

Welcome!

The purpose of this meeting is to:

- Build public awareness and understanding of the project
- Meet Project Team members
- Ask questions
- Provide opportunity for public input on the range of alternatives and impacts to be evaluated in the environmental assessment



Project Background & Goals

Background

- The Whitney Lake subwatershed has experienced damaging flooding for decades. Numerous attempts to provide drainage and flood relief have been unsuccessful. The Roseau River Watershed District has initiated a new planning effort to examine a comprehensive approach to reducing flooding for landowners in an adequate and equitable manner.

Current Issues

- Agricultural producers in the area suffer frequent inundation from even minor events in both the spring and summer causing crop loss and/or damage.



Future Goals

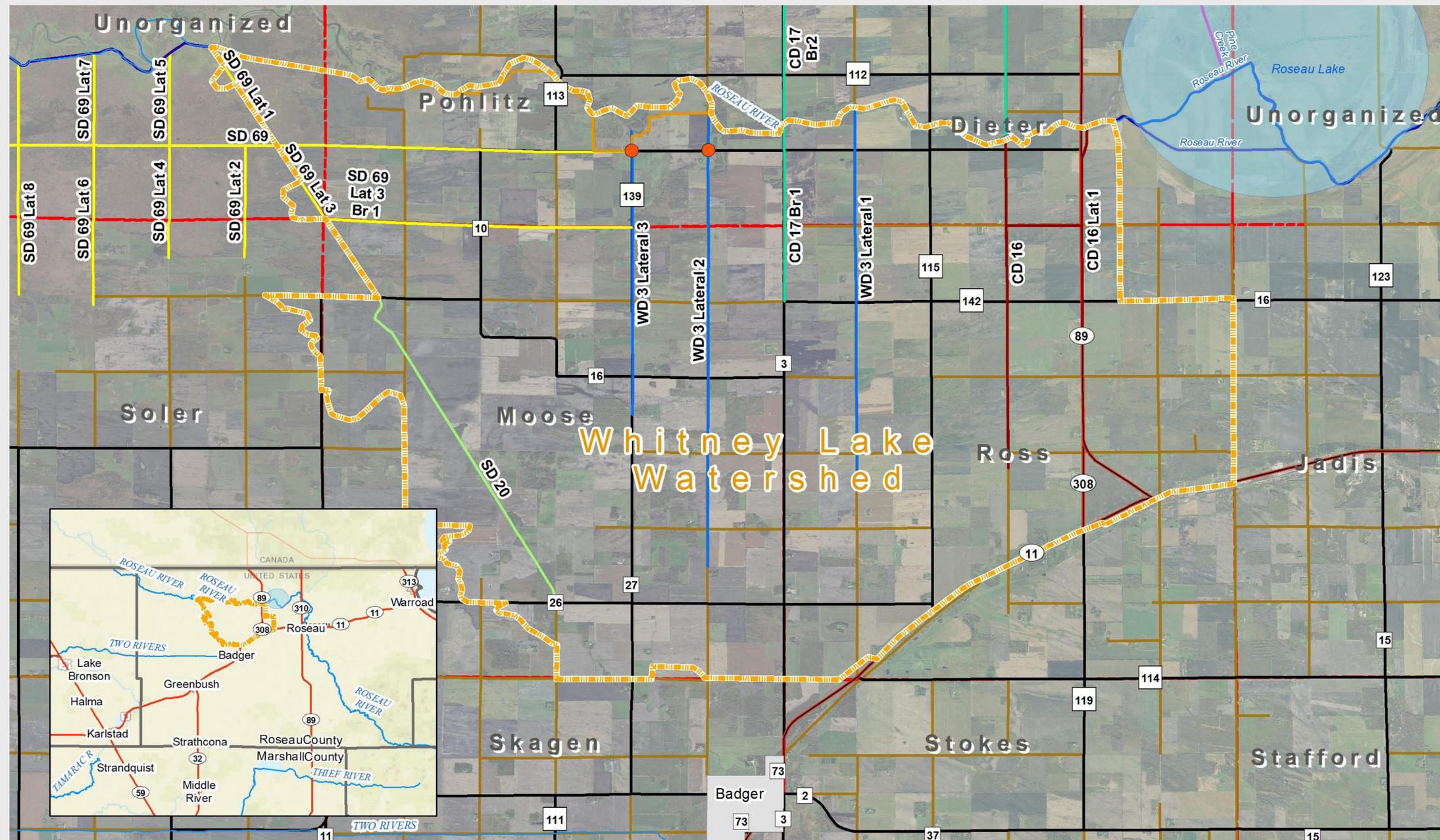
- Make headway in reducing peak flow rates by 20% during flooding events.
- Create a multi-purpose water management project that includes a combination of drainage, protection, diversion, and/or retention to provide flood control to the Whitney Lake subwatershed.

