Options for Watershed Prioritization in North Dakota

- Identified as the most important element in the EPA framework
- Prioritization is the systematic ranking in order of importance.

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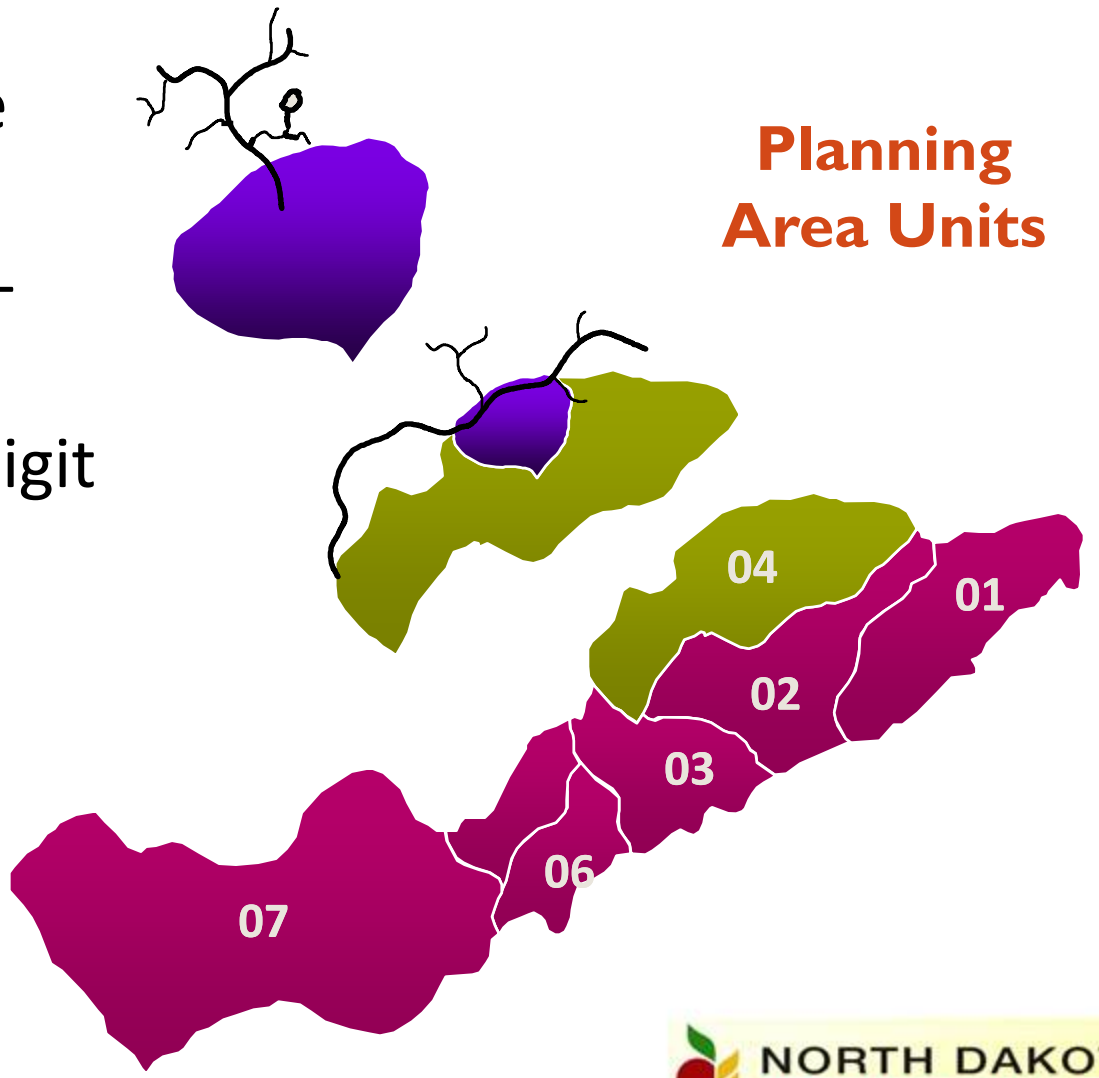
Watershed prioritization is the systematic ranking of watersheds

