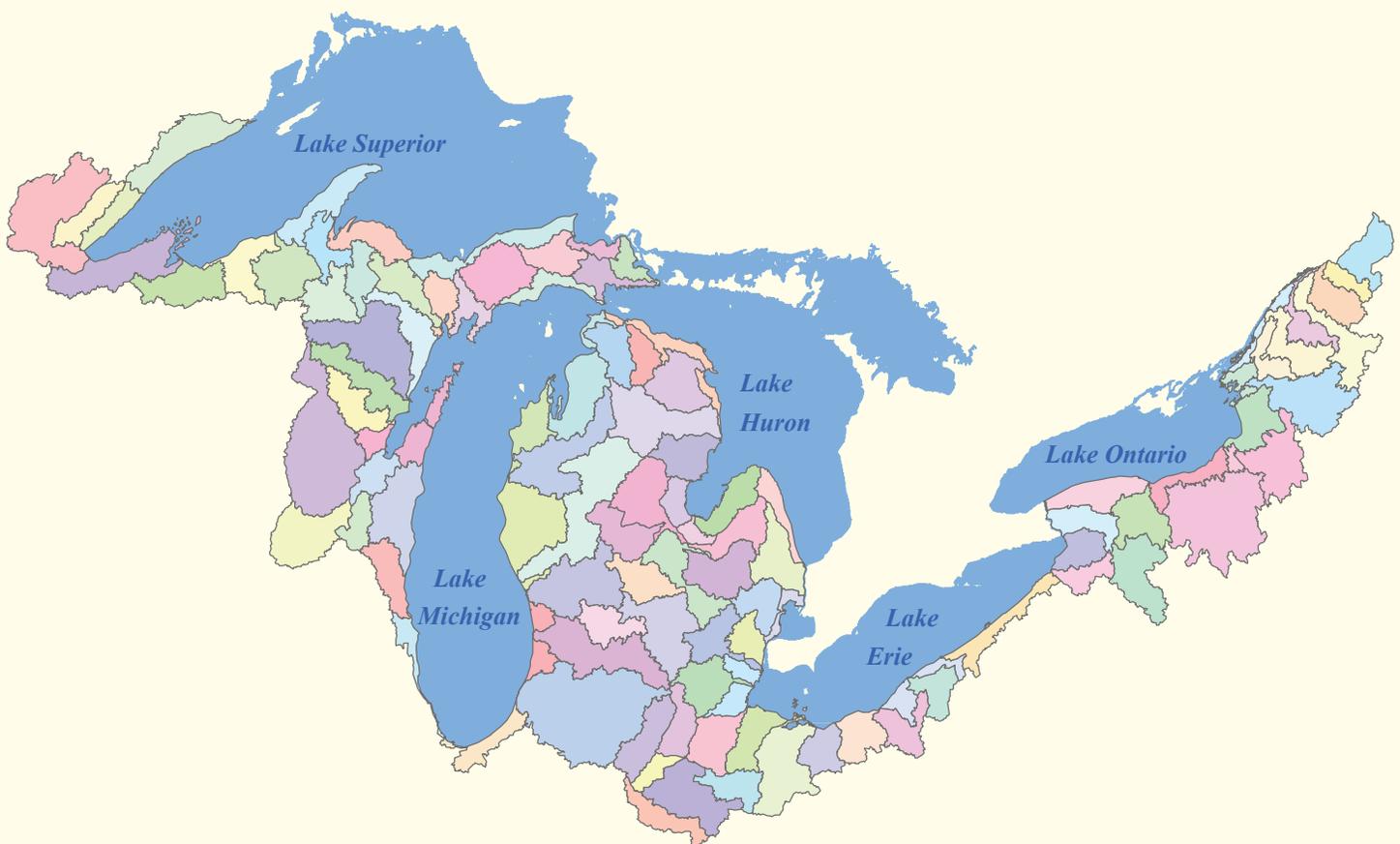


Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Compilation of Watershed Models for Tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, as of 2010, and Identification of Watersheds for Future Modeling for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative



Open-File Report 2011–1202

Compilation of Watershed Models for Tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, as of 2010, and Identification of Watersheds for Future Modeling for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

By William F. Coon, Elizabeth A. Murphy, David T. Soong, and Jennifer B. Sharpe

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Open-File Report 2011–1202

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey

U.S. Department of the Interior
KEN SALAZAR, Secretary

U.S. Geological Survey
Marcia K. McNutt, Director

U.S. Geological Survey, Reston, Virginia: 2011

For more information on the USGS—the Federal source for science about the Earth, its natural and living resources, natural hazards, and the environment, visit <http://www.usgs.gov> or call 1–888–ASK–USGS.

For an overview of USGS information products, including maps, imagery, and publications, visit <http://www.usgs.gov/pubprod>

To order this and other USGS information products, visit <http://store.usgs.gov>

Any use of trade, product, or firm names is for descriptive purposes only and does not imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

Although this report is in the public domain, permission must be secured from the individual copyright owners to reproduce any copyrighted materials contained within this report.

Suggested citation:

Coon, W.F., Murphy, E.A., Soong, D.T., and Sharpe, J.B., 2011, Compilation of watershed models for tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, as of 2010, and identification of watersheds for future modeling for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 2011–1202, 23 p. (Also available at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2011/1202>.)

Contents

Abstract.....	1
Introduction.....	2
Compilation of Existing Watershed Models	2
Assessment of Watershed Characteristics.....	4
Criteria for Selection of Tributary Watersheds for Future Modeling	4
Identification of Modeling Software and Candidate Watersheds for Modeling	5
Kalamazoo River, Michigan.....	5
Tonawanda Creek, New York.....	6
Bad River, Wisconsin	6
Summary.....	6
References Cited.....	7

Figures

1. Map showing hydrologic soil groups of the Great Lakes Basin, United States, and three tributary watersheds identified for modeling	24
2. Map showing land uses and land covers of the Great Lakes Basin, United States, and three tributary watersheds identified for modeling	25
3. Map showing surficial deposits of the Great Lakes Basin, United States, and three tributary watersheds identified for modeling.....	26

Tables

1. Tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, with existing watershed models, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Areas of Concern, and (or) U.S. Geological Survey water-quality monitoring sites for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, as of 2010	10
2. Watershed models and selected hydraulic, sediment, and (or) water-quality models for tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, as of 2010	14

Conversion Factors, Datums, and Abbreviations

Multiply	By	To obtain
	Length	
mile (mi)	1.609	kilometer (km)
	Area	
square mile (mi ²)	259.0	hectare (ha)
square mile (mi ²)	2.590	square kilometer (km ²)

Vertical coordinate information is referenced to North American Vertical Datum of 1929 (NAVD 29).

Horizontal coordinate information is referenced to the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83).

List of Acronyms

AFINCH	Analysis of Flows In Networks of CHannels
AGNPS	Agricultural Non-Point Source Pollution
AHPS	Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service
AOC	Area of Concern
BMP	Best-management practice
CAFO	Concentrated animal feeding operation
DLBRM	Distributed Large Basin Runoff Model
GIS	Geographic information system
GLERL	Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory
GLRI	Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
HIT	High Impact Targeting
HSPF	Hydrological Simulation Program–Fortran
LBRM	Large Basin Runoff Model
L–THIA	Long-Term Hydrologic Impact Assessment
NHDPlus	National Hydrography Dataset Plus
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NWS	National Weather Service
PCB	Polychlorinated biphenyl
PRMS	Precipitation–Runoff Modeling System
RFC	River Forecast Center
SAC-SMA	Sacramento Soil Moisture Accounting
SPARROW	SPATIally Referenced Regressions on Watershed attributes

SWAT	Soil and Water Assessment Tool
TMDL	Total maximum daily load
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USEPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
WATER	Water Availability Tool for Environmental Resources
WEPP	Water Erosion Prediction Project
WWTP	Wastewater-treatment plant

This page has been left blank intentionally.

Compilation of Watershed Models for Tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, as of 2010, and Identification of Watersheds for Future Modeling for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

By William F. Coon, Elizabeth A. Murphy, David T. Soong, and Jennifer B. Sharpe

Abstract

As part of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) during 2009–10, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) compiled a list of existing watershed models that had been created for tributaries within the United States that drain to the Great Lakes. Established Federal programs that are overseen by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) are responsible for most of the existing watershed models for specific tributaries. The NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (GLERL) uses the Large Basin Runoff Model to provide data for the management of water levels in the Great Lakes by estimating United States and Canadian inflows to the Great Lakes from 121 large watersheds. GLERL also simulates streamflows in 34 U.S. watersheds by a grid-based model, the Distributed Large Basin Runoff Model. The NOAA National Weather Service uses the Sacramento Soil Moisture Accounting model to predict flows at river forecast sites. The USACE created or funded the creation of models for at least 30 tributaries to the Great Lakes to better understand sediment erosion, transport, and aggradation processes that affect Federal navigation channels and harbors. Many of the USACE hydrologic models have been coupled with hydrodynamic and sediment-transport models that simulate the processes in the stream and harbor near the mouth of the modeled tributary.

Some models either have been applied or have the capability of being applied across the entire Great Lakes Basin; they are (1) the SPATIally Referenced Regressions On Watershed attributes (SPARROW) model, which was developed by the USGS; (2) the High Impact Targeting (HIT) and Digital Watershed models, which were developed by the Institute of Water Research at Michigan State University; (3) the Long-Term Hydrologic Impact Assessment (L-THIA) model, which was developed by researchers at Purdue University; and (4) the Water Erosion Prediction Project

(WEPP) model, which was developed by the National Soil Erosion Research Laboratory of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. During 2010, the USGS used the Precipitation-Runoff Modeling System (PRMS) to create a hydrologic model for the Lake Michigan Basin to assess the probable effects of climate change on future groundwater and surface-water resources. The Water Availability Tool for Environmental Resources (WATER) model and the Analysis of Flows In Networks of CHannels (AFINCH) program also were used to support USGS GLRI projects that required estimates of streamflows throughout the Great Lakes Basin.

This information on existing watershed models, along with an assessment of geologic, soils, and land-use data across the Great Lakes Basin and the identification of problems that exist in selected tributary watersheds that could be addressed by a watershed model, was used to identify three watersheds in the Great Lakes Basin for future modeling by the USGS. These watersheds are the Kalamazoo River Basin in Michigan, the Tonawanda Creek Basin in New York, and the Bad River Basin in Wisconsin. These candidate watersheds have hydrogeologic, land-type, and soil characteristics that make them distinct from each other, but that are representative of other tributary watersheds within the Great Lakes Basin. These similarities in the characteristics among nearby watersheds will enhance the usefulness of a model by improving the likelihood that parameter values from a previously modeled watershed could reliably be used in the creation of a model of another watershed in the same region. The software program Hydrological Simulation Program–Fortran (HSPF) was selected to simulate the hydrologic, sedimentary, and water-quality processes in these selected watersheds. HSPF is a versatile, process-based, continuous-simulation model that has been used extensively by the scientific community, has the ongoing technical support of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and USGS, and provides a means to evaluate the effects that land-use changes or management practices might have on the simulated processes.

