



# Hutchinson

Environmental Sciences Ltd.

Inventory and Evaluation of  
Non-Point Pollution Sources in  
the Wapiti River Basin

Milestone Report #4  
Final Report

In Association with



**PALMER**  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSULTING  
GROUP INC.

Prepared for: Alberta Environment and Parks  
HESL Project #: J180002

June 08, 2018

May 22, 2018

HESL #: J180002

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**Re: Inventory and Evaluation of Non-Point Pollution Sources in the Wapiti River Basin – Draft  
Final Report**

Dear Ms. Wolanski;

Please accept our Final Report as our Milestone #4 submission for the “Inventory and Evaluation of Non-Point Pollution Sources in the Wapiti River Basin”. This report incorporates the revisions requested in your review of the April 5 draft report including reordering the presentation of results and revisiting the influence of slope in determining management classifications.

I am very pleased with the outcome of the project and hope that it provides useful information for management of water quality in the Wapiti Basin. I look forward to presenting the results in person, at the time and place of your choosing. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need any clarifications.

Sincerely,  
Hutchinson Environmental Sciences Ltd.



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## Executive Summary

An inventory and evaluation of non-point pollution sources in the Wapiti River Basin was undertaken using an export coefficient model to estimate the relative importance of point and non-point sources of nutrients to the Wapiti River. Export coefficients derived by Donahue (2013) for specific Natural Regions of Alberta were used along with land use data housed in an ArcView GIS platform to estimate phosphorus, nitrogen and suspended solid loads for non-point sources from 31 subwatersheds within the Wapiti River Basin in Alberta.

Point source loads (from 11 facilities) were discharged to five of the 31 subwatersheds delineated. Point source loads from these facilities made up 35%, 29% and 2.5% of the total loading of nitrogen, phosphorus and solids, respectively, in their respective subwatersheds.

Non-point source loadings to the Wapiti River were high (5577 tonnes/yr of nitrogen and 850 tonnes/yr of phosphorus), however low algal response upstream of point source dischargers in Grande Prairie suggested particulate forms of nutrients made up the majority of non-point source nutrient loads. Biologically available nutrients from point source dischargers appeared to be driving biological responses communities in the Lower Wapiti River but the generality of this conclusion for all non-point source loadings is qualified by the lack of biological monitoring in other subwatersheds where non-point source loadings may be high.

The GIS model was refined to include classifications of slope, soil erosion sensitivity and drainage density which were used, along with the non-point source estimates to identify priority subwatersheds for future management.

In general, geospatial data availability was excellent and we were able to acquire the necessary GIS layers to classify the Wapiti subwatersheds according to the approach of Donahue (2013). Estimation of increased export from high intensity cereal crops would be improved if spatial data on manure application in the study area were available.

Non-point source estimates of both total nitrogen and total phosphorus were within the range of variability of measured nutrient loads in the Lower Wapiti River and similar in error to model estimates in the literature (~40%). Potential improvement to the measured estimations of nutrient loading to the Wapiti River could be made with higher resolution (more frequent) water quality data, which would improve the validation of the non-point source export model.

Analysis of the impact of non-point source loading in the Wapiti River suggests that non-point source nutrient loading has not had a significant impact on the river, however ecological data to make these assessments was limited. Periphyton data available in the river do not necessarily coincide with high risk reaches in the river where a combination of high non-point source loads and high sensitivity are likely to yield a significant biological response.

We classified several key watersheds for consideration as management and monitoring priorities in the future (“Management Classifications”). These watersheds represent areas where our model suggested that the impacts of non-point source loading are likely to have the highest impact. High risk watersheds



identified were focussed around the northern tributaries of the Wapiti River, including Bear Creek, the Beaverlodge River and Redwillow River.

Previous studies have shown elevated levels of nutrients, coliforms, total metals and pesticides in Bear Creek. These inputs from Bear Creek may be a significant contributor to the downstream Wapiti/Smoky River system and should be monitored more intensively in the future. Furthermore, the Bear Creek watershed presents the best opportunity to assess non-point source loading from urban land use and to validate modelled estimates. The Bear Creek subwatersheds were therefore identified as the highest management priorities for monitoring and potential management of non-point source nitrogen and phosphorus by our analysis

Limited data have been collected in the Beaverlodge and Redwillow Rivers. Significant agricultural development in these watersheds suggests they would be ideal candidates for refining non-point source nutrient loading estimates from agricultural lands using existing data supplemented by additional monitoring, measuring the effectiveness of agricultural best management practices and assessing the impact of non-point source loads on biological communities. Both rivers have been identified as highest potential management priorities for non-point source nitrogen loading. Specifically, Lower Redwillow River and Lower Beaverlodge River subwatersheds were identified as highest priority watersheds for both nitrogen and phosphorus.

Our data suggest that non-point source loading in the region, while significant, has not impacted the Wapiti River as significantly as point source discharges. Non-point source loading may be dominated by particulate rather than dissolved and bioavailable nutrient species. Future monitoring should include efforts to distinguish between particulate, dissolved and soluble reactive fractions of phosphorus to confirm the importance of point source and non-point source phosphorus in driving water quality and biological communities in the Wapiti River.



## List of Abbreviations

AEP	Alberta Environment and Parks
ARWQI	Alberta River Water Quality Index
ATV	All-terrain vehicles
BMPs	Best Management Practices
GIS	Geographic Information System
HA	Hectare
HESL	Hutchinson Environmental Sciences Ltd.
LTRN	Long-term River Network
N	Nitrogen
NPS	Non-point source
P	Phosphorus
PS	Point source
TN	Total nitrogen
TP	Total phosphorus
TSS	Total suspended solids
WSC	Water Survey of Canada
WWTP	Wastewater treatment plant
Yr	Year



# 1. Introduction

Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) is developing the Wapiti River Water Management Plan to address cumulative watershed impacts and solutions relating to the stresses associated with increasing human development in the basin, related increases in industrial, agricultural and municipal footprints and impacts to water quality, quantity and aquatic habitat. The Wapiti River shows measurable increases in nutrient concentrations (nitrogen [N] and phosphorus [P]) and associated biological responses (algal growth, benthic invertebrate communities, dissolved oxygen) downstream of the City of Grande Prairie. These changes have been associated with the point source (PS) discharges of treated municipal effluent from the City of Grande Prairie and treated effluent from the International Paper Mill downstream. Although these point source impacts have been well documented, their relative importance compared to other point source discharges in the Wapiti Basin and to non-point source (NPS) nutrient loadings from the landscape is not known. A better understanding of the relative importance of point and non-point sources of nutrients to the Wapiti River is a necessary prerequisite to the development of the Wapiti River Water Management Plan to improve monitoring and management of nutrient sources and maintain water quality.

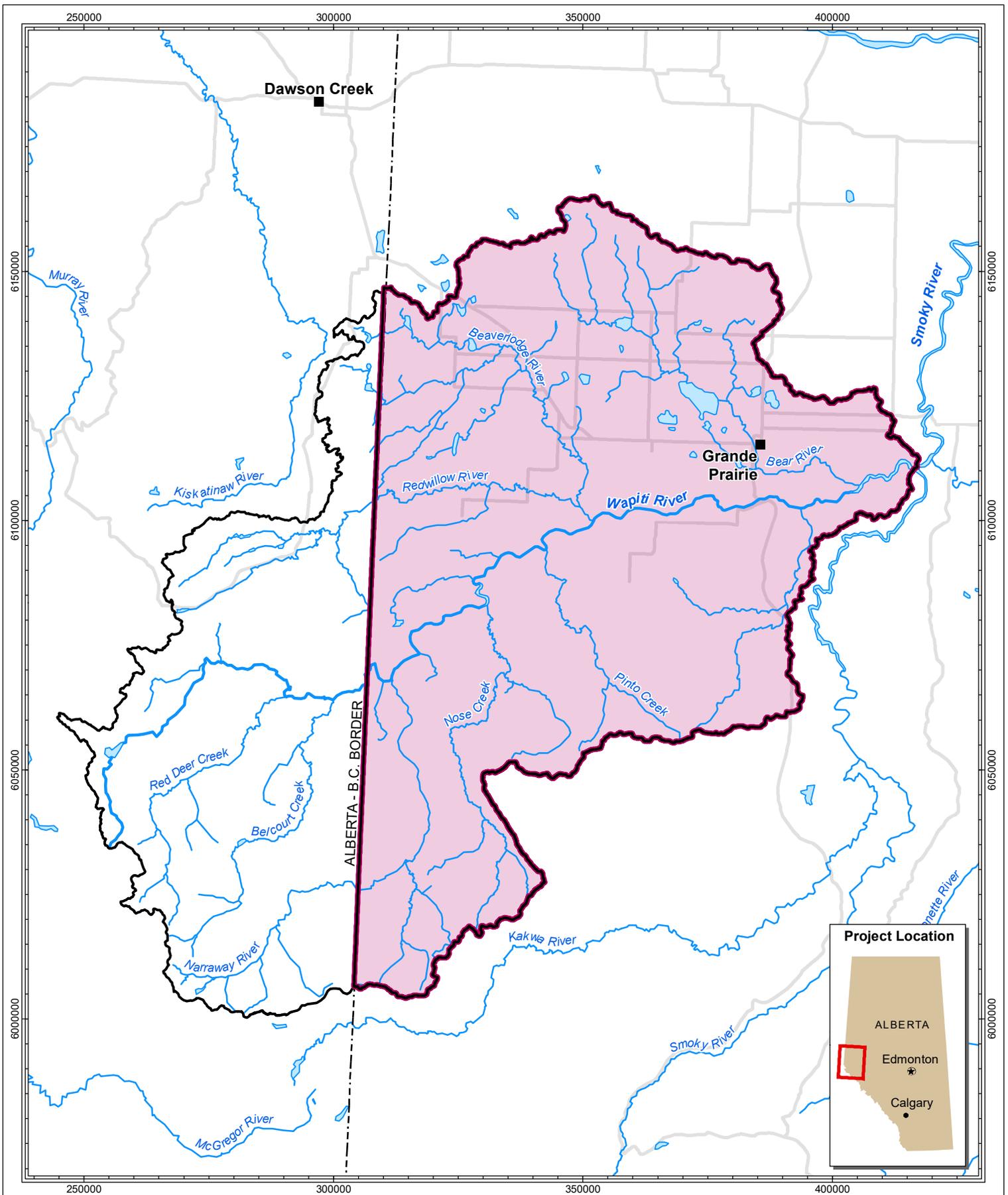
Accordingly, AEP retained Hutchinson Environmental Sciences Ltd. (HESL) to develop and implement a GIS-based modelling framework to estimate and evaluate PS and NPS loadings of N, P and solids to the Wapiti River. The study approach used export coefficients derived by Donahue (2013) for specific Natural Regions of Alberta and land use data housed in an ArcView GIS platform.

## 1.1 Geographic Description of the Wapiti Watershed

The Wapiti River arises from Wapiti Lake in the Rocky Mountain foothills of west-central British Columbia and flows from there to its confluence with the Smoky River approximately 30 km downstream of the city of Grande Prairie Alberta. The study area includes only those portions of the Wapiti Basin within the Province of Alberta and upstream of its confluence with the Smoky River. Figure 1 shows the entire Wapiti River watershed and highlights that portion within the Province of Alberta.

The Wapiti basin has a very diverse terrain ranging from mountainous to parklands. Summers in the basin are short while the winters are cold and snowy. Standing water and wetlands make up a small portion of the basin area while forest and cultivated lands dominate. Gray Luvisolic soils are typical for the watershed.





<b>Legend</b> Wapiti Watershed Boundary Study Area Populated Place Highway River Lake	 <b>Hutchinson</b> Environmental Sciences Ltd.  <b>PALMER</b> ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:1000000		 N	<b>Wapiti River Watershed and Study Area</b> <b>FIGURE 1</b>		
		PROJECT:	13186			PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
		DRAWN:	B. Elder			DATUM:	NAD 1983
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 14, 2018				

### 1.1.1 Natural Regions and Subregions of the Wapiti Watershed

Alberta has been classified into six ecozones or natural regions and each of these is subdivided into a total of 21 natural subregions (Figure 2). The natural regions and number of subregions for each are Rocky Mountain (3), Foothills (2), Grassland (4), Parkland (3), Boreal Forest (8) and Canadian Shield (1) (Figure 2). Natural regions are responses to underlying natural features of geology, climate, topography and soils and so represent distinct ecological units of similar natural characteristics which will influence natural cover, water quality, hydrology, human land use and the responses of the natural environment. The Wapiti River basin study area includes seven natural subregions within four natural regions (Figure 3, Table 1).

**Table 1. Natural Regions and Subregions in the Wapiti River Study Area**

Natural Region	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Percent
Rocky	22	0.2
Rocky	469	4.6
Boreal	2305	23
Boreal	3037	30
Foothills –	977	9.7
Foothills –	2229	22
Peace	1096	10.8
Total	10,136	100

The Alpine subregion is defined by its short cold summers, strong winds and high snowfalls. It is made up of mountains, glaciers and snowfields. The severe climate results in very limited tree growth with herbs and shrubs being the dominant plant growth in the subregion. Rivers, lakes and glaciers make up 4% of the subregion across Alberta. Wetlands in the area are uncommon and small (Alberta Parks 2006).

The Subalpine region is characterised by short, cool summers and snowy winters. The subregion is at high elevation below the Alpine subregion. The geology of the subregion is rolling to inclined with limestone, dolomite, quartzite, shale and sandstone bedrock. Vegetation in this subregion is elevation dependent with two separate zones. The upper zone contains Engelmann spruce and subalpine fir forests. The lower zone contains lodgepole pine forests. Soil in this region is Eutric and Dystric Brunisols as well as Regosols and nonsoils. Open water occupies 1% of the subregion area and wetlands occupy 2% of the subregion provincially (Alberta Parks 2006).

The Central Mixedwood natural subregion is characterised by large stretches of upland forests and wetlands. The landforms are gently undulating plains. Soils and forest stands differ depending on location within the region. At upland sites soils are Gray Luvisolic and tree stands are a mix of aspen, white spruce and jack pine. Central areas contain mostly treed fens and lowland site soils are brunisols on sands and organic. This subregion has short warm summers and long cold winters (Alberta Parks 2006).



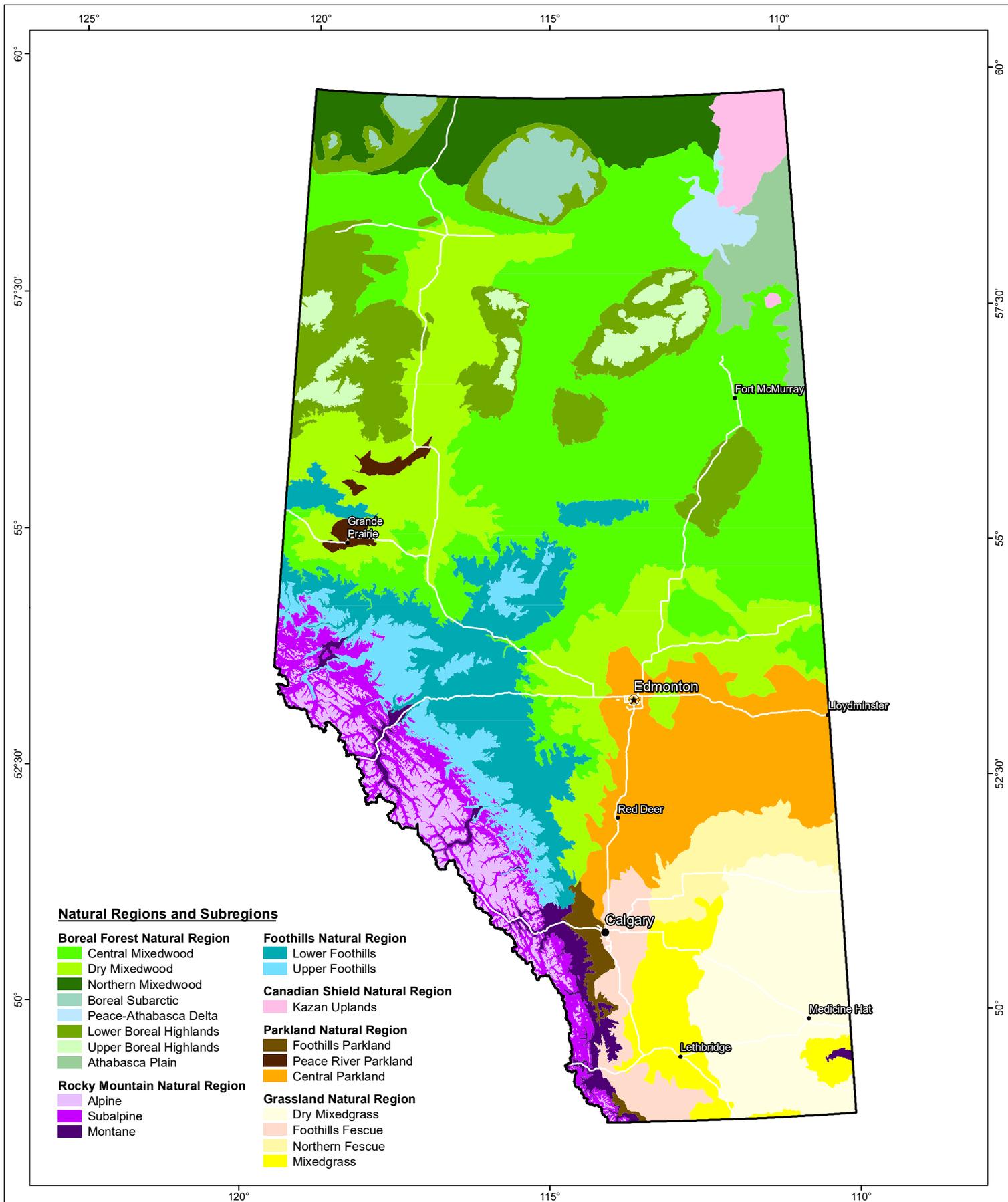
Gently rolling plains occur in the Dry Mixedwood natural subregion. The soils in the area are fine textured Gray Luvisols and gleyed subgroups. Vegetation is dominated by aspen forests and cultivated landscapes. Summers are the warmest of the Boreal Natural region and have the highest growing degree-days. Precipitation is intermediate with approximately 70% of the annual precipitation falling as rain between April and August, with the apex occurring between June and July due to intense convective storm events. The land cover for this subregion in Alberta includes 3% for water (not including Lesser Slave Lake) and 15% for wetlands (Alberta Parks 2006).

The Upper Foothills subregion experiences short wet summers and cold snowy winters. The geology of the subregion is rolling to steeply sloping with sandstone and mudstone bedrock. The subregion is dominated by forests of lodgepole pine with understories of black spruce. White spruce can be found along river valleys and lower slopes while deciduous and mixedwood stands are found on westerly and southerly slopes. Brunisolic Gray Luvisolic soils are typical for the region. Wetlands cover 10% of the subregion across the province (Alberta Parks 2006).

The Lower Foothills subregion is a climate transition zone with cold snowy winters. The geology of the subregion is undulating to strongly rolling with sandstone, siltstone and shale bedrock. The subregion is known for having the most diverse forests in Alberta with regards to forest type and tree species. Tree species found in the subregion include aspen, balsam poplar, white birch, lodgepole pine, black spruce, white spruce, balsam fir and tamarack. Orthic Gray Luvisolic soils dominate the uplands of this subregion. Wetlands are uncommon on the steep slopes but represent 15 to 40% of the provincial subregion in the valley bottoms and plains (Alberta Parks 2006).

The Peace River Parkland subregion has a similar climate to the Dry Mixedwood subregion, but with fewer growing degree-days and greater precipitation. There are two distinct types of terrain in the region with terrain near Grande Prairie described as gently undulating to rolling plains with non-marine sandstones, mudstones and shales bedrock. The uplands are extensively cultivated. Upland forests are comprised of aspen and white spruce while valley slopes contain grasslands and aspen forests. Upland soils are primarily Solonchic. Water occupies 2% of the subregion area and wetlands occupy 6% across Alberta (Alberta Parks 2006).





**Legend**

- ★ Capital
- Major City
- City
- Principal Highway (white line)

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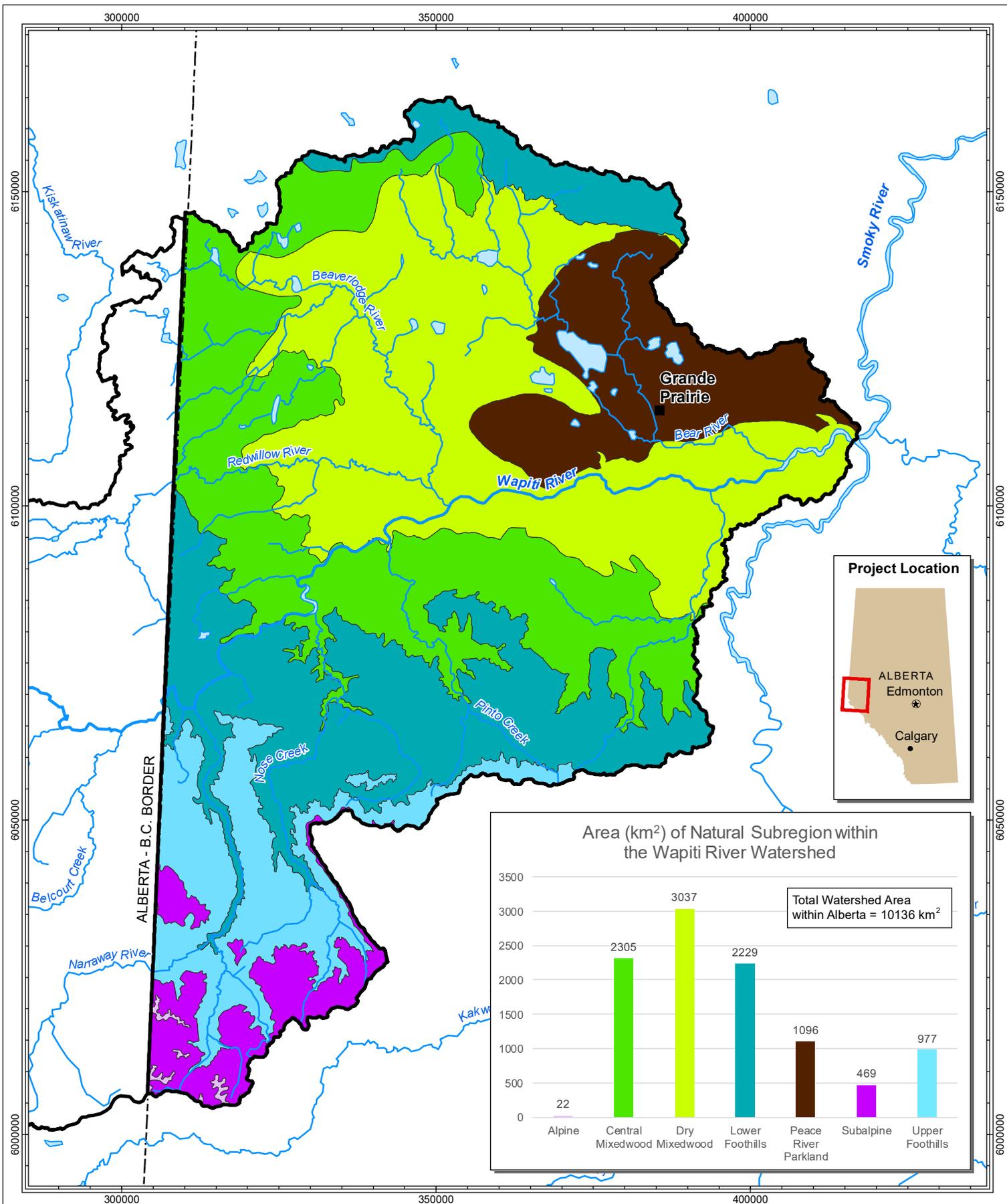
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PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	10TM AEP Forest
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Jan 30, 2018

**Natural Regions and Subregions of Alberta**

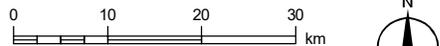
FIGURE 2

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**Legend**

- Populated Place
- River
- ☪ Lake
- ⊞ Wapiti Watershed Boundary



PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 14, 2018

**Natural Regions and Subregions within the Wapiti River Watershed**

**FIGURE 3**

## 1.2 Project Objectives

The following project objectives were confirmed in AEP's February 9, 2018 approval of the study work plan submitted by HESL:

- ❁ summarize current knowledge of NPS sources pathways and impacts in the Wapiti basin;
- ❁ develop a GIS model to document and provide quantitative estimates of PS and NPS inputs of N and P;
- ❁ refine the GIS model by including criteria and data to classify and compare the relative potential of different areas and land uses to contribute NPS loadings of N and P using criteria such as erosion rate, slope, sediment yield or drainage to identify priority areas for future management;
- ❁ identify areas and pathways most likely to deliver nutrient loads from the landscape to a stream, and ultimately to the Wapiti River;
- ❁ estimate the response of the Wapiti River to the loads delivered from NPS loadings; and
- ❁ identify missing data and gaps in understanding that can be addressed in subsequent stages, and provide recommendations to guide and improve the development and implementation of the Wapiti River Water Management Plan.

The project objectives were addressed through a review of relevant literature, documentation of known (licensed) point source inputs, the development of an export coefficient model of the Wapiti watershed in a GIS platform to estimate PS and NPS nutrient loadings to the Wapiti River and the use of existing water quality and flow data to assess the relative contributions of PS and NPS loadings to the overall nutrient status of the river. Details are provided in subsequent sections of the report.

## 1.3 Description and Identification of NPS Pollution

Non point-source (NPS) pollution is pollution derived from many diffuse and widespread sources, unlike point-source pollution which is discharged to the environment from a single point, generally an outfall of treated or untreated effluent. NPS pollution originates in land use activities such as urbanization or agriculture and is delivered to a waterbody such as a river or lake by the runoff of rainfall or snowmelt and, in some cases, the action of wind or seepage of groundwater. As such, the magnitude of NPS pollution will depend on the nature and intensity of land use, the amount of disturbed land and the amount of precipitation that falls. Steep slopes will accelerate the erosion of soils and the delivery of pollutants and the permeability of the land surface will modify the amount of precipitation that infiltrates or the amount that runs off.

NPS pollution is most commonly related to the transport of solids and adsorbed pollutants such as metals, bacteria, nutrients, organic pollutants (i.e. Polynuclear Organic Hydrocarbons or pesticides in urban and rural environments) but dissolved pollutants, particularly nutrients are also a component of NPS runoff. The importance of particulates means that measurement and control of total suspended solids (TSS) in runoff is an effective management practice to reduce NPS pollution.



## 1.4 The need for NPS Estimates for the Wapiti River Basin

The Wapiti River Water Management Plan is being developed to address cumulative watershed impacts and solutions relating to increasing human development in the basin and the associated increases in industrial, agricultural and municipal footprints. Although the effects of the two largest point source discharges in the watershed (Aquatera Utilities and International Paper) on water quality downstream of the City of Grande Prairie have been well described (Section 2) there has been no systematic estimate made of NPS loading to the watershed. Areas of degraded water quality downstream of Grande Prairie are related to nutrient and bacterial enrichment. Both of these stressors are associated with NPS pollution but the degree of impact in other areas of the watershed is not known. Development of an NPS model for the watershed will identify those areas in which water quality is most likely to be threatened through land uses and natural factors such as terrain. Once identified as potential problems, monitoring efforts can be focussed on key sensitive areas to define the magnitude of any problem and the need for management. Identification of contributing land use activities will inform strategies for mitigating NPS pollution, thus improving watershed health. A better understanding of the relative importance of PS and NPS of nutrients to the Wapiti River is therefore a necessary prerequisite to the development of the Wapiti River Water Management Plan to improve monitoring and management of nutrient sources and maintain water quality.

## 2. Current Status of the Wapiti River

### 2.1 Water Quality

The Wapiti River is a naturally nutrient poor, alkaline system that carries large sediment loads during high flow events.

Two Long-term River Network (LTRN) sites are located within the Wapiti River watershed, in the Wapiti River at Hwy 40 bridge and in the Wapiti River above the Smoky River confluence. These sites are upstream and downstream of the City of Grande Prairie. The Alberta River Water Quality Index (ARWQI) uses measurements taken at the LTRN sites of metals, nutrients, bacteria and pesticide concentrations to assess the quality of the Water. The ARWQI uses four sub-indices (metals, nutrients, bacteria and pesticides) to score the quality of the river as:

- ❁ Excellent, received a score between 96-100 indicates that guidelines were almost always met.
- ❁ Good, received a score between 81-95 indicates that guidelines were occasionally exceeded, but usually by small amounts.
- ❁ Fair, received a score between 66-80 indicates that guidelines were exceeded sometimes by a moderate amount and the quality of the water occasionally departs from desirable levels.
- ❁ Marginal, received a score between 46-65 indicates that guidelines were often exceeded, sometimes by large amounts, the quality of the water is threatened and often departs from desirable levels.

ARWQI results indicated that water quality upstream of Hwy 40 was excellent, but declined between Wapiti River at Hwy 40 bridge (score of 98, excellent rating) and Wapiti River above Smoky River confluence (score of 84, good rating) between 2015 and 2016 (AEP 2017, Table 2). The nutrient sub-index and



bacteria sub-index were the main reasons for the decrease in water quality downstream of the City of Grande Prairie.

**Table 2: Alberta River Water Quality Index Results for the Wapiti River 2015-2016.**

Location	Sub-Index Values (0-100)				Overall Index (average)
	Metals	Nutrients	Bacteria	Pesticides	
Wapiti River at Hwy 40	100	90	100	100	98
Wapiti River above confluence of Smoky River.	100	80	55	100	84

Note: Data from AEP 2017.

### 2.1.1 Nutrients

The Wapiti River is naturally nutrient poor, but total phosphorus (TP) levels increase seasonally during high-flow events due to elevated sediment transport (HESL 2014). Higher concentrations of TP in the Lower Wapiti River during low flow events have been linked to wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) and pulp mill effluent discharge (HESL 2012). Bear Creek located, in the Lower Wapiti subwatershed, has also been identified as a potential source of TP in the Lower Wapiti River based on a monitoring program completed in the Wapiti River in 2017 (C. Geiger, personal communication, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018). Median concentrations of TP at the LTRN site Wapiti River at Hwy 40 were 0.007 mg/L between 1989 and 2017. Median TP concentrations at the LTRN site Wapiti River at the confluence with the Smoky River were 0.049 mg/L during the same time period (Table 3). Elevated nutrient concentrations in the Lower Wapiti River have resulted in increased periphyton and lower benthic invertebrate diversity (HESL 2012). Increased productivity measured through biological indicators were confirmed with dissolved oxygen concentrations. Diurnal dissolved oxygen concentrations showed a larger range at a site downstream of the pulp mill effluent discharge and to a lesser extent downstream of the WWTP effluent discharge compared to upstream concentrations based on a data set collected in late summer and fall 2012 (HESL 2014). Concentrations remained above the Alberta Surface Water Quality Guidelines for the protection of aquatic life of 6.5 mg/L. However, week-to-week fluctuations in dissolved oxygen concentrations upstream and downstream of the two discharges indicated an upstream influence on dissolved oxygen concentrations (HESL 2014).

Total nitrogen (TN) concentrations were also elevated in the Lower Wapiti River with median concentrations of 0.199 mg/L at Hwy 40 compared to 0.553 mg/L at the confluence with the Smoky River (Table 3). A source of nitrite and nitrate was the WWTP discharge where as a source of total Kjeldahl nitrogen was the pulp mill to the Lower Wapiti River during a 2017 monitoring program (C. Geiger, personal communication, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018).



**Table 3. Summary Statistics on Total Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Suspended Solids in the Wapiti River at Hwy 40 and at the Confluence with the Smoky River.**

Sampling Site	Statistic	Total Phosphorus	Total Nitrogen	Total Suspended solids
Wapiti River at Hwy 40	Sample Size	284	282	284
	Median	0.007	0.199	6.8
	25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	0.004	0.132	1.5
	75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	0.027	0.314	27
Wapiti River at the confluence with the Smoky River	Sample Size	286	282	284
	Median	0.049	0.553	8
	25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	0.029	0.325	3.6
	75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	0.098	0.809	42.3

*Note: Based on data collected between 1989 and 2017.*

### 2.1.2 Bacteria

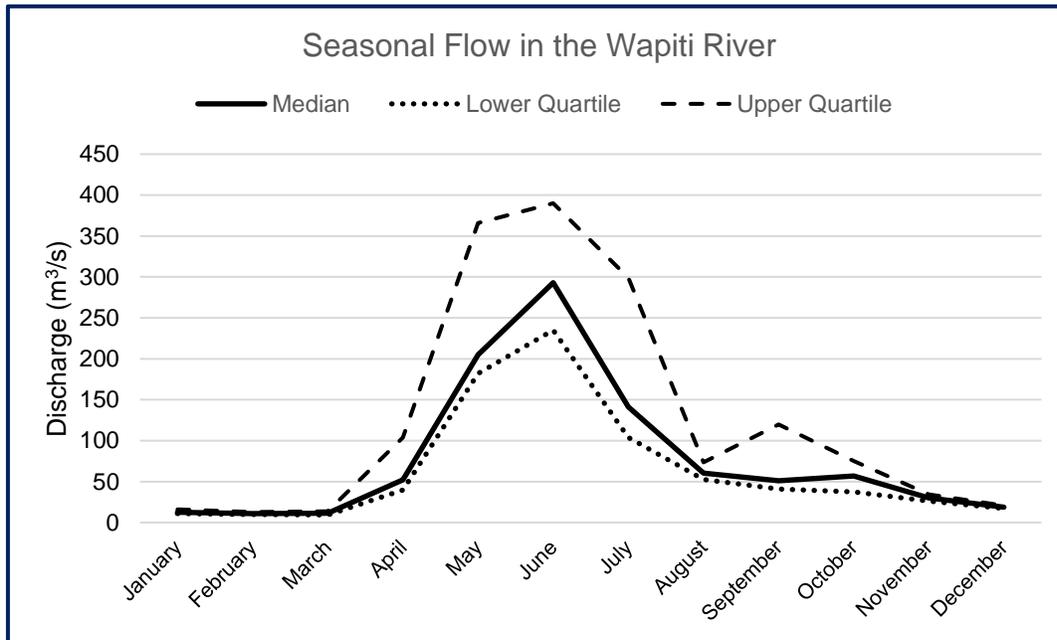
Fecal coliform levels significantly increased in the Wapiti River downstream of the Aquatera WWTP in 2011 from less than 20 to over 80 CFU/100 mL. Concentrations remained elevated throughout the Lower Wapiti River (HESL 2012). Elevated levels of fecal coliforms were measured in Lower Wapiti in Bear Creek at the confluence of the Wapiti River in 2017 with concentrations between 130 CFU/100 mL and 232 CFU/100 mL occurring between August and September (C. Geiger, personal communication, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018). Therefore, sources of bacteria to the Wapiti River include the Aquatera WWTP and Bear Creek.

## 2.2 Flow Regime

Flow in the Wapiti River displays a typical seasonal pattern as observed in most mountain fed rivers in Alberta (Figure 4). Increases in flow begin in March due to local snowmelt, reaching a maximum in June from mountain snowmelt. Low flows begin in August and continue declining until reaching their nadir in February. Fall precipitation causes small increases in flow in October, but median discharge remains below 60m<sup>3</sup>/s. Flow data is from the one Water Survey of Canada (WSC) site Wapiti River near Grande Prairie (station number 07GE001). Flows in the main stem of the Wapiti River originate from upstream of Pinto Creek (80%), Redwillow River (9.4%), Mountain Creek (~4%), Bear Creek (3.7%), Pinto Creek (2.3%) and several other small tributaries (1%) (Kerkhoven 2014a).



Figure 4. Seasonal Flow in the Wapiti River Near Grande Prairie.



## 2.3 Known Stressors and Inputs

Known point source stresses on the Wapiti River between the two LTRN sites include stormwater discharge from the town of Grande Prairie into Bear Creek (which flows into the Wapiti River) and the discharges of Aquatera Utilities WWTP and International Paper bleached kraft pulp mill. Other communities in the watershed discharge sewage lagoon effluent to the river and its tributaries once or twice yearly (Chambers and Dale 1997). Although these intermittent lagoon loads were found to be negligible compared to the continuous discharges of Aquatera’s WWTP and International Paper’s pulp mill, the lagoons could result in local decreases in water quality (Chambers and Dale 1997). PS loadings from all known sources are presented in Section 6.

Other sources of stress in the watershed include changes in land cover. There has been a general decrease in coniferous and deciduous forest, grassland and wetland land cover with a coinciding general increase in bare, crop, pasture and urban land cover. Discussion of current land cover is presented in Section 5.

## 2.4 Land Use and Human Disturbance

The Wapiti River watershed is divided into seven subregions; Alpine, Subalpine, Central Mixedwood, Dry Mixedwood, Upper Foothills, Lower Foothills and Peace River Parkland. Central Mixedwood (2311 km<sup>2</sup>), Dry Mixedwood (3010 km<sup>2</sup>) and the Lower Foothills (2205 km<sup>2</sup>) account for the majority of the land within the basin. The diverse natural regions within the basin result in an array of human uses of natural resources (HESL 2014). A general description relevant to the Province of Alberta is provided below. Detailed land uses in the Wapiti watershed are provided in Sections 4 and 5.



The Lower Foothills area is known for its timber production; open-pit coal mines; and oil and gas exploration (AEP 2015). The Dry Mixedwood natural subregion has been largely cultivated. Crops grown in the area include oilseeds, wheat, barley and forages (AEP 2015). Other land uses in the natural subregion include; harvesting of aspen for pulp and paper production; oil and gas exploration and hunting and fishing (AEP 2015). Land use activities in the Central Mixedwood natural subregion include; aspen and conifer harvesting; petroleum exploration; domestic livestock grazing and hay crops as well as fishing, hunting and trapping.

Average annual precipitation in each of the natural subregions varies considerably, from 449.4 mm in the Peace River Parkland subregion to 990.8 mm in the Alpine subregion. The effects of alterations to land cover will be influenced by the natural subregion in which those alterations have occurred, as precipitation influences the runoff coefficient.

## 2.5 Future Projections of Population, Land Use and Climate Change Influences and Implications for NPS

Future predictions for the watershed include continued population growth, but with a decline in the annual rate of growth (Watrecon Consulting 2012). Increases in population are expected to result in a larger human footprint. The average population growth for Grande Prairie is predicted to be 1.4% between 2016 and 2041 (Alberta Government 2017).

Increases in population are also expected to increase agriculture in the area. Annual increases in cattle populations are expected to be between 0.5 to 2.2% and irrigated lands to be between 0.5 to 1% (Alberta Environment 2007).

A watershed specific climate change model has not been completed for the Wapiti River watershed, however Kerhoven (2014c) used historical temperature, precipitation and flow data in conjunction with climate scenarios from the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium and hydrological predictions for the Upper Peace River Basin to predict temperature, precipitation and stream flow in the Wapiti River Basin. Both temperature and rainfall were predicted to increase over the next century (Kerhoven 2014c). Increases in temperature were predicted at  $1.76 \pm 0.73^{\circ}\text{C}/100 \text{ yr}$  and rain at a rate of  $10.5 \pm 15.1\%/100 \text{ yr}$ . No pattern was predicted for snowfall, but higher temperatures would increase the proportion of annual precipitation falling as rain. Flow in the Wapiti River is expected to increase slightly with large interannual variability over the next 100 years. Changes in river flow were predicted to be the result of changes in snow as increases in evaporation due to increases in temperature were predicted to equal the increase in rainfall (Kerhoven 2014c).



### 3. Export Coefficient Modelling – Source Materials

The project approach linked export coefficient values (in kg/ha/yr) for specific land uses in the Wapiti River watershed to Alberta Government GIS mapping of the same land uses (in hectares [ha]) to produce estimates of annual export of N, P and TSS in kg/yr.

#### 3.1 Export coefficient modelling

Export coefficient modelling is a well-established method of estimating P or N export for a specific site, in the absence of measurements made at that site (Dillon *et al.* 1986; Johnes 1996; Winter and Duthie 2000; Chambers *et al.* 2002; Jeje 2006, Donahue, 2013). It can also estimate future changes in export to predict how land use changes and Best Management Practices (BMPs) can alter nutrient export. The export coefficient modelling approach was originally developed in North America to predict nutrient inputs to lakes and streams (Dillon and Kirchner 1975; Beaulac and Reckhow 1982; and Rast and Lee 1983). The export coefficient approach is used where:

- ✿ It is not feasible to measure existing nutrient loads through monitoring of surface runoff and water quality with sufficient accuracy to determine absolute values or,
- ✿ where remote locations or a large geographic area hinder the ability to monitor.
- ✿ it is desirable to forecast nutrient export from a land area prior to a change in land use or prior to implementing BMPs.

The use of export coefficients is based on the knowledge that specific land use types yield or export quantities of nutrients to a downstream waterbody over an annual cycle (Rast and Lee, 1983). The export coefficients are developed from intensive, long-term monitoring programs carried out by academic institutions or government agencies. Using the area of land in a watershed devoted to specific land uses and the quantities of nutrients exported per unit area of these land uses (i.e. nutrient export coefficients), it is possible to estimate total annual nutrient loads to a water body from NPS. The modelling procedure is outlined in Johnes (1996), Jones *et al.* (1996), and Reckhow *et al.* (1980).

A simple nutrient export model performed in a GIS platform predicts export from an area as the sum of the export from each nutrient source (or land use) in the area. The model equation is simplified as:

$$L = \sum EiAi$$

where  $L$  is the total nutrient export,  $Ei$  is the export coefficient selected for the specific land use and  $Ai$  is the area of the land use. The export coefficients are expressed as rates (kg/ha/yr) and are derived from previous studies. Land uses and their respective areas are determined from existing spatial data sets derived using GIS mapping for the study area and classification of the land use into categories associated with specific export coefficients.



An export coefficient approach, modelled within a GIS framework, will meet the project objectives specified by AEP, or, as stated in Donahue (2013).

*“... at the very least, these methods should be of use for development of strategic watershed management decisions based on estimates of loading potential from different land uses, where insufficient data or resources precludes more detailed mechanistic modeling of loading and water quality.”*

### 3.2 Ecozone Classification Approach for Wapiti Basin

The project approach is based on the excellent review and synthesis of export coefficients for TP, TN and TSS for Alberta in Donahue (2013). That document was prepared for the “Water Matters Society of Alberta” as a literature review to assess the suitability of, summarize and select nutrient and sediment loading coefficients for “...modeling the potential for land use change to affect water quality in Alberta streams and rivers...”.

While the export coefficient approach offers the merit of ease of application, the available literature provides a wide range of export coefficient values which often range over an order of magnitude for similar land uses. This reflects many factors, most notably, regional variance in geology, soils, hydrology, climate and site-specific variance in slope and land use practices (Lin, 2004) and the time and expense involved in scaling regional export coefficients to smaller scales or to different regions, or to validate or refine export coefficients using local water quality data (Donahue 2013).

Donahue (2013) provides a review of the methods of developing export coefficients and the factors influencing the large range in export coefficient values. Factors such as soil type, landform and topography influence the amount of runoff from land and the nutrient status of runoff, while climate (precipitation amount and seasonality, temperature, evapotranspiration), hydrology (storm intensity and resultant pattern of runoff and nutrient delivery within storm cycles) and land management practices (both land uses and the management of that land use) all determine nutrient runoff and associated export coefficients. The review addresses the types of land use practices and management regimes within each (i.e. tillage and fertilizer practices, form of and intensity of urban development, forest and forest management) and how these influence nutrient export through runoff (permeability of runoff surface) and event mean concentrations (nutrient concentrations in runoff).

Donahue (2013) addresses many of the natural influences on export coefficients by classifying land uses within each of Alberta’s 6 Natural Regions (Rocky Mountain, Foothills, Grassland, Parkland, Boreal Forest, Canadian Shield, Figure 2). Natural regions are responses to underlying natural features of geology, climate, topography and soils and so represent distinct ecological units of similar natural characteristics. Natural influences are thus standardized by the Natural Region classification and specific export coefficients developed for land uses and land management practices within each. Export coefficients are then presented that are specific to land uses but which vary between each of Alberta’s Ecozones or Natural Regions.

The Wapiti River watershed within Alberta includes four of the six natural regions and two classifications within three natural subregions, for a total of seven distinct ecological classifications (Figure 3, Table 1). These classifications were used as the basis for the export coefficient modelling.



### 3.3 Export Coefficients from Donahue (2013).

Donahue (2013) provides export coefficients for the six Alberta natural regions. Tables 4 and 5 provide export coefficients for the Boreal Forest Natural Region, the dominant natural region in the Wapiti Basin. Table 4 presents export coefficient values for P, N and TSS for natural vegetation and agricultural land uses and Table 5 presents values for transportation, industrial, recreational and urban (residential) land uses. The latter includes classifications for construction activities, which are temporary disturbances and so were not included in the model. Appendix A provides the summary tables for the Boreal Forest, Rocky Mountain, Foothills and Parkland natural regions that were input into the GIS model to estimate NPS runoff of N, P and TSS from the GIS land use classifications.

**Table 4. Sample export coefficients - Boreal Forest Natural Region.**

<b>Table B-5. Export coefficients for difference landuse and footprint types – Boreal Forest Natural Region (kg/ha/year).</b> Values include those from NPSP literature, those calculated from ELF's listed and average annual precipitation (from all low and medium intensity catchments), according to methods described above (Tables 6 and 7), those calculated from relationships derived from AESA data ("medium agriculture intensity" and catchments with manure application), and those calculated from equations from the literature (in red). References are the same as listed in Table B-1, unless as indicated.			
Average Annual precipitation (mm)	469	469	469
Average runoff – Low Intensity Ag (1 Mar - 31 Oct; mm)	57	57	57
Average runoff – Medium Intensity Ag (1 Mar - 31 Oct; mm)	53	53	53
Landscape Types	Nitrogen (TN) kg/ha/yr	Phosphorus (TP) kg/ha/yr	Sediment (TSS) kg/ha/yr
Conifer Dominated Forest	1.875	0.048	380
Hardwood Dominated Forest	2.360	0.219	433
Wooded (based on +36% over wooded EMCs) <sup>xxiii</sup>	1.597	0.288	260
Shrubland <sup>1</sup>	2.172	0.392	353
Native Grassland <sup>1</sup>	0.203	0.044	34
Natural Unvegetated Flat (rock/ice/sand)	2.950	0.200	N/A
Natural Unvegetated Steep (rock/ice/sand)	2.950	0.200	N/A
Natural Unvegetated Flat (rock/ice/sand) - oilsands region	11.00	0.200	N/A
Natural Unvegetated Steep (rock/ice/sand) - oilsands region	11.00	0.200	N/A
Cereal Crop (intensive - manure) <sup>xxiii</sup>	16.40	6.105	50.2
Cereal Crop (extensive) <sup>2</sup>	1.391	0.152	50.2
Forage Crop (intensive) alfalfa <sup>2</sup>	24.60	6.105	50.2
Forage Crop (extensive) alfalfa <sup>2</sup>	2.087	0.152	50.2
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope) <sup>1</sup>	1.345	1.107	417
- Rolling (5-10% slope) <sup>1</sup>	1.748	1.439	542
- Hilly (10-30% slope) <sup>1</sup>	2.152	1.771	667
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope) <sup>1</sup>	4.284	0.396	139
- Rolling (5-10% slope) <sup>1</sup>	5.569	0.515	181
- Hilly (10-30% slope) <sup>1</sup>	6.854	0.634	223
General Agriculture – Flat <sup>1</sup>	5.255	0.452	127
- Rolling <sup>1</sup>	6.657	0.573	161
- Hilly <sup>1</sup>	8.233	0.708	199

<sup>xxiii</sup> Calculated from CLFs and average annual precipitation (Tables 6 and 7).  
<sup>xxiii</sup> Calculated from AESA data and average seasonal areal water yield (i.e., "runoff"; 1 Mar – 31 Oct). For the medium agricultural intensity Grassland AESA catchment in the Foothills Fescue Natural Region, average "runoff" was 37 mm. TP loading = 0.002\*(Runoff<sup>0.081</sup>), R<sup>2</sup> = 0.907; TN loading = 0.031\*(Runoff<sup>0.95</sup>), R<sup>2</sup>=0.923; TSS loading = 0.343\*(Runoff<sup>1.245</sup>), R<sup>2</sup>=0.806. Intensive forms of agricultural activity involve manure application, where TP loading = 0.04869\*(Runoff<sup>1.2047</sup>), R<sup>2</sup>=0.905; TN loading = 0.2439\*(Runoff<sup>0.0509</sup>), R<sup>2</sup>=0.905.



