STORMWATER TOPIC MEETING DATA

Introduction

The Kettle River & Upper St. Croix Watershed flows south from its headwaters in Carlton County to its confluence with the Snake River just south of St. Croix State Park. Although largely forested, the watershed is dotted with farmland and small cities including Moose Lake, Sandstone and Hinckley. This watershed is lucky to have abundant healthy natural resources including rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, groundwater and forests.

The **Kettle River & Upper St. Croix One Watershed, One Plan** (1W1P) is a planning partnership between Pine SWCD, Pine County, Carlton SWCD, Carlton County and Kanabec SWCD. The goal of this partnership is to **prioritize** restoration and protection opportunities and **target** valuable resources. The result will be the development of a comprehensive watershed management plan with actions that make progress towards **measurable** goals.

The general 1W1P process is outlined in Figure 1. For the first step, which is to gather and prioritize opportunities/issues in the watershed, a series of five topic meetings will be held. The meeting topics include: 1) lakes, 2) forests, 3) rivers, streams & wetlands, 4) agriculture & groundwater and 5) stormwater.

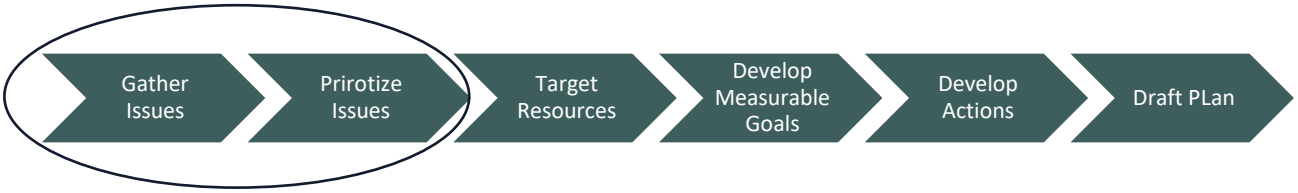

Figure 1. The 1W1P process is divided into six main steps. The topic meetings are the first step in the process (circled).

The 1W1P process is driven by local units of government, guided by an Advisory Committee made up of local stakeholders and state agencies. The decision-making body for the plan is a Policy Committee made up of elected officials from each County and SWCD.

Kettle River & Upper St. Croix Watershed Stormwater

Although the watershed is largely forested and rural land, there are several communities located near waterbodies. In these areas, managing stormwater is an important consideration. Stormwater best management practices help protect property and natural resources by reducing flood risks and flood damage and filtering pollutants before they are washed to lakes and streams. However, stormwater planning, designs and construction can be expensive.

Figure 2. Managing stormwater is an important consideration for several communities in the watershed.

The largest community in the watershed is Sandstone (population 3466) which has the Kettle River flowing through the city limits. The Moose River subwatershed has the most impervious surface at six percent. The cities of Sturgeon Lake, Moose Lake and Barnum (population 2447, 2001 and 646 respectively) are located in the Moose River subwatershed and have waterbodies within city limits include the Moose Horn River, Moosehead Lake and Bear Lake. There are no communities in the watershed that are required to have a Municipal Stormwater Permit (MS4).

HUC -10 Watershed	Percent Developed Land (WRAPS)	Towns / Cities (Population) (WRAPS)	Cities Near Lake/River (Water Resource Name) (MPCA)	Wastewater Treatment Methods (MPCA)*
Upper Kettle River	2%	Kettle River (180) Denham (35)	Kettle River (Kettle River) Denham (Birch Creek)	Kettle River (WWTP) Denham (SSTS)
Moose River	6%	Sturgeon Lake (2447) Moose Lake (2001) Barnum (646)	Sturgeon Lake (Moose Horn River) Moose Lake (Moosehead Lake, Moose Horn River) Barnum (Bear Lake, Moose Horn River)	Sturgeon Lake (WWTP) Moose Lake (WWTP) Barnum (WWTP)
Willow River	4%	Willow River (1229) Kerrick (641) Bruno (639)	Willow River (Willow River, Willow River Reservoir) Kerrick (Lake Margaret) Bruno (Unnamed Stream)	Willow River (WWTP) Kerrick (SSTS) Bruno (SSTS)
Pine River	4%	Rutledge (1933) Finlayson (1870)	Rutledge (Kettle River, Pine River) Finlayson (Mud Lake, Fish Lake, Medicine Creek)	Rutledge (SSTS) Finlayson (WWTP)
Grindstone River	5%	Hinckley (1868)	Hinckley (Lower Grindstone Lake, Grindstone River)	Hinckley (WWTP)
Lower Kettle River	5%	Sandstone (3466)	Sandstone (Kettle River, Skunk Creek)	Sandstone (WWTP)
Bear Creek	3%	Askov (816)	None	Askov (WWTP)
Sand Creek	3%	None	None	None
Crooked Creek	2%	None	None	None
Lower Tamarack	1%	None	None	None
Upper Tamarack	3%	None	None	None
Chases Brook – St. Croix	1.4%	None	None	None

