

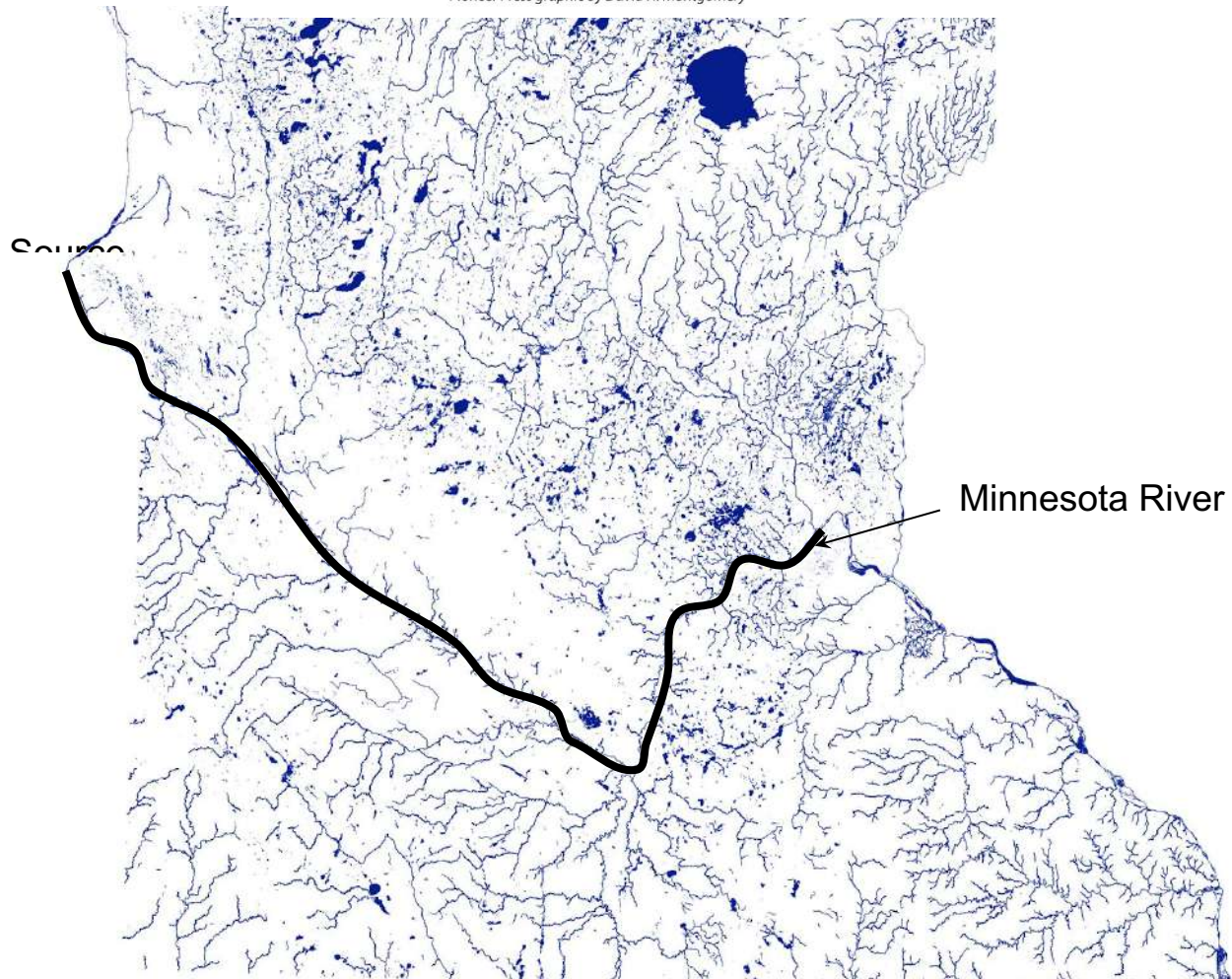
Minnesota River Watersheds

The map below shows all the rivers and lakes in Southern Minnesota. Use the map to find the watersheds that flow into the Minnesota river basin. The Minnesota River is shown as the darkest line.

1. Draw the watersheds on the “Every lake & river in Minnesota” map.
 - a. Find the Minnesota River (the dark thick line on the map)
 - b. Find a river that flows into the Minnesota River and trace the source of all the water for that river. Circle all the sources in one large circle.
 - c. Repeat for every river flowing into the Minnesota River.
 - d. Color each circled watershed a different color.
 - e. Add arrows to show what direction the water is flowing.

