Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
SWIMS Project Summary

General Project Information

Project ID: NKE57

Name: Lower Black River PWS Plan - Nine Key Element Plan

Type: Water Quality Planning

Subtype: Priority Watershed Plan

Status: COMPLETE

Start Date: 6/1/1983

End Date: 12/31/2003

Purpose: The Lower Black River Watershed is located in northwest La Crosse County and southern Trempealeau County. The watershed includes 167 square miles of land draining to the Black River and its tributaries form the confluence with Fleming Creek downstream to the Mississippi River and to Lake Onalaska. It is the downstream most watershed in the Black River Basin. Slightly less than 8 square miles are in urban land use. The remaining rural area is about equally distributed between woodland and agricultural use. Dairy farming is the main agricultural use, with a small number of beef operations occurring throughout the watershed, primarily near the upper reaches of Fleming Creek and along Long Coulee Creek. Small hobby type farms of 20 or less animals occur northeast of Onalaska. In the steep, eastern two-thirds of the watershed, small irregular farm fields are common, with larger more uniform fields in the flatter prairie areas in the western third of the watershed. The potential for increasing urban development pressure is greatest between Onalaska and Holmen.

The Lower Black River Priority Watershed Project plan assesses the nonpoint sources of pollution in the Lower Black River Watershed and guides the implementation of nonpoint source control measures. These control measures are needed to meet specific water resource objectives for Lower Black River and its tributaries. The purpose of this project is to reduce the amount of pollutants originating from nonpoint sources that reach surface water and groundwater within the Lower Black River Priority Watershed Project area.

Objective: The primary objective of the project is to reduce nonpoint source pollution to the surface water and groundwater, and to enhance and protect the water quality of streams in the Lower Black River Watershed. The objectives include: 1) improving the existing trout fishery in Halfway Creek, Jostad Creek, and Creamery Creek 2) protecting smallmouth bass habitat 3) contribute to the preservation of existing warmwater fishery and recreational value of Lake Onalaska.

Comments:

Outcome: The analysis of information collected for this plan concludes that eroding croplands contribute an estimated 77% of the sediment delivered to the streams, with streambanks, grazed woodlands and pasture on steep slopes contributing about equally to the remaining 23% of the sediment load to the streams. The eroding streambanks have a direct detrimental effect on fish habitat. Barnyard runoff is the major source of organic load to the streams.

Study Design: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/nonpoint/documents/9kep/expired/LowerBlackRiver.pdf

QA Measures:

People

Name	Role	Status	Start Date	End Date	Organization	Comments

Project Statuses

Date	Reported By	Status	Comments

Actions

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
SWIMS Project Summary

Action	Detailed Description	Start Date	End Date	Status
Nine Key Element Plan	Lower Black River PWS Plan - Nine Key Element Plan - The Lower Black River Priority Watershed Project plan assesses the nonpoint sources of pollution in the Lower Black River Watershed and guides the implementation of nonpoint source control measures. These control measures are needed to meet specific water resource objectives for Lower Black River and its tributaries. The purpose of this project is to reduce the amount of pollutants originating from nonpoint sources that reach surface water and groundwater within the Lower Black River Priority Watershed Project area.	6/1/1983	12/31/2003	COMPLETE

Details: Parameter	Value/Amount	Units	Comments
BMP Implementation			
Degraded Biological Community			
I & E Activities			
Permit Modification			
Products Developed: Stormwater Plan			
Report Writeup			
Stormwater Goals Addressed: Reduce TSS			
Streambank & Shoreline Protection: Pollutant load reduction			
Total Nitrogen			
Total Phosphorus			
Total Suspended Solids			
Watershed Outreach, Planning			

Monitoring Stations

Station ID	Name	Comments

Assessment Units

WBIC	Segment	Local Name	Official Name

Lab Account Codes

Account Code	Description	Start Date	End Date

Forms

Form Code	Form Name

Methods

Method Code	Method Description

Fieldwork Events

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
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Start Date	Status	Field ID	Station ID	Station Name

Documents

Title	Description	Author	Published	Comments
Lower Black River Priority Watershed Plan	The Lower Black River Priority Watershed Project plan assesses the nonpoint sources of pollution in the Lower Black River Watershed and guides the implementation of nonpoint source control measures. These control measures are needed to meet specific water resource objectives for Lower Black River and its tributaries. The purpose of this project is to reduce the amount of pollutants originating from nonpoint sources that reach surface water and groundwater within the Lower Black River Priority Watershed Project area. http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/nonpoint/documents/9kep/expired/LowerBlackRiver.pdf	WDNR	1/1/1983	

Budget

Combined Budgets:

Combined WSLH:

Combined Total: $0.00

Funding

Organization	Source	Type	Amount	Start Date	End Date