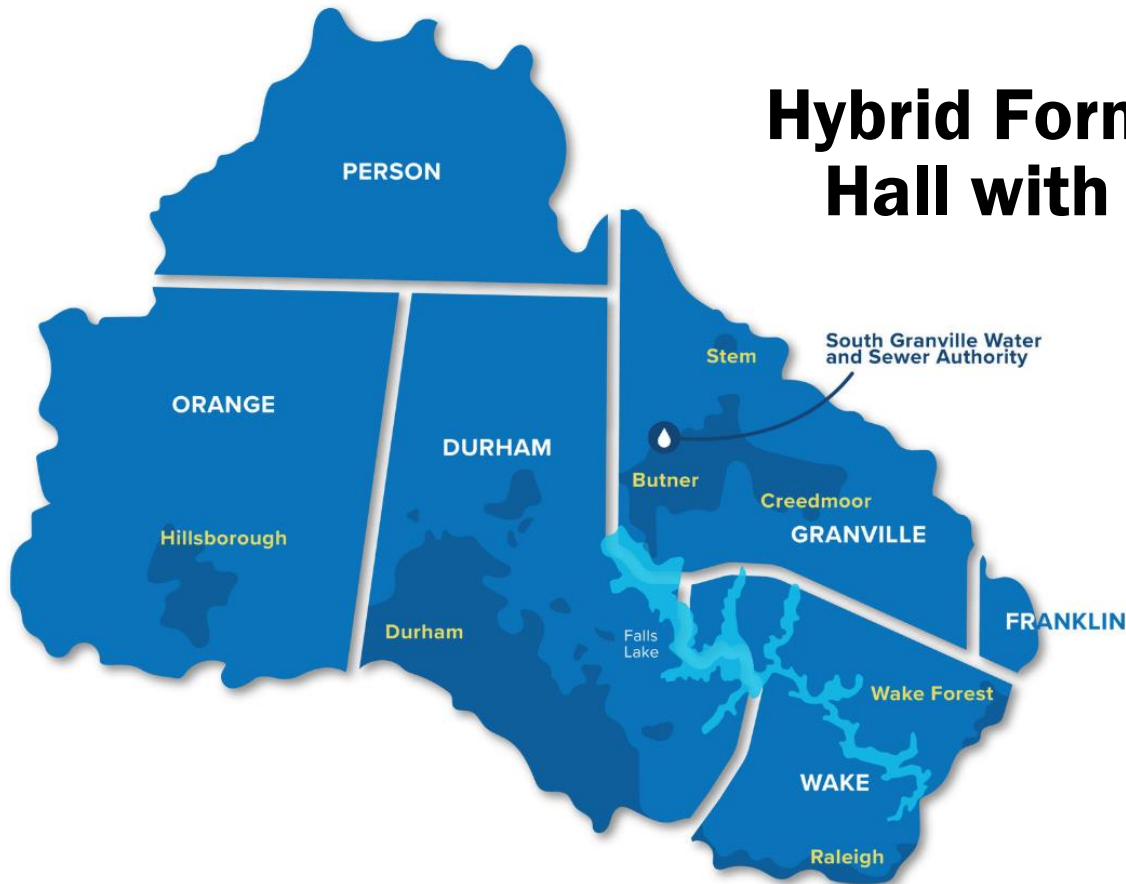




UNRBA Board Meeting June 15, 2022

Hybrid Format: Butner Town Hall with Remote Option



Remote Access for UNRBA Board Meetings

Equipment Type	Access Information	Notes
Computers with microphones and speakers	Join Microsoft Teams Meeting Please mute your microphone unless you want to provide input.	Press control and click on this link to bring up Microsoft Teams through the internet. You can view the screen share and communicate through your computer's speakers and microphone.
Computers without audio capabilities, or audio that is not working	Join Microsoft Teams Meeting (888) 404-2493 Passcode: 981 714 577# Please mute your phone unless you want to provide input.	Follow instructions above. Turn down your computer speakers, mute your computer microphone, dial the number through your phone and enter the passcode.
Phone only	(888) 404-2493 Passcode: 981 714 577# Please mute your phone unless you want to provide input.	Dial the toll-free number and enter the passcode.

