

Rapid Bioassessment in Wadeable Streams and Rivers by Volunteer Monitors



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Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse
Planning and Standards Division
Volunteer Monitoring Coordinator

SCHEDULE FOR TODAY

WATER QUALITY MONITORING 101

A.M.

YOU WANT US TO DO WHAT????

BREAK INTO TEAMS/RECEIVE EQUIPMENT

SAMPLE YOUR SITE

P.M.

RETURN WITH EQUIPMENT AND DATA

1.) DEEP'S WATER QUALITY MONITORING & ASSESSMENTS

2.) NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS

3.) THE PRIMARY WATER QUALITY TOOL

4.) ABOUT RBV

DEEP Ambient Monitoring

Requirement of Clean Water Act (305b)

Water Quality Standards

Meet Designated Uses

(Fishable & Swimmable)

ACQUIRE DATA

ASSESS DATA

ANALYZE DATA



IT'S GETTING DARK...
COLD... GOODBYE
CRUEL WORLD...

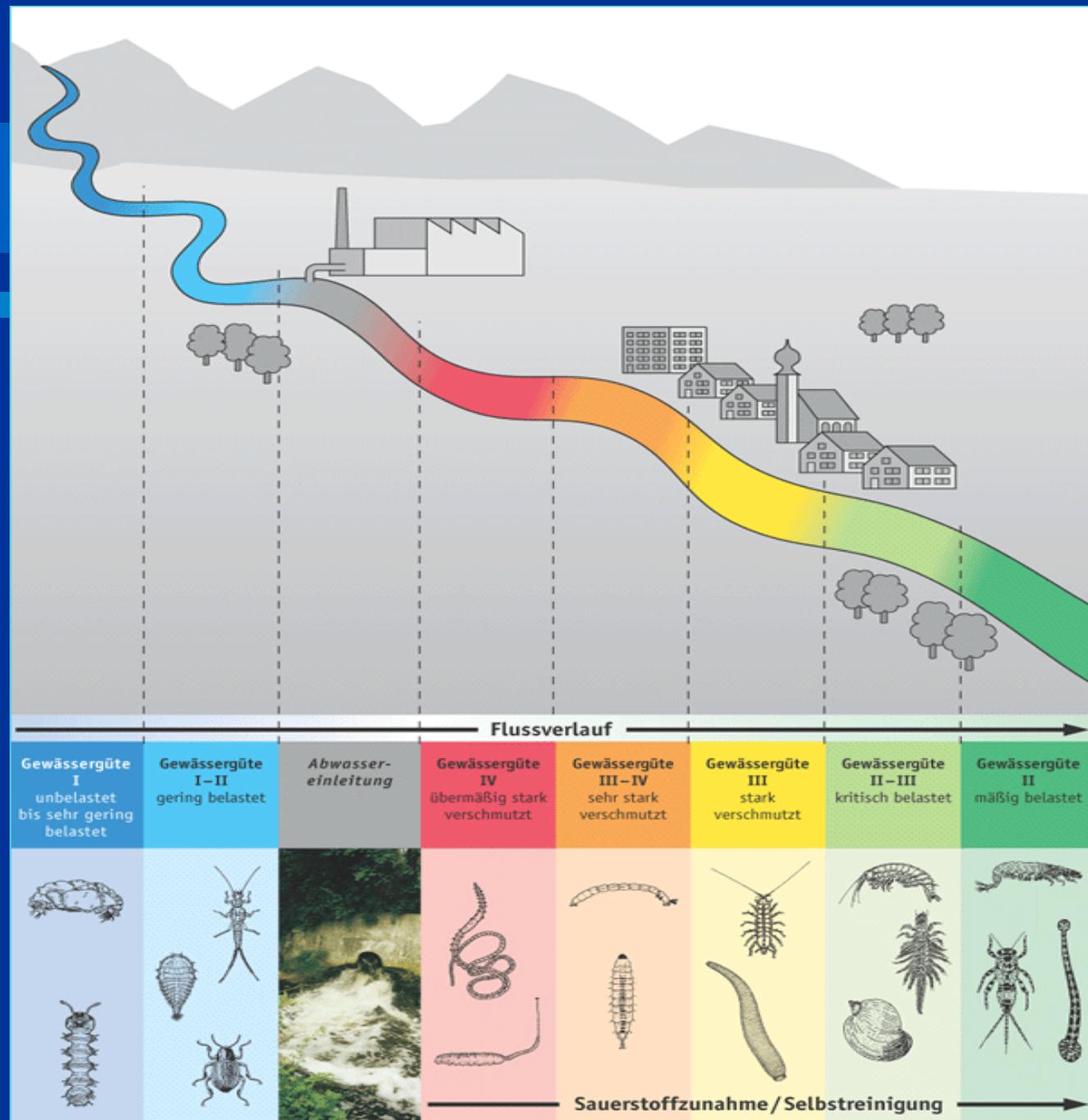


Chitter

worst-jobs.com

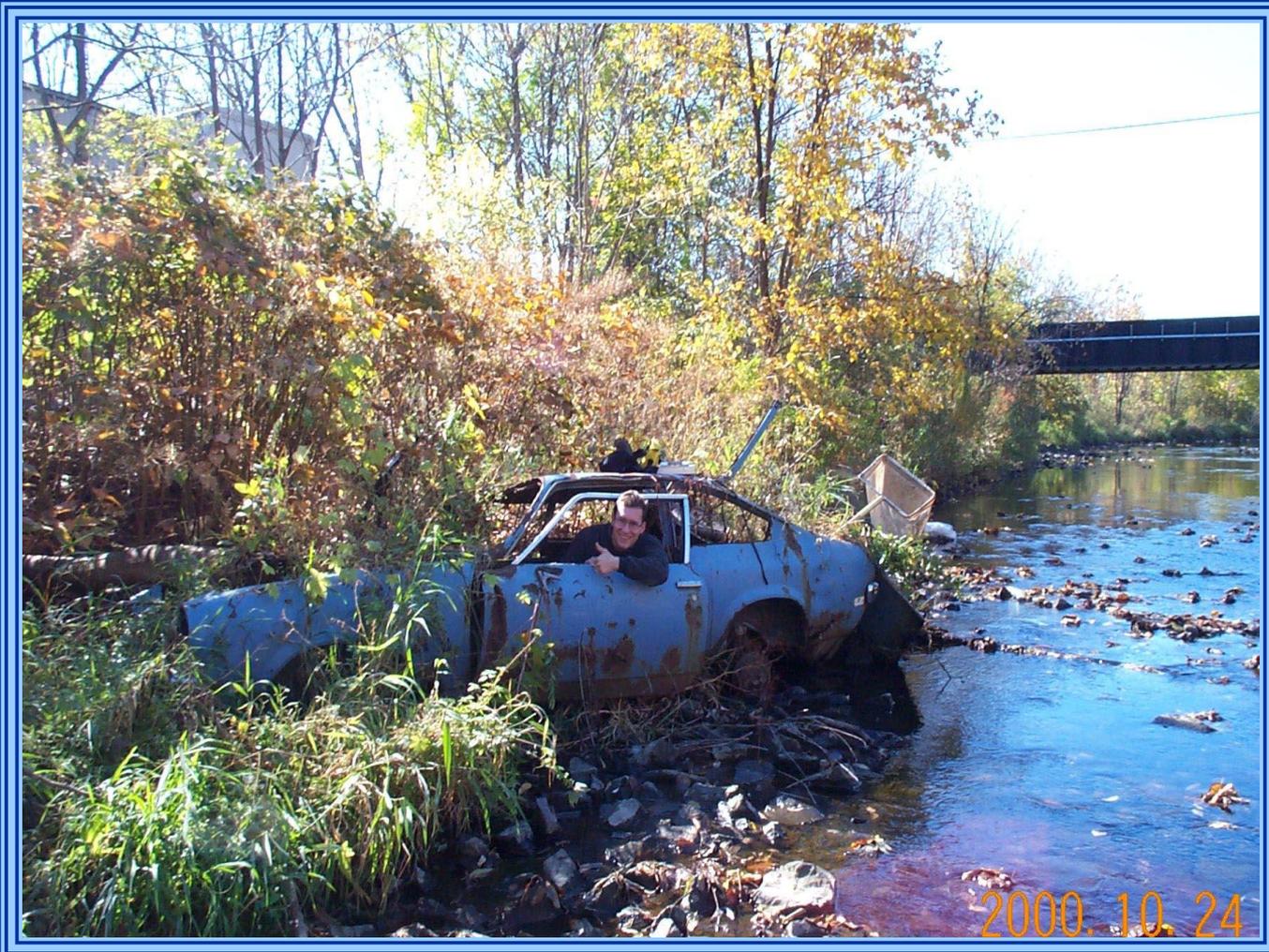
Saprobein system

Kolkwitz &
Marsson 1909



DEEP Ambient Monitoring

Physical, Chemical, Indicator Bacteria



DEEP Ambient Monitoring

Benthic Macroinvertebrates



DEEP Ambient Monitoring

Fish Community & Tissue Contaminants

