

Working Lands for Wildlife



Overview

Working Lands for Wildlife
is a partnership between
NRCS and USFWS
that will demonstrate that
productive working lands are compatible
with the needs of
at-risk wildlife species.

WLFW – State Technical Committee

WHIP Funding

- Prior Years: ~ \$85 million
- FY 2012: ~ \$50 million (41% decrease)
 - \$33M Financial Assistance for FY 12 WLFW
 - Remainder is to support prior year WHIP contracts
- Kentucky will use EQIP to address WHIP applications received in FY 12
 - Willing applicants will be transferred to EQIP

WLFW – State Technical Committee

Objectives

- Restore populations of declining wildlife species
- Provide regulatory predictability
- Restore and protect the productive capacity of working lands

WORKING LANDS FOR WILDLIFE – Species

Species	Status	Focal Area Locations
Bog Turtle	Threatened	Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania
Gopher Tortoise <i>Western Population:</i> <i>Eastern Population:</i>	Threatened Candidate	Louisiana, Mississippi Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina
Golden-Winged Warbler 	At-Risk	Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia
Greater Sage Grouse	Candidate	California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming
Lesser Prairie Chicken	Candidate	Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Texas
New England Cottontail	Candidate	Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island
Southwestern Willow Flycatcher	Endangered	Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah

FY 2012 Focal Areas

Rangewide
Distribution for
Species of Interest

DRAFT

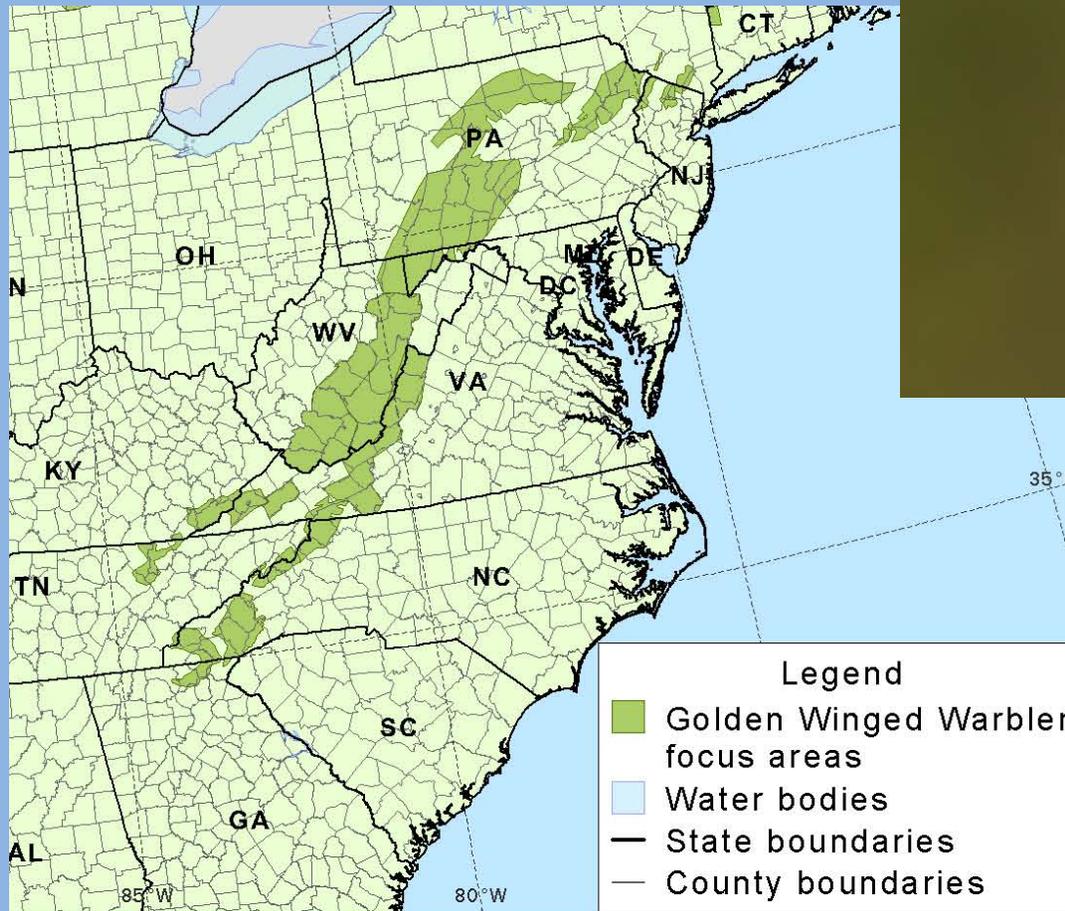
Species Ranges

-  New England Cottontail
-  Gopher Tortoise
-  Lesser Prairie-Chicken
-  Southwestern Willow Flycatcher
-  Golden-Winged Warbler (Appalachia)
-  Bog Turtle
-  Greater Sage-Grouse

