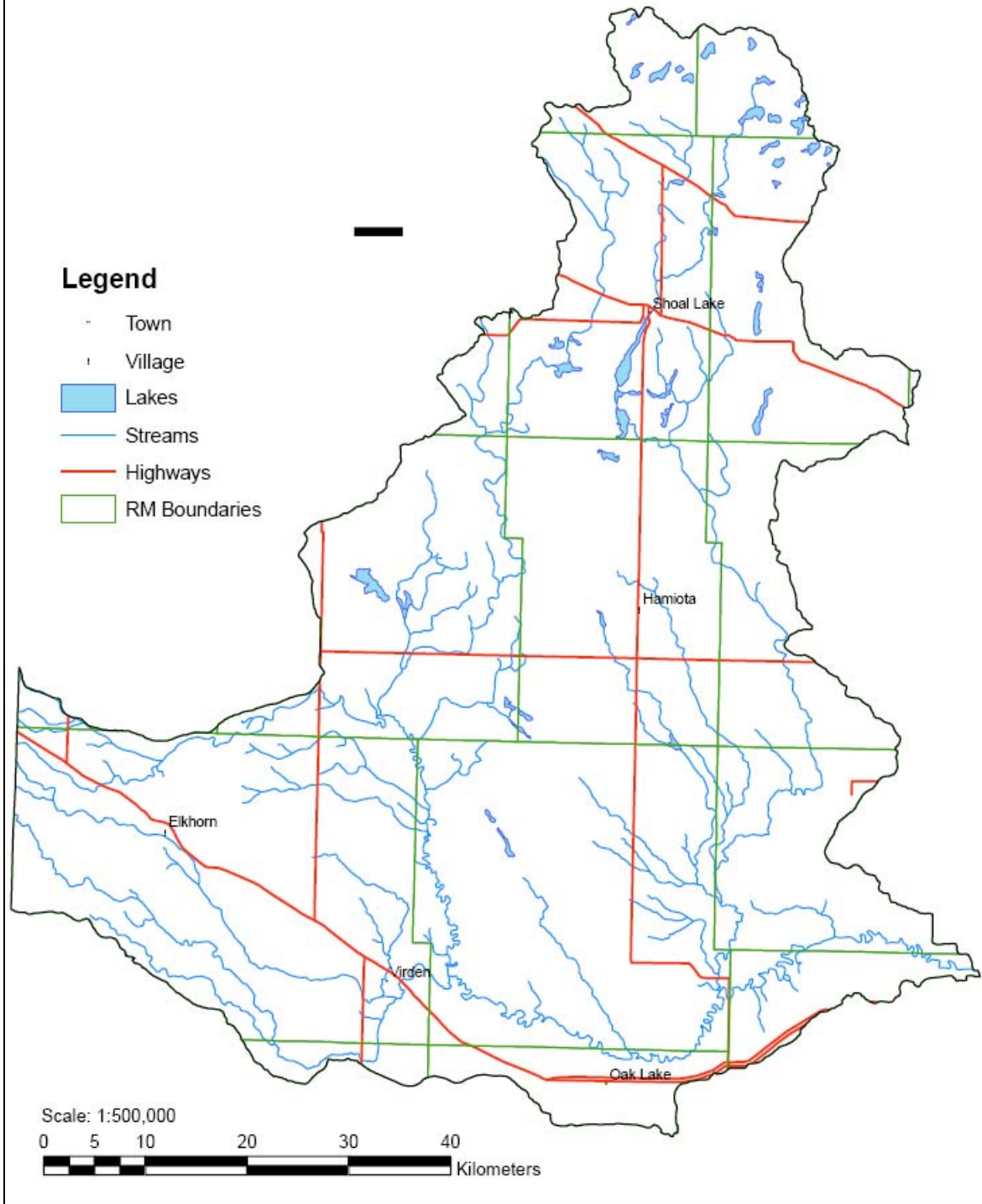


Arrow-Oak River Watershed



Arrow–Oak River Watershed

This watershed encompasses the area roughly from the Trans Canada Highway north to Highway #45 and the Saskatchewan border east to nearly Brandon.

The major concern in this watershed is the encroachment and elimination of riparian habitat by agriculture activities. As a result of the nutrient and sediment loading from these poor practices, many waterbodies are experiencing accelerated eutrophication and related problems (algae blooms, summer and winter fish kills). Appropriate riparian protection measures are encouraged but lack of ongoing educational programs and funding opportunities are not available.

Another concern is the ongoing channelization and drain maintenance in this area. The increase of water volumes is resulting in bank erosion on receiving water courses and it is also facilitating the transport of nutrients and sediments.

In this watershed, 4 lake aeration systems have been installed to create recreational fisheries on waterbodies that have been impacted by anthropogenic activities. Shoal Lake 1 and 2, Kenton Reservoir and Patterson Lake will provide recreational and economic opportunities.

Numerous other waterbodies are stocked on a regular basis with indigenous fish species or salmonids.

Five COSEWIC listed fish species are known to be present in this watershed and they are Lake Sturgeon, Maple Leaf Mussel, Silver Chub, Chestnut Lamprey and Big Mouth Buffalo.

Overall Watershed Health Assessment of the Arrow–Oak River Watershed would be “healthy with concerns”.