

# WISCONSIN'S DRAFT 2014 IMPAIRED WATERS LIST

Public Informational Webinar

February 12, 2014



# INTRODUCTION

- Water quality standards are the foundation
- Impaired waters don't meet water quality standards
- States are required to develop list of impaired waters
- Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), or cleanup plans, are developed for impaired waters
- Restored waterbodies are removed from the list

# LISTING PROCESS

1. Preparation of listing methodology
2. Compilation of readily available data
3. Assessment of available data
4. Public notice of draft list
5. Send finalized list to EPA for approval

[Link to Fact Sheet](#)



# UPDATED ON EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS

- The 2010 impaired waters list is the most current, EPA-approved list.
  - [http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/impairedwaters/2010IR\\_IWList.html](http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/impairedwaters/2010IR_IWList.html)
- The final draft 2012 list was submitted to EPA for approval in August 2013.
  - [http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/impairedwaters/2012IR\\_IWLIST.html](http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/impairedwaters/2012IR_IWLIST.html)
- The 2014 list is the current update

# HOW IS THE LIST USED?

- Management tool for tracking water quality status
  - Cleanup plans are tracked
  - Delisted waterbodies are often reported as success stories
- DNR **does not** use the list as a measure of water quality trends
  - Changes can be driven by updated water quality standards, assessment methods and monitoring strategies





# WATER QUALITY TRENDS

- Trends have been both positive and negative over the last 20 years at long-term river monitoring stations
  - Phosphorus, ammonia and suspended solids concentrations have **decreased**
  - Nitrate and chloride concentrations have **increased**



# DESIGNATED USES AND CRITERIA

- **Fish and Aquatic Life**
  - Fish, invertebrates and algal data
  - Phosphorus, sediment, and stream habitat
  - Aquatic toxicity
- **Public Health and Welfare**
  - Fish consumption
  - Human health criteria
- **Recreational Uses**
  - Beaches - bacteria
  - Inland lakes – algae and phosphorus
- **Wildlife**
  - Aquatic toxicity