Introduction

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) (White House Council on Environmental Quality and others, 2010) identified five major focus areas to improve the water quality and aquatic habitat of the Great Lakes: (1) toxic substances in water and sediment; (2) invasive aquatic species; (3) degradation of nearshore habitat owing, at least partly, to nonpoint-source contamination from tributary inflows; (4) loss and degradation of terrestrial and aquatic habitats, especially coastal wetlands, and the associated negative effects on native species; and (5) inadequate monitoring of ecosystem health, assessment of restoration progress, and coordination of efforts among Great Lakes' stakeholders. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), began at least 25 projects during 2009–10 to address these issues (U.S. Geological Survey, 2010a). Among these projects were several that required understanding of the hydrologic and water-quality processes within the watersheds of many tributaries that drain to the Great Lakes. GLRI objectives can be supported by the estimation of tributary flows, water temperatures, and nonpoint-source loads of sediment and nutrients, the assessment of their effects on aquatic habitats, and identification of the probable improvements to ecosystem health and functions by mitigation of these effects.

Precipitation-runoff watershed models, which are valuable tools used to understand hydrologic processes and to guide water-resources managers in making decisions on water-related issues, are a means by which all of these GLRI objectives can be addressed. In addition, output from a watershed model can be used to identify subbasins that generate disproportionately large loads of sediment or nutrients; watershed managers can then target these subbasins for mitigation measures. Scenarios that reflect future land-use changes or management practices in a watershed can be simulated, and their probable effects on streamflows and water-quality loads can be assessed. Similarly, reconstructed meteorological data that reflect anticipated changes in climate can be simulated by a watershed model, and probable changes in the magnitude and frequency of peak and low flows and in sediment and nutrient loads can be noted. Watershed managers can then assess climate-change effects on transportation infrastructure and aquatic biota and habitat.

Watershed models of tributaries throughout the Great Lakes Basin have been created with different software programs and for different purposes. In 2009, surface-water modelers of the USGS were charged with creating watershed models for up to three Great Lakes tributaries in the United States where identifiable water-related problems could be addressed using this approach. The first step in this project was to compile a list of existing watershed models. To that end, Federal and state agencies, consulting firms, and academic institutions were contacted to identify (1) existing models for that part of the Great Lakes Basin within the United States, (2) the application or purpose for which the model was

created, and (3) the modeling software used. The second step was to assess the regional characteristics—hydrogeology, land use, land cover, and soils—of the Great Lakes Basin and to use this information to identify candidate watersheds for modeling that would be representative of a large region of the Great Lakes Basin. This assessment step would enhance the usefulness of a model by improving the likelihood that parameter values from a modeled watershed could reliably be transferred to, and used in, the creation of a model of another watershed with similar hydrogeologic, land-type, and soil characteristics. The third step was to identify a public-domain modeling software that had the potential to meet the objectives of the GLRI.

This report presents a compilation of known watershed models and other modeling tools that have been developed for, or applied to, tributaries throughout that part of the Great Lakes Basin within the United States as of 2010. On the basis of regional characteristics—hydrogeology, land-type, and soils—and other selection criteria, three watersheds—the Kalamazoo River in Michigan (Mich.), Tonawanda Creek in New York, and the Bad River in Wisconsin (Wis.)—are identified for future modeling. Problems and distinct characteristics that qualify these watersheds for modeling are presented.

Compilation of Existing Watershed Models

Watershed models have been created for many of the United States tributaries in the Great Lakes Basin. The tributaries for which a model exists, as well as those that are considered Areas of Concern by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA, 2010) or that have some component of water-quality monitoring as part of the GLRI by the USGS are listed in table 1 (at back of report). In a few cases—for example, the Fox River (Wis.), Saginaw River (Mich.), St. Joseph River (Mich. and Indiana), and Maumee River (Ohio)—several models have been created for a given watershed, as well as for particular subbasins within the larger watershed. At least 17 different types of modeling software, ranging from complex numerical models to interactive geospatial-analytical tools, have been used to simulate the hydrology and, in many cases, sediment and nutrient processes, of tributaries to the Great Lakes (table 2, at back of report). The purposes for which the models were created vary widely and include simulation of sediment processes, estimation of nutrient loads, assessment of best-management practices (BMPs), and calculation of total maximum daily loads (TMDLs).

Several modeling tools have been developed that are applicable to the entire Great Lakes Basin. Among these is the Large Basin Runoff Model (LBRM) (Croley, 1982), a physically based, lumped-parameter model, which was developed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration (NOAA), Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (GLERL) to simulate rainfall-runoff relations for 121 large watersheds surrounding the Great Lakes (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2009a). NOAA, which is concerned with providing data for the management of water levels in the Great Lakes for purposes of flood control, navigation, and hydropower, requires a method of estimating tributary inflows to the Great Lakes. The LBRM models are run daily to provide estimates of United States and Canadian inflows to each Great Lake. Streamflows in 34 United States watersheds (tables 1 and 2, at back of report) have been simulated by a spatially distributed, two-dimensional, grid-based model, the Distributed Large Basin Runoff Model (DLBRM) (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2009b). Enhancements to these DLBRM models by collaboration among NOAA-GLERL and researchers at several academic institutions through the Cooperative Institute for Limnology and Ecosystems Research will incorporate simulation of sediment and nutrient transport and change the simulation time step from daily to hourly (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2010).

During 2010, as part of the GLRI, the USGS began creation of a hydrologic model for the Lake Michigan Basin using the Precipitation-Runoff Modeling System (PRMS) (Leavesley and others, 1983; U.S. Geological Survey, 2011a). The model will be used to simulate inflows to Lake Michigan and to assess the probable effects of climate change on future groundwater and surface-water resources (Hunt, 2010). The USGS also has developed a SPATIally Referenced Regressions On Watershed attributes model (SPARROW) (Schwarz and others, 2006; Preston and others, 2009; U.S. Geological Survey, 2010b) to (1) estimate long-term average annual loads of nutrients that enter the Great Lakes from their tributaries, (2) describe the distribution of nutrient loading and the factors affecting this distribution throughout the Great Lakes Basin, and (3) rank the tributaries on the basis of their relative yields of nutrients (Robertson and Saad, 2011). The SPARROW model will be coupled with water-quantity models to predict probable changes in nutrient loading as a result of future climatic conditions. The resultant model, referred to as HydroSPARROW, will be linked with streamflow estimates (1) from PRMS (Hunt, 2010) to predict changes in nutrient loading to Lake Michigan and (2) from the Water Availability Tool for Environmental Resources (WATER) (Williamson and others, 2009; U.S. Geological Survey, 2011b) to predict changes in nutrient loading throughout the Great Lakes Basin. HydroSPARROW also will be used to assess the effects of land-use changes on nutrient loads.

Another USGS GLRI project (Reeves, 2010) is designed to generate a unified stream classification system that will link landscape, hydrologic, and biologic information to stream networks within the framework of the National Hydrography Dataset Plus (NHDPlus) (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2011a). To help assess the effects that hydrologic alterations, which result from changes in land use or climate conditions, are likely to have on aquatic ecosystems, a

hydrologic dataset that provides consistent estimates of streamflows across the entire Great Lakes Basin is required. To that end, the program, Analysis of Flows In Networks of CHannels (AFINCH) (Holtzschlag, 2009), is being used to estimate time series of monthly streamflows for reaches in gaged and ungaged watersheds in the Great Lakes Basin. These flows, as well as water yields, will be added to attribute tables for stream segments and their associated catchments as defined in NHDPlus.

The High Impact Targeting (HIT) model, which was developed by the Institute of Water Research (2011a) at Michigan State University, couples the revised universal soil-loss equation (Renard and others, 1997) and a geographic information system (GIS), Digital Watershed (Institute of Water Research, 2011b), to identify areas susceptible to erosion, estimate soil losses from agricultural areas, and assess BMPs. An interactive application of the HIT model provides these capabilities for the Great Lakes Basin (Institute of Water Research, 2011c). The Long-Term Hydrologic Impact Assessment (L-THIA) model, developed by researchers at Purdue University (2011), uses runoff estimated by the Natural Resources Conservation Service TR-55 method (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1986) and event mean concentrations that are based on land uses to estimate long-term average annual recharge, runoff, and contaminant loads in urban areas. An interactive application of the L-THIA model provides these data for most of the states in the Great Lakes Basin (Purdue University, 2011). L-THIA also can be used to assess the water-quality effects of land-use changes and BMPs. The Water Erosion Prediction Project (WEPP) model is a process-based, distributed-parameter, erosion-prediction model that was developed by the National Soil Erosion Research Laboratory of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2010). The WEPP model can be used to estimate long-term sediment yields from cropland, rangeland, and disturbed forest sites for hillslope applications or small watersheds. An online site on a public server hosted at Washington State University (2011) has been established for application of WEPP throughout the Great Lakes Basin.

The NOAA National Weather Service (NWS) has compiled a suite of rainfall-runoff, hydraulic, and flow-routing models that are used by River Forecast Centers (RFC) (National Weather Service, 2011a) to estimate near future runoff and predict water levels at river forecast sites. The three RFCs—North Central (Minnesota), Ohio, and Northeast (Massachusetts)—that make runoff predictions for the drainage area of the Great Lakes use the Sacramento Soil Moisture Accounting (SAC-SMA) model (Burnash, 1995) and SNOW-17 (Anderson, 2006), a snow accumulation and ablation model, to estimate runoff and snow melt, respectively. These forecasts are made for streams at USGS streamgauge stations with drainage areas greater than about 75 square miles (mi²) so that timely predictions can be made at a 6-hour simulation time step. Because predictions are made for hundreds of sites in the Great Lakes Basin and a given stream,

including its tributaries, can have multiple forecast sites, these streams are not included in tables 1 and 2. These forecast sites can be identified at the NWS Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS) website (National Weather Service, 2011b).

