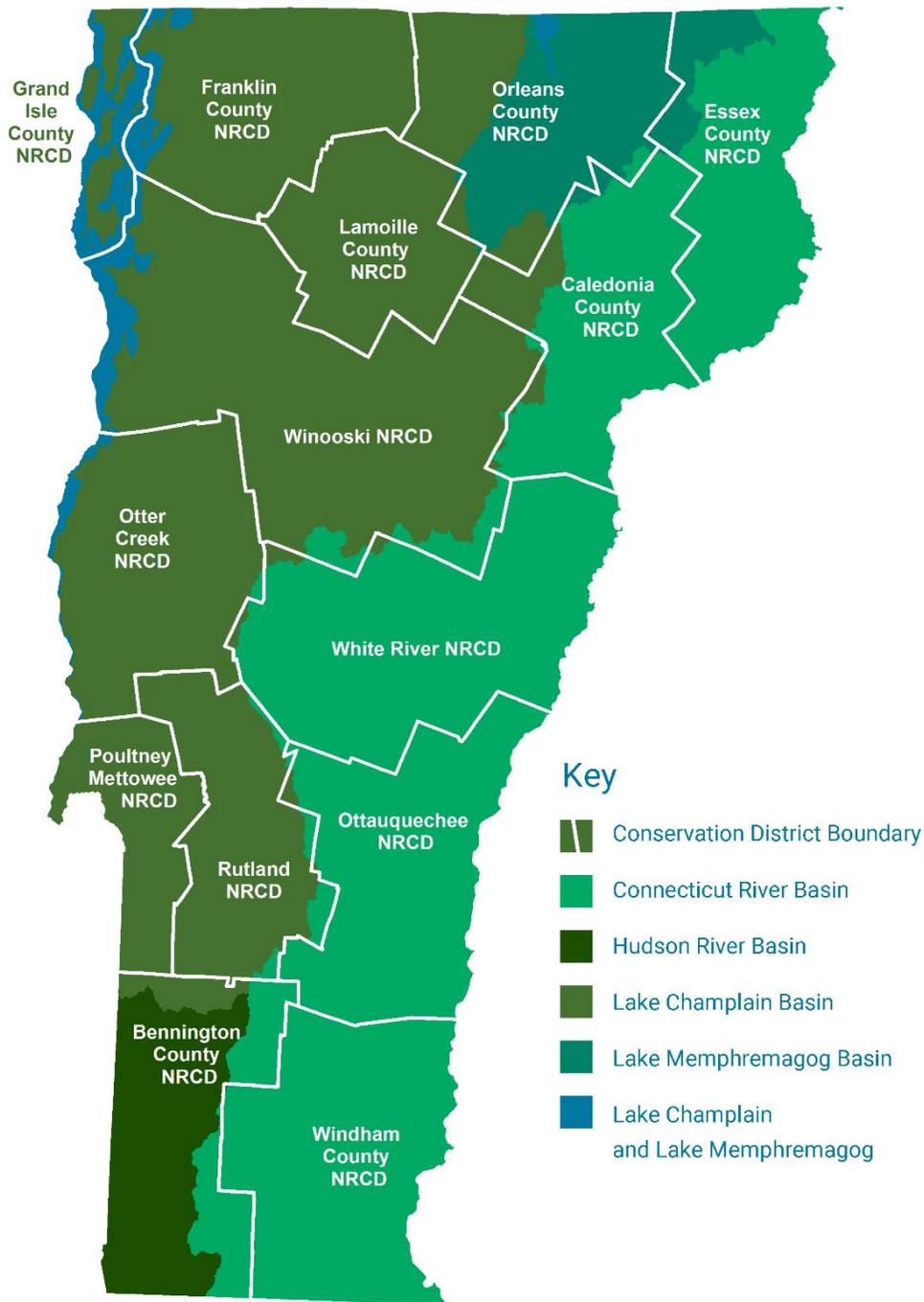




VERMONT NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION DISTRICTS



February
2026



Vermont's 14 Natural Resources Conservation Districts (NRCs)

- County-scale units of government
- Established by the Soil Conservation Act in 1939
- Supported by the State Natural Resources Conservation Council ([NRCC](#))

We are rooted in communities, and those roots help to strengthen and support the environment.

