Lick Creek Watershed Restoration Plan

Stakeholder Meeting 4

June 20, 2007

Rollingview Community Center

Agenda

3:00 Welcome and Introductions

3:05 Announcements

3:15 Lick Creek watershed management objectives*

3:30 Lick Creek fieldwork findings review

4:15 Prioritizing restoration needs (discussion)

5:00 Adjourn

* Decision Item

Next meeting:
August 15, 3:00 – 5:00
East Durham Regional Branch Library

Review Land Use Analysis and Watershed Treatment Model
Establish project prioritization criteria

Announcements

Lick Creek Watershed Management Objectives

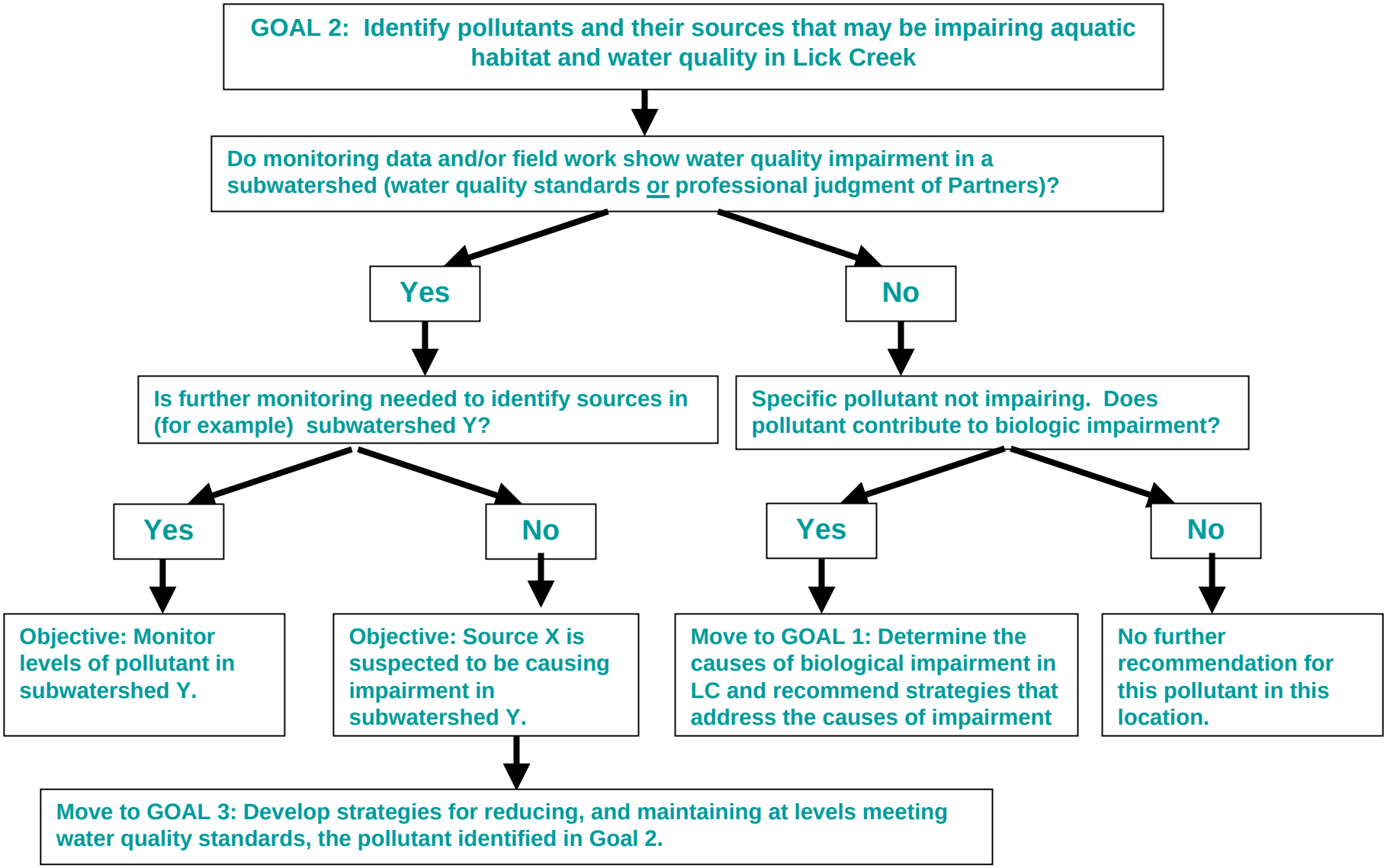
Terminology

Goal: General statement of purpose or intent

Objective: Precise statement of what needs to be done (measurable by indicators)

Strategies: Specific statements (how, who, by when, using what resources) of how to achieve the objective.

