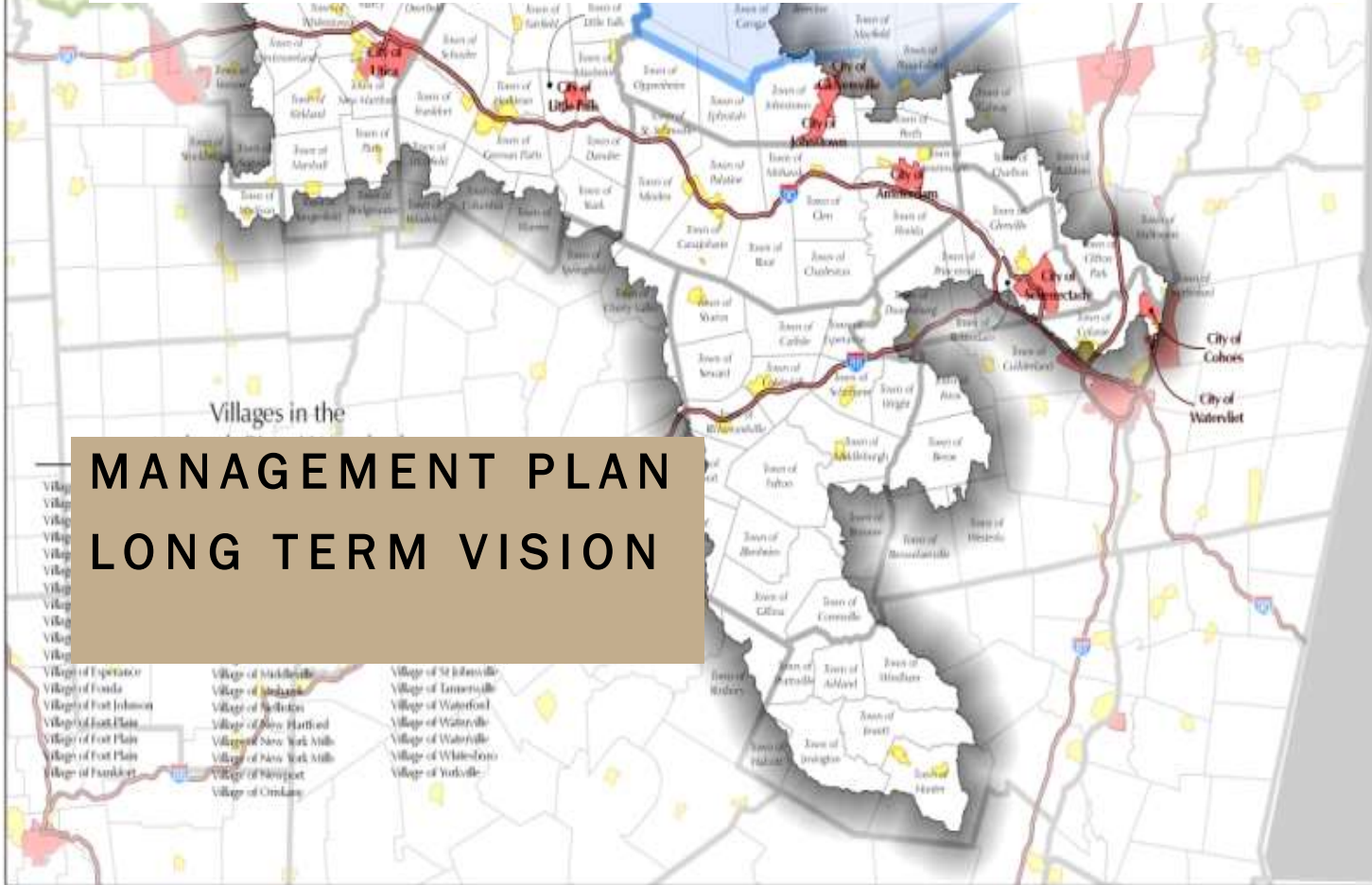


# MOHAWK RIVER WATERSHED COALITION UPDATE

Legend

- Interstates
- Cities
- Towns
- Villages
- County Boundaries
- Adirondack Park Agency
- Tug Hill Commission



MANAGEMENT PLAN  
LONG TERM VISION

Map Designed By:

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*This watershed planning effort is funded through a Title 11 Environmental Protection Fund grant from the New York State Department of State.*



# COALITION HISTORY



# MOHAWK WATERSHED COALITION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Formed in 2009 by memorandum of understanding