- Priorities will vary based on purpose
  - Monitoring and assessment
  - Planning
  - Permitting
  - Restoration (Section 319 projects, NWQI)
  - Protection
- Priorities will vary based on scale
  - 8 digit sub-basin
  - 10 digit watershed
  - 12 digit sub-watershed
  - Stream segment
  - Lake or reservoir

Prioritization Considerations

Prioritization may be tiered:

- Tier 1 - 8 digit sub-basins
- Tier 2 – 10 or 12 digit watersheds
- Tier 3 – stream segments, lakes, reservoirs



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Prioritization Decision Tools

- Use of different metrics/indicators based on prioritization purpose, scale, and approach
  - Indicators/metrics may be weighted based on importance

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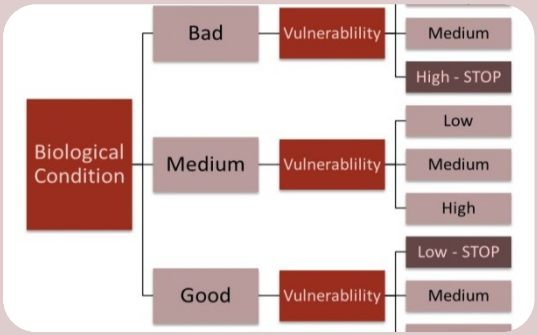
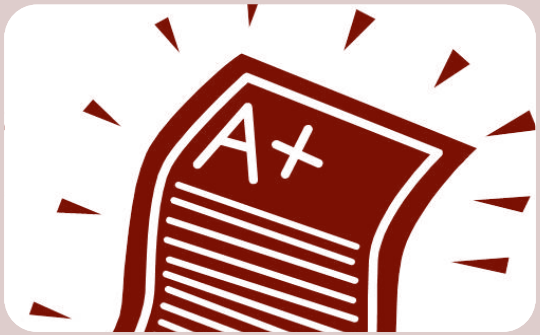
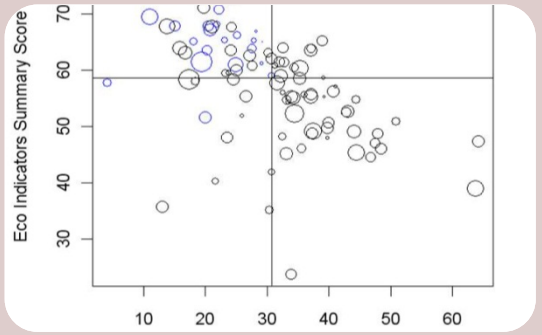
Prioritization Methods







