



Schoharie/West Kill Watershed (0202000503)

Water Index Number

H-240- 82 (portion 3)
 H-240- 82 (portion 4)/P630a
 H-240- 82-104
 H-240- 82-104-11-P627
 H-240- 82-104-P629
 H-240- 82-106
 H-240- 82-108
 H-240- 82-108-2-P630b

Waterbody Segment

Schoharie Creek, Lower, Main Stem (1202-0024)
 Lower Blenheim-Gilboa Reservoir (1202-0011)
 West Kill/Mill Creek and tribs (1202-0050)
 Brozie/Baldwin Pond (1202-0051)
 Summit Lake (1202-0014)
 Mine Kill and tribs (1202-0052)
 Platter Kill and tribs (1202-0053)
 Upper Blenheim-Gilboa Reservoir (1202-0071)

Category

MinorImpacts
 Need Verific
 NoKnownImpct
 UnAssessed
 Impaired Seg
 NoKnownImpct
 NoKnownImpct
 Need Verific

Schoharie Creek, Lower, Main Stem (1202-0024)

MinorImpacts

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 08/21/2002

Water Index No: H-240- 82 (portion 3) **Drain Basin:** Mohawk River
Hydro Unit Code: 02020005/070 **Str Class:** B Schoharie Creek
Waterbody Type: River (Low Flow) **Reg/County:** 4/Schoharie Co. (48)
Waterbody Size: 11.8 Miles **Quad Map:** BREAKABEEN (K-23-4)
Seg Description: from Fultonham to Blenheim-Gilboa Reservoir

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
Habitat/Hydrology	Stressed	Known

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: WATER LEVEL/FLOW
Suspected: ---
Possible: ---

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: HYDRO MODIFICATION
Suspected: ---
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

Natural resources (fishery) habitat in Lower Schoharie Creek is affected by hydrologic modification and silt and sediment loadings. Much of the impact is a result of the operation of the upstream water supply reservoirs.

Source Assessment

Stream flow is significantly influenced by operation of the Schoharie Reservoir. Flow from the reservoir is restricted when the dam is not spilling. The lack of flow is a particular problem during the summer when low flow and resulting increase in water temperature affect the fishery. (DEC/DOW, Region 4, April 2002)

The creek flows through an intensive agricultural (vegetables, grain and silage) valley. These activities contribute sediment loads (and likely nutrients) to the creek. The fluctuating water levels also exacerbate streambank erosion and sediment loadings. Gravel beds are exposed during low flow, but during spring runoff and other high flow events low lying agricultural fields are flooded. During high flows, the creek becomes quite turbid. (Schoharie County SWCD/WQCC, April 2002)

Water Quality Sampling

A biological assessment of Schoharie Creek in Burtonsville (at Braman Corners Road) 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 appear to be (relatively) insignificant and water quality is considered to be good. The nutrient biotic index and impact source determination indicate no enrichment in the stream and fauna that is most similar to natural communities. Aquatic life support is considered to be fully supported in the stream, and there are no other apparent water quality impacts to designated uses. Although this site is just below this reach, it is considered to be representative of water quality in the upstream reach. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2010)

Biological assessments of Schoharie Creek below this reach near the mouth in Fort Hunter and in Burtonsville were conducted in 2000 and 2001, respectively. Sampling results indicated non-impacted water quality conditions at both sites. The fauna at Fort Hunter included many species of clean-water mayflies and caddisflies. The Burtonsville sample was heavily dominated by clean-water mayflies. Though these sampling points are below the described segment, they are considered representative of water quality in the upper reach. (DEC/DOW, BWAR/SBU, July 2002)

Segment Description

This segment includes the portion of the Schoharie Creek from Pleasant Valley Brook (-92) in Fultonham to the Blenheim-Gilboa Reservoir dam. The waters of this portion of the stream are Class B to unnamed trib (-98) near Breakabeen, and Class C to the reservoir.