Remote Access Guidelines

- This meeting will open 30 minutes prior to the official meeting start time to allow users to **test equipment** and ensure communication methods are working
- If you dial in through your phone, mute your microphone and turn down your speakers to **avoid feedback**
- Unless you are speaking, please mute your computer or device microphone and phone microphone to **minimize background noise**
- UNRBA meetings are open meetings; however, for this remote access meeting, please **limit the discussion to UNRBA Board Members** to facilitate moving through action items

June 15, 2022, UNRBA Board Agenda

- **Opening—Sig Hutchinson, Chair**
- **Action Items of UNRBA Board of Directors**
 - Approval of May 18, 2022, Meeting Minutes
 - Approval of the Treasurer's Report
 - Approval of FY2023 Contracts
- **Status Reports and Informational Items**
 - Submittal of Letters Regarding Proposed Chlorophyll-a Site Specific Standards for High Rock Lake
 - Modeling and Regulatory Support (MRS) Status
 - Statistical Model Development and Regulatory Options for the Chlorophyll-a Water Quality Standard
 - Communications
 - Ongoing Discussions/Issues
- **Closing Comments**

Opening—Sig Hutchinson

Opening

- Introductions, Board member changes, and announcements
- Roll call for quorum
- Identification of any conflicts
- Review and approval of agenda

Action Items of UNRBA Board of Directors

**Approval of May 18, 2022
Meeting Minutes**

Approval of the Treasurer's Report

Balance Forward: (per bank statement - 4/30/2022)	Checking	\$	399,441.51
	Savings		573,244.06
Debits:			
McGill Asso. (2022 Invs)		\$	34,992.67
Sauber Water Quality Consulting (2022 Invs)			2,590.00
Brown & Caldwell (MRS, FY 22, Invs)			62,147.44
Phthisic Consulting, Inc. (2022 Invs)			752.65
MFG Consulting, LLC (2022 Invs)			-
Total Debits		\$	<u>100,482.76</u>
Credits:			
Interest (checking)		\$	45.99
Interest (savings)			365.26
Membership Fees (Prepayment of FY 2023 fees)			<u>6,500.00</u>
Account Balance (per bank statement - 5/31/2022)	Checking	\$	305,504.74
	Savings		<u>573,609.32</u>
Total UNRBA Account Balance :		\$	<u><u>879,114.06</u></u>
Outstanding invoices/deposits in process since the close of bank statement (5/31/2022):			
Debits:			
McGill Asso. (2022 Invs)		\$	-
Brown & Caldwell (MRS, FY 22, 2022 Invs)			66,404.37
MFG Consulting, LLC (2022 Invs)			360.00
Sauber Water Quality Consulting (2022 Invs)			2,310.00
Phthisic Consulting, Inc. (2022 Invs)			175.00
Credits:			
Transfer from Savings to Checking		\$	<u>-</u>
Current Account Balances:	Checking		236,255.37
	Savings		<u>573,609.32</u>
Total UNRBA Account Balance :		\$	<u><u>809,864.69</u></u>

Brown and Caldwell Contract for FY2023

- Brown and Caldwell Modeling, Regulatory Support and Communications Support (\$815,000)
 - The UNRBA allocates \$800,000 per year for Modeling and Regulatory Support work associated with the re-examination.
 - \$50,000 of this \$800,000 is allocated to subject matter experts that are not associated with this contract.
 - The Board authorized \$60,000 for communications
 - Requesting \$5,000 for IAIA support from contingency

Executive Director recommends a motion:

Approval of the Brown and Caldwell contract, with use of \$5,000 from contingency, and authorization of the Chair to sign on behalf of the UNRBA.

Contracts for FY2023

- Executive Director Services (\$223,392)
 - Approved by the Board in January 2022
 - Paid for by annual project dues
 - Budget items
 - Labor: \$182,752
 - Travel and other reimbursable support costs: \$16,000
 - Other support services: \$24,640

Executive Director notes this contract amount was approved by the Board at the January Meeting and presents the contract to the Board for action. Possible motion:

Approval of the Executive Director Services contract and authorization of the Chair to sign on behalf of the UNRBA.

Status Reports and Informational Items

Objection Letters Regarding Proposed Chlorophyll-a Site Specific Standard for High Rock Lake

Objection Letters Regarding Proposed Chlorophyll-a Site Specific Standard for High Rock Lake