Most of the remaining known watershed models that have been created for specific tributaries in the Great Lakes Basin were created by or for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE; table 2). The USACE has been charged with the responsibility of maintaining Federal navigation channels and harbors (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 2010). Because sediment aggradation is a major problem that interferes with harbor operations, and to better understand sediment erosion, transport, and aggradation processes, the USACE, under Section 516(e) of the Water Resources Development Act (U.S. Congress, 1996), has been authorized to develop, or fund the development of, models to simulate sediment processes in tributaries that drain to the Federal harbors (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 2005, 2006; Great Lakes Commission, 2009). To date (2010), 30 tributary watersheds have been modeled for this purpose; models for several more watersheds are being created. The watershed-wide sediment models can be used to assess mitigative measures that will decrease the loading of sediment and contaminants to tributaries and thereby decrease the need for, and costs of, dredging the navigation channels. A wide variety of modeling software has been used in different watersheds to best address the specific issues and provide the desired outputs for a given watershed. The Soil and Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2011a) was used to model most of the tributary watersheds, but the Hydrological Simulation Program–Fortran (HSPF) model (Bicknell and others, 2001) and the Agricultural Non-Point Source Pollution (AGNPS) model (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2011b) also were used. All three of these models are physically based, spatially distributed, and capable of simulating sediment and nutrient processes. AGNPS is an event-based model that primarily is used in watersheds dominated by agricultural uses. SWAT and HSPF are continuous-simulation models, and although HSPF can be applied in a watershed with any combination of land uses, SWAT often is used in watersheds dominated by rural land uses only. Many of the USACE watershed models were coupled with hydrodynamic and sediment-transport models to assess, in detail, the processes in the stream and harbor near the mouths of modeled tributaries. These ancillary models are included in table 2. Those tributaries for which hydrodynamic and sediment-transport models were created without a watershed model to simulate sediment loads to stream channels are not included in table 2.

Excluding the models that have been applied across the entire Great Lakes Basin, one or more models have been created for at least 72 individual tributary watersheds. The most commonly used modeling software includes SWAT, DLBRM, HSPF, and L–THIA.

Assessment of Watershed Characteristics

By identifying those tributary watersheds in the Great Lakes Basin for which models exist, the compilation of watershed models consequently identified those watersheds that have not been modeled or have models that do not adequately address GLRI objectives. These watersheds could be considered as candidates for modeling in the future. The second step toward identification of candidate tributary watersheds for modeling was the assessment of watershed characteristics that strongly affect the hydrologic and water-quality processes in a watershed. The intent of this assessment was to identify distinct regional characteristics that are applicable to large areas of the Great Lakes Basin, such as the Lower Peninsula of Michigan or the area south of Lake Superior. Then a watershed within a given region could be selected for modeling with the increased likelihood that parameter values used for the modeled watershed could be transferred to, and used in, a model for another watershed within the same region. To that end, GIS coverages were created for soil characteristics (hydrologic soil group), land-use and land-cover types, and geological characteristics, such as surficial deposits (figs. 1, 2, and 3, at back of report).

Criteria for Selection of Tributary Watersheds for Future Modeling

Candidate watersheds for modeling were assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

- lack of an existing watershed model or a watershed model that with upgrades or modifications could serve the same purposes as a new model;
- problems in the watershed, including flooding, sediment erosion and aggradation, and water quality, that could be addressed by a watershed model;
- tributary is in a USEPA (2010) Area of Concern (AOC) or drains to a Federal navigation harbor;
- dominant land uses–land covers and soil types;
- regional bedrock and surficial geological characteristics;
- availability of flow data from USGS streamgages for model calibration;
- existence and availability of water-quality data for model calibration;
- presence of a USGS GLRI water-quality monitoring station in the watershed; and
- existence of a watershed association of concerned stakeholders that would be interested in using the model for watershed management and decision making.

Identification of Modeling Software and Candidate Watersheds for Modeling

Several watershed modeling programs were assessed for their capabilities to meet the multiple objectives of the GLRI. A public-domain, process-based, continuous-simulation model that was capable of simulating the hydrologic, sedimentary, and water-quality processes in a watershed and providing a means for evaluating the effects that land-use changes or management practices might have on these processes was desirable. The program HSPF (Donigian and others, 1995) was selected to model the candidate watersheds for these reasons. Although HSPF is a data-intensive model, it is supported by USEPA and USGS and has been used extensively and for various applications by the scientific community. HSPF enables scenario development for the analysis of the probable effects of land-use changes, BMPs, and climate change.

Using the selection criteria listed in the previous section, three watersheds were selected as potential candidates for watershed modeling—the Kalamazoo River in Michigan (a tributary to Lake Michigan), Tonawanda Creek in New York (a tributary to the Niagara River and Lake Ontario), and the Bad River in Wisconsin (a tributary to Lake Superior; fig. 1). These watersheds exhibited geologic, soil, and land-type characteristics that make them distinct from each other but representative of a large region of the Great Lakes Basin that encompasses other tributary watersheds that share these characteristics. The candidate watersheds also have water-quality problems that impede progress toward the GLRI objective to improve the water quality and the aquatic habitat of the Great Lakes. Stakeholders in each watershed would benefit from a model that could estimate flows, water temperatures, and nonpoint-source loads of sediment and nutrients. The candidate watersheds are described below.

Kalamazoo River, Michigan

- The Kalamazoo River Basin has been modeled by NOAA with DLBRM and by Kieser and Associates (2011) with the L-THIA model. DLBRM is a process-based, distributed model capable of simulating streamflows on a daily basis, but in its present form, it cannot simulate sediment and nutrient processes as can HSPF. L-THIA is a quick and accessible model for estimating long-term average annual runoff and nutrient loads in order to evaluate the effects of land-use changes. Unlike HSPF, L-THIA cannot simulate watershed processes at daily or hourly time steps, nor is L-THIA output calibrated to observed data from streamflow and water-quality monitoring sites.
- The 80-mile (mi) reach from Morrow Dam, just east of Kalamazoo, to Lake Michigan is a USEPA AOC because river sediments are contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) that originated from paper industry de-inking processes prior to the mid-1970s (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2011b).
- Besides the ecological degradation that has resulted from PCB contamination, other problems in the watershed include agricultural and urban nonpoint sources, concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), and industrial and wastewater-treatment-plant (WWTP) discharges. Also, the river and its tributaries have many dams that are being considered for removal, which could cause new problems from resuspension of trapped sediments.
- The drainage area of the watershed is 2,020 mi², 45 percent of which is used for agriculture (cultivated crops and pasture-hay); 41 percent is forested or open rural areas (Kieser and Associates, 2001). Large urban areas are found along the Kalamazoo River corridor.
- The watershed's surficial deposits are dominated by sand and sandy and loamy till.
- The watershed characteristics are representative of those found in a large part of the Lower Peninsula of Michigan.
- There are 10 USGS streamgages that monitor streamflow in the watershed. Water quality (nutrients, major ions, physical characteristics, and mercury) has been monitored at various sites in the watershed by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. As part of the GLRI water-quality monitoring program, the USGS site at New Richmond was upgraded from a streamflow-monitoring gage to a long-term water-quality sampling site for sediment and nutrients. Two samples—one water and one bed sediment—also were collected and analyzed for pesticides, pharmaceuticals, personal-care products, wastewater-indicator compounds, organic compounds, and PCBs.
- Detailed hydraulic data are available from a recent USGS flood-inundation mapping project for the 15-mi reach from Marshall to Battle Creek (Hoard and others, 2010). A less detailed data set that covers the reach from Marshall to the river's mouth also is available (C.M. Rachol, U.S. Geological Survey, written commun., 2010).
- The Kalamazoo River Watershed Council works collaboratively with the community, government agencies, local officials, and businesses to improve and protect the health of the Kalamazoo River, its tributaries, and its watershed (Kalamazoo River Watershed Council, 2011).

Tonawanda Creek, New York

- There is no known watershed model of the Tonawanda Creek Basin.
- Problems in the watershed include agricultural nonpoint sources, CAFO point sources, sewage and WWTP discharges, erosion and sedimentation, flooding, habitat degradation, and the effects of future development. The creek is the source of drinking water for the City of Batavia.
- The watershed has a drainage area of 658 mi², which is dominated by agricultural uses (45 percent), forested areas (27 percent), and wetlands (11 percent) (Tonawanda Creek Watershed Committee, 2011).
- The surficial deposits of the watershed are mainly loamy and clayey till.
- The watershed characteristics are representative of those found along the northeastern shore of Lake Erie and the southern shore of Lake Ontario.
- Streamflow is monitored at four USGS streamgages in the watershed. Some water-quality monitoring of nutrients and suspended solids is conducted by Soil and Water Conservation Districts. A water sample was collected from Tonawanda Creek at Rapids for the GLRI water-quality monitoring program and was analyzed for pesticides, pharmaceuticals, personal-care products, wastewater-indicator compounds, organic compounds, and PCBs.
- The Tonawanda Creek Watershed Committee represents a diverse collection of Federal, state, and local agencies, the Tonawanda Seneca Indian Nation, and concerned individuals and citizen groups.
- Great interest has been expressed by the USACE (Byron Rupp, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, oral commun., 2010) for a watershed model that can simulate sediment processes in the Tonawanda Creek Basin.

Bad River, Wisconsin

- There is no known watershed model of the Bad River Basin.
- Problems that exist in the watershed include nonpoint-nutrient generation and transport, municipal wastewater discharges, erosion and sedimentation, contaminants (copper, zinc, and sulfate) associated with iron-ore mining, flooding, and aquatic-habitat degradation.
- The drainage area of the watershed is 1,061 mi² and is dominated by forested land (79 percent); a large percentage (16 percent) of the watershed is covered by wetlands (Bad River Watershed Association, 2011).

- The surficial deposits of the upper watershed are loamy till; that of the lower watershed are clayey till.
- The watershed characteristics are representative of those found along the western part of the southern and northern shores of Lake Superior.
- Streamflow is monitored at one site on the Bad River near Odanah and at one site on its tributary, the White River near Ashland. Water-quality data are sparse, but the Bad River Watershed Association collects water samples at many sites in the watershed; samples are analyzed for nutrients, dissolved oxygen, and chloride. As part of the GLRI water-quality monitoring program, the USGS site at Odanah was upgraded from a streamflow-monitoring gage to a long-term water-quality monitoring site for sediment and nutrients. In addition, a water sample was collected and analyzed for pesticides, pharmaceuticals, personal-care products, wastewater-indicator compounds, organic compounds, and PCBs.
- The Bad River Watershed Association is a community organization that works to involve citizens in watershed activities. Other groups and agencies, including the Bad River Tribe, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the U.S. Forest Service, are also involved in watershed activities.

Summary

As part of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) during 2009–10, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) proposed the creation of watershed models for up to three Great Lakes tributaries where identifiable water-related problems could be addressed using such a tool. To that end, the USGS first compiled a list of existing watershed models that had been created for United States tributaries to the Great Lakes. At least 17 different types of modeling software have been used to simulate the hydrologic processes in watersheds of tributaries to the Great Lakes. Most of the watershed models were created to meet program needs of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory uses the Large Basin Runoff Model to provide data for the management of the water levels in the Great Lakes by estimating United States and Canadian inflows to the Great Lakes from 121 watersheds. The NOAA National Weather Service uses the Sacramento Soil Moisture Accounting model to predict flows at river forecast sites. The USACE created or funded the creation of models for at least 30 tributaries to the Great Lakes to better understand sediment erosion, transport, and aggradation processes that affect Federal navigation channels and harbors. Many of the USACE hydrologic models have been coupled with hydrodynamic and sediment-transport models that

simulate the processes in the stream and (or) harbor near the mouth of the modeled tributary.