- **Mission:** “To implement conservation initiatives that protect, promote, and enhance the natural resources of the Mohawk River Watershed in partnership with local, state, and federal stakeholders”

- **Members include:**

- Albany Co. SWCD
- Fulton Co. SWCD
- Delaware Co. SWCD
- Greene Co. SWCD
- Hamilton Co. SWCD
- Herkimer Co. SWCD
- Lewis Co. SWCD
- Madison Co. SWCD
- Montgomery Co. SWCD
- Oneida Co. SWCD
- Otsego Co. SWCD
- Saratoga Co. SWCD
- Schenectady Co. SWCD
- Schoharie Co. SWCD


# WHY FORM A COALITION?

To Address:


- **Known Water Quality Issues**
  - **agriculture and other non-point sources of pollution**
  - **on-site septic systems and community wastewater discharges**
  - **acidic atmospheric deposition**
  - **urban runoff, industrial wastes, municipal wastewater, and combined sewer overflow**
  - **protection of priority drinking water supplies**
- 

# TO IDENTIFY GAPS IN INFORMATION & COMPILE A USABLE DATABASE OF BASIN FEATURES

## What was:

- 35% of all stream/river miles in-Basin were without assessment
  - 36% of all pond/lake/reservoir acres in-Basin were without assessment
  - Relevant natural and built features of the Basin had not been catalogued
  - The function of government entities had not been evaluated in relation to water quality
- 

# **WHY DID WE WRITE A MANAGEMENT PLAN?**

- 1. To create an effective framework for future environmental work within the Mohawk Valley**
  - 2. The plan will function as a spring-board for implementation and program growth within the Basin, appealing to local, state, and federal interests**
  - 3. Members of the Coalition and others will use management strategies identified in the plan for the development of conservation initiatives within the region.**
- 

