The goal of the Spencer Creek project was to implement a portion of the Elk River Watershed Plan. Implementation strategies in the Plan include improving priority stream crossings and reducing erosion and sedimentation. This 202,060-acre watershed features an interconnected system of large deep glacially carved lakes and many top quality trout streams. This project repaired four road stream crossings and prevented 300 tons of sediment per year from entering the Elk River/Chain of Lakes Watershed.

Grant Amount: $36,300.00
Match Funds: $16,900.00
Total Amount: $53,200.00

Best Management Practices:
4 road stream crossings involving:
- Access roads
- Critical area planting
- Stream bank stabilization
- Forest riparian buffer
- Storm water conveyance
- Culvert replacement
- Water turnouts

Stream Channel Restoration

Annual Load Reductions:
- 300 tons of sediment

I&E Activities:
- Educating local landowners
- Educating Antrim County Road Commission about new practices

Partners involved:
- Antrim County Road Commission
- Heeres Excavating
- Camp Puglsey Prison Crew
Elder Creek Before: The small trout stream had been receiving huge amounts of sediment from run-off and road maintenance over many years.

Elder Creek After: Restoration included stream channel reconstruction and re-location. A new culvert was installed to eliminate runoff entering at the crossing. A forest riparian buffer and road improvements completed the site.

Vance Creek Before: The stream crossing was depositing large amounts of sediment into the cold water trout stream annually. Road run-off entered at the culvert crossing. The culvert had disappeared into the road bed on the upstream and downstream sides.

Vance Creek After: Vance Road at Vance Creek has been completely remodeled. A larger culvert and road improvements have eliminated sediment entering the creek. Rip-rap has been placed around the culvert inlet and outlets. A forest riparian buffer helped blend the new improvements into the surrounding environment.