

The State of Lake Michigan

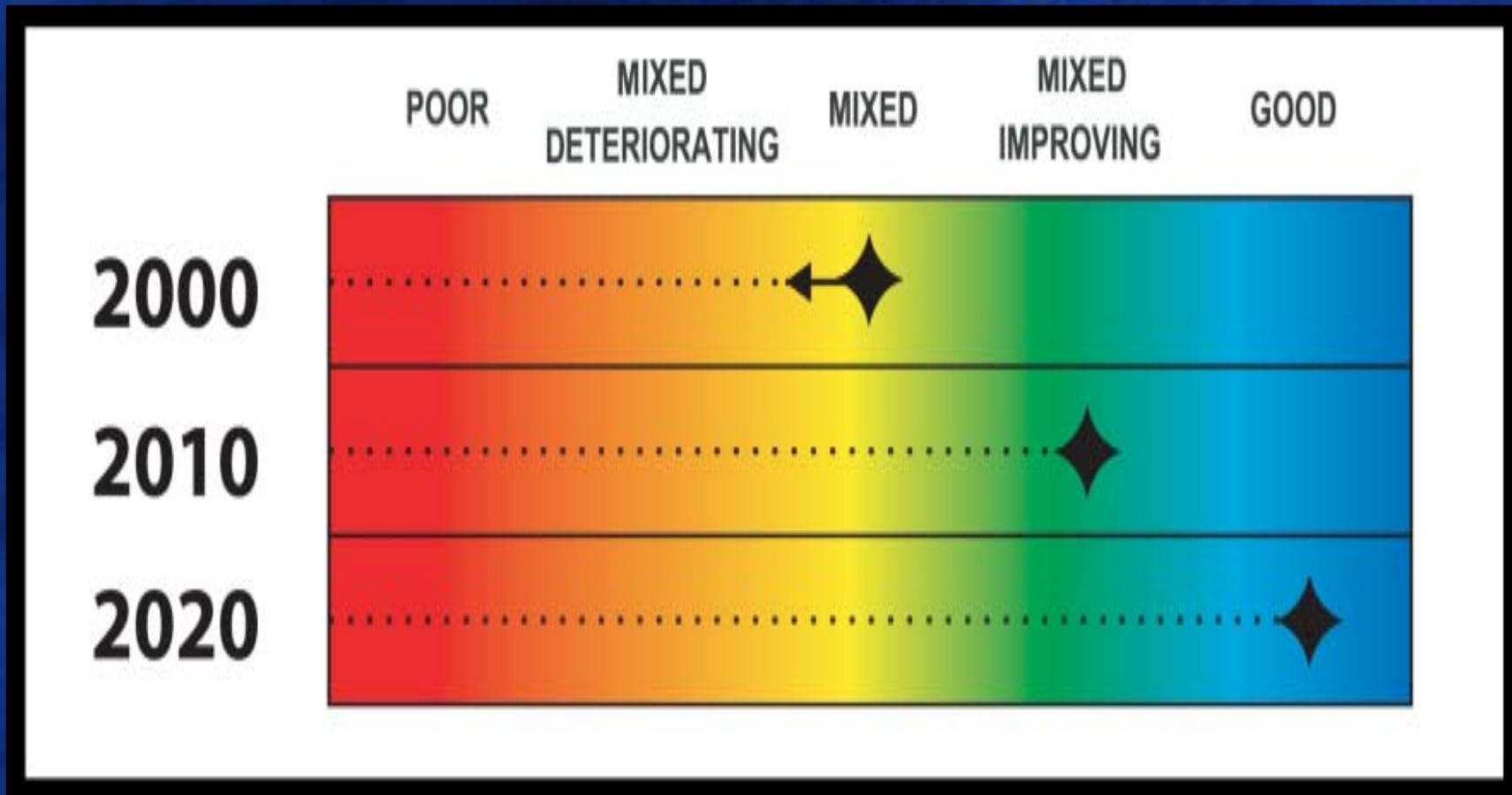
Bob Kavetsky
US Fish and Wildlife Service