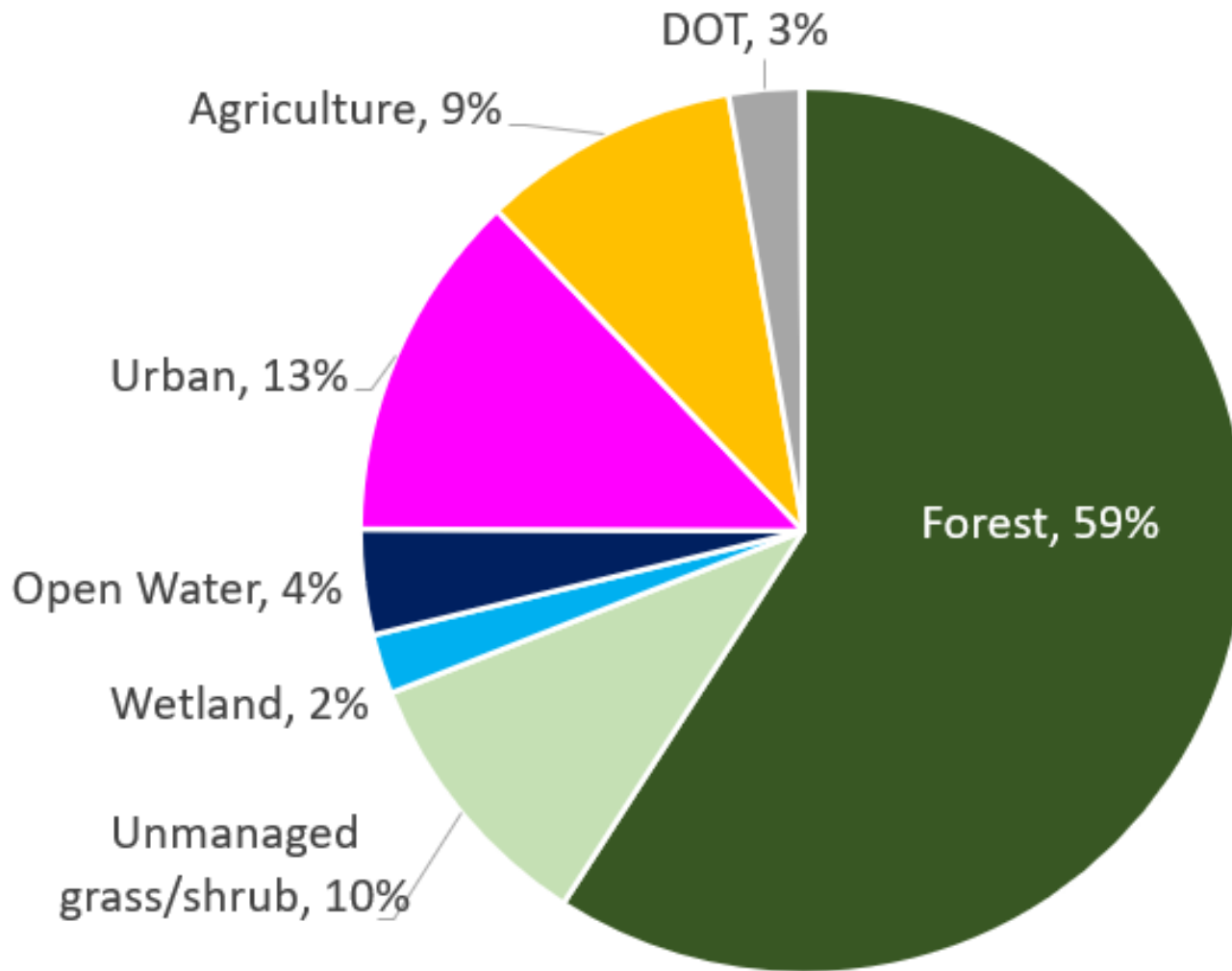
- At the January 19, 2022, meeting,
 - The Board authorized the Executive Director to develop a letter of objection to the Rules Review Commission (RRC) if EMC proceeded to move forward with the rule as essentially released in the public notice, and
 - Contact and coordinate with the individual UNRBA jurisdictions for the consideration of formal objection letters.
- The UNRBA Board is scheduled to meet on June 15th and September 21st. However, at their July meeting, the EMC may vote on the High Rock Lake recommendations.
- The window for filing formal objections to the RRC is very narrow, and it may be necessary to act quickly.
- Should a letter be filed, the Executive Director will provide the letter to the Executive Committee for input and, once final, provide a copy to the Board members.

