

Rock River Region Water Resources Plan

Green River Lowlands

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Agenda

- ❑ Introductions
- ❑ Green River Lowlands
- ❑ What is Scenario Planning?
- ❑ Our Process
- ❑ Where We Go from Here

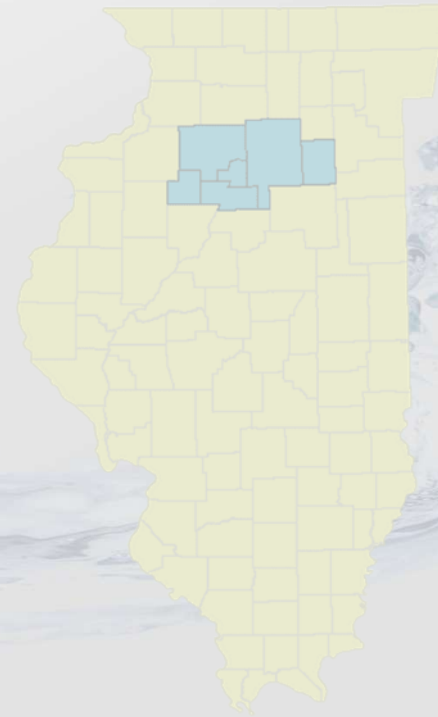
Blackhawk Hills Regional Council

- Northwest Illinois' regional planning organization
- Carroll, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, and Whiteside counties
- Engages in community and economic development, natural resources conservation, and planning



North Central Illinois Council of Governments

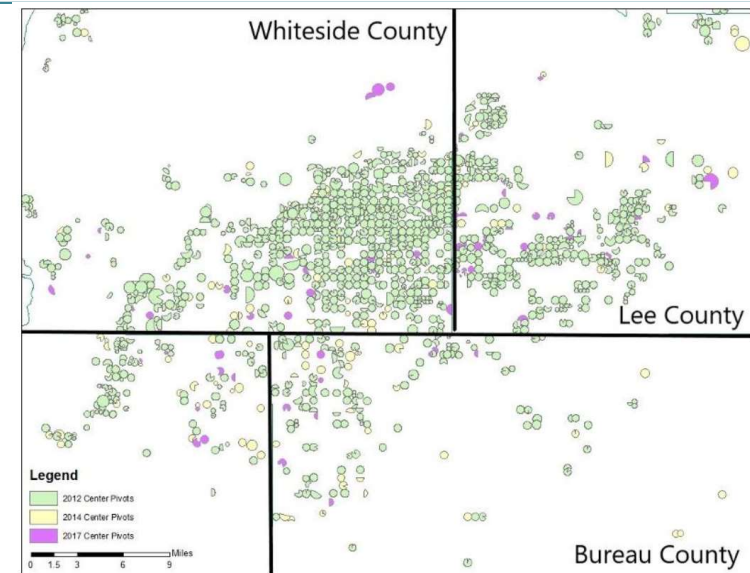
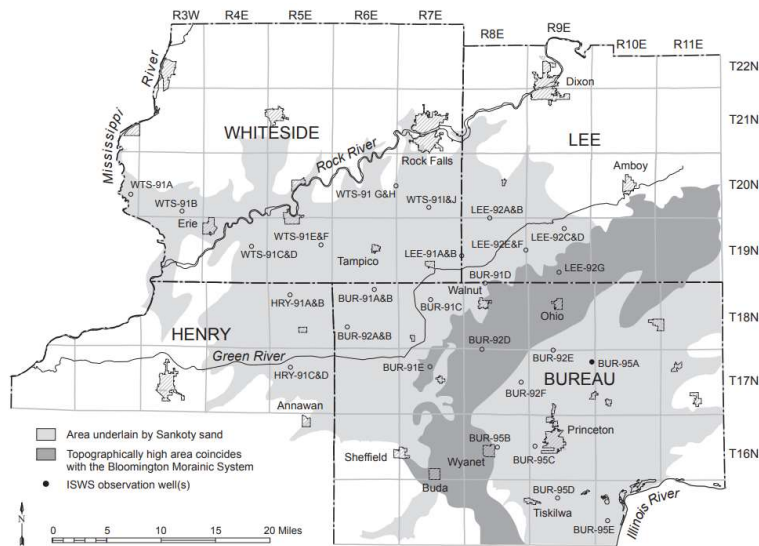
- Non-profit entity for a six-county area
- Bureau, Marshall, Putnam, Stark, LaSalle, and Grundy
- Provides planning, technical assistance, and grant writing services to counties, townships, and communities



