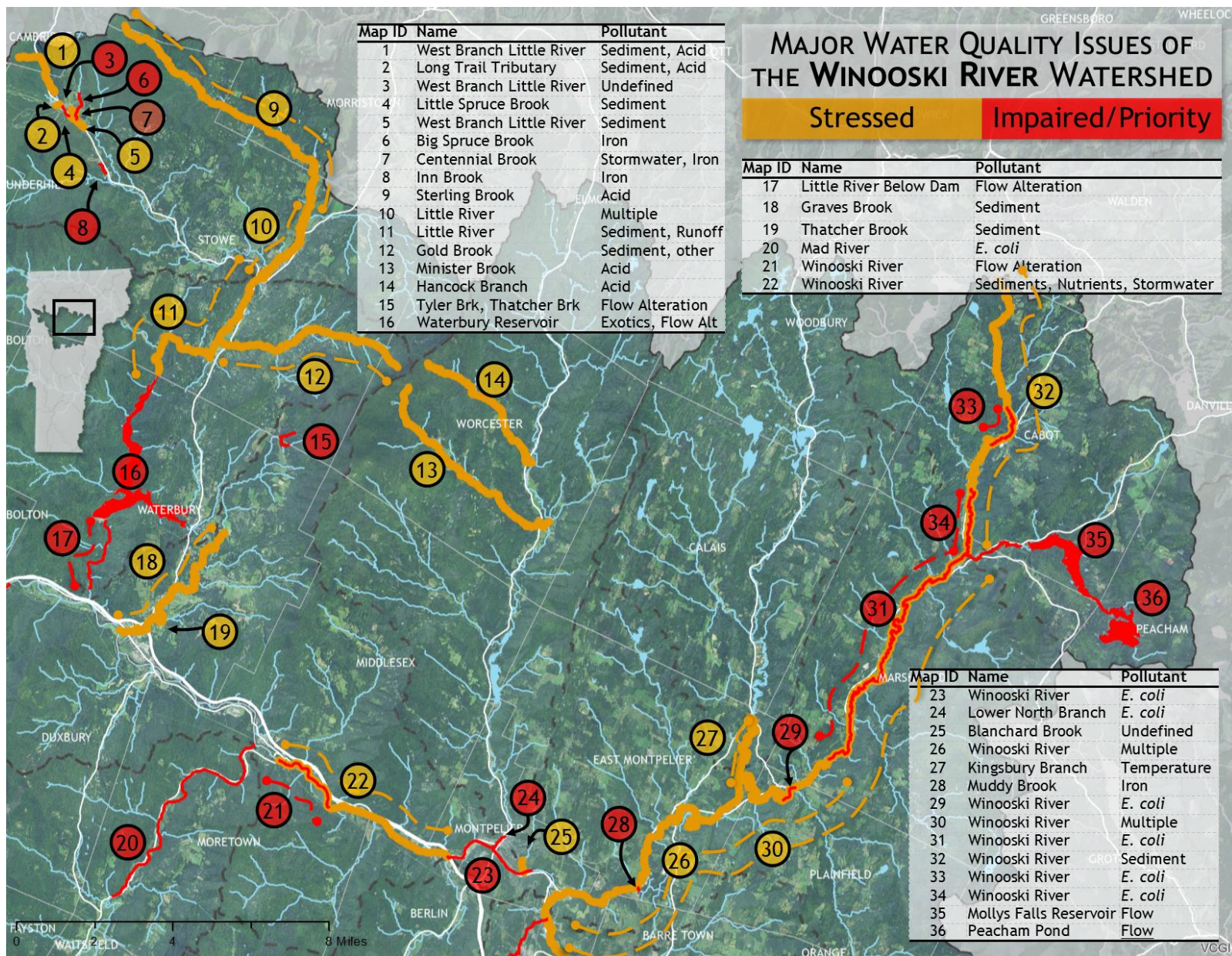


Figure 4. Stressed and impaired/altered surface waters on the 303d or state lists in Upper Winooski River Basin

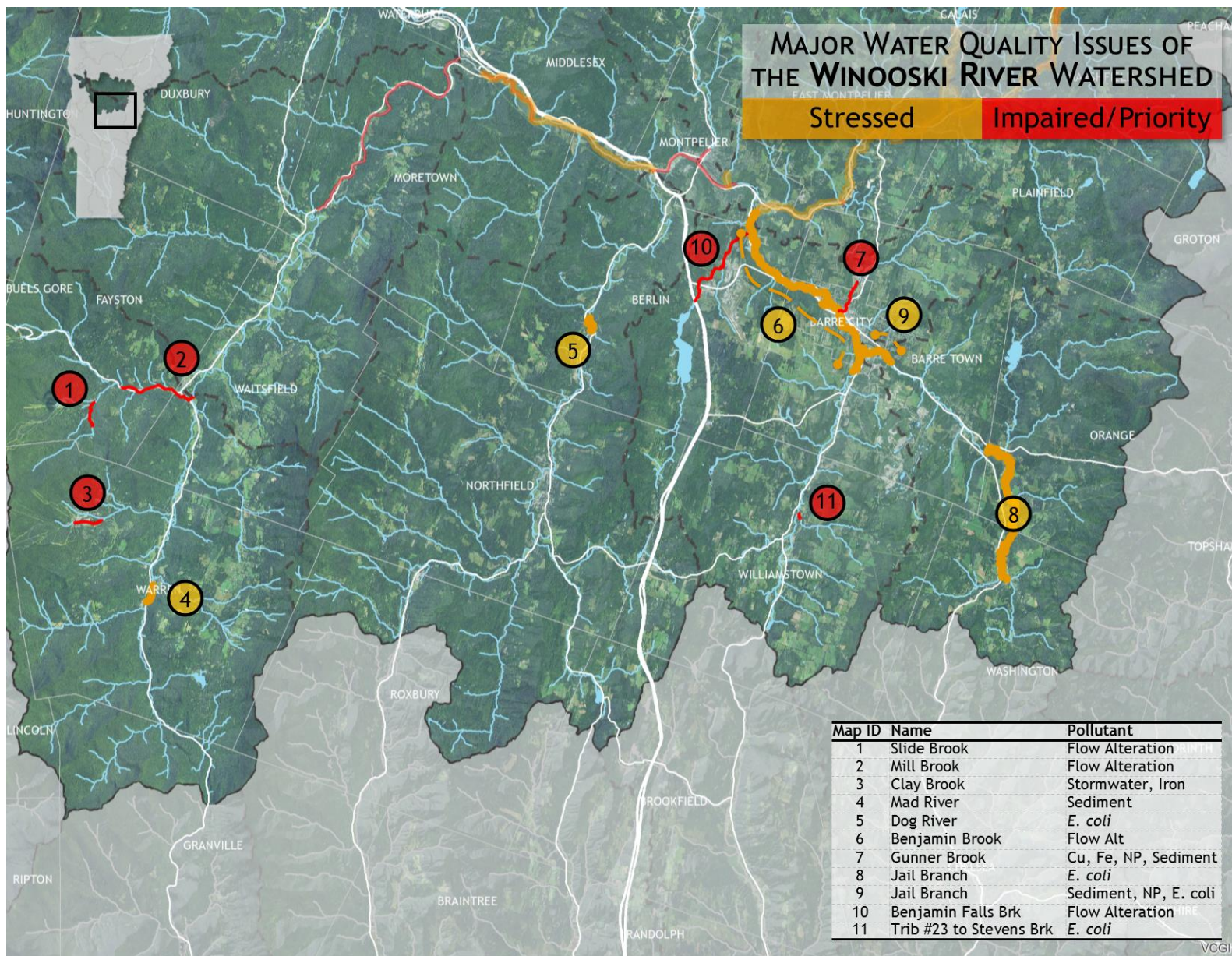


Figure 5. Stressed and impaired/alterd surface waters on the 303d or state lists in Mad and Dog Rivers and Stevens Branches

Additional Lake and Pond Assessment Results

In addition to the 303(d) List of Impaired Waters and List of Priority Surface Waters above (Table 4 the Vermont Lake Score Card identifies the overall conditions of each lake in Vermont (Table 5).

The Vermont [Inland Lake Score Card](#) is a user-friendly interface developed by the Vermont Lakes and Ponds Management and Protection Program (VLPP) to share available data on overall lake health with lake users. Using [Google Earth](#), viewers can select from more than 800 lakes in the state and learn about four key aspects of lake health: nutrients, aquatic invasive species, shoreland and lake habitat, and mercury pollution. Links embedded in the Score Card open deeper views into the underlying data.

Table 5 Inland Lake Score Card information for 51 Basin 8 lakes

The water quality condition is represented by different colors: Blue = Good Conditions; Yellow = Fair/Stressed Conditions; Red = Poor/Impaired/Altered Conditions; Blank = assessment needed.

Water Quality Status key: pH = acid sensitive (low alkalinity), TP = total phosphorus, Flow = water level manipulation, DO = dissolved oxygen, Cl = chloride

Aquatic Invasive Species key: EWM = Eurasian water milfoil, CLP = curly leaf pondweed, EF = European frogbit, BN = brittle naiad.

Lake ID	Lake Area (acres)	Town	Water Quality Trend	Water Quality Status	Aquatic Invasive Species	Mercury in Fish Tissue	Shoreland & Habitat	Waters'd Disturbed
BAILEY	17	Marshfield						
BAKER (BRKFLD)	35	Brookfield						
BANCROFT	14	Plainfield						
BEAVER (ROXBRY)	10	Roxbury		pH				
BERLIN	293	Berlin			EWM			
BLISS	46	Calais		TP				
BLUE	6	Calais						
BLUEBERRY	48	Warren						
BOLSTER	5	Barre Town						
BUCK	39	Woodbury						
CHAPELS	2	East Montpelier						
COITS	40	Cabot						
CRANBERRY MEADOW	28	Woodbury						
CURTIS	72	Calais		TP				
CUTTER	16	Williamstown						
DOBSON	9	Woodbury						
DRY	2	Northfield						
EAST CALAIS MILL:	6	Calais						
FELCHNER:	12	Northfield						
FOREST (CALAIS)	133	Calais						
GILLETT	30	Richmond		Sed, pH				
GOODALL	7	Woodbury						

Lake ID	Lake Area (acres)	Town	Water Quality Trend	Water Quality Status	Aquatic Invasive Species	Mercury in Fish Tissue	Shoreland & Habitat	Waters'd Disturbed
GOOSE	2	Bolton						
GOSLANT	5	Peacham						
GREENWOOD	96	Woodbury						
HALFMOON COVE	14	Colchester		TP				
HARDWOOD	49	Elmore		pH				
HAWKINS	9	Calais						
HORN OF THE MOON	10	East Montpelier						
KNOB HILL	16	Marshfield						
LAIRD	12	Marshfield						
LEECH	4	Woodbury						
LIGHT TROUT CLUB	7	Moretown						
LILY PAD	2	Colchester						
LIMEHURST	13	Williamstown						
LITTLE (CALAIS)	7	Calais						
LITTLE (ELMORE)	14	Elmore		pH				
LITTLE MUD (WOODBURY)	10	Woodbury						
LONG MEADOW;	7	Calais						
LOWER ORANGE	8	Orange						
LOWER WINOOSKI;	4	Winooski		TP, CI				
LOWER WORCESTER	35	Worcester		pH				
MANSFIELD	38	Stowe		pH				
MARTIN;	28	Williamstown						
MIDDLE WOODBURY;	9	Woodbury						
MIRROR	85	Calais						
MOLLYS	38	Cabot						
MOLLYS FALLS	397	Cabot		Flow				
MUD (WOODBURY)-SE	18	Woodbury						
NELSON (EMONTP)	10	East Montpelier						
NORTH KING	3	Woodbury						
NORTH MONTPELIER	72	East Montpelier		TP, Sed	EWM			
OAK HILL;	8	Williston						
ORANGE;		Orange						
PAINE;		Northfield						
PEACHAM	340	Peacham		Flow				
PECKS	16	Barre Town						
PIGEON	69	Groton		pH				
PRESTON	9	Bolton						
RICHARDS;	14	Marshfield						
RICHMOND	24	Richmond		pH				
ROBINSON;	7	Northfield						

Lake ID	Lake Area (acres)	Town	Water Quality Trend	Water Quality Status	Aquatic Invasive Species	Mercury in Fish Tissue	Shoreland & Habitat	Waters'd Disturbed
ROSS;		Morristown						
ROULEAU	1	Williamstown						
RUSS	7	Elmore		pH				
SABIN	142	Calais		DO, Sed				
SCHWARTZ;		Morristown						
SHELBURNE	452	Shelburne		TP, DO	CLP, EWM, EF			
SMITH (WOODBURY)	4	Woodbury						
SODOM	21	East Montpelier						
SOUTH KING	4	Woodbury						
SOUTH WOODBURY;	6	Woodbury						
STERLING	8	Cambridge		pH				
TABER;		Stowe						
TABOR	5	Calais						
THURMAN W. DIX	123	Orange						
TURTLEHEAD	69	Marshfield		pH				
UNION;		Northfield						
UPPER WINOOSKI;	10	Winooski		TP, CI				
UPPER WORCESTER	11	Worcester						
VALLEY	88	Woodbury		TP, DO				
WALTON	13	Woodbury						
WATERBURY	839	Waterbury		Flow, sed. pH	BN			
WATSON	11	Calais						
WEST HILL	46	Cabot		Flow				
WHEELER (WOODBURY)	4	Woodbury						
WHEELLOCK	4	Calais						
WHITCOMB	1	Williamstown						
WILLIAMSTOWN-NE;	7	Williamstown						
WOODBURY;		Woodbury						
WRIGHTSVILLE	190	East Montpelier		Flow, pH				

Stressors, Pollutant and Project Identification

In addition to supporting surface water assessments to identify water quality degradation or reference conditions ¹¹, VDEC and partners (Appendix A) also support assessments that can lead to a better understanding of the stressor or pollutants and therefore appropriate remediation efforts. The assessments, described in this section, cover most landuse activity as well as the condition of river corridors.

During the tactical basin planning process, the results of the assessments are considered along with modeling results (see end of Chapter for more explanation on modeling analyses). to prioritize geographic areas for project development and to identify priority projects for inclusion in the Tactical Basin Plan's [Watershed Projects Database](#) (Chapter 5). These projects can then be used to help meet regulatory requirements or support voluntary efforts. Specific assessment needs for each subwatershed are included in Tables 4 and Table 11.

Water Quality Monitoring by Citizen Groups

In addition to data collected by VDEC staff, VDEC also considers stream and lake chemical data collected by other organizations, including volunteer monitoring groups (see Table 6). The results can be important for identifying stressors and sources.

The VDEC supports volunteer water quality monitoring effort through the LaRosa Partnership Program, which provides analyses services to the volunteer group through a grant program. The most common parameters requested include total and dissolved phosphorus, total nitrogen and total suspended solids.

Table 6. Volunteer monitoring groups collecting water quality data to support Winooski Basin planning (LaRosa Partnership Program funded) (See Figure X)

<i>Volunteer Monitoring Groups</i>
<u>Calais Conservation Commission</u>
<u>Huntington River Conservation Partnership</u>
<u>Friends of the Mad River</u>
<u>Williston Conservation Commission</u>
<u>Upper Winooski Joint Conservation Commissions</u>

¹¹ Appendix A of the [Vermont DEC Water Quality Monitoring Strategy 2011-2020](#)

[Four Rivers Winooski Partnership](#)

[Chittenden County Stream Team](#)

In Basin 8, the program assists watershed groups and municipalities in sampling sites throughout the basin. Once the samples are analyzed, the lab organizes all volunteer water quality monitoring data for easy download to an excel file available to groups for use in their annual reports. Data and reports can be found at the [LaRosa Volunteer Monitoring webpage](#).

A summary of the water quality data in Table 6 includes prioritization of areas for focus of efforts to reduce phosphorus loading. (In development)

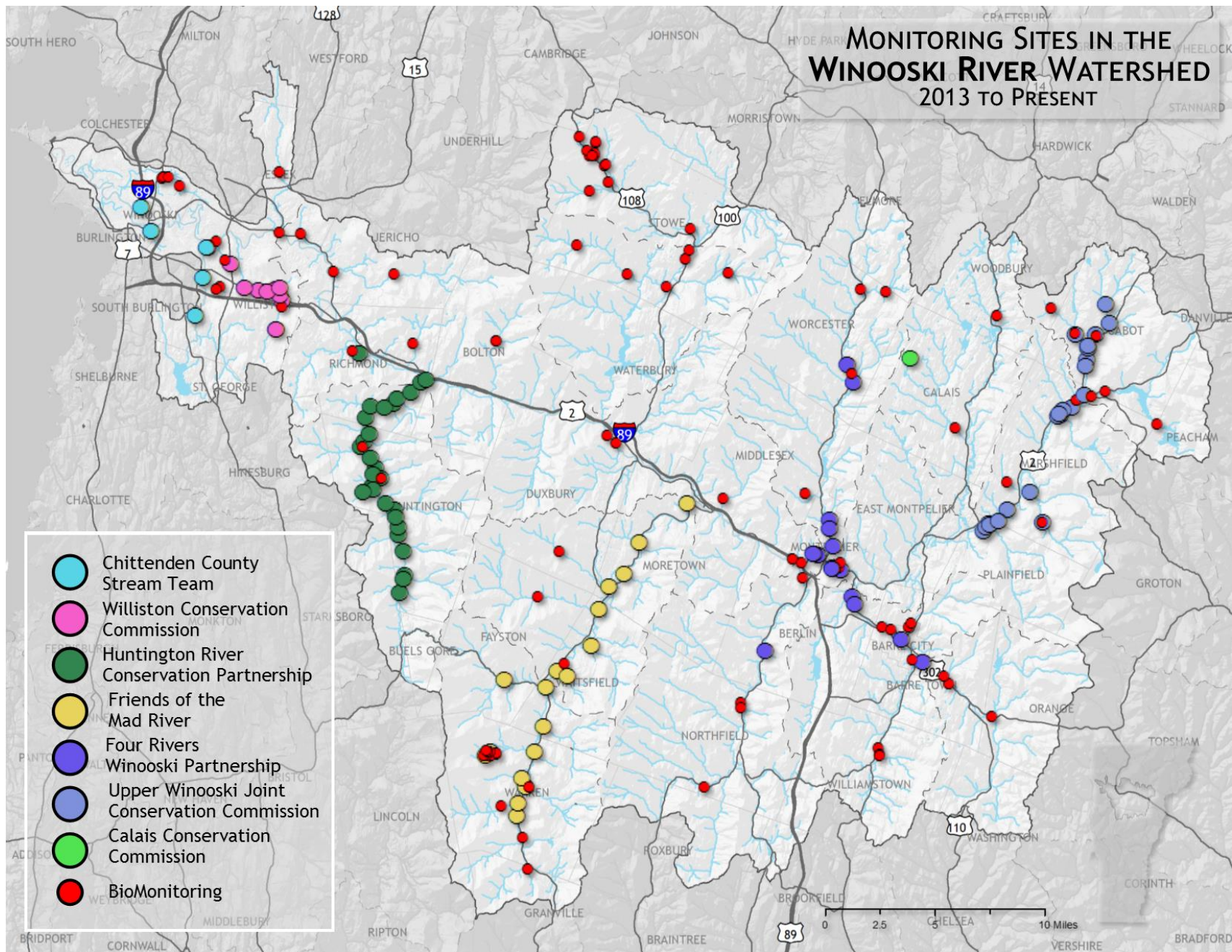


Figure 6. Winooski Basin biomonitoring sites supported by VDEC and water quality monitoring sites supported by watershed partners and the VDEC LaRosa Partnership Program

Stream Geomorphic Assessments

Geomorphic assessments measure and assess the physical dynamics of an entire watershed or collection of river reaches. Physical aspects of river dynamics are assessed using maps, existing data, and windshield surveys (Phase 1), using field observation and simple measurements (Phase 2 and River Corridor Plans) and/or using surveying techniques and quantitative analysis (Phase 3). See [Vermont River Management Section - Geomorphic Assessment](#) for more information.

The assessed tributaries in Basin 8 have experienced channel incision and subsequent and ongoing planform adjustments in lower reaches. In the basin, the most common causes of disequilibrium are dams, diversions, culverts, and channelization practices, such as dredging, berming, and armoring. A significant amount of legacy phosphorus and sediment loading is attributable to in-channel erosion (Lake Champlain Basin Program, 2011).

Another source of disequilibrium is related to increased discharge of stormwater associated with increased development (impervious surfaces) within the watershed of each tributary.

This Tactical Basin Plan presents results of a comprehensive review of all priority river protection and restoration projects listed in the Stream Geomorphic Assessments (SGA) corridor plans (Table 7). Projects are included in the [Watershed Projects Database](#) (Chapter 5).

Priority projects include actions that will lead to least erosive channels as well as increased flood resilience for communities. Examples include riparian buffer planting and increasing or protecting areas that provide flood and sediment attenuation and reducing stormwater runoff volumes.

Priority streams for river corridor protection are those that are most at risk for movement (disequilibrium) based on high level of sensitivity and floodplain disconnection. They include the upper Winooski main stem, Pekin Brook, Upper Stevens Branch, Little Mad and Huntington Rivers.

Where rivers have lost floodplain access, river corridor easements support the channel evolution process towards a dynamically stable planform and development of accessible floodplain features over time. The protection of the river corridor in the watershed is also appropriate to protect existing floodplain access. Protection of river corridors helps to allow the stream to reach equilibrium. Once a stream is in

equilibrium, then the lands adjacent to the channel will be expected to flood regularly, helping to attenuate flood heights, flood velocities and store sediment on the floodplain.

Floodplain restoration will be a focus in Little River, where the stressor, channel erosion, results in a loss of floodplain connection, sending fine sediment particles into the Winooski.

Riparian plantings are a priority where a mature woody buffer can establish itself without significant loss from channel erosion. Map X identifies river stretches where buffer width of less than X feet is less than 25% of the buffer. Allen Brook, Mad River, Upper Winooski, Dog River are good candidates for buffer based on stable condition of reach as well as high potential for overland runoff. Huntington would also greatly benefit from a buffer in many locations but would require larger setbacks to accommodate lateral instability

Culvert and bridge replacement to conform with the geomorphic condition of streams will be mostly limited to deteriorating structures because of the significant cost to the towns. Towns will be assisted by the Chittenden County, Central Vermont and Lamoille Regional Planning Commission and the Northern Vermont Development Association in prioritizing and planning for expense.

Table 7 Stream Geomorphic Assessments and River Corridor Plans for Basin 8. Except where noted, all streams are moving towards planform stability with channel erosion and encroachment as the primary stressors.

<i>Stream or River</i>	<i>Report date</i>	<i>Report Link</i>	<i>Summary of Findings/project priorities</i>
Alder Brook	12/01/2006	Alder Brook Phase 1 and 2 SGA	Landslide prone below Rte 15:manage stormwater and protect corridor (upper) where not protected through wetland rules
Allen Brook	4/11/2008	Allen Brook Watershed Departure Analysis and Project Identification Summary	address encroachments and stormwater: River corridor protection ¹² , Riparian plantings, stormwater management
Dog River	3/01/2009	Dog River River Corridor Plan	Thermal stress from lack of buffer and widened stream: Riparian plantings and focus river corridor easements outside of bedrock controlled areas

¹² River corridor protection can include river corridor easements, adequate sizing of culverts as well as municipal regulations for flood resilience.

<i>Stream or River</i>	<i>Report date</i>	<i>Report Link</i>	<i>Summary of Findings/project priorities</i>
Huntington River	9/14/2009	Huntington River Watershed Corridor Plan	Riparian plantings, river corridor protection
Huntington River	12/01/2005	Huntington River Watershed Phase 1 SGA	See above
Huntington River	1/01/2006	Phase 2 SGA Huntington River Watershed	See above
Kingsbury Branch	10/01/2008	Kingsbury Branch of the Winooski River Watershed River Corridor Plan	Geomorphic condition protection by bedrock and VT wetland Rules. Limited actions needed
Pekin Brook	6/02/2010	Pekin Brook Corridor Plan, Calais, VT	River corridor protection,
Little River	6/28/2010	Little River Corridor Plan	River corridor protection, move infrastructure in river corridor, upgrade culverts
Mad River	1/01/2008	Mad River Headwaters Phase 2 SGA	See below
Mad River	3/01/2008	Mad River Phase 1 and 2 SGA	See below
Mad River	1/01/2008	Upper Mad River Corridor Plan	River corridor protection and riparian buffer plantings
Morehouse			Stormwater management. consider gully restoration and culvert replacement
Muddy Brook	2/01/2008	Muddy Brook Phase 1 and 2	Upper area protected by wetland, encroachment of infrastructure in lower watershed: Stormwater management, riparian plantings,
North Branch Winooski	3/01/2009	North Branch Winooski Corridor Plan	Bed rock gorges protects geomorphic condition. Protect depositional areas between bedrock controlled areas.
North Branch Winooski	5/01/2007	North Branch Winooski Phase 1 SGA	See above
North Branch Winooski	3/01/2007	Upper Winooski Watershed, North Branch and Lower Stevens Branch Phase 1 SGA	See above
Richmond	9/01/2007	Winooski River tributaries in	Encroachment: upgrade culverts, riparian

<i>Stream or River</i>	<i>Report date</i>	<i>Report Link</i>	<i>Summary of Findings/project priorities</i>
tribs		Richmond Phase 1 SGA	plantings
Stevens Branch	3/01/2009	Stevens Branch and Jail Branches of the Winooski River Corridor Plan	Jail Branch: Landslide prone - manage stormwater at top of bank, and new development Stevens Branch – River corridor protection
Stevens Branch	4/01/2004	Stevens Branch in Williamstown and Barre City Phase 2 SGA	See above
Sucker Brook	10/01/2007	Sucker Brook Phase 1 and 2 SGA	River corridor protection(not high priority) where not already confined by ravines, riparian plantings, address stormwater
Sunderland Brook		Find Phase 2 report	River corridor protection and floodplain restoration in agricultural areas, address stormwater
Little River Main Stem			River Corridor Protection and riparian planting
West Branch Little River	10/12/2010	Upper West Branch Little River Corridor Plan, Stowe, VT	Stormwater management and Encroachment: work with landowners to reduce infrastructure conflicts
West Branch Little River	5/01/2007	West Branch Little River in Stowe Corridor Plan	Encroachment: work with landowners to reduce infrastructure conflicts
West Branch Little River	11/01/2005	West Branch Little River Phase 2 SGA	See above
Winooski - Cabot	3/30/2006	Phase 2 SGA, Winooski River Watershed, Town of Cabot, VT	See below
Winooski - Cabot	6/01/2006	Winooski River in Cabot Corridor Plan	Temperature: plant and protect riparian buffers
Winooski - Cabot	11/01/2004	Winooski River in Cabot Phase 1 SGA	See above
Winooski - Cabot	12/01/2006	Winooski River in Cabot Phase 2 SGA	See above
Winooski - Montpelier	3/19/2014	Great Brook River Corridor	Encroachment: address infrastructure conflict,

<i>Stream or River</i>	<i>Report date</i>	<i>Report Link</i>	<i>Summary of Findings/project priorities</i>
to Cabot		Plan	increase wetland in headwaters,
Winooski - Montpelier to Cabot	1/01/2008	Upper Winooski Corridor Plan	Temperature: riparian plantings and river corridor protection
Winooski - Montpelier to Cabot	4/01/2007	Upper Winooski Phase 2 SGA	See above
Winooski - Montpelier to Cabot	3/31/2010	Upper Winooski River: Plainfield to Montpelier, River Corridor Plan	Temperature: riparian plantings and river corridor protection
Winooski Mid, Alder to Montp	2/01/2009	Joiner Brook, Bolton River Corridor Plan	Geomorphic condition is good to fair with good riparian buffers. Snowmaking wier causing sediment accumulation upstream. Stormwater management
Winooski Mid, Alder to Montpelier	6/01/2007	Mid-Winooski Watershed Chittenden, Washington, and Lamoille Phase 1 SGA	See below
Winooski Mid, Alder to Montp	12/15/2015	Middle Winooski River Corridor Plan	River corridor protection, riparian planting
Winooski, Mouth to Alder Brook	8/01/2006	Lower Winooski Phase 1 and 2 SGA	Bedrock controlled with large wetland within river corridor: restore and protect wetlands

Landslide Inventory

The Washington County Phase 1 Hazard [Map, 2017](#) and [Report](#) identifies landslide sites (modern and ancient) and area of steep slopes. The expected completion date for a similar study in Chittenden County is 2018. The VDEC Geology Program supports these studies as part of the current State Hazard Mitigation Plan recommendation to map landslides gullies, and other slope instability hazards. (<http://vem.vermont.gov/plans/SHMP>).

The WSMD Geology program will continue to add to the inventory through input from the public. An online reporting form will be publicized by the program:

<http://dec.vermont.gov/geological-survey/hazards/landslides>

Towns may also request a more detailed level of mapping to help inform the town planning and project review process from the Department of Public Safety.

The Washington County Phase 1 Hazard [Report](#) includes the following summary:

1. The landslides are principally caused by
 - a. Oversteepened slopes during the flash floods that results in fluvial erosion of banks and stream beds.
 - b. decreases in shear strength of soils due to increases in soil water pore pressures due to the heavy rainfall.
2. Stormwater discharges may have destabilized or at least exacerbated the instability of gullies.
3. The detailed and periodic updates of (Phase 2) stream geomorphic data from the Vermont Rivers Program is critical to understanding the patterns of stream channel adjustment that are underway in the river corridors as it allows consideration of how the slopes had changed over time. It would be highly desirable to have Phase 2 data available for the streams in any areas where landslide mapping is to be undertaken.

Stormwater Master Plans and Mapping

Stormwater runoff from developed areas carries pollutants to streams, as well as increasing stream flows, which in turn erodes the stream channel. Regulations that work towards the management of stormwater are discussed in Chapter 4. In addition, The Department of Environmental Conservation (VDEC) has supported town [stormwater mapping](#) and [stormwater master plans](#) as well as [illicit discharge detection](#) to help both with regulatory requirements and voluntary efforts. The town reports can be found at the associated link above.

The list of towns with stormwater master plans is listed in Appendix C. The following towns would be candidates for stormwater master plans: Williamstown and village, Waterbury Village and Stowe. The recommended stormwater master plan template is

the Hybrid site & community retrofit approach with green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) stormwater management.

In the remaining towns, roads are the predominant source of stormwater, which will be addressed through the [State general permit](#) for discharges of regulated stormwater from municipal roads (see also Chapter 4).

The [Watershed Projects Database](#) includes priority projects from stormwater master plans and the illicit discharge detection surveys. The master planning process includes the review of projects identified in the stormwater mapping projects. Priority projects are identified based on significance in comparison to projects throughout the basin and additional information collected relating to the feasibility of a proposed project.

Road Erosion Inventories (update or see Phase II info) or needed? Could add something above

Road Erosion Inventories (REI) are used by Vermont municipalities to identify sections of local roads in need of sediment and erosion control, assess the degree of need for sediment and erosion control, rank road segments that pose the highest risks to surface waters, and estimate costs to remediate those sites using Best Management Practices. The implementation of the priorities identified in REI's will support the reduction of sediment, phosphorus pollutants and other contaminants generated from unpaved municipal roads that contribute to water quality degradation.

With the assistance of the regional planning commissions, except for Barre city and Waterbury, all towns in the basin have developed inventories based on the protocols developed by VDEC. The plan recommends that technical and financial assistance be prioritized for interested towns based on water quality benefit of projects. Criteria to assess water quality benefit may include location of project in area prioritized for phosphorus reduction from roads (see Chapter 4). The resources would assist with development of designs, capital budgets, cost estimates and implementation. Completion of these projects may be counted towards meeting the requirements of the Municipal Road General Permit. For additional information see the [VDEC municipal Roads Program](#) and Chapter 4.

Lake Shoreland Protection and Restoration

Healthy lakeshores have been demonstrated to play a crucial role in overall lake health, trapping nutrients and sediments before they reach lake waters, and protecting nearshore habitat for fish and wildlife. This is important for whole lake health and improvement of downstream water quality. Greenwood in Woodbury ranks good for

all aspects of lake health captured by the Vermont Lake Score Card (Table 5) with the exception of shoreline condition, making it an excellent candidate for shoreline protection and restoration projects to maintain its overall good quality. 24 other lakes in the basin have a rating of fair for shoreline condition. Restoration work in these lake shorelands would contribute to improvements in water quality and littoral zone habitat.

Remediation work to reduce sediment and nutrient flow into the lake would be warranted for Forest Pond in Calais as the lake has shown a poor water quality trend. Blueberry, North Montpelier, Peacham and Sabin show fair water quality trends and would also warrant additional attention as described above.

The VLPP periodically evaluates all Vermont lakes for over all water quality, biodiversity and unusual or scenic features. The best lakes in the Winooski Basin for all three categories were Buck and Pigeon (in the top 5%), Turtlehead (in the top 10%), Coits (in the top 20%), and Berlin Pond (in the top 25%). Lakes with unusual, scenic or natural features include Mansfield, Shelburne and Thurman W. Dix. As the WSMD considers reclassification opportunities within the Winooski Basin, these lakes may qualify for additional protection through reclassification.

These along with other recommendations based on the analysis are included in the Watershed Projects Database.

Wetland Restoration

An important function of wetlands is the ability to attenuate nonpoint source phosphorus (P) and thereby maintain and improve downstream water quality. The 2007 VT Agency of Natural Resources's [Lake Champlain Basin Wetland Restoration Plan](#) and 2016 updates includes the identification and prioritization of wetlands in the Vermont portion of the Lake Champlain Basin (LCB) with the greatest potential for P removal through restoration. The plan identified the need for a higher percentage of wetland restoration needs in Basin 8 compared to other areas. The plan identified over X potential restoration sites for a total of over X acres for restoration within the Winooski Basin, which is X% of the total number of sites identified in the Plan.

The Vermont Wetlands Program also collects bioassessment data to assess the health of Vermont wetlands. Based on a 2017 analysis of bioassessment data, the **principal factors that correlate with poor wetland condition are:**

- presence of invasive species,

- disturbance to the wetland buffer or surrounding area,
- disturbance to wetland soils, and
- disturbance to wetland hydrology (how water moves through a wetland) through ditching, filling and draining.

Wetlands in remote areas and at high elevations tend to be in good condition, with the most threatened wetlands occurring in areas of high development pressure and exhibiting habitat loss.

The Bioassessment Program has conducted 218 detailed vegetation plots in wetlands throughout the state. The Winooski watershed includes 12 vegetation plots.

Surveys are primarily conducted on a rotating basis by watershed, and the Winooski e River basin will be surveyed in more detail with the next rotation in 2020

In addition to detailed vegetation plots, the Wetlands program also conducts rapid assessments of wetlands using the Vermont Rapid Assessment Method (VRAM). A total of 24 VRAM assessments have been conducted in Basin 8. Current pattern of conditions for this watershed mirrors much of the rest of the State: a clear pattern in this watershed (and in the rest of Vermont) where high- elevation, small wetlands are often in excellent condition, but floodplain wetland complexes low in the watershed are often in poor condition and heavily impacted by human use (but also offer a great deal of restoration potential).

Interested organizations and citizens will help build the dataset of wetlands in Basin 8 by conducting VRAM analys (for more information contact the VDEC Wetlands Program).

Flow Alteration

Flow alteration is any human-induced change in the natural flow of a river or stream or water level of a lake or reservoir. Flow alteration is associated with instream structures and practices that regulate flows or water levels or withdraw water, i.e., activities that obstruct, dewater, or artificially flood aquatic and riparian habitats. Regulating flows impacts habitat and water quality, including changes to temperature and water chemistry (e.g., pH, dissolved oxygen, and toxicity), which may significantly lower habitat suitability for certain aquatic organisms. Flow alteration can also occur due to small-scale practices such as road culverts and ditches, up to large-scale dams, reservoirs and irrigation networks.

The Department of Environmental Conservation reviews hydroelectric generating dams as a flow alteration activity and issues a certification pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) that the project as operated meets the Vermont Water Quality Standards. Table 8 includes a list of currently operating hydroelectric generating dams in the basin. The surface waters impounded by and downstream of these facilities are classified to maintain designated uses at a Class B(2) level of quality.

Flow assessments

Managing water levels in a stream to meet human needs for property protection or a water source can compete with the need to protect aquatic habitat. Assessments have identified flow alterations that the VDEC addresses to ensure compliance with the Vermont Water Quality Standards as well the Vermont Surface Level Rules either through regulatory processes or as owner of a dam (see also [Watershed Projects Database](#))

A list of flow altered waters are included in Table 4.

Table 8. Hydroelectric generating dams in Basin 8. See below for additional information.

