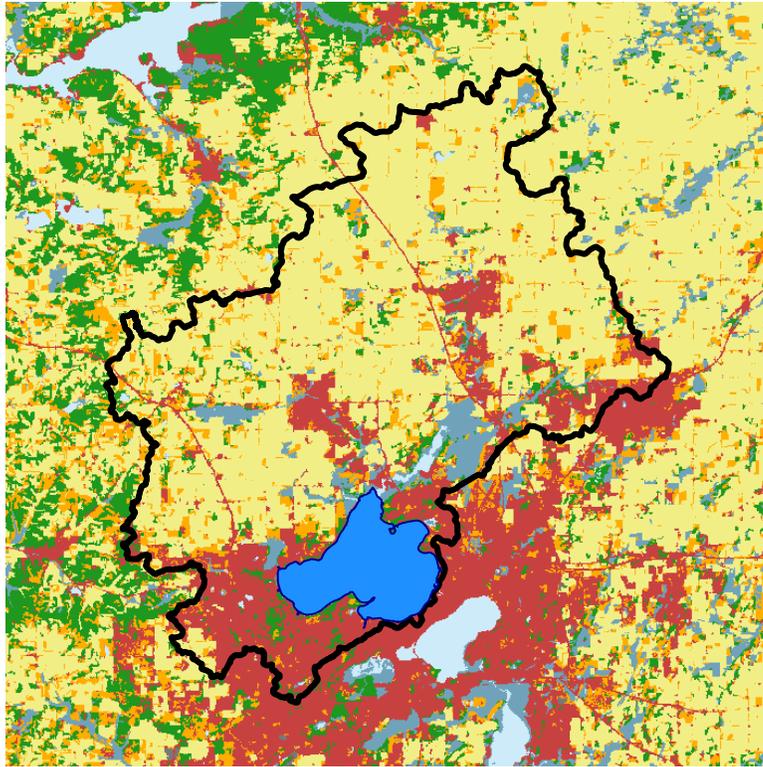


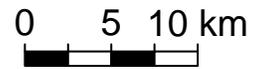
Lake Mendota (Dane County): Watershed Report

Land use in the watershed

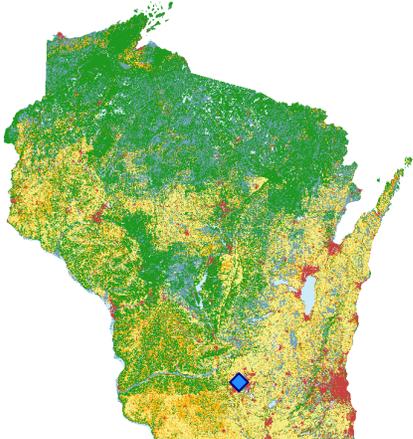


↑
NORTH

- Developed
- Agriculture
- Grassland
- Forest
- Open Water
- Wetland
- Barren
- Shrubland



Statewide Land Use



Basic Information

Official name	Lake Mendota
Local name(s)	Fourth Lake, Lake Mendota 254
WBIC	805400
County	Dane
Area (acres)	9781
Maximum depth (ft)	83
Mean depth (ft)	42
Volume (acre ft)	413231
Watershed drainage area (acres)	149247

