

Farm Ranch and Rural  
Communities Committee Meeting  
Agriculture Producing Solutions  
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# Michigan's Challenges:

Divided Legislature

Skeptical Public

User Groups Not Aligned

Farmers, Manufacturers, Small  
Business, Aggregates, Fishing  
Folk, Food Processers, Cement  
Manufacturing....

Process:

Great Lakes Compact requires  
Water Withdrawal Laws

Ideally adopt both Great Lakes  
Compact and Water  
Withdrawal Laws together



# Water Legislation 2008: Agriculture's Role

- ✓ Compact in law - Diversion's prohibited
  - ✓ Off to Congress.
  - ✓ Water content of products is not a diversion.
  - ✓ Provisions to protect role of Michigan Legislature.
- ✓ Riparian doctrine upheld.
- ✓ Water Use Assessment Tool
  - ✓ Evaluation period.
  - ✓ Science-based.
- ✓ Seasonal use provisions.
- ✓ No fees, no new rules.
- ✓ Existing uses grandfathered.
- ✓ Role for MDA, GAAMPs, Ag Commission.
- ✓ Additional reporting time.
- ✓ Water resources Advisory Council.
- ✓ Allowance for transferring grandfathered uses.





# Groundwater Water Advisory Council Established in Law

Appointments by:

Governor

Majority Leader

Speaker of the House



# Strict Timelines

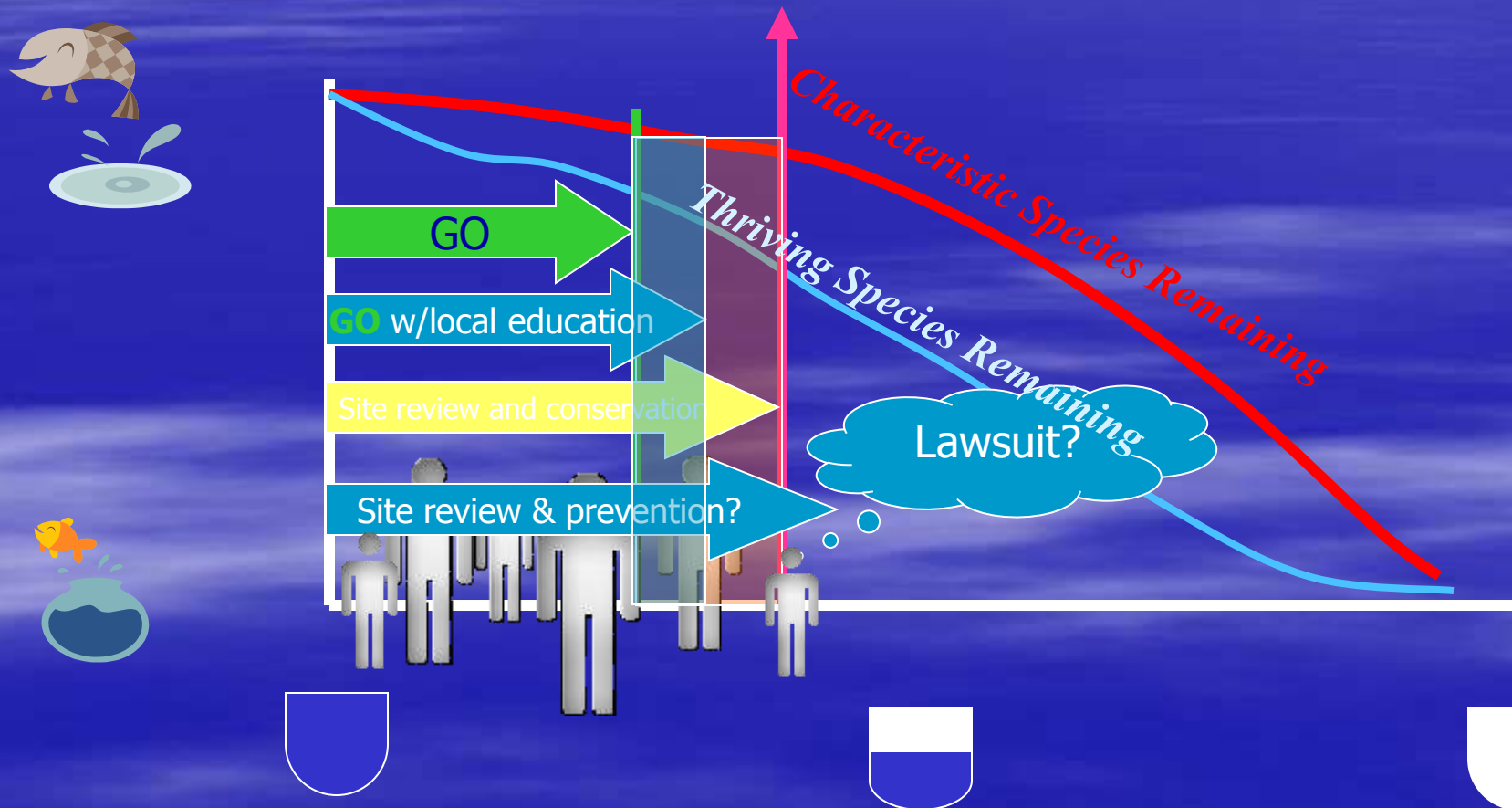
Reports to Senate Standing  
Committee (regularly)