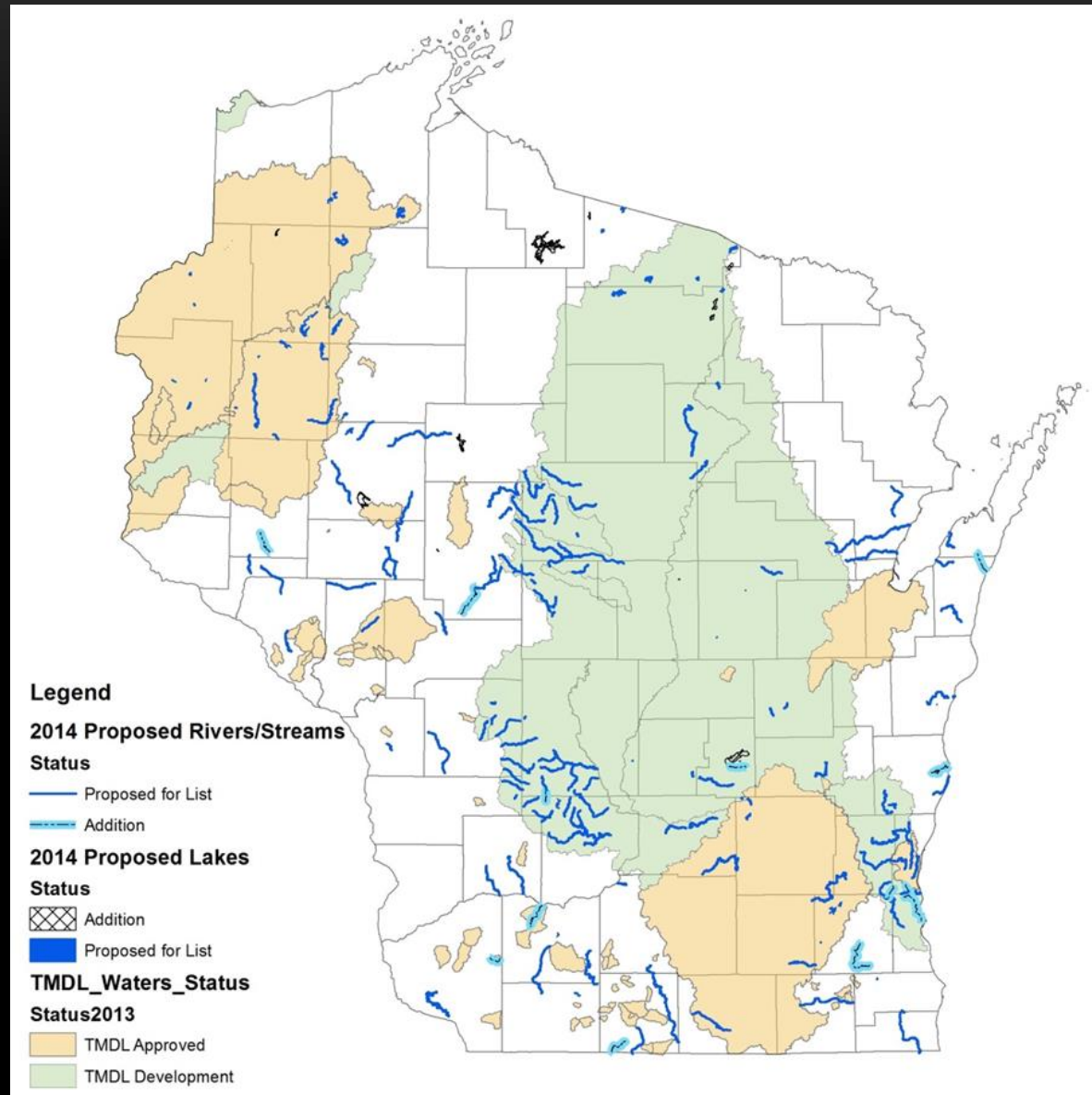
# NEXT STEPS FOR RESTORING IMPAIRED WATERS

- Identify the cause, where unknown
- Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)
- Alternative restoration plans





# NEW PHOSPHORUS LISTINGS IN TMDL AREAS



# IMPAIRED WATERS CONSEQUENCES

- Point Source Dischargers
  - Dischargers with potential to cause or contribute to an impairment
  - Important considerations:
    - TMDL areas
    - Offsets allowed (e.g. pollutant trading)

