

# Water Issues Large Scale Water Use Assessment Tool

## MBG Horticulture Day

**Steve Miller**

**Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering, MSU**

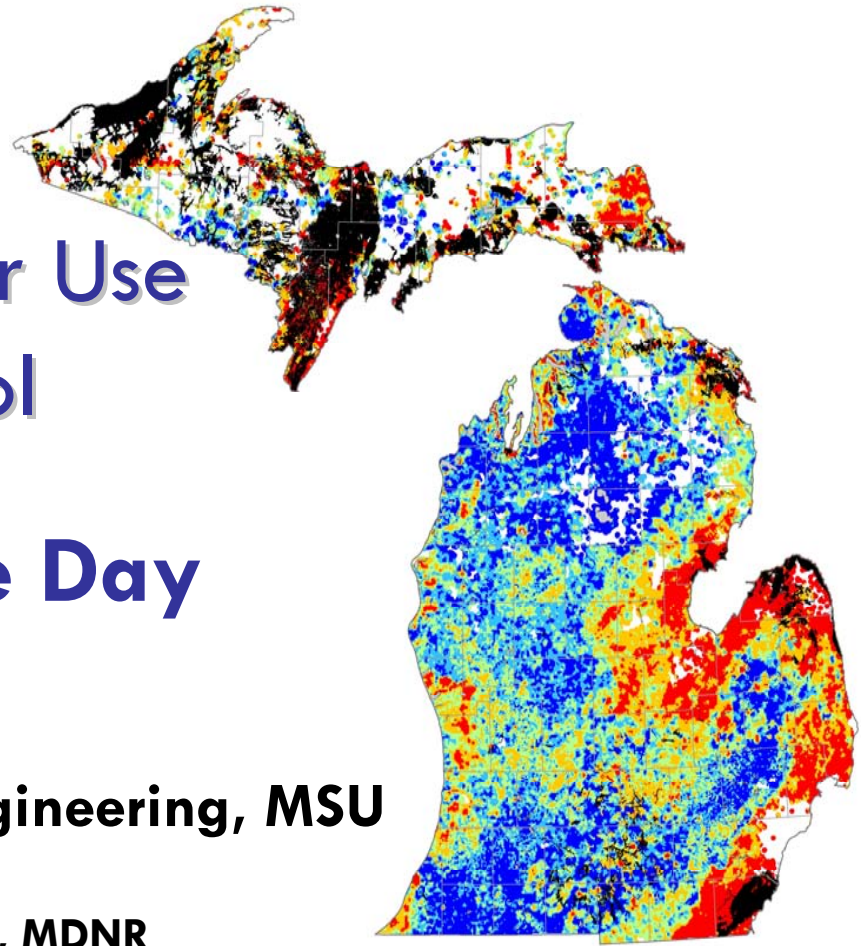
**With slides from Paul Seelbech, MDNR**

**Lyndon Kelley, MSUE**

**Jon F. Bartholic and Jeremiah Asher**

**Institute of Water Research, MSU**

**March 12, 2008**



# Riparian Doctrine

- From the **public trust doctrine**
- Tidelands held by the king for the benefit of all English subjects
- Navigable lakes and streams held in trust for benefit of the people of the state
- Riparian rights subservient to state's public trust authority

# *Prior Appropriation*

## *West of Mississippi*

- first in use, first in right
- allows transfer of water rights

# Riparian Doctrine

## East of Mississippi

- based on Common Law
- handed down from British law
- legal “doctrines”
- interpreted by the courts
  - sets precedents
- may be modified by legislative action

# Annex 2001

- States and provinces will manage their own in-basin withdrawals
- Basin-wide, resource-based standard
  - flexible application
- Each jurisdiction will commit to establishing a program, including thresholds, to manage or regulate new or increased withdrawals consistent with the standard.

# Water in the news

Humans need H<sub>2</sub>O, but lawns can wait

Environmentalists make new push for water protection

Nestle sues over restrictive water-use permit

Great Lakes water could flow west

**Is water a resource or a commodity?**

**Appeals judges wade into water use case**

Granholm shoves after Legislature refuses to push for water laws

# PA 177 of 2004

Act 177 allows owner of a “small quantity well” to file a complaint with MDEQ (or MDA) if well:

- Fails to furnish normal water supply
- Fails to provide potable water

Complainant must have a credible reason to believe that the problem is caused by a HIGH CAPACITY WELL

# PA 177

In 2007 there were

- 13 complaints filed under Act 177, involving 6 wells in four locations
- 11 complaints required large volume user to pay for improvement to affected small well
- 1 complaint solved by farmer moving large well
- 1 complaint was solved by homeowner paid solution



# Groundwater Mapping Project



The Michigan Groundwater Mapping Project was mandated by Public Act 148 of 2003, which requires that a groundwater inventory and map be generated for the state. Funding was provided by the State of Michigan through cooperative agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the MSU Institute of Water Research.

## Interactive Map Viewer

The online interactive map viewer was created by MSU Remote Sensing & GIS Research and Outreach Services (RS&GIS). Base map features and image backdrops are included as well as layers specific to this project. With the viewer users can query well databases, find lat/lon coordinates, find addresses and download spatial data.

[Start the Viewer](#)

[Viewer Tutorial](#)

[Browser Help](#)

## Groundwater Information Database

USGS and RS&GIS collaborated on the searchable groundwater database.

[Search the Database](#)

[Bibliography](#)

[Database Tutorial](#)

[Copyright Information](#)

Database last updated: August 17, 2005

## Project Reports

[Executive Summary \(8-18-05\)](#)  
 Print Quality: 17.1 MB  
 Draft Quality: 2.8 MB

[Technical Report \(3-6-06\)](#)  
 Full Technical Report: 23.5 MB  
 Technical Report by Chapter:  
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

[Get Adobe Reader](#)

## Web Resources

- [Groundwater Tutorial](#)
- [Groundwater Glossary](#)
- [Groundwater Stewardship Manual](#)
- [Aquifer Basics](#)
- [Glossary of Hydrologic Terms](#)
- [Groundwater Atlas of the United States](#)
- [The Water Cycle](#)

## Recent Changes

## Documents

- [PowerPoint Presentation: Groundwater in Michigan](#)
- [Basic Ground-Water Hydrology](#)
- [Ground Water and Surface Water A Single Resource](#)
- [Sustainability of Ground-Water Resources](#)
- [Flow and Storage in Groundwater Systems](#)
- [Groundwater and the Rural Homeowner](#)
- [The Importance of Ground Water in the Great Lakes Region](#)
- [Ground-Water-Level Monitoring and the Importance of Long-Term Water-Level Data](#)



FULL EXTENT	PREV ZOOM	SELECT BOX	SELECT LINE	SELECT BUFFER	QUERY FEATURE	MAP LEGEND	DISPLAY OPTIONS
ZOOM IN	ZOOM OUT	FIND FEATURE	FIND ADDRESS	LAT/LON ID	LAT/LON SEARCH	TOPO LEGEND	TOOL HELP
MOVE MAP	IDENTIFY	MEASURE	CLEAR	OBSERV. WELLS	FLOW GAGES	PRINT MAP	EXTRACT LAYERS

<http://gwmap.rsgis.msu.edu/>



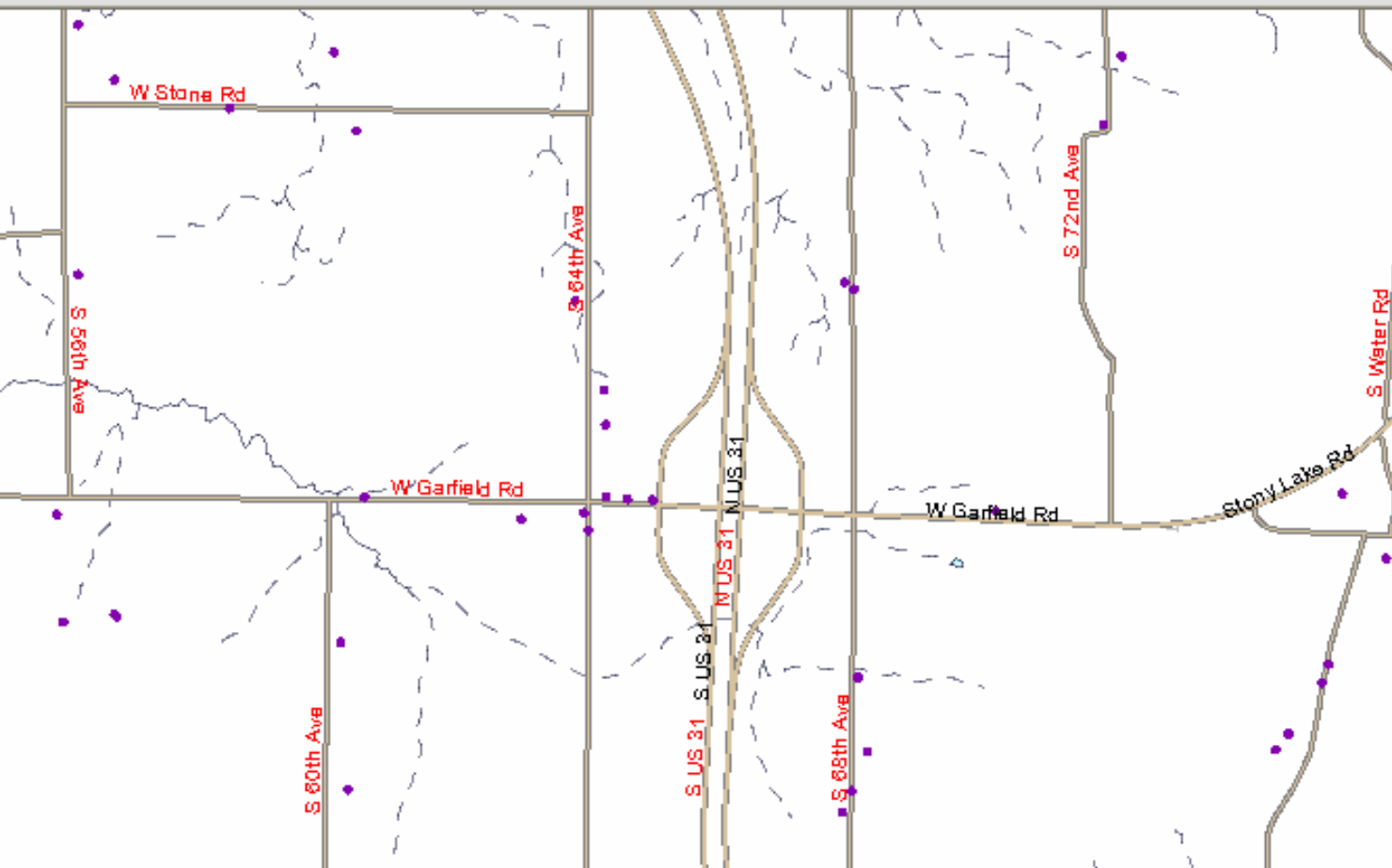
ACTIVE:

- VISIBILITY:
- Base Map
  - Environmental
  - Ground Water Inventory
  - Image Backdrops
    - AERIAL
    - SATELLITE
    - TOPO MAP
    - LANDUSE
  - Secondary Map Features

- LAYER HELP:
- Click to open/close group.
  - Click to show group/layer.
  - Click to hide layer.
  - Scale-dependent layer
  - Click to show entire group.
  - Click for layer information.
  - Raster layer information (no data)
  - Click for raster identify.

