



Lost Nation-New Landing
River Conservancy District of IL
205 Cuyahoga Drive, Suite A
Dixon, IL 61021



AGENDA

Watershed Planning Committee and Technical Advisory Committee

February 22, 2011, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Nachusa Grasslands Headquarters (in the red barn)

8772 South Lowden Rd., Franklin Grove, Illinois

1. Accept minutes from January 11, 2011 WPC and TAC joint meeting.
2. Approve preliminary action items and changes to goals and objectives (Section 1 of Chapter 4, attached).
3. Identify data gaps and ongoing monitoring needs.
4. Determine field data collectors and methods. Recruit volunteers.
5. Discuss realistic expectations of landowners to implement strategies recommended by the Clear Creek Watershed Action Plan. Decide what percentage of implementation is to be considered in the data analysis.
6. Updates
 - a. Lost Lake Utility District effluent reports.
 - b. NRCS Rapid Assessment.
7. Set next meeting date.
8. Adjourn.

Directions to Nachusa Grasslands Headquarters

Contact Information

The Nature Conservancy
Nachusa Grasslands Preserve
8772 S. Lowden Road
Franklin Grove, Illinois 61031
Phone: (815) 456-2340
Fax: (815) 456-2342

From Chicago and points east:

- Take I-88 West (East-West Tollway)
- Exit at Route 251 North (Rochelle) to Route 38 West (To get on 38 West in Rochelle, you need to follow a few signs due to one-way streets.)
- Travel through Ashton and into Franklin Grove (approx. 16.5 miles), go two blocks past Casey's gas station and turn right (north) at Daysville Road/1700E (sign: Franklin Creek State Park)
- Travel 1.5 miles north to Naylor Road/1950 North, then turn left (west) and go 2.2 miles to Lowden Road/1500 East
- Turn right (north) and go one mile to entrance on left.

From South:

- Take I-39 to Route 38 West
- Then, follow previous directions. (Route 38 makes a few turns in Rochelle so follow signs.)

From North (I-39):

- Take I-39, and exit at Route 64
- Go west towards Oregon, Illinois for 16 miles to Daysville Road/1700 East, which is just before Oregon
- Go left (south) on Daysville for 2.5 miles to Lowden Road/1500 East (just past LaVigna Restaurant)
- Turn right and continue southwards on Lowden Road for eight miles (you will pass Flagg and Stonebarn Roads) to entrance, on the west (right) side of the road.

(<http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/illinois/preserves/art15492.html>)

Local traffic:

- Travel 1.8 miles south of Flagg Road on Lowden Road.
- You will pass Stone Barn Road.
- There is a sign for "Preserve Headquarters" on the west side of the road. The meeting is in the red barn.

Chapter 4: Watershed Management Recommendations

This chapter is divided into two sections. Section 1 cites the goals and objectives from Chapter 1, identifies action items necessary to achieve them, and provides a cross-reference to indicate which action items address each goal and objective. Section 2 describes each action item and its potential benefit. Chapter 5 provides a budget and sources of technical and financial assistance for each action item. Action items are Best Management Practices (BMPs) that can be used throughout the watershed, as recommended by the Watershed Planning Committee, Technical Advisory Committee, and consultants. BMPs can be in the form of policy and regulation, planning and zoning, and stormwater management, nutrient management, and soil retention tools. With respect to the agricultural and rural nature of this watershed and plans by county officials for it to stay rural and agricultural, emphasis for BMPs in this watershed is heavily placed on stormwater management, nutrient management, and soil retention tools.

Section 1: Goals and Objectives, Action Items, and Cross-Referencing

The goals and objectives for the Clear Creek watershed are provided below in Table __ for quick reference, as found in Chapter 1. It is intended that the reader use Table __ to cross-reference these goals and objectives with the action items listed in Table __.

Table __: Goals and objectives for the Clear Creek watershed, reprinted from Chapter 1.