Modeling and Regulatory Support for the Re-examination of Stage II

Watershed Modeling Report Status

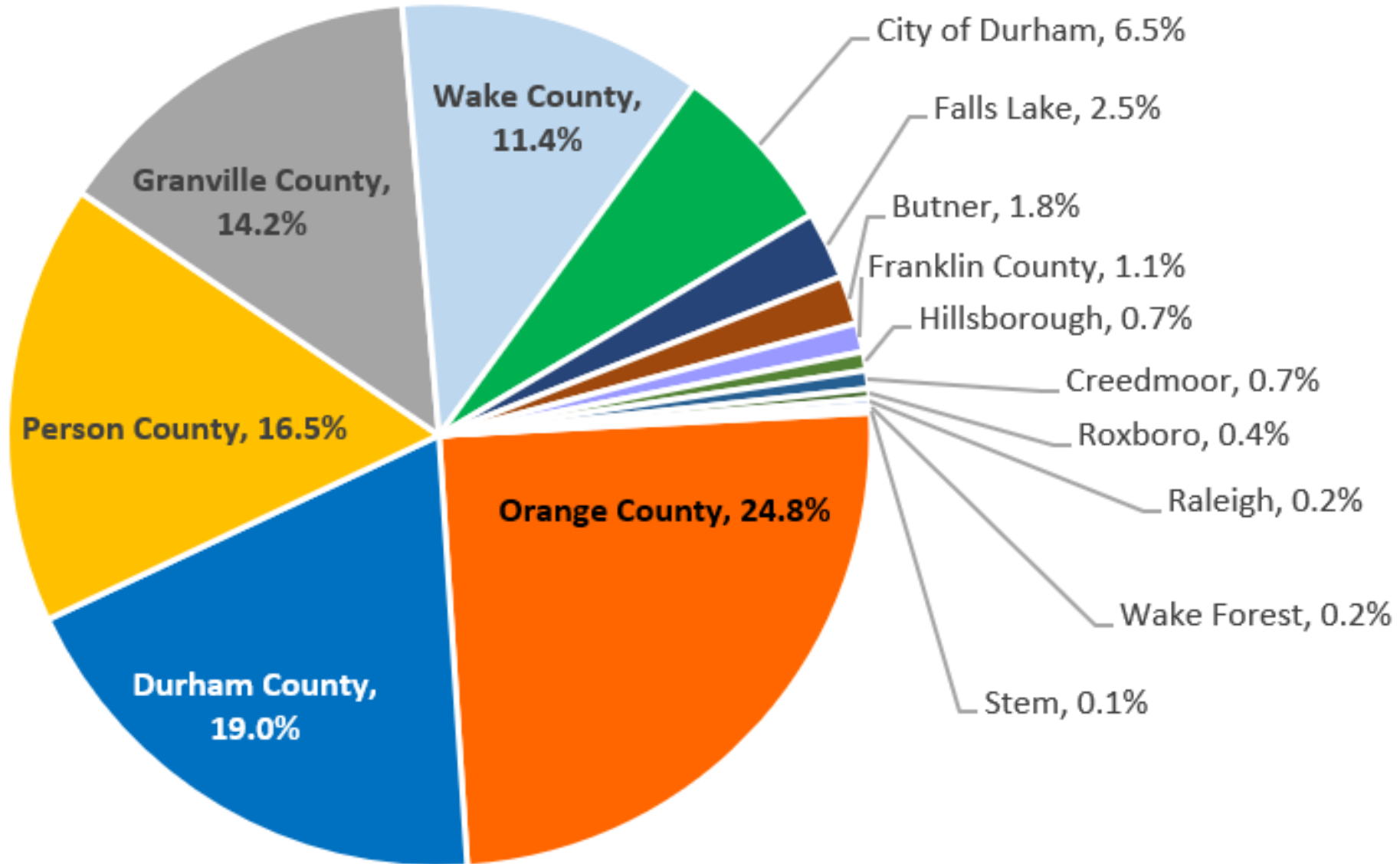
- The Executive Director and the MRSW Chair have reviewed the watershed modeling report that describes development, calibration, and nutrient loading summaries to Falls Lake.
- Agricultural representatives have reviewed sections of the report describing agricultural inputs and outputs.
- Jurisdictional loads have been estimated (next slides)
- The full modeling report will be distributed to the MRSW (likely in late June) after the modeling team has addressed comments

Land Use Composition of the Falls Lake Watershed (492,000 acres)