Auto Refresh

FULL TEXT	PREV ZOOM	SELECT BOX	SELECT LINE	SELECT BUFFER	QUERY FEATURE	MAP LEGEND	DISPLAY OPTIONS
ROOM IN	ZOOM OUT	FIND FEATURE	FIND ADDRESS	LAT/LON ID	LAT/LON SEARCH	TOPO LEGEND	TOOL HELP
MOVE MAP	IDENTIFY	MEASURE	CLEAR	OBSERV. WELLS	FLOW GAGES	PRINT MAP	EXTRACT LAYERS

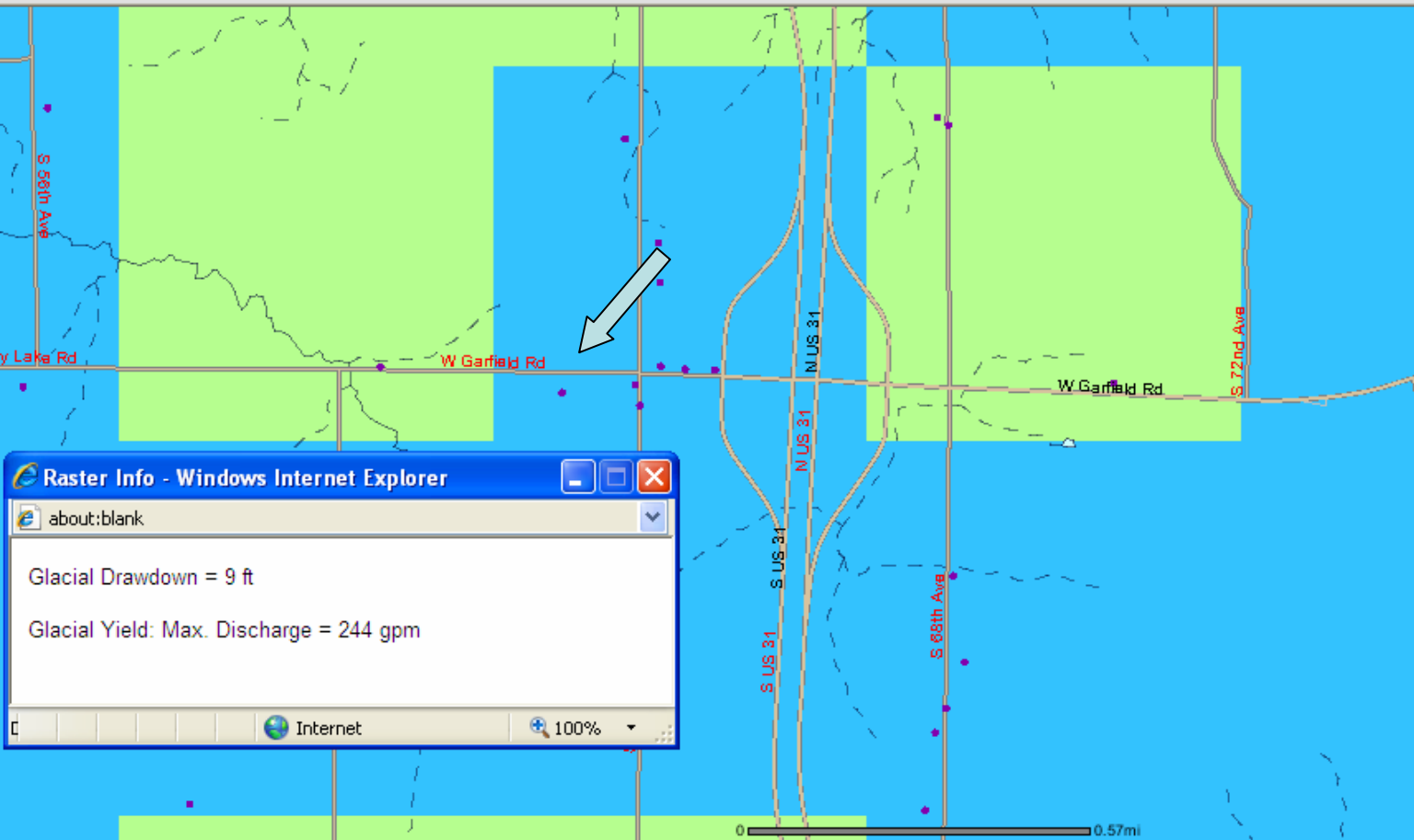


**ACTIVE:**  
 COUNTY

**VISIBILITY:**

- Base Map
- Environmental
- Ground Water Inventory
- Geology
- ? WELLOGIC DB
- ? WATERSHEDS
- ? WETLANDS
- ? SOILS
- ? WATER QUALITY
- Location & Yield of Aquifers
- Supplemental Well Data
- ? RECHARGE
- Groundwater Levels
- Stream Flow
- Conflict Areas
- GW-Depend. Natural Features
- Non-Ag. Groundwater Use

FULL EXTENT	PREV ZOOM	SELECT BOX	SELECT LINE	SELECT BUFFER	QUERY FEATURE	MAP LEGEND	DISPLAY OPTIONS
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MOVE MAP	IDENTIFY	MEASURE	CLEAR	OBSERV. WELLS	FLOW GAGES	PRINT MAP	EXTRACT LAYERS



ACTIVE:

COUNTY ▼

VISIBILITY:

- Base Map
- Environmental
- Ground Water Inventory
  - Geology
  - WELLOGIC DB
  - WATERSHEDS
  - WETLANDS
  - SOILS
  - WATER QUALITY
- Location & Yield of Aquifers
  - GLACIAL YIELD ⓘ
  - GLACIAL TRANSMISSIVITY ⓘ
  - GLACIAL DRAWDOWN ⓘ
  - BEDROCK YIELD
  - BEDROCK TRANSMISSIVITY
  - BEDROCK DRAWDOWN
- Supplemental Well Data
  - RECHARGE
- Groundwater Levels
- Stream Flow
- Conflict Areas
- GW-Depend. Natural Features

Raster Info - Windows Internet Explorer

about:blank

Glacial Drawdown = 9 ft

Glacial Yield: Max. Discharge = 244 gpm

Internet 100%

# 2006 Water Use Laws

- PA 33 - Water Use Reporting
- PA 34 – Groundwater Conservation Advisory Council – develops an Assessment Tool
- SB 35 – Registration
- SB 36 – Water User Committees
- SB 37 - Adds requirements to the Safe Drinking Water Act



# Large Quantity Withdrawal – Must Report

- Cumulative total over 100,000 gals/day
- Averaged over 30 days
- That supply a common distribution system
- From “waters of the State” including groundwater, lakes, streams ...
- Permits for withdrawals over 2,000,000 gals/day –consistent with “Great Lakes – St Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact

# Baseline Capacity – 2006 had been a one time opportunity

- **“Baseline Capacity”** - Rated capacity of the system as of February 28, 2006, reported as pump capacity in gal/min.
- Under SB 860, water withdrawal prior to February 2006 that are registered by February 2009 are granted a rebuttable presumption of no "adverse resource impact."

# Baseline Capacity

Increasing a water withdrawal by more than 70 gal./min. beyond the baseline, constitutes a new water withdrawal, losing the rebuttable presumption of no "adverse resource impact"

If no "Baseline Capacity" volume are recorded your 2004-2005 records will be used to determine a baseline.

Most farmers rated pump capacity is far greater than their water use in 2004 or 2005.

# New vs. Old Water Withdrawals

Old water withdrawal have a rebuttable presumption of no "adverse resource impact"

- withdrawal must be established prior to February 28th of 2006
- Properly registered have reported
- Not expanded by > 70 gpm

New water withdrawals must meet the no "adverse resource impact" standard

**Major issues depends on legislative actions**



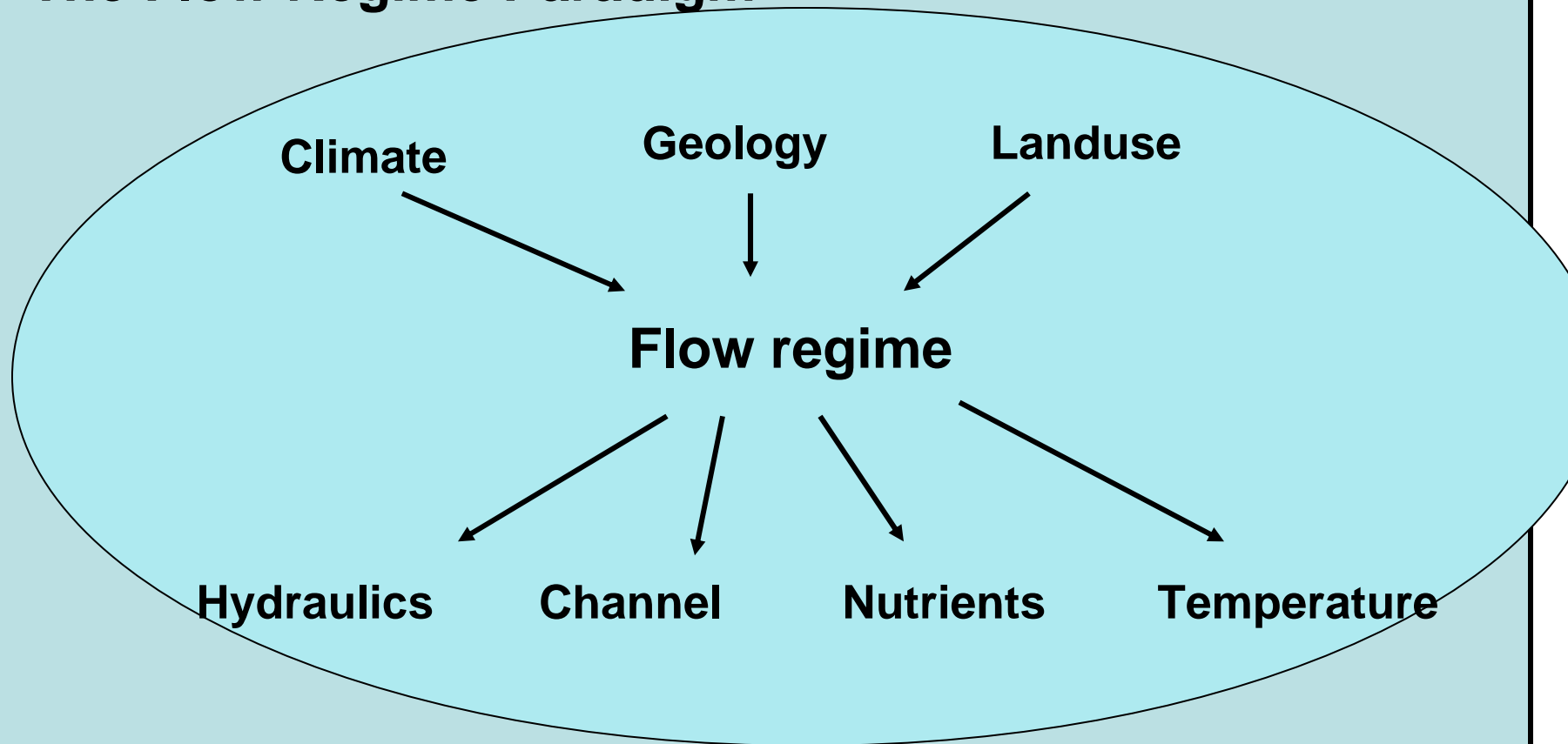
# “The Tool”

