

Stream Team Meeting Minutes
7:30 PM Wednesday, May 4, 2005

Present: Paul Benzing, Kelley Curran, Gene Fox, Michael Hartwig, Alex Pawlowski, Frank Stillinger, Robin Timmons, and Chuck Whitmore

1. The minutes of the April meeting were approved with one minor amendment.
2. Princeton Hydro installed new staff gauges at the Black Brook and Loantaka Brook ISCO station locations on April 15. The Black Brook gauge is installed on the endwall of the nearby culvert. The Loantaka Brook gauge was installed as a freestanding gauge near the ISCO unit. An iron deflector was installed immediately upstream of the gauge for additional damage protection. Michael noted that the new gauge at Loantaka appeared very solid. Princeton Hydro has requested that the volunteers record both the old gauge and new gauge readings for a period of time to be determined before completely abandoning the old gauges. Kelley passed around pictures of the new gauges.
3. Chuck continues to collect GPS data in the watershed. Specifically, Chuck secured access to Loantaka Brook in the vicinity of Abbie Fair's residence. He took several point readings from the ISCO station to the parking lot on Myersville Road. Right angle stream flows were observed as well as very slight visible flows in areas consisting mainly of standing water. Chuck also collected data from the gazebo on Southern Boulevard in Chatham Township along the power line cut approximately three miles to a point near Myersville Road in Long Hill Township. He also found the point where the Chatham Township STP discharge crosses the power line cut in a submerged culvert. Chuck noted that it only takes approximately two hours for the memory on the GPS unit to fill up.
4. Kelley provided a draft of the GSWA Strategic Plan for the Water Quality Program to those Stream Team members present at the April meeting. No comments on the document were received.
5. Grant Update:

EENJ – The \$10,000 EENJ grant was denied. This grant was requested to fund remediation projects identified in Loantaka Brook Reservation.

Paul mentioned that it might be a good idea to seek out grant money in collaboration with local colleges for education and restoration purposes. Kelley will look into whether there are still monies available under a recent USFWS grant offering.

6. November 4-5, 2004 (storm), March 24, 2005 (storm), and April 26, 2005 (base) sampling results were provided to the group. It is important to note that the November samples were analyzed by IAL prior to the realization that their methods

were not sensitive enough for our needs. As a result, there are several non-detect results. Also, storm samples were not collected from the Great Brook ISCO on either occasion. Possible reasons for this is the complete sanding in of the intake pipe and/or a blockage in the tubing leading to the unit. Kelley mentioned that Princeton Hydro observed a blockage in a portion of the tubing caused by dead ants.

7. Upcoming Field Work

? Great Brook ISCO

Princeton Hydro will be making repairs to the Great Brook ISCO unit. Date to be determined.

? TTC

Princeton Hydro will advise next storm flow sampling round following repairs on the Great Brook ISCO unit.

? Adopt Loantaka Brook

Next round of LB sampling is scheduled for May 9th. Roger will be assisting.

? Visual Assessments

Training course presented by Americorps Watershed Ambassador on May 7th from 9:30-12:30 here at GSWA office. Assessments to be completed by volunteers between May 15 and June 15.

? MIV

Lee is scheduled conduct macroinvertebrate sampling and identification in the watershed starting the week of June 6th.

8. Frank asked Stream Team members to assist him and the GSWA Science and Technology Committee in prioritizing items listed in a memo prepared by Kelley. This memo consolidates input received by members regarding ideas for publicizing Stream Team activities. The deadline for the next GSWA newsletter is July 1st. Gene offered to supply Frank with an article on water volume in the watershed and its relationship to drinking water supplies for review and inclusion.
9. Paul mentioned that the location of our current ISCO unit on Black Brook does not pick up potential contaminant sources stemming from the Chatham Township STP. The installation of an additional unit that will capture this data would provide a more complete picture of the water quality/quantity entering the GSNWR from this sub-watershed. Until then, Kelley will try to seek out publicly available information on the plant's discharge history to Black Brook.
10. The June meeting has been canceled. Next meeting will be Wednesday, July 6th.

Respectfully submitted by: Kelley Curran