

In response to questions asked regarding the Heston Ditch-Stock Ditch water sampling RFP:

The Michiana Area Council of Governments was advised by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management and the Heston Ditch-Stock Ditch Steering Committee to develop the RFP in a broad sense that would allow the expertise of those responding to design the sampling project in a manner that best assesses the water quality of the watershed allowing for future activities to improve water quality under the current grant.

MACOG received the following questions:

The parameters (detection level) you want tested at each site.

The prime impairments detected within the watershed were phosphorus and *E. coli*. Any other parameters that either are needed to more accurately evaluate the levels of these two impairments shall be included in the proposal.

Confirm that you want 12 sample events completed.

IDEM suggested the 12-sample event at the discharge location of the watershed. The sampling scheme for the other sites initially shall include at least one wet-weather and one dry weather event.

An alternative proposal could include a per event cost.

Prioritize the sample sites.

The Steering Committee and IDEM both agreed to provide the entire list to contractors with the prioritization of at least the 5 sites sampled in the past, the discharge point of the Watershed. Other sampling sites listed represent either headwater sites of the various ditches draining to Heston Ditch-Stock Ditch or ditches or streams that have not been sampled in the past. The goal is to get an overall general picture of the entire watershed. Neither the Steering Committee, nor IDEM expect all sites to be sampled during this grant period.

Timeline you want the sampling complete.

The MACOG grant ends in February 2012. MACOG would like to begin the assessment as soon as possible to allow MACOG to plan and install demonstration projects associated with grant, develop education/information programs associated with activities that are contributing to potential sources, focusing on reduction of the impairments.