Fox River Implementation Plan

Fox River Study Group Update

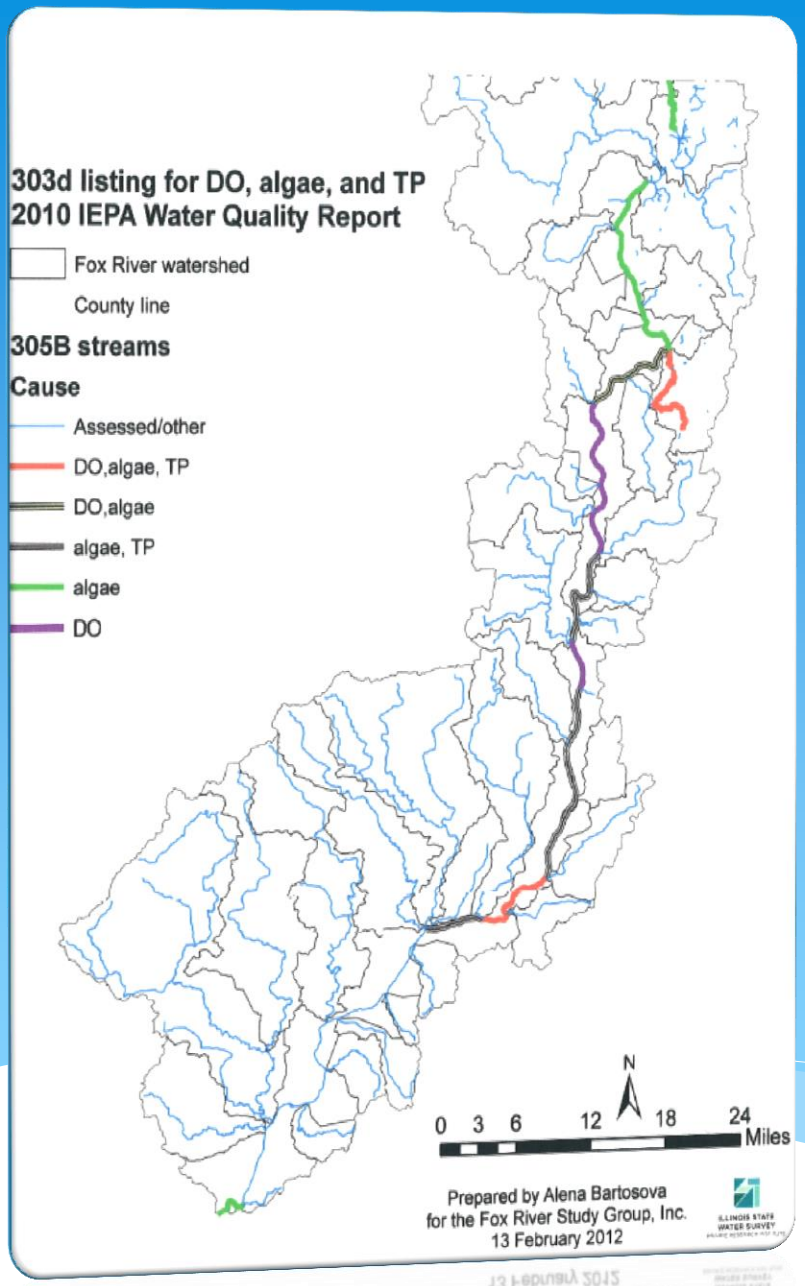
Fox River Summit

March 20, 2015

Cindy Skrukrud PhD
Chair, Fox River Study Group
Clean Water Advocate, Sierra Club, Illinois Chapter

Managing a Multi-Purpose Resource

- Drinking water for 300,000+ Illinoisans
- Wastewater and stormwater conveyance
- Recreation for inhabitants and visitors
- Habitat for aquatic and terrestrial species
- Aesthetic value



Illinois EPA
2012 Report to Congress

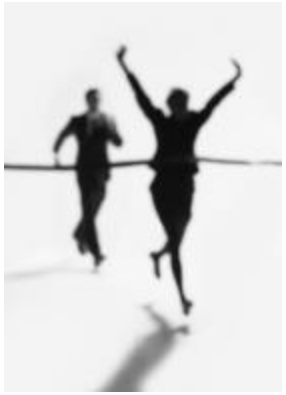
Mainstem of Fox River in Illinois suffers from nutrient-caused impairments

- Algae is over-fed by nutrients
- Algal blooms suck oxygen out of water
- Low oxygen harmful to aquatic life
- Algae causes taste and odor problems for drinking water

