

Winter Meeting | Area 2

ODA Watershed Program Update



Program Update

- Watershed Plan Completion
 - How the plan can be useful to you
- Implementation Support
- Regional Program Development

Regional Watershed Plans are Complete!

The screenshot shows the Ohio Department of Agriculture website. The main navigation bar includes: AGRICULTURE IN OHIO, SAFEGUARDING ANIMALS & PLANTS, PROTECTING CONSUMERS, and CONSERVING RESOURCES. The page title is "1st Edition Ohio Regional Watershed Plans". Below the title is a large image of a river with lily pads. To the right of the image is a "Share this" section with social media icons and a "For more information" section with contact details for Peter McDonough and Greg Nagotte. Below the image is a map of Ohio divided into seven regions, each with a corresponding regional manager listed in a legend. The legend includes: 1. Roden Fisher, 2. John Timmons, 3. Ben Eaton, 4. Chris Pancake, 5. Erica White, 6. Josh Emanuelson, and 7. Levi Arnold. A red star icon indicates regional office locations. Below the map is a paragraph of text explaining the program and its goals, followed by links for Region 1, Region 2, and Region 3.

ODA Watershed Program Regional Managers

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7	Levi Arnold Cell: (614) 213-8940 levi.arnold@agri.ohio.gov

★ Regional Office Locations (RMC)

[House Bill 7 \(137th General Assembly\)](#) initiated the ODA Watershed Program with the directive to engage in collaborative, regional-scale watershed planning and management. Regional Watershed Plans are the product of that, and have been developed for the purpose of supporting local conservation initiatives, developing new regional programs, and help guide the expansion of [Governor DeWine's H2Ohio program](#).

The plans provide regional watershed characterization, water quality data and goals, funding opportunities, and analysis of applicable management measures. The ODA Watershed Program works with local, state and federal partners to help support implementation.

Watershed plans are living documents and will be updated periodically to reflect current data and activities. Changes and improvements to these 1st Edition Regional Watershed Plans will be incorporated based on stakeholder feedback and insights gained through the development process. Feedback will be gathered over the next six months (through March 2024), and a 2nd Edition of the plans will be released in the fall of 2024. Subsequent editions will be released every two years, and will include updated information related water quality, regional priorities, and ongoing conservation implementation.

[Region 1 - Western Lake Erie Basin](#)

[Region 2 - Central Lake Erie Basin](#)

[Region 3 - Great and Little Miami Rivers Basin](#)

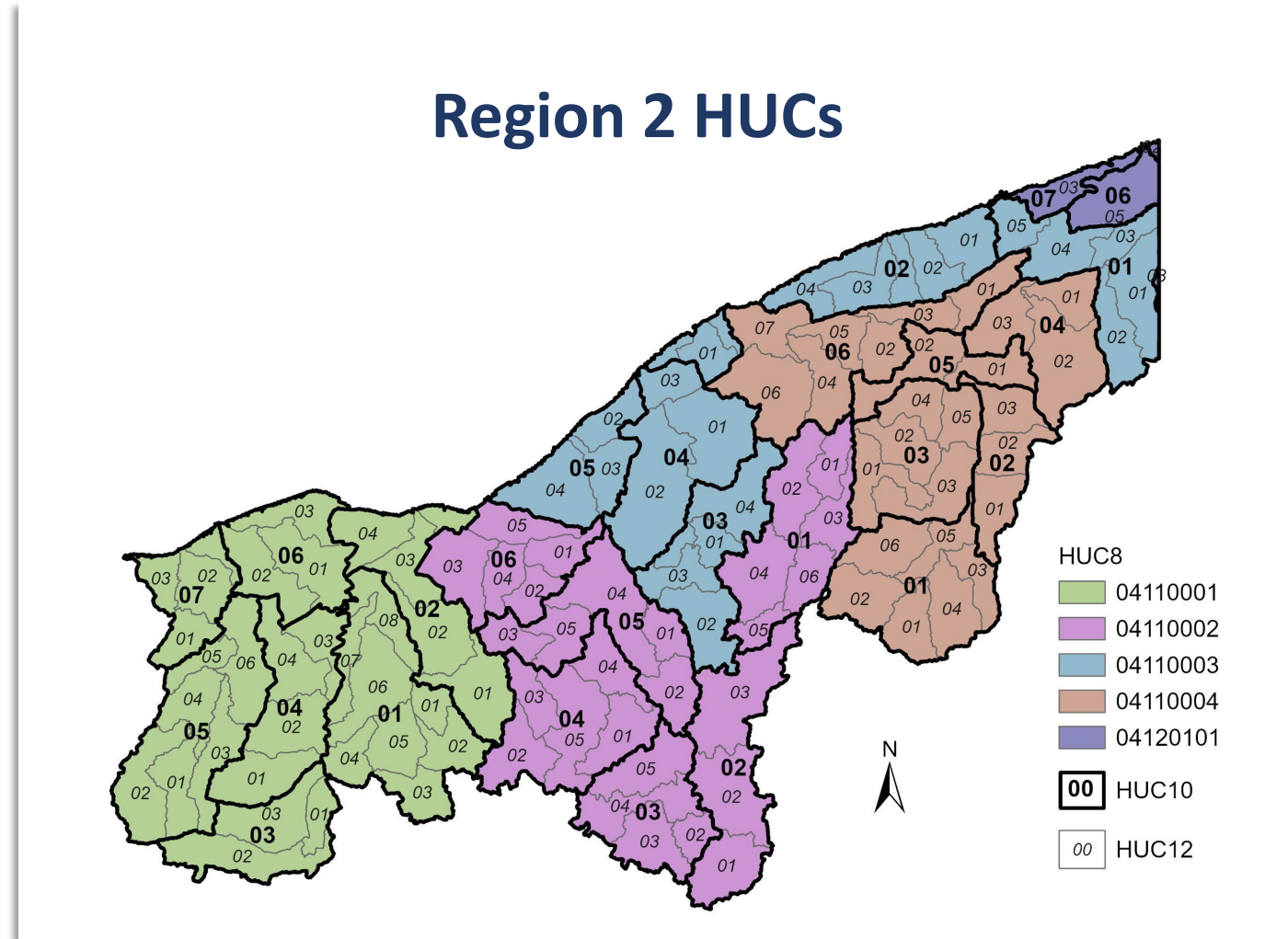
- Hosted on ODA website
- Download as PDF