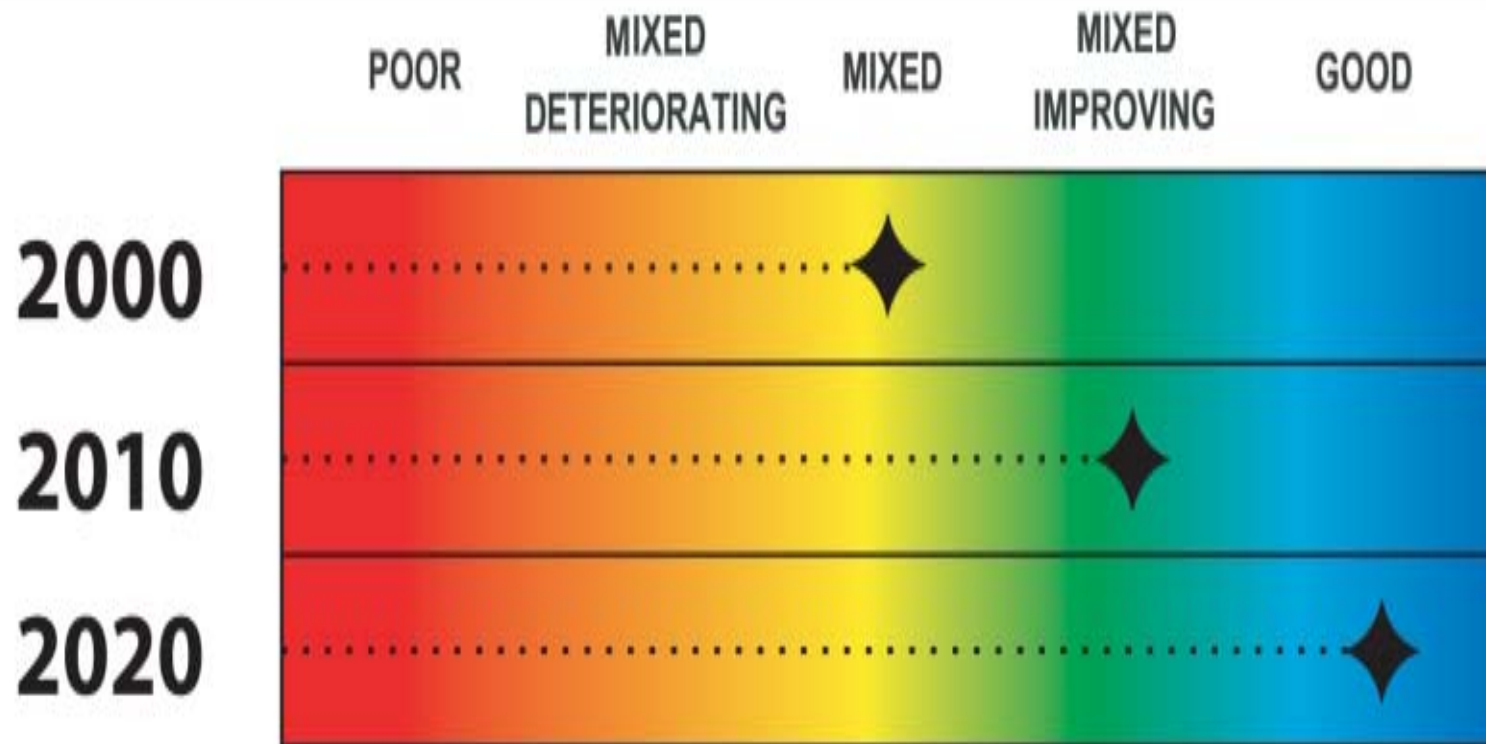
Outline

- Status based on LaMP 2002
- Two LaMP goals related to Biological Integrity
- Examples of pertinent issues in state, stressor and human response themes
- Celebrate successes

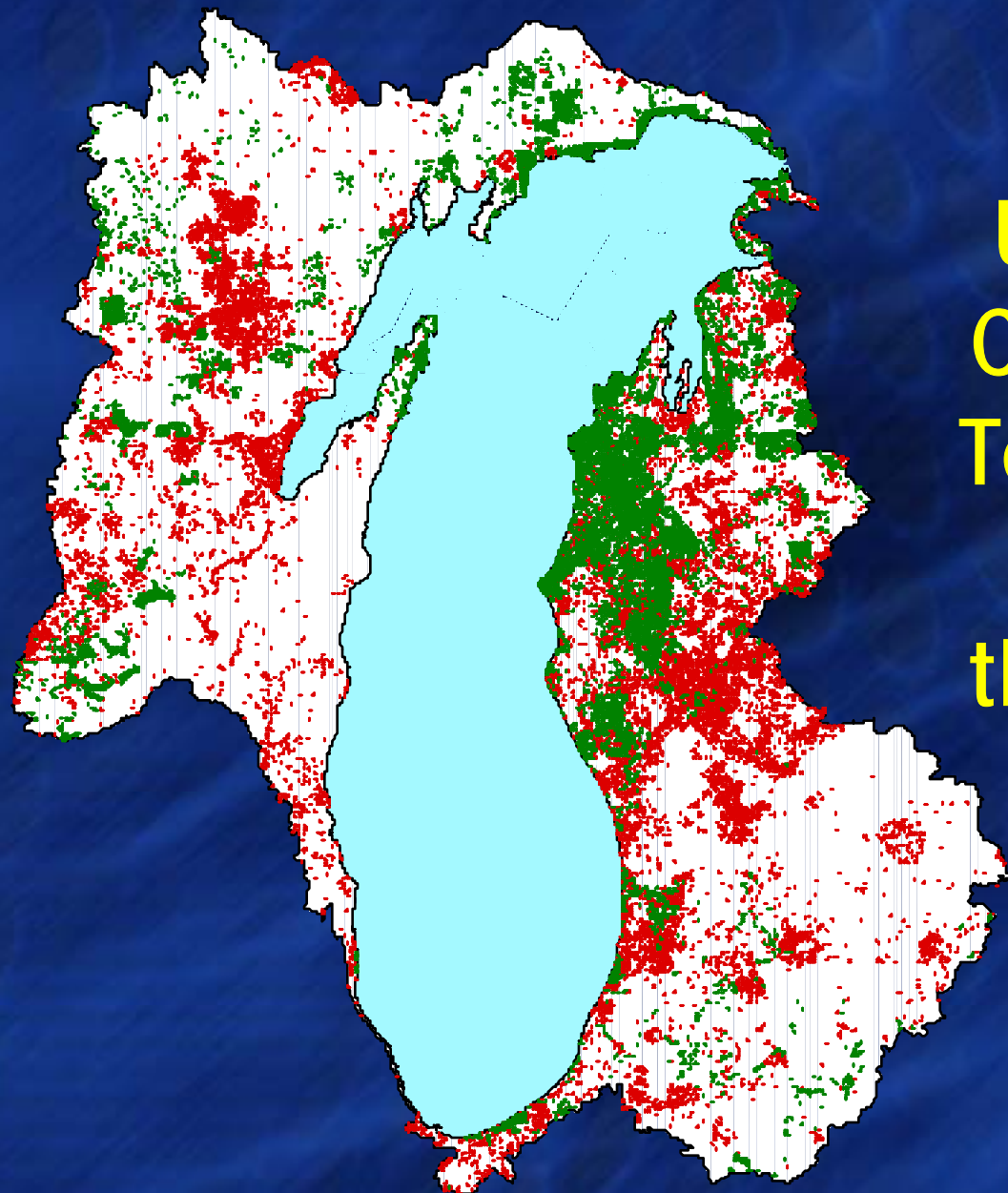
Are all habitats healthy, naturally diverse, and sufficient to sustain viable biological communities?





Are Non-native Species controlled and managed?



U.S. EPA Region 5
Critical Ecosystems
Team Analysis Lake
Michigan basin
the for land use and
cover

