

# Assessing Sediment Sources for the Middle Fork Saline River

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Ouachita Rivers Project Manager



## Project Objectives:

1. Prioritize sub-basins of Upper Saline.
2. Assess/Prioritize sediment from the following land uses:
  - Stream bank erosion
  - Unpaved roads
    - Pasture
    - Urban
  - Timber harvest

# Methods for Evaluating Sediment

## Soil & Water Assessment Tool (**SWAT**)

- Urban
- Forest
- Pasture
- Timber Harvest

## Water Erosion Prediction Project (**WEPP**)

- Unpaved Roads

## Bank Erosion Hazard Index (**BEHI**)

- In-stream Erosion

Results First, discussion follows

# Upper Saline Watershed Land Use Cover 2006

0 1 2 4 Miles

Map Produced by JDeClerk  
April, 2008

Perry

Pulaski

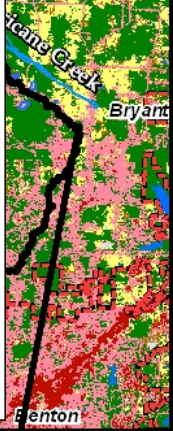
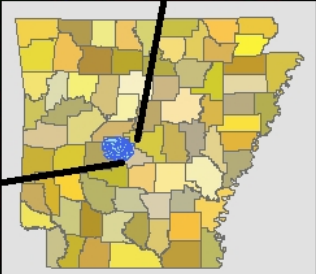
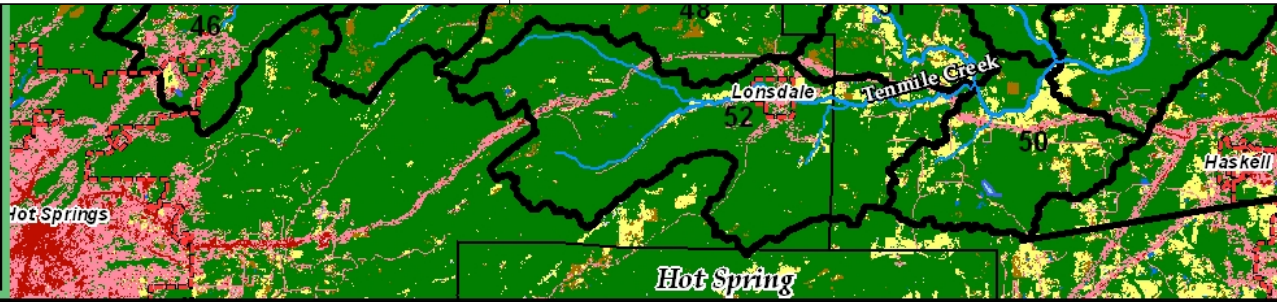
## Land Use Upper Saline Watershed 82%

- Urban
- Water
- Pasture
- Forested
- Barren/Cultivated

5% 1% 7% 5%

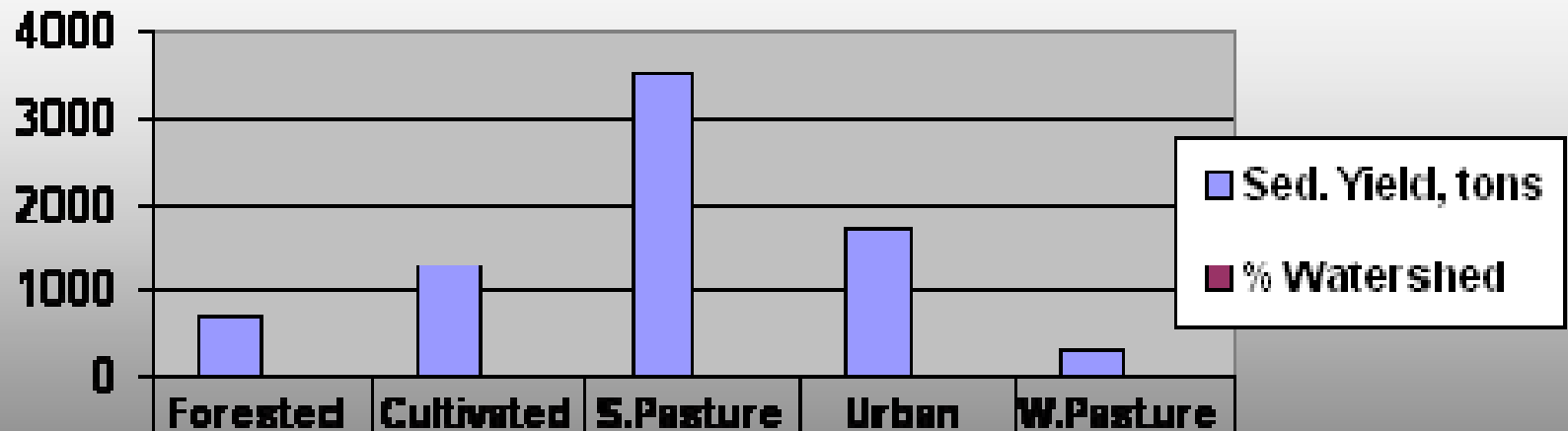
### Legend

- Cities
  - County Boundaries
  - Lakes
  - Sub-basins
  - Streams
- Land Use Cover 2006**
- Urban Intensity 1
  - Urban Intensity 3
  - Barren Land
  - Water
  - Herb/Woody Transitional
  - Forested
  - Soybean
  - Cropland
  - Bare Soil/Seedbed
  - Warm Season Grasses
  - Cool Season Grasses



# SWAT Model Outputs:

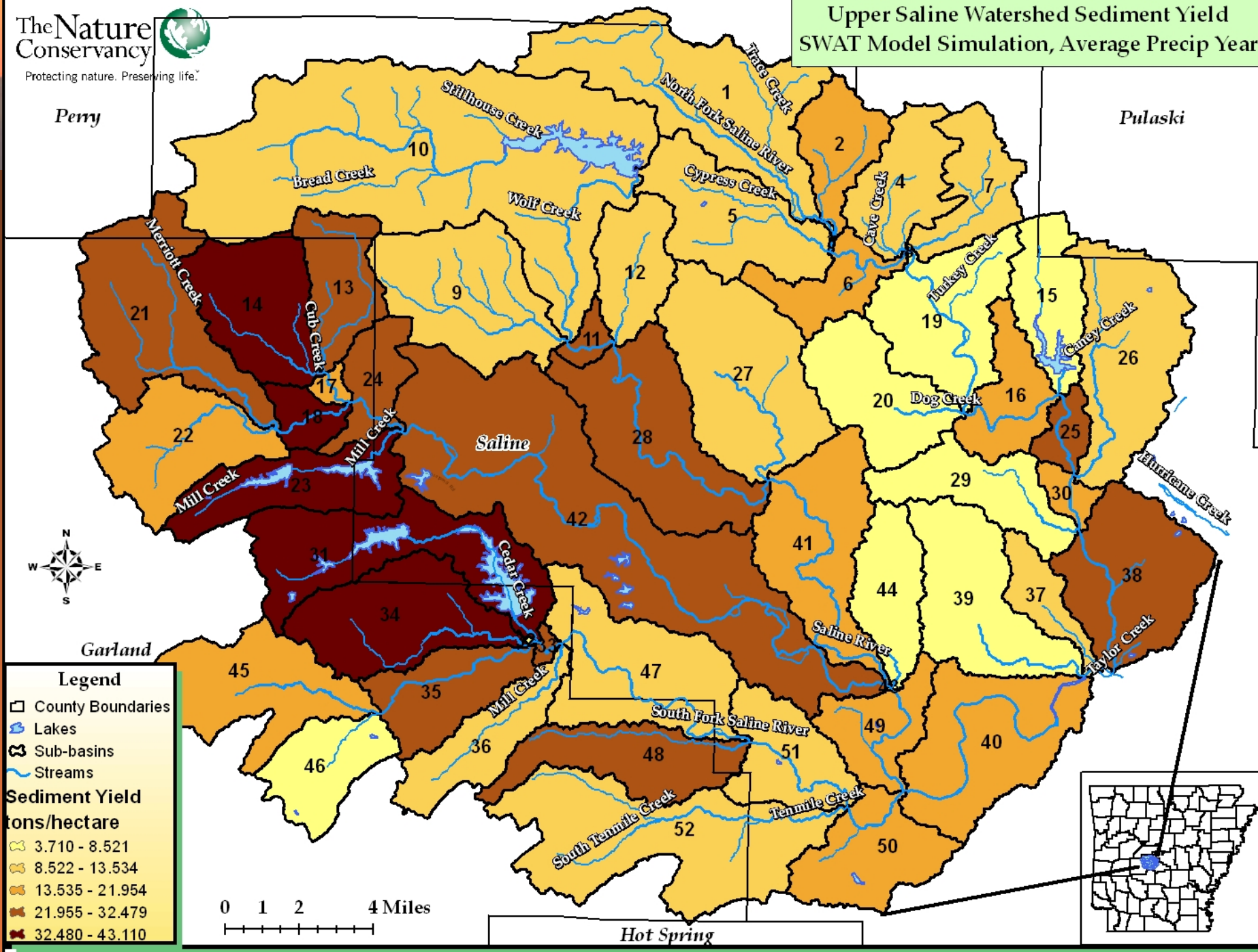
## Sediment Yield by Landuse, % Watershed



