

Manistee Conservation District MiCorps Project Fact Sheet

Project Name: Lower Manistee River Watershed Volunteer Monitoring Program

Amount of Grant: \$10,822.26 **Matching Funds:** \$13,351.12

Project Duration: Oct 2016- Oct 2018

Applicant:

Manistee Conservation District, Susan Spencer
8840 Chippewa Highway
Bear Lake, MI 49614

Primary Project Location: Manistee County



Stream-Teams ready to head into the field for fall stream sampling



| COLLECTION SITES | TOWNSHIP | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE |
|---|-------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| Adams Creek at 16 Rd | Antioch | 44.40996 | -85.61461 |
| Fletcher Creek at Fletcher Park Rd | Springville | 44.404896 | -85.747899 |
| Hinton Creek at Warfield Rd | Slagle | 44.277361 | -85.831611 |
| Sickle Creek at River Rd | Brown | 44.295754 | -86.154444 |
| Bear Creek at Leffew Rd | Pleasanton | 44.456039 | -86.031550 |
| Bear Creek at Spirit of the Woods Conservation Club | Dickson | 44.312368 | -86.050584 |
| Little Manistee River at 6 Mile Bridge | Stronach | 44.183491 | -86.16764 |
| Cool Creek at Hamilton Rd | Stronach | 44.161359 | -86.0017 |
| Little Manistee River at Johnson's Bridge | Peacock | 44.10537 | -85.927329 <input type="checkbox"/> |

Project Partners: Benzie Conservation District, Wexford Conservation District, Mason-Lake Conservation District, Portage Lake Watershed Forever, Little Manistee Watershed Conservation Council, USDA-NRCS

Project Goals and Summary:
The specific goals of the Lower Manistee River Watershed Volunteer Stream Monitoring Project were as follows:

1. Foster stewardship by educating watershed residents on water quality issues and protection.
2. Engage local citizens and partners as stakeholders to monitor and identify threats to the health of the waterways.
3. Generate water quality and habitat data to identify problem areas within the lower Manistee River watershed where quality has been degraded and best management practices can be implemented.
4. Create a sustainable monitoring project that will transcend the MiCorps funding period.
5. Finalize study plan, site selection, sampling schedule and submit a QAPP to MiCorps for approval.

Project Accomplishments:

VSMP events/activities started in October 2016 to fulfill grant consisted of:
Submitting a finalized QAPP that was approved and then implemented, including selection and evaluation of sampling sites

Promoted program and recruited volunteers after attending MiCorps training conference in addition to holding a volunteer training day prior to the initial monitoring event

Side-by-side sampling session with MiCorps staff to ensure quality data is collected for the duration of the program

4 monitoring events completed with one tentative event scheduled to complete the 2018 season

- Fall 2016- 15 volunteers
- Spring 2017- 16 volunteers
- Fall 2017- 19 volunteers
- Spring 2018- 17 volunteers
- Fall 2018- tentative

Held identification events following each collection that were attended by local volunteers assisted by MCD staff

Entered all stream monitoring data into MiCorps database using preferred methods

Shared results of VSMP with the public via the MCD website, newsletters, newspaper articles, social media and quarterly meetings

Gathered feedback from post event volunteer surveys

Submitted quarterly progress and financial reports using preferred methods

| Collection Sites | Fall 2016 | F15 Score | Spring 2017 | S17 Score | Fall 2017 | F17 Score | Spring 2018 | S18 Score |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| BM01 | GOOD | 38 | POOR | 11.3 | GOOD | 36 | GOOD | 40.2 |
| BM02 | GOOD | 41 | FAIR | 26.4 | GOOD | 41.0 | FAIR | 29 |
| BM03 | GOOD | 46 | FAIR | 29 | GOOD | 39.8 | FAIR | 29 |
| BM04 | GOOD | 43 | FAIR | 23.6 | GOOD | 35.8 | FAIR | 32.4 |
| BC01 | EXCELLENT | 50 | GOOD | 34.5 | EXCELLEN | 52.9 | GOOD | 37.3 |
| BC02 | EXCELLENT | >48 | FAIR | 26.4 | EXCELLENT | 51.7 | GOOD | 47 |
| LM01 | EXCELLENT | 52 | GOOD | 42.3 | FAIR | 22.9 | GOOD | 38 |
| LM02 | GOOD | 37.2 | FAIR | 32.9 | GOOD | 35.6 | GOOD | 38.9 |
| LM03 | GOOD | 34 | FAIR | 27 | GOOD | 35 | FAIR | 25.7 |