

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
SWIMS Project Summary

General Project Information

Project ID: LR03_WTPLAN

Name: Bass Creek (LR03) 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. This 109-square miles watershed lies within Rock County west of and adjacent to the Rock River, and stretching from the state line at Beloit to just above Janesville. While predominately agricultural, there are significant urban areas at Janesville and Beloit. We know little about the water quality and use potential of the tributaries to Bass Creek and to the Rock River in this watershed. Stevens Creek may have potential for trout.

Habitat surveys of portions of the watershed were conducted in May 1996. Two reaches of Bass Creek were surveyed and two portions of Stevens Creek were evaluated. The surveys indicated fair to poor streambank habitat with moderate to severe erosion in some areas, possibly due to streambank pasturing and degradation of water quantity and quality in upstream reaches. This watershed ranked high for funding under the state's priority watershed program.

This watershed is ranked as a second priority for soil loss in Rock County. Rock County Land Conservation Department staff estimate about 3.4 miles of streambank are eroding. In the watershed, more than 59% of the cropland exceeds an average soil loss of about 7.5-8 tons/acre/year. There are 37 barnyards ranked high and 74 barnyards ranked medium by the barnyard ranking criteria used in the Turtle Creek priority watershed. Most of the problematic barnyards are located along Bass Creek and tributary headwaters in the north and west portions of the watershed. Bass Creek Land Conservation staff believe that this source of sediment and nutrients (barnyard and streambank pasturing) could be reduced through implementation of a priority watershed project. About 68% of the watershed's 63,198 acres are in cropland.

This watershed has a high participation level in the Farmland Preservation Program; about 72% of eligible land is enrolled in the program. This watershed has a high susceptibility for groundwater contamination based on WDNR groundwater susceptibility mapping. Bass Creek watershed was selected as an Environmental Quality Improvement Program (EQIP) project. This program, funded by the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), targets critical watersheds for implementation of agricultural best management practices that will also protect water resources.

Objective:

Comments:

Outcome:

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
Compton, Peggy	TEAM_MEMBER	COMPLETE	6/2/2010		UW Division of Extension	
JOSHEFF, SUSAN G	COORDINATOR	COMPLETE	6/2/2010		Wisconsin DNR	
SORGE, MICHAEL J	COORDINATOR	COMPLETE	6/2/2010		Wisconsin DNR	

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Project Statuses

Date	Reported By	Status	Comments
3/16/2014	Lisa Helmuth	Progress: 75-100% Complete	No plan

Actions

Action	Detailed Description	Start Date	End Date	Status
Water Quality Planning	Project: Bass Creek (LR03) Watershed Planning	7/1/2009	6/30/2010	COMPLETE

Monitoring Stations

Station ID	Name	Comments
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Assessment Units

WBIC	Segment	Local Name	Official Name
795800	1	Bass Creek	Bass Creek

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
BASS CREEK OERW EVALUATION	Rock Co., entire creek segment i listed and approved in code NR102 as OERW	Marshall, Dave	1/19/1989	
Bass Creek WT 2010 Impaired Waters		Uelmen, Brent	1/3/2012	
Bass Creek WT 2010 Trout Streams		Uelmen, Brent	1/3/2012	
Bass Creek WT 2010 Existing Wetlands		Rehwald, Matt	1/3/2012	
Bass Creek WT 2010 Land Use		Uelmen, Brent	1/3/2012	
Bass Creek WT 2010 OERW Waters		Uelmen, Brent	1/3/2012	
Bass Creek WT 2010 Potentially Restorable Wetlands		Uelmen, Brent	1/3/2012	

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Bass Creek Watershed (LR03) Ecological Landscapes Map			6/27/2011	
Bass Creek Watershed (LR03) Goals and Priorities Image			6/22/2011	
Bass Creek Watershed (LR03) Impaired Waters Map			7/22/2011	
Bass Creek Watershed (LR03) Learn More Image			7/25/2011	
Bass Creek Watershed (LR03) Map			7/25/2011	
Bass Creek Watershed (LR03) WAG	Watershed at a Glance	WQ PROGRAM	7/27/2011	
Bass Creek Watershed Plan 2010 (LR03)	Assessments and recommendations for the Bass Creek (LR03) Watershed	Sorge, Mike and Lisa Helmuth	12/1/2010	

Budget

Combined Budgets:

Combined WSLH:

Combined Total: \$0.00

Funding

Organization	Source	Type	Amount	Start Date	End Date
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