Lower Blenheim-Gilboa Reservoir (1202-0011)

Need Verific

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 08/19/2002

Water Index No:	H-240- 82 (portion 4)/P630a	Drain Basin:	Mohawk River
Hydro Unit Code:	02020005/070	Str Class:	B
Waterbody Type:	Lake(R) (Unknown Trophic)	Reg/County:	4/Schoharie Co. (48)
Waterbody Size:	292.2 Acres	Quad Map:	GILBOA (L-23-1)
Seg Description:	entire reservoir		

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
Recreation	Threatened	Suspected

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---
Suspected: ALGAL/WEED GROWTH, SILT/SEDIMENT
Possible: ---

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---
Suspected: STREAMBANK EROSION, Hydro Modification
Possible: ---

Resolution/Management Information

Issue Resolvability:	1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))	
Verification Status:	1 (Waterbody Nominated, Problem Not Verified)	
Lead Agency/Office:	DOW/BWM	Resolution Potential: Medium
TMDL/303d Status:	n/a	

Further Details

Overview

Recreational (fishing, boating) uses and aesthetics in Lower Gilboa Reservoir are thought to be threatened by excessive algal growth and silt and sediment loads transported along Schoharie Creek.

Water Quality Sampling

Lower Gilboa Reservoir was included in a 2001 Lake Classification and Inventory study effort. Results of this study indicate clarity fell below the criteria associated with Threatened uses, due to high algae levels. There was insufficient data collected to evaluate the impact of these problems on recreational uses of the lake. (DEC/DOW, BWM/Lake Services, August 2002)

West Kill/Mill Creek and tribs (1202-0050)

NoKnownImpct

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 02/04/2010

Water Index No:	H-240- 82-104	Drain Basin:	Mohawk River
Hydro Unit Code:	02020005/050	Str Class:	C(T)
Waterbody Type:	River (Low Flow)	Reg/County:	4/Schoharie Co. (48)
Waterbody Size:	77.6 Miles	Quad Map:	GILBOA (L-23-1)
Seg Description:	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

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 West Kill in North Blenheim (at Route 30) 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 low enrichment in the stream and fauna that is most similar to natural communities, with some nonpoint source influences. 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)

A biological assessment of Mill Creek in North Blenheim (at Route 2) was also 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. Aquatic life community is fully supported. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2009)

Segment Description

This segment includes the entire length of West Kill and Mill Creek (-1) and all tribs. The waters of the stream are Class C, C(T), C(TS). Tribs to this reach/segment, including Doney Hollow (-3) and Betty Brook (-4), are also Class C, C(T),C(TS).

Summit Lake (1202-0014)

Impaired Seg

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 01/29/2010

Water Index No:	H-240- 82-104-P629	Drain Basin:	Mohawk River
Hydro Unit Code:	02020005/050	Str Class:	B
Waterbody Type:	Lake (Eutrophic)	Reg/County:	4/Schoharie Co. (48)
Waterbody Size:	43.1 Acres	Quad Map:	SUMMIT (K-22-3)
Seg Description:	entire lake		

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
Public Bathing	Stressed	Known
RECREATION	Impaired	Known
Aesthetics	Stressed	Known

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ALGAL/WEED GROWTH, NUTRIENTS (phosphorus)
Suspected: - - -
Possible: - - -

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: 1->4a,4c

Resolution Potential: Medium

Further Details

Overview

Public Bathing, Recreational (fishing, boating) uses and aesthetics in Summit Lake are restricted by elevated nutrient levels, excessive weed and algae growth and reduced water clarity. On-site septic systems and lawn runoff from homes along the lake are considered the most likely source.

Water Quality Sampling

Summit Lake has been sampled as part of the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP) since 1997. Data collected through this program indicate that water clarity levels fell below the criteria and phosphorus levels exceeded the criteria associated with impaired conditions. High algae levels are also reported. Perception data indicate that the lake is substantially impaired for recreational uses as a result of this reduced water clarity and excessive algae growth. In recent years, rooted aquatic plants have grown extensively at the lake surface, resulting in additional recreational impairments. (DEC/DOW, BWM/Lake Services, August 2000)

Source Assessment

Inadequate and/or failing on-site septic systems serving homes and runoff from lawns along the lake shore are thought to be the

primary source of nutrients to the lake. Conversion of summer cottages to year-round residences coupled with poor site conditions and poor design of systems appear to be the major problems. (Schoharie County WQCC, April 2002)