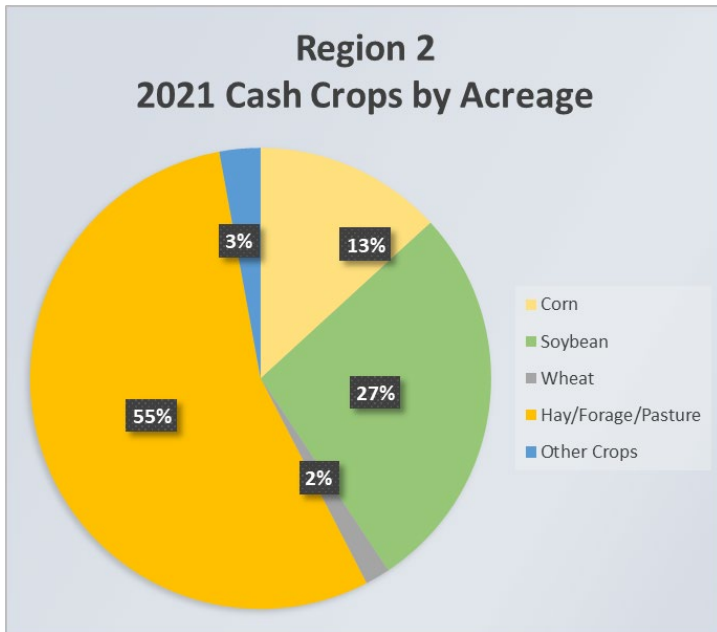
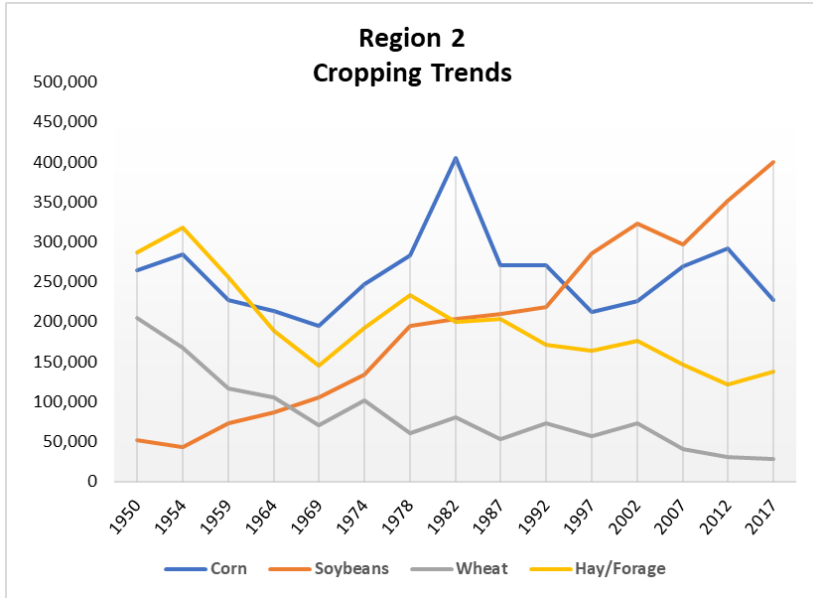
The cover features a scenic photograph of a river with lily pads at sunset. The text on the cover reads: "Ohio Department of Agriculture Regional Watershed Program Watershed Plan, Region 2 First Edition". At the bottom, it says "Ohio Department of Agriculture Division of Soil and Water Conservation Regional Watershed Program 2023" and includes the Ohio Department of Agriculture logo.

