

5.4.5.5 Internal Lake Load

Internal recycling loads represent fluxes from benthic substrate that build up from the deposition of ongoing or legacy loads coming into a waterbody. Additionally, build up can also occur through the accumulation of organic material which settles following algal blooms. These algal blooms occur due to excess nutrient loading to the water column which results in a positive feedback loop of benthic nutrient releases followed by algal blooms. Nutrients are bound into the benthic substrate and, under different conditions (depending upon the nature of the nutrients in the sediments), can be released into the water column. In many lakes within Florida, benthic flux, or internal recycling, can be a significant portion of the nutrient budget. While naturally occurring flux does occur, it is the portion caused by the excessive historic and/or ongoing anthropogenic impacts that would require remediation.

In the qualitative assessment of potential pollutant loads to the Lafayette Chain of Lakes (Section 5.4.4.4) an assessment was made relative to the potential for anthropogenically driven internal loading to play a significant role in the nutrient balance of each of the waterbodies within the Lafayette Chain of Lakes. The determination was made that internal loading was not a significant nutrient load to any of the lakes.

5.4.5.6 Atmospheric Deposition

In order to calculate the atmospheric deposition loading for nutrients to the Lafayette Chain of Lakes, the data from the Quincy Station (FL14), identified in earlier sections and shown on **Figure 5-35**, were utilized. The National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP) provides a clearinghouse for deposition data. The NADP sites collect nitrogen data but not phosphorus, as such, only TN is available. **Table 5-11** presents the annual TN loads per acre from 2010 to 2020. No data were available at the Quincy station for 2020 so the value from the next nearest station (Sumatra – FL23) was utilized. Averaging the annual load per acre over the 10-year period gives a value of 2.56 lb/acre/yr. Multiplying the 2.56 lb/acre/yr TN load by the acreages for Upper Lake Lafayette, Piney Z Lake, Lower Lake Lafayette, and Alford Arm gives the TN atmospheric loads. **Table 5-12** presents the calculated loads for each of the lakes in the chain.

Table 5-11: Annual Atmospheric Total Nitrogen Load per Acre from Quincy Station

Year	TN (lb/acre)				
2010	2.19				
2011	2.31				
2012	2.20				
2013	2.57				
2014	4.95				
2015	2.57				
2016	2.47				
2017	2.31				
2018	2.40				
2019	1.97				
2020*	2.16*				

^{*}Data from NADP Website Sumatra Station



Table 5-12: Atmospheric Total Nitrogen Loads to Lafayette Chain of Lakes

Waterbody	Acreage	TN Load (lb/yr)
Upper Lake Lafayette	373	955
Piney Z Lake	238	609
Lower Lake Lafayette	1067	2,732
Alford Arm	367	940

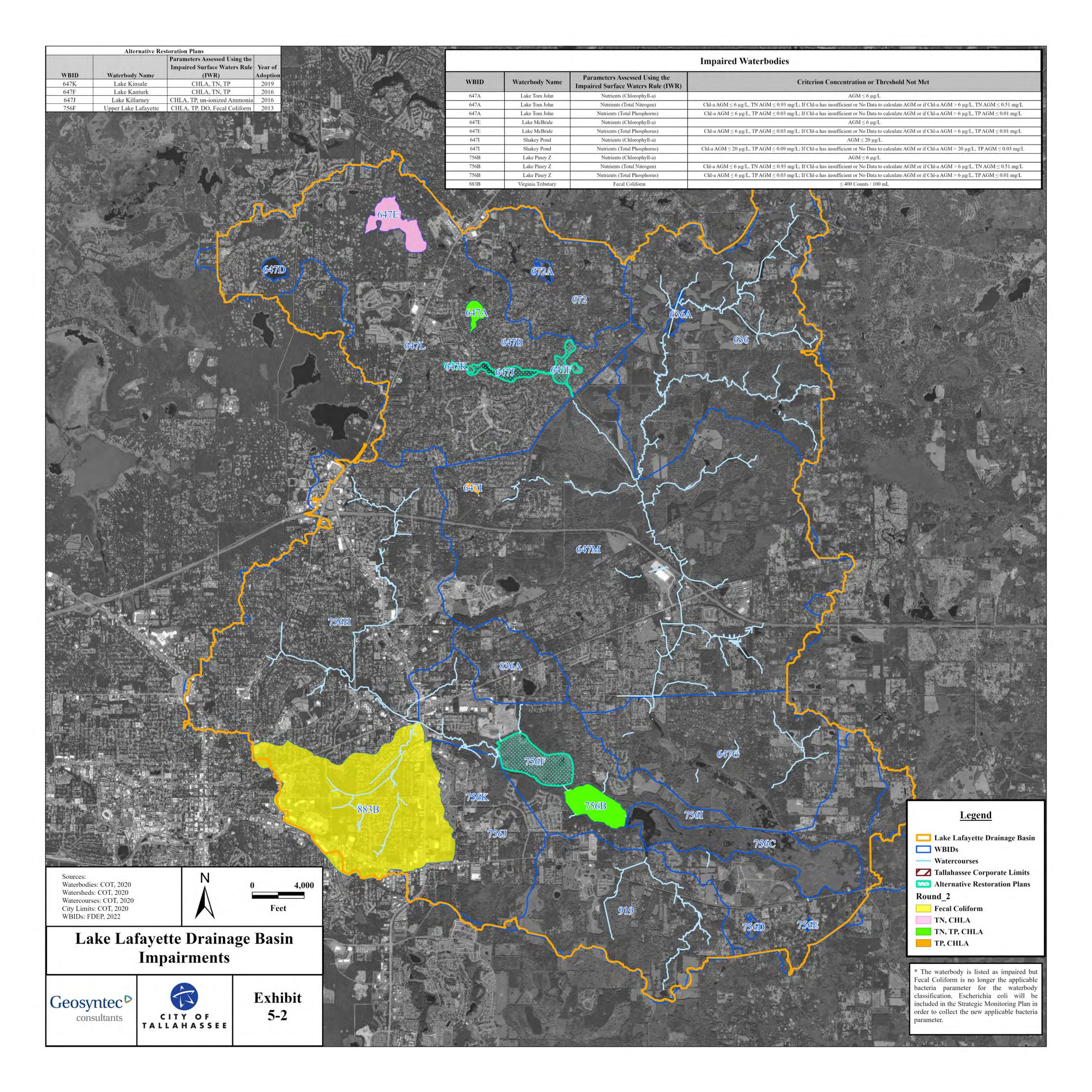
5.4.5.7 Summary of Calculated Loads

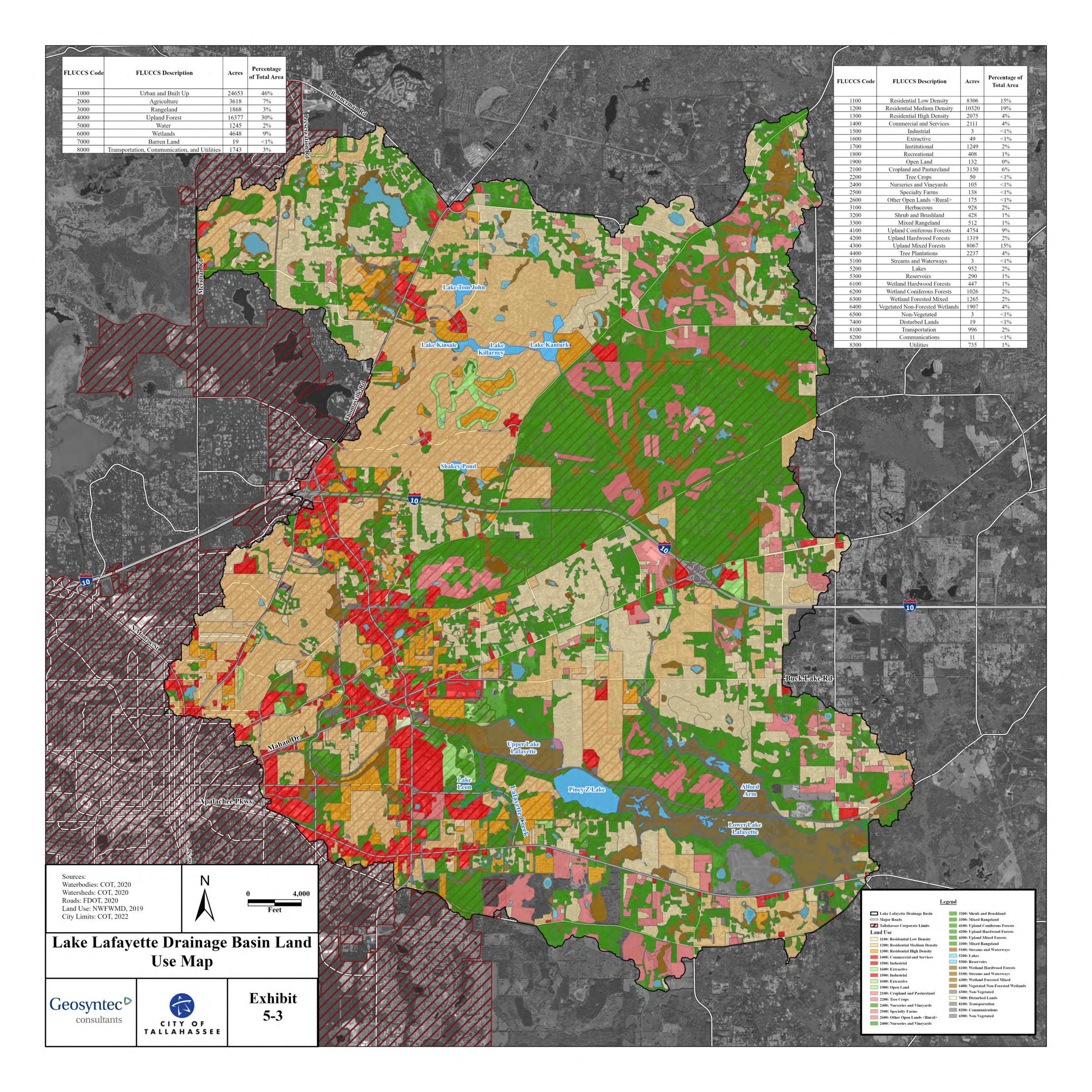
Nutrient loads to the Lafayette Chain of Lakes were calculated for stormwater runoff, septic systems, interconnected flow (where data allowed), and atmospheric deposition. **Table 5-13** presents the calculated total loads to the lake for TN and TP. For septic systems and atmospheric deposition only TN loads were calculated (see **Section 5.4.5.2** and **Section 5.4.5.6** respectively for explanation). A significant load that was not able to be calculated is the load from Alford Arm into Lower Lake Lafayette, which is due to a lack of recent data in Alford Arm.

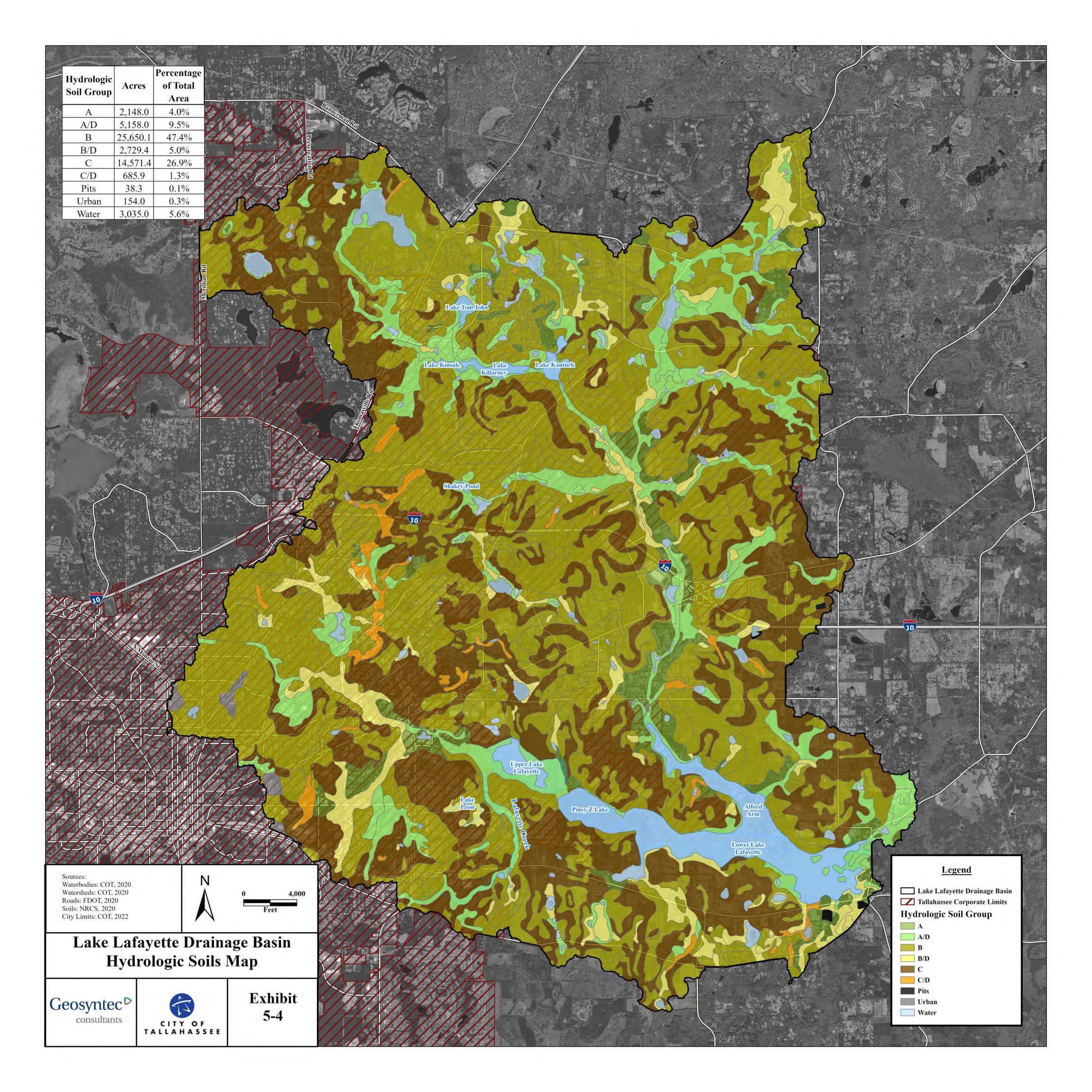
Table 5-13: Summary of Calculated Loads to the Lafayette Chain of Lakes

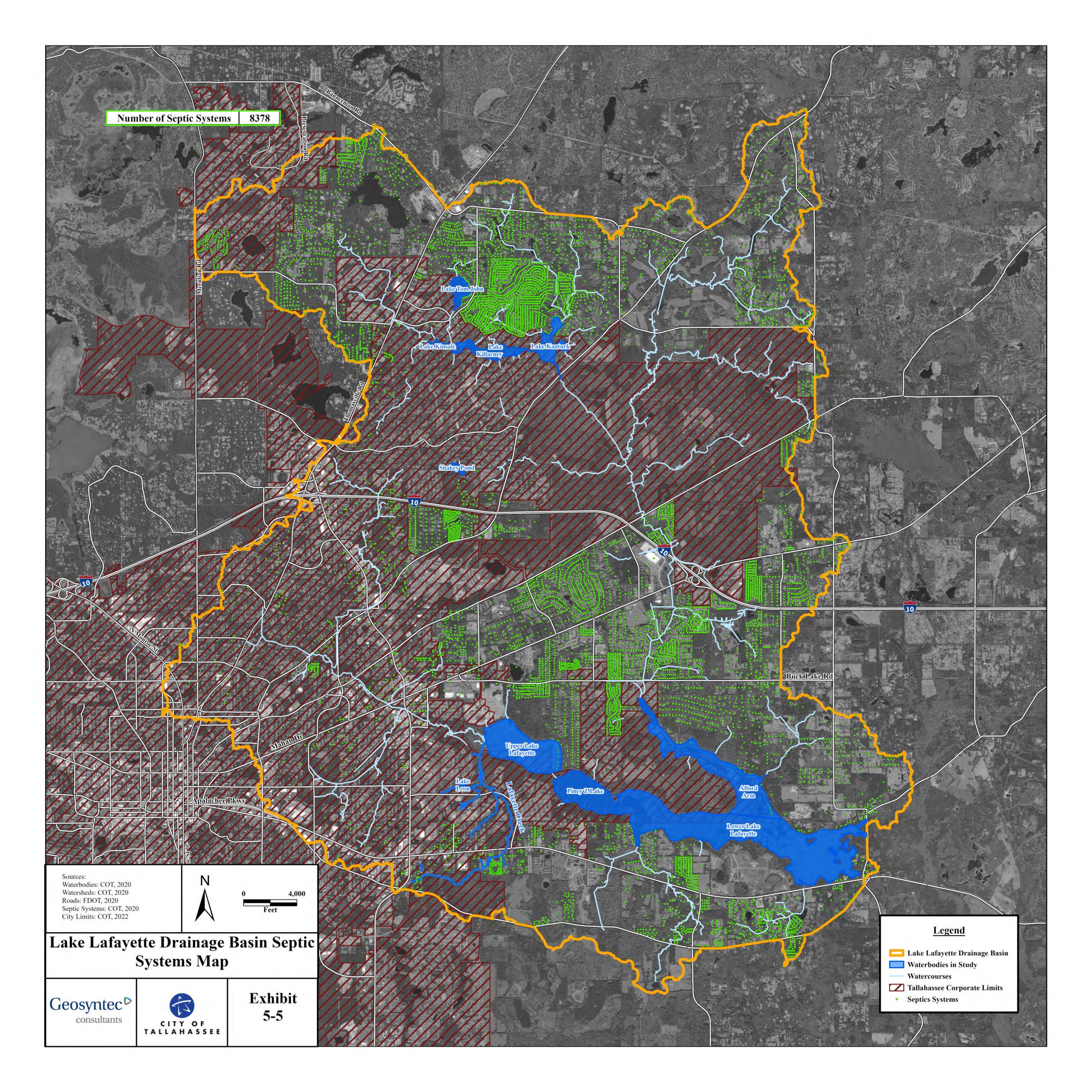
Source	Upper Lake Lafayette		Piney Z Lake		Lower Lake Lafayette		Alford Arm	
	TN (lb/yr)	TP (lb/yr)	TN (lb/yr)	TP (lb/yr)	TN (lb/yr)	TP (lb/yr)	TN (lb/yr)	TP (lb/yr)
Stormwater Runoff	19,863	2,843	1,626	361	9,019	1,571	26,793	5,292
Septic Systems	1,168	ND	65	ND	2,011	ND	6,327	ND
Lake Inflow	648	48	0	0	ND	ND	20,549	2,079
Atmospheric Deposition	955	ND	609	ND	2,732	ND	940	ND

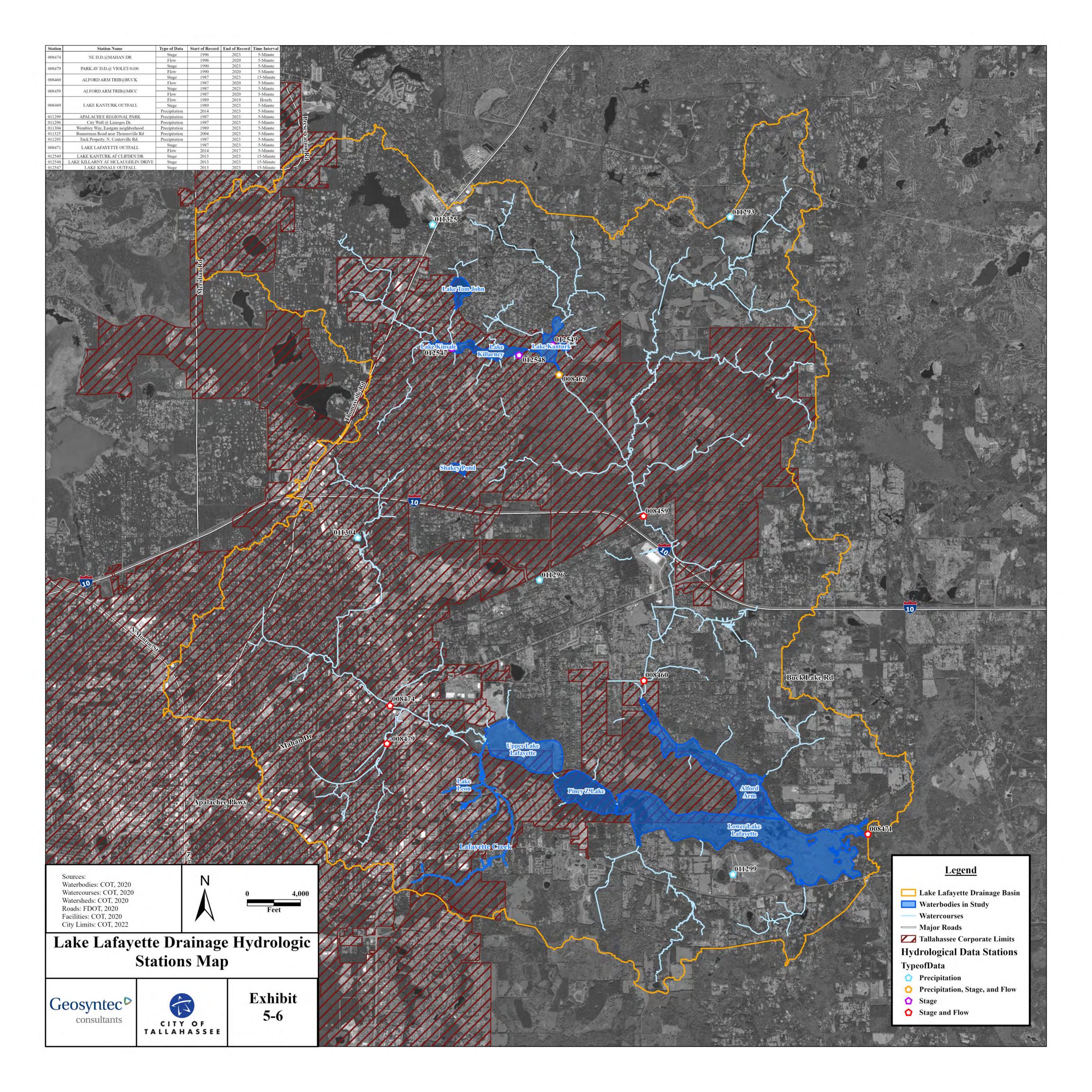
ND – No data available to calculate, NA – Load calculation not applicable

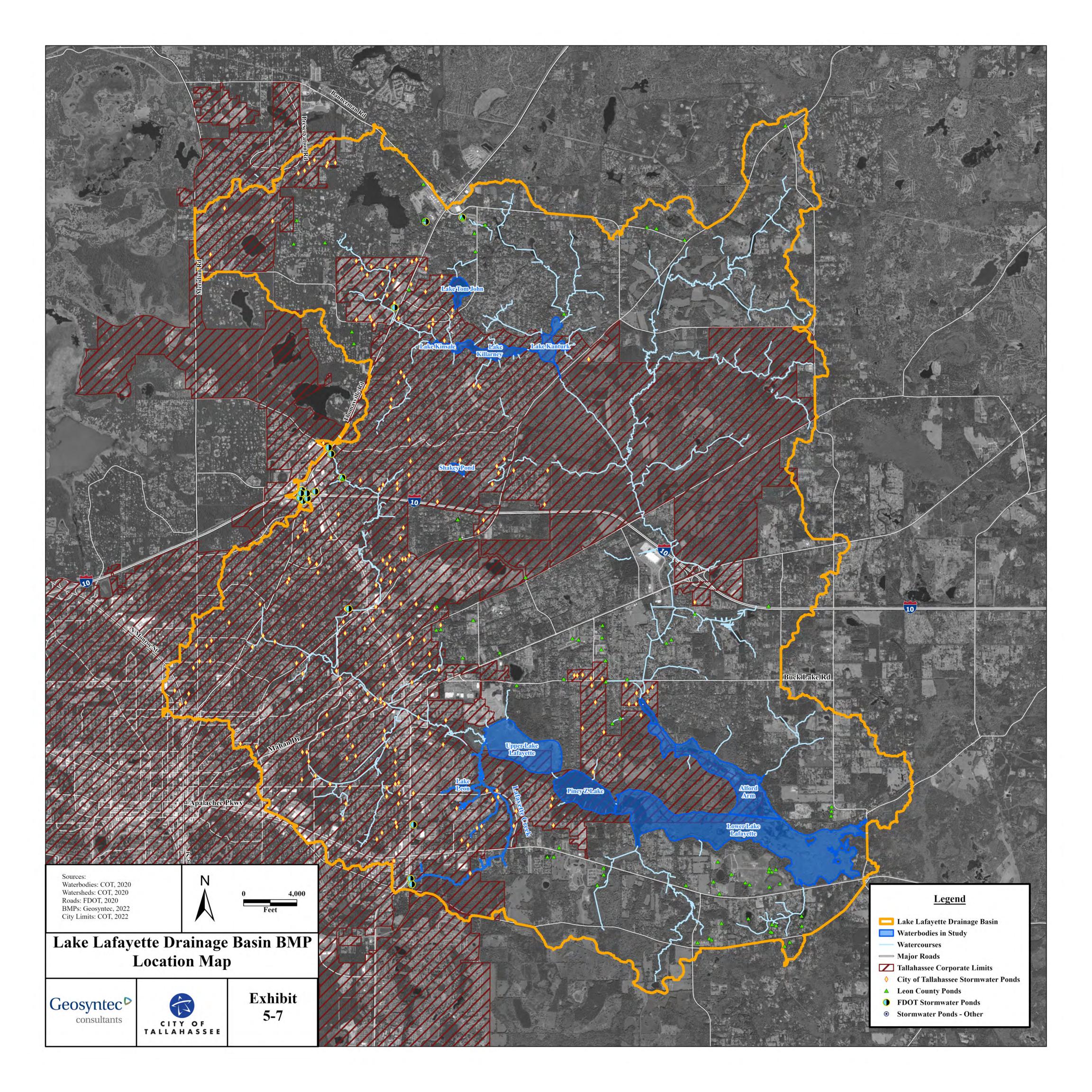














5.5 Killearn Chain of Lakes

This section presents the results from Tasks 1 through 3 for the Killearn Chain of Lakes (Lake Kinsale, Lake Killarney, and Lake Kanturk), which includes an overview and history of the lakes and basin; present impairment status; an overview of available data; a qualitative assessment of potential pollutant sources; and calculation of potential pollutant loads.

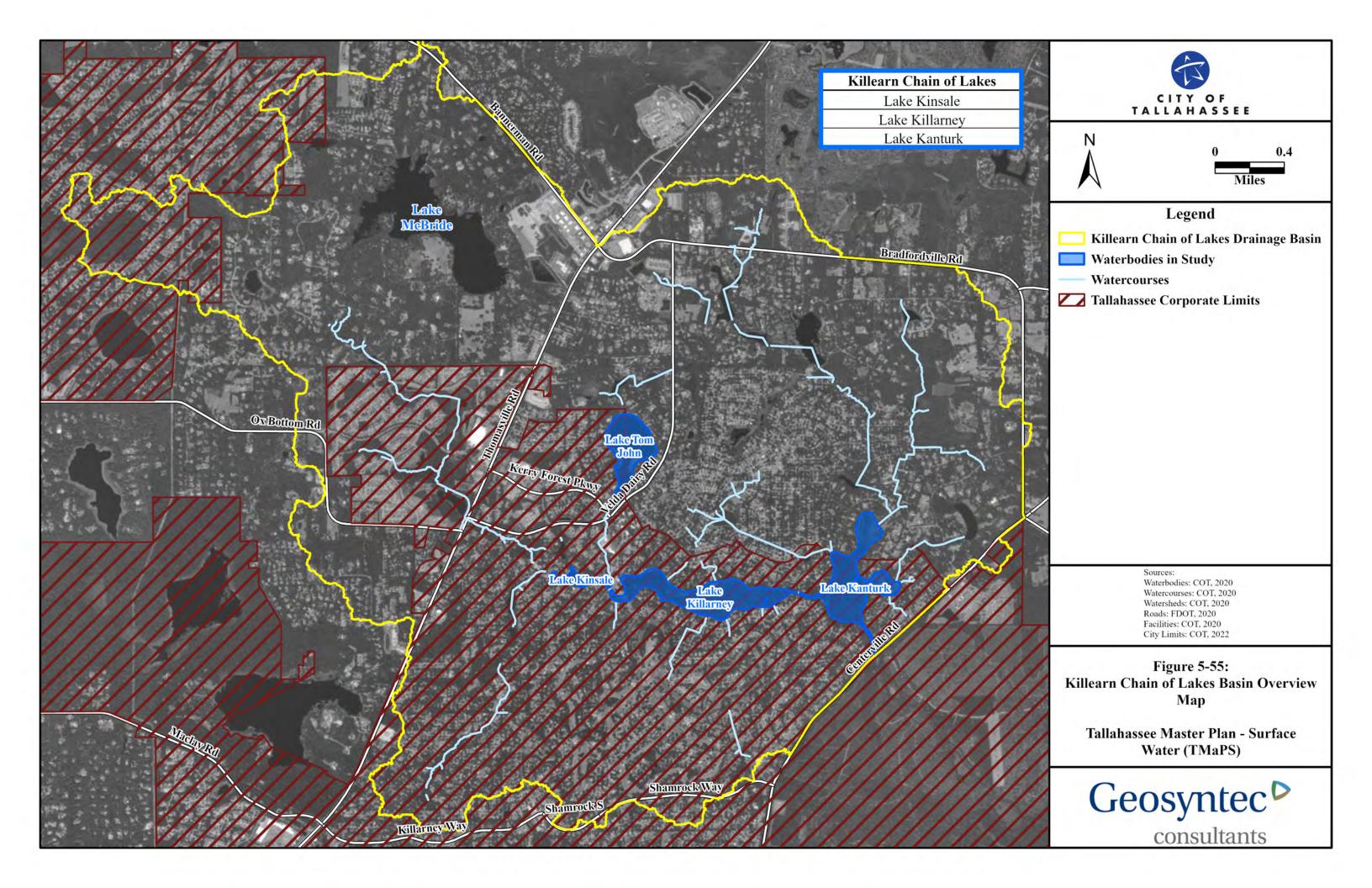
5.5.1 Overview and History

The Killearn Chain of Lakes include Lake Kinsale, Lake Killarney and Lake Kanturk located in the upstream portion of the Lake Lafayette Drainage Basin (**Figure 5-55**). Flows from the upstream most waterbody in the system (Lake McBride) flow south to a crossing at Thomasville Road and then into the western end of Lake Kinsale. Additional flows from Lake Tom John (another target waterbody in this study) enter Lake Kinsale at its eastern end. Flows then proceed through Lake Killarney and Lake Kanturk, discharge across Centerville Road, and eventually to Alford Arm and Lower Lake Lafayette.

Based on early maps from the 1800s, the area where Lake Killarney is located was called Long Pond. This area appears to be best described as a wetland prairie system that was also a floodplain for the drainage out of Lake McBride as it flowed down to Lake Lafayette. **Photo 5-30** through **Photo 5-37** present aerial views of the system from 1937 through 2020. In the early photos (**Photo 5-30** and **Photo 5-31**) the general shapes of the lakes can be seen as open water floodplain areas. Agricultural activities from the 1940s to the 1960s resulted in excavation of drainage ditches and a pond in the area of Lake Killarney. In the 1970s permits were obtained for development of the area into lots for residential housing including a golf course located to the south of the lakes. The three lakes, as they exist today, were constructed in the historic floodplain primarily as aesthetic features for the development. **Photo 5-32** through **Photo 5-34** show the transition from the agricultural area in the 1950s to the developed condition in the 1980s. By 1996 (**Photo 5-35**) the area around the lakes is almost completely built-out residential development.

The drainage basin for the Killearn Chain of Lakes covers an area of 8,843 acres and includes Lake McBride in the upstream reaches and Lake Tom John that drains across Velda Dairy Road into Lake Kinsale (**Figure 5-55**). The Killearn Chain receives discharge from multiple neighborhoods including Killearn Acres, Killearn Estates, Royal Oaks, Foxcroft, Lake Carolyn Estates, Highlands and portions of Ox Bottom Manor and Summerbrooke. Additionally, the basin includes numerous commercial areas along Thomasville Road and Kerry Forest Parkway.

