



The purpose of watershed prioritization is to develop an index based on a series of identified criteria to prioritize 12-digit HUCs in the North Texas region. This prioritization is meant to be a high-level planning tool that could be helpful in determining areas where focused outreach is needed or programs could be implemented when funding or other resources are available.

Potential Criteria for Watershed Prioritization

1) Potential Risk Categories

Stressor-Biologic

- Unpaved roads
- Agriculture
 - Confined Animal Feeding Operation
 - Cropland
- Vulnerable landscapes (current susceptibility to erosion)

Stressor-Anthropogenic

- Urban/suburban population - Existing and forecasted growth, percent change in growth
 - Impervious surface
 - Percent change over past decade
 - Existing
 - Forecasted (future land use maps)
- Economic activity

2) Priority Conservation Needs and Watershed Value

- Designated use (water uses as defined by the state-see ex. Arkansas Waterbody Uses Attachment)
 1. Extraordinary Resource Waters
 2. Ecologically Sensitive Waterbody
 3. Natural and Scenic Waterways
 4. Primary Contact Recreation (swimmable)
 5. Secondary Contact Recreation (wadable)
 6. Fisheries (fishable)
 7. Domestic Water Supply
 8. Industrial Water Supply
 9. Agricultural Water Supply
- Hydrology, topography and soils conservation priorities
- Wildlife considerations
- Vegetative considerations
- Risk that the land might be developed (Sensitivity of Landscape to Erosion and run-off)
- Regional Ecosystem Framework values

3) Watershed Initiatives Underway

- Recovery Potential Screening Tool Analysis
- Greenprinting Complete or Underway
- Established TMDL
- Watershed Protection Plan
- Implemented Actions