## Philosophy behind the Approach

- Integrated, science-based approach
- Develop new thinking in integrating the pieces
- Use a National Scientific Peer Review Panel
- Base the approach on Michigan data and State modeled relationships
  - Science team: USGS, MDEQ, MDNR, UM, MSU
- An inclusive, seeking participation
  - Council & guests (across all sectors)
    - Technical and Legal and Mitigation Subcommittees
  - MDA, MDEQ & MDNR on Council

From Paul Seelbach, MDNR

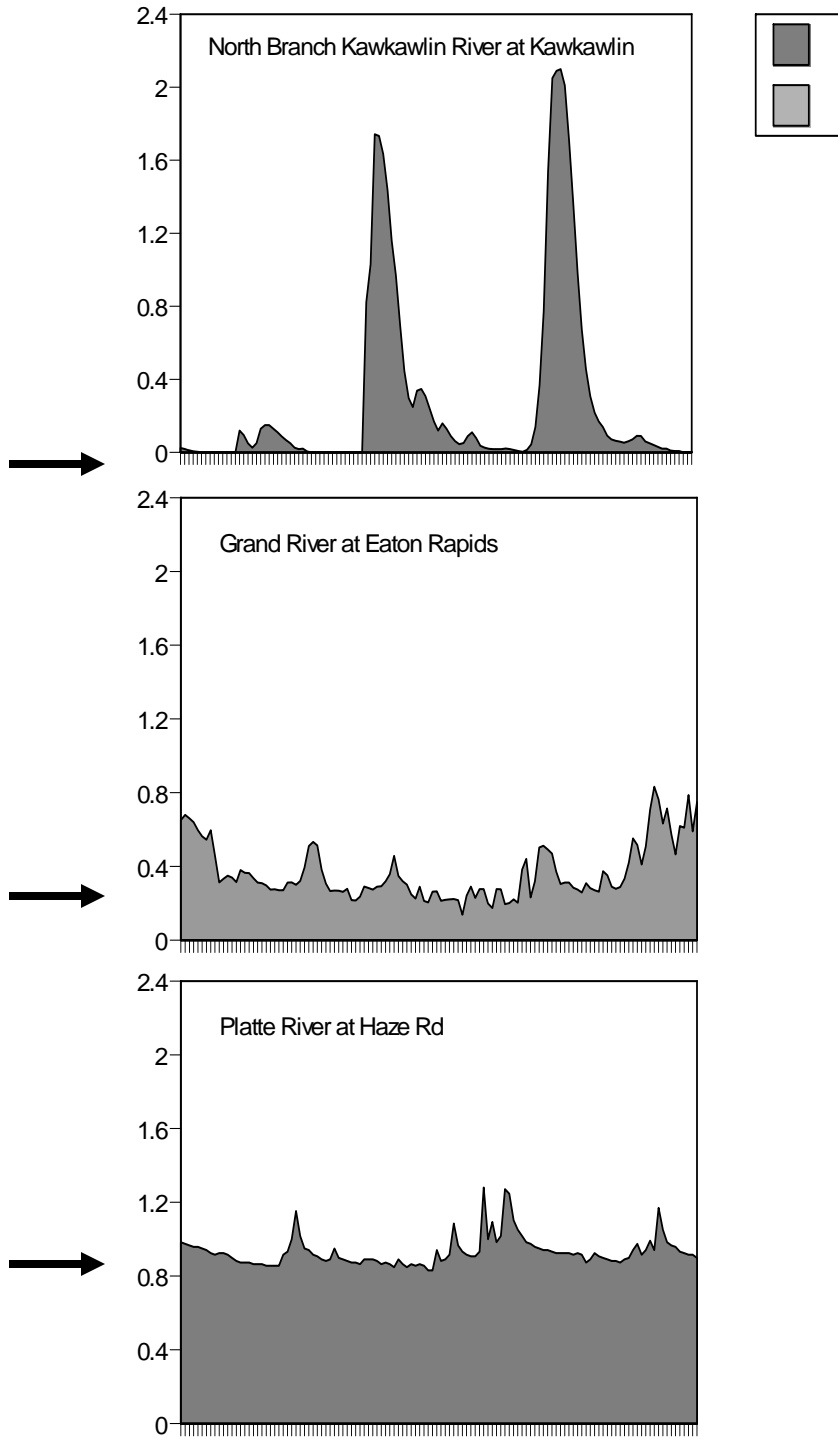
## The Flow Regime Paradigm

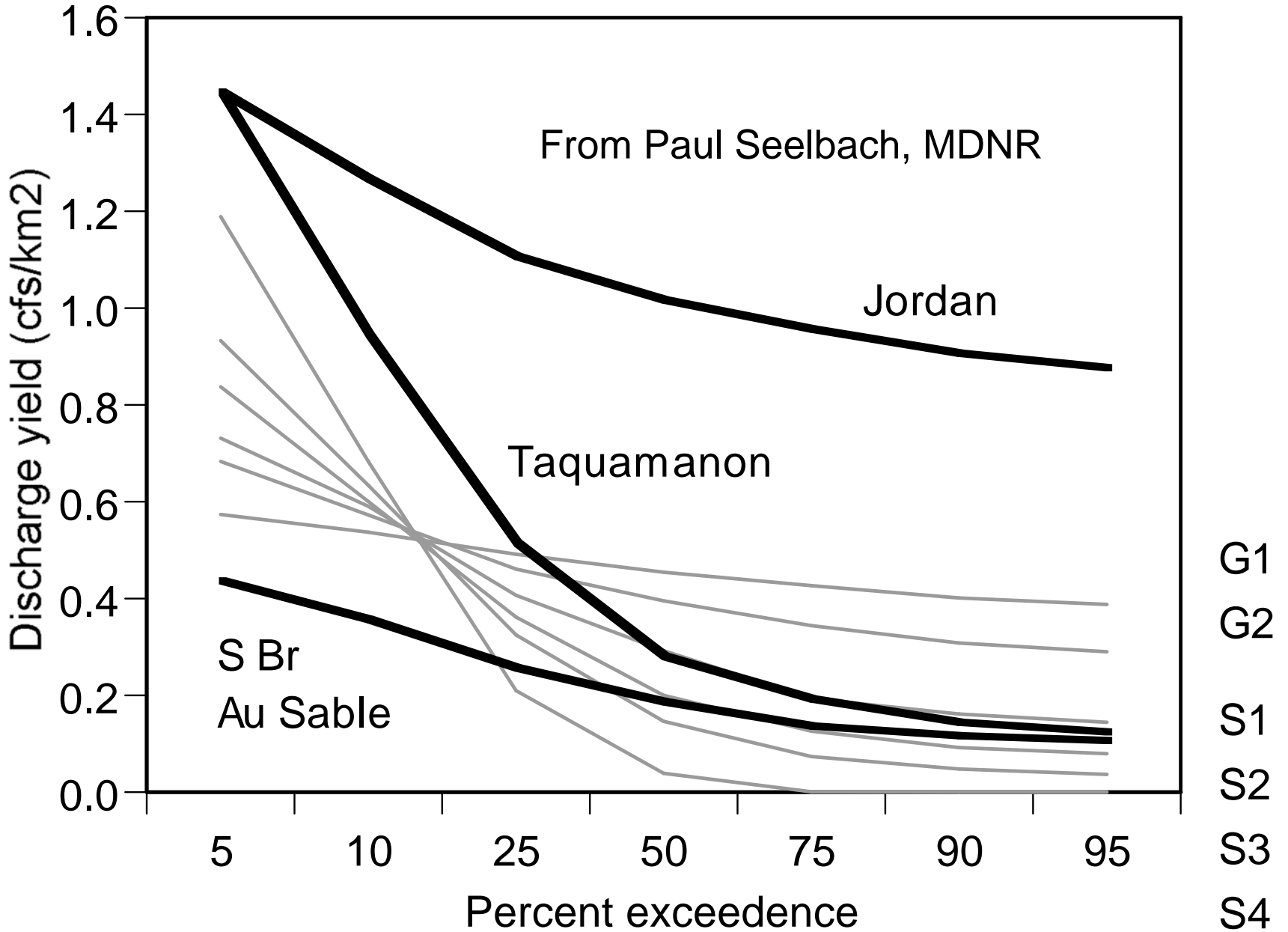


- There is a geography of flow regimes
- Fish species are adapted to habitats controlled by certain quantities of, and variability in, river flows

