Wisconsin Environmental equity tool meeting agenda

**TEAM: AD HOC ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Date/Time: Wednesday, August 31, 2022 at 4:00pm CT**

**Location: Zoom;** [**Link to join**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fus06web.zoom.us%2Fj%2F89036253045%3Fpwd%3DbDhmdUJhSUxmTkpwcUNMUXlsNmV0QT09&data=05%7C01%7Cdana.nielsen%40wedc.org%7C577428d67e814414c5f608da4fdf4402%7Ca4d0c6039c7f4293b89ca08c1a8eb571%7C0%7C0%7C637910117587939396%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=cGyA9AP6yYlvkfZKN2WlHmzfWLApT9%2F96IEqKUNT0d8%3D&reserved=0) **Password: WEET2022**

Agenda

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| --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Outcomes** |
| [**Opening from DOA Secretary Blumenfeld**](#_Opening_from_DOA) | **Learn about DOA’s relationship to Wisconsin Environmental Equity Tool** |
| [**Debrief**](#_Debrief) | **Review previous discussions and conclude indicator discussion** |
| [**Tetra Tech Update**](#_Tetra_Tech_Update) | **Wisconsin Environmental Equity Index methodology overview & Wisconsin Environmental Equity Tool demo** |
| [**Collaborative Evaluation**](#_Collaborative_Evaluation) | **Provide purpose of survey**  [**Fill out survey**](https://redcap.wisconsin.gov/surveys/?s=DKP4PT9AT4E7NK8P) |
| [**If Time: Community Conversations and Interview Updates**](#_Community_Conversations_and) | **Provide current locations/interviewees/themes** |
| [**Closing**](#_Closing) | **Determine next steps** |

Minutes

[**Link to Recording**](https://wedc-my.sharepoint.com/personal/dana_nielsen_wedc_org/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?share=ERRMTBdg5c1NqHLmD0UiQa8B7qoNJT5sFvbMU34K3khu3A&e=eWVqdW)

## **Opening from DOA Secretary Blumenfeld**

* Thank you for being here and your commitment
* I was so excited when I heard about the development of this tool and I know it’s something WI needs
* This will help us advance health and environmental equity and will be locally focused and data driven
* We need your expertise to make sure this is relevant and applicable
  + I think it will be because we’re starting with community engagement, collaboration, and lived experiences
* How I foresee DOA using WEET:
  + Climate impacts are different across the state. Important for us to pinpoint what the needs are and where
  + When I think about our programs (e.g. weatherization program, CDBG) I see how this tool will be useful. Will be useful in meeting our clean energy and carbon reduction goals
  + Thank you to Maria for her work on the Clean Energy Plan which will go hand in hand with this tool
    - Three pillars of the plan: Justice, Equity, Collective Action
* Thank you again for giving up your time on this beautiful day!

**Agenda Overview** (Maria)

* We are in version 1.0 of the WEET Tool
  + Anticipated to be released at the end of October
* But we are limited by time, cleanliness/completeness of available data
  + What we do now vs. What could come later
* We want your feedback on the equity index calculations and resulting scores
  + During Tetra Tech’s presentation
  + And we want to make sure we captured your feedback from past sessions

