

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

## September 4, 2025



# Opening Business

- Call to Order
- Introduction/Meeting Instructions
- Roll Call







**PURPOSE:** *The St. Joseph River Basin Commission exists to provide a forum for the discussion, study and evaluation of water resource issues of common concern and foster cooperative planning and coordinated management of the basin's water and related land resources.*

The St. Joseph River Basin Commission was created by the Indiana General Assembly in 1988 to address water quality issues in the St. Joseph River and all the lakes and streams that flow to it. The enabling statute of the Commission (IC 14-30-3) was amended in 2018 to expand the scope and powers of the Commission to address flooding as well. The Commission seeks to work with agencies, organizations and local units of government to:

- Develop plans and tools to improve water quality or mitigate flooding in the basin;
- Coordinate monitoring of water quality and hydrology in the basin;
- Promote best practices for urban stormwater and rural drainage management;
- Develop strategies to increase water infiltration and storage capacity in the basin;
- Distribute reports on the Commission's objectives, studies, and findings;
- Make recommendations in matters related to the Commission's objectives to political subdivisions in the basin and to other public and private agencies;
- Act as a coordinating agency for programs and activities of other public and private agencies that are related to the Commission's objectives;
- Serve as an advocate of the basin's interests before Congress and federal, state and local government agencies.

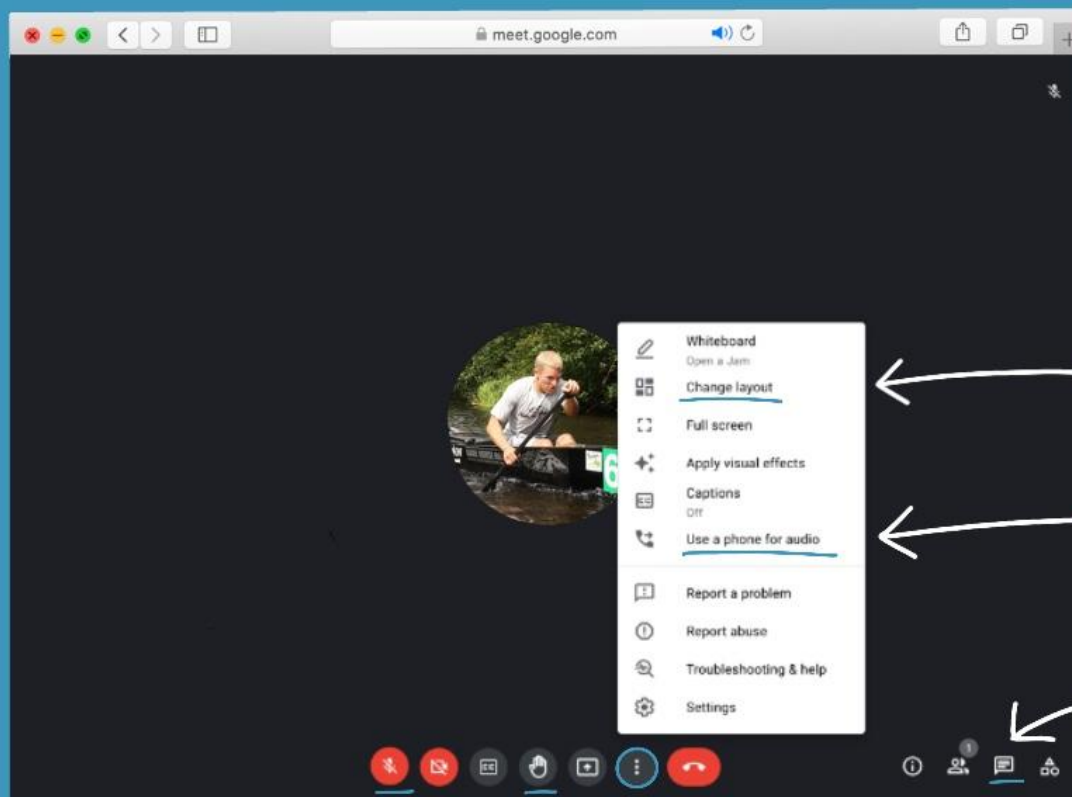
# The SJRBC shall consist of the following (or their proxy):

- The **Mayor** of each Class-II City or the Executive of the municipality with the largest population if the County does not have a Class-II city
- A **County Commissioner** from each County
- The **Health Officer** from each County
- The **County Surveyor** from each County
- A **Representative of the SWCD** from each County
- The Director of the Indiana DNR

*(paraphrased from IC 14-30-3-8)*

# Meeting Instructions

- State your name & county when making motions
- No need to state your name when voting



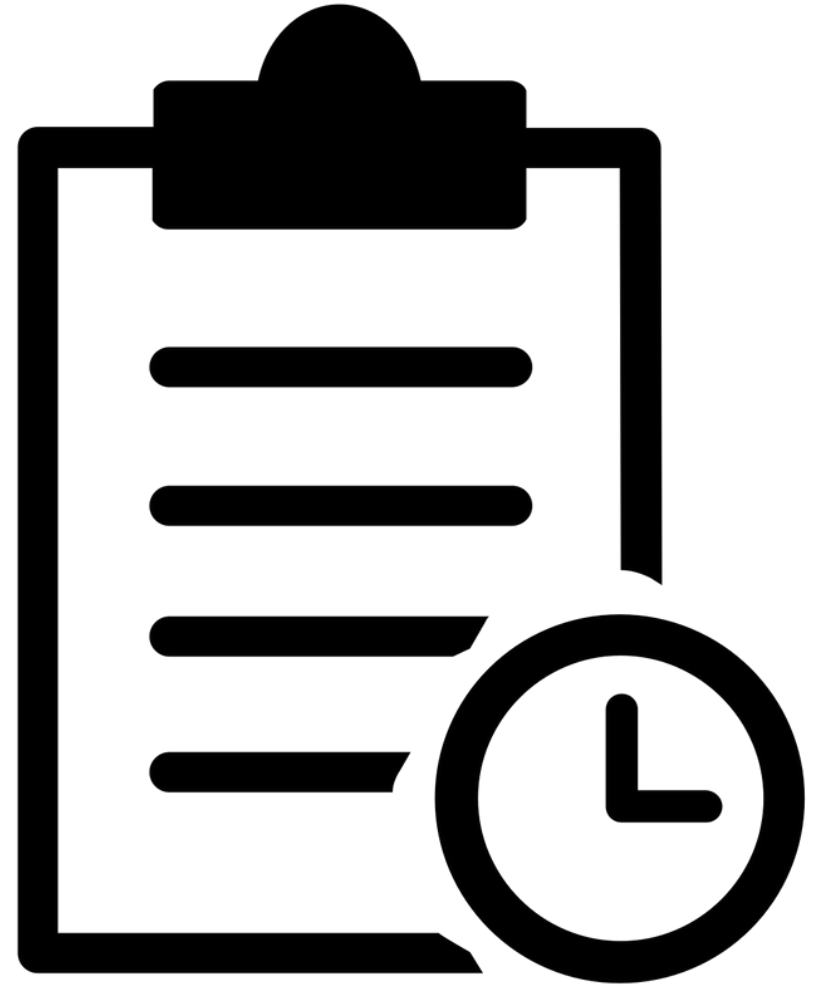
# Opening Business

- Call to Order
- Introduction/Meeting Instructions
- Roll Call
  - Your Name
  - Your Title/Affiliation
  - Who you represent (if you are a proxy)



# Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes
- Financial Report
- Approval of Claims





# Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes
  - May 29, 2025



# Financial Report – FYE 25 Activities

|                               | FY24<br>Actual     | FY25<br>Actual     | FY25<br>Budget    | Budget to<br>YE Variance | Notes |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| <b>REVENUE</b>                |                    |                    |                   |                          |       |
| State of Indiana              | 104,974.00         | 104,974.00         | 102,875           | 2,099                    | A     |
| Local Government              | 66,335.50          | 71,285.00          | 67,110            | 4,175                    | B     |
| Special Projects              | 35,455.40          | 135.16             | 13,200            | (13,065)                 | C     |
| Interest                      | 23,460.16          | 23,588.56          | 20,000            | 3,589                    |       |
| Other Income                  | 0.00               | 0.00               |                   | 0                        |       |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>          | <b>230,225.06</b>  | <b>199,982.72</b>  | <b>203,185</b>    | <b>(3,202)</b>           |       |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>               |                    |                    |                   |                          |       |
| <b>Basic Operations</b>       |                    |                    |                   |                          |       |
| SJRBC Director                | 45,526.56          | 49,960.38          | 50,000            | (40)                     |       |
| Accounting Services           | 1,641.87           | 1,938.44           | 3,000             | (1,062)                  | D     |
| Office Rent                   | 6,999.96           | 6,999.96           | 7,000             | (0)                      |       |
| Legal                         | 2,960.00           | 2,145.00           | 3,000             | (855)                    |       |
| Bank Service Fees             | 10.15              | 35.15              | 200               | (165)                    |       |
| Insurance                     | 518.64             | 518.64             | 520               | (1)                      |       |
| Travel/Mileage                | 497.56             | 246.09             | 800               | (554)                    | E     |
| Audit                         | 0.00               | 3,766.83           | 9,000             | (5,233)                  | F     |
| Information Technology        | 999.96             | 999.96             | 1,000             | (0)                      |       |
| Printing                      | 94.97              | 88.55              | 200               | (111)                    |       |
| Postage                       | 5.66               | 10.97              | 50                | (39)                     |       |
| Telephone                     | 240.00             | 240.00             | 240               | 0                        |       |
| Misc Expenses                 | 0.00               | 0.00               | 250               | (250)                    |       |
| <b>Operating Expenses</b>     | <b>59,495.33</b>   | <b>66,949.97</b>   | <b>75,260</b>     | <b>(8,310)</b>           |       |
| <b>Special Projects</b>       |                    |                    |                   |                          |       |
| Water Monitoring              | 41,218.27          | 43,391.65          | 58,000            | (14,608)                 | G     |
| Additional Staff              | 42,856.75          | 16,940.11          | 57,000            | (40,060)                 | H     |
| Member/Partner Support        | 1,657.42           | 8,582.36           | 10,500            | (1,918)                  | I     |
| Planning/Resource Development | 0.00               | 0.00               | 45,000            | (45,000)                 | J     |
| Education/Outreach Provision  | 4,875.27           | 4,789.38           | 8,000             | (3,211)                  |       |
| <b>Project Expenses</b>       | <b>90,607.71</b>   | <b>73,703.50</b>   | <b>178,500</b>    | <b>(104,797)</b>         |       |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>         | <b>150,103.04</b>  | <b>140,653.47</b>  | <b>253,760</b>    | <b>(113,107)</b>         |       |
| <b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>   | <b>\$80,122.02</b> | <b>\$59,329.25</b> | <b>(\$50,575)</b> | <b>109,904</b>           |       |

# Financial Report – FYE 25 Assets

## ASSETS

|                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Cash</b>                      |              |
| Lake City Account (1944)         | \$525,532.05 |
| <b>Total Cash</b>                | \$525,532.05 |
| <b>Accounts Receivable</b>       |              |
| State of Indiana                 | \$0.00       |
| <b>Total Accounts Receivable</b> | \$0.00       |
| <b>Total Assets</b>              | \$525,532.05 |

## LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| <b>Liabilities</b>                        |              |
| Accounts Payable                          | \$33,570.89  |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>                  | \$33,570.89  |
| <b>Fund Balance</b>                       |              |
| Fund Balance FYE 2024                     | \$432,631.91 |
| Change in Net Assets YTD                  | \$59,329.25  |
| <b>Total Fund Balance</b>                 | \$491,961.16 |
| <b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b> | \$525,532.05 |

# Financial Report – FYE 25 Cash Flows

## CASH RECEIPTS

|                                       |                     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>State of Indiana</b>               | <b>\$104,974.00</b> |
| <b>Special Project Revenue</b>        | <b>\$135.16</b>     |
| Symposium Ticket Sales                | \$135.16            |
| <b>Local Government Appropriation</b> | <b>\$71,285.00</b>  |
| <u>Elkhart County</u>                 | \$10,390.00         |
| City of Elkhart                       | \$4,724.00          |
| City of Goshen                        | \$3,024.00          |
| <u>LaGrange County</u>                | \$14,303.00         |
| Town of Lagrange                      | \$1,056.00          |
| <u>Noble County</u>                   | \$9,791.00          |
| City of Kendallville                  | \$2,704.00          |
| <u>Steuben County</u>                 | \$10,553.00         |
| City of Angola                        | \$2,644.00          |
| <u>St Joseph County</u>               | \$3,174.00          |
| City of South Bend                    | \$3,500.00          |
| City of Mishawaka                     | \$1,369.00          |
| <u>Kosciusko County</u>               | \$3,908.00          |
| Town of Syracuse                      | \$145.00            |
| <b>Interest Earned</b>                | <b>\$23,588.56</b>  |
| <b>Total Cash Receipts</b>            | <b>\$199,982.72</b> |

# Financial Report – FYE 25 Cash Flows

## CASH DISBURSEMENTS

| Date                              | Vendor                              | Check # | Amount              |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|---------------------|
| FY25                              | Cum. Bank Service Charges           | n/a     | \$35.15             |
| 7/22/24                           | Thorne Grodnik #212206              | 1430    | \$80.00             |
| 8/29/24                           | Kate Barrett - Expense Reimb        | 1431    | \$915.37            |
| 9/9/24                            | MACOG (FY24 - Q4 & AmeriCorps)      | 1432    | \$29,028.99         |
| 10/8/24                           | MACOG AmeriCorps Balance            | 1433    | \$570.00            |
| 10/9/24                           | J Gaigalas-Webmap INV-4             | ACH     | \$3,897.98          |
| 10/24/24                          | Thorne Grodnik - Sep Mtg            | 1434    | \$450.00            |
| 12/3/24                           | Purdue University - IWLA            | 1435    | \$1,900.00          |
| 12/3/24                           | MIA Workshop Registration           | 1436    | \$60.00             |
| 12/11/24                          | MACOG FY25 - Q1                     | 1437    | \$23,180.70         |
| 1/16/25                           | J Gaigalas-Webmap INV-5             | ACH     | \$1,025.00          |
| 1/16/25                           | SBOA Audit - Inv# 3775              | 1439    | \$3,766.83          |
| 1/27/25                           | Thorne Grodnik - Dec Mtg            | 1438    | \$450.00            |
| 3/3/25                            | MACOG FY25 - Q2                     | 1439    | \$17,533.25         |
| 3/18/25                           | Thorne Grodnik #216369              | 1440    | \$650.00            |
| 3/25/25                           | Burke Inv #37603 - Noble Co Support | 1441    | \$2,500.00          |
| 4/10/25                           | Thorne Grodnik #216883              | 1442    | \$65.00             |
| 4/15/25                           | YMCA Camp Potawatami - deposit      | 1443    | \$135.00            |
| 4/16/25                           | J Gaigalas-Webmap INV-6             | ACH     | \$3,725.00          |
| 5/13/25                           | USGS - Waldron Lake Gage            | 1444    | \$4,300.00          |
| 6/2/25                            | Tritium - 2025 Gage Maint.          | 1445    | \$11,280.00         |
| 6/2/25                            | MBI - 2024 Sample Processing        | 1446    | \$13,456.30         |
| 6/2/25                            | YMCA Camp Potawatami - balance      | 1447    | \$1,915.00          |
| 6/12/25                           | Eulora - 2025 Gage Service          | 1448    | \$3,192.00          |
| 6/12/25                           | Thorne Grodnik - May Mtg            | 1449    | \$450.00            |
| 6/25/25                           | SCLC - SWQMP Intern Support         | 1450    | \$4,620.00          |
| <b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>   |                                     |         | <b>\$129,181.57</b> |
| <b>Net Change in Cash</b>         |                                     |         | <b>\$70,801.15</b>  |
| <b>Cash Balance as of 7/1/24</b>  |                                     |         | <b>\$454,730.90</b> |
| <b>Cash Balance as of 6/30/25</b> |                                     |         | <b>\$525,532.05</b> |



# Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes
- Financial Report
- Approval of Claims

