THE WATERSHED RESTORATION PLAN

• Watershed Community Initiative (elements 1-3)
• Watershed Inventory (elements 4-16)
• Identify Problems & Causes (elements 17-18)
• Identify Sources & Calculate Loads (elements 19-21)
• Set Goals & Identify Critical Areas (elements 22-24)
• Choose Measures/ Best Management Practices (elements 25-26)
• Action Register & Schedule  (element 27-31)
• Tracking Effectiveness (elements 32-33)
CRITICAL AREA IDENTIFICATION

STEPL Loads (adjusted for catchment area)
- Nitrogen load
- Phosphorus load
- Biological oxygen demand load
- Sediment load
- Runoff volume

Water Chemistry (% observations exceeding target value or water quality standard)
- Dissolved oxygen
- Ammonia
- Nitrate
- Total Kjeldahl nitrogen
- Total phosphorus
- Total suspended solids
- Turbidity
- E. coli

Habitat Quality
- Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index scores

Fish & Macroinvertebrate Community Health
- Index of biotic integrity scores
- Macroinvertebrate Index of Biotic Integrity scores

Land Cover (% of land cover in catchment area)
- Forest
- Agriculture

Stakeholder Concerns
- Percent wetland loss
- Percent Green Infrastructure Vision lands not protected
- Recreational sites located on or adjacent to impaired waterways
- Approximate percentage of impaired streams that are regulated drains
- Percent human land cover
- Percent riparian human land cover
- Percent impervious surfaces
CRITICAL AREAS
### CRITICAL AREA PROBLEMS

#### Tier 1 Critical Areas

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<th>Dissolved Oxygen</th>
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<th>Ammonia Toxicity</th>
<th>Physical Habitat</th>
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Prioritize Preservation Area

- Higher water quality compared to other locations
- Healthier fish and macroinvertebrate assemblages
- Higher quality stream and riparian habitat
- Land area included in the Green Infrastructure Vision ecological network
- Concentrations of natural habitat features that provide important ecosystem functions (ex. water purification, groundwater recharge, and stream flow regulation)
- Concentrations of high quality natural areas and Heritage Database species
- Habitats most at risk to invasive species
NEXT STEPS

IDEM & EPA Plan Approval

- IDEM review and comments (March 10th)
- EPA review and comments (April 11th)
- Plan update
- Final plan approved (May 10th)
- Develop cost-share program (March-April)
- Begin implementing cost-share program (May 10th)

NIRPC Plan Adoption

- 30-day public comment period (March 3rd- April 1st)
- Produce public comment report
- EMPC for recommendation
- Commission takes action for adoption
QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

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