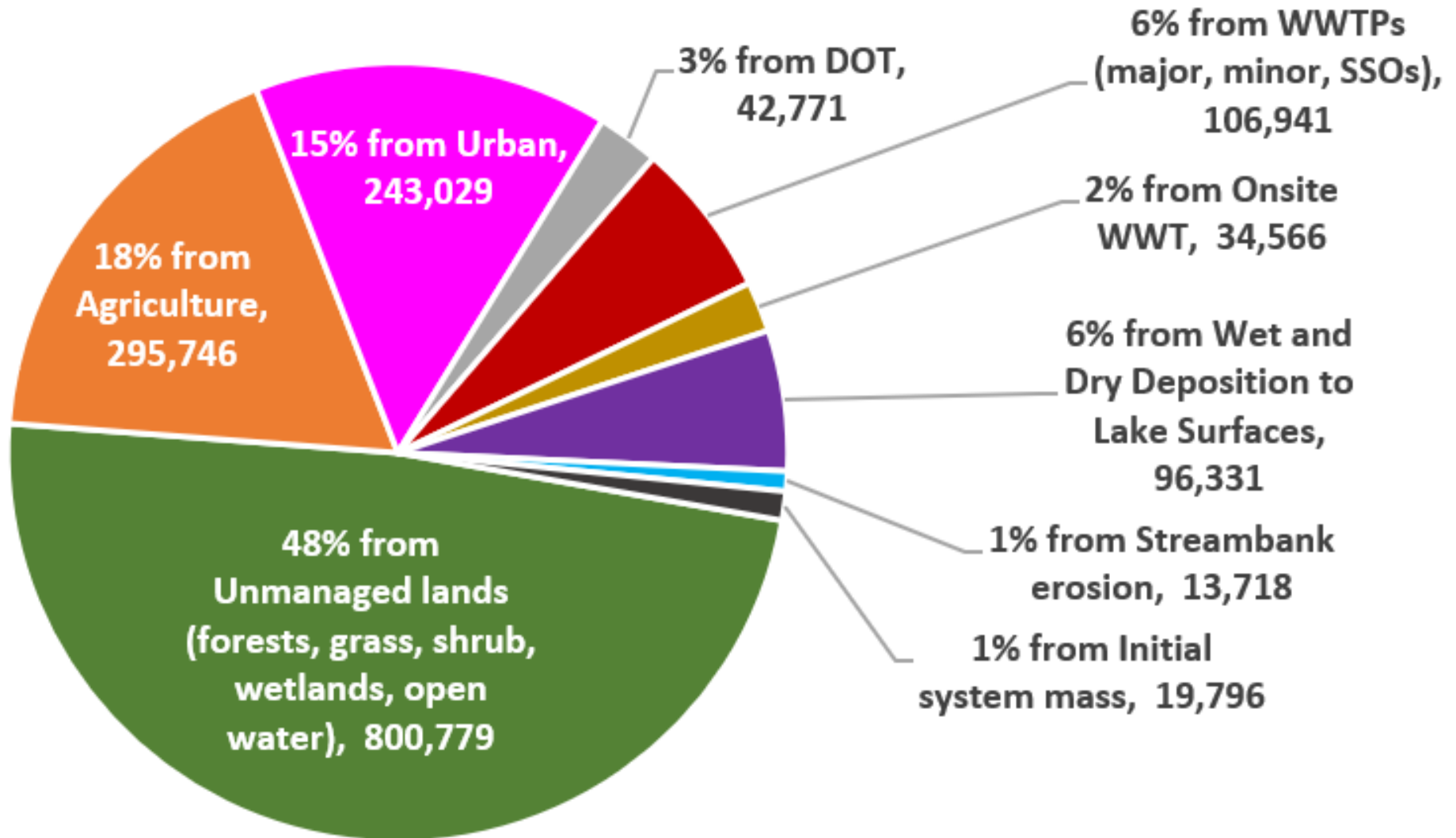


75 percent of the watershed area is in unmanaged land uses: forests, grassland, shrubland, wetlands, or open water.