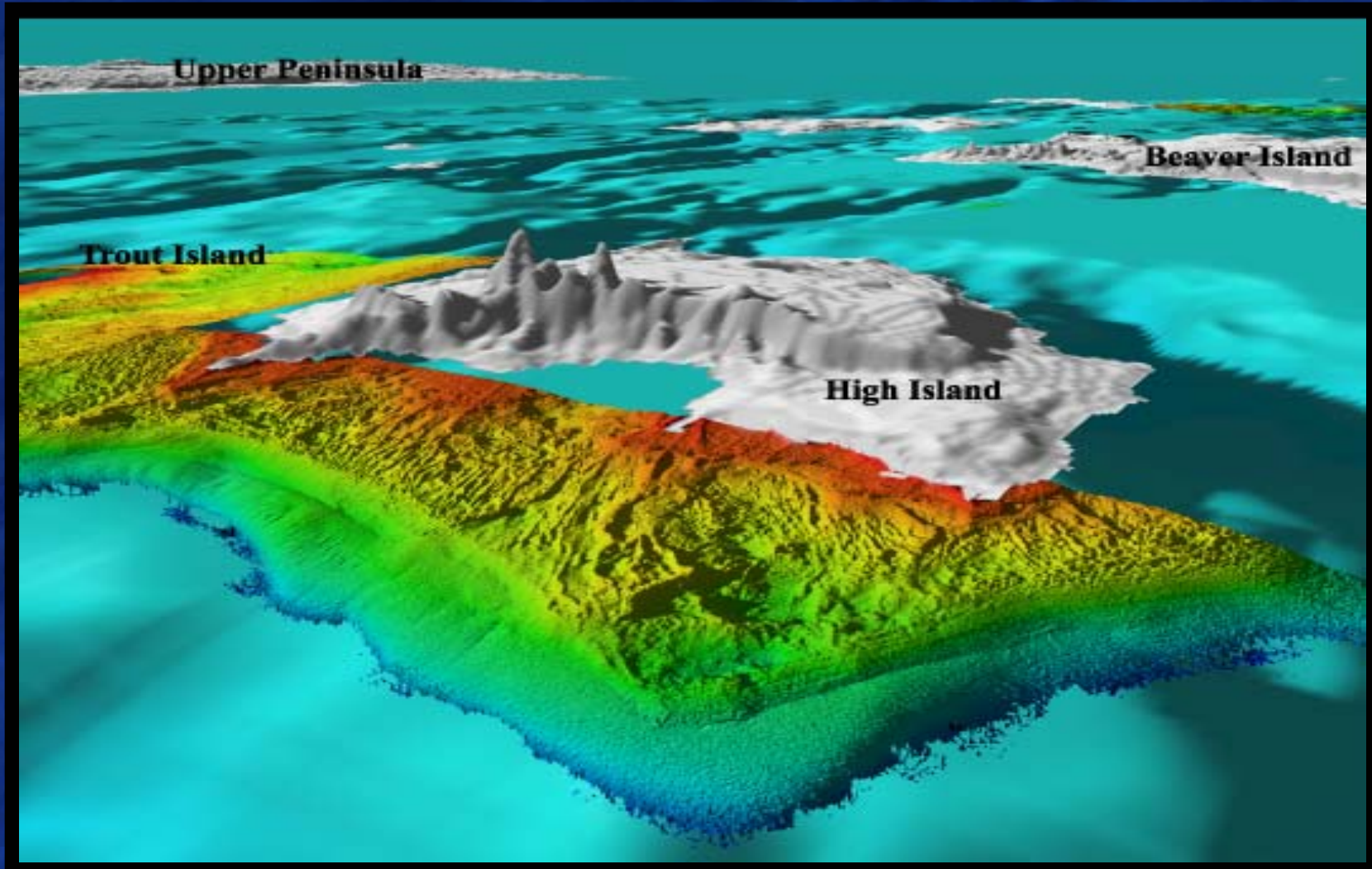


-  Highest 10% scores for ecosystem quality
-  Lowest 10% scores for sustainability

Wetland Loss



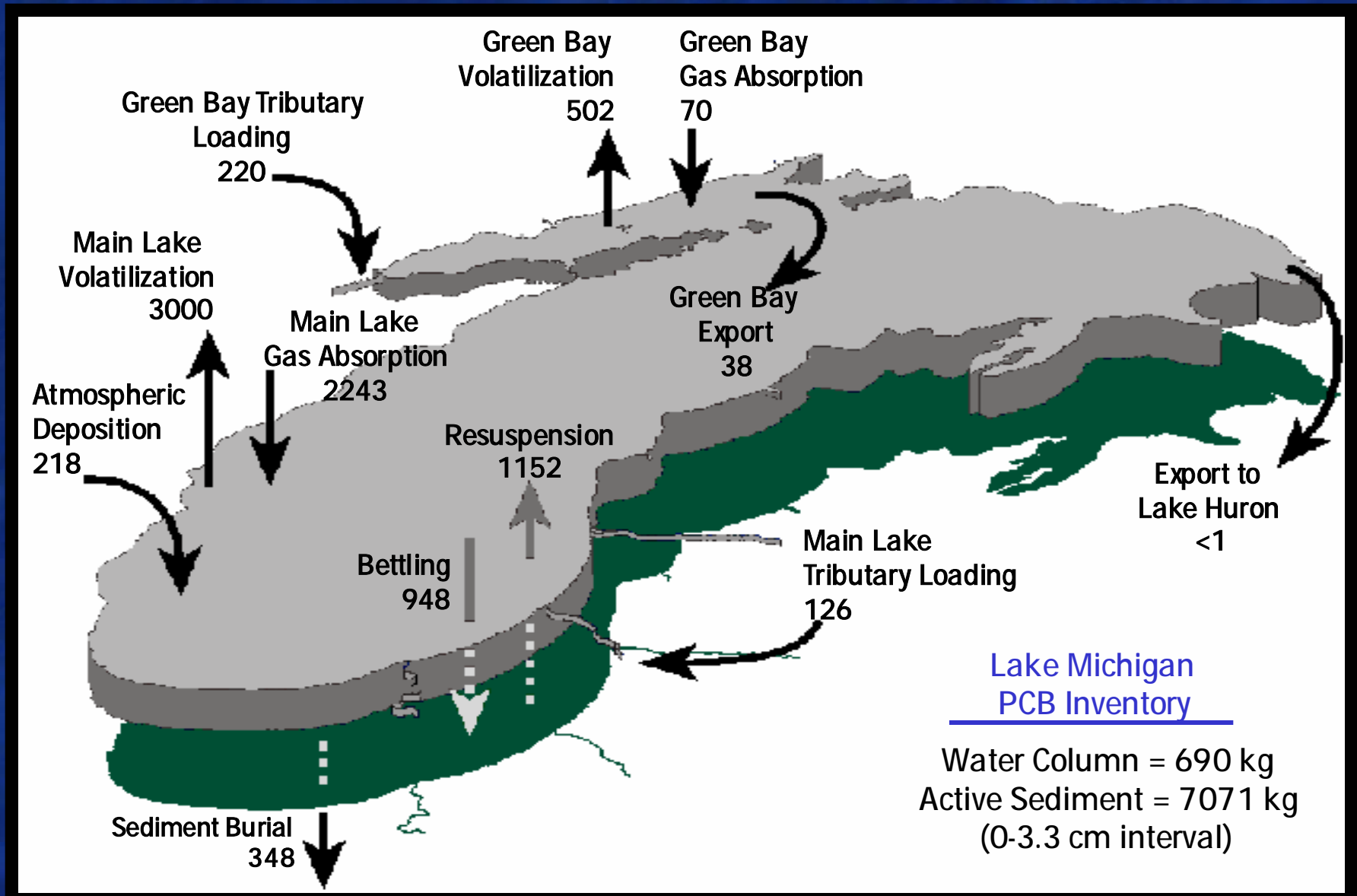
High Island looking Northeast (glacial or Bois Blanc Formation)