Objectives development process



Do we agree on this general approach?

Lick Creek Fieldwork Findings Review

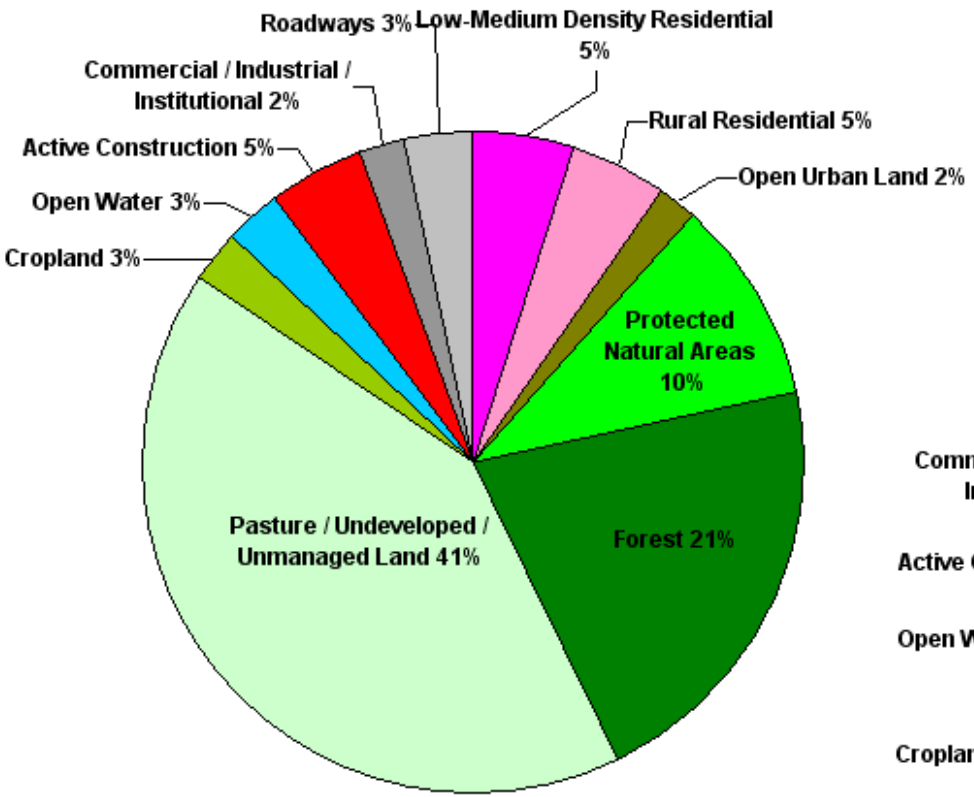
Summary: Overall Conditions

- Many Lick Creek tributaries are in good shape from a geomorphic perspective.
- Optimal-condition reaches (5) were in Laurel Creek (subsheds 8 and 10)
- 49 reaches were sub-optimal, 23 marginal
- Only 1 poor reach found (Kingsmill Dairy)
- Though this stream is biologically impaired, the impairment may be attributed to sparse in-stream habitat created by the geology and historic impacts.