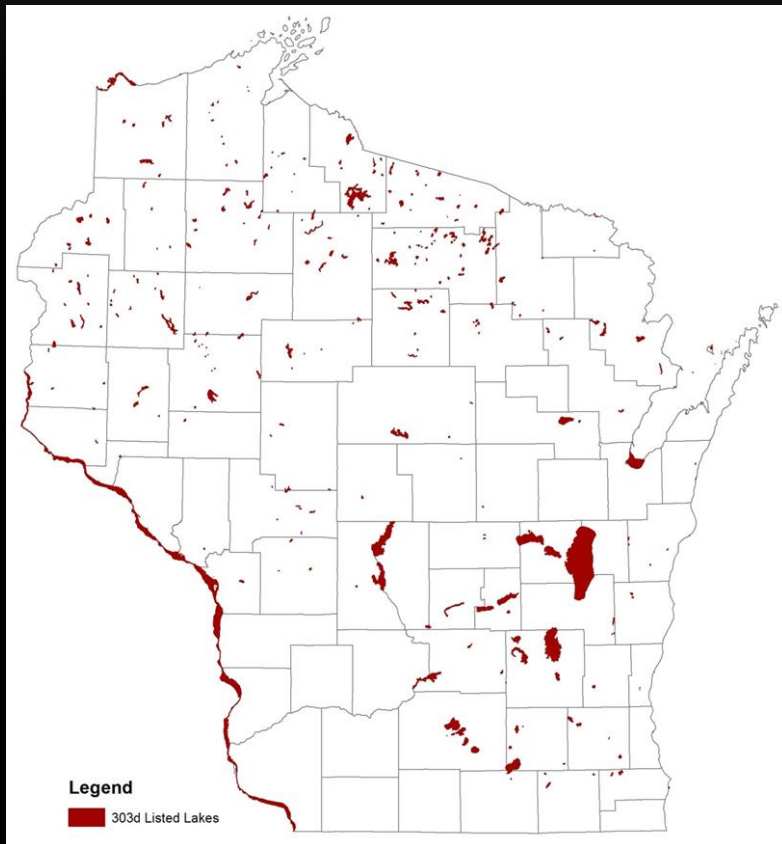
# IMPAIRED WATERS BENEFITS

- Provides impetus for restoration work
- Funding Incentives
  - USDA's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
  - Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) grants
  - EPA Section 319 Grant

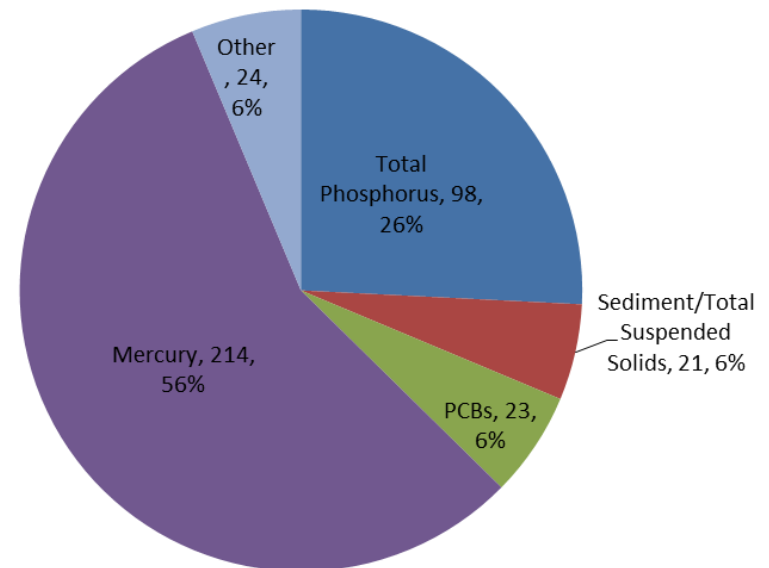
# PROPOSED 2014 LISTING UPDATES

- The comprehensive draft list has 856 waterbody listings
- 192 waterbodies are newly proposed for the list
  - A majority of new listings (137) based on phosphorus data
  - Most others based on biological data
- Thirteen waterbodies are proposed to be removed from the list