K. Norman, USFWS: 2012

 300 Miles
This map is for reference only. No guarantees are made as to accuracy or integrity of the data presented.

WLFW – Golden Winged Warbler



Bell, Harlan & Letcher
(above 2,500')

Contracts must be
obligated by July 2

WLFW – Golden Winged Warbler



March 15, 2012
Harlan

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Wildlife Key Performance Measures will capture acres and location of habitat meeting quality criteria
 - Core practices applied
 - Example: Acres of Upland Wildlife Habitat Management
- USFWS and partners will contribute to additional monitoring efforts

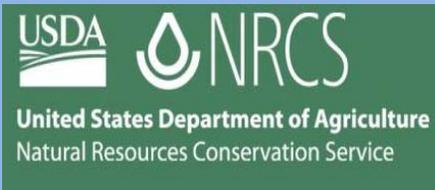
Outcomes

- More conservation on private lands
- Increased habitat for targeted species
- Species not listed or down-listed
- Certainty agreements
- Environmental services provided
- Increased habitat for non-targeted species



Working Lands for Wildlife

WLFW



Sometimes Managing for The Small Things...

Makes the Biggest Impact of All!

Learn About Managing for *Golden-Wing Warbler*



Golden-Winged Warbler

Core Practices

643 - Restoration & Management of Rare & Declining Habitats

645 - Upland Wildlife Habitat Management

647 - Early Successional Habitat Development/Management

Golden-Winged Warbler

Supporting Practices
314 - Brush Management
315 - Herbaceous Weed Control
324 - Deep Tillage
327 - Conservation Cover
338 - Prescribed Burning
342 - Critical Area Planting
382 - Fence
386 - Field Borders
472 - Access Control
484 - Mulching
490 - Tree Shrub Site Preparation
511 - Forage Harvest Management
512 - Forage & Biomass Plantings
528 - Prescribed Grazing
612 - Tree / Shrub Establishment
655 - Forest Harvest Trails & Landings
666 - Forest Stand Improvement

WLFW Projected Dates

- April 12: Provide estimated needs
(Kentucky: \$27,750 and 100 acres for FY 2012)
- April 19: Fund allocation to states
- April 30: Application deadline
- May 30: First ranking deadline
- June 6: Second allocation if needed
- July 2: All obligations complete

WLFW Subcommittee Meeting

April 10, 2012 - 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **What is the Working Lands for Wildlife?**
- **What we input for today**
- **Updates from WLFW Group**
 - ❖ **Products (maps, etc)**
 - ❖ **Contacts**
 - ❖ **Etc.**
- **Screening Questions**
- **“Local” Ranking Questions**
- **Needs from Group**
- **Wrap-up**

Questions?



National Water Quality Initiative

(NWQI)

NWQI

- Through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- Will assist producers to address high-priority water resource concerns in small watershed with streams or water bodies in one or more of the following categories (targeted waters):
 - **Impaired** – a stream or water body documented to be impaired, and identified on a state's 303(d) list of impaired waters as designated by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA);
 - **Threatened** – a stream or water body with water quality data documenting and impairment, but does not have a TMDL Implementation Plan and is not listed on the 303(d) list of impaired waters as designated by the US EPA;
 - **Total Maximum Daily Loads** – a stream or water body that has been on EPA's 303(d) list of impaired waters but may have been removed because there is a TMDL plan for implementation; or
 - **Critical** – a stream or water body upstream of an impaired segment or area, and is known to be a contributing source of the downstream impairment for a stream in one or more of the three categories above.

NWQI

- In addition to the targeted waters identified on earlier slide, the watershed selection process included identifying impairments that NRCS can effectively address through voluntary action, including that the impairments are from agricultural sources (nutrients and/or sediment.)
- Will also took into account staffing, past program interest, other efforts/projects, state resource assessments, state and local watershed management plans, on-going monitoring efforts, etc.

NWQI

- Each state held 5 percent of their “general EQIP” financial assistance allocation
 - Kentucky: FY 12 - \$582,000
- Sought input from State Technical Committee to help NRCS select one to three 12-digit HUC

NWQI Subcommittee Meeting

April 10, 2012 - 1:00 p.m.