	Forested	Cultivated	S. Pasture	Urban	W. Pasture
Sed. Yield, tons	702	1298	3512	1736	294
% Watershed	79.63%	5.53%	4.33%	7.82%	1.08%



Upper Saline Watershed Sediment Yield  
SWAT Model Simulation, Average Precip Year

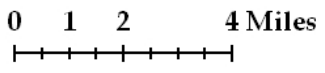


Perry

Pulaski

Garland

Hot Spring



**Legend**

- County Boundaries
- Lakes
- Sub-basins
- Streams

**Sediment Yield  
tons/hectare**

- 3.710 - 8.521
- 8.522 - 13.534
- 13.535 - 21.954
- 21.955 - 32.479
- 32.480 - 43.110

## Sediment Contribution by Land Use Type

Land Uses:	Sediment Yield	% of total watershed
	Annual tons	
<b>Stream bank Erosion:</b>		
High BEHI Scores	2,897	
Very High Scores	2,212	
Extreme Scores	24,005	
<b>Total Stream Bank *</b>	<b>29,114</b>	
Pasture	3,806	4.3%
Urban	1,736	7.8%
Cultivated	1,298	5.5%
Forested	702	79.6%
Unpaved Roads	288	

\*Does not include deposition of this material.

# Middle Fork Road Inventory

The Middle Fork has 162 gravel road crossings within its drainage, and approx 180 miles of gravel road.