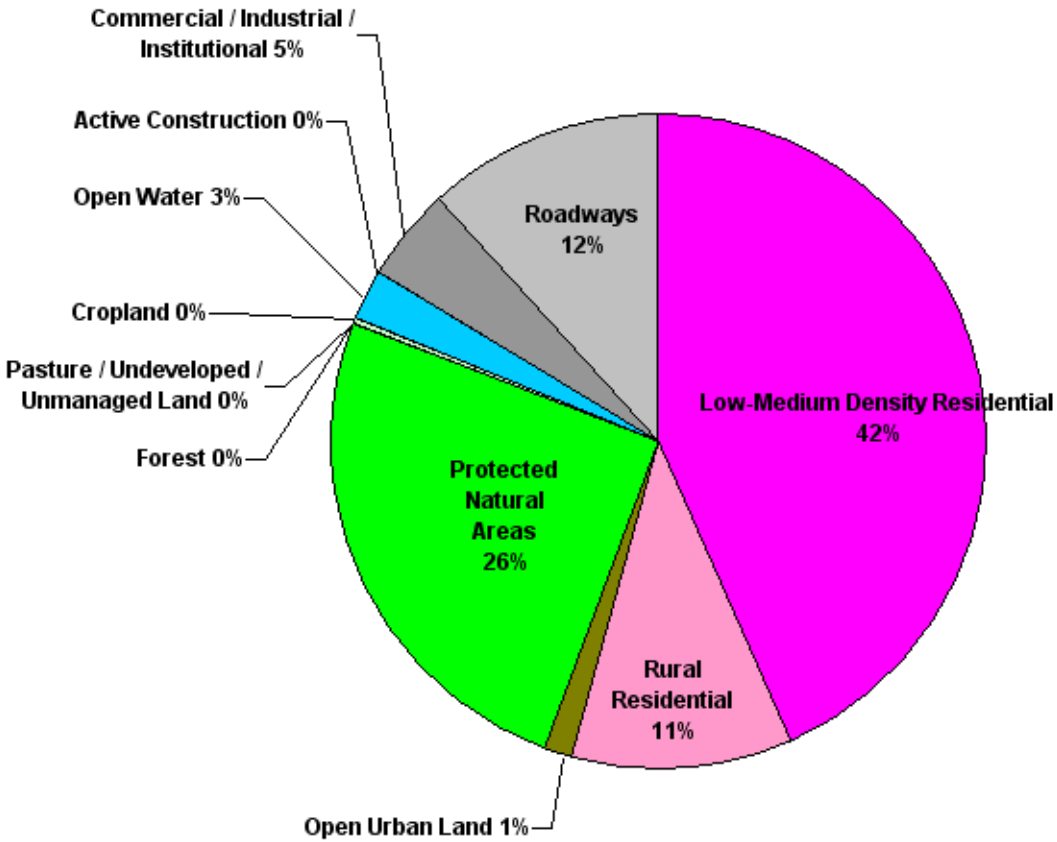
Summary: Overall Conditions

- Few potential restoration opportunities were found.
- New impacts from ongoing construction activities activities are impacting existing good quality streams and wetlands.
- The focus of the Lick Creek Restoration Plan should therefore be to prevent future impacts and to preserve high quality areas.
- A few restoration activities should complement the overall “prevention” strategy.

Existing Land Use



Future Land Use



Follow-up (August and October meetings)…

Land Use Analysis and Watershed Treatment Model (August meeting)

Water quality and aquatic biology monitoring (October meeting)

Specific findings and recommendations

1. Inadequate erosion and sediment control at construction sites

2. Uncontrolled sediment discharges from agriculture sites

3. Water quality requirement for post-construction stormwater management

4. Impacts from infrastructure crossing the stream corridor

5. Buffer and floodplain encroachment

6. Protection of high quality streams and wetlands

7. Delineation of streams and wetlands

8. Major restoration projects

9. Volunteer Restoration Projects

11. Suspicious septic discharges

11. Outreach and Education

11. Municipal infrastructure repairs

Conclusion

Restoration opportunities are limited

More urbanized subwatersheds (1-3) have the greatest concentration of potential projects

Addressing several problems will require partnership and NC DWQ support.

Upcoming analyses will add vital information to fieldwork.

Discussion:
Prioritizing Restoration Needs

“Watershed Restoration”

- Stream repair
- Buffer restoration
- Stormwater retrofits
- Improving existing practices through outreach and education

Why prioritize?

- Resources limited
- Restoration expensive

Restoration project criteria

1. Need for project (monitoring or fieldwork indicates degradation at subwatershed level)
2. Project's environmental benefits
3. Project's community benefits / support
4. Project's implementation feasibility

