



# Duck River Watershed Planning Partnership

## *Regionalization Opportunities Assessment*

August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026

# ANALYSIS CATEGORIES

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## **Consolidation Opportunities Assessment**

- Preliminary evaluation of 15 scenarios constituting possible permutations of consolidation across the 18 utility systems in the Duck River across six criteria

## **Interbasin Transfers and Water Distribution**

- Summary of existing hydraulic interconnection, preliminary identification of locations for additional interconnections, and a review of indirect potable reuse within the watershed.

## **Policies and Programs**

- Development of coordinated water loss management programs, opportunities for state policy and statute to better facilitate regional collaboration and funding opportunities for mutually beneficial and voluntary regionalization projects

# Types of Regional Governance in Tennessee

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## **Interlocal Cooperation Act**

- Cooperative or joint entity created by political subdivisions (i.e. cities, towns, utility districts)
- Governing body composition determined in agreement
- Limitations on financing, eminent domain

## **(Regional) Water and Wastewater Treatment Authority Act (RWWTAA)**

- Created by existing local government, with additional members joining
- Governing body either population weighted (Part 6) or equally weighted (Part 13)

## **Private Act**

- State legislation applying to specific local governments
- Highly tailored, but limited applicability elsewhere or flexibility when executed

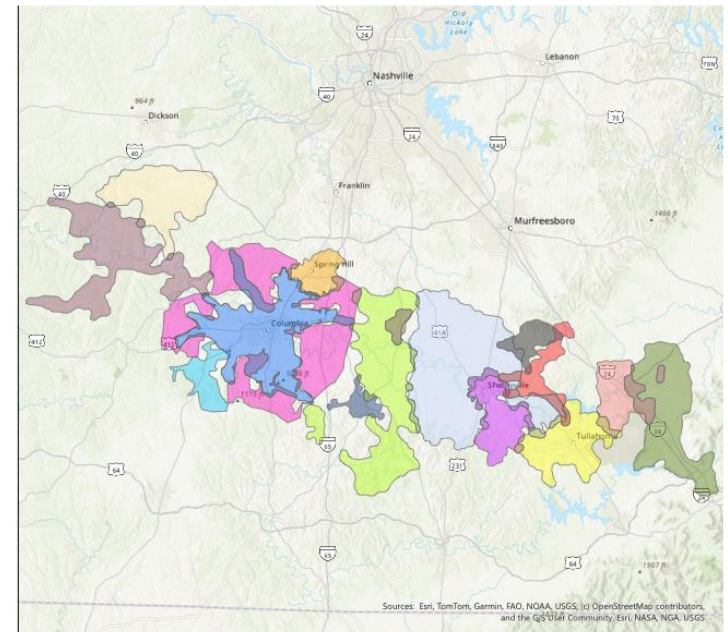
# Consolidation Opportunities Assessment

## 15 Consolidation Scenarios

| Category              | Scenario                                    |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| County-Level (CL)     | Bedford County                              |
|                       | Marshall County                             |
|                       | Maury County                                |
|                       | Hickman County                              |
| Multi-County (MC)     | Duck River Utility Commission Consolidation |
|                       | Rural Utility Districts                     |
|                       | Maury & Marshall                            |
| Sub-County/Other (SC) | Bell Buckle & Wartrace                      |
|                       | Lewisburg & Marshall County                 |
|                       | Shelbyville, Wartrace & Bell Buckle         |
|                       | Bedford, Wartrace & Bell Buckle             |
|                       | Marshall & Chapel Hill                      |
|                       | Manchester & Hillsville                     |
|                       | Columbia & Mount Pleasant                   |
|                       | Columbia & Maury                            |

## Six Evaluation Criteria

- Economic Efficiency
- Financial Capacity
- Environmental Impact
- Technical Feasibility
- Regulatory & Compliance
- Stakeholder & Institutional Readiness



# Consolidation Opportunities Assessment

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## Town of Bell Buckle and Town of Wartrace

- *Draft Recommendation: Assist the Town of Bell Buckle and Town of Wartrace in procuring the necessary professional services to formally evaluate consolidation options, including technical, legal, and financial services. Mechanism: Interlocal Cooperation Act*

## Hickman County: Town of Centerville, Bon Aqua-Lyles Utility District, Turney Center

- *Draft Recommendation: Assist the Town of Centerville and Bon Aqua-Lyles Utility District in procuring the necessary professional services to formally evaluate the creation of a joint entity to execute mutually beneficial infrastructure projects. Mechanism: Interlocal Cooperation Act*
- *Draft Recommendation: Work with the Tennessee Department of Correction and Town of Centerville to evaluate the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of a hydraulic interconnect and wholesale purchase agreement between Centerville and Turney Center.*

# Consolidation Opportunities Assessment

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## Columbia Power & Water Systems, Maury County Water System

This assessment does not dispute the findings of TDEC's ARAP permitting process and previous water supply planning studies that recommend the development of a downstream intake near Williamsport.