Section 303(d) Listing

Summit Lake is included on the NYS 2008 Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. The lake is included on Part 1 of the List as a waterbody segment requiring the development of a TMDL or other strategy to attain water quality standards for phosphorus. However a TMDL to address phosphorus in Summit Lake has been completed and was approved in 2009. Consequently, this waterbody is expected to be delisted in the 2010 List. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/WQAS, January 2010)

Mine Kill and tribs (1202-0052)

NoKnownImpct

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 08/14/2002

Water Index No: H-240- 82-106
Hydro Unit Code: 02020005/040 **Str Class:** C
Waterbody Type: River (Low Flow)
Waterbody Size: 31.9 Miles
Seg Description: entire stream and tribs

Drain Basin: Mohawk River
Schoharie Creek
Reg/County: 4/Schoharie Co. (48)
Quad Map: GILBOA (L-23-1)

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

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

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Mine Kill near the mouth near Mine Kill State Park was conducted in 2000. Field sampling results indicated non-impacted water quality conditions. The sample satisfied field screening criteria and was returned to the stream. (DEC/DOW, BWAR/SBU, July 2002)

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 Class C, C(T).

Platter Kill and tribs (1202-0053)

NoKnownImpct

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 02/05/2010

Water Index No:	H-240- 82-108	Drain Basin:	Mohawk River
Hydro Unit Code:	02020005/040	Str Class:	C
Waterbody Type:	River (Low Flow)	Reg/County:	4/Schoharie Co. (48)
Waterbody Size:	22.7 Miles	Quad Map:	GILBOA (L-23-1)
Seg Description:	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

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

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Platterkill in Gilboa (at Route 17) 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. Aquatic life community is fully supported. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, January 2009)

A biological assessment of the Platterkill at this site was also conducted in 2000. At that time sampling results indicated slightly impacted water quality conditions. Although mayflies, stoneflies, and caddisflies were present, the number of individuals was very low, insufficient to obtain a 100-organism subsample. The stream water at this site was very turbid, and this may have been responsible for the very low macroinvertebrate biomass. (DEC/DOW, BWAR/SBU, July 2002)

Water Quality Management

Thought the more recent sampling indicates good water quality, silt/sediment loads and high turbidity should continue to be monitored. Hydrologic modification (releases of the water from the Upper Blenheim-Gilboa Reservoir) may have periodic impacts on the stream.

This stream is within the New York City Water Supply Watershed which is managed by NYCDEP.

Segment Description

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

Upper Blenheim-Gilboa Reservoir (1202-0071)

Need Verific

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 08/19/2002

Water Index No:	H-240- 82-108-2-P630b	Drain Basin:	Mohawk River
Hydro Unit Code:	02020005/010	Str Class:	B
Waterbody Type:	Lake(R) (Unknown Trophic)	Reg/County:	4/Schoharie Co. (48)
Waterbody Size:	369.4 Acres	Quad Map:	GILBOA (L-23-1)
Seg Description:	entire reservoir		

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
Recreation	Threatened	Suspected

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---
Suspected: ALGAL/WEED GROWTH, SILT/SEDIMENT, Nutrients
Possible: ---

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---
Suspected: STREAMBANK EROSION
Possible: ---

Resolution/Management Information

Issue Resolvability:	1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))	
Verification Status:	1 (Waterbody Nominated, Problem Not Verified)	
Lead Agency/Office:	DOW/BWM	Resolution Potential: Medium
TMDL/303d Status:	n/a	

Further Details

Overview

Recreational (fishing, boating) uses and aesthetics in Upper Gilboa Reservoir are thought to be threatened by excessive algal growth and silt and sediment loads. Streambank erosion is the most likely source.

Water Quality Sampling

Upper Gilboa Reservoir was included in a 2001 Lake Classification and Inventory study effort. Results of this study indicate clarity fell below the criteria associated with Threatened uses, due to high algae and nutrient levels. There was insufficient data collected to evaluate the impact of these problems on recreational uses of the lake. (DEC/DOW, BWM/Lake Services, August 2002)