

The Rock River Basin

An Overview

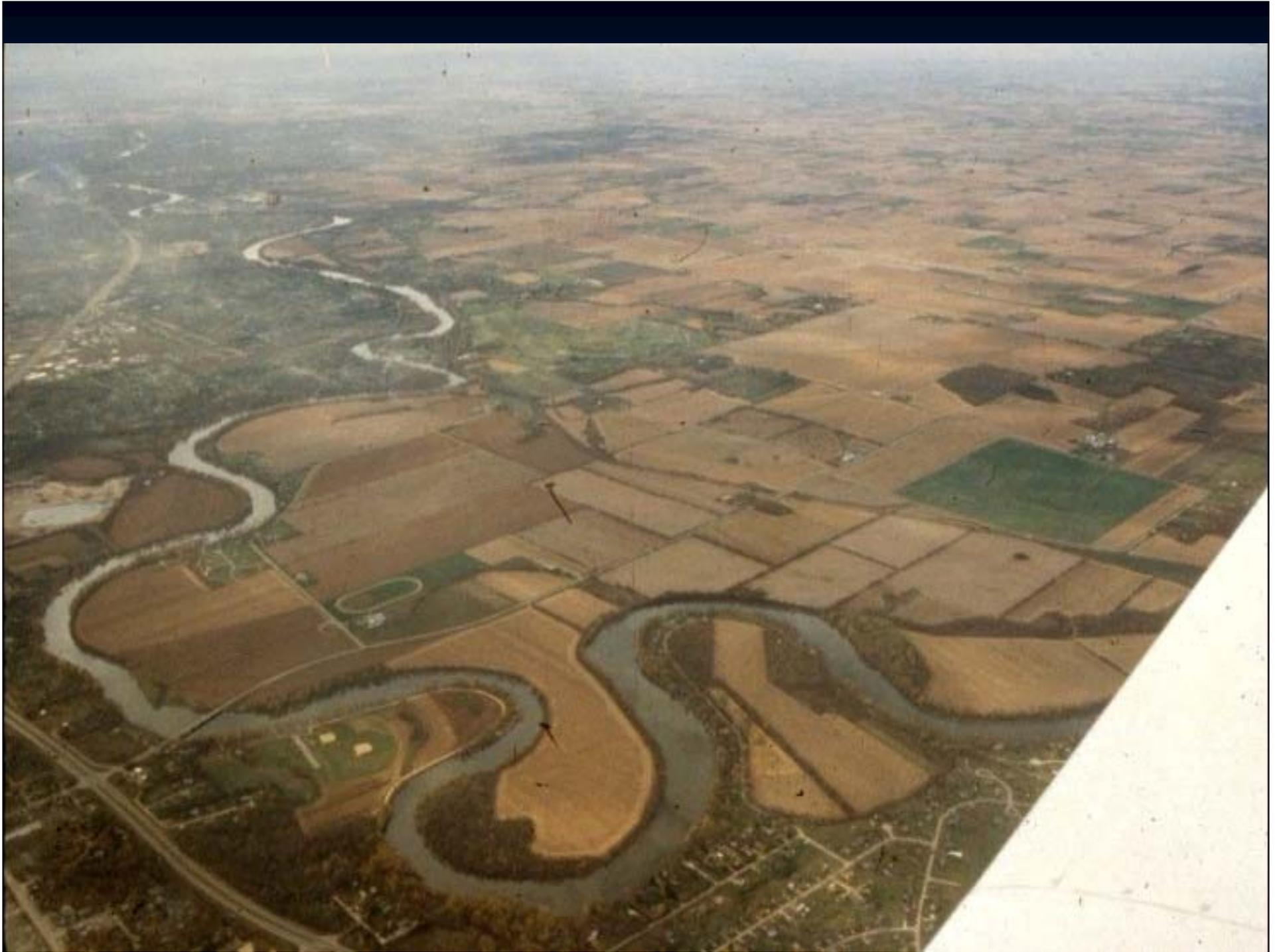
Jim Congdon

Upper Rock Basin Supervisor













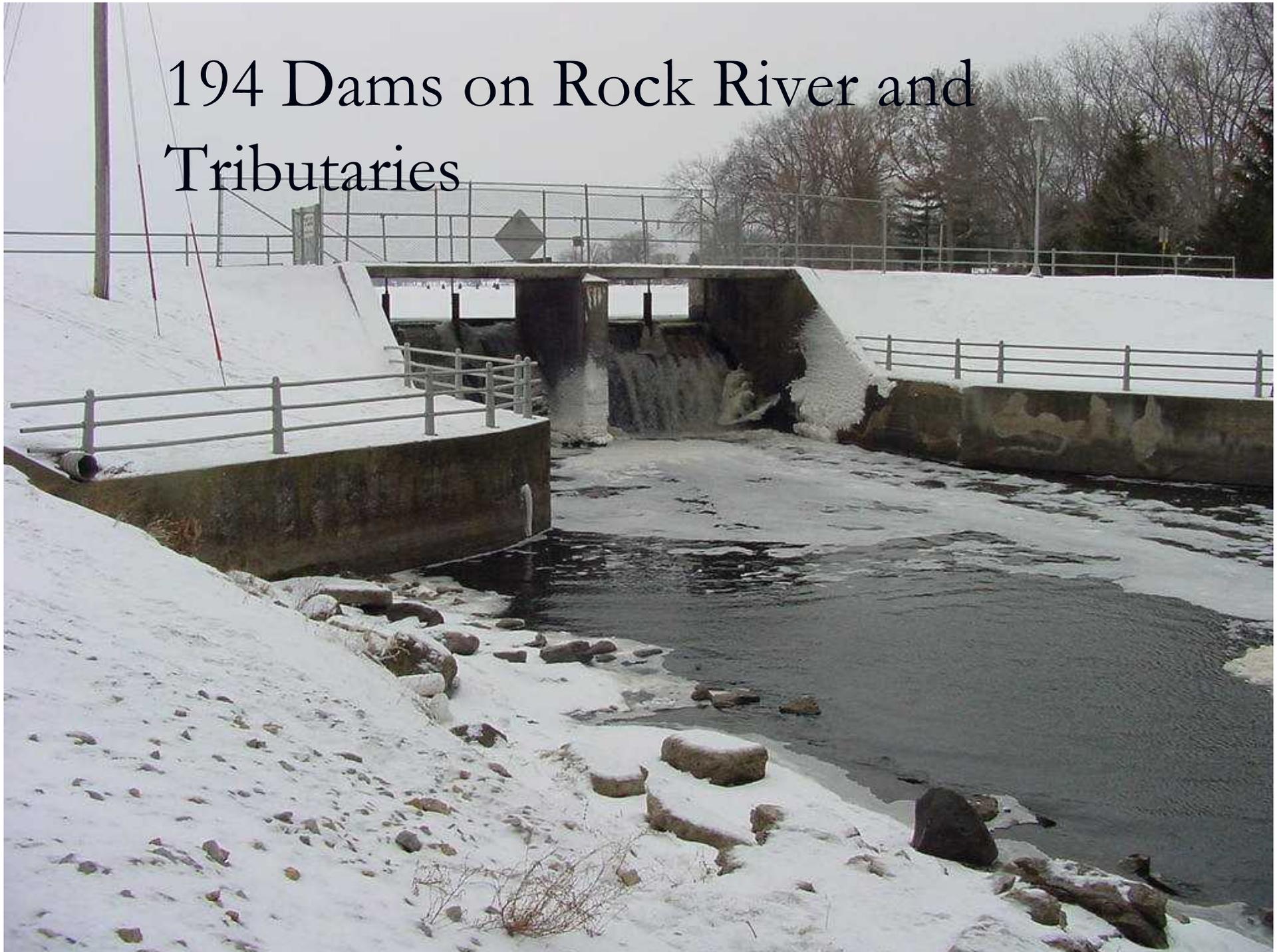