Regional Watershed Plans

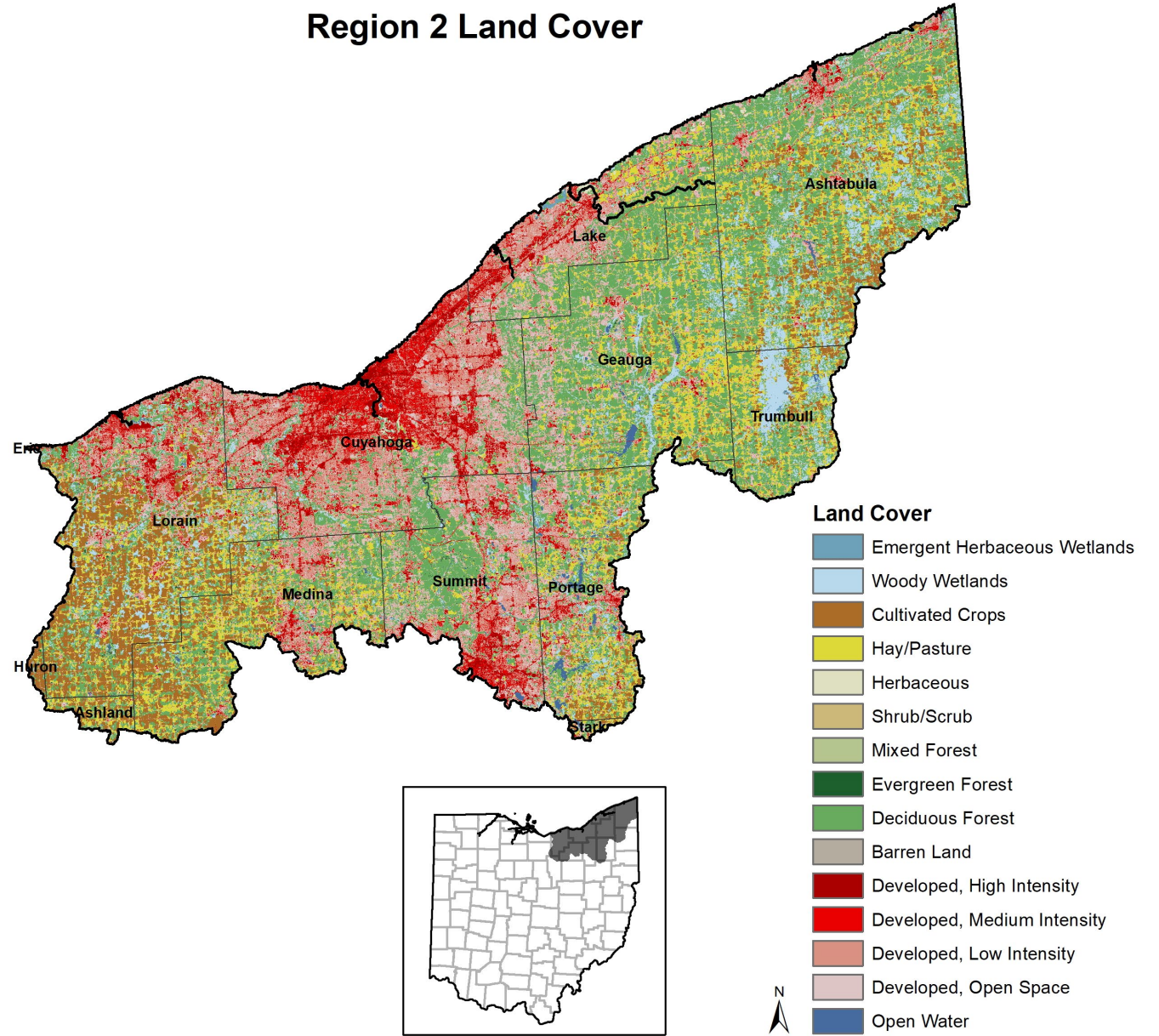
- Synthesize information to Regional (HUC-6) scales
- Provide HUC-12 level detail
- County level data where impractical to prorate