Goals	Objectives
1. Minimize erosion and sedimentation.	a. Decrease streambank and shoreline erosion.
	b. Deter flashy hydrology and minimize stormwater runoff.
	c. Reduce soil loss from crop fields.
	d. Implement best management practices as pilot projects to use as examples and to test procedures.
	e. Trap sediment before it enters the stream or lake.
2. Minimize nutrient loading into surface waters and groundwater.	a. Reduce nutrient leaching into the groundwater.
	b. Reduce nutrient loading into the stream and lake from subsurface sources.
	c. Reduce nutrient loading into the stream and lake from surface runoff.
3. Protect "Class A" and other productive soils.	a. Prevent conversion of land use.
4. Protect, enhance, and manage wildlife and their habitats.	a. Protect existing wildlife habitat and high quality natural areas.
	b. Manage wildlife habitat and natural areas.
	c. Reduce fragmentation of wildlife habitat and natural areas.
	d. Manage overpopulated wildlife.
	e. Create new wildlife habitat.
5. Protect the rural lifestyle.	a. Maintain relative percentages of current land uses.
	b. Support opportunities for recreation, hunting, and fishing.
	c. Consider the economics involved for the individual producer in each conservation action.

Table __: Action items listed in order of priority to address the goals and objectives (not yet in priority order).

#	Action Item
1	Stabilize __ feet of streambank along permanent and intermittent streams.
2	Stabilize 1,600 feet of shoreline at Lost Lake.
3	Stabilize __ acres of highly erodible lands (HELs).
4	Create __ acres of wetlands.
5	Construct rain gardens near homes.
6	Create __ acres of filter strips.
7	Construct __ acres of buffer strips with paths mowed at a diagonal along Lost Lake shoreline.
8	Create __ acres of grassed waterways.
9	Create __ acres of stormwater holding ponds with dikes and berms to slow water velocity.
10	Construct a sediment control basin at the confluence of Babbling Brook and Lost Lake.
11	Expand the sediment control basin at the confluence of Clear Creek and Lost Lake.
12	Create check dams within the stream to slow water velocity.
13	Limit the access of cattle to __ feet of stream.
14	Provide tree cover for shade.
15	Manage fertilizer, herbicide, nutrient, and insecticide loss.
16	Increase acreage of conservation farming, such as no-till and strip till, from __ acres to __ acres.
17	Preserve prime farmland and farmland of statewide importance by activating agricultural easements on __ acres.
18	Require homeowners to conduct inspections on their septic systems every 3 years.
19	Continue the campaign to use zero phosphorous fertilizers in residential areas.
20	Preserve __ acres of priority natural areas, wildlife habitat, and open space with conservation easements and land aquisition.
21	Create __ acres of wildlife corridors between existing wildlife habitat and natural areas.
22	Convert __ acres into wildlife habitat and natural area buffer around important, existing areas.
23	Manage __ acres of important natural areas and wildlife habitat.
24	Create recreation trails.
25	Manage overpopulated wildlife by hunting deer with nuisance permits, adding eggs for goose control, and trapping beaver.
26	Continue to participate in long range planning efforts with the community.
27	Give __ (#) presentations to landowners and farmers about runoff.
28	Provide educational guidelines to landowners and farmers for management of runoff.
29	Educate producers to make sure that they are aware of techniques and financial support to manage soils, residue, and contours.
30	Use the Babbling Brook and Lost Lake Streambank Stabilization Project as a pilot project.
31	Use projects on private property as demonstrations, such as with The Nature Conservancy.
32	Educate homeowners about best practices for home and yard with __ (products and events).
33	Partner with wildlife organizations that share similar missions.
	Control goose populations.
	Stabilize 1,956 linear feet of streambank along Babbling Brook at the confluence of Lost Lake.
	Activate conservation easements on __ acres of important natural areas and open space.
	Implement BMPs on __ acres to retain soil on crop fields.
	Drain tiles... (Move to monitoring section.)