194 Dams on Rock River and Tributaries



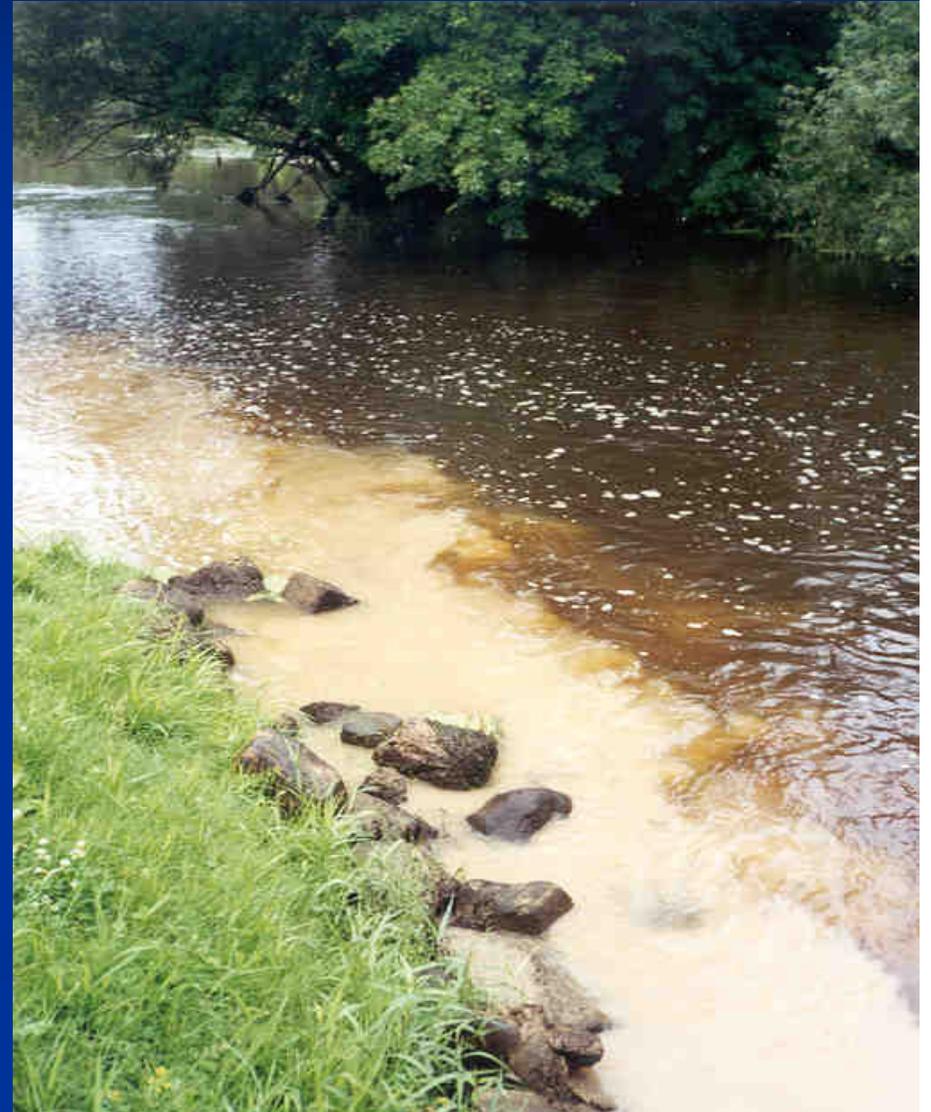


Rock River
Basin
Population
800,000
and
Growing