NRCDS & VACD Results in FY2025

- ✓ **3,239** participants in public workshops
- ✓ **2,177** youth participated in outreach events
- ✓ **29,422** stems planted throughout Vermont
- ✓ **510** acres of invasive species removed or treated
- ✓ **38** towns assisted with stormwater remediation
- ✓ **101** culverts assessed
- ✓ **170** acres of wetlands restored



Conservation Districts are working with NRCS to preserve critical services as federal actions reduce NRCS capacity in Vermont.



NRCS staff in Vermont is being reduced by roughly one-third. **The Natural Resources Conservation Districts can be a solution to this problem.**

- VACD has hired an engineer to work in the Rutland NRCS office and filled a critical technical support vacancy at NRCS
- Conservation Districts & VACD employ 17 Conservation Planners across the state who have been assisting with NRCS applications and contracts
- NRCDs are working on ways to continue to fill critical vacancies, including additional engineering support and Conservation Planners in the most heavily impacted areas of the state.

Locally Led Conservation



For the 2026 federal fiscal year, Districts directed \$4.4M in federal funds to farmers and other landowners for work on conservation needs identified by local residents through the locally led process.

Conservation Districts Address



Flood Mitigation



Drought Mitigation



Farm Viability & Food Security



Clean Water



For every \$1 Conservation Districts receive in direct operational funding, they bring in \$9 for implementing conservation work!