## SJRBC Claims Submitted for Commission Approval September 4, 2025

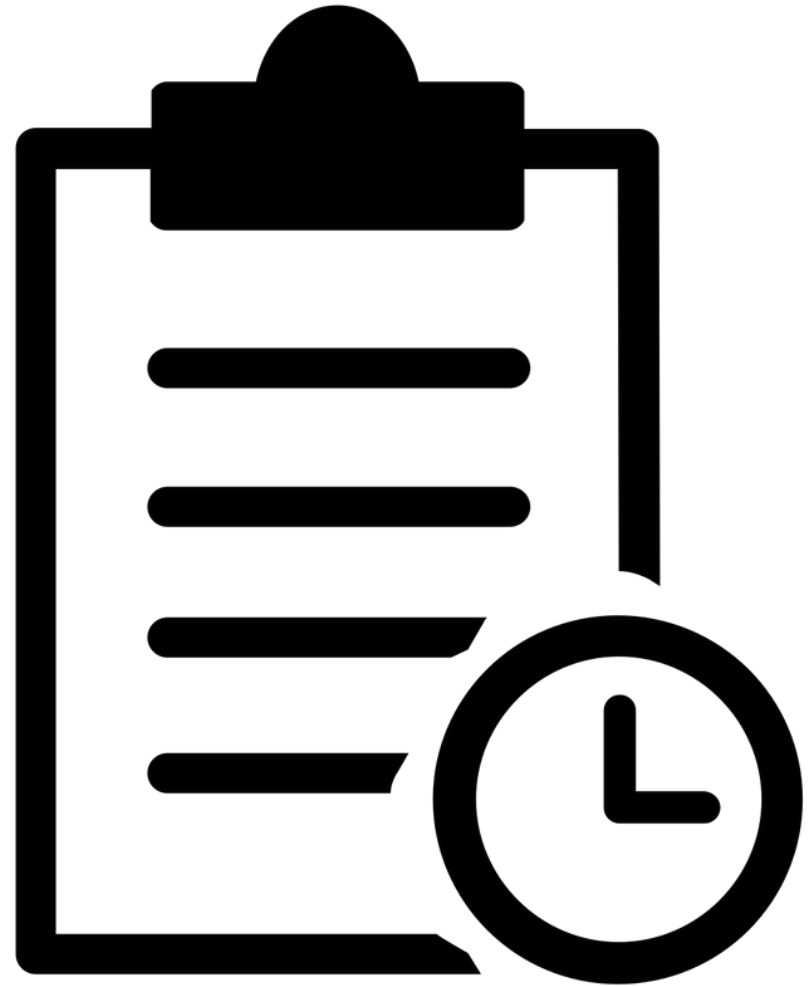
### Accounts Payable Voucher Register

| Date      | Vendor                    | Description                             | Amount             |
|-----------|---------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 4/11/2025 | YMCA Camp Potawotami      | Symposium Venue/Meal Deposit Invoice    | \$135.00           |
| 4/30/2025 | MACOG                     | Invoice #FY25-10 April 2025 Services    | \$4,816.60         |
| 5/21/2025 | YMCA Camp Potawotami      | Symposium Venue/Meal Booking #212778    | \$1,915.00         |
| 5/31/2025 | MACOG                     | Invoice #FY25-11 May 2025 Services      | \$5,814.02         |
| 6/1/2025  | Eulora LLC - ToltHawk     | Invoice #10759 - Annual Service 6/25-26 | \$3,192.00         |
| 6/6/2025  | THORNE GRODNIK            | Stmt #217854 - May Mtg Support          | \$450.00           |
| 6/23/2025 | Steuben Co. Lakes Council | Invoice #623B - SWQMP Intern Support    | \$4,620.00         |
| 6/30/2025 | MACOG                     | Invoice #FY25-12 June 2025 Services     | \$5,997.39         |
| 7/8/2025  | THORNE GRODNIK            | Stmt #218434 - HB 1509 Support          | \$532.00           |
| 8/18/2025 | Juozas Gaigalas           | Invoice #INV-7 - Final Webmap Delivery  | \$1,519.76         |
|           |                           | Total                                   | <u>\$28,991.77</u> |

# Consent Agenda

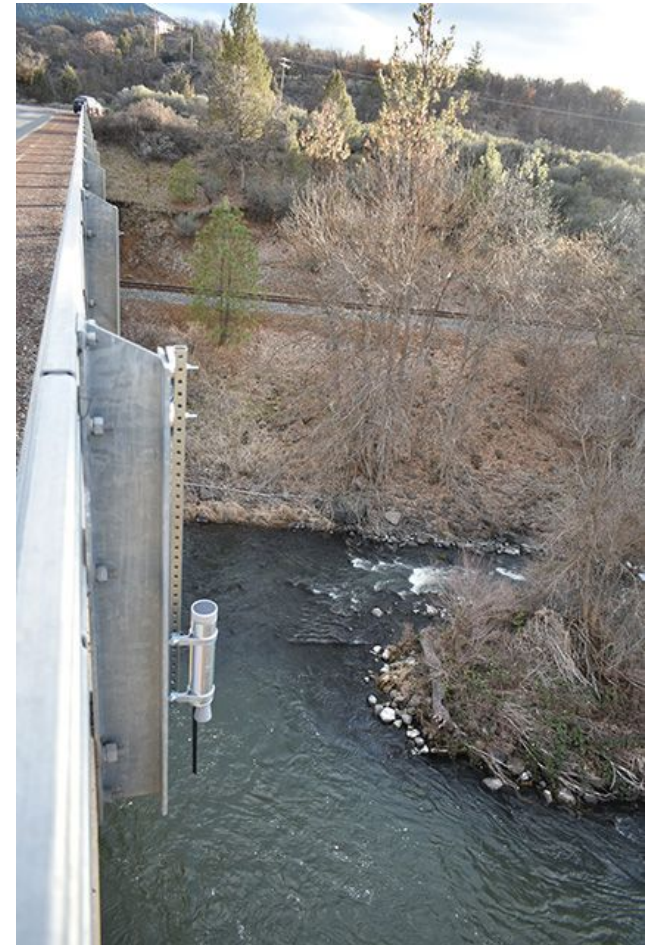
- Approval of Minutes
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**Questions?**



