



**NORTHWESTERN INDIANA
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Together We Make The Difference

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RESOLUTION 12-07

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION TO
ADOPT THE NORTHWEST INDIANA WATERSHED MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK 2012 UPDATE**

WHEREAS, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission(NIRPC) is the designated Council of Governments and the Metropolitan Planning Organization for Lake, Porter and LaPorte Counties; and

WHEREAS, NIRPC is the designated Section 208 Water Quality Management Planning Agency for Northwest Indiana under the Clean Water Act; and

WHEREAS, NIRPC received a 205(j) Water Quality Planning Grant from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, funded through the United States Environmental Protection Agency by the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act*; and

WHEREAS, NIRPC is required under its enabling legislation to establish a comprehensive environmental planning process; and

WHEREAS, the 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan has identified watershed management as a significant implementation strategy to protect and restore our region's aquatic resources; and

WHEREAS, transportation, land use, and water quality and quantity are inextricably linked by the hydrologic cycle; and

WHEREAS, a watershed approach provides a flexible framework for managing water resource quality and quantity within specific drainage areas; and

WHEREAS, Successful watershed planning processes work by using a series of cooperative, iterative steps to characterize existing conditions, identify and prioritize problems, define management objectives, develop protection or restoration strategies, and implement selected actions as necessary; and

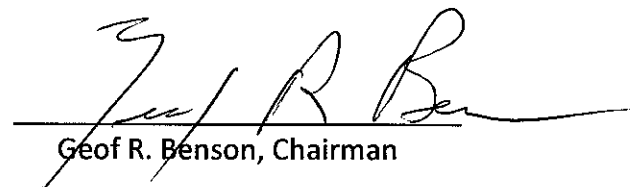
WHEREAS, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management has a Watershed Management Plan Checklist of comprehensive requirements necessary for an approvable Watershed Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, NIRPC desired to create a resource document containing a variety of information to assist communities, organizations, and stakeholders to characterize existing watershed conditions and develop watershed management plans; and

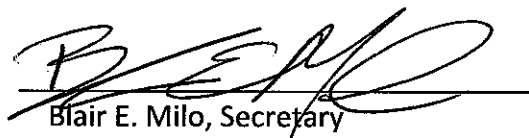
WHEREAS, The Environmental Management Policy Committee has forwarded *THE NORTHWEST INDIANA WATERSHED MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK 2012 UPDATE* with favorable recommendations for adoption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission hereby adopts *THE NORTHWEST INDIANA WATERSHED MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK 2012 UPDATE* and authorizes its dissemination and use by the local governments, businesses, industries, watershed groups, and citizens of the region.

Duly adopted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission this 15th day of March, 2012.


Geof R. Benson, Chairman

ATTEST:


Blair E. Milo, Secretary