

MILWAUKEE RIVER

WISCONSIN



Mequon-Theinsville Fishway under construction

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Project Name: Restoring Connectivity in the Milwaukee River Watershed

Project Type:

- Restoration (Stream and Riparian)

Project Description:

The Milwaukee River Basin is located in parts of 7 counties and is home to about 1.3 million people. The River's watershed contains about 500 miles of perennial streams, 35 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline, and numerous lakes and ponds. The purpose of the project is to reconnect stream and river

habitat to ensure suitability for terrestrial and aquatic organisms. An extensive barrier inventory is partially completed in the watershed, which will inform the prioritization of additional river channel restoration and fish passage construction.

Many of these initiatives occur within the Milwaukee metro area, creating numerous possibilities for education and outreach to local young people. Among the projects is the construction and post project monitoring of the Thiensville Dam fishway. Included in the monitoring is a video monitoring system, which is used with local schools to increase education and awareness.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Environmental Protection Agency
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Non-Federal Partners:

- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- Ozaukee County



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Outcomes for 2012:

- Bringing video monitoring system for Thiensville Dam fishway online
- Reconnect 218 miles of stream for aquatic dispersal and movement, which will generating access to over 20,000 acres of wetland habitat
- Develop geospatial fish and wildlife tool to guide future restoration efforts