Project Location

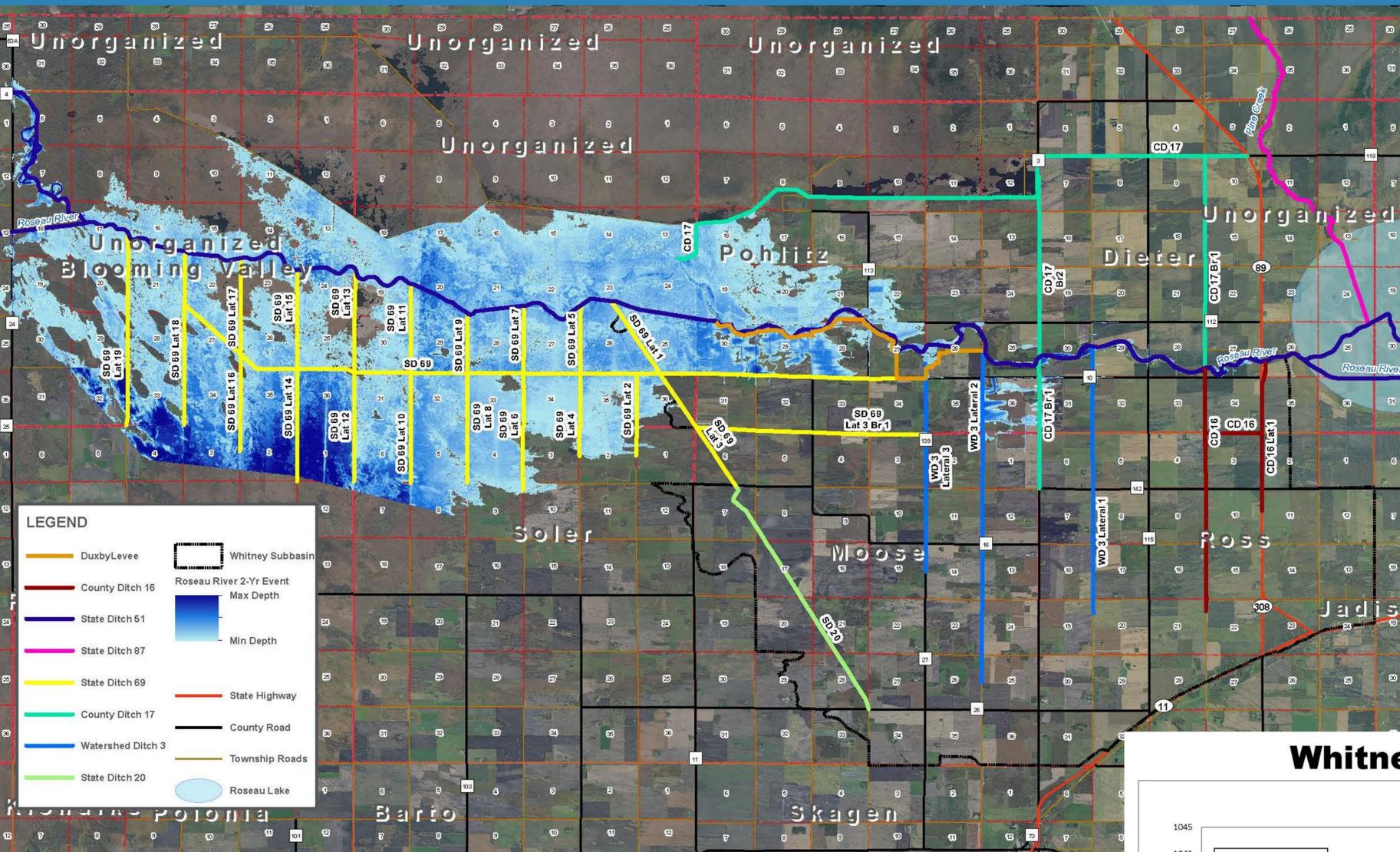
The Whitney Lake subwatershed is located in Northwest Minnesota near the Canadian border.