Some models either have been applied or have the capability of being applied across the entire Great Lakes Basin; they are the SPATIally Referenced Regressions On Watershed attributes (SPARROW) model, which was developed by the USGS; the High Impact Targeting (HIT) model and Digital Watershed geographic information system, which were developed by the Institute of Water Research at Michigan State University; the Long-Term Hydrologic Impact Assessment (L-THIA) model, which was developed by researchers at Purdue University; and the Water Erosion Prediction Project (WEPP) model, which was developed by the National Soil Erosion Research Laboratory of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. During 2010, the USGS used the Precipitation-Runoff Modeling System (PRMS) to create a hydrologic model for the Lake Michigan Basin to assess the probable effects of climate change on future groundwater and surface-water resources. Estimated flows generated by the PRMS model and by a Water Availability Tool for Environmental Resources (WATER) model will be linked with nutrient outputs from the USGS SPARROW model to assess the effects that future climate changes might have on nutrient loadings to Lake Michigan and throughout the Great Lakes Basin, respectively. The Analysis of Flows In Networks of CHannels (AFINCH) program was used to support a USGS GLRI project that required estimates of streamflows throughout the Great Lakes Basin to assess the effects that hydrologic alterations resulting from changes in land use or climate conditions might have on aquatic ecosystems.

After compilation of existing watershed models, the next step toward identification of tributary watersheds for modeling was the analysis of geospatial data to identify regional characteristics, including hydrologic soil groups, land-use and land-cover types, and geological characteristics, that were distinct among the regions but applicable to a large area of the Great Lakes Basin. On the basis of this analysis, a watershed within a given region could be selected for modeling with the increased likelihood that parameter values used for the modeled watershed could be transferred to and used in a model for a nearby watershed with similar characteristics. A list of criteria for watershed selection, which includes problems that could be addressed by a watershed model, the existence of streamflow and water-quality data that could be used for model calibration, and the existence of an active watershed association of concerned stakeholders that would be interested in using the model for watershed management and decision making, was generated. Three watersheds in the Great Lakes Basin were identified for future modeling as part of the USGS involvement in the GLRI—the Kalamazoo River Basin in Michigan, the Tonawanda Creek Basin in New York, and the Bad River Basin in Wisconsin. The software program Hydrological Simulation Program-Fortran (HSPF) was selected to simulate the hydrologic, sedimentary, and water-quality processes in these selected watersheds. HSPF is a process-based, continuous-simulation model that

provides a means to evaluate the effects that land-use changes or management practices might have on these processes. The versatility of HSPF, its extensive use by the scientific community, and the ongoing technical support provided by USEPA and USGS also are factors in favor of selecting HSPF for future watershed modeling.

References Cited

- Anderson, Eric, 2006, Snow accumulation and ablation model—SNOW-17: National Weather Service, Office of Hydrologic Development, accessed June 2, 2011, at http://www.nws.noaa.gov/oh/hrl/nwsrfs/users_manual/part2/_pdf/22snow17.pdf.
- Bad River Watershed Association, 2011, Background information, Bad River Watershed Association: Bad River Watershed Association, accessed April 25, 2011, at http://learnscape.org/brwa/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1.
- Bicknell, B.R., Imhoff, J.C., Kittle, J.L., Jr., Jobs, T.H., and Donigan, A.S., Jr., 2001, Hydrological Simulation Program-Fortran, user's manual for version 12: Athens, Ga., U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 873 p., accessed April 15, 2005, at <http://www.epa.gov/docs/ostwater/BASINS/bsnsdocs.html#hsfp>.
- Burnash, R.J.C., 1995, The NWS river forecast system—Catchment modeling, *in* Singh, V.P., ed., Computer models of watershed hydrology: Highlands Ranch, Colo., Water Resources Publications, p. 311–366.
- Croley, T.E., II, 1982, Great Lakes Basins runoff modeling: Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Technical Memorandum ERL GLERL-39, 96 p., accessed December 2, 2010, at ftp://ftp.glerl.noaa.gov/publications/tech_reports/glerl-039/tm-039.pdf.
- Donigan, A.S., Jr., Bicknell, B.R., and Imhoff, J.C., 1995, Hydrological simulation program-Fortran (HSPF), *in* Singh, V.P., ed., Computer models of watershed hydrology: Highlands Ranch, Colo., Water Resources Publications, p. 395–442.
- Great Lakes Commission, 2009, Great Lakes tributary modeling program: Great Lakes Commission, accessed September 10, 2009, at <http://www.glc.org/tributary/>.
- Hoard, C.J., Fowler, K.K., Kim, M.H., Menke, C.D., Morlock, S.E., Peppler, M.C., Rachol, C.M., and Whitehead, M.T., 2010, Flood-inundation maps for a 15-mile reach of the Kalamazoo River from Marshall to Battle Creek, Michigan: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Map 3135, 6 p. pamphlet, 6 sheets, scale 1:100,000.

8 Compilation of Watershed Models for Tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, as of 2010

- Holtschlag, D.J., 2009, Application guide for AFINCH (analysis of flows in networks of channels) described by NHDPlus: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2009–5188, 106 p. (Also available at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2009/5188/pdf/sir20095188.pdf>.)
- Hunt, Randy, 2010, Forecasting Great Lakes Basin responses to future change: U.S. Geological Survey, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, accessed November 15, 2010, at http://cida.usgs.gov/glri/projects/accountability/responses_future_change.html.
- Institute of Water Research, 2011a, HIT—High impact targeting: Institute of Water Research, Michigan State University, accessed February 1, 2011, at <http://www.iwr.msu.edu/hit/>.
- Institute of Water Research, 2011b, Digital watershed: Institute of Water Research, Michigan State University, accessed February 1, 2011, at <http://www.iwr.msu.edu/dw/>.
- Institute of Water Research, 2011c, HIT (High impact targeting) —A tool for optimizing sedimentation reduction efforts in the Great Lakes Basin: Institute of Water Research, Michigan State University, accessed May 20, 2011, at <http://35.9.116.206/hit2/home.htm>.
- Kalamazoo River Watershed Council, 2011, Partnership agreement: Kalamazoo River Watershed Council, accessed April 25, 2011, at <http://www.kalamazooriver.org/content/view/38/51/>.
- Kieser and Associates, 2001, Non-point source modeling of phosphorus loads in the Kalamazoo River/ Lake Allegan watershed for a total maximum daily load: Kieser and Associates, 59 p., accessed April 25, 2011, at <http://www.kalamazooriver.net/tmdl/docs/Final%20Report.pdf>.
- Kieser and Associates, 2011, Watershed and lake management—Kalamazoo River watershed modeling and build-out analysis: Kieser and Associates, accessed April 22, 2011, at <http://kieser-associates.com/inside.php?a=PG:590>.
- Leavesley, G.H., Lichty, R.W., Troutman, B.M., and Saindon, L.G., 1983, Precipitation-runoff modeling system—User’s manual: U.S. Geological Survey Water-Resources Investigations Report 83–4238, 207 p.
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2009a, Large basin runoff model (LBRM): Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, accessed September 11, 2009, at <http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/res/Programs/pep/dlbrm/lbrm.html>.
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2009b, Distributed large basin runoff model: Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, accessed September 11, 2009, at <http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/res/Programs/pep/dlbrm/dlbrm.html>.
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2010, Next generation large basin runoff models: Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, accessed July 16, 2010, at http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/res/Task_rpts/2000/wrcroley05-6.html.
- National Weather Service, 2011a, River forecast centers: National Weather Service, accessed May 26, 2011, at <http://water.weather.gov/ahps/rfc/rfc.php>.
- National Weather Service, 2011b, Advanced hydrologic prediction service: National Weather Service, accessed May 26, 2011, at <http://water.weather.gov/ahps/>.
- Preston, S.D., Alexander, R.B., Woodside, M.D., and Hamilton, P.A., 2009, SPARROW MODELING—Enhancing understanding of the Nation’s water quality: U.S. Geological Survey Fact Sheet 2009–3019, 6 p. (Also available at http://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2009/3019/pdf/fs_2009_3019.pdf.)
- Purdue University, 2011, Impacts of land use change on water resources: Long-term hydrologic impact analysis (L–THIA): College of Engineering, Purdue University, accessed February 1, 2011, at <https://engineering.purdue.edu/~lthia/>.
- Reeves, H.W., 2010, Watershed modeling for stream ecosystem management: U.S. Geological Survey, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, accessed November 15, 2010, at http://cida.usgs.gov/glri/projects/accountability/watershed_modeling.html.
- Renard, K.G., Foster, G.R., Weesies, G.A., McCool, D.K., Yoder, D.C., 1997, Predicting soil erosion by water—A guide to conservation planning with the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation (RUSLE): United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, Agricultural Handbook No. 703, 385 p., accessed March 15, 2011, at http://www.ars.usda.gov/SP2UserFiles/Place/64080530/RUSLE/AH_703.pdf.
- Robertson, D.M., and Saad, D.A., 2011, Nutrient inputs to the Laurentian Great Lakes by source and watershed estimated using SPARROW watershed models: Journal of the American Water Resources Association, DOI no. 10.1111/j.1752-1688.2011.00574.x.