**Table 5. Sample export coefficients - Boreal Forest Natural Region – Transportation, Industrial, Recreational and Residential Land Uses.**

Boreal Forest Natural Region			
Footprint Types	Nitrogen (TN) kg/ha/yr	Phosphorus (TP) kg/ha/yr	Sediment (TSS) kg/ha/yr
<b>Transportation</b>			
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt) - heavy use, assuming 10 m wide, drainage structures <sup>1</sup>			102,000
Soft Roads - heavy use, assuming 10 m wide, no drainage structures <sup>1</sup>			299,500
Soft Roads - moderate use, 10 m wide, drainage structures <sup>1</sup>			8,366
Soft Roads - moderate use, 10 m wide, no drainage structures <sup>1</sup>			24,561
Soft Roads - light use, 6 m wide, drainage structures <sup>1</sup>	6.754	5.677	1,292
Soft Roads - light use, 6 m wide, no drainage structures <sup>1</sup>			3,794
Soft Roads - unused, 6 m wide, drainage structures <sup>1</sup>			170
Soft Roads - unused, 6 m wide, no drainage structures <sup>1</sup>			499
Hard Roads (paved) <sup>1</sup>	46.078	1.473	194
Hard Roads (paved; 10 m wide, drainage structures)			428
Trails (motorized) <sup>1</sup>	6.754	5.677	1,355
Trails (OHV)			4,440
Trails (non-motorized) <sup>1</sup>	3.660	2.094	500
<b>Industrial</b>			
Industrial Plants <sup>1</sup>	6.686	0.865	510
Transmission Lines <sup>1</sup>	1.622	0.630	169
Seismic Lines <sup>1</sup>	1.216	0.472	127
Wellpads <sup>1</sup>	6.416	3.232	909
Pipelines <sup>1</sup>	2.433	0.944	254
Processing Plants <sup>1</sup>	6.078	0.786	464
Feedlots (loading coefficient kg/ha/yr)	100-1,600	10-620	
- based on EMCs, runoff, etc <sup>1</sup>	760	152	2,342
Surface Mines <sup>1</sup>	2.490	0.317	198
Construction 1 - Clearing, grubbing, grading of former wooded/ag land <sup>1</sup>	5.696	0.635	5,157
Construction 2 - Installation of roads, storm drainage & housing <sup>1</sup>	3.709	0.414	2,147
<b>Recreation</b>			
Recreational Features (golf courses) <sup>1</sup>	10.13 <sup>60</sup>	1.129 <sup>60</sup>	213
Recreational Features (ski areas) <sup>1</sup>	2.461	0.161	87
Recreational Features (campgrounds) <sup>1</sup>	3.233	1.342	321
<b>Residential</b>			
Urban (City Core) <sup>1</sup>	6.732	0.836	293
Urban (Suburban) <sup>1</sup>	3.653	0.755	164
Rural Residential (farm yard) <sup>1</sup>	231.7	39.00	1,244
Rural Residential (acreage yard) <sup>1</sup>	1.482	0.122	30



## 4. GIS NPS Model

Table 6 shows the GIS layers needed to complete the NPS model for natural and agricultural land uses and Table 7 for Transportation, Industrial, Recreational and Residential Land Uses using the Donahue (2013) approach.

**Table 6. GIS layer requirements - Natural and Agricultural Land Uses.**

Minimum Requirement	Ideal Requirement or Second Stage Analysis
Annual Precipitation	Annual Runoff
Elevation (Digital Elevation Model - DEM)	
Forest Cover	Conifer, hardwood, wooded, shrubland
Grassland	
Unvegetated (rock, ice or sand)	
Cropland	cereal, forage intensive (manure applied)
Rangeland (native grazing) Use DEM to classify slope as Flat (0-5%), Rolling (5-10%), Hilly (20-30%).	
General agriculture Use DEM to classify slope as Flat (0-5%), Rolling (5-10%), Hilly (20-30%).	



**Table 7. GIS layer requirements - Transportation, Industrial, Recreational and Residential Land Uses.**

Minimum Requirement	Ideal Requirement or Second Stage Analysis
Road area	Paved and Unpaved
Industrial plant area	Location and we assign area
Transmission line corridors – disturbed area	Linear corridor location and we assign width
Seismic Lines- disturbed area	Linear corridor location and we assign width
Well pads - disturbed area	Location and we assign area
Pipelines	Linear corridor location and we assign width
Processing Plants	
Feedlots	Runoff
Surface mines and quarries	
Recreational Uses – Ski areas, golf courses, camp grounds	
Residential– Urban Core	
Residential – Suburban	
Rural Farmyard	
Rural Residential	

GIS layers were obtained from the Human Footprint Inventory (2014) and the Crop Inventory (2016) to match the land use categories described by Donahue (2013). A detailed description of these layers is presented in Appendix 2. The GIS layers selected for natural land uses (and their corresponding Donahue categories) were:

- ❁ 210-Coniferous: for Conifer Dominated Forest
- ❁ 220-Broadleaf Forest: for Hardwood Dominated Forest
- ❁ 230-Mixed Forest: for Wooded
- ❁ 50-Shrubland: for Shrubland
- ❁ 110-Grassland: for Native Grassland
- ❁ 30-Exposed Land/Barren: for Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand).

Agricultural land uses were assigned to the following GIS layers (with corresponding Donahue categories):

- ❁ 132-Cereals, 133-Barley, 136-Oats, 137-Rye, 139-Triticale, and 146-Spring Wheat: for Cereal Crop (Intensive and Extensive)
- ❁ 122-Pasture/Forages: for Forage Crop (Intensive and Extensive)- Alfalfa
- ❁ ROUGH\_PASTURE: for Native Grazing – Flat, Rolling and Hilly



- ❁ TAME\_PASTURE: for Intensive Grazing – Flat, Rolling and Hilly
- ❁ All other crops (147-199): for General Agriculture - Flat, Rolling and Hilly.

Donahue (2013)'s transportation, industrial, recreational and residential land uses were matched with similar GIS layers depicting human influence. We used layers for gravel and dirt unpaved roads for Soft Roads (gravel/dirt) and layers for asphalt and concrete paved roads for Hard Roads (paved). Layers for roadways covered with dirt or low vegetation and those used mainly for all-terrain vehicle (ATV) activities were used for Trails (motorized and non-motorized).

We used GIS layers related to industrial activities for Donahue's (2013) industrial land uses:

- ❁ OIL-GAS-PLANT, MISC-OIL-GAS-FACILITY, CAMP-INDUSTRIAL, FACILITY-OTHER, FACILITY-UNKNOWN: for Industrial Plants
- ❁ TRANSMISSION-LINE: for Transmission Lines
- ❁ PRE-LOW-IMPACT-SEISMIC: for Seismic Lines
- ❁ WELL-ABAND, WELL-CASED, WELL-CLEARED-DRILLED, WELL-CLEARED-NOT-DRILLED, WELL-GAS, WELL-OIL, WELL-OTHER: for Wellpads
- ❁ PIPELINE: for Pipelines
- ❁ MILL: for Processing Plants
- ❁ CFO: for feedlots
- ❁ GRVL-SAND-PIT, OPEN-PIT-MINE, BORROWPITS, BORROWPIT-DRY, BORROWPIT-WET: for Surface Mines.

Recreational land uses were represented by golf course and campground layers. Residential land use layers were applied for urban and rural related Donahue (2013) categories:

- ❁ URBAN-INDUSTRIAL: for Urban – City Core
- ❁ URBAN-RESIDENCE, GREENSPACE: for Urban – Suburban
- ❁ RURAL-RESIDENCE, COUNTRY-RESIDENCE: for Rural Residential (farm yard).

Donahue's (2013) Water-Wetlands category was matched with both natural land use layers (20-Water, 80-Wetland; Crop Inventory 2016) and human land use layers (LAGOON, RESERVOIR; Human Footprint Inventory 2014). Similarly, both GIS databases were applied to Donahue's (2013) Construction 1 land use: the Urban/Developed layer from the Crop Inventory (2016) and layers related to human clearings and disturbed road and railway edges from the Human Footprint Inventory (2014).



## 5. Results – NPS Model

The NPS estimates of N, P and TSS loading to the Wapiti watershed were developed in the GIS model for 31 subwatersheds in the Wapiti Basin in two stages. In the first (Section 5.1), the model was used to generate NPS loading of pollutants according to the methods of Donahue (2013). In the second stage (Section 5.2) the model was refined to classify landscape and stream sensitivity to NPS loading as a function of slope, soil type (erosion potential) and drainage density (delivery potential).

### 5.1 NPS Loading Estimates

The initial loading estimates are presented as:

- ❖ A series of maps showing the Donahue (2013) land use classifications used as input data,
- ❖ A series of maps showing NPS export,
- ❖ Tables and a narrative discussion of results

#### 5.1.1 Derivation of NPS Loading – Land Use Areas

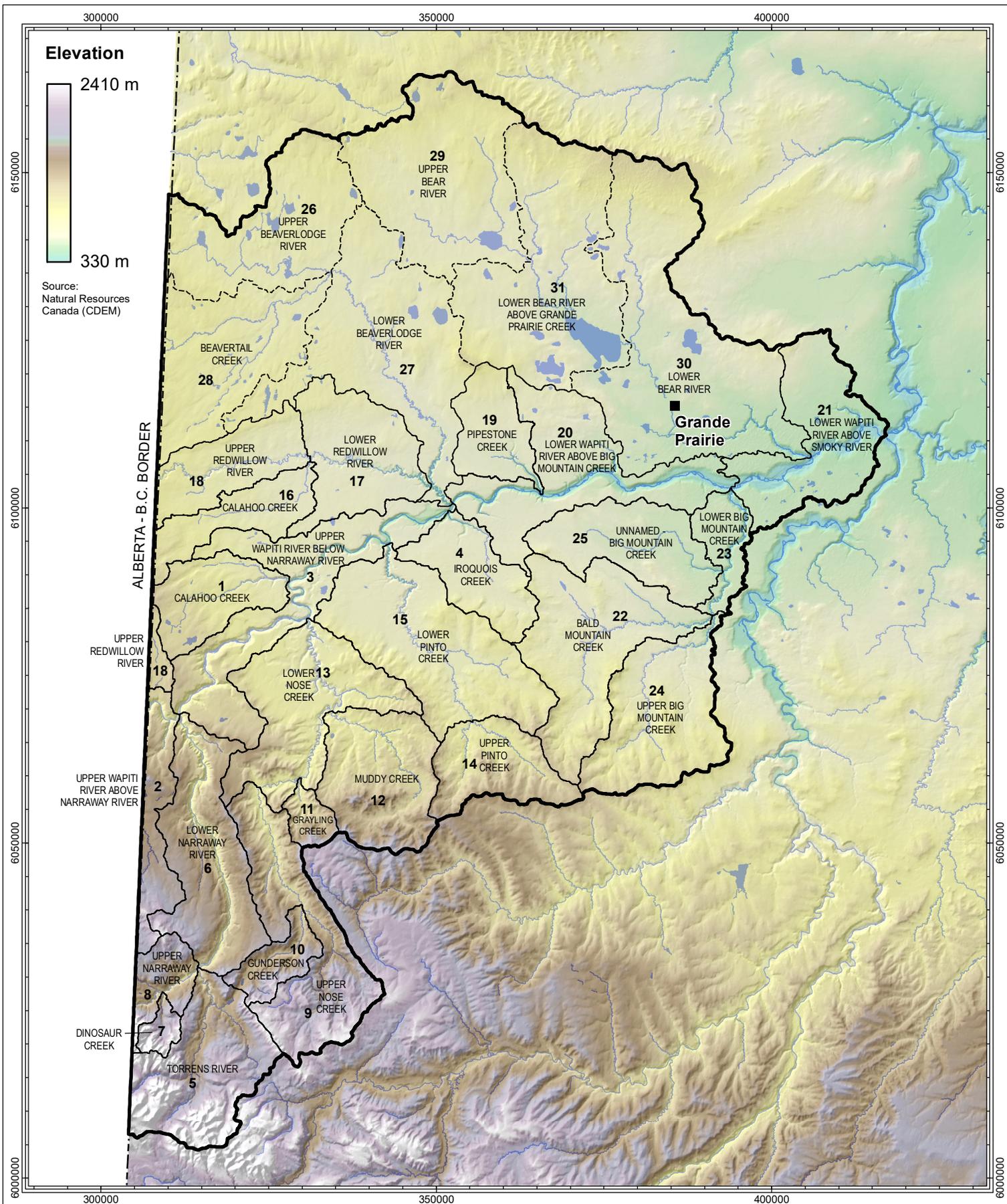
The model was scaled to 31 subwatersheds (Figure 5, Table 8) corresponding to the Hydrologic Unit Code 10 Watersheds of Alberta classification

(<https://geodiscover.alberta.ca/geoportal/catalog/search/resource/details.page?uuid=%7B017387ED-2EB1-4D16-868E-B019E3DA12E5%7D>).

A portion of the study area was not delineated at the Unit Code 10 classification scale. These larger watersheds were subdivided based on topography and drainage. Twenty-five subwatersheds were delineated in the Alberta database and six (Table 8; numbers 26-31) were delineated for the study. The total watershed area modelled was 10,136 km<sup>2</sup>.

Land uses in the Wapiti basin were classified as “Natural” or “Human Footprint” and mapped as such in Figures 6 and 7. 617,648 ha (61%) of the watershed was classified as natural area and 327,881 ha (32%) as areas of “Human Footprint”, of which 267,317 ha (82% of human footprint) were in agricultural use and 60,564 ha (18% of human footprint) in urban or industrial uses (Table 9). The remaining 68,040 ha (7%) of the watershed was classified as surface water or wetland for which no export was calculated.





**Legend**

- Study Area
- Subwatershed (Unit Code 10)\*
- Delineated by PCCG

\*Source: Hydrologic Unit Code Watersheds of Alberta (2017) - Alberta Environment and Parks, Government of Alberta



Scale = 1:750000



PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 30, 2018

**Wapiti River Basin  
Subwatersheds**

**FIGURE 5**

**Table 8. Subwatershed identifications and areas.**

<b>Watershed Number</b>	<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Area (km2)</b>
1	CALAHOO CREEK	19468	194.7
2	UPPER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE NARRAWAY RIVER	15865	158.7
3	UPPER WAPITI RIVER BELOW NARRAWAY RIVER	44525	445.3
4	IROQUOIS CREEK	19423	194.2
5	TORRENS RIVER	35788	357.9
6	LOWER NARRAWAY RIVER	38031	380.3
7	DINOSAUR CREEK	3605	36.1
8	UPPER NARRAWAY RIVER	9483	94.8
9	UPPER NOSE CREEK	38029	380.3
10	GUNDERSON CREEK	9292	92.9
11	GRAYLING CREEK	5065	50.7
12	MUDDY CREEK	31780	317.8
13	LOWER NOSE CREEK	39120	391.2
14	UPPER PINTO CREEK	21035	210.4
15	LOWER PINTO CREEK	50762	507.6
16	CALAHOO CREEK	16721	167.2
17	LOWER REDWILLOW RIVER	29287	292.9
18	UPPER REDWILLOW RIVER	24028	240.3
19	PIPESTONE CREEK	16064	160.6
20	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	43516	435.2
21	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE SMOKY RIVER	35282	352.8
22	BALD MOUNTAIN CREEK	44806	448.1
23	LOWER BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	10441	104.4
24	UPPER BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	36769	367.7
25	UNNAMED - BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	26768	267.7
26	UPPER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	42609	426.1
27	LOWER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	62067	620.7
28	BEAVERTAIL CREEK	41085	410.9
29	UPPER BEAR RIVER	56114	561.1
30	LOWER BEAR RIVER	80539	805.4
31	LOWER BEAR RIVER ABOVE GRANDE PRAIRIE CREEK	66199	662.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>1013569</b>	<b>10135</b>



**Table 9. Land Use Areas – Major Classifications**

Classification	Area ha)	Percent of Watershed
Natural Areas	617,648	61
Industrial and Urban	60,564	6
Agriculture	267,317	26
Total Human Footprint	327,881	32
Total Classified Area	945,529	93
Surface Water and Wetland	68,040	7
Total Watershed Area	1,013,569	100

The major land use classifications of “Human Footprint” and “Natural” were further subdivided into the subclassifications of Donahue (2013) for each subwatershed and the entire Wapiti Basin (Figure 8). Figure 6 shows the “Agricultural” land use areas for the Wapiti Basin, Figure 7 the “Human Footprint” areas, Figure 8 the “Natural” areas and Figure 9 maps all of the Donahue subclassifications for the Wapiti Basin. Table 10 shows the breakdown of areas of the “Natural” subclassifications from Donahue (2013). Table 11 shows the breakdown of agricultural land use areas and Table 12 shows the breakdown for industrial and urban land use classifications.

**Table 10. Natural Area Classifications and Areas.**

Natural Area	Area (ha)	Percent of Natural Area	Percent of Watershed
Conifer Dominated Forest	236,126	38.2	23.3
Hardwood Dominated Forest	322,851	52.3	31.9
Native Grassland	793	0.1	0.1
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	5,542	0.9	0.5
Shrubland	38,564	6.2	3.8
Wooded	13,772	2.2	1.4
Total	617,648		



**Table 11. Agricultural Classifications and Areas.**

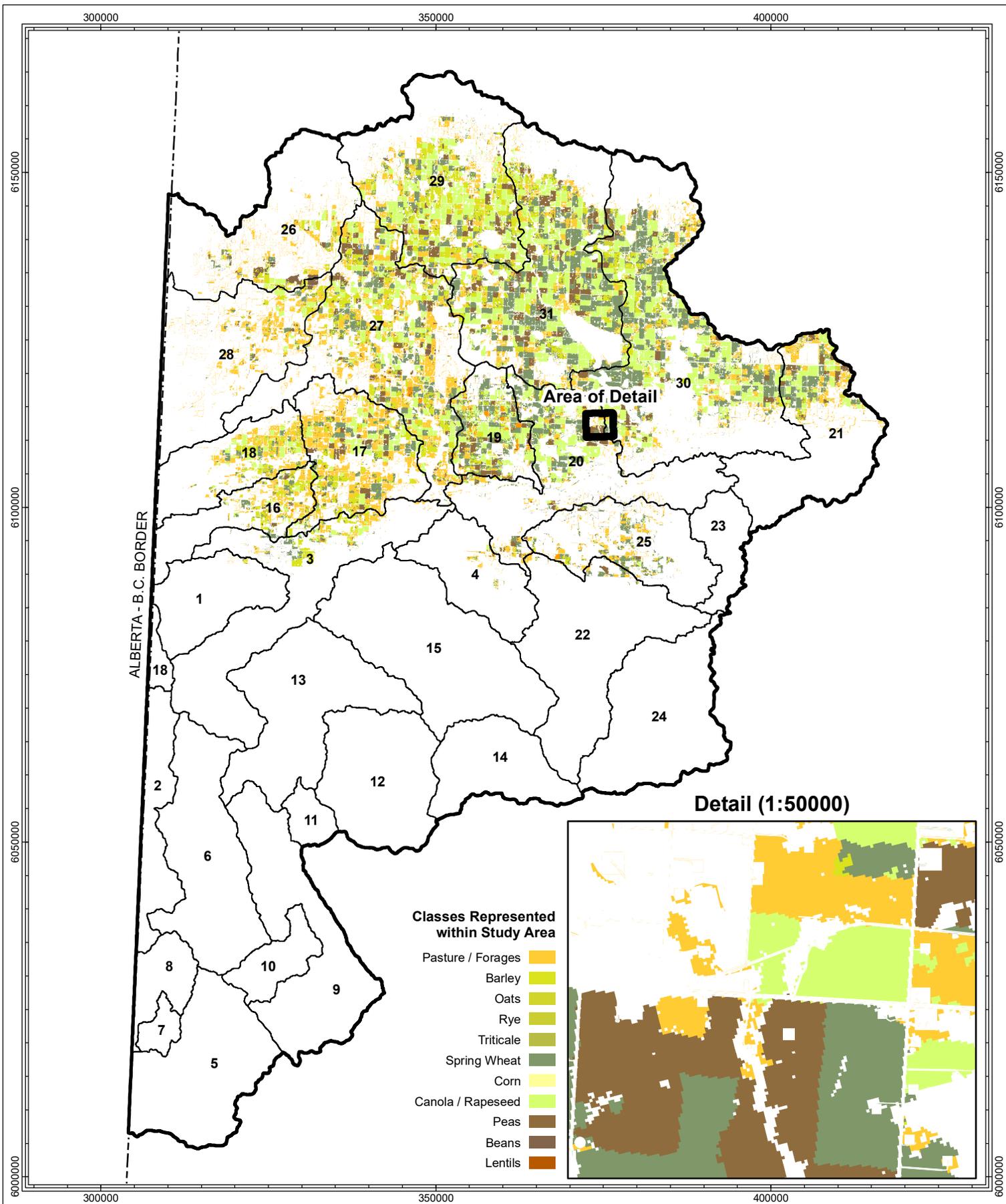
<b>Agricultural Use</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>% of Human Footprint</b>	<b>% of Watershed</b>
Cereal Crop	76,149	23.2	7.5
Feedlots	196	0.1	0.0
Forage Crop - alfalfa	48,961	14.9	4.8
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	75,374	23.0	7.4
General Agriculture - Hilly (10-30% slope)	47	0.01	0.01
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	1,213	0.4	0.1
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	45,173	13.8	4.5
Intensive Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	75	0.02	0.01
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	1,370	0.4	0.1
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	8,500	2.6	0.8
Native Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	89	0.03	0.01
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	403	0.1	0.04
Rural Residential (farm yard)	9,769	3.0	1.0
<b>Total Agricultural</b>	<b>267,317</b>	<b>81.5</b>	<b>26.4</b>



**Table 12. Urban and Industrial Classifications and Areas.**

Urban or Industrial Use	Area (ha)	% of Human Footprint	% of Watershed
Construction 1	17,501	5.34	1.73
Hard Roads (paved)	2,370	0.72	0.23
Industrial Plants	1,316	0.40	0.13
Pipelines	7,227	2.20	0.71
Processing Plants	167	0.05	0.02
Recreational - Campgrounds	27	0.01	0.00
Recreational - Golf Courses	65	0.02	0.01
Seismic Lines	6,074	1.85	0.60
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	8,586	2.62	0.85
Surface Mines	1,714	0.52	0.17
Trails (motorized)	241	0.07	0.02
Trails (non-motorized)	1,130	0.34	0.11
Transmission Lines	710	0.22	0.07
Urban - City Core	2,544	0.78	0.25
Urban - Suburban	1,910	0.58	0.19
Wellpads	8,982	2.74	0.89
<b>Total Urban and Industrial Lands</b>	<b>60,564</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>6.0</b>





**Legend**  
 Study Area  
 Subwatershed

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 Environmental Sciences Ltd.

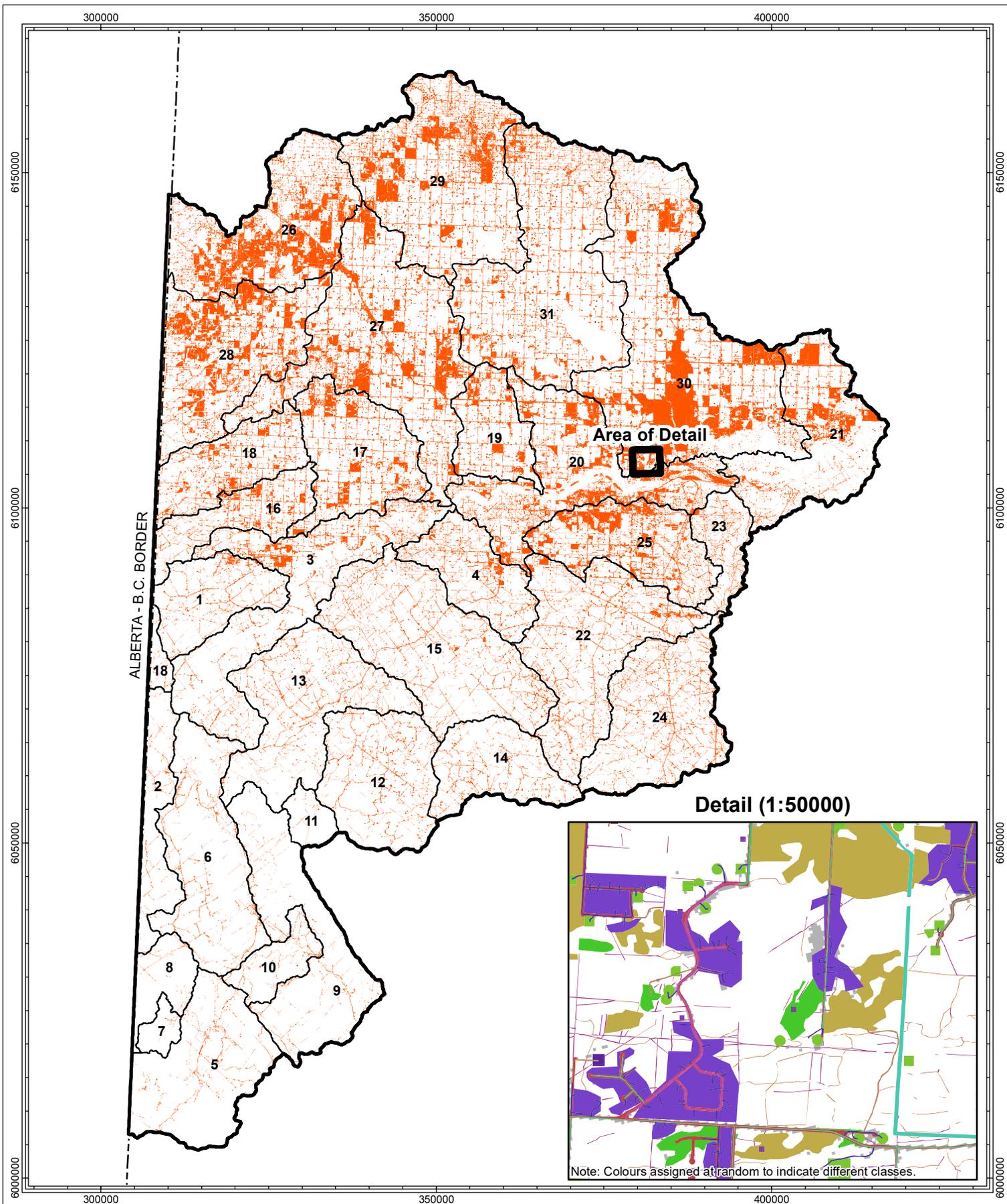
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 CONSULTING  
 GROUP INC.

Source: Annual Crop Inventory 2016 - Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

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**Wapiti River Basin  
 Agricultural Footprint**

**FIGURE 6**



- Legend**
- Study Area
  - Subwatershed
  - Human Footprint<sup>1,2</sup>

Sources: Human Footprint Index 2014 (AMBI) - main input; Crop Inventory 2016 (AAFC) - infill only.



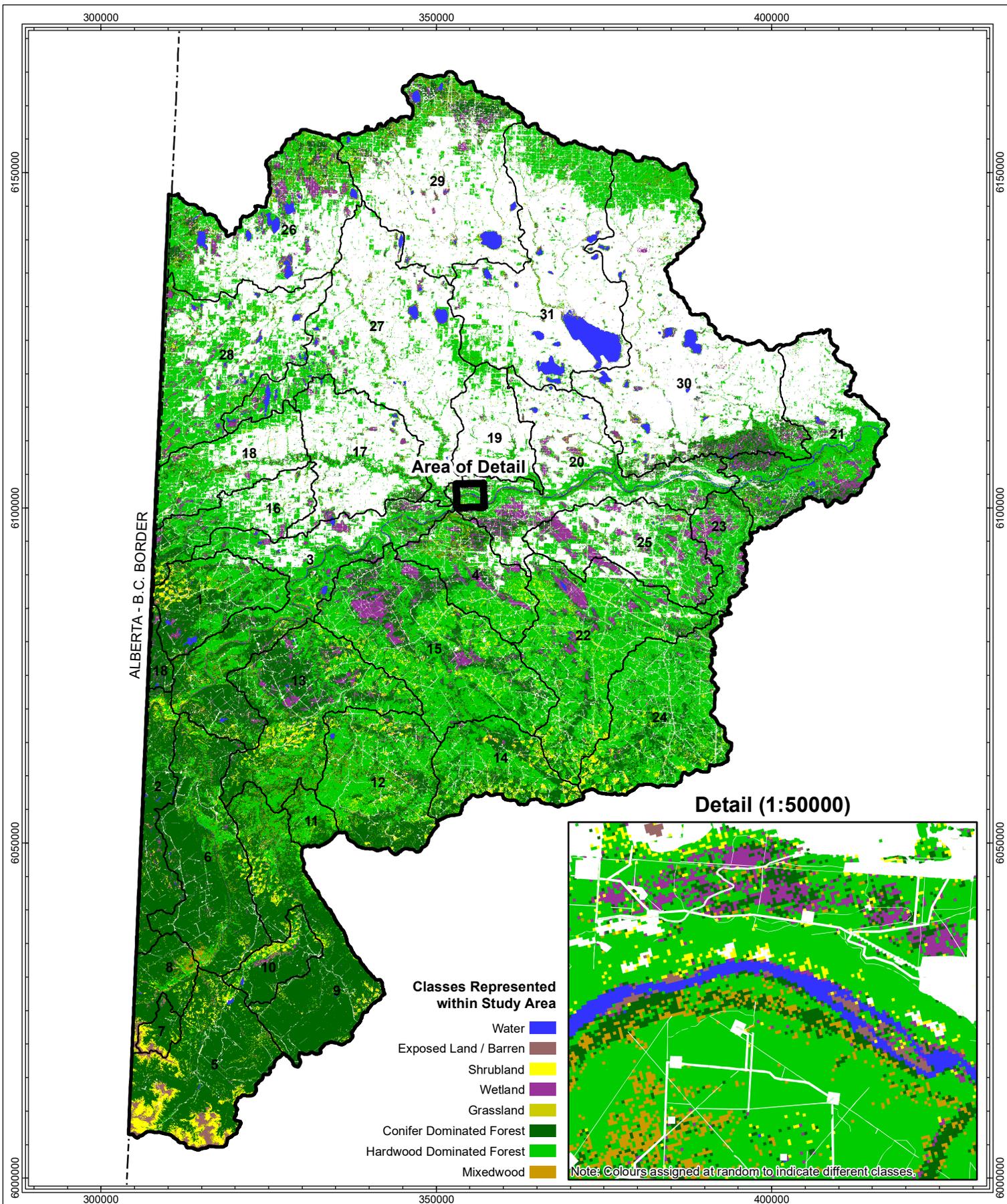
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PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
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CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 08, 2018

## Wapiti River Basin Human Footprint

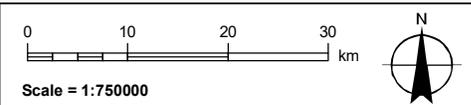
# FIGURE 7



**Legend**  
 Study Area  
 Subwatershed

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 GROUP INC.



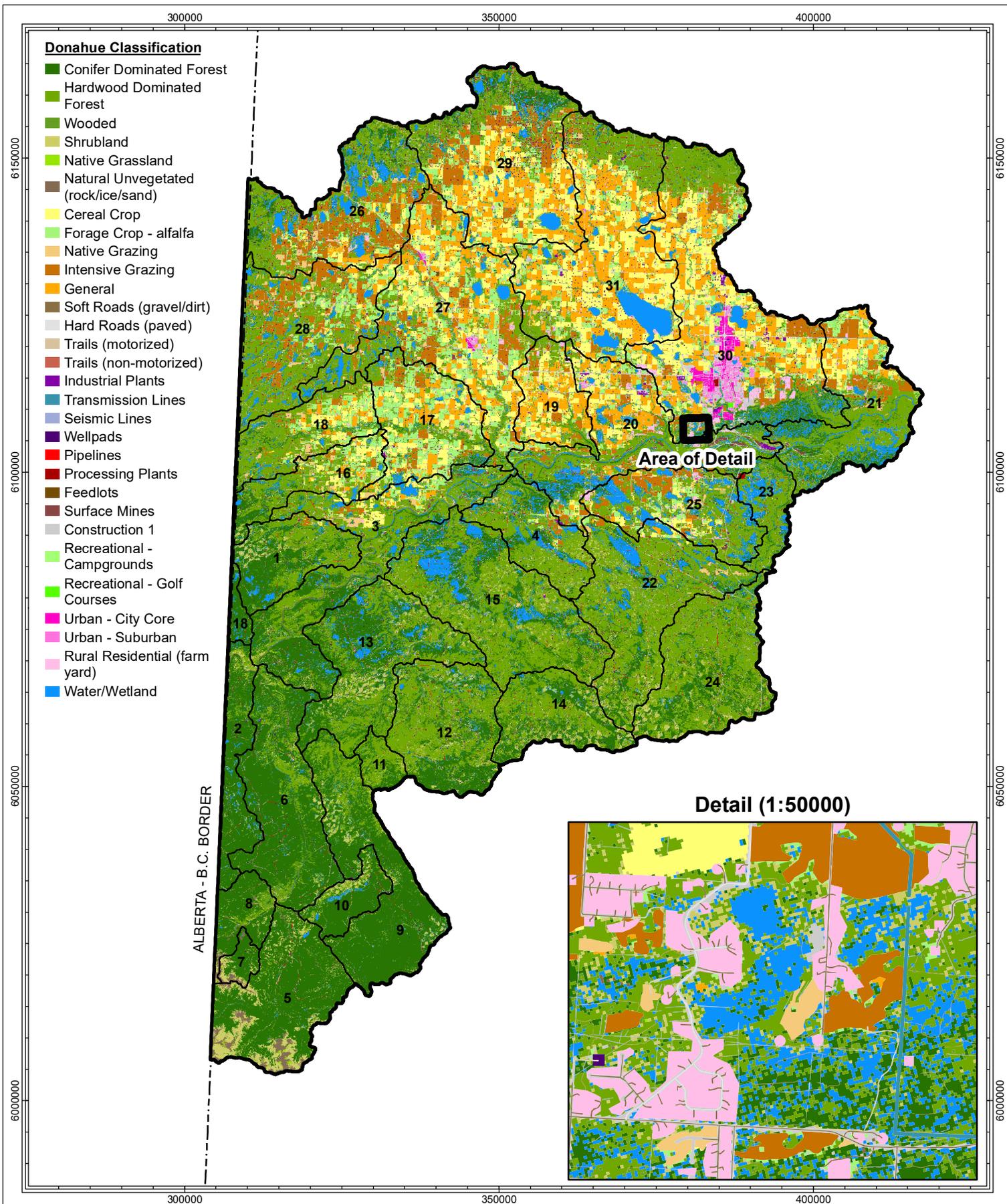
PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 08, 2018

**Wapiti River Basin  
 Natural Areas**

**FIGURE 8**

Source: Annual Crop Inventory 2016 - Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

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**Legend**

- Study Area
- Subwatershed

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**PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.**

0 10 20 30 km

Scale = 1:800000

PROJECT: 13186 PROJECTION: UTM Zone 11N  
 DRAWN: B. Elder DATUM: NAD 1983  
 CHECKED: D. Sacco DATE: Mar 08, 2018

**Wapiti River Basin  
Donahue (2013) Land  
Use Classifications**

**FIGURE 9**

### 5.1.2 Derivation of NPS Loading – Average Export Coefficients for 31 Watersheds

Average export coefficients for N, P and solids in kg/ha/yr were derived for all 31 of the subwatersheds in the Wapiti Basin (Table 14). Summary statistics are presented in Table 13.

- ✿ Average export coefficients for N ranged from 1.88 kg/ha/yr in Lower Big Mountain Creek (Subwatershed 23) to 12.1 kg/ha/yr in Lower Bear River (Subwatershed 30);
- ✿ Average export coefficients for phosphorus ranged from 0.24 kg/ha/yr in Lower Big Mountain Creek (Subwatershed 23) to 1.87 kg/ha/yr in Lower Bear River (Subwatershed 30);
- ✿ Average export coefficients for solids ranged from 1.88 kg/ha/yr in Lower Redwillow River (Subwatershed 17) to 486 kg/ha/yr in Upper Big Mountain Creek (Subwatershed 24).

**Table 13. Statistical Summary of Average Export Coefficients for 31 Subwatersheds in the Wapiti Basin**

	Nitrogen in kg/ha/yr	Phosphorus in kg/ha/yr	Solids in kg/ha/yr
<b>Minimum</b>	1.88	0.24	318
<b>Maximum</b>	12.1	1.87	486
<b>Average</b>	4.49	0.71	403
<b>Median</b>	3.23	0.54	403
<b>25th Percentile</b>	2.91	0.48	377
<b>75th Percentile</b>	5.16	0.82	429

The average export coefficients for N and P for each subwatershed were significantly ( $p < 0.008$ ) but weakly ( $r^2 < 0.23$ ) related to watershed size (Figure 10) but there was no significant relationship for solids ( $p < 0.9$ ). Eight subwatersheds had export coefficients exceeding the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile values for N and P export (Table 15). In two of these, Lower Wapiti River above Big Mountain Creek (#20) and Lower Bear River (#30), solids export exceeded the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile value, suggesting that solids were an important vector for export of N and P. In the remaining six subwatersheds export of N and P was not associated with high solids export suggesting that dissolved phases were important in nutrient export. There was no significant relationship ( $p > 0.27$ ) between the export coefficients for solids and those for N and P across the 31 subwatersheds. Five subwatersheds (highlighted in bold in Table 15) had substantially higher export coefficients for N and P compared to solids (Figure 11).

Figures 12, 13 and 14 show the details of export coefficients for N, P and solids by land use for the entire study area that were used to derive Figures 15 – 20. Figures 15, 17 and 19 show the average export coefficient values for N, P and solids for each of the 31 subwatersheds. The 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles were used to define the ranges of “Low” (1-25<sup>th</sup>), “Moderate” (26<sup>th</sup> – 75<sup>th</sup>) and “High” (>75<sup>th</sup>) for classification of watersheds (Table 13) and Figures 16, 18 and 20 show the resultant classifications for N, P and solids for each subwatershed.



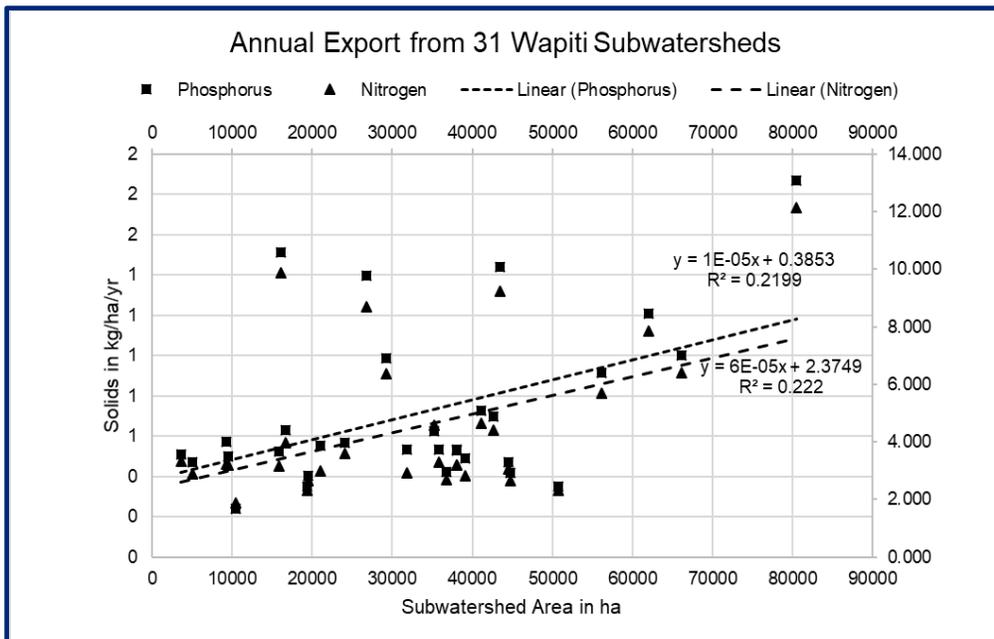
**Table 14. Average Export Coefficients for 31 Subwatersheds in the Wapiti Basin in kg/ha/yr.**

Number	Watershed Name	Area (ha)	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Solids
1	CALAHOO CREEK	19468	2.657	0.404	426
2	UPPER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE NARRAWAY RIVER	15865	3.178	0.523	391
3	UPPER WAPITI RIVER BELOW NARRAWAY RIVER	44525	3.048	0.472	397
4	IROQUOIS CREEK	19423	2.328	0.352	422
5	TORRENS RIVER	35788	3.304	0.532	403
6	LOWER NARRAWAY RIVER	38031	3.184	0.535	418
7	DINOSAUR CREEK	3605	3.316	0.512	380
8	UPPER NARRAWAY RIVER	9483	3.185	0.498	375
9	UPPER NOSE CREEK	38029	3.199	0.527	415
10	GUNDERSON CREEK	9292	3.231	0.571	438
11	GRAYLING CREEK	5065	2.897	0.472	425
12	MUDDY CREEK	31780	2.926	0.536	465
13	LOWER NOSE CREEK	39120	2.843	0.490	431
14	UPPER PINTO CREEK	21035	2.990	0.552	475
15	LOWER PINTO CREEK	50762	2.308	0.351	427
16	CALAHOO CREEK	16721	3.985	0.630	388
17	LOWER REDWILLOW RIVER	29287	6.379	0.985	318
18	UPPER REDWILLOW RIVER	24028	3.615	0.566	395
19	PIPESTONE CREEK	16064	9.891	1.510	358
20	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	43516	9.232	1.440	441
21	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE SMOKY RIVER	35282	4.595	0.627	338
22	BALD MOUNTAIN CREEK	44806	2.642	0.416	453
23	LOWER BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	10441	1.883	0.240	381
24	UPPER BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	36769	2.698	0.422	486



Number	Watershed Name	Area (ha)	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Solids
25	UNNAMED - BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	26768	8.684	1.395	410
26	UPPER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	42609	4.423	0.697	374
27	LOWER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	62067	7.842	1.211	349
28	BEAVERTAIL CREEK	41085	4.644	0.727	386
29	UPPER BEAR RIVER	56114	5.683	0.913	350
30	LOWER BEAR RIVER	80539	12.144	1.869	467
31	LOWER BEAR RIVER ABOVE GRANDE PRAIRIE CREEK	66199	6.389	1.001	321
Total		1013569			

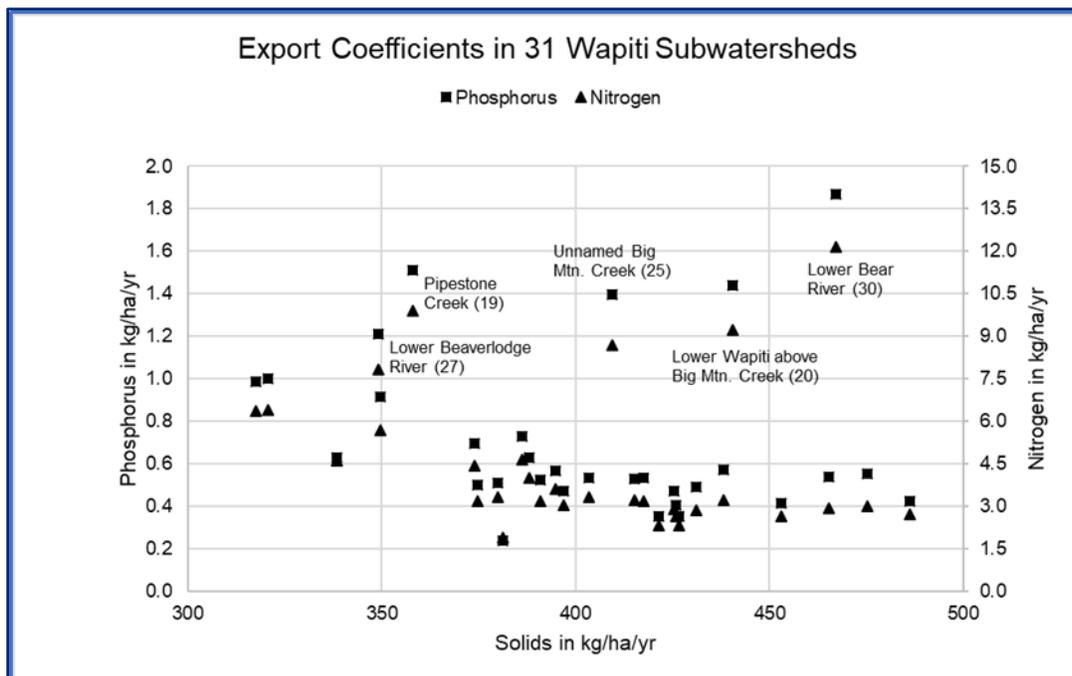
Figure 10. Relationship of Export Coefficient to Watershed Size for 31 Subwatersheds in Wapiti Basin.