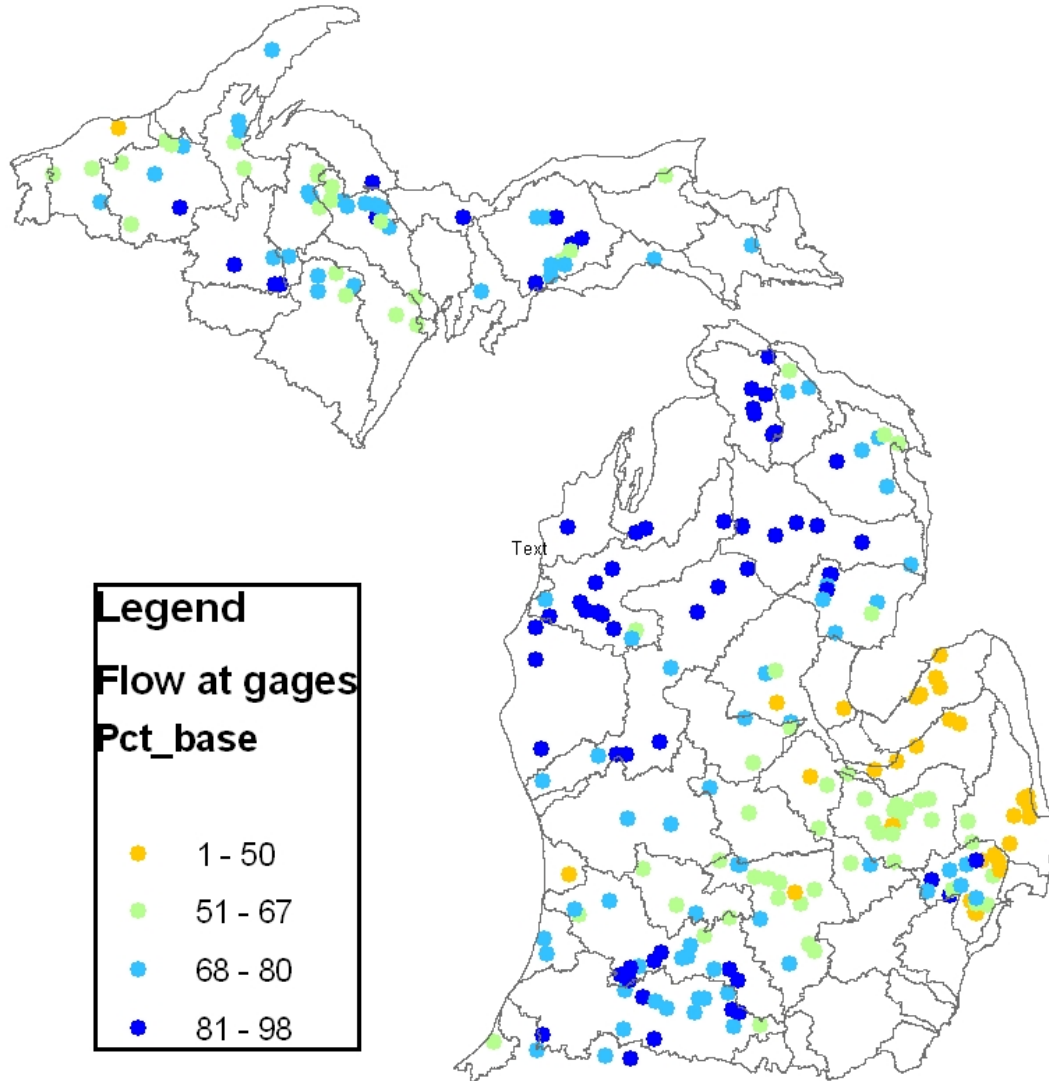
From Paul Seelbach, MDNR

**Michigan rivers naturally have different flow regimes, and thus different habitat conditions, biological communities, sensitivity to disturbance, and potential for fishery management .**





# Streamflow at gages



# Landscape-based modeling and applications for Michigan rivers

## An introduction to rivers











Wiley and Seelbach  
MDNR Fisheries Special Report 20

Rivers must be viewed and understood as systems

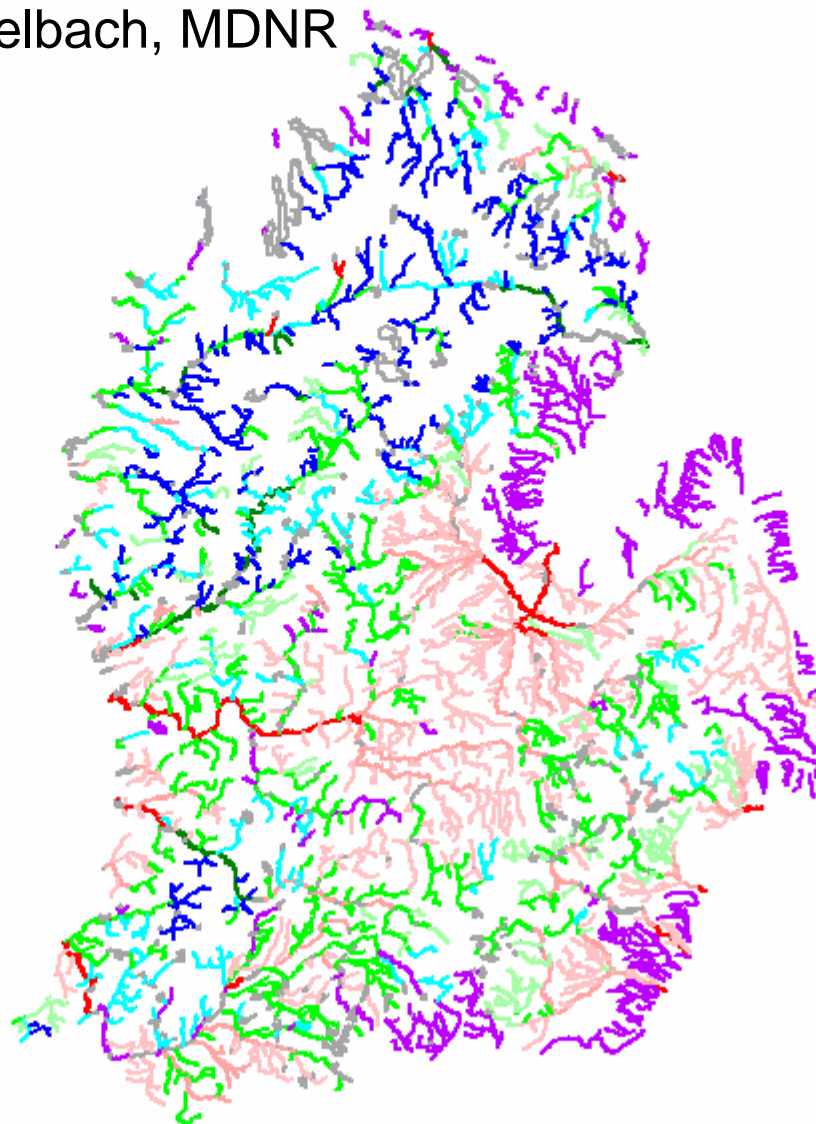
- landscape-scale
- hydrologic
- geomorphic
- biologic

Scale 1: 492,796.4  
452,063.3

View1

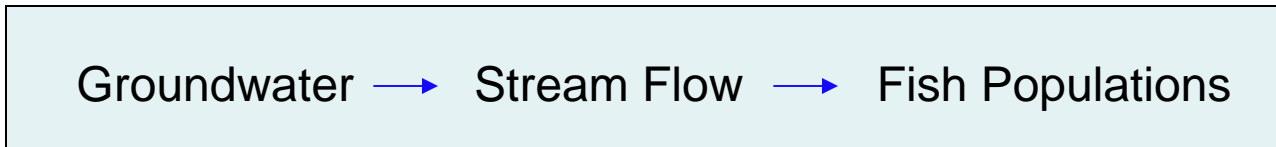
- Lakeerie.shp
- Solakemichigan.shp
- Solakehuron.shp
- Nolakehuron.shp
- Nolakemichigan.shp
  -  Cold mean, low variation
  -  Cold mean, mod variation
  -  Cool mean, low variation
  -  Cool mean, mod variation
  -  Cool mean, high variation
  -  Warm mean, low variation
  -  Warm mean, mod variatio
  -  Warm mean, high variatio
  -  Lakes, ponds, etc.
  -  Missing data

From Paul Seelbach, MDNR



# The Water Withdrawal Assessment Process

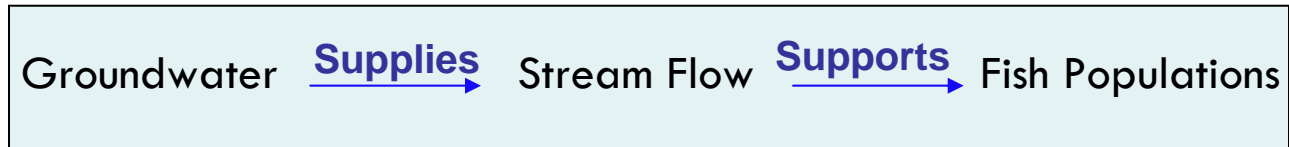
- science • Develop methods, criteria, and definitions for establishing 'adverse resource impacts' for streams and lakes.
- policy • Make recommendations on the policy aspects of the model.



**Adverse Resource Impact Means:** Decreasing that part of the flow such that the streams ability to support Characteristic Fish Populations is Functionally Impaired.



# The Water Withdrawal Assessment Process



- Three Models Interact within the impact assessment model

Streamflow Model - How much water is flowing in the stream during summer low flow periods

Groundwater Model - What impact will water withdrawn from the aquifer have on stream flow

Fish Impact Model - What fish are in the stream and what is the likely effect of removing water on those groups of fish

# The Streamflow Model

- Need to Know How Much Flow is in any Stream Segment
- “Index flow”; low flow period in the year
- Look at the segments where you know about flow (135 stream gauges in the State) and extrapolate these to the streams you do not have monitored or gauged – regression statistics

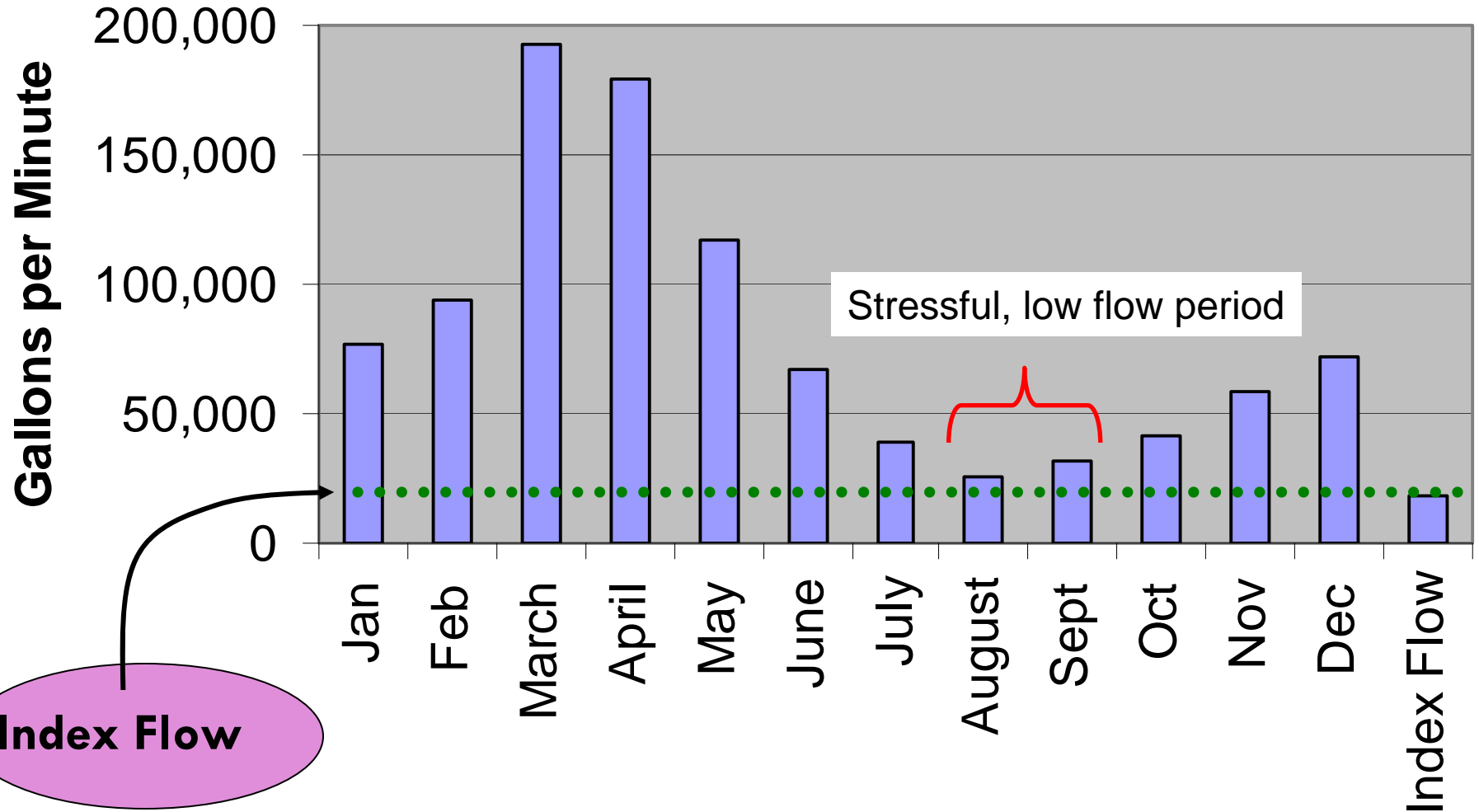
## Major Factors Used

- Drainage Basin Size
- Forest Cover, Land Use
- Geology and Soils
- Region
- Uncertainty in statistics
  - Under or over estimate flow

