

57 Mill Creek at Klinger Rd.

Adopt-a-Stream Site Report

— Updated January 2020 —



Site Condition: **FAIR**

At this site there is an average diversity bugs and some of them are sensitive. The water is clean but can get warm. This site has pretty good habitat and combined with the average diversity of aquatic life, the stream is rated on the mid-range of "fair". This is very close to the general average across the whole Huron River Watershed. The site condition has steadily increased slightly from a near "poor" in 2001.



Photo credit: Teri Tone

Sampling Experience

Site Access: **MEDIUM**

It takes a walk along an old road to get to this site.

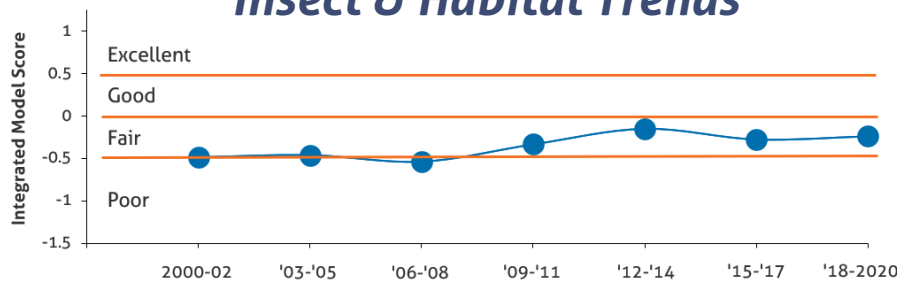
Team Operations: **MEDIUM**

It may be difficult for some to get down by the creek.

Collection: **HARD**

There is a slope to get down in to the creek, but once in, the sampling is not unusual.

Insect & Habitat Trends



Monitoring Data

| | | 2000 - 2009 | 2010 - 2019 | 2020 - 2030 |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Number of Site Visits | Fall | 6 | 3 | 0 |
| | Spring | 7 | 4 | 0 |
| | Winter | 8 | 3 | 0 |
| Average Insect Diversity | | 9.5 | 12 | - |
| Average Sensitive Diversity | | 0.8 | 1.14 | - |
| Average Winter Stonefly Families | | 1.25 | 1 | - |
| Habitat | # of Surveys | 2 (2000, 2005) | 2 (2011, 2016) | 0 |
| | Summer Water T (F) | 64.9 - 69.55 (2001) | Not Monitored | - |
| | Stream Width (ft) | 20.83 | 22.52 | - |
| | % Big Rocks | 7.18 | 3.85 | - |
| | % Rocks & Gravel | 30.66 | 35.67 | - |
| | % Sand | 36.34 | 47.20 | - |
| | % Muck | 25.43 | 3.87 | - |

Measuring Stream Quality

Why bugs?

When a stream is rich in habitat variety, it will have many diverse kinds of bugs (called families). Some bugs (known as "sensitive") can only live in good quality streams. Thus, streams with sensitive families have the clean water and good habitat required by those bugs to survive.



Mill Creekshed

Adopt-a-Stream Creekshed Profile

— Updated January 2020 —



Creekshed Profile

Mill Creekshed spans 143 square miles, and is the largest and most agricultural creekshed in the Huron River watershed. While there are many beautiful places on Mill Creek, some portions fail to meet minimum water quality standards. The Michigan DEQ has listed the creek as “impaired” due to excess phosphorus and poor fish and aquatic insect populations.

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Water Quality Parameters Grade

| | | | |
|--------|---------------------|------------------------|---|
| 75-100 | Healthy to Pristine | Land Use | B |
| | | Natural Areas | C |
| 50-74 | Slightly Impacted | Stream Flow | C |
| | | Stream Habitat | B |
| 25-49 | Highly Impacted | Macroinvertebrates | C |
| | | Fish Community | B |
| 0-24 | Extremely Disturbed | Phosphorus | D |
| | | E. coli | F |
| | | Total Suspended Solids | A |
| | | Stream Temperature | A |
| | | Conductivity | A |
| | | Dams | A |
| | | Contaminants | F |

What You Can Do!

At home

- Maintain a 25 foot vegetated buffer from all ditches, creeks, and water bodies.
- Have your septic system checked regularly. Leaking systems can be a source of phosphorus and bacteria.

In your community

- Advocate for ordinances related to stormwater, natural lands, and land preservation.