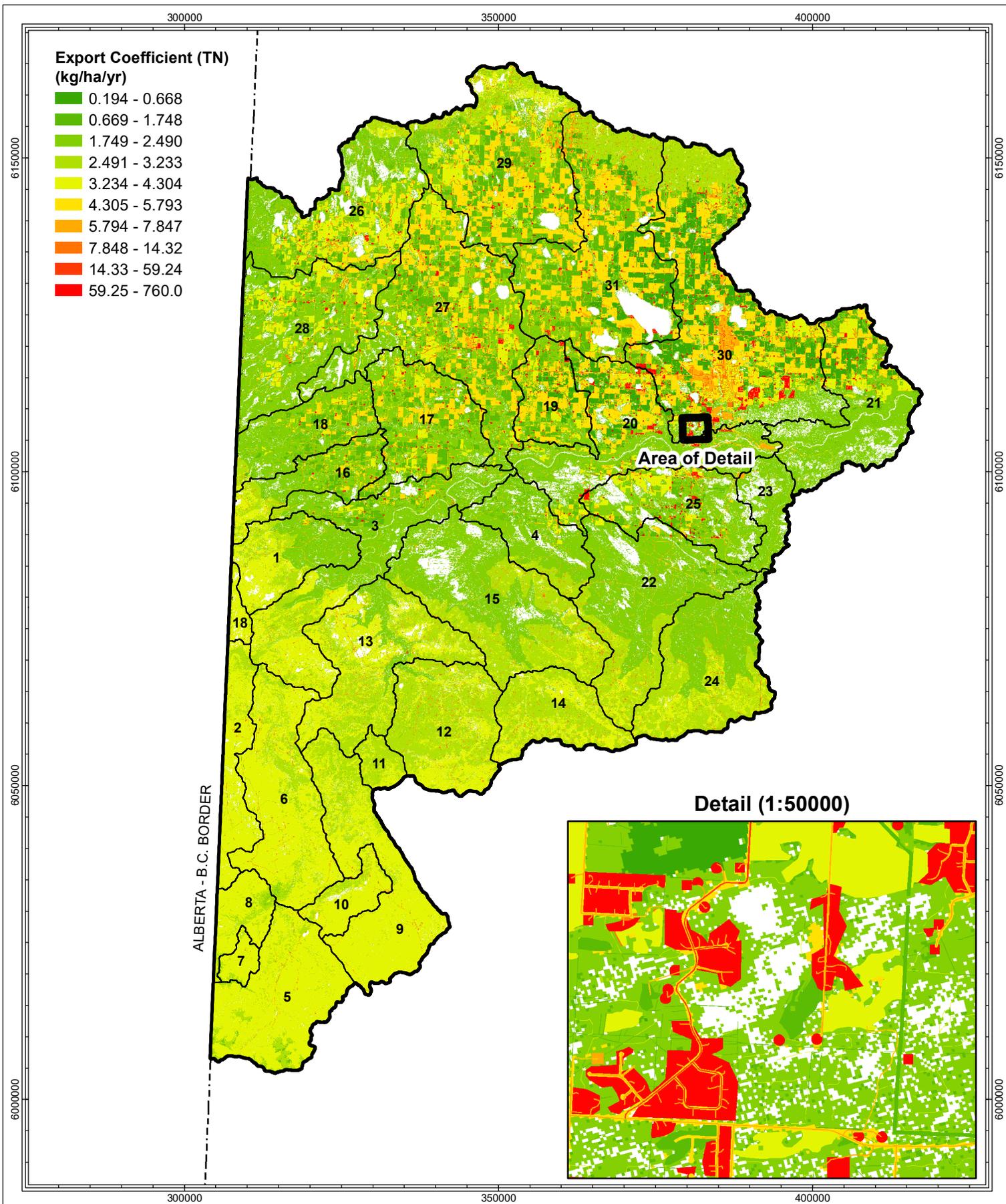


**Table 15. Subwatersheds with Export Coefficients Exceeding 75<sup>th</sup> Percentile.**

Number	SubWatershed Name	Nitrogen in kg/ha/yr	Phosphorus in kg/ha/yr	Solids in kg/ha/yr
10	GUNDERSON CREEK			438
12	MUDDY CREEK			465
13	LOWER NOSE CREEK			431
14	UPPER PINTO CREEK			475
17	LOWER REDWILLOW RIVER	6.38	0.98	
<b>19</b>	<b>PIPESTONE CREEK</b>	<b>9.89</b>	<b>1.51</b>	
<b>20</b>	<b>LOWER WAPITI RIVER</b>	<b>9.23</b>	<b>1.44</b>	441
22	BALD MOUNTAIN CREEK			453
24	UPPER BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK			486
<b>25</b>	<b>UNNAMED - BIG MOUNTAIN</b>	<b>8.68</b>	<b>1.39</b>	
<b>27</b>	<b>LOWER BEAVERLODGE RIVER</b>	<b>7.84</b>	<b>1.21</b>	
29	UPPER BEAR RIVER	5.68	0.91	
<b>30</b>	<b>LOWER BEAR RIVER</b>	<b>12.14</b>	<b>1.87</b>	<b>467</b>
31	LOWER BEAR RIVER ABOVE	6.39	1.00	

**Figure 11. Relationship Between Export Coefficients for 31 Subwatersheds in Wapiti Basin.**





- Export Coefficient (TN)  
(kg/ha/yr)**
- 0.194 - 0.668
  - 0.669 - 1.748
  - 1.749 - 2.490
  - 2.491 - 3.233
  - 3.234 - 4.304
  - 4.305 - 5.793
  - 5.794 - 7.847
  - 7.848 - 14.32
  - 14.33 - 59.24
  - 59.25 - 760.0

Area of Detail

Detail (1:50000)

- Legend**
- Study Area
  - Subwatershed



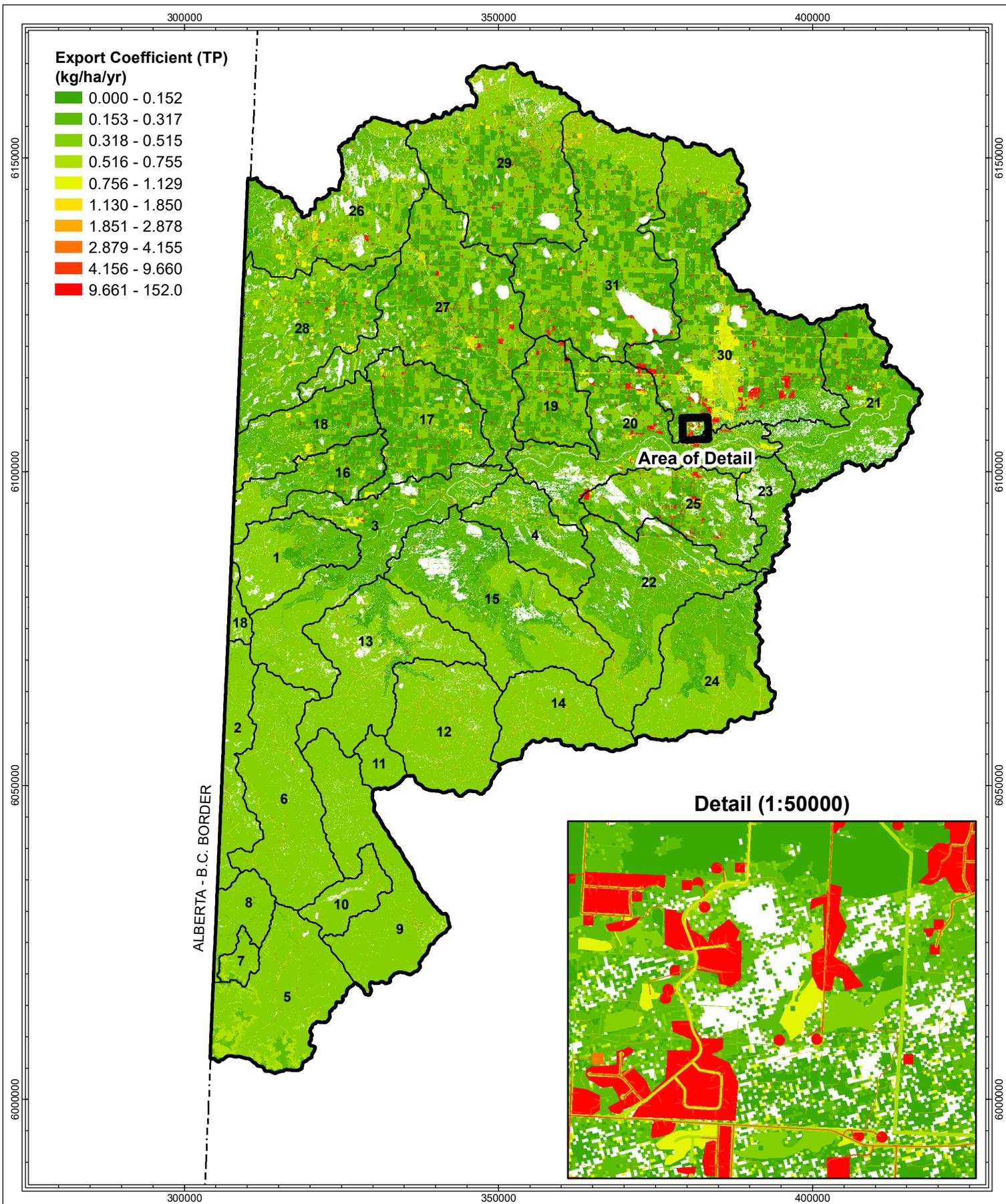
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PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
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**Export Coefficients  
Nitrogen**

**FIGURE 12**



**Legend**  
 Study Area  
 Subwatershed

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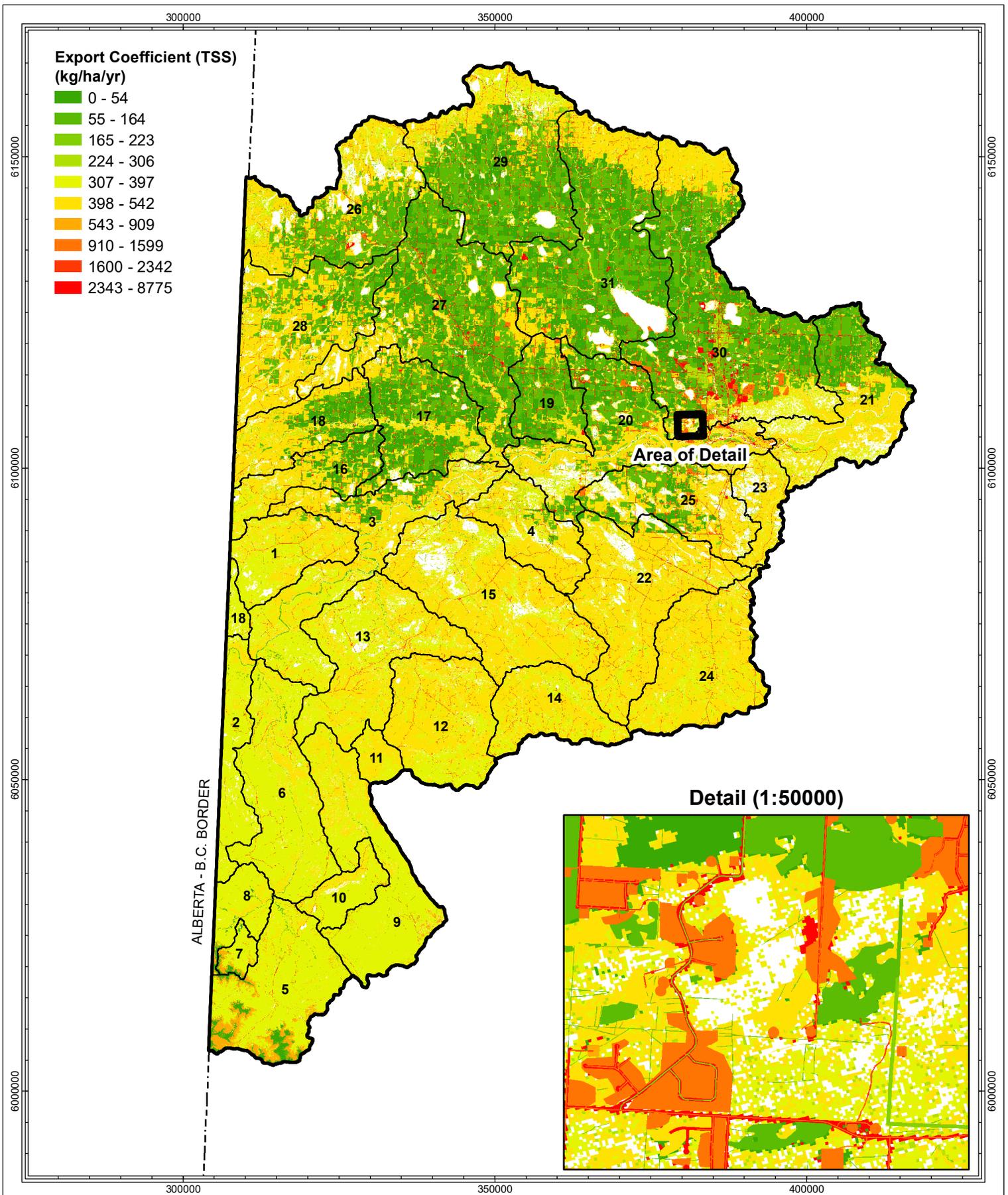
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**Export Coefficients  
Phosphorus**

**FIGURE 13**



**Legend**  
 Study Area  
 Subwatershed

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 Environmental Sciences Ltd.

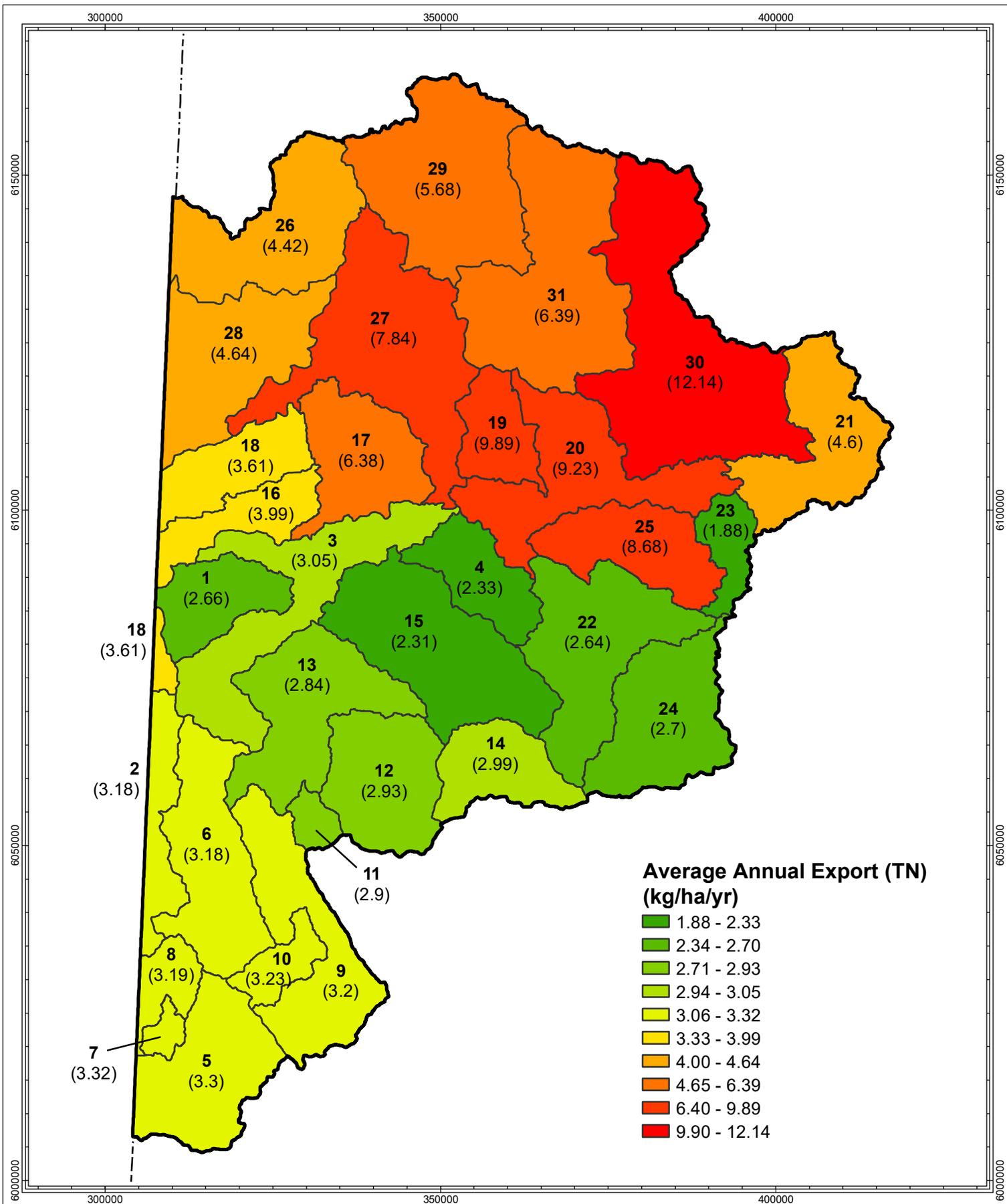
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0 10 20 30 km  
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DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 09, 2018

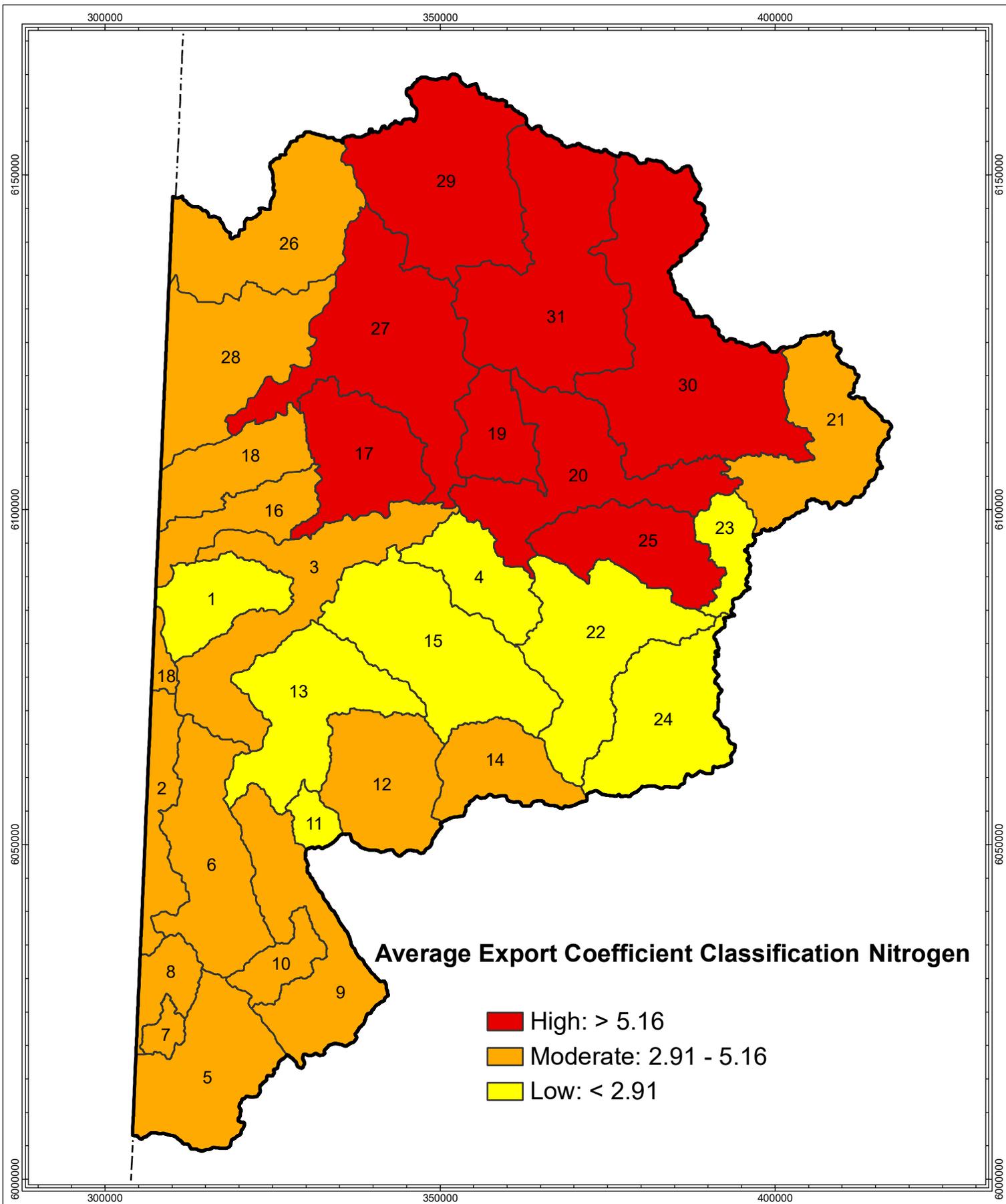
**Export Coefficients  
 Solids**

**FIGURE 14**



<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 HUTCHINSON Environmental Sciences Ltd.  PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000 	<b>Average Annual Export Coefficients Nitrogen</b>	
			PROJECT: 13186      PROJECTION: UTM Zone 11N	DATUM: NAD 1983
			DRAWN: B. Elder      DATE: Mar 08, 2018	CHECKED: D. Sacco

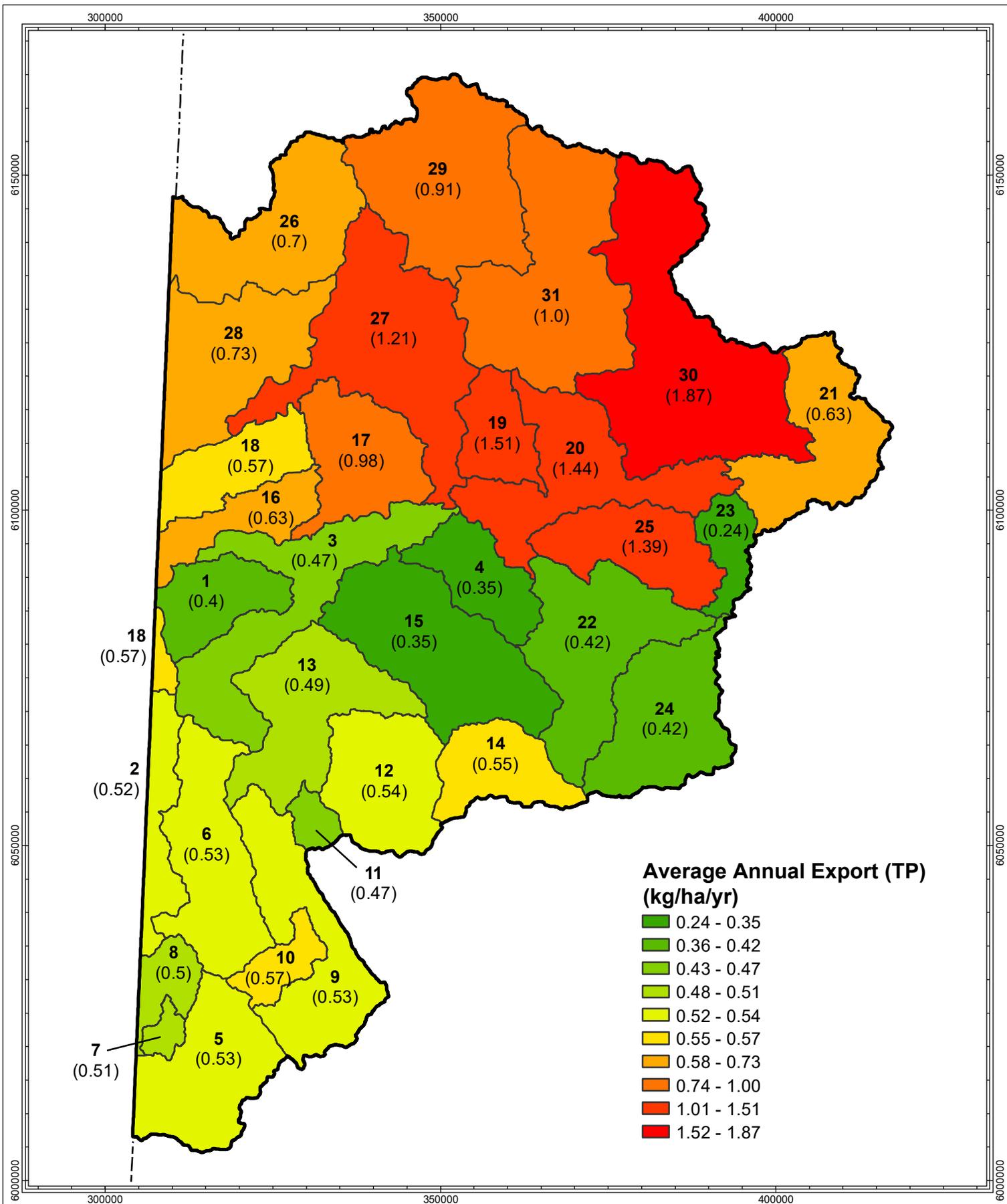
**FIGURE 15**



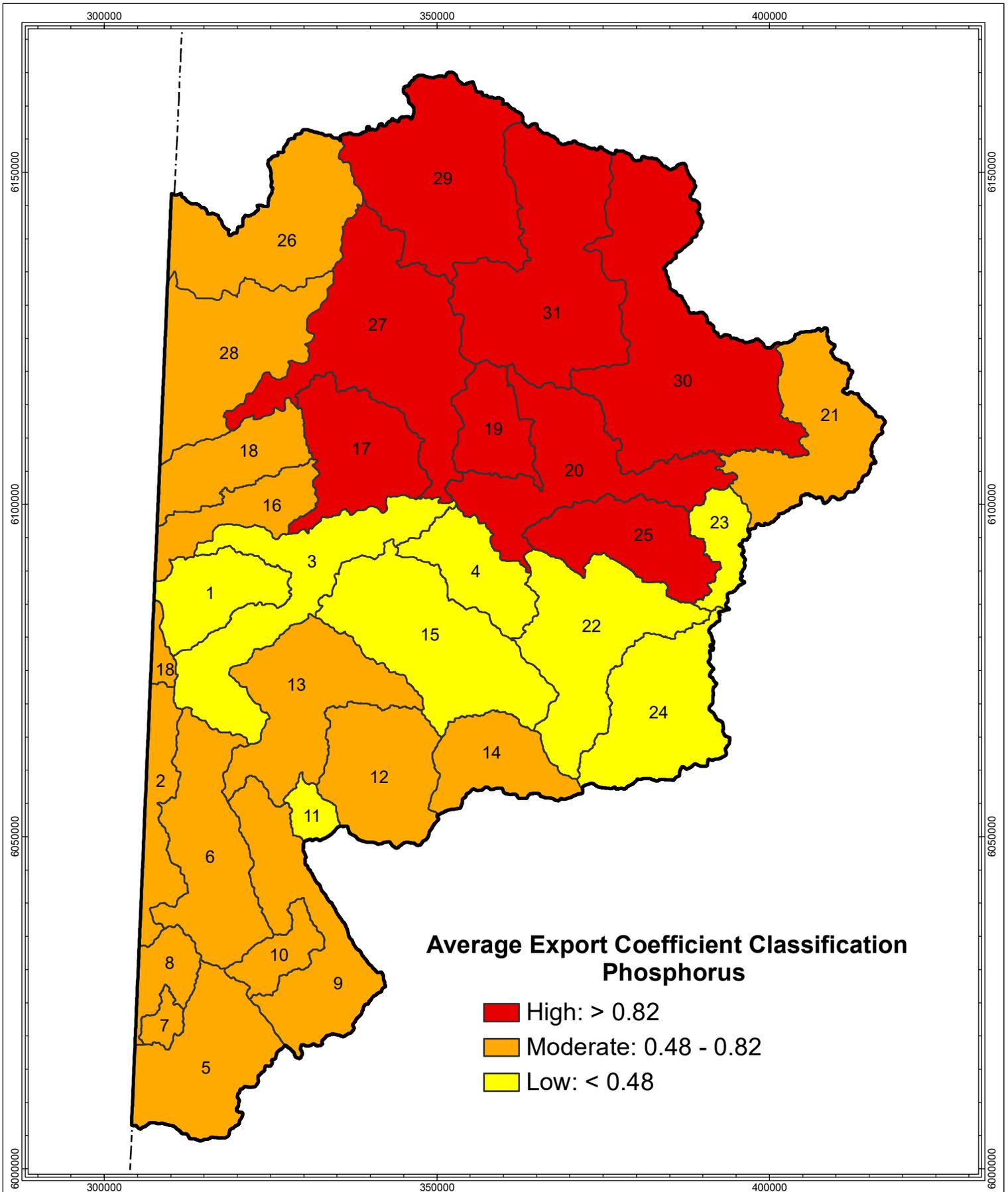
<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 HUTCHINSON Environmental Sciences Ltd.  PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000		 N UTM Zone 11N		
		PROJECT:	13186		DATUM:	NAD 1983
		DRAWN:	B. Elder		DATE:	Mar 29, 2018
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**Classification of Average Nitrogen Export Coefficient (kg/ha/yr)**

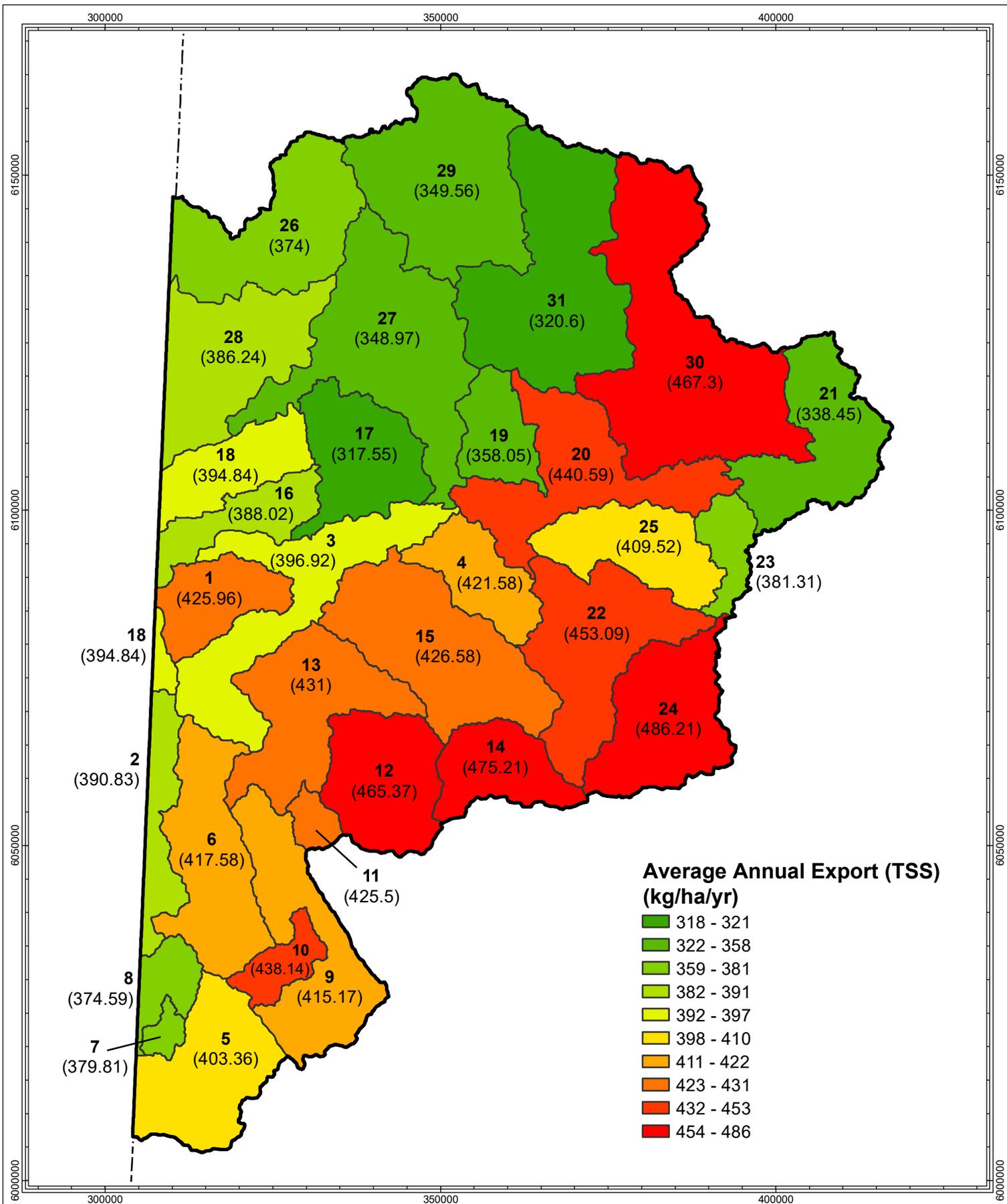
**FIGURE 16**



<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 HUTCHINSON Environmental Sciences Ltd.  PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000	 N	<b>Average Annual Export Coefficient Phosphorus</b> <b>FIGURE 17</b>
		PROJECT: 13186      PROJECTION: UTM Zone 11N	DATUM: NAD 1983	
		DRAWN: B. Elder      CHECKED: D. Sacco	DATE: Mar 08, 2018	



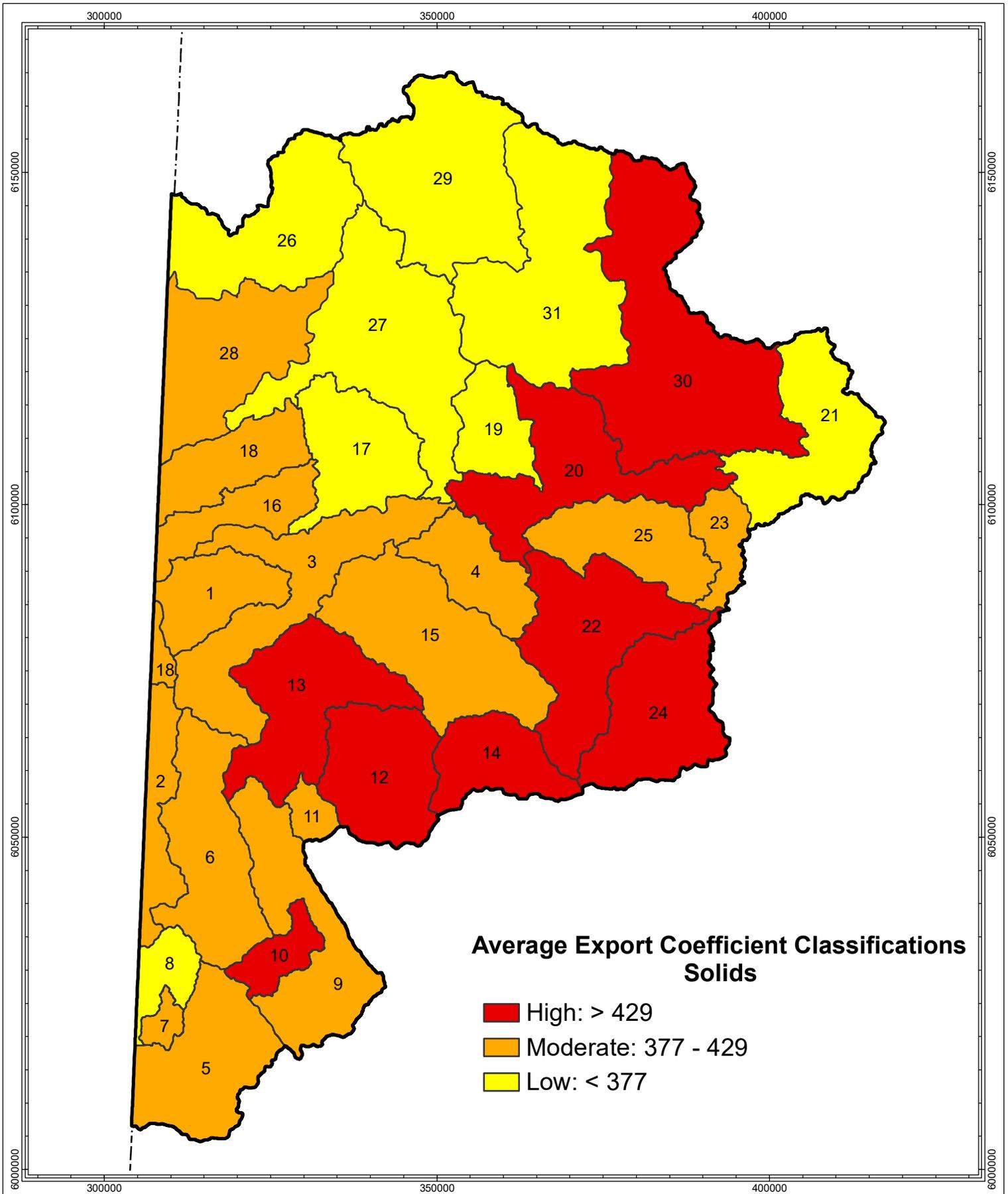
<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 <b>Hutchinson</b> Environmental Sciences Ltd.  PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000 	<b>Classification of Average Phosphorus Export (kg/ha/yr)</b>										
			<table border="1"> <tr> <td>PROJECT:</td> <td>13186</td> <td>PROJECTION:</td> <td>UTM Zone 11N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DRAWN:</td> <td>B. Elder</td> <td>DATUM:</td> <td>NAD 1983</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CHECKED:</td> <td>D. Sacco</td> <td>DATE:</td> <td>Mar 29, 2018</td> </tr> </table>	PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N	DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983	CHECKED:	D. Sacco
PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N										
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983										
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 29, 2018										



<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 HUTCHINSON Environmental Sciences Ltd.  PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000		 N		
		PROJECT:	13186		PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
		DRAWN:	B. Elder		DATUM:	NAD 1983
		CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 08, 2018	

**Average Annual Export Coefficients Solids**

**FIGURE 19**



<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 HUTCHINSON Environmental Sciences Ltd.  PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000		 N	<b>Classification of Average Solids Export Coefficients (kg/ha/yr)</b> <b>FIGURE 20</b>		
		PROJECT:	13186			PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
		DRAWN:	B. Elder			DATUM:	NAD 1983
		CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 29, 2018		

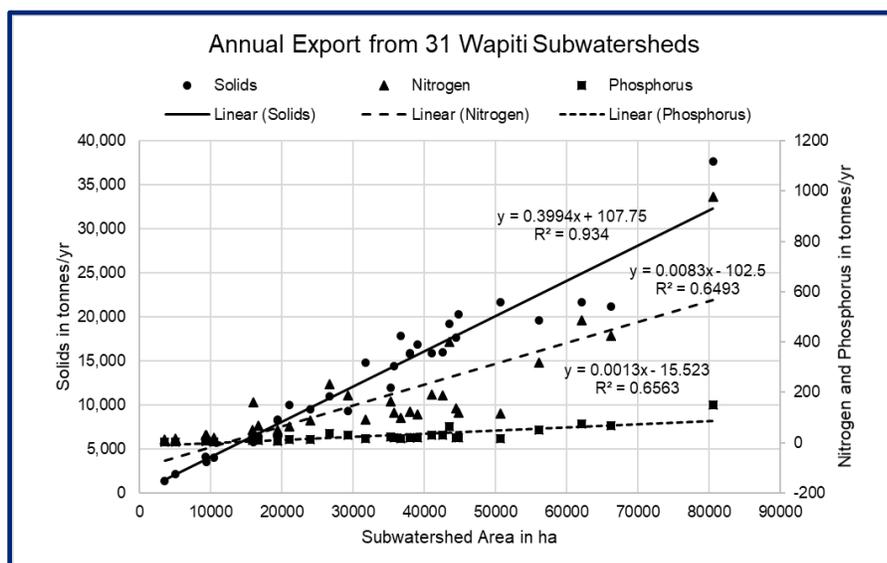
### 5.1.3 Derivation of NPS Loading – Total Annual Pollutant Export Estimates

Estimates of annual loading of N, P and solids were derived for all 31 of the subwatersheds in the Wapiti Basin. Land use activities export 5234, 822 and 408,100 tonnes/yr of N, P and solids, respectively, to the Wapiti River within the Province of Alberta (Table 16). Annual export from individual subwatersheds is provided in Table 17. The lowest annual export was from the Dinosaur Creek subwatershed and the highest from the Lower Bear River subwatershed and these had the smallest and largest watershed areas, respectively. The mass of N, P and solids exported each year was strongly and significantly ( $p < 0.00001$ ) related to watershed area, but the relationships for N and P were weaker ( $r^2 \sim 0.65$ ) than for solids ( $r^2 = 0.93$ ) (Figure 21).

**Table 16. Total Annual Export of Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Solids in tonnes/yr.**

	Nitrogen in tonnes/yr	Phosphorus in tonnes/yr	Solids in tonnes/yr
<b>Total</b>	5234	822	408110
<b>Minimum</b>	12	1.8	1369
<b>Maximum</b>	978	150.5	37636
<b>Average</b>	169	26.5	13165
<b>Median</b>	118	19.1	14435
<b>25<sup>th</sup> Percentile</b>	57	9.4	7338
<b>75<sup>th</sup> Percentile</b>	188	29.3	17775

**Figure 21. Annual Pollutant Export and Subwatershed Area.**



**Table 17. Pollutant Export from 31 Wapiti Subwatersheds in tonnes/yr.**

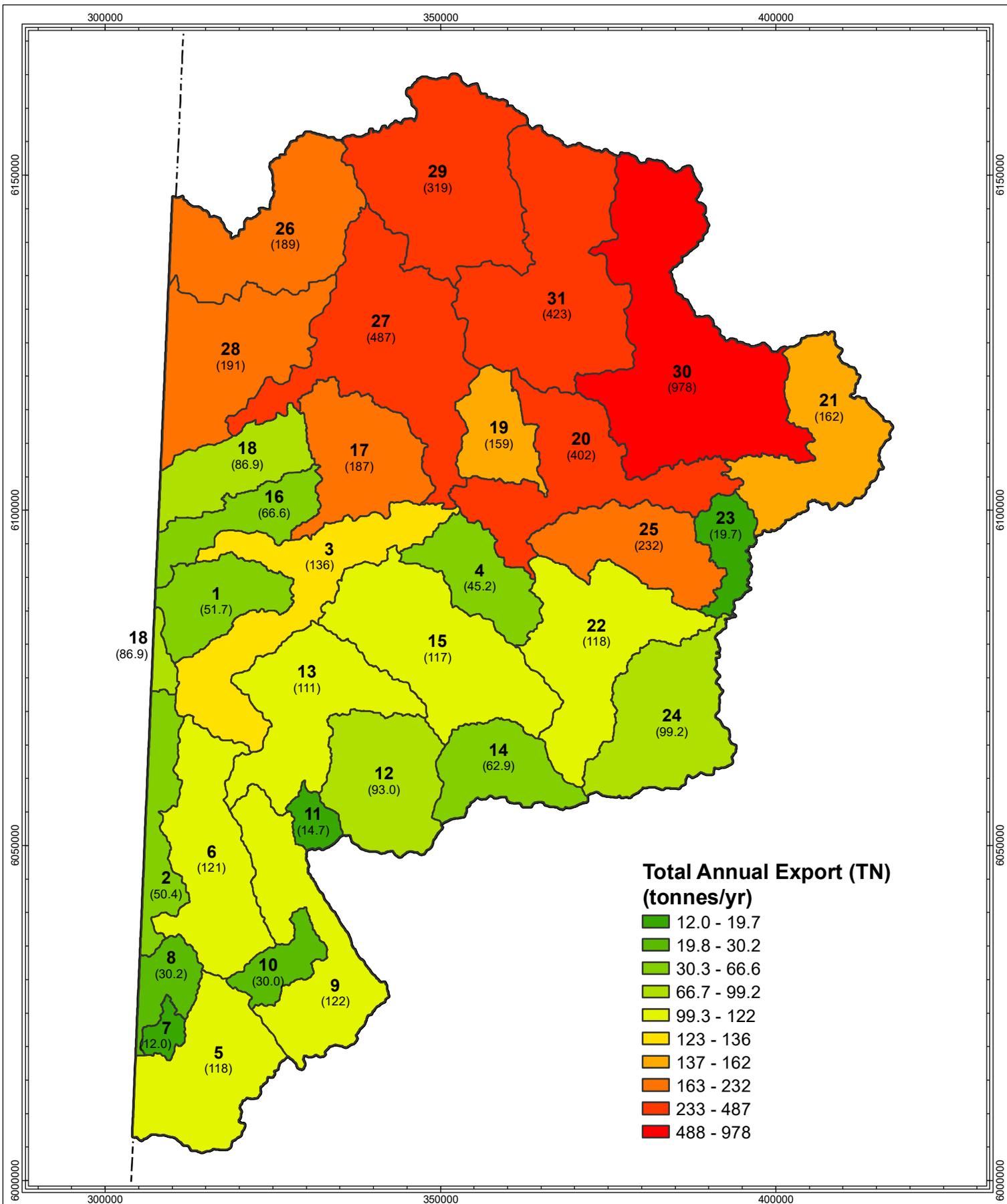
Number	Watershed Name	Area (ha)	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Solids
1	CALAHOO CREEK	19468	51.7	7.87	8,293
2	UPPER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE NARRAWAY RIVER	15865	50.4	8.30	6,201
3	UPPER WAPITI RIVER BELOW NARRAWAY RIVER	44525	135.7	21.02	17,673
4	IROQUOIS CREEK	19423	45.2	6.84	8,188
5	TORRENS RIVER	35788	118.23	19.05	14,435
6	LOWER NARRAWAY RIVER	38031	121.10	20.34	15,881
7	DINOSAUR CREEK	3605	11.95	1.84	1,369
8	UPPER NARRAWAY RIVER	9483	30.21	4.72	3,552
9	UPPER NOSE CREEK	38029	121.66	20.06	15,789
10	GUNDERSON CREEK	9292	30.02	5.31	4,071
11	GRAYLING CREEK	5065	14.67	2.39	2,155
12	MUDDY CREEK	31780	92.98	17.03	14,789
13	LOWER NOSE CREEK	39120	111.22	19.17	16,861
14	UPPER PINTO CREEK	21035	62.89	11.61	9,996
15	LOWER PINTO CREEK	50762	117.17	17.83	21,654
16	CALAHOO CREEK	16721	66.64	10.54	6,488
17	LOWER REDWILLOW RIVER	29287	186.82	28.84	9,300
18	UPPER REDWILLOW RIVER	24028	86.86	13.59	9,487
19	PIPESTONE CREEK	16064	158.88	24.26	5,752
20	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	43516	401.75	62.66	19,173
21	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE SMOKY RIVER	35282	162.14	22.11	11,941
22	BALD MOUNTAIN CREEK	44806	118.39	18.66	20,301
23	LOWER BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	10441	19.66	2.50	3,981
24	UPPER BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	36769	99.22	15.51	17,877
25	UNNAMED - BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	26768	232.45	37.34	10,962
26	UPPER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	42609	188.45	29.69	15,936
27	LOWER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	62067	486.74	75.16	21,660
28	BEAVERTAIL CREEK	41085	190.80	29.88	15,869



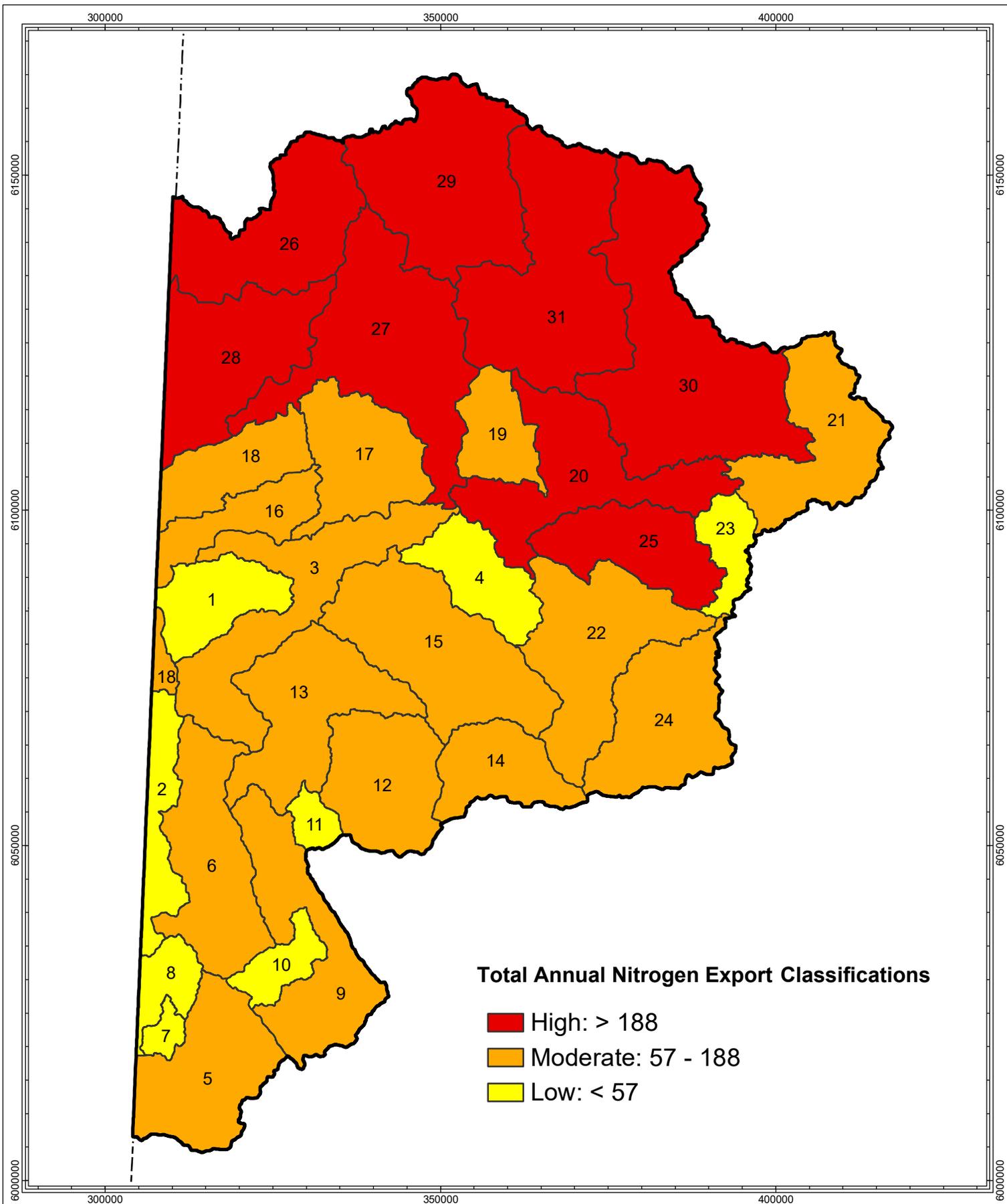
Number	Watershed Name	Area (ha)	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Solids
29	UPPER BEAR RIVER	56114	318.90	51.24	19,615
30	LOWER BEAR RIVER	80539	978.03	150.50	37,636
31	LOWER BEAR RIVER ABOVE GRANDE PRAIRIE CREEK	66199	422.93	66.30	21,224
Total		1013569	5,234	822	408,110

Total annual export of N, P and solids is mapped for each subwatershed in Figures 22, 24 and 26 for N, P and solids, respectively. The 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles (Table 16) were used to define the ranges of “Low” (1-25<sup>th</sup>), “Moderate” (26<sup>th</sup> – 75<sup>th</sup>) and “High” (>75<sup>th</sup>) for classification of watersheds and these are provided in Figures 23, 25 and 27 for N, P and solids.