Cropping Trends

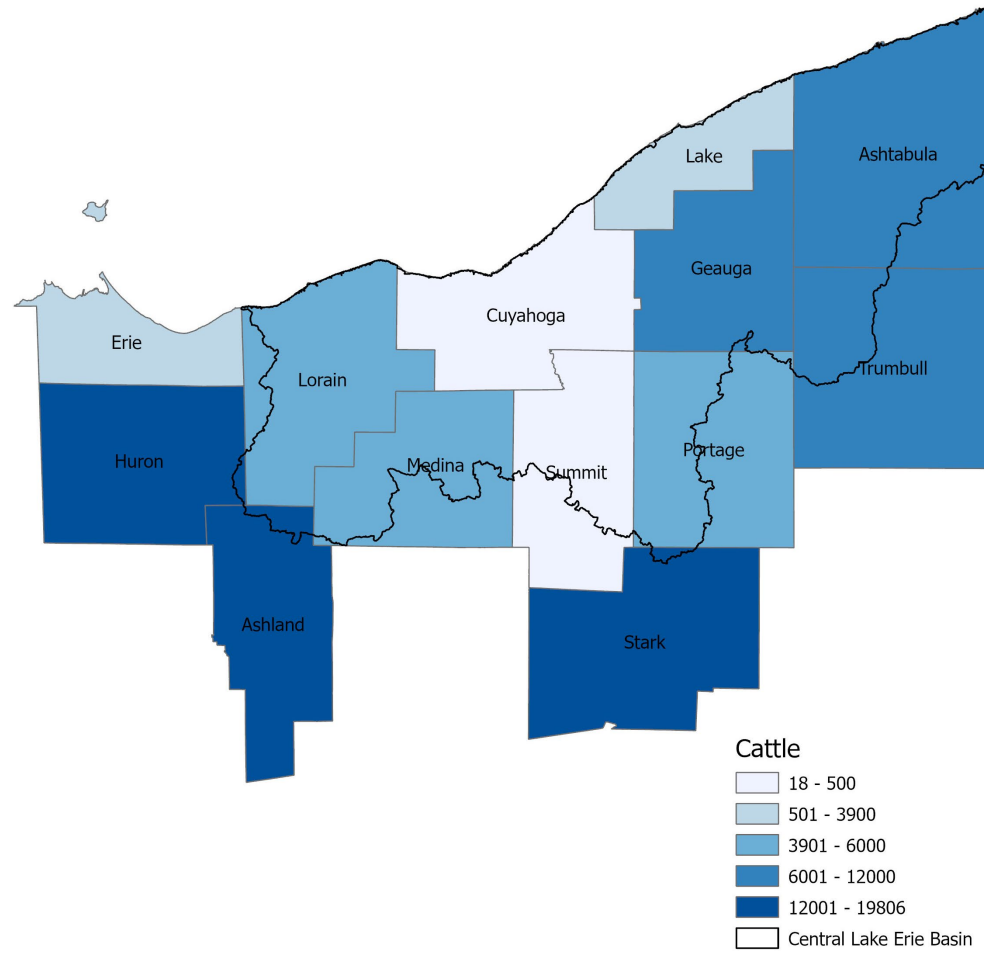


Region 2 Land Cover

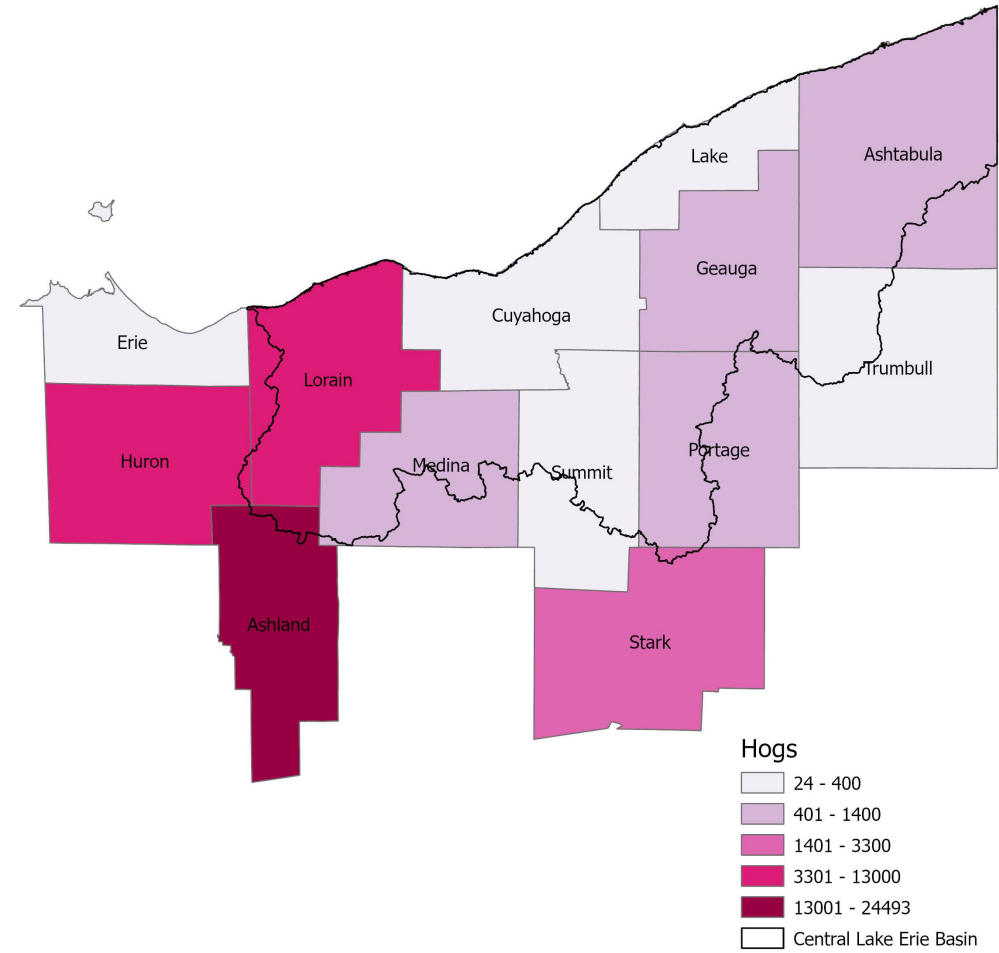


Livestock

Region 2 Cattle

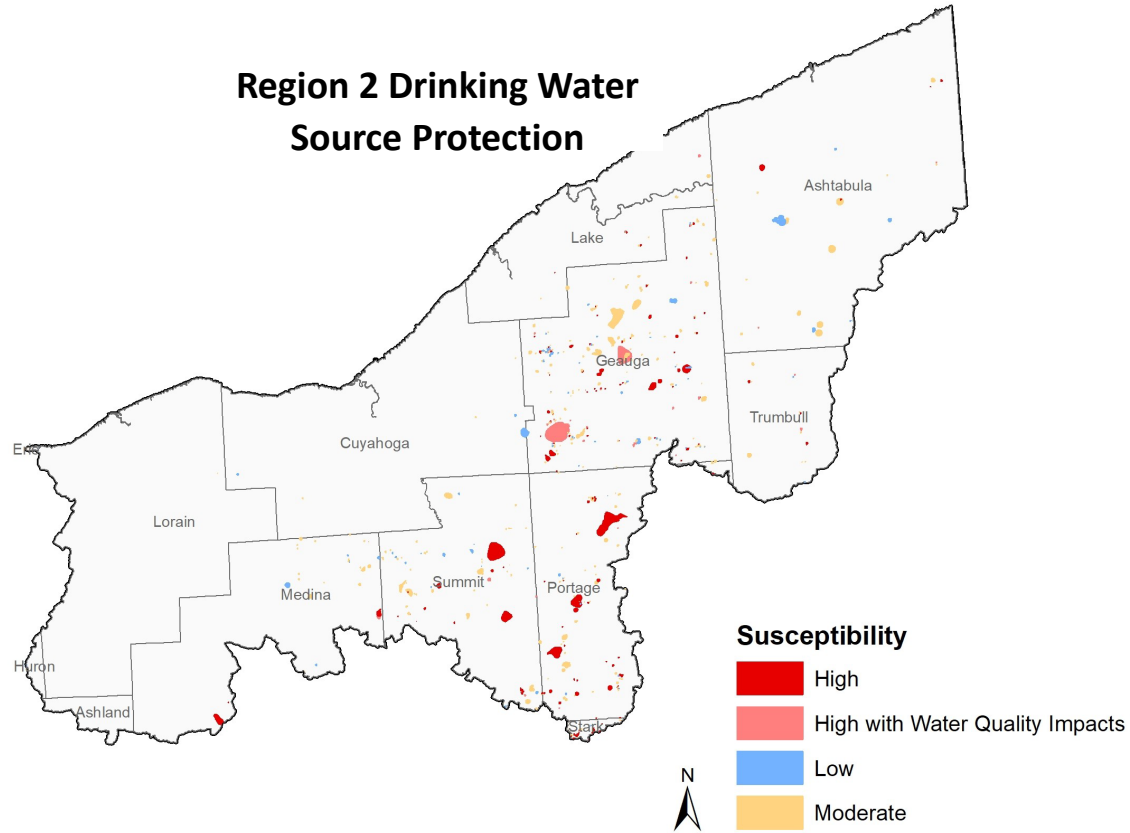


Region 2 Hogs

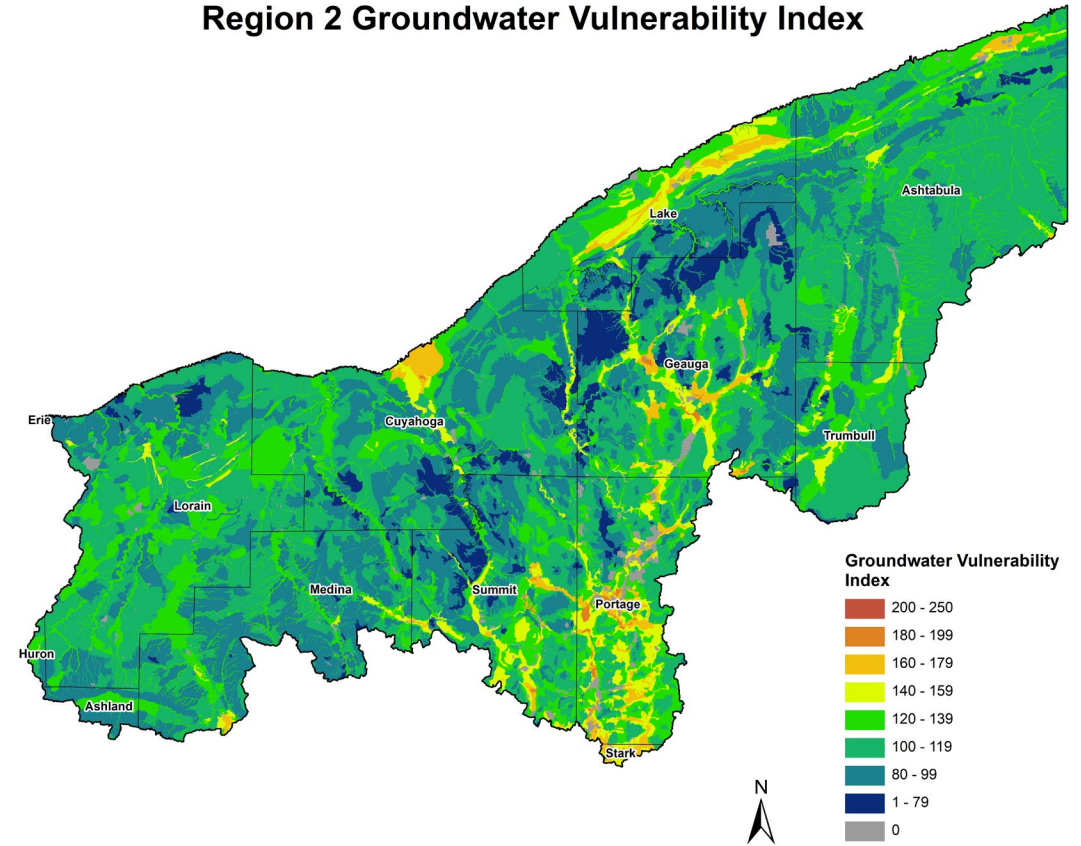


Source Water Protection

Region 2 Drinking Water Source Protection