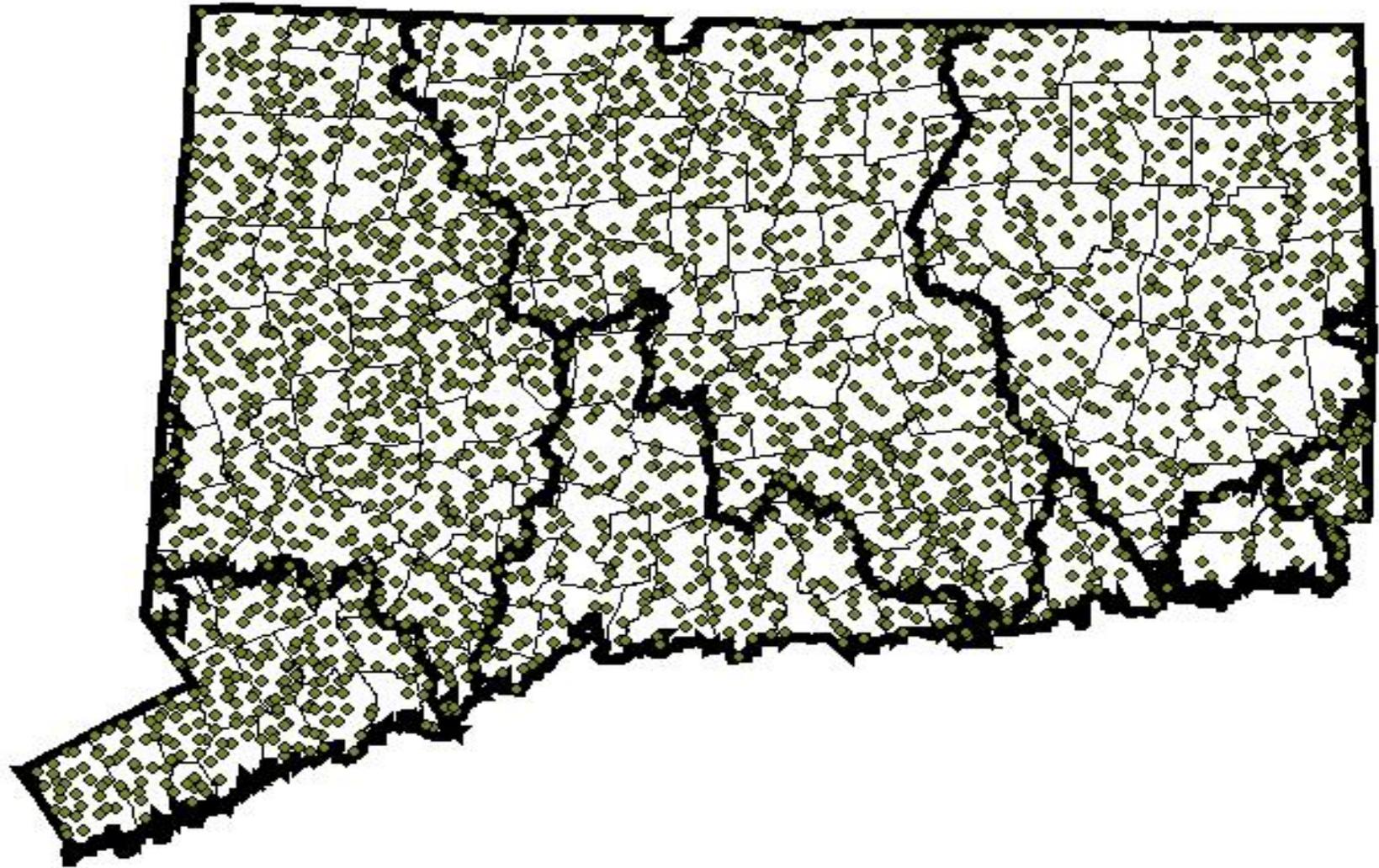


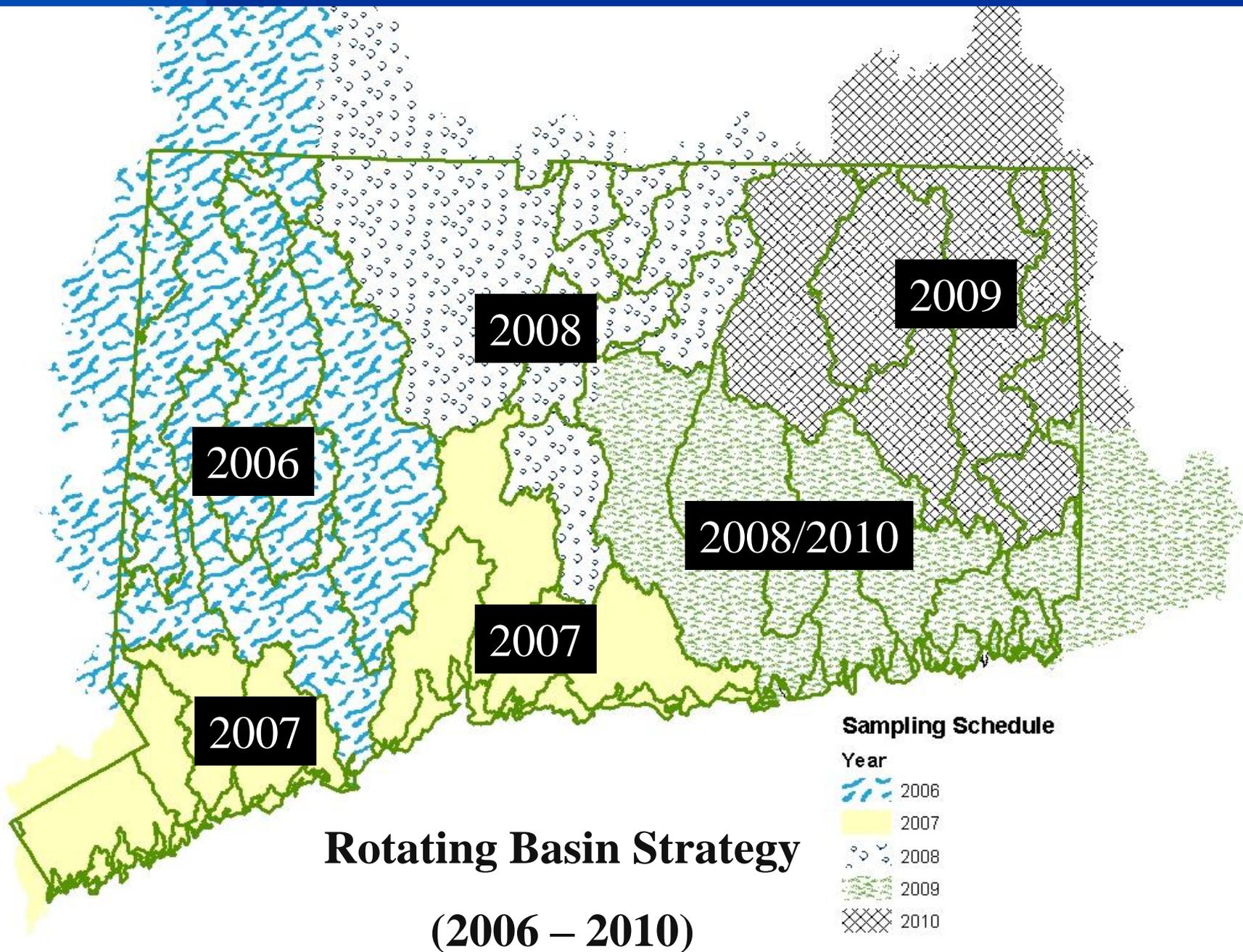
Physical, Chemical, Indicator Bacteria

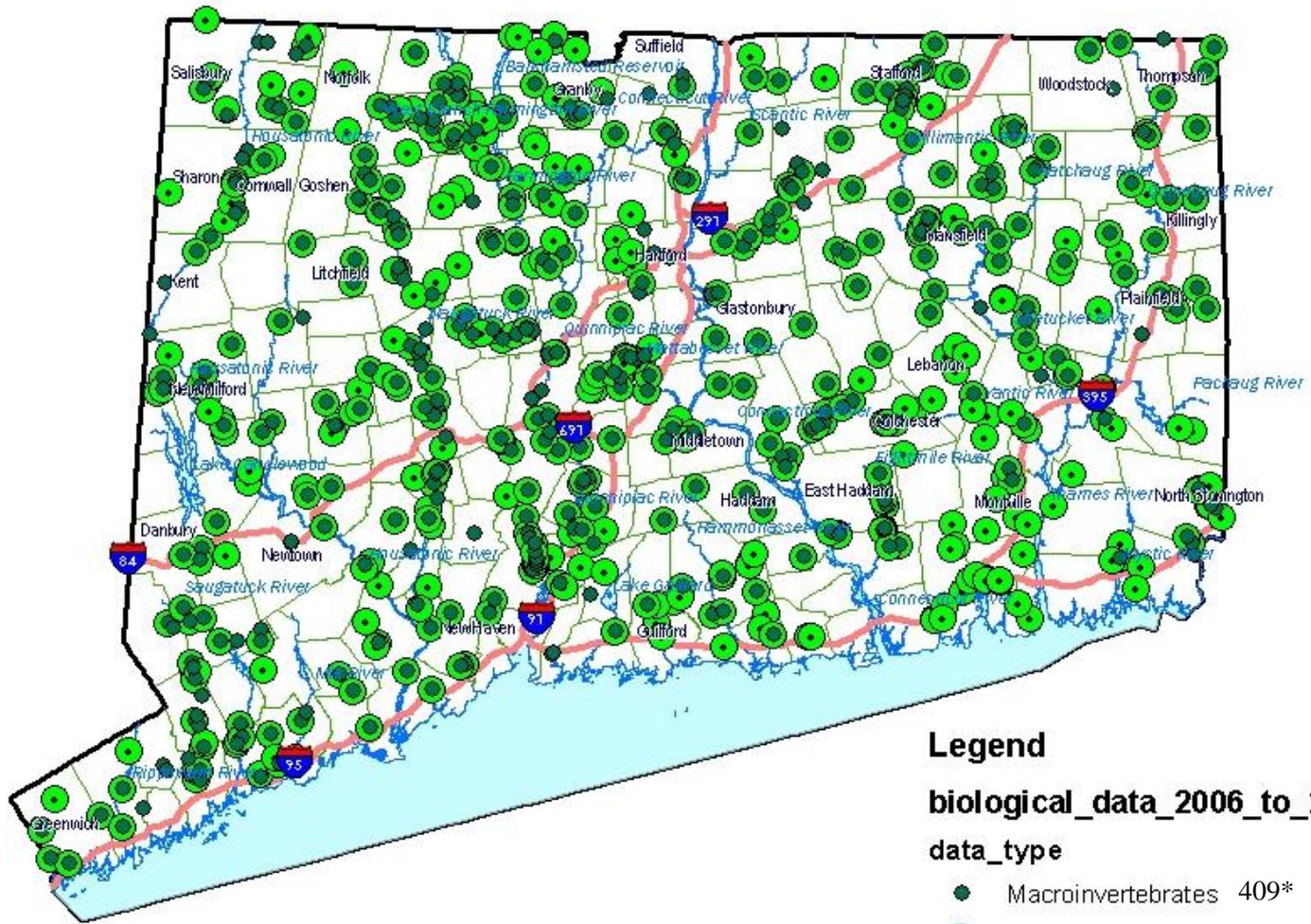
Benthic Macroinvertebrates

DEEP Ambient Monitoring

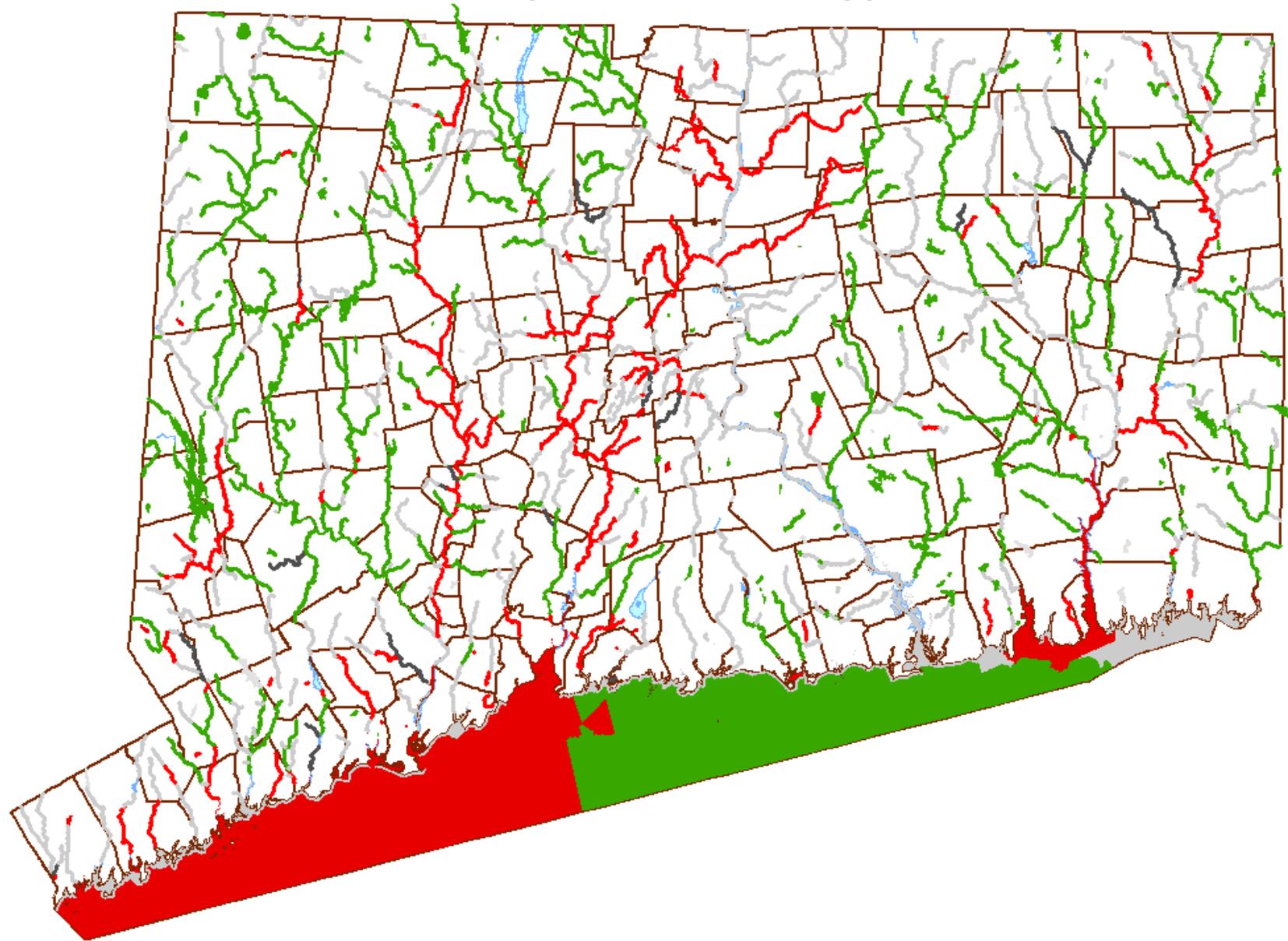
- **Random Sampling Approach**
 - Probabilistic design (60 stations)
- **Targeted Monitoring Approach**
 - **Rotating Basin Strategy**
 - 50 stations
 - Focus on Major Basin for 1 year
 - Quarterly Physical/Chemical/Bacteria
 - Fall Macroinvertebrate
 - **USGS Cooperative Network**
 - 35 stations statewide
phys/chemical/bacteria data 8 times year

