

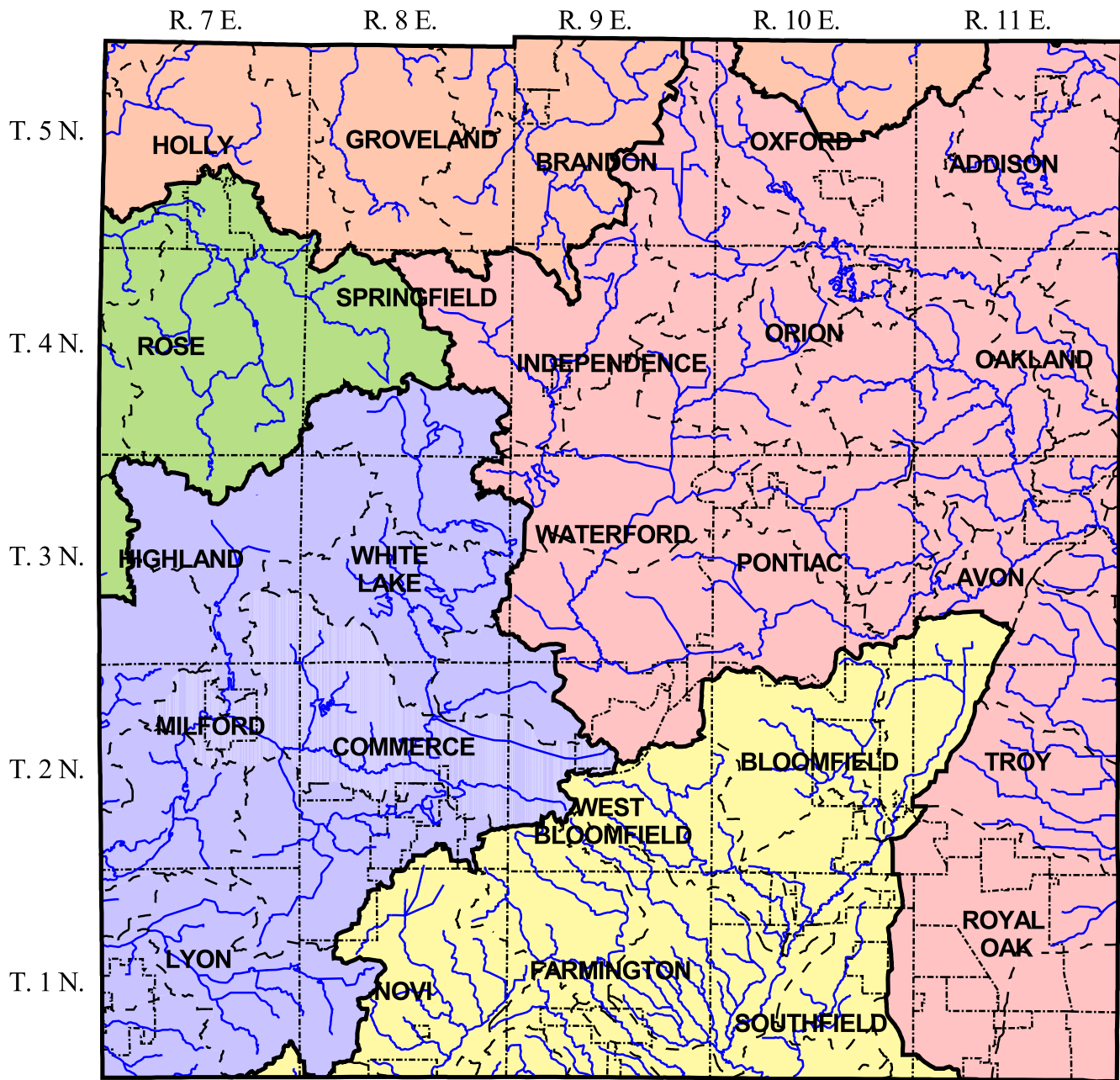
Surface-Water Resources

Surface-water resources abound in Oakland County. More than 1,600 lakes of varying sizes were recorded in a 1958 inventory (Humphrys, 1962). A substantial number of these lakes are large enough for recreational use, such as boating, swimming, and fishing. Most of these lakes receive water from ground water most of the year (Mozola, 1954).

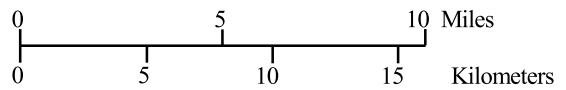
Oakland County spans the headwaters of six major rivers (fig. 3). The Shiawassee and Flint Rivers drain the northwestern part of the County, eventually joining the Saginaw River to flow into Lake Huron. The Huron River drains the southwestern part of the county, delivering the water to Lake Erie. The Clinton River in the north and the River Rouge in the south drain the central and southeastern parts of the county into Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River. The Belle River drains a very small area (less than 1 sq. mi.) of Addison Township. More than half of the water flowing in these rivers over the course of a year is groundwater discharge to the river through the streambed (Holtschlag and Nicholas, 1998).



The 1,600 lakes in Oakland County are important hydrologic and recreational resources.



Source:
 Municipal boundaries provided by Oakland County GIS Utility.
 Hydrologic divides from MDEQ Land and Water Management.
 Hydrologic features from MiRIS.



EXPLANATION

Drainage basins

- Drainage to Clinton River
- Drainage to Huron River
- Drainage to River Rouge
- Drainage to Flint River
- Drainage to Shiawassee River
- Rivers and streams
- Municipal boundaries
- Sub-watershed divides



Figure 3. Surface-water drainage basins of Oakland County, Michigan. Drainage to Belle River not shown due to scale constraints.