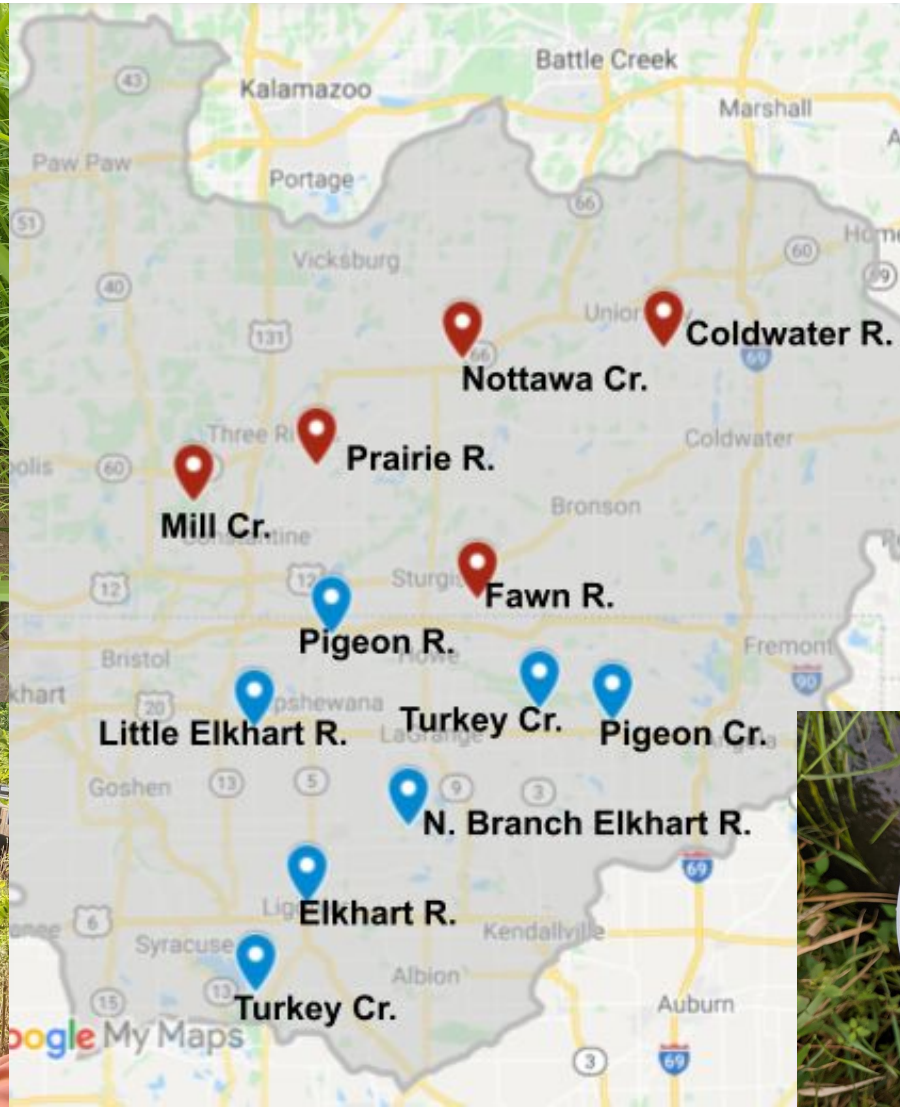
# Old Business

- Water Monitoring Program





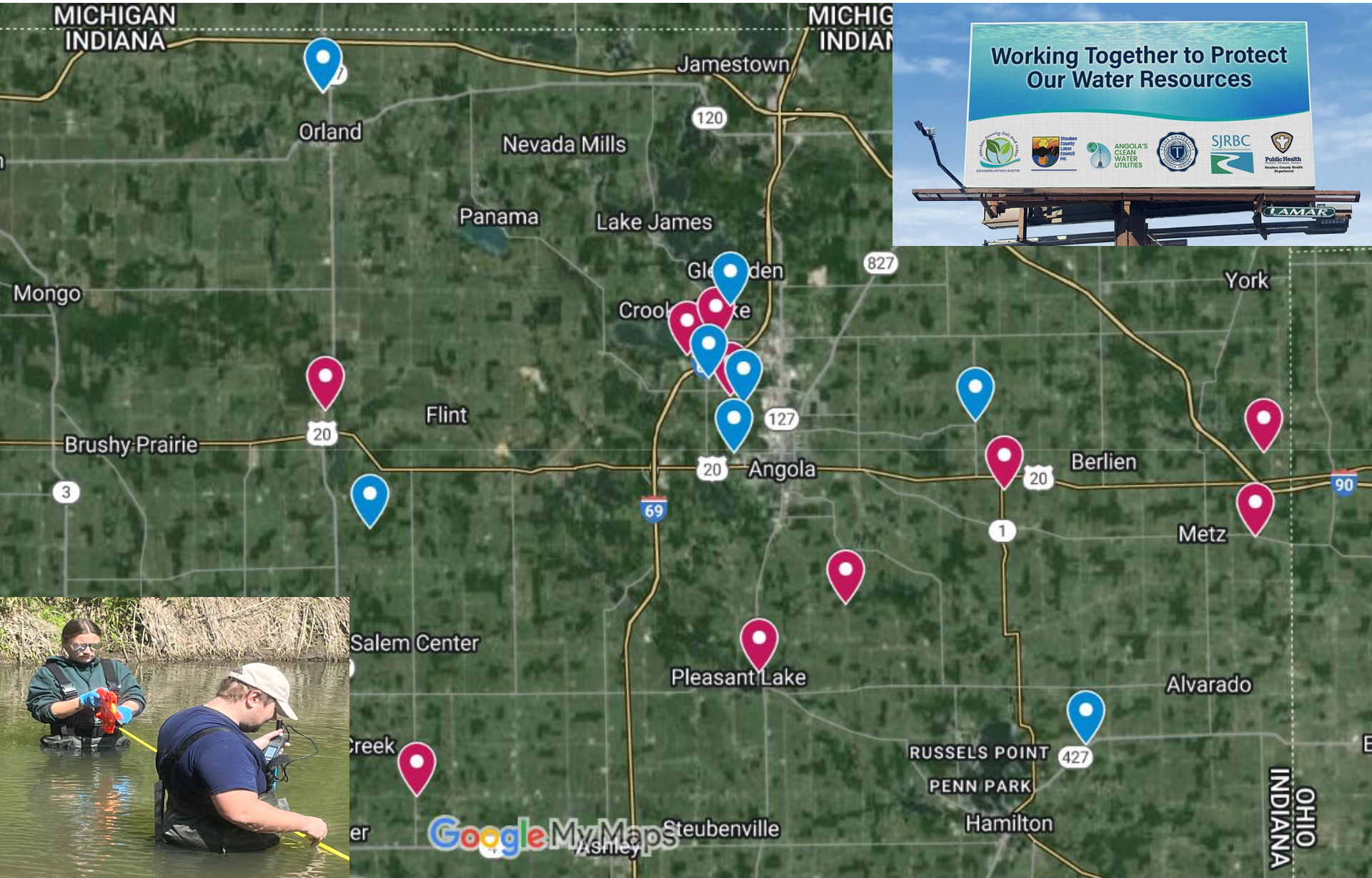
# SJRBC Water Quality Monitoring Program



| Site Name   | ICI Score 2021   | ICI Score 2022   | ICI Score 2023   | ICI Score 2024   |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Mill Creek (reference site) @ Preston Road</b> | 40 (Good)        | 48 (Exceptional) | 52 (Exceptional) | 44 (Very Good)   |
| Prairie River @ Hoshel Park                       | 26 (Fair)        | 44 (Very Good)   | 46 (Exceptional) | 36 (Good)        |
| Nottawa Creek @ Olney Road                        | 50 (Exceptional) | 52 (Exceptional) | 40 (Good)        | ND               |
| Coldwater River @ Riverbend County Park           | 42 (Very Good)   | 50 (Exceptional) | 50 (Exceptional) | 50 (Exceptional) |
| Fawn River @ Kime Bridge                          | 38 (Good)        | 48 (Exceptional) | 42 (Very Good)   | 46 (Exceptional) |
| Pigeon Creek @ SR 327                             | 46 (Exceptional) | 44 (Very Good)   | 44 (Very Good)   | 46 (Exceptional) |
| Pigeon River @ Scott Mill                         | 30 (Fair)        | 50 (Exceptional) | 38 (Good)        | 48 (Exceptional) |
| North Branch Elkhart River @ Delt Church Park     | 38 (Good)        | 34 (Marg. Good)  | 40 (Good)        | 30 (Fair)        |
| Elkhart River @ Ligonier                          | 28 (Fair)        | 36 (Good)        | 44 (Very Good)   | 42 (Very Good)   |
| Turkey Creek of the Elkhart River @ E 1000 N      | 44 (Very Good)   | 54 (Exceptional) | 40 (Good)        | 44 (Very Good)   |
| Little Elkhart River @ CR 18 in Middlebury        | 42 (Very Good)   | 48 (Exceptional) | 32 (Marg. Good)  | 16 (Marg. Good)  |
| Turkey Creek of the Pigeon River @ E 150 N        | ND               | 50 (Exceptional) | 50 (Exceptional) | 52 (Exceptional) |