Dune and Lake



Lake Michigan Mass Balance



Wolf Population Recovering

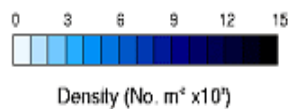
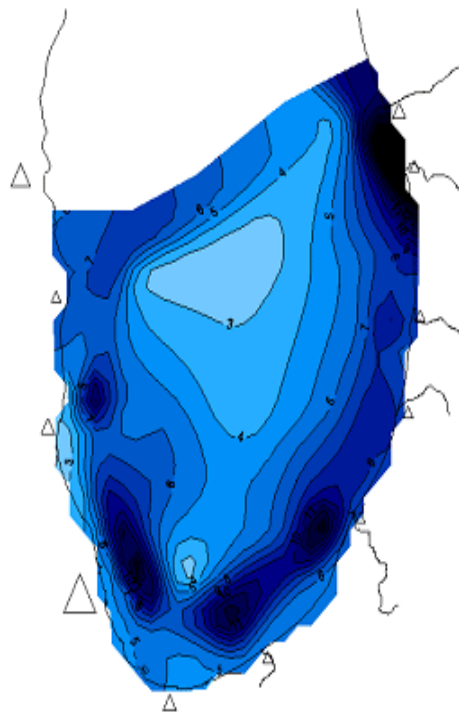


Keystone Species in Lake Michigan Food Web Vanishing

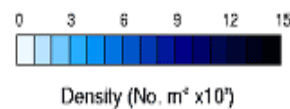
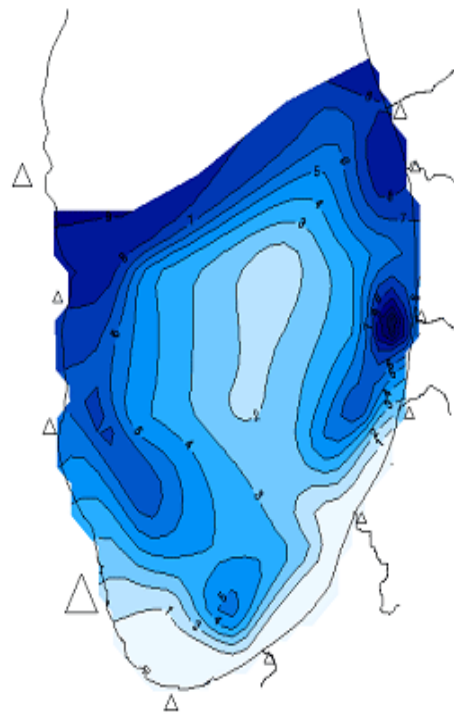


Densities of *Diporeia* in southern Lake Michigan for selected years from 1980 to 2000

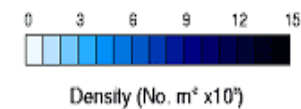
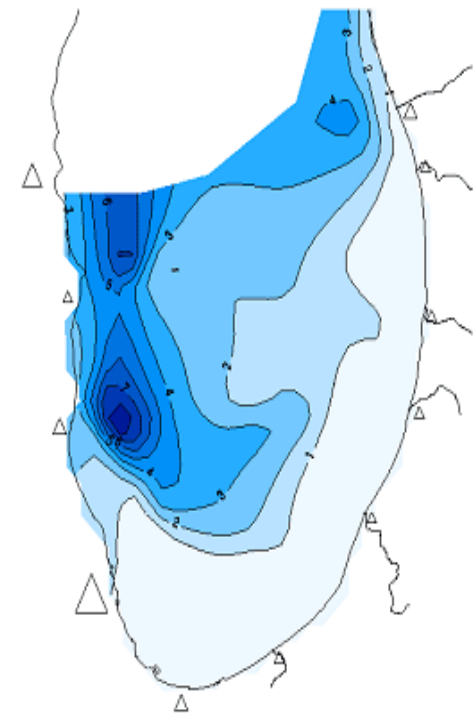
1980