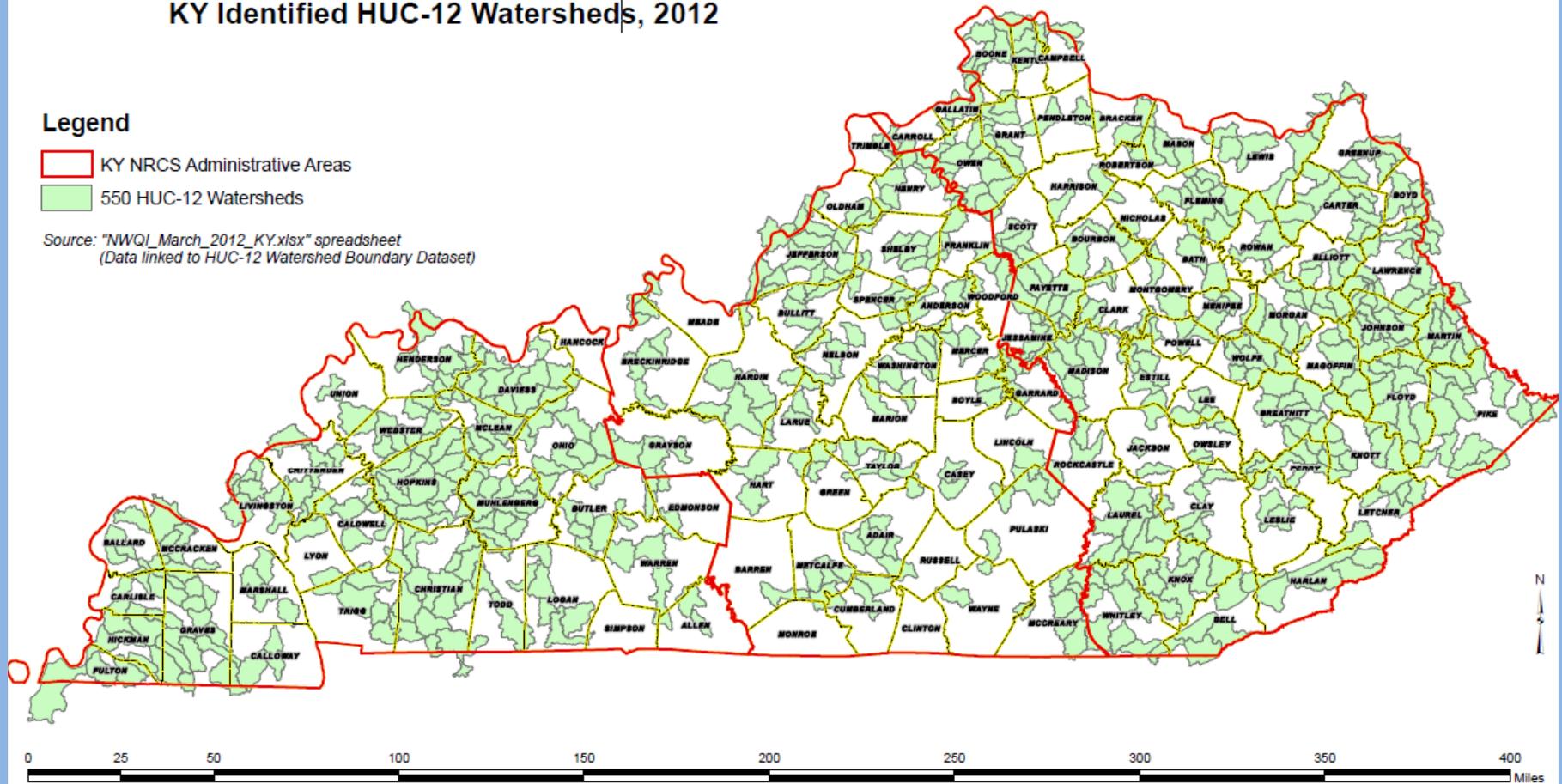
- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **What is the NRCS National Water Quality Initiative?**
- **What input we are seeking today**
- **Discussion**
- **Wrap-up**