<i>Dam</i>	<i>River</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Ownership</i>
Montpelier No. 4	Winooski River		Winooski Hydroelectric Co
Winooski One	Winooski River		Winooski One Partnership
Marshfield No. 6	Mollys Brook	FERC Unlicensed project . DEC reviewing application for Certificate of Public Good (CPG).	Green Mountain Power Corp
Bolton Falls No. 1	Winooski River	Entering 2 nd year of FERC relicensing. Will conduct studies 2018 field season	Green Mountain Power Corp
North Montpelier Pond	Kingsbury Branch		Kingsbury Branch Hydroelectric Co.
Essex No. 19	Winooski River		Green Mountain Power Corp
Middlesex No. 2	Winooski River	Unlicensed facility. Fragments and degrades fisheries habitat	Green Mountain Power Corp
Moretown No. 8	Mad River	FERC relicensing process initiated recently	Ampersand Moretown Hydro, LLC
Northfield Mills	Dog River		Nantana Mill Partnership
Gorge No. 18	Winooski River	Unlicensed and ANR issued a Certificate of Public Good in 2012 after outstanding issues addressed during proceedings.	Green Mountain Power Corp
Ladds Mill	North Branch Winooski River		Worcester Hydro Co.

Peacham Pond	Sucker Brook	Unlicensed, Hydropower storage for Marshfield no. 6.	Green Mountain Power Corp
Wrightsville	North Branch Winooski River	also flood control. Project in the FERC relicensing process. Studies will likely begin summer 2018	State of Vermont – VDEC owns dam. Washington Electric Coop owns and operates the hydro.
Waterbury	Little River	Section 401 wq certification appl'n under review by VDEC. Also flood control	State of Vermont – VDEC. Green Mountain Power Corp. owns and operates the hydro

Additional information about four of the above hydrodam facilities follows, including an assessment res provided by the ANR Department of Fish and Wildlife ([2017 Upper Winooski Fisheries Assessment](#)):

Marshfield 6 and Peacham Pond Dams

In Marshfield, Molly's Brook, which flows from Peacham Pond and Molly's Falls Reservoir enters the Winooski. These two ponds and Molly's Brook have been used as part of an unlicensed hydroelectric operation since 1927. Annual winter drawdowns in both Molly's Falls Reservoir and Peacham Pond impact littoral habitat (Ladago, 2017) and elevated water temperatures, decreased dissolved oxygen, and altered flows have been observed downstream of the impoundments as a result of these operations. The GMP hydro-electric generation results in extreme daily fluctuations in flow as well as rapid temperature changes of >5°F (Kirn 2017). GMP is currently seeking a Certificate of Public Good to repair the dam and will need to meet Vermont Water Quality Standards to move forward. VFWD (Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department) and VDEC (Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation) are working to improve facility operations to decrease impacts to water quality and aquatic populations.

Wrightsville

In Middlesex, the North Branch is impounded to create Wrightsville Reservoir. Elevated downstream temperatures due to a surface water release is magnified by a loss of diurnal cooling within the reservoir. These factors likely limit the ability of the North Branch to sustain wild trout and other coldwater fish species below the reservoir (Kirn 2017). Poor recruitment of largemouth bass within the reservoir may reflect the impact of water level fluctuations during and following spawning and a lack of aquatic vegetation growth within the reservoir

Waterbury

Downstream of Waterbury Dam, the river supports wild brown and rainbow trout. The populations are limited by regular and extreme flow and temperature fluctuations associated with the hydroelectric release. As part of a recently issued Section 401 water quality certificate and FERC license, flow and temperature below the dam is expected to improve beginning in May 2018. Once the tainter gates and spillway of the dam are repaired, the winter drawdown will be eliminated and run-of-river operation will occur. Until this repair, a phased approach (currently providing an increase in minimum flows downstream of the dam) should improve the overall health of the fishery and surrounding ecosystem.

Stage 2 of the 402 Water Quality Certification will begin this May. Green Mountain Power has replaced the turbine runner and constructed the bypass valves so the the project will operation in run-of-river between May 15 – December 31. Drawdown and limited peaking is allowed from January 1 – March 30; Refill between April 1 – May 14. Stage 3 true run-of-river operations year round will begin when tainter gates are replaced.

Other Dams

While some of the dams in the basin provide power generation (Table 8) and recreational opportunities, and can be aesthetically or culturally important, others may be obsolete, providing little or no public benefit, or constituting a hazard. Removal of dam provides benefits to stream stability, and run of stream opportunities for boating as well as aquatic organism passage. Removal is considered when dams no longer provide benefits and/or have become structurally unsafe. Table 9 includes dams that could be considered for removal. These are also included in the [Watershed Projects Database](#).

Table 9. Dams with high potential for removal based on landowner and community interest, expected resource improvement and dam hazard class.

<i>State ID</i>	<i>Dam Name</i>	<i>Stream</i>	<i>Dam Hazard Class¹³</i>	<i>Comments</i>
13.01	Brooklyn Street	Stevens Branch	3	
13.02	Habbep	Stevens Branch	3	
14.04	Jockey Hollow	Stevens Branch	3	
32.06	Wardner Pond	Sunny Brook		
39.04	Clarks Saw Mill	Winooski River	3	Active removal project
63.02	Duxbury Mill	Crossett Brook	3	
123.04	Laird Pond	Nasmith Brook		
131.01	Lane	North Branch Winooski River	3	
131.05	Trestle	North Branch Winooski River	3	Higher priority if Lane Shops Removed
143.05	Cross Bros.	Dog River	3	VFWD involved
143.09	Cooks Mill	Sunny Brook		
	Stony Brook	Stony Brook		VFWD involved
155.01	Old Batchelder Mill	Winooski River	3	Town residents are approaching the selectboard
199.04	Moscow Mills	Little River	3	ANR received informal inquiry about dam from Stowe Electrical Department to develop a hydroelectric project.
223.03	Warren Village	Mad River	3	
255.04	Chandler Sawmill	Minister Brook	3	Located at Natural falls/Partially Breached/ sediment barrier

¹³ Dam Hazard Class: The hazard class is based upon the potential of damage or loss of life if the dam were to fail and is not related to the condition of the dam, which could be an indication of the potential to fail. A hazard class of 3 indicates a low hazard to downstream uses were the dam to fail. For more detailed explanation, see [DEC dam-safety inspection program](#).

Table 10. Dams in VDEC records that may not exist. Need to assess status.

<i>State ID</i>	<i>Dam Name</i>	<i>Stream</i>	<i>Dam Hazard Class¹⁴</i>	<i>Comments</i>
65.05	East Montpelier	Winooski River		Appears to be gone
20.04	Montpelier Reservoir (Lower)	Benjamin Falls Brook		Intact/in use?
20.09	Montpelier Reservoir (Upper)	Benjamin Falls Brook		Intact/in use?
40.01	Nelson Pond	Mirror Lake-TR		Intact/in use?
40.02	Sabin Pond	Kingsbury Branch	3	Intact/in use?
40.16	Maple Corners	Curtis Pond Brook	3	Intact/ in use?
132.03	Eight Trout Club	Welder Brook		Intact/in use?
255.06	Worcester-6	North Branch Winooski River		Appears to be gone

Hazardous Waste Sites and Landfills

Locations and additional information about hazardous waste sites and brownfields in the Basin 8 can be viewed on the [ANR Natural Resources Atlas](#). Information for a specific site can be accessed through the [ANR Environmental Tool Hazardous Site List](#). Detailed description of sites that may have the potential to contaminate surface waters are included in the [DEC Basin 8 Water Quality Assessment Reports](#).

In Basin 8, leachate from three closed landfills, Farrel dump, the Central Vermont landfill, South Burlington Landfill are included as possible sources of impairment to three surface waters: Gunner Brook, Muddy Brook in East Montpelier and tributary to the Winooski (VT08-02) (see Table 4)

¹⁴ Dam Hazard Class: The hazard class is based upon the potential of damage or loss of life if the dam were to fail and is not related to the condition of the dam, which could be an indication of the potential to fail. A hazard class of 3 indicates a low hazard to downstream uses were the dam to fail. For more detailed explanation, see [DEC dam-safety inspection program](#).

The potential for hazardous waste sites to leach will increase with inundation as well as proximity to surface waters. Large floods may result in adjustment of river channels that could increase potential for release of hazardous waste into surface waters. Towns may be interested in listing hazardous waste sites that sit within the river corridor in municipal hazard mitigation plans.

VDEC is continuing to monitor many of these sites thorough its biological monitoring program.

Modeling Tools to Identify Remediation and Protection Efforts

The Department of Environmental Conservation and its partners use modeling techniques to predict sources of pollutants, estimate pollutant loads and also to identify where practices might be most effective at addressing the pollutant. Modeling tools play a significant role in the development of the Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL Phase II planning-level “sub-allocations.” They are used to estimate phosphorus loads to lakes and rivers from specific geographic areas and landuse activities, as well as to determine effective practices (also known as a best management practices) for addressing load reductions from a specific landuse activity within a subbasin or even more specific geographic areas. The models and the results are included in Chapter 3’s section about the Lake Champlain Phosphorus Phase II.

Modeling can never achieve a 100% accurate representation of actual conditions on the ground. For that reason, model estimates are always compared against observed values to assess fit. The assessments and plans described at the beginning of Chapter 2 are based on the results of field work and therefore include those observed values. The results from observations, monitoring, assessments, and modeling are used in the development of the management actions in this plan (see [Watershed Projects Database](#)).

Modeling tools, complemented by site visits to verify conditions, can be used by technical staff in developing proposals for landowners or by programs to support planning, (e.g, estimate load reductions from BMPs, see below).

The following modeling or data analyses listed below have and will continue to be part of the process for identifying the efficacy of actions included in the [Watershed Projects Database](#) along with the assessments and plans described earlier in this chapter. The modeling tools are described in more detail in Chapter 3 or Appendix B, and include information about how the information will be made available to any organization responsible for assisting in BMP implementation.

The following modeling tools and other assessments used to identify remediation and protection actions are described in greater detail in Chapter 3 or Appendix B:

- SWAT model
- HUC12 Tool
- EPA Scenario Tool
- Lake Champlain BMP Accounting and Tracking Tool (LC BATT)
- Clean Water Road Map Tool
- Floodplain restoration

Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Needs

In addition to waters identified as needing further monitoring and assessment in Table 4, Table 11 includes additional monitoring and assessment needs based on conclusions from assessments previously described in this chapter or the results of the VDEC MAPP monitoring work¹⁵ or the ANR Department of Fish and Wildlife. In large part, the locations listed below are identified for the purpose of collecting information that would support reclassification of one or more designated use to a higher class of protection.

Table 11. Additional proposed monitoring and assessment needs to inform remediation or protection strategies.

<i>Water body</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>Assessment Goal</i>	<i>Existing data supporting goal</i>	<i>Monitoring needs</i>
Minister Brook	Worcester	Determine condition based on aquatic health support (ALS)	Stressed due to acid, low spring pH	Macroinvertebrates and fish
Hancock Brook	Worcester	Determine condition based on aquatic health support	Stressed due to acid for ALS, low spring pH, 2005 macroinvertebrates good	Macroinvertebrates updated
Gold Brook	Stowe	Consider for Class A(1)	Stressed due to sediment and physical condition (gold mining) for ALS, aesthetics,	Macroinvertebrate and fish and geomorphic condition

¹⁵ The use of macroinvertebrate and fish communities to assess water quality and uses is described in the Vermont Water Quality Standards as well as the [2016 DEC Assessment and Listing Methodology](#)

<i>Water body</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>Assessment Goal</i>	<i>Existing data supporting goal</i>	<i>Monitoring needs</i>
			recreation, but 2005 data for macroinvertebrates excellent	
Little River	Waterbury	Determine condition	stressed: so instability still an issue.	Review geomorphic condition. Macroinvertebrate data is current
Upper Winooski (btw Marshfield and Cabot Creamery)	Cabot	Determine condition	2005 data above Cabot WWTF shows good macroinvertebrates, but this area is currently listed as stressed	Macroinvertebrate and fish data
Upper Winooski – ¼ mile below Cabot WWTF	Cabot	Determine condition	macroinvertebrates looks good – 2016 data = very good.) Recovered from spill	Macroinvertebrate and fish data
Upper Winooski – Molly Falls, brook – Upper area of brook	Peacham	Determin condition	2015 bug and fish consultant data is very good/excellent. Lower molly's brook, consultants bug data not great. VDFW data shows increased temp.	Macroinvertebrate and fish data
Main stem - Upper Winooski to Essex	Cabot to Essex	Determine condition	Macroinvertebrates are good or above, nothing has failed except after Cabot Creamery spill.	River too wide to collect fish data.
Great Brook	Plainfield	Confirm that geomorphic issues are resulting in ALS degradation.	Geomorphic assessment	Macroinvertebrates and fish data
Gunner Brook - RM 1.1 to mouth.	Barre	Determine condition	Macroinvertebrates / fish results = no change. Macroinvertebrates	Macroinvertebrate and fish Review Toxins data

<i>Water body</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>Assessment Goal</i>	<i>Existing data supporting goal</i>	<i>Monitoring needs</i>
			better than fish. The fish might be stressed due to invasive rainbow.	
Nelson Brook	Orange	Explore reclassification from A2 to B1 or A1. It feeds Thurman W. Dix Reservoir, a water supply	Landscape appears to support B1.	Macroinvertebrate and fish data
Stevens Branch – above Rm 4.9 and down,	Willistown	Determine condition	Landscape suggests degraded conditions	Macroinvertebrate/ fish data
Martins Brook	Barre Town	Determine condition	fair due to pasture and milk house drain. Identify AAFM, and NRCS improvements.	Macroinvertebrate / fish data
High Brook bridge, Welder, and Folsom	Waitfield, Moretown	Determine condition	based on review of FMR volunteer data that has identified these as relatively high pollutant loads	Macroinvertebrate/ fish data
Chase Brook	Fayston	Determine condition	because of upstream activity (Sugarbush North) 2006 data good.	Macroinvertebrate/ fish data
Clay and Rice Brooks	Waitsfield	Determine condition	part of the Stormwater Master Plan for Sugarbush with consultant monitoring	Macroinvertebrate/ fish data
Joiner Brook	Bolton	Determine condition	check impact of development	Macroinvertebrate/ fish data
Huntington River	Huntington	Determine condition	Texas Hill Road is steep and could contribute sediment. Macroinvertebrates and fish good condition.	Macroinvertebrate/ fish data
Alder Brook	Essex	Determine condition	upper site – good to very good; lower	Macroinvertebrate/ fish data,

<i>Water body</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>Assessment Goal</i>	<i>Existing data supporting goal</i>	<i>Monitoring needs</i>
			sites good (pretty consistent)	but parts are slow winder
Muddy Brook	Williston	Determine condition	Landuse suggests stressors beyond listed area	Macroinvertebrate/fish data
Blanchard Brook	South Burlington	Identify stressors	Will be listed for stormwater and temperature in 2018	Macroinvertebrate/fish data
Sand Hill Brook VT08-04		Confirm as Class B(1) for aquatic biota and wildlife	2015 macroinvertebrate =very good, F=Excellent	Macroinvertebrate/fish data
Jug Brook VT08-09:		Confirm as Class B(1) for aquatic biota and wildlife	Might meet B1 depending on whether final criteria allows two individual sample sites with only 1 sample to meet criteria (RM 1.4 & 3.0)	Macroinvertebrate/fish data
Pinnacle Brook VT08-12:		Confirm as Class B(1) for aquatic biota and wildlife	Data from 2012-2016 shows very good or better macroinvertebrates, need fish data will try to sample in 2018.	Macroinvertebrate/fish data
Pekin Brook VT08-14:	Calais	Confirm as Class B(1) for aquatic biota and wildlife	Macroinvertebrates and fish both very good in 2014. Needs additional sampling to verify	Macroinvertebrate/fish data
Orange Brook VT08-15:	Orange	Confirm as Class B(1) for aquatic biota and wildlife	Low gradient, very good macroinvertebrates in 2013. If revisions	Macroinvertebrate/fish data

<i>Water body</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>Assessment Goal</i>	<i>Existing data supporting goal</i>	<i>Monitoring needs</i>
			to criteria go through will not need fish data to meet, only an additional >very good bug assessment.	
Upper Stevens Branch VT08-16:	Williamstown	Confirm as Class B(1) for aquatic biota and wildlife	RM 11.9 received a very good (B&F) in 2015	Macroinvertebrate/fish data
Freeman Brook VT08-20:	Warren	Confirm as Class B(1) for aquatic biota and wildlife	Based on macroinvertebrate/fish data	Macroinvertebrate/fish data
Lincoln Brook VT08-20:	Warren	Confirm as Class B(1) for aquatic biota and wildlife	very good for macroinvertebrate/fish in 2015.	Macroinvertebrate/fish data
Gleason Brook	Duxbury	Explore for reclassification to A1	Landscape would support, part of Camels Hump State Park. Part of management plan's Natural Area down to 900 ft.	Macroinvertebrate/fish data
Mill Brook	Jericho	Explore for Class B1 for aquatic biota and wildlife	Based on macroinvertebrate/fish data	Macroinvertebrate/fish data

Priority Subbasins for Remediation

The assessment results described throughout this Chapter as well as the EPA and state-listed waters (Table 4) provide a basis for identifying priority stressors in subbasins (Table 12) for remediation. These priority subbasins have been identified as providing significant phosphorus and sediment loads to the watershed and/or are in need of protection for purposes of flood resilience. In addition, assessments have provided

information about appropriate strategies and actions to address stressors. The actions in the [Watershed Projects Database](#) were informed by these priority actions.

Table 12 Strategies to address priority stressors in subbasins.

<i>Subbasin Waterbody Name</i>	<i>Streams</i>	<i>Priority Stressor/Concerns</i>	<i>Priority Strategy</i>
Lower Winooski River mainstem		Urban development stressors and toxins ¹⁶ agriculture, chlorides	Support MS4 permit implementation, Education/Outreach to encourage implementation of best practices by private landowners (E/O)
Tributaries to Lower Winooski	Centennial, Sunderland, Allen, Sucker, Alder and Muddy Brook	Urban Development stressors, chlorides, agriculture	Support MS4 permit implementation, stormwater management to reduce landslide, E/O , protect/enhance river corridors
Lower Mid-Winooski River mainstem -the confluence of Alder Brook to the confluence of the Little River		Temperatures sustained from smaller streams despite Bolton and Waterbury dam, road stormwater, agriculture	Protect/enhance River corridor, manage stormwater, agric. BMP
Tributaries to Lower Mid-Winooski	Mill, Johnnie, Duck, Joiner, Pinneo, Preston, Gleason	Roads, landslide activity, these streams currently protect temp. of main stem. Trout/salmon spawning habitat	Driveway E/O and Road management, Protect/enhance River corridor
Huntington River	Cobb Brook, Hollow Brook	Pathogens, temperatures (limit spawning habitat), geomorphic instability,	Driveway E/O, support town floodplain protection, Protect/enhance river corridor. Manage

¹⁶ Urban development stressors: land erosion, nutrient loading, channel erosion, pathogens, Thermal stress; encroachment

Agricultural stressors: land erosion, nutrient loading, channel erosion, pathogens, Thermal stress

<i>Subbasin Waterbody Name</i>	<i>Streams</i>	<i>Priority Stressor/Concerns</i>	<i>Priority Strategy</i>
		agric. runoff, septic. Protect swimming holes	stormwater and streams to reduce landslide/gully
Upper Winooski River mainstem	from confluence of Stevens Branch to confluence of Molly's Bk	Geomorphic instability: cutting through old lake terraces, dams and lack of riparian buffer result in thermal modification. Pathogens from village centers; Flood resilience	Forest integrity E/O, grazing workshops, Protect/enhance river corridor, stormwater management including IDDE in villages
Tributaries to Upper Winooski	Great Brook in Plainfield, & Nasmith, Creamery, Mallory Bennett, Sodom Pond and Guernsey Brooks	Geomorphic instability, landslides and gullies Protect trout habitat Flood resilience	Forest integrity, river corridor easements, road and bridge work, Protect/enhance river corridor, manage stormwater and streams to reduce landslide/gully
Winooski River headwaters	from the confluence of Molly's Brook to its headwaters and tributaries incl. Mollys, Jugg and Sucker Brooks	Temperatures (Dams), Stormwater from villages, agriculture. Pathogens Flood resilience	Forest integrity E/O, agriculture BMP, including hay field management and woody riparian buffer
Kingsbury Branch Winooski River	including the tributaries Buck Lake Brook, Pekin Brook, Dugar and Still	Protection of Lakes/ponds. Ponds are dammed:. Dam on N. Montpelier pond increases temperature. Dugar and Pekin brook provide cold water to N Montpelier Pond). Geomorphic instability Agric. in Pekin brook Kingsbury is protected by ledge and wetland.	Driveway E/O, lake shore protection and BMPs; River corridor protection on Pekin Brook,. Forest integrity E/O.
Tributaries to Upper Mid-Winooski	Graves (Thatcher,) Jones Brook (Great) and Herring Brooks.	Forested except for Thatcher (urban development). Private and town road runoff.	Waterbury village stormwater management; driveway E/0

<i>Subbasin Waterbody Name</i>	<i>Streams</i>	<i>Priority Stressor/Concerns</i>	<i>Priority Strategy</i>
Lower Little River		Geomorphic instability, Japanese Knotweed on river banks. Temperature main stem, Development in upper watersheds.	Protect River corridor: Protection of headwaters streams. and plantings
Upper Little River	West Branch little river; gold brook; Miller brook, Moss Glen Brook	Geomorphic instability, temperature, development in upper watershed. Agric. cropland near Stowe.	Stormwater management, Protect/enhance river corridor, include berm removal. Transportation resilience plan, Agric field BMPs
Upper Mid- Winooski River mainstem	from the confluence of the Little River to the confluence of Stevens Branch	CSO pathogens, stormwater runoff	Support permits, GSI in Montpelier
Jail Branch Winooski River		Toxins, agric. impacts in upper, Temperature, stormwater,	Stormwater management, protect river corridor
Stevens Branch Winooski River	Gunner Brook); Pond Brook (drains Berlin Pond so flow regulation)	Toxins, stormwater, Temperature; Gunnar brook - important spawning habitat for cold water fishery, but geomorphic instability – road conflicts	Stormwater management, flood resilience practices,
Dog River		Pathogens, temperature, geomorphic instability, urban stormwater, floodplain protection;	Stormwater management, protect/enhance river corridors, agricultural BMPs
Mad River mainstem		Geomorphic instability, flood resilience, pathogens from farms (septic? , roads. Lack riparian buffers	Agric field BMPs, flood resilience ; protect/enhance river corridors
Lower Mad River tributaries		Steep slopes and erodible soils intensify erosion; high road density, geomorphic	Agriculture BMPs, Silvicultural BMPs, road E/Os, flood resilience ;

<i>Subbasin Waterbody Name</i>	<i>Streams</i>	<i>Priority Stressor/Concerns</i>	<i>Priority Strategy</i>
		instability. Pathogens, Agriculture. Dowsville wild native brook trout	protect/enhance river corridors.
Upper Mad River tributaries		Steep slopes and erodible soils intensify erosion; high road density, geomorphic instability. above Warren - wild native brook trout	Manage developed land stormwater. Silvicultural BMPs, flood resilience ; protect/enhance river corridors
North Branch Winooski River		Protection of streams, address road runoff and structures	Protect/enhance river corridor, driveway workshops,
Greenwood Lake		Shoreland development	E/O to property owners about LakeWise resources; local partners and contractor participation in Natural Erosion Control Certification program.

Chapter 3 –Addressing Stressors and Pollutants through TMDLs and Regulatory Programs

Regulatory programs play a significant role in addressing pollutants and stressors responsible for degraded water quality. The ANR's and the Agency of Agricultural, Food and Markets' regulatory programs that are associated with water resource protection are described in Appendix A of the [Vermont Surface Water Management Strategy, and in this Chapter](#).

The passage of Act 64 in 2015 resulted in the creation of the State's Clean Water Initiative Program (CWIP). The CWIP provides additional resources toward sediment and phosphorus reduction, based upon the assessments and integrated implementation table action ([Watershed Projects Database](#)) in this tactical basin plan. The goals of the Initiative are to satisfy the State's legal obligations under both the Vermont Clean Water Act and the federal Clean Water Act. At the highest level, priorities include:

- Implementing Agriculture Best Management Practices
- Treating Stormwater Runoff and Erosion from Developed Lands
- Installing Pollution Controls on State and Municipal Roads
- Restoring and Protecting Natural Infrastructure (e.g., wetlands) for Flood Resiliency and Water Quality Improvements
- Increasing Investments in Municipal Wastewater Treatment Infrastructure

As of July 1, 2014, changes to land use within 250 feet of a lake's mean water level (also known as the Protected Shoreland Area) - any new development, redevelopment, or vegetation removal - may require a permit. [Shoreland Permits](#) are issued under 10 V.S.A Chapter 49A, Subsections 1441-1449.

The regulatory processes that will support the priorities include the development of the following permits or regulations:

- Required Agricultural Practices
- Town road permit
- VTrans road permit
- Management of stormwater on under or un-treated 3 acre parcels

The new and existing regulations will be important tool that ensure Vermont's water quality standards are met. While the [Watershed Projects Database](#) (see Chapter 5) includes numerous actions that will be implemented on a voluntary basis, other actions will be required by permits. Partners as well as VDEC will support education and

outreach efforts to facilitate regulatory compliance. As appropriate, Clean Water Initiative funding may provide municipalities and landowners with financial and technical assistance to develop and implement requirement management plans under the new permits.

Total Maximum Daily Load Implementation Plans are also products of regulatory requirements. Some of the waterbodies in the Winooski River Basin do not currently meet several water quality standards for bacteria, mercury and/or phosphorus. Water Quality Standards assure that beneficial uses of the river and tributaries, such as swimming, fish consumption and fish habitat, are protected. When water quality standards are not met, the federal Clean Water Act requires states to establish a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for polluted waters.

A TMDL is the maximum amount of a pollutant a water body can receive without violating water quality standards. The plan specifies an acceptable level of pollutant in the water, identifies sources of that pollutant in the watershed, and sets an allowable allocation for each of the pollutant's sources so that they cumulatively do not exceed the accepted level. Vermont develops implementation plans for each waterbody with a TMDL that provides reasonable assurance that the waterbody will meet goals by a specific date. Basin 8 includes surface waters with TMDLs for Mercury, bacteria, phosphorus and agricultural sources of pollutants (see Table 3).

The mercury TMDL will be addressed through EPA's efforts to control emissions from Vermont and other states. The other TMDLs are addressed through implementation plans developed by ANR and approved by EPA. These TMDLs and associated implementation plans are explained in further detail below. The bacterial TMDLs will be met in part by the Lake Champlain phosphorus TMDL. In addition, the development of the agricultural TMDLs are under contract and will build off the Lake Champlain TMDL development process (see below).

Vermont TMDLs for Stormwater Impaired Waters and related regulations

Seventeen of Vermont's waters are listed as "impaired," primarily due to urban stormwater runoff. These waters fail to meet the Vermont Water Quality Standards based primarily on biological monitoring data. For more information on the development of the stormwater TMDLs for these waters, see the [Stormwater TMDL page](#).

Lowland “Urban” Watersheds

Remediation of the twelve (four in Winooski Basin) urban stormwater-impaired waters has commenced through a combination of permits issued pursuant to Vermont’s federally delegated National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program. These permits include a reissued and enhanced [NDPES permit for small municipal separate storm sewer systems \(MS4s\)](#), which was issued on December 5, 2012. Under the reissued permit, MS4 permittees must develop a Flow Restoration Plan for any stormwater impaired water to which they discharge. A computer-based best management practice decision support system (BMPDSS) was developed by TetraTech and is being used by VDEC to help affected MS4 communities to identify different BMP options and associated costs. In Basin 8, Centennial Brook, Allen Brook, Sunderland Brook, Morehouse Brook are urban stormwater impaired waters. All MS4 permittees in the Winooski Basin have completed Flow Restoration Plans and are currently planning for and implementing projects (see Appendix C). Projects that are competitive for DEC Ecosystem Restoration Program grant funds based on phosphorus removal efficiencies and readiness for implementation are included in the Watershed Projects Database (WPD). Grant supported stormwater management projects in the basin [Winooski River Watershed Summary, Vermont Clean Water Initiative 2017 Investment Report](#)

Mountain Watersheds

In Basin 8, sections of the Clay Brook, Warren ([map](#)) and West Branch of the Little River, Stowe along with five other mountain watersheds in Vermont are listed as impaired primarily due to stormwater runoff (see Table 4). The mountain watersheds differ substantially from the remaining urbanized “lowland” watersheds in terms of density of development, geographic position, hydrology, impairment source, and land ownership. Based on these factors, the Department has concluded that use of the so-called “4b alternative,” a non-TMDL based alternative pollution control strategy, is the best implementation strategy. The Department is working with responsible parties developing and implementing watershed-specific [Water Quality Remediation Plans](#) (WQRPs) for the impaired mountain watersheds.

General Permit for Centennial Brook

Coverage under General Permit 3-9030 is required for designated discharges to Centennial Brook that are not covered under the NPDES municipal separate storm

sewer system (MS4), another NPDES permit covering stormwater discharges, or has been issued a State stormwater discharge permit resulting in no net contribution to the receiving water. For more information see

<<http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/stormwater/permit-information-applications-fees/rda>> and the [Centennial Brook Residual Designated Authority permit](#)

New and Existing Discharges (Updates to this section expected later in 2018)

Currently, expired permits in Centennial Brook are not able to be renewed under a General Permit unless they have been residually designated (see above). Expired stormwater discharge permits will be required to renew under an anticipated new general permit and the requirements in place at that time. New discharges currently must apply under an individual discharge permit, and may also be able apply for coverage in the future under a new general permit, once available.

Vermont Statewide TMDL for Bacteria-Impaired Waters

Twenty-one of Vermont's waters are impaired at least in part due to bacterial contamination; 3 of those are located in Basin 8 and include:

- A 2.6 mile reach of Allen Brook,
- a .5 mile reach of Huntington River
- a 6.2 mile reach of Mad River
- 1.0 mile reach of the Winooski River in Cabot

These waters fail to meet the Vermont Water Quality Standards for biological criteria.

*A Vermont Statewide TMDL Report*¹⁷ was designed to support bacteria pollution reduction and watershed restoration throughout Vermont, including the first three river segments listed above. The TMDL, which established bacterial load targets for each impaired waterbody, was completed in September 2011. The report's appendices include specific data monitoring and watershed information about each of the impaired waterbodies.

¹⁷ http://wsmd.vt.gov/mapp/docs/mp_bacteriatmdl.pdf

Agricultural land represents a significant portion of the watershed area of two of the three Basin 8 streams. The TMDL report supports the implementation of the following actions to allow the streams to meet their targeted bacterial loads. The actions, which are included in the Chapter 5 Implementation Table, include:

- Improve NMP and other land treatments that reduce runoff of animal waste into streams.
- convert grazing land in the riparian area into permanent livestock exclusion areas is recommended.
- Finally, the bacterial concentrations of each stream will need monitoring to show improvements.

EPA approved a TMDL for Cabot Village in 2001. Since then, several sewer straight pipes have been removed and a recent illicit discharge detection and elimination study (2013) did not identify any additional sources. Monitoring will be conducted to determine current condition of waters.

The Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL Phase II: Winooski River Basin

The Basics

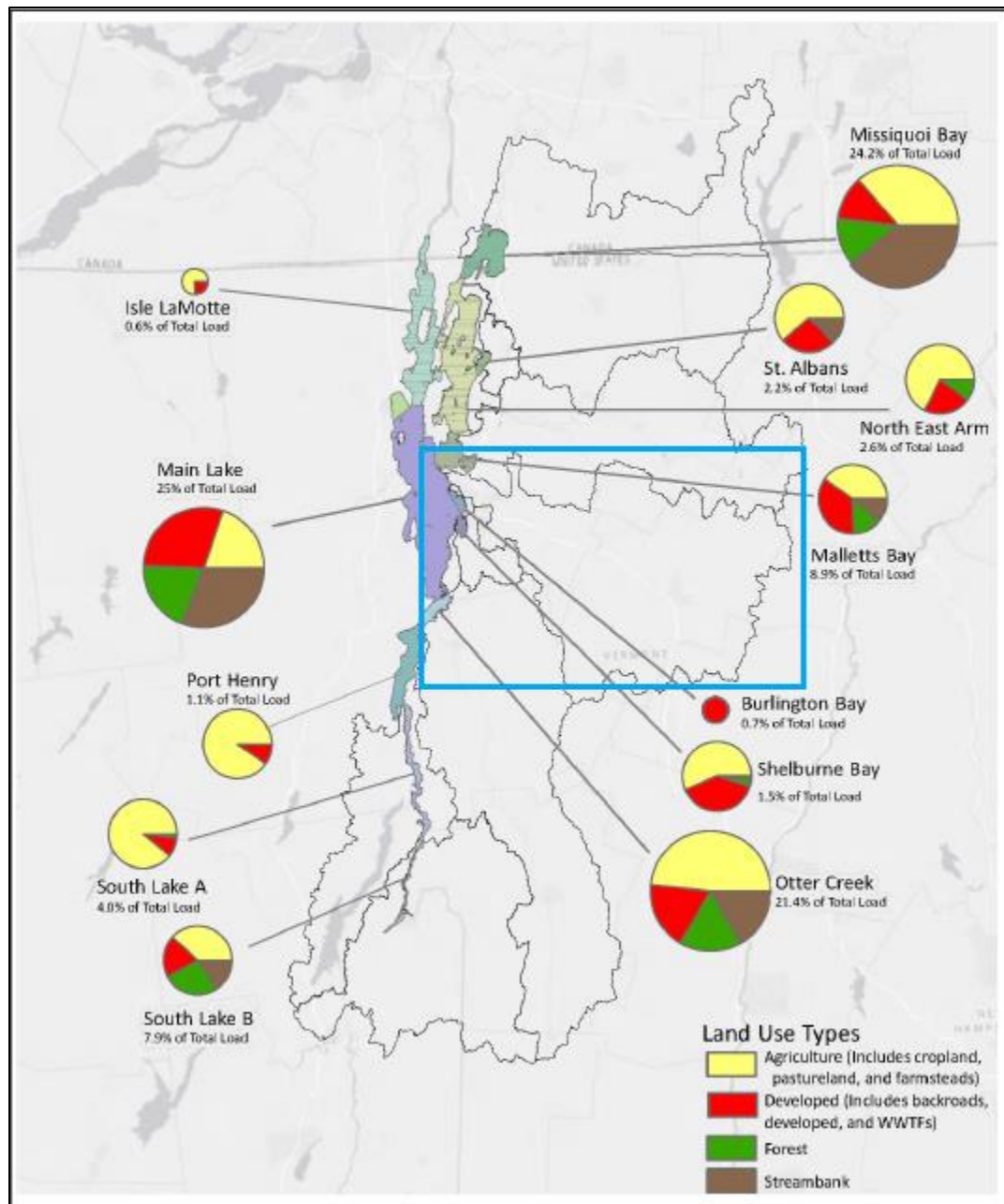
A total maximum daily load or TMDL is the amount of a pollutant a waterbody can safely absorb and still meet water quality standards. The maximum pollutant load is divided among the various pollutant sources and locations. In the case of Lake Champlain, there are proposed TMDLs outlining the phosphorus reductions for each of the twelve lake segments required to restore the Lake and meet Vermont's Water Quality Standards. The Winooski Basin inputs drain wholly into the Main Lake Champlain segment.

In 2002, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved a Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL that was prepared by the States of Vermont and New York. In 2011, the EPA concluded that two elements of the TMDL did not comply with EPA regulations and guidance, and thus their approval of the 2002 TMDL was withdrawn. The EPA approved a new TMDL and the [Vermont Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL Phase 1 Implementation Plan](#) in September 2016 and the State of Vermont is undertaking a new aggressive restoration plan for Lake Champlain and its tributaries. The approved plan addresses all major sources of phosphorus to Lake Champlain and

involves new and increased efforts from nearly every sector of society, including state government, municipalities, farmers, developers, and homeowners.

Priority actions have been identified to address surface water stressors (and attendant sources and causes of pollutants) and have been incorporated into the Winooski Basin Implementation table (Chapter 5), and specific projects to implement related actions are identified in VDEC's online [Watershed Projects Database](#). In addition, a list of highest priority catchments (i.e., also called catchment basin, drainage area, drainage basin, and is defined as the area of land bounded by watersheds draining into a river, basin, or reservoir), has been identified through the downscaled Soil and Water Assessment Tool, or "SWAT" modeling analysis, which allows geographic targeting as the highest priority for project ("BMPs" or best management practices) implementation, and the prospective locations for practices in a general sense (see Figures 14, 15, 16, 18 and 19). Specific BMPs will be identified through ongoing land use sector assessments to leverage funding and target project development in these highest priority catchments and will be the focus on ongoing coordination efforts with partners to maximize project implementation over the next 5 years, and in future iterations of Tactical Basin Plans, concurrent with VDEC's Accountability Framework.

Figure 7 Vermont sources of phosphorus loading to Lake Champlain segments, by land use; annual average of 2001-2010. **The Winooski Basin extent is highlighted in the blue box** (Source: US Environmental Protection Agency, 2016).