68 Municipal and Industrial Point Source Discharges



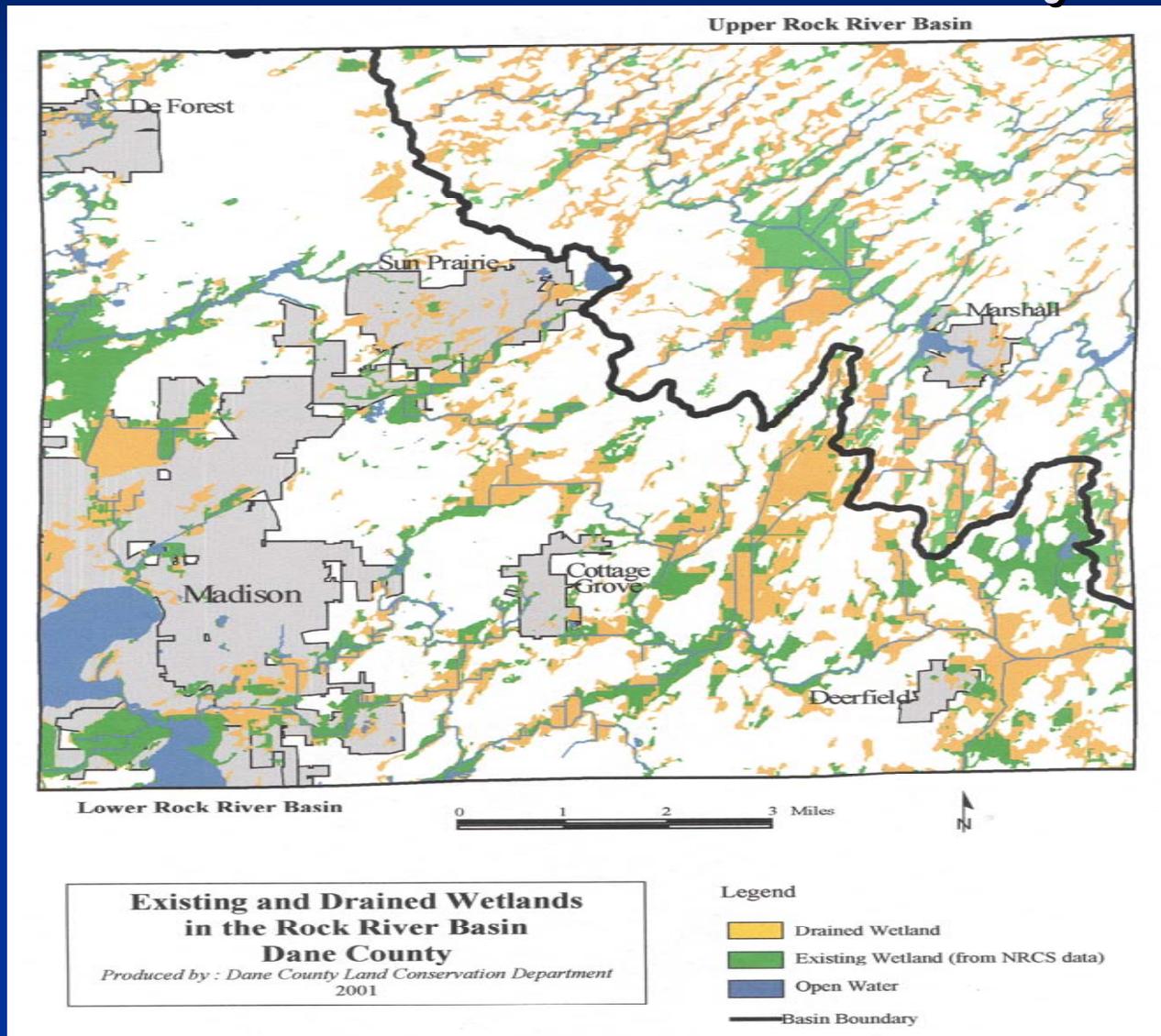
Construction Site Runoff a Major Source of Pollutants in Developing Urban Areas