# LAKEs AND IMPOUNDMENTS LISTINGS TO DATE



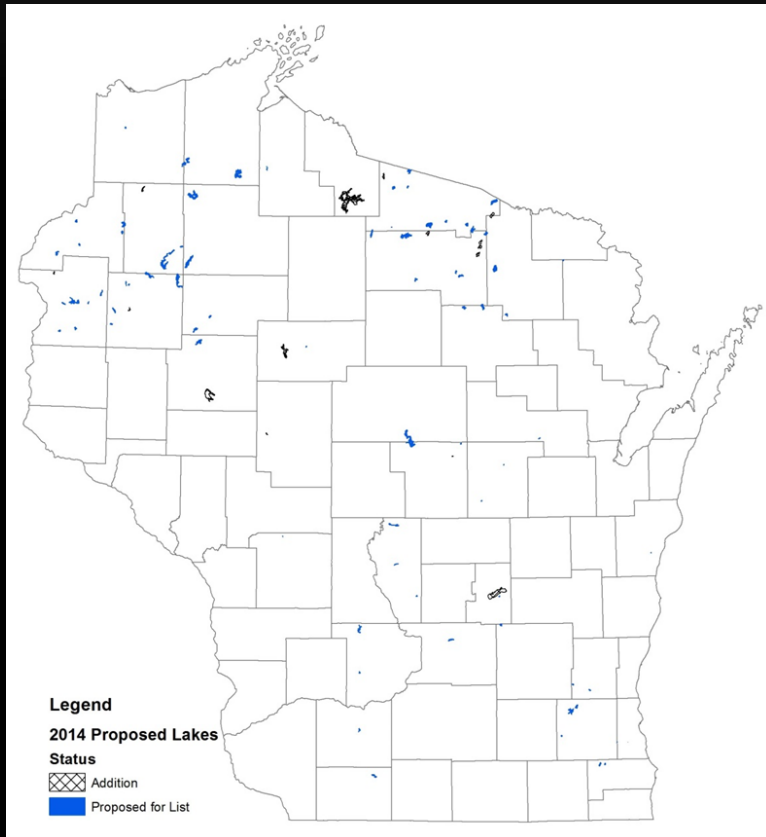
## 312 Listed Lakes and Impoundments



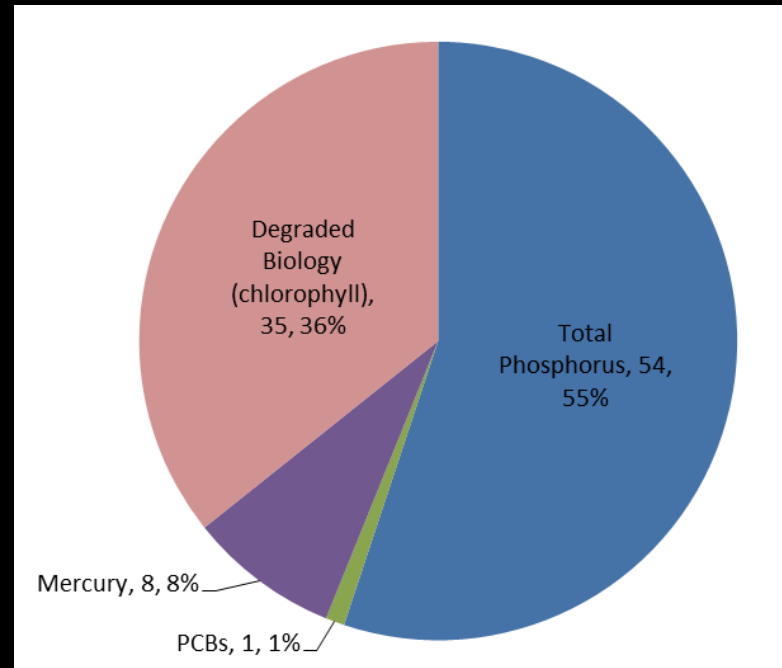


# LAKEs AND IMPOUNDMENTS

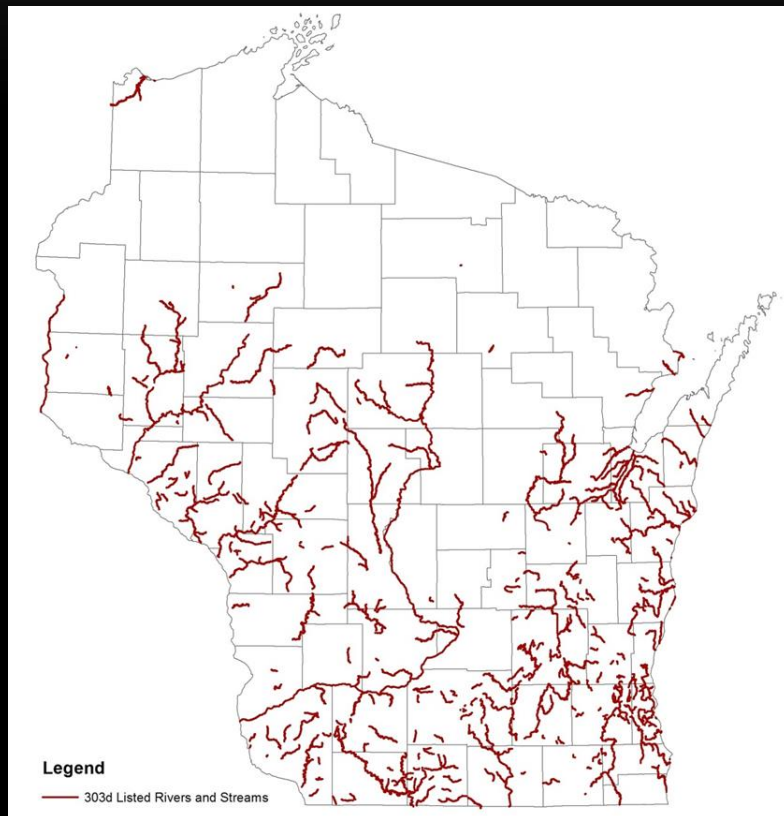
## NEW 2014 PROPOSED LISTINGS



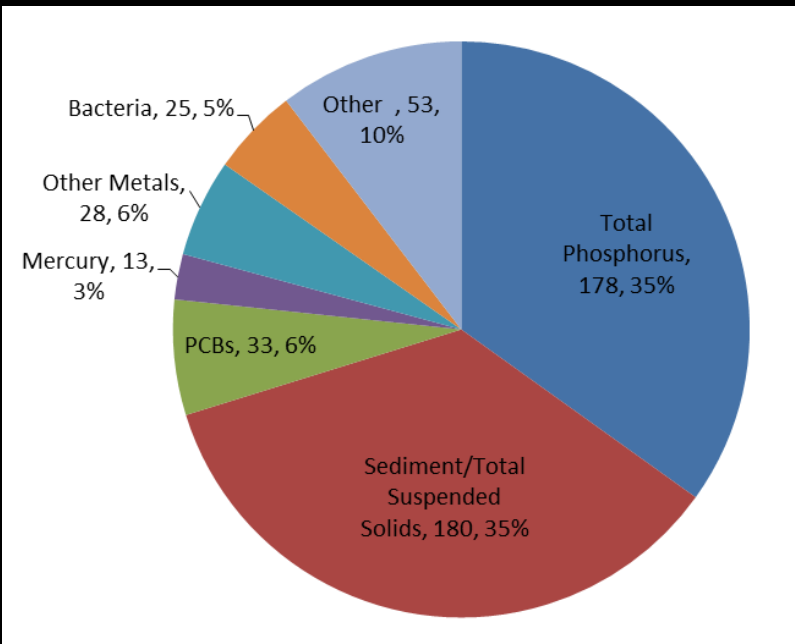
### 78 New Lakes and Impoundments



# RIVERS AND STREAMS LISTINGS TO DATE

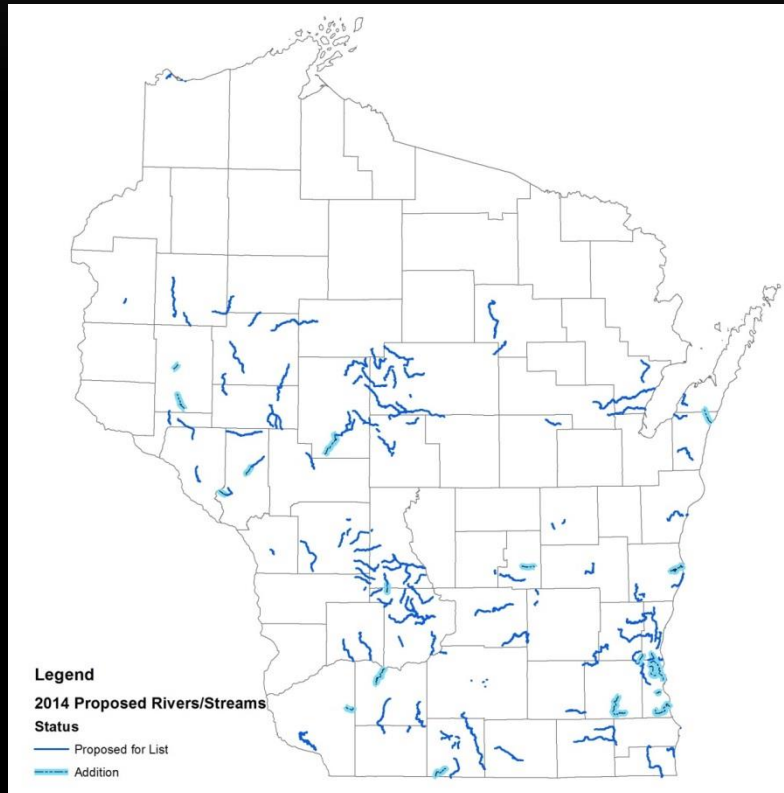


## 342 Listed Rivers and Streams

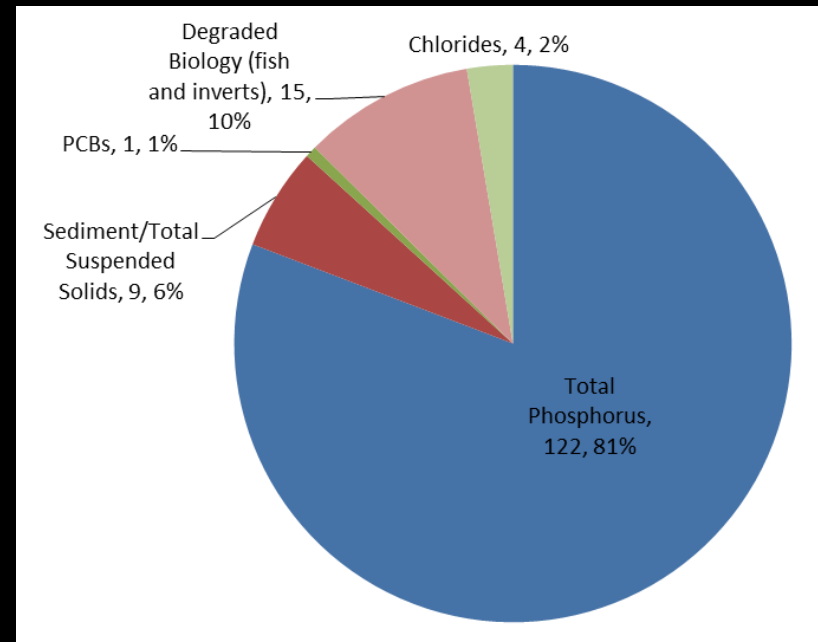


# RIVERS AND STREAMS

## NEW 2014 PROPOSED LISTINGS



### 130 New Rivers and Streams



# PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

- A 30-day comment period
  - Ends March 6, 2014
- The draft list was announced via the following communications:
  - Press release from Central Office
  - Posting on DNR's website
  - GovDelivery message



# RESOURCES ON OUR WEBSITE

- Comment period
- Press Release
- **Fact Sheets:**
  - Listing Process
  - 2014 Listing Updates
- **Wisconsin's Consolidated Assessment and Listing Methods (WisCALM)**
  - 2014 Version





# VIEW THE LISTINGS

- [Link to draft of comprehensive list](#)
  - Tab A. Impaired without TMDL
  - Tab B. Impaired with TMDL
  - Tab C. 2014 Proposed Listings
  - Tab D. 2014 Proposed Delistings
- [The Impaired Waters Search Tool](#)
  - Search DNR's WATERS database for impaired waters listings
- [The Surface Water Data Viewer](#)
  - Search impaired waters listings on a map

# QUESTIONS?

## Contact Information

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<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/impairedwaters/>