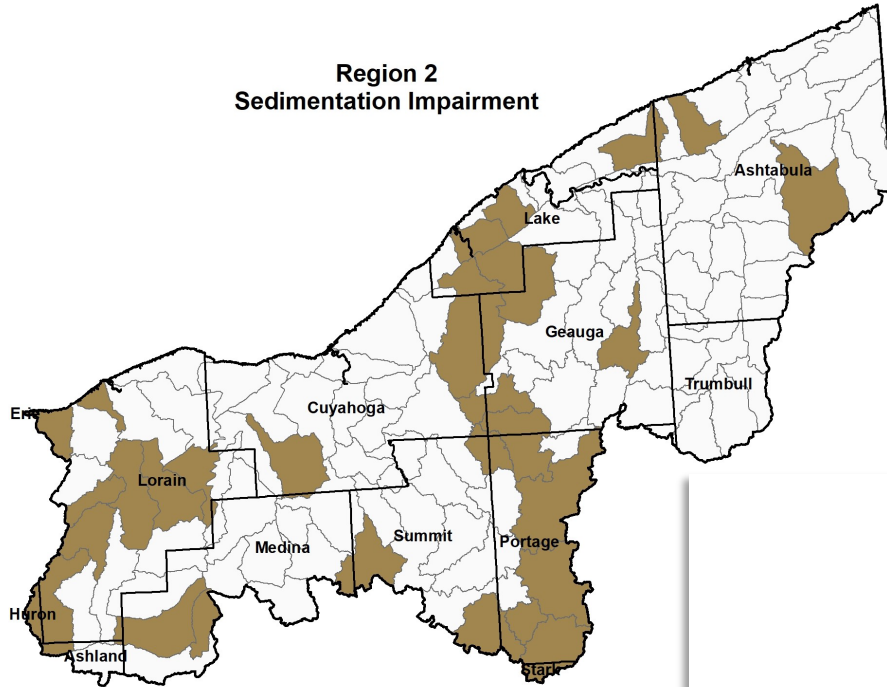


Region 2 Groundwater Vulnerability Index



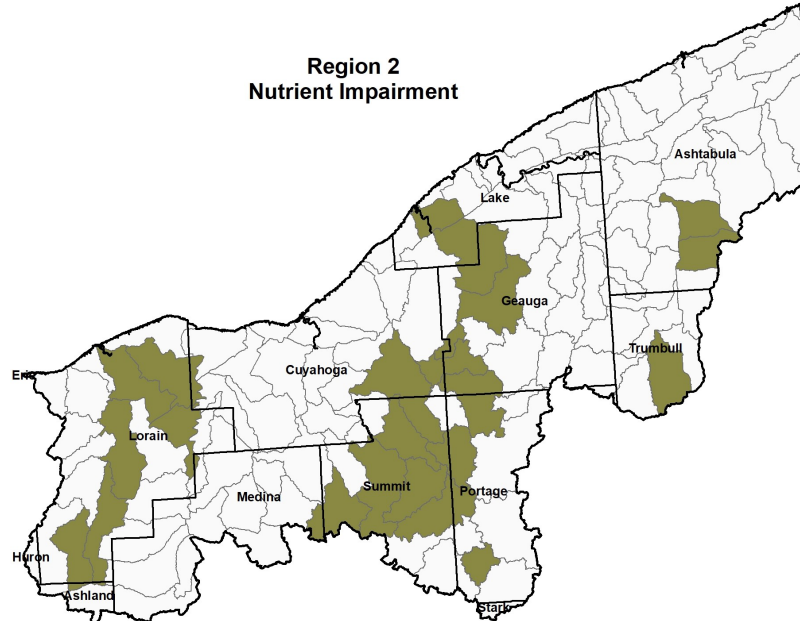
Water Quality Impairments

Region 2
Sedimentation Impairment



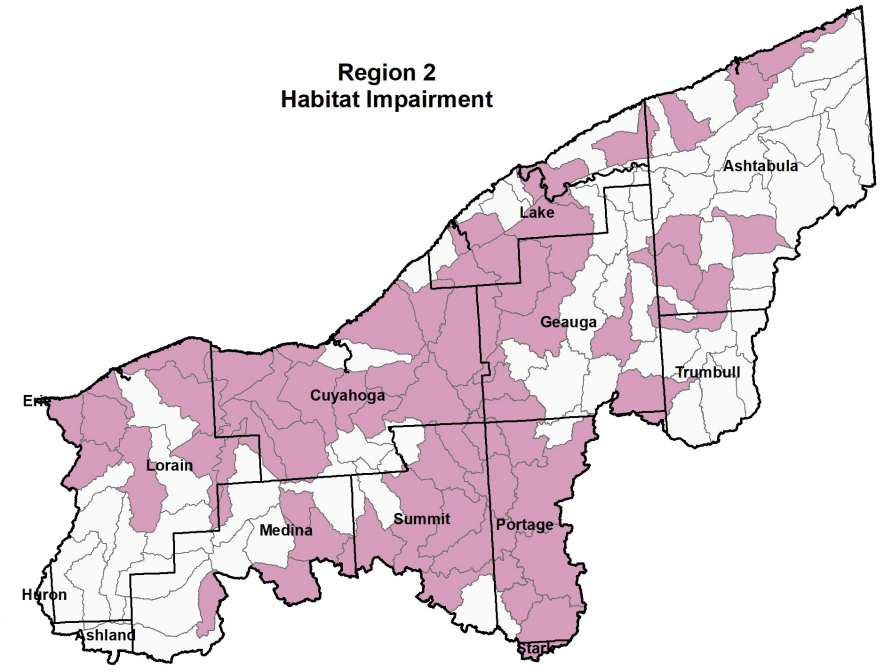
N
Impairment
Sedimentation/Siltation

Region 2
Nutrient Impairment



N
Impairment
Nutrients

Region 2
Habitat Impairment



N
Impairment
Habitat Alteration

Regional Watershed Plan Utilization

- **How can these plans be useful to your District?**
 - Big picture perspective – understanding regional needs and goals
 - Combine information from many sources
 - Data, maps, language can plug into NPS-IS plan or other grant proposal
 - Outreach – Content for annual workplan, educational events, topical trainings

Watershed Program Activities

Watershed
Planning

Implementation
Support

Local Project Support

New Regional
Programs

- Grant writing
- Data/maps
- Technical assistance
- Agency coordination
- NPS-IS development