Over 50% of Wetlands in the Rock River Basin have been destroyed



Land Use in the Rock River Basin

- Agriculture—73%
- Residential—12%
- Wetlands—7%
- Commercial/Industrial—5.5%
- Woodlands—1.6%

Agriculture in the Rock River Basin

- 5 of top 15 counties in Rock Basin
- 19% of Wisconsin's farmland
- 21% of Wisconsin's farms
- 22% of Wisconsin's agricultural products
- Dane/Dodge Co. in top five dairy, cattle, hog producers



Water Quality Concerns in the Rock River Basin









**STOP
CLOSED**



*Based on recent monitoring for E. coli bacteria
Serious risk of illness may be present*

**THIS AREA IS CLOSED
TO SWIMMING**

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.wibeaches.us





Causes of Impairments in Rock River Basin

- Nutrients (phosphorus)
- Sediment
- PCBs
- Dams (194 dams on basin streams/rivers)
- Habitat (channelization, stream alteration)
- Loss of Wetlands

Impaired Waters of Rock River Basin

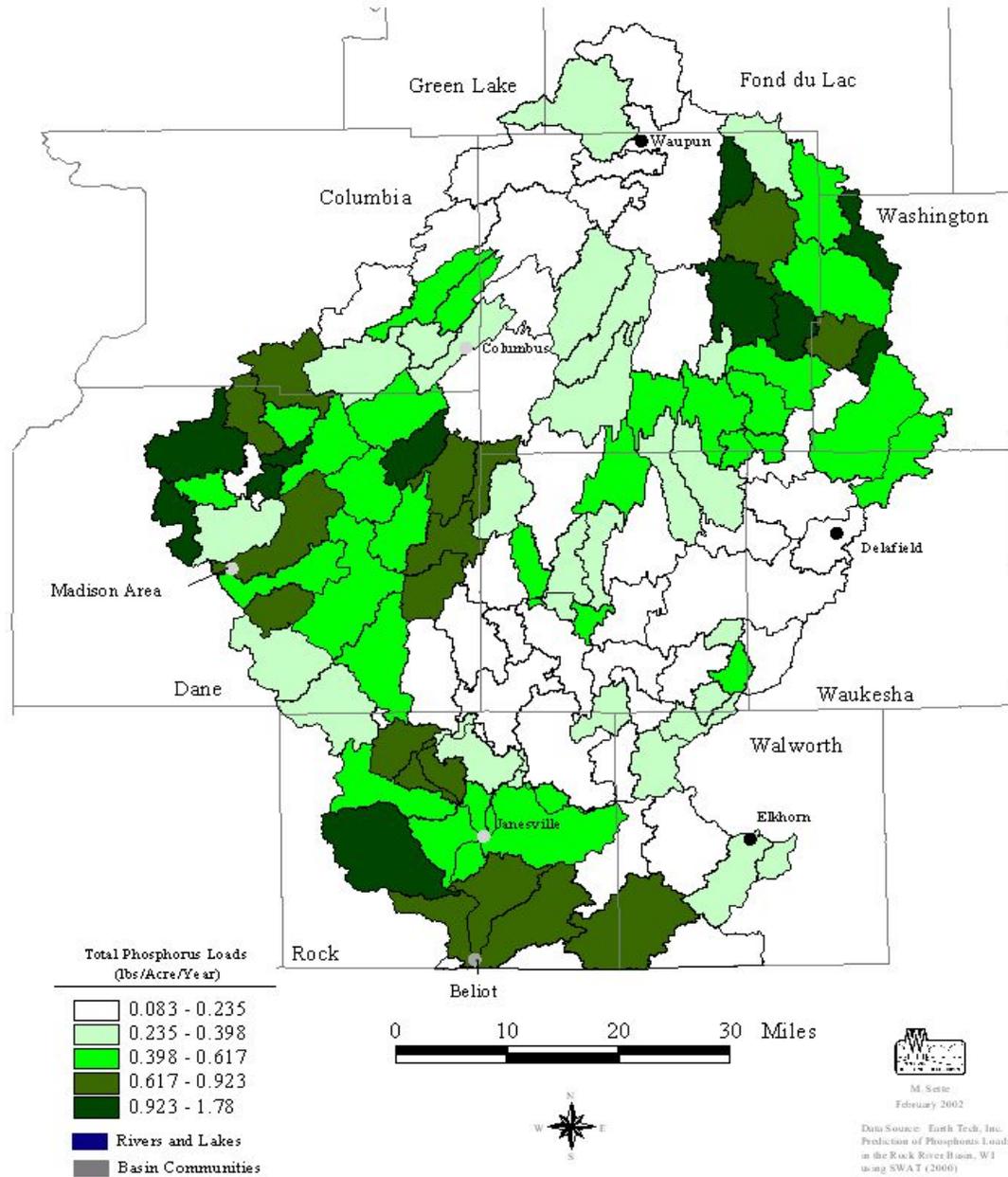