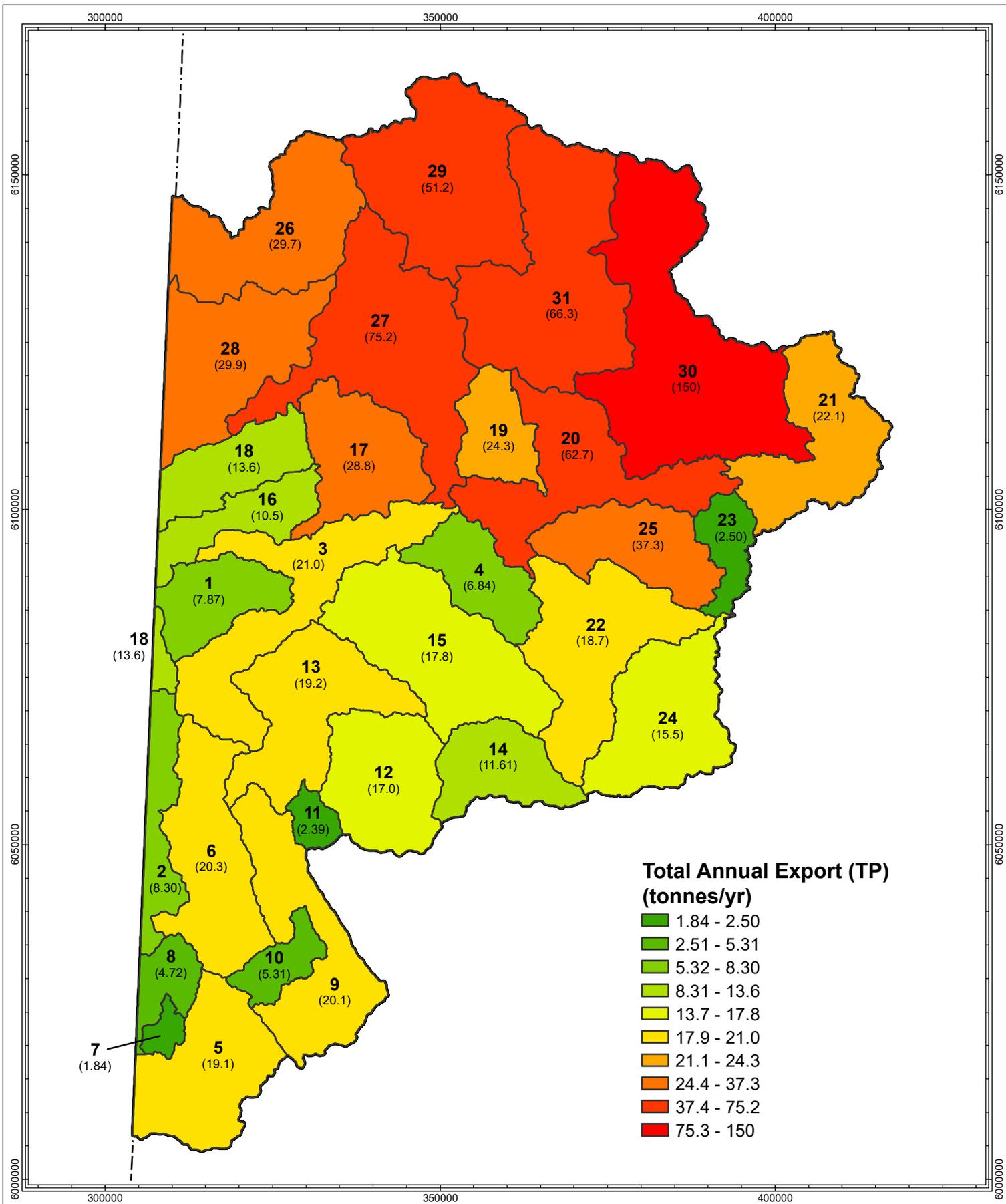




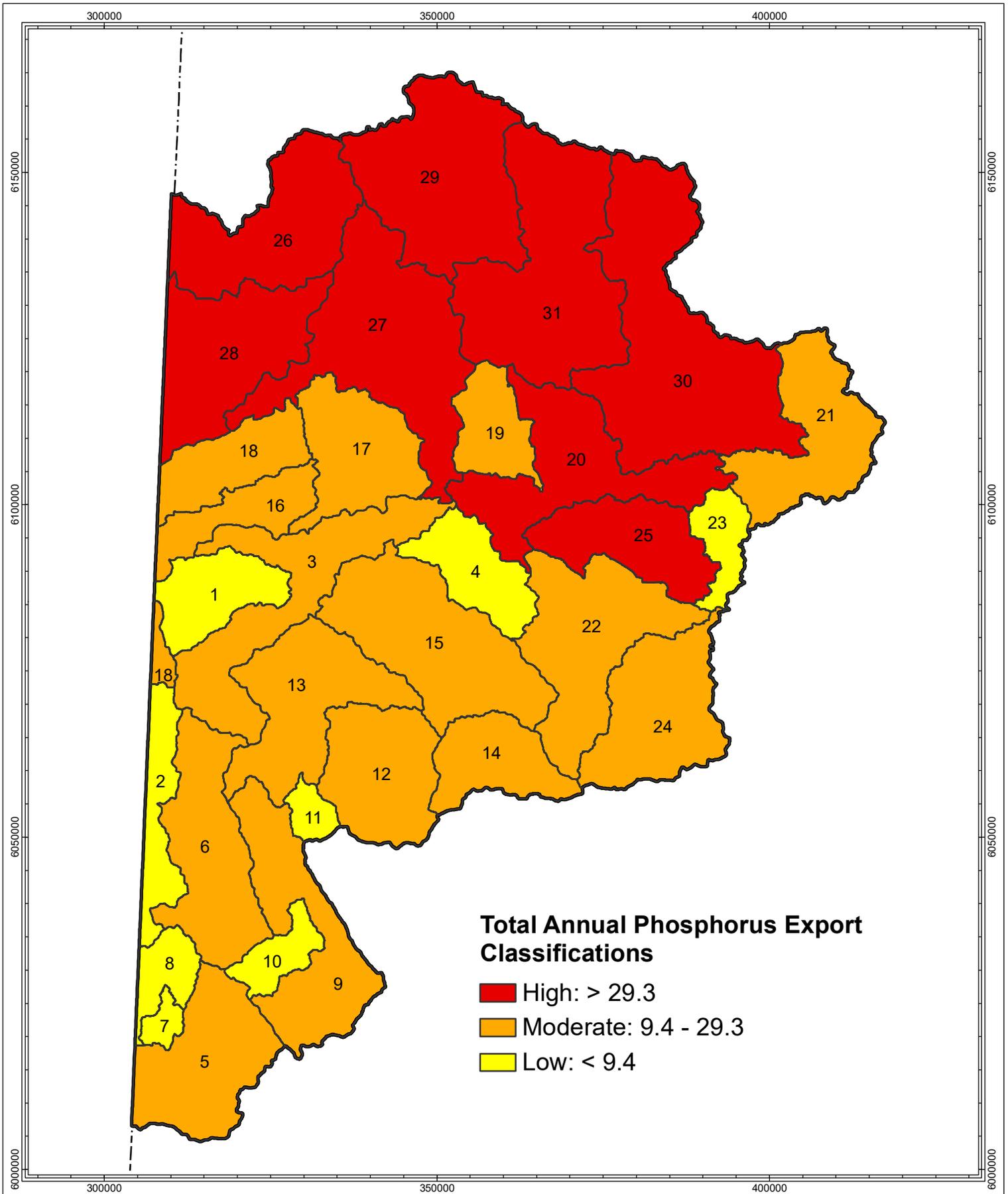
<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 HUTCHINSON Environmental Sciences Ltd.  PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000 	<b>DRAFT</b> <b>Total Annual Export Nitrogen</b> <b>FIGURE 22</b>									
				<table border="1"> <tr> <td>PROJECT:</td> <td>13186</td> <td>PROJECTION:</td> <td>UTM Zone 11N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DRAWN:</td> <td>B. Elder</td> <td>DATUM:</td> <td>NAD 1983</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CHECKED:</td> <td>D. Sacco</td> <td>DATE:</td> <td>Mar 09, 2018</td> </tr> </table>	PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N	DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983
PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N									
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983									
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 09, 2018									



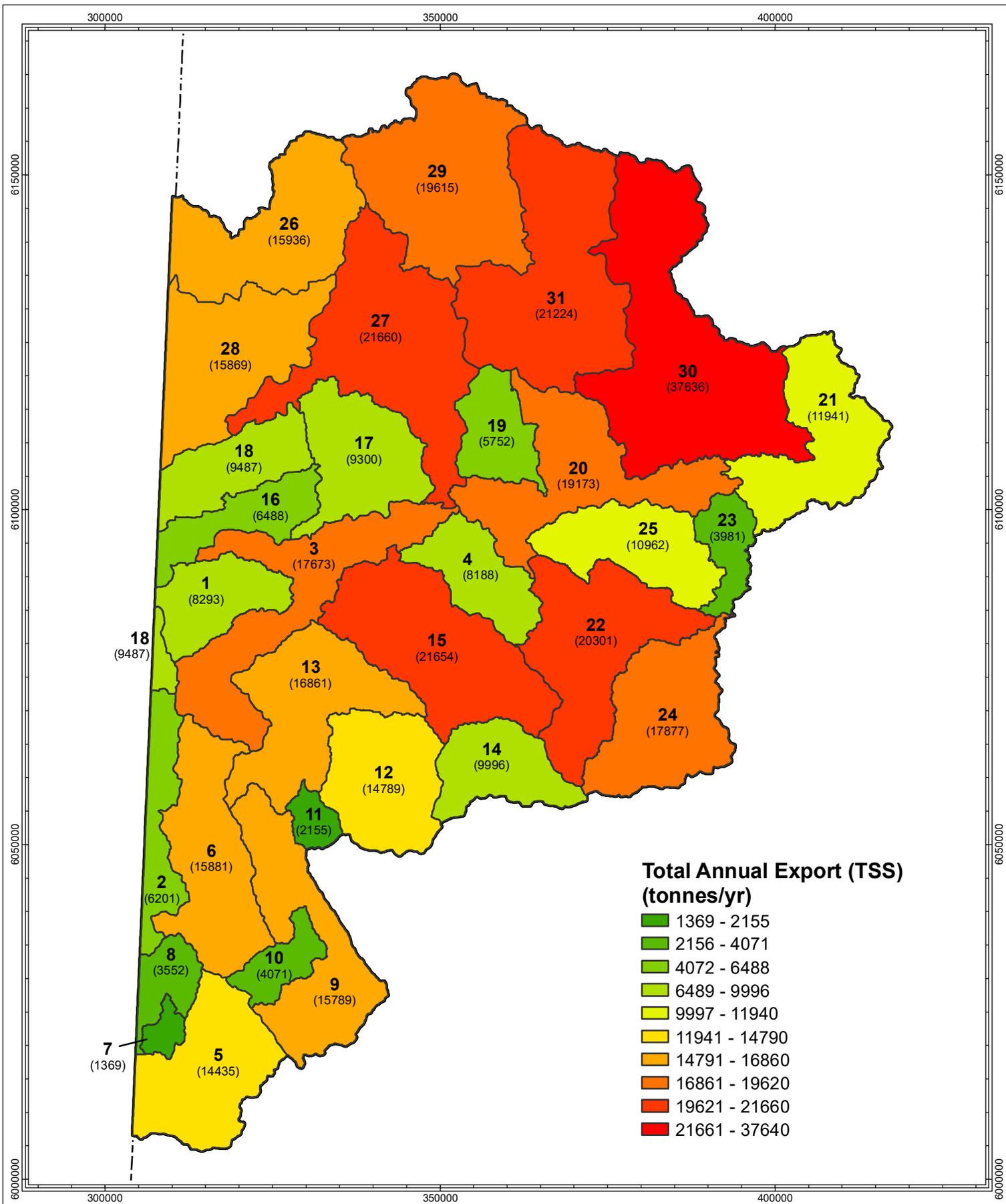
<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 HUTCHINSON Environmental Sciences Ltd.   PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000		 N	<b>Classification of Total Annual Nitrogen Export (tonnes/yr)</b>  <b>FIGURE 23</b>		
		PROJECT:	13186			PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
		DRAWN:	B. Elder			DATUM:	NAD 1983
		CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 29, 2018		



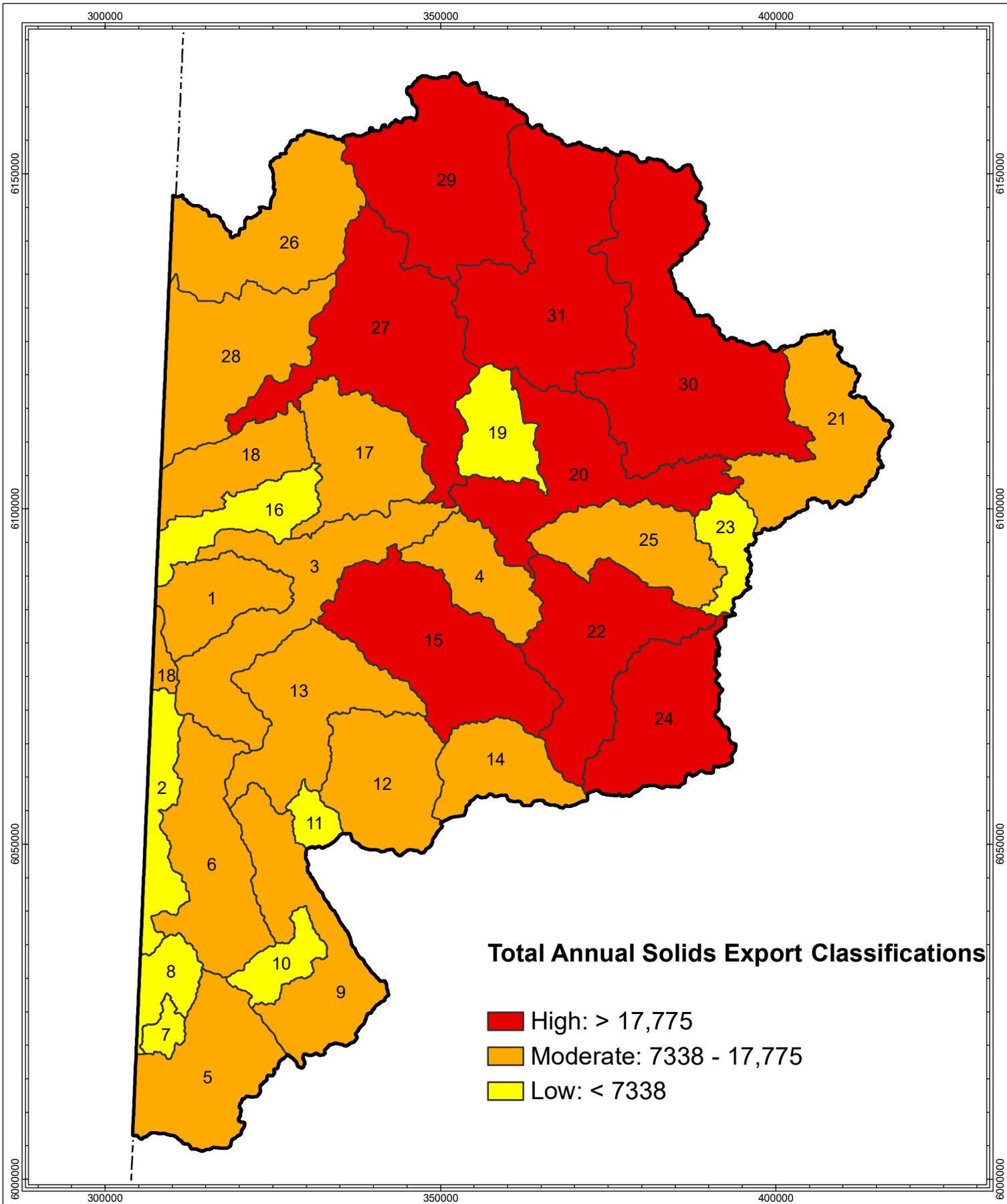
<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 HUTCHINSON Environmental Sciences Ltd.  PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000 	<b>Total Annual Export Phosphorus</b>												
			<b>FIGURE 24</b>												
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>PROJECT:</td> <td>13186</td> <td>PROJECTION:</td> <td>UTM Zone 11N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DRAWN:</td> <td>B. Elder</td> <td>DATUM:</td> <td>NAD 1983</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CHECKED:</td> <td>D. Sacco</td> <td>DATE:</td> <td>Mar 09, 2018</td> </tr> </table>		PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N	DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983	CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 09, 2018		
PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N												
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983												
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 09, 2018												



<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 HUTCHINSON Environmental Sciences Ltd.  PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000 	Classification of Total Annual Phosphorus Export (tonnes/yr)										
			<table border="1"> <tr><td>PROJECT:</td><td>13186</td><td>PROJECTION:</td><td>UTM Zone 11N</td></tr> <tr><td>DRAWN:</td><td>B. Elder</td><td>DATUM:</td><td>NAD 1983</td></tr> <tr><td>CHECKED:</td><td>D. Sacco</td><td>DATE:</td><td>Apr 10, 2018</td></tr> </table>	PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N	DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983	CHECKED:	D. Sacco
PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N										
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983										
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Apr 10, 2018										



<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 HUTCHINSON Environmental Sciences Ltd.  PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000 	<b>Total Annual Export Solids</b>												
			<b>FIGURE 26</b>												
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>PROJECT:</td> <td>13186</td> <td>PROJECTION:</td> <td>UTM Zone 11N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DRAWN:</td> <td>B. Elder</td> <td>DATUM:</td> <td>NAD 1983</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CHECKED:</td> <td>D. Sacco</td> <td>DATE:</td> <td>Mar 09, 2018</td> </tr> </table>		PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N	DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983	CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 09, 2018		
PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N												
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983												
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 09, 2018												



<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 HUTCHINSON Environmental Sciences Ltd.  PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000		 N	<b>Classification of Total Annual Solids Export (tonnes/yr)</b>		
		PROJECT:	13186			PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
		DRAWN:	B. Elder			DATUM:	NAD 1983
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 29, 2018	<b>FIGURE 27</b>			

## 5.2 Riparian Zone NPS Model Refinement

Donahue (2013) provided a table of “Riparian Zone Export Multiplication Factors” to account for nutrient delivery to surface water from land uses within 50m of a stream or beyond 50m but where steep slopes could increase delivery of N and P to a stream (Table 18).

- ❖ Neither Donahue (2013) nor the cited source material (Johnes 1996) define “steep” for the classification in Table 18 and so we classified slopes exceeding 10% as steep slopes,
- ❖ Our crop classifications did not distinguish canola from other cereal crops and so the value of 0.8 cited for canola (steep slopes, N) was used for all cereal crops,
- ❖ Our crop classifications did not distinguish intensive from extensive forage crops and so the value of 1.33 for steeper slopes, P was replaced with a 1 so that all four forage crop categories had the classification of 1 for steeper slopes (note that a value of 2 was used for all four classifications of N and P, intensive and extensive, in the <50m classification.)

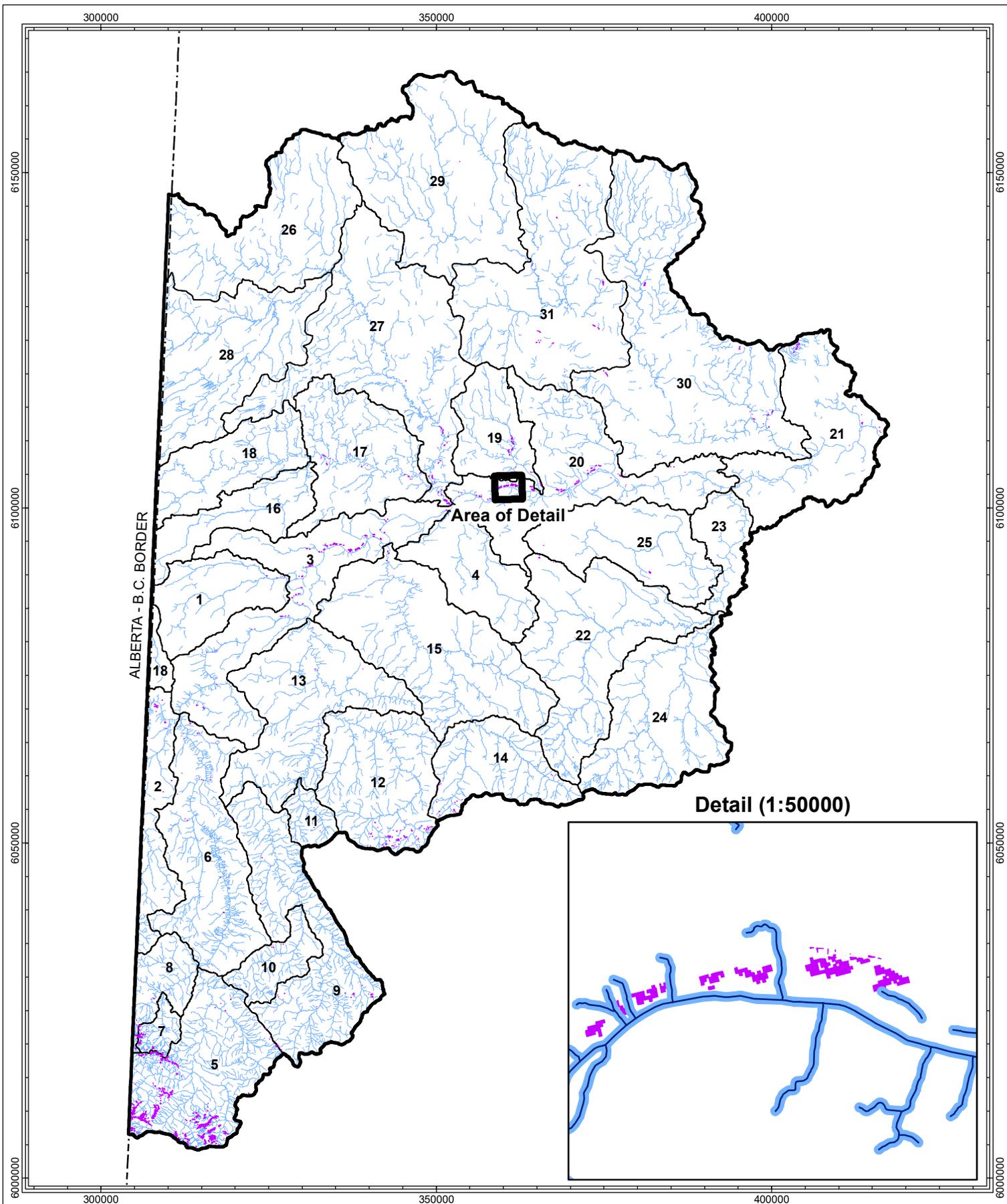
**Table 18. Riparian zone export multiplication factors from Donahue (2013).**

**Table B-7. Riparian Zone Export Multiplication Factors.** Nutrient export coefficients may be multiplied by the factors listed below for riparian zones within 50 meters of streambeds, and in catchments with steeper slopes more than 50 meters from streambeds (Johnes 1996).

Landscape Types	Riparian Zone (< 50m from stream)		Steeper catchment slope angles (> 50m from stream)	
	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Nitrogen	Phosphorus
Conifer Dominated Forest	1	1	1	1
Hardwood Dominated Forest	1	1	1	1
Shrubland	1	1	1	1
Native Grassland	2	1.25	1.5	4
Natural Unvegetated Flat (rock/ice/sand)	1	1	1	1
Natural Unvegetated Steep (rock/ice/sand)	1	1	1	1
Cereal Crop (intensive - manure)	2	1.25	0.8 (canola)	0.9
Cereal Crop (extensive)	2	1.25	0.8 (canola)	0.9
Forage Crop (intensive) alfalfa	2	2	1	1
Forage Crop (extensive) alfalfa	2	2	1	1.33
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	2	2	2	2
- Rolling (5-10% slope)	2	2	2	2
- Hilly (10-30% slope)	2	2	2	2
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	2	2	2	2
- Rolling (5-10% slope)	2	2	2	2
- Hilly (10-30% slope)	2	2	2	2

Figure 28 shows the portions of the study area that are within 50m of a stream or >50m with a slope exceeding 10%. Figures 29 and 30 show the resultant export coefficients for all land uses for N (Figure 29) and P (Figure 30).





**Legend**

- Study Area
- Subwatershed
- Riparian Zone<sup>1</sup>
- Steeper catchment slope angles<sup>2</sup>

Notes: (1) 50 m buffer from watercourses, (2) only affected classes shown.  
Sources: AltaLIS Hydrography and Natural Resources Canada - CDEM.

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**Hutchinson**  
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**PALMER**  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSULTING  
GROUP INC.

0 10 20 30 km

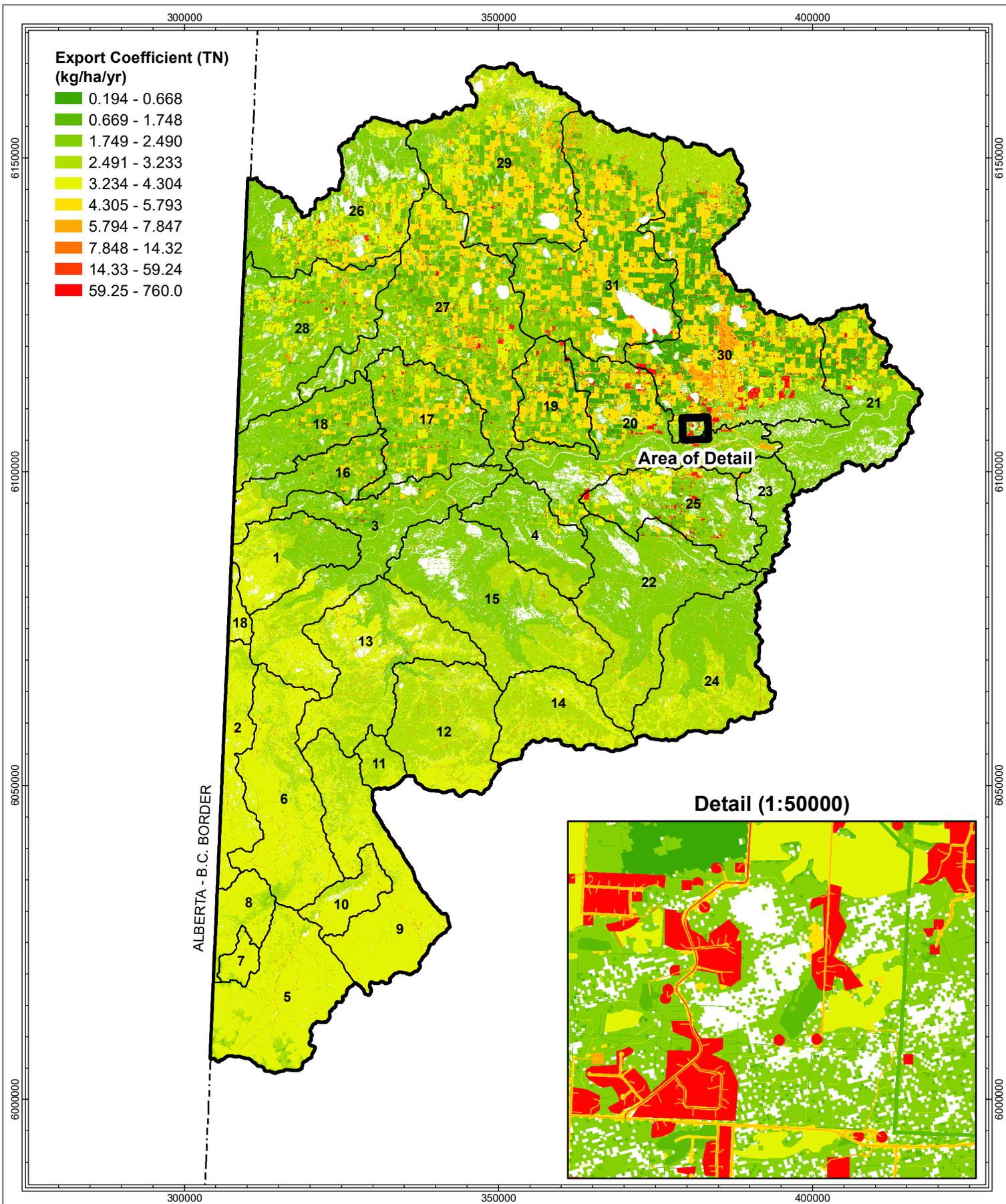
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N

PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 30, 2018

**Riparian Multiplier Factor Areas**

**FIGURE 28**



**Legend**

- Study Area
- Subwatershed

**Hutchinson**  
Environmental Sciences Ltd.

**PALMER**  
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CONSULTING  
GROUP INC.

0 10 20 30 km

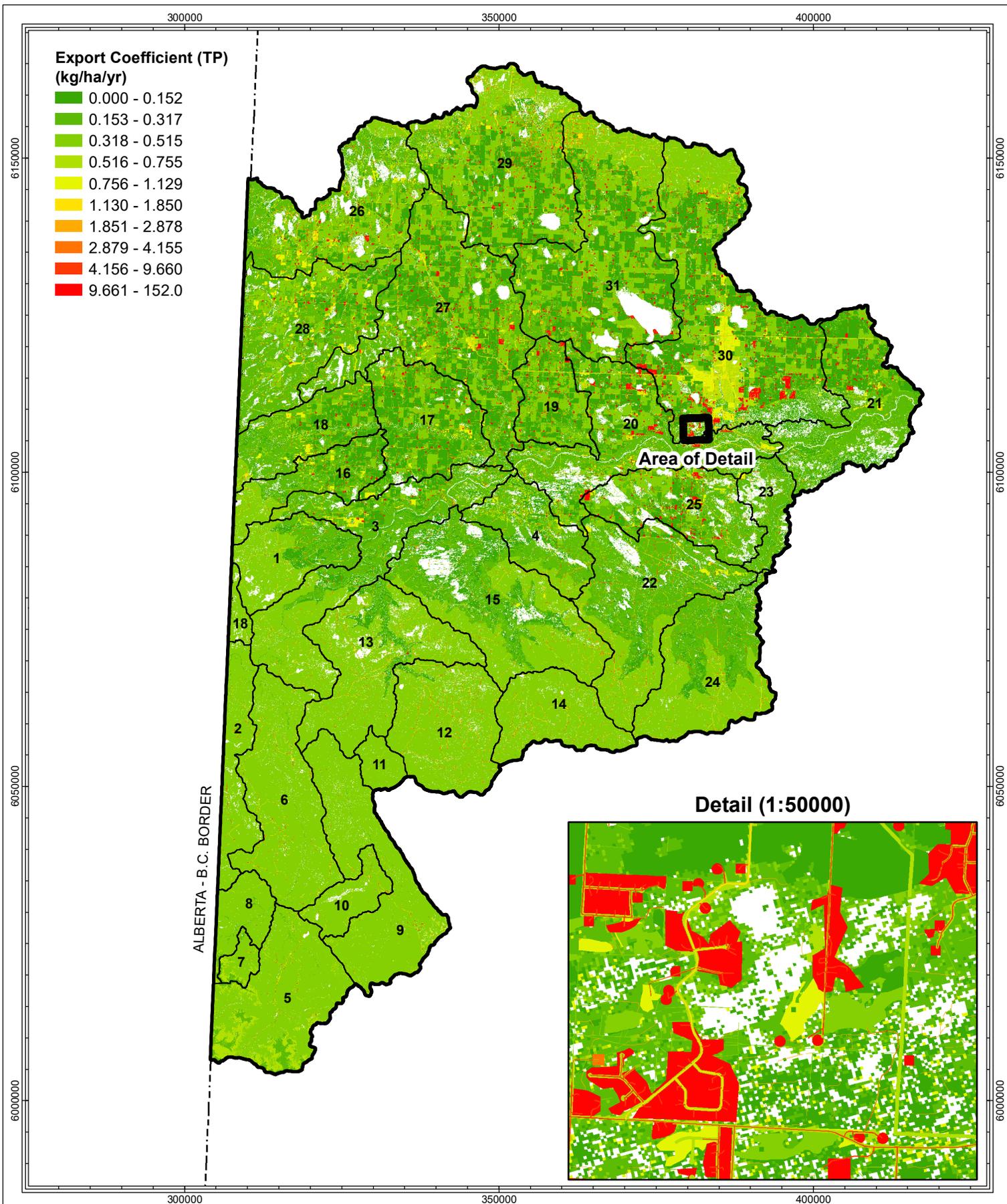
Scale = 1:800000



**Export Coefficients Nitrogen  
Riparian Zone Modifications**

PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 22, 2018

**FIGURE 29**



**Legend**

- Study Area
- Subwatershed

**Hutchinson**  
Environmental Sciences Ltd.

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ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSULTING  
GROUP INC.



Scale = 1:800000



**Export Coefficients Phosphorus  
Riparian Zone Modifications**

PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 22, 2018

**FIGURE 30**

Incorporation of the modifiers for location within 50m of a stream bed and steep slopes >50 from a stream bed altered average export coefficient values and total watershed loads, by less than 1% (Tables 19, 20) in 19 of 31 subwatersheds (Table 21) but did not alter the previous classifications of Low, Medium and High NPS export. Changes in total annual export for individual subwatersheds are presented in Table 22. The minimal change in annual NPS export related to the riparian corrections did not change the classifications of subwatersheds as “Low”, “Medium” or “High” export that were presented and so Figures 12, 14, 16, 23, 25 and 27 represent the classifications of NPS loadings from each subwatershed.

**Table 19. Influence of Riparian Zone Export Multiplication Factors on Average Export Coefficient Values for 31 Subwatersheds.**

	Export Coefficients (kg/ha/yr)					
	No Riparian Multiplier			With Riparian Multiplier		
	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Solids	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Solids
<b>Average</b>	4.49	0.71	403	4.51	0.71	403
<b>Minimum</b>	1.88	0.24	318	1.88	0.24	318
<b>Maximum</b>	12.1	1.87	486	12.2	1.87	486
<b>Median</b>	3.23	0.54	403	3.23	0.54	403
<b>25th Percentile</b>	2.91	0.48	377	2.91	0.48	377
<b>75th Percentile</b>	5.16	0.82	429	5.21	0.82	429

**Table 20. Influence of Riparian Zone Export Multiplication Factors on Total Annual Export for 31 Subwatersheds.**

	Total Annual Loads (tonnes)					
	No Riparian Multiplier			With Riparian Multiplier		
	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Solids	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Solids
<b>Average</b>	5,234	822	408,110	5,253	824	408,110
<b>Minimum</b>	169	26.5	13,165	169	26.6	13,165
<b>Maximum</b>	12.0	1.80	1,369	12.0	1.85	1,369
<b>Median</b>	978	151	37,636	980	151	37,636
<b>25th Percentile</b>	118	19.1	14,435	118	19.1	14,435
<b>75th Percentile</b>	57.0	9.40	7,338	57.4	9.43	7,338



<b>Total</b>	5,234	822	408,110	5,253	824	408,110
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**Table 19. Influence of Riparian Zone Export Multiplication Factors on Export Coefficient Values for 31 Individual Subwatersheds. Bolded values represent changes.**

Number	Watershed Name	Area (ha)	Nitrogen kg/ha/yr		Phosphorus kg/ha/yr		Solids kg/ha/yr	
			Original	Revised	Original	Revised	Original	Revised
1	CALAHOO CREEK	19468	2.657	<b>2.662</b>	0.404	<b>0.405</b>	426	426
2	UPPER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE NARRAWAY RIVER	15865	3.178	3.178	0.523	0.523	391	391
3	UPPER WAPITI RIVER BELOW NARRAWAY RIVER	44525	3.048	<b>3.050</b>	0.472	0.472	397	397
4	IROQUOIS CREEK	19423	2.328	<b>2.330</b>	0.352	<b>0.353</b>	422	422
5	TORRENS RIVER	35788	3.304	<b>3.306</b>	0.532	<b>0.534</b>	403	403
6	LOWER NARRAWAY RIVER	38031	3.184	3.184	0.535	0.535	418	418
7	DINOSAUR CREEK	3605	3.316	<b>3.318</b>	0.512	<b>0.513</b>	380	380
8	UPPER NARRAWAY RIVER	9483	3.185	3.185	0.498	0.498	375	375
9	UPPER NOSE CREEK	38029	3.199	3.199	0.527	0.527	415	415
10	GUNDERSON CREEK	9292	3.231	3.231	0.571	0.571	438	438
11	GRAYLING CREEK	5065	2.897	2.897	0.472	0.472	425	425
12	MUDDY CREEK	31780	2.926	2.926	0.536	0.536	465	465
13	LOWER NOSE CREEK	39120	2.843	2.843	0.490	0.490	431	431
14	UPPER PINTO CREEK	21035	2.990	2.990	0.552	0.552	475	475
15	LOWER PINTO CREEK	50762	2.308	2.308	0.351	0.351	427	427
16	CALAHOO CREEK	16721	3.985	<b>4.007</b>	0.630	<b>0.632</b>	388	388
17	LOWER REDWILLOW RIVER	29287	6.379	<b>6.435</b>	0.985	<b>0.991</b>	318	318
18	UPPER REDWILLOW RIVER	24028	3.615	<b>3.643</b>	0.566	<b>0.569</b>	395	395
19	PIPESTONE CREEK	16064	9.891	<b>9.918</b>	1.510	<b>1.512</b>	358	358
			Original	Revised	Original	Revised	Original	Revised
20	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	43516	9.232	<b>9.250</b>	1.440	<b>1.441</b>	441	441
21	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE SMOKY RIVER	35282	4.595	<b>4.618</b>	0.627	<b>0.628</b>	338	338



Number	Watershed Name	Area (ha)	Nitrogen kg/ha/yr		Phosphorus kg/ha/yr		Solids kg/ha/yr	
22	BALD MOUNTAIN CREEK	44806	2.642	<b>2.643</b>	0.416	<b>0.417</b>	453	453
23	LOWER BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	10441	1.883	1.883	0.240	0.240	381	381
24	UPPER BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	36769	2.698	2.698	0.422	0.422	486	486
25	UNNAMED - BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	26768	8.684	<b>8.691</b>	1.395	1.395	410	410
26	UPPER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	42609	4.423	<b>4.477</b>	0.697	<b>0.705</b>	374	374
27	LOWER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	62067	7.842	<b>7.894</b>	1.211	<b>1.216</b>	349	349
28	BEAVERTAIL CREEK	41085	4.644	<b>4.699</b>	0.727	<b>0.733</b>	386	386
29	UPPER BEAR RIVER	56114	5.683	<b>5.723</b>	0.913	<b>0.916</b>	350	350
30	LOWER BEAR RIVER	80539	12.144	<b>12.173</b>	1.869	<b>1.870</b>	467	467
31	LOWER BEAR RIVER ABOVE GRANDE PRAIRIE CREEK	66199	6.389	<b>6.414</b>	1.001	<b>1.003</b>	321	321
Total		1,013,569						



**Table 20. Influence of Riparian Zone Export Multiplication Factors on Total Annual Export for 31 Individual Subwatersheds. Bolded values represent changed totals**

Number	Watershed Name	Area (ha)	Nitrogen tonnes/yr		Phosphorus tonnes/yr		Solids tonnes/yr	
			Original	Revised	Original	Revised	Original	Revised
1	CALAHOO CREEK	19468	51.7	<b>51.8</b>	7.87	<b>7.89</b>	8,293	8,293
2	UPPER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE NARRAWAY RIVER	15865	50.4	50.4	8.30	8.30	6,201	6,201
3	UPPER WAPITI RIVER BELOW NARRAWAY RIVER	44525	135.7	<b>135.8</b>	21.02	<b>21.03</b>	17,673	17,673
4	IROQUOIS CREEK	19423	45.2	<b>45.3</b>	6.84	<b>6.85</b>	8,188	8,188
5	TORRENS RIVER	35788	118.23	<b>118.3</b>	19.05	<b>19.13</b>	14,435	14,435
6	LOWER NARRAWAY RIVER	38031	121.10	121.1	20.34	20.34	15,881	15,881
7	DINOSAUR CREEK	3605	11.95	12.0	1.84	1.85	1,369	1,369
8	UPPER NARRAWAY RIVER	9483	30.21	30.2	4.72	4.72	3,552	3,552
9	UPPER NOSE CREEK	38029	121.66	121.7	20.06	20.06	15,789	15,789
10	GUNDERSON CREEK	9292	30.02	30.0	5.31	5.31	4,071	4,071
11	GRAYLING CREEK	5065	14.67	14.7	2.39	2.39	2,155	2,155
12	MUDDY CREEK	31780	92.98	93.0	17.03	17.04	14,789	14,789
13	LOWER NOSE CREEK	39120	111.22	111.2	19.17	19.17	16,861	16,861
14	UPPER PINTO CREEK	21035	62.89	62.9	11.61	11.62	9,996	9,996
15	LOWER PINTO CREEK	50762	117.17	117.2	17.83	17.83	21,654	21,654
16	CALAHOO CREEK	16721	66.64	<b>67.0</b>	10.54	<b>10.56</b>	6,488	6,488
17	LOWER REDWILLOW RIVER	29287	186.82	<b>188.5</b>	28.84	<b>29.02</b>	9,300	9,300
18	UPPER REDWILLOW RIVER	24028	86.86	<b>87.5</b>	13.59	<b>13.68</b>	9,487	9,487



Number	Watershed Name	Area (ha)	Nitrogen tonnes/yr		Phosphorus tonnes/yr		Solids tonnes/yr	
19	PIPESTONE CREEK	16064	158.88	<b>159.3</b>	24.26	<b>24.28</b>	5,752	5,752
20	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	43516	401.75	<b>402.5</b>	62.66	<b>62.72</b>	19,173	19,173
21	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE SMOKY RIVER	35282	162.14	<b>162.9</b>	22.11	<b>22.15</b>	11,941	11,941
22	BALD MOUNTAIN CREEK	44806	118.39	118.4	18.66	18.67	20,301	20,301
23	LOWER BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	10441	19.66	19.7	2.50	2.50	3,981	3,981
24	UPPER BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	36769	99.22	99.2	15.51	15.51	17,877	17,877
25	UNNAMED - BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	26768	232.45	<b>232.6</b>	37.34	<b>37.35</b>	10,962	10,962
26	UPPER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	42609	188.45	<b>190.8</b>	29.69	<b>30.03</b>	15,936	15,936
26	UPPER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	42609	188.45	<b>190.8</b>	29.69	<b>30.03</b>	15,936	15,936
27	LOWER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	62067	486.74	<b>490.0</b>	75.16	<b>75.44</b>	21,660	21,659
28	BEAVERTAIL CREEK	41085	190.80	<b>193.0</b>	29.88	<b>30.13</b>	15,869	15,869
29	UPPER BEAR RIVER	56114	318.90	<b>321.2</b>	51.24	<b>51.42</b>	19,615	19,615
30	LOWER BEAR RIVER	80539	978.03	<b>980.4</b>	150.50	<b>150.63</b>	37,636	37,636
31	LOWER BEAR RIVER ABOVE GRANDE PRAIRIE CREEK	66199	422.93	<b>424.6</b>	66.30	<b>66.42</b>	21,224	21,224
Total		1,013,569	5,253	5,234	824	822	408,110	408,110

Overall, incorporation of the riparian zone multipliers for individual crops had little influence on NPS loading, reflecting the low percentage of affected agricultural lands and crops (Table 18) and the lack of steep topography (Figure 28) in the agricultural areas of the Wapiti watershed.



## 6. Point source (PS) estimates

PS loadings of N, P and TSS were derived from a variety of sources. AECOM (2009) summarized all licensed PS discharges of sewage effluent in Alberta, including discharges to the Wapiti River. Measured loads for the Grande Prairie Airport and Silver Point Village were not available and so these were estimated from AECOM (2009) as follows:

- ❖ Estimated 2017 serviced populations of 481 and 123 for Grande Prairie Airport and Silver Point Village respectively,
- ❖ Average daily flows of 400 L/C/day,
- ❖ Lagoon discharge with assumed treatment effectiveness for Total N, Total P and TSS as provided in Table 2.5 from AECOM 2009 (Table 23).

Annual PS loads are presented in Table 24. Annual loadings of N and P from International Paper in Grande Prairie were retrieved from annual reports provided by AEP and are presented in Table 24.