- Gaps in State/Federal programs
- Regional-scale needs

Supporting Implementation - Grants & Funding Opportunities

■ Web Resource

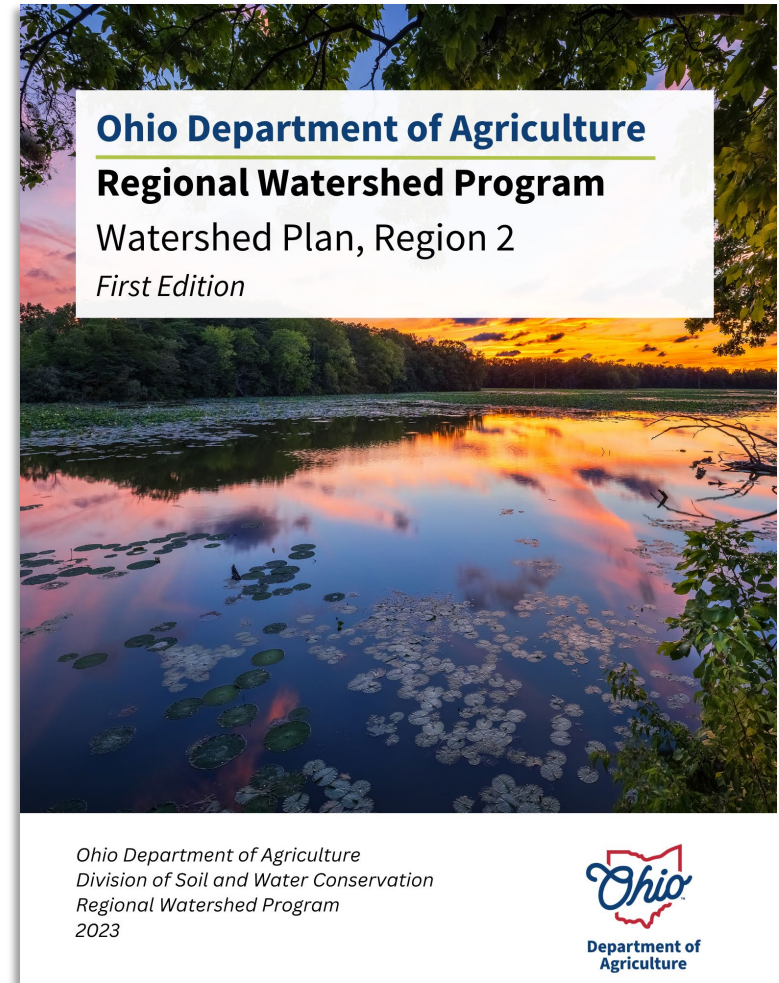


Implementation Resource Opportunities				
Grant	Organization	Summary	Applicable Regions	Link
Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan	U.S. Federal Government / States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding objective – Nutrient loading reductions in the Mississippi River Basin through implementation of federal and state nutrient reduction strategies • Funds availability – Various: grants to fund state nutrient reduction strategies; 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law; Inflation Reduction Act; USDA NRCS programs; others • Key dates – Ongoing; 2025 interim goal date and 2035 final goal date • Eligibility – State governments: 31 States and Tribal lands within the Mississippi/Atchafalaya River basin • Requirements – Development and implementation of state nutrient reduction strategies 	3,4,5,6,7	Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative	U.S. EPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding objective – Implementation of programs and projects to improve the Great Lakes in 5 key focus areas: Toxic Substances and Areas of Concern, Invasive Species, Nonpoint Source Pollution Impacts, Habitats and Species, Foundations for Future Restoration Actions • Funds availability – Various/ongoing; \$3.8 billion allocated between FY2010-FY2021; \$30 million currently available for Great Lakes Environmental Justice Grant Programs opportunity for the period January 2024-January 2030 • Key dates – Variable; August 11, 2023 application deadline for current Great Lakes Environmental Justice Grant Programs opportunity • Eligibility – State agencies, interstate agencies, tribes, local governments, universities, and NGOs • Requirements – Variable; collaboration with federal agencies 	1, 2	Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Coastal Management Assistance Grants	ODNR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding objective – Water quality improvement, coastal planning, education programs, land acquisition, research, public access, habitat restoration, and other purposes • Funds availability – Approximately \$400,000 available annually, \$50,000-150,000 per application • Key dates – Pre-proposals due in September/October; applications for accepted proposals due in December • Eligibility – local government (municipalities, townships, counties, school districts, park districts, port authorities, etc.), state agencies, academic institutions, and 	1, 2	Coastal Management Assistance Grants

Implementation Support

What can watershed managers do for you?

- Provide data and data sources
- Maps and GIS resources
- Facilitate SWCD coordination
- Develop language for NPS-IS
- Point of contact for state agencies/assistance
- Collaboratively develop regional initiatives
- Information gathering for partner agencies
- Investigate fund matching opportunities



Ohio Department of Agriculture
Regional Watershed Program
Watershed Plan, Region 2
First Edition

Ohio Department of Agriculture
Division of Soil and Water Conservation
Regional Watershed Program
2023





Questions?

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