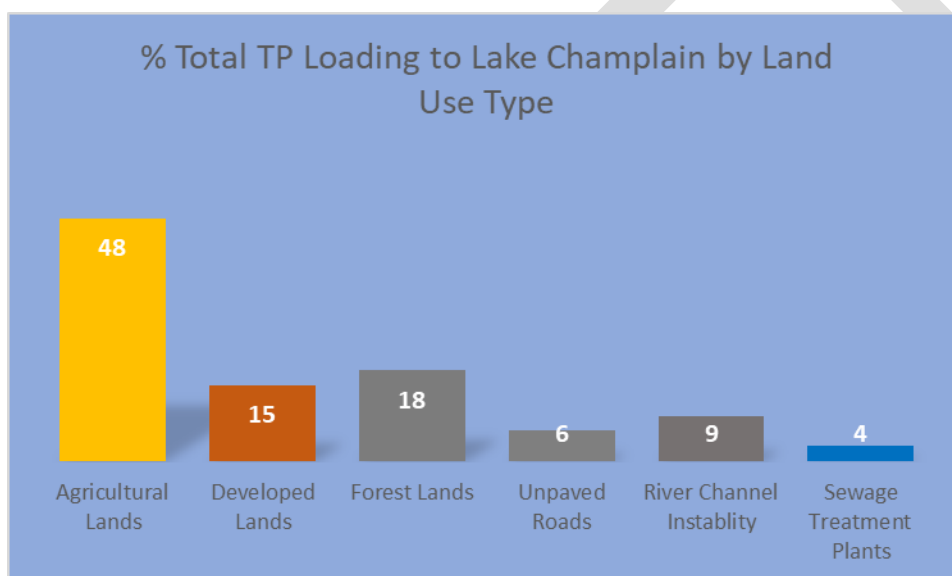


Phosphorus in the Lake comes primarily from nonpoint sources (Figure 8). Nonpoint sources deliver phosphorus from the land to our waterways by rain or snowmelt. Nonpoint sources of phosphorus come from roads, parking lots, lawns, agricultural and logging operations, and eroding stream channels. Point source discharges of

phosphorus include regulated stormwater discharges such as, agricultural production areas, and sewage treatment plants.

Measuring the phosphorus content of water that comes out of a pipe (point source) is less complicated than measuring phosphorus content of water flowing over land surfaces (non-point source). As a result, determining phosphorus loading of non-point sources utilizes environmental modeling based on long-term field measurements, land use information from satellite imagery and LiDAR data. The overall sources of phosphorus loading to Lake Champlain are given in Figure 9. More information on how phosphorus loading was projected in the Lake Champlain Basin can be found in Chapter 5 of the [Phosphorus TMDLs for Vermont Segments of Lake Champlain](#).

Figure 8. Source of phosphorus loading to Lake Champlain by land use. (Source: Tetra Tech Inc., 2016)



Understanding the relationship between phosphorus and land use is important because phosphorus pollution is a significant threat to clean water in the Winooski Basin and Lake Champlain, which are important for recreational and drinking water uses, aquatic life and aquatic habitat. Addressing phosphorus pollution through actions on the landscape will also lead to reductions in other pollutants in the watershed.

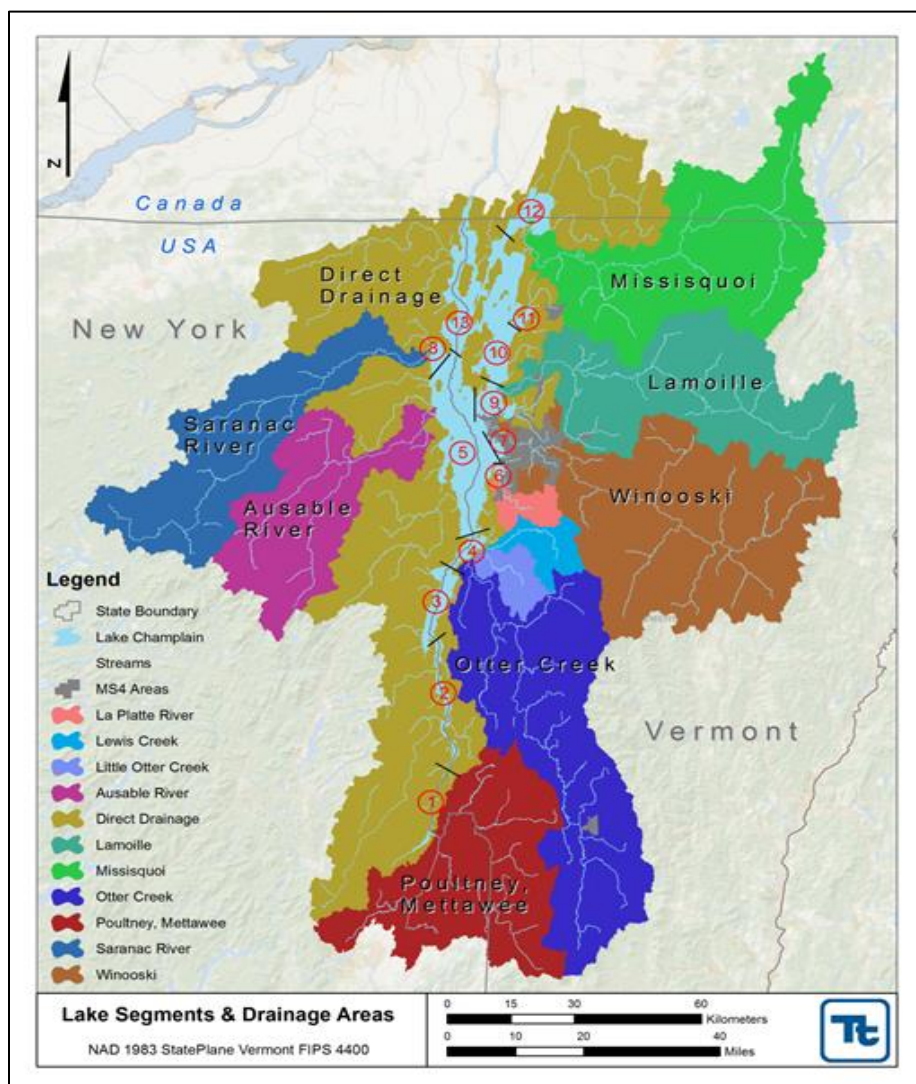
Investments in a clean Lake Champlain will support local and regional economies, enhance tourism and recreation-based businesses, support property values, help local communities reduce future flood damage risk, support the viability of public infrastructure, and improve the ecological functions within the watershed.

The Winooski Tactical Basin Plan will report actions to reduce phosphorus loading per land use type in sub-watersheds and catchments within the basin. However, the reduction of phosphorus to Lake Champlain could take decades in some areas. Accomplishing all the necessary phosphorus reduction actions on the land that drains to the Lake will require many phases of action. Progress will be tracked incrementally through internal tracking systems and a portion of the progress will be tracked in the tactical basin plan implementation table database, which is an electronic extension of the implementation tables included in past tactical basin plans.

The Winooski Basin and the Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL

The Lake Champlain basin is divided into numerous drainage areas located in Vermont, New York State and Quebec, as depicted in Figure 10.

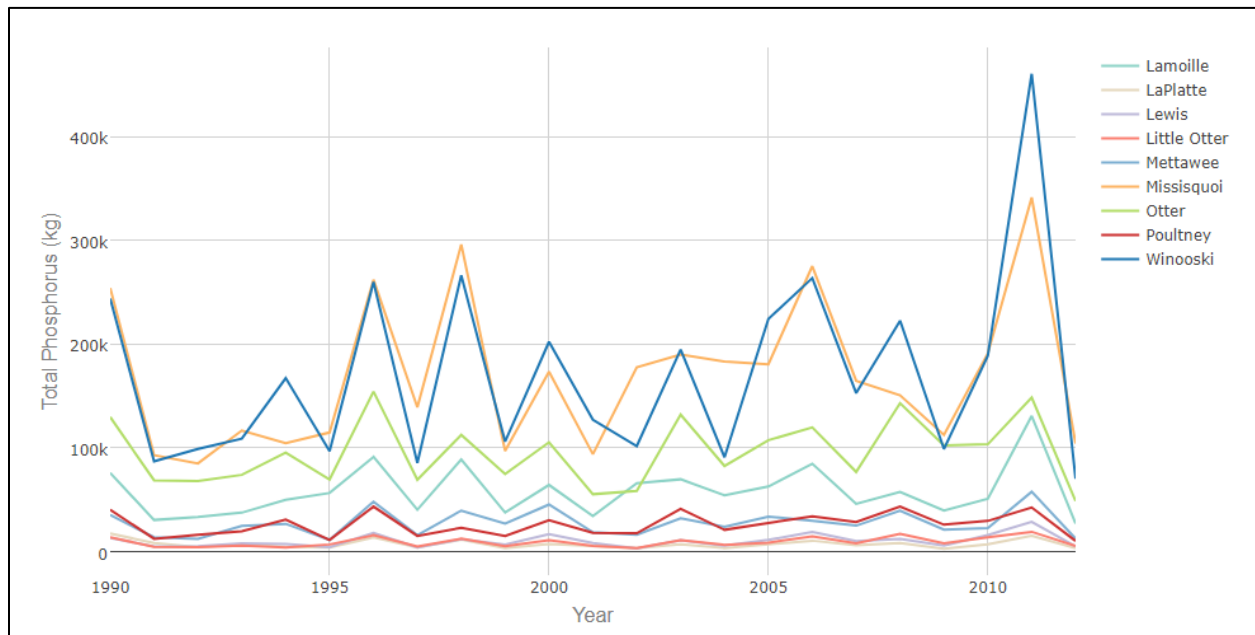
Figure 9 Lake segments and drainage areas of the Lake Champlain basin. The Winooski Basin drains wholly to the Main Lake segment of Lake Champlain.



Vermont contributes about 69 percent (630.6 MT/yr) of the total phosphorus load per year to Lake Champlain in comparison to Quebec at 9 percent (77 MT/yr) and New York at 23 percent (213.8 MT/yr).

Based on estimates provided in the 2016 Lake Champlain TMDL, nonpoint phosphorus sources from the Winooski Basin contribute approximately 72% of the average total delivered (non point source and point source) from the Vermont portion of the Lake Champlain in a given year. However, total annual total phosphorus (TP) loading varies from year to year based on flow and on-going land use. Measured TP loading from the major river basins in the Lake Champlain basin is shown in Figure 11.

Figure 10 Total phosphorus annual flux as measured at monitoring stations on the major tributaries of Lake Champlain



To meet the Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL expectations, total annual TP loading reductions from the Winooski Basin will be significant. The following sections will address how these requirements can be met across all sectors within the Winooski Basin including regulatory and non-regulatory actions.

Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL Phase II Plan

The Lake Champlain Phosphorus Total Maximum Daily Load (LC TMDL) establishes the allowable phosphorus loadings, or allocations, from the watershed for the lake water quality to meet established standards. These allocations represent phosphorus loading reductions that are apportioned both by land use sector (developed land, agriculture, etc.) and by lake watershed basin (South Lake, Otter Creek, etc.). Due to the large size of the Lake Champlain watershed in Vermont, the modeling techniques used to estimate loading were implemented at a coarse scale. For example, the modeled loading at the mouth of the major river basins is based on monitoring data and represents the collective inputs from the various land uses and physical features of the entire watershed. Overall, this is useful to estimate the necessary level of phosphorus-reducing Best Management Practices (BMPs) required to reduce overall load. However, when looking at smaller scale areas such as a municipality, a particular farm or a local road network, it's necessary to complete a detailed on-the-ground analysis to determine appropriate actions for the particular area.

As part of the LC TMDL development, EPA developed a "Reasonable Assurance" analysis at the major-basin scale to determine if it was theoretically possible to obtain the necessary phosphorus reductions. By using modeling results for the entire Champlain Basin, the TMDL showed that through a concerted effort across all phosphorus sources, it is possible to reach the lake loading targets with appropriate application of BMPs. However, because this exercise was conducted at the major-basin scale, specific direction was not provided about how individual BMPs should be applied. It is through the development of the Tactical Basin Plans that more precise opportunities for BMPs can be identified and prioritized for implementation.

Permit programs and site specific BMPs beyond the scope of specific programs will together form the backbone of the LC TMDL implementation process, many guided by the content of the Tactical Basin Plans. While many permit programs will be "self-implementing", in many instances BMP implementation will proceed in a two-step process of first knowing "where to look" for opportunities (assessment) followed secondly by "what to do" (BMP selection and installation). Many of the phosphorus reduction programs require an initial assessment phase to identify what BMPs may already exist on the landscape and where others need to be placed. In some instances, the Tactical Basin Plans can aid prioritization of where to look first, such as expected high phosphorus producing areas. After the assessment phase, BMP implementation can be prioritized and carried forward. Additionally, the Tactical Basin Plans can

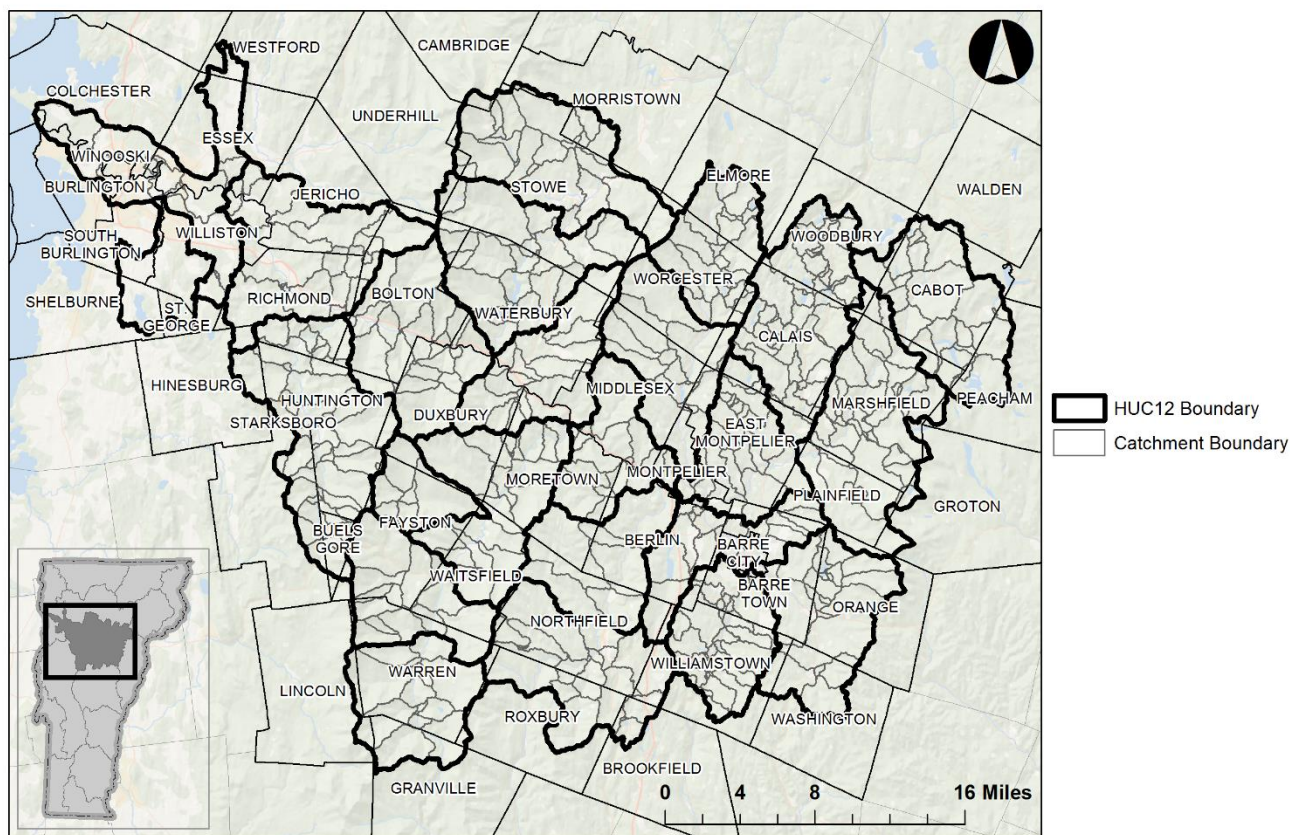
identify known beneficial projects, the “what to do”, prioritize them for funding so that implementation can be expedited and tracked transparently.

The LC TMDL also incorporates an “Accountability Framework” that aims to ensure that phosphorus reduction actions are being implemented at a sufficient pace to see results in the lake. While a specific timeline for lake improvement is not specified by the TMDL, an updated evaluation of the phosphorus reduction needed to meet TMDL targets will be identified within each Tactical Basin Plan on a 5-year rotating basis. Estimating the potential phosphorus reductions expected from site specific actions is one way of determining if the level of effort is sufficient compared to the overall TMDL goals. This portion of the Tactical Basin Plan provides an estimate of phosphorus reductions reasonably expected from actions taken in specific areas across the basin, specific to source types and regulatory program..

In conjunction with Tactical Basin Planning is a project implementation tracking system that VDEC also developed. This system tracks implementation of projects across all sectors and applies an expected phosphorus reduction estimate to each. Over time, as projects are continually implemented, cumulative estimates of phosphorus reduced by **actual** actions can be reported rather than relying on estimates of **potential** actions.

Several useful modeling products were used to spatially represent where LC TMDL reductions will be most effectively targeted to implement the TMDL. The underlying data from which many of the following analyses originate is the EPA SWAT model (Soil and Water Assessment Tool). This model was developed to estimate phosphorus loading from the Lake Champlain watershed from various land use sectors for development of the TMDL. Discrete SWAT models were calibrated and validated for each of the Hydrologic Unit Code – level 8 (HUC8) watersheds as well as for direct drainages to the lake. Three additional tools were developed from the SWAT modeling results: the HUC – level 12 (HUC12) Tool, the BMP Scenario Tool, and the Clean Water Roadmap which downscales the SWAT modeling from the HUC12 scale to the catchment level. In the analyses that follow, varying geographic scales are used, depending on the source sector; Figure 6 displays these geographic scales. In order of decreasing size, they are the HUC8, HUC12, and catchment scales.

Figure 11 Comparison of HUC12 and catchment watershed scales within the Winooski River Basin.



HUC12 Tool

The HUC12 Tool (Figure 12) is a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that displays SWAT estimates of total phosphorus (TP) loading at a HUC12 scale for each lake segment. TP loading estimates (kg/yr) in the HUC12 Tool are summarized by general land use category for each HUC12 in a lake segment basin (Table 13). In addition, detailed annual load (kg/yr) and areal loading rate (kg/ha/yr) estimates can be displayed by land use for each HUC12 watershed. This more detailed information includes the minimum, maximum, mean, median, 25th percentile, and 75th percentile loading rates per hectare for each land use category. In this way, TP loading magnitudes can be compared across all HUC12 watersheds in a lake segment basin as well as different land use categories within a HUC12.

Figure 12 Screenshot of HUC12 Tool display for Main lake segment. The Little River HUC12 is highlighted with resultant TP loading information.

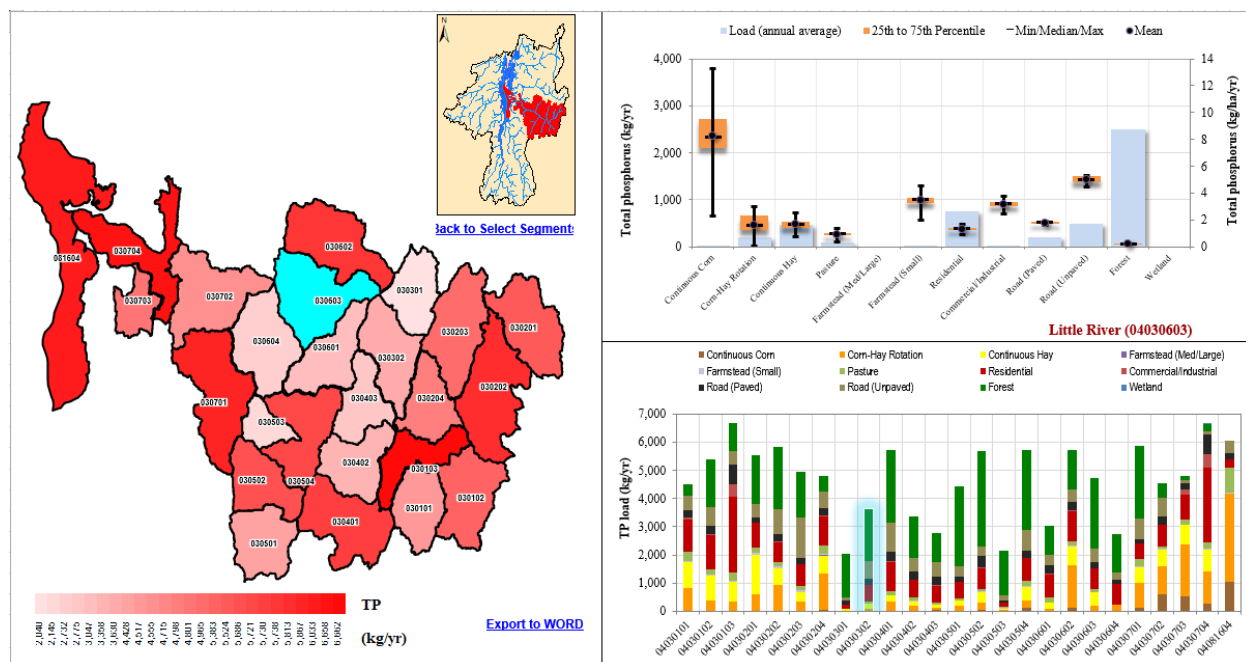


Table 13 General land use categories represented in the HUC12 Tool

HUC12 Tool Land Use Categories	
Continuous Corn	Residential
Corn-Hay Rotation	Commercial/Industrial
Continuous Hay	Road (Paved)
Farmstead (Med/Large)	Road (Unpaved)
Farmstead (Small)	Forest
Pasture	Wetland

BMP Scenario Tool

This Microsoft Excel based tool allows users to apply BMP scenarios at the lake segment basin scale to evaluate the phosphorus load reduction potential of various management actions. The Scenario Tool uses SWAT model results and estimates of BMP efficiencies to answer questions such as: “what is the expected phosphorus reduction if this BMP is

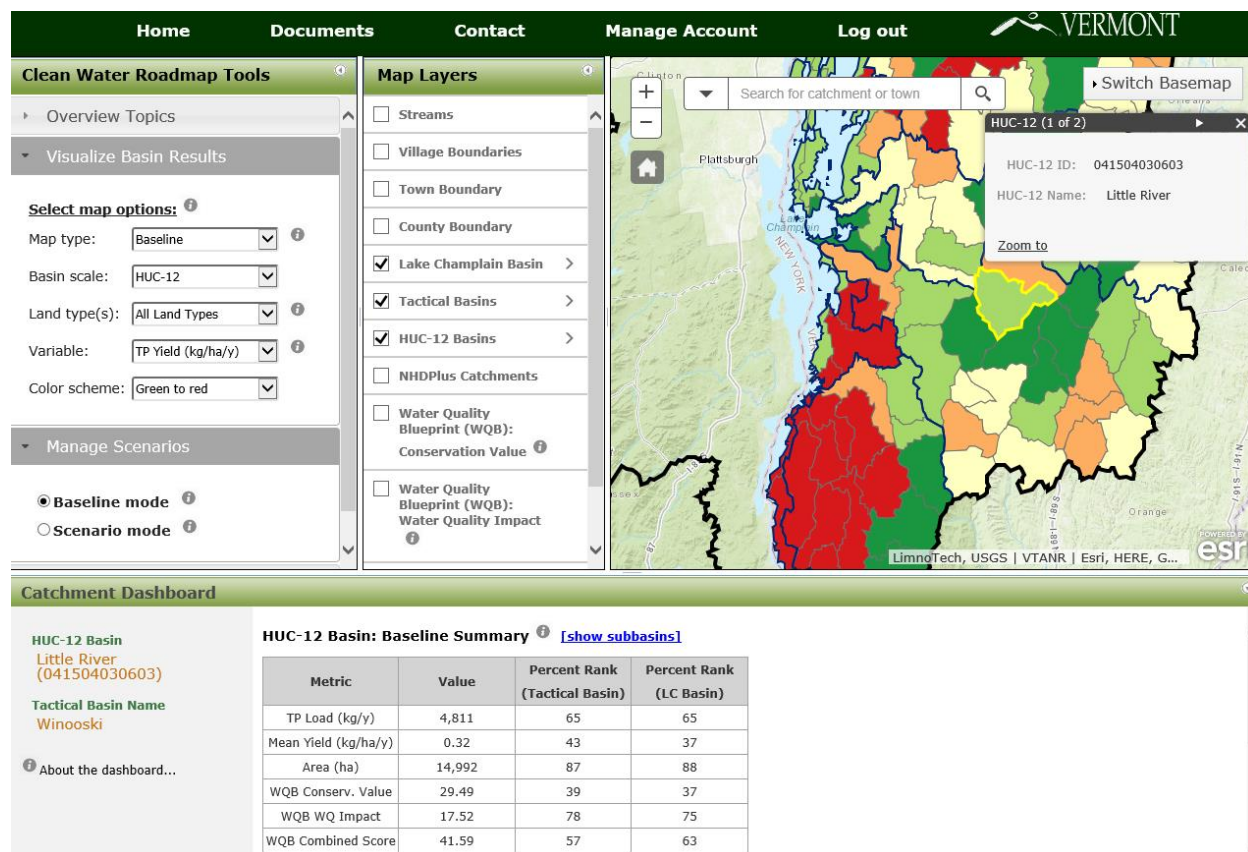
applied to 60% of the applicable area in a lake segment basin?” BMP suitability in a basin is based on SWAT model inputs such as land use, soil type, and slope. Multiple BMPs can be ‘applied’ in a basin, and BMP scenarios can be evaluated for a range of loading sources: developed lands, forests, agricultural lands, unpaved roads, and streambank erosion. This functionality allows users to evaluate whether a specific management plan has the potential to meet the TMDL loading targets for Lake Champlain. Stored scenarios can be compared with tabular and visual summaries. The tool also contains extensive summary tables and figures of TMDL targets and existing source loads.

Clean Water Roadmap Tool

The Clean Water Roadmap Tool (CWR) is a partnership between VDEC, Keurig-Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, the Nature Conservancy (TNC), and other stakeholders. The overall goal of the CWR is to ‘map’ the results of the Lake Champlain SWAT model and associated follow-on products, especially EPA’s BMP Scenario Tool, along with management actions contained in VDEC’s Tactical Basin Plan implementation tables and tracking systems. The CWR provides a description of *one way* the LC TMDL phosphorus reductions can be achieved, largely based on EPA’s reasonable assurance scenario.

The CWR is a map-based application that allows users to click on a specified watershed and receive a summary report of relevant best management practices (BMPs). BMP suitability is assessed using the landscape criteria in SWAT and EPA’s Scenario Tool, while implementation table activity locations can be based on data in VDEC’s BMP tracking database. The summary data also includes estimated phosphorus loadings based on SWAT modeling. Additional relevant spatial information, such as township boundaries, partner data (TNC’s Conservation Blueprint for Water Quality), hydrologically connected backroads, etc., has also be included. The CWR can be used by regional planners, the public, and VDEC staff to identify priority areas and actions for Lake Champlain phosphorus reductions.

Figure 13 Screen shot of the Clean Water Roadmap highlighting TP loading from the Little River HUC12 watershed.



What follows below - through a series of discussions, tables, and graphics - is an expression of the TMDL reductions required in as a site-specific manner as currently possible. Many of these expressions rely on modeled information that are limited by certain spatial extents even though some sector analyses may be more developed based on the currently available data. Because of this, the summing of loading results across different sectors may not “add up” to overall basin loading estimates but are sufficient for planning-level analyses. In some instances, this information will aid the “where to look” aspect of planning while other instances provide the “what to do”. Over time, additional assessment information will more accurately inform the identification of BMP opportunities and it is the goal of the Tactical Basin Plans to present the most up-to-date information available to facilitate implementing the LC TMDL.

Table 14 below provides the final phosphorus allocations and the resulting reductions required for the Main Lake segments of Lake Champlain. These values are taken directly from the final LC TMDL and the Phase I Implementation Plan (2016). Table 14 also indicates how the major land use phosphorus sources are broken down into more

specific categories that are addressed using specific approaches as well as how each source is allocated under the TMDL.

Table 14 Percent reductions needed to meet TMDL allocations for the Main Lake segment from the Winooski River Basin (adapted from 2016 Phosphorus TMDLs for Vermont Segments of Lake Champlain, Tables 7 & 8)

Source	Category	Allocation category	Total allocation for basin (MT/yr.)	Percent reduction required for basin
Forest	All lands	Load	30.90	5.0%
Stream Channels	All streams	Load	35.66	28.9%
Agriculture	Fields/pastures	Load	16.22	46.9%
	Production Areas	Wasteload	0.43	80.0%
Developed Land ²	Summary		28.02	20.2%
	VTrans owned roads and developed lands	Wasteload		
	Roads MRGP	Wasteload		
	MS4	Wasteload		
	Larger unregulated parcels	Wasteload		
Wastewater ¹	WWTF discharges	Wasteload	9.85	61.1%
	CSO discharges	Wasteload	NA	NA

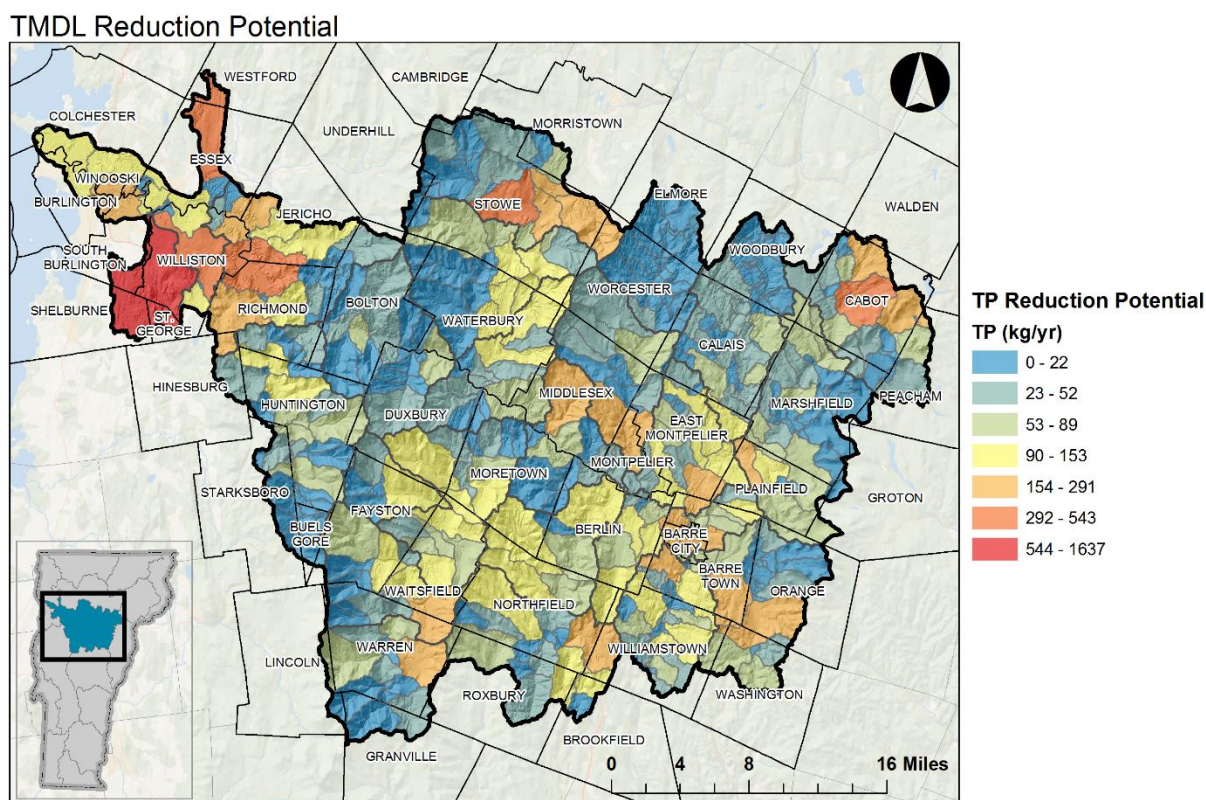
¹Percent change from pre-TMDL permitted loads

²Includes reductions needed to offset future growth

Figure 15 below illustrates the required level of TP reductions identified in Table 14 at the catchment-scale. The transition from blue to red indicates a greater level of TP reduction across all catchments, as prescribed for all land use sectors across the basin. For example, for any given catchment, the TMDL reduction percentage is applied to

each appropriate land use sector, based on the TMDL reductions required for that sector (Table 14). Then, all reductions are summed for the catchment and displayed on a relative loading scale.

Figure 14 Estimated total TMDL reductions from all land uses in the Winooski Basin at the catchment scale



Within the basin, the top 20 catchments with the greatest overall identified TP reductions are identified in Table 15. The catchments are located by the primary town they occur in and primary waterbody they discharge to. The total TMDL reduction is broken down by each land use sector. If the total required LC TMDL reductions were applied to these top 20 catchments, which make up ~4% of the total number of catchments, then 32% of the overall needed basin reduction would be realized. For context, there are 480 total individual catchments in the Winooski Basin.

Table 15 Catchments with the greatest overall TP reductions as identified in the TMDL.

Catchment ID	Town name	Ag lands reduction (kg/yr)	Developed lands reduction(kg/yr)	Farmstead reduction (kg/yr)	Forest reduction (kg/yr)	Potential TP reduction
4578814	Williston	1375.0	234.8	21.6	5.8	1637.3
4577340	Stowe	439.4	89.7	3.9	9.7	542.7
4576908	Essex	440.8	73.7	10.6	3.5	528.7
4578812	Williston	367.8	139.9	6.2	2.7	516.6
4577416	Cabot	275.7	52.1	14.4	14.0	356.3
4578848	Richmond	238.7	86.0	12.2	4.8	341.7
4578846	Jericho	259.8	22.7	5.2	3.3	291.1
4577986	Orange	175.7	63.9	7.3	12.5	259.3
4577342	Stowe	191.9	43.7	1.0	4.9	241.5
4577996	Waitsfield	169.2	32.7	15.2	23.2	240.3
4577774	Warren	148.2	44.3	8.7	18.6	219.8
4577934	East Montpelier	149.8	48.4	3.9	2.4	204.5
4578832	South Burlington	22.0	176.9	0.0	0.3	199.2
4577822	Stowe	139.3	30.4	3.0	17.8	190.5
4578766	Richmond	131.5	43.1	7.1	5.5	187.3
4577690	Barre Town	153.0	25.3	6.0	2.6	187.0
4577974	Barre Town	85.0	75.5	6.6	7.9	175.0
4577388	Cabot	134.7	26.0	6.7	7.4	174.8
4577916	Middlesex	60.2	97.3	3.4	12.3	173.3
4577680	Barre Town	30.4	137.2	2.6	1.7	171.9
Percent of total TP reduction if all sector allocations are applied to these catchments						31.5%

Limiting Phosphorus Losses from Managed Forest

Vermont adopted rules in 1987 for Acceptable Management Practices (AMPs) for Maintaining Water Quality on Logging Jobs in Vermont. The AMPs are intended and designed to prevent any mud, petroleum products and woody debris (logging slash) from entering the waters of the State and to otherwise minimize the risks to water quality. The AMPs are scientifically proven methods for loggers and landowners to follow for maintaining water quality and minimizing erosion.

The Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation (FPR) updated the AMPs effective as of October, 22, 2016. Subsequent updates have occurred spring of 2018 (expected approval in May or June 2018) to include standards for permanent crossing on intermittent streams. Key modifications include:

- Require compliance with standards set forth in the VDEC Stream Alteration General Permit for actions including the installation and sizing of permanent stream crossing structures on perennial streams.
- Require compliance with standards set forth in the AMP rules' Table 2a or 2b when installations require replacement or new installations. Culvert may also be sized to accommodate the active channel as observed at the crossing site on intermittent streams.
- Strengthen standards pertaining to temporary stream crossing practices on logging operations. The standards include:
 - Better management of ditch water on approaches to stream crossings. The proposal is to prohibit drainage ditches along truck roads from terminating directly into streams and to specify a minimum distance for installing turn-outs. Drainage ditches approaching stream crossings must be turned out into the buffer strip a minimum of 25 feet away from the stream channel, as measured from the top of the bank.
 - Better management of surface water runoff from skid trails, truck roads and temporary stream crossings on logging operations. The proposal is to prevent surface runoff from entering the stream at stream crossings from skid trails and truck roads and to specify a minimum distance for installing surface water diversion practices, such as drainage dips. Surface runoff is to be diverted into the buffer strip at a minimum distance of 25 feet from the stream channel, as measured from the top of the bank.
 - Better management of stream crossings after logging. The proposal is to prevent erosion and to specify a minimum distance from the stream for

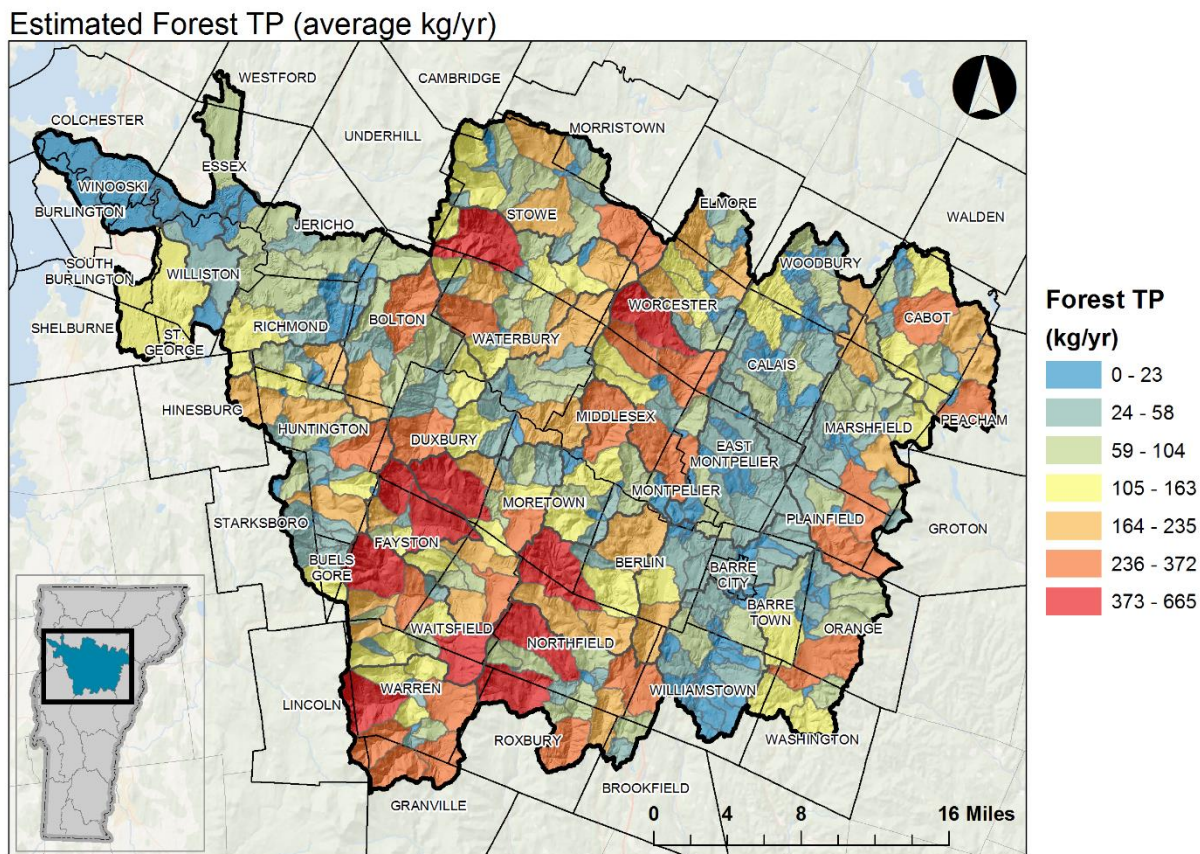
diverting runoff. Upon removal of the temporary stream crossing structures, the site is to contain water bars 25 feet from the stream channel on downhill approaches to the stream crossing to divert runoff into the buffer to capture sediment before entering the stream. Additionally, all exposed soil, at a minimum of 50 feet on each side of the crossing, must be stabilized with seed and mulch according to application rates specified in the AMPs.

- Include a new AMP to address the management of petroleum products and other hazardous materials on logging operations. Such materials must be stored in leak-proof containers, place outside of buffer strips, and must be removed when logging is completed.
- Enhanced stream buffer guidance in the AMPs and established metrics for minimum residual stand density, stand structure and crown cover.
- Enhanced options and guidance with metrics provided for soil stabilization to establish temporary and permanent ground cover.
- Better clarification provided for selection and spacing of water diversions on skid trails and truck roads both during and immediately after logging.
- Increased seeding/mulching of exposed soil adjacent to streams and other bodies of water from 25 feet to 50 feet

For Winooski Basin, an overall TP reduction target of 5% has been allocated to all forest lands. Based on documentation that the primary sources of phosphorus from forested areas are forest roads and harvest areas, and that AMPs have been revised (effective October 22, 2016) to address better management of road erosion and harvest areas to avoid water quality impacts, EPA suggests the 5% reduction called for in the Reasonable Assurance scenario is easily supported.

Based on watershed modeling in support of the TMDL, the catchments are displayed in Figure 16 in order of increasing TP export – from blue to red. While TP loading rates are generally low in forested areas, there are situations which could exacerbate loading. Gleaned from the modeling input data, areas of steep slopes and thin soils could be most problematic for forest road building and harvest activity. It is these areas that could receive the most activity oversight to control erosion.

Figure 15 Estimated forest TP loading for the Winooski River at the catchment scale



The mapped catchment TP export is also shown in Table 16 which identifies the highest-loading catchments from Figure 16 by town and lists the forest load as well as the potential phosphorus load reduction if the respective lake segment reduction targets were applied. If allocated reductions were completely applied to these top catchments, approximately 60% of the necessary reductions from forest land could be realized.

Table 16 The top 11 modeled catchments for forest load export (correspond to red catchments in Figure 16)

Catchment ID	Town Name	Forest TP (kg/yr)	Potential TP Reduction (kg/yr)
4577964	Fayston	665.5	33.3
4577932	Duxbury	604.0	30.2
4578008	Warren	554.8	27.7
4577646	Fayston	514.2	25.7
4577700	Moretown	491.3	24.6
4577996	Waitsfield	463.2	23.2
4577828	Stowe	448.8	22.4
4577992	Northfield	408.6	20.4
4577850	Worcester	405.2	20.3
4577940	Fayston	398.6	19.9
4578004	Roxbury	389.2	19.5
Percent of total Forest TP reduction if sector allocations are applied to these catchments			15.3%

Reducing Phosphorus Attributable to Unstable Stream Channels

The Lake Champlain Phase I Implementation Plan recognizes that we will never achieve the load reduction targets for unstable streams if we focus entirely on restoration (manipulation-type) activities. If the river corridors along our incised and straightened stream channels are not protected from encroachment, they will be developed, and the potential for cost-effective restoration would be lost forever. River corridor and floodplain protection ensure that the desired channel evolution, stream equilibrium, and natural floodplain function can take place whether it be from restoration activities or through the natural channel forming processes that occur during floods. Further, the estimation of precise subwatershed phosphorus loadings from stream channels would be a scientifically tenuous proposition at any scale smaller

than that established by the TMDL. As such, this Tactical Basin Plan relies on the identification of high-priority subwatersheds where Stream Geomorphic Assessments indicate the highest likelihood for phosphorus reductions thru the pursuit of dynamic stream equilibrium. These are shown in Chapter 2 of this Plan, in the Implementation Table summary in Chapter 5, and also in the [online](#) Watershed Projects database.

VDEC has developed a methodology to document long-term achievement of the TMDL allocation for stream channels. The methodology still needs to be piloted and database developed to support it.

This methodology serves as a surrogate for long-term physical-chemical monitoring that would be required for each restorative practice type were it possible to isolate cause and effect at this functional level of assessment – which it is not. This tracking approach follows the methodology used by Tetra-Tech to develop the load and load-reduction calculations for unstable streams by evaluating how different practices affect the evolution of Vermont’s incised streams to an idealized condition where stream equilibrium is achieved, and the stream has access to its floodplain at the (~2-yr) channel forming flow. It has been documented that under these ideal geomorphic and hydraulic conditions, we see significant capture and storage of fine sediment and phosphorus.

The Stream Equilibrium (SE) Tracking Method starts by establishing a total watershed deficit where the existing condition is subtracted from the ideal condition and a total watershed sum is derived by adding the deficit that is calculated for each reach in the watershed. The deficit for each reach is comprised of two components, one to track restoration activities and another to track corridor and floodplain protection activities. This is a novel approach because most tracking tools focus entirely on activities that manipulate the environment to achieve restoration. The total watershed deficit is envisioned to be calculated as follows:

Reach Deficit Score Data							
Phase 2 Incision ratio	Phase 2 Entrenchment	Floodprone to Belt Width Ratio	Phase 2 Channel Evolution Stage	Overall Segment Departure Score	Segment Equilibrium Deficit Score	Segment Protection Deficit Score	Total Deficit Score
1.5	2.5	0.46	IV	90	50	20	70.0
1.5	5.9	0.93	III	110	70	20	90.0
1.5	2.1	0.41	III	125	75	30	105.0
1.6	4.5	0.64	III	120	80	20	100.0
1.6	5.5	1.26	II	130	90	20	110.0
1.6	10.2	1.50	III	120	80	20	100.0
1.7	4.3	0.68	III	125	85	20	105.0
1.7	1.7	0.31	II	150	110	20	130.0
2.1	1.1	0.15	II	185	135	30	165.0
2.4	1.3	0.27	II	200	160	20	180.0
2.6	1.6	0.24	II	200	160	20	180.0
2.6	1.2	0.27	II	200	160	20	180.0
2.9	1.5	0.34	III	200	160	20	180.0
				Total Watershed Deficit			3117

Parameters used for developing Reach Deficit Score:

- **Incision Ratio** – looking at how connected reach is to the floodplain
- **Confinement** – Entrenchment and Flood-prone to Belt-width ratio – determining how much floodplain is available compared to what should be available
- **Channel Evolution Stage** – Determine how far from equilibrium the reach is
- **Protection** – Consideration for ability of stream to obtain/maintain equilibrium over time

The SE tracking method includes spatial and temporal factors that recognize the value of larger floodplains along lower gradient reaches and the influence that erodibility (as a function of channel boundary and bed load characteristics) has on the time frame at which floodplain accessibility might be achieved. For deficit reduction associated with active restoration there is the opportunity to evaluate projects that remove encroachments, thereby changing the stream confinement ratio (so essential to the achievement of an equilibrium channel slope) and the evaluation of projects that directly affect channel dimensions, roughness, channel evolution stage and slope. The deficit reduction associated with reach protection projects is evaluated for the strength (standards and longevity) of the land use and channel management restrictions that are put into place.

Data to support the scoring is largely available in the Vermont Stream Geomorphic Assessment database. The land protection scoring will be developed from different existing GIS data layers, and finally, a restoration practice scoring matrix will be developed to be able to score each type of project pursued on the ground by the VANR and its partners.

Controlling Phosphorus from Agriculture

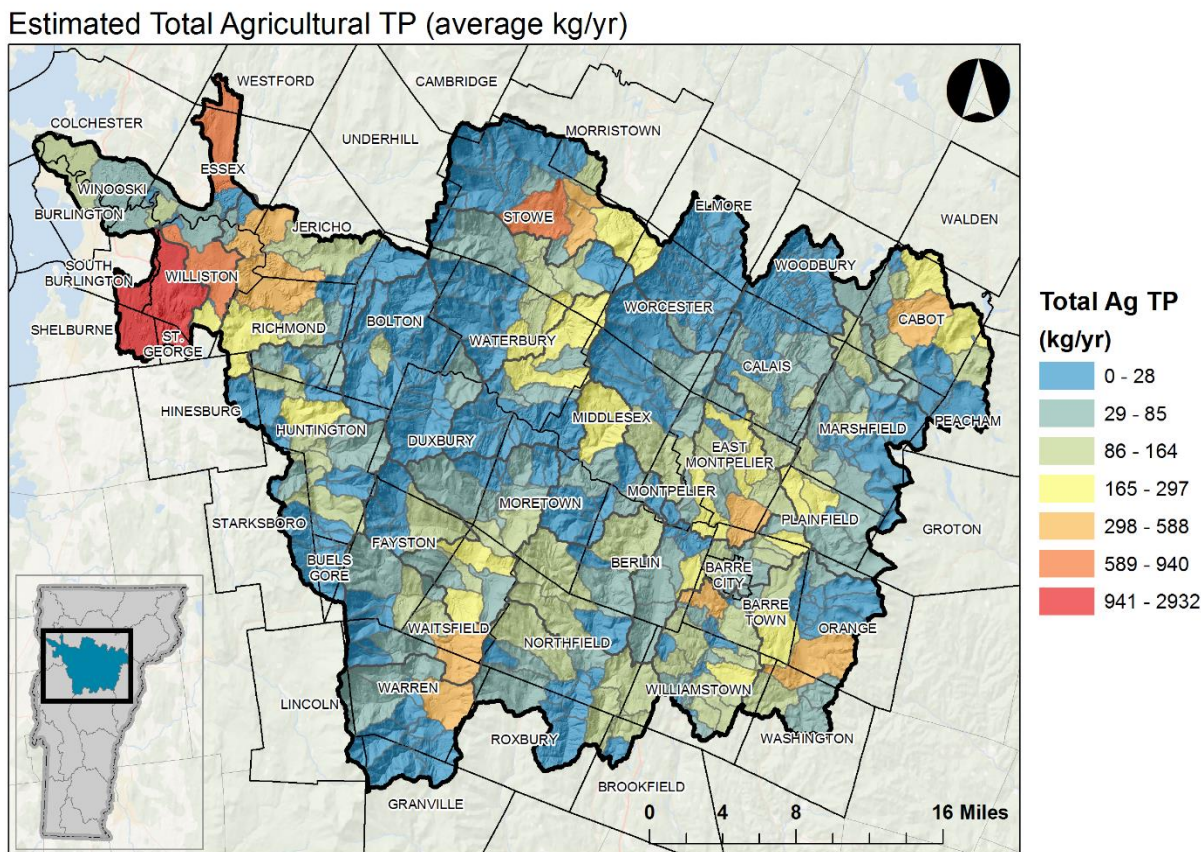
Load Allocation

In the Lake Champlain TMDLs, all permissible nonpoint source agricultural land phosphorus loads are considered part of the load allocation. As such, this section describes the estimated phosphorus loading areas in the basin, potential reductions based on the Reasonable Assurance Scenario, as well as the regulatory programs or provisions that are part of the load allocation for agricultural lands. The latter includes the Required Agricultural Practices for regulated Small Farms; Large and Medium Farm Permits; and lessons learned from the North Lake (Champlain) Farm Survey. Additionally, other, non-regulatory activities that are aimed at reducing phosphorus loading from the agriculture sector will be discussed in this section as well.

Estimated Phosphorus Loading

Estimated modeled phosphorus loading from agricultural land uses is given in Figure 17 at both the catchment and HUC-12 scales.

Figure 16 Estimated agricultural TP export by catchment.



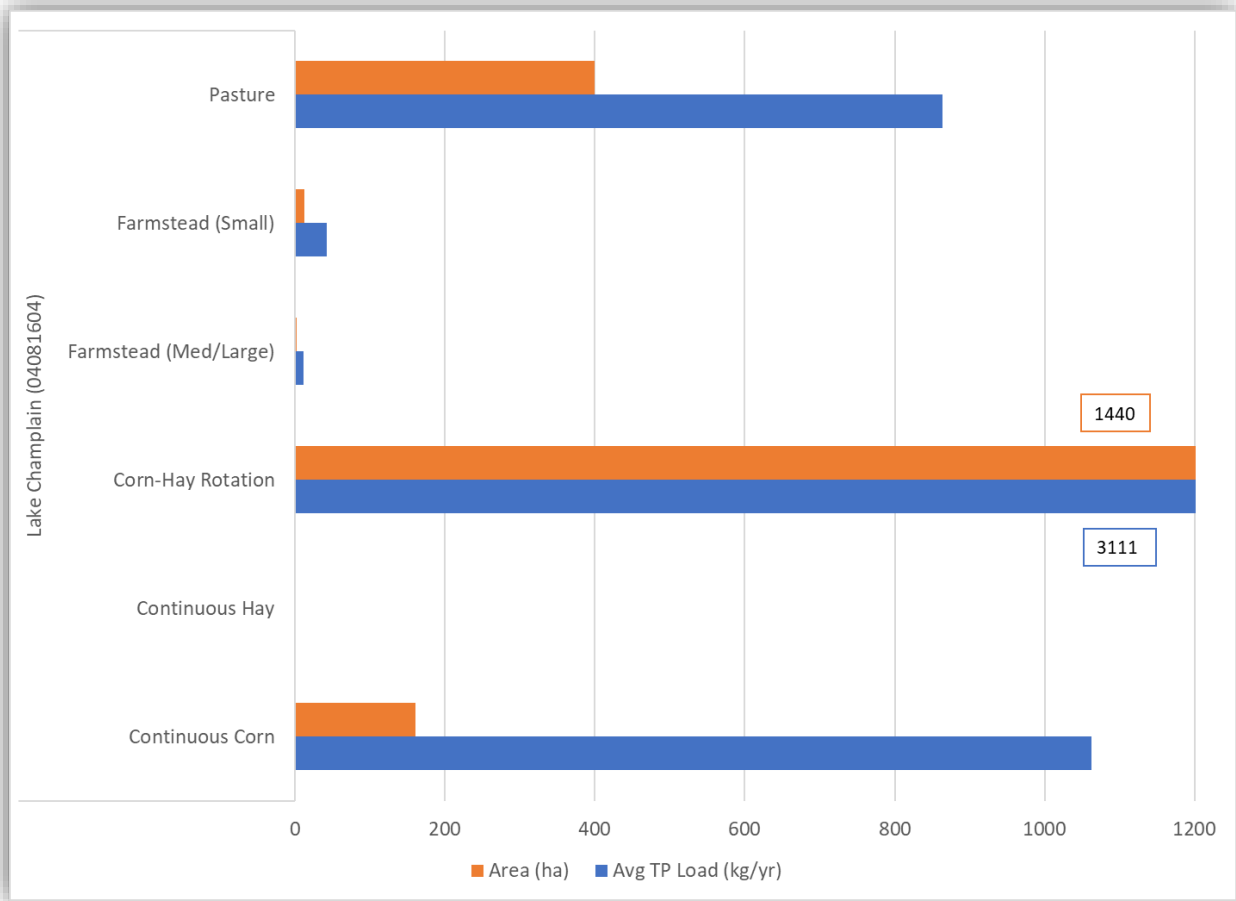
Another representation of the modeled TP export map is given in Table 17 below. The top TP export catchments are listed and are associated with the town in which they occur. The TP reduction amount is calculated by applying the appropriate agricultural nonpoint reduction allocation according to the lake segment in which the catchment resides. This ranking provides the general reduction opportunities as they exist across the landscape but actual practice implementation will vary across catchments as practical assessment information is obtained.

Table 17 Catchments with the highest estimated TP export from agricultural land uses (non-farmstead). These catchments correspond to the red and orange catchments mapped in Figure 17 above.

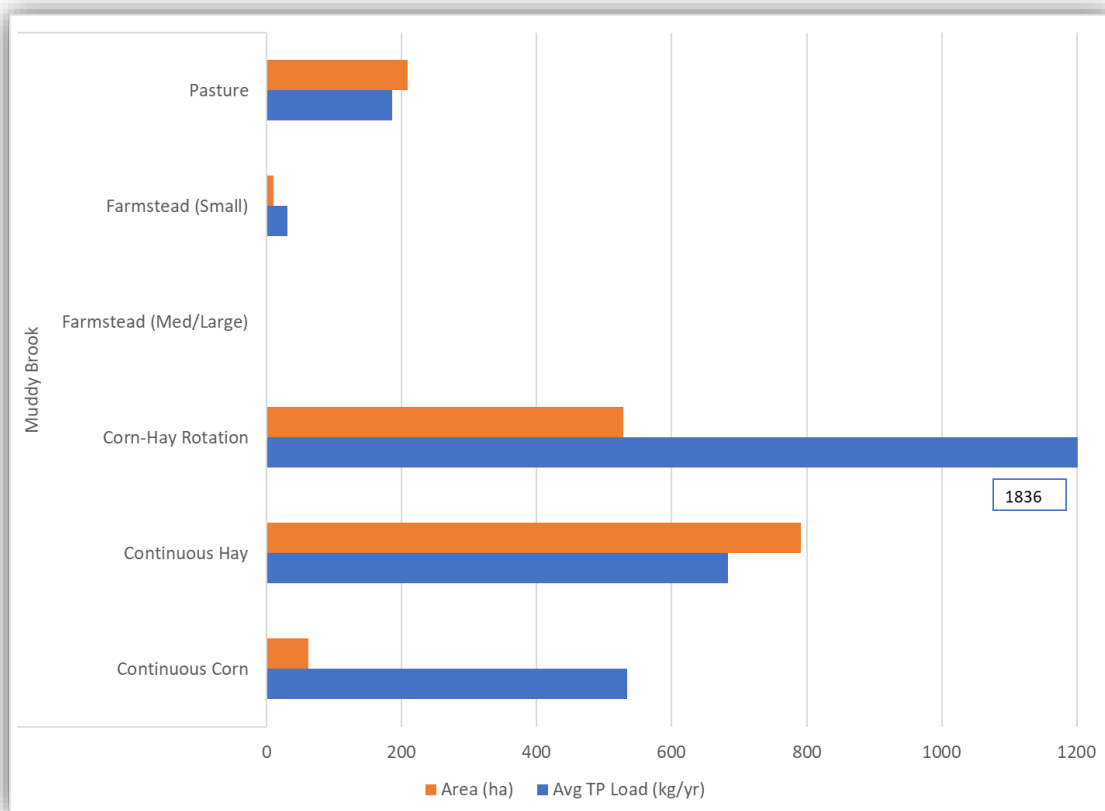
Catchment ID	Town Name	Ag TP (kg/yr)	Potential TP Reduction (kg/yr)
4578814	Williston	2931.8	1375.0
4576908	Essex	940.0	440.8
4577340	Stowe	936.9	439.4
4578812	Williston	784.2	367.8
4577416	Cabot	587.9	275.7
4578846	Jericho	554.0	259.8
4578848	Richmond	509.0	238.7
4577342	Stowe	409.3	191.9
4577986	Orange	374.6	175.7
4577996	Waitsfield	360.8	169.2
4577690	Barre Town	326.2	153.0
4577934	East Montpelier	319.5	149.8
4577774	Warren	315.9	148.2
4577334	Stowe	315.5	148.0
Percent of total Ag TP reduction if sector allocations are applied to these catchments			35%

Figure 18 (parts A-J) presents the total phosphorus load from various agricultural land uses relative to the area of each land use within a given HUC12 watershed. This identifies land use and location combinations that may be more likely to export more TP per unit area than others.

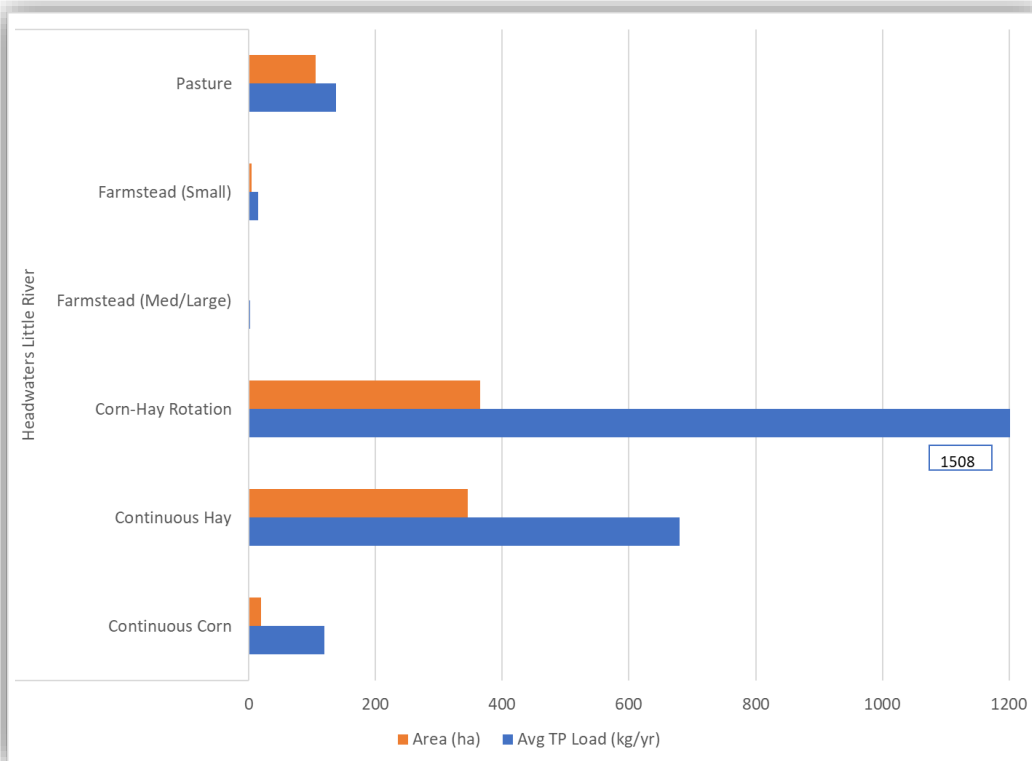
Figure 17(A – J). SWAT loading estimates and corresponding agricultural land areas in the top loading HUC12s (highest to lowest) in the Winooski Basin.



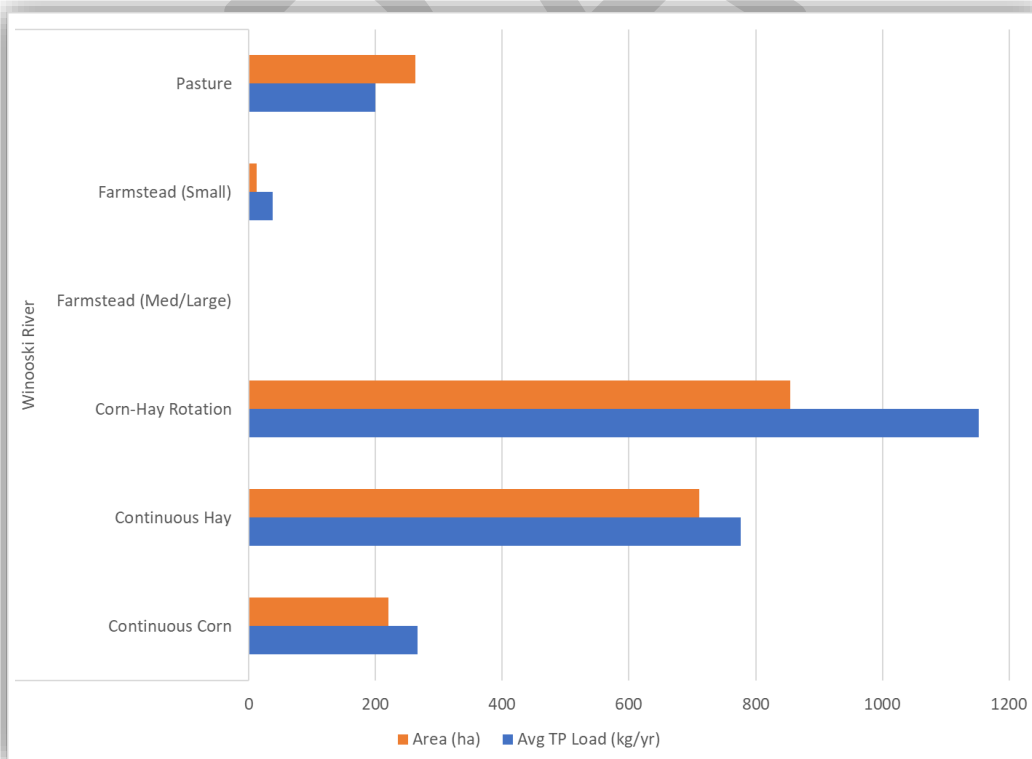
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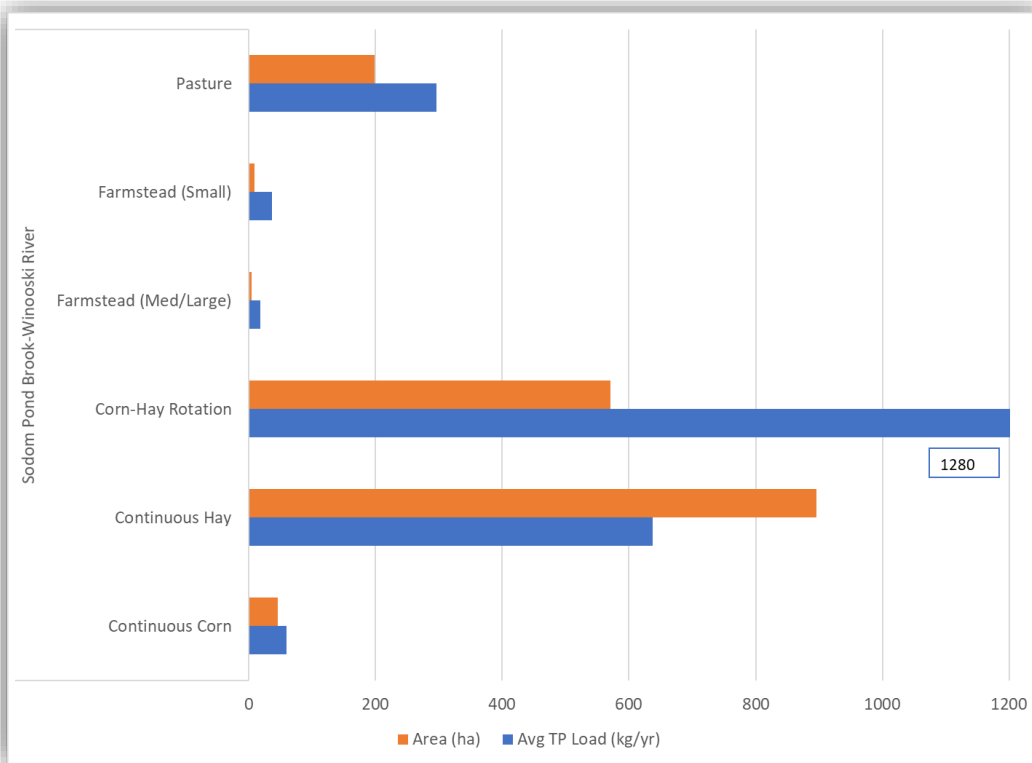
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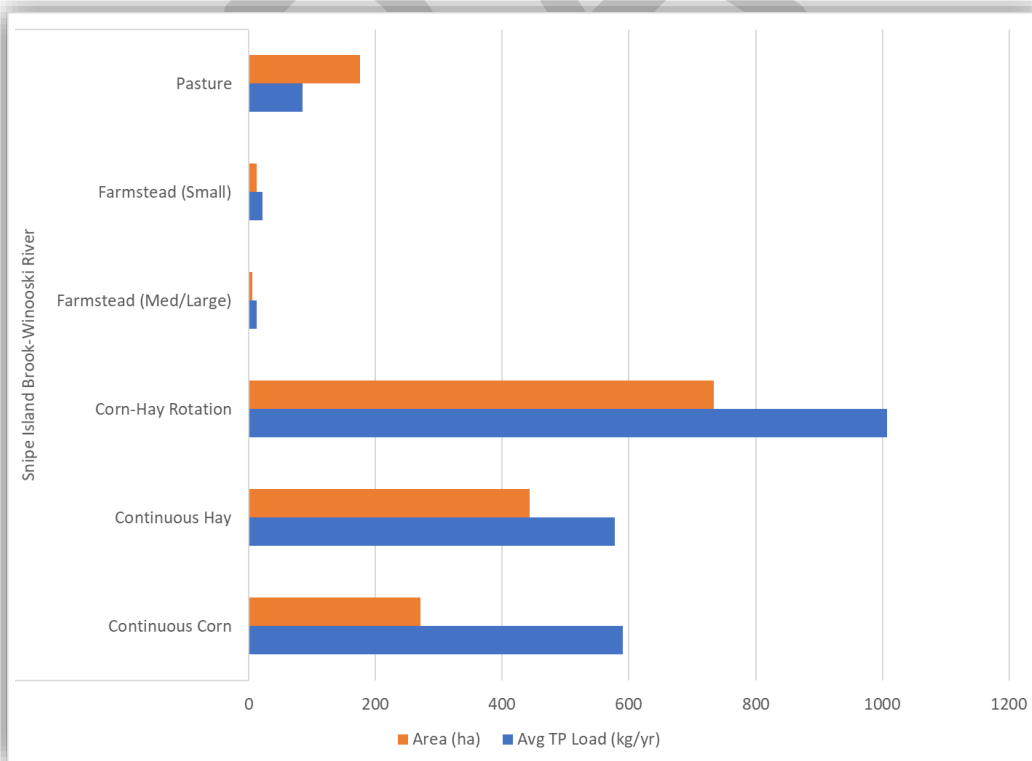
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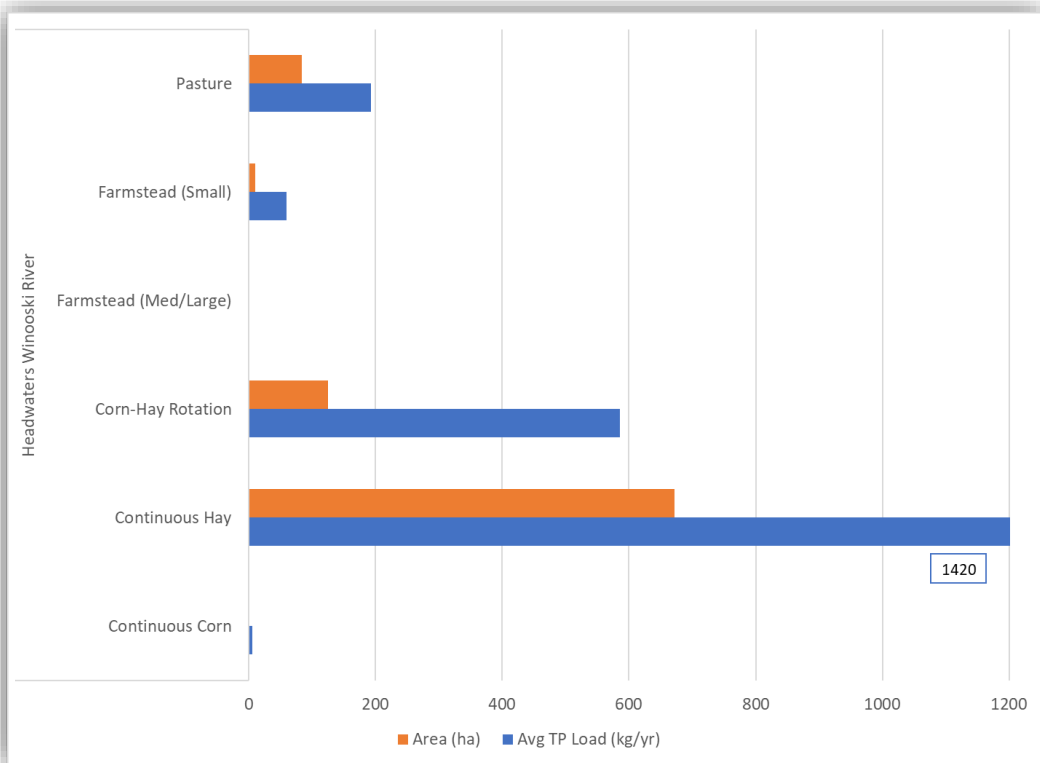
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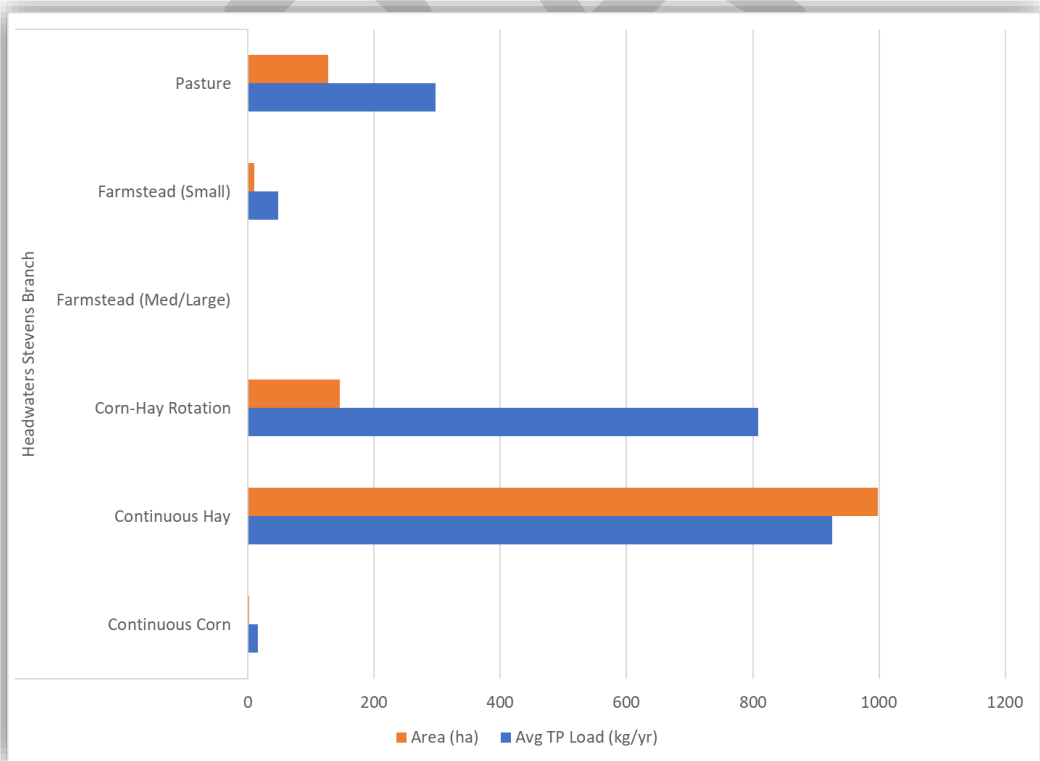
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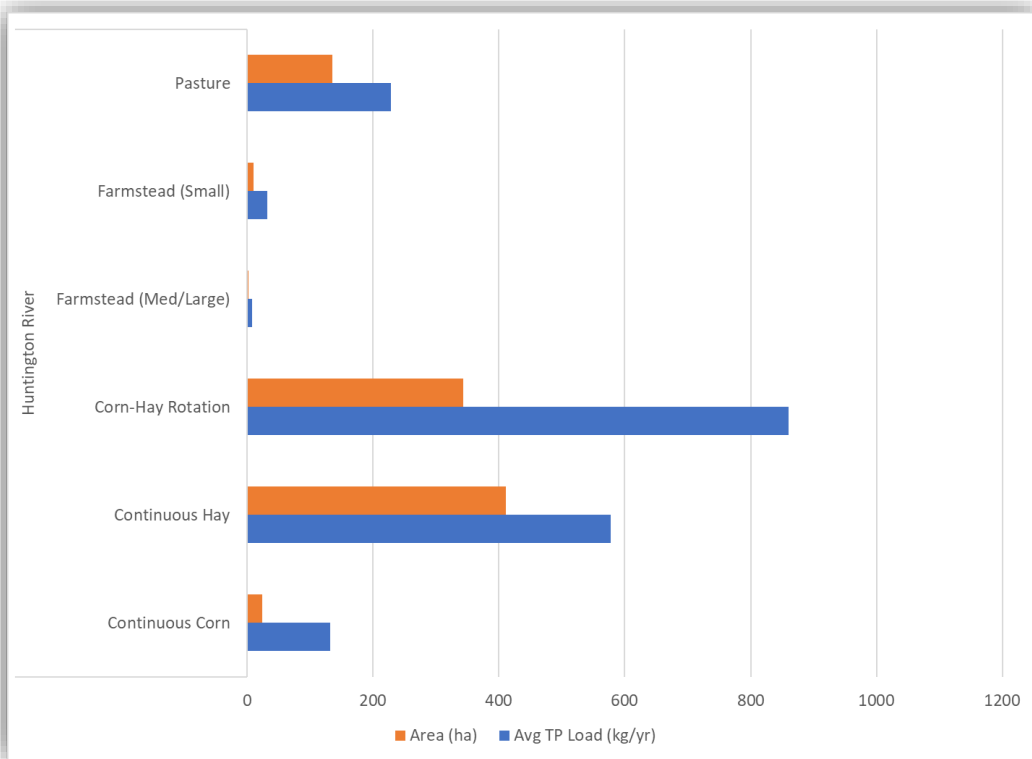
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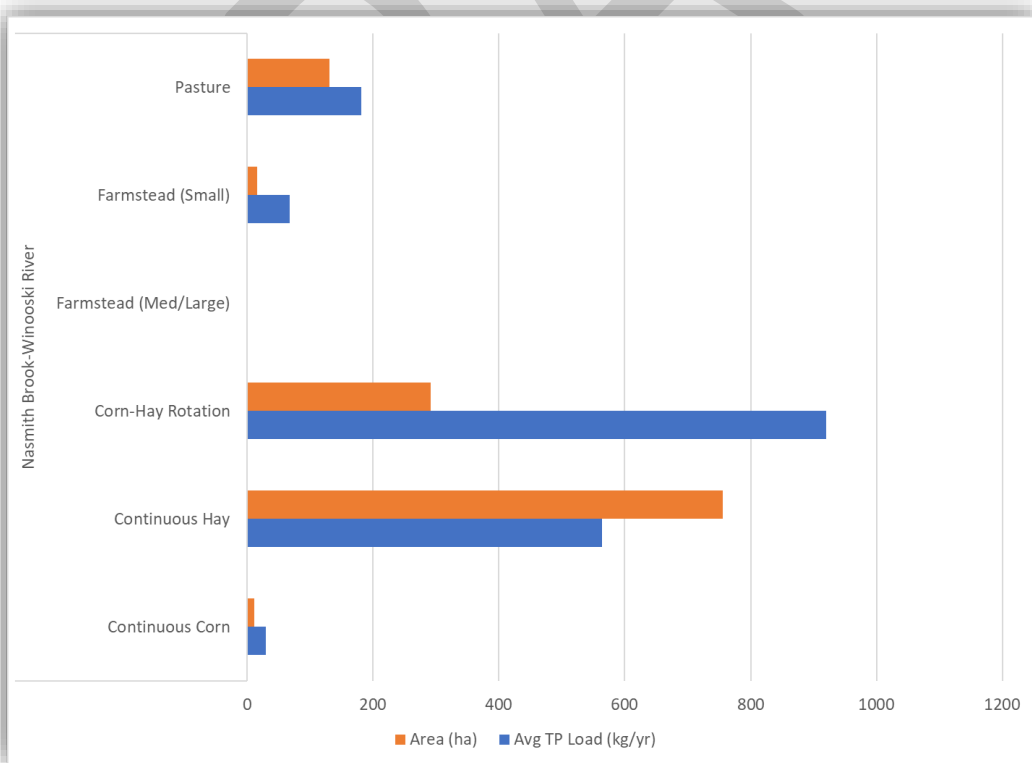
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H



I



J

Table 18 provides information regarding agricultural practice efficiencies that were used to estimate the necessary TMDL reductions as presented in the Scenario Tool.