The existing drainage system is a network of legal ditches including State Ditch 69, Watershed Ditch 3, County Ditch 17, and County Ditch 16.

Townships in this watershed include Ross, Dieter, Pohlitz, Moose, and Jadis.



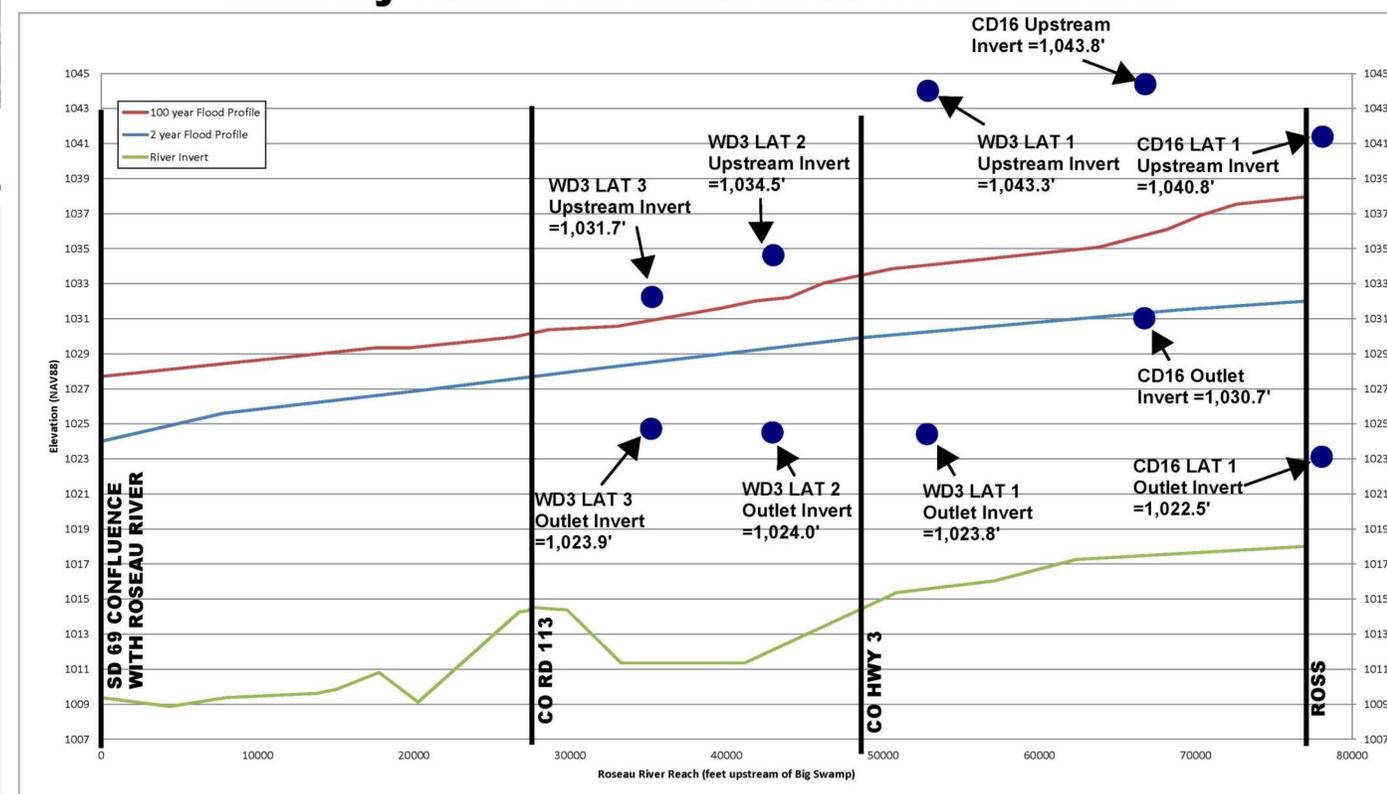
2 Year Event on Roseau River



- Roseau River breaks out near the Big Swamp
- Also fills up Whitney Lake subwatershed ditches

ROSEAU RIVER 2-YR EVENT MODEL RESULTS

Whitney Lake Subwatershed Ditch Inverts



- Drainage ditches cannot function once the River gets high
- Even a 6" decrease in water levels would be a benefit to agricultural land