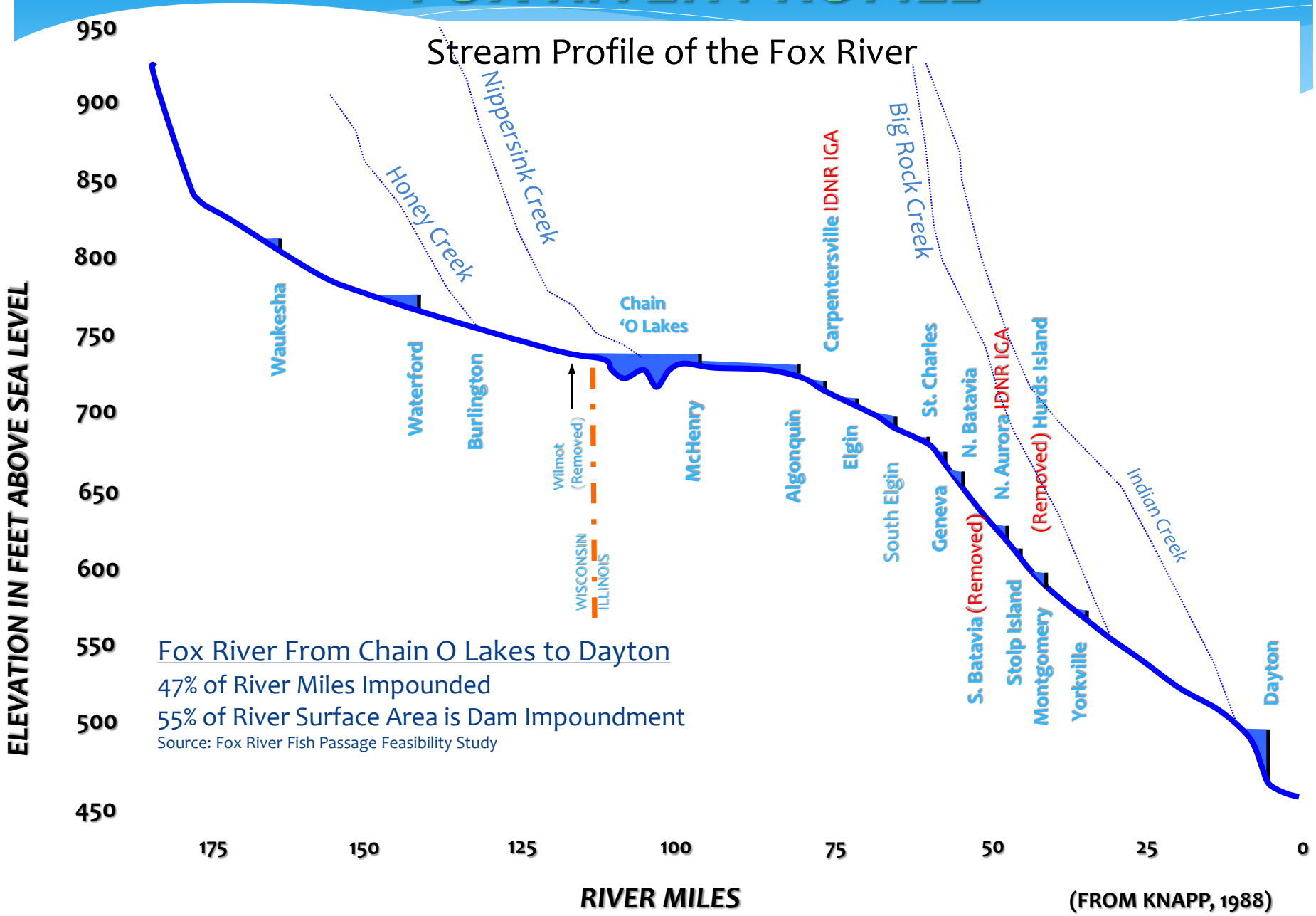
Fox River Implementation Plan

Goals

- Attain water quality for dissolved oxygen
- Reduce nuisance algae
- Replace a traditional TMDL plan
- Recommendations developed based on good science with input from local decision makers



FOX RIVER PROFILE



Fox River Study Group

Incorporated as a Not For Profit in 2003

City of Aurora
City of Elgin
Fox Metro Water Reclamation District
Fox River Ecosystem Partnership
Fox River Water Reclamation District
Friends of the Fox River
Kane County
Sierra Club - Illinois Chapter
Tri-Cities (Batavia, Geneva, St. Charles)

Mission: To bring a diverse coalition of stakeholders together to work to preserve and enhance water quality in the Fox River watershed