**Debrief** (Dana)

* Display of where we are at in adding indicators to the current revision ([see Appendix A](#_Appendix_A))
  + Indicators under “Included in Revision 0” will be what you see in the tool today and contribute to the current scores
  + Indicators under other categories still need to be added and do not factor into today’s scores but will be added to the final version published in October
  + Also wanted to display the indicator suggestions from the Advisory Committee ([see Appendix B](#_Appendix_B))
    - The blue/top graph shows suggestions we’ve been able to include and what indicator they are under
    - The orange/bottom graph shows suggestions we haven’t been able to include and why
      * For all three, the barrier is either unavailable or inaccessible data
    - Keeping in mind our contract with Tetra Tech ends in late October, we are on a time crunch. However, we still want to know what indicators are missing and suggestions on where we can find the data
    - While a suggestion might not make it into the first published version of WEET, we hope to keep building the tool and including more indicators. We will continue to take down ideas.
* Updates on concerns/questions previously brought up by Advisory Committee
  + If you have an idea on how to work around any barriers or how to make WEET more transparent when published, please share.
  + Methodology
    - Heard several questions on the methodology and math behind WEET
    - Tetra Tech will document in detail each step of methodology, link to data sources, and status of each indicator.
    - Tetra Tech will be transparent about what data is desired but cannot be included and the reasons behind it, actions taken towards procuring it, and hopefully those can inform future steps and tools. There are suggestions from the Steering Committee to have WEET also help visualizing data gap and data inequity as well.
    - Tetra Tech will provide a deeper look into the math later today
  + Disparate Analysis
    - Want this tool to be useful to as many people as possible, but know Version 1 won’t be perfect and everything to everyone
      * Why even though we’re nearing deadline, we still want suggestions for future versions
    - Recognize there are limitations to disparate analysis and quantitative analysis
    - Plan to publish a limitations section with WEET to address this and recommend future versions explore other methods
    - Hope story maps serve as a short-term solution to fill some of the gaps left by disparate/quantitative analysis
  + How WEET differs from EJScreen and does WEET incorporate cumulative impact
    - WEET uses state specific data and acknowledges local concerns not included in EJScreen
    - The goal of WEET is to be cumulative. The index score assigned to each census tract is derived from combining all the indicators
  + Including tribal boundaries and tribal data
    - We currently don’t have tribal data available to us. Not having this data is going to skew scores into a positive direction. You’ll see this visually during the tool demo today
    - Long-term plan to address this: organize meetings with tribal communities to get access to data. Pearly is conducting numerous interviews with tribal members, so this process has started
    - Short-term plan to address this: have a story map dedicated to this issue to demonstrate that data doesn’t tell the full story. We’d love to hear more ideas for solutions as well.
* **Questions/Comments**
  + Tom: What is going to be the highest resolution of data with the tool? Will it drill down to census block group?
    - Dana: It will go down to census tract
    - Adam (Tetra Tech): It will not go down to block group
    - Tom: I’m concerned about that. In Wausau, data used from broad census tract doesn’t represent the impact that happens at the census block group level. Perhaps future versions of the tool can address this.
    - Maria: I think that’s a limitation of data and the project’s time constraints. Getting the data down to blocks would be very time-consuming. We want to do it but can’t do it yet.
    - Tom: My concern, from my experience in Wausau, is that census tract environmental data can reflect environmental challenges that are only concentrated in one block group. But because data is given by census tract, funding won’t go where it needs to go – it can be given to other blocks that are not as affected and the blocks in which environmental challenges are most concentrated are neglected.
    - Jim (WI state data lead): Most of the information we get from Census Bureau (and their products) doesn’t go down to block level. Aggregating data at that level is difficult for any tool. State agencies may collect data on census blocks. But if they don’t, it is difficult to collect data on small geographic areas.
  + Noah: I understand why many of the suggested indicators are pushed back to the next version, but a couple were surprising. It seems the state of WI and/or its agencies should have data, or access to data, about those indicators. The lack of data on tribal boundaries and crude oil pipelines is especially surprising. For example, if Red Cliff decided all northern Wisconsin was the Red Cliff reservation, the state of Wisconsin would easily disprove that and show the GIS layers. I don't understand why available data isn’t being incorporated. While pipelines might be hard to quantify, tribal boundaries should be included.
    - Rachel (Tetra Tech): Tribal boundaries will be included in the tool; they were just not included in Revision 0 (the version you will see today). But federal reservations and off-reservation land trusts will be included in the final version. For crude oil pipelines – there are web services that allow viewing pipelines at county levels but there are access restrictions to that data for national security reasons. For some indicators, like PFAS, the state is currently gathering data, so it is not being included now but may be included in the future.
    - Noah: That’s reassuring. For pipelines, the Department of Natural Resources and Army core have all maps of pipelines in WI. I understand why pipelines can’t be shown publicly at a geographically small level, but they should be included at the county level. And PFAS data – and other partially-collected data – can be included in some counties and not included in others, especially given the challenges WI communities are facing with regards to PFAS. I’m concerned these indicator eliminations will take away from credibility of tool.
    - Maria: Part of this is the timeline. We want this to be the best tool it can be, and we also want to get it launched. Time is a constraint on what we can do for this. Agencies are working on incorporating other details in a different timeline than the one we’re working on for this first version.
  + Eric: To respond to Tom and Noah, the GIS folks working on this share the same concerns about missing data, the scale of data, and the potential misuse of data. We think we can address this in a couple of ways. We will show where we have data gaps; missing data shows inequity as well as data presence, because we must encourage comprehensive data collection. Also, this tool will be the main tool, but there will also be accompanying story maps. Images and videos will be included. The advisory committee can suggest what those story maps can address and how it can highlight what missing data would cover.
  + Lamont: I’m trying to make sense of Secretary Blumenfeld’s appearance in the call and trying not to read too much into her comments or appearance. I’m not sure if someone can speak to this, I’m not sure who the committee head is. But usually when someone of this level comes up, this has a chilling effect on advisory processes because she just told us what this would be. I don’t think our process thus far required this. Some of the examples she mentioned are concerning – she hinted that the tool would be used to make decisions linked to renewable energy policies/programs. I’d like to hear more about that.
    - Maria: This was a collaborative effort launched between the WEDC, DNR, Department of Health Services, and Department of Administration. The Clean Energy Plan, etc. are all conversations that can be informed by the tool. The work I do (with the Clean Energy Plan in the Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy and the work I will do with Office of Environmental Justice) will involve using the tool to inform programs and policies. We want to show the leadership is in support of the tool and the work you’re doing and how you’re informing the tool with your lived experiences. To give an example of the tool’s application – the tool will help direct funding (from the IRA and the BIL) to where it’s needed locally, so that’s part of what she was referring to.
    - Beth: Just to clarify, ORP at WEDC is the lead convener for this project. So to answer the question, as Director of ORP, I’m the lead for the project. As Maria said and Dominic said in the chat, DHS and WEDC officials have welcomed folks on previous calls, and that was also meant to demonstrate the leadership is committed to this project and developing the tool and working collaboratively and sharing information.
  + Tom: I support the concerns about using the tool for funding decisions, especially with low-resolution data at the census tract level. This would lead to abuse within funding requests. It also unintentionally potentially monetizes environmental justice populations instead of identifying and protecting them. I hope the tool is someday robust enough to identify and support Title VI violations and not to identify funding for a riverfront that’s 99% white and affluent. I’m worried that what we’re talking about is opening it up to do the latter.
    - Maria: That is definitely not what we want; we want the tool to inform funding in a different way.
  + Lamont: I appreciate you answering my question. Although you stated what the intent of the secretary’s comments were, you can't explain away the effect of her comments and the unintended messages it may have sent. I’m feeling uncomfortable at this point. I imagine the first round of this tool and the effects it will have on the stakeholders who are engaged in this advisory process alongside the steering committee. I feel more comfortable being here as a member of the public than a member of the advisory committee. I want that to be known at this point in the process. I don’t feel as though any conversations we’ve had thus far have been so contentious to have that message sent from the secretary in person. The work is excellent. The need for the tool is there. But to have a process like this that hasn’t captured the key things people wanted to say or laid out a way to capture those things has let down what people hoped for as far as being able to participate in this public input process. I don’t think there were any guarantees made or expectations that anything that came out of this public input process would be included. But I’m feeling as though it has been a little bit written off. I’m speaking purely on principle at this point. I didn’t chime in on anything except that I’d hoped there would be a more contextualized (vs. disparate) analysis, and it seems like even then that basic fundamental piece has been lost.
    - Beth: Could you give some examples of what you feel has been written off or what hasn’t been included so we can be sure to note those things and understand your perspective better?
    - Lamont: I just stated and, I’m not going to rehash it for the sake of the meeting, but what stands is that I’m going to recuse myself as a member of the advisory committee via the invitation I received to potentially be named as such. And for any report that may be part of this, I want to state I’m here as a member of the public for my edification as a resident of Wisconsin. And I’ll reach out to Beth.
    - Maria: Definitely want to follow up with you, and apologies for the failings related to the process.
    - Dominic: We should remind folks about what we may not have communicated very clearly – Pearly Wong has an initiative of doing on one-on-one interviews. This is part of further research she’s doing to bring an EJ cultural context to this project. We’re doing some things to get at the obvious shortcomings of just relying on quantitative data and disparate analysis, even though this is what these tools do.

## **Tetra Tech Update** (Rachel and Adam)

* Providing an overview of index methodology. Don’t go into specifics of all indicators so if there are questions on specific indicators please ask or we can go over them in “office hours”
* We utilized the California EnviroScreen methodology to develop this first revision of the Wisconsin Environmental Equity Index. This methodology has been used by other states (Maryland, Michigan, Washington, etc.).
* This is the basic structure of how the index score is calculated ([see Appendix C](#__Appendix_C))
  + Each individual metric included in the index is considered an indicator and is representative of a specific metric or environmental concern or population characteristic
  + For each indicator, there is an individual value, assigned to each census tract.
  + Individual indicators are grouped into four subcomponents
    - Environmental and Climate Change Exposures
    - Environmental and Climate Change Effects
    - Vulnerable Populations
    - Health Outcomes
  + These subcomponents are grouped into two components
    - Environmental Burden (Environmental and Climate Change Exposures & Environmental and Climate Change Effects)
    - Population Characteristics (Vulnerable Populations & Health Outcomes)
  + These components are combined to calculate the overall WEEI score ([see Appendix D](#_Appendix_D))
    - Risk = Threat \* Vulnerability
      * Threat = Environmental Burden
        + Average of subcomponents “Environmental and Climate Change Exposures” and “Environmental and Climate Change Effects”\*

\*“Environmental and Climate Change Effects” is weighted ½ as much as “Environmental and Climate Change Exposures”