4 Strategies

1.0 Drainage

- Ditch improvements
- Add new systems



2.0 Protection

- Diking on field side
- Part of drainage



3.0 Diversion

- Re-route high flows from damage center

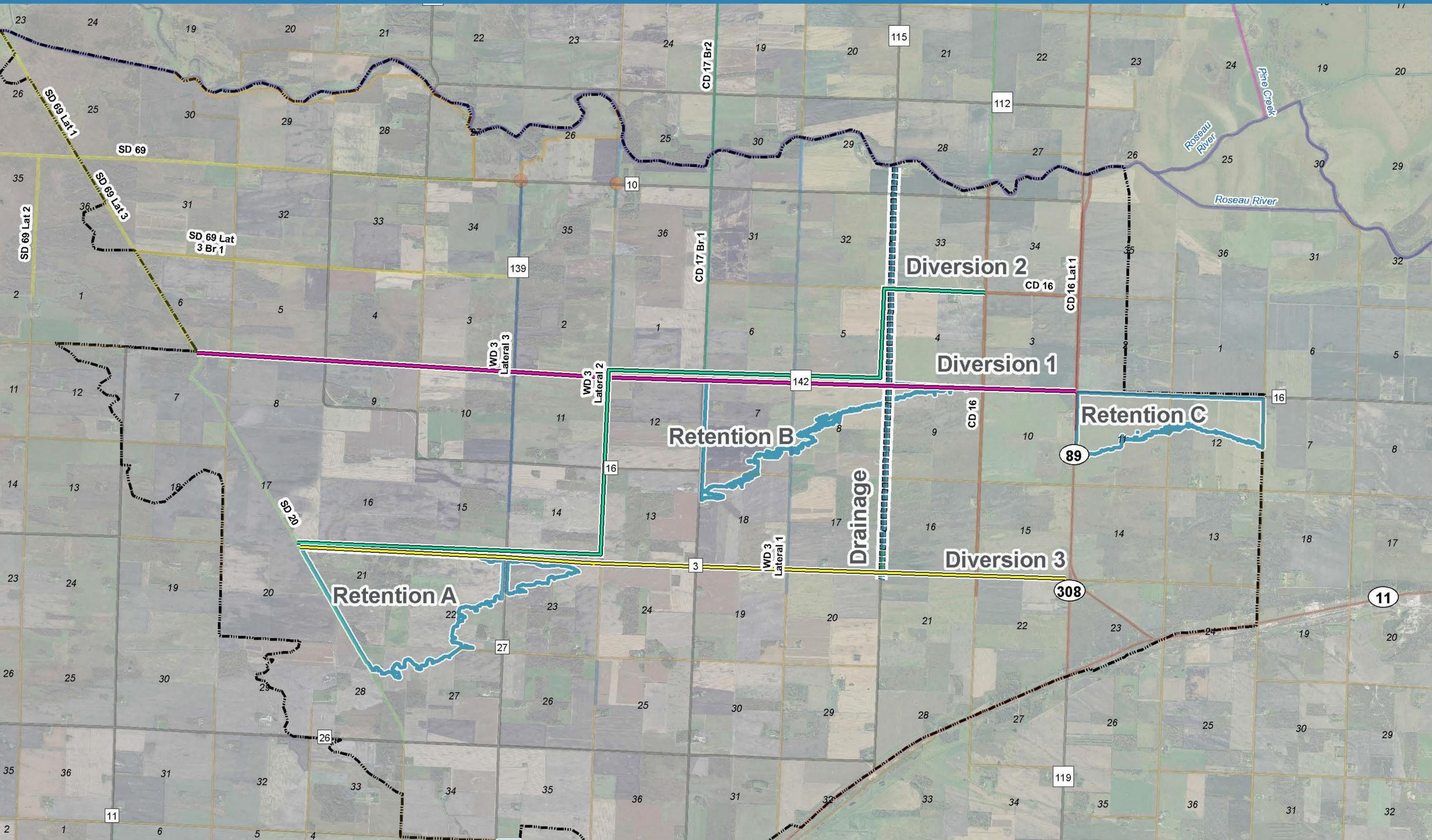


4.0 Retention

- Creating storage to reduce downstream peak flows



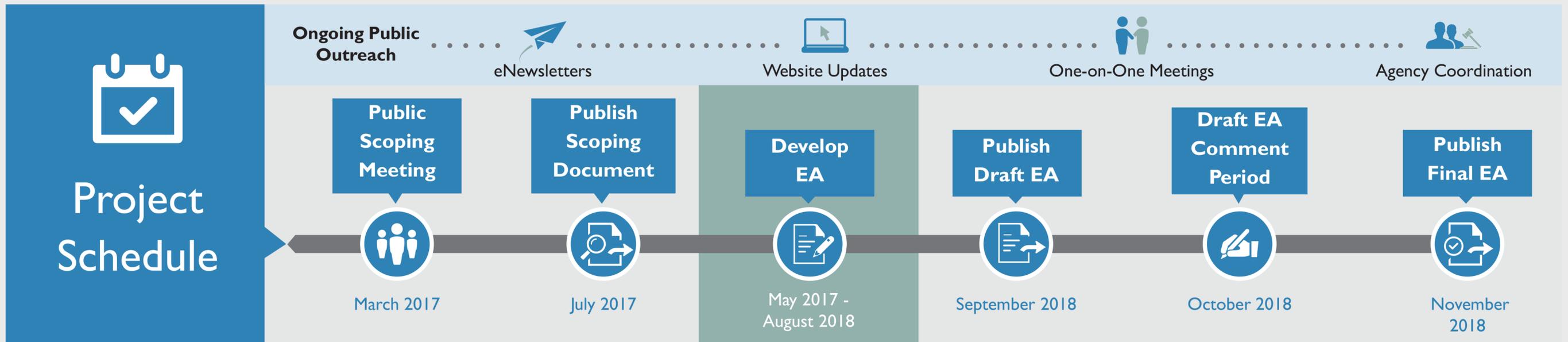
Preliminary Concepts



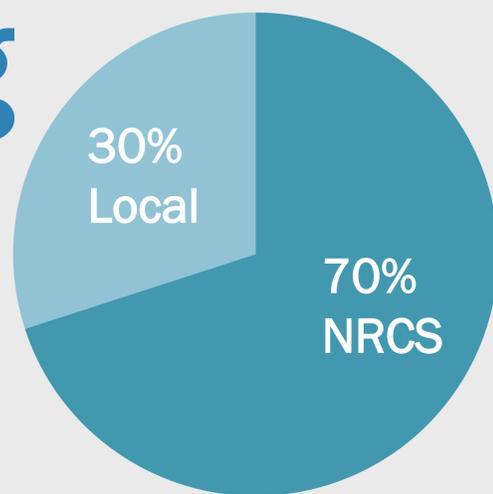
Proposed Diversions	Proposed Retention Area	Township Roads	Duxby Levee	State Ditch 69	Whitney Subbasin
■ Diversion 1	■ Retention Area	● WD 3 outlet traps	■ County Ditch 16	■ County Ditch 17	■ State Ditch 51
■ Diversion 2	■ Drainage Channel	■ Township road raised	■ State Ditch 87	■ Watershed Ditch 3	■ State Ditch 20
■ Diversion 3	■ State Highway	■ County Road			