National Water Quality Initiative: KY Identified HUC-12 Watersheds, 2012

Legend

-  KY NRCS Administrative Areas
-  550 HUC-12 Watersheds

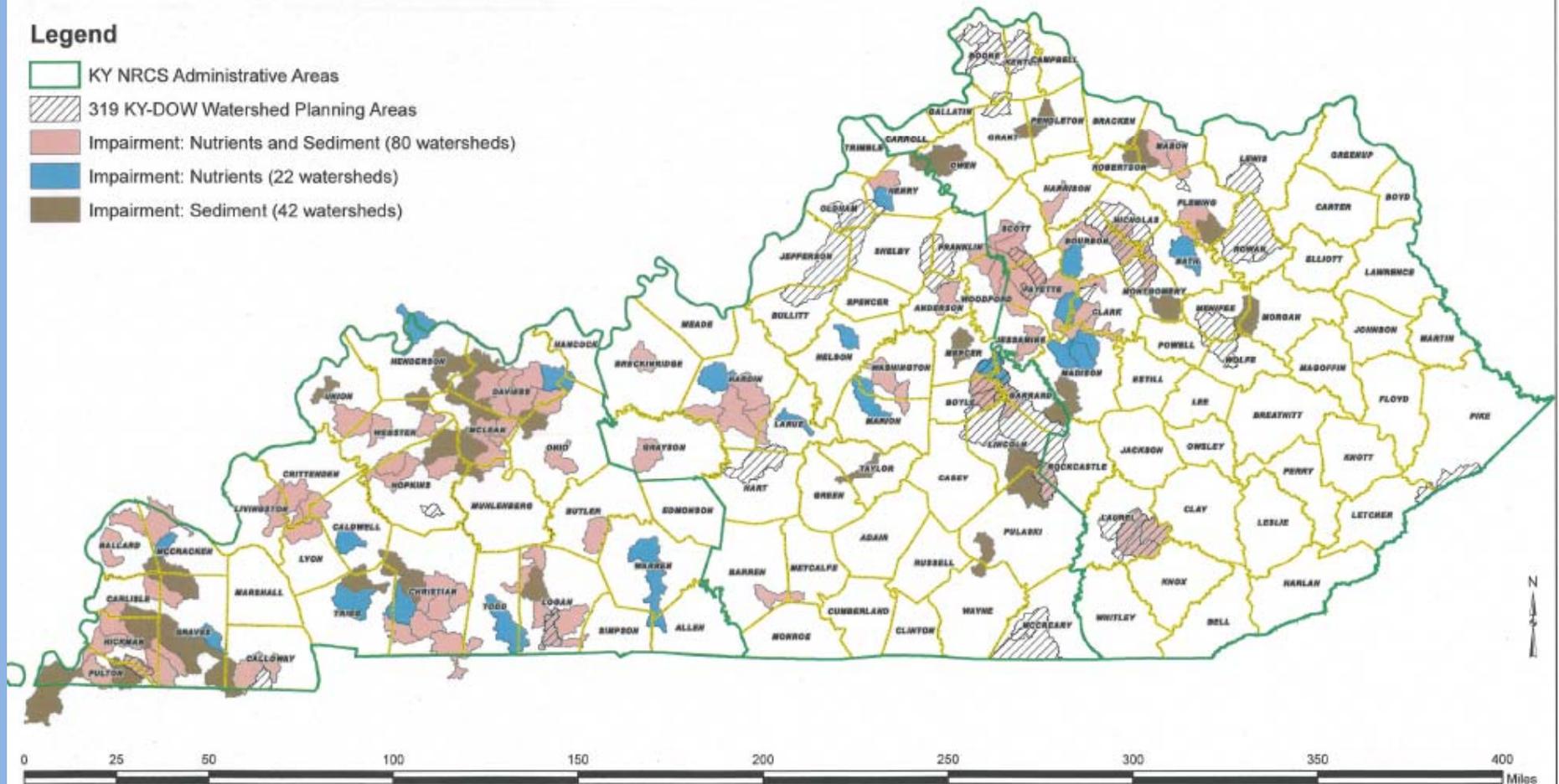
Source: "NWQI_March_2012_KY.xlsx" spreadsheet
(Data linked to HUC-12 Watershed Boundary Dataset)



