



## Fox Creek Watershed (0202000505)

### Water Index Number

H-240- 82- 67  
H-240- 82- 67  
H-240- 82- 67  
H-240- 82- 67-10-P605  
H-240- 82- 67-24  
H-240- 82- 67-24-10-P605a,P605b  
H-240- 82- 67-24-P608  
H-240- 82- 67-26  
H-240- 82- 67-33-1-P609

### Waterbody Segment

Fox Creek, Lower, and tribs (1202-0008)  
Fox Creek, Middle, and minor tribs (1202-0041)  
Fox Creek, Upper, and tribs (1202-0004)  
Echo Pond (1202-0042)  
Switz Kill and tribs (1202-0007)  
White Birch Pond, Fawn Lake (1202-0006)  
Onderdonk Lake (1202-0005)  
Beaverdam Creek and tribs (1202-0043)  
Warners Lake (1202-0044)

### Category

NoKnownImpct  
NoKnownImpct  
NoKnownImpct  
UnAssessed  
NoKnownImpct  
UnAssessed  
MinorImpacts  
NoKnownImpct  
NoKnownImpct

# Fox Creek, Lower, and tribs ( 1202-0008)

NoKnownImpct

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 08/14/2002

**Water Index No:** H-240- 82- 67  
**Hydro Unit Code:** 02020005/090      **Str Class:** A  
**Waterbody Type:** River (Low Flow)      **Drain Basin:** Mohawk River  
**Waterbody Size:** 43.7 Miles      Schoharie Creek  
**Seg Description:** stream and tribs, from mouth to Gallupville      **Reg/County:** 4/Schoharie Co. (48)  
**Quad Map:** SCHOHARIE (K-23-2)

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
NO USE IMPAIRMNT		

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

## Resolution/Management Information

**Issue Resolvability:** 8 (No Known Use Impairment)  
**Verification Status:** (Not Applicable for Selected RESOLVABILITY)  
**Lead Agency/Office:** n/a      **Resolution Potential:** n/a  
**TMDL/303d Status:** n/a

## Further Details

### Water Quality Sampling

NYSDEC Rotating Intensive Basin Studies (RIBS) Intensive Network monitoring of Fox Creek in Schoharie (at State Route 30) was conducted in 2001. Sampling of the water column, sediments, and invertebrate tissues was conducted, as well as macroinvertebrate community analysis. Biological sampling results indicated non- to slightly impacted conditions, and overall good water quality. The only parameter of concern in the water column found in 10 sampling events in 2001 was iron, which was measured in concentrations above the assessment criterion in 20% of the samples. Sediment and macroinvertebrate tissue analysis showed no compounds present at concentrations above levels of concern. No acute or chronic toxicity was indicated in the water column on three dates of testing. (DEC/DOW, BWAR/RIBS, April 2003)

Biological (macroinvertebrate) assessments of Fox Creek near the mouth in Vroman Corners/Schoharie and above this reach in West Berne were conducted in 2000 as part of the RIBS effort. The downstream Schoharie site was assessed as slightly impacted and the West Berne site was assessed as non-impacted. No source for the downstream impact was indicated, as the impact was judged to be very minor. The Schoharie site was also assessed as slightly impacted in 2001 sampling, with nutrient enrichment as the likely cause. In spite of these minor impacts, aquatic life is considered to be fully supported in the stream, and there are no other apparent water quality impacts. (DEC/DOW, BWAR/SBU, April 2003)

### Watershed Management

The Fox Creek watershed is primarily agricultural but farming activity has declined in recent years. Best management practices have been and are being implemented at many farms through USDA EQIP. There are areas of significant streambank erosion along the creek. (Schoharie County SWCD/WQCC, April 2002)

The Village of Schoharie uses a reservoir on the creek as a backup water supply (infiltration gallery).

### Segment Description

This segment includes the portion of the stream and all tribs from the mouth to the Gallupville Bridge. The waters of this portion of the stream are Class B from the mouth to trib -b and Class A for the remainder of the reach. Tribs to this reach/segment, including King Creek (-10), are primarily Class C, C(TS); some smaller tribs are designated Class A.

