Region of the Great Bend of the Wabash River Watershed Management Plan
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting 6: March 23 4:30 p.m. Lilly Nature Center, West Lafayette, Indiana

Attendees: Sara Peel, Dan Dunten, Art Remnet, Joe Payne, KD Benson, Diane Damico, Linda Prokopy, Joe Rund, Linda Schmidt, Crystal Rehder, Ron Turco, Michael Hunt

Watershed Inventory and Water Quality data collection

- Sara and Ron provided an overview of watershed and water chemistry data collected to date. Both presentation are available for interested individuals who were unable to attend. Contact Sara to obtain copies, maps or data from the presentations.

Concerns List

- The list of concerns developed during the previous meeting was reviewed with indicators of supported by our data, evidence, ability to be quantified, in/outside of scope, and interest in the group to pursue identification of solutions. The table completed by the committee is attached. Some evidence has not been gathered; therefore, these rows are missing decision-making information. The missing data will be provided to the steering committee at the next committee meeting or prior to that via email. When provided, the committee will be asked to vote on their interest in addressing particular concerns.

Next meeting: June 1, 2010 4:30 p.m. Lilly Nature Center

Concern	Supported by our data?	Evidence	Able to Quantify?	Outside Scope?	Group wants to focus on?
Too many locations where animals can access watershed streams	Yes	91,100 lineal feet of livestock access identified	Yes	No	Yes
Agricultural BMPs should be utilized more	Yes	Buffer strip, streambank erosion, conventional till fields, etc identified during tour	Yes	No	Yes
Urban BMPs should be utilized more	Yes	Potential installation locations abound	Yes	No	Yes
Individuals use too much fertilizer and/or pesticide	No data available at this time	Levels of pesticide and fertilizer have not been quantified	No	No	Yes
Too much physical waste enters the Wabash and its tributaries	Yes	DeTrash event removes six dumpsters of trash annually	Yes	No	Yes
Personal care/ pharmaceutical products concentrations are too high in the Wabash	No data available at this time	None available at this time; anecdotal evidence indicates this is a concern	Yes	No	Yes
Individuals are unaware of BMP implementation options	Yes-urban/ rural; No-agricultural	Urban BMP information not publicized; Ag BMPs implemented as possible and interested – general knowledge level is good	Yes	No	Yes
Private landowners are unaware of their obligations related to streams running through their property (snag clearing, who to contact for permit assistance, etc.)	Yes	Anecdotal from stakeholders	No	No	Yes
Nutrient/algae concentration are too high in the Wabash and its tributaries	Yes	X% of sites exceeded the target concentrations	Yes	No	Yes
Sediment and erosion control is needed	Yes	High turbidity concentrations observed in a majority of stream sites; erosion present along 864,000 lineal feet	Yes	No	Yes
Buffers are needed in transitional areas and along the Wabash/its tributaries	Yes	Lack of buffers or need for grassed waterways observed along 1,190,109 lineal feet	Yes	No	Yes

Concern	Supported by our data?	Evidence	Able to Quantify?	Outside Scope?	Group wants to focus on?
Green/LID practices and LEED are underutilized	Yes	Limited documentation of LID implementation available; limited promotion at this time	Yes	No	Yes
Invasive and exotic species are present throughout the watershed; no plan is in place to eliminate/ reduce their spread	No data available at this time	Not quantified at this time	Yes	No	Yes
Industrial permit requirements are not enforced resulting in too high of industrial inputs			Yes	No	
CSOs need to be corrected	Yes	Combined 15 CSO locations in Lafayette/ West Lafayette	Yes	No	Yes
Tippecanoe County Regional Plan needs to be revised/ re-evaluated	Yes	Regional plan authored in 1981	Yes	No	Yes
Too much untreated stormwater enters the Wabash	Yes	Yes – X storm drain overflow locations along the Wabash	Yes	No	Yes
Septic systems are not efficient enough and regulations relating to them are not enforced					
Septic systems are not properly maintained					
Density and diversity of fish in the Wabash and its tributaries is lower than historic levels					
Natural and wildlife areas need to be created	Yes/no	Several natural/ wildlife areas are present throughout the watershed; continuity is lacking	Yes	No	Yes
Not enough trails along the Wabash	No	Trails are present but length could be expanded	Yes	No	Yes
Access to the Wabash is limited by parking and lack of boat rental/ramps	Yes	Three ramps to the Wabash are present within this reach; no boat liveries or docks are available	Yes	No	Yes

Concern	Supported by our data?	Evidence	Able to Quantify?	Outside Scope?	Group wants to focus on?
Public does not feel a sense of ownership for the River	Yes	75% of the population recognizes the Wabash as a key feature; however, <40% are claim	Yes	No	Yes
Public lacks knowledge about the river and its tributaries' water quality	Yes	Data is not publicized	Yes	No	Yes
Partnerships between existing organizations are under-utilized	Yes	Anecdotal evidence suggests overlap and limited coordination between groups	Yes	No	Yes
Water contact is unhealthy	Yes	E. coli concentrations exceed state standard	Yes	No	Yes
Fish consumption is unhealthy	Yes	Fish consumption advisories exist for the Wabash River, Elliot Ditch, and Wea Creek	Yes	No	Yes
Development rates exceed infrastructural support	Yes	80 unsewered, dense housing locations (20+ houses/sq mile) mapped in the watershed	Yes	No	Yes
Natural areas are not contiguous limiting the corridors for wildlife population	Yes	Land use and tree cover maps detail locations where tree corridors do not connect	Yes	No	Yes