**Table 21. Assumed Wastewater Treatment Effectiveness from AECOM (2009).**

Parameter	Lagoon Stabilization Pond – Conforms to AENV Standard	Lagoon Stabilization Pond – Does Not Conform to AENV Standard	Mechanical Aerated Lagoon	Mechanical WWTP	Units
Average Day Flow (ADF)	Service Population x 0.4 m <sup>3</sup> /person/day	m <sup>3</sup> /d			
cBOD*	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 25 (mg/L)/1000	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 25 (mg/L)/1000	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 25 (mg/L)/1000	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 20 (mg/L)/1000	kg/d
Total Suspended Solids-TSS	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 25 (mg/L)/1000	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 25 (mg/L)/1000	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 25 (mg/L)/1000	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 20 (mg/L)/1000	kg/d
Total Nitrogen-N	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 3 (mg/L)/1000	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 15 (mg/L)/1000	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 30 (mg/L)/1000	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 20 (mg/L)/1000	kg/d
Organic Nitrogen-N	ADF x 1.0 mg/L/1000	kg/d			
Ammonia-N Winter		ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 13 (mg/L)/1000	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 20 (mg/L)/1000	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 10 (mg/L)/1000	kg/d
Ammonia-N Summer	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 1 (mg/L)/1000	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 13 (mg/L)/1000	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 10 (mg/L)/1000	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 5 (mg/L)/1000	kg/d
Nitrate-N Winter	Total Nitrogen (kg/d) - Organic Nitrogen (kg/d) - Ammonia Winter (kg/d)	Total Nitrogen (kg/d) - Organic Nitrogen (kg/d) - Ammonia Winter (kg/d)	Total Nitrogen (kg/d) - Organic Nitrogen (kg/d) - Ammonia Winter (kg/d)	Total Nitrogen (kg/d) - Organic Nitrogen (kg/d) - Ammonia Winter (kg/d)	kg/d
Nitrate-N Summer	Total Nitrogen (kg/d) - Organic Nitrogen (kg/d) - Ammonia Summer (kg/d)	Total Nitrogen (kg/d) - Organic Nitrogen (kg/d) - Ammonia Summer (kg/d)	Total Nitrogen (kg/d) - Organic Nitrogen (kg/d) - Ammonia Summer (kg/d)	Total Nitrogen (kg/d) - Organic Nitrogen (kg/d) - Ammonia Summer (kg/d)	kg/d
Total Phosphorus-P	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 2.5 (mg/L)/1000	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 2.5 (mg/L)/1000	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 3.7 (mg/L)/1000	ADF x Discharge Limit (mg/L)/1000 OR if no Discharge Limit ADF x 3.5 (mg/L)/1000	kg/d

*Note: \* carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand*



**Table 22. Point Source Dischargers in Wapiti Basin.**

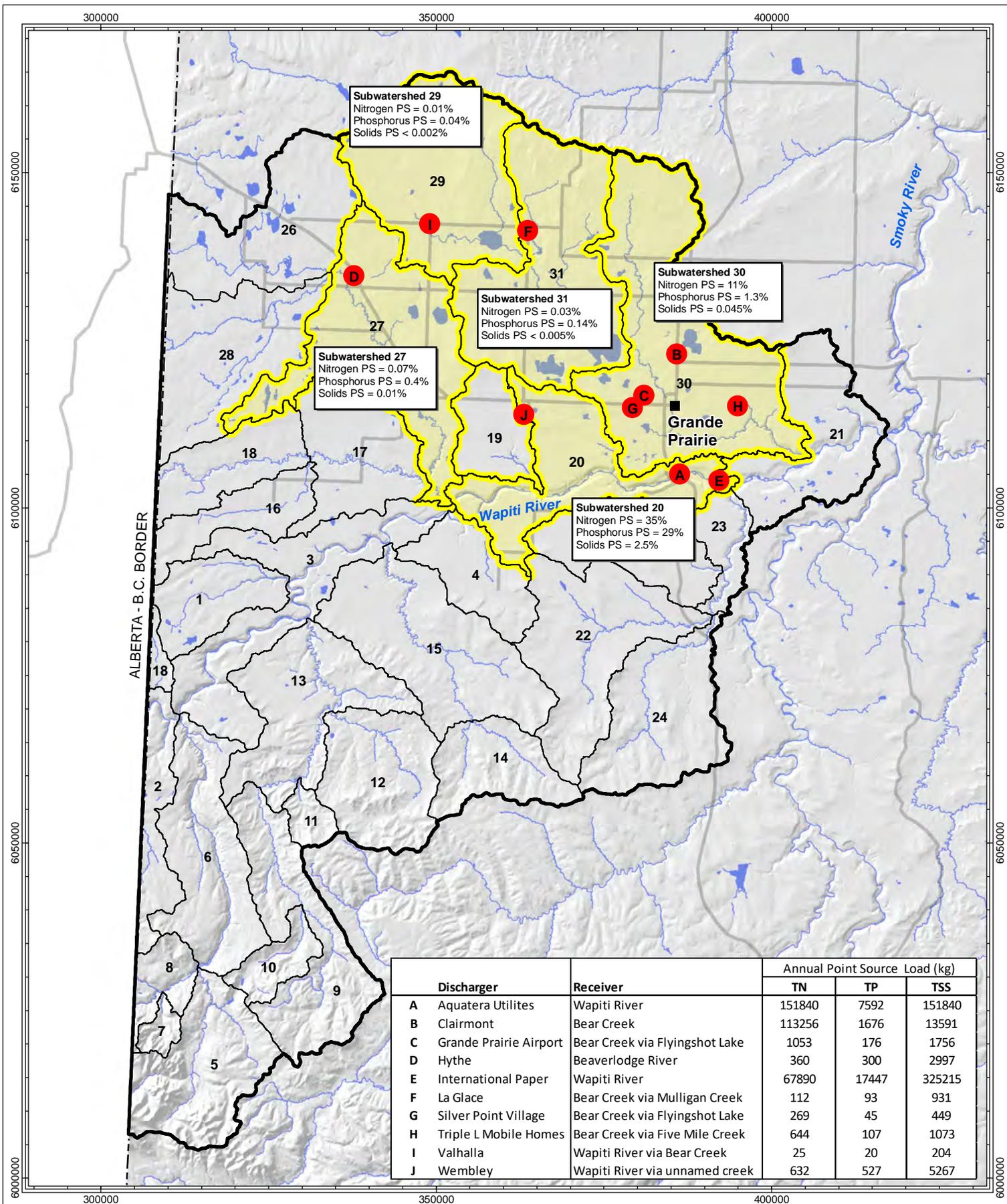
Discharger	Approval Number	Receiver	Total Annual Loads (kg)		
			Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Solids
Aquatera Utilities	197502	Wapiti River	151840	7592	151840
Clairmont	518	Bear Creek	113256	1676	13591
Grand Prairie Airport	18188	Bear Creek via Flyingshot Lake	1053	176	1756
Hythe	148503	Beaverlodge River	360	300	2997
<sup>A,B</sup> International Paper		Wapiti River	67890	17447	325215
La Glace	909	Bear Creek via Mulligan Creek	112	93	931
Silver Point Village	68153	Bear Creek via Flyingshot Lake	269	45	449
Triple L Mobile Home	1235	Bear Creek via Five Mile Creek	644	107	1073
Valhalla	1246	Wapiti via Bear Creek	25	20	204
Wembley	1292	Wapiti River via unnamed creek	632	527	5267

<sup>A</sup>International paper loads were based on daily calculations, extrapolated to yearly loads.

<sup>B</sup>International paper total nitrogen load only takes into consideration total Kjeldahl nitrogen, as no nitrate and nitrite estimates were available.

Figure 31 shows the location of each PS discharge in the basin and the annual loading of N, P and solids from each.





Discharger	Receiver	Annual Point Source Load (kg)		
		TN	TP	TSS
A Aquatera Utilites	Wapiti River	151840	7592	151840
B Clairmont	Bear Creek	113256	1676	13591
C Grande Prairie Airport	Bear Creek via Flyingshot Lake	1053	176	1756
D Hythe	Beaverlodge River	360	300	2997
E International Paper	Wapiti River	67890	17447	325215
F La Glace	Bear Creek via Mulligan Creek	112	93	931
G Silver Point Village	Bear Creek via Flyingshot Lake	269	45	449
H Triple L Mobile Homes	Bear Creek via Five Mile Creek	644	107	1073
I Valhalla	Wapiti River via Bear Creek	25	20	204
J Wembley	Wapiti River via unnamed creek	632	527	5267

- Legend**
- Study Area
  - Subwatershed
  - Affected Subwatershed
  - Highway



0 10 20 30 km

Scale = 1:750000

PROJECT: 13186 PROJECTION: UTM Zone 11N  
 DRAWN: B. Elder DATUM: NAD 1983  
 CHECKED: D. Sacco DATE: Apr 02, 2018

Point Source **Loadings to Wapiti Basin**

**FIGURE 31**

## 6.1 Total Loading Estimates

PS loads were discharged to five of the 31 subwatersheds, three of which form the Bear Creek subwatershed (Table 25). Subwatershed 20 contains the Aquatera WWTP and International Paper facilities which discharge directly to the Wapiti River. PS loads from these facilities made up 35%, 29% and 2.5% of the total loading of N, P and solids, respectively, in these subwatersheds (Tables 26, 27, 28). The low proportional contribution of solids indicates that much of the N and P in these discharges was more readily bioavailable and not associated with solids to the same extent as NPS loadings.

**Table 23. Point Source Loadings for Five Subwatersheds in Wapiti Basin.**

	<b>Subwatershed</b>	<b>No. Dischargers</b>	<b>Nitrogen Load in kg/yr</b>	<b>Phosphorus Load in kg/yr</b>	<b>Solids Load in kg/yr</b>
20	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	2	220362	25566	482322
27	LOWER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	1	360	300	2997
29	UPPER BEAR RIVER	1	25	20	204
30	LOWER BEAR RIVER	4	115222	2004	16869
31	LOWER BEAR RIVER ABOVE GRANDE PRAIRIE CREEK	1	112	93	931

**Table 24. Total Nitrogen NPS and PS Loads for Five Subwatersheds in the Wapiti Basin.**

	<b>Subwatershed</b>	<b>NPS kg/yr</b>	<b>PS Kg/yr</b>	<b>Total Kg/yr</b>	<b>PS as % of Total</b>	<b>Export in kg/ha/yr</b>	<b>Classification NPS/Total</b>
20	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	402,518	220,362	622,880	35	14.3	High/High
27	LOWER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	489,980	360	490,340	0.07	7.900	High/High
29	UPPER BEAR RIVER	321,164	25	321,189	0.01	5.724	High/High
30	LOWER BEAR RIVER	980,418	115,222	1,095,640	11	13.60	High/High
31	LOWER BEAR RIVER ABOVE GRANDE PRAIRIE CREEK	424,630	112	424,742	0.026	6.42	High/High



**Table 25. Total Phosphorus NPS and PS Loads for Five Subwatersheds in the Wapiti Basin.**

	<b>Subwatershed</b>	<b>NPS kg/yr</b>	<b>PS Kg/yr</b>	<b>Total Kg/yr</b>	<b>PS as % of Total</b>	<b>Export in kg/ha/yr</b>	<b>Classification NPS/Total</b>
20	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	62,718	25,566	88,284	29	2.03	High/High
27	LOWER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	75,444	300	75,744	0.40	1.22	High/High
29	UPPER BEAR RIVER	51,425	20	51,445	0.04	0.92	High/High
30	LOWER BEAR RIVER	150,631	2,004	152,635	1.3	1.90	High/High
31	LOWER BEAR RIVER ABOVE GRANDE PRAIRIE CREEK	66,423	93	66,516	0.140	1.00	High/High

**Table 26. Total Solids NPS and PS Loads for Five Subwatersheds in the Wapiti Basin.**

	<b>Subwatershed</b>	<b>NPS kg/yr</b>	<b>PS Kg/yr</b>	<b>Total Kg/yr</b>	<b>PS as % of Total</b>	<b>Export in kg/ha/yr</b>	<b>Classification NPS/Total</b>
20	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	19,172,802	482,322	19,655,124	2.5	452	High/High
27	LOWER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	21,659,498	2,997	21,662,495	0.014	349	Low/Low
29	UPPER BEAR RIVER	19,615,486	204	19,615,690	0.001	350	Low/Low
30	LOWER BEAR RIVER	37,635,617	16,869	37,652,486	0.045	468	High/High
31	LOWER BEAR RIVER ABOVE GRANDE PRAIRIE CREEK	21,223,555	931	21,224,486	0.0044	321	High/High

Although the point sources added additional loads to the river from these subwatersheds they did not change the classifications of relative loadings. Those subwatersheds which exceeded the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile for NPS loading ("High") remained in that classification when total loadings were considered.

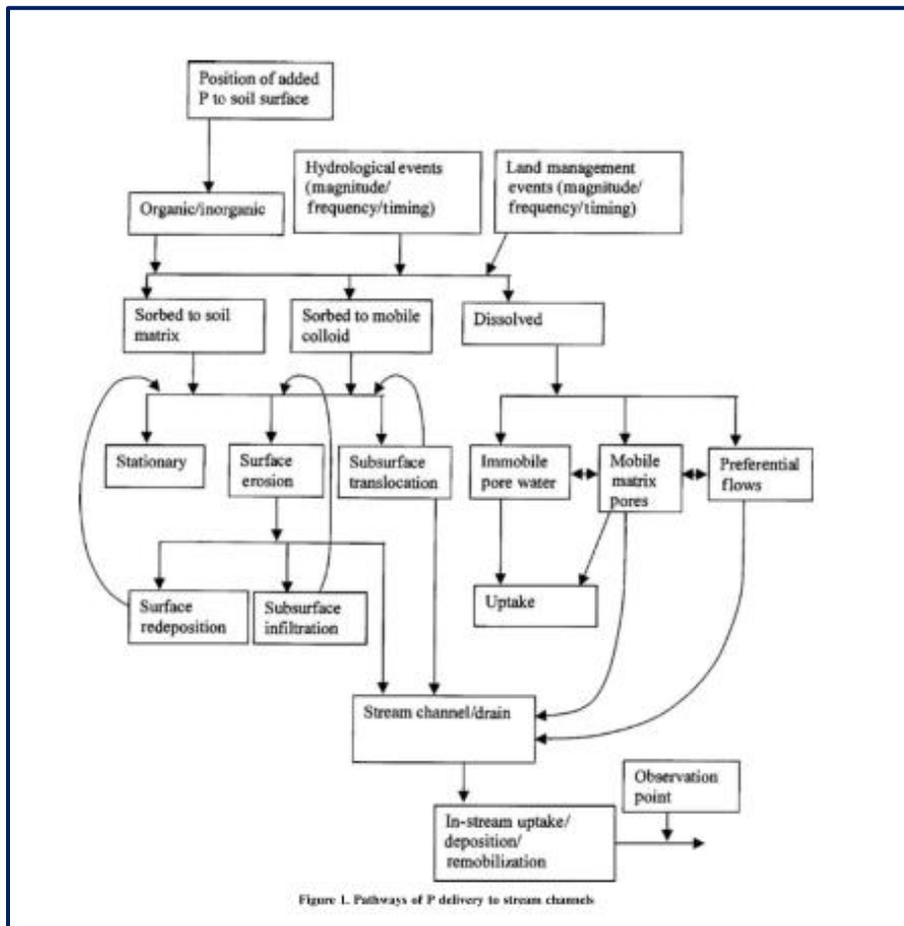


## 7. NPS Delivery - Sensitivity Classifications

The study objectives required identification of the areas and pathways most likely to deliver nutrient loads from the landscape to a stream, and ultimately to the Wapiti River. Although Donahue (2013) recommend use of a series of “Riparian Zone Export Multiplication Factors” to modify the specific export coefficients for land use classes based on distance to a stream and slope, our analysis (Section 5.2) concluded that this approach did not refine the NPS model sufficiently to generate useful assessments of stream sensitivity to NPS delivery.

Beven et al. (2005) documented the complexity of processes influencing phosphorus delivery to surface water (Figure 32) and concluded that model accuracy was dependent on a) the ability of the predictive model and b) the resolution and accuracy of the measurement of delivery to surface water. There are no available measurements of nutrient delivery to surface water for the study area and so our approach focused on the identification of factors determining the sensitivity of surface waters to the delivery of NPS loading from source areas to the water body.

**Figure 32. Pathways of phosphorus delivery to surface water, from Beven et al. (2005).**



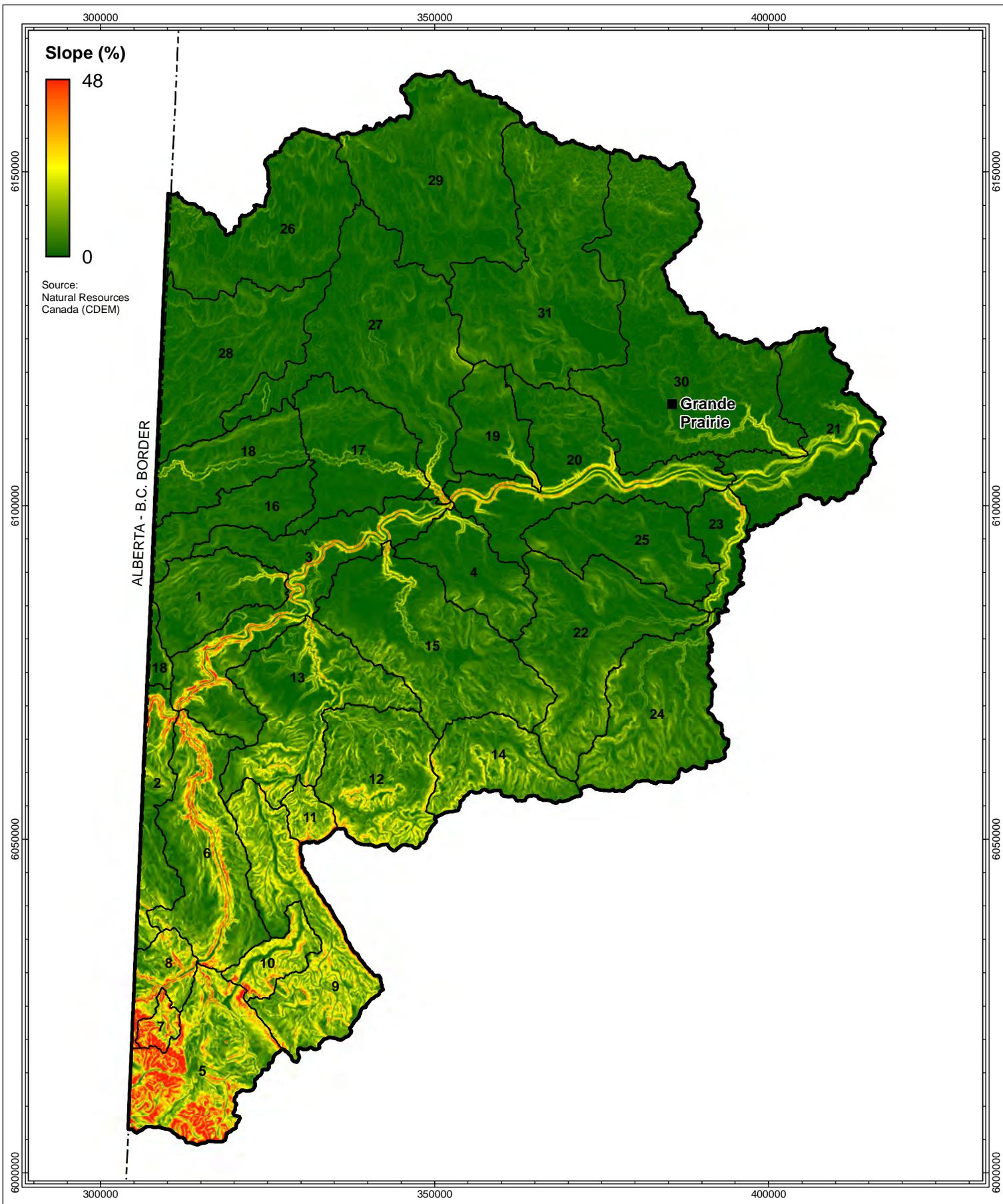
Behrendt and Opitz (2000) reviewed studies on 100 central European watersheds ranging from 121 – 194,000 km<sup>2</sup> and reported that estimates of N load derived from export coefficients were 40% greater than measured loads. The difference was reduced to 20% through use of a statistical model incorporating the specific runoff of the basin, the proportion of the basin area occupied by surface water, the basin size itself and the mean annual N concentration at a specific monitoring station. Although this approach was useful, it addressed only in-stream nutrient reduction processes with no accounting for, or estimation of, on-land processes that may prevent or mitigate the delivery of nutrients to surface water.

Development and application of a nutrient delivery model is clearly complex and beyond the scope of this study. The original NPS model and results described in Sections 4 and 5 described and estimated the potential for a given land use and area to produce runoff of solids and associated nutrients to surface water as a function of natural region and land use using the methods of Donahue (2013). Management of NPS loading must combine this information with additional factors that describe the potential for the loading to be delivered to surface water. The GIS model was therefore refined by adding criteria and data to classify and compare the relative potential of different areas and land uses to contribute NPS loadings of N and P using criteria such as erosion rate, slope, sediment yield or drainage density to identify priority areas for future management. We therefore developed three criteria to model the sensitivity of each land use and subwatershed to deliver NPS pollutants to surface water.

### **Slope**

A digital elevation model was used to develop a slope overlay for the study area using the three classifications of topography provided by Donahue (2013): Type I (rolling-high potential, >10%), II (hummocky-moderate potential, 5%-10%) and III (flat-low potential, <5%). Figure 33 provides the range of slopes throughout the study area and Figure 34 shows the resultant classifications of “Low”, “Moderate” and “High” sensitivity to NPS runoff based on slope.





**Legend**

- Study Area
- Subwatershed

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**PALMER**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.

0 10 20 30 km

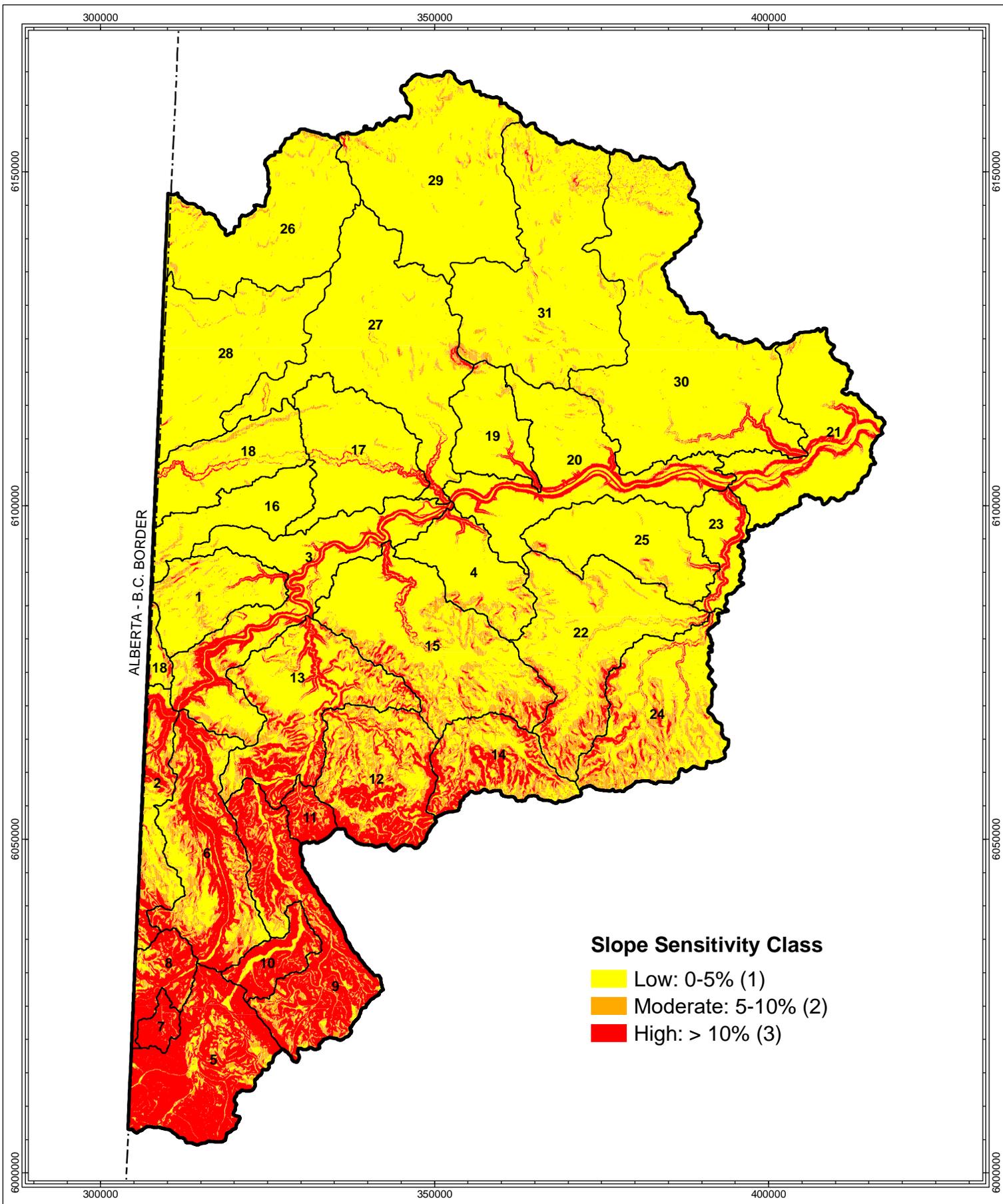
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PROJECT: 13186 PROJECTION: UTM Zone 11N  
 DRAWN: B. Elder DATUM: NAD 1983  
 CHECKED: D. Sacco DATE: Mar 30, 2018

Slope Values in the Wapiti River Watershed

**FIGURE 33**

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**Legend**

- Study
- Subwatershed

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GROUP INC.

0 10 20 30 km

Scale = 1:750000

PROJECT: 13186 PROJECTION: UTM Zone 11N  
 DRAWN: B. Elder DATUM: NAD 1983  
 CHECKED: D. Sacco DATE: Mar 29, 2018

Slope Sensitivity  
**Classification**

**FIGURE 34**

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## Soils

Erosion is also dependent on soil type and texture which determine the partitioning of precipitation into infiltration or runoff. Donahue (2013) provides three relevant soil classifications

- ❁ High potential– fine textured silts, clays and loams with shallow humic horizons which promote runoff, are easily erodible and tend to adsorb nutrients because of their surface charge,
- ❁ Moderate Potential – loams, silty loams and fine sandy loams with moderately deep humic horizons and moderate textures
- ❁ Low potential – loams, sandy loams and sands with moderate to coarse textures and deeper humic horizons

These general classifications were applied to the specific soil types available in GIS mapping layers according to Table 29 and resultant soil classifications mapped in Figure 35. Figure 36 shows the soil sensitivity classifications as average values for each subwatershed.

**Table 27. Classifications of Soil Types by Erosional Sensitivity.**

Data Reference	Shapefile attribute	Shapefile Attribute entry	Description	Erosion potential
AGS Map 150 and 239	SRC_UNIT			
		Aeolian deposits	fine-grained well-sorted sand	M
		Alluvial fans and Aprons	generally coarse-grained gravels	L
		Bedrock	In Rockies predominantly Palaeozoic age carbonates and quartzites; in foothills Mesozoic age shale, siltstone and sandstone with minor coal and limestone	L
		Cirque tills	Angular cobble to boulder with minor sand and gravel	L
		Coarse stream alluvium	gravelly sand to pebble gravel	L
		Colluvial deposits	mixed glacial sediments and bedrock; disaggregated till	M
		Colluvium	soil and rock creep; coarse angular material reflecting underlying bedrock	L
		Deeply leached till, Cordilleran Provenance	highly compacted diamict containing clay to boulder	M
		Fluvial deposits	dominantly sandy to gravel deposits with minor layers of silt	L
		Glaciolacustrine deposits	silt and clay with minor sand	H
		Gravel	coarse-grained glaciofluvial deposits	L
		Ground moraine	highly compacted diamict containing clay to boulder	L
		Hummocky moraine	clayey to sandy till; less compact than ground moraine	M
		Ice contact	well to poorly sorted sand and gravel	L
		Meltwater channel deposits	gravel and minor sand	L
		Moraine-colluvium undifferentiated	Compacted stony weathered till with clay to sand matrix	M
		Organic deposits	bogs, fens, peat, minor silt, clay and marl	H

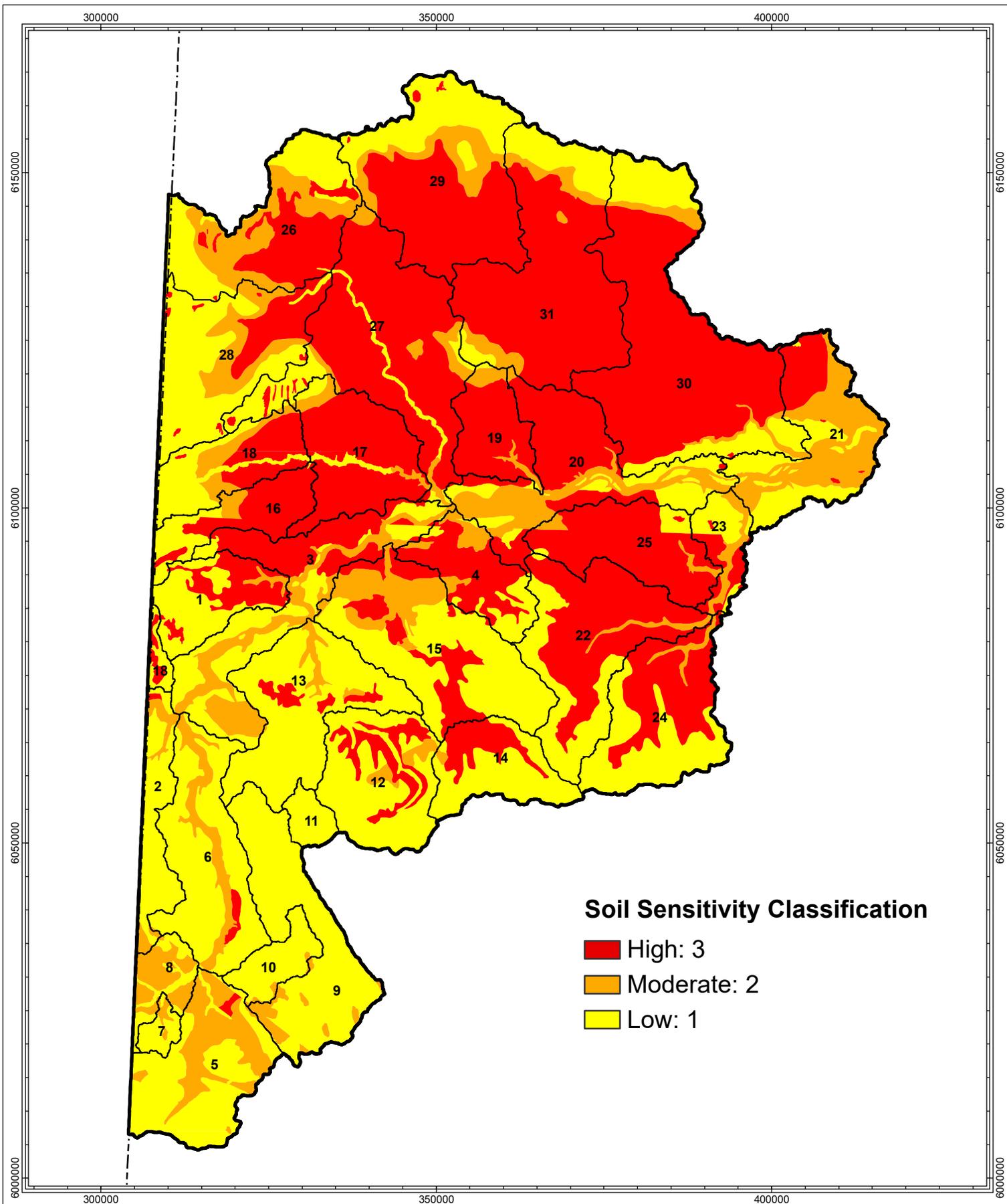


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Inventory and Evaluation of Non-Point Pollution Sources in the Wapiti River Basin – Draft Results

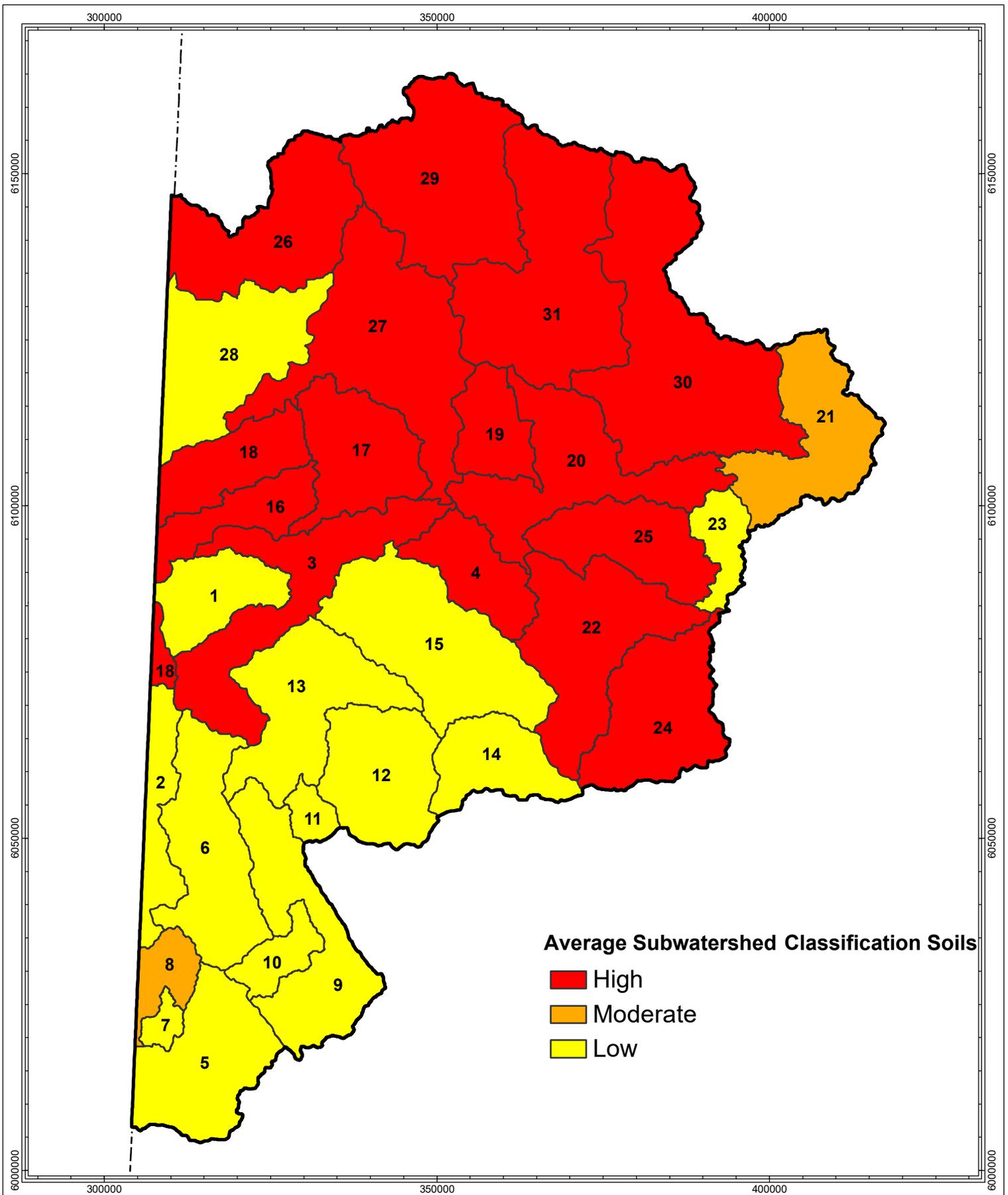
		Sand	outwash sand with minor gravel, silt, clay	L
		Sandstone		L
		Shale, siltstone and coal		L
		Silt and clay	silt and clay	H
		Silt and minor sand		H
		Slightly leached till, Cordilleran provenance	highly compacted diamict containing clay to boulder	M
		Undifferentiated glaciofluvial and aeolian	veneer of sorted fine sand; commonly overlies glaciofluvial and glaciolacustrine deposits; pebbly sand	L
Liverman, 1989	SRC_GENET	Bedrock, till and glacial lake clay and silt reseedimented by slope failures	diamicton and bedrock	M
		Till, probably meltout at surface	compact clay to boulder diamicton	L
		Melt-out till	mod to low compact silt to boulder diamicton	L
		Aeolian dome dunes and sand sheet	fine sand and silt some clay	M
		Post glacial terraces	gravel and sand	L
		Modern alluvium	gravel sand and minor silt	L
		Bedrock	sandstone, shale and coal	L
		Parabolic dunes	medium sand over gravel silt and clay	L
		Modern lacustrine and swamp deposits	peat and clay	H
		Glaciofluvial outwash	poorly sorted sand and gravel	L
		Esker or kame	poorly sorted sand and gravel	L
		Till (ablation?)	sandy diamict	L
		Glaciolacustrine drape over thin till and bedrock	sand and clay diamict	H
		Glaciolacustrine silt pitted by wind	silt and clay with minor organict	H
		Glaciolacustrine	silt and clay, few coarse clasts	H
		Glaciolacustrine drape over diamicton, bedrock lineation	silt and clay, few coarse clasts	H
		Ice proximal glaciolacustrine and strandlines	silt/clay with many stones	M

L = low, M = moderate, H = high





<p><b>Legend</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Study</li> <li>Subwatershed</li> </ul>	<p><b>Hutchinson</b> Environmental Sciences Ltd.</p> <p>PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.</p>	<p>0 10 20 30 km</p> <p>Scale = 1:750000</p>	<p><b>Soil Sensitivity</b></p>	
			<p><b>FIGURE 35</b></p>	
<p>PROJECT: 13186      PROJECTION: UTM Zone 11N</p> <p>DRAWN: B. Elder      DATUM: NAD 1983</p> <p>CHECKED: D. Sacco      DATE: Mar 29, 2018</p>				



**Average Subwatershed Classification Soils**

- High
- Moderate
- Low

**Legend**  
 Study Area  
 Subwatershed

**Hutchinson**  
 Environmental Sciences Ltd.

**PALMER**  
 ENVIRONMENTAL  
 CONSULTING  
 GROUP INC.



PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Apr 05, 2018

**Average Subwatershed  
 Soils Sensitivity**

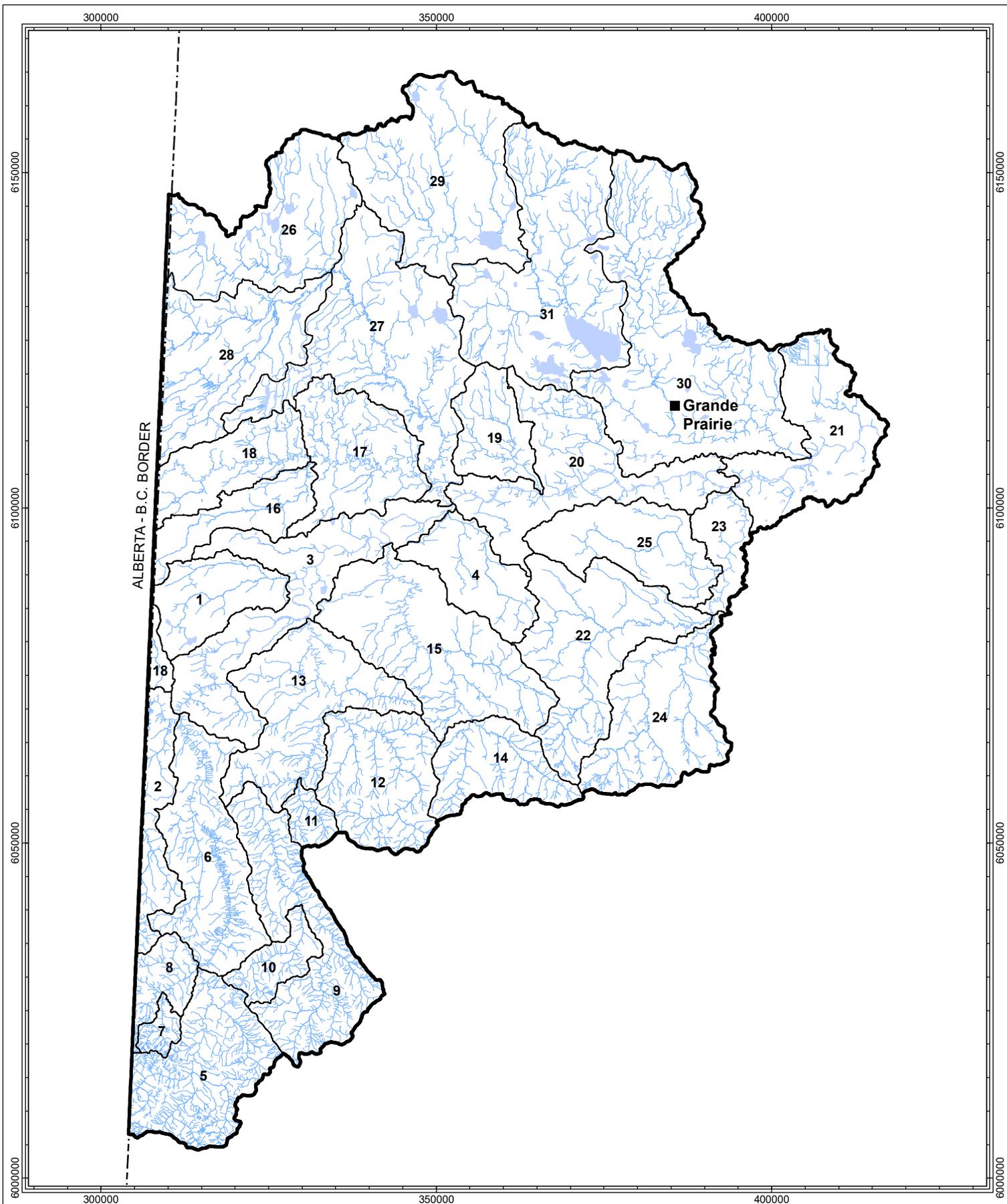
**FIGURE 36**



- ❁ Figure 41 shows one average value for each subwatershed, which was used to identify the catchments of highest priority for management.

The management implications of the final classifications are developed in Section 9.