Background

- 2006 Executive Order
Develop a statewide and regional plans
- 2018-2021: Rock River Region Studies
www.blackhawkhills.com/naturalresources
- 2022: Scenario Planning Regions
Bi-State Regional Commission – Quad Cities Region
Region 1 Planning Council – Boone and Winnebago
BHRC – Green River Lowlands

Green River Lowlands



Sources: ISWS, DRAFT - *Water Supply Planning: Assessment of Water Resources for Water Supply in the Rock River Region* (2022)
 Lordache, V., *Groundwater Resources in the Green River Lowlands* (April 2021)

27,684 acres

102,073 acres

150,000 acres



Rock River 2010* Water Demand (in MGD)

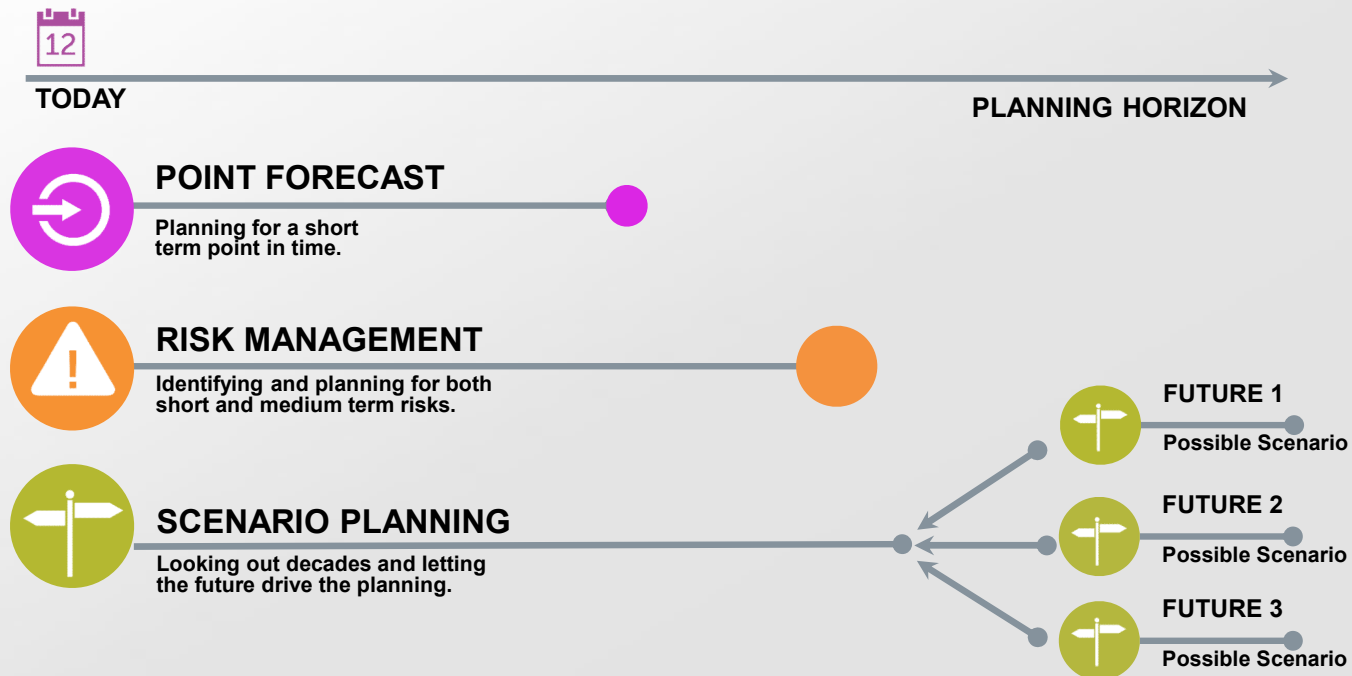
County	Total	Public Supply	Self-Supplied Domestic	Thermoelectric Generation	Self-Supplied Industrial and Commercial	Self-Supplied Irrigation, Livestock, and Environmental
Henry	12.82	4.10	0.79	0	1.03	6.90
Bureau	15.44	2.94	0.76	0	2.09	9.65
Carroll	12.06	1.11	0.47	0	2.20	8.28
Jo Daviess	5.53	1.98	0.40	0	1.91	1.24
Lee	21.17	4.01	0.38	0	0.09	16.69
Stephenson	8.41	1.49	2.12	0	1.15	3.65
Whiteside	45.55	3.90	1.46	0	0.17	40.02
Ogle	67.14	5.05	1.60	55.58	2.68	2.23