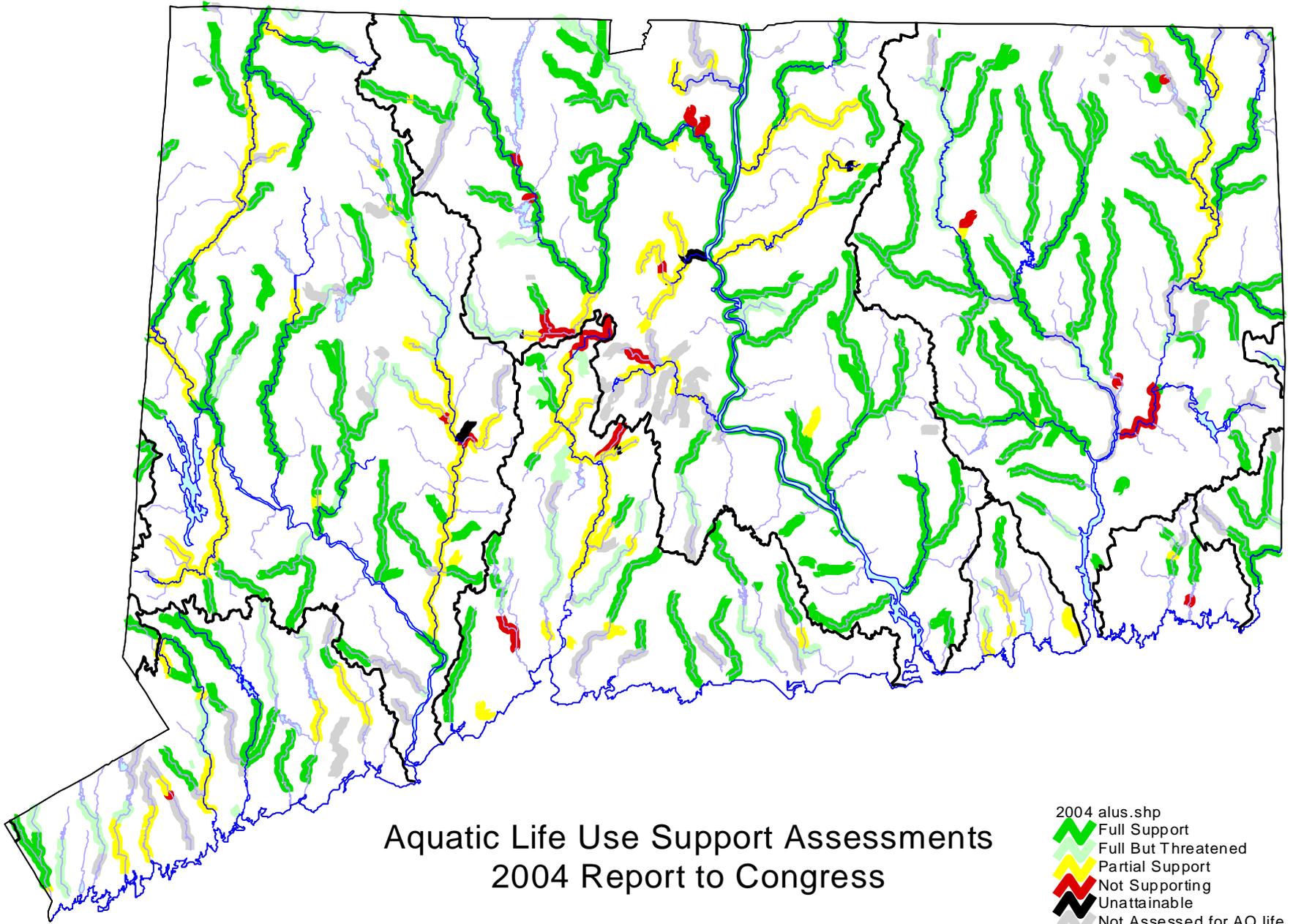






2008 Connecticut Aquatic Life Use Support Assessment





1.) DEEP'S WATER QUALITY MONITORING & ASSESSMENTS

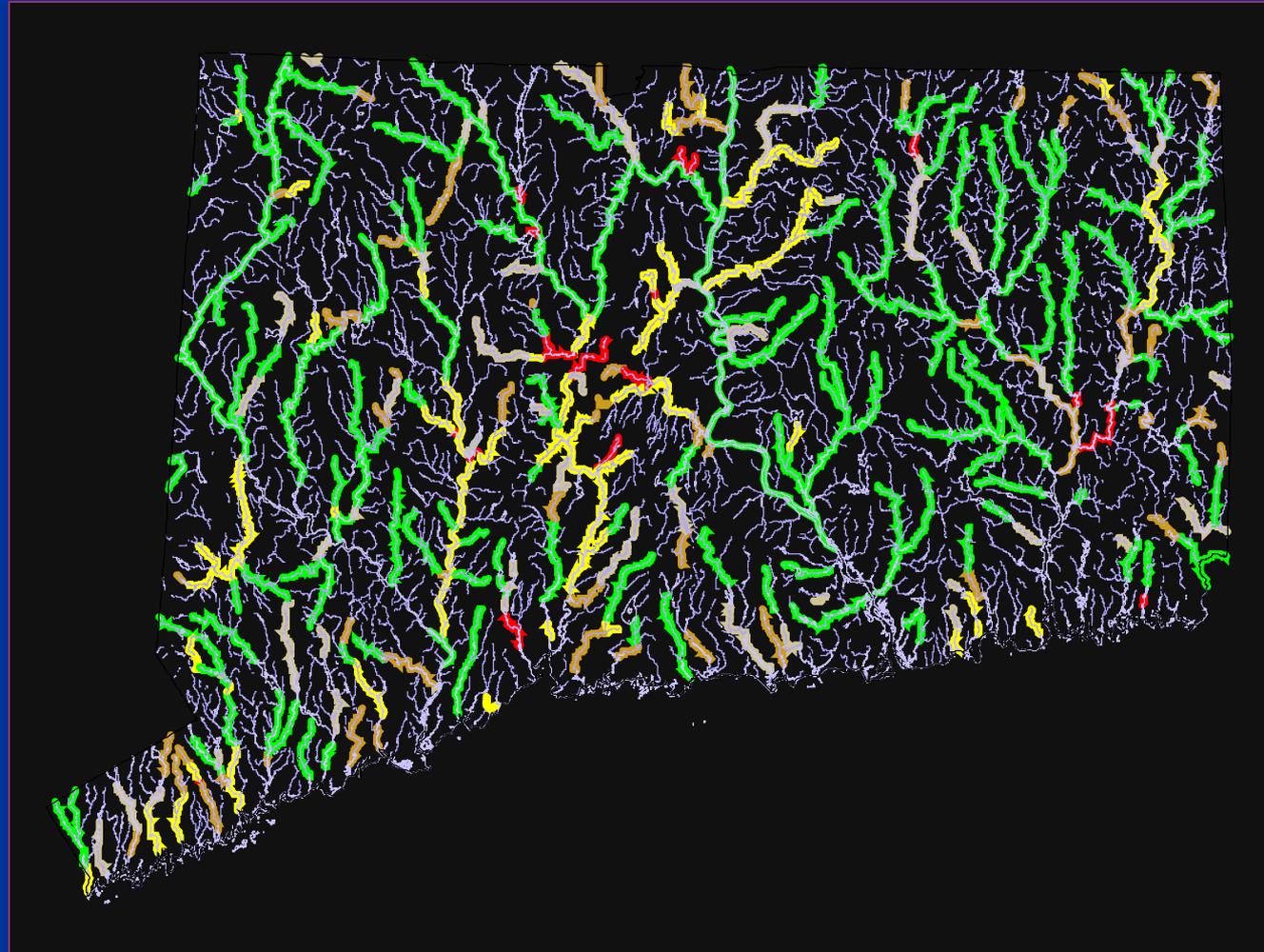
2.) NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS

3.) THE PRIMARY WATER QUALITY TOOL

4.) ABOUT RBV

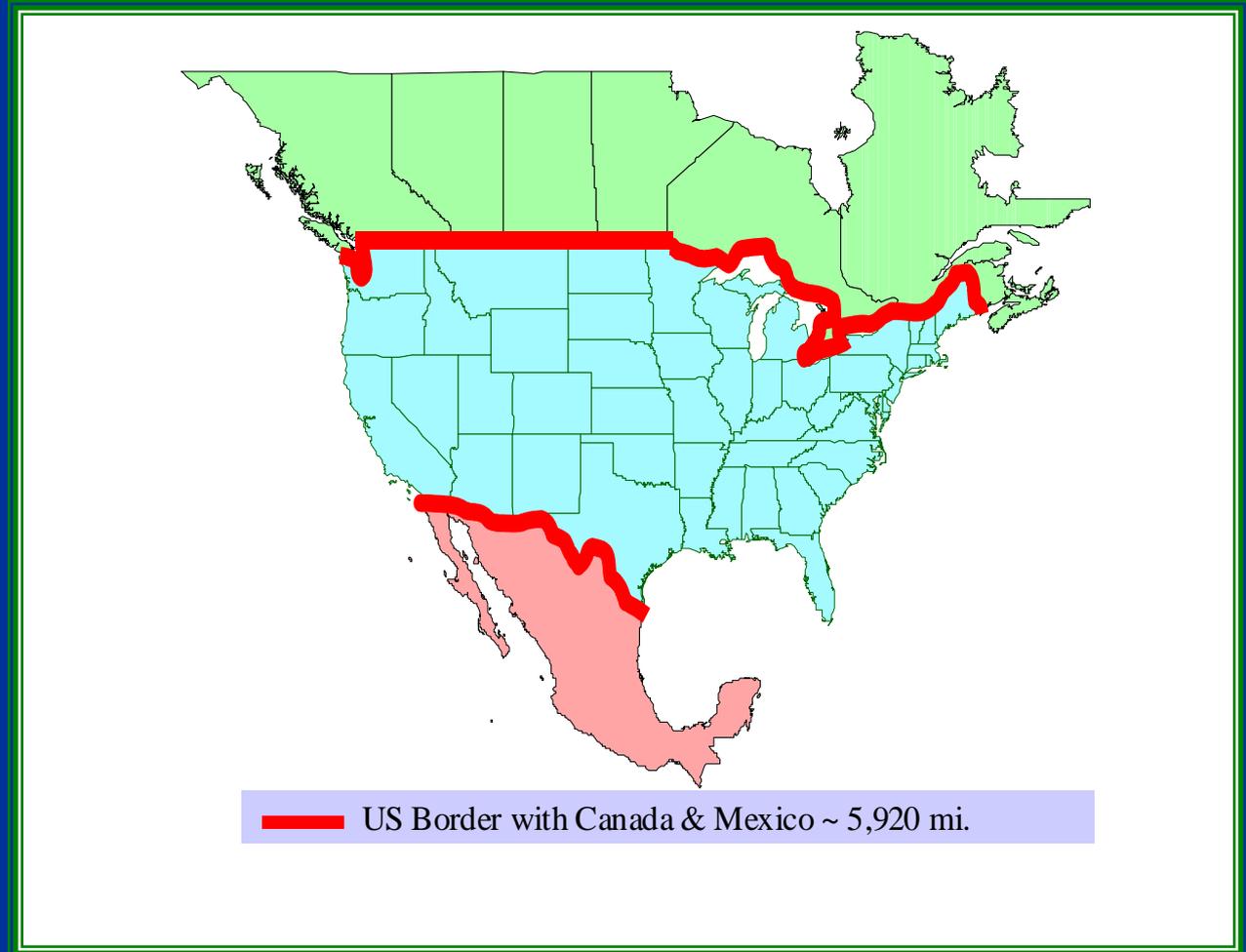
NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS

- **Many areas without Water quality information.**
- Limited staff resources.
- In-touch with local conditions and issues



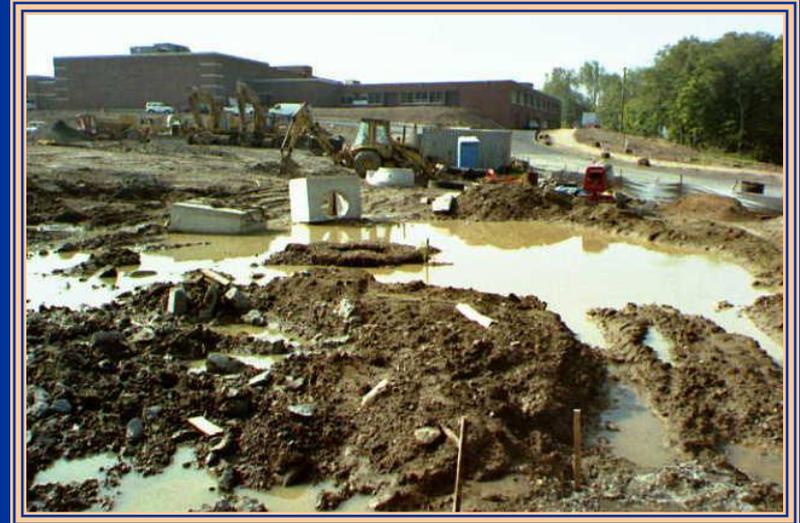
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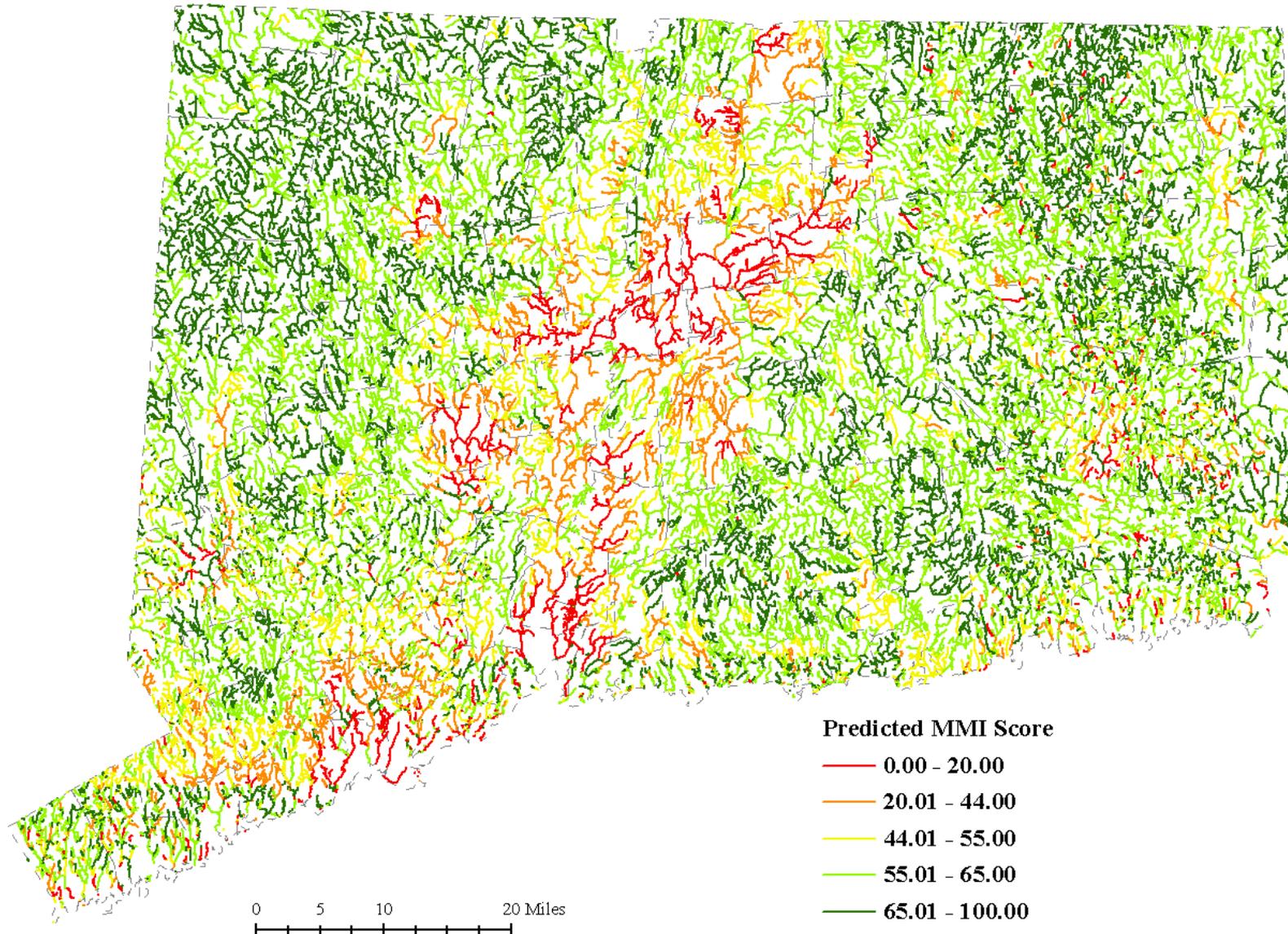
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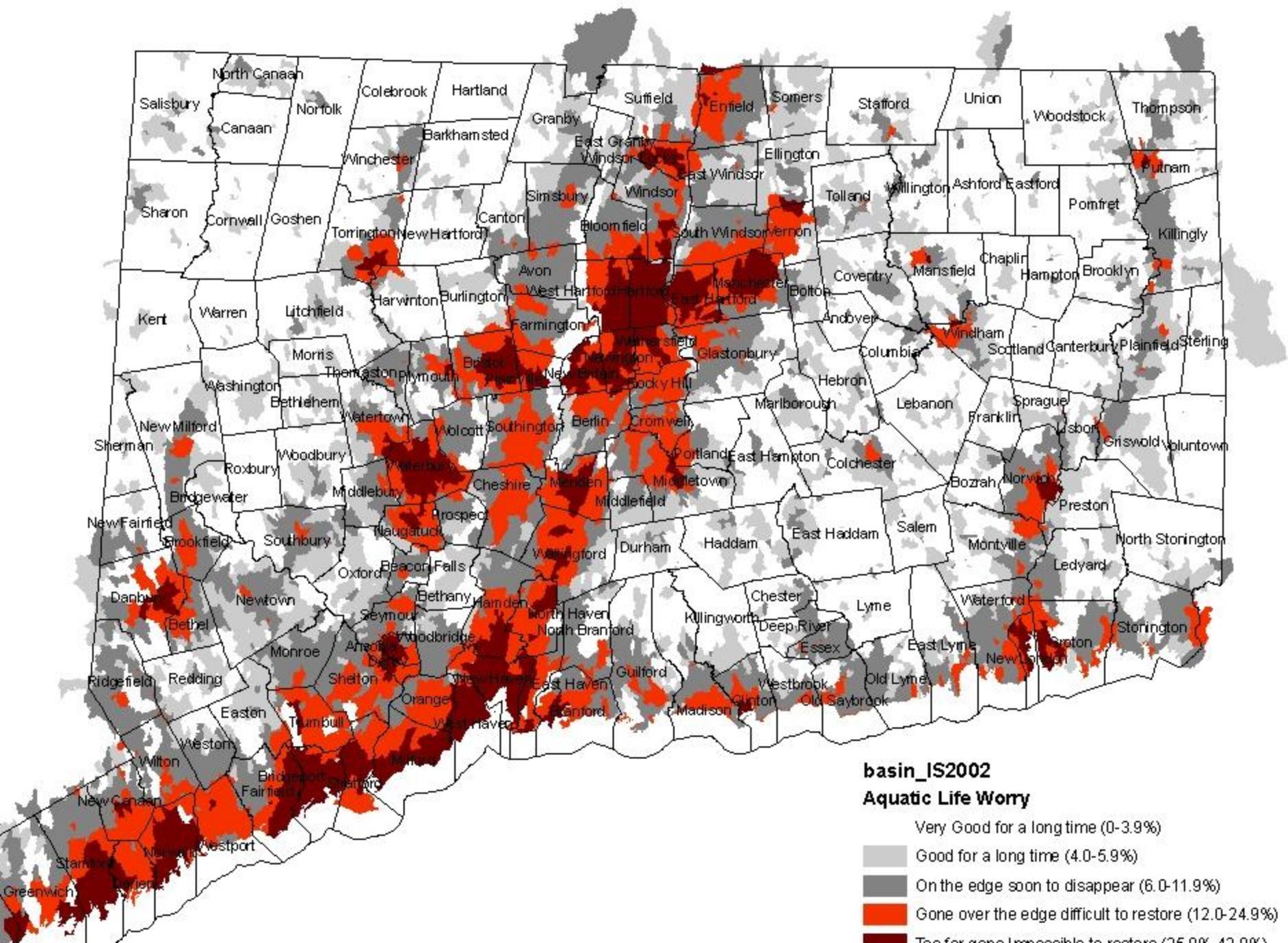


NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS

- Many areas without Water quality information.
- Limited staff resources.
- **In-touch with local conditions and issues**







basin_IS2002

Aquatic Life Worry

Very Good for a long time (0-3.9%)

Good for a long time (4.0-5.9%)

On the edge soon to disappear (6.0-11.9%)

Gone over the edge difficult to restore (12.0-24.9%)

Too far gone impossible to restore (25.0% - 42.0%)

1.) DEEP'S WATER QUALITY MONITORING

2.) NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS

**3.) THE PRIMARY WATER QUALITY
TOOL**

4.) ABOUT RBV

Riffle-Dwelling

Benthic

Macroinvertebrates

Primary indicator of water quality

- Riffle-Dwelling Benthic Macroinvertebrates
- Rapid Bioassessment Protocol #3
- Very technical & extensive time commitment



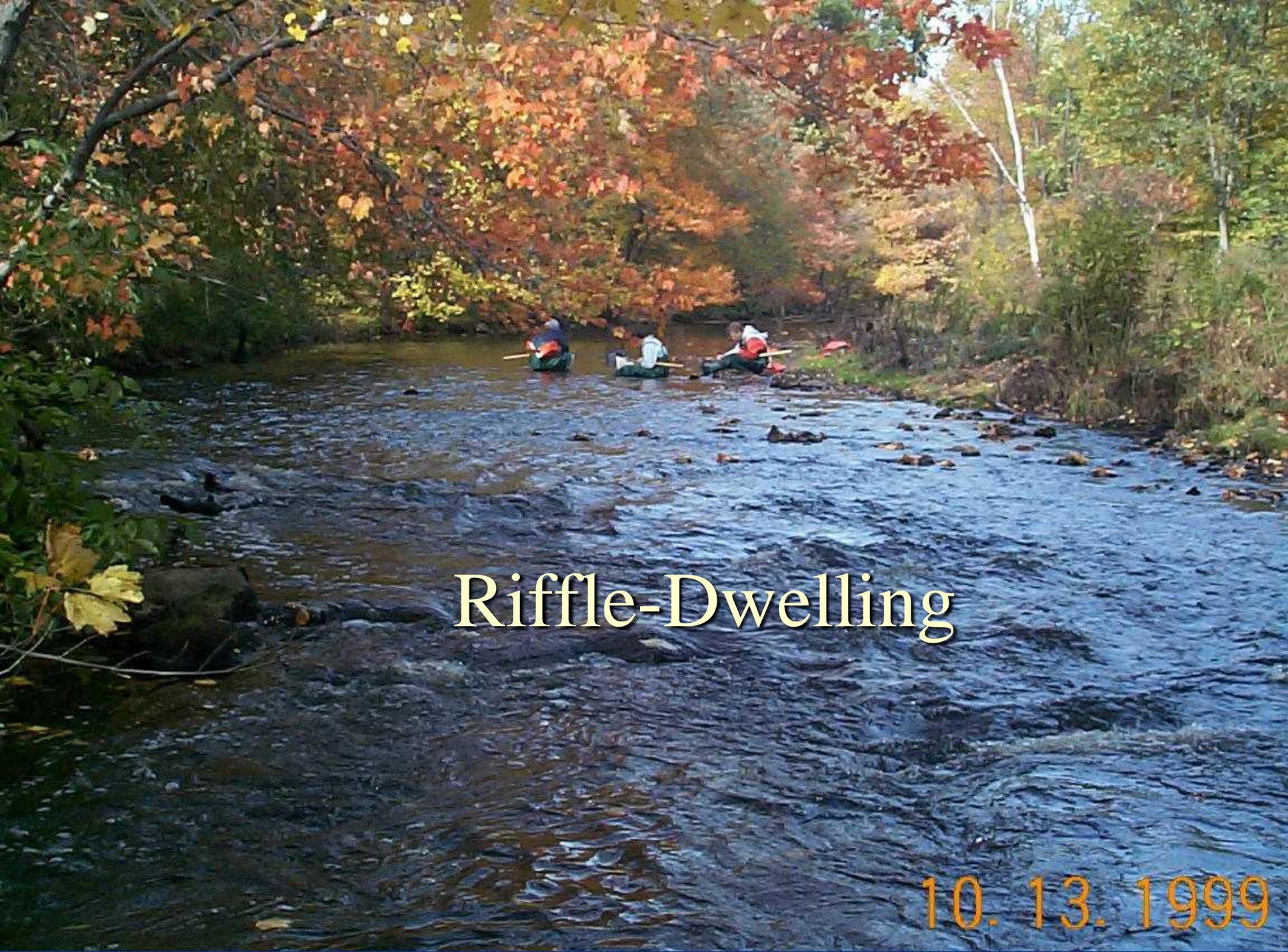
For More Information About Rapid Bioassessment Protocols...

<http://www.epa.gov/OWOW/monitoring/>

Riffle-Dwelling

Benthic

Macroinvertebrates



Riffle-Dwelling

10.13.1999

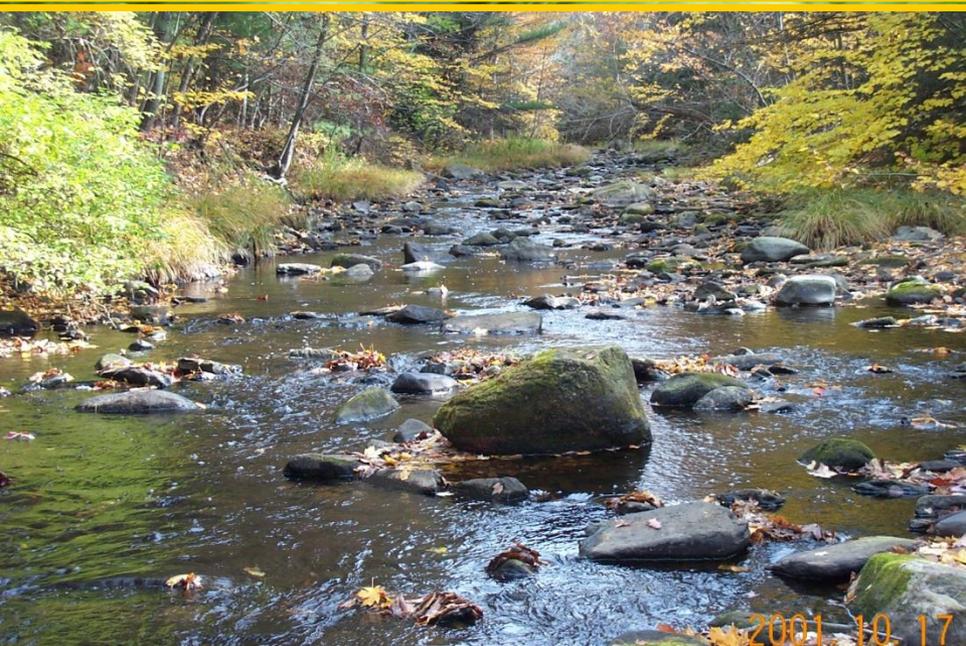


Riffle-Dwelling

Benthic

Macroinvertebrates

Benthic



2001.10.17

Riffle-Dwelling

Benthic

Macroinvertebrates

Macroinvertebrate



Riffle-Dwelling Benthic Macroinvertebrates

RIFFLE-DWELLING: A *riffle* is a section of a stream or river characterized by rapid turbulent flow, has a stable rocky substrate, and is wadeable most of the time. Other major stream habitats are pools and runs/glides.

Dwelling means living at least part of their life cycle within the riffle habitat.

BENTHIC: Living in or on the substrate (bottom) of an aquatic environment.

MACRO: Large enough to be seen with the unaided eye. The US EPA further defines a macro-organism as one retained by a US Standard Number 30-mesh sieve (0.595-mm openings).