Lunenburg Culvert Project



2022



2025



2026

Lunenburg Capital Budget Plan

Site #3: Baptist Hill Rd – Perry Rd



Figure 1: Location of Site #3

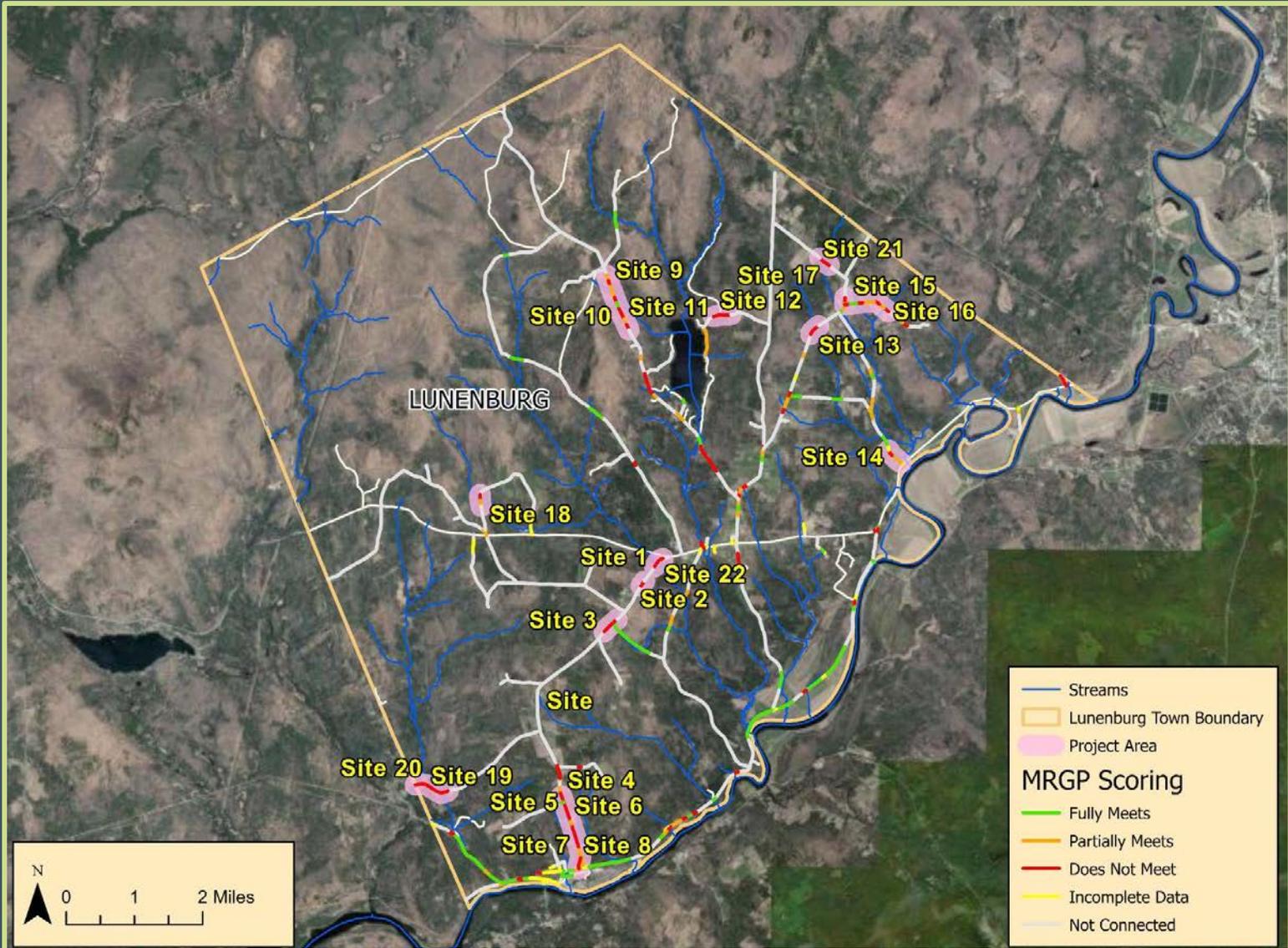


Figure 2: Water runs along the road surface through segment 4156 toward segment 4157

Project Length in ft.:	984 ft.
Number of Structures/culverts replaced or repaired:	1
Average Slope of Roadway:	5.7%
Road Segment ID(s):	4156, 4157, 4158
Structure ID(s):	14
Priority:	Very High

Description of erosion/water quality issue:

The crown in segments 4156, 4157, and 4158 does not adequately shed water off the road surface as sheet flow, and poorly shaped shoulders and grader berms cause water to run along the road surface picking up sediment. The ditches are also too narrow and not stone lined in steep sections, causing erosion on the road surface and in the ditches. Several intermittent streams enter the ditches in these segments, concentrating to a perennial stream after passing through the culvert in segment 4157 (ID 14). Erosion is occurring around the inlet of this culvert, contributing sediment to the stream. Sediment from the road surface entering the ditches is also transported to this stream.



Lunenburg Flood Damage



Lunenburg Culvert Project



2022



2025



2026

Maidstone Lake Restoration



Before



After

Guildhall - Future Planting Site



Trout Brook Reservoir Dam Removal



September 15, 2025
During Removal



May 28, 2025
Pre-impoundment



September 20, 2025
Post-impoundment



December 10, 2025
Upstream

Trout Brook Dam Time Lapse



2)