- Legend**
- Study Area
  - Subwatershed
  - Watercourse
  - Waterbody (not included)

Source: AltaLIS Hydrography  
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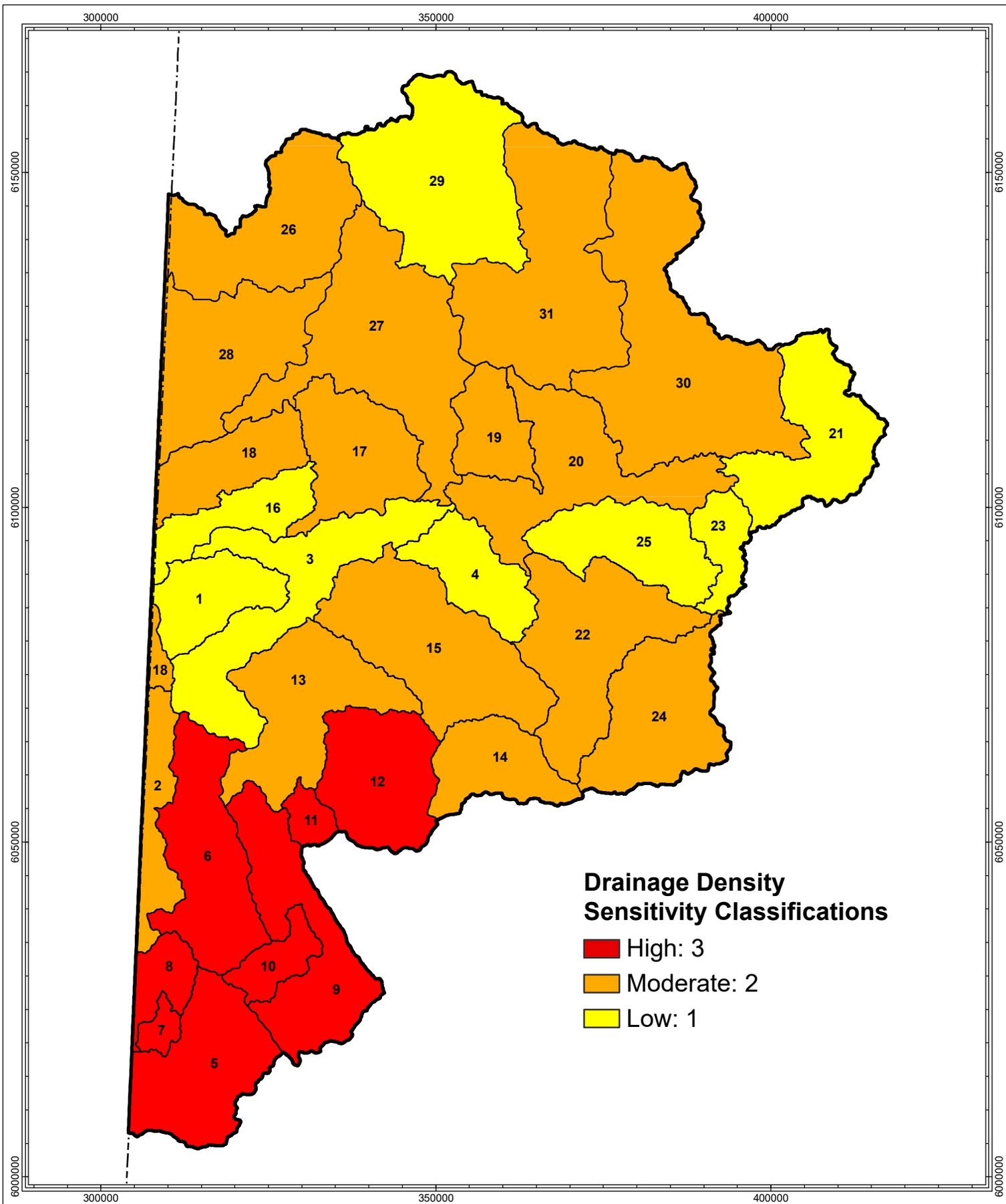
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PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 30, 2018

## Drainage Density in the Wapiti River Watershed

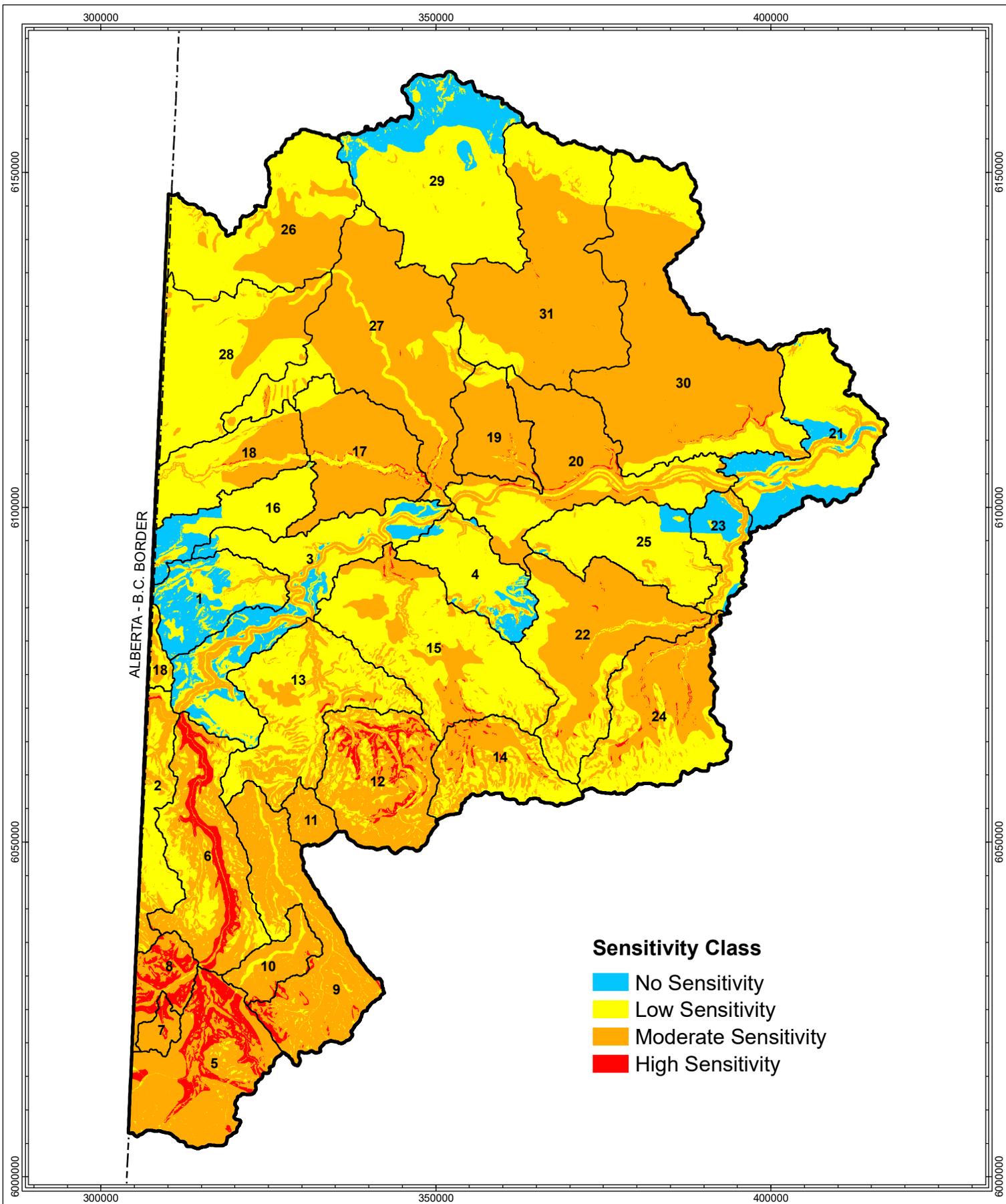
# FIGURE 38



<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 HUTCHINSON Environmental Sciences Ltd.  PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000		 N		
		PROJECT:	13186		PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
		DRAWN:	B. Elder		DATUM:	NAD 1983
		CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 29, 2018	

**Drainage Density Sensitivity**

**FIGURE 39**



**Sensitivity Class**

- No Sensitivity
- Low Sensitivity
- Moderate Sensitivity
- High Sensitivity

- Legend**
- Study Area
  - Subwatershed



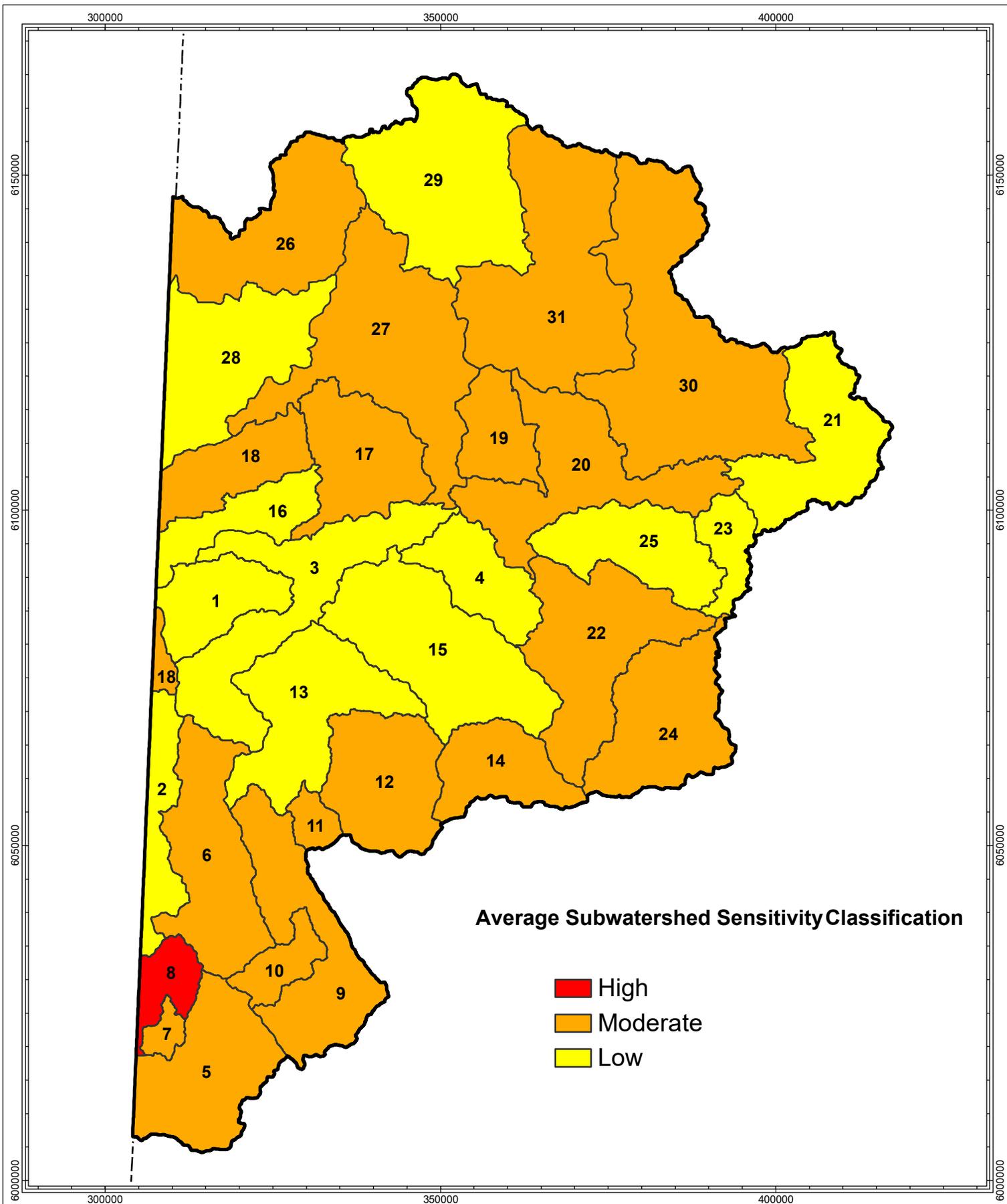
Scale = 1:750000



PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Mar 29, 2018

**Overall Sensitivity Classification**

**FIGURE 40**



<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 HUTCHINSON Environmental Sciences Ltd.  PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000 	<b>Average Subwatershed NPS Sensitivity</b> <b>FIGURE 41</b>									
					<table border="1"> <tr> <td>PROJECT:</td> <td>13186</td> <td>PROJECTION:</td> <td>UTM Zone 11N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DRAWN:</td> <td>B. Elder</td> <td>DATUM:</td> <td>NAD 1983</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CHECKED:</td> <td>D. Sacco</td> <td>DATE:</td> <td>Apr 05, 2018</td> </tr> </table>	PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N	DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:
PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N									
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983									
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Apr 05, 2018									

## 8. Wapiti River Response

Donahue (2013) cautions that: *“It must be emphasized that the export rates described here generally reflect water quality in low-order streams. Estimates of nutrient and sediment concentrations in high-order rivers based solely on these export coefficients would likely be too high, because they do not incorporate in-stream nutrient and sediment removal mechanisms and rates. However, at the very least, these methods should be of use for development of strategic watershed management decisions based on estimates of loading potential from different land uses, where insufficient data or resources precludes more detailed mechanistic modeling of loading and water quality.”*

This section of the report provides an assessment of the accuracy and the ecological implications of the NPS loadings developed in previous sections of the report.

### 8.1 Accuracy of NPS Model

The response of the Wapiti River to the NPS and PS loadings was described by comparison of the modelled loads to loads estimated from measured data on flow and water quality in the Wapiti River. Long term records of flow and water quality were available from the WSC station upstream of Grande Prairie (07GE001, Wapiti River at Hwy 40) and Long-term River Monitoring Network sites (AB07GE0020, Hwy 40) and AB07GJ0030 (Wapiti River at confluence with Smoky River).

#### 8.1.1 Methods

Nutrient loads in tonnes/yr (t/yr) were calculated at the WSC station using the last 10 years of available flows (2004-2013) coupled with Long Term River Monitoring Network TP and TN data for the same period of record. Monthly water quality concentration results were multiplied by daily flows, averaged over the period two weeks prior to and two weeks following the water quality sample collection, to estimate monthly nutrient loads. We then summed those monthly loading estimates for each year to provide ten annual estimates of annual load. The average of these ten estimates was used for comparison to the non-point source model predictions.

Values below method detection limit were rare, occurring in 11 of 158 LTRN TP samples (7%). Where TP was below the detection limit a value of ½ of the detection limit (DL = 0.003 mg/L) was used to calculate load. TN values did not fall below detection in any samples collected.

NPS loading estimates were based on values calculated using the 31 Subwatershed GIS model described in Section 5. NPS loads from subwatersheds upstream of the WSC and LTRN station (i.e., subwatersheds 1-20 and 26-28, Figure 5) were summed to provide an estimate of the NPS loading.

In addition to estimates of nutrient loading at the WSC station at Highway 40, we calculated loads downstream at the LTRN station upstream of the Smoky River confluence (AB07GJ0030), however no flow data were available at this station. To estimate flow, we prorated daily flows from the upstream WSC station based on watershed area and then followed identical procedures to those described above, i.e., averaged flow over the period two weeks prior to and following the water quality sample collection.



### 8.1.2 Results and Discussion

Annual measured TP loads showed a high degree of interannual variability, ranging between 73 and 751 t/yr (~10X) with an average of 324 t/yr). TN loads ranged between 793 and 3406 t/yr (~4X) with an average of 1746 t/yr; Table 30). This degree of variability was not unexpected as a) annual discharge of the Wapiti River ranged from 4178 – 10814 ML/d (~2.5X) over the same period and b) the estimates of nutrient loading were coarse; based on monthly water quality measurements made in a dynamic environment.

Average annual non-point source nutrient loading from the 23 upstream watersheds was estimated at 458 t/yr of phosphorus and 2882 t/yr of N (Table 31). Both these estimates fall within the range of variability based on measured data and thus the NPS model should provide a useful tool to identify priority watersheds. NPS TP estimates were 41% greater than the mean of the 10-year measured data, while NPS TN measurements were 65% greater than the average measured loads.

Average annual nutrient loading was measured at 620 t/yr of phosphorus and 3519 t/yr of N at the Smoky River confluence (Table 32). NPS modelled loadings of TP and TN of 850 and 5577 tonnes/yr overestimated these measured values by 37 and 58% respectively (Table 33) and the agreement between measured and modelled values was closer than at the upstream site. Downstream loads included a significant input of nutrients from two major point sources, i.e., the Aquatera wastewater treatment facility and International Paper Mill. Loads from these point sources are well constrained by ongoing monitoring data and thus the downstream estimates of TN and TP from point and non-point sources would be expected to be more accurate than those made upstream based solely on non-point source modelling.

**Table 28. Annual Measured Total Loads of Nitrogen and Phosphorus Upstream of Grande Prairie (LTRN Site 07GE0001).**

Year	Annual TP Load (t/yr)	Annual TN Load (t/yr)
2004	362	1,176
2005	287	1,305
2006	163	793
2007	751	3,067
2008	206	886
2009	276	1,486
2010	177	1,328
2011	548	3,000
2012	73	1,008
2013	400	3,406
<b>Average</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>1,746</b>
Minimum	73	793
Maximum	751	3,406



**Table 29. Non-point Source Estimates of Total Phosphorus and Total Nitrogen Loadings Upstream of Grande Prairie.**

Watershed ID Number	Watershed Name	Total Nitrogen (t/yr)	Total Phosphorus (t/yr)
1	CALAHOO CREEK	52	8
2	UPPER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE NARRAWAY RIVER	50	8
3	UPPER WAPITI RIVER BELOW NARRAWAY RIVER	136	21
4	IROQUOIS CREEK	45	7
5	TORRENS RIVER	118	19
6	LOWER NARRAWAY RIVER	121	20
7	DINOSAUR CREEK	12	2
8	UPPER NARRAWAY RIVER	30	5
9	UPPER NOSE CREEK	122	20
10	GUNDERSON CREEK	30	5
11	GRAYLING CREEK	15	2
12	MUDDY CREEK	93	17
13	LOWER NOSE CREEK	111	19
14	UPPER PINTO CREEK	63	12
15	LOWER PINTO CREEK	117	18
16	CALAHOO CREEK	67	11
17	LOWER REDWILLOW RIVER	187	29
18	UPPER REDWILLOW RIVER	87	14
19	PIPESTONE CREEK	159	24
20	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	402	63
26	UPPER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	188	30
27	LOWER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	487	75
28	BEAVERTAIL CREEK	191	30
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2882</b>	<b>458</b>



**Table 30. Annual Measured Total Loads of Nitrogen and Phosphorus Prorated to Smoky River Confluence LTRN Station (AB07GJ0030)**

Year	Annual Total Phosphorus Load (t/yr)	Annual Total Nitrogen Load (t/yr)	Year	Annual Total Phosphorus Load (t/yr)	Annual Total Nitrogen Load (t/yr)
2004	696	2,037	2011	621	5,713
2005	536	2,971	2012	248	2,185
2006	384	1,479	2013	658	6,067
2007	1,906	5,684			
2008	234	2,651	<b>Average</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>3,519</b>
2009	694	3,832	Minimum	227	1,479
2010	227	2,576	Maximum	1,906	6,067

**Table 31. Annual Modelled Total Loads of Nitrogen and Phosphorus at Smoky River Confluence.**

	N in tonnes	P in tonnes
LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE SMOKY RIVER	163	22.1
BALD MOUNTAIN CREEK	118	18.7
LOWER BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	20	2.5
UPPER BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	99	15.5
UNNAMED - BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	233	37.4
UPPER BEAR RIVER	321	51.4
LOWER BEAR RIVER	980	150.6
LOWER BEAR RIVER ABOVE GRANDE PRAIRIE CREEK	425	66.4
Upper Wapiti Watershed	2882	458.0
Point Sources	336	27.7
Total Modelled	5577	850
Measured Annual Average at Smoky River Confluence	3519	620
% Overestimate of modelled	58	37



## 8.2 Bear Creek

The NPS subwatershed model results show that Bear Creek represents an area of significant interest in better understanding water quality in the Wapiti River and the importance of PS discharges to the health of the system. Despite containing significant agricultural development, discharge from several smaller wastewater lagoons and stormwater discharge from the City of Grand Prairie, little information is currently available on Bear Creek. Recent data were collected in 2014/2015 by the City of Grande Prairie and analyzed by Hutchinson Environmental Sciences Ltd. Five water quality samples were collected in 2017 at the mouth of Bear Creek along with samples upstream and downstream of the City in August/Oct 2014 and April/June 2015. These data supplement earlier data collections in May 2007 and April 2008 but are not adequate to characterize the seasonal and inter-annual variability of the creek.

Water quality data in Bear Creek suggest that stormwater runoff from the City could have a significant impact on water quality in the creek. Increases were reported in chloride, TSS and associated parameters such as TP, total Kjeldahl nitrogen, and several total metals (e.g., total aluminum, arsenic, cadmium, copper, and lead) from upstream of the City to downstream during high flow events including spring freshet and a storm event on October 2014. The City was also considered a source of pesticides 2,4-D, fluroxypyr and MCP (HESL 2015).

NPS loading estimates in Bear Creek show that the Bear Creek subwatersheds (29, 30 and 31) account for 1720 and 268 t/yr of TN and TP respectively. These loads represent a significant input of nutrients to the system, equivalent to approximately 60% of the load from all watersheds upstream of Grand Prairie combined (Subwatersheds 1-20 and 26-28). Furthermore, Subwatershed 30 which contains the City accounts for over half (56%) of the Bear Creek nutrient load. Therefore, we believe that an improved understanding of Bear Creek is essential to the watershed monitoring of the Wapiti River and to establishing the impact of point source discharges to water quality in the area.

## 8.3 Ecological Response

The nutrient responses of the Wapiti River to the known Aquatera and International Paper discharges downstream of the City of Grande Prairie have been well characterised (PECG/HESL 2011, 2018), and these sources, plus AEP records, provide a) valid measurements of point source loads to the river, b) a summary of changes in concentrations of N and P in the river from these known discharges and c) a summary of ecological responses (periphyton) to the inputs. We therefore compared the changes in periphytic chlorophyll “a” to the measured changes in concentration of N and P in the river to provide an assessment of the responses of periphyton to known loads as an estimation of how the river might respond to NPS loads.

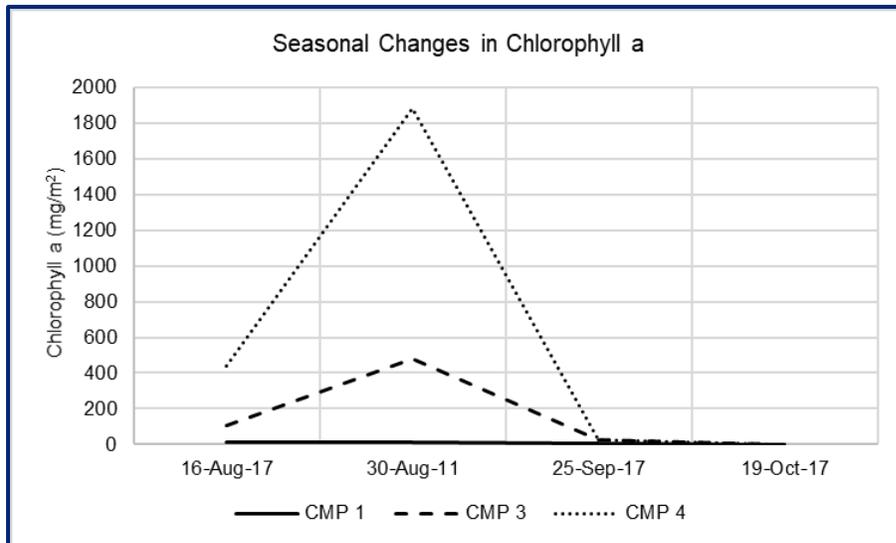
Epilithic chlorophyll-a, a measure of algae biomass, was used to assess the primary ecological response to increases in TP and TN downstream of the Aquatera Utilities and International Paper effluent discharges. Data collected by PECG and HESL in 2011 and 2017 were used to compare concentrations of chlorophyll-a upstream of the WWTP discharge (CMP 1), downstream of the WWTP effluent but upstream of the pulp mill (CMP 3) and downstream of the pulp mill effluent discharge (CMP 4). Concentrations upstream of the dischargers were between an order of magnitude and two orders of magnitude lower than downstream concentrations. Increases in chlorophyll-a concentrations downstream of the two dischargers were also



described by Hatfield Consultants (2007) based on data collected between August and October in 2002, 2003 and 2006.

A seasonal pattern in chlorophyll-a concentrations (based on data collected between 2011 and 2017) was observed over the sampling period of late summer/ early fall. Concentrations of chlorophyll-a peaked in late summer and decreased over the fall at all three stations (Figure 42). Data are provided for the 2017 surveys except for August 30, 2011 to illustrate the seasonality of algal growth in the Wapiti River. Differences in flow were likely driving this pattern as Hatfield Consultants (2007) identified a negative relationship between average monthly flow and periphyton biomass in this reach of the Wapiti River. Flows preceding the September and October (2017) sampling events ranged between 50.5 and 90.5 m<sup>3</sup>/s (September) and 166 and 235 m<sup>3</sup>/s (October), compared to August flows which ranged between 18.8 and 35.7 m<sup>3</sup>/s. High flows in September and October were the result of rain events.

**Figure 42. Seasonal Changes in Chlorophyll-a Concentrations in the Wapiti River.**



**Table 32. Epiphytic chlorophyll “a” Response to Point Source Phosphorus Additions.**

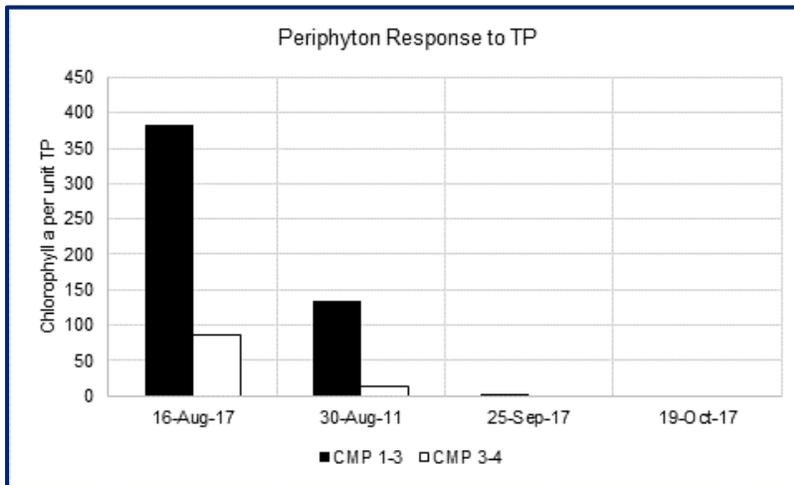
Site	Date	Chlorophyll “a” in mg/m <sup>2</sup>			Total Phosphorus in µg/L			Change of Chl-a per unit of TP
		CMP 1	CMP 3	Change	CMP 1	CMP 3	Change	
<b>CMP 1 vs. 3</b>	30-Aug-11	16.0	477	461	7.2	8.4	1.2	384
<b>CMP 1 vs. 3</b>	16-Aug-17	10.3	104.4	94.1	4.6	5.3	0.7	134
<b>CMP 1 vs. 3</b>	25-Sep-17	3.6	25.0	21.4	14.4	40.5	26.1	0.82
<b>CMP 1 vs. 3</b>	19-Oct-17	0.02	0.02	0.00	207	767	560	0.00
		<b>CMP 3</b>	<b>CMP 4</b>		<b>CMP 3</b>	<b>CMP 4</b>		
<b>CMP 3 vs. 4</b>	30-Aug-11	477	1878	1401	8.4	24.9	16.5	85
<b>CMP 3 vs. 4</b>	15-Aug-17	104	441	337	5.3	32.3	27	12
<b>CMP 3 vs. 4</b>	26-Sep-17	25.0	24.1	-0.9	40.5	63.1	22.6	0
<b>CMP 3 vs. 4</b>	18-Oct-17	0.02	0.02	0.0	767	1140	373	0

There were clear increases of epiphytic chlorophyll “a” concentrations in response to point source additions of P and N but the responses varied with the growth phase of the periphyton and differed between the two point sources. At the beginning of August an increase of 1.2 µg/L of TP downstream of the WWTP discharge was related to an increase of 384 mg/m<sup>2</sup> of chlorophyll-a compared to an increase of 85 mg/m<sup>2</sup> of chlorophyll-a downstream of the pulp mill effluent discharge (Table 34, Figure 43). At the end of August the same pattern prevailed but the magnitude of the increase was reduced to 134 and 12 mg/m<sup>2</sup> of epiphytic chlorophyll downstream of the WWTP and pulp discharges. Unit changes were minor in September and October driven by the decline in overall biomass measured during both events.

The large response observed downstream of the WWTP discharge compared to downstream of the pulp mill discharge suggests periphyton were phosphorous limited in this reach of the Wapiti River. Hatfield Consultants (2007) found that TP was primarily made up of particulate phosphorus upstream of the pulp mill discharge and the proportion of dissolved phosphorus (made up primarily of soluble reactive phosphorus) increased downstream of the pulp mill discharge. Data collected by PECG and HESL (2011 and 2018) support this observation. Concentrations of orthophosphate were generally below detection upstream of the pulp mill, but above the periphyton limiting growth concentration (5 µg/L) identified by Hatfield Consulting (2007) downstream of the pulp mill (station CMP 4 ranging from 4.5 to 64.4 µg/L) during low flow sampling events in 2011 and 2017.



**Figure 43. Phosphorus Induced Changes in Chlorophyll-a Concentrations in the Wapiti River.**



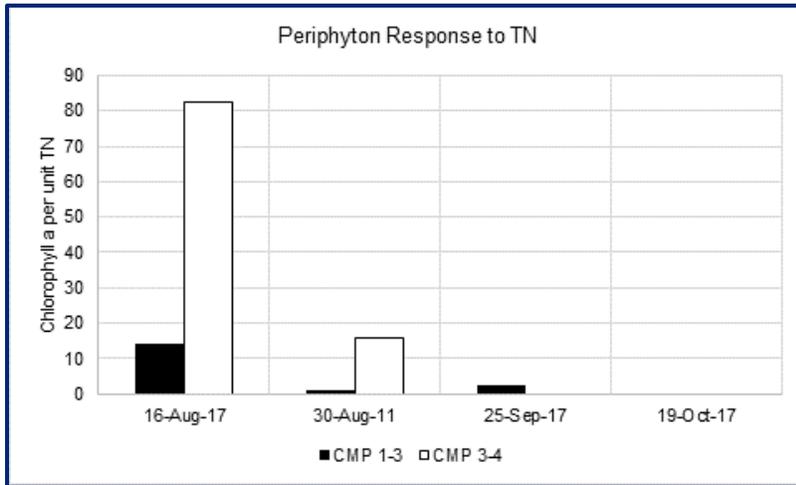
A similar analysis was completed for TN. Epiphytic chlorophyll “a” concentrations increased in response to effluent discharges in August but decreased as flows increased in September and October and the relative magnitude of responses to the Aquatera and International Paper discharges differed (Table 35, Figure 44). Increases in chlorophyll-a ( $\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$ ) per  $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$  of TN were greater downstream of the pulp mill effluent discharge (CMP 3-4) (ranging from 0 to 82  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$ ) than downstream of the WWTP (CMP 1-2) where increases in chlorophyll-a ranged from 0 to 14  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$ . This suggests that growth downstream of the pulp mill was nitrogen limited. Hatfield Consulting (2007) found that dissolved inorganic N was the main predictor of periphyton biomass in the lower Wapiti River.

**Table 33. Epiphytic chlorophyll “a” response to Point Source Nitrogen Additions.**

Site	Date	Chlorophyll “a” in $\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$			Total Nitrogen in $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$			Change of Chl-a per unit of TN
		CMP 1	CMP 3	Change	CMP 1	CMP 3	Change	
<b>CMP 1 vs. 3</b>	30-Aug-11	16.0	477	461	98.0	131	33	14
<b>CMP 1 vs. 3</b>	16-Aug-17	10.3	104.4	94.1	103	186	83	1.1
<b>CMP 1 vs. 3</b>	25-Sep-17	3.6	25.0	21.4	181	190	9	2.5
<b>CMP 1 vs. 3</b>	19-Oct-17	0.02	0.02	0.00	295	805	510	0
		<b>CMP 3</b>	<b>CMP 4</b>		<b>CMP 3</b>	<b>CMP 4</b>		
<b>CMP 3 vs. 4</b>	30-Aug-11	477	1878	1401	131	148	17	82
<b>CMP 3 vs. 4</b>	15-Aug-17	104	441	337	186	207	21	16
<b>CMP 3 vs. 4</b>	26-Sep-17	25.0	24.1	-0.9	190	198	8	0
<b>CMP 3 vs. 4</b>	18-Oct-17	0.02	0.02	0.0	805	770	-35	0



**Figure 44. Nitrogen Induced Changes in Chlorophyll-a Concentrations in the Wapiti River.**



The role of P as a limiting nutrient was clearly evident upstream of the Aquatera WWTP discharge where unit changes in chlorophyll per unit of P were 1-2 orders of magnitude greater than for N in the early season. Downstream of Aquatera epiphytic growth was limited by both P and N and responded equally to the increase in both nutrients (Table 36).

**Table 34. Comparison of Epiphytic chlorophyll “a” response to Point Source Additions of Nitrogen and Phosphorus.**

Site	Date	Unit Change of Chl-a per unit change of TP	Unit Change of Chl-a per unit change of TN
CMP 1 vs. 3	30-Aug-11	384	14
CMP 1 vs. 3	16-Aug-17	134	1.1
CMP 1 vs. 3	25-Sep-17	0.82	2.5
CMP 1 vs. 3	19-Oct-17	0.00	0
CMP 3 vs. 4	30-Aug-11	85	82
CMP 3 vs. 4	15-Aug-17	12	16
CMP 3 vs. 4	26-Sep-17	0	0
CMP 3 vs. 4	18-Oct-17	0	0



## 8.4 Point vs Non-Point Source Responses

The Aquatera WWTP and International Paper Outfall discharge 152 and 67.9 tonnes of TN and 7.59 and 17.5 tonnes of TP, respectively, to the Wapiti River each year (Table 20). By comparison, measured estimates of NPS loadings to the Wapiti River averaged 324 tonnes of phosphorus and 1746 tonnes of N annually (Table 30) while the NPS model provides estimates of 458 and 2882 (Table 31) tonnes/yr, respectively, upstream, of the Aquatera discharge. The total point source loadings of N are 5.3-8.7% of the NPS loading while total PS loadings of P are 14.9-21% of the NPS loadings. These small incremental point source loadings, however, stimulate very large proportional increases in algal growth in the river. Upstream of Grande Prairie there are no significant point source discharges and August 30 peak epilithic chlorophyll “a” concentration was 16 mg/m<sup>2</sup>, or 0.035 mg/tonne of P and 0.006 mg/tonne of N NPS load.

The Aquatera WWTP discharge adds, on average, 7.6 and 152 tonnes of P and N each year, which stimulate 61 and 3 mg/m<sup>2</sup> of epilithic chlorophyll “a” (Table 37). Further downstream the International Paper discharge adds, on average, 17.4 and 67.9 tonnes of P and N, which stimulate 55 and 6.3 mg/m<sup>2</sup> of epilithic chlorophyll “a”. Hatfield Consultants (2007) found that TP was primarily made up of particulate phosphorus upstream of the pulp mill discharge and the proportion of dissolved phosphorus (made up primarily of soluble reactive phosphorus) increased downstream of the pulp mill discharge. The low algal responses upstream of the point source discharges therefore reflect the high proportions of particulate P and N that make up the NPS loads upstream compared to the large increases seen downstream of the point source inputs of bioavailable nutrients.

**Table 35. Comparison of Epiphytic Chlorophyll “a” Response to Point and NPS Additions of Nitrogen and Phosphorus.**

	CMP1		CMP3		CMP4	
	mg/m <sup>2</sup>	mg/tonne NPS	mg/m <sup>2</sup>	mg/tonne PS	mg/m <sup>2</sup>	mg/tonne PS
Chlorophyll “a”						
Phosphorus	16.0	0.035	477	61	1878	55
Nitrogen	16.0	0.006	477	3.0	1878	6.3

The Wapiti River has amongst the lowest pesticide concentrations of the major rivers in Alberta suggesting a lower overall impact from NPS (agricultural land comprises 26% of the Wapiti basin study area, Table 9). Furthermore, in agricultural watersheds studied in Ohio, the majority of TP was exported in particulate form (53-66% depending on the watershed; Vanni et al. 2001), however local agricultural practices play an important role in determining dissolved vs particulate nutrient loading from agricultural lands (Withers and Jarvie 2008). Particulate nutrients are less bioavailable to algae and would therefore not stimulate periphyton growth as directly as soluble, bioavailable forms. Nutrients which arrive in particulate form (>0.45 µm), tend to occur during storm events via surface runoff and are therefore associated with periods of high river flow which do not support nutrient retention for periphyton growth (Withers and Jarvie 2008). Point source contributions of soluble reactive P are proportionally higher during low flow events, which can be considered ecologically sensitive periods (Jarvie et al. 2006). Therefore, although there are significant



NPS loadings to the Wapiti River, those upstream of Grande Prairie have a low ecological consequence and do not stimulate nuisance periphyton growths. Downstream of Grande Prairie, discharge of highly concentrated, soluble nutrients from the WWTP and International Paper discharges, which comprise >20% of the annual nutrient loads in the Wapiti River (Chambers et al. 2000), stimulate significant periphyton growth.

Further downstream, the Bear Creek subwatershed enters the Wapiti River. It receives discharges from numerous small WWTPs and urban runoff from the City of Grande Prairie and so a portion of its load may be bioavailable. Biological monitoring of Bear Creek, and of the Wapiti River upstream and downstream of its inflow is recommended to assess the significance of these loads.

## 9. Management Classifications

The final mapping exercise combined the classifications of NPS loading (Section 5) with the classifications of sensitivity (Section 7) to identify those areas and subwatersheds where the combination of a) land use and associated potential for NPS loading interacted with b) sensitivity based on slope, soils and drainage density. This interaction produced mapping of overall “Management Classifications” to determine those areas in which any future management activities should be focussed to control NPS runoff.

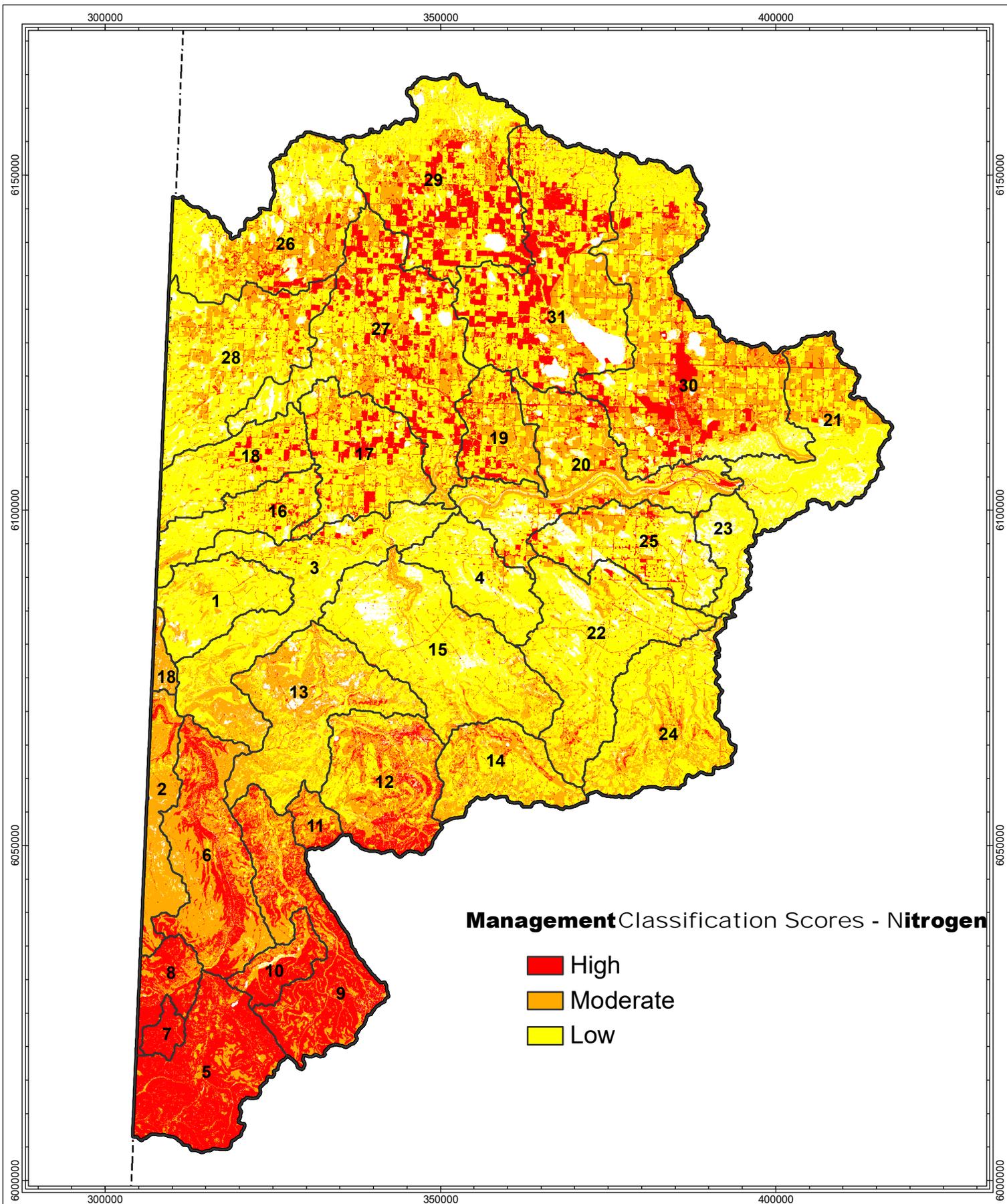
The fine scale mapping of sensitivities based on classification of drainage density, slope and soil within each subwatershed (Figure 40) was reduced to one coarse value (“Low”, “Moderate” or “High”) for the entire subwatershed (Figure 41). The classifications of “Low”, “Moderate” or “High” export coefficients for N, P and solids for each subwatershed were then combined with the sensitivity classification for the same subwatershed to produce a “Management Classification” of “Low”, “Moderate” or “High” according to the matrix provided in Table 38.

**Table 36. Schematic of Classification for Management Classifications.**

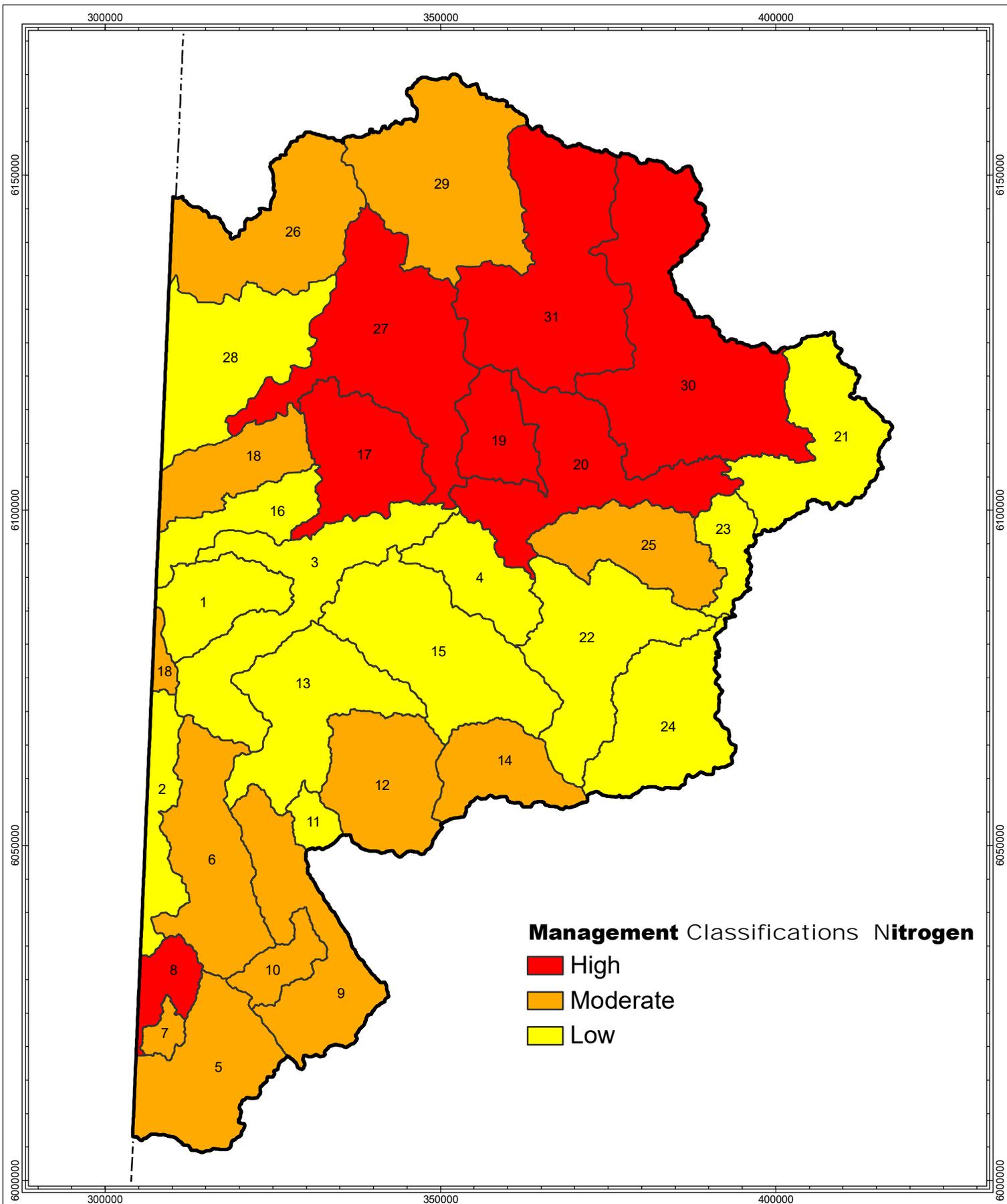
		Export Coefficient Classification		
		Low	Moderate	High
Sensitivity Classification	Low	Low	Low	Moderate
	Moderate	Low	Moderate	High
	High	Moderate	High	High

Subwatersheds with “High Management Classification” values were identified primarily in areas where current land uses led to high export coefficients. In several cases, however, a subwatershed was classified as “High” with only moderate export coefficients because of its physical characteristics (e.g., high drainage density and steep slopes). This classification highlights the need to consider the impact of future land uses in areas with physical sensitivities such as steep slopes, because such areas already have a strong delivery potential for nutrients and sediment.





<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 HUTCHINSON Environmental Sciences Ltd.   PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000		 N	<b>Management Classification Scores Nitrogen</b> <b>FIGURE 45</b>		
		PROJECT:	13186			PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
		DRAWN:	B. Elder			DATUM:	NAD 1983
		CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Apr 03, 2018		



<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 <b>Hutchinson</b> Environmental Sciences Ltd.  <b>PALMER</b> ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	0 10 20 30 km  Scale = 1:750000	 N	<b>Management Classifications Nitrogen</b> <b>FIGURE 46</b>
		PROJECT: 13186 DRAWN: B. Elder CHECKED: D. Sacco	PROJECTION: UTM Zone 11N DATUM: NAD 1983 DATE: Jun 05, 2018	

Mapping of final “Management Classifications” for the study area is provided in Figures 45, 47 and 49 for N, P and solids, respectively. Average “Management Classifications” for each subwatershed are mapped in Figures 46, 48 and 50 for N, P and solids, respectively.

## 9.1 Management Classifications – Nitrogen

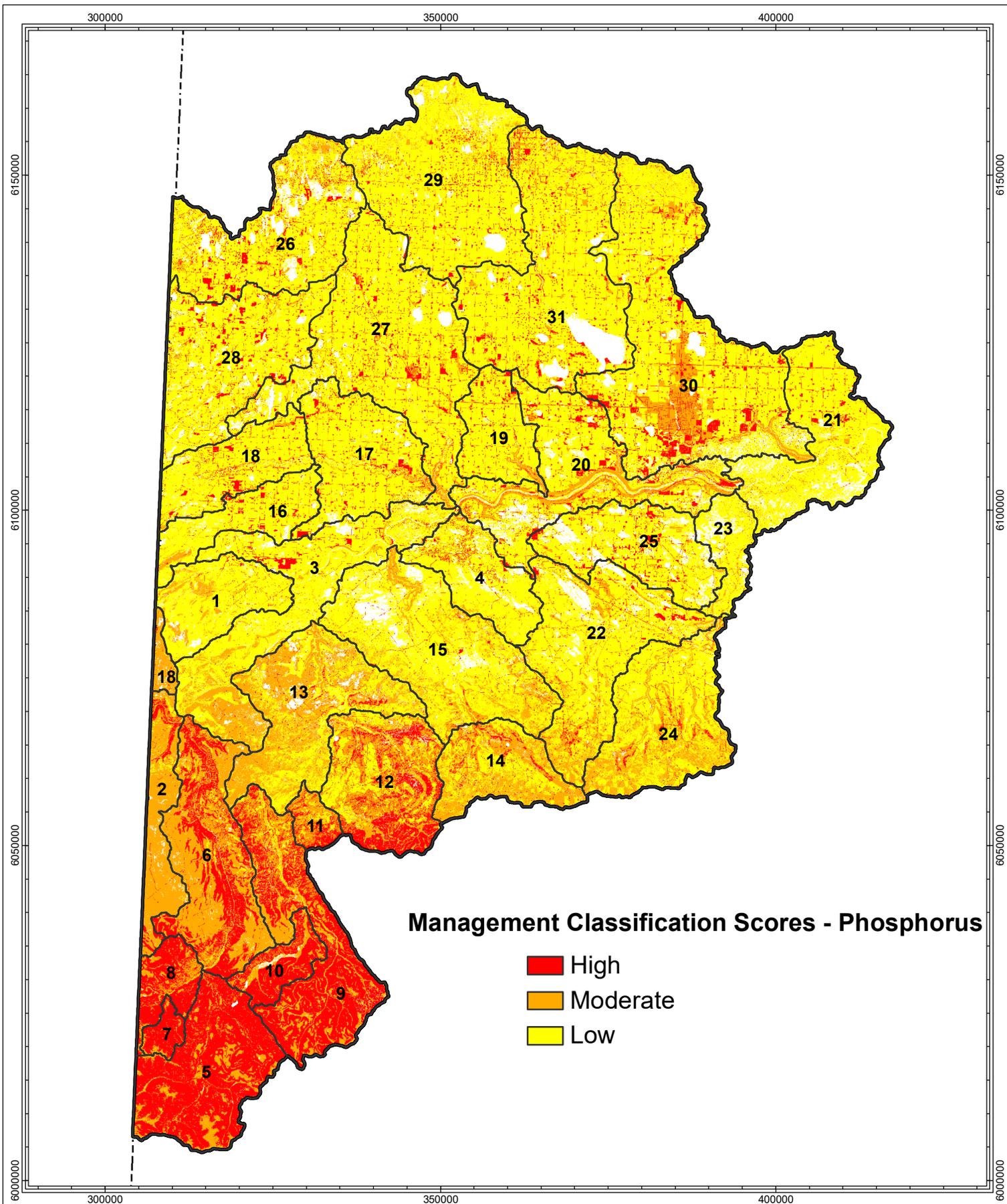
Six subwatersheds (#17,19,20,27,30,31) were assigned a “High” Management Classification for NPS N loading based on the combination of a) High (>75<sup>th</sup> percentile) classification of export coefficients of N from the NPS model and b) Moderate sensitivity due to Moderate drainage density and High soil sensitivity. Of these, the Lower Bear River had the highest potential for N export with an export coefficient of 12.17 kg/ha/yr (Table 39).

An additional subwatershed (#8, Upper Narraway River) was assigned a “High” Management Classification based on Moderate (25<sup>th</sup>-75<sup>th</sup> percentile) classification for NPS N export and High sensitivity due to High drainage density, Moderate soil sensitivity and steep slopes.