National Water Quality Initiative: KY Identified HUC-12 Watersheds, 2012

Legend

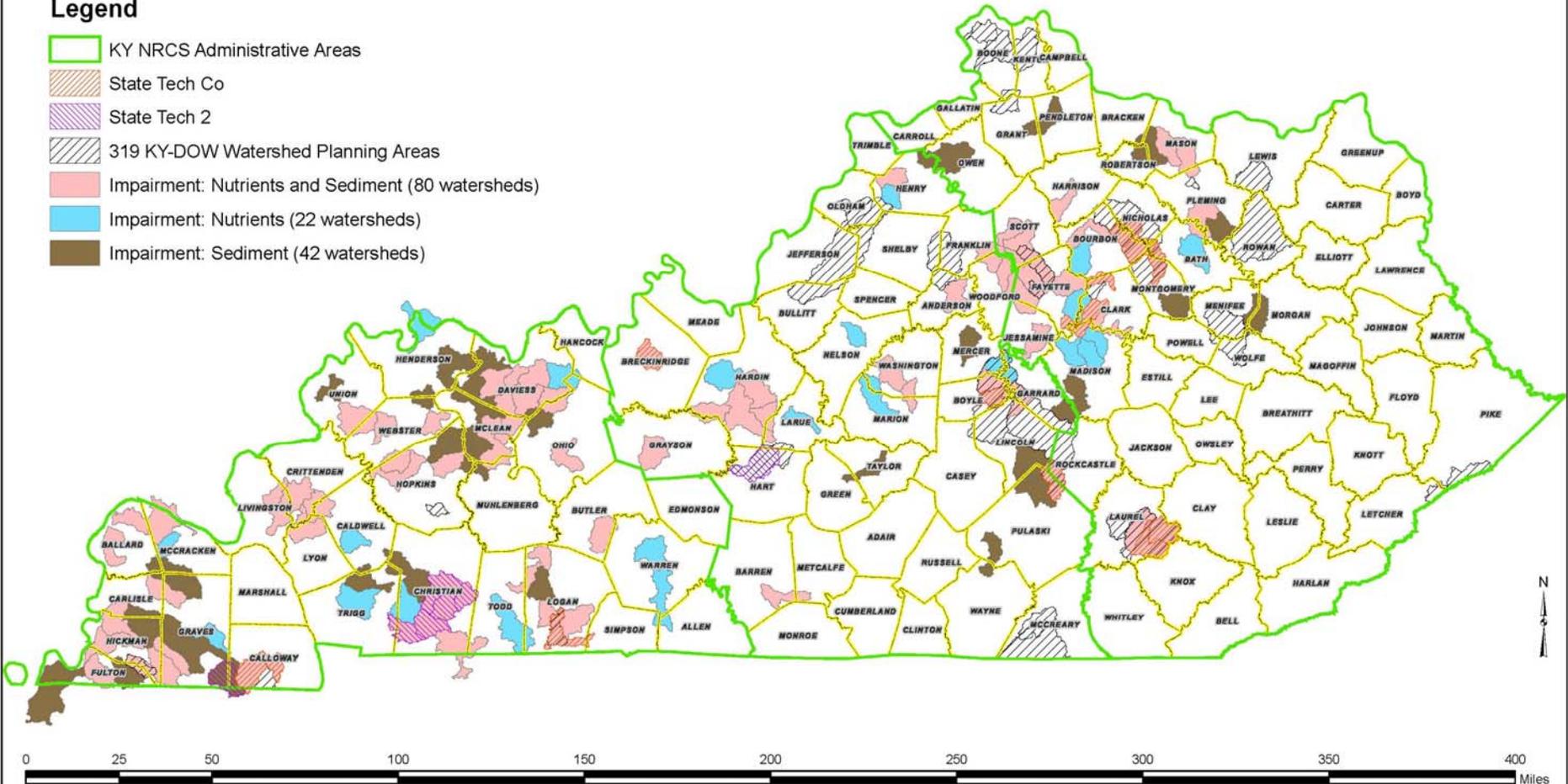
-  KY NRCS Administrative Areas
-  319 KY-DOW Watershed Planning Areas
-  Impairment: Nutrients and Sediment (80 watersheds)
-  Impairment: Nutrients (22 watersheds)
-  Impairment: Sediment (42 watersheds)



