Priority Areas

- Areas indicated in green will be the priority for Watershed Based Implementation Funding for the plan
- These areas can be revisited during the 5-year plan update if needed



Priority Issues

The following list of issues will be the priority for Watershed Based Implementation Funding in the areas indicated in green

These issues can be revisited during the 5-year plan update if needed



Surface Water Quality

• Failing septic systems can contaminate groundwater, surface waters and localized drinking water, leading to imminent threats to public health.





Surface Water Quality

 Pollutants (e.g., nutrients, bacteria, sediment, chloride, mercury, etc.) are a source of degradation leading to the impairment of aquatic life, aquatic consumption, and aquatic recreation uses.





Drinking Water

 Drinking water quality and quantity from surface water and groundwater sources is threatened by land use activities and water appropriations.





Land Use

 Urbanization, development, and road expansion can impact watershed health and increase nutrient and other pollutant loadings when stormwater is not effectively managed.





Land Use

 Water- and land-based recreational activities can impact the quality of lakes and streams, stress wildlife, degrade habitats, and lead to conflict between different uses.





Land Use

• Aggregate mining can alter natural hydrology, impacting baseflows for nearby streams and local and regional aquifers.





Altered Hydrology

• Channel instability, excess sedimentation, and disruption of natural sediment transport and flow are present throughout the Planning Area.





Altered Hydrology

 Loss of water storage, altered flows, and changes in watershed boundaries are the result of land development, drainage, and legacy mining that alter natural hydrologic processes.





Altered Hydrology

 Obsolete and nonfunctioning dams alter natural hydrology, impede fish passage and aquatic organism movement, and affect stream temperature.





Habitat

 Forest fragmentation and loss can affect ecological community processes, community resilience and adaptive capacity, habitat connectivity and quality, species migration capacity, and surface water and groundwater quality.





Habitat

 Aquatic, riparian, and shoreland habitats are impacted by land use changes, pollution, climate change and altered flows which can lead to degraded resources, incisement and floodplain disconnection, impeded fish passage, and fragmentation.





Habitat

• Aquatic and terrestrial invasive species pose a threat to individual habitats and overall biodiversity.