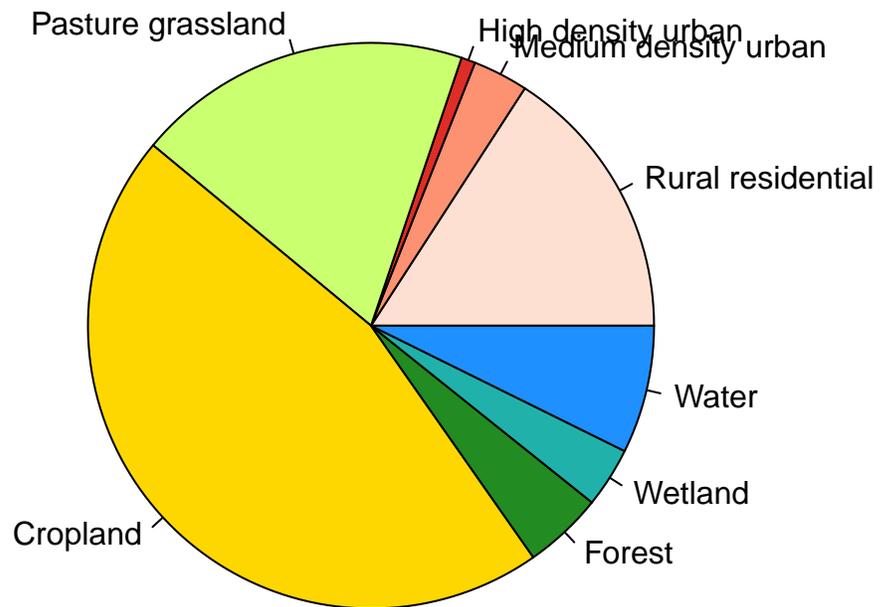
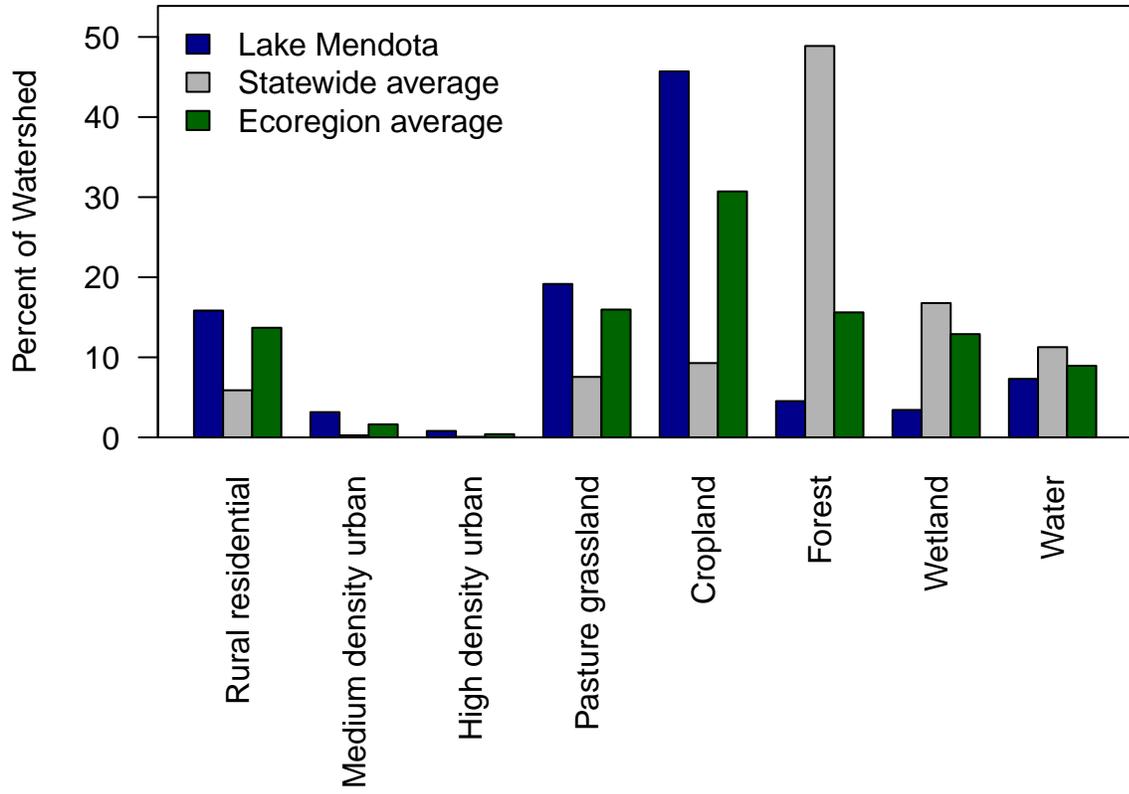
Note: Not all variables have been measured for all lakes, so NA's may be included in table above

Land Use Summary

This section includes some examples of tables and figures we can create to summarize land use stats for the watershed, or compare them to statewide averages