# PA 33 Of 2006 - Index Flow

- 50% exceedance flow - Lowest month
- Extrapolated from stream gauges
- Large Quantity withdraw requirements and meeting Great Lakes Annex expectations

# Looking Glass River near Eagle Mean Monthly Flows



# Characteristics of the Groundwater Model

- Distance

- A well adjacent to a river or stream get water either from water that would have gone to the river or directly from the river

## Depth

- In Glacial Aquifers
- In Bedrock

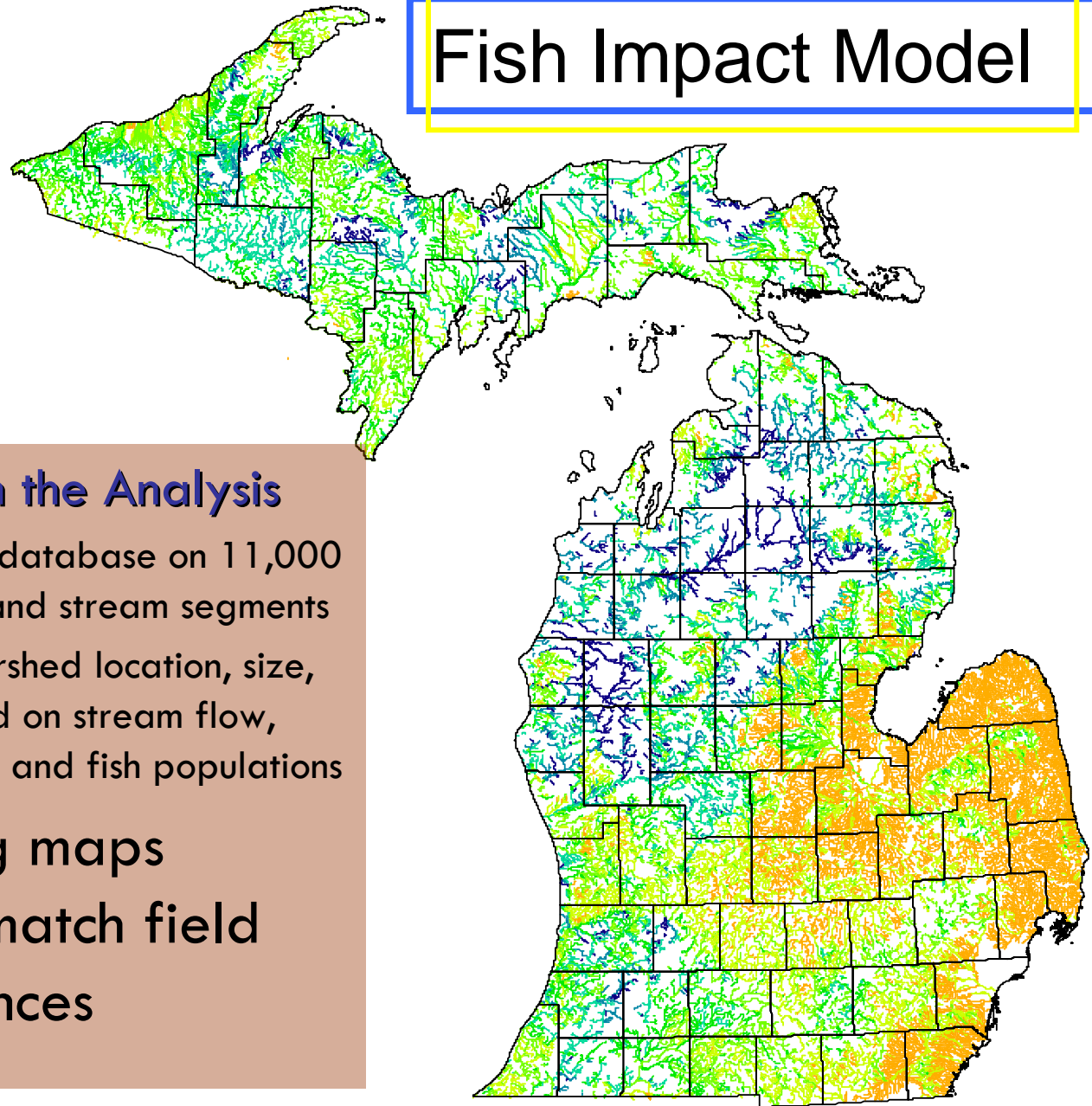
- Geology Matters

- Clay - “tight” - water does not move easily
- Sandy - “loose” - water flows quickly

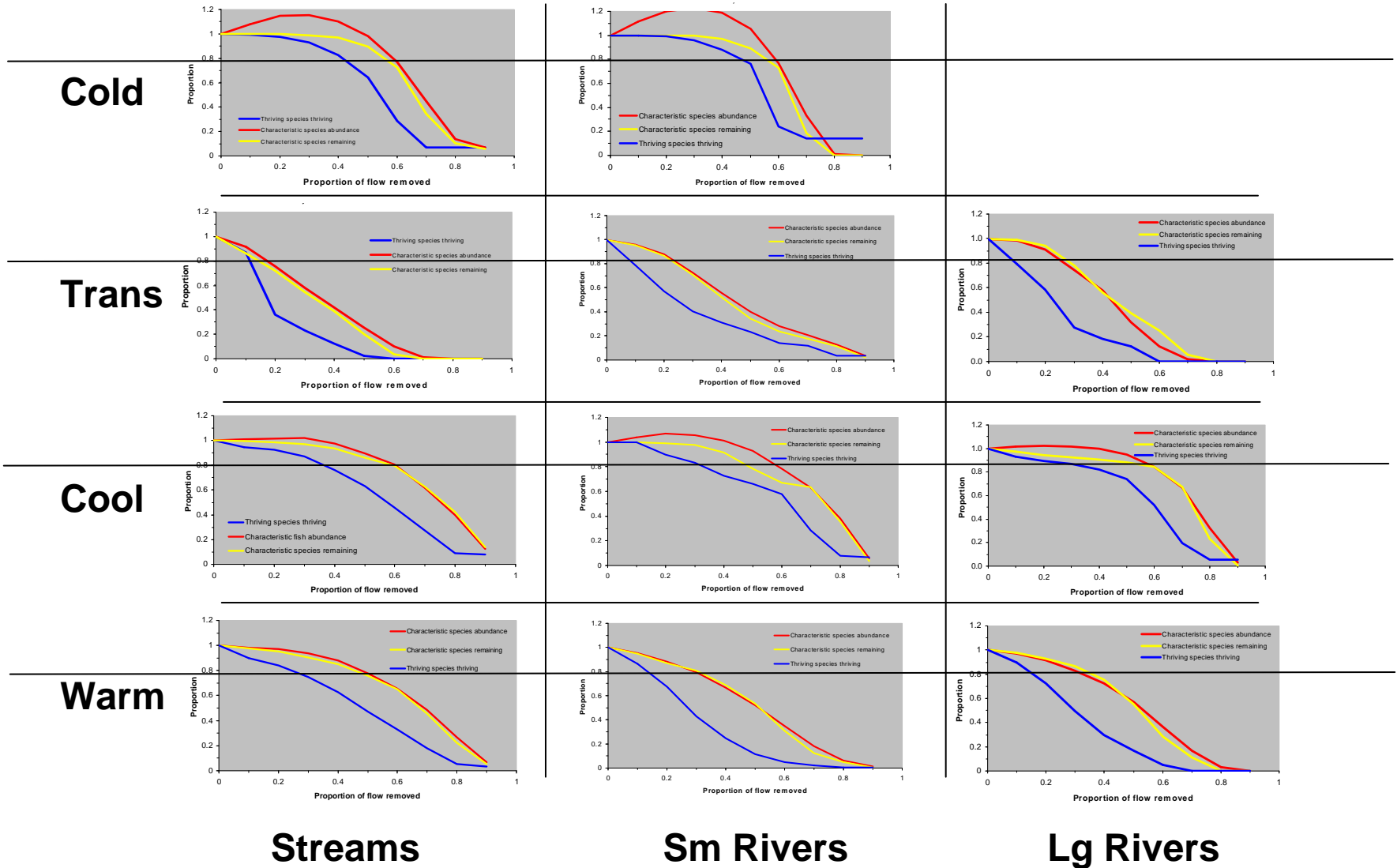
# Fish Impact Model

## Major Factors in the Analysis

- Geographic database on 11,000 watersheds and stream segments
- Info on watershed location, size, geology; and on stream flow, temperature, and fish populations
- Resulting maps closely match field experiences



# We grouped Michigan streams into types and developed response models using an average of ~ 20 specific segments per type



# 3. The Fish Response Model

- What fish populations live where in the streams and how do they respond to flow reductions in the summer (at low flow)
- Two Key Issues to Review
  - ✓ Define Stream Types and “Characteristic Fish Populations”
  - ✓ Define “Functional Impairment” to Characteristic Fish Populations due to water withdrawals
- Fish are representative of the stream ecosystem