Rock River Basin Phosphorus and Sediment Loading—2000 Estimate

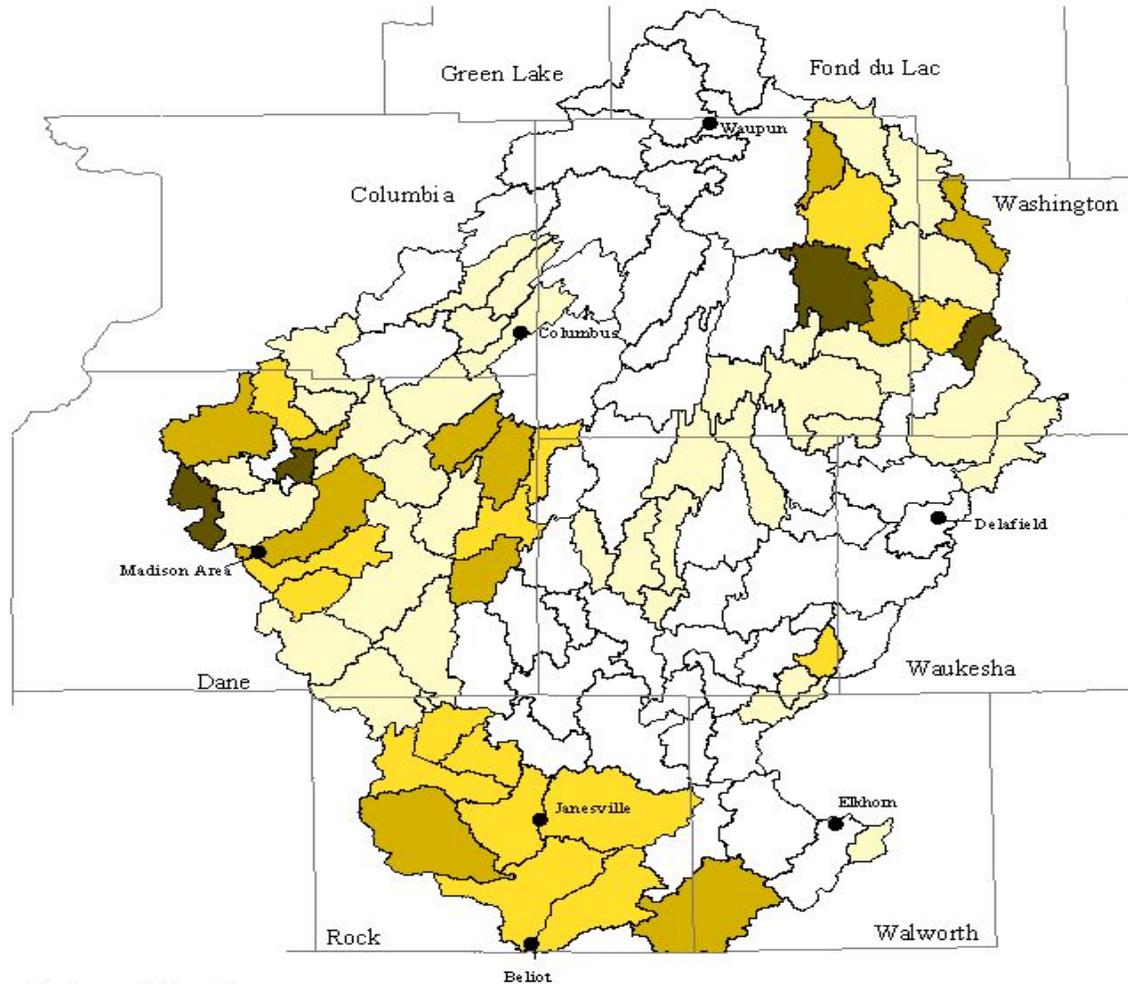
- Total Phosphorus—1,680,000 pounds annually
- Sediment---160,000 tons annually

Source: RRP Nutrient Trading Project-August 2000

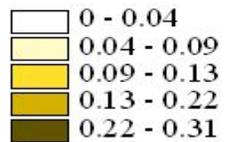
Rock River Basin Total Phosphorus Loads



Rock River Basin Sedimentation Loads



Sediment Loading
(Tons/Acre/Year)



0 10 20 30 Miles



M. Soto
February 2002

Data Source: Earth Tech, Inc.
Production of Phosphorus Loads
in the Rock River Basin, WI
using SWAT (2000)

Soil Phosphorus Levels in Rock River Basin Increasing

- 1974---37ppm
- 2002---52 ppm

NR151 requires that after 2008 all lands draining to impaired waters have a nutrient management plan

Soil Phosphorus Sources

- Agricultural Inorganic Fertilizer

- Animal Manure

- Municipal Biosolids

Example-23 municipal spread in Dodge Co.

- Industrial Biosolids

Example-15 industries spread in Dodge Co.