- Schwarz, G.E., Hoos, A.B., Alexander, R.B., and Smith, R.A., 2006, The SPARROW surface water-quality model—Theory, application and user documentation: U.S. Geological Survey Techniques and Methods, book 6, section B, chap. 3 (online only), accessed March 22, 2011, at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/tm/2006/tm6b3/>.
- Tonawanda Creek Watershed Committee, 2011, Tonawanda Creek Watershed: Tonawanda Creek Watershed Committee, accessed April 25, 2011, at http://www.wcswcd.org/images/uploads/Tonawanda_Creek_Brochure.pdf.
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 2005, Great Lakes tributary modeling program—Status report: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 82 p., accessed March 30, 2011, at <http://www.lrb.usace.army.mil/missions/516%20fact.pdf>.
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 2006, Great Lakes tributary modeling: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, accessed December 3, 2010, at <http://www.lrb.usace.army.mil/missions/516%20fact.pdf>.
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 2010, Great Lakes navigation: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, accessed December 2, 2010, at <http://www.lrd.usace.army.mil/navigation/glnavigation/>.
- U.S. Congress, 1996, Water resources development act of 1996: Public Law 104–303, 136 p., accessed February 4, 2011, at <http://www.fws.gov/habitatconservation/Omnibus/WRDA1996.pdf>.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1986, Urban hydrology for small watersheds TR–55: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Technical Release 55, 164 p., accessed May 19, 2011, at <http://www.cpesec.org/reference/tr55.pdf>.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2010, Water erosion prediction project (WEPP): U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, National Soil Erosion Research Laboratory, accessed November 15, 2011, at <http://www.ars.usda.gov/Research/docs.htm?docid=10621>.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2011a, Soil and water assessment tool (SWAT): Temple, Tex., U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, Grassland, Soil and Water Research Laboratory, accessed February 4, 2011, at <http://swatmodel.tamu.edu/>.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2011b, Agricultural non-point source pollution model: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, accessed February 4, 2011, at http://www.wsi.nrcs.usda.gov/products/w2q/h&h/tools_models/agnps/index.html.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2010, Great Lakes areas of concern: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, accessed December 1, 2010, at <http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/aoc/>.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2011a, National hydrography dataset plus: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, accessed May 24, 2011, at <http://www.horizon-systems.com/nhdplus/>.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2011b, Great Lakes areas of concern—Kalamazoo River area of concern: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, accessed April 25, 2011, at <http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/aoc/kalriv.html>.
- U.S. Geological Survey, 2010a, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative: U.S. Geological Survey, accessed December 1, 2010, at <http://cida.usgs.gov/glri/>.
- U.S. Geological Survey, 2010b, SPARROW Surface water-quality modeling: U.S. Geological Survey, accessed November 15, 2010, at <http://water.usgs.gov/nawqa/sparrow/>.
- U.S. Geological Survey, 2011a, PRMS, Precipitation–runoff modeling system: U.S. Geological Survey, accessed March 22, 2011, at <http://water.usgs.gov/software/PRMS/>.
- U.S. Geological Survey, 2011b, WATER–Water availability tool for environmental resources: U.S. Geological Survey, accessed April 13, 2011, at <http://ky.water.usgs.gov/projects/waterbudget/index.html>.
- Washington State University, 2011, Water erosion prediction project (WEPP): Washington State University, Department of Biological Systems Engineering, accessed May 19, 2011, at <http://134.121.202.207/wepp/> [Login: weppwsu; password: nserl].
- White House Council on Environmental Quality and others, 2010, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan: 41 p., accessed December 1, 2010, at http://greatlakesrestoration.us/action/wp-content/uploads/glri_actionplan.pdf.
- Williamson, T.N., Odom, K.R., Newson, J.K., Downs, A.C., Nelson Jr., H.L., Cinotto, P.J., and Ayers, M.A., 2009, The Water Availability Tool for Environmental Resources (WATER)—A water-budget modeling approach for managing water-supply resources in Kentucky—Phase I—Data processing, model development, and application to non-karst areas: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2009–5248, 34 p.

10 Compilation of Watershed Models for Tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, as of 2010

Table 1. Tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, with existing watershed models, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Areas of Concern, and (or) U.S. Geological Survey water-quality monitoring sites for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, as of 2010.

[USACE, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; NOAA, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; GLERL, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory ; DLBRM, Distributed Large Basin Runoff Model; USEPA, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; USGS, U.S. Geological Survey; GLRI, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative; U, model under development; X, model exists or condition applies for given tributary; L, long-term, year-round monitoring for nutrients, sediment, chloride, and physical parameters; O, one sample for anthropogenic contaminants, including pesticides, pharmaceuticals, personal-care products, wastewater-indicator compounds, and other organic compounds; HUC, hydrologic unit code; --, no data. State abbreviations: MN, Minnesota; WI, Wisconsin; MI, Michigan; IL, Illinois; IN, Indiana; OH, Ohio, PA, Pennsylvania; NY, New York]

Tributary	State	USACE model (See table 2)	NOAA GLERL DLBRM model	Other models (See table 2)	USEPA Area of Concern	USGS GLRI water-quality monitoring
Lake Superior						
Bad River	WI	--	--	--	--	L/O
Deer Lake / Carp River	MI	--	--	--	X	--
Knife River	MN	U	--	--	--	--
Knowlton Creek	MN	U	--	--	--	--
Montreal River	WI	--	--	--	--	O
Nemadji River	MN–WI	X	--	--	X	O
Ontonagon River	MI	--	--	--	--	L/O
Pigeon River	MN	--	--	--	--	O
Presque Isle River	MI	--	--	--	--	O
St. Louis River	MN	--	--	--	X	L/O
Sturgeon River	MI	--	--	--	--	O
Tahquamenon River	MI	--	X	--	--	O
Torch Lake	MI	--	--	--	X	--
White River	WI	--	--	--	--	O
Whittlesy Creek	WI	X	--	--	--	--
Lake Michigan						
Battle Creek	MI	X	--	--	--	--
Boardman River–Lake Charlevoix (HUC 04060105)	MI	--	--	X	--	--
Burns Ditch	IN	X	--	--	--	L/O
Escanaba River	MI	--	--	--	--	O
Ford River	MI	--	--	--	--	L/O
Fox River (Wolf River)	WI	--	X	X	X	L/O
Fremont Lake Basin (Brooks Creek)	MI	--	--	X	--	--
Galien River	MI	--	X	--	--	--
Grand Calumet River	IN	X	--	--	X	--
Grand River	MI	X	X	--	--	L/O
Indiana Harbor Canal	IN	--	--	--	--	L/O
Kalamazoo River	MI	--	X	X	X	L/O
Kinnickinnic River	WI	--	--	X	--	--
Kintzele Ditch	IN	--	X	--	--	--
Manistique River	MI	--	--	--	X	O
Manistee River	MI	--	--	--	--	O
Manitowoc River	WI	U	--	U	--	L/O
Menominee River	WI–MI	--	--	--	X	L/O
Menomonee River	WI	X	--	X	--	--

Table 1. Tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, with existing watershed models, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Areas of Concern, and (or) U.S. Geological Survey water-quality monitoring sites for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, as of 2010.

—Continued

[USACE, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; NOAA, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; GLERL, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory; DLBRM, Distributed Large Basin Runoff Model; USEPA, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; USGS, U.S. Geological Survey; GLRI, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative; U, model under development; X, model exists or condition applies for given tributary; L, long-term, year-round monitoring for nutrients, sediment, chloride, and physical parameters; O, one sample for anthropogenic contaminants, including pesticides, pharmaceuticals, personal-care products, wastewater-indicator compounds, and other organic compounds; HUC, hydrologic unit code; --, no data. State abbreviations: MN, Minnesota; WI, Wisconsin; MI, Michigan; IL, Illinois; IN, Indiana; OH, Ohio, PA, Pennsylvania; NY, New York]

Tributary	State	USACE model (See table 2)	NOAA GLERL DLBRM model	Other models (See table 2)	USEPA Area of Concern	USGS GLRI water- quality monitoring
Lake Michigan						
Milwaukee River	WI	--	X	X	X	L/O
Mona Lake Basin (Black Creek)	MI	--	--	X	--	--
Muskegon Lake	MI	--	--	--	X	--
Muskegon River	MI	--	X	X	--	L/O
Oak Creek	WI	--	--	X	--	--
Oconto River	WI	--	--	--	--	O
Paw Paw River	MI	--	--	X	--	O
Pere Marquette River	MI	--	--	--	--	O
Peshigo River	WI	--	--	--	--	O
Platte River	MI	--	--	X	--	--
Root River	WI	--	--	X	--	--
Sheboygan River	WI	--	--	--	X	O
Spring Lake Basin (Norris Creek)	MI	--	--	X	--	--
St. Joseph River	MI	X	X	X	--	L/O
Trail Creek	IN	X	X	--	--	--
Waukegan River/Harbor	IL	X	--	--	X	--
White Lake	MI	--	--	--	X	--
White River	MI	--	--	--	--	O
Lake Huron						
Au Gres - Rifle Rivers (HUC 04080101)	MI	--	X	X	--	--
Au Sable River	MI	--	--	--	--	L/O
Cass River	MI	--	--	X	--	--
Cheboygan River	MI	--	--	--	--	O
Flint River	MI	--	--	X	--	--
Indian River	MI	--	--	--	--	O
Kawkawlin-Pine Rivers (HUC 04080102)	MI	--	X	X	--	--
Pigeon-Wiscoggin Rivers (HUC 04080103)	MI	--	X	X	--	--
Pine River (HUC 04080202)	MI	--	--	X	--	--
Rifle River	MI	--	--	--	--	L/O
Saginaw River	MI	X	X	X	X	L/O
Sebewaing River	MI	X	--	--	--	--
Shiawassee River (HUC 04080203)	MI	--	--	X	--	--
St. Marys River	MI	--	--	--	X	--
Thunder Bay River	MI	--	--	--	--	O
Tittabawassee River (HUC 04080201)	MI	--	--	X	--	--

12 Compilation of Watershed Models for Tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, as of 2010

Table 1. Tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, with existing watershed models, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Areas of Concern, and (or) U.S. Geological Survey water-quality monitoring sites for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, as of 2010.
—Continued

[USACE, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; NOAA, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; GLERL, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory ; DLBRM, Distributed Large Basin Runoff Model; USEPA, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; USGS, U.S. Geological Survey; GLRI, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative; U, model under development; X, model exists or condition applies for given tributary; L, long-term, year-round monitoring for nutrients, sediment, chloride, and physical parameters; O, one sample for anthropogenic contaminants, including pesticides, pharmaceuticals, personal-care products, wastewater-indicator compounds, and other organic compounds; HUC, hydrologic unit code; --, no data. State abbreviations: MN, Minnesota; WI, Wisconsin; MI, Michigan; IL, Illinois; IN, Indiana; OH, Ohio, PA, Pennsylvania; NY, New York]

Tributary	State	USACE model (See table 2)	NOAA GLERL DLBRM model	Other models (See table 2)	USEPA Area of Concern	USGS GLRI water-quality monitoring
Detroit River and Lake St. Clair						
Belle River	MI	--	--	X	--	--
Black River	MI	--	--	X	--	O
Clinton River	MI	X	X	X	X	L/O
Detroit River	MI	--	--	--	X	--
Huron River	MI	--	X	X	--	L/O
Pine River (HUC 0409000103)	MI	--	--	X	--	--
River Rouge (Rouge River)	MI	--	X	--	X	L/O
St. Clair River	MI	--	--	--	X	--
Lake Erie						
Ashtabula River	OH	--	X	--	X	--
Auglaize River	OH	X	--	--	--	--
Black River	OH	X	X	--	X	L/O
Blanchard River	OH	X	--	--	--	--
Buffalo River	NY	X	X	X	X	--
Cattaraugus Creek	NY	X	X	--	--	L/O
Cayuga Creek	NY	X	--	--	--	--
Chagrin River	OH	--	X	X	--	--
Conneaut Creek	OH	--	X	--	--	--
Cuyahoga River	OH	X	X	--	X	L/O
Grand River	OH	X	X	--	--	O
Lower Maumee River / Harbor	OH	X	--	X	--	--
Maumee River	OH	X	X	X	X	L/O
Mill Creek / Cascade Creek	PA	X	--	--	--	--
Ottawa River	OH	--	X	--	--	--
Portage River	OH	--	X	--	--	L/O
Presque Isle Bay	PA	--	--	--	X	--
River Raisin	MI	X	X	--	X	L/O
Rocky River	OH	--	X	--	--	L/O
Sandusky River	OH	X	X	--	--	O
Stony Creek	MI	--	X	--	--	--
Swan Creek	OH	X	--	--	--	--
Tiffin River (Bean Creek)	OH	--	--	X	--	--
Vermilion River	OH	--	X	--	--	O