Source: ISWS & IDNR, *Water Demand in the Rock River Water Supply Planning Region, 2010-2060* (January 2019)

*Weather Normalized

Scenario Planning

What is Scenario Planning?



What does Scenario Planning Do?

- Process to create multiple stories: what the future could be
- Develop a common understanding of issues, interactions and driving forces of change
- Helps assess and prepare for possible future conditions
- Prepare, not predict

Types of Scenario Planning



Normative

- Pick a specific target
- Look at influential variables
- Create scenarios to reach target
- Design plan based on best case scenario



Exploratory

- Navigate uncertainty
- Look at driving forces
- Create scenarios based on what might happen
- Design response to those scenarios

Exploratory Scenarios

Are

A structured approach to help us develop a common understanding of possible futures.

A process to engage the regional community.

A way to better integrate our plans and strategies across disciplines using a common framework.

Not

Not a plan but a process.

Does not attempt to select a single future but better prepares for whatever the future is likely to bring.

Outcomes

- 1) Four scenarios
- 2) Strategies
- 3) Indicators
- 4) Report



Our Approach

- 1) Identify driving forces
- 2) Assess level of uncertainty and importance
- 3) Develop 4 scenarios based on two forces
- 4) Discuss implications of each scenario on water demand

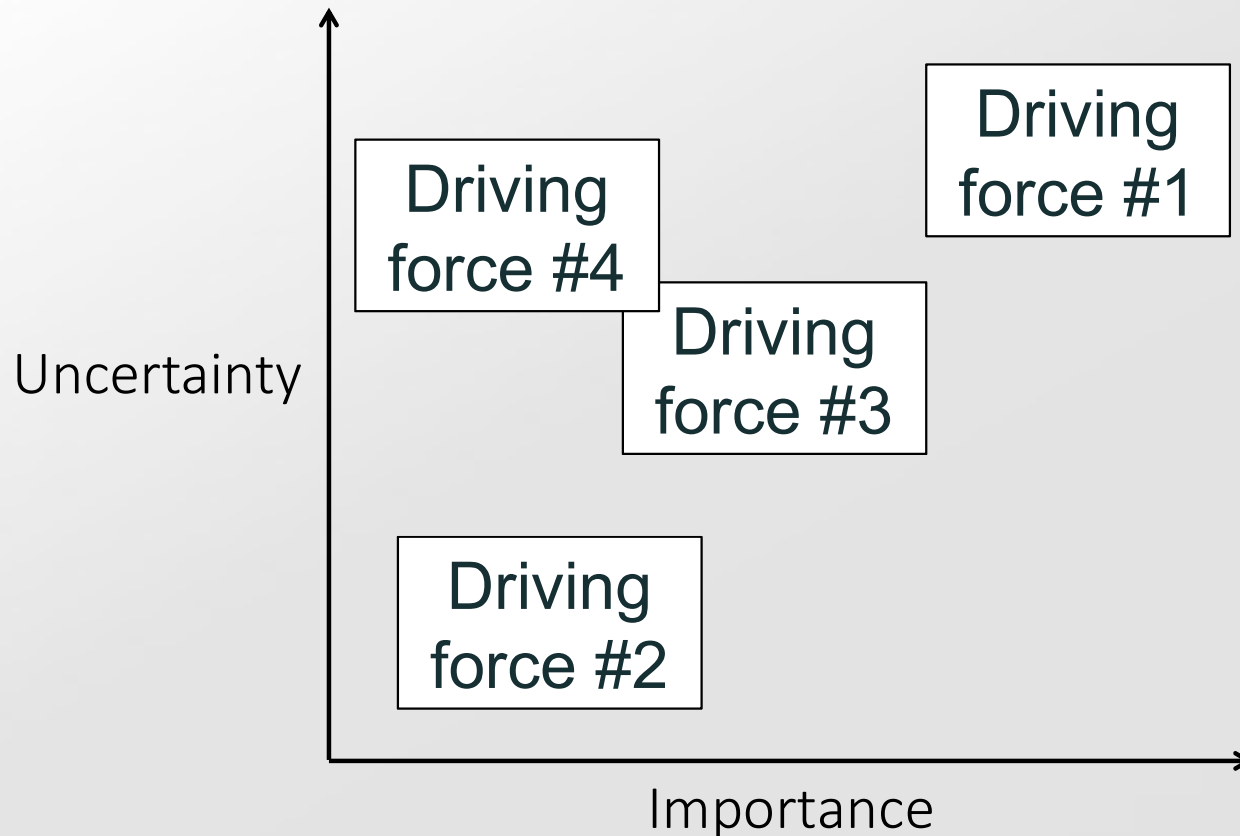
Driving Forces of Change

- ❖ Social/demographic
- ❖ Technological
- ❖ Economic
- ❖ Environmental
- ❖ Policy/political

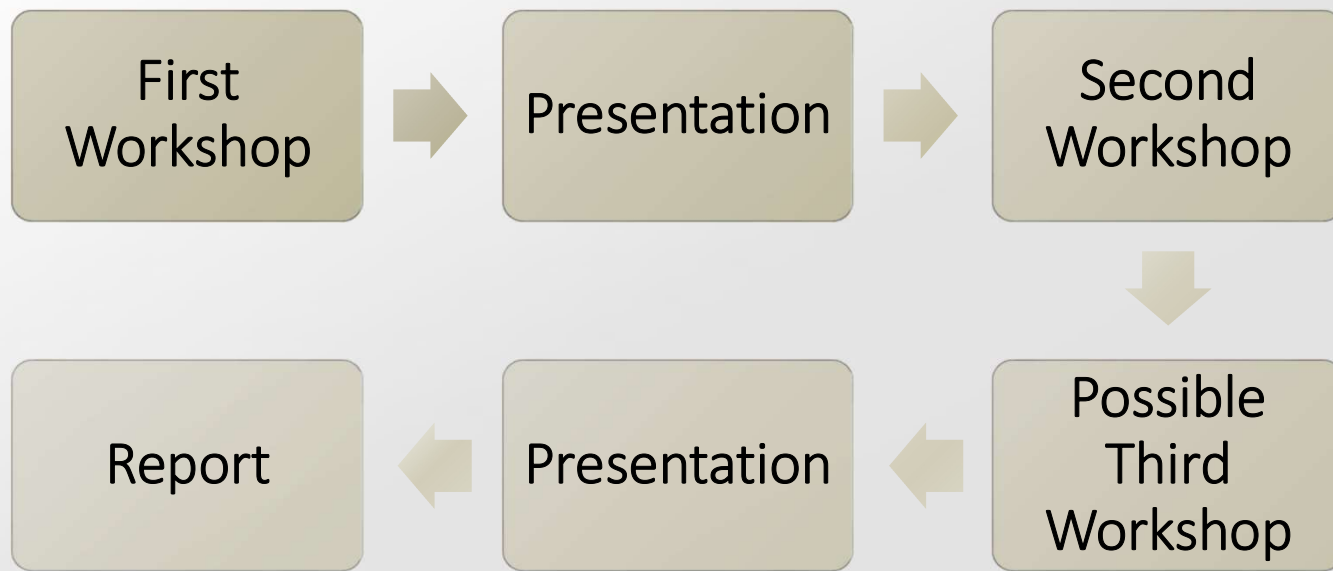
STEEP



What is most important (impactful)?
What is most uncertain?



Timeline



Actions

- 1) Attend First Workshop in March
- 2) Consider Driving Forces
- 3) Read up on work we've already done:
www.blackhawkhills.com/naturalresources

Let's think about the future.