- *Draft Recommendation: Systems that are expecting to be served by the new intake and transmission project, with support from TDEC, should evaluate the creation of a regional water authority that could assume ownership and management of the intake, transmission, and treatment facilities upon completion. Mechanism: RWWTAA, Private Act*
- *Draft Recommendation: To the extent possible, TDEC should verify that the financing being secured by CPWS is structured in a way that would not prohibit the transfer of those assets to a regional water authority in the future.*

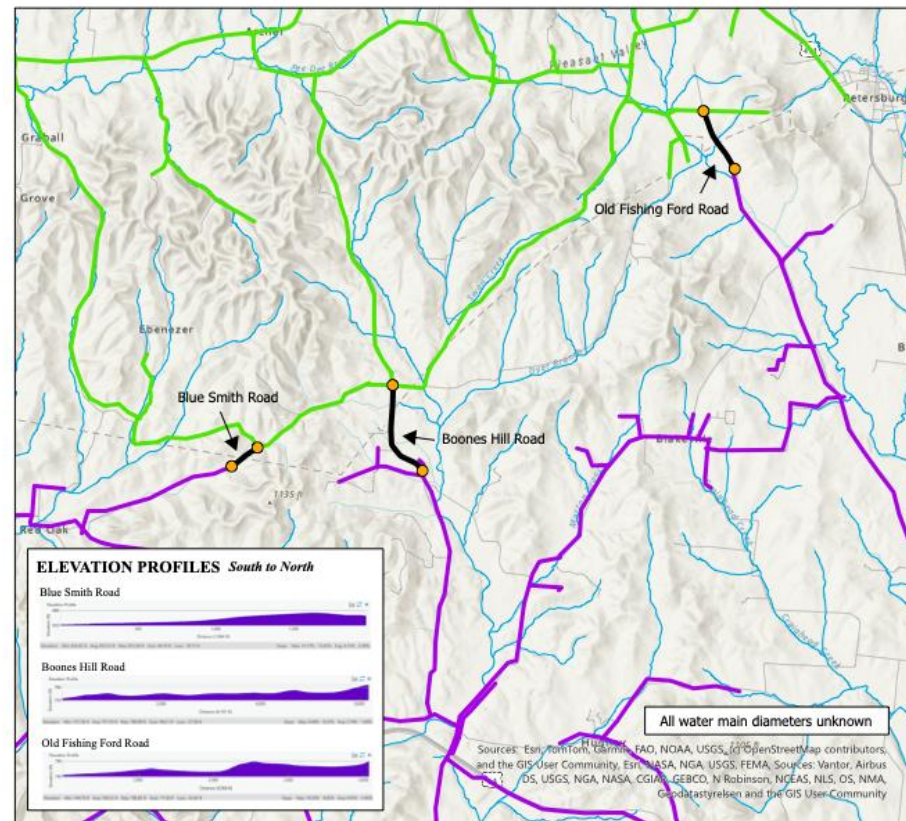


# Interbasin Transfers and Distribution

## Capturing Wastewater Discharge in Tullahoma

- Draft Recommendation: Further evaluate feasibility of alternatives, including relocation of the existing wastewater discharge location, or development of new intake and treatment facilities at Tims Ford Reservoir for transmission to Tullahoma.*

## Identifying Small-scale Interbasin Opportunities



# Policies and Programs

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## Cooperative Water Loss Management

- *Support Water Loss Working group to facilitate coordinated water loss management across the basin.*

## Funding Incentives for Regionalization

- *Draft Recommendation: Modify the State Revolving Fund policy to provide incentives for regionalization, such as higher prioritization or greater principal forgiveness.*
- *Draft Recommendation: Fully fund the Utility Revitalization Fund at the Tennessee Board of Utility Regulation.*

## State Statute and Policy

- *Draft Recommendation: Amend state statute where it arbitrarily creates barriers to voluntary regionalization efforts.*