

West Branch and tribs (0301-0052)

MinorImpacts

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 02/27/2008

Water Index No: Ont 130- 2	Drain Basin: Lake Ontario
Hydro Unit Code: 04130001/080	Str Class: C
Waterbody Type: River	Reg/County: 8/Monroe Co. (28)
Waterbody Size: 76.6 Miles	Quad Map: KENT (H-08-4)
Seg Description: entire stream and tribs	

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information (CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
Aquatic Life	Stressed	Known
Recreation	Stressed	Suspected

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---
 Suspected: D.O./OXYGEN DEMAND, NUTRIENTS, PATHOGENS
 Possible: ---

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: MUNICIPAL (Albion JMIPCF), OTHER SANITARY DISCH
 Suspected: AGRICULTURE
 Possible: ---

Resolution/Management Information

Issue Resolvability: 3 (Strategy Being Implemented)	
Verification Status: 5 (Management Strategy has been Developed)	
Lead Agency/Office: DOW/Reg8	Resolution Potential: High
TMDL/303d Status: n/a	

Further Details

Aquatic life support in West Branch Sandy Creek is known to experience minor impacts due to nutrient loads from municipal inputs (including wet-weather overflows) and various nonpoint sources in the watershed. Recreational uses may also be impacted.

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of West Branch Sandy Creek in Murray (at Route 33) was conducted in 2006. Sampling results indicated slightly impacted water quality conditions. Nonpoint source nutrient enrichment is identified as the primary cause of the impacts to the stream. Although aquatic life is supported in the stream, nutrient biotic evaluation indicates/suggests the level of eutrophication is sufficient to stress/threaten aquatic life support. More recent sampling by SUNY Brockport in 2008 found more significant localized biological impacts downstream of the Albion municipal plant. Follow-up monitoring to determine the magnitude and extent of this impact is recommended. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, February 2008)

The Village of Albion is currently under Consent Order to address the wet-weather issues associated with the sanitary sewer system deficiencies and resulting impacts on the Albion Joint Municipal Industrial Pollution Control Facility

(AJMIPCF). The Village sanitary sewer system consists of approximately 625 sanitary sewer manholes, 128,720 linear feet of sewer piping ranging from 6 inches to 30 inches in diameter, five sanitary sewer lift stations. Flows are conveyed to the AJMIPCF, which was constructed in the late 1970s and placed in service in January 1979. The AJMIPCF is designed to treat an average of 2.3 million gallons per day, and currently treats an annual average of 2.05 MGD and an average dry weather flow of 1.25 MGD. However the wet-weather flow frequently exceeds the capacity of the plant. The AJMIPCF has a bypass located at the plant in the event of influent wastewater flows exceeding capacity. Since 2000 such bypass events have increased dramatically and in recent years have averaged 25-30 events and 20-25 MG of discharge per year. (DEC/DOW, Region 8 and Env. Facilities Corp., February 2008)

The Village has embarked upon an aggressive operation and maintenance program to minimize/eliminate excess infiltration and inflow, improve flow characteristics, separate storm sewer interconnections from the sanitary system and to construct new storm sewers throughout the Village. Roughly 70% of the Village Streets have storm sewers but many are undersized. The Consent Order, executed July 14, 2004, (R8-20030813-23), specifically identified a number items to be included in the Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Study (SSES). These include estimates of flow and capacity of the system and plant, proposals for operational, staffing, administrative and maintenance changes and capital improvements to eliminate future bypasses, a schedule for implementation of proposed changes, and a plan to update the SSES based on future information and implementation of approved changes. (DEC/DOW, Region 8 and Env. Facilities Corp., February 2008)

This segment includes the entire stream and all tribs. The waters of the stream and its tribs are primarily Class C. (May 2001)