* + - * Vulnerability = Population Characteristics
        + Average of subcomponents “Vulnerable Populations” and “Health Outcomes”
    - Each score is standardized so it has a max potential score of 10
      * Threat – 10 points
      * Vulnerability – 10 points
    - The overall Environmental Equity Index has a potential max score of 100
      * Risk – 100 points
  + The higher the score, the higher the relative impact on a given census tract
* Indicator scoring
  + Again, if there are specific questions, I can try to answer them
  + Individual indicator scores are the percentile rank of their value
  + Indicator values are ordered highest to lowest
  + Percentile is calculated based on the rank order of the value for all areas that have a score
* Subcomponent scoring
  + Averages of indicator scores for that subcomponent = subcomponent score
  + Each indicator is weighted equally within each subcomponent
* Component scoring
  + Subcomponent scores are combined to calculate component scores
  + Component scores are standardized to have a max potential value of 10
* Overall WEEI Score
  + Standardized component scores are multiplied
  + Overall scores are ordered from highest to lowest (based on rank order of the overall WEEI score)
* Overall WEEI percentile
  + Overall WEEI percentile represents the percentage of all WEEI scores that fall below the score for that given census tract
  + Ex. “An overall WEEI percentile of 75 means that 75% of the census tracts in Wisconsin have WEEI scores lower than the score of the given area”
    - AKA “it is in the top 25% of all WEEI scores” (of all census tracts’ WEEI scores) in Wisconsin
* The higher the WEEI score or WEEI score percentile, the more impacted the area compared to census tracts across the state
* The percentile is what is mapped
* Example Scoring ([see Appendix E](#_Appendix_E))
  + Indicator scores not shown on this slide; subcomponent, component scores are
  + Calculations on the slide reflect the steps mentioned before
  + All tracts are scored on an overall percentile
    - WEI Score is used to calculate percentile
  + How this works in the tool [(](#_Appendix_F)see Appendix F)
    - All tracts are mapped using the overall score percentile
    - A tract’s percentile, component scores, & subcomponent scores are listed when one clicks on the track
* Limitations
  + We want to reiterate the limitations and challenges we are facing. We want to be clear we are listening and documenting all limitations. We are not saying this is a perfect tool. Therefore, we are relying on this committee’s input.
  + The Wisconsin Environmental Equity Index is a simplified representation of actual conditions in Wisconsin, so there will be an inherent amount of uncertainty associated with the results
  + Specific issues
    - Data gaps and data availability
      * Statewide data sets are unavailable for many of the suggested indicators
      * We try to determine data completeness/representativeness with input from you, other data experts
      * We are relying on stakeholder input to ground truth the data and make sure data represents actual conditions
        + This is one of the main goals of this first evaluation period
      * Unexpected benefits of this indicator evaluation process include
        + Assessment of existing datasets
        + Recommendations for future data-gathering efforts
    - Urban vs. Rural areas
      * Many impacted tracts are in urban areas
      * This may reflect more pollution in urban areas
      * But it also reflects the lack of data about rural communities
        + We are exploring options to address this
    - “Averaging out” high individual indicator scores
      * Some census tracts have high scores for one or two individual indicators
      * These scores are diluted after averaging them for the WEEI score
      * We are looking at adding symbols to draw attention to these indicator scores
    - Tribal data
      * We are exploring best practices, and are open to suggestions, about how to best represent American Indian populations, land, and concerns
      * The next iteration of the WEEI will include tribal land indicator
        + Using federally recognized American Indian reservations
        + Using off-reservation land tracts
* Demonstration ([see Appendix G](#_Appendix_G))
  + Preface that this first version is largely so the Steering and Advisory Committees can easily explore the index itself and provide feedback. The final public-facing version will look different.
  + View when you first access the tool ([see Appendix G](#_Appendix_G))
    - Top right
      * WEET App tab
      * Feedback tab
        + Includes embedded form with preselected topics for feedback
        + We will aggregate and use all feedback when preparing future iterations of WEET tool
    - Top left
      * List of layers included in WEET tool
        + Can turn on and off each layer using eye symbol
      * By default, we have a layer that displays county boundaries and overall equity index score (percentile score)
  + As you zoom in census tract IDs will pop up
    - Select the ID to select a census tract
    - Once you select the census tract, you’ll see overall, component, subcomponent scores in the indicator window on the right
    - Tabs (“Environmental”, “Population”, “Data Gaps”) allow you to explore individual indicator values
      * “Environmental”: raw values for each indicator and the percentile rank
      * “Population”: population characteristics
      * “Data Gaps”: how many missing indicators are present
  + If you want to see how different components, data gaps are distributed across the state:
    - Turn off overall score on left using eye symbol
    - Turn on other layer on left (Environmental Burden Score, Population Characteristics Score, Data Gaps) using eye symbol
    - Similarly, you can click on an individual census tract and explore it further in the indicator palen on the right
  + Four-circle square on the top right of the indicator panel on the right
    - When you hover over it, says “Actions” (see
    - When you have a specific census tract selected
      * Zoom to: zoom to that tract
      * Pan to: pan to that tract
      * Export selected: export selected census tract data to JSON, CSV, GeoJSON
    - Export all: export all data to JSON, CSV, or GeoJOSN
    - CSV the easiest to work with (opens in Excel)
    - JSON/GeoJSON used for coding applications, custom analyses of resutls
  + Access to this tool will be provided to committee
  + “Office hours” sessions open for anyone to ask detailed questions to those who have been involved with the creation of this tool
    - Can come and go as you want
  + Final version will be a dual application approach
    - Like a lot of environmental justice tools
    - One application for viewing big picture results/trends
    - Second application that focuses on details, like each individual indicator
      * Allows for you to tailor your own analysis
    - These components are in development right now
* **Questions/Comments**
  + Huda: Does it state what are the missing indicators (when it says 3 missing indicators in this demo)?
    - Adam: Currently it does not but that is a great suggestion; that's something we will add in
  + Cristina: Where did the air quality data come from? There may not be enough air quality monitors in the state, so what do you do if you don’t have enough air quality data for a certain area?
    - Rachel: The data comes from a combination of monitoring data and modeled data. It is obtained from EPA EJ Screen. That is valid point that there are not a lot of air monitoring data in WI which we mention in our documentation.
  + Cristina: Follow-up question – I understand the DNR has its own air quality regulatory monitors; why aren’t we using that data?
    - Dominic: I’m not in the air program so I don’t have the expertise to go into much depth. I understand there are some air monitors, but I think there’s an opportunity to expand those monitors in the state. I’m not sure if the agency is considering that or not.
    - Erika: The DNR has monitors throughout the state and reports data to the federal EPA. So, in effect, they are using DNR data. They fill in some of the information gaps with models, but they are also using some non-regulatory monitors such as mobile monitors. We’re also partnering with DNR, Milwaukee Public Schools, and others in southeastern WI to do neighborhood air monitoring and creating a network of neighborhood air monitors, some of which are small, low-cost monitors affixed to a building that covers a 1-mile radius – not as far as a regulatory model. This is a model used across the country, and we are piloting it in Milwaukee with many community-based partners.
  + Noah: Would we be able to use tribal air monitoring stations to help fill in some of the potential air data gaps? I think Forest County and Bad River have monitoring equipment
    - Beth: That’s a question for Tetra Tech
    - Rachel: That’s something we can look into. I would defer to DNR for that, but we can have that discussion. There are some additional technical questions about the air monitoring stations.
    - Erika: DNR has done a large study on one manufacturer of monitors, Purple Air, so that could help, but we have used other monitors and manufacturers and done quality assurance work looking at the data and getting good results. So, it seems there’s a high level of comfort from DNR to accept data using other types of monitors. There might be a need to calibrate all the results, but I can put Tetra Tech in touch with Katie Perdell, the air monitoring section chief. I’m pretty sure she would be interested in the data.
  + Tom: Related to Cristina’s questions and the answer that some of the air data came from the EJ Screen – how does the hazard index of that air metric interact with the other indicators for the total score?
    - Rachel: The Respiratory Hazard Index for each census tract has a percentile rank. That rank is averaged with the rest of the indicators in the Environmental and Climate Change Exposure subcomponent. It is given equal weight with other indicators and so it is included in the environmental burden score and Overall WI Environmental Equity score.
  + Noah: Can Tetra Tech/WEET share why they decided to go with the percentile ranking?
    - Dominic: I believe that is the standard approach for other mapping tools. There are other approaches, but we were interested in percentile because it’s easier to make comparisons between census tracts.
    - Noah: I ask the question because there’s been discussion in one of our advisory meetings around using this method and the fact that it ranks communities against each other. So, I guess I’m interested why the recommendation not to use it is the one that moved forward.
    - Eric: The original RFP asked for the California method. Environmental inequality is disproportionate exposure, so the comparison and the rank allow us to identify disproportionate exposure to those environmental hazards. That said, this is Version 0, so we are interested in other ways of doing this calculation. We are interested in the committee’s feedback and hearing whether you want the math to change – for example, some indicators are weighted at 0.5. So, if any of you see a different methodology that you think is superior, we want to consider that and potentially change the math behind the tool.
    - Dominic: Charles Lee, Senior Policy Advisor on EJ at the US EPA, is one of the main pioneers of what we call EJ practice (environmental justice public policy and government programs). His analyses have helped move things to where we are, which is considered cutting-edge, in using these mathematical approaches. And California has been touted as the best shot so far. But there are other approaches. No matter what, we have to be able to show where the burdens are. Unfortunately, that does mean communities or areas receive some kind of value. But from a government approach, being unable to measure disproportionate impacts makes it difficult to show the reality of a problem, encourage a response, and enact program evaluation, where you’d be able to see if government programs/policies are making a difference.
  + Maria: Maggie has also answered some of your questions in the chat.
  + Charlotte: Is there a public comment period for the tool or is feedback only open to advisory members?
    - Beth: I don’t believe public comment has been part of the design process thus far, but we can bring it to the Steering Committee as feedback from the Advisory Committee.
    - Noah: Just when the feedback goes back to the decision-making team, I encourage you to recognize that tribes are sovereigns and should not be considered as the general public. Governor Evers has reaffirmed his commitment to nation-to-nation respect and mutual communication. So, whether or not there is a period for this tool to be test-run and commented on by the public, the way that tribes are engaged should be a different conversation and should deserve extra consideration.
* WEET Overview/Feedback
  + Tetra Tech provided the demonstration
  + Advisors will receive login credentials to explore WEET on their own time
    - Provide feedback via the form included on WEET
  + “Office Hours” will be provided
    - Sept. 6, 4-6 pm
    - Sept 8, 4-6 pm
    - Not a 2-hour commitment; come in as you have questions
    - The primary factor is the index and what it is comprised of at this point in time (vs. Interface). All feedback is welcome but be aware we are working on the first revision of the index during this revision review process. There may be some aesthetic/functionality changes and added indicators in revision one.