# Fox Creek, Middle, and minor tribs ( 1202-0041)

NoKnownImpct

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 01/29/2010

**Water Index No:** H-240- 82- 67  
**Hydro Unit Code:** 02020005/090      **Str Class:** C  
**Waterbody Type:** River (Low Flow)      **Reg/County:** 4/Schoharie Co. (48)  
**Waterbody Size:** 61.0 Miles      **Quad Map:** GALLUPVILLE (K-24-1)  
**Seg Description:** stream and selected tribs, from Gallupville to Berne

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
NO USE IMPAIRMNT		

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

## Resolution/Management Information

**Issue Resolvability:** 8 (No Known Use Impairment)  
**Verification Status:** (Not Applicable for Selected RESOLVABILITY)  
**Lead Agency/Office:** n/a  
**TMDL/303d Status:** n/a

**Resolution Potential:** n/a

## Further Details

### Water Quality Sampling

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Fox Creek in West Berne (at Route 443) was conducted as part of the RIBS biological screening effort in 2005. Sampling results indicated non-impacted conditions. Such samples are dominated by clean-water species and are most similar to a natural community with minimal human impacts. Some additional species, including sensitive non-native species, and additional biomass may be present; the samples reveal no, or only incidental, anomalies. These results are consistent with sampling conducted at the site in 2000. Aquatic life community is fully supported. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2010)

These results are also consistent with conditions reported in a 1992 biological survey of Fox Creek. This survey found good to excellent water quality along the reach from West Berne to East Berne, and in Switz Kill. (Fox Creek Biological Assessment Report, Bode et al., DEC/DOW, BWAR/SBU, May 1993)

### Watershed Management

The Fox Creek watershed is primarily agricultural but farming activity has declined in recent years. Best management practices have been and are being implemented at many farms through USDA EQIP. The are areas of significant streambank erosion along the creek. (Schoharie County SWCD/WQCC, April 2002)

### Segment Description

This segment includes the portion of the stream and selected/smaller tribs from the Gallupville Bridge to Beaverdam Creek (-26) in Berne. The waters of this portion of the stream are Class C. Tribs to this reach/segment are also Class C. Switz Kill (-24) and Beaverdam Creek (-26) are listed separately.

# Fox Creek, Upper, and tribs ( 1202-0004)

NoKnownImpct

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 02/10/2010

<b>Water Index No:</b>	H-240- 82- 67	<b>Drain Basin:</b>	Mohawk River
<b>Hydro Unit Code:</b>	02020005/090	<b>Str Class:</b>	C(T)
<b>Waterbody Type:</b>	River (Low Flow)	<b>Reg/County:</b>	4/Albany Co. ( 1)
<b>Waterbody Size:</b>	42.1 Miles	<b>Quad Map:</b>	WESTERLO (K-24-3)
<b>Seg Description:</b>	stream and tribs, above Berne		

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
NO USE IMPAIRMNT		

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

## Resolution/Management Information

<b>Issue Resolvability:</b>	8 (No Known Use Impairment)	
<b>Verification Status:</b>	(Not Applicable for Selected RESOLVABILITY)	
<b>Lead Agency/Office:</b>	n/a	<b>Resolution Potential:</b> n/a
<b>TMDL/303d Status:</b>	n/a	

## Further Details

### Water Quality Sampling

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Fox Creek in West Berne (at Route 443) was conducted as part of the RIBS biological screening effort in 2005. Sampling results indicated non-impacted conditions. Such samples are dominated by clean-water species and are most similar to a natural community with minimal human impacts. Some additional species, including sensitive non-native species, and additional biomass may be present; the samples reveal no, or only incidental, anomalies. These results are consistent with sampling conducted at the site in 2000. Aquatic life community is fully supported. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2010)

These results are also consistent with conditions reported in a 1992 biological survey of Fox Creek. This survey found good to excellent water quality along the reach from West Berne to East Berne, and in Switz Kill. (Fox Creek Biological Assessment Report, Bode et al., DEC/DOW, BWAR/SBU, May 1993)

### Watershed Management

The Fox Creek watershed is primarily agricultural but farming activity has declined in recent years. Best management practices have been and are being implemented at many farms through USDA EQIP. There are areas of significant streambank erosion along the creek. (Schoharie County SWCD/WQCC, April 2002)

The Village of Berne is under order to construct a wastewater treatment plant to serve homes that currently have on-site septic systems. Construction is scheduled to be complete by July 2011. (DEC/DOW, Region 4, April 2010)

#### Previous Assessment

Concerns were previously raised regarding threats to natural resources (fishery) habitat in this trout stream due to thermal stresses attributed to agricultural activities and in the watershed. Agricultural activity contributes to the loss of riparian vegetation necessary to cool the stream. However more recent sampling suggests these threats are not atypical of many other streams in the state. Trout Unlimited has undertaken a long-term project with area farmers to improve the trout fishery. Trout have been documented in the headwaters of the stream.