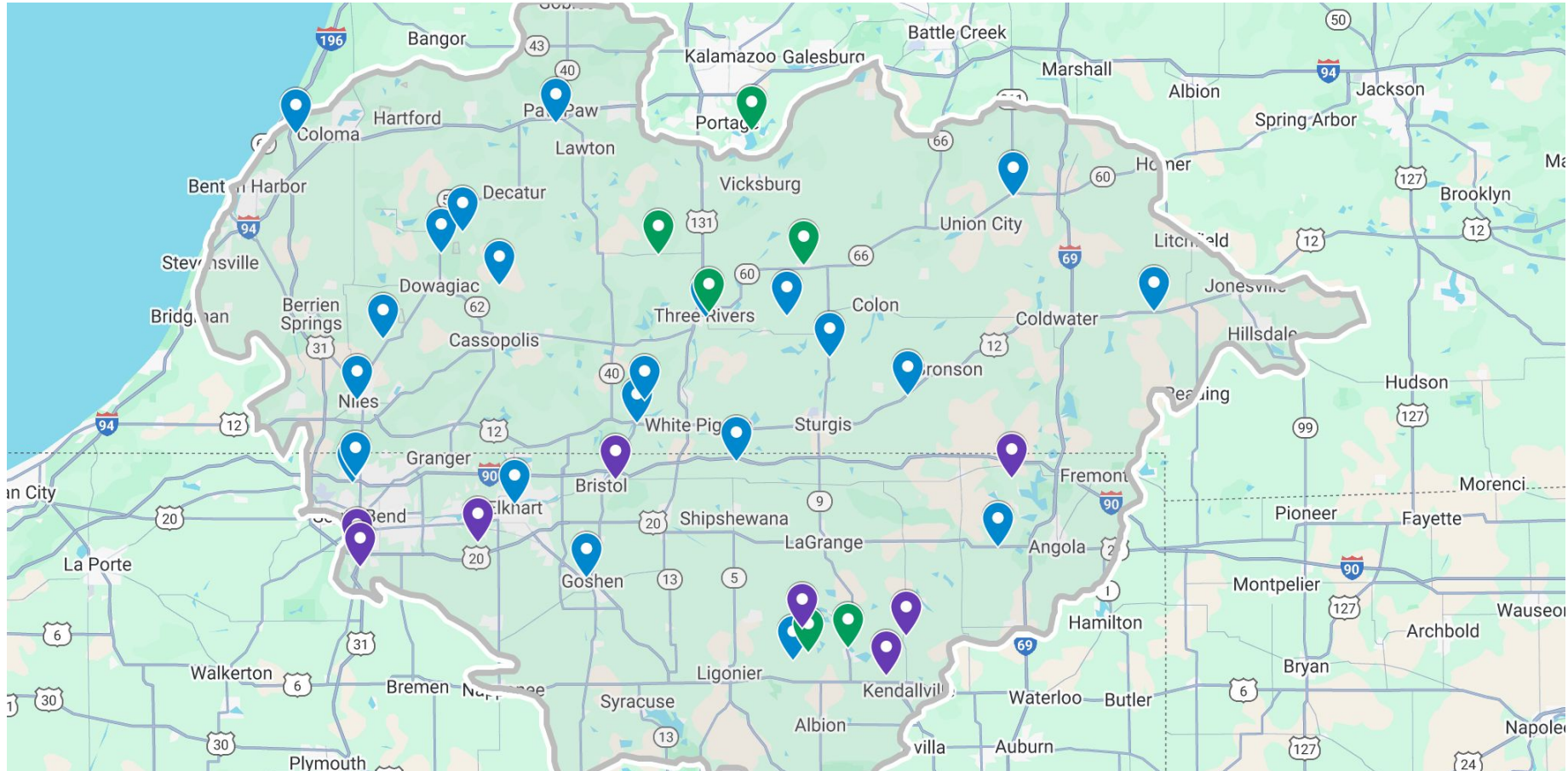
# Partner Support: Steuben County





# Old Business

- Water Monitoring Program - FLOW



[Google map of continuous surface water monitoring locations](#)

# Old Business

- Water Monitoring Program
- Watershed Study

**ORIGINAL GOAL:** Quantify the significance of changes in land cover, soil health, drainage improvement, floodplain connectivity, management practices and other factors on hydrological conditions

This type of study would be an *Assessment of Green Infrastructure*

It could be used to **estimate/predict the health of waterbodies** based on the condition of their watershed.

It could also **inform decisions** about water management and policies, like:

1. Cost allocation (e.g. apportionment of drain maintenance benefit and determination of stormwater fees).
2. Prioritizing and locating water infrastructure investment (e.g. two-stage ditches, wetland restoration, and regional detention).

# Watershed Study

In addition to an *Assessment of Green Infrastructure*, there is interest in other technical studies and planning/management tools like:

- *Water Demand & Availability*
- *Early Warning & Forecasting System*
- *Expanded Monitoring Program*

Rather than develop any specific technical study or tool at this point, we are starting with a “Technical Strategy & Workplan” that will further **define and prioritize each study** including:

- Methodologies
- Level of Effort
- Cost Estimates
- Durations
- Funding Strategies



# SJRBC Board Meeting



September 4, 2025

**SPHEROS**  
ENVIRONMENTAL

**INTERA**



# SPHEROS ENVIRONMENTAL – ABOUT US

SPHEROS ENVIRONMENTAL IS AN INTEGRATED TEAM OF DEEPLY EXPERIENCED AND PASSIONATE SCIENTISTS, ENGINEERS, MODELERS, FIELD TECHNICIANS, AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS WHO DELIVER DATA-DRIVEN SOLUTIONS TO TODAY'S MOST PRESSING ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

FOUNDED WITH THE ADDITION OF SONOMA TECHNOLOGY, SPHEROS EXPANDED ITS EXPERTISE WITH LRE WATER JOINING IN 2023, AND ECOANALYSTS AND **NORTHWATER** JOINING IN 2025.

NOTABLE NORTHWATER PROJECTS IN INDIANA: PIGEON CREEK WATERSHED PLAN, DRIFTWOOD RIVER DIAGNOSTIC STUDY, MULTIPLE PROJECTS AT FISH LAKE (LAPORTE CO)



# INTERA - WHO WE ARE

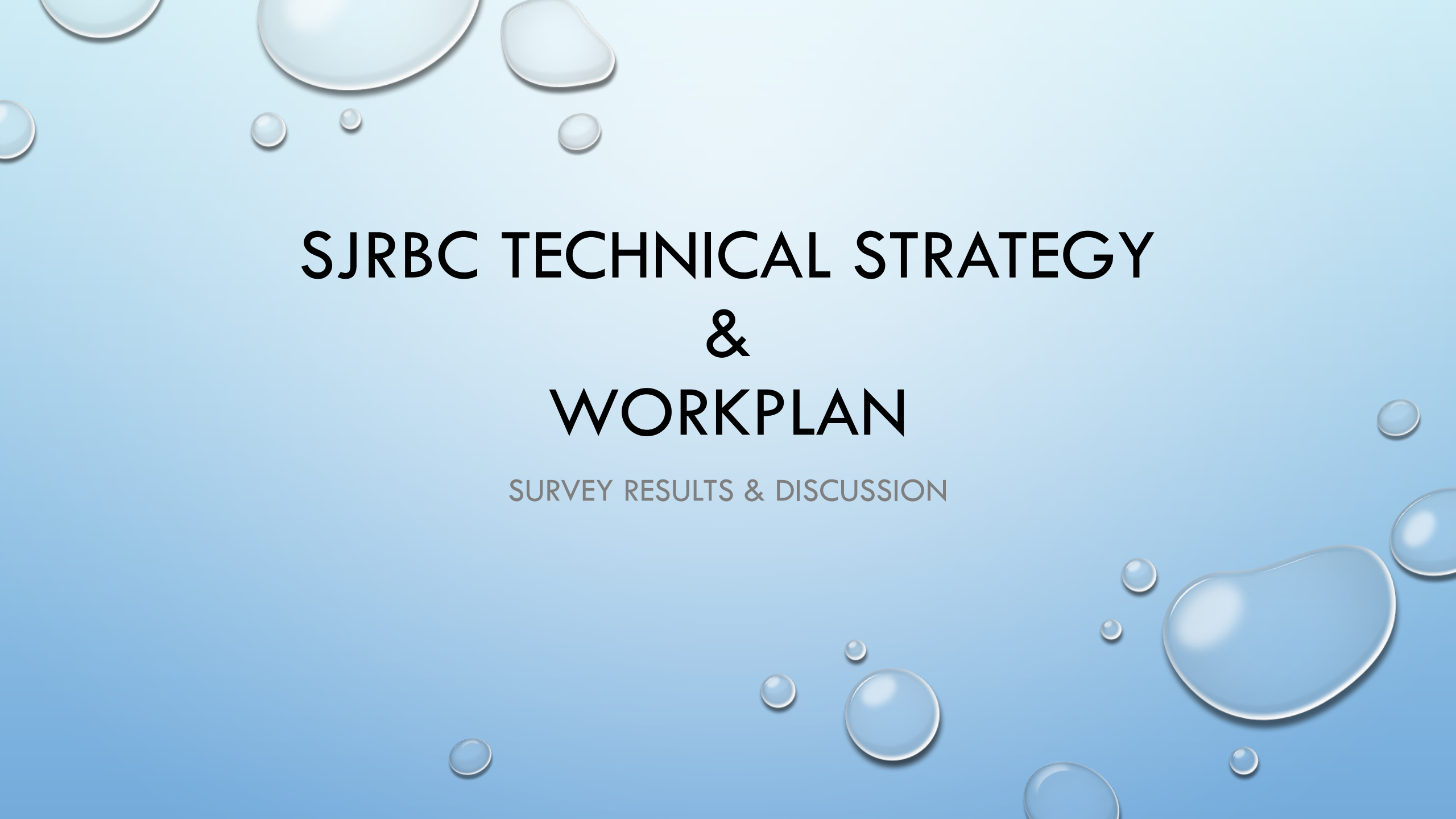
## ***INNOVATION AND STEWARDSHIP FOR A SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW***

A staff of more than 240 scientists and engineers

- Geologists
- Hydrogeologists
- Geochemists
- Toxicologists
- Hydrologists
- QA Specialists



- GIS Specialists
- Environmental Scientists

The background is a light blue gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered across it. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a 3D appearance. The main title is centered in a large, bold, black sans-serif font.