Our Objective:  
Two-fold

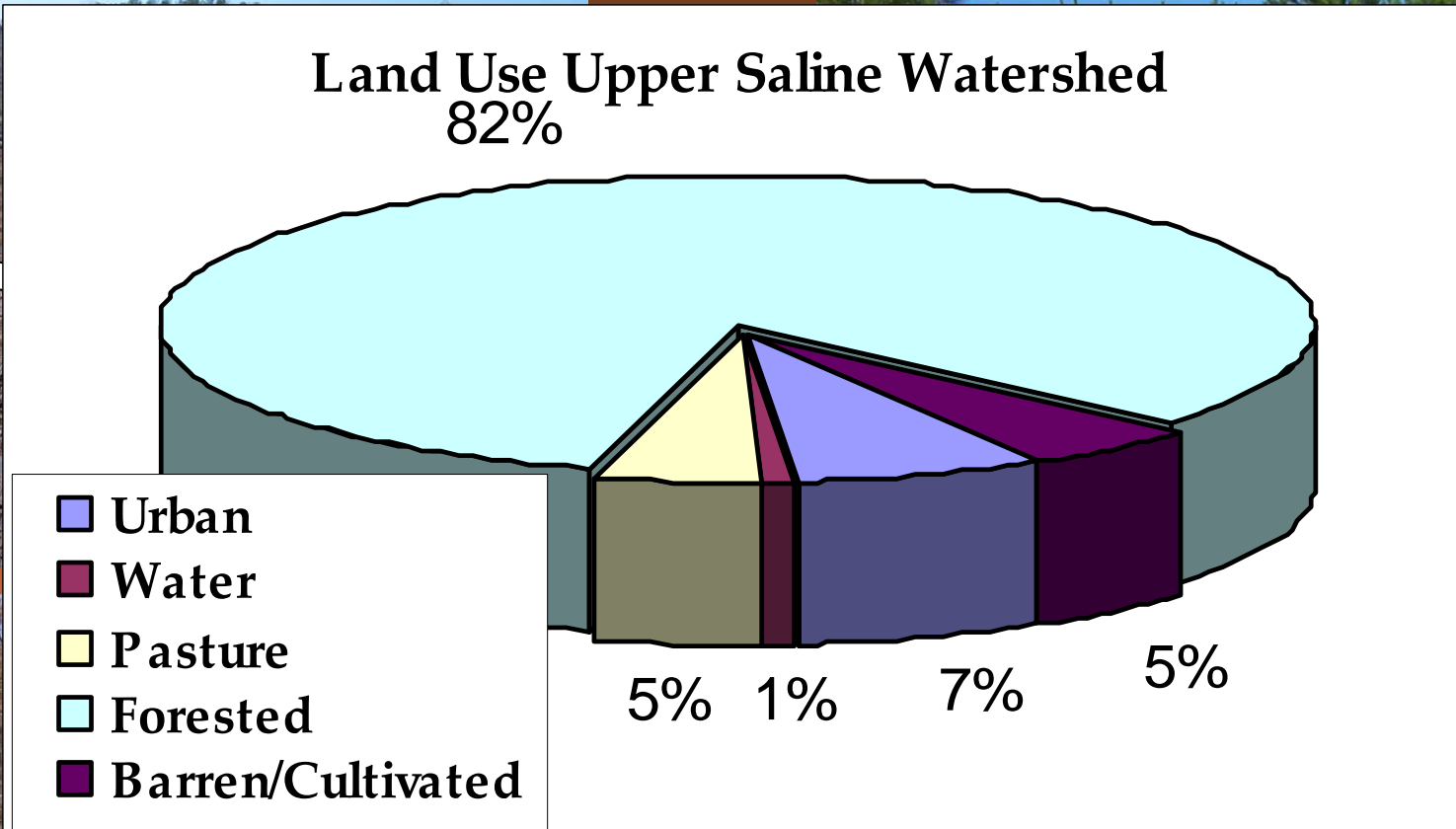
- Develop Database
- Run WEPP Model





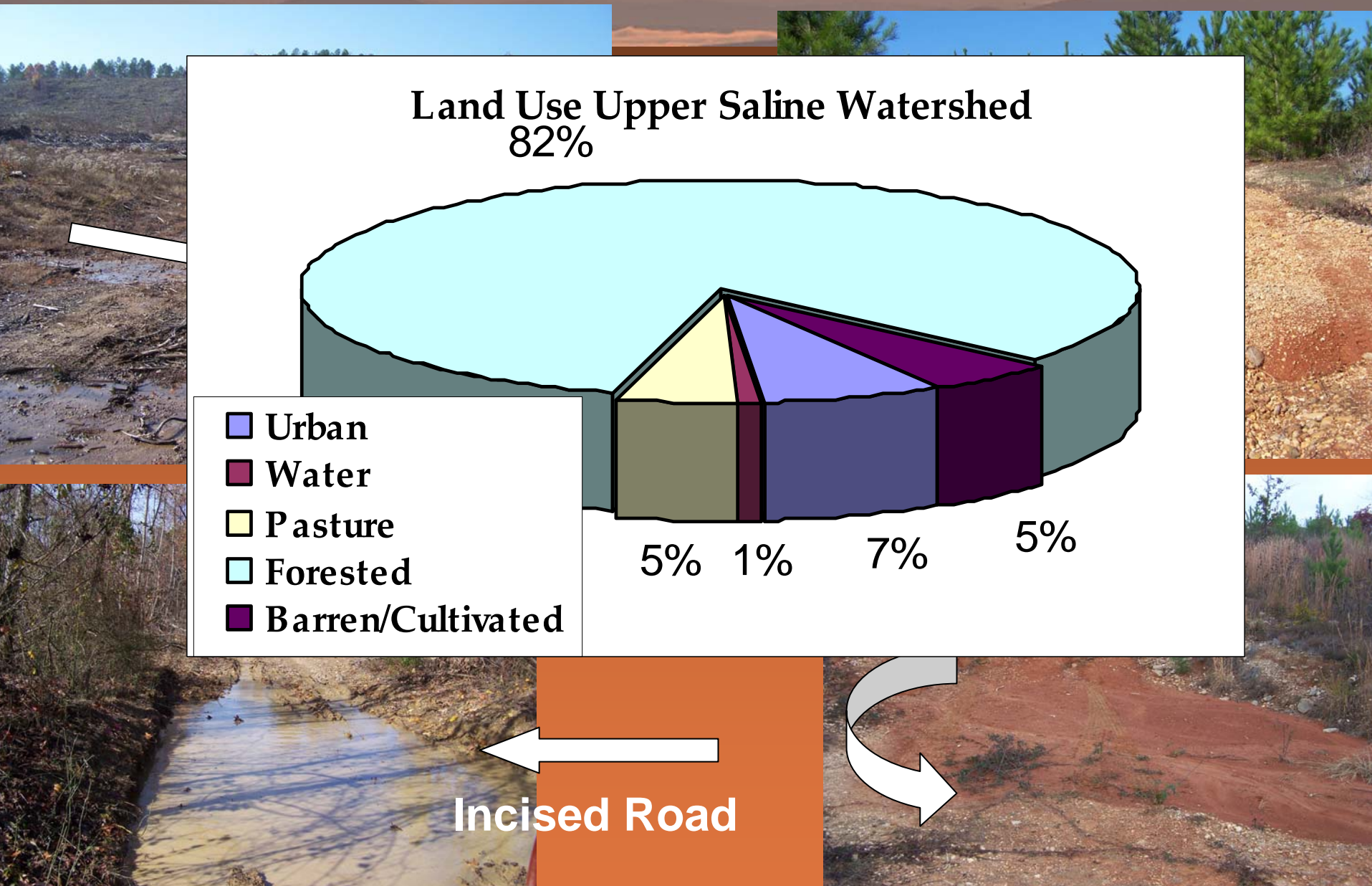
# Unpaved Roads – Assessment

Land Use Upper Saline Watershed  
82%



- Urban
- Water
- Pasture
- Forested
- Barren/Cultivated

Incised Road



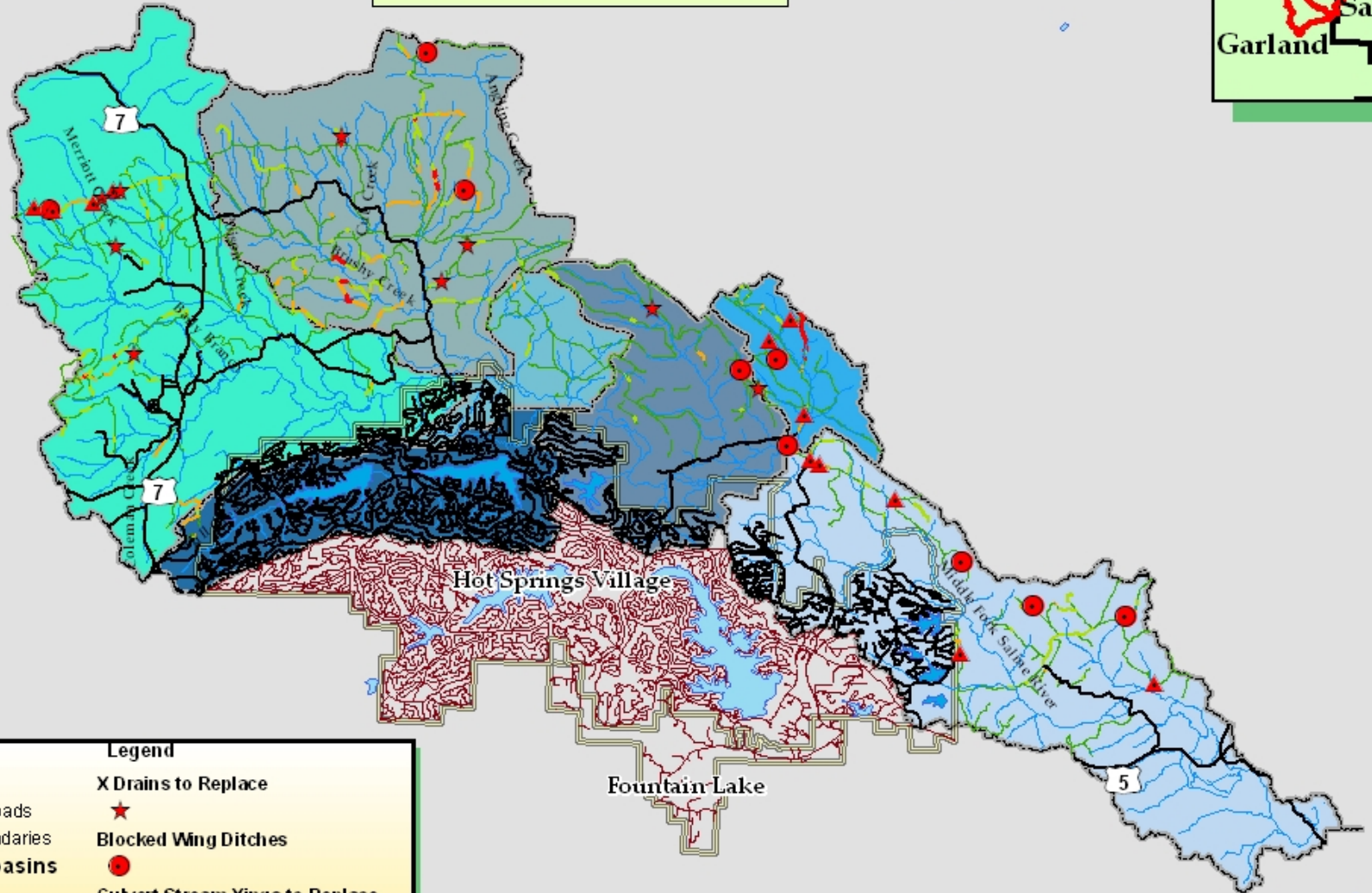
## Middle Fork Saline Watershed Gravel Road Inventory & WEPP Modeling Results

Inventoried Road Groups	Total Road Segments	Total Miles	Total Sediment Loading	
			Leaving Road (tons)	Entering Stream (tons)
Total 1-Lane No Ruts	1036	125.57	1631.32	214.32
Total 1-Lane Ruts/Rills	97	8.97	94.90	8.64
Total 2-Lane	72	11.09	372.09	21.74
Total 2-Track	320	32.97	308.76	43.19
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1525</b>	<b>178.60</b>	<b>2407.07</b>	<b>287.89</b>

Sediment Contribution by Land Use Type		
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# Middle Fork Saline Watershed Road Drainage Maintenance



**Legend**

- Streams
- Paved Roads
- City Boundaries
- Upper Sub-basins**
- Lower Sub-Basins**
- X Drains to Replace**
- Blocked Wing Ditches**
- Culvert Stream Xings to Replace**
- Gravel Rd Inventory Segments**
  - Extreme
  - High
  - Moderate
  - Low



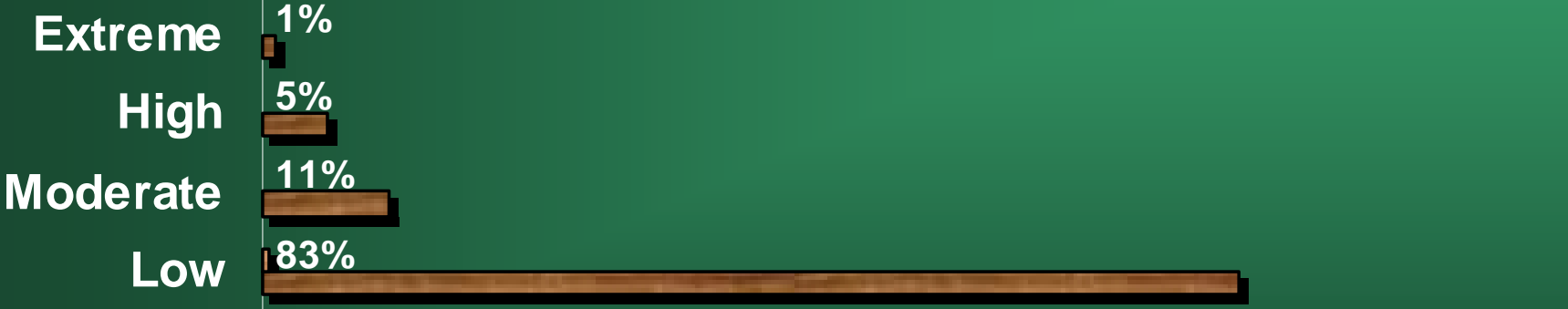
Lonsdale

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# Road Inventory Results: Priority