Decision tree method

Score card method

EPA's Recovery Potential Screening Tool

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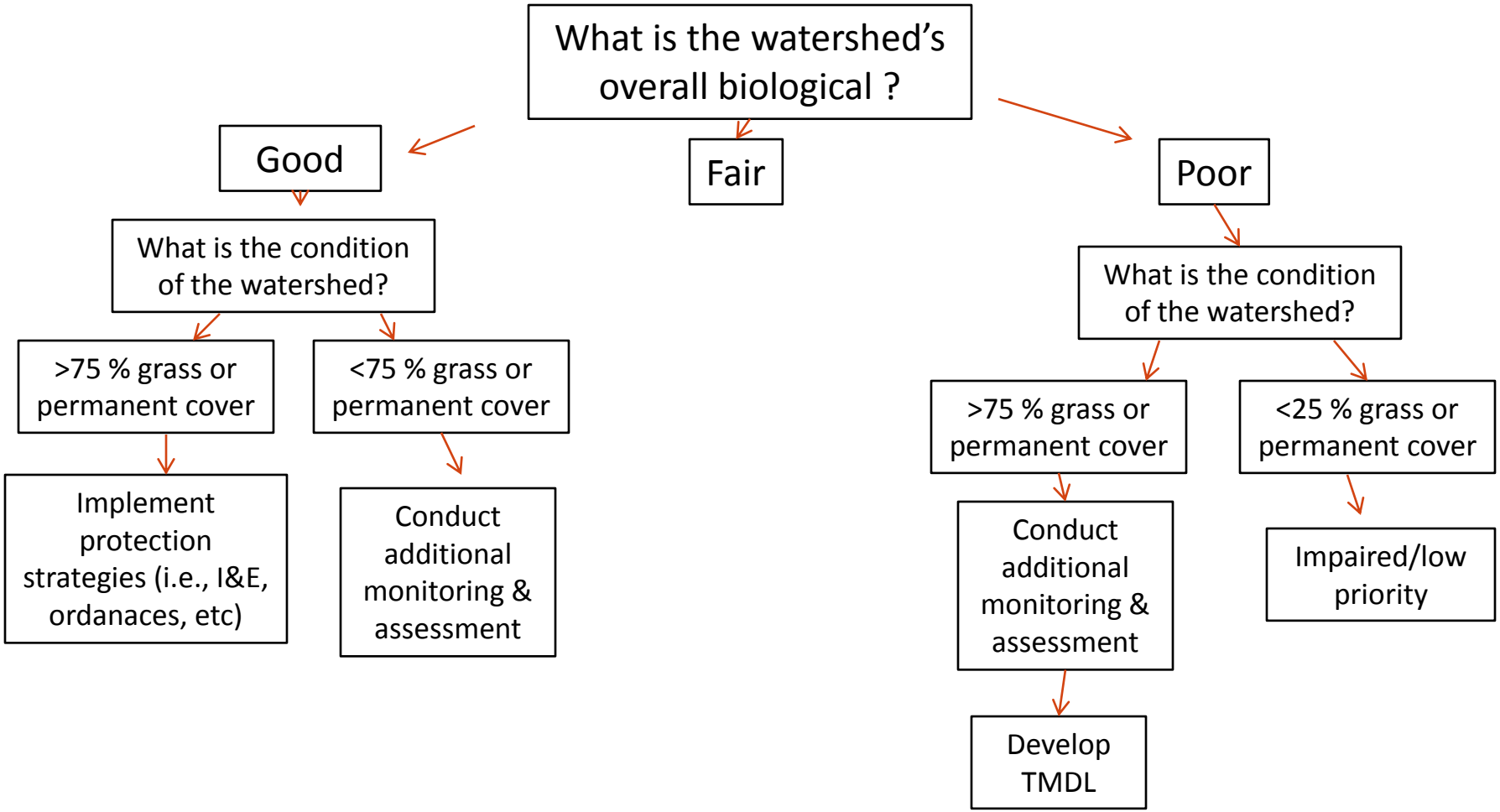
Decision Tree Method



