



Missouri
Department of
Natural Resources

DRAFT POND CREEK TMDL
PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Notice
June 8 – Aug. 23, 2010

**Pond Creek
WBID # 2128**

Washington County, Mo.

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Water Protection Program
PO Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176
800-361-4827 / 573-751-1300

**Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Water Protection Program
Telephone Record**

Date: June 28 and 29, 2010
Subject: Called about the draft Pond Creek TMDL now on Public Notice

Telephone Number/Fax: Cell: (314) 605-2700

Incoming

Outgoing

Persons Involved:

Name:	Representing:
Ross Carrabino	Landowner – King Arthur’s Dam
Donna Menown	Mo DNR, TMDL Developer

SUMMARY OF CONVERSATION:

Being the owner of King Arthur’s Dam, we mailed Mr. Carrabino a hard copy (on 6/9) of the draft Pond Creek TMDL, on Public Notice from 6/9/10 to 7/23/10. He called with questions about this issue. During the first call, he said he hadn’t really read much of it yet. I reminded him that, as I explained in my cover letter (See it in electronic TMDL docket file and hard copy file) conveying the draft TMDL, that in the Table of Contents, I had marked the sections which I thought would most interest him. I answered his questions, including explanation of what a TMDL was, 303(d) List and why we were writing this document now instead of when it was first listed. I also explained about how the designated beneficial use of warm-water aquatic life would be impaired by sediment clogging up and covering any clean gravel in the streambed.

He told me he started building his house and pond next to the lake around 2002 and the area was extremely raw (i.e., unvegetated and eroded) when he bought it. Mr. Carrabino said when he was constructing home, they had cut a trench along the road to run utilities in, and that has never healed. He said he intentionally moved soil so that any water running down the road would be diverted to the trench, in an attempt to reduce erosion on the road, which provides access to his property. He said he’s spent thousands of dollars on native plant seedings in the area surrounding his home and on the dam (especially the “bench” area depicted in photos in the draft TMDL) and has been disappointed in the fact that “nothing seems to take.” This is the second spring since he planted. I explained that many native plants use the first three years to establish their root structure and you often won’t see much above the ground until the third year. I also explained that that is exactly why many native plants aren’t recommended for steep, erodible areas, and that aggressive grasses, such as fescue, were often more effective in minimizing erosion on steep slopes because they get established more quickly than many of the native plants. He told me he was trying to plant more native vegetation to match the surrounding area and lure quail in. I agreed with the philosophy, but again explained the dilemma of needing to stabilize steep areas ASAP. We discussed the difficulty of establishing any type of vegetation at all in the local soils and how, once disturbed, for whatever reasons, the areas often resisted revegetation.

We discussed the principal spillway on King Arthur’s Dam. He stated that, initially (soon after the spillway was revamped in 2003), there was quite a bit of erosion on the dam face directly below the spillway concrete. This happened when periodic extremely heavy rains (that he said occurred 0-2 times per year) produced heavy flows through the principal spillway that eroded the soils down to large rock. He said that now that it’s eroded down to the larger rock, there’s not much sediment left there to

erode. However, he stated that during these extremely heavy rains, so much water is roaring through the spillway, it looks like “the Colorado River.” This observation contradicts the statement in the draft TMDL (page

Mr. Carrabino agreed that construction of the home, pond and the work on the principal spillway could have resulted in sediment entering the creek during rain events, but he firmly believes that up to 90 percent of the clay entering Pond Creek is from the unpaved county road that runs from Pond Creek Road (just east of the bridge over Pond Creek) up past the dam and his house. He said that the county routinely (2-3 times/year) puts 2-3 inches of a “mud/clay mix” on the road in an attempt to deal with the continual development of gullies on that steepest part of the road. He reports that during any type of rain event, the clay material routinely washes into the ditch that leads from the principal spillway to Pond Creek above (south of) the Pond Creek Road bridge, and mainly down the road, and onto and across Pond Creek Road, leaving up a load of sediment fanned across the blacktopped Pond Creek Road. He said this spring, with all the rain, they were driving in 3-4 inches-deep mud at the base of the unpaved gravel road where it meets Pond Creek Road and up the road itself toward his house.

I asked him what he thought would happen if the county stopped putting the material on the road. He said he realized that the sediment getting into the creek was a problem, but also that without the county’s maintenance, the road would just get worse and worse with deep gullies. We discussed that although it was unlikely the county could afford to blacktop the road, he felt would solve 90% of the sediment problem in Pond Creek.

Signature: _____

Name: Donna Menown
Title: Environmental Specialist III
Water Protection Program, Water Pollution Control Branch
Water Quality Monitoring & Assessment Section, Total Maximum Daily Load Unit
Jefferson City

Hoke, John

From: Mike McKee [Mike.McKee@mdc.mo.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 02, 2010 1:34 PM
To: Hoke, John
Cc: Bataille, Karen; O'Hearn, Rebecca; Hinkson, Robert; Schrader, Lynn
Subject: Comments on Pond Creek TMDL

John,

The Pond Creek TMDL is well written and understandable. MDC has one comment for your consideration as follows:

Pond Creek is in close proximity to Superfund's Potosi National Priority List site for metal mining activities (see http://www.epa.gov/region07/cleanup/npl_files/mon000705023.pdf). Although the precise boundaries of the Potosi site have not been determined, there may be potential site remediation through the Superfund process. Therefore, we suggest adding a statement in the Implementation section recognizing the NPL site and possible future assessment and remediation activities.

Thanks
Mike McKee

Resource Scientist
Missouri Department of Conservation
1110 S. College Avenue
Columbia, MO 65201

573-882-9909 ext 3255

Hoke, John

From: Hoke, John
Sent: Friday, July 02, 2010 1:52 PM
To: McKee, Mike
Cc: Bataille, Karen; O'Hearn, Rebecca; Hinkson, Robert; Schrader, Lynn
Subject: RE: Comments on Pond Creek TMDL

Thanks Mike. We appreciate MDC's review and comment on the document. The information provided below will be incorporated into the final draft submitted to EPA for approval. If you have additional comments or questions, please be sure to let me know.
Thanks

John Hoke
Env. Specialist IV, TMDL Unit Chief
Water Quality Monitoring & Assessment
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Phone: (573) 526-1446 Fax: (573) 522-9920

From: Mike McKee [mailto:Mike.McKee@mdc.mo.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 02, 2010 1:34 PM
To: Hoke, John
Cc: Bataille, Karen; O'Hearn, Rebecca; Hinkson, Robert; Schrader, Lynn
Subject: Comments on Pond Creek TMDL

John,

The Pond Creek TMDL is well written and understandable. MDC has one comment for your consideration as follows:

Pond Creek is in close proximity to Superfund's Potosi National Priority List site for metal mining activities (see http://www.epa.gov/region07/cleanup/npl_files/mon000705023.pdf). Although the precise boundaries of the Potosi site have not been determined, there may be potential site remediation through the Superfund process. Therefore, we suggest adding a statement in the Implementation section recognizing the NPL site and possible future assessment and remediation activities.

Thanks
Mike McKee

Resource Scientist
Missouri Department of Conservation
1110 S. College Avenue
Columbia, MO 65201

573-882-9909 ext 3255