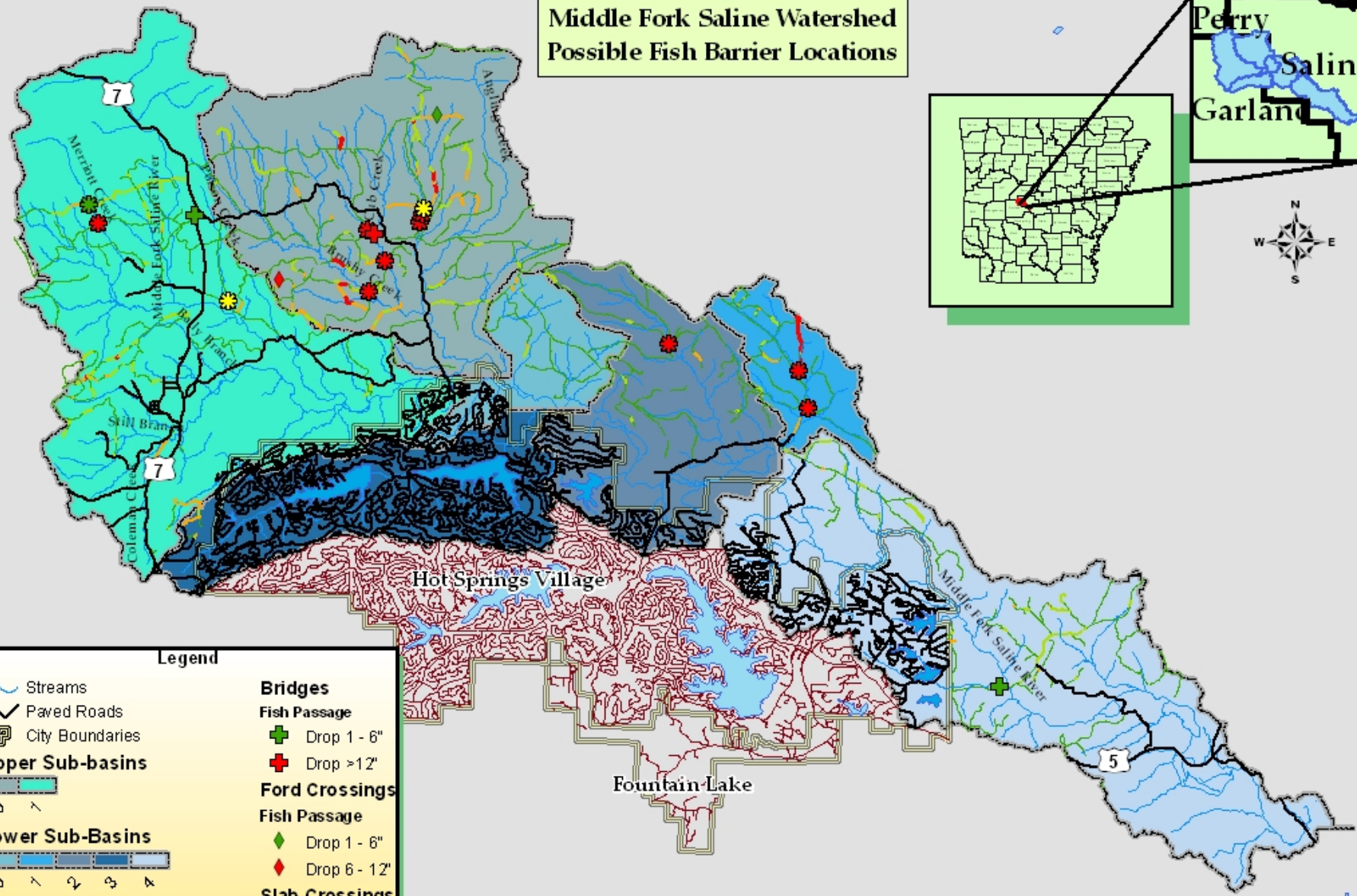
■ Miles      ■ % of Total

Priority for Maintenance



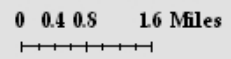
	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
■ % of Total	83%	11%	5%	1%
■ Miles	149.32	19.51	9.73	1.76

# Middle Fork Saline Watershed Possible Fish Barrier Locations



## Legend

- Streams
  - Paved Roads
  - City Boundaries
  - Upper Sub-basins**
  - 
  - Lower Sub-Basins**
  - 
  - Gravel Rd Inventory Segments**
  - Extreme
  - High
  - Moderate
  - Low
- |                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Bridges</b>        | <b>Fish Passage</b> |
| Drop 1 - 6"           | Drop 1 - 6"         |
| Drop >12"             | Drop >12"           |
| <b>Ford Crossings</b> | <b>Fish Passage</b> |
| Drop 1 - 6"           | Drop 1 - 6"         |
| Drop 6 - 12"          | Drop 6 - 12"        |
| <b>Slab Crossings</b> | <b>Fish Passage</b> |
| Drop 1 - 6"           | Drop 1 - 6"         |
| Drop 6 - 12"          | Drop 6 - 12"        |
| Drop >12"             | Drop >12"           |



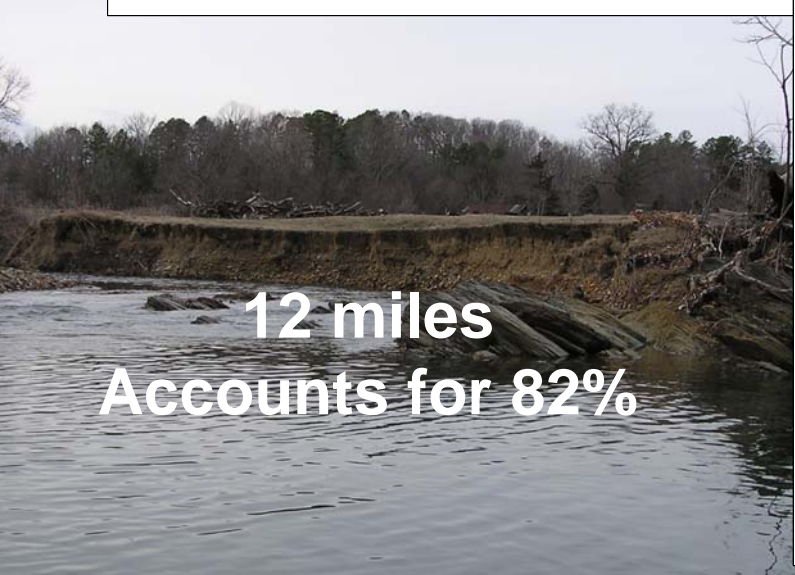
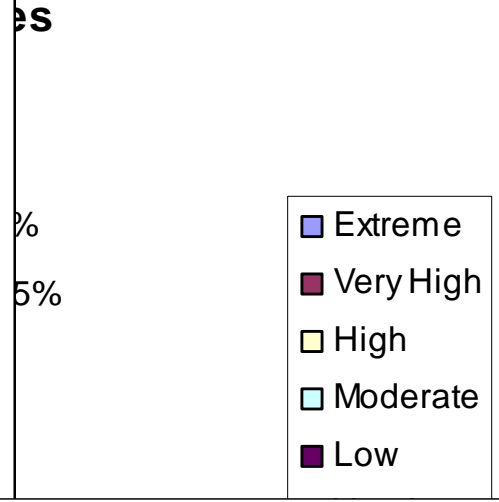
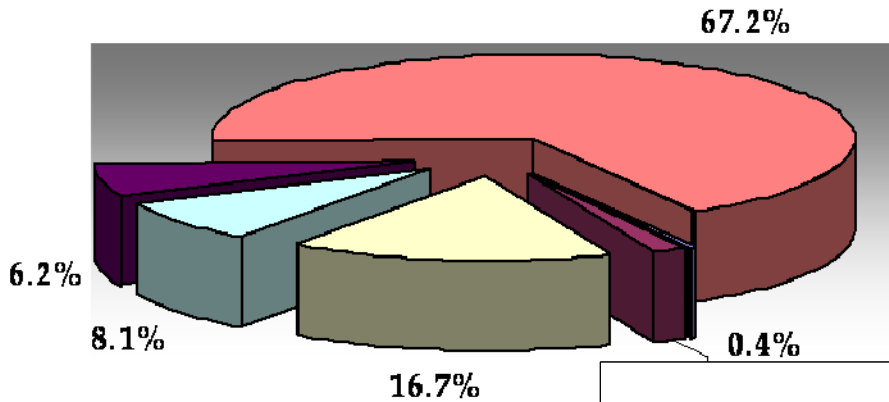