Water levels in each of the lakes are controlled by structures that provide interconnection between the waterbodies. A weir structure is located at the downstream end of Lake Kinsale (**Photo 5-38**) at an elevation of 74.8 ft-NAVD88. A culvert with an invert elevation of 70.5 ft-NAVD88 connects Lake Killarney with Lake Kanturk. Finally, a sump with an overflow elevation of 73.9 ft-NAVD88 at Centerville Road controls outflow from Lake Kanturk (**Photo 5-39**). The outflow from Lake Kanturk has been significantly stabilized to prevent erosion (**Photo 5-40**).





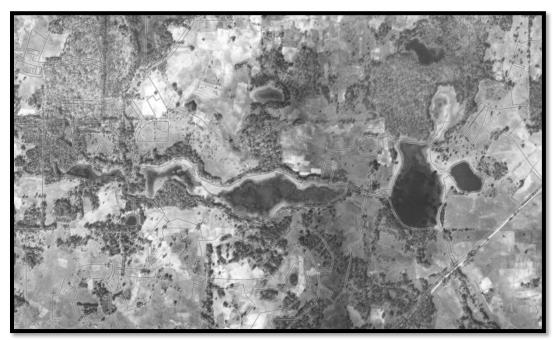


Photo 5-30: Killearn Chain of Lakes Basin Area Aerial (1937)



Photo 5-31: Killearn Chain of Lakes Basin Area Aerial (1949)



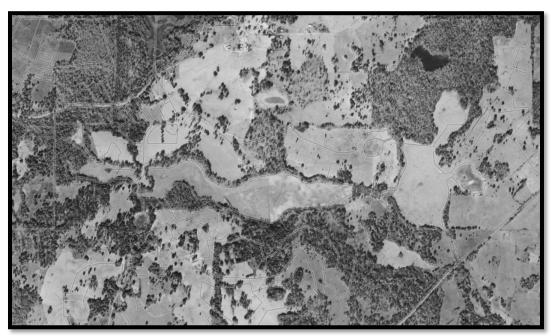


Photo 5-32: Killearn Chain of Lakes Basin Area Aerial (1954)



Photo 5-33: Killearn Chain of Lakes Basin Area Aerial (1970)





Photo 5-34: Killearn Chain of Lakes Basin Area Aerial (1983)

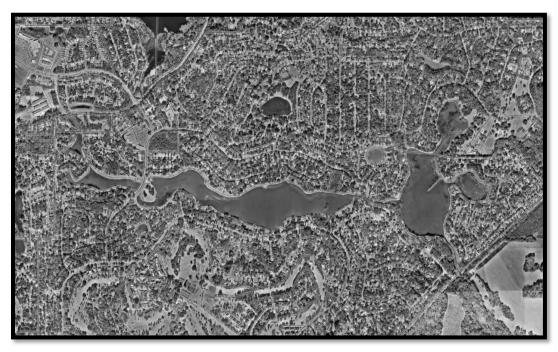


Photo 5-35: Killearn Chain of Lakes Basin Area Aerial (1996)





Photo 5-36: Killearn Chain of Lakes Basin Area Aerial (2007)



Photo 5-37: Killearn Chain of Lakes Basin Area Aerial (2020)





Photo 5-38: Weir Structure on Lake Kinsale



Photo 5-39: Sump Wall Overflow on Eastern End of Lake Kanturk





Photo 5-40: Outflow Channel from Killearn Chain of Lakes at Centerville Road

When the lakes were constructed in the 1970s, in order to maintain water levels, groundwater pumping was required due to insufficient hydrologic inputs. This pumping supplemented inflows and helped to maintain water levels throughout the system. Due to costs, pumping was discontinued circa 1990. Following the elimination of pumping, the lakes experienced significant fluctuation in water levels with periods of dry-down which exposed the lake bottom for extended periods of time.

Examination of the aerial photos shows these fluctuations. In the 1983 aerial (**Photo 5-34**) all three lakes are clearly full. In the 1996 aerial (**Photo 5-35**) some bottom exposure can be seen. In the 2007 and 2020 aerial photos (**Photo 5-36** and **Photo 5-37**) extensive exposed bottom can be seen in both Lake Killarney and Lake Kanturk. Due to the weir at the downstream end of Lake Kinsale, along with the larger watershed which drains directly to Lake Kinsale, water levels remain higher in comparison to the other two lakes. To illustrate the impacts of the variations in water level, photos of Lake Killarney are provided under different conditions. **Photo 5-41** presents a near full condition following extended rainfall. **Photo 5-42** presents a more average condition. **Photo 5-43** presents a low water condition during winter. **Photo 5-44** presents a low water condition after an extended dry period to allow vegetative growth. As these photos illustrate, the impacts to the lakes from the exposure of the lake bottom (and associated vegetation) to frequent dry spells creates conditions where upon refilling, decomposing material leads to an influx of nutrients to the system with resulting algal response.





Photo 5-41: Western End of Lake Killarney High Condition (April 2017)



Photo 5-42: Western End of Lake Killarney Average Condition (May 2011)



July 2025



Photo 5-43: Western End of Lake Low Condition (January 2020)



Photo 5-44: Western End of Lake Low Condition (July 2011)



Between 2014 to 2018 numerous studies were undertaken by the City and others to evaluate conditions in the lakes and identify an appropriate path forward for the waterbody designations and restoration. The studies included.

- A 2014 Evaluation of Sediment Impacts on Water Quality by ERD that evaluated sediments in the lake and their potential contribution to nutrient loading,
- A 2014 study by the City and the University of Florida that provided an assessment of the soil characteristics in the basin and their impacts on water quality,
- A 2015 study by Applied Technology and Management (ATM) that provided an assessment of storm event loading data and other data relative to the waterbody designations, and
- Studies by ATM and Frydenborg Ecologic in 2016 and 2017 that evaluated the effects of the water level fluctuations on water quality and guidance for performing sampling within the three lakes.

The lake sediment study (conducted in 2014) calculated the internal nutrient loads under typical conditions and under conditions following rewetting of the lake bottoms. Analyses were performed on cores taken from two sites in Lake Kinsale, three sites in Lake Killarney, and three sites in Lake Kanturk. The calculated loads are presented in **Section 5.5.4.4**. The study concluded that nutrient recycling from bottom sediments is minimal and that nutrient release from sediments following reflooding is not a significant source.

The overriding finding from the other studies is that the water level fluctuations create extended periods where conditions are not appropriate for assessment against criteria established for lakes under the NNC and lakes in general. As such, management recommendations need to center around solutions to maintain water levels in the lakes or provide for management as a more standard wetland prairie system. The study findings are discussed in greater detail in sections to follow.

5.5.2 Regulatory Status

Exhibit 5-2 presented the verified impaired waters within the overall Lake Lafayette basin. In the Cycle 3/Group 1 assessment, Lakes Killarney/Kinsale (WBID 647C) were verified impaired for nutrients (TSI) and un-ionized ammonia based on data from 2007 to 2014. During that same cycle Lake Kanturk (WBID 647F) was verified impaired for nutrients (TSI) based on data from 2008 to 2014. In 2016, the City submitted a document entitled *Documentation in Support of Category 4e for WBIDs 647C and 647F: Killarney and Kanturk* requesting the two WBIDs (containing all three lakes) be moved into Category 4e. Category 4e (as outlined in Section 5.4.2) indicates that *the waterbody is impaired, but ongoing or recently completed restoration activities are underway to restore designated uses, so a TMDL calculation is not necessary.* In 2019 WBID 647C was subdivided so that in the present IWR database there are two WBIDs, one for Lake Kinsale (WBID 647K) and one for Lake Killarney (WBID 647J). The 4e designation carried forward to the two new WBIDs. Presently all three lakes remain in the 4e category. A key finding as part of the 4e assessment was that without supplemental hydraulic augmentation the waterbodies will continue to be impaired.



5.5.3 Waterbody Data Review and Summary

This section presents an overview of available data and data sources for the Killearn Chain of Lakes including bathymetry, land use, soils, septic systems, hydrologic measurements, surface water quality, groundwater quality, biological, stormwater treatment facilities, and atmospheric deposition.

5.5.3.1 Bathymetry

No bathymetric data was available. Based on available reports and other information the average depths in the lakes (when full) are approximately 4 ft, 6 ft, and 5 ft for Lake Kinsale, Lake Killarney, and Lake Kanturk, respectively.

5.5.3.2 Land Use

Figure 5-56 presents a map of the Level 2 land uses within the Killearn Chain of Lakes basin. A table is provided to show the overall acreages and percent cover for the various levels. Tables are provided for both the Level 2 and grouped Level 1 land uses. The largest land use type by far within the Killearn Chain of Lakes drainage basin per the grouped Level 1 categories is Urban and Built Up (67 percent) with the bulk of that being Medium Density Residential. The areas are spread throughout the basin. The next highest category is Upland Forest (20 percent) located primarily in the northwestern most upstream reaches of the basin.

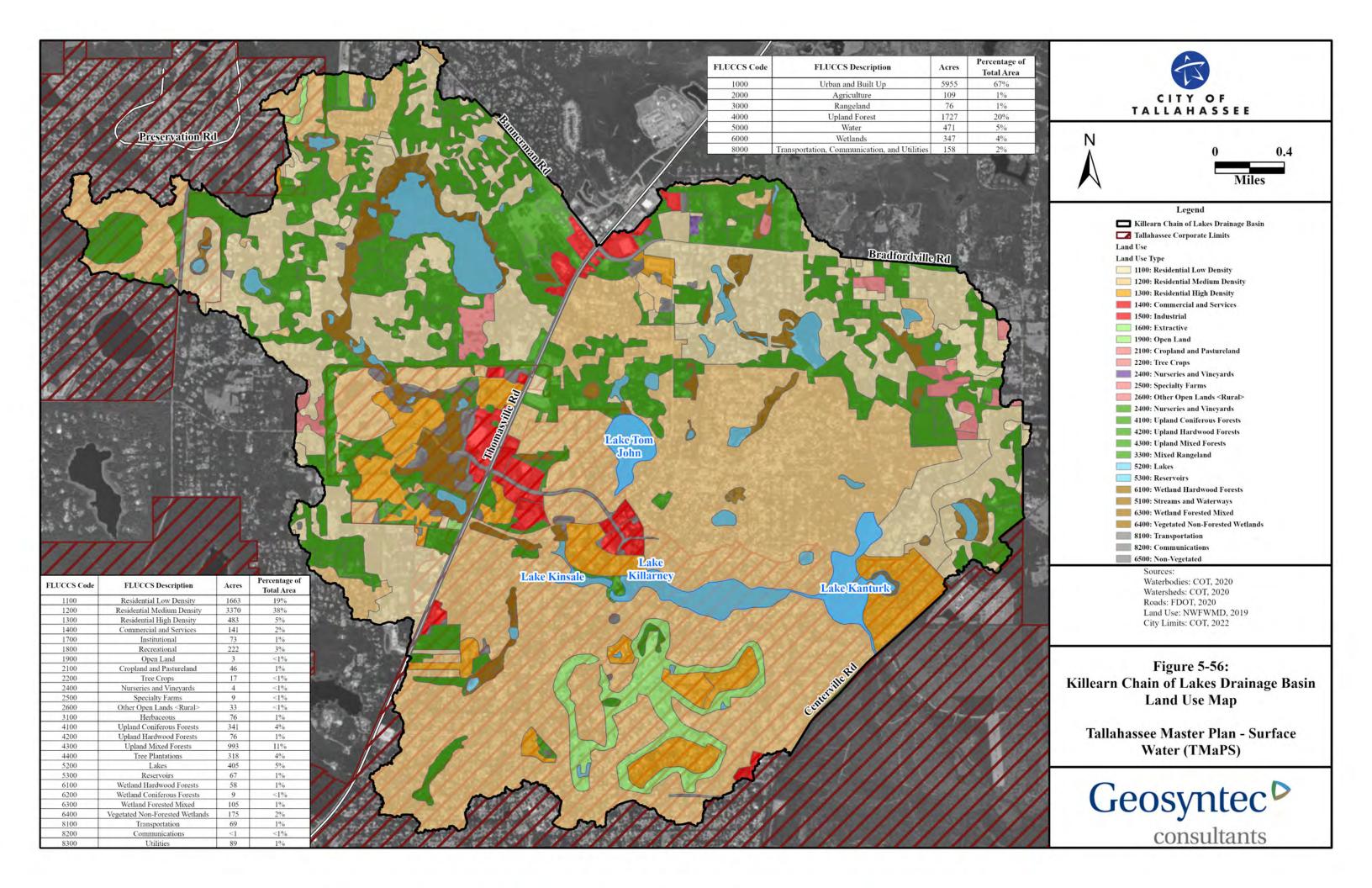
5.5.3.3 Soils

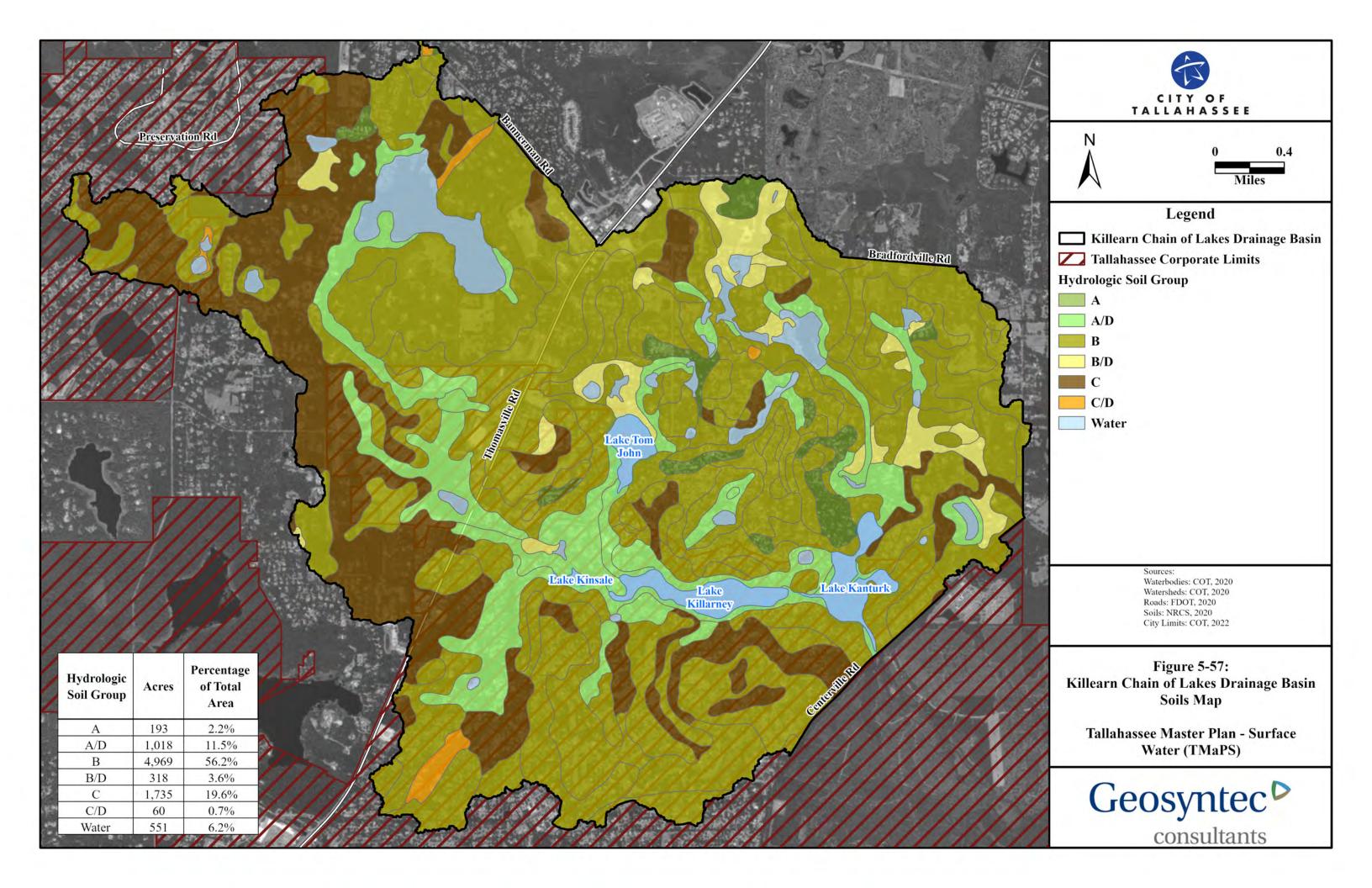
The most prevalent soil group in the Killearn Chain of Lakes basin is Group B (56 percent) (**Figure 5-57**). Group B soils are considered to have moderate rates of infiltration. The second highest soil group coverage is Group C (20 percent), which has low rates of infiltration and high runoff potential. The majority of the remaining soil groups (B/D and A/D) throughout the basin are generally in areas with high water tables so they also would not drain well and have large runoff potentials.

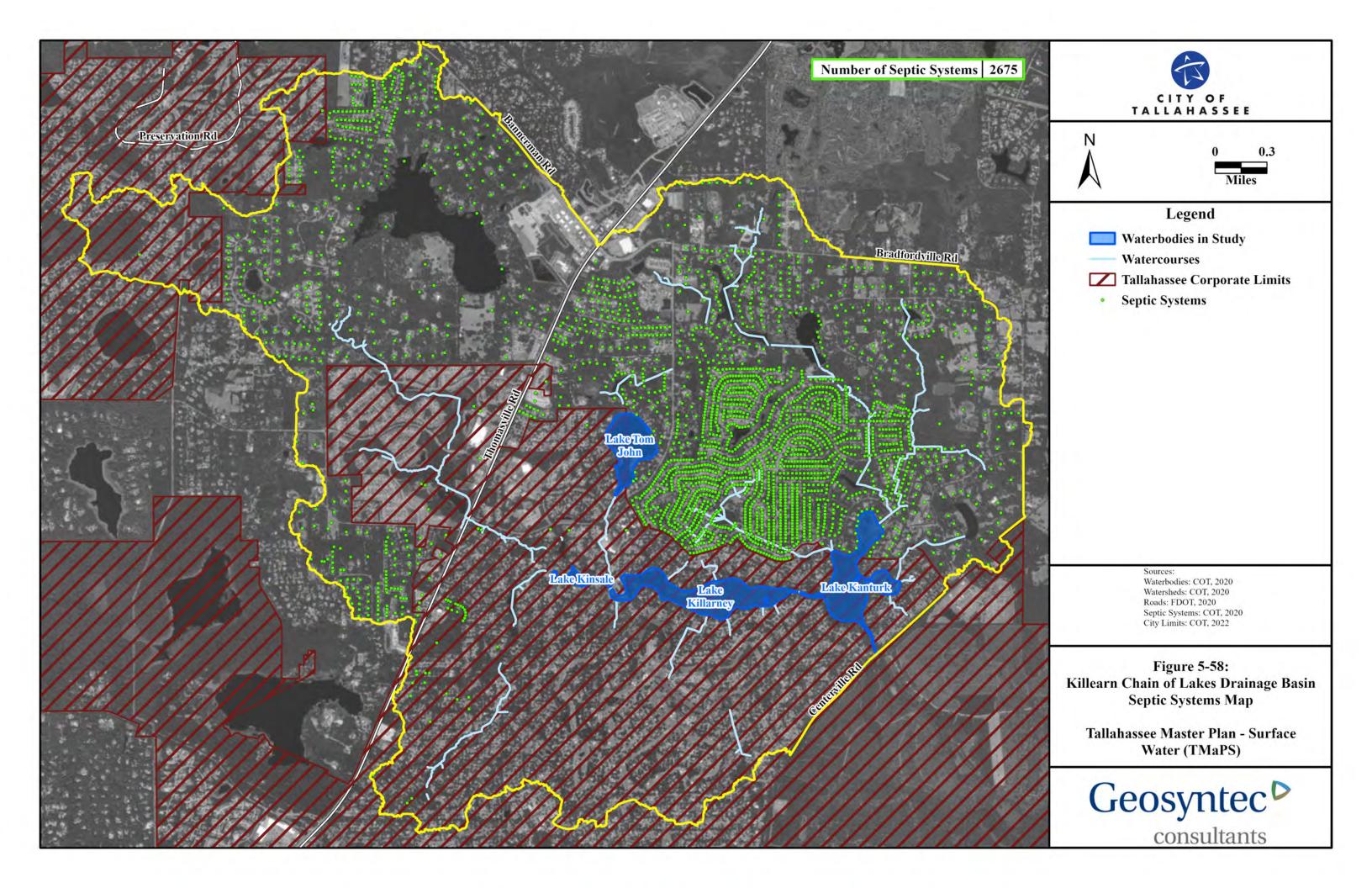
5.5.3.4 Septic Systems

An estimated 2,675 septic systems are within the boundaries of the Killearn Chain of Lakes drainage basin, based on the FDOH septic tank layer (**Figure 5-58**). The systems are located throughout the northern and upstream portions of the basin. The highest density is in neighborhoods to the north of the Killearn Chain of Lakes along tributaries that drain to Lake Kanturk.

Effluent from septic tanks that are in good condition should be comparable to secondarily treated wastewater effluent from sewage treatment plants. However, septic systems can be a source of pollutants, pathogens, and nutrients and are identified by FDEP as a potential source of bacteria and nutrients to waterbodies in its assessment processes.









5.5.3.5 Hydrologic Data

Exhibit 5-6 presented the locations of hydrologic data stations within the Lake Lafayette basin. As the map shows, there are water level stations located in each of the three lakes (Stations 012547, 012548, and 012549). Data from these stations was obtained from 2013 to 2021. **Figure 5-59** presents a plot of the measured water levels relative to NAVD88 for the period of the available data. The data for each of the lakes are plotted together to show how the lake levels vary relative to one another. The data show the variations between the lakes. The stage in Kinsale stays higher for longer periods and does not drop down to the levels seen in the other waterbodies. Killarney and Kanturk drop to levels around 4 ft lower than Kinsale for extended periods representing dry out conditions.

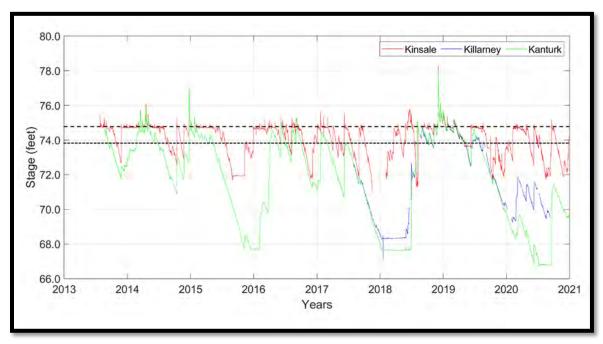


Figure 5-59: Water Levels in Lake Kinsale, Lake Killarney, and Lake Kanturk with Control Elevations (Kinsale/Killarney – long dash, Killarney/Kanturk – short dash)

A flow measurement station is located downstream of Lake Kanturk where the discharge channel crosses Centerville Road (**Exhibit 5-6**). These data reflect the flow out of the system. **Figure 5-60** presents a plot of the daily average flows from 1990 through 2020. The flow rates vary from 0 up to over 200 cfs. Discharge out of the Killearn Chain of Lakes is highly intermittent with long periods when discharge is at 0.



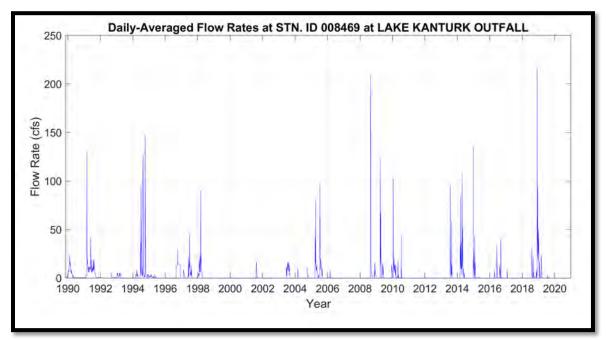


Figure 5-60: Flow Out of Lake Kanturk

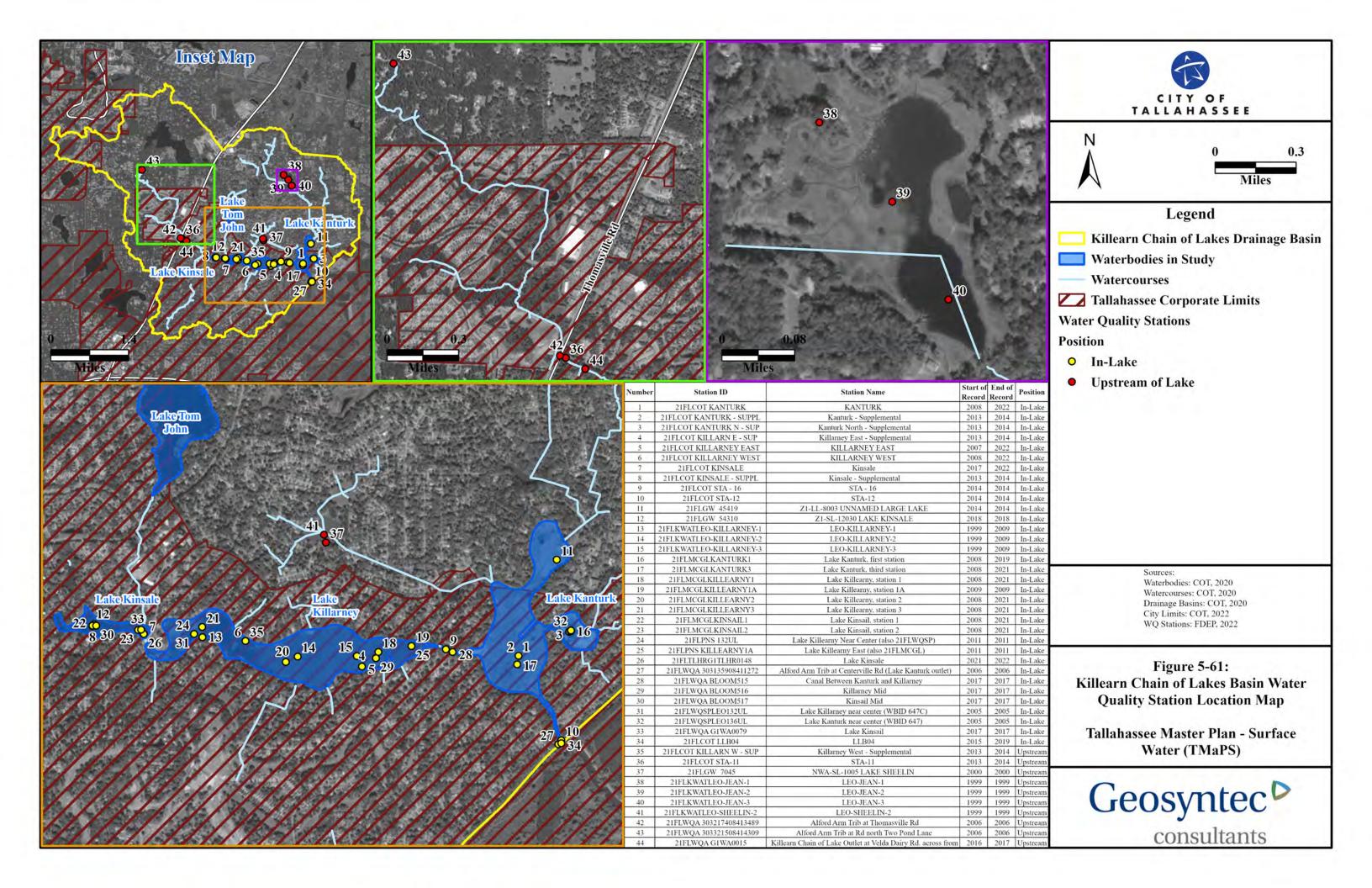
5.5.3.6 Surface Water Quality Data

The available data from the Killearn Chain of Lakes span from 1999 to the present. Data were provided by local and state agencies (City, Leon County, FDEP, and USGS) as well as private sector firms (McGlynn Lab).

Figure 5-61 presents the locations of in-lake water quality monitoring stations for the Killearn Chain of Lakes (yellow) along with stations that provide water quality data within tributaries that drain into Lake Kinsale and Lake Kanturk (red). A table is provided in **Figure 5-61** that shows the station ID, station name, period of record, and if the station represents in-lake or inflowing tributary data. Based on the number of stations and the length of the station IDs, station IDs were not included on the figure, rather each of the stations is given a number and the numbers correspond to stations in the table.

Figure 5-61 shows that water quality monitoring stations have been spread throughout the three lakes for the period of record. Relative to more recent data (after 2010) there are numerous stations throughout the system.

Some initial plots of the available data in the lakes are provided in this section. As nutrients are the primary constituent of interest relative to water quality conditions in the Killearn Chain of Lakes, plots are provided for the key parameters related to potential nutrient impairment. These include TN, TP, Chl-a, and TSI. Additionally, based on interest relative to septic systems and other sources, FIB, specifically *E. coli* are included. Additional data plots and analyses are provided as part of the qualitative assessment of sources in **Section 5.5.4**.





Below are plots of the measured TN, TP, and Chl-a data from 2010 to 2020 for Lake Kinsale, Lake Killarney, and Lake Kanturk. For Lake Kinsale (**Figure 5-62** through **Figure 5-64**) all three constituents show significant variation with TN and Chl-a showing slight upward trends, while TP concentrations appear consistent over the 10-year period. Three concentrations higher than 120 μ g/L (not shown on the graph) were measured in Lake Kinsale in 2017 between May and August, with one measurement at 380 μ g/L. For Lake Killarney (**Figure 5-65** through **Figure 5-67**), all three parameters show significant variation with lower overall concentrations after 2015. Finally, Lake Kanturk (**Figure 5-68** through **Figure 5-70**) shows similar concentration ranges to those seen in the other lakes but with more bunched data at lower concentrations with fewer higher values.