Low-Flow Yield ( $\text{m}^3 \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \cdot \text{km}^{-2}$ )

brook trout

brown trout

Each Species has a range of flow that it prefers or thrives in

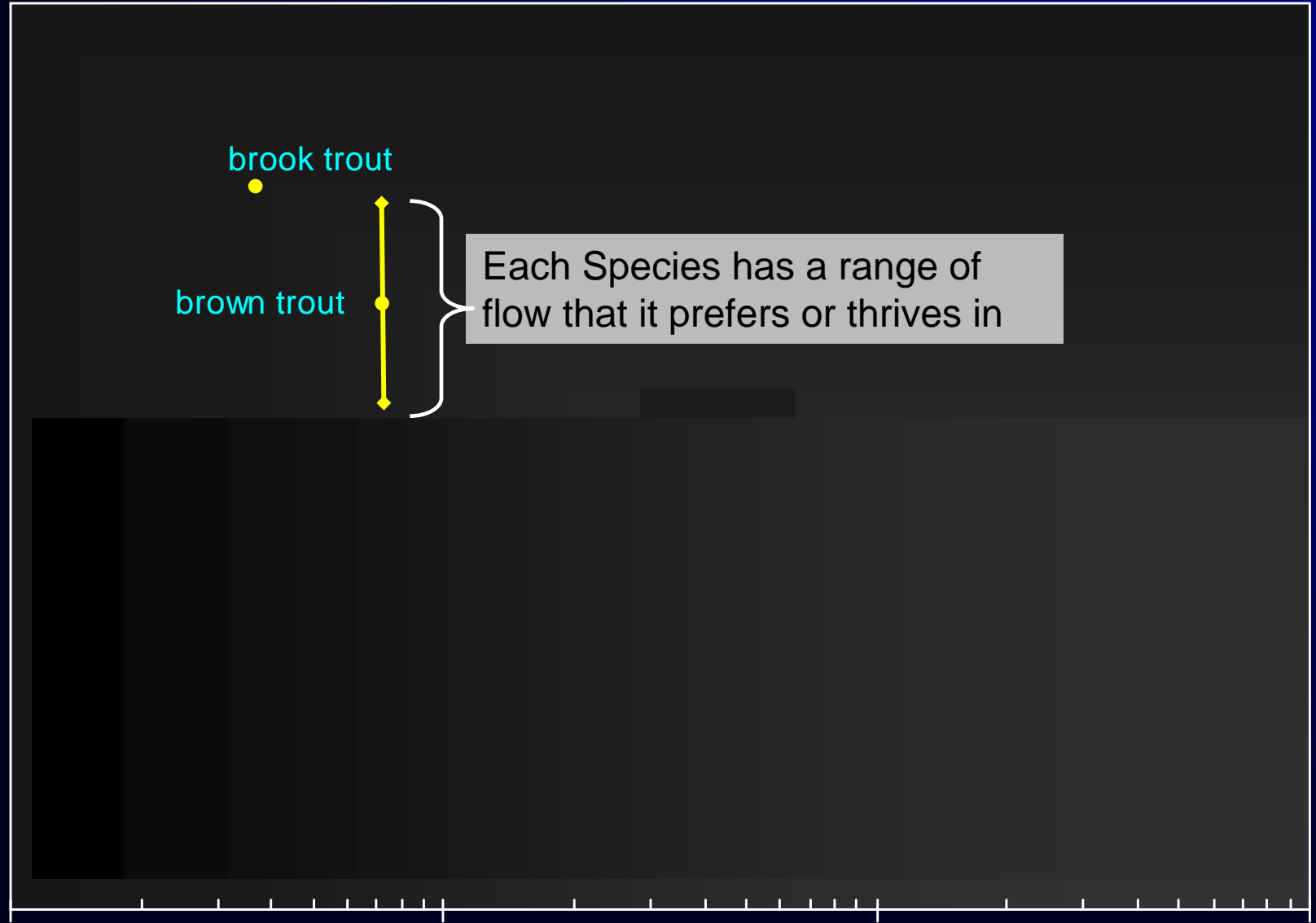
10

100

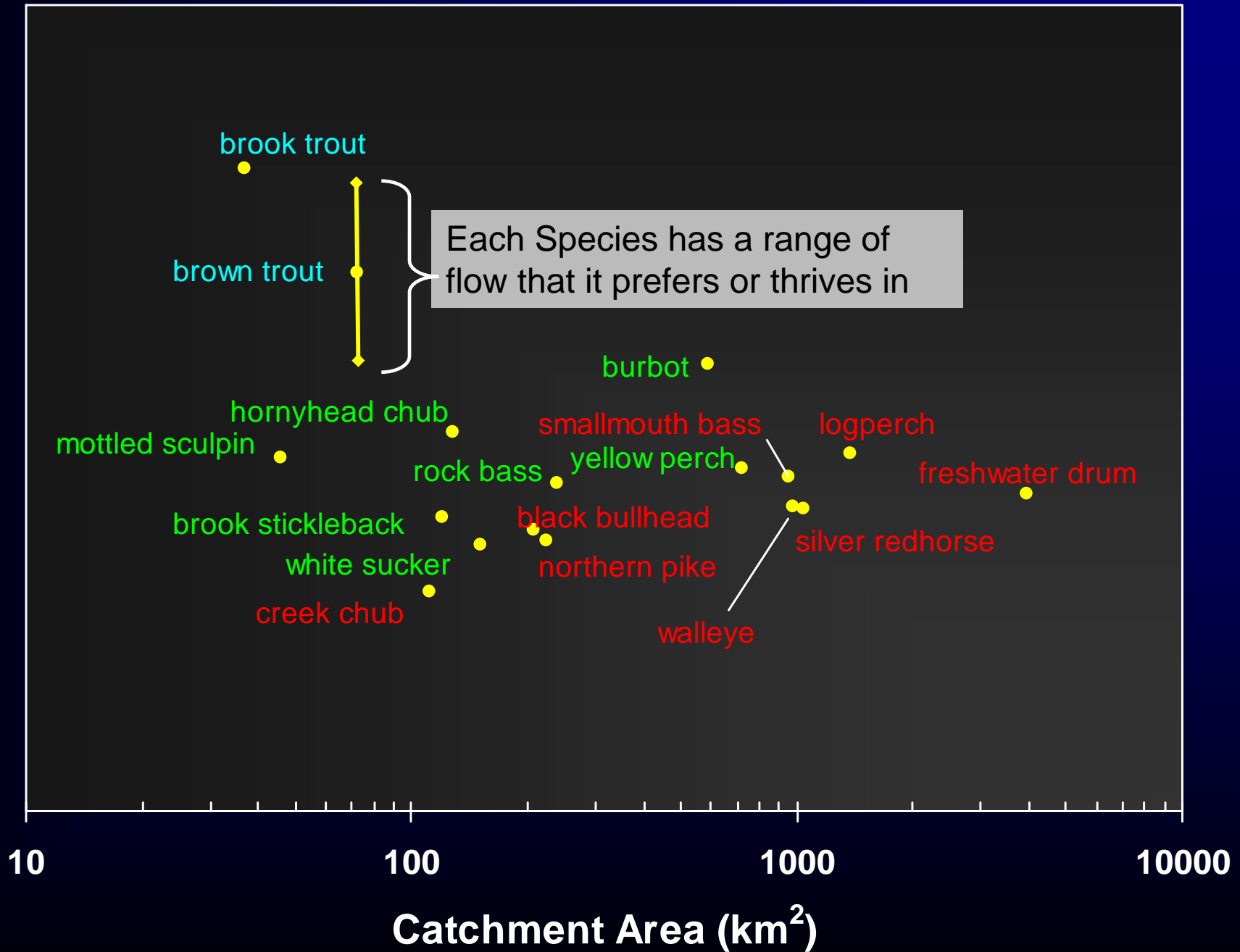
1000

10000

Catchment Area ( $\text{km}^2$ )

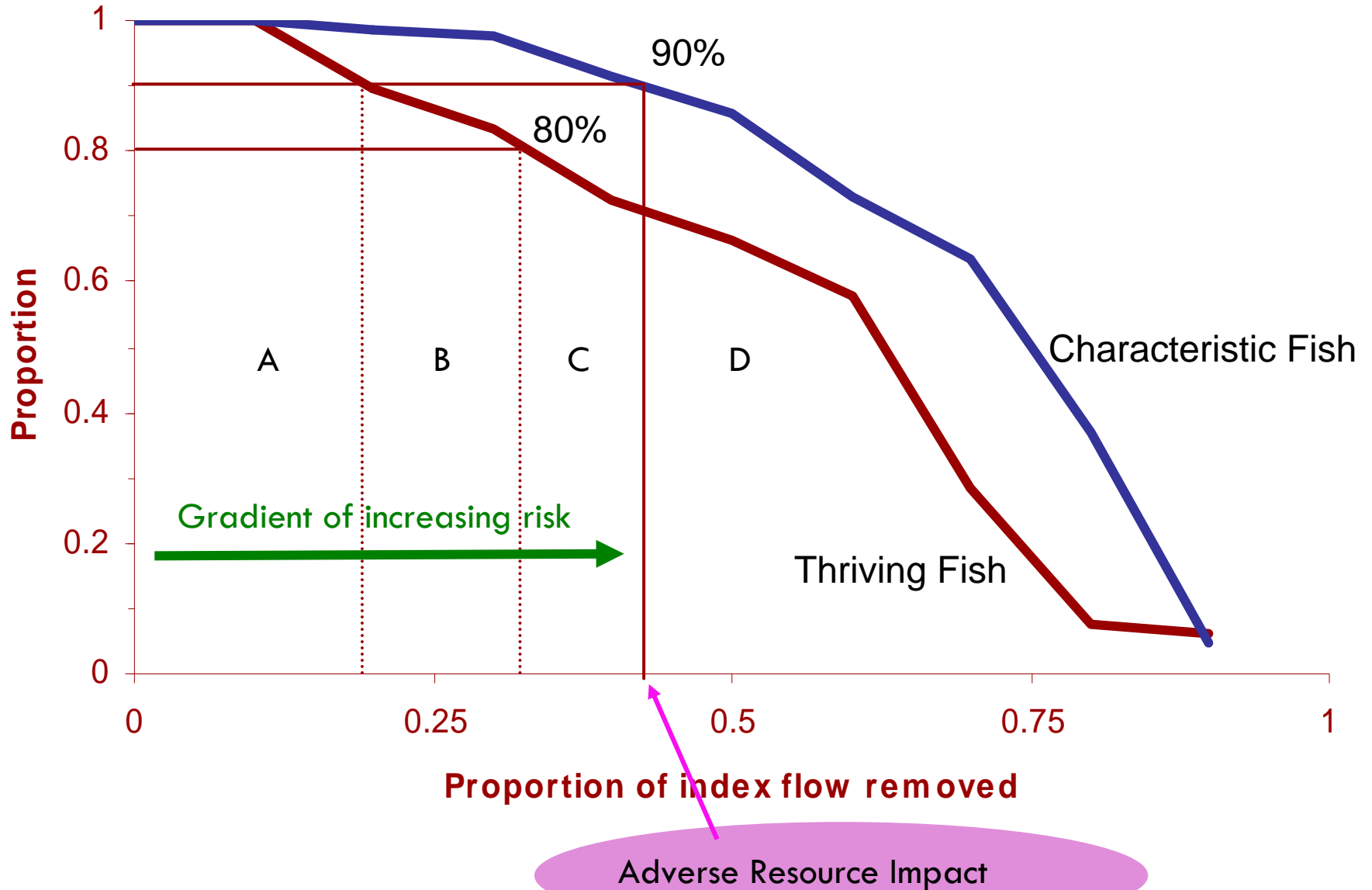


Low-Flow Yield ( $\text{m}^3 \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \cdot \text{km}^{-2}$ )



Each Species has a range of flow that it prefers or thrives in

# Interpreting the Fish Curves With an Eye to Policy



# WATER WITHDRAWAL ASSESSMENT TOOL

[Home](#) | [Quick Tour](#) | [Run WWAT](#)

## Related Articles

- [New Regulations](#)
- [Advisory Council](#)

## Collaborators



Department of Environmental Quality



Department of Natural Resources



United States Geologic Survey



Institute of Water Research

## Finding the Location of Your Water Withdrawal

Please select one of the following options for locating the position of your water withdrawal.