# Back to Holy Moley

<b>Sediment Contribution by Land Use Type</b>		
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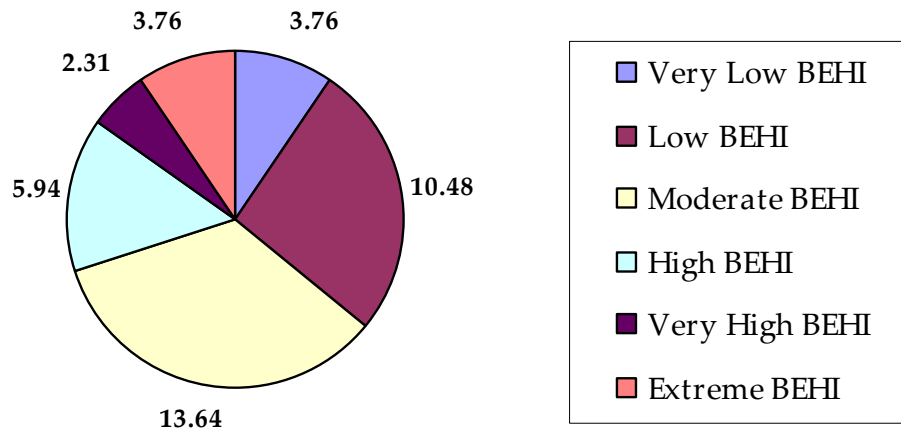
### Stream Sediment Loss by Category

- Total "Very Low" BEHI
- Total "Low" BEHI
- Total "Moderate" BEHI
- Total "High" BEHI
- Total "Very High" BEHI
- Total "Extreme" BEHI



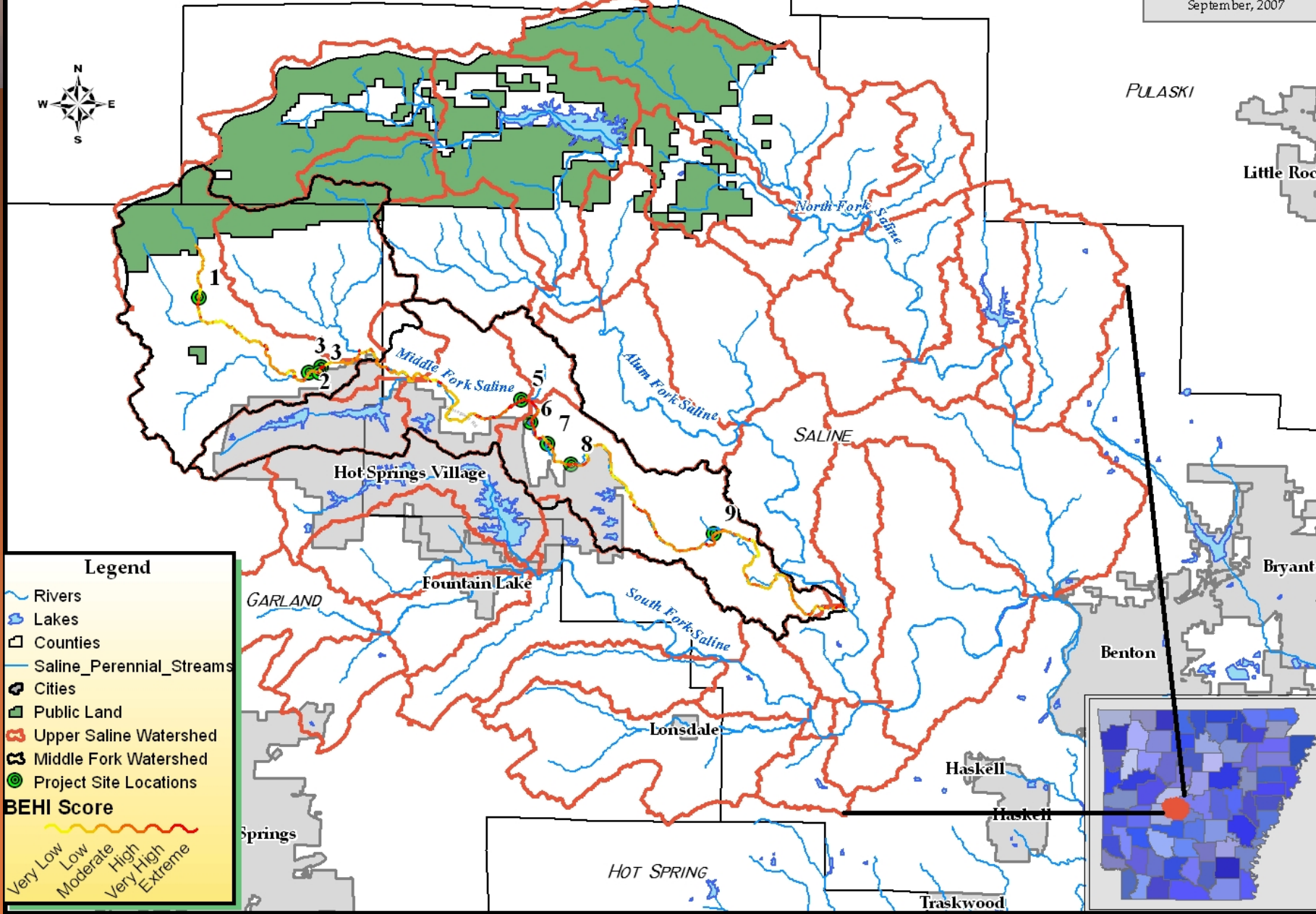
**12 miles  
Accounts for 82%**

### Total River Miles by Category



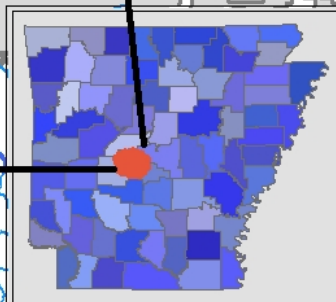
- Very Low BEHI
- Low BEHI
- Moderate BEHI
- High BEHI
- Very High BEHI
- Extreme BEHI





**Legend**

- Rivers
  - Lakes
  - Counties
  - Saline\_Perennial\_Streams
  - Cities
  - Public Land
  - Upper Saline Watershed
  - Middle Fork Watershed
  - Project Site Locations
- BEHI Score**
- Very Low
  - Low
  - Moderate
  - High
  - Very High
  - Extreme



