

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources SWIMS Project Summary

General Project Information

Project ID: BL02_WTPLAN

Name: Bad Axe River (BL02) Watershed Planning

Type: Water Quality Planning

Subtype: Targeted Watershed Plans

Status: COMPLETE

Start Date: 7/1/2009

End Date: 6/30/2010

Purpose: Watershed plan update 2010. The Bad Axe River Watershed, which lies entirely within Vernon County, encompasses approximately 200 square miles of steep forested hillsides, ridge top and valley farms.

The only farms with sizable tillable acreage in the basin are located on the upper plateau of the Bad Axe River watershed, west of Westby and Viroqua. The communities of Viroqua, Westby and Genoa are all found within this watershed.

The Bad Axe Watershed's waters are generally in good condition with three exceptional resource waters in Vernon County: Cox Creek, 5.79 miles, Hornby Creek, 9.59 miles, and Frohock Creek (Creek 15-14), 5.24 miles, and many miles of trout waters throughout the area. Waters recently monitored and found to be in overall good condition include Coe Hollow Creek, Bad Axe River, Springville Branch, Hornby Creek, and Sidie Hollow Creek. Esofea Branch was indicated as possibly fair condition with a need for more monitoring. The only impaired water in this watershed is the Mississippi River, which forms the western edge of the land area.

Objective: Priority issues for this watershed include the quantity and quality of stormwater reaching surface waters, and the impacts on surface water temperature from stormwater water runoff . A related but distinct priority is identifying and reducing urban and agricultural nonpoint source pollution in addition to stormwater runoff .

Comments:

Outcome: Water Quality Goals for the Watershed Include:

- Conducting comprehensive stream surveys on impaired or potentially impaired streams;
- Installing in-stream habitat where habitat is a limiting factor for biological condition; and
- Continuing work to conduct continuous water temperature monitoring on key streams where temperature may be a limiting factor for biological response.

Study Design: Watershed specified for planning and assessment purposes. Assessment of water quality condition in this respective county will use protocols described in WisCALM of the year of assessment. Minimum assessment work includes biological data (macroinvertebrates, fish indices), chemistry and habitat data. Additional work includes identification of priorities and goals, creating recommendations for actions, and updating narratives for watersheds and waterbodies. Assessments are to be double checked by at least one additional biologist.

QA Measures:

People

Name	Role	Status	Start Date	End Date	Organization	Comments
HAZUGA, MARK J	SUPERVISOR	ACTIVE	7/1/2009	6/30/2010	Wisconsin DNR	
KOPERSKI, CYNTHIA A	COORDINATOR	INACTIVE	6/16/2009	9/1/2010	Wisconsin DNR	
WILLGER, CHRISTOPHER J	COORDINATOR	ACTIVE	7/1/2009	6/30/2010	Wisconsin DNR	

Project Statuses

Date	Reported By	Status	Comments
10/4/2010	Lisa Helmuth	Complete	Check watershed tables

Actions

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Action	Detailed Description	Start Date	End Date	Status
Monitor Watershed (Status,Sources,Impairments)	Grants and projects for fisheries habitat restoration, lake grants, monitoring and shoreland ordinances.	7/1/2009	6/30/2010	COMPLETE

Details: Parameter	Value/Amount	Units	Comments
BMP Implementation			
I & E Activities			
PCBs			
Permit Modification			
Report Writeup			
Total Nitrogen			
Total Phosphorus			
Total Suspended Solids			
Watershed Outreach, Planning			