Coordinate with House  
Standing Committee



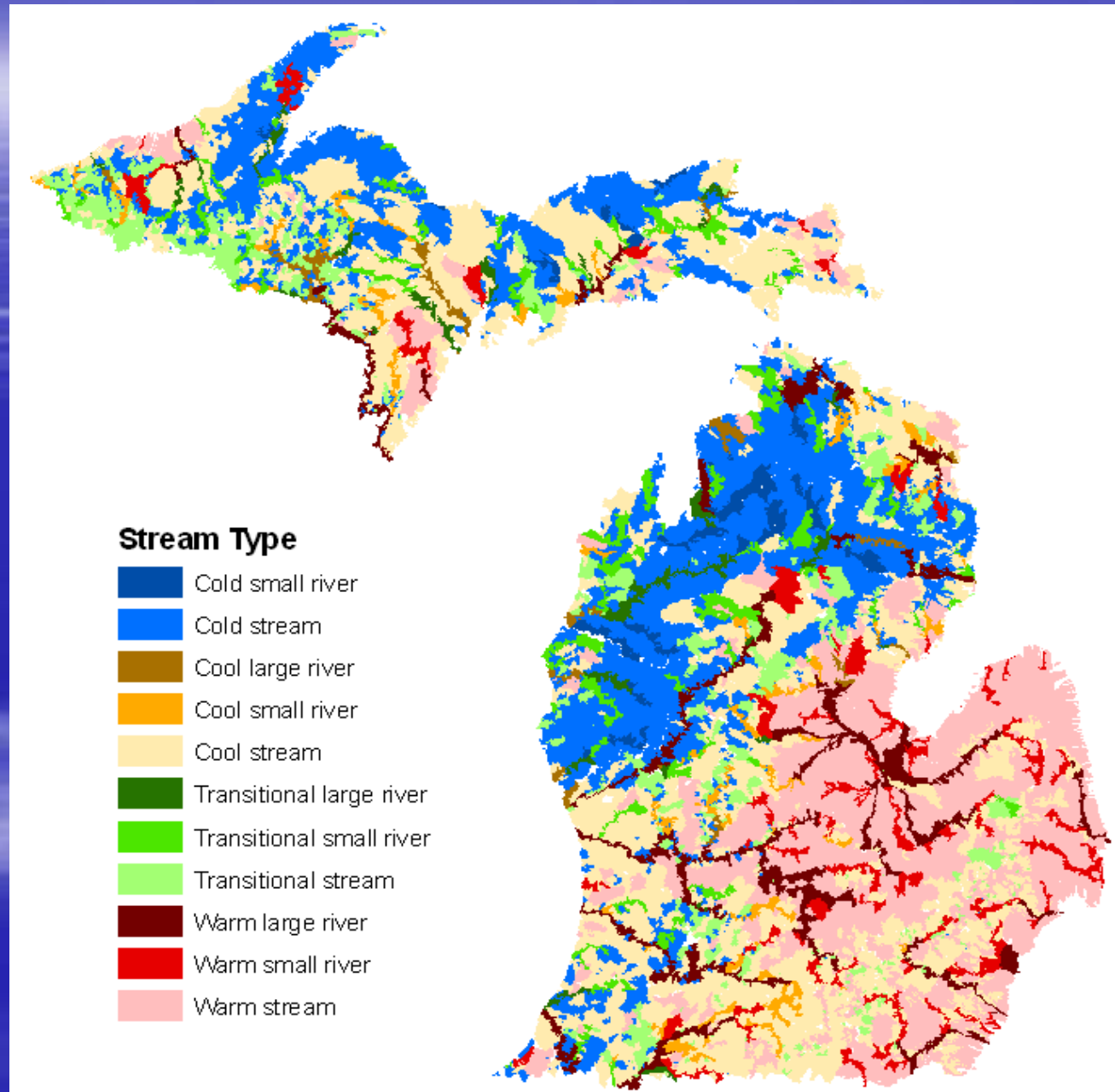
# Determining Impact For New & Expanding Uses

## Adverse Resource Impact



# Stream types

\*Appeals process to NRC





STREAM

SMALL RIVER

LARGE RIVER

COLD



X

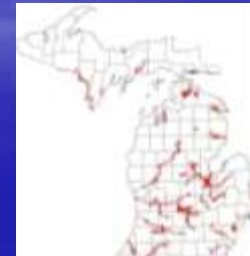
TRANSITIONAL



COOL



WARM





# Renewable Economic Development in a Knowledge- Based Economy:

Includes Science-Based  
Decision-Making



Process Worked

Ongoing Challenges

Cost

Updates

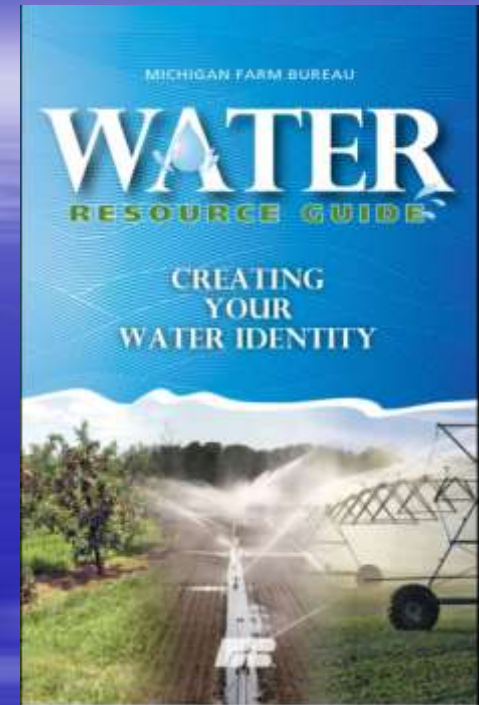
Continued Support

Saboteurs



# What's Next...

- October 1, 2008
  - Tool available for evaluation.
  - Water accounting begins.
- February 1, 2009
  - Water accounting resets.
  - New adverse resource impact definition.
- July 2009
  - Online registration and assessment tool implemented.



*Thank you*

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