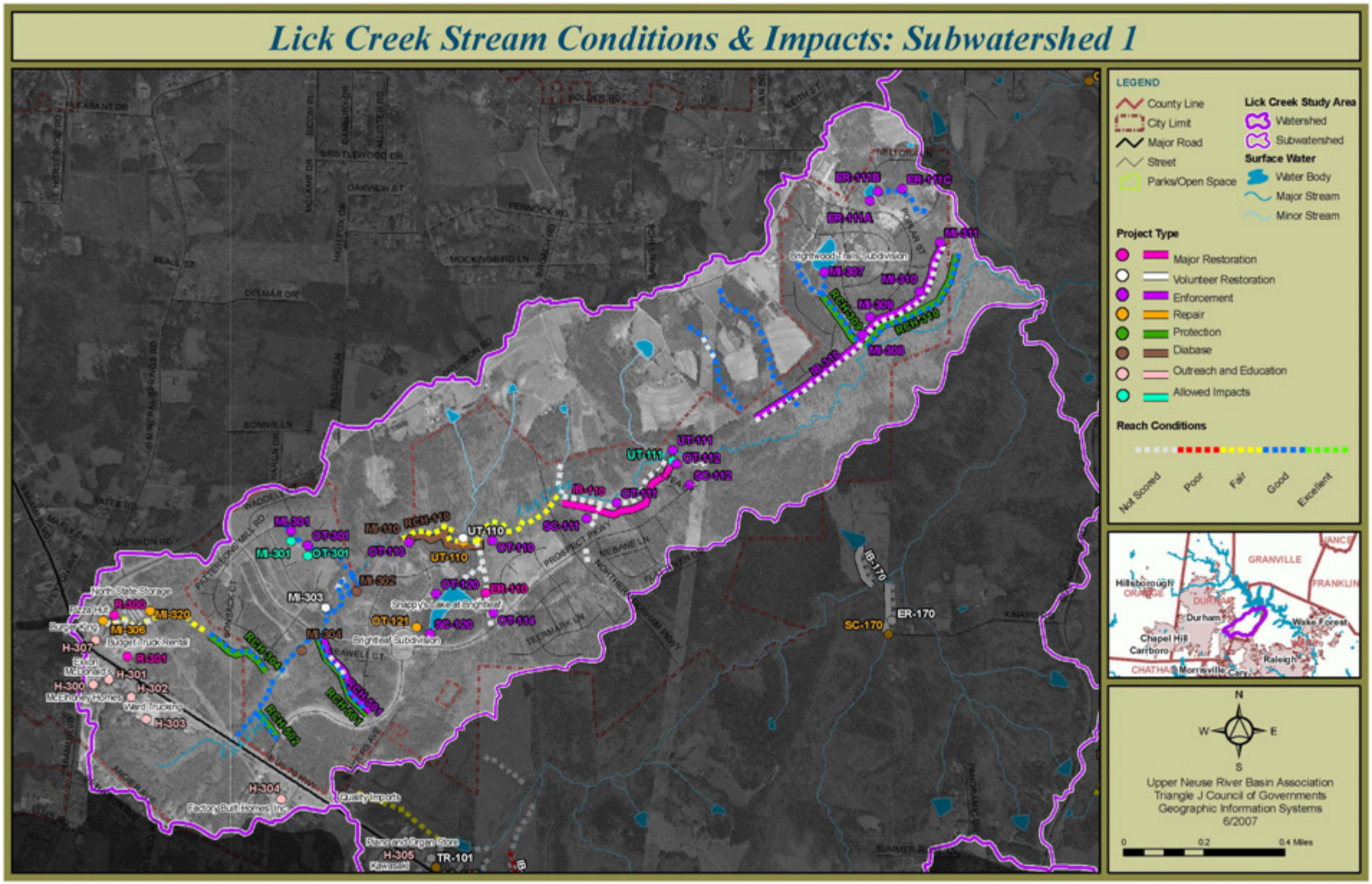
1. Need for Project

Subwatershed is “management unit” to prioritize:

1. Existing water quality problems (some subwatersheds are not in need of restoration)

2. Expected future impacts

Subwatershed as “management unit”



2. Environmental Criteria

Potential criteria (watershed functions):

1. Water quality benefits
2. Aquatic biology benefits
3. Benefits to Falls Lake (nutrient reduction)

3. Community Benefits / Support

Potential criteria:

1. Aesthetics

2. Stewardship
    - long term public involvement,
    - citizen education,
    - implemented by citizens

4. Implementation Feasibility

Potential criteria:

1. Cost
2. Access
3. Ownership
4. Maintenance burden
5. Long-term physical viability
6. Implementing agency

Next Steps

- Project partners recommend criteria and relative importance of criteria
- Stakeholders discuss and agree upon criteria at August meeting
- Do any stakeholders have interest in working with partners to determine criteria?

Adjourn