## **Collaborative Evaluation** (Katherine)

* We would like to do a collaborative evaluation for a few reasons
  + The WEET tool is an environmental justice tool and interagency initiative. As an interagency group, we want to make sure we are learning the best practices on how to best serve the residents of WI.
  + If we don’t ask these questions, we won’t know how to improve our communication and collaboration.
* Evaluation is linked in the chat; it is also linked in the agenda and will be sent in the minutes
* It will be kept completely anonymous
  + Any identifying information that may be accidentally or purposefully entered will be removed before any results are put out
* We will use this data to learn from your responses so we can continue to improve our communications, collaboration, and engagement with you all
* This evaluation is about us as a collaborative (vs. the tool)

## **Community Conversations and Interview Updates** (Pearly)

* We are having several community conversations; will have a few more
* This is part of our efforts to collect the potential and historical information that we hear and that a quantitative tool cannot address
* In addition to the community conversations, I am doing some one-to-one interviews
  + You can see the list of interviewees on the slide ([see Appendix H](#_Appendix_H))
  + I reached out to more people but not everyone had availability.
* I hope this will inform the story map, which is where we think we can better incorporate information that some of you have raised concern about
  + If you have more suggestions on how to incorporate this information, we appreciate that
* Here are some of the themes that have come out ([see Appendix I](#_Appendix_I))
  + Not complete – still in analysis process
* **Questions/Comments**
  + Beth: Just to reiterate, Pearly’s recommendations from these conversations and her report will help shape an initial list of potential story maps to add that additional context where we don’t feel the data is telling the story of the reality of a community
    - We are still early in this process
    - We will share them with the Advisory Committee
  + Dominic: Pearly has extensive international experience doing similar work with folks in other parts of the world – doing interviews, investigating social movements from a community perspective, etc. This is being done thoughtfully. We are lucky to have Pearly work with us as she finishes her PhD and are happy with how this is going.
  + Huda: I saw the SEWRPC name is included – are you talking about the whole SEWRPC or just the environmental justice task force?
    - Pearly: I will talk to the environmental justice task force September 20. I contacted Nikki (the outreach coordinator), and she connected me with some staff for interviews.
    - Huda: Okay. I just wanted to highlight the environmental justice task force and include them as well.
  + Sarah (from chat): It would be interesting to include in the Story Map what indicators are included for these themes, what's missing, and show what the data shows in these specific themes.
    - Beth: We are dedicating one story map to a conversation around data limitations.
    - Sarah: It's not necessarily just data limitations, but it's also interesting to look at the themes around what people are saying – focusing on specific things we hear and limiting the data to what people are saying. It’s just another way to view this data.

