



Michigan's
Nonpoint Source
Program

**Federal Clean Water Act
Section 319 Grant**

Tracking Code #2010-0058



**Land Conservancy
OF WEST MICHIGAN**

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White River Stream Restoration & Conservation Easements

October 1, 2010 - September 15, 2014

The White River runs 83 miles and encompasses 344,166 acres from its inception in the Oxford Swamp in eastern Newaygo County to White Lake in Muskegon County. It is a designated Natural River in Michigan, is considered the southern-most major trout stream in the Lake Michigan Watershed, and is under consideration to become a national Wild & Scenic River. The White River Watershed Management Plan states that the water quality is generally good, however threats include rising water temperature, sedimentation, and the loss of naturally vegetated river corridor. This project successfully addressed all of these threats by permanently protecting 951 acres of high quality forested, riparian and wetland areas with four conservation easements, and replacing an outdated, perched road/stream culvert with a free-flowing timber bridge structure with paved approaches.

Grant Amount: \$ 391,500

Match Funds: \$ 464,600

Total Amount: \$ 856,100

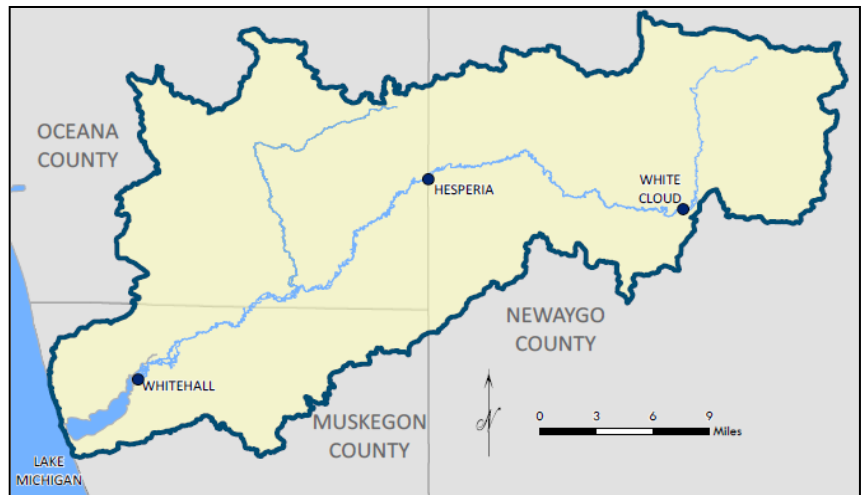
Best Management Practices:

- 4 permanent conservation easements protecting 951 acres of riparian, wetland & forested uplands
- Replacement of road/stream crossing on Cobmoosa Creek with a new bridge spanning the creek



Annual Load Reductions:

- SEDIMENT: 77.89 Tons
- PHOSPHOROUS: 268.43 pounds
- NITROGEN: 2,776.3 pounds



I&E Activities:

Concurrent with, but outside the scope of the grant:

- Several additional landowners were supplied with land protection information. Oftentimes, it takes several years to result in land protected.



Partners involved:



&
Oceana County Road
Commission



The before picture shows the perched culvert under Pierce Road at Cobmoosa Creek in Oceana County. The after photo shows the timber bridge spanning the creek, allowing free-flowing condition, and reducing flashiness and bank scouring. The surface of the bridge and the approaches on both sides were paved, further reducing sedimentation.



The lower White River is shown as it flows through the Hamilton Conservation Easement property. This 70-acre property will remain undeveloped in perpetuity.



The Thompson Conservation Easement permanently protects 361 acres of vacant land in the upper White River watershed. Kinney Lake and the forested backdrop are part of this protected land.



The Gunnell Conservation Easement protects 160 acres in the upper White River Watershed. The property includes riparian areas, upland forests, and a large wetland complex (shown) that are important for the water quality of the White River Watershed. These areas seasonally flood and the undeveloped nature of the property holds this precipitation and allows it to slowly filter through the soil and eventually contribute to the ground water that gives the White River its high water quality in the upper head water areas.