Wisconsin's Year 2020 Targeted Watershed Assessment Reports

Water Monitoring Projects to Protect & Restore Wisconsin Waterways

Bureau of Water Quality, Wisconsin DNR March 16, 2020



DNR Water Quality staff have prepared Clean Water Act Water Quality Plans & Reports from new watershed monitoring work. The studies include surveys of fish, habitat, water chemistry, and aquatic macroinvertebrate species to identify detailed water conditions.

Targeted Watershed Assessments (TWA)... provide comprehensive physical, chemical, & biological condition information through one of four study designs:

 Effectiveness studies evaluate the success of best management practices (BMPs) implemented in the 1990s.



- 2. Evaluation studies are designed to set site specific effluent permit limits or to prepare for other permit work.
- **3. Planning studies** provide detailed science to support DNR, partner agencies, businesses and organizations as they apply for grants or initiate actions to manage, protect, and restore resources, and
- **4. Protection studies** identify the overall condition of the state's healthiest waters and provide recommendations for actions to maintain these special resources.

Who Uses TWA WQ Plans and Reports?

- Counties use Water Quality science when creating Land and Water Plans
- Lakes and Rivers Organizations may apply for grants using report information.
- Nine Key Element Plans and TMDL Reports & Implementation Plans may refer to the condition information in these reports.
- DNR and other agencies may use the science in these reports to guide recommended work for restoring or protecting the resources described in these plans and reports.
- Individuals, schools, and property owners may use these reports to inform themselves about conditions in the area.



Northwest Wisconsin TWA WQ Plans in 2020 the Black, Pokegama, Bear & Bluff Creeks, South Fish and Wood River/Barrett Creek areas. These resource-rich watersheds provide outstanding recreational, cultural, and ecological value.

Click on the links below to read the reports.

Provide comments through email WQ Plan Comments

- 1. <u>Black River Targeted Watershed Assessment: A Water Quality Plan to Protect Wisconsin</u> <u>Watersheds (2020) Public Review Draft</u>
- 2. <u>Pokegama River Targeted Watershed Assessment: A Water Quality Plan to Protect Wisconsin</u> Watersheds (2020) Public Review Draft
- 3. <u>Bear and Bluff Creeks Targeted Watershed Assessment: A Water Quality Plan to Restore</u> <u>Wisconsin Watersheds (2020) Public Review Draft</u>
 - South Fish Creek Targeted Watershed Assessment: A Water Quality Plan to Protect Wisconsin Watersheds (2020) Public Review Draft
 - Wood River-Barrett Creek-Crex Meadows Targeted Watershed Assessment: A Water Quality Plan to Protect Wisconsin Watersheds (2019) Public Review Draft

TWA reports regarding Wisconsin's northern waters largely describe high quality resources that may experience impacts from localized development.

Yet overall, these reports document high quality waters in this area with some of the most treasured resources in the state. Management recommendations are provided for each of these areas.

4.

5.



The Lake Weyauwega TWA report is the first of several detailed summaries of aquatic condition in this rapidly growing portion of the state.

Future reports for nearby watersheds are expected later this spring and into the fall, 2020.

The Lake Weyauwega TWA WQ Report, designed to evaluate the effectiveness of best management practices, is now available online for public comment. Work in this area extends throughout the Waupaca watershed system shown the map below; several detailed studies are anticipated for this rapidly growing and changing area of the state. To comment on these plans <u>email WQ Plan Comments</u>

Lake Weyauwega Targeted Watershed Assessment: A Water Quality Report to Protect Wisconsin Watersheds (2020) Public Review Draft





Southwest and south central Wisconsin TWQ Plans and Reports are now available for public review and comment.

These studies with detailed management recommendations range from the small subwatershed covering Beaver Creek in the **Beaver Dam Watershed (map site 7)** to the **large Koshkonong Creek Watershed (map site 8)**, spanning multiple communities and including hundreds of district waters.

Monitoring work was conducted between 2015 and 2018, with report findings having been shared with local organizations, governments, and interested citizens, as the management and monitoring recommendations are of value to imitating projects and protecting and restoring these important water resources.

To comment on these plans email WQ Plan Comments

- 7. <u>Beaver Creek Targeted Watershed Assessment: A Water Quality Report to Restore Wisconsin Watersheds (2020) Public Review Draft</u>
- 8. Koshkonong Creek Targeted Watershed Assessment: A Water Quality Plan to Restore Wisconsin Watersheds (2020) Public Review Draft
- 9. <u>Legler School Branch and Pioneer Valley Branch Targeted Watershed Assessment: A Water Quality Report to Restore Wisconsin Watersheds</u> (2020) Public Review Draft
- 10. Sinsinawa River Targeted Watershed Assessment: A Water Quality Report to Restore Wisconsin Watersheds (2020) Public Review Draft