

Recommended Strategies - Watersheds

					Public Safety	Resiliency	Soil, Air, Water	Carbon	
Sector	Strategy	Action	Responsible or Lead Party	Secondary Party					
Resilient Watersheds	5. Improve Aquatic Connectivity to Reduce Barriers to Fish and Aquatic Organisms	5.1 Prioritize aquatic connectivity in road design	WI DOT	Monroe County	Make aquatic connectivity a part of the road design process at the County and municipal level. Monroe County is conducting the Great Lakes 123 survey to ensure connectivity in existing crossings.		+	+	
		5.2 Ensure quality control in road crossing inventories.	Monroe County	WI DNR	Request WDNR continue its quality assurance checks on road stream crossing surveys for aquatic connectivity.	+	+	+	
		5.3 Incorporate aquatic connectivity into highway project designs.	WI DOT	WI DNR	Request WDNR and WisDOT staff working on highway projects to consider aquatic connectivity and to incorporate features into the design to accommodate it whenever feasible.		+	+	
		5.4 For non-WisDOT projects ensure that culvert replacements address aquatic connectivity.	WI DNR	Local Units of Government	Request WDNR modify its General Permit for culvert replacement to meet minimum aquatic connectivity standards.	+	+	+	
	6. Ensure Viable Fish Populations and a Robust County Fishery	6.1 Prioritize climate adaptation efforts in watersheds with high-quality trout fisheries.	WI DNR	Monroe County	Implement adaptation measures for watersheds that are thermally resilient and have good existing trout populations (such as Brook Trout Reserve #14 watersheds). Use existing adaptation measures, e.g. securing the habitat, extending stream buffers, and enabling fish passage, to protect quality habitat into the future.		+	+	
		6.2 Engage state, local and federal partners in fishery restoration and promotion.	WI DNR	Monroe County	Collaborate with partners and stakeholders to identify and implement watershed, riparian, stream, and spring pond conservation actions outlined in Goal 5 of the Monroe County Land & Water Resource Management Plan.		+	+	+
		6.3 Build on the WDNR designation of Brook Trout Reserve #14 in north and west central watersheds.	WI DNR	Monroe County	Building on the Brook Trout Reserve Program will recognize high quality resources and help promote interest in and funding for watershed restoration and recreational tourism.		+	+	
	7. Maintain and Improve Watershed Resiliency	7.1 Make the business and economic development case for watershed conservation and compatible uses.	Monroe County	Non-government Entities	Monroe County has some of the best conditions in southern Wisconsin to become a trout fishing destination, even as the climate warms. Showcase the large number of associated benefits from watershed restoration, including flood risk reduction, reduced soil loss, improved water quality, and tourism and recreation, and associated economic benefits.	+	+	+	
		7.2 For the highest risk watersheds, adopt tailored strategies to enhance resiliency.	Monroe County	Farmers and Forest Owners	Practices may include targeted efforts to increase agricultural lands in continuous cover, increase forest cover or forest improvement, restore degraded wetlands and streamside habitats.	+	+	+	+
		7.3 Ground truth and assess feasibility of potential restoration and improvement projects	Monroe County	Farmers and Forest Owners	Potential restoration or improvement identified here is based on remotely sensed data without regard to parcel boundaries. Understanding current conditions and landowner considerations are essential next steps to assess project feasibility before further planning.	+	+	+	