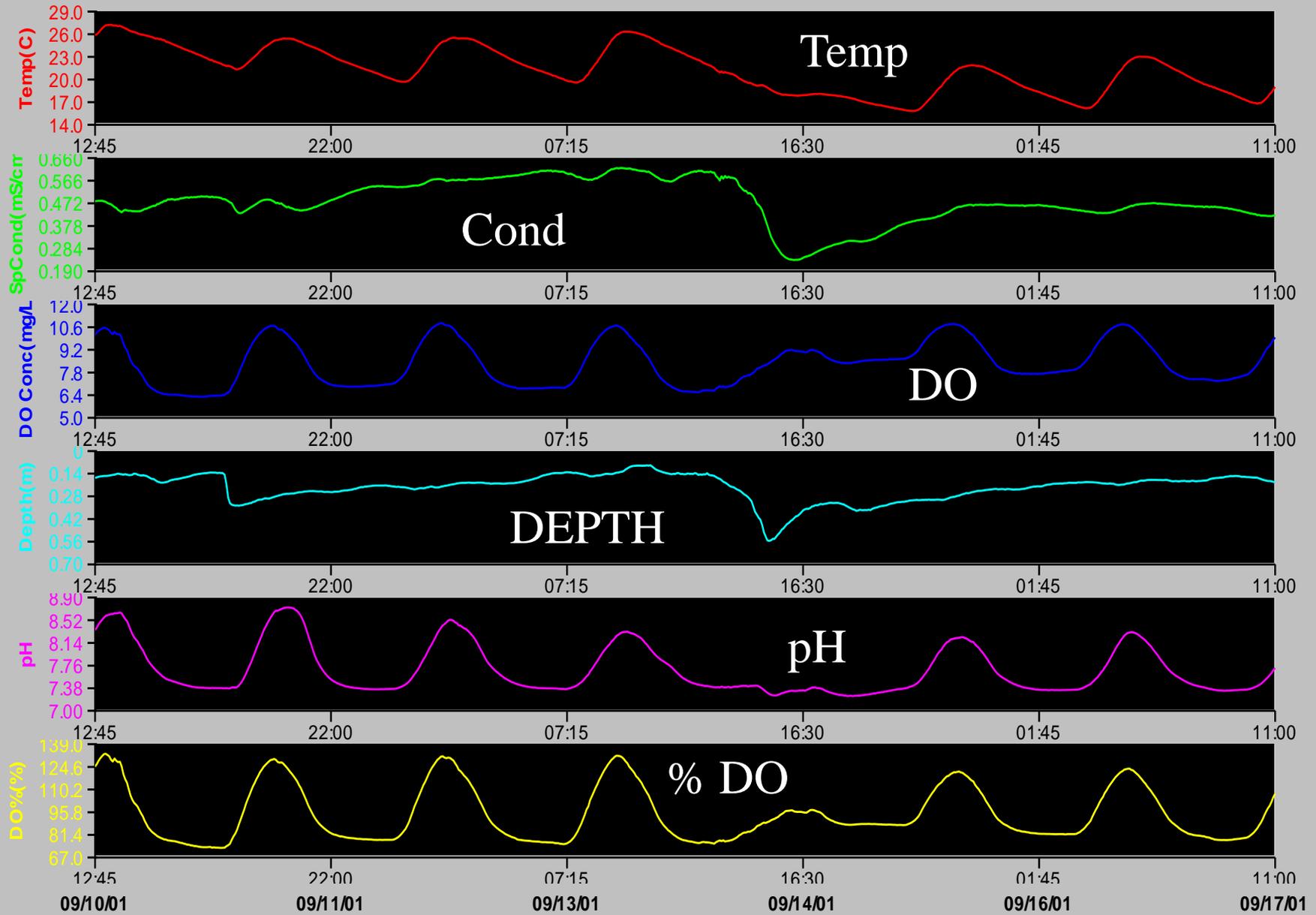
INVERTEBRATE: An animal without a backbone.

Two earthworms are shown against a dark blue background. The worms are light brown with darker spots and are positioned diagonally across the frame. One worm is in the foreground, and another is slightly behind it to the right.

Macroinvertebrates and Water Quality

- Live in wide range of water quality.
- Characteristic responses to environmental stresses.
- Established methodologies.
- Ease of capture.
- Rapid recovery from repeat sampling.
- Life history/Limited mobility.

NR3910.DAT



Day 1

DateTime(M/D/Y)

Day 7

1.) DEEP'S WATER QUALITY MONITORING

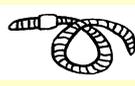
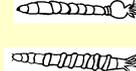
2.) NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS

3.) THE PRIMARY WATER QUALITY TOOL

4.) ABOUT RBV

Purpose of the RBV Program

- To **ENCOURAGE** volunteer monitoring of wadeable streams.
- To have an **EASY, QUICK, & EFFICIENT** method.
- **CONFIDENCE** in the data for use by **BOTH** the participant and the DEEP.

WATERBODY NAME:			COLLECTION DATE:		COLLECTION TIME:		
LOCATION DESCRIPTION:			COLLECTORS NAMES:				
TOWN:		NOTES/COMMENTS:					
MOST	1 Body builder mayfly <i>Drunella</i>	2 Minnow mayfly <i>Isonychia</i>	3 2-tailed flat head mayfly <i>Epeorus</i>	4 Roach-like stonefly Plecoptera	5 A Common stonefly Perlidae	5 B Giant stonefly Pteronarcys	5 C Misc Stonefly
							
Locs 1&2							
Locs 3&4							
Locs 5&6							
MOST	6 A Saddle-Case caddis <i>Glossosoma</i>	6 B Cornucopia Case caddis <i>Apatania</i>	7 Michelin Man caddis <i>Rhyacophila</i>	8 A Mid-size plant case caddis <i>Brachycentrus</i>	8 B <i>Lepidostoma</i>	DATA INTERPRETATION # OF TYPES OF THE "MOST" 5 OR MORE WATER QUALITY EXCEPTIONAL 3 TO 4 EXCELLENT 1 TO 3 VERY GOOD 0 MORE INFO NEEDED TO ASSESS	
							
Locs 1&2							
Locs 3&4							
Locs 5&6							
MODERATE	9 Common net-spinner <i>Hypsochridae</i>	10 Fingernet Caddis <i>Chimarra</i>	11 Flat Head mayfly <i>Stenonema</i>	12 Water Penny <i>Psephenus</i>	13 A Dobsonfly <i>Corydalus</i>	13 B Fishfly <i>Nigronia</i>	14 Dragonfly & Damselfly <i>Odonata</i>
							
Locs 1&2							
Locs 3&4							
Locs 5&6							
LEAST	15 A Amphipod	15 B Isopod	15 C Leech	15 D Midge	15 E Black fly	15 F Snail	15 G Worm
							
Locs 1&2							
Locs 3&4							
Locs 5&6							
OTHERS	OTHER COMMONLY COLLECTED RIFFLE-DWELLING MACROINVERTEBRATES						
	Crayfish	Crane fly larvae	Rifle Beetle adult/larva	Small minnow mayfly	Water snipe fly	Planaria	Fingemil clam/mussel
							
