

November 2005 Water Quality Program Progress Summary

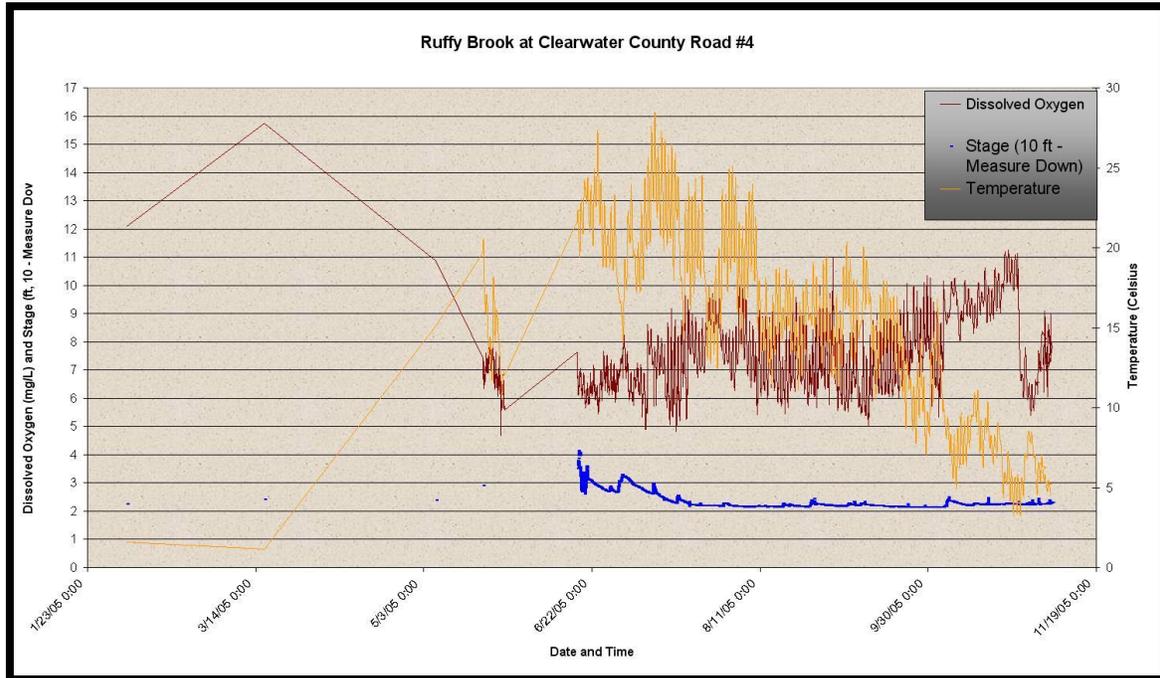
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Stream Sites Sampled/Monitored

- Ruffy Brook Monitoring
 - Calibrated In-Situ continuous monitoring sondes.
 - Conducted a stream classification survey upstream of the Leon Twp. Sections 8/9 crossing (Bonik Property).
 - This is part of the process of determining whether or not Ruffy Brook can or will be able to support trout once again. The survey involved cross section surveys, longitudinal surveys, pebble counts, habitat assessments, flow measurement, GPS'ing and more.
 - Two more sites will be done next year.
 - A reference (undisturbed) site.
 - A site that is currently pastured, but will be planted into CRP in the near future.
 - The Bonik site was a pastured (disturbed site).



- The continuous monitoring data from all three monitoring sites was organized in Microsoft Excel spreadsheets for analysis.



- Red River Basin Buffer Initiative Monitoring
 - Clear Brook (CB#3) upstream of Clearbrook, Silver Creek 2 (SW of Clearbrook), and 81 (lower end of Silver Creek watershed – sampled as part of district monitoring run) – November 15th

Tile Drainage Study

Sampling for the year is ending. Since the Bachand Tile site was still flowing, a sample was collected on November 15th. The level loggers in the flumes were removed for the winter. I began transferring stage data from the level loggers to Microsoft Excel spreadsheets. Copies of the QAPP were mailed to project partners who haven't received one yet.

Meetings

- **November 9th** – Red River Basin Buffer Initiative Project Meeting in Detroit Lakes
 - Have to conduct more monitoring to meet our obligation to the project (need to spend about \$4,000 more).
 - Stream classification on Silver Creek that compares a disturbed reach to a reach with a good buffer would be valuable to this project.

- **November 10th** – Red Lake River Corridor Enhancement Project meeting in Red Lake Falls.
 - Looked up erosion control projects along the Red Lake River that involved the RLWD. Expenses from these projects were tallied so they can be used to show matching expenditures for the erosion control part of the Red Lake River Corridor Enhancement Project bonding bill funding application.
 - Totaled \$676,891.65
 - We are asking for \$300,000 in the bonding bill application for erosion control and buffer strip implementation.
- **November 16th** – Marshall County Water Resources Advisory Meeting
- **November 17th** – Meeting at the Pennington County SWCD to plan the December 15th informational meeting on impoundments within the Thief River Watershed. Also attended the Project 60 meeting this day.
- **November 14th** – Pennington County Water Resources Advisory Meeting
- **November 18th** – Red River Basin Monitoring Advisory Committee Meeting in Fertile.

River Watch

- Red Lake Falls, Grygla, Fisher, Win-E-Mac, Clearbrook, Fosston, Bagley, Red Lake County Central

Stream Gauging

797 (Ruffy Brook District Monitoring Site),

Other Notes

- Made several updates to the RLWD website (minutes, posted the tile drainage study QAPP, etc).
- Corey will help with the creation of a monitoring plan for Project 60.
- Updated the Clearwater River Bank Stabilization Project Report
- Jim has begun working on the ditch inventory project and has made some improvements to the data entry forms in the RLWD water quality database. Digitizing ditch data will be very time consuming but the information will be very valuable and time-saving once it is entered and a user interface is developed.
- Received final payment from the MPCA for the TMDLs on the Clearwater River Project (a little over \$2000)
- Began finishing up the Handbook for data management, data analysis, and project planning that I had worked on a lot last winter. I had been waiting on more comments from the MPCA, but I haven't gotten any in a while other than comments saying it is the best FLUX modeling program manual that people have seen.