# SJRBC TECHNICAL STRATEGY & WORKPLAN

SURVEY RESULTS & DISCUSSION



# EXECUTIVE ORDER 25-63

1. AN INVENTORY OF INDIANA WATER RESOURCES SHALL BE COMPLETED BY 2026
  - CURRENT USAGE
  - AVAILABILITY OF GROUNDWATER & SURFACE WATER
  - FUTURE DEMAND
  - REGIONAL DISPARITIES
2. STATEWIDE PLANNING FRAMEWORK
  - REGIONAL PLANNING
  - FOCUS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY
3. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENHANCEMENT AND OPTIMIZATION OF WATER MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT NETWORKS
4. ONLINE PLATFORM TO SHARE REAL-TIME DATA ON WATER RESOURCES





# INTRODUCTION & WHY

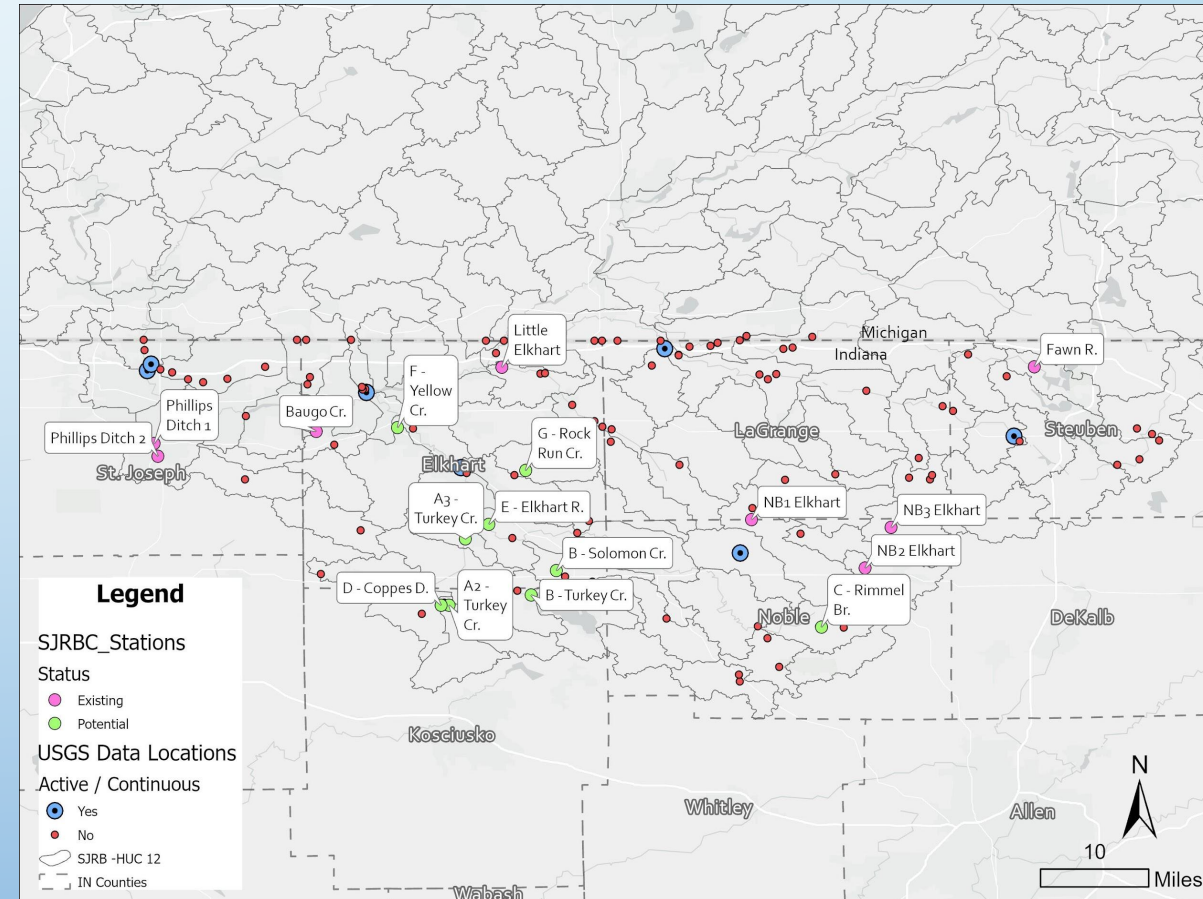
- INTERA AND NORTHWATER CONSULTING (NOW A SPHEROS ENVIRONMENTAL COMPANY) HIRED IN MARCH
- EVALUATE CURRENT MONITORING PROGRAM
  - PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROGRAM EXPANSION/ENHANCEMENTS
- GATHER COMMISSION AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT, PERSPECTIVES AND EXPERTISE TO CRAFT OBJECTIVES AND INFORM STRATEGY AND WORKPLAN FRAMEWORK
- STRATEGY AND WORKPLAN DELIVERABLES:
  - COMMISSION/STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INPUT
  - REPORT DEFINING PRIORITIES AND OUTCOMES
  - SCHEDULE, COST ESTIMATES, DETAILED ACTION ITEMS/ROADMAP

# PRELIMINARY TECHNICAL ANALYSIS – STREAM MONITORING RECOMMENDATIONS

- CURRENT PROGRAM
  - 8 ACTIVE TOLTHAWK MONITORING STATIONS (STAGE EVERY 15 MINUTES)
- PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:
  - SUPPORT FLOOD & DRAINAGE MANAGEMENT
  - PROVIDE HYDROLOGIC DATA FOR COMMUNITIES, PRODUCERS, DRAINAGE DISTRICTS
  - TRACK RUNOFF AND WATERSHED CHANGES OVER TIME
  - WATER SUPPLY AND WATER AVAILABILITY (INTEGRATION WITH GROUNDWATER)
- GAP: LIMITED COVERAGE ACROSS THE BASIN, ESPECIALLY HEADWATERS
- PURPOSE:
  - IDENTIFY NEW PRIORITY MONITORING SITES TO EXPAND NETWORK IN 2025
  - PRIORITIZE AREAS WITH HISTORICAL DATA NOT CURRENTLY BEING MONITORED

# RECOMMENDATIONS & NEXT STEPS

- NINE CANDIDATE SITES FOR EXPANSION
- KEY RECOMMENDED SITES:
  - TURKEY CREEK (3 SITES, KOSCIUSKO/ELKHART COUNTIES)
  - SOLOMON CREEK & RIMMELL BRANCH
  - COPPES DITCH (AGRICULTURE/RECHARGE ZONE)
  - ELKHART RIVER NEAR NEW PARIS (395 MI<sup>2</sup>)
  - YELLOW CREEK & ROCK RUN CREEK
- NEXT STEPS:
  - RANK LOCATIONS USING COMMISSION PRIORITIES & LOCAL KNOWLEDGE
  - CONSULT WITH TRITIUM, INC. & STAKEHOLDERS ON FEASIBILITY
  - CONDUCT FIELD RECONNAISSANCE FOR COST-EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION



# STRATEGY & WORKPLAN

- COMPLETE A STRATEGY AND WORKPLAN AROUND:
  - GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE MAPPING AND ASSESSMENT TOOLS – FOCUS ON MONITORING OF THE LAND
  - STATE OF THE BASIN ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK - FOCUS ON MONITORING OF THE LAND
  - EARLY WARNING, FORECASTING AND MODELING SYSTEMS
- A RESOURCE FOR SECURING FUTURE FUNDING
- A TOOL FOR COMMISSION TO COMMUNICATE OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES
- A GUIDE TO IMPLEMENT FUTURE INITIATIVES AND ADAPT TO EMERGING CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES
- **DETERMINED TO BE MOST COST-EFFECTIVE APPROACH VERSUS DIVING RIGHT INTO FULL-SCALE MODELING, ASSESSMENT AND TOOL DEVELOPMENT**



# ENGAGEMENT & INPUT SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE - RESULTS

- SENT TO 217 STAKEHOLDERS AND COMMISSION MEMBERS, 24 RESPONSES
- COMBINATION OF MULTIPLE CHOICE, SINGLE CHOICE AND SHORT ANSWER COVERING THE FOLLOWING AREAS:
  - MONITORING PROGRAM
  - GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE MAPPING AND ASSESSMENT TOOLS
  - STATE OF THE BASIN
  - WATER DEMAND AND AVAILABILITY
  - EARLY WARNING, FORECASTING AND MODELING SYSTEMS
- OBJECTIVE – GATHER INPUT TO ENSURE WORKPLAN AND STRATEGY REFLECTS GOALS, PRIORITIES, AND EXPERTISE OF COMMISSION AND MEMBERS

# RESULTS

- Q – MOTIVATIONS FOR INVOLVEMENT IN SJRBC AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT:
  - SENSE OF COMMUNITY AND PASSION FOR WATER/ENVIRONMENT
  - PROTECTING RESOURCES, CLEAN WATER/WATERSHED
  - RESEARCH, EDUCATION, VOLUNTEERING
- Q – MONITORING GOALS:
  - LONG-TERM, ID PROBLEM AREAS, BETTER COORDINATION
  - WATER QUALITY, REDUCE IMPAIRMENTS – NUTRIENTS, SEDIMENT, BACTERIA
  - BIOLOGICAL MONITORING
  - FILLING IN DATA GAPS – I.E., SMALL TRIBUTARIES
  - COMPLY WITH REGULATIONS