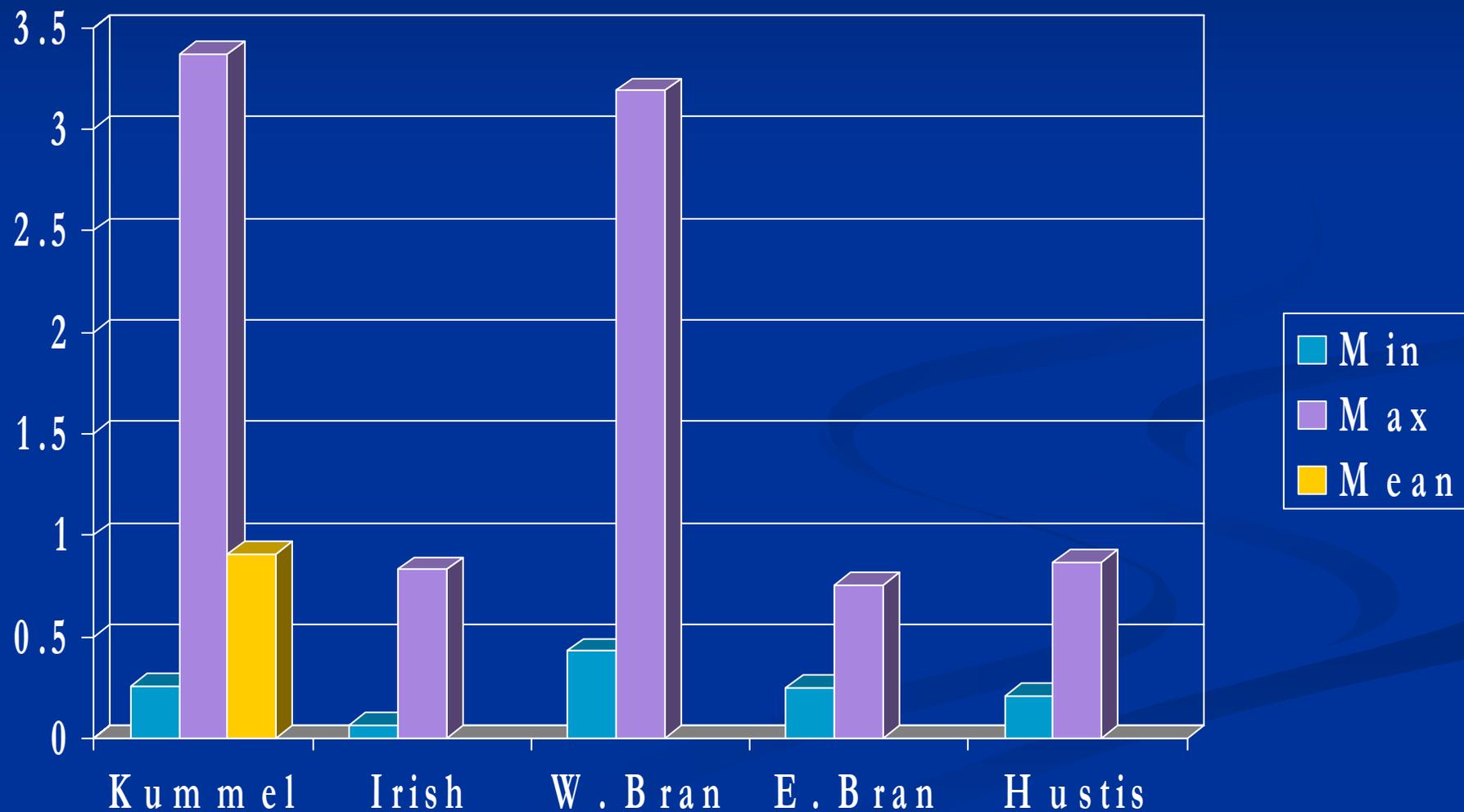
- Septic Waste

Example-11 septic pumpers spread in Dodge Co.