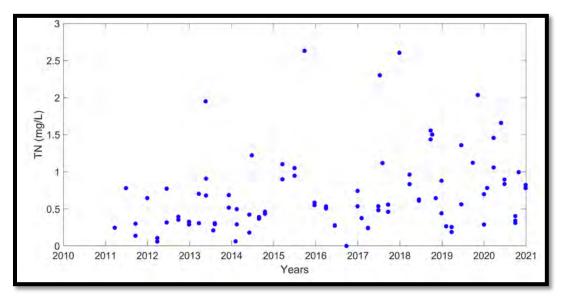


Figure 5-62: Plot of Measured TN Concentrations in Lake Kinsale (2010 to 2020)

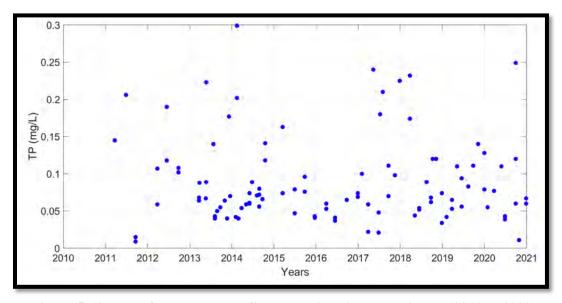


Figure 5-63: Plot of Measured TP Concentrations in Lake Kinsale (2010 to 2020)



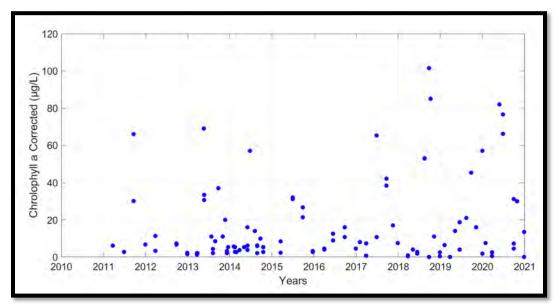


Figure 5-64: Plot of Measured Chl-a Concentrations in Lake Kinsale (2010 to 2020)

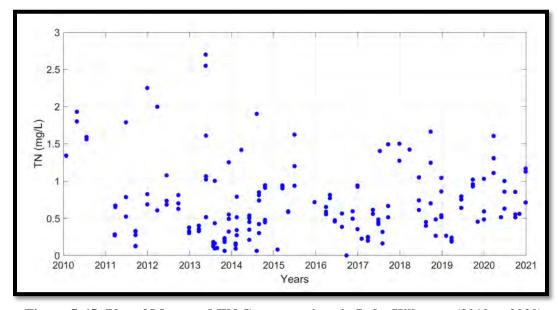


Figure 5-65: Plot of Measured TN Concentrations in Lake Killarney (2010 to 2020)



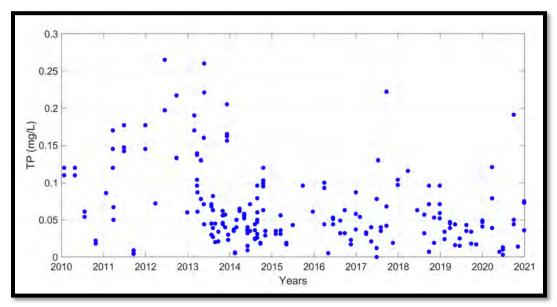


Figure 5-66: Plot of Measured TP Concentrations in Lake Killarney (2010 to 2020)

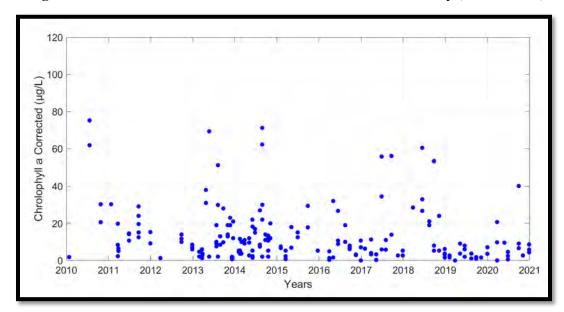


Figure 5-67: Plot of Measured Chl-a Concentrations in Lake Killarney (2010 to 2020)



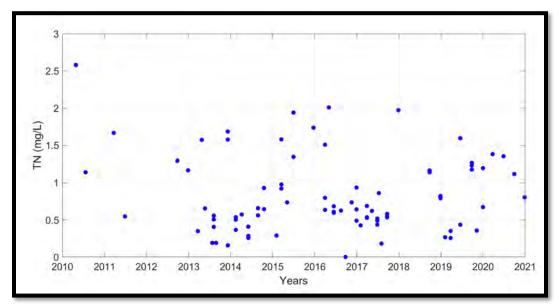


Figure 5-68: Plot of Measured TN Concentrations in Lake Kanturk (2010 to 2020)

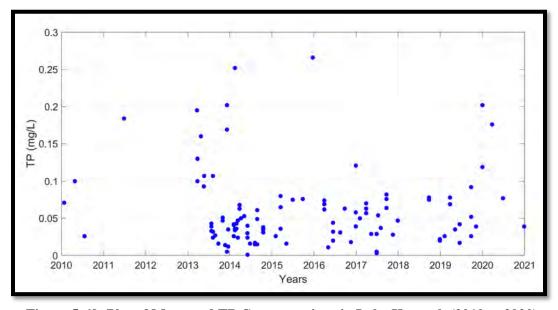


Figure 5-69: Plot of Measured TP Concentrations in Lake Kanturk (2010 to 2020)



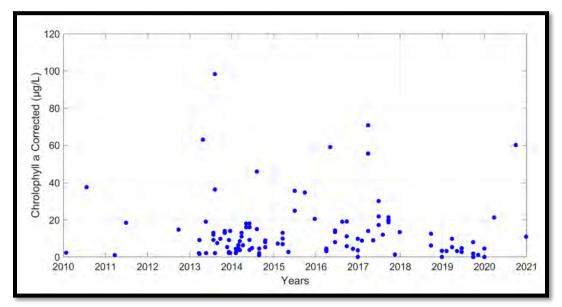


Figure 5-70: Plot of Measured Chl-a Concentrations in Lake Kanturk (2010 to 2020)

Under FDEP's NNC, the Killearn Chain of Lakes are all defined as low color, low alkalinity waterbodies. Based on this designation, the AGM threshold for Chl-a is 6 µg/L. For TN and TP, a range of concentrations are allowable, based on maintaining Chl-a levels in the lake below 6 µg/L. For TN, the range is 0.51 mg/L to 0.93 mg/L. For TP, the range is 0.01 mg/L to 0.03 mg/L. Based on the constructed nature and use of these waterbodies (as stormwater facilities) the City has identified through numerous studies that the targets outlined above may not be appropriate. For *E. coli*, the criteria are monthly geometric means below 126 colonies per 100 mL of water and less than 10 percent of samples above 410 colonies per 100 mL of water in any 30-day period.

TN, TP, and Chl-a AGMs are plotted below for each of the lakes as these define the status relative to nutrient impairments. Where sufficient data are available to assess the AGMs, the levels are provided from 2010 through 2020. For Chl-a, only data with corrected Chl-a are provided. The Chl-a threshold and the minimum and maximum thresholds for TN and TP relative to the NNC are provided on each of the graphs as pink dashed lines. Plots of calculated TSI values in the lake are also provided. While TSI is no longer utilized for the determination of impairment, it does serve as an indicator of lake health. Based on TSI definitions, levels below 60 are deemed good condition, levels between 60 and 70 indicate fair condition, while levels above 70 indicate poor condition. Finally, *E. coli* data for each of the lakes, for the available period of record, are presented against the 410 colonies per 100 mL threshold.

Examination of the TN plots (**Figure 5-71**, **Figure 5-74**, and **Figure 5-77**) shows that between 2010 and 2020 the TN AGMs for the three lakes varied significantly with some values below the minimum, some between the minimum and maximum and some above the maximum. Only Lake Kanturk did not have values below the minimum and overall had higher TN AGMs. TP AGM levels (**Figure 5-72**, **Figure 5-75**, and **Figure 5-78**) for the three lakes were all at or above the maximum threshold with Lake Kinsale having the highest values, and Lake Killarney and Lake Kanturk having similar values. **Figure 5-73**, **Figure 5-76**, and **Figure 5-79**, present the Chl-a



AGMs from 2010 through 2020. The majority of the Chl-a AGMs for the three lakes were above the $6\,\mu g/L$ threshold with Lake Kanturk having the highest overall values and Lake Killarney showing a downward trend.

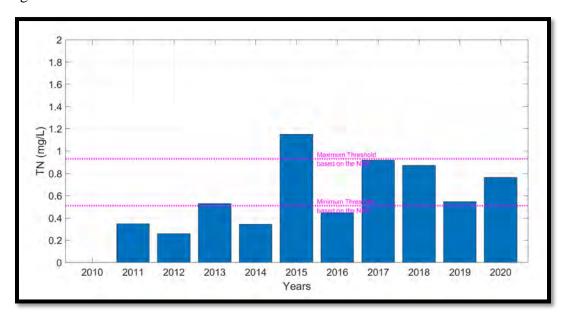


Figure 5-71: Plot of AGM for TN with NNC Criteria for Lake Kinsale

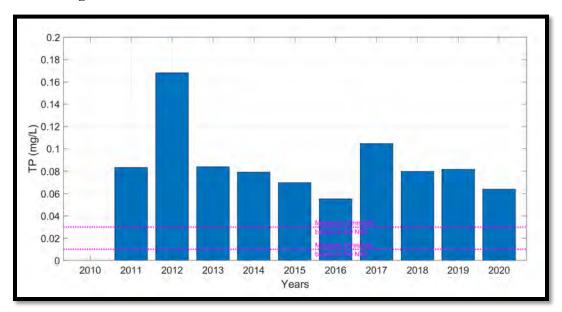


Figure 5-72: Plot of AGM for TP with NNC Criteria for Lake Kinsale



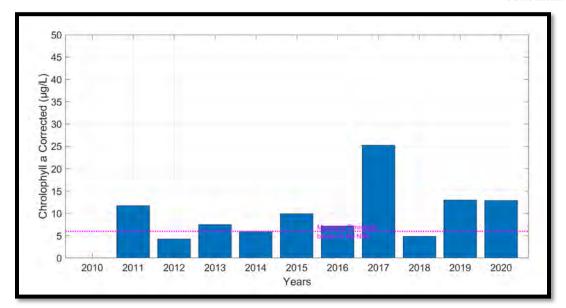


Figure 5-73: Plot of AGM for Chl-a with NNC Criteria for Lake Kinsale

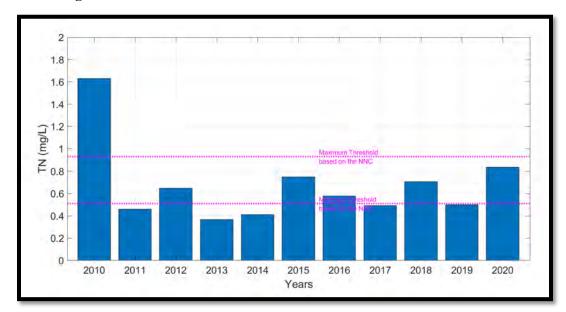


Figure 5-74: Plot of AGM for TN with NNC Criteria for Lake Killarney



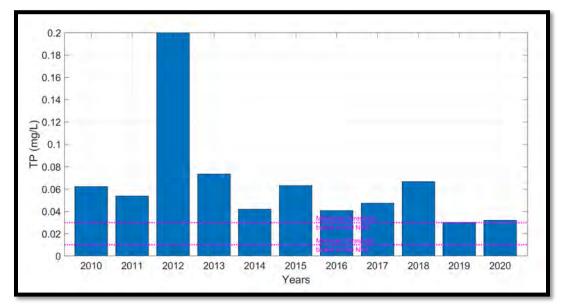


Figure 5-75: Plot of AGM for TP with NNC Criteria for Lake Killarney

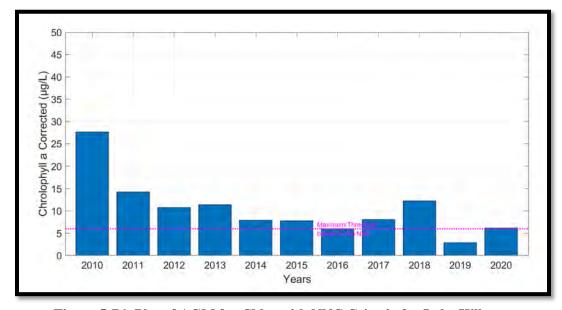


Figure 5-76: Plot of AGM for Chl-a with NNC Criteria for Lake Killarney



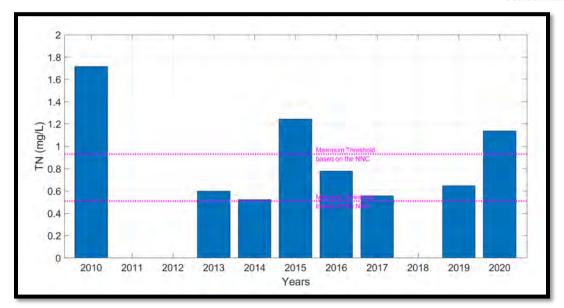


Figure 5-77: Plot of AGM for TN with NNC Criteria for Lake Kanturk

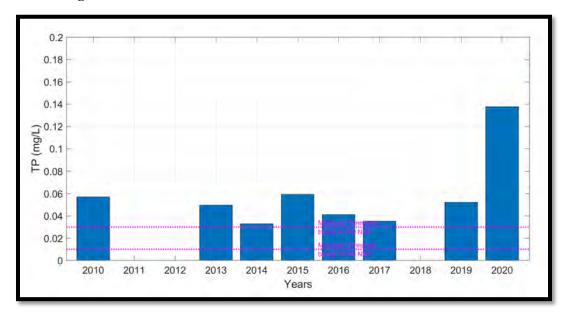


Figure 5-78: Plot of AGM for TP with NNC Criteria for Lake Kanturk



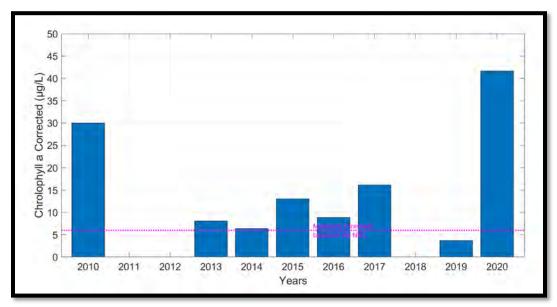


Figure 5-79: Plot of AGM for Chl-a with NNC Criteria for Lake Kanturk

Examination of the TSI plots **Figure 5-80**, **Figure 5-81**, and **Figure 5-82**) show that each of the lakes has values in the good range (below 60), the fair range and values in the poor range (above 70). The bulk of the values are in the good range for each of the lakes. All three lakes switch between nitrogen limited to nutrient balanced with some periods of time showing phosphorus limitation.

Figure 5-83, **Figure 5-84**, and **Figure 5-85** present plots of measured *E. coli* levels in the lakes from 2016 through 2020. The concentrations are generally low with no measurements showing values above the 410 MPN/100 mL threshold.

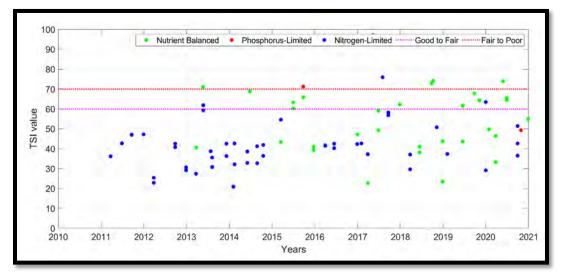


Figure 5-80: Plot of TSI for Lake Kinsale



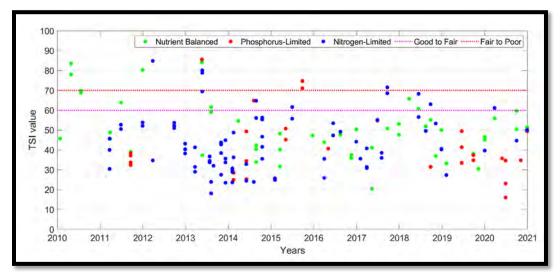


Figure 5-81: Plot of TSI for Lake Killarney

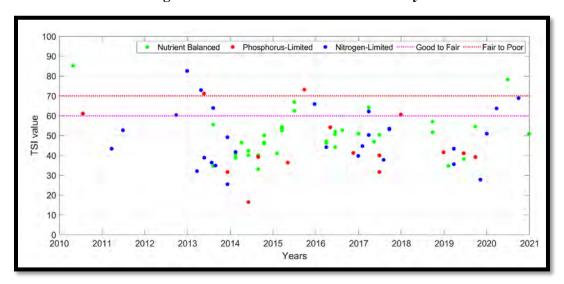


Figure 5-82: Plot of TSI for Lake Kanturk



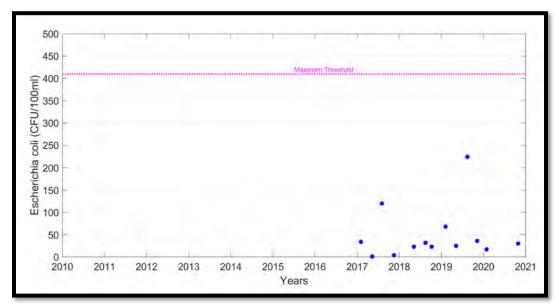


Figure 5-83: Plot of *E. coli* for Lake Kinsale

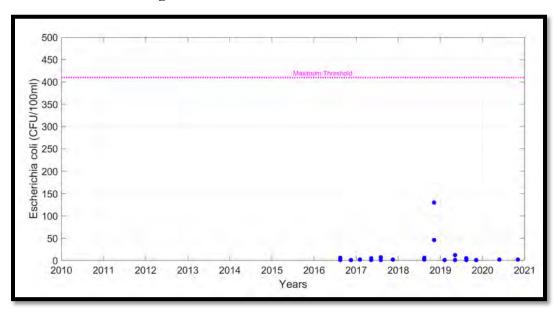


Figure 5-84: Plot of E. coli for Lake Killarney



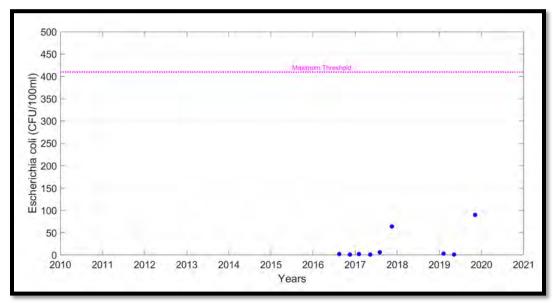


Figure 5-85: Plot of E. coli for Lake Kanturk

5.5.3.7 Groundwater Data

Presently, there are no surficial groundwater monitoring wells within the Killearn Chain of Lakes basin.

5.5.3.8 Biological Data

Table 5-14 and **Table 5-15** present LVI data collected by the City in Lake Killarney and Lake Kanturk since 2010. Data are only available for two years in that timeframe, 2010 and 2013. The data for both lakes showed impaired conditions relative to biology. No data during that same time period was available for Lake Kinsale. A 2009 sampling had a value of 35 which also indicates impaired conditions relative to the biology. The primary factor limiting the ability to perform LVI determinations are the low water levels and the repeated wetting and drying of the lake beds.

Table 5-14: Summary of LVI Data for Lake Killarney

Date	Station ID	LVI	Aquatic Life Use Category
6/10/2010	21FLCOT COTLVI005	28	Impaired
10/21/2013	21FLCOT COTLVI005	32	Impaired

Table 5-15: Summary of LVI Data for Lake Kanturk

Date	Station ID	LVI	Aquatic Life Use Category
6/10/2010	21FLCOT COTLVI004	24	Impaired
10/21/2013	21FLCOT COTLVI004	38	Impaired



5.5.3.9 Stormwater Treatment Facilities

In assessing potential sources of pollutants to the Killearn Chain of Lakes, and ultimately for targeting loads and reductions, it is important to identify treatment facilities adjacent to and along tributaries flowing into the three lakes. **Figure 5-86** presents a map showing the locations of stormwater treatment facilities throughout the Killearn Chain of Lakes basin. Multiple City ponds are located in the tributaries that drain into Lake Kinsale across Thomasville Road and downstream of Lake Tom John as well as the smaller tributary that drains to Lake Killarney. Leon County facilities are located in the tributaries that drain into the northern side of Lake Kanturk and scattered throughout the unincorporated areas that drain to Lake Kinsale.

5.5.3.10 Atmospheric Deposition Data

Section 5.4.3.11 presented the location of the nearest atmospheric deposition station to the Lake Lafayette basin. The data from this station will be utilized to calculate atmospheric deposition to the Killearn Chain of Lakes.

5.5.3.11 Data Summary

For the purposes of the qualitative analysis of sources of pollutants to the Killearn Chain of Lakes (**Section 5.5.4**) the available data are sufficient. There are sufficient active surface water quality stations within the lakes and within key tributaries entering the lakes. There are continuous water level measurements in each of the three lakes along with continuous flow at the outfall. Additionally, measured internal nutrient flux data are available for each of the lakes based on conditions in 2014. The following outlines limitations in the available data. Specific recommendations on additional data collection efforts are provided in **Section 5.10**.

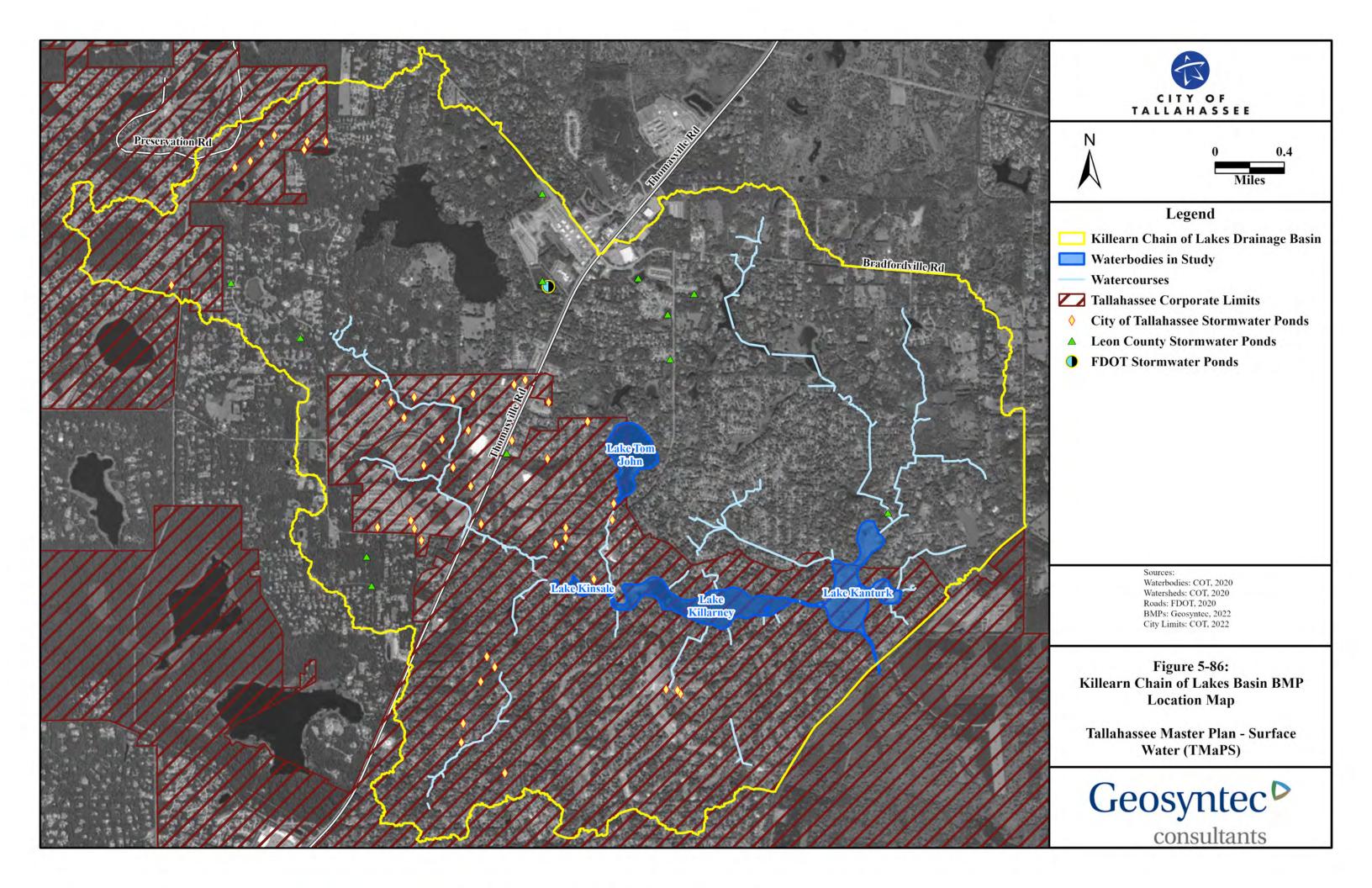
- There is no flow data for the tributaries flowing into Lake Kinsale.
- There are limited water quality data at the inflow points to Lake Kinsale from the upstream tributaries. Only two years of data are available along the creek crossing Thomasville Road.
- There are limited data to evaluate the potential for seepage of pollutants to the lake from the surficial aquifer, i.e., surficial groundwater sampling stations around the lakes.

5.5.4 Qualitative Assessment of Sources

As outlined in previous sections, prior to performing loading calculations and other analyses to quantify existing pollutant sources to the Killearn Chain of Lakes, it is important to analyze available data and summarize findings from historical studies to support identification and magnitude of likely sources.

For the Killearn Chain of Lakes, the sources to be evaluated include the following:

- Stormwater runoff
- Septic systems
- Internal recycling and seepage





- Wastewater
- Atmospheric deposition
- Interconnected flows

An overview of analyses and findings for each source listed above is provided in the following sections. Prior to the discussions of each of the potential sources, an in-lake analysis is provided to build on the information presented in **Section 5.5.3**. Following the discussions for each source type, a summary of findings for the qualitative assessment is provided.

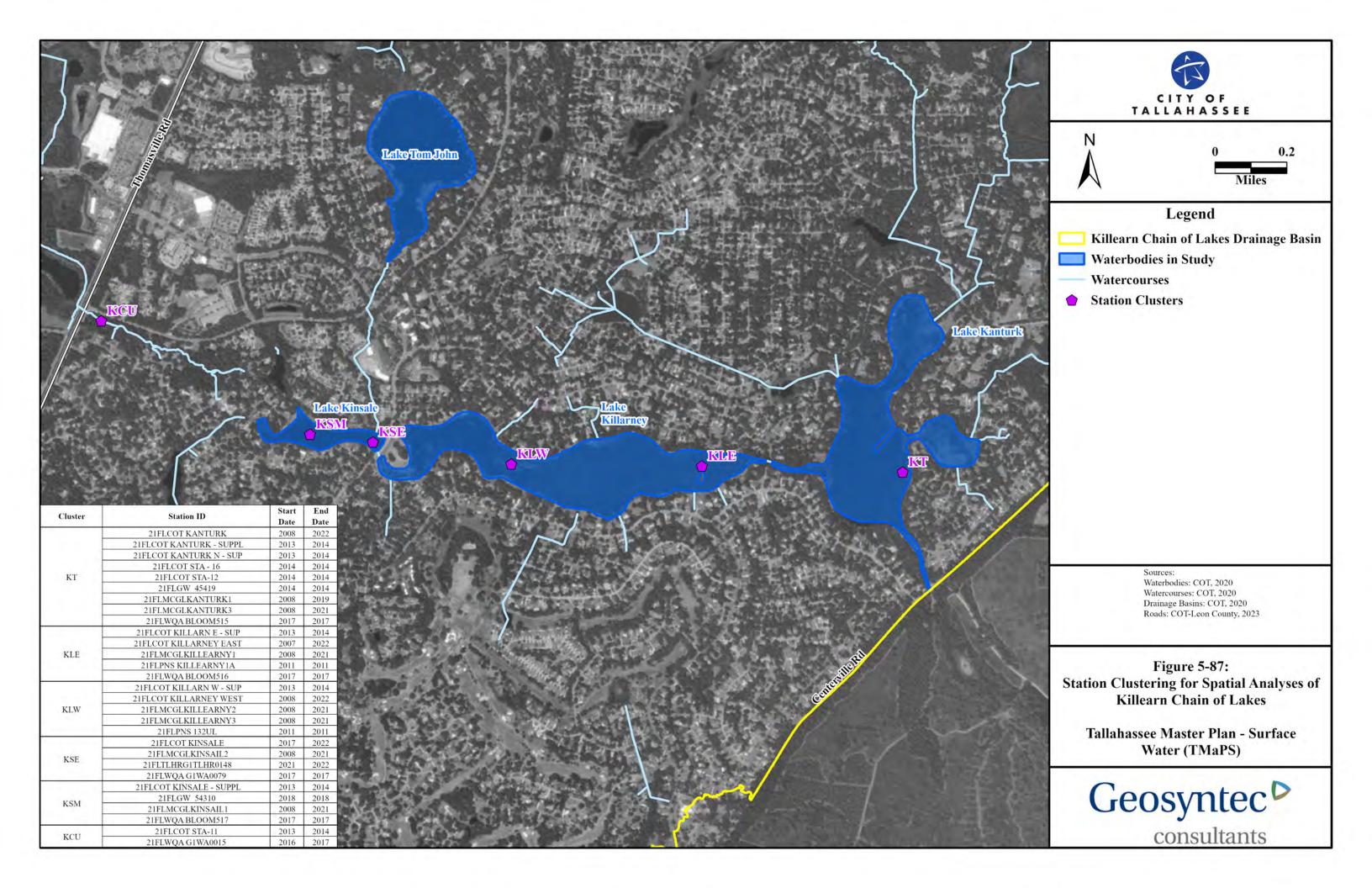
5.5.4.1 In-Stream Water Quality

Following the methodology utilized for the Lafayette Chain of Lakes in **Section 5.4.4.1**, analyses were conducted on the available in-lake data for the three lakes from 2010 to 2020, which provide an evaluation of the baseline water quality conditions as well as the spatial variation through the system of lakes. The parameters analyzed for the Killearn Chain of Lakes include color, alkalinity, TP, TN, Chl-a, TSI, and *E. coli*.

As was done for the Lafayette Chain of Lakes (**Section 5.4.4.1**) stations were clustered where they represent conditions within a specific area and all stations with data after 2010 were assigned to a specific cluster. The clustered data from 2010 to 2020 were analyzed to provide the average of the annual geomeans or the 90th percentile, depending upon the parameter. The results are presented on a map, with colors representing the results. The levels associated with the colors are reflective of water quality thresholds as outlined in 62-302 Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C) and are discussed and presented in **Section 5.4.4.1**. For the Killearn Chain of Lakes the nutrient thresholds are based on the lakes' classification as low color, low alkalinity waterbodies.

Figure 5-87 presents the data clustering used for the analyses and associated stations. For the Killearn Chain of Lakes, data since 2010 were available at multiple locations throughout the chain and at one location along the tributary draining the western portions of the basin. Within Lake Kanturk there was one cluster, near the outfall of the lake (KT). Within Lake Killarney there are two clusters one at the eastern end of the lake prior to discharging to Lake Kanturk (KLE) and one toward the western end of the lake (KLW). Finally, within Lake Kinsale there are two clusters, one at the eastern end of the lake just upstream of the weir (KSE) and the other around the middle of the lake (KSM). The final cluster is located along the tributary that drains into the western end of Lake Kinsale just downstream from the crossing at Thomasville Road (KCU). These stations, viewed together, present the spatial variation as water passes through the chain.

Figure 5-88 presents the color. For color, the scales were set such that values of 40 PCU and above were red with the remaining colors (orange down to blue) divided into 10 PCU segments, which shows how the lakes vary spatially relative to the low color threshold of 40 PCU. Moving from Lake Kinsale down to Lake Kanturk the color averages are relatively consistent with values between 10 PCU and 30 PCU. (KSM=29.2 PCU, KSE=26.1 PCU, KLW=22.5 PCU, KLE=16.8 PCU, KT=23.3 PCU).



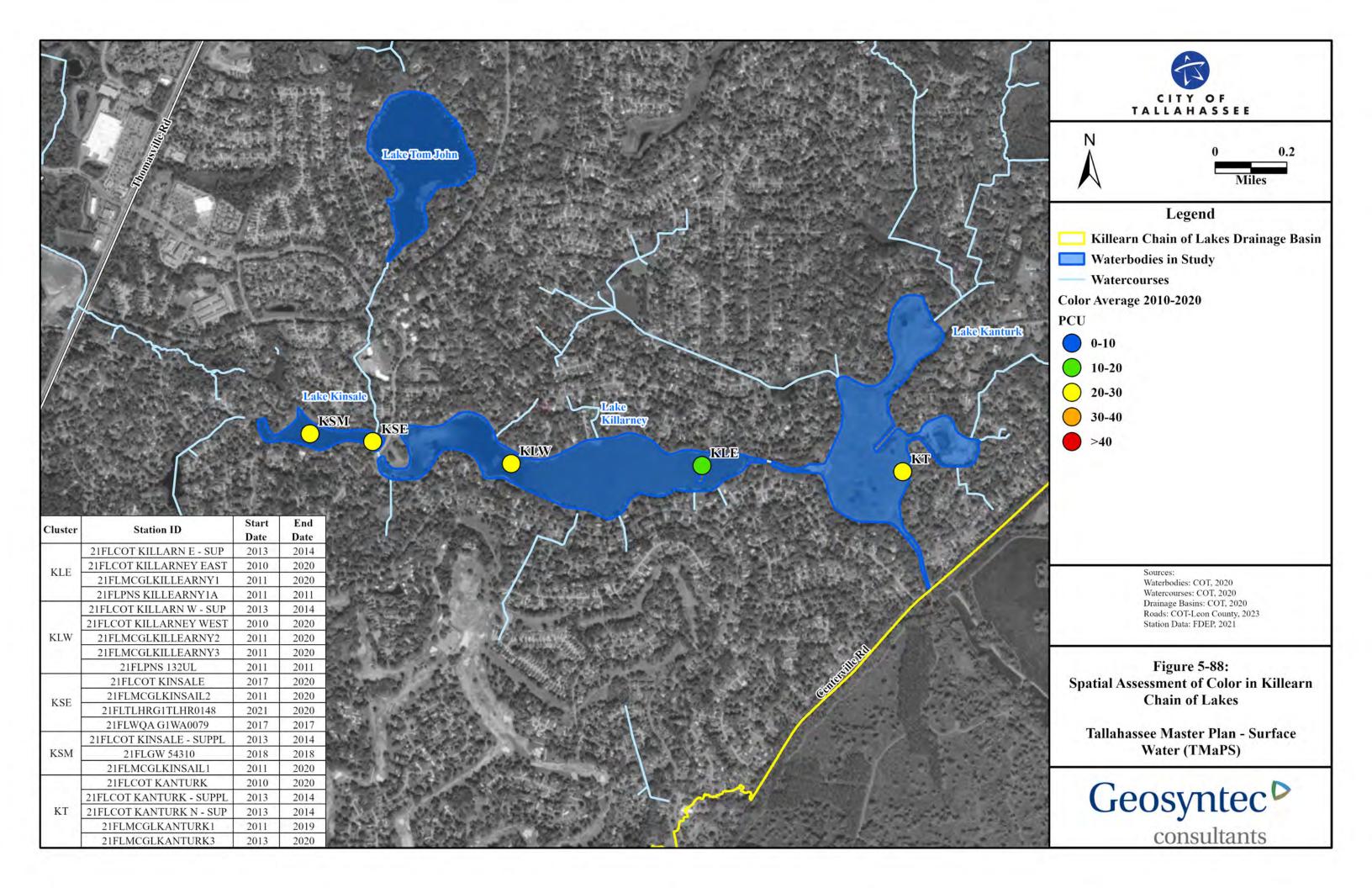




Figure 5-89 presents the alkalinity. The scales were set such that values above 20 mg/L were red, based on the NNC cutoff for low alkalinity lakes, with the remaining colors (orange down to blue) in 5 mg/L segments. Moving from Lake Kinsale down to Lake Killarney, alkalinity levels are relatively constant with the clusters between 15 mg/L and 20 mg/L (KSM=17.8 mg/L, KSE=17.6 mg/L, KLW=17.9 mg/L, KLE=18.0 mg/L, KT=14.4 mg/L). The Kanturk station has lower values between 10 mg/L and 15 mg/L.