Table 18 TP reduction efficiencies associated with BMPs as represented in the SWAT-based Scenario Tool

BMP Type	Minimum % Efficiency	Maximum % Efficiency	Average % Efficiency	Efficiency Source
Barnyard Management *	80.00	80.00	80.00	Literature
Change in crop rotation	19.49	28.11	25.26	SWAT
Conservation tillage	10.00	50.00	27.50	SWAT
Cover crop	25.00	30.00	28.33	SWAT
Crop to Hay	0.00	80.00	64.17	SWAT
Ditch buffer	51.00	51.00	51.00	Literature
Fencing/livestock exclusion without riparian buffer	55.00	55.00	55.00	SWAT
Fencing/livestock exclusion with riparian buffer	73.45	73.45	73.45	SWAT
Grassed Waterways	20.00	68.20	38.95	SWAT
Reduced P manure	0.30	17.79	4.95	SWAT
Riparian buffer	41.00	41.00	41.00	SWAT

* Barnyard management addresses runoff considered part of the Wasteload Allocation but its efficiencies are listed here with the remaining BMPs that address runoff related to the Load Allocation.

Required Agricultural Practices and Permit Programs

The Required Agricultural Practices (RAPs) and existing Medium and Large farm permit programs set baseline farm management practices to ensure environmental protection. Medium and Large farm permits have been in place for nearly 10 years, but the RAPs (formally the Accepted Agricultural Practices) have been in place as the current regulatory standard since 2006, and were revised on December 5th, 2016. This revision is expected to result in a significant increase in conservation practice

implementation over the next few years. The changes to the RAPs that are expected to result in the greatest impact include:

- Nutrient Management Planning and Implementation on All Farms (New Requirement for Small Farms)
- Creation of Small Farm Certification Program
- Stabilization of Ephemeral Gullies
- 10 ft. grassed filter strips on all field ditches
- Increase in grassed filter strip and manure spreading setback width from 10ft to 25ft on surface waters for small farms (already 25ft requirement for Medium and Large Farms)
- Establishment of cover crops on fields containing frequently flooded soils
- Increased manure spreading ban duration on fields containing frequently flooded soils
- Increase in grassed filter strip and manure spreading setback from 25ft to 100ft on surface waters adjacent to fields with a slope greater than 10%
- Reduction in maximum soil erosion rates by $\frac{1}{2}$ on small farms
- Increased setbacks for construction of waste storage facilities from surface water (50' to 200')
- Increase setbacks for unimproved stacking of ag wastes from surface water (100' to 200')
- Livestock exclusion from production areas
- Partial livestock exclusion in pastures

It is impossible for us to estimate the exact impact that these rules will have, because doing so would require a detailed understanding of the current management on all farms. However, we are confident that because of this rule we will see a dramatic increase in the implementation of Nutrient Management Plans, Cover Crops, Grassed Waterways, and Grassed Filter Strips and Riparian Buffers. Any of these practices that are implemented as part of the many existing financial assistance programs will be tracked and reported on in the next planning cycle. Finally, through the creation of the Small Farm Certification program, inspections will be conducted on every small farm that meets the certification thresholds over the next seven years at minimum. Act 64 shortened the inspection cycle on medium farms from 5 to 3 years, and with the

additional staffing the Agency received last year has allowed the Agency to perform more comprehensive inspections on medium and large farm facilities. The Agency will continue to perform annual inspections on large farm operations and the regulatory inspections on small and medium farms, all of which will result in a significant increase in compliance with the management practices set forth in the permit programs and the RAPs.

Lessons Learned from the North Lake Farm Survey

A North Lake Farm Survey (NLFS) was conducted in 2015 and 2016 in the Missisquoi and St. Alban's Bay watersheds. An analysis using this data from the Missisquoi Bay watershed revealed the types of compliance challenges many farms are facing. While the Agency has not conducted a full assessment of all farms in the North Lake Basin, we expect that the larger trends found NLFS would apply to farms in the Winooski Basin. Therefore, we imagine that roughly 45% of the farms in the Winooski Basin will need at least one production area fix, while 41% will have at least one land management issue.

Vermont Environmental Stewardship Program

Starting in 2017, the Agency of Agriculture will pilot a Vermont Environmental Stewardship Program that will recognize and certify farmers who achieve high standards pertaining to sediment and nutrient management, pasture condition, and soil health. This program is designed to increase the recognition of farms that manage their lands in a way that provides environmental benefits, with the goal of fostering a shift toward more ecologically based farm management in the agricultural community. The pilot is expected to launch in 2017 with 10-12 farms, with the full program starting in 2019.

Ag Clean Water Initiative Program

A new grant program was started in 2016 as a result of Vermont's clean water act. This grant program makes funds available for farmers and technical service organizations to help with education and outreach, project scoping and implementation, and enhancing organizational capacity. The goal of this program is to both increase compliance with the RAPs, as well as to implement projects that go above and beyond these baseline regulations.

Wasteload Allocation

In this section, a description of the applicable agricultural phosphorus runoff control regulations will be provided. In this instance, the only separable-applicable regulatory

program is the NPDES Confined Animal Feeding Operation permit. As this program at present does not provide coverage for any Vermont facilities, the tabular representation will provide information regarding the numbers of LFO and MFO permitted farms. As mentioned earlier, a small farm certification program is being created that will bring many farms into a permitted program, but the exact number of farms for each watershed has not been estimated at this point. Table 19 shows the number of LFO and MFO permitted facilities in the Winooski Basin by HUC-12.

Table 19 Total number of facilities associated with permitted LFOs and MFOs in the Winooski Basin by HUC12.

HUC12 Number	HUC12 Name	MFOs	LFOs
04030204	Sodom Pond Brook-Winooski River	1	3
04030403	Great Brook-Winooski River	1	-
04030502	Mill Brook-Mad River	2	-
04030602	Headwaters Little River	7	-
04030701	Huntington River	3	-
04030702	Snipe Island Brook-Winooski River	3	-
04030501	Headwaters Mad River	1	-
04030203	Kingsbury Branch	3	-
	Total:	21	3

Table 20 shows the estimated TP farmstead export for each HUC-12. It is important to note that the farms counted are the primary facilities, and that other facilities are often associated with the primary facilities but are captured under the same permit.

Table 20 SWAT estimated farmstead loading for the Winooski Basin (kg/yr.)

HUC12 name	HUC12 number	Total	Overall 80% TMDL Reduction
Headwaters Winooski River	041504030201	49	39
Snipe Island Brook-Winooski River	041504030702	45	36
Nasmith Brook-Winooski River	041504030202	44	36
Mad River	041504030504	39	32
Kingsbury Branch	041504030203	39	31
Sodom Pond Brook-Winooski River	041504030204	38	31
Headwaters Stevens Branch	041504030101	38	30
Huntington River	041504030701	34	28
Mill Brook-Mad River	041504030502	30	24
Winooski River	041504030704	30	24
Jail Branch	041504030102	27	22
Muddy Brook	041504030703	27	22
Stevens Branch	041504030103	21	17
Headwaters Little River	041504030602	19	15
Headwaters Dog River	041504030401	15	12
Dog River	041504030402	12	10
North Branch Winooski River	041504030302	12	9
Headwaters Mad River	041504030501	11	9

HUC12 name	HUC12 number	Total	Overall 80% TMDL Reduction
Great Brook-Winooski River	041504030403	10	8
Little River	041504030603	8	6
Graves Brook-Winooski River	041504030601	6	4
Joiner Brook-Winooski River	041504030604	5	4
Shepard Brook	041504030503	3	3
Headwaters North Branch Winooski River	041504030301	2	2
Totals		564	452

Controlling Phosphorus from Developed Lands

In the LC TMDLs, all permissible developed land phosphorus loads are considered part of the wasteload allocation. As such, this section describes the four regulatory programs identified to address phosphorus and other impairment pollutant discharges from developed lands. They are the: Transportation Separate Storm Sewer System Permit (TS4); Municipal Roads General Permit; Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Permit; and, the so-called Operational Three-acre Impervious Surface Permit.

As a generalized summary, Table 21 indicates which regulatory program applies to which jurisdiction and the estimated modeled load for that jurisdiction where it is able to be determined.

Table 21 Total Load and the Regulatory Programs applicable in each jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Load reduction target (%)	Applicable Regulatory Program to address Phosphorus			
		TS4	MRGP	MS4	Three-acre designation
VTrans/State highways	Variable by lake segment. See Table 14 for specifics	✓			
MS4 municipalities				✓	✓
All other non-MS4 municipalities			✓		✓

Prior to discussing the permitting regulatory authorities and their specific areas of application, modeled loading across the entire basin can be visualized in Figure 19. This map represents estimated annual phosphorus loading at the catchment scale with municipal boundaries overlain. This estimate includes loading from all areas of developed lands including roads and low and high-density development. These areas are further described in the following Table 22, whereby the highest TP loading catchments are presented. The last column shows the amount of TP reduced if the 20.2% reduction allocation (Table 14) were applied to each of these catchments. Summarized at the bottom is the percentage, 42%, of total TP reduction from developed lands identified in the TMDL that could be realized if the sector TMDL reduction allocations were applied.

Figure 18 Estimated TP export from developed land uses excluding roads (paved and unpaved)

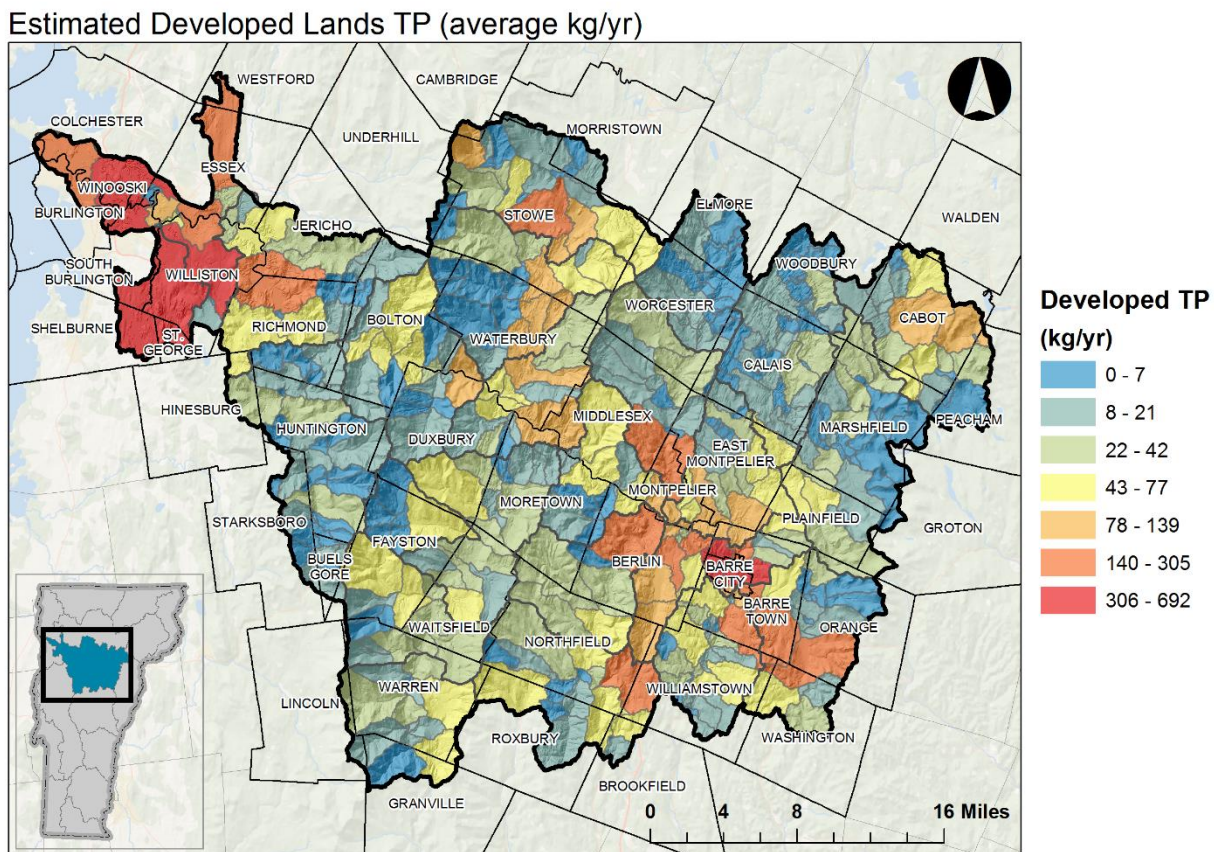


Table 22 Catchments with the highest estimated TP developed lands export, excluding roads. Catchments are associated with individual towns if most of the area of that catchment occurs within a given town boundary. These listed catchments align with the top two highest exporting catchment categories (red and orange) identified in Figure 18 above.

Town name	Catchment ID	Developed lands TP load (kg/yr)	Developed lands TP reduction (kg/yr)
Williston	4578814	692	140
South Burlington	4578832	644	130
Barre Town	4577680	492	99
Williston	4578812	455	92
Colchester	4576910	394	80

Town name	Catchment ID	Developed lands TP load (kg/yr)	Developed lands TP reduction (kg/yr)
Barre City	4577664	373	75
Williston	4578834	305	62
Berlin	4577660	303	61
Stowe	4577340	234	47
Barre Town	4577974	224	45
Colchester	4576956	217	44
Middlesex	4577916	214	43
Barre Town	4577710	201	41
Richmond	4578848	201	41
Essex	4576908	196	40
Berlin	4577650	193	39
Williamstown	4578002	190	38
Barre Town	4577958	186	38
Berlin	4577952	174	35
Barre Town	4577950	163	33
Orange	4577986	161	32
Percent of total Developed TP reduction if sector allocations are applied to these catchments			42%

Phosphorus Loading from Roads

Currently, TP loading estimates for roads only exist from the SWAT model which distinguishes only between paved and unpaved roads. Unfortunately, two of the primary phosphorus reduction regulatory programs related to roads, the MRGP and the TS4, are defined by more narrow parameters than just paved and unpaved. For example, the MRGP will apply to municipally managed roads, and require applicable

practices to be applied to all roads that are “hydrologically-connected” to waterbodies, including lakeshores, while the TS4 permit will only apply to state-managed roads.

Derived directly from the SWAT loading estimates, Figure 20 identifies the range of catchment TP loading from roads, both paved and unpaved, across the Winooski Basin. A further breakdown of loading estimates is presented in Tables 23 and 24 whereby the top twenty highest roads loading catchments, paved and unpaved, regardless of hydrological connectivity, are shown respectively. Also shown are the overall percent reductions achievable if the 20.2% reduction allocation is realized. However, for each catchment or municipality, these are not actual allocations but rather opportunities. Actual reductions will be accounted for as the essential roads permits are implemented.

Figure 19 Estimated SWAT loading from all paved and unpaved roads in the Winooski River Basin at the catchment scale.

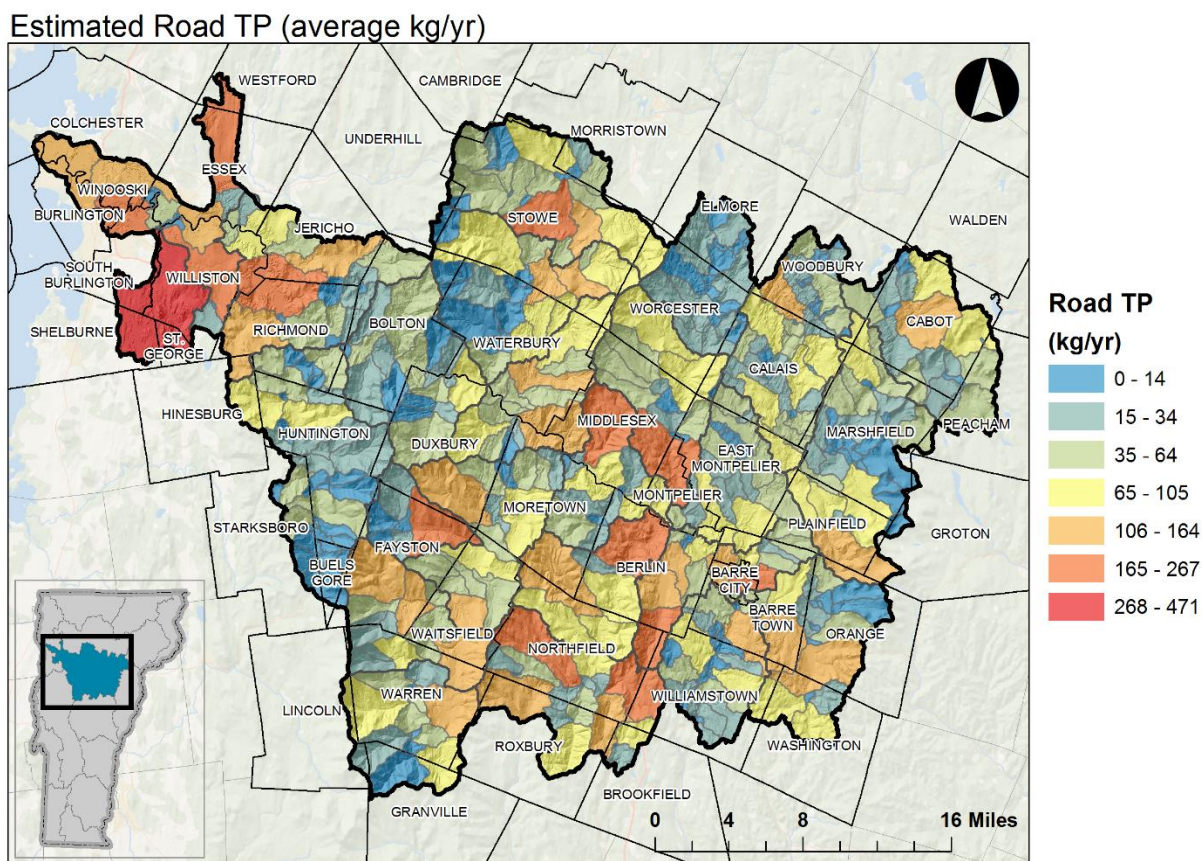


Table 23 Catchments with the highest estimated TP export from paved roads.

Town name	Catchment ID	Paved roads TP load (kg/yr)	Paved roads TP reduction (kg/yr)
Williston	4578814	234	47
Williston	4578812	167	34
Barre Town	4577680	156	32
Middlesex	4577916	153	31
South Burlington	4578832	137	28
Richmond	4578848	129	26
Williamstown	4578002	129	26
Berlin	4577952	116	23
Stowe	4577340	107	22
Barre City	4577664	103	21
Northfield	4577730	101	20
Middlesex	4577558	100	20
Colchester	4576956	92	19
Middlesex	4578132	91	18
Barre Town	4577974	88	18
Essex	4576908	88	18
Northfield	4577992	87	18
Berlin	4577660	87	17
Orange	4577986	86	17
Fayston	4577646	82	17
Percent of total paved roads TP reduction if sector allocations are applied to these catchments			23%

Table 24 Catchments with the highest estimated TP export from unpaved roads..

Town name	Catchment ID	Unpaved roads TP load (kg/yr)	Unpaved roads TP reduction (kg/yr)
Middlesex	4577916	54	11
Northfield	4577992	49	10
Middlesex	4577558	47	9
Northfield	4577730	45	9
Woodbury	4578202	40	8
Fayston	4577646	40	8
Plainfield	4577656	39	8
Orange	4577986	37	7
Richmond	4578848	37	7
Hinesburg	4578772	36	7
Jericho	4577830	35	7
Duxbury	4577932	34	7
Stowe	4577370	33	7
Plainfield	4577920	33	7
Calais	4577468	32	6
Richmond	4578766	31	6
Barre Town	4577974	30	6
Moretown	4577700	30	6
Middlesex	4578132	29	6
Calais	4577432	29	6
Percent of total unpaved roads TP reduction if sector allocations are applied to these catchments			22%

To derive more detailed loading source estimates than those given above, it was necessary to apply a secondary analysis to the initial SWAT loading estimates. To further break down the SWAT loading data for paved and unpaved roads, the extent of VTrans-managed and municipal-managed paved roads was derived from a more detailed GIS analysis than that used in the model. Through this analysis, the estimated load was apportioned at a somewhat finer level. Although, when combining the separate data sources to estimate loads, there are unavoidable inconsistencies that become apparent. For example, there is not an exact fit between the input roads data for the two methods and therefore results don't necessarily align. Currently with the tools available, these issues are inherent in the analysis. However, it's believed that they provide good planning level information when considered across the entire basin.

State Managed Roads (Transportation Separate Storm Sewer System General Permit – TS4)

The TS4 is a new stormwater permit for all VTrans owned and controlled infrastructure. As part of the permit, VTrans will develop comprehensive Phosphorus Control Plans (PCPs) for their developed land in each lake segment. This includes state roads, garages, park and rides, welcome centers, airports and sand and gravel operations. The plans will require inventories of all regulated surfaces, establishment of baseline phosphorus loading per lake segment, and a prioritized schedule for implementation of BMPs to achieve the lake segment percent phosphorus reductions.

To begin this assessment, VDEC estimated the miles of state roads per HUC12 in the Winooski Basin, given in Figure 21, and which is also reflected in Table 25. To provide some estimate of the overall basin loading at the bottom of the table, the hybrid analysis mentioned above was utilized with all the inherent inconsistencies. The noted load provides a reasonable planning level loading estimate. As the TS4 permit evolves, VTrans will further delineate the number, location, and condition of drainage from state roads along with other non-road infrastructure.

Figure 20 Estimated mileage of State-managed roads summarized by HUC12 in Basin 8

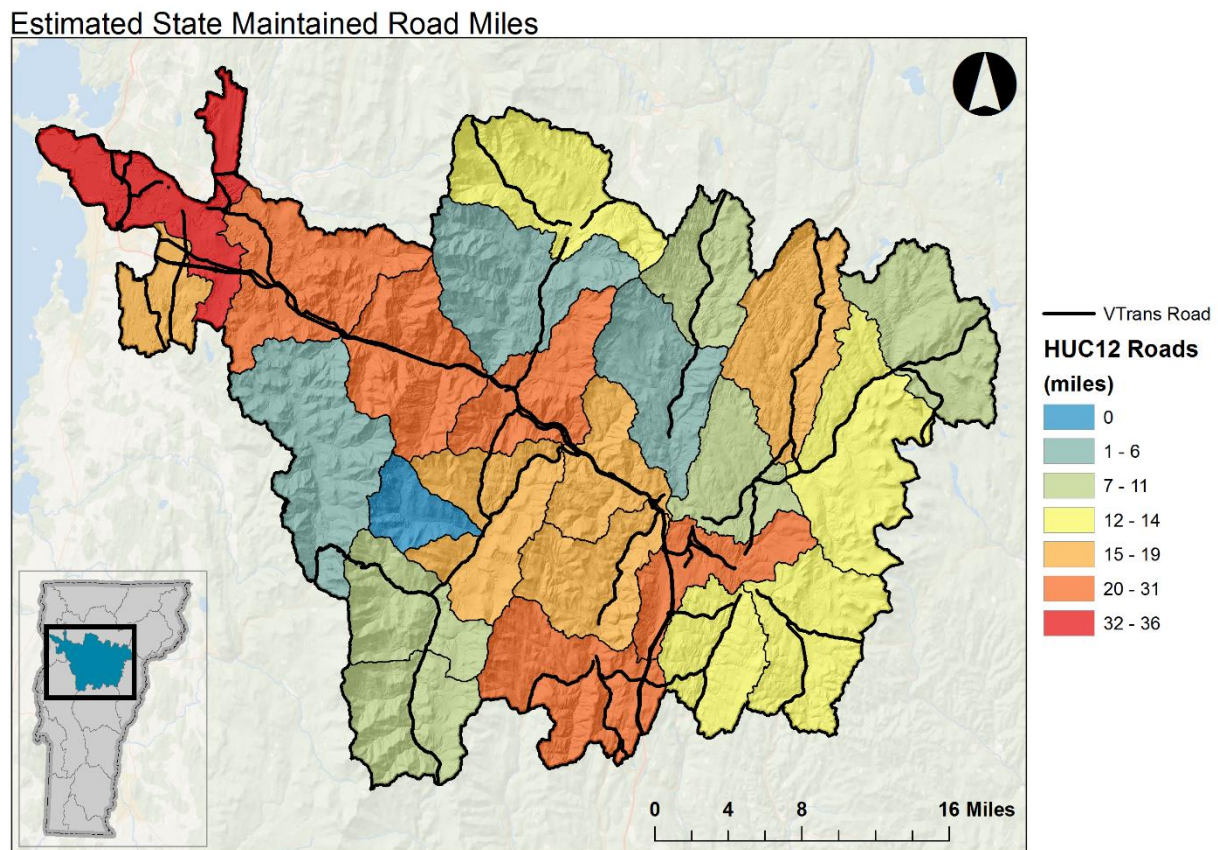


Table 25 Estimated miles for State-managed highways, does not include other VTrans owned and controlled infrastructure

HUC12 watershed name	State managed road miles
Winooski River	36.0
Stevens Branch	30.6
Snipe Island Brook-Winooski River	29.0
Headwaters Dog River	27.1
Graves Brook-Winooski River	26.7
Joiner Brook-Winooski River	25.0
Great Brook-Winooski River	19.1

HUC12 watershed name	State managed road miles
Muddy Brook	16.6
Kingsbury Branch	15.1
Dog River	15.1
Mad River	15.0
Headwaters Stevens Branch	13.6
Headwaters Little River	12.8
Jail Branch	12.7
Nasmith Brook-Winooski River	12.0
Sodom Pond Brook-Winooski River	10.9
Mill Brook-Mad River	10.7
Headwaters Winooski River	10.5
Headwaters North Branch Winooski River	9.5
Headwaters Mad River	8.2
Little River	5.6
North Branch Winooski River	5.6
Huntington River	4.3
Shepard Brook	0.2
Estimated State-managed roads TP loading (kg/yr)	372

Municipal Managed Roads (Municipal Roads General Permit)

The Municipal Roads General Permit is a new stormwater permit for all non-MS4 Vermont cities and towns that is intended to achieve significant reductions in stormwater-related erosion from municipal roads, both paved and unpaved. The permit requires each municipality to develop a road stormwater management plan to bring road drainage systems up to basic maintenance standards to stabilize conveyances and reduce erosion. The plan will require an inventory of municipal roads and current conditions, an identification of potential road best management practices (BMPs), and a prioritized implementation schedule to achieve the road standards.

The following maps and tables were developed to assist municipalities in setting priorities through the road management planning process. To break some of the basin roads loading data down to a town scale, the sum of loading from the catchments within that town needs to be calculated. Figure 22 shows the primary watershed catchments within each town. For these calculations, a given catchment is associated to any given town if most of that catchment falls within that town. While not a perfect fit, it does provide a reasonable estimate of the modeled TP load for any given municipality. Based on this association of catchments related to towns, VDEC estimated the TP load coming from both paved and unpaved roads in each of the towns, shown in Table 26. As towns implement road management plans and stabilize road networks, VDEC will be able to use this data to estimate the reductions in TP loading and confirm progress in meeting the LC TMDL.

Figure 21 Association of catchments to towns in the Winooski River Basin

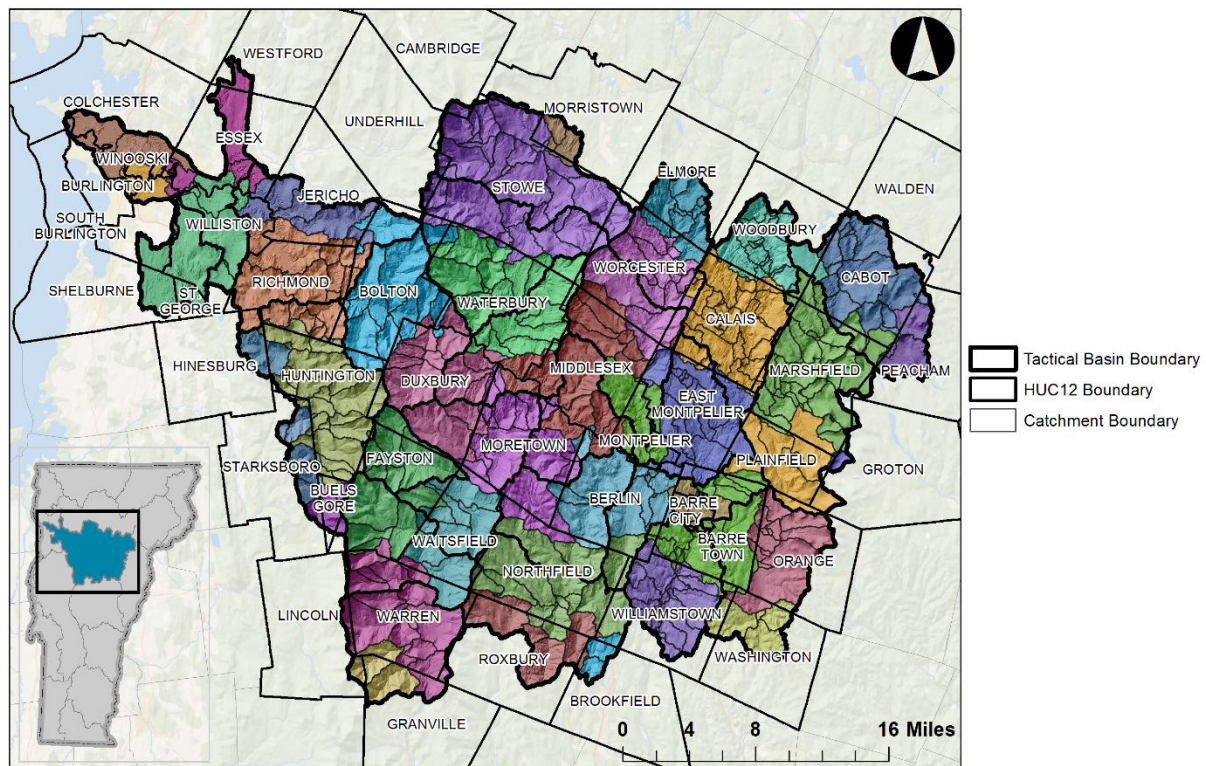


Table 26 Estimated loading for all non-VTrans managed roads occurring in each non_MS4 municipality

Town	Estimated TP loading (kg/yr)	Town	Estimated TP loading (kg/yr)
Barre City	79.5	Moretown	89.1
Barre Town	526.5	Morristown	13.1
Berlin	129.5	Northfield	253.5
Bolton	76.7	Orange	86.3
Brookfield	0.0	Peacham	0.0
Buels Gore	3.4	Plainfield	108.4
Cabot	155.4	Richmond	180.0

Calais	72.0	Roxbury	41.1
Duxbury	36.0	Starksboro	9.2
East Montpelier	141.5	Stowe	399.7
Elmore	0.0	Waitsfield	164.4
Fayston	140.0	Warren	283.1
Hinesburg	40.3	Washington	0.0
Huntington	146.0	Waterbury	230.3
Jericho	118.3	Williamstown	169.6
Marshfield	77.8	Woodbury	9.2
Middlesex	257.6	Worcester	55.3
Montpelier	116.0		

VDEC developed remote sensing information for municipalities to initially identify hydrologically connected road segments that have the potential to be at risk of erosion and may be a source of sediment and phosphorus pollution to surface waters (Figure 23). This estimated mileage, along with more detailed town maps, will help municipalities establish initial town road inventories and prioritize improvements. Results of this analysis are given in Table 27. It should be noted that mileages are given for the entirety of each town, whether or not the whole town or just a part of it is in the Winooski Basin. Figure 24 breaks down the percent of hydrologic road connectivity by the type of receiving water.