**Closing** (Beth)

* Actions steps
  + We will share invitations to office hours next week; you can drop in and out as needed
  + You will get information to log into the tool if you are an advisory committee member
    - Once you have your log-in credentials you can look at it, test it on different browsers, etc.,
  + You can record feedback with the form embedded in the tool or come to listening sessions/office hours and ask questions there
  + We’ll look at 2 revisions before the end of October and identify, gather content for story map topics
  + We want to schedule another meeting with the Advisory Committee before the end of October
  + Please fill out evaluation form; we will take your feedback into account
* Thank you for your time and continued feedback!
* **Questions/Comments**
  + Huda: In case there’s a rush of people who show up to the listening sessions, will there be more than one person answering questions so we can go into multiple breakout sessions and people aren’t waiting as much?
    - Beth: We’ve found in the Steering Committee that listening to others’ feedback spurs better feedback. I don't believe we have the staffing to go into breakout sessions nor do I believe I have the technological expertise to answer questions. I expect this will be a group session. I don’t expect there will be so much traffic that folks will wait a long time, but I can come up with solutions to address that if needed.
  + Noah: What will steps be after this version?
    - Beth: We’ve been discussing this in our Steering Committees. We need to pull leadership from each of the agencies to get commitments and processes for further versions. Some of that was delayed with the transition at WEDC and my position, but we are identifying next steps now. So, hopefully, we won’t have to wait until the end of October to start the process again. Hopefully we will have a clearer plan before our next advisory committee meeting that we can share.
  + Pearly (from chat): After release of the WEET tool, we will work on the story map as well, right?
    - Beth: We will be working on them simultaneously. We have a short list of story map ideas and need to decide on them and finish them before the end of December. We hope to have some in place by the end of October as well.

**Chat**

Noah Saperstein: For impaired waters, is this the WDNR impaired waters list or is this using other information?

Eric Compass: WDNR. Noah, here’s the WiDNR Open Data site that was used for impaired streams: <https://data-wi-dnr.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/3a027eeb87224144be6c4a4c9bd9aa84/explore?location=44.665875%2C-89.843300%2C7.06>

Noah: Miigwech, Eric! Can someone from the WEET team send me the list of tribal representatives that have been contacted so far? Chi miigwech!

Erika Kluetmeier: Dana, can you check the WEET email box in case some folks are still trying to get into Teams?

Sarah (Guest): The DHS Wisconsin Heat Vulnerability Index is at a finer grain level, looks like more detailed than census tract. And ACS data is available in block group. <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p01084-dane.pdf>

Mackenzie Gearin: I know that we do not have data for lead pipes collected systematically, but public water systems do collect water samples to track lead levels in public water supplies -- could this be a way to show lead levels in water without counting lead pipes?

Beth Haskovec: Just to reiterate- the PFAS data will be included once the statewide data set is complete. It will be included.

Noah: Can this powerpoint be shared we Advisory Committee members? Chi miigwech!

Beth: As a FYI- TetraTech will also be presenting on the status of each indicator later in the meeting. This initial list was meant as a recap. Noah, we can share the presentation with the minutes of the meeting

Rachel Houle: One point to clarify - the indicators on the right hand side of this slide will be included in the version published at the end of October

Dominic Holt: we had leadership of the Department of Health Services and WEDC help kickoff earlier meetings.

Noah: Are others seeing a screen being shared? Will we get access to WEET version 0 to explore more on our own time?

Eric: Yes

Beth: Noah, Yes. Access will be given after the meeting and there will be office hours next week to give opportunity to give feedback to Tetratech. An overview of this process will be shared yet today and will also be emailed to Advisory Committee members.

Noah: Great, miigwech!

Beth: Thanks for the reminder that this is a draft version 0 and the tool will evolve significantly before it is complete at the end of October.

Huda Alkaff: Does it state what are the missing indicators (when it says 3 missing indicators in this demo)?

Noah: Can TetraTech / WEET team share why they chose to go with a percentile ranking?

Dominic: Can you search by address or city?

Sarah: Sliding scale for each indicator is a great idea

Huda: Does the tool work on any web browser?

Charlotte Hough: I'm new to this tool but am curious to learn how you arrived at census tracts as the desired level of analysis, geographically. In CO, another state where my company operates, the state's equity mapping tools analyze census block groups which are a smaller area.

Noah: Would WEET be able to use tribal air monitoring stations to help fill in some of the potential air data gaps? I think Forest County and Bad River have monitoring equipment.

Maggie Thelen: Due to suppression guidelines for the health indicators proposed, we were able to use census tract level data for use in the tool.

Adam Peterca: Huda, the tool is configured to work on modern browsers, specifically:

Google Chrome version 99 and later

Microsoft Edge version 99 and later

Mozilla Firefox version 100 and later

Mozilla Firefox version 91 (ESR)

Safari version 14 and later

Noah: I think both tribes have Treatment In a Similar Manner as a State (commonly called TAS). But I don't know much more than that about their air programs or other Tribes air programs.

Lamont Smith: Great presentation, and very much appreciate the transparency here, and the intense amount of work that’s being done to make the WEET happen. Kudos to all involved.

Charlotte: (In response to Maggie) What are suppression guidelines? Does that have to do with data privacy?

Maggie: (In response to Sarah) For the HVI, many of the indicators included for the health component were only available at the county level. They were assigned to each block group then. For WEET, I believe, we wanted to keep the data on the same level.

Cristina Carvajal: Will WEET be updated as new data comes available?

Maggie: (In response to Charlotte) Yes. Under a certain amount of cases, the data is protected

Beth: (In response to Cristina) Yes. There will be additional data prior to Version 1 being completed. The goal is to have additional versions in the future that add datasets and address gaps between data and reality as we better understand what issues exist. California, for examples is on version 8 of their tool.

Eric: Charlotte, looking at CO's tool, they're using tract level for many of their indicators. All finer scales have exactly the same values. So, it falsely presents finer data that's not really there.

Erika: Noah, we will connect DNR air monitoring program to confirm their their process for incorporating data from external sources and report back. The goal for our neighborhood monitoring initiative in Milwaukee was to feed our hyper-local data on exposures to elevated particle pollution (PM2.5) into DNR models. Our pilot group hasn't tried out this model yet, but will sometime soon.

Charlotte: Is there a public comment period for the tool or is feedback only open to advisory members?

Dominic: Please feel free to provide feedback at any time in the process.

Noah: Charlotte, great question! I think  it'd be helpful for this to be made available to Tribes, who should be treated as sovereigns rather than "the public".

Katherine Beardmore: Shared link to Collaborative Evaluation survey.

Huda: Why there is no neutral option in the survey?

Noah: Miigwech Pearly! Rob at GLIFWC can help get you data layers for some ceded territory. I'm not sure about Menominee or Ho-Chunk territories.

Pearly Wong: Thanks Noah, I think those maps are available on GLIWFC website too

Sarah: It would be interesting to include in the Story Map what indicators are included for these themes, what's missing, and show what the data shows in these specific themes.

Kate: (In response to Huda) We are interested in your opinions and sentiments and want to ensure slight leanings are not masked by neutral options.

Pearly: Yes, we are talking to SEWRPC EJ task force in September. Thanks Huda! Sarah, I agree, though I think somethings might not be captured by indicators because they are specific. For instance, treaty rights of tribal members and the impact on them.

Cristina: Thank you all, great discussion. I have to go to another meeting.

Pearly: If too many people, we can have waiting room? After release of the WEET tool, we will work on the story map as well, right?

