








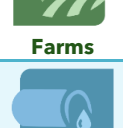



DRAFT PRIORITY ISSUES

These are the priority issues from the topic meetings held July - December 2023 with revisions from January.

Resource Topic	Issue Statement
	<p>Sufficient protection is needed for outstanding resources and sensitive species (i.e., trout, cisco, wild rice, forests) to maintain water quality, native species, wildlife, and plant communities.</p>
 <p>Lakes</p>	<p>Lakeshore alteration from development, conversion of cabins to year-round homes, removal of native vegetation and wake boats impact water quality and shoreline habitat.</p>
 <p>Lakes</p>	<p>Nutrients from lakeshore development, septic systems, internal loading, and land use changes contribute to algal growth along with recreational impairments.</p>
 <p>Forests</p>	<p>Forest health is vulnerable to climate variability, pests, and invasive species which can affect forest diversity and productivity.</p>
 <p>Streams</p>	<p>Riparian alteration and loss of connectivity, from development and land use change increases streambank erosion and temperature of streams in the watershed.</p>
 <p>Wetlands</p>	<p>Wetland health and function is impacted by invasive species, ditching, recreation, and beavers.</p>
 <p>Wetlands</p>	<p>Historic straightening of natural watercourses impacts water quality, aquatic life, and flooding.</p>
 <p>Stormwater</p>	<p>Stormwater runoff from developed areas delivers sediment, nutrients, chloride, and bacteria to lakes, streams, and wetlands.</p>
 <p>Farms</p>	<p>Agricultural runoff and livestock access increases erosion, nutrients, sediment, and bacteria in streams and groundwater.</p>
 <p>Groundwater</p>	<p>Groundwater quality and quantity needs protection from contamination due to activities on the land and environmental conditions.</p>
 <p>Groundwater</p>	<p>More testing and monitoring are needed to track groundwater and drinking water safety and quality.</p>