Present							

To Make the List

1.) Statewide Distribution



2.) Fun

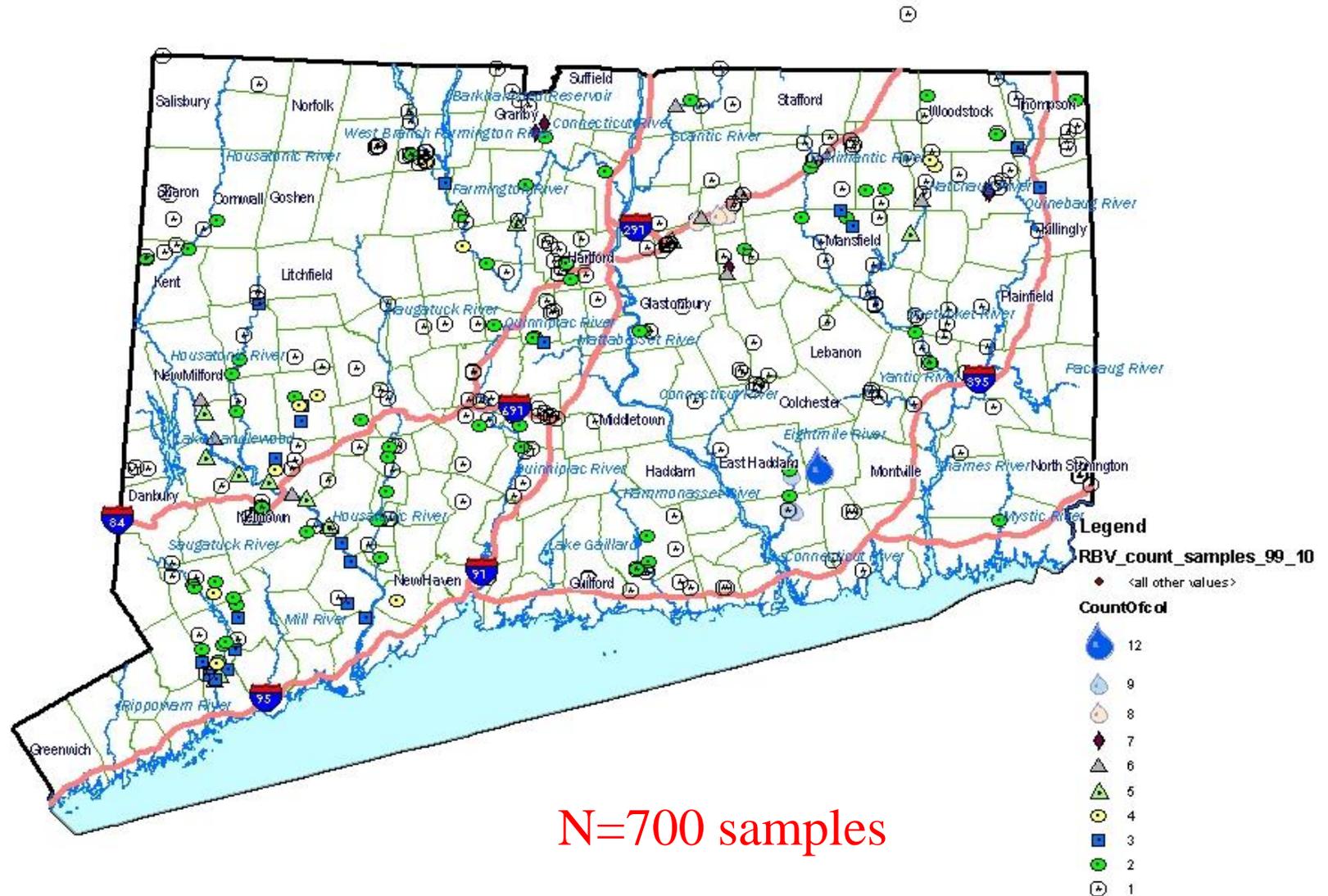


3.) Key Ecological Indicator

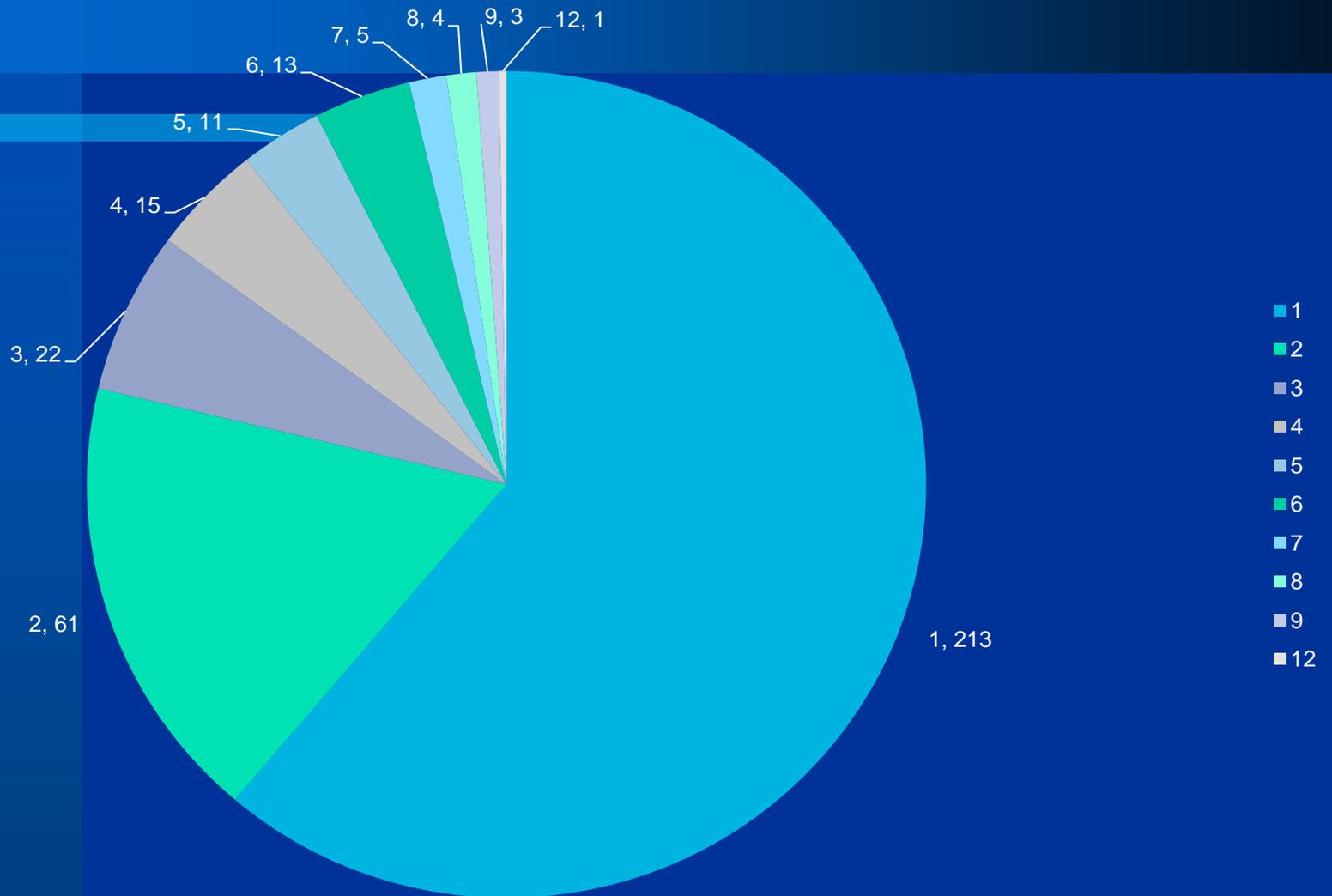
How can the data be used?

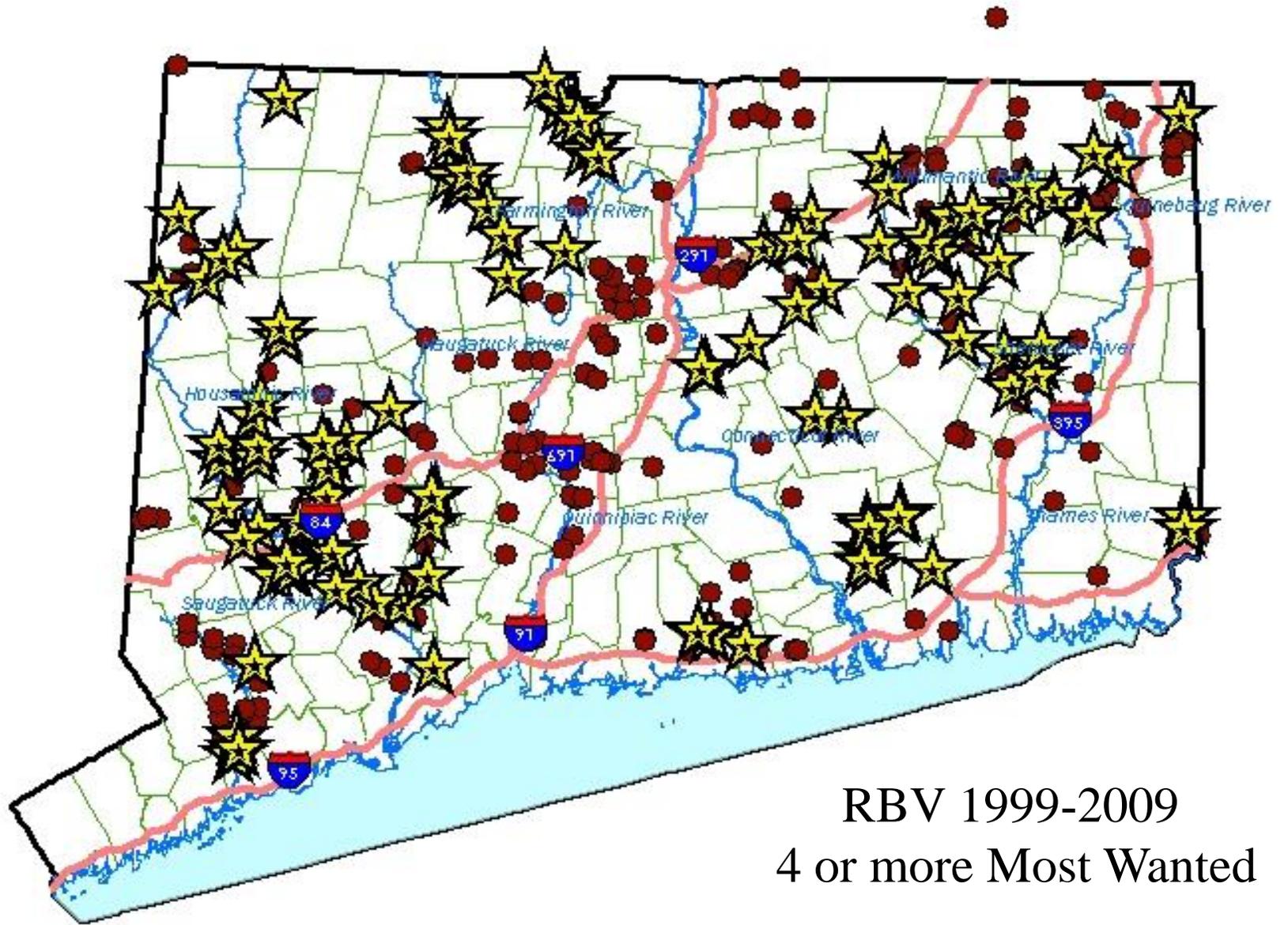
- **Screen for Very High or Very Low Water Quality.**
- **Document Baseline Conditions.**
- **Provide Additional Information.**
- **Compare Stream Reaches.**
- **Evaluate Potential Water Quality Concern.**

RBV samples to date (1999-2009)



Number of samples per site location (348 sites and 700 samples)





RBV 1999-2009
4 or more Most Wanted

187/383 or 48% of sites had 4+ most wanted

The presence of a trout in a body of water is a discrete ecological fact that nevertheless signifies certain things.



...a particular complex of biotic and chemical and physical factors
a standard of richness and purity, without which that troutly presence
is impossible....David Quammen

A damselfly nymph is perched on a dark, wet rock in a stream. The nymph has a long, segmented body and large, transparent wings with distinct veins. The water is dark and rippling around the rock.

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www.ct.gov/deep/rbv