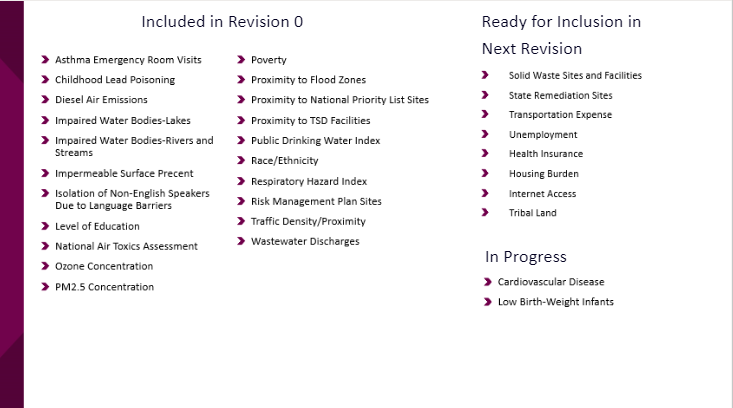
Dana Nielsen: I’ll send “office hour” invites, minutes, and feedback info as soon as possible!

Jim Young: Thank you

Beth: Thank you, Dana!

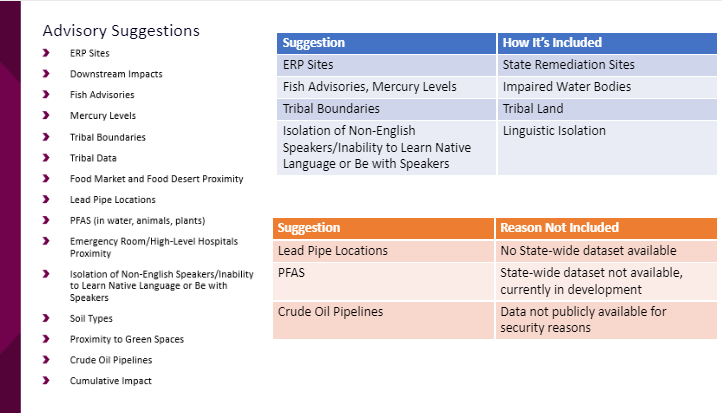
# **Appendix A**

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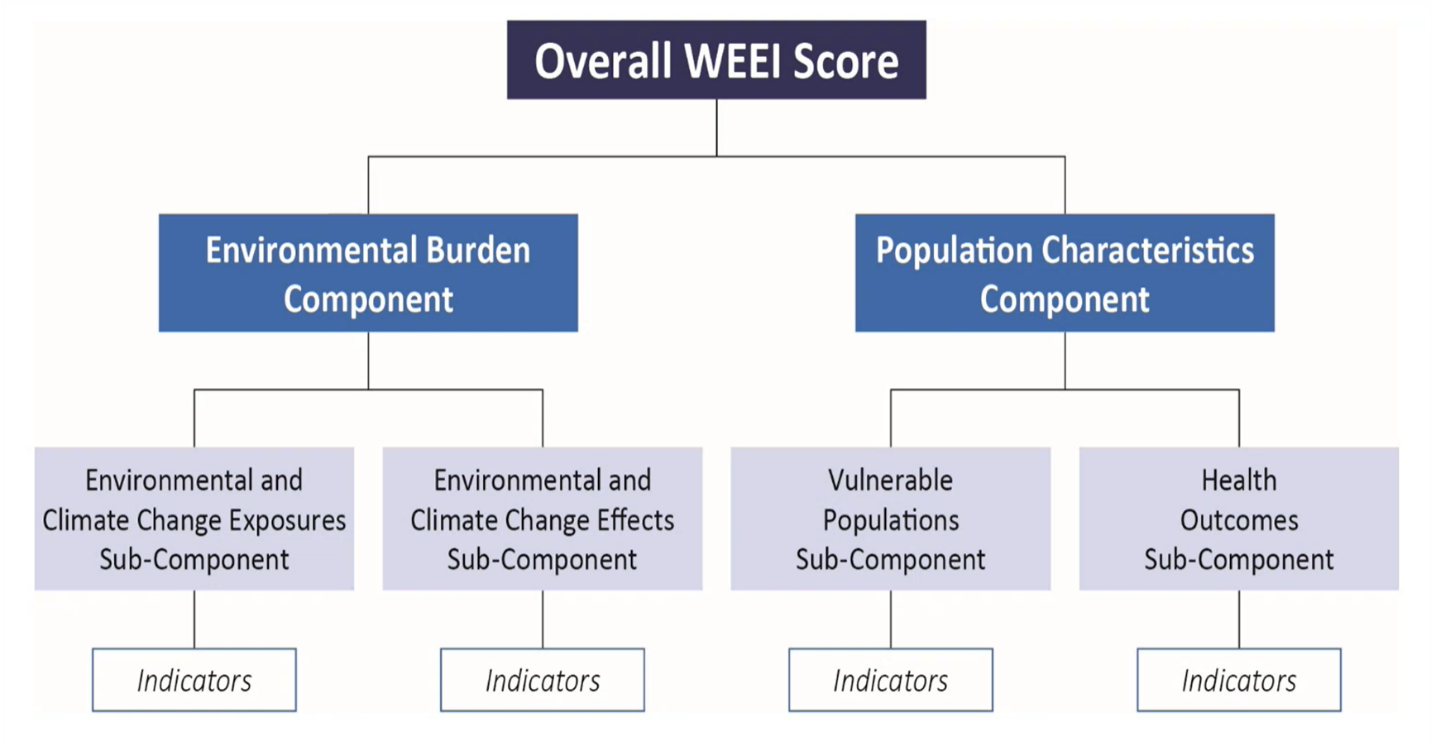
# **Appendix B**