Every lake & river in Minnesota

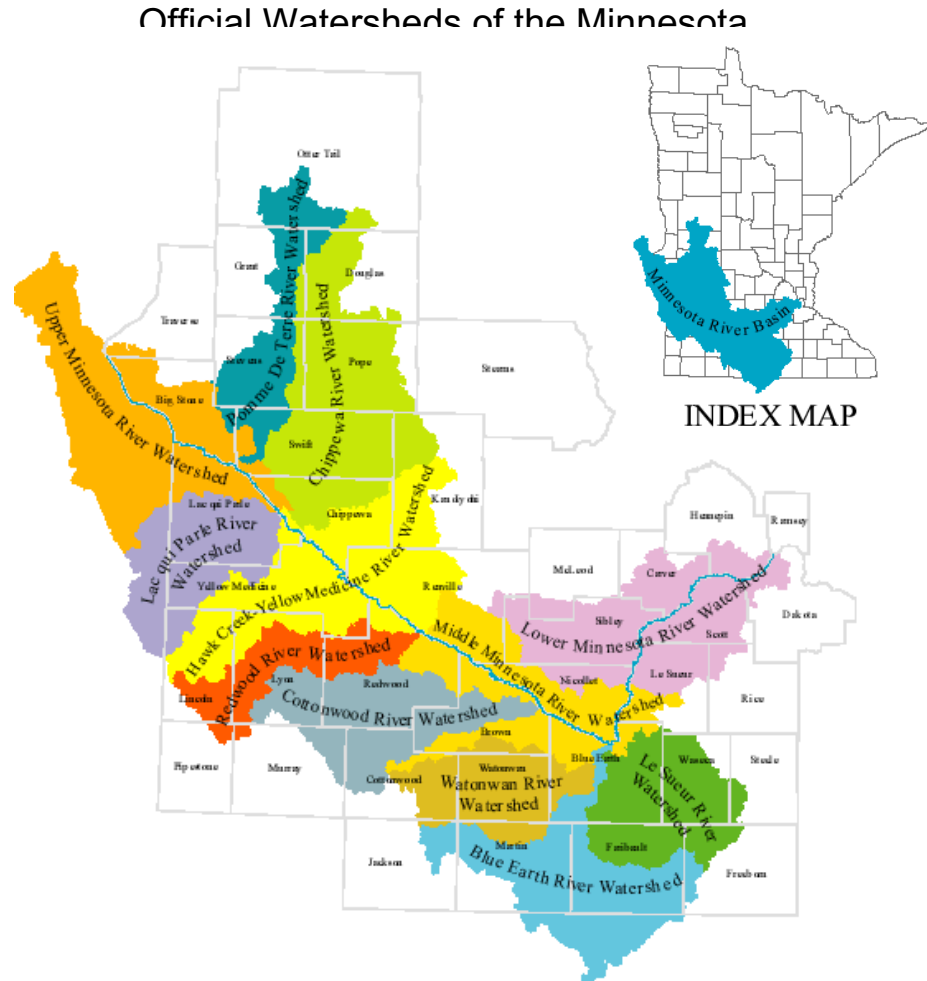
Pioneer Press graphic by David H. Montgomery



2. What did you look at (patterns, shapes, lines) on the map to help you draw the watersheds?
3. Are there any areas where you were not sure where to draw the line? What more information do you wish you had?