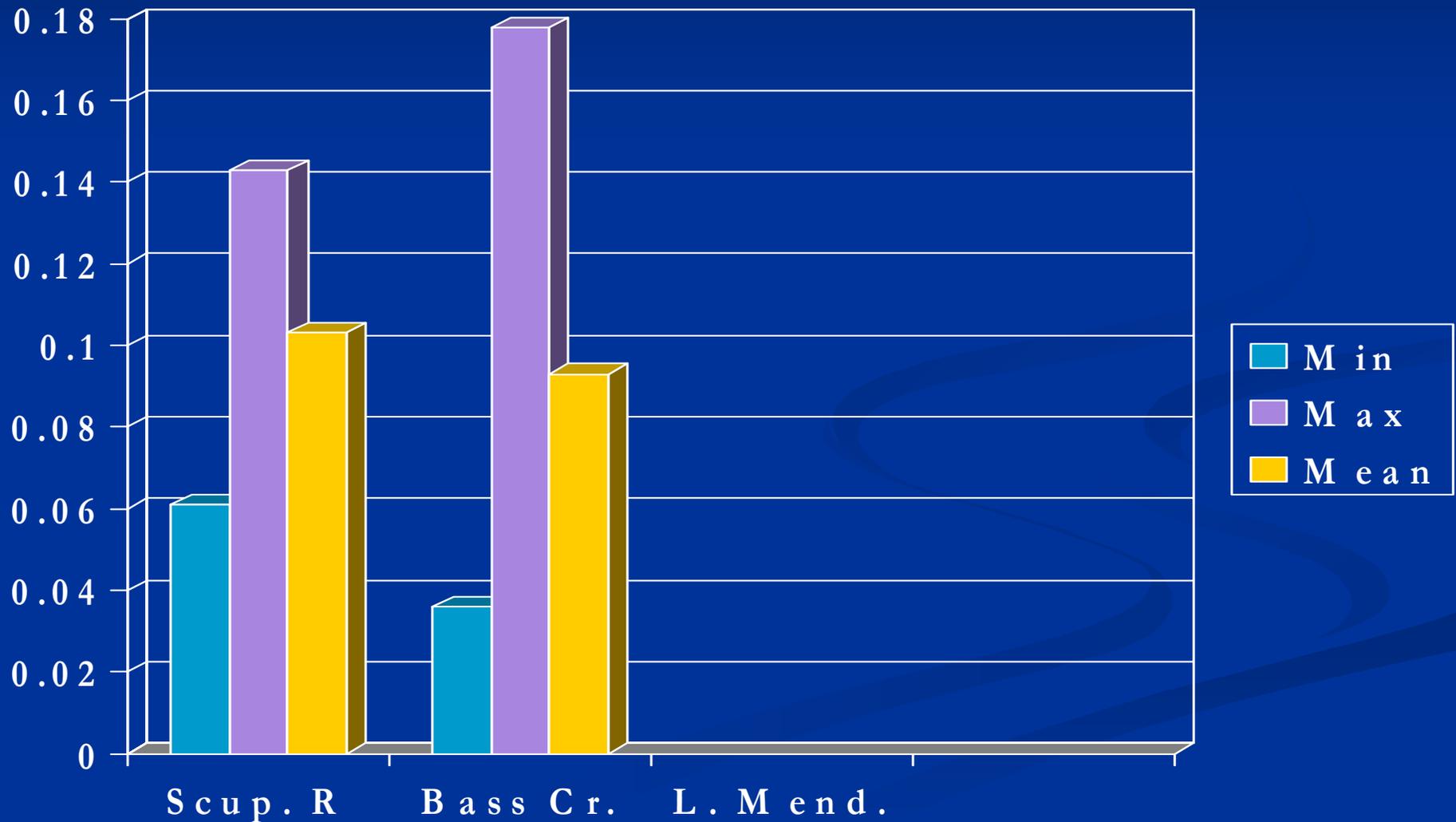
48,374 acres utilized for waste disposal in Dodge Co.-not all used on annual basis

