



Butternut Creek Watershed (0205010108)

Water Index Number

SR-146- 9 (portion 1)
 SR-146- 9 (portion 2)
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 SR-146- 9-29-2-P205a
 SR-146- 9-34-P207
 SR-146- 9-36-P208
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 SR-146- 9-45-P211

Waterbody Segment

Butternut Creek, Lower, and minor tribs (0601-0050)
 Butternut Creek, Middle, and tribs (0601-0140)
 Butternut Creek, Middle, and tribs (0601-0190)
 Butternut Creek, Upper, and tribs (0601-0141)
 Dunderberg Creek , Upper, and tribs (0601-0191)
 Allen Pond (0601-0077)
 Pickens Pond (0601-0078)
 Duck Pond (0601-0079)
 Card Pond (0601-0080)
 Crystal Lake (0601-0081)
 Gardners Pond (0601-0082)
 Zimmermans Pond (0601-0083)

Category

NoKnownImpct
 NoKnownImpct
 NoKnownImpct
 NoKnownImpct
 Need Verific
 UnAssessed
 UnAssessed
 UnAssessed
 UnAssessed
 UnAssessed
 UnAssessed
 UnAssessed

Butternut Creek, Lower, and minor tribs (0601-0050) NoKnownImpct

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 07/19/2000

Water Index No: SR-146- 9 (portion 1) **Drain Basin:** Susquehanna River
Hydro Unit Code: 02050101/180 **Str Class:** C(T)* Upper Susquehanna
Waterbody Type: River (Low Flow) **Reg/County:** 4/Otsego Co. (39)
Waterbody Size: 63.5 Miles **Quad Map:** GILBERTSVILLE (L-19-2) ...
Seg Description: stream and selected tribs from mouth to Gilbertsville

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) survey of Butternut Creek at multiple sites from the mouth in Mount Upton to Garrattsville was conducted during the RIBS Biological Screening effort in 2003. Sampling results indicated primarily non-impacted conditions; results at one site located in Morris (well above this reach) indicated slight impacts. The samples from the four sites within this reach (two at Mount Upton, Copes Corners and Gilbertsville) were 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 at these sites and i this reach. These results are consistent with sampling conducted in Mount Upton in 1998. (Butternut Creek Biological Assessment Report, DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, March 2004)

Segment Description

This segment includes the portion of the stream and selected/smaller tribs from the mouth to/including Cahoon Creek (-8) in Gilbertsville. The waters of this portion of the stream are primarily Class C,C(T), with a small 0.3 mile reach above unnamed trib (-6) designated Class B(T). Tribs to this reach/segment, including Shaw Brook (-2), Dry Brook (-3), Halbert Brook (-4), Lower Dunderberg Creek (-7) and Cahoon Creek (-8), are Class C,C(T),C(TS). Upper Dunderberg Creek (-7) and other portions of Butternut Creek are listed separately.

Butternut Creek, Middle, and tribs (0601-0140)

No Known Impacts

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 01/15/2016

Water Index No:	SR-146- 9 (portion 2)	Drain Basin:	Susquehanna River
Unit Code:	0205010108	Class:	C(T)
Water Type/Size:	River/Stream	63.9 Miles	Reg/County: 4/Otsego (39)
Description:	stream and tribs, from Gilbertsville to Morris		

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Pollutants/Sources)

Uses Evaluated	Severity	Confidence
Water Supply	N/A	-
Public Bathing	N/A	-
Recreation	Fully Supported	Suspected
Aquatic Life	Threatened	Suspected
Fish Consumption	Fully Supported	Unconfirmed
Conditions Evaluated		
Habitat/Hydrology	Unknown	
Aesthetics	Fair	

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known:	CHLORIDE/SALTS
Suspected:	---
Unconfirmed:	---

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known:	DEICING ACTIVITIES (storage)
Suspected:	---
Unconfirmed:	---

Management Information

Management Status:	Restoration/Protection Strategy Needed
Lead Agency/Office:	ext/WQCC
IR/305(b) Code:	Water Attaining All Standards (IR Category 1)

Further Details

Overview

This portion of Butternut Creek is assessed as threatened due to aquatic life that may be considered to be threatened by salt/chlorides from a nearby salt storage facility. Although uses are currently thought to be fully supported, concern regarding the potential for pollutants from this site suggest a threat to water quality and conditions should be monitored. Additionally, this assessment is based on older data and sampling to verify conditions is recommended.

Use Assessment

This waterbody segment is a Class C(T) waterbody, suitable for general recreation use and support of aquatic life, but not as a water supply or for public bathing. The waterbody is also designated as a cold water (trout) fishery.