Table 1. Tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, with existing watershed models, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Areas of Concern, and (or) U.S. Geological Survey water-quality monitoring sites for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, as of 2010.
—Continued

[USACE, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; NOAA, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; GLERL, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory ; DLBRM, Distributed Large Basin Runoff Model; USEPA, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; USGS, U.S. Geological Survey; GLRI, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative; U, model under development; X, model exists or condition applies for given tributary; L, long-term, year-round monitoring for nutrients, sediment, chloride, and physical parameters; O, one sample for anthropogenic contaminants, including pesticides, pharmaceuticals, personal-care products, wastewater-indicator compounds, and other organic compounds; HUC, hydrologic unit code; --, no data. State abbreviations: MN, Minnesota; WI, Wisconsin; MI, Michigan; IL, Illinois; IN, Indiana; OH, Ohio, PA, Pennsylvania; NY, New York]

Tributary	State	USACE model (See table 2)	NOAA GLERL DLBRM model	Other models (See table 2)	USEPA Area of Concern	USGS GLRI water- quality monitoring
Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence River						
Black River	NY	--	--	--	--	O
Eighteenmile Creek	NY	X	--	--	X	--
Genesee River	NY	X	X	X	X	L/O
Grass River	NY	--	--	--	--	O
Irondequoit Creek	NY	--	--	X	--	--
Niagara River	NY	--	--	--	X	--
Oak Orchard Creek	NY	X	--	--	--	--
Onondaga Lake Basin	NY	--	--	X	--	--
Oswegatchie River	NY	--	--	--	--	O
Oswego River	NY	--	--	--	delisted	L/O
Raquette River	NY	--	--	--	--	O
St. Lawrence River at Massena	NY	--	--	--	X	--
St. Regis River	NY	--	--	--	--	L/O
Tonawanda Creek	NY	--	--	--	--	O

Table 2. Watershed models and selected hydraulic, sediment, and (or) water-quality models for tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, as of 2010.

[Model software names are identified at their first use along with their abbreviations (in **bold** print), which are used thereafter. NOAA-GLERL, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory; USACE, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; HUC, hydrologic unit code; IWR-MSU, Institute of Water Research, Michigan State University; MDEQ, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality; SUNY, State University of New York. State abbreviations: MN, Minnesota; WI, Wisconsin; MI, Michigan; IL, Illinois; IN, Indiana; OH, Ohio, PA, Pennsylvania; NY, New York]

Models applicable to the entire Great Lakes Basin			
Large Basin Runoff Model (LBRM) to estimate inflows to the Great Lakes; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory			
High Impact Targeting (HIT) to predict soil losses in agricultural areas; Institute of Water Research, Michigan State University			
Long-Term Hydrologic Impact Assessment (L-THIA) to estimate runoff and pollutant loads in urban areas; College of Engineering, Purdue University			
Water Erosion Prediction Project (WEPP) to estimate sediment loads in cropland, rangeland, and disturbed forest areas; U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service and Washington State University			
Spatially Referenced Regressions On Watershed attributes (SPARROW) to estimate nutrient yields; U.S. Geological Survey			
Water Availability Tool for Environmental Resources (WATER) to estimate daily streamflows; U.S. Geological Survey			
Analysis of Flows In Networks of Channels (AFINCH) to estimate time series of monthly flows; U.S. Geological Survey			
Model applicable to entire Lake Michigan Basin			
Precipitation-Runoff Modeling System (PRMS); U.S. Geological Survey			
Models applicable to a specific tributary watershed			
[The following list does not include those tributaries for which the National Weather Service has created models to predict streamflows and water levels at their river forecast sites.]			
Tributary (State)	Model software	Model creator	Federal program
	Completed models		
Ashtabula River (OH)	Distributed Large Basin Runoff Model (DLBRM)	NOAA-GLERL	NOAA
Auglaize River (OH)	Agricultural Non-Point Source Pollution model (AGNPS)	Toledo Harbor AGNPS Project Team	USACE
Au Gres - Rifle Rivers (MI) (HUC 04080101)	DLBRM; Soil and Water Assessment Tool (SWAT); Long-Term Hydrologic Impact Assessment (L-THIA)	NOAA-GLERL; IWR-MSU; MDEQ	NOAA
Battle Creek (MI)	SWAT	Baird & Associates	USACE
Belle River (MI)	Pollutant Loading (PLOAD)	U.S. Geological Survey	
Blanchard River (OH)	Annualized Agricultural Non-Point Source Pollution model (AnnAGNPS)	LimnoTech	USACE
Black River (MI)	PLOAD	U.S. Geological Survey	
Black River (OH)	DLBRM; SWAT	NOAA-GLERL; Tetra Tech	NOAA; USACE
Boardman River - Lake Charlevoix (MI) (HUC 04060105)	Integrated Landscape Hydrology Model (ILHM)	Michigan State University	

Table 2. Watershed models and selected hydraulic, sediment, and (or) water-quality models for tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, as of 2010.—Continued

[Model software names are identified at their first use along with their abbreviations (in **bold** print), which are used thereafter. NOAA-GLERL, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory; USACE, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; HUC, hydrologic unit code; IWR-MSU, Institute of Water Research, Michigan State University; MDEQ, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality; SUNY, State University of New York. State abbreviations: MN, Minnesota; WI, Wisconsin; MI, Michigan; IL, Illinois; IN, Indiana; OH, Ohio, PA, Pennsylvania; NY, New York]

Models applicable to a specific tributary watershed —Continued			
Tributary (State)	Model software	Model creator	Federal program
	Completed models		
Fox River (WI)	DLBRM; SWAT; High-Impact Targeting (HIT) and L-THIA; Water-quality analysis program (WASP4 ; PCB transport model); ECOMSED; FoxSim (polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) fate and transport model)	NOAA; University of Wisconsin, Green Bay; IWR-MSU + Purdue University; U.S. Geological Survey; Baird & Associates; LimnoTech	NOAA
Fremont Lake Basin (Brooks Creek, MI)	PLOYD, L-THIA Nonpoint Source Pollutant (LTHIA-NPS), and Impervious Surface Assessment Tool (ISAT)	Grand Valley State University, MI	
Galien River (MI)	DLBRM	NOAA-GLERL	NOAA
Genesee River (NY)	DLBRM; SWAT;	NOAA-GLERL; USACE - Buffalo plus Cornell University;	NOAA; USACE
Grand Calumet (IN)	HIT and L-THIA HSPF plus Special Contributing Area Loading Program (SCALP) and HEC-RAS	IWR-MSU plus Purdue University USACE - Chicago	USACE
Grand River (OH)	DLBRM; SWAT (sediment model upgraded to simulate nutrients)	NOAA-GLERL; University of Michigan	NOAA; USACE
Grand River (MI)	DLBRM; SWAT	NOAA-GLERL; Baird & Associates	NOAA; USACE
Huron River (MI)	DLBRM; SWAT; HSPF	NOAA-GLERL; University of Michigan; Tetra Tech	NOAA
Irondequoit Creek (NY)	HSPF	U.S. Geological Survey	
Kalamazoo River (MI)	DLBRM; L-THIA	NOAA-GLERL; Kieser & Associates	NOAA
Kawkawlin-Pine Rivers (MI) (HUC 04080102)	DLBRM; SWAT; L-THIA	NOAA-GLERL; IWR-MSU; MDEQ	NOAA

[The following list does not include those tributaries for which the National Weather Service has created models to predict streamflows and water levels at their river forecast sites.]

Table 2. Watershed models and selected hydraulic, sediment, and (or) water-quality models for tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, as of 2010.—Continued

[Model software names are identified at their first use along with their abbreviations (in **bold** print), which are used thereafter. NOAA-GLERL, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory; USACE, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; HUC, hydrologic unit code; IWR-MSU, Institute of Water Research, Michigan State University; MDEQ, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality; SUNY, State University of New York. State abbreviations: MN, Minnesota; WI, Wisconsin; MI, Michigan; IL, Illinois; IN, Indiana; OH, Ohio, PA, Pennsylvania; NY, New York]

Models applicable to a specific tributary watershed —Continued			
Tributary (State)	Model software	Model creator	Federal program
	Completed models		
Kinnickinnic River (WI)	HSPF	Tetra Tech	
Kintzele Ditch (IN)	DLBRM	NOAA-GLERL	NOAA
Lower Maumee River / Harbor (OH)	Advanced Aquatic Ecosystem Model (A2EM) and EFDC; High-resolution HIT using 10-meter Digital Elevation Model (DEM)	LimnoTech; IWR-MSU	USACE
Maumee River (OH)	DLBRM; SWAT (sediment model upgraded to simulate nutrients); HIT and L-THIA	NOAA-GLERL; University of Michigan; IWR-MSU + Purdue University	NOAA; USACE
Menomonee River (WI)	BASINS-HSPF and HEC-6 (scour and deposition model); HSPF	Baird & Associates; Tetra Tech	USACE
Mill Creek / Cascade Creek (PA)	BASINS-SWAT	Gannon University, PA	USACE
Milwaukee River (WI)	DLBRM; HSPF	NOAA-GLERL; Tetra Tech	NOAA
Mona Lake Basin (Black Creek, MI)	Hydrologic Engineering Center Hydrologic Modeling System (HEC-HMS) and HYDROL-INF (infiltration and runoff, Windows-based hydrologic modeling system)	Grand Valley State University, MI	
Muskegon River (MI)	DLBRM; HSPF and Great Lakes Ecosystem model (GLECO); Muskegon River Ecological Modeling System (including ILHM, MODFLOW (3D groundwater-flow model), HEC-HMS, HEC-RAS, and Generalized Watershed Loading Function (GWLFF))	NOAA-GLERL; LimnoTech; Muskegon Watershed Research Partnership	NOAA
Nemadji River (MN, WI)	Nemadji Sediment Transport Modeling System (MIKE-11 rainfall-runoff and hydrodynamic models and ArcView geographic information system (GIS) sediment-transport model)	Baird & Associates	USACE
Oak Creek (WI)	HSPF	Tetra Tech	
Oak Orchard Creek (NY)	SWAT	SUNY - Brockport	USACE
Onondaga Lake Basin (NY)	HSPF	U.S. Geological Survey	

[The following list does not include those tributaries for which the National Weather Service has created models to predict streamflows and water levels at their river forecast sites.]