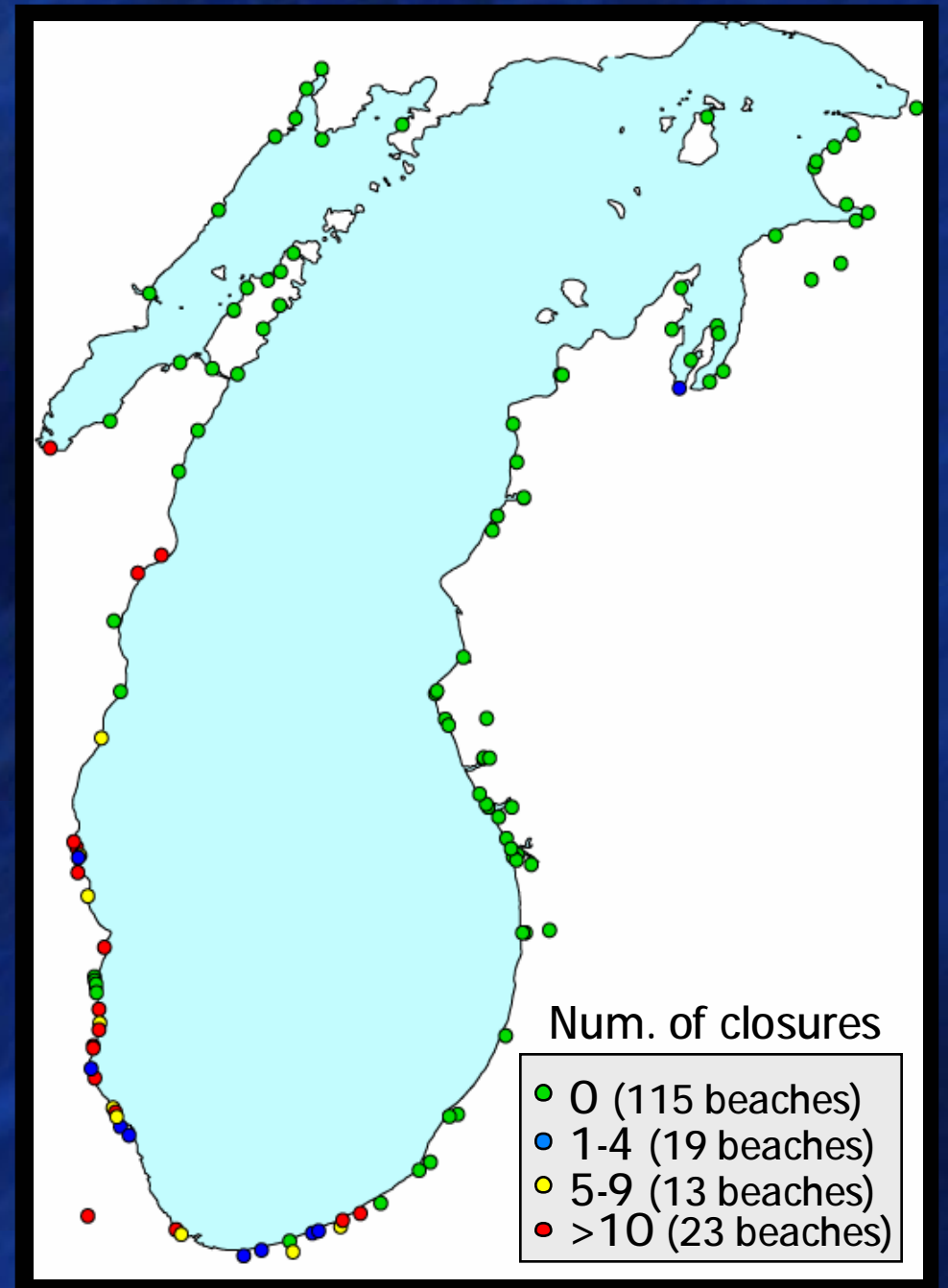
1993



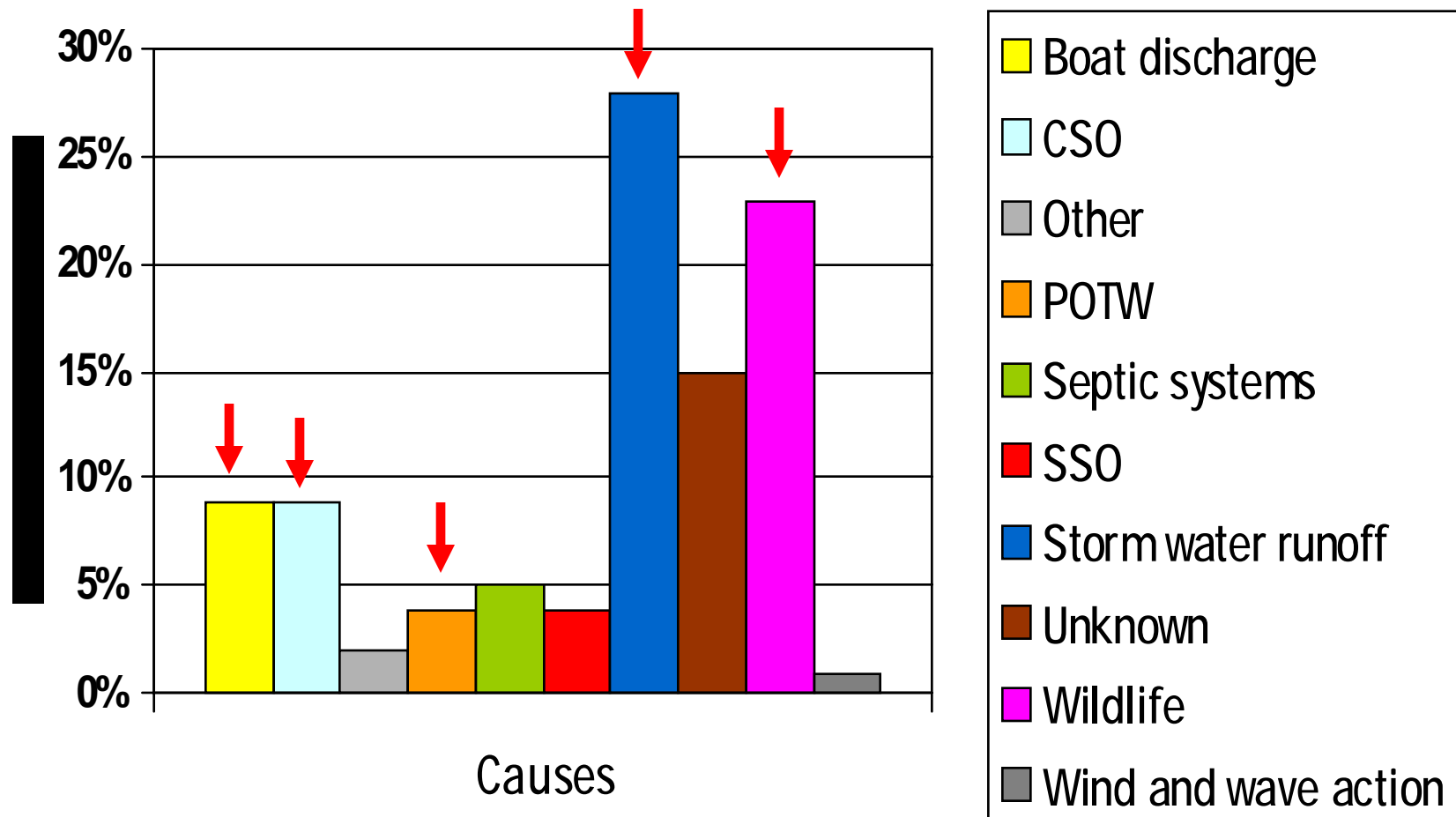
2000



Pathogens Cause Beach Closings



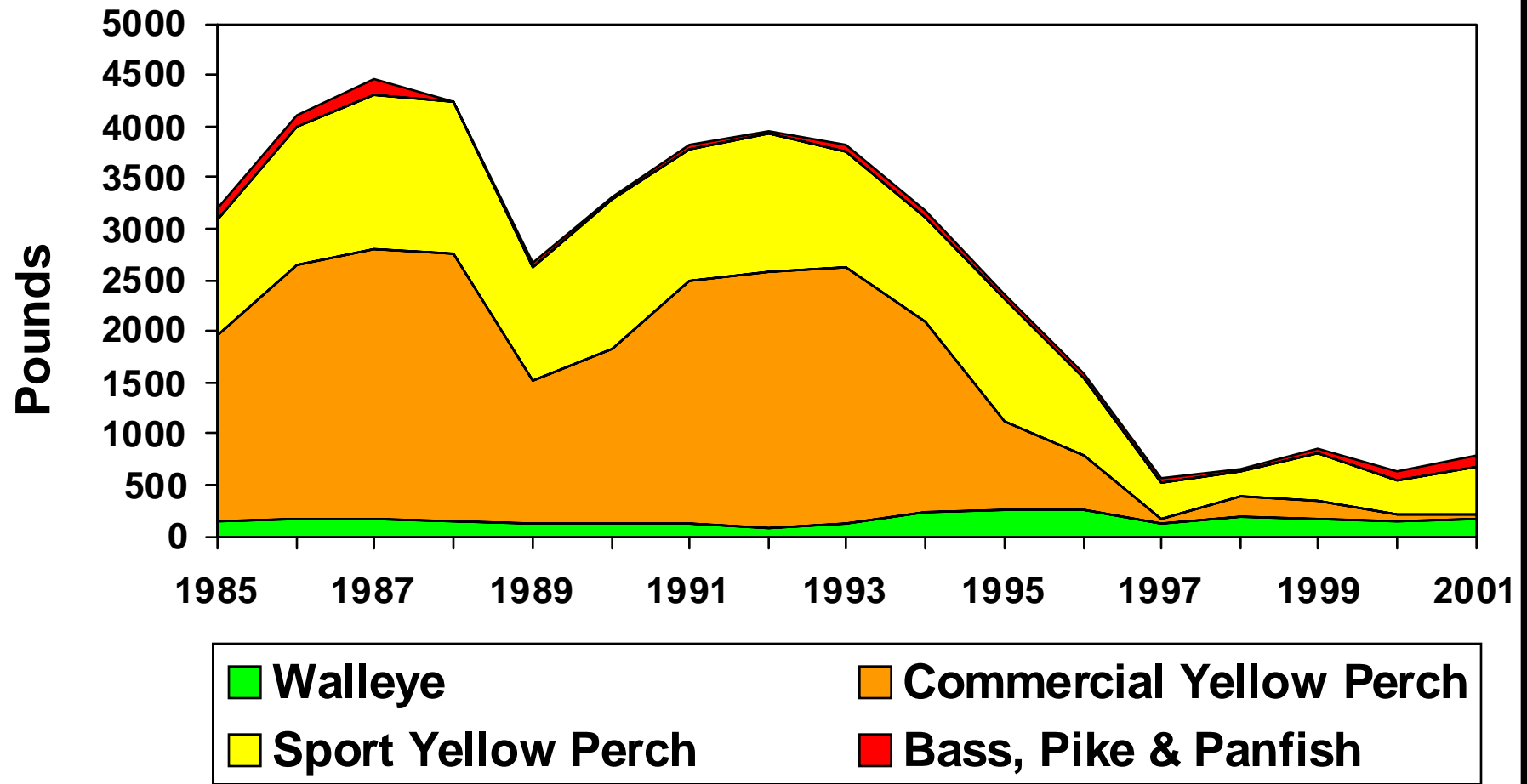
Causes of Closures/Advisories for the 97 Reported Beaches



Harvest Trends – Lake Michigan:

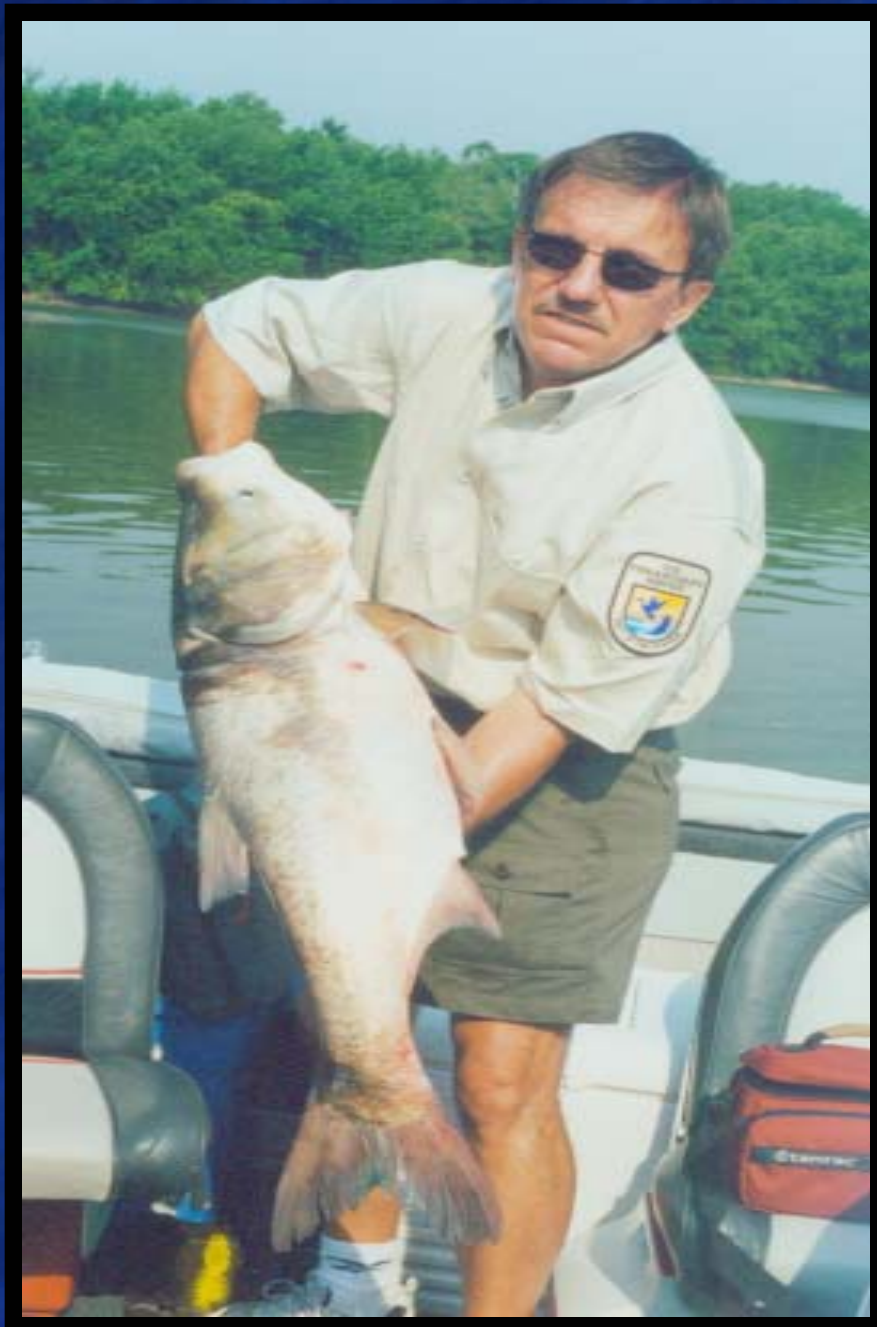
- Steady downward trend – mostly commercial
- Sport harvest exceeded commercial
- L. Michigan FCOs (harvest expectations):
 - ❖ Below FCOs for; whitefish, lake trout, chubs, yellow perch, planktivores, round whitefish, sea lamprey)
 - ❖ Achieving FCOs for; salmonids (non-lake trout)

