

VIII- H. Programmatic Resources

It is unlikely that any other watershed in the country has been the subject of the detailed level of watershed management activities that is ongoing in the Catskill Mountains that serve as the drinking water supply for the City of New York. In a short period of time, an amazing effort to advance water quality protection on multiple fronts has been implemented. In the five years since the historic watershed MOA, a comprehensive program focused on stream restoration, septic system replacements, stormwater projects, farm and management, community planning, and municipal waste water system development has been undertaken and is making excellent progress.



To further coordination and to institutionalize the stream management planning efforts in the Batavia Kill watershed and the entire WOH Watershed, the GCSWCD recommends the following be undertaken:

NO. PR-01			
Recommendation	NYSDEC should develop a Technical and Operational Guidance Series (TOGs) to guide reviews of permit applications for stream disturbance activities.		
Priority		Task Leader	NYSDEC
Funding Sources	No funding required	Task Partners	NYCDEP Local SWCD's Others
Estimated Cost	N/A	Schedule	not determined
Notes	The GCSWCD would recommend that NYSDEC develop TOGs for stream disturbance/restoration projects which will provide comprehensive and consistent guidance on the review of projects, and the expectations from the applicants. The GCSWCD would propose that a TOGs on stream management would help guide applicants to develop better projects. In addition, the TOGs should also apply to NYSDEC management of state riparian lands.		

NO. PR-02	
Recommendation	Promote the formation of a “Batavia Kill Watershed Association” which can represent the diverse interests of watershed stakeholders and take a proactive position on management of the stream corridor.

Priority		Task Leader	Watershed Stakeholders
Funding Sources	NYCDEP Private Foundations	Task Partners	Local municipalities GCSWCD NYCDEP
Estimated Cost	\$5,000 seed money	Schedule	initiate 2003-2004
Notes			

NO. PR-03			
Recommendation	NYSDEC should coordinate review of all Article 15 (Stream Disturbance) with GCSWCD/NYCDEP to determine if the proposed activity is consistent with this SMP.		
Priority		Task Leader	NYSDEC
Funding Sources	No Cost	Task Partners	GCSWCD NYCDEP
Estimated Cost	Note	Schedule	
Notes	<p>The GCSWCD recommends that NYSDEC Region 4 provide copies of all article 15 applications to GCSWCD for review. The GCSWCD must complete its review concurrent and in coordination with NYSDEC to ensure timely response to the applicants.</p> <p>This recommendation must not be seen as a judgement on current permit application review and approval. The GCSWCD feels that in order to be effective managers on the Batavia Kill, knowledge of all stream related activities is essential.</p> <p>A coordinated review by the NYSDEC/GCSWCD will provide access to a broader range of technical resources, and will facilitate coordination of management efforts on a watershed scale.</p>		

NO. PR - 04			
Recommendation	Guidelines, which integrate stream form and function, must be developed for use by FEMA, NYSEMO and Local Municipalities during periods of flood response.		
Priority		Task Leader	NYSDEC
Funding Sources	FEMA NYSEMO NYSDEC NYCDEP	Task Partners	FEMA SEMO Highway Departments GCSWCD NYCDEP GC Emergency Services Office others
Estimated Cost	Undetermined	Schedule	Establish Working group 2003 1 st draft of guidelines 2004 Final guidelines 2005

Notes	<p>During periods of flood response, municipalities need information and technical support to minimize impacts on stream system stability.</p> <p>FEMA field staff should be trained in basic fluvial geomorphology concepts and use of the Guidelines. These methods should be integrated to the greatest extent possible on all Public Assistance (PA) projects.</p>
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NO. PR - 05			
Recommendation	NYCDEP should facilitate a watershed wide Technical Advisory Committee that will provide for routine networking between stream managers and all interested local, state and federal interests.		
Priority		Task Leader	NYCDEP
Funding Sources	NYCDEP	Task Partners	GCSWCD NYS - DOH, DOT, DEC, DOS, SEMO ACOE NRCS Local Districts Municipalities Others
Estimated Cost	Undetermined, minimal	Schedule	2003-2006
Notes	With many agencies conducting activities within the watershed, the GCSWCD suggests that NYCDEP prioritize formation of a stream working group. The group should represent all agencies, as well as their various departments, who have any role in stream management. The group should meet at least quarterly.		

NO. PR - 05			
Recommendation	Watershed municipalities should evaluate their existing land use regulations, and adopt provisions which will protect stream corridor resources.		
Priority		Task Leader	Local Municipalities
Funding Sources	NYSDOS CWC	Task Partners	GCSWCD NYCDEP Catskill Center GC Planning Department
Estimated Cost	Undetermined	Schedule	Undetermined
Notes	<p>Windham and Prattsville have recently undertaken revisions of their Comprehensive Plan as part of the NYC Infrastructure Program. Provisions which promote stream health should be implemented as presented in their plan.</p> <p>The GCSWCD recommends that Ashland seek NYSDOS planning grant dollars to complete a comprehensive plan for their community.</p>		