Figure 5-90 and **Figure 5-91** present the TN and TP. The ranges for the lakes were set the same way as described for the Piney Z Lake with blue lower than the minimum NNC thresholds (TN=0.51 mg/L, TP=0.01 mg/L) and red higher than the maximum (TN=0.93 mg/L, TP=0.03 mg/L). For the tributary cluster (KCU) values above the designated stream criteria (TN=1.03 mg/L, TP=0.18 mg/L) are red while the remaining colors (orange down to blue) in even segments.

The TN map (**Figure 5-90**) shows all lake cluster averages just below or just above the minimum threshold (KSM=0.59 mg/L, KSE=0.55 mg/L, KLW=0.47 mg/L, KLE=0.52 mg/L, KT=0.71 mg/L) with limited spatial variation between the lakes. The one cluster with higher TN levels was KT within Lake Kanturk. Based on the limited data cluster KCU is well below the stream threshold (KCU=0.35 mg/L).

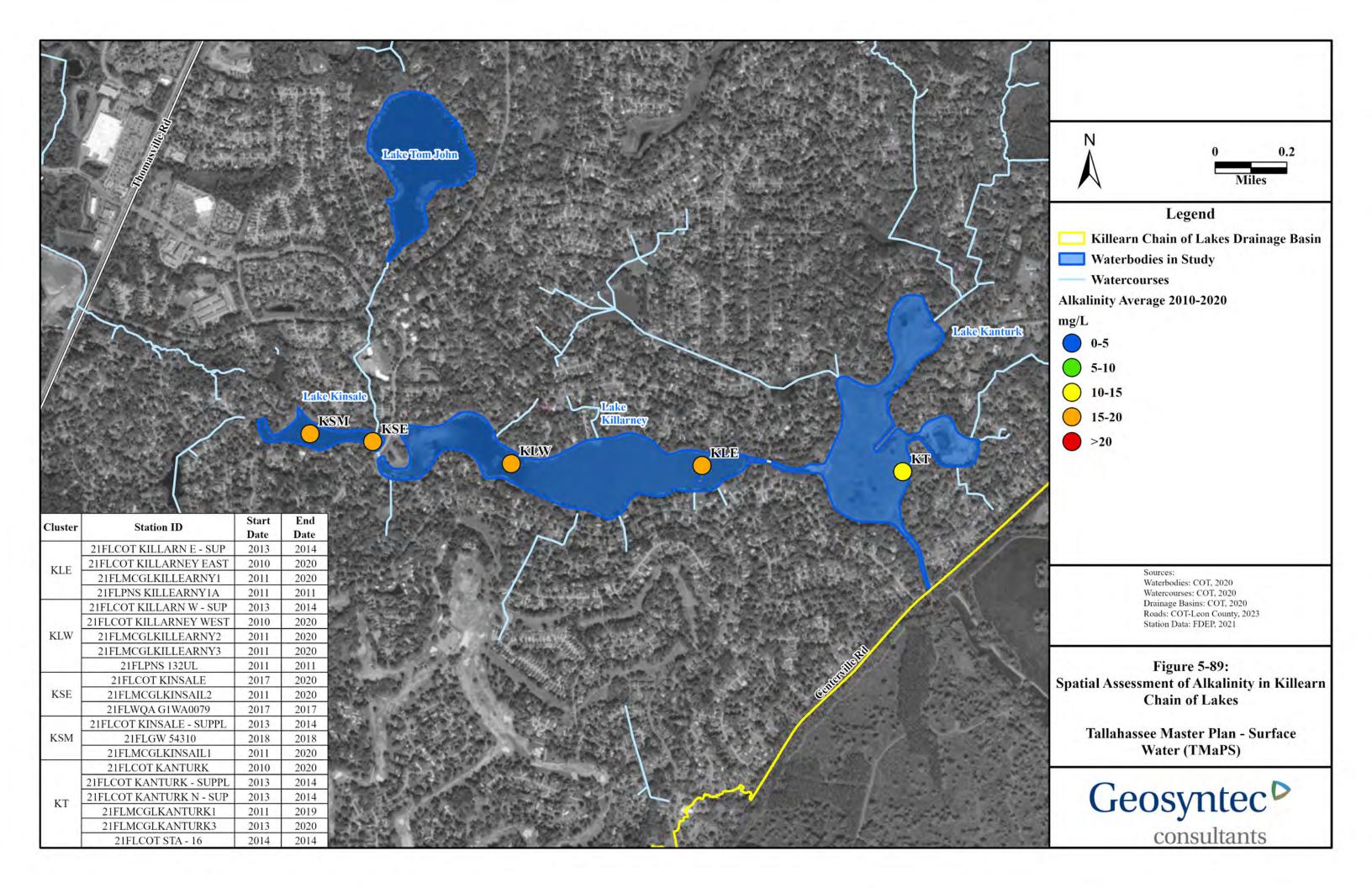
The TP map (**Figure 5-91**) shows all lake cluster averages above the maximum threshold (KSM=0.078 mg/L, KSE=0.085 mg/L, KLW=0.057 mg/L, KLE=0.050 mg/L, KT=0.043 mg/L). The tributary cluster TP level lower than the stream criteria but has levels well above the criteria within the lakes (KCU=0.088 mg/L).

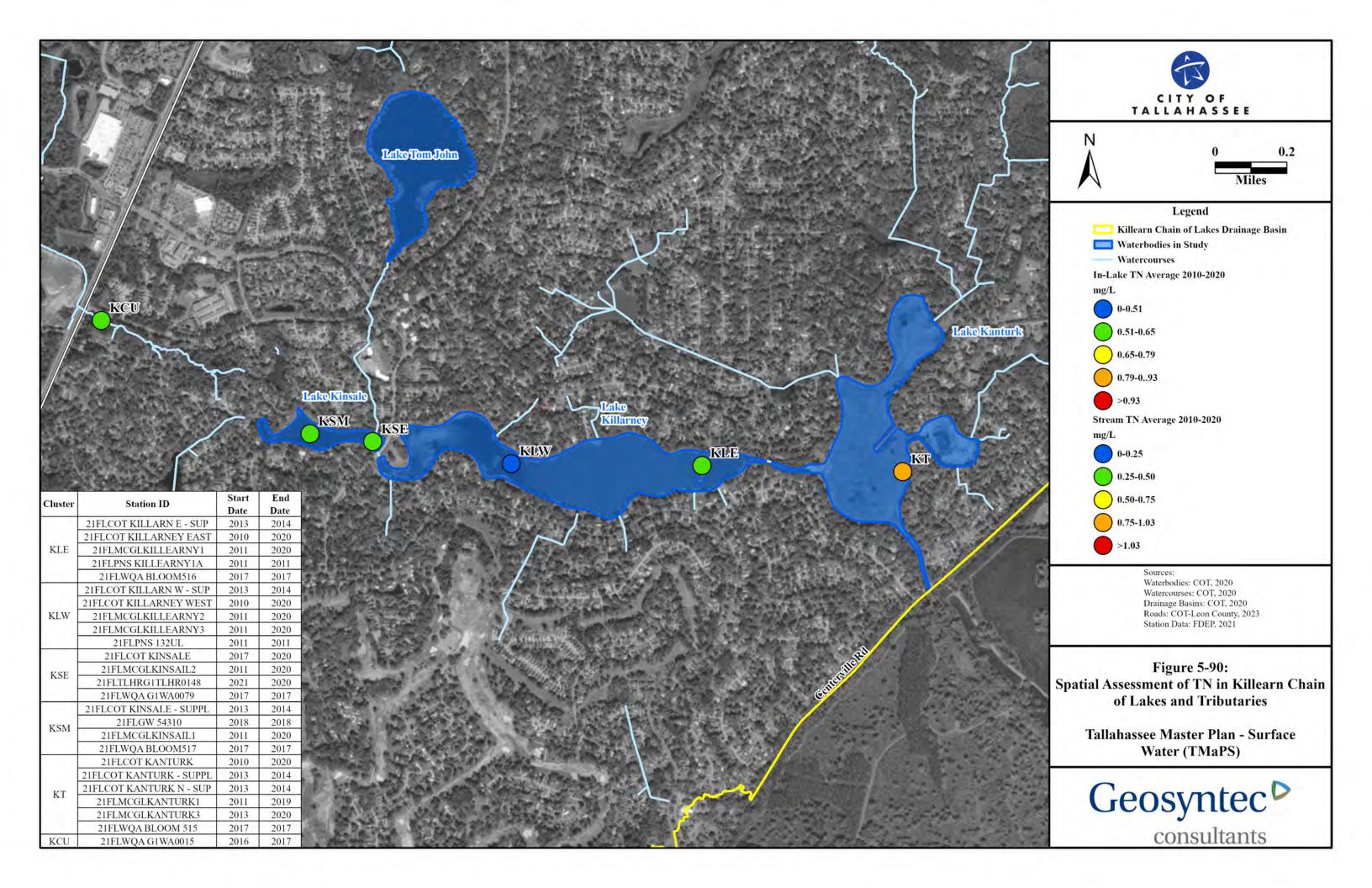
Figure 5-92 and **Figure 5-93** present the Chl-a and TSI. The ranges for the lakes were set the same way as described for the Piney Z Lake with red higher than the NNC threshold of 6 μ g/L for Chl-a and 60 for TSI. The Chl-a map (**Figure 5-92**) shows all lake cluster averages above the maximum threshold (KSM=11.0 μ g/L, KSE=9.0 μ g/L, KLW=8.4 μ g/L, KLE=8.5 μ g/L, KT=7.1 μ g/L). The TSI map (**Figure 5-93**) shows all lake cluster averages below the 60 threshold (KSM=50.3, KSE=48.7, KLW=46.3, KLE=49.0, KT=47.4).

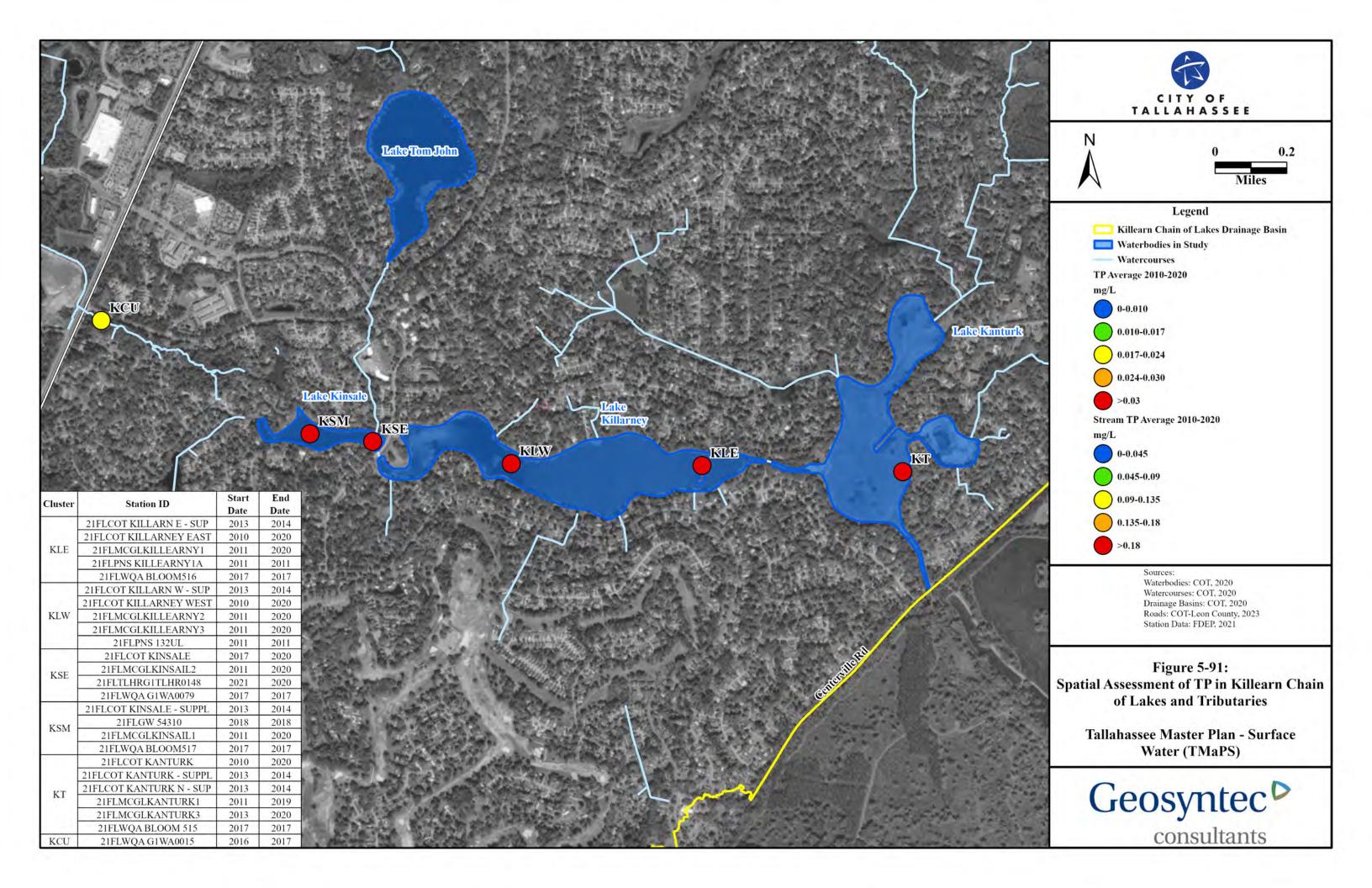
Figure 5-94 presents a map of the *E. coli* levels. The data analyzed are from 2016 through 2020 and the data were analyzed to provide the 90th percentile to compare against the 410 MPN/100 mL criteria per the FDEP approach in the IWR analyses. The map shows that all lake clusters have 90th percentile values well below the 410 MPN/100 mL threshold, with all stations below 100 MPN/100 mL (KSM=23 MPN/100 mL, KSE=46 MPN/100 mL, KLW=6 MPN/100 mL, KLE=2 MPN/100 mL, KT=4 MPN/100 mL).

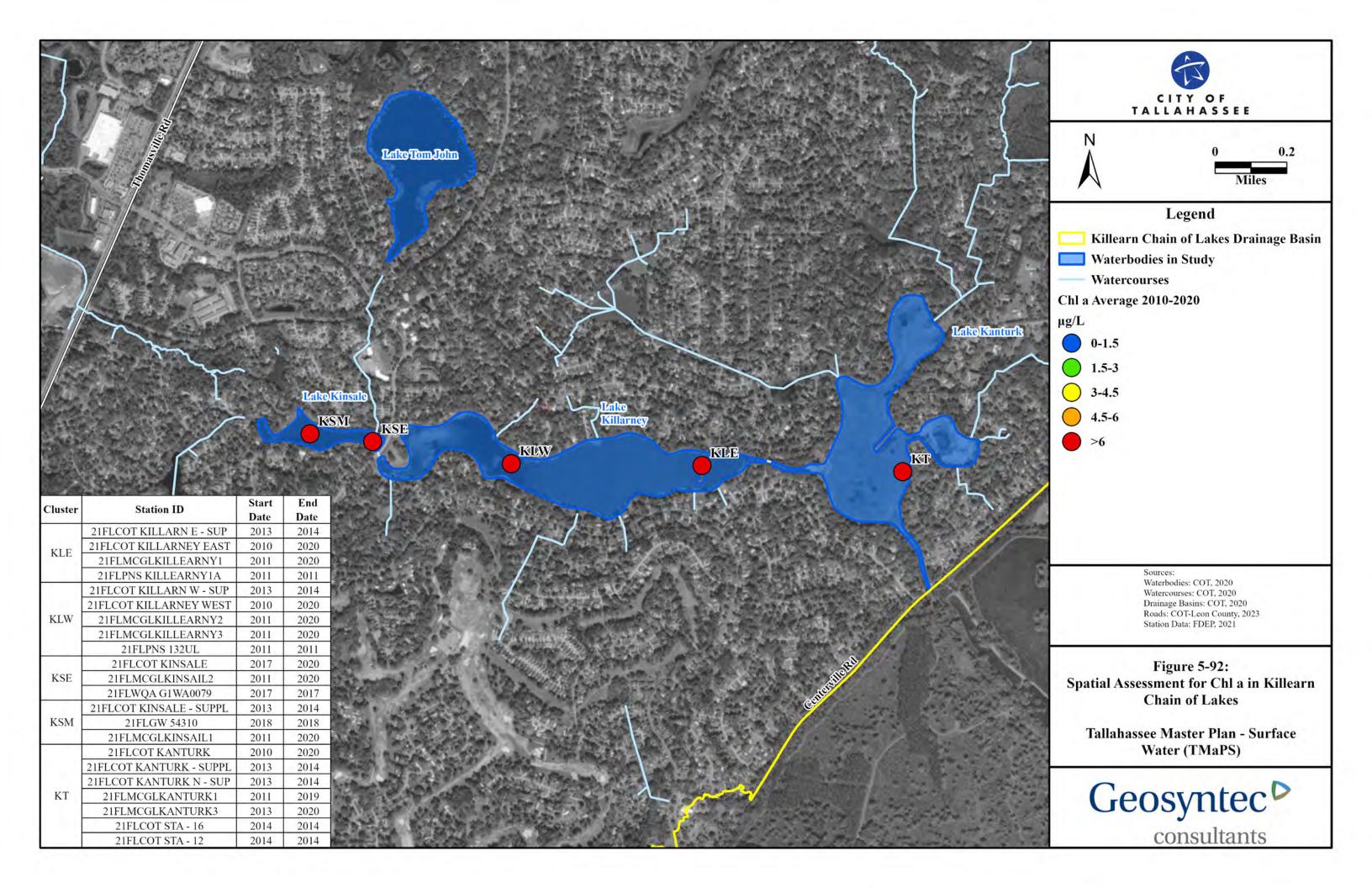
5.5.4.2 Stormwater Runoff

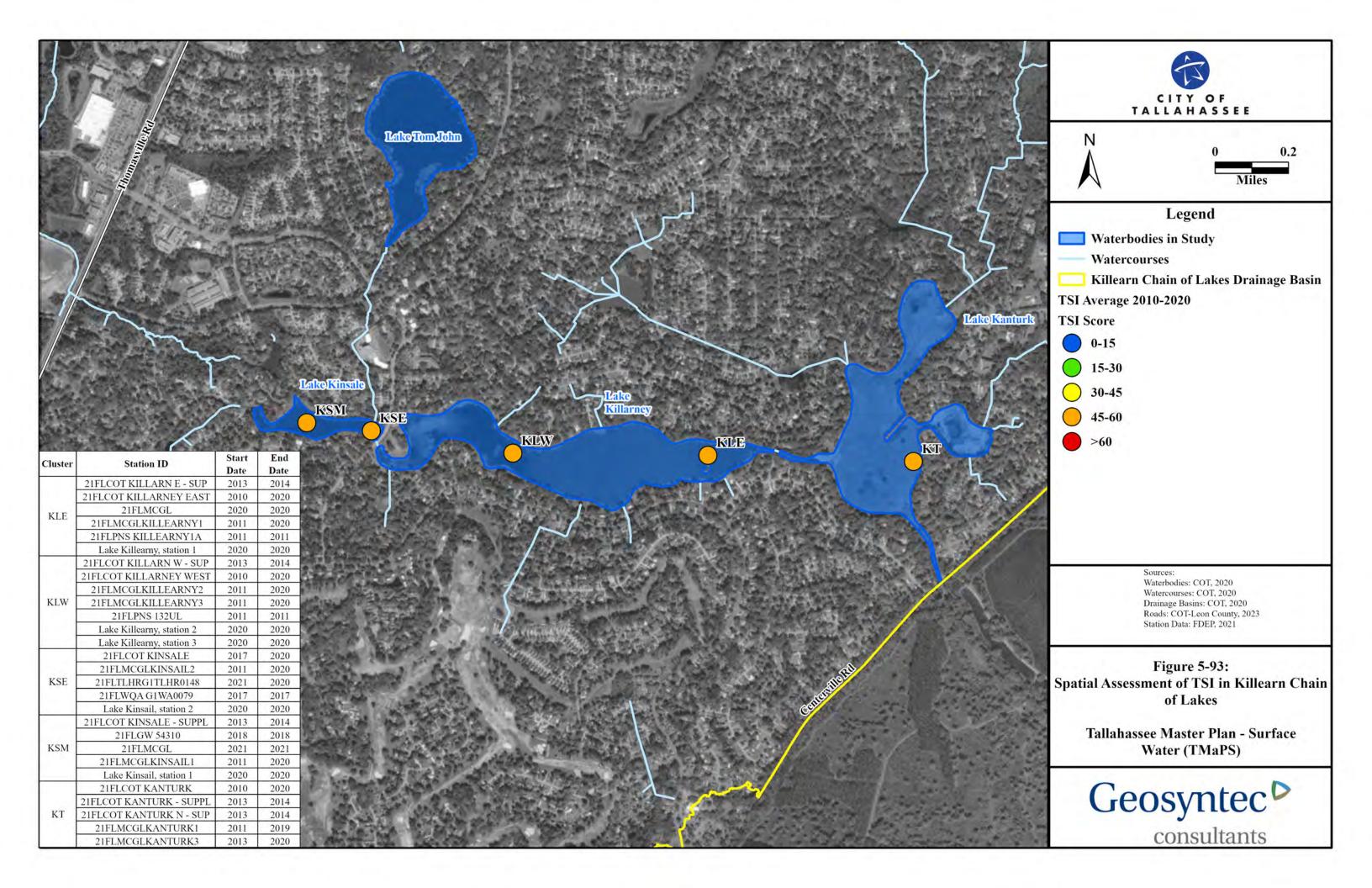
Data for the tributary inflow station across Thomasville Road (which drains the upper portions of the watershed) indicate elevated TP concentrations in comparison to the in-lake TP thresholds. Average concentrations are above 0.09 mg/L compared to the in-lake range of allowable concentrations between 0.01 mg/L and 0.03 mg/L. Stormwater sampling at this same location conducted in 2013 to 2014, showed similar concentrations (average around 0.08 mg/L). While these levels are elevated in relation to the in-lake thresholds, they are well below the stream NNC for this region (0.18 mg/L).

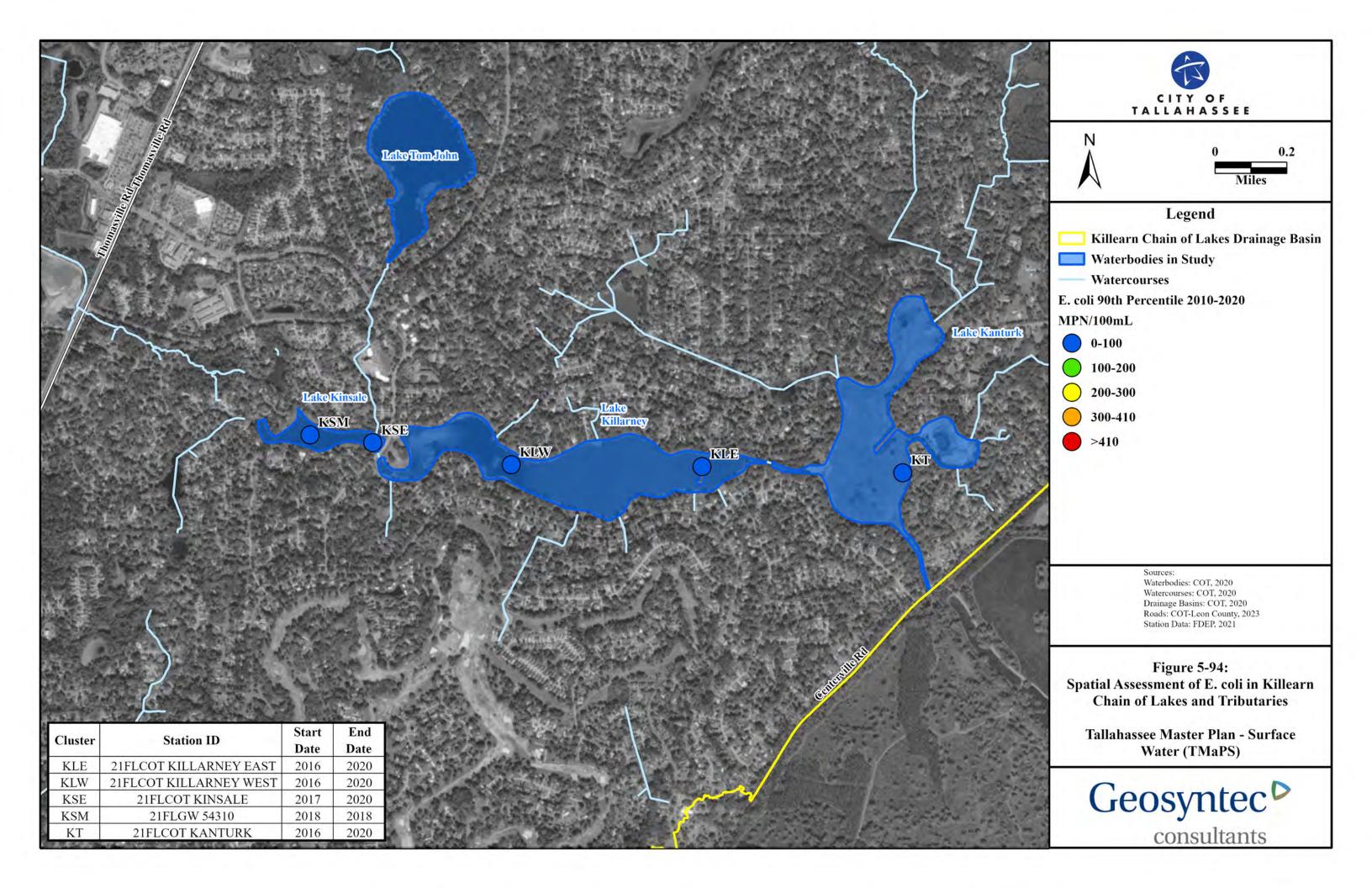














The 2013 to 2014, field measurements of storm event inflow concentrations discussed above were performed at all of the primary inflow points around the chain of lakes. A total of 12 stations collected between 4 and 7 samples. The results showed that for most of the drainage areas, the TN and TP concentration geomeans were at or below typical EMC values utilized by the City for medium density and high density residential areas (**Table 5-8**) but (other than the Thomasville Road crossing input discussed above, were generally at levels above the stream NNC of 0.18 mg/L. One area south of the chain of lakes that discharges to the western end of Lake Killarney had a TP value slightly above the City's EMC. Another location that drains into the northeaster lobe of Lake Kanturk showed a TP value nearly twice the City's value. Finally, an area that drains into the northwester lobe of Lake Kanturk showed TP values twice the City's EMC and TN values 1.5 times the City's EMC.

To further assess stormwater runoff as a potential source of pollutant loads to the Killearn Chain of Lakes LDI levels within the sub-watersheds draining to the lakes were assessed. As discussed in **Section 5.4.4.2**, FDEP uses the LDI as a tool to estimate potential adverse human effects from various land uses on adjacent waterbodies with ratings from excellent to very poor in relation to the potential for adverse impacts from stormwater loads. **Figure 5-95** presents the LDI levels by sub-watershed within the Killearn Chain of Lakes drainage basin. The sub-watersheds draining directly to the lakes, and all sub-watersheds draining from the south and the immediate area to the west of Thomasville Road, range from moderate to poor. These classifications indicate potential for anthropogenic stormwater loads to the lakes. The areas along the northernmost upstream areas have good LDI values indicating limited potential for anthropogenic stormwater loads.