Schedule, Funding & Planning Process



Funding



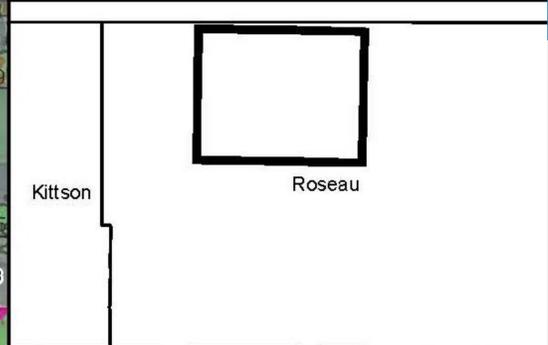
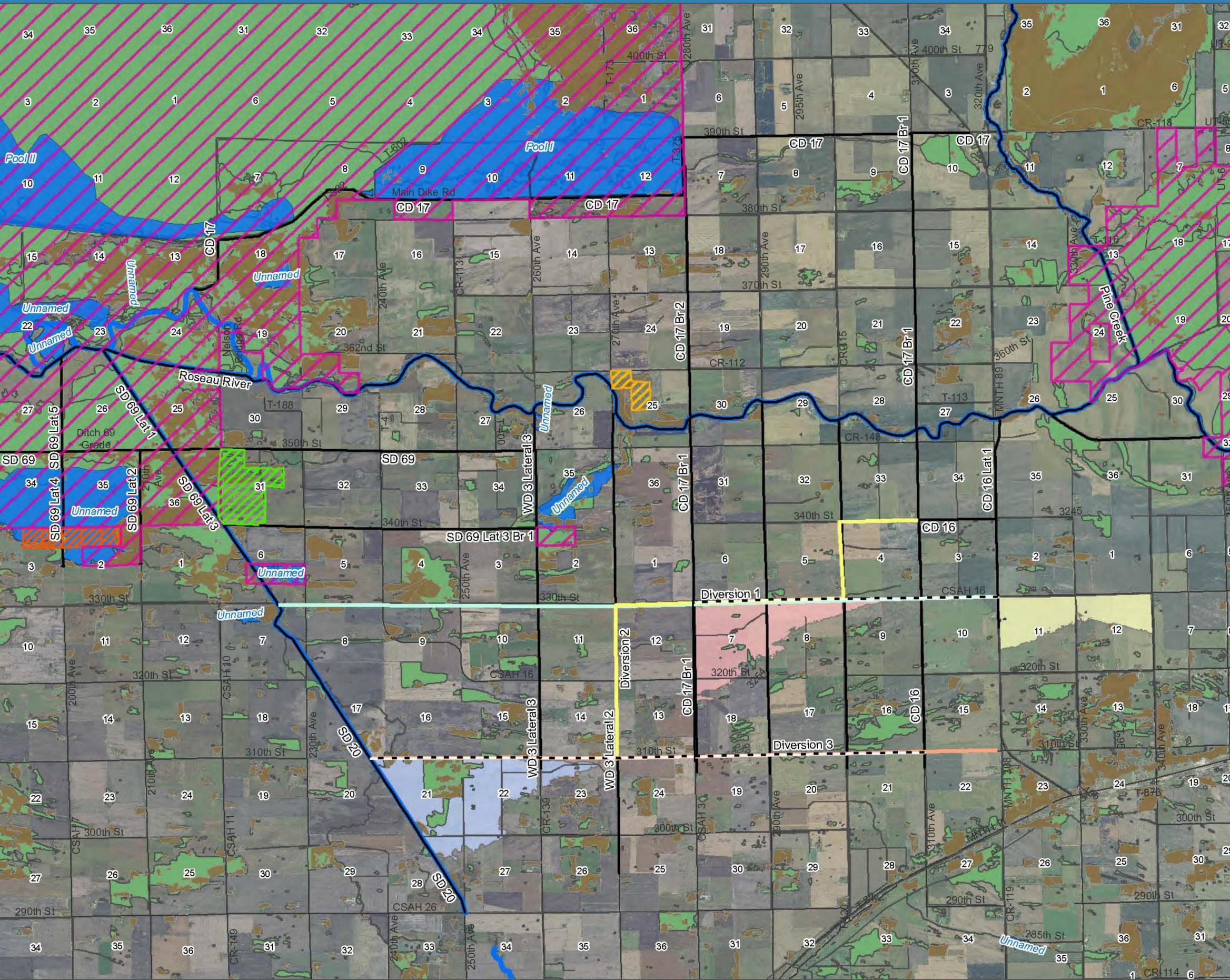
Resource Impacts

Resources	Anticipated Level of Impact		
	High	Medium	Low
Air Quality			None
Cultural/Historic Properties			X
Ecological Critical Areas			None
Environmental Justice			None
Fish & Wildlife Resources		X	
Wildlife Community	X		
Fish Community			None
Regional Water Resources Plans			X
National Parks, Monuments, and Historical Sites			None
Natural Areas			None
Parklands			None
Prime Farmland			X
Riparian Areas		X	
Scenic Areas			X
Soils (erosion, sedimentation, etc.)		X	
T & E Species		X	
Waterbodies (Waters of the US)	X		
Water Quality		X	
Water Quantity	X		
Wetlands	X		
Land Use, Recreation, and Visual Resources			X
Public Health & Safety			X

High: Most likely will be affected and will be considered in the analysis of all alternatives.
Medium: May be affected by some alternatives.

Low: Will be considered, impact expected to be minimal.
None: No impacts anticipated, need not be considered.

Resource Impacts



* 68 OBSERVATIONS OF 17 DIFFERENT THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES WERE FOUND WITHIN A 1MI BUFFER OF WHITNEY LAKE LATERALS

- Wildlife Management Areas
- BWSR RIM CE
- DNR State Land
- USDA NRCS Easements
- Eagle Habitat
- NWI Wetlands
- PWM Lakes
- PWM Streams
- Whitney Lake Laterals
- Proposed Ditches
- Diversion 1
- Diversion 2
- Diversion 3
- Retention A
- Retention B
- Retention C

PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF RESOURCES
WHITNEY LAKE WATERSHED PROJECT
ROSEAU RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

