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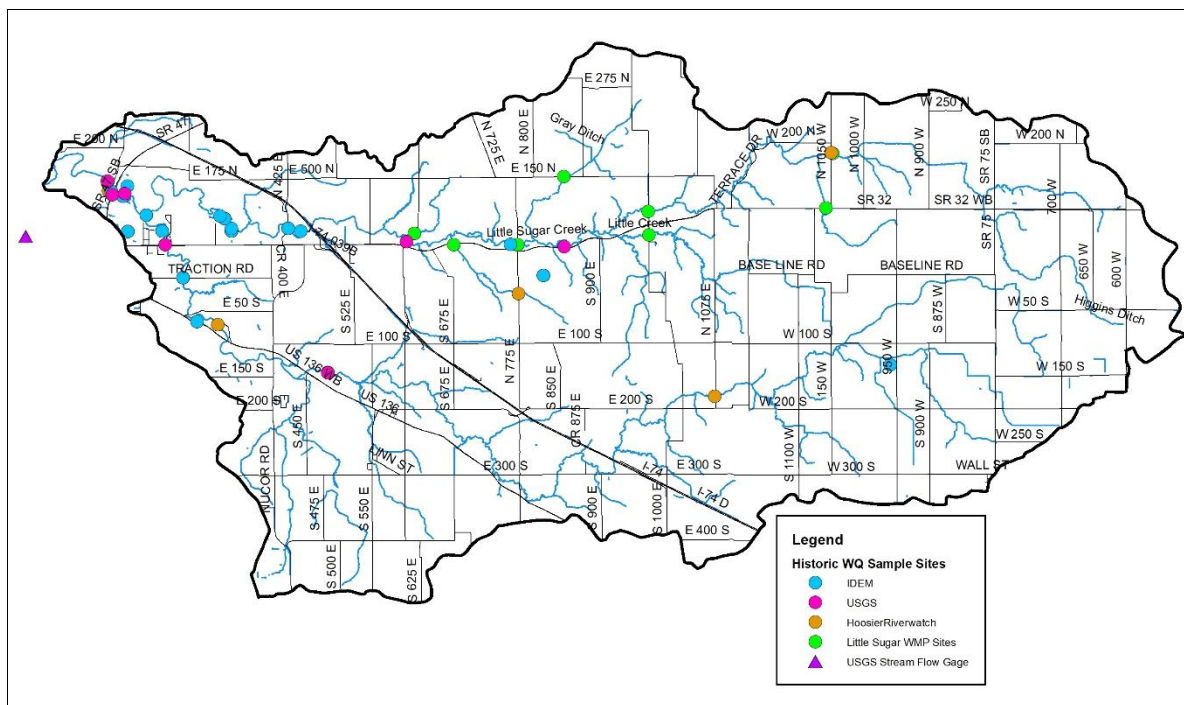
3 November 2020

Sina Parks
Montgomery County SWCD
2036 E Lebanon Road
Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933

Dear Sina:

Over the past month, we initiated processing collected macroinvertebrate samples. More details will be provided as we continue to identify individuals, calculate mIBI scores and, in concert with water chemistry and habitat data, work to determine what these scores mean for the Walnut Fork-Sugar Creek Watershed.

Additionally, we completed our review of historic water quality data. Waterbodies within the Walnut Fork-Sugar Creek Watershed have been sampled at 33 locations including collection of water chemistry data by IDEM (16 sites), by USGS (7 sites) and at 10 sites as part of the Little Sugar Creek watershed management planning project (Montgomery County SWCD, 2003). Additionally, Hoosier Riverwatch volunteers sampled at 4 sites. Fish communities were assessed by IDEM at 3 sites, while IDEM assessed macroinvertebrate communities at 4 locations. The DNR assessed fish communities in Walnut Fork-Sugar Creek and Little Sugar Creek in 1973, 1998 and 2004. Biological communities were also assessed by Gammon as part of the Little Sugar Creek watershed project as well. The map below details sample locations by sampling entity.



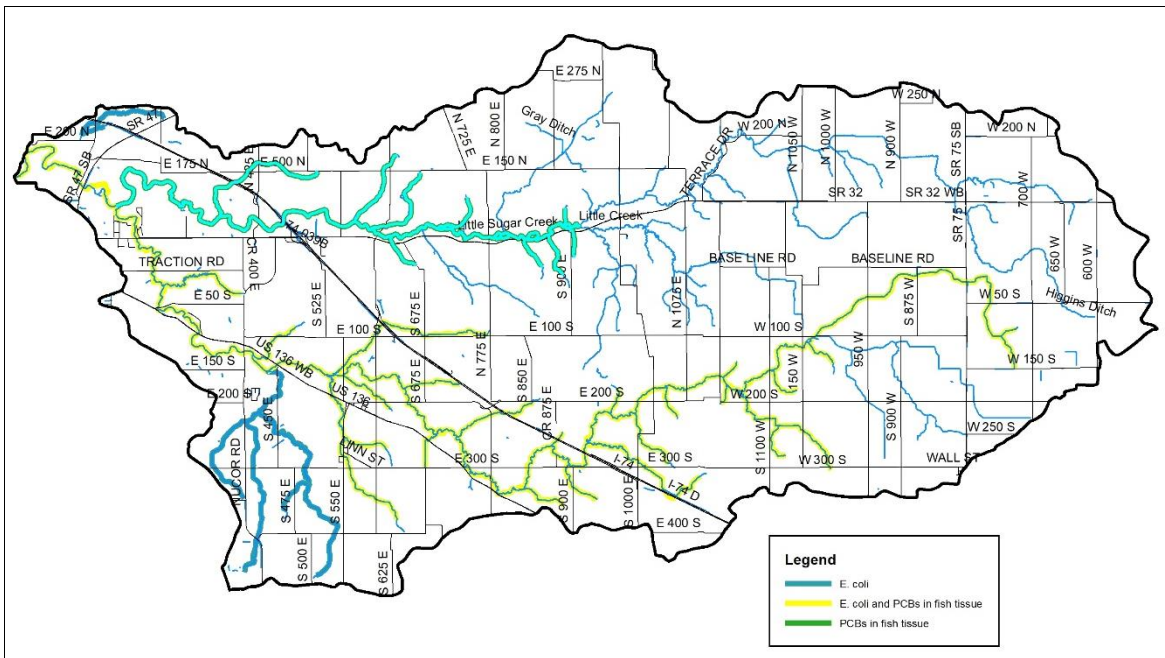
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In total, nearly 71.9 miles of Walnut Fork-Sugar Creek Watershed streams are listed as impaired waterbodies for E. coli or PCBs in fish tissue. The listings include PCB in fish tissue (51.9 miles) and E. coli impairments in Walnut Fork-Sugar Creek and PCBs in fish tissue in Little Sugar Creek (19.9 miles). Additionally, the Indiana FCA advises no consumption of fish from Little Sugar Creek. Further, the Indiana FCA indicates that the consumption of fish from Walnut Fork-Sugar Creek above its confluence with Little Sugar Creek should be limited to no more than one meal per week for general and sensitive populations.



Over the next few months, we will continue to build the watershed inventory, complete macroinvertebrate sample sorting and identification, review the historic water quality data in more detail and compile all of our collected data.

Documentation of in-kind services: The Montgomery SWCD is reviewing water quality data and deployed the press release and survey.

Sincerely,



Sara Peel, CLM



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