29.30 mHg - 0 77F (09/18/2025 05:17PM TROUT62

Halloween 2019 Storm in Montgomery



Green Mountain Road



Route 118 over West Hill Brook

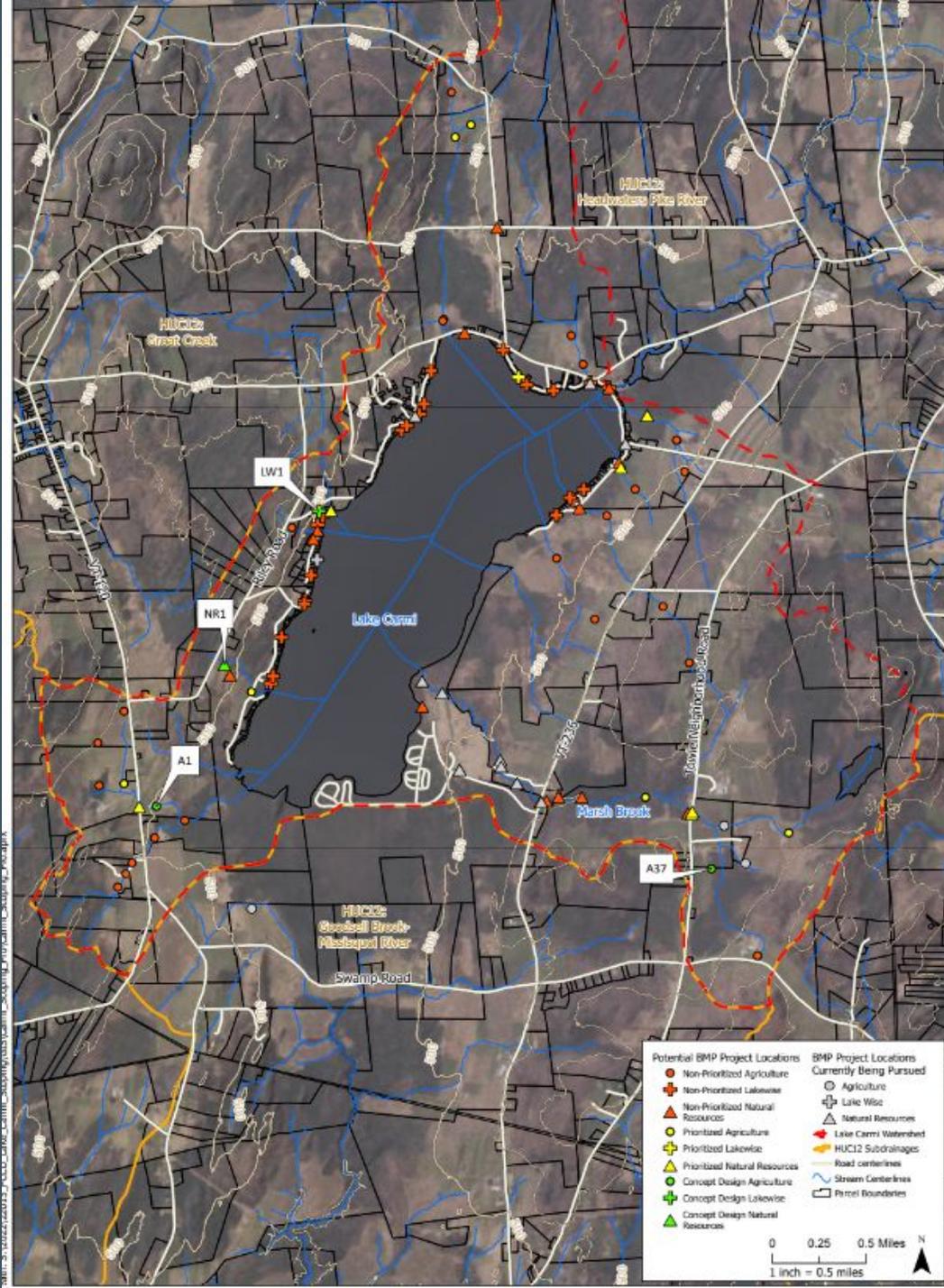
Small Flood



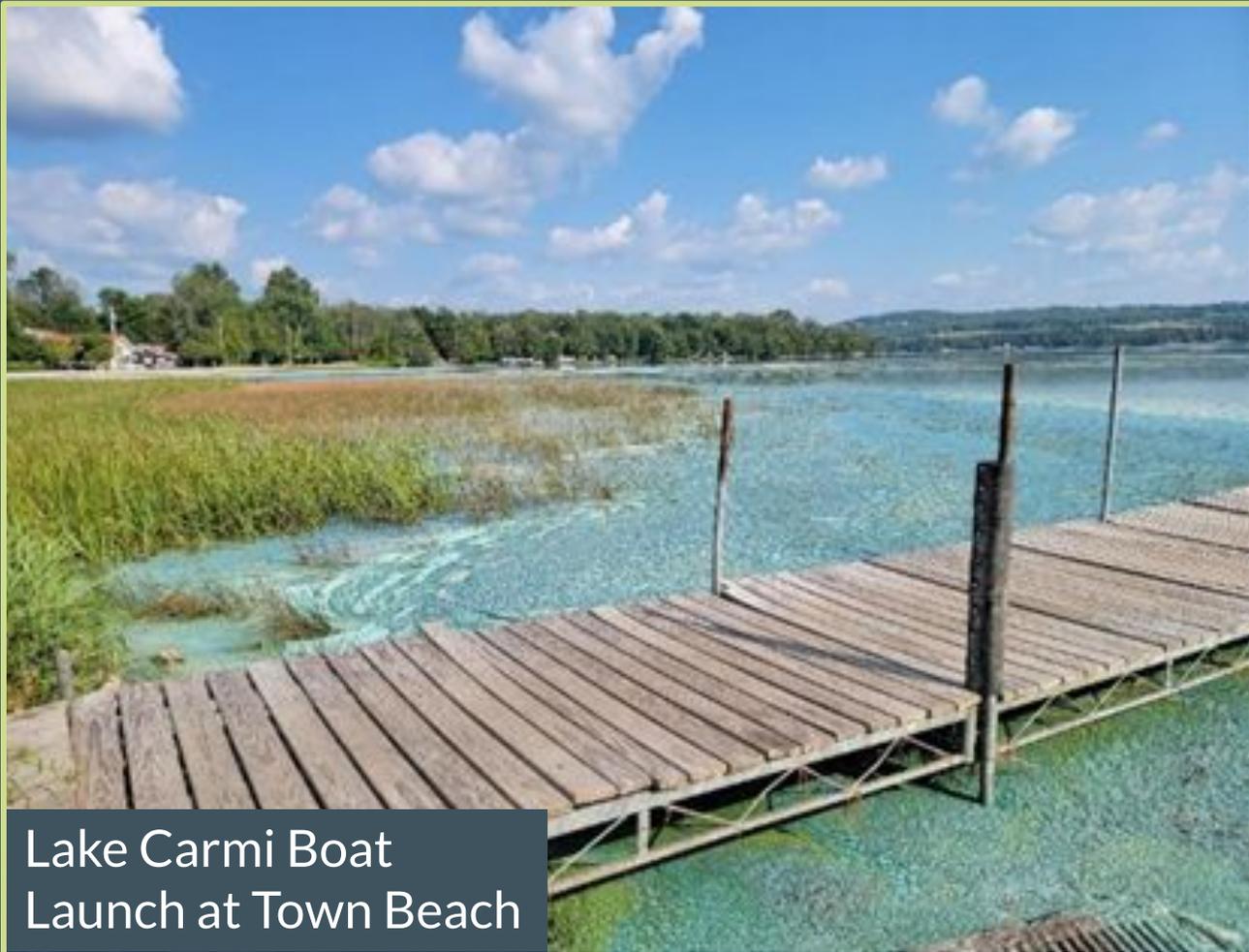
Model
Results
–
Medium
Flood



Potential Projects for Best Management Practices (BMPs) around Lake Carmi



Cyanobacteria blooms across Lake Carmi



Invasive Water Chestnut Removal



Wood Turtle Habitat Restoration



Conservation Districts have made an impact in our favorite places in Vermont, please support our request for **\$948,200** in the FY27 budget.



THANK YOU! QUESTIONS?



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