#### Segment Description

This segment includes the portion of the stream and all tribs above Beaverdam Creek (-26) in Berne. The waters of this portion of the stream are Class C(T). Tribs to this reach/segment are Class C, C(T). Beaverdam Creek (-26) is listed separately.

# Switz Kill and tribs ( 1202-0007)

NoKnownImpct

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 02/01/2010

<b>Water Index No:</b>	H-240- 82- 67-24	<b>Drain Basin:</b>	Mohawk River
<b>Hydro Unit Code:</b>	02020005/090	<b>Str Class:</b>	C(T)
<b>Waterbody Type:</b>	River (Low Flow)	<b>Reg/County:</b>	4/Albany Co. ( 1)
<b>Waterbody Size:</b>	65.7 Miles	<b>Quad Map:</b>	RENSELAERVILLE (K-24-4)
<b>Seg Description:</b>	entire stream and tribs		

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
NO USE IMPAIRMNT		

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

## Resolution/Management Information

<b>Issue Resolvability:</b>	8 (No Known Use Impairment)	
<b>Verification Status:</b>	(Not Applicable for Selected RESOLVABILITY)	
<b>Lead Agency/Office:</b>	n/a	<b>Resolution Potential:</b> n/a
<b>TMDL/303d Status:</b>	n/a	

## Further Details

### Water Quality Sampling

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Switz Kill in Berne (at Ravine Road) was conducted as part of the RIBS biological screening effort in 2005. Sampling results indicated non-impacted conditions. Such samples are dominated by clean-water species and conditions that reflect a natural community with minimal, if any, human impacts. Aquatic life community is clearly fully supported. These results are consistent with sampling conducted at this site in 2000. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2010)

These results are also consistent with conditions reported in a 1992 biological survey of Fox Creek. This survey found good to excellent water quality along the reach from West Berne to East Berne, and in Switz Kill. (Fox Creek Biological Assessment Report, Bode et al., DEC/DOW, BWAR/SBU, May 1993)

### Segment Description

This segment includes the entire stream and all tribs. The waters of the stream are Class C, C(T). Tribs to this reach/segment are also Class C, C(T).



# Onderdonk Lake ( 1202-0005)

# MinorImpacts

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 07/02/2010

**Water Index No:** H-240- 82- 67-24-P608  
**Hydro Unit Code:** 02020005/090      **Str Class:** B  
**Waterbody Type:** Lake (Eutrophic)  
**Waterbody Size:** 65.5 Acres  
**Seg Description:** entire lake

**Drain Basin:** Mohawk River  
Schoharie Creek  
**Reg/County:** 4/Albany Co. ( 1)  
**Quad Map:** WESTERLO (K-24-3)

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
Recreation	Stressed	Known
Aesthetics	Stressed	Known

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: NUTRIENTS (phosphorus)  
Suspected: Algal/Weed Growth  
Possible: Pesticides

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ON-SITE/SEPTIC SYST  
Possible: ---

## Resolution/Management Information

**Issue Resolvability:** 1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))  
**Verification Status:** 4 (Source Identified, Strategy Needed)  
**Lead Agency/Office:** ext/WQCC  
**TMDL/303d Status:** n/a

**Resolution Potential:** Medium

## Further Details

### Overview

Recreational (fishing, boating) uses and aesthetics in Onderdonk Lake are known to experience minor impacts due to nutrient loads and reduced water clarity. On-site septic systems and lawn runoff from homes along the lake are considered the most likely source. Some weed growth is reported, but neither aquatic weed nor algal growth appears to reach the threshold of impairing uses.