Estimated Hydrologically Connected Roads

Hydro-connect

- No
- Yes

Percent hydro-connect (%)

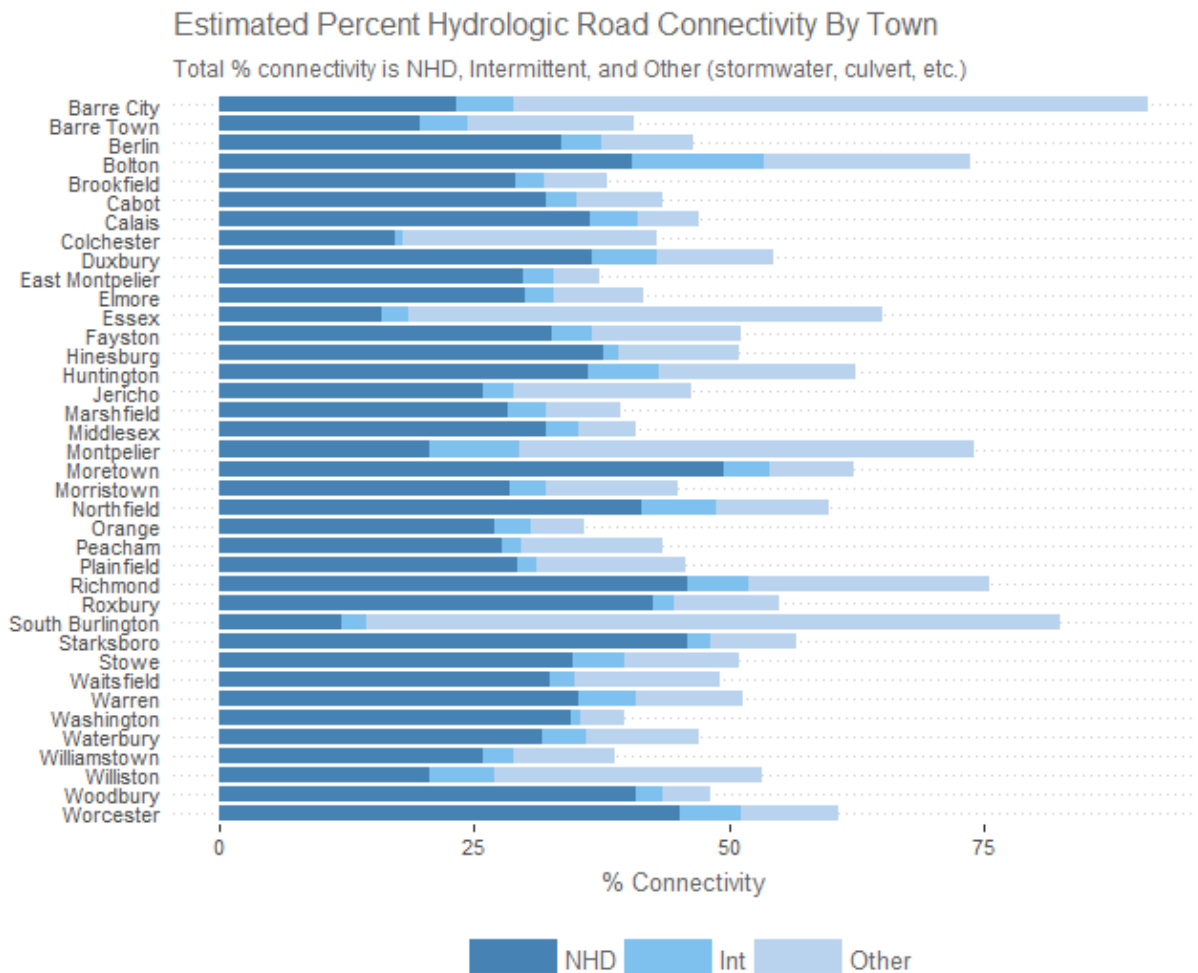
- 0.0 - 14
- 15 - 34
- 35 - 46
- 47 - 57
- 58 - 70
- 71 - 88
- 89 - 100

0 4 8 16 Miles

Town	Hydrologically connected municipal road miles	Town	Hydrologically connected municipal road miles
Barre City	49.3	Moretown	31.1
Barre Town	43.7	Morristown	48.4
Berlin	27.9	Northfield	51.6
Bolton	15.8	Orange	13.9

Town	Hydrologically connected municipal road miles	Town	Hydrologically connected municipal road miles
Brookfield	29.5	Peacham	30.6
Cabot	28.8	Plainfield	19.8
Calais	40.5	Richmond	39.5
Colchester	42.6	Roxbury	25.2
Duxbury	17.5	South Burlington	74.4
East Montpelier	24.7	Starksboro	27.5
Elmore	16.3	Stowe	50.1
Essex	80.8	Waitsfield	18.1
Fayston	20.9	Warren	27.5
Hinesburg	30.9	Washington	33.8
Huntington	29.6	Waterbury	27.9
Jericho	31.0	Williamstown	32.7
Marshfield	21.3	Williston	42.8
Middlesex	23.9	Woodbury	30.9
Montpelier	43.6	Worcester	15.0

Figure 23 Estimated percent hydrologic road connectivity by Town (NHD = National Hydrography Dataset = mapped perennial streams).



Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4)

The Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permit is a permit for municipalities with census designated urbanized areas and stormwater impaired watersheds. Under the MS4 permit, those designated municipalities will be required to develop a comprehensive phosphorus control plans (PCP) to achieve the percent phosphorus reduction for their respective lake segment, on all municipally owned or controlled developed land within the municipality. These municipalities will not need separate permit coverage under the Municipal Roads General Permit or the “3-acre designation,” (see below) as these requirements will be incorporated into the phosphorus control planning within the municipality. The PCPs will include requirements to inventory all municipally owned or controlled developed land within the municipality, estimate phosphorus loading from the owned or controlled developed land, and identify BMPs

and an implementation schedule to achieve the required reductions. VDEC has developed initial estimated TP loads from all developed lands within each MS4 municipality, as shown below in Table 28.

Table 28. Estimated loading from developed land categories for MS4 communities. Loading only represents portions of the municipality that drain to the Winooski Basin.

MS4 Municipality	Paved road (excluding VTrans managed roads) (kg/yr)	Unpaved roads (kg/yr)	Other developed lands (kg/yr)
Colchester	141.5	8.9	635.0
Essex	136.5	23.0	335.8
South Burlington	102.5	2.3	646.9
Williston	356.8	34.2	1535.5
Total	737.3	68.4	3153.2

Operational three-acre impervious surface permit program

The Stormwater Program will issue a general permit in 2018 that will include a schedule by which owners of three or more acres of impervious surface will need to obtain permit coverage. Following issuance of the general permit, the Program will identify and notify affected owners. An impervious surface will require coverage under the three-acre permit if it is not covered under a permit that incorporates the requirements of the 2017 Vermont Stormwater Management Manual (VSMM).

It is anticipated that the “three-acre impervious surface” program will address the developed lands phosphorus reductions necessary to achieve the TMDL that are not addressed by other developed lands programs. Once the program is implemented, this projection will be verified by tracking phosphorus reductions achieved through implementation. If additional reductions in phosphorus are required to implement the TMDL, developed lands permitting requirements may be adjusted accordingly, including requiring projects with less than three acres of impervious surface to obtain permit coverage.

An initial estimate of parcels containing three or more acres of impervious was completed by TetraTech, Inc. with funding from EPA (Table 29).

Table 29 Estimated three-acre parcels and associated impervious cover for Winooski Basin towns.

Town	Estimated # of 3+ acre parcels	Impervious acres
Barre City	12	74.3
Barre Town	14	98.1
Berlin	15	140.5
Bolton	5	33.6
Burlington	11	51.0
Cabot	1	11.8
Cambridge	2	2.6
Colchester	28	220.1
Duxbury	2	12.4
East Montpelier	3	25.8
Essex	39	286.2
Fayston	3	27.2
Jericho	2	32.1
Marshfield	1	5.2
Middlesex	5	21.7
Montpelier	11	56.1
Moretown	2	12.9
Northfield	2	34.9
Plainfield	2	10.1

Richmond	4	22.6
Roxbury	1	4.2
Saint George	1	0.3
South Burlington	20	245.8
Stowe	21	152.0
Waitsfield	3	16.0
Warren	6	31.2
Waterbury	11	72.7
Williamstown	3	14.6
Williston	45	326.6
Winooski	4	21.0
Worcester	2	9.6
Total	281	2072.9

The initial estimate of the three-acre parcel coverage will require additional screening by VDEC prior to notification of the affected parties. The analysis does not yet identify which impervious surfaces have permit coverage that incorporates the requirements of the 2017 VSMM. VDEC will also identify eligible impervious surfaces from existing permits that were not identified in the TetraTech analysis because the impervious surface is located on more than one parcel.

Controlling Phosphorus from Wastewater Treatment Facilities and Other Industrial Discharges

Controlling Phosphorus from Wastewater Treatment Facilities and Other Industrial Discharges

This section of the Phase II statement in each tactical basin plan is intended to provide additional information to readers regarding wastewater treatment facilities in the Lake Champlain Basin.

As of the issuance of this Plan, all facilities are presently operating under administrative continuance of existing permits, which were issued in conformance with the allocations in place under the remanded 2002 LC TMDL. The 2016 LC TMDL altered the allowable phosphorus discharge loads from several WWTFs that discharge to the North Lake Basin and are outlined below in Table 30.

As part of a necessary refinement of the facility-specific phosphorus wasteload allocations, WSMD, with assistance from certain municipalities, is conducting an extensive sampling effort to document the current loading conditions for phosphorus, and determine the “reasonable potential” that WWTP's have to cause or contribute to downstream water quality impairment. In addition, the approved 2016 LC TMDL presents a wasteload allocation for phosphorus loads, to which each facility in the basin will adhere (Table 21).

Table 30. Summary of permit requirements for the wastewater treatment facilities in the Winooski River Basin.

Facility (permit ID)	Permit expiration date	Planned permit re-issuance year	Design flow MGD	IWC* 7Q10 /LMM	Current permitted load (mt/yr P)	TMDL Allocated Wasteload (mt/yr P)	Current Percent of Design Flow (YEAR)	Treatment type	Number of CSOs	Receiving water
Barre 3-1272	9/30/2011		4.000	0.32/0.14	3.314	1.105		Extended aeration		Steven's Branch
Burlington – North 3-1245	9/30/2009		2.000	0.02/0.01	1.657	0.552		Activated sludge		Winooski River
Burlington – Riverside 3-1247	9/30/2009		1.200	0.01/<0.01	0.994	0.331		Activated sludge		Winooski River
Cabot 3-1440	12/31/2009		0.050	0.04/0.01	0.041	0.041				Winooski River
Essex Junction 3-1254	6/30/2009		3.300	0.03/0.01	2.569	0.911		Activated sludge		Winooski River
Global Foundries 3-1295	3/31/2020	2025	8.000	0.07/0.02	5.531	2.210		Sequential batch reactor		Winooski River
Marshfield 3-1195	9/30/2010		0.045	0.01/<0.01	0.311	0.311		Aerated lagoon		Winooski River
Montpelier 3-1207	9/30/2022	2027	3.970	0.08/0.03	3.290	1.097		Activated sludge		Winooski River
Northfield 3-1158	6/30/2010		1.000	0.20/0.08	0.829	0.276		Sequential batch reactor		Dog River

Facility (permit ID)	Permit expiration date	Planned permit re- issuance year	Design flow MGD	IWC* 7Q10 /LMM	Current permitted load (mt/yr P)	TMDL Allocated Wasteload (mt/yr P)	Current Percent of Design Flow (YEAR)	Treatment type	Number of CSOs	Receiving water
Plainfield 3-0381	6/30/2011		0.125	0.01/<0.01	0.691	0.138		Sequential batch reactor		Winooski River
Richmond 3-1173	9/30/2010		0.222	<0.01/<0.01	0.184	0.061		Extended aeration		Winooski River
So. Burlington – APPW 3-1278	3/31/2013		3.300	0.03/0.01	1.906	0.911		Activated sludge		Winooski River
Stowe 3-1232	12/31/2013		1.000	0.17/0.07	0.282	0.276		Sequential batch reactor		Little River
Waterbury 3-1160	12/31/2009		0.510	0.01/<0.01	0.563	0.141		Aerated lagoon		Winooski River
Williamston 3-1176	12/31/2022	2027	0.150	0.14/0.04	1.036	0.166		Aerated lagoon		Steven's Branch
Winooski 3-1248	12/31/2009		1.400	0.01/<0.01	1.160	0.387		Activated sludge		Winooski River

** Instream Waste Concentration – or the proportion of river flow at lowest base (7Q10) and low median monthly (LMM) flow attributable to discharge, for the facility design flow. Note that the IWC is specific to the flow of receiving water.*

Facility –specific information

Barre

Burlington – North

Burlington – Riverside

Cabot

Essex Junction

Global Foundries

Marshfield

Montpelier

Northfield

Plainfield

Richmond

So. Burlington – APPW

Stowe

Waterbury

Williamstown

Winooski

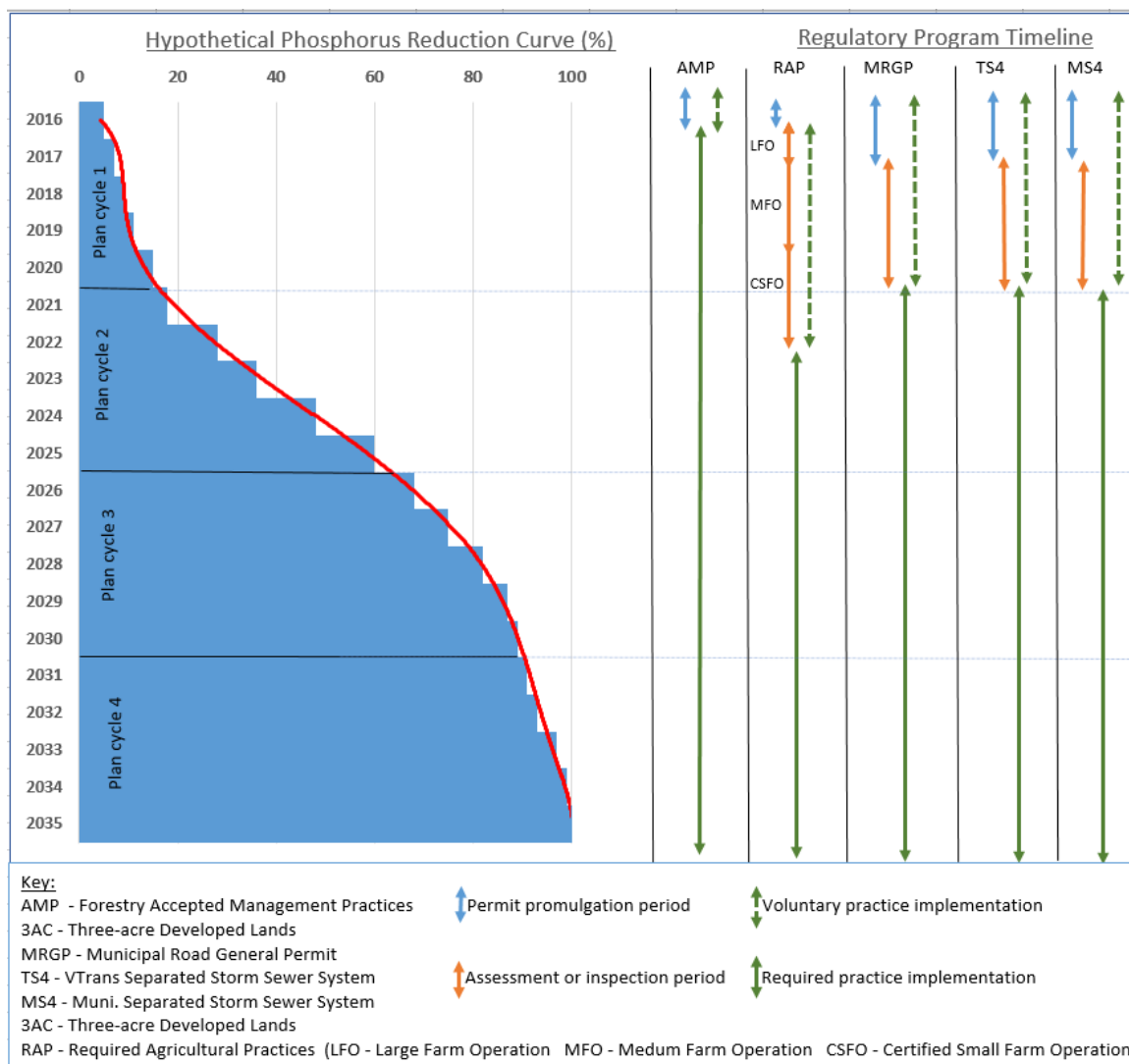
Summary

The information provided in the foregoing provides the best-available information regarding the locations of the Winooski Basin where phosphorus loading is modeled to be greatest. This information is provided by source sector and tied to the regulatory programs that are highlighted by Act 64 to compel phosphorus pollution reductions for each sector. An important consideration in the development of this modeling analysis is the pace at which the expected reductions may be achieved from any given sector. Generally, the Lake Champlain TMDL is envisioned to be implemented over a 20-year timeframe. Figure 24 provides a hypothetical representation of the pace at which nutrient reductions may be achieved, informed by the timelines during which each regulatory program is being put into place.

The capability for the State to compel reductions in the first five-year iteration of this tactical plan cycle is limited by the timelines set forth by Act 64 for the establishment and promulgation of the permit programs, and the availability of funding. In the first instance, the State cannot compel, for example, the reduction of phosphorus from specific municipal road segments, until: 1) that permit program has been established; 2) the municipality has applied for coverage under that program; and, 3) the municipality has completed their road assessment, and staged a plan for implementation based on the most effective phosphorus reduction efforts. Further, in order for those plans to be implemented, there needs to exist funding to support implementation of the specific projects. Figure 24 provides the timelines for permit promulgation, permit application and assessment/inspection, and implementation. These timelines do not, however, preclude any particular landowner or municipality from taking action sooner on specific projects, and many owners or municipalities have done so. The following link provides access to the database resources discussed in this Plan:

[VTDEC Watershed Projects Database and Tracking System](#)

Figure 24 Theoretical phosphorus reduction, relative to the load and wasteload reductions required by the LC TMDL. The timelines for regulatory programs are also shown.



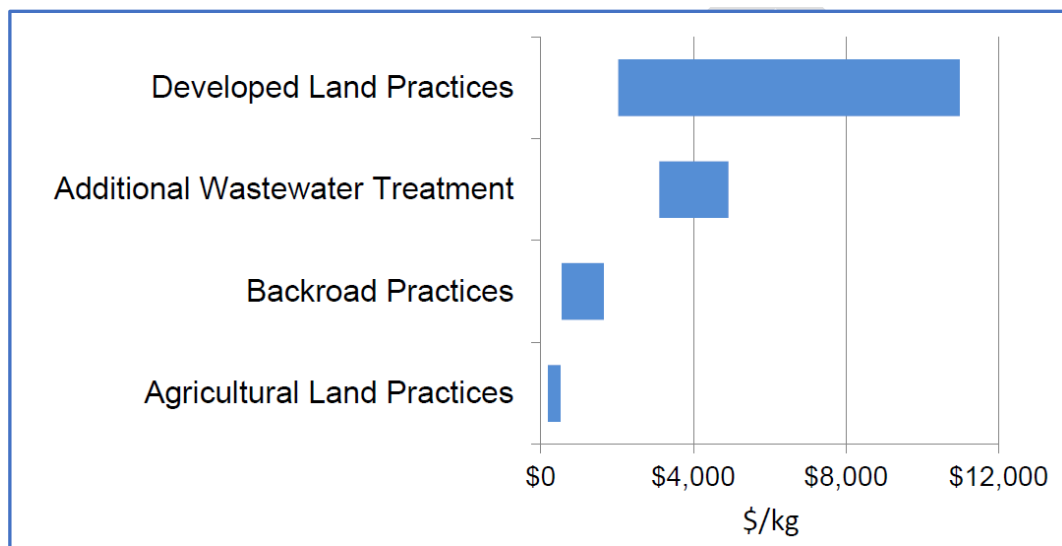
Regarding funding, this current tactical basin plan cannot yet articulate a precise estimation of the total cost of implementation to achieve the full completion of TMDL activities. However, the following information provides a cost perspective based on a statewide view of clean water funding needs, and a sector-specific estimated cost per unit reduction for phosphorus.

The [Vermont State Treasurer's report \(2017\)](#) describes the full costs of implementing Act 64 to achieve clean water for the entire State of Vermont. The total new 20-year total clean water compliance costs are projected to be \$2.3 billion. It recommends significant capital investment by the State over the next two years of \$50 million or more.

From the perspective of sector-specific costs, Figure 26, adapted from the Phase I Plan, presents useful practice-level cost estimates. These latter estimates indicate a gradient of cost efficiency, with highest efficiencies associated with agricultural practices, followed by roads, developed lands, and wastewater infrastructure.

Over the course of this tactical basin plan lifecycle, as projects are documented as a result of assessments, they will be entered into the implementation tracking system, and incremental, project-level costs can begin to be aggregated.

Figure 25. General costs of practices, by land use sector, expressed by kilogram of phosphorus reduced.



A robust phosphorus reduction tracking approach is being put into place to document implementation of on-the-ground practices and projects. The tracking system will be used to track the implementation of projects and will calculate estimated phosphorus reductions achieved by those projects. Pollutant reductions achieved by State-funded projects will be reported publicly in the Vermont Clean Water Initiative Annual Investment Report, as required by Act 64 of 2015 (see the [2017 report](#)). General progress implementing the Lake Champlain TMDL will be reported to the U.S. EPA on a five-year rotating basis, as required by the Lake Champlain TMDL Accountability Framework. TMDL progress will be measured based on estimated phosphorus reduced by projects, increase magnitude of clean water project outputs, and changes in monitored phosphorus loads to Lake Champlain. Project tracking will primarily focus on projects implemented through state and federal programs and through water quality regulatory programs. Additional projects will be tracked on a voluntary basis where data are available.

As of this writing, the modeling and projected phosphorus reductions shown by this Chapter are the best information available to Vermonters but remain a starting point. Future iterations of the Winooski Tactical Basin Plan will provide augmented specificity in regard to phosphorus reductions achieved, reductions planned, costs, and as appropriate, success stories documenting incremental water quality improvement.

Flood Resilience Efforts

As part of its effort to address climate change, the Agency is working with communities to enhance their flood resilience. Working towards resilience means both proactively reducing vulnerabilities to flooding and flood damage, and improving response and recovery efforts when flood events do occur, so that communities bounce back quickly from natural resource, social and economic impacts. Reducing vulnerabilities includes efforts to diffuse stormwater flows from buildings, over roads, especially in areas with slope and erodible material.

The importance of flood resilience was highlighted in the aftermath of tropical storm Irene and other recent flooding events across Vermont. Act 16, effective July 2014, requires municipal and regional plans to incorporate a “flood resilience” component.

Flood Hazard Regulations

VDEC’s efforts to help towns improving flood resilience has included mapping local flood hazard areas, identifying flood attenuation zones (including floodplains, river corridors, forests and wetlands) and recommending specific actions and policies to towns that will help protect these areas and reduce the risks facing existing development. All available information is located on VDEC’s [Flood Ready](#) website, including [River Corridor Protections Summary Report and Expanded Community Reports](#).

Figure 26 identifies the towns in the Basin that have adopted municipal river corridor and floodplain protection bylaws to date. Appendix D provides additional information on municipal level flood resilience and water resource protection.

All communities in Basin 8 have bylaws in place that allow them to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. X communities – have adopted standards to protect Special Flood Hazard Areas from new encroachments.

Because these communities acted to protect flood hazard areas at a time when river corridor maps were not yet available they are recognized as providing river corridor protection based on the best available data.

Under the criteria for Vermont's Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund (ERAF) the actions of the towns shown in Figure 26 as having adopted the bylaws to date, except Elmore and East Montpelier, are recognized as providing river corridor protection on an "interim" basis. The VDEC and RPCs will work with these towns, to assist them in meeting qualifications for permanent status, allowing them to receive enhanced cost share under the [Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund](#). Elmore and East Montpelier have met qualifications for permanent status.

Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Regional Planning Commissions may also help towns increase flood resilience through development of a Hazard Mitigation Plan. This may include adding in locations of hazardous waste sites within a river corridor. In addition, the locations of landslide prone areas, provide an understanding of potential landslide activities, which may also be used to plan to reduce infrastructure damage with proactive placement of new development.

The project was led by the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, working with the Agencies of Natural Resources and Transportation, Regional Planning Commissions, and consulting river scientists. The report was prepared by the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development in partnership with the Two Rivers-Ottawquechee Regional Commission using Federal funds under award 01-79-14251 from the Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

DRAFT

Chapter 4 - Management Goals for Surface Waters

The Vermont Water Quality Standards establish water quality classes and associated management objectives. The protection or improvement of water quality and water-related uses can be promoted by establishing specific management goals for particular bodies or stretches of water. The management goals describe the values and uses of the surface water that are to be protected or achieved through appropriate management. In Chapter 2 of this plan, a number of waters were identified as being notable high quality, and these, as well as other unique areas, may be candidates for establishing alternate management goals or augmented protections through one of the processes that are further described below.

- Opportunities for reclassification of waters.
- Identification of existing uses
- Opportunities for designation of Outstanding Resource Waters.
- Classification of wetlands
- Designation of waters as warm and cold water fisheries.

The Agency of Natural Resources is responsible for determining the presence of existing uses on a case-by-case basis or through basin planning, and is also responsible for classification or other designations. Once the Agency establishes a management goal, the Agency manages state lands and issues permits to achieve all management goals established for the associated surface water. Before the Agency recommends management goals through a classification or designation action, input from the public on any proposal is required and considered. The public may present a proposal for establishing management goals for Agency consideration at any time, while the Agency typically relies on the publication of basin plans to promote reclassification. When the public develops proposals regarding management goals, the increased community awareness can lead to protection of uses and values by the community and individuals.

Public involvement is an essential component to restoring and protecting river and lake ecology. The Vermont Water Quality Standards state that *“Public participation shall be sought to identify and inventory problems, solutions, high quality waters, existing uses and significant resources of high public interest.”* Emphasis on the identification of values and expectations for future water quality conditions can only be achieved through public contributions to the planning process. Additional information relating to management goals for surface waters is located in Chapter 4 of the [Vermont Surface Water Management Strategy](#) (VSWMS).

A number of rivers and streams, lakes and ponds, and wetlands in the Winooski River Basin currently achieve a very high quality of water and aquatic habitat and may also provide exceptional opportunities for swimming, fishing, and boating. In addition to protecting and improving water resources by managing stressors, there is the opportunity to protect surface waters by identifying and documenting this high quality and preserving those conditions or features through various classifications or designations. Several statewide references and reports available with descriptions of the exceptional ecological quality or recreational uses of Vermont surface waters. The Agency's [BioFinder](#), provides a statewide application identifying surface water and riparian areas with a high contribution to biodiversity.

Table 31. A list of designated uses that can be individually classified into each of the water classes in the Vermont Water Quality Standards

<i>Classification (2016)</i>	<i>Applicable Uses</i>
Class A(1)	One or more of Aquatic Biota and Wildlife, Aquatic Habitat, Aesthetics, Fishing, Boating, or Swimming may be classified to Class A(1) if the Secretary finds that it is in the public interest, pursuant to 10VSA1253d.
Class A(2)	Public Water Source
Class B(1)	One or more of Aquatic Biota and Wildlife, Aquatic Habitat, Aesthetics, Fishing, or Boating may be classified to Class B(1) when that use is demonstrably and consistently attained.
Class B(2)	Aquatic Biota and Wildlife, Aquatic Habitat, Aesthetics, Fishing, Boating, Swimming, and Irrigation are all to be supported at Class B(2) for all waters in the State not presently classified to a higher class. ¹⁸

Classification, and Recent Revisions to the Vermont Water Quality Standards

Since the 1960s, Vermont has had a classification system for surface waters that establishes management goals and supporting criteria for each use in each class of water (see Table 31). These goals describe the class-specific uses of surface waters that

¹⁸ Class B(2) management objectives and supporting criteria are the same as with the former Class B.

are to be protected or restored through appropriate management practices. The Agency works to implement activities that restore, maintain or protect the management goals.

Pursuant to Act 79 of 2016, the Vermont General Assembly, recognizing the wide range of quality for Class B waters, created a new intermediary water quality class between B and A, now called Class B(1). Act 79 also sets forth the expectation that individual uses of waters (e.g., aquatic biota and wildlife, aquatic habitat, recreation, aesthetics, etc.) may be individually classified, such that a specific lake or stream may have individual uses classified at different levels. Act 79 indicates that uses may be reclassified independently to Class B(1) if the quality of those uses are demonstrably and consistently of higher quality than Class B(2).

Through the tactical planning process, surface waters where one or more uses is of consistently and demonstrably higher quality than Class B(2) are to be identified, and proposed for reclassification to Class B(1) for the use(s) in question. Basin plans may also identify surface waters that merit reclassification to Class A(1).

The Vermont Water Quality Standards have been amended to account for this change. The new Standards feature four classes: A(1), A(2), B(1) and B(2), and have been restructured to clarify which the quality criteria pertaining to each designated use, by class.

With the exception of the waters listed below, all waters in Basin 8 are currently classified as B(2) for all designated uses.

- Waters above 2,500 feet in elevation, are classified A(1) by Vermont statute.
- The surface waters in Table 32 are currently used as water supplies and are currently classified as A(2) and are managed to be suitable for use as a public water source with disinfection, and filtration when necessary.
- The A(2) waters in Table 33 remain classified as public water supplies, but are abandoned and no longer used as such.

Table 32. Surface waters classified as A(2) that are managed as public drinking water supplies

<i>Surface Water</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Water Supply user</i>	<i>Water supply owner</i>	<i>Use Status</i>	<i>Lat./long</i>
Thatcher Brook and tributaries	Waterbury	Village of Waterbury		Active	
Unnamed tributary to the West Branch	Stowe	Village of Stowe		Emergency use only	
Thurman Dix, Lower Reservoir and tributaries	Barre Town & Orange	City of Barre		Active	
Consolidated quarries¹⁹ : Barclay #1 and capital quarries	Barre Town	Websterville	Fire District #3	Active	
Berlin Pond	Berlin, Northfield, Williamstown	City of Montpelier		Active	
Pecks Pond	Barre Town	Barre City	Barre City	Emergency Use via dry fire hydrant	

Table 33. Basin 8 waters no longer used as a water supply

<i>Surface Water</i>	<i>Location (Town/Lat.Long)</i>	<i>Former Water Supply Owner</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Unnamed tributary to Alder Brook	Essex	Winooski, Essex Center, Essex Jct., and Pinewood manor	No longer used
Martin Brook, Reservoir & Tributaries	Williamstown	City of Barre	No longer used and not owned by city. Thurman Dix reservoir is water supply with Jail branch as an emergency source.

¹⁹ In 2016 Vermont Water Quality Standards, referenced as “Standard & consolidated quarries”. The Old grant quarry, also referenced, is actually “Standard quarry” and this one quarry is proposed to be reclassified to B(2), while the Consolidated quarries remain as A(2).

Bolster reservoir and tributaries, excluding Pecks Pond	Barre Town (South Barre)	City of Barre	See above. No longer used and not owned by city
Unnamed brook and tributary	Barre Town	Old village of East Barre/East Barre Fire district #4	Use of Reservoir with dam is not feasible. Town uses wells.
Little John and Milne quarries (located southwest of East Barre Village).	Barre Town	Barre Town District #1 for Village of East Barre	Water was piped from quarries to above unnamed tributary. See above
Old granite quarry (Standard Quarry) located south of Websterville	Barre Town	Graniteville Fire District	Water was piped from quarries to above unnamed tributary. See above

Class A(2) to Class B

VDEC recommends that surface water supplies (Table 33) that are no longer used or intended for use as an emergency supply be reclassified from A(2) to B(2) in recognition of the greater level of protection conferred by this classification for aquatic biota and habitat, due to the preclusion of artificial controls that may be used to manage Class A(2) waters.

Class B(2) to A(1)

The management objective for A(1) waters is to maintain their natural condition. Through biological monitoring VDEC has documented that a 0.2 mile section of Bear Wallow Brook has the water quality sufficient to be proposed for designation as Class A(1) waters.

Subbasin	River	Town	Latitude	Latitude	
Mad River	Bear Wallow Brook (.2 miles located 100 meters above Forest Service Road crossing)	Granville	44.06027	-72.85457	

Class B(1)

The following list represents waters in which one or more uses are of demonstrably and consistently higher quality than Class B(2) waters, meeting criteria for reclassification to Class B(1).

Class B(1) for Fishing

The VT Department of Fish and Wildlife (VFWD) assesses wild trout populations and important nursery areas to document very high quality recreational fisheries, which are typically found in surface waters that which support diverse and complex physical habitats and cool water temperatures.

Waters with abundant wild self-sustaining salmonid populations supporting multiple age classes are identified below as “very good” or class B1 waters for recreational fishing. These waters support multiple age classes of trout totaling a minimum of 1,000 per mile (all species/ages/sizes), and/or 200 per mile > 6 inches (total length).

It should be recognized that wild trout populations vary widely from year to year and therefore an individual population may sometimes go below or greatly exceed these values (1,000 per mile, and/or 200 per mile > 6 inches (total length)) in any given year. The upstream and downstream extent of the stream classification should be based upon consistent or improving water quality, physical habitat quality and land use conditions, as per VDEC language for class A1 waters: “The length of river or stream reach to be recommended for reclassification shall be delineated by analyzing the extent of biological, chemical, physical habitat, and land use information available for the watershed. The decision to include tributaries to the river or stream under consideration will follow the same process.” The reach should include all upstream habitats which are deemed essential to sustain water quality and physical habitat requirements necessary to support wild salmonid populations at a very good level.

Other waters that have not been surveyed may also support similar wild trout densities and may be identified in the future. Certain noteworthy streams are also important to support spawning and nursery habitat and are noted below. Location data is provided for either the survey location or the downstream extent of the proposed reach.

Based upon fish population surveys conducted by VFWD very good fisheries (Class B1) exist in the following waters (Table 34) within the Winooski Basin, see also Figure 28.

Table 34. Basin 8 streams meeting criteria for very good fisheries (Class B1)

Subbasin	River	Town	Latitude	Latitude	
Upper Winooski and Small Tributaries					
	Winooski River (Above Lower Cabot)	Peacham	44.40153	-72.3137	
	Molly's Brook (Above Marshfield Dam)	Peacham	44.3705	-72.27	
	Kidders (aka. Hooker) Brook		44.37392	-72.261	
	Nasmith Brook		44.29974	-72.3876	
	Great Brook	Middlesex	44.23199	-72.4063	
	Jones Brook	Middlesex	44.24897	-72.6548	
	Crossett Brook	Waterbury	44.32805	-72.747	
	Thatcher Brook	Waterbury	44.3409	-72.7514	
Kingsbury Branch					
	Dugar Brook		44.39334	-72.4678	
Stevens Branch					
	Jail Branch	Barre City	44.10577	-72.4303	
	Gunners Brook	Barre City	44.20545	-72.5062	
	Stevens Branch	Barre City	44.13294	-72.5333	
North Branch					
	Martins Brook		44.35313	-72.6067	
	Herrick Brook		44.34628	-72.6092	
Dog River					
	Dog River Mainstem		44.24616	-72.5991	
	Felchner Brook		44.12513	-72.7158	
	Stony Brook		44.11922	-72.6817	
	Bull Run		44.11714	-72.673	
	Sunny Brook		44.12088	-72.6583	

Subbasin	River	Town	<i>Latitude</i>	<i>Latitude</i>	
	Robinson Brook		44.11606	-72.643	
	Union Brook		44.15772	-72.677	
	Chase Brook		44.20673	-72.6366	
Little River					
	Little River - West Branch		44.52389	-72.7747	
	Ranch Brook		44.5021	-72.7587	
Mid Winooski Tributaries					
	Bakers Brook		44.23333	-72.9633	
	Duck Brook		44.38365	-72.9253	
	Joiner Brook		44.37373	-72.8783	
	Mill Brook		44.45666	-73.0141	
	Preston Brook		44.37259	-72.9063	
	Ridley Brook		44.35719	-72.8279	
Mad River					
	Mad River (Above Warren Village)		44.175722	-72.661631	
	Bradley Brook		44.11949	-72.85795	
	Clay Brook*		44.13515	-72.895369	
	Rice Brook		44.138231	-72.891653	
	Mill Brook		44.194164	-72.889842	
	Chase Brook		44.178856	-72.884308	
	Slide Brook		44.167197	-72.887525	
	Shepard Brook		44.236758	-72.821114	
	Dowsville Brook		44.273039	-72.824189	

Class B(1) for Aquatic Biota

Based upon biomonitoring assessments conducted by the VDEC WSMD, the following surface water consistently and demonstrably attain a higher level of quality than Class B2, meeting Class B1 criteria for aquatic biota. See also Figure 28.

Table 35. Surface waters that currently meet water quality criteria for Class B1 for aquatic biota use

River	Town	Latitude	Longitude	Use
Dowsville Brook	Duxbury	44.267639	-72.818512	Confirm as Class B(1) for aquatic biota
Dog River – rm 14.8	Northfield	44.111159	-72.69204	Confirm as Class B(1) for aquatic biota
Guernsey Brook	Marshfield	44.305	-72.4077	Confirm as Class B(1) for aquatic biota
Nasmith Brook	Marshfield	44.277599	-72.377281	Confirm as Class B(1) for aquatic biota
Gold Brook	Stowe/Worcester	44.44772	-72.657722	Confirm as Class B(1) for aquatic biota
Nelson Brook		44.181599	-72.389236	Confirm as Class B(1) for aquatic biota

Existing Uses

All surface waters in Vermont are managed to support designated uses valued by the public at a level of Class B(2) or higher. These uses include swimming, boating, and fishing, aquatic biota, habitat, aesthetics, drinking water source and irrigation.