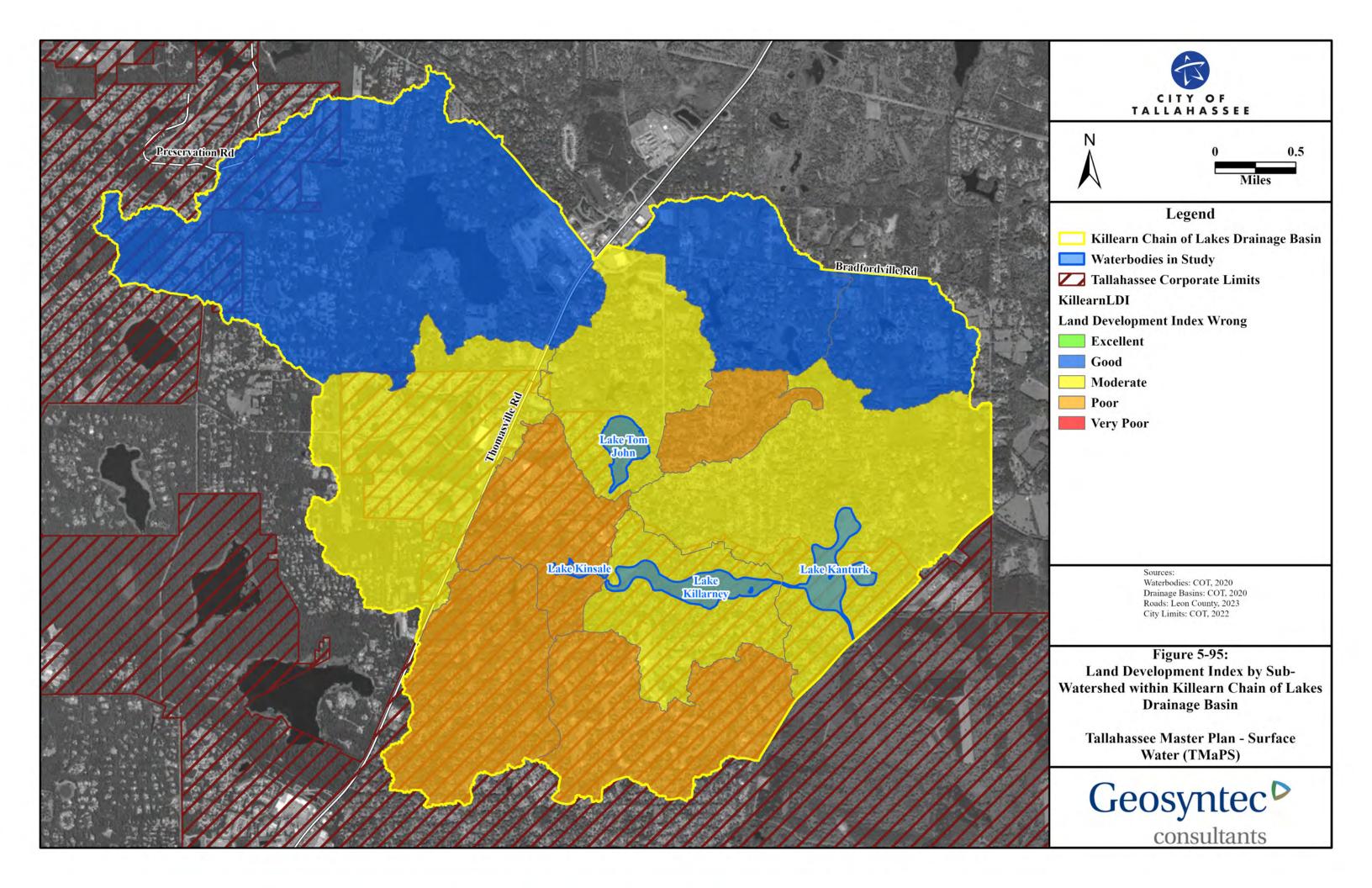
5.5.4.3 Septic Systems

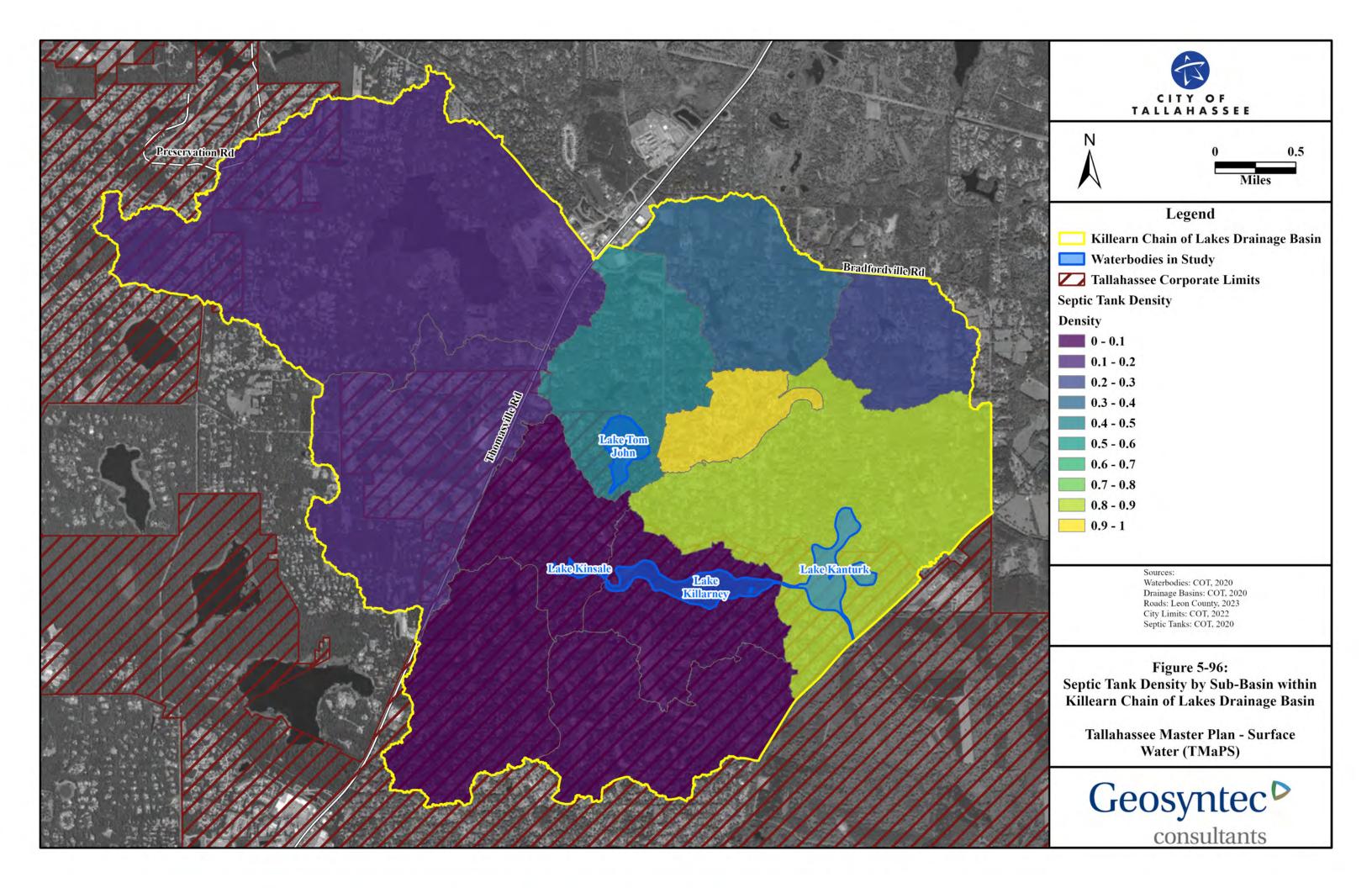
Figure 5-58 presented the locations of septic systems within the Killearn Chain of Lakes basin. **Figure 5-96** presents a map showing the septic tank densities by subbasin. The septic densities for the subbasins that drain to Lake Kinsale and Lake Killarney are relatively low (less than 1 unit per 5 acres). In contrast the densities within the subbasins draining to northern end of Lake Kanturk are higher ranging near 1 unit per acre, which would indicate that septic loading may play a role in loading to the northern side of Lake Kanturk and is consistent with findings from a study conducted by ATM in 2015 that found higher inorganic nitrogen in stormwater samples from areas draining to the northern end of Lake Kanturk and concluded septic loading may be the cause. Additionally, spatial comparisons of average TN in the Killearn Chain showed elevated TN levels in Lake Kanturk compared to the other lakes (**Figure 5-90**). Septic loads to Lake Killarney and Lake Kinsale are not identified as a significant source due to the identified densities.

5.5.4.4 Internal Recycling and Seepage

Internal Recycling

ERD (2014) completed a study that evaluated the sediments and sediment flux of nutrients within the three lakes. A total of 62 cores were collected from the three lakes to characterize the sediments. Additionally, 8 large diameter (4-inch) cores were collected to support sediment benthic release experiments. Finally, sediment testing was performed to evaluate the potential release of nutrients following reflooding of desiccated areas. The following outlines the key findings from the study.







- The available phosphorus in the sediments for release was low in relation to values found in other urban lakes.
- The cores exhibited extremely low levels of nitrogen and phosphorus release under both aerobic and anoxic conditions.
- Nutrient loads from the reflooding were relatively minimal and equivalent to approximately 10 percent of the annual sediment release as a result of internal recycling.

Based on this study, internal recycling is not identified as a significant source of anthropogenic nutrients to the system. The internal recycling load, based on the 2014 study, will be presented in **Section 5.5.5.5** for comparison to other calculated loads.

Seepage

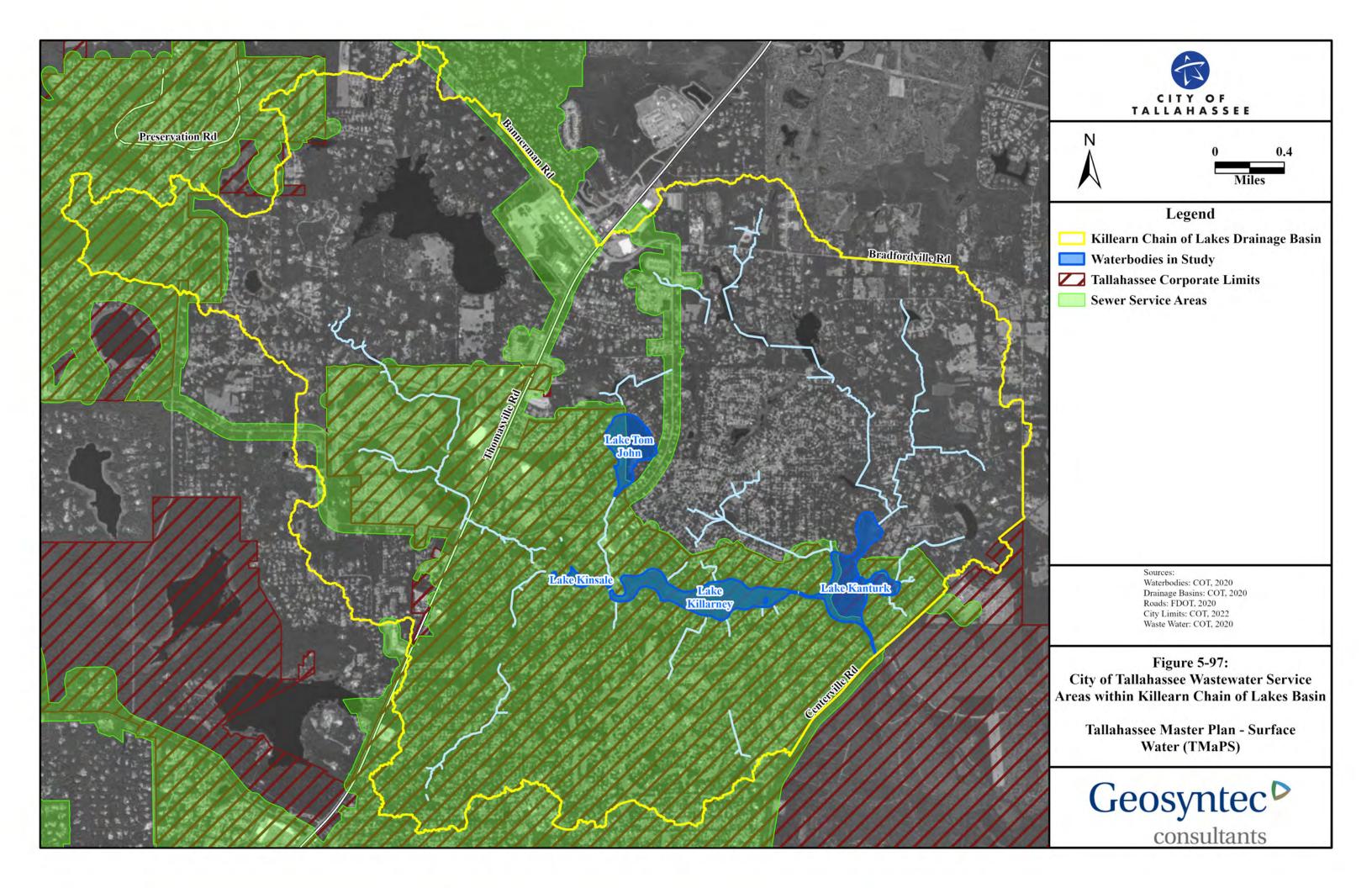
As outlined in **Section 5.5.3.7**, there are no surficial aquifer sampling sites identified within the Killearn Chain of Lakes basin to provide data on the potential for seepage to contribute to the loading to the lakes. It should be noted that based on the soil types in this basin, subsurface transmissivity levels are expected to be moderate to low, impeding transport of pollutants through seepage. Thus, seepage is not likely a significant direct source of nutrients to the Killearn Chain of Lakes. A primary potential source of seepage loads are septic systems which were evaluated in **Section 5.5.4.3** and are quantified in **Section 5.5.5.2**.

5.5.4.5 Wastewater

No direct wastewater discharges are currently within the Killearn Chain of Lakes basin. Additionally, no areas in the Killearn Chain of Lakes basin have reuse discharges. **Figure 5-97** presents a map of the Killearn Lakes basin boundaries in relation to sewer service areas. The sewer service areas are located around the direct discharge area of the three lakes, throughout the southern portions of the basin draining to the lakes, and the immediate area west of Thomasville Road that drains to Lake Kinsale. In the northern and northwestern (upstream) ends of the basin sewer infrastructure is isolated to developed areas along Velda Dairy Road and the intersection of Thomasville and Bannerman roads. Presently, 49 percent of the Killearn Chain of Lakes basin has sewer infrastructure. Based on the data analyses presented in **Section 5.5.3.6**, *E. coli* levels are generally low in the three lakes. Wastewater is not identified as a potential significant source in the Killearn Chain.

5.5.4.6 Atmospheric Deposition

For the overall surface area (combined three lakes) of the Killearn Chain of Lakes, the ratio of the watershed area to lake area is around 54:1. With this ratio, and the potential attenuation of rainfall runoff, direct atmospheric deposition to the lakes plays a minor role in overall loading to the lakes. Atmospheric deposition will be quantified in **Section 5.5.5.6** for comparison to other loads. **Section 5.5.3.10** identified the nearest atmospheric deposition station as the Quincy station (FL14). The data from this station will be utilized to calculate the atmospheric deposition to the Killearn Chain of Lakes.





5.5.4.7 Interconnected Flows

Within the Killearn Chain of Lakes, Lake Kinsale is the most upstream waterbody. Lake Kinsale discharges directly into Lake Killarney. Lake Killarney then flows into Lake Kanturk. The upstream lakes, along with other upstream waterbodies, have the potential to contribute to nutrient loading and be a source to consider for the downstream lakes.

Lake Kinsale has a surface area of about 13 acres when full and receives drainage from the western portions of the basin across Thomasville Road (including the discharge from Lake McBride) and the discharge from Lake Tom John. Presently both Lake McBride and Lake Tom John are identified as impaired. Based on this, along with the nature of land use surrounding Lake Tom John, these two lakes are considered as potential sources of anthropogenic load to Lake Kinsale. Where data are available loads from the upstream lakes (Lake Tom John and Lake McBride) are quantified in **Section 5.5.5.5**.

Lake Killarney has a surface area of about 80 acres when full and receives flows out of Lake Kinsale. Presently, Lake Kinsale is identified as impaired. Based on this, along with the nature of land use draining to Lake Kinsale, it is considered as potential sources of anthropogenic load to Lake Killarney. The loads from Lake Kinsale are quantified in **Section 5.5.5.5**.

Lake Kanturk has a surface area of about 70 acres when full and receives flows out of Lake Killarney along with two waterbodies that drain into its northern lobes (Lake Saratoga and Lake Belmont). Presently Lake Killarney is identified as impaired. Based on this, along with the nature of land use draining to Lake Killarney and the other upstream waterbodies, these are considered as potential sources of anthropogenic load to Lake Kanturk. Where data are available, loads from the upstream lakes (Lake Killarney, Lake Saratoga, and Lake Belmont) are quantified in **Section 5.5.5.5**.

5.5.4.8 Summary of Findings

Based on the discussions above, and data and information presented in **Section 5.5.3**, there are various potential sources of pollutant loads to the Killearn Chain of Lakes. The primary constituent of concern is TP throughout the system and inorganic nitrogen for portions of Lake Kanturk.

Stormwater runoff contributing to tributary inflow and interconnected flow from upstream waterbodies along with septic load are identified as potentially significant contributors of anthropogenic load and are quantified in **Section 5.5.5**. Though not identified as potential significant sources, atmospheric deposition and internal recycling are quantified for comparative purposes in **Section 5.5.5** based on available data.

5.5.5 Calculation of Potential Nutrient Loads

This section presents calculations of potential nutrient (TN and TP) loads to the Killearn Chain of Lakes for the sources identified for calculation in **Section 5.5.4.8**. These include stormwater runoff, septic systems, interconnected flows, internal recycling and atmospheric deposition. Where loads were not calculated the sections below provide brief discussions. The load calculations are for the purpose of comparing the potential magnitudes of each source relative to one another to support determination of sources to target for load reduction.



5.5.5.1 Stormwater Pollutant Load

In order to calculate the stormwater TN and TP loads to the Killearn Chain of Lakes, average annual pollutant load modeling was performed. The goal was to identify outfalls that are contributing higher TN and TP loads relative to one another and to quantify the total TN and TP loads to each of the lakes (Lake Kinsale, Lake Killarney, Lake Kanturk). TN and TP loads were calculated using the Spatially Integrated Model for Pollutant Loading Estimates (SIMPLE-Seasonal) model. The model methodology was described in detail in **Section 5.4.5.1** for the stormwater loads to the Lafayette Chain of Lakes.

Figure 5-98 presents the subbasins and the DEM utilized in the SIMPLE model calculations for the Killearn Chain of Lakes. **Figure 5-99** presents the aggregated land use. Finally, **Figure 5-100** presents the CDAs for the Chain of Lakes stormwater loading to define total and per acre TN and TP loads, as well as the ranking of CDAs around the Lakes.

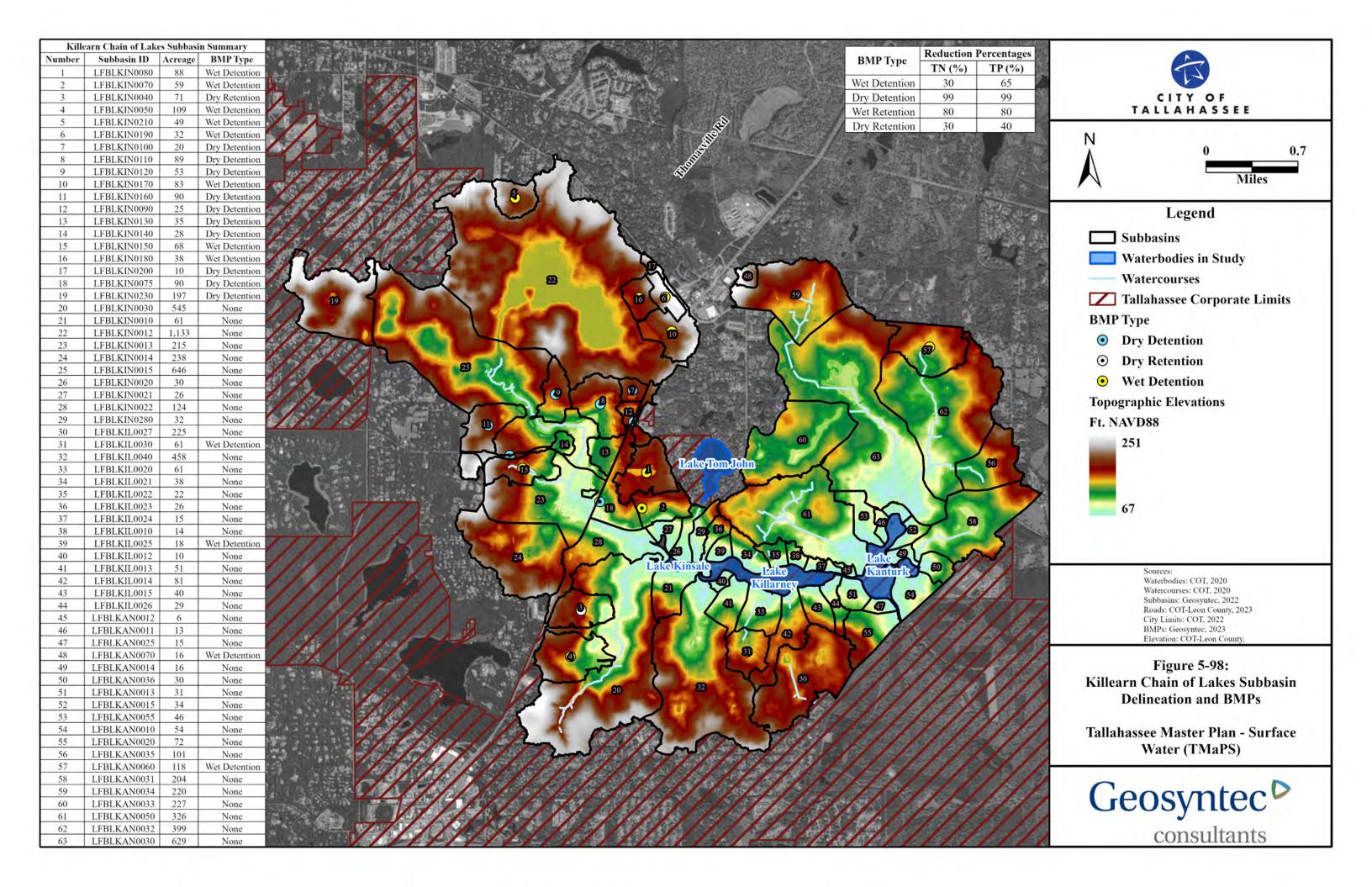
Stormwater Nutrient Loads to Killearn Chain of Lakes

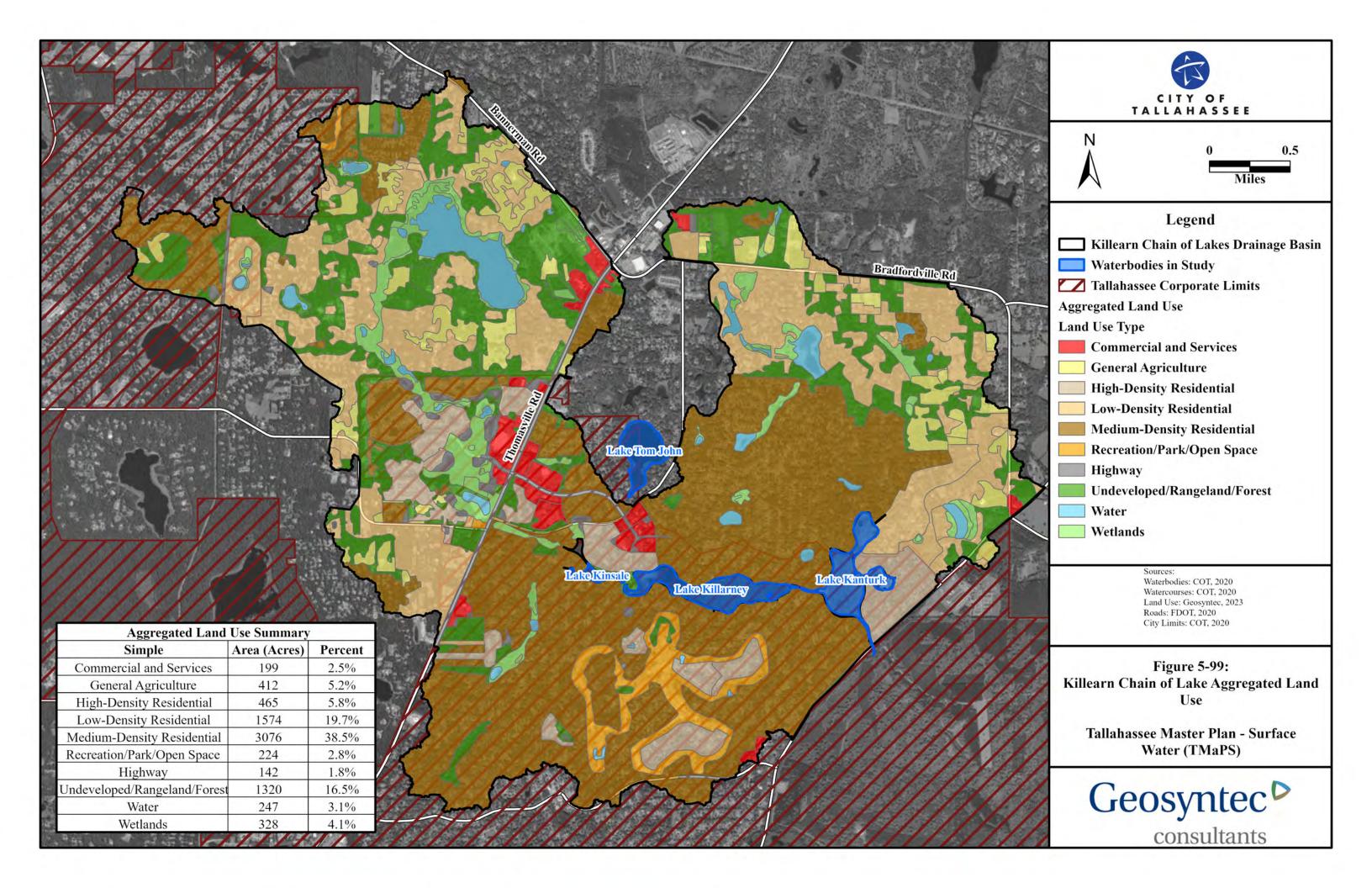
Figure 5-101 presents the distribution of the ranking of the CDAs for TN along with the total load and per acre loads, see the table on **Figure 5-101**. The rankings are color coded, with the highest ranked CDAs in dark green moving down to the lowest ranked in pale yellow. The calculated total stormwater TN loads from the CDAs ranged from as low as 41.0 lb/yr up to 6817.3 lb/yr. The per acre loads ranged from 1.7 lb/acre/yr up to 5.7 lb/acre/yr. The highest ranked CDAs were located along the southern side of the chain of lakes for the most part, which is likely a function of the land uses in conjunction with treatment considered in the model development. The total potential stormwater runoff loads for TN for Lake Kinsale, Lake Killarney, and Lake Kanturk are 10,244.9 lb/yr, 5,153.1 lb/yr, and 6,208.8 lb/yr, respectively.

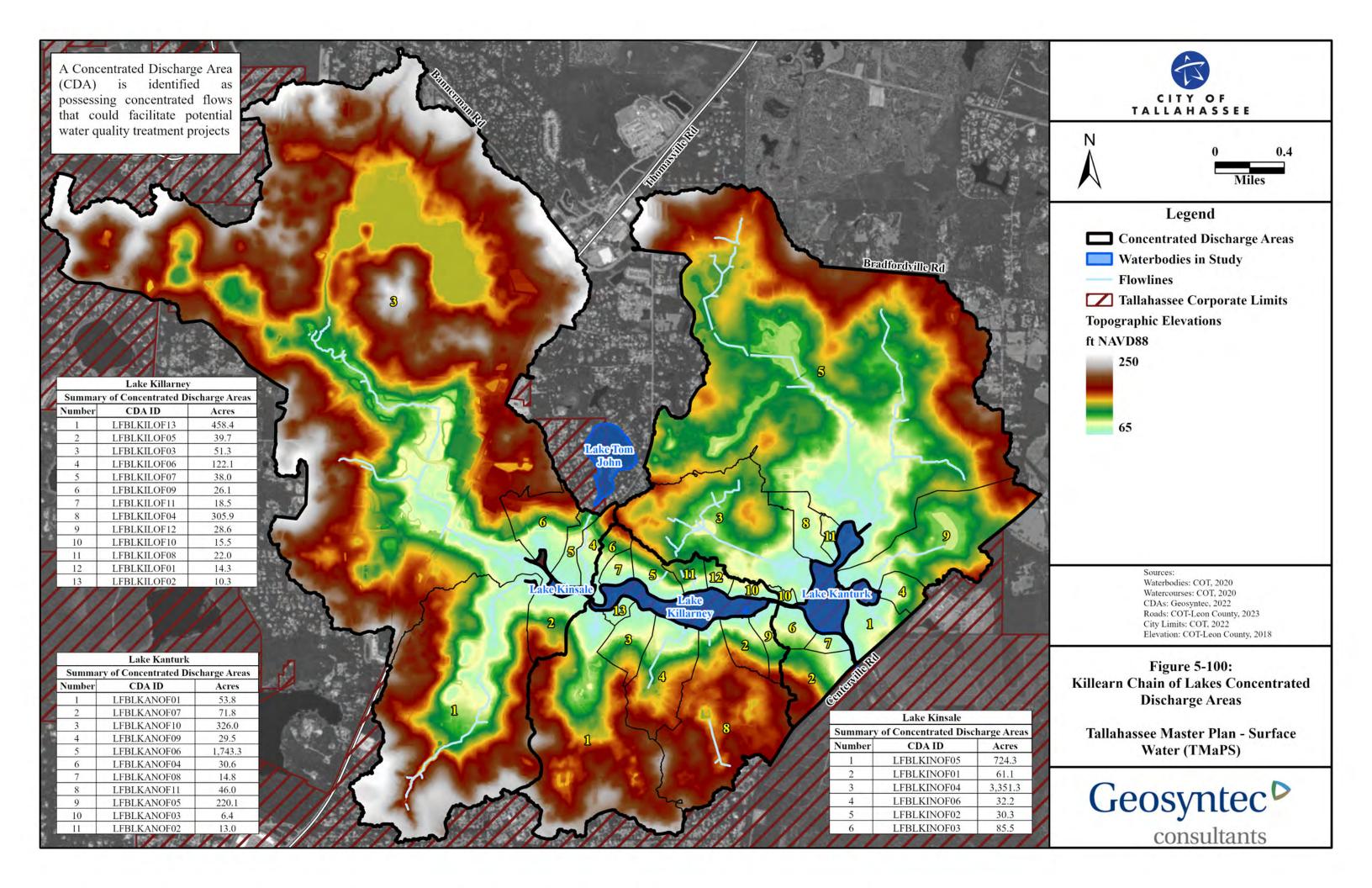
Figure 5-102 presents the distribution of the ranking of the CDAs for TP along with the total load and per acre loads, see the table on **Figure 5-102**. The calculated total stormwater TP loads from the CDAs ranged from as low as 7.7 lb/yr up to 1408.0 lb/yr. The per acre loads ranged from 0.4 lb/acre/yr up to 1.9 lb/acre/yr. As was seen for the TN, the highest ranked CDAs were located along the southern side of the lakes. The total potential stormwater runoff loads for TP for Lake Kinsale, Lake Killarney, and Lake Kanturk are 2,247.8 lb/yr, 1,497.1 lb/yr, and 1,568.0 lb/yr respectively.