# RESULTS

- Q – EXPECTATIONS OF DATA USE AND DISSEMINATION:
  - EXPECTATIONS MET
  - MAKE MORE ACCESSIBLE PUBLICLY (SHARE), EASIER TO FIND AND USER-FRIENDLY WEBSITE – DATABASE AND INTERPRETATION
  - TREND ANALYSIS FOR PRIORITIZATION AND SOURCE ID
  - USE FOR EDUCATION
- Q – DATA GAPS:
  - SHARING OF INFORMATION AND COORDINATION
  - NEED MORE STREAMS MONITORED AND WINTER MONITORING – A LOT OF “UNKNOWN”
  - GROUNDWATER USE AND WATER SUPPLY
  - NUTRIENTS, SEDIMENT AND BIOLOGICAL
  - WATER QUALITY RESPONSE FROM LAND USE CHANGE
  - STORMWATER QUALITY
  - FREE BEER FROM TIME TO TIME

# RESULTS

- Q – STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

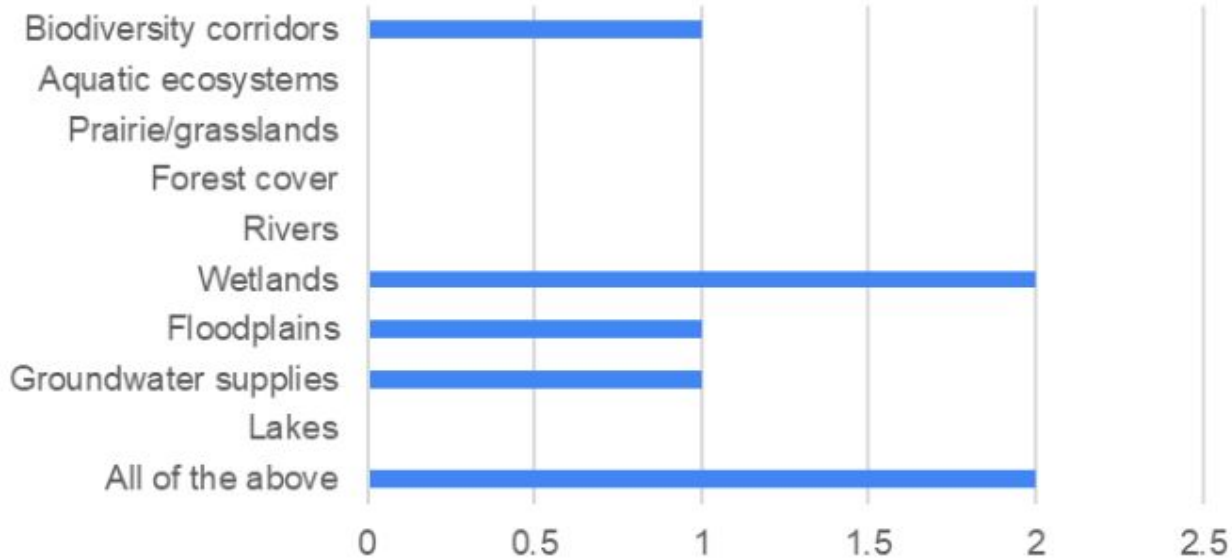
- MICHIGAN LANDOWNERS
- SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES
- ECOSYSTEMS CONNECTIONS INSTITUTE
- MICHIGAN WATER USE ADVISORY COUNCIL
- GRACE CENTER FOR LAKES AND STREAMS, TURKEY CREEK DAM AND DIKE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
- POKAGON BAND
- USGS
- FARM BUREAU
- WHITE RIVER ALLIANCE
- COUNTY GOVERNMENTS AND NORTHWEST INDIANAN STORM WATER ADVISORY GROUP
- PARKS ALONG STREAMS



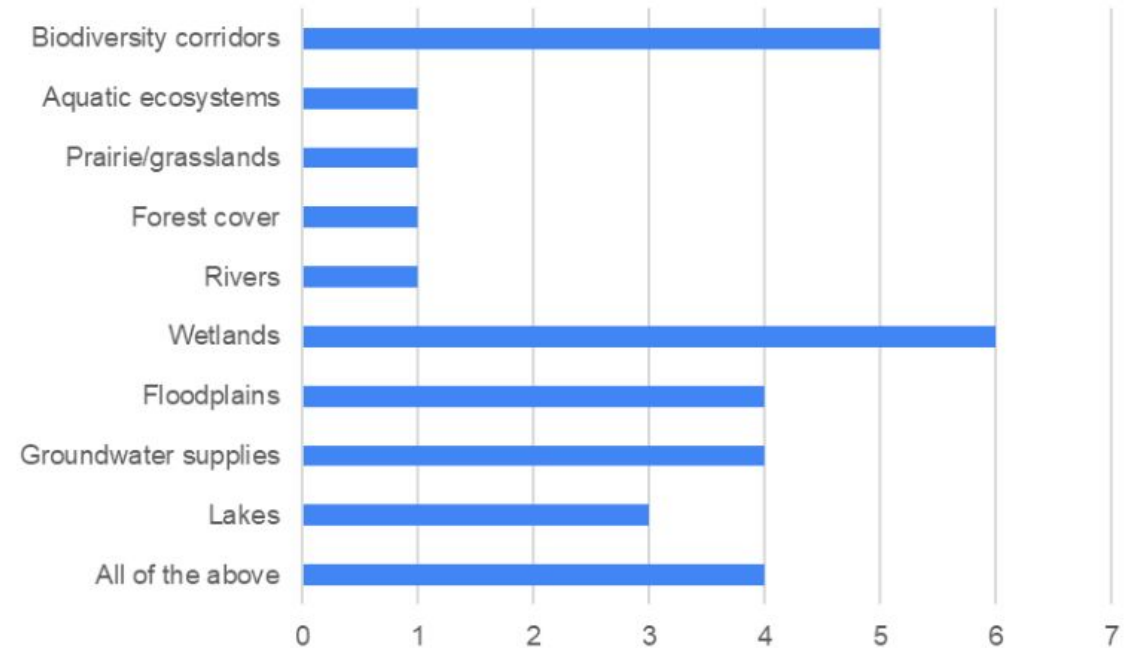
# RESULTS

- Q – MOST IMPORTANT ATTRIBUTES OF BASIN:

**From a natural resources perspective, what do you believe are the most important attributes of the basin?**



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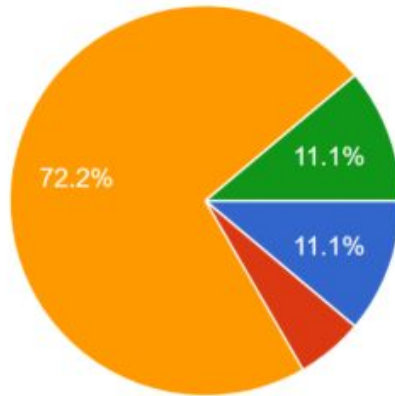


# RESULTS

- Q – WHAT CAN SJRBC DO TO EDUCATE AND RAISE AWARENESS
  - PARTNER WITH LOCAL GROUPS AND SCHOOLS
  - ADD STAFF
  - BREAK COMMISSION INTO SMALLER SUB-GROUPS TO FOCUS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES
  - DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS
  - PUSH FOR STATE FUNDING
  - SMALL GROUP MEETINGS – UNITS OF GOVERNMENT, LEGISLATORS
  - MEDIA RELEASES, SOCIAL MEDIA, OPEN MEETINGS, COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
  - FAIRS, RECREATION/ENVIRONMENTAL AND EDUCATIONAL EVENTS
  - INTERACTIVE MAPS

Would a data-driven tool to track changes in the condition of land and riparian corridors within the basin be valuable to you or your constituents? Please consider educational, planning, or policy benefits.

18 responses



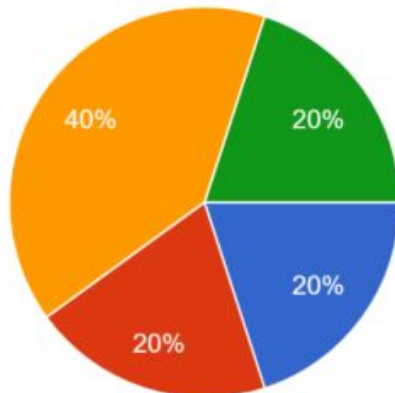
- Yes – primarily for education and outreach
- Yes – primarily for planning or decision-making
- Yes – for both reasons
- Not sure
- No

## RESULTS

- Q – DATA-DRIVEN TOOL TO TRACK CHANGES:

Would a data-driven tool to track changes in the condition of land and riparian corridors within the basin be valuable to you or your constituents? Please consider educational, planning, or policy benefits.

