



Tech Check

A monthly technical bulletin for the St. Joseph River Watershed

June 2003

This is the fourth issue of the monthly technical bulletin for the St. Joseph River Watershed Management Planning Project.

Task 1 Background Information Collection

Data regarding Designated Use impairments within the watershed are being compiled, and draft tables have been completed. They will be presented to the Technical Subcommittee in July for their review. A table of the [Watershed Concerns](#) and the Designated Uses they impair has been posted on the website.

Task 2 Drainage Basin Characterization

[Digital Elevation Modeling](#) using 30-meter resolution elevation data has been conducted in order to delineate the entire Basin to a fine scale. The resulting map has been added to the website, and the website logo has been updated to reflect this delineation.

Task 3 Identification of Critical Areas

The Road-Stream Crossing Technical Subcommittee met on June 17, 2003. The objectives of this component of the project were reviewed, and productive feedback regarding the methods of collecting and prioritizing erosion data were received. Draft forms which lead to scoring of surveyed sites and quantification of erosion were distributed for Subcommittee comment. The goal of this work is to create user-friendly forms which are universal across the Basin. An erosion survey form meant to be used in-stream has been field tested in an area water body. Click [here for a summary](#) of this Subcommittee's objectives.

Task 4 Prioritization of Concerns

Atrazine has been identified as a nonpoint source concern in the Basin. Compilation of existing research is being conducted by K&A in cooperation with the USGS, regarding the current Basin monitoring and the characteristics of atrazine in the environment. A draft summary of these efforts will be available in July 2003.

Task 8 Watershed Management Plan

The U.S. EPA has developed new requirements for Watershed Management Plan (WMP) funded with FY'03 and later funds. The ways in which this project's WMP can meet those requirements is being considered. Additional quantification of nonpoint sources of pollution may be necessary in the Plan.

What's Next?

Continued nonpoint source modeling is being conducted with the U.S. EPA BASINS program. Edits to the content and style of the Designated Use tables will be ongoing with Steering Committee input.

What's Needed?

To provide feedback, a [discussion board](#) has been developed for the website. You can provide information there or contact us directly at nott@kieser-associates.com.