Table 2. Watershed models and selected hydraulic, sediment, and (or) water-quality models for tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, as of 2010.—Continued

[Model software names are identified at their first use along with their abbreviations (in **bold** print), which are used thereafter. NOAA-GLERL, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory; USACE, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; HUC, hydrologic unit code; IWR-MSU, Institute of Water Research, Michigan State University; MDEQ, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality; SUNY, State University of New York. State abbreviations: MN, Minnesota; WI, Wisconsin; MI, Michigan; IL, Illinois; IN, Indiana; OH, Ohio, PA, Pennsylvania; NY, New York]

Models applicable to a specific tributary watershed —Continued			
Tributary (State)	Model software	Model creator	Federal program
Ontonagon River (MI)	SWAT	South Dakota State University, Brookings plus University of Oregon, Eugene	
Ottawa River (OH)	DLBRM	NOAA-GLERL	NOAA
Paw Paw River (MI)	SWAT and L-THIA	Kieser & Associates	
Pigeon- Wiscoggin Rivers (MI) (HUC 04080103)	DLBRM; SWAT; L-THIA	NOAA-GLERL; IWR-MSU; MDEQ	NOAA
Pine River (MI; HUC 04080202, tributary to Tittabawassee River)	SWAT; L-THIA	IWR-MSU; MDEQ	
Pine River (MI; HUC 0409000103, tributary to St. Clair River)	PLOAD	U.S. Geological Survey	
Platte River (MI)	HSPF	LimnoTech	
Portage River (OH)	DLBRM	NOAA-GLERL	NOAA
Rifle River (MI)	DLBRM; SWAT	NOAA_GLERL; IWR-MSU	NOAA
River Raisin (MI)	DLBRM; SWAT (sediment model upgraded to simulate nutrients)	NOAA-GLERL; University of Michigan	NOAA; USACE
River Rouge (Rouge River, MI)	DLBRM	NOAA-GLERL	NOAA
Rocky River (OH)	DLBRM	NOAA-GLERL	NOAA
Root River (WI)	HSPF	Tetra Tech	
Saginaw River (MI)	DLBRM; AGNPS plus HEC-6 and MIKE-21 (hydrodynamic sediment-transport model for lakes and coastal environments); SWAT; HIT and L-THIA; L-THIA	NOAA-GLERL; Baird & Associates; IWR-MSU ; IWR-MSU plus Purdue University; MDEQ	NOAA; USACE

[The following list does not include those tributaries for which the National Weather Service has created models to predict streamflows and water levels at their river forecast sites.]

Table 2. Watershed models and selected hydraulic, sediment, and (or) water-quality models for tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, as of 2010.—Continued

[Model software names are identified at their first use along with their abbreviations (in **bold** print), which are used thereafter. NOAA-GLERL, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory; USACE, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; HUC, hydrologic unit code; IWR-MSU, Institute of Water Research, Michigan State University; MDEQ, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality; SUNY, State University of New York. State abbreviations: MN, Minnesota; WI, Wisconsin; MI, Michigan; IL, Illinois; IN, Indiana; OH, Ohio, PA, Pennsylvania; NY, New York]

Models applicable to a specific tributary watershed —Continued			
Tributary (State)	Model software	Model creator	Federal program
	Completed models		
Sandusky River (OH)	DLBRM; SWAT (sediment model upgraded to simulate nutrients)	NOAA-GLERL; University of Michigan	NOAA; USACE
Sebewaing River (MI)	SWAT and Channel Stability Tool	Baird & Associates	USACE
Shiawassee River (MI) (HUC 04080203)	SWAT; L-THIA	IWR-MSU; MDEQ	
Spring Lake Basin (Norris Creek, MI)	PLOAD	Grand Valley State University, MI	
St. Joseph River (MI, IN)	DLBRM; St. Joseph River Watershed Modeling System (SWAT and GSSHA for one subbasin plus RMA2 hydrodynamic model and SED-2D sediment transport model near mouth); SWAT; Nonpoint Source model	NOAA-GLERL; Baird & Associates;	NOAA; USACE
Stony Creek (MI)	DLBRM	Kieser & Associates; Kieser & Associates	NOAA
Swan Creek (OH)	HIT, Digital Watershed, and L-THIA	NOAA-GLERL	USACE
Tahquamenon River (MI)	DLBRM	NOAA-GLERL	NOAA
Tiffin River/Bean Creek (OH)	AGNPS	IWR-MSU plus Purdue University Natural Resources Conservation Service	USACE
Tittabawassee River (MI) (HUC 04080201)	SWAT; L-THIA	IWR-MSU; MDEQ	NOAA; USACE
Trail Creek (IN)	DLBRM; Digital Watershed and L-THIA	NOAA-GLERL; IWR-MSU plus Purdue University	NOAA; USACE
Vermilion River (OH)	DLBRM	NOAA-GLERL	NOAA
Waukegan River (IL)	Stormwater Management Model (PCSWMM.NET) and HEC-RAS (sediment transport)	USACE - Chicago	USACE
Whittlesey Creek (WI)	HEC-RAS and Sediment Impact Analysis Methods (SIAM)	USACE - Detroit plus USGS	USACE

[The following list does not include those tributaries for which the National Weather Service has created models to predict streamflows and water levels at their river forecast sites.]

Table 2. Watershed models and selected hydraulic, sediment, and (or) water-quality models for tributaries to the Great Lakes, United States, as of 2010.—Continued

[Model software names are identified at their first use along with their abbreviations (in **bold print**), which are used thereafter. NOAA-GLERL, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory; USACE, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; HUC, hydrologic unit code; IWR-MSU, Institute of Water Research, Michigan State University; MDEQ, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality; SUNY, State University of New York. State abbreviations: MN, Minnesota; WI, Wisconsin; MI, Michigan; IL, Illinois; IN, Indiana; OH, Ohio; PA, Pennsylvania; NY, New York]

Models applicable to a specific tributary watershed —Continued			
Tributary (State)	Model software	Model creator	Federal program
	Model under development		
Knife River (MN)	HSPF	Baird & Associates	USACE
Knowlton Creek (MN)	HEC-HMS	USACE - Detroit	USACE
Manitowoc River (WI)	HIT; SWAT	IWR-MSU; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	USACE
Western Lake Superior tributaries	Channel Stability Tool	Baird & Associates	USACE

[The following list does not include those tributaries for which the National Weather Service has created models to predict streamflows and water levels at their river forecast sites.]

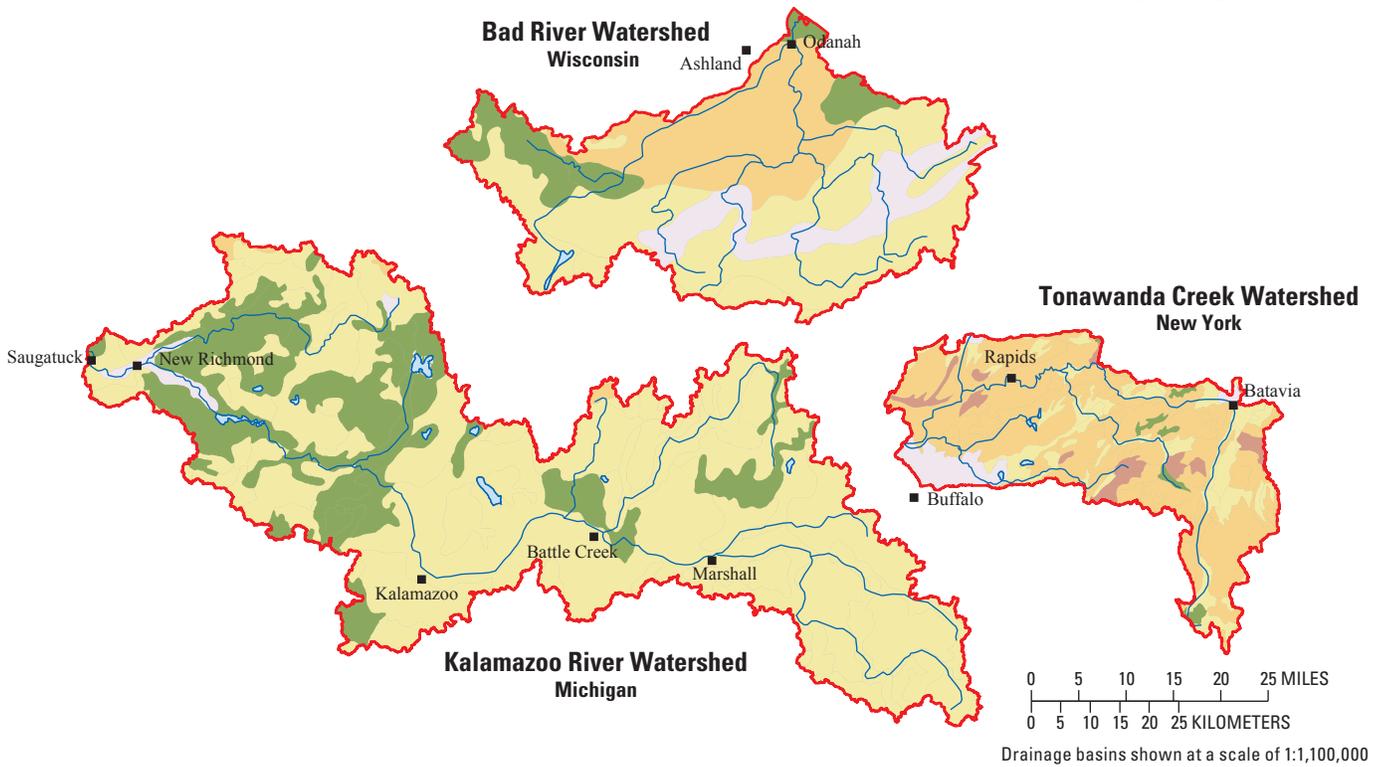


Figure 1. Hydrologic soil groups of the Great Lakes Basin, United States, and three tributary watersheds identified for modeling.