- WWTP = Wastewater Treatment Plant and SSTS = Subsurface Sewage Treatment System

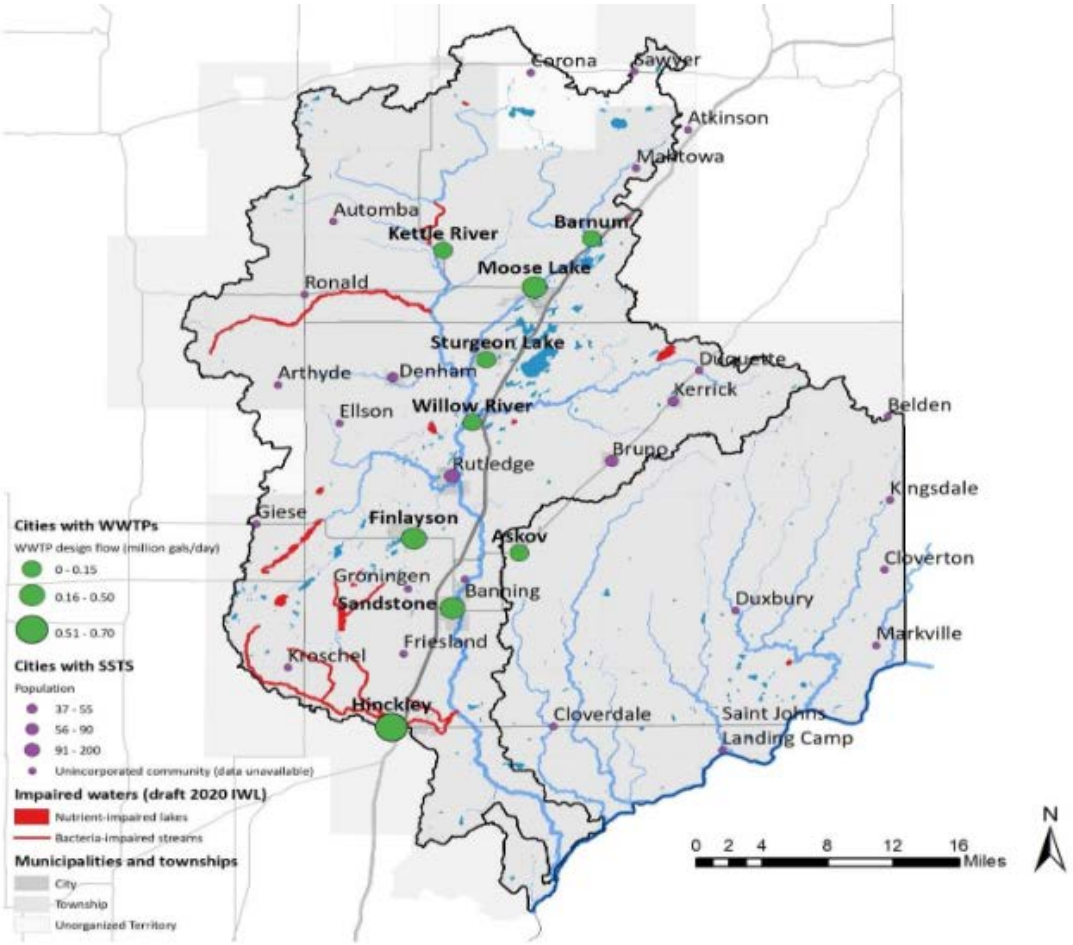

Figure 3. Wastewater treatment methods in the Kettle River & Upper St. Croix Watershed. Map curtesy of the MPCA Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS).

