



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY  
FINANCE DIVISION



PHILLIP D. ROOS  
DIRECTOR

March 17, 2025

TO: All Interested Citizens, Organizations, and Government Agencies

SUBJECT: FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
**Township of Standish, Arenac County**  
**Transmission Main from Pinconning Township to Whites Beach**  
**Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Project Number 7837-01**

The purpose of this notice is to seek public input and comment on a preliminary decision by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required to implement recommendations discussed in the attached Environmental Assessment of a water supply project planning document submitted by the applicant mentioned above.

#### HOW WERE ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES CONSIDERED?

Part 54, Safe Drinking Water Assistance, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, being Sections 324.5401 to 324.5418 of the Michigan Compiled Laws Annotated, requires EGLE to evaluate all environmental implications of a proposed water supply project. EGLE has done this by incorporating a detailed analysis of the environmental impact of the proposed alternatives in its review and approval process. A project planning document was prepared by the applicant and reviewed by the State. EGLE has prepared the attached Environmental Assessment and found that the proposed project does not require the preparation of an EIS.

#### WHY IS AN EIS NOT REQUIRED?

Our environmental review concluded that no significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed action. Any adverse impacts have either been eliminated by changes in the project planning document or will be reduced by the implementation of the mitigative measures discussed in the attached Environmental Assessment.

#### HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

A map depicting the location of the proposed project is attached. This information is also available on our website at [Michigan.gov/SRF](https://Michigan.gov/SRF) under "Environmental Project Reviews." The Environmental Assessment presents additional information on the project, alternatives that were considered, impacts of the proposed action, and the basis for our decision. Further information can be obtained by calling or writing one of the contact people listed below.

#### HOW DO I SUBMIT COMMENTS?

Any comments supporting or disagreeing with this preliminary decision should be submitted to me at EGLE, FD, Constitution Hall, P.O. Box 30457, Lansing, Michigan

48909-7957. We will not take any action on this project planning document for 30 calendar days from the date of this notice in order to receive and consider any comments.

### **WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?**

In the absence of substantive comments during this period, our preliminary decision will become final. The applicant will then be eligible to receive loan assistance from this Agency to construct the proposed project.

Any information you feel should be considered by EGLE should be brought to our attention. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. David J. Worthington, the project manager, at 517-554-1835; [WorthingtonD@Michigan.gov](mailto:WorthingtonD@Michigan.gov), or you may contact me. Your interest in this process and the environment is appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Dan Beauchamp*

Dan Beauchamp, Section Manager  
Water Infrastructure Funding and Financing Section  
Finance Division  
517-388-3380

Attachment

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY**  
**Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)**  
**Charter Township of Standish, Arenac County**  
**Environmental Assessment Amendment**  
**March 2025**

**PROJECT IDENTIFICATION**

**Applicant:** Charter Township of Standish

**Address:** P.O. Box 472  
Standish, MI 48658

**Authorized Representative:** Mr. Corey Sajdak, Township Supervisor

**Project Number:** 7837-01

**RATIONALE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AMENDMENT**

The purpose of this document is to provide an amendment to the Environmental Assessment (EA), which was published by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) on April 22, 2024. The selected alternative at that time included a plan for the Charter Township of Standish (Standish) to construct a water transmission main to connect the recently completed water distribution system in the Whites Beach community to the city of Pinconning water distribution system. The DWSRF awarded Standish a \$2,332,500 loan with funds made available by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant of \$2,332,500 to finance the project. This EA amendment is being issued to notify the public of a significant change in the project.

**PROJECT DISCUSSION**

The original scope of this project included constructing a water transmission main connecting residents in Whites Beach to the city of Pinconning's water supply with the new transmission main routed through Pinconning Township. However, once construction was in progress right-of-way access to construct the new transmission main through Pinconning Township was deemed unavailable. As a result, a new proposed alternative of connecting to existing Pinconning Township-owned water main at the intersection of Shore Road and Lapan Road is being proposed (See Figures 1 and 2). This alternative would remove the new transmission main proposed between the city of Pinconning and Pinconning Township from the project scope and Standish would enter into a water supply agreement with the Bay County Department of Water and Sewer (DWS) instead of the city of Pinconning. All other aspects of the project remain the same, except for some additional hydrants needed along the route. When the initial project planning document was prepared, this new alternative connection point was not considered because the Bay County DWS Technical Advisory Committee (TSC), who controls connection to the Bay Area water distribution system network, denied the request by Standish to connect to the Pinconning Township water distribution system. Now that new transmission main installation in Pinconning Township is no longer an option the Bay County DWS TSC has reconsidered the request.

Service agreements are under negotiation and pending between Standish and Pinconning Township for the new connection point and between Standish and Bay County for a water supply agreement. An EGLE construction permit has been obtained for the new proposed alternative. This new alternative would reduce the total project cost by approximately \$1,332,153 to a new project cost of \$3,332,847. As a result of the decreased project amount the ARPA grant will be reduced to \$1,627,500.

