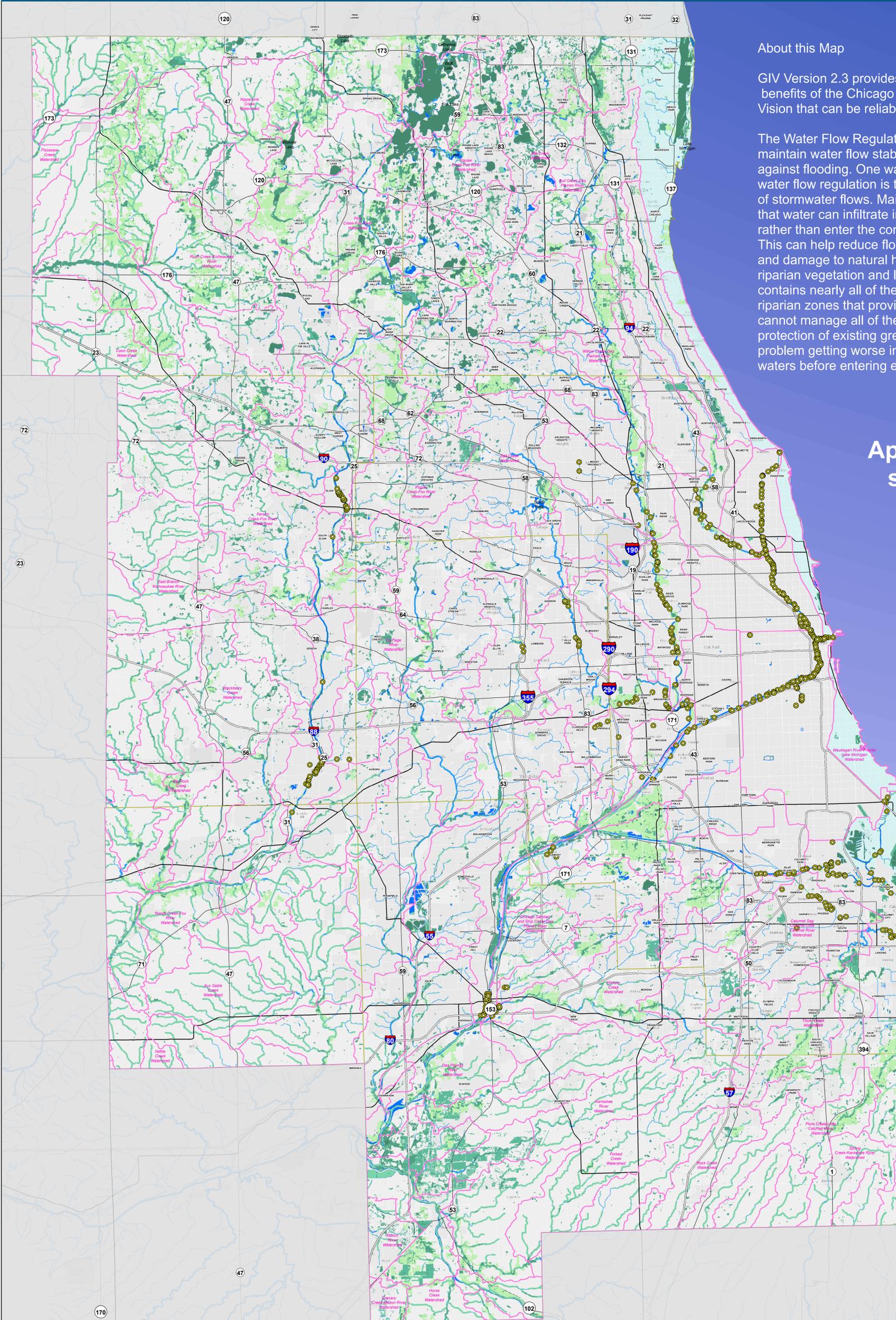


# Water Flow Regulation / Flood Control

**GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE VISION**  
VERSION 2.3 ECOSYSTEM SERVICE VALUATION



Map Prepared by  
The Conservation Fund, 2014.



## About this Map

GIV Version 2.3 provides an estimate of the economic benefits of the Chicago Wilderness Green Infrastructure Vision that can be reliably measured.

The Water Flow Regulation ecosystem service helps maintain water flow stability and protect human infrastructure against flooding. One way the GIV provides flood control and water flow regulation is through reductions in peak discharges of stormwater flows. Maintaining green infrastructure helps ensure that water can infiltrate in the soil and recharge the groundwater rather than enter the combined sewer and stormwater systems. This can help reduce flood damage to community infrastructure and damage to natural hydrology that could result in a loss of native riparian vegetation and loss of wildlife habitat. Fortunately, the GIV contains nearly all of the natural interconnected wetlands and riparian zones that provide this ecosystem service. Natural systems cannot manage all of the flood control needs of communities, but protection of existing green infrastructure can help avoid the problem getting worse in locations where the GIV absorbs flood waters before entering engineered flood control infrastructure.

**Approximate value of services provided by the GIV:**

**\$4.2 Billion**

## KEY

### Flood Control

2014 dollars/acre/year

- \$37,026
- \$22,014
- \$16,011
- \$6,502
- \$1,602

Combined Sewer Overflows

### REGION (HUC-8)

Drains to Lake Michigan

### Watersheds

HUC-12

Streams