# ASSESSMENTS RE-CAP

Completed by SWCDs

Broken up into HUC12s

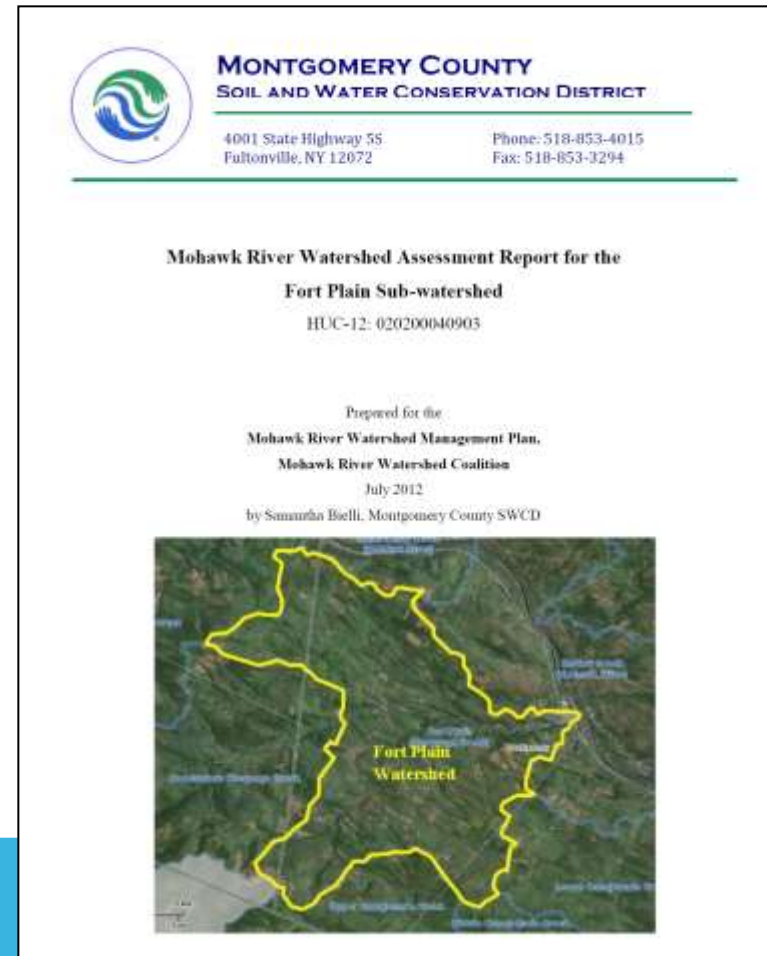
Determine conditions

- ✓ Water quality
- ✓ Land use
- ✓ Habitat

Determine action based  
on weighted score

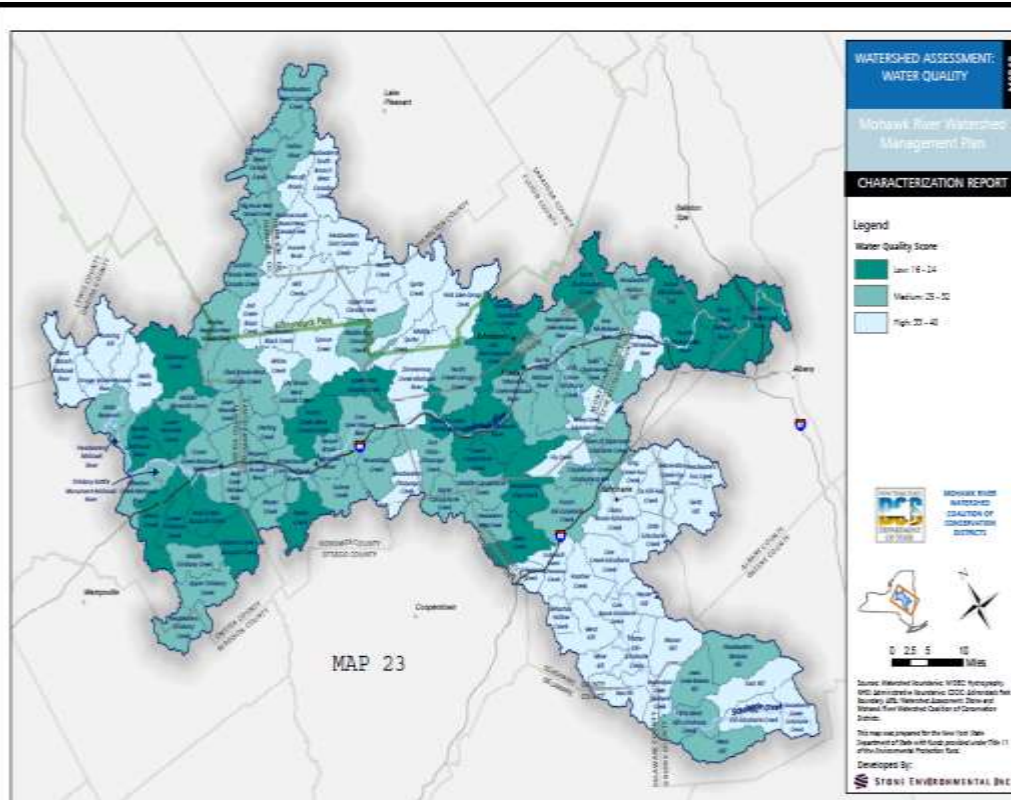
Many parameters  
evaluated

Scoring matrix is plan  
specific



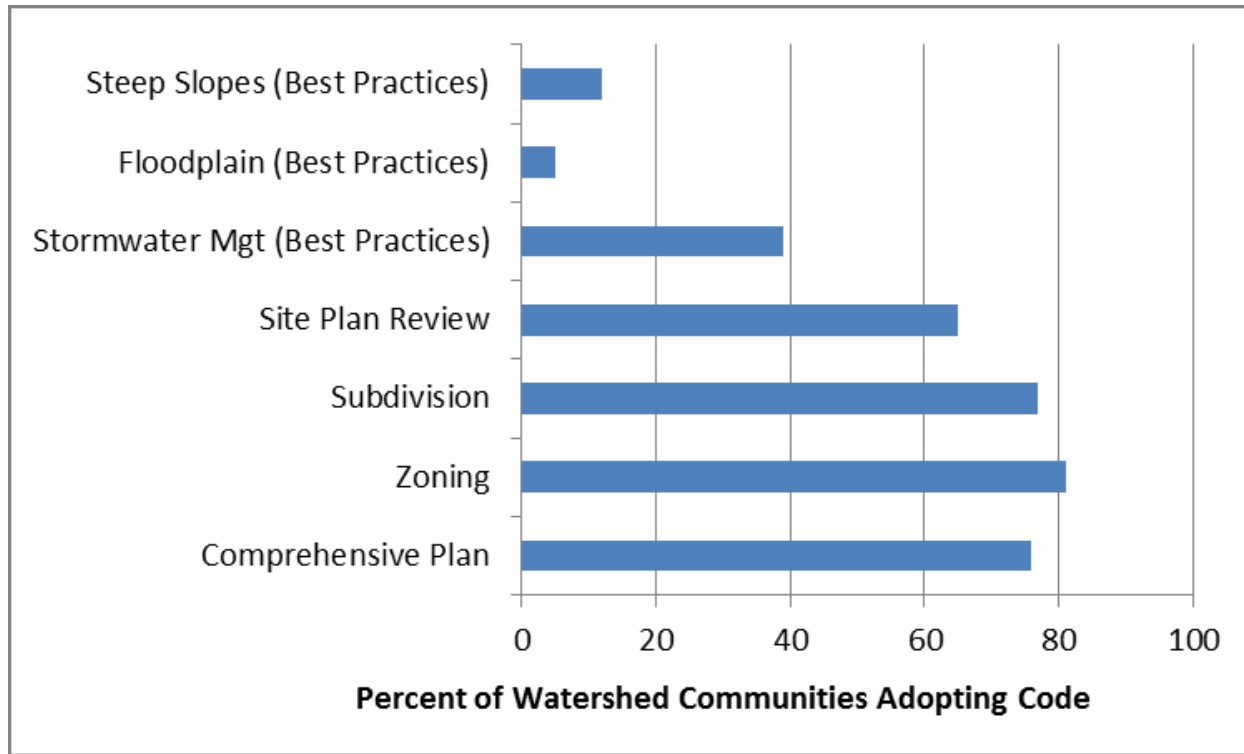


# ONLINE MAPPER



1. Provides a visual representation of results
2. Is all encompassing
3. Over 40 data layers can be displayed