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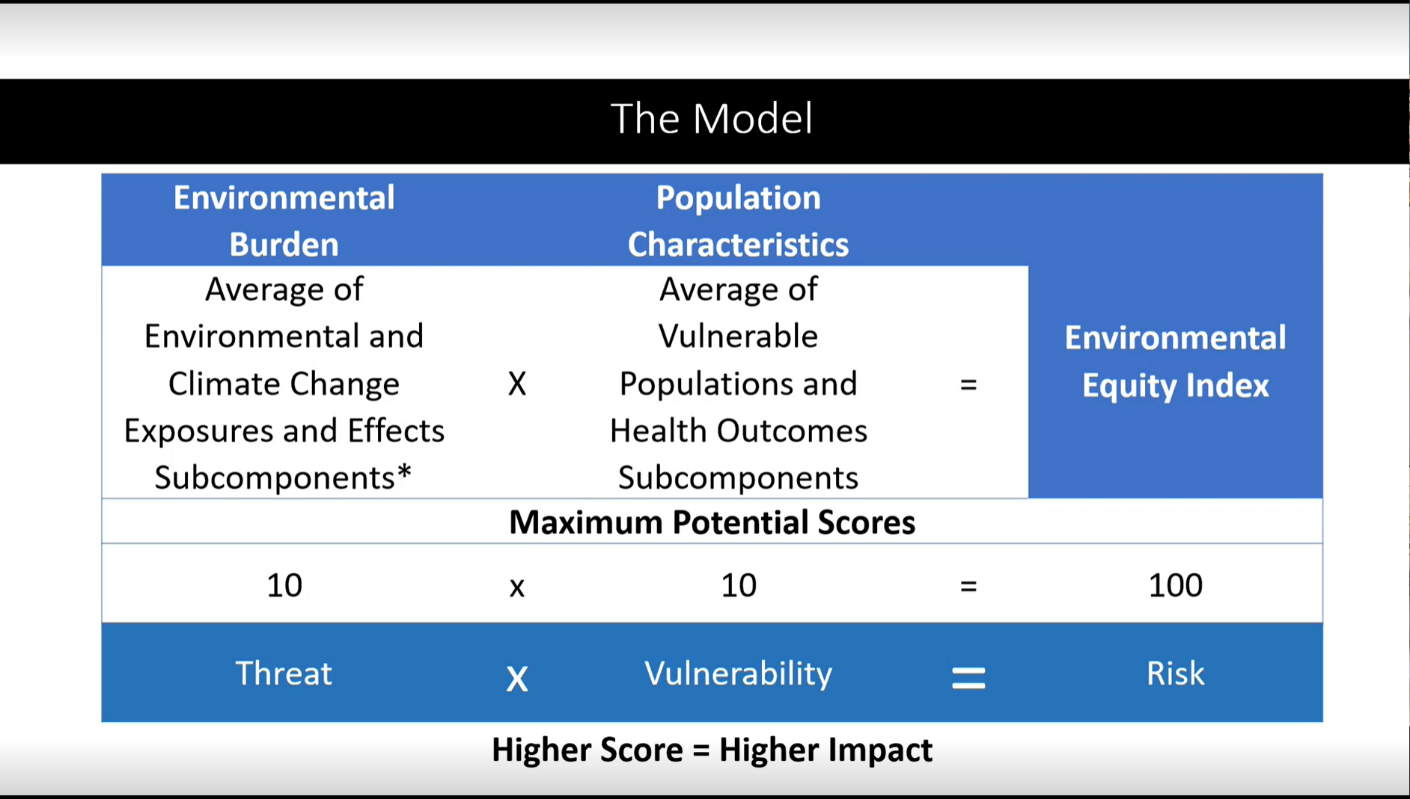
# **Appendix C**

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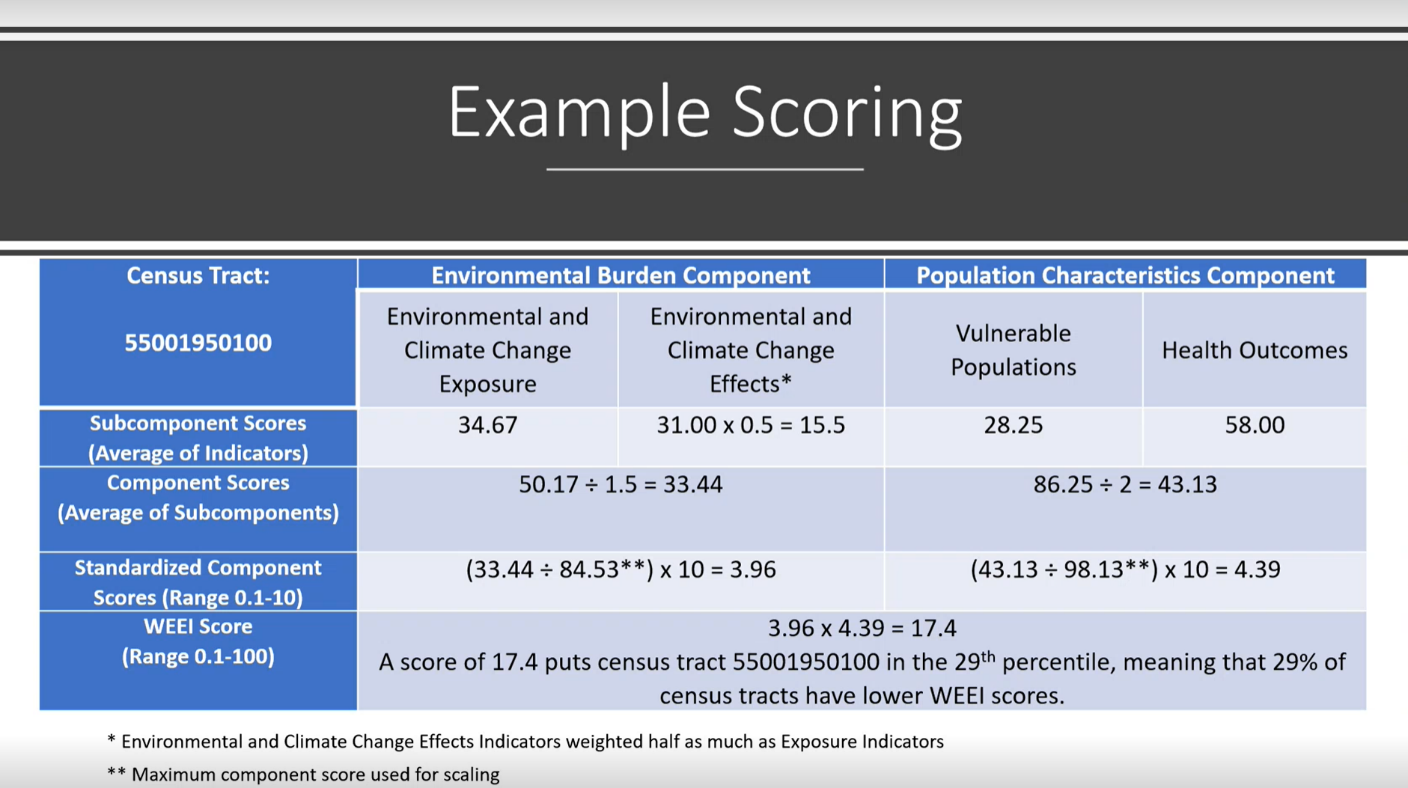
# **Appendix D**

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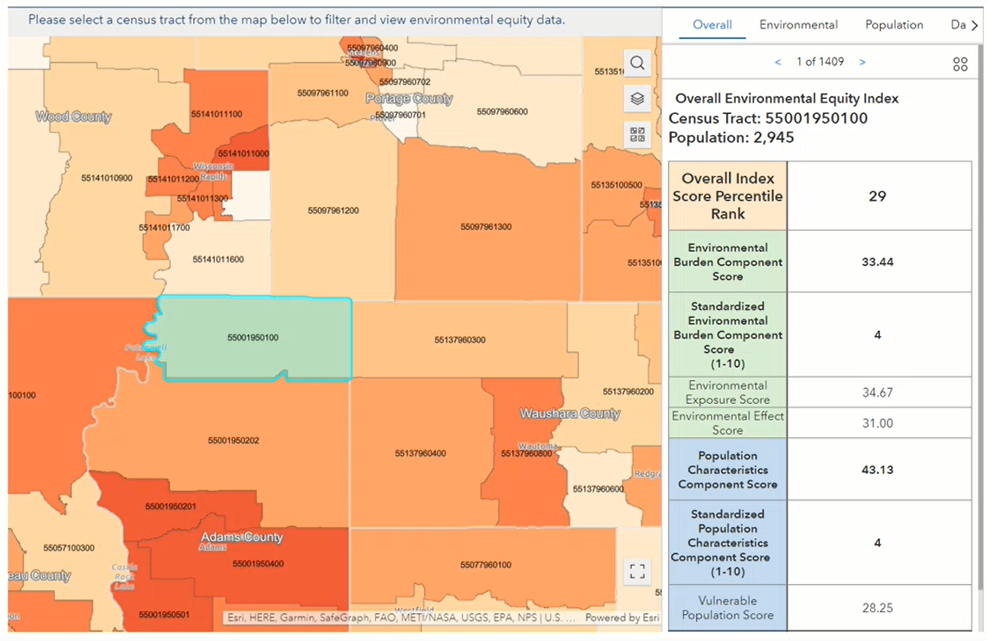
# **Appendix E**

