



Oswegatchie/Lisbon Creek Watershed (0415030210)

Water Index Number

SL-25 (portion 1)
SL-25 (portion 2)
SL-25- 1 thru 15

Waterbody

Oswegatchie River, Lower, Main Stem (0905-0110)
Oswegatchie River, Lower, Main Stem (0905-0111)
Minor Tribs to Lower Oswegatchie River (0905-0116)

Category

MinorImpacts
Need Verific
UnAssessed

Oswegatchie River, Lower, Main Stem (0905-0110)

MinorImpacts

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 02/13/2009

Water Index No:	SL-25 (portion 1)	Drain Basin:	Saint Lawrence River
Hydro Unit Code:	04150302/140	Str Class:	B
Waterbody Type:	River	Reg/County:	6/St.Lawrence Co. (45)
Waterbody Size:	6.8 Miles	Quad Map:	OGDENSBURG EAST (C-19-1)
Seg Description:	from mouth to Black Lake Outlet		

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

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

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---
Suspected: NUTRIENTS, SILT/SEDIMENT
Possible: ---

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ---
Suspected: AGRICULTURE, Urban/Storm Runoff
Possible: ---

Resolution/Management Information

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

Further Details

Overview

Aquatic life support in this portion of the Oswegatchie River is thought to experience minor impacts due to nutrient and silt/sediment loadings from agricultural and other nonpoint sources.

Water Quality Sampling

NYSDEC Rotating Intensive Basin Studies (RIBS) Intensive Network monitoring of the Oswegatchie River in Ogdensburg, Saint Lawrence County, (at Lafayette Street) was conducted in 2005. Intensive Network sampling typically includes macroinvertebrate community analysis, water column chemistry, sediment and invertebrate tissues analysis and toxicity evaluation. During this sampling the biological (macroinvertebrate) sampling results indicated slightly impacted quality conditions. The Nutrient Biotic Index indicated eutrophic conditions for phosphorus and nitrogen. Impact Source Determination identified siltation as a possible source of water quality impact. The community was dominated by net-spinning caddisflies and mayflies indicative of high silt conditions (*Tricorythodes* sp.). Water column chemistry found water temperature to be the only substances that constituted a parameter of concern. Macroinvertebrates collected at this site and chemically analyzed for selected metals, PAHs, PCBs, and organochlorine pesticides show an elevated level of both chromium and titanium. The source of chromium is likely to be anthropogenic, but it has not been identified. Sediment screening for acute toxicity indicated moderate toxicity could be present, but sediments were not found to contain any contaminants at levels of concern and, based on sediment quality guidelines developed for freshwater ecosystems,

overall sediment quality is not likely to cause chronic toxicity to sediment-dwelling organisms. Chronic toxicity testing using water from this location showed no significant mortality or reproductive effects on the test organism. Based on the consensus of these established assessment methods, overall water quality at this site shows that in spite of some concerns that should continue to be monitored (eutrophication, pH, chromium), aquatic life is considered to be fully supported in the stream. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SWMS, December 2008).

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of the Oswegatchie River, at Ogdensburg (at CR 37) was also conducted in 2004 during the RIBS Biological Screening effort in the basin. The sample was collected, retained, subsampled and sorted to major groups of organisms but detailed identification was not performed. The sample was field assessed as meeting screening criteria and water quality was evaluated to very good. The sorted sample was dominated by mayflies, caddisflies, mollusks and midges. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, December 2008)

Segment Description

This segment includes the main stem of the river from the mouth in Ogdensburg to the Black Lake Outlet. The waters of this portion of the stream are Class B. Tribs to this segment are listed separately.

Oswegatchie River, Lower, Main Stem (0905-0111)

Need Verific

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 01/16/2009

Water Index No: SL-25 (portion 2) **Drain Basin:** Saint Lawrence River
Hydro Unit Code: 04150302/140 **Str Class:** B Oswegatchie River
Waterbody Type: River **Reg/County:** 6/St.Lawrence Co. (45)
Waterbody Size: 11.7 Miles **Quad Map:** HEUVELTON (C-19-4)
Seg Description: from Black Lake Outlet to Rensselaer Falls

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
Aquatic Life	Stressed	Possible

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: - - -
Suspected: NUTRIENTS
Possible: Priority Organics

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: - - -
Suspected: AGRICULTURE
Possible: Urban/Storm Runoff

Resolution/Management Information

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

Further Details

Overview

Aquatic life support in this portion of the Oswegatchie River may experience minor impacts due to nutrient loads from agricultural and other nonpoint sources. However due to the date of the most recent sampling, conditions in this reach need to be verified.

Water Quality Sampling

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Oswegatchie River in Rensselaer Falls was conducted in 1997. Sampling results indicated slightly impacted water quality conditions. The fauna was dominated by filter-feeding caddisflies and nonpoint source nutrient enrichment was determined to be the primary factor affecting water quality. Elevated levels of PAHs were noted in crayfish tissue samples. These findings represent a decline from the previous sampling. Further monitoring in order to verify water quality conditions in this reach is recommended. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, December 2004)

Segment Description

This segment includes the main stem of the river from the Black Lake Outlet to the Route 14 bridge in Rensselaer Falls. The water of this portion of the stream are Class B. Tribs to this segment are listed separately.