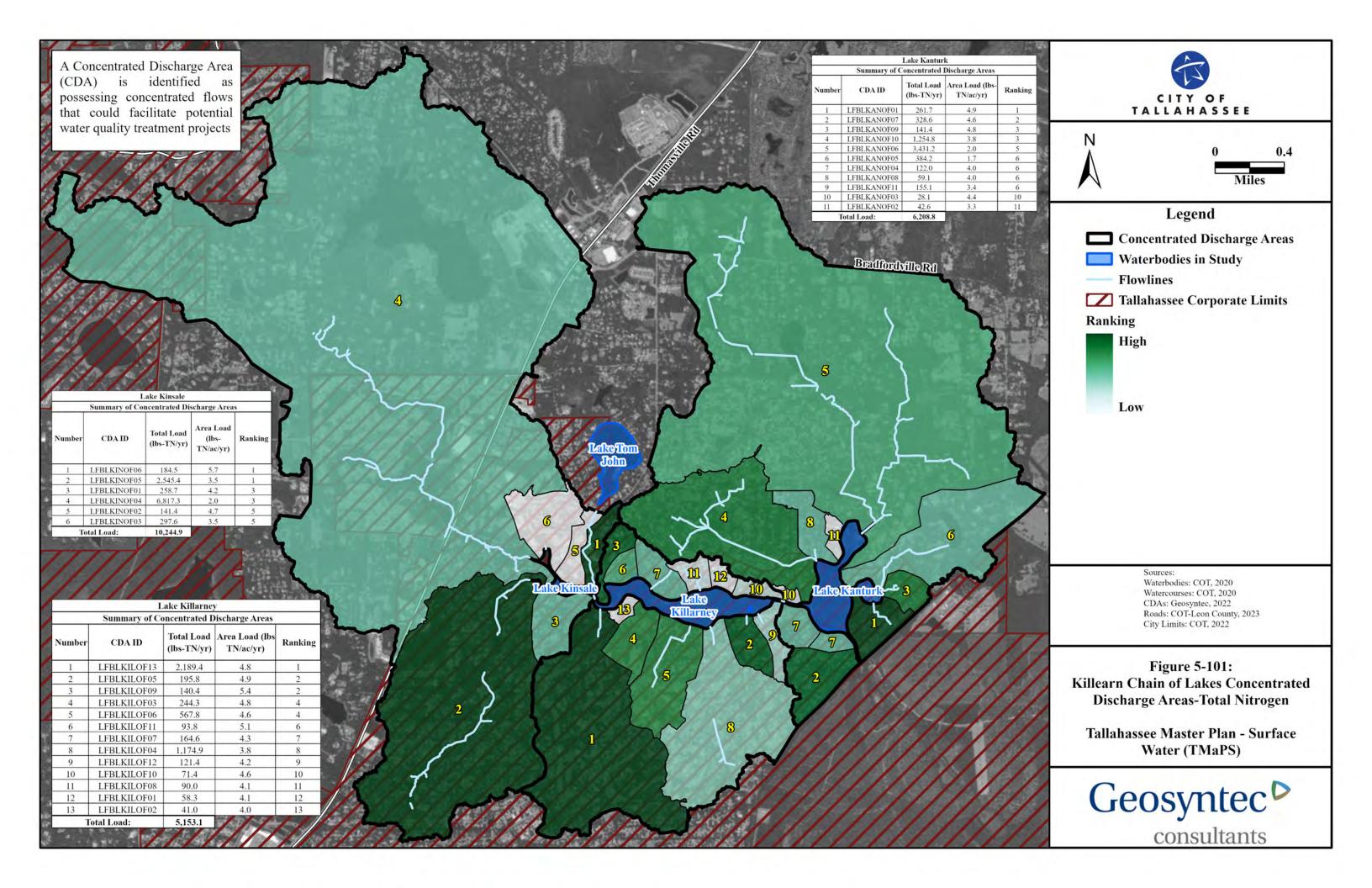
5.5.5.2 Septic Load

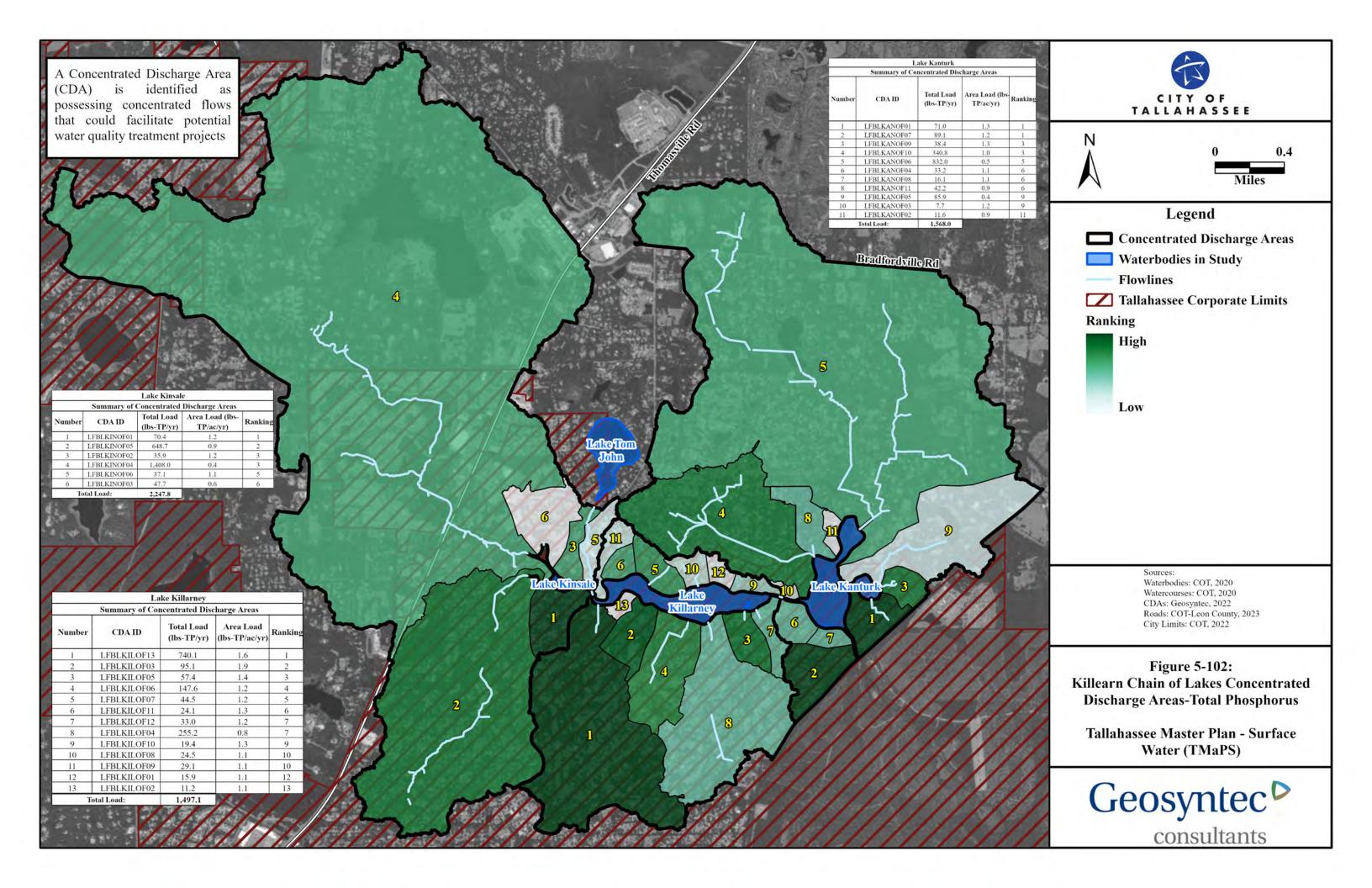
In order to analyze the potential impacts from septic tank units to the Killearn Chain of Lakes, the SPIL method adopted by FDEP was utilized to quantify the potential septic load. The calculations were done for each of the three waterbodies (Lake Kinsale, Lake Killarney, and Lake Kanturk). The approach and calculations were described earlier in **Section 5.4.5.2** which presented the septic loading to the Lafayette Chain of Lakes. As outlined earlier, the calculations were only done for nitrogen (TN), and based on literature on transport and assimilation, may represent a conservative potential load.













An estimated 945 septic tank units were identified within 200 meters of the Killearn Chain of Lakes, and associated tributaries. **Figure 5-103** shows the septic systems utilized in the analyses with those associated with direct loading to the waterbody green and those associated with loading to tributaries pink. Tables provided on the figure summarize the calculated nutrient load from septic units to each of the three waterbodies. The total TN load to Lake Kinsale is 346 lb/yr with all of that load coming from tributaries. The total TN load to Lake Killarney is 0 lb/yr as no septic units were identified within 200 meters of the lakeshore or tributaries draining to it. The potential TN load to Lake Kanturk is 9,852 lb/yr with 443 lb/yr from direct loading to the lake and the remaining from clusters of septic system along tributaries that drain to the upper parts of Lake Kanturk.

5.5.5.3 Point Source Load

No active point sources were identified within the Killearn Chain of Lakes basin. Therefore, the point source loads for TN and TP are set to 0 lb/yr for all three lakes.

5.5.5.4 Lake Inflow Load

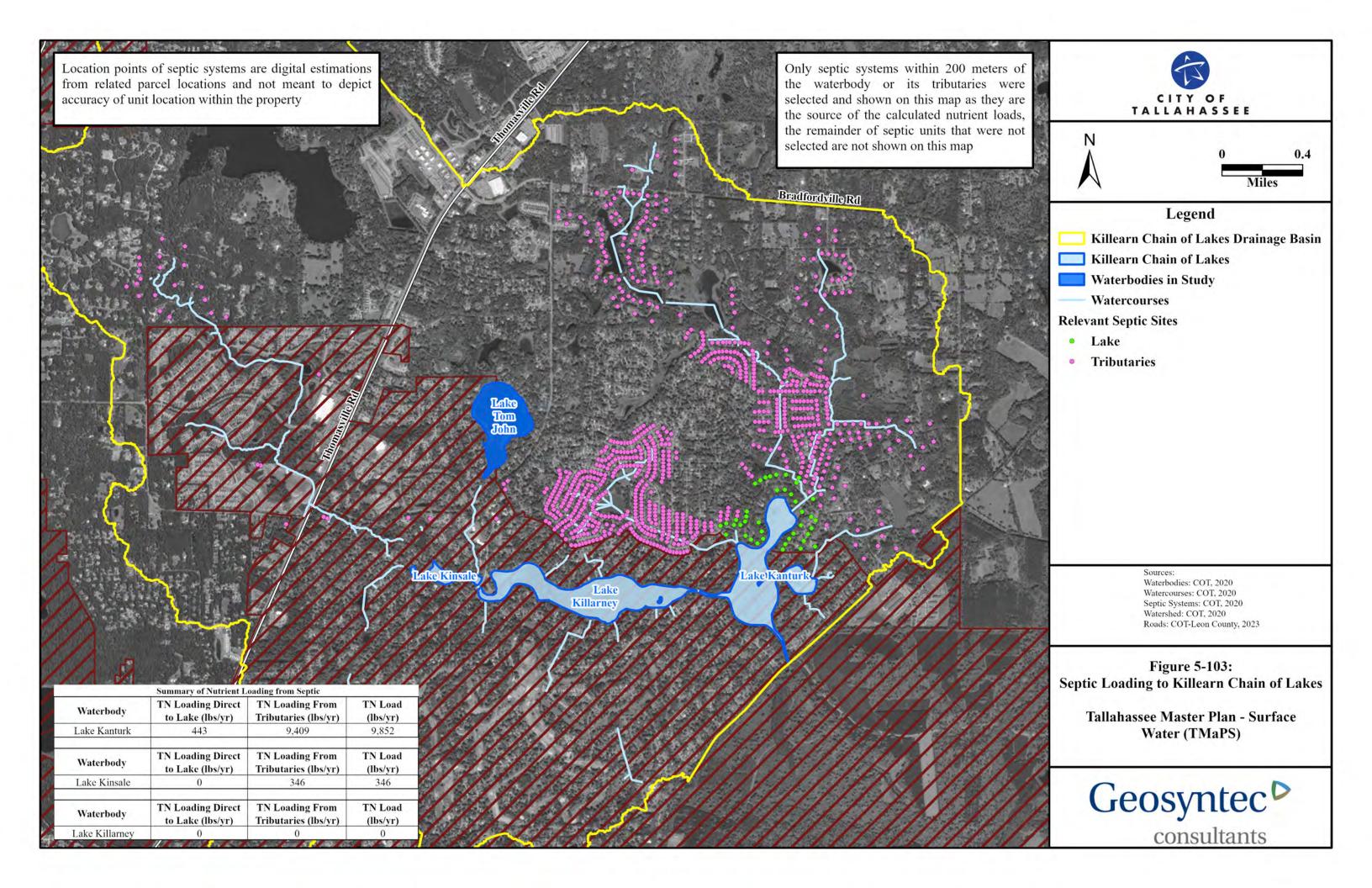
As discussed in **Section 5.5.4.7** upstream lakes flow to downstream receiving lakes and represents load to the downstream lake. **Figure 5-104** presents the upstream and downstream connections. Calculations of the loads are provided herein based on the availability of modeled flows and in-lake concentrations. The approach utilized in the calculation of the inter-lake loading was described in **Section 5.5.5.5** for the Lafayette Chain of Lakes. The lakes and connections are shown in **Figure 5-104**, along with a table summarizing available water quality data, flow, load calculations and impairment status. These loads represent the surface runoff and baseflow load to the downstream lakes accounting for the changes in in-lake concentrations as the water passes through. Based on available water quality data and modeled inflows, loads were calculated for Lake Kinsale from Lake Tom John, Lake Killarney from Lake Kinsale, and Lake Kanturk from Lake Killarney. The loads out of Lake McBride were not calculated based on no modeled outflow. The loads out of Lake Saratoga and Lake Belmont were not calculated based on no modeled outflow or in-lake water quality data. The loads from these three lakes are incorporated into the load calculations presented in **Section 5.5.5.1**.

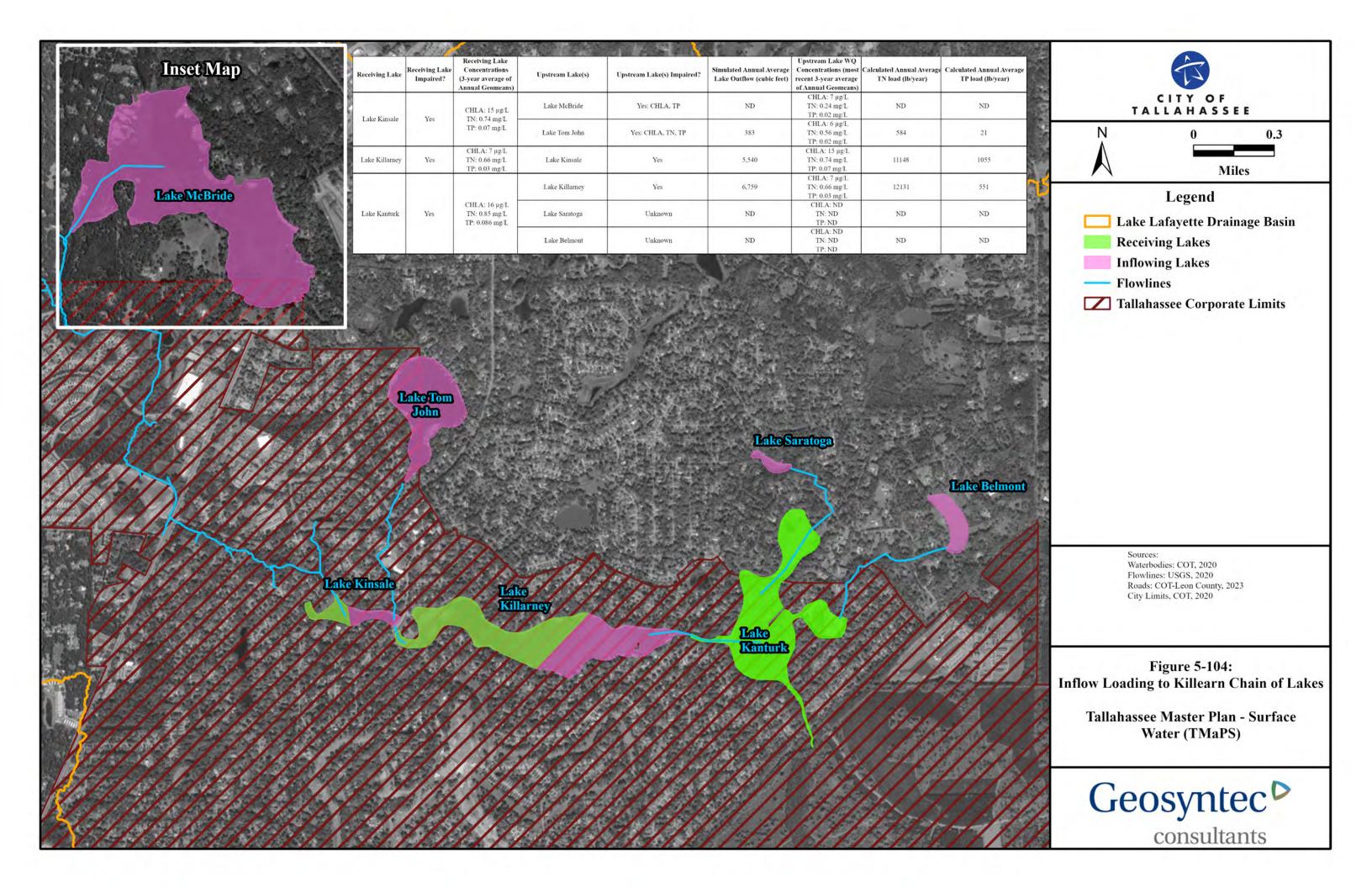
5.5.5.5 Internal Lake Load

Section 5.5.4.4 outlined a study completed in 2014 that quantified the internal nutrient flux loads for the Killearn Chain of Lakes. **Table 5-16** presents the results from the study. TN internal loads ranged from 975 lb/year in Lake Kinsale up to 5,199 lb/year in Lake Kanturk. TP internal loads showed a similar pattern ranging from 64 lb/year in Lake Kinsale up to 238 lb/year in Lake Kanturk.

Table 5-16: Internal Nutrient Load to Killearn Chain of Lakes

Lake	TN (lb/year)	TP (lb/year)
Lake Kinsale	975	64
Lake Killarney	4,105	187
Lake Kanturk	5,199	238







5.5.5.6 Atmospheric Deposition

As presented and discussed in **Section 5.5.4.6** the annual average atmospheric TN load per acre was calculated from the Quincy NADP station (F14) at 2.56 lb/acre/yr. Multiplying this by the acreage of Lake Kinsale (12.6 acres), Lake Killarney (80 acres), and Lake Kanturk (70 acres) gives total TN loads of 32 lb/yr, 205 lb/yr, and 179 lb/yr respectively. No data are available for TP therefore only the nitrogen load is provided.

5.5.5.7 Summary of Calculated Loads

Nutrient loads to Lake Kinsale, Lake Killarney, and Lake Kanturk were calculated for stormwater runoff, septic systems, lake inflow, internal recycling, and atmospheric deposition. **Table 5-17** through **Table 5-19** present the calculated total loads to the lakes for TN and TP. For septic systems and atmospheric deposition only TN loads were calculated (see **Section 5.5.5.2** and **Section 5.5.5.6**, respectively, for explanation).

Table 5-17: Summary of Calculated Loads to Lake Kinsale

Source	TN (lb/year)	TP (lb/year)
Stormwater Runoff	10,245	2,248
Septic Systems	346	NC
Lake Inflow	584	21
Internal Recycling	975	64
Atmospheric Deposition	32	NC

NC – Not calculated.

Table 5-18: Summary of Calculated Loads to Lake Killarney

Source	TN (lb/year)	TP (lb/year)
Stormwater Runoff	5,153	1,497
Septic Systems	0	NC
Lake Inflow	11,148	1,055
Internal Recycling	4,105	187
Atmospheric Deposition	205	NC

NC – Not calculated.



Table 5-19: Summary of Calculated Loads to Lake Kanturk

Source	TN (lb/year)	TP (lb/year)
Stormwater Runoff	6,209	1,568
Septic Systems	9,852	NC
Lake Inflow	12,131	551
Internal Recycling	5,199	238
Atmospheric Deposition	179	NC

NC – Not calculated.



5.6 Lake Tom John

This section presents the results from Tasks 1 through 3 for Lake Tom John, which includes an overview and history of the lake and basin; present impairment status; an overview of available data; a qualitative assessment of potential pollutant sources; and calculation of potential pollutant loads.

5.6.1 Overview and History

Lake Tom John is a 40-acre lake located in a residential area between Velda Dairy Road and Thomasville Road north of Kerry Forest Road (**Figure 5-105**). The lake is surrounded almost entirely by residential properties. Drainage to Lake Tom John comes from the Pembridge Place, Highlands, Quail Rise and other smaller neighborhoods. **Photo 5-45** shows the lake from a dock along the southwestern side.



Photo 5-45: Lake Tom John (August 2019)

Photo 5-46 through **Photo 5-53** present aerials of Lake Tom John in 1937, 1949, 1954, 1970, 1983, 1996, 2007, and 2020. The aerials show that while the overall footprint of the lake has remained relatively constant, in the early years the system shows wetland characteristics with extensive dry and permanent pool areas. This condition extends from 1937 through 1954 (**Photo 5-46** to **Photo 5-48**). By the 1970 aerial (**Photo 5-49**) the extent of open water area extends more out to the total footprint with what appear to be areas of extensive aquatic vegetation. The increase in the overall open water area in the lake continues from 1983 through 2020 with nearly the entire footprint as open water in 2020 (**Photo 5-50** to **Photo 5-53**).

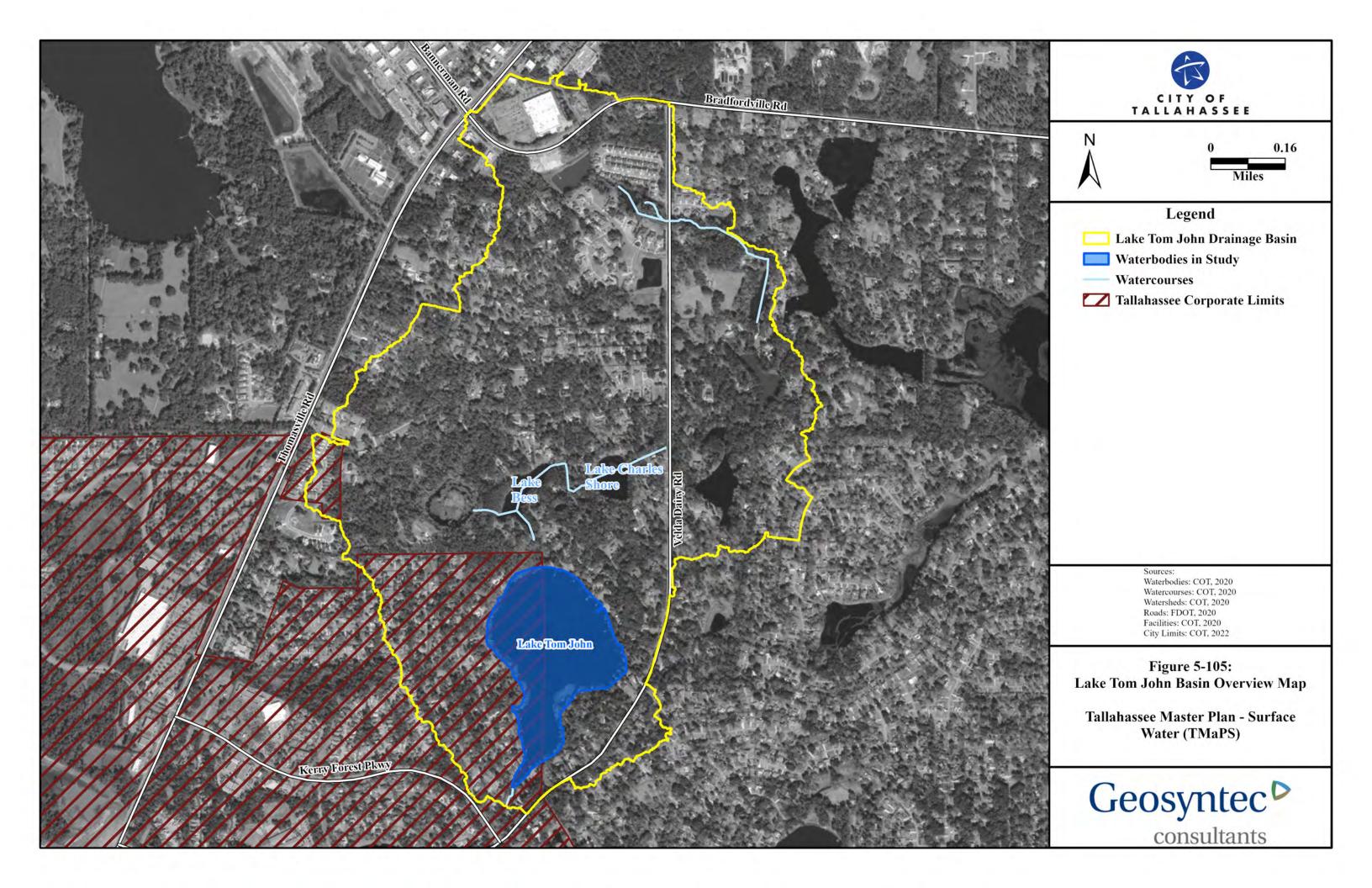






Photo 5-46: Lake Tom John Basin Area Aerial (1937)



Photo 5-47: Lake Tom John Basin Area Aerial (1949)





Photo 5-48: Lake Tom John Basin Area Aerial (1954)



Photo 5-49: Lake Tom John Basin Area Aerial (1970)



July 2025



Photo 5-50: Lake Tom John Basin Area Aerial (1983)

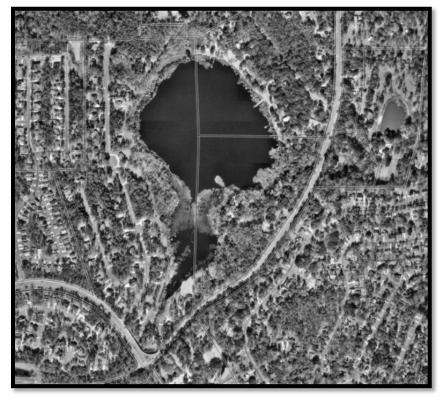


Photo 5-51: Lake Tom John Basin Area Aerial (1996)





Photo 5-52: Lake Tom John Basin Area Aerial (2007)



Photo 5-53: Lake Tom John Basin Area Aerial (2020)



The drainage basin for Lake Tom John covers an area of 656 acres (**Figure 5-105**) and generally extends between Thomasville Road, Velda Dairy Road, and Bradfordville Road. The bulk of the drainage basin is within residential neighborhoods with some natural areas. The northernmost portions of the basin contain some commercial area. Most of the basin is within unincorporated Leon County with the area to the west of the lake within the City boundary. Runoff from the basin passes through a series of smaller lakes north of Lake Tom John prior to discharging into the northern end of the lake. The outflow from the lake is at the southernmost end with water levels controlled by the elevation of the outflow channel. **Photo 5-54** shows the outflow from the lake. Flows out of the lake ultimately discharge into the eastern side of Lake Kinsale in the Killearn Chain of Lakes.



Photo 5-54: Lake Tom John Outflow Channel

5.6.2 Regulatory Status

Exhibit 5-2 presented the verified impaired waters within the overall Lake Lafayette basin. The Lake Tom John WBID 647A is presently verified impaired for nutrients (Chl-a, TN and TP). This impairment is based upon not meeting the criteria for a low color, low alkalinity lake as defined under FDEPs NNC. The criteria determination and water quality results that trigger the impairment are discussed further in **Section 5.6.3.6**.

5.6.3 Waterbody Data Review and Summary

This section presents an overview of available data and data sources for Lake Tom John and the Lake Tom John basin including bathymetry, land use, soils, septic systems, hydrologic measurements, surface water quality, groundwater quality, biological, stormwater treatment facilities, and atmospheric deposition.



5.6.3.1 Bathymetry

Presently, no bathymetric maps are available for Lake Tom John. Based on review of available reports, the maximum depth in the lake is 10 ft with an average depth of 6 ft.

5.6.3.2 Land Use

Figure 5-106 presents a map of the Level 2 land uses within the Lake Tom John basin. A table is provided to show the overall acreages and percent cover for the various levels. Tables are provided for both the Level 2 and grouped Level 1 land uses. The largest land use within the Lake Tom John Drainage Basin per the grouped Level 1 categories is Urban and Built Up (60 percent). The primary Level 2 land-use within Urban and Built Up is Medium Density Residential. The second largest land use in the overall basin is Upland Forest most of which is located just north of the lake (**Figure 5-106**).

5.6.3.3 Soils

The most prevalent soil group in the Lake Tom John basin is Group B (**Figure 5-107**), accounting for 65.6 percent of the area. Group B soils are considered to have a moderate rate of infiltration. Group A/D soils (9.2 percent) and B/D (8 percent) are found along the primary tributary pathways draining to the lake. These are considered to have high to moderate infiltration potential, but due to elevated water table conditions, will act more similarly to soils with low infiltration potential.

5.6.3.4 Septic Systems

An estimated 266 septic systems are within the boundaries of the Lake Tom John basin based on the FDOH septic tank layer (**Figure 5-108**). The septic tanks are located throughout most of the unincorporated areas in the basin with limited systems at the northern end.

5.6.3.5 Hydrologic Data

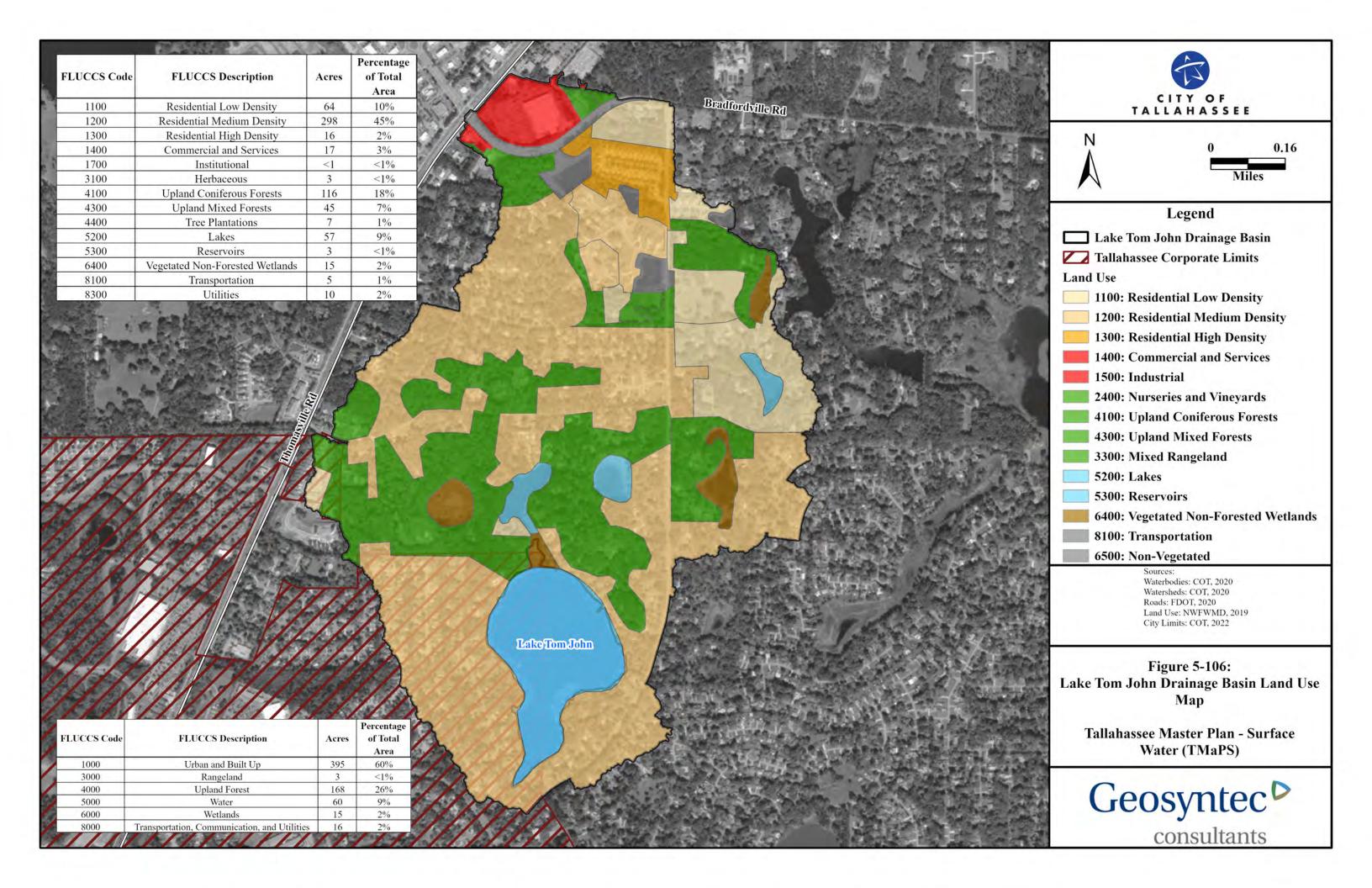
No recent historic or present hydrologic monitoring stations are located within the Lake Tom John basin.