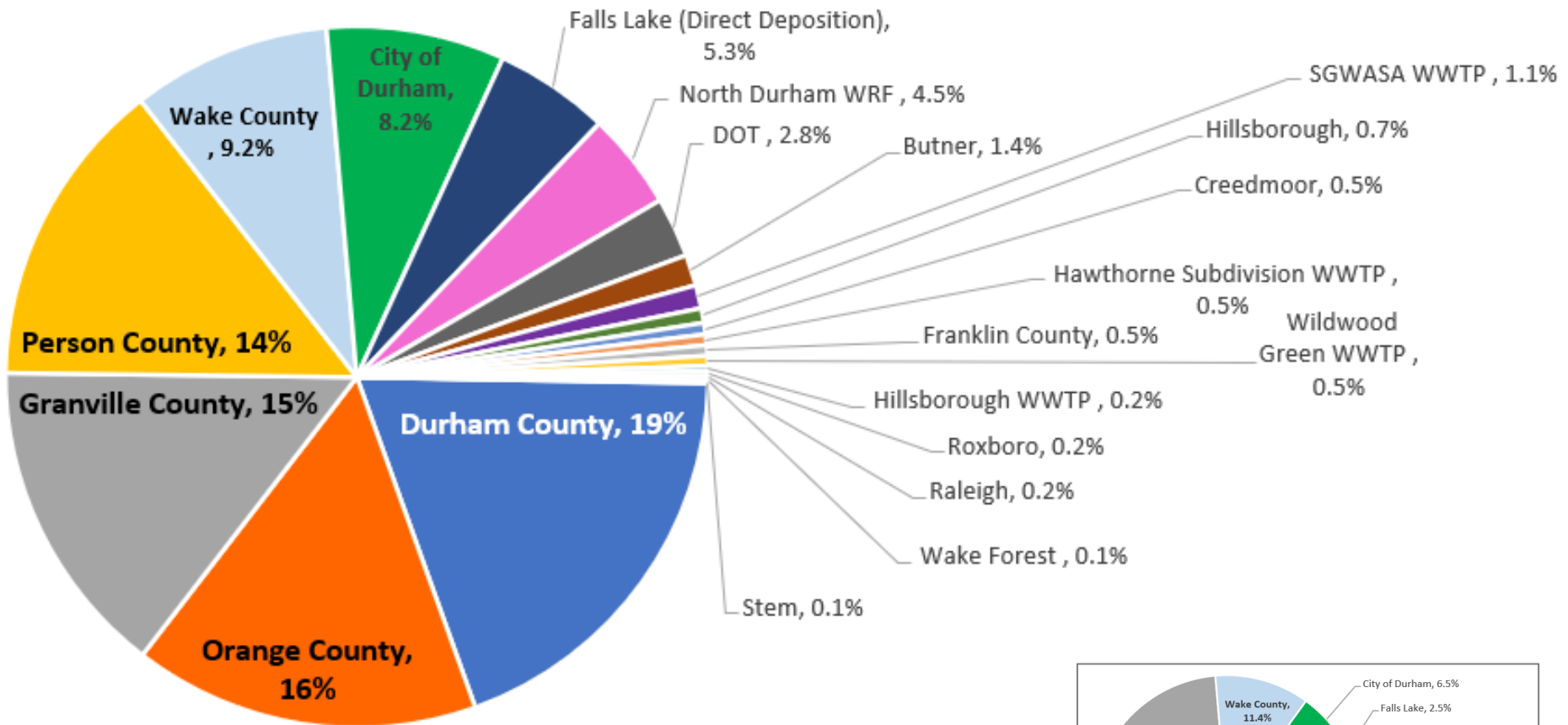
Percent of Land Area by Jurisdiction



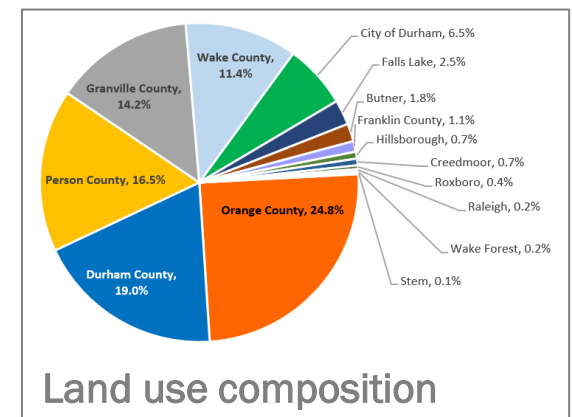
Sources of Delivered Total Nitrogen Load (1.65 million pounds per year)



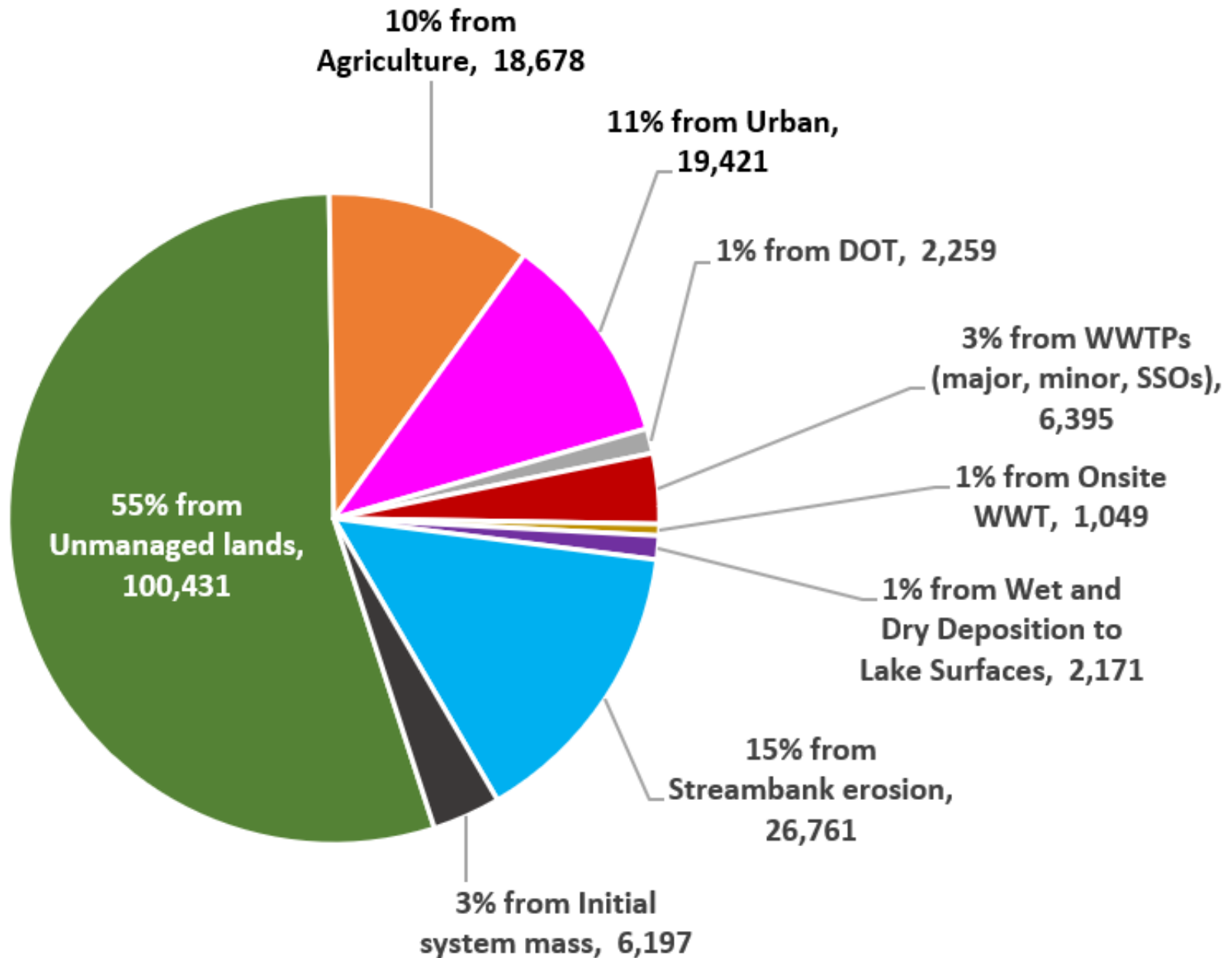
Sources of Delivered Total Nitrogen Load (1.65 million pounds per year)