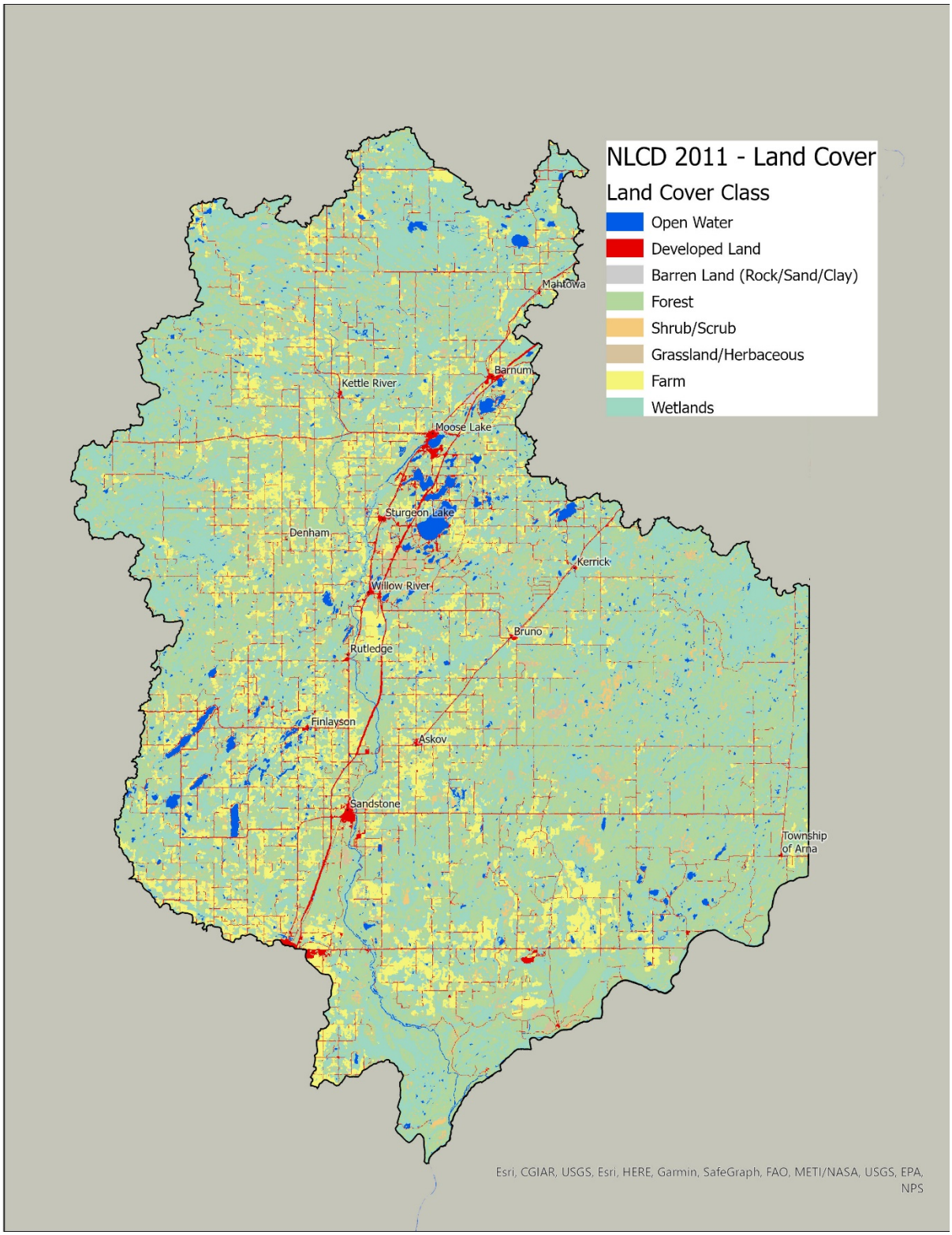

Figure 4. Developed land in the Kettle River & Upper St. Croix Watershed (indicated in red).