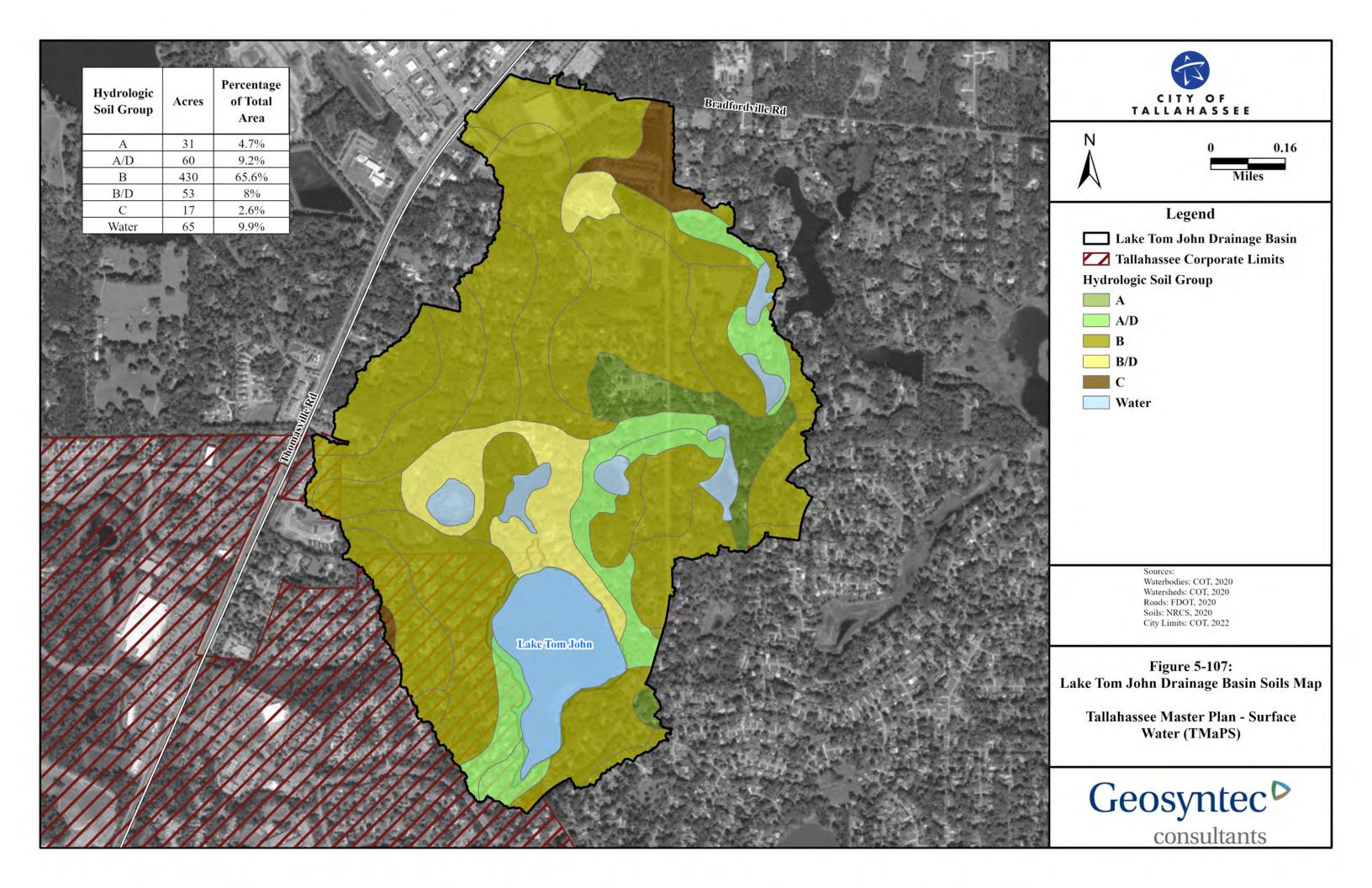
5.6.3.6 Surface Water Quality Data

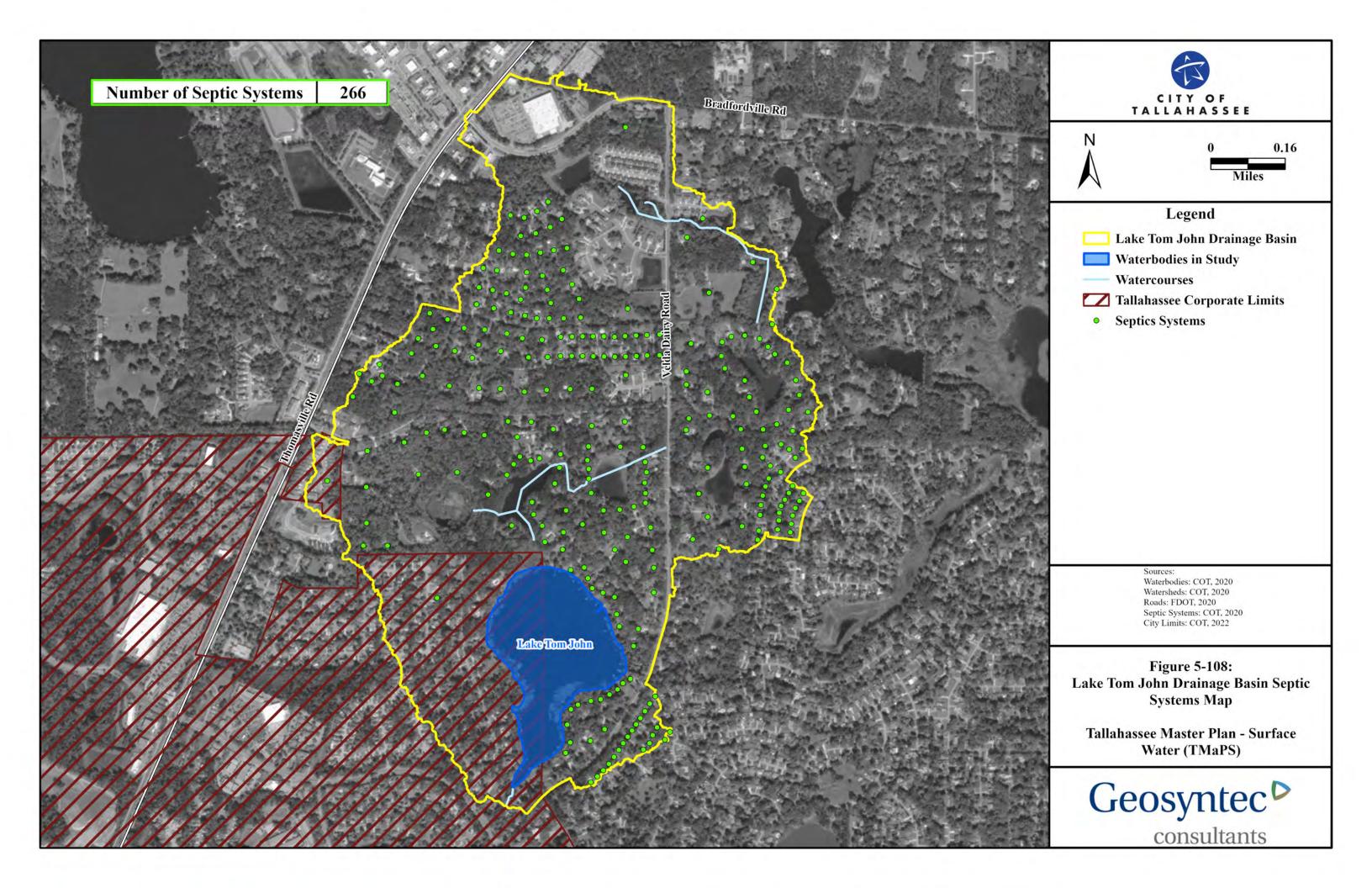
The IWR dataset for Lake Tom John (WBID 647A) spans primarily from 2016 to the present and includes contributions from local and state agencies (City, Leon County and FDEP). One year's worth of data were collected quarterly in 2005 but that is the only data prior to 2016.

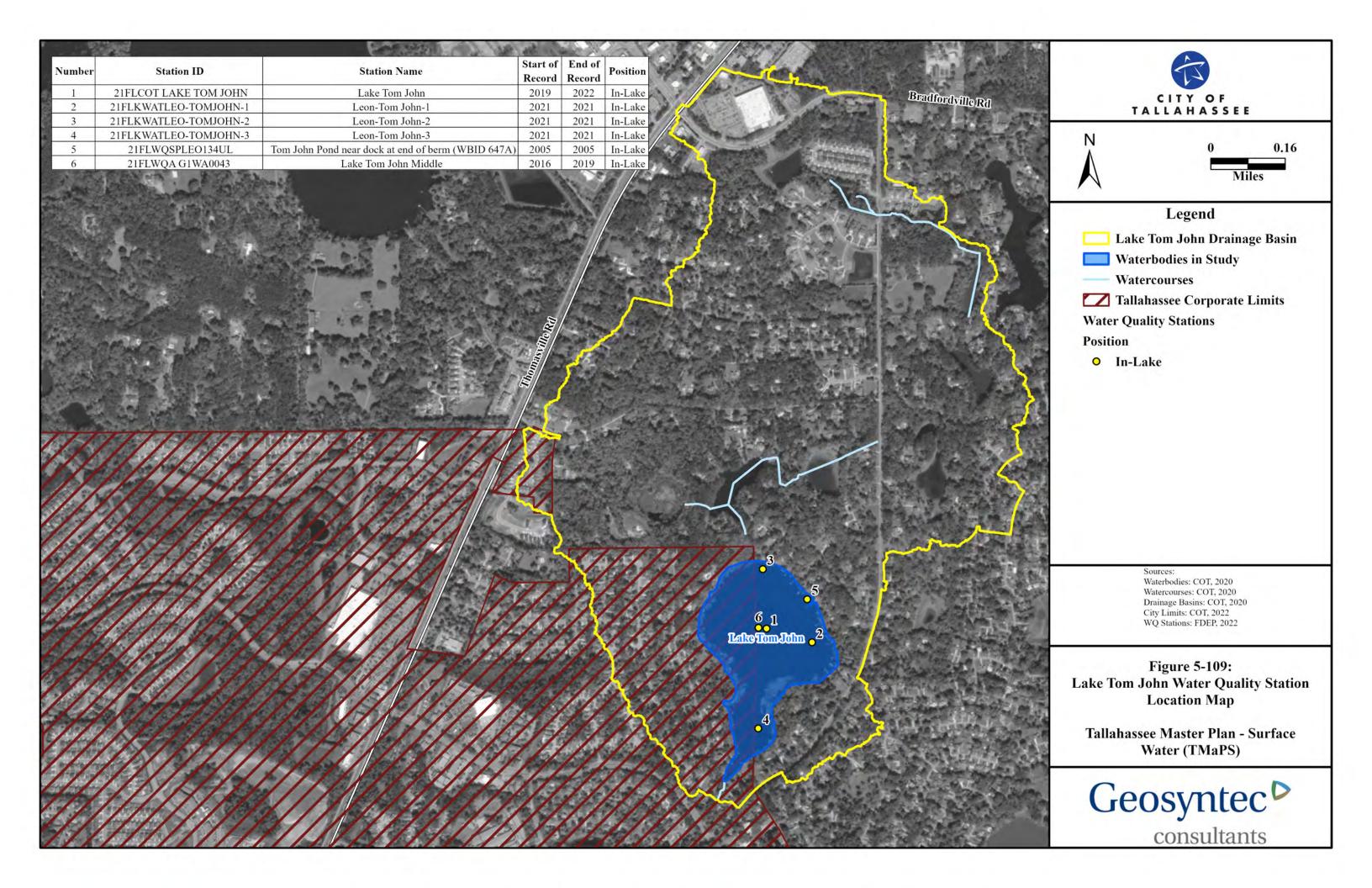
Figure 5-109 presents the locations of in-lake water quality monitoring stations for Lake Tom John (yellow). No data have been collected in the tributaries draining into or out of the lake. A table is provided in **Figure 5-109** that shows the station ID, station name, period of record, and if the station represents in-lake or tributary data. Based on the number of stations and the length of the station IDs, station IDs were not included on the figure, rather each of the stations is given a number and the numbers correspond to stations in the table.

Figure 5-109 shows that the only stations with a continuous record are the stations located in the middle of the lake. These are stations 1 and 6, which are basically at the same location.











Some initial plots of the available data in the lake are provided in this section, which includes plots of the raw data and trends along with AGM. Nutrients are the primary constituent of interest relative to water quality conditions in Lake Tom John, therefore, plots are provided for the key parameters related to potential nutrient impairment. These include TN, TP, Chl-a, and TSI. As discussed earlier, where available, data are plotted from 2010 to 2020 to represent present conditions. For Tom John data are plotted from 2016 to 2020. Additionally, based on interest in the area relative to septic systems and other sources, bacteria, specifically *E. coli* are included. Additional data plots and analyses are provided as part of the qualitative assessment of sources in **Section 5.6.4**.

Figure 5-110 through **Figure 5-112** present plots of the measured TN, TP and Chl-a from 2016 to 2020. The TN concentrations are relatively consistent from 2016 through 2020. TP concentrations show somewhat of a downward trend. Chl-a concentrations are highly variable year to year.

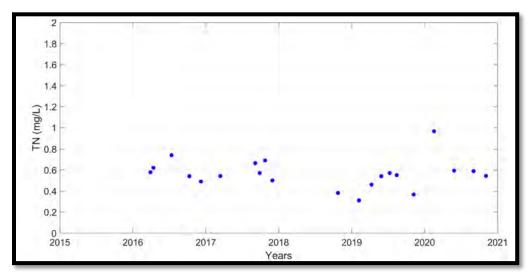


Figure 5-110: Plot of Measured TN (2016-2020)

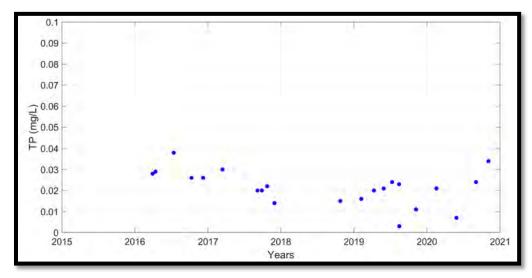


Figure 5-111: Plot of Measured TP (2016-2020)



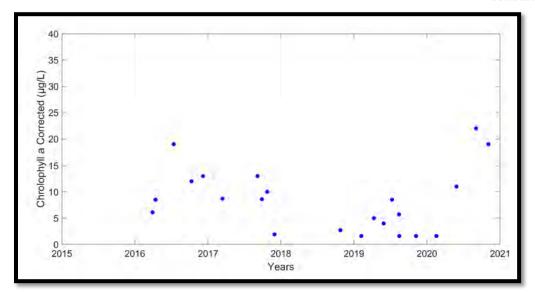


Figure 5-112: Plot of Measured Chl-a (2016-2020)

Under FDEP's NNC, Lake Tom John is defined as a low color, low alkalinity system. Based on this designation, the AGM threshold for Chl-a is 6 μ g/L. For TN and TP, a range of concentrations are allowable, based on maintaining Chl-a levels in the lake below 6 μ g/L. For TN, the range is 0.51 mg/L to 0.93 mg/L. For TP, the range is 0.01 mg/L to 0.03 mg/L. The designation is based on long-term average color lower than 40 PCU and long-term alkalinity levels less than 20 mg/L. Presently, the long-term average alkalinity is 18-19 mg/L which is right near the 20 mg/L. If the long-term average alkalinity were greater than 20 mg/L the lake would not be impaired. At present for *E. coli*, the criteria are monthly geometric means below 126 colonies per 100 mL of water and less than 10 percent of samples above 410 colonies per 100 mL of water in any 30-day period.

TN, TP, and Chl-a, AGMs are plotted in **Figure 5-113** through **Figure 5-115** as these define the status of the lake relative to nutrient impairments. Where sufficient data are available to assess the AGMs, the levels are provided from 2016 through 2020. The Chl-a threshold and the minimum and maximum thresholds for TN and TP relative to the NNC are on each of the graphs as pink dashed lines. **Figure 5-116** presents a plot of calculated TSI values in the lake. While TSI is no longer utilized for the determination of impairment, it does serve as an indicator of lake health. Based on TSI definitions, levels below 60 are deemed good condition, levels between 60 and 70 indicate fair condition, while levels above 70 indicate poor condition. **Figure 5-117** presents a plot of *E. coli* data for the available period of record.

Examination of the TN plot (**Figure 5-113**) shows that from 2016 to 2020 TN AGM levels have been just above or below the minimum threshold. TP AGM levels (**Figure 5-114**) have fallen between the minimum and maximum threshold values for each of the years with the later years closer to the minimum. The Chl-a AGMs from 2016 through 2020 (**Figure 5-115**) were above the 6 μ g/L threshold in 3 of the 4 years with all levels generally around or below 10 μ g/L. Under the case where the lake long-term average alkalinity is above 20 mg/L all Chl-a AGMs would be well below the threshold.



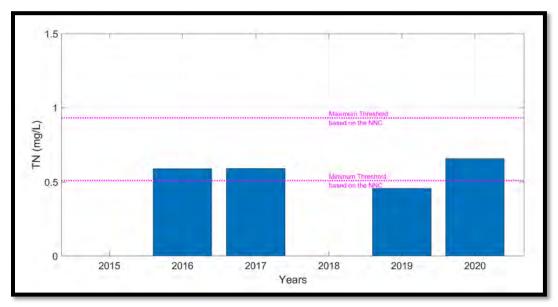


Figure 5-113: Plot of Annual Geometric Means for TN with NNC Criteria for Lake Tom John

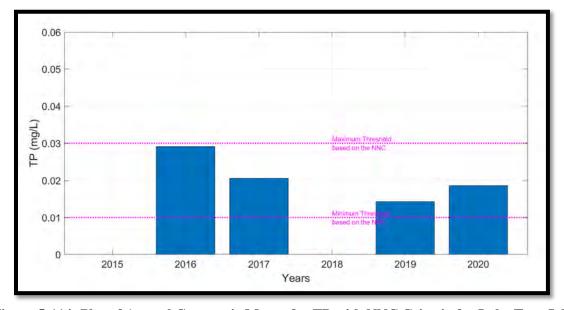


Figure 5-114: Plot of Annual Geometric Means for TP with NNC Criteria for Lake Tom John



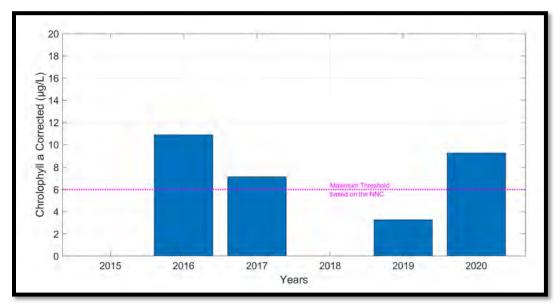


Figure 5-115: Plot of Annual Geometric Means for Chl-a with NNC Criteria for Lake Tom John

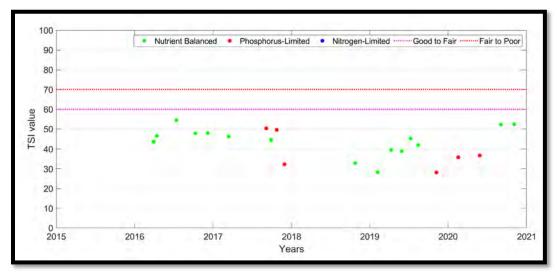


Figure 5-116: Trophic State Index for Lake Tom John (2016 to 2020)



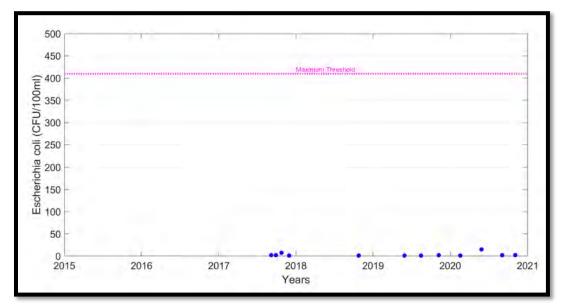


Figure 5-117: Plot of E. coli Measurements (2016 to 2020)

Examination of the TSI plot (**Figure 5-116**) shows all measurements in the good range with generally nutrient balanced conditions. No values went above the 60 threshold during the period of record.

Figure 5-117 presents a plot of measured *E. coli* levels in the lake from 2016 through 2020. The data all show very low values, with most at below detection limits.

5.6.3.7 Groundwater Data

Presently, there are no surficial groundwater monitoring wells within the Lake Tom John basin.

5.6.3.8 Biological Data

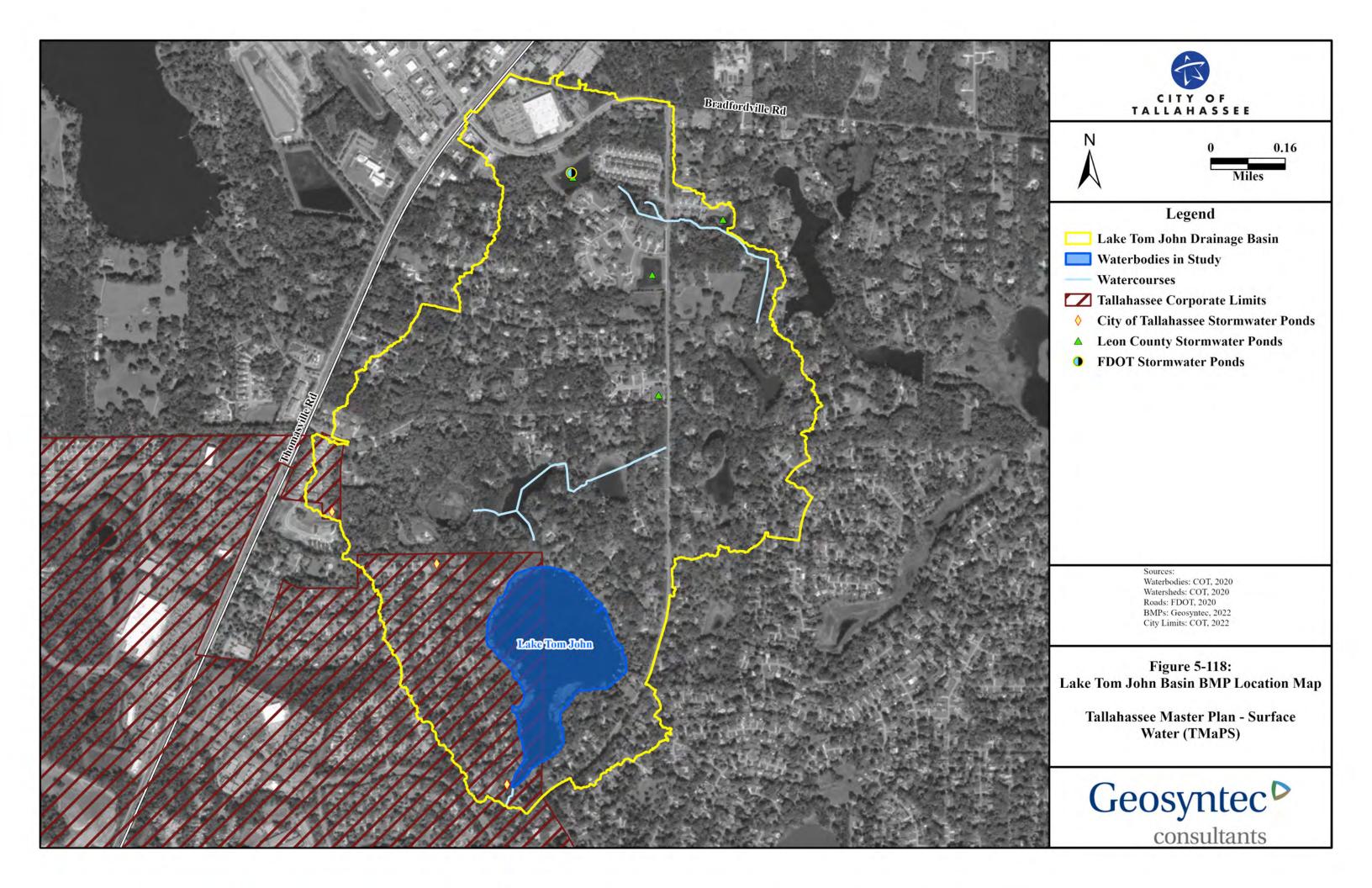
Table 5-20 presents LVI data collected in Lake Tom John. Only a single assessment is available for the lake. The LVI determination was 55, which represents a healthy condition.

DateStation IDLVIAquatic Life
Use Category10/24/201821FLWQA G1WA004355Healthy

Table 5-20: Summary of LVI Results from Lake Tom John

5.6.3.9 Stormwater Treatment Facilities

Figure 5-118 presents a map showing the locations of stormwater treatment facilities throughout the Lake Tom John Basin. The figure shows a limited number of stormwater ponds within the basin. There are three Leon County facilities located along Velda Dairy Road, one large FDOT/Leon County facility at the upper end of the basin in the area of the commercial development, and three City facilities on the western side of the lake.





5.6.3.10 Atmospheric Deposition Data

Section 5.4.3.11 presented the location of the nearest atmospheric deposition station to the Lake Lafayette basin. The data from this station will be utilized to calculate atmospheric deposition to Lake Tom John.

5.6.3.11 Data Summary

For the purposes of the qualitative analysis of sources of pollutants to Lake Tom John (**Section 5.6.4**), the available data are limited. There are sufficient active surface water quality stations within the lake to support the qualitative assessment but data in the upstream reaches that flow into the lake do not exist. Specific recommendations on additional data collection efforts are provided in **Section 5.10.** The following outlines limitations in the available data.

- No hydrologic data (level or inflow/outflow) data has been collected on the lake or in the upstream discharge to the lake or the downstream discharge to the Killearn Chain of Lakes.
- There are no water quality monitoring stations for the inflow to the lake which represents the bulk of the stormwater inflow from the drainage basin.
- No surficial groundwater monitoring stations are located in the vicinity to determine the quality of potential seepage into the lake or ditch segments.
- No data are available to determine the potential for internal loading as a source.

5.6.4 Qualitative Assessment of Sources

As outlined in previous sections, prior to performing loading calculations and other analyses to quantify existing pollutant sources to Lake Tom John, it is important to analyze available data and summarize findings from historical studies to support identification of likely sources.

For Lake Tom John, the sources to be evaluated include the following:

- Stormwater runoff
- Septic systems
- Internal recycling and seepage
- Wastewater
- Atmospheric deposition
- Interconnected flows

An overview of analyses and findings for each source listed above is provided in the following sections.

5.6.4.1 Stormwater Runoff

To assess stormwater runoff as a potential source of pollutant loads to Lake Tom John the LDI level within the subbasin draining to the lake was evaluated. LDI values for the full basin



draining to the Killearn Chain of Lakes were presented on **Figure 5-95** including the Lake Tom John Basin. The map shows that for the watershed draining to Lake Tom John, LDI levels are moderate, which would indicate that this area has potential for anthropogenic pollutant loads from stormwater runoff. No data are available for any of the tributaries flowing into Lake Tom John to support direct assessment of stormwater runoff.

5.6.4.2 Septic Systems

Figure 5-108 presented the locations of septic systems within the Lake Tom John basin. **Figure 5-96** presented a map showing the septic tank densities by subbasin for the Killearn Chain of Lakes, including Lake Tom John. For the overall area draining to Lake Tom John (**Figure 5-96**) the septic densities are around 1 system per 2 acres. Examination of the locations of the septic systems (**Figure 5-108**) shows there are a number of systems close to the lake along the eastern shore as well as along the tributaries and smaller lakes that drain into the upper end of Lake Tom John which increases their potential as a source of pollutants to the lake and drain. Presently, based on the low *E. coli* levels measured in the lake center (**Figure 5-117**), it would not appear that septic systems are likely not a significant source, but the potential loading will be quantified in **Section 5.6.5**.

5.6.4.3 Internal Recycling and Seepage

Internal Recycling

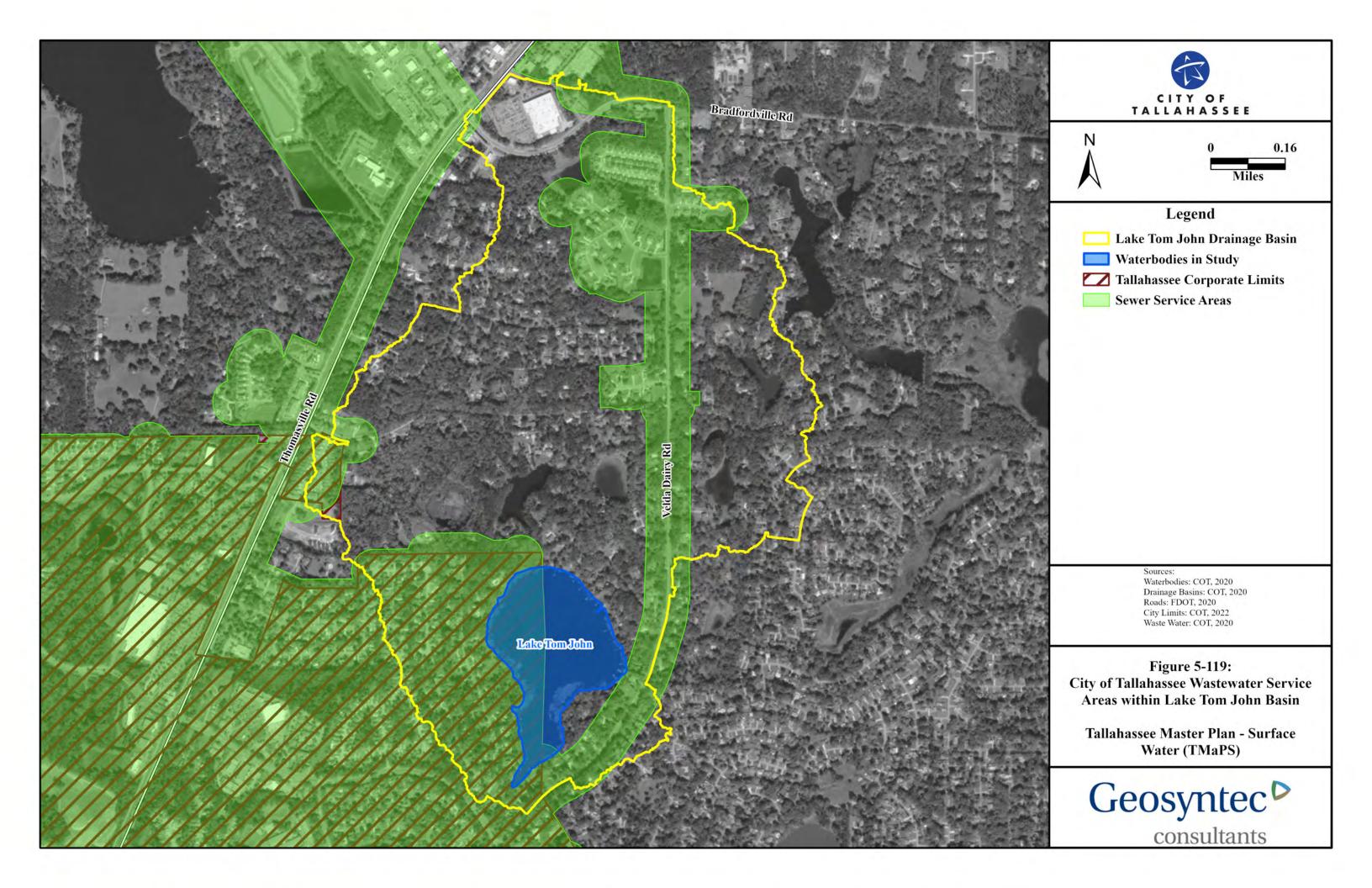
To date, no studies or data collection efforts have been undertaken to assess the potential for loading from sediments in Lake Tom John. Presently, based on the criteria outlined and discussed in **Section 5.5.2**, the lake is impaired for nutrients. While concerns exist on the applicability of the NNC targets for the lake, the impaired status would indicate a need to further quantify potential sources to the lake including internal recycling. As such, internal recycling is identified as a potential source of loads to the lake.

Seepage

As outlined in **Section 5.6.3.7**, no surficial aquifer data in the immediate vicinity of the lake and drain were identified. As was outlined for internal recycling, seepage is identified as a potential source to the lake that has not been quantified. As septic is the most likely source of seepage load, the evaluation of septic load would address this load source. The determination for septic loading (**Section 5.6.3.4**) was that it is likely not a significant source, but it will be quantified in **Section 5.6.5**.

5.6.4.4 Wastewater

Within the Lake Tom John basin, there currently are no direct wastewater discharges. Additionally, no areas in the Lake Lafayette basin presently have reuse discharges. **Figure 5-119** presents a map of the Lake Tom John basin boundaries in relation to sewer service areas and sewer infrastructure. The sewer infrastructure within the drainage basin is located along Velda Dairy Road and the incorporated area to the west of the lake. As was defined for septic systems, bacteria data do not indicate sources of sewage to the lake. Therefore, wastewater infrastructure is not identified as a potential significant source of pollutant loads to Lake Tom John.





5.6.4.5 Atmospheric Deposition

For the immediate Lake Tom John basin, the ratio of the watershed area to lake area is around 16:1. With this ratio, and the potential attenuation of rainfall runoff, direct atmospheric deposition to the lake can play a role in overall loading, especially for nitrogen. **Section 5.5.3.10** identified the nearest atmospheric deposition station as the Quincy Station (FL14) (**Figure 5-35**).

5.6.4.6 Interconnected Flows

Presently the bulk of the drainage basin flows into Lake Bess located immediately north of Lake Tom John and then discharges to Lake Tom John. As such, the interconnected flow into Lake Tom John may represent the primary loading of stormwater runoff from the basin and may be a significant source of load to Lake Tom John. As discussed earlier, presently there is no data available for Lake Bess or for the flow from Lake Bess into Lake Tom John.