4. Assessment reports hyperlinked to specific sub-watersheds
5. Project Implementation Tracking is active

# REGULATORY ANALYSIS (474 PAGES)



# OUTREACH CAMPAIGN



Community forums

Website upgrade

Social media

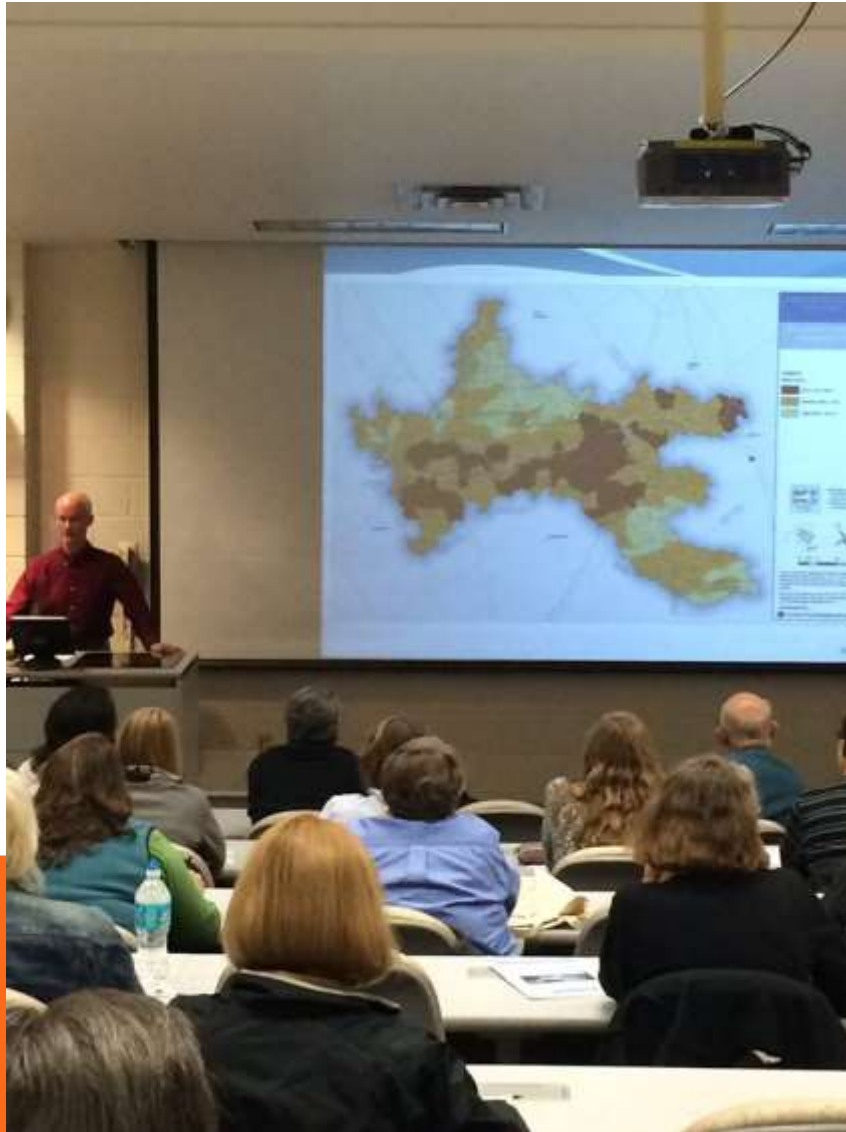
Marketing materials

Email campaigns

Videos

Environmental  
awareness events

# PUBLIC FORUMS



Held 3 events to unveil  
the plan draft

- ❖ SUNY Cobleskill  
9/10/14
- ❖ Schenectady  
Community College  
9/16/14
- ❖ Oneida Co. Farm &  
Home Center,  
Oriskany 9/18/14