**Table 37. High Management Classification Subwatersheds – Nitrogen (annual loadings are presented for reference only)**

ID	Name	Export Coefficient kg/ha/yr	Annual Export tonnes	Management Classification	Overall Sensitivity	Drainage	Soil	Slope
8	UPPER NARRAWAY RIVER	3.19	30	H	H	H	M	H
17	LOWER REDWILLOW RIVER	6.43	187	H	M	M	H	L
19	PIPESTONE CREEK	9.92	159	H	M	M	H	L
20	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	9.25	403	H	M	M	H	L
27	LOWER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	7.89	490	H	M	M	H	L
30	LOWER BEAR RIVER	12.17	980	H	M	M	H	L
31	LOWER BEAR RIVER ABOVE GRANDE PRAIRIE CREEK	6.41	425	H	M	M	H	L





### Management Classification Scores - Phosphorus

- High
- Moderate
- Low

**Legend**  
 Study Area  
 Subwatershed



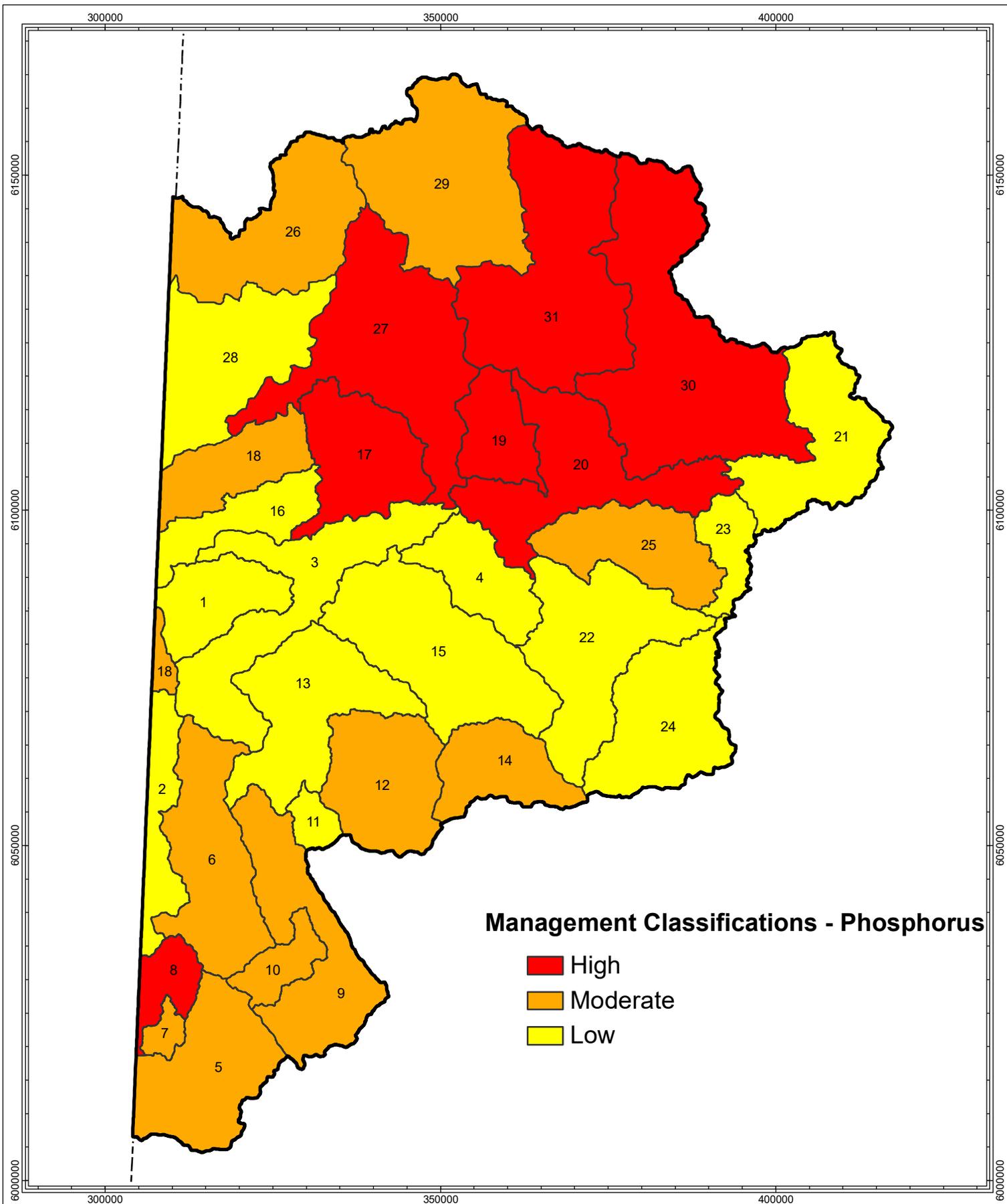
Scale = 1:750000



PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Apr 03, 2018

### Management Classification Scores Phosphorus

## FIGURE 47



<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 <b>Hutchinson</b> Environmental Sciences Ltd.  <b>PALMER</b> ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000	 N
		PROJECT: 13186    PROJECTION: UTM Zone 11N	DATUM: NAD 1983
		DRAWN: B. Elder    CHECKED: D. Sacco	DATE: Jun 05, 2018

**Management Classifications Phosphorus**

**FIGURE 48**

## 9.2 Management Classifications– Phosphorus

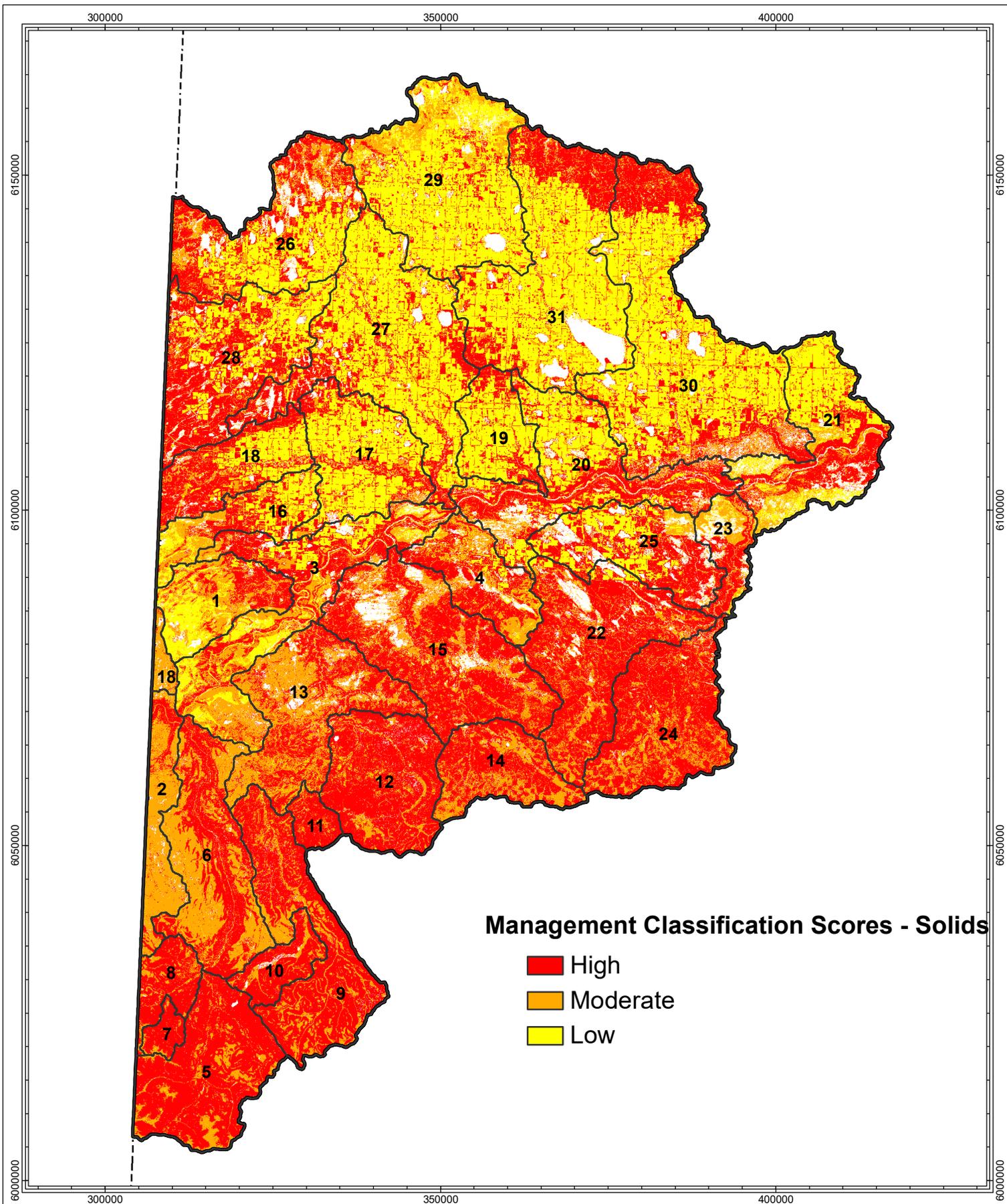
Six subwatersheds (#17,19,20,,27,30,31) were assigned a “High” Management Classification for NPS P loading based on the classification analysis of a) “High” (>75<sup>th</sup> percentile) classification of export coefficients of P from the NPS model and b) “Medium” sensitivity due to “Moderate” drainage density and “High” soil sensitivity to erosion. Of these, the Lower Bear River had the highest potential for P export with an export coefficient of 1.87 kg/ha/yr (Table 40).

An additional subwatershed (#8 Upper Narraway River) was assigned a “High” Management Classification based on “Moderate” (25<sup>th</sup>-75<sup>th</sup> percentile) classifications for NPS P export and “High” sensitivity due to “High” drainage density, “Moderate” soil sensitivity and steep slope.

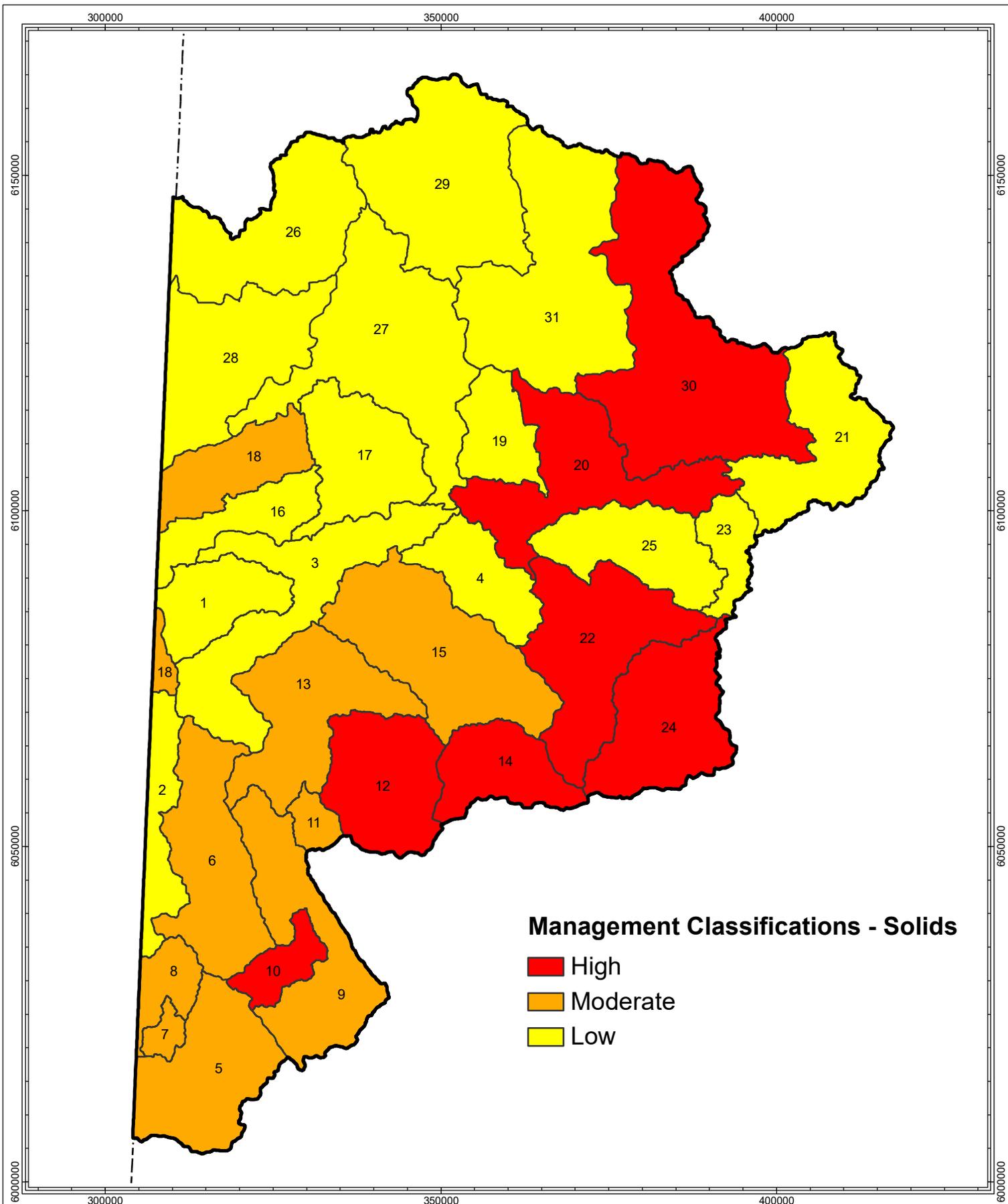
**Table 38. High Management Classification Subwatersheds – Phosphorus (annual loadings are provided for reference only)**

ID	Name	Export Coefficient kg/ha/yr	Annual Export tonnes	Management Classification	Overall Sensitivity	Drainage	Soil	Slope
8	UPPER NARRAWAY RIVER	0.498	4.72	H	H	H	M	H
17	LOWER REDWILLOW RIVER	0.991	28.84	H	M	M	H	L
19	PIPESTONE CREEK	1.512	24.26	H	M	M	H	L
20	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	1.441	62.7	H	M	M	H	L
27	LOWER BEAVERLODGE RIVER	1.216	75.4	H	M	M	H	L
30	LOWER BEAR RIVER	1.870	151	H	M	M	H	L
31	LOWER BEAR RIVER ABOVE GRANDE PRAIRIE CREEK	1.003	66.4	H	M	M	H	L





<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 HUTCHINSON Environmental Sciences Ltd.   PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000		 N	<b>Management Classification Scores Solids</b>  <b>FIGURE 49</b>		
		PROJECT:	13186			PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N
		DRAWN:	B. Elder			DATUM:	NAD 1983
		CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Apr 03, 2018		



<b>Legend</b> Study Area Subwatershed	 HUTCHINSON Environmental Sciences Ltd.  PALMER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING GROUP INC.	 Scale = 1:750000 	<b>Management Classifications Solids</b>												
			<b>FIGURE 50</b>												
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>PROJECT:</td> <td>13186</td> <td>PROJECTION:</td> <td>UTM Zone 11N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DRAWN:</td> <td>B. Elder</td> <td>DATUM:</td> <td>NAD 1983</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CHECKED:</td> <td>D. Sacco</td> <td>DATE:</td> <td>Jun 05, 2018</td> </tr> </table>		PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N	DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983	CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Jun 05, 2018		
PROJECT:	13186	PROJECTION:	UTM Zone 11N												
DRAWN:	B. Elder	DATUM:	NAD 1983												
CHECKED:	D. Sacco	DATE:	Jun 05, 2018												

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### 9.3 Management Classifications– Solids

Seven subwatersheds (#10,12, 14, 20,22,24 and 30) were assigned a “High” Management Classification for NPS solids loading based on the classification analysis of a) “High” (>75<sup>th</sup> percentile) classification of export coefficients for solids from the NPS model and b) “Moderate” sensitivity due to “High” drainage density and steep slope (Gunderson Creek, Muddy Creek), “Moderate” drainage density, high soil sensitivity and moderate slope (Upper Big Mountain Creek), “Moderate” drainage density and “Moderate” slope (Upper Pinto Creek) or “Moderate” drainage density and “High” soil sensitivity (Lower Wapiti River above Big Mountain Creek, Bald Mountain Creek, and Lower Bear River). Of these, the Upper Big Mountain Creek had the highest potential for sediment export with an export coefficient of 486 kg/ha/yr (Table 41).

**Table 39. High Management Classification Subwatersheds – Solids (annual loadings are provided for reference only)**

ID	Name	Export Coefficient kg/ha/yr	Annual Export tonnes	Management Classification	Overall Sensitivity	Drainage	Soil	Slope
10	GUNDERSON CREEK	438	4071	H	M	H	L	H
12	MUDDY CREEK	465	14789	H	M	H	L	H
14	UPPER PINTO CREEK	475	9996	H	M	M	L	M
20	LOWER WAPITI RIVER ABOVE BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	441	19173	H	M	M	H	L
22	BALD MOUNTAIN CREEK	453	20301	H	M	M	H	L
24	UPPER BIG MOUNTAIN CREEK	486	17877	H	M	M	H	M
30	LOWER BEAR RIVER	467	37636	H	M	M	H	L



## 10. Conclusions

An inventory and evaluation of non-point pollution sources in the Wapiti River Basin was undertaken to understand the relative importance of point and non-point sources of nutrients to the Wapiti River. This evaluation helped identify missing data and gaps in understanding helped provide recommendations to guide and improve the development and implementation of Wapiti River Water Management Plan.

The study approach used export coefficients derived by Donahue (2013) for specific Natural Regions of Alberta and land use data housed in an ArcView GIS platform to estimate N, P and TSS loads for NPS from 31 subwatersheds within the Wapiti River Basin in Alberta. Average export coefficients for N and P were found to be significantly related to watershed area, but there was no significant relationship between the export coefficients for solids and those for N and P.

PS loads (from 11 dischargers) were discharged to five of the 31 subwatersheds delineated. PS loads from these facilities made up 35%, 29% and 2.5% of the total loading of N, P and solids, respectively, in their respective subwatersheds. The low proportional contribution of solids indicates that much of the N and P in these discharges was more readily bioavailable and not associated with solids to the same extent as NPS loadings.

The NPS model overestimated measured nutrient loads by 30 to 60%, but estimates fell within the range of natural variability. Overestimates were consistent with literature values for NPS models. Therefore, the model was considered a useful tool for identifying priority watersheds. The application of Riparian Zone Export Multiplication Factors resulted in less than a 1% change in NPS load estimates and did not improve understanding of stream sensitivity to non-point sources.

The GIS model was therefore refined by combining Export Coefficient classifications with Sensitivity classifications based on slope, soils and drainage density to classify the subwatersheds as “High”, “Moderate” or “Low” to focus future management.

- ❖ “High” Management classification subwatersheds for N were the Upper Narraway River (subwatershed 8), Lower Redwillow River (subwatershed 17), Pipestone Creek (subwatershed 19), Lower Wapiti River above Bigmountain Creek (subwatershed 20), the Lower Beaverlodge River (subwatershed 27), Lower Bear River (subwatershed 30) and Lower Bear River above Grande Prairie Creek (subwatershed 31).
- ❖ These same subwatershedswere given “High” Management classifications for P. Of these, the Lower Bear River had the highest Management classification for NPS loading of N and P.
- ❖ High Management classification subwatersheds for solids were identified as Gunderson Creek (subwatershed 10), Muddy Creek (subwatershed 12), Upper Pinto Creek (subwatershed 14), Lower Wapiti River above Bigmountain Creek (subwatershed 20), Bald Mountain Creek (subwatershed 22), Upper Big Mountain Creek (subwatershed 24) and the Lower Bear River (subwatershed 30), with Upper Big Mountain Creek having the highest export coefficient. The subwatershed classifications which did not overlap between nutrient sensitivity and solids sensitivity were considered areas where non-point source loads had greater proportions of dissolved nutrients.



NPS loadings to the Wapiti River were high (5577 tonnes/yr of N and 850 tonnes/yr of P), however low algal response upstream of point source dischargers suggested particulate forms of nutrients made up the majority of non-point source nutrient loads upstream of the City of Grande Prairie. Biologically available nutrients from point source dischargers appeared to be driving biological responses communities in the Lower Wapiti River but the generality of this conclusion for all NPS loadings is qualified by the lack of biological monitoring in other subwatersheds where NPS loadings may be high.

## 11. Recommendations

Results of the development of the NPS model for the Wapiti River Watershed were encouraging, however we have identified several important data gaps. In general, geospatial data availability was excellent and we were able to acquire the necessary GIS layers to classify the Wapiti subwatersheds according to the approach of Donahue (2013). Estimation of increased export from high intensity cereal crops in which manure is applied was not possible as there were no GIS records of manure application in the study area and so these areas were modelled as cereal crops with no manure application.

NPS estimates of both TN and TP were within the range of variability of measured nutrient loads in the Lower Wapiti River and similar in error to model estimates in the literature (~40%). The discrepancy between measured and modelled nutrient loads is in part a consequence of the limited data available for both estimations. Potential improvement to the measured estimations of nutrient loading to the Wapiti River could be made with higher resolution (more frequent) water quality data, which would improve the validation of the NPS export model. Current estimates were based on a single water quality measurement per month, which given the substantial temporal variability in water quality in Wapiti River could be improved with higher resolution data. The long-term record available from the LTRN program, however, provides a good record for assessing interannual variability in the river.

Analysis of the impact of NPS loading in the Wapiti River in this report and several other studies has suggested that NPS nutrient loading has not had a significant impact on the river, however ecological data to make these assessments was limited. Periphyton data available in the river do not necessarily coincide with high risk reaches in the river where a combination of high NPS loads and high sensitivity are likely to yield a significant biological response. We have identified several key watersheds for consideration as management and monitoring priorities in the future. These watersheds represent areas where our model estimations suggest that the impacts of NPS loading are likely to have the highest impact. High risk watersheds identified were focussed around the northern tributaries of the Wapiti River, including Bear Creek (subwatersheds 29-31), the Beaverlodge River (subwatersheds 26-28), and Redwillow River (subwatersheds 16-18).

Bear Creek represents a significant input of nutrients, coliforms, total metals and pesticides 2,4-D, fluroxypyr and MCP (HESL 2015). Despite naturally elevated nutrient concentrations and a watershed area containing significant agricultural development, discharge from several smaller wastewater lagoons and stormwater discharge from the City of Grand Prairie, information on the Bear Creek watershed is limited (Charette Pell Poscente Environmental Corp. and Hutchinson Environmental Sciences Ltd. 2012). The scope and resolution of data available from Bear Creek represents a significant data gap in the region. Inputs from Bear Creek may be a significant contributor to the downstream Wapiti/Smoky River system and should be monitored more intensively in the future. Furthermore, the Bear Creek watershed presents the



best opportunity to assess NPS loading from urban land use and to validate modelled estimates. Subwatersheds 30 and 31 were therefore identified as the highest management priorities for monitoring and potential management of NPS N and P by our analysis (Section 9).

Limited data have been collected in the Beaverlodge and Redwillow Rivers. Significant agricultural development in these watersheds suggests they would be ideal candidates for refining NPS nutrient loading estimates from agricultural lands using existing data supplemented by additional monitoring, measuring the effectiveness of agricultural BMPs and assessing the impact of NPS loads on biological communities. Both rivers have been identified as highest potential management priorities for NPS N loading (Section 9). Specifically, Lower Redwillow River (subwatershed 17) and Lower Beaverlodge River (subwatershed 27) subwatersheds were identified as highest priority watersheds for both N and P.

Our data suggest that NPS loading in the region, while significant, has not impacted the Wapiti River as significantly as PS discharges. NPS loading may be dominated by particulate rather than dissolved and bioavailable nutrient species. Future monitoring should include efforts to distinguish between particulate, dissolved and soluble reactive fractions of P to confirm the importance of PS and NPS P in driving water quality and biological communities in the Wapiti River.



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## Appendix A. Donahue (2013) Export Coefficient Tables



## APPENDICES



## Appendix A. Donahue (2013) Export Coefficient Tables



# Appendix B: Nutrient and TSS Export Coefficients for Different Landuse and Footprint Types in Alberta's Ecozones

**Table B-1. Export coefficients for difference landuse and footprint types – Rocky Mountain Natural Region (kg/ha/year).** Values include those from NPSP literature, those calculated from ELF's listed and **average annual precipitation** according to methods described above (Tables 6 and 7), from relationships derived from AESA data, the from literature (in red).

	Average Annual precipitation (mm)	798	798	798
	Average runoff (1 Mar - 31 Oct; mm)	226	226	226
Landscape Types	Nitrogen (TN) kg/ha/yr	Phosphorus (TP) kg/ha/yr	Sediment (TSS) kg/ha/yr	
Conifer-dominated Forest	3.320 <sup>17</sup>	0.514 <sup>17</sup>	380 <sup>20, 43</sup>	
Hardwood-dominated Forest <sup>xiii</sup>	2.656 <sup>13, 17</sup>	0.411 <sup>13, 17</sup>	433	
Wooded (based on +36% over wooded EMCs) <sup>xiii</sup>	2.717 <sup>16, 19</sup>	0.490 <sup>16, 19</sup>	442 <sup>16, 19</sup>	
Shrubland <sup>1</sup>	3.695 <sup>16, 52</sup>	0.666 <sup>16, 52</sup>	601 <sup>16, 52</sup>	
Native Grassland <sup>1</sup>	0.512 <sup>9, 16, 37</sup>	0.111 <sup>9, 16, 37</sup>	84 <sup>19, 20</sup>	
Natural Unvegetated Flat (rock/ice/sand) <sup>xiv</sup>	2.950 <sup>53, 54</sup>	0.200 <sup>53, 54</sup>	N/A	
Natural Unvegetated Steep (rock/ice/sand)	2.950 <sup>53, 54</sup>	0.200 <sup>53, 54</sup>	N/A	
Natural Unvegetated Flat (rock/ice/sand) - oilsands region	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Natural Unvegetated Steep (rock/ice/sand) - oilsands region	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Cereal Crop (intensive - manure) <sup>xv</sup>	72.54 <sup>37</sup>	33.58 <sup>9</sup>	170 <sup>1</sup>	
Cereal Crop (extensive) <sup>2</sup>	0.967 <sup>37</sup>	0.194 <sup>9</sup>	170 <sup>1</sup>	
Forage Crop (intensive) alfalfa <sup>2</sup>	108.8 <sup>13, 37</sup>	0.194 <sup>9, 13</sup>	170 <sup>1</sup>	
Forage Crop (extensive) alfalfa <sup>2</sup>	1.451 <sup>13, 37</sup>	0.194 <sup>9, 13</sup>	170 <sup>1</sup>	
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope) <sup>1</sup>	2.288 <sup>16, 19</sup>	1.883 <sup>16, 19</sup>	710 <sup>16, 19</sup>	
- Rolling (5-10% slope) <sup>1</sup>	2.975 <sup>16, 19</sup>	2.448 <sup>16, 19</sup>	922 <sup>16, 19</sup>	
- Hilly (10-30% slope) <sup>1</sup>	3.661 <sup>16, 19</sup>	3.013 <sup>16, 19</sup>	1,135 <sup>16, 19</sup>	
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope) <sup>1</sup>	7.289 <sup>16, 19</sup>	0.675 <sup>16, 19</sup>	237 <sup>16, 19</sup>	
- Rolling (5-10% slope) <sup>1</sup>	9.475 <sup>16, 19</sup>	0.877 <sup>16, 19</sup>	308 <sup>16, 19</sup>	
- Hilly (10-30% slope) <sup>1</sup>	11.66 <sup>16, 19</sup>	1.079 <sup>16, 19</sup>	379 <sup>16, 19</sup>	
General Agriculture – Flat <sup>1</sup>	8.942 <sup>16, 19</sup>	0.769 <sup>16, 19</sup>	216 <sup>16, 19</sup>	
- Rolling <sup>1</sup>	11.33 <sup>16, 19</sup>	0.974 <sup>16, 19</sup>	273 <sup>16, 19</sup>	
- Hilly <sup>1</sup>	14.01 <sup>16, 19</sup>	1.205 <sup>16, 19</sup>	338 <sup>16, 19</sup>	

<sup>xiii</sup> For hardwood forests, sediment export is 14% higher than for conifer-dominate forests.

<sup>xiii</sup> Calculated from CLFs and average annual precipitation (Tables 6 and 7).

<sup>xiv</sup> Nutrient loading from unvegetated rock/ice/sand is the equivalent of atmospheric deposition.

<sup>xv</sup> Calculated from AESA data and average seasonal areal water yield (i.e., “runoff”): TP loading =  $5.23 \times 10^{-8}$  (Runoff<sup>2.791</sup>), R<sup>2</sup>=0.797; TN loading =  $1.79 \times 10^{-5}$  (Runoff<sup>2.011</sup>), R<sup>2</sup>=0.857; TSS loading =  $2.25 \times 10^{-5}$  (Runoff<sup>2.923</sup>), R<sup>2</sup>=0.758. Intensive forms of agricultural activity involve manure application, where TP loading = 0.04869 (Runoff<sup>1.2047</sup>), R<sup>2</sup>=0.905; TN loading = 0.2439 (Runoff<sup>1.0509</sup>), R<sup>2</sup>=0.905.

**Table B-1 (cont'd).**

**Footprint Types**

Transportation

Soft Roads (gravel/dirt) - heavy use, assuming 10 m wide, drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - heavy use, assuming 10 m wide, no drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - moderate use, 10 m wide, drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - moderate use, 10 m wide, no drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - light use, 6 m wide, drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - light use, 6 m wide, no drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - unused, 6 m wide, drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - unused, 6 m wide, no drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Hard Roads (paved)<sup>1</sup>  
 Hard Roads (paved; 10 m wide, drainage structures)  
 Trails (motorized)<sup>1</sup>  
 Trails (OHV)  
 Trails (non-motorized)<sup>1</sup>

Industrial

Industrial Plants<sup>1</sup>  
 Transmission Lines<sup>1</sup>  
 Seismic Lines<sup>1</sup>  
 Wellpads<sup>1</sup>  
 Pipelines<sup>1</sup>  
 Processing Plants<sup>1</sup>  
 Feedlots (loading coefficient kg/ha/yr)  
 - based on EMCs, runoff, etc<sup>1</sup>  
 Surface Mines<sup>1</sup>  
 Construction 1 - Clearing, grubbing, grading of former wooded/ag land<sup>1</sup>  
 Construction 2 - Installation of roads, storm drainage & housing<sup>1</sup>

Recreation

Recreational Features (golf courses)<sup>1</sup>  
 Recreational Features (ski areas)<sup>1</sup>  
 Recreational Features (campgrounds)<sup>1</sup>

Residential

Urban (City Core)<sup>1</sup>  
 Urban (Suburban)<sup>1</sup>  
 Rural Residential (farm yard)<sup>1</sup>  
 Rural Residential (acreage yard)<sup>1</sup>

**Rocky Mountain Natural Region**

<b>Nitrogen (TN) kg/ha/yr</b>	<b>Phosphorus (TP) kg/ha/yr</b>	<b>Sediment (TSS) kg/ha/yr</b>
		128,300 <sup>55</sup>
		325,800 <sup>55</sup>
		10,520 <sup>55</sup>
		26719 <sup>55</sup>
11.49 <sup>1, 2, 16</sup>	9.660 <sup>1, 2, 16</sup>	1,626 <sup>55</sup>
		4,127 <sup>55</sup>
		214 <sup>55</sup>
		543 <sup>55</sup>
78.40 <sup>16, 21, 37, 47-49</sup>	2.507 <sup>16, 21, 37, 47-49</sup>	330 <sup>16, 21, 37, 47-49</sup>
		539 <sup>16, 21, 39, 49-51, 55</sup>
11.49 <sup>1, 2, 16</sup>	9.660 <sup>1, 2, 16</sup>	2,305 <sup>1, 2, 16</sup>
		4,440 <sup>55</sup>
6.228 <sup>16, 56</sup>	3.563 <sup>16, 56</sup>	851 <sup>16, 56</sup>
11.38 <sup>16, 21</sup>	1.471 <sup>16, 21</sup>	868 <sup>16, 21</sup>
2.760 <sup>16, 56</sup>	1.071 <sup>16, 56</sup>	288 <sup>16, 56</sup>
2.070 <sup>16, 56</sup>	0.803 <sup>16, 56</sup>	216 <sup>16, 56</sup>
10.92 <sup>16, 56</sup>	5.499 <sup>16, 56</sup>	1,547 <sup>16, 56</sup>
4.140 <sup>16, 56</sup>	1.607 <sup>16, 56</sup>	431 <sup>16, 56</sup>
10.34 <sup>16, 56</sup>	1.338 <sup>16, 56</sup>	789 <sup>16, 56</sup>
100-1,600 <sup>16, 19</sup>	10-620 <sup>16, 19</sup>	
1,293 <sup>1, 2, 56-58</sup>	259 <sup>1, 2, 56-58</sup>	3,984 <sup>1, 2, 56-58</sup>
4.237 <sup>16, 59</sup>	0.539 <sup>16, 59</sup>	337 <sup>16, 59</sup>
9.692 <sup>16, 56</sup>	1.081 <sup>16, 56</sup>	8,775 <sup>16, 56</sup>
6.311 <sup>16, 56</sup>	0.704 <sup>16, 56</sup>	3,652 <sup>16, 56</sup>
17.23 <sup>16, 56</sup>	1.921 <sup>16, 56</sup>	363 <sup>16, 56</sup>
4.18 <sup>756</sup>	0.274 <sup>56</sup>	148 <sup>56</sup>
5.501 <sup>56</sup>	2.284 <sup>56</sup>	546 <sup>56</sup>
11.46 <sup>16, 21</sup>	1.422 <sup>16, 21</sup>	498 <sup>16, 21</sup>
6.216 <sup>16, 21</sup>	1.285 <sup>16, 21</sup>	279 <sup>16, 21</sup>
394.3 <sup>2, 16</sup>	66.36 <sup>2, 16</sup>	2,116 <sup>2, 16</sup>
2.521 <sup>16, 56</sup>	0.208 <sup>16, 56</sup>	50 <sup>16, 56</sup>

**Table B-2. Export coefficients for difference landuse and footprint types – Foothills Natural**

**Region (kg/ha/year).** Values include those from NPSP literature, those calculated from ELF's listed and **average annual precipitation**, according to methods described above (Tables 6 and 7), those calculated from relationships derived from AESA data (“medium agriculture intensity” and catchments with manure application), and those calculated from equations from the literature (in red). References are the same as listed in Table B-1, unless as indicated.

Average Annual precipitation (mm)	603	603	603
Average runoff (1 Mar - 31 Oct; mm)	37	37	37
Landscape Types	Nitrogen (TN) kg/ha/yr	Phosphorus (TP) kg/ha/yr	Sediment (TSS) kg/ha/yr
Conifer Dominated Forest	3.320	0.514	380
Hardwood Dominated Forest	2.656	0.411	433
Wooded (based on +36% over wooded EMCs) <sup>xvi</sup>	2.053	0.370	334
Shrubland <sup>1</sup>	2.792	0.503	454
Native Grassland <sup>1</sup>	0.324	0.070	53
Natural Unvegetated Flat (rock/ice/sand)	2.950	0.200	N/A
Natural Unvegetated Steep (rock/ice/sand)	2.950	0.200	N/A
Natural Unvegetated Flat (rock/ice/sand) - oilsands region	N/A	N/A	N/A
Natural Unvegetated Steep (rock/ice/sand) - oilsands region	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cereal Crop (intensive - manure) <sup>xvii</sup>	10.819	3.789	53.5
Cereal Crop (extensive) <sup>2</sup>	0.334	0.042	53.5
Forage Crop (intensive) alfalfa <sup>2</sup>	16.23	3.789	53.5
Forage Crop (extensive) alfalfa <sup>2</sup>	0.501	0.042	53.5
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope) <sup>1</sup>	1.729	1.423	536
- Rolling (5-10% slope) <sup>1</sup>	2.248	1.850	697
- Hilly (10-30% slope) <sup>1</sup>	2.766	2.277	858
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope) <sup>1</sup>	5.508	0.510	179
- Rolling (5-10% slope) <sup>1</sup>	7.160	0.663	233
- Hilly (10-30% slope) <sup>1</sup>	8.812	0.816	287
General Agriculture – Flat <sup>1</sup>	6.757	0.581	163
- Rolling <sup>1</sup>	8.558	0.736	207
- Hilly <sup>1</sup>	10.59	0.911	255

<sup>xvi</sup> Calculated from CLFs and average annual precipitation (Tables 6 and 7).

<sup>xvii</sup> Calculated from AESA data and average seasonal areal water yield (i.e., “runoff”; 1 Mar – 31 Oct). For the medium agricultural intensity Grassland AESA catchment in the Foothills Fescue Natural Region, average “runoff” was 37 mm. TP loading = 0.000381 (Runoff<sup>1.3036</sup>), R<sup>2</sup>=0.821; TN loading = 0.008782 (Runoff)+0.0101, R<sup>2</sup>=0.935; TSS loading = 0.232 (Runoff<sup>1.508</sup>), R<sup>2</sup>=0.792. Intensive forms of agricultural activity involve manure application, where TP loading = 0.04869 (Runoff<sup>1.2047</sup>), R<sup>2</sup>=0.905; TN loading = 0.2439 (Runoff<sup>1.0509</sup>), R<sup>2</sup>=0.905.

**Table B-2 (cont'd).**

**Footprint Types**

Transportation

Soft Roads (gravel/dirt) - heavy use, assuming 10 m wide, drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - heavy use, assuming 10 m wide, no drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - moderate use, 10 m wide, drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - moderate use, 10 m wide, no drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - light use, 6 m wide, drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - light use, 6 m wide, no drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - unused, 6 m wide, drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - unused, 6 m wide, no drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Hard Roads (paved)<sup>1</sup>  
 Hard Roads (paved; 10 m wide, drainage structures)  
 Trails (motorized)<sup>1</sup>  
 Trails (OHV)  
 Trails (non-motorized)<sup>1</sup>

Industrial

Industrial Plants<sup>1</sup>  
 Transmission Lines<sup>1</sup>  
 Seismic Lines<sup>1</sup>  
 Wellpads<sup>1</sup>  
 Pipelines<sup>1</sup>  
 Processing Plants<sup>1</sup>  
 Feedlots (loading coefficient kg/ha/yr)  
 - based on EMCs, runoff, etc<sup>1</sup>  
 Surface Mines<sup>1</sup>  
 Construction 1 - Clearing, grubbing, grading of former wooded/ag land<sup>1</sup>  
 Construction 2 - Installation of roads, storm drainage & housing<sup>1</sup>

Recreation

Recreational Features (golf courses)<sup>1</sup>  
 Recreational Features (ski areas)<sup>1</sup>  
 Recreational Features (campgrounds)<sup>1</sup>

Residential

Urban (City Core)<sup>1</sup>  
 Urban (Suburban)<sup>1</sup>  
 Rural Residential (farm yard)<sup>1</sup>  
 Rural Residential (acreage yard)<sup>1</sup>

**Foothills Natural Region**

<b>Nitrogen (TN) kg/ha/yr</b>	<b>Phosphorus (TP) kg/ha/yr</b>	<b>Sediment (TSS) kg/ha/yr</b>
---------------------------------------	---	--

		112,700
		310,200
		9,245
		25440
8.683	7.299	1,428
		3,929
		188
		517
59.24	1.894	249
		474
8.683	7.299	1,742
		4,440
4.706	2.692	643

8.596	1.112	656
2.085	0.809	217
1.564	0.607	163
8.249	4.155	1,169
3.128	1.214	326
7.815	1.011	596
100-1,600	10-620	
977	196	3,011
3.202	0.407	255
7.324	0.817	6,631
4.769	0.532	2,760

13.017	1.452	274
3.164	0.207	112
4.157	1.726	412

8.656	1.075	376
4.697	0.971	211
297.9	50.15	1,599
1.905	0.157	38

**Table B-4. Export coefficients for difference landuse and footprint types – Parkland Natural**

**Region (kg/ha/year).** Values include those from NPSP literature, those calculated from ELF's listed and **average annual precipitation**, according to methods described above (Tables 6 and 7), those calculated from relationships derived from AESA data (“high agriculture intensity” and catchments with manure application), and those calculated from equations from the literature (in red). References are the same as listed in Table B-1, unless as indicated.

	Average Annual precipitation (mm)	447	447	447
	Average runoff (1 Mar - 31 Oct; mm)	22	22	22
Landscape Types	Nitrogen (TN) kg/ha/yr	Phosphorus (TP) kg/ha/yr	Sediment (TSS) kg/ha/yr	
Conifer Dominated Forest	1.875	0.048	380	
Hardwood Dominated Forest	2.360	0.219	433	
Wooded (based on +36% over wooded EMCs) <sup>xx</sup>	1.522	0.274	247	
Shrubland <sup>1</sup>	2.070	0.373	336	
Native Grassland <sup>1</sup>	0.194	0.042	32	
Natural Unvegetated Flat (rock/ice/sand)	2.950	0.219	N/A	
Natural Unvegetated Steep (rock/ice/sand)	2.950	0.219	N/A	
Natural Unvegetated Flat (rock/ice/sand) - oilsands region	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Natural Unvegetated Steep (rock/ice/sand) - oilsands region	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Cereal Crop (intensive - manure) <sup>xxi</sup>	6.232	2.013	4.7	
Cereal Crop (extensive) <sup>2</sup>	0.661	0.122	4.7	
Forage Crop (intensive) alfalfa <sup>2</sup>	9.348	2.013	4.7	
Forage Crop (extensive) alfalfa <sup>2</sup>	0.991	0.122	4.7	
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope) <sup>1</sup>	1.282	1.055	397	
- Rolling (5-10% slope) <sup>1</sup>	1.666	1.371	517	
- Hilly (10-30% slope) <sup>1</sup>	2.051	1.688	636	
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope) <sup>1</sup>	4.083	0.000	133	
- Rolling (5-10% slope) <sup>1</sup>	5.308	0.491	173	
- Hilly (10-30% slope) <sup>1</sup>	6.532	0.605	213	
General Agriculture – Flat <sup>1</sup>	5.009	0.431	121	
- Rolling <sup>1</sup>	6.344	0.546	153	
- Hilly <sup>1</sup>	7.847	0.675	189	

<sup>xx</sup> Calculated from CLFs and average annual precipitation (Tables 6 and 7).

<sup>xxi</sup> Calculated from AESA data and average seasonal areal water yield (i.e., “runoff”; 1 Mar – 31 Oct). For the high agricultural intensity Parkland AESA catchments, average “runoff” was 22 mm. TP loading =  $0.005 * (\text{Runoff}^{1.035})$ ,  $R^2 = 0.831$ ; TN loading =  $0.027 * (\text{Runoff}^{1.037})$ ,  $R^2 = 0.920$ ; TSS loading =  $0.0779 * (\text{Runoff}^{1.328})$ ,  $R^2 = 0.620$ . Intensive forms of agricultural activity involve manure application, where TP loading =  $0.04869 * (\text{Runoff}^{1.2047})$ ,  $R^2 = 0.905$ ; TN loading =  $0.2439 * (\text{Runoff}^{1.0509})$ ,  $R^2 = 0.905$ .

**Table B-4 (cont'd).**

**Footprint Types**

Transportation

Soft Roads (gravel/dirt) - heavy use, assuming 10 m wide, drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - heavy use, assuming 10 m wide, no drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - moderate use, 10 m wide, drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - moderate use, 10 m wide, no drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - light use, 6 m wide, drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - light use, 6 m wide, no drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - unused, 6 m wide, drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - unused, 6 m wide, no drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Hard Roads (paved)<sup>1</sup>  
 Hard Roads (paved; 10 m wide, drainage structures)  
 Trails (motorized)<sup>1</sup>  
 Trails (OHV)  
 Trails (non-motorized)<sup>1</sup>

Industrial

Industrial Plants<sup>1</sup>  
 Transmission Lines<sup>1</sup>  
 Seismic Lines<sup>1</sup>  
 Wellpads<sup>1</sup>  
 Pipelines<sup>1</sup>  
 Processing Plants<sup>1</sup>  
 Feedlots (loading coefficient kg/ha/yr)  
 - based on EMCs, runoff, etc<sup>1</sup>  
 Surface Mines<sup>1</sup>  
 Construction 1 - Clearing, grubbing, grading of former wooded/ag land<sup>1</sup>  
 Construction 2 - Installation of roads, storm drainage & housing<sup>1</sup>

Recreation

Recreational Features (golf courses)<sup>1</sup>  
 Recreational Features (ski areas)<sup>1</sup>  
 Recreational Features (campgrounds)<sup>1</sup>

Residential

Urban (City Core)<sup>1</sup>  
 Urban (Suburban)<sup>1</sup>  
 Rural Residential (farm yard)<sup>1</sup>  
 Rural Residential (acreage yard)<sup>1</sup>

Parkland Natural Region		
Nitrogen (TN) kg/ha/yr	Phosphorus (TP) kg/ha/yr	Sediment (TSS) kg/ha/yr
		100,300
		297,800
		8,221
		24,416
6.437	5.411	1,270
		3,771
		167
		496
43.916	1.404	185
		421
6.437	5.411	1,291
		4,440
3.488	1.996	477
6.372	0.824	486
1.546	0.600	161
1.159	0.450	121
6.115	3.080	867
2.319	0.900	242
5.793	0.749	442
100-1,600	10-620	
724	145	2,232
2.374	0.302	189
5.429	0.605	4,916
3.535	0.394	2,046
9.650	1.076	203
2.346	0.153	83
3.082	1.279	306
6.417	0.797	279
3.482	0.720	156
220.9	37.17	1,185
1.412	0.117	28

**Table B-5. Export coefficients for difference landuse and footprint types – Boreal Forest Natural**

**Region (kg/ha/year).** Values include those from NPSP literature, those calculated from ELF's listed and **average annual precipitation** (from all low and medium intensity catchments), according to methods described above (Tables 6 and 7), those calculated from relationships derived from AESA data (“medium agriculture intensity” and catchments with manure application), and those calculated from equations from the literature (in red). References are the same as listed in Table B-1, unless as indicated.

	Average Annual precipitation (mm)	469	469	469
	Average runoff – Low Intensity Ag (1 Mar - 31 Oct; mm)	57	57	57
	Average runoff – Medium Intensity Ag (1 Mar - 31 Oct; mm)	53	53	53
Landscape Types	Nitrogen (TN) kg/ha/yr	Phosphorus (TP) kg/ha/yr	Sediment (TSS) kg/ha/yr	
Conifer Dominated Forest	1.875	0.048	380	
Hardwood Dominated Forest	2.360	0.219	433	
Wooded (based on +36% over wooded EMCs) <sup>xxii</sup>	1.597	0.288	260	
Shrubland <sup>1</sup>	2.172	0.392	353	
Native Grassland <sup>1</sup>	0.203	0.044	34	
Natural Unvegetated Flat (rock/ice/sand)	2.950	0.200	N/A	
Natural Unvegetated Steep (rock/ice/sand)	2.950	0.200	N/A	
Natural Unvegetated Flat (rock/ice/sand) - oilsands region	11.00	0.200	N/A	
Natural Unvegetated Steep (rock/ice/sand) - oilsands region	11.00	0.200	N/A	
Cereal Crop (intensive - manure) <sup>xxiii</sup>	16.40	6.105	50.2	
Cereal Crop (extensive) <sup>2</sup>	1.391	0.152	50.2	
Forage Crop (intensive) alfalfa <sup>2</sup>	24.60	6.105	50.2	
Forage Crop (extensive) alfalfa <sup>2</sup>	2.087	0.152	50.2	
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope) <sup>1</sup>	1.345	1.107	417	
- Rolling (5-10% slope) <sup>1</sup>	1.748	1.439	542	
- Hilly (10-30% slope) <sup>1</sup>	2.152	1.771	667	
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope) <sup>1</sup>	4.284	0.396	139	
- Rolling (5-10% slope) <sup>1</sup>	5.569	0.515	181	
- Hilly (10-30% slope) <sup>1</sup>	6.854	0.634	223	
General Agriculture – Flat <sup>1</sup>	5.255	0.452	127	
- Rolling <sup>1</sup>	6.657	0.573	161	
- Hilly <sup>1</sup>	8.233	0.708	199	

<sup>xxii</sup> Calculated from CLFs and average annual precipitation (Tables 6 and 7).

