



This is the third 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. Designated use tables prepared for subwatersheds which have been the subject of other Watershed Management Plans are also being collected. Published data will serve as the basis for the identification of site-specific impairments within the watershed. Identification of where designated uses are being met will be based on these data and refined with Steering Committee input.

Task 2 Drainage Basin Characterization

[Digital Elevation Modeling](#) using 30-meter resolution elevation data is being conducted. A map illustrating finer subwatershed delineations of the Pigeon River and Elkhart River Watersheds has been added to the website. The in-house delineation is being compared to that obtained from published sources. [Five river valley segments](#) have been mapped that can be used to divide the watershed into geographic regions and to potentially map impairments within the Watershed. These segments were identified in the comprehensive MDNR fisheries study by Wesley and Duffy (1999).

Task 3 Identification of Critical Areas

Two road-stream crossing inventory forms which can be used to score surveyed sites have been drafted. They allow personnel to quantify erosion at a site and to score the site based on habitat quality. These will be presented to the Road-Stream Crossing Technical Subcommittee to serve as the first efforts towards standardizing an inventory method.

What's Next?

Continued nonpoint source modeling and subwatershed delineation is being conducted with the U.S. EPA BASINS program. The [Water Quality Summary](#) has been drafted based on published data regarding impairments within the Watershed. It will be finalized with the Designated Use Tables being developed by this project.

What's Needed?

Steering Committee input is needed to help us find additional sources of information to identify impairments within the Watershed. Where are designated uses being met? A [discussion board](#) has been developed for the website. You can provide information there or contact us directly at nott@kieser-associates.com.