
APPENDIX F

**RESPONSE SUMMARY TO PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE
TWIN CREEK TMDL REPORT**

The draft Twin Creek watershed Total Maximum Daily Load report was available for public comment from June 18 through July 18, 2009. This appendix contains the comments received and responses to those comments. Please note that references to report content from the draft document may not correspond to the same page numbers in the final report.

Six sets of comments were received on the draft report. The initials in parentheses following each comment denote the specific commenter, as listed in the following table:

Initials	Date Received	Name	Organization
AR	7/1/09	Aaron Rourke	Citizen
DF	7/3/09	Daniel Fouke	Citizen
AMR	7/4/09	Andrew and Megan Rodney	Citizen
AM	7/14/09	Angela Manuszak	Citizen
FP	7/15/09	Franklin Peters	Citizen
MTR	7/17/09	Monica Tsang Rakovan	Twin Creek Watershed Advisory Board

Comment (AR):

Please add Rivers Unlimited to the list of groups active in this watershed. We're interested in river issues statewide, and are particularly interested in the Great Miami watershed because of our direct action projects in Butler and Hamilton counties.

Response:

Thank you for your interest in the Twin Creek TMDL. Ohio EPA will add a sub-section to the interested groups section of the Web page entitled "Groups involved in the Great Miami River" for the final report Web page.

Comment (DF):

I have read your report on the total maximum daily loads for the Twin Creek Watershed, and I support the EPA's recommended strategy for restoring the Twin Creeks Watershed to full attainment of Water Quality Standards (removal of the waterbodies from the 303(d) list).

Response:

Ohio EPA thanks you for your support.

Comment (AMR):

My wife and I very much enjoy hiking along the river in both Germantown and Twin Valley Metroparks. Please do all that is necessary to maintain the pristine quality of this important natural resource.

Response:

Ohio EPA thanks you for your support.

Comment (AM):

I'm writing with concern about an omission from the recently published fact sheet about the Twin Creek TMDL Report. On the first page, it says:

"The Five Rivers Metro Parks owns or holds conservation easements on more than 4,000 acres within lower Twin Creek watershed."

It would be more accurate to say that Five Rivers MetroParks (one word) and the Miami Conservancy District combined own or hold conservation easements on more than X acres within the lower Twin Creek watershed.

I am researching what that combined acreage would be, but it is nearly 6000 acres.

Of course Three Valley Conservation Trust and the Warren County Park District also have substantial holdings in the watershed, especially in the stream corridor.

Response:

Ohio EPA used data provided by Five Rivers MetroParks and Three Rivers Conservation Trust. If newer reliable data are obtained, this section of the final fact sheet will be updated.

Comment (FP):

I am in favor of retaining and improving water purification methods. I don't think we can afford not to keep up with the latest methods. The City of Miamisburg just passed a five year increase in water and sewer rates, the first since 2001. Most of this increase will go toward fixing the infrastructure, some of which is more than 100 years old. Having been in Ohio only a couple of years, I am not used to hearing about Super Fund cleanups and problems such as Behr plumes and Mound radioactivity.

I would hope, even though Miamisburg is not in the Twin Creek watershed, that the high quality of water in that stream is maintained.

Response:

Thank you for your comment. Ohio EPA agrees that preservation of high quality waters is a primary concern in Ohio. Ohio EPA hopes to work with local citizens and governmental organizations in the future to continue to preserve the Twin Creek watershed's exceptional water quality and to improve the areas that are not attaining the high potential that they have. Ohio EPA will be monitoring in the Miamisburg area in 2010.

Comment (MTR):

General comment:

Tables 1, 3, 4, 16 and 17 would greatly benefit from having figures. Maps and figures would help depict the distribution of the impaired stream segments, TMDL strategies and even pointing out the riparian corridors. The text repeatedly referred to the 14-digit HUC and descriptions but they are not shown on Figure 1, the only figure in the document.

Response: Two figures were added to the report, one to show the locations of 14-digit hydrologic units and one to show the locations where the recreation use was not supported.

Specific comments:

1. Three Valley Conservation Trust - both TVCT/3VCT used on page 3.

Response: The error was corrected.

2. Please identify where the stream bank erosion repair is located (page 3).

Response: All specific locations of impairment are identified in the report *Biological and Water Quality Study of Twin Creek and Selected Tributaries, 2005* (Ohio EPA 2007).

3. 5 Rivers Metroparks should be Five Rivers MetroParks on page 6.

Response: The error was corrected.

4. On page 12 “Where one site did not attain, the entire 14-digit hydrologic unit was classified as impaired.” Tables 3 and 4 show a number of 14-digit HUC units are impaired, does that mean the entire 030 and 040 are impaired? This section is confusing.

Response: A statement was added that clarifies that the watershed assessment units (05080002 030 and 040) are impaired because 14-digit hydrologic units within them are impaired.

5. Repeat of text 6.2.2 the last paragraph on page 27 and the first paragraph on page 28.

Response: The error was corrected.

6. Please define Seasonal TMDL (page 28).

Response: Text was added to define the term “seasonal TMDL.”

7. Table 16: 10 and 12-digit HUC, the text used 11 and 14-digit HUC (pages 41 & 42).

Response: The error was corrected.

8. The updated Water Action Plan will be submitted in September 2009 (page 53).

Response: The text was changed to reflect an accurate date.

9. The Source Water Protection Plan is for the Village of Gratis and the nitrate assessment is for the Twin Creek watershed (page 53).

Response: The text was clarified in the final report.