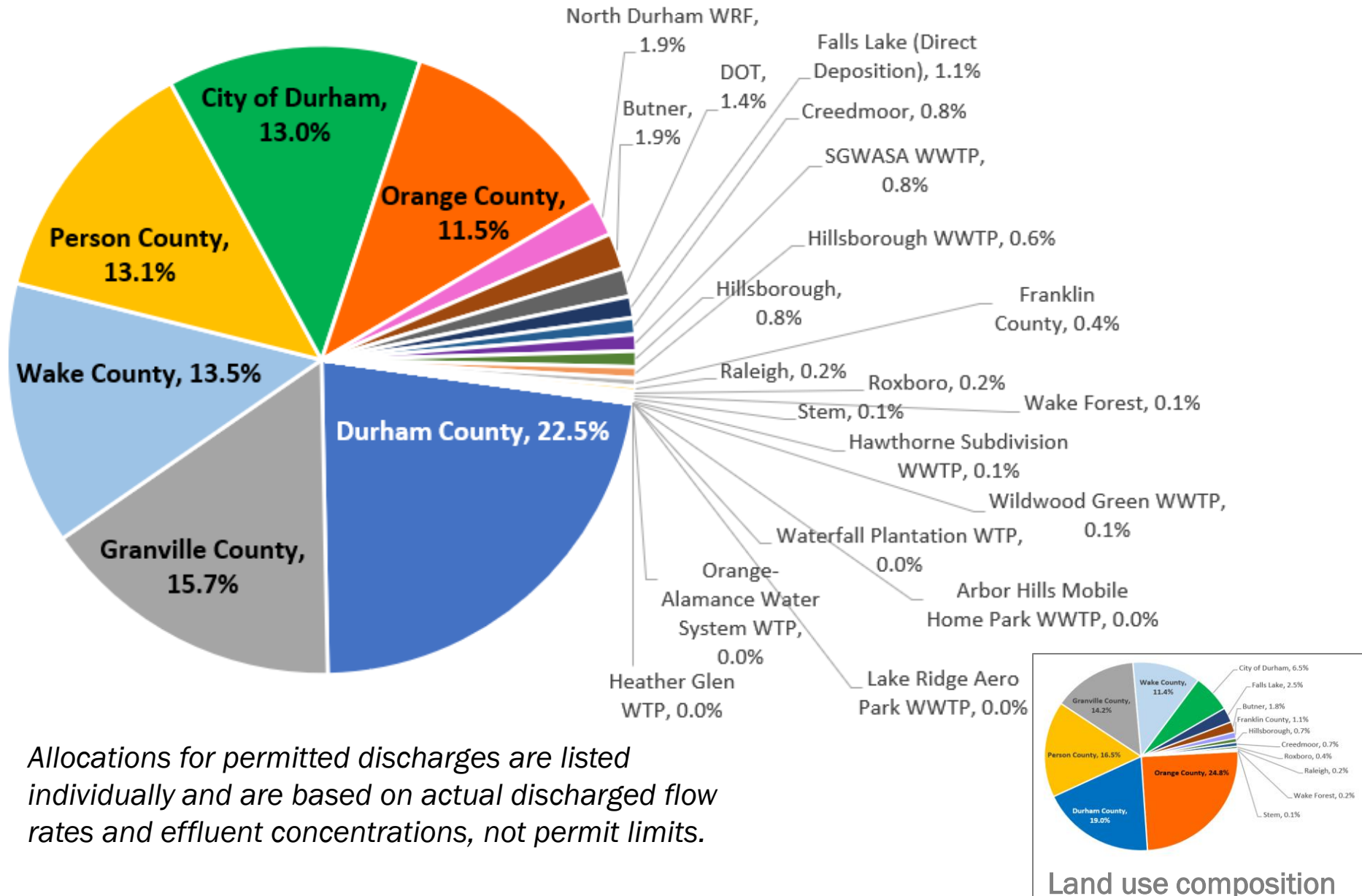
Allocations for permitted discharges are listed individually and are based on actual discharged flow rates and effluent concentrations, not permit limits.