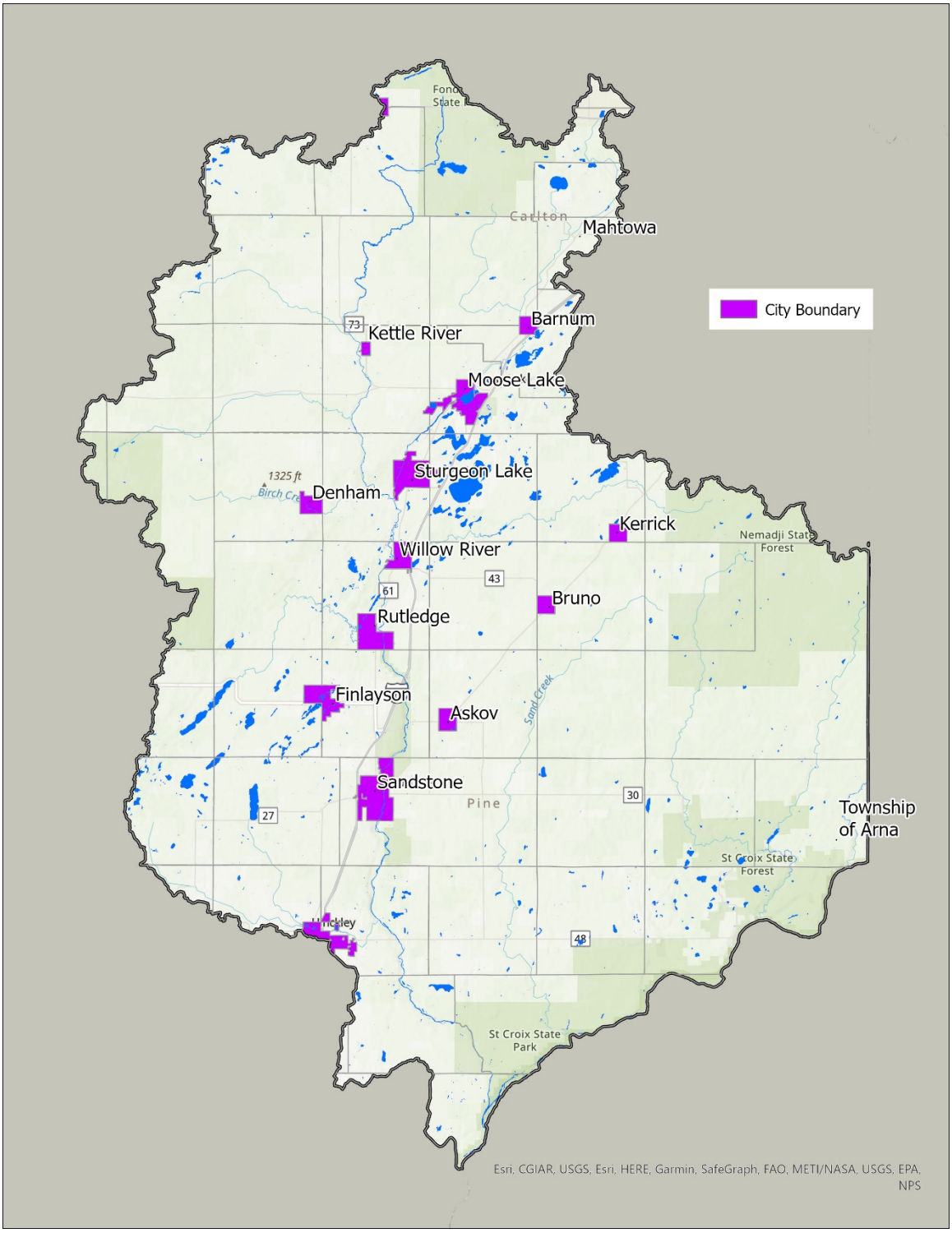

Figure 5. Incorporated cities in the Kettle River & Upper St. Croix Watershed.