Harvest of Inshore Fishes Lake Michigan



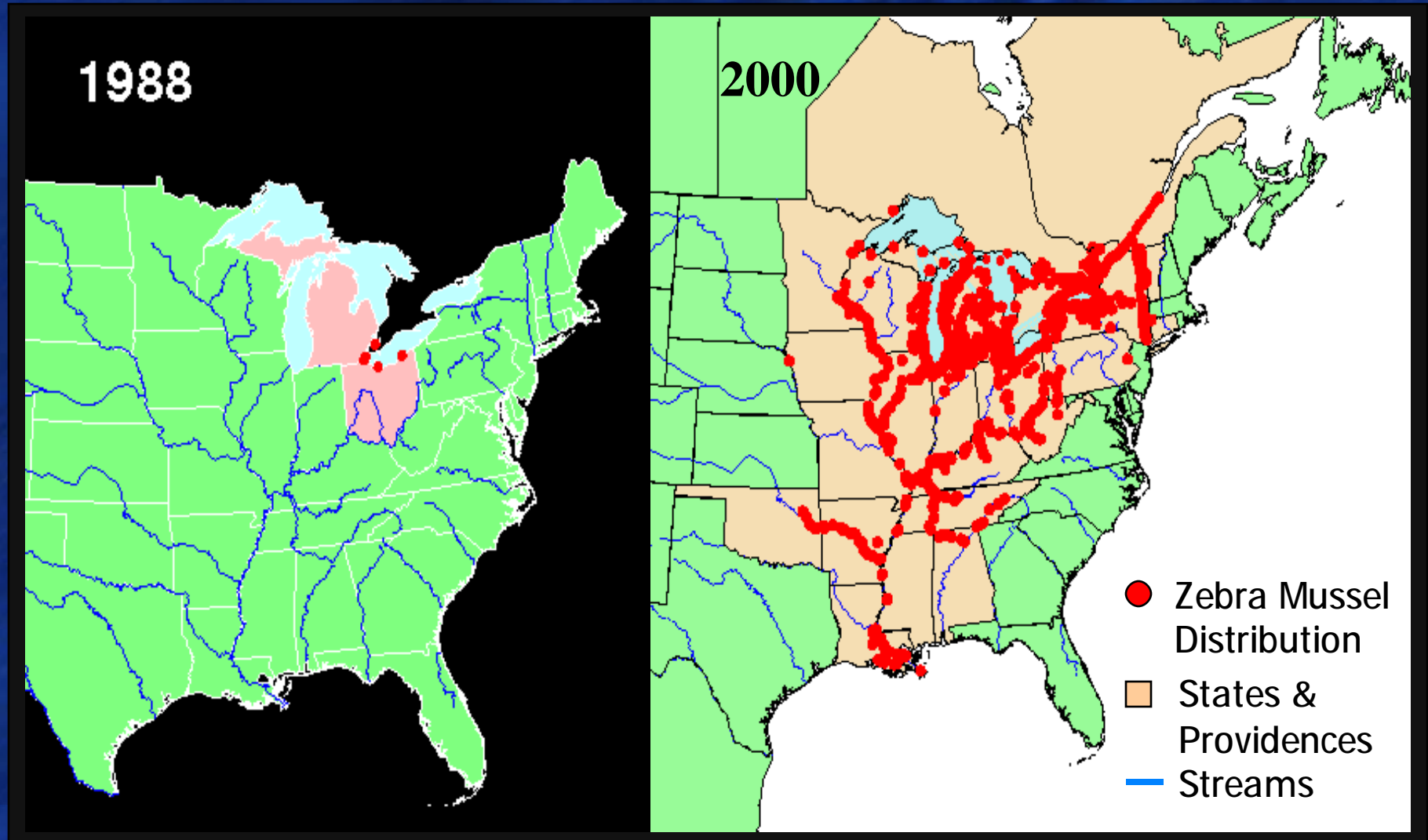
Ruffe Surveillance Program



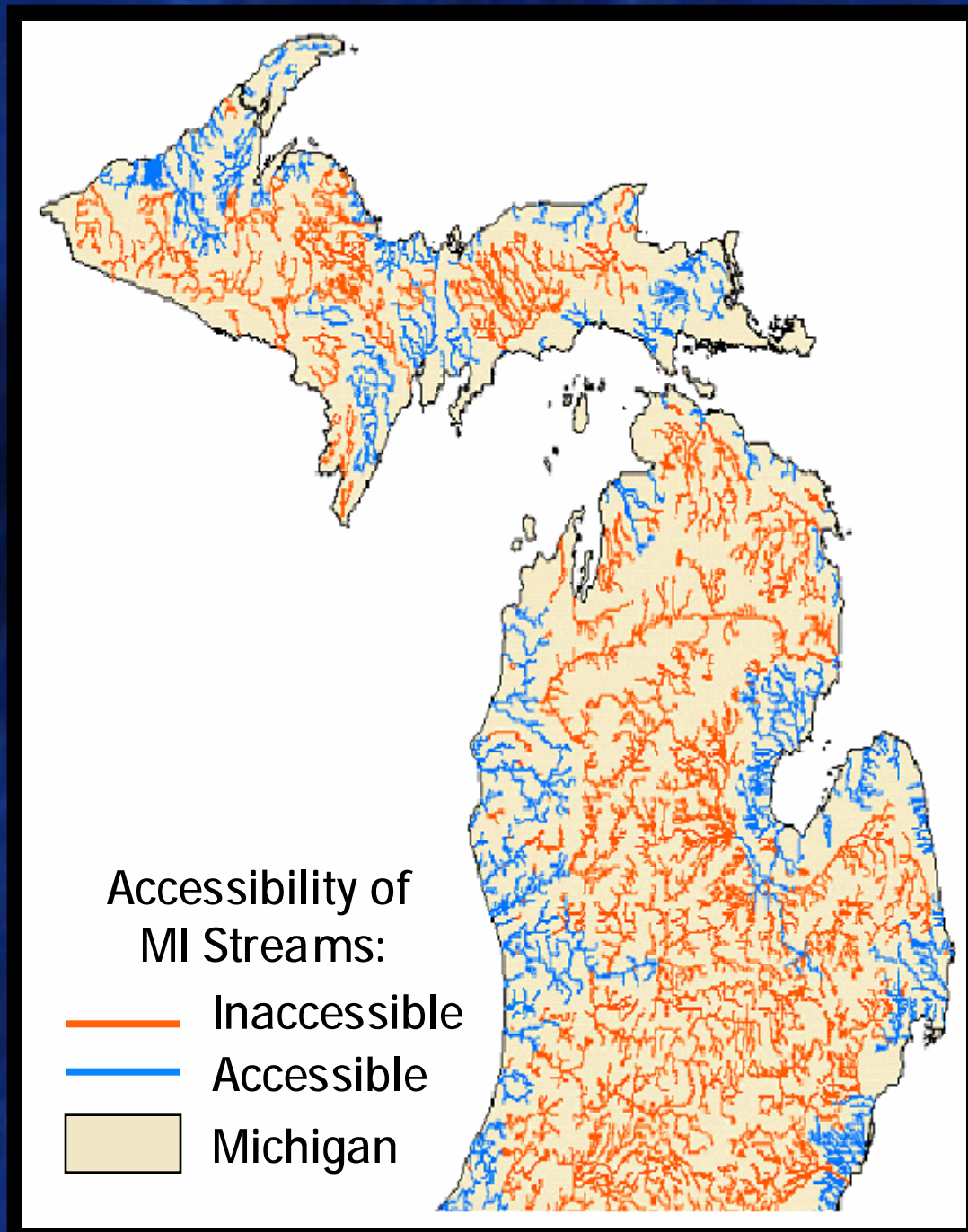


Bighead Carp in
the Illinois River
Summer 2002

Zebra Mussel (1988-2000)

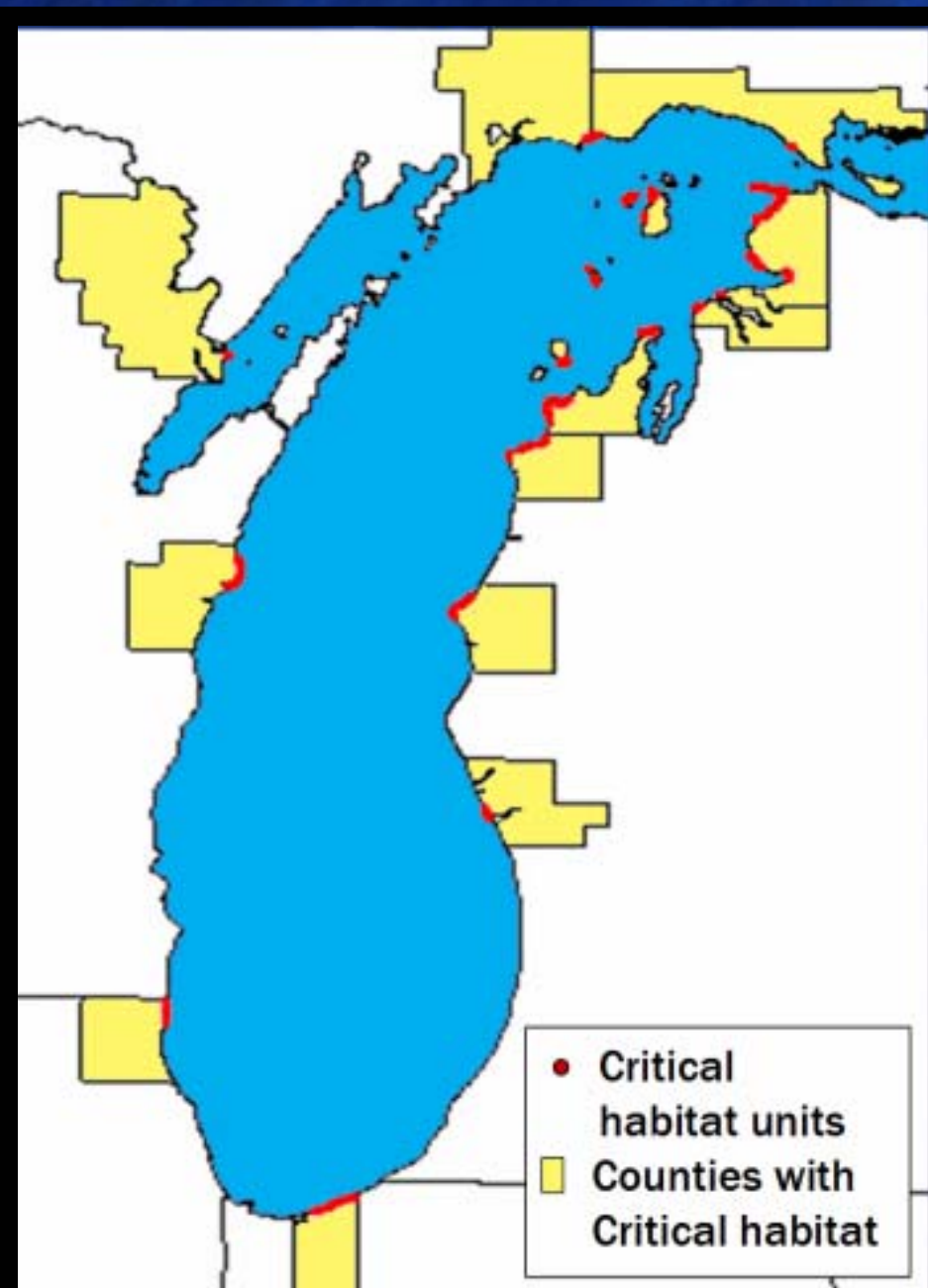


Accessibility of Michigan Tributaries from Great Lakes



Four rare Species improving

Critical areas like
USFWS Plover
critical habitat
map



Preserving and enhancing biodiversity in Southern Lake Michigan

Protecting Nature IN YOUR COMMUNITY



CHICAGO WILDERNESS
A Project of Green Source

 northeastern illinois planning commission

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