Aquatic life is considered to be fully supported based on biological sampling that shows generally non-impacted conditions. A possible threat to aquatic life related to a salt storage facility has been noted. This sampling can also be used to infer that there are no significant impacts to recreational (fishing) uses, although more specific sampling is necessary to confirm this is the case. Additional sampling is needed to more fully evaluate other recreational uses. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, December 2014)

There are no health advisories in place limiting the consumption of fish from this waterbody (beyond the general advice for all waters). Fish consumption is considered to be fully supported based on the absence of any waterbody-specific advisory, but is noted as unconfirmed since routine monitoring of contaminants in fish is limited. (NYS DOH Health Advisories and DEC/DOW, BWAM, January 2014)

Water Quality Information

A biological (macroinvertebrate) survey of Butternut Creek at multiple sites from the mouth in Mount Upton to Garrattsville was conducted during the RIBS Biological Screening effort in 2003. Sampling results indicated primarily non-impacted conditions; results at one of three sites located in the upper end of this reach in Morris indicated slight impacts. The samples from the three sites within this reach (Gilbertsville, below Morris and in Morris) were dominated by cleanwater species and conditions that reflect a natural community with minimal human impacts. The samples reveal no, or only incidental, anomalies. Aquatic life community is clearly fully supported at these sites and in this reach. (Butternut Creek Biological Assessment Report, DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, March 2004)

Source Assessment

Although there are currently no known impacts to the stream, the location of county and town road salt storage facilities near the stream has raised concerns about a future threat. Runoff from the salt pile into the stream has been confirmed. (DEC/DOW, Region 4, January 2016)

Management Action

The Town of Butternuts and Otsego County have formed a committee to better manage the salt piles, by either sharing services or relocating one or more of the piles to a more suitable location. The committee is exploring funding opportunities to support this project. (DEC/DOW, Region 4, January 2016)

Section 303(d) Listing

This portion of Butternut Creek is not included on the current (2014) NYS Section 303(d) List of Impaired/TMDL Waters. There are no impacts/impairments that would justify the listing of this waterbody. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/WQAS, January 2015)

Segment Description

This segment includes the portion of the stream and all tribs from Cahoon Creek (-8) in Gilbertsville to/including Silver Creek (-17) in Morris. The waters of this portion of the stream are Class C,C(T). Tribs to this reach/segment, including Thorp Brook (-10), Morris Brook (-11), Calhoun Creek (-16) and Silver Creek (-17), are Class C,C(T),C(TS). Other portions of Butternut Creek are listed separately.

Butternut Creek, Middle, and tribs (0601-0190)

NoKnownImpct

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 09/16/2009

Water Index No: SR-146- 9 (portion 3) **Drain Basin:** Susquehanna River
Hydro Unit Code: 02050101/180 **Str Class:** C(T) Upper Susquehanna
Waterbody Type: River **Reg/County:** 4/Otsego Co. (39)
Waterbody Size: 74.8 Miles **Quad Map:** ()
Seg Description: stream and tribs, from Morris to Garrattville

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 Integrated Basin Studies (RIBS) Intensive Network monitoring of Butternut Creek in Butternuts, Otsego County, (at Flat Iron Road) was conducted in 2003 and 2004. 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 non-impacted conditions, indicating very good water quality. Water column sampling revealed no parameters of concern. Sediment screening for acute toxicity indicated some sediment toxicity and no porewater toxicity was indicated. While sediment sampling revealed some contaminants at low levels, based on sediment quality guidelines developed for freshwater ecosystems, overall sediment quality is not likely to cause chronic toxicity to sediment-dwelling organisms. Elevated levels of PAHs in sediment samples may have been related to use of creosote during a bridge construction project. Macroinvertebrates collected at this site and chemically analyzed for selected metals showed elevated levels of metals that should continue to be monitored. 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 aquatic life is considered to be fully supported in the stream, and there are no other apparent water quality impacts to recreational uses. (DEC/DOW, BWAR/RIBS, August 2009)

A biological (macroinvertebrate) survey of Butternut Creek at multiple sites from the mouth in Mount Upton to Garrattsville was conducted during the RIBS Biological Screening effort in 2003. Sampling results indicated primarily non-impacted conditions; results at one of three sites located in the lower end of this reach in Morris indicated slight impacts. The samples from the three sites within this reach (in Morris, in New Lisbon, in Garrattsville) were dominated by clean-water species and conditions that reflect a natural community with minimal human impacts. The samples reveal no, or only incidental, anomalies. Aquatic life community is clearly fully supported at these sites and in this reach. (Butternut Creek Biological Assessment Report, DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, March 2004)

Segment Description

This segment includes the portion of the stream and all tribs from Silver Creek (-17) in Morris to/including Garrattville Creek (-37) in Garrattville. The waters of this portion of the stream are Class C(T),C(TS). Tribs to this reach/segment, including Ketchum Creek (-18), Stony Creek (-29), Crystal Lake Outlet (-36) and Garrattville Creek (-37), are Class C,C(T),C(TS). Other portions of Butternut Creek are listed separately.