# OUTCOMES/CONCERNS OF THE FORUMS

Flooding concerns remain

Preparedness needs to be a focus

Funding Concerns

Public wants to be more involved

Concerns about water pollution

Research grants-can website serve as clearinghouse?

Financial incentives for Community code changes/implementation

Native Americans need to be considered (local laws)

Develop partnerships with similar programs (i.e. Prism)

Concerns about more regulation and bureaucracy

Can conditions be reported in real time (NOAA)?



# THE PLAN IS COMPLETE

## Mohawk River Watershed Management Plan



March 2015



This plan was prepared with funds provided by the New York State Department of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund Act.

# **PHASE I IMPLEMENTATION**

**Funded through Title 11 EPF approved for funding in 2014**

**Total cost \$967,250**

**2 years from contract date to complete**

**Flood Mitigation Studies – Schoharie Watershed, five (5) counties involved**

**Stormwater Management – Oneida and Fulton Counties**

**Invasive Species Control – Hamilton, Saratoga, Albany, and Fulton Counties**

A worker wearing a high-visibility safety vest and blue jeans is operating a hydro-seeding machine. The machine is spraying a mixture of water and seeds onto a wet, paved road surface. The background shows a rural setting with trees and a building.

## PHASE II IMPLEMENTATION

**Approved for Funding through Title 11 EPF**

**Total cost \$667,504**

**Invasive species control via boat wash stations  
in Fulton Co.**

**Stream restoration projects in Madison Co.**

**Critical area seeding (aka hydro-seeding) in  
Schoharie, Hamilton, Albany, and Schenectady  
counties.**



# ESI TRAINING

Received DEC Grant  
\$72,000

10 ESI trainings in  
basin (14 counties)

Already conducted 2 in  
Schoharie (70  
attendees), 1 in  
Oneida (80  
attendees).

I scheduled in Albany  
this spring



## Post-Flood Emergency Stream Intervention



Before Repairs



After Repairs

## Training Manual

Originally prepared by:  
Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District  
Delaware County planning Department


In cooperation with:  
The New York City Department of Environmental Protection,  
Bureau of Water Supply, Stream Management Program

With permission, this document was edited and expanded for state-wide application by:  
New York Department of Environmental Conservation

Updated - March 2014

# THE FUTURE

Broad based and specific recommendations are part of the plan framework

- Strategy 1- BMPs
  - Strategy 2- Municipal Actions (i.e. zoning, land use policy)
  - Strategy 3- Collaboration and Partnerships
  - ✓ NYSDOS Local Waterfront Revitalization (LWRP)
  - ✓ Mighty Waters
  - ✓ NYSDEC Mohawk River Action Agenda
  - ✓ NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program (NYRCA)
  - ✓ Cleaner, Greener Communities Program
- 

# **CONTINUE IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING**

**Locally based steering committees will set priorities, and help drive the plan strategies**

**Some actions and practices are targeted and specific to a region or community**

**Some actions are broad and will require intra county partnerships as well as multi-agency coordination**

**The Coalition will continue to meet annually to gauge progress, monitor website and map tool functionality, implement public outreach, and seek funding opportunities**



# Contact information

David Mosher  
Program Coordinator  
Chairman of the MRWCCD  
Schenectady Co. SWCD  
518 399-6980 office  
518 857-1715 cell  
518 399-5040 fax  
SSWCD@nycap.rr.com

Kenneth Smith,  
Assistant Bureau Chief  
Local and Regional Programs  
NYS Department of State  
518 473-3373  
kenneth.smith@dos.state.ny.us

Peter Nichols  
Vice Chairman of the MRWCCD  
Schoharie Co. SWCD  
Stream Program Manager  
518 295-8811  
p.nichols@schoharieswcd.org

Win McIntyre  
Project Coordinator MRWCCD  
607 287-5831  
Email: winmcintyre@gmail.com