At the completion of the project, the Whites Beach community in Standish will become wholesale customers of the Bay County Water Department System. Users can expect to see a substantially lower monthly water usage utility rate due to this change compared to the original alternative. A prior estimate for the average residential system customers was \$128 per month based on the original project alternative. It is now estimated to be \$77 per month based on the revised project alternative. The user charge estimate includes a special assessment, ready to serve charge, and a commodity charge. Standish is also pursuing a grant administered by the Environmental Protection Agency that, if obtained, may lower this user cost estimate and DWSRF financing amount even further.

## **REASONS FOR CONCLUDING NO SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

The revised project alternative includes a significant cost savings to residents and has minimal temporary negative environmental impacts. The proposed project offers substantial benefits of providing a safe, reliable drinking water to residents in the Whites Beach area of Standish which currently are served by private wells threatened by E-coli contamination.

Questions regarding this EA Amendment should be directed to:

Mr. David J. Worthington, Senior Project Manager  
Water Infrastructure Funding and Financing Section  
Finance Division  
Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy  
P.O. Box 30457  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7957  
Telephone: 517-554-1835  
E-Mail: WorthingtonD@Michigan.gov



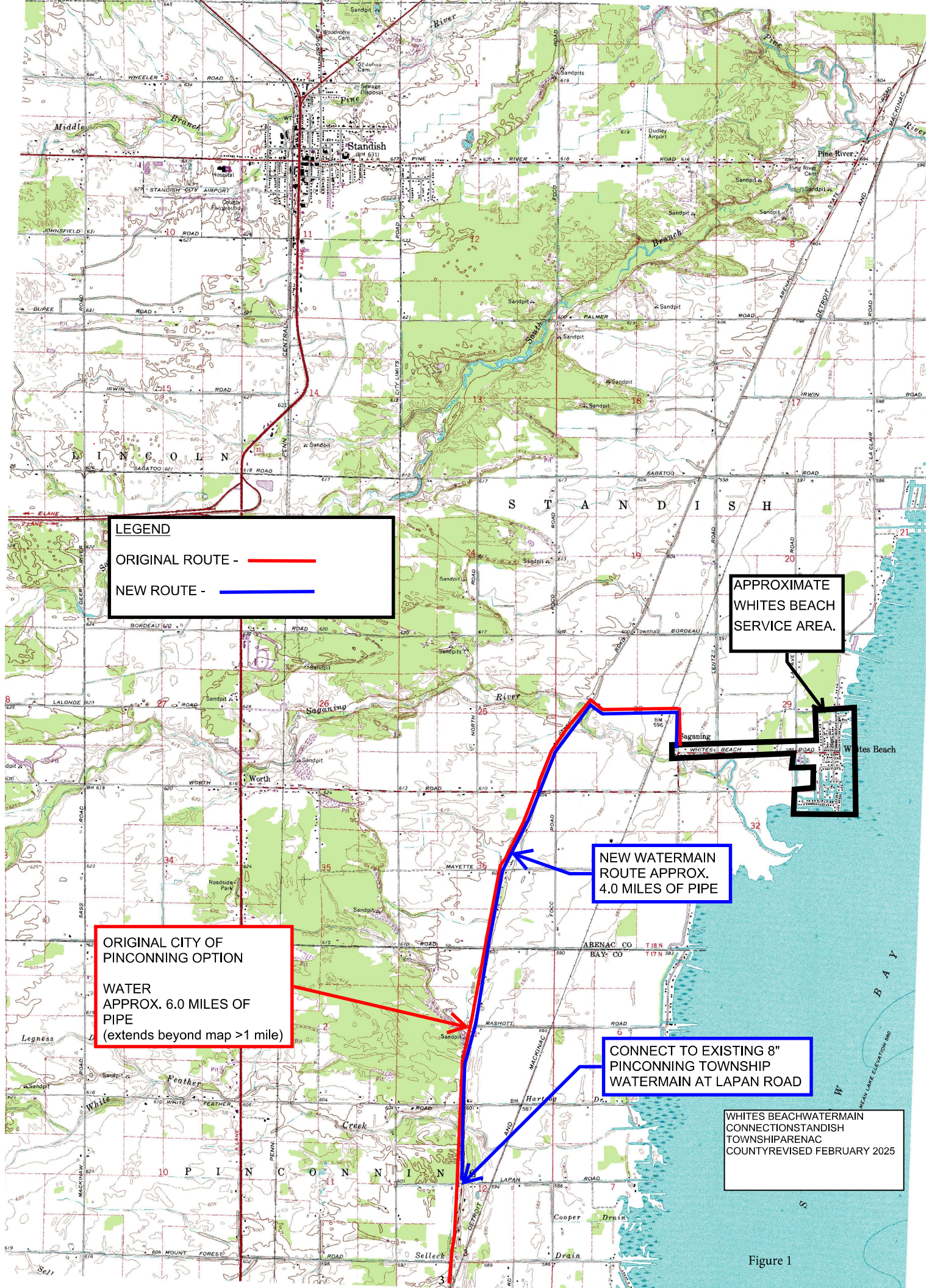


Figure 1



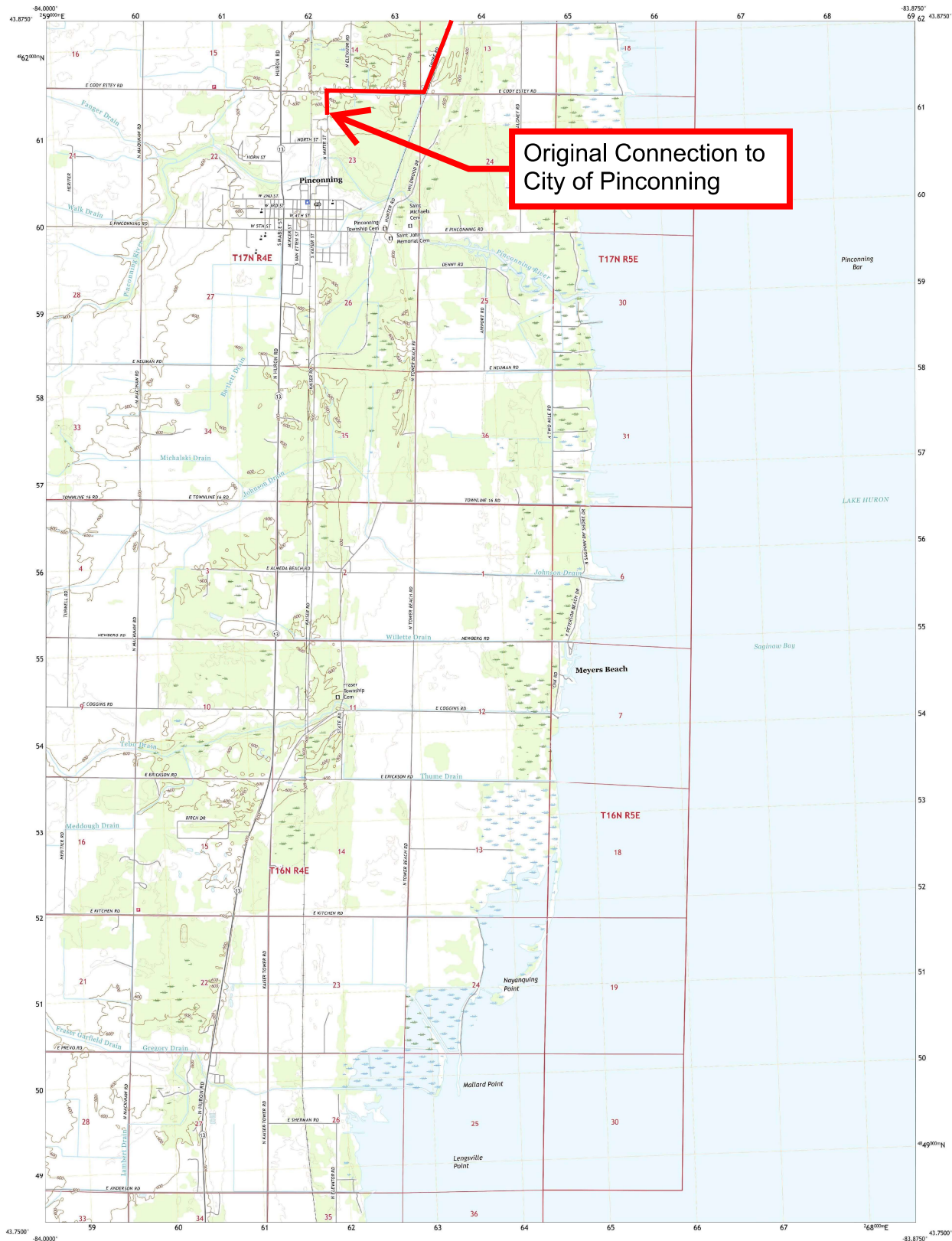
Figure 2



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

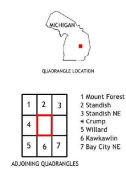
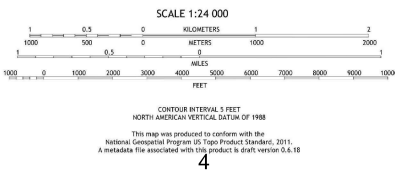


PINCONNING QUADRANGLE  
MICHIGAN - BAY COUNTY  
7.5-MINUTE SERIES



Produced by the United States Geological Survey  
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83)  
World Geodetic System of 1984 (WGS84) Projection and  
1:50,000-meter grid/Universal Transverse Mercator, Zone 16N17T  
This map is not a legal document. Boundaries may be  
generalized for this map scale. Private lands with government  
reservations may not be shown. Obtain permission before  
entering private lands.

Imagery.....NAP, July 2016 - October 2016  
Roads.....U.S. Census Bureau, 2016  
Names.....GNIS, 1980 - 2019  
Hydrography.....National Hydrography Dataset, 1999 - 2019  
Contour.....National Elevation Dataset, 2019  
Boundaries.....Multiple sources; see metadata file 2019  
Public Land Survey System.....BLM, 2018  
Wetlands.....FWS National Wetlands Inventory, 2005



PINCONNING, MI  
2019