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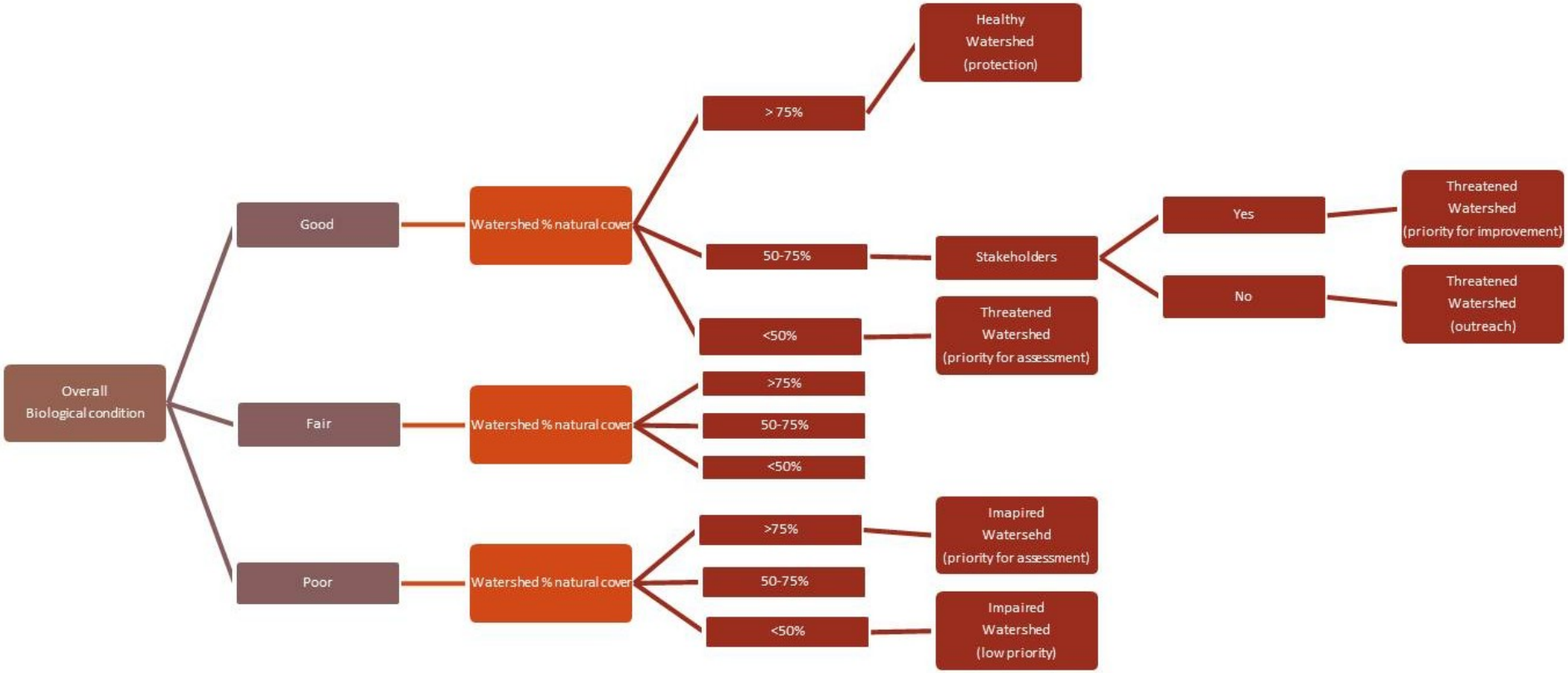
Decision Tree Method



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Score Card Method

- Select indicators/metrics
  - Ecological/health
  - Stressor
  - Societal
- Scale indicators and select scoring criteria

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Indicator/Metric Scoring

Biological condition	Watershed % natural cover	Total Phosphorus Yield
• Good = 1 • Fair = 3 • Poor = 5	• >75% = 1 • 50-75% = 3 • <50 = 5	• Low = 1 • Moderate = 3 • High = 5

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Indicator/Metric Scoring

TMDL Completed	Drinking Water Intakes	Fishery Value
• Yes = 5 • No = 1	• No = 1 • Yes = 10	• Tier 1 = 5 • Tier 2 = 3 • Tier 3 = 1

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Indicator/Metric Scoring

Section 319 Watershed Project

- Yes = 5
- No = 1

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Score Card Method

	Biological Condition	Watershed % Natural Cover	TP Yield	TMDL Complete	Drinking Water Intakes	Fishery Value	319 Project	Total Score
Watershed A	3	1	3	1	10	1	5	**24**
Watershed B	5	5	3	1	1	3	1	**19**
Watershed C	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	**11**
Watershed D	1	3	3	5	1	5	1	**19**

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