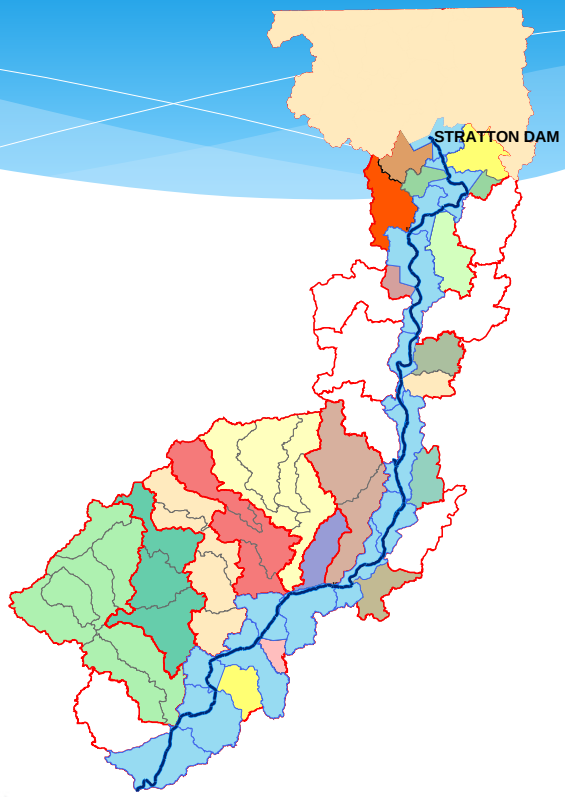
Scientific Tools

Extensive monitoring of Fox River (monthly since 2002, low flows, storms)
Computer models of watershed runoff and Fox River mainstem