### Locate by Address

Enter the address and zipcode at or near the withdrawal location. Please spell street names correctly in order to ensure system accuracy.

Address:

Zip Code:

### Locate by Navigation

To select the county where the water withdrawal will occur, click the map or choose from the drop down menu.

Alcona



http://35.9.116.206/wwat/

# WATER WITHDRAWAL ASSESSMENT TOOL

## GIS Tools

Zoom In	Zoom Out
Address	Move Map
Back	Erase
Identify	Toggle Legend
Measure	Set Scale
Overview Map	Print
New Withdrawal	

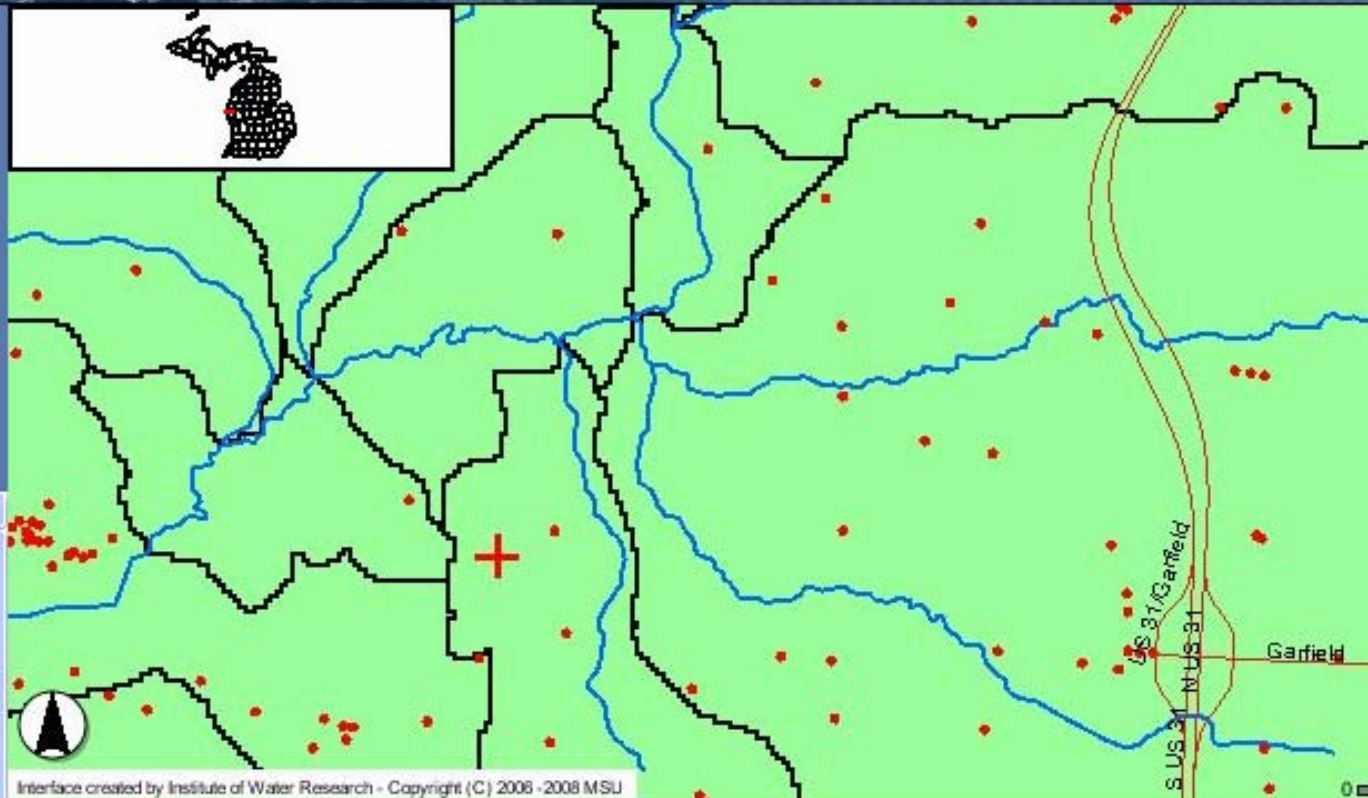
## Data Layers

- All Layers
- Roads
- State Roads
- Existing Wells
- Streams
- Lakes
- Watersheds
- Reach Watershed
- County

Refresh Map

Auto Refresh

Data Layer Help?



Interface created by Institute of Water Research - Copyright (C) 2006 - 2008 MSU

## Watersheds

Hyperlink to <http://35.9.116.206/wwat/getflow.asp?trans=2413&shore=0&bdrkf=0&bdrkt=0&aline=50.173&bline=62.337&cline=79.086.441917&y=43.563673&mapx=464157.96115975303&mapy=334802.1878387703>












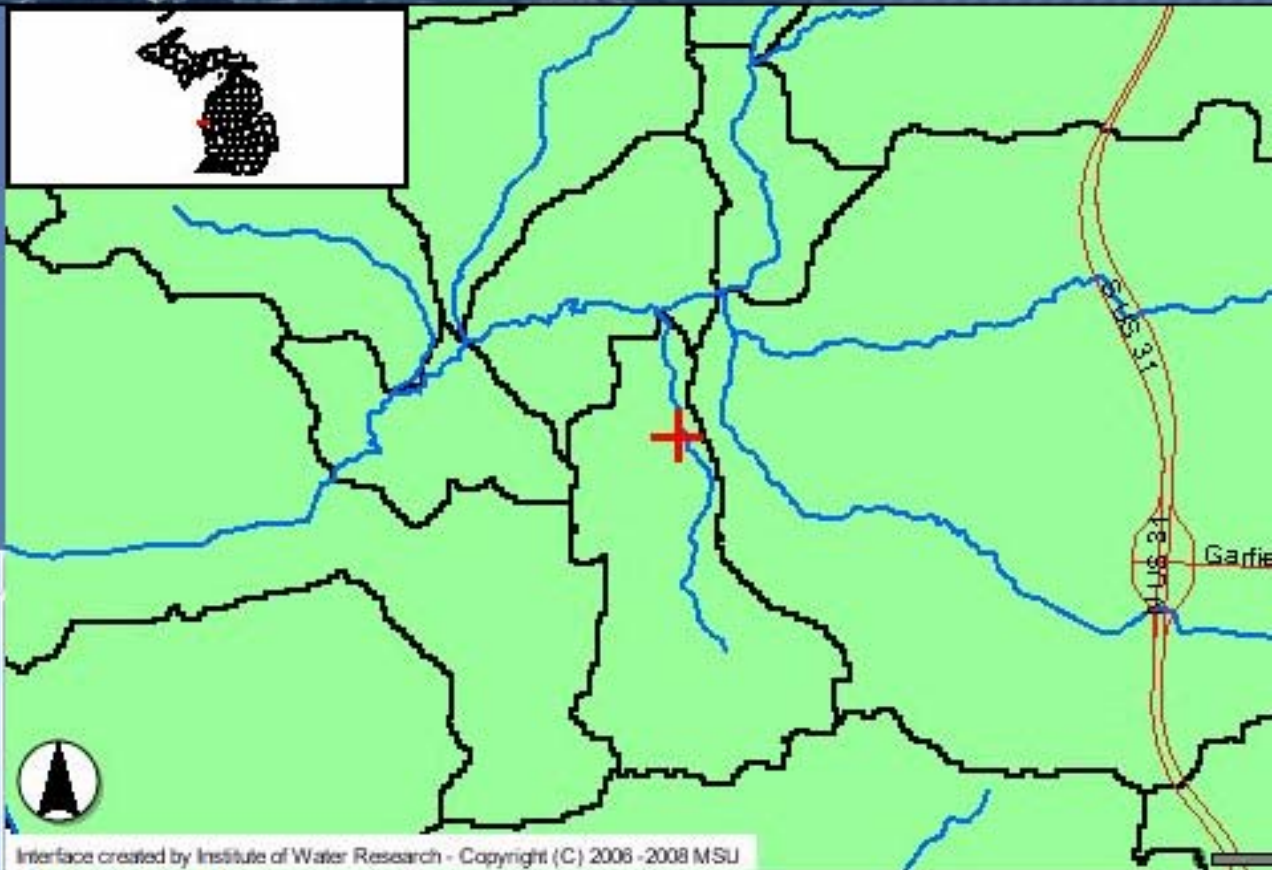
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-  County



Interface created by Institute of Water Research - Copyright (C) 2006 -2008 MSU

## Watersheds

Hyperlink to <http://35.9.116.206/wwat/getflow.asp?>

trans=2413&shore=0&bdrkf=0&bdrkt=0&aline=50.173&bline=62.337&cline=79.061&dphzoned=86&es-86.43595&y=43.56674&mapx=464641.6097645845&mapy=335140.4079271375

# WATER WITHD

## GIS Tools

Zoom In	Zoom Out
Address	Move Map
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Measure	Set Scale
Overview Map	Print

New Withdrawal

## Data Layers

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## ENTER WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION

**Pumping Source and Frequency**

Withdrawal Source:  Surface Water (from stream)  Ground Water  
 Shallow Pond

**Pumping Parameters**

Pumping Capacity (GPM):

Coordinates (X,Y):  ,

**Current Stats at Location**

- Depth to Bedrock (FT): 470
- Average Well Depth (FT): 86
- Percent Wells in Glacial: 100
- Percent Wells in Bedrock: 0

**send to model**

# WATER WITHD

## GIS Tools

Zoom In	Zoom Out
Address	Move Map
Back	Erase
Identify	Toggle Legend
Measure	Set Scale
Overview Map	Print

## New Withdrawal

## Data Layers

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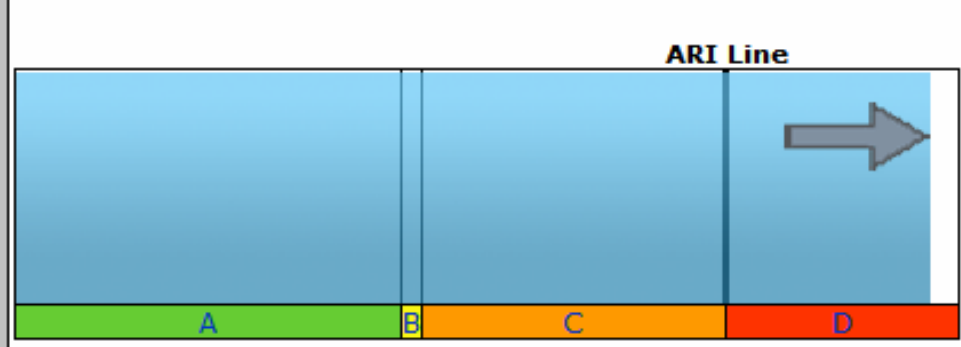
**Refresh Map**

Auto Refresh

# Water Withdrawal Screening Results

**WARNING:** For demonstration purpose only..

## Adverse Resource Impact (ARI) Graph



The ARI graph above illustrates the estimated removal of water from a nearby stream and its potential for causing an adverse resource impact (ARI). Estimated 700 GPM

The proposed withdrawal has failed in Zone D, and is likely to have an adverse resource impact.

