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To: Beth Adler, DRWW

From: Chris Yoder, MBI

Subject: DRWW 2017-19 Bioassessment Sites

Date: January 11, 2017

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DRWW requested an allocation of sites in the Upper Desplaines River watershed within Lake Co., IL for bioassessment and water quality monitoring in 2017-19. The goal is to allocate roughly one-third of the 2016 total of 69 sites (~23-25 sites) to monitoring planned for 2017, 2018, and 2019. This comprises a three-year rotation through the Upper Desplaines study area that represents a reasonable return interval in support of DRWW goals and objectives.

The allocation of sites to each year needs to meet a target range of sites and also represent a logical spatial aggregation of subwatersheds at the same time. We propose the following aggregations of sites and subwatersheds:

**Year 1 (2017)**

The Upper Desplaines mainstem (15 sites) plus small direct tributaries to the lower one-half of the mainstem (5 sites). This will also allow for two fish sampling passes on the mainstem which is the normal protocol for non-wadeable fish sampling methods.

**Year 2 (2018)**

Mill Creek and Bull Creek subwatersheds plus direct tributaries to Desplaines River adjacent those two subwatersheds and nested between the mainstem and the subwatershed boundaries (25 Sites).

**Year 3 (2019)**

Indian Creek, Aptaksic Creek, and Buffalo Creek subwatersheds plus direct tributaries to Desplaines River adjacent those subwatersheds and nested between the mainstem and the subwatershed boundaries (24 sites).

This allocation will allow for the addition of 4-5 sites within each survey year to account for unsampled streams and to match up with recent restoration projects. Detailed study planning will take place in the Spring of each year in advance of the sampling so as to allocate effort in accordance with the annual budgets for 2017-19.