Lakes Planning Grant	Coe Hollow Creek, Sidie Hollow Lake Grants	1/1/2010		PROPOSED
Engage Volunteers in Monitoring/Restoration	Coe Hollow Creek, Sidie Hollow	1/1/2010		PROPOSED
Control Streambank Erosion	The South Fork of the Bad Axe River fishery would benefit from the reduction of streambank erosion.	1/1/2010		PROPOSED
Control Streambank Erosion	The Springville Br Bad Axe River fishery would benefit from the reduction of stream bank erosion	1/1/2010	6/30/2020	COMPLETE
Habitat Restoration - Instream	The North Fork Bad Axe River would benefit from the in stream river restoration.	1/1/2010		IN_PROGRESS
Lakes Planning Grant	1641700 North Fork Bad Axe River 1642400 Runge Hollow Lake	1/1/2010		PROPOSED
Habitat Restoration - Instream	The Cox Creek and Frohock Creek fisheries would benefit from improved in-stream habitat.	1/1/2010		PROPOSED
Monitor Fish Community	Coe Hollow Creek, Sidie Hollow Lake Grants	1/1/2010		PROPOSED
Grant Awarded	Vernon County Shoreland Ordinance Revision	9/1/2010	6/30/2012	COMPLETE

Monitoring Stations

Station ID	Name	Comments
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Assessment Units

WBIC	Segment	Local Name	Official Name
721000	5	Mississippi (Reach 4) Coon-Yellow - Pool 9 portion - LD 9 to LD 8)	Mississippi River
726000	1	North Waller Lake	Waller Lakes
1633500	1	Un Lake	Unnamed
1639300	1	Bad Axe River	Bad Axe River
1639400	1	Riley Creek (Creek 16-1)	Riley Creek
1639700	1	Un Lake	Unnamed

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1639800	1	Un Lake	Unnamed
1639900	1	South Fork Bad Axe River	South Fork Bad Axe
1640200	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
1640400	1	Frohock Creek (Creek 15-14)	Unnamed
1640400	2	Local Water	Unnamed
1640500	1	Frohock Creek	Unnamed
1640600	1	Norwegian Hollow Cr.	Norwegian Hollow Creek
1640700	1	Hornby Creek	Hornby Creek
1640900	1	Bull Run Creek	Bull Run
1641000	1	Local Water	Unnamed
1641100	1	Unnamed Trib to Hornby Creek	Unnamed
1641200	1	Coe Hollow Creek	Coe Hollow Creek
1641200	2	Coe Hollow Creek	Coe Hollow Creek
1641400	1	Sidie Hollow Lake	Sidie Hollow Lake
1641500	1	Sidie Hollow Creek	Sidie Hollow Creek
1641700	1	Esofea Branch	North Fork Bad Axe River
1641700	2	Esofea Branch	North Fork Bad Axe River
1641700	3	North Fork Bad Axe River	North Fork Bad Axe River
1641800	1	Cox Creek	Cox Creek
1641800	2	Cox Creek	Cox Creek
1641900	1	Un. Trib. to N. Fork Bad Axe (13N6W, Sec. 19)	Unnamed
1642000	1	Un. trib. to N. fork Bad Axe (13N6W, Sec. 20)	Unnamed
1642100	1	Un. trib. to N. Fork Bad Axe (13N6W, Sec. 23)	Unnamed
1642200	1	Bad Axe River, Springville Branch	Springville Br Bad Axe River
1642400	1	Runge Hollow Lake	Runge Hollow Lake
1642700	1	Esofea Pond	Esofea Pond
1643200	1	Un. Trib. to N. Fork Bad Axe ((13N5W, Sec. 3)	Unnamed
1643220	1	Trib to N. Fk Bad Axe River	Unnamed
1643250	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
3000106	1	Un. trib. to Springville Br. Bad Axe (13N5W, Sec. 29)	Unnamed
3000300	1	Trib to the Springville Br. of the Bad Axe River	Unnamed
5028711	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5028747	1	N. Fork Bad Axe trib. (14N5W, Sec. 34)	Unnamed
5028847	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5029009	1	Un. Trib. to N. Fork Bad Axe trib. (13N5W, Sec. 7)	Unnamed