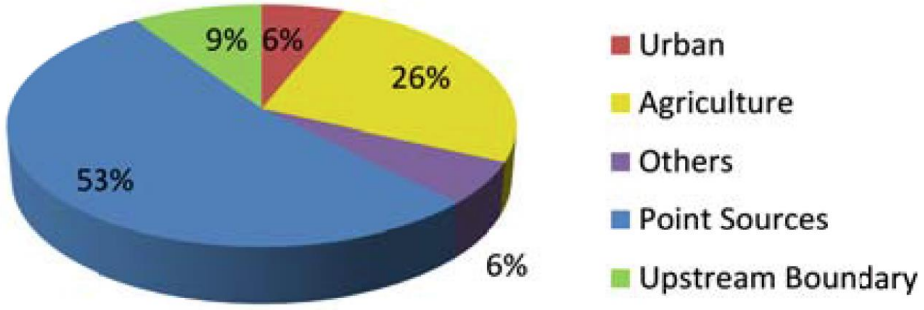
www.foxriverstudygroup.org

The Fox River Watershed

Addressing Fox River's nutrient-related issues

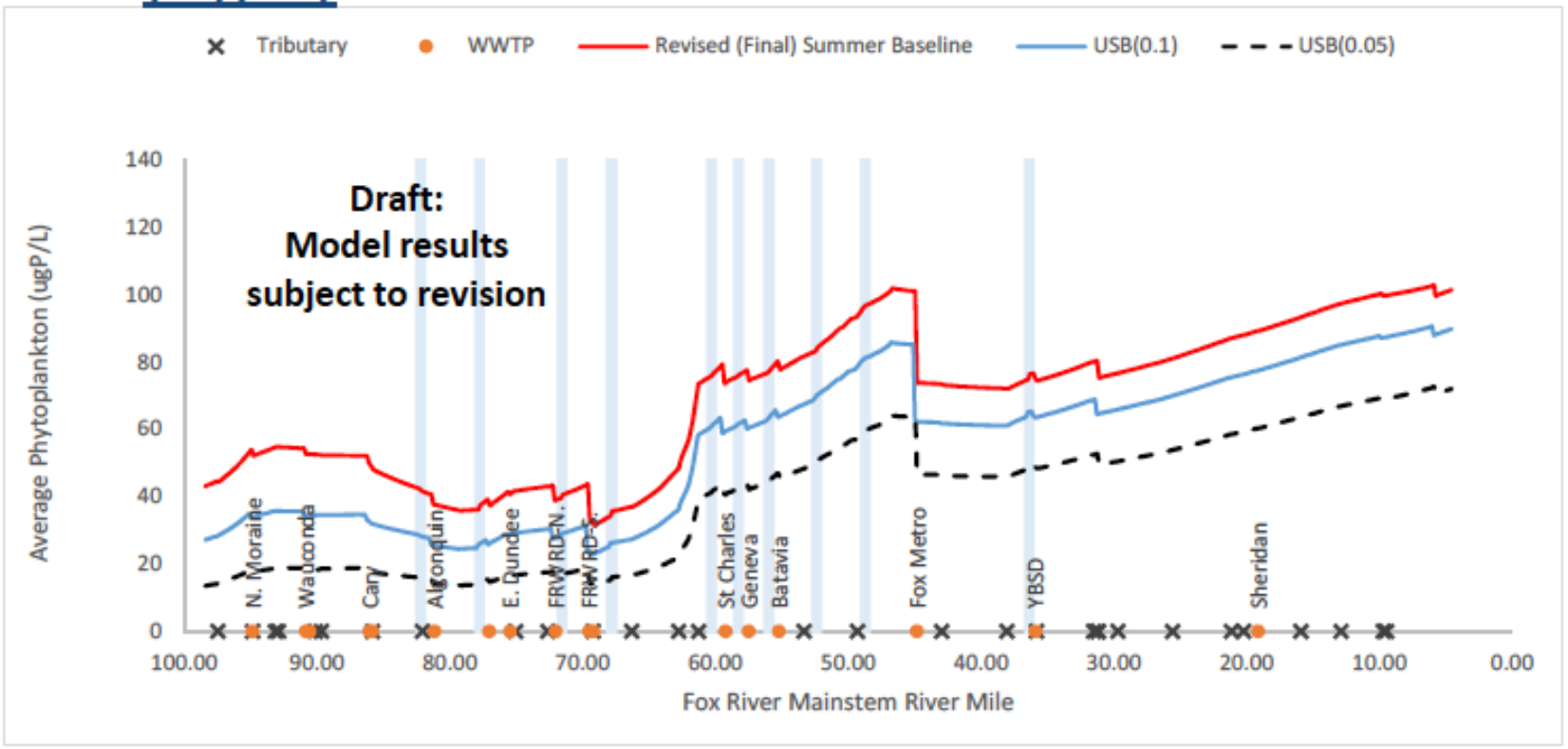


Fox Total, long-term average annual TP load



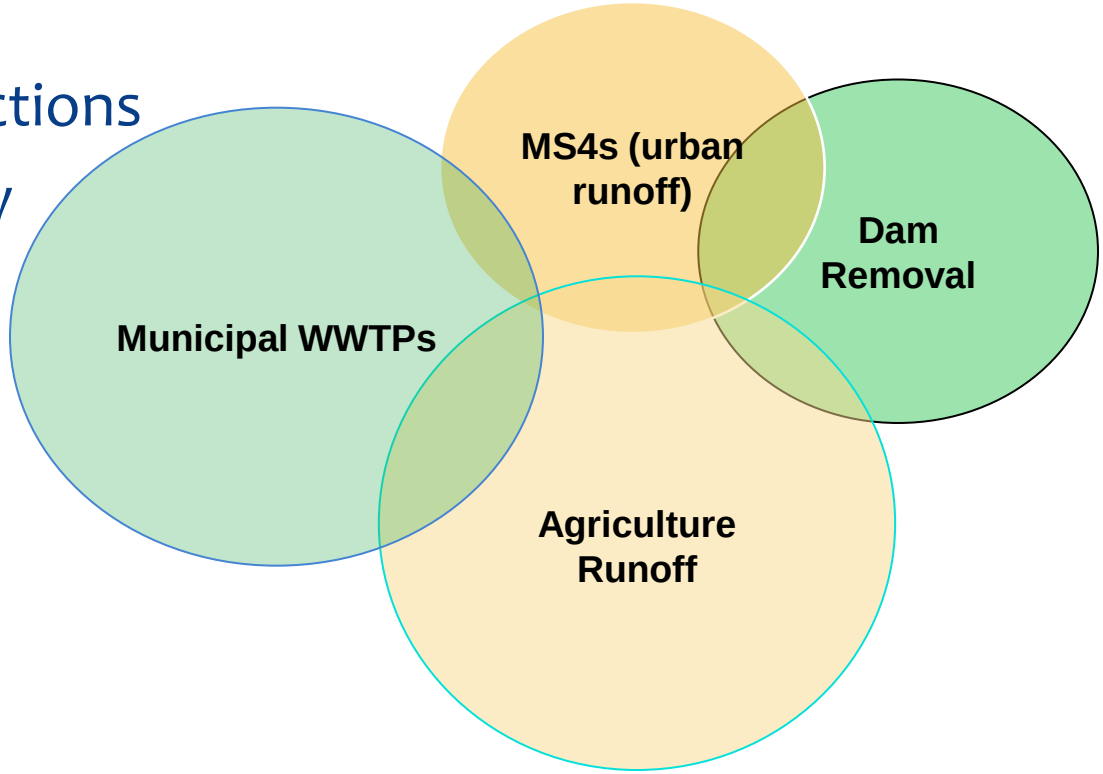
FRIP Project Update – 02/17/15

Updated summer load reduction: Upstream (algae)



Fox River Study Group's Fox River Implementation Plan

- Collected data and models will help identify the most effective actions
- Prioritize control actions
- To be completed by end of 2015



Thank You!

Cindy Skrukrud
cindy.skrukrud@sierraclub.org
312-251-1680 x110