## Screening Results - FAILED

### Instructions:

The proposed withdrawal lies within 'Zone D' and is likely to cause an adverse resource impact. By reducing the flow taken from a nearby stream, you may be able to avoid these impacts and pass the screening process. Here are several examples of what you could do to help avoid adverse resource impacts:

- Increase Distance From Nearby Streams
- Increase Well Depth
- Reduce Pumping Rate

To modify withdrawal characteristics and rerun the screen press 'Rerun'.

### Actions:

- [Help](#)
- [Rerun](#)
- [Register Now](#)
- [Feedback](#)
- [View Google Map](#)
- [Print Report](#)
- [Exit](#)





GIS Tools

Zoom In	Zoom Out
Address	Move Map
Back	Erase
Identify	Toggle Legend
Measure	Set Scale
Overview Map	Print

New Withdrawal

Data Layers

- All Layers
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- Lakes
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- County

ENTER WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION

Pumping Source and Frequency

Withdrawal Source:  Surface Water (from stream)  Ground Water

Shallow Pond

Pumping Frequency:  Continuous  Intermittent

Pumping Parameters

Pumping Capacity (GPM):

Coordinates (X,Y):

Well Depth (FT):

Aquifer Type:  Bedrock  Glacial

Current Stats at Location

-Depth to Bedrock (FT): 470  
 -Average Well Depth (FT): 86  
 -Percent Wells in Glacial: 100  
 -Percent Wells in Bedrock: 0

Intermittent Pumping Schedule

Pumping Hours/Day:  Pumping Days/Week:

Months Pumping:

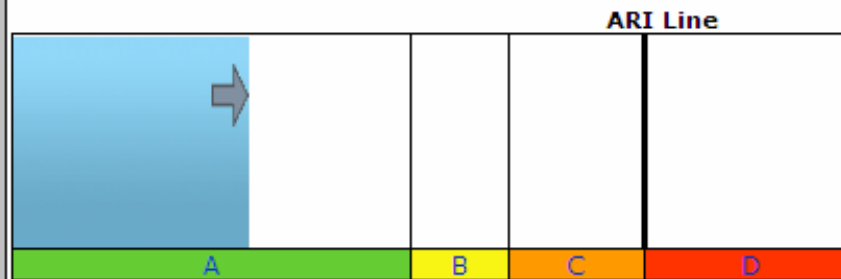
(hold Ctrl to select multiple months)

send to model

# Water Withdrawal Screening Results

**WARNING:** For demonstration purpose only..

## Adverse Resource Impact (ARI) Graph



The ARI graph above illustrates the estimated removal of water from a nearby stream and its potential for causing an adverse resource impact (ARI). Estimated 30 GPM

The proposed withdrawal has passed in Zone A.

## Screening Results - PASSED

### Instructions:

The proposed withdrawal has passed the screening process.

This withdrawal lies within 'Zone A' and is unlikely to have an adverse resource impact. Water withdrawals with a capacity of over 70 gpm are required to register with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality before beginning the withdrawal, and report the actual water use every year.

### Actions:

- [Help](#)
- [Rerun](#)
- [Register Now](#)
- [Feedback](#)
- [View Google Map](#)
- [Print Report](#)
- [Exit](#)

# WATER WITHDRAWAL

### GIS Tools

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Address	Move Map
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Overview Map	Print

New Withdrawal

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Refresh Map

Auto Refresh

Data Layer Help?

**DISCLAIMER:**

## Registration Form

Welcome to the water withdrawal registration form. By completing and submitting this form, you will register your withdrawal with the Department of Environmental Quality.

## Contact Information

First Name:	<input type="text"/>	Last Name:	<input type="text"/>
Address:	<input type="text"/>		
City:	<input type="text"/>	State:	<input type="text"/>
Zip:	<input type="text"/>		
Phone:	<input type="text"/>		
e-mail:	<input type="text"/>		

## Well Information

Watershed ID:	<input type="text" value="7522"/>
Pumping Rate (GPM):	<input type="text" value="500"/>
Well Depth (FT):	<input type="text" value="86"/>
Latitude:	<input type="text" value="43.5639"/>
Longitude:	<input type="text" value="-86.442551"/>

## Water Removal From Nearby Streams

Watershed	Removal (GPM)
7522	29
7517	10
9761	14
10775	16
11483	5
14601	20



# WATER WITHDRAWAL ASSESSMENT TOOL

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R	TOTALWELLS	PCTDRIFT	PCTROCK	PCTUNKNOWN	SAFETY	ALINE	BLINE	CLINE	A_CUT_OFF	B_CUT_OFF	C_CUT_OFF
161	99.3788819876	0	0.621118012422	2	0.33	0.41	0.52	684.474	850.406	1078.56	

The tool can supply an estimate of the amount of water needs to remain in the stream to prevent causing a resource impact.

- C cut off - in gallon per minute:

1902 gpm ←

1078 gpm ←

109 gpm ←

79 gpm ←

# *Water Withdrawal Legislation Updates*

## *Senate Bill No. 212*

- The water resources conservation advisory council
- The person making the appointment shall give consideration and deference to individuals who served on the former ground water conservation advisory council.

# *Water Withdrawal Legislation Updates*

## *Senate Bill No. 212*

- The council shall appoint a technical advisory committee of individuals with specific technical and legal expertise relevant to the council's responsibilities.
  
- The council shall do all of the following:
  - a) Study the sustainability of the state's water use
  - b) Develop criteria and indicators to evaluate the sustainability of the state's water use
  - c) Make recommendations regarding the implementation and effectiveness of the water withdrawal assessment tool as provided for in part 327

## *Water Withdrawal Legislation Policy Issues*

### Major Issue Areas to Solve

- Presumptions Afforded by the Use of the Tool
- What happens in Zones B, C and D
- Mitigation – where and when – limited by what?
- Permitting Applicability
- Water User Responsibilities
- The Role of Water Users Committees at the Local Level

## *Water Withdrawal Legislation Policy Issues – Cont.*

- Capacity versus Withdrawal
- Return Flow – Included, how and when
- New Interim Lake Standard and Future Process
- Other Sensitive Areas (e.g. Fens, Bogs, etc)
- Updates to the model
- **Other Issues from the House**
  - Democratic Package**
    - HB 5065-5073
    - The Role of Citizen Participation
    - Bottled Water



# Latest substitute for SB 860

- The assessment tool is not required to go online until December 31, 2008, giving time for continued improvements including collection and analysis of data
- Small watersheds are being integrated into larger watersheds
- A methodology and protocol to collect and use actual stream flow measurements will lead to greater reliability and robustness of the assessment tool
- Groundwater withdrawal can now replace or substitute for a surface water withdrawal while maintaining the stream's baseline capacity

# Large Scale Water Use Assessment Tool

- Existing water withdrawals are reflected in the data only to the degree that they affect the flow of the 135 USGS gauged streams
- There are impacts of human actions on stream flow and characteristic fish populations - Some watercourses used for drainage have become ephemeral, intermittent or seasonal with changing fish population expectations

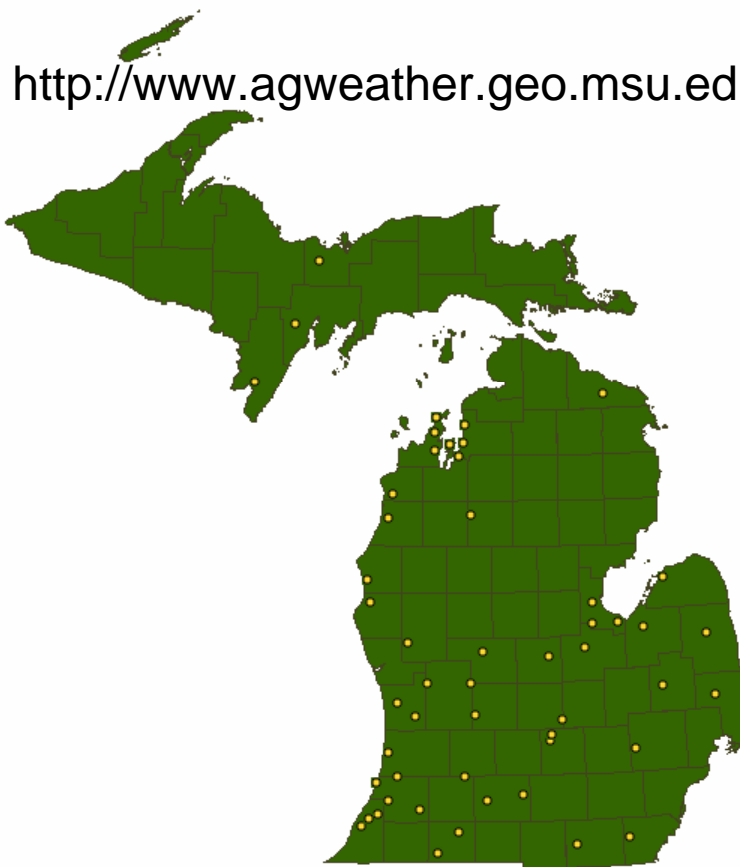
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Select a **weather station location** from the map to view weather data, integrated pest management models, natural resource and production models, forecasts and related links for specific commodities. (View [alphabetical list of stations](#).)

The products in this web site are designed to aid agriculture and the green industry in making management decisions. The [Michigan Automated Weather Network \(MAWN\)](#) based at Michigan State University generates the data from the weather stations. MSU scientists have created or adapted the decision-making models for Michigan conditions.

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Enviro-weather is a collaborative project between the [Michigan Climatological Resources Program](#) and the [MSU Integrated Pest Management Program](#) as supported by [Project GREEN](#), the [Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station](#), [MSU Extension](#), private

# Questions?

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