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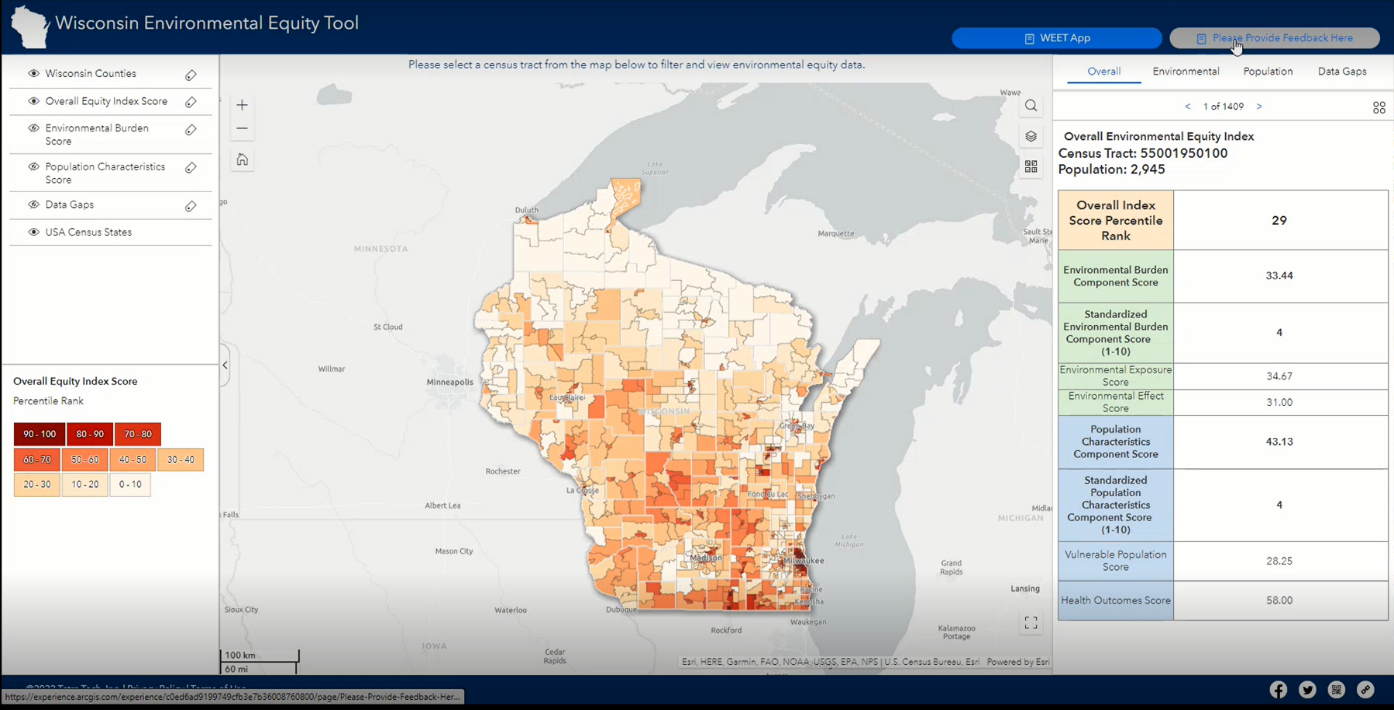
# **Appendix F**

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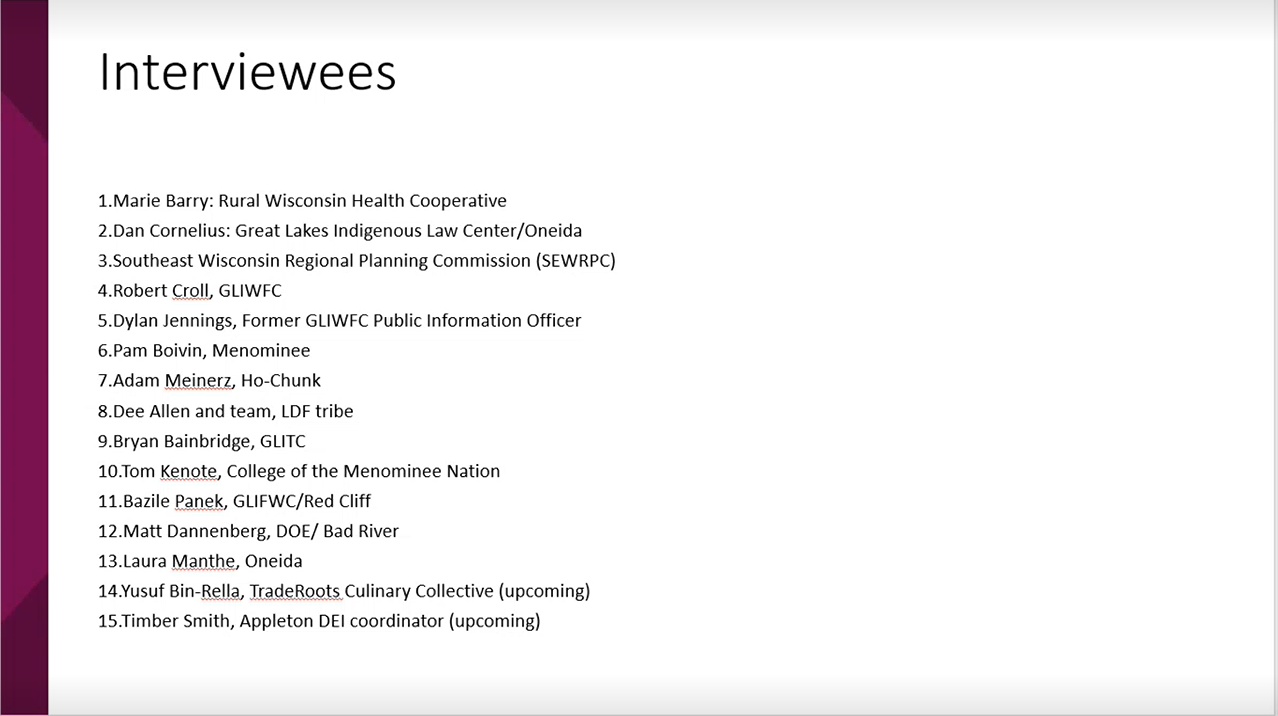
# **Appendix G**

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# **Appendix H**

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# **Appendix I**

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