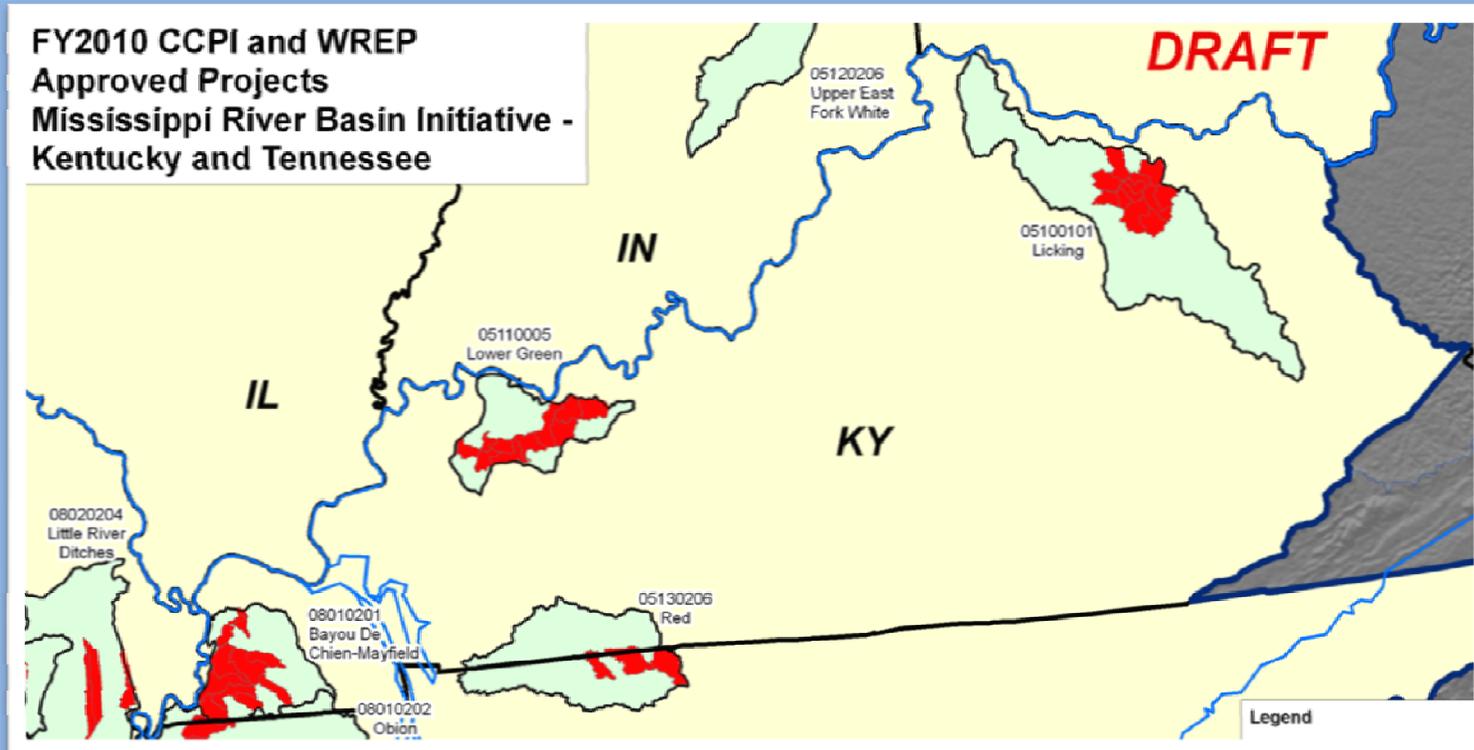
National Water Quality Initiative: KY Identified HUC-12 Watersheds, 2012

