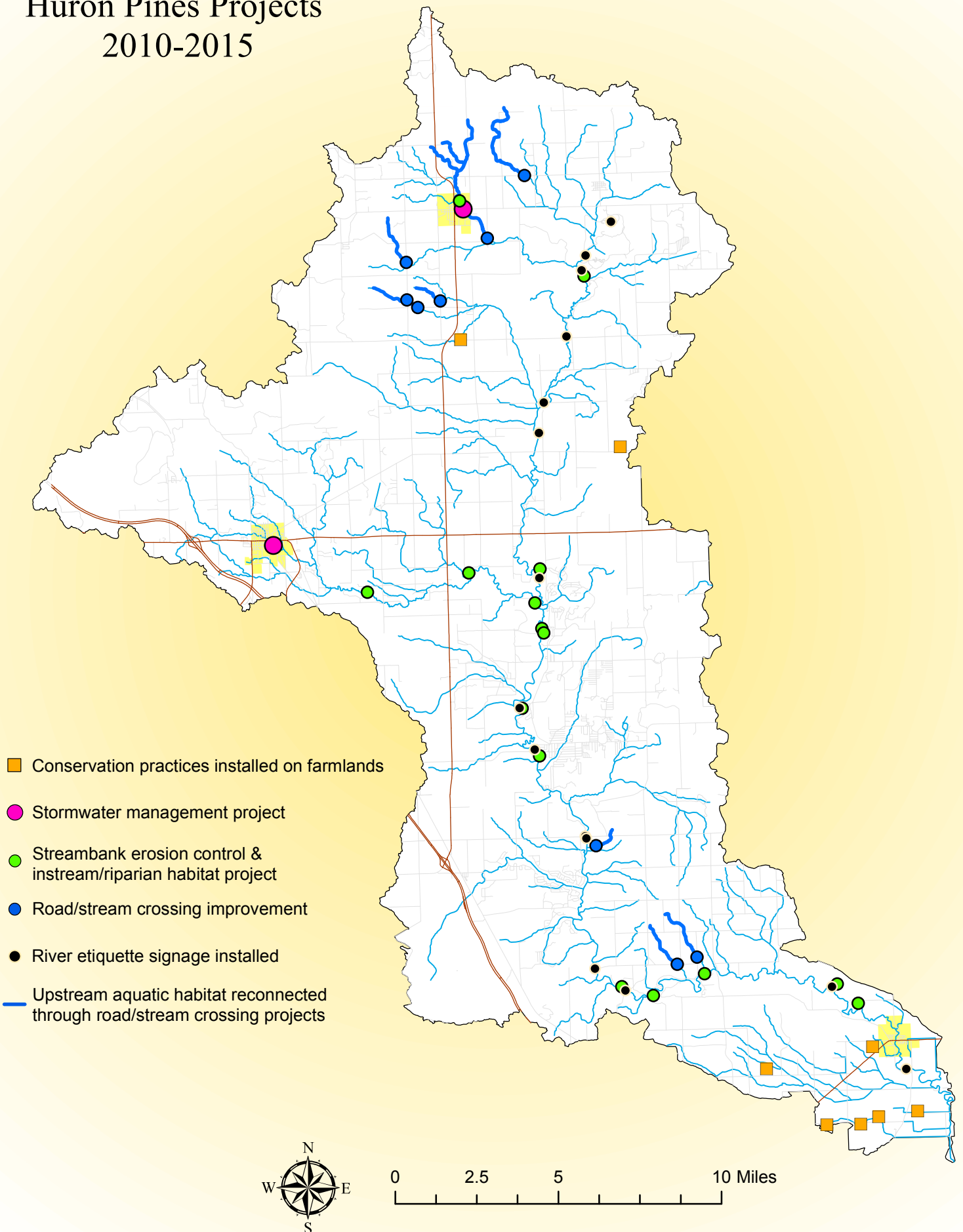


Rifle River Watershed

Huron Pines Projects 2010-2015



**Rifle River Watershed Project
2010-2015 Highlights**

Summary of on-the-ground restoration achievements – 2010 through 2015						
Project Description	Pollutant Load Reductions			Upstream miles reconnected	Acres protected or restored	Riparian Buffer (ft)
	Sediment (t/yr)	N (lb/yr)	P (lb/yr)			
Barrier removals	54	92	46	27	3	-
Stormwater projects	10	24	4	-	143	-
Streambank erosion	941	1,600	800	-	6	5,800
Agricultural BMPs	26	1,030	221	-	270	-
TOTALS	1,031	2,746	1,071	27	422	5,800

Accomplishments:

- Developed a U.S. EPA Section 319 approved Rifle River Watershed Management Plan
- Provided one-on-one property visits to more than 100 watershed residents
- Restored 27 miles of upstream aquatic habitat by improving 9 road/stream crossings
- Worked with the communities of West Branch and Rose City to complete stormwater assessments, install 7 rain gardens and retrofit 2 stormwater drainage zones with mechanical oil & grit separators
- Installed 35 Rifle River etiquette, watershed boundary, and interpretive signs
- Initiated the Rifle River Prosperity Network project to connect resource professionals and local businesses to promote the watershed's unique freshwater resources
- Completed more than 25 cost-share projects with watershed landowners to stabilize eroding streambanks, manage invasive plant species and implement agricultural best management practices
- Organized more than 20 public watershed planning meetings and volunteer events
- Completed comprehensive resource inventories to guide prioritized restoration of road/stream crossings, streambank erosion sites, invasive species, agricultural land use and small dams
- Reduced inputs of sediment and other pollutants to our surface waterways and enhanced more than a mile of riparian habitat through streambank stabilization efforts
- Engaged with local K-12 students through in-class watershed science presentations/demonstrations
- Wrote monthly conservation-themed articles published in newspapers and other media outlets.
- Raised \$1 million dollars in federal funding (2010-2015) that was used to protect and restore the Rifle River Watershed and enhance our local communities
- Raised approximately \$400,000 in non-federal cash and in-kind contributions (2010-2015) to implement restoration work in the Rifle River Watershed
- Added value to the approximately \$1,000,000 and decades of work completed by the Rifle River Restoration Committee and other resource partners in the watershed prior to 2010
- Built the momentum necessary to expand this effort into the nearby Au Gres and Tawas River watersheds, leading to the development of the ongoing Northern Saginaw Bay Restoration Initiative.
- Completed pre- and post-project monitoring at different project sites to evaluate project success and inform future project work to ensure that limited resources are being used effectively

Funding sources:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; U.S. Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service; Great Lakes Commission – Great Lakes Restoration Initiative; National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Sustain Our Great Lakes; Great Lakes Fishery Trust; Healing Our Waters – Great Lakes Coalition; Michigan Department of Natural Resources; Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network (WIN); Americana Foundation; William B. Mershon Chapter of Trout Unlimited; Ann Arbor Chapter of Trout Unlimited; Bay Area Community Foundation; in-kind contributions from local road commissions, businesses and individuals