Sources of Delivered Total Phosphorus Load (184,000 pounds per year)



Sources of Delivered Total Phosphorus Load (184,000 pounds per year)



Lake Modeling Status

- The three lake models are being developed
 - Water quality (WQ): WARMF Lake and Environmental Fluid Dynamics Code (EFDC)
 - WQ and designated uses: Statistical/Bayesian model
- The modeling team is coordinating local and national researchers to supplement the extensive database developed by the UNRBA, our members, and DWR.
 - Example: algal toxin data sets from the Center for Disease Control and Collaboratory-funded researchers
 - Both data sets indicate that concentrations in Falls Lake are relatively low
- Extensive vetting through identified SMEs, third-party reviewers, our membership representatives, and DWR

Status of Scenario Screening Workgroup

- The Scenario Screening Workgroup has completed its work to evaluate potential scenarios for evaluation with the models
- These scenarios were presented to the MRSW in March and approved by the PFC in June:
 - Simulate “All Forest” scenario (provides information on constraints for lake water quality)
 - Determine the load reduction curves needed to comply with the chlorophyll-a standard as currently written
 - Simulate reductions from controllable sources where feasible
- The work of the Scenario Screening Workgroup has concluded

Statistical Model Development and Regulatory Options for the Chlorophyll-a Water Quality Standard

Statistical Model Development and Regulatory Options for the Chlorophyll-a Water Quality Standard

- The UNRBA is developing a statistical/Bayesian model to link the water quality in Falls Lake to its designated uses
- The Technical Advisors Workgroup for the legal group, MRSW, and PFC have identified local subject matter experts to provide data and information regarding satisfaction with the designated uses of Falls Lake
- The modeling team has been conducting virtual meetings with these experts to understand the types of data and information that are tracked with respect to designated uses to inform development of the statistical/Bayesian modeling
- Development of a site-specific chlorophyll-a standard represents an important consideration for a revised Falls Lake management strategy and is linked to this modeling effort
- Subject matter expert, Dr. Marty Lebo, was approved by the Board (June 2021); has begun his work in support of this effort.
- The UNRBA is also coordinating with the Environmental Finance Center on their Year 3 effort funded by the NC Collaboratory.

Preliminary Discussions on Ideas for the Revised Nutrient Management Strategy

Preliminary Discussions of Concepts Believed to be Important in Developing the 2023 Nutrient Strategy Revisions

- The Co-Chairs of the PFC identified the need to begin discussions on concepts for the UNRBA's recommendations for revision to the Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy
- This initiative was noted in communication to the PFC
- Past and current feedback from internal and external stakeholders is being gathered (meetings, workshops, forums, symposia)
- The watershed model has identified some critical aspects that will relate directly to developing an effective revised strategy.
- Lake model calibration continues and will be incorporated into the process
- The Co-Chairs of the PFC met following the PFC meeting to discuss next steps

Communications

Upcoming Stakeholder Workshops/Conferences

- UNRBA technical stakeholders' workshop for Fall 2022: status of the modeling efforts, hear input on a revised nutrient management strategy
- FY2023: Coordination with communications staff from the local governments to leverage existing platforms, accounts, and distribution lists to reach the general public regarding the UNRBA's goals, objectives, and revised recommendations
- Planning a meeting with Richard Rogers, DWR Director, to discuss the work of the UNRBA, preliminary re-examination results, process for site-specific water quality standard petition, High Rock Lake rulemaking process.
- Meetings with DWR planning, modeling, and standards groups to review the technical work and discuss the approach for the re-examination.
- The “open” nature of all of the UNRBA meetings is a key component of a transparent communications approach.
- We continue to emphasize the importance of seeking Board member input to help identify their needs related to communicating the work of the UNRBA to their jurisdictions and the citizens of their local governments.

External Stakeholder Communication Needs

- Objectives continue to be reviewed relative to communication opportunities with stakeholders.
- To support the re-examination process and achieve broad support for the UNRBA recommendations, additional outreach to external stakeholders including DWR, DEQ, and other interested stakeholders is needed;
- Coordination with local leaders to convey messages and facilitate outreach will be necessary.
- This effort will require the support of the UNRBA membership, staff and Board representatives.
- As a reminder, the [Infographic](#) and [Fast Facts](#) are available online <https://upperneuse.org/resource-library>
- An [Overview of the Work of the UNRBA](#) provided to the UNC Collaboratory for inclusion in their reporting is available online <https://nutrients.web.unc.edu/resources/>

Ongoing Discussions/Issues

Ongoing Discussions/Issues

- Intensive workgroup activity and management of expectations and resources—A lot to do between now and recommendations in 2023
- Continue discussions on the MOA—reengage UNRBA on the goal of the MOA and work to reconnect with DEQ
- Neuse Watershed Model Information Session / Delivery Factors for WWTP

Closing Comments

**Next UNRBA Board Meeting is Scheduled
for September 21, 2022**

**This meeting may have a hybrid format
pending future COVID-19 conditions**