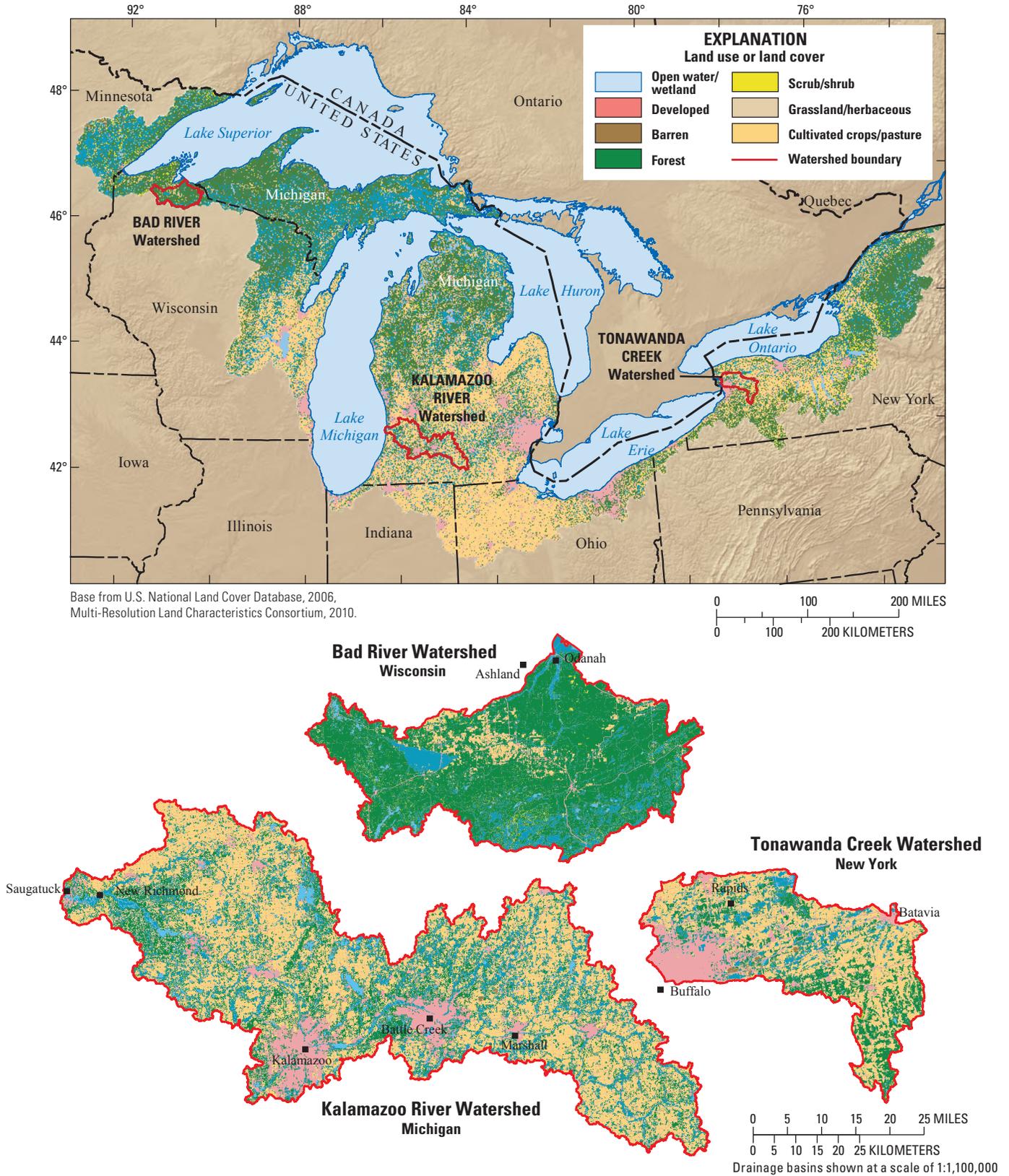
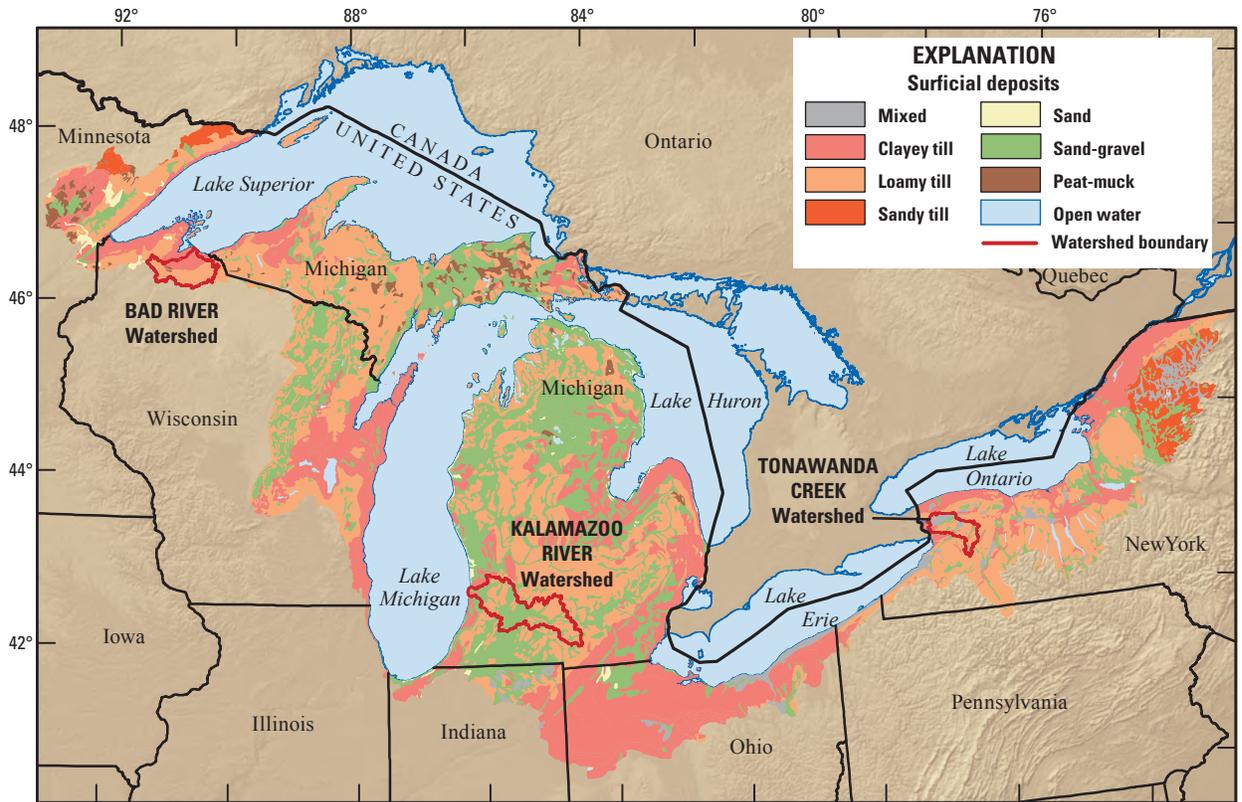
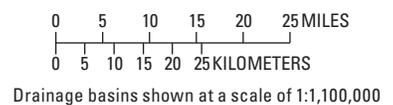
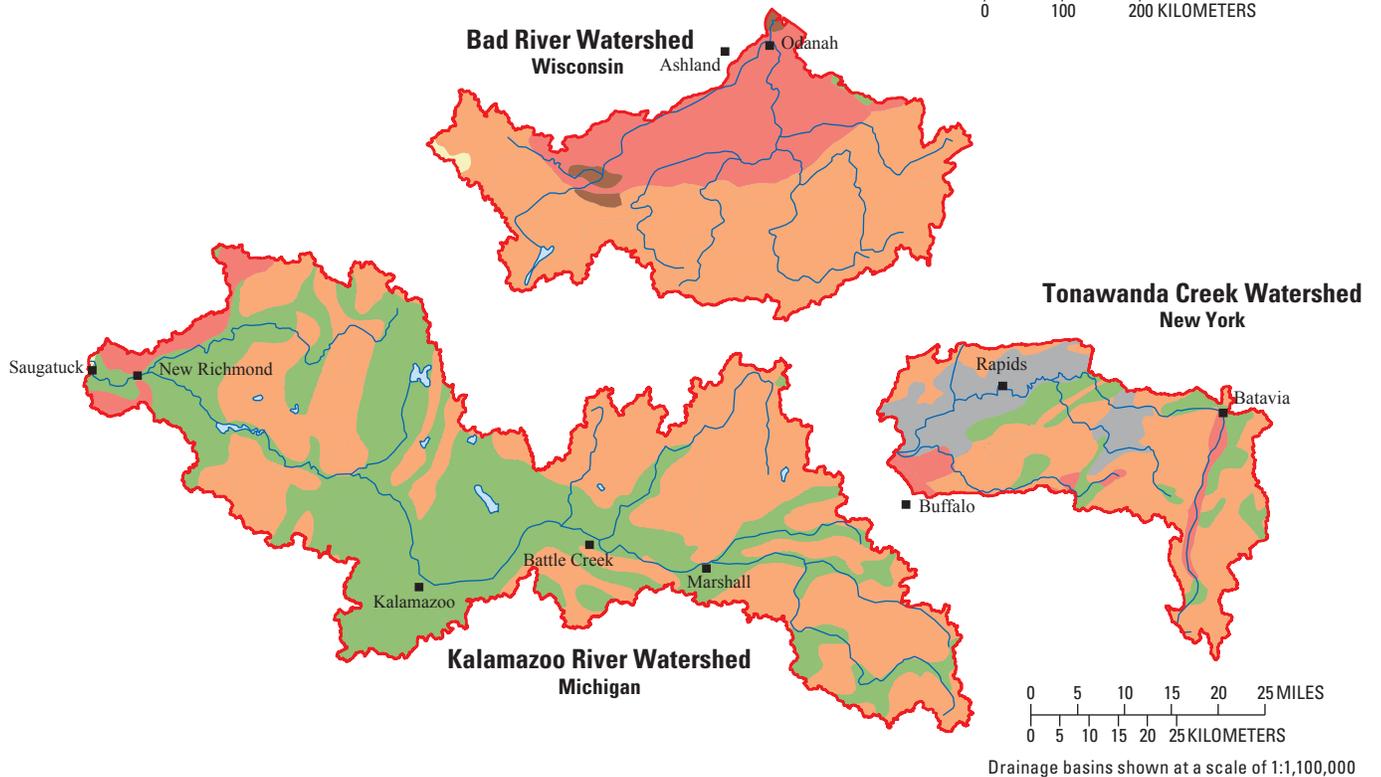
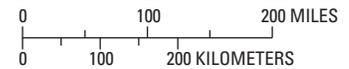


Figure 2. Land uses and land covers of the Great Lakes Basin, United States, and three tributary watersheds identified for modeling.



Base from Surficial Deposits and Materials in the Eastern and Central United States (East of 102° West Longitude), U.S. Geological Survey Geologic Investigation Series I-2789, 2003.



Drainage basins shown at a scale of 1:1,100,000

Figure 3. Surficial deposits of the Great Lakes Basin, United States, and three tributary watersheds identified for modeling.

This page has been left blank intentionally

Prepared by the Pembroke and West Trenton
Publishing Service Centers.

For additional information write to:
New York Water Science Center
U.S. Geological Survey
30 Brown Rd.
Ithaca, NY 14850

Information requests:
(518) 285-5602
or visit our Web site at:
<http://ny.water.usgs.gov>