Legend

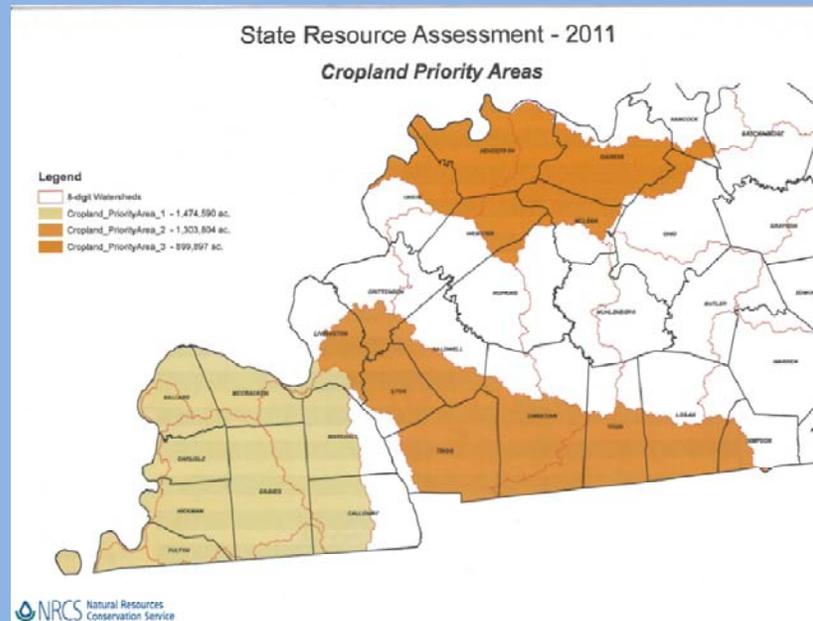
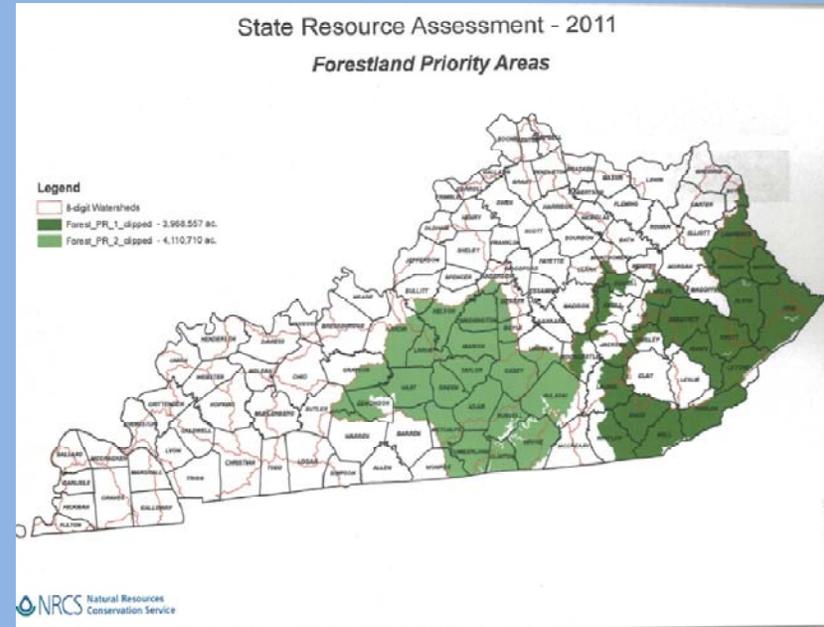
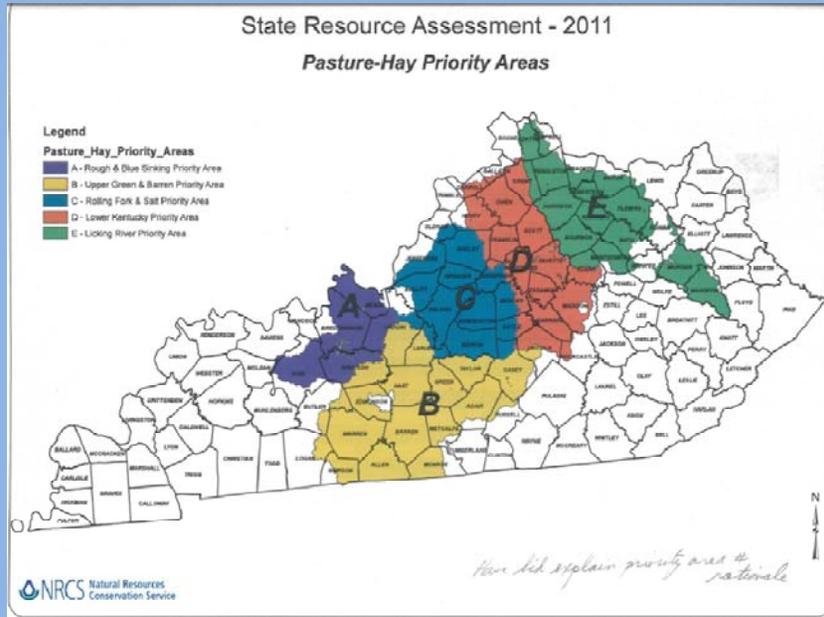
-  KY NRCS Administrative Areas
-  State Tech Co
-  State Tech 2
-  319 KY-DOW Watershed Planning Areas
-  Impairment: Nutrients and Sediment (80 watersheds)
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MRBI



2011 State Resource Assessment



National Water Quality Initiative

KY Fiscal Year 2012 Selected Watersheds (3)