The degree of protection afforded to these uses is based on the water's class as described in Table 14. In addition, under the anti-degradation policy of the Vermont Water Quality Standards, if the Agency of Natural Resources identifies in a waterbody, a use, the existing condition of which exceeds its classification criteria, then that use shall be protected to maintain that higher level of quality. The Agency may identify existing conditions, known as existing uses, of particular waters during the tactical basin planning process or on a case-by-case basis during application reviews for State or federal permits. Consistent with the federal Clean Water Act, the Vermont Water Quality Standards have always stipulated that existing uses may be documented in any surface water location where that use has occurred since November 28, 1975. Pursuant to the definition of the new Class B(1) in Act 79, the Agency will identify an existing use at Class B(1) levels when that use is demonstrably and consistently attained.

It is the Agency's long-standing stipulation that all lakes and ponds in the basin have existing uses of swimming, boating and fishing. Likewise, the Agency recognizes that fishing activities in streams and rivers are widespread throughout the state and can be too numerous to document. Also recognized is that streams too small to support significant angling activity provide spawning and nursery areas, which contribute to fish stocks downstream where larger streams and rivers support a higher level of fishing activity. As such, these small tributaries are considered supporting the use of fishing and are protected at a level commensurate with downstream areas.

Based on the above paragraph, the existing uses identified by VDEC for the Winooski River Basin to date should therefore be viewed as only a partial accounting of known existing uses based upon limited criteria. The list does not change protection under the Clean Water Act or Vermont Water Quality Standards for waters not listed. Appendix F presents the current list of Existing Uses determined for the Winooski River Basin, while Table 11 identifies those surface waters where additional data will be obtained to demonstrate the consistent attainment of Class B(1) criteria for aquatic life and wildlife.

Outstanding Resource Waters

In 1987, the Vermont Legislature passed Act 67, “An Act Relating to Establishing a Comprehensive State Rivers Policy.” A part of Act 67 provides protection to rivers and streams that have “exceptional natural, cultural, recreational or scenic values” through the designation of Outstanding Resource Waters (ORW). Depending on the values for which designation is sought, ORW designation may protect exceptional waters through permits for stream alteration, dams, wastewater discharges, aquatic nuisance controls, solid waste disposal, Act 250 projects and other activities.

There are currently no ORW designated waters in Basin 8. Based on data collected by the Watershed Management Division, the VANR would support a community-led effort to petition the following waters as ORW:

- The Huntington River from the Gorge to the confluence with the Winooski (Richmond) due to outstanding recreational, aesthetic and cultural reasons. The Huntington Gorge and the river above and below serve as a major swimming destination for Chittenden County. The steep gorge, the waterfalls, and the forested riverbanks create a gorgeous setting. Culturally the gorge is a former mill site, with foundations remaining nearby.
- North Branch from Worcester Middlesex town line upstream to headwaters based on the river’s exceptional natural, scenic and recreational values. Numerous swimming holes, many surrounded by waterfalls, dot the river.

The Huntington Gorge on the Huntington River in Huntington is a natural candidate for ORW in consideration of spectacular aesthetic value and swimming use.

As part of the implementation of this tactical basin plan, the Department will evaluate the values of the Huntington Gorges for consistency with the features and values identified in prior ORW determinations. Surface waters that satisfy criteria for designation as ORW will be proposed for such designation through rulemaking Class I Wetland Designation

It is policy of the State of Vermont to identify and protect significant wetlands and the values and functions they serve in such a manner that the goal of no net loss of such wetlands and their functions is achieved. Based on an evaluation of the extent to which a wetland provides functions and values it is classified at one of three levels:

Class I: Exceptional or irreplaceable in its contribution to Vermont's natural heritage and therefore, merits the highest level of protection

Class II: Merits protection, either taken alone or in conjunction with other wetlands

Class III: Neither a Class I or Class II wetland

As part of the development of this tactical basin plan, several surface waters have been identified as prospective candidates for Class I, which are presented below. These wetlands have passed a cursory review by the Vermont Wetlands Program Ecologists. In addition, there are at least three wetlands that warrant study for Class I potential. These wetlands are listed below. As part of the implementation of this tactical basin plan, the Department will develop and implement procedures and documents to enable submission, evaluation, and implementation of petitions to classify wetlands as Class I. Those wetlands that satisfy criteria for designation may be proposed for such designation through Departmental rulemaking authority, and as consistent with the Vermont Wetland Rules.

Prospective candidates in Basin 8 for reclassification to Class I status include:

- Derway Island, Burlington. Owned by the Winooski Valley Park District, the 120-acre floodplain forest sits just south of the Winooski River just above the river's mouth. The wetland is listed in the *Wetlands of Outstanding Ecological Significance in Chittenden County*. Prepared by the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife, March 1992.

Wetlands in Basin 8 that warrant further study for Class I potential: Shelburne Pond, Essex Alder Brook (Essex and Milton), Upper Gleason (Duxbury), Berlin Pond (Berlin), Kettle Pond south (Marshfield and Groton), Lanesboro Bog (Marshfield) and Mud Pond (Williston).

Warm and Cold Water Fish Habitat designations

The following waters are designated as warm water fish habitat for purposes of the Vermont water quality standards along with the following ponds:

- Berlin Pond, Berlin
- Bliss Pond, Calais
- Coits Pond, Cabot
- Cranberry Meadow Pond, Woodbury
- Curtis Pond, Calais
- Gillett Pond, Richmond
- Harwood Pond, Elmore
- Molly's Pond, Cabot
- North Montpelier Pond, East Montpelier/Calais
- Richmond Pond, Richmond
- Shelburne Pond, Shelburne
- Sodom Pond, East Montpelier/Calais
- Valley Lake (Dog Pond), Woodbury
- Winooski River from Green Mountain Power Corporation #19, in Essex/Williston to its confluence with Lake Champlain – June 1, through September 30, only

No changes to warm water fish or cold-water habitat designations are proposed by this plan.

Chapter 5- Implementation: Protection and Remediation Actions

The Tactical Basin Plan addresses all impaired, stressed and altered waters (Table 4) in the basin as well as protection needs for high quality waters; however, the focus of the plan is the identification of specific priority actions to reduce nutrient and sediment loading in priority subbasins as part of the effort to meet the Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL goals. The list of actions cover future assessment and monitoring needs (Table 11), as well as implementation projects that protect or remediate waters and related education and outreach.

Action items are supported by the objectives in the [Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL Phase I Implementation Plan](#) as well as the Statewide Surface Water Management Strategy. The actions are located in the [Watershed Projects Database](#) and summarized in Table 37

The objectives and strategies specific to the plan are identified in Table 36. A summary (Table 37) of the [Watershed Projects Database](#) is intended to present a broad view of the over 600 individual project entries in the database. VDEC and its partners (Appendix A) will proceed to make progress in all areas of the summary table.

The process for identifying priority actions were the result of a comprehensive compilation and review of both internal ANR monitoring and assessment data and reports, and those of our watershed partner organizations (see Appendix A). The monitoring and assessment reports include, but are not limited to, stormwater mapping reports, geomorphic assessments, river corridor plans, bridge and culvert assessments, Hazard Mitigation Plans, agricultural modeling and assessments, road erosion inventories, TMDL reports, biological and chemical monitoring, lake assessments, fisheries assessments, and natural communities and biological diversity mapping.

The Watershed Projects Database, the Summary of the Implementation Actions (Table 37), along with Appendix A are resources to Basin 8 stakeholders in their efforts to pursue and secure technical and financial support for implementation of high priority projects. Together, these resources include location information, project description, the source of the project if an assessment supports the project, any partners that may have expressed interest in implementing the project, and potential funding sources. The database allows for the addition of new actions as VDEC identifies them with the assistance of partners. It is envisioned that the action items currently in the database as of the signing of the plan will be accomplished within the next five years as resources allow.

Table 36. Objectives of Tactical Basin Plan to meet goals for the plan

Plan Objectives	Focus Areas (not to exclude work in other areas)	Strategies
Implement agricultural BMPs	Winooski Main stem, Mad, Dog and Huntington rivers	Complete surveys of farm needs; Increase USDA funds through RCPP grant; provide case managers to operators to assist with resource assessment and applications; provide modeling analysis to identify most effective BMP
Manage Stormwater	MS4 entities, towns with stormwater master plans and road erosion inventories,	Identify projects through Stormwater Master Plan Assessments, Road Erosion Inventories; provide technical assistance to towns. Support municipalities in their work to develop and implement Flow Restoration Plans and Phosphorus Control Plans
Protect and remediate river corridors	Upper Winooski Main Stem, North Branch, Mad and Dog Rivers	Corridor protection Riparian buffer/ Floodplain restoration, dam removal, and review of permits to ensure adequate flows
Remediate logging roads and landings	Kingsbury Branch, Upper Winooski, Mid Winooski tributaries	Promote programs that protect riparian forests, identify old logging roads and landings for remediation with high erosion potential.
Restore wetland and floodplains	Great Branch	Work with TNC and USFWS to identify and restore candidates
Identify and Protect High Quality Lakes	Kingsbury Branch	Continue to collect monitoring data to confirm as high quality lakes.
Protect and remediate lake shorelands	Kingsbury Branch	Shoreland protection, education and outreach about shoreland restoration practices, contractor certification through the Natural Shoreland Erosion Control Certification program
Reduce the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species	Kingsbury Branch	Provide education and outreach to boaters to reduce spread; provide technical and financial resources to assist with spread prevention.

Increase knowledge of water quality conditions in the basin	See Table 11	Support watershed groups, NRCDs
Toxics	Lower Winooski	Encourage winter maintenance plans that reduce chloride use

VDEC will track progress through both implementation progress and monitoring results. Lake Champlain BMP Accounting and Tracking Tool (BATT) will be used to track implementation of projects across all sectors and apply an expected phosphorus reduction estimate to each. Over time, as projects are continually implemented, a more precise estimate of cumulative phosphorus reductions can be reported rather than relying on estimates of potential actions. Chapter 2 includes a description of monitoring programs available to VDEC.

In the instance that the pollution reductions are inadequate, based on the monitoring data, but the implementation progress is adequate, based on project tracking and modeling (Appendix B), adaptive management will be required.

With regard to education and outreach efforts, workshops and participants at events supported through the Act 64, will be tracked and reported in the [Vermont Clean Water Initiative Program annual report to the Legislature](#).

It is VDEC's goal to prioritize staff time and direct internal and external grant funding opportunities towards the recommended actions. These actions include all water media within the basin and all the spectrums of land use that could potentially impact water quality and aquatic habitat. It is our hope that these tables outline priorities that are realistic to implement over a five-year period, noting that there are many unforeseen variables, like landowner willingness and funding availability.

Table 37. Summary of Implementation Actions ([Watershed Projects Database](#)). The objectives (yellow)and strategies supporting priority actions in Basin 8. The on-going detailed list of actions can be viewed via [Watershed Projects Database](#))

Priority Subbasin	Priority Towns/catchments ²⁰	Strategies	Source	Stressor addressed	Partners ²¹	Funding (see also VSWMS Appendix D)
AGRICULTURE: Implement BMPs						
	Phase II priority catchments for agricultural land Table 17	Expand small farm NMP development courses and workshops, trainings for farmers, manure applicators and technical service providers	TMDL Phase I	Nutrients, pathogen	VACD, UVM extension,	
	Phase II priority catchments for agricultural land Table 17	Increase inspections in priority catchments/watersheds: target implementation based upon the results	TMDL Phase I	Land erosion, nutrients, pathogens	AAFM, FNLC, NRCD	
	Phase II priority catchments for agricultural land Table 17	Increase implementation in priority catchments/watersheds: 1.Provide farms with access to case managers to increase conservation practice implementation through participation in State and federal financial and technical assistance programs; 2 provide modeling analyses as needed to identify most effective BMPs	TMDL Phase I	Land erosion, nutrients, pathogens	AAFM, VDEC, NRCD	RCP ²² , USDA
	Phase II priority catchments for agricultural land Table 17	Increase technical assistance in priority catchments/ watersheds: Hire technical staff to work with farms to meet RAP and higher BMPs	TMDL Phase I	Land erosion, nutrients, pathogens	FNLC, FWC, NRCD, VACD	RCP, USDA
	Phase II priority catchments for agricultural land Table 17	Develop and pilot the Environmental Stewardship Program to incentivize additional practice adoption 2016 2020	TMDL Phase I	Land erosion, nutrients, pathogens	VAAFM	RCP, USDA
	Phase II priority catchments for agricultural land Table 17	Create grassed waterways program Target funding to critical source areas in coordination with partners	TMDL Phase I	Land erosion, nutrients, pathogens	NRCD	RCP, USDA

²⁰ High priority catchments identified in Phase II content which provides the highest phosphorus loading for a particular sector.

²¹ See Appendix A for additional description of partners

²² See Appendix E for State and federal funding sources

Priority Subbasin	Priority Towns/catchments ²⁰	Strategies	Source	Stressor addressed	Partners ²¹	Funding (see also VSWMS Appendix D)
	Phase II priority catchments for agricultural land Table 17	Evaluate additional BMPs that could be used on pasture land to reduce loading from this land use. Options to evaluate include prescribed pasture practices..Provide outreach to farmers to support on implementing prescribed pasture practices.		Land erosion, nutrients, pathogens	UVM extension, WNRCD, WNRCS, AAFM	USDA, ERP, ACAP, AAFM BMP
	Phase II priority catchments for agricultural land Table 17	Increase the availability of equipment available for rental or through custom operators to allow farmers to follow NMPs including equipment to measure crop yields, manure application rates, take soil samples, and to implement practices such as no till drills, manure injectors, tine weeder air seeders.		Land erosion, nutrients, pathogens	UVM extension, WNRCD, WNRCS, AAFM	NRCS CSP, ACAP, VHCB
	Phase II priority catchments for agricultural land Table 17	Develop equine specific programing including support for installing horse manure compost bins and making pasture improvements		Land erosion, nutrients, pathogens	UVM extension, WNRCD,	ACAP, EQIP, AAFM BMP
	Phase II priority catchments for agricultural land Table 17	Complete targeted water quality sampling on at least 3 farms to help identify source areas and evaluate nutrient reductions achieved through BMP implementation.		Land erosion, nutrients, pathogens	UVM extension, WNRCD, VDEC	VDEC LaRosa Partnership
STORMWATER: Reduce pollutants and volume						
Stevens Branch, West Branch	Williamstown, Stowe,	Provide technical assistance to identify and prioritize stormwater management projects. Use stormwater plan template developed by VDEC	TMDL Phase I	Land Erosion, Channel erosion, pathogens	VDEC, NRPC, FNLC	CWIP
Multiple	See Appendix C	Support implementation of high priority projects in stormwater master plans	TMDL Phase I	Land Erosion, Channel erosion, pathogens	VDEC, NRPC, FNLC	CWIP
Basin wide	See top 10 prioritized road projects in town road erosion inventories as well Phase II priority catchments for roads (Tables 23 and 24)	Help municipalities control runoff from gravel and paved roads: implement road assessment protocol to assist with prioritization; provide technical and financial resources to assist with implementation;provide guidance on implementation projects within 250 feet of lakes; implement Municipal Roads General Permit ,	TMDL Phase I	Land Erosion	NRPC, NVDA, VTrans, NRCD, VDEC, Municipalities	CWIP

Priority Subbasin	Priority Towns/catchments ²⁰	Strategies	Source	Stressor addressed	Partners ²¹	Funding (see also VSWMS Appendix D)
All	Phase II priority catchments for developed land, Table 22	Support municipal stormwater regulation adoption, include incorporation of LID and GSI practices; Implement “Three-acre” permit.	VDEC	Land erosion, nutrients, Channel erosion, pathogens	Municipality, NRPC, NVDA, VDEC, UVM Sea Grant	CWIP
		Implement six minimum control measures required in the State TS4 permit	TMDL Phase I	land erosion, channel erosion,	VTrans	VTrans
		Complete assessments necessary to support the development of a phosphorus control plan early in the next TS4 permit cycle	TMDL Phase I	land erosion, channel erosion,	VTrans	VTrans
See VTrans road erosion inventory (not completed yet)	Phase II priority catchments for paved roads (Table 23)	Intercept and treat runoff from agricultural and silvicultural land before it reaches VTrans right of way	VDEC	Land Erosion, Channel erosion, pathogens	AAFM, NRCS, WNRCD,	USDA, ERP
Stevens Branch	Barre city, Montpelier, MS4 entities	Support brownfields restoration efforts that mitigate surface water pollution generated from these sites.	VDEC	Toxics, Land Erosion, Channel erosion, pathogens	RPCs, towns	VDEC, EPA
Stevens Branch, Sunny Brook, Lower Winooski	Barre city, Montpelier, M34 entity	Provide winter maintenance strategies to businesses and towns to reduce use of Chlorides.	VDEC	Toxics	WNRCD, towns	LCBP
		Support education of private landowners on addressing stormwater (http://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wsm/erp/docs/VT_Guide_to_Stormwater_for_Homeowners_DRAFT.pdf)	VDEC	Land erosion, channel erosion		
RIVER CORRIDOR: Reach stream equilibrium and flood resilience						
See River Corridor plan table 7		Increase the number of river and floodplain restoration projects Re-establish connections to floodplains	TMDL Phase I	Channel erosion, flood resilience	VDEC, TNC	CWIP
Mid and Upper Winooski tributaries	Potential B1 for fishing watersheds	Replace geomorphologically and aquatic organism passage (AOP) incompatible culvert and bridges: RPCs work with towns to identify, add to capital budget, seek additional funding sources	DEC	Channel erosion, flood resilience	municipalities, RPC, Vtrans,	federal hazard mitigation funds, Municipalities, VTrans

Priority Subbasin	Priority Towns/catchments ²⁰	Strategies	Source	Stressor addressed	Partners ²¹	Funding (see also VSWMS Appendix D)
See River Corridor plan table 7	See WPD	Increase River Conservation Easements: support projects which incorporate channel management and riparian buffer Provisions in areas where protection does not otherwise exist.	TMDL Phase I	Channel erosion, flood resilience	VDEC, VRC, VLT	CWIP
	Towns with interim ERAF status	Enhance the Flood Resilient Communities Program with funding and technical assistance incentives for municipalities. Encourage towns with provisional ERAFstatus to meet current standards	TMDL Phase I	Channel erosion, flood resilience	VDEC, NRPC, NVDA	State of Vermont
All	All	Support studies to investigate benefits of removal of dams listed in Table 9 and where landowner interest exists, remove.	VDEC	Channel erosion, encroachment	VDEC	CWIP, LCBP, Watershed Grant
		Review status of other flow-altered waterbodies and, where necessary, take steps toward restoring more natural water level fluctuations and downstream flows	VDEC	Channel erosion, encroachment	TU, Watershed groups,	
See Landslide Inventory Map, 2017	Middlesex, Plainfield, Calais, Warren, Jericho, Bolton,	Assist towns in accessing and understanding use of the Vermont Geological Survey's landslide inventory to benefit Hazard Mitigation Plan as well as preventing landslides through protection	VDEC	Land Erosion, encroachment	RPCs	FEMA (for Hazard Mitigation)
FISHERIES HABITAT: Restore complexity and diversity (see also above for addressing AOP and temperature)						
Mad and Dog River		Remediate habitat in highly degraded areas and/or areas where extensive channel management occurred by adding woody debris	VDFW	Channel erosion	VFWD, TU, VTrans,	
Mid Winooski tributaries, Winooski headwaters, Mad River, Dog River, Huntington	See high quality waters map for potential B1 for fisheries watershed	Protect wq and riparian characteristics in subwatersheds that protect salmon and brook trout habitat (and walleye?) And using community interest in salmon and/or brook trout to engage community in watershed protection actions			TU	USFWS
FOREST MANAGEMENT: Abate soil erosion						
All	All	Identify eroding, abandoned and retired forest roads, skid trails and log landings to assist in identification of remediation projects	VDEC, TMDL Phase I	Land erosion	DFPR	RCPP
All	Phase II priority catchments for forested land (Table 16)	Prioritize work with landowners based on contribution of erosion features on logging roads to water quality impairment, use of roads to manage a sugarbush. Provide technical and financial assistance.	TMDL Phase I	Land erosion	State foresters, DFPR	RCPP

Priority Subbasin	Priority Towns/catchments ²⁰	Strategies	Source	Stressor addressed	Partners ²¹	Funding (see also VSWMS Appendix D)
All	All	Provide loggers with access to bridges to reduce floodplain encroachment and improve AOP, including renting portable skidder bridges or promote building and ownership of bridges by logging as part of their general practices. In addition, DFPR will continue renting larger temporary bridges, which provide a larger opening than the skidder bridge and can handle logging trucks.	DFPR	Land erosion, Channel erosion	Fontaine Lumber, DFPR, WNRCDs, VACD	CWIP
All	All	Enhance forest cover to improve watershed health by promoting the use of Ecologically Sensitive Treatment Areas for managed forest in current-use.	Phase I TMDL	Land erosion, Channel erosion	DFPR	
Winooski headwaters, North Branch and Kingsbury Branch	Berlin	Protect forestland through support of the working landscape as well as conservation to protect community valued ecosystem services. Use Vermont Cover to identify priority forest areas for protection, encourage towns to protect forested area in watershed of water supplies, direct outreach to landowners of large forested tracks under or eligible for current use	ANR, CVRPC	Land Erosion	CVRPC, FWR, VLT,	ACCD -VHCB programs; High Meadows(2017 grant)
WETLANDS: Protect and restore						
		Collect additional information on Shelburne Pond, Essex Alder Brook (Essex and Milton), Upper Gleason (Duxbury), Berlin Pond (Berlin), Kettle Pond south (Marshfield and Groton , Lanesboro Bog (Marshfield) and Mud Pond (Williston) to determine potential as Class I wetland	TMDL Phase I, VDEC	Protection	VDEC,	
Lower Winooski		Prioritize potential wetland restoration projects and floodplain restoration on agricultural lands for phosphorus retention and sediment attenuation. Use	VDEC	pathogens, land erosion, nutrients, channel erosion	VDEC, USFWS, TNC	USDA, RCPP, CWIP
LAKE and SHORELINE: Protect and restore						
Kingsbury Branch	Calais, East Montpelier, Woodbury	Promote the Lake Wise Program's online resources to encourage lake-friendly shoreline property maintenance	TMDL Phase I	Shoreline encroachment, land erosion	VDEC	LCBP, Watershed Grants, CWIP
All		Promote contractor and partner participation on the Natural Shoreland Erosion Control Certification Program				
Kingsbury Branch	Calais, East Montpelier, Woodbury	Incorporate materials specific to spiny water flea into signs, greeter program. Place spiny water flea spread prevention information at all lake accesses	VDEC	Aquatic invasive species	VDEC, lake associations	LCBP
		Support community's efforts to control Eurasian watermilfoil	VDEC, lake assn.	Aquatic invasive species	VDEC	AIS grant-in-aid program

Priority Subbasin	Priority Towns/catchments ²⁰	Strategies	Source	Stressor addressed	Partners ²¹	Funding (see also VSWMS Appendix D)
		Grow the access greeter program at Curtis Pond to include other local lakes	VDEC, lake assn.	Aquatic invasive species	VDEC	
		Assist development of a cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) volunteer monitoring program and response plan	VDEC	Land erosion, channel erosion	VDEC, VDH, LCC	VDEC, VDH staff time
	Buck, Pidgeon, Coits, Turtlehead	Recruit lay monitors for high priority lakes:			VDEC, residents	VDEC
Other						
Entire Basin	All	Review WWTF facilities in the Winooski Basin and issue permits that meet these new phosphorus limits. Support towns pursuing phosphorus optimization, expansion projects, and Upgrades	VDEC FED	Pathogens, nutrients	VDEC, municipalities	USDA-Rural Development, Clean Water State Revolving Funds
	All	Document the current loading conditions for phosphorus, and determine the “reasonable potential” that WWTF’s have to cause or contribute to downstream water quality impairment	VDEC	Nutrients	VDEC, towns	VDEC
Entire Basin	See Table 11	Monitor and assess surface waters to gain better understanding of condition and potential pollution sources, including internal phosphorus loading in lakes	VDEC	Pathogens, land erosion, channel erosion	VDEC, watershed groups,	VDEC including LaRosa Partnership Program, Lay Monitoring Program
	See Table 11	Conduct biomonitoring and/or water quality monitoring on streams that have met “very good” or “excellent” criteria to identify candidates for reclassification	VDEC	Protection	VDEC	VDEC

List of Acronyms

319 -Federal Clean Water Act, Section 319	RCPP - NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program
604(b) -Federal Clean Water Act, Section 604b	RMP -Vermont WSMD River Management Program
A(1) – Vermont Class A(1) water	RPC -Regional Planning Commission
A(2) – Vermont Class A(2) water	SGA -Stream Geomorphic Assessment - Tactical Basin Plan
AAP -Accepted Agricultural Practice	TMDL -Total Maximum Daily Load
ANR -Vermont Agency of Natural Resources	USDA -United States Department of Agriculture
AMP -Acceptable Management Practice	USEPA -United States Environmental Protection Agency
AIS -Aquatic invasive species	USFWS -United States Fish and Wildlife Service
AOP -Aquatic Organism Passage	UVM -University of Vermont
BBR -Better Backroads grant	VAAFM -Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets
BMP -Best Management Practice	VDEC - Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
CWSRF -Clean Water State Revolving Fund	VDFPR -Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation
CREP -Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program	VFWD – Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife
CWA-Federal Clean Water Act	VTrans -Vermont Agency of Transportation
CWI – Clean Water Initiative	VDH -Vermont Department of Health
DWSRF -Drinking Water State Revolving Fund	VGS Vermont Geological Survey
ERP – Ecosystem Restoration Program grant	VIP -Vermont Invasive Patrollers
EQIP -Environmental Quality Incentive Program	VLCT -Vermont League of Cities and Towns
EU -Existing Use	VLT -Vermont Land Trust
FEH -Fluvial Erosion Hazard	WSMD – VDEC Watershed Management Division
FERC -Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	
FSA -Farm Service Agency (USDA)	
FWD Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department	
GSI- Green Stormwater Infrastructure	
IDDE – Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination	
LID -Low Impact Development	
MAPP -Monitoring, Assessment and Planning Program	
NPDES -National Pollution Discharge Elimination System	
NPS -Non-point source pollution	
NRCD -Natural Resource Conservation District	
NRCS -Natural Resources Conservation Service	
ORW -Outstanding Resource Water	
PDM -Pre-Disaster Mitigation	
RAP – Required Agricultural Practices	
RCP -River Corridor Plan	

Toxics

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Glossary

Please see http://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/documents/WSMD_swms_Glossary.pdf

Winooski Tactical Basin Plan Appendices

DRAFT

Appendix A – Partners

All of the following organizations and agencies contributed to the development of the Winooski Tactical Basin Plan and/or will assist in the plan's implementation

<i>Group Name</i>	<i>Association</i>	<i>Description</i>
Regional Planning Commissions (RPC): Chittenden County (CCRPC); Central Vermont (CVRPC); Lamoille (LCPC); Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA);	Regional	Statutory partners to the basin planning process, and help towns to complete road erosion inventories, stream geomorphic assessments, and stormwater master plans in addition to helping towns update their regulations to protect water quality. As part of the implementation of Act 64 (Sec. 43), VDEC has contracted with RPCs to fulfill the specific roles and responsibilities around the development of tactical basin plans that should substantially enhance VDEC's ability to reach municipalities and other relevant stakeholders. Further, the contracted activities are developing augmented capacity in RPCs to support water quality protection and restoration.
Natural Resource Conservation Districts (NRC): Franklin County (FNRC); Winooski(WNRC).		Statutory partners to the basin planning process, playing a critical role in implementing actions identified in basin plans. They also partners with Regional Planning Commissions on stormwater master planning, river corridor assessments, and road erosion assessments. NRCs also work with the agricultural community to identify and assess natural resource concerns and implement farm BMPs to protect water quality.
Friends of the Huntington River and the Huntington Conservation Commission	Non-profit	A community group focused on reducing bacterial loads in the Huntington River. They support water
Friends of the Mad River	Local non-profit	A private, non-profit organization committed to protecting, improving and enhancing the ecological, recreational, and community values of the Mad River and its watershed
Friends of the Winooski River	Local non-profit	Their mission is to safeguard and enhance the natural resources of the Winooski River watershed in order to create a healthy balance with its human communities. The Friends support restoration projects, monitoring, partnerships, education and outreach.
Lake Champlain Committee	Local non-profit	A bi-state organization that is solely dedicated to protecting Lake Champlain's health and accessibility. The committee uses science-based advocacy, education, and collaborative action to protect and restore water quality, safeguard natural habitats and ensure recreational access. The program is also the home organization for the Lake Champlain Paddlers' Trail, providing a safe, recreational corridor for human-powered craft on the lake. The Lake Champlain Committee also leads citizen- based efforts to conduct blue-green algal surveillance and reporting for Lake Champlain and adjacent waterbodies. These efforts are coordinated with ANR and the VT Department of Health

<i>Group Name</i>		<i>Association</i>	<i>Description</i>
Lake Champlain Basin Program		Non-profit	a congressionally designated initiative to restore and protect Lake Champlain and its surrounding watershed. The program works with partners in New York, Vermont, and Québec to coordinate and fund efforts to address challenges in the areas of phosphorus pollution, toxic substances, biodiversity, aquatic invasive species, and climate change. The LCBP also administers the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership, which builds appreciation and improves stewardship of the region's rich cultural resources by interpreting and promoting its history
Lake Champlain Sea Grant		University	develops and supports research, outreach and education programs to empower communities, businesses and other stakeholders in the Lake Champlain Basin to make informed decisions regarding the management, conservation, utilization and restoration of their aquatic resources for long-term environmental health and sustainable economic development
Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC)		Statewide non-profit	The VYCC works on Class IV road projects by assessing and implementing BMPs in high risk areas. The role of the VYCC in helping to implement actions in the basin plan continues to evolve as funding and needs change.
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)		Federal	NRCS provides cost-share, technical assistance, and targeted support of agricultural best management practices. Additionally, NRCS provides funding and technical assistance for forestry and wildlife habitat projects.
Watershed Municipalities		Municipal	46 Vermont towns are located entirely or partially in the watershed: Municipalities can protect water resources through town plan language and zoning bylaws. Additionally, towns are responsible for managing large networks of roads, drainage ditches, and stream crossings.
VT Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) Internal Partners	Fish and Wildlife (VFWD); Forests, Parks and Recreation (VFPR); Environmental Conservation (VDEC)	State	All Departments within ANR (Fish & Wildlife Department, Forest, Parks, and Recreation, and VDEC) and Divisions within them, work collaboratively on a number of watershed assessment, restoration and protection projects. Additionally, FWD and FPR own and manage hundreds of acres of state-owned lands within the basin. Annual stewardship plans are prepared by District Stewardship Teams and includes staff from FWD, FPR, and VDEC. Long Range Management Plans of state-owned properties include restoration and protection of water resources.

Appendix B - Modeling Tools and Assessments for Identifying Remediation and Protection Efforts

<i>Tool</i>	<i>Description and Use</i>	<i>User</i>	<i>Info available in following format</i>	<i>Use/ BMP²³</i>
SWAT model	Model used to estimate phosphorus (P) loading in the Lake Champlain watershed. Discrete SWAT models were calibrated/validated for each HUC8 watershed and direct drainage. P estimates based on land use, soil type, slope, climate, and other variables. Used in development of the TMDL.	ANR, NRCS	Tables, figures, maps	Prioritize areas of high P loading; identify potential BMPs at watershed scale.
HUC12 Tool	Summary of SWAT P estimates by general land use sector. Reported at HUC12 (sub-basin) scale for each lake segment basin.	ANR	Tables, figures	Compare loading estimates across land use sectors at HUC12 scale.
EPA Scenario Tool	Used to evaluate scenarios for P reduction in the Lake Champlain watershed based on SWAT estimates of P loading and BMP efficiencies. Identifies potential load reductions based on the type and coverage of specified BMPs.	ANR – (LC P TMDL ²⁴)	Tables, figures, maps	Evaluate impact of various BMP implementation scenarios.
Clean Water Roadmap Tool (in development)	A partnership between VT DEC, Keurig-Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, the Nature Conservancy (TNC), and other stakeholders. The overall goal is to ‘map’ the results of the Lake Champlain SWAT model and associated follow-on products, especially EPA’s BMP Scenario Tool, along with management actions contained in DEC’s Tactical Basin Plan implementation tables and tracking systems. The CWR can be used to identify priority areas and actions for Lake Champlain phosphorus reductions.	by regional planners, the public, and VDEC staff	A map-based application that allows users to click on a specified watershed and receive a summary report of relevant best management practices (BMPs)	The CWR will provide a description of one way the Lake Champlain TMDL phosphorus reductions can be achieved, largely based on EPA’s reasonable assurance scenario.

²³ Best Management Practice

²⁴ Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL

Lake Champlain BMP Accounting and Tracking Tool (LC BATT)	The Watershed Projects Database tracks project implementation and the LC BATT calculates P loading reductions for implemented BMPs.	ANR (LC P TMDL)	Report	Track implemented BMP reductions relative to TMDL goals.
Prioritizing agricultural fields for BMP	Process that uses SWAT and associated tools to develop a list of priority P loading sectors at NHD+ catchment (sub-HUC12) scale. Identify potential BMPs and/or other management actions.	case managers; NRCS, NRCD; UVM extension	Maps	Identify priority areas and potential BMP implementation.
Prioritizing Riparian Buffer Enhancement	Combines NRCS estimates of buffer gaps with stream and watershed characteristics to prioritize riparian planting efforts.	NRCS, Partners that plant trees,	NRCS has developed for Rock and Pike River. Develop for other priority basins based on partner interest and data availability	Identify areas for riparian plantings
Field gully identification	Model framework that uses high-resolution elevation data to predict gully locations. Predicted gullies can be checked against aerial imagery and/or land use data to identify locations in agricultural lands. Under RAPs/ AAPs, farmers are responsible for addressing field gullies. Restorations of edge of field gullies may also be eligible for funding.	AAFM, case managers, NRCS	Maps	Develop for priority areas. Dependent on availability of LiDAR.

Floodplain restoration	Projects are identified using stream geomorphic assessment data as well as site visits to confirm conditions. Priority sites include high incision rate in stream channel, but small watersheds to limit amount of land needed to restore flood plain, which would be more amendable to agricultural landowners.	ANR	Develop for priority areas where hydrology significantly altered by ditching/tile drains; dependent on landowner interest	Flood plain restoration; two-tiered ditch
Wetland restoration	In 2007, Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) released the Lake Champlain Wetland Restoration Plan , which identified opportunities to restore wetlands and the benefits they provide. These sites are now being targeted by the NRCS Wetland Reserve Program. VDEC will create site profiles for high ranking wetland restoration sites. In addition, The Nature Conservancy will also provide resources for ecological restoration, including wetlands.	ANR, NRCS, USFWS	Maps	Wetland restoration

Road Erosion Risk Layer	A data layer on the ANR atlas which identifies road segments by erosion risk to surface waters as well as potential hydrologic connectivity. Road projects may be further prioritized by finding documented points of stormwater input to rivers using Stream Geomorphic Assessments. High priority road remediation sites will likely include hydrologically connected segments on steep slopes, where significant road-related erosion is present, and/or where road BMPs are currently lacking or insufficient.	ANR, municipalities, Vtrans	Data layer on ANR Atlas; list of priority road segments	Road BMPs include: grass and stone-lined drainage ditches, the installation of properly sized drainage culverts, culvert header and outlet stabilization, road crowning, regular catch basin clean outs and street sweeping, and addressing erosion from municipal sand piles. The Interim Guidance for completing municipal road erosion inventories and capital budgets 2016-2018 (June 2, 2016, VDEC Municipal Roads Program) outlines the steps for developing the list of priority road segments for remediation.
Culvert replacement and prioritization	Prioritization of municipal culvert replacement using VTrans culvert database. Criteria include structural integrity, conformance with geomorphology, and aquatic organism passage. The NRPC and NVDA both assist towns with prioritizing as well as financial budgeting through use of a capital budget. The VTrans culvert database will be provided to towns as a resource	Municipalities with help from RPC	List of culverts by town; prioritization based on aquatic organism passage	VTrans culvert database will be provided to towns as a planning resource.