Source: The State of the Rock River Basin Report, April 2002

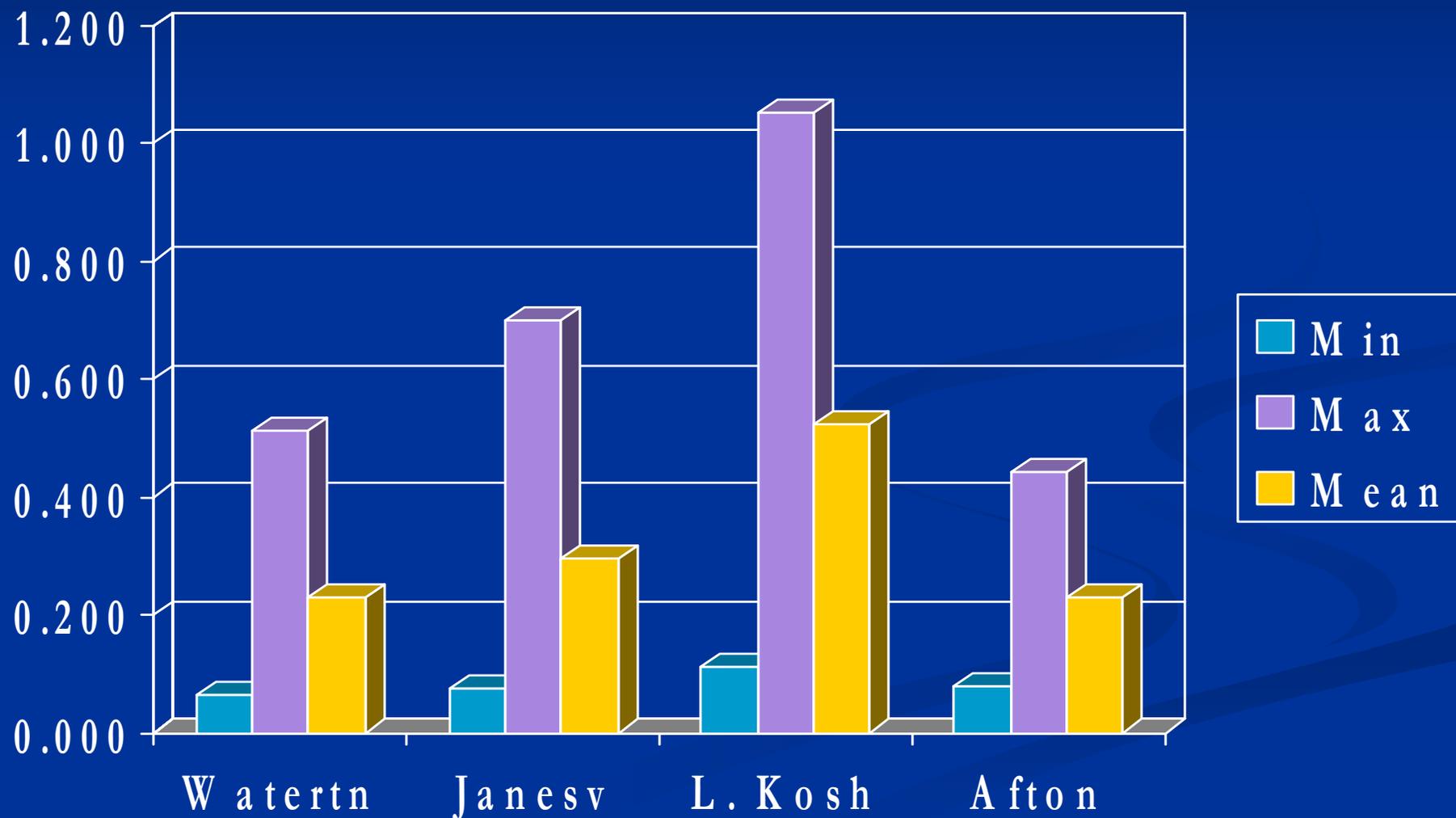
Total Phosphorus (mg/l) Upper Rock



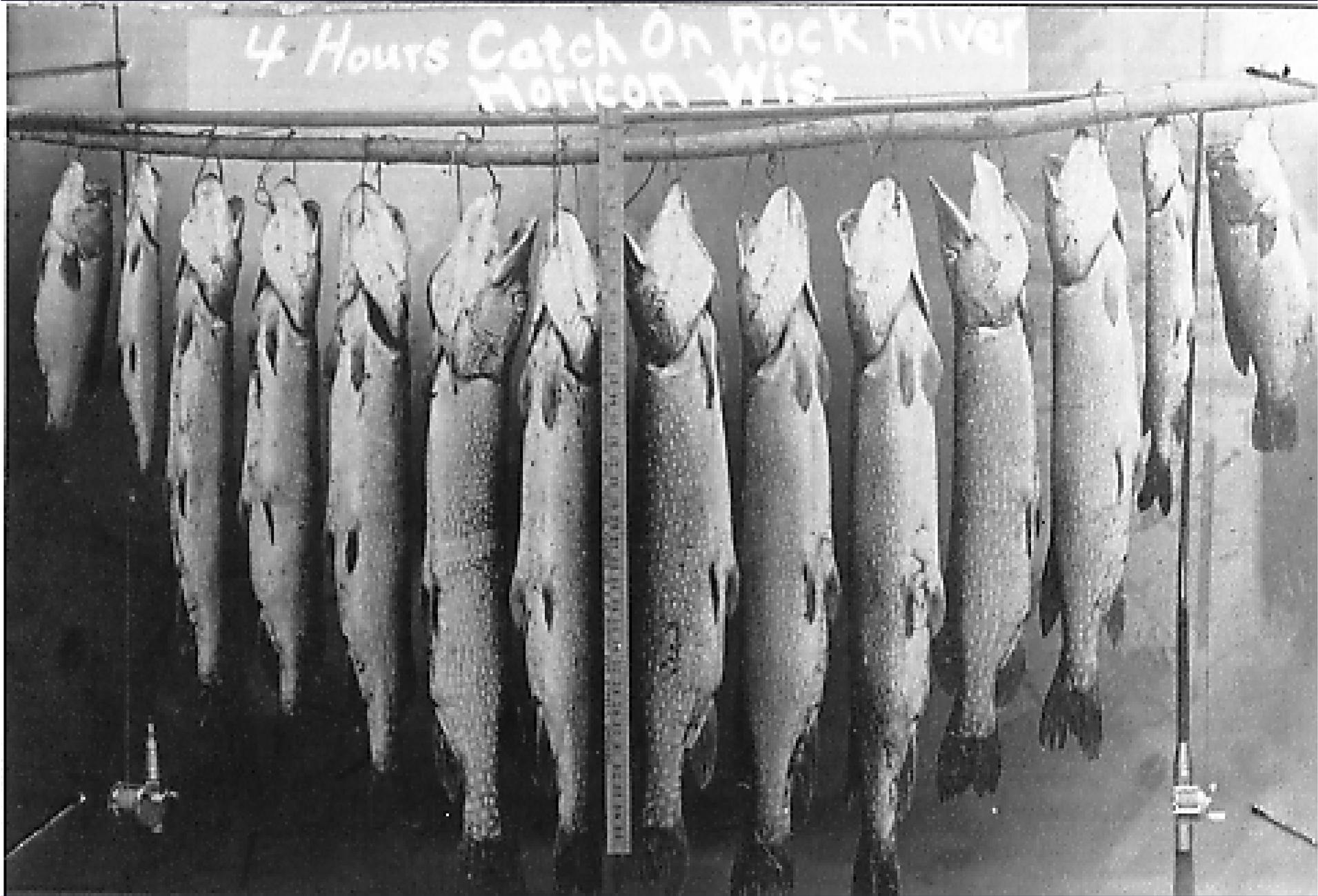
Total Phosphorus (mg/l) Lower Rock



Total Phosphorus (mg/l) Lower Rock



4 Hours Catch On Rock River
MORISON WIS.



We Live, Work and Play in the Rock River Basin

A photograph of a person fishing in a river at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange glow and a long, shimmering reflection on the water. The person is silhouetted against the water, holding a fishing rod. The background shows a dark treeline under the sunset sky.

What will the next generation inherit?