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5029044	1	Un. trib. to N. fork. Bad Axe (13N5W, Sec. 7)	Unnamed
5029047	1	Local Water	Unnamed
5029102	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5029175	1	Un. Trib. to N. Fork Bad Axe (13N4W, Sec. 6)	Unnamed
5029194	1	Un. trib. to N. Fork Bad Axe (13N6W, Sec. 17)	Unnamed
5029198	1	Un. trib. to N. fork Bad Axe (13N6W,Sec. 22)	Unnamed
5029209	1	Un. trib. to N. Fork Bad Axe (14N6W, Sec. 23)	Unnamed
5029230	1	Local Water	Unnamed
5029245	1	Un. Trib. to N. Fork Bad Axe (14N5W, Sec. 1)	Unnamed
5029262	1	Un. Trib. to N. Fork Bad Axe (14N5W, Sec. 8)	Unnamed
5029301	1	Un. Trtib. to N. Fork Bad Axe (14N5W, Sec. 11)	Unnamed
5029414	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5029513	1	Local Water	Unnamed
5029679	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5029758	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5029795	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5029799	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5029850	1	Un. trib. to Springville Br. Bad Axe (13N6W, Sec. 24)	Unnamed
5029898	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5029917	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5029941	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5029957	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5029971	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5030038	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5030047	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5030065	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5030087	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5030165	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5030332	1	Unnamed Trib to S Fk Bad Axe River	Unnamed
5030435	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5030597	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5030862	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5030946	1	Unnamed Stream	Unnamed
5566289	1	Local Water	Unnamed
5567795	1	Local Water	Unnamed

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5567911	1	Local Water	Unnamed
5588266	1	Unnamed	Unnamed

Lab Account Codes

Account Code	Description	Start Date	End Date
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Forms

Form Code	Form Name
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Methods

Method Code	Method Description
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Fieldwork Events

Start Date	Status	Field ID	Station ID	Station Name
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Documents

Title	Description	Author	Published	Comments
BL02 Historical and Current Wetland Status	BL02 Historical and Current Wetland Status		2/4/2011	
BL02 Wetland Status				
Bad Axe WT 2010 Dams & Outfalls		Rehwald, Matt	1/2/2012	
Bad Axe WT 2010 Land Use		Rehwald, Matt	1/2/2012	
Bad Axe WT 2010 OERW & Impaired Waters		Rehwald, Matt	1/2/2012	
Bad Axe WT 2011 Map		Uelmen, Brent	1/2/2012	
Bad Axe WT 2011 Wetlands		Uelmen, Brent	1/2/2012	Bad Axe WT 2011 Wetlands
Bad Axe Watershed Plan 2010 (BL02)	Assessments and recommendations for the Bad Axe (BL02) Watershed	Helmuth, Lisa	1/11/2010	
General Assessments For 2011 BL02	BL02_General Assessment Results Form			
Runge Hollow Lake Flooding Aftermath Picture 2007	Photo 2. Aftermath of floodwater scour of the Runge Hollow Lake Dam emergency spillway on the North Fork of the Bad Axe River. August 23, 2007.	Koperski, Cindy	8/14/2010	
Runge Hollow Lake Graph 2005		Koperski, Cindy	8/14/2010	
Sidie Hollow Creek Lake Graph 2005		Koperski, Cindy	8/14/2010	
Springville Branch of the Bad Axe River 2007	Photo 1. Floodwaters flowing over the emergency concrete spillway of the Springville Dam on the Springville Branch of the Bad Axe River. August 20, 2007.	Koperski, Cindy	8/14/2010	

7/27/2024

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Watershed_OERW_Bad Axe River	Watershed_OERW_Bad Axe River			
Watershed_landscape_fishstations2_Bad Axe River	Watershed_landscape_fishstations2_Bad Axe River			

Budget

Combined Budgets:

Combined WSLH:

Combined Total: \$0.00

Funding

Organization	Source	Type	Amount	Start Date	End Date
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