Appendix C Winooski Basin Towns with Stormwater Master Plans/FRP

Chittenden County				Central Vermont Counties			
Town	SWMP / FRP †	Year filed	Projects Identified *	Town	SWMP Completed	Year	# of High Priority Projects Identified
Burlington	Centennial Brook FRP	2016	3	Barre City	Y	2017	5
Burlington/UVM	Centennial Brook FRP	2016	4	Barre Town	Y	2017	5
Burlington	Englesby Brook FRP	2016	29	Berlin	Y	2017	5
UVM	Englesby Brook FRP	2016	2	Cabot	N		
Burlington	Potash Brook FRP	2016	1	Calais	In progress	2018	
Colchester	Morehouse Brook FRP	2016	2	Duxbury	In progress	2018	
Colchester	Sunderland Brook FRP	2016	1	East Montpelier	In progress	2018	
Essex	Sunderland Brook FRP	2016	4	Fayston	In progress	2018	
Essex/UVM	Sunderland Brook FRP	2016	1	Marshfield	N		
Essex Junction	Sunderland Brook FRP	2016	1	Middlesex	N		
Colchester/VAOT	Sunderland Brook FRP	2016	1	Montpelier	Y		
Essex Junction	Indian Brook FRP	2016	7	Moretown	In progress	2018	
Essex	Indian Brook FRP	2016	4	Northfield	Y	2011	4
VAOT	Indian Brook FRP	2016	1	Orange	N		
Essex/EJ/VAOT	Indian Brook FRP	2016	2	Plainfield	Y	2017	5
Jericho	Town-wide SWMP	2017	21	Roxbury	N		
Richmond	Town-wide SWMP	2018	21	Waitsfield	In progress	2018	
Shelburne	Munroe Brook FRP	2016	33	Warren	In progress	2018	
VAOT	Munroe Brook FRP	2016	2	Washington	N		
South Burlington	Barlett Brook FRP	2016	15	Waterbury	N		
UVM	Barlett Brook FRP	2016	2	Williamstown	N		
VAOT/private	Barlett Brook FRP	2016	1	Woodbury	In progress	2018	
South Burlington	Centennial Brook FRP	2016	5	Worcester	N		
So.Burl / BTV	Centennial Brook FRP	2016	8				
So.Burl / VAOT	Centennial Brook FRP	2016	3				
So.Burl/Burl./UVM	Centennial Brook FRP	2016	1				
South Burlington	Englesby Brook FRP	2016	3				
South Burlington	Potash Brook FRP	2016	97				
UVM	Potash Brook FRP	2016	3				
BTV Airport	Potash Brook FRP	2016	1				
VAOT	Potash Brook FRP	2016	6				
Underhill	Town-wide SWMP	2018	20				
Williston	Allen Brook FRP	2016	30				
Winooski	Morehouse Brook FRP	2016	8				

* town-wide SWMP projects could include more than 1 watershed

† Flow Restoration Plan (FRP) projects identified refer to locations; may need more than one "project" at location

Also, some FRP projects may have already been designed or completed as of March 2018

Appendix D –Status of flood resilience and water quality protection at municipal level

Chittenden County							
Green = muni proofread data	Status	Bolton	Buels Gore	Burlington	Colchester	Essex	Essex Jnctn
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)	Enrolled?	Y	Not required	Y	Y	Y	Y
Road and Bridge Standards	Adopted?	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)	Adopted?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
River Corridor Protection	Adopted?	Early Adopter	N	N	Early Adopter	Early Adopter	Early Adopter
Comments on River Corridor Protection		reluctant to adopt VTRANS Muni Road & Bridge stand'ds = cost	no floodplain, minimal RC, no incentive to adopt		Also designated CRS community		
ERAF	Percent	7.5	12.5	12.5	17.5	17.5	17.5
Flood Hazard By-law	Adopted?	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Comment	Y	No (see row 7)	Y	Y	y	Y
Flood Resilience in Town Plan	Completed?	Yes	In process	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Comment		Plan expired in 2012; CCRPC staff are drafting a new one.				
Municipal By-law or Zoning District for Water Resource Setback	River/Stream	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y
	Comment	Winooski River has a 150 ft setback. Named Stream/brook has a 100 ft setback. or streams has a 50 ft setback.		Named Streams has a 100 ft setback. minor streams has a 50 ft setback. Winooski River has a 250 ft setback.	River = 250 ft setback. Streams = 85 ft setback. NOTE: 250 ft back from mean water mark on Winooski & Lamoille River creates no-build buffer 100 ft fr mean water mark.	Streams has a 50 ft setback.	Streams has a 50 ft setback.
	Wetland	Y		Y	Y	Y	
	Comment	50 ft		Wetland has a 100 ft setback.	50 ft setback.	Class II wetlands has a 50 ft setback.	
	Lake/Pond	Y		Y	Y	Y	
	Comment	Named Pond = 200 ft setback. or pond = 50 ft setback.		Lake Champlain = 250 ft setback. minor lake/pond = 50 ft setback.	Lake, Pond = h 250 ft setback.	Lakes/Ponds/Reservoirs over .5 ac = 150 ft setback.	

Chittenden County					
Green = muni proofread data	Hinesburg	Huntington	Jericho	Richmond	St. George
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Road and Bridge Standards	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
River Corridor Protection	Early Adopter	N	Early Adopter	Early Adopter	N
Comments on River Corridor Protection	has some FEH (Nt RC) overlay already	RC provisions in proposed 2018 revisions to bylaws	FEH areas included in town's River District		Working with VDEC and FEMA towards NFIP and RCP in 2018
ERAF	17.5	12.5	17.5	17.5	7.5
Flood Hazard By-law	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
	Y	Yes, updating zoning bylaws in 2018	Y	Y	Working with VDEC and FEMA towards NFIP and RCP in 2018
Flood Resilience in Town Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes	In process	In process
				re was a flood resilience element in 2012 plan, which is now expired. town is in process of updating ir plan and CCRPC staff have assisted with flood resilience sections.	Plan expired in 2012; CCRPC staff are working with town on flood resilience updates to meet statutory requirements and reflect ir pursuit of NFIP participation
Municipal By-law or Zoning District for Water Resource Setback	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Outside Village District, streams have 75 ft setback for new structures but vegetation mgt. is not addressed. Village District: has stream buffer provisions combined with stream setbacks in village growth area. In se areas stream buffers have greater protection re how vegetation is managed.- LaPlatte River and Patrick Brook – 100' on eir side. Village District - Streams in developed areas – 25' on eir side (see map), unless waived by DRB, see below.	Huntington River has a 100 ft setback. Named Streams has a 50 ft setback.	35-ft 1st order, 50-ft 2nd order, 100-ft 3rd order	Winooski, Huntington Rivers 50 ft. setback. or rivers, brooks & ponds has a 50 ft setback.	Streams has a 50 ft setback.
	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Chittenden County					
	Wetlands & assoc. buffer areas (per State of VT) protected in 2 large rural districts (AG and RR2 – 80% of town) from certain types of development – i.e., subdivisions and projects requiring site plan review. See §5.26 of Zoning & §6.12 of Subdiv. Regs.		25-ft Class III, 50-ft Class II, 100-ft Class I	Class II wetlands has a 50 ft setback.	class II wetlands has a 50 ft setback.
	Y		N	Y	
	Lake/Pond has a 75 ft setback. Outside of Village District			Gillette Pond & Lake Iroquois = 50 ft setback. or rivers, brooks & ponds = 50 ft setback.	

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Chittenden County						
Green = muni proofread data	Shelburne	So. Burlington	Underhill	Westford	Williston	Winooski
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Road and Bridge Standards	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
River Corridor Protection	Early Adopter	Early Adopter	N	Early Adopter	Early Adopter	Early Adopter
Comments on River Corridor Protection		considering RC or RCPA in 2018	considering RC or RCP in 2018	working on combined RC and RCPA overlay district	considering RC or RCPA	considering RC or RCPA over next few years
ERAF	17.5	17.5	12.5	17.5	17.5	17.5
Flood Hazard By-law	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Flood Resilience in Town Plan	Y	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Town staff are aware of need to strengthen Fluvial Erosion discussion in next draft of plan, which will be adopted 2019					Plan drafting beginning. 2014 Plan-City staff and PC aware of need to increase discussion of fluvial erosion. In flood resilience section
Municipal By-law or Zoning District for Water Resource Setback	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
	LaPlatte, McCabe's and south branch Munroe has a 100 ft setback. North branch Monroe & tribs has a 50 ft setback.	Muddy and Potash Brook has a 100 ft setback. Minor streams has a 50 ft setback.	25-ft for all rivers and 50-ft from TOB or 100-ft from TOS for Selected Rivers: Beaver Brook, Settlement Brook, Crane Brook, Roaring Brook, Seymour River, Harvey Brook, Stevensville Brook, Mill Brook, Clay Brook, and Brown's river	Water Resource Overlay District =50 ft for 1st order stream & 100 ft. for all or streams, rivers, class 2 wetlands, etc. Ponds= same buffer as associated waterway	Named Rivers and Brooks has a 150 ft setback. unnamed streams has a 50 ft setback.	
	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
	Wetlands has a 500 ft setback.	wetlands has a 50 ft setback.	25-ft Class III, 50-ft Class II, 100-ft Class I	Yes, 100 ft. per WRO	Class II wetlands has a 50 ft setback.	

Chittenden County						
	Y	Y	N	Yes, 100 ft. per WRO	Y	
	Shelburne Pond =s a 500 ft setback. Lake Champlain = a 100 ft setback.	Lake Champlain has a 150 ft setback.			Lake Iroquois has a 250 ft setback.	

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Lamoille County				
	Status	Elmore	Morristown	Stowe
Town Plan rewrite timeframe		2017-2018, have started update process	Last Plan update August 2016. Next Plan update 2023-2024	Last updated June, 2015, next update 2019-2020
New Zoning adoption scheduled		Adopted revised subdivision regulations and River Corridor Bylaws in January, 2017. Town is applying for an FY 18 Municipal Planning Grant to re-format/ further update zoning bylaws and subdivision regulations with an emphasis on forest fragmentation.	Zoning and Subdivision Bylaws last updated June, 2017	Zoning Regulations last updated June 2017. Subdivision Regulations last updated June 2012.
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)	Enrolled?	Y	Y	Y
Adopted new Road and Bridge Standards (2013)	Adopted?	Y	N. LCPC has conducted outreach through TAC and directly to Town staff, Road Foreman, Town officials, but adopting these standards are too cost prohibitive for the Town. LCPC continues to outreach and work with Road Foreman/public works on providing guidance to implementing MRGP standards.	N. LCPC has conducted outreach through TAC and directly to Town staff, Road Foreman, Town officials, but adopting these standards are too cost prohibitive for the Town. LCPC continues to outreach and work with Road Foreman/public works on providing guidance to implementing MRGP standards.
Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)	Adopted?	Y	Y (Valid through October 2017) Town was approached regarding assistance for 2017 update but did not show interest. LCPC brought this issue up to the Town again fall of 2017 and noted PDM funding opportunities. LCPC put Town contacts in touch with the State Hazard Mitigation Planner. Town expressed interest in being part of the 2017 State PDM grant to update the Morristown Hazard Mitigation Plan.	Y (re-adopted and approved in 2017)
River Corridor Protection	Adopted?	Y	N	Y
Comments		50-ft or more setback for streams	Stream setback varies by district, generally 50-ft	Adopted Fluvial Erosion Hazard Overlay District. Bylaws last updated in 2017.
ERAF	Percent	17.5	7.5	7.5
Flood Hazard By-law	Adopted?	Y	Y	Y
	Comment	Updated Flood Hazard Regulations to include River Corridor Overlay language. River Corridor Bylaws adopted in January, 2017.	Zoning Bylaws last updated June, 2017	Flood Hazard Bylaws updated during 2017 Zoning Regulations update.
Flood Resilience in Town Plan	Completed?	N	Y	Y
	Comment	Part of 2017-2018 Town Plan update. LCPC will be assisting the Elmore Planning Commission with meeting Flood Resilience Element requirements.	Included in 2016 Town Plan update	Flood Resilience Plan included in 2015 Town Plan update.

Lamoille County				
	Status	Elmore	Morristown	Stowe
Municipal By-law or Zoning District for Water Resource Setback (provide needs assessment for outreach and technical assistance along with appropriate partner)	River/Stream buffer	Y	Y	Y
	Comment	50 feet. Larger setback for steep slopes (additional 2ft buffer for every 1% increase in slope above 15% when within 500ft of river/stream/wetland)	varies by district, generally 50 ft	50 feet setback from watercourses.
	Wetland	Y	Y	Y
	Comment	50 feet. Larger setback for steep slopes (additional 2ft buffer for every 1% increase in slope above 15% when within 500ft of river/stream/wetland)	50 feet	50 feet setback from watercourses
	Lake/Pond	Y	Y	Y
	Comment	Local deligation for VT shoreline protection act. Regulates activities within 250 feet of the mean water level of lakes greater than 10 acres in size (Lake Elmore).Vegetative cover within 100 feet of the mean water level must be managed according to the Vegetation Protective Standards. The Remote Area Overlay District is located east of Route 12, in the southeast section of town. Within the District development is restrictd in areas a substantial distance from existing public roads and public services. Permitted uses in the RAO District are forestry, agriculture and passive recreation.	varies by district, generally 50 ft	Shoreland District:no development within two hundred (200') feet of the mean water mark of Lake Mansfield and any form of development within five hundred (500') feet of the mean water mark must be reviewed by the DRB for approval of a conditional use permit in addition to the existing zoning.

Central VT counties	Status	Barre City	Barre Town	Berlin	Cabot	Calais	Duxbury	E. Montpelier	Fayston
Town Plan rewrite timeframe (expiration date)		Jun-19	May-19	expired	Aug-25	Feb-24	Oct-19	expired	Oct-19
New Zoning adoption scheduled				draft zoning dated May 20, 2016 includes increased protections for all riparian areas	draft zoning regulations dated August 2014 include flood hazard and increased protections				
National Flood Insurance	Enrolled?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Central VT counties Program (NFIP)	Status	Barre City	Barre Town	Berlin	Cabot	Calais	Duxbury	E. Montpelier	Fayston
Road and Bridge Standards	Adopted?	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)	Adopted?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
River Corridor Protection	Adopted?	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Comments									
ERAF	Percent	7.5	12.5	12.5	17.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	17.5
Flood Hazard By- law	Adopted?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Comment	Stand alone Flood Hazard Area Regulations	Section 5.8 Flood Hazard Area Development. Regulations buried within the development review section of the zoning regulations.		Flood Hazard regulations not included in current zoning and not posted on town website - status?	Table 2.7 Flood Hazard Overlay	Section 7 Flood Hazard Overlay District	Article 9 Flood Hazard Regulations	Table 2.7 Flood Hazard Overlay District
Flood Resilience in Town Plan	Completed?	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
	Comment	in progress						in progress	
Municipal By-law or Zoning District for Water Resource Setback (provide needs assessment for outreach and technical assistance along with	River/Stream buffer	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y
	Comment		Section 3.11 - 50 ft buffer on streams, ponds and wetlands (class I and II)	75 FT		Section 3.14 - Surface Water Protection - on all lakes, ponds, streams, rivers and wetlands. Buffers of 50 ft - 20 ft (on un named streams)		Section 3.12 Protection of Water resources applies to surface waters and wetlands as identified on towns water resource map. 25 ft - 50 ft dependent on development type.	Section 3.13 Streams and Wetlands section. 50 ft. Plus Table 2.2 Soil and Water Conservation District purpose to protect water resources.
	Wetland	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y

Central VT
counties
appropriate
partner)

Status

Comment

Lake/Pond

Comment

Barre City	Barre Town	Berlin	Cabot	Calais	Duxbury	E. Montpelier	Fayston
	Section 3.11 - 50 ft buffer on streams, ponds and wetlands (class I and II)	50 FT		Section 3.14 - Surface Water Protection - on all lakes, ponds, streams, rivers and wetlands. Buffers of 50 ft - 20 ft (on un named streams)		Table 2.6 Conservation Overlay Districts include Wetland Overlay District. 50 ft.	Section 3.13 Streams and Wetlands section. 50 ft
N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
	Section 3.11 - 50 ft buffer on streams, ponds and wetlands (class I and II)	Highland Conservation District plus the Rural Res District's purpose statements include references to protecting wetlands and surface waters. Also see Section 3.14 Stream Protection	Section 4.4 Shoreland District includes 75 ft, 50 ft or 25 ft setback from pond dependent on use or development type.	Section 3.14 - Surface Water Protection - on all lakes, ponds, streams, rivers and wetlands. Buffers of 50 ft - 20 ft (on un named streams). ALSO Table 2.4 Shoreland District - purpose to protect surface waters.		Section 3.12 Protection of Water resources applies to surface waters and wetlands as identified on towns water resource map. 25 ft - 50 ft dependent on development type.	

Central VT Counties	Status	Marshfield	Middlesex	Montpelier	Moretown	Northfield	Orange	Plainfield	Roxbury
Town Plan rewrite timeframe (expiration date)		expired	Mar-18	Dec-25	Jan-24	Sep-19	May-18	Feb-19	Jun-19

Central VT Counties		Status	Marshfield	Middlesex	Montpelier	Moretown	Northfield	Orange	Plainfield	Roxbury
New Zoning adoption scheduled					proposed regulations in hearing process - may include increased protections?				draft revised zoning regulations incorporate river corridor into flood hazard overlay district.	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)	Enrolled?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Road and Bridge Standards	Adopted?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)	Adopted?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
River Corridor Protection	Adopted?	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Comments						Included within Article V Floodplain Zoning Regulations				
ERAF	Percent Adopted?	7.5	17.5	12.5	12.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5
Flood Hazard By-law		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Comment	Section 440 Flood Hazard District	Table 2.7 Flood Hazard Overlay District	Section 309 Floodplain Development	Table 2.5 Flood Hazard Overlay District	Article V Floodplain Zoning Regulations	No Zoning. Stand alone Inundation Hazard Areas Regulations . Goes above NFIP minimum, no new structures in floodplain, does allow from small accessory structures.	Stand alone Inundation hazard Area Regulation. Goes above NFIP minimum, no new structures in floodplain, does allow from small accessory structures.	No Zoning. Stand alone Flood Hazard Area Ordinance .	
Flood Resilience in Town Plan	Completed?	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
	Comment	in progress								
Municipal By-law or	River/Stream buffer	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N

Central VT Counties	Status	Marshfield	Middlesex	Montpelier	Moretown	Northfield	Orange	Plainfield	Roxbury
Zoning District for Water Resource Setback (provide needs assessment for outreach and technical assistance along with appropriate partner)		75 ft to 125 ft dependent on bank slope. Water Conservation Overlay District which purpose is to protect surface waters on all streams and on ponds over 5 acres.		Section 715 Rivers, Streams and Rivers/Stream Bank section includes "sufficient setbacks" but doesn't specify	Section 4.11 Protection of Streams, Stream banks and Wetlands includes 25 ft +	Section 603 Conservation and Forestry District includes 100ft setback on any brook or stream. Section 607 Mill Hill Industrial/Commercial District includes 50 ft from edge of stream.		Section 3.14 Construction along Watercourses , Waterbodies, and Scenic Roads include 50 ft setback from stream, brook or pond.	
	Comment Wetland	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N
					Section 4.11 Protection of Streams, Stream banks and Wetlands includes 50 ft from class II, 100 ft from class I				
	Comment Lake/Pond	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N
	Comment	75 ft to 125 ft dependent on bank slope. Water Conservation Overlay District which purpose is to protect surface waters on all streams and on ponds over 5 acres.	Section 3.9 Protection of Water Resources . 25-75 ft.					Section 3.14 Construction along Watercourses , Waterbodies, and Scenic Roads include 50 ft setback from stream, brook or pond.	

Status		Warren	Washington	Waterbury	Williamstown	Woodbury	Worcester
Town Plan rewrite timeframe (expiration date)		expired	Nov-18	Dec-18	Apr-24	expired	expired
New Zoning adoption scheduled							
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)	Enrolled?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Road and Bridge Standards	Adopted?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)	Adopted?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
River Corridor Protection	Adopted?	Y	N	N	N	N	Y
Comments		Table 2.14 Fluvial Erosion Hazard Overlay District					Included within stand alone Flood Hazard Area Regulations.
ERAF	Percent	17.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	7.5	17.5
	Adopted?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Flood Hazard By-law	Comment	Table 2.14 Flood Hazard Overlay District. Goes above NFIP minimum, no new structures in floodplain, does allow from small accessory structures.	Stand alone Flood Hazard Area regulations (should be updated)	Article VI Flood Hazard Area Regulations and Overlay District	No zoning. Stand alone Flood Hazard Area Bylaws (should be updated)	Should be a stand alone documents, not included in zoning. Can not find document.	No zoning. Stand alone Flood Hazard Area Regulations.
Flood Resilience	Completed?	N	N	N	Y	N	N
	Comment	in progress				in progress	in progress

in Town Plan	Status	Warren	Washington	Waterbury	Williamstown	Woodbury	Worcester
	River/Stream buffer	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
Municipal By-law or Zoning District for Water Resource Setback (provide needs assessment for outreach and technical assistance along with appropriate partner)							
	Comment	Section 3.13 Surface Water Protection includes 50 ft setback.	Section C applies to streams, rivers and shores of naturally occurring lakes and ponds. 50 ft setback.				
	Wetland	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
	Comment	Section 3.13 Surface Water Protection includes 50 ft setback.	Section B wetlands includes 50 ft setback.				
	Lake/Pond	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N

Status	Warren	Washington	Waterbury	Williamstown	Woodbury	Worcester
Comment	Section 3.13 Surface Water Protection includes 50 ft setback on ponds over 1 acre.	Section C applies to streams, rivers and shores of naturally occurring lakes and ponds. 50 ft setback.		Williamstown does not have zoning regulations, except those for the special hazard flood zones	Section 4.3 Shoreland District applies to all lakes and ponds which are 20 acres or larger, includes setbacks from brooks, streams and wetlands 50-100 ft and other setbacks for other activities.	

Appendix E - Regulatory and Non-Regulatory Programs Applicable to Protecting and Restoring Waters in Vermont

The Vermont Surface Water Management Strategy maintains a roster of regulatory and non-regulatory technical assistance programs.

Regulatory programs may be accessed at:

http://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/documents/wsmd_swms_Appendix_A_Vermont_Regulations_Pertaining_to_Water_Quality.pdf

Non-regulatory programs may be accessed at:

http://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/documents/wsmd_swms_Appendix_D_Toolbox.pdf

Appendix F – Existing Use Tables

During the Basin 8 planning process, the Agency collected sufficient information to document and determine the presence of existing uses for swimming (contact recreation, fishing and boating on flowing waters. All surface waters used as public drinking water sources were also identified. The Agency presumes that all lakes and ponds in the basin have existing uses of fishing, contact recreation and boating. This simplified assumption is being used because of the well-known and extensive use of these types of waters for these activities based upon their intrinsic qualities and, to avoid the production and presentation of exhaustive lists of all of these waterbodies across Basin 8. Likewise, the Agency recognizes that fishing activities in streams and rivers are widespread throughout the state and can be too numerous to document. Also recognized is that streams too small to support significant angling activity provide spawning and nursery areas, which contribute to fish stocks downstream where larger streams and rivers support a higher level of fishing activity. As such, these small tributaries are considered supporting the use of fishing and are protected at a level commensurate with downstream areas. This presumption may be rebutted on a case-by-case basis during the Agency's consideration of a permit application, which might be deemed to affect these types of uses.

The following lists are not intended to represent an exhaustive list of all existing uses, but merely an identification of well-known existing uses. Additional existing uses of contact recreation, boating and fishing on/in flowing waters may be identified during the Agency's consideration of a permit application or in the future during subsequent basin planning efforts.

Table 38. Determination of existing uses of flowing waters for boating in Basin 8.

Waterbody	Town(s)	Basis for determining the presence of an existing use	Rating of water (class) <small>²⁵</small>	Public access: Put in <small>²⁶</small>	Public access: Take out
Winooski River: Down town Marshfield	Marshfield	Regularly paddled by Vermont Paddlers Club members(VPC) <small>²⁷</small>	II/III	Below Mollys Falls Power House, Cabot Road, Marshfield	Old School House Commons, Marshfield
Winooski River: Marshfield to Winooski #8 Dam	Marshfield, Plainfield, East Montpelier,	WWRV ²⁸ and FWR ²⁹	I-III	Old School House Commons, Marshfield	Dam Road – adjacent to Winooski #8 Dam
Nasmith Brook	Marshfield	VPC use	III – V	Holt Road	Twinfield High school
Great Brook	Plainfield	VPC use	I-II	Maxifield Road	Recreation Field Road off Mill St.
Winooski River – Kingsbury branch	E. Montpelier	VRC ³⁰ conservation easement for boating access	I	Off Coburn Road, approx. ¾ mile, past the bridge on right.	Winooski main stem take outs
Stevens Branch	Williamstown, Barre Town, Barre & Berlin	FWR & VPC use	I-IV	Brockway Hill Road, Williamstown	Confluence with Winooski, Montpelier

²⁵ Class rating pertains to the difficulty of whitewater passage.

²⁶ The list of put in and take out points for boats allow for the use of the entire Winooski river between dams for flat water boating.

²⁷ Pers. Communication, Vermont Paddler's Club Secretary, Ryan McCall, 5/18/11

²⁸ Jenkins J. and Zika P 1992. *The Whitewater Rivers of Vermont: The Biology, Geography and Recreational Use*. Agency of Natural Resources, Waterbury, VT.,

²⁹ Friends of the Winooski River, *A Paddling and Natural History Guide to One of Vermont's Great Rivers* www.winooskiriver.org

³⁰ Vermont River Conservancy

Waterbody	Town(s)	Basis for determining the presence of an existing use	Rating of water (class) <small>25</small>	Public access: Put in <small>26</small>	Public access: Take out
Jail Branch	Barre Town	VPC	III-V	Washington Road at base of Reservoir, Barre Town	Ayers Street, Barre City
North Branch Winooski River	Elmore, Worcester, Middlesex, Montpelier	Let it rain, VPC, FWR	I-V	Route 12 in Elmore	Confluence with Winooski, Montpelier
Hancock Brook	Worcester	VPC and VRC	IV-V	Hampshire Hill Road Worcester	Route 12 Worcester
Minister Brook	Worcester	VPC	III-IV	Minister Brook Road, Worcester	Route 12 in Worcester
Martins Brook	Middlesex	VPC	III-IV	Macey Road, Middlesex	Shady Rill Park, Middlesex
Winooski River: Montpelier to Middlesex Dam	Montpelier, Middlesex	FWR	I/II	Montpelier High School: Put in is ~100 yards below the Bailey Ave. bridge. Path is off the bike path.	Just above Middlesex Dam: The take out is on the left just beyond the Rte 100B bridge.
Dog River	Roxbury, Northfield, Berlin, Montpelier	VPC, WWRV, FWR	I-II	Rabbit Hollow Road, Northfield	Confluence with Winooski River, Montpelier under I-89 bridge
Stony Brook	Northfield	VPC	III-IV	Chamberlin Road, Northfield	Confluence with Dog River, Northfield
Cox Brook/Devils Washbowl	Moretown, Berlin & Northfield	VPC	III-V	Devils Washbowl Road, Moretown	Confluence with Dog River, Northfield
Winooski River: below Middlesex Dam to Waterbury	Middlesex, Waterbury	FWR	I/II	south side of river at Middlesex Dam Powerhouse off Rte 100B	Waterbury Recreation Fields: Take out is on the right, near the mouth of Thatcher Brook.

Waterbody	Town(s)	Basis for determining the presence of an existing use	Rating of water (class) 25	Public access: Put in 26	Public access: Take out
Mad River-Austin Brook confluence park to confluence with Winooski River	Warren, Waitsfield, Fayston, Duxbury, Moretown	WWRV, VPC, FWR	I-V	Picnic area at confluence of Austin Brook and Winooski – Route 100, Warren	Route 2, west of bridge over Winooski River (west of the state highway garage) with parking
Mill Brook	Fayston	VPC	III-IV	German Flats Road, Fayston	Route 17, Fayston
Little River	Stowe, Waterbury	WWRV, VPC	I-III	Tansy Hill Road, Stowe	Confluence with Winooski River
Sterling Brook	Stowe	VPC	III-IV	Sterling Valley Road, Stowe (Stowe Land Trust)	Cole Hill Road, Stowe
Ranch Brook	Stowe	VPC	III-IV	Ranch Valley, Stowe	Route 108, Stowe
Notch Brook/West Branch Little River	Stowe	VPC	III-IV	Bingham Falls, Stowe	Route 108, Stowe
Gold Brook	Stowe	VPC	III-IV	Covered Bridge Road, Stowe	Route 100, Stowe
Winooski River: Bolton to Richmond	Bolton, Richmond	FWR	I/II	Bolton Dam Take Out is located on the left side of the river.	Volunteer Green Richmond: under the Bridge St. bridge
Ridley Brook	Duxbury	VPC, Let it Rain	IV-V	Upper Monroe Trail parking area, Duxbury	River Road, Duxbury
Joiner Brook	Bolton	VPC, Let it Rain	IV-V	Bolton Valley Access Rd	Route 2, Bolton
Winooski River: Richmond to Essex	Richmond, Jericho, Essex	FWR	I	Volunteer Green Richmond	GMP Access off IBM access rd

Waterbody	Town(s)	Basis for determining the presence of an existing use	Rating of water (class) <small>25</small>	Public access: Put in <small>26</small>	Public access: Take out
Huntington River – 10 miles from Hanksville to just before Huntington Gorge and below lower Huntington gorge to Winooski	Huntington, Starksboro, Richmond	WWRV	II-IV	North of Carse Road bridge, Huntington	Dugway Road, Richmond
Brush Brook	Huntington	VPC, Let it Rain	IV-V	Camel's Hump State Forest	Camel's Hump Road, Huntington
Winooski River: Essex to Winooski	Essex, Williston, Winooski,	FWR	I	Below Essex Dam: off 2A below power generating station. Park at Overlook Park,	Winooski Gorge Dam: After passing through Lime Kiln Gorge, the river turns right. Take out is on the left before river narrows into the gorge.
Mill Brook	Jericho	VPC, Let it Rain	II-IV	Fitzsimonds Road, Jericho	Route 117, Jericho
Winooski River: Winooski to Colchester	Colchester, Burlington, Winooski	FWR	I/II	Millyard Canoe Access in Winooski off Canal St.	VFWD Colchester Point access area off Windermere Road. .

Table 39. Determination of existing uses of flowing waters for fishing in Basin 8.

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Surface Water	Location of Use	Town	Documentation
Winooski River	Route 2 Bridge (East side of Waterbury Village) in Waterbury to headwaters	Cabot to Waterbury	Special fishing regulations
Winooski River	Duxbury and Waterbury, from the top of the Bolton Dam in Duxbury and Waterbury upstream to the Route 2 Bridge (east side of Waterbury Village	Duxbury/Waterbury	Special fishing regulations
Winooski River	Ridley Brook mouth upstream to the top of the Bolton Dam in Duxbury and Waterbury.	Bolton/Duxbury/Waterbury	Special fishing regulations
Winooski River	From Preston Brook mouth upstream (approximately 4.4 miles) to the Ridley Brook mouth	Bolton/Duxbury/Waterbury	Special fishing regulations
Winooski River	From the Winooski One Hydro Dam west of Main Street (US 7) in Winooski and Burlington upstream to Preston Brook, Bolton	Duxbury	Special fishing regulations
Winooski River	From the Winooski One Hydro Dam west of Main Street (US 7) in Winooski and Burlington and extending downstream to the downstream side of the first railroad bridge.	Winooski, Burlington	Special fishing regulations
Winooski River	Lake Champlain upstream to the first railroad bridge (approximately 9 mile) in Winooski and Burlington.	Winooski, Colchester, Burlington	Special fishing regulations
Jail Branch	Upstream and down stream of East Barre Dam.	Washington, East Barre	VFWD document WBR trout present. Access at VDEC dam in E. Barre, off Washington St.
North Branch	Worcester Rt 12 brdg north of Russ Pond Bk to Rt 12 brdg north of Hancock Bk	Worcester	Stocked by VFWD
North Branch	Below Rt. 12 bridge south of Washington/Lamoille county line to access across from Moose Hollow road	Middlesex	Stocked by VFWD
Dog River	Winooski River, Berlin/Montpelier, to the downstream edge of the Junction Road Bridge in Berlin/Montpelier	Berlin/Montpelier	Special fishing regulations

Dog River	Downstream edge of the Junction Road Bridge in Berlin/Montpelier upstream to the top of Northfield Falls Dam in Northfield.	All applicable towns	Special fishing regulations
Dog River	Top of Northfield Falls Dam in Northfield upstream to headwaters	Northfield	Special fishing regulations
Chase Brook	From its confluence with the Dog River upstream approximately 1/2 mile to the top of the natural falls in Berlin	Berlin	Special fishing regulations
Mad River	Entire river	Applicable towns	Stocking by VFWD
Little River	US Rt 2 Bridge to its beginning at base of Waterbury Dam	Waterbury	Special fishing regulations
Little River	From the confluence with Winooski River upstream to the Rt 2 bridge in Waterbury	Waterbury	Special fishing regulations
Ridley Brook	Winooski River upstream approx. 1700 ft to first falls	Duxbury	Special fishing regulations
Ridley Brook	First falls to headwaters	Duxbury	Special fishing regulations
Ridley Brook	End of Camels Hump Road to River Road	Duxbury	Stocking by VFWD
Pinneo Brook	Winooski River upstream approx. 100 ft to railroad crossing	Bolton	Special fishing regulations
Pinneo Brook	Railroad crossing to headwaters	Bolton	Special fishing regulations
Joiner Brook	Winooski River upstream approx. 1900 feet to first falls	Bolton	Special fishing regulations
Joiner Brook	First falls to headwater	Bolton	Special fishing regulations
Preston Brook	Winooski River upstream approx. 2600 feet to first falls	Bolton	Special fishing regulations
Huntington River	Entire river	Huntington, Richmond	Stocking by VFWD

Table 40. Determination of existing uses of flowing waters for swimming in Basin 8.

Waterbody	Town	Aesthetic values and use by public confirmed	Public Access
Winooski River Main Stem – Hidden Dam	East Montpelier	Deep pools above barely submerged remains of dam	VTrans owned land, Rt. 2 provides parking area. Also trail from high school and CrossVermont trail goes by
Nasmith Brook – Paradise swimming hole	Plainfield	VSH ³¹	Pull off on Nasmith Brook Road. Access from road and bridge ROW
North Branch at Nature Center	Montpelier	Sandy beach at walking bridge with deep pool	City land. Parking at city park and nature center.
Martins Brook - Shady Rill Park	Middlesex	Swimming hole, bedrock controlled grade to create deep swimming holes	Town land with parking. Opposite of Wrightsville parking lots,
Hancock Brook – Upper Pots	Worcester	VSH	VRC conservation easement. Parking .4 miles from the beginning of Hancock Brook Road
Dog River – Jacuzzi swimming hole	West Berlin	VRC	Owned by Town of Berlin. Parking at Fire Department before bridge over Route 12. Trail to swimming hole with wooden steps. Mowed lawn and picnic table above river.
Mad River-River side park	Warren	Friends of Mad River ³²	Public land. Parking lot opposite the Sugarbush Access Road,
Mad River-Picnic Area Cascades		VSH, Friends of Mad River	Public land and parking
Stetson Brook Cascades (Stetson Brook)		VSH, Friends of Mad River	Public land and parking
Mad River-Warren Falls	Warren	VSH, Friends of Mad River	Federal Land. Parking along the right side of Route 100 in front of Forest Service access gate.
Mad River-Lareau's Swimming Hole	Waitsfield	VSH, Friends of Mad River	Public land. Parking lot and sand beach off Route 100

³¹ Jerry Jenkins, *Vermont Swimming Hole Study* Agency of Natural Resources, Waterbury, VT

³² Pers. correspondence with Caitrin Noel, Director, Friends of the Mad River 6/30/11

Waterbody	Town	Aesthetic values and use by public confirmed	Public Access
Mad River-Moretown Gorge	Moretown	VSH	Parking lot north of 100B bridge over the Mad River. Take trail to sandy beach below gorge
West Branch - Bingham Falls	Stowe	VSH	State land. Access from a dirt pull off the Mountain Road or through the Stowe Land Trust owned Mill Trail
Moss Glen Brook - Moss Glen Falls	Stowe	VSH	State Land with parking lot
Gold Brook under bridge before Gold Brook Circle	Stowe	VSH	Road and Bridge ROW. Parking pull offs on road
Ridley Brook	Duxbury	VLT easement includes swimming	Duxbury Land Trust property. Parking on Camels Hump Road opposite Marshall Road
Huntington River - Horsebend swimming hole	Huntington	VSH	Audubon Center land. Parking at trail.
Huntington River - Audubon River Trail Swimming (Audubon Hemlock)	Huntington	VSH	Audubon Center land. Parking at center, accessible by trail.
Huntington River - Lower Audubon Swimming hole (River loop trail swimming hole)	Huntington	VSH	Audubon Center Land. Parking at center, accessible by trail.
Lower Huntington River Gorge (Huntington Gorge Cascade Chain)	Richmond	Richmond Land Trust (RLT) website and VSH study	16 acres of shoreland owned by Richmond Land Trust. Pull offs on Dugway Road

Table 41 Determinations of existing uses of waters for public surface water supplies in Basin 8

Surface Water	Town	Water Supply	Use Status
Thatcher Brook and tributaries	Waterbury	Village of Waterbury	Active
Unnamed tributary to the West Branch	Stowe	Village of Stowe	Emergency use only

Thurman Dix, Lower Reservoir and tributaries	Barre & Orange	City of Barre	Active
Standard & consolidated quarries	Barre	Websterville	Active
Berlin Pond	Berlin, Northfield, Williamstown	City of Montpelier	Active

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