Reflection and Analysis

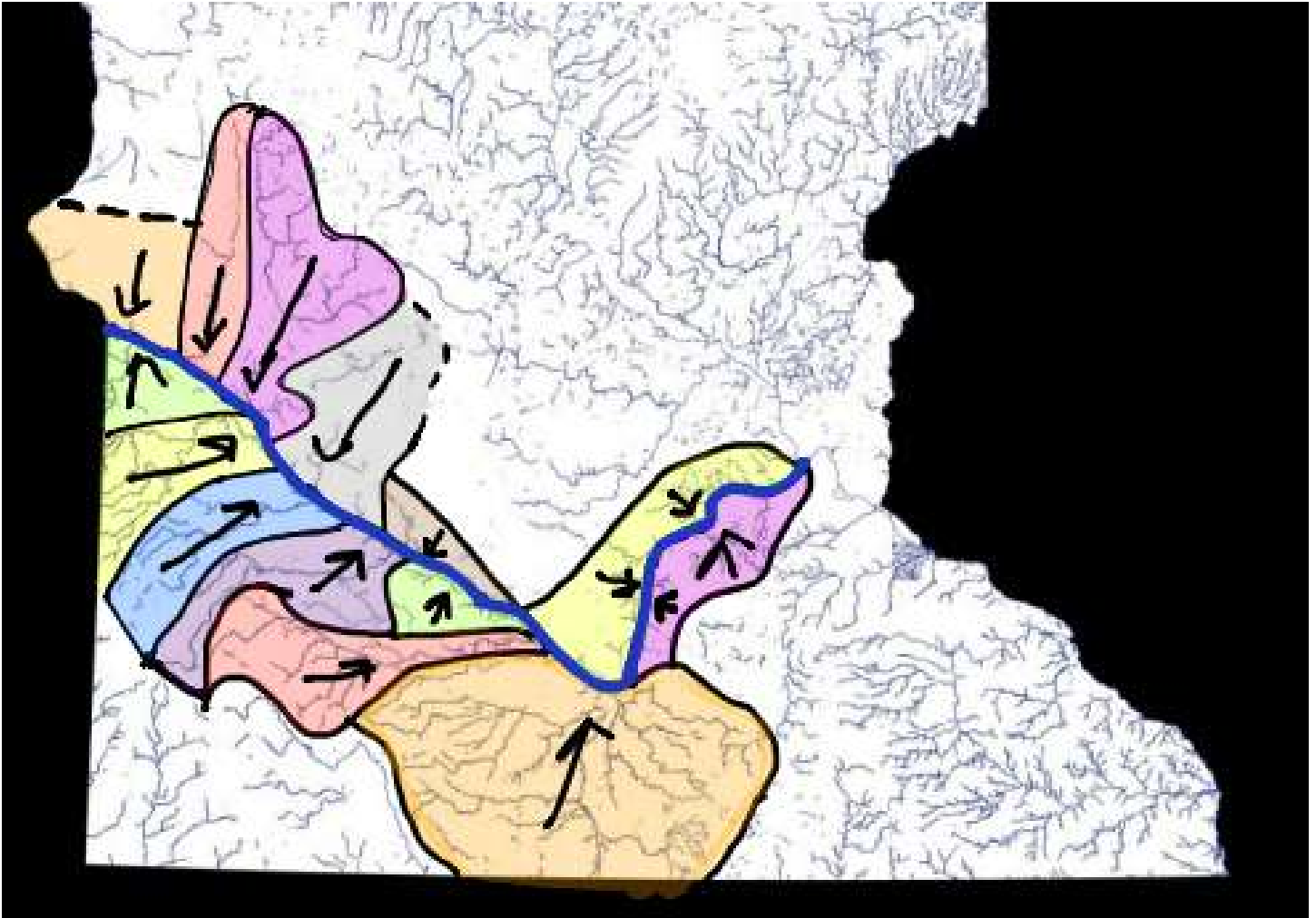
Directions: Use the official map of Minnesota River's watershed and the watershed map you made to answer the questions below.



4. How well do the watersheds you made match the Official watershed of the Minnesota River?
5. In what ways are the watersheds you drew the same as the official watersheds?
6. In what ways are the watersheds you drew different from the official watersheds?
7. Why do you think the watersheds you made are different from the Official Watersheds?
8. Do you agree with the official watersheds map? Why or Why Not?

Minnesota River Watersheds

1. Watershed Map



The key above is a suggested answer that a student would possibly come up with, it is NOT the official watershed map of the Minnesota River. There are many possible answers. Allow students to come up with their own interpretations. The goal is not to get the correct answer. Grading should be based on if they can identify that smaller streams flow into larger rivers and then flow into the Minnesota River. Evaluate students on how they deal with areas that are confusing or not clear.

2. What did you look at (patterns, shapes, lines) on the map to help you draw the watersheds?

Answers will vary. Possible answers include looking for places where the streams start and then flow into a common river. Look for branches like a tree.

3. Are there any areas where you were not sure where to draw the line? What more information do you wish you had?

Answers will vary. Possible answers include the height of the land. Be able to zoom in more for more detail. The direction the water is flowing.

4. How well do the watersheds you made match the Official watershed of the Minnesota River?

Answers will vary. Possible answers lower and middle Minnesota River watershed, students would probably not grouped those together and did a lot of small watersheds. Also, the Hawk Creek and yellow medicine river watershed would be split up into two separate watersheds, north and south of the river. Otherwise, students should have similar results to the map.

5. In what ways are the watersheds you drew the same as the official watersheds?

See answer to number 4

6. In what ways are the watersheds you drew different from the official watersheds?

See answer to number 4

7. Why do you think the watershed you made is different from the Official Watersheds?

Answers will vary. Some possible reasons include needing to group up smaller watersheds together to make a larger watershed or making larger conservation districts when watersheds are small.

8. Do you agree with the official watersheds map? Why or Why Not?

Answers will vary