<sup>xxiii</sup> Calculated from AESA data and average seasonal areal water yield (i.e., “runoff”; 1 Mar – 31 Oct). For the medium agricultural intensity Grassland AESA catchment in the Foothills Fescue Natural Region, average “runoff” was 37 mm. TP loading = 0.002\*(Runoff<sup>1.081</sup>), R<sup>2</sup> = 0.907; TN loading = 0.031\*(Runoff<sup>1.95</sup>), R<sup>2</sup>=0.923; TSS loading = 0.343\*(Runoff<sup>1.245</sup>), R<sup>2</sup>=0.806. Intensive forms of agricultural activity involve manure application, where TP loading = 0.04869\*(Runoff<sup>1.2047</sup>), R<sup>2</sup>=0.905; TN loading = 0.2439\*(Runoff<sup>1.0509</sup>), R<sup>2</sup>=0.905.

**Table B-5 (cont'd).**

**Footprint Types**

Transportation

Soft Roads (gravel/dirt) - heavy use, assuming 10 m wide, drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - heavy use, assuming 10 m wide, no drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - moderate use, 10 m wide, drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - moderate use, 10 m wide, no drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - light use, 6 m wide, drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - light use, 6 m wide, no drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - unused, 6 m wide, drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Soft Roads - unused, 6 m wide, no drainage structures<sup>1</sup>  
 Hard Roads (paved)<sup>1</sup>  
 Hard Roads (paved; 10 m wide, drainage structures)  
 Trails (motorized)<sup>1</sup>  
 Trails (OHV)  
 Trails (non-motorized)<sup>1</sup>

Industrial

Industrial Plants<sup>1</sup>  
 Transmission Lines<sup>1</sup>  
 Seismic Lines<sup>1</sup>  
 Wellpads<sup>1</sup>  
 Pipelines<sup>1</sup>  
 Processing Plants<sup>1</sup>  
 Feedlots (loading coefficient kg/ha/yr)  
 - based on EMCs, runoff, etc<sup>1</sup>  
 Surface Mines<sup>1</sup>  
 Construction 1 - Clearing, grubbing, grading of former wooded/ag land<sup>1</sup>  
 Construction 2 - Installation of roads, storm drainage & housing<sup>1</sup>

Recreation

Recreational Features (golf courses)<sup>1</sup>  
 Recreational Features (ski areas)<sup>1</sup>  
 Recreational Features (campgrounds)<sup>1</sup>

Residential

Urban (City Core)<sup>1</sup>  
 Urban (Suburban)<sup>1</sup>  
 Rural Residential (farm yard)<sup>1</sup>  
 Rural Residential (acreage yard)<sup>1</sup>

**Boreal Forest Natural Region**

<b>Nitrogen (TN) kg/ha/yr</b>	<b>Phosphorus (TP) kg/ha/yr</b>	<b>Sediment (TSS) kg/ha/yr</b>
---------------------------------------	---	--

		102,000
		299,500
		8,366
		24,561
6.754	5.677	1,292
		3,794
		170
		499
46.078	1.473	194
		428
6.754	5.677	1,355
		4,440
3.660	2.094	500

6.686	0.865	510
1.622	0.630	169
1.216	0.472	127
6.416	3.232	909
2.433	0.944	254
6.078	0.786	464
100-1,600	10-620	
760	152	2,342
2.490	0.317	198
5.696	0.635	5,157
3.709	0.414	2,147

10.13 <sup>60</sup>	1.129 <sup>60</sup>	213
2.461	0.161	87
3.233	1.342	321

6.732	0.836	293
3.653	0.755	164
231.7	39.00	1,244
1.482	0.122	30

## Appendix B. Reconciliation between Donahue (2013) Land Use Types and GIS Layers used in NPS Model.



Donahue Classification <i>Natural &amp; Agricultural Land Use</i> <b>Landscape Type</b>	<a href="#">Human Footprint Inventory 2014</a>	Description (Metadata)	<a href="#">Crop Inventory 2016</a>	Description (Metadata)
Conifer Dominated Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Black Spruce-dominated forests occur in Boreal Subarctic, Northern Mixedwood Subregions</li> <li>•Conifer-dominated forests (Lodgepole Pine, Lodgepole Pine x Jack Pine hybrids, White Spruce and Engelmann Spruce) occur in Subalpine, Upper Foothills and Upper Boreal Highlands</li> <li>•Conifer-leading mixedwood forests occur in Montane and Lower Foothills</li> <li>•Coniferous forest: 75%+ conifers</li> </ul>		210-Coniferous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Coniferous: predominately coniferous forests or treed areas</li> </ul>
Hardwood Dominated Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Deciduous-leading mixedwood forests occur in Central Mixedwood and Dry Mixedwood</li> <li>•Deciduous forest: 75%+ deciduous trees</li> </ul>		220-Broadleaf Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Predominantly broadleaf/deciduous forests or treed areas</li> </ul>
Wooded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•This term is not used</li> <li>•Might refer to "mixedwood" term used by Alberta Parks: forest stands composed of conifers and angiosperms each representing between 25-75% of the cover</li> </ul>		230-Mixed Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Mixedwood: forest that is a combination of both coniferous and broadleaf classes</li> </ul>
Shrubland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Area dominated by shrubs, usually individual plants not in contact and with a herbaceous ground cover</li> </ul>		50-Shrubland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Shrubland: predominantly woody vegetation of relatively low height (generally +/- 2 m)</li> <li>•may include grass or wetlands with woody vegetation, regenerating forest</li> </ul>
Native Grassland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Grassland is defined as vegetation consisting primarily fo grass species occurring on sites that are arid or at least well drained</li> </ul>		110-Grassland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Grassland: predominantly native grasses and other herbaceous vegetation, may include some shrubland cover</li> </ul>
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•rock barrens, ice barrens, sand dunes</li> </ul>		30-Exposed Land/Barren	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•30-Exposed Land/Barren: land that is predominantly non-vegetated and non-developed, includes: glacier, rock, sediments, burned areas, rubble, mines, other naturally occurring non-vegetated surfaces, excludes fallow agriculture</li> </ul>
Cereal Crop (intensive)	Intensive forms of agricultrre involve manure application		132-Cereals, 133-Barley,136-Oats, 137-Rye, 139-Triticale, 146-Spring Wheat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Cereal: this class is mapped only if the distinction of sub-cereal covers (classes 133-146) is not possible</li> <li>•all other sub-cereal classes lack further definition</li> </ul>
Cereal Crop (extensive)				
Forage Crop (intensive) - alfalfa	Intensive forms of agricultrre involve manure application		122-Pasture / Forages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Pasture/Forages: periodically cultivated</li> <li>•includes tame grasses and other perennial crops such as alfalfa and clover grown alone or as mixtures for hay, pasture or seed</li> </ul>
Forage Crop (extensive) - alfalfa				
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	Not defined	ROUGH_PASTURE		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Rough Pasture: lands where the forest and/or shrubs have been removed so that native or introduced grasses can flourish for the grazing of livestock</li> </ul>
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	Not defined	ROUGH_PASTURE		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•this pastureland has not been irrigated or fertilized, and the soil has not been disturbed to improve productivity</li> </ul>
Native Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	Not defined	ROUGH_PASTURE		

Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	Intensive forms of agriculture involve manure application	TAME_PASTURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Tame Pasture: lands where the soil has been disturbed and planted with perennial grass species used primarily for grazing livestock</li> <li>•represents areas of grasses, legumes or grass-legume mixtures planted for livestock grazing or hay collection</li> </ul>		
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)		TAME_PASTURE			
Intensive Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)		TAME_PASTURE			
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	Not defined			All other crops (147-199)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•All other crops: corn, oilseeds (canola/rapeseed), pulses (peas, beans, lentils)</li> </ul>
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	Not defined			All other crops (147-199)	
General Agriculture - Hilly (10-30% slope)	Not defined			All other crops (147-199)	
Water + Wetlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•wetland: land that is saturated with water long enough to promote hydric soils or aquatic processes as indicated by poorly drained soils, hydrophytic vegetation, and various kinds of biological activity that are adapted to wet environments</li> </ul>	LAGOON, RESERVOIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Lagoon: artificial holding or treatment pond for industrial, agricultural or municipal wastewater; human-made water and sewage lagoons for municipal purposes</li> <li>•Reservoir: artificial lake or storage pond resulting from human-made dam; a body of water created by excavation or human-made damming of a river or stream</li> </ul>	20-Water, 80-Wetland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Water: water bodies (lakes, reservoirs, rivers, streams, salt water etc.)</li> <li>•Wetland: land with a water table near/at/above soil surface for enough time to promote wetland or aquatic processes (semi-permanent or permanent wetland vegetation, including fens, bogs, swamps, sloughs, marshes etc.)</li> </ul>
<b>Transportation, Industrial, Recreational and Residential Land Uses</b>					
<b>Footprint Type</b>		<b>Human Footprint Inventory 2014</b>		<b>Crop Inventory 2016</b>	
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)		ROAD-GRAVEL-1L, ROAD-GRAVEL-2L, ROAD-UNPAVED, ROAD-UNIMPROVED, ROAD-UNCLASSIFIED			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•ROAD-GRAVEL-1L: roadway surfaced with gravel and constituted as a main access route; road surface is ~6 m wide and road clearing is ~20 m+ wide; surface, ditches, bridges and intersections are in good condition</li> <li>•ROAD-GRAVEL-2L: as 1L but road surface is ≥ 7m wide, road clearing is ≥ 30 m wide</li> <li>•ROAD-UNPAVED: no definition</li> <li>•ROAD-UNIMPROVED: roadway surfaced with dirt that serves as a minor access route; road surface is up to 7 m wide and road clearing is up to 20 m wide; surface and ditches are poorly maintained, bridges are narrow</li> <li>•ROAD-UNCLASSIFIED: a temporary coding for an unknown class of road, which will be updated after a field check or verification</li> </ul>			

Hard Roads (paved)		ROAD-PAVED-1L, ROAD-PAVED-2L, ROAD-PAVED-3L, ROAD-PAVED-4L, ROAD-PAVED-DIV, ROAD-PAVED-UNDIV-1L, ROAD PAVED-UNDIV-2L, ROAD-PAVED-UNDIV-4L, INTERCHANGE-RAMP, AIRP-RUNWAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•ROAD-PAVED-1L: roadway, paved with asphalt or concrete, consisting of one lane</li> <li>•ROAD-PAVED-2L: major roadway, paved with asphalt or concrete, consisting of two roadbeds separated by a median; ach roadbed usually has 2+ lanes</li> <li>•ROAD-PAVED-3L: no definition</li> <li>•ROAD-PAVED-4L: no definition</li> <li>•ROAD-PAVED-DIV: major roadway, paved with asphalt or concrete, which consists of two roadbeds separated by a median, each roadbed usually has 2+ lanes</li> <li>•ROAD-PAVED-UNDIV-1L: roadway paved with asphalt or concrete, consisting of one lane and usually servicing rural acreages that are close to large urban centres</li> <li>•ROAD PAVED-UNDIV-2L: roadway paved with asphalt or concrete, consisting of two adjacent landes with no median to separate them</li> <li>•ROAD-PAVED-UNDIV-4L: as UNDIV-2L but with four adjacent lanes and no median</li> <li>•INTERCHANGE-RAMP: series of roadways (ramps) giving access to and from intersecting paved roads; ramps are usually at different levels and form an overpass/underpass</li> <li>•AIRP-RUNWAY: active land facility for aircraft, usually associated with paved and lighted runways, an operating control tower, and services for aircraft and passengers</li> </ul>		
Trails (motorized)		TRUCK-TRAIL, TRAIL-ATV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•TRUCK-TRAIL: roadway surfaced with dirt or low vegetation serving as a minor access route; road clearing is <math>\geq 6</math> m wide; streams generally forded, few ditches</li> <li>•TRAIL-ATV: trail primarily used for ATV activities</li> </ul>		
Trails (non-motorized)		TRAIL	not defined		
Industrial Plants		OIL-GAS-PLANT, MISC-OIL-GAS-FACILITY, CAMP-INDUSTRIAL, FACILITY-OTHER, FACILITY-UNKNOWN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•OIL-GAS-PLANT; industrial facility used for oil production</li> <li>•MISC-OIL-GAS-FACILITY: industrial facility used for oil and gas</li> <li>•CAMP-INDUSTRIAL: buidling used for temporary residence by employees on or in close proximity to an industrial activity</li> <li>•FACILITY-OTHER: industrial facility with large non-residential buildings often surrounded by concrete parking lots</li> <li>•FACILITY-UNKNOWN: same as FACILITY-OTHER but purpose is not known</li> </ul>		
Transmission Lines		TRANSMISSION-LINE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•utility corridor <math>&gt;10</math> m wide with poles, towers and lines for transmitting high voltage electricity</li> </ul>		
Seismic Lines		PRE-LOW-IMPACT-SEISMIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•polygon feature class derived from a 3 m buffer (6 m total width) of a pre-low-impact-seismic centerline</li> </ul>		

Wellpads		WELL-ABAND, WELL-CASED, WELL-CLEARED-DRILLED, WELL-CLEARED-NOT-DRILLED, WELL-GAS, WELL-OIL, WELL-OTHER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•WELL-ABAND: ground cleared for an oil/gas well pad where well is currently abandoned</li> <li>•WELL-CASED: well site - ground cleared and well cased</li> <li>•WELL-CLEARED-DRILLED: well site - confirmation of drilling and boundary outline are provided by reference sources</li> <li>•WELL-CLEARED-NOT-DRILLED: well site - confirmation of the boundary outline are provided by reference sources</li> <li>•WELL-GAS: well site - ground cleared for a gas well pad</li> <li>•WELL-OIL: well site - ground cleared for an oil well pad</li> <li>•WELL-OTHER: well site -clearing, purpose is unknown</li> </ul>		
Pipelines		PIPELINE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•line of underground and over ground pipes, of substantial length and capacity, used for conveyance of petrochemicals</li> </ul>		
Processing Plants		MILL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•intense industrial &amp; commercial development for the purpose of pulp or paper production</li> </ul>		
Feedlots		CFO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Confined feeding operations: with large buildings and fenced pens for livestock</li> </ul>		
Surface Mines		GRVL-SAND-PIT, OPEN-PIT-MINE, BORROWPITS, BORROWPIT-DRY, BORROWPIT-WET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•GRVL-SAND-PIT: area of surface disturbance for extracting sand and/or gravel consistently open and/or expanding over multiple years, usually close to lakes or rivers</li> <li>•OPEN-PIT-MINE: as for GRVL-SAND-PIT but for mining</li> <li>•BORROWPITS: includes pits dug to build forestry and well-site roads; usually associated with a road or other structure</li> <li>•BORROWPIT-DRY: as for BORROWPITS but no water is present</li> <li>•BORROWPIT-WET: as for BORROWPITS but presence of water confirmed by visual interpretation</li> </ul>		
Construction 1 - Clearing, grubbing, grading of former wooded/ag land		CLEARING-UNKNOWN, RESIDENCE_CLEARING, VEGETATED-EDGE-ROADS, VEGETATED-EDGE-RAILWAYS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•CLEARING-UNKNOWN: human-made clearing with unknown purpose and no visible buildings, fences or equipment</li> <li>•RESIDENCE_CLEARING: areas cleared for building developments that do not yet have any buildings</li> <li>•VEGETATED-EDGE-ROADS: disturbed vegetation along road edges</li> <li>•VEGETATED-EDGE-RAILWAYS: disturbed vegetation along railway edges</li> </ul>	34- Urban / Developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•land that is predominantly built-up or developed and associated vegetation; includes road surfaces, railway surfaces, buildings and paved surfaces, urban areas, industrial sites, mine structures, golf courses etc.</li> </ul>
Construction 2 - Installation of roads, storm drainage & housing					
Recreational - golf courses		GOLF COURSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•large recreational area comprised of a series of grass patches surrounded by trees</li> </ul>		
Recreational - ski					
Recreational - campgrounds		CAMPGROUND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•disturbed vegetation with frequently changing facilities of RVs and tents; usually several individual clearings surrounded by vegetation and gravel or concrete roads</li> </ul>		
Urban - city core		URBAN-INDUSTRIAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•an industrial facility within the boundary of an urban residence</li> </ul>		
Urban - suburban		URBAN-RESIDENCE, GREENSPACE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•URBAN-RESIDENCE: residential areas in cities, towns, villages, hamlets and ribbon developments; areas dominated by dwellings (&gt;100 buildings per quarter section)</li> <li>•GREENSPACE: greenspace used for recreation within a residential area including school, school yards and sport fields</li> </ul>		

Rural Residential (farm yard)		RURAL-RESIDENCE, COUNTRY-RESIDENCE	•RURAL-RESIDENCE: developments with density of < 10 buildings per quarter section •COUNTRY-RESIDENCE: developments with density of 10 - 100 buildings per quarter section		
Rural Residential (acreage yard)					

## Appendix C. Land Use Classifications and Total Annual Export from Individual Subwatersheds.



**Table 1. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in Calahoo Creek**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Cereal Crop	28	40	4	1417
Conifer Dominated Forest	8696	25664	3436	3304347
Construction 1	154	961	107	870208
Forage Crop - alfalfa	19	41	3	951
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	10	51	4	1227
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	0	0	0	0
Hardwood Dominated Forest	7285	17886	2045	3154464
Industrial Plants	6	41	5	3114
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	131	654	60	18191
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	4	20	2	654
Native Grassland	1	0	0	53
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	39	56	46	16098
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	0	1	1	180
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	16	46	3	0
Pipelines	171	462	179	48158
Rural Residential (farm yard)	2	419	71	2250
Seismic Lines	98	135	52	14061
Shrubland	1050	2847	513	462936
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	112	839	705	150217
Surface Mines	43	118	15	9402
Trails (motorized)	2	12	10	2505
Trails (non-motorized)	22	94	54	12902
Wellpads	99	702	353	99408
Wooded	390	737	216	119862



**Table 2. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in the Upper Wapiti River Above Narraway River Subwatershed**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Conifer Dominated Forest	13258	44017	6815	5038109
Construction 1	39	293	33	265527
Hardwood Dominated Forest	953	2532	392	412709
Industrial Plants	1	13	2	979
Native Grassland	5	2	1	274
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	130	385	26	0
Pipelines	74	237	92	24706
Seismic Lines	47	78	30	8145
Shrubland	623	1779	320	289260
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	47	414	348	64194
Surface Mines	18	58	7	4641
Trails (non-motorized)	10	50	29	6826
Wellpads	39	333	168	47190
Wooded	113	234	42	38030



**Table 3. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in the Upper Wapiti River Below Narraway River Subwatershed**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Cereal Crop	28	40	4	1417
Conifer Dominated Forest	8696	25664	3436	3304347
Construction 1	154	961	107	870208
Forage Crop - alfalfa	19	41	3	951
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	10	51	4	1227
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	0	0	0	0
Hardwood Dominated Forest	7285	17886	2045	3154464
Industrial Plants	6	41	5	3114
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	131	654	60	18191
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	4	20	2	654
Native Grassland	1	0	0	53
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	39	56	46	16098
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	0	1	1	180
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	16	46	3	0
Pipelines	171	462	179	48158
Rural Residential (farm yard)	2	419	71	2250
Seismic Lines	98	135	52	14061
Shrubland	1050	2847	513	462936
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	112	839	705	150217
Surface Mines	43	118	15	9402
Trails (motorized)	2	12	10	2505
Trails (non-motorized)	22	94	54	12902
Wellpads	99	702	353	99408
Wooded	390	737	216	119862



**Table 4. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in Iroquois Creek**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Cereal Crop	89	131	14	4488
Conifer Dominated Forest	2838	5530	203	1078618
Construction 1	229	1350	151	1222640
Forage Crop - alfalfa	221	467	34	11070
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	58	306	26	7399
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	0	2	0	49
Hard Roads (paved)	9	423	14	1780
Hardwood Dominated Forest	10963	26397	2741	4747017
Industrial Plants	38	257	33	19591
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	266	1162	107	37035
Intensive Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	0	2	0	56
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	1	7	1	227
Native Grassland	1	0	0	31
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	74	101	83	31030
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	0	0	0	49
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	9	27	2	0
Pipelines	264	654	254	68245
Rural Residential (farm yard)	11	2478	417	13306
Seismic Lines	224	276	107	28843
Shrubland	827	1903	343	309394
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	169	1175	987	220412
Surface Mines	42	107	14	8542
Trails (motorized)	1	5	4	1006
Trails (non-motorized)	10	40	23	5443
Transmission Lines	1	2	1	243
Wellpads	198	1328	669	188184
Wooded	705	1127	620	183481



**Table 5. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in the Torrens River**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Conifer Dominated Forest	25471	84562	13092	9678795
Construction 1	100	800	89	724525
Hardwood Dominated Forest	756	2007	311	327176
Industrial Plants	5	41	5	3141
Native Grassland	298	239	111	25010
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	2589	7637	518	0
Pipelines	82	297	115	30980
Recreational - Campgrounds	3	11	5	1105
Seismic Lines	48	86	33	8937
Shrubland	5872	20935	3773	3405050
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	81	756	636	88334
Surface Mines	9	38	5	2997
Trails (motorized)	11	109	92	21949
Trails (non-motorized)	52	293	168	40070
Wellpads	26	258	130	36593
Wooded	115	251	45	40793



**Table 6. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in the Lower Narraway River**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Conifer Dominated Forest	29512	97980	15169	11214588
Construction 1	211	1560	174	1412303
Hardwood Dominated Forest	4413	11720	1814	1910707
Industrial Plants	20	171	22	13046
Native Grassland	3	1	1	142
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	288	851	58	0
Pipelines	249	786	305	81921
Seismic Lines	138	221	86	23069
Shrubland	1068	3009	542	489361
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	157	1375	1156	217742
Surface Mines	55	177	22	14078
Trails (motorized)	3	27	23	5504
Trails (non-motorized)	31	147	84	20031
Wellpads	122	1019	513	144434
Wooded	998	2053	370	334032



**Table 7. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in Dinosaur Creek**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Conifer Dominated Forest	2469	8197	1269	938180
Construction 1	3	27	3	24555
Hardwood Dominated Forest	39	103	16	16802
Native Grassland	22	19	8	1857
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	414	1220	83	0
Pipelines	6	23	9	2435
Seismic Lines	3	7	3	741
Shrubland	619	2283	411	371324
Surface Mines	1	5	1	425
Trails (motorized)	3	32	27	6449
Trails (non-motorized)	0	2	1	297
Wellpads	4	36	18	5051
Wooded	3	8	1	1258



**Table 8. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in the Upper Naraway River**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Conifer Dominated Forest	7346	24389	3776	2791476
Construction 1	6	55	6	49489
Hardwood Dominated Forest	683	1814	281	295672
Native Grassland	2	2	1	177
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	439	1296	88	0
Pipelines	19	69	27	7151
Seismic Lines	21	35	14	3651
Shrubland	573	1770	319	287817
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	7	73	61	4616
Surface Mines	4	16	2	1272
Trails (motorized)	1	8	7	1583
Trails (non-motorized)	8	41	23	5604
Wellpads	1	16	8	2208
Wooded	301	625	113	101682



**Table 9. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in Upper Nose Creek**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Conifer Dominated Forest	29284	97223	15052	11127964
Construction 1	139	1212	135	1096908
Hardwood Dominated Forest	4810	12774	1977	2082556
Industrial Plants	13	117	15	8955
Native Grassland	8	5	2	621
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	145	426	29	0
Pipelines	108	382	148	39759
Seismic Lines	102	180	70	18783
Shrubland	1961	6075	1095	987994
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	87	880	740	60524
Surface Mines	28	105	13	8356
Trails (motorized)	12	124	104	24889
Trails (non-motorized)	33	176	101	24064
Wellpads	73	684	345	96979
Wooded	626	1293	233	210279



**Table 10. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in Gunderson Creek**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Conifer Dominated Forest	7126	23658	3663	2707839
Construction 1	72	553	62	500727
Hardwood Dominated Forest	692	1838	284	299690
Industrial Plants	0	3	0	197
Native Grassland	1	0	0	66
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	3	9	1	0
Pipelines	65	213	83	22169
Rural Residential (farm yard)	1	282	48	1515
Seismic Lines	23	37	14	3894
Shrubland	805	2290	413	372389
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	62	565	475	76944
Surface Mines	4	15	2	1156
Trails (motorized)	6	55	46	10995
Trails (non-motorized)	15	73	42	9924
Wellpads	35	303	153	43003
Wooded	61	127	23	20627



**Table 11. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in Grayling Creek**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Conifer Dominated Forest	1918	6367	986	728709
Construction 1	13	119	13	107754
Hardwood Dominated Forest	2558	6795	1052	1107788
Native Grassland	0	0	0	14
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	0	1	0	0
Pipelines	19	59	23	6166
Seismic Lines	11	17	7	1822
Shrubland	238	676	122	109945
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	6	66	55	2030
Surface Mines	1	2	0	168
Trails (non-motorized)	5	25	14	3442
Wellpads	7	56	28	7921
Wooded	238	489	88	79518



**Table 12. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in Muddy Creek**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Conifer Dominated Forest	10825	35655	5473	4113368
Construction 1	272	2024	226	1832551
Hard Roads (paved)	1	63	2	267
Hardwood Dominated Forest	15589	41345	6368	6750245
Industrial Plants	11	96	12	7320
Native Grassland	13	6	3	689
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	34	101	7	0
Pipelines	296	924	359	96272
Seismic Lines	118	186	72	19341
Shrubland	2054	5770	1040	938281
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	220	1931	1623	303658
Surface Mines	22	72	9	5731
Trails (motorized)	2	18	16	3704
Trails (non-motorized)	16	77	44	10535
Wellpads	347	2866	1444	406201
Wooded	904	1851	339	301218



**Table 13. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in Lower Nose Creek**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Conifer Dominated Forest	17360	54886	8037	6596684
Construction 1	298	2142	239	1939124
Hardwood Dominated Forest	13775	36020	5295	5964463
Industrial Plants	13	107	14	8192
Native Grassland	2	1	0	74
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	159	470	32	0
Pipelines	306	934	363	97375
Rural Residential (farm yard)	11	2440	411	13101
Seismic Lines	184	282	109	29343
Shrubland	2520	6946	1251	1129390
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	217	1849	1555	307047
Surface Mines	36	115	15	9170
Trails (motorized)	13	109	92	21887
Trails (non-motorized)	27	124	71	16964
Wellpads	306	2460	1239	348556
Wooded	1146	2333	447	379510



**Table 14. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in Upper Pinto Creek**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Conifer Dominated Forest	7678	25492	3947	2917753
Construction 1	198	1453	162	1315099
Hardwood Dominated Forest	9684	25721	3980	4193197
Industrial Plants	6	48	6	3675
Native Grassland	16	5	1	829
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	4	13	1	0
Pipelines	195	609	236	63463
Seismic Lines	102	160	62	16681
Shrubland	2068	5774	1040	938856
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	158	1370	1152	225341
Surface Mines	18	56	7	4480
Trails (motorized)	2	17	14	3374
Trails (non-motorized)	14	67	39	9216
Wellpads	221	1819	916	257833
Wooded	138	284	51	46187



**Table 15. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in Lower Pinto Creek**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Conifer Dominated Forest	11761	27217	2230	4469325
Construction 1	427	2884	322	2611314
Hardwood Dominated Forest	28428	71669	9196	12309139
Industrial Plants	41	344	45	26262
Native Grassland	2	1	0	59
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	31	41	34	12754
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	0	0	0	0
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	72	211	14	0
Pipelines	563	1562	606	162944
Seismic Lines	360	473	184	49384
Shrubland	2410	6196	1117	1007354
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	331	2635	2215	455943
Surface Mines	79	242	31	19241
Trails (motorized)	5	34	28	6771
Trails (non-motorized)	39	154	88	21093
Wellpads	430	3195	1609	452756
Wooded	172	307	115	49990



**Table 16. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in Calahoo Creek**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Cereal Crop	1858	2665	285	93277
Conifer Dominated Forest	2658	7893	1066	1010097
Construction 1	269	1583	176	1432775
Forage Crop - alfalfa	1842	4060	296	92474
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	799	4197	361	101419
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	1	6	1	150
Hard Roads (paved)	8	369	12	1553
Hardwood Dominated Forest	6380	15483	1674	2762484
Industrial Plants	13	88	11	6691
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	318	1430	132	44193
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	0	0	0	11
Native Grassland	24	5	1	879
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	381	512	422	158709
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	2	7	0	0
Pipelines	162	424	165	44252
Rural Residential (farm yard)	106	24510	4125	131592
Seismic Lines	135	178	69	18540
Shrubland	473	1180	213	191754
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	161	1120	942	210216
Surface Mines	16	44	6	3472
Trails (motorized)	5	38	32	7560
Trails (non-motorized)	20	77	44	10573
Transmission Lines	2	3	1	281
Wellpads	134	911	459	129075
Wooded	120	222	72	36053



**Table 17. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in the Lower Redwillow River**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Cereal Crop	4573	6633	702	229542
Conifer Dominated Forest	1084	2033	52	412079
Construction 1	613	3489	389	3159269
Feedlots	19	14272	2854	43979
Forage Crop - alfalfa	7312	16136	1175	367064
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	3983	20932	1800	505867
General Agriculture - Hilly (10-30% slope)	7	60	5	1460
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	41	273	23	6591
Hard Roads (paved)	61	2796	89	11770
Hardwood Dominated Forest	5769	13615	1263	2498055
Industrial Plants	45	304	39	23179
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	1834	8249	763	254884
Intensive Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	4	27	2	837
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	63	362	34	11317
Native Grassland	35	8	2	1186
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	599	881	725	249690
Native Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	15	32	26	9792
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	37	70	58	20291
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	36	105	7	0
Pipelines	102	249	96	25960
Rural Residential (farm yard)	397	91977	15482	493826
Seismic Lines	145	176	68	18421
Shrubland	468	1017	184	165316
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	336	2272	1910	434647
Surface Mines	16	39	5	3117
Trails (motorized)	8	54	45	10762
Trails (non-motorized)	36	132	76	18061
Transmission Lines	57	93	36	9717
Wellpads	296	1897	955	268697
Wooded	173	276	152	44896



**Table 18. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in the Upper Redwillow River**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Cereal Crop	1878	2730	289	94284
Conifer Dominated Forest	3603	10512	1384	1368969
Construction 1	372	2165	241	1960111
Forage Crop - alfalfa	2585	5785	421	129747
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	1254	6587	567	159199
General Agriculture - Hilly (10-30% slope)	5	39	3	950
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	43	286	25	6917
Hardwood Dominated Forest	10152	24182	2368	4395861
Industrial Plants	7	45	6	3423
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	415	1886	174	57676
Intensive Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	1	8	1	245
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	27	156	14	4856
Native Grassland	57	13	3	1979
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	676	968	797	286118
Native Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	7	16	13	4859
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	73	132	109	39619
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	42	123	8	0
Pipelines	195	494	192	51545
Rural Residential (farm yard)	115	26560	4471	142599
Seismic Lines	202	256	100	26766
Shrubland	470	1064	192	173017
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	227	1569	1319	295546
Surface Mines	32	81	10	6469
Trails (motorized)	7	45	38	9095
Trails (non-motorized)	53	195	111	26598
Wellpads	177	1173	591	166148
Wooded	278	459	229	74677



**Table 19. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in Pipestone Creek**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Cereal Crop	3913	4397	550	118835
Conifer Dominated Forest	277	519	13	105193
Construction 1	461	2572	287	2329017
Forage Crop - alfalfa	951	1833	145	37448
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	4972	25469	2191	615377
General Agriculture - Hilly (10-30% slope)	3	27	2	649
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	40	260	22	6272
Hard Roads (paved)	46	2063	66	8686
Hardwood Dominated Forest	2889	6818	633	1251013
Industrial Plants	16	108	14	8242
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	963	4182	233	131560
Intensive Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	9	63	6	1968
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	32	186	17	5797
Native Grassland	4	1	0	115
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	50	68	56	20467
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	1	2	1	466
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	14	42	3	0
Pipelines	43	103	40	10740
Rural Residential (farm yard)	471	107512	18095	577087
Seismic Lines	42	51	20	5286
Shrubland	194	416	75	67565
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	223	1478	1242	286213
Surface Mines	2	5	1	366
Trails (motorized)	2	16	13	3200
Trails (non-motorized)	9	34	19	4583
Transmission Lines	46	72	28	7456
Wellpads	143	901	454	127682
Wooded	80	126	57	20483



**Table 20. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in the Lower Wapiti River Above Big Mountain Creek Subwatershed**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Cereal Crop	3882	3106	496	48657
Conifer Dominated Forest	3369	6317	162	1280325
Construction 1	1417	7935	884	7184223
Forage Crop - alfalfa	1999	3317	289	59886
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	4728	23855	2053	576302
General Agriculture - Hilly (10-30% slope)	18	148	13	3583
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	64	410	35	9897
Hard Roads (paved)	217	9787	313	41217
Hardwood Dominated Forest	13761	32477	3014	5958667
Industrial Plants	318	2079	269	158576
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	3020	13259	784	413291
Intensive Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	16	113	10	3643
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	131	733	68	23245
Native Grassland	9	2	1	292
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	541	751	618	222511
Native Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	26	56	46	17479
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	17	31	26	9116
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	184	543	37	0
Pipelines	240	582	226	60803
Processing Plants	39	238	31	18156
Rural Residential (farm yard)	1268	286595	48232	1538054
Seismic Lines	414	499	194	52156
Shrubland	791	1690	305	274504
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	451	2991	2514	579021
Surface Mines	468	1165	148	92666
Trails (motorized)	20	135	113	26983
Trails (non-motorized)	101	370	211	50493
Transmission Lines	120	193	75	20139
Urban - City Core	8	51	6	2198
Urban - Suburban	47	165	34	7394
Wellpads	274	1738	876	246329
Wooded	744	1186	635	192996



**Table 21. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in the Lower Wapiti River Below Big Mountain Creek Subwatershed**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Cereal Crop	2414	1657	297	13408
Conifer Dominated Forest	4350	8156	209	1653019
Construction 1	474	2624	292	2375583
Forage Crop - alfalfa	2124	2413	286	14773
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	2867	14364	1236	346992
General Agriculture - Hilly (10-30% slope)	2	15	1	371
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	10	64	6	1543
Hard Roads (paved)	61	2699	86	11372
Hardwood Dominated Forest	13207	31168	2892	5718513
Industrial Plants	7	46	6	3523
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	2871	12321	109	383552
Intensive Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	4	28	3	874
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	40	231	21	7084
Native Grassland	27	7	2	860
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	304	411	339	124409
Native Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	7	15	13	4699
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	23	43	36	12279
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	54	160	11	0
Pipelines	142	344	133	35871
Rural Residential (farm yard)	366	81079	13643	434969
Seismic Lines	253	306	119	31959
Shrubland	532	1146	207	186225
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	190	1238	1040	242622
Surface Mines	110	275	35	21837
Trails (motorized)	7	47	40	9500
Trails (non-motorized)	91	333	191	45525
Transmission Lines	34	52	20	5464
Wellpads	153	963	485	136459
Wooded	454	724	393	117808



**Table 22. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in Bald Mountain Creek**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Cereal Crop	327	458	50	16392
Conifer Dominated Forest	5933	14510	1376	2254660
Construction 1	579	3502	390	3170273
Forage Crop - alfalfa	285	597	43	14306
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	110	578	50	13968
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	1	4	0	104
Hard Roads (paved)	9	397	13	1671
Hardwood Dominated Forest	28021	68278	7531	12132921
Industrial Plants	25	193	25	14716
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	186	803	74	25903
Intensive Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	0	1	0	21
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	12	65	6	2119
Native Grassland	1	0	0	42
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	417	576	474	173818
Native Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	0	0	0	74
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	17	29	24	9035
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	14	41	3	0
Pipelines	680	1802	699	188004
Rural Residential (farm yard)	54	12543	2111	67342
Seismic Lines	277	358	139	37333
Shrubland	2644	6471	1167	1051968
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	370	2718	2284	493569
Surface Mines	69	179	23	14274
Trails (motorized)	1	5	5	1099
Trails (non-motorized)	28	109	62	14844
Transmission Lines	3	5	2	554
Wellpads	549	3846	1937	544987
Wooded	215	350	182	57044



**Table 23. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in Lower Big Mountain Creek**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Conifer Dominated Forest	1313	2461	63	498857
Construction 1	108	615	69	556911
Hardwood Dominated Forest	6005	14172	1315	2600284
Industrial Plants	3	23	3	1773
Native Grassland	0	0	0	6
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	14	42	3	0
Pipelines	109	265	103	27702
Processing Plants	50	306	40	23358
Seismic Lines	164	199	77	20777
Shrubland	159	345	62	55998
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	66	446	375	85305
Surface Mines	10	25	3	1999
Trails (motorized)	2	11	9	2156
Trails (non-motorized)	20	74	42	10103
Transmission Lines	63	102	40	10651
Wellpads	53	340	171	48146
Wooded	143	229	126	37255



**Table 24. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in Upper Big Mountain Creek**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Conifer Dominated Forest	8449	24034	3047	3210725
Construction 1	461	3006	335	2721571
Hard Roads (paved)	27	1424	46	5990
Hardwood Dominated Forest	23026	57658	7194	9970277
Industrial Plants	8	63	8	4792
Native Grassland	3	1	0	125
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	29	86	6	0
Pipelines	388	1070	415	111602
Seismic Lines	339	467	181	48733
Shrubland	2370	6349	1144	1032371
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	260	2031	1707	355249
Surface Mines	92	255	32	20326
Trails (motorized)	4	28	24	5619
Trails (non-motorized)	30	133	76	18234
Transmission Lines	27	52	20	5457
Wellpads	325	2398	1208	339738
Wooded	93	163	65	26569



**Table 25. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in the Unnamed - Big Mountain Creek Subwatershed**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Cereal Crop	1644	2315	251	82533
Conifer Dominated Forest	1016	1905	49	386090
Construction 1	579	3300	368	2988000
Forage Crop - alfalfa	1430	3022	220	71774
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	398	2094	180	50604
General Agriculture - Hilly (10-30% slope)	0	1	0	21
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	20	135	12	3260
Hard Roads (paved)	89	4085	131	17200
Hardwood Dominated Forest	11156	26329	2443	4830682
Industrial Plants	64	425	55	32412
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	2616	11321	1046	363675
Intensive Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	9	61	6	1996
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	83	461	43	14972
Native Grassland	3	1	0	97
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	423	571	470	176520
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	10	18	15	5677
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	9	27	2	0
Pipelines	235	571	222	59637
Processing Plants	0	0	0	35
Rural Residential (farm yard)	733	169875	28594	912061
Seismic Lines	345	419	163	43760
Shrubland	582	1265	228	205540
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	310	2097	1763	401126
Surface Mines	88	220	28	17471
Trails (motorized)	5	32	27	6511
Trails (non-motorized)	47	171	98	23306
Transmission Lines	20	33	13	3422
Urban - City Core	10	65	8	2823
Wellpads	250	1602	807	227014
Wooded	130	208	114	33825



**Table 26. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in the Upper Beaverlodge River**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Cereal Crop	1188	1692	182	59643
Conifer Dominated Forest	3308	6811	355	1256974
Construction 1	762	4389	489	3973689
Feedlots	7	5524	1105	17023
Forage Crop - alfalfa	1867	4169	304	93745
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	1507	7920	681	191406
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	8	50	4	1209
Hard Roads (paved)	52	2374	76	9996
Hardwood Dominated Forest	14447	34339	3322	6255660
Industrial Plants	19	129	17	9816
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	8354	37602	3476	1161190
Intensive Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	0	1	0	40
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	112	623	58	20224
Native Grassland	6	1	0	205
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	1269	1885	1551	529005
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	8	13	11	4066
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	3	8	1	0
Pipelines	405	1004	390	104810
Rural Residential (farm yard)	304	70488	11865	378454
Seismic Lines	471	577	224	60208
Shrubland	1000	2249	406	365544
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	413	2818	2369	535665
Surface Mines	46	119	15	9455
Trails (motorized)	24	165	139	33106
Trails (non-motorized)	61	224	128	30668
Wellpads	546	3530	1778	500118
Wooded	1267	2051	1084	333934



**Table 27. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in the Lower Beaverlodge River**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Cereal Crop	10230	14709	1568	513547
Conifer Dominated Forest	989	1854	47	375711
Construction 1	1592	9067	1011	8208829
Feedlots	64	48387	9677	149109
Forage Crop - alfalfa	10248	22673	1651	514465
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	10482	55084	4738	1331228
General Agriculture - Hilly (10-30% slope)	2	15	1	355
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	122	809	70	19572
Hard Roads (paved)	273	12565	402	52900
Hardwood Dominated Forest	13201	31155	2891	5716140
Industrial Plants	31	206	27	15697
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	6022	27187	2513	837041
Intensive Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	2	19	2	552
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	156	903	83	28318
Native Grassland	47	10	2	1598
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	599	856	705	249761
Native Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	13	28	23	8633
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	68	123	102	36936
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	40	118	8	0
Pipelines	202	490	190	51188
Recreational - Campgrounds	2	6	2	586
Rural Residential (farm yard)	1075	249009	41914	1336934
Seismic Lines	271	330	128	34453
Shrubland	998	2167	391	352186
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	762	5148	4327	984696
Surface Mines	71	178	23	14123
Trails (motorized)	21	140	118	28146
Trails (non-motorized)	73	267	153	36499
Transmission Lines	91	147	57	15314
Urban - City Core	181	1216	151	52933
Urban - Suburban	117	429	89	19241
Wellpads	666	4274	2153	605577
Wooded	259	413	228	67232



**Table 28. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in Beaver Tail Creek**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Cereal Crop	1121	1628	172	56283
Conifer Dominated Forest	1234	2313	59	468749
Construction 1	621	3539	395	3204328
Feedlots	30	22538	4508	69452
Forage Crop - alfalfa	3225	7203	525	161889
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	1055	5543	477	133955
General Agriculture - Hilly (10-30% slope)	0	0	0	5
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	16	105	9	2537
Hard Roads (paved)	45	2070	66	8715
Hardwood Dominated Forest	19317	45588	4230	8364302
Industrial Plants	12	81	11	6197
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	6455	29237	2703	897288
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	111	645	60	20119
Native Grassland	7	1	0	223
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	1408	1982	1632	587113
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	46	83	68	25195
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	9	25	2	0
Pipelines	337	821	318	85689
Rural Residential (farm yard)	261	60580	10197	325256
Seismic Lines	394	479	186	50008
Shrubland	1023	2222	401	361076
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	393	2652	2229	507397
Surface Mines	44	110	14	8729
Trails (motorized)	6	42	36	8475
Trails (non-motorized)	70	256	147	35004
Wellpads	413	2653	1336	375821
Wooded	404	645	355	104987



**Table 29. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in the Upper Bear River**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Cereal Crop	10008	14318	1525	502666
Conifer Dominated Forest	4060	11663	1501	1542984
Construction 1	1227	7350	820	6654763
Feedlots	30	22490	4498	69306
Forage Crop - alfalfa	4087	8696	634	205779
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	11167	58825	5060	1421623
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	78	544	45	12511
Hard Roads (paved)	84	3870	124	16293
Hardwood Dominated Forest	9748	24371	3021	4220795
Industrial Plants	40	287	37	21897
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	5490	25323	2341	780104
Intensive Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	3	29	3	933
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	226	1435	133	46294
Native Grassland	64	14	3	2193
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	331	478	394	142079
Native Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	2	6	5	1946
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	6	11	9	3508
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	20	59	4	0
Pipelines	598	1664	646	173573
Recreational - Campgrounds	5	16	7	1601
Rural Residential (farm yard)	514	119795	20164	643175
Seismic Lines	348	482	187	50267
Shrubland	983	2298	414	373494
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	772	5479	4605	1016136
Surface Mines	37	105	13	8322
Trails (motorized)	15	107	90	21508
Trails (non-motorized)	49	205	117	27967
Transmission Lines	10	17	7	1762
Wellpads	1221	8309	4185	1177265
Wooded	1536	2918	833	474743



**Table 30. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in the Lower Bear River**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Cereal Crop	15046	11043	1875	109644
Conifer Dominated Forest	3833	7774	373	1456519
Construction 1	3917	21542	2401	19506046
Feedlots	47	34143	6836	105246
Forage Crop - alfalfa	5174	5894	669	57201
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	14242	71625	6163	1730254
General Agriculture - Hilly (10-30% slope)	1	10	1	239
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	205	1319	113	31759
Hard Roads (paved)	1245	54782	1751	230769
Hardwood Dominated Forest	14432	36220	4562	6249017
Industrial Plants	446	2857	369	217906
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	5117	22785	341	698557
Intensive Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	23	177	16	5763
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	252	1554	144	49835
Native Grassland	64	14	3	2089
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	428	654	538	185946
Native Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	1	3	2	787
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	30	63	52	19118
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	61	179	13	0
Pipelines	169	498	193	51889
Processing Plants	77	447	58	34137
Recreational - Campgrounds	17	56	23	5568
Recreational - Golf Courses	65	623	69	13105
Rural Residential (farm yard)	2973	671049	112925	3600547
Seismic Lines	250	345	134	36027
Shrubland	1109	2469	445	401054
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	890	5923	4979	1144242
Surface Mines	8	20	3	1565
Trails (motorized)	24	169	142	33814
Trails (non-motorized)	94	365	209	49814
Transmission Lines	151	234	91	24356
Urban - City Core	2343	15109	1877	656980
Urban - Suburban	1731	6032	1247	270274
Wellpads	502	3228	1626	457648
Wooded	675	1216	389	197903



**Table 31. Summary of Total Area and Nutrient Loading by Land use type in the Lower Bear River Above Grande Prairie Creek Subwatershed**

<b>Watershed Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TN</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TP</b>	<b>Total Annual Export Loads (kg) TSS</b>
Cereal Crop	16394	19093	2301	569327
Conifer Dominated Forest	845	2160	226	321255
Construction 1	1504	8816	983	7982070
Forage Crop - alfalfa	4664	8601	681	192852
General Agriculture - Flat (0-5% slope)	17201	89449	7695	2161328
General Agriculture - Hilly (10-30% slope)	5	42	4	1016
General Agriculture - Rolling (5-10% slope)	562	3723	318	89212
Hard Roads (paved)	124	5776	185	24319
Hardwood Dominated Forest	12677	32245	4286	5489074
Industrial Plants	105	756	98	57640
Intensive Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	799	3949	339	119417
Intensive Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	0	2	0	58
Intensive Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	117	725	67	23329
Native Grassland	40	9	2	1438
Native Grazing - Flat (0-5% slope)	294	466	383	131974
Native Grazing - Hilly (10-30% slope)	3	9	7	2734
Native Grazing - Rolling (5-10% slope)	40	88	73	27148
Natural Unvegetated (rock/ice/sand)	21	61	4	0
Pipelines	415	1253	486	130622
Rural Residential (farm yard)	1003	230737	38835	1238522
Seismic Lines	264	383	149	39982
Shrubland	870	1999	361	324903
Soft Roads (gravel/dirt)	831	5846	4914	1090261
Surface Mines	14	39	5	3080
Trails (motorized)	17	122	102	24378
Trails (non-motorized)	33	136	78	18635
Transmission Lines	84	136	53	14175
Urban - City Core	3	23	3	985
Urban - Suburban	15	55	11	2466
Wellpads	1020	7097	3575	1005640
Wooded	427	834	200	135716