Butternut Creek, Upper, and tribs (0601-0141)

NoKnownImpct

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 09/16/2009

Water Index No: SR-146- 9 (portion 4) **Drain Basin:** Susquehanna River
Hydro Unit Code: 02050101/180 **Str Class:** C(TS) Upper Susquehanna
Waterbody Type: River **Reg/County:** 4/Otsego Co. (39)
Waterbody Size: 42.4 Miles **Quad Map:** ()
Seg Description: stream and tribs, above Garrattville

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 Integrated Basin Studies (RIBS) Intensive Network monitoring of Butternut Creek in Butternuts, Otsego County, (at Flat Iron Road) was conducted in 2003 and 2004. 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 non-impacted conditions, indicating very good water quality. Water column sampling revealed no parameters of concern. Sediment screening for acute toxicity indicated some sediment toxicity and no porewater toxicity was indicated. While sediment sampling revealed some contaminants at low levels, based on sediment quality guidelines developed for freshwater ecosystems, overall sediment quality is not likely to cause chronic toxicity to sediment-dwelling organisms. Elevated levels of PAHs in sediment samples may have been related to use of creosote during a bridge construction project. Macroinvertebrates collected at this site and chemically analyzed for selected metals showed elevated levels of metals that should continue to be monitored. 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 aquatic life is considered to be fully supported in the stream, and there are no other apparent water quality impacts to recreational uses. (DEC/DOW, BWAR/RIBS, August 2009)

A biological (macroinvertebrate) survey of Butternut Creek at multiple sites from the mouth in Mount Upton to Garrattsville was conducted during the RIBS Biological Screening effort in 2003. Sampling results indicated primarily non-impacted conditions; results at one site located in Morris (well below this reach) indicated slight impacts. The sample from the upper most site within this reach (in Garrattsville) was 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 at these sites and in this reach. (Butternut Creek Biological Assessment Report, DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, March 2004)

Segment Description

This segment includes the portion of the stream and all tribs above Garrattville Creek (-37) in Garrattville. The waters of this portion of the stream are Class C(TS). Tribs to this reach/segment, including Gardiners Pond Outlet (-40) and Methodist Hollow Creek (-45), are Class C,C(T),C(TS). Other portions of Butternut Creek are listed separately.

Dunderberg Creek , Upper, and tribs (0601-0191)

Need Verific

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 06/12/2009

Water Index No: SR-146- 9- 7
Hydro Unit Code: 02050101/180 **Str Class:** AA(T)
Waterbody Type: River
Waterbody Size: 8.7 Miles
Seg Description: stream and tribs, above Gilbertsville

Drain Basin: Susquehanna River
Upper Susquehanna
Reg/County: 4/Otsego Co. (39)
Quad Map: ()

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

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
Water Supply	Threatened	Suspected

Type of Pollutant(s)

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

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

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

Resolution/Management Information

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

Resolution Potential: Medium

Further Details

Overview

Water supply uses of the Gilbertsville Reservoir and Upper Dunderberg Creek are thought to experience threats from pathogens due to the level of agricultural pasturelands in the watershed. Current information does not indicate any impacts to water supply or other uses, but the use of the resources as a water supply and the activities in the watershed suggest additional protection efforts are appropriate.

Source (Drinking) Water Assessment

A source water assessment of the Upper Dunderberg Creek watershed found an elevated susceptibility to pathogen contamination due to the high amount of pastureland in the watershed. This assessment was conducted through the NYSDOH Source Waters Assessment Program (SWAP) which compiles, organizes, and evaluates information regarding possible and actual threats to the quality of public water supply (PWS) sources. The information contained in SWAP assessment reports assists in the oversight and protection of public water systems. It is important to note that SWAP reports estimate the potential for untreated drinking water sources to be impacted by contamination and do not address the quality of treated finished potable tap water. This water supply source provides water to the Village of Gilbertsville. (NYSDOH, Source Water Assessment Program, 2005)

Segment Description

This segment includes the portion of the stream and all tribs above a point 2.3 miles above the mouth near Gilbertsville. The waters of this portion of the stream are Class AA(T). Tribs to this reach/segment are Class AA.