PERRY

PULASKI

Little Rock

SALINE

GARLAND

Benton

Bryant

HOT SPRING

Haskell

Haskell

Traskwood

Hot Springs

Hot Springs Village

Fountain Lake

Lonsdale

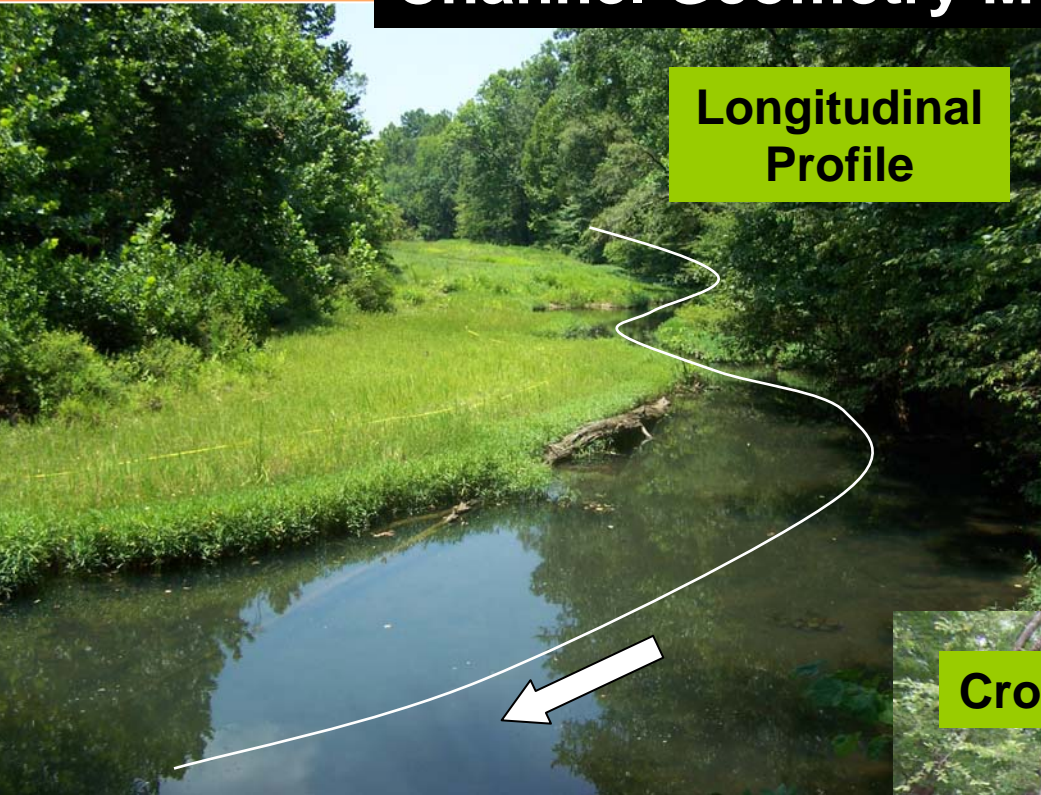
North Fork Saline

Middle Fork Saline

Alam Fork Saline

South Fork Saline

# Channel Geometry Measurements



**Longitudinal  
Profile**

- Long. Pro. measures bed features, channel slope, & bankfull slope

- Cross Sections measure Channel width, bankfull width, Floodprone area



**Cross Sections**

# Scour Chain Installation

## Scour Chains tell:

- Amount of sediment aggradation (sediment buildup/filling in) or degradation (scour, downcutting)

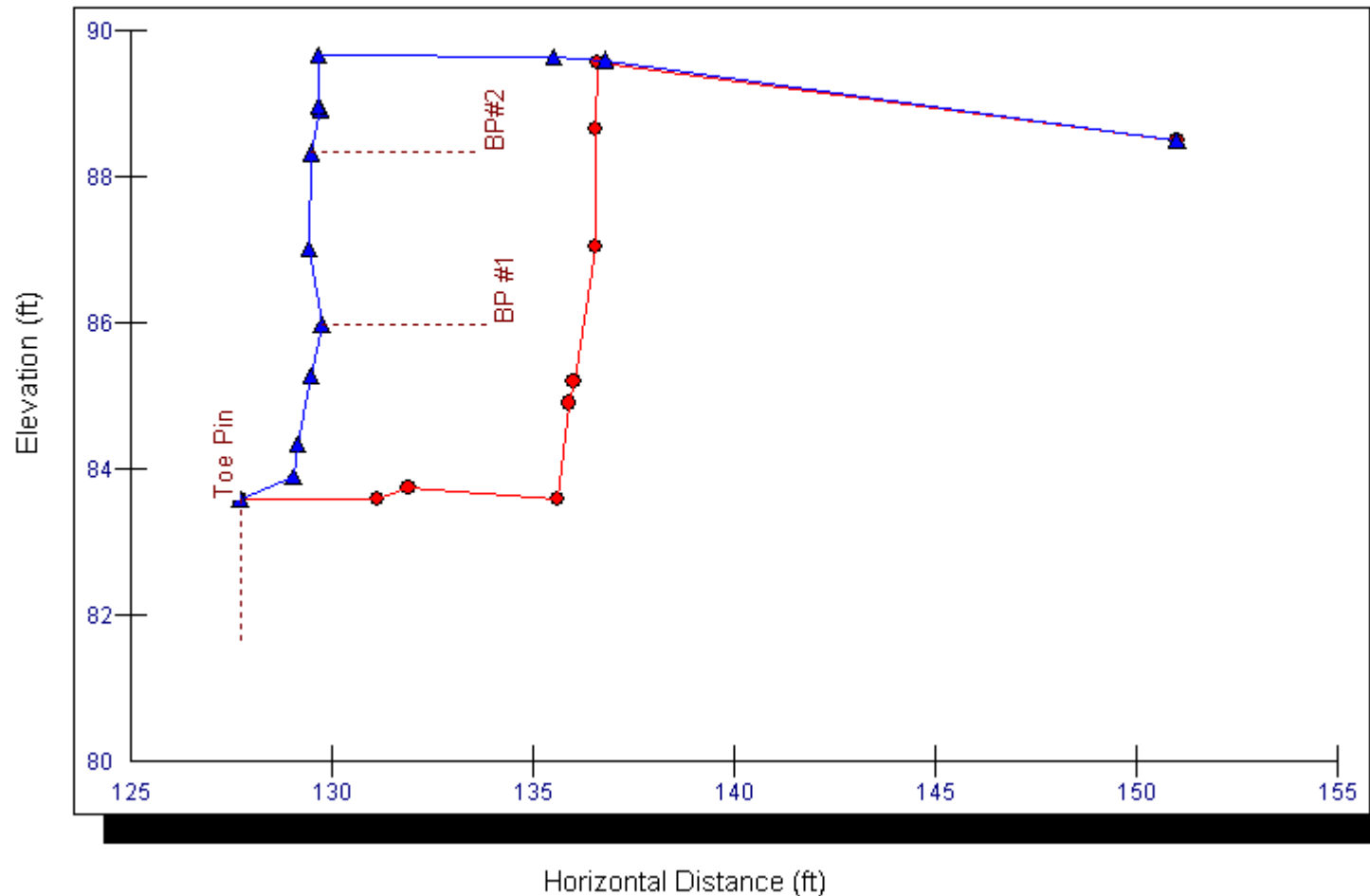


# 27 total Bank Profiles

Site#3 YR1/2 BPro @ 1963.6, Delta=39.81 sq.ft., Avg  
Lat Erosion=6.59 ft.