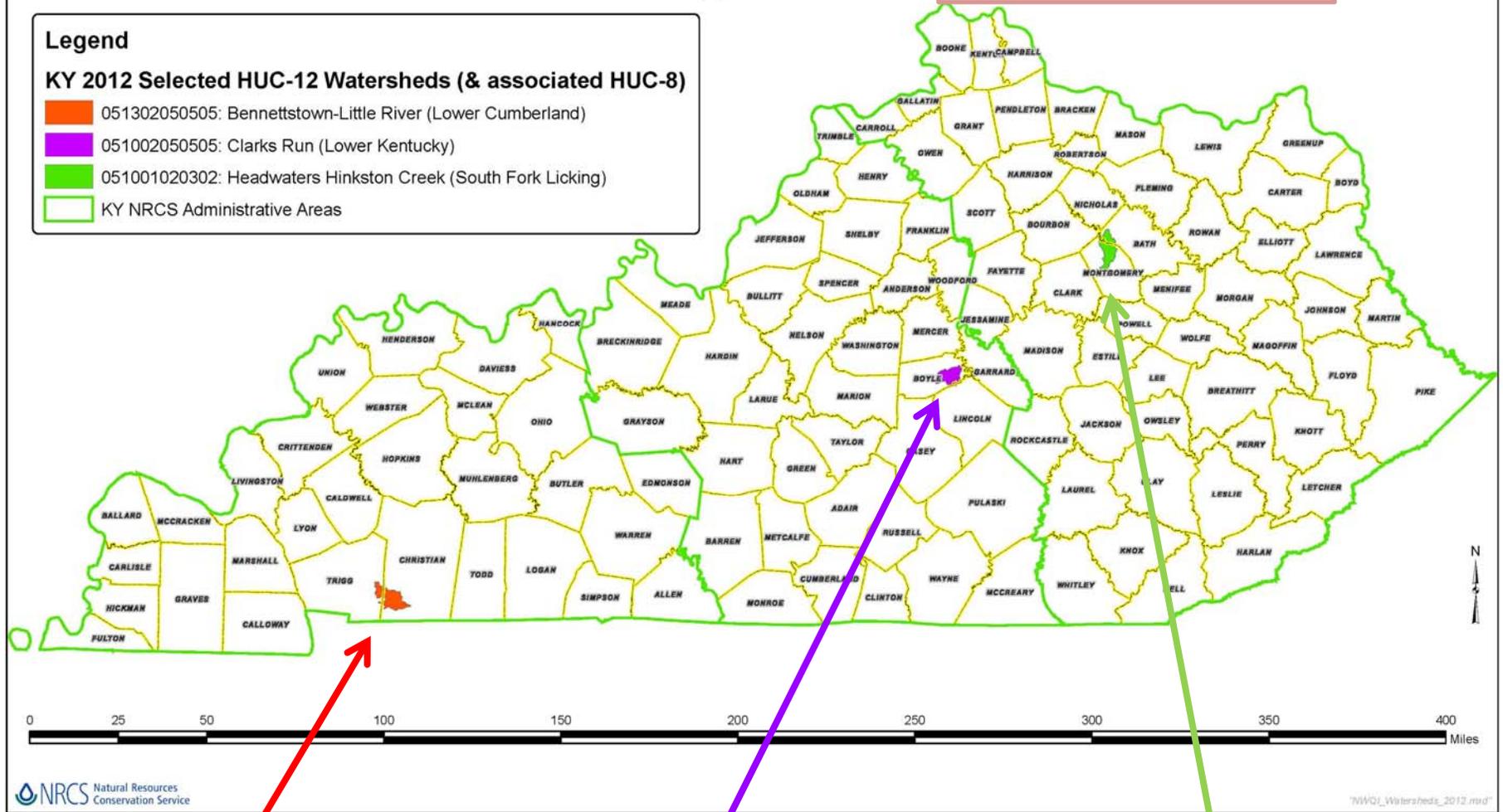
All three selected HUCs have impairments due to both nutrient and sediment/turbidity

April, 2012

Legend

KY 2012 Selected HUC-12 Watersheds (& associated HUC-8)

- 051302050505: Bennettstown-Little River (Lower Cumberland)
- 051002050505: Clarks Run (Lower Kentucky)
- 051001020302: Headwaters Hinkston Creek (South Fork Licking)
- KY NRCS Administrative Areas



Bennettstown-Little River

- Christian, with a little in Trigg
- 234 farms
- 24,600 acres (15,500 in farms)

Clarks Run

- Boyle County
- 258 farms
- 18,000 acres (11,000 in farms)

Headwaters Hinkston Creek

- Montgomery, with a little in Bath
- 298 farms
- 24,000 acres (15,700 in farms)

Questions?



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