### Water Quality Sampling

Onderdonk Lake was sampled as part of the NYSDEC Lake Classification and Inventory (LCI) sampling effort, a component of the Rotating Intensive Basin Studies (RIBS) Program, in 2006. Nutrient, chlorophyll and clarity measurements taken at that time revealed the lake was best characterized as mesotrophic, or moderately productive. Results of this study confirm elevated phosphorus levels and reduced water clarity, but algae levels do not appear to be high enough to render the lake susceptible to frequent blooms or the production of toxins or taste and odor compounds (although these were not specifically analyzed in these samples). The plant community was dominated by native plants growing just below the lake surface, although this may have been the result of active management (with aquatic herbicides) rather than "natural" subsurface plant growth. Curly leafed pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*), an exotic plant species, was found in the lake, but this early season plant did not appear to be growing sufficiently to impact recreational uses of the lake. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/RIBS, June 2010)

These results are consistent with a 2001 Lake Classification and Inventory study effort. Results of this study also indicated elevated phosphorus levels and reduced water clarity in the lake. Significant rooted aquatic plant growth was not observed. (DEC/DOW, BWM/Lake Services, August 2000)

#### Water Quality Management

Active weed management through herbicide application (diquat and copper sulfate) to reduce algal and weed growth has been undertaken. (Albany County WQCC, 2004)

# Beaverdam Creek and tribs ( 1202-0043)

NoKnownImpct

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 01/29/2010

<b>Water Index No:</b>	H-240- 82- 67-26	<b>Drain Basin:</b>	Mohawk River
<b>Hydro Unit Code:</b>	02020005/090	<b>Str Class:</b>	C
<b>Waterbody Type:</b>	River (Low Flow)		Schoharie Creek
<b>Waterbody Size:</b>	23.7 Miles	<b>Reg/County:</b>	4/Albany Co. ( 1)
<b>Seg Description:</b>	entire stream and tribs	<b>Quad Map:</b>	GALLUPVILLE (K-24-1)

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
NO USE IMPAIRMNT		

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

## Resolution/Management Information

<b>Issue Resolvability:</b>	8 (No Known Use Impairment)	
<b>Verification Status:</b>	(Not Applicable for Selected RESOLVABILITY)	
<b>Lead Agency/Office:</b>	n/a	<b>Resolution Potential:</b> n/a
<b>TMDL/303d Status:</b>	n/a	

## Further Details

### Water Quality Sampling

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Beaverdam Creek in Berne (at Route 156) was conducted as part of the RIBS biological screening effort in 2005. Sampling results indicated slightly impacted conditions. In such samples the community is slightly altered from natural conditions. Some sensitive species are not present and the overall abundance of macroinvertebrates is lower. However, the effects on the fauna are relatively insignificant and water quality is considered to be good. The nutrient biotic index and impact source determination indicate some elevated enrichment in the stream, however the fauna is most similar to natural communities with some impoundment and nonpoint source influences. These results are consistent with results of a field assessment conducted at this site in 2000 which found a fauna that satisfied field screening criteria indicating non-impacted water quality. Aquatic life support is considered to be fully supported in the stream, and there are no other apparent water quality impacts to designated uses. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2010)

### Segment Description

This segment includes the entire stream and all tribs. The waters of the stream are Class C. Tribs to this reach/segment are also Class C.

# Warners Lake ( 1202-0044)

NoKnownImpct

## Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 08/19/2002

<b>Water Index No:</b>	H-240- 82- 67-33-1-P609	<b>Drain Basin:</b>	Mohawk River
<b>Hydro Unit Code:</b>	02020005/090	<b>Str Class:</b>	B(T)
<b>Waterbody Type:</b>	Lake (Unknown Trophic)	<b>Reg/County:</b>	4/Albany Co. ( 1)
<b>Waterbody Size:</b>	116.6 Acres	<b>Quad Map:</b>	WESTERLO (K-24-3)
<b>Seg Description:</b>	entire lake		

## Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
NO USE IMPAIRMNT		

### Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

### Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---  
Suspected: ---  
Possible: ---

## Resolution/Management Information

<b>Issue Resolvability:</b>	8 (No Known Use Impairment)	
<b>Verification Status:</b>	(Not Applicable for Selected RESOLVABILITY)	
<b>Lead Agency/Office:</b>	n/a	<b>Resolution Potential:</b> n/a
<b>TMDL/303d Status:</b>	n/a	

## Further Details

### Water Quality Sampling

Warners Lake was included in the 2001 Lake Classification and Inventory study effort. Results of this study found no evidence of water quality impairment. (DEC/DOW, BWM/Lake Services, August 2002)