****Note to WPC and TAC: The action items are not yet in priority order. Action items will be prioritized by the WPC and TAC at a future committee meeting. Blanks within the text are left intentionally and identify data gaps that will need to be identified and completed.**

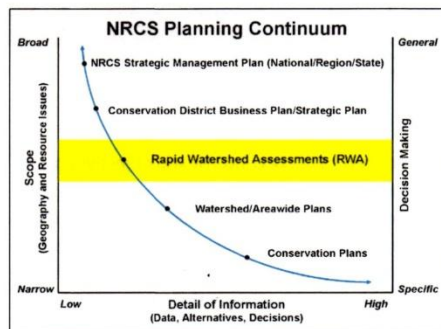
Section 2: Action Item Details and Benefits

The action items summarized above are described below. Details are provided to indicate where the action items are to take place, at what quantities, and the estimated pollutant load reductions to be accomplished by each, when applicable.

Rapid watershed assessments (RWA) provide initial estimates of where conservation investments would best address the concerns of landowners, conservation districts, and other community organizations and stakeholders within a watershed. These assessments help landowners and local leaders set priorities and determine the best actions to achieve their goals.

Information Included in RWAs

RWAs contain summaries of resource concerns and opportunities that are useful for a number of activities. They provide information that can be used in conservation district annual and long range plans or provide a foundation for watershed, area-wide, or site-specific planning. The diagram below shows RWAs in the context of the entire NRCS planning continuum.



RWAs contain two components: a watershed resource profile and an assessment matrix.

Resource Profile

The watershed resource profile compiles the best readily-available data, including:

- A general description of the location, size, and political units associated with the watershed.
- Physical description including land use/land cover, precipitation/climate, common resource areas, stream flow data, land capability class, etc.
- Known resource concerns.
- Census and social data.

- Status and history of resource conservation in the watershed.
- References and data sources.

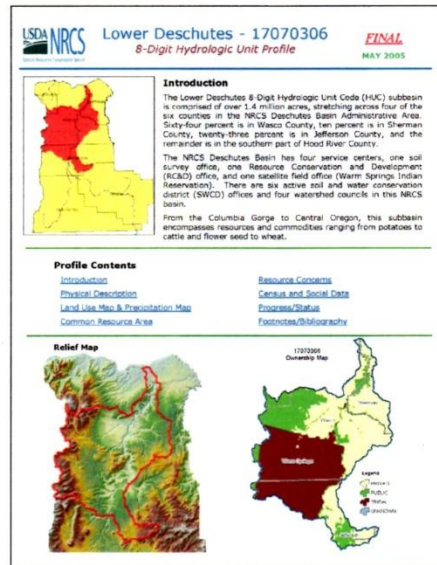


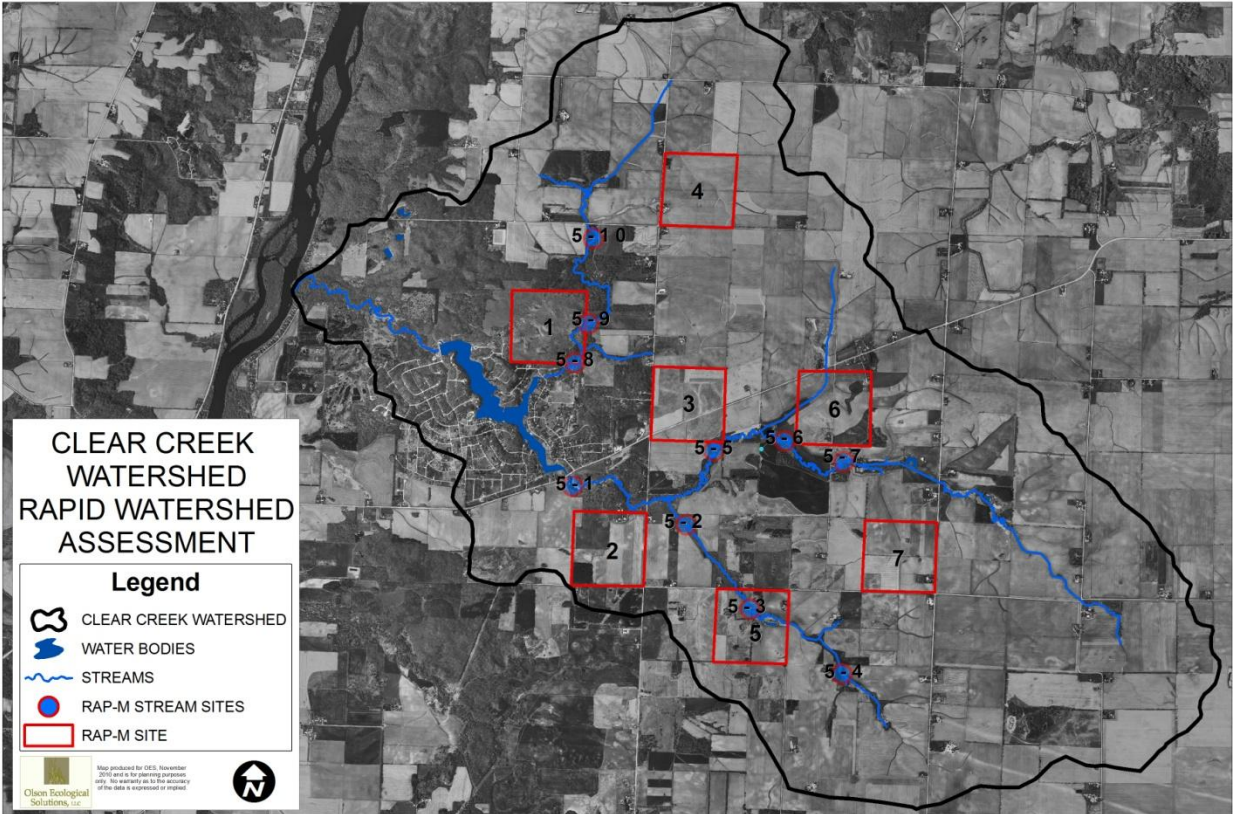
Figure 1: Example resource profile cover page