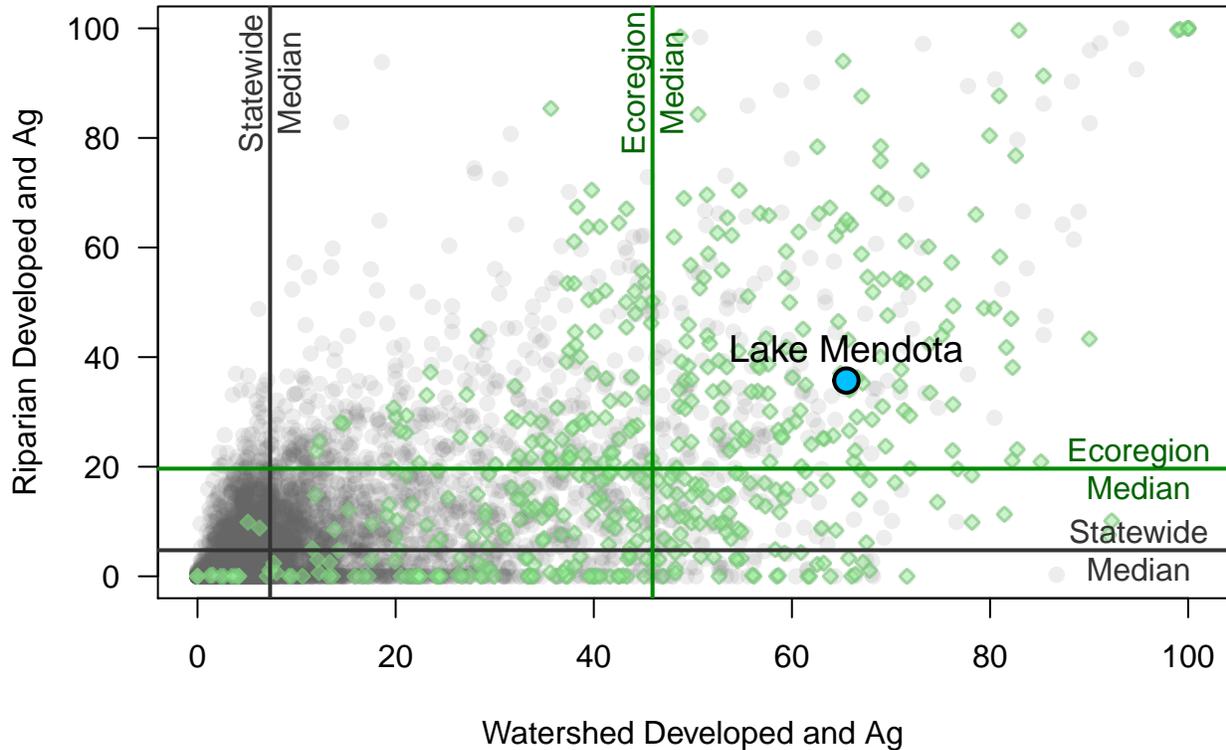
The land use in a lake's watershed (all the land upstream of the lake) has strong controls on lake water quality, chemistry, and biology. In Wisconsin, nuisance algal blooms are driven by excess phosphorus, much of which is added to watersheds in the form of fertilizers, so high percentages of agricultural and urban land covers are associated with low water quality. The table and barchart below show the percentages of land uses in Lake Mendota's watershed and compares them to the averages across all named 5353 Wisconsin lakes.

	Acres	Percent	Statewide average percent	Ecoregion average percent
Rural residential	23639	15.8	5.9	13.7
Medium density urban	4709	3.2	0.3	1.6
High density urban	1200	0.8	0.1	0.4
Pasture grassland	28588	19.2	7.6	16.0
Cropland	68202	45.7	9.3	30.7
Forest	6758	4.5	48.9	15.6
Wetland	5116	3.4	16.8	12.9
Water	10907	7.3	11.3	8.9



Land use in the watershed and riparian area

Lake water quality and habitat are affected not just by land use in the upstream watershed through nutrient and sediment loading, but also through land use along the lakeshore. In addition to delivering nutrients and sediment directly to the lake, riparian development and agriculture are associated with degraded in-lake habitat, such as woody debris and aquatic plants. The figure below shows how Lake Mendota compares to lakes across the state and the ecoregion in terms of how much of its watershed and riparian areas are developed or in agriculture. Lake Mendota is represented by the large blue dot, while lakes across the state are in gray and lakes across the ecoregion are in green. Statewide and ecoregion medians are shown as lines for reference.



Notes

This report was generated automatically on December 02 2016 using an RMarkdown script written by Alex Latzka. Please contact him if you notice any errors.

Data sources:

- The watershed map on page 1 displays general land cover classes estimated in WiscLand 2.0
- Statistics in the Land Use Summary have been aggregated for all catchments in the Wisconsin DNR Hydro24k layer using the 2006 National Land Cover Dataset