● YR2 RXS BPro @ 1963.6

▲ Bank YR1 BP @ Rifle XS 1963.6



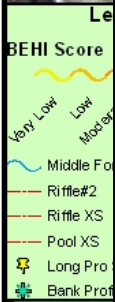
# Site #6

## Discussion:

Where the rubber meets the road

### Sediment Contribution by Land Use Type

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July, 2006

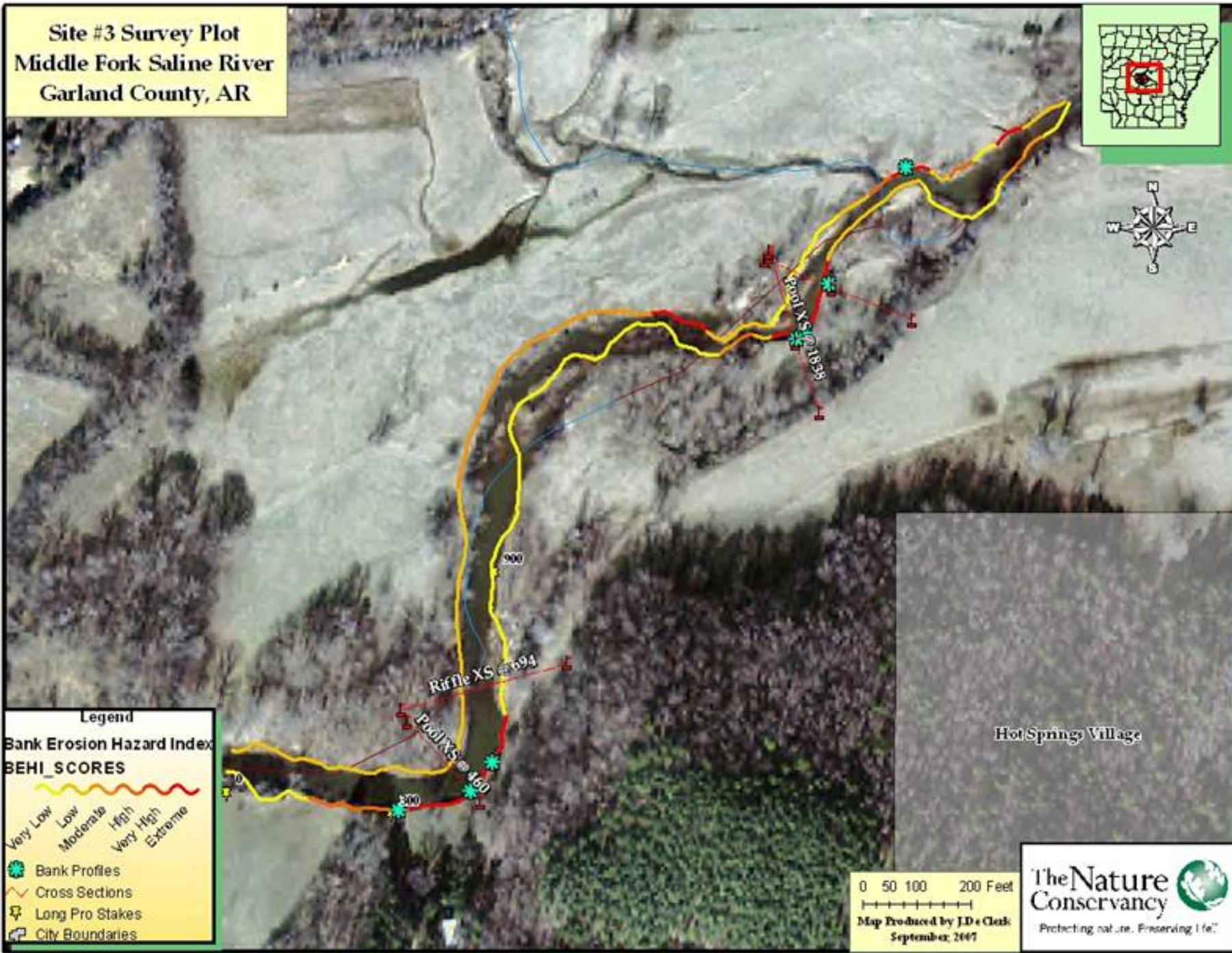


Feb, 2007



Apr, 2007

Site #3 Survey Plot  
Middle Fork Saline River  
Garland County, AR



**Legend**

**Bank Erosion Hazard Index**  
**BEHI\_SCORES**

Very Low  
Low  
Moderate  
High  
Very High  
Extreme

Bank Profiles  
Cross Sections  
Long Pro Stakes  
City Boundaries

0 50 100 200 Feet  
Map Produced by JD Clark  
September, 2007

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April, 2007







April, 2007



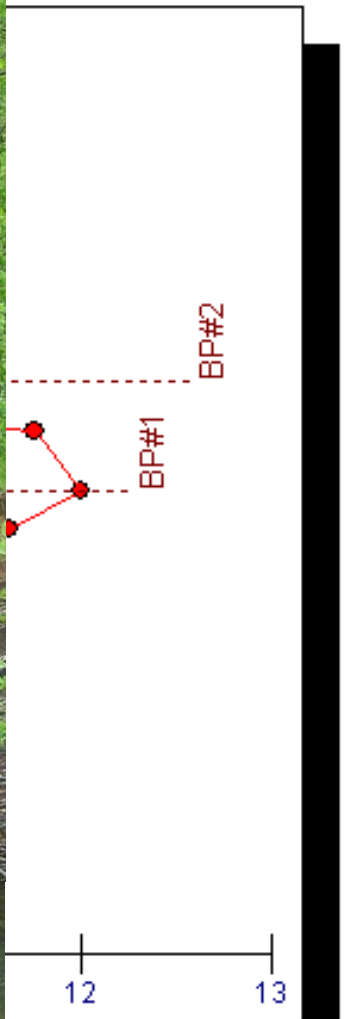
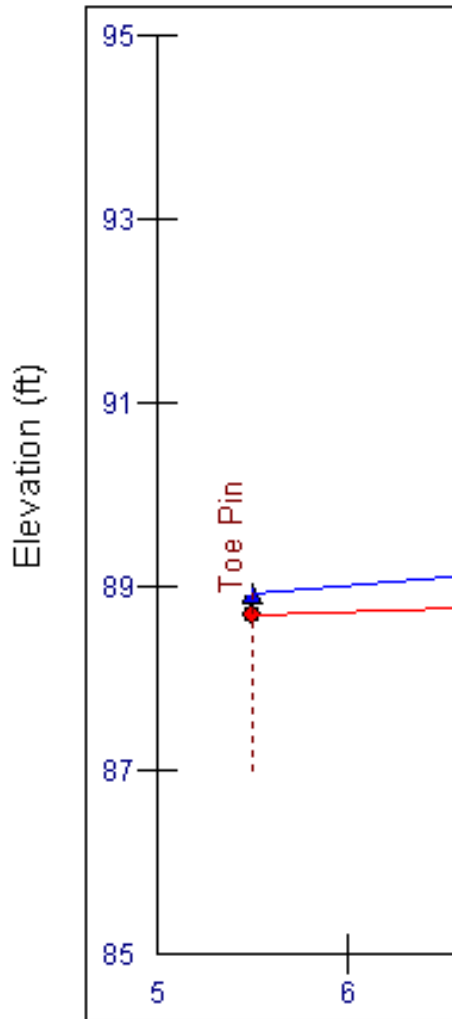




Site #3 YR

16 sq.ft.,

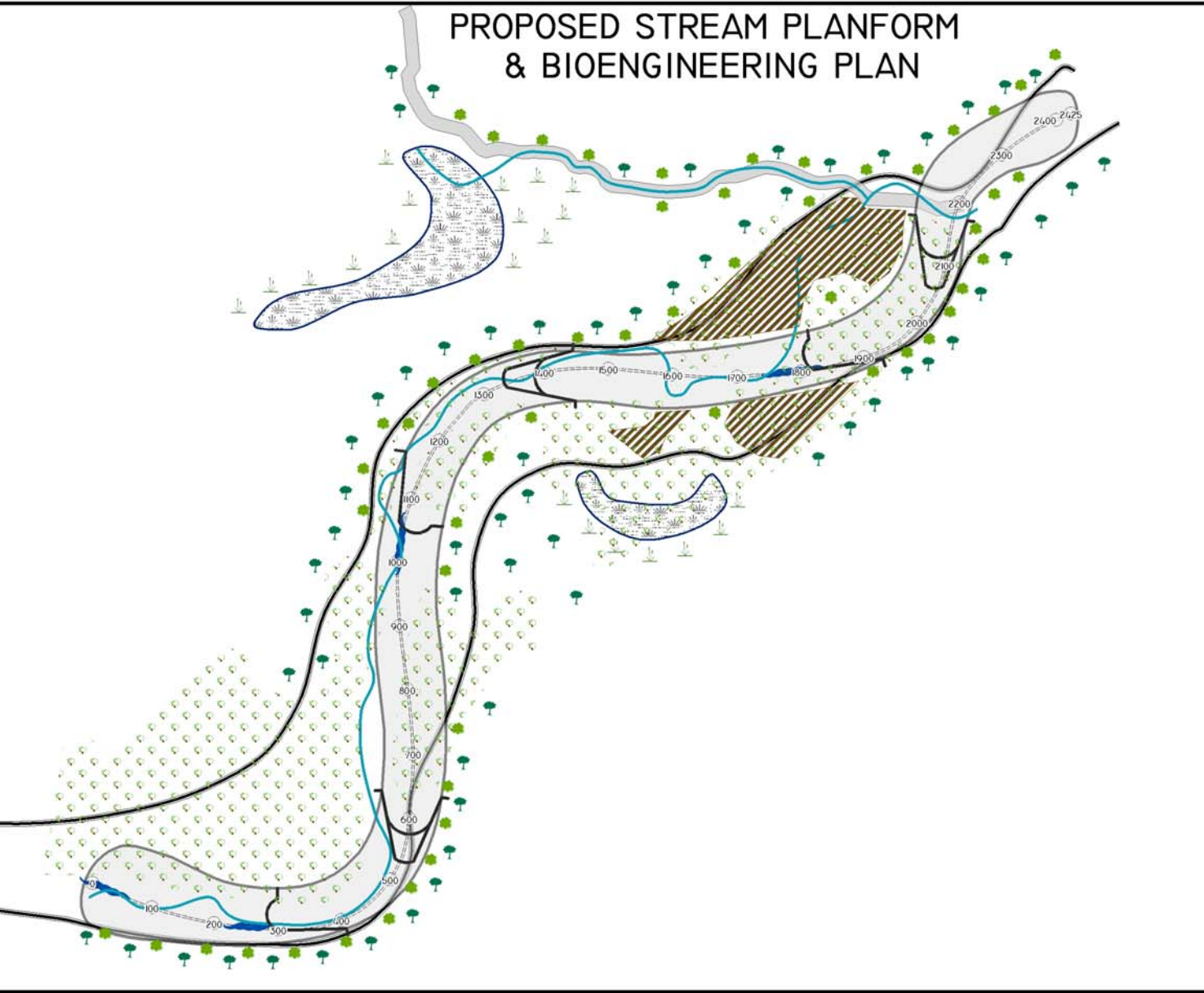
● YR2





# Good News...

## PROPOSED STREAM PLANFORM & BIOENGINEERING PLAN









MIDDLE FORK SALINE RIVER  
STREAM RESTORATION PROJECT  
NEWKIRK ROAD, GARLAND COUNTY, AR

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ARKANSAS FIELD OFFICE  
601 NORTH UNIVERSITY AVE.  
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72205