5.6.4.7 Summary of Findings

Based on the discussions above, and data and information presented in **Section 5.5.3**, there are various potential sources of pollutant loads to Lake Tom John. Stormwater runoff contributing to direct inflow and interconnected flow from upstream waterbodies (Lake Bess) is identified as a potentially significant anthropogenic load and is quantified in **Section 5.6.5**. Internal loading is also identified as a potential load but at present data are not available to quantify it. Though not identified as potential significant sources, septic systems and atmospheric deposition are quantified for comparative purposes in **Section 5.6.5** based on available data.

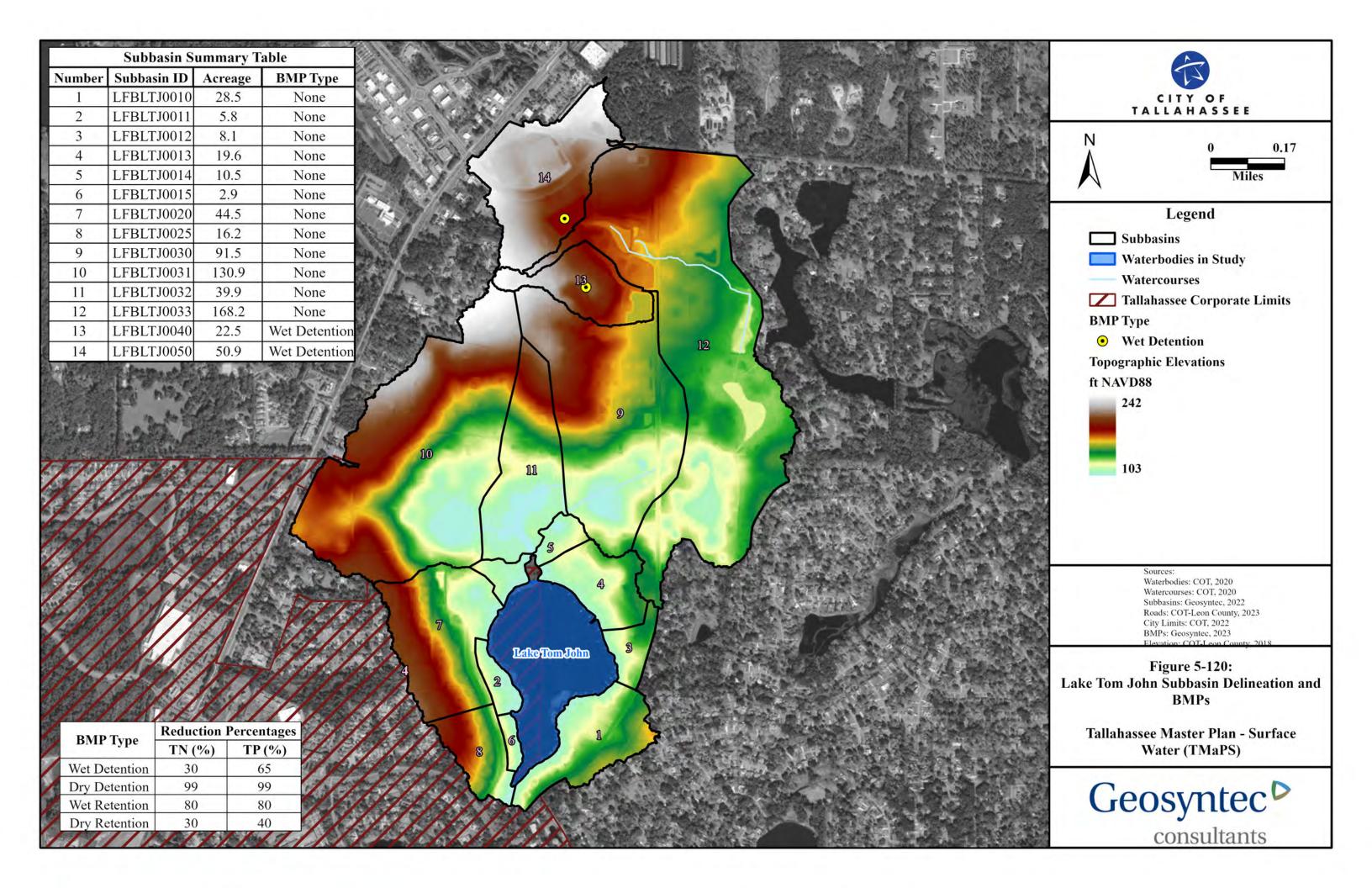
5.6.5 Calculation of Potential Nutrient Loads

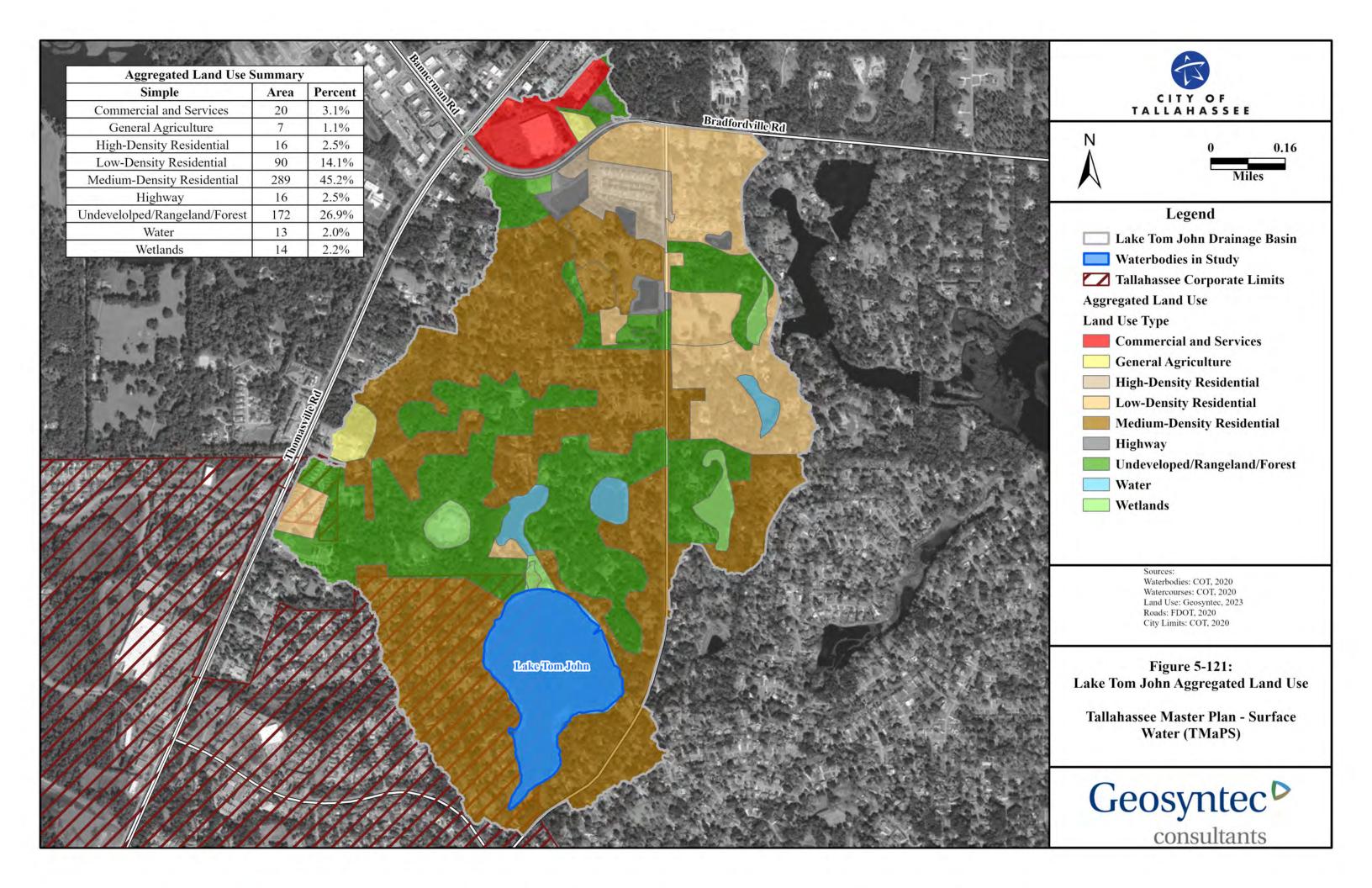
This section presents calculations of potential nutrient (TN and TP) loads to Lake Tom John for the sources identified for calculation in **Section 5.6.4.7.** These include stormwater runoff, septic systems, and atmospheric deposition. Where loads were not calculated the sections below provide brief discussions. The load calculations are for the purpose of comparing the potential magnitudes of each source relative to one another to support determination of sources to target for load reduction.

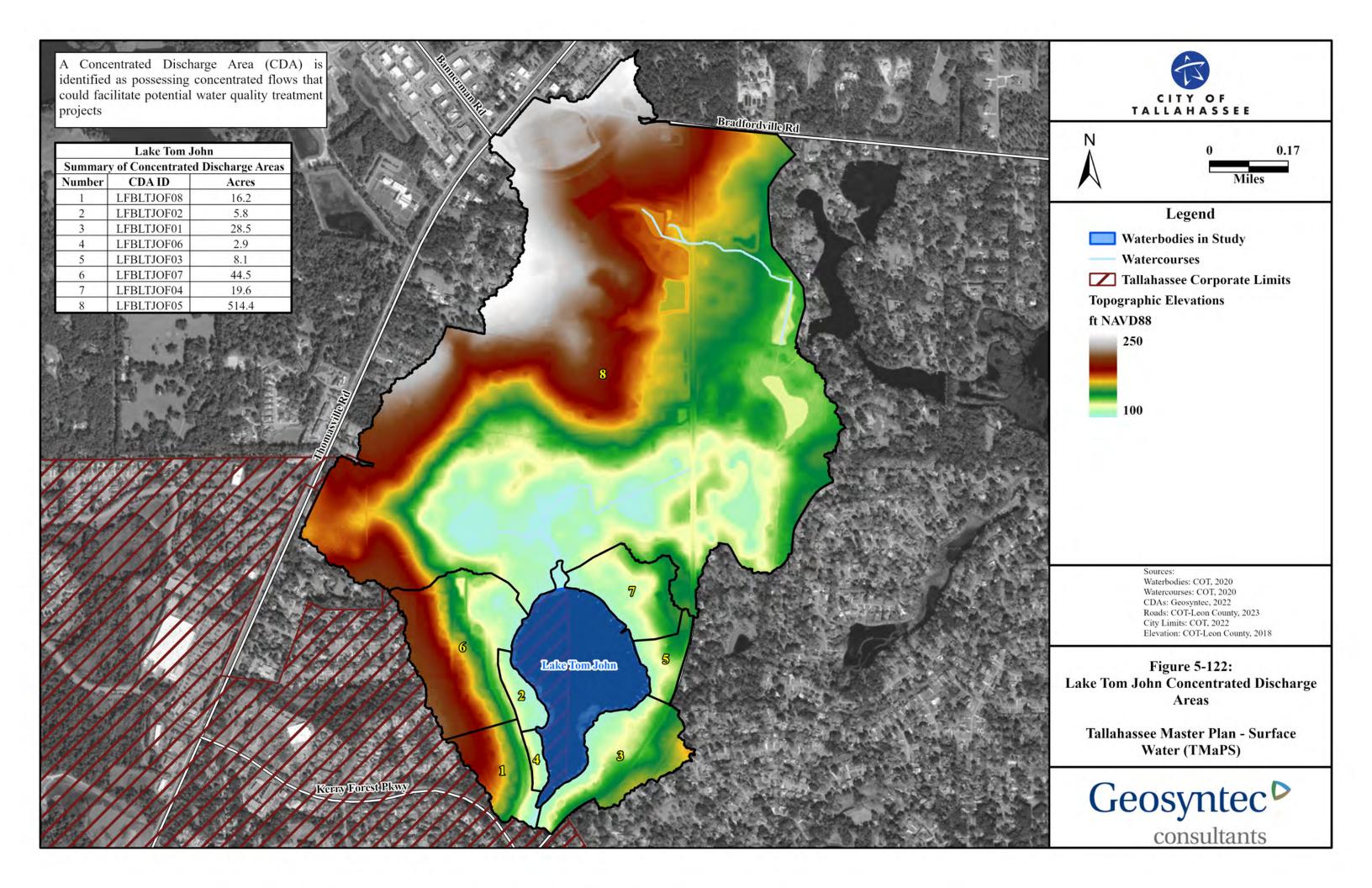
5.6.5.1 Stormwater Pollutant Load

In order to calculate the stormwater TN and TP loads to Lake Tom John, average annual pollutant load modeling was performed. The goal was to identify outfalls that are contributing higher TN and TP loads relative to one another and to quantify the total TN and TP loads to Lake Tom John. TN and TP loads were calculated using the Spatially Integrated Model for Pollutant Loading Estimates (SIMPLE-Seasonal) model. The model methodology was described in detail in **Section 5.4.5.1** for the stormwater loads to the Lake Lafayette Chain of Lakes.

Figure 5-120 presents the subbasins and the DEM utilized in the SIMPLE model calculations for Lake Tom John. **Figure 5-121** presents the aggregated land use. Finally, **Figure 5-122** presents the CDAs for the Lake Tom John stormwater loading to define total and per acre TN and TP loads, as well as the ranking of CDAs around the lake.









Stormwater Nutrient Loads to Lake Tom John

Figure 5-123 presents the distribution of the ranking of the CDAs for TN along with the total load and per acre loads, see the table on **Figure 5-123**. The rankings are color coded with the highest ranked CDAs in dark green moving down to the lowest ranked in pale yellow. The calculated total stormwater TN loads from the CDAs ranged from as low as 11.4 lb/yr up to 1741.8 lb/yr. The per acre loads ranged from 1.6 lb/acre/yr up to 4.0 lb/acre/yr. The map identifies two CDAs as ranking highest, these are on the west side of the lake within the Cities incorporated area. The total potential stormwater runoff load for TN for Lake Tom John is 2,194 lb/yr.

Figure 5-124 presents the distribution of the ranking of the CDAs for TP along with the total load and per acre loads, see the table on **Figure 5-124**. The calculated total stormwater TP loads from the CDAs ranged from as low as 3.1 lb/yr up to 316.5 lb/yr. The per acre loads ranged from 0.45 lb/acre/yr up to 1.1 lb/acre/yr. The total potential stormwater runoff load for TP for Lake Tom John is 438.2 lb/yr.

5.6.5.2 Septic Load

In order to analyze the potential impacts from septic tank units to Lake Tom John, the SPIL method adopted by the FDEP was utilized to quantify the potential septic load. The approach and calculations were described earlier in **Section 5.4.5.2** which presented the septic loading to the Lake Lafayette Chain of Lakes. As outlined earlier, the calculations were only done for nitrogen (TN), and based on literature on transport and assimilation, may represent a conservative potential load.

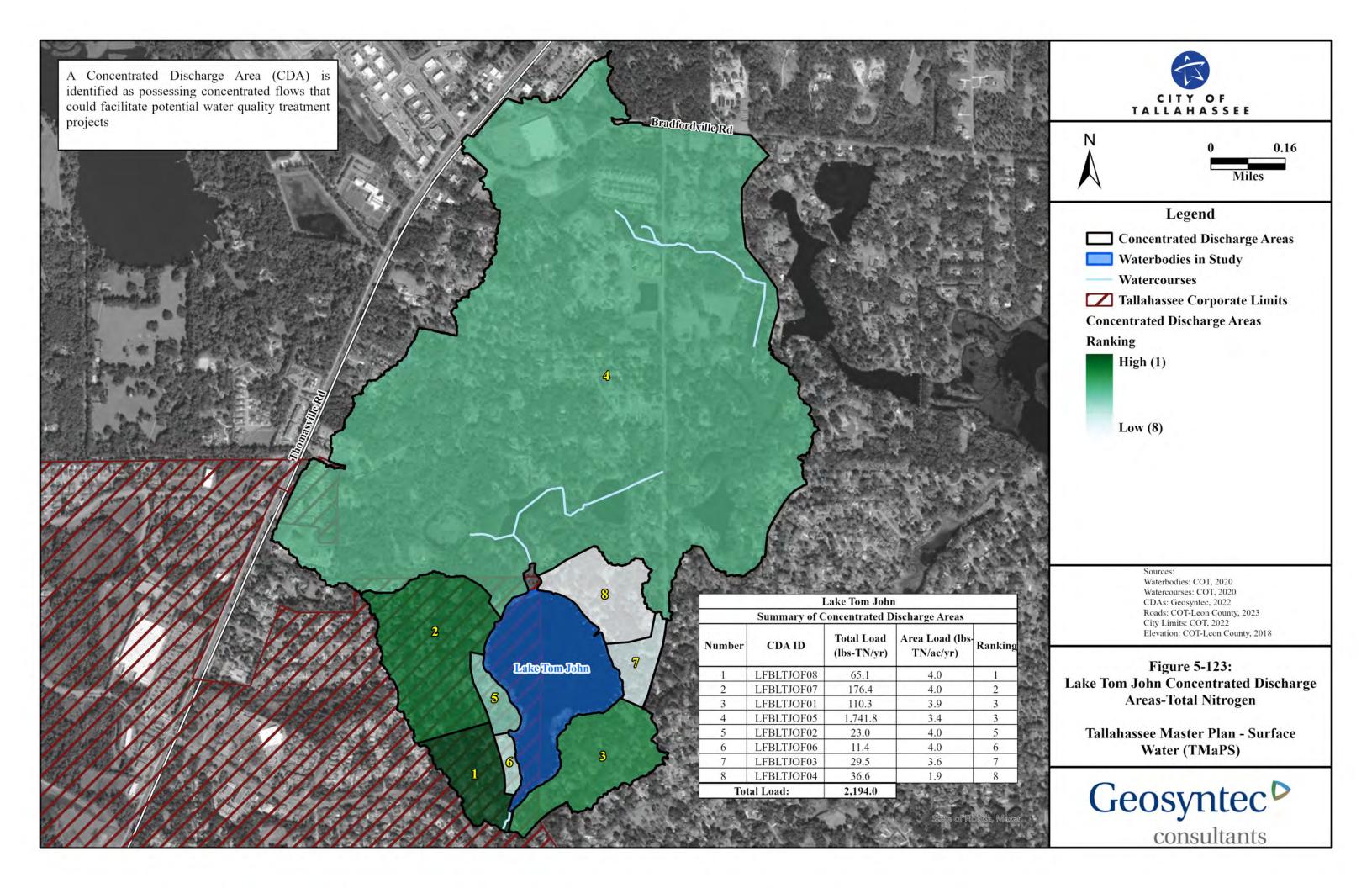
There were 104 septic tank units identified within 200 meters of Lake Tom John and the primary tributary (and lakes) that drain to the north end of Lake Tom John. **Figure 5-125** shows the septic systems utilized in the analyses with those associated with direct loading to the lake as green and those to the tributary and lakes upstream as pink. A table provided on the figure summarizes the calculated TN load from septic units. The calculated direct load to the lake is 627 lb/yr and the load to the tributary/lakes is 497 lb/yr.

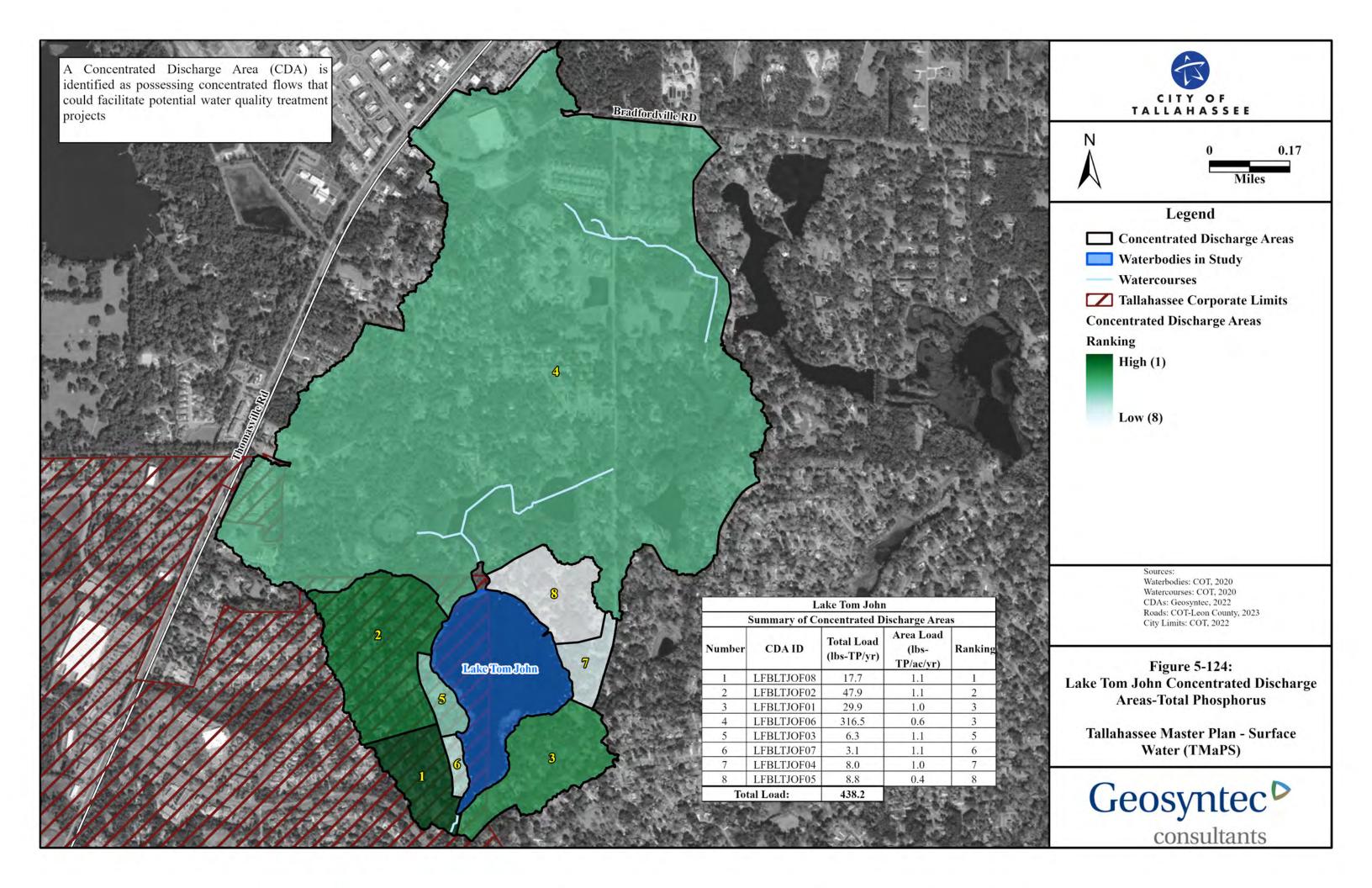
5.6.5.3 Point Source Load

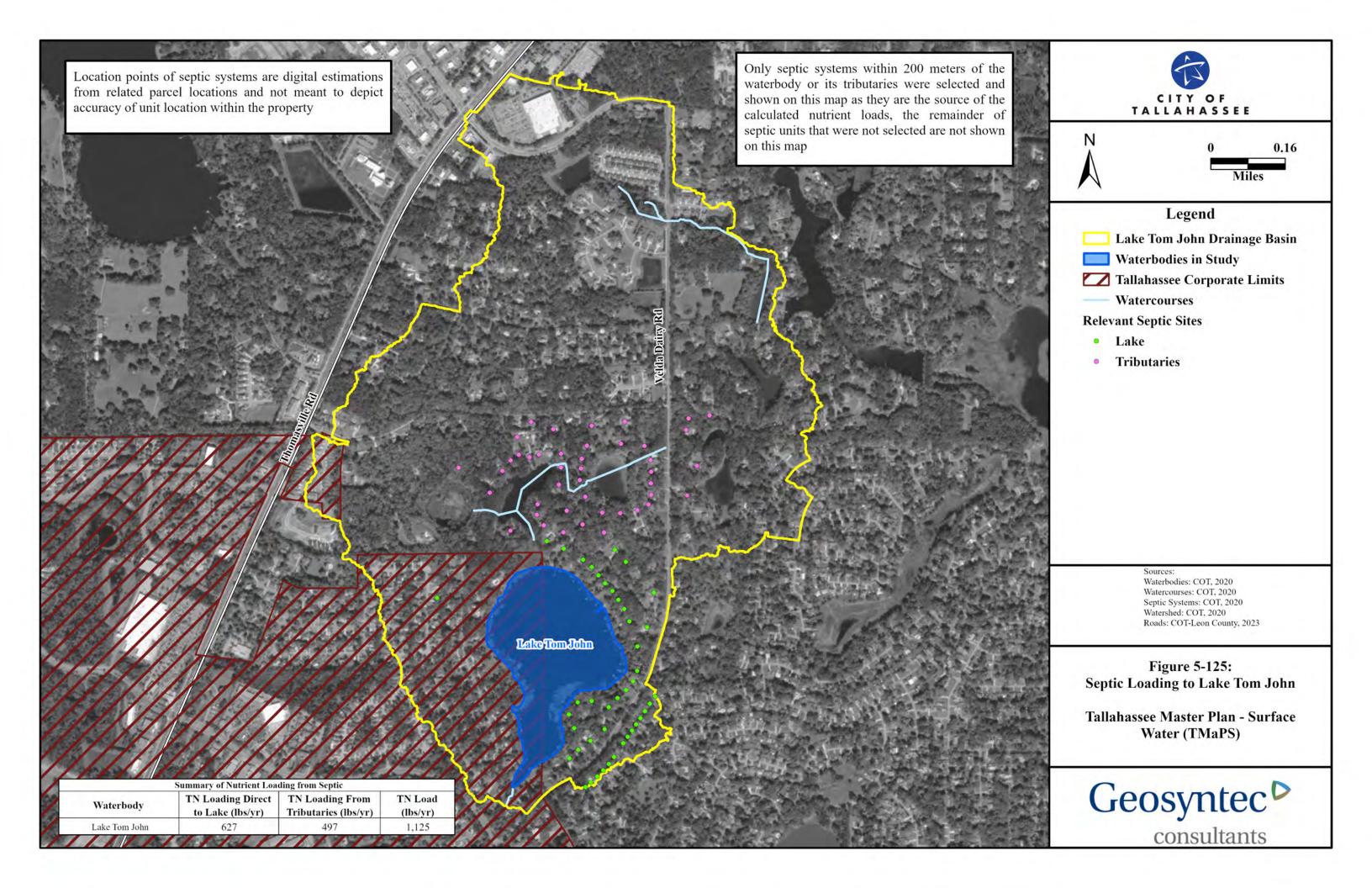
No active point sources were identified within the Lake Lafayette Chain of Lakes basin. Therefore, the point source loads for TN and TP are set to 0 lb/yr for Lake Tom John.

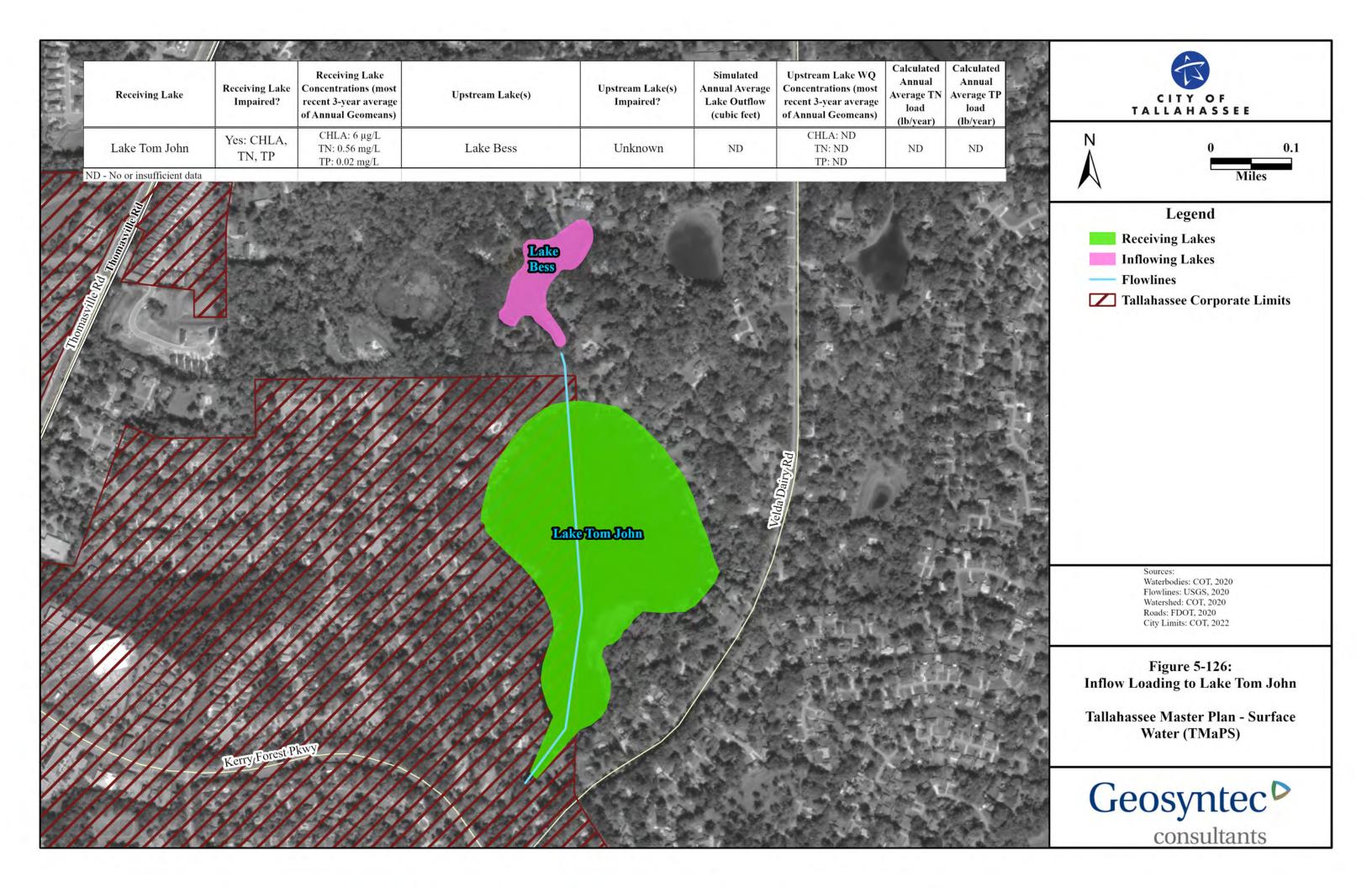
5.6.5.4 Lake Inflow Load

As was discussed in **Section 5.6.4.6** inflows from the northern portion of the basin pass through Lake Bess prior to discharging to Lake Tom John (**Figure 5-126**). Presently, no water quality data are available for Lake Bess so calculation of the load from the lake cannot be done. Presently, the inflow load from Lake Bess is incorporated into the stormwater load calculations although any attenuation or increase in the loads as they pass through Lake Bess are not accounted for.











5.6.5.5 Internal Lake Load

The source assessment determined that internal loading may be a source of nutrients to the lake. At present no measurements have been completed to allow quantification of this load so it is not calculated.

5.6.5.6 Atmospheric Deposition

As presented and discussed in **Section 5.4.5.6** the annual average atmospheric TN load per acre was calculated from the Quincy NADP station (F14) at 2.56 lb/acre/yr. Multiplying this by the acreage of Lake Tom John (40 acres) gives a total TN load of 102 lb/yr. No data are available for TP therefore only the nitrogen load is provided.

5.6.5.7 Summary of Calculated Loads

Nutrient loads to Lake Tom John were calculated for stormwater runoff, septic systems, and atmospheric deposition. **Table 5-21** presents the calculated total loads to the lake for TN and TP. For septic systems and atmospheric deposition only TN loads were calculated.

Table 5-21: Summary of Calculated Loads to Lake Tom John

Source	TN (lb/year)	TP (lb/year)
Stormwater Runoff	2,194	438
Septic Systems	1,125	NC
Atmospheric Deposition	102	NC

NC - Not calculated.