



Project Code: #3003-VSM2005-03

Grand Traverse Stream Search

June 2005 – June 2007



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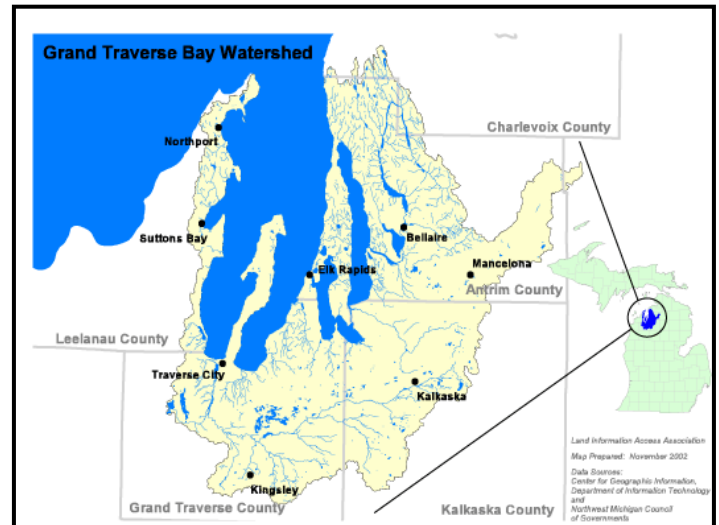
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Grant Amount: \$12,137.20
Match Funds: \$ 7,925.25
Total Amount: \$20,062.45

The main goal of the Grand Traverse Stream Search project was to continue to implement The Watershed Center's (TWC) Stream Search volunteer monitoring program. Stream Search, launched in June 2003, is TWC's bi-annual monitoring program which consists of groups of volunteers, led by a trained team leader, that are assigned to area streams to sample macroinvertebrates and complete habitat assessments in the spring and fall of each year.

In addition to providing valuable water quality data to track and detect early changes to a stream system, Stream Search also serves as an important educational tool. Most importantly, our goal was to have Stream Search increase interest and awareness of watershed issues and stewardship of the resource among area residents and visitors.

Major project objectives included the following: conducting team leader training and monitoring events; developing the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP); planning sampling events and recruiting volunteers; and compiling and summarizing all monitoring results and report to partners and community.



Partners: Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District, Don McNew – biologist with the Great Lakes Environmental Center, and Todd Kalish – fisheries biologist with Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Key Accomplishments and Monitoring Activities:

- Conducted 4 stream macroinvertebrate monitoring events and 4 team leader training events. Streams sampled include: Acme, Baker, Brewers, Cedar, Jack's, Kid's, Miller, Mitchell, Ptobego, and Yuba Creeks.
- Sampled 16 sites on 10 different streams (1-2 sites/stream)
- Recruited and trained 25 team leaders
- Recruited and utilized 75 volunteers
- Advertised and notified public of upcoming events and past results through a variety of media.
- Products include – spreadsheets and tables summarizing streams sampled, their rankings, and the numbers of team leaders and volunteer for each event
- Measurable Results – Most streams ranked in the Fair-Good range, with some fluctuations from year to year
- To continue the program into the future we are transforming Stream Search into an Adopt-A-Stream program and produced a new marketing video (using other funding sources).

General Costs:

- Event planning ~ 75-100 hours (includes securing sites for trainings and sample events, drafting and sending press releases, coordination of team leaders for training, coordination of volunteers signing up for sample day, and actual time at and setting up for events)
- Evaluation ~ 50 hours (includes insect and scoring re-checks, summarizing results, and notifying public)
- Materials/Equipment ~\$100/event (includes photocopies, meeting room expenses, and food for volunteers)

PHOTOGRAPHS



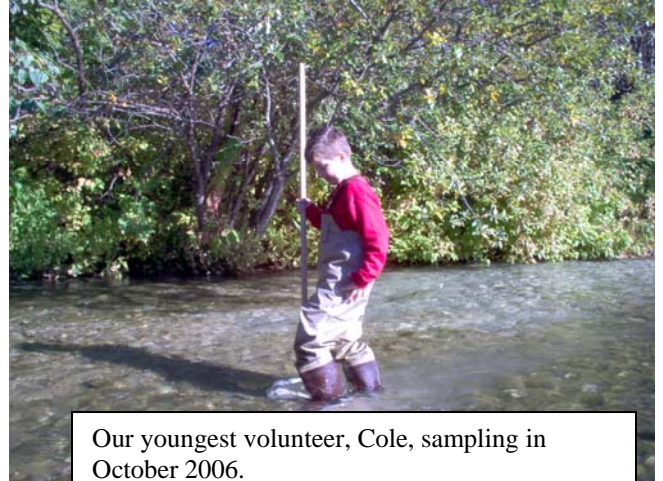
October 2005 sample day – Ptobego Creek
(Dick Thomson and Liz DeLaRossa)



Volunteer Liz DeLaRossa looking at bug samples



October 2006 Team Leaders: Front Row (L-R) – Meral Jackson, Sam Clark, Liz DeLaRossa, and Damian Curry; Back Row (L-R) – Bob Carstens, Mark Leugers, John Harrold, Todd Kalish, and John Nelson.



Our youngest volunteer, Cole, sampling in October 2006.



June 2007 Team Leaders: Front Row (L-R) – Liz DeLaRossa, Meral Jackson, Meghan Norton and Zara Julin; Middle Row (L-R) - Teresa Molano, Karen Nelson, Tray Posavatz, and Mark Leugers; Back Row – Todd Kalish (L) and Steve Lagerquist (R)



Teresa Molano, Troy Naperala, and Alice Montie sorting insect samples at June 2007 event