**Legend**

-  Alder & Willow
-  Proposed Pond/Wetland
-  Wetland Plantings
-  Hardwood Plantings
-  Existing Vegetation
-  Existing Thalweg
-  Existing Bankfull CHNL
-  Structures
-  Design Thalweg
-  Long Pro Stations
-  Design Channel
-  Design Trib Channel
-  Channel Plugs
-  Design Riffles



Map Produced by TNC ARFO  
J. DeClerk

PROPOSED STREAM PLANFORM &  
BIOENGINEERING PLAN  
SHEET 20 OF 22

AUGUST, 2008

DATUM: NAD83  
PROJECTION: UTM ZONE 15N



**Site #8 Survey Plot**  
**Middle Fork Saline River**  
**Saline County, AR**



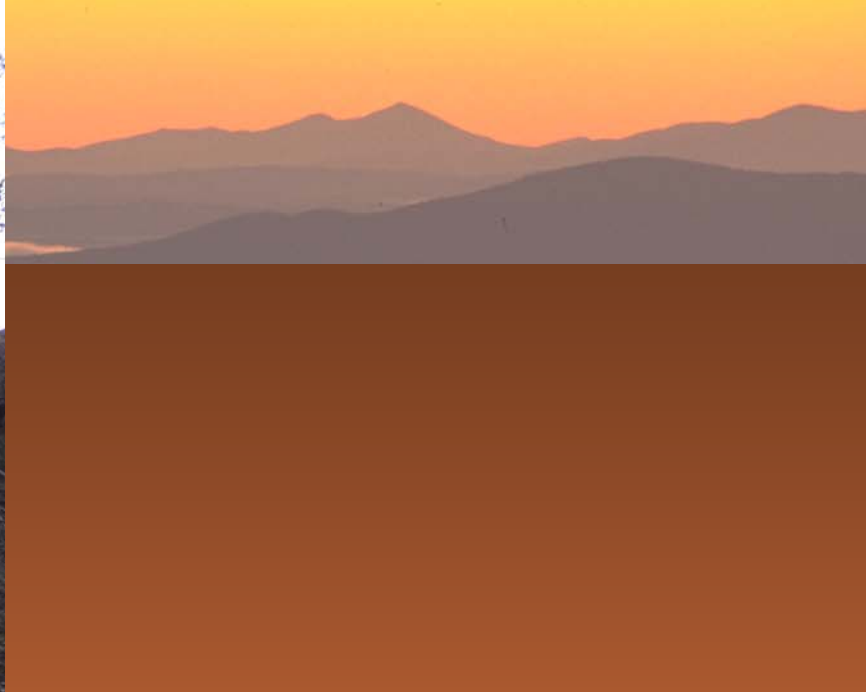
# Site #8

**Legend**

- Cross Sections
- Bank Profiles
- Long. Pro. Stakes
- Bank Erosion Hazard Index  
BEHI Score
- Very Low Low Moderate High Very High Extreme
- City Boundaries

0 55 110 220 Feet  
 Map Produced by J.D. Clerk  
 March, 2005



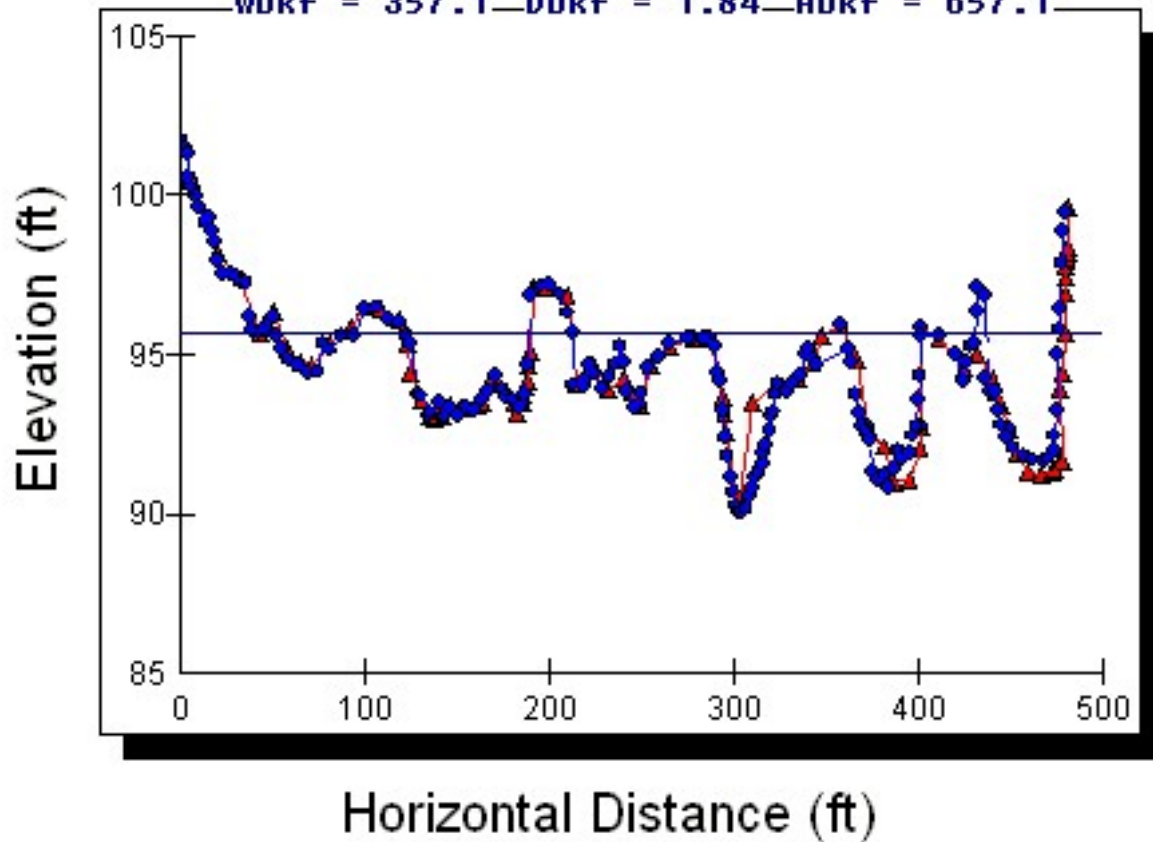




# Site #8, Riffle XS Overlay March - June 2007

- ▲ June Upper Riffle XS
- ◆ Bankfull Indicators
- ◆ Water Surface Points
- ◆ March Upper Riffle XS

Wbkf = 357.1 Dbkf = 1.84 Abkf = 657.1



# Conclusions

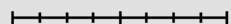
- Sediment problems in the MF are a cumulative process.
  - This study is a snapshot in time.
- the stream has experienced periods of rapid change and channel adjustment
  - Sites most susceptible are those with any level of disturbance in the riparian zone. (Rip veg = glue, ex: Ref Reach)

# Recommendations

- Efforts should be two-fold:
  - Manage sediment at the watershed scale
    - Ex: Mitigate for land-clearing activities either on-site or as close to the impact as possible.
  - Assist in restoration of highly impacted sites
  - Maintenance/preservation of existing riparian zones

# And the future?

0 1 2 4 Miles



Map Produced by JDeClerk  
April, 2008



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  - Cool Season Grass

•Urban landscape includes a variety of impacts fr. Construction, imperv. Surf, to water withdrawals/damming of tributaries.



# Questions?

A copy of the Report:

<http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/sedimentsaline/>