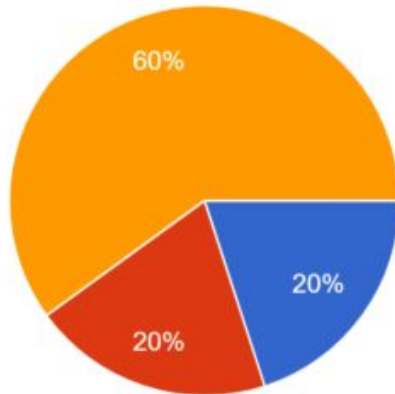
5 responses



- Yes – primarily for education and outreach
- Yes – primarily for planning or decision-making
- Yes – for both reasons
- Not sure
- No

STATE OF THE ST. JOSEPH RIVER BASIN Similar to the green infrastructure mapping and assessment tools action area, the project team is ...nd its members? Consider the educational benefits.

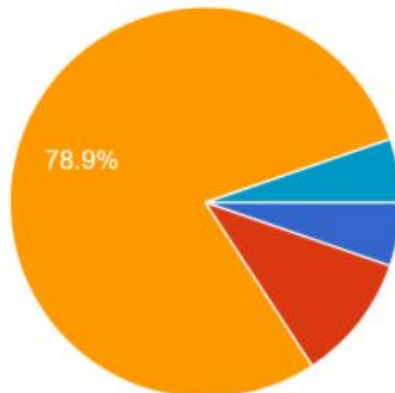
5 responses



- Yes – primarily for education and outreach
- Yes – primarily for planning or decision-making
- Yes – for both reasons
- Not sure
- No

STATE OF THE ST. JOSEPH RIVER BASIN Similar to the green infrastructure mapping and assessment tools action area, the project team is ...nd its members? Consider the educational benefits.

19 responses



- Yes – primarily for education and outreach
- Yes – primarily for planning or decision-making
- Yes – for both reasons
- Not sure
- No
- We've not seen any such data or presentation, so it is difficult to assess.

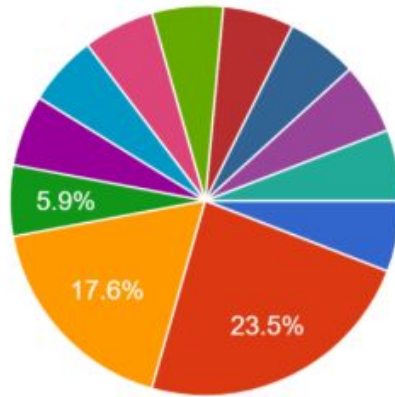
## RESULTS

- Q – VALUE OF COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF BASIN:



FORECASTING AND MODELING SYSTEMS The project team has been tasked with scoping out a set of customized forecasting and predictive tools th... interest in forecasting tools, and if so, for what?

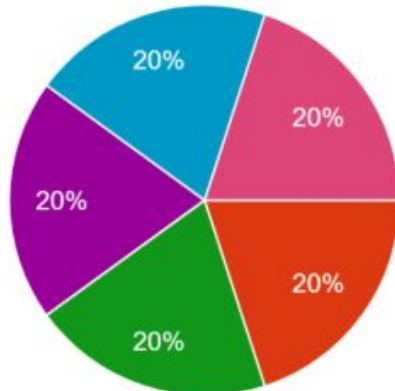
17 responses



- Yes - please describe the priorities or i...
  - Not sure
  - No
  - .
  - the City of Goshen needs more floodi...
  - The water levels in Union Lake are co...
  - early warning system for flooding, cha...
  - modelling land use impacts maybe be...
- ▲ 1/2 ▼

FORECASTING AND MODELING SYSTEMS The project team has been tasked with scoping out a set of customized forecasting and predictive tools th... interest in forecasting tools, and if so, for what?

5 responses



- Yes - please describe the priorities or interest in Other
- Not sure
- No
- Flooding
- Predicting changes in volume from stormwater runoff and water quality ch...
- As a warning system, a flooding one could be important.
- stormwater storage

## RESULTS

- Q – PRIORITIES FOR FORECASTING TOOLS:
- FLOODING

# RESULTS

- Q – INTEREST IN PREDICTIVE WATER QUALITY AND STORMWATER RUNOFF MODEL:
  - OVERWHELMINGLY YES
  - NO FOR THOSE ON GROUNDWATER
  - FLOOD PREDICTION IMPORTANT
  - YES, BUT ADDRESS DATA GAPS FIRST
  - MULTIPLE STAKEHOLDERS WOULD BENEFIT
- Q – IMPORTANT MODEL CHARACTERISTICS:
  - ONLINE/INTERACTIVE AND EASY TO USE
  - ACCURATE
  - USES REAL-TIME DATA AND UPDATED

# RESULTS

- Q – MOST PRESSING ISSUES IMPACTING THE WATERSHED AND COMMISSION:
  - CSO'S
  - LACK/ROLLBACK OF REGULATION AND FUNDING
  - GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE, HABITAT, WATER SUPPLY, WATER QUALITY (SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER)
  - FLOODING AND INFRASTRUCTURE
  - CLIMATE CHANGE
  - COMMUNICATING TO ALL STAKEHOLDERS AND EDUCATION
- Q – ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES TO ADDRESS
  - COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION
  - WORKING WITH AGRICULTURE
  - ADDRESSING EMERGING ISSUES – I.E., CLIMATE CHANGE AND WATER DEMAND
  - DEVELOP TOOLS FOR MANAGEMENT AND EXPAND FUNDING
  - CHARACTERIZE SENSITIVE HABITAT AND SPECIES

# RESULTS

- Q – ROLE OF SJRBC OVER THE NEXT DECADE:
  - EDUCATION, ADVOCACY, COOPERATION AND COORDINATION
  - ADDRESS WATER SUPPLY ISSUES
  - INFRASTRUCTURE, LAND USE/ZONING
  - NATURAL DISASTER MITIGATION
  - SECURE FUNDING
  - GREATER ADVOCACY FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL LEVEL
  - SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER PROTECTION
  - GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE



# DISCUSSION

# New Business

- 2026 Meeting Schedule
  - Schrock Pavilion reserved from 10am - 12pm on:
    - March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026
    - May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026
    - September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026
    - December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026



# New Business

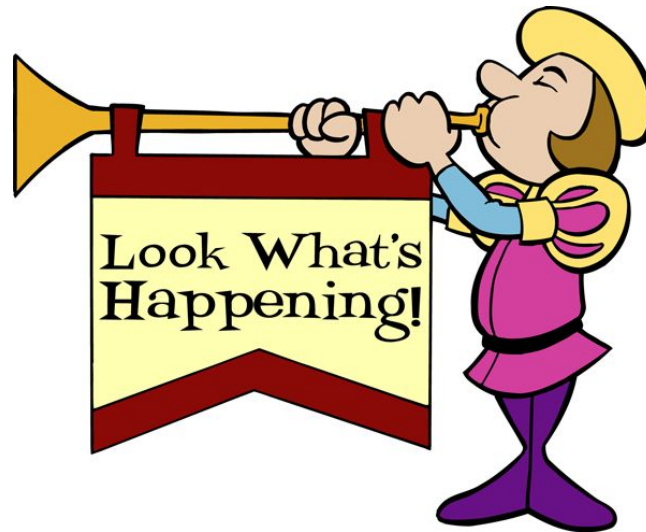
- 2026 Meeting Schedule
- Watershed Leadership Academy
  - Financial assistance typically provided for one or more individuals from our basin.
  - Participants have the opportunity to:
    - Engage with other watershed managers
    - Interact with topic experts
    - Gain strategies, skills and resources
    - Earn a Professional Certificate in Watershed Mgmt.



**Indiana Watershed Leadership Academy**  
Cultivating Leaders \* Creating Solutions \* Connecting People & Water

# New Business

- 2026 Meeting Schedule
- Watershed Leadership Academy
- Other Business/Updates
  - [Announcements from Commission Members](#)





# Director's Report

- Administrative
- Education/Outreach
- Planning/Resource Development
- Water Monitoring
- Member/Partner Support
- Advocacy



# Items From the Floor

Other  
Misc.  
Etc...

Next Meeting  
December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025



**SJRBC**

St. Joseph River Basin Commission