Assessment Matrix

The Assessment Matrix summarizes, in tabular form, current resource conditions and related maintenance costs. It also summarizes desired resource conditions, conservation opportunities and related installation and maintenance costs, qualitative effects on primary resource concerns, and potential funding sources for conservation implementation.

The Assessment Matrix contains:

- Current Conditions Table—detailing the current level of conservation in the watershed.
- Future Conditions Table—identifying appropriate suites of conservation practices needed to deal with the primary resource concerns for each major land use.



NRCS Rapid Assessment Data Sheets

Name _____ Sample Number _____ Date _____

Grazed Woodland and Disturbed Woodland					Type and Height of raised Canopy		Canopy Cover %			Surface Cover Type		Cover that contacts the surface						
					Appreciable brush (2 m fall height)	Trees no appreciable low brush 4 m fall height	25	50	75	Grass	Weeds	0	20	40	60	80	95- 100	
Slope Group	Acres	K	Slope Percent	Slope Length	Select one type and height		Select one %			Select one type		Select the best representative %						
A & B																		
C																		
D & D+																		

Undisturbed Woodland					Effective Canopy % of Area	Forest Litter % of Area	Effective Canopy % of Area	Forest Litter % of Area	Effective Canopy % of Area	Forest Litter % of Area
Slope Group	Acres	K	Slope Percent	Slope Length	100-75	100-90	70-40	85-75	35-20	70-40
Select the combination which best represents the woodland										
A & B										
C										
D & D+										

Pasture (Permanent Grasses)					Enter "C Factor" from reference sheet (0.01 generally)
Slope Group	Acres	K	Slope Percent	Slope Length	
A & B					
C					
D & D+					

T value information or comments
Residential - Acres - SMU K - % slope - Ft. slope

CHANNEL INVENTORY FORM

Watershed Lost Lake Name _____ Date _____
 Start Transect at: _____ 1000' Transect No. 1-A
 Type of Channel Erosion Gully

L (x) H (x) Lat. Rec. Rate (x) Density / 2000 = Tons / Year

	Reach Num.	Length (ft)	Height (ft)	Lateral Recession Rate (ft/yr)	Density (pcf)	Erosion (tons/yr)	Comments:
R	1						
L	2						
R	3						
L	4						
R	5						
L	6						
R	7						
L	8						
R	9						
L	10						
R	11						
L	12						
R	13						
L	14						
R	15						
L	16						
R	17						
L	18						
R	19						
L	20						

TOTAL = _____ XXXXX XXXXXXX XXXX _____

